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Shamrock Rovers delight at retaining league crown page 63

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Respect your community and fire brigade during Halloween

THE station officer of Tallaght Fire Station has appealed to people not to obstruct firefighters this Halloween, and has warned of the risk of catastrophic injuries from fireworks and bonfires, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

Darren O'Connor, who has worked as a firefighter-paramedic since 2005 and recently became the station officer of Tallaght Fire Station, shared fire crews' typical experiences during Halloween.

While Halloween night is an unfailingly busy night for fire crews, the weeks leading up to it are also busy, as are the days afterwards and the inevitable clean-up and putting out of bonfires that follow.

page 15



BUSY: Aaron McCarthy, Darren O'Connor and Tom O'Reilly, station officers in Tallaght Fire Station

Michael (25) tells his story of fighting blindness



page 2

Tallaght Stadium Halloween event is cancelled due to lack of gardai

page 16



Faces of the community

page 30



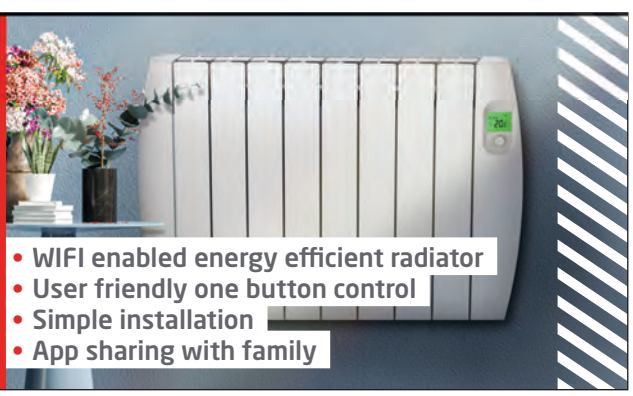
MOTHER PROUD LUKE SAVED 5 LIVES

WHEN Luke O'Reilly died tragically in 2017 at age 20, his mother decided to donate his organs – saving the lives of five organ transplant recipients in the process, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

See page 22

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THE Echo

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Next Edition

The next edition of ***The Echo*** in the shops from Thursday, Nov 3, 2022. **Don't Miss it!**

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

DERELICT SITES ACT, 1990 (AS AMENDED BY THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000)

NOTICE OF MAKING OF VESTING ORDER

Notice is hereby given that South Dublin County Council (hereinafter called "the local authority"), in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 17 of the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 has on the 25th day of October 2022 made a Vesting Order whereby the derelict site described in the Schedule hereunder will, on the 22nd day of November 2022, vest in the local authority in fee simple free from all encumbrances and all estates, rights, titles and interests of whatsoever kind;

and further take notice that a copy of the Vesting Order and a map of the derelict site, described in the Schedule hereunder, has been deposited at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24 and the Civic Offices, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, and may be inspected there during business hours.

Any person who, immediately before the above Vesting Order was made, had any estate or interest in or right in respect of the derelict site acquired by the order may apply to the local authority not later than twelve months after the making of the Order for compensation in respect of the estate, interest or right.

SCHEDULE

DESCRIPTION OF LAND

Site at St. Mark's Crescent, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, comprising part of the lands contained within Folio 5320 of the County Dublin Register of Ownership of Freehold Land, the transfer of the subject lands being recorded in the Registry of Deeds, Memorial No. 2004-124-267, and delineated in red on map reference number DS 1880

Dated this 27th day of October 2022

Teresa Walsh
Director of Services,
Environment, Water & Climate Change

Web: www.sdcc.ie

Fighting Blindness

Michael (25) shares his story after being born with Peters Anomaly Syndrome

By **Hayden Moore**
hayden@echo.ie



CONDITION: Michael O'Connor and his guide dog, Kurt

FOR AS long as Michael O'Connor can remember, he has been fighting blindness after being born with Peters Anomaly Syndrome, a rare condition which clouds the vision.

"From birth, I had heavily clouded corneas," Michael (25) tells *The Echo.*

"It was apparent then that there was a fairly severe eye problem. At five months I had corneal transplants and some other surgery which improved the vision a bit.

"When I was around a year-and-a-half, I had a lot of surgery at that point, and it rose the vision up to a point where I would have been a large print user – using magnifiers and stuff like that.

"So, I wouldn't have been using braille or a white cane.

"But between the age of around 10 to 13, I was having retinal detachment issues and that dropped my vision to its current level."

The Clondalkin man never had full vision, although he could still make out large print, colours and faces as a child and carries that knowledge with him today.

With the help of Dr David Keegan and Professor Michael O'Keefe, Michael has undergone around 20 procedures to treat his condition which include corneal transplants, valve implants, retinal reattachments, cornea and retina laser surgery.

"In the literally sense, I'm not totally blind," the 25-year-old details.

"I have light perception, so I can tell the difference between night and day. For the purposes of categorising it, I wouldn't have useful vision."

He adds: "Everything requires twice as much effort and things rarely go completely according to plan.

"It is an unfortunate fact of life, but nothing that cannot be overcome.

"Life is often more interesting and success is greatly satisfying. It is much less socially isolating than other disabilities."

Born into a family of fully sited parents and older brother, David is the only one in his family to have a vision impairment.

As a child he struggled a bit with social isolation and he has continually worked to help his mental health over the years.

"Speaking generally, mental health is something that can be a big problem for people with disabilities," Michael says.

"In terms of myself, when the retinas detached the first time, that was a big knock.

"The social isolation side of it, that was tough and it was particularly tough when I was a little bit too young to realise I was feeling it. That definitely left its mark.

"I had a little bit of counselling for a while and that was to do with the physical affects on the nervous system from one sense being cut.

"Basically, it's what happens when the sited part of the brain has been trained how to see but it then loses that supply of information and starts wondering what exactly its supposed to do.

"It starts inventing its own visual information and some of it is not necessarily information you'd want to get. Even at night… I still struggle to fall asleep actually, I like to fall asleep.

"Coping with blindness didn't always make me the most friendly person everyday but by and large, my own mental health is fine – I'd be a fairly strong character."

Today, Michael has a solid group of friends and with his companion, Kurt, the six-year-old Labrador, they make a good team.

Michael has found himself to be the "go-to" in the circles he operates in socially, with friends often coming to him with their own problems and seeking advice.

Taking public transport and navigating his way from place to place used to bring a certain level of anxiety for Michael but since linking in with Kurt, the guide dog, nearly five-years-ago, he has found a new lease of life.

"Kurt is sitting here on the floor next to me, not that I'm on the floor, I'm in a chair and he's sitting beside me," Michael jokes.

"We're working just fine together, right?" he says to Kurt.

"As it happens, I was afraid of dogs before Kurt, it took a while to get used to. But he has certainly cured that.

"In terms of using him as a mobility, he is much faster for getting around than a white cane. He's very effective, Kurt would always take me to the correct road crossing – unless he sees another dog, then he'd get distracted."

Kurt takes Michael back and forth to work everyday, whether it be by bus or Luas.

"In terms of the routes we'd know. We'd use the Luas, the 13 bus to Dame Street as a few of my friends went to Trinity, so we'd meet up with them," he says.

"Our main exercise route would be through most of Clondalkin Village, we'd take that ourselves.

"We know the route to… the Laurel's, of course as well."

While Kurt is a big loveable dog, when he is to Michael's left side, he is busy working and it is important to not pet him or distract him as it could be dangerous and could lead to them losing sense of direction.

Michael does find that most premises are welcoming when he is with Kurt, but he is "sad to say that I have been refused by a few taxi drivers", which is illegal unless they provide medical proof to say otherwise.

There is greater accessibility in the technology space for people with a vision impairment, with mobile phones having greater features and audio books are huge for pleasure reading.

Infrastructure on streets could be better, with a dodgy crosswalk potentially bringing his journey to an end, and socially, there is some improvements because "blind means blind".

"I remember one time I accidently bumped into somebody's car, to be fair it was parked badly," he says.

"They jumped out and they were saying 'you scratched my car, can you not see?'.

"I'd have to say, 'no actually, I'm blind'. That was alright, but for some that really knocks their confidence.

"Society is improving, but there's still a bit of work to do. A lot of able-bodied people wouldn't be experiencing those kind of barriers and it seems to be a bigger problem for people with a disability."

Michael had great support during his school years, with St Joseph's BNS and Holy Family CS really helping him on his journey through education.

Proficient in Braille music, Michael completed his Grade VI piano exams and is the recipient of a high achiever award from the Royal Irish Academy of Music.

At Dublin City University, he studied international relations before going on to undertake a Masters in security and conflict studies for which he was awarded a first-class honours. He hopes to complete a PhD at some point in the future.

Michael has found a great level of empowerment through employment, after securing a job as a clerical officer with the Department of Social Protection three-months-ago.

Part of the Visionaries Choir, Ireland's only choir for people living with site loss, Michael has become involved with the charity Fighting Blindness.

Fighting Blindness is a charity with a vision to cure blindness, support people living with site loss and empower patients.

Fighting Blindness' Retina public engagement day takes place in Dublin on Saturday, November 5.

Aimed at people with sight loss and their families, the event will also be streamed live and is completely free. Registration is at www.fightingblindness.ie

> **"Coping with blindness didn't always make me the most friendly person everyday but by and large, my own mental health is fine - I'd be a fairly strong character**

Gardai investigate shooting incident

A MAN in his 30s is recovering in Tallaght University Hospital following a shooting incident in the Donomore Crescent area of Tallaght on Tuesday evening.

Gardai were at the scene, which occurred at around 6.20pm, and had the area preserved for a technical examination to be conducted.

The man's injuries are not thought to be life-threatening and gardai are appealing to witnesses of the incident to come forward.

A statement released by Gardai on Tuesday said: "Gardaí are investigating following a shooting incident in Tallaght, Dublin 24 on Tuesday the 25th of October, 2022.

"Shortly after 6:20pm, Gardaí were alerted to reports of shots fired in the Donomore Crescent area of Tallaght. A man in his 30s was treated at the scene for an apparent gunshot wound and taken by Ambulance to Tallaght University Hospital. His injures are not thought to be life threatening.

"The scene is currently preserved, and a technical examination is to be conducted. No arrests have been made at this time."

Gardaí are appealing to anyone who may have witnessed this incident to come forward.

They are particularly keen for anyone with camera footage (including dash-cam) to make this available to them.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Tallaght Garda Station 01-6666000, the Garda Confidential Line 1800 666 111 or any Garda Station.

Residents concerned over hoarding along busy road

Questions raised why hoarding was allowed put up on Mayberry Road

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

HOARDING that was recently erected around a warehouse opposite Kilnamanagh Shopping Centre is a cause for concern in the area, according to a local councillor.

It's understood that the hoarding has gone around the property at McHugh's Components, to facilitate the construction of an extension to the warehouse.

However, there are concerns that the hoarding appears to be placed on council-owned land and residents have been questioning why it was allowed to be put up.

Local Fianna Fáil councillor Charlie O'Connor told *The Echo:* "People in Kilnamanagh are concerned about the presence of hoarding on what people understand is council land.

"The council is telling us that the hoarding has been granted permission under an S254 Hoarding Licence, but we can't understand why they would do that.

"They gave permission for an access gate in the hoarding, and it's effectively created a compound.

"People are concerned about the impact it could have on traffic, and that it could set a precedent."



CONCERNS: The hoarding on Mayberry Road with a side gate is raising concerns with residents

The Echo contacted South Dublin County Council to ask where details on the S254 Hoarding Licence can be found and if it could confirm if the hoarding is sited, at least partially, on council land.

A response was not received at the time of going to print, which mirrors Cllr O'Connor's own experience of trying to find out further details about the hoarding.

"The council has been very slow to give proper information about this," he said, "but a lot of people have been asking about it."

In correspondence seen by *The Echo*, the council confirmed that the hoarding will be effective from October 3, 2022, to February 1, 2023.

Sacred Heart pupils learn about the wonders of science

CHILDREN in Sacred Heart Senior National School in Killinarden were taught about the wonders of science during a recent visit to the school by engineer, scientist and performer Dr Niamh Shaw, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

Dr Shaw, who is also a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) specialist, visited the school on Monday, October 24.

She visited different year groups to teach them about science and the arts, and how she has woven both into her career, while also helping the children to construct and fly foam rocket ships.

Two pupils from Ms Jenkins' sixth class group, Abbie Deans and Tillie Wynne, wrote: "Niamh told us about rockets and how they work and showed us some pictures.

"After that we had lunch and when we were done with that, Niamh went to other classes and told them about rockets and space like she did us.

"Then we went down to the PE hall, and we constructed rocket ships. It was very exciting to do.

"When we finished, we all went outside to the yard, and we let the rockets fly. It was super cool, and we were all thrilled with the rockets and that Niamh Shaw came into our school.

"We took some pictures and videos, but by the time we had to go home we were all sad but still playing with our rockets, then we said goodbye to Niamh she done the same.



ROCKET SHIP: Kai, Alan, Jayden and Cole from Sacred Heart Senior National School

"She also said she had an amazing time and that she might come back to our school in January. Then we went home, and we told the people at home about our day and how amazing it was.

"Before we went home, we all gave a round of applause to Ms Jenkins for getting Niamh here just for us."

Ms Jenkins also praised Dr Shaw's visit, and how she detailed her career trajectory to the delight of the children.

"She discussed her path through life, becoming an engineer and scientist and how afterwards she moved into acting and writing," said Ms Jenkins.

"Niamh was always fascinated by space. She told the children of her journey to become a space communicator and working with NASA and the European Space Agency.

"The children were starstruck. Niamh helped the children design and construct a foam space rocket.

"Fourth class won the Space Rocket Race as their rocket travelled the furthest. Niamh hopes to visit our school again in November."

See photos on page 52.



Tánaiste officially opens 'The Edge' futuristic hub facility

Eco-positive centre aims to kickstart small to medium enterprises and start-ups

A NEW state-of-the-art, eco-positive facility geared to kick-starting new entrepreneurship in Tallaght was officially opened by Tanaiste, Leo Varadkar on Wednesday morning.

'The Edge' located near Tallaght village and just off the M50, will provide 20 offices of different sizes, 12 dedicated desks, 20 hot-desks and sound-proof booths for zoom calls.

Key features include a 'Black Box' meeting facility with high-end technology for board meetings, pod-casting, video production and theatre-style events. Solar panels, heat pumps and a heat recovery system with air exchange is designed to deliver carbon neutral heating and power.

The centre has been developed by Partas, a long established social enterprise that has supported both private and social enterprise jobs across the broad Tallaght area since 1984.

Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar said: "It's fantastic to officially open the Edge incubator hub here in Tallaght, which is aimed at start-ups and SMEs in South Dublin County. There's a strong focus on innovation and creativity and the hope is to attract a new generation into business, including people just starting out on their careers.

"I am delighted that my own Department has provided funding of almost €1.4m for this exciting project through our Regional Enterprise Development Fund and Regional Enterprise Transition Scheme.

"Partas has redesigned the older enterprise centre to give it a fresh feel and to make the most of the available space. So there's space for hotdesking and co-working, there are single private pods and multi-person units, and the hangout area in which we are launching this great facility.



FACILITY: John Kearns, CEO of Partas Tallaght makes a presentation to Tánaiste Leo Varadkar after the official opening of The Edge. With them are Bernard Bennett from Partas and Carroll Gibbons, Enterprise Ireland

"The Edge is conveniently located for the M50 corridor. I'm confident it has a very bright future, and will be the launchpad for many bright careers."

Partas CEO, John Kearns, recently appointed as expert advisor on social enterprise to the European Commission, said that 'The Edge' is "aimed at changing the face of how new business ventures are supported and encouraged, by combining established high-end entrepreneurship with start up ventures and offering 'gold-standard' eco-positive facilities.

"The broader Tallaght area, which in the past has experienced high levels of unemployment and deprivation, is now a growing, vibrant and dynamic business centre. This development represents the cutting edge of this emerging entrepreneurial confidence of the area and its people," he said.

Clients already on site include Alexandra Hambling - an interpreter for the Nordic Countries, who worked as interpreter for French President, Emmanuel Macron during the recent COP26 in Glasgow, translating from her office in The Edge via high speed broadband.

The Echo Newspaper, the only sold local newspaper in Dublin with a weekly readership of over 30,000, has also based its offices in The Edge

Work on the centre, which also contains a boutique-style coffee lounge with local artisan food, began in 2020.

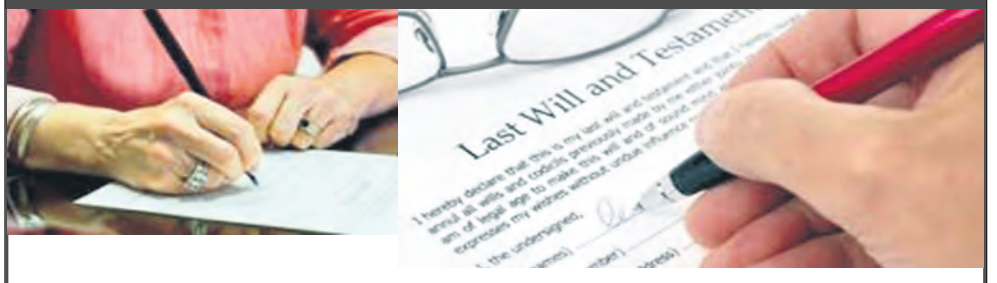
See photos on page 54.

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It all adds up . . .



YOU CAN COUNT ON IT: Residents Patrick Lanne, and Marlon O'Brien in Kilnamanagh Family Recreation Centre have fun with maths puzzles during Maths Week 2022. The annual festival of maths and numeracy ran from October 15-23 with a range of events set to attract participation of over 400,000 by schools and people all over the island.
Maths Week is supported by the Department of Education, the SFI Discover Programme and co-ordinated by Calmast, South East Technological University's STEM Engagement Centre.

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Cry out for school times to be staggered to alleviate traffic chaos in Clondalkin village

SCHOOL drop-off and pick-up times could be staggered to help alleviate traffic chaos in Clondalkin village, according to Cllr Francis Timmons (Ind), *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Citing a village that "chock-a-block" with rush-hour traffic, Timmons believes the move represents a "no-brainer", and asked South Dublin County Council to write to the Education Minister.

"It is the same idea as other countries in Europe, where not all schools open at the same time," he said.

"They are talking about doing the same thing with pub closing hours. I am suggesting we look at staggered school-opening times.

"I am interested in feedback and realise this may not suit everyone, but we have a chronic traffic issue and we need to come up with creative solutions," said Cllr Timmons.

Some schools in the area have already moved their opening times forward a bit, to help parents and staff avoid the worst times of rush hour traffic.

Moyle Park College, on Convent Road, introduced an opening time of 8.30am years ago.

"It was an issue many years ago, but the school changed it to 8.30am from 8.45am, to help alleviate the problem and it has made a difference," said Diarmuid O'Dowd, Deputy Principal, Moyle Park College.

"There is still an issue with buses being full when they get to the area, but that could be ongoing."

St John's National School on Tower Road, is another school that changed its opening time many years ago, from 8.50am to the earlier time of 8.30am.

"It has worked perfectly, parents really found it helpful, dropping their kids off and then getting off to work," said a spokesperson for St John's.

Scoil Mhuire on Convent Road, start at 8.50am.

Scoil Naomh Aine, on New Road, also start at 8.50am, but the school's location means it is not caught in the thick of the village traffic.

Mass clamping in Citywest Shopping Centre causes anger

Several people at the centre were cutting off the clamps with angle grinders

OVER a dozen cars and vans were clamped in the Citywest Shopping Centre carpark on Tuesday afternoon, in what appeared to be a mass clamping action.

There have been issues with parking in the centre in recent weeks, with one concerned shopper telling *The Echo* that they believe builders from a nearby construction site had been parking there.

"I was at the centre one morning at 9.30am a week or so ago, and I couldn't get a parking spot and that was frustrating," they said.

"At that time I thought it was possibly builders from the Glenveagh site across the road that were parking there.

"If they have been given notice to not park there anymore, I wouldn't have much sympathy, but if not then it's a bit unfair on the people who own those cars to clamp them suddenly like that."

The Echo contacted Glenveagh to ascertain whether it was their contractors' vehicles that were clamped and if they had received notice about not parking in the shopping centre.

In response, a Glenveagh spokesperson said they had "no comment" to make on the matter.

When asked if they saw the reactions of people whose cars had been clamped on Tuesday, the shopper said: "I did.

"I stopped in my car and asked one builder, 'Was it all the builders' cars that were being clamped?', and he said yes.

"There were a few people cutting the clamps off with an angle grinder. I saw about four cut off, and others [people] waiting around, I imagine, to have the clamp taken off by the clamper.

"The security from the centre could do nothing, it's not their job after all."

The manager of Citywest Shopping Centre, John Chatten, confirmed to *The Echo* that the clamping was targeted at vehicles owned by builders working in nearby construction sites.

"The action taken to clamp vehicles is unfortunate but necessary," said Mr Chatten.

"It was targeted at builders parking all day whilst working on neighbouring sites being developed.

"Despite several requests to the contractors directly and developers to cease this, there were a number of contractors who ignored our request to discontinue all day parking in our car park.

"Citywest customers were thus being denied parking opportunities especially during busy trading periods and this ultimately impacted on our tenants' business also.

"We have plenty of signage informing everyone about the parking T&Cs.

"However, a select number of these contractors continue to choose to ignore these T&Cs at Citywest Shopping Centre leaving us no choice but having to react in the format we did [on Tuesday]."

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



CHANGES: The cars clamped in Citywest Shopping Centre on Tuesday afternoon and (inset) one of the clamps that was removed by an angle grinder

> **"There were a few people cutting the clamps off with an angle grinder. I saw about four cut off, and others waiting around, I imagine, to have the clamp taken off by the clamper. The security from the centre could do nothing, it's not their job after all**

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Old Bawn students showcase Oliver



MUSICAL: Some of the cast members in the musical Oliver at Old Bawn Community School

School has reputation of quality drama and music

THE musical production "Oliver" is being showcased at Old Bawn Community School in Tallaght, on October 26–28, *reports Chase Blasius.*

With Covid making productions like this impossible for the last three years, the students are delighted to be back on stage.

Old Bawn Community School has a reputation of quality drama and music, meaning the audience is in for a grand treat each show night.

Past pupil, Kirsty Gadd, is directing the incredible talent taking to the stage this week.

The starring roles include second-year student Leah McMullen, playing Oliver, sixth-year students Oisín Cullivan, Sarah Whelan and Chloe Flynn, playing Fagan, Nancy and Bill Sikes, fifth-year student Maya Rojas playing Artful Dodger, and third-year student Vic Kareava, playing Mr Bumble.

Every aspect of this show, from the singing, dancing, and acting, to the lights, set and costumes, shows the hard work and commitment that went into bringing this performance to life, not only from the cast and crew but the teachers and the parents association.

So many people came together to make these few nights memorable for everyone involved. Doors open at 7pm and tickets can be purchased every day after school.

Hospital CEO new EAHM president

THE appointment of Lucy Nugent Chief Executive of Tallaght University Hospital as President of the European Association of Hospital Managers (EAHM) has been welcomed by the Board of Tallaght University Hospital.

The European Association of Hospital Managers is the umbrella association for 19 leading hospital management associations in 18 European countries representing over 16,000 individual members from across Europe, Ms Nugent is the first female president in the organisation's 52 year history.

Commenting on her appointment Mr Liam Dowdall, Chairman of the TUH Board said :"The Board of TUH would like to congratulate Lucy on this appointment and wish her ever success in her tenure as President. Lucy leads an exceptional team at TUH but incredibly still makes time to give something back to the wider health community.

"She is a great believer in working collaboratively to improve healthcare not just in Ireland but globally, this was never truer during the recent pandemic.

"As everyone involved in the health sector shared and supported one another, this was a vital component in handling the pandemic response."



APPOINTMENT: Lucy Nugent with Liam Dowdall



court reports

tel: 4685350 email: news@echo.ie

Woman attacked neighbour over a row about borrowing a 'hoover'

A WOMAN who attacked her neighbour with a screwdriver in a row over a borrowed modern household convenience has received an 18-month prison sentence, *reports Declan Brennan.*

Derek Cooney BL, prosecuting, told Dublin Circuit Criminal Court that the attack by Ruth Ennis (46) on her next-door neighbour in Clondalkin, was due to "a dispute over a hoover".

The court heard that in September 2021, Ennis, of Rosebank Place, Ninth Lock Road, Clondalkin, had borrowed a Dyson vacuum cleaner from Daniel Casey.

When another neighbour asked the victim, who was aged around 30, for the loan of the labour-saving device, Mr Casey went back to the defendant the following morning to pick it up.

The defendant was unhappy about this as she told Mr Casey that she had charged the battery for the device and wanted to use it.

That evening, Mr Casey went to his front door and found Ennis standing there holding something in her hand behind her back.

She managed to get inside the victim's house and followed him into the kitchen where she began swiping at him with a screwdriver.

Mr Casey hit back in self-defence but Ennis continued coming at him. The victim later told garda that "she kept trying to stab me".

She inflicted some wounds to his arm and elbow. She also then picked up a steel trim from the kitchen floor and hit him with this.

The court heard that she was intoxicated during the attack. Rebecca Smith BL, defending, said her client was "absolutely off her head" and was very remorseful.

Ennis pleaded guilty to assault causing harm, property damage and production of a screwdriver during a dispute on September 19, 2021. Her 11 previous convictions include theft, robbery and use of a forged prescription.

She was granted bail but choose to go into custody while on remand for these charges and has completed an "alternatives to violence" course while in custody, Ms Smith said.

She said Ennis is a different person now to the woman who attacked Mr Casey and has a very good work history.

Judge Martin Nolan said that Ennis had some animus towards the victim and this had increased during the day as she mulled over it.

He said she has an alcohol problem but noted in mitigation her guilty pleas and her apology.

He backdated an 18-month prison term to the day of the assault, when Ennis went into custody.

He told Ennis that she should have nothing to do with her neighbour when she gets out of prison and "don't borrow any more hoovers".

Wrong-way speeding driver gets a sentence of just under two years

Judge said defendant had been driving in an 'extremely reckless and dangerous manner'

A MAN who drove on the wrong side of a motorway at high speed has been handed a sentence of just under two years, *reports Eimear Dodd.*

Lee McMullen (22) pleaded guilty to two counts of endangerment and two counts of dangerous driving on July 31, 2019, at various locations including Main Street, Celbridge, the N4 and a motorway in the Dublin area. McMullen has eight previous convictions for road traffic offences.

Judge Martin Nolan said McMullen had been driving on that day in an "extremely reckless and dangerous" manner which had "put a lot of people in danger".

He imposed a sentence of four years, with the final two years and three months suspended on strict conditions.

Garda Michael Martin told Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on Thursday that a colleague called for assistance at 4 am on the day in question after spotting a car driving in the direction of Celbridge at approximately 160km/h.



McMullen, who has an address of Rowlagh Gardens, Clondalkin, was identified as the driver of the car, which also had several occupants.

The garda patrol car switched on its blue lights and indicated for the car to stop, but it did not.

The car continued along the Celbridge Road, travelling in the middle of the road through one junction, then crossing the next junction on the wrong side of the road.

The car swerved in the direction of a second patrol car on the approach to an Applegreen Service Station, through a residential area with a speed limit of 60km/h.

The car crossed a bridge on the wrong side of the road, then turned towards Celbridge Main Street. Garda Michael Martin said the car was travelling at over 100km/h at this stage.

The vehicle continued onto the Maynooth Road, then onto the N4 towards the motorway. It continued towards the motorway, travelling at speeds of 160km/h on both sides of the road.

The car continued on the motorway towards Dublin city centre in the outbound lane with its lights switched off. The patrol car terminated the chase for safety reasons, while another garda vehicle kept the car under surveillance.

Other vehicles flashed their lights and took evasive action to avoid colliding with the car driven by McMullen.

At the Leixlip junction, the car braked violently, crossing road dividers to exit the motorway.

The occupants fled the car, leaving it abandoned in a nearby estate. McMullen was caught by gardaí in the vicinity of the car. The passengers of the car were later found by gardaí in a taxi. The entire incident lasted between eight and ten minutes.

McMullen answered 'no comment' when interviewed by gardaí. One of the occupants admitted to gardaí that they had been a passenger, but did not identify the driver.

Garda Martin agreed with the defence counsel that his client was 19 at the time of this offending and has since been disqualified from driving.

The other occupants of the car were older than McMullen and included a family member.

Defence counsel told Judge Nolan that his client accepts this was a serious offence which had put members of the public in peril.

His client is a father to two small children and accepts he is facing a custodial sentence in relation to this offending.

Judge Nolan said the accused has a modest record of conviction and is relatively young.

He imposed a jail sentence of 21 months in relation to the count of endangerment, with the other counts taken into consideration.

Community service of 240 hours for man who smashed up car

A MAN who took part in smashing up a car and the downstairs windows of a home has received a sentence of 240 hours community service, *reports Isabel Hayes.*

Niall Smyth (30) was one of six men who entered a garden in Tallaght and smashed the windows of a Mini car parked in the driveway before smashing the downstairs window of a house, Dublin Circuit Criminal Court heard.

Smyth, of Glenshane Crescent, Tallaght, Dublin, was the only one in the gang whose face was uncovered and as a result, he was identified from CCTV footage of the incident.

He pleaded guilty at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court to two counts of criminal damage at Dromcarra Avenue, Tallaght on September 10, 2019.

The court heard the incident stemmed from an altercation that was taking place between Smyth's family and another family.

The victims in the case did not wish to cooperate with gardaí, although they agreed to leave their home for a period to allow the gathering of evidence.

They did not make a victim-impact statement.

Garda Damien Reilly told Diarmuid Collins BL, prosecuting, that during the incident, all of the windows of the car and all of the downstairs windows in the house were smashed by the men, who were armed with various implements.

Smyth was carrying a metal pole and was seen on CCTV footage taking part in smashing windows.

Sarah Jane O'Callaghan BL, defending, said her client has no criminal history apart from two old road traffic offences in 2011. He is not known to gardaí in Tallaght.

She said Smyth is extremely remorseful and wishes to apologise to the victims in question for the "wanton thuggery and violence" that night.

Sentencing him on Thursday, Judge Melanie Greally said the offending involved acts of considerable violence and resulted in significant damage to the home and property of the victim.

She said she was taking into consideration Smyth's lack of previous convictions and the fact that he has not come to garda attention since.

She said she also noted his work ethic and employment history.

She ordered that Smyth complete 240 hours of community service.



The war in Ukraine is affecting the cost of energy for everyone. Government is aware that many are facing into a challenging winter, with financial concerns. We will continue to monitor this situation and ensure help is available for those struggling with energy bills or other debt, or for those in fear of being disconnected.

Cold weather may be a problem in the coming months, especially if you are older, have a disability or a long-term illness. In such situations, please keep the rooms you use in your house warm and continue to use any devices you have that keep you safe and comfortable. We also provide simple tips that can help you reduce your bills, while keeping warm and well.

For more information and links to services that can help you, visit gov.ie/ReduceYourUse

Supports

If you are worried about being disconnected, please engage with your supplier. They will then provide every opportunity to you to avoid disconnection. For more advice on your rights, visit **cru.ie**

If you are 60+ and are worried about energy bills or are experiencing other difficulties, call **ALONE: 0818 222 024**

If you are struggling with debts including energy bills, for advice and support, call **MABS: 0818 072 000**

For energy-saving advice, and information on grants available, visit **seai.ie/ReduceYourUse**

REDUCE YOUR USE

Visit **gov.ie/ReduceYourUse**

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Over €1,200 raised at event for Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind

A QUIZ night held in aid of Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind proved to be a huge success, with 100 quizzers filling St Jude's GAA clubhouse and raising over €1,200, *reports Hayden Moore.*

Puppy raiser Laura Murphy threw the quiz last Friday night to raise much needed funds for the charity which enables people who are vision impaired to achieve greater independence.

Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind (IGDB), a national charity, also provides assistance dogs to families of autistic children.

With around 400 guide and assistance dog clients in Ireland, all of the services are free of charge and it costs around €5m to run the organisation each year. According to the IGDB, 85 percent of its income is through voluntary donations and fundraising.

