

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



#### Local News - April 2024 - Issue No. 533 - Online Version

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Kildare

#### MAYNOOTH ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE 17th MARCH 2024 FÉILE LÁ FHÉILE PHÁDRAIG MHAIGH NUAD 17Ú MÁRTA 2024 Parade Photo Gallery on Pages 15, 16, 17 & 18



Reflecting on Maynooth's St. Patrick's Day Parade, I'm overwhelmed with pride and gratitude. This year's event was spectacular, filled with energy, plenty of pirates, and an incredible sense of community.

Over 2,500 participants from various parts of our community made the parade vibrant, stretching from the Straffan Road to Dublin Road, in front of 15,000 spectators. The unity and spirit shown was truly uplifting.

A big thank you to everyone involved, especially:

- Our volunteers and the Parade Committee for their work on the day and months leading up to it; Steve, Gerry, Paul and Colm.

- The staff and John Doogan in Maynooth Community Employment
- Project (MCEP) for all of their assistance and support.
- Maynooth Autism Friendly Town for running the Quiet Zone.
- Matthew Lennon for his music and entertainment.
- Willie Kiernan, for ensuring the day sounded as good as it looked.
- Paul Croghan, whose work as MC kept us all entertained and informed.
- The volunteers from the Men's Sheds and Kildare Volunteer Centre,
- whose dedication was the backbone of this event.

- Patricia, Catherine and Joe, not only for their stewarding efforts but also for judging the shop front windows.

- Our photographers, Mark Colfer, Liam O'Brien and Eamonn Kearns
- The Gardaí for their assistance and road closures.

Your enthusiasm, support, and hard work are what make this day unforgettable year after year.

Our heartfelt gratitude extends to the local businesses for their support; Kildare County Council, Hutton & Meade, Taxy, Manor Mills, Brady's, O'Neill's, Glenroyal Hotel, Elite, Maynooth Post Office, Powderly Solicitors, SAP Landscaping, Life Credit Union, AIB Maynooth, Maynooth Bookshop, Coonan, McMahons, Sherry Fitzgerald, The Roost, Corcom, Maynooth University, Picaderos. Naoise Ó Cearúil Chairperson Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee

#### **Community Person of the Year: Patrick Boyd Special Recognition Award: Maynooth Tidy Towns**

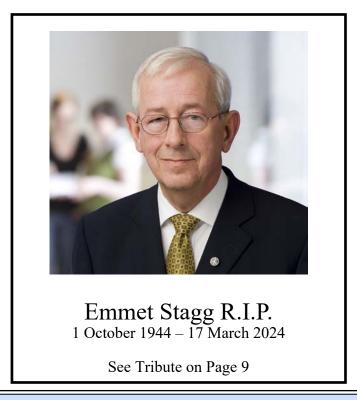
#### Winners:

- Best School Float: Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich
- Best Commercial Float: Barberstown Castle
- Best Portrayal of Theme: Maynooth GAA Club
- Best Portrayal of Irish Culture (Dr. Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin Perpetual Trophy): Gaelscoil Ruairí
- Best Club: North Kildare Club

#### **Best Shop Fronts**

1st: O'Neills





The success of this event is a collective achievement, showcasing our community's strength and passion. I'm already looking forward to next year, aiming to keep this tradition a highlight of our community's spirit and cultural pride.

Thank you, Maynooth, for a fantastic year. Here's to the next! Beirigí Bua!

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Find us on Facebook	<b>Editorial</b> April is already here and with Easter being so early this year the month starts on a bank holiday. As a child April 1 <sup>st</sup> was a great day when you tried to trick people so you could call them an April fool. This practice seems to have been forgotten but best be aware that you could be tricked on the day. April 2 <sup>nd</sup> marks
Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s	the annual World Autism Awareness Day which was first marked in 2007
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.	following a resolution proposed by the representative from Qatar and adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Readers will know that in Maynooth there has been a well-received campaign to promote awareness of autism over the past year. Looking at the social media page of the group working on this campaign it is wonderful to see the support that the campaign has secured
Registered as a Charity in Ireland RCN # 20100063 - CHY # 21086	from the businesses and community groups in Maynooth. This was acknowledged when Maynooth achieved "AsIAm Autism Friendly Town"
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	accreditation in February. Well done to everyone involved and it shows yet again when a project is approached in a positive way that the whole community gets behind it.
addressed to: The Editor, Maynooth Newsletter, Unit 10, Tesco S.C. Carton Retail Park, Maynooth, Co. Kildare. W23CT59 Tel: 01-6285922 E-mail: office@maynoothcep.com	As someone who had the opportunity to support the provision of primary school education for children with autism, I know how important getting school places are for a child's development and it is great to see the success of the positive promotion of autism has been progressed in Maynooth. So hopefully we will also have school places available for children with autism in the local schools when needed at all levels.
Website: www.maynoothcep.com	Like many of you Saturday is takeaway food day most weeks in my house and I have to acknowledge the fact that I have noticed that takeaway food is being increasingly delivered in paper packaging instead of plastic containers. April 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor, for publication, should be sent by e-mail to: editor@maynoothcep.com	marks Earth Day which was first marked in 1970 and has evolved into a global effort to reverse the damage being done to our environment by a range of initiatives and education.
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.	Work has progressed on achieving a Maynooth Decarbonisation Zone and I expect more information on the plans to achieve this when the Maynooth Area Local Area Plan is published. Meanwhile maybe if we all took a few minutes to reflect on our personal impact on our environment during Earth Day we could make some changes to our habits. Like most things big outcomes are achieved by starting with a few small steps. The Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024 was again a great success with an estimated 2,500 participants and 15,000 spectators. The amount of work
<ul> <li>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:</li> <li>In the case of errors of fact we will publish corrections when we become aware of such.</li> </ul>	put in behind the scenes to organise such a huge event goes unnoticed by most. Our thanks to Naoise Ó Cearúil and the Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for their continued efforts to organise the parade every year. Thanks also to the Maynooth Men's Shed and all the volunteers who helped manage the event on the day, to all the participants who made the effort on the day to participate and to the huge crowds of spectators who turned up on the day to make the event extra special.
• In the case of unwittingly or unfairly impugning the reputation of any person we hereby offer that person the right to reply.	Paul Croghan Editor
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. <b>Maynooth Newsletter Archives</b> 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 -	

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#### 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.



#### <u>Disclaimer</u>

While every care has been taken to display accurate information, Maynooth Newsletter will not be held responsible for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused as a result of any inaccuracy or error within.

All information should be verified from an independent source.

**Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter** 

#### Copy date for the May edition will be 5pm on Friday 26th April 2024





Gold Medal Winners 2016 - 2017 - 2018 2019 - 2021 - 2022 2023

March was a mixed month for our Tidy Towns clean ups weather-wise. We had to cancel one of our meet ups due to inclement weather. We still got lots of work completed. 50 trees planted on Old Greenfield, we are trying to keep on top of the scuffling by removing the weeds early in the year as we do not use any weed killers. Litter is still a problem.

It's wonderful to see all the Spring blossom's emerging around the town. I'm sure you will recall we planted thousands of Daffodils, Tulips, Crocus's back in the Autumn. Many of our bees are emerging from their winter slumber, please be mindful of them in your gardens and help them survive.

Congratulations to L'Art du Chocolat, Main Street, which was the 1st recipient of our Shop Front award for the month of February. We will select another winner for March, April etc.

We are still progressing the Heritage Trail by erecting story boards around the town for the self guided walks. Our members are organising trails on request especially from our local schools.

## We are holding our National Spring Clean on the 27th April and our AGM will be held in The Glenroyal Hotel on the 25th April at 7.30pm.

We are always looking for volunteers and we have been very fortunate in our endeavours over the last 10 years. We meet every Saturday at 9am at our Shed in The Council Car Park.





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#### We will be organising Wednesday evening meet ups sometime in April.

Please follow our Facebook page for more up to date information: @ MaynoothTidyTownsAssociation. Mary Molloy - Maynooth Tidy Towns Association PRO

# **Online Office**

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## 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



**Clir. Angela Feeney** 









## Tel. 087 238 1962 Email. angelafeeney@gmail.com Stay safe everyone.



#### **Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee**

Spring has arrived! Our Art classes are going great and our members are producing lovely works of art. We hope to have an exhibition of art works for the month of June in Maynooth Community Library. We will be busy getting prepared for this event. More details to come.



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Painting by Una Murphy

We would like to extend our thanks to Dominic and Alan O'Keeffe who nominated Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee as the charity of choice at the recent Rock n Rory musical event which took place in the Roost on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. It was a fantastic night of music with amazing performers - Mr. Ffrench Quartet, Calling Cards and Strutter.

There was a generous raffle and

an auction of a portrait of Phil Lynott by Dominic O'Keeffe. The generosity of those in attendance was astounding. All the proceeds went to Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee which is very much appreciated by our organisation. Thanks to all involved.



#### AGM NOTICE

We will be having our AGM on April 8 in the Geraldine Hall at 8pm. All welcome. We would like to welcome new volunteers. If you feel you can commit to specific activities throughout the year, we would like to hear from you.



Susan Durack, PRO Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee... maynoothseniorcitizens@gmail.com

#### Facts about April

- The etymology behind the word "April" comes from the verb "aperire," which means "to open." It's commonly believed that the word refers to the season of trees and flowers begin to "open" or bloom.
- Those who were born in April have a diamond as their birthstone, which represents innocence. Their birth flower is either a Daisy or a Sweet Pea.
- There are two zodiac signs in April. Aries, which is until April 19th, and Taurus, which is April 20th and onwards.
- April is a great month for meteor showers. One of which is the Lyrids meteor shower, which appears from April 16th to April 26th each year. There's another one called the Eta Aquariids meteor shower that can be seen onwards from April 21st.
- There are quite a few notable historical people born in April, such as Leonardo da Vinci, Shakespeare, and Queen Elizabeth II.
- On April 14, 1912, the famous Titanic ship hit an iceberg and sank on her first and only voyage.
- George Washington was inaugurated as the First President of the United States on April 30, 1789.
- Back in the time of the Ancient Romans, April was sacred to the goddess Venus.
- One of the most well-known dates of the month is April Fools' Day on the 1st of the month. No one is sure where this originated from, but some believe it to be inspired by Geoffrey Chaucer's story in "Canterbury Tales" called "Nun's Priest's Tale."
- On April 11, 1970, Apollo 13 was launched and ran into difficulties about two days later. It was then that the famous line "Houston, we've had a problem here" was said, and is today usually misquoted.

