

Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

LOCAL NEWS - JUNE 2025 - ISSUE NO. 546

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Record Numbers and Community Spirit Shine at the Maynooth 10K & 5K - 2025 Photo Gallery on pages 7,8 & 9

Maynooth, May 11th, 2025 – The annual Maynooth 10K reached new heights this year, as a staggering 1,141 runners took to the streets, officially eclipsing last year's recordbreaking turnout. Under glorious sunshine and a festival-like atmosphere, the event brought together a dynamic mix of local celebrities, seasoned athletes, casual runners, families, and first-timers to celebrate the very best of local spirit.

Participants tackled both the 10K and 5K routes with determination and enthusiasm, cheered on by our tremendous volunteer stewarding squad and supporters lining the streets and filling the town with energy. Basking in glorious sunshine, the event once again proved why it's a highlight of the local calendar—uniting the community in support of local schools, community sports facilities, well-being, and shared purpose. Powered by Sponsors, Volunteers, and Pure Heart.

The success of the 2025 Maynooth 10K was made possible by an incredible network of volunteers and local sponsors. This year saw the continued support of returning partners and a warm welcome to new sponsors, whose generosity helped provide everything from finisher medals and snoods, to prizes, refreshments, and volunteer gear.

With Special Thanks to:

Alvaro Blasco of Blasco Solicitors, sponsors of snoods, and volunteer t-shirts.

Cryoclinic, sponsors of race day bib numbers Specsavers, sponsors of medal lanyards Picaderos, sponsors of the water stations

Our Remaining Sponsors

Lencon, EBS Maynooth, Simple Strength Fitness, Bella and Me Skin and Laser, LWF Physiotherapy, O'Neills Bar Liftrite Ltd, Oakberry Acai Bowls and Smoothies, U by Urbeo Property Management, Maynooth Tidy Towns, whose combined contribution covered the costs of medals and signage.

Podium Prizes Sponsors

Carton House Hotel, The Glenroyal Hotel, The Glenroyal Leisure Centre, Synergy Golf Management, Picaderos & Donatellos Restaurants, Sphere Fitness, Simple Strength Fitness, LWF Physiotherapy, ARUNA Yoga

Volunteer Prize Sponsors

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Maynooth - block of lessons, Infinity Hot Yoga Maynooth class passes, and Kava Pilates Maynooth class passes.

Particular thanks to Casey/Nally's Supervalu Maynooth for the large donation of water which we simply couldn't manage without.

To Typo Coffee and MEC PTA for fuelling our finishers with delicious post-race treats.

To Highway Markings for their generous donation of the 2 VMS

signs to highlight our event to road users.

Fitness instructors at Simple Strength, Leixlip who led our energetic pre-race warm-up and Comhaltas Maynooth who provided traditional Irish music for all and contributed to the race village vibe.



As always, the event's logistics and safety were expertly managed thanks to Kildare County Council, An Garda Síochána, Maynooth Community First Responders medical teams, and the Maynooth Cycling Club, who led runners through the route. Over 50 volunteers once again formed the backbone of the event—managing everything from route planning, setup, organisation, parking and marshalling to water stations and everything in between.

We would also like to thank the residents affected along the route for their patience and understanding particularly those on the Moyglare Road, Mariavilla, Castle Park and Linden Demesne who were most affected.

The Maynooth 10k has not only become a staple event in the local community but also a shining example of the power of sport to bring people together, promote health and fitness and foster a sense of belonging. Siobhan McCauley principal of Maynooth Community College explained how important the fundraiser is for both schools, and went on to say how grateful they are for the support the event attracts and it is always such a pleasure to see all of the runners, especially all the alumni and current students who get involved.

Now firmly established as a cornerstone of the community calendar, the Maynooth 10K continues to grow in size, spirit and impact. With record participation and an atmosphere full of joy and encouragement, 2025's race will be remembered as one of the best yet.

A sincere thank you to every runner, volunteer, sponsor and supporter who made this year's Maynooth 10K unforgettable. See you on the start line in 2026!

For race results, pictures and future event updates, visit www.maynooth10k.ie









Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

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

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor, for publication, should be sent by

e-mail to: editor@maynoothcep.com

Mission Statement

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

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

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

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

In addition we undertake the following:

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

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

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

Disclaimer

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

Editorial

Ireland is the first, and only, country in the world to have a national day of free creativity for children and young people under 18. Cruinniú na nÓg is a flagship initiative of the Creative Ireland Programme's Creative Youth Plan, to enable the creative potential of children and young people. It is great to see that there is an event in Maynooth aimed at encouraging younger residents to become aware of our local heritage. Children as young as five years old are encouraged to become a "Heritage Hunter" and take part in a creative treasure hunt around Maynooth town, suitable for young families and children of all ages.



You can pick up your map and first clue from Maynooth Community Library (pictured) and have fun finding all the clues around the town and doing the art activities mentioned in them. Special art kits will be available on a first come, first served basis. Complete the treasure hunt (and if you're quick enough!) pick up your

treasure in Maynooth Community Library. No booking is required; however, the art packs and prizes have limited availability. This Cruinniú na nÓg treasure hunt runs from Wednesday 28th of May to Saturday 7th June 2025. (Please note the library will be closed June Bank Holiday Weekend).

The Maynooth Union was founded in June 1895 so marks their 130th anniversary this year. On the 9th/10th June in St. Patrick's College, former students will get together, with a range of events planned. Particular anniversaries being marked this year are the class of 1965 (Diamond), 1975 (Golden) and 2000(Silver). Congratulations to all.



Works continue on the North-South corridor upgrade in Mill Street (pictured before work started). Progress has been made but works are due to continue up to the end of the year.

Hopefully they will tackle the bigger part of the work during the summer. With the university and a number of local schools nearby, it would be preferable that works can be completed before these return in September.

Finally, good luck to all our students in the three post-primary schools undertaking the Leaving and Junior certificate exams in June. Remember that while important, these exams do not define you. As Henry Ford said "The whole secret of a successful life is to find out what is one's destiny to do, and then do it."

Paul Croghan Editor

Copy date for the July edition will be 5pm on 25th June 2025

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITY IN MAYNOOTH

Director (Voluntary Board Role)

Organisation: Maynooth Community Employment Project (MCEP) **Location:** Maynooth, Co. Kildare (in-person attendance required)

Time Commitment: Up to 4 hours/month (depending on the role) and up to 10 board meetings/year



About Us

MCEP is a long-established community organisation providing training, work experience, and support services in Maynooth. We publish the monthly Maynooth Newsletter, provide support to community group activities, maintain Maynooth Harbour area and Maynooth Town Football Club. We are a registered company, approved charity, and receive funding from the Department of Social Protection and other local revenue streams. We currently have 16 staff members.

About the Roles

Due to retirements, we are seeking to appoint a number of new directors to join our Board of Directors. Expressions of interest are welcome from people who are eligible to serve as company directors and charity trustees. All roles are completely voluntary and unpaid. Those appointed must be available to serve for a minimum period of one year. Ideally people joining the board are Maynooth based or be available to come to Maynooth, as in person involvement is required.

We're looking for people with the some of the following skills

- Financial/accounting
- IT and Website
- Sales and Marketing
- Community Development Leadership

Why Join Us?

This is a chance to make a real impact in your local community. You will be part of a dedicated and friendly team, helping to shape the future of a valued local organisation. By giving a little of your time, you also get a great opportunity to give something back to your community.

To Apply:

To submit an Expression of Interest or seek more information, you can contact us by email to : Paul Croghan, Company Secretary, MCEP at paul.croghan@maynoothcep.com

MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT SECRETARIAL SERVICES

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

Photocopying - Typing - Scanning to & Print from Email A3/A4 Poster Design & Printing - CVs - Theses Letters - Essays - A3/A4 Lamination

Other Office Services available on request

Tel: 01 6285922

Email: office@maynoothcep.com
Opening Hours
Mon-Fri - 9.00 am - 4.30 pm
(Closed for Lunch 1pm to 2pm)









Gold Medal Winners

2016 - 2017 - 2018

2019 - 2021 - 2022

2023 - 2024

Phew, we can finally breathe again after many weeks of preparing our Tidy Towns Application. We submitted the document on Monday the 12th May. Fingers crossed for a good result. Judging should begin at unknown dates in June/July, results should be known in September.

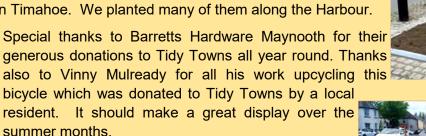
Lots of preparations taking place around the town for the Entente Florale Europe Competition where judging takes place on the 12th of July. Kildare County Council are pulling out all the stops, they have installed 6 new benches in the square. They have created 2 new flower beds also in Courthouse Square. Tidy Towns will be planting pollinators, bee friendly flowers, over the next couple of weeks. We will have our final meeting with KCC staff and The Department of Rural Affairs in our Library on the 22nd May.

We organized a Heritage Trail Walk with the Fleadh team on Saturday the 24th May. On Saturday May 17th The Kildare Fleadh team joined us for a clean up. Refreshments were provided by the ICA in the ICA Hall at the Harbour.

We have been very busy at the Community Church installing flower beds. Thanks to Peter Cuthbert local environmentalists for all his help and providing us with some of the plants grown from seed.

We also received a very generous donation of Heathers from a nursery in Timahoe. We planted many of them along the Harbour.





We are always looking for volunteers please contact us on Facebook Messenger. We meet every Saturday morning at 9am in the Council Car Park. We also meet up on a Wednesday evening at 7pm. Just show up all equipment supplied.



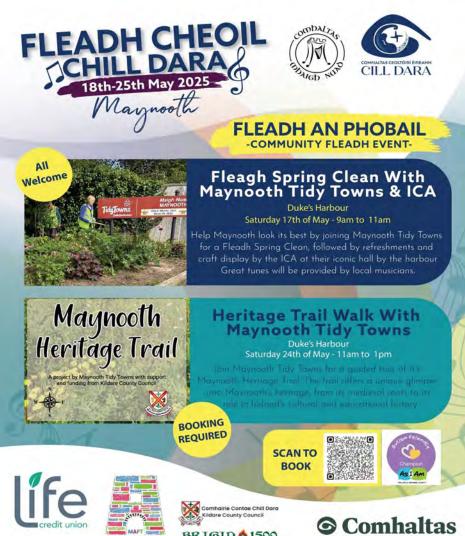
If you wish to volunteer please contact us on our Facebook page or by

email maynoothtidytowns@outlook.ie

Mary Molloy
Maynooth Tidy Towns Association







The Emerald Isle

On the emerald isle,

where the grass is so green,

And the skies are so blue,

like you've never seen.

Where Irish souls dance to ancient tunes,

A friendship blossoms,

like wildflowers in June.

Friendship's spirit spreads,

to those who seek it most,

Like the rivers that meander through the land,

Irish souls unite,

with a gentle guiding hand.

By: Charles Philips

From Dublin's fair city to Galway's rugged coast,



Mary Cowhey & Company Solicitors

Suite 2/3 Manor Mills

Maynooth

County Kildare

County Mildard

Motor & Work-Related Accidents

House Purchase/Sale

Wills, Probate

&

Administration of Estates
Family Law, Divorce, Separation

Telephone: 6285711

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E-mail: info@marycowhey.com www.marycowhey.com

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



If I can help:
e-mail me at
afeeney@kildarecoco.ie
Or call on 087 2381962



Phone









Bord Bia Bloom 2025

10 fun things to see and do

Roll up, roll up, the time has come to start planning your trip to this summer's hottest and more colourful festival! Bord Bia Bloom returns to the Phoenix Park, Dublin this Thursday, May 29th to Monday, June 2nd and with glorious gardens, fabulous food, and more than 300 live performances taking place over five days, there is so much to see and do this year. Here is our pick of the best of Bloom 2025:

1. See Bloom's spectacular Show Gardens

As the heart and soul of Bord Bia Bloom, the 21 Show Gardens will once again be a hive of activity over the five days of the festival. Look out also for Bloom's hugely popular Postcard Gardens, sponsored by Tirlán Country Life, which are built in one day by community groups and schools from across Ireland.

2. Learn how to design and grow the garden of your dreams

Head to the Garden Stage, sponsored by Zarbee's where television presenters Diarmuid Gavin and Adam Frost of BBC's Gardeners' World are headlining a busy programme of expert talks and demonstrations. Ask for specialist advice in the Ask the Expert Plant, Tree and Garden Design Clinics, which are brought to Bloom by The Irish Garden magazine, Crann – Trees for Ireland, and the Garden & Landscape Designers Association.

3. Taste the best of Irish food and drink

The **Food Hall** within Bloom's bustling Food Village features more than 100 of Ireland's artisan producers. From chocolates to cheese and oysters to teas, there is plenty to tantalise your tastebuds. While you're there, you can pop over to Bloom Inn, where some of the country's best craft brewers and distillers are gathered. This is a great spot to take a break, enjoy a tipple, and soak up the buzz of the festival.

