



**Bangor tops in thriller**  
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READ IT, BELIEVE IT, REAL LOCAL NEWS – SERVING CLONDALKIN, BALLYFERMOT AND LUCAN – BE PART OF THE STORY

**Freedom at last for Michael with mobility scooter** page 4

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**Faces of the community**



## Celebrating heritage week

THE COMMUNITY came out in force to celebrate our culture with a number of events taking place in Clondalkin and Ballyfermot. See 3, 52 and 54

**COMMUNITY COMES OUT IN FORCE TO CELEBRATE CULTURE**

# Council cites 'the existing capacity in the electricity network grid' Google data centre plans at Grange Castle refused

SOUTH Dublin County Council has refused Google Ireland planning permission for a new data centre at Grange Castle Business Park, reports Alessia Micalizzi. See page 9

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# THE **Echo**

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## Next Edition

The next edition of *The Echo* in the shops from  
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### ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75

#### PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF O'ROURKE'S LANE, DUBLIN 24

To facilitate essential road works South Dublin County Council propose to temporarily close the following road:

**Road Name:** O'Rourke's Lane, Dublin 24.

**From:** Monday 16th September 2024.

**To:** Friday 20th September 2024.

**Time of Closure:** 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Daily.

**Detour Route:** No Detour is available as Laneway is a cul-de-sac.

Local access will be provided.

Any person interested may lodge an observation/submission in writing to the Senior Executive Officer, Land Use, Planning and Transportation, South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 or by email to [seoroads@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:seoroads@sdblincoco.ie) not later than **5.00 p.m. on Monday 2nd September 2024.**

Web: [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)



# Plans for new €50m brain health centre of excellence in Cookstown



**GOOD NEWS:** The site in Cookstown Industrial Estate beside Tallaght University Hospital and (inset) an artist's impression of the new facility

## Development will include plans for dealing with dementia

By **William O'Connor**

[william@echo.ie](mailto:william@echo.ie)

TALLAGHT University Hospital Foundation have lodged plans for a new Centre of Excellence in Brain Health and Dementia in Cookstown Industrial Estate, *The Echo* understands will cost more than €50 million.

The proposed development, which is located on Fourth Avenue beside Tallaght University Hospital, includes plans for an Innovate Health, Centre of Excellence in Brain Health and Dementia, which will consist of: The demolition of the existing concrete beams adjoining the neighbouring unit and relocation of existing underground services.

Plans include a five-storey building with part six-storey elements and set-back accommodation and plant rooms.

The building functions comprise of a reception area, café/restaurant, central atrium, radiology department, treatment, assessment and consultation rooms, research facilities, associated offices and meeting rooms and associated staff facilities, plant and storage rooms.

There will be a roof terrace at Level 05 at the south end of the building.

Plans include the removal of 14 car-park spaces in the existing adjacent TUH car park to facilitate a new entrance park consisting of

hard and soft landscaping and lighting, new footpath, signage, loading bay and accessible parking space off Fourth Avenue.

New footpath, signage, set-down area and two accessible parking spaces off the internal hospital campus road to the west are also proposed.

An extended footpath to the west of the adjacent car park and new pedestrian crossing to enhance pedestrian access to the existing multi-storey car park are also lodged in the plans with new pedestrian crossing to connect the new Entrance Park with the main entrance to Tallaght University Hospital. Secure enclosed staff bike store to the North and visitor bike racks in the Entrance Park along with bin store to east side of building and boundary fencing, walls and gates to east of site are included.

The new facility will employ an extension to Tallaght University's Hospital current waste license. All associated ancillary site development and drainage works.

This particular part of Cookstown Industrial Estate in starting to undergo a transformation with the new Airton Road link road currently under development along with the opening of new four-storey Work IQ Innovation Centre which is the new home for start-ups and growing enterprises in South Dublin, and forms part of a new urban district, Innovation Quarter Tallaght which is walking distance to

the new hospital development.

"Tallaght University Hospital Foundation [TUHF] is committed to driving the future of healthcare through innovation, recognizing it as the cornerstone of developing advanced therapies and novel solutions that will define the next generation of patient care. The groundbreaking project to construct a cutting-edge healthcare innovation facility underscores our dedication to fostering an environment where visionary ideas can thrive and transform into tangible medical breakthroughs," said Douglas Collins, Tallaght University Hospital Foundation CEO.

"This new facility will serve as a hub for trailblazing research, offering a stimulating environment for innovators to collaborate and accelerate the development and adoption of pioneering health technologies. By focusing on emerging therapies and novel approaches, particularly in the realm of Brain Health and Dementia, TUHF aims to revolutionize the landscape of healthcare, setting new standards in patient treatment and care.

"Strategically located near the Tallaght University Hospital Campus, the innovation facility is poised to become a national leader in healthcare innovation. We have just submitted the plans for the facility and look forward to sharing more about Innovate Health, Centre of Excellence in Brain Health and Dementia with the community as the project progresses."