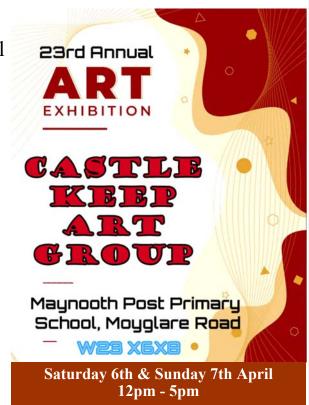
#### It is exhibition time again.... Castle Keep Art Group Annual Art Exhibition

We are delighted to announce that we will be holding

our annual art exhibition in the Post Primary School in the Maynooth Education Campus on the Moyglare Road (W23X6X8).

If you are out for a drive or stroll, do drop in on Saturday 6th or Sunday 7th April. We are open from 12pm to 5pm. **Admission Free.** 

We hope to have c.100 works on display from our members.

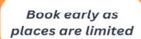


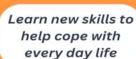
All welcome.

#### KILDARE supporting U and your mental health

#### 11-week Evidence-based Programme coming to Clane GAA, Clane May 2024







Know that you are not alone

- The explosion of the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine occurred on April 26, 1986, which forced everyone within a 300-mile radius to be evacuated.
- The smaller animals that hibernate for the winter in the Northern Hemisphere usually start coming out of their burrows in April.
- April is also the month that the birds migrate north and settle down for the summer to mate.

And, of course, as we all know, "April showers bring May flowers," so if the rain of April ever gets you down, never forget the silver lining!

Source: www.thefactsite.com/april-facts/

If you are over 18, want to learn to build your mental fitness, boost your confidence and take action to get back on track, then HEADSUP Kildare is the programme for you!

If you would like to know more, contact; Deirdre 085 1068305 Deirdre@countykildarelp.ie or Lorna 085 8421347 Lorna@countykildarelp.ie

Resilence

www.heads-up.ie







## **MAYNOOTH DRESSES**

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VISA

#### St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

The St. Patrick's Day Parades herald the start of the Band's performances for the year and with the Maynooth and Kilcock Parades done and dusted, we look forward to a very successful 2024.

Both Parades received a great reception from the assembled crowds and indeed the Band could have taken part in many parades if timing allowed. One pleasing result from the Maynooth Parade was the presentation of an award to one the Band's longest serving members, Paddy Boyd, in recognition of the service he has given to the Band over the past 69 years. Unfortunately, for family reasons, Paddy could not be with the Band this year but the recognition of his work was really appreciated.



The Band now has a very full diary for the year with visits to the National Stud in Kildare, Farmleigh House in the Phoenix Park and the big event of 2024 is our return visit to the International Music Festival in Bad Orb, Germany in September. Maynooth is not being left out with six concerts planned for the town including a recital in the Chapel of St. Patrick's College in aid of Trocaire on Sunday 26th May when we will again have the Parish Choir as guests.

#### **Finish Line Sayings**

- 1. Don't let the grass grow under your \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. A penny saved is a penny \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. All's fair in love and \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. Better to be safe than \_\_\_\_\_
- 5. Every dark cloud has a silver
- 6. Every dog has its \_\_\_\_\_
- 7. When it rains, it
- 8. Laughter is the best
- 9. Never judge a book by its
- 10. Where there's a will, there's a
- 11. You catch more flies with honey than with
- 12. Put your best foot
- 13. Three strikes and you're \_



- 14. Something old, something new, something borrowed, something \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Diamonds are a girl's best \_\_\_\_\_
- 16. There's no place like \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Two heads are better than \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. Like father, like \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. Money doesn't grow on \_\_\_\_\_



#### Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News E mail: angelaemfeeney@gmail.com - Phone: 0872381962

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#### **Community Space Management**

At the March MD meeting Cllr. Feeney submitted a motion calling on the Council to resume management of the Maynooth Community Space in partnership with the Maynooth Community Employment Project, for the benefit of existing and newly formed community based groups, and with continued advisory support from an integrated and diverse local stakeholder group that will report to the MD.

In speaking to the motion, Cllr. Feeney said that there are many groups in Maynooth in need of a place to gather and while the Community Space is a small space located near Tesco's at the Carton Retail Park, it is much needed. The Space was previously managed by the Maynooth Community Employment Project (MCEP) but in recent years has been managed by the Council. Previously, groups called next door to MCEP to pick up the key, signed in and returned the key. Groups now find the new booking arrangement more difficult; they must email the Council for a booking and it is cumbersome since not everyone is online and it is time consuming. As a result, bookings have gone down and many groups have gone elsewhere looking for space at sports clubs and schools in the area. Cllr. Feeney said that access needs to be simple and that it would make great sense to have it managed locally by people who have successfully done so in the past.

According to Cllr. Feeney, this is an opportunity for an existing Community group, Maynooth Community Employment Project (MCEP), with decades of combined experience, located in the unit literally next door to the Community Space to be involved in managing the Community Space at Carton Retail Unit. MCEP includes members from the University who have expertise in Community Development. It has been a force for social inclusion; committed to giving people the skills to seek employment as well as recording the social footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s. Cllr. Feeney added that, into the future, MCEP can play an important part in any community centre that will be developed for Maynooth in what she hopes will be a near future. She said that having a community centre is not just about having a physical building, that is of course very important but it is also about empowering the community to engage in that space which will be vital to its success. Finally, Cllr. Feeney said that the vast experience and expertise can engage with the Council to support the use of the Community Space by existing and new Community groups.

In its response the Council said, "the management and bookings for Maynooth Community Space is overseen by the Facilities Team in Kildare County Council on behalf of the Community Section. A dedicated email is used for bookings of the community space and those interested in booking the space are required to complete a booking form. The community space is available to all groups and they are invoiced at the end of each month for usage". Cllr. Feeney particularly welcomed the report from the Council where it states, "the Community section is open to explore and work with this group." She suggested running a pilot for a year to see how this might work in practice for the betterment of the community groups in Maynooth.

#### Presentation by MU President at Full Council

Maynooth University President Eava Loeningen presented the Maynooth University Strategic Plan to councillors at the plenary Council on February 26th. In the question and answer session following her presentation, Cllr. Feeney suggested to the President that, while we await a government decision on funding a new pool, consideration might be given to an upgrade of the existing college pool. She said that we live in a time where we are encouraged to 'reuse and recycle'. Cllr. Feeney was very happy she made the suggestion because in the response she was told that discussions have been taking place with the Council about reopening the pool. She was also told that a feasibility study is being done looking at safe access. Cllr. Feeney welcomes this news, as this is a long awaited facility for Maynooth. While we await the newer pool, children can have access to a local swimming facility in the college.

#### Double Yellow Lines at Silken Vale estate

Cllr. Feeney requested a review of the existing double yellow lines in Silken Vale Maynooth. She brought this motion because the residents in Silken Vale have been in touch about the unsafe parking of cars in the estate. This estate is the closest to the train station and many commuters leave their cars parked in the estate when they get the train and it causes problems of safety for residents. The Municipal District Engineer said he will discuss this with the pay parking section in the Council and has agreed to meet Cllr. Feeney and residents on site to look at options. As advised by the area engineer, Cllr. Feeney will ask the residents to agree on a solution and then bring it back to the area engineer. She also intends to raise the issue of enforcement with the Joint Policing Committee when people park on the current double yellow lines.

#### **Playground for Straffan**

Some months back, Cllr. Feeney asked the Council to resume discussions with Straffan GAA about the possibility of providing a playground for Straffan. At the March MD meeting, she asked for an update on the delivery of the playground. The Council said that no further progress has been made in relation to the delivery of a playground in Straffan. The position remains the same that progression of this would be subject to Straffan GAA club redeveloping their existing changing facilities. Additionally, Kildare County Council would need to identify a budget to deliver the playground and any work required to deliver the playground will have to be considered in the context of other project commitments within the Municipal District and across the county. There is also a site identified by the Council's Public Realm team, that is in private ownership, and that might be another option for a site for the much-needed playground.

#### School Places need to be secured

Like many other public representatives, Cllr. Feeney has been assisting many parents and families who are experiencing huge stress to secure a school place for their children, with many on waiting lists for local schools that are at capacity. With continued increased population growth, the provision and access to essential services such as education and health are not keeping pace with that growth and urgent action is needed. Cllr. Feeney with Cllrs. McEvoy, Coleman, Curran, Cussen, Farrelly, Kelly, Liston, Power, Quinn, Ward and Hamilton submitted this motion to the full Council in February:

"That the Council assist with analysis and reports from Census 2022 data and any efforts to coordinate school population data and applications between the Department of Education, the KWETB, and other school patrons to simplify the process of securing school places across the county, particularly in areas where investment in education capacities has yet to align with population expansion".

In the report provided, the Council stated that the Planning and Building Unit of the Department of Education are responsible for, inter alia, identifying the need for school accommodation, prioritising the allocation of resources, and overseeing the delivery of the capital programme. The primary function of the Department of Education's Forward Planning Section is to analyse demographic and enrolment trends and anticipate future demand for primary and post-primary school places to ensure that sufficient school accommodation will be provided. This research informs identification of projects to meet future demands across the Planning and Building Unit of the Department. Kildare County Council Planning Team engage on a continuous and regular basis with the Department of Education under the MOU between the Department of Education and the City and County Management Association. It added that the Council's Forward Planning and Site Acquisition Teams throughout County Development and Local Area Plan preparation, with specific reference to the Social Infrastructure Audit, which inform the plan making processes in terms of educational requirements.

More broadly, the Planning Team in Kildare County Council liaise directly with the Department of Education on school requirements, site identification, site specific projects and share all information regarding population analysis and data with the Department where same is available and verified and will continue to provide appropriate assistance where feasible. It is expected that Census 2022 data will be available towards the end of March will provide information on the numbers and profile of children and young people across all settlements in addition to the numbers of all current education providers in Kildare. This will provide a very useful tool for future planning of education needs in the county and can be shared with relevant departments and agencies.

#### Cllr. Feeney's upcoming motions and questions at Council:

#### Motions:

1. That the Council put traffic calming measures in place in the vicinity of Tír na nÓg Montessori School Donadea for the safety of children attending the facility.

2. That the Council writes to Waterways Ireland requesting remedial maintenance works to be carried out on the paths at Maynooth Harbour and the timeline for shared spaces signage to be put in place.

#### Questions:

#### Railpark estate boundary reinstatement

The residents of Railpark estate were in touch with Cllr. Feeney about the boundary reinstatement between the estate and the new adjoining development at Bridge End asking when the work is going to be completed. They are particularly concerned as the end of the current planting season is approaching and the delay is preventing them from putting any biodiversity plans they have in place with Maynooth Tidy Towns. The Development Control Section in the Council informed Cllr. Feeney that they have contacted the developer of Bridge End, Maynooth, requesting that they expedite the completion of the boundary treatment. The developer has confirmed that they will complete the works in advance of the development being put forward for taking in charge.

