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Community centre plans approved for Katharine Tynan House page 21



Over 4,500 people attend Tymon Park cultural event pages 4 & 50



Faces of the community

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€14.7 million recreation facility boost for students

THE Tallaght campus of TU Dublin officially opened a €14.7 million teaching, research and recreation facility on Wednesday morning, reports William O'Connor. See page 2

Landmark pub sold in estimated €10m deal

Former *Echo* paper seller purchases public house to add to portfolio A LANDMARK pub is set to get a face-lift after being purchased by a Tallaght businessman, who operates some of Dublin's best-known pubs, in a deal estimated to be in the region of €10 million, reports Hayden Moore. See page 16

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In next week's edition, Thursday September 14th.
57 SCHOOLS!
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Next Edition

The next edition of **The Echo**
in the shops from Thursday,
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EchoSo and EchoJoe back again
this week on pages 48 and 49

Comhairle Contae
Atha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75
PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE
OF: L4006 BALLYMOUNT ROAD
UPPER, BALLYMOUNT, DUBLIN 12
(FROM THE JUNCTION WITH
GREENHILLS ROAD TO THE
ROUNDAABOUT AT THE BOTTOM OF
BALLYMOUNT ROAD UPPER)

To facilitate the installation of a new Totem at the Maxol Service Station on the Greenhills Road by Prestige Signs Ltd., South Dublin County Council propose to temporarily close the following Road:

Road Name: L4006 Ballymount Road Upper, Ballymount, Dublin 12 (From the Junction with Greenhills Road to the Roundabout at the bottom of Ballymount Road Upper).

Day/Dates: Friday, September 29th, 2023.

Time of Closure: 12:01am – 3:01am.

Detour Route: Via Greenhills Road to Walkinstown Roundabout, turning off for Ballymount Road Lower. Turning onto Ballymount Avenue to end of Diversion.

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@sdublincoco.ie not later than **5.00 p.m. on Monday, September 11th 2023.**

Web: www.sdcc.ie



€14.7m facility opens in Tallaght campus

State-of-the-art development to benefit students at TU Dublin



FACILITY: The new €14.7 million Sports, Science, Health and Recreation facility was officially opened on Wednesday. Cutting the tape was President of TU Dublin David FitzPatrick, Mayor Alan Edge, Cllr Charlie O'Connor and students from the college

By **William O'Connor**
william@echo.ie

TU DUBLIN officially opened a €14.7 million teaching, research and recreation facility on the University's Tallaght Campus on Wednesday morning.

Opening just in time for the new academic year, the Sports, Science, Health, and Recreation facility provides an extra 3,282 m² of space and includes classrooms, laboratories and one of the largest multi-purpose sports halls in Dublin 24.

The new facility is just one of the new developments planned for the University's Tallaght campus, with a 5,200 m² multi-disciplinary building currently under construction, adding a total of 8,482 m² of additional student space since the establishment of TU Dublin in 2019.

Speaking at the launch of the new building, the President of TU Dublin, Professor David FitzPatrick, said: "The activities this new Sports, Science, Health, and Recreation building cater for, perfectly encapsulates the full student experience at TU Dublin. State-of-the-art teaching spaces will cater for formal studies, while laboratories equipped with the latest technologies will also support research and teaching in Sports Science.

"In addition, the recreation and fitness facilities on offer will be available to all students, whether they are Elite Athlete Scholars or simply trying out a new hobby with one of our many clubs and societies.

"And the final stop in a student's academic journey is their graduation ceremony, with many across our campus network due to celebrate their achievements with their family and friends when we host our Autumn Conferring Ceremonies in this fantastic new building later this year."

Continuing, Professor FitzPatrick said, "I want to take this opportunity to thank the Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science (DFHERIS)

and the Higher Education Authority (HEA) for their support of this project. In the coming months and years, we look forward to working with our colleagues in DFHERIS and the HEA on progressing projects, such as the Indoor Sports Centre in Grangegorman, which will provide generations of our students with a world-class University experience."

The new Sports, Science, Health, and Recreation building on TU Dublin's Tallaght Campus was completed in February 2023 by ABM Construction and is now ready to welcome students when classes commence later this month.

In keeping with the University's commitment to the achievement of UN Sustainable Development Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns, the facility is classified as a Nearly

Zero-Energy Building (NZEB).

It is energy efficient, using renewable sources, including a photovoltaic power-generating unit that produces electricity for the building.

The space is also connected to the Tallaght District Heating Scheme, which recovers waste heat from a nearby data centre.

A second building, currently under construction on the University's Tallaght Campus, is a 5,200 m² multi-disciplinary building, which will accommodate teaching and research in hospitality, culinary arts, engineering and apprenticeship activities.

Funded by the Higher Education Public Private Partnership (PPP) programme and due for completion in 2024, the development will consist of theatres, a training restaurant, design studios, and research facilities.



STATE-OF-THE-ART: The inside of the sports hall at TU Dublin Tallaght Campus

Gardai seize €141k in cash during search

GARDAI arrested two people and seized over €140,000 during a search operation on Thursday, August 31.

According to a Garda statement issued, the search was conducted at a residence in Dublin 12 by gardai attached to

the Dublin Crime Response Team.

The statement said: "During the course of the search, Gardaí seized €141,000 in cash.

"A man (30s) and a woman (40s) were arrested at the scene on suspicion of money

laundering offences.

"Both persons were detained under Section 4 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1984 at Garda stations in Dublin."

The man has since been charged and appeared before the Criminal Courts of Justice

on Saturday morning, September 2.

The woman was released without charge and a file will be prepared for the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Investigations are ongoing, gardai said.

New proposed garda rosters will have serious negative implication for policing in community

THE new proposed Garda rosters will have serious negative implications for policing in Dublin.
The new roster of 5 shifts a day is due to be brought into operation on November 6.
Sinn Féin Dublin City Cllr. Daithí Doolan, chairperson of South Central Joint Policing

Committee, said:
"The new proposed Garda roster will have serious negative implications for policing in Dublin. There are not enough Gardaí in the force to make it workable.
"I am deeply concerned that the Garda Commissioner's decision to go ahead with the

new roster will take Gardaí away from drug squads, community policing units and divisional crime task forces across Dublin.
"I have written to the Assistant Commissioner for Dublin asking that community policing and drug squads are ring-fenced and protected. Unfortunately I have not received a response.

"I will also be raising my concerns in the strongest possible terms at the forthcoming Joint Policing Committee.
"There is simply not enough Gardaí to provide 5 shifts per day. Therefore the new roster should be deferred until the current staffing crisis is resolved."

86-year-old Mrs D conferred with a degree from Maynooth

Owner of garden centre has created employment in community for almost 50 years

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

PHIL Devitt, the 86-year-old owner of Newlands Home and Garden Centre, was conferred with a degree in Maynooth University on Wednesday afternoon.

The ceremony marked the culmination of four years of studying and completing assignments by the popular businesswoman, who is affectionately known in the community as Mrs D.

Her path to earning a bachelor's degree in community development and social studies began four years ago, when she undertook a back-to-education course in Maynooth.

Mrs D's daughter, Denise, said that her mam decided to engage in academic pursuits after Mike, her beloved husband of over 55 years, passed away in 2017.

Denise told *The Echo*: "My father passed away six years ago, so my mother found the evenings long and lonely, and decided she wanted to do something to keep her mind occupied.

"So she did a back-to-education course in Maynooth and she loved it.

"Initially we just thought she'd do it as a one-year night course, but a lot of the people from the course applied to do the degree and my mother was encouraged to do it too, and was delighted when she got in."

Mrs D balanced her studies, which included modules on topics like homelessness and addiction, with working full-time in the garden centre, where she is held in high regard by staff and customers.

Over the years, Mrs D has offered transition year work experience placements to local school students and in many instances has employed them throughout their school and college studies.

Denise added that her mam enjoys working with young people from the area, and on many occasions has encouraged young people who were considering leaving school to continue their studies.

One of Mrs D's employees, Siobhan Malone, contacted *The Echo* to praise her boss's work and the impact she has had – and continues to have – on the community.

"She has created employment in the area for

almost 50 years," said Siobhan.

"Mrs D is a very modest woman with the kindest heart, she is always very supportive to local groups and schools within the area.

"This lady is renowned for her knowledge, expertise, determination and, above all, kindness within the area.

"I feel her story should be told – it goes to show what hard work and determination can do. I really think her story is truly remarkable, and she has made such a huge contribution to the community."

Mrs D's brother-in-law, Fr Séamus Devitt from the Assumption Parish in Ballyfermot, also contacted *The Echo* about her achievement, as Mrs D doesn't typically seek out praise for her work.

"She wouldn't be one to blow her own trumpet," added Denise. "She's done so much for

everyone, but she never wants anything in return.

"We're all immensely proud of her. She has spent all her life giving to other people, but this time it was just something that she did for herself and got great enjoyment out of it."

Mrs D was conferred with her undergraduate degree at Maynooth University on Wednesday afternoon with her family by her side to share the occasion and mark her inspirational achievement.

When asked what her father, and Mrs D's late husband, Mike, would think of his wife's achievement, Denise said: "He would've been immensely proud of her – they were a great team together."

Mrs D's family and colleagues held a small get-together in the garden centre on Wednesday evening to celebrate her being awarded her degree, while a larger party will be held later this month.



TOP CLASS: Phil Devitt graduated on Wednesday in Maynooth University. Phil is pictured with brother-in-law, Fr Seamus Devitt



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Over 4,500 people attend food and cultural event in Tymon

‘Atmosphere was pure carnival’ as community explore global food village at international event

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER 4,500 people attended an International Food and Cultural Event in Tymon Park on Saturday, where they got to explore a global food village, listen to some live music and enjoy picnics.

Many attendees took the opportunity to soak up the sun while enjoying cuisine from all over the world in the family-friendly atmosphere.

The day was organised by Dublin Market Events with support from South Dublin County Council, Dublin’s Outdoors, and the South Dublin Local Enterprise Office.

A spokesperson for South Dublin County Council told *The Echo* that approximately 4,500 people went to the event and they explained why the local authority decided to hold it.

“As part of the council’s endeavour to build and foster inclusive communities, the local authority held an International Food Festival to promote cuisine and craft from other cultures,” they said.

“Celebrating the diversity of our county is extremely important to SDCC.

“The popularity of the event met SDCC and event organisers’ expectations. The event was meticulously planned to accommodate the large number of participants and visitors on the day.”

Also there on the day were a number of local councillors, including Mayor Alan Edge (Ind), Mick Duff (Ind), Pamela Kearns (Lab), Lilian Guéret (FF), and Teresa Costello (FF).

Cllr Duff told *The Echo*: “I’ve been aware of Tymon Park since the day it was officially opened in the early 80s.

“I’ve watched it develop into its many different guises and the different events that have been held there, and I genuinely think that the event on Saturday was one of the best that I’ve witnessed.

“The atmosphere was pure carnival – there was everything from tacos to lobster rolls. It was amazing, and it had a real feel-good factor.”

A spokesperson for the council said that plans for a similar event next year are ongoing, but “no concrete commitments have been given yet as [to] what will be delivered”.



FUN IN THE SUN: Holly, Erinn and Sophia in Tymon Park on Saturday enjoying the day



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Abseil for Lexie

GAA members abseil off the roof of Croker to raise funds for Heart Children Ireland

TOP MARKS: Jason Shalloe abseils from the roof of Croke Park (inset) St Mark's members Jason Shalloe, Gavin Sexton and Anne Meagan with Lexie Lynch



MEMBERS of a GAA club completed an abseil off the roof of Croke Park to raise funds for Heart Children Ireland in the name of a little girl who has had hundreds of procedures for coronary heart disease, *reports Hayden Moore.*

Lexie Lynch has become a familiar face on sidelines at McGee Park, supporting teams of all ages wearing the black and amber of St Mark's GAA.

Returning the favour, members of the GAA club wanted to show their support and appreciation for nine-year-old Lexie by fundraising for a charity close to the family, the Heart Children Ireland.

"I wanted to do something for Lexie because if you've ever met her, you'd know she's one of the most special little girls you'd ever meet," Sarah Beattie, family friend and member of St Mark's GAA, tells *The Echo.*

"She always has a smile, even when she's sick, she still is just such a pleasure to be around, she just lights up a room and it breaks my heart that she has to go through all of this.

"If you've ever met her mam Niamh as well, it

blows my mind how strong she is, especially when you know Lexie. They are the most amazing people and the most amazing family.

"Niamh posted on her Facebook page that she was wanted to abseil for Lexie for Heart Children Ireland.

"I am afraid of heights but I spoke to Jason, Gav Sexton and I knew they wanted to raise money for Lexie too, and that's how we ended up doing a club abseil. That's why I got involved and wanted to help out."

Sarah's son Shane ended up doing the abseil instead of Niamh, alongside her husband Martin, and St Mark's members Jason Shalloe, Gavin Sexton, Anne Meagan and Gavin O'Leary.

"It was a brilliant day, they all did so well, they smashed it, going over the rail at the back off the big screen and the whole way down.

"I was so proud of everyone that took part and the money that we've raised."

So far, the abseil team have raised €2,645 for Heart Children Ireland in Lexie's name.

The young Springfield girl has faced a lot of adversity in her life but has been helped with the support of her parents, Niamh Griffin and Stephen Lynch, and her younger brother, Parker.

The family linked in with Heart Children Ireland three years ago, which provides a range of services to support children who suffer from congenital heart defects and their parents and families.

When Niamh had her 20-week scan during her pregnancy on Lexie, the consultant told the expectant mother that the baby had a form of congenital heart disease.

However, when Lexie was born in October 2013, she was quite ill, and doctors realised that her condition was even more severe than they originally thought.

Brought straight to CHI at Crumlin, it was found that little Lexie had five cardiac conditions, called TDA, AFD, VSD, TVA and LVOTO.

After being put on oxygen and tube-fed straight away, Lexie underwent her first major surgery to correct the five issues but did not come out of it smoothly, needing an external pacemaker to be fitted and requiring dialysis.

"It was slightly terrifying, because at the same time, they said there were no other children with the same conditions Lexie had," Niamh told *The Echo* last year.

"In all fairness, they said Lexie wasn't going to make it, but she's nine now and has had five major surgeries and hundreds of procedures, but if you saw her now and she walked by you, you wouldn't know she was any different."

Most weeks, Lexie is out supporting her brother Parker when he togs out for St Mark's GAA and was in Croke Park last Saturday to support the team doing the abseil.

To support the fundraiser, visit: heartchildrenie.enthuse.com/pf/st-marks-gaa



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Bus blocked by balaclava wearing youth on a bike

Eleven incidents last month including passenger chased off bus and driver assaulted

By Aideen O'Flaherty

aideen@echo.ie

THERE were several violent incidents on buses in West Tallaght last month, including one where a 27 bus was blocked by a balaclava-wearing youth on a bike while a passenger was chased off the bus.

This occurred on Cheeverstown Road on August 24 at approximately 11pm, and was one of numerous incidents mentioned at the Tallaght Transport Forum meeting held last Friday.

Eleven incidents were recorded during the month of August, affecting the 27 and 77A routes, which varied in severity.

On August 7, a group of youths assaulted and spat at a female passenger on a 77A at the Jobstown Inn, while stones were thrown at a 77A in Killinarden on August 11.

Other incidents included bus drivers being verbally abused, fare evasion, interference with bus doors, and in one incident a driver was assaulted by an intending male passenger.

This follows on from the reinstatement of evening Dublin

Bus services in West Tallaght last April, after several months of the 27, 65B, 56A and 77A routes not serving the area due to repeated incidents.

When anti-social behaviour occurs on those routes, the typical protocol is to curtail buses from the area for an hour before commencing services again, which continues to be adhered to.

Sean Yeates, a National Bus and Rail Union (NBRU) executive in Dublin Bus's Ringsend garage which the 27 and 77A routes operate out of, told *The Echo* that the number of incidents has "slightly peaked".

"The incidents slightly peaked last month," he said. "It's been very rare in the last few months that we've had to pull services from the area."

"The incidents are not to the level that they were [when services were pulled at the start of the year], because of the structures that have been put into place."

"The protocol agreed between the unions, Dublin Bus and the guards has been followed, by and large."

"There hasn't been a need for



PROTOCOL: The bus service in Tallaght followed by a Dublin Bus support car earlier this year

the buses to be out for a night much, so far, and there has been high-visibility policing from the guards which calms the drivers down."

When asked if the incidents could lead to another extended curtailment of bus services in West Tallaght, Mr Yeates said this would be

unlikely.

"We're hoping this is just a spike," he said, "and that next month it'll go back down again."

He added that there hasn't been a reduction in garda resources when it comes to assisting bus drivers, and so this reduces the likelihood of

the issue worsening.

Fianna Fáil councillor Charlie O'Connor, who is a community representative on the Tallaght Transport Forum, told *The Echo* that he condemned the actions of the people engaging in anti-social behaviour.

"The important target for

all of us is to ensure that the bus service to our community continues without being stopped again," he said.

"I have no hesitation in condemning any anti-social behaviour or crime that threatens our bus service, but I'm satisfied that every effort is being made by the guards."

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New driving test centre 'desperately needed' as waiting lists tops 16,000

REPEATED calls for an additional driving test centre to be constructed in south Dublin to serve the more than 24,000 people waiting on a test in the area.

Figures released from the RSA showed that there were 16,136 people on the Tallaght waiting list as of the end of June, by far the highest in the state.

Sinn Féin TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe said: "There are now more than 16,000 people waiting on a driving test in Tallaght. It is consistently the highest number in the state by a huge margin and shows absolutely no signs of slowing down, not to talk about being reduced."

"Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan cannot ignore these figures. An additional testing centre is

desperately needed in south Dublin.

"Not only are Tallaght and Dún Laoghaire/Deansgrange two of the four highest waiting lists in the state, they also have some of the longest waiting times at 10 months in Tallaght and just shy of a year in the other centre so it is clear that they are completely overwhelmed by the demand."

"That 16,000 people applied for a driving test so that they could access employment or education, bring their children to school or childcare or a hundred other reasons."

"They cannot be left waiting for almost a year because the Minister has an ideological bent against cars. We need an additional test centre for south Dublin and honestly, we needed it years ago".



WAITING LIST: The driving test centre in Broomhill in Tallaght

Developer Bartra plans for 123 apartments in Cookstown

Company was refused planning for a 131-bedroom care facility on same site in July

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

DEVELOPERS Bartra have submitted plans for a Large-Scale Development (LRD) containing 123 apartments and 32 car parking spaces in Cookstown Industrial Estate.

In July, Bartra, appealed against South Dublin County Council's decision to refuse planning permission for a 131-bed transitional care facility, at the same site – Unit 21, First Avenue in Cookstown.

This is still currently under appeal to An Bord Pleanála.

In 2021, Bartra unsuccessfully appealed the council's decision to refuse permission for a nursing home and apartment blocks at the same site Unit 21, Frist Avenue.

In the developer's most recent LRD planning application, Bartra are seeking the demolition of all existing 1-3 storey industrial / commercial structures on site, and the construction of two apartment blocks, ranging in height from six to seven storeys.

The residential development consists of 58 one-bed units, 12 two-bed (three person) units and 53 two-bed (four person) units.

Along with associated site works, the application contains provision for 32 car parking spaces and 302 bicycle storage spaces.

The LRD application also refers to partial provision of a pocket park (1,286sq.m) identified in the Tallaght LAP (Local Area Plan).

It also includes provision for a new vehicular access from First Avenue and egress onto Cookstown Road via a one way system through the subject site.

According to Bartra's website, First Avenue comprises 2.82 acres in total and occupies a high-profile corner location in Cookstown Industrial Estate, off the Belgard Road, in Tallaght. Access to the M50 is via Junction 10 Ballymount, a 2km distance, with the Belgard LUAS stop just 450 metres away. The site is in close proximity to Tallaght Hospital and Tallaght Town Centre.

PROPOSAL: An artist impression of plans developer Bartra lodged for 123 apartments and 32 car parking spaces at this site in Cookstown Industrial Estate. Below is an image coming in from the Belgard Road side of the industrial estate



82% drop in patients waiting over 12 months for procedure

Figures from Tallaght Hospital report show 272,869 attended outpatient appointments

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

WAITING times for daycase procedures have seen a "significant reduction", according to Tallaght University Hospital (TUH).

TUH's annual report for 2022, reveals there was an 82 per cent reduction in the number of patients waiting longer than 12 months for a daycase procedure.

Overall this particular waiting list fell from 262 in January 2022 to 48 in December 2022 - primarily as a result of the hospital opening its new Reeves Day Surgery Centre, which is located across the road from the main campus at Tallaght Cross West.

Other waiting list improvements according to TUH's report include a 35 per cent reduction in the number of patients waiting longer than 12 months for an inpatient procedure. This fell from 344 in January 2022 to 225 in December 2022.

The report says 272,869 patients attended an outpatient appointment in 2022, up 8 per cent from 2019.

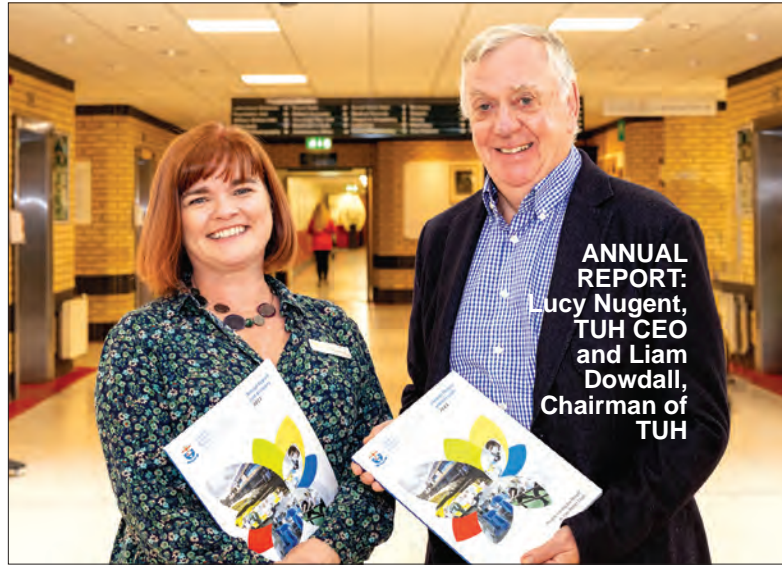
The number of patients waiting more than four years for a new outpatient appointment was reduced from 1,605 at the beginning of 2022 to 1,300 at the end of the year, a 19 per cent reduction.

The annual report also notes the brand new intensive care wing of the hospital opened "on time and on budget in late August 2022."

TUH CEO Lucy Nugent acknowledged the challenges of the pandemic, but also cited "tremendous growth" for the hospital.

"12 brand new state-of-the-art ICU beds were opened while the Reeves Day Surgery Centre has enabled us to dramatically reduce waiting times. This TUH day surgery model has proven so successful the government have announced plans to replicate it, at other hospitals around the country," said Ms Nugent.

Plans have also been approved for a new Women's Health Unit, which will provide a suite of services to Gynaecology patients including pelvic ultrasound, diagnostic hysteroscopy, and endometrial biopsy. The unit will also provide a complete Colposcopy service. The additional space will enable the



ANNUAL REPORT:
Lucy Nugent,
TUH CEO
and Liam
Dowdall,
Chairman of
TUH

hospital to have an additional 3,000 outpatient appointments per year.

Other key findings, include admissions via the Emergency Department (ED) was up 6 per cent (an additional 851 patients).

Admissions of patients presenting to ED over the age of 75 was up by 19 per cent.

The number of patients medically fit for discharge but awaiting a bed in a suitable community facility or waiting

on a home care package ranged from 40-63 patients throughout 2022. This was predominantly a result of ongoing challenges in the community in relation to resourcing homecare packages.

Ongoing requirement for single rooms for patients with covid and other infectious conditions continues to place upward pressure on beds.

Liam Dowdall, Chairman of TUH acknowledged the efforts by management and staff to reduce waiting times for patients in both scheduled and unscheduled care.

"Whilst so much has been achieved with the opening of the Reeves Day Surgery Centre and moving a number of clinics into the community, the level of inpatient care we can provide continues to be restricted by both the size of our footprint and community supports.

"I look forward to seeing real progress being made in 2023 in the development of additional bed capacity and greater capacity in community supports for patients. As the number of patients and their acuity increases and is forecasted to continually increase for years to come this is becoming increasingly urgent."

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Back to School picture page special in next week's Echo, Thursday September 14 - 60 Local Schools!

Home and community care staff in running for awards

THE shortlist of nominated home care schedulers in line for this year's Home and Community Care Ireland (HCCI) Scheduler of the Year Award has been announced. Ruth Leamy of Bluebird Care, Clare; Louise Bell of Connected Health, Limavady, Derry and Maria Arkins, Home Instead, Rathfarnham have been announced as this year's shortlisted home care schedulers. The overall winner of this year's award will be announced at a gala event in The Alex Hotel, Dublin on 13th October.

Joseph Musgrave, CEO, HCCI which is the representative body for home care providers and advocates for home care services to be made available to all on a statutory basis, said, "The HCCI Home Care Awards is a very significant event in the sector's annual calendar. It's important that we take the time to acknowledge and celebrate the dedication of home care workers and their colleagues and the huge difference they make in the lives of the people they support each day. I'm looking forward to the awards evening and

celebrating the work of these truly admirable people who enable their clients to stay living in the comfort of their own home – something we all hope for in our older years."

Dermot Clancy, CEO, OneTouch said, "We are proud to sponsor the HCCI Scheduler of the Year Award at the annual HCCI Home Care Awards. We are passionate about recognising and celebrating the incredible work of caregivers who devote their time and energy to caring for others. We would like to wish all nominees the best of luck."

Winners of other award categories including Carer of the Year; sponsored by Spry Finance; Nurse of the Year, sponsored by Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, RCSI; Manager of the Year, sponsored by Leading Healthcare Providers Skillnet and HR of the Year, sponsored by The HR Company will be announced at the event. The recipient of the Significant Contribution Award, sponsored by First Ireland Insurance Brokers, will also be revealed on the night.

SHORTLISTED:
Maria Arkins of
Home Instead
Dublin South
West Scheduler



Licence for contentious mast close to Luas stop is approved

An Bord Pleanála uphold county council's decision at Kingswood site

By Aideen O'Flaherty

aideen@echo.ie

AN BORD Pleanála (ABP) has decided to uphold South Dublin County Council's decision to grant a licence for a contentious telecommunications mast adjacent to the Kingswood Luas stop.

Kingswood resident Bridget Smyth lodged an appeal last year against telecommunications company Cignal's licence for the mast, which had previously been granted by the council.

South Dublin County Council granted a Section 254 licence for the structure, and this decision – and the nature of the mast – was the subject of Ms Smyth's appeal.

She said the 18-metre multi-operator streetpole and ground equipment would be "totally disruptive" to all users of the junction at Sylvan Drive and Katharine Tynan Road.

In her appeal, Ms Smyth said the subject site was under the ownership of Transport Infrastructure Ireland and doesn't fulfil the requirement for the licence for the mast to be on a public footpath.

