



Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

LOCAL NEWS - APRIL 2026 - ISSUE NO. 555

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St. Patrick's Day Gallery Pages: 22,23,24,25.

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Maynooth Celebrates in Style For the 41st St. Patrick's Day Parade

Medieval Maynooth Brings 850 Years of History to Life

St. Patrick's Day in Maynooth once again proved why it remains the largest community event in the town, as thousands of people lined the streets for the 41st Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade. This year's theme, "Medieval Maynooth – Celebrating 850 Years", marked the town's remarkable milestone and brought a wonderful sense of history and celebration to the parade route. From Straffan Road through Main Street and finishing on Dublin Road, the town was packed with families, visitors and local groups who came together to celebrate our shared community. Floats, music, performers and hundreds of participants filled the streets, with groups embracing the medieval theme in imaginative and colourful ways. Knights, castles, banners and historical characters appeared throughout the parade, reminding everyone of Maynooth's deep connection to its past. It was a fantastic atmosphere from start to finish, with the town buzzing with pride and celebration.

A Community Effort

Events like this do not happen without the dedication of a large number of Volunteers and community groups who work behind the scenes for months to bring the parade together. A huge thank you goes to the Parade Committee and Volunteers, particularly: Donna Phelan, Paul Croghan, Patricia Moynan, Gerry Quinn, Catherine Carton, Gerard Roache and Steve McCarthy. Their commitment and hard work helped deliver another memorable day for the town. Thanks also to Maynooth Community Employment Project (MCEP) and John Howell for their continued support behind the scenes. A special mention must go to Maynooth Autism Friendly Town, who once again provided a Quiet Zone along the parade route, ensuring the event was welcoming and accessible for everyone. Entertainment throughout the day was fantastic, with performers including Terri Fierce and the fire breathers and the talented face painters bringing colour and excitement to the town. Willie Kieman ensured everything sounded as good as it looked, while our MCs Paul Croghan and Paul Daly kept the crowds entertained and informed throughout the parade. Paul Croghan announced that it was his last year MC-ing the event and we're extremely appreciative of Paul's contribution to the parade and the town over decades.



<p>Best St. Patrick's Day Shop Window Display 2026 The Maynooth Bookshop </p> 	<p>2nd Place St. Patrick's Day Shop Window Display 2026 DMD Cafe </p> 	<p>Third Place St. Patrick's Day Shop Window Display 2026 St Vincent De Paul Charity Shop Greenfield S.C. </p> 
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Maynooth Newsletter

Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

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

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Letters to the Editor

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

Mission Statement

The Maynooth Newsletter is a community focused online publication available free to the people of Maynooth. It plays an important role in gathering together, recording and distributing community based news. We encourage all groups and individuals in the community to submit material to let us know about their activities and any upcoming events.

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

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

In addition we undertake the following:

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

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

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

Maynooth Newsletter Archives

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

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

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

Disclaimer

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

All information should be verified from an independent source.
Editorial Board - Maynooth Newsletter

Editorial

Does anyone still enjoy using the first day of April to play practical jokes on their friends and others? The origin of "April Fools Day" as it is called is unknown, but it could go back to the fourteenth century. I could have used it as an excuse to make up this month's editorial. Instead, I encourage you to play some NICE JOKES on your friends that day and help to continue the tradition that has already lasted for many centuries.

What is not a joke is the current unstable world we live in. Nobody is immune from the impact of war even if it is taking place relatively far away. In the past five years wars in Ukraine, Israel/Palestine and more recently Iran and the surrounding Countries, shows that peace can never be taken for granted. Wars are now primarily fought at night using drones and missiles. We are lucky to be living as part of a stable European Union.

As recent as 2018, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution aiming to preserve the values of multilateralism and international cooperation. 24th April is designated as The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for promoting these objectives. However, as the world is now a global village, we are impacted by wars because of supply chains and the nervousness of stock markets. In Maynooth, the impact is higher prices on many every day goods, but many people in Maynooth have strong views about the various conflicts, but the one common aspect to all of these is that they all seem difficult to resolve.

2nd April is Autism Awareness Day and we can take pride in Maynooth that as an autism friendly town, we actively acknowledge members of our community with autism throughout the year. I note that during the "2026 Arts and Minds Festival" on 9th May, the Maynooth 850 committee has arranged a special sensory tour of Maynooth Castle. Also, in April the annual An Taisce "Spring Clean" takes place where we are encouraged to get out and clean up our local area. No doubt there will be events organised in Maynooth, particularly by Maynooth Tidy Towns. So why not either get involved or lead a clean up in your own area. Nationally, during the 2025 Spring Clean 5,250 groups registered with An Taisce and it is estimated that 2,700 tonnes of litter was collected by them.

"Maynooth 850" celebrations continue to mark the arrival of the Fitzgeralds in 1176 where they established Maynooth Castle around which the town has developed continue. Thanks to the Maynooth St. Patrick's Day Parade committee for marking the anniversary as part of this year's event. Appreciation also goes to the Maynooth ICA committee members for designing and making the capes worn by stewards and committee members on the day. Look out for them at other events throughout the year.



Breedge Conway Chairperson Maynooth Tidy Towns with Paul Daly and Naolse O'Ceairnill — Photo by Mark Colfer

The "St. Patrick's Day Parade" was another great success this year with a large participation and a huge crowd coming out to enjoy the spectacle. If you were there, check the many photographs included in this *Maynooth Newsletter* to see if you are in any of them. After fifteen years as Master of Ceremonies for the parade, I have made the decision that 2026 is my last year to do it.

Congratulations to all of the prize winners. A very special mention needs to be made for the winners of the "Community Person of the Year". Worthy winners this year were the first couple to win this award. Vinny and Catherine Mulready have given decades of voluntary support to a range of activities in Maynooth. As current volunteers with Maynooth Tidy Towns, this was used to surprise them with their award as they passed the review stand. They are very popular recipients and the *Maynooth Newsletter* is delighted to add our congratulations to them as well. Finally, our best wishes to the staff of Eurogiant, our neighbours in Carton Park, for the future, as the shop closes.

Paul Croghan (Editor)

**Submission Date for May Edition is 5pm on
23rd April 2026**

Continued from front page...

Willie Kiernan ensured everything sounded as good as it looked, while our MCs Paul Croghan and Paul Daly kept the crowds entertained and informed throughout the parade. Paul Croghan announced that it was his last year MCing the event and we're extremely appreciative of Paul's contribution to the parade and the town over decades.

A big thank you also goes to the volunteers from Maynooth Men's Shed and Maynooth Lions Club whose help ensured the event ran smoothly.

Our thanks as well to Mark Colfer who captured the day in wonderful photographs which are featured in the Maynooth Newsletter, and to An Garda Síochána for their support in managing road closures and ensuring the event was safe for everyone attending.

Support from Local Businesses

The continued success of the parade would not be possible without the generous support of local businesses who recognise the importance of celebrating community life in Maynooth.

Lead Sponsors

Kildare County Council, Brady's Clockhouse, Manor Mills, Thorntons Recycling, Taxy, Sherry Fitzgerald | Brady O'Flaherty, McMahons, Sasta, Intel, Picaderos Restaurant and Donatellos Restaurant.

Silver Sponsors

SAP Landscaping, Glenroyal Hotel, AIB Maynooth, Coonan Property, O'Neills Bar and Restaurant and Farrelly & Southern Estate Agents.

Their support plays a vital role in helping deliver such a large community event every year.

St Patrick's Day Awards

COMMUNITY PERSON OF THE YEAR

CATHERINE AND VINCENT
MULREADY

(Photo on front page)

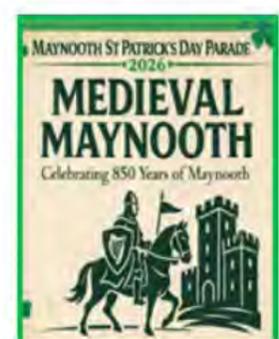


Looking Ahead

This year's parade felt particularly special as part of the celebrations marking 850 years of Maynooth's history. Seeing the town come together in such a vibrant way is a reminder of the strong sense of community that makes Maynooth such a wonderful place to live. To everyone who took part, volunteered, organised floats, stewarded the route, or came along to support the parade, thank you for helping make this year's celebration such a success. Here's to continuing this proud tradition for many more years to come.

Beirigi Bua

Naoise Ó Cearúil
Chairperson
Maynooth St Patrick's Day
Parade Committee



Best Portrayal of Environmental Awareness

Maynooth Tidy Towns

Best School Float

Gaelscoil Ruairí

Best Commercial Float

Thorntons Recycling

Best Portrayal of Irish Culture

Dr Muireann Ní Bhrolcháin Perpetual Trophy
Gaelscoil Ruairí

Best Portrayal of Theme

Saor Dance and Fitness

Best Club

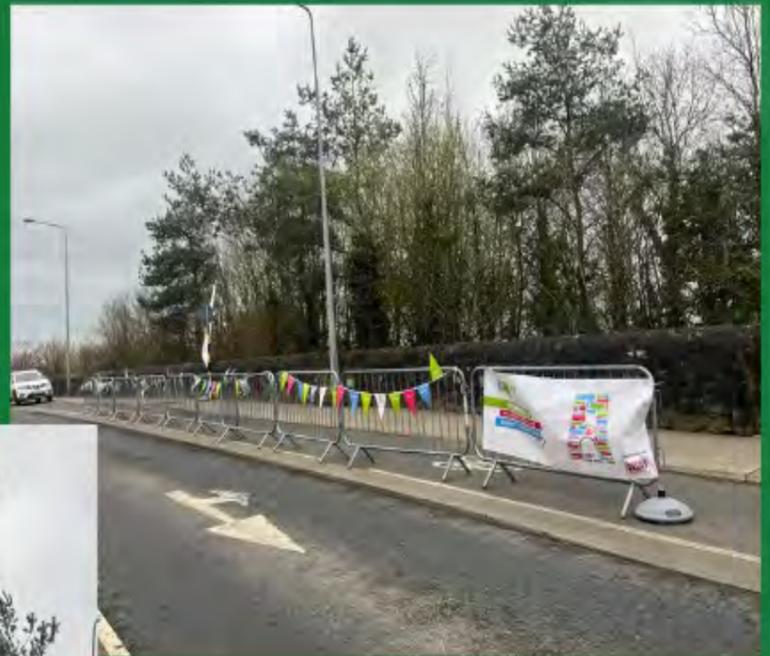
North Kildare Club



Happy St. Patrick's Day 2026



Maynooth Autism Friendly Town was proud to deliver a Quiet Zone at this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade, providing ear plugs, fidget toys and a calm space for those who needed it. With all participants informed in advance, it was a truly inclusive day that ensured everyone could enjoy the celebrations. Shout out to the best volunteers ❤️





VOLUNTEER AT THE IRELAND SUMMER GAMES 2026

MAYNOOTH AREA

18th - 21st of June

Volunteer in the Maynooth Area:

- NUI Maynooth
- Stewarts Regional Equine Therapy Hub – Kilcloon

Help support the Accommodation Venue and the Equestrian Venue

VOLUNTEER TODAY



www.irelandgames.ie

RCN: 20016883 | CHY: 7556

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ABOUT US

Mary Cowhey & Company serves private clients, community organizations and small businesses. All of our Solicitors are members of the Irish Law Society, have current Practising Certificates and carry Professional Indemnity Insurance.