4. Watch your favourite chefs and culinary stars in action

Donal Skehan, Neven Maguire, Aishling Moore and Catherine Fulvio are among a collection of culinary stars taking to the Dunnes Stores Quality Kitchen Stage this year. With 30 live demos planned for the weekend, this is a must see for anyone who loves to cook. Seafood fans should also check out Bloom's new Seafood Kitchen, where chef Trisha Lewis is hosting three demos each day.

5. Catch more gardening, floral art and craft demos and workshops

With 300 (yes, 300!) talks, demos, performances and workshops taking place across the Bloom weekend, there is ample opportunity to grow, taste and learn at this year's festival.

You can learn how to care for houseplants or make a floral crown in the new Botanical Hub Demo Space; discover some fascinating facts and enjoy the simulators at the Horticulture is Life area; find out how to grow abundant kitchen gardens in the Eat Well Garden; enjoy farming demos at the Agri Aware Farm; and see some of Ireland's master craftspeople demonstrate their skills in the Design & Craft Council Ireland (DCCI) Irish Craft Village. Prepare to be inspired!

6. Gather advice for a more sustainable life

If you are eager to learn how you can play your part in protecting the environment, then make a bee-line for the Conservation Area where you can chat with leading conservationists and environmentalists.

Here you will also find the inspirational Sustainable Living Stage,

sponsored by Certa (official supplier of HVO to Bord Bia Bloom) which will host a packed programme of talks on a wide range of topics, from the circular economy and renewable energy to gardening with fewer chemicals and sustainable fashion advice. Expect practical advice for actionable change.

7. Enjoy 'A Taste of Bloom'

'A Taste of Bloom, curated by Neven' features a three-course menu which has been thoughtfully designed by the MacNean House chefproprietor to showcase some of the very best ingredients from quality Irish producers. The special 'Taste of Bloom' package is available on Ticketmaster priced €79 per person, which includes entry to the festival and a 3-course lunch. Demand is high so early booking is advised! For more delicious dining options, head to The Seafood Terrace, Country Crest Restaurant, or choose from more than 60 food trucks who are serving a wide variety of cuisines in the Picnic Area, Food Village, and Bloom's dedicated grill zone, BBQ Bliss, sponsored by Ninja Woodfire.

8. Soak up the Sounds of Summer

There is no shortage of musical entertainment planned for the Bloom weekend. Head to the Entertainment Stage to watch an eclectic collection of artists perform and make sure to stop by RTÉ's outdoor broadcast area to see your favourite presenters broadcast live including Louise Duffy, Derek Mooney, Philip Boucher-Hayes, Marty Whelan, Simon Delaney and more.

9. Indulge in some Retail Therapy

From food to fashion and plants to paintings, there is something to tempt everyone at Bloom. For plants visit the Nursery Village, in association with Elite Garden Products and The Plant Emporium, in association with Arboretum Garden Centres, Kildare Growers Association and Bord Bia. If you buy too many to carry, fear not. You can store them in the Plant Crèche, sponsored by Certa Renewables until it's time to go home. Discover the full exhibitor list here.

10. Have fun with your Budding Bloomers

And last but not least, visit the Budding Bloomers Children's Area for face painting, crafting, and a rip-roaring line up of enthralling performances from some of Ireland's favourite children's entertainers on the Budding Bloomers Stage, sponsored by Rollercoaster.ie.

Elsewhere in the festival, children can visit the Phoenix Park Playground; the Agri Aware Farm; and get their hands dirty in the Westland Horticulture Potting Shed. Remember, two children aged 16 and under can enter for free with every adult ticket making Bloom a great family day out!

It's time to plan your visit, see information on tickets and transport below: Tickets

Tickets are on sale via the BordBiaBloom.com website. Two children (aged 16 and under) go free with each adult ticket purchased.

Getting there

Visitors are encouraged to take public transport to the festival when possible. A regular, free shuttle bus is available to take visitors from Parkgate Street, next to the Luas Red Line and Heuston Station, to the festival's entrance on Chesterfield Avenue. Free, secure bike parking is also available to those who can cycle to Bloom. Full details of all transport options can be found on bordbiabloom.com.





Maynooth 10K & 5K - 2025 - Photo Gallery



Maynooth 10K & 5K - 2025 - Photo Gallery



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

E mail: afeeney@kildarecoco.ie - Phone: 0872381962



Safety Measures needed at Fagan's Lane Maynooth

At the May Council Municipal District meeting I called on the Council to carry out a safety assessment at Fagan's Lane. The lane used to be a two-way lane for traffic and the very wise decision was made a few years back to make it one-way only. So it is now exit only for traffic onto Main Street Maynooth. The reason I put the motion down to review the safety issue is that many people have reported near misses at the junction; cars exiting from Fagan's Lane onto a very busy junction with lots of pedestrians walking on Main Street. Motorists take chances to get across the junction or to get into the flow of traffic on Main Street as there is no traffic light controlling that exit from Fagan's Lane, as it is currently designed. The area engineer has agreed to meet me on site and assess the current usage of the lane and the safety issues in order to see what might work better and to make it

Speed ramp/s on Boreen Road, Straffan

I have had the Boreen Road in Straffan on the agenda many times not only this year but also during the last term of the Council. I have raised the need for footpaths on that road and with the Masterplan for Straffan in the pipeline for funding, I am hopeful and will be pushing for that to happen. In the meantime, the speeding issue on the road needs to be addressed. Many residents in Straffan have been raising their concerns for safety due to increased speeding on this road; it is a very busy, narrow road with sharp bends. I am calling for appropriate engineering measures to be put in place, such as chicanes or ramps better signage and lines and costings to be drawn up by the Council.

Schedule for parking bye law reviews for Maynooth

frustrating response as it failed to provide a timeline but got a list of towns in the order in which the parking bye law reviews will take place and on that basis I am guessing that Maynooth looks like it's 10th growing child care needs of families. place in the queue. My question on the agenda was prompted by a 2. That the Council installs pencil bollards on the footpath on the response I got to a motion last month calling for a disability bay for the Moyglare Road opposite the Boys School National School to prevent St. John of Gods service in Maynooth and I was told that a disability car parking on the cycle and footpath.

bay could not be provided until the parking bye law review took place. I asked the Council to clarify where that puts us with issues as they arise such as the disability bay or similar issues. The Council suggested using Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act would be needed because the roll out of the review of the parking by-laws seems very slow.

Expansion of library services for Maynooth

The library service is a great success and is one of the busiest libraries in the county. It is in a great location on Main Street but has no scope for expansion. Given the population growth of the town, we have seen there is an increased demand for the services of the library. The response from the Council is welcome when it stated that the need for an expanded library is on its agenda and that it is looking for appropriate sites. I will be following up with the Council with suggestions for suitable sites in the locality.

Upcoming Motions and Questions at Council meeting:

Questions:

- 1. Can the Council provide an update on the ongoing Mill Street, Maynooth works, the continuation of the project past the undeveloped section that connects Mill Street to the Moyglare Road to include projected timelines
- 2. Can the Council provide an update as to when the link Road from Mullen Park to the Celbridge Road will open?

Motions

- 1. That the Council in partnership with Kildare Childcare Committee, provides a Community Crèche in the municipal district to serve the



Maynooth ICA Guild Notes

The Guild has had a busy time over last few months. Some members took part in national competitions in bread making and quiz. We will also have a team in pitch and putt in September.

The Federation will have a Polish and Irish night in Celbridge in May. The Federation will also host a craft day 1st of November. Some more members are going to An Grianán from 1st to 5th September and will be doing crafts.

A Drama Workshop took place in our Guild Hall over 4 weeks, which was attended by members of the Guild and Federation. At the last Federation meeting, Guilds were drawn from Celbridge and Leixlip for scholarship to An Grianán.

Our Guild will be working with the Fleadh during May. On the 17th May we are hosting the Fleadh Committee and Tidy Towns to refreshments. Some of our Craft Works will be on display also. The Guild sent Hats and Scarfs to the needy.

The Guild also held a collection for The Alzheimer's Association. Sixteen members attended a lovely lunch in Springfield at end of April. This was a lovely social event for the Guild. We are also planning a day out to Enniscorthy to see Vinegar Hill and the Castle.

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month Craft Classes are held in H/Q and are always well attended.

The Guild also received a Sports Grant of €250. Sports Day will be held in Monread Naas on 23/5/25 from 9.30 to 1pm. All Guild to put in teams, and winning teams will then go on to a National Final. Another trip is being organised for Limerick in June'25.

The Guild got a new ramp at the back door and a safety handle too. It's great for those of us who are not stable on our feet. We must thank the Men's Sheds for fixing bits and pieces in the Hall in the last few months. A lovely warm crocheted blanket was donated to the local nursing home in the harbour and they were delighted to accept it.

There is a lot of stuff going on to keep all our members busy for a while. We also rent out our hall to other bodies for meetings. We welcome new members at all times.

Our monthly meetings take place 1st Thursday of the month at 8pm, and we are open for crafts every Monday from 8-10pm in our hall in the harbour.

Our hall is available to rent and we are always looking for new members

Nora McDermott PRO Maynooth I.C.A.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign

Membership of Maynooth Cycling Campaign

Maynooth Cycling Campaign has moved to a fee membership of €30 per person per annum. Prior to this, the need for finance was limited so there was no charge for our supporters. Dublin Cycling Campaign has had paid membership since its early days and the Irish Cycling Campaign, formerly Cyclist.ie, which lobbies on national issues has also introduced a similar membership fee.

In 2024, in order to qualify for local funding streams that do not permit applications from national organisations, Kildare County Council required Maynooth Cycling Campaign to open its own bank account and to take out insurance in its own name. The membership fee will enable us to pay for insurance and other essential expenses such as bank charges and website maintenance which supports our work locally. In particular, insurance cover is required to participate in events such as Bike Week, Picnic in the Park and the Maynooth St. Patrick's Day parade. It is also a requirement to hire third party rooms for public meetings. If you would like to support better cycling facilities in Maynooth, contact us at maynoothcycling@gmail.com.

Bike Week 2025

Bikeweek 2025 ran from 10th -18th May. Maynooth Cycling Campaign organised three events. The key event was a screening of the film MOTHERLOAD. A small crowd enjoyed the film and discussions which followed. We are grateful to Dr. Karen Moore for leading the Nature Cycle along the Royal Canal towpath.

Cycling Without Age

We are delighted to announce that the trishaw has been serviced and is available for tours of Maynooth at the weekends and for use by St. John of God/Genil Training. We are grateful to Cycle Clinic in Dublin for carrying out the maintenance.



Cycle Path Trail on Strand Road Dublin

Last month, the Court of Appeal overruled the High Court ruling which blocked the trail of a cycle path on Strand Road Dublin on the basis that the judge had erred on several points of law and fact.

A mix of advocacy groups, social enterprises, and others have come together to make the call for the cycle path trial to go ahead. The groups include: A Playful City, Cycling Without Age, Dublin Commuter Coalition, Dublin Cycling Campaign, I Bike Dublin, Irish Doctors for the Environment, IrishCycle.com, Irish Cycling Campaign, Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice, and The Bike Hub.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign would like to add its support to the petition and asks its supporters and members of the public to sign the petition here. It is common practice for authorities to trail controversial changes to roads to see their effect. If the changes are positive, they are made permanent. If the impact of changes are negative, they are abandoned. In contrast, in recent years, Maynooth councillors have voted against a trial on Parson Street.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party independent local lobby in Kildare.

Eurovelo 02 - The Capitals Route



In 2004, Channel 4 broadcast a programme about the Bishop family from Newtownmountkennedy who had cycled from Wicklow to Gibraltar a distance of about 1800 km. The family consisted of parents Craig and Annick and their four daughters who were aged 17, 15, 13 and 7. They believed that life should have adventure and that you can learn a great deal from travelling. They also wanted to inspire others.

I was very motivated by the programme but at that time, as a parent of two children aged 16 and 11, it was impractical to be absent from work for two months and, frankly, I could not envisage my wife wanting to join me on my adventure.

In more recent years, I became aware of the European Cycling Federation's Euro-Velo network which is a network of mainly north-south and east-west cycle routes which emulate the European network of motorways. Eurovelo Route 02 is called the Capitals Route and links Moscow on the east and Galway on the west. It runs through Russia (Moscow), Belarus, Poland (Warsaw), Germany (Berlin), the Netherlands (Hague), United Kingdom (London) and Ireland (Dublin), finishing up in Galway in the west. The route follows the Royal Canal in Kildare and so includes my home town of Maynooth. I wanted to cycle the whole route (or at least most of it) but I discovered that

although many of the EuroVelo routes are available on the ground, some particularly in the eastern European countries are still at the planning stage. In view of the military conflict involving Russia, I decided to omit the sections in Belarus and Russia. Poland includes a number of EuroVelo routes but EV 02 is largely still at the planning stage so I decided to start in Poznan.

This takes a degree of planning. I am very grateful to advice I received from Donal O'Connor who had cycled from Achill to Auschwitz in 2022.

How far to cycle every day? I wasn't used to cycling significant distances every day but would I have time to explore the areas that I am passing through. I decided that I would cycle an average of 35km/day - seven days per week. In practice, I would take a rest day every week. If I wanted to spend more time in an area, I would cycle longer distances.

