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Calls for bonfire material to be removed from local community

page 22



€10K raised for Ciarán Carr Foundation

OVER €10,000 has been raised on the return of the Ciarán Carr Foundation 5km Family Fun Run, in what is the 10th anniversary of the charity, which fundraises to provide defibrillators to schools and sports clubs, *reports Hayden Moore.* See page 18 & 52



Local barbers business closes after 71 years

page 26



€50k prescription tablets seized on village premises

Owner of main street premises was arrested and is before the courts

A GARDA raid at a commercial premises in Clondalkin Village resulted in the seizure of €50k worth of prescription tablets, while up to €60k of Ketamine was discovered in Corkagh Park during a separate drug search, *reports Maurice Garvey.* See page 5

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Next Edition

The next edition of ***The Echo*** in the shops from Thursday, Oct 12, 2023. **Don't miss it!**



EchoJoe 'colour in the logo' competition, see page 60



October 5, 2023

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FoodCloud awarded €500,000 for research and development

Funding from Enterprise Ireland's Agile Innovation Fund supports 14 jobs at FoodCloud

By Maurice Garvey
maurice@echo.ie

TALAGHT-based FoodCloud has been awarded more than €500,000 research and development (R&D) funding from Enterprise Ireland's Agile Innovation Fund.

The funding will be used to further develop FoodCloud's innovative food redistribution platform, Foodiverse, and set a target of an additional 10,000 tonnes of food to be rescued and an additional 0.25 million meals per annum by 2025.

The funding also supports 14 jobs at FoodCloud, a tech-based social enterprise that redistributes food which would otherwise end up as waste.

Founded in 2013, FoodCloud's tech platform connects retailers, food businesses and producers (including Aldi, Bunker UK, Dunnes Stores, KFC, Lidl, Nando, Tesco and Waitrose) that have surplus to food banks, community groups and charities that can use that food.

FoodCloud is working to reduce emissions across five markets in Ireland, Europe, and Africa, and is at the forefront of the circular economy in food systems in Ireland and globally.

FoodCloud's Head of Engineering James Clifford, said: "This Enterprise Ireland Agile Innovation Fund grant marks a significant milestone for FoodCloud as we strive to accelerate the impact of food redistribution and cut food waste at scale through our Foodiverse platform.

"As of now, FoodCloud has redistributed more than 98,000 tonnes of surplus food through its technology platform and physical hubs, which amounts to 235 million meals and the reduction of more than 315,000 tonnes of CO2- equivalent."

Jenny Melia, Executive Director at Enterprise Ireland, said, "Enterprise Ireland has supported FoodCloud since its inception and has backed FoodCloud since its early days. A leader in both digital innovation and the fight against climate change, as FoodCloud implements this research and development as part of its ambitious growth strategy."

FUNDING: (from left) James Clifford (Head of Engineering, FoodCloud) and Ciara O'Regan (Product Manager, FoodCloud), with Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Simon Coveney, TD, Jenny Melia (Executive Director at Enterprise Ireland), and Ann Keenan (Chairperson at FoodCloud)

Datapac helps businesses to redefine their IT infrastructure with new model

BALLYMOUNT tech solutions and services provider Datapac is enabling businesses to redefine their IT infrastructure management with HPE GreenLake.

The firm will offer the hybrid cloud model provides organisations with the flexibility to adjust their IT infrastructure and scale their services, depending on their evolving business needs. Organisations only pay for the IT resources actually consumed.

Moving from a heavy upfront capital expenditure (CapEx) model to a pay-as-you-use approach with HPE GreenLake's pay-as-you-use model frees up capital and resources which can then be redirected to other value-adding applications and resources.

By Maurice Garvey
maurice@echo.ie

Patrick Kickham, Director at Datapac, explains: "Through outsourcing IT infrastructure management, organisations see a significant reduction in IT spending, benefit from the newest without creating additional burden for often overstretched internal IT teams."

Karen O'Connor, General Manager, Datapac, adds: "By partnering with a trusted managed services provider like Datapac, businesses can gain competitive advantage by leveraging the latest IT infrastructure with peace of mind that they are in the hands of skilled and experienced experts."

TRUSTED: Karen O'Connor, GM Datapac

Business starts on page 35

Illegal drag racing reports at Ballymount Industrial Estate will be investigated

GARDAI are investigating reports of illegal drag-racing at Ballymount Industrial Estate, which were first reported to local community policing forums, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

The report first surfaced to a member of the D12 Community Safety Forum but *The Echo* understands there has been no confirmation to date of the event taking place.

The matter was heard this week at the JPC Policing meeting in South Dublin County Council, as a section of the D12 area, and Ballymount itself, lies within the SDCC administrative area.

It includes the allegation that drag-racing takes place at Ballymount Industrial Estate every second Saturday, with an upcoming race due to occur on November 8.

Cllr Pamela Kearns (Lab), chair for the SDCC area on the D12 safety forum, said it was brought to the attention of members at the last forum meeting, and it has been forwarded to the Gardai.

"The Gardai said they will investigate it and keep an eye on it. It hadn't been on our radar on the forums prior to this," said Kearns, a Rathfarnham-Templeogue councillor.

"But there is huge capacity for this in Ballymount, as most businesses are closed for the weekend. It could be dangerous as it is an area where a lot of L-drivers learn how to drive."

Drag-racing usually involved two vehicles in a short straight race, to be the first to cross the finishing line.

Firms are told to stop leaving pallets outside

Young will access these pallets and use them for bonfires



MATERIAL: Pallets outside a warehouse

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

BUSINESSES around Broomhill Road in Tallaght should stop leaving wooden pallets outside their premises and store them indoors to prevent them being used in bonfires, according to a councillor.

Last Thursday and Friday, The *Echo* drove around the businesses and spotted numerous instances of pallets being left outside and being easily moveable.

It's understood that some pallets have been removed from the area and used in bonfires in Kilnamanagh in recent days, to the annoyance of residents.

Local independent councillor Mick Duff appealed to businesses to responsibly store their pallets and not to inadvertently be contributing to bonfire stockpiles.

"We do need commercial businesses to be more responsible as we lead in towards Halloween," said Cllr Duff.

"Pallets, which are perfectly recycleable, should be stored indoors at this time of year because they will end up destroying greens in neighbouring estates.

"They should accept their responsibility. They should just take these pallets out of public view because they're so accessible to young people and they will light a fire virtually every night in the lead-up to Halloween.

"It's a danger to everybody, even the ones who think it's great fun who are lighting the fires, they're at great risk as well."

> **"Pallets, which are perfectly recycleable, should be stored indoors at this time of year because they will end up destroying greens**



DANGER: Pallets on top of the roll-on roll-off container

A spokesperson for South Dublin County Council told *The Echo* that staff from the waste management section have been in touch with 17 companies in Broomhill that have pallets.

"They have all been reminded of their obligations relating to storage of waste under the Waste Management Act," stated the spokesperson.

"All of the companies gave the assurance that they would ensure all pallets are secured or removed this week.

"We did not receive any reports of pallets being left unsecured outside businesses on the Broomhill Road.

"Our litter warden will continue to keep an eye on this area as with other areas for this type of waste especially now as we are coming up to Halloween."

‘It is hopeless from all angles, a very sad state of affairs in Ireland’

Residents told problems around Garda recruitment and legislation with regard to juvenile crime



PEOPLE POWER: Residents at the protest in Citywest last week

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

A BIG turnout in Citywest this week for the protest against teen violence, amid concerns by those present that no action will be taken by authorities to counter the problem.

A resident WhatsApp group with over 1,500 members was established by Nivedita ‘Nidhi’ Shukla, whose husband Amit Shukla was blindsided and attacked by a pack of teens near the Fortunestown Luas stop last month.

It is the latest in a long line of incidents in the area, in which groups of teens intimidate and attack residents.

Since starting the group, Nidhi has been inundated with messages from people recounting their own horror stories.

“At the protest nearly everybody had a story to tell. A man had a heartbreaking story where his sister was groped and somebody tried to steal her bag. The sad part is it wasn’t reported,” said Nidhi.

“He said ‘we have to live with it.’ It is very heartbreaking for the brother – you could see in his face the hurt. The majority of cases are not reported, because people think nothing will be done, and it is happening almost daily. This is the reality.”

After talking to local TD’s John Lahart (FF) and Colm Brophy (FG), who explained problems around garda recruitment and legislation with regard juvenile crime, Nidhi feels it is “hopeless from all angles.”

“They explained a major problem is the salary for gardai and that they can’t afford a house in Dublin, but also a lack of resources prevent another garda centre here, and even for extra CCTV, the kids don’t care because they know with their age-group, nothing will happen,” said Nidhi.

“However, if an adult hits a teen, you are responsible. It is hopeless from all angles, a very sad state of affairs in Ireland,” said Nidhi, an Indian national and mother of two young kids who has lived in Citywest for a year.

Despite the difficulties faced with this issue, Citywest residents plan to host another demonstration, next time in the city centre, and Nidhi is working to try and gather data around juvenile crime, and continue collecting stories from residents.

Early responses to a survey Nidhi established from 400 residents, reveal most feel unsafe in Citywest.

“The next time for a protest we will be prepared with numbers, which cannot be denied. With inflation, people can adjust and sleep on a mattress in a room, or eat less, but when it comes to safety, government has to respond.

“When you step out of the house, you should expect to be safe. What about the safety of the common man?,” asked Nidhi.





School car raffle helps to fund a new Astro pitch for the students

Other winners received €3,000 cash and a Shamrock Rovers' family season ticket

A LUCKY parent won a brand new car last week in a raffle held to fund a new Astro pitch at Old Bawn Community School.

Sarah Jane King, whose sons Matthew and Jack Pike attend Old Bawn CS, was announced as the winner of the Toyota Aygo car at the launch of the new pitch last Wednesday, September 27.

The car was the grand prize of the raffle, which saw other winners receive €3,000, and a Shamrock Rovers' family season ticket.

The money from the raffle has been used to fund the new Astro pitch which was installed in the grounds of the school over the summer, in place of an old basketball court.

The principal of Old Bawn CS, Ursula McCabe, told *The Echo*: "We had an Astro pitch put in over the summer. We had no playing facilities before that.

"Now we look like a proper school with proper facilities – we had nowhere to train before, or to do PE outside."

The students are delighted with the new pitch, according to Ms McCabe, and it is used on a daily basis for outdoor PE classes.

Reflecting on the success of the raffle fundraiser, Ms McCabe said: "Thank you to everyone who rallied around and supported us, and to our main sponsor Tadhg Riordan Motors.

"We're delighted with the support we got from all of our parents and past pupils."

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

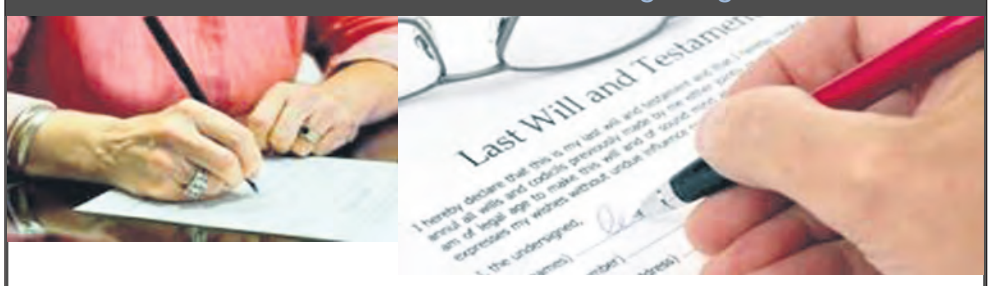
> **"We had an Astro pitch put in over the summer. We had no playing facilities before that . . . Now we look like a proper school with proper facilities – we had nowhere to train before, or to do PE outside**



DELIGHTED: (from left) Ursula McCabe (Principal), with prizewinner Sarah Louise King, and her son Matthew Pyke and Liam King (grandad)

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Gardai seize €50k worth of prescription tablets in premises on Main Street

A GARDA raid at a commercial premises in Clondalkin Village resulted in the seizure of €50k worth of prescription tablets, while up to €60k of Ketamine was discovered in Corkagh Park during a separate drug search, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Details of the bust were included in a report at the JPC Policing Meeting.

As part of the garda operation to tackle the sale and supply of drugs in the Corkagh Park area, the Drugs Unit uncovered €60k of Ketamine concealed in Corkagh Park.

There were no arrests made in relation to the Ketamine seizure, but enquiries are ongoing.

Speaking at the JPC Policing Meeting, Clondalkin Superintendent Steven Mullen said follow up searches at drug hotspots resulted in the seizure of a quantity of heroin from a Clondalkin apartment.

A person was charged and is before the courts in relation to the heroin seizure.

Meanwhile, the owner of a retail premises was arrested after a raid on Main Street.

Supt Mullen said: "On May 19, a local intervention was conducted whereby a premise on the Main Street in Clondalkin was searched with a warrant, and there was €50k worth of prescription tablets seized.

"The owner of the retail premises was arrested and charged and is before the courts."

Supt Mullen also said there has been a recent meeting with residents in Monksfield in relation to drug dealing in the area.



SEIZURE: The prescription drugs seized by Gardai. Photo An Garda Siochana

Over five year wait for homeless households seeking accommodation

HOMELESS households have to wait over five years on average to obtain suitable accommodation from South Dublin County Council while over 1,500 wait on the social housing list in Tallaght, *reports Hayden Moore.*

Statistics released by the local authority showed that of the 115 property allocations to homeless households across the county, there was an average wait time of 5.5 years.

In 2022, the housing authority allocated 71 homeless households.

"It should be noted that there are a lot of complex cases with various extenuating circumstances which can distort the overall figures," the council said.

"Our allocation team are prioritising allocations to homeless households, including three and four bed homes to reduce family homelessness, and we are also progressing significant numbers of tenant in-situ acquisitions to prevent further homelessness."

The council says that it works to "address the ongoing challenges for households" in several ways including increasing housing supply, choice-based letting, and flipping vacant council properties.

HAP tenancies and engaging with landlords on tenant-in-situ acquisitions are other ways it claims to address the housing issues.

"We currently have a further 91 properties assigned to homeless households in the coming months," the council said.

The council also noted that 20 offers of accommodation to families accessing emergency accommodation were refused in 2023.

Single bedrooms are the most in demand properties of those seeking accommodation through the council's social housing list in Tallaght.

Combining Tallaght Central and Tallaght South, there is 1,583 people on the social housing list altogether – 770 of which are seeking one-bedroom.

There are 558 people seeking two-bedrooms, 227 seeking three-bedrooms and 28 seeking four-bedrooms on the social housing list in Tallaght.

Meanwhile, across the whole county, the council has 81 properties logged as being boarded up.

In Tallaght, there is 42 boarded up properties.

Five properties are at survey stage as 26 are a work in progress and 11 are ready for allocation.

Once a property is vacated due to a tenant transfer or surrender, "shuttering is a requirement to protect the building structure from vandalism and theft whilst vacant," the council said.

The survey stage is the initial phase of flipping a property for re-let, and at present, the five properties are expected to be completed within the next 10-weeks.

After reviewing the re-let process in 2022, the council has implemented new measures to reduce turnaround times on vacant properties.

"The most significant change implemented, is the increased number of contractors available to carry out re-let works throughout the county," the council said.

"In May 2023, following procurement competitions, the number of contractors available across the county increased from two to five, with three contractors assigned to the Tallaght Central and Tallaght South Electoral Areas."

However, the average turnaround times have only decreased from 27.5 weeks in Q1 2023 to 26 weeks in Q3.

The council is targeting a 20 week turnaround time with further improvements "expected in the coming months".



Alcohol worth over €20k recovered by detectives

Stolen merchandise was taken from a premises on Belgard Road

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie



STOLEN: The alcohol recovered by Gardai.
Photo: An Garda Siochana

OVER €20,000 worth of alcohol that was stolen from a commercial premises on the Belgard Road last month was recently recovered by detectives from Tallaght Garda Station.

This was revealed at a Joint Policing Committee meeting last Friday, where Superintendent Bronagh O'Reilly detailed recent crime statistics and significant crimes in Tallaght and Rathfarnham.

Speaking at the meeting about the alcohol theft, Supt O'Reilly said: "A commercial premises on Belgard Road had been victims of theft of alcohol.

"A lot of work was put into that, so a suspect has been identified and is currently before the courts on that."

Other significant detections included the seizure of drugs, homemade weapons and scramblers during the course of a search in Suncroft last May.

In July, during the course of a search in Kilmartin, a large quantity of heroin and crack cocaine to the value of €300,000 was found.

Over in Rathfarnham, €20,000 worth of cocaine was seized during a search on Stocking Lane last April, while in Knocklyon a prolific burglar was arrested and charged in relation to burgling a commercial premises.

Supt O'Reilly also presented recent crime statistics at the meeting, and found that theft from shops in Tallaght was up 22 per cent compared to last year.

There was also an increase in theft from vehicles, with 47 incidents last year compared to 58 this year, showing a 23 per cent increase.

However, there were no reported incidents of robberies from people this year, compared to 18 such incidents last year.

Incidents of possession of drugs for personal use were up 30 per cent, with 38 incidents last year compared to 47 this year, while possession of drugs for sale or supply was up 29 per cent.

Over in Rathfarnham, there was a 60 per cent increase in thefts from the person, with five incidents last year and eight this year.

There was a 66 per cent decrease in burglaries, from 87 in 2022 to 30 so far this year, while there was a 39 per cent decrease in thefts from vehicles, from 114 last year to 69 this year.

Two arrested in road rage incident

A ROAD rage incident in Clondalkin saw an imitation firearm brandished and two men arrested.

The incident happened on June 13 in the Clondalkin area.

Clondalkin gardai say the imitation firearm was produced following a suspected road rage incident.

Two men were arrested and a file was sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Drama group hosts festival for four nights

LUCAN Drama is hosting a festival at the end of the month.

Over the course of four nights from October 25-28, the group will host four one-act plays at the Lucan Spa Hotel.

Included at the festival for one of the nights is '100 Love Letters I Never Sent.'

Written by Adam Szymowicz and directed by James Goodman, this play features a collection of spoken-word love letters that vary in tone from sweet to bitter and from hilarious to outright confusing. The play is as expansive as love itself, according to Lucan Drama.

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Drug-dealing in area like an 'open supermarket' say councillors

OPEN drug-dealing is "blatant" and akin to an "open supermarket" in parts of Clondalkin, according to local representatives, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

The issue of drug-dealing in Corkagh Park is an ongoing issue. It became more prevalent after a major operation a number of years ago to tackle dealing and assaults at the Grand Canal, resulted in a migration of drug activity to other areas.

While dealing has been a problem predominantly in the park and at the Cherrywood side, councillors say Corkagh Grange and Rathgael, beside St Cuthbert's Park, are also hot spots for dealing.

Speaking at the JPC Policing Meeting, Cllr Derren Ó Bradaigh (SF) said residents were living in "palpable fear" due to blatant drug-dealing at Corkagh Park, Corkagh Grange, Mill Court, and Nangor Road.

"The level of anti-social activity has increased in the last 12 months. Myself and my party colleagues have met residents 10 to 12 times. Are gardai lacking resources? When I look at Lucan, the stats are much better there," said Cllr Ó Bradaigh

Cllr Eoin Ó Broin (SocDems) agreed with the sentiment, stating that the dealing at Rathgael and Corkagh Grange was similar to that of an "open supermarket."

Clondalkin Superintendent Steven Mullen said garda crime-prevention officers have met with residents and engaged with estate management companies with regard to Rathgael and Corkagh Grange.

Supt Mullen said there has been searches carried out in the areas by gardai recently and "actions taken."

"We also had one anti-social behaviour order issued in Rathgael," said the Supt.

According to the latest crime statistics for Clondalkin, arrests in the drugs for sale/supply category have more than doubled, but was attributed by Supt Mullen to an "increase in patrols in Clondalkin and Rathcoole."



ONGOING ISSUES: Corkagh Park, a centre for drug-dealing

Call-out for court video links for domestic violence victims

Additional trauma occurs when women and children are dragged back into court

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



CALLS have been made for victims of domestic abuse to be allowed to attend court hearings via video link.

With cases on the rise, Saoirse Domestic Violence Services, who support women and children suffering from serious abuse, say the video link facility is currently only available to perpetrators, and that the requirement for victims to be dragged back into court for hearings causes additional trauma and stress.

Speaking at the JPC Policing Meeting on Friday, Anna Whyte, an outreach and support worker with Saoirse, said they have asked the relevant authorities to introduce a video link facility for victims.

"Hearings can be during Dolphin House (Dublin District Court Family Law) but I have yet to see a video link facilitated for victims no matter the risk. The only person afforded the opportunity to attend via video link is the perpetrator, who may be appearing from Cloverhill," said Ms Whyte.

"One client had to come back twice from Spain for hearings, others have to take leave from work, get minders for their kids, to attend hearings. I'd ask for video link to be activated for victims. Judges have an enormous client list and this would help. It's almost as if they are working against their own interests."

This was echoed by Cllr Pamela Kearns (Lab), who believes it is a "bizarre" situation for victims of domestic abuse, who are in the vast majority of cases, vulnerable women.

"I have brought it up with TDs to put in a parliamentary question. This is vital. It seems absurd that the perpetrator can do this while in jail but the victim cannot," said Cllr Kearns.

"It is hard enough to put yourself out there as it is, and for the perpetrator to be afforded the luxury of a video link but not the victim, is bizarre."

> **"A lot of women take the risk to stay at home, better the devil you know because homeless shelters can be as bad....**

Saoirse reported an increase in demand for their services, which is in line with a local and national figures, of increasing cases of domestic violence.

In June, Women's Aid reported a 16 per cent increase in contacts for 2022, compared to the previous year, the highest ever received by the organisation in its almost 50-year history.

The organisation's support workers heard 33,990 disclosures of domestic abuse against women and children in 2022.

Speaking at the JPC, Lucan Superintendent Paul Dolan, said in his 34 years on the job, that the increase in domestic violence is not new, it has always been an issue, as it was 34 years ago.

"Absolutely, the statistics we have show a huge increase. No one organisation can fix this."

Supt Dolan said there has been significant improvement within the gardai and within other organisations, and that it requires more communication "between ourselves and other organisations which reassures people that they can come forward and make a complaint."

He noted a 2017 change in law which allows gardai to act upon a verbal complaint where they can see evidence at the home as another significant improvement.

However, Saoirse notes the dangers women are in, even when arrests are made.

"If he is arrested and released, he doesn't come back calmer, he comes back with a vengeance," said Ms Whyte.

"People often ask 'why do women not just leave?' but where does she have to go? Up to seven women a day are released from refuges and that doesn't include children. A lot of women take the risk to stay at home, better the devil you know, because homeless shelters can be as bad."

Saoirse also cited the difficulty a woman can have in trying to secure a housing transfer if anti-social incidents are a blot on their record with the council, even if this was the neighbours calling gardai due to a man banging on the front door.

Schools encouraged to broaden students' entrepreneurial skills

Initiative helps secondary students learn life skills and experience creating and running their own business



REAL LIFE: Pupils from Scoil Mochua celebrate their success last year with then Mayor Emma Murphy

SECONDARY schools around South Dublin County are being encouraged to develop their pupils' entrepreneurial skills by signing up for this year's Student Enterprise Programme, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

The programme is an initiative led by the Local Enterprise Offices of Ireland (LEO), and last year's programme saw many budding local young entrepreneurs receive national recognition.

Last year, three enterprises represented the region as finalists in the national competition across three categories: junior, intermediate and senior.

The senior finalist was Timeout Interactive Experiences from Rockbrook Park School in Rathfarnham, offering a real-life immersive game that anyone could play.

The intermediate finalist was Daniel's Cookies from Greenhills Community College, with their baked goods.

Finally, the junior finalist was The Simple Things May Not Be So Simple from St Mark's Community School in Tallaght, selling children's books supporting them in learning life skills.

Now a new tranche of students can develop their business ideas in school for this year's competition and learn key life and business skills in the process.

Students from first year to sixth year and from all school subjects can enter in the junior, intermediate and senior categories in the Student Enterprise Programme.

Participants will learn how to create and run their own business, picking up key skills along the way such as ideation, marketing, finance and sales.

Tom Rooney, head of enterprise at LEO South Dublin said: "The Student Enterprise Programme grants our secondary school students a firsthand taste of entrepreneurship and the intricacies of managing their own enterprises.

"The programme is a practical and engaging opportunity for students, teachers, and parents, offering fresh perspectives on the potential of entrepreneurship as a viable career path.

"Additionally, it sheds light on the wide array of support services accessible through the Local Enterprise Office right here in South Dublin.

"We truly look forward to this year's programme and to the enterprises that await us."

Since the Student Enterprise Programme began in 2003, over 325,000 students have taken part, learning key skills on how to create a business idea, start a business and grow a business.

The Student Enterprise Programme also has a new range of online resources for 2023/2024 at www.StudentEnterprise.ie, which will feature regular blogs and houses a full range of Student Enterprise resources for students and teachers.

The programme is run through the network of Local Enterprise Offices, supported by Enterprise Ireland and the local authorities, with local coordinators in every area to support teachers and students through the year of the programme.



CAP THAT: Students from Coláiste de hÍde take a selfie at the LEO Student Awards in March



Over €32k raised in memory of Eva for LauraLynn Foundation

Black-tie event in Green Isle Hotel brings donations over €1.2m mark

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

A MEMORIAL night in memory of a Kingswood girl, who died in 2018 at 18 months old, raised over €32,000 for children's hospice the LauraLynn Foundation last weekend.

A total of 380 people gathered in the Green Isle Hotel in Clondalkin last Saturday, September 30, for the black-tie event in memory of Eva Rose White.

The young girl was diagnosed with a brain tumour in April 2018, before passing away on July 3, 2018, in the arms of her parents, Lisa and Leigh.

Lisa told *The Echo*: "She was born perfect, not a bother, she hit every milestone, and was very smart and always smiley.

"My husband stays at home, and he said he noticed Eva had a bit of a limp, she was falling and losing her balance.

"We went to Tallaght Hospital, then they sent us to Crumlin and found a large brain tumour.

"They sent her up to Temple Street, and they said the tumour was in her spine and they gave her less than a week to live. It was horrific. It was really awful."

It was shortly after this that two people from LauraLynn visited the Whites and made them aware of the hospice services that they provide and offered them to the family, and took her to the hospice.

"When we got to LauraLynn, Eva relaxed because she wasn't scared of the machines and the needles like when she was in hospital," explained Lisa.