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MAYNOOTH 10K RACE IS BACK – 16 YEARS STRONG AND SET FOR ANOTHER BIG COMMUNITY TURNOUT

MAYNOOTH EDUCATION CAMPUS, MOYGLARE RD, MAYNOOTH – MARCH 20TH, 2026

The countdown has begun once again for one of Maynooth's largest community events! The Maynooth 10K Run celebrated its 15th anniversary in style last year, and this year's event is already shaping up to be another fantastic, fun-filled day showcasing everything that makes living in this corner of County Kildare so special. The official launch took place on March 20th at the Maynooth Education Campus, bringing together organisers, supporters and community members to mark the start of this year's build-up.

We were delighted to be joined by so many of our valued returning sponsors. A sincere thank you to Blasco Solicitors, CryoClinic, Glenroyal Hotel & Leisure Club, Glenveagh, Lencon ICF, LWF Physiotherapy and Picaderos for taking the time to celebrate the launch with us and for demonstrating their continued commitment to community action.

ABOUT THE RACE

Now in its 16th year, the Maynooth 10K has become a cornerstone of the local calendar, welcoming runners, joggers, walkers and families of all abilities. The event features both 5K and 10K routes, winding through the scenic and historic streets of Maynooth and offering participants a rewarding and enjoyable experience in a vibrant community setting.

COMMUNITY AT ITS HEART

The Maynooth 10K continues to grow year on year thanks to the incredible support of volunteers, participants and local organisations. Whether you're aiming for a personal best, enjoying a walk with friends or cheering from the sidelines, there is a place for everyone at this much-loved event.



From Left to Right:

Siobhan McCauley Principal MCC, Patrick Gilligan 10k committee, Emer Brennan Glenveagh, Charlotte Lennon Lencon ICF, Una Phillips 10k committee, Martin McMahon Picaderos, Catherine O'Hagan 10k Chairperson, Alvaro Blasco Blasco Solicitors, Ronan McCoy MEC PTA, Laura Ward LWF Physio, Cathy Lawlor 10k committee, Louise Cadogen Glenroyal Hotel and Leisure, Natasha Pavlin Glenroyal Hotel and Leisure, Katie Branigan-Gaddren Cryoclinic, Johnny Nevin Principal MPPs

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Registration for the Maynooth 10K is now open. Participants can sign up at www.maynooth10k.ie to secure their place or volunteer as part of the stewarding team.

There are also opportunities available to sponsor and support the event while promoting your business across our website, popular social channels, on-site presence and local advertising campaigns. Find out more <https://maynooth10k.ie> or contact us at maynooth10k@gmail.com

Mark your calendars for Sunday, May 10th, 2026, and join us for a day of energy, positivity and community spirit.

For media inquiries or further information, please contact:
Catherine O'Hagan – Chairperson
maynooth10k@gmail.com



<https://maynooth10k.ie>



www.maynooth10k.ie

MAYNOOTH 10K & 5K

Annual MEC Fundraiser

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& MORE FOR ALL
FINISHERS**

www.maynooth10k.ie

MAY 10TH

PLACES ARE FILLING UP FAST >>

2025 prices held €25 or €50 for a family
all money made goes straight back into the community



MEC PTA's
Maynooth Education Campus
Parent Teacher Association's for
Maynooth Post Primary &
Maynooth Community College

**Pop Up
RACES**



Shine is a national charity that supports people with lived experience of mental illness, their family members and supporters. We are headquartered in the DoC building on Maynooth Business Campus. Our recovery support services are delivered by our teams in three different regions of the country.

We are over 40 years in existence. Our vision is of a more compassionate Ireland where those affected by mental illness and stigma are supported and included in all aspects of society.

In addition to our Recovery Support Services, Shine manages the Green Ribbon national stigma reduction programme and the national media programme for responsible reporting and representation of mental illness and suicide.

Advocacy is a key part of Shine's work as we campaign to shape better policies and services for all those affected by mental health challenges.



Shine staff and volunteers at Electric Picnic, 2025

Our Workplace Programme is another important initiative in our stigma-reduction work. We developed a specialised programme using a six-step framework to empower Irish workplaces to create an open and honest culture about mental health, and to tackle mental health stigma in the workplace. We deliver this programme to companies and organisations ranging from small to large as well as to other organisations and public bodies across Ireland.

We recently held a Workplace Programme Certificate Awards event in Maynooth University. Ten different companies were presented with their certificates to mark the successful completion of the course. Readers who are interested in having their workplace enrol in the programme can find out more here: [Workplace Mental Health Support Ireland | Employee Wellbeing](#)

Shine's provides recovery-focused individual and group supports, family education and peer-informed services. We support services to people with bi-polar disorder, schizophrenia, psychosis, depression, anxiety and eating disorders among other mental illnesses. All of these services are free of charge and people can self-refer. Full details of these services can be found here: [Get Support | Supporting People Affected By Mental Ill Health](#)

Or people can get in touch by:

Phone: +3531860 1610

Mobile: +35386 040 7701

Email: support@shine.ie

Website: <https://www.shine.ie>

Mental health stigma remains a significant barrier to treatment and recovery for individuals with mental illness and their families.

Stigma leads to discrimination, social exclusion, and a lack of support exacerbating mental health problems. It can even result in tragic outcomes, such as suicide. That's why our Green Ribbon Campaign is such an important annual initiative. It is a pivotal opportunity for us to lead the way on stigma reduction around mental illness in Ireland. More than a campaign, it is a social movement that highlights our shared responsibility to destigmatize mental health and foster a more compassionate and supportive society. The green ribbon acts as a symbol of solidarity, encouraging us all to engage in open conversations and break down barriers surround mental illness.

Our 2025 campaign successfully brought together diverse voices and perspectives, facilitating transformative discussions across Ireland. We are planning to build on this growth and development to deliver an even bigger Green Ribbon Campaign in 2026. As a small organization, we rely on public and community support to organize events and activities on our behalf in their communities, encouraging people to wear the green ribbon, to have conversations about mental health, and raise awareness of our services. We are tremendously lucky to have this support, including from the people in Maynooth and surrounding region. Getting involved in the campaign is easy; people interested in taking part can find out more here: [Green Ribbon Ireland | Support Mental Health Awareness Campaign](#)

For anyone who'd like to make a donation in support of our work and the services we provide, it's easy to do, just click here: [Mental Health Support & Awareness Ireland | Shine](#)



Shine CEO, Nicola Byrne



GILDEAS OPTICIANS



Mon - Fri 9:30am - 18:00pm
 Saturday 9:30am - 17:30pm
 Sunday Closed
 Lunch From 13:00pm - 14:00 pm
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with Amanda

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 amandadempsey@grow.ie



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March was a really busy month for our Volunteers. We took part in the St Patrick's Day parade on the 17th and embraced the theme of Maynooth 850. Vincent and Catherine Mulready won the Community Persons of the year. This is the 1st time ever this prestigious award has been awarded to a couple. So well deserved.



Minister Dara Colleary launched The Tidy Towns 2026 competition in Carrick on Shannon on the 23rd. We will have to submit our application by the 11th May 2026 to be included in the judging.

Our volunteers continue to turn up in great numbers every Saturday morning. We planted a 100 native Irish trees on the 21st March in the grounds of the Community Church thanks to the Rev Keith McCrory.



Green Week 2026
Turning ideas into action for a more sustainable Maynooth

Monday 30 March	Tuesday 31 March	Wednesday 1 April	Thursday 2 April
12:00 PM Maynooth Green Campus Closure Official Launch O'Leary TD	10:00-11:00 AM ROADSHOW Healthy Campus Sustainable Travel Plant a seed SEAI Energy Monitor	9:30-11:00 PM Sustainability & Climate Action Research Showcase TSC2026	10:00-11:00 AM Green Carnival Games Music Dance Market Museum Museum (Schools) Laser Fencing and more! MSU
1:00 PM Native Tree Planting Meeting outside the Library	1:00-2:00 PM TSL Meet Up Free Corepost W&A Recycling O'Leary TD	2:00-3:00 PM AGBA Field Visit Meeting at the TD Farm	10:30-11:00 AM Circular Economy Workshop with Wiggie Learning Library Training Room D
3:30-5:00 PM Forum on AI in Schools Discussion + Q&A Munster HSE Regulation and more	1:00-2:00 PM Reflections on COP30 discussion with Prof John Gormley and others 13:00	3:30-4:30 PM Demofocus Tour with W&A HSE Limerick Open Registration required	
2:00-6:00 PM Royal Canal Cleanup with the S.C.C.A. Bertha, Sinead and Maynooth Tidy Towns Mickie Hennessey	7:00-8:00 PM Community Gardens at Maynooth 60000		

We will be working with Maynooth Green Campus on the 31st March at the Royal Canal doing a clean up. It's green week on Campus. Lots of other environmental events taking place including, planting trees.



Thanks to Kevin Carrigan stone mason for all his help highlighting the problems with the stone walls on the Straffan Road.

