



Maynooth Newsletter



Recording the Social Footprint of Maynooth since the 1970s

LOCAL NEWS - MAY 2026 - ISSUE NO. 556



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Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group Annual Art Exhibition 2026



The Castle Keep Art Group Maynooth celebrated its annual exhibition with the opening taking place on Friday 10th April in the Maynooth Post Primary School. The exhibition continued on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th from 12pm to 5pm. It was a resounding success, with 95 paintings on display, from 17 members of the group. Subjects included: landscapes with scenes from the locality such as, Carton, College, Castletown and Maynooth Town. We also had still-lives; floral and fauna studies, seascapes, figure studies, and abstract depictions. The works on display showed explorations by individual members in stepping outside their usual mediums used such as: oils, acrylics/acrylic pen, watercolours, pen and inks, gouache and graphite and coloured pencils. This year we also had fine examples of gel print techniques. It was very clear that the event was a true community 'meitheal'. Representatives from other community organisations in the town came and there was great social interaction, which happily helped sales. Over two thirds of artworks were sold and there were at least 10 commissions ordered.

The opening night was launched by Elizabeth O'Hare, the new Chairperson of the Group. She warmly welcomed everyone and outlined the importance of creative groups and their contributions to the local community. Elizabeth thanked Mr. Tom Ashe (the Group's Patron) Mr. Johnny Nevin, Principal of the Maynooth Post Primary School, Margaret McLoughlin, School Secretary; former Chairperson Déaglán Ó Ceallaigh and *Cairdeas*, who provided beautiful music on the night; members of the Group, who together brought the exhibition to fruition; friends who helped out on the night, Alan and Harry (Wine Table), Colm and Stephen (looked after all our red dots) and James, for his artistic eye in selecting flowers. A very special thanks was made to Dominic Cotter, Maynooth Post Primary School, for his help during the year and his assistance with the set up. Dominic went above and beyond in his support of the Group. Betty warmly welcomed and thanked long standing attendees and newcomers alike, who



came along despite the difficulties in travelling on the night, due to blockades and petrol shortages over the weekend..

It was wonderful to see a high volume of visitors on the Saturday and Sunday which is always a great boost for the Group. The display area in the Post Primary is an ideal location for the exhibition, with plenty of light and space to walk around and view the art works. Thanks to KWETB for that support. The artists had an opportunity to engage with the public, to have chats about the art and to make further connections. There were also family groups in attendance over the weekend, with children picking out their favourites. We also welcomed Maynooth Senior Citizens Art Club members, on the Sunday afternoon, one of whom (Toni Read) was a former member of the Castle Keep Art Group. The whole event was a triumph! Thanks to all involved.

Susan Durack
Secretary, Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group

See Artwork Gallery 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

As another academic year comes to an end at Maynooth University we offer all students good wishes for their exams and dissertations. For those of you who are finishing your studies here, we wish you well in all your future endeavours. Maynooth is still a small town and having a third level student population as such a significant proportion of the population, gives a sense of a young vibrant community. I was recently walking in the Moyglare area and it was raining heavily. A female student stopped me and offered me her umbrella, saying that she didn't need it. I thanked her but declined her kind offer. The exchange reminded me again that the vast majority of students coming to Maynooth are decent and caring young people.

In May, there are a number of events which take place this month every year. These include the Arts and Minds Festival, The Maynooth 10K and 5k Family run early in the month. Later in the month Maynooth will host the Kildare Fleadh again this year. Hopefully, we will also welcome a large number of tourists to the town as well. So, while the Maynooth University student community leaves us in May, we can expect that the town will still be vibrant and busy throughout the month of May and indeed, for the rest of the Summer.



Maynooth Castle (2026) - photo by Liam O'Brien

As Maynooth continues to mark "Maynooth 850" there are a number of events taking place in May:

- **Sensory Tour of Maynooth Castle – 9th May 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm (booking required on Eventbrite)**
- **Maynooth: From Fitzgerald Castle to Commuter Town – 9th May 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm Venue: St Mary's Church of Ireland (booking required on Eventbrite)**
- **Both events are part of the Arts and Minds Festival**

The Russell Library, "Town, Gown and Renown" Exhibition is taking place up to 21st May. It is a small exhibition, celebrating 850 years since the FitzGerald established the town of Maynooth in 1176 and is currently on display in the Russell Library in Maynooth University. This exhibition presents three themed cases — 'Town', 'Gown', and 'Renown'. Together, they showcase a curated selection of materials, highlighting key historical moments connected to Maynooth College, its students, staff, and servants, as well as notable library treasures, marking this significant milestone in 2026

For a Virtual tour see the link at: <https://www.maynoothuniversity.ie/library/events/russell-library-exhibition-town-gown-renown>

The physical exhibition is ONLY available for viewing BY APPOINTMENT on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays (10:00-12:30 - 14:00-16:30). Please email us at Library.Russell@mu.ie for an appointment.

So, there are plenty of reasons to visit Maynooth this month. If you already live here, why not come out and support the range of events taking place.

Paul Croghan

Editor

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

Maynooth Castle Keep Art Group Annual Art Exhibition 2026 A resounding success



Back, left to right: Sharon K. Dunne, Olga Kuvsincikova, Pete McCluskey, Déaglán Ó Ceallaigh, Emma Boyce, Natalie Kelly, Ania Stempel, Eamon Burke, Leo J. Prendergast, Brian Tuohy.
Front, left to right: Susan Carr, Valerie Ball, Roberta Hines, Anya Kruger, Veronica Brady, Elizabeth O'Hare, Susan Durack



Fleadh Cheoil CILL DARA

IS COMING TO

Maynooth

17th-24th May 2026

SESSION
TRAILS

GIG RIG
ON THE
SQUARE

CONCERTS

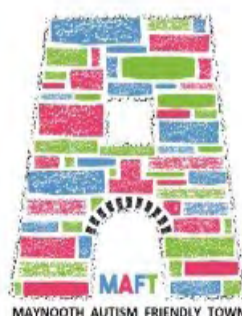
WORK
SHOPS

STAY UP TO DATE

Comhaltas Maynooth



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council





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



1ST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

3 MAY / 7 JUNE / 5 JULY / 2 AUG / 6 SEPT

10AM - 2PM



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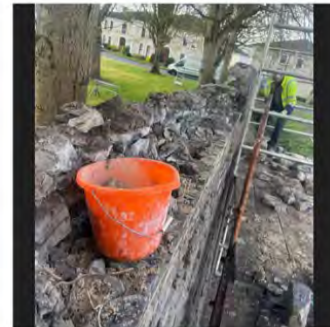
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Breedge, Georgina and Vinny attended a Tidy Towns Ireland event in the The Royal Marine Hotel on the 13th April to collect our 9th Gold Medal 2025. Awful pity we don't have anywhere to display all these prizes. Preparations are already in place for the 2026 application. Judging starts on June 1st.



We had our national Spring Clean on the 18th April. Thanks to Angela for the refreshments. Work is continuing on the wall on the Straffan Wall by volunteer Kevin.

On the 3rd April we got 2,100 trees from Free Trees Ireland and distributed them amongst local Tidy Towns groups in Kildare, local community groups and individuals in Maynooth.

We had a clean up of the Royal Canal with Maynooth Green Campus and The Canoe Club also known as MUCK for green week.

Cian is continuing with the Murals around the town, 12 boxes in all, depicting Biodiversity and Heritage.

Thanks to Kilcock Maynooth Lions Club for the Tidy Towns fundraising table quiz on the 28th April in The Glenroyal Hotel.

Our AGM will be held in the Glenroyal Hotel on the 14th May at 7.30pm.

Mary Molloy PRO
Maynooth Tidy Towns Association



If you want to volunteer please contact us on Facebook/Instagram or email us at MaynoothTidyTowns@outlook.ie



St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band

Maynooth, Co. Kildare

Band Newsletter for May

The highlight of last month was our Spring Concert held in the beautiful surroundings of Maynooth Community Church just off the Tesco Roundabout on the Dublin Road. It was the first time for the Band to play in this venue and it really passed the test in terms of space and acoustics and we hope to pay a further visit there next year. The big audience was very appreciative of the programmes played by both the Senior and Academy Bands and we think a very entertaining experience was had by everyone.

On Saturday 9th May our Academy Band will be paying a return visit to Ardee for the National Band Championships where they came a very creditable third in last year's competition at their first attempt. We wish them the best of luck.

On Sunday 24th May the Senior Band will travel to Blanchardstown where Blanchardstown Brass Band are holding a festival to celebrate the 200th Anniversary of their founding. We will be joining 12 other bands on the day and it will remind us of our own Band Festival back in 1981 in the Harbour Field when we celebrated the Golden Jubilee of the reforming of the Band in 1931.

Finally can we remind you of the Band's Summer Camp which this year is being held from 17th to 21st August from 10am to 2pm each day. See the separate notice opposite in the Newsletter for full details.

Cllr Angela FEENEY

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



New Fire Station Opened

The official opening of the Maynooth fire station took place on April 16th. This state of the art facility for our amazing emergency service members is so well-deserved. It was great to see retired members of the service at the event. Well done all on getting this great facility delivered. I am continuing to push forward my motion for the old site to be used as a community hub, watch this space!



New Social Housing Launched

The launch of 65 new social housing units at Fitzgerald Close was officiated by Minister James Brown. These wonderful new homes for families are very welcome and much needed. I am delighted to see it finally happen.

Intercultural Women's Network Attend Council Meeting

It was an honour to welcome the Intercultural Women's Network into the Council Chamber at our March plenary meeting. They attended our plenary meeting and listened to our discussions. I look forward to working with them on our updated Integration Strategy for Kildare.

