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Money mule herder man under arrest

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Legends raise €17,000 for LauraLynn charity

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Faces of the community

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Wife fears the worst for dementia stricken husband

75-year-old moved from Tallaght University Hospital to Beaumont facility

A WIFE fears the worst for her dementia-stricken husband (75), who was moved from Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) to a facility in Beaumont this week, reports Maurice Garvey. See page 12

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Next Edition

The next edition of *The Echo*
in the shops from Thursday,
Aug 24, 2023. **Don't miss it!**



**EchoSo and EchoJoe back again
this week on pages 48 and 49**



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

**ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75
PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE
OF SECTION LEIXLIP RD & MAIN ST.
LUCAN VILLAGE**

To facilitate Lucan Festival Committee, hold a Family Fun Day, South Dublin County Council propose to temporarily close a section of Leixlip road and Main Street, Lucan Village.

Date of Closure: Sunday 10th September 2023.
Time of Closure: 10am to 7pm.
Diversion Route:

- Leixlip Road, Lucan - Lucan By-Pass - Lucan Road.
- Local access will be maintained.

Any person interested may lodge an observation/ submission in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 or by email to seoroads@sdblincoco.ie not later than **5.00 p.m. on Monday 21st August 2023.**

Web: www.sdcc.ie



Government must reintroduce ban on no-fault evictions to protect renters

A LOCAL TD has called on government to immediately reintroduce the ban on no-fault evictions to protect renters.

The call came as figures released by the Residential Tenancies Board showed a dramatic increase in eviction notices issued by landlords from April to June.

Sinn Féin TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe said: “The latest RTB figures show huge number of eviction notices

issued locally by landlords between April and June of this year. The total number of notices in Dublin was 2,298.

“These figures show that the number of people at risk of homelessness is set to grow in the coming months leading to further rises in homelessness.

“Government must immediately reintroduce the ban on no fault evictions until such time as the numbers of people in emergency accommodation

starts to fall.

“They need to deliver more social and affordable housing specifically for those in emergency accommodation using emergency planning powers and new building technologies.

“And they must ramp up the social and cost rental tenant-in-situ schemes.

“The government was wrong to end the ban on no-fault evictions, as they abandoned

renters while having no plan in place to protect them.

This has left ordinary workers and families facing the heartbreak and distress of losing their home.

“If we are to see levels of homelessness fall, we need an emergency response and we need it now.

“People are suffering badly from Government’s failure to get to grips with the housing crisis.”

Soul destroying waiting over 20 years for a home

It’s understood City Council has 11 different waiting lists

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

MULTIPLE council housing lists have been called into question by a councillor, who says the uncertainty and the reality for some people waiting over 20 years for a home is “soul destroying.”

Ballyfermot Cllr Vincent Jackson (Ind) has brought the issue up with Dublin City Council on numerous occasions over the years and did so again last month at South Central area meeting.

It is his understanding that the city council has up to 11 different housing lists.

At the meeting he requested the council “streamline” the number in operation, stating the current situation leaves people “languishing at the top of the list without any real understanding of why they are never offered anything and indeed go down the list.”

Speaking to *The Echo*, Cllr Jackson said there used to be just three housing lists, including a category for people with medical conditions, but this was expanded by the then Minister for Local Government Alan Kelly.

“We used to get a list and at least you knew where you were with the old points system, and if I was dealing with someone on the list, you would know where you are on the list,” said Jackson.

“The new lists mean absolutely nothing, somebody could be number 5, someone ahead of them gets a place, but then they are moved back to number 7 on the list.”

The Echo spoke to a Drimnagh grandmother last year, who was 17 years on the housing list, and living in a grotty two-bed with her partner, daughter, and grandkids – the daughter also on the housing list.



“I know one woman who is 21 years on a list with two grown up kids. It seems to be the ones who shout loudest who are succesful and it is soul destroying

Cllr Jackson says the dire situation has led to local representatives receiving abuse from frustrated people on housing waiting lists, despite there being little they can do but advocate for them with the council.

He said the Choice Based Lettings portal, which allows people to check vacancies online “seriously inconveniences” people who are computer illiterate.

“I know one woman who is 21 years on a list with two grown up kids. It seems to be the ones who shout loudest who are successful and it is soul destroying.”

The Echo asked Dublin City Council how many different housing lists they have, but did not receive a reply.

South Dublin County Council said they have one social housing list.

“From this list, some applicants have been awarded homeless priority and a number have medical approval,” said a SDCC spokesperson.

While accepting there is a serious housing crisis, Cllr Jackson said people waiting for many years on a list are seeing many new developments built but are “not getting a look in” and this “calls into question these multiple lists.”

Cutting-edge AI CT scanner in hospital to improve outcomes

Stroke victims will especially benefit with the installation of the new state-of-the-art scanner

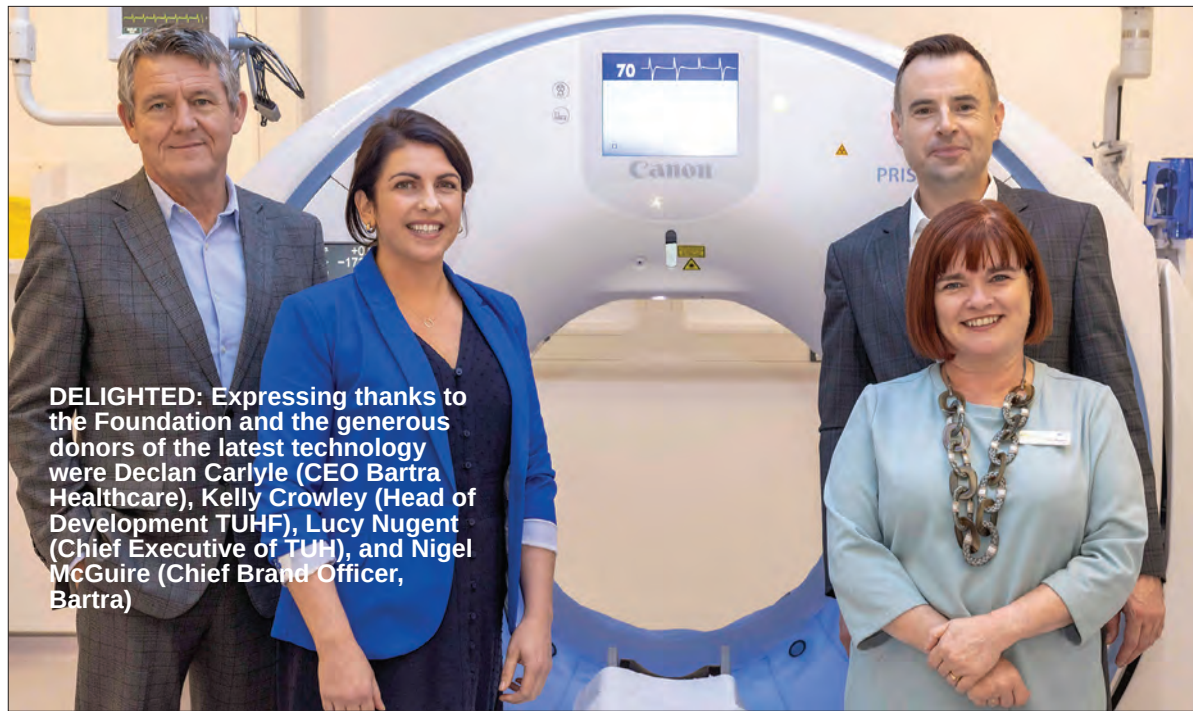
TALLAGHT University Hospital Foundation (TUHF) is delighted to announce the arrival of a Canon Aquilion Prime SP 160 CT Scanner to the TUH Emergency Department (ED).

The new scanner with Artificial Intelligence (AI) Assisted Decision Making, will significantly enhance the quality of care provided in the ED in TUH. The state-of-the-art technology, supported by a €2m investment by TUHF, will change the patient experience, and improve outcomes for those in need of critical medical attention, particularly stroke patients.

The Canon Aquilion Prime SP 160 CT Scanner is at the forefront of imaging technology, delivering high-quality imaging while minimising patient exposure to ionising radiation.

With its extensive range of scanning protocols and built-in software for contrast visualisation, this scanner provides a higher quality image which helps with diagnosing a patient and reduces the risk of contrast reactions.

When combined with the revolutionary Brainomix AI software and a fully equipped simulation laboratory, this CT scanner will offer patients in the ED access to the highest standard of



DELIGHTED: Expressing thanks to the Foundation and the generous donors of the latest technology were Declan Carlyle (CEO Bartra Healthcare), Kelly Crowley (Head of Development TUHF), Lucy Nugent (Chief Executive of TUH), and Nigel McGuire (Chief Brand Officer, Bartra)

emergency medical care available. The Brainomix AI software, well known for its ability to identify stroke-associated brain damage swiftly and accurately, will empower clinicians to make rapid, reliable

decisions critical to the patients' clinical outcomes.

Kelly Crowley, Head of Development for TUHF, expressed gratitude to the donors who facilitated the purchase of this

technology, saying "Thanks to our generous donors and the support of our partner Bartra Healthcare, Tallaght University Hospital Foundation is proud to have delivered this transformational

technology which will go a long way in improving the quality of care for patients in TUH. Their contributions have enabled us to provide timely access for patients to hospital services that promote the highest outcome standards, delivered by a caring motivated workforce."

Lucy Nugent, CEO of Tallaght University Hospital, thanked the Foundation and its donors. She went on to emphasise the value this CT scanner will bring to the Hospital and its patients, saying, "The ability to access CT scans seamlessly in the ED will positively impact patient outcomes by enabling faster clinical decision-making in cases where a CT scan is required as part of the diagnostic workup. This is particularly essential for trauma patients and patients presenting to the ED with suspected stroke."

The Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in a significant backlog of patients requiring outpatient CT scans, putting even more pressure on the Radiology Department and impacting access to CT for ED patients, whose need is typically more critical. The new CT scanner will free up capacity in the Radiology Department for general, scheduled outpatient services, thereby reducing the public waiting list for CT scans.

Allotment Open Day in Friarstown



OPEN DAY: Des Garry and Cllr Pamela Kearns at the Friarstown Allotment Open Day on Saturday. See more on page 24

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Farmhouse sold for €4m was the scene of Ana's murder

The 100-acre property was earmarked for the building of a 62-bed nursing home

By **Hayden Moore**

hayden@echo.ie

THE FARMHOUSE where teenager Ana Kriégel was murdered has been sold for €4 million, with plans in place to turn the site into a 119-bedroom nursing home.

Fourteen-year-old Ana Kriégel was found dead at Glenwood House three days after being reported missing in May 2018, with two boys later convicted of her murder in June 2019.

Glenwood House swapped hands 20-years-ago when Sherwood Properties acquired the land for €10.5m.

Located on the Clonee Road in Lucan, the land which incorporates Glenwood House, a late 18th or early 19th century farmhouse, outbuildings and walled garden, is listed on the record of Protected Structures in Ireland.

Architect of the Four Courts, James Gandon, is believed to have been involved in the design of the farmhouse.

As the site is registered as a protected structure, there is a legal obligation to prevent it from becoming endangered, whether it be through neglect or damage.

However, the site has fallen



LISTED: Glenwood House in Lucan

into dereliction over the past two decades and grew to become a hive of anti-social behaviour.

Before Ana Kriégel was murdered in the dilapidated house in 2018, concerns about the site falling into disrepair were raised with Fingal County Council, who were asked to safeguard the property due to the dissocial activity on site.

At that stage, the roof of the farmhouse had collapsed in several places and some rooms were affected by fire damage.

As revealed by journalist Ken

Foxe through a Freedom of Information request, since the site was purchased in 2021, efforts have been made to ensure the site is secure ahead of redevelopment.

Listed as derelict, the 100-acre property at Coldblow in Lucan, was bought by Priory CCL Limited in 2021 for an estimated €4m and it intends to build a nursing home on site.

Priory CCL Limited has links to Care Concern Group, a UK-based operator of nursing homes.

Plans for a 62-bed nursing home from Sherborough

Properties Ltd was granted permission in 2016, with a larger proposal later refused by Fingal County Council planners in 2017.

In 2021, Sherborough was granted permission to amend the original application to include additional bedrooms for a nursing home, raising it to 119-bedrooms in total.

In 2018, Ana Kriégel was lured to her death at Glenwood House by two teenage boys, who became known as Boy A and Boy B after being granted anonymity during the trial due to

their age.

The boys, who were both 13 when they killed Ana, were convicted of murder. Boy A was sentenced to life in prison after being convicted of sexual assault and murder, while Boy B was given a 15-year sentence after being convicted of murder.

Both boys were held at Oberstown Detention Centre as they were still juveniles at the time of conviction, but it is understood they were transferred to an adult jail in 2022 after turning 18.

Women's fully funded classes

WOMEN'S Collective Ireland Lucan is running a fully funded three-hour once-a-week programme, and is recruiting for October. This is a limited opportunity with a small number of places available.

Topics covered include: Dare to Lead, Public Speaking, Feminist Analyses, Visible Exclusion, Local Government Structures, plus inspirational guest speakers.

Contact by phone/text or what's app on 089 611 2018/083 860 7847 or email lucan@womenscollective.ie

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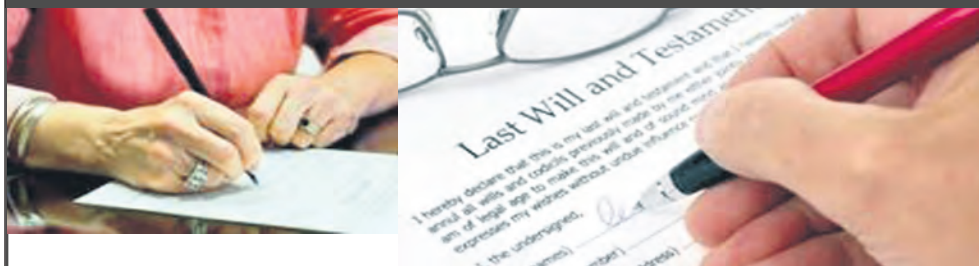
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From Malin Head to Mizen Head to help cancer charities

Dad Stephen will cycle a total of 605 kilometres from Donegal to Cork

A DAD is in the throes of cycling the length of Ireland, from Malin Head to Mizen Head, over the course of seven days to raise funds for two cancer charities who helped his young daughter, reports Hayden Moore.

Stephen Bernes, originally from Jobstown but living now in Blearry, Armagh, set off from Malin Head at the very top of Donegal on Sunday with his friend Adrian Kennedy and support Connor Rush.

This Saturday, Stephen will have amassed a whopping 605km en route to Mizen Head, the southernmost tip of Ireland in Cork.

The goal behind the cycle is to help other families like his own by raising funds for two charities which gave a boost to his daughter Sophie during her cancer treatment.

"Sophie was having this pain in the back of her eye for three or four weeks," Niamh, Stephen's wife, who is from Kingswood in Tallaght, tells *The Echo*.

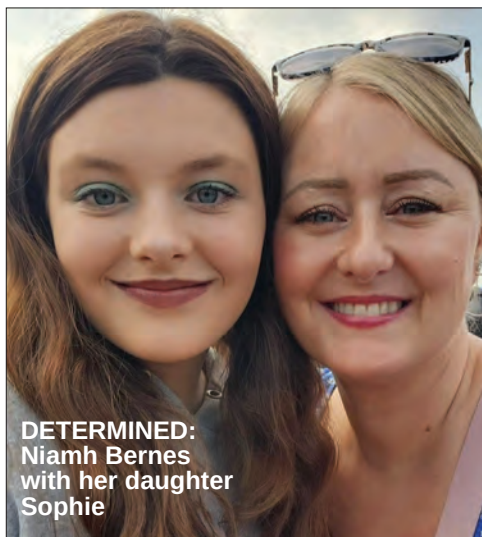
"She was in the Royal Belfast Hospital, she got an eye test and it showed nothing so we just thought she had a pain in her eye and that was it.

"But she went then and got an MRI and they found a growth at the back of her eye, and the hospital were calling around asking other hospitals if they'd heard of it before.

"It was absolute devastation, for our whole family."

In August 2020, then 10-year-old Sophie was diagnosed with a rare disease called Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis, which occurs when a person's body produces too many cells, creating a build-up.

Sophie became a patient of The Royal Belfast



DETERMINED:
Niamh Bernes
with her daughter
Sophie

Hospital in the children's oncology and haematology departments, where she underwent a course of chemotherapy and steroids.

While undergoing treatment, Sophie and her family were provided with a respite break to Daisy Lodge in Newcastle, Co Down courtesy of the Cancer Fund for Children.

Daisy Lodge helps families unwind from the pressures of being a cancer patient, and also has a residential programme for young people.

Signifying getting the all-clear of cancer, Sophie received her final treatment and got to ring the bell in The Royal Belfast Hospital on

August 17, 2021.

"Sophie is brilliant, she was just great, the treatment was not a bother to her, she didn't give out or anything like that," Niamh says.

"Because it was such a small dose of chemo over the course of a year, there was no great hair loss or anything.

"She didn't complain about a thing, aside from being a little upset that she couldn't do her horse-riding, she's mad about her horses.

"Since getting the all-clear, she just has to get MRI scans every six-months until she is 18 and we've had no setbacks or anything, she's doing so well."

Sophie turned 13 in April, and is back doing what she loves, surrounding herself in the world of horses.

Recently, Sophie and Niamh enjoyed a day-trip to the prestigious horse riding Balmoral Show and to see musician Paolo Nutini in the same day.

In January, while the family were on a trip, Stephen came across the idea of the Malin Head to Mizen Head cycle for charity and started preparing straight away.

"Stephen is determined to do it because of how good the charities were to Sophie," Niamh says.

"He plays himself down, but not many dads would go this extreme to raise funds for charity in honour of their daughter with only six-months preparation.

"People would train a year or two to do this usually, but he's doing it after six months.

"He's doing the best he can and I've all the faith in the world that he's going to finish in Mizen Head on Saturday after a good hard trek."

The couple, who have four children between them, wed last year and the children took centre-stage, having come through the difficulty with a new outlook on life.

"The children are everything to us, when we got married last year it was all about them and how lucky we are to have each other," Niamh explains.

"We look at life totally differently now and we're trying to make as many memories as we can, because cancer touches so many families, including ours.

"There is help and support out there, with breaks away from the cancer talk or the treatment talk. We are so grateful to have each other."

To support Stephen's Malin Head to Mizen Head charity cycle, visit: www.justgiving.com/team/malintomizen23



CYCLE: Dad Stephen who is doing the cycle

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Money mule herder man under arrest

Arrest was conducted as part of a larger investigation

A MAN (20s) identified as being a 'suspected money mule herder', recruiting money mules and managing their bank accounts, was arrested in west Tallaght on Monday.

Gardai from the Garda National Economic Crime Bureau arrested the man and seized a number of items of evidential value during the course of a search of a residence in west Tallaght, on Monday, August 14.

According to a Garda statement, the search was conducted as part of a larger investigation into incidents of fraud in jurisdictions including Norway, Germany, the USA, Hawaii and Ireland and the subsequent laundering of money through money mule accounts, businesses and trade-based money laundering operations.

During the course of the search, a high-valued Range Rover, which is suspected to have been purchased with the proceeds of crime, was seized.

Other items seized include a number of passports, bank cards in family names and names of suspected money mules, bank account details and details of registered companies and businesses.



ARREST: Tallaght Garda Station and (inset) the Range Rover seized

Cash in euros and dollars was also seized, a note teller (cash counting machine), 30 mobile phones and a desktop computer and laptop.

The Garda statement said: "A man in his early 20s was arrested for an offence contrary to the Criminal Justice Act 2006 and is currently detained at a Garda station in Dublin.

"This male was identified as

being a suspected money mule herder recruiting money mules and managing their bank accounts.

"Up to 50 different money mules are identified as having laundered over €196,000 through his bank accounts in Ireland, Germany and Belgium.

"This money came from victims of mainly smishing frauds in Ireland, was initially laundered

through these 50 money mule accounts and then forwarded by the money mules to the suspects' three bank accounts."

The statement added: "A man in his 50s was also arrested during the course of this search for immigration offences and was later refused leave to land.

"He is being detained pending his removal from this jurisdiction. "Investigations are ongoing."

Intergenerational centre construction to begin



START: An artist's impression of the centre

WORK on the construction of an intergenerational centre in Tymon Park is due to commence next month, reports Aileen O'Flaherty.

The €1.29m centre is to be located between the pond and the car park at the Wellington Road end of the park in Templeogue.

The Echo understands that during the construction period the contractor will occupy a portion of the carpark with a works compound, reducing the number of available car-parking spaces.

Signs will be placed in the car park notifying park users, and St Mac Dara's Community College has been contacted regarding the upcoming works. Access to the bring banks will be maintained.

The proposed development is to consist of a single-storey, multi-use facility that is adaptable to community use.

The design plans for the facility include a café, an associated kitchen, toilets, storage and services, while there is to be a terrace for outdoor seating overlooking the park.

The outdoor terrace is sheltered by a canopy, which can provide space for outdoor cinema and other events, including outdoor games, such as chess and scrabble.

The council previously stated that the proposed facility would be managed by the council's community services department.

The intergenerational centre has been designed for use by small and medium-sized groups that require a flexible space.

These groups could include active age, parent and baby, Tidy Towns, resident associations, yoga, Pilates and keep-fit groups, reading, knitting, bridge, historical societies and education groups.

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MATTRESS AMNESTY & WEEE RECYCLING DAYS 2023

South Dublin County Council in partnership with Recycle IT will be holding recycling days within the community over the next number of weeks inviting householders to avail of free Mattress and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment recycling.

Collections will take place at the following locations between 09:30am and 12:00pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 9th August – AGPo (Lucan Harriers) Car Park, Newcastle Road, Lucan, Co Dublin

Wednesday 16th August – Tymon Park Car Park, Limekiln Road, Dublin 12

Wednesday 23rd August – Quarryvale Community Centre Car Park, Greenfort Gardens, Dublin 22

Wednesday 30th August – Rathcoole Community Centre Car Park, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin

Wednesday 6th September – Tymon Park Car Park, Castletymon Road, Dublin 24

Wednesday 20th September – Killinarden Community Centre Car Park, Killinarden, Dublin 24

Alternatively, mattresses or waste electrical and electronic equipment can be dropped off Monday to Friday, from 10:00am to 1:00pm, or on Saturdays (19th and 26th August and 2nd and 9th September) from 09:30am to 12:00pm at Recycle IT Facility at **Crag Terrace, Clondalkin Industrial Estate, Dublin 22, D22 TK37.**

Saturday 9th September is the last date for mattress drop offs, so don't leave it too late.

Dormant Lucan train station to open now in the spring of 2024

Six million euro Kishoge station has been left unused for over 14 years

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

THE long-awaited opening of Kishoge Train Station in Lucan has been delayed until spring 2024, weeks after its initial expected opening date of December this year.

The station has been dormant since its construction at a cost of more than €6 million 14 years , and is located on the Kildare line between Clondalkin and Adamstown.

In a recently released statement, it was confirmed that Iarnród Éireann has undertaken a tender process, and they expect the tenders to be awarded at the end of this month.

Following that, it's expected that the works on the station will take approximately six weeks to complete with an opening date in spring 2024.

Commenting on the development, local Sinn Féin councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh said: "The news received on Monday is not the response anyone wanted to hear.

"This particularly applies to the large swathe of commuters already experiencing real difficulties getting to work on time and depending on an over-strained peak-hour bus service to make vitally important transport connections for hospital appointments, getting to school and college and arriving at other important daily destinations.

"Fifteen years have now passed since the station was initially built, with the original cost of construction €6.35m.

"Anxious commuters and the public generally that live in a rapidly developing Lucan landscape, were told last year that the station would have to undergo upgrades, including a lift



DISGRACE: Kishoge Train Station

replacement, internal and external wall works, renewing all mechanical, electrical and telecom cables, up-to-date signage, paths and paving – the further projected cost of these works being in the region of €3.8m.”

Completed in 2009, the station was intended to serve a new community of up to 15,000 homes at the Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ).

The first homes under the new scheme – almost 400 social, affordable purchase and cost-rental homes will be developed by South Dublin County Council.

A total of 469 homes will be built by Cairn homes, the largest private landowner in Clonburris, this year.

Cllr Ó Brádaigh added: “The population of Lucan has increased

dramatically, continues to grow and is expected to rise significantly in the immediate to longer term.

“This is a vital piece of infrastructure and residents in Lucan were told that the delays to date were as a result of strategic planning.

“It was stated that the station, forming part of the Kildare Route Project, would be delivered in tandem

with the Clonburris SDZ and housing development.

“The construction of Clonburris Phase One situated closest to this very facility off the R136 is due to commence very shortly and it is now an imperative that this hugely important transport facility opens ahead of the completion of these homes.”

Man charged following incident at Old Bawn in which windows were randomly smashed in by an individual

A MAN has been charged following a “frightening” incident of criminal damage to a property, which is understood to have been random, in Tallaght, reports *Hayden Moore*.

A man in his 30s was arrested following an incident of criminal damage which occurred at a residence in Old Bawn, Tallaght.

“Gardaí are investigating an incident of criminal damage that occurred at a residence in Old Bawn, Tallaght, Dublin 24 at approximately 4.30pm on Wednesday,

9th August 2023,” a spokesperson for An Garda Síochána told *The Echo*.

“A male in his 30s was arrested following a patrol of the area by Gardaí and detained at a Garda Station in Dublin under Section 4 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1984.

“He was charged and appeared before CCJ Court no. 3 on Thursday morning, 10th August 2023.

“As this matter is now before the courts, An Garda Síochána will not be commenting further at this time.”

The Echo understands that the property in Old Bawn had its windows randomly smashed by the individual.

A week after the incident, Cllr Cathal King (SF) encouraged community leaders to work with the relevant authorities to safeguard community spaces.

“It is worrying, the community, the Guards and even the council need to work together to reduce the number of these sorts of incidents and get the rule of law back into our community,” Cllr King said to *The Echo*.

“Elderly residents shouldn’t have to deal with this, it’s frightening for the couple in their house when it’s just getting smashed up in the middle of the day.

“Now they’ve to think about the costs of getting their property fixed and all sorts – this sort of thing shouldn’t be happening. My thoughts are with that couple and with the family.”

Investigations into the incident are still ongoing, according to the spokesperson from An Garda Síochána.

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Gardaí investigate shooting incident

GARDAÍ are investigating the discharging of a firearm that occurred in Tallaght on Monday night.

The incident took place at approximately 11.30pm in the Tymon North area and there are no injuries reported.

Three vehicles (one van, one car and an e-bike) were seized by Gardaí and removed from the scene for technical examination.

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

Anyone with any information that can assist Gardaí with this investigation is asked to contact Tallaght Garda Station on 01 666 6000, the Garda Confidential Line on 1800 666 111 or any Garda Station.

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Cycle-track bollards still a cause for concern to residents

Council spokesman says reducing lane widths will have a traffic-calming effect

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

TEMPERS continue to flare in Old Bawn over the installation of bollards to delineate a cycle track from a roadway in Firhouse Road West in Aylesbury, Tallaght.

As reported in *The Echo* last week, the bollards had been placed by South Dublin County Council but within three days had been vandalised.

A council spokesperson confirmed that the cost for the replacement of the bollards would be absorbed by the contractor who carried out the work.

A key point of contention in the community is the reduced road width that the installation has caused, according to local resident Cyril Fox.

A council spokesperson said: “The reduction in the lane widths will not have any impact on the capacity of the road.

“The same number of vehicles can fit on it bumper-to-bumper, and there is to be no removal of right-turning lanes.

“The added bonus of reducing the lane widths will also have a traffic-calming effect, speeds will reduce.

“In a neighbourhood with a large proportion of elderly people and children this can only be a good thing, especially after recent news reports regarding the number of fatalities in the year to date on our roads.”

The narrowing of the road to facilitate the segregated cycle track was carried out as part of the D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network project, which continues up to Killinarden Way.

Local Fianna Fáil councillor Teresa Costello, who organised a public meeting with the community and council planners in Tymon Bawn on Wednesday afternoon, said tensions are still high in the area.

“The council told me that the bollards are temporary, and they’ll be replacing them with a kerb,” Cllr Costello told *The Echo*.

“Personally, it wouldn’t be my choice. People in that area are the nicest people – they never usually give out about anything, but they’re so angry.

“To see the bollards was just shocking for people and it’s like they came out of nowhere.”

She added: “I haven’t met anyone in the area that supports it.

“The residents are saying the



TEMPORARY: The bollards on Firhouse Road West

council should’ve skimmed off either side of the road or footpath, but the planner I spoke to said that would’ve impacted trees.

“But I don’t like the idea of people feeling forced off the road, if that’s the way they’re feeling.”

Commenting on the recent vandalism of the bollards, Cllr

Costello said it was an unusual occurrence, but it shows the strength of feeling in the area.

“The bollards being vandalised and broken, it’s such an unusual reaction for this area,” she said.

Cllr Costello was talking to *The Echo* ahead of a public meeting that she held in the Tymon Bawn Community Centre on Wednesday afternoon.

She added that while the community is opposed to the cycle track, there are aspects of the scheme that have been welcomed.

These include the installation of bus shelters at the bus stops adjacent to St Martin de Porres’ Church, and the removal of a problematic kerb near the crossroads opposite Ahernes.

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Charged with assaulting garda while being detained

A MAN has been charged after being initially arrested for a public order incident and later assaulting, causing injury, a member of An Garda Síochána.

Gardaí responded to a report of a public order incident on the Old Bawn Road in Tallaght, in the early hours of Saturday (August 13) morning.

Responding to the report, Gardaí arrested a man in his 40s for public order offences.

In a statement to *The Echo*, a Garda spokesperson said: "One male in his 40s was arrested for public order offences and brought to Rathfarnham Garda Station."

"This person was charged

under section four and section six of the Public Order Act and was later released pending a file to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

"During the course of his detention, one member of An Garda Síochána was assaulted and suffered injuries.

"Investigations are ongoing."



Damaged boundary fence on park perimeter is repaired

Stolen cars and scrambler bikes caused untold damage to pitches in the past

By **Hayden Moore**

hayden@echo.ie

A BOUNDARY fence, which cost €164,500 and was erected around a park as a deterrent for scramblers and quad bikes, has been repaired after being damaged.

