



Local News - May 2023 - Issue No. 523 - Online Version

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The views & opinions expressed in this Publication are those of the contributors.



Castle Keep Art Group Maynooth

Castle Keep Art Exhibition 2023 - a resounding success -

The Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group celebrated its first art exhibition since 2019. This was our 22nd exhibition. The group is in its twenty fifth year this year. The exhibition took place in the (Old) Post Primary School, our venue for many years, from the 14th to 16th April with a launch on the Friday night.

It was an outstanding and enjoyable event where friends and members of many Maynooth community groups came together to celebrate with us. Mary O'Donnell, Irish novelist and poet opened the exhibition. Mary took the time to preview the exhibition on the afternoon of the exhibition and gave a considered, reflective and complimentary opening address on the night. We would like to express our sincere thanks to Mary for her words in support of the artists and their works and for her observations on the creation of art.

Seventeen artists from the Maynooth and surrounding areas, submitted 70 works of art for the exhibition. There was an array of subject matter and media which showed the extensive range of talents and interests within the Group. The sales and commissions that followed were testament to the high standard of works on display.

This year we are especially thankful to Maynooth Men's Shed. The art group commissioned Men's Shed to make display easels for the exhibition as you will see from the photograph. Judging from public comments the easels added greatly to the visual experience of the exhibition. Thanks to Joe Brown and his fellow members for their great assistance.

We would like to thank KWETB, Johnny Nevin and Siobhan McCauley for the use of the school not just for the exhibition but also for the use of a classroom where we attended our weekly meet and paint sessions. We also thank Mr. Thomas Ashe for his continued patronage of the Art Group. We thank the people of Maynooth and beyond for turning out in such great numbers on the night and over the weekend. Our stalwart supporters were there and we were delighted to see new faces. It was a community gathering in every sense of the word. A sincere thanks to all.

Looking forward to next year already!

Susan Durack
Castle Keep Art Group





Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

This publication is produced by Maynooth Community Employment Project, supported by the Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection, which is funded by the Irish Government.

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

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Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

The Maynooth Newsletter is a community focused publication available free to the people of Maynooth. It plays an important role in gathering together, recording and distributing community based news.

We encourage all groups and individuals in the community to submit material to let us know about their activities and any upcoming events.

The Newsletter exists for your enjoyment and we hope you continue to enjoy your monthly read and keep us informed of your activities.

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

In addition we undertake the following:

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

www.maynoothcep.com.

The Newsletter Archive can be viewed and searched in pdf format. In addition, there exists the capability to be able to search an entire year. Please be aware the single files associated with the year are larger and will take a little longer to load.

The Archive provides an important historical footprint of the Town and records the community profile of Maynooth from the mid-seventies to the present day. We hope you enjoy using it and that it brings back memories of people, places and times and that it equally provides an interesting insight to the development of the town and university for newly arrived members of our community.

Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Editorial

While our “Maynooth Newsletter Archive” goes back to 1975 and is available as a resource to researchers the world of communications has changed dramatically since 1975. The arrival of the web as well as more recent social media forums has reduced the content provided to the Maynooth Newsletter from local community and sporting groups. While clubs would have originally seen the Maynooth Newsletter as the way of informing their members now they use other platforms. While other platforms have a purpose they do not meet the purpose of recording the social history of the organisation. Many Maynooth organisations use our archive when producing their own history and we are always willing to help.

Just looking back at the Maynooth Newsletter editions published so far this year and it is clear that we continue to deliver on our promise of - recording the social footprint of Maynooth. In February we highlighted the town’s incredible result finishing joint second with Kilkenny City in the “2022 Irish Business Against Litter League” which is a credit to Kildare County Council, Maynooth Tidy Towns, Businesses and the community and of course to our own Community Employment workers in Maynooth Harbour. We also highlighted the fact that in January that Maynooth had been formally accepted into the “Ireland’s Autism Friendly Towns Programme” where an excellent local committee will lead a three year programme to raise awareness of the needs of young people with Autism and to deliver on additional resources but most importantly promote better understanding of the needs of people with Autism in the entire community.

In March, we highlighted the Annual Maynooth-Galway Charity Cycle where hundreds of participants take on this tough task over a weekend in an event organised by Maynooth Students for Charity supporting children’s charities annually since 1987 with only one year missed because of Covid. We also highlighted the Maynooth GAA 3 Counties major fund-raising event. In April, we gave major coverage to the biggest event of the year the St. Patrick’s Day Parade, publishing one hundred photographs including at least one of each float that participated in this year’s event.

This month, we highlight two more annual events, the Maynooth 10K/5K road walk/race which is an annual fund-raiser for Maynooth Education Campus. We also highlight the work of the Maynooth University Green Campus committee undertaking a voluntary clean up of litter in the Royal Canal Harbour and Maynooth Railway station as part of the An Taisce Spring Clean month. While our Maynooth Community Employment workers clean the Harbour field and towpath on weekdays we are not able to go into the water or work on private property so this annual clean up by the Maynooth University staff and students is really needed. We also cover the annual Castle Keep Art exhibition which highlights the talents of local visual artists.

In March 2020, the Maynooth Newsletter went on-line and ceased the printed edition for the time being. Over the period up to now we have monitored the number of monthly visits to the Maynooth Newsletter on-line editions and we see number usually between 3,000–4,000 hits a month between Facebook Post Impressions & visits to our website Homepage. It shows that the community is still looking for local information on organisations and businesses. Despite this success we know that we can improve what we produce.

Therefore, we are inviting feedback from any readers on your opinions on what you would like to see included in the Maynooth Newsletter. Additionally if you have a relevant skill and would like to volunteer to be involved in the Maynooth Newsletter Editorial Team you can contact me directly at editor@maynoothcep.com

Paul Croghan
Editor

**Copy date for the June edition will be
5pm on Monday 26th May 2023**



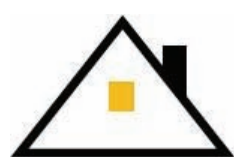
Seeking Accommodation for Students for the Academic Year 2023/2024

We are currently seeking accommodation for our current and incoming students who are either currently studying at Maynooth University or are due to start their studies at Maynooth University. Additionally, we host ERASMUS students during Semester 1 who will require accommodation. We are seeking accommodation for **both 5-days per week and 7-days per week for the Academic Year 2023/2024.**

If you have a spare room in your home, you might consider letting it on a self-catering or full/partial board basis, for the Academic Year **(September 2023-May 2024)**. It is a great way to provide the students a warm 'home away from home'.

Log on to www.maynoothstudentpad.ie and set up your account and advertise with no charge!

Further details from homefinder.service@mu.ie or call us on (01) 708 4729



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Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Garry Bermingham (Chair)
Susan Durack (Admin Secretary/PRO)
e-mail: maynoothseniorcitizens@gmail.com



Our Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday 4th April in the Geraldine Hall. It was a well attended meeting and we are pleased to welcome three new volunteers to the Committee.

Our executive committee remains the same. Garry Bermingham - Chairperson; Susan Durack Admin Secretary/Pro, Catherine Mulready, Treasurer and Joan Lennon, Minute Secretary.

There will be a Summer outing, more details to come. Our Thursday morning club continues and is well attended and very much enjoyed. Bingo and Art take place on alternate weeks. We will be reviewing our activities and fundraising opportunities over the coming weeks.

We extend our sincere condolences to the Mulready family, the Begley family, the Cusker family and the Garvey family on the recent loss of their family members.

Beannacht Dé leo go léir.

Susan Durack, PRO
Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.

taxy

> we're going places <

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Call Us 01 6289999



North Kildare
Bowling Club

BOWLS
OPEN WEEKEND
SATURDAY & SUNDAY
06-07 MAY
2023

FREE ENTRY

North Kildare Bowls Club, Maws,
Maynooth, County Kildare, W23 NR2F

www.northkildarebowlsclub.org

THE BOWLS EQUIPMENT IS PROVIDED - JUST WEAR RUNNERS OR FLAT SHOES



North Kildare Bowls Club to Host Bowls Open Day on 6 & 7 May 2023

North Kildare Bowls Club is thrilled to announce that it will be hosting a Bowls Open Day on 6 & 7 May 2023, at the North Kildare Sports Club. The event is set to be an exciting day for both experienced bowlers and those who have never tried the sport before.

Lawn Bowls, also known as bowls or lawn bowling, is a sport that can be enjoyed by people of all ages and abilities. It involves rolling biased balls, called bowls, towards a target ball, called the jack, with the aim of getting as close to it as possible. The sport is played on a rectangular, flat surface called a rink, which measures 30-41m long and 4.3-5.8m wide.

North Kildare Bowls Club currently has 70 members, most of whom are aged 50 and over. The Club has been actively engaging with the local community since Christmas and has linked in with local Men's Sheds in Kilcock and Maynooth to promote the sport.

The Bowls Open Day will provide an opportunity for individuals and families to come and learn more about the sport of lawn bowls. Club members will be on hand to offer guidance and assistance, and all equipment will be provided. Attendees will also have the chance to socialize with other members of the community and enjoy light refreshments.

"We are excited to host the Bowls Open Day and share our love for this wonderful sport with the community," said the club spokesperson. "Lawn bowls is a sport that offers numerous physical and social benefits, and we look forward to introducing it to new people."

The Bowls Open Day will take place on 6 & 7 May 2023, at the North Kildare Sports Club. Admission is free, and all are welcome to attend.

For more information on the Bowls Open Day or the North Kildare Bowls Club, please contact us through our website at <https://www.northkildarebowlsclub.org> or by email to northkildarebowls@gmail.com

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

Stay safe everyone.





Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

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



Better Signage needed on Moyglare Road

At the April Council MD meeting, Cllr Feeney asked the Council to install further signage on the Moyglare Road to signal to motorists that there are schools in the area and that there is a need to slow down. In speaking to the motion, Cllr. Feeney said that the Moyglare Road in Maynooth has become such a busy road and that many residents and parents have safety concerns. She added that there are four schools on this road with thousands of pupils walking and cycling which is and their safety is a priority. In addition there is a GAA club, a University campus, along with lots of new housing estates which makes for a very busy road. This is why Cllr Feeney raised this as a motion because we need to take action and install speed signs telling motorists that there are schools on this road and to slow down.

There are some signs on the road but they date back to when the road was less busy and there is now a need to review where the signs are positioned and assess if more are needed and what types of signs would be most effective. The Council agreed to review the signage and Cllr Feeney will meet the area engineer on site to assess what further safety signage could be installed so as to bring it up to date and make it safer.

Rubbish Bins at Bus Stops

Cllr Feeney asked about the process for having rubbish bins installed at the new bus stops in the municipal district. We have more and will continue to have more bus stops as our towns grow but unfortunately, there is often an accumulation of rubbish around them. While Cllr Feeney said that people should take their rubbish home, the reality is that rubbish is often left when people get on or off the bus. Cllr Feeney asked if the onus is on the Council to provide bins or is it the responsibility of the bus providers when they install the bus stops and bus shelters, to provide a bin. What was clarified at the meeting is that while the bus provider might provide the bin, it is the ongoing cost of emptying and maintaining the bins that falls to the Council. It was agreed that this is an issue and The Council's Environment Strategic Policy Committee is looking at a policy around the provision of bins for the county. Cllr Feeney welcomed that because such a policy is needed.