She added that, even if the location were a public footpath, it would still be an unsuitable location due as it would be "impossible to carry out works at a very busy junction".

The granting of the licence and the subsequent appeal uncovered the fact that, legally, once a mast licence has been granted, work on it can commence even if it's the subject of an appeal.



CONTENTIOUS: Work started on the site in the early summer which is close to the Luas stop and entrance to Kingswood estate

This led Ms Smyth to attempt to lodge an injunction in a bid to prevent work continuing on the development of the mast while the appeal was ongoing.

It was noted in Ms Smyth's claim that the mast has not yet been erected by Cignal, but preparatory works have taken place.

She however referred to the Aarhus Convention and EU law, noting that the Convention states: "Each party shall ensure that, where they meet the criteria, if any, laid down in its national law, members of the public have access to administrative or judicial procedures to challenge acts and omissions by private persons and public authorities which contravene provisions of its national law relating to the environment."

The claim was listed for mention in the High Court next October under Mr Justice Richard Humphreys.

However, on August 21 last, ABP gave the go-ahead for the mast development and upheld the council's decision to grant the licence.

ABP ruled that the structure "would not be visually intrusive or seriously injure the visual or residential amenity of the area, or properties in

the vicinity".

One of the conditions of the granting of licence is that it is valid for three years from the date of ABP's decision, after that the site lands should be reinstated unless a new licence is secured.

This is not the first time that a mast installation in Kingswood by Cignal has drawn consternation in the community.

The Kingswood Mast Opposition Group is currently embroiled in a High Court action they brought against Cignal in relation to a separate mast that was placed in Kingswood.

The contentious mast was erected in Sylvan Drive in November 2020 and was put in place by Cignal after they were granted a licence for the structure by South Dublin County Council.

An appeal was lodged, however An Bord Pleanála upheld the council's decision.

In November 2021, the Kingswood Heights Mast Opposition Group brought High Court action in the form of a judicial review against An Bord Pleanála's decision to grant permission for the mast.

The judicial review has been adjourned and is scheduled for October 10, 2023.

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor PC



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Ireland's oldest woman Mairín sadly passes away

Ms Hughes passed away following a short illness surrounded by family

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

IRELAND'S oldest woman, Mairín Hughes, passed away in Maryfield Nursing Home in Chapelizod this week at age 109.

Mairín was born in Belfast in 1914 to parents Liam Sheehan and Annie Dineen, but moved to Dublin three months later as her father took up work in the city.

The UK authorities would not recognise Mairín or her brother's name, Ruairidh, on birth certificates, so her official name on papers is Mary and her brother went by Rory.

Ms Hughes lived through the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918-1919, which killed at least 50 million worldwide.

She previously recalled dropping food supplies to the doorstep of sick neighbours in Co. Kerry with her older brothers Ruairidh and Conn before "running away".

Mairín went on to be a trailblazer for women in the workplace, and between the 1930s and 1960s she did a degree in science and a diploma in education at University College Cork.

She then worked in the pathology lab in UCC's

Department of Medicine for 14 years, as at that time hospitals did not have on-site pathologists.

Mairín and her colleagues would run the blood tests for them in the lab.

After marrying Francis Hughes in 1950, the couple relocated to Palmerstown.

Francis, a Sligo man, passed away in 1971 and Mairín lived in Palmerstown until 1986 before moving into one of Maryfield's independent apartments and, later, into the nursing home itself.

Over the years, Mairín's milestone birthdays were marked with a number of exciting events, with her 107th birthday celebrations being particularly memorable.

Maryfield Nursing Home commissioned a 'pope-mobile' to bring Mairín out for a spin in Chapelizod and the Phoenix Park, where she met Sabina Higgins who presented her with flowers.

Mairín used to go out for a walk every day, was a woman of faith, and an avid fan of classical music.

Mairín passed away in Maryfield following a short illness on Tuesday, surrounded by her Maryfield community, and is survived by her niece, Nuala, and nephew, Michael.

Her funeral details will be published on RIP.ie.



TRAILBLAZER: Ireland's oldest woman Mairín Hughes sadly passed away. Mairín is pictured during her birthday celebrations on the 'pope mobile' in 2022

Driver shortages see pupils miss school at Scoil Mochua

By Hayden Moore
hayden@echo.ie

DRIVER shortages of the school bus to Scoil Mochua Central Remedial Clinic (CRC) has led to children being unable to attend their first days at school.

Scoil Mochua is a special education school, run by Central Remedial Clinic, which is based in Clondalkin and has an enrolment of 70 pupils, consisting of 43 boys and 27 girls.

Ready for the new term, 10 families encountered a major roadblock when they got wind that the bus service they rely upon had been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

This information came to the families on Wednesday, August 30, just a day before the school was due to start back, leaving families with no alternative mode of transportation.

As a result, some children have been unable to attend school with reports showing that three bus services which the school relied upon have been pulled, leaving parents with no notice.

Operating on behalf of the Department of Education, Bus Éireann runs the school transport scheme that Scoil Mochua availed of.

It has been a week since parents were informed and yet, still, there has been no resolution



DRIVER SHORTAGES: Pupils at Scoil Mochua were unable to attend their first days at school

to the matter.

In a statement to *The Echo* on Wednesday (September 6) morning, a spokesperson from Scoil Mochua CRC was hopeful that the transport services would resume.

"The school understands how difficult this is for all families

affected and hopes that Bus Éireann will source the drivers needed for these vital transport services to resume," the Clondalkin school said.

It is understood that Bus Éireann is experiencing a serious driver shortage which has led to services in Scoil Mochua, among

other schools around Ireland, not having access to transport for pupils.

In a statement to *The Journal* on Monday, a Bus Éireann spokesperson apologised to the families and committed to contacting those affected directly when a solution has been found.

Echoopinion...

One in five road deaths has been young people

IT FEELS every second day there is a death on an Irish road.

But it is not just a feeling, statistically there has been a death on an Irish road every second day on average so far this year.

We are 250 days into 2023, and there has been a major rise in road deaths with 127 people losing their lives so far, an increase of 24 on the same period last year and 36 on the same period in 2019.

One in five deaths to date have been young people, aged between six and 20.

That is 27 lives, young people with their whole lives ahead of them, cut short.

Unfortunately, there will be at least 127 empty seats at the dinner table this Christmas as a direct result of deaths on Irish roads.

A campaign launched by An Garda Síochána this week highlighted the stark reality of the dangers of speed and how by reducing speed slightly can drastically impact survivability in road traffic collisions.

There is an increase in traffic that is not necessarily vehicles, it is also children and young people cycling and walking to school.

Lollipop people are back on roads, stepping out into traffic to keep children and parents safe on their journeys to and from school.

Think about this, if a pedestrian or cyclist is involved in a collision with a vehicle travelling at 50kmh, they have a 50 per cent chance of surviving.

If that car is driving at 60kmh, the survivability drops to 10 percent.

A five percent reduction in the average speed could result in a 30 percent reduction in fatal collisions.

Slow down, because simply put, speed kills.

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South Dublin County Council

ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75 PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF HAYDEN'S LANE, LUCAN, COUNTY DUBLIN

To facilitate a Fastlane Three-Quarter Marathon, Half Marathon and a 10km race hosted by Bear Events Group, South Dublin County Council propose to temporarily close Hayden's Lane, Lucan, County Dublin.

Day/Date of Closure: Sunday October 8th, 2023.

Time of Closure: 9am to 1:30pm.

• 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, September 11th 2023.**

Web: www.sdcc.ie



‘Dublin allowance’ should be implemented to entice teachers

Principals have returned to the classroom while other teaching vacancies received no applications

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

AS ISSUES with teacher shortages in Dublin continue to affect local schools this academic year, the chairperson of the Board of Management of several local schools said a ‘Dublin allowance’ should be implemented by the Government to entice more teachers to the capital.

Independent councillor for Tallaght Central, Mick Duff, is the chairperson of the Boards of Management at Tallaght Community School, Kingswood Community College and Mount Seskin Community College.

Cllr Duff is also a member of the Boards of Management of Old Bawn Community School and St Mark’s Community School.

“Recruiting teachers has always been difficult, but it’s become more difficult now that the ‘Dublin factor’ in interfering with recruitment,” he told *The Echo*.

“There are people from further afield and from across the country who would like to work in Dublin, but the cost-of-living and accommodation is too much for them.

“This has been flagged for a number of years but it’s coming to a head

ISSUES:
Teacher shortages continue to affect local schools



now.”

Last month, the Association of Secondary Teachers in Ireland said there were 416 post-primary teaching vacancies advertised.

The principal of Coláiste Bríde in Clondalkin, Louise Ronan, told RTÉ in August that some of the school’s teaching vacancies had received no applications and she had to teach some

subjects.

Cllr Duff said he is aware of some local school principals having to return to the classroom to plug the gap created by the recruitment shortage but praised them for adapting to the situation.

“It’s something we have to grasp the nettle on,” he explained. “We’re not at a crisis point, by any means, in real

terms.

“Principals, deputy principals and senior management are very good at adapting to the situation.”

The situation is being hampered by the number of Irish-trained teachers who choose to work abroad, according to Cllr Duff, but added there needs to be a greater incentive for them to return.

“They want to travel, and they want to experience the world,” he said. “They’re training here, doing their teaching experience here, then working across the globe in places like Dubai and Australia.

“If we can, we need to entice them back so that they can bring that experience they got teaching abroad.

“If they’re living outside of Dublin but want to live and work in Dublin, they’ll need to have a relative or a friend who has accommodation for them, otherwise it’ll be horrifying trying to find somewhere.

“They’ll be working to live, just to pay their rent and feed themselves – that’s not an incentive to them.”

Cllr Duff suggested the potential implementation of a relocation allowance and a ‘Dublin allowance’ to help to combat the teaching shortage in Dublin.

Last April, the Irish National Teachers’ Organisation backed calls for an allowance to compensate for the extra living costs faced by teachers in Dublin.

However, last month, Public Expenditure and Reform Minister Paschal Donohoe ruled out the prospect of an allowance, while Further and Higher Education Minister Simon Harris pointed out that the recruitment crisis was affecting many different sectors, and not just teaching.

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RAMS social group and choir receive plaque in recognition of contribution to community

By Aileen O'Flaherty

aileen@echo.ie

A LOCAL retired men's social group and choir received a plaque in recognition of their contribution to the community and various charities in St Finian's Community Hall in Newcastle last week.

The Newcastle-based Retired Active Men's Social (RAMS) and its choir, called RAMS in Rhythm, proudly accepted the plaque from the Newcastle Lyons Development Trust.

RAMS in Rhythm are well-known around the area for their uplifting performances in areas like the Square Shopping Centre, Peamount Hospital, and the Citywest refugee centre.

They have raised thousands of euros over the years for many charities as a result of their performances, including St Vincent de Paul and First Responders 4 Districts.

Matt Dowling from RAMS in Rhythm told *The Echo*: "Last week, the RAMS in Rhythm received their award from the Newcastle Lyons Development Trust, for their tremendous contribution to the community and the raising of such large amounts of funds for various charities."

"We were so privileged to receive an award for our commitment to the Newcastle community and the wider communities."

The plaque was presented as part of a wider Community Week celebration that was led by the Newcastle Lyons Development Trust, which the RAMS in Rhythm also sang at.

It capped off a busy few weeks for the group, which saw them perform for over 300 men at the Citywest refugee centre, and at the Capuchin Day Centre where they performed for guests and staff.

RAMS in Rhythm's next event is in the Square on September 22 from 12 noon, to raise money for Our Lady's Hospice's coffee morning.

"The RAMS are always so grateful to the management of the Square, for facilitating us at the main concourse and to the delight of all the patrons, and shoppers," added Matt.

"It is a busy time now for the group, as with community events, visits to nursing homes, Tallaght University Hospital, Peamount Hospital, and fundraising soon in Whitewater Newbridge for the Down Syndrome Kildare.

"With Christmas fast approaching, we will soon be practicing our carol singing, and Christmas songs - so a busy time ahead for us RAMS!"



RECOGNITION: The RAMS being presented with a plaque PHOTO by Stephen Lyons from the Rathcoole Camera Club



PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT ACT 2000 (AS AMENDED)

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT REGULATIONS 2001 (AS AMENDED)

In accordance with Part 8, Article 81 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended), South Dublin County Council hereby give notice of a proposal for a District Centre Enhancement Scheme at Rosemount Shopping Centre, Ballyroan, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 and its curtilage along Marian Rd. The scheme extends from the junction of Marian Rd. and Anne Devlin Park to the junction of Marian Rd. and Orchardstown Avenue, including Rosemount Shopping Centre carpark and its environs.

- Rationalisation of the carpark layout and provision of a dedicated loading area.
- Introduction of designated EV Charging and Age Friendly parking bays.
- Traffic calming measures along Marian Rd.
- Additional biodiversity and environmental works including landscaping and increased amenity space.
- Improved access to shopping centre for Vulnerable Road Users (VRUs) including a widened shared path along the front of the shops to link to Ballyroan Rd.

The proposal has undergone Appropriate Assessment (AA) Screening under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Screening under the EIA Directive (2014/52/EU). The authority has concluded that there is no likelihood of significant effects on the environment arising from the proposed development and a determination has been made that an AA and EIA are not required. Any person may, within 4 weeks from the date of publication of this notice, apply to An Bord Pleanála for a screening determination as to whether the development would be likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Persons wishing to inspect drawings and particulars of the proposed development can do so as follows:

ONLINE: Visit our online consultation portal consult.sdublincoco.ie during the period from **8th September 2023 to 20th October 2023.**

IN PERSON: Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, only by appointment, at County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 during office hours from **8th September 2023 to 20th October 2023.**

Appointments can be made by contacting the Planning Department by email at planningdept@sdublincoco.ie or by phoning (01) 4149000.

Or

Plans and particulars of the proposed development will be available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at Ballyroan Library, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14 during opening hours from 8th September 2023 to 20th October 2023.

Submissions and observations with respect to the proposed development dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the proposed development will be situated, may be made in writing up to 5.00pm on the 20th October 2023 and may be submitted:

Online: <http://consult.sdublincoco.ie>

In writing: Post to Senior Engineer, Roads Maintenance, LUPT, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24, YNN5.

NOTE: Please make your submission by one medium only. All submissions should include your name and a contact address. It should be noted that the Freedom of Information Act, 1997 (as amended) applies to all records held by South Dublin County Council. South Dublin County Council's Personal Data Privacy Statements can be viewed at www.sdcc.ie and all personal data will be retained in line with statutory requirements.

Signed: 

Mick Mulhern, Director, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, South Dublin County Council.
Date of Public Notice: 7th September 2023.

www.sdcc.ie



Proposal to add four additional apartments to Hollybrook House refused permission



PROPOSAL: Hollybrook House on the Naas Road

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

A PROPOSAL to add an additional four apartments to a small development on the Naas Road has been refused permission by Dublin City Council.

Joinville Ltd, who received planning permission in 2018 for 12 apartments at Hollybrook House, 55 Naas Road, Dublin 12, were seeking an amendment to a permitted development and wished to add four apartments on site - 16 in total.

The site is listed as a Protected Structure.

A couple of residents submitted objections to the proposal, citing concerns for lack of privacy at their homes, with balconies overlooking their property.

In making their decision to refuse permission, city planners said the proposed development would provide for "substandard residential accommodation" due to inadequate daylighting of main

living spaces in the additional proposed units, and a "lack of additional floor space."

City planners also noted that the balconies would be overlooking adjoining residential sites and that the proposed development would "seriously injure the amenity of property in the vicinity and be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area."

According to plans, the amendment was proposed to add four apartments to Block A - a three storey apartment building containing 12 apartments.

There are no works proposed to the protected structure arising from this application.

A separate planning application last year by Joinville to increase apartments on site to 19 in total, was also refused permission by Dublin City Council.

At the time, city planners again noted the "loss of privacy" for neighbouring occupiers.

Play volunteers in children's hospitals make a difference

Appeal made to people to consider volunteering and attending information evening

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

A TALLAGHT woman who works as a play volunteer in Crumlin Children's Hospital is appealing to people to consider volunteering and attending information evenings next month.

Karen Byrne from Tallaght is a play volunteer at Children's Health Ireland (CHI) at Crumlin, which entails dedicating as little as two hours a week to play with children in the hospital.

Ms Byrne said: "We would love to have more volunteers join our volunteer team.

"Play creates a sense of fun and normalcy for a child during what is usually a very distressing time.

"We also give the parents a break, whether that is to go get a cup of tea, go home and shower, or even attend to other children. It is a simple service that makes such a difference."

Volunteers must be 18 years or older and will have the opportunity to engage in activities such as arts and crafts, story time, board games and more.

CHI Ireland has play volunteer teams in CHI at Crumlin, Tallaght, and Temple Street, and currently have almost 300 volunteers across 14 hospitals in Ireland.

Volunteer Coordinator at Children in

HUGE ROLE: Charlene Reilly, Karen Byrne, Hayley Manning and Maria Williams, Play Volunteers with Children in Hospital Ireland.



Hospital Ireland, Jessica Hurley, said "Our volunteers play a huge role in making hospital a happier place for children.

"They are truly at the heart of our organisation and we are delighted to be growing our volunteer teams. "We will be recruiting volunteers

across the country and welcome those from all walks of life to join us." CIH Ireland are hosting information evenings on October 2 and October 5

for those interested in volunteering. To register your interest in becoming a volunteer, please visit childreninhospital.ie.



TALLAGHT CHORAL SOCIETY

OPEN REHEARSAL

11th September 2023, 7.45–9.45pm

Tallaght Choral Society welcomes you to an Open Rehearsal in St Mary's Priory, Tallaght Village.

You do not need any prior experience or the ability to read music to sing with Tallaght Choral Society; we provide resources and support. Our welcoming and friendly atmosphere ensures that everyone can find their voice.

We're looking forward to singing with you and sharing beautiful musical moments. Be part of Tallaght Choral Society in 2023!

Explore www.tallaghtchoral.ie
 Email info@tallaghtchoral.ie
 Join Mondays 7.45-9.45pm | St Mary's Priory, Tallaght




Tallaght Community School

Open Night

Date: Monday, September 25th Time: 7pm

Enrolment for 1st Year 2024/2025

Applications will be accepted from Monday October 2nd 2023.

The closing date for receipt of applications is Friday October 27th 2023 at 2.00pm.

Application forms are available from the school on the open night, by email, or can be downloaded from our website. Siblings can collect from the school office.

Twitter - @TCSTallaght
 Phone: 01-4515566
office@tallaghtcs.ie
www.tallaghtcs.ie



LANDMARK: The Kingswood Lodge Pub and 19 apartments above the premises have been sold in a deal estimated at €10 million

Local pub sold in a deal estimated at €10 million

Chris Kelly Group purchase Kingswood Lodge and 19 apartments above premises

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

THE KINGSWOOD Lodge is set to get a face-lift after being purchased by a Tallaght businessman, who operates some of Dublin's best-known landmark pubs.

Chris Kelly Group is purchasing the Kingswood Lodge public house and the 19 apartments above it in a deal estimated to be in region of €10m.

Adding the Kingswood Lodge to a portfolio of businesses in the hospitality sector, including Capitol, Sinnott's and the Black Lion, Chris Kelly Group also owns pubs in New

York and Marbella.

"Chris Kelly Group has purchased the Kingswood Lodge," Chris Kelly, CEO of Chris Kelly Group, tells *The Echo*.

"We haven't quite moved in yet, we are just finalising the legals and hope to be in the next few weeks.

"I've heard the rumours that we're knocking it down, building apartments, building a hotel – that's not the case.

"We're keeping it as is; a local pub for the local people.

"So, it's staying as it is, we're going to put some money into it, good capital investment, nice food, good

entertainment, and the same staff but that's it.

"The reason that we're buying it is because I'm actually from Tallaght and always wanted to own a pub in Tallaght, I went to Tallaght Community School and want to be part of the neighbourhood once again."

A native of Tallaght, Kelly is a former door-to-door seller of *The Echo*, earning 1p from every 10p sale of the newspaper when he was just 10-years-old.

When he turned 15, Kelly began working in the pub trade as a barman and never looked back, later founding the Chris Kelly Group in 1995, which

employs upwards of 300 people today.

Although it is estimated that the Kingswood Lodge deal is in the region of €10m, Mr Kelly refused to comment on the valuation.

Originally named The Clock Tower, the Kingswood Lodge opened its doors in 1989 and was run by Hugh Curran before being taken over by Paddy O'Connell.

Rostino Tavern Ltd, which also trades as O'Connell's and The Kingswood Lodge, is listed as the existing licensee of the property.

Chris Kelly Group's purchase is expected to be finalised in the next few weeks.

“The reason that we're buying it is because I'm actually from Tallaght and always wanted to own a pub in Tallaght, I went to Tallaght Community School. . .

Cllr Mick Duff

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

Mick can be contacted on:
087 2865570

Email:
mduff@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Twitter: @CllrMickDuff



Eat the Streets Festival is back for a third year

DUBLIN City Council's Eat the Streets Festival is back for its third year and will be hosted at Richmond Barracks, in Inchicore Dublin 8 on Saturday, September 16 from 12pm to 5pm.

Eat the Streets Festival continues to explore Dublin's rich food history by asking people, young and old to join us on a journey to Grow! Cook! Create! and Discover.

The festival brings together chefs, food experts, growers, and producers to cook, create and discover our rich food history.

There will be free workshops for children and the young at heart.

You can learn how to chop like a chef and prepare a simple stir-fry, how to mill grain into flour, or how to turn your urban garden into a food oasis.

Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithí de Róiste said: 'Dublin City Council's The Eat the Streets! Festival brings together families, farmers, urban growers and neighbourhoods to celebrate Dublin's food! Come to the Richmond Barracks on Saturday, September 16 to help us plant seeds

for a tastier future because food and what we eat define so much about us as people, our culture, and our history.'

Chefs with a passion for Irish produce will continue to teach us how to celebrate Dublin's vegetables by cooking with you, and sharing their tips on climate action in the kitchen and beyond in a series of Cook Alongs.

You can also explore your creative side through the art of plating, tie-dye, and upcycling food packaging.

A series of After-Lunch Chats will be hosted to share ideas and talk about how food can be a solution to climate change, and of course delicious food and fun entertainment for all.

Richmond Barracks can be reached by public transport (Luas stop Golden Bridge), walking or cycling.

Please don't forget to bring your re-usable beverage and food containers!

There are plenty of taster ideas available on the Eat the Streets website – see: www.eatthestreets.ie #EatTheStreets

Festival designed to celebrate area's rich culture and history

Organisers have cultivated a jam-packed schedule including a fireworks display

By **Hayden Moore**
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DINOSAURS and ornamental buffalo will be on the grounds of Lucan House, among other things, as part of a festival designed to celebrate the rich culture and history in the area.

Lucan Festival is back and in full-flow this week, providing an opportunity for groups and residents from all over the community to meet and celebrate their culture.

Hoping to generate some additional income for traders in the Lucan area, organisers have cultivated a jam-packed schedule which culminates on Sunday, September 10.

The festival kicked off on Tuesday, September 5 with a Walking Tour of Lucan Village and an illustrated talk about the linen and iron mills.

On Thursday, there is a walking tour of the village starting at 10am in St Mary's car park, while there is an illustrated talk on Brendan Behan in the Presbyterian Church at 8pm.

On Friday night there is a fireworks display at 9pm, with a special viewing area at the weir.

On Saturday, on the grounds of the Italian Embassy, there is an opportunity to view the house built in the 1770s,

Sarsfield Monument, bathing house and 1700's stables, a vintage horse carriage and entertainment from the Lucan Gospel Choir, Lucan Concert Band among others.

Members of the Society of Old Lucan will also be present to give attendees the low-down on the history of the grounds, along with the birds of prey display.

Among the demonstrations, there is set to be cricket, Vikings, dinosaurs, reptiles and "wonderful" buffalo sculptures.

The village will close to through traffic from 10am to 7pm to accommodate the big family fun day on Sunday, which will take place from 12.30pm to 5.30pm.

Lucan Garda Station will host an open day from 2pm, which will consist of cell visits, fingerprinting, garda horses, the garda band and historical display of garda memorabilia.

There will be stalls from local groups and businesses, a kiddies road train, pet farm, puppet show, model railway, magical shows and the world-renowned duck race.

Outside Carroll's Pub, there will be a main stage featuring local and international acts along with street entertainers, face painting, balloon making, bouncy castles and a monster slide.



CELEBRATION: Lucan will be full of activity this week with its annual festival

Funding of €210k secured for Multi-Use Games Areas

RECREATION: The half court MUGA in Bancroft Park



NEW MULTI-USE Games Areas (MUGA) are set to be installed across South Dublin County with a cost of €210,000, after the council secured funding through an initiative designed to support communities hosting people from foreign countries, reports Hayden Moore.

The Community Recognition Fund is a €50m initiative designed to specifically support communities across Ireland that are hosting people from Ukraine and other countries.

Funding has been allocated across all of the local authorities based on the number of new arrivals located there.

South Dublin County Council secured funding through this initiative to fund a MUGA in Sean Walsh Park, Rathcoole Park and in Clondalkin.

The council was allocated €70k for the provision of new half-court MUGAs in each of

the three parks, totaling €210k.

MUGAs have been designed to encourage active recreation while also offering informal seating areas for socialising in a safe area.

The MUGA will be an area where children, teenagers, and adults alike can channel their energy, make connections, and engage in healthy activities.

Works are expected to commence in Sean Walsh Park and Clondalkin this week, and Rathcoole Park thereafter.

These works are due to be completed by the beginning of October, at the latest.

South Dublin County Council recently installed a half-court MUGA and associated natural-type seating in Bancroft Park, adjacent to the Tallaght AC headquarters off the Greenhills Road.

The new installations across the county will mimic the design of this half-court MUGA.



Dodder Action

School Competition

FREE Mini-Woodland & Wildlife Pond worth €10,000

Sponsored by AWS InCommunities

The competition is open to any school in the Tallaght area that has the space for both a small woodland classroom plus a wildlife pond.

To enter all you have to do is tell us why your school should be chosen. You can make your submission in any format that can be sent via email to:- dodderactioncompetition@gmail.com

Closing date is 6pm on 30 September 2023 and the winning school will be notified by 6th October 2023.





'It's about celebrating recovery'

Recovery Month is launched by Rehabilitation Project which reminds pe



LAUNCH: People at the launch in Kiltalown House. Photos William O'Connor



SUPPORT: Recovery Month will run throughout September and was launched in Kiltalown House on Friday (inset) Mayor Alan Edge launches Recovery Month

people of the services that are available to them

By **Aideen O'Flaherty**

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AN EXCITING mix of events for Recovery Month kicked off with a well-attended launch at the Tallaght Rehabilitation Project in Kiltalown House in Jobstown on Friday.

It marked the first time that local drug projects officially launched Recovery Month, which celebrates the recovery community in Tallaght and reminds people of the services that are available to them.

Mayor Alan Edge spoke at the launch and voiced his support for Recovery Month to the delight of local drug projects workers and clients.

Grace Hill from the Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force told *The Echo*: "It was really good. It was the first time we formally launched Recovery Month.