Last Wednesday, a spokesperson for South Dublin County Council told *The Echo* that "the boundary fencing around the perimeter of McGee Park is being made safe today and should be fully repaired by tomorrow".

The railing had been breached the week previous, leaving the park, and park users, in a vulnerable position.

This was down to the fact that the boundary fence prevents people from accessing the park in vehicles and damaging pitches used by St Mark's GAA Club and Marks Celtic FC.

Over the past several years, scrambler bikes and stolen cars have been able to gain unhindered access to the field located in between Fettercairn and Springfield.

These issues have plagued sports teams, destroying their pitches and even driving through children's training sessions and matches.

However, after South Dublin County Council spent nearly €165,000 on erecting fencing in 2020, "incidences of this nature have reduced greatly," the council said previously.

Thus, when the fence was broken, there was some consternation in the surrounding Tallaght community for fear of the possibility of vehicles gaining unfettered access once again.

"You're trying to make the park better and safer, and there's a great community up there that always uses the pitches in the park," Cllr Dermot Richardson told *The Echo* last week.

The council has since repaired the fence, with the local authority committed to improving the general amenity of the park.

Recently, a pollinator-planting scheme has been flourishing along the main footpath of Butler McGee Park, with a new walking track being installed around the soccer pitches.

Through the €300,000 Have Your Say public participatory budget initiative for Tallaght South, there were proposals for a new play space and inclusive exercise equipment put forward.

However, the proposals for Butler McGee Park did not obtain enough votes to get funding approval.



REPAIRED: The boundary fence damaged at McGee Park

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor PC



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Help shape an Ireland for all

Government criticised over decrease in Garda staff levels within Dublin city

GARDA staff levels have been criticised as not enough to "reassure people who are vulnerable". There has been a decrease of almost 10 per cent in levels since 2011, it has been claimed.

Sinn Féin TD for Dublin Mid-West Mark Ward has called on government to address the unsafe staffing levels within Dublin.

Deputy Ward said: "Communities in Dublin Mid West deserve to feel safe and protected but many feel let down by Fine Gael's failures to invest in safe policing levels.

"Figures show that there are just 702 Gardaí in Dublin Metropolitan Region Western. This is a decrease of nearly 10 per cent since 2011. This also comes at a time when the local population in Dublin Mid-West is increasing, so in real terms this represents a drastic decrease.

"Fine Gael have held the Justice portfolio since 2011. We even had a Fine Gael Minister for Justice in Dublin Mid West and things have only got worse.

"Communities in Dublin will be understandably concerned by government's failure to deliver safe policing levels. They need to know that if a crime is committed, an appropriate and quick response will be issued.

"These latest figures come at a worrying time for Garda members and the general public. With an expanding population, Garda recruitment under this government has not kept pace with the growth in many areas.

"Figures remained stable for many years, leading to a per capita decrease, but now we are facing a perfect storm of lacklustre recruitment combined with a crisis in retention.

"This means the government is now scrambling to ensure recruitment keeps pace with retirements and resignations. Failure to do this means we don't have enough Gardaí.

"Garda numbers are not the only tool to combat many of the issues facing Dublin Mid-West but we do need to ensure a consistent presence within communities to reassure people who are vulnerable that they will not continue to be targeted by criminals.

"In government, Sinn Féin would work urgently to get to grips with this issue and address the shortfall and increase Garda presence to ensure communities can feel safe and protected.

"This would include implementing the recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Policing, so that as many Gardaí as possible remain on the frontline.

"Fine Gael has held the Justice portfolio now for well over a decade, supported by Fianna Fáil for much of that time. The Gardaí and communities in Dublin are paying the price for Fine Gael's poor leadership and failure to make policing the priority it deserves to be.

"A Sinn Féin government would prioritise investing in Gardaí, so that communities in Dublin can feel safe and protected."

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Wife fears the worst for dementia stricken husband

75-year-old moved from Tallaght University Hospital to Beaumont



MEDICAL CARE: The man was transferred from Tallaght University Hospital to a facility in Beaumont

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

A WIFE fears the worst for her dementia-stricken husband (75), who was moved from Tallaght University Hospital (TUH) to a facility in Beaumont this week.

It represents a cross city commute for the Tallaght family, however the wife (70) has serious mobility issues due to back problems and Lymphedema, meaning she is incapable of using public transport, does not drive and on a pensioner's budget, it cost €58 to get home from Beaumont in a

taxi on Monday.

The wife, who did not wish to be named, said she was led to believe her husband would be moved out of the hospital, where he has been for six weeks, and into a nursing home in Kiltipper, until a home help package could be secured.

She is worried that, as his vascular dementia progresses, she'll only be able to see him once a week, if that, and he'll begin to forget who she is.

TUH told *The Echo* that patients who no longer require acute medical care cannot be kept in hospital indefinitely, and that there are major challenges with regard to

delays in patient discharges due to the availability of home care packages and access to nursing homes.

The Tallaght wife said she received short notice on Monday from TUH that her husband was to be moved that day to Beaumont.

"I didn't want that," she said on Tuesday ahead of an MRI for her back.

"He was in hospital for six weeks, we were told he would be moved to Kiltipper. I would prefer him at home, and we are trying to take him home."

Married for nearly 50 years, the wife would visit her husband every day in Tallaght but going to Beaumont is not feasible.

"Just don't have the money and I have trouble getting in and out of cars, I can hardly walk up the stairs," she said.

The family are currently on a waiting list for home support from the HSE but have been given no indication of how long he could be on the list, the average wait time for it, or how long he'll be kept in Beaumont.

A spokesperson for the HSE

told *The Echo* that the Home Instead service, which the family have availed of before, is a privately operated service.

A spokesperson for TUH said they cannot comment on individual cases due to client confidentiality and data protection.

"The hospital has to ensure those that we have sufficient space to provide treatment to acutely ill patients that need to be in hospital. When a patient no longer requires acute medical care we cannot keep them in hospital indefinitely.

"Delays in patient discharges due to the availability of home care packages, changes to home care packages, access to nursing homes remains a challenge which the hospital works closely with our community colleagues to address. On occasion this means patients will have to move to locations that are not as local as they would like. We regret any inconvenience to patients and their families if the step down care we have sourced is not local to where they live."

With the husband incapable of advocating for himself, the wife feels he has been pushed aside".

“The hospital has to ensure those that we have sufficient space to provide treatment to acutely ill patients that need to be in hospital. When a patient no longer requires acute medical care we cannot keep them in hospital indefinitely

Heritage Group to host special 20 year celebration

IT IS 20 years since Ballyfermot Heritage Group was established and on Saturday, August 19, they will celebrate a special anniversary at Ballyfermot Library for Ballyfermot Heritage Day, reports *Maurice Garvey*.

The festivities kick off at 10am with the Ballyer Trad Hub performing some classic hits, and the Lord Mayor of Dublin will arrive at 11.30am to launch the group's new walking trail map and guide.

The event takes place during the National Heritage Week.

Dublin City Council and Ballyfermot Heritage Group have worked together to

complete the design of the heritage walking trail map, and some 2,000 copies were printed in early June.

The next steps of the project involved the installation of a sign notice board displaying the heritage trail map along the main thoroughfare in Ballyfermot.

It will also see the production of a historical audit, something which attendees at the launch of Crumlin Walking Trail Map and Guide in January agreed was a fantastic booklet.

Established in 2003, Ballyfermot Heritage Group includes a dedicated group of local residents, committed to capturing significant

images of events and people in the area.

They also document historical pictures and stories from the 1950s onwards, many of which are enjoyed by a massive diaspora living abroad.

Ken Larkin, Ballyfermot Heritage Group, said: "Rodney Oglesby who wrote a song for the diaspora, will sing it on the day. We also have some members of the Doyle/Halpin School of Irish Dancing and Steven Barrett will finish off with a sing song."

"Also on display will be old photos and memorabilia and video recordings."

Visitors attending during the day can enjoy tea, coffee and refreshments.

Echoopinion...

Local teacher shortage cause for concern

AS the next school year looms, it's crunch time for many local schools as they grapple with a teacher shortage that's affecting the capital in particular.

Many school principals have claimed that the spiralling cost-of-living and the difficulty of securing housing in Dublin are at least partly responsible for the issue.

Labour's education spokesperson Aodhán Ó Ríordáin has suggested that a 'Dublin allowance' should be included in teaching posts in Dublin to try to deal with the problem.

But the reality is that while an extra allowance may alleviate some of the pressure, the ongoing housing crisis means that even with extra money in your pocket, it's still a struggle to find somewhere to live.

Teachers are the bedrock of our education system, and they need to be supported and the importance of their work properly compensated and recognised.

They're an essential component of our society and need to be treated as such, as schools being understaffed and teachers feeling they have to leave the country for better opportunities and to be able to live comfortably is not the ideal scenario for anyone – least of all our young people.

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HERITAGE: People at the Ballyer Trad Hub last year in Ballyfermot Library

Retention permission sought for former ‘Limousine’ buildings

Planning application for over 1,000 apartments was unsuccessful for the site

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

RETENTION permission is being sought for fire-safety alterations to a number of buildings in Cookstown Industrial Estate – including one which is used by international protection applicants.

The subject sites are building 1, Units 1a, 1b, 1c and buildings 81a and 81b on Cookstown Estate Road, and buildings 2 and 3 at Old Belgard Road in Cookstown Industrial Estate.

The buildings were formerly owned by Joseph Costello Absolute Limousines and were the subject of an unsuccessful planning application for the development of 1,104 build-to-rent apartments.

Most recently, 81 Cookstown

Industrial Estate – a former office building – has been turned into asylum-seeker accommodation for up to 200 international protection applicants.

They are accommodated across the building’s three floors in 102 bedrooms or ‘accommodation pods’ containing two standard beds and storage furniture.

A total of 42 toilets and 16 showers are located within the building and are available all day long with an on-site laundry facility, according to a statement from the Department of Integration in late 2022.

A planning application for retention permission for the building, and a number of other buildings in the industrial estate, was lodged by Onyx Ireland 2022 Propco 1 Ltd this month.

Retention permission is being sought for over-cladding of brick

façade at ground-floor level, blocking up of roller shutter doors and over-cladding of same and new fire escape doors.

These alterations are at building 1, Units 1a, 1b, 1c, Cookstown Estate Road.

Retention permission is also being sought for the removal of dormant fire-escape stairs, over-cladding of façade, and the blocking up of roller shutter doors and over-cladding of same and new fire-escape doors.

These alterations are at buildings 81a and 81b on Cookstown Estate Road.

Permission is also being sought for the demolition of a car-wash annex building and over-cladding of façade at buildings 2 and 3 at Old Belgard Road.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by September 28.



“The buildings were formerly owned by Joseph Costello Absolute Limousines and were the subject of an unsuccessful planning application for the development of 1,104 build-to-rent apartments

St Anne’s Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others impress in Croke



GOOD SPORTS: St Anne’s Gaelic4Mothers & Others put on an exhibition of football during half time of the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship decider between Dublin and Kerry in Croke Park on Sunday.

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Legends and All-Stars help raise over €17k for charity

Children’s charity LauraLynn benefits from the generosity of the local people

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER €17,000 was raised for children’s charity LauraLynn as a result of a charity match featuring League of Ireland Legends, and a raffle, in Kingswood and Saggart last Saturday, August 12.

The match was held in Roadstone Sports Club in Kingswood and featured the Saggart-based Jacob’s Pub All-Stars playing against the League of Ireland Legends team.

Among the players who lined out for the League of Ireland Legends team were Hoops manager Stephen Bradley, and Stephen McPhail, Jason Byrne, Richie Baker and Dessie Baker.

The match was watched by over 200 spectators, who witnessed the nail-biting game ending with a score of 4-3 to the League of Ireland Legends.

The event was organised by four

local men, Graham Keane from Citywest, Robert McCarthy from Rathcoole, and Mark Hutchinson and James Doyle from Saggart.

Graham Keane told *The Echo*: “There was a really good atmosphere, everyone was in good spirits, and it was great for some of the spectators to see some fantastic ex-professional players.

“We know of the lads from the League of Ireland from over the years and once they heard the match was for charity, they got involved straight away.

“We expected the match to be close, because there were some active players who were playing for the Jacob’s Pub All-Stars.”

The match was followed by a barbecue reception in Jacob’s pub in Saggart, where the raffle was held and also spot prizes were given on the night.

Reflecting on how the event went, Graham said: “I’m very happy with the amount of money that was raised, it’s a tough thing to do, but it was enjoyable.

“I’m very proud of all of the people who were involved. I also want to say a huge thank you to everyone that helped to make it happen.

“Without them, we wouldn’t have been able to do it, we were just steering the bus. It was a huge effort, and the generosity of people was unbelievable.”

“I’m very happy with the amount of money raised . . . I’m very proud of all of the people who were involved



WINNERS ALL: Graham Keane heads the ball clear and (inset) Shamrock Rovers manager Stephen Bradley gains possession during the charity match at the Roadstone Club

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Freedom of Italian city for *Echo* production manager

Honour awarded for sharing the delights of the city in her ambassador role

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

THE production manager of *The Echo*, Liz Kennedy, recently received the freedom of the Italian city of Pesaro, as she has holidayed there for the last 25 years and brought friends and family from across the globe to the city.

Liz received the honour, alongside being named as an ambassador of the city, by the Mayor of Pesaro, Matteo Ricci, in the town hall in Piazza Del Popolo in Pesaro on Monday, July 31.

The Tallaght woman had been nominated for the accolade by the proprietors of a café in the city with whom she has become firm friends with over the years.

Explaining how her link with the seaside city of Pesaro began, Liz said: "Twenty-five years ago I stepped off a train in Pesaro, by chance.

"We had planned to stay for a day and move on. Two weeks later we were still there.

"Pesaro is the birthplace of Rossini and there was an opera festival on at the time and I was curious to see what it would be like.

"Two years later, on another ramble around Europe, we decided to call in to Pesaro again – and again stayed for two weeks and didn't go anywhere else and we have been coming here ever since."

The key factors that keep Liz and her family returning to Pesaro every year include the good climate, the fresh and



HONOUR: Liz Kennedy receiving 'L'abbraccio della città' of Pesaro from Mayor Matteo Ricci and Councillor Micaela Vitri with her family, James, Brenda, Emma, David, Robert and Gareth

affordable food, the hospitality of the people in the city and the stunning beaches.

Liz was presented with a certificate by the mayor where she was described as a successful entrepreneur, and she was praised for bringing friends and

family from all over the world to Pesaro.

Receiving the recent accolade from the mayor has cemented Liz's place among the community of Pesaro, and she's excited to share the delights of the city far and wide in her ambassador role.

"Next year, Pesaro is the European City of Culture, so there will be a lot going on," Liz explained.



"I'm delighted that I can share this with people I know in different parts of the world, especially people who have visited here on more than one occasion.

"Hopefully they will return next year and maybe I can persuade some new visitors too."

Parish looking for new volunteers

VOLUNTEERS are required for St Mary's parish in Lucan.

The parish is looking for volunteers to help in their coffee dock, a commitment of one morning a week from 10am – 12 noon.

They are also looking for Sunday morning volunteers. There is already a great team of people doing this, but if a few more came on board it would be wonderful. It usually works out at four Sunday's a year.

If interested please contact Deirdre at 6217041. If the office is closed, leave your name and number.

St Mary's Parish Centre will be closed for the month of August but will reopen on Monday, September 4.

Groups using the Parish Hall, will be available to use the facility again from Monday, September 18.

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Cllr Mick Duff

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Mick can be contacted on: 087 2865570

Email: mduff@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Twitter: @CllrMickDuff



Mick DUFF
From the Community and For the Community

Two-storey extension to National School approved

PLANS for a two-storey extension to Esker Educate Together National School in Lucan have been given the green light by South Dublin County Council, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

The proposal includes a new two-storey extension linked to the existing primary school consisting of a new two-classroom special educational needs facility.

The extension will also house ancillary accommodation on the ground floor and additional teaching rooms to first floor.

Associated ancillary site works to include revised car-parking layout, with a total of 31 spaces, and the demolition of the existing external and bin store with new external and bin store are included.

The new bin store is to be located near main entrance gate, while the existing bicycle shelter will be relocated next to the new external store with provision for additional bicycle spaces.

The provision of 12 sq m of photovoltaic panels to the extension roof also forms part of the planning application.

On August 8, South Dublin County Council granted permission to the Minister for Education and Skills for the extension of the school.

Esker ETNS was founded in 2007 where the school was facilitated in temporary accommodation before moving into its permanent accommodation on Esker Lane in 2014.



EXTENSION: Esker Educate Together National School

Teenager flying high with top circus opportunity

Danii switched from dabbling in dance to fine-tuning her skills as an aerialist

A TALLAGHT teenager has been delighting audiences across the country in recent months as an aerialist with Circus Gerbola, which tours all around Ireland, reports Aileen O’Flaherty.

Danii Batkin (15) made the switch to gymnastics at seven years old, after dabbling in dance. Her teachers found that she had a talent for it, and she has developed into a skilled gymnast.

Danii’s mam, Nicola Batkin, told *The Echo*: “She did baby ballet here and there, and did lyrical dancing and when she was winning a lot of things, then I decided she had something special.”

It was at this point that Danii, who lives in De Selby in Citywest, began training in the Elite Rhythmic Gymnastics Club in Adamstown, Lucan.

She trained under Olympic gymnast Kristina Rangelova while in the gymnastics club and finessed her skills as an aerialist.

“That was when she really started to excel,” explained Nicola. “She was training four days a week.”

“Danii is a very focused person. She hates sitting in and doing nothing . . . she’s a horse-rider in Rathfarnham and competes on her own pony named Elvis.”

The Kingswood Community College student stopped training in gymnastics when her coach, Kristina Rangelova, returned to her native Bulgaria at the beginning of the pandemic.

However, Danii’s passion for the sport has never waned and by chance, she ended up performing as part of Circus Gerbola as an aerialist in April 2021.

She impressed Mikey and Tara Gerbola from Circus Gerbola and has performed in their circus ever since.

“Danii excelled in the aerial, and it was during Covid that I ended up talking to a girl who owned Circus Gerbola,” said Nicola.

“Danii was invited to perform at the circus once as a treat, but has been there ever since because she loves it so much.

“She goes when she can, so obviously during the weekends when she’s in school and, if they’re in Dublin, she goes during the evening too.

“The circus has really high hopes for her, and they really support her.

“The Gerbolas have been incredibly supportive to her and let her come anytime she wants – she is now a regular on the show with her impressive aerial moves.

“She has been there two years now receiving amazing experience in the world of performance at such a young age.

“She hopes to keep learning and growing and is on her way to being one of Ireland’s greatest aerialists.

“She loves going and it is the highlight of her week. She has made many good friends and loves all of the cast of the show.

“She just loves it there. When I watch her perform, I just think, ‘Oh my god Danii, you’ve come so far’.”

At present, Danii, who is a past pupil of St Mary’s NS in Tallaght, is primarily performing outside of Dublin as part of the circus but is excited for when Circus Gerbola will come to Dublin next month.

As for her hopes for Danii’s future, Nicola said: “I just want her to be happy.

“If this is what she loves to do, then we as a family will keep supporting her like we always do.”



AERIALIST: Danii Batkin has been delighting audiences

Garda Band entertain at the Golden Years Tea Party



TUNED IN: The prestigious Garda Band were on hand to entertain senior citizens across the county at the annual Golden Years Tea Party in the Rathcoole Community Centre. Local Fine Gael TD, Emer Higgins, joined members of the Rathcoole Community Council, Centre Manager Tricia Kellet and her team, as well as members of An Garda Síochána and senior citizens from Rathcoole, Newcastle, Clondalkin and Lucan at the event. Also present was well-known Garda Frank Howe whom the community wish a speedy recovery to. The ever-popular local group, RAMs in Rhythm, also performed at the Golden Years Tea Party.



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‘Hospice Hero’ award to Serena for her fundraising activities



GRATEFUL: Serena Keating with her family proudly holding her award

OUR Lady's Hospice & Care Services has awarded a 'Hospice Hero Community Fundraising Award' to Serena Keating from Lucan for her fundraising efforts on behalf of Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services.

Now in its second year, the Awards acknowledge the significant contribution of community fundraising events in supporting Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services' delivery of vital care across the communities it serves.

Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services is Ireland's largest provider of palliative care and serves a catchment area of a million people from its bases in Harold's Cross, Blackrock and Wicklow.

Serena was recognised for establishing the 'You'll Never Walk Alone' Memory Walk, in memory of her brother, Wesley Keating, who died from a brain tumour in 2018. Since 2019, the annual event takes place in Phoenix Park and has raised €48,000, including €15,544 raised in 2022.

Karen Gallagher, Interim Director of Fundraising and Communications at Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services said: "These special awards recognise events organised by people in

the community who show their support for our work by coming up with ideas that capture the hearts and minds of their friends, families and neighbours. The walk that Serena has established in memory of her brother has clearly done that and we are very grateful of her ongoing support, and that of those who have taken part in the walk. We thank all of those who support us in this way and appreciate all the time and effort put in. We rely heavily on donations from the community to support our services and develop our facilities."

Serena Keating said: "Weso was 27 when he passed away. Although it was deeply sad and before his time, our family is forever grateful for the support and care we all received from Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services in his final days.

"I wanted to remember my brother in a special way and the Memory Walk has grown from strength to strength since 2019. As well as remembering my brother, it provides a space for others in the community to remember their loved ones and raise funds for the continuation of the important work of Our Lady's Hospice & Care Services", she added.

Nursing home residents to belt out the melodies

NURSING Homes Week 2023 will see residents participate in music performances to mark the event, from Monday, August 21, to Sunday, August 27.

The Music Speaks broadcast will encompass performances from over 100 nursing home residents from over 30 nursing homes, including Marymount Care Centre, Lucan.

At Marymount, Rita Lyons will sing Boys from the County Armagh and Madeline McQuillan will sing the Fields of Athenry.

The performances will be broadcast to over 400 nursing homes with 25,000 residents across the country and available to watch via NHI.ie.

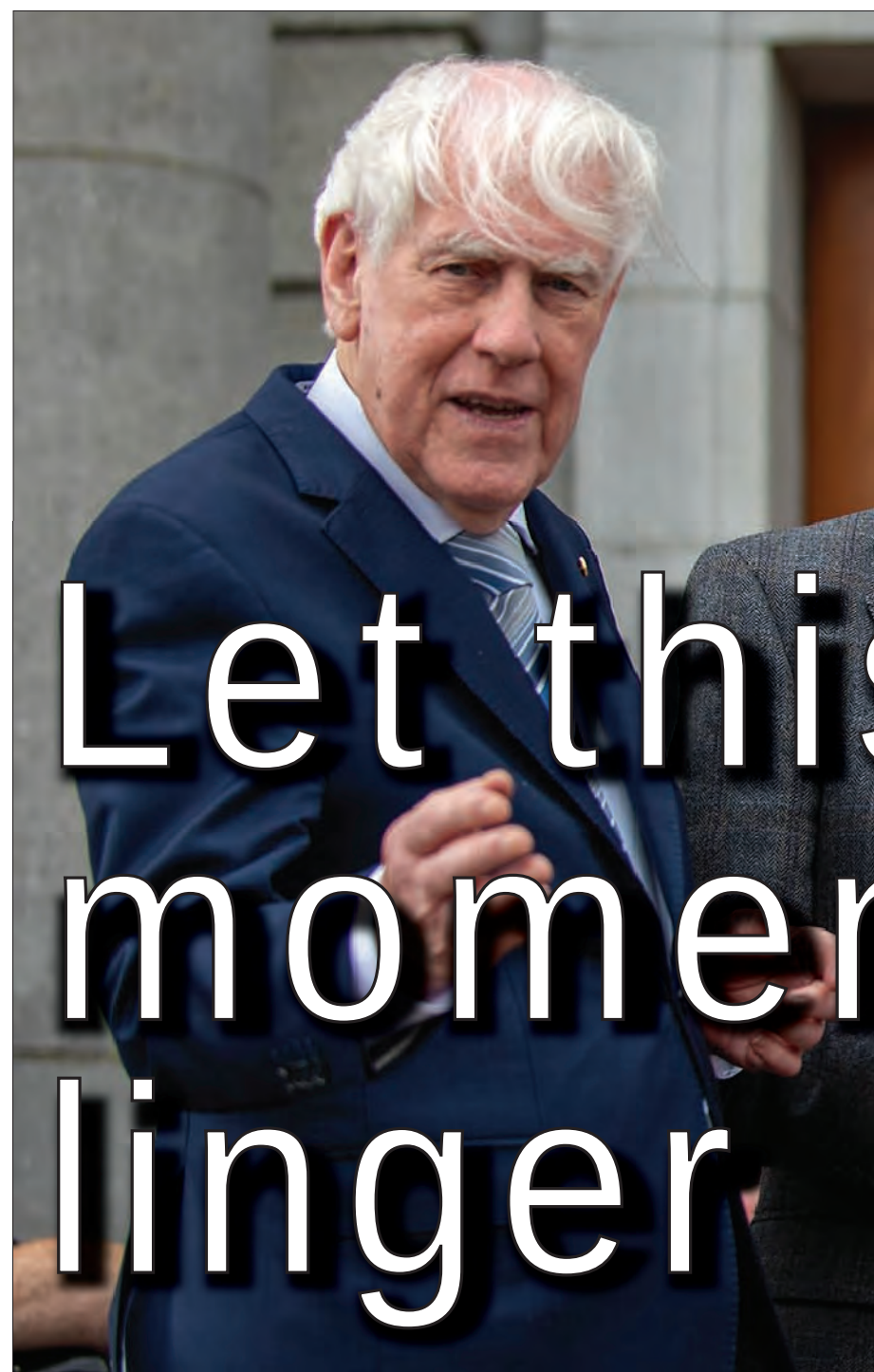
It features renditions of classics such as Danny Boy, Molly Malone, When Irish Eyes Are Smiling, Can't Help Falling in Love, You Are My

Sunshine, Que Sera, Sera, intertwined with performances by residents of different instruments, including piano, accordion, bodhrán.

The festival will include performances from Mobile Music Machine with Niamh Kavanagh, Sive, Ross Scanlon performs John McCormack, John Spillane, and others.

Tadhg Daly, Nursing Homes Ireland CEO, said the week's fun will include one resident who is 100 years of age playing accordion, a 98-year-old delivering an excellent piano solo, and a 95-year old singing Boys from the County Armagh.

"Residents love to sing and perform and the Music Speaks extravaganza honours the talents of the very special people in our society who are nursing home residents," he said.



Let this moment linger

Songwriting brothers honoured with Gradam Na hÉigse Award for their song 'Grace'

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

BROTHERS and songwriters Sean and Frank O'Meara, who live in Templeogue and Walkinstown respectively, were recently honoured for the success of their popular Irish song 'Grace'.

They were honoured at the Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann in their hometown of Mullingar when they received the prestigious Gradam Na hÉigse Award for 'Grace'.

The iconic ballad was recorded by Jim McCann of the Dubliners in 1985 and details the short-lived marriage of Grace Gifford to Joseph Mary Plunkett in Kilmainham Gaol, just hours before his execution in 1916.

Speaking to *The Echo* this week, Sean explained why he and his brother decided they wanted to compose a song centred on Grace Gifford and Joseph Mary Plunkett's experience.

"My brother and I had been writing songs since we were children, and we were writing successfully in the early 80s as our songs were being recorded by artists," he explained.

"But we needed a big song. The idea for 'Grace' came from our childhood. I knew about her story, but I didn't know the details.

"I went over to Kilmainham Gaol to get the letters that they'd written because I wanted the song to be historically accurate.

"When I was doing the research, it made me realise that they were human, they were real people, and they went through a terrible time."

“It has surprised and pleased us that ‘Grace’ has become so much more popular and loved than we could’ve ever imagined when we wrote it. We had no idea that the song would have the life it’s had . . .



PRESTIGIOUS: Songwriters Sean and Frank O'Meara (centre) honoured by Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann with Labhrás Ó Murchú (Ardstiúrthóir, Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, left) and Éamonn Ó hArgáin (Uachtarán, Chomhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann, right)

Influenced by the documents he'd read concerning the couple's relationship, Sean then set about writing the lyrics to what would become 'Grace', while Frank crafted the melody.

The brothers drafted a home demo of the song that was sent to a publisher, which then made its way to Jim McCann who went on to record and release it in 1985.

'Grace' was a runaway success, spending 36 weeks in Irish charts, and has been sung by musicians and revellers all over the world.

"You never know with a song, how the public are going to take to it," added Sean, who worked in HB's Chocolate Factory in Tallaght in the late 70s.

"It has surprised and pleased us that 'Grace' has become so much more popular and loved than we could've ever imagined when we wrote it.

"We had no idea that the song would have the life it's had . . . to hear it sung by so many people in so many different places is wonderful."

The duo has written many songs over the years, approximately 40 of which have been recorded and released, with their most recent composition, 'You're All That I Need', appearing on Daniel O'Donnell's latest album.

Sean added that he and his brother write songs for the enjoyment that they get out of it, and would not consider themselves professional songwriters despite their success.

"It always was only a hobby," he said. "We're not professional writers and we never wanted to be professional writers – we're just happy to write if and when it happens. We enjoy it immensely."



HONOURED: Sean and Frank O'Meara speak at the ceremony

Photos by Gary McGivney

New € 13.6m scheme for free schoolbooks is welcomed as a 'positive step forward'

MORE THAN 140,000 children in Dublin will benefit from free schoolbooks, workbooks and copy books from September under an initiative introduced by the government.

This benefit has been made possible through the provision of

€13.6 million worth of funding.

Nationwide, more than 558,000 pupils enrolled in over 3,230 primary schools, including over 130 special schools, will benefit from the scheme. This scheme will significantly ease the financial burden facing families during back

to-school time.

Over €50 million has been made available to support this scheme, including an administrative grant for schools rolling out the scheme.

Fianna Fáil TD John Lahart has today welcomed the move and

said: "This is a landmark moment for Irish education, and one which will provide significant benefit for families around the country.