Celbridge Road Maynooth

Cllr Feeney asked that the required funding of €400,000 be released from the accumulated paid parking fund in Maynooth to bring the Celbridge Road upgrade project through its part 8 and the detailed design stages of the planning process. This was a joint motion with Maynooth Council colleagues Ó Cearúil, Durkan and Hamilton. Cllr Feeney said that the Celbridge Road into Maynooth is now the approach road in Maynooth that is in the worst condition. She added that there are almost 800 young primary school children using that road each day, it is a priority for the Council. In fact, a presentation was made to the Council in the chamber some time back by parents and pupils from the schools about their safety concerns.

While we were given a detailed report at the meeting, it was agreed that the Council would come back on this issue at the next MD meeting with fuller details and clarity around what funds are available for Maynooth projects. It was also agreed that the money now needs to be spent to deliver these projects for Maynooth, including this Celbridge Road project but also the other projects for Maynooth like Courthouse Square and the Harbour field.

Playgrounds and Accessibility

Cllr Feeney asked the Council to confirm if bark mulch continues to be used in the playgrounds in the municipal district. As a member of Maynooth Access Group and the Co Kildare Access Network too, Cllr Feeney said that this issue has come up by wheelchair users and their carers as it is an accessibility issue. Many wheelchair users find that bark chips or bark mulch is not accessible and that rubber tiles would be a much easier surface for wheelchairs. Poured in place rubber or rubber tiles are much better for access. The Council confirmed that bark chips are used in playgrounds such as Harbour Field, Maynooth and Prosperous and that it would bring Cllr Feeney's proposal back to the parks team for consideration and get back to her on the matter. Cllr Feeney will follow up on it too as she believes that all children should be able to access playgrounds both our newer ones and the older playgrounds too.

Access to GP Services

Access to GP services is an issue that Cllr Feeney has been highlighting in recent years as it is causing huge stress to many residents in North Kildare. This was borne out during the consultation phase of the new Age Friendly Strategy for Kildare where issues around access to GP services came up frequently. As an action on this, it was agreed to complete further more detailed research to get a clearer picture around wait times etc. The Kildare Age Friendly Programme and the Kildare Older persons council (OPC) are conducting a piece of research into the locations and wait times of GP services in Co. Kildare.

Please see below a link to the online survey. Members of the OPC will also be out in various towns and villages in the coming weeks with paper copies.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BZC6BH8>

Please take the time to answer these questions and share it among your friends, family, community groups and general contacts. We need the data to get action on this important issue.

KCC Tenant Support Scheme 2023

Applications are invited from Kildare County Council for the Tenant Support Scheme 2023. If you are a tenant of Kildare County Council and your rent account is up to date, you can apply. This scheme is to help Local Authority tenants to carry out improvement works in their home and can be used to replace defective windows and doors, defective kitchen units, heating systems, or for other minor works. Priority will be given to climate action improvements such as new glazing, insulation, heat pumps etc. Applications and quotations must be returned to the Tenant Support Scheme 2023, Housing Maintenance, Tenant Support Scheme 2023, Housing Maintenance Department, Kildare County Council, Wolfe Tone House, Wolfe Tone Street, Naas, Co Kildare by close of business on Friday, 12 May 2023 by 5.00pm.

Application forms and further details can now be requested from any of the following: Telephone: Kildare County Council Customer Services- 045-980200 or the Housing Section-045-980998. Email: tenantsupportscheme@kildarecoco.ie

Tenant Support Scheme 2023 - Application Form:

<https://kildarecoco.ie/.../Tenant%20Support%20Scheme...>

Cllr Angela Feeney calls for 139 Bus to be extended to Blanchardstown Hospital and Abbottstown Sports Campus.

On foot of the announcement by the National Transport Authority (NTA) of its planned new and enhanced Connecting Ireland bus services, Cllr Feeney contacted the Authority calling for the 139 bus service to be extended to Blanchardstown Hospital and the Abbottstown Sports Campus.

Currently, the 139 bus serves Naas, Clane, Sallins, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Leixlip, Ongar and Blanchardstown, with the terminus at the TU Dublin campus. Cllr Feeney said that it is great to see how the service has become more popular and that it is very successful. However, Cllr Feeney knows that James Connolly Hospital in Blanchardstown is the hospital to which many people from North Kildare are referred by their doctor and it can be very difficult to access. If the 139 served the hospital, many people would avail of that enhanced service for medical and out-patient procedures as well as to visit relatives in the hospital. Equally, families who want to visit the Abbottstown Sports Campus would be delighted to have the possibility of bringing their children swimming and to get involved in other sports.

Councillor Feeney received the following response to her request from the NTA.

"The Authority has currently no plans to extend the contracted 139 to Connolly Hospital or the Sports Campus. Before the commencement of the 139 service, the Authority had previously discussed terminating the 139 at Connolly Hospital. At that time Connolly Hospital did not grant permission for the 139 to terminate on the campus. This issue is being discussed with Connolly hospital management again in the light of the additional benefits that would accrue to hospital staff, visitors and others resulting from the Bus Connects network redesign proposals.

The Authority also investigated the Sports Campus and Technological University Dublin (TUD) Blanchardstown for a terminus location for the 139. The Authority ultimately chose TUD Blanchardstown as the 139 terminus, as there was a dedicated layover space, a large amount of employment and education transport demand and environs and it was positively supported by the campus authorities".

Councillor Feeney responded by saying that from an environmental perspective, extending the 139 bus service makes sense as it would encourage greater use of public transport to get people to where they need to go without having to get in a car. It also makes economic sense because it avoids parking and toll charges as well as fuel costs. For all these reasons, Councillor Feeney will continue to pursue this issue with both the NTA and the other stakeholders because it would provide a much needed service for the public.

Meetings attended by Cllr Feeney since last newsletter:

April 6th, 09:30 am Public Realm Briefing, Áras Chill Dara, Naas

April 6th, 10:00 am MD Council Meeting, Áras Chill Dara, Naas

April 19th, 19:30 pm, Board of Management, Coláiste Chiaráin

April 25th, 19:00 pm Meeting with parents of students in Gaelcholáiste Mhá Nuad

April 27th, 12:00 pm KCC Finance Committee meeting (online)

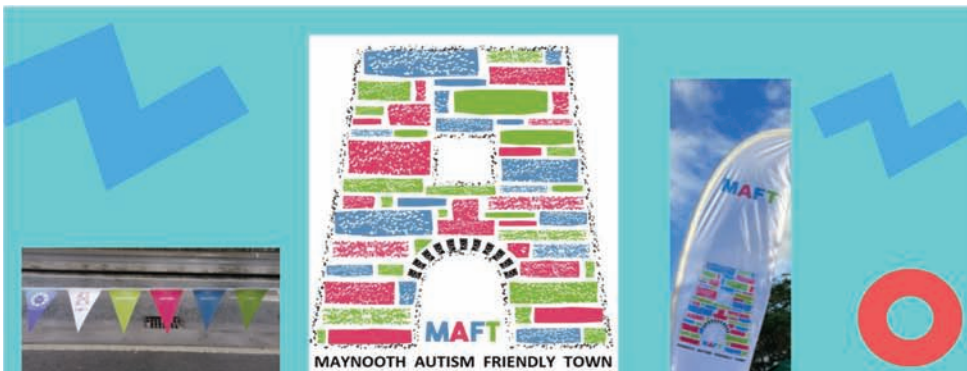
April 27th, 18:30 pm, Meeting with Kilcock Business Association and KCC

Contact:

Please email or call me if you need any support:

afeeney@kildarecoco.ie

087 - 2381962



The Quiet Zone was a huge success this year in the St Patricks Day Parade. We want to sincerely thank our sponsors: The Glenroyal Hotel, Carton House Hotel and Maynooth Community Council for all their support.

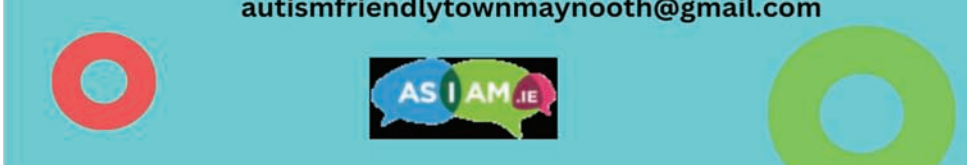
Throughout April the local schools are hosting non-uniform days in support of Autism Acceptance Month. The Presentation Girls School hosted their event before the Easter Break and it was so lovely seeing all the girls in the colours of the rainbow supporting us.

A huge thank you to Kildare County Council who have awarded us funding to purchase sensory boxes for local Autism Business Champions.

We are so delighted to be working with Maynooth Tidy Towns to help them upgrade the towns sensory garden behind the parish centre. The Community Spirit in the town is just so positive and it highlights what a great place we live in.

Autism Champion Training will commence online at the end of the month hosted by Adam Harris. We cannot wait to see our Champions that have signed up. If you want to become an Autism Champion or help us with this project please email us, we would love to hear from you.

autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com



Maynooth Cycling Campaign Notes

Kildare Sustainability Forum

Two years ago, KCC abolished the Cycle Forum with the acquiescence of Cllr Joe Neville, the then Chair of the Transport Strategic Policy Committee. The SPC had invited a presentation on the Cork Sustainability Forum as a model to replace the Kildare Cycle Forum but councillors discovered that in Cork the Forum was composed of transport stakeholders and specifically excluded elected members. Nevertheless, Kildare council proceeded to abolish its Cycle Forum. It was spun by the Chair as a replacement forum but in reality it was an abolition as nothing was done to replace it for more than two years.

Thankfully, Cllr. Neville was replaced as Chair by Cllr Paul Ward who is more sympathetic to cycling and who has been involved in establishing the new Sustainability Forum. However, while two cycling groups Maynooth Cycling Campaign and Naas Neighbourhood were members of the Cycle Forum and despite the provision of cycling infrastructure being a controversial issue, there appears to be no involvement by any cycling group in the Sustainability Forum.

Although the PPN seeks the application by a representative of a cycling group, the application by the Chair of Maynooth Cycling Campaign was rejected because he is currently a PPN rep on the Transport SPC and the Terms of Reference drawn up while Cllr. Neville was Chair ruled out membership of the new Forum by existing SPC members.

This is in marked contrast with Dublin City Council where the rep of the Dublin Cycling Campaign sits on both the Walking & Cycling Forum and the SPC.

Cycling Without Age

Ole and Ciara Kassow, the founders of Cycling Without Age visited Dublin on 23 April to celebrate six years since an Irish branch was set up by Clara Clark. We were sorry that we were unable to meet them due to prior commitments.

Trishaw training for Maynooth pilots took place at the end of April and we are now hoping to offer cycles to the general public who are unable to cycle for whatever reason from mid-May.

Bike Week 2023

Bike Week 2023 runs from 13th to 21st May. Other councils have been in contact with cycling groups in their area about Bike Week from January but Maynooth Cycling Campaign is still awaiting contact from Kildare County Council about events in Kildare.



PAIDIR

Cad is Paidir ann? Achainí a dhéanamh ar an Tiarna aire a thabhairt do rud éigin nach bhfuil sé ag tabhairt aire dó cheana féin? Na daoine mí-ámharacha san Ucráin? Na mílte milliún sa domhan atá gan bhia ná fiú amháin gan cupán fíor uisce glan acu? Is féidir leanacht leis an liosta uafás sin go deireadh an leathanaigh. Agus muna ndeirimid paidir ar son na ndaoine bochta sin bheidís uilig i gcruachás?

