



Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

LOCAL NEWS - JULY 2026 - ISSUE NO. 558

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Maynooth University Takes Ownership of Lands and Buildings on the Southern Campus



L-R: MU President Prof Eeva Leinonen, Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science James Lawless TD and SPCM President Rev Dr Michael Shortall (source www.maynoothuniversity.ie/news)

The exterior of the Pugin designed buildings have been synonymous with Maynooth University despite the fact that their ownership remained with St. Patrick's College when the two organisations were separated under the 1997 Universities Act. This is because the Maynooth University southern campus continued to be based in buildings which were rented from St. Patricks. The history dating back to 1795 was a shared one up to 1997 and it is terrific news that Maynooth University has now acquired ownership of 28 acres and 24,000sq metres of built space on their southern campus.

Commenting on the announcement and published on the Maynooth University website, MU President, Prof Eeva Leinonen, said: "This marks a significant new chapter in the development of Maynooth University and one that I am delighted to see become a reality. As one of Ireland's fastest-growing

universities, this decision gives us the foundation to plan effectively and invest meaningfully, enabling us to realise our long-term vision for the campus. It also creates opportunities for future investment in facilities that support wellbeing, creativity, and community life, including a campus swimming pool, dedicated performance space and other amenities that would be shared by both the University and the wider community".

Picnic in the Park

(More Images on Page 3)



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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

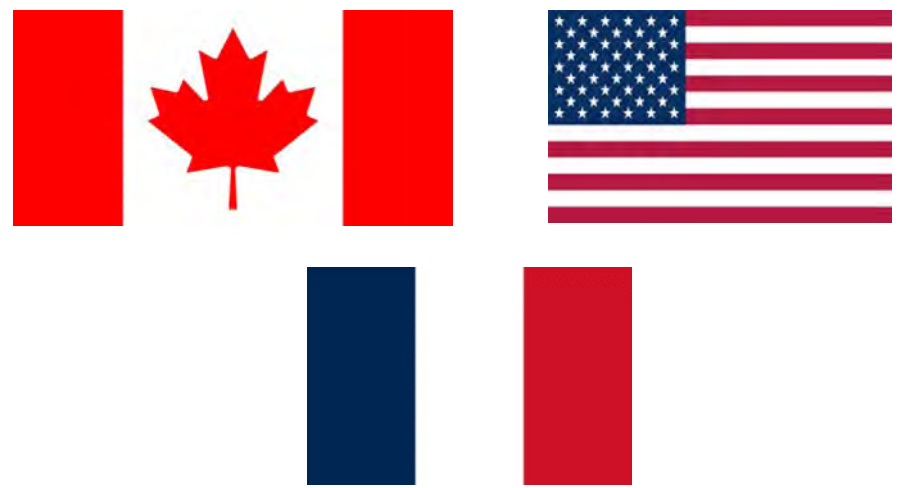
While every care has been taken to display accurate information, Maynooth Newsletter will not be held responsible for any loss, damage or inconvenience caused as a result of any inaccuracy or error within.

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

Editorial

In the 2022 Population Census of Ireland, the percentage of the population nationally that recorded their place of birth as outside of the state was 20%. When you look specifically at Maynooth that percentage is 28.7% which is substantially higher. Irish people living abroad get the chance to celebrate their identity on St. Patrick's Day and without doubt the 17th March is the best recognised national day in the world.

In July, other countries mark their national day and we have many residents living in Maynooth who come from these countries. July 1st is Canada day which dates back to 1st July 1867 when the British North America Act formed the Dominion of Canada. July 4th this year marks two hundred and fifty years since the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America in 1776. On July 14th France celebrates their national day, to celebrate the storming of the Bastille in 1789 and the revolution that brought about the founding ideals of the French Republic. So, to our Canadian, American and French born residents enjoy your national day.



Over the Summer Maynooth is one of the places where people come to from other counties to use the Maynooth Train service to get to Croke Park to watch their teams play in the various GAA competitions. Also, some residents living here put out their county flag in their gardens to show where their loyalty remains. Kildare last won the All-Ireland Senior Football Competition in 1928 beating Cavan in the final. In just two years it will be the centenary of that win. Wouldn't it be great if the county was to win the competition in 2028.

Between 2006 and 2015 Marca Na Feirme which is an organisation open to people in rural Ireland generally connected with agriculture, held an annual "Know your Neighbour" weekend event. Post Covid in 2021 they held a "Know your neighbour month" which like the previous events involved organising outdoor social activities in local areas. We are now in the part of the year where daylight hours are getting slightly shorter. Summer is the ideal time to get to know your neighbours and in Maynooth in many areas we have new neighbours arriving all of the time. Estate clean up days are an ideal opportunity to go out and help to keep the area you live in attractive and tidy. In Maynooth it is up to the residents to keep our estates and while this is an additional financial burden by having to pay a contribution, it is also an opportunity to be part of your local community. Whether we admit it or not, we all feel better being part of something. I recently enjoyed being part of an estate clean up where I live and I met some of my newer neighbours for the first time. While Marca Na Feirme are no longer leading these types of events, they certainly sowed the idea for us all to reap.

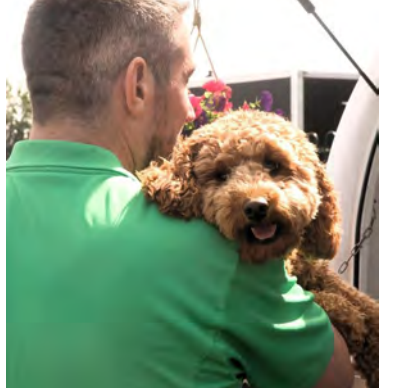
Paul Croghan
Editor

**Submission Date for August Edition is 5pm
on 23rd July 2026**

Picnic in the Park



St Mary's Brass and Reed Band



Kilkenny Historical Reenactment Group Invited by Maynooth 850





SUMMER ON THE SQUARE

Summer has arrived at Maynooth Market, and Court House Square has been looking its best over the past few weeks (let's hope we haven't jinxed the weather).

We've welcomed a steady stream of visitors each Saturday, with many stopping by to pick up local produce, discover handmade gifts and enjoy a browse around the stalls. Recent highlights have included the first strawberries of the season from Dunnes Farm, the viral dot cakes from Once Upon A Whisk, and guest traders showcasing everything from handcrafted woodwork to original artwork.



One of the joys of the market is that no two Saturdays are quite the same. Alongside our regular traders, we continue to welcome guest vendors and community groups, ensuring there's always something new to discover. Whether you're calling by for your weekly vegetables, searching for a unique gift or simply enjoying a stroll through the Square, the market offers a chance to support local businesses and connect with others in the community.



As we look ahead to the summer months, we're keen to welcome a few new faces. We currently have a small number of vendor spaces available and are particularly interested in hearing from hot food and savoury food vendors who could help broaden the range of food on offer.



We're also looking for additional volunteers to help support the market and shape its future. And our community stall remains available free of charge to local charities, community groups and non-profit organisations who would like to share information about their work or connect with local residents.

Maynooth Market takes place every Saturday from 10am to 3pm in Court House Square. We'd love to see you there this summer.

Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @themaynoothlocalmarket



Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee will take a break for the Month of August.

Morning Club will resume on Tuesday 1st September.



Phelan Cllr. Donna

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

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Public Talk
All Welcome!

Annual MU Intersectionality Lecture
and closing event of the Intersectional
Humanities Summer School

European Intersectional Humanities
Summer School 2026

Blackness and Irishness through the Centuries

With Speaker

Leon Diop

Leon Diop is an award-winning author and activist whose work explores race, identity, and the histories and futures of Black and Irish communities. In this event, Leon will explore key relationships between African and Irish heritage communities, both in Ireland and internationally and examines how these relationships may develop in the future.