Clane Library Sod-turning

The sod-turning ceremony for the new Clane Library was officiated by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Jerry Buttimer.

The €3.8 million project 1,300–1,400 square meter library space, marking a major investment in local community infrastructure, right in the heart of the town





The Kildare & West Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals has been protecting and creating new beginnings for less fortunate and vulnerable animals for 85 years.

Run entirely by volunteers, the Society is devoted to the rescue, care and responsible

rehoming of animals throughout the community. This vital rescue work is operated from our Animal Shelter in Athgarvan, County Kildare, and through a network of voluntary foster homes. There are no paid employees in our Society. We are grateful to receive an annual Government grant but it only covers a proportion of our costs so we fundraise through our charity shop, Noah's Ark in Newbridge and through events hosted throughout the year. We are fortunate to have loyal and generous supporters who regularly respond to our call outs for food and other pet care donations, but with ever rising veterinary and fuel costs continuous fundraising is crucial for the cats and dogs in our care. Over 1000 animals were helped or rehomed by the KWWSPCA in 2025 and we hope to be able to increase that in 2026.

Meet Ethel

Ethel is a beautiful black greyhound who is patiently awaiting her forever home. This gentle ex-racing dog has been in our care for three months now and is thoroughly deserving of a place at the heart of a family that she can call her own. A quiet but sociable lady, she enjoys her morning strolls as much as her afternoon snoozes. She walks well on the lead and responds affectionately to the attention she gets from volunteers at the shelter.

Her calm aura is perhaps her finest quality, making her a perfect companion for a relaxed family home.

Sadly, large black dogs are often overlooked by potential adopters and so Ethel's adorable personality is yet to be discovered beyond our care. If you are interested in welcoming Ethel into your home, please click on the link below, where you can read her full profile and complete an ['Expression of Interest' form](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

Fashion POP UP shop and Spring Fair

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd May

11am - 4pm

Our biannual Fashion pop-up shop and Spring Fair takes place in Newbridge Town Hall, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. There are always great bargains and a few fabulous designer pieces to be found at this very popular event so you are advised to arrive early! Along with clothing & accessories, there will be books, bric-a-brac, pet accessories, refreshments and lots more so come and join us if you can.

PAWmerstown AT THE MANOR

Saturday June 6th, 2026

KWWSPCA is proud to be the chosen charity partner for this wonderful dog festival set in the glorious manor gardens of the Palmerstown House Estate, Johnstown, Co. Kildare. Back for its second year after a sell-out inaugural event last summer, this really is a dog lovers dream day out. Tickets are available at

<https://www.followfoxevents.ie/pawmerstown>



KWWSPCA
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& SPRING FAIR

Clothes Books Bric-a-brac
Pet products Jewellery
Accessories ...and much more!

Sat 2 May & Sun 3 May 2026
11:00 - 16:00
Newbridge Town Hall

Kildare and West Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

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.

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with Amanda

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For more information contact :

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- ☎ Maynooth number: 01 - 628 - 9452

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MAY MENU

IDEAS FOR SEASONAL EATING



ROCKET
SPINACH
LEEKs
ASPARAGUS

✔ Strawberry spinach salad with balsamic dressing

✔ Roasted baby leeks with lemon and thyme

✔ Warm spinach salad with pancetta & goats cheese

✔ Parmesan rocket salad with pear and walnuts



New Potatoes

The best thing to do with new potatoes is simply wash 'em, boil 'em and serve 'em piping hot with real butter and maybe a few fresh herbs.

Option two is a potato salad and the secret to a great potato salad is to toss the potatoes in vinegar (cider vinegar or white wine vinegar for example) while they are still hot, and then leave them to soak up the vinegar while they cool down before adding your other ingredients.



- Balsamic-Dijon Vinaigrette
- Red Wine-Basil Vinaigrette
- Soy-Ginger Vinaigrette
- Honey-Mustard Vinaigrette
- Lemon-Tarragon Vinaigrette
- Raspberry-Maple Vinaigrette



Strawberries

• French toast with ricotta & strawberries

• Strawberry, feta & thyme tart

• Spinach, strawberry & goats cheese salad

• Strawberry & white chocolate cheesecake



• Strawberry rhubarb muffins

- Potato Salad with pancetta & Chives
- Potato Salad with black olives, red onion & hazelnuts
- Potato Salad with radish & asparagus
- Potato Salad with pickles & cornichons

Cllr. Donna Phelan

MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:
Tel: 087 002 3634 Email: dphelan@kildarecoco.ie



APRIL'S UPDATE

Launch of Autism Acceptance Month



This month marks Autism Acceptance Month, and to recognise this, on April 2nd my daughter Holly and I attended an event hosted by AsIAM for World Autism Acceptance Day, where their Same Chance Report was launched. The report highlights the real barriers autistic people continue to face and the need for equal opportunities across all aspects of life. As Chair of Maynooth Autism Friendly Town, I was proud to represent our community, which continues to lead the way in promoting inclusion, understanding and meaningful change at a local level.

Celbridge Road



With the support of Naoise Ó Cearúil, we successfully secured a temporary bus stop after Uisce Éireann closed the existing stop on the Celbridge Road without providing an alternative. We are also continuing to work on additional safety measures, including extra signage, to address speeding concerns particularly with the increased volume of construction traffic using this route.



07:00 PM

11:00 PM

Issues with working hours and Uisce Éireann

I raised serious concerns about the working hours by Uisce Éireann on the Celbridge Road works, where residents in Griffin Rath experienced noise late into the night, sometimes until 12:30am. This was especially unfair during State oral exams, with students left trying to study without proper rest. I received video and doorbell footage clearly showing the disruption. While sharing this on TikTok brought attention, (over 33,000 views) much of the response was negative. It reinforced that online commentary doesn't reflect the reality for residents, and my focus will always remain on supporting those directly affected.

****KCC have issued a road opening licence valid from 7am to 10pm at night (extended from 7pm as the evenings are still bright)****



Home Improvement Grants

The Housing Aid for Older People Grant in KCC has reached its 2026 funding limit and is now closed. Only emergency applications (e.g. heating failure, urgent repairs) are being accepted. Non-emergency applications can be submitted again from January 2027..

SEAI retrofit grants ARE OPEN

More information available here: www.sseairtricity.com



Cllr. Donna Phelan

MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:
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APRIL'S UPDATE

The Official opening of Maynooth Fire Station



I was proud to be present at the official opening of the Maynooth Fire Station, a fantastic new state-of-the-art facility delivered with an investment of over €4.4 million. The station was officially opened by James Browne on Thursday, 16th April. This station is a huge asset to our incredible local firefighters, led by Station Officer Robbie Morris, and will greatly support their vital work in keeping our community safe.



Official Visit to the MERR



I welcomed the opportunity to attend the official launch of construction for the Maynooth Eastern Ring Road, a major step forward for our town. This long-awaited project will play a key role in reducing congestion, improving connectivity, and supporting the continued growth of Maynooth and the surrounding areas.



The Official Opening of Fitzgerald Close

I was honoured to attend the official opening of Fitzgerald Close, a fantastic €29 million investment delivering 65 new social and affordable homes for the Maynooth community. While it is not nearly enough to meet the level of demand, it is a very positive step forward in addressing housing needs locally. I want to wish every family moving into their new home health, happiness, and many wonderful years ahead.



Dart Plus Consultation

The DART+ Programme is now open for public consultation. The submission form is a simple Google Doc, quick and easy to complete: <https://www.dartplus.ie/en-ie/projects/dart-depot/public-consultation-1/dart-depot-public-consultation-useful-material-and-downloads>. I would strongly encourage the people of Maynooth to support this project—positive feedback is key.

Cllr. Donna Phelan

MAYNOOTH LEA - KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Get In Touch:
Tel: 087 002 3634 Email: dphelan@kildarecoco.ie



APRIL UPDATE

Maynooth University Ogra Fianna Fail



I was proud to take the role of chair at the AGM of the Ógra Fianna Fáil group in Maynooth University this month. It's so important that students who call Maynooth home while studying have a clear pathway to have their voices heard. Over the past year, I've worked closely with Ógra members, and they've raised key issues around parking, housing, and public transport many of the same challenges faced by residents across the town.



My new role as Vice President of the Fianna Fáil Disability Network

I was honoured to be elected Vice President of the Fianna Fáil Disability Network, and I am incredibly proud to take on this role. This is an area I am deeply passionate about, and I look forward to using both my lived experience and the knowledge I've gained supporting our community to help influence meaningful, positive change.

Meeting Minister, s Browne and Lawless about issues in Maynooth



This month I met Minister James Browne and Minister James Lawless to highlight the urgent need for greater investment in Maynooth from Kildare County Council. In particular, I raised the lack of social infrastructure in our town and the need for this to be prioritised as our population continues to grow.



Fianna Fail Councillors Conference

The Fianna Fáil Councillors Conference in Mullingar provided a valuable opportunity to engage with fellow councillors and ministers on the issues impacting our communities. It was important to ensure that Maynooth's voice was represented in these discussions, particularly as our town continues to grow at pace. I raised a number of key priorities, including the urgent need for a Garda station in Maynooth, funding for a dedicated community centre, and the ongoing challenges families are facing in accessing disability services locally. These are real issues affecting people every day and they require continued focus and investment. I also highlighted the lack of publicly available playing pitches across our Municipal District. Speaking directly with Minister Charlie McConalogue, I called for stronger legislation to ensure councils cannot effectively "give away" public spaces that should be protected for community use. Access to sport and recreation is vital for the health and wellbeing of our communities, and we must plan properly for this. I will always advocate strongly for Maynooth and will continue to push for the investment, infrastructure and services our growing community deserves.