Má's mar sin do mheon is mór an dul amú atá ort. Ní thuigimid go deo cé'n fáth go bhfuil ocras sa domhan, go bhfuil cogaí ar siúl anseo is ansiúd, go gcuirtear daoine as a dtithe? Nó b'fhéidir go dtuigimid go maith ach nach n-adhmaíonn muid é? Nach iad an leithleachas agus an tsaint is cúis leo go léir? Tá saibhreas éigin i do thír agus d'fheilfeadh sé go maith do mo thír? Tá daoine ocracha ann mar ní roinneann muid bia an domhain go cothrom leo? Tá daoine bochta inár measc mar tá an t-iliomairce dínn lenár seacht ndóthain rachmais curtha i dtaise againn.

Cinnté sábhálfaidh an phaidir an domhan, ach ní mar a cheapann muid. Ní athraíonn Dia ó lá go lá de bharr paidreacha a dhíreann ina threo. Tá Sé i bhfad níos flaithiúla ná na daoine a iarrann comaoineacha air agus tuigean sé i bhfad níos fearr agus níos luaithe an gáir ina mbíonn gnáth daoine go minic. Ach má's mar sin atá an scéal ní fiú tráithnín na paidreacha go léir a chuireann muid 'suas' chuig Dia agus na naoimh na mílte uair sa ló? Agus céard faoi pharabal Íosa mar gheall ar an mbreitheamh éagórach? Nach ndéanann an scéal sin neamhní dem' argóint? Bhuel nó, ní dhéanann. Agus lean ort le do chuid phaidreacha mar is fiú iad chun d'aighe, do spiorad, a chur i dtiúin le meon an Tiarna. Agus nuair atá do spiorad ag

oibriú i gcomhar le meon an Tiarna bíonn tionchar agat ar ghníomhartha agus ar thorthaí thíos anseo. Nó b'fhéidir go bhfuil sé níos cirte a rá go gcuireann an Tiarna a thoil i bhfeidhm triótsa, agus tusa ag comhoibriú leis!

Deir roinnt mhaith saoithe nach gcuireann Dia isteach ar ghnóthaí an domhain a chruthaigh Sé ná ar na rialacha a chum Sé dó, ach tá sé soiléir go gcuireann muidne isteach ar na rialacha sin go minic agus go hoscailte. Nach bhfuil a lán daoine beo inniu de bharr na gcóiracha leighis a chuir na dochtúirí agus eolaithe eile ar fáil dóibh? Nach féidir linn na mílte duine a shabháil gach bliain mar tá muid in ann tuar cruinn na haimsire a thabhairt ar an teilifís agus an raidió? Ar aon nós ní hé gur "chruthaigh" Dia an domhan, ach go "gCruthaíonn" Dia an domhan ó nóiméad go nóiméad agus muidne lena chois.

Nuair a deirimid paidir ar son duine nó cúis éigin is é atá á dhéanamh againn ná brú imbhraite, diaga, i ndáiríre, a chur i bhfeidhm chun toradh fóna a bhaint amach i gcúinsí áirithe i saol an duine sin nó i dtitim amach na cúise sin. Tá neart sa bhrú! Tá sé éifeachtach. Sin é an brú a bhí i gceist ag Íosa sa pharabal faoin mbreitheamh éagórach. Sin é brú na haigne, aigne an duine i nglaschém le haigne an Tiarna. Sin é an tslí inar cheart dúinn ár saolta a chaitheamh. Sin é brí fhocail an Tiarna nuair dúirt sé lena dheisceabail "nárbh fholáir dóibh bheith i gcónaí ag guí (agus) gan bheith cortha de choíche". Ná déanaimid dearmad air riamh! Is ionann cuireadh chun paidir a rá agus cuireadh chun comhoibriú leis an Tiarna i ngníomh an chruthaithe!

GM



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€23,000	6	7.76%	€398	€28,639
€70,000	10	5.64%	€760	€91,177

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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

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

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



Additional Needs Payment

What is the Additional Needs Payment?

The Additional Needs Payment is a payment to help you with an expense that you cannot pay from your weekly income. You may get an Additional Needs Payment, if you are working and on a low income, or getting a social welfare payment. When you apply for the payment, your income and circumstances will be assessed to find out if you qualify.

The Additional Needs Payment includes the Exceptional Needs and Urgent Needs payments.

What can I get the Additional Needs Payment for?

You can get the Additional Needs Payment to help you with an expense that you cannot pay from your weekly income. For example:

- An increase in your fuel or electricity costs
- Essential repairs to property, including motor vehicles and replacing household appliances and furniture
- Funeral costs
- Deposits for private rented accommodation
- Bedding and cooking utensils, if you are setting up home for the first time
- Food, clothing and shelter after an emergency event such as a fire or flood
- Recurring travel costs to hospital
- Visiting a relative in hospital or prison

This is not a complete list, other expenses can be covered too.

How to qualify for an Additional Needs Payment

To qualify for an Additional Needs Payment, you must:

- Live in Ireland and
- Have an income below the 'weekly household income' limit – see below

When you apply for an Additional Needs Payment your application will be assessed by a Community Welfare Officer (CWO). The CWO will look at your circumstances and decide if you qualify for the payment. In some cases, the CWO can provide a payment if your income is above the weekly household income limit, but it will depend on your circumstances.

Weekly household income

Members of your household	Amount
Single person	€390
Couple with no children	€490
1 child	€591
2 children	€692
3 children	€793
4 children	€884
5 children	€1,010
6 children	€1,126
7 children	€1,262
8 children	€1,358

How much is an Additional Needs Payment?

There is no set rate for an Additional Needs Payment. The amount you get will depend on your circumstances and what you need help with. The Department of Social Protection (DSP) has some examples of how the CWO assess applications for an Additional Needs Payment and the amount they will pay.

Repairing a car

Ivan and Niamh apply for assistance to cover the cost of repairing the car. They have 2 children. Ivan works 32 hours per week with household income of €630 per week. They have normal weekly outgoings of €610 per week for rent, utility bills, food, credit union loan, miscellaneous car expenses. Their car breaks down and they have received a quote of €1,200 (parts and labour) to repair it. The car is required for transport to and from work and taking children to and from school.

The couple have applied to the credit union for a top up loan which has been refused. The couple have €250 in savings and an outstanding loan of €2,100 with the credit union.

Income and expenses

Household income	€630 per week
Household outgoings	€610 per week
Disposable income	€20 per week

Decision: The Community Welfare Officer assists the couple with an Additional Needs Payment of €1,200.

Repairing a boiler

Sean applies for assistance to cover the cost of repairing the boiler.

Sean is a single parent with 3 school going children who works 30 hours per week in a local Supermarket. He has household income of €700 per week. The family's normal weekly outgoings are €650 per week for utility bills, loan repayments, food, miscellaneous car expenses and shopping. The boiler in their house has broken down and they have been quoted €1,500 to replace the necessary parts and labour. Sean has savings of €250, which he intended to use for a refill of oil.

Income and expenses

Household income	€700 per week
Household outgoings	€650 per week
Disposable income	€50 per week

Decision: The Community Welfare Officer awards an Additional Needs Payment of €1,450.

Electricity bills

Roman applies for assistance in meeting an increase in electricity bills. Roman is a person with Multiple Sclerosis getting Disability Allowance and he is having difficulty meeting his electricity bills following recent unit cost increases. The monthly energy costs have risen by €40. He is unable to reduce the energy usage due to his medical condition and he does not have any disposable income to cover it.

Income and expenses

Household income	€208 per week
Household outgoings	€208 per week
Disposable income	€0 per week

Decision: In the circumstances, the Community Welfare Officer awards a Heating Supplement at €40 per month. In the event that the energy costs increase further, the Officer can increase the Heating Supplement payment to reflect same.

Filling an oil tank

Siobhan applies for assistance to fill the oil tank at a cost of €700. Siobhan is a single parent with 4 children and has noticed an increase in the cost of everyday items including food and utility bills. Their household income is €368 per week. Her weekly outgoings are €350 - €368 per week. Previously, she had managed to put some money aside (€20 per week) towards a fill of heating oil but this has not been possible for many weeks.

Income and expenses

Household income	€368 per week
Household outgoings	€368 per week
Disposable income	€0 per week

Decision: The Community Welfare Officer awards an Additional Needs Payment of €700 to cover the cost of the oil refill. As the child's medical condition requires the house to be heated permanently, the Officer also provides Siobhan with heat supplement of €30 per week to assist in meeting the ongoing cost associated with it.

How to apply for an Additional Needs Payment

You can make a paper application or apply online.

When you apply for an Additional Needs Payment your application will be assessed by a Community Welfare Officer (CWO).

(Continued on page 11)

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS (Cont.)

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

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

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

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



(Continued from page 10)

Online application

You can apply online through MyWelfare.ie. To apply online, you will need a verified MyGovID account.

Paper Application

You can post your application for an Additional Needs Payment or make an appointment with your local CWO, if you prefer.

If you post your application, the CWO may issue a payment or arrange an appointment to meet with you.

How to get an ANP application form

You can download and fill-in the application form for an Additional Needs Payment (SWA1) and send it to your local Community Welfare Service. If you are applying for help with funeral costs you will need to fill in SWA1 and SWA5 for help with funeral costs.

You can also get application forms at your local Community Welfare Service and fill it in there.

You can also request application forms by completing an online form.

For general information about the Community Welfare Service and application forms phone: 0818 60 70 80

What you need to provide when you apply

You will need some of the following to apply:

- PPS number for you and people in your family that are dependent on you such as your partner or children
- Proof of your identity such as Public Services Card, Driving Licence or Passport
- Proof of address such as a household bill
- Proof of residency such as an Irish Residence Permit (IRP) or EU/EEA passport or national ID card
- Proof of income and financial situation such as payslips and bank statements

For general information about the Community Welfare Service phone: 0818 60 70 80

How to apply for your first Irish passport as an adult

Introduction

This page explains how to apply for your first Irish passport if you are over 18. If your previous passport was issued when you were a child and has not yet expired (or has only recently expired), your application is considered a renewal application and not a first-time application.

The Passport Service strongly recommends that you apply for your passport at least 8 weeks before your travel date. The latest turnaround times are available on the Passport Service's website. Applying online is the quickest way to get a new passport.

You can apply for your first Irish passport:

- Online, through Passport Online
- By post, through Post Passport
- In person, through the Passport Office's counter service or at an Irish embassy or consulate if you are living abroad

You can also get more information on replacing a lost or stolen passport and how to renew your passport.

Passport Online service

If you are living in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Great Britain, the EU, the EEA, Switzerland, Australia, Canada, New Zealand or the USA you can use the Passport Online service to apply for your first Irish passport.

You need access to a printer for your first passport application. You must also be able to pay by credit or debit card. You will have to send original documents to the Passport Service after you have completed the online application form.

Digital photographs

You must include a digital photo as part of your online application.

You can do this in 3 ways:

- Have your photo taken at a participating photo provider, who will give you

a unique code to include with your online application.

- Have your photo taken at a photo provider, and ask them to email it to you, or save the photo on a USB device, or another storage method. You must have access to the photo when completing your online application.
- Take a photo at home using a digital camera or smartphone. This cannot be a "selfie" and you should not use the zoom function of your camera. The photo must capture your image from the waist upwards.

You can read more about the photo requirements for the Passport Online service.