Friday, 3rd July 2026
3:00–4:00 pm

Room 2.10, TSI Building, Maynooth University

Change of
Venue

Registration: Eventbrite
More information: muahi@mu.ie

The venue is fully wheelchair accessible. Please let us know if you have any other accessibility requirements.

Hosted by the Arts and Humanities Institute (AHI) and the
Office of the Vice President for Equality and Diversity



Arts and
Humanities
Institute



The Arts and Humanities Institute at Maynooth University is delighted to announce Leon Diop as this year's speaker for the MU Annual Intersectionality Lecture and closing plenary for the Intersectional Humanities Summer School. Leon will explore relationships between communities with African and Irish heritage, in Ireland and internationally. He will examine how these relationships may develop in the future.

Leon Diop is an award-winning author and activist whose work explores race, identity, and the histories and futures of Black and Irish communities. He graduated from Maynooth with a degree in psychology before going on to be Maynooth Students' Union President for two terms. In June 2020 he founded Black and Irish, an organisation working on behalf of Black and mixed race people in Ireland. He is the co-author of the award-winning book, *Black and Irish: Legends, Trailblazers and Everyday Heroes* and a host of the *Black and Irish* podcast. He currently serves on the boards of the Childhood Development Initiative and WorkEqual. In September 2024, Leon was named as a European Leader for the Obama Foundation. In November 2025, Leon published his second book, *Mixed Up* to help young people become more comfortable in their identity. Leon is currently the Head of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion at the Arts Council of Ireland.

This event is supported by the Arts and Humanities Institute and the Office of the Vice President for Equality and Diversity at Maynooth University.

This is a ticketed event. Please register on Eventbrite



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Kildare's Local Community Safety Partnership

As Chair of Kildare's Local Community Safety Partnership, I attended the Department of Justice national safety partnership away day in Athlone. It was an event packed full of data, insights and information sharing. It was also great to meet other county partnership members.



Intel Pride of Place Awards

I am honoured to be part of Maynooth Access Group who recently were presented with a Pride of Place Award. Maynooth Access Group represents the needs and voices of persons with disabilities. Well done to all the voluntary groups who were recognised at the annual event for all the fantastic work. Thank you Intel for the Pride of Place award. Go raibh maith agaibh.



139 Bus to Blanchardstown Hospital

Currently, the 139 bus serves Naas, Clane, Sallins, Rathcoffey, Maynooth, Leixlip, Ongar and Blanchardstown, with the terminus at the TU Dublin campus. James Connolly Hospital in Blanchardstown is the hospital to which many people from North Kildare are referred by their doctor and it can be very difficult to access without a car. I am campaigning to have the 139 serve the hospital, many people would avail of that enhanced service for medical and out-patient procedures as well as to visit relatives in the hospital. Please email me afeeney@kildarecoco.ie to lend your support.

Visit to Stepping Stones School

Delighted to be invited to Stepping Stones Special School to see first hand the benefit of the donation by Maynooth Access Group, of outdoor furniture, including benches, a picnic table, a wonderful mud kitchen and sensory equipment. To see it enjoyed by the students across the whole school was just amazing. Looking forward to continuing working with Stepping Stones, staff, parents and students. A wonderful Special School for Children with Autism and Complex Needs



M4 PRIORITY BUS LANE LAW PASSED



ONLINE OFFICE

 **Cllr Angela Feeney**



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St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Summer is the busiest time of the year for the Band, particularly June and July as you will see from what has happened in June and what is coming up in July.

The Academy Band got June off to a great start playing at the Mulhussey School Fun Day on the 7th which was a great success while on the 21st the Senior Band paid a return visit to the Picnic in the Park in the Harbour Field. The Academy Band also paid a visit to the Girls' Primary School on the 15th as part of their Creative week.

The Senior Band traveled to the South of Ireland Band Championships in Clonakilty, Co. Cork on the 4th of July where they claimed four prizes, including first place in the Intermediate Section last year. Because of that success the Band has been promoted to the Senior Section this year where the competition is particularly strong but they have been working extremely hard to give a good account of themselves. On the afternoon of Sunday July 19th the Senior Band will be hoping for fine weather then they play in the square in Kilcock which is a lovely venue.

Looking further ahead the Band will again be organising a Summer Camp from the 17th to 21st of August for ages 8 to 12 running from 10am to 2pm each day. For information and registration please contact stmarysbrassandreedcamps@gmail.com. On Friday 11th of September the Senior Band will be making their fourth trip to the Bad Orb International Music Festival joining over 30 bands from all over Europe in a wonderful weekend of music.

Summer Camp

€85

August 17-21
INSTRUMENT PROVIDED

10am-2pm

Poundlane, Maynooth, Co. Kildare

**Theory, Instrument Lessons,
Ensemble Practice and Educational
Games**

For more info and registrations
Contact us at:
stmarysbrassandreedcamps@gmail.com

Ages 8-12

Finally if YOU are interested in joining either of our Bands please send your details to stmarysbandmaynooth.ie, we would be delighted to hear from you.



VOLUNTEER WITH US!

Our Dog & Cat section are both seeking new volunteers to work at our shelter in Athgarvan near Newbridge. If you are a dog or cat lover, passionate about animal welfare and have a few hours to give each week, then our society would like to hear

from you. The work is hard, mostly outdoors and unpaid, but it is extremely fulfilling. It provides opportunities for new learning and huge personal rewards come from the joy, purpose and pride you will feel as you make a real difference to the lives of vulnerable rescue animals.

Our Dog Shelter is particularly looking for volunteers who can commit to a regular morning or afternoon shift or two each week. Morning shifts start at 7.30am and finish at 1pm and afternoon shifts start at 1pm and finish at around 6pm.

Our Cat section, Kitty Cottage requires volunteers who can commit to three hours once a week in the morning or early evening. If you are interested in volunteering at our Kitty Cottage, please text VOLUNTEER to **089 458 8162**.



All volunteers should be over 18 years of age and have their own transport. Further information can be found on our website: www.kwwspca.ie/volunteer/



Become a Foster Carer

We are also in need of foster families to care for animals within their own home. Some of the dogs and cats that come into our care are too vulnerable to reside at the shelter, and so we look to our wonderful foster families to step in. This may be due to pregnancy, infancy, injury or the extent of trauma suffered. At times it may simply be due to the shelter being full so we need a foster family to bridge the gap until a place becomes available. Further information about fostering our cats or dogs can be found on website www.kwwspca.ie/foster/

Kitten season is in full swing and Kitty Cottage needs foster families who live in the locality that can raise kittens to 10 weeks of age, especially bottle feeders. If you are interested in fostering a kitten, please text FOSTER to **089 458 8162**.

Events

A huge thank you to all who braved the wet weather to attend the second annual PAWmerstown at the Manor dog festival at Palmerstown House Estate last month. It was a wonderful day and our society is very grateful to once again have been chosen as the charity partner for this dog lovers' haven. The dogs didn't mind the rain a bit as they socialised together, paraded in the various dog shows and showcased their athletic prowess on the Agility course. It was a great success and we look forward to welcoming everyone back next year.



Photo: Pati Guimarães

Wag & Bone Dog Show

If you couldn't make the PAWmerstown festival, then perhaps you'll consider attending our Wag & Bone Dog Show, which is scheduled to take place on Sunday 6th September at Punchestown Racecourse in Naas, County Kildare. Further information about this event including start time will feature in next month's Newsletter.

The KWWSPCA is a registered charity, no. CHY 6280 and can be contacted at kwwspca@gmail.com.

All our details can be found at www.kwwspca.ie.