There is a process when it comes to getting a dog ready for work. For the most part, the IGDB primarily use labradors and retrievers due to their build and temperament.

Firstly, there is breeders and at eight-weeks-old they are taken on by puppy raisers, like Templeogue resident Laura Dunne, Christine Murtagh and Jayne Gaffney.

Laura has raised five dogs, and currently is raising Wren, who is seven-months. When Wren hits her first birthday, she will take the next step in the journey to becoming a guide dog.

Wren will head off to puppy college, studying and training, before going into the working world.

Last Friday, Tina Lowe brought her guide dog Forrest to the quiz night and she spoke about the impact that it has had on her life.

There was also a massive raffle which took place, with local businesses and individuals donating some 40 prizes.

18 teams consisting of 100 people battled it out for the accolade of quiz champions, and had great fun in the process.

Speaking to *The Echo* after the quiz, Laura Dunne was overjoyed with the success of it all.

"It was really a great night with a fantastic turnout and there was great fun had by all who were in attendance," Laura said.

See photos on page 48



PUPPY LOVE: Laura Murphy with Ophelia

TALLAGHT PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS
#tpoty2022
Follow us: Facebook.ie/TallaghtCommunityCouncil
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Nominations close on October 31st, 2022
4 DAYS LEFT TO NOMINATE
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Last four days to nominate your local hero, club or group

THE Tallaght Person of the Year awards, in its 39th year, is in the final stage of accepting nominations from the community this week. Nominations opened on October 1 and run until next Monday, October 31. The nomination process is simple and is online at **www.tallaghtcommunitycouncil.ie**

"We are delighted with the community response so far with nominations, particularly after the hiatus of a formal nomination process during Covid. People are delighted to be able to formally nominate their worthy nominees," Liz Kennedy, volunteer Chair of Tallaght Community Council (TCC).

TCC have begun the process of validating nominations and sending out the much coveted nominee certs this week. Over 70 certs were issued already, with another batch issuing before the weekend.

"The feeling nominees get when certificates start dropping through letterboxes is one that makes all the effort of running the awards program worthwhile. Time and time again we hear from nominees about how it made them feel valued, appreciated and indeed recognised by their peers in the community. It's a special feeling," Tara De Buitléar, PRO of TCC said.

TCC are urging people to make sure they submit their nominations this week before the process shuts on Bank Holiday Monday. There are just 4 days left!

Box office now open

The box office is now open, selling tickets to attend the awards gala event on November 19, in The Maldron Hotel, Tallaght. Demand is always high for this feel good event, so anyone wishing to attend is urged to get their tickets early, they are €49.50 each.

Tickets can be ordered and paid for over the phone, on 01 4685350, using a credit or debit card.

"We are so looking forward to gathering together again in Tallaght to honour our own community heroes next Month. It's a feeling that never gets old, it is always deeply positive and inspiring - and really enjoyable," concludes Liz.

NEW

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5TH NOV

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Union say car parking charge is a further tax

Shopping Centre staff launch a petition to scrap charges in Liffey Valley



PROTEST: Staff protesting outside Liffey Valley Shopping Centre

By **Maurice Garvey**
maurice@echo.ie

STAFF continue to protest the controversial new parking charges at Liffey Valley Shopping Centre.

Introduced on October 17, a daily rate of €2.50 for staff to park in a designated staff car park - works out at approximately €600 per year for fulltime workers.

Meanwhile, customers now pay a €2.50 charge for the first hour, and the next two hours free.

Retail workers in Liffey Valley earning at or near the minimum wage, say this amounts to a pay cut in the middle of the cost-of-living crisis.

If staff cannot find a place in the designated overflow car park, which is also open to the public, they face paying a day rate for customers, which is €12.50.

Mandate Trade Union say the car parking charges are a further tax on workers, and have launched a petition to scrap the charges.

As of Wednesday morning, the Uplift petition had over 1,660 signatures.

A statement on Sunday by Liffey Valley Shopping Centre said: "We are happy to confirm that there has been available capacity in the designated areas for staff parking (blue and green overflow car parks) at all times since Monday last.

"There has been and continues to be extensive communication regarding these changes with all our stakeholders including with our retailers.

"It is largely understood and accepted that the delivery of an enhanced customer experience will ultimately benefit the retail businesses at Liffey Valley and their staff.

"The changes are already resulting in a much-improved parking experience for all, and we believe has already reduced the number of commuters and frequent parkers who neither visited or worked at the centre."

Mandate say the charges place "another potential barrier" for retailers, who are "already finding it hard to attract workers".

"Mandate Official Ken Reilly and SIPTU Official Myles Worth requested a meeting with the Liffey Valley Centre Director Mr Denis O'Connell, but he refused to meet with the workers union officials," said Jim Fuery, Mandate Trade Union.

"It is unacceptable that the centre management team ignore the workers and their representatives, and we are seeking immediate engagement by centre management with the unions' officials with an aim to resolving this situation to our members satisfaction."

Liffey Valley said the new BusConnects interchange at the centre will be completed in early December and come into operation early next year "will further improve public transport connectivity to the centre".

> **"It is largely understood and accepted that the delivery of an enhanced customer experience will ultimately benefit the retail businesses at Liffey Valley and their staff**

Echoopinion...

Stay safe this Halloween and enjoy the festivities

HALLOWEEN is a special time of year, full of rich autumnal colours, celebration, trick or treating, costumes, scary movies, pumpkin carving, and the rest of the festivities.

It marks the beginning of winter in Samhain tradition.

All week, young people have been busy collecting materials for bonfires and storing them away for October 31.

We've seen trolleys chock-full of pallets and old household items. But this is where a level of trepidation lives.

If you Google what a bonfire is, it is described as "a large and controlled outdoor fire, used either for informal disposal or burnable waste material or as part of a celebration".

Where the issues come in is that they are unregulated, mostly.

More and more, in housing estates all around our county, bonfires are not controlled and the "burnable waste" bit goes out the window – with some taking the opportunity to clear out old appliances.

It's the same with fireworks.

Every single year, stories fill media outlets such as *The Echo* with warnings about the dangers around bonfires and fireworks preceeding Halloween.

And every year, unfortunately, stories fill media outlets in the days following Halloween of people sustaining gruesome injuries from fires and fireworks.

It's a fantastic occasion, but there is a health and safety element to the night as well.

Enjoy the festivities, but don't let one fright night turn into a fright for life. Be safe.

Don't forget clocks go back this weekend



PEOPLE are reminded 'spring forward, fall back' as the clocks go back this Saturday night/Sunday morning.

The clocks are set to go back an hour at 02.00am this Sunday, October 31.

This means an extra hour in bed as the mornings get colder and darker, but people are reminded to check your clocks and phones in case they don't automatically change.

Luckily for us, most digital devices such as smartphones and alarm clocks will reset themselves, but some clocks may need to be manually set back to avoid showing the incorrect time - or you showing up late!

Citywest Transit Hub temporarily closes reaching capacity to new arrivals seeking accommodation

A FACILITY at Dublin Airport was opened this week to assist the Citywest Transit Hub manage a significant increase in the number of people seeking accommodation, *reports Mary Dennehy.*

Last week, the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth (DCEDIY) announced the temporary closure of the Citywest Transit Hub, after it reached capacity to new arrivals.

The Department said: "In the interests of the welfare of those presently at Citywest awaiting accommodation, a decision has now been taken to pause arrivals to the transit hub until numbers can reduce."

The Department said that entry to Citywest for both Ukrainians and International Protection applicants would be paused, with those arriving been asked to wait at the airport overnight.

However, the situation has since evolved, with a facility at the airport opening this week.

In a comment to *The Echo*, a Department spokesperson said: "All passengers that can be transported to Citywest in time for same day processing by Department of Justice and Department of Social Protection will be transported directly to Citywest.

"Others will be diverted to a building on the DAA campus, located a distance from the terminal, to stay overnight before onward travel to Citywest the next morning," the spokesperson said.

"Those staying in the designated airport building will be given food, warmth, security and a place to rest overnight.

"The capacity is to be determined.

"DCEDIY would like to place on record its thanks to DAA for its assistance on this matter."

According to the Department, it is now accommodating more than 58,000 people (42,000 Ukrainian and 16,000 International Protection applicants).

Proceedings contemplated over N7 deaths of three men

Three collision victims were known members of a Tallaght-based burglary gang

CRIMINAL proceedings are being contemplated in relation to the deaths of three men in a collision on the N7 in Dublin last year while they were trying to evade gardai, according to a senior officer with the Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission, *reports Seán McCárthaigh.*

The three victims, who were members of a Tallaght-based burglary gang – Dean Maguire (29), Karl Freeman (26) and Graham Taylor (31) – were killed instantly when their BMW vehicle burst into flames following a head-on crash with a truck between Citywest and Baldonnel on July 7, 2021 while they were driving on the wrong side of the N7,

The senior officer leading the GSOC investigation into the circumstances of the deaths of the victims, Louise Woods, told a brief sitting of Dublin District Coroner's Court on Wednesday, October 19, that she had completed her report on the case this week.

Ms Woods said she expected she would forward the report to GSOC's three commissioners within the next 10 days for their consideration.



QUESTIONS: Flowers laid at the scene on the N7

While criminal proceedings are being contemplated in relation to the men's deaths, Ms Woods said it would be a matter for the three commissioners to decide if the case should be referred to the DPP.

GSOC are required under Section 102 of the Garda Síochána Act 2005 to conduct independent investigations into cases where it appears that the conduct of a garda may have resulted in the death of an individual following referral by An Garda Síochána.

At a previous sitting of the coroner's court in August, the inquest heard the bodies of the three men had to be identified using DNA samples taken from relatives because of the extent of the injuries they suffered in the collision and subsequent fire.

Solicitor for Mr Maguire's family, Michael Finucane, said what had happened since the last time the case was before the coroner's court was "not satisfactory".

Following a short legal row with the coroner, Clare Keane, over whether Ms Woods should be made to take the witness stand, Mr Finucane was allowed to ask the GSOC investigator a number of questions.

Dr Keane said she was concerned that nothing prejudicial would be stated giving criminal proceedings were being contemplated in relation to the men's deaths.

Mr Finucane complained that GSOC officials, including Ms Woods, had not provided answers to queries posed in an email he had sent on October 11. The solicitor said he wondered why there had been no contact from GSOC's family liaison officer since last August.

Ms Woods said she could not explain but would follow it up, before adding that she understood the family liaison officer had suffered a recent bereavement.

She also applied for a three-month adjournment of the inquest under Section 25 of the Coroner's Act on the basis that criminal proceedings in the case are being considered.

The coroner granted the application and adjourned the case until January 24 next year.

The men's deaths generated a major controversy last year over the conduct of mourners at the requiem mass and burial of Mr Maguire.

The funeral at St Mary's Priory church in Tallaght garnered international headlines after a screwdriver and torch – tools associated with burglars – were brought to the altar as offertory gifts, while many attendees ignored attempts by local priests to limit the numbers in church and to get the congregation to observe social distancing and mask-wearing as part of Covid-19 restrictions.

One woman who delivered a eulogy said Mr Maguire would not be forgotten before adding: "Sorry for the language, Father – rest in peace, you fucking legend."

A poster brought to the church read: "RIP Dean – You know the score, get on the floor, don't be funny, give me the money."

Fr Donal Roche, who oversaw the requiem ceremony and threatened to halt proceedings at one stage if greater respect was not shown, subsequently described it as the "most disturbing" funeral he had ever attended.

A funeral cortege featured motorcyclists doing wheelies in a high-speed convoy, while Mr Maguire's associates also carried out dangerous manoeuvres on roads around Crumlin and other parts of the city in the days following his death.

All three men, who had a combined total of over 200 convictions, were known to gardaí and were believed to be key figures in a burglary gang that was linked to "Fat" Andy Connors.

"Fat" Andy Connors was a known crime gang leader who was shot dead outside his home in Saggart, Co Dublin in August 2014.



Grievances of staff include lack of respect and dignity

Shop steward for Mandate says Dunnes have refused to engage

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



WORRY: Alex Homits with Liam Hynes

GRIEVANCES raised by workers in Dunnes Stores in Kilnamanagh, including understaffing and claims that they're treated with a lack of dignity and respect, are being "ignored" by store management.

This is according to Alex Homits, a night pack worker in the shop who is also the store's shop steward for retail union Mandate.

Mr Homits said that he submitted a collective grievance – signed by 34 workers – to store management on October 2, but they have refused to engage with workers and the union.

"Dunnes's longstanding policy with anything to do with unions is that they don't engage," said Mr Homits, who will have worked in the shop for two years this December.

"Our store manager said he will not be responding to the collective grievance and said that workers can notify him individually of grievances.

"But we know that going up individually doesn't have the same strength as going up together, and some workers can feel intimidated if they're alone in a room with managers raising grievances."

Mr Homits carried out a survey of union staff in the store during the summer, with 85 per cent of them stating that there are issues with understaffing in the store.

"Understaffing is the top issue that's repeated over and over, day in and day out," added Mr Homits.

"We're regularly under a lot of pressure because of it. I do feel stress when I'm working a very busy shift and we're clearly understaffed.

"There's the same amount of work to be done, but there are less people to do it."

Another finding in the survey was that 85 per cent of respondents said they felt they weren't treated with dignity and respect by management.

Examples of this provided in the survey include staff having to stay beyond rostered hours, being 'spoken down to', patronised and spoken to rudely in front of customers.

When asked how morale is among staff in the shop, Mr Homits said: "The fact is that it depends on who you are and how long you've been working there.

"Staff who aren't on the top rate of pay or on full-time contracts . . . their hours fluctuate all the time."

Other grievances raised include the lack of a dedicated night pack manager, and rosters typically not including weekends off or two days off in a row for staff.

"I think we're highlighting very reasonable issues," said Mr Homits, "and I'd like them to be resolved, in a personal capacity and also as shop steward.

"I've appealed to the public to come into the store and ask management why they won't engage with us as their workers about these grievances."

When asked about what steps he plans to take as shop steward if the grievances aren't addressed, Mr Homits said: "A letter will be sent to management from the union requesting engagement.

"After that, we're going to have a discussion [with the union and staff] about the options available to us if management continues to ignore us."

The Echo contacted Dunnes Stores' head office for comment, but a response wasn't received at the time of going to print.

> "Understaffing is the top issue that's repeated over and over, day in and day out. We're regularly under a lot of pressure because of it . . . There's the same amount of work to be done, but there are less people to do it

Mass times go back to normal

MASS times on Sunday will revert back to pre-Covid schedules, at the Parish of Divine Mercy, Lucan South.

The parish announced Mass time changes will be in effect from November 6.

"We had changed our Sunday Mass times during Covid to leave an hour between the services for airing the Church, but this is no longer required," said the parish.

"From November onwards, starting with Sunday, November 6, the Sunday Mass times in the Church of Divine Mercy will revert to 10.30am and 12.00 noon."

New things for teens

NEW amenities have been added into the teen space along the Newcastle Road, Griffeen Park, Lucan.

Cllr Liona O'Toole said a coffee dock will be installed there as part of the plans for the teen space, and also, a new and extended 'boules' area has been constructed in the park.

Feeling lost or lonely?

A BEREAVEMENT group in Lucan is there for anyone feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. The Bethany Bereavement Support Group operates out of St Mary's Parish in Lucan.

They meet every second Monday at 10.45am, and the fourth Thursday of the month at 8pm in the parish centre.

Sr Eileen Cannon, a Presentation Sister, from Clondalkin, has joined our group and is available to speak with (via zoom) or answer calls (on phone) to anyone bereaved.

Her phone number is 087 638 0994.



Removal of rubbish costs connected to illegal dumping soar to a figure over €2m in the past two years

COSTS associated with the removal of illegal dumping have topped €2.3m in the last two years with almost 4,000 incidences reported to South Dublin County Council.

The local authority has different mechanisms for the logging of illegal dumping with the total figure for incidences for 2021 at 2,531 and crossing 1,173 so far this year.

This year, the way in which incidences are recorded is through Membersnet (209), Fix Your Street (438) and the Environment Complaints System (526).

Last year, the Fix Your Street website (1,107) was the popular means in which incidences were recorded. However, this reporting tool closed after 11 years in July 2022.

Following a question from Cllr Yvonne Collins (FF) to the council, requesting a tabular breakdown of illegal dumping incidences and costs over the last two years per Local Electoral Area (LEA).

In response, the council stated it was not possible to provide an LEA breakdown and instead offered the total figures.

In 2021, expenditure costs for the removal of illegal dumping topped €1,465,374 and so far this year, costs have come in at €875,568 – for a combined total of €2,340,942.

Halloween - warning of risks from fireworks and bonfires

Fire station officer appeals to public not to obstruct firefighters

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



BUSY: Aaron McCarthy, Darren O'Connor and Tom O'Reilly, station officers in Tallaght Fire Station

THE station officer of Tallaght Fire Station has appealed to people not to obstruct firefighters this Halloween, and has warned of the risk of catastrophic injuries from fireworks and bonfires.

Darren O'Connor, who has worked as a firefighter-paramedic since 2005 and recently became the station officer of Tallaght Fire Station, shared fire crews' typical experiences during Halloween.

While Halloween night is an unfailingly busy night for fire crews, the weeks leading up to it are also busy, as are the days afterwards and the inevitable clean-up and putting out of bonfires that follow.

"We've been busy for the last six or seven weeks," Mr O'Connor told *The Echo*. "We've seen an increase in small bonfires already. We put out 10 small bonfires on Sunday night.

"On Halloween night, we have to risk-assess each of the calls about bonfires, because the volume of calls means we can't deal with every bonfire.

"We don't put out every bonfire we get to on Halloween night, we have to risk-assess whether it's near property, if there's smoke going into property, and if there are overhead electricity wires.

"If we do arrive into estates where there are bonfires, we're not there to ruin anyone's fun – but if the bonfire is affecting overhead wires or there are properties nearby, we'd ask people to let us get on with our work."

Another aspect of Dublin Fire Brigade's work at this time of year is also treating people who have sustained injuries from bonfires and fireworks.

"Each year, there's always at least one catastrophic injury where people lose digits off their hands or sustain burns," said Mr O'Connor.

A post on Dublin City Council's website about the dangers of fireworks advises people to clench their fists and try zipping up a coat or making a cup of tea – that's what an amputation is like.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), confidence issues and anxiety are all recognised after-effects of trauma from injuries of that nature, and the council has emphasised that fireworks are illegal.

These injuries from bonfires and fireworks can be prevented by responsibly celebrating the Halloween season, with Mr O'Connor offering the following advice.

"The first thing is that, for a bonfire, people need to get waste," he said.

"We'd ask people not to give their household waste out, as items like aerosols, small gas cylinders and paint cause problems for us, and to secure their wheelie bins.

"We'd ask business owners, particularly builder providers, to secure their stock and keep it out of sight.

"People should bring their kids to organised events instead of bonfires. In terms of costumes, don't make homemade costumes because they're flammable.

"Buy them from a reputable shop and from a reputable brand."

If you see waste being left out, being collected or know of a stash, you can call South Dublin County Council on (01) 414 9000. If there is imminent danger to life or property dial 999 or 112.

Bringing the classroom into the outdoors . . .



CELEBRATING: Thomas Kinch, Brendan Grieve, Leslie O'Loughlin, Naitik Kumar, Kiril Bortnikov, Jayda Amaraoui, Kate Spencer and pricipal Conor McCarthy in Tallaght CNS

PUPILS from Tallaght Community National School were celebrating the completion of a school regeneration initiative spearheaded by Enterprise Rent-A-Car.

Highlighting its involvement in the communities it operates in, Enterprise embarked on a community relations project with Tallaght CNS, to re-paint the school interiors and build a covered outdoor teaching area.

Speaking of the project, Principal of Tallaght CNS in Jobstown, Conor McCarthy, said, "This has been a brilliant initiative in improving the lives of our students and the quality of their learning. The outdoor teaching space will allow students to bring the classroom outside and enjoy the fresh air, no matter the weather.

"Through this, Enterprise has demonstrated its commitment to our community, and the value they place on education, and supporting the young people of Ireland."



Stadium event shelved due to lack of garda resources

Planned €20k event cancelled as gardai wouldn't be available on Halloween night

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



CANCELLED: Tallaght Stadium was supposed to hold the fireworks display

PLANS for an event in Tallaght Stadium this Halloween have been shelved by South Dublin County Council.

Originally pegged as a firework display, in recent weeks the event changed shape and was instead supposed to feature performances from up-and-coming musicians.

Over the years several councillors have made repeated calls for council-organised events targeting young people at Halloween in a bid to deter anti-social behaviour.

Up until two weeks ago, it appeared that those calls had been answered as the council had ring-fenced €20,000 for a Halloween event in Tallaght Stadium.

However, this week the council confirmed that the event had been cancelled as the garda resources needed for it wouldn't have been available on Halloween night.

A council spokesperson told *The Echo*: "In conjunction with An Garda Síochána, it was determined that an event sometime after Halloween would be preferable and this is being considered at present."

The event had previously been approved by councillors, when a joint motion by councillors Teresa Costello (FF) and Louise Dunne (SF) for a Halloween event in the county passed with a majority.

> **"The council was faced with a number of challenges related to garda resources, then the event was to be rescheduled for November in the stadium. But the fourth stand is being built in the stadium, so it will be out of use. . .**

Cllr Dunne told *The Echo*: "The council was faced with a number of challenges related to garda resources, then the event was to be rescheduled for November in the stadium.

"But the fourth stand is being built in the stadium, so it will be out of use from November to March.

"We're looking at alternatives, so we can reconvene in the New Year and look at doing something for Halloween next year."

The €20,000 funding that was earmarked for the event will instead be used for a music event for 700 local school students at another venue in the county next month.

As for plans for an event next Halloween, Cllr Dunne said she's feeling optimistic about it and is hoping that the issues that scuppered this year's event will be dealt with in time for next Halloween.

"I'm positive about next year," she added. "We'll reconvene in early February, so that gives us nine months of planning.

"We can talk to young people about what they want to see, and then we can have incentives for young people across the board to attend.

"I'm a little deflated that it's not going ahead this year, but I'm positive about next year and seeing how we can address the challenges that came up this year."

Relay for Life fancy-dress fundraiser

CLONDALKIN Relay for Life is hosting a Halloween fancy dress fundraiser on Sunday, October 30, at Boomers Bar, Woodford.

The event is to raise funds for the Irish cancer Society.

The party night will feature a comedy hypnosis show by Jason O'Callaghan, followed by a DJ.

Tickets are €10. There will be prizes for best costume and a raffle.

HOPE quiz night fundraiser

HOPE – Suicide Prevention Drop In Centre in Tallaght is holding a fun quiz fundraiser on Friday night.

The quiz night will be held in Ahernes on Old Bawn Road from 8pm.

Organisers are looking for as much support as possible.

Please drop in and support.

THE Echo
Real Local News
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01-468 5350

Cllr Mick Duff

"I am here for my constituents, to help in any way I can. Please get in touch"

Mick can be contacted on: 087 2865570

Email: mduff@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Twitter: @CllrMickDuff



Mick DUFF

From the Community and For the Community

Family-friendly events organised by City Council for Halloween

A RANGE of family-friendly Halloween events are being staged in Ballyfermot and Cherry Orchard by Dublin City Council, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

On Monday, October 31, residents can enjoy a number of activities, including a zombie run in California Hills at 12 noon, an indoor screening of Hocus Pocus at the Civic Centre at 3pm, a fancy dress disco at Markievicz Park at 12.30pm, a Stranger Things haunted house at the Equine Centre from 2pm to 5.45pm, and The Big One – a firework display at Cherry Orchard Park at 7pm.

There will be no access to the park during the fireworks display.

The city council would like to acknowledge the work put in by the following youth groups to organise this year's programme of events – Ballyfermot Youth Service, FamiliBase, Candle Community Trust and the Foróige ABLE Project, Cherry Orchard Integrated Youth Project, Cherry Orchard Running Club, the Equine Centre, the Orchard Community Centre, Le Fanu Skate Park BMX Group, Ballyfermot Chapelizod Partnership and the Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre.

Meanwhile, this year the council worked to establish a new group in Bluebell organising its first Halloween events.

The Bluebell Committee has organised a programme of events on October 31, to include a spectacular fire show by Rogu, funded by the city council.

The community hall will host live music, face painting and local resident groups have organised a spooky parade around the Bluebell area.

The festivities start at 3pm outside Bluebell Community Centre.

DCC is providing financial support to St John Bosco Youth Centre in organising a week-long programme of events which includes a Halloween disco, a haunted house and trips for at-risk youth to Farmaphobia and Tayto Park.

Reports of discarded oxide gas canisters are more widespread

The use of the substance for recreational use can be damaging and sometimes fatal

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

REPORTS of discarded nitrous oxide canisters in the county have become more widespread, according to South Dublin County Council.

Council staff recently reported finding the discarded canisters in locations around the county where there were previously no finds, such as Liscarne, Deansrath, Oakdale and Adamstown.

In summer 2021, the council carried out a pilot mapping project which noted the canisters had been reported in local parks such as Sean Walsh Park, Killinarden Park and Corkagh Park.

Other reported locations during the duration of the project, which ran from August 2021 to November 2021, included the N7 footbridge at the Red Cow, Boden Park, and the Hellfire Club.

At a recent South Dublin County Council meeting, the council stated that nitrous oxide canisters have been found by public realm staff at locations where there were no previous reports.

These locations include Deansrath, Liffey Valley, Alpine, Ashwood, Collinstown Park, Sundale, Neilstown Road, Knocklyon Heights, Adamstown, Delaford, Liscarne, Wheatfield, Johnsbridge, Griffeen Valley, Cushlawn, Canal Way, Oakdale and Ballycragh Park.

The local authority stated: "The use of nitrous oxide is occurring for the most part in public parks, but also in public open spaces and on public roads and streets.

"The finds of dumped/used canisters continue to be recorded. However these appear to be random in nature, with finds being recorded in parks where the substance is being used, but also being recorded in locations on public roads where it would appear that they are being dumped after use.

"The small 'silver bullet' canisters are being found in large numbers, and finds of larger canisters would now appear to be more prevalent.

"As previously reported, the sale, purchase, possession and use of this substance is not currently illegal, so it would appear that there is little by way of enforcement action open to the authorities in this regard.

"The council will continue to play any role it can in combating this problem, however it is for other agencies to promote the message that the use of this substance for recreational purposes is potentially damaging to a person's health and in some instances has proven to be fatal."

Inhaling the gas can have devastating effects, including the potential to displace air in the lungs, and it can cause a drop in oxygen levels which could increase heart rate, or potentially result in sudden death as a result of a lack of oxygen.



DISCARDED: Nitrous oxide canisters in Ballycragh, Tallaght, last month

> **"The finds of dumped/used canisters continue to be recorded. However these appear to be random in nature, with finds being recorded in parks where the substance is being used**

Agreement with banks to finalise house purchases

THE AFFORDABLE Purchase Scheme, which helps people on low to moderate incomes buy homes at reduced prices, is finally set to kick into gear after an agreement has been made, *reports Hayden Moore.*

South Dublin County Council (SDCC) told the monthly meeting of the council that an agreement with Irish banks is to be confirmed with paperwork confirming the scheme's implementation.

New homes under the Local Authority Affordable Housing Scheme are in areas with the greatest housing need and where affordability is an issue.

SDCC will take a percentage stake in local homes under the scheme which covers the reduction in price.

If a purchaser buys the home at a 20 per cent discount, the local authority will match that and there is also a buy-back option to reclaim the stake first taken up by the council.

Aimed at first-time buyers, with some exceptions, the scheme was up for discussion at the latest council meeting.

At the meeting, Cllr William Carey (SF) welcomed the news that the 16 families that qualified for the council's affordable purchase scheme at Kilcarbery Grange will be able to draw down their home loans.

"This has been very stressful for some of these families who felt they were left in limbo during the summer and unable to complete the purchase of their new homes," Cllr Carey said.

"The good news for these families is that they can look forward to being in their new home before Christmas, provided the agreement is concluded."

Cllr Carey added that it is "imperative that this agreement with the banks be concluded immediately".

The Kilcarbery Grange scheme was for mortgage approved, first-time buyers only with a minimum price payable of €245,600 and maximum of €285,300.

For this scheme, the applicant household incomes needs be less than €73,362 with 50 per cent of the homes reserved for those who were living in South Dublin County for at least 12 months.


AGREEMENT: Pilot affordable-housing scheme at Kilcarbery Grange



Mystery of the missing goose puzzles volunteers

Fears arise that one of the geese may have been taken or come to harm

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



INSEPARABLE: Beaker and Statler
Photo by Brian MacCormaic

A GOOSE that was a regular sight to many at the lake in Tymon Park hasn't been seen since last Friday – sparking fears that it may have come to harm or been taken.

The goose, called Beaker, was one of a pair of inseparable geese in the park – the remaining goose, Statler, has been spotted alone in the lake in recent days with no sign of Beaker.

Volunteers from the Friends of Tymon Park have been looking for the bird for several days but have found no trace of it despite their best efforts.

Brian MacCormaic from the Cairde Pháirc Thigh Motháin – Friends of Tymon Park group told *The Echo*: "I went down on Saturday and Sunday, and there was still no sign of the goose.

"It was so tame, it would come over and take food out of your hand. I don't know what's happened, I can't say for definite.

"When they go missing, usually you find the remains of it after being attacked – but this goose has just gone without a trace."

This is particularly worrying for the volunteers, as the two geese have always been a pair since Beaker was brought to the park by the volunteers last year, so the existing goose would have a companion again after a previous goose in the park was attacked.

"When we got her a year ago, she went straight into the water and over to the other goose that was there," said Mr MacCormaic.

"She swam around him once, and then they were friends for life – they were inseparable since then."

The absence of Beaker has also been keenly felt by park users, with Kilnamanagh resident Ria O'Connor expressing her sadness at the situation.

"It's very upsetting to use the park and know that a goose has gone missing," she said. "You can see the lone goose calling out for the mate it used to have.

"It's gone without a trace, and because there's no feathers or plumage, some people think it might've been taken. It's just very sad."

Mr MacCormaic said the goose may have gone to an island in the middle of the pond, however he has not been able to see her there, and her absence is a cause for concern.

"The other possibility is that she went onto the island, but she hasn't been seen in the water and there's nowhere else she would've gone to," he said.

"There's no proof or evidence of it, but all that we can think is that someone has taken her."

The Echo asked South Dublin County Council if it was aware of the disappearance of the goose, but a response wasn't received at the time of going to print.

> **"The other possibility is that she went onto the island, and there's nowhere else she would've gone to . . . There's no proof or evidence of it, but all that we can think is that someone has taken her**

Just three estates set for LED works programme

THREE estates in the county are being trialled for an LED works programme between South Dublin County Council and ESB network technicians.

According to a report by the council this week on the LED energy efficiency programme, the ESBN Supplemental Agreement has been agreed and SDCC legal representatives are liaising directly with the ESBN to "seal the agreement."

The report says three estates were chosen to be upgraded to trial co-ordinated works procedures between the SDCC contractor work crews and the ESB network technicians.

There will be one estate upgraded in each ESBN area – Rathfarnham Wood, Rathfarnham, Redwood, Kilnamanagh and Ashwood in Clondalkin.

"Significant progress has been made with the National Public Lighting Interface Officer in the ESBN in agreeing work processes and information transfer between SDCC and the ESBN. ESBN has agreed in principle to provide resources to advance the next stage of the SDCC LED Upgrade Works. ESBN Area Managers are identifying resources to assign to these project works," said the report.

"However, we have not yet upgraded any LEDS under this Supplemental Agreement and this is a significant delay to our programme. We are continuing to push the ESBN to progress to full-scale mobilisation as quickly as possible to minimise any further delays."

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor PC



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Modification of park fencing to include gate for football club

FENCING around the Cookstown Road side of Butler McGee Park is to be modified to include a gate for members of St Mark's Celtic Football Club to use, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

The plan for this was outlined by South Dublin County Council in an update on the park given to Fianna Fáil councillor Charlie O'Connor.