We hope to organise our Wednesday evening meet ups in April now that the time has sprung forward. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram for more up to date information on our activities and if you want to volunteer please contact us on Facebook/Instagram or email us at MaynoothTidyTowns@outlook.ie

Cllr Angela FEENEY

087 238 1962 angelaemfeeney@gmail.com
www.facebook/votefeeney1



Elected Chair of the Kildare's LCSP

I am honoured to have been elected Chair of the Kildare Local Community Safety Partnership at its inaugural meeting on March 12th. The Partnership offers our community an opportunity to influence local safety priorities and to shape solutions that reflect the experiences of people in Kildare. A key objective for the Partnership is to develop and implement its own, tailored community safety plan. I am excited to work with all partners to ensure our Community Safety Plan is collaborative and community-led.



Park and Ride Facility for Maynooth

The DART+ is coming to Maynooth and Kilcock and it will be transformative for public transport provision for our fast growing towns. We have an opportunity to maximise on this project by factoring in the necessary supports needed to get people using public transport. The car park at Maynooth station is at capacity and there is no space for further development. This is why I am calling for a Park and Ride facility west of Maynooth. In response to my recent motion on this, The Council has agreed to write to the National Transport Authority with this proposal.



DART+ West Project

Great news to hear that DART+ is to be extended to include Kilcock, with plans involving electrification and double-tracking from Maynooth to a new depot west of Kilcock. This is something I've been pushing for from the start of the discussions. I attended the Irish Rail briefing for public representatives on March 16th. This will be transformative for public transport provision.

Photo: LCSP Committee

Photo: At Maynooth Train Station



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Maynooth, Co. Kildare

St. Patrick's Day was hectic for the Band with parades in Maynooth at 11 o'clock, Kilcock at 1:30pm and Clane at 3 o'clock resulting in many tired bodies at the end of the day, with one consolation, not seeing a drop of rain for the three parades. St Patrick's Day is very special for many many towns throughout the country and the Band had lots of requests from near neighbours to take part in their parade which we could not accommodate.

This year was special for the members of our Academy Band who marched with the Senior Band for the very first time and they did a fantastic job. Two of them, Ken and Carlos, even made the front page of the Liffey Champion with their photo included in these notes.



Ken on the Left and Carlos on the Right

The Band is really looking forward to their next event which is our Spring Concert in Maynooth Community Church on Saturday 18th of April at 7:30pm and you can see full details on the poster which appears separately in this Newsletter. This will be our first time to play in the church which is a really beautiful setting for the Concert and we hope to have a full house on the night.

Other notable dates coming up are the Academy Band's return visit to the National Band Championships in Ardee on the 9th of May. The Senior Band's visit to the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty on 4th of July and our trip to the International Band Festival in Bad Orb Germany from the 11th to the 13th of September.



St. Mary's
Brass and Reed Band
Maynooth



SPRING CONCERT

In

Maynooth Community Church
Dublin Road, Maynooth W23P02A

Saturday 18th April at 7.30pm.
Doors open at 7pm

Tickets €10 Available from
Evenbrite,
on the door on the night

or scan the Qr code



Cllr. Donna Phelan
 MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

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




MARCH UPDATE

AsIAm One Stop Shop Opens in Dublin



I was delighted to attend the official opening of the AsIAm One Stop Shop, delivered in conjunction with the HSE, in my role as Chairperson of Maynooth Autism Friendly Town. This new hub, serving the CHO7 district including Maynooth, is a hugely important step forward creating a central, welcoming space where parents, children, teens and adults can access supports and guidance. This is also deeply personal to me, and one of the main reasons I chose this political journey I am walking in your shoes. Please know I will continue emailing, lobbying and pushing for meaningful change, because families deserve a system that truly supports them.



Myself and my daughter Holly were delighted to attend the launch of the Newbridge Autism Friendly Town programme on the 4th of March. We've seen in Maynooth the real impact this work can have, so it's fantastic to see other towns across Kildare embracing inclusion. It also highlights the need for progress at county level, and I will continue to push the Council to deliver the Autism Friendly Programme that was committed to over 12 months ago



ICA Host a Teddy Bear pop up hospital for kids in Maynooth

The ICA hosted a wonderful Teddy Bears Clinic for the children of Maynooth on Sunday, March 8th, where broken toys were lovingly repaired and brought back to life. They even helped us create new teddy bears my first time ever sewing, and I'm absolutely delighted with my new bear! It was a real team effort with my daughters Holly and Grace, alongside Mary, a true master teddy bear maker. The ICA do so much for our community making cloaks for the St. Patrick's Day Parade, volunteering in our schools, and teaching children how to knit. Now they need our support. With their 94 year old premises in need of replacement, a like for like building will cost in the region of **€100,000**. It's time for us to give back and help provide them with a warm, secure home to continue their incredible work

Home Improvement Grants

Kildare County Council currently has three home grants open to support older and vulnerable people to live safely in their homes.

SEAI retrofit grants for energy upgrades are open now also!

More information available here:
<https://kildarecoco.ie/AllServices/Housing/HousingGrants>
www.sseairtricity.com



Cllr. Donna Phelan
 MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:
 Tel: 087 002 3636 Email: donna.phelan@kildare.ie




MARCH UPDATE

Volunteering in the community

For the past 12 years, I've been a stay at home mam to my three children, and like many of you know, my amazing daughter Holly, who is autistic, has shaped so much of our journey as a family. Through her, I was introduced to a world that has truly guided where I am today. Over the years, I've had the privilege of volunteering with a number of community groups from our local Toddler Group to the Maynooth Planning Alliance, to co-founding a charity during COVID to support families going through cancer. I'm now Chairperson of Maynooth Autism Friendly Town, part of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, and involved with the GAA All-Stars.

For me, volunteering has never been about politics it's about giving back to a community that has given my family so much, and that's the same approach I bring to my role every day. The strength of Maynooth lies in its people, and it doesn't matter your background there is a place for everyone.



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
 Kildare County Council



The Mens Shed Workshop has arrived

The Men's Shed workshop has officially arrived a fantastic milestone for this incredible group and something we have been working on for over six months to bring to fruition. This project, costing just over €22,000, was fully funded by Kildare County Council and is a great example of what can be achieved through collaboration. A sincere thank you to Maynooth Town Football Club for providing the space without your support, this simply would not have been possible. This new workshop will give the group a permanent base to meet, create and continue their invaluable contribution to our community, and I have no doubt it will bring many great projects to life in the months and years ahead.

Tree Cutting In Maynooth

I want to give a brief update on upcoming tree maintenance works across Maynooth. The estates included in this programme are Beaufield, Brookfield, Castlepark, Cluain Aoibhinn, College Green, Griffen Rath Manor, Kingsbury, Lyreen Park, Meadowbrook, Moyglare Abbey, Moyglare Village, Parklands, Pebble Hill, Rail Park and Straffan Wood. These works are part of ongoing maintenance to ensure trees remain safe and well managed within our communities.

Come join the fun

MAYNOOTH GAA All Stars

An inclusive group for children with additional needs. Suitable for all abilities from ages 4-18. Have fun, participate and move with weekly sessions.

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10.00AM

MAYNOOTH EDUCATION CAMPUS SPORTS HALL (W23 X6X8)

Gaa AllStars@MaynoothGaa.com

Everyone is welcome to join us!



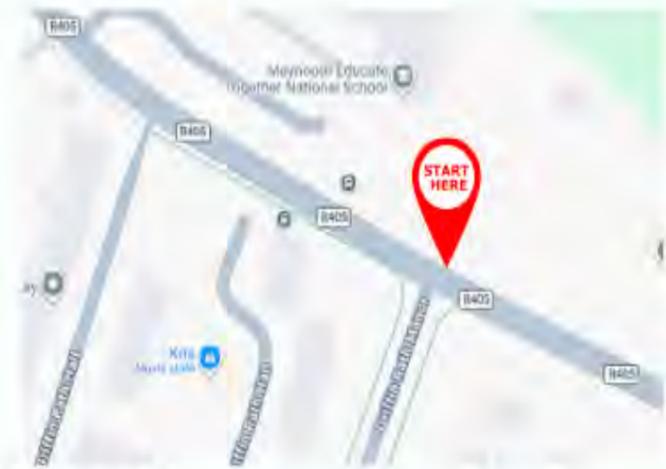
Cllr. Donna Phelan
MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:
Tel: 087 002 3636 Email: donna@kildareccoco.ie

Fianna Fáil
AN tOileánach



LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATES



Celbridge Road Update Maynooth

I want to provide a brief update on the upcoming works along the Celbridge Road. The design of the Active Travel project is continuing to progress and is expected to go to Part 8 public consultation in Q2 of 2026.

In parallel, works on the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) are underway and will connect into the Celbridge Road near the schools, opposite the Griffen Rath link road. The contractor is due to begin work on this junction in May 2026.

Before these projects can progress, Uisce Éireann (Irish Water) must replace the existing watermain along the Celbridge Road, which is prone to bursts. These works are essential to ensure that newly completed roads and footpaths are not dug up again.

Following coordination between all parties, watermain works will commence on Saturday, 28th March, starting at the MERR connection point and progressing towards the Straffan Road. To minimise disruption, extended working hours (7am–7pm) have been agreed, with a focus on completing works outside the schools during the Easter break. The full programme is expected to take approximately 8–10 weeks.

DART+ Depot

PUBLIC CONSULTATION March 2026



I want to give a brief update on the DART+ Programme, which is a major investment in our rail network and will bring significant improvements for our area. The plan is to increase train frequency to every 10 minutes in each direction, a huge step up from the current service.

As part of this, a new fleet of modern, more accessible electric trains will be introduced, powered by overhead wires along the line. To support this, a new depot is required, with Kilcock identified as the preferred location. Kilcock Station will also be upgraded from a single platform to a fully accessible double platform station, including a second track and new platform. These works will also require the relocation of the existing station and will have some impact on local amenities, which are being considered as part of the design.

This project will be delivered in phases, but it's a really important step in improving connectivity for Maynooth, Kilcock and surrounding areas.

Public consultation is now open for six weeks, and I would strongly encourage everyone to take a look and have their say: <https://www.dartplus.ie/en-ie/projects/dart-depot/public-consultation-1/dart-depot-public-consultation-no-1-useful-material-and-downloads>

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SPRING'SPIRATION

SEASONAL SUSTENANCE SUGGESTIONS FOR SPRING

The best way to drive away thoughts of this year's persistent winter rain is It's time to start thinking about how you are going to make use of the spring ingredients coming into season this April.