A VERY BERRY SUMMER

Seasonal Suggestions



BLACKBERRY PIE



BLUEBERRY MUFFINS



CHERRY BAKEWELL



RASPBERRY CHEESECAKE



BLACKCURRANT COBBLER



TRIPLE BERRY STRUDLE



ETON MESS

BERRY CRUMBLE

Ingredients

- 550g mixed blackberries and strawberries
- 70g caster sugar
- 175g plain flour
- 100g butter, diced and chilled
- 4 tbsp light brown sugar
- 4 tbsp finely chopped almonds

Method

- Preheat the oven to 200°C.
- Mix the berries together with the caster sugar and place in an ovenproof dish. If using frozen berries you might add a little extra sugar.
- Place the flour in a bowl and rub the butter in until it looks like fine breadcrumbs. Stir in the brown sugar and almonds. Scatter the crumble over the berries.
- Bake for 25 - 30 minutes in the oven. The topping should be golden brown with a little juice bubbling at the edge.
- Serve straight from the oven and serve with some lightly whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.





Chair Yoga



Chair yoga is a gentle and enjoyable way to stay active, and it is suitable for people of all ages and fitness levels. Using a chair for support, participants can safely improve flexibility, strength, balance and mobility while moving at their own pace. The simple stretches and breathing exercises can help reduce stress, ease aches and pains, improve posture and promote a greater sense of wellbeing. Chair yoga is particularly beneficial for older adults and those recovering from illness or injury, but anyone can enjoy its benefits. As well as supporting physical health, chair yoga provides an opportunity to connect with others, have fun and enjoy some time dedicated to self-care in a welcoming and inclusive environment.

Everyone is welcome at our weekly Chair Yoga class, held every Friday morning at 11.30am. Due to growing interest, a new evening class will also commence on Thursdays at 6.30pm. Whether you are new to yoga or looking for a gentle way to improve your wellbeing, we would be delighted to welcome you.

Thank you.



Gráinne Butler, 086-8248521

Leinster Driving Campus, Taghadoo, Maynooth

WRITERS' CORNER

Short Stories/ Articles from our Readers

Things to Remember

When I visited Dr. Fulton Sheen's office in New York's downtown Manhattan in the late fifties or early sixties I told his secretary that Mrs. F. in the village of Croghan had told my mother that the bishop would be sure to welcome my visit. A few minutes later the secretary returned and said the bishop was unavailable. I gave her a knowing smile and walked away. The ironic part of this story is that I had completely forgotten that I had actually been present when the bishop visited Croghan and had heard him address a large congregation in the parish church. On that occasion he had praised the carpenter who had made the pulpit in which he was standing and said that the skill of such craftsmen needed to be acknowledged. Would such a story have earned a different reaction on my New York visit to the bishop's office? I'll never know now.

Years before Fulton Sheen's visit to Croghan when my brother Cathal and I were small children, one of the past times of older fellows in our town-land was hunting hares. Now catching rabbits in snares or traps and selling them to the 'eggler', the man who bought hen-eggs to sell in the local town was commonplace, but hares were a different matter. These were chased with hounds and half-breeds more as a sport than an economic activity. I remember my brother Cathal and I tagging along with the grudging consent of the hunting group as they set out for the local bog. Here in the shelter of tufts of long grass hares had their 'forms', as the flattened spots where they slept were called. When a hare sprang up the chase was on, the loud cheers of the hunting group adding to the excitement. If it seemed that the hare might escape the pack, cries of disgust mingled with encouragement rose to a crescendo. Finally, the end came with the squeals of the caught hare, which were silenced by sharp blows with the edge of the hand to the place where the back of the neck adjoins the head. The dead hare was not eaten, though occasionally it might be used to make soup.

Limekilns were once a feature of our neighborhood, about five such being located alongside the road from Boher to the village of Croghan. As a distinguished local clergyman, father John McGreevy, put it in verse:

'By the straight road to Croghan,
Each thirty yards in,
Stand the limekilns of Boher,
Stones burning in them.'

At least that is how he depicted those kilns already fired. I can remember a local housewife shouting at a group of us schoolboys walking round the rim of a smoking kiln, 'get down from there, you brats. Do you want to kill yourselves?' 'ah dry up, you old hag', our ringleader rejoined, but not loud enough to be heard!

Limekilns eventually closed down because of the availability of cheap cement and commercial lime from factories.

Playing football was not the simple matter it later was for other children. My first introduction to the sport was kicking with Cathal an inflated pig's bladder that had been allowed to dry and harden. The bladder had an oval rather than a round shape, with a bulge at the point of entry, and that did not improve its suitability. I attribute my later lack of skill in the game of Gaelic football to this beginning.

The lowest point in my football career occurred during a match between two local parishes. I can still clearly remember the day an official of or side signaled that I was to fake an injury so that another player could replace me. I ignored the sign and luckily was able to continue playing up to the final whistle. Apart from football, my athletic experience involved the high jump. I can remember getting a gold medal for my performance during one college sports day. Looking back, I can see how a horizontal roll over the crossbar, commonly used at present, would have improved my performance but then none of my opponents had acquired that technique.

Move on to the days when a canvas marquee and wooden floor provided the venue for a parish carnival concert. I can remember our father taking Cathal and me to the carnival in Croghan. What was the date? Probably it was the middle forties. Anyway, the size of the marquee was impressive, an interior big enough to house a large gathering of locals. The men who were responsible for erecting the marquee, two businessmen from the nearby town of Carrick-On-Shannon, must have taken a gamble when they decided to hose a concert in this out-of-the-way venue but, nevertheless, the gamble paid off. It was great to see and hear all the local young people display their talent to a packed audience. Would the ghost of Dr. Fulton Sheen have applauded the enterprise. I would say, "Almost certainly".

By P. G. Nerney

Large Crowd Attends Special Silken Thomas History Talk At Maynooth Castle

History enthusiasts gathered in impressive numbers at Maynooth Castle for a special commemorative talk organised by the OPW Maynooth Castle guiding staff and presented by OPW tour guide and historian **Alan**.

The event focused on the dramatic story of **Silken Thomas (Thomas Fitzgerald, 10th Earl of Kildare)** and his famous rebellion against King Henry VIII in 1534, with particular attention given to the **Siege of Maynooth Castle in 1535**. The talk was held ahead of the anniversary of Silken Thomas's revolt, which began on **11 June 1534**, one of the most significant episodes in sixteenth-century Irish history.

Alan, who has been delivering this annual talk since 2013, explored both the legacy of Silken Thomas and the crucial role played by Maynooth Castle during a turbulent period that shaped Ireland's relationship with the English Crown. Through detailed storytelling and historical insight, attendees were brought back to a defining chapter in the history of County Kildare and Ireland.



Picture Credit - Vanessa Waldron, Alan Cleary and Maynooth Bookshop



Picture Credit - Vanessa Waldron, Alan Cleary and Maynooth Bookshop

A sincere thank you was extended to everyone who attended the event. The staff of Maynooth Castle were delighted to welcome another large audience and greatly appreciated the continued public interest in the site's rich heritage.

More talks and guided tours covering a variety of historical topics will take place at Maynooth Castle before the site closes for the winter season on **23 September 2026**. With a busy programme of talks continuing throughout the summer, Maynooth Castle remains one of Co. Kildare's most important centres for heritage, history, and community engagement.

