



Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

LOCAL NEWS - SEPTEMBER 2025 - ISSUE NO. 549



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Noel Gallagher pops into Brady's Clockhouse for a quiet pint ahead of Oasis Dublin gigs



Photo: Maynooth Newsletter Writer, Martina

Oasis brought their Reunion Tour to Ireland with two huge concerts in Croke Park. After a lot of smash hits and of course the well documented fallouts between the two brothers, after a break of over 16 years, they put their differences aside to reunite Oasis for their "Live '25" Tour.

The tickets for the Irish leg of their tour were snapped up fairly quickly. Despite the 16 year break, Oasis are as popular if not even more so this time round. The Dublin leg of their tour was more significant for the brothers because of their ties to Ireland, their parents Thomas and Peggy are both Irish and the brothers always consider themselves to be Irish and it is a big part of their identity.

Noel Gallagher surprised the locals of a very popular establishment when he visited Brady's Clockhouse situated on the main street here in Maynooth on Friday 15th August, and enjoyed a pint or two before the Irish part of the tour got under way. The visit brought much excitement amongst those lucky enough to be in the establishment at the time.



Brady's Clockhouse
Bar - Lounge - Restaurant
Photo: Maynooth Newsletter Writer, Martina.

As word went around the town, crowds of Oasis fans began to gather around the local pub trying to get a glimpse of the main man himself. Some lucky fans did manage to get autographs, selfies and even luckier ones got their Oasis paraphernalia such as LPs, hats and t-shirts signed. Noel was reportedly staying locally in Carton House Hotel.

Oasis's gigs Saturday, August 16, and Sunday, August 17 was their first on Irish soil in 17 years. Supporting acts included The Verve frontman Richard Ashcroft, and Liverpool rockers Cast, led by John Power. Both performed at both concerts.



Brady's Clockhouse Bar
Senior Barman Adam Woods
with Noel



Brady's Clockhouse Bar
Staff member with Noel



Noel waving farewell to the
fans at
Brady's Clockhouse Bar



Noel Gallagher leaving
Brady's Clockhouse Bar



County Kildare Social Inclusion Week 2025

September 22nd – September 27th 2025



THIS PUBLICATION IS PRODUCED BY MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT PROJECT,
SUPPORTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL PROTECTION,
WHICH IS FUNDED BY THE IRISH GOVERNMENT.

THE VIEWS & OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE THOSE OF THE CONTRIBUTORS.



Maynooth Newsletter

Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

Registered as a Charity in Ireland RCN # 20100063 - CHY # 21086

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



2025 marks the twentieth edition of Culture night which takes place at three hundred locations around Ireland on Friday 19th September. In Maynooth, the line up so far includes comedy, reggae sounds, a musings and music event and of course our own Maynooth Academy band. I am planning to get to a couple of events in Maynooth, starting with the Open Evening and Entertainment at St. Mary's Church of Ireland which sounds very interesting and then catching up with the St Mary's Brass and Reed Academy Band performing later in the town square. For information on all the events check out <https://culturenight.ie/> selecting Kildare, Maynooth for local events.

Having completed a two year part-time course on Genealogy in University College Cork earlier this year, I have come to appreciate even more the importance of our public library service. It was invaluable to me in sourcing the range of books that I needed for my studies.



Reserved books collection point in Maynooth Library

The library service is a national service, so I was able to reserve books that were delivered to Maynooth library for me. It was disappointing that many books had to come from outside County Kildare. As a regular visitor to Maynooth Public Library, it is great to see the number of people using the service. The staff are very helpful and knowledgeable on what books are available on your specific topic.

I know that there are plans to relocate the library to a larger site which will hopefully provide space to expand the selection of books and create spaces for other events. I suspect that many residents are looking forward to this.

Being September some readers might be considering taking up further studies to engage their minds for the next academic year. At Maynooth University, the Department of Adult and Community Education marks a milestone of providing courses for fifty years this year. The courses offered are intended to foster dialogue and discussion, with the aim of enabling participants to critically reflect on their role in civil society. Congratulations to everyone involved on your anniversary and if you want more details on the course available check out <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/adult-and-community-education/our-courses>



New pedestrian bridge in Mill Street - image courtesy E. O'Flaherty

As road works continue at various locations around Maynooth this month, there will be inevitable traffic delays. While we all have our opinions on how the works are progressing, we are equally impacted. I mentioned in recent months the new planned orbital route from the Celbridge Road to the Leixlip Road which is still several years from delivery. The north-south upgrade works are progressing with the installation of the new footbridge in Mill Street. Patience is a virtue that we will all need to master for the coming months. More importantly be considerate and take particular care for pedestrians and cyclists among the busy traffic.

Paul Croghan
Editor

**Submission Date for October Edition is
5pm on 23rd September 2025**

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor

I understand the precedent but not the current practice to remove long swathes of old hedgerows bordering new development. We have seen it happen recently in North Kildare and I expect the more of the same very soon.

How does building A rated properties and encouraging EVs in every driveway offset the loss of centuries old Hedgerows. It's not just the hedges it's the creatures that live there. The softening and beauty of the natural flora and fauna is destroyed in a couple of hours.

Surely Planning or Environmental Awareness needs to address this and recognise the efforts from other public bodies to for example encourage farmers and individuals to protect and restore hedgerows. We cannot have mixed environmental messages coming from our administrators.

Looking at neighbouring towns in South Co Dublin and Fingal which have lost vast swathes of Greenery to concrete ugliness.

Sometimes it's hard to stay encouraged on environmental awareness and activity especially when Planning fails to recognise our natural environment.

Yours sincerely

Tony Bean

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Ireland's biggest scale model show returns to Lucan in October.

Ireland's biggest annual scale model show and competition is returning to Lucan again this year featuring hundreds of hand-built plastic scale models from across the island. The 2025 IPMS Ireland National Model Show and Competition is an annual show of scale models with competition entries being displayed across 34 different categories. The show takes place on Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th October at the Lucan Spa Hotel, Dublin and is a great day out for the family or people looking to rekindle their love of a hobby from childhood.



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Last month saw another Summer Camp where it was great to get young children into the Bandroom on Pound Lane, to learn music through games, and introducing them to the various musical instruments. They really enjoyed the experience and by the end of the week they were able to play one of the instruments, as you can see by the photo below. We hope to make this an annual camp as we already have a number of enquiries about a camp next year.

We were delighted to pay a return visit to Farmleigh Estate in the Phoenix Park on Sunday 10th August and were blessed with fine weather for once, and a very appreciative audience.

The band pays another visit to the lovely National Stud and Gardens in Kildare on Sunday 7th September where the surroundings and the music make for a wonderful afternoon's entertainment. This event is open to the public and is well

worth a visit to see the gardens as well as some well - known horses.

Culture Night has this year been brought forward to Friday 19th September where our Academy Band will have an opportunity to shine when they play in The Square from 7:30pm, fingers crossed for fine weather.

Just a reminder that the Band welcomes musicians of all standards to join our ranks - talk to us at our recitals or drop in to the Band Hall on Pound Lane any Monday night between 7:30 and 9:30.





Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE CELEBRATES ITS DIAMOND JUBILEE

Maynooth Senior Citizens celebrated its **Diamond Jubilee** on the afternoon of Sunday 3rd August in the Geraldine Hall.

The invitation was open to former committee members, friends and supporters of Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee (MSCC). It took the form of an informal drop in from 12 noon to 5pm, a photographic and publication display, an art exhibition by our club members, a card and paper craft display. There was an official launch at 2pm. Refreshments were served throughout the afternoon.

Our current Chairperson, Garry Bermingham opened the proceedings by thanking all who supported MSCC over the years and introduced Josie Moore to launch the event.

We were honoured to have Josie Moore to launch the 60th year on our behalf. As most people will know, Josie's name is synonymous with Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee for a long number of years. She served on the Committee from the early days and was Chairperson for 30 years.

Josie outlined a brief history of the organisation since 1965 during which she commended founding member Mary Cullen. Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee began under the auspices of the Maynooth Branch of the Irish Red Cross in 1965. The early Committee comprised local representatives that included Dr. Cullen, Mary Cullen, Dr. Cowhey and District nurse Hyland whose expertise was well placed to focus on three main areas – poverty, health and isolation. Today isolation is still a concern. Social connection is the main focus today and our activities reflect this. One of our services is the morning club activities which we run on a Tuesday and Thursday morning and to which transport is provided. We provide art, bingo, movement and wellness courses, digital courses and crafts and more are planned for the future.

Josie noted the valued contributions of long standing supporters such as Barton's Transport, Floods and other local businesses. She went on to thank our musicians Elaine and Eithne Bean and Melanie Oliver. Josie thanked Susan

Boyce for her work on the art exhibition. Art works were created by our senior citizens at the Thursday morning club under the guidance of Susan. The event was declared open!

Josie was then taken by surprise as she was presented with a watercolour of the Geraldine Hall on behalf of MSCC. And there was cake! Homemade cakes and bakes, teas and coffees were provided by the current committee members

The photographic exhibition was organised by Josie Moore showing the activities and people involved in MSCC decade by decade. This proved to be very popular with the large crowd in attendance. People were delighted to see photos of friends, family members, activities, outings and occasions throughout the decades. A selection of publications produced by MSCC proved to be very popular and there were free copies available. Our senior citizens club members had c.50 in acrylic on display and showed an array of subjects – landscapes, seascapes, floral studies, still life and figure studies. Each work was completed in an hour, the duration of a class. There was also a display of card making and of book paper crafts which was a course led by our own senior citizen club member Toni Read.

We would like to extend our thanks to all who made it such a memorable day. Thanks to Josie Moore for her considered and inspiring words. Thanks to Willie Kiernan for looking after the sound system for us. We were delighted to have Eithne, Elaine and Melanie who were enthusiastic in their response to come along and provide music and song, giving a wonderful lift to the occasion. It was particularly fitting as Elaine's and Eithne's mother Rose Bean was a former Secretary of MSCC. Thanks to Johnny Dowling, Maynooth Scouts for his help on the day. Thanks to all friends of Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee some of whom are long standing in their support.

By all accounts it was a fabulous day and hopefully one that created more cherished memories for everyone involved and for those in attendance.

Susan Durack, Secretary, Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Josie Moore launching 60th Anniversary of Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee



Music and Song provided by Eithne and Elaine Bean and Melanie Oliver



Attendees 60th Celebrations MSCC



Display of publications by MSCC



Display of papercraft



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



Phone



zoom



E-mail



Cllr Angela Feeney

Labour

If I can help email: angelafeeney@kildarecoco.ie or call 087 238 1962

Stay safe everyone.



Cllr. Angela Feeney Maynooth Labour News

Email: afeeney@kildarecoco.ie

Phone: 0872381962



Campaign for Community Centre for Maynooth

With more than 17,000 residents, Maynooth is a thriving, growing town, but we don't have a community centre. I continue to work and campaign to change that.

Back in 2021, I had a successful motion approved at Council to retain the vacated fire brigade site for a Community centre and hub for the town. Later this year, that site will become available and it is a great opportunity to provide Maynooth with a much-needed community centre.

Now more than ever, our communities need a place to come together and work for a better Maynooth for us all. A space for residents' associations and community groups to meet, a place to hold events for people in Maynooth and a space for further education classes for young and old.

***Please get in touch to support this campaign,
afeeney@kildarecoco.ie***

(Attached: pic of fire brigade site)



We need to end the motor tax instalment penalty

I have called on the Minister for Transport to scrap the unfair penalty imposed on motorists who pay their motor tax in instalments. The current system punishes people simply for not being able to pay in one lump sum.

Many working people are under huge financial pressure at the moment due to the cost of living. It is completely unfair that drivers here who choose to pay their motor tax quarterly or half-yearly are being charged more than those who can afford to pay for the full year upfront. These extra charges are simply unjust.

Over €106 million has been paid in additional costs by motorists across the country because of this outdated system. Countless people are being hit with higher bills just for needing flexibility.

There is no justification for this kind of penalty anymore. In a digital age, administration costs are minimal and most of the process is automated.

The Minister needs to stop punishing people for using instalment options and commit to abolishing this charge in Budget 2026.

Labour is calling for a full review of similar charges right across the public sector. We need to move with the times and build a fairer system that works for everyone – not just those who can afford to pay all at once.



Gold Medal Winners

2016 - 2017 - 2018

2019 - 2021 - 2022

2023 - 2024

August was another busy month for our volunteers keeping everything ship shape around the town. Judging finished in the **Tidy Towns Competition** on the 31st August, sigh of relief. We will be told the results at an event in October. Hoping for our 9th Gold 2025 and more.

The results of the **Entente Florale Europe** Competition will be held in Venenje, Slovenia on the final weekend of September. Some of our volunteers and committee members will attend this event representing Maynooth.

At the time of writing we are looking forward to **Heritage Week**. Our Heritage Trail is a very popular event every year. It starts at Dukes Harbour and ends in Courthouse Square 2 hours later. Very informative event led by our volunteers. We also have booklets available for a self guided tour. Leaflets are available in Maynooth Castle, Library on Main Street and The Glenroyal Hotel.

We have been so lucky with the weather this year and of course all our volunteers who religiously turn up every Saturday morning and Wednesday evenings. We also have a Sunday morning rota available during judging season.

Paul had a busy summer using the Weedex machine ... so many weeds everywhere all over the town. We don't use weed killers even though some of our residents have used them in public areas. Fingers crossed that we don't get deducted points from the Tidy Towns Judges.

We took part in the **Flossie Beach Clean** recently and we will also be a part of The Clean Coasts event in September. We don't have a beach but we do have the wonderful Royal Canal.

We are very happy with our flower beds in the Square. Thanks to Kildare County Council staff for all their assistance this year.

We would like to thank our many sponsors around the town but especially McMahons Gastrobar, Main Street for treating us to breakfast after clean up one Saturday morning, much appreciated.

We would like to express our condolences to the family of Darren Lee, Parklands who died recently in the USA. Darren was a member of the Maynooth First Responders, and a great supporter of Maynooth Tidy Towns. Rest in Peace Darren you will be missed by all your friends but especially your family.

We are always looking for volunteers.

Please contact us on Facebook at Maynooth Tidy Towns or email maynoothtidytowns@outlook.ie

Mary Molloy Maynooth Tidy Towns Association



Maynooth Heritage Trail - Guided Tours

Duke's Harbour Co. Kildare—Contact via

Facebook or email(maynoothtidytowns@outlook.ie)



Cllr. Donna Phelan
MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Fianna Fáil
AN PARTÍ POBLACHTÁNACH



AUGUST UPDATE

New Speed Sign on the Dunboyne Road



Thanks to Local Property Tax (LPT) funding, a new speed sign has been installed on the Dunboyne Road. While the current limit here is 60km/h, many residents agree it's too high for this stretch. I'll be pushing for a reduced speed limit as part of the Jake's Law review, which will begin in Maynooth later this year keeping safety at the heart of our community.