"We thought that it would be a space for us to say goodbye to her, but she perked up and it became this cocoon where we could gather our breath and deal with the situation.

"Then we were able to bring her home, and she lasted another 11 weeks, which was incredible.

"Nurses from LauraLynn came to the house to change her catheter and showed me how to give her medication."

After Eva died, staff from LauraLynn provided a cold blanket so her parents could be by her side, and they removed the medication and medical equipment from the house.

"They thought of everything," said Lisa. "They're amazing people.

"It would've been unimaginable without them. We were under so much stress and Eva was terrified when she was in a hospital setting.

"But LauraLynn gave us time, and they gave us precious memories with Eva."

As a result of this, the Whites have held numerous fundraisers for LauraLynn in their daughter's memory since 2018, with over €1.2m in donations to the charity being associated with Eva.

The memorial night, which was organised by Lisa and her husband Leigh alongside Anne Sullivan, Linda Bridgeman and Jean Haas, is the latest fundraiser in Eva's honour.

The glittering event had a dual purpose, to raise funds for LauraLynn and to celebrate Eva's seventh birthday, which would have occurred on September 27.

Lisa said: "One of your worst fears is your child being forgotten when they pass away, but 380 people went home on Saturday with Eva very close to their hearts and knowing about LauraLynn.

"I just feel that I'm keeping her alive, that she has left a legacy and she's still shining brightly."

Donations can be made online at www.lauralynn.ie/donate, and Eva can be mentioned on the website as the reason for your donation.



NOT FORGOTTEN: Organisers Annie Sullivan, Lisa White, Leigh White, Linda Bridgemen and Jean Haas and (inset) Eva Rose White.
Main photo: Paula Nicholson-Reilly of The Pen Galleries

> **"One of your worst fears is your child being forgotten when they pass away, but 380 people went home on Saturday with Eva very close to their hearts and knowing about LauraLynn. I just feel that I'm keeping her alive, that she has left a legacy and she's still shining brightly . . .**

Cllr. Charlie O'Connor PC



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Tymon Park centre



MAYOR Alan Edge officially turned the sod to mark the commencement of works on the Tymon Park Intergenerational Centre. The Mayor was joined by Colm Ward, Chief Executive, Teresa Walsh, Director of Services, Staff of South Dublin County Council and guests to celebrate this event.

Speaking at the event Mayor Cllr Alan Edge said: "The works about to commence will include the creation of a new public building designed to provide flexible outdoor and indoor space for small- to medium-size events and activities for the local community.

The building will also provide a small café, public toilets, outdoor seating overlooking the lake, improvements to the access and an upgrading of the entrance area to the park with a new layout and planting."

This project is funded by South Dublin County Council's three-year capital budget. The Public Realm and Architect Section in South Dublin along with Cotter and Naessens Architects have carried out the planning and design work on this project to date. Construction work on site will be carried out by Oliver J Hearty and Sons Ltd.



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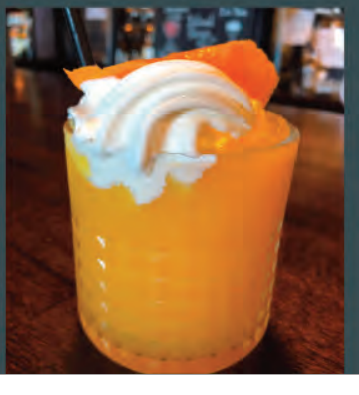


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GAA legend Frank (77) always had a smiling face

Frank dedicated his life to the GAA at club and county level

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

A LEGENDARY figure in Dublin GAA circles, Frank Brady, is being remembered this week as an "encouraging" figure who always had a "smiling face" following his death.

Frank Brady was 77-years-old when he died on Monday, October 2 and since, heaps of memories have been shared about the jovial character that he was.

The father of five had a significant impact on the growth of gaelic games across Dublin for several decades. If there ever was a true Blue, it was Frank. From the 1960s on, the Kill native dedicated his life to the GAA in St Anne's and further afield across Dublin GAA.

After meeting his beloved Maura (nee Lee), they got married in 1968 and he moved to Bohernabreena.

After marrying a Lee, there was really no choice, he absolutely had to join St Anne's.

"He played his last match for Kill on the Sunday before he was married, then transferred to Anne's after moving to Bohernabreena, that's where my mam was from," Frank's son Philip tells *The Echo*.

Maura was heavily involved in camogie, with the Dublin Senior Camogie Championship trophy named after her, such was the massive impact she had. Frank became heavily involved with the club too, serving on the executive committee and managing teams which boasted players such as David Carroll, and Joe and Alan 'Nipper' McNally.

It was after being appointed as a board delegate to Dublin GAA, that it really opened a lifetime of involvement.

"Frank was a life-long GAA member and played a big role in the growth of the games across Dublin over many decades," a statement from Dublin GAA reads following his death.

"The St Anne's clubman was Secretary of the Junior Football Board for many years and also served as a selector on the Dublin Junior Football team.

"A long-time referee himself, Frank later served as Referee's coordinator - a role he continued until early last year.

"Dublin GAA pass on our deepest condolences to Frank's family and friends."

But before that, he was a proper Kill GAA man, playing across the full-back line with the club and trekking into Croke Park every weekend to support Kildare. From the mid-1950s on, Frank and a few of the lads would get together and commence their weekend ritual.

"They'd go to eight o'clock mass, get the bus into town for their breakfast, walk into Croke Park and pay their way in," Philip recalls.

"One of the head stewards in Croker, Seamus O'Byrne, noticed him always being in the same place.



ENCOURAGING: Frank Brady holding the Liam McCarthy Cup in Croke Park

"So he said to them 'why don't you save yourselves some money and meet me, you can come in as stewards'."

It, inadvertently, opened somewhat of a rite of passage for crews from St Anne's for the next few generations.

"The following Sunday they met up with Seamus and that was it, from then on he was stewarding.

"It's funny some of the messages the last few days have been from people saying 'your da used to get loads of us in'.

"The Dublin and Meath games around 1991, you'd have loads of lads from Anne's who got in as stewards… but that was back 30-years-ago when things were different."

Frank was a beloved referee in Dublin, and he is fondly remembered for airing on the side of common sense when martialing a game.

He used to tell a great story about refereeing a game where, before throw-in, a player came to him to say that he had been sent off by Frank in a game a few weeks beforehand.

This meant the player should technically still be suspended.

However, with his team needing just one more player to start, Frank simply said that he did not know the player – making sure that the other 12 lads, along with the opposition, got to play a game.

"He always encouraged us to do what we wanted and always led us the 'right way' as you'd say," Philip remembers.

"That would just be to not do anything wrong and follow the rules, but of course playing gaelic football, you'd have to be a little bit flexible in that regard.

"A lot of the comments I'm getting about my dad over the last few days are that he was so helpful, always encouraging with a smiling face, he had good words for everyone.

"Anything that he was, I did the same whether it was looking after teams, refereeing, stewarding, administration, and he's been there all the way."

Frank is the beloved husband of the late Maura and is survived by his children Philip, Brigid, Seamus, Francis, and John, 13 grandchildren, brothers, sisters and extended family.

Frank will be reposing at his home on Friday between 5pm and 8pm, a funeral mass will take place at St Anne's Church in Bohernabreena at 10.30am on Saturday morning before burial in Bohernabreena Cemetery. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h'anam dílis.



The Echo look back at 1981

South West Dublin League Division 2

St. Mark's take the title

ST. MARKS Springfield took the title and maintained their unbeatan record in the South-West Dublin Division 2 league, when they beat a gallant St. Anne's aide at Bohernabreena on Saturday 14th February. In a well contested, entertaining game, St. Mark's strength at midfield and in the forward line proved too much for the Bohernabreena boys.

In the opening minutes the more experienced Springfield lads settled quicker putting pressure on the St Anne's defence. This pressure paid off with a point after 10 minutes. But St. Anne's came back and 'Nipper' McNally pointed a free kick. After 20 minutes Justin Condon put St Mark's ahead with a well taken point. Just before half-time Colm Callan put St. Mark's into a commanding lead with a timerly goal.

St Mark's got off to a dream start to the second half when Chris Griffin fisted the b all into the net. This goad was quickly followed by another, this time it was Francis Moran who scored.

It was then the St Anne's lads began to fight back and a brilliant goal by Damien Lee put them bacvk in the game. Two great saves by Henry O'Rnne's goal were followed by their second goal this time it was 'Nipper' McNally who hit the net. But in the closing minutes Francis Moran scored directly from a free kick to put the issue beyond doubt.

St. Mark's deserved their victory, their catch and kick tactics proved a telling factor but this less experienced St. Anne's side will be back again. Both teams gave us a lively entertaining game and team spirit from both sides is a credit to their mentors.

St Mark's: Aidan Nolan (goal) Michael O'Connor, Charlie Godsonm Eddie Gilson, Anthony Doyle, Paul Shaughnessy, Robert Maloney, Francis Moran (capt), Justin Condon, Chris Griffin, Aidan McCann, Colm Callan, Chris Brady, Stephen Cooney, Conor McCann, Francia McCann, Tony Kelly, Michael Swan, Tommy Callan and Pat Gonorde, team mentors.

St. Anne's: Henry O'Reilly (goal), Joseph McNally, Philip Brady, Gavin Fitzsimons, Myles Murphy, Joe Waldron, Declan Walsh, Carl Callery, Alan McNally, John Fay, Christian McDonald, Paul Haide, Fergus Daly, Damien Lee, Bernatd Glennon, Ultan Waldron, Brian Whelehan. Frank Brady and Christy McNally, team mentors.

Referee: Tony Delaney

After the match Gerry Fallon, chairman of the South-West Board presented the plaque to St Mark's and he congratulated both teams on a fine display. He said both teams were "a credit to their mentors".

VICTORIOUS: St. Mark's GAA team above and St. Anne's GAA Club left.

TALLAGHT'S MONTHLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

MARCH 1981 PRICE 15p

INVOLVEMENT: A match report from *The Echo* in March 1981 when Frank was a selector with St Anne's U11s. The match was played against St Mark's in Bohernabreena in the South West Leagues

Echoopinion...

It seems absurd that the pursuit of justice is made difficult for victims

THE requirement for victims of domestic violence to attend court in person has been described as "bizarre" by local councillor Pamela Kearns (Lab).

Frustratingly, at present, only perpetrators are allowed to attend court via video link as they are usually being held on remand – victims, however, do not have this option.

At a policing meeting last week, a representative from Saoirse Domestic Violence Services criticised the discrepancy, especially as many of the victims of domestic violence are vulnerable women.

It seems absurd that the pursuit of justice is made more difficult for victims of domestic violence, who often have to either take time off work or organise childcare just to attend court.

Meanwhile, the perpetrator can easily attend via video link, as the victim is forced to be in the court room if they want to assist the prosecution and see justice being served.

This is problematic for a variety of reasons, not just because of the financial implications of missing work or securing childcare, but also from a safety perspective.

Even if an incident makes it to court and the perpetrator is arrested, this is no guarantee of safety and security for the victim who may be in fear when the offender is released.

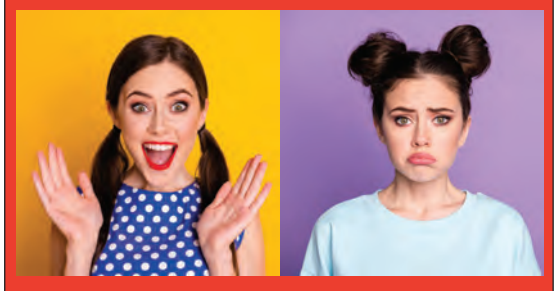
Speaking at the policing meeting last week, Anna Whyte from Saoirse said: "If he is arrested and released, he doesn't come back calmer, he comes back with a vengeance."

If you've been affected by the issues raised in this article, Saoirse Domestic Violence Services has a 24/7 helpline on 01 463 0000.

For further information on Saoirse Domestic Violence Services visit sdvs.ie or follow them on social media.

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ATMs closure in The Square 'outrageous' says shopper

Facebook post states that Bank of Ireland made the 'unwelcome decision' to remove ATMs

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

THE sudden closure of ATMs in The Square shopping centre has been branded "outrageous" by a shopper who claims the move is effectively "bullying" elderly people into cashless shopping.

The ATMs on the top floor of The Square, near the cinema, in the corridor in the middle floor, and on the ground floor adjacent to the playground, were sealed last week on Wednesday, September 27.

This led to anger among customers, according to Derek Sharkey, who frequently shops in The Square and contacted *The Echo* to voice his frustration about the closure of the ATMs.

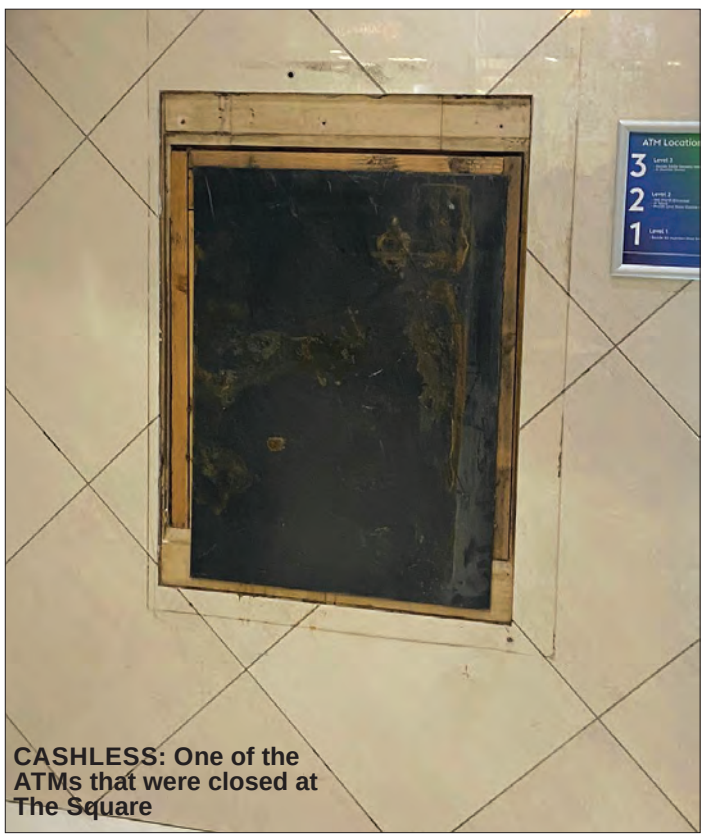
"I go to Costa on the ground floor, and when I was there on Wednesday there were people coming in who were very distressed about the ATMs," he said.

"They said all the cash machines were down and they didn't know what to do, and these were young and old people.

"The ATMs just closed. There was no notice. They welded a steel plate over the ATM in the wall near where Wowburger used to be.

"People went to the information desk in the Square and asked what was happening, and a couple of them came down to Costa and said they'd been told the bank had closed them."

On Monday morning, The Square published a Facebook post stating that Bank of Ireland made the "unwelcome decision" to remove the ATMs.



CASHLESS: One of the ATMs that were closed at The Square

It was noted in the post that other ATMs were available on level three, on level two near the customer service desk, and also in Dunnes Stores and Tesco.

The Echo contacted Bank of Ireland, which operated the majority of the ATMs in the Square, and a spokesperson confirmed that the bank had "ceased providing ATM services in The Square".

They advised their customers that Bank of Ireland ATMs are available at the bank branch in Priorsgate, and added that banking services can be carried out in the post office in The Square.

Mr Sharkey said that when he returned to the centre the following day, Thursday, September 28, one of the ATMs on the top floor was open, as was one in the middle floor.

However, the reopened ATMs were operated by Brink's, a major global cash management company that in 2020 bought a network of more than 500 non-branch ATMs from AIB.

"One ATM was open near Eddie Rockets, but it ran out of cash," said Mr Sharkey.

"They opened another on the middle floor and there was a queue of about 20 people. There were signs on the side of the ATMs saying they were under the ownership of Brink's Security."

As reported in the Irish Independent last month, a consumer watchdog warned that independent ATM operators could start charging for ATM withdrawals.

The Echo contacted Brink's and asked if there are plans to charge withdrawal fees for consumers who use their ATMs in the Square, but a response wasn't received at the time of going to print.

For Mr Sharkey, the decision to abruptly close the ATMs and then re-open only two the following day is something that he took exception to, and he said it upset the community.

"I think it's an outrageous way to treat the people of Tallaght," he said.

"To have no notice and no consultation . . . and it eliminates anybody who doesn't want to use digital technology to make payments or use online banking.

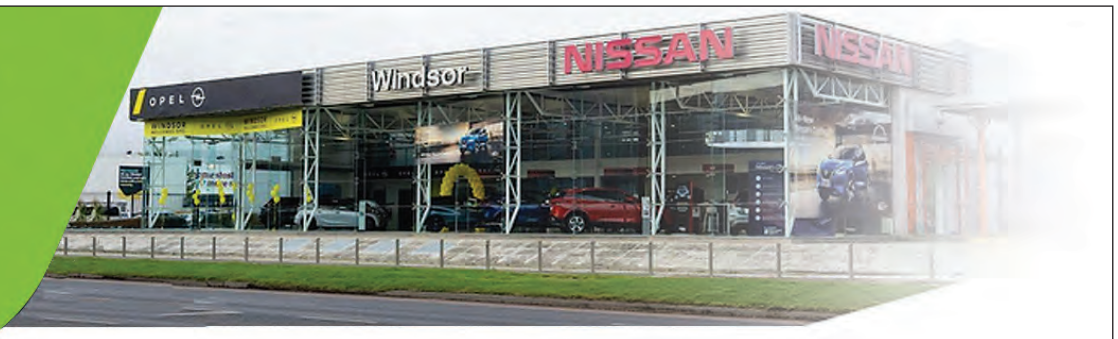
"It's bullying older people. It's a disgrace to bully older people out of access to cash and to take away their independence when they're doing their shopping.

"There are a lot of older people in Tallaght, and they're being squeezed out of everything. I think this should be reversed, and there should be full access to all of the ATMs in the Square."



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191 Nissan Leaf €19,995
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211 Opel Corsa EV €23,995
Deposit: €2,400 Borrow: €21,595
Monthly: €453 Weekly: €105



181 Seat Ateca 1.6TDi €21,495
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211 VW Golf €24,995
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Monthly: €470 Weekly: €108



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Monthly: €329 Weekly: €76



202 Opel Grandland X €22,995
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Monthly: €434 Weekly: €100



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171 Nissan Note €12,495
Deposit: €1,250 Borrow: €11,245
Monthly: €234 Weekly: €54



211 Opel Grandland €27,995
Deposit: €2,800 Borrow: €25,195
Monthly: €529 Weekly: €122



202 Nissan Juke €23,995
Deposit: €2,400 Borrow: €21,595
Monthly: €453 Weekly: €104.54



222 Opel Mokka EV €28,995
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Monthly: €475 Weekly: €108.92



212 Seat Ibiza €17,995
Deposit: €1,800 Borrow: €16,195
Monthly: €339 Weekly: €78.23



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Deposit: €2,100 Borrow: €18,895
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TROUBLE: Residents protesting in May in Knocklyon Park over the plans

Plans for 3G pitch go ahead after Bord Pleanála ruling

Enclosed pitch would 'put a strain on GAA club capacity – says chairman

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

CONTENTIOUS plans for a 3G pitch in Knocklyon Park rumbled on this week, with the news that An Bord Pleanála (ABP) ruled there is no need for an Environmental Impact Assessment for it go ahead.

The ABP decision means the pitch, which is being proposed by South Dublin County Council, can be developed in Knocklyon Park without environmental reviews.

A decision on whether the project can ultimately progress will be made by councillors in a vote later this year.

Local Fine Gael councillor Brian Lawlor said that he and his party colleagues will be voting against the proposed pitch as he said it's "the wrong location" for it.

The proposed enclosed 3G is to be developed in place of an existing grass pitch, with the proposal attracting objections from local sports clubs and community groups.

The existing pitch is an adult-sized pitch but is currently subdivided into three juvenile pitches by Ballyboden St Enda's GAA Club, who use it on a daily basis for training and matches.

The club has held a public meeting about the plans, which they are opposed to, as is the Save Knocklyon Park group which was formed in the wake of the proposal.

Composed of local residents, Save Knocklyon Park previously organised a public meeting and a well-attended protest march in opposition to the plans.

A public consultation window for the proposal closed last June, with 784 submissions lodged on South Dublin County Council's website, while over 2,000 were handed in in-person.

The primary concerns raised by Save Knocklyon Park are related to biodiversity and the environment.

The plans for the pitch include floodlights, which the group said would be disruptive to existing wildlife in the park such as bats and bees.

Save Knocklyon Park also expressed concerns about the use of synthetic grass and the potential environmental damage it could cause in the park.

Elsewhere, the chairman of St Enda's, Donagh O'Farrell, previously told *The Echo* that if the new pitch went ahead, it would put a strain on the club's capacity and its juvenile section couldn't continue to operate it that way it does at present.

The 3G enclosed pitch is proposed to be a pay-to-play facility and, owing to it being an all-weather pitch with synthetic grass, it would be unsuitable for the GAA club to continue using it.

The proposed new pitch is part of the council's wider Sports Pitch Strategy, which includes the provision of new grass and artificial grass pitches (AGP) around the county.

In a document published in 2020, outlining the Sports Pitch Strategy, the council stated: "AGPs have the ability to support far more matches and training sessions compared to regular grass pitches and can be strategically located in new development areas or high population areas.

"AGPs should be viewed as a community asset as they can support many segments of the population and offer a multi-sport approach through different sports.

"Each AGP has a travel time of 20 minutes where the optimum number of the population will travel to use the site.

"When new developments are being built AGPs should be associated with these areas as typically this is where the younger population will increase."

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



Government slammed over emergency figures

OVER 6,400 children have presented to emergency departments since 2019, according to figures released recently.

The Government has been accused by Sinn Féin spokesperson on Mental Health, Mark Ward TD of failing to protect children's mental health care .

Deputy Ward was speaking following the figures for children attending Children's Health Ireland (CHI) emergency departments released to him in response to a parliamentary question.

Deputy Ward said: "This Government is failing our young people in mental health. I have received a parliamentary question response that states over 6,400 children have presented to children's emergency departments since 2019 and almost 1,000 so far this year with mental health difficulties. These include emergency departments at Connolly, Crumlin, Temple Street and Tallaght Hospitals.

"CAMHS [Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services] waiting lists have reached over 4,400, as of May this year, doubling in the three years this Government have been in office.

"Primary care psychology services have over 16,000 young people waiting for appointments. All of these are leaving parents and young people no other option than to go to an emergency department in a time of mental health crisis.

"Early intervention is key and children are simply not getting this early intervention.

"I recently highlighted children within CAMHS that are high risk for suicidal ideation or deliberate self-harm, as having to wait over 190 days for assessments. We need solutions to this emergency, but every waiting list is going in the wrong direction and that is up.

"Sinn Féin has solutions to the crisis in youth mental health. We have prioritised CAMHS inpatient capacity and to fully resource all CAMHS teams, in our alternative budget.

"We have also committed to develop a liaison psychiatry model of care within our emergency departments to ensure that those in crisis are given appropriate care when they need it.

"Sinn Féin has solutions. The longer this Government is in place, the worst this emergency will get."

Blessing of Pets takes place in St Kilian's

A BLESSING of Pets service will take place in St Kilian's Church in Kingswood this Sunday, October 8, at 4pm.

The service is titled All Creation, Praise the Lord (Psalm 148): A Blessing of Pets, and people are invited to bring their pets along to the joint ecumenical service of the Word.

The service is being held by St Kilian's in collaboration with Canon William Deverell from the Church of Ireland Parish of St Maelruain's in Tallaght.

Fr Frank Drescher, parish priest of Kilnamanagh-Castleview, said: "Our aim is to bless and give thanks for our earthly companions while fostering a spirit of Christian unity and co-responsibility for the preservation of God's creation.

"We warmly invite you to bring your pets, whether feathered, furry, or scaled, to receive a special blessing as we celebrate the greatness and beauty of God's creation. Everyone is welcome!"

Blessed are the animals in the best possible way

Sponsorships produce the five-star hospitality for the annual ceremony

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

IT IS all about the five-star hospitality, according to organisers of the annual Blessing of the Animals, which took place in Clondalkin, at the car-park of the Church of Immaculate Conception & St Killian on Sunday.

Eddie Byrne, who organised the event with his wife Marie, said it catered for approximately 60 animal owners, and it would not have been possible without the support of sponsors.

"McElroys (funeral directors) provided considerable sponsorship for us to produce programmes, and off the basis of that, Ballymaloe Foods gave us up to €300 of product. Tesco's also sponsored a bit of hospitality, as did the Packaging Centre in Fox & Geese," said Eddie.

"It's all about the five-star hospitality. Deacon Don Devaney, the gentle giant, gave the blessings. The best place to do this is out in the open, where everyone has an equal say and can be listened to."

> **"Deacon Don Devaney, the gentle giant, gave the blessings. The best place to do this is out in the open, where everyone has an equal say**



BLESSING: People outside the church at the weekend

Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council

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CRIME



IMAGINING MURDER

DATE: Saturday 21st October
TIME: 5pm
VENUE: The Civic Main Space
ADMISSION: €12 / €10
SPECIAL OFFER: Tickets for Imagining Murder, True Crime & dinner in Betelnut Café €40 (limited availability)



PRESENTER AND PODCASTER LOUISE MCSHARRY TALKS TO CURRENT STARS OF CRIME FICTION ÚNA MANNION, OLIVIA KIERNAN AND ANDREA MARA



TRUE CRIME

DATE: Saturday 21st October
TIME: 8pm
VENUE: The Civic Main Space
ADMISSION: €18 / €14
SPECIAL OFFER: Tickets for Imagining Murder, True Crime & dinner in Betelnut Café €40 (limited availability)



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FUN RUN: At the Ciaran Carr walk in Corkagh Park last Saturday

Over €10k raised in charity run

Ciarán Carr Foundation resumed its 5km Family Fun Run on 10th anniversary

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

OVER €10,000 has been raised on the return of the Ciarán Carr Foundation 5km Family Fun Run, in what is the 10th anniversary of the charity, which fundraises to provide defibrillators to schools and sports clubs.

Running for the first time since 2019 due to Covid, the fun run made a magic return to Corkagh Park on Saturday (September 30) with some 650 registered participants.

Despite the unfavourable weather, there was a jubilant atmosphere as runners, walkers, buggies and dogs got underway across the 5km route in the Clondalkin park.