Visitor Information

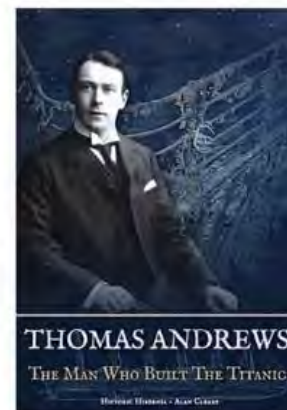
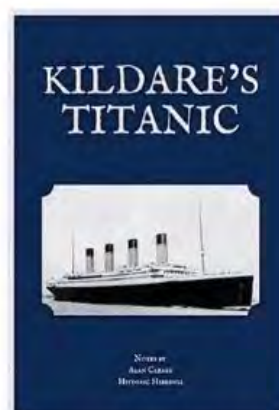
- Open daily from **10:00am to 5:30pm**
- **Last admission: 5:15pm**
- **Admission is always free**
- **Self-guided Exhibition**
- Tour groups must pre-book in advance

For further information:

- Email: maynoothcastle@opw.ie
- Telephone: **046 9422270**

Alan has also self-published three books with the support of the bookshop:

- Kildare's Titanic
- Thomas Andrews – The Man Who Built the Titanic
- In addition, Alan recently co-authored Ireland's Uncrowned Kings alongside his fellow OPW tour guide colleague and friend, Katherine Colthurst. The book explores the remarkable history of the **Fitzgerald dynasty of Kildare** and the central role of **Maynooth Castle** in their rise to prominence as one of Ireland's most powerful noble families. The publication offers readers an accessible and engaging insight into the family's influence on Irish history and is available to purchase from **Maynooth Bookshop**.



Picture Credit - Vanessa Waldron, Alan Cleary and Maynooth Bookshop



Picture Credit - Vanessa Waldron, Alan Cleary and Maynooth Bookshop



TITANIC TALES AND KILDARE CONNECTIONS DRAW CAPTIVATED CROWD AT MAYNOOTH BOOKSHOP

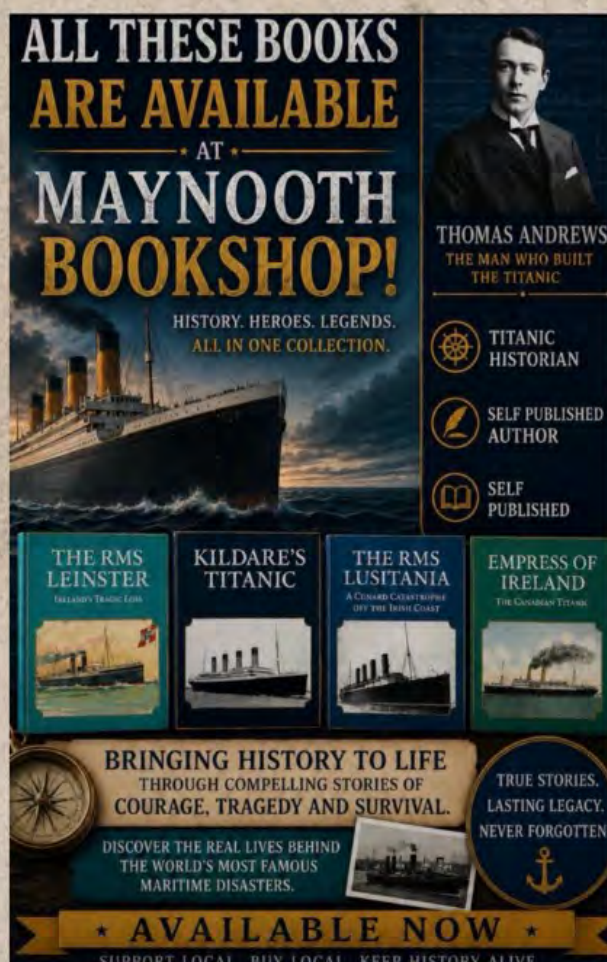
History came alive at the Maynooth Bookshop this week as local historian, self-published author and tour guide Alan Cleary delivered a brilliant and fascinating talk exploring the remarkable Kildare connections to the RMS Titanic and her celebrated designer, Thomas Andrews.

The event marked the first of two special celebrations for Independent Bookshop Week and attracted an enthusiastic audience eager to discover the untold Irish stories behind the world's most famous ship.

Cleary captivated attendees with tales of Titanic's links to Ireland and County Kildare, while shedding light on the life of Thomas Andrews – from his early years and groundbreaking work as the ship's designer to his heroic final moments aboard the doomed liner in April 1912.

The evening was a resounding success, thanks in no small part to the dedicated staff at the Maynooth Bookshop, whose warm welcome and commitment to promoting local history and independent authors helped create a memorable occasion for all who attended.

Alan Cleary is the author of an acclaimed Irish maritime series that explores some of history's most significant sea disasters, including the stories of the RMS Lusitania, RMS Leinster and RMS Empress of Ireland. The three books are available as a specially priced bundle.



His latest work, Kildare's Titanic and Thomas Andrews, the man who built the Titanic, delves into the story of the legendary liner, her Irish and Kildare connections, and the extraordinary life of Thomas Andrews.

The book traces Andrews' journey from his early life to his tragic death onboard Titanic, offering readers a deeply personal insight into the man behind the masterpiece.

All are available to purchase at the Maynooth Bookshop.

With another Independent Bookshop Week event still to come, the evening proved once again that local stories, expertly told, continue to inspire, educate and fascinate audiences of all ages.

The article is the work of Alan Cleary. Images are from Alan Cleary and the Maynooth Bookshop.



COMMUNITY EVENTS BRING HISTORY TO LIFE AT MAYNOOTH CASTLE

Maynooth Castle welcomed large crowds over recent weeks in May 2026, with a series of engaging tours and talks celebrating local history, heritage, and culture.

A week before the Arts and Mind Festival Maynooth, the castle guiding staff organised the popular “Kildare Titanic” talk at Maynooth Castle, presented by OPW guide and historian Alan. The presentation explored the story of the world’s most famous liner, with a particular focus on its Irish connections, especially those linked to Ireland, Co. Kildare and Maynooth. Attendees heard about the ship’s construction, its tragic sinking and aftermath, and the lives of passengers and crew.

Special thanks were extended to the Maynooth Scouts for kindly providing a model of the Titanic for the event, which added greatly to the presentation. Due to strong interest and positive feedback, visitors who missed the talk were assured that it will return later in the season.

The following weekend, as part of the Arts and Mind Festival Maynooth, a special sensory tour of the castle, also delivered by Alan, proved to be a great success. Organisers extended sincere thanks to everyone who attended and helped make the event possible, with particular appreciation expressed to Cllr. Donna Phelan, Gerry Quinn, and the Arts and Mind Festival Maynooth team for their support. Following the positive response, more sensory tours of Maynooth Castle are planned for the future.

The festival also included a well-attended Irish-language guided tour led by OPW Irish Language Officer Liam Ó Culbáird. Visitors enjoyed exploring the rich history of the castle through Gaeilge, with many already looking forward to next year’s festival.

Organisers also thanked all attendees, the Maynooth 850 members and the dedicated Maynooth Castle guide staff for their continued support and enthusiasm. A wide range of upcoming talks and tours are planned in Maynooth and at the castle throughout the season, exploring topics such as the Fitzgerald family and the rich history of Maynooth Castle itself.



MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY EVENTS



Events for Adults

Age Friendly Coffee Morning

Wednesday 8 July, 10.00am - 11.30am

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

Digital Tablet Demonstration

Wednesday 8 July, 10-11.30am

Learn about our digital tablets which are free to borrow with your library card. Drop in event - no need to book!

Spydus link:

<https://kildare.spydus.ie/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/ENQ/WPAC/EVSESENQ?SETLVL=&RNI=25979973>

Groups and Clubs

Maynooth Community Library Craft Club

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

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

Events for Children

Baby and Toddler Group

Every Thursday, 10.00 am – 11.00 am

If you have a young baby or toddler and would like to meet other parents or minders in the area, come to our stay and play group every Thursday morning at 10am. *No need to book, just drop in!