1. Can the Council provide any update on discussions with Maynooth University and St. Patrick's College regarding the potential reopening of the college pool for community use?

2. Can the Council provide information on the number of crèches that have been provided in new developments in the MD in the past 5 years?

#### Meetings attended by Cllr. Feeney since her last newsletter:

March 1st Council Municipal District meeting 10:00 a.m. Áras Chill Dara Naas March 15th Finance Committee meeting 12:00 p.m. (online) March 25th Full Council 3:00 p.m. Áras Chill Dara Naas March 25th Special meeting to consider amendment to Leixlip LAP 12:30 p.m. Áras Chill Dara Naas



#### **Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee**

#### PLEASE NOTE THAT THE MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE AGM WILL TAKE PLACE IN THE GERALDINE HALL, ON MONDAY 8TH APRIL AT 8PM. ALL WELCOME.

We would like to encourage more people to commit to join our committee. If you feel you would like to get involved please contact us at the email below.

Susan Durack - PRO Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee. E-mail: maynoothseniorcitizens@gmail.com Saturday 8:30 - 17:00 01-6287397

085-2846781





## **Coláiste Naomh Eoin An Ghaeltacht sa Bhaile**

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### Winner of the Memorex Culture Award Gaeltacht Summer Courses 2024

Maynooth University, Maynooth Cúrsa A: 03/06/24 - 14/06/24 Please Note: Cúrsa A starts on Bank Holiday Monday.

> Maynooth Post Primary Cúrsa B: 08/07/24 - 19/07/24 (Primary Students only)

Castleknock Community College Cúrsa F: 01/07/24 - 12/07/24

Formal Class • Sports • Games • Competitions • Fun Activities • Céile & Sing Song • Art • Drama "...the most Comprehensive, Enjoyable and Affordable Gaeltacht course in Ireland" - The Irish Times Limited Places. Book online or contact (01) 298 5287 www.ColaisteNaomhEoin.com

#### Emmet Stagg (R.I.P.) A tribute by Angela Feeney

My first memory of Emmet was as a child when my father passed away and my mother, a young widow with five young children to bring up, he was the one who was there to help. Later in her life when she was unwell and confined to bed, Emmet chatted through the window to her. How many politicians in high office would do that? That really made an impression on me. That was the sort of person Emmet was a man of the



Emmet with Angela Feeney at the 2023 Annual Party Conference in Cork

people and for the people, who, no matter how high up the political ladder he went, he never lost touch with the people who elected him. I enjoyed many a canvass with Emmet over many campaigns. A particularly fond memory was Emmet's annual Tony Smith sponsored walk which was close to Emmet's heart and raised over  $\in 130,000$  over the years for the benefit of Maynooth Senior Citizens and was another example of how Emmet was a real community man. his many clinics ensured that every case was dealt with in a quiet way that respected the dignity of those he was helping.

Emmet was a once in a generation politician, always putting others first and was a voice for those who had very little and a champion for those without a voice. Emmet was courageous and ferocious and you never had to second-guess Emmet's view on a given topic. He had amazing energy, being out on the canvass with Emmet; you had to learn to keep up! He worked day and night on behalf of his constituents. The statement from President Michael D. Higgins was a very fitting tribute to Emmet. The President described Emmet as his 'closest personal friend. On sharing an office in the Dáil with Emmet, President Higgins said Emmet's work ethic was second to none.

Even in the hardest days of his illness Emmet remained positive, and never lost his sense of humour, he was always very witty. I visited him a few weeks back and he was so supportive and encouraging to me. As I left and headed off to call to the doors and do a leaflet drop, Emmet said he would love to be joining me. It was his favourite place to be, out meeting people, listening to them and helping them in any way he could. Emmet is the reason I became involved in politics myself and he was an amazing mentor, always there to give advice.

Emmet did so much for so many over decades, as we see from the multiple messages left on the condolences page. There were, of course, his many major political achievements and outstanding track record on delivering social and affordable homes and his brave stance on the outsourcing abroad of cervical screening. But alongside that, Emmet had such an impact in the personal lives of so many and made numerous personal representations for his constituency. The way he attended and managed

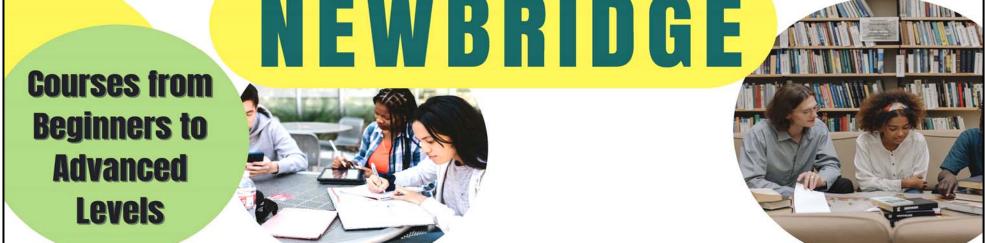
It is a sad loss to the Labour Party and particularly to us here in Kildare North. Emmet attended all of our branch meetings and right to the end maintained his interest in politics. He leaves an amazing legacy and Emmet's values will endure in the Labour Party.

Gone but never forgotten.

Our sympathy to Mary, Gillian, Henry and all of Emmet's family and close friends.

Codladh sámh Emmet a chara.





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11

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Kildare and Wicklow ETB Training Services, Adult Basic Education and Youthreach are co-funded by the Government of Ireland and the European Union.

#### **Growing Japanese Maples In Containers**

Can Japanese maples be grown in containers? Yes, they can. If you have a porch, a patio, or even a fire escape, you have what you need to start growing Japanese maples in containers. These graceful, slender maple trees (Acer palmatum) thrive in pots as long as you know how to plant them. If you are interested in planting a Japanese maple in a pot, here's all the information you'll need to get started.

#### **Can Japanese Maples Be Grown in Containers?**

Growing Japanese maples in containers is not as unusual as you may think. Many different types of trees thrive in containers. The smaller the mature size of the species, the more likely it is that the tree will grow happily in a large pot. You can grow both evergreen and deciduous trees in containers. Smaller species and dwarf varieties of evergreens usually do well as container-grown plants. So do small deciduous trees like the Japanese maple.



#### Growing Japanese Maples in Containers

It's not that hard to start growing Japanese maples in containers. To start one or more potted Japanese maples, you need a large container, good potting soil, and a partially sunny location for it. The first step toward having a container-grown Japanese maple is to determine a variety that would work well in your area. With hundreds of different Japanese maple cultivars available in commerce, you need to choose one that will grow in your plant hardiness zone. Pick dwarf or semi-dwarf species for your potted Japanese maples. Generally, these maples grow slower in pots and develop smaller root systems.

If you pick a tree that doesn't get taller than 10 feet (3 m.) tall, you won't have to do annual pruning.

#### Caring for a Japanese Maple in a Pot

12

If you want a healthy, happy, container-grown Japanese maple, you'll need to plant your tree in a container that is about twice the size of the tree's root system. It is imperative that the pot has one or more drainage holes. Keep the soil moist but not wet. Use good quality potting soil to fill the pot. Once the tree is potted, water it well. This helps to settle the roots in the soil.



Don't fertilize until spring, and even then dilute a water-based fertilizer to half-strength. If over time, you see that the roots of the Japanese maple in a pot touch the side or bottom of the container, it's time for root pruning. Clip out the big, wood roots. This lets smaller roots develop.

#### Some of the Dwarf Varieties

Red Japanese maples, such as Crimson Queen, Bloodgood, and Red Dragon, that have stunning red foliage.

Green Japanese maples, such as Seiryu, Emerald Lace, and Viridis, that have bright green leaves that turn yellow or orange in fall.

Variegated Japanese maples, such as Summer Gold, Butterfly, and Orido Nishiki, that have leaves with two or more colors, such as green, yellow, pink, or white.

Source: www.gardeningknowhow.com/ornamental/trees/japanese-maple/japanese-maples -in-containers.

www.bing.com/search?pglt=41&q=dwarf+varieties+of+the+japanese+maple



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## MAFT celebrating St Patricks Day

The Maynooth Autism Friendly Town committee and volunteers were delighted to see so many families avail of the quiet zone. Wonderful to hear from parents who said it was the first time their autistic children were able to attend a parade.

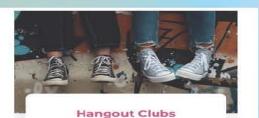
A special thanks to the wonderful bands, groups, clubs and businesses for reducing the noise as they passed through the quiet zone.



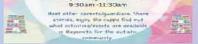
#### Hangouts and Parent Meet Ups

Making Maynooth an Autism Friendly Town is about building relationships and communities.

Make sure you check out our social media pages on Instagram and Facebook for updates on our Hangouts and Parent Meet Ups.