[Photo Guidelines - Department of Foreign Affairs \(dfa.ie\)](http://dfa.ie)

Proving your identity

- When your online application is completed, you will be asked to print an Identity Verification Form.
- If you are applying in Ireland, a member of the Garda Síochána must sign this form.
- If you are applying outside Ireland, the form can be witnessed by a person in one of the occupations listed on the Passport Online site, or on the verification form itself.

Sending documents

Once the application is completed, you will be asked to print an Application Cover Page. This will list the documents you have to send to the Passport Service. All documents sent must be original. The Passport Service recommends that you use a secure method of postage for sending your documents. A postage label is generated as part of your application (if you are applying in Ireland).

If you are applying outside Ireland, you should use a reliable postal service. In some countries, the local postal services are not reliable. In this case, you can submit your documents to your nearest Irish Embassy.

You can read more about the documents you may need to send below.

You can read Frequently Asked Questions about the extended Passport Online service.

[Online FAQs - Department of Foreign Affairs \(dfa.ie\)](http://dfa.ie)

Applying by post through Post Passport

Post Passport is a service provided by An Post.

If you are an Irish citizen living in Ireland, you should fill in form APS 1. You will find this form at Garda stations and any post office. It is not currently possible to download the paper application form.

Photographs

You must include 4 recent identical photographs of yourself with your application. Two of these photographs should be signed on the back by the person who witnesses the application. The witness should also write the form number shown in Section 9 of the application form on the two signed photographs. If you are applying for your passport in Ireland the witness must be a member of the Garda Síochána.

You can get more detailed information on passport photographs.

[Photo Guidelines - Department of Foreign Affairs \(dfa.ie\)](http://dfa.ie)

Post Passport abroad

There are a number of UK Post Office branches in Northern Ireland that provide the Post Passport service (pdf).

[Copy of npx list 16 nov 07 \(dfa.ie\)](http://dfa.ie)

There are also two post offices in Great Britain offering Post Passport (Glasgow Post Office, 140 West Nile Street, Glasgow, G1 2RD and Liverpool Post Office, 1 – 3 South John Street, Liverpool, L1 8BN).

If you are applying abroad, the application form lists suitable categories of witnesses. The witness should enter their daytime contact number on the application form as this may need to be verified by the Passport Service or the relevant embassy or consulate.

Applying in person

Applying in person to the Passport Office for your first passport is not recommended. Nearly all Irish citizens can apply for their first passport online. The counter service in the Passport Office is designed to accommodate people who need to renew their passports urgently, and don't have enough time to apply in other ways. It should not be used for first-time applications.

(Continued on page 12)

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS (Cont.)

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Service which provides a free and confidential service to the public. Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121



(Continued from page 11)

These applications are too complex to be processed at the public counter because your right to Irish citizenship must be established and your documents must be verified. You should not book any travel until you have received your passport as these applications cannot be expedited. If you are living abroad, in a country where Post Passport or Passport Online are not available, you can apply for an Irish passport in person or using ordinary or registered post to your nearest Irish embassy or consulate. You use form APS 2.

You cannot download the application form. You can get the application form from the Irish embassy or consulate in the country where you live (or the closest embassy or consulate).

Fees for passports

The fees are:

Standard 34-page 10-year passport

Service	Cost
Passport Online	€75 Plus a €15 postage if you live outside Ireland
Post Passport with An Post	€80 Plus a €9.50 fee for 1 application or a €16 fee for a Family Application for up to 4 applications
Service	Cost
Passport Online	€105 plus a €15 postage if you live outside Ireland
Post Passport with An Post	€110 Plus a €9.50 fee for 1 or a €16 fee for a Family Application for up to 4 applications

What documents do I need?

You should submit the following documentation with your application:

- Your full civil birth certificate
- Your civil marriage or civil partnership certificate (if you have changed your surname)
- Proof of address
- Proof of name
- Copy of your Public Services Card or original government issued photo identification document
- If resident in Northern Ireland or abroad, you must supply either an original passport, national ID card, social security card; or a certified copy of your driving licence

You may need to send additional documents as well as those listed above depending on your particular situation.

Additional documents

If you were born abroad to a parent born in Ireland or Northern Ireland - you should also include:

- Your Irish-born parent's birth certificate
- Your parents' civil marriage certificate (if applicable)

If you became an Irish citizen through naturalisation - you should also include:

- Your original naturalisation certificate
- Your original foreign passport (if available)

If you became an Irish citizen through the foreign birth register process – you should also include:

- Your foreign birth registration certificate
- Your foreign passport

If you were adopted you should include:

- Your certificate of entry in the Register of Intercountry Adoptions (If

adopted abroad your adoption must be entered in the Register of Intercountry Adoptions)

- Your civil marriage or civil partnership certificate (if you have changed your surname)
- Your adoptive Irish parent's birth certificate or Irish passport
- Your adoption certificate

If you became an Irish citizen through post-nuptial citizenship - you should include:

- Your post-nuptial certificate (this must have been issued before 30 November 2005)

If your documents are not in English you must also supply a certified English version, translated by a registered translator.

The Passport Office can request further documentation and/or interview applicants.

You can order birth, marriage, civil partnership and adoption certificates online from the HSE.

You can order a certificate of entry in the Register of Intercountry Adoptions from the Adoption Authority.

Information on how to get a foreign birth registration certificate is available on the Department of Foreign Affairs website.

How long will my passport application take?

Online applications are completed in approximately 20 working days for first-time applicants.

If you are applying by post, you should allow at least 8 weeks for your application to be processed (not including postage times). This period may be extended at certain times of the year due to increased application numbers.

First-time postal applications from the UK take at least 8 weeks.

You can check the Passport Service website for current processing times.

Tracking the progress of your application

The Passport Service provides a Passport Tracking Service. This service lets you check the status of your application online. You must have the application number from your form to use this service (this number is in the top left-hand corner of the application form).

Signing the passport

When you receive your passport, you should sign it. If it is a child's passport, the child should sign it. If the child is not able to sign their name, it should be left blank.

Useful contacts

You can contact the Passport Service via phone or webchat.

Passport Office
Knockmaun House
42-47 Lower Mount Street
Dublin 2
D02 TN83
Ireland

Opening Hours: 9:00am -4:30pm, Mon-Fri

Tel: +353 (0)1 671 1633

Homepage: <https://www.dfa.ie/passports-citizenship/>

How to achieve a Lush Green Lawn

For many gardeners having a green lawn is the ultimate goal. While there’s nothing quite like an immaculate green lawn, your grass can be used in all manner of styles. From a highly formal garden, to a flower filled meadow, dotted with daisies, or even just a place to kick a ball. The beauty of a green lawn is that it’s soft and friendly, yet durable and hardwearing. It invites a mood of relaxation and acts as a constant foil for the more showy elements to star. So what’s are the best tips for maintaining a green lawn?

How often should I mow for a green lawn?

From May onwards most plants including grass will begin to romp away. For effective lawn care it’s important to establish a mowing routine. In late spring and summer every five to seven days is about right for most lawns. At the start and tail of the season however, (March/April – October/November) the interval between cuts should be greater.



Before the first cut, ensure that all debris is cleared from the lawn. It is also a good idea to gently rake the lawn to lift the grass blades. The first few cuts of the year should only remove the tips of the grass. As the season progresses you can gradually lower the cutting height. Generally speaking you are aiming to remove about a third of the growth.

For formal lawns a height of 13-20mm should be maintained through the summer and at either end of the season set the mower on a slightly higher setting. Less formal lawns should be cut to a height of about 30mm. Raise the cutting height and reduce mowing frequency in hot, dry weather or risk your green lawn turning brown!

Do I need to water the lawn?

During dry weather you should raise the height of the cut, so that only the tips of the grass are clipped. Allow these clippings to remain on the lawn to help reduce evaporation. Most lawns will recover quite quickly from a period of drought, so to practice the best lawn care only start watering the lawn when absolutely necessary. Once you begin you will need to continue at weekly intervals until sufficient rain has fallen.

Use a sprinkler to water in the evening and minimise evaporation but be sure to apply the right amount of water: too much water is wasteful and too little will cause the roots to come to the surface so aim to allow the water to soak into a depth of about 10cm.

Do I need to feed for a green lawn?

For the best chance of getting a lush, green lawn, apply a spring feed just as the grass is starting to grow in March. The fertiliser should contain nitrogen, which encourages strong healthy growth, as well as potassium, potash and trace elements. Many brands are available, mostly as resin coated granules, which are easy to apply. The granule coat breaks down gradually, providing the lawn with a constant supply of nutrients without the risk of burning or scorching. One application should be enough to see the lawn through to the autumn. If during the summer, however, your lawn shows signs of slight yellowing or a loss of vigour, then an application of an organic liquid fertiliser based on seaweed can be applied.

Along with grass, weeds will also be growing quickly during periods of sunny, warm weather. Individual weeds can be dealt with easily by an application of a selective weed killer or alternatively removed using a narrow trowel. If using liquid chemicals diluted with water be sure to apply at the recommended dose and always read the label. In essence, apply early in the morning on a calm and moist day. After six weeks, a repeat application may be necessary, particularly for established weeds or those with a creeping habit such as clover. Remember to wash the watering can thoroughly or better still have two cans and use one only for chemical application.



Source: www.theenglishgarden.co.uk/expert-advice/how-to-get-a-green-lawn-all-year/

You don't have to spend a lot to keep your lawn green.

"There are a few money-saving and effective hacks for gardeners on a budget, get a lush green grass with common kitchen ingredients & cheap solutions to naturally kill weeds.

Compost tea

Compost tea is a nutrient-rich liquid that is made by steeping compost in water. It can be sprayed on your lawn, providing a natural fertilizer and boosting healthy growth. You can easily make compost tea at home using a bucket, some compost, and water. Simply mix it all together, let it steep for a few days, and then spray it on your lawn!" Another go-to cheap lawn care hack is especially simple because what you need is already in your kitchen.

Baking soda is a natural weed killer and can be used to kill weeds without harming your grass. Simply mix baking soda with water and dish soap, and spray it on any weeds you see. It's a cheap and safe alternative to harsh chemicals.

Finally, make the most of your mower. When it comes to mowing, a simple trick to maximize effectiveness and budget is to use a mulching mower. Mulching mowers are designed to chop grass clippings into small pieces, which are then deposited back onto the lawn. This can help to fertilize your lawn naturally, saving you time and money on fertilizers.

Source: www.thesun.ie/fabulous/10528954/lawn-care-money-saving-tricks-hacks-weed-killer

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 30/03/2023 to 26/04/2023 Information from Kildare County Council Website				
App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
23396	Kildare County Council	Catherine & Kieran Diggins	1 Ashleigh Grove, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	14/04/2023
23393	Kildare County Council	Dermot Darcy	Windgates, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	14/04/2023
23341	Kildare County Council	Andrew & Lorraine Neill	7 Rockfield Gardens, Maynooth, Co.Kildare	03/04/2023



Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Harmless Fun

Recently my wife and I were talking in a Dublin café to our glamorous, self-confident, grown-up daughter, Jakki, who was about to embark on a Far-Eastern odyssey with Dave, her Australian boyfriend.

"You and Mam didn't know half the things we got up to in the Post Primary," she confided, before proceeding to enlighten us about various escapades. These were harmless enough for she was always a warm, caring person, though she did hang around with a high-spirited crowd, some of whom occasionally indulged in anti-social behaviour. This, as we reminded Jakki, had once led to an unsettling outcome.