At the beginning of the final kilometer, local musician Jack Whelan was there with his guitar to help participants across the line, where they each received special 10th anniversary medals.

Speaking after the event, Gemma and Philip Carr, founders of the Ciarán Carr Foundation, thanked everyone for participating.

"Clondalkin is a special place and over the past 10 years the Foundation has received such incredible support from the community," they said.

"Without fundraising events such as this we would not be able to continue the work."

While the crew are still busy counting, early estimates suggest that at least €10,000 has been raised through the event.

All funds raised go towards continuing the work of the foundation in the local community and further afield, where it provides life-saving equipment such as defibrillators to sports clubs and schools.

On January 20, 2012, Ciarán, just two weeks shy of his 21st birthday, collapsed while training with Round Tower GAA senior football team.

He had already booked his 21st birthday party but family and friends ensured the night went ahead – raising €24,000 for the CRY Foundation in Tallaght Hospital.

Ciarán's parents Philip and Gemma subsequently established the charity Ciarán Carr Foundation, which is aligned with the Clondalkin GAA club.

The whole goal of the charity is helping prevent sudden cardiac death tragedies occurring at sporting clubs and organisations. *See photos page 52*

South Dublin County Council

DRAFT CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

2024 2029

The Draft Climate Action Plan is out on public consultation until Friday 3rd November 2023 and SDCC wants to know your views.

Events

A series of public information events are planned, these events will be advertised through SDCC social media channels.

- Lucan Presbyterian Church, Lucan Village on 11th October 3pm – 7pm
- Clondalkin Civic Offices on 12th October 3pm – 7pm

The Plan can be viewed at:

- Online on www.southdublinclimate.ie
- At South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24
- At Clondalkin Civic Office, Clondalkin, Dublin 22
- At the following Council Libraries during normal opening hours:
  - County Library
  - Ballyroan Library
  - Clondalkin Library
  - Lucan Library, Lucan Shopping Centre
  - North Clondalkin Library

Keep an eye on SDCC social media accounts for more events.
For more information visit www.southdublinclimate.ie



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Everyone is invited to get their health and welfare checked!

During October there is a diverse selection of free health and welfare events available

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

OCTOBER is Tallaght Community Health Awareness Month, with everyone invited to engage in the third year of the accessible programme.

Over the next four weeks, local centres and community hubs will host a diverse selection of free health and wellbeing events and everyone is invited.

Through locally based events, the practical and relevant programme brings services into the heart of communities – providing people with an opportunity to engage with supports and services on their doorstep.

Alongside connecting with their community, participants will also receive information that can have a positive impact on their health or a family member's physical or mental wellbeing.

The schedule for Week Two has also been released (see page 22) and has a jewellery workshop in Fettercairn, smoking cessation awareness/support and a talk on sepsis and its signs, symptoms, and prevention.

The programme has a strong focus on health checks such as blood pressure and BMI (Body Mass Index), with testing available in Killinarden Pharmacy Hub, McCabe's Citywest, Hickey's Springfield, Rossfield Pharmacy, Killinarden Pharmacy and Jobstown Pharmacy.

A Health Check Day is also being held in the Fettercairn Community Centre from 10am to 12 noon on October 10.

The Marie Keating Foundation will visit the Firhouse Community Centre on October 11 from 10am to 12 noon, with the team providing information and answering any cancer concerns from both men and women.

Health month is run by the Fettercairn Health Project, which is part of the South Dublin County Partnership.

Speaking with *The Echo*, Samantha Griffin, Fettercairn Health Project co-ordinator, encouraged everyone to engage in at least one event.

"There are events for all, everyone in the community is invited to come along and be part of health month", Samantha said.

For further information follow the Fettercairn Health Project or South Dublin County Partnership on Facebook.



SUPPORT: Natasha, Skye, Sara, Liz, Omabola, Samantha and Catríona at Belgard Community Centre on Tuesday during the Marie Keating Foundation visit

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- Junk Kouture World Finalist 2022.
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You are invited to visit
Old Bawn Community School
on

Monday 9th October 2023

Session 1 5:45 - 6:45

Session 2 7:00 - 8:00



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01-4520566

Landmark Innovation Centre costing €20m on course for hand-over



OPPORTUNITIES: The Innovation Centre which will cost around €20 million will open before Christmas

Development work is well-advanced and due for completion shortly

A NEW landmark Innovation Centre, which broke ground in 2022 and has cost around €20m, is on course to hand over the keys of the facility to operators Oxford Innovation before Christmas, *reports Hayden Moore.*

At the recent Tallaght Area Committee meeting, Cllr Charlie O'Connor asked for an update on the Innovation Centre, which is located off Belgard Road North adjacent to county hall.

In response, the council said that development work is well advanced and due for completion in November 2023.

Once finished, the building will be handed over to Oxford Innovation who will manage and operate the facility.

"Oxford Innovation are in the process of recruiting a local Management Team and are also rolling [out] a Marketing and Sales development plan to attract new businesses into the facility which will accommodate up to 60 businesses when fully occupied."

According to Oxford Innovation, they "now manage the UK's largest network of innovation centres housing over 1,000 innovative early stage businesses".

The council has billed it as a "four-storey landmark building" which will provide business opportunities and employment across 3,000m2 of lettable offices along with a public area.

Ground floor of the centre will be a public area and it incorporates a town hall space, café and meeting rooms

Having commenced construction last year, the project is on track for completion over the next few months with the council allocating €7.21m for 2023 under the Capital Budget 2023–2025 to get it across the line.

Under the previous capital budget, the projected expenditure for the project in 2021 and 2022 was a combined €12.51m.

Altogether, as per the projected expenditure laid out in the previous capital budget, the current capital budget and the recent update, the project will be coming in at least €19.72m.

"The Tallaght Public Realm is also underway and due for completion in early 2024," the council added.

"This includes the new Innovation Square at Innovation Quarter, as well as Chamber Square, the mobility hub and the interconnecting public spaces."



GAA club not receiving facilities for changing in pavilions plans

PITCHES which are used by a GAA club will not receive changing facilities through this round of South Dublin County Council's €4m pavilions programme, although it is conducting a review of proposed locations, *reports Hayden Moore.*

At the recent Tallaght Area Committee meeting, Cllr Kiaran Mahon asked the council if the Kilnamanagh GAA pitches, used by St Kevin's Killian's GAA, would be considered for inclusion in the initiative.

St Kevin's Killian's GAA, which has no clubhouse, changing facilities or toilets, has been trying to secure such facilities from the local authority for nearly 30 years to no avail.

South Dublin County Council launched the pavilion programme a few years ago with the goal of providing "much-needed" changing facilities in parks around the county.

In response, the council said that the programme had already been agreed with seven parks selected for funding under the capital budget.

"SDCC are currently working our way through the funded Pavillion Construction Programme, Kilnamanagh is not included as a location," a council spokesperson told the councillor.

Previously, the council told *The Echo* that "the programme is being provided for in larger parks which cater for a large number of pitches and a number of clubs sharing pitches".

Seven pavilions across Dodder Valley Park, Griffeen Valley Park, Corkagh Park, Tymon Park South, Arthur Griffith Park and Collinstown Park make up the agreed programme.

The Old Bawn pavilion in Dodder Valley Park is finished with one in Griffeen Valley Park and the Corkagh pavilion recently achieving Part 8 planning permission.

However, as several tender processes to progress construction of the programme have been unsuccessful, the council is reviewing the proposals to "achieve better value for money".

"During the review we will review the proposed locations as it is several years since the programme was developed. We will present the review to the council once complete," the council said.

Under the council's capital budget for 2023 to 2025, the pavilions programme is listed as having an expenditure of €2,660,000 in 2023 and €1,216,000 in 2024.

The local authority said at the meeting of the Tallaght area Committee on Monday, September 25, that the pavilions have been funded through the capital budget as well as the sports capital grant application process.

To date, the council has been successful with application for sports capital grants for five pavilions, with the authority hoping to secure additional funding this way moving forward.

In the capital budget, it was outlined that of the €3,876,000 total cost for the pavilion programme, €1,876,000 is being provided for through grants with €2m through levies.



NO-GO: St Kevin's/Kilian's GAA pitches in Kilnamanagh not included by SDCC

Men's Shed buys defibrillator in memory of former member

The Men's Shed was a great help to John Semple in the last few years

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

A MEN'S SHED has purchased a defibrillator in memory of one of their former members, with the group also undergoing first-aid training to understand how to use the device.

Firhouse Men's Shed held a special presentation to launch the defibrillator, which was purchased thanks to a contribution from the family of former member John Semple.

Last Saturday (September 23) members of the 146th Firhouse Scouts cooked a fry-up and members of John's family were present as they launched the defibrillator.

"John Semple was a lovely gentleman, he had a kidney transplant and some other trouble, the Men's Shed was a great help to him in the last few years," Noel McAvoy, founder of Firhouse Men's Shed, tells *The Echo*.

"He died last May, and it was his year anniversary, so his family asked us if we could do something in his memory.

"We came up with the idea of the defibrillator then and now we have it in the scouts den."

John Semple received a kidney transplant in 2009 after being diagnosed with chronic kidney disease two years previous.

After just eight years, the Firhouse man who was chairperson of the Irish Kidney Association's Dublin South Branch had to go back onto dialysis once again after the transplanted kidney broke down.

John spoke to *The Echo* in 2021 about his life with chronic kidney disease, explaining how he would be "totally lost" without his wife Margaret.



GREAT HELP: Cllr Brian Lawlor, Noel McAvoy, Ray Cleary, Margaret Semple, Emer, Eddie, Noel, Adam and (inset) John Semple

John and Margaret met in Leinster Cricket Club, in Rathmines, in 1979 and they bought their house in Firhouse in 1983 for €29,500.

John was diagnosed with prostate cancer, meaning he was not eligible to be on the transplant list when it failed in 2017.

Undergoing dialysis at home, the Firhouse man would attend Firhouse Men's Shed regularly as an outlet before his death in May 2022.

Following his death, such was the joy he had during his time in the men's shed, John's family approached them once again to do something in his honour.

His wife Margaret was present along with a dozen others as they presented the new defibrillator.

"You have a lot of men who are maybe separated or widowed, they've worked their whole lives and are retired now, they're looking for something to do and they have nothing," Noel continues.

"The men's shed gives them a new lease of life and something to do."

Firhouse Men's Shed which was established in 2017 and boasts a membership of around 72 men today, is always open to new members.

They engage in a plethora of activities Monday to Friday such as walks, pitch and putt, fitness classes, hill walking, art, and indoor bowling among other activities.

Last Friday, members of the men's shed underwent first aid training with members of the 146th Scouts Troop also expected to.



Calls for bonfire materials to be removed

RESIDENTS are urged to contact Dublin City Council if they notice stock piles of bonfire material in the lead-up to Halloween, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Last year Dublin City Council removed 441 tonnes of bonfire materials, diverting it from burning on illegal bonfires.

This included the removal of 450 pallets and 300 tyres from one house alone in Drimnagh, after a tip-off in relation to the storage of bonfire material coming up to Halloween 2022.

Speaking at the recent South Central area meeting, Cllr Hazel De Nortúin (PBP) said there was a number of pallets at a vacant house in Cherry Orchard, which were later dumped out on Cherry Orchard Drive, and asked if the council could start the Halloween process earlier this year.

Bruce Philips, Assistant Area Manager, Dublin City Council, said the council are collecting bonfire material not just in the lead-up to Halloween but throughout the year "and particularly this time of the year."

The city council said residents can report bonfire material on the citizen's hub online or call the council directly.

Parks staff will remove material from green spaces and waste management staff remove material from footpaths or public roads.

The city council is also working closely with Dublin Fire Brigade to share information and advice on their respective social media channels.

Last year, a team of 12 people, had to make several trips to the Drimnagh house, such was the volume of pallets and tyres at the property.

Gardai also assisted council staff with intervention at locations across the city, including two sites in Inchicore, and industrial estates in Ballyfermot and Inchicore, where truck loads of pallets and tyres were removed prior to Halloween.

Reports of stockpiled materials can be made to DCC Customer Services at 222 2222 or citizenhub.dublincity.ie



DANGEROUS: Bonfire material Dublin City Council collage

South Dublin County Partnership
Páirtíocht Chontae Átha Cliath Theas

Health Awareness Month 2023

Tallaght Schedule of Events

Blood Pressure & BMI testing available in local pharmacies:
Killinarden Pharmacy Hub • McCabe's Citywest
Hickey's Springfield • Rossfield Pharmacy
Killinarden Pharmacy • Jobstown Pharmacy

Week 2:

Oct 9 — Jewellery workshop, Fettercairn CHP Butterfly Room, 7pm-8pm
Oct 10 — Health Check Day, Fettercairn Community Centre, 10am-12pm
Oct 10 — Avoiding Burnout & Managing Self Care, Teams online Meeting, 10am-11am
Oct 10 — COPD Exercise class Under Professional Instruction, Rua Red, 10am-11am
Oct 10 — Mindfulness and other approaches to anxiety and depression, Tallaght Library, 2pm
Oct 11 — Marie Keating Foundation, Firhouse Community Centre, 10am-12pm
Oct 11 — Smoking Cessation awareness & support, Pharmacy Hub Killinarden Mace, 10am-12pm
Oct 11 — Future planning for you and your Family, Firhouse Community Centre, 10am-12pm
Oct 11 — Games Workshop, Fettercairn CHP, 10:30am-12pm
Oct 12 — What is Sepsis? Signs, symptoms & prevention, Tallaght Library, 11am-12pm
Oct 12 — COPD Exercise class Under Professional Instruction, Rua Red, 11am-12pm
Oct 12 — Menopause evening with Dr Aoife Nic Shamhrain, Killinarden FRC, 7pm-8pm
Oct 13 — The 5 keys to wellbeing, Firhouse Community Centre, 11am-12pm

Follow Fettercairn health project on Facebook for more information on Health Awareness Month events! Search 'Fettercairn Health Project' or scan the qr code below:

Tallaght Community Health Awareness Month
Fettercairn Community Health Project
South Dublin County Partnership
Páirtíocht Chontae Átha Cliath Theas
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County Library Tallaght · Marie Keating · Tallaght University Hospital · RUA RED · Pharmacy Hub · Cheeverstown · BELGARD COMMUNITY & YOUTH CENTRE · Mental Health Ireland · roadstone A CRH COMPANY

Council criticised for letting library 'fall into ruins'

A PUBLIC meeting took place this week to provide residents with an update on the status of Inchicore Library, which has been closed for nearly four years, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

Prior to the meeting on Tuesday night, Michael O'Flanagan, Chair the Inchicore Library Advisory Committee, says the closure of the library was "coincidental" with the closure of St Michael's Community Centre, also in Inchicore, leaving community groups "bereft of any venture to carry out activities for a full four years."

The Inchicore Library Advisory Committee was set up last year after Dublin City Council took possession of the library, in an effort to retain the cultural and historical importance of the building.

Despite it being a listed and protected structure, the committee criticised Dublin City Council for allowing it to "deteriorate and fall into ruins" while "millions" was spent on similar libraries in Ringsend and Drumcondra.

"Inchicore Library served the people of Inchicore, Kilmainham, Drimnagh and Ballyfermot for 85 years," said the group.

At the recent South Central area meeting, Cllrs Michael Pidgeon (GP) and Darragh Moriarty (Lab) asked if there is a timeline for the re-opening of Inchicore Library

Assistant Area Manager, DCC, Bruce Philips said he has been driving the project and has a "huge personal interest in it."

"We are at the stage now where we need to complete the design brief and get a new design team on board to complete the process."

He said there had been breakthroughs recently on the project, including talks with the original design team for the project who are interested in "re-engaging" with the project. However, this is subject to both parties reaching a financial agreement.

Another "major breakthrough" was in relation access. The previous plans contained "costly" proposals for an access ramp and lift but due to the building's protected status, Philips said this means a "different set of circumstances" and the city council were advised either a ramp or a lift would suffice.

Mr Philips estimated the project would take 18 months "to really get a bit of pace, get a contractor and get a design fully worked out."



IN HAND: Inside the damaged Inchicore Library

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Local history with Monica McGill

St John's church is 'quirkily erected' on a north-south line

It is the third and most recent church building on this ancient monastic site

ANYONE who lived in Clondalkin in the last thousand years – or visited the area – would have been aware of Clondalkin's Round Tower.

For hundreds of years, it was probably the tallest building in all of South Dublin.

Opposite the Round Tower is St John's church, serving Clondalkin's Church of Ireland (Anglican) community.

It's a compact building, quirkily erected on a north-south line due to a contemporaneous decision.

It's the third and most recent church building on this ancient monastic site.

Busy Tower Road runs between the Round Tower and the church, slicing in two the most important innermost zone of the early Celtic Christian monastery established by St Crónán Mochua (who died AD 630). This road may occupy the route of a much earlier footpath, treaded by pilgrims, traders and locals.

Construction of the present-day St John's began in 1789 with the bell-tower and extending to include the church's first three windows. The vestry was added in 1790, when the church opened for worship, according to information in the Joe Williams Archive.

The fourth window and gable apse were added in 1854.

The cosy interior of St John's is quite plain. There are no statues of saints, no curlicues which can be found in many of our older Roman Catholic church buildings.

The only highly decorative aspects are reserved mainly for some of St John's stained-glass windows and its lectern.

The single wooden altar table is simple. On entering the church itself, one's initial attention is commanded by the large and beautiful stained-glass window above the altar.



ANCIENT: St John's Church, Tower Road, Clondalkin. Photo © Monica McGill

Memorial plaques on the church's internal walls commemorate local families as well as other members of the congregation who fought and died in both world wars.

The solid, wooden pews have high backs – possibly to protect the congregation from the cold before modern central heating was installed. There is an organ in the organ-loft above the entrance to the church's interior.

St John's stands in an historic complex which includes two graveyards ('old' and 'new'), St John's National School, community hall, old schoolhouse and Church Terrace cottages.



HISTORIC: Clondalkin's Round Tower, from the old cemetery, St John's. Photo © Monica McGill

The old cemetery surrounds the church. Burials here are said to have started about AD 600 (St Crónán Mochua's time). The oldest headstone identified so far is a very plain one indeed, dated c.1600.

Many other gravestones, enclosed family tombs and table graves are here, as well as the graves of two RC priests: Rev. Fr Christopher Coleman (died 1788, aged 85) and Rev. Fr Barnaby Mullen, PP (died 1812).

One of the most notable table graves in the old cemetery contains the mortal remains of William Caldbeck of Moyle Park House (died 1803), a member of a local land-owning family. The grave of "Mr Butler, Grocer, Fishamble Street" is nearby.

Some gravestones indicate an idiosyncratic approach to spelling the dead person's name – such as the extra letter 'e' in the inscription to "Peeter Creaven" (died 1788), and "Thomas Spellman" (undated) where the 'S' is twice reversed.

Occasionally, gravestones may indicate the dead person's death-bed attitude. Richard Matthews appears to have been content to die.

His tombstone declares "Farewell, vain world, I have known enough of thee", whereas Anne Cullen's sombre tombstone inscription advises us: "Stay passengers, stay see where I lie, + as you are now so once was I + as I am now so must you be. Prepare for death + follow me."

More recent burials have taken place in the 'new' cemetery, an enclosed area situated within the larger 'old' cemetery. Records indicate that Patrick Gogarty (died 1892) was buried here.

He was Clondalkin's shoemaker, published poet, author and courageous political activist. Unfortunately, research has so far failed to precisely locate his grave.

Beside the 'new' cemetery is an ancient baptismal font, created from a granite erratic – one of the huge granite stones deposited hereabouts by the retreating ice-age glacier more than 10,000 years ago. There are indications that the ice-age glacier carried it here from Scotland.

Behind St John's church are two quietly impressive granite crosses. The smaller one lacks the expected upper extension.

Closer inspection reveals it has a Celtic cross carved on one side of it, with a Roman cross carved on its other face.

The second granite cross is thought to be a boundary marker for the area, whose full title is the Barony of Uppercross. Records show that Uppercross was an extensive district. Some say these boundary markers were moved for safe-keeping into the nearest church grounds when roadways or other developments were made.

Near these crosses is the tall remnant of the medieval stone church of St Mochua.

The name is spelled "Machotas" in Mason: The History and Antiquities of the Collegiate and Cathedral Church of St Patrick, 1820, p27. This medieval church was built about AD 1150 of local black calp limestone, the same material which had been used for its companion Road Tower.

The church was 120ft long and 50ft wide – that's almost 37 metres long and just over 15 metres wide. (By comparison, the Church of the Immaculate Conception and St Killian in the village measures 125ft x 53ft.)

It had three altars, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, St Thomas and St Bridget [sic].

St Mochua's medieval stone church replaced an earlier, wooden one on the same site. Mason's History describes this AD 1150 church in its heyday as "one of the finest medieval churches in County Dublin".

It suffered almost total demolition when the Moyle Park gunpowder mill exploded in the 1700s, although parish records state that by 1649 it was in poor repair and its closure was recommended. Thankfully, the enormous explosion didn't seem to harm the Round Tower.

Visitors entering the complex by the Tower Road gateway may notice the land elevation as they approach the church's main door from the roadway.

The rise may indicate the original topography of the inner part of this ancient monastic settlement, although Joe Williams concluded that the Round Tower rests upon a natural outcrop of our black calp limestone bedrock.

In any case, the door of the Round Tower and the main door of St John's church still face each other, following the ancient tradition in such ecclesiastical architecture. Things may change, yet somehow remain the same.

Regular church services are held in St John's church and these private grounds are maintained by local volunteer groups and individuals.

Wellbeing Warriors earn Amber Flag in support of mental health

Teachers and pupils have been working together to create safe space

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

YOUNG Wellbeing Warriors in a primary school banded together to create a healthy, inclusive school environment that supports mental health and earned an Amber Flag as a result.

Over the past 12 months, pupils and teachers have been diligently working to promote general wellbeing in Cnoc Mhuire Senior National School.

It started in September 2022, when teachers established a wellbeing committee in the school, with pupils nominating their peers to be a Wellbeing Warrior on the committee.

Harrison, Lorcan, Ella Rose, Kailyn, Jake, Layla, Maci and James were elected as Wellbeing Warriors and did not waste any time, running their first event last October with an Inside Out Day.

Everyone in the school wore their clothes inside out, representing that how someone looks on the outside may not reflect how they are feeling on the inside.

Then, in February, the school held a bake sale and it was triumphant, with all of the €879 raised going to the charity, Pieta House.

On the last Thursday of every month, pupils were given wellbeing homework to complete, which comprised of mindfulness colouring, kindness jars or a nature walk.

This is a practice that the Killinarden school will continue this year, with an Amber Flag display board also attracting messages of kindness in one of the corridors.

After a full school term focused on creating a safe space which promotes wellbeing, Pieta House awarded the school with the coveted Amber Flag.

Last Friday, September 29, pupils and their families were invited to the school for an Amber Flag day celebrations, with everyone encouraged to wear the colour.

There was an assembly held in the hall where the young pupils gave a presentation about their initiatives before everyone went outside to see some of the Wellbeing Warrior team raise the flag.

> **“Pupils were given wellbeing homework to complete, which comprised of mindfulness colouring, kindness jars or a nature walk**



WARRIORS: Pupils from Scoil Chnoc Mhuire holding the Amber Flag

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GOODWILL: Vincent, Paula, Gillian, Jacinta and Mary, children of the founder of Roche's Barbers, are overwhelmed by customers' great comments

A cut above the rest!

After 71 years giving the locals the tops in tonsorial talent, Roche's Barber



SADNESS: Family and friends come together for the closure

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

ROCHE'S Barbers above the Black Forge in Drimnagh closed last week after 71 years in business, with one former customer remarking that the closure is "another little part of Dublin gone".

The shop was established by Vincent Roche and his brother-in-law Dessie Smith in 1952 when they were in their early 20s.

Vincent came from a family of barbers and developed his trade in his father Joseph Roche's barber shop in Kimmage, which is still in operation to this day and is also called Roche's Barbers.

When the time came for Vincent to establish his own business, he did so with the support of his dad and endured a challenging year until the business gained a lasting foothold in the community.

Vincent's son, also called Vincent, told *The Echo*: "My grandad saw the room for rent on the Drimnagh Road and it was probably his idea to rent the place and set it up as a barber shop.

"My dad opened the shop with his brother-in-law Dessie Smith in 1952 and business was slow to get going. They weren't making a wage for the first six to 12 months so my dad would support them.

"But then they got on their feet – business picked up, and the two lads were doing fine."

Dessie worked in the barber shop for over 40 years and retired in the 90s, but Vincent continued working in the shop until he passed away in 2014 at 82 years old.

"He was an absolute gentleman and even to this day, people still talk about him locally because they loved him and the shop was a real hub of the community," said Vincent Jnr about his dad.

"He really and truly loved his job. If he went on holidays, he'd nearly miss the place.

"He loved the interaction with people every day. It wasn't just a haircut, people told him everything and problems were solved and disputes were settled.

"When my dad came home from work, he was always in great form."

After Vincent passed away, his children Mary, Ciny, Gillian, Vincent and Paula decided to carry on the business, with a dedicated team of staff including Claudia Birsan, who worked there for 20 years.

The Roches were told last March by a firm owned by MMA fighter Conor McGregor, which owns the unit the barber shop was in and the Black Forge below it, that they would



s is forced to hang up its scissors

have to vacate the unit.

This marked an end to the Roche's Barbers 71 continuous years of trading on Drimnagh Road, and at the time of its closure last Saturday, September 30, it was the oldest business on that road.

"The current landlord is requiring the space back," explained Vincent. "They want it back for themselves.

"We're the tenants and they're the owners so we're not going to fight – it wouldn't be right. They own the building, and we respect that.

"I'm obviously saddened and disappointed that we have to close, but I've no hard feelings against the landlord."

At the time of closing, the bustling barber shop had one full-time barber and three part-time ones, and had an average of 150 customers a week.

On Roche's Barbers final day of trading last week, many of their customers came to the shop and shared their disappointment at the closure, and their appreciation for the shop staff and the Roches.

"The community is amazing, and the goodwill we've been getting has really cheered us up," said Vincent.

"When we were in the shop on Saturday, we tried to look at it as a celebration of the fantastic journey we've been on and the staff that we've had."

Vincent added that he wouldn't rule out the return of Roche's Barbers in Dublin 12 if an appropriate unit became available, but this week they're focused on clearing the shop before having to return the keys to the landlord this Friday.