Over the bank holiday weekend, Trib Fest once again delivered a fantastic celebration for our area – a festival that truly had something for all ages. We're incredibly lucky to have a venue like this right on our doorstep, bringing people together and creating lasting memories. A huge thank you to the organisers from all of us in the community for making it happen.



The sunflower field in Barberstown is an absolute must see, a burst of colour that brightens any day. Well done to everyone involved for raising much needed funds for Pieta House and Women's Aid. Helping others is something very close to my heart, so it was lovely to be able to support these causes and bring home some beautiful flowers for the kitchen.



Taste of Kildare

It was fantastic to attend the taste of Kildare and see so many local producers from our own Clane-Maynooth Municipal District showcasing their food and talent. Family friendly events like this really highlight the quality and creativity, and pride we have in our local community.



AsIAm 5k fun run

I was delighted to support the AsIAm Same Chance 5k Fun Run. It means so much to see communities coming together to promote inclusion and equal opportunities for autistic people.



Huge Congratulations to Niamh Kirwan from Maynooth on shining as a Rosebud in this years Rose of Tralee. We are all very proud of you.

Maynooth Water Network Upgrade
Growth and Development Programme



Traffic Management on Dunboyne Road Sept - October

Pipelining works at the R157 will commence on Monday 25 August. Traffic management in the form of temporary traffic lights will be in place to facilitate works. It is anticipated that these works will be completed in late October. Standard working hours are 7:30am to 6pm Monday to Friday. Works may involve planned interruptions to water supply. Customers will be notified in advance of any planned water outages.

Customers can phone **Uisce Éireann on 1800 278 278** if they have any questions about the project. Uisce Éireann regrets any inconvenience these necessary water network improvements may cause. Details of any supply interruptions associated with this project will be updated regularly on the Uisce Éireann website.

Cllr. Donna Phelan

MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:

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



The Growth and Development Programme is a national programme of targeted investment to increase the capacity of water and wastewater infrastructure to enable social and economic growth and development, including the delivery of essential housing.



Road Closure Application

Coffey Construction has applied to Kildare County Council to close the L1014, from its junction with the R157 to the L5050 junction at Catherinstown from Monday, 08 September 2025 to Sunday, 16 November 2025 to facilitate pipelaying works.

Maynooth Transfer Pipeline
Pipeline Installation Route



Alternative Routes

R157 bound stay on R157 for a further 1.1km until you come to the junction of L5050 Dunboyne Road. Turn right onto the L5050 to follow the diversion for 1km which will bring you to the end of the closure. L1014 bound, closure starts at the junction of L5050 Dunboyne Road, diversion will begin with a right-hand turn. You will follow this diversion for 1km when you reach the junction of R157 / L5050. Turn left here onto the R157. Diversion will be in place for 1.1km until you reach the end of the closure.



Road Closure 1 L1014
Distance: 1.0km
Travel time: 1 min
Diversion distance: 2.1km
Travel time: 3 min (extra 2min)
Diversion via: R157 & L5050

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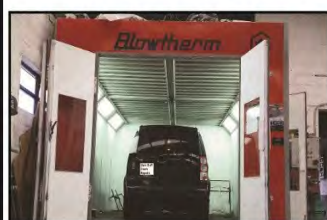
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Grow Mental Health Peer Support Meetings

with Amanda

Tuesday
11 am to 1 pm
Leixlip Library, Captain's Hill

For more information
contact:

086 136 7423
amandadempsey@grow.ie



Maynooth Castle

A visit to our beloved castle is a must. A vital piece of our town's history where you can see a model of the castle in its full glory before the gates are closed for the winter

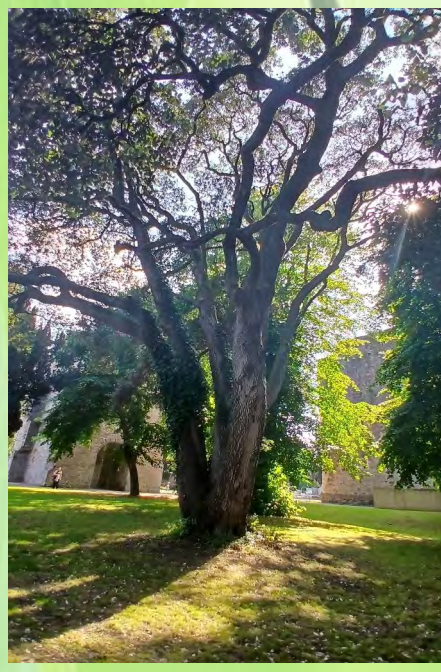
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For more information: www.heritageireland.ie

Photos: Newsletter Writer, Martina



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**LIMITED TIME OFFER. €2,000 Switcher Bonus is only available for mortgages approved from 14th July 2025 until 30th September 2025. Your mortgage must have drawn down within 3 months of the date of issue of the loan offer to qualify. Bonus will be paid at drawdown. Should you decide to re-mortgage or sell this property within 24 months of closing date this €2,000 incentive money will have to be repaid to Life Credit Union and will be added to your mortgage redemption balance.

Green Mortgage Rate (3.57% variable APRC) BER B3 or above. Standard Mortgage Rate (4.02% variable APRC). Standard Switcher Mortgage of €250,000 over 20 years, 240 monthly payments of €1,508.37. Representative APRC 4.02% variable. Cost of credit €112,009.35. Total amount to be repaid €362,009.35. Representative example correct as at 11/07/2025.

Maximum Loan to Value (LTV) of 90% will apply to a property's purchase price. Maximum loan amount will typically not exceed 4 times an individual's gross income for First Time Buyers and 3.5 times an individual's gross income for Second Time Buyers.

Loan examples are for illustrative purposes only. Final repayments and cost of credit will be agreed in the credit agreement. APRC stands for Annual Percentage Rate of Charge. Loans are subject to approval. Mortgage lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Over 18s only. Security, Property Insurance and Life Cover are required.

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.

WARNING: If you do not keep up repayments you may lose your home.

WARNING: You should consider the total cost of the mortgage and any applicable incentive included in the mortgage offer.

WARNING: The cost of your monthly payments may increase.

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



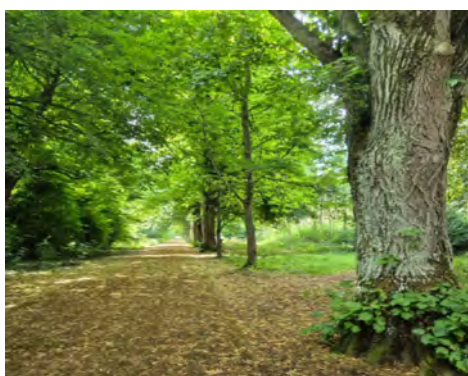
Glimpses of Maynooth & Ireland from an Italian Perspective

TGS Eurogroup (Youth and Social Tourism) is an association led by lay people and promoted by the Salesian Province San Marco in Italy. Its aims are guided by Don Bosco's educational project, supporting the education and flourishing of young people. The association organises English summer camps for Italian middle and high school students. The camps take place in Malta, Ireland and Great Britain.

We were 19 students in total (aged from 14 to 16) in the group that stayed in Maynooth College in Ireland. We were accompanied by five wonderful Italian leaders: Vincenzo, Elenora, Elisa, Nicola, Federica and Chiara. The leaders are mostly young university students or recent graduates who undergo training for the camps months before departure. They are full of enthusiasm and animated by a true spirit of service and with a great desire to get fully involved.



Each morning started with a reflection led by one of the Salesian brothers/priests based in St. Catherine's, Maynooth. Then we had English classes on the beautiful campus of St. Patrick's College with teachers who are native speakers of English. They helped us to improve our language skills, especially speaking. We covered multiple topics in class and explored different aspects of Irish culture such as Irish mythology, history, sports and food. In fact, we actually got to play hurling and Gaelic football. We also tried out Irish dancing.



Our teachers helped us too to appreciate the beauty of Irish nature and the different landscapes across the whole country. We also discussed climate change and the ways in which we can help protect our environment and beautiful planet.

We had many trips during our stay, visiting lots of cities and places of historical interest. In Dublin we visited Dublin Castle, Trinity College, the National Museum of Ireland, Leinster House and Chatham House where we did the Europe Experience and learned all about the European Union.

At the Parliament we had the opportunity to meet the local TD from Maynooth, Naoise O'Cearuil. We were able to ask him questions about his work in the Dail and about his career and pathway to becoming a TD. We travelled by bus to Kilkenny to visit the castle there and to Glendalough to see the two lakes and learn more about this amazing monastic city.



At the start of our stay in Ireland, most of us didn't know each other but from day one friendships began to bloom. The group quickly became very united and soon enough many of us had made lots of friends. Personally, we think that this experience was very useful in helping us overcome our fears and learn how to relate with others. It has made us stronger, happier and more united. Some learned to be more responsible, others learned to open themselves without being scared of judgement and to become more extrovert. We all experienced some personal development. For sure, nobody will forget this trip because, even if for two weeks only, we were like one big family.



To conclude, we highly recommend this experience. It helped us improve our English, discover Ireland, make new friends and gather beautiful and unforgettable memories.

*(With thanks to Giorgia Past, Giulia Parisi & Vittoria Muneretto who compiled this report).
July 2025*

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Deep Time WALKS & Maynooth Unearthed WORKSHOPS

www.co-creativelab.eu

With Rachel Sweeney, Dancer and Artist

Travel back through Maynooth's natural and manmade timelines, reflecting on how our carbon footprint shapes our world.

16th Aug.
11-13:00

Deep Time
Walk

Meet Main Entrance,
Maynooth Train
Station

28th Aug.
14-16:00

Deep Time
Walk

Meet Main Entrance,
Maynooth Train
Station

2nd Sept.
18:30-20:00

Maynooth
Unearthed
Building
eco literacy
and
awareness

Venue Maynooth
Library

3rd Sept.
11-12:30

Maynooth
Unearthed
Co-design
for future
communities

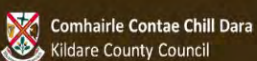
Venue DemoHouse

19th Sept.
18:30-20:00

Deep Time
Walk

Meet Main Entrance,
Maynooth Train
Station

Booking at: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/kildareartsservice>
Or contact Kildare Arts Service at arts@kildarecoco.ie



Sunday AUG 31st + OCT 5th

9am - 1pm

€2 entry (children free) (gardens included)

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County Kildare Social Inclusion Week 2025

September 22nd – September 27th 2025



Taking place from September 22nd to 26th, this annual event, now in its ninth year, continues to promote the invaluable work of local organisations active throughout County Kildare.

MONDAY 22nd SEPTEMBER

Social Inclusion Week Opening Event with County Kildare LEADER Partnership

Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm Location, Kildare Community Development Centre, Kildare Town, R51 RF88

Come along and meet the CKLP team, enjoy displays from local groups, see the wonderful display from The Dara Project and enjoy refreshments. This event promises to be an exciting start to Social Inclusion Week in County Kildare. All welcome.

Art & Craft Exhibition: John Sullivan (Irish Wheelchair Association), Clane.

Time: 10:30am - 2:00pm Location, John Sullivan (IWA), Ballinagappa Road, Clane, Co. Kildare, W91YT99

The exhibition will be composed of Ceramic, Textile, Woodwork and Art works completed by our members in Clane Community Centre in 2025.

Free parking and fully wheelchair accessible. All welcome- No booking required

**Warmer Home Workshop (daily at multiple locations, see below) with Kildare Sustainable Energy Communities

Time: 10:30am Location: Naas Library and Cultural Centre
Do you own your home (built before 2006)?

You may qualify for a FREE energy upgrade under the SEAI Warmer Homes Scheme if you receive: Fuel Allowance, Jobseeker's (6+ months) + child under 7, Working Family Payment, One-Parent Family Payment, Domiciliary Care Allowance, Carer's Allowance (living with the person you care for), Disability Allowance (6+ months) + child under 7. Make your home warmer & more comfortable - Cut energy bill - Lower your carbon footprint. Come along to learn how to apply.

TUESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER

Art & Craft Exhibition: John Sullivan (Irish Wheelchair Association), Clane.

Time: 10:30am - 2:00pm, Location: John Sullivan (IWA), Ballinagappa Road, Clane, Co. Kildare, W91YT99

The exhibition will be composed of Ceramic, Textile, Woodwork and Art works completed by our members in Clane Community Centre in 2025.

Free parking and fully wheelchair accessible. All welcome- No booking required

Coffee Morning with Athy Women's Shed

Time: 11:00am - 1:00pm, Location: Community House, 1306 Townspark, Athy, R14 RD79

Have you ever wondered what goes on in the Athy Women's Shed. Come join us, meet the ladies and chat about it over tea/ coffee and refreshments. All ladies welcome.

Your Wellness Webinar with Irish Red Cross

Time: 11:00am Location: Online Pause yourself and join us for an uplifting and practical session designed to support your wellbeing.

What to expect:

An introduction to the mental health supports and training available through the Irish Red Cross

Relaxing and restorative mindfulness and wellness activities from our Self-Help Plus programme

A look into Problem Management Plus, a simple yet powerful approach to managing life's challenges

This webinar is about more than information—it's about giving you tools, insights, and moments of calm you can take with you into daily life.

Warmer Home Workshop with Kildare Sustainable Energy Communities

Time: 11:00am Location: Celbridge Library
For description, see ** above

Visually Impaired / Blind Tennis

Time: 1:30pm - 2:30pm Location: Naas Tennis Club

If you have a Vision Impairment or know someone with a vision impairment this is the chance to try an incredible game in a fun, social environment. All Welcome.

If you have any queries, please contact: mrmartinkelly20@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY 24th SEPTEMBER

Arts and Crafts Exhibition and Social Morning with Kare and Newbridge Disability Access Group

Time: 10:30am - 1:00pm, Location: Newbridge Town Hall

Celebrate creativity, diversity, and inclusion at this vibrant community event. Everyone is welcome to attend. Come view local artwork, enjoy live music, and connect with others in a warm and inclusive space. All Welcome.

A Gathering of Local Community with Larries on the Move

Time: 11:00, Location: St. Laurence's GAA Complex

Coffee morning with leisurely walk around the walkway a speaker on local issues. Open to all

Warmer Home Workshop with Kildare Sustainable Energy Communities

Time: 11:00am, Location: Athy Library
For description, see ** above.

Around the World Dance Rap with Kildare Town Youth Hub

Time: 6:00pm, Location: The Hive Youth Hub, Kildare Town

Working with Dance instructor to develop a Dance Rap incorporating Dance traditions from a range of Cultures represented in our town. Cultures with strong representation in our town are Indian, Irish, Ukranian, African, Moldovan & Brazilian.