Origami Club for Adults

The Origami Club will reconvene on Thursday 27th August, 6.30pm - 7.30pm.

Exhibitions

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 May 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 Maynooth Community Library Events, why not register for the Kildare Library Service events newsletter here:

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



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

facebook.com/KildareCountyLibraryService twitter.com/kildarelibrary



Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area Planning Applications received from 20/05/2026 to 24/06/2026 Information from Kildare County Council Website

App #	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
2660666	HALCYON LUX	Celbridge Shopping Centre, Celbridge, Maynooth Road, Kildare	18/06/2026
2660650	Patrick O'Callaghan Paula Curran	14 The Rise, Moyglare Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	16/06/2026
2660651	Halcyon Lux	Celbridge Shopping Centre, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	15/06/2026
2660601	Jimmy McMahon	McMahons Gastrobar, Main Street, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	05/06/2026
2660586	Eimear Price	37 Carton Wood, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	03/06/2026
2660575	Maynooth Montane Limited	Lands known as "Railpark East", in the townland of Railpark, Maynooth, Co. Kildare., The application site is bounded by the Royal Canal to the north, the permitted Maynooth Eastern Ring Road (MERR) to the west, and the southern, and eastern boundaries are bordered by agricultural lands.	29/05/2026
2660560	Karen Doyle	738 Old Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	28/05/2026
2660558	Donal Houlihan	Cormickstown, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/05/2026
2660555	Corbogle Limited	21 Parklands Place, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/05/2026
2660549	Leeroy & Liz Graham	99 Carton Court, Greenfield, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	26/05/2026



Public Consultation on Celbridge Road Walking & Cycling Scheme

More than twenty years after planning permission was granted for Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, Kildare County Council has finally gone to Part 8 Public Consultation on provision of cycling and improved walking infrastructure on the Celbridge Road (R405). Details on the scheme can be found [here](#). We urge everyone to make a submission as controversial elements to the proposal may give rise to opposition which threaten the scheme. Submissions close on Wednesday 5th August.

Car Parking

Parking has been in the news. As part of the trend towards higher density developments, current regulations changed from specifying a minimum number of parking spaces for a new development to a maximum number of parking spaces. This was to avoid the mistakes of bad planning in the USA where, in some places, 30% of space is allocated to roads and the parking of vehicles. In Ireland, many car dependent families have one, two or even three cars if there are adult children living at home. This creates a problem generally for drivers looking to park. Many end up driving around in circles looking for an empty parking space or parking on footpaths and cycle tracks in the knowledge that gardai fail to enforce parking legislation. In Japan, a driver cannot purchase a car unless they can provide off-road parking. Perhaps it is time to introduce this in Ireland.

Compulsory Hi Viz for Pedestrians & Cyclists

The Irishcycle.com website reports that Clare county councillors recently passed a motion by Cllr Pat Burke (Fine Gael) which called for fines of €120 for not wearing hi-viz. Cllr Burke specifically said it should apply to pedestrians even on footpaths, and in city centres. It follows a recent campaign by the Road Safety Authority for children to wear hi-viz when going out to play. Eoin Ó Nialláin whose uncle was run over by a woman on a 'cocktail' of drink and drugs was "furious" at the victim blaming motion. Thankfully, the government takes a more common sense approach and ignores such calls.

Climate Change

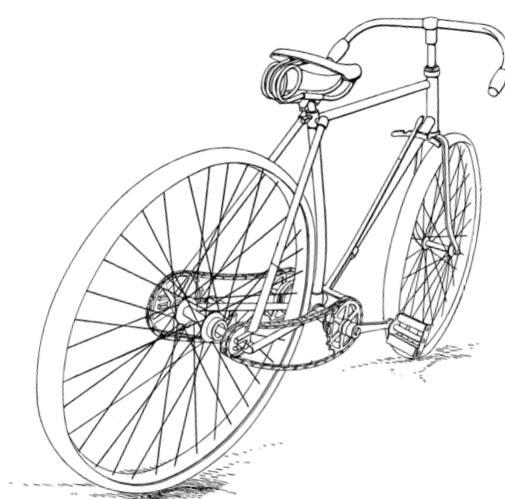
Scientists are aware that annual temperatures are rising faster in Europe than elsewhere in the world. The heatwave at the end of June has seen record temperatures and multiple additional deaths across several western European countries including Ireland. Many now face higher cost of road repairs due to road surfaces melting and to higher oil prices.

Early Cycling Tourism

The Guardian newspaper recently carried a report by journalist Phoebe Smith which celebrated 125 years of the CCC (Camping and Caravaning Club). The CCC started life as a cycle camping club, the Association of Cycle Campers, which was founded by Thomas Hiram Holding. As well as an early cyclist/camper pioneer, he proudly invented much camping gear which we still use today, from early lightweight tents and folding poles to cycle touring bags. In 1879 he also published a book, Cycle and Camp on the subject. Before advocating for cycling, one of Holding's experiences of camping was in conjunction with canoeing in Ireland. The European Cycling Federation's EuroVelo network and Ireland's growing network of greenways are a legacy of his pioneering work. Full report [here](#).



Maynooth Cycling Campaign is an independent local lobby group for better cycling facilities in Maynooth and Kildare generally. If you would like to support our efforts, why not join us - you can find details [here](#).



Arts Day at Larchill Arcadian Gardens

HIGHLIGHTS

This will be a vibrant family-friendly festival celebrating Irish creativity through music, art, storytelling, and interactive workshops. The event invites visitors of all ages to enjoy live performances, creative experiences, and the magical surroundings of Larchill Gardens.

Sat July 18th
10am-6pm |
€25 Adult / €12 Children /
€65 Family (2x2)

[Tickets Here](#)



Creativity will take centre stage at Larchill Gardens on Saturday July 18th for their much-anticipated *Arts Day*. A colourful celebration of Music, Storytelling and Art will span across one of Ireland’s most enchanting settings. Visitors can enjoy live performances, creative workshops, family fun and surprise discoveries throughout the gardens. The Arts Day promises a magical summer experience full of imagination and Irish creativity.



MUSIC

- Brian McNamara with daughters Roisín and Áine.
- Patrick Stefan
- Éire agus Cú Chulainn
- Dunny
- Kate Prendergast
- & more to come!



STORYTELLING

- Memoir writing - Jane from *Craicly*
- Cian O' Ceallachain
- Poetry & Art - Earthman Bob

WORKSHOPS

- Childrens nature & craft - *MudYard Studios*
- Children's storytelling - Cian O' Ceallachain
- Bodhran workshop - *The Irish Folk Music School*
- Indigo Dyeing workshop - Iseult Law

Facepainting, childrens activities, ... & more!

Tickets available at www.larchill.ie, [Powertik](#) & [Eventbrite](#)

>>>>>

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VISIT US AT
MAYNOOTH
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CARTON RETAIL PARK
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Photocopies, scanning, ID copying, PDF & photo printing.

<<

Letters, essays, theses, CV - typing and design.

<<

A3/A4 Lamination, label printing, poster design.

<<

Window space advertising at our office in Carton Retail Park

<<

>>>>>

Contact us for pricing: 01-6285922,
email office@maynoothcep.com,
or drop in! Across from Tesco,
next to Coyne’s Butchers.
Open M-F 9:00-4:30 (closed for lunch 1-2)

COME CELEBRATE
CREATIVITY!

ARTS DAY AT LARCHILL GARDENS



MUSIC, ART
& STORYTELLING

SATURDAY
JULY 18TH
10AM – 6PM

MUSIC, STORIES, EXHIBITS
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
CREATIVE WORKSHOPS
FOOD & DRINK AND MORE!