Are you s parent or Unartient of our entities child effort a suities and a chat Binces Cafe, Glemoyal hotel Maynooth Maynooth

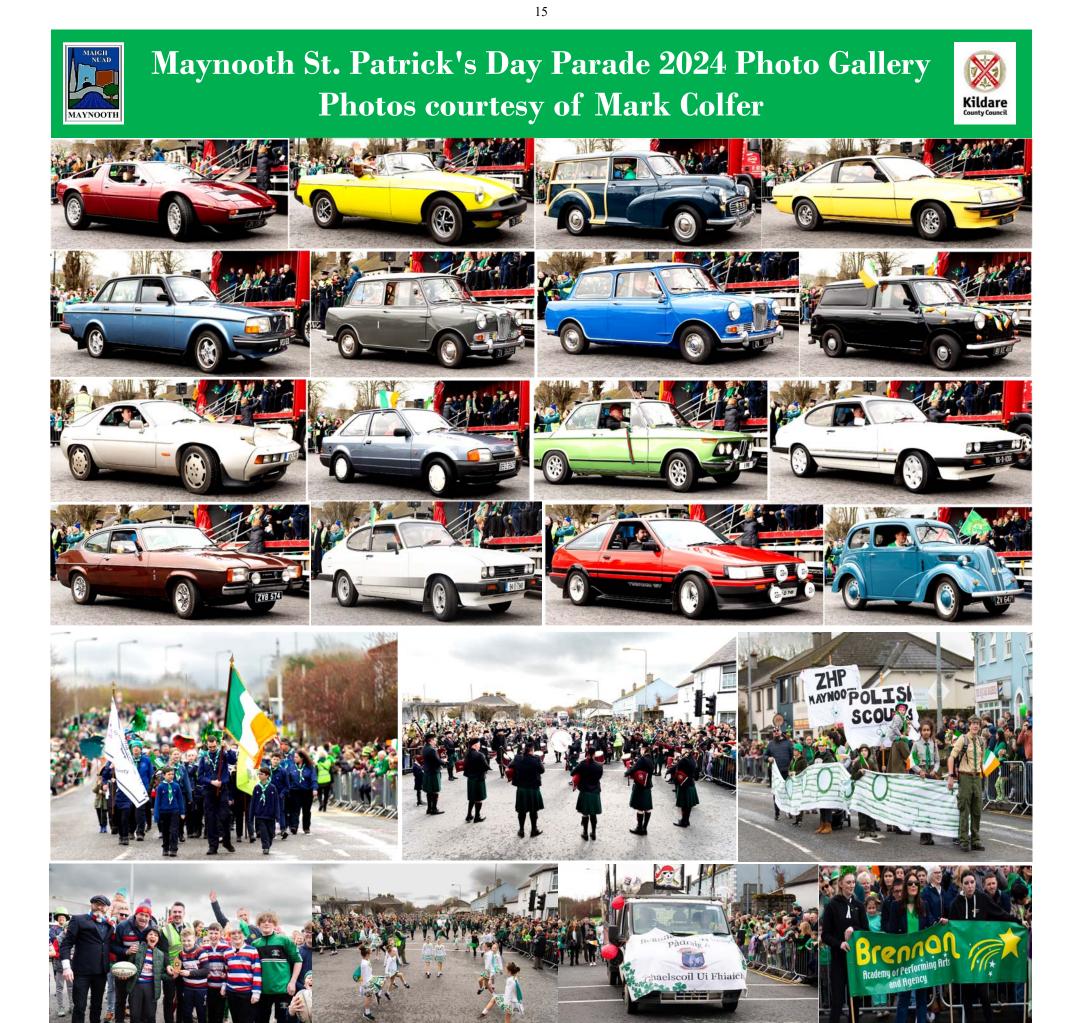




For updates on these exciting programs and to stay connected with the MAFT Association, keep an eye on our newsletter and our Social Media. We look forward to welcoming you and your family to our upcoming events!

#### **IRELAND'S AUTISM CHARITY**

Contact us on our social media or email autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com







## Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024 Photo Gallery Photos courtesy of Mark Colfer









Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024 Photo Gallery Photos courtesy of Mark Colfer

Kildare County Council







Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade 2024 Photo Gallery Photos courtesy of Mark Colfer

Kildare County Council







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

#### **Things I Remember**

'Where are you going?' said Shawn Afeena.
'Going to the fair,' said Nora Criona.
'What doing there?' said Shawn Afeena.
'Buying a cow,' said Nora Criona.
'What will you give?' said Shawn Afeena.
'Forty pounds,' said Nora Criona.
'Marry me then,' said Shawn Afeena.
'Indeed and I will,' said Nora Criona.

That ditty came into my head last night and, firstly, I must admit that I'm not even sure of the names. What does 'Afeena' mean, unless it's connected with the Irish word fion, wine, and suggests that Shawn was a tippler? Similarly with the word 'Criona': is it connected with the word Crionna, meaning 'shrewd and old'? Perhaps that is why Nora said 'Yes' to Shawn's mercenary proposal? Whatever about the meaning of these lines, I have a more personal memory of what happened when I was just five.

Our sister, Angela, was then only one and a half years old. In lieu of a playpen, she spent most of the day standing in an empty tea chest and, always smiling, was like a ray of sunshine in our crowded kitchen. Then in February 1942 a sudden change occurred. The smiles turned to tears. Something was seriously wrong. The doctor was called and she was rushed to hospital. In due course she was diagnosed with Diphtheria, something against which we older siblings had been inoculated, but which, in her case, was skipped because of her youth. Maybe her name was prophetic and she is now with the other angels? At least she left this world stainless and oblivious to what people were doing to each other in World War 2.

This reminds me of Thomas Hood's poem:

- 'I remember I remember
  - The house where I was born
- The little window where the sun
- Came peeping in at morn...'

A special memory of mine is waking up in our press bed beside my father and watching a thrush gobbling berries on the cotoneaster growing against the wall outside our window.

One of the memories Hood lists is a laburnum his brother planted. He writes 'The tree is living yet!' suggesting, perhaps, that his brother is not. Our neighbour, recently planted a laburnum with its lovely blossoms and leaves, but due to strong winds it began to list badly. Ever resourceful, he built a wooden frame about the trunk. Hopefully, though its leaves decayed early, it will survive for many more years.

A recurring memory is one connected with my work as an electrical draughtsman in Manhattan in the early sixties. A colleague, Joe, was always the life of our office staff with reminiscences of his days in the U.S. air force and comments on whatever was then happening. One day, unsure of the correct amp rating for a receptacle, I asked his advice. 'Listen to this chancer,' Joe proclaimed to the entire field office. 'He doesn't even know the most basic things about electricity.'

Now if he had said, 'Sorry, I don't feel like telling you something I had to take the trouble of learning myself,' I would simply have been disappointed, but to opt for public humiliation was another matter. After that I avoided talking to Joe, not even when he observed, 'Irish girls have thick ankles,' probably expecting me to jump to their defence. I might have pointed out that he fitted Shakespeare's description of one character, 'A goodly apple, rotten at the core', but as the Irish proverb has it, 'Is binn béal ina thost', sweet is a voice in its silence.

Before I venture further into the past there is another U.S. experience – maybe 'confessions' would be a better word? – I wish to air. Near Manhattan's Times Square there was a shop that printed realistic-looking headlines on the front page of a newspaper. My friend, Jack Gallagher, is about to return to Ireland after successfully obtaining a MS in Columbia University, so I request the headline, '**Gallagher Absconds by Jet; New York Relaxes'**. I feel certain that Jack will be amused by this fanciful piece of journalism but instead he almost turns pale.

'You can't let people see something like that,' he splutters. 'What in blazes were you thinking?'

I was about to point out that anyone with an ounce of sense would know it was just a hoax, then thought better of it, so I tore up the offending sheet. Luckily, Jack is the forgiving type so we're still very good friends.

Of course there were occasional romantic flings. To give an example, let's take this Irish-American girl I meet in City Center ballroom, a popular Irish venue. On our first date I treated her to a three-course meal in Jack Dempsey's famous restaurant, then we saw the recently released film, The Sound of Music. Everything was going fine till we boarded the subway train for her home north of New York City. Now a change set in. She began telling me about her brother who was in the U.S. air force and was home on leave from serving in Vietnam. Then she stopped talking.

Her silence became so oppressive that I was tempted to head back to Grand Central station. I actually walked out onto an uptown platform but some scruple made me go back in before the doors closed. When we arrived at her station I even hired a taxi to her house, a two-storey mansion. On the return journey I realized a train was no substitute for a car; I had struck-out the minute we boarded one!

After eleven years working in New York with the same firm of electrical contractors, in 1969 I returned to Ireland to teach English and Mathematics at post-primary level. Then two years later, at a dance in Dublin's Zhivago's ballroom, I met a lovely English girl who, on a whim, had come to Ireland to work as a secretary. I remember guiding her into the centre of the whirling dancers, little thinking that 52 years later we would still be happily together.

#### By: P.G. Nerney

Morning Dream, New York	How small, endearing are their straw- thatched homes beneath the out-flung boughs of	<b>Pharisees Frustrations!</b> The Gospels in fewer than 300 words.	The publicans, harlots and dregs of that kind. He cares not for the Sabbath, the Temple,
In memory of my Uncle Michael	sycamore, with hens and geese foraging side gardens, a housewife waving from an open-door.	You say Joseph's his father, well how can that be? A more God fearing man, you rarely will	the Law, Claims rank above Moses, who God's fire saw; And ailments he cures, by the devil, of
While yet half-drowsed by sleep, I plainly see the long-forsaken world I knew, a verdant vista of hill and plain,	Content with the pastoral world they know, its meitheals for harvesting corn and	see; And Mary his mother has had little joy, Her heart he has broken since he was a boy!	Course, The father of lies, or some kindred source. Says the poor are the blessed, the rich are
sun-ripened beauty, where all things grew; the blush upon a teenage neighbour's cheek,	hay, they will ensure no neighbour suffers want, or meets his end without a friend to	Got his trade from the old man, then all that he shed, Not a care in the world as to whence comes	accursed, The first shall be last and the last shall be first, Such riddles can only the masses confuse,
half-troubled that the looks she won were more than her wild, loving heart could ever, in its own despite, outrun.	pray. Soft are all sounds that come; the wide- domed sky	his bread. Has some followers also, an ignorant lot, Mostly fishers and taxmen, not one worth a jot; And the women disciples who care for his	They're too steeped in evil the right road to choose. He is a blasphemer, usurping God's voice, By pardoning sins he leaves us no choice.

bends down a lover's ear for earth's	needs,	He must be got rid of, such men have to
	Hang on his words, stare in awe at his	die,
trickle of a stream, bleat of a distant	deeds.	And Pilate will yield to our mob's
sheep,	Yes the book he knows well, cutting	"Crucify!".
hum of bumble bees, song of a soaring		And then we will see his great boast all in
lark –		vain:
What's that? A police car's raucous	wisdom and store.	"In three days I'll take up my life once
siren!		again".
	But he can't be from God for he and his	
	band	What? But how can that be? He did?
where go-getters, not late-sleeping fools	Will sit down to eat without washing their	
prevail.	hands:	"Alleluia! He is risen!"
	And who shares his table? The lame and	By: GM
By: Colin Scott	the blind,	
	least remark: trickle of a stream, bleat of a distant sheep, hum of bumble bees, song of a soaring lark – What's that? A police car's raucous siren! The morning's hurrying hordes assail, drag me back to this industrious city, where go-getters, not late-sleeping fools prevail.	bends down a lover's ear for earth's least remark: trickle of a stream, bleat of a distant sheep, hum of bumble bees, song of a soaring lark – What's that? A police car's raucous siren! The morning's hurrying hordes assail, drag me back to this industrious city, where go-getters, not late-sleeping fools prevail. needs, Hang on his words, stare in awe at his deeds. Yes the book he knows well, cutting straight to the core, Love for God and one's neighbour, its wisdom and store. But he can't be from God for he and his band Will sit down to eat without washing their hands; And who shares his table? The lame and

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

#### **MY CHEQUERED LIFE** Chapter 3

For three days I was interviewed at the police station and despite the fact that I was aware that they knew it was I who had done the deed I stuck to my old story that it was a burglar that had killed my aunt. I lied through my teeth. What an idiot I was! I was remanded to the hospital in Brixton prison because of the injury to my hand and spent five months there.