Spring Lamb

There's really two ways to go when it comes to spring lamb. Either serve it with light, fresh, zesty ingredients like mint salsa and lemony cous cous or else go low and slow like a Moroccan tagine or a classic Irish stew.

What goes well with lamb?

- artichokes
- parsnips
- garlic
- peas
- asparagus
- broad beans
- pistachios
- honey
- redcurrant jelly
- new potatoes
- lemon
- yoghurt

- ✔ Slow-roast shoulder of Lamb with parsnips, garlic and rosemary
- ✔ Lamb chops with yoghurt and mint
- ✔ Moroccan-style braised lamb shanks
- ✔ Spagetti Bolangese with lamb ragu
- ✔ Basque lamb stew with roast red peppers

Rhubarb



Rhubarb is a crisp, bright, intensely tart spring ingredient perfect for desserts crumbles, pies, and compotes, but also savory dishes, particularly with pork or in pickles.

Top picks include strawberry-rhubarb crumble, rhubarb fool, spiced gin, or simple stewed rhubarb over yogurt.

- 👉 Rhubarb and apple crumble
- 👉 Rhubarb and ginger jam
- 👉 Rhubarb and custard tart
- 👉 Buttermilk rhubarb bread
- 👉 Coconut rice pudding with cardamom poached rhubarb

Sweet



Savoury



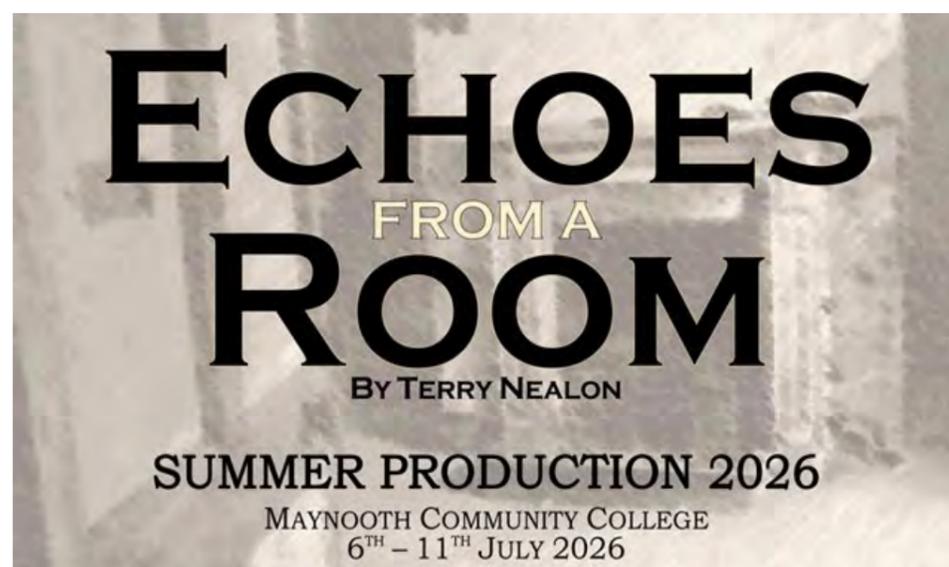
- ✔ Butterflied leg of lamb with sticky rhubarb glaze
- ✔ Pork fillet with black pudding and roasted rhubarb
- ✔ Crispy rhubarb lemon chicken bake



An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre

An Nuadha Players are delighted to be staging 'Echoes from a Room' as our Summer Production. This is a piece close to the hearts of so many of our members as it was written by longstanding member and friend, the late Terry Nealon. This show will be directed by Síomha Glynn who appeared in the same production a decade ago (while also serving as the Assistant Director at the time). Síomha brings both experience and deep familiarity to the role and we are excited to see what she does with it. This production will run from 6th-11th July in Maynooth Community College.

Tickets will go on sale on 1st June. Check out our website for more information: [Echoes From A Room, Summer Production 2026](#)



After three fantastic evenings of auditions, we are thrilled to announce the cast for *Echoes from a Room*, 2026. Congratulations to everyone who has been selected, and a heartfelt thank you to all who took the time to audition and be part of the process.

BERNIE O'CONNOR	CONNIE MCNAMARA
KELLY GAMBLE	PATRICIA HANLON
MAURA MUNCH	JIMMY BUCKLEY
PATRICIA O'MALLEY	JOHN MCCORMACK
ELISABETH BELTON	HANS JÜRGEN
REBECCA WRIGHT	FINBARR COGLAN
JOAN SMITH	TONY NOLAN JNR.
ALISHA SHIELS	AIDAN O'DONOHUE
MARY MATTHEWS	TONY NOLAN SNR.
LAURA BRADY KEEVANS	JOHN BEAN
FLOSS BYRNE	THERESA CARTY
ANN KELLY	CALINA CUNNINGHAM
PHYLLIS MALONE	
MARIANNE BRADLEY	

Although Christmas may seem a long way off, An Nuadha Players are already preparing for a magical trip to Wonderland with their 2026 Christmas pantomime, *Alice in Wonderland*.



The production will run from 3rd-6th December in the Aula Maxima. Written by Martin Higgins — whom the company is delighted to welcome back — the show will be directed by his daughter, Cairíona Carr. The creative team also includes choreographer Méadhbh Fitzgibbon Moore and Musical Director Marie McAndrew, promising a vibrant and entertaining festive production

In order to be a part of this production registration in advance will be necessary. Updates on how and when to do this will be available on the An Nuadha Players website

<https://annuadhplayers.ie/wonderland.php>

and social media channels, and audiences can also sign up to the group's email and WhatsApp [mailing lists](#) for the latest news.



An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre



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 Adults

Luain Press Poetry Café

Tuesday 7th April , 6.00 pm – 7.00 pm

Come along to Maynooth Community Library where we'll be chatting about all things poetry! * Drop in , no booking required *

Age Friendly Coffee Morning

Wednesday 8th April, 10 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

Kildare Libraries Service Supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:

Goal 3(Good Health & Well being); Goal 13 (Climate Action);

Housing and Homelessness Supports Information Clinic

Monday 20th April , 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*

Kildare Libraries Service Supports the following Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 1(No Poverty) Goal 3(Good Health & Well being) ; Goal 13 (Climate Action)

Events for Children

Family Board Games through Irish

Saturday 18th April 10:30 am to 12.30 pm

Practice your cúpla focal playing board games as Gaeilge. All ages welcome. All children attending this event must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Organized by Gaeilge Nuada and hosted by Emma from Eclecticats. * Drop in , all welcome !*

Kildare Libraries Service Supports the following Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 3(Good Health & Well being) ; Goal 4 (Quality Education); Goal 13 (Climate Action);

Age Friendly Programme

Age Friendly Coffee Morning

Wednesday, 11th February, 10am – 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

Kildare Libraries Service Supports the following Sustainable Development Goals:
 Goal 3(Good Health & Well being); Goal 13 (Climate Action)

Groups and Clubs

Maynooth Community Library Craft Club

The Library Craft Club meets every Monday, 11.30am - 13.00pm (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, 10am – 11am

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!

New Origami Club for Adults

Thursday 16th April , 6.30 pm – 7.30 pm

What can you do with a piece of paper and your imagination? Join us for an evening of happy folding, mindfulness and creativity at Maynooth Community Library on the third Thursday of each month. * Drop in. No booking required *

Goal 3(Good Health & Well being); Goal 13 (Climate Action)

For further information about Kildare Library Service Events, why not subscribe to our events newsletter at the following link:

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 April 2027. To be placed on a waiting list to use the exhibition space in 2026, or for booking enquiries, please email maynoothlib@kildarecoco.ie.

***For further information about our events , why not subscribe to the Kildare Library Service Newsletter at the link below ***

[Kildare Library Service - Newsletter Subscribe Form](#)



Cllr. Donna Phelan

Working with **Naoise Ó Cearúil TD**

If you have any issues or want to arrange an appointment feel free to get in touch.

Contact Donna:
Email: dphelan@kildarecoco.ie / Tel: 087 002 3636

Contact Naoise:
Email: naoise.ocearuil@oireachtas.ie / Tel: 01 618 4193

Donna & Naoise



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St. Patrick's Day Gallery

Photos
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Martina & Gavin
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South Meath Vintage Group



Classic Cars



O.N.E Colour Party



8th Kildare Maynooth Scouts



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band



Polish Scouts in Maynooth



Lil Tully School of Dancing



Carton School of Motoring



Maynooth Tidy Towns



St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band



North Kildare Eagles Basketball



Saor Dance & Fitness



Maynooth GAA Club



Maynooth Taekwon-Do School



Gaelscoil Ruairi



Norman Re-enactment Group



Maynooth Educate Together



Maynooth Community First Responders

St. Patrick's Day Gallery

Photos
Newsletter Staff,
Martina & Gavin
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Blackberry Stables



Maynooth Town FC



Home Comforts Retrofits



North Kildare Club



Thorntons Recycling



CIIC Contracting Ltd



Cookley Septic Tank Cleaning



Moyglare Sand & Gravel



Ray Crofton Motors



CRUZ Detailing



Maynooth Fire Brigade



Oliver Bright
St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band



Johnny Dowling
Scout Leader



Elaine Dillon, Noreen & Damian Kirwan,
Anto, Jackie and Eoghan Mooney



St. Patrick's Day Gallery

Photos
Newsletter Staff,
Martina & Gavin
© Maynooth CEP



St. Patrick's Day Gallery



Kilkenny Reenactment Group



Danny from Fierce



Terri Walsh from Fierce



Vinny and Catherine Mulready with Naoise O'Cearuil



St. Laurence O'Toole Pipe Band



Gaelscoil Ruairi with Naoise O'Cearuil



Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group



ART EXHIBITION 2026

LOCATION
Maynooth Post Primary School
Maynooth Educational Campus
Mariavilla, Moyglare Road
W23 X6X8

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
APRIL 11TH & 12TH
12 NOON TO 5PM

All welcome
Admission Free



NOTICE

MAYNOOTH SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

OUR AGM WILL TAKE PLACE ON
MONDAY 13TH APRIL 2026
AT 8PM

**THE GERALDINE HALL,
LEINSTER STREET**



Maynooth CEP

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER



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KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth



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

Information is also available online at www.citizensinformation.ie
and from the Citizens Information Phone Service - 0761 07 4000 or Lo-call 1890777121

New Rules on Renting

Are you signing a new tenancy agreement?