ALL WELCOME!

ADULTS €25 / CHILDREN €12 / FAMILY (2x2) €65

www.larchillgardens.ie

Larchill, Kilcock, co. Meath, w23y44p





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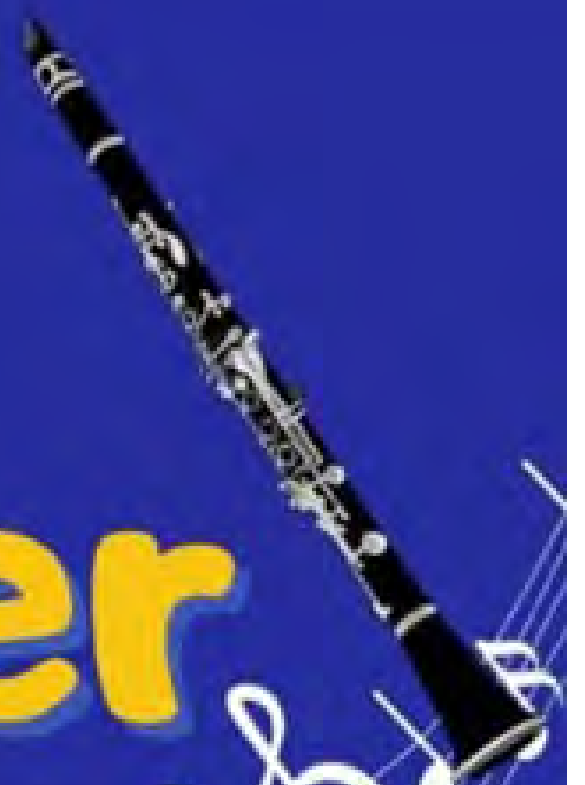
Quick Home Loan

Rates vary depending on loan amount. Loans are subject to approval. Lending criteria, terms and conditions apply. Over 18s only.

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

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Summer Camp

€85

August 17-21

INSTRUMENT PROVIDED!

Ages
8-12

10am-2pm

Poundlane, Maynooth, Co.Kildare

Theory, Instrument Lessons,
Ensemble Practice and Educational
Games

For more info and registrations
Contact us at:
stmarysbrassandreedcamps@gmail.com



MU STUDENTS SHOWCASE INVENTIONS AT DESIGN SHOW 2026



**Maynooth
University**
National University
of Ireland Maynooth



James Kenny, Winner of 'Best in Show' for his invention 'Aeris'

Student innovators at Maynooth University (MU) showcased a diverse range of projects at 'Limitless by Design,' the Product Design and Innovation degree show, hosted by the Department of Design Innovation over the June bank holiday weekend.

The end-of-academic-year exhibition ran from May 28 to June 2 in the MU Library and featured projects from final-year students on the BSc Product Design and Innovation degree, showcasing inventions developed to address both every day and global challenges. This year's projects tackled a range of pressing issues, with a particular focus on health, wellbeing, agriculture and community resilience.

Using the principles of Design Thinking and user-centred research, each student explored a distinct real-world challenge. Through processes of problem definition, ideation and prototyping, they developed design solutions that were then tested and refined in real-world conditions. All products on display were original concepts developed through extensive user and market research, before being prototyped and manufactured on campus.

The system monitors humidity and temperature in real time and can automatically activate compatible smart devices such as extractor fans or dehumidifiers to reduce excess moisture with minimal user input. Alongside this automation, Aeris uses a subtle ambient light ring and app feedback to increase awareness of indoor humidity levels and encourage earlier preventative action.

Olena Kaniuka was the winner of the John McHugh Student of the Year Award for her invention 'StormShutter' - a retrofitted double-panel system designed to automatically control shed ventilation to help manage respiratory diseases. It works by monitoring wind speed and automatically adjusting panel positions to optimise airflow, allowing increased ventilation when needed and diffusing strong gusts. This creates a more stable, less stressful environment for cattle.

'StormShutter' gives farmers peace of mind by supporting animal welfare without adding extra workload or requiring new software, while also reducing stress in animals and, consequently, the risk of respiratory infections.



Olena Kaniuka, Winner of the John McHugh Student of the Year Award for her invention 'StormShutter'

Other highlights included 'GameDeck' by Patrick O'Rourke, a customisable support device designed to help people with limited muscle strength continue to enjoy gaming. Inspired by the designer's cousin, who lives with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy, the device reduces physical strain and enhances accessibility.

Bisandu Dulwan Munasinghe showcased 'I-Sense', a wearable tremor-reduction system that combines an ear-worn motion tracker with a wrist module that delivers gentle patterned pulses to help manage symptoms in real time.

Meanwhile, Leonorah Carty Joyce developed 'Teanga Trail,' a board game that encourages young adults to use the Irish language in a relaxed and enjoyable setting and helps players build confidence in speaking Irish while learning new vocabulary through social play.

Programme Director of the BSc Product Design & Innovation, Oratile R Mokgatla, said: "For me, 'Limitless by Design' is about seeing possibility where others might see constraint. What stood out this year was how personal many of these projects were. The students listened closely, designed with empathy, and created work that showed how good design is not only about creating new products, but about opening up better, more inclusive ways of living."

Last year, Zoë O'Sullivan won the Best in Show award for her invention Lymphia, a handheld portable device that teaches and guides patients through manual lymphatic drainage massage. The product was designed to support recovery and help prevent lymphoedema, a chronic condition caused by fluid build-up following breast cancer treatment. Lymphia later went on to win the national award at the Dyson Awards and was recognised among the top 20 entries internationally.

NEW STUDY LINKS RECORD-BREAKING MAY HEAT TO HUMAN-CAUSED CLIMATE CHANGE



**Maynooth
University**
National University
of Ireland Maynooth



Ireland experienced an unusually early spell of hot weather between May 23 and 27

Researchers from the WASITUS group at Maynooth University's ICARUS Climate Research Centre supported by scientists at Met Éireann and the World Weather Attribution (WWA), have carried out a rapid attribution study on the high temperatures between May 23-27 in Leinster and Munster.

Ireland experienced an unusually early spell of hot weather driven by an intense heat dome that developed over western and central Europe. Temperatures rose sharply over the weekend of 23-24 May, culminating in record-breaking conditions across parts of the country.

The previous Irish May temperature record of 28.4°C, set in Ardfert, Co Kerry on 31 May 1997, was exceeded by more than 2°C. Shannon Airport recorded 30.6°C on May 26, while seven additional stations, pending verification, are believed to have surpassed the previous record, with temperatures reaching as high as 30.9°C.

MAIN FINDINGS

- The record-breaking single day May temperatures, when many May station records were broken, were found to not be possible without human induced climate change.
- Under the current climate (1.3°C warmer than pre-industrial), this single day extreme is expected to occur once every 60 years and is projected to occur once every 20 years in a climate 3°C warmer than pre-industrial levels.
- These single day record-breaking temperatures have become 1.1°C warmer compared to if they had occurred in a pre-industrial world. Temperatures are expected to increase by a further 0.1°C, 0.5°C and 1.1°C under a climate where warming has reached 1.5°C, 2°C and 3°C.
- The five-day mean temperatures have become nearly twice as likely today (1-in-5 years) compared to a pre-industrial climate (1-in-9 years) and are expected to further increase in likelihood under future warming. The temperatures themselves have become 1.4°C warmer today compared to pre-industrial climate and are projected to increase by a further 1.1°C under a climate where warming has reached 3°C.
- The night-time temperatures experienced were a 1-in-8-year event under a pre-industrial climate and have become nearly three times more likely (1-in-3-year event) under today's climate. Under a climate where warming has reached 3°C, the likelihood of these temperatures occurring becomes a 1-in-1-to-2-year event, meaning experiencing these uncomfortable nighttime temperatures will be the new norm.
- Night-time temperatures were also found to have increased in intensity by 1.3°C compared to the pre-industrial world. These temperatures are projected to increase by a further 0.1°C, 0.4°C and 1.1°C under a climate where warming has reached 1.5°C, 2°C and 3°C.