On our estate there was a retired bank clerk, Mr McNamara, whose wife was confined to a wheelchair because of some debilitating illness. The local teenage boys used torment her by repeatedly kicking a football into her walled back garden, which was adjacent to the green, and then ringing the door bell to ask for its return. If her husband chased them it only added to the fun. As a result of the constant tension, the poor woman was close to a mental breakdown.

One day a young policeman called to our house and said that he wished to talk to Jakki about an incident at McNamara's. Since a visit from the law had never happened before we were flabbergasted. Furthermore, as a result of a cycling accident, Jakki's leg was then in plaster, a condition that would hardly dispose her to indulge in high jinks. The policeman was very pleasant, however, so I allowed him to question her, while I in my role as parent sat nearby. It turned out that graffiti had been painted in large yellow letters on McNamara's end wall. A crowd of teenagers had run away but Jakki had been observed hobbling on crutches from the scene. She protested her innocence, while readily admitting that she was with the group responsible. When pressed by the policeman she insisted that she had not seen who had done the actual painting. The policeman had no option but to accept this defence, though he did emphasise how unfair it was to subject a seriously ill woman to such mindless vandalism. "Did you really not see who did the graffiti?" I asked the grown-up Jakki.

"Of course I did," she told us, and proceeded to name a local boy. This fellow, while troublesome, was somebody for whom I had always had sympathy: his parents had split up, his mother had departed, and he was often to be seen dawdling back from school to an empty house. "Why didn't you give his name to the policeman?" I asked.

She smiled at my naivety. "I couldn't have done that," she said. "It would have meant betraying my friends." Though she never suspected it, I knew exactly what she meant. Fifty years previously I myself had been in a somewhat similar situation. My brother and I were attending our local national school, a two-room building out in the country. Every summer evening a crowd of us, dressed in short trousers and jumpers, walked home barefooted across the fields, though during winter months, fitted out with boots and overcoats, we kept to the limestone road. Two tearaway brothers, Jimmy and Des, dominated our lives, leading us in various activities, such as exploding carbide "bombs" outside a sweet shop run by a cranky middle-aged couple or engaging Traveller boys whose families were camped by the roadside in pitched battles. The weapons used for the latter activity were catapults, which Jimmy and Des obligingly sold to us! My brother and I, though warned by our father never to misbehave, were in the interests of solidarity invariably present on these occasions.

Now a local farmer, Paddy Mack, had recently acquired a Ferguson tractor, something especially prized at the time, since most of our neighbours were still using horses or donkeys for farm work. When not in use the tractor was parked by the roadside across from Paddy's house and, as might be expected, proved an irresistible temptation to

Jimmy and Des. The first evening they got up on it and pretended to be driving while other schoolboys examined the engine or, like my brother and me, simply looked on. The next evening this performance was repeated but what we didn't know was that Paddy Mack was lying in wait. With an enraged roar he came charging out from behind his garden wall. Immediately the crowd, headed by Jimmy and Des, took to the nearby field, while my brother and I hared it up the road. That was a fatal mistake.

Paddy Mack took up the pursuit and though in his late thirties, gained relentlessly on us. At last he collared me and knocked me to the ground. Despite my protests of innocence, my face was pressed into the coarse wet gravel as this bellowing giant knelt astride me, laying into me with both hands, first the right then the left. In my abject terror I wet my pants. Then it was over. Growling that he would kill me next time, Paddy rose to pursue my brother, who had lingered to scream at him to leave me alone. He too was beaten for his pains.

For weeks after that I lived with a sense of baffled resentment. The memory of the unmerited assault, but most of all the shame of wetting myself like a small child, seared my consciousness. If only I were grown-up what I wouldn't do to that thick, ignorant lout! My father chose not to intervene: we didn't want him to reveal the names of the real culprits and, in any case, he had always warned us to respect other people's property. We should have known better than to be with those young pups messing with the tractor. As an adult I can understand that that was the harsh code he himself had endured but at the time his inaction added to my sense of helplessness. Today a young fellow in my position would even the score by throwing eggs at Paddy Mac's house or a rock through his window but in my youth such behaviour, even for the likes of Jimmy and Des, was unthinkable. I did remove a cut branch from his fence, however, and threw it into a nearby field, a feeble gesture of defiance that didn't make me feel any better since it afterwards occurred to me that I had violated the Seventh Commandment, "Thou shall not steal." I told this sin to the priest in confession and he assured me in a mild voice that it wasn't a grievous offence, though I should put the branch back. When I looked for the branch it had disappeared and for months the thought kept nagging at my mind that, should I die suddenly, I would be in danger of eternal damnation.

Those were tough times, when corporal punishment was the norm, and as a consequence there was no widespread anti-social behaviour. The unwritten law, that one must not rat on one's comrades, was, however, just as inflexible then as now.

"Nobody can blame you for what you did," I assured my grown-up daughter. "As our catechism used to say, in this world the good often suffer and the wicked prosper – that's why there's need of a General Judgement."

"Oh, yes, Father!" she smiled. "And is that what they used to teach you in school?"

"When you're my age," I told her, "you'll realise that there was a lot of wisdom in those old teachings."

"And what about the time you caught the fellow smashing our garden hedge?" she teased. "You didn't wait for the General Judgement!"

"No," I admitted. "I sent your mam for his father."

"And he almost went berserk," my wife reminded me. "He accused you of imprisoning his son. I thought he would flatten you."

"Now, Father," Jakki gleefully demanded, "how do you explain that?"

"He was the typical modern father," I said. "How dare anybody lay hold of his boy? So what if he had smashed our hedge? It was just a bit of harmless fun."

"But, legally, you were in the wrong," Jakki pointed out. "I didn't imprison his son," I explained. "I merely detained him."

"Oh yes, Father!" Jakki gave me a knowing grin.

Privately, I had to concede she was right. When it came to my own property I had reacted almost exactly like Paddy Mack: put the fear of God into any youngster unfortunate enough to get caught. Wasn't the conclusion to be drawn from such incidents, therefore, the obvious one; we repeat the behaviour that adults instil in us? "As the twig is bent so shall the tree grow" sort of thing! "Don't look so glum, Dad," Jakki remarked. "You were dealing with a difficult situation as best you knew how." "Thank you, Jakki," I ruefully acknowledged the implied censure. "So, as a modern young miss, how would you, deal with anti-social behaviour?" "Now, Dad," she smiled, "to use your own expression, that's the sixty-four thousand dollar question – or should it be the sixty-five thousand dollar one?"

P. G. Nerney

Mr. W. Percy French, Inspector of Loans

A patient in the General Hospital
assured me you were buried in this town
and gave directions to the cemetery.

Two weeks later I'm walking past your statue,
enjoying the fragile November sun,
the friendly greetings from some locals
and see inside an iron gate
a disparate array of headstones,
polished marble, weathered limestone...

Walking up the central, concrete path
I'm in a tranquil world enclosed by trees,
but where to find you in this crowded company?
Wait! There's the headstone of a Paddy Reilly.

I check the chiseled dates –
no, not the man who, before that move to Scotland,
drove you on his side-car to inspections
when you were Board of Works engineer –
a profession I once contemplated.

Could yours be that simple, weathered one
over there by the crowded western edge?
I check and find a William - something? - Monahan –
your unused given name but not your surname.
Still, I must concede it's possible you're here,
not in that county where both of us were born,
or in the cities where on turning troubadour
you earned fame behind the footlights,
drawing sentimental tears, but mostly laughter.

Thinking of your life's triumph-crowned trajectory
reminds me of my own mundane accomplishments:
some teenage novels written for post-primaries,
attempts at art that pale beside your landscapes –
but back to this day's quest: I learn in time
you're resting now in Formby, beyond the Irish Sea,
and want to plead, 'Come back, Percy French,
to Ballyjamesduff, not as fragments in a coffin,
but as a song thrush, caroling lustily.

Patrick Devaney

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.

1 *Accepting your personal level of messiness*

Some people are naturally tidier and some are naturally messier. That's just how it is.

2 *Be kinder to yourself*

Don't be shaming yourself. Do as much as you can each day and do more on the days you can.

3 *Identify why you want a tidy home*

Do you want your home to be airy and bright; calmer and less stressful; tired of clutter; want to be able to find things easier?

4 *What is a mess?*

A mess is: duplicates, the "just in case" things, things that we don't know where to put, things that we hang on to because we don't want to get rid of, clothes that don't fit, tonnes of books, things we find when cleaning up and keep, things that are too good to throw out or give away and not forgetting the "maybe pile".

5 *Own less stuff*

This is the one that we should all be living by - the less you have = the less mess you have.

6 *Set a timer. Tidy little and often.*

Setting a timer to start and finish a chore will make that chore easier to do. Start off small and work up to a longer time for bigger chores. Aim to do something each day. On off days, just do a small chore that way you will still feel like you did something.

7 *Come up with an order to tidy in*

Making a list will make it easier to keep track of what has to be done and what gets done daily. Make bed, put clothes away - at night or putting fresh laundry away as soon as it is cleaned, put toys away (get children involved - picking up all their toys before bedtime - reward them at the end of the week), clean up the dishes as you use them, empty the bins in the kitchen.

8 *Don't make piles if you're likely to get interrupted*

Don't wait for piles of things to build up to be put into each room. Something might pop up and you wouldn't be able to get rid of each pile, making it look more messier than it is. Better to put each item away straight away, that way things will look better than when you started.

9 *Don't walk down memory lane*

Don't stop to reminisce as you will lose momentum. Reminiscing will only slow you down. Instead put these items into a memory box to be looked at later.

10 *Don't get side-tracked*

Tidying Mindset Tweaks

If you find things that need action such as bills to be paid or find unread magazines/papers - put them into an action pile for things that you need to do when you are finished your list of chores.

11 *Don't organise*

Tidying up is not the time to start organising things. If it doesn't have a home then put it in the "to be organized pile" for later when all chores are done.

12 *Don't guess where things go*

Don't spend time guessing where they should go. Put them into the "to be organised pile" for later.

13 *Don't clean*

Tidying up is not cleaning time. Don't spend time cleaning one spot and leaving all the clutter around that clean spot. It is much easier to clean when everything is tidy.

14 *Don't be an interior designer*

Tidy first. It is much more easier to move things around when all is tidy.

15 *Get everyone in the household involved*

We all make the mess so we are all responsible for tidying it up. It is only fair that all members of the household tidy up their mess. Everyone must clean up after themselves and keep their own areas tidy.

16 *Make a game of it*

A great way to get kids involved is to see who can collect 15 things first or pick things up by colour or even use the alphabet by picking things up by the letter they start with.

17 *Put on your favourite music*

Dance around tidying up to your favourite playlist and before you know it everything is all tidied away.

18 *Take a photo to motivate you to start*

Take a photo before you start as it's easier to see clutter in a photo. When you have all tidied away, take another photo to show just how much better everything is all tidied up.

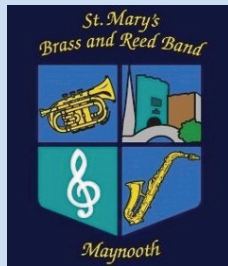
19 *Count your steps*

Have a competition with family members to see who has the most steps after tidy up and at the end of the week, the winner gets a little treat. There is nothing like a little incitement.