According to the council, representatives from the football club had raised the issue of a lack of access at the Cookstown Road site of the park for club members carrying goalposts.

"A modification to the fencing will be made with a gate provided at this location, and this work is also due to take place in the coming weeks," stated the council.

Other projects planned for the park include the construction of a footpath loop or walking path within the park, which work has begun on and will be completed in phases in the coming years.

Tree-planting has taken place recently, and wildflower-planting is due to take place this month.

One of the persistent issues in the park is scramblers gaining access to the green space, which the council noted in their update, along with plans to combat the issue.

The council stated: "The residents raised the issue of access points which could still be accessed by scramblers, even though the council has installed K-barriers at these points, an order has been placed for the necessary modifications at these points and this work will take place in the near future."

Sister Sheds launched in D12

SISTER Sheds have recently been established in Bluebell and Walkinstown.

Dublin City Council is supporting the two newly formed ventures.

The Bluebell sister shed was established at the start of the year while the Walkinstown sister shed was set up in July.

The Sister Sheds aim is to bring women together to talk and support each other in their daily lives, building a supporting network while making friends, along with meditation and relaxation fun with plenty of laughter.

THE Echo
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New 42 meter ladder to go into service 'shortly'

DFB currently have ladders that can reach the fourth floor of any building

By **Hayden Moore**
hayden@echo.ie

DUBLIN Fire Brigade have ladders which can reach the fourth floor of any building, and have a new 42m turntable ladder appliance for all high-rise developments.

At the recent monthly meeting of South Dublin County Council, Cllr Francis Timmons (Ind) asked the local authority for a report into the height of the ladder in Tallaght Fire Station, on the Belgard Road, and if it can reach all apartment blocks in the county.

In response, the council was told that Dublin Fire Brigade (DFB) train all operational fire fighters and officers to deal with a full range of incidents including fires in tall and complex buildings.

DFB invest in a broad range of specialised equipment to provide for appropriate response in buildings.

Crews have a complement of turntable ladders, which has increased in the last year, with a new 42m ladder expected to go into service "shortly".

"Discussions with the Trade Unions continue with respect to the deployment of a revised specials agreement, which includes turntable ladders, and these talks are at an advanced stage," the council said.

Fire appliances in Tallaght Fire Station carry the same standard 10m and 13.5m ladders, which enable firefighters to reach the fourth floor of a building and is "suitable for all regular housing stock".

"In addition 30m and 42m Turntable Ladder appliances are on the Pre-Determined Attendance for high-rise developments for all areas of the city," the local authority said.

DFB receive fire safety certificate applications for planning applications in which the applicant much demonstrate compliance with regulations, and they decide whether to grant or refuse.

Multi-unit developments like apartments need to be fitted with fire-safety features.

The council noted that fires in high-rise buildings "are principally designed to be fought from an internal protected stairwell as well as utilising external resources as required".

Special Aerial Appliances are under review by DFB and their "deployment model for the city".



STANDARDS: A turntable used by Dublin Fire Brigade during a fire in October 2021 at the Glashaus Hotel apartment block

Advertorial

Witch please! Liffey Valley Shopping Centre to host Halloween experience

FREE Spooktacular activities for shoppers including Costume Competitions and Tall Ghostly Tales! To find out more visit liffeyvalley.ie/spooktacularweekend

AS ONE of Ireland's largest shopping destinations, Liffey Valley will be hosting a series of spooktacular activities to get everyone in the Halloween spirit, with costume competitions for kids and live storytelling sessions of bewitching tales hosted by a series of themed characters running right across the bank holiday weekend*.

Those who come dressed in their spooktacular outfits from Friday 28th – Monday 31st October will be entered into a draw to win fang-tastic daily prizes, with the parent or guardian who guides their little ghoul to enter also in with a chance to win a luxury L'Occitane Pamper Hamper or a €100 voucher for Penneys, Skechers or The Hudson Rooms.

Whether you're on the hunt for seasonal essentials to trick or treat with family and friends this Halloween, or just looking for affordable skele-fun while school's out, with 80 stores, 20 restaurants and a state-of-the-art cinema screening all the latest movies, Liffey Valley Shopping Centre is the perfect destination to make meaningful memories this mid-term.

To find out more about the spooktacular FREE events taking place across the weekend, visit liffeyvalley.ie.



SPOOKTACULAR: Annabella (5) and Tom (4) Hennessy pictured in Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, celebrating the launch of the Liffey Valley Pumpkin Patch and Halloween Experience

court reports

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Gambling addict who stole €180k was treated like a VIP by bookies

A GAMBLING addict who told gardaí he was treated like a VIP by bookies has been jailed for the theft of nearly €180,000 from his employer, *reports Declan Brennan.*

John Kane (52), of Kilcarrig Green, Tallaght, told gardaí after his arrest in 2019 that he would go to multiple bookies every day and was spending up to €1,300 a day.

He said that because of the amount of money he was spending he was considered a VIP and was welcomed with open arms, Kane's defence barrister Damien Colgan SC told Dublin Circuit Criminal Court.

Kane pleaded guilty to 18 sample counts of stealing cash from his employer Gerard Fox on various dates between April 10, 2017 and June 4, 2019.

The amounts stolen on each occasion varied from sums of a few hundred up to over €3,000. Diana Stuart BL, prosecuting, told the court that the indictment against Kane comprised of 66 charges of theft and that the overall amount taken was €176,914.

She said Kane was employed as an administrator for a family-owned heating and plumbing suppliers and was responsible for their accounts.

During an audit in 2019, it was discovered that some money was missing. Further investigations showed that Kane had increased his own weekly wages from €450 to €657 and that he was also paying himself wages twice a week.

Kane was also under-declaring for tax, had stopped paying some suppliers and had made some random payments to himself from time to time.

When the thefts emerged, his employer gave him a chance to stop but Kane continued and was given notice. During this period of notice, Kane paid himself €4,000 holiday pay without permission.

He has 37 previous convictions and in 2012 he was jailed for three years for similar thefts from his employer, to the value of €30,000.

Mr Colgan told the court that his client had a gambling addiction but has attended Gamblers Anonymous and is now certified by them as two years gambling-free.

He handed in letters from two adult sons of Kane, who describe him as a caring father. He said Kane's wife and four adult children were standing by him.

Judge Martin Nolan said the thefts were a real loss to the company. He accepted the sincerity of Kane's remorse but said he is a mature man and shouldn't have done what he did.

He imposed a sentence of two-and-a-half years. He said he was taking into consideration a chronic health issue and that the sentence would be longer but for this condition.

Former footballer pleads guilty to laundering almost €200k cash

Handover of cash took place at a Circle K service station at Kilshane Cross

A FORMER League of Ireland footballer and two other men will be sentenced early next year after pleading guilty to moving just under €200,000 in criminal cash, *reports Eimear Dodd.*

Edward Fitzpatrick (39), of Ballyfermot Road, Ballyfermot, pleaded guilty to one count of money laundering at the same address on February 12, 2021.

Jonathon Barton (42) with an address at Wheatfield Avenue, Clondalkin, pleaded guilty to a count of money laundering at Circle K, Kilshane Cross, Finglas on February 12, 2021.

Gary O'Neill (40) ,of Churchfields, Ashbourne, Co. Meath pleaded guilty to two counts of money laundering at Circle K, Kilshane Cross, Finglas, on February 12, 2021. The former professional footballer has no previous convictions.

At Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on Monday Judge Melanie Greally adjourned the case until February 23, 2023 for finalisation.

Garda Detective John Paul Flanagan told Fiona Crawford BL, prosecuting, that a surveillance operation of Barton began after gardaí received a confidential tip-off.

They observed a van driven by Barton pull up outside a property, later identified as Fitzpatrick's residence, at 3.25pm on the day in question. Barton parked the van in the driveway, then got out. Fitzpatrick emerged from the house and both men entered the property.



Around 20 minutes later, Barton was seen leaving the house carrying a blue shopping bag, which appeared heavy. He then got into the van while Fitzpatrick returned to his home.

Gardai followed Barton who later pulled into the Circle K service station at Kilshane Cross. They saw him interacting with the driver of a parked silver car. Barton was seen handing a bag to the driver, later identified as O'Neill.

Barton and O'Neill were both arrested. The blue shopping bag was found in the boot of O'Neill's car. It contained €199,505 cash in three packages. A further €2,250 was recovered from O'Neill's car.

Gardai recovered a vacuum-packing machine and a mobile from Fitzpatrick's home and a phone from Barton following searches. An analysis of the phones showed that Barton and Fitzpatrick had been in contact three times on the day in the question.

The three accused were arrested. During interview, Barton and Fitzpatrick both admitted their roles in the operation.

Fitzpatrick has five previous convictions for minor road traffic offences. Barton has 28 previous convictions, primarily for minor road traffic offences.

Det Flanagan agreed with defence counsel for Barton that his client's previous conviction was over ten years ago. His client told gardaí that his role was to move cash in order to repay a drugs debt.

Barton was also dealing with a cocaine addiction at the time. Det Flanagan accepted that Barton had been under pressure due to drugs debt and had no financial interest in the money.

Det Flanagan agreed with Keith Spencer BL, defending Fitzpatrick, that his client had not been the subject of the confidential information received by gardaí. Fitzpatrick was addicted to cocaine and became involved in criminality due to a €10,000 drugs debt.

Mr Spencer said his client had been afraid for himself and his family. Fitzpatrick admitted to gardaí that his role was to package the cash for transport. His previous convictions date back ten years.

Det Flanagan agreed with defence counsel for O'Neill that the three accused were not known to each other before the day in question. O'Neill acted as a courier on the day in question. He was sent forward to the Circuit Court on signed pleas from the District Court.

Counsel for the three accused handed in references on their behalf.

Each man has a long work history, no previous convictions, and neither has come to recent garda attention.

The three accused had family members in court to support them.

Defence counsel for Barton said his client is a father of one and has taken steps to address his addiction issues.

Mr Spencer said Fitzpatrick had been using cocaine "as a crutch" following the death of a friend, but is making efforts to deal with his addiction. Father of four Fitzpatrick has been treated for depression and is also a volunteer for a local sports club, the court heard.

Counsel for O'Neill said his client apologises for his behaviour and was at a "low ebb" at the time in question. In 2013, he was treated for cancer, which went well but he experienced mental health issues which re-surfaced around the time of this incident.

O'Neill had some financial difficulties at the time, and was approached by a childhood acquaintance with the chance to make a modest sum of money. His actions were "out of character" for O'Neill and proved to be a "huge error in judgement".

O'Neill is a father of two and his arrest had been a source of shame for his family, defence counsel said.

O'Neill worked as a professional footballer for 15 years in the League of Ireland and was an active campaigner for social inclusion within the sport. He is a volunteer with the FAI youth services.

Judge Greally ordered probation reports for Barton and Fitzpatrick. She also directed urine analysis for Fitzpatrick. A probation report was already provided to the court in respect of O'Neill.

Judge Greally adjourned finalisation of the case until February 23, 2023.

Suspended sentence for possession of child pornography

A FORMER member of the Irish Defence Forces has been given a 16-month suspended sentence for the possession of child abuse material, *reports Eimear Dodd & Claire Henry.*

Adrian Short (45), of Corbetstown, Killucan, Co. Westmeath, pleaded guilty to possession of seven images and 14 videos of child pornography at Griffeen Glen Drive, Lucan, on March 29, 2021.

Passing sentence on Friday, Judge Melanie Greally said "the videos in particular contained extreme content of children as young as two years, which included sexual intercourse between children and adults".

Judge Greally said there was no other content stored on any other of Short's devices and that he had been fully forthright, cooperative and attended his garda interview voluntary.

The judge said according to the probation report he is at low risk of reoffending and that the offence was in the mid-range of offending.

She also noted the mitigating factors include his early guilty plea, his high level of cooperation, the lack of previous convictions, his personal history and in particular, his past personal trauma.

Other mitigating factors include the collateral damage of the break-up of his marriage and his now distant relationship with his children.

Short also has a very positive probation report and has expressed remorse and regret for his actions.

Judge Greally sentenced Short to 16 months in prison, suspended in full.

Short must remain under the supervision of the probation services for 16 months and he must submit to further monitoring and risk assessments as directed by the probation services.

He must also continue to attend counselling as directed.

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Market magic and the art of maintaining a local centre



FUN TIME: Enjoying the market at Walkinstown Community Centre

Saturday is market day for Walkinstown community

A COUPLE of months ago, volunteers who look after Walkinstown Community Centre tried something different to support the maintenance of a building, which is not funded by government, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

They trialled a market on Saturdays from 12 noon to 4pm, and after a slow first few weeks, it has proven a hit with residents.

The indoor market features predominantly arts and craft goods, but also some snacks and tea/coffee.

Mark O'Toole, Chairperson Walkinstown Community Centre, said the old centre lease goes back to 1965, and was built by members of the local community "with a lot of love and no insulation."

"A local family donated the land for the community, and the people built it. It is Dublin City Council owned, but we get no funding and it was very hard for two years and no income due to lockdowns.

"We still have to pay bills, insurance is €3,000 a year, so we hit on the idea of a market."

The centre advertised the market via its social media channels, but it was the traders themselves who gave it a massive marketing boost on Instagram.

"Facebook was going really well, but once traders started putting it on Instagram, it took off," said Mark.

"All the traders are on it, promoting their goods and services."

Although 2020/21 was a washout, Mark utilised the space at the centre to establish the D12 Foodbank, which delivered thousands of food parcels a week to households in need.

"Local business support was amazing," said Mark.

"The market evolved into arts and crafts. We didn't design it that way. You have everything from candles to ornaments. One hundred per cent of the stall rental goes to support the community centre, as we reboot our operations following two years of no income.

"We've a steady bunch of traders – 24 of them were in last week. We provide tables and chairs and charge €10 per stall. They are mainly local and small businesses. Groups who use the centre include an Irish dancing group, here 15 years, and a karate class, here 20 years, so we have huge roots."

Plans in place include the installation of a beehive in the back garden for the next season, after two lads approached the centre with the idea.

"We enable other people to do things," said Mark.

The centre plan to open the market on Sundays in December, in the lead-up to Christmas.

Keep up to date with Walkinstown Community Centre on their social media channels.

> **"The market evolved into arts and crafts . . . You have everything from candles to ornaments. One hundred per cent of the stall rental goes to support the community centre**

Luke has done good for others, says proud mother



'He was so thoughtful and so family-orientat

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

WHEN Luke O'Reilly died tragically in 2017 at age 20, his mother decided to donate his organs – saving the lives of five organ transplant recipients in the process.

Almost five years since her son passed away, Janet O'Brien opened up about the solace she finds in knowing that Luke has saved lives, while still grappling with his tragic loss.

The young Kiltipper man, who was a past pupil of Tallaght Community School and was a student in Crumlin College at the time of his death, died after being assaulted on Halloween night in 2017.

Luke was assaulted in a one-punch attack on the Old Blessington Road in Tallaght Village and was on life support for two weeks afterwards after sustaining brain injuries in the assault.

Jack Ellis Hall, of Lismore Road, Crumlin, pleaded guilty at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court in 2019 to unlawfully killing Luke.

When Luke was being taken off life support, Janet, who lives in Belgard, was asked whether she wanted her son to be an organ donor and she agreed – as she feels that is what Luke would've wanted.

"It was a decision I took in the room in the hospital when we were told Luke only had 24 hours left," Janet told *The Echo.* "The doctors were nearly apologising for asking.

"But I remember thinking, if another mother was brought into a room and told, 'We have an organ and we can save your child' . . . I just didn't want another mother to be in a room being told there was no hope, which is what we were told."

Janet said that, from a young age, Luke was always empathetic and keen to help others, so she felt he would want his organs to be donated.

"I felt that I made the decision for the organ donation so at least others could be helped," she added.

"To hear immediately afterwards that three people had

> **"He was a big, 6'3", kind-hearted young fella. He was so thoughtful and . . . so protective over his sisters and cousins. He was known as a gentle giant. He was just gorgeous – I wish he was still here**



REFLECTION: Janet O'Brien, from Belgard Green in Tallaght, parent of deceased organ donor Luke, reading the first reflection at the IKA's Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving in Newman University Church



REMEMBERING: Janet holding a photo of her organ donor son Luke, (left) her mother Margie O'Brien and (right) Janet's cousin Deirdre Bryne



ENCOURAGING: James Reynolds from Tallaght with his wife Samantha outside Newman University Church where the IKA's 37th Annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving was held

ed. . .he was gorgeous, I wish he was still here'

been saved, I was genuinely really smiley and had such a sense of pride in Luke.

"Even at the stage that we were at, we were just happy that other families weren't facing what we were facing."

Janet shared her experience at the Irish Kidney Association's 37th Annual Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving, which is attended by the relatives of organ donors and organ donor recipients.

The service will be broadcast on RTÉ One and RTÉ Radio 1 Extra (LW252) this Sunday, October 30 at 11am.

Other people in attendance at the service in the city centre earlier this month included Raheen native and *Echo* staff member James Reynolds, who received a kidney transplant in 2009 at age 22.

Although James recently returned to dialysis treatment and is awaiting another transplant, he is grateful for the 13 years of renewed health made possible by an organ donor and he attended the service as a way of showing his gratitude.

For Janet, the service gave her the opportunity to meet relatives of organ donors and recipients, and to celebrate Luke's memory.

"It was a really moving and emotional event," she said. "I went with my mam and my cousin.

"The whole family is so proud of Luke, and as a result we've made sure to be organ donors and encourage others to do it too."

Organ Donor Cards can be requested by visiting www.ika.ie/get-a-donor-card or by phoning the Irish Kidney Association on 01 620 5306 or free text the word DONOR to 50050.

As the fifth anniversary of Luke's death is on the horizon, Janet said his family still miss him dearly, but try to include him in everything they do and keep his memory alive.

"All of our family misses Luke, but he's included in everything," she said. "His photo is always brought along with us, and we save a place for him.

"I can't fully explain the devastation of not having Luke, but the organ donation gives a great sense of pride that he's done good for others."

When asked how she would like her late son to be remembered, Janet said: "He was a big, 6'3", kind-hearted young fella.

"He was so thoughtful and so family-orientated, and so protective over his sisters and cousins. He was known as a gentle giant because he was so tall. He was just gorgeous – I wish he was still here."



THOUGHTFUL: Participants at the IKA's 37th Annual Service of Remembrance & Thanksgiving – Aoife Murray, a liver transplant recipient from Clonsilla and James Reynolds from Tallaght (who received a kidney transplant in 2009)

Local history with Monica McGill

Tower is a unique part of our history, heritage and landscape

With 1,000 years of stories behind it, Clondalkin's tower is possibly one of the first

THE ROUND TOWER on Tower Road, Clondalkin is the only surviving original building associated with the Celtic Christian monastery founded here by St Crónán Mochua, who died in 630AD.

The Tower is a unique part of our landscape, history and heritage, yet familiarity makes it easy to take it for granted.

Historians say the Round Tower in Clondalkin was built about a thousand years ago, that it's the slenderest and possibly one of the first.

It's the only one with its original conical roof, and with a "skirt" or buttress at its base. Sporting no fancy decorations, the Tower's surfaces are rough, unlike Round Towers of a later date.

The Tower has one doorway, facing east. The door of a Round Tower usually faces the same direction as the main altar of its accompanying church – that is, eastwards.

Our Tower's 6 windows face the cardinal compass points of North, South, East and West. Long wooden ladders connected the internal floors. A head for heights, sure footing and a steady hand were needed.

Together, the church building and Round Tower were the most important buildings in early Celtic Christian monasteries, forming a nucleus surrounded by a number of almost-concentric enclosures. Clondalkin's Round Tower partnered the Church of St Crónán, once situated where St John's Church is now.

Later, Tower Road was built, dividing the Tower from its church. Maps from the 1800s show that Tower Road was called Steeple Street back then, named after the Round Tower but using an old-fashioned word.

Schoolchildren were once taught that people and valuables were hidden in round towers whenever Vikings invaded, but now experts say it was a bell-tower (cloig theach in Irish) and a place to keep the precious belongings of St Crónán.

Clondalkin's Tower is built of local calp limestone, extracted with skill and determination from nearby quarries.

The limestone was hauled to the site and, presumably, horses would have been used in this work.

On site, the heavy stones had to be raised ever higher as the cylindrical tower reached the required height and shape at each level (course) of stonework. Then the cap was built on top.

No-one knows whether scaffolds, pulleys or earthen ramps were used to raise the heavy limestones, nor indeed who the builders were.

There's not just one Tower – there are two – one is inside the other. The gap in between was filled with rubble making the Tower much stronger than if it had only one "skin". Just as well. In the 1700s the nearby gunpowder mill exploded causing widespread damage, but the roundness of the Tower saved it.

Some think the unique buttress was added at its base at about this time. Unfortunately, the squarer-shaped medieval church of St Crónán didn't survive the explosion. There is only a piece of it left today, behind St John's Church.

Mortar is the "glue" holding the stones of the Tower in place. This mortar included cattle blood to strengthen it, probably taken from local cattle.

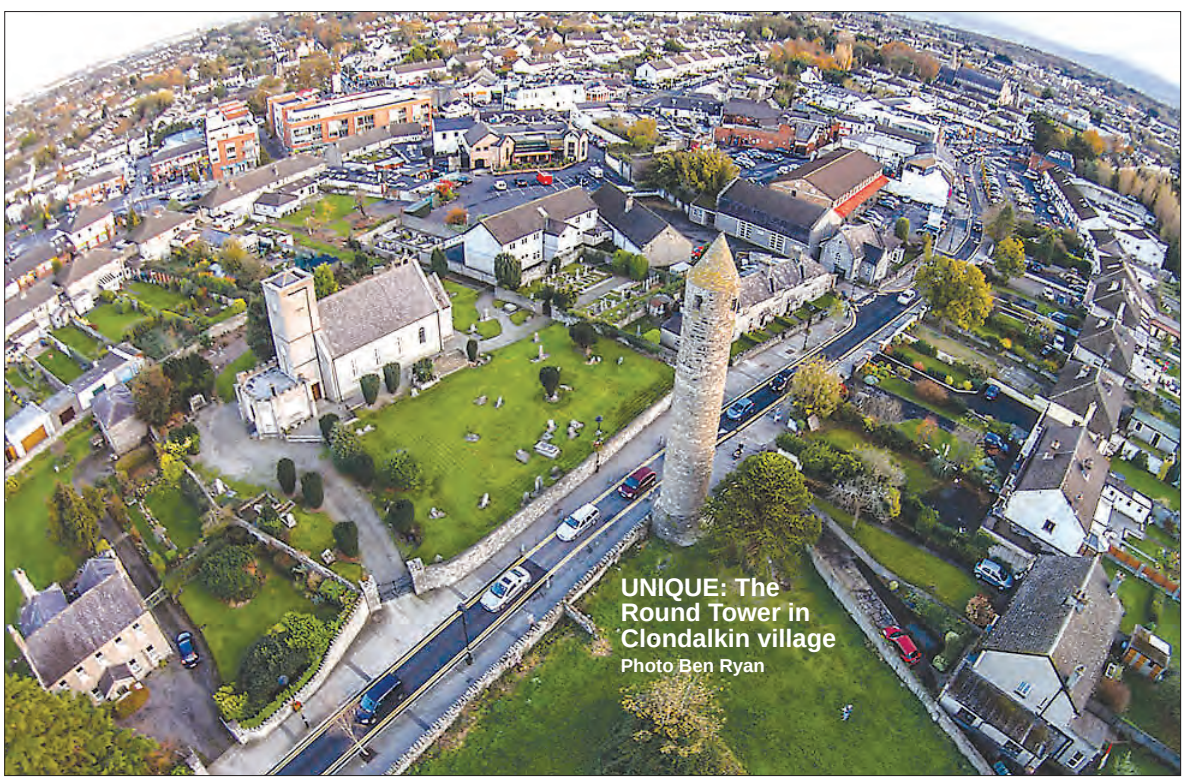
Clondalkin rests on limestone, producing great feedstuffs for all sorts of farm animals, so it's plausible that cattle would have been nearby.

A great number of extra workers would have been needed to help when the Tower was being built.

Everyone would have to be fed and accommodated around this very busy building site – quarry workers, hauliers, "blocklayers", toolmakers and menders, mortar-makers, people preparing all the meals (and doing the washing-up!) and others who took care of the farm animals. The River Camac nearby must have been a good source of water.

LOCAL LIMESTONE: The Round Tower, from St John's
Photo Monica McGill





UNIQUE: The Round Tower in Clondalkin village
Photo Ben Ryan

Along with taking care of other people's spiritual needs and their own, St Crónán's monks here fulfilled other obligations.

At least one of the monks would have been an early physician or General Practitioner. His special knowledge was needed to take care of sick people, using medicinal plants purposefully grown in the monastery garden.

Even a thousand years ago, presumably people would have had coughs and colds, headaches, fevers, upset tummies, strains, sprains and broken limbs – as well as the industrial accidents that must have happened when the Tower was being built. There were no Health and Safety rules then.

Some monks specialised in another task in the monastery's Scriptorium, where the Bible and Books of Psalms and Hymns were copied onto specially-prepared materials like calf-skin.

When very few were literate, these monks were fluent in three languages – Irish, Latin and Greek. The Karlsruhe Library in Germany contains a fragment of a Psalm-book.

The words are in Latin, but using Irish letters – a very early example of Irish script.

The transcribing monk wrote about St Crónán in the margin, naming the saint's father and some other details. This led to the conclusion that the fragment – and the book it came from - was written in Clondalkin.

Celtic monks were expert at creating accurate calendars, especially calculating the true date of Easter - still the most important Christian celebration.

Easter Sunday is a moveable feast and calculating its occurrence involves observing the lunar cycle. Were Clondalkin's monks involved in these calculations too?

Unfortunately, the astronomical work of the Celtic monks disagreed with other church experts who sided with Rome and the rest of Christian Europe.

Despite the forthright arguments of the Celtic side, the Synod of Whitby in 664 decided against them because, as one abbot favouring Rome remarked: "… a few men in a corner of a remote island should not be preferred before the universal Church of Christ throughout the world."

Despondent and annoyed, it seems Celtic monks obeyed the decision.

Councillor is one of 100 facing eviction from apartment block

‘We can’t afford to pay the rents being charged . . . it makes me so angry’

By **Maurice Garvey**
maurice@echo.ie

A COUNCILLOR is one of about 100 residents facing eviction from an apartment block in Kilmainham

North Clondalkin/Palmerstown Cllr Madeleine Johansson (PBP) has been renting an apartment in Tathony House with her husband since 2009, but says they are facing becoming homeless in June next year.

“It’s a very surreal situation to be in, I’m used to helping others fighting eviction and now I have to fight for myself,” said Cllr Johansson.

“Me and my husband are the victims of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael’s failed housing policies. We were on the housing list for six years, then we changed jobs and got kicked off the list because our income was too high.

> **“We have people from all walks of life living here . . . Everyone deserves the right to a home**

“Then my husband lost his job and we had to go back on the housing list. We can’t qualify for a mortgage and we can’t afford to pay the rents that are being charged at the moment in Dublin. I know so many others who are in the same situation as us, and it makes me so angry.”

Tenants at the 35-apartment block in Kilmainham, received eviction notices last week, with the owners putting the residence up for sale.

The flat complex is owned by Tathony Holdings Ltd.

“The owner is selling the building and is claiming exemption from the Tyrrellstown Amendment which was introduced to stop mass evictions,” said Cllr Johansson, who is organising tenants to take a case to the Rental Tenancies Board.

“We are not going to give up without a fight. We believe that the block should be purchased by Dublin City Council or an Approved Housing Body, like what happened in Leeside in Cork, so that all tenants can stay here and not have to face homelessness come June next year.

“We have people from all walks of life living here, single mothers, families and even pensioners.

“Everyone deserves the right to a home and no one should be forced to leave.”



VICTIMS: Councillor Johansson with other residents outside Tathony House

Going gold for kids



DRESSING UP: Staff wearing pyjamas for Pyjama Day

STAFF at Amazon’s fulfilment centre in Baldonnell took part in the company’s global Amazon Goes Gold for Kids with Cancer campaign by partnering with Childhood Cancer Ireland during September’s childhood cancer awareness month.

Now in its sixth year, the Amazon initiative raises funds and awareness for organisations working to increase survival rates for those with childhood cancer through life-saving treatments and research.

The Amazon team supported the charity by sponsoring and packing gift bags for the children who are supported by Childhood Cancer Ireland.

One of the events at Amazon in Dublin was a Pyjama Day, which saw the fulfilment centre team wear pyjamas to work.

Amazon Dublin General Manager, Darragh Kelly, said: “This was our first Amazon Goes Gold for Kids with Cancer campaign in Ireland, and we are proud to have partnered with Childhood Cancer Ireland by sponsoring and packing a large number of gift bags for the children they support.

“We look forward to growing this venture every year, and hope that our donation offers encouragement to the charity’s brilliant team and the families they work alongside.”

Amazon employees also had the opportunity to support children and families affected by childhood cancer by volunteering with childhood cancer charities and organisations, or by putting together activity packs for children facing cancer, which were distributed to nearby hospitals and hospices.

Chernobyl Aid Ireland

New Donation Bring-In Centre

Chernobyl Aid Ireland

NOW OPEN



Level 2 Car Park, The Square, Tallaght

We need your donations to continue supporting the children and families in orphanages, you can donate:

• Clean wearable clothing, bedding and curtains • Shoes • Bags • Clothing accessories • Small brick-a-brack

OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY 9AM TO 5PM (Closed Sunday)

Irish Charity “Chernobyl Aid Ireland” was formed in 1997. It’s a voluntary registered charity (Chy12648). Our main aim is to provide comfortable living conditions, good food and holidays for the children in Chernobyl who badly need it. All our members are voluntary, ordinary working people who give up their time freely to make a better life for the children in orphanages.

Chernobyl Aid Ireland is totally voluntary organization, we rely on all donations and fundraisings. Volunteers are at the heart and soul of our charity. Without their commitment and support during all these years we wouldn’t be able to achieve so much. Thanks to their involvement, their energy and their passion we can make life better for the children and adults and give them something they’ve never had before – our love and hope for a great future!

Donation Centre Chernobyl Aid Ireland

‘More robust’ repair works plan for park entrance gate

Joyriders damaged a meadow and local rugby club pitch

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



DAMAGE: The cars burned out in Tymon Park



DESTRUCTION: The track marks after the cars were driven around on the pitches in Tymon Park

SOUTH Dublin County Council has admitted that repair works to an entrance gate in Tymon Park that was later breached by joyriders was “not sufficient” to prevent them gaining entry to the park.

The local authority added that it plans to carry out “more robust” repair works on the gate within the next fortnight to prevent a re-occurrence of joyriders getting into the park.

As reported in *The Echo* earlier this month, two cars accessed the park at the National Basketball Arena end and damaged a meadow and a pitch used by Tallaght Rugby Club.

A similar incident took place earlier in the year, when the rugby pitch was vandalised by joyriders who damaged the entrance gate in order to get into the park.

The council then repaired the damage done to the motor of the gate and the hinges – only for it to be damaged again this month.

Fianna Fáil councillor Charlie O’Connor raised the issue with the council, which said a “more robust” repair would be needed to prevent another reoccurrence of joyriders getting into the park.

> **“In light of this, it is proposed to carry out a more robust repair to the gate and closing mechanism on this occasion and to install a more powerful motor which will not be overridden in this manner**

“While the damage was repaired at the time, it is evident that this was not sufficient to prevent a repeat occurrence,” stated the council.

“In light of this, it is proposed to carry out a more robust repair to the gate and closing mechanism on this occasion and to install a more powerful motor which will not be overridden in this manner.

“This repair work has been ordered and will be carried out in approximately two weeks’ time.

“In the meantime, the park rangers have been asked to lock the gate each evening at park closing time.”

The council also detailed other measures they plan to introduce in a bid to prevent people in vehicles breaching the park’s boundaries.

“Consideration is being given to installing fencing along the road from the roundabout to the depot buildings to close off access to Tymon Lane at this point,” it stated.