There were twelve of us in the ward and nine of us had been charged with murder. An Irish fellow who was in for arson nearly blew us all up trying to commit suicide with the gas oven. Michael Fagan was another fellow there. He was the guy who had broken into Buckingham Palace and sat on the Queen's bed! Having acted the idiot in the yard he was dragged away by the prison officers and I didn't see him anymore.

My trial in the Old Bailey was in October '82 and the charge was murder. I was tried as an adult as I had committed my crime just after my 18th birthday. I should have been advised to plead guilty of manslaughter and that might have avoided another session of lies and more lies. I was found guilty of murder by a majority of 11 to 1 and I was given a life sentence with a recommendation by the judge to the Home Secretary that I should serve ten years. I never knew that until long after.

I was sent to Chelmsford prison which was peopled almost entirely by lifers at Her Majesty's Pleasure. That meant that they were nearly all under eighteen. So I was one of the few who were facing a long prison term. I was all on my own with no family to visit me from time to time and to make it worse I was in the isolation unit for the first three months under observation, since many youngsters when first in prison do a lot of self harming. I'd be checked every hour of the day. After the three months I was moved over to the main allocation wing and was put in a single cell, which was routine. That was tough too as my Irishness made me stand out and so I had to be prepared to defend myself otherwise the bullies took over. After about six months I was sent to Walton prison in Liverpool to be nearer Ireland so I could have visits from home. Walton had about 3000 prisoners and was very primitive. I was housed with about 700 young offenders who were that some of those whom he had bullied in Walton had recognised him and had given him doing just a few months so I was again very much on my own. After a few weeks I was assigned to work in the laundry and that relieved the monotony somewhat. I had no friends there and had to steer clear of trouble as there were cliques that had but one goal and that was their own protection.

The laundry was hard work but it had its perks. Someone might want a nice shirt for a special visit and it could be worth a few packets of biscuits to the provider. Socks and underclothes were always on demand as well. However, we were not a very contented group. The pay was terrible and the hours were long and I was still locked up for 18 hours a day. So we had a sit in. We refused to go back to our wing and refused appeals to do so. We did not know what was coming. Through a back door, up to 15 of the biggest screws charged, waving batons and truncheons and had us on the move in seconds with plenty of kicks and thumps for ringleaders, of whom I was almost at officer grade, to keep us going. We were then allowed back to our cells on the promise of good behaviour. We were banned from our film treats for two weeks and that was tough with no television or any other half decent ways of passing the time. So Sunday came and we had no film.

On Monday morning we were in very bad form. Revenge was in the air. Some of the screws, as usual, had left down their uniforms to be dry- cleaned and pressed. Unnoticed by the guy in charge of the dry-cleaning, somebody went round to the back of the machine and poured a gallon of bleach into the drum. So when the uniforms came out, all white, the air was electric. The Governor was called and the four or five fellows responsible were dismissed from the laundry and several more were punished individually.

So, after all the excitement, prison life went on in its boring monotonous way. We, laundry fellows, had just 45 minutes' exercise a day in the yard and then it was laundry, dinner, and lock up for the rest of the time. We could have one shower a week but if there were any available screws to take us we could go to the gym twice a week and that was very good because then we could have two extra showers. Most of the gym staff were okay but there was one we all hated. He'd have a circuit laid out that would challenge a professional athlete. We used to vomit with fatigue and he loved putting us through this routine. But not everything finished well for him. About six years later when I was being transferred from one prison to another, I was in the queue for dinner in Winston Green prison. I noticed this fellow ahead of me in the line and I thought he looked familiar. Yea, you guessed it, it was the blackguard PE teacher from Walton in an inmate's prison outfit, going up to get the same prison fare as the rest of us. I felt the wheel had come full circle and it was a beautiful revolution. At least, it appeared so at the time. I heard later one hell of a hiding.

By: GM

After Navalny!	Guess the Animal
As Putin prepared potent poison, His keen eye surveyed the horizon;	1 are very popular pets that bark.
'Twas a near full time job, Spotting whence the next yob,	2 have long ears and they love carrots.
Bent on wrecking his plans might be risin'! By: GM	3 have a long neck and their tongue is blue.
	4have eight legs and they spin webs.
April Moods	5are black and white and they eat bamboo.
April changes her sweet mind	6 are big cats and they are king of the animals.
Every second.	7very small and they have 6 legs and love sugar.
With her many moods and minds,	8 live on the farm and they are pink and love mud.

LINING CALL DE LECKU I always carry an umbrella, It serves for rain and sun! I take my boots and out I go To share in April's fun.

**By Lenore Hetrick** 

9. have no legs and they can be dangerous. can fly but they aren't birds. They are black. 10. are white and they give us wool and meat 11. are birds that can't fly, but they can swim. 12. are farm animals and you can ride them. 13.

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#### MU sets new record in CAO first preference applications

Maynooth University has recorded its highest ever rate of CAO first preference applications, exceeding last year's record, according to new Central Applications Office figures.

The record number for 2024 is part of an upward trend in first preference applications and reflects MU's increasing popularity as a university of choice.

This year the University has seen a rise of 7% in first preference applications, underscoring Maynooth's innovative curriculum offering students the choice to progressively specialise while pursuing a broad range of studies.

Several programmes have seen a substantial increase in first preferences, notably:

- Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Chemistry (+ 70%)
- Education Primary Teaching/Froebel (+52%)
- Psychology (+45%)
- Accounting and Finance (+36%)
- Computer Science (+27%)
- BSc Biotechnology (+21%)
- BSc Biological and Geographical Sciences (+20%)

There has also been strong demand for the new programmes introduced for 2024, including the BSc Sports Science and Health programme and BSc Food Science and Nutrition in the newly-established Department of Sport Science and Nutrition.

Commenting on the figures, Prof Eeva Leinonen, President of Maynooth University, said: "Today's CAO figures confirm the quality of education we provide at Maynooth University.

'Students value the collegial and supportive environment in which they study and the expanding offer of new courses and areas of study. We look forward to welcoming new students in the autumn to our vibrant campus."

#### Ag ceiliúradh ár ndúchais - Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024



Seachtain na Gaeilge 2024 (Irish Week) was celebrated in Maynooth University with a creative, versatile and inclusive programme of events related not only to the Irish language but to Irish art and culture as well.

RTÉ Radio 1 visited Maynooth University to record an episode of the ever popular

Céilí House programme, featuring students (pictured here), staff and tutors from the Music Department. Central to the performance was the Music Department's Traditional Group, led by its director Aisling Ní Coisdealbha.

Among the events that took place during the week were the lunchtime concert with the Trad Ensemble and a public showing of Arracht, a psychological thriller set during the Great Famine which won many plaudits and awards upon its release in 2021.

Other events included the St Patrick's Céilí, a pop-up Gaeltacht, a conversation circle as well as a sean-nós singing session, a sean-nós dancing session, quizzes and book clubs.

#### **Irish Version**



Déanadh ceiliúradh ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2024 in Ollscoil Mhá Nuad le clár imeachtaí cruthaitheach, ilghnéitheach agus ionchuimsitheach a bhain ní hamháin leis an nGaeilge í féin ach le healaín agus cultúr na Gaeilge freisin.

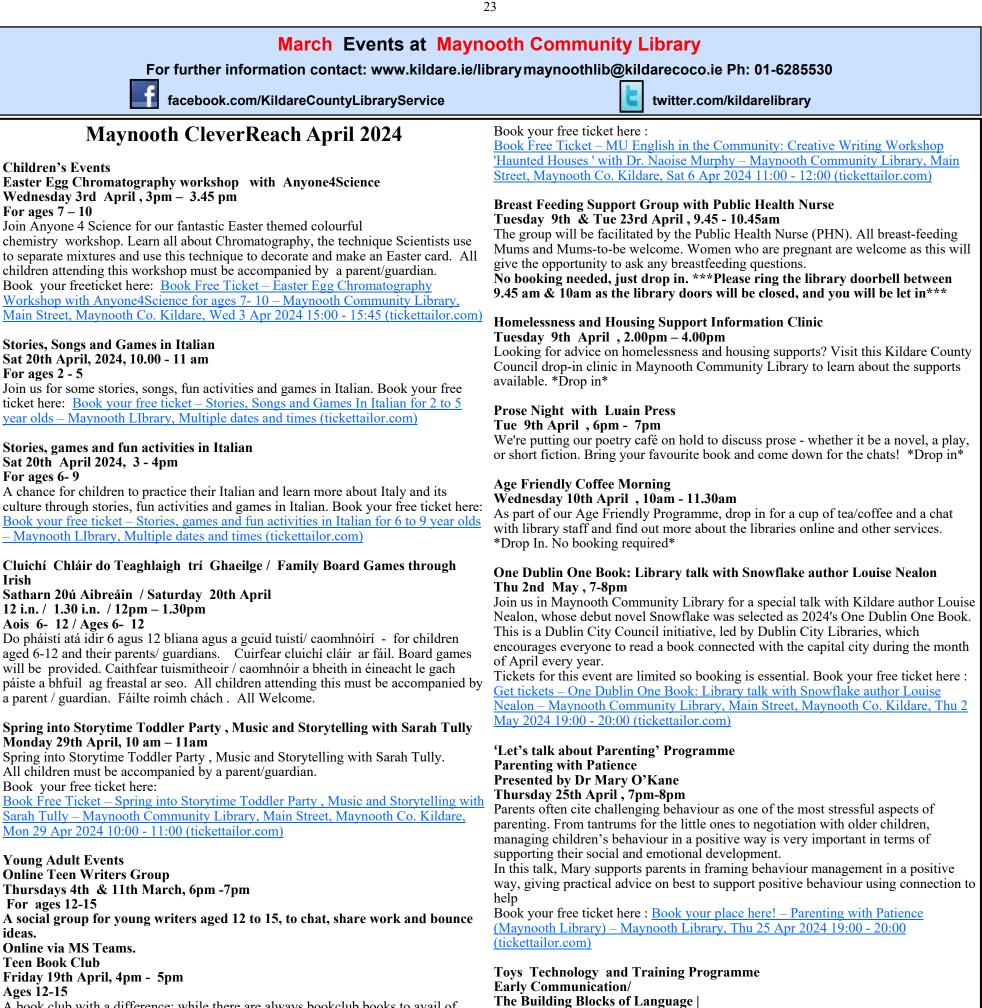
I measc na n-imeachtaí a tharla le linn na seachtaine bhí ceolchoirm lóin ón Trad Ensemble agus taispeántas poiblí den scannán Arracht, scéinséir síceolaíoch suite le linn an ghorta mhóir ar a mbronnadh ardhmholadh agus cuid mhaith gradam nuair a eisíodh é sa bhliain 2021.