"Back-to-school time can be a challenging time for parents and families, and I welcome Minister Foley's commitment to easing the

burden.

"We in Fianna Fáil believe in the power of education, and we believe in making education truly accessible for all.

"This is yet another positive step forward, which I wholeheartedly welcome."

Go-ahead given for alleviation of overcrowding in Moyle Park

Building works will expand school capacity – Minister for Education



CAPACITY EXPANDED: Moyle Park College can proceed with construction

By **Hayden Moore**

hayden@echo.ie

APPROVAL has been given by the Department of Education to proceed with an extension to Moyle Park College, with the project which will alleviate overcrowding expected to be delivered by the end of 2024.

The Department of Education has given approval for the proposed development, which is provided for under planning permission granted in 2021, at Moyle Park College to proceed to construction.

This past term, Moyle Park College had an enrolment of around 750 students, but the development "is not intended to provide additional capacity for the school".

Instead, it "will alleviate overcrowding within the existing school block," the planning application cover letter to South Dublin County Council reads.

The proposal sees the demolition of two dilapidated prefabricated classrooms and construction of an extension with four classrooms and a

special educational teaching room to the west of the existing school building.

This will free up the existing library in the school, which was being used as a classroom at the time of applying for planning permission in December 2020.

However, a statement from the Minister of Education Norma Foley recently highlighted that the works would in fact expand the capacity, which is in contradiction to the original planning application.

During a debate on school admissions in Dáil Éireann on July 4 of this year, Deputy Eoin Ó Broin asked Minister Foley "if her Department has yet established the true extent of capacity issues in schools at secondary level in Clondalkin".

In a sweeping response about how the Department of Education operates in addressing school admissions countrywide, Minister Foley concluded with a remark about Clondalkin.

"There is currently a project on site at Moyle Park College in the Clondalkin School Planning area which will increase local capacity over

the coming years," Minister Foley said.

"My Department will continue to keep the school place requirements in Clondalkin, as with other areas across the country, under review."

In a notice two weeks ago, the Department of Education listed the programme of works under the Additional School Accommodation Scheme, giving approval to proceed with construction.

It is proposed that the extension will link to the most recently constructed section of the existing school building, a two-storey pitched-roof block building constructed in 2007.

Moyle Park College was established by the Marist Brothers in 1957, establishing the secondary school within a 26-acre campus in the centre of Clondalkin village.

Speaking to *The Echo*, local councillor Shane Moynihan (FF) welcomed the development.

"This is a welcome announcement for Moyle Park and testament to the great effort by all members of the school community," Cllr Moynihan said.

"As a young and growing area, we

need to continue advocating for more secondary school places for our area and will be working with my colleague Minister Norma Foley to deliver them."

The Echo contacted the Department of Education for clarification, and in response a spokesperson explained how it will address a limited increase in the student intake recently.

"The Department can confirm the development at Moyle Park College for additional school accommodation was granted formal approval to go to construction in August 2023," a Department of Education spokesperson said.

"The project approved includes two additional mainstream classrooms, two replacement prefabs, and one special education teaching room.

"This project will enhance the learning environment for students and will address a limited increase in the student intake in the school over the last number of years."

Demac Construction Ltd was the successful tender for this development, with costs associated with the project commercially sensitive, meaning they "cannot be provided at this time".

"The project has been devolved to the school for delivery and the Department awaits confirmation from the school authorities that construction has begun," the spokesperson for the Department of Education added.

"The current estimated completion of these works is Q4 2024 and the Department will assist the school in any way possible to achieve this target."

“There is currently a project on site at Moyle Park College in the Clondalkin School Planning area which will increase local capacity over the coming years

Adventure centre pushes out the boats for Ukrainian young people

Summer camp gives those displaced by the war a chance to engage in outdoor activities

YOUNG people from Ukraine who were displaced by the war enjoyed a summer camp with Ballyfermot Youth Service adventure centre, frolicking along Grand Canal on kayaks, reports Hayden Moore.

The Ukraine Community Centre in Rathmines, which was set up late last year to help those displaced by the war to integrate with society, engaged in the week-long summer camp in Ballyfermot recently.

Based at seventh lock of the Grand Canal, Ballyfermot Youth Service Adventure Centre (BYSAC) is able to offer young people from different backgrounds a range of activities and initiatives.

BYSAC strives to give “every young person from a socially disadvantaged area . . . unrestricted access to safe and rewarding adventurous opportunities that include engagement with nature and general outdoor environments”.

“We work on the canal all year, using the stand-up paddles, different rafts and kayaks, working with young people about swimming safely and water safety,” Allegra Lalor, BYSAC manager, tells *The Echo*.

“As part of that, we’ve done a bit of work recently with a lot of different summer groups. So, we had Irish kids from the locality and the Ukrainian Integration Group engaged in a week-long project.

“It went really well actually, they’re

all similarly aged kids. We had 40 young people – 20 in the morning and 20 in the afternoon.

“We are an outdoor education centre, so try to do most of our work outdoors, in green spaces, either in the city or up in the mountains.

“We’re not a commercial centre, so it’s not about numbers for us, it’s about the quality of youth work and trying to really connect and get through to them.”

When BYSAC was established in 2005, it had 12 kayaks and the building in Park West Business Park, adjacent to the Grand Canal.

Since then, over the last 18 years, it has expanded and replaced its fleet of kayaks, added a “game-changing” 18-seater mini-bus and started working out of the skatepark next to the Ballyfermot Leisure Centre.

In 2020, BYSAC opened a clubhouse at the skatepark and operate a BMX Club there.

BYSAC also hosts Erasmus students, and earlier this year, engaged a group of 14- to 17-year-olds in an excursion in the Dublin Mountains, connecting them with nature.

The goal was to help improve their mental health, show them all the benefits of the outdoors and separate them from their phones.

“We got a box, put all of their phones in the box and buried it in the forest, and nobody went looking for them,”

FUN TIME: Enjoying the summer camp along the canal at Parkwest last week



Allegra explains.

“They all knew where they were, so they could get them if they wanted, but nobody did.

“It was about dividing teenagers from their phones, which can be difficult, but they all spent quality time with themselves and nature, which was

an opportunity to get a break away from social media or anything that they may have going on at home.”

Over the summer months, four young people have been getting paid part-time work with BYSAC as part of its youth employment project, which is funded through the local partnership.

While BYSAC is committed to diversifying its activities, it is limited to the number of young people, aged between 12 and 25, that it can take in.

This comes down to a general shortage of qualified personnel seeking work.

BYSAC has one full-time and two part-time paid employees, and works with a cohort of people through different schemes to operate, which “wouldn’t be possible without them”.

“Staffing is such a big issue for us, just finding suitable qualified staff like kayaking instructors or what have you,” Allegra says.

“It does mean that we are restricted to the number of kids we can take in.

“The physical space and the staffing crisis are definitely holding us back, because there are so many young people from Ballyfermot and Cherry Orchard who could benefit massively from our services.

“There are not a lot of services like ours, but we struggled to provide them, and every young person, who may be struggling, deserves an opportunity to excel.”

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Empowering the young through live performance

Joyful Noise group embraces the outdoors

A MUSIC project group learned to embrace outdoors singing during Covid, so the idea of an outdoor event space in Walkinstown Green was born to make things safer.

Joyful Noise Dublin is an upbeat community music project that empowers young people with disabilities through the experience of learning pop songs and live performance.

It began in 2016 emerging out of WALK who support people with disabilities to live self-determined lives.

Since then the group have performed in a number of venues including the Sugar Club, Body & Soul and Love

By **Maurice Garvey**
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Sensation.

On Saturday the group took to the stage again to give a rousing performance of 10 pop hits at Waterford's All Together Now Festival, joining a billing that included Iggy Pop, The Sugarbabes and Jamie XX.

Mark Hart, Team Lead/Careers & Employment Facilitator of WALK, said members named their outdoor group the Songbirds Nest but it is more frequently known as the Nest.

"The addition of the Nest

benefits a lot of people from local community groups and businesses who book it, diners of the café and participants of WALK too," said Mark.

In Waterford, the Joyful Noise group also used their stage to show their support of Ukraine by wearing tie-dye tee-shirts with yellow and blue, commissioned by artist Niamh Kiernan who also attends WALK and is in the early stages of running her own business, Niamh's Colourful Crafts.

The group also recruited their own backing band for the event by attending the Ballyfermot College of Further and Higher Education Musicians' Showcase



BEST DAYS: Joyful Noise take to the stage at Waterford's All Together Now Festival

“This is one of the best days of my life, I will never forget this day. I didn't know how much I loved singing out loud until I joined Joyful Noise. It's done a lot for me and I have made some great friends in it too . . . We learn life lessons together, we have fun together and it is just the best band of friends

earlier in the year and came across talented young guitarist Brandon Carrig with his band Hot Mess.

Group member and singer Sophie Dowling said: "This is one of the best days of my life, I will never forget this day. I didn't know how much I loved singing out loud until I joined Joyful Noise. It's done a lot for me and I have made some great friends in it too."

Singer Fiadhnaith Canning

said: "I enjoy the whole thing, getting to know people who become your friends and singing songs together at gigs gives you the best memories. We learn life lessons together, we have fun together and it is just the best band of friends."

Kathryn Griffin said: "Joyful Noise ask its members to make the decisions and it got me speaking out for myself. I used to give up on things and didn't stick things out but then I started

in Joyful Noise, I made friends and it gave me the confidence to share ideas and suggestions and to show people that I have a voice".

The group practise in The Nest which is a large pergola in the garden of The Green Kitchen, Walkinstown.

"It's actually something they largely paid for themselves using donations that were given specifically to support the project," said Mark.

New minimally invasive procedure to treat men for enlarged prostate

Technique using water vapour will help shrink excess prostate tissue

ONE in four men over the age of 40 in Ireland will suffer from an enlarged prostate gland. In medical terms this is referred to as Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH) and in simpler terms an enlarged prostate.

Earlier this week, a team led by Consultant Urologist Professor Rustom Manecksha carried out a new type of minimally invasive procedure treating BPH in the Reeves Day Surgery Centre at Tallaght University Hospital.

Professor Rustom Manecksha, Consultant Urologist, who carried out the procedures commented: "We have provided an alternative treatment for what is a common medical problem. Our hospital and in particular the urology service has a long tradition of innovation, the introduction of this new therapy is a welcome addition to the number of ways we can treat an enlarged prostate, many of which are minimally invasive.

"This means our patients spend less time in hospital and have a shorter recovery time so they can get back to living their lives."

The innovative treatment (Rezūm) uses water vapour therapy to target

and shrink the excess prostate tissue.

When the steam contacts the prostate tissue the stored energy is released into the tissue. In time the body absorbs the treated tissue, reducing the size of the prostate.

This relieves the urinary obstruction and improves urinary flow.

During the procedure, a specialised device is directed to deliver small bursts of heated water vapor directly into the prostate tissue.

The treated tissue is then gradually re-absorbed by the body, reducing the size of the prostate and easing the symptoms for the patient. It is typically performed as a day procedure, using sedation or a short general anaesthetic.

It is a new and alternative treatment option, which adds to the options already offered, including UroLift, which the Urology team in TUH introduced in 2019.

Plasma vaporisation and bipolar prostate resection, Rezūm is a new and effective alternative to traditional surgical treatments for BPH, providing patients with symptom relief with minimal side effects and a quicker recovery time.



NEW PROCEDURE: The team that carried out the first Rezūm procedures in the Reeves Day Surgery Centre were Mr Diarmuid Sugrue (Urology SpR), Professor Rustom Manecksha (Urology Consultant), Shirley Hopton (CNM1), Kyle Garma (Staff Nurse) and Elaine Borromeo (Staff Nurse)

Foróige programme lets youth influence the world

COMMUNITY spirit is very much alive and kicking as young people from Tallaght and all across South Dublin work on community projects to make their areas a better place to live.

The young citizens ranging in age from eight to eighteen are taking part in the Foróige Youth Citizenship Programme.

The programme helps young people to explore community needs and issues that are important to them, come up with creative ideas to address these needs and then take action to

make a positive change.

The topics that those in Foróige youth clubs and groups have taken action on include road safety, poverty and youth mental health.

Andy Leeson, Dublin South Area Manager with Foróige said, "This programme shows that young people can influence the world in a positive way by taking action in their community and on issues that are important to them."

Through their involvement in these projects, young people develop a range of essential life skills, take pride in their

community and have plenty of fun in the process".

Foróige's work with young people includes youth clubs and projects, one-to-one support and coaching, outreach in community spaces as well as group work, school holiday programmes, drop-in services and events for young people.

The young people's community work will be celebrated and showcased in September at the Foróige Community Spirit Awards taking place in Tallaght Library and The Civic Theatre.



INFLUENCERS: Brookfield Foróige Group 'Foodfastic' (from left) Jayden Lahiffe, Joshua Ndoma, Lynn Cheevers, Carla Cheevers, Fayth Kealy, Katelyn Burke, Brandon Molloy, Lexi Yates, Youth Worker Melissa Deegan, Kelsey Rooney, Hollie McKeown, Sophia Ronan and Jordan Lahiffe during a bake sale to raise funds to provide care packages to homeless children living in the Abberly Court Hotel as part of the Foróige Citizenship programme.

Scheme to restart with new builder



SCHEME: The Watercourse Grove scheme on Knocklyon Road in Firhouse

A RAPID Build Scheme known as Watercourse Grove is set to recommence construction after appointing a new contractor with the goal of completing the 16-units in mid-2024, three-and-a-half years after breaking ground, reports Hayden Moore.

Struck with delays, Watercourse Grove on the Knocklyon Road in Firhouse has appointed a new contractor who is planning to be on-site by the end of September 2023.

Initially valued at €5.1m, the rapid-build social housing development has been left idle since February of last year, with the original contractor FORRME Construction later having its contract terminated.

Last year, Cllr Brian Lawlor (FG) said that the houses were 50 per cent finished, with the site needing remedial works after the "stock [had] been left exposed" due to the lack of roofing works.

Now, a new contractor has been appointed by South Dublin County Council with the intention of recommencing works on site within the next few weeks.

"The project was originally tendered in 2020 with the original contractor commencing on site in late 2020," a spokesperson for South Dublin County Council told *The Echo*.

"However due to the combined impact of supply chain issues, Covid-19, Brexit, supply chain issues, labour resourcing issues, rising interest rates and inflation exacerbated by the Ukraine war which impacted the appointed contractor, the Council was required to terminate the original contract and to re-tender for the construction completion of the works."

"Following a public procurement process a new contractor has been awarded the contract to complete the project and it is anticipated that they will commence on site before the end of Q3 2023."

"The final programme for completion of the homes is mid-2024."

FORRME had also been contracted to complete the age-friendly social housing developments in Maplewood and Fernwood, Springfield – with that contract also being terminated.

Cleary and Doyle Construction won the re-tender for that project and has been on-site since February of this year, with the 40 units expected to be completed in September and November.

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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



Sycamore helicopters



MATURING: Helicopter seeds are maturing in Sycamore trees at the moment

THE Sycamore tree is a familiar feature in our parks, hedgerows, and along roadsides. It is native to central and southern Europe, but it has been widely planted in Ireland since the 17th century as an ornamental species. It is tolerant to air pollution, so it is frequently planted as a street tree in cities.

Sycamore's seeds are the well-known winged 'helicopters' or keys, that twirl and float in the air when the autumn winds blow them from the tree.

The scientific name for the helicopter seed is a samara.

Samaras are a type of dry, hard fruit where part of the fruit has extended out to form a flattened wing of papery tissue.

With other trees like Elm, the seed is placed in the middle of a flat, papery, circle of tissue.

With Sycamore, the tissue is tougher and more fibrous, and it is stretched out sideways to form something that looks like a helicopter blade.

Sycamore's samaras occur in pairs.

They are connected together at the hard seed end,

with the fibrous wings held out to the sides at an angle.

The seeds usually separate as they fall from the tree.

Scientific studies have shown that as the winged seed drops, the heavy part of the seed falls head downwards.

As it twirls down through the air it creates a vortex above itself, just like a tornado.

The effect of this vortex is that the air pressure over the upper surface of the seed is lowered.

This has the effect of drawing the seed back upwards into the air, allowing it to travel much further in the wind away from the parent tree.

The engineering principles behind the flight of twirling seeds like Sycamore have inspired improvements in designs for modern helicopter rotors.

Bunches of seeds are noticeable in Sycamore trees at the moment as they mature, turning from their summertime green-tinged-with-red to their autumn colour of brown.



SCULPTURE: 'A carved sculpture of giant sycamore seeds' in the Dodder Valley Park at Old Bawn, installed by South Dublin County Council

RECOGNITION: Cllr Pamela Kearns looking at the allotments with Pat O'Rourke, chairman of South Dublin Allotment Association



Prize plots give grower

Friarstown Allotments open day i

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER 150 people attended the Friarstown Allotments open day in Bohernabreena last Saturday, where rosettes were presented to a number of plot holders in recognition of their bountiful crops.

There are over 300 plots in the allotments, which are owned by South Dublin County Council, that are home to a variety of crops.

The open day allowed the plot holders and their families to get together and compete in best crop competitions and soak up the jovial atmosphere on the day.

Clondalkin man Pat O'Rourke, who has maintained his plot in Friarstown since 2009 and is a member of the South Dublin Allotment Association, told *The Echo* about how the day went.

"What happens is that we have a plot competition where we look at the plot and use a number of criteria, such as a fairly large variety of veg being grown, herbs, fruits, and how the plots are being looked after.

"The council are very generous. They hire a big marquee for us and they sponsor the prizes for the plot competition."

When Pat was speaking to *The Echo* over the phone on Monday, he was in the process of turning over the soil in his plot to grow green manure over winter, before

turning it over again the following spring.

When asked what keeps people going back to and maintaining their plots, which require a great deal of commitment to effectively yield crops, Pat said there were a number of factors.

"There are two general things that keep us up here," he said. "One is the fact that you're growing something that's homegrown and every day you learn something new.

"Two is, when people come up, they're usually a bit wary, but after a year or so they become friends with the people at the neighbouring plots.

"It's the companionship, and the fact that you're growing your own produce and there's no pesticides or herbicides being used.

"There's a huge sense of satisfaction that comes from it, and you're at peace when you're doing things like digging a plot – you know what you're doing and why you're doing it."

Plans are already in place for next year's open day – which will be the eleventh one held in Friarstown – and the organisers are hoping to hold it in July 2024 instead of August as per usual.

"We want to make it bigger and better," said Pat. "We believe we're going to bring it in July next year instead of August.

"There will be a better variety of vegetables then, and we hope that, next year, the weather will be more kind to us."



OPEN DAY: Cllr Charlie O'Connor, John Maher, Marie Power, Cllr Pamela Kearns and Cllr Lynn Hagen Meade in Bohernabreena

and rosettes rs the good life

in Bohernabreena attracted over 150 people



ATMOSPHERE: Kayleigh Mannering, Justine Mannering, Michelle Stynes, Des Garry, Stella Bracken and Teresa Stynes.

Photos by Lafayette Photography

Presenting . . . The Wonderful Walkinstown Festival 2023



EXCITEMENT: At the launch of the Walkinstown Festival

THE WONDERFUL Walkinstown Festival 2023 will take place on Sunday, August 27, in Walkinstown Park on Walkinstown Avenue (across the road from Lidl), reports Maurice Garvey.

The entertainment, which is free to everyone, will run from 12 noon to 5pm.

"Our festival is supported by Dublin City Council and organised by a committee of local residents and organisations," said Jackie Byrne, secretary of the Wonderful Walkinstown Festival Committee.

"As with our inaugural event last year our aim is to showcase the best of our community by promoting sports clubs, talent, art and culture and voluntary groups from the area.

"Our inaugural festival last year was a huge success with the Garda estimating an attendance of over 3,000 people over the five hour event."

Events on the day this year will include a live music stage featuring

performances from local music and dance groups.

Information stands for local groups and community organisations will also feature, along with sports, clowns, face painting, super heroes and other activities for kids, young and old.

"In addition to the above attractions this year we are very excited to announce that we will have The Sensory Express on site," said Jackie.

"This is Ireland's first transportable sensory room. The experience is essentially a "spa day" for neuro-divergent children and teens. It provides them with the opportunity to regulate sensory overload and anxiety."

The committee launched the festival this week with representatives from some of the groups who will be participating in this year's event, including Community Garda, GAA club St James Gaels – An Caislean, The Walkelees and D12 Autism.

“we will have The Sensory Express on site . . . This is Ireland's first transportable sensory room. The experience is essentially a "spa day" for neuro-divergent children and teens.

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AS PART of *The Echo* celebrating over 40 years, we're celebrating you, and local faces and places. Over the last three years we've shared the stories of local people, and remind ourselves of the great community spirit alive across local areas. This week, **Ken Doyle** talks to Phyllis Royal, who has been running a phenomenally successful crochet class at St Dominic's Community Centre since 2009.

MASTER: crochet
master, Phyllis Royal at
St Dominic's
Community Centre



***The Echo* – celebrating
community for over 40 years**



THE CRAFT of crochet is said to have been invented by shepherds to pass the time while tending to their flocks in northern Europe and involved using a long, straight needle with a hooked end to manipulate wool or other fibres. The hooked end allowed the shepherd to pull the yarn through loops and create intricate designs similar to modern crochet.

Crochet, is a needlework technique that utilizes a single hooked tool to interconnect loops of yarn, producing a delicate and intricate fabric. Crochet patterns are more intricate than knitting patterns due to the use of just one tool with more stitches and locations in which to place those stitches. Thus crocheters can produce a variety of different products, from bathing suits to handbags and many more things in between.

Now obviously this is a bit much for my tiny man-brain to process, but luckily I know a lady who could give me all the help I need to slip-stitch with the best of them.

This week's local hero is something close to a crochet master, if there is such a thing.

Phyllis Royal has been running a phenomenally successful crochet

class for the patrons of St Dominic's Community Centre ever since it opened in 2009.

It would be unfair to suggest that the Crochet Group is Phyllis' only contribution to the Centre over the years. She was one of the originals who did everything from painting the rooms to fighting for the Centre's very existence.

"We all had to just muck in in the early days when we were running as St Muir's and the community centre was two rooms in a block of flats," She says.

"I remember helping my friend Teresa O'Brien to paint the rooms and make the place a bit respectable looking."

Eventually everything changed when, after a long fight and campaign they finally opened their new centre in 2009.

Phyllis enthuses, "The new centre was beautiful and I suppose we all made a joint pledge to keep it pristine and improve it whenever it was needed."

The impressive and welcoming building that now is St Dominic's Community Centre suggests that Phyllis and all the volunteers have kept their promise.

With a new building, came new rooms and Phyllis commandeered a space to bring her gift of crochet to the good people of St Dominic's Parish.

"We got started straight away," Phyllis tells me. "As soon as the official opening happened, the rooms started filling up with activity groups and we made sure we got a nice location to start crocheting."

Over the last fifteen years, Phyllis' group has gone from strength to strength, to the point where there is now a waiting list for people wanting to join.

Phyllis says, "We've been really lucky to have that amount of people coming to us, and it's lovely to see the smiles on people's faces when they finish a project and feel that sense of accomplishment."

Apart from the finished article, Crochet offers a lot of mental and physical benefits. It is a form of mindfulness, which helps to reduce stress and anxiety by promoting relaxation and calming the mind. Crochet is also a low-impact hobby that can be done while sitting down, making it a good choice for people with limited mobility.

Phyllis continues, "A lot of people

originally came to us because they were lonely sitting at home. Crochet seemed like a way to get out and meet people."

Amongst all of her achievements, this seems to be the one Phyllis is proudest of.

"It's so nice to see people making friends through the class and we've all made such good friends. It's really important for people to have that social outlet and we're delighted to be able to provide it," she says.

You might think that Local Faces in *The Echo* would be Phyllis' first taste of fame, but you'd be very much mistaken.

Some years ago, renowned RTE Television show 'Nationwide' came to the Centre to cover a crochet fashion show put on by Phyllis and her students.

So there was Phyllis, front and centre telling Mary Kennedy all about the joys of crochet on national TV!

The video is available on the Centre's Facebook page by the way.

It's great to know that everything the group makes is sent to good causes in the area. "We send a lot of our work to the Hospital, including the premature babies unit," Phyllis

tells me.

"Nothing goes to waste, and we try to ensure that everything we make goes to people who could use it."

I'm not suggesting she's obsessed, but during the dark days of lockdown, Phyllis whiled away the hours by crocheting 32 GAA players wearing their unique county colours. "Well I had the wool in the house," she laughs, "I thought I might as well use it for something."

Being able to get the materials at cost price, Phyllis looks after all the supplies for the group. "My house is full of wool! I'm constantly tripping over balls of wool in the house," she says.

When she's not working for the betterment of her community, Phyllis has an extremely busy family life to contend with.

"I'm married to Doug," she tells me, "and we've reared six children; Douglas, Mark, Marian, Claire, Jennifer and Mena."

With nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, it's fair to say that there's never a dull moment for Tallaght's foremost community minded Crochet genius.

But then, she wouldn't want it any other way.

“We've been really lucky to have that amount of people coming to us, and it's lovely to see the smiles on people's faces when they finish a project and feel that sense of accomplishment”

BUSY: With nine grandchildren and four great-grandchildren, it's fair to say that there's never a dull moment for Phyllis



Residents say that Chapelizod development will overwhelm village's social infrastructure

AN OBJECTION by a residents' group to a Large Scale Residential Development (LRD) of over 100 units in Chapelizod, claims the development would "overwhelm the village's publicly-provided social infrastructure", reports Maurice Garvey

Plans lodged with Dublin City Council earlier this year by property group Linders of Smithfield Ltd, contain proposals for 106 units (96 apartments, 10 duplexes) at the former Linders site, Quadrant House, Chapelizod Road.

Chapelizod Residents Association say their social infrastructure is under "enormous strain" due to "overdevelopment during the past decade" and that the population is set to double by 2026.

The group cite four areas of concern in their submission to the council – transport, schools, sewage and childcare facilities.

The submission says Chapelizod has not got a fixed-line public transport link to the city centre, and that the National Transport Authority replaced seven routes from the

west down the Chapelizod Bypass with just one new route providing 76 buses per weekday or "over one-third of the previous amount."

With regard to the two national schools in the village, CRA says strong population growth over the last decade and demand for places has exceeded supply.

CRA expect Chapelizod's population to more than double to nearly 6,800 by 2026 due to significant developments.

By their estimation, there are 1,202

apartment units currently under construction in the area and a further 169 planned.

"Chapelizod's public sewage system was installed in Victorian times. It has never been renewed. After 150 years of hard usage, the system needs, not to be renewed, but to be replaced," said CRA.

"Chapelizod's population in 2026 would be more than six times larger than the population for which Chapelizod's sewage system was planned and built in the 19th century."

Over €600 raised by match for Cardiac Risk in the Young

Event in memory of Ciaran who died from Sudden Cardiac Death syndrome



EXCITING MATCH: The teams that participated in the Ciaran McDonnell memorial match in Ballymount Park on Saturday



The Dunleavy Family



Elana, Faye and June



Alex, Lesley, Jamie, Sharlene and Kayleigh Kennedy

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER 100 spectators gathered in Ballymount Park last weekend to watch a memorial match in memory of a local young man, and raised over €600 for the charity Cardiac Risk in the Young (CRY).

The event was held in memory of Kingswood man Ciaran McDonnell, who died from sudden cardiac death syndrome in February 2010.

A team from Kingswood Castle FC competed against Team Kiwi, which was composed of Ciaran's friends and named in tribute to the popular young man's nickname.

Team Kiwi were out of luck,

however, as they lost to Kingswood Castle FC for the second year in a row, with a score of 10-2.

Dean Bonnie, who was good friends with Ciaran, and Sharlene Kennedy from Kingswood Castle FC organised the event which is now in its 10th year.

Sharlene told *The Echo*: "It was really exciting, and you could tell people were coming out to support a good thing."

The 10th annual memorial match was recognised with the presentation of a new shield, documenting the winners of the match in the previous ten years.

This shield was given to Ciaran's mother, Dolores, while the winning team received the Ciaran McDonnell Trophy in recognition of their victory.

After the match, the attendees then

went to the Kingswood Lodge where a raffle was held and Dolores spoke about the very important work of CRY, which received the proceeds from the event.

"Dolores gave a lovely speech about CRY," said Sharlene. "She also shared some facts, and it was shocking to hear how many people a year die from cardiac risk in the young."

"It highlighted the important work that CRY does. The work they do is life-saving work, you can't put a price on it."

"It brought awareness to CRY and got conversations going, and awareness is an important part of prevention. We're more than happy to support them."

The match and raffle were supported by Gio's Kingswood, Best Pharmacy,

The Tan Fairy, Kingswood Kenpo Karate, Walkers Butchers, OneLifeFitness, Epic Fitness, Studio 24 Male Grooming, Radcover.ie, Sean Casey and Michelle Gaynor.

The event also gave Ciaran's family and friends the opportunity to reflect on the life of the young man who had a lasting impact on those around him.

"Seeing his family coming down and his friends being together was

really lovely," added Sharlene.

"We're ten years into the match now, and it just goes to show how loved he was and the character he was."

When asked how she thought Ciaran would've felt about the match last Saturday, Sharlene laughed and said: "I think he'd have preferred if Team Kiwi had won – that's his team with his nickname."

“Seeing his family coming down and his friends being together was really lovely . . . We're ten years into the match now, and it just goes to show how loved he was and the character he was”

Meet The Vikings

Families enjoy event held in the Round Tower Visitor Centre in Brú Chrónain



PROTECTIVE: Viking Ivan arms a junior Viking with protective chain mail

NATIONAL Heritage Week in Clondalkin got off to a lively start on Saturday with the public invited to Meet the Vikings in the garden of The Round Tower Visitor Centre, Brú Chrónain.

Curious visitors travelled especially from as far afield as Whitehall and as nearby as Walkinstown to do just that and to learn what everyday life was like for the settled Vikings of Dyflin (Irish: Dubh Linn/Dublin).

The event, hosted by Clondalkin Round Tower Heritage Group, advertised ‘a small peaceful group of Vikings camped at the base of the tower’ but it seemed a lot of the visiting children and their families had their own agenda!