“This would be similar to the fencing installed at the interface between the basketball area road and car park and the park itself, which has successfully kept vehicles out since it was installed.”

The fencing work will be considered for inclusion in the council’s 2023 Improvement Works Programme, which will be presented to councillors next January.

Escaped prisoner led gardai on a high-speed motorbike chase

Grandfather of five narrowly missed a pedestrian and other motorists

By Sonya McLean
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AN ESCAPED prisoner ,who led gardaí on a high-speed chase through Dublin suburbs, narrowly missing a pedestrian and other motorists, has been sentenced to 15 months in prison.

John Mangan (54) had escaped from Loughlan House open prison in October 2021 and was caught riding a motorbike around Park West Industrial Estate, Dublin 12, at around 3pm one November afternoon a number of weeks later.

Mangan has previous convictions for conspiracy to commit a crime, possession of drugs and guns and was due for release from prison in March 2024.

He was handed down a 14-year jail term in May 2008 after he was caught with a loaded handgun in the toilet of a pub. He was on bail for possession of cannabis resin valued at €341,787 at that time.

Mangan had pleaded guilty to possession of the cannabis resin for sale or supply on February 4, 2006 in Drumcondra and possession of a firearm in the Comet Pub, Santry on August 24, 2007.

Garda Gary Farrell told Jennifer Jackson BL, prosecuting on Tuesday that Mangan ignored the garda instruction to stop the vehicle which led to a high-speed pursuit that lasted about 20 minutes.

It came to an end after gardaí, using the assistance of the air support unit, set up a road block on Carpenterstown Road, in Castleknock.

Garda Farrell confirmed that during the chase Mangan drove through a number of red lights, overtook and undertook vehicles into oncoming traffic, drove around a roundabout the wrong way, drove onto a footpath narrowly missing a pedestrian and drove into oncoming traffic during which he nearly collided with a number of different vehicles.

Mangan, of Larkhill Road, Whitehall, pleaded guilty at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court to a charge of endangerment, dangerous driving and driving without insurance around the Lucan and Castleknock area of Dublin on November 9, 2021.

He was serving his prison term in Loughlan House when he escaped. His defence counsel, Kieran Kelly BL, defending submitted that it was during lockdown and Mangan was anxious to visit his partner after she was diagnosed with cancer.

Mr Kelly said his client’s sentence was due to expire in 2024 and he has yet to be charged with escaping lawful custody. This case is expected to be brought before the District Court.

Counsel said his client apologises for his driving and regrets his role. He submitted that when Mangan first sped off it was because he was in fear but “he continued the chase when he should not have,” Mr Kelly said.

Mangan has five grandchildren and is now clean of both drink and drugs, counsel submitted.

He described him as a reformed man who is currently serving his time in Portlaoise prison.

Judge Martin Nolan said that while Mangan was at large from an open prison he took part in serious dangerous driving that could have led to “a catastrophic collision which could have caused death or serious injury”.

He referred to the fact that he viewed three minutes of CCTV footage.

“He was undoubtedly driving this bike at great speed and he seems to be able to manage this bike at great speed,” Judge Nolan said.

“He has to serve another punishment for driving the way he did,” the judge continued before he sentenced him to 15 months which he said must be served consecutively to his current term. He further disqualified Mangan from driving for two years.

State's emergency dept. care slammed

THE latest HIQA reports into emergency department dysfunction across the State show that widespread investment in capacity as well as reform of patient care is urgently needed for patients who rely on Tallaght University Hospital for healthcare, according to Sinn Féin TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe.

Deputy Crowe said: "Emergency department waits have continued in the wrong direction in the last year, and now stand at an average of more than 20 hours in Tallaght University Hospital. This is very concerning for patients across south Dublin who need urgent access to care. It's almost twice the state-wide average of 12 hours.

"Over 75s face an average wait of 18 hours. This is unacceptable and can only lead to greater distress and suffering for older people who are in need of medical assistance.

"There is also a severe knock on effect on our ambulance services who are often left idling on the tarmac outside a hospital, unable to transfer patients to the hospital, which then results in the ambulance being pulled out of service for indefinite durations.

"We need significant investment in primary and community care, especially in training more general practice doctors and primary care nurses and allied health and social care professionals to move more care out of hospitals.

"Too many patients are being treated in the wrong place, at the wrong time, leading to costly delays in their care."

'Butterfly' mother calls for increased support

Debra Ireland asks for €1 million to be invested in home care

By **Mary Dennehy**
mary@echo.ie

THE mother of a teenage girl born with 'Butterfly Skin' has this week supported calls for increased nursing support for children and adults with the rare skin condition.

Living in Terenure, Liz Collins's 18-year-old daughter was diagnosed with recessive dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa (EB) shortly after birth.

EB is a painful, genetic skin blistering condition, with those living with more severe forms wearing bandages across most of their body to protect their skin and prevent infection.

Every day, Liz's daughter requires fresh bandages, a four-hour ordeal that her mam said is made easier by the support of a home nurse.

As EB Awareness Week kicked off on Tuesday, Liz said in an emotional appeal that she has been "18 years looking for proper supports" for her child.

"No one has any idea what it is like to inflict pain on your daughter for four hours," Liz said.

"It is just relentless.

"Nursing care at home for me and my family is the most important thing around EB."

Having experienced the benefits of nursing visits, Liz is backing Debra Ireland's call for increased Government investment for nursing supports for children and adults with EB.



DESPERATE: Liz Collins says urgent help is needed

According to Debra Ireland, its pre-Budget submission calling for €1 million to be invested in home care, outreach care and mental health supports went "unheard" by Government.

The charity is now asking members of the public to support its call for Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly, to prioritise funding for EB care.

Backing Debra Ireland, Liz said that nurses taking care of bandage changes at home has been "a game-changer" for her family.

"The nurses become part of our family", Liz said.

"They have built up a relationship with my daughter. They are much more than nurses.

"They are angels in disguise.

"I know there is someone watching with vigilance around aggressive skin cancer or to see if [my daughter] has an infection that could turn into sepsis, which could kill her."

However, Liz said that the service is "fragile" and involves fighting to get nursing hours approved against the backdrop of a nursing shortage.

"I have been so disheartened over the years, just constantly trying to access services," Liz said.

"We need further support, we need people in our corner, and we need to keep fighting for the correct services for our patients."

Established in 1988, Debra Ireland is a family and patient-led charity, which provides support services for people living with EB.

Joanna Joyce, Advocacy Manager with DEBRA Ireland, said: "No parent should be forced to provide this complex care themselves due to a lack of resources.

"As part of EB Awareness Week, we need to raise our voices and fight for better care and support for families living with EB."

The Echo contacted the Department of Health amid calls for increased home nursing support.

A spokesperson said: "The Department of Health fully appreciates the difficulties experienced by patients suffering from this painful condition.

"There are approximately 300 patients in Ireland with Epidermolysis Bullosa, with approximately 60 new patients presenting with a diagnosis annually.

"At present we have a two-centre approach to treating patients; there are approximately 158 patients currently registered between Children's Health Ireland (CHI) and St. James's Hospital."

According to the spokesperson, CHI currently has one permanent Clinical Nurse Specialist who provides homecare and outreach care.

"The service offered by the nurse specialist is pivotal to ensuring that hospital and community-based services are appropriately aligned," the spokesperson said.

"An important example of this work includes securing home nursing care packages ranging from nine hours to 20 hours for patients."

The spokesperson said that CHI are currently in the final stages of recruiting an Advanced Nurse Practitioner role in Dermatology.

For further details on Debra Ireland and to show your support, visit DebraIreland.org.

Councillor's connections with Easter Rising and Civil War got her into politics

A COUNCILLOR with family connections to the 1916 Easter Rising and the Civil War, says she got into politics to take up the baton from her ancestors, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Lucan Cllr Liona O'Toole (Ind) was at Glasnevin Cemetery last month to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the death of her great uncle Peadar Breslin.

"I'm often asked 'why did I get involved in politics', and I would reply by saying I somehow ended up being very active in my community, was often involved in campaigns, but lately I would say, perhaps I was meant to be in politics, take up from where my ancestors finished, nearly a hundred years later," said Cllr O'Toole.



CONNECTIONS: Councillor Liona O'Toole in Glasnevin

Peadar was one of four brothers involved in the 1916 Easter Rising and the Civil War – the others were Christopher, Thomas, and James.

Thomas and James survived the conflicts, however Peadar and Christopher were killed.

"It was something that was never really talked about in families growing up," said Cllr O'Toole.

"Peadar, a quarter-master of the Dublin Brigade of the IRA, was arrested after fighting in the Four Courts and killed in Mountjoy Prison trying to escape.

"Christopher was taken from his home by men who identified themselves as the Free State 'CID' late one evening. His body was found dumped at the junction of Ratoath and Cabra roads. He was an Intelligence Officer with "A" company 1st Battalion of the IRA Dublin Brigade."

"Reading about the four brothers and listening to the many stories, gives me a path to follow, one which I hope leads to better things."

The Echo reception is NOW fully remote with plenty of options for getting in touch…

- Have you got a story to share?
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- Wish to speak to our trained staff about a memorial for a loved one?
- Need to publish a planning notice?

Get in touch now, operating from 9.00am - 5.00pm Monday to Friday



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Green Eye

Nature on our doorsteps



Rosaleen Dwyer is the County Heritage Officer at South Dublin County Council – every week she gives us an insight into the natural heritage around us and the beautiful biodiversity of the plants and creatures

Plant folklore at Halloween



PROTECTIVE: Rowan was believed to have protective properties all through the year, not just at Halloween

THE feast of Samhain (Halloween) marks the end of the Celtic year. In this time of death and decay, movement between our world of the living and the otherworld of the dead was believed to be more possible, making Samhain a time of magic and witchcraft.

In folklore, some plants and trees are particularly associated with Halloween.

Ragwort was referred to by local people as being 'the horse of the fairies'.

At Samhain, the Little People appeared from the otherworld riding around on Ragwort plants. They would breathe over fruits and plants, causing them to wither and die.

The 'púca', or pooka, was also said to be the one who caused blackberries to go mouldy around Halloween, by spitting on them as he rode past.

Ivy is another plant associated with Samhain.

This plant is said to represent loyalty, and it was traditionally laid on the graves of departed loved ones on All Saint's Day, November 1.

Ivy was also thought to bring protection, and ivy growing on a house was said to help protect the inhabitants from witchcraft, especially around Halloween.

Certain trees were also held in high regard for their association with the end of the Celtic year.

The Yew tree is particularly associated with death and eternity, and it is still seen today planted in old church yards and cemeteries.

Smaller trees were also regarded as being magical. Rowan, Hazel, Elder, and Apple trees all yield important harvests of fruit and nuts which ripen in late autumn, just in time for the feast of Samhain.



HARVEST: Magical Hazel's rich harvest of nuts is associated with autumn and Halloween



JOY: Aoife and Jade making a costume

Building Hallowe

Seven children will don specially-made costumes

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

HALLOWEEN festivities will be in full swing in the LauraLynn campus in Foxrock this week, when seven children will don specially-made costumes created by TU Dublin Tallaght students.

The costumes are being made by the students in collaboration with student-run charity 3DAssist, which creates printed devices for children and adults who are missing wrists, elbows, arms or hands.

The Halloween costumes are being custom-made for the children who are missing limbs, and the students incorporate the children's prosthetics into the costumes.

The children, who attend the LauraLynn Children's Hospice, all gave the students an idea of the costumes they wanted to wear – from Super Mario to dinosaurs to Doctor Who.

Jane Connolly, a marketing student at TUDublin Tallaght who is assisting with PR for the project, told *The Echo*: "Seven costumes are being made for the kids.

"The students are in the labs making the hands and arms, and they do this in a way where they reshape the costume – for example, if it's an Iron Man costume, they'll make an Iron Man arm."

The students who are creating the costumes are studying bio-med engineering, and this is the second time that TUDublin Tallaght, 3DAssist and LauraLynn have worked together for the Halloween event.

When asked what motivates the students who are involved, Ms Connolly said: "For me, it's just to make the kids happy, because being without an arm or a hand is a big thing, especially for a child.

"I think the motivation is for us to give back and help support LauraLynn and the families that are there.

"For us students, if we can help and get involved, and use what we've learned in college to help the kids and give them a happy day, that's a huge motivation for us."

The children will get to wear their costumes at a Halloween parade in LauraLynn today, Thursday, October 27, and the students will also be in attendance to see the costumes come to life.

"It's a lovely thing to be involved in," added Ms Connolly.

> **"For us students, if we can help and get involved, and use what we've learned in college to help the kids and give them a happy day, that's a huge motivation for us**



HAPPY: Lauren, Valerie, Leigh-Anne



BEST OF LUCK: Éanna and Céilí

Gymnasts make bid to qualify for World Special Olympics



WINNERS: Coaches Liz McLoughlin and Helen Mac Mahon with Aoife Geoghegan, Rachel Murray, Abigail Homan, Ailbhe Errity and Ailis Colgan

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

FIVE gymnasts from the South Dublin Sports Club recently won medals in the Advancement Games in a bid to qualify for the World Special Olympic Games in Berlin next year.

The competitors included Lucan girls Ailbhe Errity and Abigail Holman, who performed ribbon and clubs routines at level two.

Aoife Geoghegan from Tallaght competed in clubs and ribbon level two, Rachel Murray from Rathfarnham competed in level two ribbon and hoop, while Ailis Colgan from Templeogue did level three ribbon and ball.

Between them, they won gold, silver and bronze medals, and it's hoped that one of the girls will be selected to represent Ireland at the upcoming World Special Olympic Games.

Liam McLoughlin from the South Dublin Sports Club said: "The girls very much enjoyed taking part in the competition.

"All the girls loved wearing their leotards and being in competition. Hopefully they may be lucky enough to be picked for the World Games in Berlin.

"There are only two girls going forward from Ireland so we're wishing them all the best of luck in the selection process!"

South Dublin Sports Club is a Special Olympics club based in the Templeogue area catering for young people with additional needs, and the club is part of the Eastern Region of Special Olympics.

The club has been in existence for almost 30 years and presently has 77 athletes. The club offers three sports: athletics, basketball and rhythmic gymnastics.



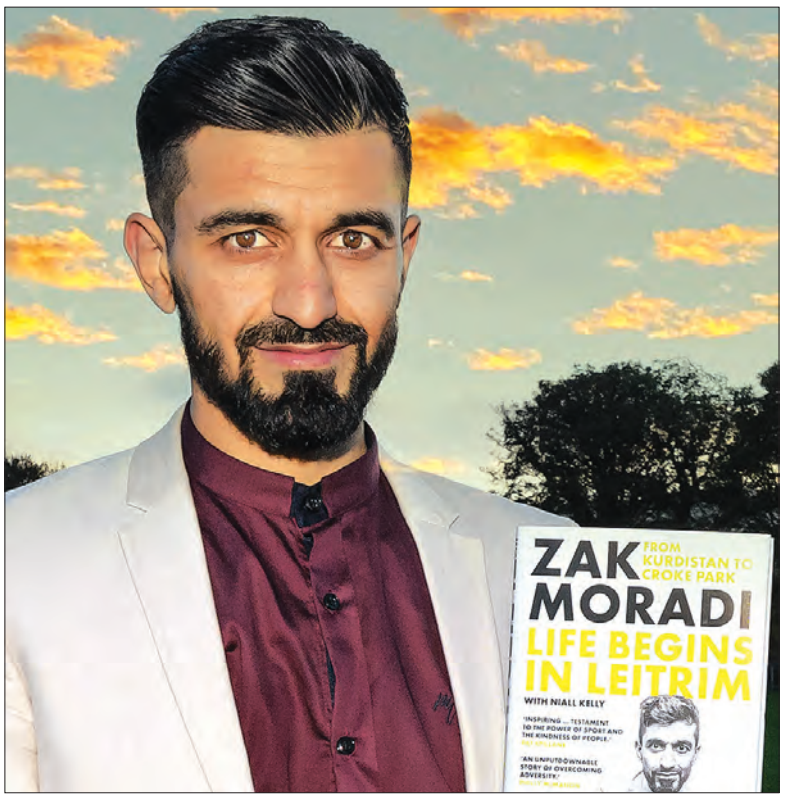
ENJOYMENT: Ailbhe Errity and (inset) Aoife Geoghegan

AS PART of *The Echo* celebrating over 40 years, we're celebrating you, and local faces and places. Over the last two years we've shared the stories of local people, and remind ourselves of the great community spirit alive across local areas. This week, ***Hayden Moore*** talks to Zak Moradi, as he releases his autobiography, Life Begins in Leitrim: From Kurdistan to Croke Park.



JOURNEY: Zak Moradi, the Kurdish native who graced the hallowed turf of Croke Park and lifted the coveted Lory Meagher Cup, when he helped Leitrim to All-Ireland glory in 2019

The Echo – celebrating community for over 40 years





SPORT can very easily be written off by those not initiated. Although, through the medium of sport, many can find that there is such rich human stories which can be told.

Sports are a microcosm of the human experience.

Take any person in any sport, and one will find a story of resilience and conquering hurdles through hard work.

Zak Moradi brings the resilience that he has developed throughout his life as a refugee living in Ireland onto the hurling and gaelic football pitch, with Thomas Davis GAA Club.

Born in Ramadi in Iraq, the Kurdish native would go on to grace the hallowed turf of Croke Park and lift the coveted Lory Meagher Cup, after a memorable appearance off the bench which helped Leitrim to All-Ireland glory in 2019.

In the newly released autobiography Life Begins in Leitrim, Zak charts his journey from Kurdistan to Croke Park.

"You already know me," the prologue of the book reads.

"Maybe you've already heard me tell some of my story: the Kurdish lad who was born in an Iraqi refugee camp during the Saddam Hussein dictatorship and who ended up hurling for Leitrim.

"There are thousands of others just like me," he wrote.

The day after Zak was born in January 1991, bombs starting dropping around the perimeter of Al Tash refugee camp as American troops carried out Operation Desert Storm.

When he was five-weeks-old, the bombing ceased and the Gulf War concluded.

However, amid rising tensions following the 9/11 attacks, 11-year-old Zemnako Moradi and his family arrived in Carrick-on-Shannon in Leitrim in 2002.

It was in Leitrim when little Zemnako was introduced to hurling by Clement Cunniffe in school, and he picked up the nickname Zak from his newfound teammates.

Although Zak only lived in Leitrim for a short period of time, the O'Rourke County had a profound impact on him and his family and as he describes, it helped them "establish new foundations".

In 2004, Zak moved to Tallaght, enrolled in Old Bawn Community School and began pucking the sliothar around Kiltipper Road, with Thomas Davis GAA Club.

Years later, when Davis' were on the rise and plying their trade in intermediate ranks, Zak was called up to the Leitrim intercounty panel.

Participating in the Lory Meagher Cup, the fifth-tier of intercounty senior hurling, Leitrim made a tremendous run through the national tournament in 2019.

Although Zak struggled somewhat with injury that season, he left his mark on the final in Croke Park.

Zak came off the bench on 61-minutes to assist James Glancy's equalising goal before scoring a point in extra-time to help Leitrim to their first piece of senior silverware.

Very few players get to represent their county, and even fewer get to step out onto that hallowed turf of Croker.

"Not everybody get's that chance to play in Croke Park and win," Zak tells *The Echo*.

"Even when you look at Dublin hurlers, they won a National League Division One and a Leinster, their first in like 60 years and that was nearly 10-years-ago now.

"So not everybody get's that chance, and when you do, it's a great feeling.

"Even going to matches now, you kind of stop and go 'jeeze I played down there'.

"All my family were there, there was 25 of them there.

"It was a big moment you know? They were happy and delighted. Any parents, or anyone that has kids knows, they're always proud of their kids when they're playing."

It was a massive moment indeed, exemplifying the journey that not only Zak had been on, but the family too.

It was a hurlers journey. A journey befitting any sports person. A journey of hard-work, resilience and perseverance.

After wrapping up with Leitrim in 2020 due to the commute and work demands, one day, late last year, Zak spotted a notification on Instagram.

Thinking it was a girl "DMing" - lingo for direct messaging - him, he quickly opened it.

However, it was a message from Gill Books asking if he'd be interested in telling his story.

Pretty quickly, Zak started working with journalist Niall Kelly to work on the timeline of his life and continued to over eight months.

Over evenings and weekends, Zak and Niall pieced the story of his "parents background going through eight years of war, 20 years in the refugee camp, who the Kurds are, Leitrim hurling, Tallaght, Thomas Davis, St Mary's, Carrick" together.

"I thought nobody would want to learn about me lifting the Lory Meagher Cup," Zak says, in reference to his All-Ireland win in Croke Park with Leitrim in 2019.

"It is a sports book, but there's a mixture of everything in it, it's about life.

"I want people to learn about refugees here, the hardship that Kurdish people have gone through and for Irish people to learn who the Kurds are.

"It's about the life of a refugee and what a refugee is.

"It's a very normal Irish thing to ask where you're from, I want it to be a thing where when someone asks where you are from that you can say 'Kurdistan'.

"If I'm on a night out and someone asks where I'm from, I say 'Kurdistan' and usually they say back 'oh where is that?'."

Zak is sharp. We asked him how he'd go about answering that question.

Without skipping a beat, he laughs and says "buy the book, read it and learn about Kurdistan".

Zak Moradi's moving autobiography, Life Begins in Leitrim: From Kurdistan to Croke Park, is available is on bookshelves and digitally now.

"It's a very normal Irish thing to ask where you're from, I want it to be a thing where when someone asks where you are from that you can say 'Kurdistan'. If I'm on a night out and someone asks where I'm from, I say 'Kurdistan' and usually they say back 'oh where is that?



STORY: Zak says that although his book is a sports book, there's a mixture of everything in it, it's about life

letters

Letters and emails should be kept as short as possible. We reserve the right to edit any submissions. Letters must be received by Tuesday, 3pm prior to publication

Green belt's biodiversity value has been brought to wider audience

Dear Editor,

I WOULD like to extend my warmest congratulations to you and your reporter Aideen O'Flaherty on your recent well-deserved award.

You certainly gave our cause great coverage week after week, and played no small part in the eventual outcome of Hibernia REIT being denied permission to re-zone the Green Belt.

We are fully aware that Hibernia REIT certainly haven't gone away, and still own the land in question, but its value as such a rich source of biodiversity/carbon sink has been brought to a wider audience thanks to *The Echo*.

Wishing you well in writing future series,

Yours sincerely,

Mary Keogh.

Tallaght

Now is the time to talk about peace . . .

Dear Editor,

LAST Monday it will be eight months since Russia invaded Ukraine. When war is going on, it is absolutely the time to talk about peace.

There will be no winners in this conflict and we are all losers There must be an immediate cessation in Ukraine and Russian troops must withdraw. An agreement between Russia and Ukraine on future security guarantees is essential.

We all know from our history that all wars end in negotiations. Why wait and have more unnecessary deaths?

Surely Ireland as a positive neutral country can use its influences within the UN and the EU and start on the path to PEACE.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Doran,

Dublin 22.

THE Echo

Real Local News

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01-468 5350

Chanting of Up the 'RA' overshadowed celebrations

A Eagarthoir,

POLITICIANS have condemned a video of passengers singing a pro-IRA chant at Dublin Airport.

The video, posted on social media features lyrics from Celtic Symphony by The Wolfe Tones comprising the line, "Ooh ah up the 'Ra" as they celebrated qualifying for the World Cup in Hampden Park.

The chanting in the dressing room overshadowed the moving tribute paid to the town and the victims by Donegal-born player Amber Barrett.

The Milford player, which is only a short distance from Creeslough, where her grandparents were born and bred, spoke from the heart, as she dedicated her winning goal over Scotland to the "10 beautiful souls" who perished in the explosion at the petrol station shop.

Her impromptu words and Ireland's tremendous win over the Scots should have written all the headlines. Not so. After Amber Barrett's interview, the euphoric ladies celebrated the victory in their dressing room with pro-IRA chants.

Nevertheless, the reality is: "Ooh, ah, up the 'Ra" a line from the Wolfe Tones' Celtic Symphony is frequently sung almost like a new national anthem, not just at the band's concerts but at gatherings across the island.

The ladies chanting at Hampden will silence the debate over a united Irish football team for some time to come. People who sing pro-IRA chants have no interest IRA history.

This chant has been sung in bars where Celtic fans gather and has been popularised. Tiocfaidh ar lá is now morphed into tiocfaidh ár tae.

Is mise,

Geaorid Ó Cochlain,

Baile Átha Cliath 24.



FROM THE HEART: Amber Barrett dedicated her winning goal to the '10 beautiful souls'

Daunting challenges face Ireland's soccer side after World Cup draw

Dear Editor,

THE WORLD Cup kicks off with co-hosts New Zealand facing 1995 champions Norway on July 20, at Auckland's iconic Eden Park.

Ireland has been handed an extremely tough play-off draw after been pitted against co-hosts Australia, Canada and Nigeria in a formidable Group B at the 2023 FIFA Women's World Cup.

Ireland face The Matildas at the Sydney Football Stadium on July 20, an adversary they defeated 3-2 in Tallaght Stadium last year despite the presence of Chelsea superstar 29-year-old Sam Kerr who secured 59 goals in 110 caps. Vera Pauw's team were ranked 26th in the world, in Pot 3 when the draw occurred in Auckland.

Her squad must travel a total of l 4,000 miles across Australia to play Canada, ranked seventh by FIFA, at the Perth Oval and overall, the best team in the group that defeated Sweden on penalties at the Tokyo Games in 2021 to win gold.

The previous occasion, Ireland was pitted against Canada was in the Cyprus Cup back in 2014, when they lost 2-1.

Ireland has never played Nigeria, one of the strongest opponents the Irish team have been paired with from Pot 4.

Each country will have its own Team Base Camp, special sites including pitches and accommodation.

FIFA will finalise these bases before year end, when Vera Pauw's team can be primed for daunting challenges after the World Cup draw.

Sydney Football Stadium, also known as Allianz Stadium, holds 42,500 supporters, Perth Oval takes 20,500, and Suncorp in Brisbane has a capacity of 52,500.

But getting Down Under and playing across multiple time zones is cause to pause.

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Coughlan,

Dublin 24.

E business
recruitment,motoring&property
October 27, 2022

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Pfizer's €1bn financial plans for Grange Castle

Biotechnology giant is investing in a biotech manufacturing facility adding more jobs

By **Maurice Garvey**
maurice@echo.ie

MULTINATIONAL pharmaceutical company Pfizer is planning to invest an additional €1 billion into its Grange Castle plant.

The biotechnology giant's investment in it's manufacturing facility at Grange Castle is a boost for the US plant which lost out on €400m upgrade several years ago when the drug it was designed to produce failed a late-stage-trial.

Failure of the company's cholesterol drug candidate , bococi-zumab, came after planning permission had already been secured for expansion of the site.

New technologies available at the site since then are seen as critical in any new investment.

Planning is understood to be at an advanced stage for the new manufacturing facility, which would represent one of the largest pharmaceutical investments in the history of the state.

However, it is likely to be 2027 before any new development at Grange Castle would be up and running, given the need for planning, tender, construction and subsequent regulatory approval before it could go live.

The Business Post reported that the firm is likely to add hundreds more to their staff of 1,700 currently working at the plant.

A spokesperson for Pfizer declined to answer specific questions from the Business Post, but said they are "constantly assessing our manufacturing network to ensure we can continue to bring our breakthroughs to patients."

More people are expected to be hired when work starts on a new Pfizer plant in Clondalkin next summer.

Nationwide, Pfizer employs 4,000 staff in total across its three sites - one in Grange Castle, one in Ringaskiddy in Cork and another in Newbridge.

The Grange Castle plant was one of the first Pfizer plants to produce mRNA drug substance, the essential active ingredient for the company's covid vaccine last year.

Cllr Trevor Gilligan (FF) says if jobs are created it'll help areas nearby, with great transport links to the rest of the country.

"When you hear of a big company like Pfizer creating such a huge investment, it can only be beneficial to not just Clondalkin and Grange Castle, but the surrounding communities as well, such as Newcastle, Lucan and so on," said Cllr Gilligan.

"South Dublin County Council because I think that we continue to push Grange Castle as a state of the art campus, like its location is just perfect for where it is, just off the M70, M50, going down to the country."



INVESTMENT: Pfizer is located in Grange Castle

Appeal won to overturn sprinkler requirement in basement car park

Bernard McNamara's property company is building the apartment complex in Cookstown

DESPITE objections from South Dublin County Council's fire officer, Bernard McNamara's property company have succeeded in overturning a requirement to have sprinklers in an apartment complex at Cookstown, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

McNamara, who was one of the highest-profile developers during the Celtic Tiger, is behind the plans for the build-to-rent mixed residential and commercial development, containing 196 apartments on Second Avenue in Cookstown Industrial Estate.

His company MB McNamara Construction, was recently granted a fire safety certificate which included a condition requiring that a sprinkler system be installed in the basement car park.

The company appealed that condition, the details of which are contained in a report of the appeal process produced for An Bord Pleanála.

As part of the appeal, SDCC insisted that the requirement for the sprinkler system should remain.

The council argued that although the fire safety regulations do not mandate sprinklers in car parks, "the provision of the draft regulations should ne reintroduced, particularly having regard to the changes in materials and fuel types" in modern cars, which it said raises the risk of a fire spreading.

Warringtonfire Consulting, on behalf of MB McNamara, argued that Technical Guidance Document B does not require sprinklers in apartment buildings lower than 30 metres.

All of the buildings in the Cookstown apartment complex are below 30 metres.

A final report on the appeal by Maurice Johnson of Maurice Johnson Consultants, an independent fire safety consultancy, agreed with Warringtonfire's interpretation of Technical Guidance Document B.

In conclusion, Johnson noted An Bord Pleanála "previously adjudicated on similar car park sprinkler conditions and have found the imposition of sprinklers to be unjustified."

Housed across floors blocks at the former site of Bailey's Cars, the development is to contain 45 studio apartments, 48 one-bedroom apartments and 103 two-bedroom apartments.

MB McNamara Construction previously carried out the 146-unit Exchange Hall development in Tallaght.

The developer is also the owner of the former Gallaher's cigarette factory site at the junction of Airton Road and Greenhills Road.



APPEAL: The former site of Baliey's Cars being developed by MB McNamara Construction for 196 apartments

E business

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Auxilion €17.5m investment to include acquiring UK firm

Park West Business Park company plans major expansion over next three years

By **Maurice Garvey**
maurice@echo.ie

AUXILION is planning to acquire a company as part of it's €17.5 million investment in UK expansion plans for the next three years.

The Park West Business Park based firm also plans to increase its existing UK workforce by 60 people over the next two years.

Operating from Sheffield, Telford and Warrington in the UK, Auxilion, a leading provider of digitally transformative IT services and solutions,is actively looking to acquire a mid-tier IT service provider in the UK which will complement its existing portfolio of high-quality managed services and innovative IT solutions.

Part of the multimillion investment will go towards Auxilion's Services Centre of Excellence in Sheffield, which delivers 24/7 support to its growing customer base spanning both the public and private sectors – including Dell, HP Inc, BT, Canford Health, Applegreen and Mainstream Renewable Power.

The Sheffield centre will have the capacity for up to 120 employees.

The organisation – which works with industry-leading partners such as Microsoft and Hewlett Packard Enterprise – expects the investment to further strengthen its presence in the UK market.

Earlier this year, Auxilion announced that it is on course to grow its revenues by 25 per cent by the end of 2022, compared to 2021, taking its revenues beyond €48m.

Philip Maguire, CEO of Auxilion, said: "Our acquisition plans and this significant investment show how committed we are to building on our success in the Irish market and expanding our presence in the UK, where we have operated for more than 20 years. The north of England offers unique opportunities, most notably due to the access it provides to top-quality talent.

"We, as a company, are also uniquely positioned in terms of the quality of service we deliver and our experience in the industry. We see ourselves as not merely a partner for, but a part of, our customers' operations. Furthermore, we are laser-focused on providing innovative services and solutions that deliver near-term and future value, enabling companies to navigate disruption and transformation successfully.