Araon le na himeachtaí thuasluaithe, cuireadh in eagar Céilí Féile Pádraig, Pop-Up Gaeltacht agus ciorcal comhrá comh maith

le seisiún amhránaíochta ar an seannós, seisiún damhsa ar an sean-nós, tráth na gceist agus club leabhar







A book club with a difference; while there are always bookclub books to avail of,

teens can bring along their own recommendation to discuss during the meeting. Book Recs for April meeting available in the library now as part of Children Books Ireland nominee list.

#### Adult Events

#### MU English in the Community: Creative Writing Workshop 'Haunted Houses ' with Dr. Naoise Murphy, Maynooth University Saturday 6th April, 11am - 12pm

Stories of haunted houses are stories about power. Ghosts challenge how we think about property and land ownership; they won't move out, even when new human residents move in. In this workshop, we will consider different wys of thinking about haunting, and try our hand at writing some new ghost stories.

#### Speech and Language Talks with C Thursday 11th April, 7pm – 8pm

This talk will outline early communication development and the important foundations skills of attention, imitation, play and social integration that are the foundations of language and communication in young children.

Fun activities will be discussed to support parents and their children in promoting early language skills. Strategies to facilitate early first words and phrases will be discussed and how to build towards early sentences.

Book your free ticket here Book Tickets - Early Communication/ The Building Blocks of Language | Speech and Language Talks with CAINT - Maynooth Library, Thu 11 Apr 2024 19:00 - 20:30 (tickettailor.com)

(Continued on page 24)

2	24
	brarymaynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie Ph: 01-6285530
<ul> <li>(Continued from page 23)</li> <li>Climate Action Events</li> <li>Zero Waste Maynooth Ladies Clothes Swap, Children's Toy Swap &amp; Clothes Mending Workshop</li> <li>Saturday April 13th, 2pm – 4pm</li> <li>Join volunteers at Zero Waste Maynooth for a monthly pop up to help reduce waste. A free drop in event, open to all.</li> <li>Ladies Clothes Swap - bring one, take one. All sizes and brands welcome. Clothes to be in good clean condition and no large bags of clothes please.</li> <li>Childrens Toy Swap - get the younger ones used to the idea of swapping instead of buying. Bring one, take one. Only small toys as items have to be stored between events.</li> <li>Mending Workshop - Vanessa from The Craft Corner is passionate about mending clothes to reduce our textile waste. Bring an item that needs repair or that you are mending, and Vanessa will show you how to sew, darn or put a patch on your clothing.</li> <li>Kildare Libraries aspires to contribute to the following UN Sustainable Development Goals; 10 (Reduce Inequalities), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), 13 (Climate Action)</li> <li>Get Growing - ideas and tips for families on growing their own food and getting out in the garden</li> <li>Saturday 27th April, 3- 4pm</li> <li>A family-friendly event that will show you practical ways to get growing your own food including planting a seed in a pot to take home. We will discuss everyone's garden space: exploring what they have with tips and ideas to take home to try. Seeds from the Kildare Seed Library will be available to help start your growing journey.</li> </ul>	Book your free ticket here : Book Free Ticket – Get Growing - ideas and tips for families on growing their own food and getting out in the garden. – Maynooth Community Library Main Street Maynooth Co. Kildare, Sat 27 Apr 2024 15:00 - 16:00 (tickettailor.com) Exhibitions Shades of life : Exhibition in Oil and Acrylic by Shweta Bhardwaj 6th April 2024 - 8th May 2024 Shweta Bhardwaj hails from India and came to Ireland in 2019. She started with watercolour but felt rapidly that oil painting and acrylic would match her way of being. She is a self-taught painter for whom the unlimited creative power is a never ending journey through imagination. You can see all her collections in the saachi art gallery: https://www.saatchiart.com/u/1873045 Exhibition Opening Shades of Life : Exhibition in Oil and Acrylic by Shweta Bhardwaj Tuesday 9th April 5pm – 6.15 pm Opening of the 'Shades of Life: Exhibition in Oil and Acrylic' by Shweta Bhardwaj . light refreshment provided . All welcome ! See Shweta's Bhardwaj's art on her website https://www.saatchiart.com/account/profile/1873045 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 August 2025. To be placed on a waiting list to use the exhibition space in 2024, or for booking enquiries, please email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie.
MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES	affecting Maynooth are $\in 1,500,000$ for the upgrade to Mill Street and $\in 2,750,000$ for the completion of the Royal Canal Greenway. A further $\in 75,000$ has been

#### **Bike Library**

As part of the Community Climate Action programme, Maynooth Cycling Campaign, in partnership with Bleeper Bikes, has made an application through Kildare County Council for the funding of a Bike Library in Maynooth. A Bike Library has a selection of different utility bikes – for example ebikes, long tailed bikes, cargo bikes, folding bikes which members of the public can "borrow" for a period of up to three months.

It gives people the opportunity to use a bike, without the expense of purchasing it, to see if it fills their needs. It is particularly important for people who may be considering going carless or reducing two cars to one.

Maynooth GAA has also applied for a Bike Library for Maynooth, also in partnership with Bleeper Bikes, but with funding from the National Transport Authority. Hopefully, both applications will be successful.

Our Community Climate Action application also proposes the trialling of a bike hangar (also known as a bike bunker) in Maynooth. A bike hangar provides storage for people who live in premises without front space for storage of bikes. The third element of the application is the use of planters which are designed either to calm traffic or reduce traffic on residential roads. affecting Maynooth are  $\in 1,500,000$  for the upgrade to Mill Street and  $\notin 2,750,000$  for the completion of the Royal Canal Greenway. A further  $\notin 75,000$  has been allocated for the Celbridge Road but this is likely to only cover further design fees, rather than construction costs. The full list of projects allocated can be found at: <u>https://www.nationaltransport.ie/publications/active-</u> <u>travel-investment-grants-2024-allocations/</u>

# CYCLING CPANDALGA

#### Sustainable Transport Forum

The third meeting of the Sustainable Transport Forum was held in March. The agenda included an item on Bike Share, Bike Week 2024, an update on Active Travel Schemes and Local Link. We will report on the meeting at a further date.

#### Air Pollution

A new report by a Swiss air quality organisation which draws data from more than 30,000 monitoring stations around the world, has found that out of 134 countries, only seven countries are meeting the WHO air quality standard for PM2.5. It found that air pollution is worsening in places due to a rebound in economic activity and the toxic impact of wildfire smoke.

Research released by US scientists last month found there is no safe level of PM2.5, with even the smallest exposures linked to an increase in hospitalisations for conditions such as heart disease and asthma.

#### Maynooth Cycling Without Age

In March, Maynooth Cycling Campaign trained two members of Genil Training as trishaw pilots and training of further members is planned. It is intended that they will use the trishaw on a number of days between Monday and Friday.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign will use the trishaw at weekend and, possibly, one or two days of the working week. Maynooth Cycling Campaign will be in contact with volunteers regarding the commencement of training in mid-April.

#### **NTA Allocation**

The NTA published their funding allocation for 2024. Kildare will receive  $\notin 10,885,000$  which is an increase from  $\notin 9,965,000$  in 2023. The main allocations

PM 2.5 measures tiny airborne particles expelled by cars, trucks and industrial processes.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. If you wish to join us, email us at maynoothcycling@gmail.com. Further information on the campaign is available on our website.





#### **Budget Lasagne**

This is a pared-down, cheap and cheerful lasagne, easy to jazz up with your own choice of fillings or a grating of cheese on top.

This is designed to be a low cost recipe.

#### Ingredients

1 tbsp olive oil 250g/9oz beef mince 1 onion, diced 3 carrots, grated 75g/2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>oz butter 75g/2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>oz plain flour 1 tsp English mustard 750ml/1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> pint milk 2 garlic cloves, crushed 2 x 400g tin tomatoes 250g/9oz lasagne sheets salt and pepper



#### Method

- 1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
- 2. Heat the olive oil in a large frying pan over a medium heat. Add the mince to the hot oil with a good pinch of salt and pepper.
- 3. Brown the mince for 5-6 minutes until coloured all over and beginning to crisp. Remove the mince from the pan and set aside.
- 4. Add the onion and carrot to the frying pan along with a pinch of salt. Cook gently for 10 minutes, or until everything is softened.
- 5. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a saucepan over a medium heat. Once melted, add the flour and mustard, stir to mix well. Leave to cook over a medium heat for 2 minutes, or until the mixture makes a paste.
- 6. Pour the milk in batches into the saucepan, whisking as you add to create a smooth white sauce. Once all the milk is added, season with a pinch of salt and black pepper, turn the heat down and leave to simmer very gently for 7 minutes.
- 7. Once the onions and carrots are softened, add the garlic to the frying pan and cook for 2 minutes. Return the meat and any juices to the pan and add the tomatoes. Mix everything together, cover with a lid and simmer the sauce for 10 minutes until thickened slightly.
- 8. To assemble the lasagne, place a quarter of the tomato sauce into the bottom of a small/medium baking dish. Top with a layer of lasagne sheets. Spoon over another quarter of the tomato sauce and top with a third of the white sauce. Repeat this twice more, finishing at the top with the last layer of white sauce. (You should have three sets of layers of lasagne, tomato and white sauce, all on a bed of tomato sauce.)
- 9. Bake for 30 minutes or until bubbling and the top is golden-brown.



April is often described as the most beautiful month of the year with bulbs, shrubs and alpines all bursting into bloom. These plants bring fantastic colour and scent to the garden. There is a variable weather pattern of sunshine and showers in April which is great for the flowers. April is a busy month for the garden but as the days length is longer, then there is plenty of time to enjoy your garden.

#### **April Gardening Checklist**

#### Prune spring-flowering shrubs

Shrubs such as Winter Jasmine, Forsythia and Chaenomeles will finish flowering in April. Once their display begins to fade, prune these shrubs by cutting a third of the growth away and then feed. Lavenders and other grey-leaved shrubs flourish in poor, well drained soils and do not need feeding. They benefit from a light trim, cutting about 5cm of growth, to stop them getting leggy and woody.