"I was clearing out the shop on Monday when one of the girls [who worked in the shop] got very upset," said Vincent.

"She said, 'It takes years to get a place together but it can be stripped out so quickly, in a day or two'.

"The business was going good, but when you're given your marching orders, what can you do?"

Vincent's sisters Mary, Ciny, Gillian and Paula told *The Echo* they were "so proud" of their brother for keeping their dad's shop going for the past nine years.

"It was [our dad's] wishes that the shop remained open for his staff and customers who were so loyal to him over the years," they said.

"Vin took on this task with the great help of Claudia.

"We were overwhelmed by all the lovely comments from customers and are delighted that they have fond memories of their time spent in the shop, it will be sorely missed in the community.

"As a family we will never be able to thank the staff and customers enough for their dedication and loyalty. We wish them all a very happy, healthy and long life."

Serenity Garden now open to help celebrate the lives of loved ones



SAFE PLACE: St Jude's GAA Serenity Garden – Dublin GAA CEO John Costello and St Jude's chairperson Anthony Gilleran

A SERENITY Garden has been launched by members of a sports club to celebrate the lives of loved ones who have died and recognise the community that built the club, *reports Hayden Moore.*

St Jude's GAA club has created the special garden for the club and the surrounding Templeogue community to reflect and spend some time in peace remembering loved ones who have died.

Dublin GAA CEO John Costello officially opened the new pocket garden with a dedication from Fr Brendan Madden, parish priest of St Jude the Apostle Church, in a ceremony on Sunday, September 17.

"The new Serenity Garden was designed as a place for the whole community to reflect, and spend some time in peace remembering friends who have passed on," Anthony Gilleran, St Jude's GAA chairperson said.

"The garden will become another place in our community where everyone can celebrate the lives of our loved ones who are no longer with us. It is our way of saying 'you will never be forgotten.'

"The garden acknowledges that we are all part of a community – people who come together to build something special.

"We have built a sports club of grass and bricks and mortar, but at the heart of this are people.

"People who have built a club, but also built deep relationships and friendships. People who have built a safe place for children to grow, and for adults to play."

Inspired by the idea of "it takes a village to raise a child", the Serenity Garden depicts an older adult holding the hand of a young child, along with hurlers, camogie and football players.

There is also an inscription on a plaque at the garden which utilises words from the Alex MacLean poem, Grave Situation.

Designed by architect Joe Fallon, the garden once again brought people together who offered up their time during the construction phase to create a space to be treasured for generations.

During the day, the area is bright but sheltered from the breeze and after dark, subtle lighting decorates the memorial.

An Acer Palmatum tree, also known as the Japanese Maple, was donated by Blossom Landscapes for the garden for its hand-shaped leaves representing nurture and as a symbol of regeneration.

Green schools



ACTION: Junior Infants Anna, Cooper, Jason and Saibh from St Mark's NS in Tallaght Green-Schools is a student-led programme with involvement from the wider community which promotes long-term, whole-school action for the environment.

Photo by Conor Healy / Picture It Photography

Charity stresses issues for disabled ahead of Budget

Key challenge is underfunding of services which may put WALK at risk

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



KEY CONCERNS: The town hall event in Rua Red

A CHARITY is working to highlight the issues facing people with an intellectual disability and their families, having held a town hall event ahead of Budget 2024.

Next Tuesday, October 10, Government spending for the year ahead will be announced by Minister for Public Expenditure, Paschal Donohoe TD.

WALK, which is also known as Walkinstown Association for People with an Intellectual Disability Limited, provides services to more than 250 people with an intellectual disability and their families.

Ahead of the Minister's announcement, WALK organised a town hall event in Rua Red, inviting politicians and stakeholders to highlight the National Federation of Voluntary Bodies Budget 2024 Campaign.

Getting the message across, WALK and the National Federation created a document title Key Budget 2024 Priorities.

One of the key concerns WALK has been the disparity between section 38 agencies, which operate within the HSE Employment Control Framework, and section 39 agencies, which are community-based and operate through service level agreements with the HSE and Department.

Ultimately, this creates recruitment challenges and puts the sustainability of WALK "at risk" because of a lack of pay parity, it claims.

Inflation and rising operation costs in tandem with underfunding of WALK services is "putting us under considerable pressure and challenging our ability to deliver effective services".

WALK says that despite the need for residential spaces and waiting lists, the vacancies in its residential services are not being filled "due to a lack of appropriate funding being offered".

The charity is also seeking funding to better meet the needs of the older people it supports and improve its respite capacity.

According to WALK, more than 70 per cent of disability services in Ireland are provided by the not-for-profit sector.

The National Federation of Voluntary Service Providers is an umbrella body which represents not-for-profit service providers supporting people with intellectual disabilities and autism across Ireland.

Working with the National Federation, which supports some 26,000 people with intellectual disabilities and their families across Ireland, WALK is at the forefront locally.

The majority of WALK service locations are in the Dublin South West and Dublin South Central constituencies and it provides employment for over 220 people.

Helping the bereaved

ANAM Cara South Dublin, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on Monday, October 9, at 7.15pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or whether their death was recent or not.

Explore God and faith

LUCAN South Parish is hosting a programme of Catholic faith formation for children to learn more about God and the Catholic faith.

Children will explore their faith through age appropriate, interactive activities, discussions.

Starting from September at the Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan, the programme is for age groups between 6-12 years and 13-17 years.

It is also open to all children of neighbouring parishes and there is no fee.

If interested, contact the office at 457 2900 or email catechismlucansouth@gmail.com

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Repeated acts of vandalism causes footpath repairs to be postponed for safety reasons

ALL works on footpath repairs on Homelawn Road in Tallaght have been postponed by South Dublin County Council due to repeated instances of vandalism, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

On the nights of Monday, September 18, and the following Monday, September 25, equipment belonging to council staff was set alight.

Last Thursday morning, a council spokesperson confirmed to *The Echo* that works had been postponed as staff had concerns for their safety.

"Road Maintenance had their materials (timber, cones and barriers) vandalised in Homelawn Road on the nights of Monday 18 and Monday, September 25," stated the spokesperson.

"The crew, having made the site safe, has postponed all works there.

"There are three weeks' work left to complete the footpath works in this area.

"SDCC Road Maintenance may return at a future date to complete the works, but have safety concerns for their staff and equipment."

Speaking to *The Echo* last week, local Fianna Fáil councillor Teresa Costello described the vandalism as "so unnecessary" and said it was delaying the council's work.

As reported in *The Echo* last January, the council had set aside a budget of €40,000 to carry out footpath repairs in Homelawns Estate.



DANGER: A bonfire on the path in Homelawns

Sensory garden in hospital helps mental health recovery

Coach Lee Moroney thought up the idea of creating a place of plants and grasses

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

A SENSORY garden project has been completed in the grounds of Tallaght University Hospital to help people accessing the psychiatric facility in their mental health recovery.

Former Tallaght Person of the Year Lee Moroney, through his business Coach Approach, has been leading fitness classes in the psychiatric ward on the grounds of the hospital for six years.

Then, Moroney thought up the idea of creating a sensory garden of plants and grasses on the grounds to help patients in their mental health recovery in a therapeutic manor.

"I had a very simple plan in place: a tidy-up and plant flower to add colour, but when I introduced Rachel Freeman (TUD), whose expertise is second to none, to the project, she added a whole different dimension to the project,

"Craig [Duggan] from Just Dug volunteered his professional garden skills, along with former environmental winner Denise De Lappe who has been a friend for many years through the GAA.

"Everyone mucked in including the occupational therapists Fiona [Doolan] and Emma [Denny] who work with patients on the ward to aid their recovery.

"I am really chuffed with it and we still [have] some money in the kitty to add something new come winter and early spring next year."

Coach Approach supported the project financially alongside Tallaght University Hospital and Tallaght Community Council.

> **"I had a very simple plan in place: a tidy-up and plant flower to add colour, but when I introduced Rachel . . . to the project, she added a whole different dimension**



THERAPEUTIC: Rachel Freeman (TUD Horticulture lecturer), Fiona Doolan (Occupational Therapist), Denise De Lappe (Community volunteer), Craig Duggan (Just Dug/Community volunteer), and Emma Denny (Occupational Therapist)

National Beep Beep Day gives young children a start in learning about road safety



SAFE CROSSING: Staff and pupils

PRE-SCHOOL children are learning about the dangers of the road through their participation in a road safety campaign being run by the Road Safety Authority called National Beep Beep Day, *reports Hayden Moore.*

Pupils in StartBright Bawnogue Early Learning Centre will take part in a road safety education initiative this Friday, October 6 to highlight the importance of being safe traversing the roads.

This week is Road Safety Week and with the school term restarting last month, coming into the shorter days, Beep Beep Day guides young children through storybooks and a guide.

In advance of October 6, schools were able to order Beep Beep Day packs which includes special reflective vests, posters, and guides.

Children are being thought to hold hands, stop, look and listen before crossing any roadway.

Included in the guide, which is available on the Road Safety Authority (RSA) website, is the Safe Cross Code song, along with tips on walking, cycling and taking public transport to school.

According to the RSA, around 101 children aged up to five years old were killed or seriously injured on Irish roads between 2017 and 2021.

StartBright in Bawnogue are one of many pre-primary schools taking part in National Beep Beep Day, due to the large volumes of traffic passing the service every day.

"We wanted to make sure that our children learn to safely come and go to our service, to be role models for best road safety practices and to encourage parents to follow safe practice when crossing roads too," the pre-school told *The Echo.*



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

Haws a key source for birds



VALUABLE: Hawthorn's red haws are a valuable crop for birds in autumn and early winter

THE most widespread wild fruit in an autumn hedgerow is Hawthorn's little red haw. The word 'haw' is said to have been the old English name for a hedge, making Hawthorn the 'hedge thorn'. Because of its lovely sprays of white springtime flowers, it is also sometimes called the Whitethorn.

Haws are rich in Vitamin C, just like the Rose Hip which is the fruit of the wild rose.

Both are not very tasty, however, and are not widely eaten today. Also, haws have only a relatively thin layer of soft flesh.

Most of its size is taken up by an inedible stone or seed in the centre of the fruit.

In the past, haws were mostly picked and eaten casually as people walked along a roadside hedgerow. Our ancient ancestors, however, saw the plentiful annual supply of haws as a valuable harvest to be collected and stored.

Preparing the haws took effort, however. The gathered fruit was first squeezed by hand to separate the inedible stones from the fleshy layers. The stones were discarded, leaving a mass of soft flesh which was either eaten immediately or was processed further.

Haws contain a lot of pectin, so when the wet fruit pulp was left aside to dry, the pectin helped the soft flesh to set into a more jelly-like mass. This could then be cut into slices and eaten raw or heated on hot stones to cook lightly. Alternatively, the slices were dried further and put aside for winter storage.

The haws, leaves, and flowers of Hawthorn were also used in folk medicine, where they were seen as an aid in the treatment of heart and blood pressure complaints.

While we may not eat haws today, these nutrient-rich fruits are a key food source for Blackbirds and Thrushes.

The abundance of haws in Ireland also draws flocks of winter migrants like Fieldfares and Redwings from northern Europe.



VITAMINS: Rose Hips are rich in Vitamin C, just like the haw



SUPPORT: Ireland manager Stephen Kenny and Mayor Alan Edge at the start of the recovery walk in Kiltalown House

Recovery Wa tournament

Ireland manager Stephen Kenny supported the participants on the day

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

OVER 150 people from local drug projects took part in a Recovery Walk in Tallaght last week, followed by a football tournament in MacUiliam.

Republic of Ireland football manager Stephen Kenny was there on the day, which was billed as a celebration of the recovery community in Tallaght.

The walkers, many of whom wore purple bibs in a nod to the colour of the recovery movement, covered a route including the Tallaght Rehabilitation Project in Kiltalown and JADD in Jobstown.

Jacqueline Sheehy, from the Tallaght Drug and Alcohol Task Force, told *The Echo*: "The atmosphere was very energetic, there was a bit of a buzz.

"We just wanted to show that recovery is possible, and we want everyone to feel that recovery is possible at whatever level is appropriate to them individually.

"We want to show that they can have a brighter, more positive, healthier, and vibrant future, and to reinforce that anything is possible.

"I think [the walk] was for people to see that it's not all doom and gloom.

"Yes, there is a drug crisis in the area but there is a section of the community that wants to strive to do better by accessing services for recovery."

The walk was followed by a football tournament in MacUiliam, led by the Connect Four street work project that operates in west Tallaght and signposts young people to services in the area.

The match was a jubilant affair, with the team from Killinarden Community School ultimately becoming the winners of this year's Recovery Cup.

Watching from the sidelines was Republic of Ireland manager Stephen Kenny, who proudly supported the initiative and happily posed for photos with the young people who were there on the day.

However, the main aim of the day was to shine a light on recovery and the abundance of services in the area for people who want to pursue addiction recovery.

"It was just uplifting," said Ms Sheehy. "It was a joyous experience to observe, because the participants had gone through a lot of hard times.

"But it felt like everyone was able to forget about what was happening outside, and they were able to enjoy the moment and just live in the moment. It was like a mini-festival."

Looking ahead, Ms Sheehy said that she hopes to increase the number of participants from the wider community in next year's Recovery Walk.

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



alk and football attracts over 150



RECOVERY WALK: Stephen Kenny and Mayor Alan Edge at the walk

Seven local parks awarded Green Flags



BEST MANAGED: Tymon Park's ponds offer an opportunity to introduce children to nature

NO LESS than seven local parks have been recognised as being of good quality and having been managed in environmentally sustainable ways after being awarded a 2023 Green Flag, *reports Hayden Moore.*

An Taisce Environmental Education has awarded Ireland's best managed public parks and green spaces with prestigious Green Flags.

Under the management of South Dublin County Council, five parks have been given a Green Flag.

These include Tymon Park, Corkagh Park, Rathfarnham Castle Park, Sean Walsh Park and Waterstown Park, which all hold on to their respective flags.

Also, Tymon Park has named as being highly commended in the 2023 Pollinator Plan Award category with long-flowering and short-flowering meadows, the urban planting and bulb schemes in the park.

Meanwhile, under the management of the Dublin City Council, two parks have been recognised with a Green Flag for the quality of the amenity.

These include Eamonn Ceannt Park in Crumlin and the People's Park in Ballyfermot, which obtains the flag in the first round of the Green Flag Awards since opening to the public in June 2022.

Nationwide, some 101 parks, gardens, grounds, and wildlife sanctuaries around the country have been included in the 2023 Green Flag Awards.

Now operating in 17 countries across the world, the Green Flag Award is the international quality benchmark for the public green space sector.

The An Taisce Environmental Education Unit run the award, which is running over 25 years and assessed across eight criteria headings, in Ireland.

"The continued success of the Green Flag Award is due to the love staff members have for their green spaces and the hard work they put in to maintaining them," Minister for Heritage, Malcolm Noonan TD, said.

"They do a phenomenal job every day making their parks and gardens beautiful, safe spaces for the public to enjoy."



AWARD: Walterstown Park

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 Simonas Petraitis, a passionate and hard-working member of the Cherrywood Tidy Towns.



INSPIRATION: The work done by Simonas Petraitis in Cherrywood was inspired by a trip to Norway where they are famously environmentally conscious,

The Echo – celebrating community for over 40 years





I'M sure many of our readers would like to see their local area improved a bit.

You know the kind of thing, litter cleaned up, a few nice flowers and plants adorning the place.

Wouldn't it be nice if there were some people around who took the time to make something like that happen?

Luckily for all of us, these people do exist and this week we've had the pleasure of meeting one.

Simonas Petraitis is a passionate and hard-working member of the Cherrywood Tidy Town group in Clondalkin and he took some time out of his busy schedule to have a chat with us about his life and work in the community.

The estate of Cherrywood itself accommodates a lot of foot and road traffic due to the fact that it offers a direct route to Corkagh Park. Over the years, all this activity took an environmental toll on the estate and the residents decided something must be done.

The original Cherrywood Tidy Town was a loose collective of volunteers who went around picking litter off their own bats.

The organisation which exists now dates back to March of this year when, on the back of a very successful clean-up day, some of the people involved decided to formalise the group.

An eleven person committee was duly formed and Cherrywood Tidy Town went to work.

At the forefront of this committee was our local hero for this week, namely Simonas Petraitis.

Originally from Lithuania, Simonas has been in Ireland since 2006 and he moved to Cherrywood in 2018.

Simonas takes up the story; "What I do now in Cherrywood was very much influenced by a holiday I had in Norway. The Norwegian people are famously environmentally conscious and in all areas, they maintain the places in which they live assiduously. I took this lesson home with me and applied it to my life in Ireland. It's now almost second nature to go around with my picking stick disposing of any litter I find."

As time went on, Simonas was pleasantly surprised by the number of people in the estate who were doing the same thing. This resulted in many conversations with his new neighbours about things they'd like to do to improve the place.

This was the genesis of Cherrywood Tidy Town as we know it.

"One of the first things we did," says Simonas, was to set up a Facebook group as a way of communicating with people and letting them know that the group existed."

The page was well received and attracted many followers who could then take part in the group's activities if they so wished.

"The Facebook page was a great first step in terms of getting the organisation noticed," Simonas tells me, "We then did a leaflet drop which got the word out further and gradually more and more people started joining in with our projects."

There were certainly plenty of projects to be getting on with, above and beyond simple litter picking.

Simonas continues, "We took a holistic approach to the improvement of the estate and it was great to see so many people willing to put the time and effort into helping out. Through those people, we've achieved a great amount in a relatively short space of time."

These achievements include working alongside South Dublin County Council to remove all the graffiti in the estate, planting the entrance stone which marks the estate, painting the railings which separate Cherrywood Crescent from Corkagh Park, and planting flowers and shrubs all over the estate. The roundabout at the entrance to the estate has also had this treatment with a large scale floral installation planted to welcome people to Cherrywood.

At this point it should be said that Simonas is a rather reluctant frontman for the group. He is at all times absolutely insistent that I mention the team and the other people who made the group's success possible.

"We're lucky to have attracted a lot of support from a lot of people," he says. "Our local councillor Francis Timmons has been a great help. Also South Dublin County Council helped us out with much needed materials such as paint and plants through the Social Credit Scheme. Clondalkin Tidy Town also helped us out enormously, offering advice and giving us guidelines on how to get the idea off the ground."

He continues with a roll call of names to whom he offers fulsome praise, "The contributions of Cliona, Damien, Eddie, Janice, Helena, Stefan, Séamus, Louise, Justin and many others have been absolutely vital to what we've achieved."

Simonas is a devoted family man himself and again, he offers glowing plaudits to his family, "My wife, Reda always stands by my side supports me being a committee member of Cherrywood Tidy Town one hundred percent. Also my son Denis is one of our greatest biggest helpers. He loves coming out with us and doing his bit with his litter picker, hopefully he'll keep this spirit up as he grows older. I'm very proud of him."

As for the future of Cherrywood Tidy Town, Simonas is optimistic. "We've got a strong team involved now and the numbers are growing. Like every other organisation I suppose, we need funding to grow and expand what we do. We're hoping that a local business might come on board to help. We're actively working on that at the moment."

When asked to sum up his reasoning for putting in all of the work he does, Simonas' answer is simplistic yet resonant; "I've made a lot of friends and met a lot of great people in Cherrywood and I just think it's important to keep the area nice. At the end of the day, Cherrywood is our home."

We could all do with a neighbour like Simonas Petraitis. To connect with Cherrywood Tidy Town you can visit their Facebook page.

> **"We've got a strong team involved now and the numbers are growing. Like every other organisation I suppose, we need funding to grow and expand what we do. We're hoping that a local business might come on board to help. We're actively working on that at the moment**



HOME: Petraitis says it's important to keep the area nice. "At the end of the day, Cherrywood is our home"

€1 million funding boost for An Cosán with University partner

Funding was awarded from Higher Education Authority after case study was submitted

THE partnership between An Cosán in Jobstown and South East Technological University (SETU) has received a boost of €1million in funding from the Higher Education Authority (HEA).

The announcement was made last week by Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris TD, at the HEA's System Performance Framework launch hosted at SETU's campus in Carlow.

This was one of five HEA Performance Fund grants announced for higher education institutions across Ireland.

The funding was awarded on the strength of a case study submitted to the HEA titled: 'SETU and An Cosán: Using the power of community education to create transformative higher education pathways for social inclusion and sustainable development'.

An Cosán has worked in collaboration with SETU Lifelong Learning since 2008 in the development and delivery of higher education courses.

The collaboration has been recognised nationally as a model of engagement that breaks the cycle of educational disadvantage and reaches learners who would not traditionally have had access to third-level education.

An Cosán's learner-centred, holistic, and transformative educational model was initially based around targeting priority groups in the local community in West Tallaght. Through its partnership with SETU Lifelong Learning and network of over 220 community partners, this was expanded to establish a national Linked Provision programme that has demonstrated leadership in equity of access, participation, and success.

An Cosán now provides third-level opportunities for over 100 learners annually, who study across a range of disciplines and award levels.

The provision of online course delivery combined with An Cosán's extensive offering of wraparound supports, including hospitality and childcare, flexible scheduling, tutor support and mental health services, facilitates greater access, inclusion, and participation on courses.

Speaking following the announcement of the award, Heydi Foster, Chief Executive Officer at An Cosán, said, "We are thrilled our valuable Linked Partnership with SETU has been recognised in this way by the Higher Education Authority. The Performance Fund grant will ensure we continue to reach the furthest through our progressive pathways to higher education. We look forward to further collaboration with SETU and to expanding our successful community-based higher education programmes so that more adult learners from marginalised communities across Ireland can achieve empowerment through education."



PARTNER: Dr Helen Murphy, Head of School of Education and Lifelong Learning at South East Technological University (SETU); Thomas Murray, Higher Education Lead at An Cosán; Rosemary Flynn, Director of Lifelong Learning at SETU; Heydi Foster, CEO at An Cosán, Adelaide Nic Chárthaigh, Adult Community Education Manager at An Cosán.



Local authority wins two categories at Planning Awards



MAKING IT WORK: Members from South Dublin County Council including Mick Mulhern, Director Planning and Transport at SDCC and Mayor Alan Edge receiving the award for the 'Research and Innovation' category and this year's Irish Planning Awards from Mary Mac Mahon, President of the IPI

THE Irish Planning Institute (IPI), the all-island professional membership body for spatial planners, announced South Dublin County Council as the winner of two categories, 'Research and Innovation' and 'Workplace of the Year' at this year's Irish Planning Awards at Clontarf Castle Hotel.

South Dublin County Council's 'Instantaneous Data - A South Dublin Approach to Active Land Management' project was declared the joint winner in the 'Research and Innovation' category, and the '#Making it Work @ SDCC Planning' project was declared the winner in the ''Workplace of the Year' category.

South Dublin County Council's 'Instantaneous Data- A South Dublin Approach to Active Land Management' project produced a unique, effective, user-friendly instantaneous suite of information that provides evidence-based site data and map viewers which are multifunctional and futureproofed.

The Planning Department for South Dublin County Council was also recognised for its '#Making it Work @ SDCC Planning' project as the winner for 'Workplace of the Year'. It had key initiatives in the workplace such as introducing a new Delivery Team in the Department, implementing a paid summer placement programme for student planners, and a Graduate Planner programme with three Graduate posts.

South Dublin County Council was also commended and highly commended for projects in the Climate Action and Biodiversity, Urban Regeneration and Heritage and Plan Making categories.

E business
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October 5, 2023

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FoodCloud awarded €500,000 for research and development

Funding from Enterprise Ireland's Agile Innovation Fund supports 14 jobs at FoodCloud

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

TALAGHT-based FoodCloud has been awarded more than €500,000 research and development (R&D) funding from Enterprise Ireland's Agile Innovation Fund.

The funding will be used to further develop FoodCloud's innovative food redistribution platform, Foodiverse, and set a target of an additional 15 per cent increase in food rescued and an additional 8.25 million meals per annum by 2025.

The funding also supports 14 jobs at FoodCloud, a tech-based social enterprise that redistributes food which would otherwise end up as waste.

Founded in 2013, FoodCloud's tech platform connects retailers, food businesses and restaurants (including Aldi, Booker UK, Dunnes Stores, KFC, Lidl, Nandos, Tesco and Waitrose) that have surplus to food banks, community groups and charities that can use that food.

FoodCloud is working to reduce emissions across five markets in Ireland, Europe, and Africa, and is at the forefront of the circular economy in food systems in Ireland and globally.

FoodCloud's Head of Engineering James Clifford, said: "This Enterprise Ireland Agile Innovation Fund grant marks a significant milestone for FoodCloud as we strive to accelerate the impact of food redistribution and cut food waste at scale through our Foodiverse technology.

"As of now, FoodCloud has redistributed more than 98,000 tonnes of surplus food through its technology platform and physical hubs, which amounts to 235 million meals and the reduction of more than 315,000 tonnes of CO2- equivalent."

Jenny Melia, Executive Director at Enterprise Ireland, said, "Enterprise Ireland is investing in digital and climate resilience, and has backed FoodCloud since its early days. A leader in both digital innovation and the fight against climate change, as FoodCloud implements this research and development as part of its ambitious growth strategy."



FUNDING: (from left) James Clifford (Head of Engineering, FoodCloud) and Ciara O'Regan (Product Manager, FoodCloud), with Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Simon Coveney, TD, Jenny Melia (Executive Director at Enterprise Ireland), and Ann Keenan (Chairperson at FoodCloud)

Datapac helps businesses to redefine their IT infrastructure with new model

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

BALLYMOUNT tech solutions and services provider Datapac is enabling businesses to redefine their IT infrastructure management with HPE GreenLake.

The HPE GreenLake hybrid cloud model provides organisations with the flexibility to adjust their IT infrastructure and scale their services, depending on their evolving business needs. Organisations only pay for the IT resources actually consumed.

Moving from a heavy upfront capital expense to a more manageable operational approach with HPE GreenLake's pay-as-you-use model frees up capital and resources which can then be redirected to other value-adding endeavours. It provides complete visibility and control over IT spending, allowing organisations to reliably forecast IT spend based on actual usage.

The on-demand solution can integrate seamlessly into existing IT environments and streamlines operations by providing a unified platform, making it easier to monitor, manage, and optimise IT resources in one place. It also empowers organisations to quickly deploy new applications and resources.

Patrick Kickham, Director at Datapac, explains: "Through outsourcing IT infrastructure management, organisations see the maximum value from their investment from the outset without creating additional burden for often overstretched internal IT teams."