"It was brilliant and fair play to Mayor Alan Edge, like [former Mayor] Emma Murphy last year, he's committed to Recovery Month."

She added: "It's important that it's not just about the drug services, because one of the key goals is to spread the word of recovery and to reduce stigma.

"Hopefully people will reach out and seek help and support.

"Everyone knows there's a drug issue in Tallaght, so why not highlight the positives and the great services we have in Tallaght."

Some of the highlights of Recovery Month include a talk, titled 'Different Pathways to Recovery' in JADD today, Thursday, September 7 at 7pm and all are welcome to attend.

The HSE's Youth Drug and Alcohol Service (YoDA) will hold a coffee morning on Tuesday, September 12, at the

Kilnamanagh Primary Healthcare Centre and all are welcome to attend.

A suicide awareness talk will be held in the Jobstown Community Centre from 12 midday to 1.30pm on Friday, Saturday 15.

A glowing success story for both last year's and this year's Recovery Month is the Tallaght Rehabilitation Project's (TRP) 'Celebration of Recovery' in the Civic Theatre.

The event sold out yet again this year and will see service users from TRP share their experiences of recovery in a variety of creative formats on the Civic Theatre stage on September 18.

A talent show titled JADD's Got Talent will take place in JADD's premises in Jobstown on Thursday, September 28, at 7pm and all are welcome.

Recovery Month will conclude with a Recovery Walk past drug projects in West Tallaght on September 29, followed by a football tournament in MacUilliam where players will compete for the Recovery Cup.

Commenting on the aim of Recovery Month, Ms Hill said: "It's about celebrating recovery and what it means to different people.

"Recovery is a scale, sometimes it can mean going on a lower dose of methadone or accepting that your child is using drugs and protecting yourself.

"There's still a huge amount of stigma around substance misuse and there's a lot of bias, but Recovery Month opens the door and leaves that all aside, and asks you where you're at in your recovery, and what supports you need.

"We also want to focus people's minds and remind everyone that this is Recovery Month, and to raise awareness of recovery."

For more information on drug and alcohol addiction support services visit the Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force website at www.tallaghtdatf.ie.

BoxUp arrives in Dodder Valley and Beechfield Parks



STORAGE LOCKERS: Darragh Conway, South Dublin County Sports Partnership, Cllr Charlie O'Connor, Cllr Yvonne Collins, Deputy Mayor, Cllr Lillian Gueret, Cllr Lynn Hagin Meade, Mary Corry, National Active Cities Officer and Oisín Foley, Sport Ireland.

SOUTH Dublin County Sports Partnership has partnered up with Active Cities Dublin project to introduce BoxUp to Dodder Valley Park and Beechfield Park.

These storage lockers contain a mix of sports and leisure equipment for example, rounders, basketball, spikeball, tennis, and fitness equipment, and can be accessed for free using the BoxUp app.

Darragh Conway, the local Active Cities Officer explains "you just need to download the free BoxUp app on your smartphone, and create your account using photo ID. There are no credit card or bank details required. Just select on the app the equipment you want to use, and the locker will open. When you are finished your activity, simply place the equipment back in the locker and upload a picture to the app confirming you've returned it".

This collaborative initiative is being developed across Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford and Galway as part of the Active Cities project and aims to expand the opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to lead healthier lifestyles through increased access to free sport and leisure equipment.

Dodder Valley Park and Beechfield Park were chosen for the initial pilot of these lockers, as they complement the new and upgraded facilities in both Parks.

Sport Ireland Director of Participation, Louise Burke said, "Sport Ireland is delighted to see the launch of BoxUp in South Dublin today.

"The Active Cities project is funded through the Dormant Accounts Fund, which aims to engage communities across the country by supporting those who are educationally, socially, or economically disadvantaged or those who have a disability to become more active. It's great to see this new innovative solution for the public that is free which aims to reduce the barriers to participation in physical activity, increase access and enhance the choice and opportunities available for all to take part".

Councillor Yvonne Collins, Deputy Mayor, South Dublin County Council commented "We are delighted to welcome BoxUp to South Dublin. BoxUp provides lockers in parks across Dublin containing free sports equipment, like tennis racquets, basketballs and footballs to encourage everyone to be more active in our parks. These lockers complement the installations already in place and offer park users an opportunity to try new activities as well".

Mary Corry, National Active Cities Officer said "it's exciting to see the initial uptake, with over 150 users and over 400 uses of equipment across both Parks in recent weeks.

"This is a fantastic start in South Dublin, and I'd encourage all local residents or visitors to the area, to download the free BoxUp app and using photo ID, create their account, so that they can enjoy using this free equipment in their local parks".

For more information on the Active Cities project, please visit: www.sdscsp.ie/active-cities/

“ We are delighted to welcome BoxUp to South Dublin. BoxUp provides lockers in parks across Dublin containing free sports equipment, like tennis racquets, basketballs and footballs to encourage everyone to be more active in our parks. These lockers complement the installations already in place and offer park users ...

Minister must publish social and affordable housing progress reports for this year says TD

CALLS have made on the Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien to publish the Quarter One and Quarter Two social and affordable housing progress reports.

The call was made as the Minister failed to publish the Quarter 1 report and has delayed the publication of the Quarter 2 report.

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Housing, Eoin Ó Broin TD said: "Since 2017, the Department of Housing have published a quarterly social housing pipeline report,

detailing the delivery of social housing in each quarter. In 2022, this report started to include affordable housing output.

"This report is crucial in allowing the public to track the government's progress in meeting its social and affordable housing targets.

"Last year, the government promised 9,000 new build social homes and 4,000 affordable homes.

"They fell short of the affordable housing target by 60%, delivering just 323 affordable

purchase homes and 684 cost rental homes.

"For the third year in a row, they also missed their new build social housing targets, by 1,567 homes.

"This year Darragh O'Brien did not publish the Quarter 1 figures for social or affordable housing delivery. The Quarter 2 report should have been published during the summer but so far has not been released.

"This year the government has promised 9,100 new build social homes and 5,500 affordable homes.

"The fact that the Q1 report was not released suggests that output was very low in that quarter. The delay in publishing the Q2 report does not inspire confidence that this year's targets are going to be met.

"The Minister for Housing must publish both the Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 social and affordable housing progress reports as a matter of urgency so that the public can see what progress, if any, is being made on the delivery of much needed social and affordable homes."

'I wanted to push to the top in Aoife's memory'

Kevin climbs Mount Kilimanjaro in memory of his fiancée and raises €10k for Irish Cancer

By Hayden Moore

hayden@echo.ie

SUMMITTING one of the biggest mountains in the world, Mount Kilimanjaro, Kevin Cullen has raised €10,000 in the memory of his late fiancée, who died of cervical cancer last year.

Walkinstown man Kevin Cullen carried out a seven day hike up the near 6,000m-tall peak in Tanzania recently, raising awareness of cervical cancer and funds for the Irish Cancer Society.

"It was an amazing experience, it was tough going but I made it to the top," Cullen tells *The Echo*.

"It took six-days to summit, but I got altitude sickness two/three days in, so I had the nausea, tiredness, headaches, I wasn't sleeping well only getting around three hours sleep a night.

"Physically, the first few days weren't too bad but the summit night, it was very difficult.

"We started the summit at midnight because we wanted to see the sunrise at the top, it was minus 20 degrees in the snow and I was so tired, I had the altitude sickness.

"It would have been easy to give up on it."

It took Kevin and the summit team seven hours to reach Uhuru Peak, Mount Kilimanjaro's highest point.

Persevering, Kevin eventually reached the top and was taken by a feeling of pure euphoria.

"You're fighting the whole time, it's an internal battle against yourself," the 33-year-old explains.

"There was a lot of people really rooting for me to make it, and it was Aoife, I wanted to push to the top in Aoife's honour.

"When we did get to the summit, it was such a release of emotion because it



AMAZING: Kevin Cullen on the top of Mount Kilimanjaro which he climbed in memory of his fiancée Aoife

“When I was climbing, I was also thinking that there could be a woman out there reading Aoife's story who might go and get checked out, and hopefully get an early diagnosis

was a grueling hike, we were all so tired but running on pure adrenaline, I was buzzing.

"When you're at the top and you look out, it looks like you're looking at the ocean, but it's the clouds, you are a couple of kilometres above the clouds.

"When I was climbing, I was also thinking that there could be a woman out there reading Aoife's story who might go and get checked out, and hopefully get an early diagnosis.

"I was thinking that my sharing my story I might stop a partner going through what I've gone through or stop a woman going through what Aoife went through."

Aoife died after a battle with cervical cancer in May, 2022 at the age of 30, days before the couple would wed.

The Wexford native "started to notice irregular bleeding" but the couple "didn't think too much into it at the time" until her condition started to deteriorate and required a biopsy in The Coombe in October 2020.

"She was diagnosed with a non-HPV cervical cancer, so it is non-detectable on a smear test, and it was quite advanced at that stage," Kevin told *The Echo* before.

"So, very quickly, Aoife started chemotherapy and radiotherapy, and she

fought so hard, I'm so proud of her for how hard she fought."

Before her death, Aoife was thinking of ways to raise awareness for non-HPV forms of cervical cancer, and Kevin has done this in spades over the past year in her memory.

Kevin has emphasised the need to get irregularities checked early and for people to look into to get checked for non-HPV forms of cervical cancer.

After raising €40,000 through a cycle last year, Kevin has now raised nearly €50k for the Irish Cancer Society, with the proceeds being used for cancer research.

Community centre approved for Katharine Tynan House

Green light for restoration plans of historic home owned by developer Hibernia REIT

By Aideen O'Flaherty
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AN BORD Pleanála has upheld South Dublin County Council's decision to grant permission for Katharine Tynan House in Kingswood to be refurbished and changed into a community centre.

The house, also known as Whitehall, is a protected structure and was the home of prolific novelist and poet Katharine Tynan.

She hosted numerous literary greats, including William Butler Yeats and AE Russell, in the house in the late 1800s.

The restoration of the historic home was originally part of plans to develop the Newlands Farm site, a controversial planning proposal put forward in 2021 by developer Hibernia REIT.

Their plans for the site included the construction of 3,500 residential units, a sports hub and the restoration of Katharine Tynan House.

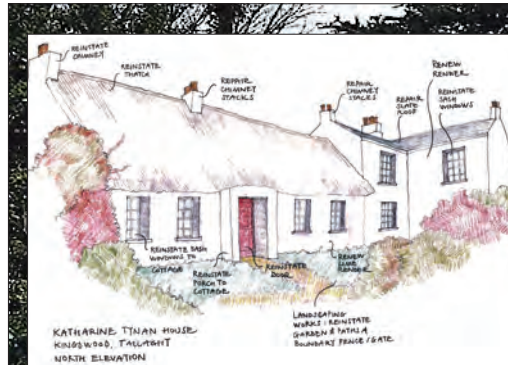
However, these plans were shelved after the Newlands Farm site in Kingswood was not rezoned for residential use by councillors in a County Development Plan meeting in June 2021.

In the same month, Hibernia submitted a planning application for the refurbishment of Katharine Tynan House.

According to the planning application submitted by Hibernia REIT, works will include refurbishment of the roof and external walls, the reinstatement of windows, external doors, ceilings, floors, a conservatory and glazed porch.

New internal stairs and doors will also be fitted and two new single storey open-fronted structures on part of the footprint of earlier outbuildings.

The plans also include the refurbishment of the



PROTECTED STRUCTURE: Katharine Tynan House as it stands today on the Newlands Farm site and (inset) an artist impression of the refurbishment

historic garden walls and gates.

Upgrading of the existing entrance and approach from Ballymount Road is also provided for in the planning, and provision for parking on site.

The planning application was approved by South Dublin County Council in January 2022, however this decision was appealed by the Kingswood Heights Residents' Association.

The residents' association said it welcomed the restoration of the house, but it had a number of concerns.

These included the fact that there is a

community centre already in existence nearby, and the narrow site entrance onto Ballymount Road.

"This road is extremely congested at the best of times," according to the residents' association, referring to the proposed site entrance on Ballymount Road.

"We would suggest that if planning is approved for the restoration, that any construction traffic use the other entrances, i.e. Belgard Road or Naas Road.

"A restoration in keeping with the history of the site would be very welcome."

On August 15 last, ABP upheld the council's

decision to grant permission for the refurbishment and change of use but added some revised conditions.

These conditions include the submission of the proposed plans for security fencing around the site boundary, and the employment of a conservation expert to manage, monitor and implement the works.

In April 2021, Hibernia REIT received approval for a grant of €15,000 under the government's Built Heritage Investment Scheme to carry out the refurbishment of Katharine Tynan House.

The great AK



RECOGNITION: Alan Kelly from St Maelruan's Park and known as The Great AK was presented with a Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation for his 12 years of Physical Therapy Services to the students and athletes of TU Dublin Tallaght Sport. At the presentation on Wednesday were Michelle Creswell, Medical Center, Orlagh Fleming, Medical Center, Alan Kelly, Physical Therapist, Tim O Connor, TU Dublin Sport

Festival of History to host 200 free events

THE programme for this year's Dublin Festival of History has been launched.

Now in its 11th year, this year's Festival is the largest yet – with 200 free events taking place across Dublin city and county from September 25 to October 15.

The event is organised by Dublin City Libraries in partnership with Dublin City Council Culture Company.

New additions to this year's line-up include a number of walking tours, screenings, exhibitions and theatre performances, with the annual "Big Weekend" of talks taking place in The Printworks in Dublin Castle from Friday, September 29 to Sunday, October 1. All events are free, but most require pre-booking.

With the majority of events taking place in library branches throughout the city and county, Festival partners will also be hosting events north and south of the Liffey, including Kilmainham Gaol the RDS Library and Archives, the National Gallery of Ireland and The Orchard Community Centre in Cherry Orchard, amongst many others.

The programme aims to cater to all audiences, with both daytime and evening events; a programme of events as Gaeilge; and a host of family-friendly activities.

A number of the events will also have Irish Sign Language interpreters.

Speaking at the launch this week, Dublin City Librarian Mairead Owens said: "Dublin Festival of History is an annual opportunity to discuss and reflect on the important role of history in our lives and to shine fresh perspectives on the world around us – not just the built environment, but the cultural, social and economic fabric of Dublin, Ireland, and beyond.

"There are fragments and stories of our past in every street and suburb of Dublin.

"We have a host of new additions to our programme in the form of walking tours,

exhibitions, screenings, and much more, with events to cater to all interests.

"There will be events in libraries and with our festival partners in every neighbourhood of the city and throughout the county, so we are encouraging people to take a look at our programme, find out what events are taking place locally to them and to let the Festival feed their curiosity and unearth the many hidden stories and tales of Dublin."

Speaking at the festival launch, Lord Mayor of Dublin Daithí de Róiste said: "I am delighted to officially launch this year's Dublin Festival of History programme.

"It is wonderful to see a wide range of diverse events, walking tours, exhibitions and more take place in libraries and partner venues the length and breadth of the city.

"History will be coming alive in Dublin for the three weeks of the festival, and I would encourage as many as possible to check the programme to see what events are taking place on their doorstep."

Commenting on the launch of the festival programme, Iseult Dunne, CEO of Dublin City Council Culture Company said: "We are delighted to once again be partnering with Dublin City Libraries to present the Dublin Festival of History. Our work at the Culture Company is all about opening up more ways for people to connect with culture in neighbourhoods across Dublin City.

"This year's Festival programme is packed with opportunities for people to discover the stories and histories that have shaped the places we call home and the ways we live our lives.

"We warmly invite you all to enjoy this fantastic festival - and with 200 events across 30 villages in Dublin, featuring 200 speakers covering over 2,000 years of history, we are sure that there really is something for everyone to join in."

Local history with Monica McGill

Will council listen to what people want

Research reveals water-mills history dates back in Clondalkin to 1326 at least

THIS year's Heritage Week walk-and-talk around Fairview Oil Mills dismayed at least one attendee.

"I thought there'd be more to see!" exclaimed the out-of-towner as he viewed what was visible - only the top of one of these eminent buildings.

Unlike the others, he had no connection with Clondalkin, but came because he is interested in industrial heritage buildings.

The locals shook their heads, voicing their disapproval at the Council's casual disregard for Fairview Mills and their important place in our history.

Many "if onlys" and possibilities were discussed, including the proposals in the Vision for Clondalkin document (presented to SDCC in 2022).

Obviously, water-mills need water to propel their giant wheels to turn their heavy grinding stones.

Our River Camac supplied this power. Ó Dónaill's Foclóir Gaeilge-Béarla (Irish-English Dictionary) reveals that "cam" in Irish means "crooked" in English.

By nature, the Camac wanders, but its capacity in its hey-day meant it was harnessed in ponds, and straightened in places, powering the nine (or sometimes acknowledged as seven) mills in Clondalkin alone.

Research by the late Joe Williams reveals Clondalkin's water-mill history dates back to 1326 at least. That's 697 years ago!

Next, a lease dated 1663, referencing a water-mill at Fairview, then an area on the edge of Clondalkin village.

The mill produced rapeseed oil and flaxseed oil (aka linseed oil). From these crushed seeds came "cakes" of feed for animals until at least 1861.

There were two mills on site, hence the plural noun. Thanks to Tony Kavanagh who grew up there, his information informs part of this article.

The Mills weren't working when the Kavanaghs lived there. Tony's father farmed the fields nearby and maintained his award-winning herd

of Charolais cattle.

The family discovered many millstones on site and Tony's Dad lovingly restored them for people to appreciate, and he restrained plant life from taking over one of our heritage buildings.

When South Dublin County Council acquired ownership of Fairview Oil Mills, the Kavanaghs had to move.

It was the end of the wonderful herd and started SDCC's disregard despite promises and repeated local pleadings up to today.

The Camac still winds its way through the property. The design of the mill buildings and the sluice gates across the Camac with its man-made reservoir ponds (now filled in, apparently with a careless builder's rubble) are every bit as ingenious as the nearby Grand Canal.

With a bit of care, they would probably still work.

People can't see any of the complex for the trees, weeds and ivy. ("Weeds" are not welcome here!)

Ignorant people dump rubbish there, unaware of what they're disfiguring. Unmentionable activities of some others go on behind the ugly, rusting palisade fencing. It provides a shield for them, instead of protecting the Mills. A paradox.

One of the mills was constructed of bricks made on site.

The complex rises in places is three or four storeys high.

It's difficult to discern its original lay-out through the fencing and seems to be suffocating in overgrowth. The ivy's penetrations loosen mortar while tree roots do the same to foundations.

Locals seem to have gone beyond disappointment concerning the County Council.

They say they expect little else when SDCC "interfaces" with requests about our heritage buildings generally, or dare it be said during public consultations - "Another box-ticking exercise."

Is this experienced negativity tearing our hearts out like the ivy is doing to Fairview Oil Mills?



HERITAGE: Fairview Oil Mills, 2021.

When local people and An Bórd Pleanála persuaded SDCC to take another approach about our Round Tower, working instead to establish its companion visitors' centre and monastic garden, perhaps SDCC thought that was all we had to offer - job done. Locals are saying no - pointing to Fairview for example.

SDCC is not alone. There is much support for our heritage and history from local interested groups and individuals. (See last week's *Echo*, page 21: local wall).

Volunteer groups who give their free time weekly are willing to continue doing so. However, there's a growing grumble about an annual heritage grant via the Heritage Council. Have SDCC availed of it? All SDCC answers seem to indicate "No". Locals ask "Why not?"

There's a rumour that SDCC management (unlike our local County Councillors) doesn't give a fig about Clondalkin's heritage buildings.

Doesn't rate the proper preservation, conservation or sympathetic re-use of them. Local critics say that a developer can buy a

heritage building, fund whatever it wants to do with it and planning permission is assured.

If it's true, pity the plight of the relevant SDCC officials.

The status of their posts must be very low indeed, though it may be on the rise.

According to some, other unelected County Councils' officials openly cherish the historical ruins in their areas, accessing huge funds for renovating what seems to be even a cow-shed whereas SDCC appears to be sitting on its hands.

So far, locals seem to hold little faith with commissioned reports, and say that available public funding should include what's necessary before we lose even more of our heritage buildings.

The Round Tower visitors' centre is an exception - for which SDCC received an award. Are the exhaustive efforts of ordinary locals about 15 years ago properly acknowledged in that centre?

People are relieved that Clondalkin's Round Tower was at last recognised and protected in suitable surroundings as the iconic Christian monastic building it is. However, they ask what will

persuade SDCC to listen to local people regarding our other heritage buildings - like Fairview Oil Mills?

They're asking why should we be "relieved" - isn't it part of SDCC's brief to listen to people and do the right thing?

Knowledgeable locals say time is running short. They say meaningful, enthusiastic, positive-vectored dialogue would help - all interested parties to be included in discussions.

They say Fairview Oil Mills will fall unless SDCC does something positive.

They're asking SDCC to listen, stop faffing around, stop "box ticking", stop official responses saying the time isn't right, the funding isn't available (because it is), or other excuses amounting to "No".

All is not yet lost. Latest news is that SDCC intend to rehabilitate Fairview Oil Mills and St Cuthbert's Church, Moat and Graveyard as public education/amenity centres. Hopefully, this will happen - soon.

Time to go to press. Will *The Echo* bravely publish what people are saying about this?

Will SDCC listen to what people want and do something positive, again, in Clondalkin?

© Photo by Monica McGill



INVOICE: Fairview Oil Mills invoice, 1861. [Photo courtesy The Joe Williams Archive]



HISTORY: Fairview Oil Mills when the Kavanaghs lived there. Photo: courtesy Tony Kavanagh, Collection/The Joe Williams Archive

Uisce Éireann upgrades support new housing developments locally

THE delivery of new and upgraded critical water and wastewater services is vital to support economic growth both locally and nationally across the country.

In the most populated region in Ireland, Uisce Éireann is committed to playing its part in the national drive to provide homes to people by developing and prioritising the delivery of key water and wastewater infrastructure.

Uisce Éireann, working in partnership with Fingal, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, South Dublin, and Wicklow County Councils has

completed six major upgrades to sewer and water networks across the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) over the past year.

Over 3km's of new pipeline have been constructed in urban and commuter belt communities stretching across the GDA, together with a newly completed wastewater facility in Donabate, facilitating residential and commercial development in this thriving coastal town.

Crucially, the completion of these vital wastewater projects will also help protect the environment, by reducing the risk of sewer

overflows during heavy rainfall while significantly increasing the capacity and operational performance of the existing sewers in Scholarstown, and Ballycullen,

Commenting on the benefits of these upgrades to local communities across the GDA, Mark Murray, Portfolio Manager at Uisce Éireann, said; "We are delighted to announce the completion of these critical upgrades to key water and wastewater infrastructure in the GDA. A water and wastewater network that is fit for purpose is essential in order to continue to support

sustainable growth and development and enable communities to thrive."

Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD added; "I am delighted to see the significant progress being made to enhance economic and social development through the delivery of essential infrastructural upgrades across the GDA. These upgrades are vital for future growth and development, for protecting our environment, and crucially, will provide the capacity we need for more homes and development in the region."



SLEEPOUT: Former Moyle Park student Brendan Courtney from Kingswood

BRENDAN Courtney and Focus Ireland ambassadors Kelly Ann Byrne and Stephanie Clarke launched this year's Shine A Light sleep out in aid of Focus Ireland.

Taking place on Friday, October 13, Shine A Light calls on people across the country to host a sleep out in their homes, communities or workplaces to help end family homelessness. This year the goal is to raise €1.2m to support the essential work of Focus Ireland.

Shine A Light forms part of an ongoing partnership with Bord Gáis Energy and Focus Ireland which began in 2015. To date it has supported over 7,000 families and directly prevented 458 vulnerable families from becoming homeless. Last year the partnership was extended until 2025 and Bord Gáis Energy has pledged a further €2 million to help tackle family homelessness, bringing its total commitment in funds to €4.4 million.

Demand for Focus Ireland's services is at an all-time high. There are currently 1,839 families including children in emergency accommodation as of July 2023, an increase of 29% in the last year. The work that Focus Ireland is doing to support families experiencing homeless or at risk of homelessness is vital, but they can't do it alone and the support of people across the country is essential to create real change.

On the night Brendan will sleep out at his home and will document the experience on his social channels. Other well-known personalities taking part in Shine A Light include broadcaster and writer Louise McSharry, former Tipperary hurler Brendan Maher, farming influencer Katie Gleeson and lifestyle influencer Caroline Mooney.

Signing up to Shine A Light is quick and easy to do. Simply visit shinealight.focusireland.ie to register and select whether you're sleeping out as an individual or as part of a team. You can then set your fundraising target and a shareable fundraising page will be created for you.

Speaking at the launch of the campaign, former Moyle Park College student Brendan Courtney from Kingswood urged people across the country to join him on Friday, October 13 to help end family homelessness.

"The latest figures show that homelessness profoundly impacts our society. There are thousands of families across Ireland, including children who are homeless or at risk of losing their homes and we need to come together and help combat this issue.

"By hosting your own sleepout at home, at your workplace, local sports club or community hall, we can raise vital funds for Focus Ireland and prevent more families from becoming homeless. The goal this year is to raise €1.2m and I am urging everyone to sign up and donate to this important cause."

FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL, PICTURE PAGE SPECIAL PICK UP A COPY IN LOCAL SHOPS OR SUBSCRIBE HERE:



Echo picture Special
In next week's edition,
Thursday September 14th.
57 SCHOOLS!
DON'T MISS IT!



Green Eye

Nature on our doorsteps

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



The Mother of the Oak



ACORNS: Birds like the Jay will store ripe brown acorns in the ground under a Blackberry bush

JUICY ripe blackberries are noticeable in Bramble bushes along hedgerows or in rewilding places at the moment. While many people welcome the thought of collecting blackberries for jams and tarts, Bramble also brings so many other benefits to wildlife.

A wide range of insects and their caterpillars or larvae feed on Bramble leaves, while bees, butterflies, hoverflies, and bumblebees visit its flowers throughout the summer and well into autumn.

Birds like wrens, blackbirds, and robins will build their nests in dense blackberry patches.

Mammals like hedgehogs, rabbits, stoats, and foxes will also shelter under its twisted thorny stems.

Our ancient ancestors appreciated Bramble too. It was valued as a food and a medicinal plant, and under Ireland's ancient Brehon Laws, the penalty for anyone clearing a field of this plant was a fine of a year-old heifer.

There is also an old saying which suggests that

'Bramble is the mother of the oak'. This refers to the fact that a scrambling thicket of Bramble can act as a safe 'nursery' for developing tree seedlings like Oak. It does this with the aid of a bird, the colourful Jay.

Jays will gather acorns from under an oak tree and carry them away to eat. What the bird does not eat immediately will be stored for later. The Jay does this by pushing the acorn into the ground under the edge of a Bramble patch.

If the Jay does not come back to retrieve and eat these acorns, they will germinate and grow into a seedling. The thorny stems of the Bramble protects the developing seedling, keeping it safe from grazing animals like deer, horses, or cattle.

In this way, the Bramble nurses the growth of the Oak and increases its chances of surviving into a mature tree.