"Central to this is our people and culture. Having a team of highly skilled, engaged professionals is crucial in terms of our ability to deliver digital thinking, built differently. By taking advantage of the talent pool in the north of England and acquiring a like-minded, similarly aligned company, we can lead digital change and make a real impact."

> **"Our acquisition plans and this significant investment show how committed we are to building on our success in the Irish market and expanding our presence in the UK, where we have operated for more than 20 years.**



EXPANDING: Philip Maguire, Founder and CEO, Auxilion

Free talk on one of Europe's largest regeneration projects City Edge

SOUTH Dublin County Council are hosting a free talk on the City Edge development on November 15, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Presentations during the morning seminar at the Plaza Hotel, Belgard Road, will be delivered by Jason Frehill, Director of Economic, Enterprise & Tourism Development and Siobhán Duff, City Edge Project.

The City Edge development is set to become one of Europe's largest regeneration projects, with the future potential to accommodate up to 75,000 jobs and 40,000 homes.

The collaborative project focuses on 700 hectares of land in the Naas Road, Ballymount and Park West areas, on the western edge of Dublin city centre.

People are invited to the talk to find out more about the most significant housing and economic opportunity ever undertaken in the Dublin region.

The area is identified under the National Planning Framework (NPF) and Regional Spatial and Economics Strategy (RSES) as a part of Dublin that is currently underutilised and has the potential to achieve compact growth through a major increase in population and employment.

Feeback to the large project has been mixed, with local residents unsure if all the appropriate infrastructure will be in place to handle such a massive increase in population.

The event takes place on Tuesday, November 15, from 9.30am - 10.30am, at the Plaza Hotel, Belgard Road, Tallaght.

Free parking is available.

Tea/Coffee available at registration from 9.15am

Book your place with Mary at mary@sdchamber.ie

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E business

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Grifols open purifictaion and filling plant in Grange Castle

Significant investment underlines long-term commitment by bio-pharma group

By **Maurice Garvey**
maurice@echo.ie

GLOBAL bio-pharma group Grifols has opened a new albumin purification and filling plant at its global manufacturing and supply hub in Grange Castle.

The 183,000 sq ft extension brings Grifols' total investment in Ireland over the past 10 years to €300m, and the company expects to increase its number of staff in Dublin from around 300 to over 500 by 2024.

Grifols also has manufacturing sites for essential plasma medicines in Barcelona, North Carolina, Los Angeles, and Dreieich, Germany, and further facilities are under construction in Montreal and Cairo.

"This new magnificent Dublin manufacturing facility, which incorporates Grifols industry-leading engineering, is indicative of this company's commitment to investing in essential plasma-medicine infrastructure globally to treat more patients around the world," said Victor Grifols Den and Raimon Grifols, co-CEOs of Grifols.

"The significant investment underlines our long-term commitment to Ireland and reinforces Dublin's role as a critical nerve center for Grifols' global operations."

"The new plant, displaying Grifols' industry-leading technological excellence, is part of our broader expansion in Dublin that includes the growth of the supply chain and logistical operations of our Biopharma business unit, all of which brings additional professional development opportunities to the Irish workforce," said Shane O'Brien, vice president of Grifols Worldwide Operations.

The company said in a statement that Ireland has proved attractive due to its highly educated and skilled workforce as well as its positioning between North America and continental Europe, and pro-business environment

The new plant will help the company meet demand for albumin, the most abundant protein in plasma, which is used to replace lost fluids, restore blood volume, and treat diseases such as cirrhosis.

Demand for albumin is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate of around five per cent over the next five years, and Grifols is also advancing its potential use to treat neurological degenerative disorders.



MANUFACTURING: The Grifols site in Grange Castle

Citywest security and IT telecoms company investing €1.13 million

CITYWEST based business IT security and telecoms company, announced that it is investing €1.13 million and creating five new jobs to accelerate its growth in cybersecurity over the next three years.

Additionally, HCS will provide a new Fortinet Security Operations Centre (SOC) as-a-service to customers, which uses AI and SOC analysts to alert of any incidents on organisations' networks 24/7.

The company is hiring for technical engineers across cybersecurity in response to increased demand from customers.

These roles will involve proactively managing customer networks both in the cloud and on-premise, providing consultancy and professional services to securely configure Fortinet and Microsoft solutions, and providing security managed services to maintain and improve clients' security posture on an ongoing basis.

The investment will enable new certifications and upskilling for both new hires and existing employees within HCS' Fortinet and Microsoft security portfolios.



INVESTMENT: Dan Hegarty

HCS provides secure integrated IT, telecoms and productivity solutions to enable better business performance for Irish organisations. The company uses secure by design principles to ensure that it significantly reduces risk for customers with security built in. Headquartered in Waterford and with a base in Dublin, the company recently opened a third location in Cork.

Customers will be able to fully leverage the security features within Microsoft365, while Fortinet's Operational Technology (OT) Security will cater to specific security requirements within production environments. HCS is one of two Fortinet Advanced Partners in Ireland.

The investment will also enable the expansion of HCS' services in high-growth areas such as manufacturing, utilities and cloud security. The company's secure solutions have already been adopted by customers including Connolly's Redmills and Avis Budget Ireland.

Dan Hegarty, Head of Sales, HCS: "This investment means that HCS can scale up our capabilities in the cybersecurity space and bring our services to progressive organisations that take security seriously. We are seeing a huge demand for more secure solutions among our customers. Covid-19 has accelerated security demands around remote working and cloud in particular, while geopolitical moves have resulted in a rise in cyberattacks in recent years."

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E property

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Geriatric Day Care Centre refused at convent building

Bartra told centre plans contravevene the zoning of the site



REFUSED: The Presentation Convent in Clondalkin Village

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

PLANS for part of the existing Presentation Convent building in Clondalkin to be a geriatric day care centre contravene the zoning of the site, and "sufficient information" on a number of aspects of the plans were not provided.

This is according to South Dublin County Council, which this month refused planning permission for developer Bartra's proposal.

As reported in *The Echo* last September, Bartra sought permission for the change of use of part of the existing convent building from staff accommodation into a day centre.

The staff accommodation is ancillary to the adjacent nursing home/retirement home and was granted permission in a prior planning application.

Bartra's plans for the change of use included internal alterations and improvements to the interior of the convent at ground, first and second floors.

External alterations to accommodate two stair cores, one to include a lift, within the courtyard space and alterations to two existing windows to form escape doors and blocking up a second-floor window were included.

The proposal received four third-party submissions, two of which were from locals, and two which were representations made by local councillors.

The key points raised in the submissions included the view that a geriatric day centre should form part of the primary care centre that's already under construction, instead of adjoining the convent.

A lack of car parking and existing parking issues were noted in the submissions, as well as the architectural conservation of the site and the fact that it's zoned for open space use.

On October 13, South Dublin County Council decided to refuse permission for the development on a number of grounds.

These grounds include the fact that the proposal contravenes the open space zoning of the site, and the council's view that sufficient information on the plans' impact wasn't provided.

"It is not considered that the applicant has provided sufficient information in relation to the protection of the integrity of the existing convent building, or the traffic and transport impact of the development on the local area," it stated.

This is the latest update in the plans for the convent site, which in 2018 saw over 40 third-party submissions submitted, with most of them being objections against nursing home plans for the site.

In late 2019, Bartra's plans for a 155-bed nursing home, and a retirement home for the Presentation nuns on land at the convent grounds, were approved by An Bord Pleanála.

Plans to demolish two houses to make way for seven houses

Developer plans to build three detached houses and four semis





PROPOSAL: The site in Esker Hill in Lucan

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

PLANS for the demolition of a two-storey house at Clonbrone, Lucan Newlands Road on Esker Hill in Lucan, to make way for the development of seven houses, have been lodged.

Nacul Developments Limited, with an address in Dublin 14, submitted their planning application on October 13.

The developer is seeking permission for the demolition of an existing two-storey detached dwelling, with an area 162sq.m, and associated out-buildings on site.

This is to facilitate the construction of seven two-storey, plus dormer level, five-bedroom houses.

The houses comprise three detached houses and four semi-detached houses on a site area of approximately 0.3 hectares.

Proposed access to the development will be via the existing vehicular entrance on the Lucan-Newlands Road/Esker Hill, according to the planning application.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by December 7.

property

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Meeting requested to discuss apartment plan at Taylors Lane

Developer proposes to build 398-unit apartment development which has already been refused

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

A DEVELOPER has lodged a request for a meeting with South Dublin County Council about a proposed 398-unit apartment development at Taylor's Lane in Rathfarnham.

Shannon Homes submitted the meeting request under recently enacted Large Residential Developments (LRD) legislation.

LRD legislation replaces the old Strategic Housing Development (SHD) system, which allowed developers to bypass local authorities and submit planning applications directly to An Bord Pleanála.

Part of the LRD legislation requires developers to meet with local authorities before submitting formal planning applications to the council.

In their request for a meeting, Shannon Homes outlined their plans for the demolition of the existing former institutional buildings and associated outbuildings, covering an area of circa 5,231 sq.m.

The proposed demolition is to make way for the construction of 398 residential units within three apartment/duplex blocks (over basement carparks), ranging in height from two- to five-storeys.

The subject site was previously primed for a 496-unit SHD, which was approved by An Bord Pleanála.

However, An Bord Pleanála's decision was subsequently quashed after Ballyboden Tidy Towns brought High Court action to overturn the appeals board's decision.

The High Court judgement, which was reached last January, ruled that the development failed to recognise and address a material contravention of the County Development Plan in relation to density.

The SHD also failed to consider a relevant consideration as to the capacity of the public transport network and give adequate reasons for its decision on density in that context, according to the High Court ruling.

A decision on Shannon Homes's meeting request for its current planning proposal has not yet been made.

Depending on the outcome of the meeting, the applicant may be able to submit a full planning application.



DECISION: The site on Taylor's Lane proposed for the construction of 398 residential units

Four Provinces Pub property has asking price of €550,000

THE property that houses the Four Provinces pub in Kimmage is going under the hammer with a guide price of €550k next month.

The mid-terrace property comprises a pub, currently let to the Four Provinces with a lease expiry in 2026, and ancillary accommodation overhead.

Internally the property comprises an open-plan bar, kitchen area, store and cold rooms, together with a function room on the first floor.

The property is located on Ravensdale Park in the centre of Kimmage and is part of a wider neighbourhood centre, according to auctioneer Bid X1.

Surrounding occupiers include LEO Pharma, Crumlin GAA and KCR Business Park, while surrounding commercial businesses include Pizza Baker and Crumbles Deli and Café.

The property provides a current passing rent of €36,000 per annum, however, it's noted in the property listing that the lease allows for a yearly, stepped increase in rent.

The pub and the ancillary overhead accommodation will go under the hammer at Bid X1's online auction on November 10.



AUCTION: The property houses The Four Provinces Pub

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Diesel takes a 4% price hike in October

It is the second-highest monthly average price for Diesel on record

IRISH motorists driving diesel cars are now spending up to 20 cents per litre more than those driving petrol cars, according to the latest fuel price survey from The Automobile Association.

The average price for petrol across the country remains at €1.84 per litre, with diesel now at €2.02 per litre, 4% more expensive than last month. Petrol is on average, 11% more expensive than in October 2021, with diesel just under 30% more expensive than in October 2021.

It now costs the average motorist with a petrol car €2,210 to fill it, annually, at current fuel prices, €219 more than in October 2021. It costs the average motorist with a diesel car €2,020 to fill it, annually, at current fuel prices*, €126 more than in October 2021.

"We have seen quite a spike in the price of diesel in the last month, even though petrol prices have remains largely stagnant over the same period," said AA Ireland Head of Communications, Paddy Comyn. "Sales of diesel cars were very much in the majority from 2008 until quite recently, so these high fuel prices will be affecting large amounts of motorists nationally, at a time when energy prices are rising across the board."

It is thought that a surplus in petrol production and a deficit in diesel production is accounting for the differences in prices.

AA Ireland Members can avail of 3 cents off a litre from Circle K via the AA Ireland App.

For more information go to AA Fuel Prices Page

*AA calculates a diesel car will travel, on average, around 850km on a tank vs 700km in petrol, which is why even though diesel is more expensive, the consumer is still likely to use less of it for the same average 17,000km per year.



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TEAM ECHO: Poudly showing off the 'Best News Series' Award at the Local Media Ireland Awards in the Bloomfield Hotel in Mullingar were William O'Connor, News Editor, *The Echo*, Brenda Mockler, Deputy Editor & HR Manager, *The Echo*, Stephen Leonard, former Sports Editor, *The Echo*, who was finalist in the Sports Journalist of the Year category, Emma Kennedy, MD, *The Echo* and David Kennedy, Executive Editor, *The Echo*

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Apply by email (mkelly@colaistebride.com) or post with CV and references to: Secretary, B.O.M., Coláiste Bríde, New Road, Clondalkin

Advertorial

South Dublin County Sports Partnership announce new Parkrun in Dodder Valley



Date: 5th November 2022
Time: 9:30 am weekly start
Location: Dodder Valley Park – Old Bawn Road

SOUTH Dublin County Sports Partnership, in partnership with the HSE, announce the launch of their new weekly Parkrun event in Dodder Valley Park following the upgrade of the park walkways by South Dublin County Council.

Launching with its first run on the 4th of November 2022, this FREE weekly Parkrun event will work to serve the local neighbourhoods like Firhouse, Knocklyon, and Tallaght as well helping to create a better community for all in the wider South Dublin County community.

Parkruns are free weekly 5k runs held Saturday mornings in local parks around South Dublin and Ireland. These events aim to develop runner confidence in a safe and friendly community-based way while also being great social outlets. Established in the Republic of Ireland in 2012, Parkrun has continued to grow in popularity now boasting 104 locations and 218,820 race finishers.

Dodder Valley Park has seen lots of investment and upgrades to its 100 hectares in recent years. In addition to a new a changing pavilion, new tennis/basketball courts and playing pitches, the park is connected by a new modern greenway, which when completed, will link the Dublin Mountains to Dublin City. The addition of this new event is a wonderful extra to the park.

To register for the new Dodder Valley Park Parkrun, or for more information on a Parkrun near you, visit www.parkrun.ie

For further information please contact.

Thomas McDermot SDCSP Sports Coordinator / Info@ sdcsp.ie

Advertorial

Tower Credit Union Christmas cash loans

TOWER Credit Union's Christmas Cash loans are back. Our most popular loan is a favourite amongst members, and has been for over a decade. Tower Credit Union are offering loans on cash amounts from €500 - €2000 with a rate of 7.95% (@8.27%apr)* to help with the costs of the festive season.

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ELIFE MAGAZINE

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22-page LIFe suppLement



Page 51

HamsandwicH

Since releasing their fourth studio album, the trio decided to add an intimate acoustic show at Rua Red to their touring schedule.

Photo by Ruth Medjber

find us on



Fancy Dress

FUN AND GAMES AT THOMAS DAVIS GAA ACADEMY

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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U6 Girls with Kelly and Lisa



Coach Maeve with U5's



Michelle and Carmel



U6 Girls with Michelle and Sophie



Dan, Kevin, Mark, Ciaran and John with U6's



John with U6's



Elenanor with the U5 Girls



Stephen with U5's



Alex, Aaron, Michael and the U5's



U6 boys and girls with Natasha



U5's dressed up at the academy on Kiltipper Road

The Brave Collide

DUO RELEASE NEW LOVE SONG 'THE FIRST TIME'

by **Aideen O'Flaherty** / aideen@echo.ie

The looming industrial backdrop of Belfast city serves as an arresting vista in the music video for indie duo The Brave Collide's new single 'The First Time'.

Composed of Knocklyon native and former Celtic Woman singer Chloë Agnew and singer-songwriter and musician Brian McGrane, The Brave Collide has been making waves with their emotive music.

'The First Time' details the joy of finding your soulmate. It was written after Chloë and Brian attended a friend's wedding and were inspired by the love they saw.

Chloë, who splits her time between Dublin and Los Angeles, told *The Echo* about her work on The Brave Collide, her exciting future plans for the band, and her experiences in Celtic Woman.

How was the Brave Collide formed?

Myself and Brian first collaborated back in 2017 and at first we were just recording covers for fun, but we really enjoyed making music together and people responded really positively to what we were doing, so it inspired us to start working on some original music together. We released our first single 'Somebody Just Like You' this time last year and it's been a really rewarding first year for us. The idea for The Brave Collide was two worlds colliding and being brave enough to do something new together, so seeing positive things coming from it in our first year has put a fire in us to keep doing what we're doing.

You're a seasoned performer, having toured internationally with Celtic Woman. Does working in The Brave Collide feel like a gear-shift compared to your work in Celtic Woman?

It's a different world musically, yes, but a lot of the same graft and hustle still applies – if not more, to be honest. As The Brave Collide, we are independent artists and we do practically everything ourselves, so it's quite different in that you don't have the same support network and team of people that you would have working with the likes of a large-scale touring show like Celtic Woman. However, that makes everything so much more rewarding because you have a different creative freedom and control and it's so liberating to find the different doors it opens for you.

What's the biggest learning curve you had as a performer when you were in Celtic Woman?

Most people look at the music and entertainment industry and think it's a very glamorous job, and the majority of the time it's far from that. I was lucky growing up in an environment that taught me the highs and the lows first-hand, so I never saw the business through rose-tinted glasses, which I think is a trap a lot of young aspiring singers and musicians can fall into. Touring with Celtic Woman taught me what it takes to be able to tour for months on end, away from your loved ones and family, performing six shows a week in six different cities. It takes a certain kind of tenacity and strength that I'm glad I learnt at such a young age. In an ever-changing landscape, it has stood to me the older I get, venturing out into the industry on my own.

The Brave Collide's new single, 'The First Time', is an emotive folk ballad that centres on finding your soulmate. What was it like for you and Brian to create that song?

It's one of the songs I think we're most proud of, and it holds a very special place in both our hearts. We took inspiration from friends of ours who got married, and seeing their love allowed us to tell the story of anyone who knows that feeling of when you find your soulmate. Anytime we write or create something together, we pull from our own personal experiences, and this song poured out of us with such a specific storyline to write to.



The video for 'The First Time' was filmed in an empty trade centre in Belfast, with large windows showing the industrial appearance of the city as a backdrop. What appealed to you about having this as the location for the video?

We kind of found the location by accident – but a beautiful one at that. Myself and Brian decided we wanted the music video to be conceptually simple but effective, as we didn't want anything to distract from the story and sentiment of what we'd written, so when we discovered the Portview Trade Centre, immediately, we knew we'd found exactly what we were looking for. The light flooding through the windows in that big open space with Belfast city as our backdrop gave an industrial/urban yet classic look to the video. We also got to work with one of Belfast's best videographers Danny Mills, who filmed one of our other music videos, so we love working with him and we knew he could bring our vision to life.

What plans are in the pipeline for The Brave Collide?

We are currently getting prepped for our first Irish tour in late November with some of Ireland's finest talents, along with writing and finishing our debut album, which we're hoping to release next year. We're also excited to be planning a US tour for Spring of 2023 and lots of new music and videos over the coming months. You can keep up to date with all that we're getting up to over on www.thebravecollide.com, and you can find us on all social media platforms @TheBraveCollide.

All-Weather Facility Opens

AT COMMERCIALS GAA CLUB IN RATHCOOLE

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Sam Bailey and John Eagers on the new Ramp



Cyprion, Ger, John, Brian, David and Pat



John and Ann Eagers



Deirdre, Emer Higgins TD and Lorraine



Deirdre and Ger



John Eagers cutting the Ribbon with Ken O'Sullivan (Vice-Chairperson Dublin County Board) and Karl O'Brien (Dublin Camoige)



Louis Fitzgerald (7th from left) with Volunteers and Committee Members in Commercials



Ken O'Sullivan (Vice Chair Dublin Co Board) and Karl O'Brien (Dublin Camoige) with Committe members

> Real food doesn't have ingredients, real food is ingredients
>
> *Jamie Oliver*

Health & Fitness

HEALTHY FOODS



by **Lee Moroney** / info@coachapproach.ie

Healthy eating and physical fitness go together, but there are no magic foods that cause you to be one hundred per cent healthy by just eating the one food. No, you need a variety of foods from each of these food groups every day. It's also important to watch the portion size so as not to overeat. Make your mealtimes pleasant and relaxed occasions and your healthy foods will work effectively with your healthy emotions to give you a healthy body.

Berries

You may like all types of berries or just one or two favorites, but you can never go wrong by adding a few fresh berries as a quick energy snack or frozen berries made into a luscious smoothie in place of calorie laden desserts. Berries are high in vitamin C across the board, but some are high in other nutrients as well. Choose ripe blueberries for vitamin C and heaps of anti-oxidants for the health of your circulatory system. Gogi berries are less well-known but are wonderfully rich in many of the nutrients your body needs to be nutritionally and physically fit.

Citrus

The foods of the citrus family are widely recognised as a valuable source of vitamin C. Choose fully ripe citrus fruits for the best nutritional value and choose citrus as near to the tree as possible. Tree ripened fruits picked at the peak of perfection and consumed with hours of picking give you the top nutritional rating. Try grapefruit for breakfast. Add a dash of fresh squeezed lime to your salad as a dressing and enjoy slices of orange with coconut in a light honey dressing for dessert.

Vegetables

The variety of vegetables is amazing. For people who are vegetarian or vegan, choosing vegetables to be part of a nutritionally sound diet is a way of life. Your vegetable group provides many of the minerals required in a good diet. For example, you may realise that potassium is necessary for healthy nutrition. Many people claim the benefits of potassium found in a single banana. But did you know, you can also get adequate potassium in your diet by eating a stalk of broccoli? Try a salad of fresh young spinach topped with pine nuts and stirred with lightly cooked penne, feta cheese and a light vinaigrette dressing to create the perfect light luncheon meal.



LEE MOrONEy HAS BEEN COACHING ADULTS, TEENS AND CHILDREN FOR OVER 20 YEARS, SPECIALISING IN TUTORING FOR DDLETB IN SPORTS, ExERCISE AND FITNESS QQI LEVEL 5S, ALONG wITH MANY COMMUNITY EDUCATION COURSES AROUND wELLBEING. THE 1,450TH PERSON COMMENCED IN 2020 BY GETTING OFF THE COUCH FOR HIS 'COUCH TO 5kM' PROGRAMME — OVER 500 PEOPLE HAVE USED HIS ONLINE wEIGHT-LOSS PROGRAMME.

Whole Grains

Like many other of the best foods, choosing only one type of whole grain for your meals doesn't provide all the variety you need to be nutritionally sound. Often, mixing two or more whole grains together will give you complete proteins. For example, brown rice and wheat kernels with a spicy seasoning are a popular dish in many countries.

Salmon

Salmon is lean fish and nutritionally one of the best fish choices. It is rich in Omega-3 oils that are noted as helping improve the functioning of the brain. Salmon baked whole with just lemon or lime as a seasoning makes a fantastic main dish or a hearty luncheon featured menu item. Salmon is also commonly found in chilled seafood dishes.

Legumes

A legume is the name for a variety of fruits with a single dry seed. Legumes are sometimes called pods. Examples of edible legumes are soybeans, peas, dried beans and peanuts, among others. Legumes are rich in iron and high in fiber, making them excellent nutritional choices. Low salt and low sugar baked beans. I would also recommend Peanuts they are a type of legume that have been used to make hundreds of different products some edible and others with various types of helpful uses.

Nuts and seeds

Nature has packed a lot of goodness into small packages. Most everyone has heard of walnuts and pecans which are very good nutritional products, but did you realize that flax seeds are brain food-containing critical non-meat sources of the Omega-3 oil.

Lean proteins

The keyword here is lean. Chicken, 5% fat mince or trim all visible fat from your protein source, take the fat of rashers. Alternatively, use non meat substitutes such as the complete proteins found in vegetable dishes like beans and brown rice.

Tea

Depending on the type of tea you prefer, you can get an energy boost from a cup of green tea, or the calming effect of chamomile tea. Get going with mint teas or start your day with Earl Grey Breakfast Tea. Herbal teas are soothing, tasty and good for you. Non herbal teas will help you to stay alert when you need help to function.

Olive oil

Olive oil is probably the healthiest substance you can use to keep fat in your diet. You can use it on your salad, mix it with a little vinegar to create your own dressing, or fry foods in the hot oil. Just make sure that the temperature is not too hot so that the oil is broken down.

Quiz Night

FOR IRISH GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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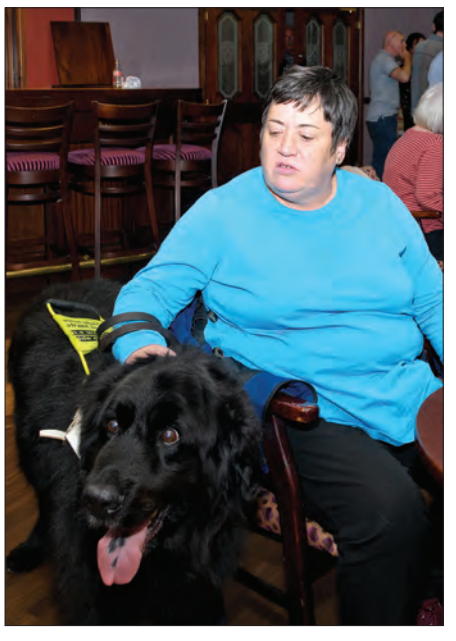
Joanne and Colm



Frank and Jacqui Neylon



Bill, Colin, Aidan and Stephen in St Jude's GAA Club



Tina Lowe and Forrest



Colette Collins and Sean Dunne



Andrew Doyle and Máire Curry with Ophelia



Laura Murphy with Ophelia



Bill Murphy and Family



Michael, John, Linda and Niamh



Paul Dawson, Angela Murphy and Michelle Hartigan



Paula and Aidan

> If it were easy to resist, it would not be called chocolate cake
>
> *Maryrose Wood*

Food with Passion

SCRUMPTIOUS STICKY TOFFEE BUNDT CAKE



by **John Paul Kennedy** / jpkennedy.kennedy@gmail.com

This is a fabulous Jamie Oliver recipe from his fantastic cook book 'Comfort Food' and a recipe I have been making for many years. The title of the book drew me in immediately and it's at this time of year I find, we all crave those warming and comforting recipes and this Sticky Toffee Bundt cake hits the spot! I've slightly adapted the recipe to my own taste but overall I've stuck to the original recipe. You don't have to make it as a Bundt cake, you can go old school and make as a tray bake but I think in Bundt form it looks pretty spectacular, especially when you serve it to guests. My brother adores sticky toffee pudding and it was on his request that I made it again for the first time in awhile and boy had I forgotten just how delicious it is. Yes, the cake is completely calorific (560 calories per serving) but I'm a firm believer in everything in moderation and a little bit of what you fancy does you good! The warm toffee sauce that accompanies the cake is simply to die for!

Ingredients:

2 standard tea bags / 4 earl grey (if your prefer)
450g Medjool dates (Already pipped are easier to work with)
1 teaspoon of cinnamon
½ teaspoon of nutmeg
170g of unsalted butter plus extra for greasing your tin/ tray
340g of self-raising flour
170g of golden or light brown sugar
170g dark muscovado sugar
4 large eggs
1 teaspoon of good vanilla extract
Pinch of good quality sea salt

Toffee Sauce

250g unsalted butter
125g dark muscovado sugar
125g golden or light brown sugar
300ml double cream
Splash of vanilla extract













John Paul KEnnEdy IS A SelF-TAugHT COOK And An AvId FAn OF COIleCTIng COOKerY BOOKS WITH A PASSIOn FOr gOOd Old-FASHIOned HOMe COOKIng. HIS PASSIOn FOr PrOPer FAMIlY COOKIng STeMS FrOM HIS grAndMOTHerS, WHO Were BOTH exCellenT COOKS, One OF WHOM WAS A TrAIned CHeF. **JP** PrOMISeS TO BrIng uS PlenTY OF FAMIlY-InSPIred reCIPeS And TASTY TreATS WHIle SHOWIng uS HOW TO geT THe BASICS rIgHT.

Method:

1. Preheat your oven to 180 degrees / 350 F/ gas Mark 4. Pop the tea bags into a jug and cover with 300ml of boiling water and leave to steep for 3 minutes.
2. Pop the dates, tea, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg into a food processor and leave to stand for 10 minutes before blitzing until you have a nice smooth puree. You might have to scrape down the mixture a few times to ensure you get the right smooth consistency.
3. Butter and lightly flour your Bundt tin or baking dish. In a large mixing bowl cream the butter and sugars together. Then beat in the eggs one at a time; then stir in the flour and fold into the puree date mixture. Pour the mixture into your tin and bake for 45 – 60 minutes (ovens do vary) until cooked – it's baked when a metal skewer comes out clean.
4. To make the sauce pop the butter and sugars into a saucepan and melt over a medium heat. Add the double cream and vanilla extract and bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and allow to simmer for 5 minutes until nice and golden.
5. If using a Bundt tin pop the cake out onto your serving dish and using a pastry brush paint the whole cake generously with the toffee sauce. This gives a lovely shine but will help to keep your cake moist and bouncy. If baking in a baking dish, poke small holes on the top and pour over one third of the toffee sauce mixture.
6. Serve with the remaining toffee sauce in a jug and with; double cream, vanilla ice-cream or custard whichever you prefer and enjoy.

This is quite a rich and heavy dessert so a little goes a long way but it's pure luxury in a bowl. I love hot and cold together so it's best to serve (in my view) the toffee sauce warm with cold ice-cream or cream and the moist sticky cake underneath and you are transported to dessert heaven. This is probably my favourite time of year to bake; I love warm, spiced comforting cakes and toffee is very seasonal coming up to Halloween. With that in mind and staying with that theme next week I am bringing you a delicious pumpkin risotto – perfect for this time of year!

Contact JP on:
Twitter: @JPKCooking
Email: JPKCooking@gmail.com
Instagram: jpkennedy.kennedy

Life Begins In Leitrim

THOMAS DAVIS PLAYER LAUNCHES NEW BOOK

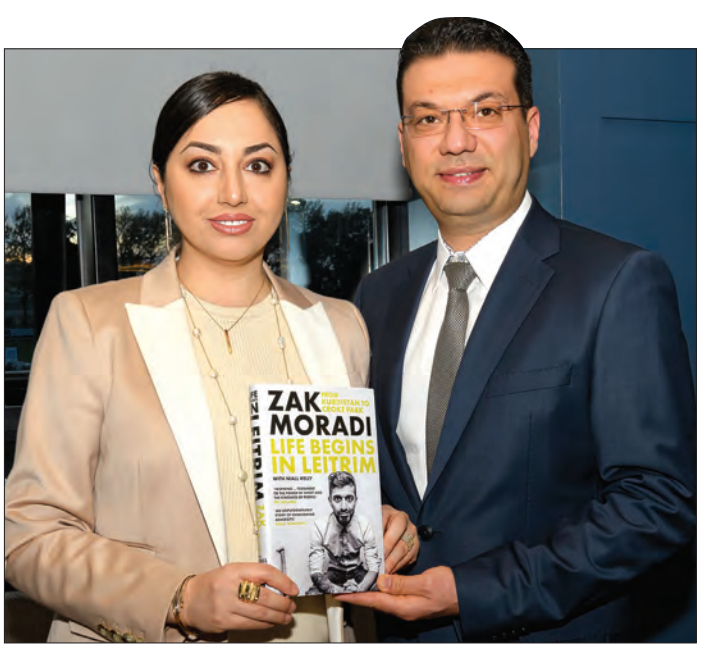
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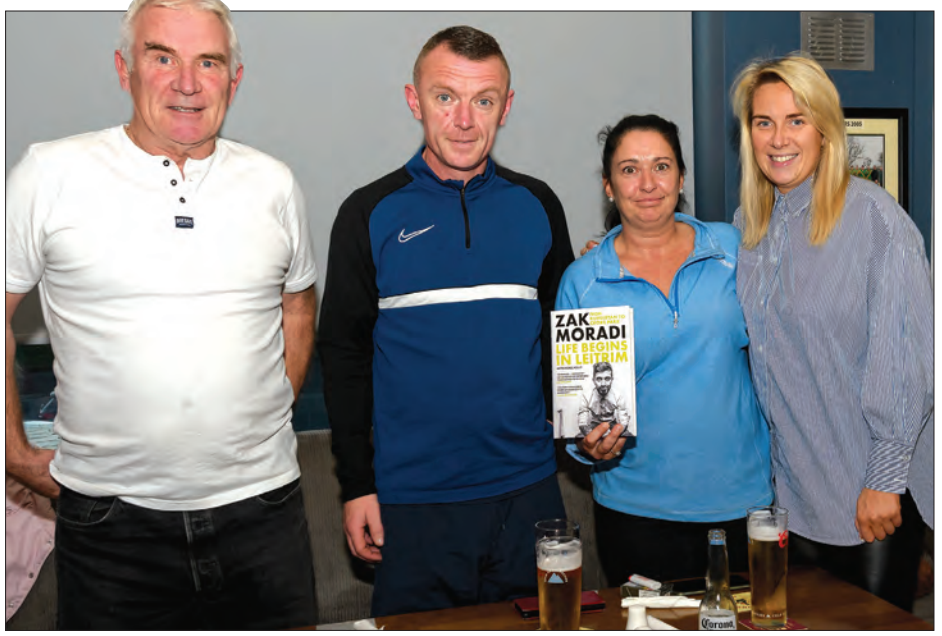
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Mairead and Stephen O'Neill

The Dead Letter Office

A MOVING PERFORMANCE AT THE CIVIC

by **Chase Blasius** / news@echo.ie

The play The Dead Letter Office, written by Mary-Lou McCarthy, will be at the Civic Theatre in Tallaght from October 26-28. This innovative and exciting new play for ages nine and up is geared around migration and displacement.