If you would like to participate, please contact Grace Darling at ktyhub@gmail.com

Thursday 25th September

The Creative Path Art Therapy with Kildare Library Service

Time: 10:00am, Location: Newbridge Library

Join us for a cup of tea/coffee to celebrate the launch of "The Creative Path", a new art therapy programme for persons living with an acquired brain injury.

"The Creative Path" will support and nurture mental health and wellbeing through art therapy where each individual's recovery can be encouraged and empowered through creativity.

For further enquiries please contact the library by email newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie or by telephone 045 906130

Connect & Create with Platinum Clubhouse

Time: 11:00am Location: Platinum Clubhouse Newbridge Industrial Estate, Newbridge

Walk & Talk + Coffee Morning

Join us for a gentle community walk, open to all. Afterward, enjoy coffee, biscuits & relaxed conversation, with a mindful moment to refresh your day.

Creative Expression Corner

After coffee, join us for a creative space of music, art, poetry, and writing, led by our community. Share your talents or simply enjoy the work of others in a warm, supportive atmosphere.

Register by emailing: ashleigh.farrell@hse.ie

Warmer Home Workshop with Newbridge Community Development

(Continued on page 15)



County Kildare Social Inclusion Week 2025

September 22nd – September 27th 2025

(Continued from page 14)

For description, see ** above.

Growing Connections with Maynooth Access Group & Maynooth Post Primary School

Time: 12:00, Location: Maynooth Post Primary School

This event celebrates the collaboration between Maynooth Access Group and the Orchard class in Maynooth Post Primary School. Guests will enjoy refreshments prepared by students while highlighting the Orchard's inclusive garden project, featuring accessible benches and raised planters. Students grow herbs, sensory plants, and vegetables for use in cookery classes, creating a sustainable, farm-to-fork learning experience and a welcoming space where everyone can take part and feel a sense of belonging.

Positive Wellbeing and Mental Health Day with Irish Red Cross (Kildare Branch)

Time: 2:00pm - 7:00pm, Location: Whitewater, Newbridge

Join us for an afternoon of:

Wellbeing & positive mental health promotion

Live CPR demonstrations

Practical tips for a healthier, safer community

FRIDAY 26th SEPTEMBER

Scooch Taster Session & Coffee Morning

Time: 11:00am - 12:30pm, Location: Athy GAA Centre, R14 WN92

Now is the time to come meet the group, see what Scooch is all about, play a game and then enjoy refreshments and a chat afterwards.

All Welcome.

Warmer Home Workshop with Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community

Time: 11:00am, Location: Maynooth Library

For description, see ** on previous page, Monday 22nd.

The Waterways BBQ

Time: 11:30am, Location: The Waterways, Sallins

This BBQ is to celebrate the voluntary work carried out each Friday in August & September by residents living in The Waterways estate. This event is for all residents in the Waterways including apartment residents, commercial units and residents of The Waterways Hotel for people seeking International protection.

All welcome.

Naas Men's Shed Garden Party Social Inclusion Garden Party with Naas Community Men's Shed

Time: 12:00pm - 3:00pm, Location: Naas Community Men's Shed, Dublin Road, Naas

Join Naas Community Men's Shed for a socially inclusive fun event with Camphill Dunshane, local nursing home residents, and others.

Music by the Shed Band with food and fun.

All Welcome.

Building Bridges through Dialogue: Fostering Inclusion and Belonging with Down to Basics (DotoBa), the International Decade for People of African Descent Ireland (IDPADI), the International Institute of African Studies Ireland (IIASI)

Time: 1:00pm - 3:30pm, Location: Leixlip Youth and Community Centre

The event will provide a safe and constructive space to:

Explore the local and national context of racism and discrimination

Share lived experiences from members of migrant communities

Build stronger connections between public representatives, authorities, and the community

Discuss practical steps we can take, together, to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for all.

Register: contact@dotoba.ie

ALL EVENTS CAN BE FOUND AT
kildareppn.ie/siw-events

Events Happening During September

Explore Maynooth's waterways, woodlands and walking routes, reflecting on how our carbon footprint shapes our world.

Take part in the Maynooth Unearthed Workshops and find new ways of exploring our ancient past as a mode of re-imagining and co-creating our futures.

Events are free, but advance booking is required.

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/kildareartsservice>

Maynooth Unearthed - Workshop with Artist Rachel Sweeney Tue 2 Sep 2025 18:30 - 20:00 Maynooth Library

MAYNOOTH UNEARTHED is a series of free creative mapping workshop that take a positive approach to local climate-led initiatives, with a focus on Maynooth's decarbonization strategy. Facilitated by Creative Collaborator Rachel Sweeney, these workshops will introduce participants to new ways to re-think our relationship to our local environment through a participative and inclusive approach that introduces playful and practical ways to help us re-imagine our town's transport infrastructure. Drawing on multiple perspectives, Rachel will share her DEEP MAPPING approach as a way to support fresh thinking around how we design our movement and mobility around Maynooth town, working from a place of planetary engagement.

Maynooth Unearthed - Workshop with Artist Rachel Sweeney

Wed 3 Sep 2025 11:00 - 12:30 DemoHouse (Kildare County Council DemoHouse, Maynooth), W23 D8F1

Deep Time Walk with Rachel Sweeney

Fri 19 Sep 2025 18:30 - 20:00 Starting from main gate of Maynooth Train Station

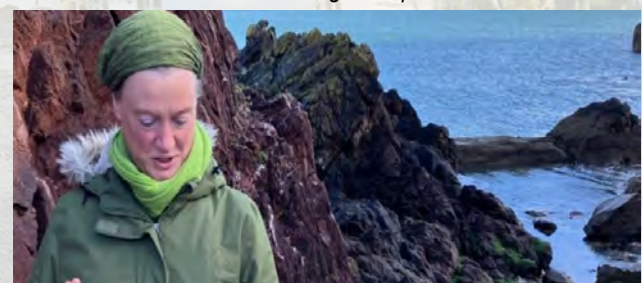
Come and join artist and ecologist Rachel Sweeney for a DEEP TIME WALK through Maynooth's waterways, woodlands and walking routes. The Deep Time Walk is a participatory and fun citizen science approach to exploring earth science. Our planet is over 4.6 billion years old and humans, or homo sapiens, have only been around for less than 200,000 years.

Together we will time travel back through Maynooth's geological, astrological and biological timelines, reflecting on how our own carbon footprint is reshaping our bioregion and beyond.

Meet at Maynooth train station main entrance. This is a circular walk that follows the Royal Canal Greenway trail.

Suitable for all ages and abilities. Pathway has wheelchair access.

Sourced: www.kildareartsservice.ie. Background photo: Newsletter Staff: Martina





The Sword in the Stone



Rehearsals have now kicked off for the Christmas Panto 2025,

'The Sword in the Stone'

a brand new panto written by long term member, Rían Glynn.

Tickets are on sale from the 1st of September and are available online at annuadhaplayers.ie and in Maynooth Bookshop. This promises to be an excellent trip out for the whole family, so make sure to book early to avoid disappointment.

Play and Panto Submissions

We are delighted to announce that we are now accepting submissions for our Summer Production 2026 & Christmas Pantomime 2026!

If you have written a full length or one act play, a pantomime, or have a play/pantomime script that you would like to put forward for consideration for 2026, we want to hear from you!

Please see all important information and complete the relevant forms on our website at annuadhaplayers.ie.

Deadline for applications is 31st October 2025

Karaoke Night!

Join us for a fun-filled **Karaoke Night** from 7.45pm 26th September upstairs in Brady's Clockhouse.

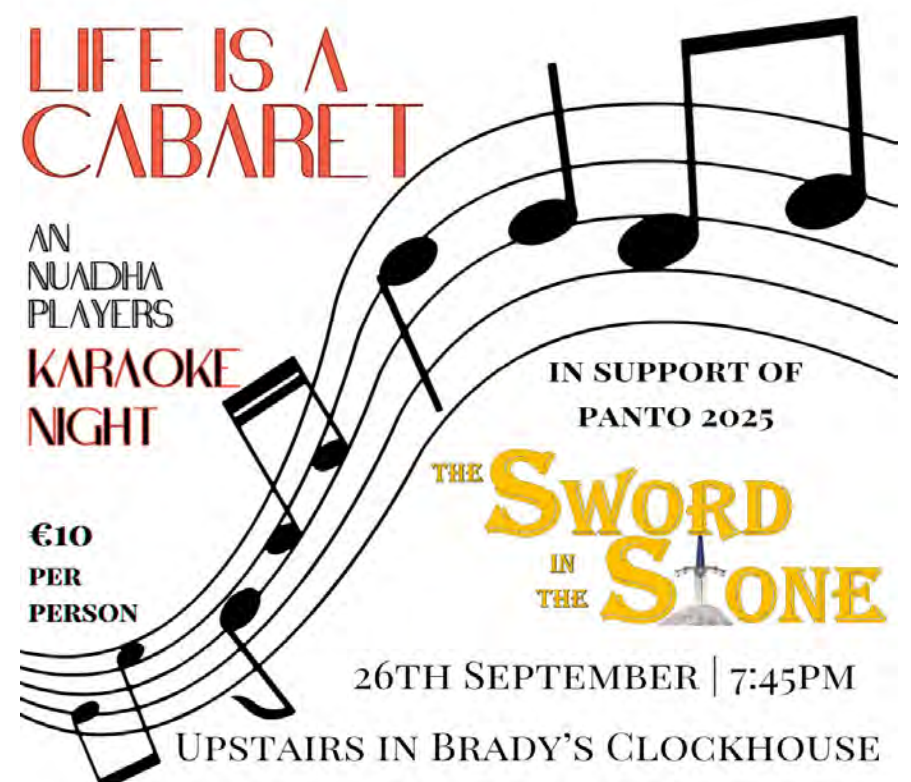
Whether you're a seasoned singer or just in it for the laughs, come enjoy music, games, and great company.

€10 entry in support of our upcoming production

'The Sword in the Stone'.

Bring your friends, your voice, and your best moves!

Hope to see you there!



Howth Cliff Cruise - A Wonderful Experience!

From the moment I stepped on board the Howth Cliff Cruise, I knew it was going to be a lovely trip. I was warmly greeted by two polite young men, which made for a great start. Their welcoming attitude really set the tone for the rest of the trip. The weather was a little overcast but warm, with calm seas that made for a smooth sailing. There was a real buzz of excitement from the children on board, as we pulled away from the harbour and took in the beautiful views along the cliffs. The cruise itself was both peaceful and scenic, with breathtaking coastal views and plenty of fresh air. Howth cliffs is home to many bird species like Puffins, Razorbills, and Kittiwakes, I am sure a haven for bird watchers. The water route shows the iconic Howth Cliff Walk, revealing hidden caves and dramatic rock formations. The trip offers great views of the Bailey Lighthouse, at the edge of a cliff that still guides ships into Dublin Bay since 1814. You will see the beautiful Ireland's Eye along the way. But the highlight, without a doubt, came at the end – spotting seals! The majestic creatures came to the surface to say hello, and what a beautiful sight it was seeing them play in the water so gracefully. This made the whole experience unforgettable, seeing such beautiful sea life in their natural habitat.



The leisurely cruise lasted approximately 50 minutes, just enough time to take in all the coastline has to offer, at a cost of €25.00. I would highly recommend Howth Cliff Cruise to anyone visiting the area; it is a wonderful way to spend an afternoon. Howth Cliff Cruise is much more than a boat ride; it is a front-row seat to Ireland's coastal beauty.

Newsletter Staff Writer: Jackie



booking@dublinbaycruises.com

Historical Booklets Available in Maynooth Bookshop

Kildare's Titanic

This booklet explores the tragic story of the RMS Titanic, focusing not only on her construction, career, and sinking but also highlighting her deep connections to Ireland, particularly County Kildare. While Titanic was built in Belfast by Harland and Wolff, the ship's story is intertwined with many parts of Ireland.

Whether you're interested in the story for its technical feats, its human drama, or its place in our shared cultural memory the booklet pays special attention to individuals from Kildare who were connected to

the ship, whether as passengers, workers, or mourners left behind.

"While County Kildare's direct connection to the Titanic is more subtle, some crew members and passengers had links to the region. The booklet explores local stories of Kildare communities and individuals who may have been affected by or connected to the tragedy, including emigrants and their families" - **Alan Cleary, Author.**

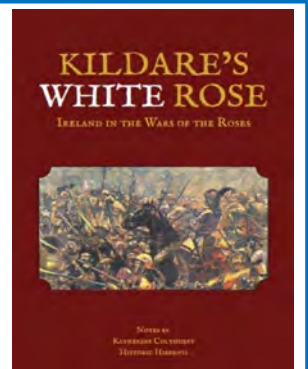
KILDARE'S TITANIC



Kildare's White Rose

This booklet explores the influential role of the FitzGerald family of Kildare, one of the most powerful Anglo-Irish noble families, during the Wars of the Roses (1455-1487), a dynastic conflict between the Houses of York and Lancaster for control of the English throne.

As the Earls of Kildare, ruling from Maynooth Castle, the FitzGerald family held significant political and military power in Ireland, and their allegiance was crucial to the English Crown's efforts to maintain authority over its Irish territories. "The booklet highlights the family's resilience and ability to survive the transition of power. By the early 16th century, the FitzGerald family had re-established themselves as indispensable to English rule in Ireland, with the 8th Earl famously declaring he could "rule all of Ireland" due to his power and influence." - **Katherine Colthurst, Author.**



Both Booklets are available to buy -
Maynooth Bookshop, Main Street Maynooth, Co. Kildare
Instagram - [historic_hibernia](#) (Revolut and PayPal accepted)





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Learn Fire Safety At Home/Work

Inspect

Fire extinguishers and smoke alarms are crucial in fire prevention. Both should be present in work and home. It is really important to get all fire safety equipment checked regularly.



Familiarise

Become familiar with the sound and where about's of your fire alarm.



Drill

Adults and children should know the location of fire escapes and fire assembly points. Regular fire drills is crucial.



Switch

Switch off and unplug cooking appliances, electric heaters, and chargers when not in use. And when using candles keep away from curtains and flammables.



Contacts

Know who to call in an emergency i.e. fire brigade, police and ambulance and next of kin.



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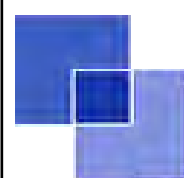
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MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

Lyreen Pedestrian Bridge

It has been a long time coming - funding was provided for it a number of years ago - but Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the new pedestrian bridge over the Lyreen River. It will greatly improve pedestrian and cycling facilities on Mill Street in the heart of Maynooth.

Road Safety

As far as cyclists are concerned, road safety has not gone away. The number of fatalities continues to rise. This is against a backdrop where the Department of Transport has announced the abandonment of a 30kph default speed limit for urban areas. Instead of a default speed limit, local authorities may implement 30km/h limits in urban areas where local authorities choose to adopt them.