Sourced from: www.minimizemymess.com

St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

With the marching side of our programme done and dusted for another year we were back to outdoor recitals last month but it was like playing Russian Roulette with the weather. Our first outdoor engagement took us to Castletown House in Celbridge on Easter Monday where we had rain both before and after our outdoor recital for their OPW Staff Easter Bonnet Competition, but the sun shone brightly for the Bonnets and the Band played Congratulations for the worthy winner.



Sunday 23rd April brought us back to the Square in Maynooth for our first recital of the year in the Town and once again we just escaped the rain. As is always the case in Maynooth we had a very appreciative audience and we will be back there again during the year.

The standout event for the Band this month is our Concert in the College Chapel of St. Patrick's College on Sunday 21st May at 6pm with doors opening at 5.30pm. This is a repeat of the Concert we gave there in February 2018 and we will be again joined by the Parish Church Choir for which promises to be a wonderful evening of music and song in a beautiful setting.

The last concert was organised by the Music Department of St. Patrick's College but on this occasion we are delighted that all proceeds are going to Trocaire, whose Head Office is based in the College, who are playing a big part in the organisation of the concert. While this is a free walk-in event, donations with €10 suggested, will be very welcome as it's going to a very worthy cause which the Band is delighted to be associated with.

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Gold Medal Winners 2016 - 2017 - 2018 2019 - 2021 - 2022

On the 19th April we got an invite from The Maynooth Green Campus Group to join them for a clean up on The Royal Canal. We put the word out to our volunteers on our WhatsApp Group, more than 10 were available. Our work was filmed for the 2 hours by RTE and should be aired in the Autumn. We want to thank the ICA ladies for refreshments and a history of their hall which was as always very interesting. All rubbish collected was segregated and thanks to Pat Keogh from our local Council yard who supplied us with a skip.

Thanks to all our local benefactors who have donated money to our group either by cash or bank transfer. Its much appreciated, we were able to buy all our volunteers an Easter egg. Thanks again to Eamon O'Flaherty for the Complimentary tea/coffee. On Saturday April 22 we have been invited to the Parish Centre St Mary's Catholic Church for refreshments after clean up. Weather permitting of course.

One of our nominated projects for the Tidy Towns Competition this year was to revamp The Pound. 10 volunteers were involved we removed most of the old plants that were overgrown and unsightly. We will replace them with all pollinator friendly plants in the coming weeks and a few surprises.

The Tidy Towns entry form 2023 must be submitted online by the 13th May . We are very

disappointed to say we have not received our winning Gold Medal for 2022, at the time of writing.

Thanks to volunteer Olive for completing the rota for our Sunday morning meet ups from now until the end of the Summer. We will be meeting up on a Wednesday evening from the start of May at 7pm. Please follow us on Facebook for up to date information on our projects NOW and in to the future.

Last but not least we would like to thank our Volunteers who turn out in great numbers every week. We are very lucky to have such a dedicated group.

Mary Molloy - PRO Maynooth Tidy Towns Association



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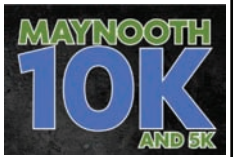
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Maynooth 10k 2023 Photo Gallery

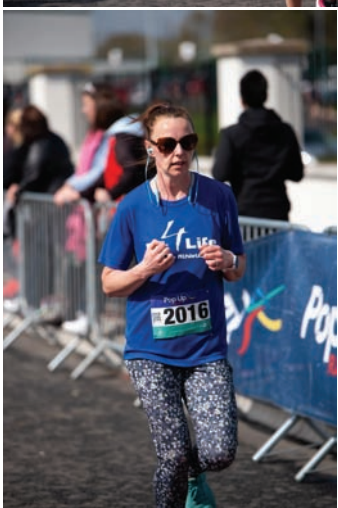
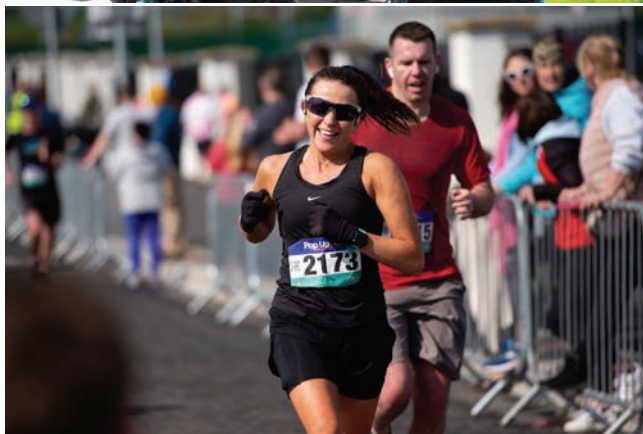
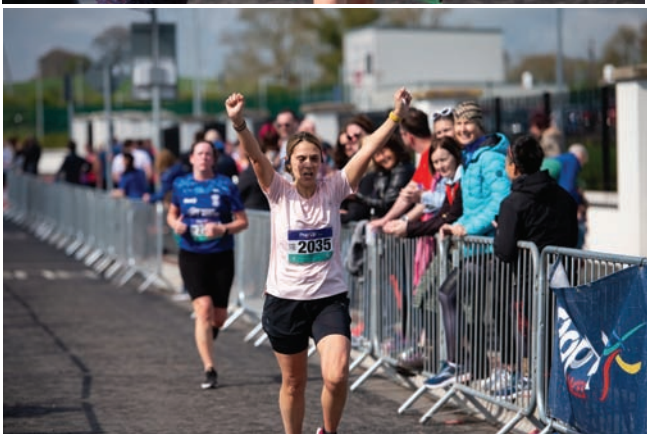
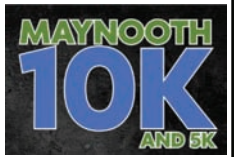
Photos courtesy of Mark Colfer





Maynooth 10k 2023 Photo Gallery

Photos courtesy of Mark Colfer



Maynooth University organises community clean-up of the Royal Canal and Maynooth Harbour

Students, staff and regional community organisations rolled up their sleeves this week to support a clean-up of the Royal Canal, helping to breathe new life into Maynooth Harbour and the historic canal network. Organised by the Maynooth Green Campus and An Taisce's Clean Coasts, the canal clean-up saw more than 50 volunteers weigh in with kayaks, pickers and stacks of recycling and waste bags to help clear refuse from along the canal banks.

These volunteers came across the community, including Maynooth Tidy Towns, the Maynooth Irish Country Woman's Association, Zero Waste Maynooth, MU EnviroSoc, MU Canoeing & Kayaking Club (MUCK) and members of the Maynooth Student Union. In total, 12 bags of waste were collected and among the items gathered were cans, bottles, footballs, plastic bags and a shopping trolley. The contents of six waste bags went for recycling. The canal clean-up had been planned for mid-March as part of An Taisce's National Green Week, but it had to be postponed due to freezing temperatures. Rescheduling to mid-April worked out even better, as the milder temperatures brought volunteers out in large numbers.

Although there was a lot of work involved in organising the event, MGC Coordinator Mireia Guardino Ferran was delighted with how the day turned out, particularly the cross-community collaboration.

"I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication during the event and to everyone from the wider Maynooth community who took part. We are extremely lucky to have such a fantastic amenity on our doorstep. Thanks to our combined efforts, we have made great steps to improving the canal from an aesthetic and environmental perspective," she said.

"Given the enthusiasm we experienced today and the willingness of people to do something positive for their local environments, we now hope to be able to run the canal clean up as an annual event."

In addition to being a great resource and amenity for the people who live alongside or close by the Royal Canal, it also plays a very important role in sustaining native wildlife, according to Dr Jim Carolan, Maynooth Green Campus Chairperson.

"The Royal Canal itself is home to many species of fish including roach, bream and pike in addition to the vast array of invertebrate and aquatic plant species," said Dr Carolan. "We also find mammals such as otters, badgers, foxes, and birds such as herons, swans, and even kingfishers along the canal. The hedgerows offer bird nesting sites, and the flowering plants found along canals sustain many important pollinator species, including bees, hoverflies and butterflies.

"As we could see today, there is significant biodiversity associated with our canals, highlighting the importance of developing canal greenways in general and improving biodiversity along their routes. Events like today's are crucial for engaging with and educating our communities about the importance of our local environments and appreciating and protecting the biodiversity on our doorsteps, while we still can."



*Maynooth University students and staff partnered with local community groups for a clean-up of the Royal Canal.
Photos by Maxwell Photography.*

The Maynooth Green Campus is part of An Taisce's Green Campus Network and is made up of staff and students from Maynooth University and St Patrick's College Maynooth and the local community groups. It encourages the community to take action on environmental sustainability through teaching, research, public engagement and other campus activities and beyond.

They regularly organise events such as Green Campus Week, Sustainability Expos, and edible garden and biodiversity walks that are open to staff, students, and the public. For more information on the MGC and to see upcoming events, please see <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/green-campus>

Minister Heydon launches €7m Digital and Data Research Programmes

The Innovation Value Institute (IVI) at Maynooth University has been selected to lead the €7 million Digi+ and ENTRUST programmes that are focussed on sustainable digital transformation and data. The programmes are funded by the EC under the Marie Skłodowska-Curie programme and Digi+ is also co-funded by Lero and ADAPT; both world leading Science Foundation Ireland (SFI) Research Centres.

Data Driven technology is viewed by many as the next frontier for agriculture and a crucial component required to achieve a sustainable ecosystem, yet there remains a global challenge with a lack of skills and expertise in this space. ENTRUST tackles this challenge head on through the formation of a doctoral network that brings together 16 leading European research institutions.

This will attract top tier doctoral candidates who will emerge as leading experts in addressing current challenges around data governance in agriculture and farming. They will provide evidence based information in relation to the adoption of Data Technologies in order to allow farmers to unlock data potential while safeguarding their data. The Entrust programme will build towards a fair and trustworthy agri-data space that is aligned with the European Data Strategy and Green deal.

This places Ireland at the forefront of agri data driven technology on an international stage. Speaking on the announcement of the awards, Martin Heydon, Minister of State for the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with special responsibility for Research and Development, Farm Safety and New Market Development said: "I am delighted to announce Maynooth University has successfully been selected to lead the 7m €Digi+ and ENTRUST programmes in these two European research initiatives. I commend the Irish researchers involved for their success in these highly competitive research calls. The research will contribute to Digital innovation which is fundamental to achieving sustainability in all its forms. Ireland's agri-food sector has been making good progress in embracing technology and innovation in recent years. These awards highlight Ireland has an innovative, competitive, and resilient agri-food sector, driven by technology and talent."

The Digi+ programme complements the goals of ENTRUST through its multi-sector focus addressing the global challenges of sustainable digital and data ecosystems. Embedded within Ireland's leading SFI-funded research centres, Lero and Adapt, and led by Maynooth University, it brings together a group of world-leading experts that will develop a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative research leaders, able to face current and future challenges aligned with EU's Digital and Green Agenda.

Ireland will benefit significantly from this cohort of 20 highly skilled Postdoctoral Researchers that the programme will fund. They will work towards advancing digital transformation practices, addressing vital areas such as new and innovative business models, accelerating digital and data skills, developing forward looking data governance and business models while ensuring alignment to the EU sustainable development goals. Ireland is well positioned to be a leader in the digital and data economy and this €7m investment will contribute strongly to Ireland's continued sustainability and progression towards world leading status both in the private and public sector.