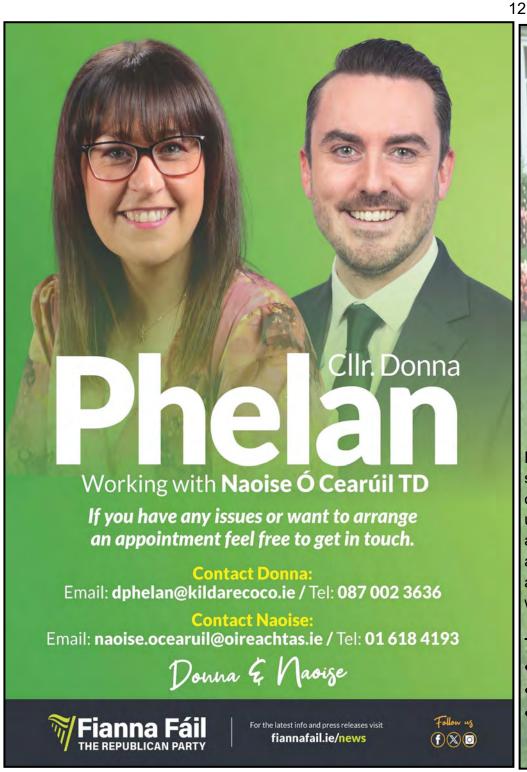
Accommodation - do I stay in hotels, B&Bs or do I carry a tent which would be cheaper but which would add to the weight transported. I decided that I would carry a tent and sleeping bag/ blow up mattress but I would treat myself by staying in a hotel one day a week.

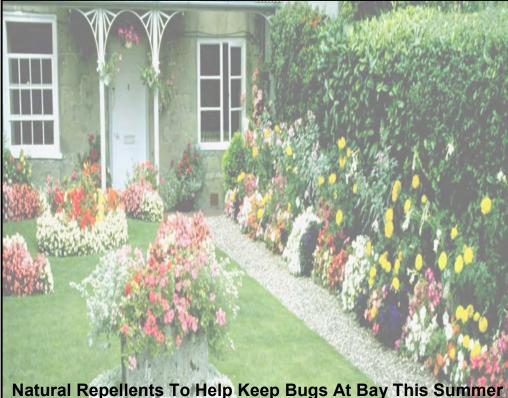
Food - Do I bring a cooker and utensils or do I cook along the way? Will there be places to eat along the way? I decided not to cook as it would be easier to eat out although a small stock of 'emergency' food would be wise in case that I could not find anywhere to eat.

Do I cycle from Ireland to Poland or vice versa? I preferred the option of travelling from east to west so that I would hit the UK and Ireland in the middle rather than early summer. I considered travelling to Poland by train but it could take up to three days.

It is time to put up or shut up. My adventure starts in June when I fly to Poznan.

By Gerry Dornan





Natural repellents are a safe and easy way to keep out pesky ants and spiders amongst other insects. Natural repellents are also a good option when you have small children and pets running around picking up things from floor, to mouth. Essential oils like peppermint, tea tree and eucalyptus are known to deter insects safely. You can spray these around windows and doors, and this will also give your home a clean and fresh smell. Bay leaves, lavender, orange peels and vinegar can work just as well, and many of these are staples in most households.

Things you will need:

- **Empty Spray Bottle**
 - Water
- **Essential Oils**

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee

Seeking Volunteers - it could be you!



Who we are

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee was established in 1965. Our registered charity number is 20017521

The aim of the organisation is to "create an environment where older people can retain independence and have autonomy over their own lives... to encourage full participation in their community and society as a whole to endeavour to eliminate isolation through, social inclusion, transport provision and...to provide a voice for the most vulnerable, while keeping a watchful eye on social policies affecting older people and all the while working towards a just society that has no place for ageism"

What we do

- Conduct monthly meetings
- Organise and run two morning clubs... activities... bingo, art, crafts, wellness courses, information workshops for seniors
- Provide transport for Saturday evening mass via local link
- Support contact for the Senior Alert Scheme
- Organising fundraising activities for the organisation e.g. annual quiz night, church gate collection, Raffles
- Organise outings e.g. local shows, Christmas lunch etc.
- Member of the Irish Senior Citizens Parliament

Can you commit to giving your time to the following?

- Attend monthly meetings on the second Monday of month, Geraldine Hall, 8pm
- Consistent attendance at club mornings to help with setup, tea, clear up
- To help with fundraising activities e.g. annual quiz night, church gate collection, presence on mass bus, selling tickets for raffles etc.
- Computer skills are desirable especially for executive role-most of our correspondence and applications are conducted online
- To ensure that the aims and ethos of the organisation is fulfilled as laid in our governing instrument

We would be delighted to welcome new committee members and suggest a visit to our morning club in the first instance. For more information please contact may nooth senior citizens@gmail.com or 0877974582 or any member of the existing Committee

Gladiator Research

MU-led study finds evidence of gladiator-animal combat in Roman period.



Prof Tim Thompson, MU Professor of Anthropology and Vice Tim Thompson, Professor of President for Students and Learning

A ground-breaking study has uncovered the first physical evidence of humananimal gladiatorial combat in the Roman period.

The research presents compelling skeletal evidence of a human victim attacked by a large carnivorous animal, likely within the context of Roman-era spectacle combat. It was conducted by an international team of archaeologists

and osteologists, led by Anthropology and Vice President for Students and Learning at Maynooth University.

While images of gladiators being bitten by lions have appeared in ancient mosaics and pottery, this is the only convincing skeletal

evidence using forensic experiments anywhere in the world of bite marks Lesion on the left iliac spine produced by the teeth of a large cat, such as a lion.

The findings centre on a single skeleton discovered in a Roman-period cemetery outside York in England, a site believed to contain the remains of gladiators. The individual's bones exhibited distinct lesions that, upon close examination and

comparison with modern zoological specimens, were identified as bite marks from a large feline species.

The bite marks on the pelvis of the skeleton represent the first osteological confirmation of human interaction with large carnivores in a combat or entertainment setting in the Roman world.

Lead author Prof Thompson outlined the significance of the discovery: "For years, our understanding of Roman gladiatorial combat and animal spectacles has relied heavily on historical texts and artistic depictions. This discovery provides the first direct, physical evidence that such events took place in this period, reshaping our perception of Roman entertainment culture in the region."



The research, published in the journal of science medical research PLOS One, and is a collaboration between leading institutions including Maynooth University, Cranfield University, Durham University, the University of York, King's College London, York Archaeological Trust, now known as York Archaeology, and York Osteoarchaeology Ltd. It highlights the brutality of these spectacles and their reach beyond Rome's core territories.

The study contributes a vital new dimension to our knowledge of Roman Britain, reinforcing the

Marble relief with lion and region's deep connection to the empire's entertainment traditions. These findings offer **Gladiator** © The Trustees of the new avenues for research into the presence of **British Museum** exotic animals in Roman-period Britain and the

lives of those involved in gladiatorial combat.

MU's Digital Health Summer School unveils new vision for Irish healthcare

Minister of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless opened Maynooth University's Digital Health Summer School which unveiled a new vision for digital health in Ireland, outlined with demonstrations of 10 healthcare innovations that could revolutionise the Irish healthcare system.

Opening the Innovation Value Institute's 3rd International Digital

Health Summer School, Minister Lawless said: "Today's event exemplifies higher education's potential to profoundly impact society, showcasing Maynooth University's commitment innovation beyond academia."



The Summer School unveiled a digital health initiative, named Mission 10X, to deliver healthcare in Ireland that is 10 times faster, cheaper and smarter than that offered by the current system and that also enables comprehensive patient-managed care.

Speaking at the event, Professor Martin Curley, Director of the Digital Health Ecosystem at IVI, said: "The best way to predict the future is to innovate it. We have all the knowledge and technology to build and scale a world-class health and wellness system—powered by open, intelligent technology and centred on patients, not paperwork."

He added that Mission 10X, which is based on 10 actionable recommendations, was fully aligned with Irish health strategy Sláintecare and its adoption would allow Ireland to leapfrog from last in Europe to world leader in digital health.

At the core of the new plan is SPINE, or Secure Patient Information Network Exchange, an individual electronic health record system which already supports over 15,000 patients in Ireland. It aims to improve patient outcomes, health economics, clinician experience and productivity by addressing patient information fragmentation.

Mission 10X recommends a phased investment in SPINE, starting with an initial €10 million feasibility study scaling to a €100 million nationwide deployment that would see every citizen offered a personal electronic health record.

Other healthcare innovations demonstrated at the two-day event which could form part of an integrated Irish digital health ecosystem, included:

An Al-integrated smartwatch capable of real-time fall detection, direct care operator communication and instant patient record updates Al-driven screening technology deployable at pharmacies, practices, primary care centres and homes, to bring proactive

screening into local settings Voice Al technology providing multi-lingual communication and customised podcasts to improve patient understanding adherence

Voicing support for the plan, Dr John Sheehan of Blackrock Health, said: "With a modest initial investment of €10 million, Ireland can create a scalable digital health system, mirroring Estonia's successful model. This is a historical opportunity we cannot afford to miss."

Others attending the Summer School included Danny McCoy, IBEC chief executive, who said: "Despite Ireland's wealth and EU digital rankings, we lag in digital healthcare. Mission 10X provides an essential leapfrog solution that we must adopt immediately."

Stephen McMahon, Head of the Irish Patients' Association, also backed the move to digital healthcare: "This is a digital health revolution—a beacon of hope and healing for patients today and future generations. Mission 10X shows that together, we truly can transform healthcare."



MU Governing Authority Chairperson Dr Mary Canning, Minister for Further and Higher Education James Lawless and Digital Health **Ecosystem Director at IVI Prof Martin Curley**

Cllr. Donna Phelan

MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:

Tel: 087-002 3636 Email: dphelan@kildarecoco.ie





Motions from MD Council

Question:

Can the council consider plans to include sections of Old Greenfield, Maynooth which are in poor condition, on next year's plan of work?

Response:

The Municipal District Office will inspect Old Greenfield with a view to considering it for inclusion in the 2026 road works programme.

Motion - Councillor Donna Phelan

That the council develops a roundabout policy and action plan as soon as possible to cut back and tidy up the roundabout at Tesco, Maynooth and engages with Carton House suggesting they maintain the roundabout on the Dunboyne Road ahead of the KPMG Ladies Irish Open which they are hosting this summer.

Report:

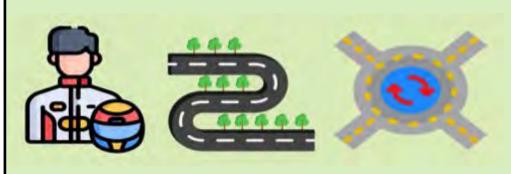
A clean up of the roundabouts at Tesco as outlined in our report last month is being organised. The roundabout on the Dunboyne Road is already under maintenance. Any additional work to improve its appearance prior to the Irish Open, will be carried out in conjunction with work on the Tesco Roundabout.

Question - Councillor Donna Phelan

Can the council confirm if it plans to issue litter fines to the owners of the land in Moyglare Hall in relation to litter on the road and behind the fencing that has been sitting there for months?

Report:

This is the first instance the council has received of littering at this location. The council's Community Warden will investigate further and take appropriate action.



Motion - Councillor Donna Phelan

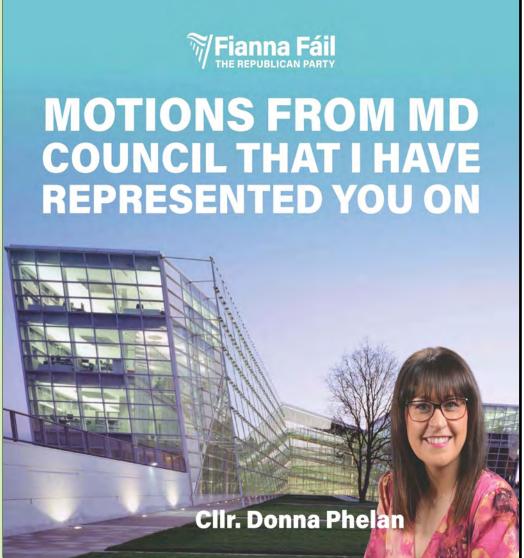
That the council clarifies the concern surrounding GDPR in relation to listing Unauthorised Developments on the planning portal as was done in previous years.

Response

While I acknowledge and support the protection of individuals' personal data under GDPR, I would like clarification on whether a balance can be struck between data protection and transparency for the public. For example, is it possible to publish non-identifiable summaries of enforcement cases—such as case numbers, nature of the complaint, general location (e.g., townland or street) - without revealing names or address?

This kind of transparency existed previously and served a purpose in informing the public and deterring non-compliance. Could the Council explore ways to anonymise the data while still reporting on enforcement actions to maintain trust in the planning system, I have asked the council:

- Can statistics on enforcement actions (e.g. number opened, closed, outcome types) be published without identifying data?
- Is there a way for elected members to access more detailed enforcement information in a private, non-public way to perform oversight?





Make a realistic revision schedule. Aim to do a few hours of revision each day, and mix up your subjects so you do not get bored.