Since 1 March 2026, new rules apply to tenancies in the private sector. The new rules affect:

- How inflation is measured for the purpose of rent increases
- How rent can be increased in newly built apartments or student accommodation
- How often a landlord can re-set the rent (and the steps they must follow to do this)
- How long you can stay in your rented home
- The valid reasons why your tenancy can end, depending on whether you have a smaller or larger landlord
- The ways in which you can get a notice of termination.



The new rules apply to you if you sign a new tenancy agreement for:

- A private rental, including if you get the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or support through the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)
- Student-specific accommodation
- An approved Housing Body (AHB) home
- A cost rental home (below market rent)

However, the rules about rent increases don't apply to AHB or cost rental housing, and they're slightly different for tenancies in student-specific accommodation.

If your tenancy was created before 1 March 2026, or if you live in local authority housing, the new rules don't apply to you.

New Rules for the Private Rented Sector

The Government announced changes to rental law in Ireland that update rules for the private rented sector about:

- Rent increases
- Security of tenure – a tenant's right to stay in rented accommodation for a set amount of time
- Ending a tenancy

The new rules apply to new tenancies created from 1 March 2026. The rules are set out in the Residential Tenancies (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2026.

Tenancies created before this date are not affected by the new rules.

What Types of Tenancies Do The New Rules Apply To?

The new rules apply to new tenancies created on or after 1 March 2026 in:

- Private rented housing – incl The new rules apply to new tenancies created on or after 1 March 2026 in:
- Private rented housing – including tenancies supported by the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) or Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS)
- Student-specific accommodation
- Approved housing body (AHB) housing
- Cost rental housing

However, the rent increase rules do not apply to AHB or cost rental housing and they are slightly different for tenancies in student-specific accommodation.

Types of tenancies the new rules do not apply to

- The new rules do not apply to tenancies created before 1 March 2026.

They also do not apply to:

- Local authority tenancies

Tenants who share accommodation with their landlord, for example, renting a room in a landlord's home

Rent Increases

As before, rent increases for most tenancies are capped in line with the rate of general inflation or 2% a year, whichever is lower.

When can a landlord re-set the rent?

For tenancies created on or after 1 March 2026, landlords can review the rent each year. Any increase to rent must be within the limits for rent increases.

From 1 March 2026, if a new tenancy is created, a landlord can re-set the rent to market value, if the previous rent was below market value and:

- The tenant leaves the tenancy voluntarily
- The tenant breaks their obligations
- The home no longer meets the tenant's needs, for example, because it is too small
- The 6-year tenancy of minimum duration ends for a private rented tenancy

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Rent Increases Continued

- 3-years has passed for tenancies in student-specific accommodation
- The property is a protected structure or proposed protected structure that has not been let in the previous year
- The property is not a protected structure and has not been rented out at any time in the previous 2 years
- The property had been substantially changed. The RTB has information about what a substantial change means.

Notice about re-setting the rent

When re-setting the rent, the landlord must send a notice of the new rent to their tenant and the RTB on the same day. The notice should include:

- How much the rent was for the last tenancy at the property
- The date the rent was last set for the last tenancy at the property
- The RTB's registration number for the last tenancy at the property
- How the new rent has been calculated and that this calculation aligns with the market rent for similar properties in the area
- The rent and RTB registration numbers for 3 rental properties that are like the property being rented. They should be in a similar area and have comparable floor area, bedrooms, character, and Building Energy Rating (BER). This information should be taken from the new RTB rent register.

It is an offence for a landlord to break these rules and the RTB can investigate and sanction landlords, if they do.

Protections against 'no-fault evictions'

Landlords are not allowed to re-set the rent after a 'no fault eviction'. A 'no fault eviction' is when a landlord ends a tenancy even though the tenant hasn't done anything wrong. This is to prevent landlords evicting a tenant so they can increase the rent.

From 1 March 2026, all new tenancies become tenancies of minimum duration (TMD). A tenancy of minimum duration will last for 6 years. It will then be renewed for another 6 years and will continue in 6-year cycles.

Security of Tenure

If a tenancy is created on or after 1 March 2026, it automatically becomes a TMD when a tenant has rented the accommodation for 6 months without getting a valid notice of termination.

Ending a Tenancy

If a tenancy is created on or after 1 March 2026, a landlord can only end a tenancy for certain reasons. These reasons depend on:

- If the landlord is a 'larger landlord or company' or a 'smaller landlord'
- How long the tenant has been living there

Is my landlord a smaller or larger landlord?

This depends on how many tenancies your landlord has or if they are a registered company.

- A larger landlord has 4 or more tenancies
- A smaller landlord has 3 or fewer tenancies

Registered companies are classified as larger landlords, even if they have 3 or less tenancies.

If a landlord has a property which contains 4 or more tenancies, they will be considered a larger landlord.

If a tenant wants to end the tenancy

Tenants are not tied to the 6-year contract. Tenants can end their tenancy at any time by giving their landlord:

A written notice of termination & The right amount of notice

Requirements for smaller landlords ending a tenancy of minimum duration

If a smaller landlord ends a tenancy during or at the end of a TMD, they may have to make certain statutory declarations. Statutory declarations are signed statements that information is true or accurate.

Smaller landlords need to make these declarations if they are ending a tenancy of minimum duration because they:

- Are selling the property due to hardship during a TMD
- Need the property for themselves or an immediate family member to move into during a TMD
- Are renovating the property at the end of a TMD
- Are changing the use of the property at the end of a TMD

The statutory declaration must state that on the day the notice of termination is served, the landlord:

- Is not a company
- Does not have more than 3 tenancies

The landlord may need to make statutory declarations or statements confirming the reason they are ending the tenancy. For example, if they are selling the property during a TMD to avoid hardship, they need to declare that they are doing this for one of the accepted reasons.

If a tenant wants to end the tenancy

Tenants are not tied to the 6-year contract. Tenants can end their tenancy at any time by giving their landlord:

A written notice of termination & The right amount of notice



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

Other Changes to Renting Rules

There are some other changes to the rules for renting outlined in the legislation.

Sending notices electronically

You can send notices electronically. For example, a landlord can send a notice of termination to their tenant by email.

Any notices must be sent to a contact point used by the other person, for example, their email address or number. The electronic system you use must record that the notice has been sent.

Before 1 March 2026, you could only send a notice of termination by post, by leaving it at the address, or by giving it to the person.

Access to rented accommodation for viewings

Tenants must allow their landlord and certain other people access to the rented property, if they want to inspect it because the landlord is selling it.

The landlord must agree a date and time for this in advance with the tenant.

Rent register

The Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) maintains a rent register that publishes the rent and other details for rented properties.

This rent register allows landlords to set rents to the market rent for their area by comparing their property to similar rented properties.

Registering a tenancy

Landlords have to give the RTB additional information about their rented property when registering a tenancy. For example, they have to give the number of bed spaces, floor area and BER. This is to help maintain the new rent register.

Where can I get more information about the changes?

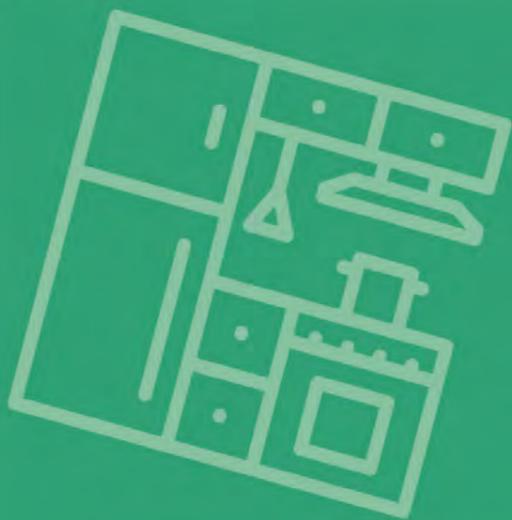
The Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage has published:

- Information about the key changes for new tenancies from 1 March 2026
- A Q&A on rental market reforms - Scenarios for tenants and landlords - Press release on Government reforms to the rental sector

The Residential Tenancies Board also has information about the rental law changes from 1 March 2026 including leaflets, videos and an FAQ.

Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 13/02/2026 to 25/03/2026 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
2660283	Kildare County Council	Jimmy McMahon	Castletown Pharmacy & McMahons Bar & Eatery, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	19/03/2026
2660271	Kildare County Council	Jimmy McMahon	Castletown Pharmacy & McMahons Bar & Eatery, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	12/03/2026
2629	Kildare County Council	Alex To	Donaghstown, Newtown Road, Maynooth, Kildare	10/03/2026
2660253	Kildare County Council	Halycon Lux	Celbridge Shopping Centre, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	09/03/2026
2660241	Kildare County Council	Halycon Lux	Celbridge Shopping Centre, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	05/03/2026



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**Social
Democrats**

Councillor Peter Melrose



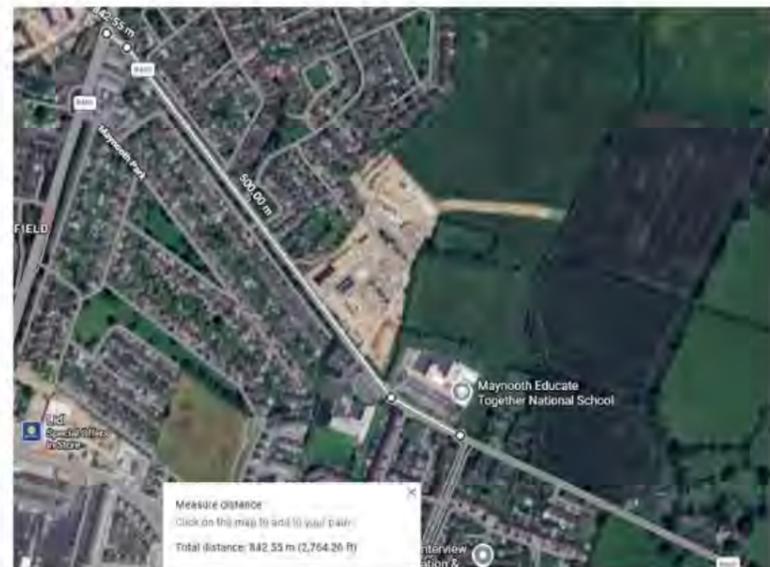
Moyglare Link Road Trees and Cycle Lane

While out on one of many, many walks with my son last week, I was happy to see that the trees along the Moyglare Link Road, outside Maynooth Education Campus, have been crown lifted, i.e. lower branches have been trimmed. Now that the road and paths are under the control of the council, I am pushing to have the cycle path redone as it is currently unusable due to protruding roots from the adjacent trees.