Professor Markus Helfert, Director of the Innovation Value Institute and the Science Foundation Ireland EMPOWER Data Governance Programme explains: "The cross-disciplinary focus on sustainable digital transformation and data will deliver significant positive impact on multiple sectors including agriculture, health, climate, fintech, construction and manufacturing.

"This investment will drive the co-creation of new ways of doing business, creating value and moving from 'potential' to 'real' benefits for companies and public sector organisations. At IVI, we are looking forward to working with our partners and prospective new partners to achieve these goals and advancing the digital and data research fields."

Professor Eeva Leinonen, President of Maynooth University said: "At Maynooth University, we are delighted to play a world leading role towards achieving sustainable digital and data ecosystems. With a growing focus on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors, Digi+ and ENTRUST are timely initiatives that will address the challenges across the ESG spectrum through a highly collaborative engagement model that benefits from the Digital and Data expertise in IVI."



Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

Benefits of Downsizing your home

Downsizing your home can happen for a number of reasons—size of your home, health reasons or to release equity. Here are some tips.

Are you struggling to deal with the upkeep of your home or finding the related costs hard to handle? Are you eager for a change, want to simplify your life, or start a new phase in life. If you can relate to these issues, downsizing your property may be the answer. Downsizing is when you buy a smaller home than the one you currently have. It's often a decision made by those who now have an empty nest, are finding it challenging to maintain their house, or want to release equity. However, it can also be due to a change in lifestyle, mobility issues, or the loss of a loved one. So, how do you know when you're ready to downsize? If you can relate to any of the following issues, it's time to consider downsizing:

- Location - you want to live in a town or village with good transport links and plenty of amenities, making you less dependent on a car and increasing your security.
- Your house is too big - your family has left the nest, and you're living in the house with your spouse or perhaps by yourself.
- Maintenance - you find it challenging and time-consuming to maintain your house, which can be costly to pay someone to handle or impossible to find someone to do it.
- Release equity - you want to free up money to help a family member get on the property ladder or travel in your retirement.
- Reduce costs of running a home - you're living in a big old house with a low Building Energy Rating (BER), which must be hard and costly to heat.
- More independence - you want to be independent and manage your house yourself, or perhaps you live alone and don't drive, and being located near transport links would make you feel more independent.
- Change of lifestyle - retirement is one of the most common reasons to downsize your home, cutting basic expenses and creating more retirement income.
- Health or mobility - for mobility reasons, it may be easier for you to live in a bungalow.

Starting a new phase of your life can be exciting. Understanding what your needs are is vital in finding your next home.

Get a sheet of paper and write them down. Get a valuation of your current property to budget for your next home.

Speak to an estate agent who will work with you to not alone sell your property but also help to find your next home.

Downsizing your property can be a smart move, providing you with a simpler and more comfortable lifestyle.

Advantages of Downsizing - Financial Savings

One of the most significant advantages of downsizing is the financial savings it can offer. A smaller home typically means lower mortgage payments, property taxes, and utility bills.

Additionally, the proceeds from the sale of your large home can be used to pay off debt, invest, or even finance your retirement.

Reduced Maintenance

Maintaining a large home can be time-consuming and expensive. By downsizing, you can significantly reduce the amount of maintenance required. A smaller property generally means less cleaning, fewer repairs, and lower gardening costs, freeing up time and resources for other activities.

Increased Energy Efficiency

Smaller homes are typically more energy-efficient than larger properties. With less space to heat and cool, you can expect to see a reduction in your energy bills.

Additionally, downsizing presents the opportunity to invest in energy-efficient upgrades or choose a newer property with modern, eco-friendly features.

Better Use of Space

As you downsize, you'll have the opportunity to reassess your living space and prioritise what is truly important.

This process encourages you to declutter and streamline your belongings, resulting in a more functional and efficient living environment.

Access to Amenities

Downsizing often leads to moving into a more urban location, granting you closer access to amenities such as shops, restaurants, healthcare services, and public transportation.

This convenience can improve your quality of life and reduce your reliance on driving.

Increased Free Time

With fewer responsibilities and lower maintenance requirements, downsizing your home can provide you with more free time.

This newfound freedom allows you to pursue hobbies, travel, or spend quality time with family and friends.

Simplified Lifestyle

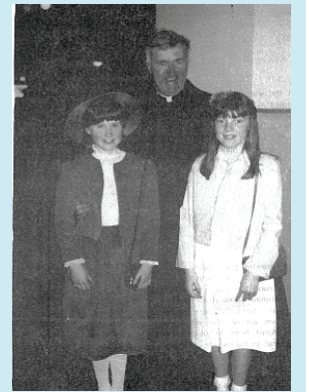
Downsizing encourages a simpler, more minimalist lifestyle. By reducing clutter and focusing on what truly matters, you can experience a more organised and stress-free way of living. This can lead to improved mental health and overall well-being.

Opportunities for New Experience

Finally, downsizing opens the door to new experiences and opportunities. Whether it's exploring a new neighborhood, making new friends, or trying new hobbies, the process of downsizing can be an exciting adventure.



Memories of Old Maynooth - Photos from the Archive



May Events at Maynooth Community Library

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



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Children's Events

Africa Day Storytime: Folktales from an African Childhood

Tuesday 23rd May at 3.30pm

Join author Toluwani Akaehomen and Philomena for this wonderful Storytime to celebrate Africa Day. Back in the day in Africa, parents and grandparents entertained the children with folktales. These stories ranged from why things were the way they were, for example, how the Tortoise got the cracks on its shell. These stories were participatory as the children asked questions and received funny answers in return. It was always a night to look forward to. Suitable for ages 3-12. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Book tickets via Ticket Tailor here:

<https://buytickets.at/maynoothlibrary/904258>

Adult Events

Breast Feeding Support Group with Public Health Nurse

Tuesday 9th & Tuesday 23rd May 9.30am - 10.45am

Maynooth community Library

The group will be facilitated by the Public Health Nurse (PHN). All breast-feeding Mums and Mums to be welcome. Women who are pregnant are welcome as this will give the opportunity to ask any breastfeeding questions.

No booking needed, just drop in. ***Please ring the library doorbell between 9.30am & 10am as the library doors will be closed, and you will be let in***

Kildare Libraries Let's Talk about Parenting Programme
Free Play, Risk and Social and Emotional Development Presented by Dr Mary O'Kane

Tuesday 9th May, 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Maynooth Community Library

Social and Emotional skills are some of the most important skills for young children to develop. Free play is very important in this regard. In our culture today children are often deprived of freedom for exploration. In this talk Mary explores the value and impact of opportunities for free play.

Book here:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/letstalkaboutparenting/833976>

Young Adult Events

Online Teen Writers Group

Thursday 4th May, 6pm – 7pm

Online

Open to Teens and Tweens to enjoy writing, Maynooth Teen Writers Group meets online for an hour, once to twice a month. This is a relaxed and friendly environment to talk about writing, get some feedback if they wish and also very important quiet writing time.

Contact Maynooth Library at maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie or 045 980 493 for more information. Keep an eye out for our special event with an author in June!

Teen Book Club for Ages 12-15

Friday 12th May, 4pm – 5pm

Maynooth Library

Maynooth Library has started a book club for ages 12 to 15 and it needs you!- or any book lovers you know. This is a book club with a difference; while there is always a suggested book to pick up, members can read whatever they like and share their best BookTok recommendations or chose one of our picks below. Keep an eye out for our special event with an author in June!

Available for Pickup now:

'Prim Improper' by Deirdre Sullivan (younger readers)

'The Inheritance Games' by Jennifer Lynn Barnes (13+)

Climate Action Events

Zero Waste Maynooth

Saturday 13th May, 2- 4pm

Maynooth Community Library

Ladies clothes swap - bring up to three items of clothing & swap for something new to you

Kids toy swap - let's start swapping and making it fun.

Craft Corner -Vanessa from The Craft Corner will be at the swap to answer any mending questions when it comes to your clothes. She will have her sewing machine also for any questions.

No booking needed, just drop in

Exhibitions

Bike Week 2023 Exhibition

Wednesday 17th May, 10am - 5pm

Maynooth Community Library

This exhibition for bike week 2023 will cover many aspects of the history of cycling, including from the original 'running bike' to modern bicycles, cycling and its social role in the 19th century and Specialist military-use bicycles in the Allied Armies in World War Two.

Maynooth Community Library's Exhibition Space Open for Bookings

If you are a local artist or art group and would like to book our exhibition space, please contact us. Maynooth Community Library's Exhibition Space is available to host exhibitions from March 2024. For booking enquiries, please email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie.

Library Groups and Regular Groups

Craft & Knitting Club

Every Monday 11.30am – 13.00

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

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

Thursday 25th May 6.30pm-7.30pm

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 contact Maynooth Library at maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie or 045 980493.

Book Clubs

The Tuesday Murder Club: Crime Book Club

Tuesday 9th May 7pm - 7.50pm

The Crime Book Club will meet on Tuesday 11th April 7.00pm – 7.50pm. The club will continue to meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. If you'd like to join, please email Maynooth Community Library at maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie.

Wednesday Readers Book Club

Wednesday 17th May 11.00am – 12.00pm

The Wednesday Readers Book Club meet on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. New members welcome! Please contact maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie or telephone 045980493 for further details.

Free attractions in Dublin

From acclaimed museums and art galleries to city beaches and street musicians, you can still tap into the city's culture and charm without spending a cent.

Enjoy the epic Phoenix Park

The ultimate urban escape, Phoenix Park is the largest enclosed city park in Europe, and gives serious bang for zero bucks. Join the walkers and joggers, cyclists and cricketers, footballers and families, who all come to breathe fresh air, enjoy the cultural and historic sites, spot the herds of fallow deer and catch a glimpse of the park's most famous resident, the President of Ireland.

Planning tip: Áras an Uachtaráin, the president's official residence, offers free guided tours on Saturdays, which need to be booked in advance.



Take a day trip to Howth Head

The perfect day trip from the city center, Howth offers quintessential fishing village vibes without leaving the capital. The Cliff Walk passes beautiful private houses before rewarding walkers with spectacular views across Dublin Bay. There are four waymarked routes to follow with the full loop achievable in 3 hours. Look out for seals and seabirds, the small islands of Ireland's Eye and Lambay, and the Secret Beach (safest to admire from above). If the budget allows, don't leave Howth without sampling fresh fish and chips on the seafront.



Tour the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland

Tropical plants, spectacular structures and frisky squirrels are some of the delights on offer at the National Botanic Gardens of Ireland. Home to Ireland's only tropical rainforest, the Turner Curvilinear Range and Great Palm House are the country's most famous greenhouses, with exotic orchids, cacti, bamboo and bananas thriving under glass. Covering 50 acres in Glasnevin, the gardens are a haven of endangered species, rare trees and fragrant

flowers. Planning tip: There are free guided talks on Sundays and [downloadable official audio guides](#).

Hunt for ancient treasures at the National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology

Prehistoric gold, Viking weapons, ancient ceramics and medieval shrines are some of the startling objects on display in the National Museum of Ireland, Archaeology. This Kildare St museum combines interactive displays with themed exhibitions.

Planning tip: Daily guided tours will transport you back in time, via original objects, from the Stone Age to Medieval Ireland.