Dr Claire Bergin, Researcher for the WASITUS project at MU's ICARUS Climate Research Centre, said: "We are starting to see higher temperatures earlier in the season. While this may come as a welcome few days by the beach for some, the fact is these record-breaking May temperatures were not possible without human-caused global warming. It is downright alarming to break 30°C in May in Ireland. We need to prioritise the reduction of greenhouse emissions immediately if we want to achieve the Paris Agreement, while also investing heavily in adaptation measures to limit the effects of these extreme events."

Paul Moore, Climatologist at Met Éireann, said: "The record high temperatures this May reveal what is currently achievable in Ireland in a warmer world when weather patterns are favourable for heat to build under an intense high-pressure dome. To get a 2-degree plus jump in record maximum temperatures in any month is remarkable and shows that we are now starting to push the boundaries ever wider compared to what we previously considered possible."

Clair Barnes, Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London, UK, said: "This study is further evidence of the fact that climate change is bringing warmer, hotter weather further north. While many may have enjoyed an extended period of hot, sunny weather, we cannot lose sight of the fact that it is now clear for everyone to see how quickly our norms are shifting. Ireland needs to adapt for higher temperatures to come and continue on the path to net zero to play its part in restoring stability to the rapidly changing climate."

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



Senior Alert Scheme

Introduction

The Seniors Alert Scheme provides funding for a free personal monitored alarm for people aged 65 and older who have limited means.

The scheme supports older people to live securely and independently in their homes. You may be living alone or living with another person.

The Seniors Alert Scheme is run by Pobal, which manages programmes for the Irish Government and the EU.

You must contact a community or voluntary group in your area who are registered with Pobal to access the scheme. They will apply to Pobal on your behalf. Pobal does not accept applications from individuals – see 'How to apply' below.

To apply for the Seniors Alert Scheme, you must :

- Be aged 65 or over
- Have limited means or resources.

You must also be any of the following:

- Living alone
- Living alone for significant periods of time during the day
- Living with another person aged over 65 with limited means
- Caring for someone else in your household

Who can Apply for the Scheme?

You must also:

- Live in the area covered by a registered group
- Be able to benefit from the equipment supplied
- Be willing to keep contact with the registered group

How much does the Seniors Alert Scheme cost?

All the alarm equipment and installation under the scheme is free.

The alarm monitoring service is free for the first year. After the first year, you will pay the annual monitoring fee for the alarm.

The annual monitoring fee will vary by service provider and the type of alarm or pendant supplied. The cost may be approximately €70 a year. Your local group can tell you about the cost in advance.

If there is no landline available in your home and a mobile signal is used to connect to the equipment, you may have to pay a fee for mobile SIM rental.

How does a personalised monitored alarm work?

You can get a monitored personal alarm that is worn as a pendant or around your wrist like a watch. These alarms connect to a national helpline through a base unit installed in your home.

When you press the alarm button, it immediately rings the helpline, which is open 24 hours a day all year round. A helpline operator talks to you in your home and decides whether to alert a local volunteer responder or, if necessary, the emergency services.

If you no longer need it, the alarm must be returned as the scheme equipment remains the property of the registered group.

How do I get a Seniors Alert Scheme alarm?

Registered community or voluntary groups apply to Pobal on your behalf. Pobal does not accept applications from individuals.

A family member or neighbour can apply on your behalf with the local group if you can't apply yourself.

Contact a community or voluntary group registered in your area. Find a list of registered organisations by area on pobal.ie.

The registered community or voluntary group will:

- Assess if you are eligible for the scheme and will support you to complete the application form
- Identify the equipment you need and advise you of the current cost for monitoring and SIM card credit (if you need it)
- Send the application and supporting documentation to Pobal

You will be asked to confirm that you understand the purpose and use of the equipment and that you will pay the annual monitoring fee after the first year.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Citizens Information Centre, Dublin Road, Maynooth



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

What Groups can Register as providers of the Scheme?

Community, voluntary and not-for-profit organisations can apply to register with Pobal for the scheme.

They must have a recognised structure and be able to show that they can manage the grants. They must also have a record of working with older people in the community.

A group will not be able to register if there is an existing group operating the scheme in the area.

Groups wishing to register for the scheme can register online at pobal.ie.

Further Information

The Pobal website has detailed information on the Seniors Alert Scheme.

You can read more on the leaflet from Pobal about the Seniors Alert Scheme (pdf).

Contact the Seniors Alert Scheme section in Pobal with the details below or by email at sas@pobal.ie.

Pobal – Seniors Alert Scheme
Holbrook House, Holles Street,
Dublin 2. D02 EY84

Opening Hours: Monday – Friday, 10am – 12.30pm and 2pm – 4pm

Tel: (01) 511 7222. Fax: 01 511 7981

Homepage: <https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/seniors-alert-scheme-sas/>

Email: sas@pobal.ie

Telephone Support Allowance

What Telephone Support Allowance is

Telephone Support Allowance is a weekly payment for people who live alone and are already in receipt of certain other social welfare payments. It assists with the cost of communications and home security solutions.

How to Qualify

The allowance is paid automatically to people who are in receipt of one of the qualifying payments listed below and both the Living Alone Allowance and Fuel Allowance.

There is no application form.

- [State Pension](#) (Contributory) and State Pension (Non-contributory)
- [Bereaved Partner's \(Contributory\) Pension](#)
- [Invalidity Pension](#)
- [Disability Allowance](#)
- [Blind Pension](#)
- [Incapacity Supplement](#)
- [Deserted Wife's Benefit](#)

Bereaved Partner's (Contributory) Pension under the Occupational Injuries Scheme

Apply

If you believe you qualify for the Telephone Support Allowance, but are not receiving it, you can contact one of the following offices depending on which primary payment you receive.

Longford

Blind Pension / Disability Allowance / Invalidity Pension / Disablement Pension (Incapacity Supplement) / Bereaved Partner's (Contributory) Pension under the Occupational Injuries Scheme:

Tel: 0818 927 770 or (043) 334 0000

Sligo

State Pension (Contributory/Non-Contributory) / Bereaved Partner's Contributory Pension / Deserted Wife's Benefit:

Tel: 0818 200 400 or (071) 915 7100

The Miracle Prayer

Dear Heart of Jesus,

***In the Past, I have asked for many favours.
This time I ask for a special one (mention here).***

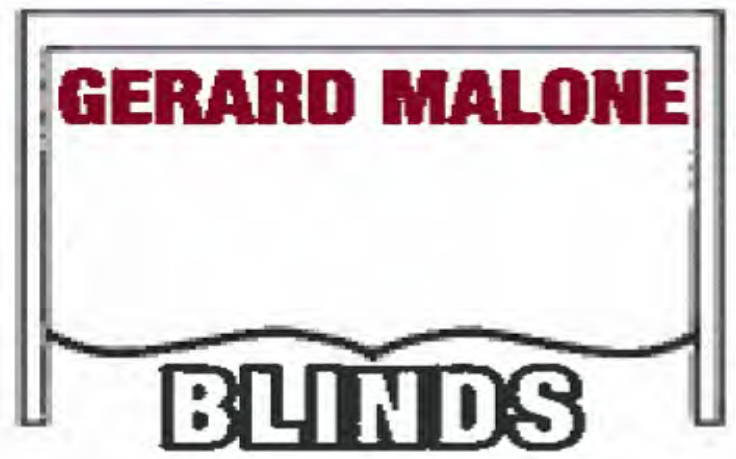
***Take it, Dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your
own broken Heart where your father sees it.***

***Then, in His merciful eyes,
it will become Your favour, not mine.***

Amen.