As Viking re-enactor, Marnie Caddle, told *The Echo*: “It was such fun to see streams of little kids, the real ‘smallies’, arriving all dressed-up with their Viking helmets and plastic swords! We had no idea that was going to happen – but it was great!”

Older children and teens got a turn at trying on real chainmail and replica Viking helmets, which Eimear Ging, a re-enactor with Clondalkin Living History, explained are actually quite different to how they’re envisaged in the public imagination.

“The Vikings never wore helmets with horns! Any helmets that were discovered at Viking sites in Britain and places - none of them had horns! Interestingly, the manuscripts tell us the Norse were very particular about cleanliness and very conscious about how they dressed, always making sure they looked well.” Clondalkin’s ‘smallies’ begged to differ about the helmets, however, and all were agreed they brought their own special and very welcome charm to the event!

Among the display items that caught the attention of the adult visitors was the small ‘heddle’ loom, used to make colourful wool



DISPLAY: Re-enactors Eimear Ging Nikki Caddle and Marnie Caddle with their display of everyday

belts and visitors could see a belt being woven by re-enactor, Nora Thornton.

A bowl of ‘silver’ coins with the head of Norse Dublin’s King Sitric turned out to be fake however!

“These are just tin ones,” admitted re-enactor, Ivan Erskine, pointing to the minting machine and the stamp he had just used to forge them.

“It’s easy to recognise a fake one,” he added helpfully “as the tin is much lighter and thinner than silver.”

“However, they do bear a resemblance to the Viking silver hoards found in Clondalkin,” Eimear pointed out, “when archaeological digs

were carried out here.”

If you missed the event or want to learn more about Clondalkin’s Viking history, free guided tours of the Round Tower permanent exhibition will take place Thursday, August 17 bat 5pm and 6pm and Sunday 20th, 10am-11am and 12pm-1am.

Other Heritage Week events on Sunday August 20, include Fishing is Fun, Family Fun Day for All, 2-3pm, hosted by Friends of the Camac (meet in carpark of Clondalkin Leisure Centre) and a tour of Fairview Oil Mills takes place Sunday morning, 11am-12pm, led by Monica McGill (meet at St John’s Wood carpark entrance to Corkagh Park).



WOVEN BELT: Bríd Sinclair and Joy Stewart admire the heddle-woven belt worn by Nora Thornton



COINS: Coins from the Viking age - or perhaps not!



VIKING AXE: Viking Ivan Erskine holds a replica Viking axe as he rests on a cowskin rug



EVEN VIKINGS NEED A COFFEE BREAK! Re-enactor Nikki Caddle offers a coffee to Josephine Byrne from Clondalkin Round Tower Heritage Group



HEDDLE LOOM: Nora Thornton weaves a belt on a heddle loom

E 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

Myth of free education and the continuing struggles for money

Dear Editor,

THE REPORT headlined 'Myth of free education does not stand up the reality of everyday struggles for money' merits further comment.

Free education is a misnomer and remains a dream even after 66 years and shows how the Department of Education has deviated from truly realising Donogh O'Malley's vision of free education back in 1966.

This autumn will see the introduction of free

primary school books which will reduce the average cost of basics needed for a fourth-class pupil to €320.

Equipping a first-year pupil has risen to €972 and a fifth-year pupil will cost €863. Barnardos has called for free secondary school books and wants lower-cost uniforms which 28 per cent of primary school and 11 per cent of secondary schools furnish.

An Roinn Oideachais has reneged on its responsibility to adequately fund schools – a basic tenet of free education leaving a shortfall

with a paltry capitation grant as one teacher remarked: 'it wouldn't buy a Snickers bar'.

Voluntary contributions by parents to fund schools are up 20 per cent. But no school should combine voluntary contributions with fees for school essentials such as lockers, journals and access to book rental schemes.

Teachers have to send out reminders for 'voluntary contributions' and maintain lists of parents in default. Schools have resorted to collecting this unfair stealth tax under the guise of 'voluntary contributions'.

Literacy is no longer restricted to reading, writing and numeracy.

Education should offer access to skills and know-how that enable the individual to take their place in society.

To those resentful about the cost of education, Abraham Lincoln said: "Very well, gentlemen, then try ignorance!"

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan,
Kilnamanagh.

Honouring the memory of the extraordinary Dr Noël Browne

REMEMBERING: James Dunne at the unveiling of the Noël Browne memoriam stone outside Peamount Hospital in 2022



Dear Editor,

Dr NOËL BROWNE, champion of the mother-and-child scheme, was stymied by the hierarchy and the 'all-powerful' medical profession.

Dr Noël Browne was the subject of an excellent documentary on The Seven Ages of Noël Browne at 9.35pm on Monday, July 31st on RTE One and RTE Player.

Directed by acclaimed filmmaker, Alan Gilson, the documentary draws on heretofore unseen and newly discovered footage from four interviews recorded in 1997 before his death.

Dr Noël Browne gave a passionate and wide-ranging interview to producer and screen writer JES Black.

The footage, captured in his Connemara thatched cottage where he retired to after learning Gaelic, was originally researched for a screenplay which James Black intended to make.

And 25 years later, James Black's widow, Nula Suchet proffered the unedited footage to Alan Gilson and Yellow Asylum Films produced with Browne's two daughters, Ruth and Susan.

The documentary delved into the extraordinary life of Dr Noël Browne, a socialist challenger of consensus, a radical Minister for Health latter shunned, who secured £40 million from The Irish Hospitals' Sweepstake pursuant to the 1947 Health Act to finance hospitals, author of the Mother and Child Scheme, denounced by the 'all-powerful' medical consultants calling it: 'an invitation to scab the profession'.

The lack of support in John Costello's coalition government 1948-51 in concert with the enormous wielding power of John Charles McQuaid, Archbishop of Dublin sounded the death knell for Dr Noël Browne's non-means tested, free-to-access mother-and-child scheme.

Browne was at the forefront of eradicating tuberculosis, a disease his sister Eileen fell victim to in an Italian sanatorium, almost claiming his own life.

As his detractors have disappeared into eternity, his memory will be perpetuated with a plaque soon to be erected in Dublin City Council in his constituency.

Yours sincerely,
James Dunne,
Kilnamanagh

FBD records pre-tax profits of €39.5 million in first half of 2023

Dear Editor,

INSURER FBD recorded a pre-tax profit of €39.5m for the first six months of 2023, rising from €2.9m last year.

FBD Holdings authorised the payment of €35.8m dividend payable to shareholders in October up from the previous year.

FBD says the net best estimate pertaining to the Covid-19 Business Interruption fell by

€15m to €27m since December 2022, with final judgment on outstanding issues pertaining to a High Court test challenge on Covid business-interruption claims, instituted by a number of pub claimants in 2020.

This furnished: "certainty on the measurement of losses" connected with claims.

"This ruling allows us to finalise all valid Covid19 related claims and State subsidies."

CEO, Tomás Ó Midheach said: "We are supportive of the steps the Government has taken on insurance reform to reduce claims costs and consequently insurance premiums.

"The increased acceptance rates of awards from the Personal Injuries Resolution Board could indicate the Personal Injury Guidelines are being adopted, although their ultimate impact will not be known until the challenges make their way through the courts."

Injury claims rose over the period by four per cent year-on-year, "largely reflecting increased policy count".

The average cost of injury claims decreased by five per cent: "and continues to be lower than experienced pre-Covid" – attributed to the adoption of the Personal Injuries Guidelines in 2021.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh.

€3m Heritage Centre gallery and exhibition spaces unveiled

Heritage Centre is part of a cultural quarter beside Rua Red and Civic Theatre

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

PLANS for the new Tallaght Heritage Centre have been published by South Dublin County Council.

The Part 8 plans include the construction of a new two-storey structure on Old Blessington Road, which will accommodate gallery and exhibition spaces.

The €3m heritage centre will be adjacent to the Civic Theatre as part of a wider 'cultural quarter' encompassing Rua Red and the County Library.

Proposals also include the removal of an existing boundary fence, removal of an existing bottle-bank and bike lockers, removal of 39 existing surface car-parking spaces to facilitate development.

Associated site works to include landscaping a courtyard garden, planting, 20 bicycle-parking spaces, lighting and signage.

According to the plans, the development will consist of a new Heritage Centre for Tallaght with a gross floor area of 870sqm.

The plans and particulars of the proposed development are available for inspection online on the council's public consultation portal website (<http://consult.sdbublincoco.ie>) from August 8 to September 6, 2023.

Submissions or observations may be made in writing up to September 21 via the council's public consultation portal website <http://consult.sdbublincoco.ie> or in writing to the Head of County Promotion Unit, Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, to be received on or before 5pm on September 21.

Submissions should be labelled "Tallaght Heritage Centre."



HERITAGE: An artist's impression of the Heritage Centre

Tallaght Community Council (TCC) and the Tallaght Historical Society had been pushing for a heritage centre in the area for several years, and in 2015 TCC lodged an unsuccessful submission for a museum in Tallaght on the council's County

Development Plan 2016-2021.

TCC then lodged another submission calling for a museum in the locality in the Tallaght Town Centre Local Area Plan in 2020.

Cllr Charlie O'Connor has called for a heritage

centre in the area many times over the years, while Cllr Teresa Costello tabled a motion about developing a museum in Tallaght at a council meeting in early 2020, before the council committed to pursuing the project in 2022.

Popular outdoor food and craft markets comes to Corkagh

THE outdoor food and craft markets will return to Corkagh Park for 2023 according to South Dublin County Council. The offerings available include street food, crafts, artisan produce and live entertainment, providing all the ingredients for a fun-filled family day out.

After a popular run in 2022, Urban Picnic is returning to Corkagh Park in Clondalkin on Sunday, August 27 and will operate from 11am to 5pm each Sunday up to October 15.

Urban Picnic will be located near the playground in the park, visible from the car park at St. John's Entrance.

This year's markets will launch with an Intercultural Food and Craft event on Sunday, August 27. This event will have a wide variety of global food, craft, entertainment, and family activities. South Dublin County Council and Urban Picnic are delighted to be able to build on the success of last year's markets, with such an exciting event to launch the 2023 programme.

Mayor of South Dublin County Council, Cllr Alan Edge said "This is great news for the community of Clondalkin and the surrounding areas. It is fantastic to be able to provide such a valuable service to residents and visitors to our County. Corkagh Park is a beautiful location, and the markets add a vibrancy and dynamic to what has been highly regarded in previous

years. I encourage the local communities to come along to support and experience all these markets have to offer."

The live entertainment at Corkagh Park markets is being supported through the South Dublin Live programme, a South Dublin County Arts Office initiative.

Orla Scannell, Arts Officer said "The scheme is supporting both seasoned and emerging acts to bring live performance directly to the community in indoor and outdoor spaces throughout the county. It's a great opportunity for performers and audiences alike to enjoy the wonderful talent on offer in South Dublin."

The Intercultural Food and Craft event is being supported by South Dublin County Council's Community Department. Joe Lumumba, Administrative Officer said: "The Outdoor Markets provide communities the opportunity to enjoy food and craft in a relaxed environment in our parks. The Intercultural Food and Craft event will afford members of the local community the prospect of sampling food from various cultures".

The markets will promote local enterprise and develop a sense of community by utilising where possible local producers and crafts people, including Local Enterprise Office South Dublin (LEO) start-up clients.



CULTURES: A noodle trader at one of the stalls

E-cargo bikes to boost non-profit organisations and businesses

Businesses can trial bikes for up to 12 months with a 60 per cent subsidy on rentals

By William O'Connor

william@echo.ie

A RANGE of new initiatives to boost the use of electric cargo bikes in the city was launched by Dublin City Council.

The announcement comes on the back of a successful pilot scheme which saw more than 20 local businesses trialling electric cargo bikes over the past two years.

One of the new projects will provide electric cargo bikes to non-profit organisations such as community groups, charities and sports clubs. These bikes will be available for a loan period of up to 12 months, with the full cost subsidised by Dublin City Council.

The original E-cargo Bikes for Business pilot scheme has also been made permanent, meaning local businesses can trial an electric cargo bike for up to 12 months, with Dublin City Council providing a 60 per cent subsidy on the rental cost.

The third project sees the launch of a new Community Cargo Bike which can be hired for free by the public. The first of these shared cargo bikes will be based at The Bike Hub in Eamonn Ceannt Park in Crumlin.

The announcements are the continuation of a project which began in September 2021 when Dublin City Council announced its E-Cargo Bikes for Business pilot project.

That scheme saw 22 local businesses trial



cargo bikes for prolonged periods of six to twelve months, with 60 per cent of the cost subsidised by the city council.

Those businesses clocked up a combined 34,691km over the course of the pilot – the equivalent of a trip from Dublin to Sydney and back again!

The pilot project also helped the businesses to avoid emitting an estimated 4,372kg of CO₂ when compared to using a small commercial van for their transport needs.

At the end of the trial 90 per cent of participants indicated that they could see a use for cargo bikes in their business, while 40 per cent of participants actually took the leap and became permanent cargo bike users.

The new projects aims at broadening the appeal of cargo bikes and enabling more people to try them out.

The Community Cargo Bike in Crumlin will be available for short-term hire, allowing people to test out their usefulness for everyday trips

such as doing the weekly shopping.

"We used the original pilot project to identify some of the barriers to cargo bike use," says Jennifer McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer in DCC's Micromobility Unit. "One of those barriers is cost, which is why we're making these cargo bikes available to try for free to non-profit organisations and the general public."

"We were delighted that so many businesses became permanent cargo bike users after the pilot project, which was a big factor in making the Cargo Bikes for Business scheme permanent. Thankfully we've had strong support from the National Transport Authority from the very start which has enabled us to broaden the scope of the project as we went along."

Welcoming the new projects, Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithí de Róiste said Dublin City Council was showcasing the use of cargo bikes as a more sustainable option for city deliveries.

"Cargo bikes are good for our environment and our health and wellbeing. They offer us a climate-friendly transport mode that can save on emissions, aligning with Dublin City Council's Climate Action Plan, its Development Plan, and the climate ambitions of Dublin's citizens and businesses."

Dublin City Council is now accepting applications from businesses and non-profits who wish to trial cargo bikes. All of the information and the application form can be found on www.dublincity.ie or www.bleeperactive.com

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Video-streaming spend tops €1.3bn by Irish customers

A SURVEY carried out by Citywest broadband and telecoms provider Pure Telecom found that the amount being spent by consumers in Ireland on video-streaming has risen to €1.3bn annually from €967m in 2021 – an increase of over €330m.

The nationally representative survey of 1,004 adults in Ireland was conducted by Censuswide on behalf of Pure Telecom.

It explored the potential impact of new and possible crackdowns on password-sharing by the world's leading streaming providers, whereby additional charges will be applied to those who share passwords with people outside of their household.

The survey found that 26 per cent of video streaming subscribers in Ireland are sharing their subscription passwords with someone outside of their household, indicating that the streaming spend could increase as providers introduce additional charges for password sharing.

Pure Telecom's research found that consumers in Ireland are feeling the pinch from having multiple video-streaming accounts.

The survey found that on average, adults in Ireland are paying for 2.4 video-streaming services each. The average adult currently spends €28.26 per month on video-streaming subscriptions, versus €22.57 per month in 2021. Gen X (adults between the ages of 43 and 58) are the highest spenders by generation, spending €33.36 per month on video streaming services.

Many are now choosing to reduce the number of video-streaming services they pay for to save money.

EXPENDITURE:
Paul Connell, CEO,
Pure Telecom



Some 38 per cent of those who pay for video-streaming report to have cancelled at least one subscription in the last 12 months to cut costs. Meanwhile, 17 per cent said they have cancelled to get better content elsewhere, while 16 per cent said they switched off as they had too many subscriptions already.

To alleviate the financial burden of subscription fees, 28 per cent of adults would be willing to watch ads on their chosen video-streaming channel if it meant they could get the content for free, while 14 per cent of adults said that they already use

video-streaming channels with ads to get content for free.

Paul Connell, CEO, Pure Telecom, said: "Ireland's population has well and truly embraced video-streaming and the market is continuing to grow – now far surpassing the €1bn mark in annual total consumer expenditure – and the trend of password-sharing that our research uncovered could see this rise considerably again."

"People know that they can't get all of the top shows from just one provider and the majority are prepared (even if it is reluctantly) to pay out of fear of missing out."

Cloud outage ‘catastrophic’ admit 73 per cent of firms

Survey from Auxillion found that majority of businesses are already in the cloud

By William O’Connor
william@echo.ie

A NEW survey from Irish IT services provider Auxillion reveals that 73 per cent of IT leaders in Ireland admitted a cloud outage would be “catastrophic” for their business, with a similar proportion (77 per cent) worried about such an occurrence.

The same survey carried out by Parkwest firm Auxillion, highlights that 84 per cent of businesses expect to have fully migrated all their systems, applications and data to the cloud within the next three years.

The research – carried out by Censuswide and involving more than 200 IT decision-makers in large enterprises across Ireland – found that some 77 per cent of organisations are already in the cloud.

Hybrid cloud was found to be the most popular choice among the companies already using cloud, with 22 per cent of respondents believing it to be the future. Meanwhile, 21 per cent think public cloud is the future.

Furthermore, 84 per cent of businesses expect to have fully migrated all of their systems, applications and data to the cloud within the next three years/almost three quarters (73 per cent) of IT leaders in Ireland admitted a cloud outage would be “catastrophic” for

BUSINESS NEEDS:
Donal Sullivan, Chief Technology Officer in Auxillion



their business, with a similar proportion (77 per cent) worried about such an occurrence.

The most cited reason for adopting cloud computing was reducing costs (32 per cent), as the vast majority (81 per cent) of IT decision-makers revealed that cloud is a more cost-

effective approach.

While it may be helping to control costs, investment in cloud looks set to increase with two thirds (67 per cent) planning to up their cloud spend over the next 12 months and the average investment estimated to be €1.84 million.

In fact, cloud ranked top of the list for IT investment over the next 12 months (45 per cent), followed by IT service desk (45 per cent), Artificial Intelligence (42 per cent), green technology (42 per cent) and cybersecurity (41 per cent). On the topic of green technology, almost

three-quarters (74 per cent) of organisations are currently using same.

It appears that IT leaders see cloud and sustainability going hand in hand, with 78 per cent saying cloud is important in helping their organisation achieve ESG goals and 27 per cent citing sustainability as a reason for using cloud computing. Moreover, almost three-quarters (74 per cent) of IT leaders said sustainability is a priority for their customers.

Donal Sullivan, Chief Technology Officer, Auxillion, said: “These results show that cloud infrastructure has become a critical aspect in the digital ecosystem for businesses, and it’s not just being adopted for cost, connectivity and collaboration purposes. It is also being deployed for sustainability purposes – as that area becomes ever more important for both businesses and their customers.

“Regardless of the reasons or the cloud infrastructure of choice, companies need to ensure they are using and adopting an approach that meets their business needs, optimises performance and protects their interests.

“Working with trusted partners can help to maximise the return on cloud investment and help to deliver better value, as well as drive success.”

Nine out of 10 SMEs plan to maintain or increase sustainability practices

NINE out of 10 Irish Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) plan to maintain or increase investment in sustainability practices and solutions in the next 12 months to meet what many see as a growing consumer appetite for more sustainable products and services, according to the bi-annual Uisce Éireann SME Sustainability Sentiment Survey.

The majority (73 per cent) intend to maintain current levels of investment, while over 1 in 5 expect to increase their spend in this area.

Satisfying customers’ desire for more sustainable products and services is now the second (43 per cent) most important key driver influencing SME decision-making on investment in sustainability, ranking behind achieving cost savings (55 per cent). More than half of Irish SMEs (52 per cent) believe operating a sustainable business attracts more customers.

While 72 per cent of SMEs continue to identify cost concerns and rising costs as the stand-out barrier to investing more in

sustainability practices, three out of ten state a lack of information on sustainability practices and lack of Government support (45 per cent) as problematic barriers. The survey found the majority of Irish SMEs (64 per cent) are not aware or not sure where to access supports including information and financial guidance to achieve sustainability savings.

Commenting, Geoffrey Bourke, Business Operations Manager at Uisce Éireann, said: “The B&A research shows Irish SMEs fully realise the importance of offering sustainable products and services to their customers, with the vast majority planning to continue investing to introduce sustainable practices and solutions.

“However, the survey also found they feel there is a lack of guidance for businesses around sustainability, with nearly seven out of ten not aware or not sure where to access supports.”

Uisce Éireann offers a suite of easy-to-access and free initiatives to help SMEs reduce costs and become more sustainable when it comes to their use of water,



AWARENESS:
Geoffrey Bourke

including its first-of-its-kind-globally Water Stewardship Programme and Annual Certification Scheme.

Geoffrey added: “Uisce Éireann understands the concerns and challenges facing SMEs and this summer we commenced writing to all our 180,000 commercial customers, detailing their projected water costs and advising how they can achieve savings while also conserving water and becoming more sustainable. There is growing awareness among SMEs about the value of water to their business and the potential savings that can be made to their bottom

line by becoming more water-aware.

“We also host a suite of free initiatives to help SMEs to thrive by reducing their costs and becoming more sustainable in their water use. These include our Water Stewardship Training Programme which helps organisations lower their water use, our Annual Certification Scheme, and the Uisce Éireann water conservation pledge, which enable businesses to demonstrate their commitment to water sustainability and avail of the great free resources on our website.

“We would encourage all SMEs to visit www.water.ie to find out how they can help conserve water and reduce costs.”

Conducted by Behaviour and Attitudes (B&A), the Uisce Éireann SME Sustainability Sentiment Survey interviewed over 350 SMEs, seeking their opinion on the importance of investing in sustainability for their businesses and customers and examining the barriers that currently exist to investment in the area.

business@echo.ie



ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75 PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE AYLMER ROAD, CO. DUBLIN

To facilitate Bartlett Tree Experts, prune and remove trees by the roadway that are blocking the runway view at Casement Aerodrome, South Dublin County Council propose to temporarily close Aylmer Road, Co. Dublin.

Date: Wednesday 6th September 2023.

Time of Closure: 10:30a.m. to 4:30pm.

Detour Route:

- Use the R-120 for detour from Newcastle - Smithfield back to New Nangor Road.
- Distance of detour is 4.25 km.
- Local access will be maintained.

Any person interested may lodge an observation/ submission in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 or by email to seoroads@sdbulincoco.ie not later than **5.00 p.m. on Monday 21st August 2023.**

Web: www.sdcc.ie



Plans approved for 12 dwellings in Rathcoole

PLANNING has been approved for the construction of 12 dwellings on Main Street in Rathcoole at the rear of a Protected Structure, reports William O'Connor.

Applicant Ciaran Reilly was approved

planning from South Dublin County Council for the demolition of a shed and workshop at rear of the Protected Structure to facilitate the provision of 18 car-parking spaces and construction of 12 dwellings. Included in the

construction plans is eight two-storey dwellings with attic-level accommodation, four-bedroom semi-detached dwellings, four two-storey with attic-level accommodation and three-bedroom semi-detached dwellings

with vehicular access at Main Street.

Plans include a pedestrian access to Forest Hills at the southern end of the site and ancillary site development works all within the curtilage of a Protected Structure.

Laurels pub looking to make amends to previous application

Applicant had lodged an application for the first floor of the pub to be turned into a townhouse hotel

By Aideen O'Flaherty

aideen@echo.ie

THE Laurels pub in Perrystown is seeking permission for amendments to a previous planning application for the first floor of the pub to be turned into a townhouse hotel.

As reported in *The Echo* in June 2021, the plans include the conversion of a restaurant kitchen area and staff quarters on the first floor to a townhouse hotel.

The proposal was approved by South Dublin County Council in December 2020, but the decision to grant permission was appealed to An Bord Pleanála (ABP) by the Recordors Residents' Association.

The residents' association believed that sufficient recognition of the points they made in their observation on the original planning application was not given by the council.

Stating that they are "not anti-progress", the residents' association believed that to "stand by and watch your once pleasant area being turned into a nightmare scenario" is not the way forward.

The residents' association stated that this "nightmare scenario" is a result of "higgledy piggledy" planning applications.

The proposed development comprises nine en-suite bedrooms with five double bedrooms and four four-person family



AMENDEMENTS:
The Laurels pub
in Perrystown

rooms.

Ancillary accommodation including a reception area, tea station, lift with new entrance staircase and fire-escape stairs to the rear are included in the plans.

ABP upheld the council's decision to grant planning permission when it reached its decision in June 2021.

The latest application concerning the premises was lodged by The Laurels on July 21, seeking amendments to the grant of planning permission in the form of alterations to the property.

Permission is now being sought to move the entrance doors to the hotel to face onto the street, and to construct a single-glazed roof-light over the lightwell, raised up so as to allow fresh air into this area.

Other plans include the reconfiguration of the fire-escape stairs at the back to maintain access to the back of the building and to the car park.

Permission is also being sought for the construction of a concrete roof with glazed roof lights over the beer garden to prevent the escape of noise and to retain the existing footpath to the front unaltered.

A decision on the application to amend the previous planning application is due from South Dublin County Council by September 14.

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Indian Orthodox Church seeking retention for a change of use at Malankara House

THE ST Thomas Indian Orthodox Church is seeking retention permission for the change of use of a dwelling called Malankara House on Old Lucan Road in Palmerstown into a presbytery, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

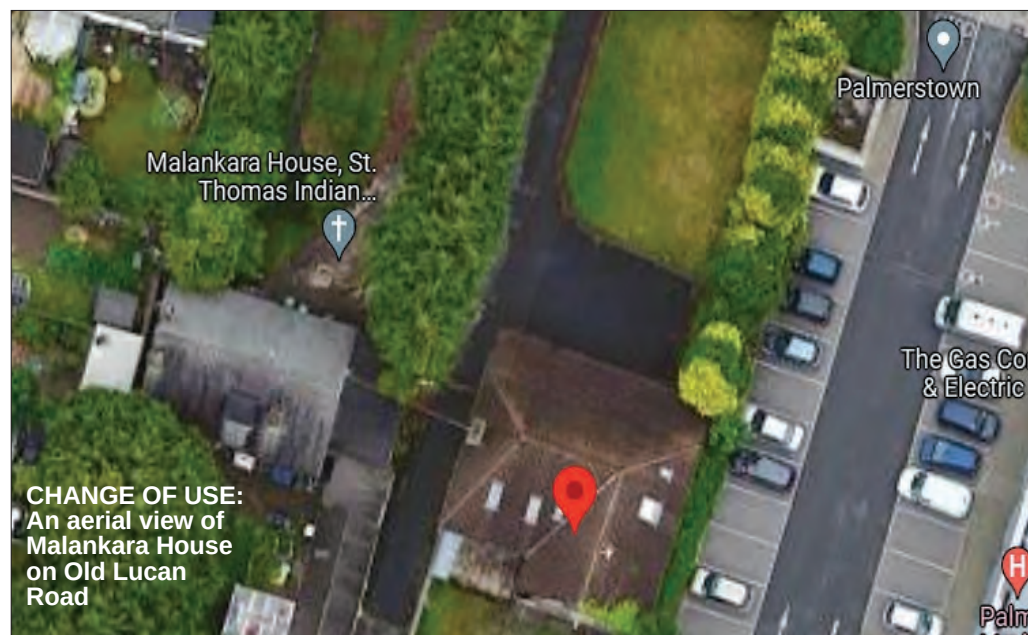
Permission is also being sought for the construction of a 222 sqm church with associated services, car-parking, landscaping, a flagpole, and a notice board.

The proposal includes the use of the existing entrance on Old Lucan Road as it currently exists, and the erection of a new gate, all at Malankara House.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by September 19.

According to the St Thomas Indian Orthodox Church's Irish website, Malankara House is the residence of the vicar.

The dwelling also includes a guest room to accommodate parish prelates or guest bishops when they visit the parish.



CHANGE OF USE:
An aerial view of
Malankara House
on Old Lucan
Road

Demolition works approved for six-classroom extension

Permission granted by city council for plans at Our Lady of Mercy Secondary School

By Aideen O'Flaherty

aideen@echo.ie

PERMISSION has been granted to Our Lady of Mercy Secondary School on Mourne Road in Drimmagh for demolition works and the construction of a six-classroom extension.

The structures that will be demolished include a single-storey prefabricated classroom in the south playground, a flat roof lobby to the north playground, and bicycle sheds at the eastern boundary.

The relocation of the water tank and replacement of it with accommodation that forms a three-sided courtyard and playground includes part of the plans.

It is proposed that there will be a single-storey extension to the southwest of the school campus and two storeys to the northeast.