Year	2022 (12 Months)	2023 (12 Months)	2024 (12 Months)	2025 To Date (8 Months)
No of Cyclist Fatalities	7	8	11	10

Substantial Number of Gardai Have No Interest in their Jobs.

Dr. Elaine Byrne, the chairperson of the Policing and Community Safety Authority has described as "shocking" a report which shows that a substantial number of gardaí assigned to Roads Policing are not doing their jobs, have no interest in doing them and don't appear to care who knows. While there are some people like this in every walk of life, it is shocking that a substantial number of gardai fall into this category. One of the core functions of An Garda Síochána is protection of the general public so it is doubly shocking that this includes roads policing where fatalities are increasing. In the past, various cycling campaign groups have highlighted the indifference of some gardai. While we accept that there are many more serious crimes, the lack of enforcement of legislation regarding the parking of vehicles on footpaths or the parking on cycle lanes has been abysmal.

Provision of Cycle Lane Work near Moone

The conversion of a hard shoulder on the R448 to a segregated cycle route has upset farmers and residents who live in the Moone area. The farmers are concerned that the narrowness of the road lanes are not wide enough for combine harvesters. Some of the residents argue that the section of cycle lane will be from nowhere to nowhere. The works have been described as a pilot with funding provided by the NTA. Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes innovation by Kildare County Council as much of the cycling infrastructure provided in recent years has not been in line with best international practice so we are somewhat sceptical about the quality of innovation. The idea of converting hard shoulders to cycle lanes is not new. In 2012-13, the government provided funding to designate as "quietways" the conversion of hard shoulders on a number of regional and former national roads. However the works were essentially limited to the addition of road markings so did little to enable increased cycling.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is an independent local lobby group for better cycling facilities in Maynooth and Kildare generally.

If you would like to support our efforts, why not join us - you can find details here :

<https://maynoothcyclingcampaign.com/join-us-2/> or email maynoothcycling@gmail.com

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Email: office@maynoothcep.com

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The Bad Old Woman in Black

A horror tale by Lord Dunsany

from Tales of Wonder, in the public domain, found at Gutenberg.org

The bad old woman in black ran down the street of the ox-butchers. Windows at once were opened high up in those crazy gables; heads were thrust out: it was she. Then there arose the counsel of anxious voices, calling sideways from window to window or across to opposite houses. Why was she there with her sequins and bugles and old black gown? Why had she left her dreaded house? On what fell errand she hasted?

They watched her lean, lithe figure, and the wind in that old black dress, and soon she was gone from the cobbled street and under the town's high gateway. She turned at once to her right and was hid from the view of the houses. Then they all ran down to their doors, and small groups formed on the pavement; there they took counsel together, the eldest speaking first. Of what they had seen they said nothing, for there was no doubt it was she; it was of the future they spoke, and the future only.

In what notorious thing would her errand end? What gains had tempted her out from her fearful home? What brilliant but sinful scheme had her genius planned? Above all, what future evil did this portend? Thus at first it was only questions. And then the old grey-beards spoke, each one to a little group; they had seen her out before, had known her when she was younger, and had noted the evil things that had followed her goings: the small groups listened well to their low and earnest voices. No one asked questions now or guessed at her infamous errand, but listened only to the wise old men who knew the things that had been, and who told the younger men of the dooms that had come before.

Nobody knew how many times she had left her dreaded house; but the oldest recounted all the times that they knew, and the way she had gone each time, and the doom that had followed her going; and two could remember the earthquake that there was in the street of the shearers.

So were there many tales of the times that were, told on the pavement near the old green doors by the edge of the cobbled street, and the experience that the aged men had bought with their white hairs might be had cheap by the young. But from all their experience only this was clear, that never twice in their lives had she done the same infamous thing, and that the same calamity twice had never followed her goings. Therefore it seemed that means were doubtful and few for finding out what thing was about to befall; and an ominous feeling of gloom came down on the street of the ox-butchers. And in the gloom grew fears of the very worst. This comfort they only had when they put their fear into words—that the doom that followed her goings had never yet been anticipated. One feared that with magic she meant to move the moon; and he would have dammed the high tide on the neighbouring coast, knowing that as the moon attracted the sea the sea must attract the moon, and hoping by his device to humble her spells. Another would have fetched iron bars and clamped them across the street, remembering the earthquake there was in the street of the shearers. Another would have honoured his household gods, the little cat-faced idols seated above his hearth, gods to whom magic was no unusual thing, and, having paid their fees and honoured them well, would have put the whole case before them. His scheme found favour with many, and yet at last was rejected, for others ran indoors and brought out their gods, too, to be honoured, till there was a herd of gods all seated there on the pavement; yet would they have honoured them and put their case before them but that a fat man ran up last of all, carefully holding under a reverent arm his own two hound-faced gods, though he knew well - as, indeed, all men must - that they were notoriously at war with the little cat-faced idols. And although the animosities natural to faith had all been lulled by the

crisis, yet a look of anger had come into the cat-like faces that no one dared disregard, and all perceived that if they stayed a moment longer there would be flaming around them the jealousy of the gods; so each man hastily took his idols home, leaving the fat man insisting that his hound-faced gods should be honoured. Then there were schemes again and voices raised in debate, and many new dangers feared and new plans made. But in the end they made no defence against danger, for they knew not what it would be, but wrote upon parchment as a warning, and in order that all might know: "The bad old woman in black ran down the street of the ox-butchers."



Image courtesy of Maynooth University Special Collections
Virtual Halloween Experience 2024 | Maynooth University

White Violets, Duleek

By Patrick Devaney

There is so much to show that Time will win:
A half-ruined abbey, broken mausoleums,
Monastic crosses sprayed with silver paint,
And headstones with eroded coats of arms.

The lime tree planted for a foreign king
Still stands imposingly upon the green,
Though trunk and branches show decrepitude
And there's a hollow where its mate had been,

An ash that symbolised the young king's wife,
Whose father he defeated at the Boyne.
But almost ninety years before that time
A wife had crosses carved for one less known.

These wayside crosses have not been defaced
Beyond the powers of our deciphering;
One stands upon the village marketplace
And shows a heart encircled by a ring.

That heart reminds us that a lady loved
Her husband when a virgin held the throne;
Their castle's now a half-demolished ruin,
Toward which another wayside cross looks down.

But crosses can't forever withstand Time
So nature has supplied what no stone could,
And by the castle lane white violets
Appear each spring where these two lovers trod



Writers' Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

REVIEW: Patrick Devaney's novel *The Grey Knight: A Story of Love in Troubled Times*

Review by Michael Farry

"Major" Coote has recently moved his somewhat reluctant family from their comfortable London home to a run-down Irish demesne in pursuit of his grandiose farming dreams. His neighbours, the O'Connors, are struggling with the problems of raising a large, strong-willed brood. Relations between the two families become strained when the O'Connors acquire the Grey Knight, a Jack B. Yeats painting which Major Coote believes to have been stolen from his mansion. Then seventeen-year-old Hugh O'Connor meets Hazel, the Major's beautiful fifteen-year-old daughter, and trouble mounts, with unforeseen tragic consequences. Set in Connacht in 1981, a time of rising tensions and sporadic violence brought about by the Northern Ireland hunger strikes, this novel delineates the fragility and wonder of first love.

The Grey Knight by Patrick Devaney has the author's trademark attention to detail. In his descriptions of the countryside and its seasonal changes, of the Irish countryside and its settlements, inhabitants and buildings, he builds up a solid believable framework in which his characters interact. His stage is set in and around the town of Killeden, somewhere in Connacht, within driving distance of Sligo town, and close to the Northern Irish border.

The time is 1987 and the northern troubles loom large in the background. A local IRA member is on hunger strike. Tension is rising and the effects of the struggle are beginning to spill south over the border. There are no mobile phones or Internet but there are drugs, poteen, guns and ballad sessions.

It is not a good time to have come from London, buy a run-down 'big house,' and try to make a go of farming the land. Neither is it a good time to be raising a large family on a small farm.

A fictional Jack B. Yeats painting of a horse (or a copy of the painting), The Grey Knight, looms large in the story and becomes almost a symbol both of the differences and the connections between the families. Horses and the hunt are also key in the novel and the scene where Hugh dons a motley hunting costume - one character calls him "The Wild Man of Borneo" - and tries to impress Hazel by taking part in the hunt on Nimble Jack being a key scene.

Poetry, including that of the other Yeats, also plays an important part in the story. Hugh, the Romeo character, writes poetry and has a poem published in the local newspaper.

Devaney manages an array of characters, most of whom belong to either the Coote or the O'Connor family, with great skill. Each character is skilfully delineated but no one is a cypher. Within each, in spite of the ignorance and prejudice frequently displayed, we know there is the possibility of change.

The plot moves along at a good pace with interactions between the members of both families driving the story forward in a believable way. The style is that of a traditional narrative with an all-seeing narrator. This is very well managed with frequent cuts from one viewpoint to another, which adds to the suspense and enjoyment. The tangled web of relationships in a small community, into which the recently arrived Cootes are drawn, is expertly controlled.

It is a Romeo and Juliet story to some extent, but these young lovers find it more difficult to get together than did the pair in Verona. In the end when it seems that young love will conquer... but I won't give away the great and unexpected ending.

Novelist Patrick Devaney is a former teacher at Maynooth Post Primary, now living in Virginia, Cavan.

Michael Farry is an author, historian and poet, a native of County Sligo. He is a retired primary teacher living in County Meath.

The Pig War

A confrontation over a pig dates back to 1846 when the Oregon Treaty was signed between the United States and Great Britain. It was hoped that this treaty would solve a dispute over land between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific coastline. It stated that the border between these two countries should be drawn along the forty-ninth parallel, an agreement, which remains to this day. It said that the border should run through the middle of the channel separating the continent from Vancouver Island but, due to poor mapping, it was not realized that there were in fact two channels; Haro Strait was nearest to Vancouver Island, which the United States claimed, whereas Rosario Strait, which Britain claimed, was nearer to the mainland. However an archipelago, known as the San Juan Islands, lay between the Straits, the fifty-five square mile San Juan Island, being the largest and having the most strategic position as it was at the mouth of the channel. Both countries claimed San Juan Island and settled their own citizens there. The British had the largest population, bolstered in 1845, by the arrival of the Hudson's Bay Company, a British fur trading corporation. They set up a salmon-curing station along the island's western shoreline. In 1851, Washington Territory claimed the islands as the United States' possession, so in 1853 the Hudson's Bay Company established a sheep ranch on the island's southern shore, which took advantage of San Juan's rich soil. Originally there were only around twenty to thirty United States citizens and the two communities got on fairly well, but by 1859 this had changed, as many Americans claimed their right to live on the island from the Donation Land Claim Act. The British considered the new arrivals illegal.

On June 15th 1859 the crisis came to a head when Lyman Cutlar, an American farmer and former miner, shot a pig, which was rooting in his garden for potatoes. The pig belonged to Irishman Charles Griffin who was employed by Hudson's Bay Company to run the sheep ranch. He owned a few pigs and was well known for letting them run freely. Cutlar offered to pay Griffin \$10, but he wanted \$100 and told Cutlar that it was his job to keep Cutlar's potatoes out of Griffin's pig's mouth. Griffin reported American Cutlar to the local British authorities, which threatened to arrest him. This angered the resident American citizens who drew up a petition requesting United States military protection.

Meanwhile, Captain George Pickett and sixty-six American soldiers of the Ninth Infantry Regiment were sent to San Juan Island to prevent any more British from landing. Afraid that a squatter American population would take over the island, the British sent three warships under the command of

Captain Geoffrey Hornby. Pickett refused to withdraw and Hornby wisely decided to take no action until Rear Admiral Robert Lambert Baynes, commander of the British naval forces in the Pacific, arrived. His ship, the Ganges, had eighty-four guns. Baynes stated that he would 'not involve two great nations in a war over a squabble about a pig'.

By August 10th 1859, 461 men together with fourteen cannons under Lieutenant Colonel Silas Casey, reinforced Pickett's troops. The Americans dug in while the British held drills, firing their cannons at San Juan Island's cliffs. Tourists arriving by excursion boats from Victoria on Vancouver Island enjoyed watching all the naval action, while officers from both sides would attend church services aboard Captain Hornby's ship, the 'Satellite'. When news of the crisis finally reached Washington, officials from both nations were unaware of this bizarre situation and were shocked that it could grow into a potentially explosive international incident. American President James Buchanan sent General Winfield Scott, United States Army Commander, to the islands. The journey took him six weeks as he had to travel from New York via the Isthmus of Panama. He arranged for each nation to withdraw their reinforcements, with a single company of American soldiers left on San Juan Island and a British warship to be anchored off shore. This joint military occupation was to remain until a settlement was reached. In hindsight, some wondered if this 'war' had acted as a distraction from the approaching Civil War.

The two opposing sides got on well, even joining together in sports activities. As the American Civil War began on April 12th 1861, the United States postponed all San Juan talks. In 1871 the question was referred to Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany. Internationally admired as he unified Germany, he was entrusted with the arbitration. On October 21st 1872 he ruled in favour of the United States establishing the boundary line through Haro Strait. As a result, the San Juan Islands became American possessions and the final boundary between what, in 1867, was to become the Canadian Confederation and the United States was fixed.

In 1966 San Juan Island National Historical Park was created and includes the sites used by the British and United States Army as camps during the Pig War, where the only casualty was a pig! The Union Jack still flies over the British site, making it one of the few places without diplomatic status where United States government employees regularly hoist the flag of another country. The Park illustrates that individuals and nations can solve their problems without resorting to violence.

By Cheryl Devaney



Writers’ Corner - Short Stories/Articles from our Readers

WHAT CAN WE DO

In my Jeremiad last month I mentioned how prone we can be to throwing stones at those we deem not to be performing at their best. And indeed that is something to be avoided. But it's not that easy. When we see how things might be improved are we not somewhat obliged to suggest how this might be done? Isn't that a service that we shouldn't renege upon? We are adults and we have responsibilities. Aren't we all in shock at the Trump's reluctance to rein in Netanyahu and help the Ukrainians somewhat more? But then we very often have our own blind spots.

So instead of hurdling a few boulders this way and that, I may be allowed to flick a few pebbles in certain directions. For instance if I were a school principal and I wanted to get the staff and students genned up on the ugliness of litter around the school, I'd get someone from a town or village that had won the Tidy Towns competition to speak to the staff and the students assembled together. Or if my school were not being adequately represented at university level and I was concerned about this, I might get a university professor or enthusiastic lecturer to speak to the sixth years let's say. I'd put my money on someone who has a track record in the area of my concern. And I'd be very disappointed if the selected person arrived and gave a lethargic account of his/her commitment to the issue at hand.