Being a councillor can sometimes be a double-edged sword: on one hand, you have the agency to invest yourself in projects that you are passionate about and believe in, and on the other hand, the role lacks the structured criteria of most other jobs.

Therefore, finding a metric for success can be an abstract pursuit. Did I really push that project over the line? Did I make the decisive intervention to help that person? It can be impossible to tell sometimes. However, I try to rely on the maxim that I am trying my best, and that any part played in helping the community is a part well played.



Water Mains Replacement Celbridge Road

There is a lot happening on the Celbridge Road; the MERR continues apace towards its Q1 2027 deadline, the NTA is preparing to put their Active Travel Scheme for the road out to public consultation, and Uisce Éireann is undertaking a much needed and overdue replacement of the main pipe. I have raised the issue of collaboration several times with all stakeholders, so that the road is not continually dug up and redone.

Uisce Éireann is fast-tracking the pipe replacement to coincide with complementary works with the MERR, ensuring that all other works will be completed before the Active Travel Scheme begins. Stop/Go systems will be in place for up to ten weeks starting March 30th. This will be disruptive, and it will be frustrating. I will post updates as I have them on my social media.

Accessibility Fund Round Two

Using your local property tax to fund accessibility upgrades to our paths and crossings in the town is one of the most rewarding and tangible achievements in my time as a councillor. I learned a lot from round one, and there is plenty more to do around the town. I will be posting a callout for submissions on my social media soon so please keep an eye out.



Fossil Fuel Dependency

Once again, conflict in the Middle East threatens to involve countries outside the immediate region. During negotiations for a peaceful resolution regarding Iran's nuclear capacity, U.S. and Israeli forces attacked Iran. The resulting instability has impacted the economies of nearly all countries dependent on fossil fuels. At the time of writing, there is little sign of when this will end. The "Oil Emergency" of the 1970s saw a significant surge in bicycle usage as people sought to reduce petrol consumption. However, this shift was short-lived. When fuel deliveries resumed, most countries—with the notable exceptions of the Netherlands and Denmark—reverted to their previous pro-fossil fuel policies. At that time, awareness of climate change was low, and Ireland lacked cycling infrastructure. We cannot use those excuses today, so it will be interesting to see if cycling receives a more permanent boost this time.

Grand Canal Greenway - Hazelhatch

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the opening of the latest section of the Grand Canal Greenway between the 12th Lock (Adamstown) and Hazelhatch. This "missing link" completes the greenway between Dublin and Sallins/Naas. Unfortunately, beside McEvoy's Pub at Hazelhatch, South Dublin County Council has installed a "kissing gate" that prevents larger bicycles, such as cargo bikes, from accessing the Kildare section of the route. A "cyclists dismount" sign has been erected at the barrier, along with a "no cycling" sign at the roadside entrance to the canal path. Such barriers to active travel should not be happening in 2026.

Ferries and Air Pollution

Transport & Environment (T&E), a clean transport advocacy group, recently reported on urban air pollution caused by cargo and passenger ferries. They found that Dublin is currently the most polluted port city in Europe, with more sulphur oxides (SOx) emitted from ferries than from road vehicles. This is set to change in 2027 when new regulations take effect. However, while the EU has introduced ambitious plans to transition ferries from fossil fuels to electric power, there is little evidence that significant outcomes will be realised before 2030.

Independent Group

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, we welcome new members. Why not join us - you can find details on our website. Maynoothcyclingcampaign.com

What is the fastest mode of transport in urban areas?

RTÉ recently held an 11 km "race" from Rathfarnham to St. Stephen's Green between a cyclist, a public transport user, and a car driver. This was a repeat of a comparison held ten years ago, which was also won by the cyclist. This year, the cyclist remained the winner, completing the journey in approximately 40 minutes. The public transport user followed at one hour, noting that the bus was delayed by private cars in areas lacking dedicated bus lanes. The car driver finished third once again. The outcome is clear: for the fastest and most predictable travel times in urban areas, including Maynooth, cycling is the best option.



The Man who Gave China its Name

Mao Zedong was not the first Chinese leader who used brute force to destroy his country's past and establish a new order. All around Xian, which was once the ancient capital of China and the eastern terminus for caravans of the Silk Road, there are sculptures and portraits of Qin Shi Huang who managed to unite all of China for the first time. In fact, no one knows what this Qin – pronounced Chin – looked like but the bulky, bearded figure with distinctive headgear, is felt to project the correct image of a terrifying and ruthless leader who gave China its name.

Born in 259 B.C. to a prince of the Qin State, he was given the name Ying Zheng and, on the death of his father in 246 B.C., he came to the throne. At this time there were seven Warring States but, one by one, King Zheng defeated them until, in 221 B.C., he was able to assume the title 'Shi Huang' or First Emperor and was known from then on as Qin Shi Huang.

Having unified China, he pursued campaigns as far north as Korea and south as far as Vietnam. His rule focused on law and punishment, which dealt a blow to Confucius' teachings on rights and morality. He reorganized the bureaucracy by abolishing the existing nobility with their feudal hierarchies, and replacing them with his own appointed officials. He standardized weights, measures, currency and written script and developed an extensive network of roads and canals, which, by connecting the provinces, improved trade between them.

It was Emperor Qin who joined the separate walls, which had been constructed by independent kingdoms, into one continuous wall that became the foundations of the present Great Wall of China. One hundred and eighty million cubic metres of rammed earth were used to form the core of this new wall along with the bones of deceased workers, many of whom were political prisoners.

Despite his many achievements, Qin was a brutal tyrant. Like Mao, in order to remove any access to the opinions of others, books on poetry and history were burned and records of his predecessors were destroyed. Any scholars who opposed him were buried alive. In his later life, Qin became obsessed with finding an elixir of life that would enable him to live forever. This quest took longer than expected as his leading physicians had to test the concoctions first and many died in the process. He used numerous medications, some of which contained mercury, gold, arsenic and lead, and these almost certainly shortened his life.

Afraid of dying and perhaps hoping he could conquer heaven as he had his empire, he wanted an army to protect him in the afterlife, an army that would act like a real army but would never decay. Supplies of clay suitable for pottery are plentiful in North China and it had been used in mass production techniques for over a thousand years, so this was used to create over eight thousand clay soldiers, each differing in facial features and expressions. The brightly painted figures, wearing scales of leather armour and carrying real weapons were placed in battle formation in underground pits along with clay horses and chariots. Since 1974 three terracotta army pits have been excavated. These are situated 1.5 kilometres west of a mound that is yet to be opened. Inside this mound is Qin's tomb, which is supposed to contain palaces filled with precious stones and ingenious defences against intruders, including a stream full of mercury. It is believed that those who worked on the project were buried alive in the mound, taking its secrets with them.

As Qin's final resting place was being prepared, there had been bad omens. In 211 B.C. a meteorite had fallen from the heavens and someone had engraved on it 'The First Emperor will die and his land will be divided'. An investigation was ordered without results but all those living in the vicinity were executed and the offending meteorite destroyed.

Around this time, it was decided that another tour, the fourth one, of his new dominions would be advisable to keep a check on his subjects and Qin was also hoping to find some new immortality medication. The retinue set off with several identical enclosed carriages – an excavated bronze example of one can be seen in the Terracotta Army Museum. For safety reasons, the Emperor would have travelled in a different carriage each day as he had already survived three assassination attempts, one being from a musician who tried to kill him with a lead-weighted lute! Four hundred and fifty kilometres from home, Qin fell ill, probably from mercury poisoning, and died in 210 B.C. With no definite successor and far from the support of Qin's main armies, his officials were afraid that his newly conquered territories would take advantage of the situation and rebel.

To gain time until it was decided what action to take, the Emperor's body was placed in one of the imperial carriages and an order was given that all official carriages should take on board thirty kilograms of dried fish. The entourage headed homewards with the fish giving off enough of a stench to disguise that of the Emperor's decaying body.

Qin's empire did not outlast him for long. His rebellious eldest son and heir, Fusu, was tricked into committing suicide and his second son, Huhai, seized power, only to be forced in 207 B.C. to kill himself. A peasant uprising in 206 B.C., led by the commoner Liu Bang, brought about the Qin dynasty's abrupt downfall and the establishment of the Han dynasty.

Qin Shi Huang had been a brilliant ruler but he was plagued by paranoia and a desire to dominate in the afterlife as he had during his reign. This led to his extraordinary – and still only partially excavated – burial world at Xian but, like most dictators, Qin's fall from grace was perhaps inevitable.

By Cheryl Devaney



FROM MAYNOOTH TO THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS SHIP

THE BISHOP OF CLOYNE: ROBERT BROWNE

Robert Browne was born in County Cork and received his early education at St. Colman's College before pursuing clerical studies at St Patrick's College Maynooth. Ordained in 1869, Browne returned to Maynooth in 1874 where he quickly rose through the ranks of the college administration. He became Dean of St. Patrick's in 1875, was appointed Vice-President in 1883, and then President in 1885. He held this important position until 1894 when he was appointed Bishop of Cloyne. During his years of influence, significant developments took place at Maynooth. These included the construction of the Aula Maxima, the grand ceremonial hall used for major college events, and the completion of the magnificent college chapel in the 1890s. The finishing touch came in 1902 with the addition of the chapel's elegant spire, completing one of the most recognisable architectural landmarks in County Kildare. In April 1912, following the tragic sinking of the RMS Titanic, Bishop Browne led a memorial Mass at St Colman's Cathedral, offering prayers and comfort to a devastated community. Many of those lost had connections with Cobh, then known as Queenstown, the final port of call for Titanic before she set sail across the Atlantic. The cathedral itself is a masterpiece of Irish ecclesiastical architecture. Its tower was designed by George Coppinger Ashlin, a pupil of the renowned architect Edward Welby Pugin. Ashlin and Pugin were leading figures in church architecture in Ireland and were responsible for designing many iconic religious buildings across the country, including works connected with Maynooth itself.