Given all the benefits Bramble brings to a wide range of creatures, including us, Bramble could perhaps be called the Mother of Many.



REWILDING: Blackberry bushes are sometimes referred to as The Mother of the Oak



Gruelling hell €20,000 for S Trio of soldiers wear full uniform

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER €20,000 was raised for Suzanne House, a community children's respite service located in the heart of Tallaght, at a gruelling Hell Day event in Causey Farm, Meath, on Saturday.

A total of 50 teams competed in the event led by 'Ultimate Hell Week' drill sergeant and former Irish Army Ranger Ray Goggins.

Among the groups battling the sweltering heat and the taxing physical challenges that Hell Day presented were a trio of soldiers who were in full uniform for the entire event.

Aoife Duffy (24) from Foxborough in Lucan, Darren Brown (21) from Old Bawn in Tallaght and Cian Barnes (23)

from Wexford are all in the 7th Battalion at Cathal Brugha Barracks in Rathmines.

Explaining the rationale behind the team wearing their uniforms for Hell Day, Aoife said: "When we were told about Hell Day it was kind of a given that we would wear our uniforms."

"It's never a bad thing to advertise that our unit wanted to take part, and wearing the uniform almost made you want to go further and do better."

"Being in the uniform puts you in a different mindset."

This also attracted the attention of Ray Goggins, who thanked the group for taking part and representing their unit.

Darren Brown, who is a past pupil of Old Bawn Community School, added: "It was brilliant."

"He's a man who is so well-known for everything he's gone through, so it was good to get that recognition."

All of the teams gave a strong showing on the day and completed the course with the same aim – to raise funds for Suzanne House.

Roisin McGarry from Suzanne House told *The Echo* that Hell Day was the most successful fundraiser the service

“There was such a good atmosphere, and everyone was up for the challenge. It was tough and it was challenging, but everyone was really happy.”



HELL DAY: : Darren Brown, Cian Barnes and Aoife Duffy; Above: Aoife, Cian and Darren at the end of Hell Day fundraiser for Suzanne House

Hell day event raises Suzanne House

for entire event for children's respite service

has ever held and commended the positive atmosphere on the day.

"It was amazing," she said. "There was such a good atmosphere, and everyone was up for the challenge."

"It was tough and it was challenging, but everyone was really happy."

At the end of the event, Ray Goggins was presented with a painting made with the handprints of children from Suzanne House, to thank him for his ongoing support of the children's respite service.

The funds raised on Hell Day will be used to repair a conservatory at Suzanne House which, at present, is unusable.

"It's freezing in the winter, and boiling in the summer, so we can't bring the kids into it," explained Roisin.

The aim is to carry out repair works on it to fix the temperature issues, and then to transform it into a sensory cinema for the children.

Reflecting on the success of Hell Day, Roisin said: "We just want to thank people for coming and being so open to it – their generosity was unbelievable."



CHALLENGE: The team going through the waters for Suzanne House during Ultimate Hell Week

Unique immersive sensory spaces for first time at Culture Night

UNIQUE: Sensory spaces for the first time will be available at Tallaght Culture Night



CULTURE enthusiasts are set to experience unique and immersive sensory spaces for the first time at Culture Night / Oíche Chultúir 2023.

Commissioned by South Dublin County Council (SDCC) and curated and produced by NOISE Music and Sofft Productions, Tallaght Culture Night will feature two special events, The Soft Space and Vanishing Point, promoting accessibility and inclusivity in the arts.

With a focus on young audiences and neurodiverse communities, the events are scheduled to take place at several Tallaght venues on Friday, September 22 and are free of charge for the public to attend, with availability for both bookings and walk-ins.

The Soft Space is designed to be a decompression space with uniquely designed elements to help facilitate a sensory experience. Taking place at the cultural quarter at Tallaght's Culture Night, the unique space is immersive and offers a serene space for relaxation where attendees can visit and escape the festival atmosphere. Created by Sofft Productions to promote inclusivity through innovation, the result is an experience that is suitable for all audiences including neurodivergent children and families.

In a first for these sensory spaces, Sofft Productions and NOISE Music have teamed up with the cutting-edge virtual reality experience 'DEEP VR', a meditative VR game controlled by breathing. Through stable, slow, and deep deliberate breathing players explore the mesmerizing and hypnotic world of DEEP.

The experience is designed to bring people from their existing emotional state to one of relaxed calmness and has been clinically validated to regulate anxiety.

Programming taking place at The Soft Space throughout the day and evening is curated by South Dublin County Council's Arts Office, NOISE Music, and Sofft Productions, and

includes: Art & Ecology Workshop with Karen Aguiar; Dance workshop/Embodied movement with Karen Aguiar; Tai Chi with Kat Lee; Music workshop with Alicia Raye; Collaborative art project with The Autistic Art Club; Live music set from iUS of NOISE Music and Deep VR virtual reality experience

Timeslots to attend The Soft Space on Friday, September 22 at Rua Red, South Dublin Arts Centre and Tallaght Library will be bookable through Eventbrite, with further information here: www.ruared.ie/whats-on/event/the-soft-space.

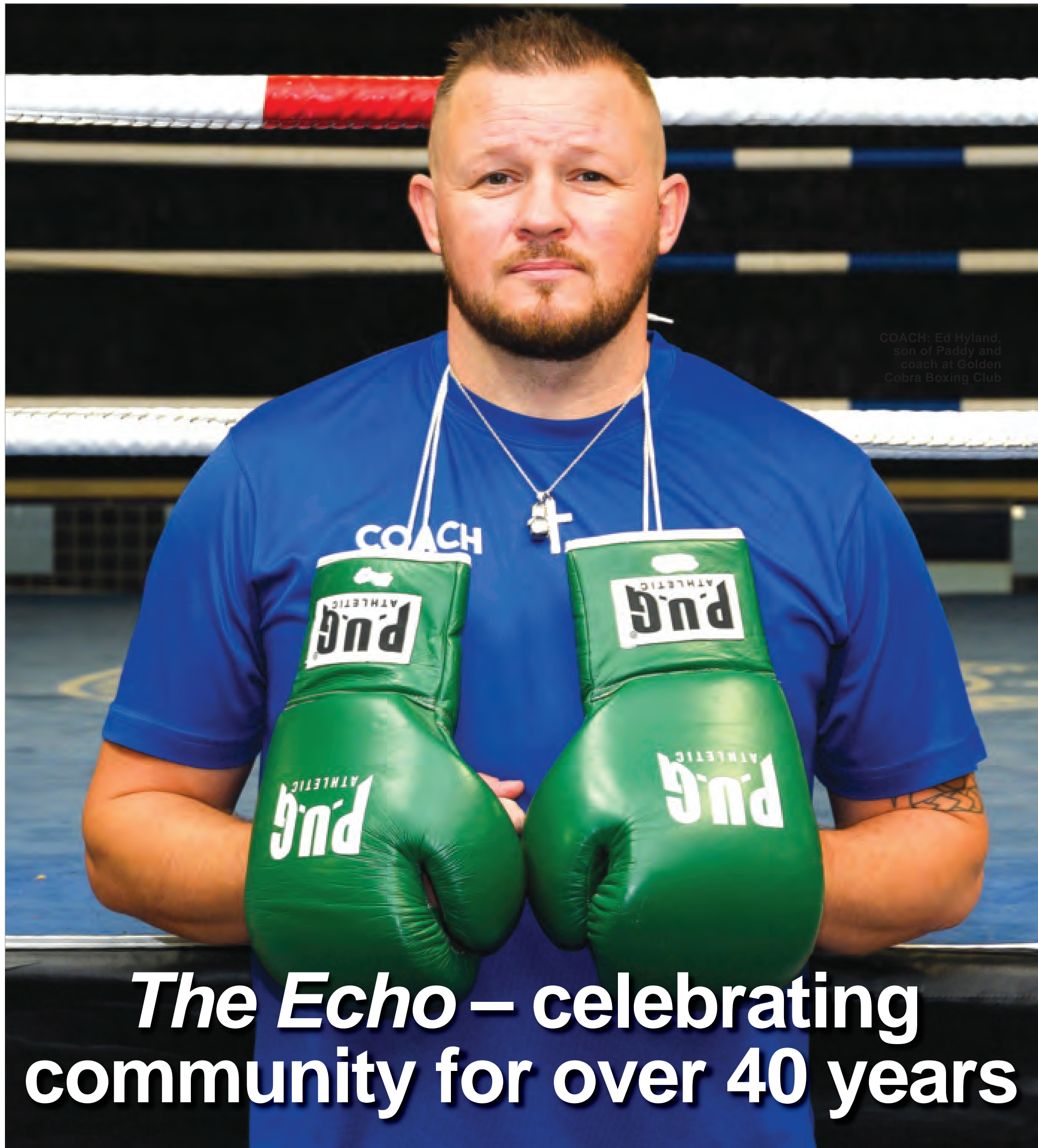
Vanishing Point is a unique DJ experience. Born out of the exploration of sensory space, this experiential zone will combine ambient sounds, soothing lighting, and comfortable seating, with the aim of promoting restful rejuvenation and mindful introspection. Designed by lighting designer Conor Jacob of Sofft Productions, and curated by NOISE Music and Dublin Digital Radio, the space will feature a line-up of talented DJs delivering curated sets across the night, including: BALIBOC (Jack Colley); R.KITT (Robbie Kitt); MAXIU (Matthew Xie) and DREAMCYCLES (Jenn Moore).

Bookings for Vanishing Point on Friday, September 22nd, 2023 in The Civic Theatre Studio Space, Tallaght, can be made through the Civic Theatre Box Office: <https://bit.ly/VanishingPointCivic>.

For those who don't book in advance spaces will be available at both events on a walk-in basis on the day.

Gerry Horan, Programme Manager at NOISE Music, states, "As an initiative of the South Dublin County Council's Arts Office, NOISE Music is delighted to contribute once again to Culture Night in Tallaght, continuing our commitment to providing young people with opportunities to participate in making and performing music, and experiencing live performance events."

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 Ed Hyland, coach at Golden Cobra Boxing Club.



COACH: Ed Hyland,
son of Paddy and
coach at Golden
Cobra Boxing Club

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



THERE are many sporting families in Tallaght who have brought publicity and success to our much maligned area.

When it comes to the noble art of pugilism however, one name stands alone. For generations the Name Hyland has been synonymous with some of the most remarkable sporting achievements we've ever seen.

After the patriarch Patrick, better known as Paddy, passed away in the most tragic circumstances in 2015, the future of the Hyland boxing dynasty seemed in doubt.

The Echo recently had the opportunity to chat with Paddy's eldest son Ed, to discuss how the family, and the work they do, was progressing in the aftermath of such a devastating loss.

The Hyland family's association with boxing goes back further than you might think.

Ed tells me about his great-grandfather who recognised the dangers of fascism in the lead up to World War Two, and, once war was declared, joined the British army to fight this great evil.

Corporal Patrick "Wacker" Finn was taken prisoner during the war, eventually spending time in a sub-concentration camp known as Blechhammer near Auschwitz. A fine amateur boxer in his day, he began teaching his fellow prisoners of war how to box, just to pass the time.

When the war ended and Corporal Finn returned home, he began teaching local kids back in Dublin,

and thus a family tradition, which has now lasted the best part of eighty years was born.

Originally from the south inner city, Ed is the eldest of five siblings. After him came Leanne, Patrick, Paul and Charmaine. Naturally enough, the boys all boxed.

In 1985, the family moved to Tallaght and before long, they all became involved with Sacred Heart boxing club in the Killinarden area. Ed remains grateful to the people who helped the people who made the club, in particular John "Jogger" Farrell, Sister Marie, Father Val and even his grandad John Hyland.

Ed, Patrick (also known as Pajo) and Paulie all followed their father to the club and achieved not inconsiderable success.

I ask Ed about his earliest memories and he laughs, "I think I could punch before I could walk! As long as I can remember, Dad was teaching us bits about boxing and how to defend ourselves."

"I had my first fight at ten years old but I was hooked on the sport long before that," he says.

Paddy was a Leinster champion himself in his day but when Ed was young, he had had started to concentrate on coaching.

Ed is modest about his own achievements between the ropes.

He tells me, "I took every fight I could get, and I won some and lost some. I did win an All-Ireland silver medal and in 1998 I was Irish intermediate champion, beating four

All-Ireland champions along the way. So I suppose I didn't do too bad."

Then in 2001, Ed got the news that his partner Julie was pregnant with their first son Lee. Ed was thrilled, but he also knew that his life was about to come a lot more expensive.

With Pajo and Paulie becoming successful themselves, the brothers made the decision to turn professional together and decamped to England to work with renowned coaches Paul and Mickey Cook.

Ed takes up the story, "We gave it a good go over in England but unfortunately it just didn't work out. I made the decision to come home to my family and the three of us went our own way for a while."

Meanwhile, Paddy had left Sacred Heart and set up his own club, Golden Cobra Boxing Club. "Named after Cobra Kai from the Karate kid," Ed says with a laugh.

This club was Paddy's baby and of course, Ed and his brothers volunteered to help out as much as they possibly could.

Word started to get out about the new club and before long, young people were coming in from all over the area.

At the time, the club had to rent a space from Killinarden Community Centre. Your correspondent knew Paddy around this time and I remember being struck by his cheerful demeanour and infectious dedication to the club and the people of Killinarden.

In 2015, Paddy had just recently

been granted permission to use new premises in Donomore, attendance was strong and all seemed rosy in the Golden Cobra garden.

Then suddenly, inexplicably, Paddy was gone.

By this time, Ed, who had been a qualified coach since 2001, had struck out on his own. He learnt his trade from the best, including Nikolas Cruz, the legendary Cuban coach who led the Irish national team to many successes, and even Tracy Patterson, son of the legendary World Heavyweight Champion Floyd.

When the news came through, he was running N7 boxing club with his friend Tommy McCormick.

Ed tells me, "The original plan was to let Golden Cobra close when Dad passed. Then one night over a casual pint in the Jobstown House, Pajo, Paulie and I decided to resurrect it in his honour."

And so, Golden Cobra was reborn, celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2020, with all three brothers working together.

As you might expect, Ed's family are involved in the club. Julie, his wife is the heart of the operation and also the club secretary. Eldest son Lee boxes as does middle son Matthew, 14, who has Autism and absolutely loves the club and the sport. Youngest son Lennon is seven and is no doubt preparing for a life in boxing.

We can go no further without mentioning the heart and soul of the club, the matriarch of the family, Ed's

dear mother Dinah. "She was always involved of every aspect of the club, making sandwiches for the boxers, helping with behind the scenes work and you could always rely on her for a bit of tea and sympathy if you'd lost. She's a great woman and she's our biggest cheerleader to this day!" says Ed

The biggest problem the club now faces is finding a home. Their current training facility is a disused swimming pool, which is far from ideal. Ed is hopeful Golden Cobra can find its "forever home" in the not too distant future.

The people and the interest in the club are definitely there. According to Ed "We have a tremendous team of coaches who give up their time voluntarily. Our cousin Daniel Hyland is involved, along with Aodh Carlyle and Gavin Bardon. There are many others too numerous to mention who help us out but they know who they are and we're extremely grateful to all of them."

"The club is ticking over nicely now. We have 80 fighters from all age groups, and the place is hopping with vibrant energy. It's great to see eighty kids working out with us instead of being out running the streets getting into trouble. I hope we're doing the old man proud," he says.

"I used to think his proudest moment as our Dad would have been when the three of us held National Championships at the same time, but maybe the three of us keeping his legacy alive would rival that now."

“The club is ticking over nicely now. We have 80 fighters from all age groups, and the place is hopping with vibrant energy. It's great to see eighty kids working out with us instead of being out running the streets getting into trouble. I hope we're doing the old man proud

PREMISES: Ed is hopeful that Golden Cobra can find its "forever home" in the not too distant future



Calls for 'urgent road safety signage' after car overturns

Car overturned after it collided with wall during the day on rural lane

A COMMUNITY group is calling for "urgent road safety signage" to be placed at Horan's Lane in Killinarden, following on from a crash on the road last month, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

On August 28, a car was overturned after it collided with a wall on the lane and, according to Tallaght Community Council (TCC), this is just one of several such incidents that have occurred on the road.

Tara De Buitlear from TCC told *The Echo*: "This is a rural road, with no paths and lots of detached homes along it.

"This latest crash happened on Monday, August 28. Many occur during daytime and appear to be speed related.

"Local residents and Dublin Fire Brigade have reported multiple road traffic accidents along this road so far this year – it appears to be becoming more frequent."

The lane is a rural stretch of road that leads up towards Killinarden Hill, but it is also a residential area and residents are concerned about the crashes on the road.

Ms De Buitlear added: "There are no public paths beyond Deerpark and Kiltipper Park, and it is not serviced by any public transport, so it is only currently accessible in a car.

"There are very few road safety signs or traffic calming measures to help protect the road users and help enforce safe speed limits among the users of this road.

"Local residents have experienced damage to their gateways and walls due to speeding cars colliding into their property."

She further explained: "This part of Tallaght is where urban meets rural

Tallaght.

"Many road users don't appear aware of that and are not driving at speeds to anticipate local residents driving out of their homes onto the road, or for wild animals such as deer or livestock crossing the roads here, which should be expected as a rural roadway."

TCC is now calling on South Dublin County Council to install signage and implement traffic calming measures on Horan's Lane to combat the issue.

"We would like to see urgent road safety signage installed in the short-term," said Ms De Buitlear.

"We would request new traffic calming measures to be installed in 2024 along the stretch from the intersection of Kiltipper Road with Ballymana Lane to Horan's Lane to improve road safety for all users as a matter of urgency."

A spokesperson for South Dublin County Council told *The Echo* it will "look into the facts" of the crash on Horan's Lane on August 28.

"If any cause is attributed to a lack of road signage or traffic calming, then additional appropriate safety measures will be considered and implemented on the road," they said.

The local authority spokesperson added that they had not received any information about repeated incidents on the road.

However, they said if verifiable information is sent about additional incidents, "we will also include them in our analysis and implement appropriate safety measures accordingly."



Dad raises €6k after cycling length of Ireland for two cancer charities

Charities helped young daughter who was diagnosed with rare disease

By Hayden Moore

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A DAD has raised over £6,000 for two cancer charities which helped his young daughter, after cycling the length of Ireland, from Malin Head to Mizen Head.

Stephen Bernes, originally from Jobstown but living now in Bleary, Armagh, clocked a whopping 605km on the bike alongside his friend Adrian Kennedy over six-days in August.

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 diagnosed with a rare disease called Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis, aged 10 in August 2020 and underwent a course of chemotherapy and steroids to treat it.

During her time in hospital and before getting the all-clear in August 2021, Cancer Fund for Children and the Royal Belfast Hospital gave great support to Sophie and her family.

Correlating with the two-year anniversary of Sophie getting to ring the bell, signifying the all-clear, Stephen crossed the finish line in Co Cork, having raised over €6k for Cancer Fund for Children and the Children's Cancer Unit Charity.



SUPPORT: Stephen, Sophie and Niamh Bernes with Adrian Kennedy presenting the €6k to Children's Cancer Unit Charity and Cancer Fund for Children

59% of IT leaders do not feel confident in ability to manage AI

Over 70% of respondents cited a shortage of IT talent as a threat to companies

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

A MAJORITY of IT leaders in Ireland are uncomfortable with their team's ability to accommodate growth in the use of AI, according to research by US data centre builder Equinix.

Equinix, who operate data centres at Citywest, Kilcarbery Park, Northwest Business Park, and Blanchardstown, revealed 59 per cent of IT leaders in Ireland do not feel confident in their company's ability to manage AI.

Despite this, Equinix's research for its Global Tech Trends Survey 2023, shows that 15 per cent of businesses in Ireland are planning on making cuts to their IT teams in the next 12 months.

This is in contrast to the majority (67 per cent) who will be expanding their IT teams in the next year, however IT leaders in Ireland are continuing to grapple with skills shortages.

Peter Lantry, Managing Director for Ireland, Equinix, said: "As businesses plan for the future, they must ensure that their IT departments have the budget and means to expand in line with the overall business's expansion plans. To reduce IT teams at a time when technology and data are so central to success is likely to prove short-sighted.

"However, those who are looking to grow their IT teams are also facing challenges as demand continues to outweigh supply. The current pace of change will not wait or be sympathetic to those encountering talent shortages. IT leaders must therefore confront this head-on and ensure that if they cannot find the talent they need, they need to nurture it themselves."

Top areas needed for IT team growth listed cloud computing, IT technicians, and AI/machine learning.

Over 70 per cent of respondents cited a shortage of IT talent as a threat with retention acknowledged as an issue by 43 per cent of IT leaders.

CHALLENGES: Peter Lantry, MD Equinix



Citywest firm New Payment Innovation invests €2 million with plans for 100 new jobs

NEW Payment Innovation (NPI) aims to capture 20% of the Irish card payments market in the next three years.

The company continues to buck the market trend of decline and redundancies, by delivering rapid growth with 100 new hires by the end of 2024.

With an investment expected to reach €2m by year end, NPI has recently relocated to its new headquarters in Citywest to support their continuous expansion.

Carl Churchill, Managing Director of NPI, commented: "We are incredibly excited about the recent developments at New Payment Innovation as we move into our new premises and continue to expand our team to serve our rapidly growing customer base.

"Our investment in our facilities and the recruitment of exceptional talent highlights our commitment to delivering industry leading payment solutions and driving the growth of the Irish fintech sector underpinned by exceptional customer service. We look forward to further building our team and making a lasting impact on the industry and our

customers' business."

NPI added 25 staff since January with their new HQ designed to accommodate up to 80 employees in its current form with additional on-site expansion opportunities up to 250.

This substantial growth highlights NPI's strong commitment and focus to the Irish fintech sector. NPI continues to make it easier for consumers to pay and businesses to get paid, with leading technology and an unwavering dedication to customer satisfaction.

It is also providing exciting new career opportunities for the talented people that have found themselves on the wrong side of technology contraction in Ireland.

NPI's journey thus far includes securing significant contracts with leading organisations, contributing to its substantial growth trajectory. As NPI makes strides in capturing a substantial share of the Irish card payments market, the company remains dedicated to delivering unmatched payment solutions that empower businesses and drive economic progress.



INNOVATION: Carl and Nicole Churchill, founders of New Payment Innovation, pictured at their new HQ in Citywest

Firms need to run continuous 'improvement efficiencies'

Artificial Intelligence will have huge effect on business says bread company chief

By Maurice Garvey
maurice@echo.ie

ARTIFICIAL Intelligence (AI) will have a "huge effect" on business, especially in market research and consumer marketing, according to Michael McCambridge, owner of Rathcoole company McCambridge's.

McCambridge believes AI will help to rapidly convert consumer trends and interests into tangible products.

However, he envisages that traditional businesses will "need to go looking for implications of AI before they arrive at their doorstep."

Speaking to the Irish Times, the bread chief said two areas which "spring to mind are consumer research and process improvement."

McCambridge's produces traditional Irish wholemeal products, for the domestic and international market, including the availability of bread mixes and frozen bread for the US, UK and Australia.

The Rathcoole company operates 24 hours a day, seven days

a week and employs 50 people.

Owner Michael McCambridge, an EY Entrepreneur Of The Year finalist for 2023, says the company has a small but growing export business.

"We sell online through Amazon and our own website. The UK is a strong market for our bread tin home baking kits. Our gluten free bread kits are particularly popular," said Michael.

"These are available in Australia, Singapore and from a few independent retailers in Europe. We sell quite a lot of frozen bread in the US."

Acknowledging Ireland is no longer a "low-cost economy", McCambridge says businesses need to run "continuous improvement efficiencies."

"We innovate in production process. There is no dedicated engineering solution for the production of Irish soda bread," he said.

"We explore other processes for different food types and take ideas from them. The market evolves rapidly and constantly. Some of the main themes will be a move away from heavily processed foods to foods with simple and locally sourced ingredients."

"We explore other processes for different food types and take ideas from them. The market evolves rapidly and constantly. Some of the main themes will be a move away from heavily processed foods to foods with simple and locally sourced ingredients."

EFFICIENCIES:
Michael
McCambridge



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Business awards celebrate and showcase the good side

By Maurice Garvey
maurice@echo.ie

SOUTH Dublin Chamber is delighted to announce that the annual South Dublin County Business Awards are back for 2023.

These awards celebrate, showcase, and acknowledge all that is good in business in South Dublin County.

Applications are now open to any business or not-for-profit organisations based in or doing business in South Dublin County.

All entries are free and must be received by 5pm Friday, September 8, 2023.

Awards categories this year will include Best Family-Owned & Managed Business, Best Networker Award, Best Not-for-Profit Organisation, Best Small Business, Best Start-up/New Business Award, Innovation in Business Award, Sports and Leisure Award, Employee of the Year Award, Best Sustainable Business, Customer Service – Tourism & Hospitality Award, and Best Place to Eat Award.

Online applications through

A Date for Your Diary



South Dublin County
Business Awards
2023



Thursday, 19th of
October 2023 at the
Maldron Hotel Tallaght



South Dublin
Chamber

Advancing business together

this link
<https://www.sdchamber.ie/events/south-dublin-county-business-awards/>

All criteria for the awards, the judging of the awards and

the mystery shopping evaluations will be done by Spotcheck, the recognised independent awards agency.

The black-tie awards presentation evening will be held on Thursday, October 19,

in the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght. Host for the evening is broadcaster Marty Whelan, the award-winning Irish radio and television personality who has competed for the awards before.

‘Very successful’ first half of year for Dalata Hotel Group

Group who operate all Maldron and Clayton hotels report revenues of €284.8m

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

DALATA Hotel Group, who operate all Maldron and Clayton brands in Ireland, has recorded a “very successful” first half of the year as the post-pandemic travel recovery showed no sign of slowing.

Hotel revenues for the first six months of the year were €284.8m, Dalata reported.

Adjusted earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) for the first half of 2023 were €103.4m.

Last year, the business, Ireland’s largest hotel operator, reported an adjusted EBITDA of around €83m for the same period.

Revenue per available room (RevPar) was 23 per cent ahead of 2022 levels for the January to-June period, while the average room rate jumped 10 per cent to €139.50 a night.

In the July/August period, RevPar is up a further 5 per cent in Dublin and the UK and has risen 8 per cent in regional Ireland.

Occupancy levels also increased to 78.4 per cent compared to 69.8 per cent in the corresponding period last year.

Overall, the group’s property, plant and equipment (PPE) is now worth €1.6bn, a rise of 11 per cent since

REVENUES: The Maldron Hotel in Tallaght



December 31. Around 5 per cent of this rise relates to revaluation increases on existing properties.

The company’s board has declared an interim dividend of 4 cent per share, which represents a total dividend payment of around €8.9m.

The Maldron Hotel Finsbury Park and Clayton Hotel London Wall, which were both acquired in February and June respectively,

commenced trading under the Dalata brands in July.

The addition of these two locations have boosted their London room numbers by 64pc

Four further Maldron locations will open next year across the UK.

The group said the first half of 2023 had been “very successful” as demand for international travel soared. It added that it had not seen

any indication of potential slowdowns as a result of high inflation levels.