Find a revision style that suits **you.** Studying alone in a quiet room suits some people, but not everyone. Try playing music quietly in the background, or revising with a friend (but do not let them distract you!).

Make sure you understand everything. If you come across something you do not understand, try to find a new source of information that will help you understand it. Just memorising it will not help you in your exam. Do not be afraid to ask your teacher or a friend for help if you need it.

Look at past exam papers. It means you can familiarise yourself with the layout and type of questions you'll be asked. Practise completing exam papers in the set time limit to improve your exam technique.

Take regular short breaks. Studying for hours and hours will only

make you tired and ruin your concentration, which may make you even more anxious.

Eat and drink well. Go for healthy food and stay hydrated.

Reward yourself. Do something fun. You could take a long bath, listen to music, spend time with friends or watch a good movie once you have finished your revision session.

Do something physical. Use your spare time to get away from your books and do something active, like going for a walk or doing some stretching. Exercise is good for taking your mind off stress and keeping you positive, and it will help you sleep better.

Ask for help. If you're feeling stressed, it's important to talk to someone, such as a family member, teacher or a friend. Lots of people find exams difficult to deal with, so do not be embarrassed to ask for support.

Customise your notes: make them more personal. Experiment colour coding, notes on postcards, diagrams or whatever helps you learn your topic.



How to Handle Exam Days



Be prepared. Start the day with a good breakfast, and give yourself plenty of time to get to the exam hall. Remember to take everything you need, including pencils, pens and a calculator. A bottle of water and some tissues are also useful.

Try a breathing exercise if you're feeling overwhelmed. Breathe in

through your nose for 4 counts, hold it for 2 counts, and breathe out for 7 counts. Repeating this can help you feel calm. Read more about breathing exercises for stress.

Take a few minutes to read the instructions and questions. Then you'll know exactly what's expected of you. Ask an exam supervisor if anything is unclear - they're there to help you.

Plan how much time you'll need for each question. Do not panic if you get stuck on a question, but try to leave yourself enough time at the end to come back to it.

Once the exam is finished, forget about it. Do not spend too much time going over it in your head or comparing answers with your friends. Just focus on the next exam instead.

It's normal to feel stressed and on edge about exams. It can help you focus and get things done, but sometimes it can all get a bit

The pressure to do well can really get on top of you and only add to the existing stress of exams. It could be from your school, your family, your friends, or yourself.

Even if the people around you aren't putting pressure on you, you might still want to make them proud. But remember, no matter what your results, your mental health is important too. Talk to a parent, a relative, a teacher or a doctor. Just talk to someone. Help is always there and available.

Exam stress can affect anyone and it can show up in loads of ways, like:

- 1. feeling anxious or down
- 2. getting irritable and angry
- 3. struggling to sleep
- 4. changes in your eating habits
- 5. having bad thoughts about yourself
- 6. worrying about the future
- 7. losing interest in stuff you usually like
- 8. finding it hard to concentrate
- 9. feeling unwell - like headaches, feeling sick or tired

Avoid cramming in last-minute revision. This can be overwhelming and make you feel unprepared. You've put in the work,

Make a list of the things that bring you joy and find time to do them. This can ease your stress and improve your mood. No need to feel guilty about carving out time for yourself – you're allowed to have a life beyond exams.

so focus on staying calm. Breathing exercises and grounding tech-

niques can help dial down the stress before your exam.

Exams are just a tiny piece of the puzzle. No matter what grades you get on results day, it's still possible to have the future you want. There are so many paths to where you want to be. Your route might change, but your destination doesn't have to.

 $Sourced: www.nhs.com\ \&\ https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/coping-with-life/exam-stress/$

You've worked so hard for this moment. **Stay Calm and Confident** Let your Brilliance Shine Through **Best of Luck In Your Exams**







The Prisoner of Second Avenue will take place from the 8th -12th July in Maynooth Post Primary. Doors will open at 7pm with the show starting at 7.30pm

Check out our website and social media pages for some upcoming behind the scenes photos and get a sneak peek of how hard our cast are working in rehearsals.

Tickets are on sale now, available exclusively on our website annuadhaplayers.ie.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

We are looking for volunteers to help with our set building on the 28th June. If you are handy with a paintbrush, a drill, or even just moral support we would be glad of the help! If you are available please let us know by filling out a brief form on our website: annuadhaplayers.ie

Registration is now closed for 'The Sword in the Stone'. We would like to express our gratitude to the huge number of people who registered. We look forward to seeing all registered members at our auditions. We have no doubt the standard will be as high as always and we do not envy the job ahead of our Production Team.

The Sword in the Stone will run from 4th- 7th December in the Aula Maxima. Tickets available later this year so make sure to follow us on social media as you're not gonna wanna miss this!



PANTOMIME 2025

AULA MAXIMA, ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, MAYNOOTH $4^{\mathrm{TH}}-7^{\mathrm{TH}}$ DECEMBER 2025



We had a brilliant time at the Picnic in the Park, a fantastic event run by Maynooth Community Council, last year. We are hoping to take part again this year, on 15th June in the Harbour Field, Maynooth, from 2-5pm.

We need volunteers to help us to hand out leaflets and promote the group on the day, so if you are available to come down, for all or part of the time, we would love to hear from you. Let us know your availability at annuadhaplayers@gmail.com

Finally, a word of thanks to our longstanding member, Katie Noone, for a fantastic vocal workshop last month. We had high expectations which were very much exceeded. Her talent and enthusiasm know no bounds and our members really enjoyed the day. Keep an eye on our website and social media pages for upcoming workshops.

















Final repayments and cost of credit will be agreed in the credit agreement. Lower rate is applicable for larger loans between €50k and €100k. Loans are subject to approval. Lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Over 18s only.

Warning: If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating, which may limit your ability to access credit in the future.



BRADY'S CLOCKHOUSE



BAR - LOUNGE - RESTAURANT

Live Bands every Saturday & Sunday during the month of June

Table Quiz every Monday night at 9.30pm

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e-mail: info@clockhouse.ie

Web: www.clockhouse.ie - Tel: 01-5054725

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ALL TYPES OF HEAVY DUTY
TIMBER FENCING,
DECKING, & SIDE GATES
SUPPLIED & FITTED

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Opening Hours
Mon - Fri 8:30 - 18:00



GROW MENTAL HEALTH:

Grow Mental Health peer support meetings take place every Tuesday in Leixlip Library -

Captain's Hill - Confey from 11 am to 1pm.

For more information please contact

Amanda on 086 1367423 amandadempsey@grow.ie

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for a special one (mention here). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen

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

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for a special one (mention here). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen

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

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received. R.D.

St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Pride of place in this months Newsletter must go to our Academy Band who took part in their first ever National Band Championships in Ardee on 26th April. Putting in a brilliant performance they took a very creditable third place in their section and with it a cup to bring home to the Bandhall on Pound Lane. Hopefully this is the start of many more successes for the band.

The Band once again took part in the Arts and Minds Festival organised by Maynooth University on Saturday 10th May and the event was a tremendous success. The brilliant sunshine brought a great audience to the Festival and the Band received lots of praise for their very entertaining programme of music.

Another event in May was the Band's Fundraising Table Quiz upstairs in Brady's on Friday 16th which was a huge success both financially and socially. It was our first time to organise a Table Quiz and it could well become an annual event.

The first engagement in our June programme is the annual Picnic in the Park in the Harbour field. This is our third year to take part in this event and we are delighted to be a part of this very well organised community afternoon. Fingers crossed for some more sunshine.

St. Mary's Brass and Reed Academy Band

The standout event in our June calendar is a visit from a Band from South Carolina in the USA who have included Maynooth as part of their trip to Ireland which really is a feather in our caps. The recitals by the two Bands are planned for the Square on Thursday 26th June, starting at 7pm and finishing at 8.45pm. Again our fingers are crossed for some fine weather but we have a Plan B in place in case rain then it will be moved to the Parish Church with the same times applying. This is a wonderful opportunity to see and hear a brilliant band from the USA and we are hoping for a sizeable and appreciative audience.

Upstate Symphonic Wind Band from South Carolina

We are again reminding musicians, both experienced and budding, that they are most welcomed to join the Band.

Our Bandhall door on Pound Lane is open on Monday nights between 7.45pm and 9.30pm except on Bank Holidays.

Saturday mornings from 10am to 11.30am or you can contact us on sec@stmarysbandmaynooth.ie





SUNDAY 6TH JULY

BRIC-A-BRAC, CRAFTS, ANTIQUES, BOOKS & MUSIC, HOME GROWN & HOME MADE PRODUCE & MORE ... INSIDE SPACE AVAILABLE

CZ BUYER ENTRY // C15 TO SELL, C5 FOR A TRESTLE TABLE

To pre-book a pitch:

Email larchillevents@gmail.com or Whatsapp 0857304042



Larchill Arcadian Gardens, W23Y44P

Darkness into Light



Darkness into light took place on the 10th of May this year, bringing thousands of people together to celebrate the lives of loved ones. Side by side we walked from darkness into light, with a great sense of support for one another. Each step representing a life lost. As we moved from the darkness into the light, the air was filled with conversations of loved ones. Each year brings more awareness of the struggles and challenges people face.

Darkness into light has shown us that there is "Light" with the support of Pieta house, Samaritans and Aware amongst others. These support systems are very important, as often a loved one might find it difficult to talk to those closest to them. We all should try to remember that it's okay not to be okay. Reaching out is a sign of strength, not weakness. Mental health plays a big part in all our lives, so it's portant for us to take time out of our busy lives to rest and/or do a little self care.

Newsletter staff writer: Jackie



AIB is distributing €1 million through its Community Fund, supporting local organisations that are making a real difference across Ireland.

With your nomination, we could be one of them.

It only takes two minutes to nominate us.
Simply click the link and nominate

Community Cancer Caregivers.
Our Region: Rest of Leinster.

Our Category: Other

Charity number: 20205579

Your nomination could help us expand our reach and provide critical support to even more families.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make an even bigger impact. 💛

Click Here to Nominate: https://aib.ie/personal-forms/community-fund



Join the Fun at Maynooth's Picnic in the Park 2025 A Free Family Day Out Packed with Joy and Sustainability!

Get ready for a day bursting with fun, food, and community spirit at the annual Picnic in the Park, returning to The Harbour Field, Maynooth on Sunday, June 15, 2025, from 2:00pm to 5:00 pm. Hosted by Maynooth Community Council in partnership with Kildare County Council, this free, open-to-all event, promises a vibrant celebration of family, community, and sustainability that you won't want to miss!

This year's Picnic in the Park is set to be bigger and better, offering a delightful mix of free fun and games for all ages - face painting, seed planting to eco-printing workshops, and insect hotel construction. There's something to spark joy for everyone. Enjoy lively performances, including comedy, poetry and song plus the chance to get a caricature drawn for those feeling adventurous! The much-loved St Mary's Brass and Reed Band will take the stage at 3:00pm filling the air with music and energy.

Foodies will be in for a treat with a wide array of food stalls serving up delicious options, from Mr Whippy's ice creams (cash only!), Fun Foods Catering gourmet crepes and waffles to New Orient Maynooth's Asian treats. Local favourites like Dunne's Farm will offer pasture-raised eggs, honey, and more. Bring your own picnic or indulge in the diverse offerings from vendors while relaxing in the beautiful surroundings of Harbour Field.

At the heart of this year's event is a focus on sustainability and community well-being. Explore stalls showcasing Maynooth's Low Carbon Community initiatives and learn about practical steps toward a greener future. Engage with groups like Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community, and others who will share insights on greener living and biodiversity. Circus of Climate Horrors by Maynooth University's ICARUS team offers a fun way to learn about climate action.

Kildare County Council will be announcing the Climate Champion Awards Winners and Prizes on the day.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for our community to come together, have fun, and learn about the exciting sustainability initiatives shaping Maynooth's future," said Mary Jennings, Secretary, Maynooth Community Council. "We're thrilled to offer a free, inclusive day out where families can enjoy games, food, and entertainment while connecting with local groups working to enhance our town's well-being."

Additional highlights include Kildare Sports Partnership hosting games with prizes, and stalls from community groups and local crafts people. And of course our raffle with lots of exciting prizes kindly donated by participating groups and vendors.

The Community Garda and Maynooth Firefighters will also be on hand, adding to the family-friendly atmosphere. A water refill station and Accessoloo ensure accessibility for all.

If you are attending the Picnic, and require an accessibility pass, then please contact:

Maynooth Autism Friendly Town

autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com

or

Maynooth Access Group

maynoothaccessgroup@gmail.com prior to the event.



Picnic in the Park is funded by Local Property Tax, Creative Ireland, and Kildare County Council, and our main sponsor Life Credit Union making it a truly community-driven event. No booking is required – just bring your smiles, picnic blankets, and enthusiasm for a sustainable fun-filled day!

Event Details;

When: Sunday, June 15, 2025

Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Where: Harbour Field, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Admission: Free, open to all.

For more details, contact Maynooth Community Council maynoothcommunitycouncilexec@gmail.com or via our Social Media Platforms.