With primary school class numbers growing due to Ukrainian, Syrian and others currently seeking asylum this play presents an incredible opportunity for children to discuss this displacement and find a sense of belonging in a new place.

Not only did Mary-Lou McCarthy write the play, but she stars in it as well. She is a committee member of Theatre for Young Audiences Ireland, and she has received a Next Generation award from the Arts Council, among a number of other awards.

The story begins in the basement of a rural Irish Post Office, Elizabeth, a letter detective, sorts, redirects and investigates packages and letters that have lost their way. It is in a large box she finds a man who has posted himself from Syria. It is a truly moving experience that follows for the audience as they unearth his story, learn about his culture, and uncover their place in the world.

Brought to you by an award-winning creative team, this play uses the familiar world of postal deliveries and arrivals to explore why people are sometimes forced to travel across the world in search of a new home. A beautifully unique performance on connection and how we can find ourselves through others.

It took an enormous amount of work and care to bring this play to life, after two years of preparation, working with schools, children, creatives and experts in digital technology on the research and writing, it is finally ready to be seen.

Commissioned and developed in partnership with Ready, Steady SHOW! at The Civic. The Project is funded by the Arts Council and is Supported by Branar Meitheal. The 60-minute play encourages children aged 9+ to attend, tickets can be purchased online at civictheatre.ie



The Dead Letter cast members Mary Lou McCarty and Curtis-Lee Ashqar. Mary Lou also wrote the play *Photo Ros Kavanagh*

Ghost Stories

SPOOKY SOUTH DUBLIN

by **Abigail Glynn** / news@echo.ie

Spooky South Dublin and other Irish Ghost Stories is an event being held in Ballyroan Library on Tuesday, November 1 at 6.45pm. The ghost stories will be presented by local historian Tony Duffy.

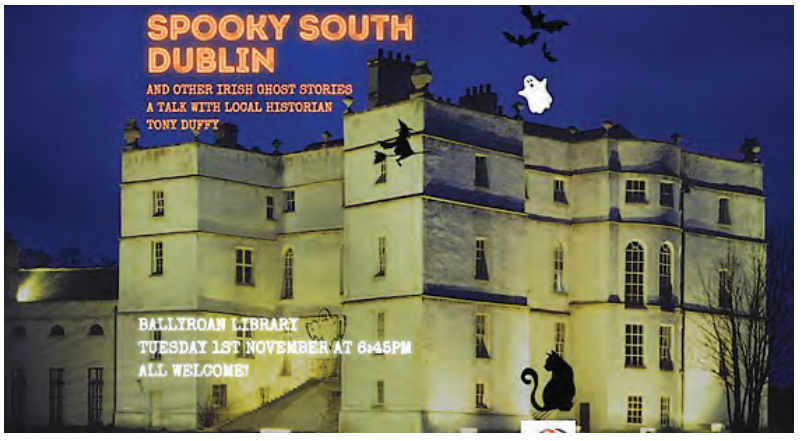
It is a free event. Booking is advised but not essential for this event. Please note that it is suitable for adults only.

This is a great social event to look forward too, especially as we reach the spooky months. It will give you an insight into local ghosts and their history, while also getting you into that frightening state of mind.

The legends surrounding the Hell Fire Club are probably South Dublin's most famous chilling tales, but there are plenty of other local ghoulish stories such as, the Ghost of Old Bawn House, the Phantom Dog and Ghostly Horses.

These fascinating ghost stories are sure to excite everyone. All are welcome.

For more information you can visit eventbrite.ie



HamsandwicH

COMES TO RUA RED

by **Chase Blasius** / news@echo.ie

IRISH indie-rock band, HamsandwicH, will be performing an exclusive acoustic lunchtime performance at Rua Red Theatre, in Tallaght on October 28.

Since releasing their fourth studio album 'Magnify', the trio decided to add the intimate acoustic show at Rua Red to their touring schedule. The groups frontwoman, Niamh Farrell, described this album as the bands "biggest evolution yet".

HamsandwicH had the pleasure of collaborating with numerous artists and producer Michael Heffernan for the critically successful album.

The band used an array of influences and electronic soundscapes while staying true to their distinctive style.

'Magnify' captures the lively and confident voice of the group and their commitment to push the limits with their music.

Alongside the group performing at Rua Red will be Anamoe Drive, the solo songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, Oisín Leahy Furlong. Oisín is best known as the frontman for Dublin psych-pop band THUMPER.

Presented by CWB, event tickets are €2 and can be purchased on eventbrite.ie



Science Experiments

DR NIAMH SHAW TALKS TO SACRED HEART SNS PUPILS



Amie, Leah and Jodie

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email **reception@echo.ie** or call 01-4685350.
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on ***echo.ie***



Pupils from Sacred Heart SNS during the talk



Michaela and Rachel



Ava and Abbie



Ms O'Donoghue with Nicole and Michaela



Divine, Liugia,Tori, Kayla and Ms Furlong



Mia, Isabella and Dr Niamh Shaw (Space reporter and Writer)



Max, Alicia and Zac



Cole, Alan, Jayden and Kai

Beyond Limits Shows No Limits

FREE TO BE ME'S INSPIRING PERFORMANCE

by **Chase Blasius** / news@echo.ie

Dancing with the Star's, John Nolan, from Tallaght, worked with the group Free to be Me, which performed at the event Beyond Limits, on October 15.

Presented by Paralympic Champion, Ellen Keane, and organised by the Ombudsman for Children's Office, Beyond Limits is an inspiring event for children with disabilities and their families.

Dublin City Ballet's, Free to be Me, is a group of dancers of all abilities. They worked alongside John Nolan and director Rebecca O'Brien Taylor for the past few months to put their performance together.

Before the performance, John Nolan said: "I'm a dancer of 30 years, and we all get caught up in what we think is important in life — trophies, competitions. But to see the girls take to the stage is amazing and so inspiring."

Rebecca added: "The girls have been doing a lot of practicing. The SNAs in school have been helping them, as have their parents. They have been absolutely brilliant."

The group of fifteen children, along with their families, traveled to the University of Limerick, where the event took place, to perform on the main stage in front of over 500 people.

Beyond Limits gives young people the opportunity to hear from children of all abilities as well as adults that have faced similar challenges to them. It is all about recognising the abilities and interests of children with disabilities.

The Ombudsman for Children, Dr. Niall Muldoon said: "Some families aren't sure what can be achieved if they have a child with a disability and this event shows what is possible.

"As a society, we're not doing enough for children with disabilities, and we need to do better."

Children who came to Beyond Limits also had the chance to try out lots of activities such as rugby, soccer, cooking, yoga, music, drama, table tennis, arts, crafts and gaming.

Events like these are so important for youth today, it serves as a reminder that they're not alone and that no disability can limit their potential.



John Nolan with some of the dancers

Top Student

CAOIMHE WINS AT NUI MAYNOOTH AWARDS

by **Abigail Glynn** / news@echo.ie

Maynooth University Department of Geography held its Prizes Evening on October 5, with prizes being awarded to the top students for both the 2020-21 and 2021-22 academic years.

One of the prize-winners was Caoimhe Currie from Lucan. Caoimhe won the prize for the best overall work in Physical Geography across the final year of the Geography undergraduate programme for the 2021-22 academic year.

Commenting on the Award, Caoimhe told *The Echo*: "I was actually very surprised to find out that I had won the award; I hadn't been the best student in school and struggled quite a bit in the first year of my degree, especially when the pandemic began right in the middle of it. I was delighted to receive the award because it meant that all my hard work had paid off and it proved to me that I could excel academically, which was something I had doubted."

Geography lecturer, Dr. Alistair Fraser, who presented the award to Caoimhe, said that she was a "really impressive" student, who was rigorous in terms of the background work she did for assignments, and who "writes very well".

Caoimhe is currently continuing her interest in Physical Geography, remaining within the Geography Department as a student on this year's MSc in Climate Change programme which interrogates how societies are responding to climate change, and how that response can be strengthened.



Lucan's Caoimhe Currie with her sister Sadhbh



Tánaiste Opens The Edge

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY IN BOLBROOK

Photos by **Mark Pollock**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email **reception@echo.ie** or call 01-4685350.

You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on ***echo.ie***



John Kearns, CEO of Partas Tallaght making a presentation to Tánaiste Leo Varadkar. With them are Bernard Bennett from Partas and Carroll Gibbons, Enterprise Ireland



Eoin, Tara, Emma, Andrea and Noel



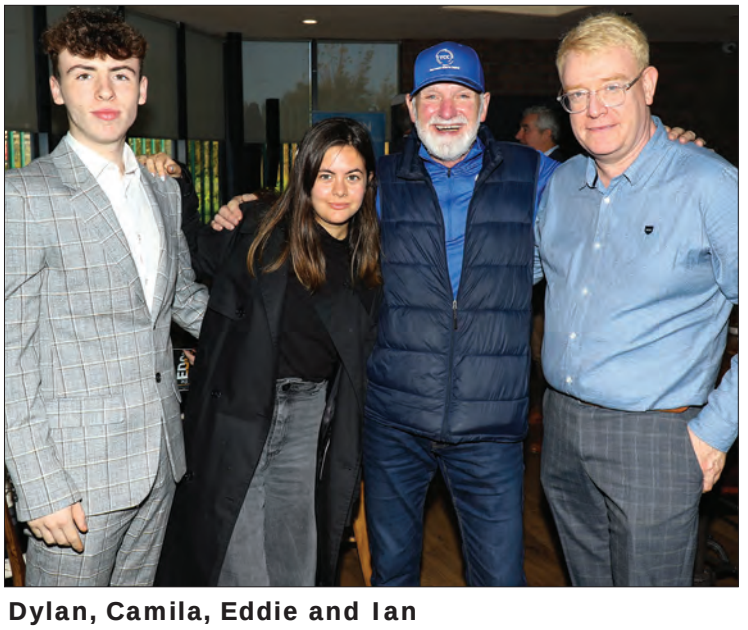
Tom, Keith, Amy and Marcus



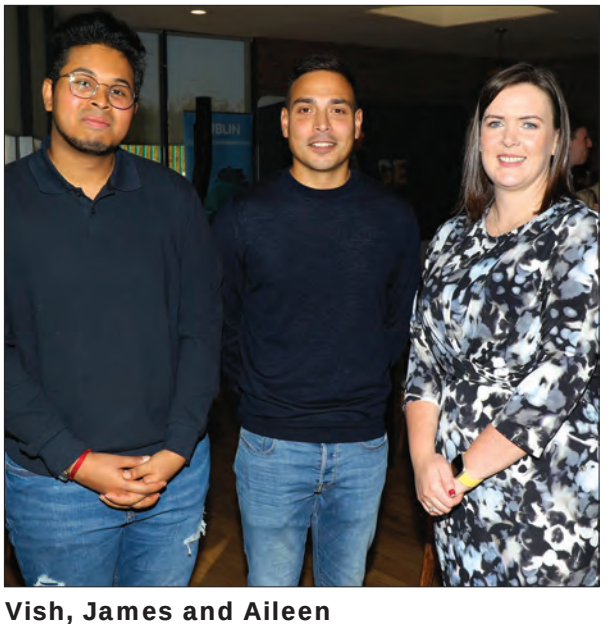
Tánaiste Leo Varadkar with Matt and Stef



Matteo and Hilda



Dylan, Camila, Eddie and Ian

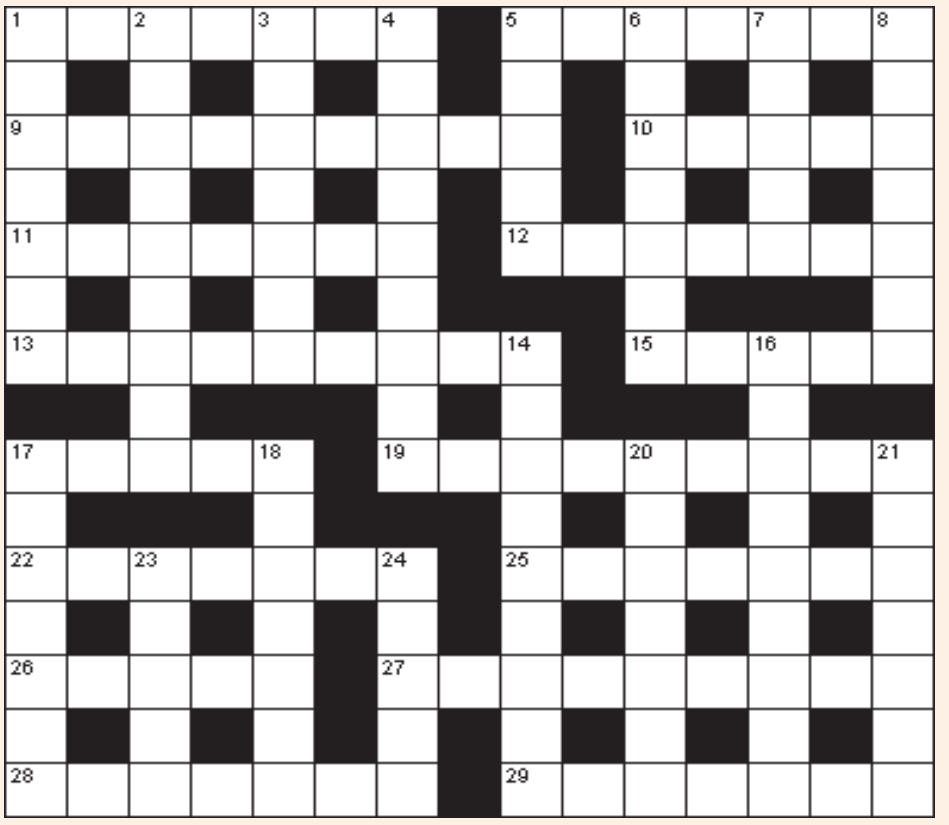


Vish, James and Aileen



Tánaiste Leo Varadkar unveiling the plaque

echocrossquiz Q2710



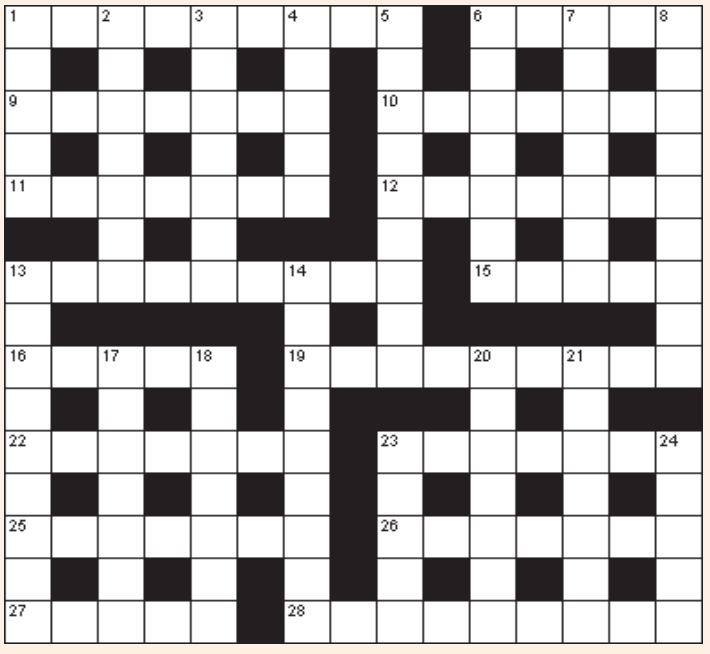
ACROSS

1. Helps (7)
5. A violent rotating windstorm (7)
9. Sweetheart (9)
10. Mixes (5)
11. Lean back (7)
12. Enduring strength (7)
13. Skin lotion (9)
15. Property brought by the bride in marriage (5)
17. Indian antelope (5)
19. Redemption (9)
22. A reminder of past events (7)
25. Layer (7)
26. Base 8 (5)
27. A feeling of being disliked and alone (9)
28. A financial supporter (7)
29. Greatest possible degree (7)

DOWN

1. Unfavorable (7)
2. Lustful (9)
3. Ancient clock (7)
4. Cowardly (9)
5. Pepperwort (5)
6. Sweetened mixture of milk and eggs baked (7)
7. Small African antelope (5)
8. Bliss (7)
14. It helps you see the stars (9)
16. Between the ribs and hips (9)
17. Court call (7)
18. Dumbfound (7)
20. Side by side (7)
21. Candidate (7)
23. Parisian subway (5)
24. Willow twig (5)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 2010



CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

SUDOKU 1

								7
3								
			2	3	4	9		
								6
4		9	8					2
2	1			5		7		3
	5	1		8				
	3		7					
			5	9				

SUDOKU 2

					2		3	
9	2		8	5				
1	8		7		6			
3								5
				9			6	2
	1	9					4	
	7	1	5					
	9				1	7	2	
						4		

ANSWERS

SUDOKU 1

8	3	2	6	7	9	4	5	1
5	9	6	4	8	1	7	2	3
4	7	1	5	2	3	6	8	9
2	1	9	3	6	5	8	4	7
7	5	4	1	9	8	3	6	2
3	6	8	2	4	7	9	1	5
1	8	5	7	3	6	2	9	4
9	2	3	8	5	4	1	7	6
6	4	7	9	1	2	5	3	8

SUDOKU 2

6	4	8	5	9	2	3	7	1
9	3	2	7	4	1	8	6	5
7	5	1	3	8	6	2	4	9
2	1	6	4	5	9	7	8	3
4	7	9	8	6	3	5	1	2
5	8	3	1	2	7	4	9	6
1	6	7	2	3	4	9	5	8
3	9	5	6	7	8	1	2	4
8	2	4	9	1	5	6	3	7

SUDOKU 1 SUDOKU 2

The Echo

Your Award-Winning Local Newspaper

Online and in Print - WINS AGAIN!

Best Facebook Small Business 2022

Following on from our incredible win at the Energia Family Business Awards 2021 and the three Awards we won at the 2021 Sockies (Social Media Awards) **The *Echo*** wins again!

2022 WINNER!

Facebook Small Business GOLD 2022 The *Echo* Newspaper

Best Small Family Business of the Year 2021

Twitter for a Brand In-house GOLD 2021 The *Echo* Newspaper

Facebook Small Business Silver 2021 The *Echo* Newspaper

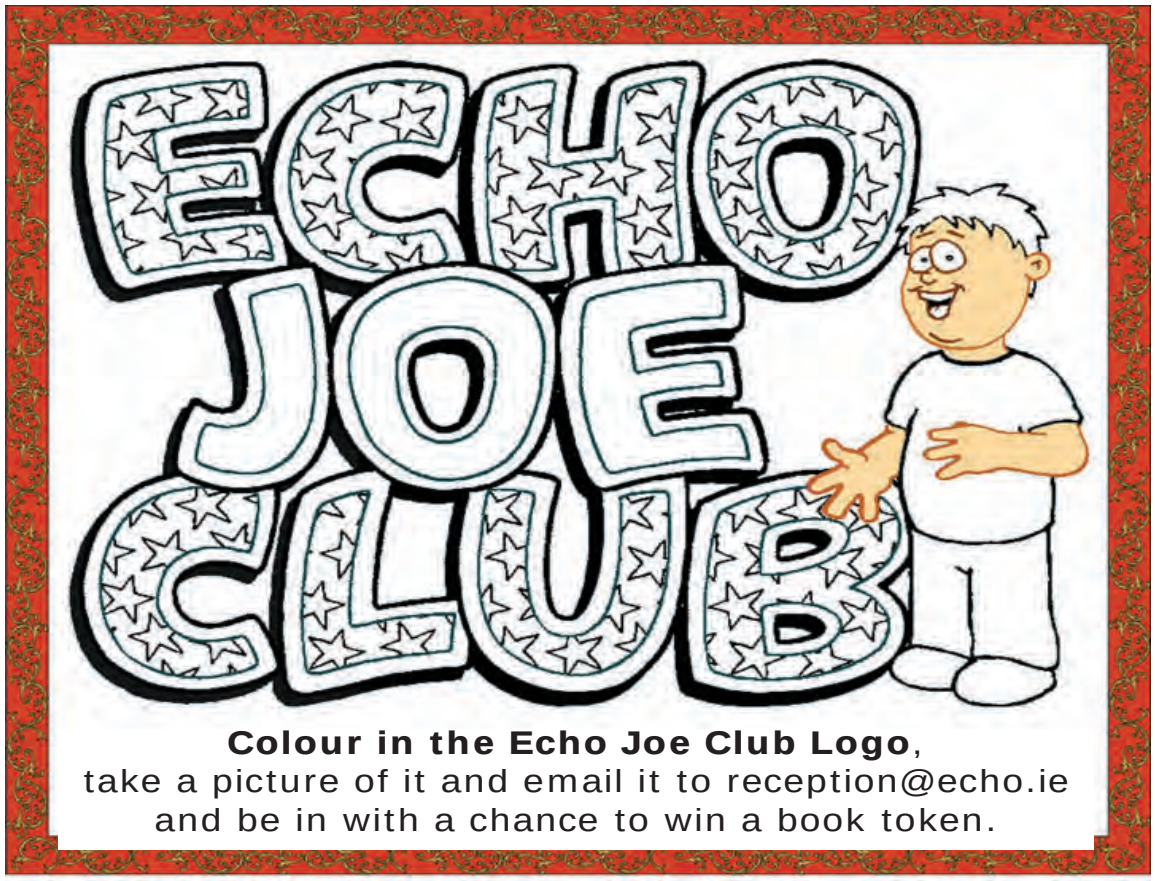
Instagram Small Business Silver 2021 The *Echo* Newspaper



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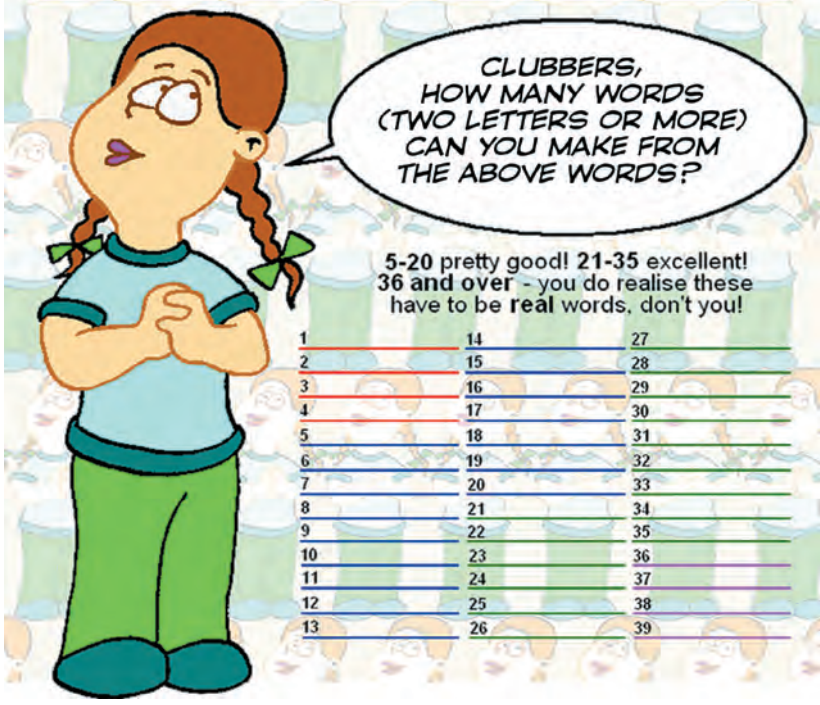
Read The Echo... be part of the story



Colour in the Echo Joe Club Logo, take a picture of it and email it to reception@echo.ie and be in with a chance to win a book token.

A Word with Echo So...

Mid Term Break



5-20 pretty good! **21-35** excellent! **36 and over** - you do realise these have to be **real** words, don't you!

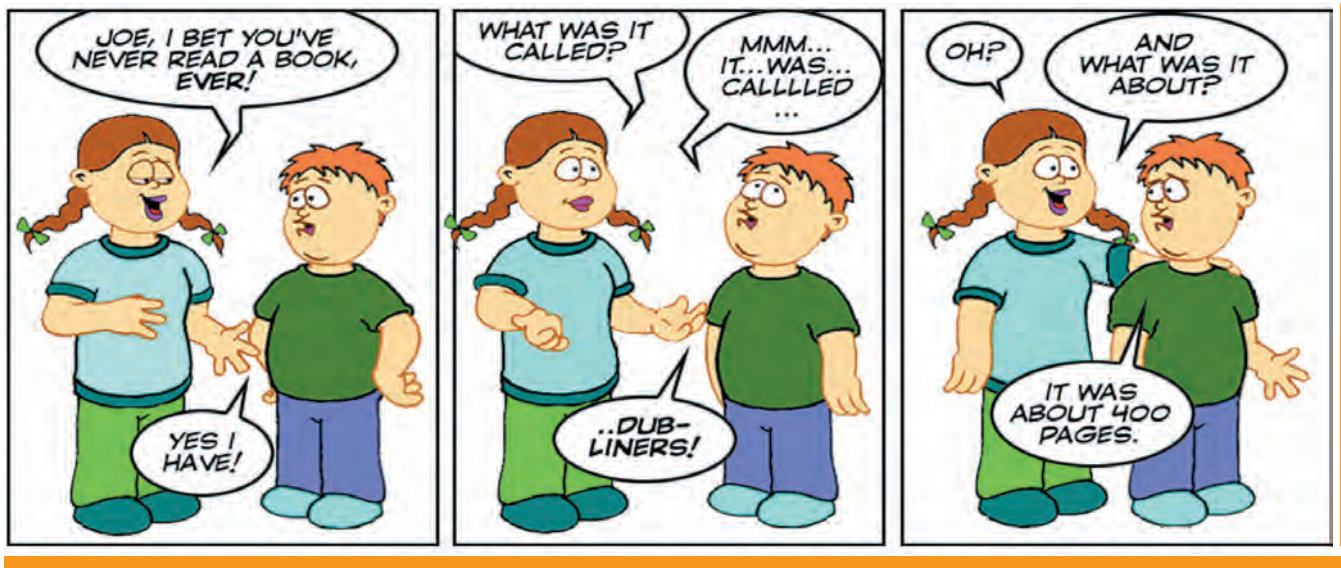
1	14	27
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7	20	33
8	21	34
9	22	35
10	23	36
11	24	37
12	25	38
13	26	39



HALLOWEEN word search

MUMMY	NIGHT	OWL	GHOST
VAMPIRE	CANDY	CAT	WEB
FALL	CROW	BAT	SCARY
COSTUME	ORANGE	FAIRY	PUMPKIN

M	F	Y	Z	R	A	Q	L	E	W	J	J	S	Y
L	S	A	S	C	G	G	M	F	A	I	R	Y	U
C	K	P	L	N	R	U	F	M	U	M	M	Y	T
A	O	H	L	L	T	O	P	V	P	S	S	A	U
N	Z	P	Q	S	O	S	W	N	N	E	C	Q	X
D	B	I	O	S	H	N	I	B	R	B	X	O	S
Y	R	C	E	P	D	K	Q	I	A	N	Z	R	X
D	E	V	Y	A	P	N	P	F	R	T	Z	A	W
L	S	H	J	M	D	M	I	I	Z	G	O	N	U
R	R	W	U	E	A	D	S	G	G	B	W	G	Q
K	X	P	S	V	B	B	J	T	H	L	L	E	Y
H	P	E	X	E	Y	W	M	C	O	T	C	R	G
G	Z	H	W	S	C	A	R	Y	S	S	K	O	F
Z	V	P	I	R	D	B	E	P	T	B	V	Z	S



Ruby Halligan 10 yrs old



Old Bawn

These 2 pages of Awesome, Amazon, Activities

Find the ten differences between the two pictures



COLORiNG BOOK



Halloween Projects!

Charlie Halligan 10yrs old



Aylesbury

Maisie Halligan 10yrs old



Aylesbury

Proud grandad Dermot Halligan, a member of St Dominic's DAMS, sent us these three pictures of his very talented grandchildrens' Halloween projects. well done to Ruby, Charlie and Maisie, they are spookingly brilliant!

winner



Molly Kenna, age 9, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Molly , your prize will be on the way to you soon.

are kindly sponsored by aws InCommunities

family notices

Important Notice
Items for publication for memorial pages must be in by 4pm Friday for next Thursday's paper

Tel: 468 5350
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ANNIVERSARY







McKeever, Pauline, Suzanne, Patrick & Carson.
Pauline's Anniversary occurs 30th October, aged 32 years.
Suzanne's Anniversary occurs 15th November, aged 6 years.
And remembering Patrick who died January 2009, aged 27 years.
And remembering Carson who died 22 July 2017, aged 5 months.
Remembering all four of you today and always. Late of Ballyfermot.
Also remembering Thomas McKeever & Maud Quinn at this time.

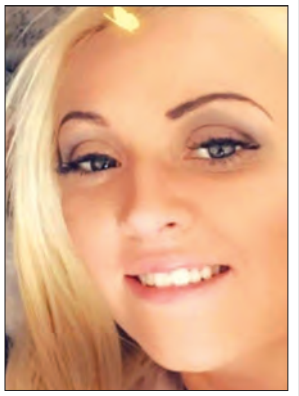
Please don't be unhappy,
Because I am out of sight,
Remember I am with you,
Every morning, noon and night,
The day I had to leave you all,
When my life on earth was through,
God picked me up and hugged me,
And said I welcome you,
When you're walking down the street,
And you have me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps,
Only half a step behind,
And when you feel that gentle breeze,
Or the wind upon your face,
That's me giving you a great big hug,
Or just a soft embrace,
And when it's time for you to go,
From your body to be free,
Remember where you are going,
You are coming home to me.
From your loving Husband/Father/ Grandfather. xxxx

Mam
Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartache,
When someone speaks your name,
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent are the tears that fall,
Living here without you,
Is the hardest part of all,
You did so many things for us,
Your heart was kind and true,
And when we needed someone,
We could always count on you,
The special years will not return,
When we were all together,
But with the love in our hearts,
You walk with us forever.
From your loving Children & Grandchildren.

Carson
We thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new,
We thought about you yesterday,
And days before that too,
We think of you in silence,
We often speak oyur name,
All we have are memories,
And your picture in a frame.
Miss you always from your loving Mum, Dad and Brothers.

A prayer from us, who love you,
A memory fond and true,
You will live with us forever,
Because we thought the world of you,
God called your names so softly,
And only you could hear,
And no one heard the footsteps,
Of angels drawing near,
The golden gates stood open,
God saw you needed rest,
His garden must be beautiful,
Cause he only takes the best.
Sadly missed from John McKeever and Maud's Family.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Price, Jade
Happy Heavenly 33rd Birthday Jade, occurs 1st November.
2nd away from home.