***Say this prayer for three days.
Promise publication and prayer and favour will be granted,
no matter how impossible.
Never known to fail.
Thanksgiving for favour received.***



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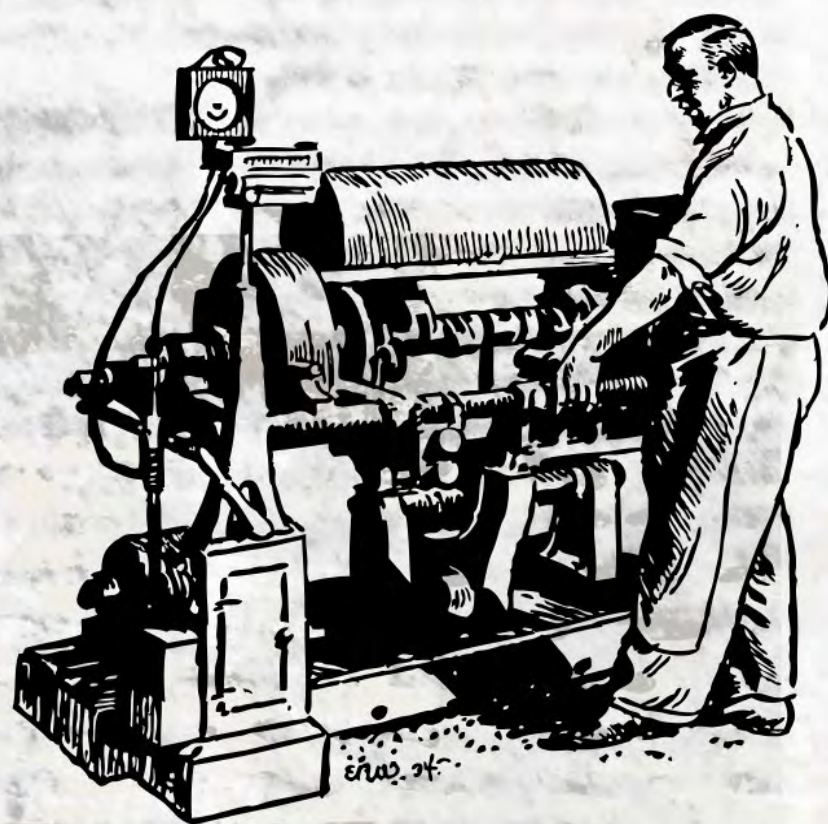
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Maynooth Newsletter Archives (1979-2000)

Did you know we hold copies of the Maynooth Newsletter from 1979 to 2000?

Whatever your interest: Local History, Researching People and Events, or simply taking a trip down memory lane, you're welcome to come in and browse through these archived editions.

Feel free to drop by and have a look through the collection at your leisure. We would be delighted to help you find a particular year or issue.



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Maynooth Community Employment Project

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Link to the Archive: www.maynoothcep.com



MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

ISSUE No 109

JULY EDITION

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SPORTS COMPLEX COMES CLOSER

At their June meeting, the Trustees of Maynooth College agreed to lease a site for the construction of an Indoor Sports complex to be shared jointly by the College, the Maynooth community, and the schools of the town. The site in question is on the Kilcock Road, just beyond the footbridge, in front of the Student Union building.

Detailed proposals for the Complex have already been drawn up by a committee drawn from representatives of the College, Maynooth Community Council, and the local schools, and plans have been provided by the College architects. The proposed complex, to be developed in phases, provides for a main building, including a sports hall (with allowance for a second hall if demand justifies it), squash and handball/racquetball courts, table tennis, snooker, exercise room, TV room, Physical Education lecture room, indoor games room (darts, cards, etc.), offices, meeting room, changing rooms (with showers), and a refreshments/kitchen area. The plans also provide for the long-desired indoor heated swimming pool. If fully developed, the overall proposal will cost an estimated £2.5 million.

There are many advantages to the idea of a jointly shared complex. One single complex would provide a wider range of facilities, and to a higher standard, than two separate developments. There will also be savings in terms of running and management costs. It is expected that, if approved, there will be a 100% grant for the College's share of the Complex, thereby reducing the amount of local fund-raising required. A shared Complex will also be used more efficiently, as there will be considerable day-time use by College students and staff during term, while during holiday periods when the local community demand would be at its highest, most of the students will be away from the College. This applies particularly to the swimming pool, given the high running costs of such facilities.

It is envisaged that the Complex will be vested in a Board of Trustees made up of representatives of the College, the Community Council, and educational interests. There will also be a Management Committee which will be responsible for allocating the use of the facilities among applicant groups and individuals. The Complex will have a full-time manager.

The Joint Committee has been waiting for the College Trustees' decision to participate in the project. Now that this has been given, a submission will be prepared over the coming weeks for forwarding to the Department of Education, which is responsible for sporting facilities for both educational institutions and community groups. It is impossible to say at this stage how long it will take the Depart-

ment to process the submission.

OUTDOOR SPORTS

Meanwhile, Maynooth Community Council has also been seeking the use of the County Council site at Blacklion, on the Dublin Road, for the development of outdoor sporting facilities. At a recent meeting of the Celbridge Area Committee of the County Council, it was agreed in principle to make the site available, and Council officials are to come back to the next meeting of the Committee (on July 7th) with specific proposals concerning how this should be arranged. It is hoped to develop two full soccer pitches on the site, plus an all-weather pitch and a running track. Further details will be provided in due course.

MAYNOOTH SUMMER PROJECT

The 1986 Summer Project is upon us and the last few details are being added to the timetable for the events which will be taking place over the next four weeks. The organising group will soon be up to their necks in activities. Just to remind everyone that the project is open to ALL the young people of the area, starting with the 7 year olds and working up to the teenagers. The activities will be varied and there will be something of interest for everyone. Timetables of activities will be put up in the shop windows giving details of the coming events of that week. A detailed timetable for the four weeks will be available at registration, in the Geraldine Hall on Monday July 7th at 2.30 p.m.

A registration fee of £1.00 per family is being charged and everyone participating in the project has to be registered.

If anyone requires further information they can contact any of the organising group or phone the co-ordinator, Dominic McEvoy, at 286111 or come along to our registration day.

Finally we would like to issue an appeal to anyone interested in helping out with activities to contact Dominic McEvoy or any of the organising group. I would like to stress that you only have to help with the running of the activities and there is no commitment on your part to involve yourself with the organisation of the project unless you wish to.

All we can hope for now is lots of sunshine to add to what promises to be a very enjoyable four weeks for everyone.

ANN STEWART,
SECRETARY.



Maynooth I.C.A

Photograph shows the President Mrs. Madeline Stynes with the winning cup and the following ladies who took part in the Make & Model Competition.

Betty Farrell, Marian Souhan, Theresa Mooney, Elizabeth O'Brien, Mary O'Gorman, Margaret Gee, Vera Kearns, Rosemary Hanley, Kay Byrnes, Betty Moore and Mary Halton. The next meeting will be held on the first Thursday in July, new members welcome.

Imelda Delaney, P.R.O.



Table Quiz in Keane's of Kilcloone

The winning team at the Table Quiz held in aid of Maynooth Post Primary School, sponsored by Head to Toe.

In the photograph are Shay Molloy, Proprietor of Head to Toe, Carol Clifford, Pat Kiely, Declan O'Connor and Brian O'Malley all from Greenfield Estate.

Maynooth Community Contacts Listing

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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.