About Maynooth Community Council:

Maynooth Community Council is dedicated to fostering community spirit and well-being through events, initiatives, and partnerships that celebrate and enhance life in Maynooth.

About Kildare County Council:

Kildare County Council works to support sustainable development and community engagement across the county, with initiatives like Maynooth's Decarbonising Zone leading the way



> we're going places <

Call Us 01 6289999





Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 25/04/2025 to 27/05/2025 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
2560431	Kildare County Council	Catherine Smyth	Derryvarroge,Donadea,	25/04/2025
			Co. Kildare	
2560432	Kildare County Council	Temple Wood No. 1	22 The Island, Temple Wood	25/04/2025
		Limited Partnership	Carton Demesne,Maynooth,Co. Kildare	
2560440	Kildare County Council	Daragh Cuskelly & Helen Reddington	Hodgestown Upper, Donadea,	28/04/2025
			Co. Kildare	
2560432	Kildare County Council	Temple Wood No. 1	22 The Island, Temple Wood, Carton	25/04/2025
		Limited Partnership	Demesne, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	
2590	Kildare County Council	Raymond McLoughlin	21 Newtown Court	13/05/2025
			Maynooth, Co Kildare	
2560460	Kildare County Council	Annmarie Delaney	19 Parklands Close, Maynooth	02/05/2025
			Co. Kildare	
2560482	Kildare County Council	Stephen and Carolyn Mc Dermot	No. 1 Churchfield	08/05/2025
			Rathcoffey, Co. Kildare	
2560523	Kildare County Council	Brijesh Tiwari	Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	20/05/2025
2560542	Kildare County Council	Kokusai Semiconductor Europe Gmbh	Unit H3, Maynooth Business Campus	22/05/2025
			Maynooth, Co. Kildare	
2598	Kildare County Council	Raymond McLoughlin	21 Newtown Court, Maynooth,	26/05/2025
			Co. Kildare	

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Maynooth Autism Friendly Town Monthly News

2025, saw the first year where the Kildare County Fleadh Cheoil came to Maynooth and the committee introduced Sensory-Friendly Supports

The Fleadh committee were committed to making the Fleadh Cheoil welcoming and inclusive for all families. The Fleadh ensured that the community were aware of certain accommodations made to ensure everyone in the Maynooth community were allowed to enjoy the festival of music.

















School Support from MCC & MPP and Girls Presentation School

MAFT would like to extend its thanks and gratitude to Maynooth Community College, Maynooth Post Primary and Girls Presentation School who all hosted a non-uniform days, which raised €2,272.35. All proceeds raised are going toward MAFT's ongoing awareness and inclusion initiatives.



"Catch-up" for parents/guardians/caregivers

MAFT held a "Cuppa and Chat" group in the Glenroyal Hotel. A massive thank you to the hotel for providing us with the private function room, they are truly a wonderful advocate for MAFT. We intend to hold our next meet up in June - so watch our SM platforms for more details.



• IPad Winner - Gavin Coyne

Congratulations to Gavin on winning the iPad MAFT raffled off as part of Aurism Acceptance Month. Thank you to all those who donated, we raised €145.















The committee ensured that a 'Quiet Zone' was identified if the festivities became overwhelming, the local library offered calm, sensory-friendly spaces for anyone that needed a break.

Ear Buds Available



All official stewards carried ear buds, which were freely given to anyone who may have needed them during noisy moments.















Picnic in the Park - 15th of June 2-5pm

'Picnic in the Park' will once again take place this year on the 15th of June. It is always a great event, with something for everyone to enjoy.

MAFT are delighted to provide guidance to the committee again this year; who year on year are keen to ensure that the event is one of inclusivity for the community. If you require one of our "MAFT Event Cards", which were as previous years a great success, please contact us prior to the event, or they will be available on the day either for pickup.







Maynooth GAA All-Stars Expands

The All-Stars initiative, supported by MAFT and hosted at the MEC sports hall, continues to grow in popularity. This inclusive sporting opportunity allows children of all abilities to participate and thrive.



Hangouts and Playball Groups Thriving

MAFT's social and recreational programs—
including Hangouts and Playball—remain in high
demand, with waiting lists across all age groups.
These groups take a break over the summer, so
please check our social media platforms for
information.





These efforts reflect the heart of Maynooth: a town that's actively working toward being inclusive, understanding, and welcoming to all.

For more updates or to get involved, follow MAFT on social media or contact us via our email autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com



Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

Robbie and Rosie

'I'm not going to feed it,' Kate told herself. For weeks now a robin had been coming near her every time she went outside to work in the flower garden or to put something in the dustbin. Two years previously she had fed a robin cheese, which, to her delight, he had ended up taking from her hand but then he had disappeared. Could the cheese have clogged up his insides? Dan in his brusque way had pointed out that 'the little freeloader' could have gone to a neighbour's garden but she doubted it. When robins had staked a claim to a territory they held it against others of their kind, sometimes even fighting intruders to the death. No, that little fellow had died, but whether from natural causes (they were supposed to live only about two years) or from the cheese she couldn't be sure. Anyway, she didn't want a repeat of that experience. As the weather got colder, Kate felt her resolution weakening. The sight of Robbie, as she had begun to call him, gazing at her from a cotoneaster or from the wooden fence made her feel guilty. It was worse when he actually began to serenade her in his low, musical voice, but she forced herself to remain steadfast. Then one night it snowed and the first thing she saw when she opened the back door at daybreak was Robbie, feathers fluffed out, sitting on the rim of a ceramic flower pot, looking at her expectantly. That was it. Hurrying inside, she cut some cheddar into tiny pieces, placed it on cardboard and left it on the doorstep.

At first, Robbie didn't move, so she closed the door and watched through its glass panel. Almost immediately he flew to the doorstep, picked up a piece of cheese then dropped it. Obviously, in his foraging for insects, seeds and worms, he had never tasted such exotic fare. After a few more nibbles he swallowed this strange titbit then, after he had broken it in two, another piece. Kate felt elated; he was hooked.

Soon Robbie was turning up regularly for food, even looking at her from the windowsill while she was washing dishes. In a few days she had run out of cheese and asked Dan to get some from the supermarket, emphasizing it was to be best quality cheddar.

'Won't some of the sliced stuff we eat do?' he protested.

'No,' she assured him. 'He will really like Wexford cheddar.'

'So we have a gourmet robin,' he grumbled, getting the shopping bag. That evening there was a major surprise when a second robin turned up at feeding time. Knowing that robins dealt harshly with other intruders of their kind, Kate reckoned the newcomer was a female and the submissive way it behaved, hardly daring to approach Robbie, seemed to bear this out. Eventually the newcomer darted in, grabbed a tiny piece of cheese then retreated to the shelter of a Camellia growing in the flowerpot. Through the following days, she became a regular visitor and Kate christened her Rosie. The relationship between Robbie and Rosie reminded her of that between Dan and herself: if she approached the cheese while he was there he would lower his head, causing her to back off. Sometimes he jabbed her with his beak to make her retreat. Dan never did anything so blatant, but she had to prepare all his meals and give him the biggest and best portions. Occasionally, he offered to wash up but he made such a ritual of it that she would tell him not to bother. He would then retreat to his study where he was writing a book on calendars. The present chapter was about an ancient Celting.

would tell him not to bother. He would then retreat to his study where he was writing a book on calendars. The present chapter was about an ancient Celtic one that had thirteen lunar months in the year, or something like that. If he would only volunteer to sweep the driveway or vacuum the rooms it would make life so much easier for her.

As for the robins, when he first heard her whistling to call them for food, he had recited the old proverb about a whistling woman and a crowing hen driving the devil out of his den.

Nevertheless, Kate knew that life was better with Dan around. His pension from his civil service job was the mainstay of the house and since the children had left he was somebody to talk to – that is when he didn't have his nose stuck in a book. The relationship between Rosie and Robbie was more contentious. She wondered if they had raised a brood or two together in some nearby garden but Dan dismissed the idea. Once the young were raised the parents usually went their separate ways, but sometimes they didn't. She liked to think that this present pair was an exception to the general rule.

By now Robbie would sometimes dart in and take cheese from Kate's fingers but Rosie remained wary. When a change in the weather covered the garden with a blanket of snow Robbie would hover outside the door's glass panel begging to be fed. On one bitterly cold morning, however, it was Rosie who turned up first and when Robbie eventually arrived he attacked her viciously. The two rose fluttering into the air but then Rosie, who had already eaten quite a few pieces of cheese, retreated to a snow-covered cotoneaster. Later that morning, quarrel apparently forgotten, the two were again eating near each other.

One day a rook descended and flew off with the small cardboard square on which the cheese rested. Another day an orange-coloured cat came slinking around, but Kate shooed him away, telling Dan afterwards that she no longer liked cats

'You're treating those robins as if they were your children,' he remarked and thinking about it afterwards she had to admit he might have a point. Ever since Richard and Liz had moved away there had been a feeling of emptiness in the house; but then there were their visits to lift her spirits. That evening while she was getting a yard brush from the garage Robbie flew down from the fence and standing just feet away on the concrete floor sang a melodious little song as if thanking her for her generosity.

'Who's a pretty boy?' she called softly and he bobbed up and down as if delighted with the compliment.

Things went along in this pleasant ritual until one morning no robin answered Kate's whistle. By evening neither Robbie nor Rosie had put in an appearance and next day, despite a light fall of snow, there was still no sign of them.

'It's that awful cat," Kate lamented. 'I know it. Maybe we should have put them in a cage till the winter is over? They were just too trusting.'

'A Robin Redbreast in a cage / Puts all heaven in a rage,'

Dan quoted in his highbrow way, but it was clear that he too was upset. Gloom descended on the house. Kate got prints of photos she had taken of Robbie and Rosie, but then hid them in a drawer, because of the painful memories they evoked.

'I suppose we have to accept that it's part of the natural course of events, "Nature, red in tooth and claw," 'Dan laid his hand on her shoulder and she turned so that he could embrace her.

'Maybe if I hadn't fed them they wouldn't have been so vulnerable?' her voice was rueful.

'You did what you thought was best,' he soothed. 'If it wasn't the cat it could have been that sparrow hawk we saw last month killing the starling. I tell you what, let's go down to The Riverside and have ourselves a nice dinner.'

'Can we afford it?' she demurred.

'Of course we can. Now get your glad rags on.'

Twenty minutes later Dan was opening the garage door. As he was about to get into the car what did he see but a little brown bird huddled on one of the dustbins!

'Come here, Kate," he called out softly.

When she saw Robbie she let out a squeal of delight.

'Oh the poor thing must be starving,' she cried.

'Maybe he got a few spiders,' Dan suggested. 'He doesn't look bad.'
'I'll get him some cheese,' Kate hurried back into the house. When she
returned the robin had flown up onto the wooden fence alongside the garage.
'Let me reverse the car out before we feed him,' Dan suggested.

'You'll do no such thing,' she told him. 'The poor little fellow must be weak with hunger.'

When she held out her hand, Robbie flew down, snatched a piece of cheese then retreated to the fence. He stayed there while Dan carefully reversed the car. After he had closed the garage door and re-entered the car, Kate let out another excited squeal.

'Look!' she said. 'It's Rosie! She must have been hiding all this time just outside the garage. Oh, this is just great.'

'Well, there's plenty of cheese for both of them,' Dan declared, so we'll leave them to it while we dine on Coq au vin in the Riverside.'

P.G.Nerney.

An Irish Teenager's Reply to Sappho

'It is midnight, and the time is passing, but I sleep alone.' Sappho (Lesbos, Greece, 6 th century b.c.)

I toss and turn upon this empty bed, while longings that are nameless swirl like storm clouds through my mind, reminding me of raptures fled,

so that your plaint, kind Sappho, causes me silently to weep: so far the lonely ear can reach, so long can longing keep.

Colin Scott.



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

"Through him all things are reconciled, everything in heaven and everything on earth."

To Christ

Theological Musings!

So, John was your mentor, but that's scarcely true, His teaching and yours were the old and the new; He harped on sin, and the need to reform, But for you the Good News was the everyday norm. The first words you spoke on that special day, Were those of Isaiah who prepared your way; Relief for the captives, the poor and the blind, The Lord's own glad tidings to all of mankind. These were not just words, for you meant what you said, You made the lame walk and you raised up the dead; God's kingdom you've shown as a playground of love, Endorsement of which was the Voice from above. You welcomed all comers and pardoned their sins, And showed them the road where salvation begins.

No one excluded, neither woman nor man, All were a part of God's divine plan. But you were a prophet and so stood alone. Even in crowds you were still on your own; You viewed people's lives as rich veins of ore, And wove them expertly as biblical lore. The sower of seeds and the crop choked with weeds, The woman's lost coin and the way to store wine; All these were a part of the life in your day, The language you spoke as you taught them the Way. You were never one of the unthinking crowd, With fixed application your furrow you ploughed; You came on a mission your peace to unveil, To show that creation's not one tragic jail; For surely to some that's how it appears, With wars, lies and torture, betrayal and tears. These were not intended by powers up on high, But bear all the marks of the devil, close by; Whose purpose declared, was to frustrate your love, And cause consternation in realms above. He'll not be successful, despite all his ploys, His end is defeat, confusion, no joys; The laurels are yours, your Truth and your Word, Without these two pillars, "all else is absurd"!