Sadly missed by her Mam Helen, Son Johnny, Daughter Alisha, Sisters, Niece, Grandad Frank, Uncle & Aunts & Family.
Rest in Peace

NOVENA

Miracle Prayer
Dear heart of Jesus I ask you this special favour (mention one) take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. Amen. say this prayer 3 days promise publication and favour will be granted never known to fail.
M.C.

ANNIVERSARY



Duff, Tony
11th Anniversary of our dear brother who died on 29th October 2011.

A special smile, a special face,
And in our hearts a special place,
Our memories we keep one by one,
Things you've said, songs you've sung,
They bring a smile, sometimes a tear,
But always a wish that you were here,
You're not just a memory or part of the past,
You're ours to remember as long as life lasts.
Sadly missed by your brothers and sisters, Jimmy, Noel, Philo (Philomena) Jacinta, Ellen, and Ann, brothers-in-Law Pete, Colin, Curt, Jimmy, sister-in-Law Cecelia, Nephews, Nieces and Grand-Nephews.

ANNIVERSARY



Price, Cis
9th Year away from home occurs 27th October.

Sadly missed by your husband Frank, Sons, Daughters, Grandchildren & Great-Grandchildren.

ANNIVERSARY



Bryan, Rosaleen (Roey)
19th Anniversary occurs 27th October.

In our thoughts daily, Forever in our hearts always. Herbie & L.E.N.D. and grandchildren E.R.R.A.L.A.

ANNIVERSARY



Byrne, John (Seanie)
4th Anniversary away from home occurs on 27th October 2022. Late of Bawnville Close, Tallaght.

Dad
Of all the gifts in life,
However great or small,
To have you as our dad
Was the greatest gift of all.
A special time, a special face,
A special dad we can't replace,
With an aching heart we whisper low,
We miss you, Dad, and love you so.
All our love your Children and Grandchildren.

ANNIVERSARY



Gilson, Thomas
2nd Anniversary occurs today the 27th October.

Remembering my husband on his second anniversary away from home
Thank you for your endless love,
That helps me through each day,
And thank you for the memories,
That never fade away,
Your the man that I loved,
And I was proud to be your wife,
And every day in some small way,
I celebrate your life,
And though it's sad to think about,
The way things were before,
When we're reunited,
It will be forevermore.
Missing you every day Thomas your best friend and wife Chrissie.

Remembering our Dad on his second anniversary away from home
To be heard, without saying a word,
To be hugged,when feeling blue,
To be understood, when feeling confused,
So rare was a dad like you,
Your loving smile, and gentle laugh,
Made all the difference in our day,
Your endless wisdom and timeless advice,
Always helped us find our way,
In you there was no equal,
You were in a class all of your own,
And because of all, the love you gave us,
We will never be alone,
It's an honor to have known you,
To have shared stories and dreams,
We will always think of you smiling,
No matter how tough life seems,
You're still special beyond compare,
Your heart so kind and true,
We wish that everyone on earth,
Could have a dad like you.
Your life was a blessing,
Your memory a treasure,
You are loved beyond words,
And missed beyond measure.
Love, Kieron, Tommy, Jessica, William and Elizabeth.

Dear grandad
You are not forgotten,
Though on earth, you are no more,
Still in memory, you are with us,
As you always were before,
We love and miss you dearly.
All your beautiful grandchildren who are making you proud every day.

May the winds of heaven blow softly,
And whisper in your ear,
How much we love and miss you,
And wish that you were here.
Missing our brother Thomas. Paddy and Mary.

NOVENA

Miracle Prayer
Miracle Prayer Sacred Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask for a very special one (mention favour). Take it dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your broken heart where your Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour and not mine. Say this prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. Never been known to fail. Thank You. **U.M.**

NOVENA

Angel Of Portugal
Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly. I offer you the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which he is offended. And, through the infinite merits of his Most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners. **P.R.**

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **F.T.**

family notices

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ANNIVERSARY



Peppard, Maura & Shay
Dad's 8th Anniversary occurred on the 25th of October.
Mum's 21st Anniversary occurred on the 26th of October.

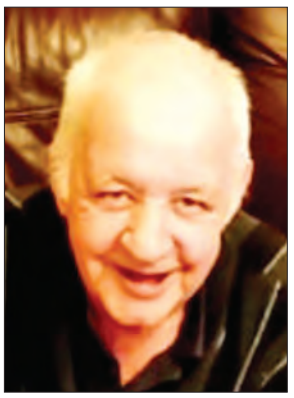
We look back in fondness every day,
At the joyful times we had,
No one could wish for such a perfect pair,
As our special mum and dad.
We are grateful for what you taught us,
And we're grateful for your love,
And we know that you watch over us,
From the heavens up above.
Although you're missed so dearly,
And so many tears we've cried,
It is so sweet and fitting,
That you sleep softly side by side.
You shared your love,
You shared your life,
Many precious times together,
Now you will spend eternity,
Hand in hand forever.
Sadly missed by your loving children Michelle, Ann, Leo, Margaret and Elizabeth, Sons-in-Law and Daughter-in-Law. xxx

Nanny and Grandad
They say that time will heal,
Now we know that's not true,
As years have passed,
And it still hurts without you in our lives.
Lots of love your Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren. xxx

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **F.T.**

ANNIVERSARY



Cousins, Tommy
2nd Anniversary away from home occurred 26th October.

Da
I thought of you today,
But that's nothing new,
I think of you in silence,
But often speak your name,
All we have are memories,
And your picture in a frame,
Your memory is a keepsake,
From which I'll never part.
Love you and miss you so much Da.
Forever in our hearts your heart broken son Terry, Pamela, Ryan, Lauren, Abi & Hallie.

ANNIVERSARY



Cousins, Thomas
2nd Anniversary away from home occurred 26th October.

Dad
There is not a day that goes by,
When I don't think about you,
All the times we shared together,
I love you and miss you,
Each and every single day,
You left a hole no one can fill,
But I will hold onto the memories,
And hold them forever in my heart,
I keep a little piece of you with me,
So we are never truly apart.
Love and miss you, Ray, Shauna & Lucas.

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein that you are my Mother.O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us that have recourse to thee. (3 times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times) **L.G.**

ANNIVERSARY



Kennedy, Joseph
35th Anniversary occurs November 2nd. Late of Mount Carmel Park, Firhouse.

No matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our hearts,
Is always kept for you,
Your name is often spoken,
We talk about you still,
You haven't been forgotten,
You know you never will.
Sadly missed by your loving family.

NOVENA

Novena to the Sacred Heart
Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your broken heart where your holy Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say prayer for 3 days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. **E.M.**

ANNIVERSARY





Savage, Margaret & Bernard
Margaret's 3rd Anniversary away from home occurs 30th October, also remembering our dad Bernard (Barney) whose anniversary occurs 10th November, late of St Maelruins Park.

As each day dawns, we think of you,
As each night falls, we pray for you,
And throughout our lives no matter where,
In our hearts you are always there.
Always loved and never forgotten from all the family. xxx

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein that you are my Mother.O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us that have recourse to thee. (3 times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times) **M.L**

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein that you are my Mother.O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us that have recourse to thee. (3 times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times) **M.L**

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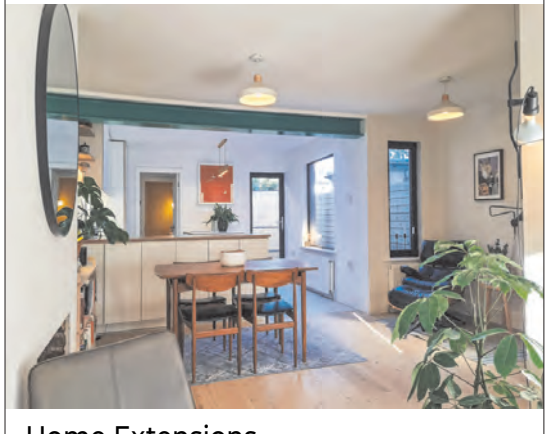
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planning notices

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South Dublin County Council
Aidan Brown is applying for permission to build a two Storey extension to the side of the dwelling and two Storey extension to the rear of the dwelling. A single Storey garage is proposed for the rear garden. Internal alterations will be carried out within the dwelling at 100 St Maelruans Park Dublin 24. This application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of South Dublin County Council during its public opening hours of 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday to Friday, and a submission of observation may be made to south Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee(€20) within the period of five weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
I, David Moyles intend to apply for planning permission for development at this site 46A St Joseph's Rd, Greenhills, Dublin D12 K036. The development will consist of: Attic conversion for storage with dormer window to the rear. Two new gable windows one in each gable. Two New Velux windows to the front roof area The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

South Dublin County Council
Lidl Ireland GmbH intends to apply for planning permission for a development at Old Court Road, Firhouse, Dublin 24. The development will consist of modifications to the ground floor layout and shop façade and will include for (a) the extension of the existing store with a total increased area of 95.91sqm, (b) the removal of the existing entrance/exit pod, (c) the removal of the existing trolley bay, (d) proposed free-standing trolley bay, (e) proposed accommodation works to store elevation, (f) accommodation works to car park area, (g) all ancillary works required to complete the required Building Regulations standard. The Planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. During its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.00pm,
and may also be viewed on the council's website - www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of (20.00 euro) within the 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

South Dublin County Council
We, Muintir Chrónáin Cuideachta Faoi Theorainn Ráthaíochta intend to apply for Retention permission for development at this site Áras Chrónáin, Ionad Cultúir, Bóthar an Ulloird, Cluain Dolcáin, Baile Átha Cliath 22, D22X856. The development consists of: Retention of Erection of New Electronic of 8 x 5.5ft sign which replaces Existing 9 x 6f wooden Sign inside the boundary wall on Orchard road side of site, in the curtilage of Áras Chrónáin (Protected Structure). The planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24 during its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9:00am to 4:00pm.,and may also be viewed on the Council's website – www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of €20 within 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

South Dublin County Council
I, Robin Petrie intend to apply for retention planning permission for development at this site 16 The Close, Boden Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 16. The development will consist of: Retention planning permission for front side garden fence for height above 1.2m The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

South Dublin County Council
I, Vasily Ogievsky intend to apply for planning permission for development at this site 15 Stocking Wood Drive, Stocking Avenue, Rathfarnham, Dublin D16XV02. The development will consist of: Attic conversion for storage with dormer window to the rear. With a Velux window to the front. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) ACTS 1963 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1977 TO 1994

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 21, 2022

S25421/15 21 Oct 2022 SECTION 254 LICENCE APPLICATION Additional Information
Applicant: Vantage Towers Limited
Location: Templeogue Road, Templeogue, Dublin 6W
Description: 15 metre high telecommunications street works structure.

SD22A/0114 18 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Petrogas Group Ltd.
Location: Applegreen, Naas Road Service Station, Tootenhill, Rathcoole, Dublin, D24DH00
Description: Electric fast charging hub and drive-thru coffee building (24/7 opening hours). 8 electric fast charging spaces to the west side of the site; drive-thru coffee building (167sqm) will contain a beverage area, seating area and back of house area (storage, lobby, toilets); single storey building with a maximum ridge height of 6m and a minimum ridge height of 3.6m; 3 signs on the building; ancillary development of refuse compound, 4 free standing signs, 1 free standing height restrictor, 1 substation(28.75sqm 3.075m high), 31 car parking spaces, internal vehicular access, internal circulation road, paving, pedestrian entrance with steps, landscaping, boundary treatment and all associated site works including pumping station. 13 existing car park spaces will be removed to facilitate the proposed.

SD22A/0141 20 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Maurice Lyons
Location: Brownsbarn, Lower Baldonnell, Co. Dublin
Description: Construct agricultural shed incorporating loose and storage areas; wall manure area; hardcore area and access roadway; upgrading existing entrance and all associated site works.

SD22A/0156 21 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Equinix (Ireland) Ltd
Location: Plot 100, Profile Park, Nangor Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22
Description: 10 year permission on a site is bounded to the east and south by Grange Castle Golf Club, to the north by Nangor Road (R134) and to the west by an estate road known as Falcon Avenue) for modifications to the permitted data centre granted under SDCC Reg. Ref. SD21A/0186 comprising the following, reconfiguration and alterations to the data centre building to include removal of front of house offices at third floor level, alterations to floor levels at second floor to provide consistency between front of house and data halls, parapet height increase of front of house to c.16.8m, provision of storage at second floor level in lieu of relocated internal generators to the external generator yard and associated elevational alterations; extension of loading dock at ground floor level by c.6osqm in area with minor height increase to c.5.3m; removal of 3 air plenums to the front (north) elevation and provision of screening to generator flues in lieu of omitted plenums; alterations at roof level to include removal of 2m high gantry screening; alterations to the permitted generator plant yard to the north of the data centre to include the removal of fuel tanks, reconfiguration of plant and generators, provision of 2 additional external generators (increase from 5 to 9 external generators), provision of 4 additional external plant rooms, provision of diesel pump tank cabinets and stepover, relocation of generator yard doors and enlarged generator yard to accommodate the proposed modifications; increase in plant areas by c.77sq.m; reconfiguration of plant within the permitted chiller plant yard to the south of the data centre; removal of 1 sprinkler/water tank and removal of stairs and door to the side of the waste compound; reconfiguration of car parking and motorcycle spaces and removal of 1 accessible space. 64 total number of car parking spaces; the proposal also includes provision of on-site gas power generation compound (c.2,604sq.m in area) in the area previously reserved for a future data centre; the compound comprises 7 modular plant rooms (totalling c.180sq.m in area), 10 gas fired generators and associated flues c.14.7m high, gas skid, associated modular plant, boundary treatment surrounding the compound c.6.5m high and 2 vehicular access points including general and emergency access; all associated site development works, services provision, drainage works, access, landscaping and boundary treatment works; no buildings are proposed above the existing ESB and SDCC wayleaves to the west and north of the site; the overall Gross Floor Area of the development is reduced by c.44sq.m to c.9,795sq.m from previously permitted under SDCC Reg. Ref. SD21A/0186; the application is accompanied by a Natura Impact Statement.

SD22B/0149 20 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Robert Reilly
Location: 19, Birchview Avenue, Dublin 24
Description: Construction of a new single storey, pitched roof, home office and games room (44.9sq.m) and all associated site works to the rear garden.

SD22B/0250 17 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Alan Merriman & Angela Gaffney
Location: 5, Ellensborough Lawn, Kiltipper Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24
Description: The proposed development includes the demolition of an existing single-storey extension and construction of a part-single-storey, part two-storey extension to the rear of 5 Ellensborough Lawn, Kiltipper, Dublin 24, D24 N2RF. the extension is to be flat roofed with a parapet, with a rooflight over the ground floor part. The finish of an extension will be white sand and cement render. The proposal includes associated site works.

SD22B/0343 18 Oct 2022 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Roisin Keating
Location: 24, Ferncourt Close, Firhouse, Dublin 24
Description: Alteration and addition to existing dwelling to include two storey front and rear extension.

SD22A/0392 18 Oct 2022 Permission New Application
Applicant: Liffey Valley Management Limited
Location: Liffey Valley Shopping Centre, Fonthill Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22
Description: Relocation of the existing customer service desk (c. 16sq.m) permitted under Reg. SD19A/0197 from the Yellow Entrance Mall of the Central Rotunda to a new location at the junction of the West Mall and the Central Rotunda and all ancillary site development works.

SD22A/0393 19 Oct 2022 Permission New Application
Applicant: Danielle Whelan
Location: 11 Esker Cottages, Esker South, Lucan, Co. Dublin.
Description: Construction of a 1.5 storey, 3 bedroom detached, dormer bungalow to rear garden of existing dwelling; site works proposed including modification to shared vehicular entrance and boundary walls to separate new access road to site at rear of existing dwelling; landscaping and associated site works including new soakaway; existing bungalow to front and new proposed dormer bungalow to rear to be separate sites.

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Thursday, October 27, 2022

Magnificent Hoops secure 3-in-a-row league titles



Stephen Bradley be delighted with his side's success Inset: Andy Lyons played a key role for Shamrock Rovers this season

FOLLOWING their coronation as three-in-a-row SSE Airtricity League Premier Division champions, Shamrock Rovers will return to UEFA Europa Conference League action against Belgian outfit Gent at Tallaght Stadium this evening (kick-off 8pm).

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

After Derry City could only manage a 0-0 draw against Sligo Rovers on Monday, it was confirmed that the Hoops were to secure a top-flight crown for the third season in succession. This is a magnificent achievement for Jobstown man Stephen Bradley and his Rovers squad, who have replicated the feat of the famed Shamrock Rovers team of the 1980s.

That side went on to win a fourth successive league crown under Dermot Keely in 1986/87 (Jim McLaughlin had steered them to three titles before that) and that will be the challenge for Rovers come next season.

When Derry pay a visit to Tallaght in the Premier Division this Sunday evening (kick-off 7pm), there is expected to be a carnival atmosphere in the ground. Bradley had hoped to seal the club's latest league triumph on the field of play, but he will undoubtedly take great satisfaction from adding another major trophy to his list of honours as first-team manager.

He had high aspirations coming into this season's Conference League and even though qualification for the knockout stages of this third-tier competition is now beyond their reach, he will want his troops to lay down a marker for what they plan to accomplish in Europe next season.

While Rovers lost out to Molde in Tallaght a fortnight ago, this was their first defeat in six home European games in 2022. Indeed, their performance on more familiar terrain was far greater than the one they produced in losing out 3-0 to the Norwegians at Aker Stadion a week earlier and some key decisions went against them on their way to suffering a 2-0 reversal.

Gent also had three goals to spare when the two sides met at the Ghelamco Arena on September 15, but back-to-back losses to Djurgardens shows there is some vulnerability with the Belgian ranks. This also means Hein Vanhaezebrouck's charges will be fired up for their trip to Dublin and it therefore represents a great challenge for the Hoops.

While Bradley might have been planning to hold some of his star names in reserve for the Derry game, the fact that Rovers are now guaranteed to finish at the Premier Division summit gives the former Arsenal youth free rein when it comes to selecting his match-day squad.

Though they can't progress beyond the group stages, there is still plenty of reason for Rovers to be motivated coming into this game. For one, it will be their final home European fixture of 2022.

With impressive outfits like Ludogorets and Ferencvaros having been defeated in Tallaght already this year, the domestic giants will believe they are capable of another big result. Rovers are also the only team left in the competition who are yet to register a goal and this is something the 20-time Premier Division champions will want to rectify.

Commercials triumph over Lucan in final

JACK O'Keefe and Diarmuid Ó Dúlaing produced stellar displays at O'Toole Park on Sunday morning to guide Commercials towards a comprehensive 3-21 to 1-11 triumph over Lucan Sarsfields in the Dublin Junior 'A' Hurling Championship final *reports Daire Walsh*.

Having suffered an agonising defeat to St Patrick's, Palmerstown in last year's Junior 'B' decider at Glenaulin Park by the narrowest of margins (1-8 to 0-10), the Rathcoole side weren't going to let another opportunity pass them by.

Though it could have been a steep learning curve, Commercials readily embraced life in the top-tier junior grade. Thanks to consecutive group stage victories over St Mark's, Skerries Harps, Kevin's, Cuala and Good Counsel/Liffey Gaels, Colin Martin's outfit were afforded home advantage for their quarter-final duel against Ballinteer St John's.

Following a 1-24 to 0-12 success in that last-eight encounter, Commercials defeated St Peregrine's on home soil in the penultimate round with 18 points to spare (2-23 to 0-11).

Lucan also enjoyed an unbeaten march to this showpiece affair and were yet to suffer a competitive loss in 2022. Courtesy of 10 wins and one draw, the 12th Lock men secured the Dublin Adult Hurling League Division Five title with considerable aplomb.

Commercials were competing two divisions ahead of Lucan in AHL3, however, and recorded a respectable fifth-place finish with five wins, two draws and fourth defeats. While the main priority of gaining promotion to the intermediate championship had been achieved by both sides, a shot at silverware was at the forefront of their minds in the Kimmage venue.

Yet it was Commercials who controlled the tempo of the play from very early on with O'Keefe and Ó Dúlaing at the forefront of their efforts. The Collegeland outfit established a 2-11 to 1-3 buffer by half-time and never looked back from there.

Though O'Keefe (2-3) and Ó Dúlaing (1-5) led the way for Commercials in the scoring stakes, Adam Drewett and David Dungan also chipped in with some excellent points over the course of the contest. Adam McCabe, Kyle Butler, Gearóid Keogh and Cormac Ó Nualláin also added their names to the scoresheet, whilst the likes of Callum Morris and Éanna Ó Nualláin ensured the Lucan attack were never allowed to enjoy a purple patch in the action.

Rory Stapleton, Rob Ward and Sean Harkness more than held their own for Lucan, who can still reflect positively on the season as a whole.

Third place for Jack



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St Anne's claim U14 title



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Gaels topple Anne's in final



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Hurling

Heavy defeat for Davis's in final

DESPITE a commendable effort over the course of the action, Thomas Davis fell to a 0-21 to 0-5 defeat at the hands of Portobello in the Dublin Junior 'G' Hurling Championship final at Kiltipper Road on Sunday *reports Daire Walsh.*

After losing out to St Monica's in last year's semi-final on a scoreline of 5-11 to 2-11, Davis were hoping to go a step further in 2022 and progress up the hurling ladder. While the Tallaght men did lose out to Portobello in a home Group One encounter on August 12 (3-20 to 2-10), victories at the expense of Stars Of Erin, St Jude's, Ballyboden St Enda's and O'Dwyers were enough to give them a second place finish in the final standings.

This helped to set up a quarter-final duel against St Oliver Plunkett's/Eoghan Ruadh on September 25, a game Davis won with a single point to spare (3-12 to 2-14). The Kiltipper men had another narrow win over Lucan Sarsfields in the last-four - 2-6 to 0-9 - which seemingly left them battle-hardened ahead of their showdown with Portobello.

Based out of Leinster Road in Rathmines, Portobello emerged from Group One with five successive victories and comfortably overcame the challenge of the nearby Kevin's on a score of 6-12 to 0-5 at the quarter-final stage. They were even more emphatic in the penultimate phase of the competition, defeating Na Fianna 6-18 to 0-4 at St Mobhi Road.

Although the fact Portobello were conceding very few scores was undoubtedly on their minds, Davis were also wary of the threat posed by their opponents in attack. Niall Maloney was operating as a sweeper deep inside the home team's defence and this helped to curtail a Portobello side that registered 27 goals in this year's competition.


Thomas Davis were defeated by Portobello

Still, the 2021 Junior 'H' Championship winners were able to pick off scores when needed and brought a convincing 0-10 to 0-4 buffer into the break.

Portobello continued to ramp up the pressure after the resumption and even though Naoise Condren, Mark Kinsella and Niall Devine more than held their own in defence, Davis couldn't halt the march of their Dublin 6 counterparts.

However, while it may have had a disappointing ending, it was a good season overall for this Thomas Davis side and they can now look forward to joining Portobello in the 2022 edition of the Dublin Junior 'F' Hurling Championship.

Davis U15's capture Division 10 shield

Thomas Davis U15B girls captured the Division 10 Shield last Saturday on Kiltipper road by beating St Maurs on a scoreline of 4.5 – 2.3.

It was an end to end game in the first half with plenty of chances for both teams, Aimee O Donovan got the first score of the day with a fantastic run from midfield and fired the ball into the back of the net, she added another goal and a point a short time later, the girls from Rush responded with a goal and a point before Saoirse Stanley popped over a fine point.

St Maurs finished the half strongly to leave the half time score 2.2 – 1.1 in favour of the Thomas Davis girls.

Maurs got the first goal of the second half but super defending from Layla Kenny an fine goal keeping from Eabha Maguire kept the defence tight.

Sisters Aimee and Ava Finn worked hard to get the ball out of defence to the midfield pairing of Jessica Cusack and Eve Alderby who worked tirelessly to feed the ball to the forwards.

Molly Kavanagh played a big part in holding possession and gave a great hand pass to Lucy Dalton who placed the ball past the keeper for another fine goal, Lucy then added a point to edge her team futher in front. With an injury to the Thomas Davis keeper Zoe Kavanagh stepped between the post, she made a fine save off the line to keep her team ahead.

Maurs got 2 points in a row but Davis's caught them on the break with another goal from O Donovan and a point from substitute Aisling Philips, this secured the win for the TD girls.

This team has really progressed this year, they reached the Feilefinal back in April, winning this shield is just rewards for the hard work the girls put in throughout the season.


Thomas Davis U16's

Davis girls take title

The Thomas Davis U16's (2006) ladies football team headed to Castleknock for the Division3 Championship shield final in good form having beaten Westmanstown in the Semi-final 2 weeks prior. Adam Kelly was the match official for this game.

The game started with Castleknock getting an early foothold with 2 points before the Tallaght ladies could reply, Davis then got their shape with Cpt Mia Flood organising from Center half back. Davis turned the tide with some great attacking football which paid off as the Tallaght ladies went in at half time 5-3 to 0-6 .

The second half started like the first with Castleknock hungry to get back in the game, but the Thomas Davis defence was up to the challenge closing attack after attack by Castleknock with a brave and industrious performance putting everything on the line for their team.

The Davis attack tacked on a couple more scores to close out the game finishing 7goals 7points to 1goal 10 points to Thomas Davis.

Thomas Davis panel: Abbie Whelan, Hannah Dillon Richie, Erin Dalton, Caoilfhinn Stokes, Faye Masterson, Mia Flood(Cpt), Kirsten Hamilton, Keeley Lynch, Laura Swan, Alannah Sage, Ellie Haverty, Natasha O Neill, Erica Mooney, Katelyn Mackenssey, Sarah Mahon, Ciara Nugent, Cara Dalton, Grace Leigh, Sophie Palmer, Georgia Kirwin

Scores coming from: Keeley Lynch, Natasha O Neill, Katelyn Mackenssey, Cara Dalton, Alannah Sage, Mia Flood and Ellie Haverty.

Mary's ladies take shield

The old adage of 'goals win games' proved to be the case at 12th Lock on Saturday as St Mary's, Saggart secured the Dublin Ladies Football U15 Division Six Shield with a 8-2 to 1-8 final victory over Lucan Sarsfields.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

En route to this showpiece affair, both teams were forced to dig deep before recording semi-final wins. On their home patch of Saggart on October 8, Mary's had just three points to spare (4-5 to 2-8) over a well-drilled Garda/Westmanstown Gaels side.

Lucan were also afforded home advantage for their last-four encounter with Ballinteer St John's 'B' on the same day. The visitors largely gave as good as they got in 12th Lock, before Sarsfields eventually recorded a 3-7 to 3-5 win.

Playing a second successive knockout game at home was an ideal scenario on paper for Lucan and they started the action in fine form. However, Mary's responded with a penalty from captain Sadhbh Walsh and never looked back from that point.

Walsh also converted a spot-kick in the second half and grabbed a third goal to mark an outstanding individual performance. She wasn't alone in claiming a hat-trick on the day as Davina Strumble finished with an excellent haul of 3-1 to her name.

There were additional goals from Hannah Walsh and Mia Norman, with the latter also chipping in with a fine point. Although raising the green flag on eight occasions is notable, keeping Lucan to a solitary goal of their own was also commendable from Mary's.

Amongst a strong defensive unit, Eabha O'Callaghan and Emily Condon cut off the Sarsfields supply line and launched a series of attacks at the opposite end.

There was some disappointment for the Thomas Davis U15 'A' side at Kiltipper Road on Saturday as they lost out to Na Fianna on a scoreline of 2-14 to 3-7 in a Division Two Shield decider.

However, their U15 'B' team did enjoy success at the same venue in the form of a 4-5 to 2-3 win against Naomh Maur 'B' in a Division 10 Shield final. This was the first of two triumphs for Davis in the juvenile ranks over the weekend, with their U16s recording a 7-7 to 1-10 victory at the expense of Castleknock in a Division Three Shield showpiece at Somerton Park on Sunday.

GAA

Late goal from Feely seals victory for Enda's

A LATE goal from Shauna Feely at the National Games Development Centre in Abbotstown on Sunday helped Ballyboden St Enda's to secure the Dublin Minor Camogie Division One Championship crown on a score of 3-12 to 1-15 against Lucan Sarsfields.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

Having found themselves 10 points adrift at one stage in the action, Lucan displayed tremendous character to get back on level terms. 'Boden were coming under intense pressure, but Feely shook the net to determine the outcome of the contest in dramatic fashion.

Lucan were hoping to make it a perfect weekend for minor camogie in the club, following their 'B' side's impressive 3-7 to 2-6 win over Commercials in the Division Five Championship decider at Abbotstown on Friday. It began brightly for Ollie Mahon's charges with two unanswered points, before 'Boden eventually gained a foothold in the play.

Squeezed in between points from Ella McNair and Aine Rafter, Ruby Hynes bagged a close-range goal for Cathal Fitzgerald's Firhouse Road side. Despite responding with their third point of the game, 'Boden rattled off 1-5 without reply to move into a double figure lead on the stroke of 20 minutes.

Leonie Power (two), Rafter, McNair and Hynes raise white flags in this spell to perfectly compliment a goal from Hannah Byrne at the end of a subsequent attack. McNair, Power and Feely also split the posts in the closing stages of the opening period, but Lucan did grow in confidence the longer the action wore on.

Along with a host of her club-mates - including Hannah Gibbs and Cliodhna Ní Bhuachalla - Sinead Daly was part of this year's Dublin minor camogie final. She was to finish this game with a personal haul of 10 points and her dead-ball prowess helped to ensure Lucan had cut their deficit to seven (2-10 to 0-9) by the interval.

Daly's talents extend well beyond free-taking, however, as she contributed four points from general play in this top-tier showcase. 0-3 without reply on the resumption bolstered Lucan's prospects and while Feely and McNair (free) points saw 'Boden re-establishing their authority, their opponents were building serious momentum.

In addition to Daly's superb tally, Gibbs (two), Aoibheann Stokes (two) and Sophie McIntyre also raised white flags. Lucan's deficit was then wiped out inside second-half stoppage-time when a long-distance Gibbs free drifted all the way into the net.

This looked like being a hammer blow for 'Boden - who were close to conceding a goal moments earlier when custodian Enya Kennedy turned away a fierce Stokes strike - but they kept their composure in time for Byrne to release Feely for a clinical finish in the dying embers of the play.

Basketball

Disappointment

THERE was disappointment for Griffith College Templeogue and DBS Éanna in the InsureMyVan.ie Men's Super League last Saturday, following their respective defeats at the hands of EJ Sligo All-Stars and Belfast Star.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

Having recorded back-to-back wins against Bright St Vincent's and the aforementioned Belfast Star, Templeogue were hoping to extend their winning run against EJ Sligo at the National Basketball Arena.

It seemed to be going according to plan for the hosts early on, with eight points from Neil Randolph helping them to develop an 18-17 cushion at the end of the first-quarter. While Sligo subsequently gained a stranglehold and led by 11 points (31-20) with just over seven minutes to go until half-time, Templeogue rallied superbly to leave the sides on level terms at 45-45.

Just as he had done in the opening quarter, Randolph registered a brace of three-pointers to galvanise the Templeogue challenge. Francis Mulvihill, James Gormley and Luke Thompson also shone to keep the southsiders well in contention.

Although the teams remained evenly matched on the resumption, Sligo brought a slender one-point cushion (69-68) into the final-quarter and eventually succumbed Templeogue to a 97-90 reversal.

While Thompson (23) and Randolph (21) passed the 20-point barrier, Mulvihill (16) and Gormley (15) also featured prominently in the scoring stakes. Next up for 10th-place Templeogue is a short trip to Ballyroan on Saturday to face DBS Éanna at 7pm.

Darren McGovern's eighth-place side will be aiming to rediscover their own winning form after losing out 87-67 to Belfast Stars on the road at De La Salle College. 24-13 behind at the end of the first-quarter, Éanna gave themselves a fighting chance of success by reducing their deficit to three points (43-40) at half-time.