Now I am not principal of a school but I do have strong ideas as to what topics deserve the greatest emphasis in the lives of people. Nothing is more important in people's lives than their spiritual formation. Death is a certainty. The body will crumble into its constituent elements, namely, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen but that's when life really begins. We are, after all, essentially spiritual beings, created in the likeness of God. Our priests are supposed to be the experts in matters pertaining to the life of the spirit. So I would expect them to keep me on the edge of my seat when they talk to my group about God and the spiritual life. Now if I am somewhat disappointed when a Tidy Towns person speaks about litter and with a university don falls flat when promoting university life, what would you expect my reaction to be to a priest who, after a homily, leaves me wondering "what was that about"? Shouldn't every word he speaks come from his own daily spiritual life? What right has he to be there telling me about something he hasn't himself lived and experienced? Jesus told his disciples not to worry about what they would say when dragged before nonbelievers. God would tell them what to say. Does he not tell his priests what to say when they have a church full of people who would love to hear God's word presented as such?

GM

Limerick

Bíonn an scéal i mbun bréige gan staon,
Mar an chábóg úd tugtha don léann;
Ach an scéal díobh is fearr,
Cibé fada nó gearr,
Tá “An Chruinne a chuir tús léi féin”!

GM

Conal Visits an Irish Immigrant

It was a sunny April's day with a touch of coldness. Across the drowsy Saturday afternoon street, in that part of west Manhattan formerly known as 'Hell's Kitchen', shadows from the 3-storied brownstone houses fell past the central traffic line, accentuating the stark brightness of similar houses on the opposite side. Large, slightly old, two-tone cars dozed by sidewalks or woke into life to go purring away with African-American families. An African-American fellow, hands in pockets and comfortably untidy, drifted along whistling the Elvis Presley hit song Wooden Heart, while a woman who was probably his wife, nuzzled the head of a baby in her arms as she followed him

Conal noted these things, but he was reluctant to allow himself to be affected either positively or negatively. There were too many people, too much drabness, too much strangeness beneath the surface. When a group of Puerto Rican youths stood watching him from the middle of a stoop he scarcely gave them a glance. The red-haired girl with tight slacks entering a car seemed to him the most alive thing in that drab expanse of street, but that was probably because she was Caucasian. When a sanitation truck arrived and men started emptying trashcans noisily, he climbed the stone steps to a house where Tom Mulvey lived.

After searching unsuccessfully for a bell button, he pushed the door and it yielded, admitting him to another, identical door about two feet further on with scratched paint and glass panels. The sunlight was bright here and when he peered through the glass he could see on one side a steep flight of wooden stairs that rose to a partly concealed landing. Nobody answered his knocking, though he felt there must have been people who heard it, people who waited in bored resignation for human companionship.

Conal stopped trying to open the door and decided to wait until some resident emerged. Lounging against the nearest wall, he picked up The Village Voice, a newspaper someone had dropped. It was dated April 5th 1961, so since this was April 8th it was almost new. He began reading while the sun streamed into his sheltered position. A few passersby looked up at the respectably dressed fellow loitering like a messenger boy, then continued on their way. He shouted, 'Anybody hear me?' then, receiving no reply, opened the street door and raced lightly down the steps. Turning sharply round the stoop, he found a side door leading to the basement and pressed the button. At first he heard nothing, but a slight lessening in the hum of traffic revealed a faint buzzing. When there was still no response, he gave up and mounted the outside steps again.

After about ten minutes a small man with a pockmarked face, dressed in shirt and trousers, approached from within, inquired in an Irish accent what he wanted and, on being told, went to check with Tom Mulvey, leaving the door ajar. Conal entered just in time to overhear a muffled voice saying, 'It's probably

that Scott lad' and, nodding in the affirmative to his guide, stepped past him into the grubby bedroom.

A hollow, unshaven face with a growth of stringy, grey head hair lay on the crumbled raggedness of the bed like a turnip on a hessian sack. Beside the bed a number of empty beer cans were sitting on the floor. The room had a dingy, unpleasant atmosphere that gave a grotesque quality to the invading sunlight and Conal felt a like transformation in himself as he crossed the creaking floor to grasp the bony hand offered to him.

'Hello Tom.'

'Hello. It's young Scott, isn't it?'

'Yep. Conal Scott. How are you doing Tom?'

'Oh, I'm doing as good as ever. Just resting for a while, but I'm the same as the last time you came.'

'Well, you look as good anyway.'

And so the conversation veered into a safe channel that denied the suggestion of anything unusual in their meeting. Conal met the pale, flickering eyes steadily, endeavouring to kindle a response in their vacant core and, whenever the reality of that room's wretchedness struck him, he managed to transfer his dismay into some casual observation.

Whatever physical decline had brought to Tom, it had also brought the final mercy of self-indifference, so that no shame marked his consciousness. He spoke with a wisdom that might have been gained over a thousand years instead of during a brief morning of existence followed by a blighted noonday and evening. Conal spoke to him gently, leading his recollections back to the years before he left Ireland.

'Why did you leave?' he asked him.

'Why did I leave? I suppose it was the usual thing. My brother, who was a few years older than me, got the farm and since I had only the national school education, the best I could manage was a job in my uncle Jim's grocery. But the man who was in charge there, a real cute operator, got me sacked for drinking. Not that I ever drank on the job, but I would have a few Guinness's in the room where I slept, and he was able to show the empty bottles to my uncle. That was the clincher. Well, I've said enough. He owns the shop now and good luck to him and his family.'

Conal had enough gumption not to press him further on his sacking. Instead they spoke of Ireland and the names of towns and villages: Ballaghaderreen, Collooney, Athlone, Sligo, Ballina, Galway, Droimeen, Enagh, Woodbrook, passed through the beer-stained mouth like a litany: and always at the end it would be his home town of Carrick-on-Shannon, a name with the power to give memories of childhood a fleeting reality among the uncaring west-side houses with their thousands of separate souls preoccupied with their own cares and their own memories.

Colin Scott



MAYNOOTH WRITER AND MUSICIAN

PETE MCCLUSKEY

PUBLISHES A NEW BOOK WITH

ALL PROCEEDS GOING TO CHARITY

Pete has just published his latest novel, Long Story Short. It's a Humorous look at life through the eyes of two good friends who meet daily in their local bar to discuss, chat, and moan about whatever comes into their heads.

"The book is a collection of mini-stories rather than a continuous, one-story novel," says Pete. "The two main characters get to banter about the government, their yoga class, meeting famous people, or their teenage kids costing them a fortune for Electric Picnic tickets and new mobile phones."

"To be honest, many of the stories were inspired by overhearing people chatting in my local bars, coffee shops, and even Tesco. It's absolutely amazing — and so funny — when you hear these snippets of conversation. I found myself immediately jotting them down on my phone as I stood in the queue in the supermarket or the local chipper. Before I knew it, I had pages and pages of funny anecdotes and ideas to turn into a fiction book. It's true what they say — people say the funniest things."

Once again, Pete has decided to donate all proceeds from the sale of the book to Saint Francis Hospice in Dublin — an organisation Pete is extremely grateful to, as in recent years they provided end-of-life care with great kindness to both his father and his sister.

"I've opened up a GoFundMe page and would be delighted if people would donate something small to this event. In return, I'll send them a signed copy of the book. I'm not expecting anyone to donate huge sums — just maybe the price of a fancy cup of coffee or a beer would be great."

The GoFundMe address is: www.gofundme.com/f/long-story-short-for-saint-francis-hospice

A Piece from "Long Story Short"

We Are Livin' In A Material World

-Air fryers, Des. What's your thinkin?
 -It's a gimmick, Martin.
 -Ya think?
 -No doubt. I mean it's just like a miniature oven or grill, isn't it?
 -I don't know. Don't know what they do. Her indoors is bangin on about getting one.
 -They're expensive, Martin.
 -I know. She's talkin' about buying a double basket one for €300.
 -€300! Holy Mother of God!
 -I know. I've better things to be spendin' me hard earned money on then an air fryer. Godfrey - a pint of porter when you're ready.

The GoFundMe address is:
www.gofundme.com/f/long-story-short-for-saint-francis-hospice

BOOK LAUNCH

IRELAND'S UNCROWNED KINGS

A STORY OF POWER, INTRIGUE, AND REBELLION FROM THE HEART OF MAYNOOTH

From the Norman invasion to the heights of becoming Dukes of Leinster, the FitzGerald dynasty's story is one of power, intrigue, and betrayal. Ireland's Uncrowned Kings traces the remarkable rise, dramatic falls, and enduring legacy of one of Ireland's most influential families, whose fate was deeply tied to the land and people of County Kildare.

Authors Alan Cleary and Katherine Colthurst – local historians and expert tour guides – bring to life the FitzGerald pivotal role in Irish history.

Explore their Yorkist loyalties during the Wars of the Roses, their near downfall after the Silken Thomas Rebellion of 1534, and the devastation of Maynooth Castle during the Confederate Wars. Through meticulous research and vivid storytelling, this book reveals how the FitzGerald navigated centuries of political upheaval, shifting alliances, and personal ambition to secure their place as Ireland's uncrowned royalty.

Set against the backdrop of Maynooth and the rolling landscapes of Kildare, Ireland's Uncrowned Kings is a gripping tale of a family who shaped the course of Irish history. It's a story of resilience, betrayal, and the enduring connection between a dynasty and the land they called home.

Perfect for history lovers and anyone fascinated with the rich tapestry of Ireland's past, this book is a must-read for understanding the forces that shaped a nation.



Maynooth Bookshop
Main Street,
Maynooth, Co. Kildare.



September 18th 2025



6:30pm–7:30pm



VIKING SPLASH TOURS



The Viking Splash With My Nephew

I had the pleasure of taking my 10 year old nephew Logan on the Viking Splash, and it turned out to be so much fun.

From the moment we climbed on board the bright yellow vehicle, his excitement was contagious. My nephew hung on to every word the guide said, grinning from ear to ear as we learned some quirky facts about the city, while shouting playful Viking calls at passers-by. The highlight was when we entered the water. My nephew's eyes widened with excitement as he shouted "here we go!" when the boat made a splash into the water. By the time we rolled back on land we were full of giddy excitement. For him it was magic, he still talks about the trip and how much fun it was. It was a shared adventure full of laughs and surprises and I couldn't have picked a better companion to experience it with.

I highly recommend.

NEWSLETTER STAFF WRITER: JACKIE

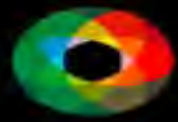
DON'T FEAR THE TIDES,
CONQUER THEM LIKE YOU'RE A
VIKING WITH THE VIKING SPLASH



ADULTS, €35 ; CHILDREN (3-14 YEARS), €29 ;
FAMILY (2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN). FAMILY (2
ADULTS & 3 CHILDREN). €110. €135 ; STUDENTS
(STUDENT ID REQUIRED). €32 ; SENIOR ...

info@vikingsplashdublin.

DURATION:
1 HOUR AND 15 MINUTES



CULTURE NIGHT

ONE NIGHT FOR ALL



• 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 • 19 SEPT 2025 •

We are spoiled for choice on Culture Night which falls on September 19th this year.


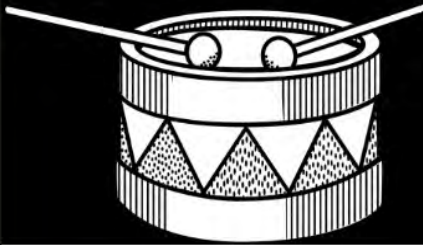


In Maynooth, from 4pm to 5:30, Rachel Sweeney will be at Maynooth Train Station presenting a workshop incorporating ecology and holistic health for those who might like to attune to their environment and get out of their heads. There will be a guided walk, embodied movement along the canal and also in the playing fields. Contact rachelsweeney2021@gmail.com for booking & information.





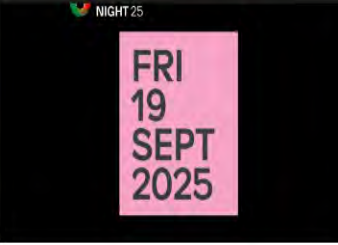
From 5:30 to 7pm, Dr. Edmund Chapman celebrates migrant voices—speakers of African descent, Jewish and traveller voices, along with those of Brazilian and Indian heritage will be included. Venue to be finalised at time of writing and Dr. Chapman can be reached at Edmund.Chapman@mu.ie.

St. Mary's Church of Ireland will be filled with music commencing at 6pm, stay as long as you like, or pop in and out to hear a variety of performers including Maynooth's Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, the Beauty and the Bass duo, Conrad Brunstrom Musings, and singer-songwriters Conner Bowman, and Harriet.

Mór Laughs Comedy will present a night at O'Neills showcasing Kildare comedy voices—the line-up promises to be diverse and may even include a name or two you would recognise.

CDG Arts presents a diverse mix of live music, dance, poetry, and an exhibition of fashion Junk Kouture on Enfield's main street. Music presented will include young bands from the Blast Music Academy and Enfield Community College. Adult Music performers include the new SUSO Enfield Community Choir, The Motherpluckers Ukuele group, and Enfield Comhaltas Ceoltóirí. A diverse Dance line-up will include young local dance and drama from GK stage Academy, Embrace Dance Academy present young ballerinas, Connolly school of Irish dancing, and a unique presentation from Nirthya Natyalya Bharatanatyam of fusion Irish-Indian dance. Enfield Poetry Circle showcase their 1st year of poems. Live music and dance performance at Enfield Library Courtyard, A83X920 from 6.30 -10pm, Poetry Shebeen 10-10.30pm & Comhaltas Irish traditional music at The Midland Bar, A83AF86 10 - 11.30pm. There will also be the ECC Junk Couture Exhibition at Lady M Boutique A83AV60. These and more events can be found at culturenight.ie, where you can easily search for your town or village.