Karen O'Connor, General Manager, Datapac, adds: "By partnering with a trusted managed services provider like Datapac, businesses can gain competitive advantage with flexible, on-demand IT infrastructure, with peace of mind that they are in the hands of skilled and experienced experts."



TRUSTED: Karen O'Connor, GM Datapac

E business

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Meagher's Pharmacy success with Best Managed Companies Award

Company with shops in Castletymon and Glenview retains Platinum Status for a third year

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

MEAGHER'S Pharmacy is celebrating its selection as one of Ireland's Best Managed Companies by Deloitte for the ninth consecutive year.

The awards programme honours outstanding business performance by companies across Ireland.

Meagher's, which has nine outlets in Dublin including Glenview and Castletymon Park in Tallaght, also retain its Platinum Status, the highest award level, for a third year.

The pharmacy group was this year classified as a 're-qualifier' for the award – companies whose success has propelled them beyond the application requirements for the gold and platinum award level.

Oonagh O'Hagan, Managing Director of Meagher's Pharmacy, picked up the award on behalf of the group at a ceremony at the Convention Centre in Dublin on Thursday, September 14.

The Deloitte Best Managed Companies programme is the only awards scheme on the island of Ireland that evaluates overall business performance as well as a company's management team and strategy. Judges also look at a company's environmental, social and governance standards, and its strategic planning and talent strategy.

Companies that apply for the award must be owned, managed or controlled on the island of Ireland and have a turnover in excess of €20m. They must also be established for at least five years and be able to demonstrate superior performance over the past three years in relation to their peers.

Oonagh O'Hagan, Managing Director of Meagher's Pharmacy, said the group were delighted to be named among Ireland's Best Managed Companies for a ninth year in a row.

"While we were thrilled with our company's overall performance in 2023, we take particular pride in the fact that BMC judges looked beyond our financial performance and made their decisions based on the standards we set in our environmental, social and governance policies, as well as our strategies around planning, recruitment and retention.

"A strong and supportive culture is the centrepiece of our success at Meagher's Pharmacy and we look forward to continuing that into 2024."



STANDARDS: Managing Director Oonagh O'Hagan and Joanne O'Hagan of Meagher's Pharmacy with their award

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Study highlights strong appetite for more accessible online healthcare

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

ONLINE consultations would make half of adults more likely to take concerns to GP, according to research by Citywest company Pure Telecom.

The study showed a strong appetite among Ireland's adult population for more accessible online healthcare with nearly half of respondents saying they would be more likely to bring a health concern to their GP if offered online consultations.

However, only 29 per cent said that this is a service their GP currently offers.

The survey of 1,004 adults in Ireland, was conducted by Censuswide on behalf of high-speed broadband and telecoms provider Pure Telecom, to explore public sentiments about connected healthcare.

It revealed that 64 per cent of adults would be willing to have online consultations with all types of healthcare providers, where appropriate, if it meant they could help to reduce waiting times.

Paul Connell, CEO, Pure Telecom, said: "Often, it is important that we see a healthcare professional in-person to receive the appropriate care or treatment. There are other times when healthcare visits feel like they could have been more time-efficient – both for the patient and health professional – by being done online.

"Our research shows that there is an appetite among adults in Ireland for our healthcare providers to embrace connected medicine where it is appropriate."

Although more people are managing aspects of their health using mobile apps and putting more faith in technology", Connell says "connectivity is everything when it comes to remote healthcare."

"Patients and medical professionals need to be able to connect as seamlessly as possible and Pure Telecom is playing a role in facilitating this through reliable, high-speed broadband."



APPETITE: Paul Connell, CEO of Pure Telecom

E business

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Maldron Hotel invests €500k in its conferencing facilities

Re-launch helps position it as the leading banqueting venue in West Dublin

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

FOLLOWING a €500,000 investment, Maldron Hotel Tallaght has re-launched the hotel's conferencing and banqueting facilities.

Maldron Hotel Tallaght this week officially launched its refurbished Conferencing and Banqueting venue.

"This includes a state-of-the-art banqueting kitchen, lifts, furnishings as well as conferencing technology, which will all help position the hotel as a leading conferencing and banqueting venue in West Dublin," according to general manager Adrian Foy, who was speaking at the launch event on Wednesday, September 20.

Also speaking at the event, Shane Casserly, Corporate Development Director with Dalata Hotel Group PLC, commented that "this investment is a vote of confidence in the team which is doing such an excellent job in developing Maldron Hotel Tallaght."

Also speaking at the event was Marie Price Bolger, representing Sth Dublin Chamber.

Cllr Vicki Casserly and Cllr Charlie O'Connor enjoyed meeting and mingling with guests during the afternoon.

The event was well supported by the local community, local business and political groups alike and the hotel has already received numerous event enquiries following the launch.



INVESTMENT: The Maldron Hotel staff at the launch of the facilities in the Maldron Hotel

CRH shares make debut on New York Stock Exchange

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

PADDY Power owner Flutter Entertainment became the biggest Irish company listed on the Euronext in Dublin after CRH formally ceased trading on the exchange.

CRH shares made their debut on the New York Stock Exchange last week, where the Belgard Castle headquartered giant hopes it will attract a broader investor base and better reflect its significant exposure to the US market.

In early trading in New York, CRH shares were up 2 per cent or higher.

North America accounts for about 75 per cent of CRH group earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda), which stood at €1.3bn in 2022. Its revenues last year were €31.1bn.

CRH chief executive Albert Manifold, has previously noted that the US is expected to be a key driver of future growth for the building materials giant

"Today marks an important milestone in CRH development, which will enable us to fully participate in the significant growth opportunities that lie ahead for our business," he said.

Billionaire investors George Soros and Seth Klarman established positions in CRH during the summer. More than two dozen hedge funds disclosed new or increased positions in CRH American Deposit Receipts on the Nasdaq in recent months.

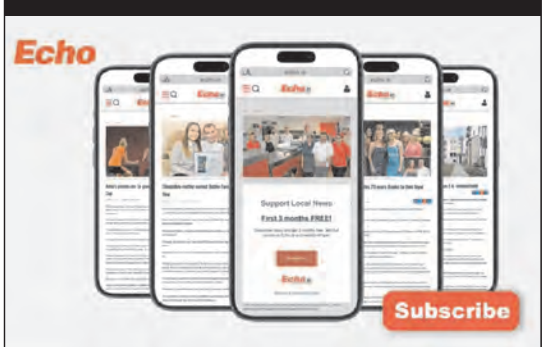
The CRH departure has heightened concerns for Euronext, the owner of the Dublin bourse. The exchange has seen an exodus of A-listers in the past number of years, including Greencore, DCC, Aryzta and Grafton Group.



LISTING: CRH, which is based at Belgard Castle, made its debut on the New York Stock Exchange

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NTA plans to close slip road to create bus layover

Plans due to increased number of buses as result of changes under Bus Connects



LAYOVER FACILITY: The area proposed for the layover from Belgard Square South onto the N81

THE National Transport Authority (NTA) has lodged plans for the closure of the slip road from Belgard Square South onto the N81 to create a layover for buses in the area.

This development is proposed to create a layover to accommodate the increase in the volume of buses in the area as a result of the changes proposed under BusConnects, according to the NTA.

The volume of buses is set to increase from 22 to 49 buses per hour.

The layover facility will be comprised of bus parking for 10 buses and welfare facilities for drivers.

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

The development consists of two separate parking areas with seven bus bays in the south layover and three in the layby to the north of Belgard Square South.

There will be one entrance point into the layover area located on the southern side of Belgard Square South.

This layover area will have two egress points with a right-turn ban in place, and there will be a layby located on the northern side of Belgard Square South, across from the layover area.

The layover area includes a bus driver welfare facility comprising of two toilet units.

The proposed development includes the closure of the hard shoulder on the northern side of the N81 to accommodate the realignment of the cycle track along the N81.

The proposed development includes all the associated works to facilitate the bus layover and welfare facility.

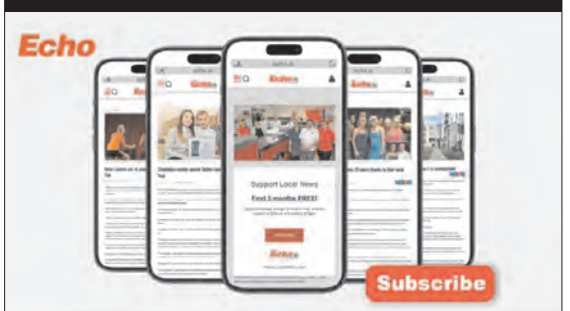
This includes drainage works, utility diversions, public lighting, fencing and landscaping. The overall area of the site is approximately 0.7 hectares.

"It forms part of Government efforts to improve public transport and address climate change nationally, supporting national strategies such as the National Development Plan 2021-2030 and the Climate Action Plan 2023," stated the NTA in their planning application.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by November 13.

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Change of use from commercial to residential sought on two properties

PLANNING permission is being sought for the change-of-use of two properties on Emmet Road in Inchicore from retail/commercial use to residential use, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

Applicant David Cambie is seeking permission for the change-of-use to provide one end-of-terrace, two-storey, two-bedroom dwelling and one mid-terrace, two-storey, two-bedroom dwelling.

The properties are located at 130 Emmet Road and 132 Emmet Road.

The proposal includes the demolition of the existing single-storey extensions to the rear of each property.

There are also proposed new single-storey extensions to the rear of each property including first-floor, roof-terrace area.

Associated alterations to the external elevations of each property to accommodate proposed new extensions and internal layout, and all associated site works, are included.

A decision on the planning application has not yet been made by Dublin City Council.



CHANGE OF USE: The two properties on Emmet Road in Inchicore

property

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Plans lodged for 84-apartment block at Cookstown House site

Proposal includes 40 one-bedroom units and 36 two-bedroom units from four to seven storeys



DEVELOPMENT: The site at Cookstown House on Cookstown Way

PLANS for the construction of an 84-unit apartment block at the site of Cookstown House on Cookstown Way have been submitted to South Dublin County Council.

Developer Samcava Ltd's proposal includes the construction of 40 one-bedroom units, 36 two-bedroom units and eight three-bedroom units.

They are to be housed in a building ranging in height from four to seven storeys, while each apartment is provided with private amenity space in the form of a terrace or balcony space.

By Aideen O'Flaherty
aideen@echo.ie

The units also will all have access to an internal communal amenity space at ground-floor level.

The proposal includes an external amenity space in the form of a designated communal open space area to the east of the proposed building.

This will be in the form of a central public plaza between the proposed building and the adjacent under-construction residential scheme at the Cookstown Gateway site to the north.

A total of 190 bicycle-parking spaces is provided at ground-floor level to serve the development, including two resident bicycle stores comprising 138 cycle spaces and four visitor bicycle-parking areas.

The proposed development also includes the provision of one commercial/retail unit at ground-floor level with bicycle staff cycle spaces provided internally.

Associated site and infrastructural works will include foul and surface water drainage, the provision of solar panels at the upper roof level, lighting, landscaping and boundary treatments.

Retention permission is also sought for the demolition of the previously existing, pitched roof, derelict structure on site known as Cookstown House.

A decision on the application is due from South Dublin County Council by November 16.

Former Pizzeria in village has guide price of €500k

THE FORMER Main Street Pizza premises in Tallaght village has gone on the market with a guide price of €500,000, *reports Aideen O'Flaherty.*

The property at 2 Main Road comprises a retail unit at ground floor level, and two-bedroom accommodation on the first floor.

The ground floor consists of a ground-floor retail unit with a 5.4m shop frontage, which extends to approximately 86.4m2.

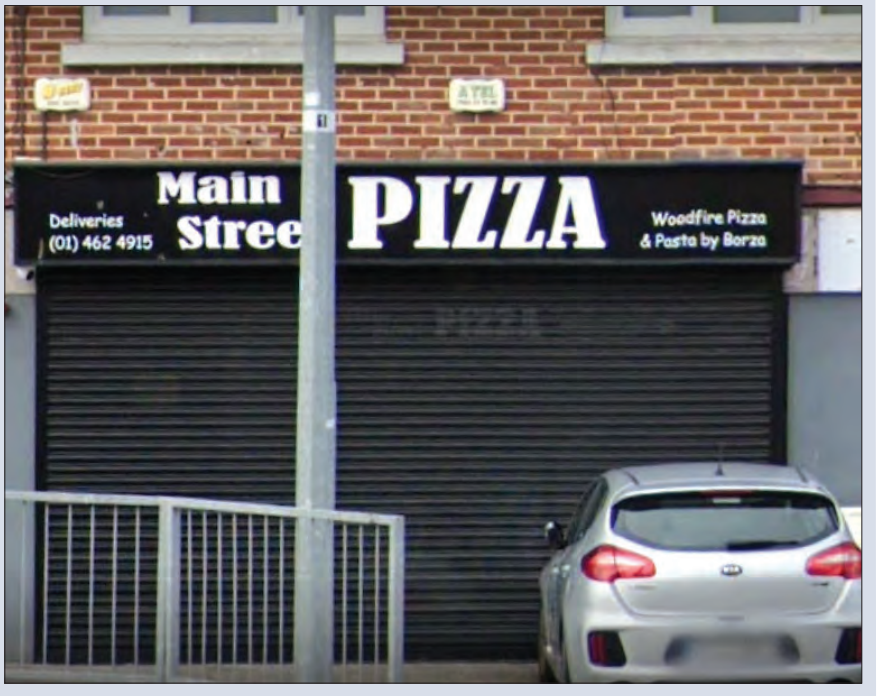
This retail unit was previously a pizzeria which has been fitted out to "a very high standard", according to selling agent Hogan Estates.

The entire floor and all of the walls from floor-to-ceiling are tiled with high quality ceramic tiles, as stated in the property listing.

The rear door leads to a large yard at the back of the property.

According to Hogan Estates, the unit is located in a prime area and is ideal for a number of uses.

It is noted that the fixtures and fittings in the unit are not included in the sale, but, if they were to be purchased, negotiations to buy them would have to take place separately.



PRIME AREA: The former Pizza premises in Tallaght village

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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

The Great Gambon, star of Harry Potter and The Singing Detective, exits the stage

Dear Editor,

SIR Michael Gambon (1940-2023) who was born in Cabra, on Dublin's northside on 19 October 1940, the son of an engineer and a seamstress died in Essex aged 82.

He made his professional stage debut at the Gate Theatre in 1962 and acted at the National Theatre under Laurence Olivier and at the Birmingham Repertory Company. His father, decamped the family to Camden Town to rebuild London after the Blitz.

Gambon started out acting with the Unity Theatre an effusion of the Workers' Theatre Movement near Kings Cross. He played Shakespearean parts, appeared on TV as Inspector Maigret.

He acted as Dumbledore, headmaster of wizarding school Hogwarts, in the Harry Potter series, based on J K Rowling's novels, after the death of Richard Harris in 2003. Nominated for Emmy awards for his role as Mr Woodhouse in an adaptation of Jane Austen's Emma in 2010, he played President Lyndon B Johnson in Path to War in 2002. Recipient of the Tony nomination in 1997 for a role in David Hare play Skylight, he became a British citizen and was knighted in 1998.

Known as "The Great Gambon" in acting circles, he last appeared on stage in 2012 in a London production of Samuel Beckett's play All That Fall.

Paying tribute, Taoiseach Leo Varadkar said: "A great actor. Whether performing in Beckett, Dennis Potter or Harry Potter, he gave his all to every performance."

President Higgins described Gambon as "one of the finest actors of his generation", as he extended condolences to Gambon's wife Anne, son Fergus and to "his fellow artists and many friends".

Yours sincerely.
Gerry Coughlan,
Kilnamanagh.

Upcoming inquiry on Covid-19 could shape a response to future pandemics

Dear Editor,

THE upcoming inquiry is expected to investigate the handling of the pandemic in healthcare settings such as hospitals and nursing homes.

The scope of the inquiry will review contemporaneous public health advice such as: Mask wearing, Antigen testing and the economic response to the pandemic. Dr Leo Varadkar is desirous to ensure the terms of reference are right so it "doesn't stray into all sorts of things" like the UK Covid-19 inquiry has done.

Those who suffered most deserve to know if more could have been done.

As of September 2023, the total number of Covid-19 deaths per million stood at 1,833 while Northern Ireland had (2,861); USA (3,332); and the UK (3,397). Nations were caught badly off-guard. That much was obvious. The Taoiseach should undertake the inquiry as expeditiously as possible so lessons can be learned before another pandemic strikes. The tribunal of inquiry or commission of investigation would submit a report to the Oireachtas, which can make certain recommendations.

The primary difference in a commission of investigation and a tribunal of inquiry is the way evidence is submitted.

During a tribunal of inquiry, evidence is given in public, and witnesses are entitled to legal representation which makes this format costly, taking longer to complete. A commission of investigation is speedier and less expensive method of investigation established by government order; subject to Dáil and Seanad approval.

Several aspects of the Covid-19 inquiry including the terms of reference have yet to be established and we await further details as to what it may entail.

A public Covid-19 inquiry that reported quickly could shape a response to the next wave.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan,
Kilnamanagh.



'Pro-choice' ideology is unlikely to offer alternatives to vulnerable women

Dear Editor,

IT WAS with sadness that I read *The Echo* article this week on the recent launch of The Irish Family Planning Association's [IFPA] "modernised" clinic in The Square Shopping Centre.

From the beaming faces of our current and most recent mayor (the latter now working for the IFPA), a Councillor and IFPA heads you would think that this development is something to be proud of.

Yet this is a place of death where the innocent and helpless unborn children will have their lives "terminated" in the womb.

The taxpayer-funded IFPA is so wedded to "pro-choice" ideology (what choice does an unborn child have?) that it is unlikely that they will offer much, if any, alternatives to abortion to vunerable pregnant women and their partners.

Abortions in Ireland rocketed to 8,156 in 2022, but politicians, media, NGOs and others only seem to be concerned about "maximising access" to kill the unborn.

They increase contraceptive access but do nothing to address the root causes of crises pregnancies or to help unexpectedly expecting mothers see their pregnancy through to its natural end.

Yours sincerely,

Paul O'Callaghan.
Tallaght.

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Cuireann Bord Bainistíochta Scoil Chrónáin fáilte roimh iarratais do phost mar chúntóir ranga.

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National Women's Enterprise Day

Shining a spotlight on female entrepreneurship in Ireland



The Local Enterprise Office South Dublin were delighted to host a Meet the Entrepreneur event with The Smooth Company founder Aine Kennedy (centre of picture), who is LEO South Dublin's Leading Light for this year's National Women's Enterprise Day 2023. The event, hosted by Denise Horan of Entrepreneurs Academy was an opportunity tor local businesses to network and learn about Aine's entrepreneurial journey including the highs and lows of starting your own business.

SOUTH Dublin's female entrepreneurs and businesswomen are being encouraged to "Empower Business Together" and register for this year's National Women's Enterprise Day (NWED) event taking place on Tuesday, October 19th at the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght.

Organised by the Local Enterprise Office (LEO) South Dublin in collaboration with Dublin Region (DLR, Fingal, and Dublin City Council), this regional event is part of the wider national initiative, "Empower Business Together."

This Local Enterprise Office (LEO) initiative, now in its 17th year, will take place with events across 14 events nationwide, featuring a range of successful businesswomen, up and coming female entrepreneurs and amazing speakers in areas of sustainability, innovation, networking and marketing.

The theme of this year's event "Empowering Business Together" will embrace a range of themes and challenges that are being faced by women in business and will outline the key supports that are available from financial and consultancy to training and mentoring.

Empowering South Dublin's Businesswomen

Attendees at the South Dublin event can expect a lineup of dynamic speakers and influential figures from the world of business, including:

- Ellen Kavanagh: Founder of Waxperts, renowned for creating Ireland's beloved waxing brand and co-hosting the "Ask My Mentor" podcast.
- Sile Walsh: An expert in leadership and organisational development, Sile brings a wealth of experience in coaching psychology and inclusivity to the event.
- Cathriona Hallahan: With 35 years of experience as Managing Director for Microsoft in Ireland, Cathriona is a seasoned leader with a passion for change management and leadership development.

These speakers will be joined by ambassadors, or "Leading Lights," from the various regions, including:

- South Dublin's Aine Kennedy of The Smooth Company Ltd, the creator of the innovative Smooth Stick™ hair taming wand, recognised as one of Ireland's top 30 under 30.
- Dun Laoghaire's Denise Cullen of Enterprise Solutions, a visionary leader specialising in IT solutions and modern leadership.
- Dublin City's Laura McCarthy of Drink Botanicals Ireland, a brand revolutionising home cocktail experiences with award-winning products.
- Fingal's Giselle Makinde of Cream of the Crop, a pioneering food tech company dedicated to combating food waste.

Tom Rooney, Head of Enterprise, comments,

"National Women's Enterprise Day allows us to shine a much-needed spotlight on female entrepreneurship. It's a day dedicated to celebrating the achievements of women in business, addressing real-life challenges faced by women entrepreneurs, and offering a blend of education, motivation, and inspiration."

Some of those involved in events across the country include Broadcaster and Entrepreneur, Anna Daly, Beauty Businesswoman Marissa Carter, Head of the Ploughing Championships, Anna May McHugh, MD of Ardmore Studios, Elaine Geraghty, Entrepreneur, Businesswoman and Broadcaster, Norah Casey, Smooth Company founder, Aine Kennedy and National Enterprise Awards Winner, Noreen Hackett of Advanced Cosmetics.

The Local Enterprise Offices also run a number of initiatives to foster entrepreneurship across the country. These include Local Enterprise Week, the National Enterprise Awards, the Student Enterprise Programme, National Women's Enterprise Day and Local Enterprise Showcase.

The Local Enterprise Offices in local authorities are funded by the Government of Ireland through Enterprise Ireland.

Established in 2014, the Local Enterprise Offices are the essential resource for any entrepreneur looking to start a business or any small business that is looking for support or advice to help them grow. Since their inception eight years ago, the Local Enterprise Offices have helped create over 25,000 jobs across the country.

The LEOs work with thousands of client companies across Ireland in a diverse range of sectors offering mentoring, training, expert advice and financial supports to small businesses.

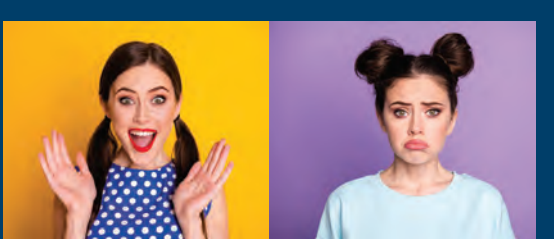
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Áth Cliath Theas
South Dublin

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Thursday, October 19th 2023
The Maldron Hotel, Tallaght



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Áine Kennedy, The Smooth Company



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Cher Class



Essentially Cher, an evening of musical nostalgia comes to The Civic

Page 47

WHEN THE MOON SPUN ROUND
TUE 10 & WED 11 OCT | AERIAL DANCE & MUSIC
See www.civictheatre.ie or contact Box Office (01) 462 7477
THE CIVIC

Garda Station Open Day

HELD IN BALLYFERMOT GARDA STATION

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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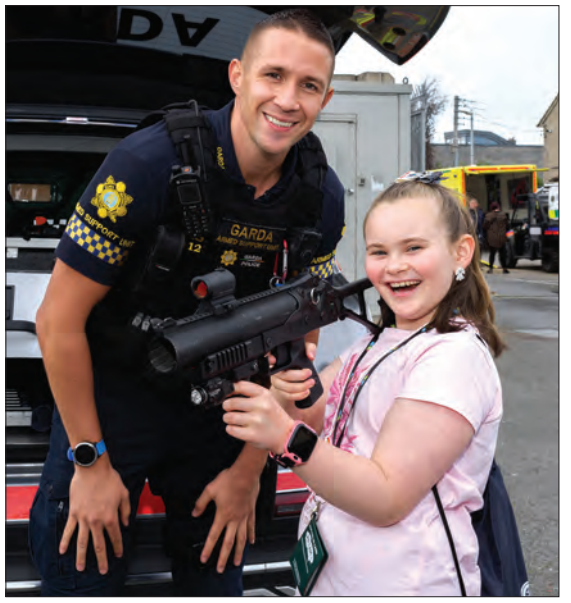
Ruby and Rebecca



Barry, Paul, Pat and Eamon



Ella and Conor



Garda Jimmy and Willow-Rose



Garda Sean and Kev with Mamy Nzema



John and Marie with Garda Joe (Ruairi) and Garda Kate (Rían)



Isabella



Harry, Daisy and Freddie



Garda Jimmy with AJ, Jack and Sadie

Essentially Cher

EVENING OF MUSICAL NOSTALGIA COMES TO THE CIVIC

by **Chiara-Lian Gruschke** / news@echo.ie

The stage is set, and the spotlight is poised to illuminate an extraordinary night of entertainment as “Essentially Cher” prepares to grace the “Civic Theatre” with her presence.

Trisha, a 41-year-old mother of two, has been involved with the music industry for a number of years but found her path into tributing Cher eventually after discovering her ability to emulate her distinctive voice while singing along to "Strong Enough" on the radio. This led her to her first invest in a Cher costume and pursue the mastery of Cher's songs through dedicated practice and video analysis.

“Essentially Cher” offers an evening of musical nostalgia on October 13, starting at 8pm, for Cher enthusiasts and live music aficionados. As the curtains rise, the audience is ushered into an experience that pays homage to the Goddess of Pop. Behind the scenes, in an interview, we also drew back the curtain on Trisha´s life and her profound connection with the iconic Cher, uncovering captivating insights.

What inspired you to choose Cher as the artist you tribute?

I never chose her as such it sort of found me lol. I have always been a fan of hers since I was little but never even considered it before until the day I sang along on the radio and I was having fun with pretending to sound like her until I thought-hang on! This could be a really good thing!

Cher has collaborated with numerous artists throughout her career. Do you incorporate any duets or special guest performances into your act?

Our theatre show consists of some very talented musicians and so they deserve to shine on stage just as much so we try to incorporate our musicians into any duets that Cher has performed throughout her career.

Cher’s career includes several musical styles. How do you select the songs to involve into your band´s repertoire?