“The group has delivered a record set of financial results and reported excellent customer and employee satisfaction scores,” chief executive Dermot Crowley said.

“We have responded effectively to the challenge of rising costs through cost and revenue management initiatives, a focus on reducing utility

consumption and adopting innovation across all areas of the business.”

He added that Dalata has taken a “reasonable” approach to pricing, with average Dublin room rate around €177 from May to August.

“We remain mindful that the current cost environment is highly dynamic, and our innovation and cost management measures will need to keep pace,” he said.

Workhuman expanded experiences offers employees new opportunities

By Maurice Garvey

maurice@echo.ie

WORKHUMAN, the Irish founded unicorn that runs employee recognition schemes for some of the world’s largest multinationals, has added in-store booking functionality, which is now available to more than two million users across 10 countries, including Ireland, the UK, the US, India, and Mexico.

Employees now have access to hundreds of thousands of additional activity, travel, and accommodation options as part of the employee recognition industry’s most expansive catalogue of experiences, all bookable with points on its platform.

Co-founded in 1999 by CEO Eric Mosley, who is from Glenview in Tallaght, Workhuman develops software-as-a-service tools for human resources departments.

The company is co-headquartered in Massachusetts and in Dublin 12, where it employs 600 people in Park West.

The Irish-founded company has built an innovative team – based in Ireland – dedicated to sourcing

merchandise and gift cards across the globe in more than 65 categories including electronics, fashion, house and home, garden and outdoor, travel, health and beauty, children, and more. Globally, the company maintains a catalogue of approximately 400,000 merchandise items across more than 60 countries. It also offers thousands of gift cards across more than 130 countries, with hundreds of thousands of options including merchandise brands, charities, and travel experiences. Workhuman has built its Store experience from the ground up and has scaled over the years to support orders placed every 3 seconds by approximately 7M employees across the globe.

Through the company’s Store, employees are able to book their activity, hotel, car rental and, when available, flights, all in the same order.

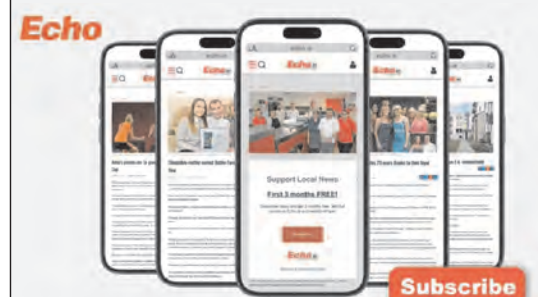
Sarah Whitman, SVP E-commerce, Workhuman said the “expanded experiences offering creates endless new opportunities for employees to travel and experience new things, driving personal growth and even greater and lasting connections to their colleagues that helped make those experiences and memories possible.”



SCHEMES: Workhuman’s Sarah Whitman, SVP E-commerce

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21 metre high monopole structure at Penny Hill site

Council seek additional information from Vantage Towers as concerns raised

TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT:
The Penny Hill pub in Ballyowen



SOUTH Dublin County Council has requested additional information in relation to the proposed placement of a 21-metre-high monopole structure at the Penny Hill pub in Ballyowen, Lucan.

Vantage Towers Ltd is seeking permission for the erection of a 21-metre-high, multi-user monopole with antennas, dishes and associated telecommunication equipment.

It is noted in the application that all of the structures will be enclosed in security fencing, which will be housed in a section of the pub's car park.

The proposal attracted two objections from local residents, who expressed their concerns about the proposed monopole.

Trisha O'Toole stated that she was

By Aideen O'Flaherty

aideen@echo.ie

objecting to the structure on a number of grounds, including health concerns, the monopole's proximity to schools and creches, and the visual impact of it.

Brian Ó Faoláin stated in his objection that Vantage Towers Ltd had previously been refused permission for the erection of a similar structure at Three Rock Rovers Hockey Club in Rathfarnham.

He also stated that permission had been refused to the company for a similar structure in Esker, which the developer then

went on to unsuccessfully appeal.

Mr Ó Faoláin noted that in the developer's appeal, they stated it would be located "sufficiently far away" from schools.

They also stated in their appeal for the Esker structure that "tall mature trees will provide generous screening" of the structure.

It is Mr Ó Faoláin's argument that neither of these considerations have been applied to the proposed monopole at the Penny Hill, which is near schools and isn't screened by trees.

On August 21 last, South Dublin County Council requested additional information from Vantage Towers Ltd about the proposed monopole at the Penny Hill.

The request includes documents indicating compliance of the proposal with the South Dublin County Development Plan.

Other documents requested include a map showing the locations of all existing telecommunication structures within a two-kilometre radius of the subject site, stating why "it is not reasonable" to share existing telecommunication facilities.

The developer has also been asked to submit photomontages, indicating the site in its wider context, a map of underground services within the site and any impacts the development may have on them.

The developer has six months from the date of the council's request to submit the required documentation.

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Plans to increase the number of one bedroom independent living units

ADDITIONAL information is being sought by Dublin City Council in relation to a developer's plans to increase the number of one-bedroom independent living units at a permitted development in Crumlin, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

Hilltop D12 Project Ltd previously received planning permission for the construction of 12 independent living units at a site to the side of St Agnes's Convent on Armagh Road.

However, in their most recent application, they are seeking permission for the development of four additional units, bringing the overall total to 16.

The Hilltop D12 Project noted that the five car parking spaces that were approved in their first application remain unchanged and will serve the entire development.

On August 16 last, Dublin City



ADDITIONAL INFO: The site on St Agnes's Convent on Armagh Road

Council requested additional information from the developer in relation to their proposal to increase the number of units at the site.

The council stated that the scale and massing of the resultant four-storey building – if the additional units are approved – would be "excessive" in relation to surrounding properties.

The local authority has

requested that the applicant "re-examine the scale and massing" of the additional floor that would house the four units, and provide a setback from the lower floor.

The council also said the applicant had not submitted "sufficient information" to allow the council to "fully consider" the impact of the additional units.

The potential impacts on adjoining properties on Cashel

Road include overshadowing amenity spaces, habitable rooms and enclosure.

The council has requested additional information in the form of a comprehensive overshadowing assessment.

The applicant has six months from the date of the council's request for additional information to submit the required documentation.

€580k guide price for former Ulster Bank branch in village

Two-storey building on Main Street Tallaght is ‘suitable for a variety of uses’

By Aideen O’Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

THE former Ulster Bank branch on Main Street in Tallaght has gone on the market with a guide price of €580,000.

The 2,914 sq.ft. property is for sale by private treaty and is described by selling agent Peter Love from Cushman & Wakefield as a “prime freehold opportunity”.

It’s noted in the property listing that the former bank branch is “suitable for a variety of uses” subject to planning permission.

The property is a two-storey, end-terrace building, comprises a ground and first floor.

The ground floor contains the main retail/office area and storage rooms, while the first floor contains offices, storage rooms, kitchen and toilets.

There is a large yard to the rear of the property which is accessible via the laneway immediately adjacent to the property.

The future of the property was previously discussed at a South Dublin County Council meeting last May, when a councillor suggested that the council should purchase it to use as a community centre.

Cllr Teresa Costello (FF) tabled a motion at the meeting where she asked the council to consider purchasing the property and bringing it into use as a centrally-located

community centre.

“I see it as an excellent opportunity to get some form of a community facility slap-bang in Tallaght village,” Cllr Costello told the committee.

“Generally, when I have my clinic in Tallaght village on a Saturday, the amount of people who pop in and there’s nothing really there for them in the village, I don’t think.

“I do think it’d be nice for the council to purchase this, and it would be of huge benefit.”

At the time of the meeting, the former bank branch wasn’t on the market, and a spokeswoman for South Dublin County Council outlined what action could be taken if it did go on the market.

“If it does come up for sale, it would be up to the asset management section to purchase it,” she explained.

“If they do purchase it on behalf of South Dublin County Council, then obviously its use will have to be decided.

“We do have facilities in the Tallaght area, community facilities, and if there are requests down the line, they can be looked at then.”

In February 2021, Ulster Bank confirmed its plans to withdraw from the Irish market on a phased basis.

The Ulster Bank branch in Tallaght closed on April 21 last, along with 62 other branches around the country as the bank completed its withdrawal process.



OPPORTUNITY: The former Ulster Bank branch in Tallaght Village

Park West office building has a guide price of €3.5 million

STANDALONE: The office building in Park West Business Park with a guide price of €3.5 million



AN OFFICE building on Joyce Way in Park West Business Park has gone on the market with a guide price of €3.5m, reports Aideen O’Flaherty.

The property, which is Block 14, is a three-storey, purpose-built standalone office building that comprises approximately 2,524 sq.m. of office space.

The building features a three-storey atrium style entrance, and it has

raised access floors with carpets, suspended ceilings, air-conditioning, and floor boxes wired for power.

Kitchenette facilities are included in the property, as is an eight-person passenger lift serving all floors.

The building offers both open-plan and cellular offices, and each floor has the benefit of male and female toilets. There is both dedicated bike storage and shower facilities in the building.

Current tenants include ICRLA, Client Solutions (EY) and Orchard Fostering, generating a passing rent of €401,161 per annum, and tenants are not affected by the sale of the building.

Offers are sought in the region of €3,500,000, which represents a NIY of 10.42 per cent after the deduction of standard acquisition costs at 9.96 per cent.

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- A high level of technical knowledge.
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If this sounds like an opportunity you would be interested in we would love to hear from you! Please be sure to apply via the email provided and a member of our recruitment team will be in touch as soon as possible.

wendy@dublincoach.ie

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- Handle customer queries in a professional and timely manner, both on the telephone and via email
- Provide reception cover as and when required, such as holiday cover
- Provide any reasonable, additional support to the business to ensure daily and monthly goals are achieved accurately and in a timely manner

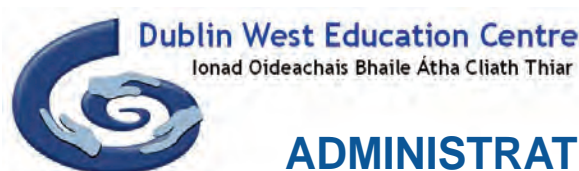
The skills and experience you need

We are looking for someone who:

- Previous experience working in an administration / office role.
- Leaving Certificate in maths and English
- Excellent interpersonal communication skills
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- Able to work well under pressure and in a fast-paced environment.
- Able to work effectively both autonomously and as part of a team.

Reply with CV to **lorraine@hkc.ie**

www.hkcsecurity.com



Dublin West Education Centre
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS REQUIRED

The Dublin West Education Support Centre is seeking to appoint two full-time administrative assistants. These positions will be based in DWEC, Tallaght (D24 PX58) and PDST, Park West Business Park (D12 F9X8).

These roles are offered initially on a one year fixed term basis.

Further details are available from www.dwec.ie or by email from: **recruitment@dwec.ie**

Applicants should send a CV including contact details for two referees to: **recruitment@dwec.ie** by 5 pm, Thursday, 14 September 2023

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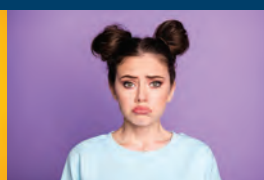
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THE world, and the many industries within it, are changing all the time – but as a new academic year begins, there's never been a better time to seriously consider all of your options. At Ballyfermot College of Further Education (BCFE), they have learning programmes to suit all interests, to help you kickstart your journey to the career of your dreams.

One of the college's newest courses is a BA (Hons) degree programme in Immersive Media Production – which equips learners

with the necessary skills and knowledge to produce truly immersive and engaging media experiences. The first two years of the four-year course are delivered at BCFE, with the final two taking place at the Institute of Art, Design & Technology near Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin.

Embracing various forms of media, including virtual reality, augmented reality, mixed reality and 360-degree video, the graduates of the programme are highly prepared to

thrive in the rapidly evolving area of immersive media production – across industries such as entertainment, education, marketing and training.

BCFE's other new courses include a QQI Level 5 Certificate in Creative Computing and 3D Studies – which gives students the opportunity to gain vital skills, learning the fundamentals of Web Design, 2D & 3D Graphic Design, and Video.

Meanwhile, the college continues to provide up-to-the-minute programmes in a wide variety of

areas – including the Logistics & Distribution Traineeship, and the Certified Accountancy & Payroll Pathway Traineeship.

And there's a whole lot more besides! With courses in social care; business; animation; film and TV production; journalism; games design; visual effects; music – producing outstanding graduates of the calibre of Damien Dempsey, Wallis Bird, Lisa O'Neill and Junior Brother – and art and design; there's a phenomenal range of options

available at BCFE, including courses at QQI Level 4, 5 & 6, Higher National Diplomas and full Honours Degree programmes at Level 8.

The college also places a strong emphasis on practice-based learning. With years of industry experience, the staff at BCFE are only too eager to share their expertise – and to enable students to use specialist industry-standard software and equipment to give them the best possible advantage in the workplace. See bcfe.ie for more information.

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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

Furore after Irish Rail refuse to accept cash payments on journeys

Dear editor,

IRISH Rail's longed-for much-vaunted catering service on the Dublin to Cork railway has caused uproar from excluding OAP'S and other passengers by refusing to accept cash payments for refreshments on board the train journey.

Since 24th April on-board catering

resumed on the Cork to Dublin route with more services added later. From 15th May a full trolley service was operational, but much to my dismay all catering services are cashless.

Elderly people are the largest cash users and 628,000 people over the age of 60 are not on-line or have "below basic digital skills."

Head of advocacy at Age Action

Ireland, Celine Clarke, said: "Card-only is a barrier to social inclusion. You shouldn't need to have digital skills to buy a cup of tea on a train or go to a GAA match. Social inclusion is at risk in a push towards a cashless economy. Pushing people into a cashless environment is not what they want and is definitely not safe for many older people."

Catering was halted on all trains with the exception of the Dublin to Belfast service during covid and a complete trolley service was not resumed on the Dublin to Cork route until 15th May. There is no trolley service on the Dublin to Sligo route.

The prohibition on cash payments is appalling and unfair on OAP's and those reliant on cash to transact their

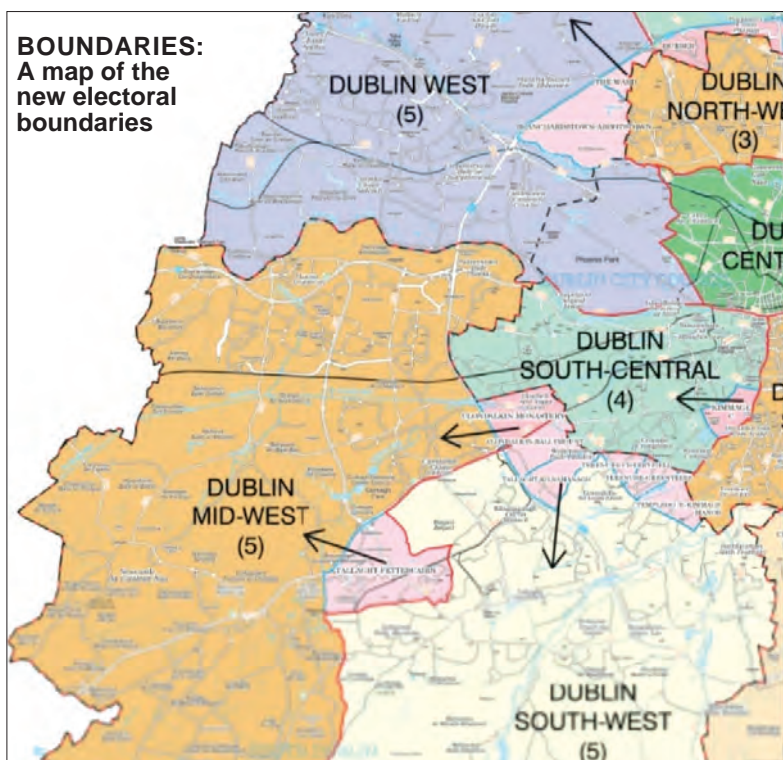
business.

Last February the GAA caused furore after it said all matches would become cashless events, accepting only card payments at turnstiles or tickets prebooked on-line.

Yours sincerely,
James Dunne,
Kilnamanagh.

New electoral boundaries could decide fate of parties

BOUNDARIES:
A map of the new electoral boundaries



Dear Editor:

The report 'Changes made in constituency electoral areas ahead of election' (*The Echo* pg. 12, 31 August) is worthy of further attention.

An Coimisiún Toghcháin, the new electoral commission established in February has presented the Oireachtas with an independently assessed recommendation grounded in the population figures derived from Census 2022.

The decision of how many TDs (Teachtaí Dála - Members of Parliament) should sit in the next Dáil will involve revamping boundaries for local, general and European election and if enacted into law it will mean 174 TDs elected across 43 constituencies in the next general election with seven constituencies exempted from such changes.

The Commission is bound by Bunreacht na hÉireann provisions which states there should be one TD for every 20,000 to 30,000 citizens with the same level of representation nationwide to comply with its legal mandate.

The Commission findings indicate

some of the larger, five-seat constituencies in rural areas will be divided into two three-seaters, while some urban constituencies will move from four seaters to five.

This constitutes noteworthy change for the average elector, who may view unfamiliar faces appearing on the ballot paper at the 2024 election.

For TDs it is crucial to keep a close eye on the findings of the Electoral Commission, which could determine their electoral fate.

Dublin South Central, TD Bríd Smith has decided not to contest the next election.

Aenghus Ó Snodaigh will be expected to bring in a running mate and Sinn Féin could throw down the gauntlet for three seats.

Redrawn boundaries could result in a substantial loss of support if part of a candidate's voting base migrates to a new constituency.

Sinn Féin is tipped to gain most from the mammoth boundary review, and beneficiaries of the recast constituencies.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh.

Asylum seekers and refugees commended

Dear Editor

I WANTED to write and publically thank all the refugees and asylum seekers who work voluntary in Clondalkin Global Garden.

The last few weeks they have provided potatoes, scallions, onions and plums to Clondalkin Helping Homeless and those in Need!

We were able to include this produce in our weekly FoodBank.

It went towards helping local families in need and was gratefully received.

The Global Garden mission is to provide a safe, educational, cultural and recreational environment to promote a positive community.

We encourage friendship, communication and understanding by providing a community facility which actively supports inclusion, integration and equality as a community working together to build a global garden full of biodiversity and organic gardening.

Their donation definitely showed a commitment to their mission statement.

I commend their efforts!

Clr Francis Timmons, Clondalkin

CAO points should not define a student's choice of career

Dear Editor:

AS SCHOOL leavers weigh-up CAO college offers they receive, or the next steps they are considering, they should reflect on how their decision makes the most of what they like to do and study rather than CAO points and not be distracted by fears of getting it wrong.

The CAO system of allocating third level places is deemed fair, equitable and transparent and deep-rooted in education.

CAO ranks applicants in order of their calculated points dependant on where their points reside relative

to other applicants for the course.

Reading for a 600-point course has greater prestige and worthiness than a 300-point programme.

Students are of the erroneous belief that by making optimal use of CAO points by choosing higher point course that this will lead to more lucrative careers.

The CAO has furnished Leaving Cert class of 2023 applicants of the number of points reached.

They are seeing how grade inflation under a Ministerial diktat has led to a huge number of students getting very high points.

Because of grade inflation, numbers are in line with recent

years, but well ahead of points achieved by students in pre-pandemic years, when grades were significantly lower.

The downward trend in CAO points is most pronounced in medicine, relating to 120 additional medicine places being added this year and last.

CAO offers, reveal a drop in points for nursing via the acquisition of 200 additional nursing places for students from the South in Northern Ireland colleges.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh



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Page 45



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Photos by William O'Connor

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You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on echo.ie



Ray McGrath (JADD) and Andrew Doyle (volunteer) playing the tunes with Pat Daly



Jacqueline Sheehy, Community Drugs Prevention and Education Worker at Tallaght Drug & Alcohol Task Force with Grainne Meehan, Maria Nugent and Darragh Conway



Emer Loughrey, Fionnuala Keating and Monica Whyte from the HSE Addiction Services



Mayor Alan Edge cuts the tape at the launch



Seamus Massey (chairperson of TRP) with Pat Daly (manager TRP)



Cllr Mick Duff, Maria Nugent (SDCC) and Cllr Charlie O'Connor



Emma Tobin and Claire McDermott from South Dublin County Partnership



Tommy Gilson and Pat Clifford from JADD at the launch



People enjoying the sun at the launch of Recovery Month

'Henny is Stuck'

AILEEN'S BOOK WILL BE PRESENTED AT CONFERENCE

by Ryan Butler / news@echo.ie

Six Dublin authors and illustrators have been selected to present their debut books to international peers at this year's Children's Books Ireland International Conference in the Light House Cinema in Smithfield, Dublin, on September 16 and 17.

The Dublin authors include Aileen Crossley, from Knocklyon, whose debut book 'Henny is Stuck' was published by Little Door Books this year. Crossley's book is a colorful picture book that follows Henny on her journey as she and her friends try to solve her problem of being stuck in her shell and, along the way, end up saving the day. Aileen is an illustrator, animator, and motion designer. She is about to complete her MA in Illustration at Falmouth University.

The New Voices slot spotlights debut authors and illustrators nominated by both Irish and international publishers, creating books across a range of genres for young readers of all ages. This week, we sat down with Aileen to discuss her book and the conference.

What is the synopsis of 'Henny Is Stuck'?

Henny is a baby chick that's stuck. All of Henny's baby chick friends are hatching, but unlike the others, Henny just cannot shake off her shell. Henny and the chicks ask for help from some comical animal characters with their own special powers, but nothing works, and Henny stays stuck.

While they are on this journey, a fox creeps up on them, and Henny finds a way to use her differences to her advantage to save her friends from harm. A modern-day "ugly duckling" story with a beautiful message about self-belief, self-love, and just being yourself.

When did the idea for the story first come about?

I was living in Scotland at the time, studying illustration undergrad at the Glasgow School of Art, when the idea hatched. I met someone whose dad had a recording studio out the back of his house, which he named the Blue Egg after the hens that he kept that laid blue eggs. I began thinking about the character Blue Egg (now Henny) and how he might be stuck in his shell and couldn't get out, and how that story would go.

How much time was dedicated to the book?

Longer than I care to disclose! I am a part-time author and illustrator, and I have been juggling the development of Henny since that time in Glasgow and in earnest since about 2019. The breakthrough came in terms of visual language when I explored lithography printmaking with Mick Timmons of Independent Editions and then was successful in getting full-time membership at Black Church Print Studio in Temple Bar. In lithography, I found a beautiful retro printmaking style that really excited me. This work won me 'Finalist' at the Bologna Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition in 2019. Then COVID hit, and I could no longer explore lithography. However, I digitally colored my inked-up separations at my home studio, and the results are what you see now in the book.

What kind of work was involved in writing the book?

As an author and illustrator, I loved having control over both the visual language and the words without being overly didactic with either. Children are amazing meaning-makers, and it's good to leave space for their imaginations. The illustrations can do a lot of the storytelling legwork rather than having the words explain everything. Ideally, it should be a magical dance between them.



Knocklyon author Aileen Crossley

Do you have any future plans for after the conference?

Yes, my second picture book, which I am working on at the moment, I have just finished my Illustration Master's degree, which I completed alongside my full-time motion design work at RTÉ, and Henny is Stuck, so I'm taking a well-earned break. This next picture book will be made fully from lithographs made at Black Church Print (no digital) and will take another year to complete part-time. If I win the lotto and become a full-time author or illustrator, it will take 6 months.

Who would you like to thank for helping you get to this point?

My family and friends, who have supported me all along this incredible journey, and my publisher, Little Door Books I had the good fortune to meet Alan and Susan at the Bologna Children's Book Fair in 2022, and I was published exactly one year later. Their belief, encouragement, and help in fine-tuning my picturebook into what you see today was just the most amazing experience. I am so very grateful to all of you.

**FIRST DAY AT
SCHOOL, PICTURE
PAGE SPECIAL
PICK UP A COPY
IN LOCAL SHOPS
OR SUBSCRIBE
HERE:**



Echo picture Special

In next week's edition,
Thursday September 14th.

57 SCHOOLS!

DON'T MISS IT!



“ All truly great thoughts are conceived while walking.

Friedrich Nietzsche

Health & Fitness

IT'S ALL ABOUT TAKING THE FIRST STEP

by Ursula Frawley / info@moveitfitness.ie



You've often heard the saying 'a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step'.

Taking those first steps to get out moving and walking can hugely benefit your heart and fitness.

But do you know there are other proven benefits? So, lace up those runners and let's talk about 5 benefits of daily walking that you may not hear every day!

- 1. Stronger joints and bones.** As we age, our bone density may suffer, which means we could be more prone to injury. The simple act of walking daily is a low impact 'stressor' on the joints. This stimulates the fluid around the bone joints, which helps with the stiffness and helps to keep them healthy.
- 2. Feeds your brain.** Walking every day can improve cognitive ability and can even boost creativity! So, if you're looking for inspiration for a new project, a walk might be just what you need to get the creative juices flowing.
- 3. Enhances your mental health and well-being.** Exercise releases 'feel good' hormones in the body which can help to lift your mood and reduce anxiety. So, if you need a little pep in your step, getting out walking in fresh air may give you that much needed mood boost.
- 4. Generates energy.** When we move, the oxygen flow in our body starts to increase, therefore giving you an energy boost. By walking early in the day, you can get that added energy boost to last throughout the day.
- 5. Helps you sleep.** Getting out and moving in the fresh air, especially early in the day, can help regulate our natural wake and sleep rhythms, allowing us to feel more tired and sleepy at nighttime.

Ursula Frawley is a Personal Trainer and Owner of Move It Fitness. Her online Strength & Fitness classes, which run live 7 times a week, have been helping women to feel stronger and fitter since 2020. Her online and in-person programs are focused on motivating and changing mindsets to enjoy the fitness journey, while feeling empowered with a positive mindset. She lives with her husband and 4 children in Dublin 24. You can get more information by emailing her at info@moveitfitness.ie or www.moveitfitness.ie

With all these added benefits, as well as the boost to heart health, why not start a daily walking routine. Start small with a short walk for 10-15 minutes once or twice a day. By increasing your time by 10 minutes a week, before you know it, you will feel comfortable and able for longer walks every day. Your mind and body will thank you!

Remember, always consult with your GP before embarking on any health or fitness regime.



Take the first step

“ Soup is the song of the hearth and the home.

Louis Pullig De Gouy

Food with Passion

COMFORTING LEEK & POTATO SOUP

by **John Paul Kennedy** / jpkennedy.kennedy@gmail.com



I am delighted to be back writing my weekly food blog and I've lots of delicious home cooking recipes planned to share with you all over the coming weeks. Let us be honest Summer was a bit of a non-starter and proved a challenge to burst out the BBQ and enjoy summer themed dishes! None the less, a new season brings with it, for me, a renewed focus on classic homemade comforting dishes and this soup is a real classic and one of my favourites! Ironically, I made this over the weekend when temperatures hit over twenty again, that said it's the time of year when I start thinking about delicious soup, casseroles, and stew recipes and this is a great batch cooking recipe that can be made ahead of lunches or a quick suppertime meal. Serve with homemade brown bread generously lathered in real Irish butter and you have the perfect comfort food hug in a bowl!