Stroll Dún Laoghaire's East Pier and take a swim

A confection of Victorian and Georgian terraces overlooking a large harbor, the coastal suburb of Dún Laoghaire has drawn Dubliners for generations to enjoy a leisurely stroll along its East Pier. In summer, continue to walk south along the shore to join the bathers on tiny Sandycove Beach, or head around the corner to the Forty Foot Pool, Ireland's most famous swimming spot.

Marvel at modern masterpieces at IMMA

Housed in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, a magnificent 17th-century building modeled on Les Invalides in Paris, the Irish Museum of Modern Art – IMMA – has a setting worthy of the contemporary treasures held inside. Ramble the corridors and galleries discovering works by Le Brocq, Freud and Mary Swanzy amongst installations, sculptures and moving images.

Soak up the views in the Dublin Mountains

Encircling the city, the Dublin Mountains might only pass for hills in other parts of the world, but what they lack in height they more than make up for with scenery. There are trails for every fitness level with Carrickgollogan Forest Walk a good entry level one. Popular with mountain bikers and families, the disused stone chimney of the leadmine, with its twisty staircase, is mesmerizing, while the viewing rock enables spectacular panoramas from south Dublin to north Wicklow.



Go people-watching on Grafton St and St Stephen's Green

You're never far from music in Dublin, and the city's buskers provide year-round entertainment along pedestrianised Grafton St. Catch a tune, move along to the next entertainer and soak up the vibes with the crowds. Then head to nearby St Stephen's Green, the grandest Georgian park in Dublin and fashionable since opening to the public in 1880. With 9 hectares of manicured lawns, colorful flower beds, a Victorian bandstand, pond and playground, it's a calm space to grab a bench or hang out on the grass. There will be swans and sculptures, ducks and dogs, but this is the ultimate place for people-watching.

Go on a seaside nature walk along Dollymount Strand

Connected to the coast at both ends, long and skinny North Bull Island is a glorious nature reserve tucked into Dublin Bay. Come to jog or walk along the three-mile Dollymount Strand, spotting seals at the northern end and kite surfers at the southern one. Migratory birds nest in the dunes, making it a popular spot for birders, with the chilly waters populated year-round by swimmers. There are designated bathing areas, should you feel like joining them.

Source: www.lonelyplanet.com/articles/top-free-things-to-do-in-dublin

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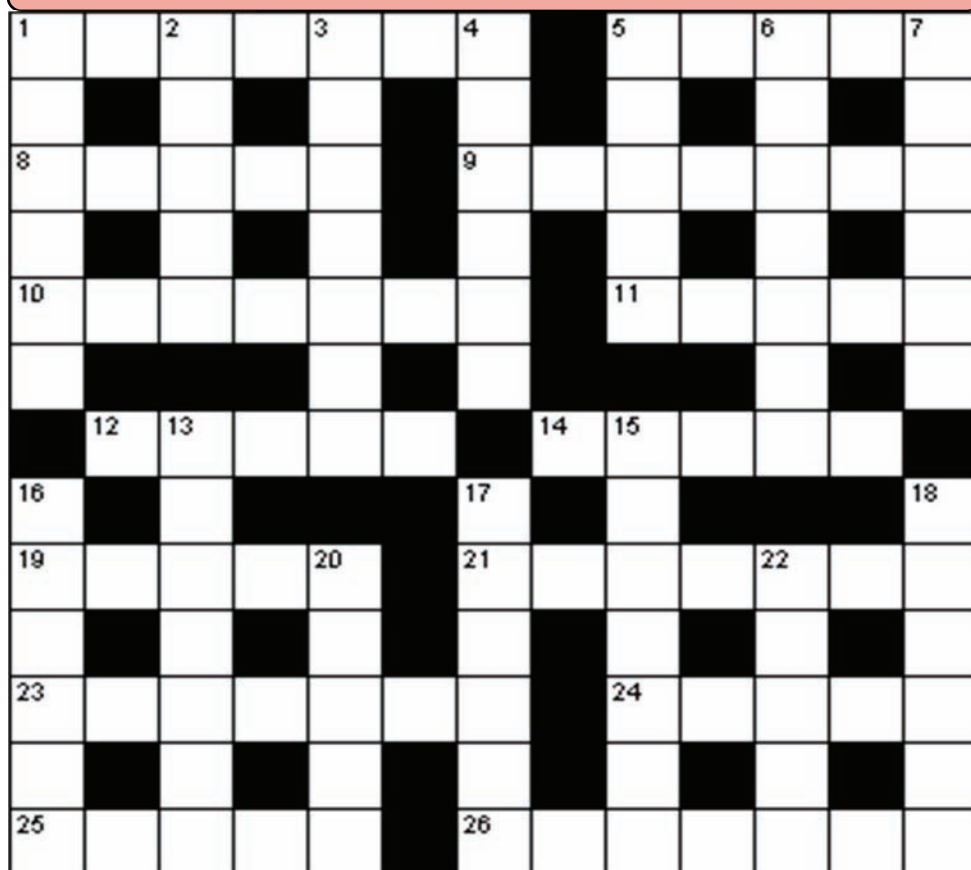
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May 2023 Crossword - No. 523



Clues Across

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Buccaneers (7) | 19. Regular hexahedrons (5) |
| 5. African equine (5) | 21. Residence (7) |
| 8. Serious (5) | 23. Greed (7) |
| 9. Disregarded (7) | 24. Deportation (5) |
| 10. Abhorrent (7) | 25. Choose (5) |
| 11. Beer mug (5) | 26. Journeyman (7) |
| 12. Intense (5) | |
| 14. Thicket (5) | |



Solutions to Crossword No. 522



Clues Down

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Rector (6) | 15. Remnant (7) |
| 2. Kind of puzzle (5) | 16. Abrasion (6) |
| 3. Deluge (7) | 17. Photographic equipment (6) |
| 4. Grabbed (6) | 18. Aft (6) |
| 5. Regions (5) | 20. Change position (5) |
| 6. Edges (7) | 22. Ways out (5) |
| 7. Fervent (6) | |
| 13. Vegetable (7) | |

Difficult

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

Sudoku Challenge

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

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 only.


Chicken Supreme

Prep: 5 mins
Cook:40 mins
Easy
Serves 2
Enjoy this creamy chicken supreme with mashed potato and steamed green veggies. It makes an easy midweek meal for two

Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil
1 tbsp butter
1 small onion, thinly sliced
50g smoked bacon lardons
1 garlic clove, crushed
2 skin-on chicken breasts
1 tsp plain flour
50ml white wine
150ml double cream
½ tbsp Dijon mustard
½ small bunch of parsley, very finely chopped

Prep: 5 mins
Cook:40 mins



Method

Step 1
Heat half the oil and butter in a large non-stick frying pan. Add the onion and a pinch of salt and fry for 10-15 mins or until golden brown and caramelised. Add the bacon, turn up the heat and cook for 5 mins or until golden brown. Add the garlic and cook for 1 min more. Scrape the mixture into a bowl and set aside.

Step 2
Heat the remaining oil and butter in the same pan over a medium-high heat. Season the chicken skin and fry, skin-side down, for 8-10 mins or until deep golden brown and crisp. Flip over and fry for 5 mins on the other side

Step 3
Add the onion and bacon mixture back to the pan. Stir through the flour and cook for 2 mins. Pour in the wine, bring to the boil and simmer for a few minutes.


Step 4
Stir through the cream and mustard and simmer over a low heat, uncovered, for 5 mins with the chicken skin-side up. Season to taste. Scatter with parsley, if you like, and serve with mashed potatoes and greens.

Vanilla-Roasted Rhubarb and Strawberries

Ingredients
4 Servings
4 rhubarb stalks (about 1 pound), trimmed, cut on a sharp diagonal into 2-inch pieces
12 large strawberries (about 1/2 pound), hulled and halved
1/4 cup bourbon or water
1/4 cup sugar
4-inch piece of vanilla bean, split lengthwise
Greek yogurt, honey, chopped pistachios

Step 1

Combine rhubarb, strawberries, bourbon, and sugar in a medium bowl. Scrape in seeds from vanilla bean. Cut bean into 4 pieces and add to bowl; stir mixture until sugar begins to dissolve.




Step 2

Place four 16x12" sheets of parchment paper, or heavy-duty foil if grilling, on a work surface. Divide mixture evenly among sheets, arranging on one side of each sheet. Fold parchment over mixture and crimp edges tightly to form a sealed packet. DO AHEAD: Foil packets can be made 4 hours ahead; parchment packets should not be made ahead. Chill. Let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before continuing.

Step 3

Preheat oven to 425°. Place packets on a small rimmed baking sheet. Alternatively, build a medium fire in a charcoal grill, or heat a gas grill to medium-high. Bake or grill packets until rhubarb is tender but not mushy (carefully open 1 packet to check; steam will escape), 10–12 minutes for thinner rhubarb, 14–16 minutes for thicker. Carefully cut open packets. Transfer mixture to bowls. Top with yogurt, honey, and pistachios.



One serving contains:
Calories (kcal) 200 Fat (g) 4 Saturated Fat (g) 1 Cholesterol (mg) 5 Carbohydrates (g) 33 Dietary Fiber (g) 4 Total Sugars (g) 26 Protein (g) 4 Sodium (mg) 20



May Gardening

The Bridge between the Spring Bulb Rush and Summer

In time to prune spring shrubs as they go out of flower, such as forsythia, flowering currant, kerria and spring spirea, but only if necessary, if the plants are getting too big for the position in which they are growing, or if they are becoming misshapen. The pruning should remove the older shoots of shrubs and allow new wood to take their place. Water young trees and hedging if there is a dry spell. Continue to spray roses against blackspot disease, especially after wet weather. Water recently planted trees and shrubs in dry spells to encourage rooting out in to the surrounding soil. Dahlias and corms of gladiolus can be planted out where they are to flower.



Containers and baskets of summer bedding flowers, such as petunias and verbenas, can be planted up now. With increasing temperatures, slugs and snails can very quickly cause severe damage to susceptible plants like hostas and ligularias. Dahlias can be attacked by slugs as they come through the soil and sometimes this is difficult to spot. Bedding plants should be grown on strongly to get good size, spacing the plants well to give them room to grow before planting out. There is still time to sow hardy annual flowers for a spot of colour later on. Bedding tulips and other bulbs can be lifted and moved to a place where they will be allowed to flower again in future years.

As the weather warms during this period and daylight is more intense, lawns respond with strong growth and regular mowing is necessary. If a lawn is growing well, it will not need feeding for a while but as soon as its growth slows or the colour begins to fade, it should get some lawn fertilizer or high-nitrogen fertilizer. Take care of the edging now around the margins of flower beds or borders, or where a lawn meets a driveway or wall, before the grass gets long. Apple and pear trees often get apple or pear scab disease and check for greenflies in large numbers. Sowing of vegetables can continue if the ground is dry enough, especially french beans, summer turnips, carrots, peas and salad crops.

Repeat sowings of those sown early, such as lettuce, radish and peas, can be made. Thin out vegetable seedlings that have reached suitable size. Sow cabbage and cauliflower for autumn and winter. Sweet corn and runner beans can be sown directly outdoors but, with outdoor sowing of these tender crops, a lot depends on the summer weather for success. In May your indoor plants are in need of some extra care! The temperatures shoot up a notch this month so you can give them a little more water. Add some soluble plant food to the watering can once a week when watering. Your plants will benefit from a bit of housekeeping. As you water, you can also gently wipe the dust off the leaves, remove dead leaves and spent blooms and pinch back leggy-looking stems to help them branch out.