Yes Cher has a 6 decade long career and when you see her in concert she incorporates these into her own live shows so we try to emulate a Cher live concert experience for the Cher fans in our audiences. I have sourced dressmakers who can make replica costumes and these costumes are then matched to certain songs (as Cher does). This is therefore how we select the songs. I also engage with a lot of our audience on our socials to see which songs they may want to hear in the show and our aim is to try and develop this over time and touch on various songs and cover songs that Cher has performed through the years. We are never going to pack in a 60 year career in a 2 hour show but if the audiences return each time we will try to switch this up with time but we will always have the classics that everyone knows and loves so well!

How do you capture Cher´s personality on stage and what do you enjoy most about it?



Trisha performing as Cher on stage will be playing in The Civic on October 13

I have watched many interviews and I have studied Cher’s speaking voice. I have spent a lot of time trying to perfect this and I incorporate a lot of her patter from previous shows/interviews and such in order to bulk out our show with “Cher-isms”. It is tongue in cheek humour but it’s done with the utmost respect for Cher and we are celebrating her for the icon that she is. I enjoy her sass and wit and I try to emulate this onstage and it is usually received quite well. I just enjoy seeing people laugh and smile at all of the jokes.

Are there any upcoming shows or special projects you’d like to share with your fans and potential audience?

I would like to let people know that we are having our last theatre show of 2023 in The Civic, Tallaght on Friday October 13. Before we announce our 2024 spring tour.

If you could meet her in person, what would be one question you’d ask her?

I would ask her who is the most memorable person in her career she has ever met? This would be an interesting answer- who is the one person who has actually made an impact on the one and only Cher?

WIN!

A PAIR of tickets to Essentially Cher at The Civic on Friday, October 13 at 8pm

Simply answer the following question

Cher's real name is - A) Cherilyn Sarkisian or B) Cherilyn Sweeney.

Email your answers with your name and contact number to william@echo.ie by Monday, October 9 by 5pm.

Winners will be notified.

Old Bawn CS Fundraiser

PARENT WINS NEW CAR IN ALL-WEATHER PITCH DRAW

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Maya, Mia, Sara Belle, Craig, Faye Rose and Danielle



Mary Gaynard, Sióbhan Harman and Roslyn Fay



Martina Genockey (Chair BOM) cutting the ribbon for new all-weather pitch



Ursula McCabe, (Principal), Sarah Louise King, (winner), Matthew Pyke and Liam King (Grandad)



Craig and Aaron Gildea



Peter and Megan Caffery



Evan Caffery, Jason McClelland (St Patrick's Athletic), Zak Moradi, Tallaght Person of the Year, All-Ireland winner with Dublin Cian Murphy and Old Bawn CS teacher Brendan Horan



Principal Ursula McCabe with Cian Murphy drawing the winning ticket for the draw

"Sleep is the best meditation.

Dalai Lama

Health & Fitness

SLEEP



by **Ursula Frawley** / info@moveitfitness.ie

By getting more sleep, could you be healthier and fitter? It might seem counter-productive to think that sleeping more will help with your fitness, but getting enough rest and sleep may be the key ingredient you are missing.

Our bodies are designed to rest and recover, and not allowing adequate time to do this may be sending your body the wrong signals

What is happening while I sleep?

Sleep is an essential part of staying healthy and strong. Here's a few things that happen during those critical healthy sleep periods.

Immune System: During sleep, our body will go through the process of repairing and it prepares the body and immune system for another day. We need a healthy immune system and to armour up that line of defense against illness, and, during sleep, our body is lining up some of those defenses.

Muscle and tissue repair: If we have put our bodies through the paces during the day, while we sleep, some of that critical step of repairing takes place. Getting adequate sleep allows our body to release growth hormone to build and repair muscle and may also reduce the risk of injury.

Helping us keep a healthy body composition:

If we don't get adequate sleep, our energy levels plummet, which leads to less focus and ability to concentrate. We may then look for energy in foods that provide a quick energy boost but are less nutrient dense. A full night's sleep will help you be more alert and focused to make healthier food choices the next day.

How much sleep do I need?

Healthy adults need about 7-9 hours of quality sleep per night. If you feel you're falling short, it's important to look at a few influencing factors and get your sleep in check!

What are your sleep habits and environment like?

Is your sleep environment dark, quiet and not too warm? This may be affecting your ability to fall asleep and remain in a deep sleep all night. Invest in a sleep mask and ear plugs to help keep interruptions to a minimum.

Are you scrolling through devices late at night or in the middle of the night? The 'blue light' being emitted from these devices may be affecting your brain's signals that it is time to be asleep. Perhaps one of the best steps you can take to a healthier night's sleep is leaving your phone out of the bedroom.

And remember, earlier bed times may help with late night mindless snacking, allow us more time to wind down and relax with a good book and help us wake up more energised the next morning.

Enjoy the journey to a more energised and rested you!

Remember, always consult with your GP before embarking on any change in diet or new health & fitness regime.

UrsUla FraWlEy IS A PERSOnAl TRAInER AnD OWnER Of MOvE IT fITnESS. HER OnlInE STREnGTH & fITnESS clASSES, WHIcH Run lIvE SEvEn TIMES A WEEk, HAvE bEEn HElPInG WOMEn TO fEEl STROnGER AnD fITTER SIncE 2020. HER OnlInE AnD In-PERSOn PROGRAMMES ARE fOcuSED On MOTIvATInG AnD cHAnGInG A MInDSET TO EnjOyInG THE fITnESS jOuRnEy, WHIlE fEElInG EMPOWERED WITH A POSITIvE MInDSET. SHE lIvES WITH HER HuSbAnD AnD fOuR cHIlDREn In DublIn 24. yOu MORE InfORMATIOn yOu cAn EMAIl HER AT InfO@MOvEITfITnESS.IE OR WWW.MOvEITfITnESS.IE



"Life is too short to say no to cake.

Unknown

Food with Passion

CARAMEL APPLE UPSIDE DOWN CAKE



by **John Paul Kennedy** / jpkennedy.kennedy@gmail.com

THIS is a new hot off the press recipe from my favourite Irish Chef Clodagh McKenna whom I've been a fan off for over a decade.

This cake is the perfect autumnal dessert. Sweet caramelised apples adorning a light spiced moreish cake. Served with softly whipped cream and a big mug of tea, is a sheer heavenly experience.

It's really quick and easy cake to make, that fills the house with yummy inviting smells as it bakes.

I served this for dessert after the Sunday Roast and everybody went back for seconds that's how good it is!

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.

Ingredients: (serves 6-8)

Caramelised apples

2 brambly cooking apples (peeled, cored and sliced into bite sized pieces)
60g unsalted butter
150g light brown sugar
1 teaspoon good vanilla extract
½ teaspoon cinnamon
Pinch of sea salt

Cake batter

200g castor sugar
100g light brown sugar
2 large eggs
1 teaspoon of vanilla extract
120g unsalted softened
180ml milk
220g plain flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 teaspoon cinnamon
¼ teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 teaspoon sea salt













Method:

1. Preheat the oven to 180degrees fan and lightly grease a 9 inch spring form cake tin.
2. Melt the butter, in a saucepan and add the sugar, vanilla extract, sea salt and cinnamon and cook until thickened on a medium heat for about 4-5 minutes.
3. Pour the caramel sauce into the prepared tin and arrange the apple slices on top.
4. using a free standing or cake mixer add to the two sugars with the butter and beat until light and fluffy. Then beat the eggs in, one at a time, and add the vanilla extract.
5. Pour in the milk and mixture together then add all the dry ingredients, flour, baking powder, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg and mix until combined.
6. Pour the cake batter over the apples and bake for an hour in the pre-heated oven.
7. One baked, allow the cake to cool in the tin for at least 15 minutes. use a cake spatula to carefully release the cake from the sides of the tine before inverting onto your serving plate to allow to cool completely before slicing and serving.

This is my favourite time of year for cooking and baking. I love autumnal flavours, seasonal fruits, spices as for me it evokes feelings of warmth and cosiness. This cake ticks all of these boxes for me. It's surprisingly light, moreish, caramelly, topped with sweet sticky soft apples and when served with a dollop of cream is my favourite kind of cakes / desserts. This will fast become one of my go-to favourite bakes that I guarantee, if you make it, will fast become one of your favourites too! Simply heavenly and delicious!

Contact JP on:
Twitter: @JPKCooking
Email: JPKCooking@gmail.com
Instagram: jpkennedy.kennedy

Bollard A Rising Star

TALENTED RAPER HAS GOT SUPPORT FROM SELLO

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

A RISING star in the vibrant world of rap music has come out of Ireland's Cavan county, winning people over with his unbridled talent and unwavering commitment.

Meet Calum Bollard, a 17-year-old musician best known by the moniker "Bollard."

His affinity for the genre was fostered within his family, and as a Cavan native, this desire propelled him into the world of rap.

Because of his upbringing and innate desire to make a mark, Bollard has dominated the music industry.

He grew up listening to rap music because his father's brother was a rapper.

He made the decision to try rapping at the age of 15 by uploading a freestyle to TikTok.

Since then, he has given his all to his trade, pouring his heart and soul into music.

Calum views music as more than just a pastime; it is a way of life.

He breathes his art, and it shows in the amount of time he invests in perfecting his technique.

He writes a considerable amount.

He tries to spend as much time as he can in the studio because it is his haven.

His enthusiasm for his craft is evident in the dedication and commitment he puts into each phase of the procedure.

Bollard uses the Notes app on his phone, like many rappers, to write down lyrics and ideas.

He believes that choosing the proper beat is essential because it enhances his voice and style and guarantees that the finished product adheres to his artistic vision.

Calum is excited to share his talent with the world as he publishes his first video.

With this accomplishment, he will embark on a trip.

In the near future, he intends to keep his focus and routinely release new videos every two months.

His objective is to demonstrate his artistic development while attracting a large and devoted following.



Calum Bollard and Sello from Clondalkin

Calum would like to thank Dre, Olly, Brendan, his special guest Sello (who is a Clondalkin native), and everyone who has supported him on his journey. His latest music video, 'On The Map, can be viewed on YouTube.

That's Gillian Tuite

SONG IS ABOUT KEITH'S FRIEND

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie

Keith McLoughlin is releasing a surprise new single called 'That's Gillian Tuite' on October 1 for her birthday.

The song is about his friend Gillian Tuite who has written numerous songs with him over the years.

Now, he feels like it's time to write one about her!

Keith, from Terenure, is wishing her "love and happiness" on her birthday, hoping that she loves the song and everybody enjoys it.

He would like to thank Rohan Healy and Al Quiff at Beardfire Studios for making the music on this song.



Keith McLoughlin's friend Gillian Tuite



Ciarán Carr 5k Family Fun Walk

BIG CROWD ATTENDS FUN RUN/WALK IN CORKAGH PARK ON SATURDAY

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Round Tower Girls Under 10's took part in the walk



The Gerathy Family in Corkagh Park on Saturday



Mick and Colette Collins



Sharon Jordan, Jenny Gallagher and Parveen Barbour



Gemma and Philip Carr holding the flag



Cáit Ní Ógáin and Sharon Jordan



Rory Dunne and Eoin Burke



Youngest Runners Cora and Jason



Robert, Arabella and Emma O'Connor



Ruth O'Donoghue and Orla Uí Ógáin



Barry Keane, Cllr Trevor Gilligan and Philip Carr

A Fun Day Out

AT CLONDALKIN GARDA STATION OPEN DAY ON SATURDAY

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Kyle and Garda Paul



Garda Terry, Dualach (Horse), Brogan, Lacey Mae and Garda John



Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Paul



Garda Lee with Noah and Finn



Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Lia



Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Clodagh



District Officer Martin Carr with Carl, Senan and Conor Smullen



Lesley, Tristan, Aideen and Erin



Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Riley

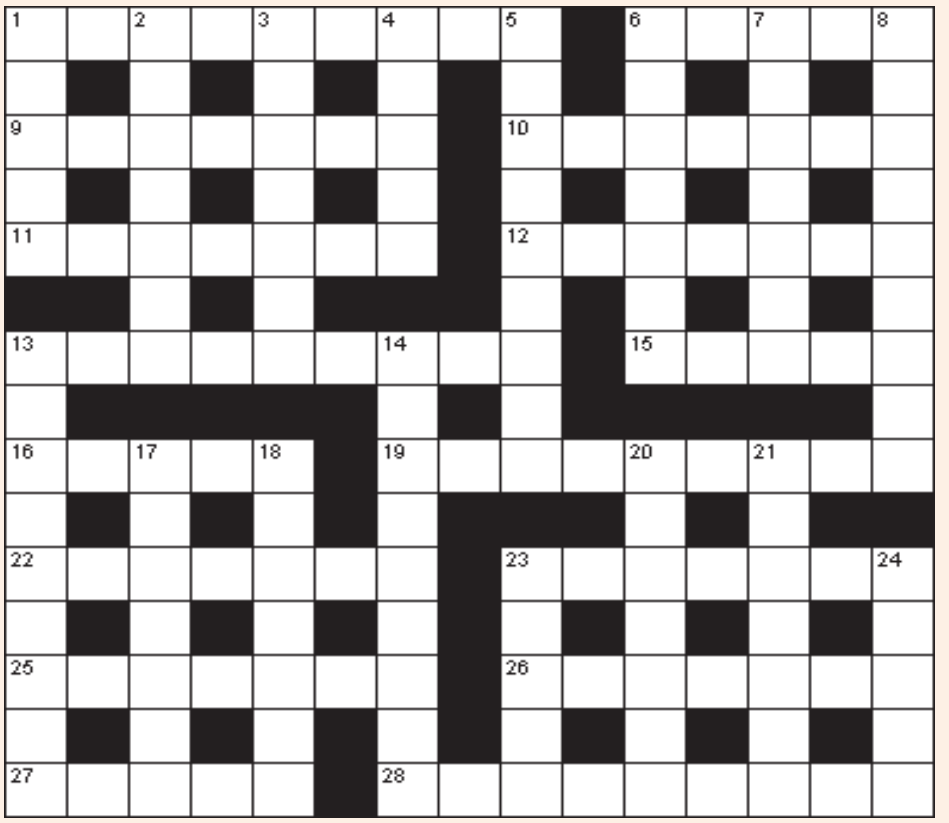


Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Izabella



Superintendent Stephen Mullen with Praise

echocrossquiz Q0510



ACROSS

1. Stubbornly persistent (9)
6. Receded (5)
9. A crisp smooth lustrous fabric (7)
10. A traitorous act (7)
11. Ill-mannered and coarse (7)
12. Rust (7)
13. Dock worker (9)
15. A peninsula in northeastern Egypt (5)
16. Geologic period (5)
19. Sailboat (9)
22. Patio (7)
23. Barely enough (7)
25. A sexually attractive young woman (7)
26. Exertion (7)
27. One who gives (5)
28. Not counterfeit (9)

DOWN

1. Base 8 (5)
2. Cause to spread (7)
3. Specify individually (7)
4. Inundated (5)
5. An outgoing personality (9)
6. What we blink (7)
7. A stronghold (7)
8. A common weed (9)
13. Sugared (9)
14. Musical group (9)
17. Rower (7)
18. Common Old World heath (7)
20. Ordinary (7)
21. Abundant (7)
23. Choral work (5)
24. Pale purple (5)

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 2809

U	N	S	E	E	M	L	Y	■	G	E	M	I	N	I
N	■	T	■	D	■	E	■	■	■	N	■	N	■	N
F	L	A	M	I	N	G	O	■	R	U	S	T	I	C
U	■	T	■	L	■	A	■	A	■	M	■	R	■	I
R	E	U	S	E	■	T	H	R	E	E	F	O	L	D
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E	S	C	R	O	W	■	L	A	Z	I	N	E	S	S
A	■	K	■	P	■	■	■	R	■	I	■	N	■	E
S	T	O	K	E	R	■	C	L	O	I	S	T	E	R

CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

SUDOKU 1

3				6	2			
8	2		7			9		
		1	8					
	4	5	6					
2							9	7
		6						5
9					1			6
						1	2	
			2		8		7	

SUDOKU 2

				9				
		6					9	
	3			7	5	2	1	
				4	2			
	5		8					
4	8				7		2	
		3	2	6		5		
	2	7	4			6		
					9			

ANSWERS

2	1	8	3	9	4	7	6	5
5	7	6	1	2	8	4	9	3
9	3	4	6	7	5	2	1	8
3	6	1	9	4	2	8	5	7
7	5	2	8	3	6	9	4	1
4	8	9	5	1	7	3	2	6
8	9	3	2	6	1	5	7	4
1	2	7	4	5	3	6	8	9
6	4	5	7	8	9	1	3	2

SUDOKU 2

6	1	3	2	4	8	5	7	9
4	5	7	9	3	6	1	2	8
9	8	2	5	7	1	3	4	6
1	9	6	3	2	7	4	8	5
2	3	8	4	1	5	6	9	7
7	4	5	6	8	9	2	1	3
5	6	1	8	9	4	7	3	2
8	2	4	7	5	3	9	6	1
3	7	9	1	6	2	8	5	4

SUDOKU 1

Poet's Corner

OCTOBER BEFORE MIDDAY

by **Gavin Bourke**



Gavin Bourke grew up in the suburb of Tallaght in West Dublin. Married to Annemarie living in County Meath, he holds a B.A. in Humanities from Dublin City University, an M.A. Degree in Modern Drama Studies and a Higher Diploma in Information Studies from University College Dublin. His work covers many topics such as nature, time, memory, addiction, mental health, human relationships, the technological life in English and to a lesser extent in the Irish Language, and much more.

Letting the mood fall
for the words to come
opening the fourth eye.
The red light
carving up the brisk
autumnal morning.
To see Halloween
approaching
in the eyes
of the young.
Entering
the cross-section
of the beam
from
the emerging sun
to the road.
Bleaching the tarmac
transforming it
to blue-grey-gold.

Audiences Asking For More

CLONDALKIN DRAMA GROUP DELIGHTED WITH PRODUCTION

by **Ryan Butler /** news@echo.ie

The talented cast and crew associated with Clondalkin Drama Group were delighted to present their show 'Off Their Trollies' (a production of two one-act plays, 'The Room' by Jake Kelly and 'Bags and Browning' by Jenny Molloy) in Quinlan's The Black Lion Pub from September 25 to September 28.

Their first performance was 'The Room', a twenty-minute piece that explored the relationships between four distinct women who were all brought to what at first glance seemed to be a harmless waiting room but turned out to be much more than that.

Together with their more seasoned members, Jenny Molloy and Nicola Brennan, the production included the stage debuts of Clara Murphy and Stephanie Farrell. Every actress infused the characters with life, with Sylvia Purnell's (Jenny) frenzied energy matching Helen Light's (Nicola) more worn-out passiveness. Through it all, the stoic Emily Walker (Clara) broke down, matched with Sally Green's (Stephanie) anxiousness.

Jake states that "it was a brilliant performance overall, one that left audiences reeling and asking for more."



Members of Clondalkin Drama Group who performed in their production

With the assistance of Frances Tuffery, a longtime member of the Clondalkin Drama group for more than 30 years, Mary Smith, also known as the Bard of the South Bank, was brought to life in 'Bags and Browning.'

Located in south London, the show gave viewers a peek into the lives of Mary and her true love, Charlie (John O'Connor), both in the past and in the present. Mary's life took a difficult turn following Charlie's passing, and audiences can observe how this led to her current state of homelessness.

The brilliant members of the ensemble brought to life a variety of characters that viewers came to love and detest throughout the programme.

Jake Kelly, who typically portrays happy, endearing characters, revealed a darker side when he played the desperate character of James.

Following their prior performances in 'The Room', Stephanie Farrell and Clara Barry Murphy made an appearance in 'Bags and Browning', although their roles were significantly different from those in the previous production.

The participants showed remarkable adaptability in their ability to change roles in the two shows.

The entire play was quite emotional, with occasional moments of humour interspersed.

Jenny states that "we were very lucky over the four performances to have such amazing audiences, even during Storm Agnes."

The group will soon begin preparation for their pantomime performance at Moyle Park College in January 2024.

More information will be available on their social media pages.

Falling To Earth

MY SUMMER WITH BOWIE COMES TO THE CIVIC

by **Ryan Butler** / news@echo.ie



Eugene O'Brien and (inset) Stephen Jones on the poster

As part of the Dublin Theatre Festival, Verdant Productions and The Civic Theatre are presenting the world premiere of Eugene O'Brien's FALLING TO EARTH: My Summer With Bowie.

Previews began on September 27, and the show opened at The Civic Theatre on Friday, September 29, and runs through October 15.

Scut Kelly is alone, apathetic, and a caregiver for a father who has never given him much thought.

The song of Ziggy, the slender white duke, and the guy who fell to Earth carrying his Mars spiders were his only sources of comfort.

Right now, he is going to have the most amazing summer of his life, where his dreams will come true when circumstances work together to allow him to meet his idol in person.

Will Scut be able to manage this new world and all of its opportunities, or will he crash down hard back on Earth?

Stephen Jones, who stars in this new one-man show, states that he was drawn to the production because Eugene O'Brien wrote it, it's part of the Dublin Theatre Festival, it's being performed in the Civic, and he likes David Bowie.

He got the script "several months in advance" and spent most of the summer (roughly two and a half months) learning the script and perfecting the Offaly accent before three weeks of rehearsals.

After these performances, the team is hoping to take the show on tour and discuss plans as to where they will take it.

Stephen would like to thank his mam and dad, as well as everyone he's worked with for helping his career get to this point.

Jim Nolan is in charge of directing "Falling to Earth," which features set design by Brian Mitchell, costume design by Toni Bailey, and lighting design by Tara Perry.

Attendance Awards

IN SCOIL NANO NAGLE IN BAWNOGUE

Photos by **Mark Pollock**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email **reception@echo.ie** or call 01-4685350.

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Anita and Lilly



Ms Byrne (Principal) and Ms Fassnidge (Home Liason) with students



Jackie and Ray



David, Katie and David



Mahrosh, Calvin, Arya and Marsel



Danielle, Teresa and Elaine



David and Kai



Jessica, Christine and Charlene



Leanne, Jackie and Emma

Music Bingo Night

ORGANISED BY SCOIL AONGHUSA PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Nicola Staunton and Lauren Cummins



Trina, Tara, Louise, Nicola, Siobhán, Linda and Ciara



Mary Browne, Joanne and Mary McLoughlin



Maria and Maureen



Vanessa, Tracey and Barry



Stephen, Max, Richie and Christopher Morris



Amy, Lisa, Suzanne, Jacqui, Joy, Mary and Lorna (Committee)



Rita, Frank, Michelle, James, Denise and Ciara

Brilliant Performance

BY CLONDALKIN DRAMA GROUP WITH 'OFF THEIR TROLLIES'

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email **reception@echo.ie** or call 01-4685350.