Ingredients: (Serves 4)

2 large leeks washed thoroughly and chopped finely
1 large potato peeled and diced
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
2 sprigs fresh thyme
600ml of milk
400ml hot chicken or vegetable stock
2 bay leaves
45g butter
Sea salt and lot of freshly ground cracked black pepper



John Paul Kennedy IS A SELF-TAUGHT COOK AND AN AVID FAN OF COLLECTING COOKERY BOOKS WITH A PASSION FOR GOOD OLD-FASHIONED HOME COOKING. HIS PASSION FOR PROPER FAMILY COOKING STEMS FROM HIS GRANDMOTHERS, WHO WERE BOTH EXCELLENT COOKS, ONE OF WHOM WAS A TRAINED CHEF. **JP** PROMISES TO BRING US PLENTY OF FAMILY-INSPIRED RECIPES AND TASTY TREATS WHILE SHOWING US HOW TO GET THE BASICS RIGHT.

Method:

1. In large pot add the milk, bay leaves, nutmeg, and bring to a bowl. Bubbles will start to appear at the side of the pot. remove from the heat and allow to cool and infuse for 20 minutes before straining using a sieve.
2. In a large pan add half the butter and potato cubes and cook for 3 minutes – do not allow the potatoes to brown. Then add the rest of the butter and chopped leeks and cook for 4 minutes until softened.
3. Add the chicken stock and strained infused milk, bring to a boil then reduce heat and allow to simmer for 8- 10 minutes to ensure all the vegetables are cooked through. Season with salt and pepper.
4. Pop into a food processor or using a stick blender, blend until you have a nice smooth consistency.
5. Serve with a drizzle of double cream, cracked black pepper and your favourite brown bread and enjoy!

It is hard to believe it is almost 5 years since I started writing my weekly food blog for the Echo! I especially love coming back after the summer break with renewed enthusiasm to create and share lots more delicious home cooking recipes that are focussed on; family, comfort, simplicity, and deliciousness. This soup recipe is all those things and is great for batch cooking as it freezes well. As we head into the autumn months, if like me you are craving real comfort and soul food, then soups for me are always perfect to achieve this. Hope you give this recipe a go it is simple, full of flavour and the perfect hug in a bowl when you need it most!

Contact
JP on:

Twitter: @JPKCooking
Email: JPKCooking@gmail.com
Instagram: jpkennedy.kennedy

‘Proud 2 Be’

PRESENTED BY PROUD DANCE ACADEMY

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

The talented members of Proud Dance Academy are delighted to present their show, 'Proud 2 Be' at the Kilnamanagh Community Centre in two weeks! Paul Ryder, who founded the group, claims that "it has been a whopping five years since my company, Proud Dance Academy, has been onstage."

When asked how much time is being dedicated to 'Proud 2 Be', Paul responds, "At the moment we are rehearsing twice a week," and "there is so much going on behind the scenes as well as in classes!"

This production has been in the works for two years, and another show is already being planned for October 2024.

Proud Dance Academy is starting a new term after the

performance, as students will be sent out to audition for pantomimes around Christmas, including Jack and the Beanstalk in the National Stadium, which Paul choreographs every year.

Paul would like to thank choreographers Laura Norton and Zara Lily Gill, class assistant Emma, an admin team including Fiona Roche, John, Marion, and Sandra, and the team at Kilnamanagh Community Centre for helping with this production.

'Proud 2 Be' takes place at the Kilnamanagh Family Recreation Centre on September 17 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Leah Green is a special guest at both shows, and Dame Stuffly is a special guest at the 7 p.m. show only.

Tickets are on sale now.



Paul Ryder

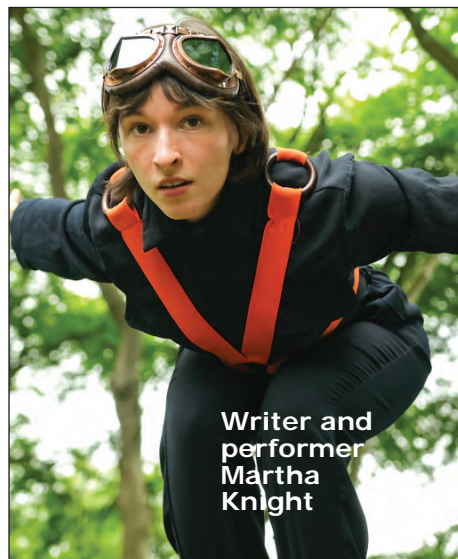
King of all Birds

PERFORMED BY MARTHA KNIGHT

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

The intersections of theater, sound and sound technology, music, and engagement attract Martha Knight, a theater artist and musician from Dublin.

She is most passionate about creating art that thoughtfully considers its audience and its community while delving into important issues with awe, wonder, and curiosity.



Writer and performer **Martha Knight**

The launch of Martha Knight's brand-new comical gig theater production 'The King Of All Birds' is a part of the 2023 Dublin Fringe Festival.

A collage of film, text, and music, this traditional performance for voice and vocoder started with hours of staring at an aerial photo of a home in Dromady, County Mayo, and has a lot to show for it.

It tells a story in addition to singing a song. It analyzes our shared relationship with the sky over the eons of time when it was uncharted, then the earliest forays into it by kites, balloons, planes, and carrier pigeons equipped with cameras. And now, our never-ending ascent through it; upward.

Martha herself says that "The King of All Birds began as a fascination with the aerial photos that people display in their homes in Ireland."

'The King Of All Birds' is written and performed by Martha Knight and directed by Joy Nesbitt.

It is being presented in association with the PAN-PAN Platform.

It will be performed in the Project Arts Center Cube from September 11-16.

Tickets are available at FringeFest.com.



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EST. 1690

RED COW INN PRESENTS
**THE FAIREST PANTO
IN THE LAND!**



Snow White

Starring
**DAME
STUFFLY**

WED 20th-SAT 30th
DECEMBER 2023

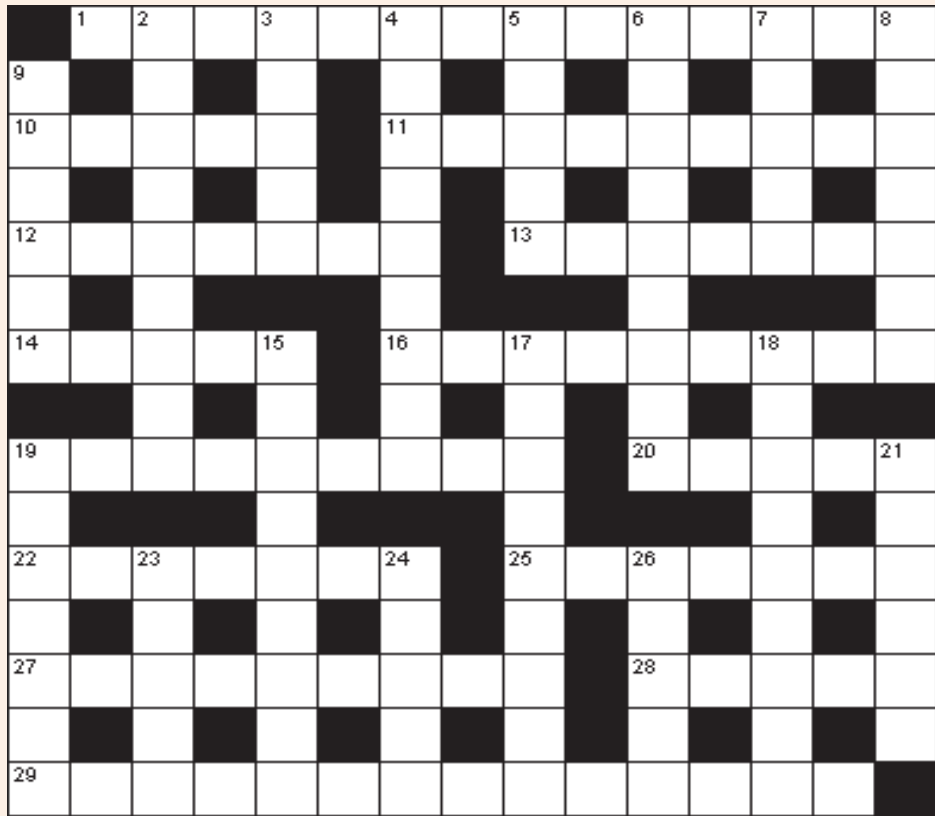
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

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echocrossquiz Q0709



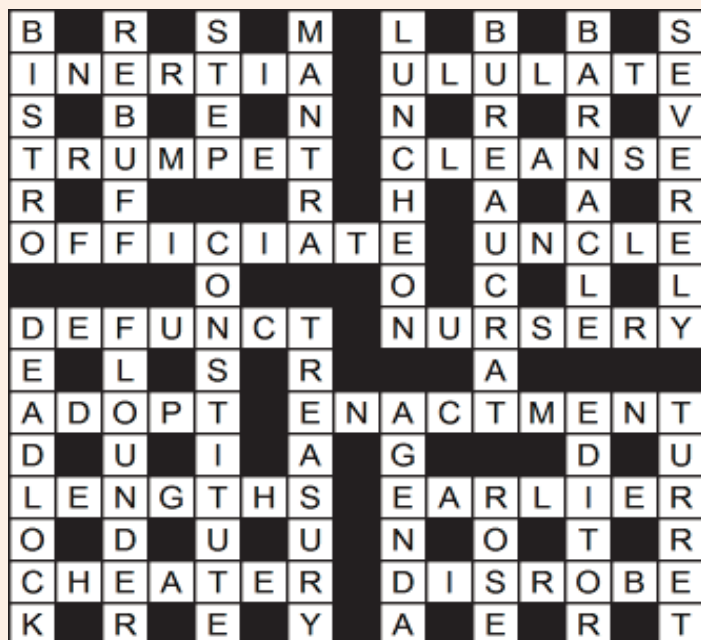
ACROSS

- 1. Undestroyable (14)
- 10. Apportion (5)
- 11. Abundant wealth (9)
- 12. Twirl (7)
- 13. Hot sauce (7)
- 14. Mill (5)
- 16. A preserve made of the rind of citrus fruits (9)
- 19. Pertaining to pharmaceuticals (9)
- 20. Young sheep (5)
- 22. Demolish (7)
- 25. Deer meat (7)
- 27. A tiredness of the eyes (9)
- 28. Blade (5)
- 29. A caretaker (14)

DOWN

- 2. Negated (9)
- 3. Outer or exterior (5)
- 4. Shopkeeper or craftsman (9)
- 5. Unsound (5)
- 6. A small version of a larger image (9)
- 7. Incentive (5)
- 8. Something very ugly and offensive (7)
- 9. Riffraff (6)
- 15. Interior designer (9)
- 17. Pertinence (9)
- 18. The right to enter (9)
- 19. Insanity (7)
- 21. Shakespearean verse (6)
- 23. Nap (5)
- 24. Desire strongly (5)
- 26. Nude (5)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 3108



CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

SUDOKU 1

			4	5				
	7			9				2
4	1						3	
			2	6				
	8							1
5		4				6		
		6		7		1		4
			6	3			5	
		8					9	

SUDOKU 2

	4		6	2				
		1	8			2		
		7						
				7	5			9
					8		3	
	1	8	4	6		5		2
	3		1					
9	2						8	4
		4				3		

ANSWERS

5	9	3	2	8	2	3	6	5
4	8	1	8	4	4	8	4	4
8	3	6	1	5	4	9	2	7
3	1	8	4	6	9	5	7	2
7	5	9	2	1	8	4	3	6
4	6	2	3	7	5	8	1	9
2	8	7	5	9	3	6	4	1
6	9	1	8	4	7	2	5	3
5	4	3	6	2	1	7	9	8

SUDOKU 2

6	9	3	4	5	1	8	2	7
9	4	1	6	3	6	9	4	6
3	5	6	9	7	2	1	8	4
5	9	4	7	8	1	6	2	3
6	8	2	4	9	3	5	7	1
1	3	7	5	2	6	9	4	8
4	1	9	2	6	7	8	3	5
8	7	5	3	1	9	4	6	2
2	6	3	8	4	5	7	1	9

SUDOKU 1

Poet's Corner

ANOTHER NIGHT

by Gerard O'Keefe



I moved to Tallaght 35 years ago and quickly came to love it. I've been writing poetry for almost 50 years. I'm now retired and I have five grandchildren – they mean the world to me.

Another night of loneliness
 another night of gloom
 another night I'll spend alone
 Hiding in my room
 Afraid to face the world outside
 It fills me full of dread
 I don't fit in
 I don't belong
 Be better off dead
 I don't know what's wrong
 When I go outside
 There is thunder in my head
 My chest is tight
 My heart races
 So I stay at home instead
 I know it's crazy to feel this way
 But agoraphobia is real
 And unless you suffer from this curse
 You don't know how I feel

‘Matt and Hat’

DUBLIN FRINGE FESTIVAL AT THE CIVIC

by Ryan Butler / news@echo.ie

‘Matt and Hat’ is coming to The Civic for the Dublin Fringe Festival.

It is an interactive VR dance performance, directed by Matt Szczerek, that is “set to redefine audience engagement and transport spectators into a world of limitless imagination”.

three years and then nine months of producing the full piece” with Sean Burns, the animator, and “putting it all together” with the VR expert, Camille Donnegan.

Preparation for performances like this involves “a lot of logistical little nightmares, like making sure that the movement in all the scenes can link and using external objects like hats makes it more difficult.”

Matt would like to thank Hannah Mullan, Sean Burns, Camille Donnegan, Sinead Purcell, Alessio Motta, and the Civic Theatre for helping with this production.

The team is hoping to bring ‘Matt and Hat’ on tour and present it to Meta as a potential series once the Civic performances are done.

‘Matt and Hat’ will be performed at The Civic from September 13–16 at 2 p.m., 3 p.m., 4 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m., and 8:30 p.m. daily.

Each showing will be roughly thirty minutes long, with an age rating of twelve and over.

Each ticket costs eleven euros.

The idea for ‘Matt and Hat’ first came about in 2017, when Matt “had an idea for making a show for young audiences using hats as puppets.” However, things were really set in motion once Matt met Hannah Mullan, as she “was interested in innovative ways of approaching theater for children.”

This is a project years in the making, as Matt claims “research took about



Matt Szczerek

Tallaght Choral Society

ALL WELCOME TO TRY OUT SINGING SKILLS AT OPEN EVENING

by Ryan Butler / news@echo.ie

Tallaght Choral Society will be hosting an open evening at St Mary’s Priory next week. It will be accessible to anyone who wants to try out their singing and considers a

future in the choir.

Lynn Broderick, a spokesperson for Tallaght Choral Society, tells us that “Tallaght Choral Society was the brainchild of Fr. Donal Sweeney,

OP, when in 1967 he started a small church choir based in the Dominican Priory.”

After going strong for 56 years, Donal Sweeney is still singing with the choir and is hoping to conduct a performance in the Civic Theatre in November.

They rehearse every Monday from 7:45 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. from September to May, with a break for summer each year.

They have additional rehearsals and workshops when coming up to a concert, and they also have frequent, more social rehearsals in members’ houses.

According to Lynn, the main ingredients involved in preparing to rehearse are concerted effort, enthusiasm, and enjoyment, as conductor Lynsey Callaghan teaches, directs, and supports us to reach and maintain her high musical standards.


Events to look forward to with Tallaght Choral Society include a Lake Garda trip from October 19–23, ‘Come and Sing Handel’s Messiah’ on October 28, and the Tallaght Person of the Year Awards on November 12.

Lynn would like to thank the society’s “wonderful conductors, their supporters, the Priory, their families, friends, and audiences for helping the choir get to this point.”

The open rehearsal takes place at St. Mary’s Priory at 7:45 p.m. on September 11.



Tallaght Choral Society



ECHO JOE CLUB

Colour in the Echo Joe Club Logo, take a picture of it and email it to reception@echo.ie and be in with a chance to win a book token.

A Word with Echo So...

Homework

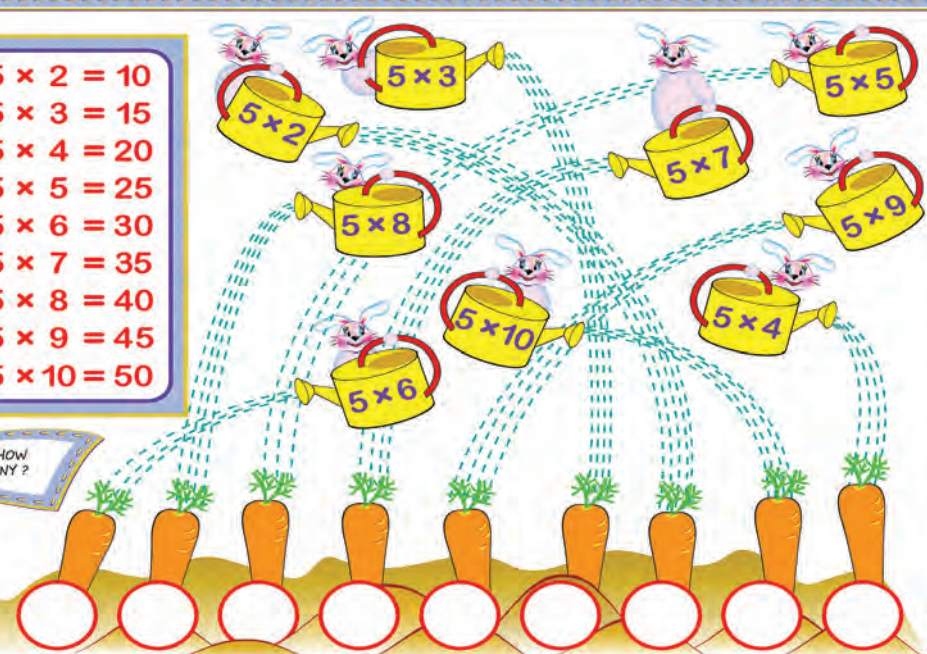
CLUBBERS, HOW MANY WORDS (TWO LETTERS OR MORE) CAN YOU MAKE FROM THE ABOVE WORD?

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

$5 \times 2 = 10$
$5 \times 3 = 15$
$5 \times 4 = 20$
$5 \times 5 = 25$
$5 \times 6 = 30$
$5 \times 7 = 35$
$5 \times 8 = 40$
$5 \times 9 = 45$
$5 \times 10 = 50$

HOW MANY?



Geometric Shapes



square
triangle
star
pentagon

parallelogram
rhombus
line

circle
trapezoid
oval
rectangle

IT'S RICICULOUS! SCHOOL BOOKS ARE JUST SO HEAVY!

IT'S BAD PLANNING.

WHY WASN'T THE SCHOOL BUILT CLOSER TO OUR HOUSE?

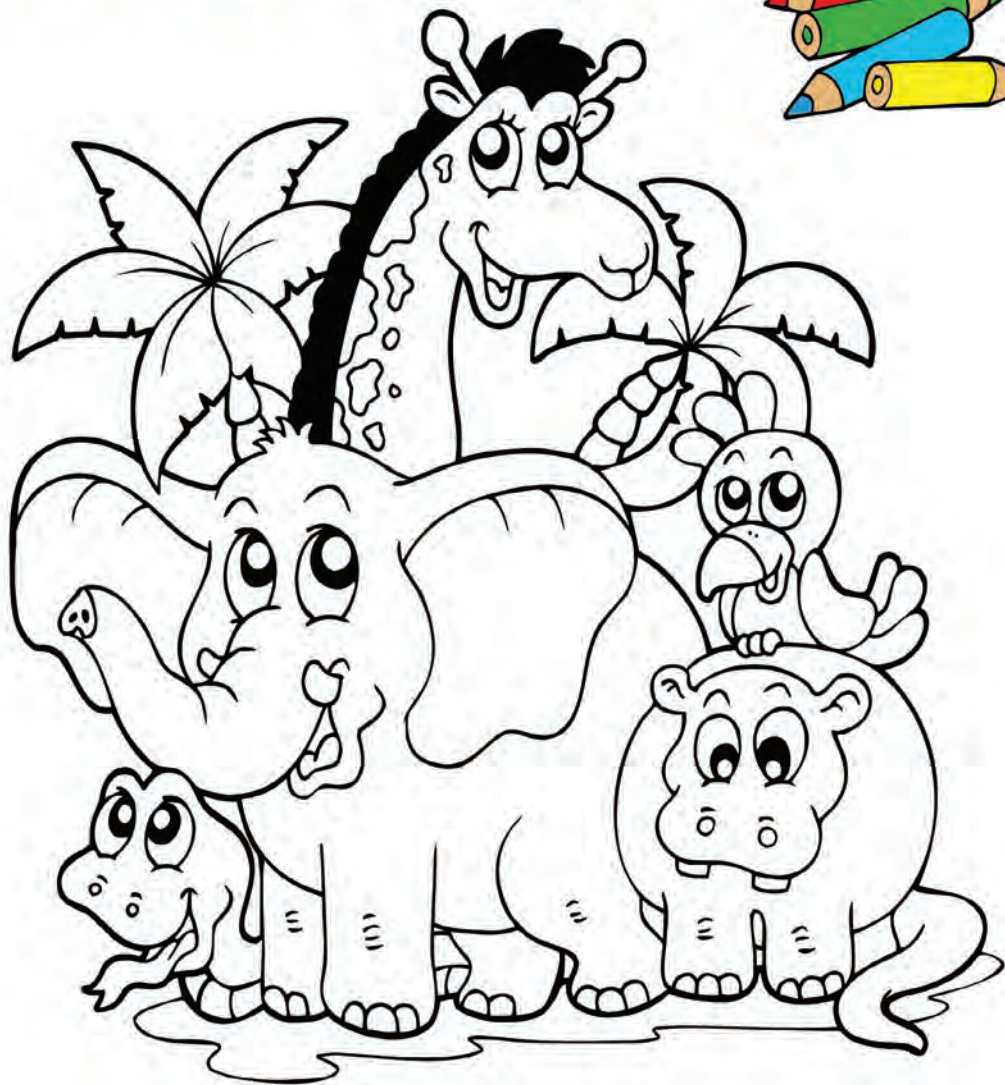
TO BE HONEST, THOUGH, I DON'T REALLY MIND CARRYING BOOKS HOME.

WHAT ANNOYS ME IS HAVING TO OPEN THEM ONCE I GET THERE!

Spot the 10 differences



COLOURING BOOK



LETTER LINK LOG-JAM

A MISSING LETTER ON EACH ROW FINISHES ONE WORD AND STARTS THE NEXT...

BUT WHAT ARE THE LETTERS?

FAC		ALL
COM		BLE
SAG		URO
PAW		ERD
STO		ARD
UPO		AME
CAR		ISH
BAI		EAK



the missing letters: T, A, E, N, W, N, D, L.

winner



Lexi Dowling, age 9, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Lexi, your prize will be on the way to you soon.

are kindly sponsored by

aws InCommunities



Linda, Emmet and friend



Cllrs Mick Duff and Pamela Kearns with Esther and Albert Johnston



Holly, Erinn and Sophia



Marta and Aisha



Jamie, Sarah, Josh and Kyle O'Flanagan



Zoe, Philip and Grayson



Amy and Alan McIntyre (Hilltopfarm Alpacas)



Tallaght Marching Band



Kim and Jasmine Jones with Stephen McGinley (Broken Theatre Stilts)



Amy and Saibh



Marek, Klaudia, Zuza, Alex and Marcel



Kayla, Amy and Hanna



Amy and Cameron



Tallaght Marching Band entertain the crowd

Food & Cultural Event

SUCCESSFUL INTERNATIONAL EVENT IN TYMON PARK

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



Polish Folk Dance Group Gosia, Krzysztof and Gosia



Eva, Ellie Rose and Harrison



Sonia, Thomas, Darrah and Rebecca



Sophia, Claire, Sarah, Alex, Ellie and Taylor



Emma and Braeden O'Byrne



Ann, Mick and Blaihtnaid Bowden



Carol and Reece



Pierce, Kasia, Hannah and Leah Ennis



The Kelly Family and Friends in Tymon Park on Sunday



TALLAGHT PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2023

WHO WILL BE OUR 40TH TALLAGHT PERSON OF THE YEAR??