 <p>Damai Sound Reggae Rock</p> <p>Damai Sound was born from a deep love for collecting, playing, and producing roots reggae and dub music. The J...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damai Soundsystem, Maynooth Kildare Maynooth 16:00 - 20:00 	 <p>Drumming and Rhythm Workshop for Families</p> <p>On Culture Night come to Maynooth Library for an exciting drumming and rhythm workshop for children and fami...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maynooth Community Library Maynooth Kildare 16:00 - 17:00 	 <p>Friday Coffee Drama! Immersive Theatre Trail</p> <p>Are you always trying to listen in and catch those dramatic details being discussed by the strangers opposite ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cruthú Creative Wellbeing, Main Street Maynooth Maynooth Kildare 16:30 - 17:30 	 <p>Ireland: Land of a Thousand Welcomes?</p> <p>Did you know St Patrick was a migrant to Ireland? For thousands of years, Ireland's history and culture has ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Edmund Chapman, Maynooth University, Iontas Building, Room 1.33 (first floor) Maynooth Kildare 17:30 - 19:00
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 <p>Mór Laughs presents: The Best of Kildare Comedy</p> <p>Mór Laughs Comedy, well known in Kildare, presents a night dedicated to the many male, female and non-binary ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mór Laughs, O'Neills Bar and Restaurant Maynooth Kildare 20:00 - 22:30 	 <p>Open Evening and Entertainment at St. Mary's</p> <p>The programme for the evening will commence at 6pm. There will be several performers including Conrad Brunst...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Mary's Church of Ireland Maynooth Kildare 18:00 - 21:30 	 <p>Shifting States: A Moving Ecologies Workshop with Rachel Sweeney</p> <p>Rachel Sweeney's inclusive ecology and holistic health approach uses embodied movement, art and nature-based...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maynooth University, Maynooth Train Station Maynooth Kildare 16:00 - 17:30 	 <p>St Mary's Brass and Reed Academy Band Maynooth</p> <p>Join St. Mary's Brass and Reed Academy Band for an enjoyable evening of the music you love. The Academy ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Mary's Brass and Reed Academy Band Maynooth, The Square, Maynooth Maynooth Kildare 20:00 - 21:00 	 <p>Visit the National Science and Ecclesiology Museum at St Patrick's College Maynooth</p> <p>There is first, the large group of scientific instruments mostly associated with Nicholas Callan of which a fu...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Patrick's College Maynooth Kildare 16:00 - 20:00
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For more information: https://culturenight.ie/events/?_sft_location=maynooth

Maynooth Heritage Trail

A project by Maynooth Tidy Towns with the support and funding from Kildare County Council



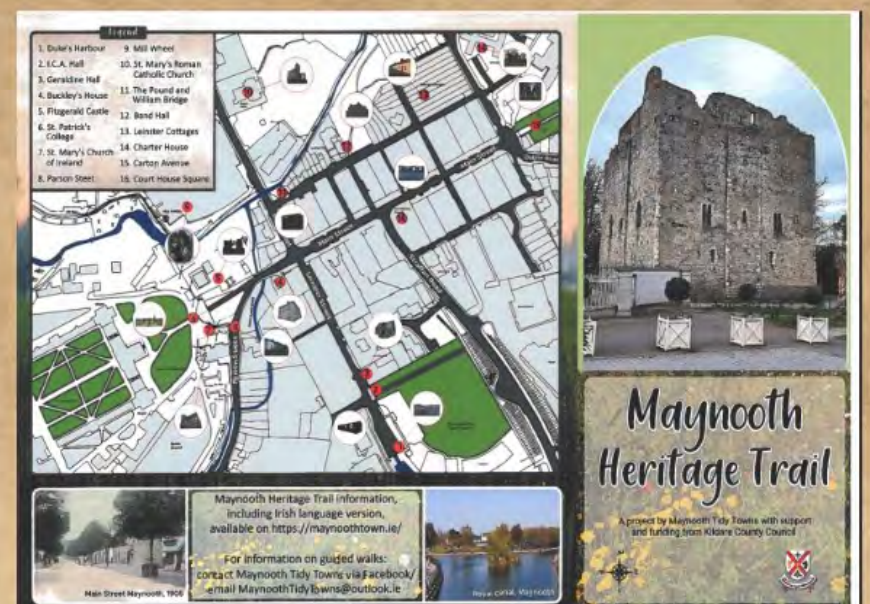
On Saturday the 23rd of August, my work colleague and I decided to do the Maynooth Heritage Walk, and it turned out to be an enjoyable experience. We both live in and around Maynooth, but walking through Maynooth with our guides we learned new things about Maynooth that we did not know, it was so educational, Maynooth is steeped in history. The walk guided us through a mix of old street, ruins, and landmarks, each with its own story. The trail started at Duke's Harbour, visiting the Church of Ireland and passing Maynooth Castle/College, where the sheer size of the medieval walls made us stop and imagine what life might have been like hundreds of years ago. From there, the route led us through the heart of the town and out towards the Court House and Carton Avenue, with plenty of little details along the way that we might have overlooked. What made it special was that the history seemed to come alive. Even simple places, like bridges, carried stories that gave us a new appreciation for Maynooth. We really enjoyed taking our time, pointing out interesting details to each other, and soaking in the mix of culture, history, and atmosphere. It was not just educational-it was fun and relaxing too. By the end, both of us had worked up an appetite and agreed that the heritage walk had given us a fresh take on Maynooth, making it feel less like just another town and more like a place layered with stories worth hearing and remembering. We can both highly recommend doing this heritage trail. You can contact them to arrange tours details are below.

Newsletter Staff Writers: Jackie & Martina



Maynooth Heritage Trail Information, including Irish language version, available on <https://maynoothtown.ie/>

For information on guided walks:
contact Maynooth Tidy Towns
via Facebook/email
MaynoothTidyTowns@outlook.ie



Booklets are available at Maynooth Newsletter Office

ROYAL CANAL AMENITY GROUP NOTES - "DUKES ISLAND"

The Island shown below, located in Maynooth Harbour, was initially a spur of the moment decision during refurbishment of the canal. The island has been with us since approximately 1980. It has been home to countless swan families in this time, though sadly we are without such a family this year. It provides easy turning facilities for boats large and small and is a wild life sanctuary for flora and fauna. Currently it is becoming a bit overgrown but is not affecting boat traffic just yet. In the near future consideration will have to be given to a 'tidy up' to ensure clear vision for boaters. This, however, will have to be a delicate, well-planned operation carried out in a careful and considerate manner having regard to the safety of both wildlife and operational staff. Unless I am mistaken, the people of the Maynooth area can boast of having the only island on the entire canal.

ROYAL CANAL GREENWAY UPDATE

It is good to be able to report that the city section of the Greenway between Binn's Bridge and Cross Gun's Bridge is now complete and re-opened. While the work did take considerable time, it was well worth the wait. Completed also and re-opened is the section between Louisa Bridge and Deey Bridge. The section between Pikes Bridge and Deey Bridge is now re-opened too and has a second Greenway path for leisure cycling and scooters only.

This new path is alongside the thoroughfare formally known as the N-4 which has now been replaced by the M-4 Motorway. While this new path is fenced in and safe, parents of younger cycling children should be vigilant at all times. The two paths are clearly signposted and these instructions should always be followed to ensure the safety of all users. Also open to facilitate the late summer season is the section from Pikes Bridge, roughly halfway between Maynooth and Leixlip, to Mullen Bridge in Maynooth. Although some very minor works remain to be finished in this section, the path has been fully completed. The sections mentioned have been finished with different surfaces in different areas. Areas near towns, bridges and locks have been finished with Tarmacadam while areas further out the country have been finished with a product called Aggregate. This is a gravelly type of product, so it will always be both prudent and very necessary for leisure cyclists / scooterists to exercise great care in these areas.

The code of conduct for the Greenway has been revised, and copies have been posted in the refurbished areas and adjacent to 'Traffic Calming Facilities' in these areas. I will allude to this code at a later date. If we all endeavour to show respect and consideration, then users will be safe and therefore feel content to use this wonderful facility.

Finally, news has just arrived that a 46km Blueway walking and leisure cycling path on our sister canal -The Grand - from Robertstown to Athy will be complete by January-March 2026, having commenced in 2020. Waterways Ireland announced this in response to a query from Kildare North T.D. Aiden Farrelly. This will be a big boost for walkers and cyclists in the county.

Gerry Fitzpatrick



Maynooth Harbour



The two Greenway paths at Pikes bridge (photo Fitsfoto)

P. Lavin & Sons Ltd.

Ice Cream & Frozen Food Distributors

Distributors for
Nestle, Cadbury
and Froneri

Moyglare Cross, Maynooth,
Co Kildare, W23 H2W8
01-628 6331 • 01-628 9188
info@lavins.ie

VAN SALES/DELIVERY DRIVER required for **P.LAVIN & SONS LTD.** based at Maynooth, Co. Kildare.

Are you an energetic, customer-focused individual looking for a new opportunity? We are looking for a Van Sales/Delivery Driver to join our team.

Key Responsibilities

- Deliver ice cream and frozen food to retailers and customers daily in Leinster area
- Maintain high standards of customer service at all drop-off points.
- Manage cash, order paperwork, and deal with customers in a professional manner.
- Build and develop positive relationships with customers.
- Ensure delivery vehicle is kept clean, tidy and in optimum condition.
- Maintain vehicle and complete daily and weekly vehicle checklists as required

Requirements:

- Full clean category C1 Licence and up to date CPC's.
- Good communication skills and a positive attitude.
- Reliability and punctuality.
- Previous experience in van sales or delivery industry is an advantage but full training will be given.

What we offer:

- Competitive salary and commission.
- On site parking

Please send your cv to info@lavins.ie

BACK-TO-SCHOOL

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2025

SET UP FOR SUCCESS

It is important that yourself or your kids start each year with the necessary materials and mindset needed to be successful. This includes completing assigned activities, having a positive attitude, and participating in class.

TIPS FOR A SMOOTH MORNING

- Plan outfits ahead if the school does not have a uniform. By doing this it saves time on their busy mornings.
- Pack lunches the night before.
- Label Everything. Prevents things from getting lost in the class room.

TIPS FOR ORGINISATION

- Use a family calendar. This will help keep track of assignments, sports and events you may have going on in the month.
- Review schoolwork and homework together. This will encourage learning and confidence.

TIPS FOR BETTER SLEEP

- Establish a bedtime routine. We all need a goodnight sleep for those early mornings.
- Limit screen time before bed. Helps us and kids wind down for sleep.

SPOOK - TACULAR Halloween Fun

IN KILDARE!

Early booking is advised to avoid disappointment.



Spooky Season

With spooky season just around the corner, Kildare is gearing up for a Halloween like no other! Whether you're looking for family - friendly fun, chilling ghost tours, or an eerie adventure through haunted landscapes, there's something for everyone this October. Here's a roundup of 4 Halloween events happening in the county:

28th - 31st Oct

Halloween at the Irish National Stud & Gardens
Price - €12 Adults, €8 Children (Under 5s Free)

Get ready for a spook - tacular time at the Irish National Stud! Enjoy a range of activities including a haunted trail through the magical gardens, storytelling sessions with witches & wizards, and pumpkin carving workshops. Little ones can also meet some eerie creatures on the animal farm, while adults can take part in a special Halloween - themed garden tour.

Location - Irish National Stud, Tully, Kildare

Every Fri & Sat in Oct

Kildare Town Ghost Tour For Adults & Teens
Price - €15 Per Person

Embark on a spine - chilling ghost tour around the historic streets of Kildare Town. Led by a knowledgeable guide, explore the haunted spots, hear eerie tales of the town's past, and maybe even encounter some paranormal activity. A Great way to experience Halloween from a local perspective, and who knows, you might catch a glimpse of a ghost or two!

Location - Kildare Town



Oct 29th - 31st

Halloween Spooktacular at
Kilkea Castle
Price - €30 per family (up to 4 people)

Kilkea Castle hosts a family - friendly Halloween extravaganza! The event features a haunted castle tour, spooky crafts, and face painting, along with a thrilling "Trick or Treat" trail. Kids can also enjoy fancy dress competition with prizes for the scariest, funniest, and most creative costumes. The event ends with a fun, interactive Halloween show for all ages.

Location - Kilkea Castle, Castledermot, Kildare

22nd - 31st Oct

The Kildare Maze Halloween
Festival
Price - €12 Adults, €8 Children

This Halloween, venture into the spooky Kildare Maze, where eerie surprises await! The maze is specially transformed for the season, with creepy characters lurking in every corner. Enjoy a variety of Halloween - themed games, a pumpkin patch, and a haunted maze challenge. There's also a fire pit area to relax and enjoy seasonal treats like hot chocolate and marshmallows.

Location - Kildare Maze, Ballaghstown, Kildare

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth

Know Your Rights has been compiled by Citizens Information Servicewhich provides a free and confidential

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie

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



Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA) is a payment to help families with the cost of school uniforms and shoes. Many families get the BSCFA automatically. If you are paid automatically, you don't need to apply for the BSCFA. You will get notified on your MyWelfare account or by post by 9 June 2025. If you are not notified by 9 June 2025, you will need to apply for the BSCFA.

Rates of BSCFA 2025

Child's age on 30 September	Rate of payment
Age 4-11	€160
Age 12-22	€285*

The closing date to apply for the Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance is 30 September 2025

You are getting a qualifying social welfare payment, or are participating in an approved employment, education or training support scheme. Your household is within the BSCFA income limits (see 'Income limits' below). You and each child you claim the BSCFA for are resident in Ireland.

If you are getting a social welfare payment, you must be getting a Child Support Payment (previously called an Increase for a Qualified Child or IQC) with your payment. There are some exceptions to this.

See a list of qualifying payments and schemes go to the website:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/86a6ba-operational-guidelines-back-to-school-clothing-and-footwear-scheme/> or tel: (071) 919 3318 or 0818 111 113.

Thinking of Returning to Education

Adult Learners Returning to Education

You may have left school early, be unemployed, or want to reskill for a new job. No matter your reason for wanting to return to education, there are many options available to you and a range of supports.

You can return to education with a full-time course or a part-time course.

You don't need to have completed the Junior Cycle or Leaving Certificate to take part in many full-time courses or part-time courses.

There are adult literacy supports to help with reading, writing and maths.

There are opportunities to study for the Leaving Certificate or other certificates. There are also a wide range of courses linked to business and industry.

Many courses are provided by your local Education and Training Board. You may also qualify for a free course under the Back to Education Initiative (BTEI).

Evening Classes

Evening classes can offer you a social way to learn or to get a qualification.

Evening classes take place during term time in Education and Training Boards (ETBs), schools, colleges and universities throughout the country.

The courses on offer vary from centre to centre, so you should look around if you have interests you'd like to pursue.

Courses with an Entry Requirement

Some courses are only open to you if you have completed your second-level education (post-primary school). However, you should check the with the school or college, as some courses make exceptions for mature students and people returning to education.

Courses with an Entry Requirement can Include:

Post Leaving Certificate courses

College-based training courses for apprentices

Springboard+ courses

Full-time and part-time third-level courses.

Can I get a Qualification with Adult Education?

Yes, you can get a qualification with many adult education courses.

Getting a qualification is not always a goal for learners, but you can get

advice from your local ETB.

The National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ) outlines the levels of qualifications across the Irish education and training system. It shows how you can move from informal education (starting with a part-time course or evening class) to further education, and then to higher education.

Help for Adults Returning to Education

Education and Training Boards

Education and Training Boards (ETBs) are the main providers of adult education through local schools and colleges. Education and Training Boards Ireland (ETBI) also has a list of Adult Guidance Services.

The Right Course Portal

You can get more information on courses, how to access them, and the supports available on The Right Course portal.

Qualifax

Qualifax has a database of all further education courses. It can help you make an informed choice about your education, training, and career path.

Adult Educational Guidance and Information

The Adult Educational Guidance and Information Service provides free career and education guidance to adults who want to return to education and training.