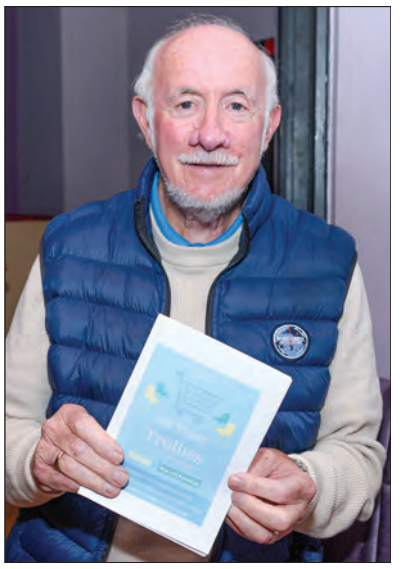
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on ***echo.ie***



Paul and Geraldine Reynolds



Ann Healy and Ann Territt



Damian Territt



Juam Flores, Ciara Corbally and Marina Verdes



Sarah and Carmel



Sinead Hudson, Ashling Farrell and Seán Byrne



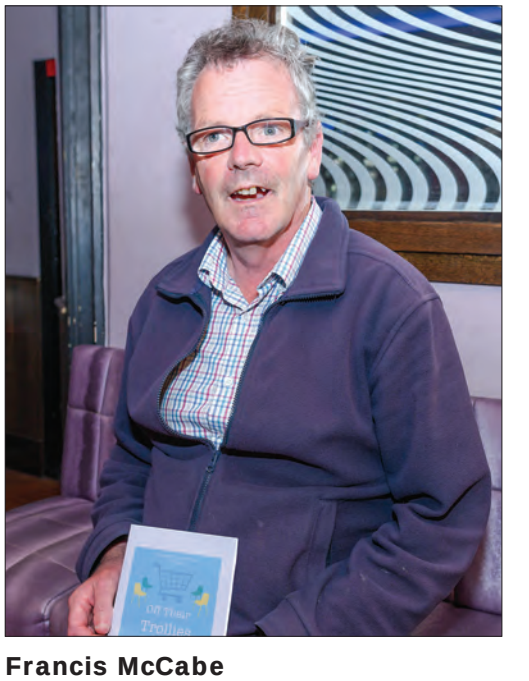
Kathleen Ryder, Eva Borus, Lyliana Matkovic and Siuki Lam



Noreen Murphy and Marie Uí Bhroin



The Cast from Clondalkin Drama Group



Francis McCabe

Family Barbers closes

AFTER 71 YEARS IN BUSINESS ABOVE BLACK FORGE

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

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Cian Roche, Jenny Butler, Eimear Roche, Fiona Kenny and Robert Byrne (Grand Children)



Sadbh, Liam, Sean, Darragh, Jamie, Oisín and Clodagh (Great Grandchildren)



Claudia Birsan (Manager) and Vincent Roche



Jamie, Siobhán, Jacinta, Fiona, Oisín and Clodagh



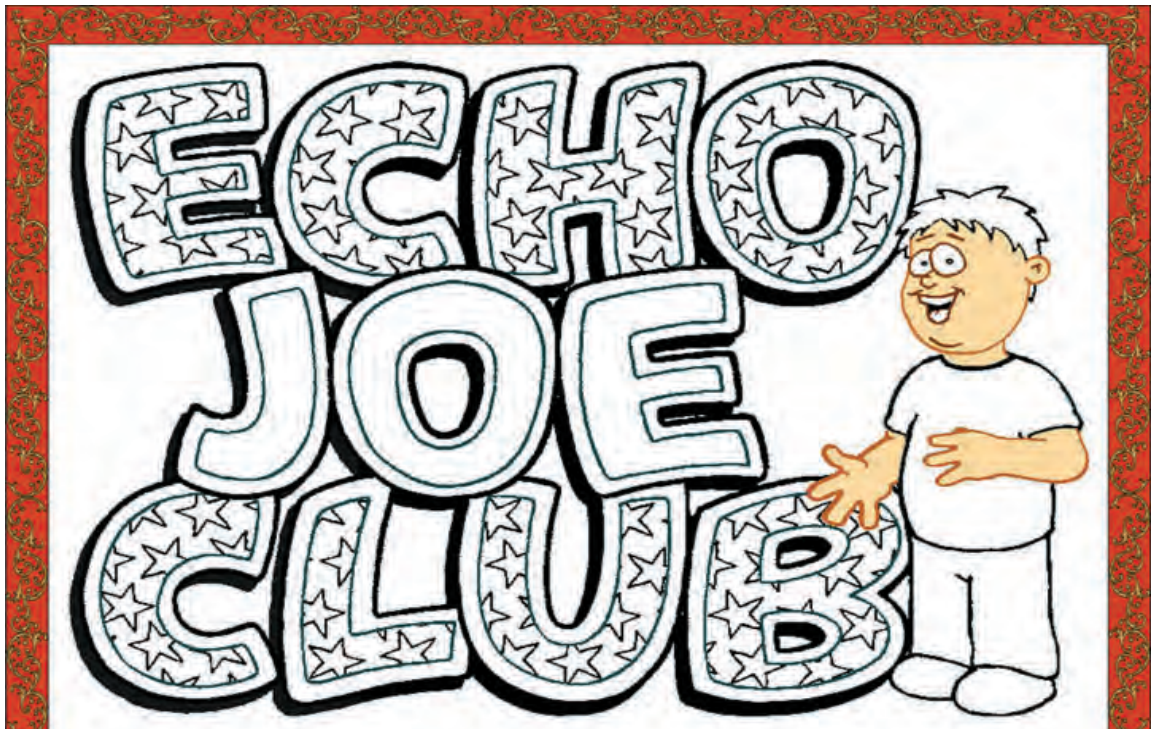
Vincent, Paula, Gillian, Jacinta and Mary (Children)



The Roche family on the last day of business

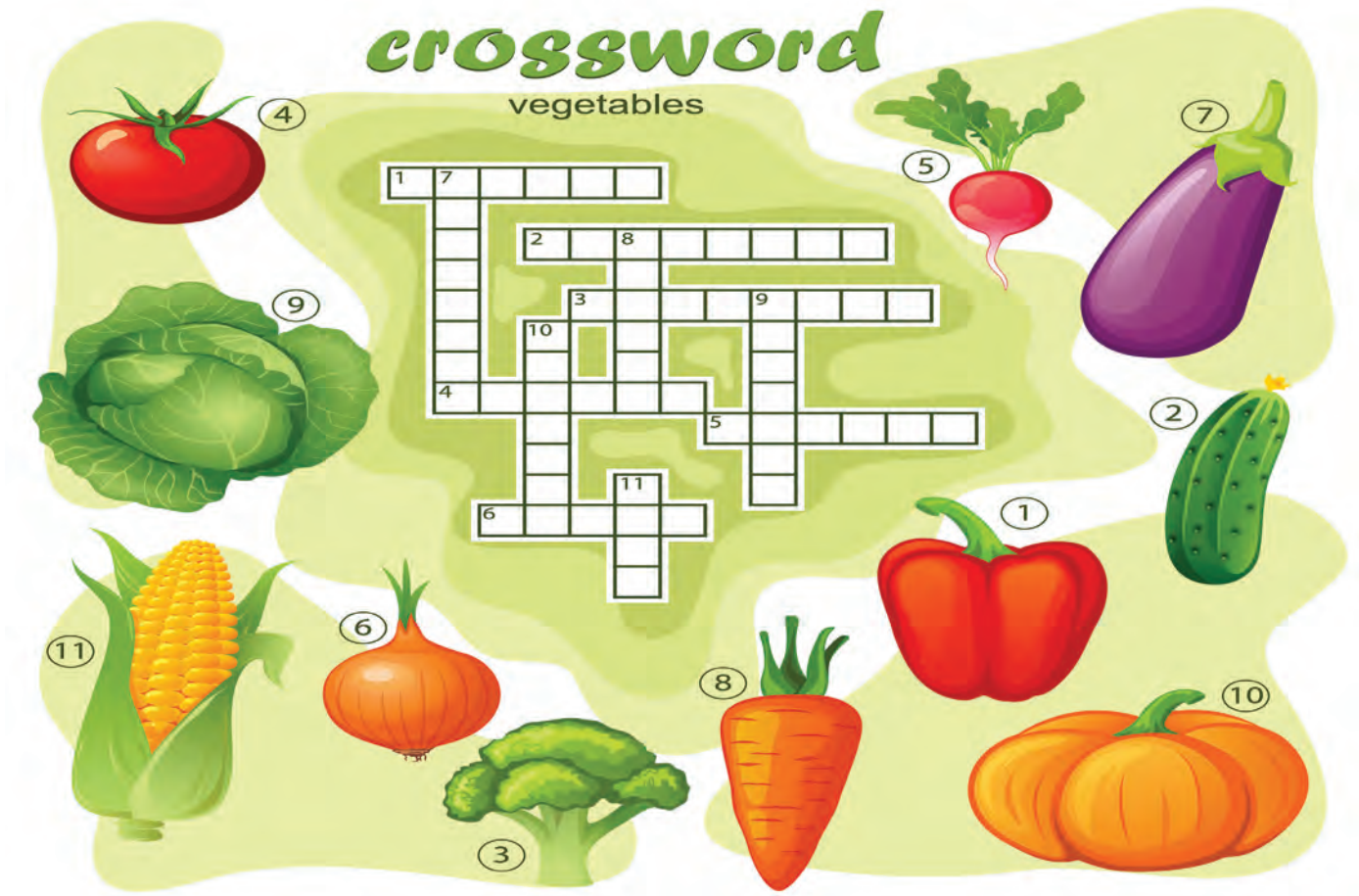


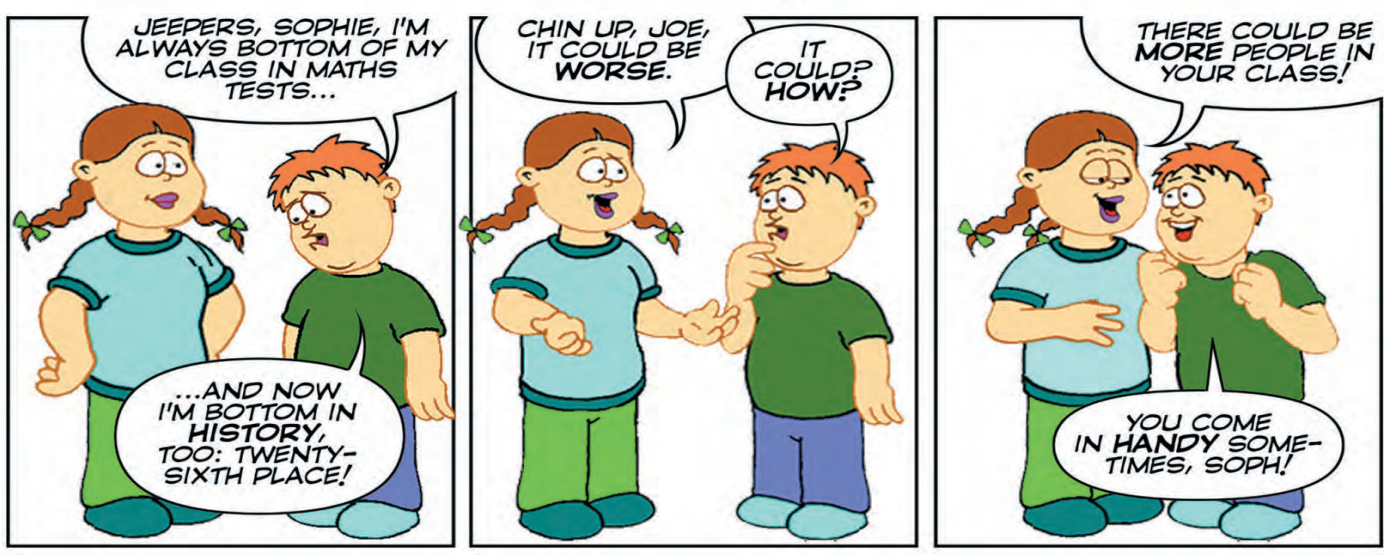
Liam and Sean Byrne



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.







Solar System

P	L	A	O	I	D	B	E	L	T
T	E	N	R	L	U	T	O	J	U
A	S	T	E	P	C	O	R	E	P
M	O	O	N	E	A	M	S	T	I
S	U	N	S	N	R	E	T	M	G
V	U	T	P	E	T	H	Y	E	R
E	N	E	T	U	R	N	R	R	A
N	U	S	A	N	U	S	U	C	V
O	S	U	R	A	M	A	R	S	I
R	B	I	T	N	O	I	T	A	T

Find all the words from the word list (ignore spaces and dashes):

ASTEROID BELT
COMETS
EARTH
GRAVITATION
JUPITER
MARS
MERCURY
MOONS
NEPTUNE
ORBIT
PLANET
PLUTO
SATURN
SUN
URANUS
VENUS

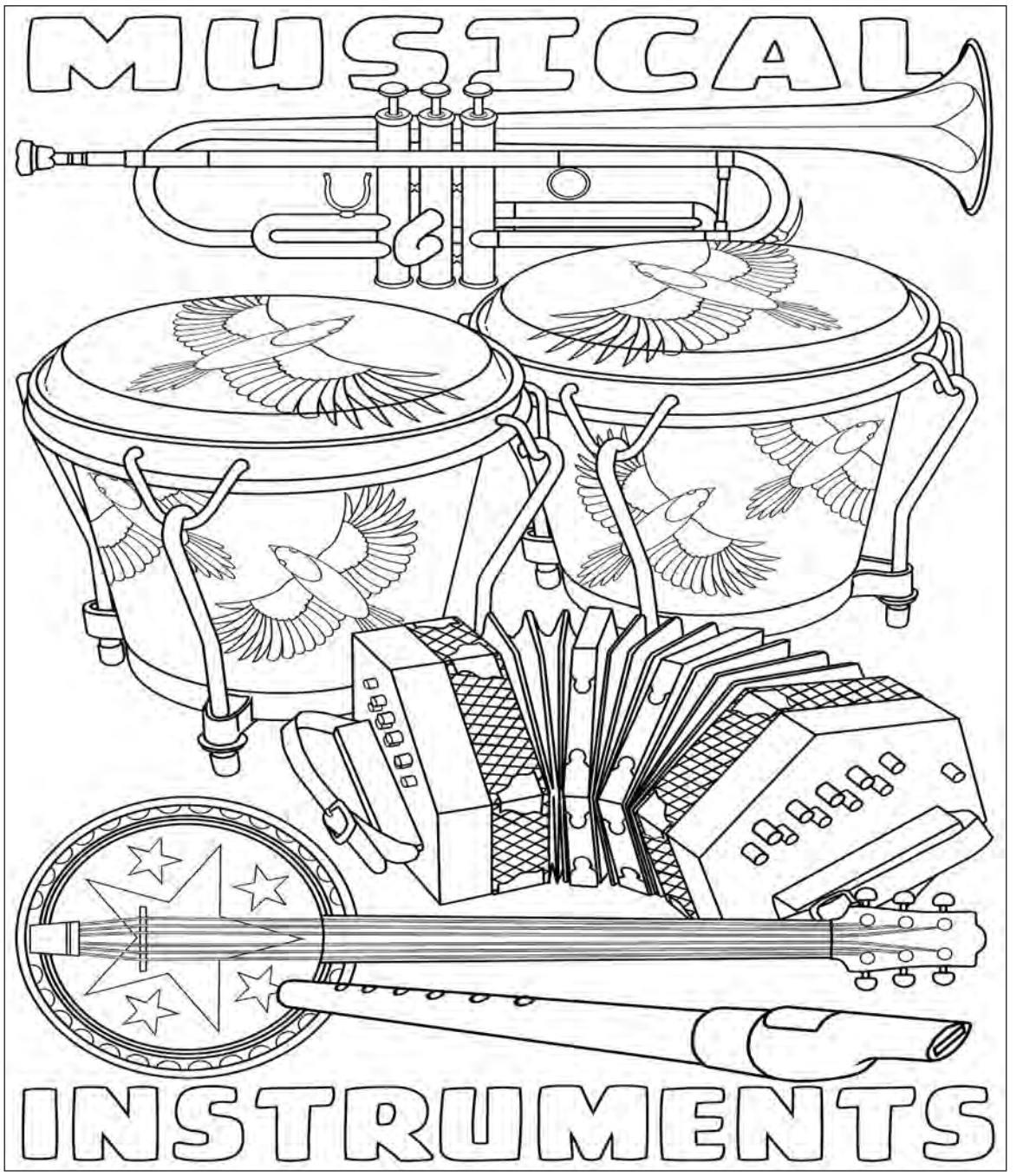


These 2 pages of Awesome, Amazon, Activities

Find the ten differences between the two pictures



MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS



LETTER LINK LOG-JAM

A MISSING LETTER ON EACH ROW FINISHES ONE WORD AND STARTS THE NEXT...

BUT WHAT ARE THE LETTERS?

TUR		ECK
KNO		RAP
CLA		ANK
SHU		UMB
PAS		ASK
RAS		LOT
TRI		ASK
WAN		EEP

the missing letters: N, T, D, N, T, P, M, D.

winner



Lily Judd Age 7, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Lily, your prize will be on the way to you soon.

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WINDOWS

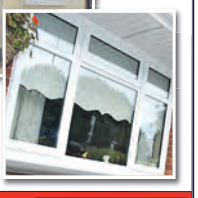
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CLASSES

Ceili dancing starting back every Wednesday from September 7th at 7.45-9pm in the Belgard Community Centre. Beginners and walk-ins are welcome. For more details **Phone: 0857567231.**

FOR SALE

Ecosmo fold up bike.
Brand New. €150.
Ph: 087 9836884

Electric recliner sofa
with charging points (Grey) – 2 years old, excellent condition - **€400**
Hall Table and matching nest of 2 tables
with black diamond tile effect on top. Perfect condition, all for **€100**
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Lost silver identity bracelet, with the name Paul.
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Clondalkin area.

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family notices

Important Notice
Items for publication for memorial pages must be in by 1pm Friday for next Thursday's paper

Tel: 468 5350
email: reception@echo.ie

ANNIVERSARY



O Toole, Winnie
20th Anniversary occurs 8th October.

She had a smile for everyone,
She had a heart of gold,
She left the sweetest memories,
The world could ever hold,
To us you were someone special,
Someone kind and true,
You will never be forgotten,
For we all thought the world of you,
Deep in our heart's you will always stay,
Loved and remembered every day.
Sadly missed by your loving Sons, Daughters, Sons-in-law, Daughters-in-law, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchild.

ANNIVERSARY



Stimpson, Elizabeth (Betty)
2nd Anniversary of Elizabeth (Betty) Stimpson. Two years may have passed, but your presence is felt in every moment.

No farewell words were spoken,
No time to say goodbye,
You were gone before we knew,
And only God knows why,
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
And secret tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.
Sadly missed by your loving husband Paddy, Sons, Daughter, Daughter-in-law, Grandsons, Granddaughters, Brothers, extended Family and Friends.

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Cole, Kathleen
2nd Birthday away from home occurs 7th October.

Remembering our mam on this her 86th Birthday.
From her Sons, Daughters, Sons-in-Law, Daughters-in-Law, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren.

ANNIVERSARY

Quinn, Peter
2nd Anniversary occurs 9th October. Late of Cushlawn Walk.

Along the road of suffering,
You found a little lane,
That took you up to heaven,
And ended all your pain,
You may be out of sight,
We may be worlds apart,
But you are always in our prayers,
And forever in our hearts.
Sadly missed by his loving wife Catherine, sons Craig and Ian, daughter Kathlyn, daughter-in-law Eurika, father Peter, sister Samantha, grandchildren Joshua, Elisia and Renesmee & also a large circle of Friends and Family.

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.**

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.B.**

NOVENA

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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. **C.G.**

NOVENA

Miracle Prayer
Dear heart of Jesus I ask you this special favour (mention one) take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. Amen. say this prayer 3 days promise publication and favour will be granted never known to fail. **B.O'R.**

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planning notices

All planning applications must be in before 5pm Monday

tel: 468 5350

email:reception@echo.ie

South Dublin County Council

We, on behalf of Eleanor Trousdell and Bernard Cannon intend to apply for permission for development at this site No 13 Greentrees Drive, Perrystown, Dublin 12, D12 WP79. The development will consist of removal of existing porch. New flat roof canopy to main entrance door with a supporting side wall, bin storage, replacement of double garage door with a single door, and widening of existing entrance. The Planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. During its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.00pm, and may also be viewed on the council's website - www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of (20.00 euro) within the 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

South Dublin County Council

I, Teresa Murphy, am applying for Permission at 135 Cappaghmore, Cappagh, Dublin 22, D22 H3F9 for: Demolition of existing 7.15 sq/m ground floor rear extension, Change of use of 10.8 sq/m garage to habitable space; Construction of an 18 sq/m first floor side extension; Construction of a 33.2 sq/m ground floor rear extension; Construction of a 2.3 sq/m porch to the front of existing dwelling and Conversion of attic space to storage room. 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 9am – 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

Permission sought for retention of existing garage conversion with raised pitched roof extended to rear over utility room and at front across the hall door, at 89 Cill Cais, Old Bawn, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 Y61R for Alan Davis. 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 9am – 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 SEPTEMBER 22, 2023

S25423/16 18 Sep 2023 SECTION 254 LICENCE APPLICATION Additional Information
Applicant: Cignal Infrastructure, Ltd (a Cellnex Company)
Location: Grifeen Avenue, R136 Junction, Lucan, Co. Dublin
Description: Telecommunications street works solution & ground cabinet

S25423/17 18 Sep 2023 SECTION 254 LICENCE APPLICATION Additional Information
Applicant: Cignal Infrastructure, Ltd (a Cellnex Company)
Location: Deansrath, Clondalkin, Dublin 22. Description: Telecommunications street works solution & ground cabinet

S25423/18 18 Sep 2023 SECTION 254 LICENCE APPLICATION Additional Information
Applicant: Cignal Infrastructure, Ltd (a Cellnex Company)
Location: Knocklyon Road, Co. Dublin Description: Telecommunications street works solution & ground cabinet

S25423/19 18 Sep 2023 SECTION 254 LICENCE APPLICATION Additional Information
Applicant: Cignal Infrastructure, Ltd (a Cellnex Company)
Location: Cheeverstown, Fettercairn, Dublin 24
Description: Telecommunications street works solution & ground cabinet

SD23A/0083 20 Sep 2023 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Capami Ltd.
Location: South/South-West of Oldcourt Road, Oldcourt, Dublin 24
Description: Residential development on a site measuring c. 2.56 hectares within the lands designated for the Ballycullen-Oldcourt Local Area Plan 2014 (as extended) consisting of 71 dwellings comprised of 41 three & four bed, two and three storey, detached, semi-detached and terraced houses and 30 two, three & four bed apartments & duplex units accommodated in 1 two/three storey block and 2 three storey blocks; Access to the proposed development will be from Oldcourt Road via permitted roads infrastructure previously granted permission under Planning Ref.'s SD17A/0468 and SD17A/0041 & PL0&S.249367; The proposed development also includes for car parking, bicycle parking, bin storage, communal open spaces, public open space, pedestrian & cyclist connections, landscaping & boundary treatments, drainage connections,APPLICATIONS RECEIVED LIST Page 2 Of 10 Under Section 34 of the Act, the applications for permission may be granted permission, subject to or without conditions, or refused. The use of the personal details of planning applicants, including for marketing purposes, may be unlawful under the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2003 and may result in action by the Data Protection Commissioner against the sender, including prosecution. Reg. Ref. Date ReceivedApplication Type Submission Type road infrastructure etc. and all associated site development works on a site of c. 2.56 hectares.

SD23A/0116 19 Sep 2023 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Allibell Ltd
Location: Unit D4, Baldonnell Business Park, Clonlara Road, Dublin 22
Description: Change of use of part ground floor of existing office / warehouse premises to a Deli-Cafe (Delicatessen - Cafe) to include a new recessed shopfront, signage and associated alterations and modifications.

SD23A/0141 22 Sep 2023 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: M. Kelliher 1998 Limited
Location: Townland of Collegeland, Baldonnell Business Park, Dublin 22
Description: Provision of signage on the north, south and west elevations; Provision of a storage yard, access road, mesh fence and walls to the west of Unit G; Additional door to access storage yard on the west elevation and all associated landscaping and ancillary works to facilitate the development.

SD23A/0165 19 Sep 2023 Permission Additional Information
Applicant: Kota Construction Ltd
Location: 76, Whitehall Road West, Dublin 12
Description: Demolition of existing two storey, flat roof extension (127 sq.m) to side. Construction of detached, two storey 4 bedroom dwelling (147sq.m) with hipped roof in side garden. 3). New vehicular entrance and gates, and all associated site works.

SD23B/0320 22 Sep 2023 Permission and Retention Additional Information
Applicant: Gary Hansard
Location: 47, Dodsboro Cottages, Lucan, Co. Dublin
Description: Retention permission will consist of a ground floor only extension to the rear of the existing house. Planning permission will consist of a new first floor extension to the rear of the existing house and all ancillary works.

SD22A/0479 22 Sep 2023 Permission Clarification of Additional Information
Applicant: Valerie Bracken
Location: 36, Castle View Road, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 D22RK15
Description: The demolition of existing single storey side shed and the construction of detached two storey (two bed) dwelling to the side of existing house with amended landscaping, additional vehicular access to serve the new house onto Monastery Walk & new boundaries and site works.

SD23B/0040 20 Sep 2023 Permission Clarification of Additional Information
Applicant: Ji Qiang Chen
Location: 82, Woodlawn Park Drive, Tallaght, Dublin 24
Description: Reinstatement of Fire-damaged 2-storey 3 bed detached dwelling (S00A/0221). Permission is also required for removal of disused chimney stack to side dwelling, internal alterations and associated siteworks

SD23B/0214 21 Sep 2023 Retention Clarification of Additional Information
Applicant: Michael Geoghegan
Location: 26, The Orchard, Woodfarm, Palmerstown, Dublin 20
Description: Single storey extension of 29sq.m to side and rear and for alterations to the existing converted garage including new pitched roof with a new roof light; New door to the front elevation and new parapet that is currently under construction; The development will accommodate a family flat of 45sq.m with a living room, bedroom and shower room.

SD23A/0230 19 Sep 2023 Permission New Application
Applicant: National Transport Authority (NTA)
Location: Parcel of land on the western side of Whitestown Way, adjacent South City Business Park, within the Townlands of Tallaght, centered at approx., Irish Traverse Mercator
Description: Development of a welfare facility to accommodate a future bus layover which was approved as part of the D24 Neighbourhood Cycle Network Scheme. The proposed development consists of a bus driver welfare facility comprising of two toilet units circa 6 m2 each, hard standing area, and associated infrastructure. The proposed development is approximately 0.05 hectares (ha) in size.

SD23A/0231 19 Sep 2023 Permission New Application
Applicant: National Transport Authority (NTA)
Location: Parcel of land at Belgard Square South, within the Townlands of Tallaght, centered at approx. Irish Traverse Mercator
Description: Located on a section of Belgard Square South. The development includes the closure of the slip road from Belgard Square South onto the N81. This development is proposed to accommodate the increase in the volume of buses in the area as a result of the changes proposed under BusConnects. The volume of buses is set to increase from 22 to 49 buses per hour. It forms part of Government efforts to improve public transport and address climate change nationally, supporting national strategies such as the National Development Plan 2021 - 2030 and the Climate Action Plan 2023. The layover facility will be comprised of bus parking for 10 buses and welfare facilities for drivers. The development consists of two separate parking areas with 7 bus bays in the south layover and 3 in the layby to the north of Belgard Square South. There will be one entrance point into the layover area located on the southern side of Belgard Square South. This layover area will have 2 egress points with a right turn ban in place. There will be a layby located on the northern side of Belgard Square South, across from the layover area. The layover area includes a bus driver welfare facility comprising of two toilet units. The proposed Development includes the closure of the hard shoulder on the northern side of the N81 to accommodate the realignment of the cycle track along the N81. The proposed development includes all the associated works to facilitate the bus layover and welfare facility. This includes drainage works, utility diversions, public lighting, fencing and landscaping. The overall area of the site is approximately 0.7 ha.

Contact *The Echo* to have a planning notification published Call 468 5350 or email reception@echo.ie

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Find us on

Echo Sport

Deputy Sports Editor: William O'Connor

Thursday, October 5, 2023

St Mary's ladies do the league and cup double



St Mary's ladies saw off Cuala with a strong performance to claim the cup in Saggart on Monday evening

THERE were wild celebrations in Saggart on Monday evening as St Mary's senior ladies team claimed the cup title.

The victory completes the double for Mary's who already secured the Division 12 league crown earlier in the year.

A strong performance from Mary's saw them get the better of Cuala 3-6 to 1-3 in front of a huge crowd in Saggart.

The hosts were 2-2 to 0-2 in front at the interval with Karen McCarthy scoring the first goal and Ava Kenny registering the second.

The opening exchanges were evenly balanced between the teams, however further points from Sophie Strumble and Kenny had Mary's in the driving seat by the interval.

Mary's continued to apply the pressure on the change over with Kenny getting in on the scoring act with another point followed by a good score from Bronagh O'Mahoney.

Cuala did reply with a goal and a point, but Mary's always stayed in front with substitute Emma Conroy making a big difference with a goal and two points.

Cuala did push hard for more scores but Mary's held firm with Orla Keane, Aoife Goodwin and Aoife Dungan at half back impressing throughout.

"It's a brilliant achievement for the team to complete the double," remarked Tony Kenny who runs the team with Ken Reilly, Jack O'Hara, Glen Murray and Mary Murray.

"The girls have worked hard this year and it has all paid off by completing the double.

"The community and club members came out in force and the atmosphere at the match was brilliant," added Tony.

The ladies wore the Feileacain logo on their jerseys to raise awareness of the organisation in the community.



Huge crowds supported St Mary's senior ladies as they claimed the cup in Saggart on Monday

Photos by Paddy Barrett

McCabe signs new deal with the Gunners



Katie McCabe has signed a new deal with Arsenal

TALLAGHT girl Katie McCabe signed a new deal with Arsenal football club following a superb season domestically and on the international front.

From Kilnamanagh, the Ireland skipper has made 193 appearances for the Gunners since joining the club from Shelbourne in December 2015, scoring 31 goals along the way.