## Rovers' welcome their new neighbours to Tallaght Stadium



**FAN-TASTIC:** Shamrock Rovers extended an invitation to all residents of the new Cluidd Housing apartment complex next to Tallaght Stadium for Sunday's game v Galway United. Pictured are a number of the residents who were delighted to take up the invitation for Main Stand tickets and got to meet their new neighbours for the first time.



**ON SONG:** Local Vocals with musician Fiona Minogue and director Edel Nolan



**SHOWCASE:** Monica McGill (JW Arhive) and John Cawley (CTT) cut the RT cake!

# Heritage showcase celebrates our amazing cultural journey

Large crowds at Áras Chrónáin and Brú Chrónáin with special guest boxer Bernard Dunne

ON SUNDAY a large crowd turned out to celebrate the success of the community-led campaign that began in the summer of 2004 against the planning permission given to the building of apartments of the site of the round tower and in favour of the alternative vision of a heritage centre celebrating Clondalkin's most important national monument.

In summer 2004, Rally Round the Tower (RRTT) was established to galvanize community and public support for the community's vision, making headlines in the national and local media at the time when over 1,400 people came out on the street in a colourful protest.

20 years later, and in-keeping with this year's National Heritage Week theme of Connections, Routes and Networks, Rally Round The Tower and Clondalkin Heritage Group organised a celebration of the amazing heritage journey taken by the community in the intervening years.

The two-venue event took place in Clondalkin's Cultural Quarter with a Heritage Showcase of more than twelve local heritage organisations in Áras Chrónáin while the main event, featuring Rally Round the Tower memorabilia and Clondalkin Living History re-enactors, was located in Brú Chrónáin Round Tower Visitor Centre.

The large crowd assembled in the Monk's Kitchen restaurant listened as Josephine Byrne, former secretary of RRTT and current secretary of Clondalkin Heritage Group (CHG), recounted the origins and work of the campaign to ensure that the Round Tower Visitor Centre eventually saw the light of day.

Special guest and former European Champion, Bernard Dunne, spoke about his pride in Clondalkin's heritage and

commended the work of all the heritage organisations, members of whom he met in the Round Tower Visitor Centre and those whose stands he had visited in Áras Chrónáin.

He also helped to cut one of the two celebration Tower cakes provided by Candlewood Bakery.

Former Chair of RRTT and the present Co-ordinator of CHG, Bernardine nic Giolla Phádraig, thanked all the heritage organisations taking part including Clondalkin Tidy Towns, Irish Crochet Lace Revival Group, Clondalkin History Society, St John's Church, Round Towers GAA, The Joe Williams Archive, Gaeilgeoirí Chluain Dolcáin, Clondalkin Library and Muintir Chrónáin as well as the staff and manager of the Monk's Kitchen, Mark Matanes.

The event was also very well supported by local representatives with Cllrs Eoin Ó Broin, William Carey, Linda de Courcy, Trevor Gilligan and Shane Moynihan all seen mingling to congratulate the members of Rally Round the Tower as well as visiting heritage stands throughout the afternoon. Present too was former councillor Robert Dowds, who had a leading role in the early campaign, and Peter Kavanagh, whose son Art Caomhánach won the prize of a Family Heritage Card gifted by the OPW for a year's free admission to all-OPW-managed heritage properties for his striking Viking fancy dress.

A large crowd soaked up the rousing traditional music of Ceoltóirí Áras Chrónáin and the joyful atmosphere created by Local Vocals, under the direction of Edel Nolan, and accompanied by Fiona Minogue on keyboards. Acclaimed local harmony singers and musicians, SRÓN,



**HERITAGE:** Rally Round The Tower members with former world boxing champion Bernard Dunne



**GUEST:** Special guest Bernard Dunne with the Irish Crochet Lace Revival Group

dressed up in monks' costumes for the event and played to rivetted audiences in both venues, appropriately finishing the day's festivities with a rendition of 'The Tower Song' they first performed at the rally twenty years previously.

This closing event for Heritage Week 2024 was organised with the support of Clann Chronáin Volunteer Tour Guides who provided a number of free guided tours in both Brú Chrónáin and in Áras Chrónáin, and in conjunction with the Heritage office and County Promotion Unit of South Dublin County Council.

# Report shows that the Government is failing to meet needs of population

A RECENTLY published parliamentary report has indicated that the government, including local government, is failing to meet the social housing needs of the population, reports Stephen Farrell.

The 'Social Housing – Ongoing Need 2023' report published by the Parliamentary Budget Office on Friday, indicates that of all the local authorities in Dublin, South Dublin County Council has the highest percentage share of active Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) tenancies, accounting for 55 per cent of their total ongoing need.

The report quantifies 'Ongoing Need' as the number of households that are on the main social housing waiting list plus those households in receipt of the HAP.

Consequently social housing lists make up 45 per cent of the total ongoing need in South Dublin.

The report states that 12.3 per cent of all households in Dublin are social housing. Of this over half (6.5 per cent) are in Dublin City, 2.7 per cent are in South Dublin, 1.8 per cent are in Fingal and the smallest share is in Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown at 1.3 per cent.

Like almost all areas of the

country, there exists a significant gap between average HAP and private market rents, particularly when compared to new tenancy rents, which new HAP households would be faced with.