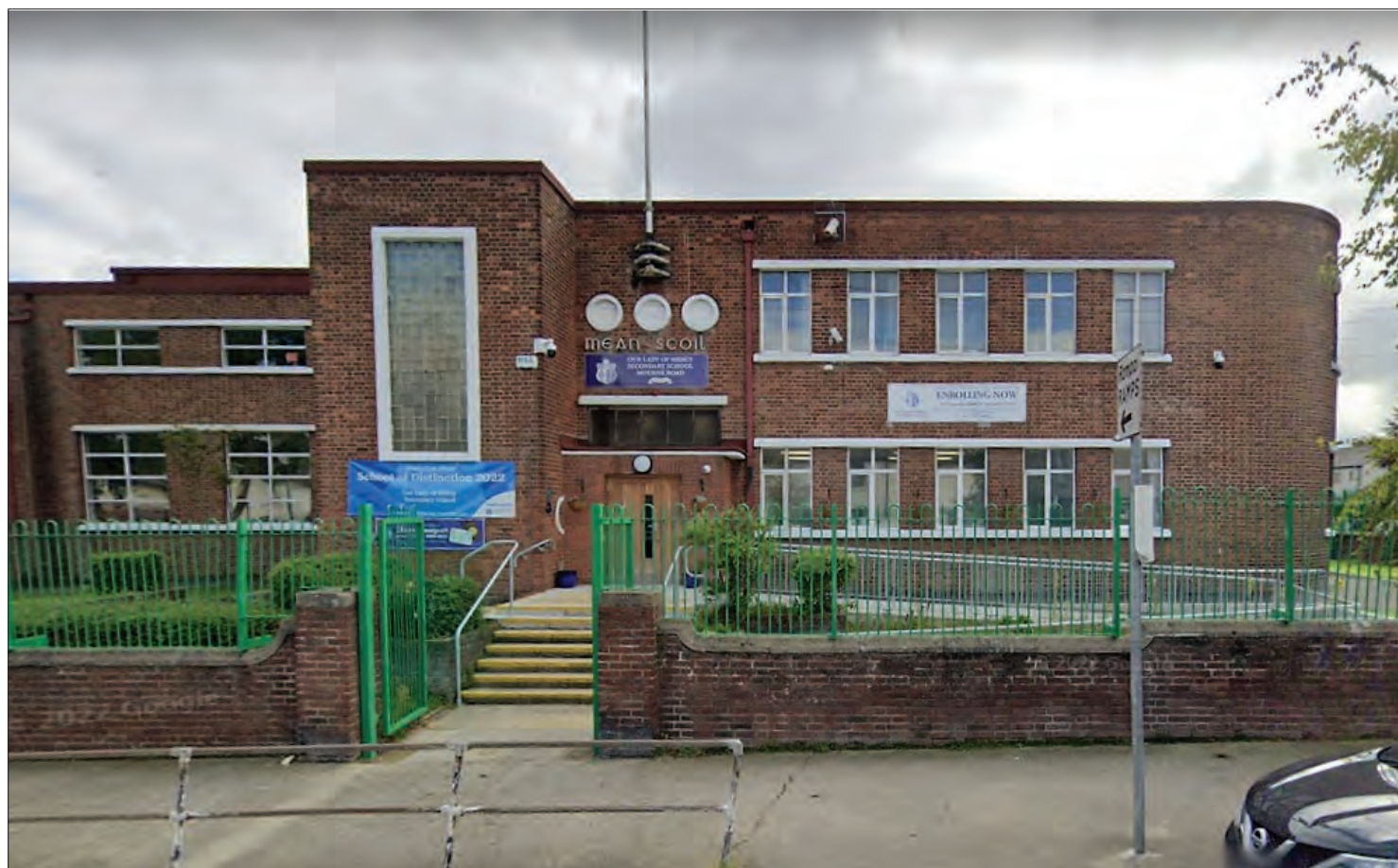
The proposed extension comprises four new general classrooms, a music room, a woodwork room, SEN facilities, and toilets in two separate buildings.

A one-way system for staff car-parking and SEN drop-off and covered cycle-parking, with no change to the school vehicle entrances proposed, is included.

On July 20, Dublin City Council granted permission to the patron of the school, The Archdiocese of Dublin/St Laurence O'Toole Diocesan Trust, for the works.

A number of conditions have been applied as part of the grant of permission, including the stipulation that bicycle-parking shall be implemented prior to occupation of the development.

The bicycle-parking will be secure, conveniently located, sheltered and well lit, and shower and changing facilities must also be provided as part of the development.



APPROVED: Demolition works and the construction of a six-classroom extension was approved at Our Lady of Mercy

Self-storage plans are lodged by Sandymark Limited in Greenogue



FACILITY: The site planned for the self-storage facility in Greenogue

PLANS for the construction of a self-storage facility to the east of Tay Lane in Greenogue, Rathcoole, have been submitted to South Dublin County Council, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

Applicant Sandymark Limited's proposal is for the construction of a self-storage building with ancillary facilities and associated development.

The self-storage building will have a maximum height of 9.745 metres with a Gross Floor Area of 1,796 sq m

including a storage area (1,698 sq m) and ancillary facilities (98 sq m).

The development will also include a vehicular entrance/exit to the site via Tay Lane, six ancillary car-parking spaces, including one accessible parking space, loading bays and external fire-escape stairs.

Provision of an external canopy, boundary treatments, hard and soft landscaping, lighting, and all associated site and development

works above and below ground are included.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by September 19.

Sandymark Limited, led by founder and managing director Con McCarthy, is behind the development of Greenogue Business Park, Greenogue Logistics Park and the adjoining Aerodrome Business Park.

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 01 462 8488

When? Thursdays 9.30am-12 noon starting 21st September

Where? An Cosán, Kiltalown Village Centre, Fortunestown Road, Jobstown, Tallaght, D24 R3PN

How to register? Come to our **Open Day** on 6th September 2023 9.30am - 7pm

Cost? The course is **FREE** thanks to:



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This free 12-week course promises to help participants plot their path to a brighter future by giving them the tools and confidence to find out who they are and what they want to become.

Participants will be supported in identifying their skills, strengths and values and to build confidence to take action to achieve their goals. They will be encouraged to re-imagine their lives and to take positive steps to plan for their future.

The course will include career guidance and will provide clarity on the steps needed to achieve their dream job.

Participants who took part in a pilot 'Discover Your Path' programme run by An Cosán before the summer said taking part had boosted their skills and confidence and had enabled them to look forward to a brighter future. Most had progressed to further education or secured jobs in their chosen fields.

'Discover Your Path' will run in An Cosán, Kiltalown Village Centre, Jobstown, Tallaght, on Thursday mornings starting 21st September.

An Cosán offers additional supports, including early years' provision, IT support, laptop loans, parenting support, and one-to-one tutoring, mentoring and counselling.

Visit www.ancosan.ie or phone 01 462 8488 to find out more.

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Survey shows dairy is great value in kids' lunch boxes

- 1 portion of starchy carbohydrate (e.g., wholegrain breads, pittas and wraps, brown rice/pasta)
- 1 portion of meat or meat alternative (e.g., chicken, fish, egg, pulses)
- 1 portion of dairy (e.g., yogurt, cheese)
- 1(+) portion of vegetable (e.g., carrot sticks, peppers, sweetcorn, lettuce, onion)
- 1(+) portion of fruit (e.g., apple, orange, banana, pear, kiwi)
- A drink of water and/or milk





Supporting LauraLynn

See picture pages,
40, 42, 44 and 50

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A view of Lexington Nursing Home



Rob, Gemma, Leonida and Bridie



Marie and Rob



Erin with Lilly, Vera, Imelda and Evelynn



Anthony and Eileen



Maureen and Terry



Joanne and Anthony



Joanne and Joe



Leonida and Gemma with Bernie, Philip, Mairéad, Bridie, Mary and May

Deep Fake

UNIQUE EXPERIENCE SET TO ARRIVE AT THE CIVIC

by **Steven Reid** / news@echo.ie

A unique experience is set to arrive at the Civic on August 23. At the intersection of live theatre and modern technology resides 'Deep Fake', an interactive performance that involves elements of improv, scripted theatre, and artificial intelligence.

Niall Austin is behind this new and experimental production. He brings a diverse background to the stage having spent most of his life in the music industry working with an array of accomplished artists.

That experience, coupled with a lifelong fascination for how developments in technology can create a more enriching life, enabled this thought-provoking and engaging performance to take shape.

Niall spoke with *The Echo* about 'Deep Fake' in anticipation of it coming to The Civic and touched on his background, his relationship to entertainment and technology, and how this new production came together.

What inspired you to create 'Deep Fake'?

First and foremost, while theatre should always hold a mirror up to society and provoke introspection, i wanted to create Deep Fake as a new type of show that people would really enjoy.

Equally, as somebody who works at the intersection of story-telling and technology, i'm absolutely fascinated with what modern technologies (Ai, Augmented Reality, Holograms, Biometrics, etc.) can contribute to further evolving the Arts.

Mainstream theatre, which traditionally attracts older audiences, is an extraordinary story-telling medium, but one that could really benefit from some 'defibrillation' in order to remain relevant and attract more inclusive, emerging audiences. My interest therefore is in creating a theatre experience that is genuinely interactive, placing the audience 'in the driving seat' for the action. Within Deep Fake's structure, the audience dictates the story – who'll participate in the narrative, how the action will unfold, and what outcomes they'd like to see. We've already had some success in this area with 'PL-Ai', whose sold-out show at the Civic Theatre in March, gaining a lot of positive coverage. Based on what we learned from that, and thanks to the support of the Civic and the Arts Council, we've now created Deep Fake, which takes it even further!

How would you describe 'Deep Fake' to someone curious about it?

It's a unique, fully interactive 'show', where we invite audience members to suggest famous characters (living or dead) who they would like to invite to their dream dinner party. We'll then use Ai to create an instant script that reflects the dynamic that might exist between such characters.

The story will then follow a pre-determined, but loose, story arc that might include some leaked gossip about selected characters, followed by a whodunnit as the audience decides how the outcomes will unfold. This in turn can lead to some very interesting situations . . . imagine listening to a conversation between Marilyn Monroe and Dita Von Teese about modern sexuality, or if Marlon Brando challenged Dwayne Johnson to perform one of his scenes from *The Godfather*,

We've even re-incarnated a few of our own favourite characters from Hollywood and beyond to supplement the cast, and the actors who'll perform these characters are also amazing.

Perhaps inevitably, the underlying theme is about 'authenticity', contrasting how people act or present themselves against how they really feel, and what consequences this lack of alignment can have. But it's also simply about 'fun', and creating scenarios and a script that the audience can really engage with and enjoy!

What is your background with theatre and the arts?

I actually started in the music business – i co-founded a rock band called 'Brian' in London back in the 90s' with Ken Sweeney. We made some good records, and the band enjoyed a lot of critical acclaim (Ken

continued long after i'd returned to Dublin). i then ended up getting quite friendly with the legendary Mr Ronnie Drew, initially producing a box-set of Myths and Legends, and then a second box-set featuring the children's stories of Oscar Wilde. Ronnie was an absolute genius, and gave me lots of feedback and encouragement for my own writing, which spiralled into us collaborating on a spoken-word, beat-poetry album called 'Pearls', that i co-wrote and composed with Jah Wobble (from PiL).

i then went on to write and perform with people like Mary Coughlan, Moya Brennan and Claudia Boyle, as well as a current collaboration with Molly Vulpine in a band called 'The Carmillas', but i've increasingly engaged with theatre over the past decade, enjoying its potential for story-telling in a way that can deeply engage a wider range of audiences.

My first play was 'inferno21', a re-write of Dante's inferno, but set in the 21st century. The '7 deadly sins' were reflected in modern behaviours and social media (instagram for envy, Tinder for Lust, LinkedIn for Greed, etc), and it was initially staged at the Lyric theatre in Belfast as a 3-hander. A short version of the solo show was then captured on film at Smock Alley last year, and went on to win 'Best Short Film' at the Georgia Film Festival in the States.

PL-Ai at The Civic in March was however a genuine breakthrough in creating an original, interactive theatre experience, and hopefully 'Deep Fake' will take this genre even further!

Why did you take an interest in AI, and what prompted the idea to involve it in a performance?

i've always loved technology, not from a 'techie' perspective, but for how it could be used to create meaningful and engaging experiences. i've also been lucky enough to collaborate with people like Jason ('Jab') Brennan, who creates the technical solutions behind a lot of these story-telling experiences. Jason had been building games for bands and artists for years, but we initially started our own collaboration by inventing interfaces that allowed people to physically respond to what's happening on a stage or screen (e.g. waving your arms could change a backdrop or narrative).

We were then lucky enough to be invited to integrate these experiences into film launches and major sporting events, but with Ai, the scope for audience participation was even greater – individuals could literally dictate what they wished to see happen, and we could create and deliver it there and then!

An example from PL-Ai was that the audience said they wanted to see a performance that combined Breaking Bad with Pokémon, but was written in the style of Seamus Heaney. We prompted the Ai, generated a script, and the brilliantly talented cast of actors delivered it 'impromptu' with extraordinary passion and zeal!

Who do you think would enjoy seeing this performance?

i'd like to think that anybody would enjoy Deep Fake, but in particular i hope it attracts younger and more diverse audiences who may not be regular visitors to the theatre. i'd also particularly hope that the tech community would attend, as i think it might significantly change their perception of what the live theatre experience can actually deliver.

Who would be your dream guests to invite to a dinner party?

That's a really good question, and one i've been discussing with my friends a lot recently. i think i'd have to consider it in the context of both the individuals i'd like to meet, as well as the dynamics of the group as a whole. Having worked quite closely with Yoko Ono on a few projects, i'd definitely love to have met John Lennon. i think William Shatner would be great craic, but i'd also love to listen to Friedrich Nietzsche discussing philosophy. i'm a great admirer of Bono and David Bowie for their creative work, but i'd also like to help Karen Carpenter conquer her demons. Then there are some extraordinary characters from history such as T. P. Barnham, inventor of the modern 'spectacular', while i'd say Elon Musk is absolutely fascinating in the flesh.

A development performance of Deep Fake will be held at the Civic Theatre on Wednesday, August 23 at 8pm. Tickets, priced at €10 each, are available at www.civictheatre.ie or directly from the venue.



Charity Match Raises €17k

FOR CHILDREN'S CHARITY LAURALYNN

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The players who participated in the charity match for LauraLynn in Roadstone on Saturday



Stephen McPhail gets a shot in



Larry Byrne, Ian Byrne and John Kennedy



Daniel and Ho



Neal and Fergal Tully, Google Box



Nadine Raymond and Niall Ryan Doyle



Megan Monks, Darragh Flood, Shauna Davitt



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Le Fanu Rd
8:30am to 4pm Mon - Sat
01 6269119

Clondalkin

Monks Kitchen

Tower Visitor Centre
9am to 4pm Mon - Sat
01 5554648

East Village Coffee

Monastery Road
7:30am to 4pm Mon - Fri
9am to 4pm Sat & Sun
01 4642439

Froth Coffee

Round Towers GAA
7am to 3pm Mon - Fri
9am to 3pm Sat & Sun
086 0642515

Nicos - Tower Road

8am to 4pm Mon - Fri
10am - 3pm Sat & Sun
01 4575645

Evolve Eatery

Red Cow Roundabout
9am to 4pm Mon - Sun
087 - 2113102

Lucan

Coffee works - Main St
7:30am to 5pm Mon - Fri
9am to 5pm Sat & Sun

Village Café

8am to 5pm Mon - Sat
9am to 5pm Sun
01 6283414

River Café - Main Street

8am to 5pm Mon - Fri
9am to 5pm Sat
10am - 5pm Sun
01 6283516

Tallaght

The Edge

Dodder Valley Park
8am to 5pm Mon-Fri
10am to 4pm Sat & Sun
089 - 261 9973

Mad Coffee

Old Blessington Road
7:30am to 3:30pm
Mon - Fri
9am to 3pm Sat & Sun

Brentwood Coffee

Broomhill Road
8am to 6pm Mon - Sat
11am to 6pm Sun

Village Café

Main St Tallaght
8am to 4pm Mon - Fri
9am to 3pm Sat & Sun
01 4522825

The Bread shop

Old Bawn Shopping Centre
8:30am to 4pm Mon - Sat
01 4610070

Betelnut Café

The Civic Theatre
8am to 6pm Mon - Sat
01 4624626

Deja Brew

St Judes GAA Club
8am to 8pm Tue - Fri
8am to 4.30pm
Mon/Sat/Sun
086 - 029 7560

Caffé Duomo

Firhouse Speaker
Connolly Car park
7:30am to 5pm Mon - Fri
8:30am to 5pm Sat & Sun

Café Aon Scéal

Main Street Tallaght
9:30am to 4pm Mon - Fri
10am to 3pm Sat
11am to 3pm Sun
085 - 876 3123

If you would like your
coffee spot listed here,
email:
advertising@echoie

The Valley of the River Liffey



Lucan Village

STRETCHING from Palmerstown on the edge of the city centre to Lucan on the boundary of Co. Kildare, immerse yourself in everything Liffey in the stunning valley of the River Liffey!

Escape to nature on the city's edge – the valley offers unspoiled tranquil riverside walks in public parks at Waterstown, Lucan Demesne and St Catherine's Park, and fantastic food

and heritage in the quaint villages on the Liffey. There are also some excellent golfing options in the area, including the Hermitage, Lucan, Luttrellstown and Castleknock.

Like exploring and getting wet? Did you know you can raft, canoe and kayak on the Liffey? See Dublin differently — there are even guided Liffey heritage trips available on the water. Whether you are a beginner or

an expert or have never tried water sports before, there are a range of ways to dip your toe in the water. And for the purists, there's the famous pulsating spectacular through the valley every September that is the world-famous Liffey Descent.

Finally, when all is done you can reward yourself with some retail therapy in the nearby Liffey Valley Shopping Centre.

Camhairle Contae
Altha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

FREE

GARDEN TOURS
Clondalkin Round Tower
Visitor Centre, Tuesdays &
Sundays 10.30am-1pm.

Tours provided by **Clann Chrónáin Volunteer Tour Guides**,
contact info@theroundtower.ie for bookings.

The
Round Tower
Clondalkin
Brú Chrónáin

Girls Football Blitz

HELD IN KNOCKLYON UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB ON SATURDAY

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



Kilnamanagh U9s



Knocklyon U10s



Bohs U10s



Lourdes Celtic U10s



Kilnamanagh U11 Finalists



Leixlip U10s

Better Than Before

TWINS ADAM AND LEE WRITE NEW FITNESS BOOK

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

ADAM and Lee molloy are twin brothers from Clondalkin who have been working in the fitness industry. They believe that the ‘fitness industry’ is broken and promotes a lifestyle that is “unhealthy, unrealistic, and unattainable”. They have written a book called ‘Better Than Before’, which gives five ‘rules’ that people can use to get the most from themselves and therefore the most from life. It recommends that readers “block out the noisy distractions of the outside world and focus on themselves, their passions, and their goals. The brothers are adamant that it is not a fitness book but is “inspired by our time in the industry.” Lee states that they first got the idea for the book through a conversation by the swimming pool.

he claims that the “past month” was dedicated to working on it, and on “some days we worked four hours, some days twelve.” Writing sessions for the book usually consisted of Lee writing the first draft and Adam revising it. he aimed for a chapter a day, advising himself not to be “overambitious”. The brothers hope that the book “helps people”, and Lee claims he would “love to write another book”. Lee and Adam would like to thank their family, friends, and everybody else who supported the book in the run up to its release. ‘Better Than Before’ will soon be available on Amazon.

Twin brothers Adam and Lee Molloy have written a new fitness book ‘Better Than Before’



Rose of Tralee

CLONDALKIN YOUTH BAND ALL SET

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

The talented members of Clondalkin Youth Band are delighted to be performing at the ‘Rose of Tralee’ festival this year! Clondalkin Youth Band has been going strong for over 25 years, teaching and performing music around the country as well as internationally. They recently held their ‘end of Season Concert’ on June 24. Neal Christopher, the band director, reveals that “fifty hours” have been dedicated to preparing for this performance. The idea to perform at the festival first came about because the committee wanted to give members “a night away”. For performances like this, preparation usually involves finding movement pieces, and adding “marching and different visuals” to them. The CYB is also hosting a Recruitment Drive in September and is taking a trip to South France next year. Neal would like to thank the committee, instructors, and members of the CYB for helping with this performance. The ‘Rose of Tralee’ festival takes place from August 18 to August 23, in the Tralee Town Centre.



Clondalkin Youth Band

MORAN

RED

COW

INN

EST. 1690

FUNERAL & MEMORIAL

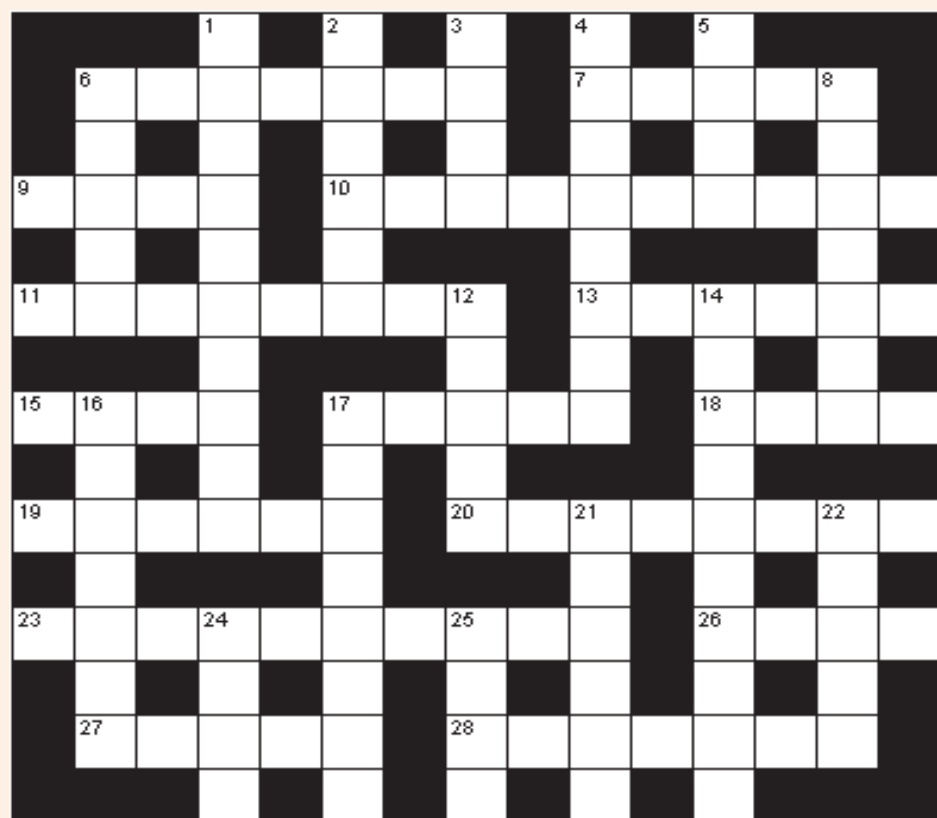
PACKAGES AVAILABLE

The Red Cow Inn, located just off the M50, is within easy access of all routes. Gatherings can be catered for in our main lounge or if you require a private room we can cater for 50 - 350 guests. Please contact the Conference & Banqueting department for a tailored quote.

Red Cow Inn, Naas Rd, Dublin D22 R5P3 | T: +353 1 4593650

E: redcowinn@moranhotels.com | www.redcowinn.ie

echocrossquiz Q1708



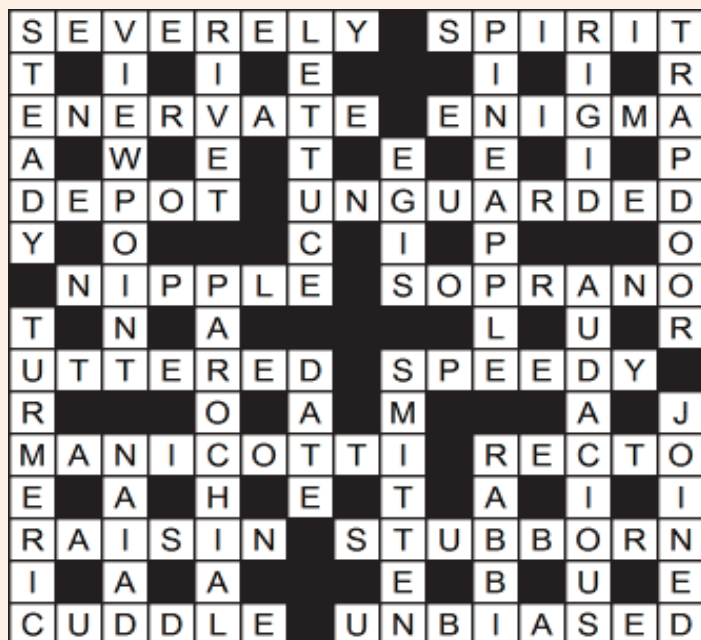
ACROSS

6. Wearing away (7)
7. Ancient upright stone (5)
9. Auditory (4)
10. Characterized by order and planning (10)
11. Soak (8)
13. Get (6)
15. Decorative case (4)
17. Injure (5)
18. For a bird or a hamster (4)
19. Coercion (6)
20. Maternal or paternal (8)
23. Administration (10)
26. Henhouse (4)
27. Model (5)
28. Set apart from others (7)

DOWN

1. Definitive (10)
2. Feast or celebration (6)
3. Matures (4)
4. Space rock (8)
5. Stiff hair (4)
6. Superfluous (5)
8. Enduring (7)
12. Provide (5)
14. A skilled worker (10)
16. A destructive sea wave (7)
17. From the west (8)
21. An allotted portion (6)
22. Came to (5)
24. Ends a prayer (4)
25. Radiate (4)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 1008



CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

SUDOKU 1

			1		8			
1						9		8
		2			3			
5					1	8	4	
7			2	4		6		
		9	6					
2	7					5		4
	5			6		1	2	

SUDOKU 2

6								
4	3			9		2	1	
	1			2			3	5
7	8							
	4				1			
				6	4	9		
3	2						7	
5								3
			9	8				

ANSWERS

4	2	5	3	8	6	7	9	1
3	9	8	2	7	4	1	5	6
9	7	1	6	4	5	8	2	3
1	8	9	4	6	7	3	5	2
2	5	7	1	3	8	6	4	9
6	4	3	9	5	2	1	8	7
5	3	6	7	2	4	9	1	8
7	1	2	8	9	6	5	3	4
8	6	4	9	3	1	5	2	7

SUDOKU 2

3	8	7	2	1	5	4	6	9
9	2	1	4	6	7	8	5	3
4	6	5	9	3	8	1	7	2
2	5	3	7	8	6	9	1	4
1	9	6	5	4	2	3	8	7
7	4	8	1	9	3	6	2	5
8	1	5	3	7	9	2	6	8
6	7	8	9	2	4	5	3	1
5	3	2	8	1	5	4	7	9

SUDOKU 1

Dear Echo customers

The Echo reception opening hours are
10am-2pm Monday to Friday.

You can still contact our team up to 5pm
every weekday via email:

General queries: reception@echo.ie
News & Entertainment: news@echo.ie
Sport: sport@echo.ie
Advertising: emma@echo.ie

You can also submit all queries, Memorials and Plannings through echo.ie

Cut-off times are now:

Memorials 1pm on the Friday prior to publication
Plannings 1pm on Tuesday prior to publication

Phone: 01-4685350

Mobile Text/Whats App/Phone: 0830106275

Pick up a copy of *The Echo* in your local shop* every
Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online

*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week,
please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves



Echo.ie
Your Local Newspaper

Season Launch At The Civic

THEATRE HAS A BUSY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS PLANNED

by **Niamh Honer** / news@echo.ie

AFTER the resounding success of our AI-infused show in March, the Civic Theatre is thrilled to continue pushing the boundaries of theatre and new AI technology with the upcoming productions, starting with 'Deep Fake'.

The Civic is dedicated to exploring uncharted territories where theatre and technology intersect, promising you groundbreaking and thought-provoking experiences.

As they move forward, they are committed to nurturing innovation and creativity in our studio space.

Expect to witness even more captivating and daring performances that challenge conventions and captivate your imagination.

The Civic resident dance company, honey & lemon, is all set to enrich the upcoming year with a series of engaging workshops. These sessions promise to be an exploration of movement and expression, a perfect opportunity for you to discover the magic of dance. Contact The Civic to book your own group in for free.

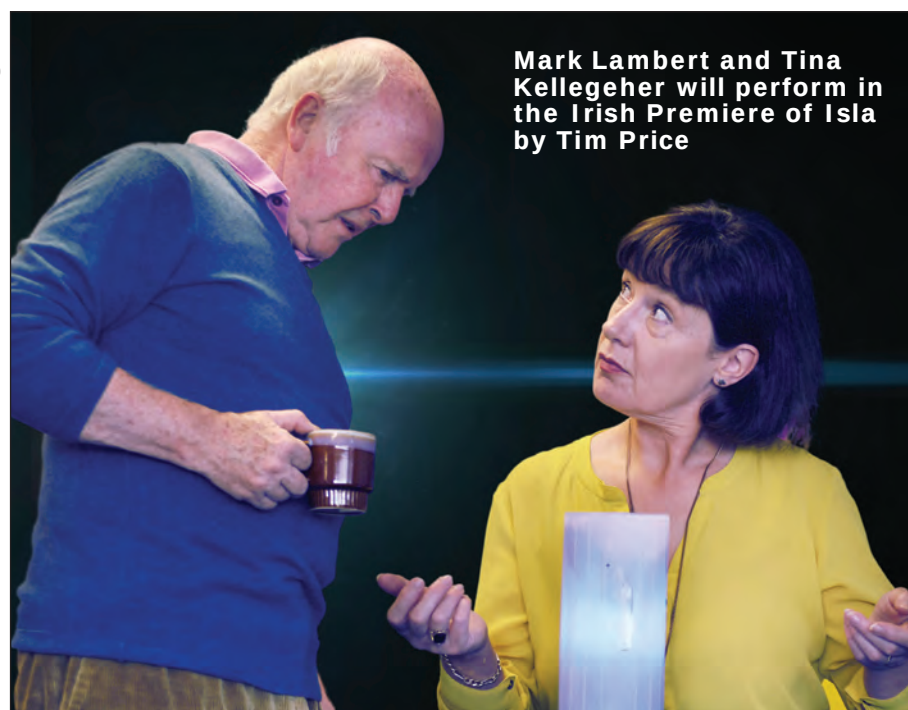
Mark your calendars for Culture Night on Friday, September 22, with events brimming with surprises that will stretch from dawn till dusk. To avoid missing out on this unforgettable experience, make sure to secure your tickets early.

October is Festival time with Dublin Fringe Festival and Red Line Book Festival. Prepare yourselves for the Dublin Theatre Festival, with the Irish Premiere of 'Isla'; by Tim Price, starring Tina Kellegeher (The Snapper) alongside the world premiere of 'Falling To Earth' by Eugene O'Brien, featuring the extraordinary talent of our very own Stephen Jones. get ready to immerse you in a world of creativity and storytelling, promising an array of captivating performances and literary adventures.

Don't miss the chance to be part of the live podcast recording from Dongo, titled 'If I Speak' Tune in for riveting conversations that delve into a variety of topics, captivating your mind and imagination.

For our treasured parents and young children, Anna Newell's programme of work offers a heartwarming selection of activities tailored for mothers and babies, creating unforgettable moments and lasting memories.

With halloween on the horizon, brace yourselves for our new halloween Spooktacular, designed to thrill and enchant audiences of all ages. Prepare for an experience that blends spooky and spectacular into an unforgettable fusion of entertainment. Don't forget to dress up!