Now, defeat of the devil, just what does that mean? That evil among us no more will be seen? That such a fell creature could never be real? Yet into our story would wantonly steal? Yes maybe that's true, it's creation's dark side, And the dawn of the spirit it couldn't abide, But its rout by your power after forty-day fast, Put an end to its reign, stamped its empire "PAST"!

But now it's your reign and it's not understood, Far too much stress on the shedding of blood; Your death on the cross, your sufferings and pain, We hold to be central, salvation to gain. But what of the wastrel, the father embraced? His sins all forgiven, his misdeeds effaced; No debt to be paid, no atonement was sought, Pardon was gratis: was that ever taught? Our teachers glossed over this new age of grace, Preferred was the image of God's angry face; Eternal damnation included as well, As if He'd create such a horror as hell! And what's the Good News if it's not meant for all, Your goodness undid the effects of the "fall"? You showed us a God whose nature is love, Who welcomes us all to his dwelling "ABOVE"!

Among us you walked not to seek sacrifice, But as our kind teacher, aware of the price, You knew well our weakness, our blindness and greed, And became our true model, we were in sore need. To all you have said, "now come follow me", I'll show you the way to act and to be, Your lives you must live with an eye to the weak, The one burdened down must be first that you seek. This will not be easy, for life's not all fun, To be my disciple is a hard race to run; But I will be with you, lest you fall on the way, My help is assured for as long as you pray. And prayer's not just asking or begging for more, It is "God-awareness", and to faith it is core; So, this is our mission, to witness to you, Of all things the fountain, the One, Good and True.

GM.

THE MIRACLE PRAYER

DEAR Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for a special one (mention here). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in His merciful eyes it will become Your favour not mine. Amen.

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

Never known to fail.

Thanksgiving for favour received. R.D.

A STUDENT PRAYER

Father please clear my mind and give me the understanding and knowledge that comes only from you.

Bless me as I take these exams and bring the information that I've studied to mind when it is needed on this exam.

Grant me favour as I begin these exams.

I ask this in Jesus name.

Amen.

The Importance of Safety Around Water In The Garden

It's that time of year again where we find ourselves looking for ways to keep our children busy and stimulated for the summer months.

Water play is an activity that is loved by all, especially around the summer months. Safety is so important around water for everyone involved, especially when it comes our children. Always plan out your day and activities before venturing near water and always make sure that there is at least one adult or more present at all times. Be extra vigilant and Lets make this summer a safe and happy experience for all to enjoy with fun memories that will last for a lifetime. The following are some safety tips that may help when planning your safe play around water:

Safety Tips

- Make sure there's an adult present at all times.
- Leave mobile phones aside on silent to avoid distraction
- Don't drink alcohol when supervising children
- Don't over fill pools
- Make sure small children wear arm bands and floaters at all times
- Put sunscreen on at least one hour before entering the water to be sure skin is well protected and always keep sunscreen topped up
- Ensure that the area around the pool is safe and free from hazards such as steps, hot bbq's, sharp objects, and pets to prevent falls
- Keep all electrical appliances, cables and battery operated toys away from water
- Stay well hydrated by drinking plenty of water or juice
- Enter the water feet first, don't jump
- Make sure children dry off their feet before entering the house as floors can become slippery



Newsletter Staff Writer

Local Walks

Local walks offer an uplifting way to connect with nature and explore the beauty of your surroundings without venturing too far from home. Whether it's a quiet trail through a nearby woodland, a scenic path along a river/canal, or a lap around your neighbourhood park, these walks can provide both physical exercise and sense well-being. They're a great opportunity to spot wildlife, admire seasonal changes, or simply enjoy a break from computer and TV screens and every day stress. Best of all, local walks are accessible and often free, making them an easy and enjoyable activity to build into your routine. It's a great way to get the whole family out and into the fresh air. Parents/guardians could also tell their children that they are going on a nature trail hunt to see what they can find, i.e. different trees, berries and wildlife. Below are some local walk's you might like to venture on:

Maynooth College

The grounds of Maynooth college are a harmonious blend of historical charm and natural beauty, offering a peaceful retreat in the heart of county Kildare. Visitors are met by formal gardens decorated with rose beds and mature trees, leading to tranquil spaces. A stroll along the lime tree avenues reveals the true beauty of the grounds. The university is steeped in history and this can be seen within its walls.



Maynooth Harbour

Maynooth Harbour is lined with mature trees and overlooked by charming stone bridges, it's a scenic blend of nature and heritage, just a short walk from Maynooth's lively town centre. The canal goes for miles in either direction making it very attractive for walkers and cyclists alike. Remember to check to see if the cycle way is open first.



Carton House

Carton House has 1,100 acres of striking parkland, ancient woodlands, serene lakes, and the winding River Rye. Home to an array of wildlife, including red deer, various species of bird's and rare plants. The grounds also offer a range of outdoor activities, like walking, tennis, cycling, trails, fishing, archery and two golf courses.



Donadea Forest

Nature enthusiasts can enjoy several walking trails including the 5.7 km Aylmer loop and the accessible Lake walk, which offers views of ducks, waterhens, and summer waterlilies. The forest has a year-round café, making it a perfect spot for a peaceful retreat into nature.



St Catherine's Park

St Catherine's Park has a 2.7 kilometre loop trail the whole family can enjoy while walking, jogging and cycling. The park is dog friendly so family pets can join in the fun. The woodland is home to wildlife, plants and old ruins. Also, the park hosts an urban food and crafts market every Sunday from 10am to 5pm from June right through to October.



Phoenix Park

Try walking the 3.0-mile trail, which takes roughly 1 hour and 7 minutes to finish. This is a popular area with locals and visitors making use of the park for walking, cycling, jogging, birding and hiking. Also, keep and eye out for the deer who are native to the park, you can't miss them.



Additional Information

Remember when enjoying these beautiful places whether it's for a walk or picnic, to be mindful of the wildlife around you. Animals can be harmed by left over food and rubbish, so leave the area as you found it and clean up after yourself. Take all your rubbish home with you, so that other's and the animals who live there, can be safe and enjoy too.

Newsletter Staff Writer: Jackie

Events at Maynooth Community Library

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



facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService



twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Events for Adults

Housing and Homelessness Supports Information Clinic

Tuesday 3rd June, 2.00 pm - 4.00 pm

Looking for advice on homelessness and housing supports? Visit this Kildare County Council drop-in clinic in Maynooth Community Library to learn about the supports available. *Drop in, no booking required *

Book presentation of 'Quando Morì Maramao' by author Maribella Maynooth Community Library Craft Club Piana Thursday 5th June, 6.30pm – 8.00pm

The Italian writer and actress Maribella Piana will be in Maynooth Community Library on the 5th of June to talk about her most recently ideas and skills with this social craft group. published book and to read a few pages from the book. The book depicts lively Sicilian society of the 1930s through the intertwined stories of two families. The presentation of the book will be in Italian. All Welcome! no booking required.

Luain Press Poetry Café

Tuesday 10th June , 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm Join the Luain Press poetry club on June 10th in the Maynooth Community Library from 6 to 7p.m. - last meeting until September! All welcome!

'Knit + Chat ' Craft Club

Thursday 19th June , 6.30 pm – 7.30pm

"Maynooth Knit + Chat is a club intended to create a space where the knitters and fibre artists of Maynooth can come together and bond over a shared love of knitting (or crochet, or anything that takes your fancy!). Whether you are a beginner or an advanced knitter, this is the club for you! People of all ages (from 18 and up) and skill levels will be in attendance. Even if you are the most skilled knitter in all of the greater Kildare area, we are sure that there will be something new for you to learn! Please contact the library @maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie * Drop in , no booking required *

Children's Events

Cruinniú na nÓg: Manga drawing art workshop for ages 8 – 12 Saturday 7th June, 3.00pm – 4.00pm

Join us for a Fun Manga Drawing class for ages 8- 12 in Maynooth Community Library to celebrate Cruinniú na nÓg on Saturday 7th June. Given by art teacher and children's book author John Carpenter, during this workshop children will have the opportunity to improve their drawing skills and display their Manga characters. (Event is fully booked but it is possible to go on a waiting list. To add your name to the waiting list, please click on the link below) Book your free ticket here:

https://kildare.spydus.ie/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/EVSESENQ? SETLVL=&RNI=19091357

Cruinniú na nÓg: Q&A and Writing Tips for Teens with author Clara Kumagai Ages 12+ Saturday 6th June at 12.30pm Join us for an author visit from Clara Kumagai who will talk about writing and getting published and share some tips. Suitable for Ages 12+ this is a free event with limited spaces. Clara Kumagai is from Canada, Japan and Ireland. Her debut YA novel, Catfish Rolling blends magical realism with Japanese myth in a story about grief, memory and time. Catfish Rolling was nominated for the YOTO Carnegie Award, a finalist from the Great Reads Award and shortlisted for the 2023 KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards. Her second novel, Songs for Ghosts, was published in March 2025. She lives and writes in Ireland.

Book your free ticket here: https://bit.ly/3GWwv0i

Exhibition

'The Art of Nature '- Exhibition in multiple mediums by Kate Furlong 3rd June - 31st June 2025 There will be an official exhibition opening in Maynooth Community Library on Thursday 5th June, 4.00pm -5.30pm . All Welcome!

Groups and Clubs

The Library Craft Club meets every Monday, 11.30 - 13.00 (except on Bank Holidays). Bring something you are working on, and exchange

Ciorcal Comhrá - Irish Conversation Group

Dé Máirt 11.00 r.n. – 12.00 i.n. – Tuesdays 11.00 am – 12.00pm Fáilte roimh chách chun do Gaeilge a chleachtadh gach Dé Máirt ó 11:00am - 12:00pm. All are welcome to practice their Irish every Tuesday from 11:00am - 12:00pm.

Baby and Toddler Group

Every Thursday, 10 am – 11 am

If you have a young baby or toddler and would like to meet other parents or minders in the area, come to our stay and play group every Thursday morning at 10am.

No need to book, just drop in!

For further information on the library's events, why not subscribe to the monthly library newsletter ?Subscribe to library newsletter here: Email **Subscription Form - Kildare Library Service**

Tips On Utilising Small Garden Spaces

Small garden projects don't have to be so boring, get creative!. If anything they are more time saving and cost affective. The garden is an extension of our homes so utilise the space by making it an oasis of beautiful plants, trees, raised flowers beds, patios and seating areas. Sit down and make a plan before tackling your project. Ring around and get prices, especially if you have a small budget. Take your time and enjoy the proses. You will have a sense of pride and accomplishment when you see the fruits of your labour blossom. With a bit of thought and a bit of planning your small garden can bring a lot of satisfaction.

The following are tips that may help along the way:

- Plan out the area first
- Make a list of garden tools and materials that are needed
- Shop around (buy materials off season) so plan ahead
- Use raised flower beds/pots this will give different dimensions to your garden
- Patio areas
- Pergola
- Choose low maintenance plants and trees
- Repurpose and reuse materials from the garden
- Make pathways
- Bring in more colour by painting fences
- Water features
- Use your local Freecycle for materials
- Visit garden centres for ideas
- Be careful when choosing plants as some plants are harmful to pet's
- And always keep tools out of reach from small children





In the Fruit & Veg Garden

- Thin out vegetable rows that have been sown directly
- Keep raised beds well watered and feed plants with a liquid fertiliser
- Keep an eye on thirsty plants including pumpkins, squash, courgettes and tomatoes and ensure they are keep moist
- Continue to sow vegetables for a late Autumn harvest, you still have time to sow lettuce, cabbage, peas and beans. You can also sow broccoli, beetroot & carrots & parsnips
- Spray potatoes & tomatoes for blight using Bordeaux mixture or Proxalin. Listen out for blight warnings

In the Greenhouse

- Watering can be increased over the course of the month
- Check pots regularly for slugs
- Clean trays early in the month and ensure water is not stagnant
- Open greenhouse door during the day to keep ventilated
- Tomatoes can be pinched out to reduce number of flowering stems. Also begin liquid feed once flowers emerge
- Wet the floor of the greenhouse to reduce temperatures & increase humidity
- Should be earthed up once it has 10cm of foliage growth above soil level

General Maintenance

- Trim lawn & border edges to keep neat look
- Store water for irrigating plants & vegetables
- Set up drip feeder hose beneath hedgerows



Lawn Care

- Grass growth slows in June and this means that lawn care tasks should be put on hold
- Keep cutting your grass every 10 days
- Mulch grass once each month
- Apply dicophar weed killer to control broadleaf weeds on your lawns
- Feed lawns with nitrogen based fertilizer once each month



Plant Care

Spray roses with rose clear and keep feeding and deadheading. Pruning and training of Spring flowering plants can be done now. There are a number of plants that can be cut back now including. Forsythia, Heathers In garden beds & borders, mulch up around the base of plants to provide weed control, moisture retention and fertiliser.