FATHER FRANCIS BROWNE: THE PRIEST WHO PHOTOGRAPHED TITANIC

One of the most remarkable personal connections between Ireland and the Titanic story belongs to Francis Browne. Born in County Cork in 1880, Browne was an Irish Jesuit priest, acclaimed photographer, and later a decorated military chaplain during the First World War. Orphaned at a young age, he was raised and supported by his uncle, Robert Browne, the Bishop of Cloyne. Francis received an excellent education, studying at Belvedere College, the Christian Brothers School in Cork, and St Vincent's College Castleknock. He later attended the Royal University of Dublin, where his classmates included future literary and political figures such as James Joyce, Tom Kettle, and Francis Sheehy-Skeffington. Joyce would later immortalise him as "Mr Browne the Jesuit" in the novel *Finnegans Wake*. In 1912, his uncle gave him a remarkable gift — a first-class ticket aboard the Titanic for its journey from Southampton to Cherbourg and then Cobh. His cabin, A-37, was located beside that of Thomas Andrews, the Belfast shipbuilder who designed the ship. During his brief time on board, Browne captured a remarkable photographic record of life aboard Titanic. His photographs show scenes from the Marconi wireless room, the ship's gymnasium, the elegant first-class dining saloon, and passengers strolling along the boat and promenade decks. Among the most poignant images he captured were the final known photographs of several men who would perish in the disaster, including Captain Edward Smith, gymnasium manager T. W. McCawley, and Belfast engineer William Parr. While travelling on the ship, Browne befriended a wealthy American couple who were so impressed by him that they offered to pay for him to continue the voyage to New York and return with them. He sent a telegram to his Jesuit superior asking permission. The response was short and decisive: "GET OFF THAT SHIP." Browne obeyed the order and disembarked at Queenstown (Cobh). It was a decision that saved his life. Just days later, the Titanic met her iceberg, shaped by nature, six times her size and sank in the North Atlantic.



TITANIC, QUEENSTOWN (COBH) CO. CORK – TITANIC'S LAST PORT OF CALL
(WIKI/PUBLIC DOMAIN)



FR. FRANCIS BROWNE (WIKI/PUBLIC DOMAIN)



FROM TITANIC TO THE WESTERN FRONT

Browne later served as a military chaplain with the Irish Guards during the First World War. He ministered to soldiers on the Western Front during some of the war's most brutal battles, including Battle of Messines, Battle of Passchendaele, Third Battle of Ypres, Battle of Amiens, and the Battle of the Somme. He experienced what was then the heaviest artillery bombardment ever witnessed and was wounded five times, once seriously in a gas attack. Despite these dangers, he survived the war and continued his religious ministry. He died in Dublin in 1960 at the age of 80 and was buried in the Jesuit plot at Glasnevin Cemetery. For decades, his extraordinary story remained largely forgotten. Then, in 1986, a remarkable discovery was made at Emo Court. A trunk containing more than 40,000 photographic negatives taken by Browne was found. Just one year earlier the wreck of the Titanic had been discovered on the seabed. Suddenly, Browne's photographs offered the world an extraordinary visual window into life aboard the most famous ship in history.

THE EARLS OF KILDARE AND THEIR TITANIC CONNECTIONS

County Kildare's connections to Titanic history stretch even further back in time.

In 1708, Robert FitzGerald married Mary O'Brien. This marriage united two powerful Irish dynasties — the Anglo-Norman FitzGerald family and the Gaelic O'Brien lineage, descendants of Brian Boru, High King of Ireland.

More than two centuries later, this family line would intersect unexpectedly with Titanic history. The pioneering inventor Guglielmo Marconi, whose wireless technology revolutionised global communication, married Beatrice O'Brien, a descendant of the same O'Brien family line.

Marconi's invention — wireless telegraphy — played a crucial role aboard the RMS Titanic. The ship's Marconi wireless room allowed passengers to send messages ashore and enabled the crew to receive vital ice warnings and weather reports from other vessels. Its range was remarkable for the time — around 300–400 miles during the day and up to 1,200 miles at night depending on atmospheric conditions.

The FitzGeralds of Kildare have another unexpected Titanic connection.

The American financier J. P. Morgan, who bankrolled Titanic and her sister ships, was an avid collector of rare manuscripts. Among the treasures he acquired was a medieval Book of Hours once owned by the FitzGerald family and formerly housed in the great library of Maynooth Castle.

Created in Rouen, France around 1425, the illuminated manuscript was used for private prayer and devotion. Its pages contain marginal notes and drawings recording events in the lives of the FitzGerald family, likely added by family members themselves.

Today the manuscript is preserved in the Morgan Library & Museum, where it has been digitised and made available for public viewing.

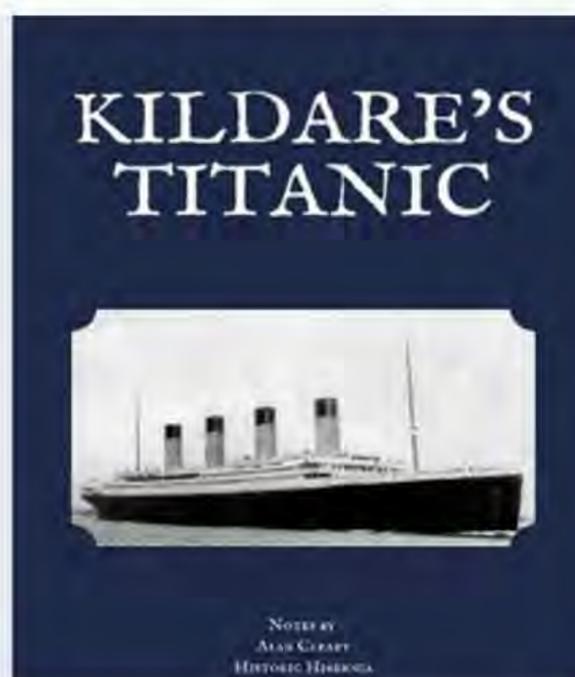
DISCOVER MORE: KILDARE'S TITANIC

These fascinating connections between Titanic, County Kildare, and Maynooth are explored in greater detail in the booklet "Kildare's Titanic." Written by Alan Cleary, the publication examines the history of the ship, its crew and passengers, and the many Irish and Kildare links connected with the famous liner. The booklet is available to purchase from Maynooth Bookshop, both in store and online, and can also be borrowed from Maynooth Library and Leixlip Library. You can also purchase a 4 booklet maritime series which includes – Kildare's Titanic, RMS Leinster, RMS Empress of Ireland & RMS Lusitania. Each booklet is carefully researched and focuses on the rich history of each liner and more connections to Irish history. All can be purchased online / instore at Maynooth Bookshop or:

historichibernia@gmail.com



J.P. MORGAN (WIKI/PUBLIC DOMAIN)



Alan Cleary is a historian, author, and local tour guide who specialises in uncovering the rich and often surprising historical connections between County Kildare and major events in world history.



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MU RESEARCH EXAMINES FOSSIL FUEL RENEWABLE ENERGY CLAIMS



The world's largest fossil fuel companies are deceitfully signalling support for renewable energy solutions, while working behind the scenes to slow the global transition away from carbon-based fuels according to new MU research led by Jennie C Stephens, Professor of Climate Justice at ICARUS, done in collaboration with colleagues at Northeastern University in the United States and reported in the journal *Energy, Sustainability and Society*.

"We analysed the annual reports of major fossil fuel corporations from 2016-2022 and analysed how they talk about renewables. We found they were all using a subtle, but powerful form of 'greenwashing' to justify their continued oil and gas extraction," said Prof Stephens. Prof Stephens and her colleagues deployed a rigorous social science methodology which involved manually coding every mention of renewable energy they found in the annual reports and assessing whether those references were positive, negative or neutral. The researchers found that each of the four companies being looked at highlighted a renewable technology, such as wind or solar, to present themselves as an active player in the energy transition. The references to renewables that the researchers located in the annual reports, were frequently linked to continued use of fossil fuels, especially gas, and were accompanied by mentions of negative aspects of renewable energy.

We see this as a sophisticated form of double-speak, these companies are talking about renewable energy just enough to appear to be part of the transition, but in practice they are using renewables to justify more fossil fuel extraction and to block the transformative changes we need." This strategy aligns with a broader decades-long pattern of climate obstructionism by the fossil fuel industry, said Prof Stephens, and is reminiscent of how the tobacco industry downplayed the health risks from smoking. "This study matters for the public because it exposes how corporate narratives have contributed to the slow pace of the transition away from fossil fuels. Even as companies claim to be embracing renewables, she said, they are intentionally limiting the transformative potential of the clean energy transition. What we have found is that companies are strategically mentioning renewables, while reinforcing negative perceptions of renewable energy. This study of the annual reports of powerful fossil fuel companies provides new insights to understand how such corporations shape the story of the energy transition.

MU HOSTS BILATERAL IWD EVENT ON HIGHER EDUCATION'S ROLE IN WOMEN'S SPORT



Maynooth University (MU), in partnership with the Scottish Government Ireland Office, today hosted a flagship International Women's Day (IWD) 2026 event at Croke Park, bringing together policymakers, higher education leaders, sports agencies, athletes and students from Ireland and Scotland to explore how universities can help level the field for women in sport.

The event highlighted the role of higher education as a catalyst for Ireland–Scotland collaboration, demonstrating how universities can expand opportunity, mobility and leadership pathways for women in sport across participation, performance, research and leadership.



L-R: MU STUDENT-ATHLETE KATE SLEVIN; MARTIN MCDERMOTT, HEAD OF SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT IRELAND OFFICE; DR ÚNA MAY, CEO AT SPORT IRELAND; MU PRESIDENT PROF EEVA LEINONEN; CRAIG BURN, DIRECTOR OF SPORT AT SPORTSCOTLAND AND UNIVERSITY OF STIRLING STUDENT-ATHLETE HOLLY WILKIE-MILNE AT THE IWD 'LEVEL THE FIELD' AT CROKE PARK.

Titled *Level the Field: The role of Higher Education in Supporting Women in Sport across Ireland and Scotland*, the event examined how higher education can address barriers to participation, support elite and grassroots pathways, and empower future female leaders.

The event also highlighted the contribution of university-based research to improving outcomes for women and girls in sport. Working closely with sporting bodies, health agencies and policymakers, this research is informing practice and programme design both on campus and beyond.