Mark Lambert and Tina Kellegeher will perform in the Irish Premiere of Isla by Tim Price

And of course, the year wouldn't be complete without our beloved pantomime. Join us we breathe new life into the classic tale of 'Cinderella' . . . promising laughter, magic moments for everyone. Oh yes, we will.

We invite you to embark on this extraordinary journey with us, as we embrace innovation, celebrate the arts, and create memories that will last a lifetime. The curtains are rising, and the stage is set – join us for an unforgettable Autumn/Winter Season at The Civic theatre!

For more see civictheatre.ie

A Talk In The Park

TALLAGHT THEATRE GROUP HOSTS SUMMER FESTIVAL

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

TALLAGHT Theatre group is delighted to present their Summer Festival, "A Talk in the Park," by Alan Ayckbourn, and much more, this August.

This is a first for them, as they usually close over the summer.

Martina Hanlon, a spokesperson for the group, said that the idea of a summer festival first came about as a way to "link up music and drama," as someone in the group runs a drama school.

She continues by claiming that they try to "keep it minimal through stage setting."

The group's plans for after the festival consist of casting for a

"big production" in the autumn as well as a "Culture Night."

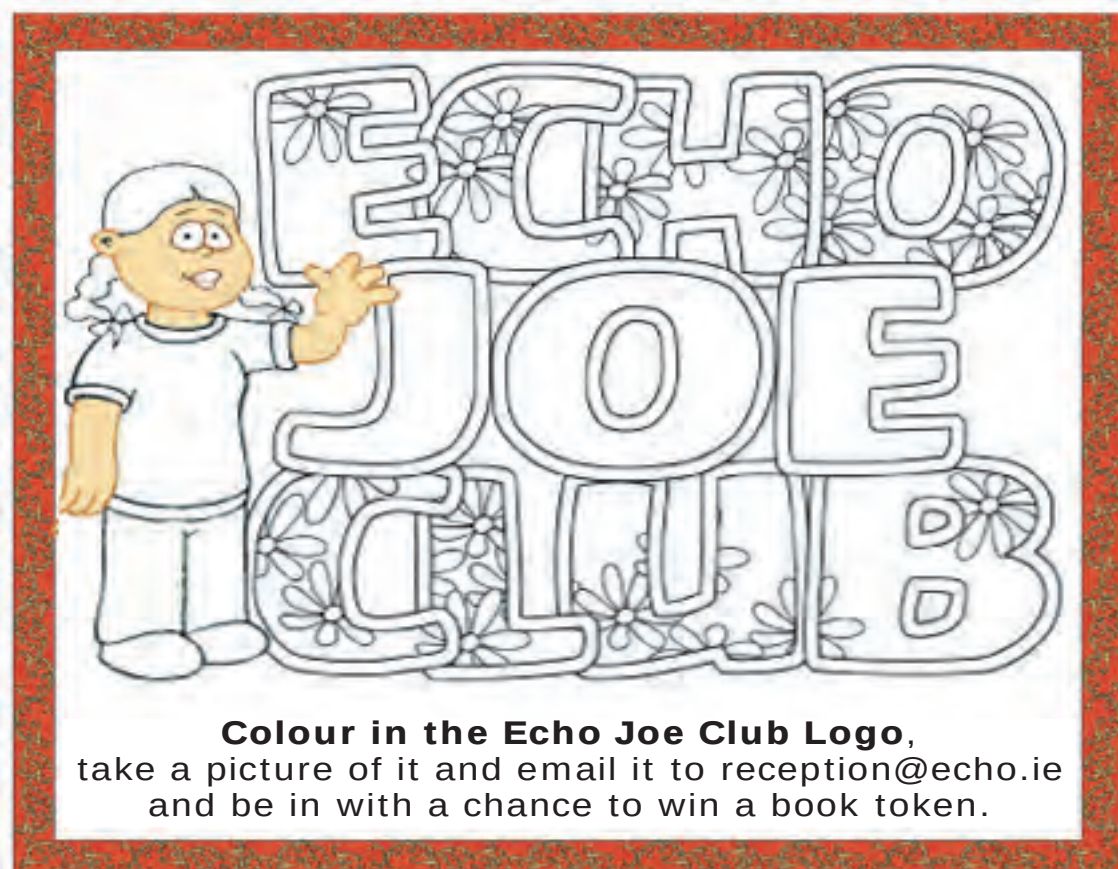
Martina would like to thank Eimear O'Neill, Aita McAneer, Trevor Whelan, Kieran Fitzgerald, and the light and sound team for helping with the festival.

They are currently rehearsing and preparing for the festival.

"A Talk in the Park" takes place in the Tallaght Theatre on Greenhills Road on August 17, 18, 24, and 25 from 8pm to 10pm.

Tickets can be purchased for €10 on Eventbrite. They can also be bought at the door with cash only.





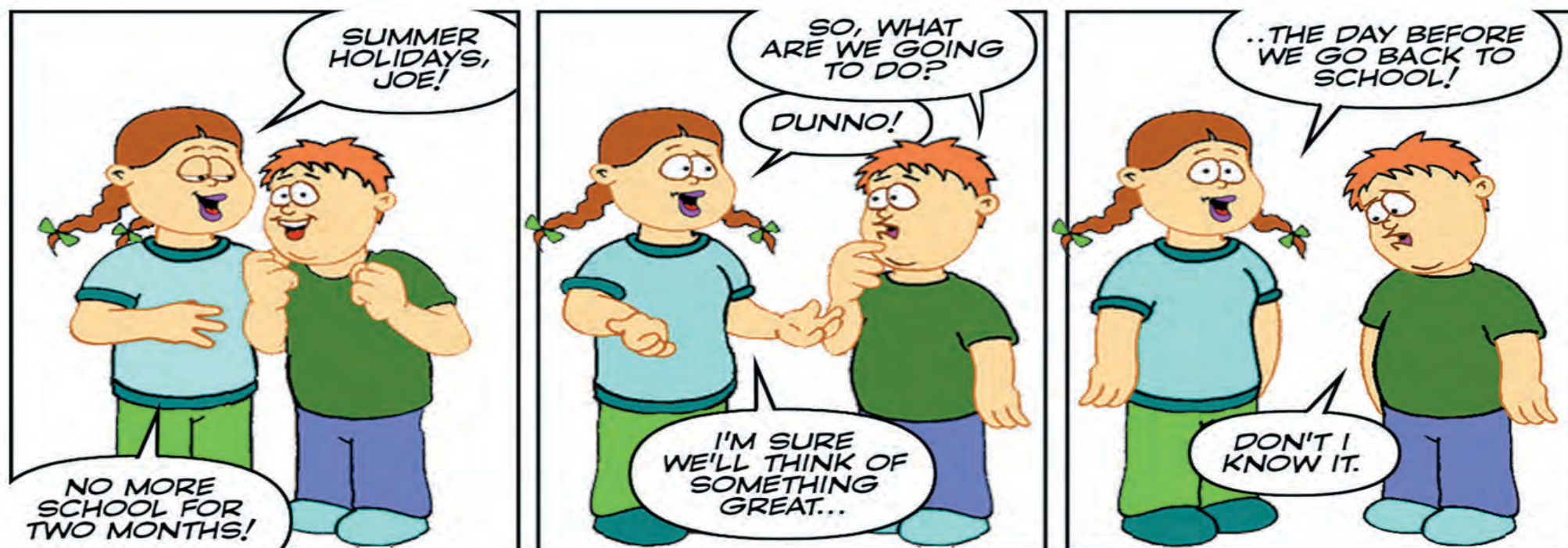
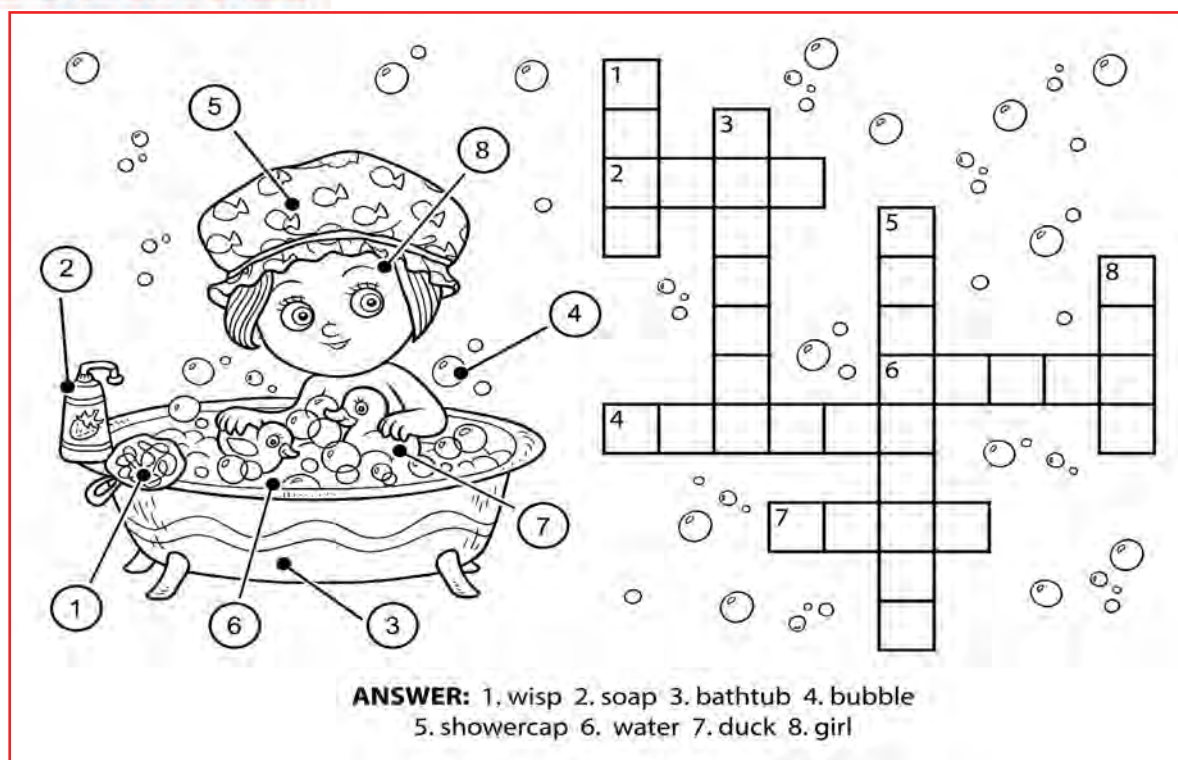
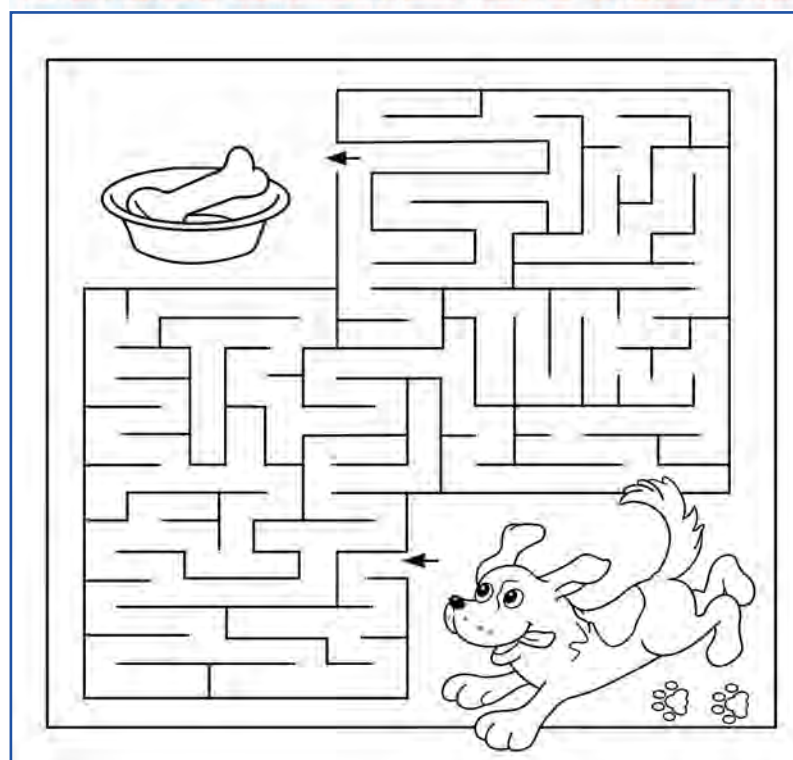
A Word with Echo So...

SUMMER BREAK

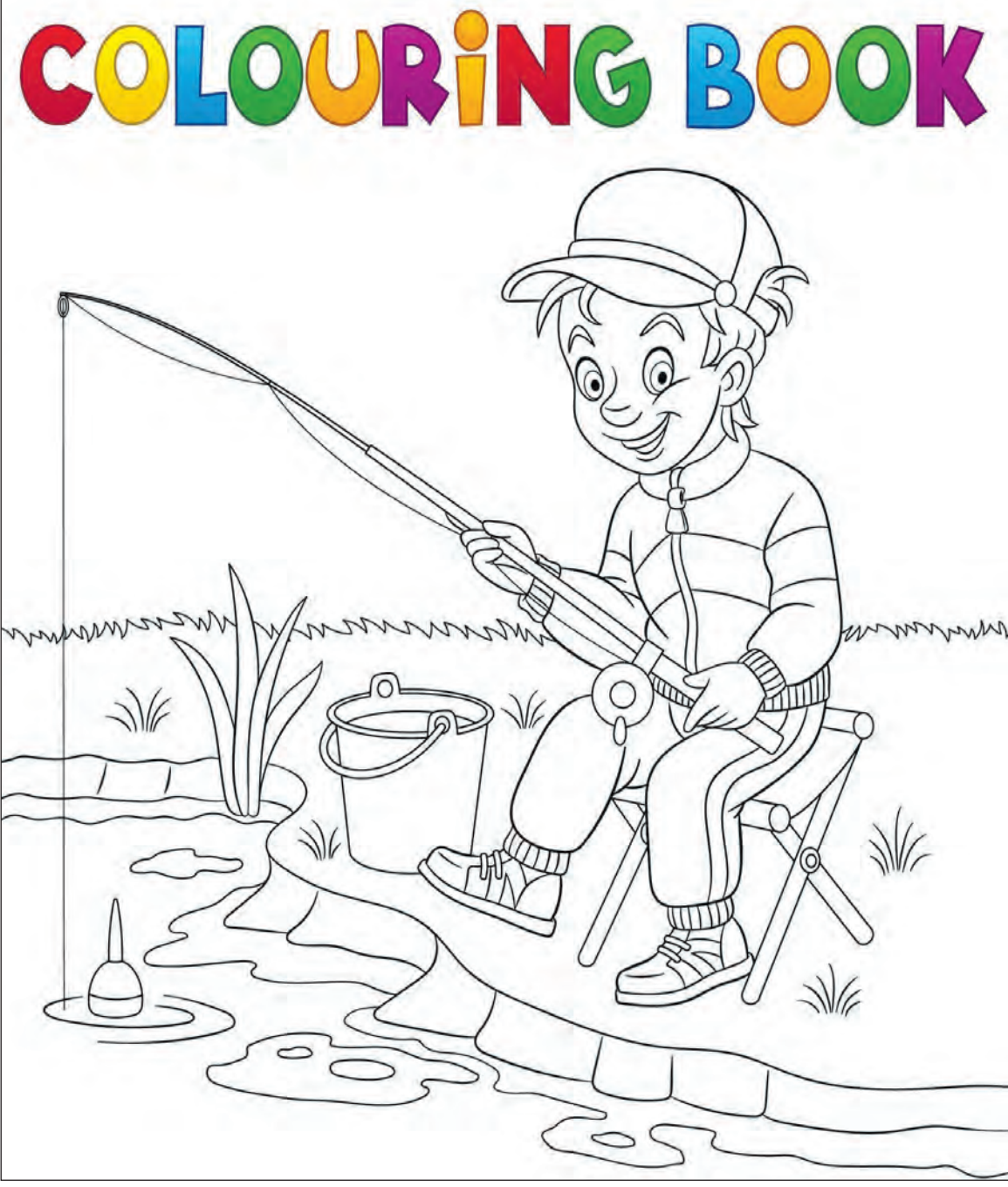
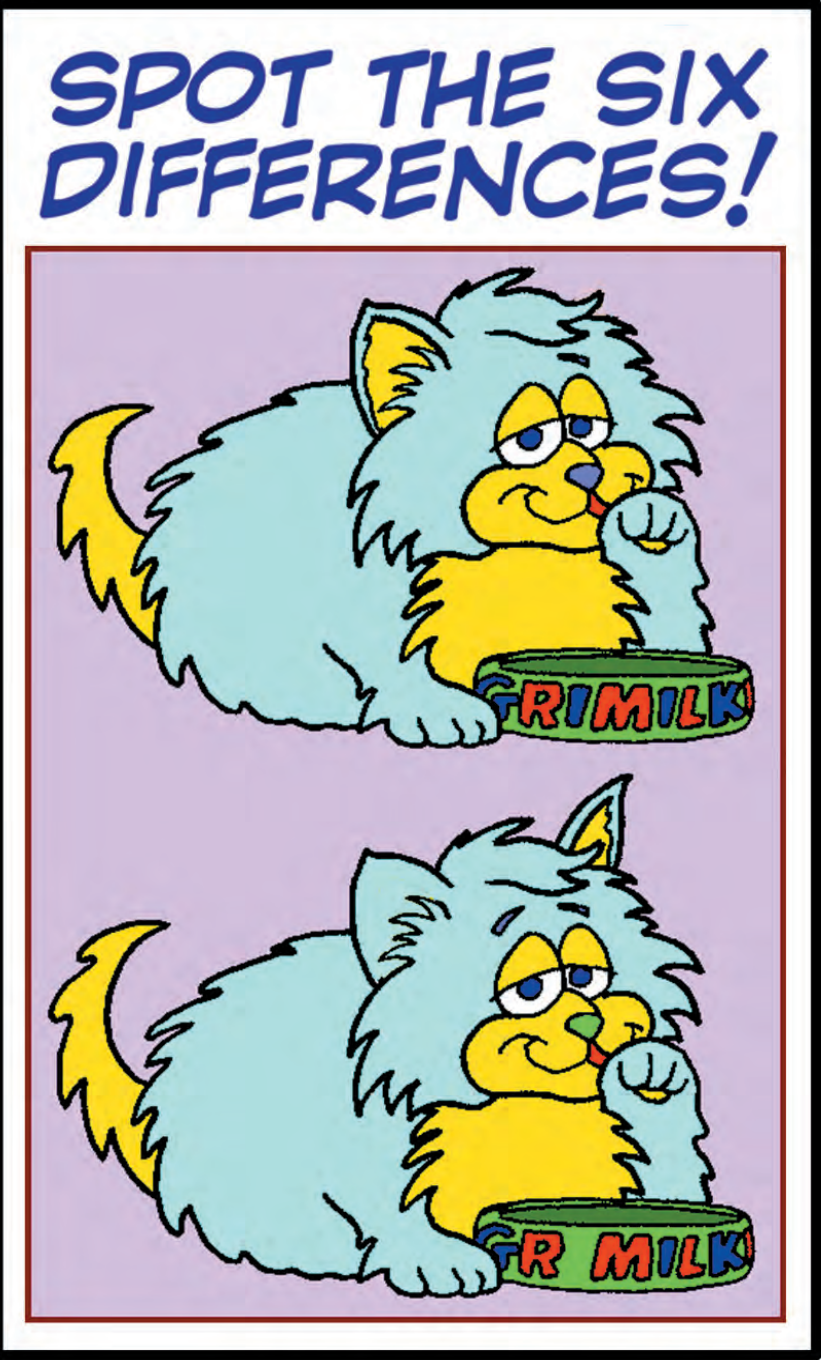
CLUBBERS,
HOW MANY WORDS
(TWO LETTERS OR MORE)
CAN YOU MAKE FROM
THE ABOVE WORDS?

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
2	15	28
3	16	29
4	17	30
5	18	31
6	19	32
7	20	33
8	21	34
9	22	35
10	23	36
11	24	37
12	25	38
13	26	39



These 2 pages of Awesome, Amazon, Activities



LETTER LINK LOG-JAM

A MISSING LETTER ON EACH ROW FINISHES ONE WORD AND STARTS THE NEXT...

BUT WHAT ARE THE LETTERS?

PAI		IST
CRA		USK
MIN		EAF
TAN		EED
FAT		XPO
BAI		ATE
EXI		RIP
KIN		NOT

A cartoon illustration of a young girl with pigtails, wearing a blue shirt and green pants, looking confused with her hands outstretched.

the missing letters: L, M, D, K, E, L, T, K.

winner

A colorful drawing of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a green shirt and orange pants, standing next to a large, stylized 'JOE CLUB' logo. The logo is decorated with flowers and has a 3D effect.

Aoibheann Lynch, aged 6, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Aoibheann, your prize will be on the way to you soon.

Mini Leagues

HELD IN PEAMOUNT UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

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



U12's



U11's



U 13's



Girls Winners



U12's



U10's



Boys Winners

planning notices

All planning applications must be in before 5pm Monday

tel: 468 5350
email:reception@echo.ie

South Dublin County Council
Aengus Cullen and Fiona Lawlor are applying for permission for retention and permission for future development at this site Ballymana Lane, Kiltipper, Dublin 24. Permission is sought to retain a single storey family farm house located on the applicants farm holding, along with all associated site development works; the development will be accessed via an existing roadway serving the existing farm, as previously permitted under Ref. SD09A/0347. Permission is sought to reclad the existing dwelling with white plastered blockwork and provision of slate roof to same. 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 10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
Denise Gibson and James Hughes are applying for: Outline Planning Permission. for a 2 bedroom single storey dwelling plus new entrance to site at: 1 Liffey Grove, Liffey Valley Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78AX86.

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 10am-12pm & 2pm-4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
Amanda Palmer is applying for permission & retention permission for development consisting of new single storey extension to front & side of house, & retention permission of extensions being, single storey porch & canopy to front, & rear single storey extension & alterations to roof at 134, The Coppice, Woodfarm Acres, Palmerstown, Dublin 20. 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 10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
I, Catherine Brady, intend to apply for permission for development at this site 65 Knockcullen Drive, Ballyroan, Dublin 16, D16 ET78 The development will consist of; A) the demolition of the existing single storey ground floor extension to the side and the shed to the rear of the existing dwelling; B) the construction of a single storey extension to the side and rear of the existing dwelling consisting of a WC, kitchen area and utility room and; C) widening the existing vehicle entrance together with all associated site works. 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 10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council 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 AUGUST 4, 2023

SD23B/0223 31 Jul 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Karl & Aoife Ferris Location: 6, Grange Road, Longwood Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, D14 F9P4 Description: Conversion of existing attic space comprising of modification of existing roof structure, raising of existing gable c/w window, new access stairs and flat roof dormer to the rear. SD23B/0236 31 Jul 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Chris and Karen Pettit Location: 37, Templeogue Lodge, Dublin 6w Description: Conversion of existing attic space comprising of modification of existing roof structure, raising of existing gable c/w window and dutch hip, new access stairs, and flat roof dormer to the rear. SD23B/0237 31 Jul 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Daryl & Paula Mcgrath Location: 6, Johnsbridge Park, Lucan, Co Dublin, K78 X294 Description: Conversion of existing attic space comprising of modification of existing roof structure, raising of existing gable c/w window and dutch hip, new access stairs and flat roof dormer to the rear. SD23B/0238 31 Jul 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Elaine Reade & David Egan Location: 2, Oakdale Drive, Ballycullen, Firhouse, Dublin 24 Description: Conversion of existing attic space comprising of modification of existing roof structure; Raise existing gable c/w window; New access Stairs and flat roof dormer to the rear. SD23B/0243 01 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Niamh Keily & Alan O'Brien Location: 11, Woodstown Way, Knocklyon, Dublin, 16 Description: Build-up of existing hip in roof to side of roof into dutch hip with window in gable wall at attic Level. Proposed attic conversion with dormer roof window on rear slope of roof &1 no. rooflight on front slope of roof at attic level. First floor internal alterations SD23B/0247 01 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Dennis O'Brien Location: 76, Whitehall Road West, Dublin 12 Description: New Vehicular Entrance and Gates. SDZ23A/0014 04 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Paddy McInerney Location: 7, Shackleton Way, Shackleton Park, Lucan, Co. Dublin Description: Paddy McInerney intends to apply for planning permission for a development within a Strategic Development Zone at No. Shackleton Way, Shackleton Park Lucan, Co Dublin. Planning permission is sought for a single storey side & rear extension to an existing two storey detached dwelling, associated alterations to all elevations, front and side boundary walls, Including vehicle and pedestrian entrances and all ancillary site works	SD23A/0182 31 Jul 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Ben Walsh Location: Hynestown Farm, Hynestown, Newcastle, Co. Dublin, D22W563 Description: Extension to existing Hynestown House to provide for new kitchen, dining room, games room, bathroom, plant room at ground floor level and one additional bedroom at first floor level. Conversion and extension of farm building C to two-bedroom holiday home accommodation. Demolition of farm building D and replacement with a two-storey building with store, bathroom and utility room at ground floor level and two-bedroom holiday home at first floor level. Conversion of farm buildings E and F into two no. two-bedroom holiday homes. The installation of wastewater treatment plant, the carrying out of hard and soft landscaping and all ancillary site works. SD23A/0183 04 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Cappaghmore Playschool Location: 58, Cappaghmore, Clondalkin, Dublin 22. Description: To change condition No. 4 of Planning Application SD20A/0062 to increase the number of children attending any one session from 16 to 20 SD23A/0184 02 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: William Neville & Sons Location: Mill Race Green, Mill Race, Saggart, Co. Dublin Description: Permission for modifications to the internal layout of the existing unoccupied ground floor creche to provide a new reduced sized creche with an outdoor play area and change of use from permitted creche use to residential use to accommodate three number one bedroom, one number two bedroom and one number three bedroom ground floor residential apartment units and associated open space provision, modifications to the southern elevation to include replacement of existing door opening with an infill wall at ground floor and modifications to the eastern elevation to include a replacement of an existing window opening with new entrance doors all located within the curtilage of a Protected Structure being the existing Rag Store, entrance gates, chimney, Tail Race, Mill Ponds of the Swiftbrook Mill now known as Mill Race Green on foot of An Board PleanAla decision PL 06S.248162 SD23A/0185 03 Aug 2023 Retention New Application Applicant: Yuriy Development Ltd. Location: The Bungalow, Haydens Lane, Lucan, Co. Dublin Description: Retention permission for development consisting of the following changes to the design as approved under planning register reference number SD15A/0084/ PL06S.245493 (extended under planning reference number: SD15A/0084/EP); a) the omission of chimneys b) revised canopy detail above front entrance doors c) the widening of houses 1 & 2 resulting in site layout changes d) revised levels and landscape details / boundary treatments e) changes to the positioning of the window and door in the rear utility room of all houses f) changes to the size and number of Velux windows to the rear roof of all houses and g) changing the rear window of the kitchen / dining room to a door and widening	the opening of all houses at 'The Bungalow', Hayden's Lane, Adamstown, Lucan. SD23A/0186 04 Aug 2023 Retention New Application Applicant: Onyx Ireland 2022 Propco 1 Ltd. Location: Building 1, Units 1a, 1b, 1c, Buildings 81a and 81b, Cookstown Estate Road, & Buildings 2 & 3, at Old Belgard Rd, Cookstown Industrial Estate, Dublin 24 Description: Retention permission for alterations to existing buildings to include, over cladding of brick facade at ground floor level, blocking up of roller shutter doors and over cladding of same and new fire escape doors at Building 1, Units 1a, 1b, 1c, cookstown Estate Road. Removal of dormant fire escape stairs, over cladding of facade, blocking up of roller shutter doors and over cladding of same and new fire escape doors at Buildings 81a and 81b, Cookstown Estate Road. Demolition of car wash annex building and over cladding of facade at Buildings 2 & 3, at Old Belgard Rd. SD23B/0332 31 Jul 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Ronan O'Hara Location: 30, Orwell Park Rise, Dublin 6w Description: Front and rear dormer attic extension, alteration of side hipped roof to a dutch-hip gable roof and alterations to elevations of existing dwelling and all associated site works. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED LIST Page 5 Of 6 Under Section 34 of the Act, the applications for permission may be granted permission, subject to or without conditions, or refused. The use of the personal details of planning applicants, including for marketing purposes, may be unlawful under the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2003 and may result in action by the Data Protection Commissioner against the sender, including prosecution. SD23B/0333 02 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Description: Conversion of existing garage to habitable room and raising of roof to side, single storey extension to front, bay window and porch to front, alterations to front elevation, new garden shed and all associated site works SD23B/0334 02 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Barry & Ciara Cronin Location: 17, The Rise, Boden Park, Dublin 16 Description: Attic Conversion incorporating raising of side hip to form new Dutch hip together with dormer windows to rear and rooflights to front and modifications to existing first floor window to front SD23B/0335 02 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Gerard Crossan Location: 4, Wilkins Court, Dublin 12, D12 HV09 Description: The fit out of attic for bedroom, storage and ensuite. The addition of 3 no. new windows to existing dwelling, 1 no. new dormer window to the front and 2 new rooflights to rear and relocation of 1 no. solar panel.
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Contact *The Echo* to have a planning notification published
Call 468 5350 or email reception@echo.ie

family notices

Important Notice
Items for publication for memorial
pages must be in by 1pm Friday
for next Thursday's paper

Tel: 468 5350
email: reception@echo.ie

BIRTHDAY
REMEMBRANCE



Gilson, Thomas
3rd Birthday away from home
occurred 13th August.