This service is available to:

Everyone over 18, and

People over 16 who are not in full-time education.

The service prioritises people who are unemployed.

It is confidential and you can get one-to-one guidance or group guidance to help you make an informed decision about your education, career and life choices.

AONTAS

AONTAS (the Irish National Association of Adult Education) provides adult education and lifelong learning.

You can find information about community education happening in your local area using the AONTAS Community Education Map.

National Adult Literacy Agency

The National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA) helps adults with literacy difficulties.

NALA runs free courses to help you improve your reading, writing, maths, and technology skills.

With NALA, you can learn:

In a group

One-to-one

Online

Over the phone

You can contact NALA on Freephone 1800 20 20 65.

You can also use the Learn with NALA website to get a qualification up to Level 3. Or, you can browse NALA's available courses.

Guide for Mature Students

Visit the Mature Students Ireland website for information on admission requirements for higher education.

Financial Supports

Depending on your situation, you may be eligible for financial supports to return to education.

The range of possible supports include:

Back to Education Programme

Back to Education Allowance

Training allowances

You can contact your local Citizens Information Centre for information about the financial supports available to you. You can also read about the financial supports for training and education on Gov.ie.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

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



How to Apply for Adult Education

You can contact your local ETB and college for details on the courses in your area.

You can also search for courses on Qualifax or the Further Education and Training Course Hub.

Fuel Allowance

Fuel Allowance is a payment to help with the cost of heating your home during the winter months.

You can get Fuel Allowance if you are aged 66 years or over, or getting long-term social welfare payments. (Access the full list below).

The current rate of payment is €33 every week from 22 September 2025 until beginning of April 2026. you can choose to get two instalments or get it weekly. **Only one Fuel Allowance is paid to each household.**

How to qualify

If you are aged 66 years or over

You may qualify for Fuel Allowance if you are 66 years or over. You do not need to be getting a qualifying social welfare payment.

To qualify you must:

be aged 66 or over

be legally resident in the State

pass a means test

be living alone or only with other qualified people

You may qualify for a Fuel Allowance if you are getting:

Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance (if qualified)

Blind Pension

Carer's Allowance

Death Benefit Pension under the Occupational Injuries Scheme

Deserted Wife's Benefit or Allowance

Disability Allowance

Farm Assist

Guardian's Payment (Contributory or Non-Contributory)

Incapacity Supplement under the Disablement Pension Scheme

Invalidity Pension

Jobseeker's Transitional Payment

Jobseeker's Allowance (if qualified)

One-Parent Family Payment

Revenue Job Assist

Social Security Payment (of which there is an Irish equivalent payment)

from a country covered by EU Regulations or a country with which Ireland has a Bilateral Social Security Agreement

State Pension Contributory or Non-contributory

Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's Pension Contributory or Non-contributory

Living situation

You may qualify for a Fuel Allowance if you live alone or only with:

a person aged 66 years or over

a dependent adult or dependent child

a person who is getting a qualifying payment but is not receiving Fuel Allowance (only one Fuel Allowance is paid to each household)

a person who is getting Carer's Benefit and is caring for you or for your dependent adult or dependent child

a person getting short term Jobseeker's Allowance or Basic Supplementary Welfare Allowance

a person who gets half-rate Carer's Allowance as well as an increase for a dependent adult

Since January 2023, half-rate Carer's Allowance and Disablement Benefit payments are not included in the Fuel Allowance means test.

If you are living with a person who is aged 66 or over, it may be better for your household if they apply for Fuel Allowance.

You should submit the completed form at least one month before the Fuel Allowance season starts. If you submit it during the season, your payment will continue to be paid weekly until the next instalment is due. Please note the instalment option is not available on all schemes. This form is also

available from: your local post office and your local Intreo Centre or you can apply on MyWelfare.ie

If you apply late, the department cannot backdate your allowance.

Household Benefits Package

The Household Benefits Package (HBP) helps with the cost of your electricity or gas bill and the TV licence.

You do not have to be living alone to get the Household Benefits Package.

Only one person in a household can apply.

You can get the Household Benefits Package if you are aged 70 or over.

You do not need to be getting a State pension and the package is not means tested.

People under 70 can also get the HBP, but additional rules apply – see

<https://www.gov.ie/en/service/e87d27-household-benefits-package/>

How to qualify for the Household Benefits Package

Be living in Ireland (full-time, all year round)

Be the only person in your household getting the HBP

Be aged 70 or over

Be aged under 70 and meet the additional rules for 'People aged under 70' set out below

Have the electricity or gas bill in your name if you are applying for to have an Electricity or Gas Allowance paid as a credit on your bill

You do not need the bill to be in your name if you are applying to get the Electricity or Gas Allowance paid as cash to your bank or post office account, or if the bill is in your landlord's name (check Gov.ie).

People aged under 70

If you are under 70 you can get the Household Benefits Package, if you are getting a qualifying social welfare payment – see below.

If you are under 70 and living with your spouse, cohabitant or civil partner, you can get the HBP if you are getting a qualifying social welfare payment and:

You are getting an increase in your qualifying social welfare payment for them (see list of qualifying social welfare payments below), or

They are getting their own qualifying social welfare payment listed below, or
They are getting a social welfare payment not listed below and they satisfy a means test

You can live with other adults (who are not your spouse, cohabitant or civil partner) and get the HBP.

Qualifying social welfare payments for people under 70

You are between 66 and 70:

State Pension (Contributory)

State Pension (Non-Contributory)

Bereaved Partner's (Contributory) Pension

Deserted Wife's Benefit

Carer's Allowance (full or half-rate payment), but you must be living with the person you are caring for.

An ordinary Garda Widow's Pension from the Department of Justice, Home Affairs and Migration

An equivalent Social Security Pension or Benefit from a country covered by EU Regulations or from a country with which Ireland has a Bilateral Social Security Agreement

If you are aged between 66 and 70 and not getting one of the payments above, you may qualify for the Household Benefits Package if you pass a means test.

Once you qualify for the Household Benefits Package, you can get a free Television (TV) Licence from your next TV Licence renewal date. You must select the Television Licence option on the HBP form when you apply.

You will get a free TV licence for as long as you get the Household Benefits Package.

You can find out more about the Household Benefits Package.

How to apply for the Household Benefits Package

You can apply online for the Household Benefits Package using MyWelfare.ie, if you have a MyGovID account.



Events at **Maynooth Community Library**



For further information contact: www.kildare.ie/librarymaynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie Ph: 01-6285530
facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService twitter.com/kildarelibrary

Events for Children

KCC Play Day : Family Board Games Afternoon

Saturday 6th September, 2pm - 4pm

To celebrate KCC Play Day , Maynooth Community Library is hosting a Family Board Games Afternoon ! Why not call in to the library between 2pm - 4pm for some screen free time for all the family and join in a game of boggle, scrabble as Gaeilge, Monopoly, Guess Who, Game of Life Junior and more !
 All children attending this event must be accompanied by a parent / guardian.

***Drop in. No booking required ***

Zero Waste Maynooth

Saturday 13th September, 2pm – 4pm

Join a free community event with Zero Waste Maynooth as it hosts its ladies clothes swap shop. Bring up to three pieces of clean clothes in good repair and swap for something new to you! All sizes and brands welcome. Enjoy swapping clothes as a way to tackle textile waste and save some money!

Chat to volunteers from Cloth Nappy Library Ireland. A massive way to save waste and save money. So simple to use, drop by and chat to a volunteer for a quick demonstration on how cloth nappies work.

With thanks to Kildare County Council, we are delighted to welcome back, Vanessa from The Craft Corner. Vanessa will have her Sewing Machine and hand sewing equipment to show you how to repair your clothes. This drop in service will allow you to learn skills to keep your clothes longer. Keeping our clothes in good repair saves on buying new, which is great for the environment and your pocket.

Kids toy swap - bring one, take one! Let's get the kids used to the idea of swapping before buying! Small toys only and no baby equipment. Kildare County Council supports the following UN Sustainable Development Goals: 10: Reduced Inequality; GOAL 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities; GOAL 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; GOAL 13: Climate Action

Culture Night

Culture Night : Drumming Workshop for ages 12+ with Sound out Rhythm

Friday 19th September, 4.00 pm – 5.00 pm

The Sound Out Rhythm Workshop isn't just an educational session of learning but an experience of rhythm. Feeling that buzz we hope for when playing music is something Conor strives to deliver every single time. Conor has been performing this workshop for 17 years now, he began when he was 16 and it's still going strong.

All children attending this event must be accompanied by a parent/ guardian.

Booking link : <https://kildare.spydus.ie/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/EVSESENQ?SETLVL=&RNI=20980800>

Events for Adults

Luain Press Poetry Café

Tuesday 2nd September , 6.00pm – 7.00 pm

After a brief hiatus, the Luain Press Poetry Club is back! Come by the Maynooth Community Library at 6 p.m. on Tuesday the 2nd of September for all things poetry - read, share and create! See you there! All welcome!

International Literacy Day : 3D Printer demonstration for Adults

Monday 8th September, 3pm - 4pm

A part of International literacy day and to support Digital Literacy Skills, Maynooth Community Library will be giving a staff-led demonstration of the library 3D printer. Why not call in to the library between 3pm - 4pm to view the 3D printer in action and to learn about how it works?

Drop in. No booking required

Age Friendly Coffee Morning

Wednesday 10th September , 10.00 am – 11.30 am

As part of our Age Friendly Programme, drop in for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat with library staff and find out more about the libraries online and other services.

Drop In. No booking required

Homelessness and Housing Support Clinic

Thursday 11th September , 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 ***

Ecofeminist Book Club

Thursday 18th September , 7.00pm - 7.50pm


This eco-feminist book club meets every three months in a different Kildare library, hosted by practitioners from Dúlra Forest School. They will be bringing their experience of working in Irish nature to the circle, fostering (cothú) ideas for sustainable pathways where individuals, communities, and nature thrive. Join us to sit in counsel and comhrá, sparking meaningful conversations for a greener, more harmonious future.

Copies of the book will be available on loan from your library 3 weeks before the event - please bring your copy along to the club. All welcome! Our third meeting in Maynooth Library will be to discuss the book Silent Spring by Rachel Carson.

Other dates and books in this series:


Newbridge Library, Thurs 27th November: An Irish Atlantic Rainforest, by Eoghan Dalton

Booking Link: <https://kildare.spydus.ie/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/EVSESENQ?SETLVL=&RNI=20626082>



Events at Maynooth Community Library

For further information contact: www.kildare.ie/librarymaynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie Ph: 01-6285530
facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService twitter.com/kildarelibrary



(Continued from page 32)

Exhibitions

Natures Best

Exhibition in Acrylic by EVE/HSE Larine
Sept 3rd – 30th Sept 2025

We are excited to invite you to the art exhibition of a group of artists from EVE/HSE Larine. Eve Larine is a service in Maynooth, supporting people with mental health challenges. The popular art programme facilitated by Marta Golubowska is an important part of maintaining the positive wellbeing of the participants. Come and see the progress of our excellent artists in Maynooth Library!

To find out more about EVE Larine call 01 6289465 or visit eve.ie.

Exhibition Bookings

If you are a local artist or art group and would like to book our exhibition space, please contact us. Maynooth Community Library's Exhibition Space is available to host exhibitions from October 2026.

To be placed on a waiting list to use the exhibition space in 2025, or for **booking enquiries, please email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie**.

Groups and Clubs

‘Knit + Chat ‘ Craft Club

Thursday 11th September , 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](mailto:maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie) for queries about the ‘Knit+Chat’ Craft Club.

*** Drop in, no booking required ***

Maynooth Community Library Craft Club

The Library Craft Club meets every Monday , 11.30am - 13.00 (except on Bank Holidays).

Bring something you are working on, and exchange ideas and skills with this social craft group.

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!

To find out about more events that are happening in Maynooth Community Library, why not subscribe to our monthly events newsletter at the link below.

Email Subscription Form - Kildare Library Service
<https://kildarecoco.ie/library/newsletter/index.html>

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 24/07/2025 to 21/08/2025 Information from Kildare County Council Website				
App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
2560952	Kildare County Council	Kevin and Geraldine O'Sullivan	7 Parklands Way, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	21/08/2025
2560951	Kildare County Council	Olivia O'Connor	36 Straffan Drive, Maynooth, Straffan Wood, Co. Kildare	21/08/2025
2560935	Kildare County Council	Sarah Holmes	Barrogstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	18/08/2025
25138	Kildare County Council	Brian Moran	Sonas, Laragh, Maynooth, Co Kildare	15/08/2025
2560900	Kildare County Council	Sean and Andrea Coyle	122 Castledawson, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	06/08/2025
2560877	Kildare County Council	Glenveagh Homes Ltd.	Parson Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	01/08/2025
25132	Kildare County Council	Brian Moran	Sonas, Laragh, Maynooth, Co Kildare	31/07/2025
2560858	Kildare County Council	Brian Noone	Units 7&8 Mill Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	29/07/2025

GARDENING

September is a great time for gardening, with mild weather and enough sunlight for plants spring bulbs like daffodils and tulips, transplanting perennials and shrubs, and harvesting summer and autumn vegetables.

It is also a good time to prepare for winter by planting winter bedding, sowing green manure and doing autumn lawn care.

Checklist For Planting Now

Spring Bulbs: Daffodils, Tulips and Crocuses

Perennials and Shrubs: September is an ideal time for transplanting existing perennials and shrubs or planting new ones, especially those that are in pots

Autumn and Spring Bedding: Plant autumn and spring bedding to extend the season of colour in your garden

Vegetables: Spring cabbage, purple sprouting broccoli, lettuce, kale, and spinach

Green Manure: Sow green manure seeds on bare vegetable plots to improve soil health over winter

Sourced: www.hygeia.ie & www.google.com



Important Tasks

Pruning: prune summer-flowering shrubs after they finish blooming to encourage new growth

Deadheading: Deadhead spent flowers on summer and autumn annuals and perennials to promote continued blooming

Lawn Care: Repair lawn damage, overseed bare patches, and prepare for winter with scarifying, aerating, top-dressing and feeding

Pond Care: Net ponds to prevent leaves from falling in and causing problems

Greenhouse Maintenance: Clean out greenhouses and remove shading to maximize light during the shorter days

Dividing Perennials: Divide large clumps of perennials like crocosmias and euphorbias to invigorate them

Protecting Plants: Raise pots on feet to prevent waterlogging and frost damage over winter

Seed Saving: Collect seeds from open-pollinated varieties of your favourite plants, like tomatoes

Plant for Winter Colour: Planting hardy plants like cyclamen, pansies, violas, and bellis to add winter interest to your garden

Vegetables: Keep an eye on the ripeness of your crops to ensure you pick them at their peak. Many autumn vegetables, such as carrots, potatoes, and kale, are ready for harvesting. Be sure to harvest root crops before the first frost.