Speaking about the event, **Minister of State with special responsibility for Sport and Postal Policy, Charlie McConalogue TD**, said: "Sport plays a vital role in Irish society – from participation and wellbeing to performance and community connection. Recent record levels of Government investment through Sport Ireland reflect a clear commitment to strengthening those foundations, particularly in supporting women and girls to participate and progress in sport.

"Higher education institutions have a critical role to play in this effort. By supporting participation, developing talent, and embedding wellbeing and equality at the heart of the student experience, universities help turn national ambition into lived opportunity."

MU President Prof Eeva Leinonen, said: "At MU, sport is central to the student experience. It supports physical and emotional wellbeing, builds confidence and belonging, and develops skills that last a lifetime.

"This International Women's Day, *Level the Field* is about possibility – and about the unique power of sport to unite people across communities, cultures and borders. Through higher education, we can help ensure that women and girls are supported not only to participate in sport, but to lead, to thrive, and to shape its future."

MU'S WOMEN'S SOCCER SECURE DOUBLE SUCCESS



**Maynooth
University**
National University
of Ireland Maynooth



MU Women's senior soccer team celebrating their Kelly Cup success

Maynooth University (MU) Senior Women's Soccer team are celebrating after lifting the Kelly Cup at Athlone Town Stadium, securing an outstanding League and Cup double for the 2025/26 season, having already been crowned CUFL Premier Division champions earlier this season. Their road to the final began with a 6–1 away victory over DCU in Round 1, followed by a 4–1 win away to ATU Sligo in the quarter-final and a 6–0 home victory over the University of Galway in the semi-final.

In the final, MU defeated University College Cork 5–1 to claim the Kelly Cup and complete the league and cup double. Goals came from Sorcha Melia, Mia McGonnell, Aoife Kelly, Therese Kinnevey and Orlagh Fitzpatrick, while Becky Watkins was named Player of the Match.

Barry Prenderville, Soccer Development Manager at MU's Sport Office said: "Huge congratulations to all the players, coaches, and support staff involved in this remarkable achievement. This squad is one of the most talented ever to represent Maynooth University Soccer Club, and their dedication, teamwork, and commitment throughout the season have made them an unstoppable force."

"We would also like to acknowledge and thank colleagues across many University departments whose ongoing support makes achievements like this possible, and who support and encourage our student-athletes throughout the year."

The Kelly Cup triumph caps off an extraordinary season for the Women's Senior team and for MU Soccer, following the Men's Senior team's retention of the Collingwood Cup in February.



Becky Watkins receiving the Player of the Match trophy

Ollscoil Mhá Nuad
Maynooth University



7-9 May
2026



Thursday 7th May

8:00pm

Irish National Opera in Concert

Friday 8th May

8:00pm

MU Chamber Choir Anniversary Concert

9:30pm

Oíche Scéalaíochta, Amhránaíochta agus Ghrinn

Saturday 9th May

10:00am

Masterclass in Poetry with Mary O'Donnell

11:00am

An Táin Bó Yoga

12:00pm

Turas ar Chaisleán Mhaigh Nuad

12:00pm

**The Literary Lounge: An Afternoon of Poetry with
Ireland Professor of Poetry**

12:30pm

Leixlip Community Youth Band

1:00pm

Picnic agus Pop-Up Gaeltacht

1:30pm

The Blindboy Live Podcast Show

2:00pm

Sensory Tour of Maynooth Castle

2:30pm **The Literary Lounge: Edie May Hand & Tanya Sweeney**

3:00pm

'Sing Your Art Out' at The Big Sing

3:30pm

An Lúb Liteartha

4:00pm

Maynooth: Fitzgerald Castle to Commuter Town

6:00pm **The Literary Lounge Keynote: Conversation with Kevin Barry**

8:00pm

Act announcement coming soon

A Night At the Aula



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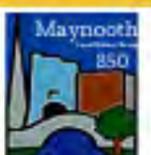
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Kildare County Council



Irish
National
Opera



OPW





Maynooth Community Employment Project

Producing the Maynooth Newsletter

Memories From the Archives

1986

Link to the Archive: www.maynoothcep.com

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No. 105

APRIL 1986

EDITION

PRICE 20p

Maynooth Information Directory

An Information Directory, listing the various business, public services and voluntary organisations in the Maynooth area has just been published.

The Directory is a joint venture of Maynooth Community Council, Maynooth Community Information Centre and Maynooth Public Library. The gathering of information for the Directory was carried out by a team of workers employed under the Social Employment Scheme, under the direction of a Committee whose members were drawn from the three sponsoring organisations.

The Directory also includes several maps, an account of the history of Maynooth, and information on places of interest in the Maynooth area. Copies of the Directory will be distributed free of charge to all houses in Maynooth and surrounding district. In addition, copies will be made available in local shops for the benefit of visitors to the town. The cost of production has been covered by the sale of advertising space in the Directory.

At a reception to launch the Directory, held in Maynooth Public Library, special presentations of the Directory were made to Mrs. Ann Daly, Maynooth's oldest citizen, Owen Byrne,

Launched

Honorary Lord Mayor of Maynooth, Donal O'Gorman, Kildare County Librarian, and Emmet Stagg, MCC, Chairman of the Celbridge Area Committee of Kildare County Council.

Proinsias Breathnach, Chairman of the Directory Committee, expressed the Committee's gratitude to all those who contributed to the production of the Directory. Special mention was made of the National Manpower Service, through whom the Social Employment Scheme is administered, the Social Employment Scheme workers, who brought enthusiasm and ability to bear on their task,

Joseph Wall of Cardinal Press, who printed the Directory, Maynooth Public Library, for their facilities and assistance, and all the advertisers in, and contributors to the Directory.

Proinsias Breathnach said that, following the great success of the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Maynooth, the tremendous response of advertisers, local businesses and organisations to the Directory was further testimony to the Community spirit which exists in Maynooth and which, hopefully, will continue to grow in future years.



LUCHT MUCHTA TINE

MAYNOOTH FIRE BRIGADE

Maynooth residents are very fortunate to have the services of the eight members of the brigade, who all live and work in Maynooth, available on call, twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. They are alerted by beepers which they carry everywhere. When a call for assistance is received by Fire Officer Michael O'Riordan, he relays the message to the fire men wherever they are. The Brigade will be recruiting soon. The upper age limit is 55 years, and members must be in good health, and be extremely fit.

On average, the Brigade is called out between 250 and 300 times a year. In the last two weeks in February this year, there were 22 calls. These calls are not always to do with fires or road accidents. The Brigade has rescued cats in trees, a child stuck in a chimney, a dog in a drain.

Unfortunately, some calls turn out to be bogus, wasting valuable time, and possibly having tragic consequences for someone in real need at the same time. The Brigade must turn out for all emergency calls, as they cannot afford to waste time in establishing whether callers are genuine.

The majority of fire calls are for chimney fires, and for attendance at these there is a fee of £20 - not much when the potential for disaster is considered, but it would be cheaper to clean the chimney regularly.

Michael O'Riordan and other members of the Brigade are happy to advise the public on questions relating to fire prevention and fire safety. Michael will talk to any Resident's Association or other organisations who want to inform themselves on the issue. He can be contacted at 285555. For the benefit of

readers of the Newsletter, Michael and Lenny Murphy gave some advice on what to do if a fire breaks out, and most important how to ensure that a fire doesn't break out in the first place.

If a fire breaks out

- The best way to extinguish a fire is to smother it, withdrawing the oxygen it needs to keep going. Never throw water on burning fat or oil. But, the best advice is to get out fast.

- Close all doors, as this helps to contain the fire in the room, preventing it from spreading rapidly. Most internal doors are designed to withstand fire for at least 30 minutes.

- Ring the fire brigade at 285555 as this will put you in touch directly with the Maynooth fire brigade. Otherwise, ring 999 and ask specifically for the Maynooth Service.

- Never go back to retrieve belongings - your life is worth more than property. Wait for the fire brigade; they have the equipment to enter burning buildings.



RECENT WEDDING

Congratulations to Kathleen Mullally, Cluain Aoibhinn, Maynooth and Cyril Kavanagh, Bryanstown, Kilcock who were married recently in St. Marys Church, Maynooth. The newly weds are spending their honeymoon in the Canary Islands.

SCOUT NEWS

With the onset of nice Spring weather all scouts turn their thoughts to hikes and the great out-doors. On Sunday 9th of March Sean McCaughley (Tuesday Cub Pack) took seven of the older cubs on a hike to Donadea woods. Those boys are soon due to move on to the Scout section. Sean was ably assisted by his friends from Maynooth College. The boys had a wonderful time.

The Venturers held a Unit Quiz and a Debating competition during the month. On the 22nd of February they went on a hike along the Royal Canal. During the weekend of the 28th of February to the 2nd of March they held a Development Course,

as part of the First Stage Awards. As their guests on the course they some Venturers from Kanturk, Co. Cork. Two Venturers - Neva Redmond and Alan Downey have volunteered to help out with the new Beaver Colony.

Our Monster Bingo on 2nd of March was a very successful venture. We sincerely thank everyone who supported us by participating or by supplying prizes.

All members of our Unit took part in the St. Patrick's Day Parade. We were pleased to be included in the awards.

Our new Beaver Colony will have their first meeting on 22nd of March.

Mary Fleming,
P.R.O.



C5 Sinclair

Three wheeled battery and pedal operated car. No tax or insurance needed. English built, featured on Tomorrow's World

RECENT BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to Mrs. Mary Waldron, Leinster Cottages, Maynooth who celebrated her 80th Birthday on March 16th.

Maynooth Community Contacts Listing

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<p>Cemetery Committee (Laraghbryan) 01-6293018</p>	<p>Church of Ireland 01-6292163 secretary@meath.anglican.org</p>	<p>Citizen Information Centre 0818078100 maynooth@citinfo.ie</p>	<p>Cloth Nappy Library Ireland 087-9949183 zerowastemaynooth@gmail.com facebook.com/NappyLibraryIreland</p>
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<p>Kildare County Council (Local Office) 01 - 6286236</p>	<p>Kildare MABS 0818072600 kildare@mabs.ie</p>	<p>Maynooth Autism Friendly Town 0863329050 autismfriendlytownmaynooth@gmail.com facebook.com/maynoothaft</p>	<p>Maynooth Employment Services Office Kelly's Lane, Maynooth 01-6016360 EstMaynooth@welfare.ie</p>
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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.