HOSTED BY



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

AL PORTER

PERFORMERS INCLUDE

XQUISITE DANCE

TALLAGHT CHORAL SOCIETY

VENUE



www.tallaghtcommunitycouncil.ie

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Media Partner



planning notices

All planning applications must be in before 5pm Monday

tel: 468 5350
email: reception@echo.ie

South Dublin County Council

I MBG Distribution Ltd intend to apply for permission for development at this site, Lower Greenhills Road, Walkinstown, Dublin 12. The development will consist of use as a Vehicle Service & Repair Centre. The Planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. During its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.00pm, and may also be viewed on the council's website - www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of (20.00 euro) within the 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

Dublin City Council

I, Susan Lawlor, hereby apply to Dublin City Council for planning permission for the provision of off street parking by creating a vehicular entrance to the front garden of 1 Walkinstown Drive, Walkinstown, Dublin 12. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Dublin City Council, Planning Department, Block 4, Ground Floor, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8 during its public opening hours (9.00a.m. - 4.30p.m.). A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

South Dublin County Council

Denise Gibson & Jim Hughes are applying for 2 storey extension to gable end of existing dwelling 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 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) ACTS 1963 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1977 TO 1994

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WEEK ENDING AUGUST 25, 2023

<p>SD22A/0367 23 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Frank & Roslain Norton Location: Forgefield, Stocking Lane, Firhouse, Newtown, Dublin 16 Description: Construction of a new single storey detached sheltered dwelling (108sq.m) in the existing garden; Accommodation includes 1 bedroom, bathroom, living, kitchen / dining rooms with storage and utility spaces all at one level; Adjustment to the existing landscape layout to allow for 1 additional parking space, accessed using the existing vehicle entrance; Removal of the existing on-site septic tank and the installation of 2 new proprietary wastewater treatment units and new surface water soakways.</p>	<p>be constructed, south of the Coach House, white forming a new courtyard between the two buildings; This two-storey pitched roof building will house refurbished antique farm machinery in an exhibition of early farm equipment; The first-floor mezzanine will contain an audio-visual display area and open landings overlooking the ground floor exhibition space; The building will have a PV array at roof level; This building and adjacent landscaped areas will replace an existing car park area of 35 spaces; A new substation, switch room building with back-up generator enclosure will also be constructed as part of the works; All associated site works, plant spaces, civil and utility works and landscaping form part of the application; Belgard Castle is a Protected Structure Ref. 206 and a Recorded Monument Ref. SMR DU021-026.</p>	<p>in area; - Construction of a deck-access apartment development comprising 123 residential units arranged in 2 no. blocks (Block A 5 to 7 storeys and Block B 5 to 6 storeys) with a total floor area of c.9,806sqm including the proposed bike shelter (c.93sqm) and excluding deck access (c.901sqm); -Commercial floor space located at ground floor level facing Cookstown Road in Residential Block A (c.421sq.m); - The residential development consists of 58 no. 1 bed/2 person units, 12 no. 2 bed/3 person units and 53 no. 2 bed/4 person units with north, south, east and west facing balconies throughout and residents amenity area at ground floor level; - Central communal open space (c.1,303sq.m); -Provision of an ESB substation, switchboards, waste areas, water tanks and generator serving Blocks A and B; -Lobbies, stair/lifts, photovoltaic panels and green roofs throughout; -Partial provision of the pocket park identified in the Tallaght LAP (c.1,286sq.m); - New vehicular access from First Avenue and egress onto Cookstown Road via a one way system through the subject site; - All associated site development works, services provision, connection to the water supply, foul and surface water networks on First Avenue and Cookstown Road including partial diversion of the foul line to the north east of the site at First Avenue, temporary foul pump station, attenuation/bioretention systems, vehicular and pedestrian access including internal road and footpaths, pedestrian facilities/public realm upgrade works, landscape and boundary treatment works, tree removal, bicycle storage (302 no. total spaces) comprising 276 no. spaces (serving proposed mixed use development) and 26 no. spaces (serving concurrent transitional care facility application), car parking (32 no. total spaces) comprising 15 no. spaces (serving proposed mixed use development) and 17 no. spaces (serving concurrent transitional care facility application), 2 no loading bays (one each on First Avenue and Cookstown Road), 2 no. setdown/loading areas to the internal road and 1 no. ambulance setdown space serving the adjacent concurrent proposed Transitional Care Facility. The concurrent application has been made to South Dublin County Council regarding a 131 bed Transitional Care Facility on the western portion of the site (SDCC Ref SD22A/0361 refers) currently under appeal to An Bord Pleanála (ABP Ref 317394). SD23A/0202 21 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: Xilinx Ireland Unlimited Company Location: Xilinx Ireland Unlimited Company, Bianconi Avenue, Citywest Business Campus, Saggart, Dublin 24, D24T683 Description: Change of use of 3,397sqm of the existing interlinked complex of buildings of 18,984sqm from a mix of ancillary warehouse, packaging, logistics and research and development uses within part of the ground floor of Block E (2,952sqm) and part of the ground floor of Block G (445sqm) to office based industry that incorporates research and development, ancillary office, gym and other facilities related to the operation of the overall development. The development will include internal works only to facilitate the change of use. SD23A/0203 21 Aug 2023 Permission New Application Applicant: John Sisk & Son (Holdings) Ltd., Location: At Profile Park, To the South of the New Nangor Road (R134), Dublin 22 Description: Amendments to planning permission Reg. Ref.: SD21A/0241 as previously amended by Reg. Ref. SD23A/0035. The proposed amendments consist of the following the provision of a temporary, single storey, medium voltage ESB substation building (with a gross floor area of c. 39.5 sq.m), accessed from the estate road to the southeast. Associated landscaping and tree planting. All associated and ancillary works.</p>
<p>SD23A/0018 23 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: John Redmond Location: 13, Glenshane Lawns, Tallaght, Dublin 24 Description: Two storey two bedroom semi-detached house; Demolition of side rear extension to existing house.</p>	<p>SD23A/0096 21 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Rockface Developments Limited Location: Brownsbarn Drive, Citywest Business Campus, Dublin 24 Description: Provision of a warehouse with ancillary office and staff facilities and associated development. The warehouse will have a maximum height of 15.6 metres with a gross floor area of 4,136 sq. m including a warehouse area (3,713 sq. m) ancillary staff facilities (220 sq. m) and ancillary office area (203 sq. m). development will also include: a vehicular entrance/exit via Brownsbarn Drive; a pedestrian access via Brownsbarn Drive; 25 No. ancillary car parking spaces; bicycle parking; ancillary HGV yard; level access goods doors; dock levellers; access gates; hard and soft landscaping; lighting; boundary treatments; and all associated site development works above and below ground.</p>	
<p>SD23A/0061 24 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: CRH Group Services Ltd Location: Belgard Castle Demesne, Belgard Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22. Description: Demolition of an existing electrical switch room, boiler rooms and existing single storey office building and two associated modern extensions at the rear of the existing Coach House and Stables Buildings; Works to the Coach House and Stables Buildings (currently in office use) include the removal of existing modern interventions (internally & externally) and to restore the buildings to their earlier character when used as stables and coach house; Works include replacement of modern windows and doors with historically accurate ones, lime rendering of external walls, replacement of concrete roof tiles with natural slate and of modern gutters and downpipes; Some modern wall opes will be closed as blind windows; Internally, modern office layouts will be removed and replaced with earlier stables and loft layouts; The change of use of the buildings from office to exhibition/display spaces; Works to the derelict Gardener's Cottage will include its reconstruction based on photographic evidence to reflect its earlier appearance, while the modern windows and door will be removed from the adjacent Cart House to return it to its earlier form, all for use as exhibition/display spaces; Works to the existing two storey Finance Building include altering its south-eastern facade to align with a new courtyard dividing wall, replacing the existing facade with a new glazing system along with solid elements of render, stone & zinc cladding; The internal layout will be reordered to change the use of the ground floor from office to exhibition spaces with retained office and meeting spaces on the 1st floor in a revised layout; A new plant area enclosure with PV array at roof level; The ancillary building to its west will be redeveloped to include a kitchen area on the ground floor and WC facilities at first floor level with new areas of roof and wall in zinc cladding; An existing single storey storage building will be redeveloped and extended for use as a staff office with meeting room, kitchenette, storage room, and WC spaces; A new exhibition building (Machinery Shed) will</p>	<p>SD23A/0119 22 Aug 2023 Permission Additional Information Applicant: Shared Access Ltd Location: Tallaght Leisure Centre, Fortunestown Way, Tallaght, Co. Dublin Description: The installation of a roof mounted telecommunications apparatus comprised of antenna, transmission dishes, radio equipment cabinets and all associated site works.</p>	
	<p>SD22A/0384 23 Aug 2023 Permission Clarification of Additional Information Applicant: Eir (Eircom Limited) Location: Eir, Esker Lane, Lucan, Co. Dublin. Description: The construction of multi-operator telecommunications infrastructure comprised of a 21m monopole (overall structure height of 22 metres), antennas, dishes and associated equipment, together with new ground level equipment cabinets, new fencing, landscaping and all associated site works.</p>	
	<p>LRD23A/0010 25 Aug 2023 Permission LRD3-Application Applicant: Bartra Property Cookstown Limited Location: Unit 21, First Avenue, Cookstown Industrial Estate, Dublin 24 Description: Demolition of all existing 1-3 storey industrial / commercial structures and small caf? on site totalling c.5,500sqm</p>	

Contact **The Echo** to have a planning notification published
Call **468 5350** or email reception@echo.ie

family notices

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BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Kenny, Martin and Kevin
In loving memory of Martin whose 41st Birthday occurs 8th September. Also remembering his brother Kevin whose 43rd Birthday occurs 11th September. Late of Ballyfermot. Also remembering their nephew Jack.

*There is a beautiful place in the sky up above,
That's filled with laughter and lots of love,
A party is happening that we cannot attend,
So bundles of love is all we can send.*

*We have lovely memories of when you both were here,
Happiness and laughter and the odd pint of beer,
You'll never be forgotten by your family and friends,
We'll keep the craic going 'till we meet again.
So party without us, you're with all your friends,
We'll join you both when our life on earth ends,
Until that day comes, we send all our love,
To Kevin and Martin our two sons above.*

Happy Birthday Kevin and Martin. Hugs and Kisses from Mam, Dad, Samantha, Jonathan, Jack, Rosie & Sadie, Karen, Stephen, Siobhán, Halle, Harper and Hunter. xxxxx

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.C.

ANNIVERSARY



Fields, Mary
In loving memory of our dear Ma, Nannie & Great-Nannie whose 7th Anniversary occurred on the 5th of September. Also remembering our da Paul and their great-granddaughter Pennie May Doyle.

*When your beautiful heart stopped beating,
Our hearts just broke in two,
Knowing there will never be,
Another one like you.
Each day we look to heaven,
Each day we call your name,
Each day just feels so different,
It hasn't been the same each day.*

*We always question, we often wonder,
Why you had to go away from us,
Our angel in the sky,
We keep you in our memories,
Since we have been apart,
And we will always have a part of you,
Locked safely in our hearts.
Always loved and missed from your Sons, Daughters, Son-in-law, Daughters-in-law, Grandkids and Great-Grandkids.*

Nanny
*Always a smile instead of a frown,
Always a hand when one was down,
Always true, thoughtful, and kind,
Wonderful memories our Nanny left behind.
Love always Michelle, Bubbles, Ellie, Joanna & Poppie. xx*

Nanny
*They say that hearts don't really break,
Dear Jesus, that's not true,
The day they took our Nanny away,
My heart broke in two.
Love always Deborahagh, Brian, Maggie & Maisie. xx*

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. M.C.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



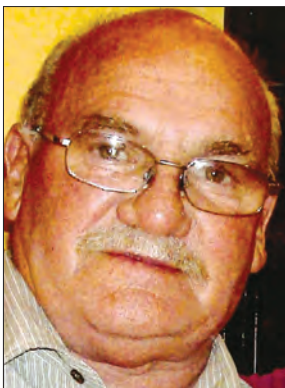
Jones, Bridget
7th Birthday away from home occurs 7th September. Loving Wife, Mother & Grandmother. Late of Homelawn Road. Also remembering our father Eddie at this time.

Mam
*There is a bridge of golden memories,
From here to heaven above,
It keeps you within all our hearts,
It's called the bridge of love.
Forever missed Mam. Love Anthony, Joanne, Zara & Lea. xx*

Mam
*You hold a spot deep in my heart,
Where the sun will always shine,
For there will never be another to me,
Like that wonderful Mam of mine.
From your loving son Adrian, wife Deirdre & grandson Dylan. xx*

Mam
*If I could have a lifetime wish,
A dream that could come true,
I'd pray to God with all my heart.
For another day with you.
From your loving son Derek. xx*

ANNIVERSARY



Smyth, Sammy
11th Anniversary away from home, September 13th.

*Those special memories of you,
Will always bring a smile,
If only we 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 too.
The fact that you're no longer here,
Will always cause us pain,
But you're forever in our hearts,
Until we meet again.
Your loving wife Carol, daughters Dawn, Sharon, Tracey and Tammy, Sons-in-law and Grandchildren.*

ANNIVERSARY



Gaffney, May
41st Anniversary occurs. In loving memory of our dear mother May, who died 10th September 1982. Also, our dear father Johnny, who died 21st September 1991. Late of Blackditch Road, Ballyfermot. Also remembering our brothers Gerard, John and Harry.

*We travel to your graveside,
And picture your faces so clear,*

*In silence we stand in sorrow,
For the parents we love so dear,
The flowers we place upon it,
Will wither and decay,
But the love we buried with you both,
Will never fade away.
Always remembered from your loving daughters May and Carol, sons-in-law Larry and Maurice, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and Great-Great-Grandchildren.*

NOVENA

Novena to St. Clare

Ask St. Clare for 3 favours, 1 business, 2 impossible. Say 9 Hail Marys for 9 nights with lighted candle. Pray whether you believe or not. Publish on the ninth day. Powerful Novena. Say "May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, adored, glorified and loved, today and every day, throughout the whole world, AMEN". Say 6 times every day for 9 days. Your request will be granted, no matter how impossible it may seem. Publication must be promised. M.M.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Comerford, Eileen
Remembering a loving Wife, Mother and Nana. Whose 85th Birthday occurs on September 9th 2023.

1st Birthday in your heavenly home
*You're no longer here but you're not alone,
Enjoy your special day with dad there,
We'll celebrate as well, so know we still care,
You're loved so much and especially today,
Happy Birthday to you on your first one away,
Sending love and light till we meet again.*

Also remembering her husband Patrick and son-in-law Emmett. Loved and remembered every day. Sandra, Martina, Brenda, Sean and Sinead, John, Damien, Paul and Sharon, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren. xxx

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Hopson, Mary Ellen
Whose 96th Birthday occurs on the 9th of September. 2nd Birthday from home.

Happy Birthday Mam
*Our lives go on without you,
But nothing is the same,
We have to hide our heartache,
When someone speaks your name,
Sad are the hearts that love you,
Silent are the tears that fall,
Living here without you,
Is the hardest part of all,
You did so many things for us,
Your heart was kind and true,
And when we needed someone,
We could always count on you,
The special years will not return,
When we are all together,
But with the love in our hearts,
You walk with us forever.
Love always from your daughters Bernie, Ann, Pauline and Sharon, your Grandchildren and your Great-Grandchildren. xxx*

ANNIVERSARY



Reid, Austin
Remembering Austin on his 5th Anniversary, occurs September 11th. A wonderful Husband, Father, Grandfather, Great-Grandfather and Friend to many.

*Always a smile, instead of a frown,
Always a hand, if someone was down.
Always true, thoughtful and kind,
Wonderful memories you left behind.*

Eternally missed by his ever loving wife May and his adoring Family.

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel

O most beautiful Flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein that you are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart, to succor me in this my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power. O show me herein that you are my Mother. O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us that have recourse to thee. (3 times). Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. (3 times) P.J.

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.

St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities. I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. B.G.

family notices

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ANNIVERSARY



Moore (nee Gaule), Mary
5th Anniversary of a loving Wife, Mother & Grandmother occurs 8th September 2023. Late of Lindisfarne Drive & Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow.

Wife in Heaven

Although you sleep in heaven now,
You're not that far away,
My heart is full of memories,
And you're with me every day,
You lived your life with meaning,
And with a smile upon your face,
A world that was full of happiness,
Is now an empty place,
People say that only time,
Will heal a broken heart,
But just like me and you,
It has been torn apart,
I know you are at peace now,
And in a place where you are free,
Meet me at the pearly gates,
When heaven calls for me.

Loved and remembered by your loving husband Dell and family. xxx

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.
Always remembered and loved by your mother Phyllis. xxx

Mum

I still see your face before me,
Your voice I long to hear,
We miss and love you dearly,
God knows we wish you were here,
Tears fall freely from my eyes,
Like a river filled with grief,

My only comfort now is that,
I know you're free from pain.
Every year gets harder. We miss you so much and love you so much, love your son Matthew, Megan, Alfie, Grayson & Indie Mary. xx

Mam

The moment that you died,
My heart was torn in two,
One side filled with heartache,
The other died with you,
I often lie awake at night,
When the world is fast asleep,
And take a walk down memory lane,
With tears upon my cheeks.
Remembering you is easy,
I do it every day,
But missing you is heartache,
That never goes away.

I hold you tightly within my heart,
And there you will remain,
Until the joyous day arrives,
That we will meet again.
We love and miss you every day, love Mick, Janice, Glen & Gavin.

Sister

I thought I knew what heartache was,
I didn't have a clue,
I found out the hard way Mary,
The day that I lost you.
They say that hearts don't really break,
Sweet Jesus that's not true,
So if you see me crying,
Or looking very sad,
Tell Mary I can't help it,
I miss her really bad.

Love & miss you R.I.P., Bee, Jody & Family.

Mary

Softly in the morning,
You heard a gentle call,
You took the hand god offered you,
And quietly left us all,
The day you left us Mary,
Our hearts were broke in two,
The smallest part is still with us,
And the biggest part with you.
Always loved & missed, Julie, John & Family. xxx

Mary

Gone are the days we used to share,
But in our hearts you're always there,
The gates of memory will never close,
We miss you more than anyone knows,
With tender love and deep regret,
We who love you will never forget.
Always loved & missed, Dee, Alan & Family.

ANNIVERSARY



Price, Jade
2nd Anniversary occurs 9th September 2023.

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew it,
And only God knows why.
Our hearts still ache in sadness,
And secret tears still flow,
What it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.
From your loving Mam, Sisters, Niece, Grandad, Aunts, Uncles & Cousins.

Our wonderful Mum we miss you so much,
Your beautiful smile and your loving touch,
We miss your voice and beautiful face,
We miss not having your warm embrace.
We talk about you every day,
And how much we miss you in every way,
We love and miss you so much Mam.

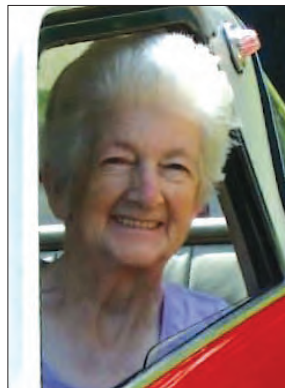
From your heartbroken Son Johnny and heartbroken Daughter Alisha. xx

2nd Anniversary of my beautiful niece Jade – Two years

Two years may have gone by,
But there's not a day I don't wish,
I could hear your voice or see your beautiful smile.

Loved and missed every minute of every day, your loving aunty Sandra. xx

ANNIVERSARY



Davis, Winnie
In loving memory of Winnie Davis. 2nd Anniversary away from home. Late of Avonbeg Road, Tallaght.

You can only have one mother,
Patient, kind and true,
No other friend in all the world,
Will be the same to you.
When other friends forsake you,
To mother you will return,
For all her loving kindness,
She asks nothing in return.
As we look upon her picture,
Sweet memories we recall,
Of a face so full of sunshine,
And a smile for one and all.
Sweet Jesus take this message,
To our dear mother up above,
Tell her how we miss her,
And give her all our love.
Sadly missed by her loving family, Carmel, Michael, Grant, Michelle, Adam, Shannon, Rachel and Lily.

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 D.D.

ANNIVERSARY



Murphy, Larry
3rd Anniversary occurred 5th September.

I miss you more than words can say,
As time goes by my emptiness grows,
I laugh I talk I play my part,
But behind my smile is a broken heart.
Miss and love you so much, your loving wife Rita.

Dad/Grandad

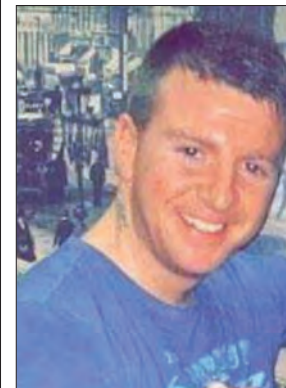
You are always on our minds,
And forever in our hearts,
We think of you in silence,
And talk about you too,
We have lots of lovely treasured memories,
How we wish we still had you.
Sadly missed Clinton, Sonya, Leon, Elle and Kloe.

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.

ANNIVERSARY



Farrell, Carl
6th Anniversary occurs 7th September.

The days seem a little darker,
Since we have been apart,
The light has somehow faded,
Within my broken heart.
When I see a rainbow,
With the colours shining through,
I see a bridge up to heaven,
That will lead me back to you.
From your heartbroken Mother, partner Karl and sister Alisha, Brothers & Kids.

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.

NOVENA

Thanksgiving Prayer

O mother of Perpetual help with grateful hearts, we join you in thanking God for all the wonderful things he has done for us. God our Creator we thank you for the gift of life and all the gifts of nature, our senses and faculties, our talents and abilities. We thank you for creating us in your own image and likeness and for giving us the earth to use and develop to rule and control. Despite our failures you continue to show your love for us by increasing the life of your spirit in us. Finally we thank you loving father for giving us Mary, the mother of your son to be our mother of Perpetual help. We are grateful for all past favours received through her intercession. We pray that these past favours may inspire us to greater confidence to seek the aid of our Mother of Perpetual help Amen. G.G.

NOVENA

Thanksgiving Prayer

O mother of Perpetual help with grateful hearts, we join you in thanking God for all the wonderful things he has done for us. God our Creator we thank you for the gift of life and all the gifts of nature, our senses and faculties, our talents and abilities. We thank you for creating us in your own image and likeness and for giving us the earth to use and develop to rule and control. Despite our failures you continue to show your love for us by increasing the life of your spirit in us. Finally we thank you loving father for giving us Mary, the mother of your son to be our mother of Perpetual help. We are grateful for all past favours received through her intercession. We pray that these past favours may inspire us to greater confidence to seek the aid of our Mother of Perpetual help Amen. G.G.

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Echo Sport

Deputy Sports Editor: William O'Connor

Thursday, September 7, 2023

New appointments made at Tallaght Rugby Club

IT'S been a summer of change for Tallaght Rugby Club. Some great people have moved on for various reasons after making invaluable contributions to the club.

Others have shifted roles and some former players have stepped up to coaching and committee roles.

Martina Fitzpatrick has moved from Women's Developer officer and stalwart player to become the first female Director of rugby in the club's history.

"Taking on the role of Director of Rugby was not an easy decision for me but I felt I had done all I could as Women's Development Officer so the move felt right this year. It's an honour to have been voted in, especially as I'm the first woman to do so for Tallaght Rugby.

"Although we are a small club we have big plans and the committee is working hard to make those plans a reality. All the committee have full time jobs so it shows their love of the club to give up a large amount of their free time to Tallaght RFC.

"My main focus this year is Recruitment for all teams. Specifically our club cannot grow without bringing the Youth Section on and the club is currently out and about in the Tallaght area holding free fun sessions called "Rugby on the Green" where we pick a green and invite children of all ages to take part in some rugby based fun activities! Tallaght is not known for rugby and we want to change that!

"I am looking forward to the season ahead and I hope I look back in April next year and can feel proud of what was achieved by myself and the great club that is Tallaght Rugby!"

Former skipper Adam Nolan has been named as the men's first team head coach.

"For me it's a massive honour to take over as Tallaght's head coach. From starting in the club as a youth player to becoming head coach it's an incredible honour. My hope for the season ahead is to help grow and develop the men's section with the hope of ending the

season with silverware. The team has shown over the years the great quality in the squad, but there is an added challenge of losing some experienced players. But so far through pre-season the growth and learning has been excellent with players really stepping up.

John Cowan continues in the key role of Manager of the men's seconds team while Tom Hall is continuing in the role of Youth Development Officer.

"I took on the role of Youth Development Officer two years ago. Tallaght was formed with youth in mind and has grown numbers significantly in the youth section in recent years. There is a thriving minis section for boys and girls under 12 and Tallaght is playing 15 a side youth rugby at under 13s and under 14s this season. Competition for players is a challenge with the amount of soccer and GAA clubs in the area. However, we have forged a wonderful culture at the club which keeps the youth in the area coming back.

"We work with the local schools and together with Leinster organise schools blitzes throughout the year. We are always open to new players of all ages and abilities to join us. We also have opportunities for coaches to join the club for the youth section."

Stephen Heaney has moved from the Director of Rugby role to take over as Chairman,

"It's a huge honor to be trusted with the Chairman role, I'm excited to continue building on the great work others before me have done and hopefully maintain the momentum to secure our "forever home".

"There's a lot of exciting things happening in the club. To mention a few, the youth section is growing massively thanks to the great work of the YDO team and volunteer coaches. Our women's team is moving up to Div 4 after winning Div 5 last season and it will be great to see how they get on at the higher level. I'm looking forward to seeing how the men's teams go this year with the all-new coaching team made up of past players from the club



Tallaght rugby's Martina Fitzpatrick is the club's female Director of rugby in Tallaght

Adam Nolan and Ciaran Rudd.

Going into our 20th year as a club we truly do have a bright future ahead! We're providing a fantastic service to our members and local community. I'd like to thank all the volunteers for their hard work, it's not said enough but it's massively appreciated and we wouldn't be where we are without their tireless hard work. We've had some recent challenges along the way, pitch vandalism, covid-19, lack of grounds

and resources but I'm very hopeful we're on an upward trajectory and will continue to grow together as a club".

Ken McGovern is another player who has retired but has taken the role of Honorary Secretary. Luke Tyrell and Emma Louise Keogh will continue in the roles of Treasurer and Public Relations Officer respectively. It's an exciting time across the club and they're eager to have more people join them on their journey.

Weekend of boxing held by Westside



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Davis junior hurlers hit the right note



page 60

Rovers player joins French league side



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Thrilling finish to Lucan Harriers 5km

A THRILLING finish to the Lucan 5km on Sunday saw Peter Somba of Dunboyne AC catching Mick Clohisey of Raheny Shamrock AC with about 100 metres to go and then holding on for victory in a sprint for the line.

Somba's time was 25 minutes 5 seconds, with Clohisey just one second behind. Third in 25:28 was David Scanon of Rathfarnham WSAF AC in 25:28.

Laura Buckley made it a

Dunboyne double when she finished first woman in 30:35, with Aisling O'Connor of Rathfarnham WSAF AC second in 31:33 and Breda Smyth of host club Lucan Harriers third and first W50 in 34:39. In a closely fought men's team competition, Lucan Harriers and Raheny Shamrock AC both finished on 50 points.

With Cillian Murphy 11th, Alex O'Brien 18th, and Will Byrne 21st, Lucan won on count-back.

No such drama in the

women's team competition where with Breda Smyth third, Ana Barbu fourth and Anne Whelan seventh, Lucan Harriers were comfortable winners ahead of Navan AC and Waterstown Warriors.

A new Lucan-based club called Wolfpack RC was a close fourth. Other Dublin clubs represented included Donore Harriers, Civil Service AC, Crusaders AC, Love2Run AC, Sanctuary Runners, Polish Runners Club Ireland, Esker Running Group and Blackrock AC.



Lucan Harriers committee

Martial Arts

Tallaght Martial Arts shine on Kickboxing international stage

THE WAKO Junior European Kickboxing Championships were held last week in Istanbul, Turkey where 17 athletes from Tallaght Martial Arts made up a large part of the Irish Kickboxing Team.

TMA represented their club and their country superbly all week, fighting brilliantly throughout the tournament.

Cillian McArdle was the outstanding performer for the Irish Team winning Gold in a very tough -52kg division. After a tense battle in the final, which was all level in the first round, Cillian tactically adapted showing a wide range of skills and superior fitness with a very strong second round defeating a strong Bulgarian fighter, making Cillian the new European Champion -52kg.

Edward Comerford came home with a hard-earned silver medal after a very tight and exciting fight which saw two very talented athletes fighting right to the last second.

Unfortunately Edward was pipped by one-point in the final seconds losing to the current World Champion. Edward also won a bronze medal in his light contact division, a very talented young athlete bringing home two medals from the Championships.

The next TMA finalist was Eoin Finn - after a very tough semi-final which saw him score an amazing head kick in the last seconds earning him a place in the final, Eoin unfortunately lost out to a GB fighter in a tactical hard-fought final securing him a silver medal.

Cian Colvin from TMA was exceptional in all his performances during the week which saw him win a very well-deserved bronze medal. Cian will also be representing Ireland in the WAKO Senior World Championships later this year.

The club also saw some great performances by Dillon King, Callum O'Connor, Leo Golding, Lisa McCabe, Naman Shrivastava, Ellen McCaughey, Amy Comerford, Isabel Golding, Reece Doyle, Eryn Birkhead, Nathan Clarke, Dara Kelly Clarke and Anna White.

TMA head coaches Martin Bannon and Dave Heffernan said "We are very proud of our junior team, all athletes gave one hundred percent both in their preparation and their performances this week. This is the top level of our sport where winning one fight is tough, winning a medal is remarkable, and winning the European title is just outstanding"



Cillian and Ciaran McArdle

Athletics

Good results for Donore athletes

AMAZING result over the weekend from Kerry native Sorcha Loughnane in the Kerry Way Ultra lite, a race incorporating 58km of the Kerry way and many gruelling uphills.