Pest and Disease Control: Keep an eye out for signs of disease or pests in your garden. Early intervention is essential to prevent the spread of problems. As the weather cools, slugs and snails become more active. Consider using natural remedies or traps to control them.

Feeding and Fertilising: Fertilise your garden beds with organic compost to replenish nutrients and improve soil structure. Feed your container plants with a balanced liquid fertiliser to keep them healthy and blooming.

TIP

Use this time to plan for next year's garden. Research and order new plants, make notes of what worked and what didn't, and consider any changes or improvements you want to make.

*To plant a garden
is to believe
in tomorrow*



Bacon and Cabbage

Bacon and Cabbage is renowned as one of Ireland's best known traditional Irish recipes.

Most Irish families in times past would keep a pig and he was known as the 'Gentleman who pays the rent. Once it had been fattened up over the summer the pig would be sold to the market and the money from that sale was a major contributor to that all important rent payment?

So meat was a luxury for most. Whatever was produced in the house was sold on to pay to help pay the rent. But if you were a wealthier farmer and had made enough money from your crops and labour to pay the rent outright then you might not have to sell the pig in November and you could keep it.

The pig would be slaughtered and the meat would then be distributed to your neighbours and when they killed their pig they shared their pig with you. There was no refrigeration at the time so you could not keep the meat, everything had to be eaten fresh and it made sense to have a roster system for killing the pig so everyone had fresh meat and it bound a community more together. They actually called them 'meat clubs'.

They ate every part of the pig, the only part not eaten was the squeal! Even the bladder was blown up and used as a football by the boys.

The one part you kept for yourself was the ham which was salted down and then hung above the fire to give it that nice Smokey flavour. This became your bacon which was the special Sunday dish of the tenant farmer. The bacon would be put into the cooking pot and potatoes and cabbage were added to make this delicious traditional Irish recipe. Bacon, Cabbage and Potatoes.

Irish farmers had a meal called 'potatoes and point'. While eating their potatoes for breakfast, lunch and dinner every day during the week they would point their potato at the bacon hanging above the fire and go 'Aaahh we're having you on Sunday' in the hope of getting the flavour of the bacon to move across the room into their spud!

Bacon and Cabbage Recipe

Ingredients

900 – 1350g collar of bacon
1 medium-sized cabbage

To Prepare

Soak the bacon overnight in cold water.

Remove and place in a pot, cover with fresh water and bring to the boil.

Remove the scum, cover and simmer for 1 hour 30 minutes (or 30 minutes per 450g/1lb).

Cut cabbage into quarters and add to the pot Cook slowly for about 20 minutes so that it's tender but still retains a slight bite.

Drain well, and serve with potatoes boiled in their jackets.

Source www.sue.ie



Biscoff Rice Krispie Treats

Prep Time: 20 minutes / Cook Time: 10mins
Setting Time: 2 hours / Servings: 16

Ingredients

50 grams unsalted butter
225 grams mini marshmallows
175 grams Biscoff spread
175 grams Rice Krispies

Topping

200 grams Biscoff spread
200 grams white chocolate

Method

Line a 9x9" square tin with parchment paper, and leave to the side.

Add the butter and mini marshmallows to a large pan, and heat on a low-medium heat, stirring, until smooth and melted!

Once melted, take the pan off the heat and add in the biscoff. Stir briefly until smooth!

Pour the rice krispies into the pan, and stir to combine!

Press the mixture into the bottom of the lined tin.

Melt the white chocolate in a bowl until smooth - I do this in short bursts in the microwave stirring well each time.

In a separate bowl, melt the biscoff spread - This takes about 20 seconds in the microwave.

Pour the two over the rice krispie base and swirl together with a tooth pick.

Set in the fridge for two or more hours, and then slice and enjoy!

Credit to Janes Patisserie
Website www.janespatisserie.com



September Pet Care

Animal Pain Awareness Month

This month is all about educating everyone about recognising and dealing with pain your pets are having. Our pets might not be able to express pain verbally so we all have to be vigilant for signs of discomfort. Some signs can be subtle and easily overlooked.



Recognising Signs of Pain

Pain comes in many forms: surgical pain, arthritis and cancer related pain, just to name a few.

Acute pain is obvious and distressing.

Chronic pain can be subtle, and masked as "getting old" or "slowing down." Old age is not a disease, but pain is.

Focus on identifying physical and behavioural changes that could indicate pain, such as decreased activity, changes in appetite, grooming habits, or posture.

Consult with veterinarians if you observe any signs of pain in your pets, as early

detection and treatment can greatly improve the outcome.

There are many availability of various pain management options for pets, including medication, supplements, and therapies. So know your pet and their little or not so little signs that something is wrong.

Keep Up with Exercise

Even if the weather might be getting a little colder and the evenings getting shorter, our pets still need to be exercised. Keeping the walks up will prevent any weight gain and also will stop your pet from getting bored. You can reduce the length of the walk and have some more indoor playtime/training. Cats will go out less and therefore will also need to be entertained. You could ask your vet for information on joint supplements for the colder months especially if your pet has joint stiffness as the cold will affect them.

With your pet spending less time outdoors and maybe being less active, you might consider adjusting their diet so they won't gain weight by giving them less food but always consult your vet if your pet is on any special food or medication.

Fleas and Ticks

Parasites such as fleas and ticks are still rife over the autumn. So keep checking your pets for them regularly, especially after all walks.

Safety on Walks

With darker nights and mornings, walking your pet can be dangerous so always wear reflective clothing and have your pet wearing a reflective coat too. At the very least, a reflective collar. As the saying goes "be safe, be seen!"



Acorns and Conkers

These can be poisonous to your dog. Be sure to keep an eye out on walks to make sure that your dog doesn't pick anything they shouldn't up. If ingested conkers can also cause intestinal blockages. Speak to your vet if you think your dog may have eaten something like this.

If you are concerned about the health of your cat or dog at any time, always speak to your vet.

Outdoor Shelter and Sheds

If your pet spends most of the time outdoors, do a maintenance check on their kennel. Check for repairs, mould etc, and if necessary replace it. It is always recommended that you change their bedding to

suit colder weather. Use raised beds to keep off cold damp floors/ground.

If they are housed in sheds be extra careful of all chemicals such as weed killers, plant food, slug repellents and keep them in secure areas and out of reach of pets. Check containers weekly for leaks and sell by dates. Dispose of them properly and safely. Always try to use environmental and pet friendly products at all times.

Seasonal Dangers

As the weather gets colder, be mindful of pets being around and even loose dogs and cats when using antifreeze. It is sweet smelling and can attract animals. It is completely poisonous to pets if swallowed and also it can burn their paws if they step on it. Don't let any drop onto pavements/roads. If there is a spillage, clean up thoroughly straight away to avoid harming any animals or kids.



With Halloween approaching, there will be fireworks going off, which can cause stress for some pets. As a pet owner, I have had dogs that have been absolutely terrified and have had to bring them to my vet and get sedatives to either knock them out for hours or make them so drowsy that they don't notice them the bangers are much. Best advice I can suggest to pet owners is start now making plans for the Halloween season to protect your pets. Preparation is key and always consult your vet. They are only too happy to give you advice and help.

Activities to do with Your Pet

This is a great time to start or continue agility training with your pet. Set up an agility course in your backyard or find a local training facility. Agility training provides excellent physical exercise and mental stimulation for your pet, and the cooler weather makes it more enjoyable.

Indoor Rainy Day Activities

Snuffle Mats and Scent Games On rainy days, bring the sniffing fun indoors with a snuffle mat or by hiding treats around your home. A snuffle mat can be made from strips of fabric and a rubber mat, offering a DIY alternative to store-bought versions. Scent games provide great mental stimulation for dogs, especially when the weather keeps them inside.



Why not make an indoor obstacle course using pillows, blankets, chairs etc. Create a tent fort with jump over low and high barriers.

With just a little creativity, you and your dog can make the most of this autumn, rain or shine!

Sourced: www.dogstrust.com, www.nutravet.co.uk.com, www.dogsdogsdogs.co.uk.com





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

Link to the Archive: www.maynoothcep.com

September 1985

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 1985

NUMBER 99

PRICE 20p

CRAZY FOOTBALL MATCH IN FANCY DRESS

The Roosters v The Henpecked (Men) Chicks (Women) will be held in the G.A.A. Field on Sunday Sept. 1st at 3.15pm. The teams will parade from O'Brien's Supermarket (Dublin Road) to the G.A.A. Field (Mayglare Road) at 3pm, led by the Lord Mayor of Maynooth, Mr. Owen Byrne and the Clane Accordion Band. There will be Side Shows and races for the children, and plenty of competitions for adults. Newbridge Mobile Video Unit will attend, also Press photographers. It promises to be a great evening's sport for young and old, so come and join the parade. The teams are crazy, the lineups are crazy and the referee is crazy too.

Admission for adults, 50p; children under 14 yrs 25p; Cars £1.00. You will never laugh as much again. See you there.

FR. GEORGE MILLAR S.V.D.

We extend our best wishes to Fr. George Millar who left Maynooth S.V.D. recently to take up Missionary duties in New Guinea. Fr. George was well known by the Maynooth Old Folk Group for his interest and help in their activities.

He will be missed by his many friends here, who will be praying for the success of the fine work he has undertaken. Wishing Fr. George his health and happiness in New Guinea.

OCTOBER ISSUE

The closing date for the above will be 14th September and all items for inclusion in that issue must be handed in on or before that date.

MAYNOOTH ATHLETIC CLUB (NACA)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Wednesday September 11th
in
CLUB ROOM, 8 PM SHARP

DOYLE'S SHOE CENTRE MAYNOOTH SHOPPING CENTRE

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Stockists of all leading brands
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Autumn collection - super selection



Old Greenfield Team, Winners of Soccer Competition organised by Greenfield Residents' Association in conjunction with Community Week, with Manager Johnny Thompson, Owen Byrne, Lord Mayor of Maynooth, and Supporters.



Cluain Aoihbhinn, winners of Community Week Tug-O-War Competition, with Manager Philip McDermott and Supporters

Wedding Anniversary

Belated Wedding Anniversary to Jim and Roisin Smyth, Caragh, Co. Kildare, who celebrated their 8th Anniversary on 2nd July. Jim is our local butcher.

BEST WISHES

Best wishes to Mr. Ken O'Brien, 15 Leinster Cottages, who is leaving us in September to join the Cistercian Order to study for religious life as a brother. We wish Ken every blessing in his new career and trust that God will bless his work.



Participants in Community Week Crazy Match

BIRTHDAYS - September

The following have celebrated their birthdays recently or will do so in the very near future. Congratulations and best wishes to:

Donagh Breslin, Leinster Park. 3rd
Antoinette Higgins, Greenfield. 9th
Sonia Fusciardi, Leixlip. 11th
Clodagh Desmond, Main St. 12th
Maeve Casey, Mayglare. 15th
Imelda Dowling, Leinster Cotts. 16th
Leone and Deirdre Ward, Church View Prosperous. Their parents are Des and Kathleen Ward formerly from Killaney. 13th

Freda Farrell, O'Neill Park, Maynooth and her twin sister, Teresa Robinson, Birmingham, England. 19th

Marie McGovern, Greenfield. 24th
Eileen McGovern, Greenfield. 2th

Recent Weddings

Congratulations to Patrick Moynan, 2 Convent Road Maynooth, and Patricia Farrell, Navan, who were married recently.

Also congratulations to Paddy Dunne, Greenfield Maynooth, and Teresa Daly, Dunboyne, married recently.

Congratulations to Kevin Kilduff, O'Neill Park, Maynooth and Helen Langtry, Courtown Road, Kilcock, also married recently.

Congratulations to John Sweeney, Leixlip and Patricia McGarry, Greenfield, Maynooth, married on 9th August.

SPORTS PAGE

MAYNOOTH ATHLETIC CLUB

Leinster Championships, Dunboyne. 22nd, 23rd June 1985.

The remaining sections of the Leinster Championships were to have been run at Dunboyne on above dates, but due to a torrential outburst of rain, it was not possible to finish the Juvenile programme on the Saturday, and so a new date will have to be found later in the year.

In contrast, the Junior and Vet. section on the Sunday was run in beautiful conditions, and full marks to the Dunboyne track officials who worked so hard in getting the track cleared of water by noon on Sunday.

For Pat Maher, it was a weekend to remember, as he took the Vets O/40 3000 metres in great style, leading all the way, and having too much in reserve in the end to be caught by a late run by Val Ledwith of Dunboyne.

Mick Gleeson also figured in the medals, taking silver in the O/40 800 metres, and indeed Mick and David Jolly also ran well in the 3000 metres.

Mairead Noonan recorded a double in the Junior Ladies section, taking both the 200 and 800 metre events, and Mairead has been quietly adding to her list of titles over the last few months, with both Leinster and Kildare titles in the bag, and hopefully more to come.

Next weekend it is Antrim for the GCLO All-Irelands, and those travelling are looking forward to a pleasant and rewarding trip.

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Antrim June 29th & 30th 1985.

By the time these notes are read, if read they are by anyone, Autumn will have begun to cast its shadow over the year 1985, but on the above weekend at the Antrim Forum, near Antrim Town, the sun shone brilliantly, and even if the results, from a Maynooth point of view were not wonderful, I think it can be safely said that a great time was had by all.

The entire Maynooth party stayed at the Greenmount Agricultural College, and both the scenery, lay-out, food and accommodation at this venue was second to none, and far surpassed some of the accommodations available at some hotels. Indeed many of those who suffered in Cork the previous year were heard to remark that the All-Irelands should be held in such surroundings more often. Not alone did the Forum have a very good running track, but facilities for swimming, basketball, tennis, badminton etc. were also available, and all for the princely sum of FIFTEEN pence, and the whole area was spotlessly clean and tidy.

Great credit is due to Jim Lawlor and Pearse Breslin for their work during the stay, looking after keys etc. and making sure all were

at the right places for meals etc., and so ensuring a happy trip for all.

On the actual 'field of play' Maynooth did not have such a great time, but for Enda Breslin at least, it all came right on the day. Enda was the winner of the U/14 800 metre Walk, and this indeed was only just recompense for Enda who has had some great efforts in this particular event, and being thwarted of more success only by bad luck, and sometimes bad judging. Having been second in Cork in 1984, and disqualified in the Community Games, Enda won the Kildare Championship in June of this year, and must now be favourite to win the Leinster title as well later on this year.

Frank Desmond was not so lucky here, being in third place with about 25 metres to go, but was then disqualified, and so missed out on his chance for an All-Ireland medal. Indeed it was nice to see the boys in the limelight as the Club badly needs more lads in the colours, and all are welcome to come to the field any Tuesday or Thursday night at 7pm to see if they would enjoy athletics.

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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.