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



For the latest info and press releases visit fiannafail.ie/news



Interview with Donna Phelan about MAFT (Maynooth Autism Friendly Town)



I recently met with Donna Phelan, one of MAFT's volunteers and advocates. I wanted to find out why she volunteered with MAFT and to get an insight into the organisation. I began by asking Donna why she got involved with AsIAm.

“Why did you get involved with AsIAm?”

For me, it all comes from lived experience. I wanted to see real change for my daughter Holly. She was diagnosed as autistic when she was three, and from that moment, everything changed for our family.

At the time, my employer wasn't accommodating of her appointments or her needs, and I had to make the very difficult decision to leave my job. That period was incredibly challenging, but it also opened my eyes in a way I don't think anything else could have.

Because it's only when you're in the system living it every day that you really see where things fall down. You quickly realise that families are constantly fighting for assessments, for supports, for understanding just to make sure their child gets what they need. And I remember thinking; this shouldn't be this hard.

That's really what drove me. I didn't just want to accept it I wanted to change it, not just for my daughter, but for other families going through the same experience.

“So where did you go from there after your daughter's diagnosis?”

I decided to do an SNA course, and that's where I met Mairead McHale, who now works with AsIAm. Through that, we connected with Adam Harris, the founder of AsIAm.

I went to hear Adam speak in Maynooth University, and I can honestly say that moment changed everything for me. It gave me hope. Up until then, a diagnosis can feel overwhelming it can feel like everything is uncertain. But seeing Adam, hearing his story, and seeing everything he has achieved made me realise this wasn't the end of anything.

I walked out of that room thinking, *what can we do here in Maynooth?*

Mairead had applied for the Autism Friendly Town Programme and asked if I'd be interested in getting involved. I didn't hesitate I just said, whatever you need, I'm there.

At our very first meeting, we had around 100 people show up. That told us straight away that there was a real appetite for change in this town. From that meeting, we formed our committee, and that's where it all began.

“What were your initial plans?”

We developed a three-year town plan focused on making Maynooth more inclusive, more understanding, and more supportive for autistic for autistic people and the wider neurodivergent community.

One of our first initiatives was introducing sensory boxes into local business places along Main Street, Mill Street, Manor Mills and Carton Retail Park.

They're very simple, but incredibly effective. They include items like fidget toys and calming supports that can help if someone becomes overwhelmed in a busy environment.

That was our starting point. Our committee is small but with the help of volunteers we knocked on every door, spoke to every owner/manager about what we wanted to achieve and we were very determined.

We just got stuck in and within the first year, we had reached our AsIAm milestone. That showed us what's possible when people are willing to act.

“How did you decide what businesses to approach?”

We approached it very practically, especially around the schools. We asked ourselves if children are out in the town, where are they most likely to go?

We focused on areas like Main Street, Manor Mills and up towards Carton, because accessibility is a huge factor. Many autistic children have co-occurring conditions like dyspraxia, which means walking long distances isn't always possible.

So, we wanted to make sure that the places they are most likely to visit are welcoming, supportive and familiar. It's about creating an environment where families feel confident going out, knowing they will be understood and supported.

“Did the businesses immediately get on board?”

Some did straight away, others took a bit more time but overall, the response has been incredibly positive.

SuperValu is a standout example. They went on to win a national sensory award from AsIAm. What they introduced was very simple, no till beeps, no music, and dimmed lighting during certain times.

We're not asking businesses to reinvent the wheel. Sometimes it's just small, thoughtful changes that make the biggest difference.

They also introduced a sensory mat at the tills, so children have a space to sit and regulate while waiting. For someone who finds queuing difficult, that can completely change the experience.

We've had fantastic support from other businesses too Maynooth Bookshop created a sensory corner; Inkjet designed our logo. There's a real sense in Maynooth that people want to do better, and that's something we're very proud of.

“Have you gotten feedback from people in the Autistic Community?”

All the time and that feedback is so important, whether it's positive or constructive. That's how we improve.

I've had families contact me from outside Maynooth as well. One parent told me their child became overwhelmed in a shop, but because the staff had awareness and training, they knew exactly how to respond. They said it turned into the best shopping experience they'd ever had and that really stayed with me. Because in many places, without that understanding, families can feel judged or uncomfortable.

What we're trying to create here is the opposite of that a town where people feel supported, not stared at.

“Do you think there's still a stigma around Autistic people, or children in particular?”

Yes, absolutely. There's still a lot of negativities and misunderstanding around autism. But everything we're doing is about changing that about shifting the narrative from something negative to something positive. It's about raising awareness, understanding, and acceptance so that people feel valued and included.

“Are there any other accommodations you're passionate about?”

The Glenroyal Hotel run a Sensory Santa experience every year, and honestly, it's just incredible. They support the entire initiative, including every single present that's given.

What makes it so special is the level of thought and care that goes into it. Each child's interests are taken into account, so the gift they receive is personal to them. It's not a one-size-fits-all experience it's tailored, and that makes such a difference.

This is a Santa experience for children who might find the traditional, busy, loud environments overwhelming. Instead, it's calm, it's structured, and it's fully supported by trained SNAs. There's no loud music, no pressure it's all done at the child's pace. And it's the small details that really stand out. If a child is wearing ear defenders, Santa will wear them too. That simple act sends a powerful message that they are not different, that they are understood, and that they belong.

That's what true inclusion looks like. It's about adapting the environment to meet the needs of the child, not expecting the child to adapt to the environment.

Alongside that, we're seeing real progress across the community. We have an All-Stars GAA team for children of all abilities, with around 30 to 40 kids taking part every Sunday morning. It's not about competition it's about participation, enjoyment, and feeling part of something.

We also have inclusive Tag Rugby in North Kildare, and Comhaltas in Maynooth are running inclusive bodhrán classes. What we're trying to do is make sure there's something in every space sport, culture, and social activities so that everyone has an opportunity to be involved.

And then we have our teen hangout groups, which run every second Wednesday in Maynooth Community College. They're designed for ages 9–12 and 13–17, and they provide a safe, welcoming space for young people to connect, build friendships, and just be themselves.



“Are those hangout groups popular?”

They're completely booked out every two weeks. And we also run an adult group straight after. We would absolutely love to run them every week, because the demand is there it's just funding that limits us. If we had the resources, we'd expand in the morning.

“What's the biggest issue for MAFT (Maynooth Autism Friendly Town) going forward?”

Volunteers, without a doubt. Our committee has reduced down to four people, and we're all carers, advocates, and some of us are working as well. Life is busy, and it can be unpredictable.

But when you see the impact, this work is having, you keep going. I won't stop, because I know how much it matters.

That said, volunteering has changed. People are under pressure, working long hours, and sometimes that sense of community isn't as strong as it once was. But I still believe it's there we just need to tap into it again.

“Are you actively looking for volunteers?”

Yes, absolutely. We would love more people to get involved. There's always work to be done, but especially around IT, social media, and video content. People don't always realise that even a short video can take hours to produce. So if people have those skills, or even just time to give, we would really welcome that support.

“What is the main takeaway message from all the work you've done?”

For me, it comes down to something very simple, but very important everyone has the right to live, learn, work and play in their community, regardless of their ability.

And that's not just something we say it's something we should be actively creating every single day.

In Maynooth, we have the opportunity to make that a reality. This is a town with a huge heart. I've seen how people support each other, how businesses step up, and how families come together. And because of that, I truly believe we can build a community where nobody feels excluded.

But we also have to be honest right now, for many families, the simple things that others take for granted aren't always accessible. Going to the shop, joining a club, attending an event these can be overwhelming or simply not possible without the right supports.

That's what drives everything we do. It's about breaking down those barriers, listening to people, understanding what they need, and putting meaningful supports in place so they can fully participate in everyday life.

Because inclusion isn't a bonus it's a basic right.

And I genuinely believe what we're building here in Maynooth can lead the way not just for other towns in Kildare, but across the country.

We've already shown what's possible. Now it's about continuing that work, growing it, and making sure that no one is left behind.

THE Kildare Inclusivity Festival

10 May
2026

11am-6pm
Curragh
Racecourse

A FREE
Sunday Funday
for EVERYONE!





Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

MU Leads Study on the Irish Language by President Catherine Connolly

On March 24, a new research report on the status of the Irish language at Maynooth University (MU) was launched by President of Ireland, Catherine Connolly.

The report, titled *Ár gCampas, Ár dTeanga* (“Our Campus, Our Language”), presents the findings of a large-scale study to examine ability in, use of, and attitudes towards Irish among all staff and students of the University.

The research involved over 3000 participants and it will provide an important evidence base for language planning at MU in the coming years. This will be of particular importance in light of new obligations on public bodies under the Official Languages (Amendment) Act 2021, including targets to increase the relating number of staff who are proficient in Irish and requirements to the provision of bilingual public services.

The findings reveal very strong goodwill towards the Irish language across the University community, alongside significant opportunities to strengthen institutional support.

Among the key findings:

- There is widespread goodwill and support for Irish in MU: 90% of the 3329 staff and student respondents believe that Irish should be promoted on campus.
- There is a strong foundation of self-reported proficiency in Irish among staff and student respondents: 30% of students and almost 19% of staff reported having at least B2-level (upper intermediate) proficiency in spoken Irish.
- The research suggests that much of that capacity is currently latent: more than 50% of proficient Irish speakers said that they seldom or never use Irish on campus.
- There is a strong appetite for more opportunities to learn Irish: 85% of staff and 82% of student respondents expressed a desire to improve their Irish. Many respondents noted that constraints on time and a lack of institutional recognition can limit engagement with those learning opportunities available to them already.