Starting at Sneem and finishing at Killarney racecourse, Sorcha was the outright winner of the race so beat all the men and women in The field, in a time of 5.17.51

Meanwhile, at the Lucan Harriers five-mile, three Donore Harriers athletes participated in the second annual Lucan AC 5 mile.

On a very sunny day this was a good course with a one-mile section run along the Grand Canal, the race finished with a lap of the club's tartan track.

The club had two runners who made the top 10 with Gavin Keogh and Alasdair Brown finishing neck and neck on 9th and 10th in and identical

time of 28.52.

Ken McKeown finished in 35.48 with the race was won overall in a sprint finish by Peter Somba (Dunboyne) from Mick Clohisey (Raheny Shamrock).

Elsewhere, fresh from her national marathon fourth place last week and national W50 record, Barbara Cleary was back in action in Mayo this week for the Ireland West three quarter marathon in Swinford East Mayo. She finished a very impressive 2nd female and 4th overall in 2.06.09

Josh O'Sullivan Hourihan had another weekend of orienteering competition this time in the Falkirk area of Scotland in a series of races over the shorter distances in a two-day event and he was overall pleased with his performances as he builds towards the European championship.

GAA

Boden girls bounce back in championship

AFTER the disappointment of losing the opening Championship match away to Kilmacud Crokes in the opening round, Ballyboden St Enda's senior ladies team bounced back in the championship with a 3-15 to 4-9 victory over St Sylvester's.

Having beaten the Malahide outfit comfortably in the League earlier in the season, however Sylvester's had Dublin players Kate Sullivan, Sinead Aherne and Danielle Lawless as well as former county star Niamh McEvoy for this clash.

It was Dubs player Kate Sullivan who opened the scoring for the visitors with a nice right footed point, however it was Boden who looked the more threatening in the opening quarter with Natalia Hyland, Ciara Ruddy and Claire Kirwan in particular standing out.

The Firhouse Road side defence had to be on their game with Aherne and

particularly Sullivan looking dangerous with the hosts leading 0-11 to 0-4 at the break.

With a point from a free from Natalia Hyland closely followed by a goal from her sister Hannah within the opening two minutes of the second period, there looked like there was no way back for the seaisiders with a 11 points deficit.

That wasn't the case however as goal after goal began to liven up the game, with Rebecca McDonnell and Kate Donaghy goaling for Boden and Syl's awarded a penalty which Sinead Aherne slotted home and Kate Sullivan adding a brace towards the end of the game which meant that the margin for the last couple of minutes was down to 3 points.

However, Boden hung on with Natalia Hyland accounting for seven points while Hyland, Rebecca McDonnell and Kate Donaghy finding the net.



Ballyboden Senior Ladies bounced back in the championship with a win in their second game



Claire Kirwan on the run for Ballyboden



Ballyboden's Julie Vaughan takes on the St Sylvester's defence
Photos by Cliona Mellett

Motorsport

Daire is flying in Junior Saloon C'ship

DAIRE Flock is leading the Junior Saloon Car Championship in the UK, after competing at Croft and Snetterton respectively.

16-year-old Croft from Tallaght was in action in North Yorkshire, near Darlington for the next round of the JSCC series.

With the forecast for changeable weather conditions and this being one of Daire's favorite tracks he was aiming for the win.

In qualifying, it was going to be damp after a short shower, with a breeze and the sun coming out the track was dry before the end of the session.

With a slow start Daire, managed to post the two fastest laps putting him in pole position for both races by half a second.

Race 1, Daire got the start he needed from pole position and lead in to the fast corner and pushed to make a gap of one second.

Maintaining the gap Daire crossed the line by 1.5 seconds ahead to record his 10th win of the season and secure the fastest lap.

Race 2 again Daire lead from the start and this race was a little closer with second keeping his mirrors full for the first couple of laps.

With a safety car deployed it meant a 3-lap dash to the flag. Daire got the jump on the restart and maintained the pace to take the chequered flag for his second win.

Snetterton in Norfolk held the next round, with both races on Saturday, so qualifying was going to be important to get good grid positions.

After the 15 minute dash, Daire posted the fastest lap to take pole and second fastest in Race 2.

Race 1, Daire got the perfect start to lead the pack into the first corner and held the lead until a safety car was deployed to an stranded car.

With very little time left the safety car took the cars to the chequered flag with Daire leading the way. Race 2, Daire started second and lost the lead

Sixteen year old Tallaght teenager Daire Flock is leading the Junior Saloon Car Championship



into the first corner, but regained it down the backstraight, with second pushing for the lead Daire continued to lead until oil was spilled onto the track by another competitor.

This caused Daire to spin handing the lead to second place. Daire battled to retake the lead, but

the leader defended to the line to take the win.

Daire said "it was great to get back to winning ways after Thruxton to take the double at Croft and to win at Snetterton, I hope to continue getting podiums to maximise my points for the championship as it's double points at the last round

at Brands Hatch it's important to get points and gain a good lead from second in the championship"

With Daire's 11th win of the season, this puts him 19 points ahead in the championship, still 7 races to go with Silverstone in 2 weeks, it's all still to play for with the other competitors close behind.

Boxing

Exceptional weekend of boxing hosted by Westside



Nathan Okikiolu (Westside BC), Youth One 66kg champion, with Frank and Christine Stacey

AROUND 300 boxers competed in an "exceptional weekend of boxing" as Westside Boxing Club hosted boxers from around Ireland and Europe in the inaugural Emerald Box Cup, reports Hayden Moore.

Taking place over three days, the Emerald Box Cup was hosted in Tallaght Leisure Centre with 300 boxers from the UK, France, Poland, Ukraine, Lithuania, Sweden travelling over.

Upwards of 40 boxing clubs were represented across the weekend, and promoter Frank Stacey was delighted with how the first ever edition of the Emerald Box Cup turned out.

"It was an exceptional weekend of boxing, you had 15-year-olds all the way up to elite level boxers boxing very competitively in Tallaght," Stacey, from Westside Boxing Club, tells *The Echo*.

"The feedback that we've gotten has been brilliant, we had a great venue as well in Tallaght Leisure Centre, we're very proud with how it turned out.

"I've been at box cups all around the world and I can honestly say that Emerald Box Cup was up there with them.

"It brings some of the best boxers around into



Olympic Boxing Club, Emerald Box Cup Club of the Tournament

Tallaght, we're hoping to go again and make it a regular thing."

Westside BC had six competitors boxing in the tournament, with Nathan Okikiolu a standout performer as he boxed his way to the Youth One 66kg title.

Matthew Reilly was named Youth Two 50kg champion and Zana Palani secured the 81kg senior title, while their clubmate Danny Fakoyede secured the super heavyweight title.

Across the weekend, there was also boxers from Crumlin BC, Nutgrove BC and Whitechurch BC in Dublin competing.

European champion Eric Donovan and Irish heavyweight boxer Thomas Carty presented prizes across the weekend.

Olympic Boxing Club from Mullingar were named Emerald Box Cup Club of the Tournament after claiming a haul of nine gold medals from 10 boxers.

Meanwhile, Stacie Goldthorpe, from Wildcard ABC in the Saint Helens, was named best female boxer and Scott O'Sullivan from Golden Gloves BC in Cork was named best male boxer.



Tara Mari (Nutgrove BC) with Stephen Connolly (EUBC Referee and Judges committee), Anna Moore (St Francis BC), Karen Robins, Phillip Rooney (international referee) and Paddy Jennings (Palmerstown BC)

GAA

Davis junior hurlers hit the right note



Stephen O'Toole of Thomas Davis

Photo Donal O'Toole

THOMAS Davis junior one hurlers made it back to back wins on Sunday as they beat Round Towers Lusk comprehensively in the Junior C championship 8-17 to 2-2.

It was all one-way traffic from early on as the home side struggled to keep out a couple of early goals by Tallaght Person of the Year Zak Moradi and Anto Deasey. With the Davis forwards putting in a big score on the day with Zak Moradi (2-3) Dean Gibbons (2-7) and Glenn Brogan (1-4) all contributing well throughout. In defense, Scott McKeown and Aaron Kilpatrick put in good displays along with David Horan and Jordy McGrath in midfield.

Thomas Davis will take on Na Gael Oige in the last group game with the winner going through to the quarter finals.

Meanwhile Thomas Davis junior 2 hurlers drew with Kilmacud crokes in the F championship. They rescued a draw after coming back from nine points down at half time. Good performances on the day from Sam Stewart (0-3), Ray Riordan, Aaron Rafferty and Fran Kevlehan (0-2).

Faughs lose out as Lucan win again



Action from Faughs c'ship match

FAUGHS senior hurlers went down to Na Fianna 4-30 to 1-10 in Round Four of the Senior Hurling Championship with a storming second half in Parnell Park at the weekend.

Colin Currie, Sean Currie and Shane Barrett chipped in with points as Na Fianna seized early control, with Faughs hanging onto their coattails thanks to scores by Carl O'Mahony, James O'Brien and Sean McDonald.

A John Tierney goal in the 27th minute extended Na Fianna's lead but Fergal Heavey tapped home two minutes later to reduce Faughs' deficit to 1-15 to 1-7 by the break.

Peter Feeney doubled the Na Fianna goal tally in the 34th minute as last year's beaten finalists reaffirmed their dominance through late goals from substitute Sean Baxter and Ciaran Stacey.

In O'Toole Park, Lucan Sarsfields completed their group campaign on a positive note as they claimed their fourth successive win when overcoming a battling Whitehall Colmcille by 3-19 to 1-20.

The damage was done in the first-half as goals by Ben Coffey, Chris O'Leary and Charlie Keher pushed Lucan six points clear with Eoghan O'Donnell netting for Whitehall to leave his side trailing by 3-8 to 1-10 at half-time.

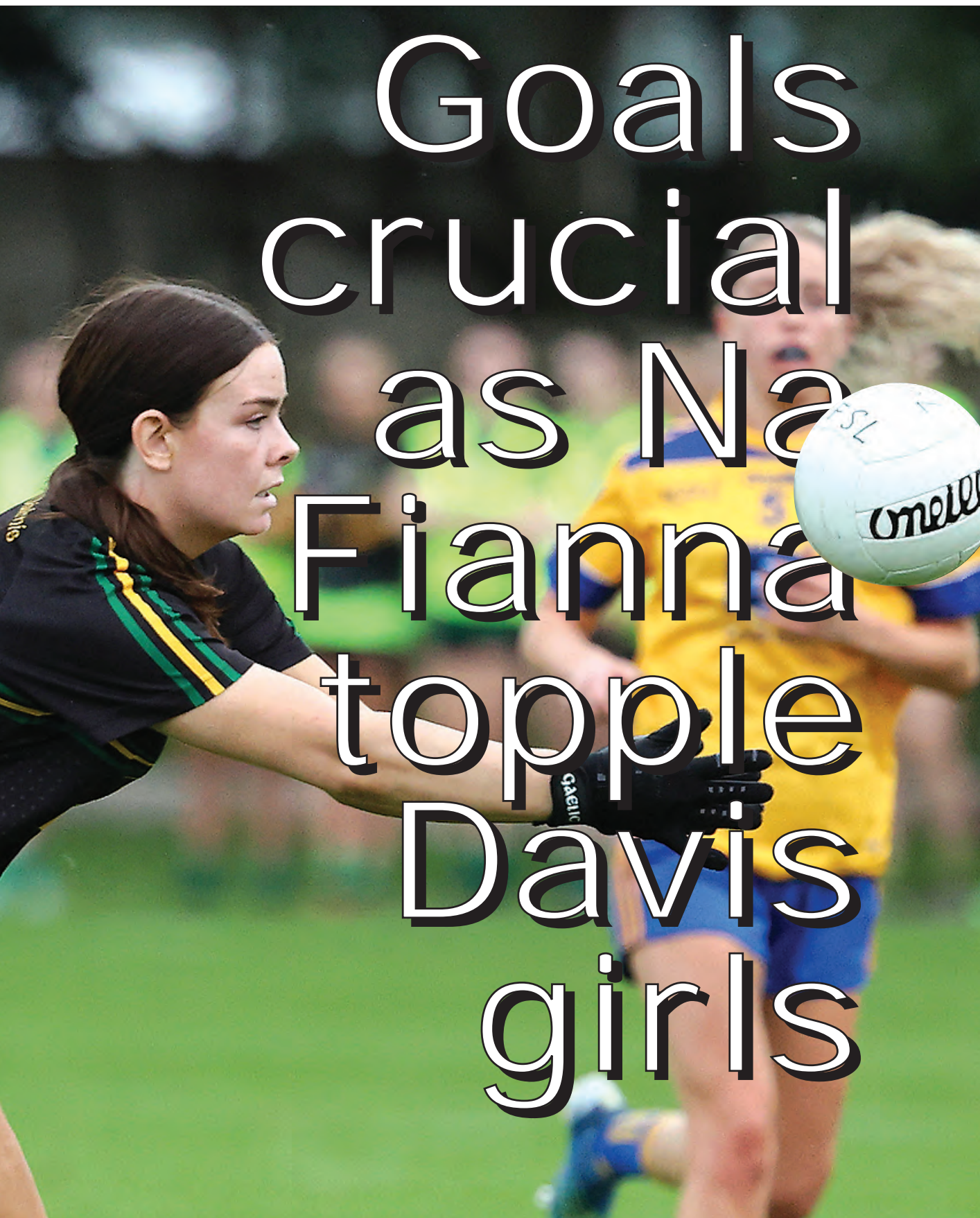
O'Donnell finished with 1-3 from play but his efforts and those of Niall Carroll, Derry Noonan, Daire Gray and Sean Kellett proved in vain for Colmcille by the final whistle.

Hannah Tyrrell tries to get the ball from the Thomas Davis keeper Lauren Young during the Go-Ahead Dublin SFC Round 2 match

Photos by Maurice Grehan SportsClubServices.ie



Thomas Davis were well beaten by Na Fianna in Kiltpper Road



Goals crucial as Na Fianna topple Davis girls

Kiltipper Road side find the going tough in c'ship

NA FIANNA delivered an exceptional team performance when enjoying a comprehensive twenty-three point victory, 4-23 to 0-8 over a disappointing Thomas Davis in their Dublin Senior Championship Group B encounter at Kiltipper Road.

The large crowd assembled were hopeful of a repeat of last year's thrilling semi-final clash but those wishes went unanswered as the visitors seized the initiative from the first whistle with the winning margin an accurate barometer of their supremacy on the night.

From the moment that Hannah Tyrrell opened the scoring when converting a 2nd minute free, there was an intensity to the Na Fianna play that left their opponents chasing shadows for the large part.

Lucy Collins doubled that lead two minutes later with a cracking score off her left foot and her midfield partnership with Eilish O'Dowd allowed the visitors to remain on the front foot throughout.

Tyrrell kicked a score from play soon after and Na Fianna's lightning quick start was rewarded even further as Emma Deeley raced through before unselfishly placing Laura Grendon for a well-taken goal.

The hosts had enjoyed some sporadic moments of pressure at the opposite end and finally opened their account through a Ciara McGuigan free in the 8th minute but it proved an isolated moment of encouragement as they played second fiddle for the remainder of the half.

Points followed for Na Fianna through Tyrrell, lively half-back Orla Martin and Grendon while Collins kicked another sumptuous point as we entered the second quarter.

A fine save from Lauren Young denied Grendon in the 18th minute and Thomas Davis drew encouragement from that let-off as they showcased their attacking play with a fine Sinead Deegan point in the 21st minute.

McGuigan tagged on a free to offer further grounds of optimism for the hosts but their opponents regained their authority towards the end of the half with points by O'Dowd, Grendon and Tyrrell leaving them 1-12 to 0-3 clear by half-time.

Any hopes that the hosts would claw their way back into contention upon the restart were dealt a massive blow in the 32nd minute as Collie Casey was sin-binned and Na Fianna showed their ruthless nature to kick further ahead.

Grendon netted her second goal from a Tyrrell pass in the 36th minute while Karla Conway and Tyrrell added points to re-enforce the Glasnevin side's control.

Thomas Davis continued to battle and enjoyed some sustained periods of possession that yielded frees for McGuigan but by that point, O'Dowd had raced through unopposed before unleashing an unstoppable finish to the roof of Young's net.

Two late goals stuns Tower's minors



ROUND Tower conceded two late goals to lose the match against Whitehall Colmcille's

ROUND Tower minor footballers conceded two goals in the space of a minute in injury time as they were edged out by Whitehall Colmcille's 2-10 to 0-12 in the championship at Monastery Road on Sunday.

The Clondalkin side looked to have had the edge in this contest when they were five points to the good with 10 minutes to go with good points from Ben Casey at full leading the way with a couple of good points.

Casey helped himself to seven points in total for the home team while Charlie

Kennedy also got in on the scoring act as Tower's looked in the driving seat.

Rory Broderick at centre back put in a good shift for the Clondalkin outfit as did Jack Minihan at midfield and wing back Matthew Beehan.

On the 60th minute, Tower's were 0-12 to 0-9 in front but they allowed Whitehall straight through for two crucial goals to see them secure a dramatic late win.

It will be back to the drawing board for Tower's who take on Skerries Harps in the next round in two week time in the group stages.



Kenny Ward, (Head of PE dept.), Senan Nolan (Firhouse Community College principal), Noel Gallagher (Teacher/Gaelic Football coach) and Diarmuid Raleigh (PE teacher) receiving a set of GAA jerseys from Lee Moroney of CoachApproach for the new school GAA season ahead in 2023/2024

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Soccer



NUMBER ONE: Captain Ronan Finn celebrates scoring for Rovers against Bohemians.

Photos by Mark McDermott

Rovers drive for four

Defending champs remain on track for another league title

SHAMROCK Rovers drive for a fourth SSE Airtricity League of Ireland Premier Division title could pick up another major boost when they take on title challengers Derry City in the Ryan McBride Brandywell Stadium on Friday, reports Hayden Moore.

The Hoops are at the summit of the table, currently seven points clear of both Derry and St Patrick's Athletic. Stephen Bradley's men extended their lead at the top after coming out best in a Dublin Derby double header last Friday night.

In winning three-nil against Bohemian, and with the Saints slipping to a 1-2 defeat against Shelbourne, Rovers quashed any permutations which had their lead narrowed to the minimum.

With St Pat's not in action due to their run the FAI Cup, the Tallaght side have an opportunity to further extend their advantage at the top of the table to 10 points with six games to play.

In the three league meetings so far this season, Rovers have won twice since the Candystripes got the better of them in March.

On that occasion, Ben Doherty and Jamie McGonigle scored to cancel out a Johnny Kenny goal at Tallaght Stadium and take all three points.

That fixtures fell in the middle of a slump in form at the beginning of the season in which Rovers failed to win in their opening six games.

Ruaidhrí Higgins' team then fell to a 0-2 defeat at the Brandywell in May through goals from former Crumlin United footballer Richie Towell and Republic of Ireland international Jack Byrne.

Most recently, on June 26, a Rory Gaffney goal after 27-minutes was enough to secure all three points for the Hoops.

Before the league season kicked off, Shamrock Rovers were beaten by City, two-nil, in the President's Cup, meaning the teams have both won twice and lost twice in their meetings in all competitions in 2023.

Shamrock Rovers travel to face Derry City next Friday, September 15.



Shamrock Rovers supporters celebrate in the stands in Tallaght

Title ambitions slip for St Pat's

TITLE ambitions may have slipped from the grasp of St Patrick's Athletic after hitting a major banana peel in Shelbourne last Friday night.

In one of two Dublin Derby's, the Saints travelled across to the northside to take on Damien Duff's Shelbourne at Tolka Park.

It was billed as one of the biggest nights of the season, with Shamrock Rovers taking on Bohemian in Tallaght Stadium.

Imaginations had run wild with permutations but one thing was for sure, wins for the Saints and Bohs would cut

Rovers lead at the top to just a single point.

It started so well for the Inchicore side, taking the lead after 20-minutes through captain and Kilnamanagh native Joe Redmond.

Shortly after, across the city, Tallaght Stadium hit fever pitch as the Hoops raced to a three-nil lead, heaping the pressure back on to the Jon Daly's men in the closing stages.

John-Alan McGrath was sent-off after 65-minutes and after new signing Euclides

Cabral equalised shortly after, St Pat's were in a race to save their title ambitions.

Shels dominated the encounter, peppering the Pat's goal and enjoying the lion's share of possession.

In the final minute of regulation time, former St Pat's defender Paddy Barrett met a corner clean in the air, heading it home to push Shelbourne to a 2-1 win.

When looking at the permutations before the game, the way the Dublin Derby's eventually worked out would have been ranked the worst possible

outcome for St Pat's.

They had a chance to cut the gap at the top to the minimum, teeing up a potential title-deciding game on October 27 between the teams at Richmond Park.

Instead, this now looks unlikely with the Saints now seven points adrift in third, with title aspirations seemingly evaporating into the night sky.

There are still seven games to play in the league and the Inchicore team are also competing in the FAI Cup quarter-final against Finn Harps next week.

McCabe in action for Ireland U17s

Ireland Women's Under-17s drew 1-1 with Portugal in the Estadio Municipal Engenheiro Silvio Henriques Cerveira, Anadia on Tuesday morning.

This was the final game of three international friendlies for James Scott's team. The first game, a 3-0 loss to Poland, and then the second game, a 3-1 win to Scotland.

This game began quite evenly, with both teams just figuring each other out and getting a feel for it. In the fifth minute, Hazel Donegan had the opportunity to break, and did well to earn a corner.

On eight minutes, Kiera Sena won a free-kick just outside the box. Lauryn McCabe, sister of Irish senior captain Katie McCabe, stepped up, but her shot on goal went just over the bar.

In the 21st minute, Katie Lawlee released Sena down the left wing. The left-back put in a dangerous ball into the box which just skipped by substitute Aoibhe Brennan.

40 minutes in, McCabe tried her luck after cutting in from the left side, but Portuguese keeper Mendonca did well to hold the ball.

In the 56th minute, a penalty was given to Portugal after Lillie Quinlivan-Coulson was adjudged to have handled the ball in the box. Portugal's Vicente slotted the ball away into the left-hand side to put Portugal ahead.

On 62 minutes, Clodagh Daly's lobbed free-kick found Brennan who took on the shot first time, but was saved by Mendonca.

A looping ball over the top by Lawlee found Katie O'Reilly who was adjudged to be pushed in the back in the box. Lawlee struck home to level the game in the 73rd minute.

Ireland were forced into defensive mode for the last quarter of the game, with Portugal heaping on the pressure and goalkeeper Enya Carthy making some impressive saves. One coming in the 82nd minute when she made a point blank save to deny Portugal's Florentino.

In the 93rd minute, Carthy came off her line to make a brilliant save to deny Nave, and in the last seconds of the game, the Irish goalkeeper made another fantastic save at her near-post to deny Portugal the winner.

The game finished in a draw, with lots of positives to take for Scott's side heading into the UEFA European Championship Qualifiers in October.

Forward Rebecca Devereux from Tallaght, who played with the U17s against Lithuania, missed this match as she plays with Shelbourne who are in Champions League action

Soccer

Late goal secures win for AGPFC

A GOAL with three minutes left on the clock, from Harkus Suigunskas, proved to be the winner when AGPFC met Dunshaughlin Youths on Esker Drive in this UCFL Premier Division clash on Saturday afternoon.

By John Mooney

sport@echo.ie

A game that looked destined to end in a draw was decided when Jamie Kelly pumped a huge free kick down the field from just outside his area,

Suigunskas ran on to it and before a defender could close him down he smashed home.

It was a cruel blow to the visitors who had battled their way back into this game and could have easily got a share of the spoils, had James Rathigan's last minute effort hit the target instead rolling inches wide.

This game got off to an explosive start with two goals inside the opening nine minutes, before dropping off and coming back to life after 25 minutes.

The visitors were first on the scoresheet, when



Dunshaughlin Youths Niall Dundon tries to force his way past AGPFC players Jack Fitzgerald and Anthony Molloy
Photos by John Mooney



AGPFC scored in the final minutes of the match to take all three points

Darren Beattie fired in a fierce shot from the edge of the area that Alan Cassidy could only parry into the path of Freddie Kavanagh, and he made no mistake from close range.

But their celebrations had barely died down when they found themselves pegged back, as Anthony Molloy played a ball over the defence and Suigunskas was on to it in a flash and slipped the ball home.

The home side then went in front on 25 minutes after Ryan McLeonard won the ball in midfield, released Charlie Cooper and, in turn, he set up Jack Fitzgerald for number two.

For the following 20 minutes, and the first five minutes of the second half, it was all AGPFC, but they just couldn't add that killer punch and 53 minutes were made pay as Rathigan brought the

visitors level.

There were chances at both ends, but nothing clear cut, until Suigunskas delivered the killer blow in the dying minutes.

All in all a good game, considering both were missing players from their squads, so the return leg will be very interesting when they meet again. **AGPFC:** A. Cassidy, J. Kelly, D. Gaffney, M. Carney, J. McEntee, R. McLeonard, C. Cooper, D. Connor, J. Fitzgerald, A. Molloy, H. Suigunskas., A. O'Kearney, L. Reid, S. Muir, L. Solamain.

DUNSHAUGHLIN YOUTHS: A. Lawlor, C. Hoey, E. O'Connor, N. Dundon, R. Walker, D. Benson, C. Heary, J. Rathigan, D. Beattie, F. Kavanagh, S. Joyce, C. O'Brien, P. Keane, D. Scott.

Rovers player joins French league side Stade de Reims

SHAMROCK Rovers player Ike Orazi put pen to paper on a deal with French Ligue 1 side Stade de Reims.

The talented player helped Rovers to a national cup and league double last year and enjoyed plenty of success with the Tallaght club.

On the international front, Orazi played for the Ireland U17 team in the European Championships this year, scoring two goals and setting up three others as the side reached the quarter-finals stages losing out to Spain.

A statement released from Shamrock Rovers said: "We would like to wish Ike all the best with his move to France as he joins Ligue 1 side Stade de Reims.

"A hugely talented player that came to our club through our partner club Corduff FC where he played since the age of 5.

"Ike has made huge strides over the last few years and ticked off many milestones within the Shamrock Rovers Academy. Last season, he won the National League & Cup double at U15 level. This season, he has

seamlessly made the jump straight to U19 football. We watched on with pride as he starred for Ireland U17's this Summer in the European Championships.

"Ike is another player who has benefitted from our Ashfield educational programme; in the past year, he has been in full-time training on our Transition Year programme with our full-time coaches.

"We wish him well on the next chapter of his journey and everybody will be watching his progress with pride".



Ike Orazi signed a one year deal with the French side

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Looking back, we're immensely proud of the growth and achievements we've accomplished together. But we're even more excited about the future! With innovation as our compass and your aspirations as our guide, the best is yet to come.

Here's to 18 years of turning dreams into reality, and to many more years ahead! Join us in celebrating this milestone and stay tuned for exciting updates on what's next for Doran Estates.



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