#### **April Gardening Jobs Essential Checklist**

- Weed borders
- Plant evergreen hedges
- Prune hydrangeas
- Plant out sweet peas
- Take cuttings of tender plants
- Plant main crop potatoes
- Sow winter brassicas
- Sow tender crops (Protect them from frost when necessary)
- Feed blackcurrants, gooseberries and other cane fruit such as blackberries and raspberries.
- Tidy up strawberry beds
- Feed blackcurrants
- Sow herbs
- Regularly mow and feed and Aerate the lawn



#### Prune spring-flowering shrubs

Shrubs such as Winter Jasmine, Forsythia and Chaenomeles will finish flowering in April. Once their display begins to fade, prune these shrubs by cutting a third of the growth away and then feed. Lavenders and other grey-leaved shrubs flourish in poor, well drained soils and do not need feeding. They benefit from a light trim, cutting about 5cm of



25

- Serve the lasagne in slices while hot.
- 10. Meanwhile, melt the butter in a saucepan over a medium heat. Once melted, add the flour and mustard, stir to mix well. Leave to cook over a medium heat for 2 minutes, or until the mixture makes a paste.
- 11. Pour the milk in batches into the saucepan, whisking as you add to create a smooth white sauce. Once all the milk is added, season with a pinch of salt and black pepper, turn the heat down and leave to simmer very gently for 7 minutes.

Source www.bbc.ie

growth, to stop them getting leggy and woody.

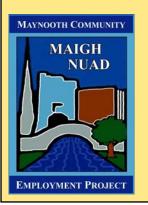
Source from gardenhealth.com



#### MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT SECRETARIAL SERVICES

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

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	April 2024 Crossword - No. 533											Sol	luti	on	s to	C	ros	sw	oro	N k	<b>o</b> . {	532					
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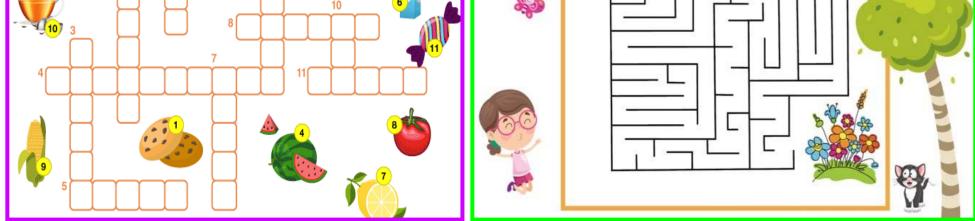
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If you have access to a printer and wish to complete the Crossword and/or Sudoku for fun you can print the single page by going to File -> Print and print the single page number only.







#### How to keep Lettuce fresh for longer

How often have you tossed out produce that wilted before its time?

If you're like most home chefs, figuring out how to keep lettuce fresh is a constant kitchen challenge. Our op storage tips to extend the freshness of romaine, iceberg, and other lettuce varieties.

#### Start with fresh heads

That lettuce in the produce section looks fresh, but you want to be sure. Know what to look for, and trust your nose too.

Iceberg Lettuce – Heads should be snugly wrapped with crispy-edged leaves. Avoid iceberg heads with wilted or brown-tipped leaves. The base stem should be a fresh shade of light green.

Romaine Lettuce –The leaves on fresh romaine heads should be crisp and firmly bunched around the heart. The head should feel solid when handled. Wilting, discolored leaves or mildew spots are signs of lessthan-fresh romaine.

Both types of lettuce have a pleasantly faint, earthy fragrance when they're fresh. Pungent odors are a bad sign. Insider Tip: Bring home the freshest leafy greens available by always purchasing premium produce.

#### Store lettuce in the crisper drawer

Unless you plan on prepping the lettuce right away, put it in crisper drawer of your fridge, set on high humidity. This will keep the fresh greens crisp and safe for later use. Designate one crisper drawer as a lettuce-only zone. Simply adjust its vent to create a high-humidity environment, and you're done. Insider Tip: Fruits release ethylene gas that causes leafy greens to ripen too quickly, so put some distance between fruits and lettuce. Keep papayas, peaches and cantaloupes away from fresh lettuce.

#### Keep produce fresh by puffing

Extend lettuce life with a simple version of a preservation technique used in the produce industry. Open the lettuce bag, blow into it until it's puffed up, and then twist and secure the top with a rubber band.

The carbon dioxide in your breath slows down the ripening process.

#### Protect tender Greens with plastic

Salad storage containers are ideal for mesclun mixes because they help protect tender endive, watercress and arugula in the crisper drawer.

Keep delicate greens from bruising and drying out by layering their leaves between paper towels nested in plastic storage containers.

If you use smaller clamshell containers, place loose leaf greens in the clamshell, cover with paper towels, then just close and flip.

This upside-down trick can extend freshness for 15 to 20 days. 5. WRAP UP SHREDDED LETTUCE

How long is shredded lettuce good for your best tacos and quesadillas?

It keeps for two or three days if you dry it and wrap it up.

Spread freshly chopped or shredded lettuce over a clean kitchen towel, roll it up, and secure your homemade package with rubber bands.

#### Pack lettuce in paper towels

Grab a few paper towels, and you're ready for another easy trick that preserves lettuce for a long time Lay out clean, dried leaves on paper towels. Carefully fold and roll, and place

#### in a plastic bag. Press out any air, seal tight, and store in the lettuce-only drawer for a week to 10 days.

#### Roll up Romaine in foil

If you've ever wondered, "Does wrapping lettuce in foil keep it fresh?" you have to try this trick. It can keep romaine lettuce crisp for as long as 30 days. Simply wrap individual heads or hearts tightly in



aluminum foil. Remove as many crispy leaves as you need for a recipe, and re-bundle the remaining lettuce.

This hack can extend the refrigerated shelf life of fresh romaine by a month or more.

#### 8. Rescue wilted Lettuce

a few more dishes.

Sometimes, the best tips for making lettuce last just aren't enough. As well as we take care of our produce, wilted lettuce happens in the best of kitchens. Before you throw out that sad head, try rescuing it with an ice-water bath. Completely

submerge the lettuce, leave it in the water for 5 minutes, and then pat dry. This is often enough to shock the leaves back into shape so that you can use the lettuce for

9. Freeze it for another day

Fresh lettuce can be stored in the freezer for up to 6 months. This tip works best with sturdy-leafed greens, such as romaine and butterhead. Wash and dry the lettuce, separate the leaves from the head, and freeze in airtight bags. When thawed, it works well in casseroles and as a substitute for spinach.

You can also puree fresh lettuce, pour the liquid into ice cube trays, and freeze it to add extra nutrition to soups and smoothies.

#### How to keep Iceberg Lettuce fresher longer

Whether it's butterhead or baby iceberg, don't wash this type of leafy lettuce before storing it in the fridge. Its high water content helps preserve its crispness, but external moisture can make leaves wilt. Hold off on washing the lettuce until you're ready to use it. Regular iceberg heads, wrapped tightly in plastic, keep for 10 to 12 days in the refrigerator. Baby iceberg lettuce stays fresh for up to a week in a perforated plastic bag.

#### How to keep Romaine Lettuce fresher longer

Unlike iceberg lettuce, romaine lettuce can be washed before putting it away in the fridge. However, if you're in a hurry, unwashed romaine keeps just as well in a loosely closed plastic bag. If you prefer to wash romaine before putting it away, separate the leaves from the heart. After a gentle rinse, pat the lettuce dry, tightly seal in a plastic bag, and store in the crisper drawer. Whole romaine heads last 10 to 20 days in the fridge, while romaine hearts stay crisp for a week to 10 days.



#### How to keep Loose Leaf Lettuce fresher longer

Loose leaf lettuce is a great time-saver in a busy kitchen. However, it stays fresher longer with a little extra care. Whether it's bagged or boxed, the lettuce is usually pre-washed, but treat it to a final rinse. This ensures the lettuce is ready for the refrigerator and free of sand, dirt and organic contaminants. Dry the clean leaves by patting with paper towels. Return the lettuce to its original container, and keep it chilled in the crisper drawer. Loose leaf usually stays fresh for three to five days.

a long time Lay out clean, dried leaves on paper towels. Carefully fold and roll, and place Source: www.hitchcockfarms.com/blog/how-to-keep-lettuce-fresh



April Fools' Day occurring on April 1, has been celebrated for several centuries by different cultures, though its exact origins remain a mystery. April Fools' Day traditions include playing hoaxes or practical jokes on others, often yelling "April Fools!" at the end to clue in the subject of the April Fools' Day prank.

#### **Origins of April Fools' Day**

Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar, as called for by the Council of Trent in 1563. In the Julian Calendar, as in the Hindu calendar, the new year began with the spring equinox around April . People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes and were called "April fools." These pranks included having paper fish placed on their backs and being referred to as "poisson d'avril" (April fish), said to symbolize a young, easily caught fish and a gullible person.

Historians have also linked April Fools' Day to festivals such as Hilaria (Latin for joyful), which was celebrated in ancient Rome at the end of March by followers of the cult of Cybele. It involved people dressing up in disguises and mocking fellow citizens and even magistrates and was said to be inspired by the Egyptian legend of Isis, Osiris and Seth. There's also speculation that April Fools' Day was tied to the vernal equinox, or first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, when Mother Nature fooled people with changing, unpredictable weather.

#### **History of April Fools' Day**

Sourced: www.history.com

April Fools' Day spread throughout Britain during the 18th century. In Scotland, the tradition became a two-day event, starting with "hunting the gowk," in which people were sent on phony errands (gowk is a word for cuckoo bird, a symbol for fool) and followed by Tailie Day, which involved pranks played on people's derrieres, such as pinning fake tails or "kick me" signs on them. Newspapers, radio and TV stations and websites have participated in this tradition of reporting fictional claims that have fooled their audiences. In 1957, the BBC reported that Swiss farmers were experiencing a record spaghetti crop and showed footage of people harvesting noodles from trees. In 1998, after Burger King advertised a "Left-Handed Whopper," scores of clueless customers requested the fake sandwich. Google notoriously hosts an annual April Fools' Day prank that has included everything from "telepathic search" to the ability to play Pac Man on Google Maps. There is always the classic April Fools' Day prank of covering the toilet with plastic wrap or swapping the contents of sugar and salt containers.

Plai	Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 1/03/2024 to 25/03/2024 Information from Kildare County Council Website											
App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date								
24101	Kildare County Council	George & Sinead Mullis	Crowncourt, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	22/03/2024								
2460243	Kildare County Council	MAAP Child Care Ltd	Castlepark, Dunboyne Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	21/03/2024								
2460233	Kildare County Council	Barry & Grace Buckley	No. 02 Leinster Wood, Carton Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	18/03/2024								
2460225	Kildare County Council	Society of the Divineword	Divine Word Missionaries, Moyglare Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	15/03/2024								

#### Ways to Repurpose Empty Glass Jars

The next time you empty a glass jar of pasta sauce, you may wish to think twice before tossing it into the recycling bin—there are many creative ways to repurpose empty glass jars to add function to your home without spending a penny in the process.