McCabe has won one Barclays FA Women's Super League title, one Women's FA Cup and two FA Women's Continental Tyres League Cups during her time at Arsenal.

"Arsenal is home for me and I'm excited to have committed my future to this football club," said Katie. "I've grown up here as a player and a person and developed a really special bond with our supporters, which means a lot to me," Katie told the clubs website.

"Over the years, I've experienced some amazing moments here – but I believe that the best is yet to come and I know the aim here at Arsenal is to compete for the highest honours."

Last season, Katie made 38 appearances in all competitions for Arsenal and played a key role when they won the Conti Cup, reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Women's Champions League and secured a third-place finish in the WSL. Katie wore the captain's armband on several occasions during the latter part of the campaign.

In recognition of her stellar campaign, Katie was named our 2022/23 Player of the Season presented by Mastercard, won the WSL Goal of the Season trophy for her stunning strike against Manchester City at Meadow Park on 3 April 2023, and was named in the UEFA Women's Champions League Team of the Season. She has also been nominated for the 2023 Ballon d'Or.

At international level, Katie captained the Republic of Ireland in their first appearance at the FIFA Women's World Cup in Australia and New Zealand over the summer, and scored the team's first-ever goal in the competition with a stunning strike direct from a corner.

Hockey

Three Rock topple Glenanne in derby

THREE Rock Rovers came out tops 3-1 over local rivals Glenanne HC in a wet Grange Road at the weekend in the EYHL League.

With chances falling to both team in the first quarter, it was Rovers that took the lead.

A swift attack down the right from Rovers in the 22nd minute forced a good save from Glenanne goalkeeper David Lawless, but the ball fell kindly to James Walker who's first time bunt ended in the Glens net.

And that is how it stayed for the first quarter and in the second quarter followed much of the same story - the visitors controlling the possession, patiently creating chances, whilst Rovers would hit Glenanne at speed on the counter.

The score remained the same 1-0 at half time with both sets of forwards creating opportunities.

Glenanne came out stronger in the third quarter, creating numerous chances and winning several penalty corners.

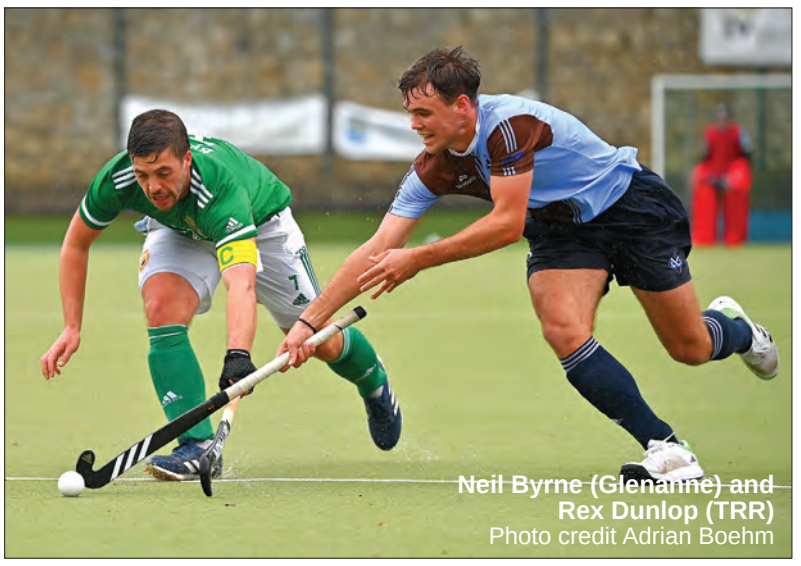
Corner specialist Shane O'Donoghue getting the equaliser on in the 37th minute from a drag flick at the end of the third quarter and it was all to play for in the final quarter.

Ex-South-African international Jody Hosking gave Rovers the lead again with 12 minutes to go with a converted penalty corner.

Sensing an opportunity to create an overload, Glenanne pulled their goalkeeper to play with 11 outfield players.

Despite numerous efforts however they were unable to score and the decision backfired when Ali Empey scored a 3rd goal for Rovers with one minute of play remaining to secure the three points for the home team.

Next up for Glenanne is Monkstown HC in the EYHL on Saturday 7 October in St Andrews College, Booterstown.



Neil Byrne (Glenanne) and Rex Dunlop (TRR)
Photo credit Adrian Boehm

Loreto women leave it late in league

LORETO women's hockey team enjoyed a 2-0 win over Catholic Institute in Beaufort in EYHL Division One at the weekend.

Loreto, playing at home did create chances but there was no goals on scoreboard by the half time break.

A third quarter couldn't separate the teams but it all changed in sixty seconds in quarter four.

Loreto were awarded a penalty stroke in the 57th minute which was converted by Hannah McLaughlin. Rachel Kelly added a second within a minute to seal a 2-0 victory.

Rugby

Tallaght go down to Edenderry



Tallaght vice-captain Martina Fitzpatrick scored a try but it wasn't enough for a comeback against Edenderry

Tallaght's women's team travelled to Offaly to take on Edenderry in Division 4 of the Women's league but despite a brave show went down 22-14.

Tallaght got trapped in their own half for most of the first half but defended gamely.

But from a five-metre scrum the ball squirted out the side and the Edenderry scrum-half Aoife Shakespeare pounced on the ball and ran over unopposed for the try. It gave Edenderry a 5-0 lead which they kept until half-time in a game where both teams struggled to get fluency.

Tallaght wing Niamh Moore put in a couple of massive tackles which were the highlight of the first half for Tallaght.

In the second half the physicality of the game took its toll with Tallaght picking up some knocks to key players. Tallaght did look certain to score when Aisling Pyke took a superb line off a ruck to break through the defence.

She looked certain to score but was only denied a certain try by a high tackle ten yards out from the line. It might have been a yellow card and a penalty try but instead the referee only gave a penalty, From the penalty Tallaght were camped on the line but when the ball went wide it was knocked on by Edenderry to kill the chance and the referee completely missed it.

To make it worse Edenderry went straight down the field and scored a fine try through right wing Leah Grant. Grant was soon on the scoresheet for a second time, and both tries were converted by Faye Lynch to give Edenderry a commanding 19-0 lead.

Tallaght kept fighting and replacement Emma Irvin started to make inroads with some big carries. Vice-captain Martina Fitzpatrick started to come into the game in a big way and she forced her way over the line for a try which Louise Leonard converted to make it 19-7.

Edenderry came back up the field and smartly kicked a penalty in front of the posts to make it 22-7. That penalty would show it's value when replacement Chloe Conroy forced her way over from close range which Leonard again converted to make it 22-14, just a point outside a losing bonus point for Tallaght but they ran out of time.

Opening league defeat for Tallaght in Tymon

TALLAGHT took on Barnhall in their first league game of the season in Metro Division Six but finished second best 13-41 in Tymon Park.

Barnhall took an early lead with the first try of the game to go five-points ahead with wing Rob Hudson kicking a penalty for the hosts to make it 5-3.

Barnhall's offloading and support running were excellent and Tallaght relied on some fine defence to keep them out for the rest of the half.

The home side did create some good chances for themselves but when breaks were made they weren't looking to link up with each other.

The ball was either turned over or kicked away needlessly and you felt these wasted chances would come back to haunt Tallaght in the second half as Barnhall kicked a penalty to make it 8-3 at half-time.

In the second half Barnhall quickly took control of the match scoring four excellent tries and converting three of them to go 34-3 ahead.

Tallaght scrummaged well but they struggled badly to win their own lineout ball and this hampered any chance to get back into the game. To their credit Tallaght kept fighting and did score two late tries through Colin Morrison and Brian Lacey with Barnhall scoring a try in between to make the final score 41-13 to the Kildare men.

GAA

Davis girls pipped at the post

THOMAS Davis narrowly went down by a goal in the last minute last Friday night in Abbotstown in the Junior County Final.

In front of a large crowd, Davis went down to Naomh Barrog 2-9 to 0-12 after conceding a goal in the closing stages.

The Kiltipper side dominated the first half with scores from Sarah Cullen, Eireann Waddick, Eireann Joyce and Ally McGrath pushing them 0-8 to 0-5 in front at half time.

After half time, a few frees brought Barrog back onto level terms, but Davis regained the lead with Cullen pointing again.

Against the run of play a deflected goal put Barrog ahead, helped by another soft free for the northsiders

Again the Kiltipper side got back onto level terms but Barrog broke through for a crucial goal to secure the silverware.

For Thomas Davis Nicole Malcolmson, Sarah Cullen and Ally Mc Connell put in fine performances.



Thomas Davis girls were narrowly beaten by Naomh Barrog in the final

St Mary's aiming to secure top flight status

ALL EYES will be on Saggart this Saturday as St Mary's senior team square up to Round Tower's Lusk in the Division Two play-off.

The winner of this match will see them finish in second position behind league winners Whitehall Colmcille's and secure a place in the top-flight in the league.

Towers are currently occupying second place in the league with Mary's fourth, but if the Saggart lads can secure a win they will leapfrog the Lusk side into second spot and secure an automatic promotion spot.

This original game was suspended earlier in the season after a Mary's player had suffered a broken leg and due to the championship campaign, the game was put back until this week.

After a poor start to their campaign where they lost their opening three league matches, Mary's produced a string of fine performances with wins over the likes of Parnells, Ballyboughal, Templeogue Synge Street, Round Tower's (Clondalkin), Scoil Ui Chonaill and Kilmacud Crokes.

Mary's will be hoping that experienced players like captain Eoin Murray and Blaine Kelly will be in top form against a strong Tower's outfit.

Both Murray and Kelly will have key roles to play for Mary's along with Conor Jameson at midfield and Rhys Butler.

Ciaran Dunne, Jamie McCarville and Kyle Butler are other players that have impressed this term along with Adam Brady and Adam Drewett.

Having drawn with Tower's in the championship, Mary's will be eager to go get the right result and make it back to the top division.

Boden and Jude's in hurling semis

FOLLOWING last weeks results in the Senior Two Hurling Championship, Ballyboden St Enda's and St Jude's have reached the quarter-final stages.

Jude's booked their place in the semis following their 3-17 to 1-18 win over Castleknock.

They will fancy their chances in the semis when they take on a strong Naomh Barrog outfit.

Dublin player Danny Sutcliffe is a key player for Jude's as is Joe McManus and John Carthy.

Sutcliffe and McManus who played inter county with Mayo will be key players if Jude's are to progress to the finals.

Boden will play Craobh Chiarain in the other semi-final in what has the prospects of being a cracking match.

Both games will be in O'Toole Park on October 14.

St Jude's girls one step away from inter silverware



St Jude's will be hoping to secure silverware against Fingal

ST JUDE'S senior ladies football team take on Fingallians in the Intermediate Football Championship final in Clann Mhuire this Saturday with the hope of securing senior status.

This team won the All-Ireland Junior Football Final in 2022 making history as the Club's first All-Ireland winners.

After being promoted to the Intermediate Championship the team consolidated their position last season and are now one match away from promotion to senior level football.

The team beat St Maur's in the semi-final on Monday, September 25 in a game that was played in gale force wind conditions under Storm Agnes with both teams struggling against the elements.

Jude's won by 3-06 to 0-08 with a dominant performance after leading 1-3 to 0-4 at half time. Caoimhe French scored two second half goals to decide the game.

Captain Aoife Keyes' Grandfather, Ernest Kenny, is a founder member of the Club.

Several of the players are also on the St Jude's Senior Camogie team who played on Sunday morning against Ballyboden in Tymon Park in the Dublin Senior Camogie Championship and earned a place in the Dublin Final and will play St Vincent's in Parnell Park on Friday, October 13.

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Jude's and Boden go head to head



Colm Basquel shoots for goal during Balyboden's victory over Castleknock in Parnell Park.
Photos by Cliona Mellett

IT'S ALL systems go this weekend as local rivals Ballyboden St Enda's and St Jude's go head-to-head in the semi-final of the Senior Football Championship.

Both sides have been in the shake-up in the championship over the past few years and a close encounter is expected between these sides.

The teams have recorded good wins in the championship with St Jude's seeing off a highly fancied Cuala outfit by a point in the quarter-finals while Boden got the better of Castleknock.

Boden won all of their group matches and topped their section and they have been on a good run of late.

They have a good mix of experienced and young players in their line-up like former Dublin midfielder Michael Darragh MacAuley leading the charge.

MacAuley has led by example around the middle of the park while Cein D'arcy has also impressed in what is a strong midfield partnership.

Boden have a strong forward line to choose from with brothers Ryan and Colm Basquel along with Ross McGarry are pulling the strings with a range of scores.

These players will need to be on fire along with Warren Egan and Ryan O'Dwyer who have put in strong performances so far this year.

Kieran Kennedy, Cathal Flaherty and James Holland form a strong defence for Boden but they will need to be on guard against a dangerous Jude's attack.

Kevin McManamon will have a key role to play for Jude's in attack while Darragh Rooney is a player that stood out in the quarter-final in their win over Cuala.

Dublin player Tom Lahiff has been moving well and he will be another player that will pose problems around midfield for Boden.



St Jude's Kevin McManamon
Photo by Michael Moran

Davis girls are denied a final spot



Thomas Davis lost out to Kilmacud Crokes in the semi-final

Kiltipper side lose out to defending champions Kilmacud

DEFENDING champions Kilmacud Crokes will face Na Fianna in the Go Ahead Dublin Senior Football Championship decider after they recorded a convincing nine-point triumph over Thomas Davis 2-13 to 1-7 in a rescheduled semi-final encounter at Pairc De Burca on Friday, *reports Daire Walsh.*

Spearheaded by Dublin stars Aoife Kane and Lauren Magee, Crokes overcame a difficult opening to keep themselves on course for back-to-back top-tier titles in the capital. Ailbhe Davoren (Galway) and Niamh Cotter (Cork) also brought their inter-county experience to bear for the winners, while there are a number of others within their ranks who have featured for the Jackies in the past.

The same is true of a number of players in the Davis team with Olwen Carey, Ciara McGuigan and Tammy Quinn Corbally all having donned the sky blue jersey at the senior grade. The absence of Siobhan McGrath was keenly-felt from a Davis perspective, but the industry and effort of the Kiltipper Road side couldn't be faulted throughout.

After recording four consecutive victories at the expense of Ballyboden St Enda's, Castleknock, Clontarf and St Sylvester's, Crokes safely finished at the summit of the Group A table in this competition. This afforded them home advantage for this last-four affair – something they also had the benefit of for their semi-final success over Sylvester's last year.

Meanwhile, Davis were beaten on home soil by Na Fianna on August 30, but this proved to be their only defeat in Group B. Wins against St Brigid's and Cuala arrived either side of a 1-8 to 1-8 draw with Foxrock/Cabinteely at Kiltipper Road and the Tallaght outfit ultimately kept their bid for a second successive final appearance alive by securing the runners-up spot in the group.

While Eabha Rutledge got the ball rolling for Crokes with a point inside the opening 60 seconds, Ciara McGuigan quickly responded with an equalising score from a free. McGuigan is one of the sharpest inside forwards on the Dublin club scene and she cut in from a left-hand angle in the fourth-minute to slide a shot beyond the reach of opposition netminder Rachael Fleming.

This offered the visitors an early platform and even though Rutledge and Magee raised white flags in quick succession, Kerri Owens restored Davis' two-point advantage in fine style on 12 minutes. They continued to take the game to the title holders as the action progressed with a right-footed free from full-forward Orlagh McGuigan cancelling out a fine individual point by Ailbhe Davoren.

Yet dead-ball specialist Rutledge reduced the Crokes deficit to a minimum in the 23rd-minute and the home team were finally back in the ascendancy from the resulting attack. She had been an industrious figure during the early exchanges and when she was picked out close to goal, Mia Jennings made no mistake with a smooth finish to the net.

Michelle Davoren subsequently split the uprights to provide Crokes with more breathing space, but Ciara McGuigan was desperately unfortunate to see her firm strike floated agonisingly over the crossbar on 28 minutes.

A second point for the ever-impressive Magee followed for Kilmacud, who served up a hammer blow to their opponents at the very end of the opening period. After Cotter's attempt at a point rebounded off the post, Ailbhe Davoren reacted quickest to fire home the rebound.

This second goal left Crokes 2-7 to 1-4 in front at the break and within sight of a return to Dublin's premier championship showpiece.

Davis were somewhat unfortunate to be six points in arrears as they had gotten an awful lot right prior to the interval. Ciara McGuigan reignited their challenge with an excellent point from play off her left-foot five minutes after the resumption, but this score was immediately cancelled out by her opposite number Rutledge.

Though Crokes found themselves in a powerful position, they still had reason to be wary of a side who brought them down to the wire in last year's final. This meant that the hosts weren't going to rest on their laurels and were rewarded for their continued attacking endeavours with unanswered scores from the increasingly-influential Cotter (two) and Rutledge.

Norah Kirby did kick a point for Davis from an impossible angle, but Jennings and the outstanding Rutledge posted additional scores to ensure Crokes maintained a firm stranglehold on the proceedings.

To their credit, Davis fought until the end and were awarded a penalty deep into stoppage-time at the end of the game. Goalkeeper Lauren Young stepped forward to negotiate this spot-kick, but her powerful effort floated over the posts for a point rather than the goal she desired.

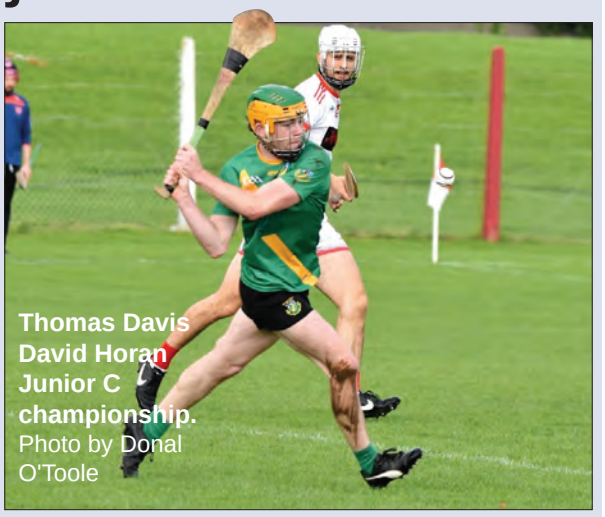
Having come through their respective semi-finals in impressive fashion, Crokes and Na Fianna will now have to dust themselves off in advance of what should be a compelling showdown at Parnell Park next Friday.



Emer Sweeney of Kilmacud Crokes clears a Thomas Davis attack
Photos by Maurice Grehan

Thomas Davis' Riona McTavish and Jade Sweeney close in on Michelle Daveron of Kilmacud Crokes during the semi-final

McGrath late goal see Davis juniors into semis



Thomas Davis David Horan Junior C championship.
Photo by Donal O'Toole

THOMAS Davis junior hurlers left it very late in their Junior 'C' Championship quarter final clash with Fingallians as Jordy McGrath scored a goal in the last puck of the game to seal the victory 4-9 to 2-14.

Both teams were very evenly matched as Dean Gibbons (1-6) free taking proved vital throughout for Davis.

Jordy McGrath (2-1) pounced early on to get his first goal to give Thomas Davis an early lead followed by some good work by Fionn Murray (0-1) which led to scores.

Davis' went in at the break with a two-point lead 1-7 to 0-8 and in the second half substitute Zak Moradi made an impact straight away as he hit 1-2 from play while the Davis defence led by Jaques Dalton, John Sheridan and Dillon Joyce put in good performances on the day.

With both teams tied going into injury time, Fingallians got a goal from a long range free to go two points ahead, however in the last play of the game Jordy McGrath got on the end of a ball from

Scott McKeown to bury the ball into the Fingallians net to seal a one point victory.

Thomas Davis will now play Wild Geese in the semi-final on October 15 at Kiltipper Road.

Meanwhile Thomas Davis senior hurlers exited the Senior Two Championship on Saturday as Craobh Chiaran's ran out 2-17 to 1-16 winners.

Played on a wet and windy day in Parnell Park, Chiaran's senior one experience proved vital as they took control midway through the second half to see out the game by four points.

Boden senior hurlers into semis

BALLYBODEN St Enda's senior hurlers secured their place in the semi-final of the championship last weekend.

The Firhouse Road side worked hard for their victory as they brushed aside the challenge of Cuala 2-25 to 1-21 in Parnell Park to progress in the competition.

The victory sees Boden play St Vincent's in one-semi-final while Lucan Sarsfields are in the other side of the draw and will face Na Fianna.

Boden had the better of the opening half exchanges and by the half time whistle were 2-13 to 0-10 to the good.

Former Dublin player Paul Ryan netted Boden's goal after 13 minutes while four minutes later Pearce Christie kept the umpires busy with another goal.

Christie kept the scoreboard ticking over for Boden with five pointed frees while Kevin Desmond and Shane Durkin chipped in with scores to extend their sides lead.

Cuala did reply with Liam Murphy landing a few points, but Enda's always had the upper hand with a couple of well-worked scores.

The Dalkey side came more into the contest in the second half with Dublin footballer Con O'Callaghan and Murphy accounting for points to leave five between the sides on 50 minutes.

Cuala keeper Sean Brennan pulled off three brilliant saves to keep Boden at bay, but they showed their experience with Ryan landing a few points to finish with 1-11 while Eoin Behan also got in on the scoring act.

Kilmacu
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Photos by Paddy Barrett

Clubs & Societies Day held in Dublin Tallaght Campus



Fionn, Bryan, Aaron (GAA Club)



Luke McCabe and Georgina Ward (Badminton Club)



Kiselle Bulawan, David Lynch and Adam Bermingham (Volleyball Club)



Tim Giblin (Tennis Club)



Pat Scully and Conor Chetlan (Soccer Club)



John Dolan and Fionnbhar Maguire (Rugby Club)



Noah Smith and Margaret Janas (Weightlifting Club)



Ben, Eoghan, Michaela and Darragh (The Flag Club)



Cllr Teresa Costello and Gerry Anderson with GAA Club Members

Soccer

Pat's hoping to book final spot

ST PATRICK'S Athletic are just 90 minutes away from securing a place in the FAI Cup Final and all they must do is beat Cork City again, who they narrowly dispatched on a 1-0 scoreline in the league last week.

By Hayden Moore
sport@echo.ie

This weekend is dedicated to the FAI Cup semi-final, with Bohemians facing Galway on Saturday and the Saints challenging the Rebels on Sunday, both games kicking off at 2.40pm at the Aviva Stadium.

Confidence will be high for Jon Daly's men coming into the occasion after beating Cork in their most recent fixture, in the SSE Airtricity League Premier Division at Turner's Cross.

While the Inchicore outfit dominated much of the game, Cork did cause problems on the counter-attack – only being let down by their lackluster performance in front of goal.

When John O'Donovan was sent off on the hour mark, it gave St Pat's license to push further forward, and Mark Doyle converted to take all three points.

It is an interesting tie for another reason as well, with former St Pat's boss Liam Buckley doing solid work behind the scenes with Cork City as the sporting director.

The Perrystown native joined the club in that role in May but after Colin Healy's departure, Buckley had been serving as interim manager.

Last Thursday it was announced that Richie Holland would take charge for the rest of the season, allowing Buckley to return to his new role as sporting director.

En route to the semi-final, St Pat's have played all three games away from home, securing great wins over Derry City, Finn Harps and Longford Town.

Jobstown native Jonathan Afolabi has been in prolific form for Bohs so far this season, scoring in every round of the FAI Cup ahead of the semi-final on Saturday.

The 23-year-old is playing his best football, earning a call up to Stephen Kenny's Republic of Ireland senior men's team and his brace against Sligo Rovers last Friday taking him to 17 goals in all competitions.

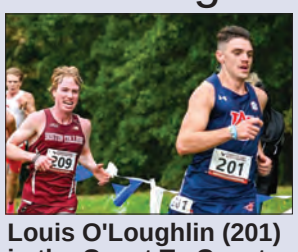
Securing passage to the semi-final, the former St Mark's Community School student has scored four goals in three games, including a double in a 3-1 quarter final victory over Drogheda United last month.



Kilnamanagh's Joe Redmond of St Patrick's Athletic during the Sports Direct Men's FAI Cup Semi-Final's media day at Aviva Stadium on Tuesday
Photo by Sportsfile

Athletics

Tough race for O'Loughlin



Louis O'Loughlin (201) in the Coast To Coast XC at Boston, MA

The Auburn Tigers travelled to compete for the first time at a cross-country fixture in Franklin Park, Boston, Massachusetts for the Coast-To-Coast Cross Country Battle last weekend.

Among the Tigers team was Clondalkin man Louis O'Loughlin, who placed 43rd in the men's 8km race from a field of more than 140 competitors.

O'Loughlin later explained: "It was a tough race in really bad conditions. I went out stronger than usual and stayed with the lead pack early on. I hope to be more competitive as the season progresses".

The Donore Harriers middle-distance specialist had a finish time of 25.05.4 and was the 4th scorer on the Tigers team that placed 6th of 17 teams.

Gold for Eddie at World Masters Mountain Championships

LEGACY was the core fuel for Eddie O'Connor in his drive to represent Ireland on the global stage and it propelled him all the way to gold at the World Masters Mountain Running Championships in Portugal *reports Hayden Moore.*

Competing in the 32km long course trail, O'Connor started in the small village of Ponto de Pargo and climbed some 1,200m in elevation through woodland and dirt roads in the race.

The 35-year-old battled off fierce opposition from Slovakia and Spain, who crossed the finish line in second and third place respectively, to top the podium in the Men's Over 35s category.

"During the race I was dipping in and out of medal position but grew more confident of making podium as the race would finish on a downhill which is my strength but I didn't let medals hinder my concentration because anything can happen during these events and to come across the finish line in the gold medal position was something of gratitude for my body to hold up and excitement for me and the family that I will always have this victory forever to look back on," O'Connor said.

While his gold medal run came as an individual, O'Connor also helped Ireland to a team gold medal just two-days previous in the M35 uphill, which was 9km with 800m of climbing.

Trekking alongside Phillip Goss and Simon Nolan, O'Connor and co chalked up enough points between them to claim team gold despite none being among the individual medals.

O'Connor only started running competitively in mountain events three-years-ago and has gone up a gear over the past 12-months since joining a club.

"People ask me all the time about my love for running," O'Connor reflects.

"I don't love running at all.

"It's very difficult and you wake up in pain all the time, but I do want a legacy and something I can always look back on that I've achieved so this incentive inspires me to do the best I can."





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