Irish Language Study Catherine Connolly

Aoife Ní Ghloinn, Director of MU’s Lárionad na Gaeilge, Dr Joe Simpson, Post-doctoral Researcher, President of Ireland Catherine Connolly, MU President Prof Eeva Leinonen and Prof Fiontán de Brún of MU’s Department of Modern Irish

Demand for, and capacity to provide, Irish-language services was also clear: 50% of students said they would use Irish language services if available, while 45% of staff expressed an interest in using Irish in their work.

The report sets out 25 practical recommendations to build on these strong foundations, to support language planning at MU and put language policy

into practice. These include increasing the visibility of Irish and strengthening Irish-language ‘breathing spaces’ on campus, expanding learning opportunities for all staff and students, piloting certain Irish-language services and enhancing institutional structures and resources for language planning.

Speaking at the launch, President of Ireland Catherine Connolly said: ““May I offer my heartfelt congratulations to Dr Joe Simpson for undertaking this very important study. May I further congratulate all those who participated in the survey, conducted as part of the study, for the insights which they have given into the current status of the Irish language in MU and for clarifying the future possibilities for the University as a bilingual campus.

It is clear from the study that there is significant goodwill in the University towards the Irish language, but also that there are practical challenges ahead. The recommendations which have arisen from the completion of this survey offer a source of hope which, when implemented, will strengthen and benefit the language on campus.

May I offer my best wishes to all at MU as you develop this vision of bilingualism.” MU President, Prof Eeva Leinonen said: “As the first study of its kind undertaken in an Irish university, *Ár gCampas, Ár dTeanga* represents a significant milestone not only for Maynooth but for the wider higher education sector. Maynooth has a long and proud association with the Irish language, stretching back more than two centuries to the foundations of learning on this campus.

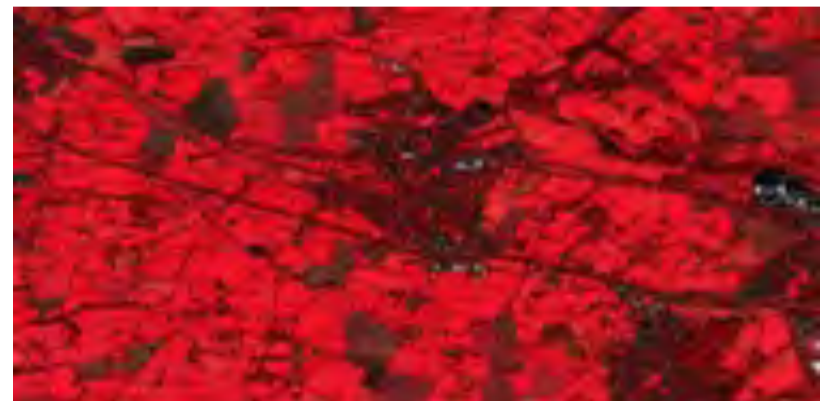
We are immensely proud both of that enduring tradition and of the work taking place across the University today to support and strengthen the Irish language. This report is important because it gives us clear, tangible insights into the place of Irish in university life and helps inform how we can build on that legacy and deepen our commitment to fostering a truly bilingual university community for students and staff in the years ahead.”

* * * *



Space in Irish Classrooms

Maynooth and hinterlands, as seen from space by



Space in Irish Classrooms

A near infrared image of Maynooth and hinterlands,

MU Bringing Space into Irish Classrooms

Irish pupils are using satellite images, drones and interactive maps to learn about everything from coastal erosion to food security, thanks to a hugely popular schools project at Maynooth University (MU).

Dr Conor Cahalane, a Chartered Surveyor by background and a lecturer in remote sensing at MU’s Department of Geography, who leads the MSc programme in GIS and Remote Sensing, research assistant Helen Cullen and MU’s Department of Education - Dr Angela Rickard, Dr Zerrin Doğança



Maynooth University
National University of Ireland Maynooth

Küçük and Dr Diarmaid Hyland have spent the last seven years showing teachers, student teachers and teenagers how satellite and drone data can be used to better understand the world and their communities.

The 5*S: Space, Surveyors and Students programme, which began in 2019 as a Science Foundation Ireland (now Research Ireland) Discover award, uses real satellite and spatial datasets to teach school pupils about global challenges as defined by the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

“Any data with a location can be used to help teach students about the world,” says Dr Cahalane. “The SDGs provide the framework, while the technology makes it possible.”

Irish Eyes in the Sky

Ireland is a member of Copernicus, the EU’s Earth observation programme, which operates the Sentinel family of satellites and MU is also home to the Copernicus Delegate (Prof Tim McCarthy) and the Copernicus Relay.

The role of the Relay is to act as local champions, coordinating and promoting activities around Copernicus, its benefits and opportunities for local residents and businesses and has been a collaborator with the 5*S team since inception.

Dr Cahalane explains that these orbiting “cameras in space” provide free, open data including radar images for mapping floods and crop types, multi-spectral imagery for tracking land use change, coastlines and vegetation, and ocean measurements for everything from sea levels to pollution.

Irish industry has long been strong on building the hardware that goes into satellites, while Dr Cahalane’s focus is on promoting uses of the data that they send back down to Earth.

MU’s GIS and Remote Sensing MSc graduates work in many areas, including surveying, planning, and GIS companies, as well as government agencies such as Met Éireann, the Geological Survey of Ireland, and Teagasc – all of which routinely use satellite data. They also work in firms that tap into the same free datasets to compete for contracts in areas such as monitoring crop growth or traffic flows.

* * * *

MU launches Green Charter for Green Week 2026

Green Week at Maynooth University opened with the signing of a new Green Campus Charter, renewing a shared commitment to sustainability across the Maynooth Campus and wider community. The charter sets out a partnership approach to environmental action, bringing together staff, students and local partners to support long-term improvements in areas such as biodiversity, energy, waste, transport and sustainable food.

Maynooth Green Campus was established in 2012 as a collaboration between MU, St. Patrick’s Pontifical University (SPPU), Trócaire and members of the local community. Since then, it has grown into a volunteered initiative connecting staff, students and partners who want to make Maynooth a more sustainable place to live, learn and work.

Dr Jim Carolan, Chair of Maynooth Green Campus, said: “What’s always set Maynooth Green Campus apart is its connection with the wider Maynooth community. From the beginning, it brought together Maynooth University,

St. Patrick’s, Trócaire, and local partners, and that collaboration has really provided the foundation for delivering meaningful changes and actions.”

Chaired by Dr Jim Carolan and coordinated by Mireia Guardino Ferran, the group works closely with Director of Estates Michael Rafter and colleagues in the Estates Office to turn ideas into practical action. Much of this work happens quietly, shaped by collaboration between volunteers, students, Estates teams and community partners such as Maynooth Tidy Towns, Kildare County Council, and Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community.

Peter Hamilton, community liaison with Maynooth Sustainable Energy Community and community champion for the IRESI-Renew research project at MU said: “Maynooth University is an important part of the town community and a valuable resource for shared objectives. Our collaboration through Green Campus, alongside the IRESI research team, helps bring attention to and action on the dual challenges of climate action and biodiversity loss within the wider community.”

Our green spaces offer one of the most visible examples of that partnership. Maynooth Campus has retained its Green Flag Award for seven consecutive years and was named Overall Winner of the Pollinator Award in 2025, recognising efforts to support biodiversity and protect natural habitats.

The campus also played a key role in Maynooth representing Ireland in the Entente Florale Europe competition, where the town was awarded Gold. Maynooth also received special recognition for the management of its green environment, reflecting collaboration between the University, SPPU, Maynooth Tidy Towns and local partners.

Michael Rafter, Director of Estates, added: “Green Campus gives us a way to connect practical campus operations with ideas coming from staff and students. It helps shape practical changes in areas like biodiversity, transport and waste, and over time those incremental improvements make a real difference to the campus.”

Other initiatives may be less visible but are an important part of everyday campus life. The transition to an all-electric Estates vehicle fleet has reduced emissions and made the campus quieter and cleaner. A bottle and can return scheme, developed with Maynooth Students’ Union, supports waste reduction while raising funds for local charities. The Edible Garden, created and maintained by staff and students, continues to grow as a shared space for sustainable food production, learning and community-building.

Green Week provided an opportunity to highlight this work and encourage wider participation. The programme included biodiversity walks, talks, workshops and simple activities such as campus litter picks, offering staff and students a chance to get involved in a practical way.



Green Week 2026



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MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY LIBRARY EVENTS



Events for Adults

Luain Press Poetry Café

Tuesday 5 May 6.00pm - 7.00pm

Join us in the Maynooth Community Library for chats, readings, and creative opportunities.

Drop in, no booking required

Age Friendly Coffee Morning

Wednesday 13 May 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

Housing Information Clinic

Thursday 14 May 2.30 pm – 4.30pm

This Maynooth Community library housing clinic is part of a series of Housing Clinics scheduled by Kildare County Council across all Municipal Districts. Staff from various sections will be in attendance to assist with any queries that may arise.

The Housing Department can be contacted via email: customercare@kildarecoco.ie. Appointments are available by contacting the Housing Department directly.