**Happy Heavenly 71st
Birthday to my loving
Husband and best friend
Thomas**
My birthday gift to you would be,
Sweetest thoughts carried in
memory,
For my love for you will always
live on,
In life, as in death, you will never
be gone,
We should be sharing our 71st
birthdays together,
I will celebrate both our birthdays,
While I know you will be watching
over me.
**I love and miss you dearly,
Your loving wife Chrissie.**

**Happy 71st Birthday in
Heaven Dad**
Is there a party up in Heaven,
To celebrate today,
Did angels frost a cake for you,
Or sing to start your day,
We're celebrating you down here,
As they must be above,
We truly hope your special day,
Is filled with peace and love,
This day was always special,
As we gathered round you here,
We'd sing and laugh and celebrate,
Your day with so much cheer,
We miss those special moments,
That we shared throughout the
years,
It's hard to find that on this day,
Our eyes now fill with tears,
We are trying hard to smile for you,
But, ohhhh, that empty chair,
We turn around and find ourselves,
Still shocked that you're not there,
Please know we are thinking of you
Dad,
As we go throughout each day,
This day is very special though,
As it's your birthday.
**We love and miss you dearly
Dad, Kieron, Thomas, Jessica,
William & Elizabeth xxxxx**

**Happy 71st Birthday
Grandad in Heaven**
Birthdays in Heaven,
Decorations of gold,
Where the years come and go,
And you never go old,
Where you celebrate with angels,
And our past family there,
With no illness in sight,
Just love everywhere,
So we don't need to worry,
How your birthday was spent,
Cause your safe in heaven,
And our birthday wishes are sent,
Though we know you are safe,
Even though you're away,
We love and miss you,
Just a little more on your birthday
today.
**Miss and love you Grandad,
Cian, Aoife, Seona, Ryan,
Lauren, Lee, Robin, Adam,
Josh, Lillie, Carl, Amy,
Callum, Mila & Theo xxx**

BIRTHDAY
REMEMBRANCE



Sheehan, Eleanor
4th Birthday away from home
occurs 18th August.

**Happy 4th Birthday in
Heaven Eleanor**
You are missed beyond words,
beyond measure,
Don't forget us as we could never
forget you.
**From Mam & Dad, Louise,
Gary, Orla and all of your
Family.**

BIRTHDAY
REMEMBRANCE



Walsh, Thomas
48th Birthday occurs 20th
August.

*He who kisses the joy as it flies,
Lives in eternity's sunrise,
To see a world in a grain of sand,
And heaven in a wildflower,
Hold infinity in the palm of your
hand,
And eternity in an hour.*
**Love always, Stephen,
Marsha, Patrick and Daisy
and your sons Tommy Lee
and Dánnan.**

NOVENA

Novena to St. Jude
Most Holy Apostle, St. Jude,
faithful servant and friend of Jesus,
the Church honours and invokes
you universally, as the patron of
hopeless cases, of things almost
despaired of. Pray for me, I am so
helpless and alone. Make use I
implore, you, of that particular
privilege given to you, to bring
visible and speedy help where help
is almost despaired of. Come to my
assistance in this great need, that I
may receive the consolation and
help of Heaven in all my
necessities, tribulations and
sufferings, particularly, (here make
your request) and that I may praise
God with you and all the elect
forever, I promise O Blessed St.
Jude, to be ever mindful of this
great you as my special and
powerful patron, and to gratefully
encourage devotion to you. **E.C.**

ANNIVERSARY



Dunne, Christopher (Chris)
29th Anniversary occurs 17th
August.

*There's always a face before us,
A voice we would love to hear,
A smile we will always remember,
Of a son we loved so dear,
Deep in our hearts lies a picture,
More precious than silver or gold,
It's a picture of our Son,
Whose memory will never grow
old.*
**Lots of love and kisses Mam
and Dad xx**

Brother
*Precious people are very few,
That's why there is only one of
you,
Nothing on this earth can ever
replace,
The sound of your voice,
The smile on your face,
Beautiful memories treasured
forever,
Of happy years spent together.*
**Love you always Christopher.
Geoffrey, Alison & Jonathan
xxx**

Uncle
*Hugs and kisses to the sky so blue,
Catch them Uncle Christopher,
They are just for you.*
**Love and kisses.
Cailin, Mia, Christopher,
Aaron, Scott & Zac xxxxxx**

Christopher
*Gone are the days we used to
share,
But in our hearts, you are always
there,
Never more than a thought away,
Loved and remembered every day,
A special smile, a special face,
And in our hearts a special place,
Things you said, things you've
done,
They bring a smile and a tear,
But always a wish,
That you were still here.*
**Lots of love Auntie Moira,
cousins Deborah & Darren
xxxx**

Christopher
*No matter how our lives have
changed,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our hearts,
Is always kept for you.*
**With Love Brian, Dolores,
Fiona and Derek.**

ANNIVERSARY



Bolger, Charlie
8th Anniversary away from
home occurs 20th August. In
loving memory of my
husband Charlie.

Husband
*Thank you for your endless love,
That helps me through each day,
And thank you for the memories,
That never fade away.
You're the man I loved,
And I was proud to be your wife,
And every day in some small way,
I celebrate your life.*
**Sadly missed by your loving
wife Mary.**

ANNIVERSARY



Sheeran, Kevin
1st Anniversary occurred
14th of August 2023. Late of
Kingswood Heights.

*How can we put on paper,
The feelings we have inside,
Of a broken hearted family,
Who have missed you since you
died,
Our lives go on without you,
But things are not the same,
It's hard to hide the heartache,
When someone speaks your name,
Your memories keep us together,
We are never far apart,
For you are always on our minds,
And forever in our hearts,
We think of you in silence,
And talk about you too,
We have lots of lovely, treasured
memories,
How we wish we still had you.*
**Sadly missed by your loving
wife Maura, Sons, Daughters,
Sons-in-law, Daughters-in-
law, Brothers, Sister and
Grandchildren.**

ANNIVERSARY



Cardiff, Joseph (Joe)
14th Anniversary occurs 19th
August. Also remembering his
birthday on 6th September.
Remembering his wife Alice,
son Paul and twin brother
Johnny.

*Precious people are very few,
That is why Joe,
There is only one of you,
He troubled no one,
His wants were few,
And now Lord,
He rests with you,
Take care of him as he takes his
rest,
Miss you Joe, you were one of the
best.*
**Sadly missed by your loving
Family.**

ANNIVERSARY



McEvoy (Nee Carey), Maria
7th year away from home
occurs 20th August. Late of
Cushlawn Park. In loving
memory of our beloved
Mother. Also remembering
our recently deceased father
Gerry.

*No Matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our heart's,
Is always kept for you.*
**Sadly missed by her daughter
Margaret, sons Johnny, Ger,
& Chris, grandchildren Alan,
Glen, Christopher, Karen,
Rachel, Holly, Cian, Ryan,
Mason, Josh, Laura, Katie &
Sarah, great-grandchildren
Jake, Toby, Ruby & Archie,
daughters-in-law Mandy &
Rachel & son-in-law Joe,
Brothers, Sisters, Nieces and
Nephews.**

ANNIVERSARY



Cummins, Irene
In loving memory of our
dear wife, mother &
grandmother Irene
Cummins on her 8th
Anniversary away from
home occurs 17th August.

My Special Star in Heaven
*I hold you close in memory,
Even though we are apart,
Your spirit will live forever,
Within my broken heart,
My heart still aches in sadness,
And secret tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know,
In heaven we shall meet again,
Where farewell is never spoken,
We shall clasp each other, hand in
hand,
And the clasp shall not be broken.*
**Sadly missed by your
husband Charlie, children
Janine, Charlene, James &
Declan, Grandchildren, Sons
in-law, Daughters in-law,
Sisters, Brothers & Sisters-
in-law.**

ANNIVERSARY



Delaney, Sheila
5th Anniversary away from
home occurs 19th August.

*A million times I've needed you,
A million times I've cried,
If love alone could have saved you,
You never would have died.
In life I loved you dearly,
In death I love you still,
In my heart you hold a place,
No one else could fill.
It broke my heart to lose you,
But you didn't go alone,
Part of me went with you,
The day God took you home.
Miss you every minute of
every day, Lynn xx*

NOVENA

August Queen of Heaven
Sovereign Mistress of the angels! Thou who from the beginning hast received from God the power and mission to crush the head of Satan, we humbly beseech thee to send thy holy Legions, that, under thy command and by thy power, they may pursue the evil spirits, encounter them on every side, resist their bold attacks and drive them hence into the abyss of eternal woe. Amen N.K.

family notices

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ANNIVERSARY



Cullen, Joe (Fr)
12th Anniversary occurs
19th August. Late of
Ballinteer. Parish Priest of St.
Dominic's Church, Tallaght
and Chaplain of T.C.S.

*August is here with sad regret,
The day, the month we won't
forget.
Silently, sadly, came a call,
Without farewell you left us all.
No matter how life changes,
No matter what we do,
A special place within our hearts,
Is always kept for you.
You went away so quietly,
So as not to cause us pain,
But you will never be forgotten,
In our hearts you will remain.*
**Sadly missed by Bernadette,
Ger, Amy, Nicole and
goddaughter Lucy.**

*Always a smile instead of a frown,
Always a hand when one was
down,
Always true, thoughtful, and kind,
Wonderful memories he left
behind.*
From all Past Pupils of T.C.S.

ANNIVERSARY



Moran, Mary
First Anniversary away from
home occurs 17th August.
Late of Phoenix Street,
Inchicore.

Mam
*I often sit in my garden,
And think of you a while,
Remembering wonderful moments,
My sadness becomes a smile,
For sitting in my garden,
Is my favorite place to be,
For I know that in my heart,
You'll be sitting next to me.*
**Forever loved, missed always
your daughter Imelda &
Eddie.**

Nan
*We did not want to lose you,
But you did not go alone,
Because a part of us went with
you,
When heaven called you home,
So just remember one thing,
We are not apart,
You're with us in our memories,
And in our broken hearts.*
**Love always your
grandchildren Edward,
Shaun, Patrick, Ciara &
Darren and great-
granddaughter Millie-Mae.**

ANNIVERSARY



Moran, Mary
First Anniversary away from
home occurs 17th August.
Late of Phoenix Street, The
Ranch, Inchicore.

Mam
*I thought of you with love today,
But that is nothing new,
I thought about you yesterday,
And days before that too,
I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name,
All I have are memories,
And your picture in a frame,
Your memory is my keepsake,
With which I'll never part,
God has you in his keeping,
I have you in my heart.*
**Loved and missed beyond
time Nicola xxx**

Nan
*Our hearts still ache in sadness,
And our secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.*
**We love and miss you so very
much from your
grandchildren Patricia, Amy
and Tadgh xxx and great-
grandchildren Phoenix and
baby Mark xx**

Mam
*These special memories of you,
Will always bring a smile,
If only I could have you back,
For just a little while,
Then we could sit and talk again,
Just like we used to do,
You always meant so very much,
And always will do too,
The fact that you're no longer here,
Will always cause me pain,
But you're forever in my heart,
Until we meet again.*
Forever missed Damien.

ANNIVERSARY



Connolly, Olive
5th Anniversary of Olive
Connolly which occurs on the
20/8/23. Late of Bolbrook
Avenue, Tallaght and Kevin
Street. Beloved wife of the
late Denis Connolly.

*A golden heart stopped beating,
Hard working hands at rest,
It broke our hearts to see you go,
God only takes the best.
They say that memories are
golden,
Well maybe that is true,
But we never wanted memories,
We only wanted you.
Your life was love and labour,
Your love for your family true,
You did your best for all of us,
We will always remember you.
We sat beside your bedside,
Our hearts crushed and sore,
We did our duty to the end,
'Til we could do no more.
In tears we watched you sinking,
We watched you fade away,
And though our hearts were
breaking,
We knew you could not stay.
Our lips cannot speak how we
loved you,
Our hearts cannot tell what to say,
But God only knows how we miss
you,
In our home that is lonely today.*
**Sadly missed by her loving
sons David, Austin & Gerard,
also daughter Imelda. Her
late grandson David.
Grandchildren Jessica,
Eimear, Adam, Katie and
Sarah & great-grandchildren
Zach & Theo. Son &
Daughters-in-law Jimmy,
Anne & Elaine.**

ANNIVERSARY



Farrell, David (Davy)
First Anniversary occurs 20th
August. Late of Kilmartin
Avenue, Fettercairn.

*We did not know that morning,
What sorrow the day would bring,
When your heart of gold stopped
beating,
We could not do a thing,
You never said goodbye to us,
Perhaps that's just as well,
For how could we have said
goodbye,
To the one we loved so well,
To us you were so special,
What more is there to say,
We only wish with broken hearts,
That you were here today.*
**Loved and missed every day
By your heartbroken wife
Breda, daughters Amanda,
Glenda, Melanie & Stacey,
Sons-in-law, Grandchildren,
Brothers, Sisters, Nieces,
Nephews and a large circle of
friends.**

ANNIVERSARY



Ennis, Noel
2nd Anniversary away from
home occurs 19th August.
Also remembering our mam
Jean, who is recently
deceased.

For our dad in Heaven
*They say there is a reason,
They say time will heal,
Neither time or reason,
Will change the way we feel,
Gone are the days we used to
share,
But in our hearts you are always
there,
The gates of memories will never
close,
We miss you more than anybody
knows,
Love and miss you every day,
Till we meet again.
Always and forever love you, dad.*
From his heartbroken Family.

ANNIVERSARY



Griffin, Kathleen
In loving memory of our dear
mother Kathleen whose 26th
Anniversary occurs 21st
August. Late of Main Road,
Tallaght.

*You were always there,
With a helping hand,
To listen support and understand,
Your pleasures were simple,
Your wants were few,
If your family were happy so were
you,
Simple words but very true,
We will always love and remember
you.*
**Sadly missed by your son
David, daughters Toni, Pat
and Angela and your
granddaughter Sarah.
Suaimhneas Siorai da b-anam
uasal.**

ANNIVERSARY



Fagan, Bridie
7th Anniversary occurs 22nd
August. In loving memory of
our dear mam.

*They say it's a beautiful journey,
From the old world to the new,
Someday we will make that
journey ma,
Just to be with you.*
**Loved and never forgotten.
Paul, Ann, Bernadette, Mick,
Grandchildren and Great-
Grandchildren.**

NOVENA

Memorare Prayer
*Remember, O most gracious
Virgin Mary, that never was it
known that any one who fled to
thy protection, implored thy help
or sought thy intercession, was left
unaided. Inspired by this
confidence, We fly unto thee, O
Virgin of virgins my Mother; to
thee do we come, before thee we
stand, sinful and sorrowful; O
Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not our petitions, but in
thy mercy hear and answer them.*
T.H.

NOVENA

Memorare Prayer
*Remember, O most gracious
Virgin Mary, that never was it
known that any one who fled to
thy protection, implored thy help
or sought thy intercession, was left
unaided. Inspired by this
confidence, We fly unto thee, O
Virgin of virgins my Mother; to
thee do we come, before thee we
stand, sinful and sorrowful; O
Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not our petitions, but in
thy mercy hear and answer them.*
G.H.

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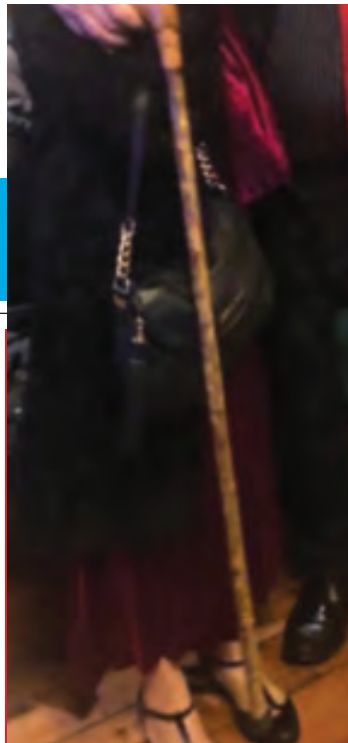
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present for an 80th
birthday. Lost on
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around the vicinity
of the Square.
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news, community, sport and feature articles every week.

Two copies of The Echo newspaper are shown. The top copy is the Thursday, January 5, 2023 issue, priced at €2.95. It features headlines such as 'Sport Review', 'Blackhorse Pub owner appeals council decision', 'Football coach to star as leader on new series of TV show', and 'Running Club makes impact in Cherry Orchard'. The bottom copy is the January 2022 Year in Review issue, priced at €2.95, featuring a large headline 'NURSING HOME APPROVED FOR PRIORY GROUNDS' and other news items like 'Beauty Queen shaves off her hair' and 'Baby Nicolas first new born in the Coombe Hospital'.



*Based on the average price of a cappuccino in Dublin

Over the past 43 years, *The Echo* has had to adapt to ensure its survival – and to ensure that our communities continue to have a space to raise concerns, challenge decisions and celebrate local life. Our survival over four decades is thanks to you, our readers, our advertisers and our communities, your support has secured the continuation of independent local news and quality local journalism since 1980. Here at *The Echo*, we have a professional and committed team of local journalists and photographers who work hard to capture the stories that matter most to you.

Our team write more than 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week, attending events and meeting with groups and organisations to speak with those living, working and volunteering locally.

Buy your copy of *The Echo* in your local store.
This Thursday and Every Thursday*

*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves

Echo Sport

Deputy Sports Editor: William O'Connor

Thursday, August 17, 2023

Sarah secures silver medals at masters



Sarah Doyle with proud Dad Tom

TALLAGHT Athletic club's Sarah Doyle won a brace of silver medals at the National master's T&F Championships in Tullamore last Saturday.

Contesting the W35 category she produced two brilliant performances to finish second in both the 100m (13.65) and 200m (27.82) behind Gemma Thompson (City of Derry Spartans A.C.).

In the W40 category, Michelle Metcalfe recorded a time of 13.95 when 6th in the 100m and she just missed out on the podium when finishing 4th in the 200m with a time of 29.17.

Donore masters shine in c'ships

A NUMBER of Donore Harriers masters athletes finished off their season with the National Masters Track and Field Championships in Tullamore and there were some excellent performances despite some downpours throughout the day.

On the track Kevin Nolan rounded off his season with the M35 1500m and he was delighted to win the bronze in 4.21.20 professing that having an injury free season made all the difference.

Donal Iremonger was well pleased with an M50 double bronze in the 400m and 800m.

Ellen Walshe in action at the European Championships at the weekend



Two gold and a silver for Ellen at Europeans

Templeogue star continues her impressive run of form

ELLEN Walshe closed out her competition by finishing fourth in the final of the Women's 50m Butterfly with a new personal best time of 26.64, narrowly missing a bronze medal by just 0.38 of a second at the LEN U23 European Swimming Championships.

The Templeogue swimmer is coming out of these championships with two golds and a silver, an amazing feat considering she has only returned from the World Aquatics Championships in Japan.

A competition where she achieved the qualification standard in the 200m Individual Medley for the Olympic Games in Paris next year.

Reflecting on the competition, Walshe said, "Yeah, it's been a great meet.

It's so nice to have the home crowd here and to finish fourth in the 50m in a race I didn't even think I'd get back into the final for, like I'm delighted.

"I'm delighted to get my Paris QT time out of the way and now I get a whole year to train, and it was nice to finish on a little fun meet, as me and Mona said, and it was just get up and see what we had left in the tank.

"So yeah, I'm delighted to finish fourth in the 50m tonight. And it obviously would've been nice to hop onto the podium, but it wasn't there tonight. It's savage (the support). Like I can't thank everybody enough for coming out. Like we've never had anything like it. I want to say thanks to everyone that came out and supported me."



Ellen Walshe proudly shows off her medals

Armstrong on target for QPR

LIFE in the EFL Championship this season could not have started better for Sinclair Armstrong, scoring his debut goal for Queens Park Rangers and assisting the second in their 2-1 win over Cardiff City, reports Hayden Moore.

Clondalkin man Sinclair Armstrong netted his first goal for the Rs with a close-range finish in the opening half at the Cardiff City Stadium on Saturday.

Then, in the second-half, the former Moyle Park College student drove at the City backline in a counter-attacking move and displayed excellent composure to find Kenneth Paal for the second goal.

Ike Ugbo pulled one back for the hosts, but QPR held on, with Armstrong earning all of the plaudits after the game for his top-drawer performance.

"This is something I've been waiting for, for a long time," Armstrong beamed as he told QPR social media after the game.

"Of course, last season it didn't happen, I just kept praying for just one opportunity to come.

"And thankfully it happened today, and I also got an assist, so, yeah, I just want to put that out there.

"But, yeah, I'm delighted with the result and hopefully more to come."

Armstrong came off the bench in QPR's first game of the season, replacing midfielder Charlie Kelman at half-time but it was merely damage limitation at that point, with Watford already 4-0 up.

The former St Joseph's BNS student could not turn the tide on that occasion but he had a memorable impact when given a start against Cardiff City in game week two last Saturday.

After the game, QPR manager Gareth Ainsworth heaped the praise on the 20-year-old.

"He's a work in progress but I believe we've got a real diamond. He's young and come out of a lower level in Ireland," Ainsworth said.

"He's not had enough games in the Championship yet, but he will get there and he's like a 100m sprinter.

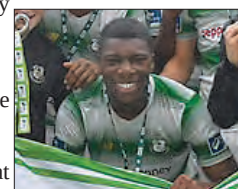
"He's the quickest player I've ever worked with and is going to cause serious problems for defences."

Armstrong is accustomed to wearing Hoops, now wearing the blue and white of QPR, he once wore the green and white of Shamrock Rovers and red and black of Cherry Orchard.

A talented striker, Armstrong played for Cherry Orchard as a schoolboy before moving to the Rovers academy, where he formed part of senior team's panel.

In 2020, Armstrong made six appearances for Shamrock Rovers II, the second-string outfit from the Tallaght club, in the League of Ireland First Division.

That summer, Armstrong put pen to paper on a deal with QPR and spent time with Torquay United and Aldershot Town on loan in recent years.



Sinclair Armstrong in Shamrock Rovers colours in 2019



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July Sports Star of the Month is Ellen Walshe

ELLEN Walshe from Templeogue secured her spot on the plane to the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris next summer, after hitting the qualification time with a record-breaking swim at the World Aquatics Championships in July.

Templeogue native Walshe is the first Irish swimmer to secure an Olympic Qualification Time for Paris 2024 with a rapid 2:10.92 swim in the 200m Individual Medley (IM) in Fukuoka, Japan on Sunday.

The 21-year-old, who entered the 200m IM semi-finals in sixteenth place, moved up the rankings finishing fourth in her semi-final and in ninth place overall in a time of 2:10.92.

Walshe continued her impressive run of form last weekend when she secured two gold and a bronze medal at the LEN U23 European Swimming Championships.

"I'm delighted to get my Olympic time first time around," Ellen told *The Echo*.

"I came back from a massive illness and it's just really special for me to get the time.

"I was so glad also to take part in the European Games, the crowd was epic and I'm just delighted to secure three medals."



Swimmer Ellen Walshe receives the July Sports Star of the Month Award from Shauna Switzer, Cluster Sales and Marketing Manager, The Plaza Hotel and William O'Connor, News Editor, *The Echo*, Thos McDermott, co-ordinator South Dublin County Sports Partnership and David Kennedy, editor, *The Echo*



TU Dublin Badminton players Sean Laureta and Kate Frost receive the Team of the Month Award from Thos McDermott, co-ordinator South Dublin County Sports Partnership, David Kennedy, editor, *The Echo* and Shauna Switzer, Cluster Sales and Marketing Manager, The Plaza Hotel

July Team of the Month TU Dublin Badminton team

STUDENTS from TU Dublin Tallaght campus were fundamental in helping the badminton team achieve a bronze medal at the European University Championships in Hungary.

Taking place in Miskolc, the tournament was taken by storm by an eight-strong team representing TU Dublin.

Caoimhe McKeon, Leah Auld, David Walsh and recent graduate Kate Frost were selected from the Tallaght campus to represent the college abroad.

TU Dublin was pitted in a strong group with last year's champions, The University of Strasbourg (France), and Nova University of Lisbon (Portugal) – requiring a win in both matches to secure a medal.

Team member and Irish international Kate Frost, from Templeogue told *The Echo*: "We won all our matches in the group stages and progressed to the semis where we played University of Nottingham.

"Unfortunately we lost to Nottingham who went on to become overall champions.

"It's very positive to look back on now and look at our result, we pushed out the post and were really happy with our performances of our teams.

"We also secured a bronze last year so hopefully the team can go in next year and go one or two steps further."

Soccer

Results with the Lilywhites have forecasted Rovers' resulting form

By Hayden Moore
sport@echo.ie

A WIN over Dundalk on Friday night in Tallaght Stadium will go a long way in Shamrock Rovers' title charge, as they come into the business end of the season.

There are just nine games remaining in the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division this season and the Hoops' are in the driving seat, with St Patrick's Athletic, Derry City and Bohemian hot on their tails.

At this stage, the Tallaght side cannot afford to let a result slip from their grasp for fear it will close their slender four-point lead at the summit.

The last two times that Stephen Bradley's side played the Lilywhites, they departed Oriel Park with a loss, most recently in the FAI Cup first round on July 23.

They collided in the league the month previous to that, and despite having the lion's share of possession and attempts on goal, Rovers succumbed to a 0-2 loss after two quick goals from Louie Annesley and Patrick Hoban.

Kilnamanagh man Aaron Greene was on the scoresheet

twice in the game before that at Tallaght Stadium and a massive win over Stephen O'Donnell's side in March kickstarted Rovers' season.

Before the Hoops beat Dundalk 4-0 at the end of March, they had been without a win in the first seven games of the season and commentators were quick to write their title prospects off.

At that stage in the season, it was a huge three-points not only because it was their first win of the season, but because swung the momentum back towards Tallaght.

Interestingly, the games against Dundalk appear to carry a lot of weight in forecasting how Rovers following games pan out.

The win in March saw Rovers win nine of their next 10 games and push them to the top of the league, whereas after the loss at the end of June was the start of a dry spell in terms of wins, albeit they were competing for a place in Europe.

Stephen Bradley has brought Rovers to three successive titles. When Shamrock Rovers host Dundalk at 7.45pm in Tallaght Stadium on Friday night, it could prove pivotal in their drive for four-in-a-row.



Stephen Bradley will be hoping for a win against Dundalk on Friday and (inset) Richie Towell will have a key role to play.

Photos Mark McDermott

Pat's have tricky trip to Brandywell with FAI Cup second round tie

ST PATRICK'S Athletic turn their attention the FAI Cup, where they will take on fellow league challengers Derry City in the second round at the Ryan McBride

Brandywell Stadium, reports Hayden Moore.

When the referee blows the whistle for kick-off on Sunday evening, the two most recent winners of the cup, St Pat's in 2021

and Derry in 2022, will go toe-to-toe.

In league meetings so far this year, the teams have a win each over the other on their home patch, most recently colliding at Richmond Park in June.

On that occasion, Jon Daly's side dominated the Candystripes on the counter-attack to run out 4-1 winners but the time before that, City recorded a 2-0 win in Derry.

In the first-round of the cup, 18-year-old academy graduate Adam Murphy was on the scoresheet and a Chris Forrester penalty secured passage for the Supersaints past Longford Town.

Meanwhile Derry overcame Athlone Town in the opening round with a 3-0 win through a Will Patching goal and two late goals from Brandon Kavanagh and Michael Duffy in additional time.

With Shamrock Rovers out of the competition and in pole

position in the league, progressing in the FAI Cup could prove to be a double-edged sword.

A place in the quarter-final is up for grabs and the match-up may be an indication of how the teams stack up coming into the crucial last games of the season.

The Saints are four-points off the top in second place and Derry are one-point behind them in third, albeit with a game in-hand.

Rovers have the opportunity to pour all of their resources and maintain focus in pursuit of a fourth successive league title.

Whereas a good cup run for Pat's or Derry, although it would be huge for potential silverware, may take their eye off the ball in the league as it comes into the final nine-games of the campaign.

Crucially, St Pat's are fixes to play both Shamrock Rovers and Derry City in the final two games of the league season.



Jon Daly will be hoping for a St Pat's win

Jonathan picks up the Player of the Month Award

TALLAGHT striker Jonathan Afolabi has been named SSE Airtricity League of Ireland Premier Division Player of the Month for July after bagging five goals across the month for Bohemian FC.

The 23-year-old is on a hot streak, scoring nine goals in his last seven matches to bring his tally to 11 for the campaign so far.

A former St Mark's Community School

student, Afolabi most recently scored a brace in the Gypsies 4-2 win against Drogheda on August 4.

Striking form at the right time, Afolabi has helped the Dalymount side to fourth in the league, five-points off top spot.

Bohs will be in action once again on Friday night, this time in the FAI Cup second round as they host Munster Senior League outfit Rockmount.



Tallaght's Jonathan Afolabi of Bohemians with his SSE Airtricity / SWI Player of the Month award for July 2023

GAA

Anne's and Towers share the spoils



Mick Hallows in action for Round Tower

A SHARE of the spoils was a fair outcome as St Anne's and Round Tower (Clondalkin) played out a 2-10 to 2-10 draw in the opening round of the Senior Two Championship in Bohernabreena on Saturday evening.

The windy conditions played a major part in this contest with Anne's coming from 2-7 to 0-2 down just before the interval.

Towers had the advantage of the elements in the opening period and after 20 minutes of play were 0-5 to 0-1 to the good.

Stalwart Ian Ward was a key player for Tower's at corner forward with a couple of points while Joey Leech and keeper Gary Cleary also found the range.

The Towers goal arrived on 25 minutes when full forward James Kelly cleverly chipped the Anne's netminder.

This gave the visitors a big lift and a second goal came five minutes later when Ward fisted the ball to the back of the net to leave it 2-7 to 0-2.

Anne's however received a big boost with the last play of the half when full forward Jamie O'Neill fired to the back of Cleary's net to score at a crucial time in the game.

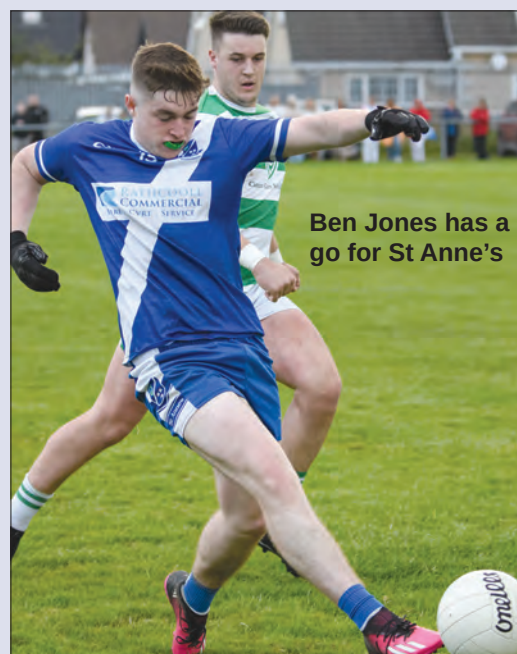
On the changeover, Anne's used the elements to their advantage with O'Neill leading the charge along with Sean Stewart upfront.