Source: gardenshop.com



The Common Lizard

The common lizard, Ireland's only reptile, can often be seen sunning itself on dry stone walls, rocks or logs during the summer months. These animals occupy a range of habitats, including woodland, marshes, heath, moors, bogs, sand-dunes and even rubbish dumps.

Lizards are active, alert and extremely quick. Their colouration helps them to blend with their surroundings, and they can disappear into a crevice or under a stone with startling speed at the first sign of disturbance.

Common lizards are usually between 10cm and 16cm (4 inches and 6 inches) long, although larger specimens can reach 18cm (7 inches).

They have long bodies, short legs and a long, tapering tail. The coarse, dry scales on the lizard's back can be a variety of colours including grey, brown, copper or green, with a black stripe running down the centre of the back, and a scattering of black spots over the body. Male lizards have orange-yellow bellies with black spots, while females have creamy white bellies usually without spots.

Reptiles, unlike birds and mammals, have no internal temperature regulation system. They rely on the characteristics of their environment and on their patterns of behaviour to control their internal temperature. When they are too cold they bask in the sun, if they get too warm they move into the shade.

Lizards can typically be found basking on sunny days in the morning or the afternoon, but not generally during the middle of the day, when they are in danger of overheating. After cooling overnight, a lizard needs to increase its body temperature to somewhere in the region of 30 degrees Celsius (86 degrees Fahrenheit) before it can hunt effectively. They eat insects, spiders, slugs, snails and earthworms: pouncing on their prey and stunning it by shaking before swallowing it whole.

Because they rely on the sun's heat to remain active, lizards are forced to hibernate through the Irish winter. They disappear around October and hibernate until the following March, often in groups, occasionally emerging during warmer spells.

After coming out of hibernation in spring male lizards establish a breeding territory and defend it vigorously against other males. Breeding takes place from March to May. Common lizards are viviparous, which means that the young develop within egg membranes inside the female's body.

After about three months the female lizard will give birth to live, fully developed young that break free of the egg-membranes usually during birth or a few seconds afterwards. Litters consist of 2-12 young born from June to September. Females show no parental care: the young feed actively from birth and guickly disperse.

Lizards can be eaten by larger predators, but as they are active only during the day they rarely encounter nocturnal threats like foxes and badgers. They are taken by birds of prey (they typically form part of the kestrel's diet), and stoats and mink will kill them if they can catch them. Domestic cats pose a real problem for lizards, especially early in the day before they reach full operating temperature. When they are cold the reptiles are sluggish and are easy prey for an inquisitive feline.

To redress the balance somewhat lizards have an intriguing escape mechanism that allows them to evade predators. If caught by the tail, lizards have the ability to shed the lower portion, leaving a bemused predator with a twitching stump while the lizard makes good its escape. If it survives the encounter the lizard will soon grow a new tail.

I only recently discovered that Ireland is home to a native lizard species the Common Lizard and I was truly surprised. I came across this article about the lizard and found it interesting to learn how this small reptile lives in our cooler climate and right under our noses!



Source: irelandswildlife.com

Creamy Chicken Korma



Prepare: Less than 30 mins

Cook: 10 to 30 mins

Serves: 4 people

Dietary: Egg-free Gluten-free Pregnancy-friendly

This easy chicken korma recipe is mild and rich with cream, but it's

still really tasty. Serve with naan bread and/or rice.

Each serving provides 636 kcal, 47g protein, 9g carbohydrate (of which 6g sugars), 45g fat (of which 15g saturates), 2g fiber and 0.9g

salt.

Ingredients

2 tbsp. vegetable oil

- 1 large brown onion, chopped
- 4 whole cloves
- 4 cardamom pods, crushed
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breasts, cut into bite-size pieces
- 3 garlic cloves, crushed
- 4 cm/1½in piece of fresh ginger, peeled and grated
- 1 tsp ground coriander
- 1/4 tsp ground allspice
- 1½ tsp ground cumin
- ½ tsp ground turmeric
- 1 tsp mild chili powder
- 2 tsp tomato purée
- 75g/3oz ground almonds
- 250ml/8fl oz. chicken stock
- 200ml/7fl oz. whipping cream
- salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 50g/2oz flaked almonds, toasted
- chopped coriander, to garnish (option

Method

Heat the oil in a large saucepan or frying pan. Once hot, fry the onion, cloves and cardamom pods for a few minutes until the onion begins to soften

Add the chicken, garlic and ginger and, after frying for 4 minutes, add all the remaining spices. Stir around in the pan, allowing them to release their flavour into the chicken.

Add the tomato purée, ground almonds, stock and cream and bring to a simmer. Cook for about 15 minutes until reduced to the consistency of thick cream. Taste and add seasoning if it needs it.

Scatter over the toasted almonds and chopped coriander Suekitchen.ie



Easy Naan Bread Recipe

Ingredients

570g plain flour, plus extra for dusting

1 tsp sugar

1½ tsp baking powder

½-1 tsp strongly-flavoured seeds

such as nigella or cumin seeds (optional)

2 tbsp melted butter

8 tbsp natural yogurt oil for the bowl

For the garlic butter :2 garlic cloves crushed (optional)

small handful of coriander finely chopped, plus extra to serve

Method

Step 1

Put the flour in a large bowl, then add the sugar, baking powder and 1½ tsp salt. Add the seeds, if you like. Lightly whisk to disperse the ingredients evenly throughout the flour.

Step 2

Add 1 tbsp of the melted butter, followed by the natural yogurt. Mix together with your hands. Once the yogurt and butter have been absorbed, gradually add 180-200ml water, 50ml at a time. Mix between additions, until it begins to come together into a dough. The water amount will depend on the consistency of the yogurt and butter – stop adding when you have a ball of dough.

Step 3

Tip the dough onto a lightly floured work surface and knead thoroughly for 5 mins until smooth and elastic. Put in an oiled mixing bowl, cover with a tea towel and leave to rest for at least 1 hr. The dough will not rise but it is important to let it rest as this helps to make the naans less chewy and more fluffy.

Step 4

If making the garlic butter, mix the garlic with the remaining 1 tbsp melted butter and the coriander. Set aside.

Step 5

Divide the dough into eight, 10 or 12 even-sized pieces, depending on how big you want the naans. Roll into round balls, then return to the bowl, covered with a tea towel.

Step 6

Roll one of the dough balls out on a lightly floured surface into a round, oval or teardrop shape – roll with a diagonal motion to get an oval. Flip the dough over and repeat on the other side.

Step 7

Heat a frying pan. Dry fry the dough over a medium high heat until it begins to puff up and the underside browns in places. Flip and repeat on the other side. Remove the cooked naan from the pan. Spoon a little of the garlic butter over the naan, if using. Sprinkle over some coriander, if you like. Cover with a tea towel while you repeat the process with the remaining balls of dough.

Source: www.bbcgoodfood.com



June Pet Care

National Microchipping Month

National Microchipping Month takes place in June each year, providing a dedicated opportunity to promote responsible pet ownership and the importance of microchipping pets. From time to time check with your vet to make sure they have all your up-to-date phone no, address etc. just in your pet gets out/loose.



Here comes the summer with hot temperatures (good for us but not so good for our pets) So here are some tips and advice to help keep your pets safe during warm weather.

It is important to plan in advance especially if you are bringing your pet anywhere with you

during hot spells. Dogs don't have sweat glands which makes it difficult for them to stay cool. Do not do anything with pets during intense heat, so early morning or evening activity is best when it's cooler. Have cooling mats in various places around the home and outside in the shade.

TIPS:

Always provide shade and fresh water at all times. Keep an eye on pet's whereabouts as they don't always have the sense to move to cooler areas. If you pet is showing signs of severe overheating, move them to a cooler area **immediately**, spray with cool (not cold) water, and give a small drink of water and contact your vet immediately. In particular older, over-weight or flat-faced dogs are even less tolerant of the heat so it is important to know the signs of overheating.

Signs of overheating:

Excessive panting or drooling
Dark red gums and tongue and 'glassy' eyes
Lethargy, drowsiness or uncoordinated movements
Collapsing, vomiting and diarrhoea

- **2** Groom longer haired animals more often to remove all the excess hair.
- 3 Animals can suffer from sunburn especially white animals, so apply a pet friendly sun cream to sensitive areas and areas with little or no hair such as noses, tips of their ears and their underbelly.
- 4 Never leave your pet in the car. It is important to remember that dogs can die if left in a hot car. Pet owners often think leaving a window open is sufficient for their pet but this is not enough to prevent heatstroke under intense sunshine. By leaving a dog unattended in a vehicle during hot weather, even for 10 minutes can prove to be fatal.
- Always have fresh water available for your pet; refresh and refill more often than on a normal day and leave extra if you are going out. You can also add ice cubes to your pet's water. Make sure they have access to shade, and keep them indoors in cooler rooms when the heat becomes too extreme.
- Ensure you leave out extra water in the shade for cats and wildlife too. If you have a rabbit or small mammals in the garden, keep their living quarters in the shade. If you can't move their huts, then use a parasol or big umbrella to keep the sun off. You could also partially cover the front of their enclosures as they can heat



up very quickly. All caged animals, even if they are in doors, should be kept out of direct sunlight. Keep an eye on aviaries or birdcages, which are near to a window.

Follow the 7-second rule! Put your hand on the ground surface you'll be walking on. If you can comfortably hold it there for 7 seconds, you're in the clear. Watch where you're walking. Keep to natural grasses. Soil doesn't hold heat like concrete and gravel do. Keeping your pet on the grass is much safer. What time is it? Walking early in the morning or late into the evening will give concrete time to cool down. This way it's more comfortable for you

Too hot for you? Too hot for them!

This is what walking on hot pavement does to your pets paws. Basically 3rd degree burns. So why make them suffer unnecessarily. Leave them at home. A few missed walks is not going to harm them.



Remember: household chemicals and common summer foods can be toxic to pets. If using sunscreen or insect repellent, please ensure the product is labelled as safe for use on pets. If you are unsure about certain products consult your vet.

Alcoholic or caffeinated beverages, chocolate, coconut, grapes or raisins, onions, raw meat or excessively salty foods or foods containing the sweetener **xylitol** can be toxic or cause serious health issues for your pet. For larger animals such as equines, it is important they have access to fresh drinking water and shade.

What to do if you see a pet locked in a car

If you do witness an animal locked in a car on a hot day, try to establish how long the dog has been left in the car first, look for a pay and display ticket on the dashboard. If the pet is showing signs of distress and overheating contact the local Garda station immediately or dial 999 /112 in an emergency and call National Animal Cruelty Helpline on 0818 515 515.



Under the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 (AHWA), authorised officers such as Members of An Garda Síochána or ISPCA "authorised officers" can use reasonable force to enter a vehicle and rescue a distressed animal if necessary. Members of the public forcing entry into somebody else's property could leave themselves open to legal action.



Do not leave pets unsupervised around a pool. Always make sure your pet is wearing a proper floatation device whether its in the water or on a boat. This should include a pad on the front to keep their head above the water and a handle on the back so you can take them out of the water in case they get into difficulty. If you plan on spending time near a pool, lake or beach with your pet, make sure you give them

fresh water and avoid letting them drink from the pool, or ingest ocean or lake water. When swimming, introduce your pets to water gradually. Rinse your dog off after swimming to remove chlorine or salt from their fur. Watch for blue-green algae, especially in lakes and ponds (it's toxic) and look for green or brown scum on the surface — if in doubt, stay out!

Ticks, fleas, and worms thrive in warm weather. Stick to year-round parasite prevention. Check for ticks after walks, especially in grassy or wooded areas. Ask your vet for the best product for your dog's size and lifestyle.

Avoid too much strenuous running around after a ball or chasing during these times, leave them snoozing. Less physical activity out walking means more of a need for mental stimulation while spending more time indoors. You can use enrichment toys, puzzle toys and boredom breaker games. The best way to do this and cool down your dog at the same time would be to always have a lickimat or Kong ready to go in the freezer. Fill the



kong or spread the lickimat with natural yoghurt, frozen berries, or mashed banana as a dog-safe frozen treat or mash their kibble with water or low salt stock and pop them in the freezer ready to go.



You can also make doggy ice pops as a frosty treat to help cool them down by mixing or blending Greek yoghurt with banana, apple, cucumber or carrot slices and putting them in ice cube trays or containers and freezing them for 4 to 6 hours or overnight. You can also do the same by mixing stock or broth and freezing them with fruit or vegetable slices or dog biscuits in a container and letting your dog have at them by licking and biting through

them to get the treats and cooling themselves down at the same time. Be sure to give your dogs any chews or treats in the shade or indoors in a cool part of the house.

Sourced: www.ispca.com, www.aspca.org, ws.ie,www.awarenessdays.com





Memories From the Archives Celebrating 40 Years of Maynooth Community Employment Project **Producing the Maynooth Newsletter**

June 1985

Link to the Archive: www.maynoothcep.com

BAND BULLETIN

Welcome to another BULLETIN where the big news this month concerns the WIN-A-BIKE SPONSORED CYCLE which we are organising in conjunction with the Boys' School on Sunday 23rd June. With four bicycles on offer for the highest sponsorship we are doing our best to give participants something in return for their labours whereas sponsored events they most collectors, I will just act as go into the finer details of event as I know that full details are published elsewhere in Newsletter.