*Drop in

Housing & Homelessness Supports Information Clinic

Monday 18 May, 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

Babywearing Ireland Kildare Branch Sling Meeting

Monday 25 May 10.15 am – 11.15 am

Babywearing Ireland (BWI) is a voluntary, not-for-profit organisation offering impartial information about and support for the practice of babywearing and the safe use of baby carriers and slings

A sling meeting can be a great starting point for anyone who wants to carry their baby, as well as introducing you to a wonderful network of parents. It's also great if you are already using a sling or carrier and you'd like to see what else might work for you or to see what other parents are finding comfortable.

As with all BWI sling meetings, at the Kildare Branch of BWI you can expect the following:

- an informal chat with friendly people who have similar interests
- a range of slings and baby carriers to try out in an informal setting an exchange with other sling/baby carrier users about their experiences using them
- an exchange with other sling/baby carrier users about their experiences using them

Informal demonstrations of some slings/baby carriers

*Drop in, no booking required *

Let's Talk About Parenting Programme

Online Talk - Toilet Training - less stress, more success!

With Deirdre Holland Hannon

Tuesday 12 May 8.00 pm – 9.30 pm

If you are getting ready to potty / toilet train your little one, then join us online for some support and advice from Behaviour Specialist, Urotherapist, and Registered Nurse Deirdre Holland Hannon. Book here [Book your free ticket here! – Toilet Training – Less Stress, More Success – Zoom](#)

Climate Action Events

Zero Waste Maynooth

Saturday 9 May 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Free Community Swap & Repair Event

Drop in any time from 2 - 4pm

Ladies Clothes Swap - Bring one, take one. All size clothes and brands welcome once in good repair. No large bags of clothes, please.

Kids Clothes Swap - Clothes from two years upwards. All clothes to be in good repair please.

Learn to Repair Clothes - Vanessa from The Craft Corner will be joining us to show you how to mend your clothes and keep them for longer. Drop by with a project you're working on or items that need repair and learn how to mend.

Kids Toy Swap - Let's get the kids into the idea of swapping! Small toys only and no broken/dirty toys please

Cloth Nappy Library Ireland - Volunteers available to show you how modern cloth nappies work. They are way easier than years gone by, super cute, saves waste and saves money

Events for Children

Meet the Instruments Saturday:

Saturday 23 May 11.00 am – 1.00pm

Would you like to find out more about learning to play Irish music? Musicians from Comhaltas Mhaigh Nuad will be at Maynooth Community library to play a few tunes and answer any questions you have about the instruments, the music and getting started learning to play. Come along to our informal drop-in Meet the Instruments session, listen to and try the instruments and learn about Irish music and how to get started on your musical journey.

Drop in event

Groups and Clubs

Maynooth Community Library Craft Club

The Library Craft Club meets every Monday, 11.30am - 1.00pm (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 10.00am – 11.00am

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

Thursday 21 May 6.30pm – 7.30pm

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 *

Exhibitions

Callan Institute Saint John of God Community Services

'Emerging Voices Art Competition and Exhibition'

Friday 1 May – Friday 29 May

'Emerging Voices' is an annual exhibition of art created by children and adults with an Intellectual Disability who are supported by Saint John of God Community Services clg.

Callan Institute as part of Saint John of God organise this event.

Art speaks where words are sometimes unable to. The artists will showcase their interpretation of 'What Makes Me Smile' and invite you to experience their emerging voices in this exhibition.

The theme this year of 'What Makes Me Smile' has been chosen by a combination of Artists and Competition organisers.

Come see and enjoy!

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 Kildare Library Service events, why not sign up the library events newsletter at the following link: Kildare Library Service - Newsletter Subscribe Form: [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

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

Leaving School

Career Paths - What are the options available?

There are many career paths you can take and, when it comes to picking a college, apprenticeship, training, or work option, it can feel daunting to take that first step. Remember, the choice you make now doesn't have to be forever. It's okay to start along one career path and then decide it's not for you.



How do I decide what to do after school?

When deciding what you want to do after school, think about things that interest you. These can be school subjects, hobbies or activities, or anything at all.

There are many career sectors, and with so much choice, you may feel overwhelmed. It can help to look at the sectors broadly to see if anything grabs your interest. Career sectors can be grouped under seven main categories.

1. Agriculture, Animals & Food.
2. STEM, Environment & Construction.
3. Healthcare, Wellbeing & Sport.
4. Creative Arts, Fashion & Media.
5. Government, Law & Education.
6. Accountancy, Finance & Insurance.
7. Business, Sales & Tourism.

What is Qualifax.ie?
Use Qualifax.ie to browse a database of up to 15,000 courses at varying levels to find the one that suits you.

Careers Portal

Find information on the career paths you can take in each of these categories on CareersPortal.ie.

CareersPortal.ie is the national career guidance service in Ireland. It has information about different occupations and apprenticeships, and about different career sectors.

Whatever you choose to do, you'll need certain skills and qualifications. In general, when you complete a further or higher education course, you get awarded a qualification from levels 1 to 10 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Use the NFQ to compare courses and see which ones can help you along your chosen career path. The NFQ can also help with getting your Irish qualification recognised abroad.

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Use the NFQ to compare courses and see which ones can help you along your chosen career path. The NFQ can also help with getting your Irish qualification recognised abroad.

When you've decided what kind of further study or training you want to do, it's time to apply.

What is the National Framework of Qualifications?

The 'level' of a qualification refers to its level on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). This tells an employer what you know, understand, and can do after achieving a qualification.



National Framework of Qualifications, qqi.ie

Apprenticeships and Training

If you want to learn a trade or profession, you may be interested in an **apprenticeship**.

This gives you on-the-job training with an employer in a craft trade (such as plumbing or carpentry), or a profession (such as ICT, finance, hospitality, or farming). You'll also do off-the-job training in an education centre. In general, an apprenticeship lasts between two and four years.

While you're training on the job, your employer pays you a recommended apprenticeship wage. The amount you get depends on your industry. You may also be entitled to allowances, such as a tool allowance, and tax relief.

Depending on your preferred apprenticeship programme, you can start from 16 to 18 years of age (there's no upper age limit). Apprenticeships lead to nationally and internationally recognised qualifications, from levels 5 to 9 on the NFQ.

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

Continued Apprenticeships and Training

An apprenticeship is just one example of a Further Education and Training (FET) course. There are more full-time and part-time FET courses listed on fetchcourses.ie, including traineeships, community and adult education. Depending on your circumstances and the course, you may be paid an allowance. If you're aged 15 to 20 and leave school without formal qualifications, you can do a Youthreach course. This includes basic skills training, practical work training, and general education, and you get a weekly allowance.

Where can I find information on apprenticeships?

Find out about apprenticeships and how to apply on apprenticeship.ie. You can also go to the apprenticeship section of careersportal.ie.

What is the Work Placement Experience Programme?

The Work Placement Experience Programme (WPEP) gives people who have never had a job, or who have lost their job, a chance to get work experience. You must meet certain criteria to qualify for WPEP, including getting a qualifying social welfare payment.

PLCs and other routes to College

While the CAO is the main route to third-level education, it's not the only option. Other pathways to third-level education include:

- Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses.
- Tertiary education courses.

What are PLC courses?

Post Leaving Certificate (PLC) courses are full-time courses that offer a mix of practical work, academic learning and work experience. They are a step towards skilled employment in different areas, including:

- Accountancy and business
- Agriculture
- Art, craft and design
- Biomedical and pharmaceutical science
- Cloud computing with coding
- Computer science
- Hairdressing, barbering and beauty care
- Multi-media studies and journalism
- Personal training with sports science
- TV and film production
- Tourism

PLC courses run throughout the country and are usually at Levels 5 or 6 of the NFQ. You can go on to do a third-level degree course when you complete your PLC course.

Where can I find PLC courses?
Find a list of PLC courses available throughout Ireland on careersportal.ie. You can also search by region on the Education and Training Boards Ireland website etbi.ie, or search for PLC courses on the Qualifax website.

What is the tertiary education programme?

You can get a third-level degree at Level 7 or 8 of the NFQ through the tertiary education programme. You start your course in a further education college and finish it in a higher education college or university.

Tertiary degrees have a different entry process. You don't apply through the CAO or need the same Leaving Cert points. Instead, courses have their own entry requirements. There are more than 40 courses available, including:

Animation
Business
Computing with AI
Manufacturing

Nursing
Occupational Therapy
Public health
Politics

Software development
Social work
Sports science



Where can I find information on tertiary education courses? Read FAQs about tertiary degrees on the National Tertiary Office (NTO) website nto.heai.ie. You can see which courses are available, as well as the entry requirements and application dates on the NTO's courses page.

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

Applying for College and the C.A.O

You apply for almost all full-time third-level undergraduate courses through the Central Applications Office (CAO).

Undergraduate courses include:

- Higher Certificates (Level 6).
- Ordinary Bachelor degrees (Level 7).
- Honours Bachelor degrees (Level 8).

You can find a list of all the courses on offer and information on how to apply in the CAO Handbook.

When do I apply to the C.A.O?

You can apply for courses online through the CAO portal from November to February each year. Depending on your circumstances, you can submit a late application until 1 May 2026. You usually apply during sixth year of school, and progress to third-level when you finish your Leaving Cert exams.

What is the C.A.O?

The CAO processes applications for undergraduate courses in Irish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). The HEIs decide who gets places on their courses, and they tell the CAO. If successful, you'll be offered a place through the online CAO portal.

What is a restricted-application course?

Some courses are 'restricted-application' courses. These have early assessment or interview procedures. For example, if you're applying for a course in the National College of Art & Design, you may need to submit a portfolio. If you want to apply for a restricted course, make sure to include it in your CAO application in time, so that your early assessment can be arranged. Assessments can happen as early as February.