Whether you're craving a bit of extra organization in the bathroom, home office, or kitchen, these tips are sure to have you feeling inspired and ready to get your home into tip-top shape.

#### **Desk Organizers**

2494

2460210

Keep your home office or cubicle looking nice and tidy by turning empty glass jars into organizers that can house everything from pens and markers to paperclips. The clear glass allows for visibility, making it simple to locate and retrieve items when needed.

**Kildare County Council** 

**Kildare County Council** 



George & Sinead Mullis

Society of the Divineword

#### **Craft Supply Storage**

Glass jars are also excellent receptacles for craft supplies. Organize craft supplies into different jars based on categories, such as buttons, beads, or ribbons.

Label each jar for further clarity. Following these steps will result in a craft space that's equal parts functional and visually appealing. Quickly putting all of your materials away at the end of a busy day of crafts will become much easier as well.

#### **Bathroom Canisters**

There's no need to spend money on plastic bathroom canisters at the shop when you can

They can also be transformed into terrariums or DIY herb gardens.

Crowncourt, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Divine Word Missionaries, Moyglare Road, Maynooth,

Co. Kildare

#### Pack a lunch to go

Make glass jars your go-to container for to-go lunches. Fill one with your favorite pasta salad or salad greens, or layer yogurt and nuts for a homemade parfait. Make sure you leave a little room at the top so you can mix the ingredients together by shaking the jar (with the lid on, of course).



14/03/2024

11/03/2024

#### Give it as a gift

Fill your prettiest empty jars with homemade treats. Think specialty hot chocolate mix, pickled peppers, homemade soup mix or one of our other gift-worthy recipes. Remember to include a label with instructions if needed, then top it off with a bow for the perfect gift for any special event.

#### **Use Jars for Painting Supplies**

Reuse wide jars to store painting supplies like your paintbrushes. Smaller jars are perfect for storing paint so that it doesn't dry out.

Glass jars are also good for holding water to rinse your brushes between colors, instead of using a drinking glass.

#### Make a DIY piggy bank

Cut a coin-sized slit in the jar's lid to create an opening for coins and folded bills. Unlike traditional piggy banks, transparent jars let kids see their savings progress and get a better idea of how much money they've stored away.

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use empty glass jars that you already have on hand to fulfill the same purpose. Glass jars are great to house everyday essentials including toothbrushes, cotton balls, and makeup brushes. You could also fill empty glass jars with bath salts, Q-tips, razors, floss picks, and much more.

#### **Hardware Container**

If you have lots of screws and nails on hand in the garage or inside of a supply closet, keep them nice and organized—and sorted by category and size—with the help of some glass jars. Again, labels may come in handy in order to fully identify the materials inside each jar.

#### Vases

There are many different ways to repurpose glass jars in order to bring new green friends into your home. Glass jars can be used as vases, but they can also become indoor succulent planters—just add rocks to the bottom for drainage.

Reusing store-bought jars is an easy and technically free way to get other things done around your home. It gives jars a new purpose and allows you to live a more sustainable and zero-waste lifestyle.

#### So, don't throw away jars you get from buying food, candles, etc! These creative ideas will help you put those old glass bottles and jars to good use.

Source: www.thespruce.com/reuse-glass-jars-8558756 Source: www.tasteofhome.com/article/15-creative-ways-to-reuse-glassjars/





**BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE** BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT

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## **Great Food Served 7 Days**





For a natural cleaning and bug repellent spray, combine hot water and 5 -10 peppermint oil drops in a spray bottle. This is not only great for cleaning countertops, it is also a natural antiviral, antimicrobial and antifungal agent. So you can spray this mix anywhere in the house to repel insects.

Untangle jewellery chains by sprinkling it with baby powder and use a pin to untangle it.

To fluff up feather pillows, dry them in the dryer with tennis balls.

Remove Sharpie marks from leather car seats by using bug spray.

Clean and whiten your white trainers with a magic eraser.

Remove scuff marks from vinyl flooring with lighter fluid and a cloth.

Hardwater build-up on your taps, simply remove them using half a lemon, plastic bag and a rubber band. Gently open up the centre of the lemon then press the lemon onto the end of the tap. Place the plastic bag over the lemon and tap and hold in place with the rubber band. Leave for a few hours, then remove and rinse off.



Carpet stains can be removed by using vodka. Pour the vodka onto a clean cloth and dap the stain. Leave the cloth on the stain for a minute or two. Then dap the area with a clean, wet cloth. Repeat the process if necessary. This can also remove stains on upholstery or fabric.

If your lamps are looking dusty and dirty, use a lint roller. This traps and pulls dust and dirt off them without causing a mess or damage.

Grease stains on clothes are very stubborn to remove. Rub chalk into the grease which absorbs the grease from the fabric and then brush the chalk off. You may have to do this a few times depending on the stain.

Sink stains can be removed by using baking soda and vinegar.

Burn marks on cooking and baking pans, remove them by soaking the pans in hot water and baking soda.

Permanent marker is easily removed by using some vegetable oil and a cloth.



If your iron is getting sticky and dirty, use one tablespoon of rock salt on a piece of tin foil. Iron over the salt keeping the iron on its highest setting. This will loosen any dirt that is stuck on the bottom. Water stains on wood can be fixed by using a hairdryer and olive oil. Heat the stain with the hairdryer then use the olive oil to freshen up the area with a cloth. This will shine up the area and the water stain will be gone.

Sourced: www.hacks/magazine.com

		<b>Maynooth Community Contacts</b>	Listing
Group Name	Contact Number	E-Mail Address	Facebook Page/ Website
An Nuadha Players		annuadhaplayers@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/annuadha
An Post Sorting Office Maynooth	01-6293390		
Bernard Durkan T.D	01-6183732	bernard.durkan@oireachtas.ie	www.facebook.com/bernarddurkan
Brass & Reed Band (St Mary's)		sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie	https://www.facebook.com/maynoothband/
Catherine Murphy T.D.	01-6183099	catherine.murphy@oireachtas.ie	https://www.facebook.com/catherinemurphytd
Cemetery Committee (Laraghbryan)	01-6293018		
Church of Ireland	01-6292163	secretary@meath.anglican.org	
Citizen Information Centre	1890777121	maynooth@citinfo.ie	
Cllr Brendan Wyse	087 2328867	brendan.wyse@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/brendanwysefg
Cllr. Aidan Farrelly	087-9614540	aidan.farrelly@socialdemocrats.ie	https://www.facebook.com/AidanFarrellySD/
Cllr. Angela Feeney	087-2381962	angelaemfeeney@gmail.com	
Cllr. Brendan Weld	087 7828649	bweldmcc@gmail.com	
Cllr. Daragh Fitzpatrick	087 2538184	daraghfitz2007@gmail.com	
Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil	086 7280050	cllrnaoise@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/naoiseocearuil/
Cllr. Pádraig McEvoy	086-8658262	padraigmcevoy@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/CllrPadraigMcEvoy/
Cllr. Paul Ward	087 2294697	cllrpaulward@gmail.com	
Cllr. Peter Hamilton	087-2316308		
Cllr. Tim Durkan	086-8632784	tim.durkan321@gmail.com	
Cloth Nappy Library Ireland	087-9949183	zerowastemaynooth@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/NappyLibraryIreland
Community Welfare Services	0818607080	Kildarecws@welfare.ie	
Employment Office	01-6106000	bo.maynooth@welfare.ie	
Intreo Employment Services Office	01-6016360	EstMaynooth@welfare.ie	
James Lawless T.D.	01-6183587	james.lawless@oireachtas.ie	https://www.facebook.com/JamesLawlessFF/
Kildare Civil Defence	045 980529	pmcneela@kildarecoco.ie	
Kildare County Council	045 - 980200	customerservice@kildarecoco.ie	
Kildare County Council (Local Office)	01 - 6286236		
Kildare MABS	0818 07 2600	kildare@mabs.ie	
Maynooth Autism Friendly Town	0863329050	autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/maynoothaft/
Maynooth Community Care Unit	01-6106351		
Maynooth Community Church	01-5054990	office@maynoothcc.org	https://www.facebook.com/maynoothcommunitychurch/
Maynooth Community Library	01-6285530	maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie.	facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService
Maynooth Cycling Campaign	086-8252934	Maynoothcycling@gmail.com	https://maynoothcyclingcampaign.com/
Maynooth Fishing Club	01-6293202	info@maynoothfisheries.com	
Maynooth GAA Club		secretary.maynooth.kildare@gaa.ie	https://www.facebook.com/maynoothgaa/
Maynooth Health Centre	01-6106130		
Maynooth Kilcock Lions club		contact@maynoothkilcocklionsclub.org	https://www.facebook.com/MaynoothKilcockLionsClub/
Maynooth Library	01-6285530	Maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie	www.facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService
Maynooth Newsletter	01-6285922	office@maynoothcep.com	https://www.facebook.com/MCEPNewsletter
Maynooth Senior Citizens		maynoothseniorcitizens@gmail.com	
Maynooth Students Union	01-7083669	frontdesk@msu.ie	https://www.facebook.com/MaynoothSU
Maynooth Tidy Towns	083 304 6130	maynoothtidytowns@outlook.ie	https://www.facebook.com/MaynoothTidyTowns
Maynooth Town Football Club	086-1060654	info@maynoothtownfc.ie	https://www.facebook.com/MTFC1969/

Waynooth Town Tootoan Club	000-1000004	into ta may noo unto winte. le	https://www.ideebook.com/witte1909/						
North Kildare Club	01-6103909	info@northkildareclub.ie							
North Kildare Tennis Club		info@northkildaretennis.ie							
Parish of St. Mary's Maynooth	01-6293018	maynoothparishoffice@gmail.com							
Post Office	01-6286259								
Réada Cronin T.D.	01-6183823	reada.cronin@oireachtas.ie	https://www.facebook.com/ReadaCroninSinnFein						
SVP Vincent's Shop	01-6289643	geraldinebyrne.east@svp.ie	https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064619179003						
Zero Waste Maynooth	087-9949183	zerowastemaynooth@gmail.com	https://www.facebook.com/zerowastemaynooth						
If you wish to have your Community contact added, updated or removed from the above listing please e-mail office@maynoothcep.com with "Community Contact" in the subject line.									