Arrangements for the new beginners classes commencing next September are well under way and it is our intention of giving the boys and girls the very best of tuition on all instruments as well as a good grinding in the basic theory music. We are arranging to have enrolment application forms for made available through the schools and shops and details of the starting dates will be announced both in this column and in the usual shops in the town.

We are not forgetting about our and once we have Majorettes obtained the services of a suitable ladies instructor let you come know when you can ioin.

Our Summer programme is well under way and engagements have now been confirmed - or completed by the time you read this - for Celbridge, Lucan, Leixlip and our own Community Week in June in addition to the annual Wicklow Regatta Parade in July. We also hope to stage our annual Concert, a little later than usual this year, in September.

Until the next BULLETIN, to see you all on bikes on June 23rd.

JUNIOR BADMINTON

Our season came to an end last month. We hope all our members enjoyed their badminton throughout the year. Many of our players entered tournaments in Westside, Leixlip, Terenure and brought home several trophies. We had two league teams this year and hope next year to increase on that number.

U/12 Catherine Fox Lisa Keatty Fiona O'Malley U/14

Siobhan Kearins Catherine Ashe Orlaith Buckley Ciara Coughlan lan Cosgrove Kenneth Hyland Alan Buckley John Rice

Fergus Ashe Dudley O'Donnell Keelane Loughnane

We had several friendly matches for our younger members with Leixlip. These games proved very popular the children of both clubs and will continue next seeson. Our club tournament was very success-

ful. Congratulations to all the children who took part. It was a pleasure to watch each match and enjoy the competitiveness and sportmanship exhibited by the players.

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Committee:

RESULTS GROUP 1 Girls Boys 1st L. Loughnane 1st D. Fleming 2nd M. Rice 2nd P. Burke GROUP 2 1st J. McDonagh 1st K. Killoran

2nd C. Coughlan 2nd M. O'Farrell GROUP 3 1st C. Fox 1st J. Rice 2nd L Cosgrove 2nd L. Keatty

GROUP 4 1st S. Kearins 1st K. Laughnane 2nd C. Ashe 2nd D. Quigley

Teenagers 1st K. Fagen 2nd M. Maher Treasurer: Anne McDonagh

Carmel Buckely, Annette Killoran, Pat Rice, Stasia Ashe, Rosemary Hanley, Mary Fleming.

Children of 8 years wishing to join Badminton should contact Patricia Hyland, 36 Maynooth Park.

Our A.G.M. was held in April and we were very pleased to see some new faces at the meeting. We would like to thank Mrs. Molloy for looking after our nets, Mr. Buckley for taking charge of our keys, Mr. Ashe for the use of the Post Primary, and Fr. Supple and the Hall Committee for the use of the hall. Committee for the coming season: Chairperson: Vera Kearins

Secretary: Patricia Hyland

Ass, Secretaries: Ann Greene, Marie O'Sullivan, Teresa Mooney

C. P. L. MOTOR FACTORS

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"The Three Muskeleers"

Brian Redmond, Pat Meher and Peter Keegen. Winners of the Vels All-Ireland Cross Country title at Entield. Members of the winning Kildare County team at the same venue, and winners of the 0/40 5 Mile Road Champiorship at Dundalk recently.

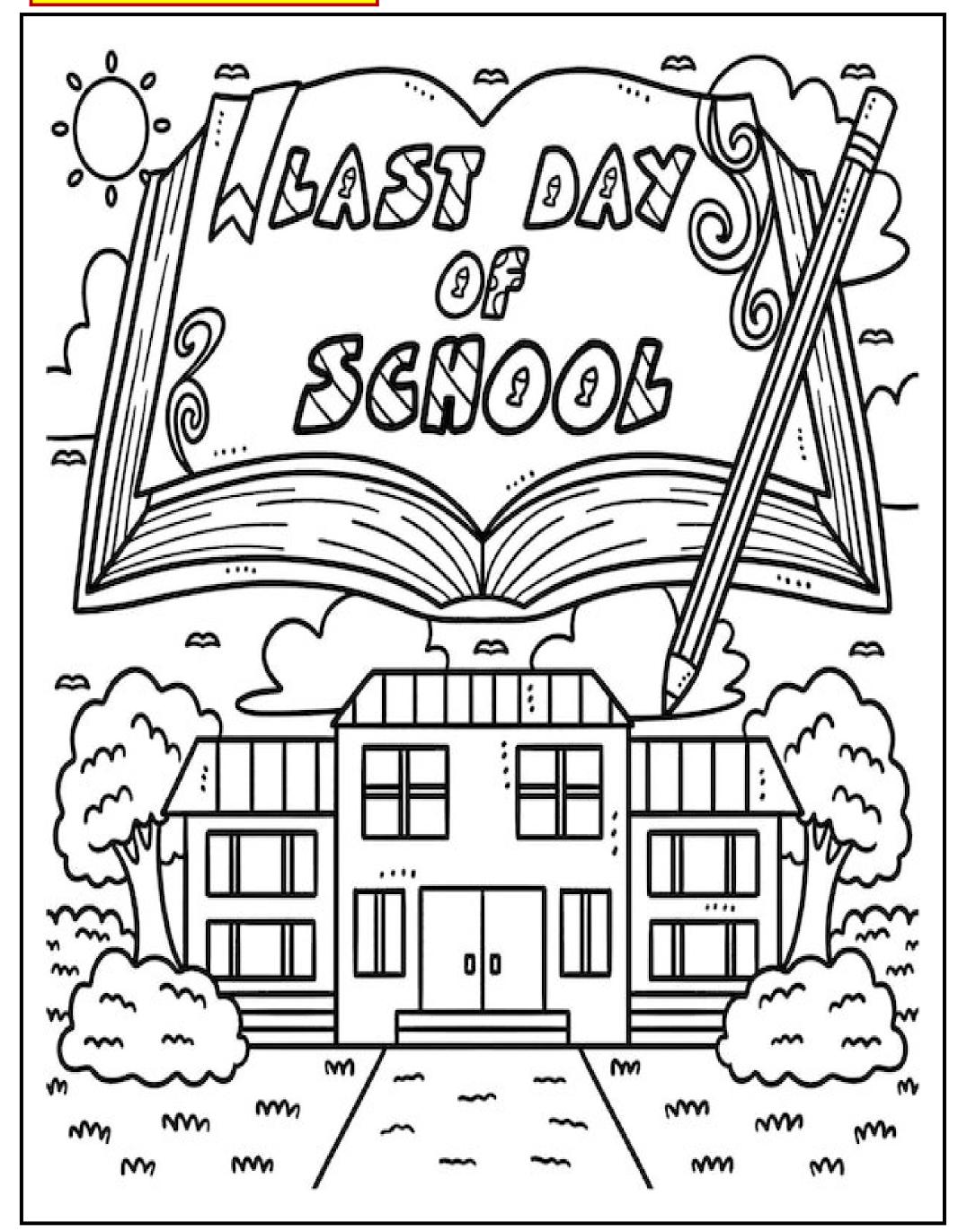


COLOURING FOR FUN



NB To Print the page go to File, select Print and put in this page number. Then Print.

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SHORTS

TRAVEL

SEASON

VACATION

DRESS

PUZZLE TIME



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Puzzles sourced free from Google

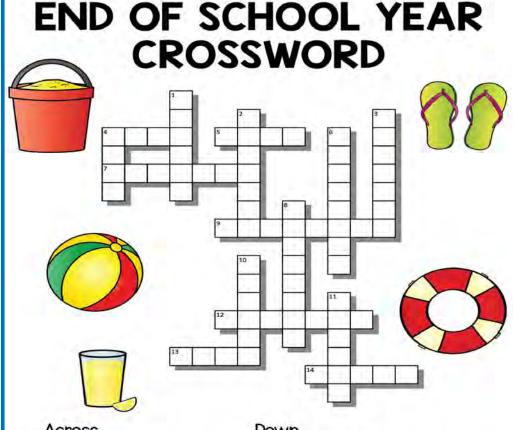


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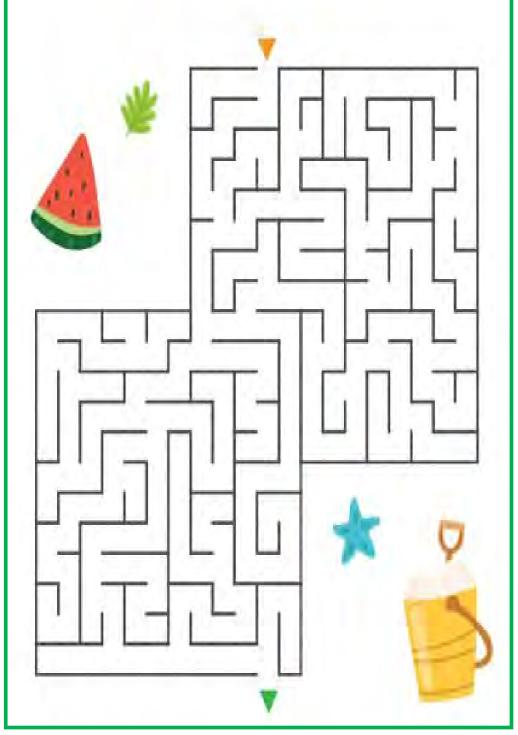


Across

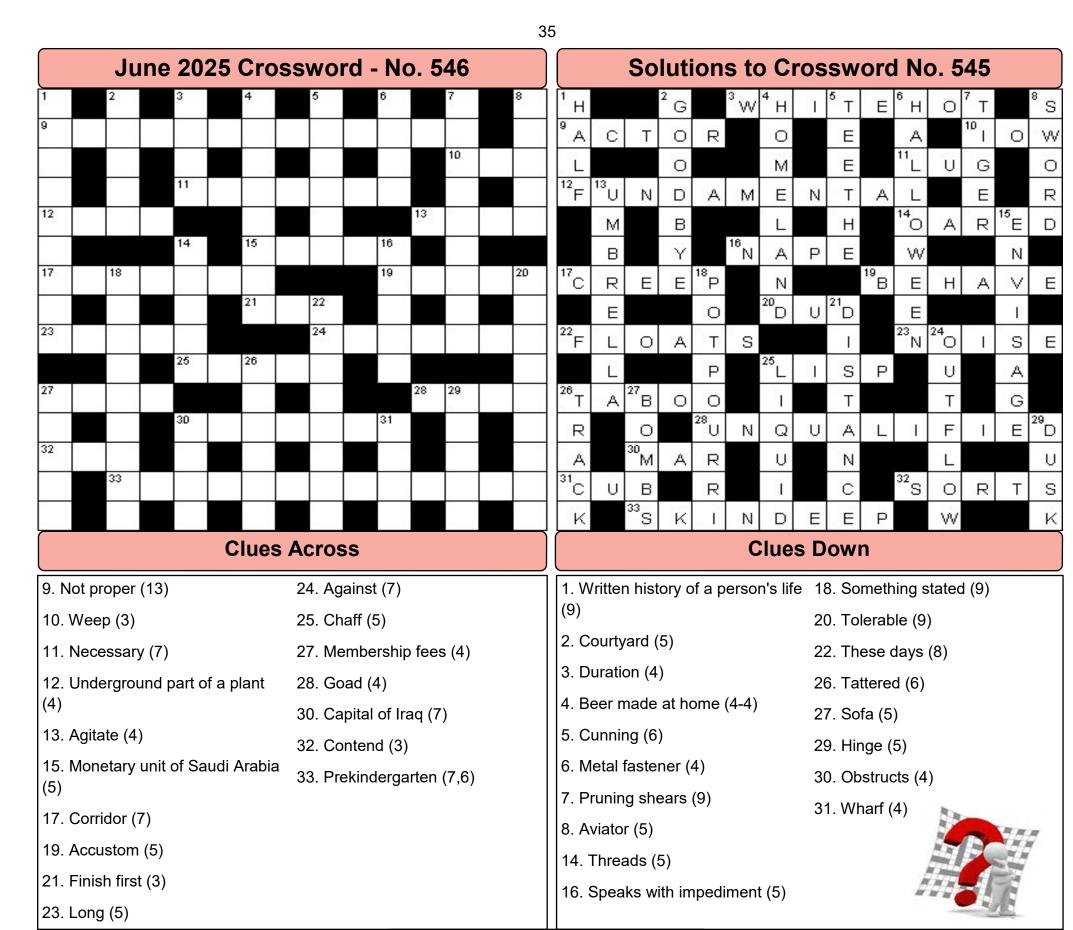
- 4. Part of a school year
- A month in summer
- In summer there are lots of
- 9. Another word for resting
- The location of lots of books The first month of summer
- A great place to swim

Down

- The season that school ends in
- Summer is a good time to go
- When people do this, they sleep in
- When you travel you go on a
- Another word for 'Holiday'
- You need this to go to another country
- Ask someone to spend time with you
- People often do this when on break



	ABAIBAILE
Wor	ed Scramble
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Difficult				1	Sudoku Challenge				Super Difficult								
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9																	

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.

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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.