The Belfast men had outstanding performers in Maximilian Cooper and Max Richardson, however, and developed a 73-47 third-quarter advantage that proved too much for Éanna to overcome. Nevertheless, Marko Tomic did record 17 points in defeat for the visitors, with Sean Jenkins and Romonn Nelson (13 points apiece) providing strong support.

Meanwhile, having suffered three straight losses in Men's Division One, Abbey Seals Dublin Lions finally got off the mark with a 93-85 triumph against Portlaoise Panthers at St Mary's Hall.

There was little to separate the sides throughout – it was level-pegging moving into the final-quarter – but a combined haul of 75 points from Kevin Obasuyi, Ringo Dau and Tiernan Howe helped to get the Lions over the line and into 10th spot in the table. Next up for them is a home encounter with Limerick Celtics at Colaiste Bride in Clondalkin this Saturday at 7.30pm

Conceding ground

AHEAD of their meeting at Oblate Hall in Inchicore this Saturday at 7pm, Griffith College Templeogue and Oblate Dynamos conceded ground in the MissQuote.ie Women's Division One table last weekend *reports Daire Walsh.*

After losing their first game of the campaign at the expense of Abbey Seals Dublin Lions seven days earlier, Templeogue were hoping for better fortune against the high-flying McEvoy's Cavan Eagles on Saturday. The Breffni side had an unblemished record from their opening three fixtures of the new season and were a single point in front (16-15) heading into the second-quarter at the National Basketball Arena.

The hosts subsequently moved ahead with the help of fine baskets from Lynn Tunnah and Aoife Whelan, but Cavan nevertheless brought a 35-32 buffer into the half-time break.

Despite threatening to pull away, the visitors were pegged back by five consecutive points from Tunnah at the start of the final-quarter. Templeogue even found themselves in the ascendancy in the closing stages, but their Ulster counterparts held their nerve to eventually record a fourth successive win on a scoreline of 73-63.

Individual tallies of 23 and 13 points from Tunnah and Whelan respectively had kept sixth-place Templeogue in the reckoning throughout and they will need big displays out of this duo if they are to get the better of Oblate Dynamos this weekend.

The Inchicore women are back in national league basketball after a six-year absence, but fell to their third defeat in four away to Moy Tolka Rovers on Saturday.

Yet there was plenty for Dynamos to take from the game as Tolka Rovers needed overtime before ultimately securing a 58-48 victory. On course for an agonising one-point reversal, Dynamos kept their hopes alive courtesy of a free throw from Jennifer Sheehan with 14 seconds remaining in the fourth-quarter.

Sheehan and Samantha Massey registered five points apiece for Dynamos, but it was Claire Quinn Nealon (12) and Heather Meagher (11) who emerged as their scorers-in-chief.

Having gotten their campaign up and running against Templeogue, Abbey Seals Dublin Lions (one place ahead of Oblate in ninth) were on the receiving end of a 75-61 defeat to Swords Thunder at ALSAA in their third game of the campaign. The Clondalkin-based outfit were given a bye on the opening weekend of Division One and still have a match in hand on most of their opponents.

There was a significant positive for the Lions in the form of Amelia Motz's magnificent performance. She amassed a stunning haul of 32 points and is set to be a key figure when the Lions welcome St Paul's, Killarney to Colaiste Bride at 5.30pm on Saturday.

Taekwondo

Woolley is impressive

JOBSTOWN native Jack Woolley produced a string of impressive performances at the Manchester Regional Arena last Friday to earn a third place finish at the World Taekwondo Grand Prix Series III.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

Woolley was in a confident mood ahead of this event, which hosted the world's top-32 fighters in the various Olympics weight classes. Competing in the -58kg male flyweight division, Woolley – who operates out of the South Dublin Taekwondo club in Tallaght – was given a bye into the round of 16.

This is where he found himself face-to-face with Josip Teskera and despite having to look on while a host of fighters got to showcase their talents in the initial round of 32, Woolley didn't take long to settle into his familiar groove. While the Croatian Teskera delivered a spirited effort, the 24-year-old Dubliner convincingly won both rounds of their bout.

Stiffer tests were lying in wait, however, and the spectre of current European champion Cyrian Ravet ensured Woolley was on his toes for the quarter-final phase of his division. In addition to being the most recent champion of the Grand Prix in Paris, French fighter Ravet also edged out Woolley to earn a silver medal at the European Championships in the same arena earlier this year.

Yet this helped to make Woolley all the more determined to advance and the first of three rounds in this last-eight encounter went his way. Ravet responded by claiming the second round and thus making sure their duel went right down to the wire.

In the end, it was Woolley who earned top honours on a score of 2-1. Next up for him was a semi-final meeting with Tunisia's Khalil Jendoubi, an Olympic silver medallist.

Woolley fought admirably throughout his third fight of the day, but his opponent ultimately progressed to the final (where he lost out to Korean teenager Tae-Joon Park) on a winning margin of 2-0.

While a keen competitor like Woolley was naturally disappointed to miss out on a final spot, he was able to gain considerable solace from this Grand Prix event.

As well as climbing the podium to receive a hard-earned bronze medal, he also garnered 21.6 World and Olympic points. With one Summer Games already under his belt – last year's delayed spectacle in Tokyo – Woolley will be hoping to continue on an upward trajectory ahead of the 2024 Paris Olympics.



Jack Woolley with his medal in Manchester

Karate

BMA Rumble on . . .

Another tournament that has finally returned post-pandemic on the Kickboxing Ireland calendar is the BMA Rumble Championships with its last edition in October 2019.

Citywest Hotel was the usual venue but unfortunately the Saggart hotel is now a permanent Ukrainian refugee residence for the next couple of years so this year, the BMA rumble was held in UCD Sport Centre.

As one of the last couple of competitive outings in the year, the event was packed with clubs from all over Ireland looking to take the podium spot for one final time.

BMA Clondalkin was well represented with 16 competitors and finished the long day with a brilliant 2 gold, 8 silver and 4 bronze medals.

The lone champions for the Clondalkin Club were brothers Robert and Arthur Drija who both took gold in the boys intermediate PF small and tall divisions respectively.

Fionn Kelly was in outstanding form reaching the finals of the boys 14-16 year old novice LC & PF tall divisions but was unlucky not to clinch the titles in both categories.

Another double silver was for Louise Short who is just returning to the competition scene after injuries kept her on the sideline. Louise shook off any ring rust by reaching the finals of the girls 10-13 year old intermediate & advanced PF divisions but was just short of a couple of points to take both wins.

Double silver was also taken by Eidenas Orlovas who was in flying form in both the boys advanced 10-13 year old PF & LC sections.

Emilia Douglas is proving to be a formidable force by reaching the semi-finals of the girls novice PF under 12 year old section and with it her 3rd consecutive medal out of three competitive outings in her first year of competition fighting.

Najma Jama made a brilliant debut in her fighting career by reaching the semi-finals of the girls 14-16 novice PF division and took home a deserved bronze to her name.

Matas Noreika reached the finals of the boys 16-18-year-old tall PF category. In a tough 2-round battle, Matas was leading throughout but got caught with a head kick in the final seconds of the last round and lost out to his game opponent from Nenagh Kickboxing Club.

Ross Gaynor just fresh from returning from the WAKO World Championships in Italy where he claimed his first Irish cap with a brilliant performance was in outstanding form where he reached the semi-finals of the boys advanced 13-15 LC division but was unlucky not to get past his opponent from KKC.

Michael Siry (12) hasn't competed for the Club since the pandemic started and was adamant in making a big comeback. He was very impressive in the boys intermediate PF 10-13 year olds division where he finished the day with a well-deserved third place.

Cayden Derwin ended up in one of the toughest divisions of the day competing in the boys advanced 14-16-year-old LC category where he met tough opposition from Team Elite, MIKO and WestCork to reach the finals but unfortunately had nothing left in the tank to finish his outstanding performance to take the top spot finish but with it a superb runner up medal.

Unlucky not to finish in the top three medal spots on the day were Oisin Clancy, brothers Cillian and Conor Reid, Ben Reid and T Kane.



Brothers Robert and Arthur Drijawith the only golds for BMA Clondalkin

GAA



Ballyboden St Enda's Division Seven Champions

Red-letter day for Ballyboden St Enda's

IT WAS a red-letter day for the Ballyboden St Enda's U16 ladies footballers at Sancta Maria College on Sunday as their 'A' and 'B' sides enjoyed magnificent championship successes.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

Originally set to take place on the club's main pitch at Pairc Uí Murchú, overnight rain ensured these games were subsequently switched to the nearby Ballyroan Crescent venue.

'Boden's first-string outfit faced neighbours St Jude's in the Division One championship decider and took an early lead courtesy of a two-point salvo from Cara Cosgrove. However, Jude's recovered from a shaky start with dead-ball specialist Anna Marie Durkan (who finished the game with a personal haul of 0-7) very much coming to the fore.

Emma Fogarty and Emma Moran did find the target for 'Boden just before the interval, but their Tymon Park rivals ultimately led 0-5 to 0-4 moving into the second half. Although Jude's doubled the lead on the resumption, a superb solo goal from substitute Sarah Furlong moved the hosts back into the driving seat.

Fogarty and Karrie Rudden added to their side's tally, but a Durkan-inspired Jude's rallied and found themselves on level terms (1-6 to 0-9) by the third-quarter mark.

An outstanding Grace Rooney three-pointer subsequently edged the visitors into the ascendancy once again, only for Moran to also rattle the net at the opposite end with the final whistle fast approaching. The sides had looked destined to be inseparable at this point, but it was 'Boden who would have the final say in an engrossing contest.

After she was picked out close to the target by Maggie Donaghy, Rudden displayed great composure to slot home a stoppage-time goal and propel her side towards a 3-7 to 1-10 victory.

Later in the same afternoon at Sancta Maria, the Ballyboden 'B' team secured the Division Seven championship with an emphatic 4-9 to 1-3 triumph over Kilmacud Crokes 'B'. With Ella O'Rourke, Ella McCabe, Izzy Onslow and Corinne Power providing a strong foundation in defence alongside netminder Charlotte Gallagher, the 'Boden attack were afforded ample opportunities to flourish.

The Firhouse Road outfit also had strong performers around the middle-third in the shape of Grace Quinn, Sophie Reilly, Allie Nealon and Kate Brosnan.

While Crokes had some strong moments of their own, 'Boden possessed the Midas touch in front of the posts. Over the course of the hour, Gillian Best, Ciara Allen, Ruth Ryder and Tara Meaney all chipped in with a goal apiece.

These efforts were perfectly supplemented by 0-6 from the superb Sienna Murphy, with Grace Callan and Tara Meaney also getting their names on the scoresheet. It was a real team performance throughout, however, as Ava Downey, Laoise Cahill, Karla Cosgrove, Emily Menton and Rebecca Ryan also put their shoulders to the wheel.

In the aftermath of the game, it was fitting that Brendan Ryan was on hand to lift the trophy with the squad. Ryan had managed this team before falling ill last year and was a welcome presence on the sideline for this memorable victory.



Ballyboden U16 Division One Championship Celebration

GAA



St Annes U14s shield winners

Crumlin U14s shield runner up



Anna Barnes (St Anne's) in full flight

Anna Barnes on the ball!

St Anne's claim U14 Division 5 Shield

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

At the end of an engrossing contest at Bohernabreena on Sunday, St Anne's claimed the Dublin Ladies Football U14 Division Five Shield at the expense of Crumlin on a final scoreline of 8-12 to 8-1.

Having lost out in last year's shield decider, Anne's were determined to go a step further in 2022.

In another tantalising home encounter at the semi-final stage on October 9, the Tallaght side had a single point to spare over Na Fianna 'B' (6-6 to 6-5). On the same day, Crumlin took on St Peregrine's out in Blakestown and came away with a hard-earned 4-6 to 4-4 triumph.

They did edge in front with an early goal from Meisha O'Sullivan, before Anne's proceeded to take control of the action.

Briona Joyce struck an equaliser in response to O'Sullivan's breakthrough score and this served as the catalyst for a period of dominance from her side. Abbie and Katie Doran produced confident displays around the middle-third, contributing goals and points from long-range as the play progressed.

Full-forward Sophie O'Donoghue also exerted a strong influence at full-forward, with her 1-1 salvo helping Anne's to establish a greater foothold on the play. Crumlin continued to have their moments of dominance, however, with Layla Perry registering two goals to keep the Pearse Park side in the frame for a shield success.

Kaci Hodgins was the driving force behind their challenge, while cousins Julie and Amy Thornton also stood tall alongside the likes of Sophia O'Reilly, Eabha Mooney and Ruby Troy. Crumlin were somewhat hampered by the loss of Emma Ryan to injury, but with Perry adding another brace of majors in the second half, they never allowed their heads to drop.

Although Caitlin Elliot and Amy Smith also shone for the visitors, there was no denying an excellent Anne's team from claiming the shield on offer. Back-up by a considerable cohort of U12 players, the hosts remained in the driving seat until the final whistle.

Team captain Anna Bergin executed her defensive duties with minimal fuss, as did Lynn Murphy, Isabelle Lawlor and Lucy Sheriatt. Anne's custodian Ruby Reardon pulled off some excellent saves and the half-time introduction of the fit-again Anna Barnes also proved pivotal.

In total, she amassed an outstanding tally of 2-3 to supplement an additional three-pointer from Emma Kavanagh. Like Barnes, Kavanagh recently returned from injury and proved her enduring worth to Anne's in devastating style.

St James Gaels crowned Junior champions in gutsy clash at St Anne's

Echo Sport **Match of the Week**

St Anne's 3-6
St James Gaels 5-13

St JAMES GAELS beat St Anne's in decisive fashion to secure victory in the Junior H hurling final in Bohernabreena *reports Alex Cunningham*.



Báetán MacTaidhg wins the ball in the air

Mícheál Ó'Chinnéide and Jack Smith were the standout player for St James, Ó'Chinnéide nailing an incredible nine frees while Smith was able to benefit from chaos in the opposition box and net two goals.

From the opening whistle, St James attacked St Anne's with ferocious intensity, morphing the match into an incredibly physical affair from the get-go.

By the opening 15 minutes, St James were already up by six, despite being held back by a handful of overhit wides.

The home side were unable to get a real foothold in the match, always looking a few paces behind and unable to respond back with any true vigour, points from Ben Jones and Daniel Culligan just about keeping them in the game.

Meanwhile the Crumlin team were free-flowing, moving up the pitch with pace and purpose, Alan O'Riordan grabbing points while Ó'Chinnéide continued to build up a cushion for his side, converting seven frees in the first half.

The away side's physicality and scrappiness is what really made the difference, leading to three goals – Brian Cathbent scuffing in a loose ball five yards out in a congested area, Conor Wein hooking a clearance from the Annes keeper, and Jack Smith finding the back of the net in a close-range scramble.

By the 30-minute mark, St James led by 18 and seemed to already have the trophy clinched before the second half even began.

When the match resumed it looked to be more of the same, another goal for St James by Richard McGrath looking to have killed the game once and for all.

Tensions began to boil as a tussle broke out between an Anne's fan and opposition players but play was resumed after an ugly few minutes.

From that point on, Anne's dug in deep, scoring two goals and picking up another 11 points, Daniel Culligan putting in an outstanding performance, providing a goal and two frees.

For a moment, it looked like maybe, just maybe Anne's could do something special, the team finding some real attacking rhythm, going on a 10 to 1 run as St James were unable to answer, looking considerably deflated compared to their all-action performance in the first half.

However, it was just too-little-too-late for Anne's, the game bookended by another superb free from Ó'Chinnéide.

After the game, Ó'Chinnéide addressed the hundred or so traveling fans, thanking them for their support as well as congratulating the opposition and the referee, before kicking off an ecstatic celebration for St James.

St Anne's: Andrew Jones, Jordan Lysaght, Rob Byrne, Sean Nevins, Damian Purcell, Johnathan Doyle, Dylan Nevins, Niall O Brein, Ben Jones, Daniel Culligan, Kevin Jones, Michael Brennan, Conall Barnes, Ross Fallon, Baetan Teague, Michael Fay, Matthew Wilson, Jamie Mahoney, Darragh Ryan, Sean Og Boyce, Mark Leonard-Doyle, Mick Brophy, Jimmy Frawley, Jamie Dodd, Liam Marren, Ross Nevins, Mick Brett

St James Gaels: Sean Dwan, Liam Kennedy, Con Hannigan, Stephen Coonan, Richard McGrath, Karl Stakelum, Colm McKeown, Paul Hanley, Mícheál Ó'Chinnéide, Conor Wein, Gavin Stakelum, Brian Cathbent, Jack Smith, Alan O'Riordan, Kienan Maguire



Ben Jones of St Anne's tries to escape from James Gaels players

St Anne's

St James Gaels



Jack McVeigh of Faughs challenges for the ball during the replay at Parnell Park *Photo by Stephen Croke*

Faughs senior hurlers face Whitehall in c'ship replay

Faughs and Whitehall Colmcille will face off in a forthcoming Dublin Senior Two Hurling Championship final replay after James O'Brien's dramatic injury-time point helped the Templeogue side to claim a 2-18 to 0-24 draw at Parnell Park on Sunday.

By **Daire Walsh**
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Despite already having secured their return to the Senior One championship – alongside Whitehall – for 2022, Johnny Greville's charges were eager to round off a memorable campaign with a piece of silverware to show for their efforts.

Although Faughs took a while to settle, Ciaran Brennan shook the net on eight minutes to edge them into the ascendancy. Paddy Spellacy and Conor Sheedy were doing much of the heavy lifting in the Whitehall attack, but Brennan and O'Brien – who registered a combined tally of 2-9 – did likewise for Faughs.

Ciaran Brady, Carl O'Mahony and David Croke were also on target as the action progressed in what was proving to be an enthralling conteSt Yet Dublin senior footballer Cormac Costello was starting to come into his own for Whitehall and the Collins Avenue side ultimately led 0-14 to 1-9 at the interval.

Faughs initially remained in arrears on the restart, before receiving a major boost on 38 minutes. After Whitehall netminder Ronan Murray did well to keep out a fierce Liam Mostyn shot, Brennan batted the rebound to the net for his second major.

Brennan's confidence was now sky high and he doubled the Faughs lead by splitting the uprights moments later. Despite Sheedy, Spellacy and Costello keeping the scoreboard ticking over for Whitehall, points from O'Mahony, Conor O'Shea and Niall Fitzgibbon had the southsiders two points in front on 52 minutes (2-16 to 0-20).

Faughs appeared to hold all the aces when opposition attacker Sean Foran was issued with a straight red card, but Shane Noonan's northside outfit dug deep to leave the teams level heading into five minutes of stoppage-time.

Faughs were then reduced to 14 players themselves when Gavin Kenny received a second yellow for hauling down dual star Eoghan O'Donnell and with Spellacy converting the resulting free, Whitehall were on the brink of victory.

That was until O'Brien knocked over his sixth point of the tie on 64 minutes to ensure another game will be required to determine the winner of this year's second-tier competition.

There was disappointment for Faughs' second adult team in the Dublin Junior 'B' Hurling Championship final at O'Toole Park on Saturday afternoon when St Oliver Plunkett's/Eoghan Ruadh had one point to spare (2-14 to 2-13) against the Tymon Park men.

FAUGHS: E Hogan; S McDonald, G Kenny, S O'Brien; D Croke, C O'Shea, C Brady; C Nagle, E McKenna; J McVeigh, J O'Brien, C O'Mahony; E Hennessy, L Mostyn, C Brennan. Subs: N Fitzgibbon, C Foley, J Moore.

WHITEHALL COLMCILLE: R Murray; S Giles, E Moran, C Murphy; D Noonan, E O'Donnell, L McCarthy; D Gray, N O'Connor; S Foran, L Gannon, P Spellacy; C Sheedy, C Costello, E O'Donnell. Subs: D Constantine, S Kellett, S Gannon, M Noonan.

Hurling

Commercials launch their new facilities

COMMERCIALS Hurling and Camogie Club has relaunched it's facilities after undertaking upgrade works and installing a brand new all-weather pitch, which will enable it to continue growing from strength to strength.

By Hayden Moore
sport@echo.ie

Over the last few years, the Rathcoole-based sports club has been busy upgrading all of its facilities while it's membership numbers have increased to around 500 today.

Adding to the already existing ball wall on the property, a new camogie pitch has been instated, the main pitch is in top-nick and a new all-weather pitch with floodlighting launched last Friday night.

Games aside, the grounds committee in the club have given the place a facelift, with the clubhouse getting a paint job, a new club shop opening and fresh tarmacadam has been laid.

Investment into the facilities on site and major buy in from the community, whether it be through fundraising or volunteering, is starting to bare fruit on the pitch.



John Eagers cutting the Ribbon with Ken O'Sullivan (Vice Chair Dublin County Board) and Karl O'Brien (Dublin Camoige)

Several players currently represent Dublin at underage level, in hurling and camogie, and they launched a largely successful joint-academy with neighbours St Mary's GFC last year.

With the juvenile section flourishing, young players have adult teams to aspire towards with the senior men's team winning the Junior A Championship on Sunday and the adult camogie team making its way through the ranks since launching in 2010.

Solid structures have been put in place by the executive committee to enhance the overall experience for those visiting and participating in games at the club.

"We're going from strength to strength, or 'ó neart go neart' as you'd say in Irish," Lorraine Ní Bhroin of Commercials, tells *The Echo*.

"We are very proud of the commitment of the community, parents, players and mentors to the club over the last 10 years.

"We have grown so much over the past decade and these new facilities will certainly add to the success that we are currently experiencing as teams will be able to train all year round, with the use of the astro pitch which is floodlit."

Corbett's last gasp free is heartbreak for Faughs

THERE was heartbreak for the Faughs second adult team at O'Toole Park on Saturday afternoon as Liam Corbett's last-gasp free saw them suffering a 2-14 to 2-13 defeat against St Oliver Plunkett's/Eoghan Ruadh in the Dublin Junior 'B' Hurling Championship final.

By **Daire Walsh**
sport@echo.ie

A day before the Templeogue club's first-choice outfit shared the spoils with Whitehall Colmcille in the Dublin Senior Two decider at Parnell Park, Frank Bennett's side looked set to do the same in their showpiece bout. Yet there was to be a final sting in the tail and Corbett displayed tremendous nerve to bring his personal haul up to an impressive 1-10.

With their ace marksman leading the way, Plunkett's raced into an early three-point advantage. However, Faughs were always expected to settle and back-to-back scores courtesy of Kevin Hogan and Scott McConnell (a Dublin minor footballer in 2021 who also lines out for Templeogue Synge Street GFC) subsequently got them up and running.

Adam Hogan and Conor Kenny also split the posts for Faughs and despite Plunkett's bagging the first goal of the tie on 15 minutes, the southsiders continued to cause problems for their Navan Road counterparts.

Midfielder Colm Leahy was becoming influential and he found the net at the end of a sharp 22nd-minute attack. The sides went on to trade points, before successive efforts from Leahy (two) and wing-back Conor Doyle allowed Faughs to establish a 1-10 to 1-7 buffer at the interval.

While Plunkett's produced a similar scoring burst on the restart to move back on level terms, another Leahy point helped Faughs to settle.

Yet scores were becoming harder to come by in the second half and the Tymon Park men went all of 22 minutes without troubling the umpires in the Kimmage venue. Plunkett's weren't quite firing on all cylinders themselves, but had moved five clear (2-13 to 1-11) thanks in no small part to a clinically-dispatched Corbett penalty.

Faughs weren't prepared to go down without a fight, however, and a Colin Devane goal brought back into contention. Either side of this major, Bennett's troops raised white flags to restore parity in dramatic fashion.

A replay was suddenly on the cards for these two teams - who will both compete in the Junior 'A' Championship next year - but there was enough time on the clock for Corbett to squeeze Plunkett's over the line.



Oliver Plunkets



Faughs



Patrick Bergon of Plunketts and Scott McConnell of Faughs

Soccer

Pat's face Sligo in quest for top three

ST PATRICK'S Athletic will look to keep their quest for a top-three finish in the SSE Airtricity Premier Division alive when they face Sligo Rovers in The Showgrounds tomorrow evening (kick-off 7.45pm) *reports Daire Walsh*.

Currently two points adrift of Dundalk in fourth spot, the Saints will more than likely require a maximum return from the final two games of the current campaign to automatically guarantee themselves a UEFA Europa Conference League qualification place for 2023. Following their showdown with Sligo, Tim Clancy's men will round off the season with a home encounter against Shelbourne on November 6.

By then, Shels (managed by Ballyboden native Damien Duff) might well have one eye on their impending FAI Cup final date with Derry City at the Aviva Stadium. Given they are already assured of finishing in the European positions, a win for Derry in this game would see the fourth-place team in the Premier Division gaining the extra Conference League spot.

Pat's will want to eliminate all doubt before that Aviva showpiece, of course, and that is what makes their latest trip to the north-west so crucial.

Despite making a superb start to their clash in Tallaght last Friday, the Saints ultimately succumbed to a 4-1 reversal at the hands of champions Shamrock Rovers. Serge Atakayi had given Pat's the lead with a fourth-minute goal, before Graham Burke and Daniel Cleary struck back in the latter stages of the half.

Sean Hoare came back to haunt his former club with a third Hoops goal on the resumption, in advance of a second from Burke ensuring that Pat's returned to Inchicore empty-handed. Clancy will be looking for an immediate response from his troops, but their results thus far this year against Sligo have been decidedly mixed.

At Richmond Park on February 25, another ex-Saints star - Aidan Keena - was amongst the goals as the Bit O'Red came away with a 2-1 away success. Keena and Darragh Burns found the net at opposite ends in a 1-1 draw at The Showgrounds on May 14, before Pat's finally recorded a win over the Connacht men courtesy of an Atakayi goal at Inchicore in mid-August.

Before coming up short against Shamrock Rovers, the Saints had recorded back-to-back triumphs over Dundalk and Bohemians. They will be hoping to rediscover this impressive form against John Russell's charges in their penultimate game of the season.

Player injury forces early stoppage

LOURDES CELTIC 0
YOUR ROAD FC 5
Match abandoned after 72 minutes

THE GLOSS was somewhat taken off the 5-0 win York Road FC registered when they travelled to Stannaway Park to face Lourdes Celtic when the game was rightly abandoned with just over 15 minutes remaining.

The Celts Brendan Priestly went down near the sideline and needed assistance

By John Mooney
sport@echo.ie

before an ambulance arrived to take him to hospital, he had been in a collision with one of his team mates earlier and it might have been a delayed reaction, referee Bill Gannon did the right thing and called a halt to proceedings, neither team complained.

By that time York were well out of sight, with Shane Lee being the star of the show when he netted four of their five goal haul.

To be honest Lourdes never got out of first gear, had not one shot on target and York's keeper, Anthony Egan, spent the afternoon gathering crosses, that is not taking anything from the visitors who turned in a great performance.

After Lourdes Conor McGreal fired over the bar on 15 minutes this game turned on its head inside four minutes, as the visitors bagged two in that space of time.

Lee opened their account when he latched on to a Jack Bergin pass and slipped the ball home between two defenders, and before the home side recovered they were 2-0 down from a Ger Farrelly drive after the home side only half cleared a corner.

It was more than York expected and it got even better as the half drew on with Lee netting number three on 30 minutes, and then completing his hat-trick with five minutes to go to half time.


Lourdes Celtic


Lourdes Celtic's Michael O'Brien gets away from York Road FC's Jack Bergan

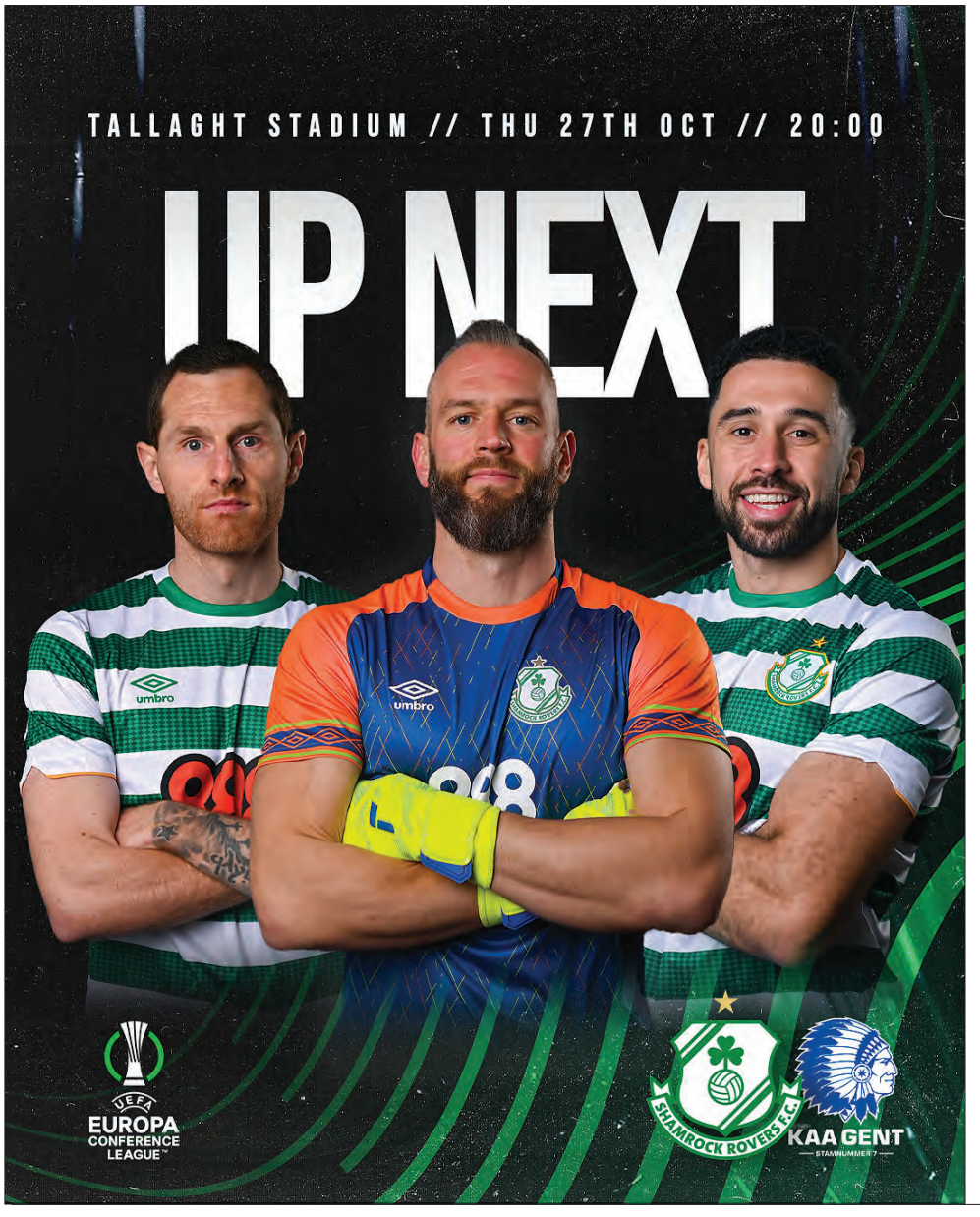
I was half expecting a bit of a fight back after the restart but instead it got worse for the Celts, when Lee superbly chipped home his fourth, and his sides fifth, three minutes after the restart.

The game now was really about damage limitations and to their credit Lourdes somewhat tightened up, but for all their play there was no end product.

To be honest the game was really winding down and when Priestly went down it was a good enough excuse to end proceedings. Best of luck to Brendan and wish him a speedy recovery.

LOURDES CELTIC: D. Cottulli, M. Gangirgin, B. Priestly, J. Rowe, M. Mills, C. Doyle, M. O'Brien, C. Fallon, F. Fitzpatrick, C. McGreal, J. Brennan, K. Farrelly, M. O'Neill, L. O'Brien, S. Riza, S. Stewart.

YORK ROAD FC: A. Egan, B. Geraghty, N. Bennett, G. Gilhawley, G. Farrelly, J. Ryan, S. Lee, J. Rooney, D. Minogue, D. Irwin, J. Bergin, D. Murphy, M. Hynes.





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