How do I apply to the C.A.O?

You can apply to third-level institutions through the CAO portal. Find a step-by-step guide on how to apply for college through the CAO on citizensinformation.ie.

Before you start your CAO application, you should read the latest version of the CAO Handbook. This has helpful and important information about the process.

Important! When it comes to picking your courses, list your courses in your genuine order of preference. Do NOT list them based on how you think you'll perform in your exams. You'll be offered the first course on your list that you're eligible for, so if you're offered your first choice, you won't be offered your second choice. But, if you're offered your third choice, you might still be offered your second or first choices in later rounds.

Can I change my mind about courses?

Yes. You can add courses or change your course choices online up to the closing date in February, free of charge. If you want to change your courses between February and early March, a fee applies (usually €10). The free change of mind facility re-opens in early May until early July. The CAO sends you a Statement of Application Record before the end of May asking you to verify that your application information is correct.

When do I get my offer?

Round A Who it applies to: Applicants not waiting on Leaving Cert results, such as mature students and deferred applicants.

When? Usually in July

Round Zero Who it applies to: Graduate entry medicine candidates and other categories.

When? Early August

Round 1 Who it applies to: Applicants waiting for Leaving Cert results.

When? Usually August (after the Leaving Cert results are released)

What do I need to know about accepting an offer?

If you apply for courses from both the Level 8 and Level 6 or 7 lists, you may get offers from both lists. You can only accept one offer, in any one round. So, if you get more than one offer, you need to choose which offer to accept.



Other Options Available

Higher Education Access Route (HEAR) and the Disability Access Route to Education (DARE)

Further Education and Training (FET)

Studying Abroad

More Irish students are choosing to study abroad each year. Many programmes in other countries are taught through English. They have realistic entry requirements, available places, and free or low fees for a good standard of education. Sometimes, the course you want to do is only available, or more easily accessed, by going abroad. What do I need to think about when considering studying abroad? • How to apply for courses in different countries. • College fees and grants to help with costs. • Practical matters, like finding somewhere to live and living expenses. Some countries have a central body that processes college applications, like the CAO in Ireland. In other countries, you just apply directly to the college. So, check how to apply once you've found a course you're interested in.



www.maynooth10k.ie

MAYNOOTH 10K & 5K

Annual MEC Fundraiser



Volunteer

Sincerest gratitude to everyone who has registered and our generous sponsors, whose support makes it possible for this event to continue benefiting the community and local initiatives. While all our running spots are all filled, we still need volunteers and supporters to join us on the day.

Join our volunteer steward team

maynooth10k.ie/volunteer-as-a-steward/



Sunday, May 10th 2026

Pop Up
MAYNOOTH



*An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre*

Join us for an amazing night of fun in Brady's Clockhouse on the 15th of May! Our annual quiz will fundraise for our production of Echoes From A Room showing in July.

An Nuadha Players'
BIG
Spring Quiz
IN SUPPORT OF
OUR 2026
SUMMER PRODUCTION **ECHOES FROM A ROOM**
BY TERRY NEALON
15th May 2026
Upstairs in Brady's Clockhouse | 8pm
TABLES OF 4 - €10 PER PERSON

With Martin Higgins hosting you are in for a night of fun and craic. The event is open for secondary students too; we just need written permission from parents or guardians. You can visit: [HERE](#) to sign the form! Cash and card payments will be available on the night, and if you can't make it; but would like to donate you are more than welcome to scan our QR code on our website. We can't wait to see you all at our fun night of trivia!

It is finally summer and we are getting closer and closer to our summer production. Echoes From A Room by Terry Nealon will be staged in just under three months! Our wonderful cast and our director Síomha Glynn cannot wait to bring this wonderful play to life.

ECHOES
FROM A
ROOM
BY TERRY NEALON
SUMMER PRODUCTION 2026
MAYNOOTH COMMUNITY COLLEGE
6th - 11th JULY 2026



The cast have entered their second month of rehearsals and are excited to bring this moving and unique play to life! The show brimming with Irish wit; displays the complex life of inner-city women in the 60s. Including all the laughter, tears, and music that comes with it. Tickets will go on sale on the 1st of June on our website. Make sure to grab them while you can! Tickets will also be sold at the annual Picnic in the Park on the 21st of June. Where our members will be able to answer any questions relating to this wonderful play. We look forward to seeing you in our audiences come July!



Although summer is nearing; we at An Nuadha Players are always keen to begin preparing for Panto season! (Oh yes we are!) We are so excited to open the 2026 Pantomime registration on the 24th of April until the 8th of May. Because of demand we recommend that you register early as possible! Click the [HERE](#) to register through our website!

WALICE
IN
WONDERLAND
PANTOMIME 2026
AULA MAXIMA, ST PATRICK'S COLLEGE, MAYNOOTH
3RD - 6TH DECEMBER 2026
REGISTRATION 24TH APRIL - 8TH MAY
LAUNCH NIGHT & MOVEMENT WORKSHOP - 14TH MAY
ACTING & SINGING AUDITIONS - 18TH & 21ST MAY
CORE DANCER & CHILDREN'S AUDITIONS - 23RD MAY

We are also excited to announce our launch workshop for Alice in Wonderland! Taking place in Maynooth Community College on the 14th of May, our wonderful choreographer Meadhbh Fitzgibbon Moore will host a movement workshop. This will be a fun and inclusive way to kick off the fun and games of Panto season. We will be hosting our principal auditions on Monday the 18th and Thursday the 22nd of May. Our core dancer auditions will be held on the 23rd of May. You can find specific details about the audition process on our [WEBSITE](#).



*An Nuadha Players
Community Theatre*

Maynooth Cycling Campaign

Notes for May 2026



Bikeweek 2026

Bikeweek runs from 9th-17th May. Maynooth Cycling Campaign has organised three public events -

- A 3km cycle to Derrybeg Farm followed by a tour of the farm on 9th May
- A 6.2km family cycle to Kilcock along the Royal Canal Greenway, and
- Trishaw rides from Courthouse Square on Saturday 9th and 16th May.

Full details are available on the bikeweek.ie website.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign has also engaged with Gaelscoil Uí Fhiaich, Maynooth Educate Together, Scoil Ruairí and Presentation Girls School with proposals for an art competition on the theme of Bikeweek. We have also offered to give a number of talks to Maynooth Post Primary and Maynooth Community College.

Grand Canal Greenway - Hazelhatch

South Dublin County Council was responsible for upgrading the Grand Canal between the 12th Lock and Hazelhatch. This was the missing link on the Grand Canal between Dublin and Kildare. Unfortunately, South Dublin's ambition did not extend the full distance to the R405 at Hazelhatch. They stopped about 100m short where the McEvoy's Pub has taken over the towpath with tables and chairs. This section is dependent on the provision of a new bridge to bring cyclists to the other side of the canal but no funding has been provided for the bridge and no indication that it might be provided in either the short or the medium term. Instead, the provision of a kissing gate forces cyclists to dismount and walk with their bike. South Dublin didn't have to do this. They could have brought the path down to the car park which would allow both able bodied and disabled cyclists to bypass the contentious section of towpath. A poor decision by South Dublin Council..

Kildare County Council & the Long Road to Climate Targets

Maynooth Cycling Campaign recently published an article on the Long Road to Climate Targets. It deals with Kildare County Council's response to submissions by Maynooth Cycling Campaign on the County Development Plan. Local authorities are supposed to welcome public consultation. The least that we should expect is that the council gives due diligence to assessing the points raised.

Link Road Celbridge

Maynooth Cycling Campaign welcomes the opening of the Straffan Road/Celbridge Road Link. Unfortunately the surface of the cycle track in the vicinity of Griffin Rath Manor and Griffin Rath Hall has deteriorated so much that it is a danger to cyclists. Kildare County Council has removed the trees which have damaged the cycle track over the last twenty years but they do not propose to repair the surface until later in the year. The Council could have repaired the surface at any time over recent years but didn't. Darragh O'Brien, Minister for Transport as well as Climate, recently stated on radio that Ireland is expected to miss its legally binding target of a 50% reduction in transport emissions by 2030. The impact of Ireland's fossil fuel dependency is clear from events in the Middle East and the increase in the cost of fuel. The lessons should be to reduce fossil fuel use as much as possible.

Celbridge Road Part 8 Public Consultation

At a recent meeting of the Maynooth Community Council, Cllr Phelan informed the meeting that the Celbridge Road upgrade scheme which included the provision of improved walking and cycling facilities would proceed to Part 8 Publication in June.



IRELAND AT SEA

“Roger Casement’s connection to the sinking of the Lusitania lies less in direct involvement and more in his fierce political response. He believed the liner was secretly carrying munitions and accused the British government of recklessly allowing civilians aboard, turning the tragedy into, in his view, a symbol of imperial disregard for human life—fueling his growing commitment to Irish independence.

Once a respected British diplomat, Casement earned international acclaim for exposing human rights abuses, notably in the Congo Free State atrocities through his 1905 report, and later in South America. Knighted in 1911, he was often described as a pioneer of modern human rights investigations. Yet after retiring in 1913, he shifted decisively toward Irish republicanism, seeking German support for the planned Easter Rising.



Roger Casement

In a twist of fate, Casement’s story intersected directly with the German U-boats linked to the Lusitania disaster. He had initially been assigned to travel aboard U-20—the submarine that sank the ship—but instead sailed on U-19 under Raimund Weisbach, formerly a torpedo officer on U-20. His mission was to coordinate an arms landing in Ireland from the disguised vessel Aud.