Stewart scored four points in total for the home side while Eoin Kennedy, Ben Jones and Scott Fulham split the posts to reduce the deficit.

Then the game took a twist when Scott Fulham saw Cleary out of his box and he scored from 40 yards out to leave the match in the melting pot.

Conor Flannery and Eric Finn were on target for Tower's but O'Neill struck the equaliser as both teams went chasing the win.

Anne's did have a late opportunity to score the winner, but Tower's held out to secure a share in the group stages.



Ben Jones has a go for St Anne's



Player of the Match Hannah Tyrrell from Clondalkin celebrates with her daughter Aoife, age 7 weeks, alongside the Brendan Martin Cup after Dublin's victory in the 2023 TG4 LGFA All-Ireland Senior Championship Final match between Dublin and Kerry at Croke Park in Dublin. Photo by Piaras Ó Mídhéach/Sportsfile

Dubs manager hails his team after superb display against Kerry

DUBLIN manager Mick Bohan hailed his charges for the manner in which they put a championship-winning side together after making a host of changes on and off the park last autumn, *reports Daire Walsh*.

Bohan said winning an All-Ireland was not on their radar when they started plotting 2023 and that's what makes this success so sweet.

They held control throughout an entertaining contest at Croke Park and Bohan said the display delivered by the Dublin players meant they are thoroughly deserved TG4 All-Ireland senior champions for 2023.

"Incredible. I thought their work-rate was immense. We'd obviously been on the receiving end twice from Kerry and we know how good they are. The work this group has done, we had no choice," he said.

"We were on our knees back in October/November time. When you win something, people kind of dismiss that a little bit. If you knew where we were and we were trying to maximise everything we had. Genuinely, the group will tell you this, we were just trying to make this thing competitive.

"We didn't foresee this. There is a little bit of knowledge around the scenes in this camp. The likes of Frankie Roebuck and Seaghan Kearney, Paul Casey and Derek Murray. Guys who have soldiered with the lads' teams. That bit of knowledge and as Frankie kept telling me all year, you don't have to have the best deck to win the card game.

"Sami Dowling came in with us this year as an S&C and he's brought a completely new level to it. We've seen that in all of the sessions, they just worked their backsides off. That is obviously the most important trait in sport, regardless of what you do.

"You obviously have to have knowledge and you have to have a little bit of savvy as to how to manage the games, but if you don't work, you're not in the ball park. All year we'd seen that.

"That day in Parnell Park against Kerry, we saw. Seven points down and they came, and they fought for everything."

Hannah Tyrrell led the way with an outstanding haul of 0-8, all of which came in the opening half, as Dublin claimed their sixth TG4 All-Ireland senior title.

Dublin, appearing in their first Brendan Martin Cup decider since losing out to Meath in 2021, were in control right from the start and added to the All-Ireland victory their male counterparts enjoyed at the expense of Kerry two weeks earlier.

Louise Ní Mhuircheartaigh was scorer-in-chief for the Kingdom with 1-7, but the Munster outfit ultimately fell short in the senior showpiece for the second year in succession.

Dublin, playing in their ninth senior final in just 10 years, stormed into the game with points from Tyrrell and Orlagh Nolan inside the opening 60 seconds. The Kingdom

subsequently got up and running with a close-range free by stand-in captain Ní Mhuircheartaigh, but Tyrrell restored the Jackies' two-point cushion with a similar effort at the opposite end.

The former Ireland rugby international maintained her excellent start to the contest with a second point from play, while Jennifer Dunne also joined the Dublin scoresheet in direct response to a score by Kerry wing-forward Niamh Carmody.

Ní Mhuircheartaigh fired over a point after being released on goal in the 13th-minute, but with Nolan exerting a major influence at centre-forward, Dublin were dictating affairs.

A sequence of six points without reply – five of them from the majestic Tyrrell and one via the boot of Caoimhe O'Connor – put Bohan's side in a powerful position and it took a Ní Mhuircheartaigh free to bring their lead down to seven at 0-11 to 0-4 at the interval.

Although Kerry made a bright start to the second half with unanswered points from Carmody and Ní Mhuircheartaigh, Kate Sullivan and Dublin captain Carla Rowe were on hand to cancel out these efforts in swift fashion. Ní Mhuircheartaigh's dead-ball prowess yielded two more points for the Kingdom, only for Dublin to move nine points clear (0-17 to 0-8) on 48 minutes with four scores on the bounce courtesy of Niamh Hetherington, Rowe (two) and Dunne.

To their credit, Kerry fought until the bitter



Hannah stars in Dubs success

ainst the Kingdom

end and Ní Mhuirheartaigh's palmed finish to the net on 55 minutes formed part of a mini revival from them in the closing stages but they were unable to close the gap.

Joint manager Declan Quill praised his players for all their efforts but on the day Dublin had an edge on them.

"The girls put their heart and soul into it and there's no doubting that, and everybody knows that," said Quill. "But at the end of the day, Dublin were just that superior team on the day.

"That's it, finals, you know, they take a shape of their own at times and they got off to a great start and I suppose we were chasing it for the rest of the game. There's nothing we can say that's going to make it any better right now.

"I'm just so proud of the girls in terms of how they've carried themselves since we've been involved with them over the last four years. Winning national titles, getting to two All-Ireland finals. You see the games and what we started off with a couple of years ago, where there was actually nobody at our games, to two weeks ago in Thurles. Absolutely the crescendo of the support we have and again today it was fabulous."

"I think these girls deserve great credit. There's no Brendan Martin coming home, but they deserve huge credit for what they've done for ladies football. We've enjoyed being with them for so long, it's been brilliant."



Dublin captain Carla Rowe celebrates with former team-mates, from left, Sinéad Finnegan, Niamh McEvoy, Lyndsey Davey and Siobhán McGrath (Thomas Davis) after the match



Dublin manager Mick Bohan, right, and analyst Frankie Roebuck (Round Tower, Clondalkin) celebrate after their side's victory



Dublin goalkeeper Abby Shiels (Lucan Sarsfields) lifts the Brendan Martin Cup after the 2023 TG4 LGFA All-Ireland Senior Championship Final match between Dublin and Kerry at Croke Park



Hannah Tyrrell from Clondalkin holds her seven week old daughter Aoife as she celebrates with the Brendan Martin Cup in Croke Park on Sunday

GAA

Bastick late points earns Synger a draw

FORMER Dublin footballer Denis Bastick kicked two late frees as Templeogue Synger Street and St Mary's played out a 4-8 to 3-11 draw in the Junior Two Championship in Dolphin Park on Sunday.

Mary's looked like they were going to claim a win in their opening group stage match, leading by five points with minutes remaining, but Synger stormed back to earn a share of spoils.

The Saggart boys were 3-6 to 2-6 in front at the interval with Conrad Clancy and Colm Lawlor among the goal scorers for the visitors.

Luca O'Sullivan also found the Synger net while Lawlor impressed for Mary's in attack throughout.

The teams traded scores in the second half with Darach O Nuallain and Clancy striking over the crossbar.

Midfielders Stephen Tynan and Stephen Walsh were others who impressed for the Saggart outfit but Synger pushed hard in the final stages to earn a point.

Indeed Mary's had a late opportunity to score the winner but their effort went wide of the post.

It was a good draw for Mary's who play in a league lower in Division Six with Synger playing in Division Five.

Senior teams off to a good c'ship start

THE senior football championship kicked off last week with a number of good results for local teams.

In O'Toole Park, Luke Breathnach amassed 0-9 in helping Ballinteer St John's to overcome Templeogue Synger Street by 3-14 to 4-8.

Donnacha Carey, Mark McNally and Liam Fenton all netted for St John's with goals at the opposite end from Killian O'Gara, Mark Treanor, Scott McConnell and Lorcan O'Dell proving in vain for Synger by the final whistle.

Thomas Davis netted three goals in the second-half to defeat Lucan Sarsfields by 3-12 to 1-9 at O'Toole Park on Saturday afternoon.

Sean Cleary's 6th minute goal helped Lucan to a narrow 1-4 to 0-6 interval lead but goals upon the resumption from Mark Nolan, Conor Guilfoyle and Davy Keogh were just reward for a dominant Thomas Davis side.

The second match in Kimmage saw Raheny recover from a disappointing first-half showing to edge Cuala by 1-10 to 1-6.

Luke Keating's 18th minute goal saw Cuala to a 1-3 to 0-1 interval advantage but their opponents dominated matters after the break, spurred on by a Cian Ivers goal in the 36th minute.

Cuala offered little in attack, despite four points from play from Con O'Callaghan, with scores from Brian Fenton, Brian Howard and Rob Hennelly just reward for the control they exerted.

In Parnell Park, two goals in the opening-half from Liam Connerton proved telling as St Jude's defeated Na Fianna by 2-11 to 1-10.

The Longford attacker struck in the 12th and 27th minutes to prompt a 2-7 to 0-7 interval lead with Conor McHugh's goal in injury-time arriving too late to spare Na Fianna their fate.



Chris Guckian in action for St Jude's. Photo by Eamon O'Callaghan



St Anne's celebrate winning the championship crown. Photos by Maurice Grehan

St Anne's ladies secure junior football championship

ST ANNE'S delivered Go Ahead Ireland Dublin LGFA Junior F Championship silverware, despite a determined second half comeback by Clanna na nGael Fontenoy 4-11 to 3-8 at St Margarets on Thursday night, making it three wins from three in 2023 against the Ringsend side, reports C  il  n Duffy.

With a league victory, and a group stages win under their belts, St Anne's were coming into this game as favourites, but it wasn't all one-way traffic, certainly in the opening quarter.

Indeed Clanna Gael grabbed the opening score through Ali Henry, but their lead was short-lived as less than four minutes later Caragh Jones equalised.

When Katie Maher put St Anne's ahead for the first time 45 seconds later it gave the Bohernabreena side a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

Despite that burst of points, scores were at a minimum in the opening quarter, and it took St Anne's five minutes to claim their only other score, with Mya Clare on target after her shot was deflected over by Clanna Gael keeper Sarah Bossier.

St Anne's were dominating possession, but following Clare's point Clanna Gael rallied hard.

They cut the gap to the minimum with a point from Clodagh Frankie, but they could have been in front, but for a well placed save from Anne's keeper Maryjane Douglas following a Grace Dolly effort, after initial good work by Frankie.

At the opposite end Anne's registered the first goal of the hour when Mya Clare palmed to the net, after Caragh Jones had sent the ball inside.

Referee Orla Simpson consulted with her umpires to check all was in order with Clare's close range effort, before the green flag was raised.

Anne's drove on from this with Katie Mahon registering her second point of the tie, to hand her side a 1-4 to 0-2 advantage after 18 minutes.

Sarah Byrne and Maria Lee traded points, as did Caragh Jones and Ali Henry, with the gap at five points entering the closing six minutes of the half.

Annes were powerful until the interval, dominating midfield, and controlling the ball well from Clanna Gael's kick-outs.

Mark Pollock's charges won the next 10 unanswered kick-outs, yielding 1-4 from this, and helping move into a 2-10 to 0-4 lead.

That 1-4 came inside five minutes, with points from play from Maria Lee and Caragh Jones (2) inside a 100 second spell, before a couple of missed efforts.

Jones added another close range effort from play and also had an effort come off the crossbar.

St Anne's rattled the net for a second time, when an Orla Walsh effort from 25 metres out finished in the top corner.

Twelve points ahead, St Anne's again powered forward but registered two wides from the next two attacks, including an effort

which saw the cross-bar deny them once again.

To her credit also Clanna Gael full-back and captain Helen Barron led by example over the hour, and was involved also on many occasions in trying to keep St Anne's at bay.

Clann's were determined to bounce back, and won their first kick-out in seven minutes, which yielded a point from Ali Henry deep in injury-time to ensure a 2-10 to 0-5 interval score-line.

St Anne's got off to a powerful start on the resumption, and found the net just 19 seconds in, with Mya Clare flicking to the net to grab her second goal.

Points followed in a 30 second spell in the 35th minute, with Megan Doran and Caragh Jones on target as St Anne's moved 16 points clear.

Amazingly St Anne's wouldn't score again for almost 19 minutes, as Clanna Gael really hit a purple patch.

Half-time substitute Olivia Hanley fired to the root of the net in the 39th minute for their opening goal, with pressure now on the Anne's defence.

A Maria O'Donoghue goal effort was denied following good work by MaryJane Douglas close to the post, before Clanna Gael grabbed their second goal.

This time it was from the penalty spot, as Grace Dolly sent a low and hard shot to the net. She followed up with a point less than 90 seconds later, before finding the net once again - this time from play; to ensure just six points separated the sides entering the final quarter.



Katie Callery takes on the Clanna Gael defence during the final



Caragh Jones weighs up her options for St Anne's

o silverware in style

Clann's came unstuck in front of the posts in the next five minutes, but regained their composure thanks to an Ali Henry point, to ensure a 3-12 to 3-7 score-line in the 51st minute.

Anne's bounced back and broke their scoring dead-lock in impressive fashion as 16 year old Caragh Jones grabbed a well taken goal.

Ali Henry grabbed her fifth point of the game, but Anne's closed out the game well with Go Ahead Ireland Player of the Match Jones bringing her tally to 1-7 for the hour on the way to an eight-point win.

After the game Dublin LGFA Chairperson Joe Keane presented the Cup to St Anne's team captain Aisling O'Neill.

It was a proud moment for Aisling who referenced that she only took up Ladies Gaelic Football four years ago and that it was a privilege to have such teammates and friends.

Aisling thanked the management team for their guidance, saying that major strides have been made over the last two years.

Incidentally the management is a family trio of Mark Pollock, his son Ciarán; and daughter Ava.

Aisling also had a word of thanks to the loyal St. Anne's supporters for their 'hype and huge positivity in their support from the sidelines.'

She also praised Clanna Gael Fontenoy whom she said are an upcoming team that will only get better, and that she is looking forward to playing them again in a few weeks - a fourth meeting for 2023, this time the Division 7 League semi-final.

Good start for St Mark's

IT WAS a good start to the campaign for St Mark's in the Junior 'A' Championship at the weekend.

The Springfield side put together a solid team performance as they brushed aside the challenge of Shankill 1-15 to 4-19 in Shankill.

Nine different players registered scores for St Mark's in this contest with Joey Cannon leading the charge with a goal and six points.

David Glynn was another player that stood out for the winners with six points for the winners while Eoin Doyle also found the back of the Shankill net.

Ross Byrne and Wayne Crosbie impressed while Gary Kett and Cormac O'Reilly worked hard in defence.

Having avoided the relegation play-off in Division Four after winning five out of their last six matches, Mark's are now hoping for a good run in the championship.

The side play Civil Service next in the championship and then play Na Gael Oga in their last group match.

Rowan kicks late winner for Davis inters

THOMAS Davis intermediate footballers got their championship campaign up and running with a hard-fought 1-13 to 0-15 win over St Sylvester's at Kiltipper Road on Saturday.

The home side had to dig deep for this win with a late Eric Rowan point proving the difference between the sides.

The opening half of this contest was evenly matched with the sides trading scorers with former Clare player Shane McGrath among the scorers.

Syl's started the second half strongly to score three points and go two up but then Fionn Lynch found a way through to score the only goal of the match.

It was nip and tuck to the end with Davis keeper Glen Brogan pulling of two goal saves while he also landed two 45s.

The visitors drew level just before the end, but Rowan had the final say when he kicked the winner in the dying seconds.

Substitute Brian Kirby and Joey O'Reilly showed all their experience in the second half as Davis face Na Fianna in the next round in two weeks time.

Meanwhile, **Thomas Davis junior footballers** came from seven-points down in the championship clash with Na Fianna, drawing 1-13 to 3-7 at Kiltipper Road on Sunday.

The hosts looked in real trouble at losing this game but inspired by scores from substitute James O'Connor and Robbie Mearns, Davis came storming back.

Dean Gibbons, Niall Dameron and Robbie Sharkey were other players who battled hard for the home side.

Mary's seniors are edged out

ST MARY'S finished second best in their opening Senior Two Football Championship encounter with Naomh Olaf 2-10 to 0-14 in Saggart on Saturday.

Mary's trailed by nine points at one stage in the second half with Dublin player Davy Byrne among the goal scorers for the winners.

However it was in the final quarter of the match that Mary's played their best football as they pulled the lead back to two points but the clock beat them.

Eoin Murray was Mary's chief scorer with nine points while Jacob Clarke and Conor Jameson were other players who stood out.

Mary's are out in action in two weeks' time when they face St Oliver Plunkett's/Eoghan Ruadh who lost out to Round Towers (Lusk) in their opening match.

GAA

Late surge sees Boden topple Ballymun

THIS was always going to be a tough start to the championship, and so it proved with Ballyboden St Enda's senior footballers coming home winners after a late scoring surge to see off Ballymun Kickhams 1-16 to 1-11 in the championship in Parnell Park.

With plenty recent All-Ireland medal holders on show, Warren Egan was the first to score with a good point after just two minutes.

Ross McGarry added two points in the 7th and 8th minutes. Ballymun got a point back on 11 minutes but Daire Sweeney, Luke O'Donoghue and Colm Basquel added to the Boden score to put five points between the sides.

Ryan Basquel (free) and Ballymun exchanged points but then Ballymun added three points in two minutes from the 22nd to 24th minutes.

After Boden showed great patience to break through the Ballymun defence, James Holland got on the end of a defence splitting pass by Colm Basquel to put three points between the sides again. But back came Ballymun with two more points before half time to leave the scores 0-8 to 0-7 in favour of Boden.

The Firhouse Road side again made a good start to the 2nd half with Warren Egan again to the fore with a point after two minutes. Ryan Basquel (free), Colm Basquel and Warren again, put five points between the sides.

However, this didn't last very long when a number of defensive errors led to a Ballymun goal giving Darragh Gogan no chance.

Ballymun quickly added a point to leave the minimum between the sides with just 12 minutes gone. Darragh Gogan (from a 45) and Daire Sweeney (free) restored a three-point lead, but Ballymun were in no mood to surrender. They added the next three points to bring the sides level for the first time with about six minutes of normal time left.

The next five minutes were very cagey with both sides missing chances to go ahead. The breakthrough for Boden came in the 29th minute when Michael Darragh Macauley fed Céin D'Arcy and he fired over.

The Boden forwards were putting severe pressure on the Ballymun goalkeeper's kickouts and this paid off from the next kickout when Colm Basquel intercepted a short kickout to a Ballymun defender.

Under extreme pressure, Colm retained possession as he made some forward advances and with the help of Ryan O'Dwyer the ball was scrambled over the line. Basquel fired over another point as added time was coming to an end and this was the last score in an absorbing match.

Next up is Ballinteer St John's who were winners over Templeogue Synge Street in the other group match.

Brave show from Davis ladies in final



Kiltipper Road side never give up as they push St Vincent's all the way in championship decider

A SOLID middle third period in the second half provided the basis for St Vincent's second team to capture the Go-Ahead Ireland Dublin LGFA Junior J Club Championship title by 2-16 to 3-7 at Fingallians GAA Club on Wednesday night, reports Cólín Duffy.

The Marino based side, who only established Adult Ladies Football in the club three years ago; outscored their Kiltipper Road based opponents by 1-3 to 0-1 between the 40th and 50th minutes; to provide the platform for this win.

Just a point separated the sides when they met in the group stages, after a late Patrice Maguire goal earned St Vincent's a win; and for long periods of this final a tight encounter ensued.

Thomas Davis drew first blood on the scoreboard after sustained early pressure, with Morgan Berigan netting a goal with just under three minutes gone on the clock.

Vincent's rallied well with a trio of unanswered points in a two-minute spell, with Kate McGovern opening their tally, before a brace of Isabelle Dunne scores levelled the tie at 0-3 to 1-0 after six minutes.

Thomas Davis worked the ball well, and broke a five-minute scoreless spell, with Ciara McNally firing them back in front.

Scores were starting to come thick and fast at this stage, with Vincent's first goal of the hour arriving in impressive fashion.

Ciana Boland cut through the defence and showed great strength and pace before finishing to the net to put Vins two points ahead.

Soon after it was Thomas Davis turn to find the net, this time from the penalty spot. Zara Flood slotting the placed kick to the net for the first of her two goals in this game.

This saw Thomas Davis regain the lead with a 2-1 to 1-3 score-line, but Vins quickly equalised through a Ciana Boland point.

The sides swapped scores on two occasions in a seven-minute spell, with Boland and Sarah Ross on target for Vincent's, while Allanah Sage and Ciara McNally contributed for Thomas Davis.

With 18 minutes gone on the clock the sides were tied for the third time in the game, however Vincent's hit a relatively dominant spell in the possession stakes, the bulk of their attacking efforts converted to scores.

Isabelle Dunne, Martha O'Malley (2) and Ciana Boland all added to the scoresheet in a spell which saw Vincent's outscoring their opponents by four points to one before the break.

Ciara McNally contributed Thomas Davis' lone score during this spell, and at the interval St. Vincent's led 1-10 to 2-4.

Thomas Davis introduced Emma Ferns and Rebecca O'Connor at half-time and made inroads early on the restart.

A brace of points from Keelin Galvin inside the first five minutes of the half saw them cut the gap to a point.

Vincent's pushed hard but Thomas Davis defender Grace Leigh stopped a goal effort from going over the line in the 36th minute, but Vincent's breached the net four minutes later when 16-year-old Ava Crowley who wasn't long off the bench fired her sides second goal.

2-10 to 2-6 in front, Vincent's drove on from this with unanswered points from Patrice Maguire and Martha O'Malley (2) helping them move seven points ahead as the game entered the final quarter.

Allanah Sage registered Thomas Davis' first score in almost 13 minutes from a free to cut the gap, but again St Vincent's continued to move the ball well in attack.

Isabelle Dunne restored a seven-point lead, before Thomas Davis were reduced to 14 players in the 55th minute, after Emma Ferns was sin-binned.

Dunne added her fifth point of the game from play soon-after the resumption, with Ciana Boland ensuring a nine-point advantage as injury-time approached.

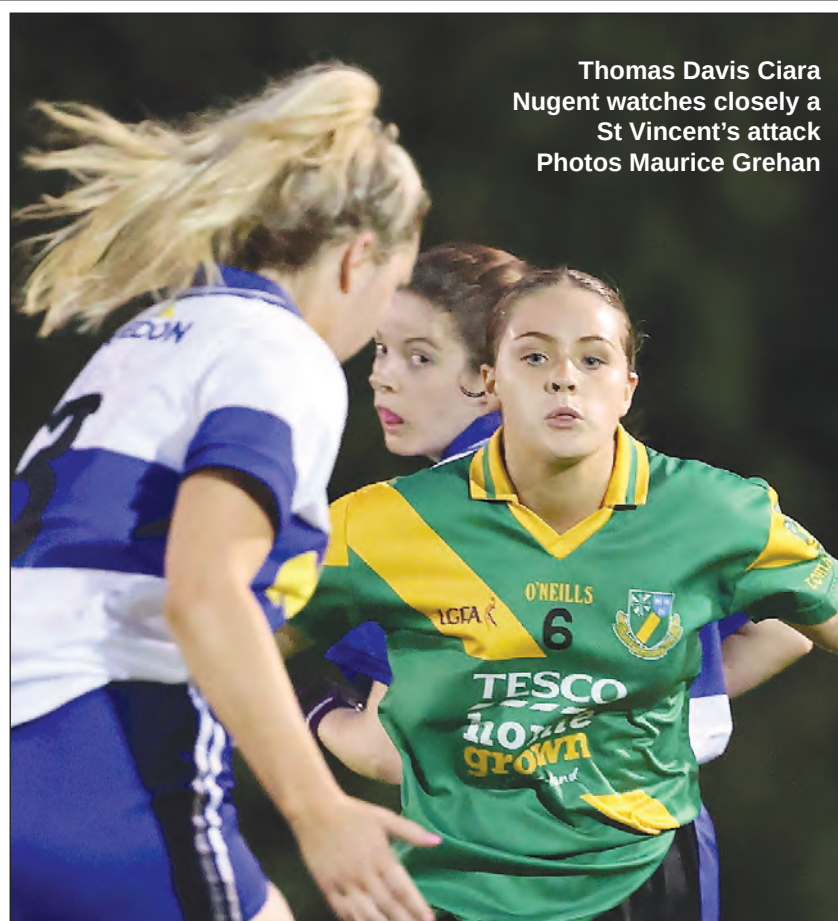
To their credit Thomas Davis never gave up with Zara Flood registering a goal in the early stages of injury-time, but despite four minutes of injury-time following, Vincent's stood firm to take the title.



Ryan Basquel takes on the Ballymun defence. Photo by Niall O'Connell



Zara Flood
of Thomas Davis
goes on the attack
Photos by
Maurice Grehan



Thomas Davis Ciara
Nugent watches closely as
St Vincent's attack
Photos Maurice Grehan

Kevin's/Kilian's fall at the final hurdle after extra time

A LATE salvo from Mia Downey earned Cuala's third team the Go-Ahead Ireland Dublin LGFA Junior J Club Championship title following a gripping encounter, which required extra-time before the Dalkey club were crown winners 4-12 to 4-9 at Fingallians GAA Club on Wednesday night, reports *Cóilín Duffy*.

The midfielder was in excellent form, grabbing 1-1 deep in the second half of extra-time, bringing her tally to 3-7 overall, and ensuring a three-point victory for her side and silverware.

Earlier Downey had also secured extra-time, with a late pointed free, in a contest where both sides had dominant spells.

A 2012 All-Ireland Junior Club winner with Thomas Davis, Carol O'Donnell was a tour-de-force for St Kevin's Killians throughout this contest, and she signalled her intent from the off.

After just 30 seconds she registered the first wide of the game, but the captain was a vital playmaker also for the Kilnamanagh/Kingswood based side.

SKK dominated possession in the opening stages and led by 1-3 to 0-1 after 11 minutes.

Indeed after just six minutes they registered four wides and had a point on the board through Amy Connaughton.

They found the net for the first time in the 8th minute, after the ball fell favourably for Clodagh Clarke; with initial good work by players including O'Donnell and Ruby Jane Callery in the build-up. Cuala responded as they got the ball into their full-forward line for the first time, and following a good passing move Downey converted their first score.

SKK rallied with quick points from Clarke and Cunningham to open up a five-point lead, but Cuala responded well.

Following sustained pressure, Emma Byrne won a 14th minute penalty, and although the initial penalty from Downey was saved by SKK keeper Emily Noctor, the ball finished in the net.

Within a minute Downey turned provider for Byrne to finish to the net, as Cuala took the lead for the first time to ensure a 2-1 to 1-3 lead.

By the end of the first quarter that advantage had stretched to two points as Orlaith O'Sullivan claimed her first score. But Cuala were held scoreless over the next eight minutes, as SKK moved back on top.

Cuala levelled the tie through Meadhbh Ní Fheinneadhá, but SKK finished the half strongly with a brace of goals.

Firstly Leanne McCarton finished the net, after an excellent burst forward by O'Donnell in the 25th minute. Three minutes later it was Becky Cunningham who finished to the net, as SKK moved six-points clear.

By this stage both sides had also found themselves temporarily reduced to 14 players after Cuala's Asia Kirwan and SKK's Amy Connaughton were sent to the sinbin.

Cuala pushed hard before the break and following good work by Kate Brennan to win a free, Ní Fheinneadhá converted the resulting placed ball to ensure a 3-



Evie Donegan
in action for St
Kevin's/Kilians'

6 to 2-4 interval score-line.

In the second half Cuala pushed hard in search of scores.

Emma Byrne opened their second half tally with a point from play 100 seconds after the restart, while a Downey pointed free saw the gap cut to a goal in the 40th minute. Both sides impressed defensively with scores at a premium.

Feinne Condren was among those showing well for SKK, as was Kate Brennan for Cuala.

Both sides had missed chances in the middle third of the second half, the most notable of these a 44th minute goal effort from Ní Fheinneadhá which came off the upright.

Cuala continued to press hard and grabbed a trio of points between the 46th and 51st minutes - a Kate Prendergast effort sandwiched with pointed frees from Downey, to level the tie at 2-9 to 3-6.

Both sides had missed chances, including a Connaughton goal effort from SKK which skimmed wide.

Leanne McCarton grabbed a fine point from close range in the 57th minute, when a goal chance was also possibly on the cards.

This effort was amazingly SKK's

only score of the second half, and while it put her side ahead, Cuala dominated possession in the closing stages, with a Downey pointed free late on forcing extra-time.

As they did in first half normal time, SKK pressed hard from the throw-in on the resumption, but a Ruby Jane Callery effort finished in the hands of keeper Clíodhna Gillen.

Cuala grabbed the first point of extra-time through Downey, after a Meadhbh Ní Shiocháin pass; and

Downey was also on hand to grab a 69th minute goal - with Caoimhe Dowling the provider, as Cuala moved 3-11 to 3-7 in front.

However, SKK did close the gap to two points by the interval, with injury-time pointed frees from Chloe Conroy.

On the restart SKK pushed hard at the Cuala defence, and while an initial effort from their captain Carol O'Donnell finished wide, they were eventually rewarded for their strong pressure.

O'Donnell was involved, as she sent the ball to Amy Connaughton, whose effort bounced off the crossbar, and eventually came into play, with the umpires adjudging the ball had crossed the line.

This 73rd minute effort put SKK ahead by a point, but they failed to add to their tally - Cuala also failed to score in normal time.

With the game delayed due to an injury to Becky Cunningham, there was still plenty of injury-time to come, and this was where Cuala capitalised.

In the 82nd minute they regained the lead, after a wonderful team move which involved Doireann Ní Lafáin, Edel Keating and Ní Fheinneadhá, before Downey palmed the ball to net.



Feinne Condren
gathers
possession.
Photos Maurice
Grehan



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LATE NIGHT @ FONTHILL STORE THUR & FRI- 8PM