Poor communications breakdown led to the Aud’s interception by the Royal Navy, and its captain, Karl Spindler, scuttled the ship in Cork Harbour. Shortly after, Casement was landed at Banna Strand, Co. Kerry, where he was quickly arrested—dealing a major blow to the Rising before it began.

Tried for treason in London, Casement was prosecuted by F. E. Smith, a close ally of Winston Churchill. Found guilty, he was executed on August 3rd, 1916, at Pentonville Prison. His remains lay there until 1965, when they were returned to Ireland and reburied with full state honours at Glasnevin Cemetery, Dublin.

In a final historical link, Lord Birkenhead would later help negotiate the Anglo-Irish Treaty with Arthur Griffith and Michael Collins, paving the way for the Irish Free State—an outcome Casement himself never lived to see.”

THE HISTORIC HIBERNIA
MARITIME SERIES

Step aboard Ireland’s seafaring past with the Historic Hibernia Maritime Series, three expertly researched booklets exploring the stories of the:

RMS Leinster, RMS Lusitania, and RMS Empress of Ireland.

Each booklet offers a concise yet vivid account of a legendary liner. Learn about its construction and launch, its deep ties with Ireland, and the passengers and crew whose lives were forever changed by its tragic final voyage. Blending meticulous research with powerful human stories, this series brings maritime history to life in an accessible and engaging way.

Discover the triumph, tragedy, and enduring legacy of the ships that helped shape Ireland’s maritime heritage. This collection is a must-have for history enthusiasts, educators, and anyone captivated by the great ocean liners of the early 20th century.

THE RMS LEINSTER
IRELAND’S TRAGIC LOSS

THE RMS LUSITANIA
A CUNARD CATASTROPHE OFF THE IRISH COAST

EMPRESS OF IRELAND
THE CANADIAN TITANIC

DISCOVER IRELAND’S SEAFARING PAST

Step aboard Ireland’s seafaring past with the Historic Hibernia Maritime Series, three expertly researched booklets exploring the stories of the: RMS Leinster, RMS Lusitania, and RMS Empress of Ireland.

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Discover the triumph, tragedy, and enduring legacy of the ships that helped shape Ireland’s maritime heritage. This collection is a must-have for history enthusiasts, educators, and anyone captivated by the great ocean liners of the early 20th century.

Available locally instore or online at the Maynooth bookshop.



POWER, INTRIGUE AND REBELLION FROM THE HEART OF MAYNOOTH

“A fascinating exploration of the powerful Fitzgerald dynasty and their historic seat at Maynooth Castle. This publication delves into the lives, legacy, and political influence of the Fitzgeralds—once known as the uncrowned kings of Ireland. Their story is deeply intertwined with the cultural and political fabric of County Kildare and beyond.

For centuries, the Fitzgeralds of Kildare stood at the heart of Irish power. In 1169, Maurice Fitzgerald set sail for Ireland as a mercenary serving Dermot McMurrough. He likely never imagined the heights to which his family would rise.



Ireland’s Uncrowned Kings follows the Fitzgeralds through turbulent times—their rivalry with the Butlers of Ormond, their role in the Wars of the Roses, and their uneasy loyalty to the English Crown. The Fitzgeralds would become one of the foremost Anglo-Irish families in Ireland, their influence helping to shape the course of Irish history. From the enigmatic power of Garret Mór Fitzgerald, the ‘Great Earl’, to the bold leadership of Garret Óg Fitzgerald, and the dramatic rebellion of Silken Thomas, the family’s fortunes rose and fell with the politics of the day.

In the shadow of the Tudor conquest of Ireland, the dynasty endured attainders, exile, and near-extinction. Yet they would return to favour, and in 1766 James Fitzgerald restored the family’s status. The Fitzgeralds returned to Maynooth and later resided proudly at Carton House.”



Ireland’s Uncrowned Kings tells the epic story of a family whose legacy is woven into the very fabric of Irish history.

The book was launched in September 2025 and is written by local Maynooth Castle tour guides and historians. It is available online and in-store locally at the Maynooth Bookshop.

A perfect read for anyone who enjoys local history, Irish medieval history, and Irish castles—and an ideal way to celebrate 850 years of Maynooth.



TITANIC & HER KILDARE CONNECTIONS

The sinking of the Titanic is one of the most enduring tragedies of the 20th century. It is a story that continues to fascinate, haunt, and inspire more than a century later. Much has been written about the ship itself but less often do we take the time to examine the human connections, those rooted here in Ireland, and closer still, in County Kildare.

Whether you're interested in the story for its technical feats, its human drama, or its place in our shared cultural memory the talk pays special attention to individuals from Kildare who were connected to the ship, whether as passengers, workers, or mourners left behind.

Join us and learn how a single ship shaped maritime history for generations to come and has connections to Ireland, the county of Kildare and Maynooth.

Time -12:00pm.

Date - Wednesday May 6th.

Meeting Point - Maynooth Castle.

- Free admission
- Exhibition
- NO public toilets on site
- NO onsite parking (paid on street parking)
- Due to the historic nature of the buildings, limited access for mobility

For more INFORMATION and to BOOK your place for the talk please Message us on Facebook or contact us on 0469422270

Feel free to contact us between 10:00am and 5:00pm.

SPECIALIST TALK AT MAYNOOTH CASTLE

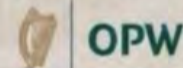


Learn about the lives of Father Francis Browne and other Kildare people connected to the ill fated liner.

**Wednesday
6th of May at 12 PM**

FREE ADMISSION
Meeting at Maynooth Castle
Reception

Contact - 046 9422270 or
Search Maynooth Castle on
Facebook and message the page
to book a free ticket



Just a Thought

Those of you who attended Mass on Sunday April 19 would have heard the piece from Luke's gospel about the two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

The central point of that story is that they recognised the risen Jesus in the "breaking of bread", where he is always to be found. The "breaking of bread" is the core of Christianity.

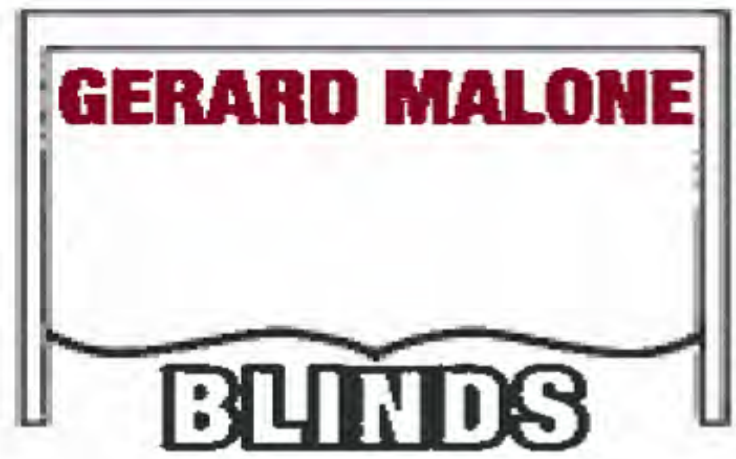
Breaking of bread means sharing bread and sharing bread means sharing everything we have with those who have not: Our money, our talents, our time! Christians live for themselves and equally for others.



He drove his three-litre to Mass
I wonder will God let it pass?
At Mass means he's sharing,
With Christ he is caring,
Those cars use a quare lot of gas!



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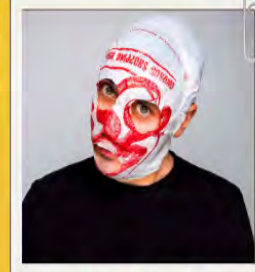
Showroom Open 7 Days a Week!

arts & Minds
FESTIVAL
Maynooth

7-9 May
2026



Mundy



Blindboy



MU Chamber Choir



Mary O'Donnell



Kevin Barry



Irish National Opera

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 & 12:30pm An Táin Bó Yoga

12:00pm Turas ar Chaisleán Mhaigh Nuad

12:00pm The Literary Lounge: Ireland Professor of Poetry Vona Groarke

12:30pm Lunchtime Concert with 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

2:30pm 'Sing Your Art Out' at The Big Sing

3:30pm An Lúb Liteartha

4:00pm Maynooth: From Fitzgerald Castle to Commuter Town

6:00pm The Literary Lounge Keynote: Kevin Barry

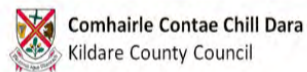
8:00pm Mundy

mu.ie/artsandmindsfestival

Music | Literature | Opera |
Irish-Language Arts Events |
Street Food



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OPW



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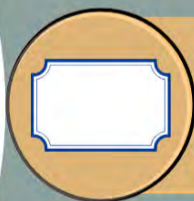
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email office@maynoothcep.com,
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**Kildare Planning Applications for Maynooth Area
Planning Applications received from 27/03/2026 to 22/04/2026
Information from Kildare County Council Website**

App #	Authority	Applicant Name	Development Address	App Date
202653	Kildare County Council	Executors of Estate of Margaret Bobbett Casey	Monatrea, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	22/04/2026
2660410	Kildare County Council	Lowilma Properties Ltd	Maynooth Road, Curryhills, Prosperous, Co. Kildare	15/04/2026
2660389	Kildare County Council	Patrick Brady and Ciara Dillon Brady	6 Parklands Crescent, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	10/04/2026
2660376	Kildare County Council	Ciarán Devine	Units 6 & 7 Fagan's Lane, Maynooth, Kildare	08/04/2026
2643	Kildare County Council	Executors of the late Margaret Bobbett Casey	Monatrea, Maynooth Rd, Celbridge, Co. Kildare	07/04/2026
2660357	Kildare County Council	Colm & Emily O'Brien	9 The Garden, Newtown Hall, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	04/04/2026
2641	Kildare County Council	Glenveagh Homes Ltd.	Moyglare Hall and the Dunboyne Road, Mariavilla, Maynooth, Co Kildare	02/04/2026
2660339	Kildare County Council	Jamie Murphy	18 Leinster Cottages, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	31/03/2026
2638	Kildare County Council	Andrew Brown	114 Carton Court, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	31/03/2026
2660326	Kildare County Council	EZO Charging Ltd	Maynooth Businss Campus, Straffan Road, Maynooth, Co. Kildare	27/03/2026

Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee News

Maynooth Senior Citizens continues with its twice weekly morning clubs. We are back to our bingo morning and art (drawing and painting). We recently had a talk from Maura O' Hara from Meath County Council. The Council is in charge of looking after **Age Friendly Homes for Older Persons Scheme for Ireland**. She gave a very informative talk to our seniors. Ladies from the local ICA Branch came along to hear her as well. She received lots of questions and there were already two people in the group who benefitted already from the scheme and they were able to share their very positive experiences. There is help available with the application process. For those interested in finding out what they can avail of under the scheme, Maura will pre-arrange a house visit and she will do an overview of what people are entitled to, and begin to put the process in place.

For more information on this service please contact Age Friendly Ireland | Meath County Council at the National Office: 046 924 8899

<https://agefriendlyireland.ie/healthy-age-friendly-homes-programme/>

Our Seniors (Thursday morning art club) made a visit to the Maynooth Castle Keep Art Exhibition on Sunday afternoon of the 13th April. It was an enjoyable visit and they got loads of ideas and met the artists and friends from the community.

Our AGM had to be deferred at short notice. It will now take place on Monday 11th May at 8pm in the Geraldine Hall. All welcome.

We hope to have further activities coming up soon.

**Susan Durack
Chairperson, Maynooth Senior Citizens Committee.**





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Maynooth Community Church At the Tesco Roundabout
Dublin Rd, Maynooth, Co.Kildare, Lots of parking available!
W23 P02A



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Maynooth Community Employment Project Producing the Maynooth Newsletter Memories From the Archives 1986

Link to the Archive: www.maynoothcep.com

MAYNOOTH NEWSLETTER

Issue No. 121 MAY 1986 Price 30c

IN THIS ISSUE

Letters to the Editor	History of Maynooth - Series
Sports News	Political Party Notes
Childrens Corner	Street Talking
Residents' Associations News	

To Mary Bennett
From Sean Bennett
Good luck in your exams.

To Rita Thompson
From Rita Thompson
Hope you are well and
live to see 100.

To Eileen Ruddy
From Kate Ruddy
Hope your back is
better soon Mam.



Paddy Mooney, Seamus O'Reilly and Michael Colton, all Congo veterans with a plaque commemorating the Niamba ambush which has pride of place in the N.C.O's mess in Cathal Brugha Barracks.



Tidy Town's Stand, Trade Fair — Richard Farrell and Matt Callaghan.

To the Women's Soccer Club
From Rita Thompson
Good luck in the soccer.

To the 5th and 6th class in Boy's
National School
From James Healy.

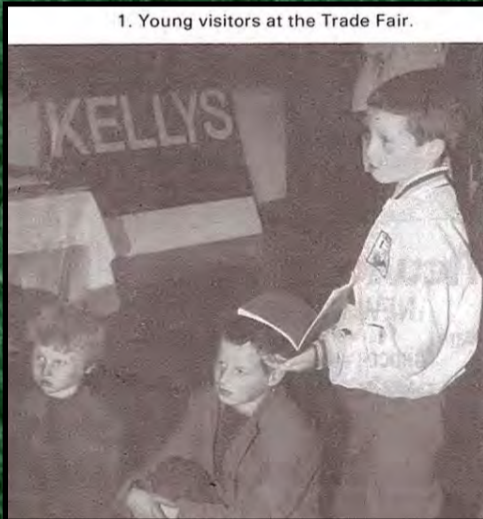
To Maynooth people everywhere
From Greenfield Supermarket May-
nooth.
Thank you for your support. We value
your business.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
Happy birthday to my mother, Mrs. Mary Sherry, 25 Leinster Cottages, May 5th and also her great grandchild, Sandie Foy, 1253 Coarse More, Straffan, May 12th, from Paddy Bernie and Family.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
Pat Burke, Newtown 19 yrs. April 14
Ted Connelly, Greenfield. April 14
Gerry Quinn, Greenfield. 15 yrs April 17, his brother Eric, Greenfield 11 yrs April 19
Mrs. Mary Traynor, Greenfield April 19
Gearoid Mac Teigrnain, Sraid Parson April 18
Terry Dunne, Greenfield May 3
Sandra Moran, Greenfield May 9
Also her sister Michelle who celebrates her 21st birthday on May 17 with a party in the Leinster Arms from family and friends very best wishes to both from Mom, Dad and brother Darren.

THE TWINS
Special birthday greetings to Joanne and John McElhinney, Leinster Arms who celebrated their 16th birthday April 7th. A party attended by hosts of friends was held in Slims Disco. Special birthday cake for the occasion was made by chef Frank of the Leinster Arms.

Happy birthday to Colette Nolan, May 5th from Mum, Dad, Janet, Mary and Margaret.



1. Young visitors at the Trade Fair.

COMMUNITY GAMES

Competition time is now upon us. Don't forget all you artists U8, U10, U12, U14 and U16 and all those interested in U14 modelling to come to the Post Primary School on Saturday 30th April at 10 a.m. for the area competition. On Sunday 15th May local athletics competition will take place in G.A.A. field and on Sunday 22nd May swimming will take place in Stewarts Hospital at 5 p.m. and finally on Thursday 19th May Gymnastics competition will take place at 4.30. So now boys and girls please complete your entry forms and return them to Community Council Office or to any Committee member. The County Athletics final has been changed from 11th and 12th June to 25th and 26th June and hopefully the venue for this will be Kilcock. Once more I will ask all holders of Perpetual Trophies to return them to the Community Council Office. Wishing all competitors the BEST OF LUCK in this years competitions.



MAYNOOTH TOWN A.F.C.

ISLE OF MAN 88 - SOCCER INTERNATIONAL

The Club entered this competition for the first time this year and all concerned were very pleased with the result. The team from Maynooth were as follows: Sam Feeney, Leni Murphy, Terry Moore, Ollie Durack, Noel Dempsey, Phillip Doyle, Brian McCall, Willie Saults, Paki Doohan, Dessie Farrell, Paul Gibney who joined us on the island from London. The supporters were Maura Feeney, Cha Farrelly and Liam McCall. The group left Maynooth on Holy Thursday and arrived in Douglas at 11.45 p.m. We were met at the hotel by the owner, Arthur Powell.

All during our stay Arthur and his wife Lynn, his sister-in-law Irene and indeed any persons whom we met were very friendly and helpful, and made our stay very pleasant.

Our first game was for 11.15 a.m. Friday morning, but as luck has it we got a walk over so that gave our lads a

SPORTS NEWS

chance to rest after travelling the night before. Our next game was at 3.30 p.m. Friday afternoon against a Liverpool Club "Marsh House". They seemed very confident and fit but our lads soon put an end to that by beating them 3-2. Our goal scorers were Willie Saults, Leni Murphy, Terry Moore, one each. This win put our lads in good form and looking forward to the next game which was at 10.30 a.m. the next morning against "Hillington", a London club and was a very fast moving game and again we were lucky enough to win. This time the score was 4-3 and the scorers were Paki Doohan, Ollie Durack, Brian McCall, Noel Dempsey. This really put the boys on a high and wanted to paint the Isle of Man any colour, but took things easy for our next game was that afternoon.

The next club we met was Ipswich and all I can say is the others won, but it was a great game and the final score was 5-4 and would have been 6-4 if not for Sam Feeney who made a brilliant save from a penalty. Our scorers were Phillip Doyle, Paul Gibney, Dessie Farrell (2). So now we got down to the task in hand of having a good time and everyone did just that.

So in the end everything went well at this early stage we are looking forward to next year and a return visit to the Isle of Man Soccer International.

THANKS TO ALL CONCERNED

Dalton Cup:
Maynooth 3
Yellowstone 0
A fine performance by the Town who advanced to the next round with goals from Dessie Farrell (2) and John Nolan (1).

Premier Sunday:
Maynooth 1
Cashelville Rangers 1
A tough match in which both teams spared no effort in trying to get both points. Cashelville scored in the first half and despite continued pressure from Maynooth they held that lead until 10 minutes to go when Dessie Farrell got the Maynooth equaliser.

Premier Sunday:
Maynooth 1
Palmerstown 1
A close match with both sides having periods of supremacy. In the last half hour Maynooth dominated and were rewarded with a fine goal from Phillip Doyle.

Division 1 B Sunday:
Elm Rovers 2
Maynooth 3
A fine away win for Maynooth. Goals from Nico Farrell and Martin Foy won this hard fought encounter.

Photograph of Soccer Team
Back Row — Left to right, Brian McCall, Sam Feeney, Lenny Murphy, Paki Doohan, Ollie Durack, Noel Dempsey.
Front Row — Left to right, Terry Moore, Willie Saults, Phillip Doyle, Dessie Farrell, Paul Gibney.



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.