South Dublin has the second highest disparity at €753 and €646, respectively, coming in behind Dún Laoghaire–Rathdown.

Unlike other forms of housing support, HAP tenants are not considered tenants of a local authority and therefore do not have a continuous right to accommodation if their private lease agreement were to end. In addition, once they enter the HAP

scheme, the applicant is removed from the main social housing waiting list.

Households in receipt of Rent Supplement are not considered local authority tenants though can remain on social housing waiting lists and are therefore captured under the unmet need categorisation.

Kildare has highest share of households on the main social housing lists, at 66 per cent of their total ongoing need.

The opposition parties have said that the report is another indictment of the government's housing policy.

"Figures released recently show that 19,884 people in South Dublin are on housing lists or in receipt of HAP. This is further evidence of the government's inability to fix the housing crisis and their failure to deliver social housing for those who need it," said Councillor Louise Dunne (SF).

"Last week alone, three independent reports were released by the Society of Chartered Surveyors of Ireland, the Central Statistics Office and Savills. These reports once again highlight that the government's housing plan is not working," the councillor for Tallaght–South added.

# Happiness and 'freedom' is a mobility scooter for Michael

All thanks to human rights campaigner Colm O'Gorman and a GoFundMe page

By Stephen Farrell  
stephenf@echo.ie

"FREE at last."

This was the reaction of a local man, who does not have the use of his legs, on receiving a long-awaited mobility scooter on Tuesday week last, August 20.

"I was very, very happy," said Michael Dunne, Clondalkin, who is in his 70s and who was told previously, by the Health Service Executive (HSE) that he would have to wait three years to get the scooter.

Colm O'Gorman, the human rights campaigner, set up a GoFundMe page to raise funds to get an electric wheelchair for Mr Dunne, with just over €5,700 raised.

Michael has been out twice so far on his new mobility scooter.

On the first occasion, last Tuesday week, that Michael ventured out he did so with the person who delivered the scooter and a representative from SAGE.

SAGE Advocacy acts on behalf of older people who need support in fulfilling their wish to remain living in their own homes and communities.

After ordering the scooter Michael had to wait for a number of weeks before it arrived, as the person who delivered it was on holidays and subsequently got COVID.

Naturally after being confined to his house for the last 2½ years Michael felt a strange sensation when he was outside.

"It was very, very strange out on the scooter. I'm a bit anxious going out on it – I had an anxiety problem when I came back, I suffer from agoraphobia," said Michael.

Agoraphobia is a fear of being in situations where escape might be difficult or that help wouldn't be available if things go wrong. However,

agoraphobia is not simply a fear of open spaces, according to the National Health Service (UK). Someone with agoraphobia may also be scared of leaving home.

When speaking to *The Echo* Michael was hopeful that the representative from SAGE would call out to him again on Wednesday, August 28.

"Andrew will be out on Wednesday, he will walk outside with me, to get used to being out again. I live in a cul de sac – there is a three-minute run, just to get used to the steering," said Michael.

However, Michael's ability to use the scooter is weather-dependant.

"The second time I went out last week the weather was poor, there's not much coverage on the scooter so I had to put on a heavy coat," said Michael.

Michael is very appreciative of the efforts of local TD Gino Kenny (PBP) and Mr O'Gorman in helping him to get the scooter.

"A young girl who works for Gino Kenny came out to me and saw the predicament I was in. Colm O'Gorman was absolutely great, I remember years ago the articles he wrote for One in Four, I can relate to what he is saying," said Michael.

Replying to *The Echo* at the end of July, the HSE said that it could not comment on individual cases adding that the waiting times for their Occupational Therapy service remain longer than desired, as staff vacancies across teams have reduced the capacity of the service to meet current demand.

Meanwhile Michael is looking forward to enjoying the simple things in life.

"My daughter Kim lives close by in Lett's Field, the grandchildren live around there, it's a ten-minute run. When I get mobile I will call around to her, I haven't been there in three years," said Michael.

“A young girl who works for Gino Kenny came out to me and saw the predicament I was in. Colm O'Gorman was absolutely great, I remember years ago the articles he wrote for One in Four, I can relate to what he is saying



HELPING HAND:  
Michael Dunne

## Volunteer drivers needed

THE Irish Cancer Society is urgently seeking Dublin-based Volunteer Drivers to help bring cancer patients to and from their treatments.

Volunteer Drivers located in the county are being sought to drive patients who are undergoing cancer treatment to and from hospitals in Dublin. The Irish Cancer Society Transport Service helps to ease the strain of travel on cancer patients, who often find it hard to get to and from hospital because of transportation costs or they might not be feeling well enough to drive themselves because of their treatment.

This vital service is completely free for patients. The Volunteer Driver role is weekdays only and drivers will need access to their own car and be able to commit a full two days each month to the Service. Volunteer Drivers receive expenses from the Irish Cancer Society to pay for their fuel costs, road tolls and food while waiting for the patient.

More information about applying for a Volunteer Driver role can be found at <http://www.cancer.ie/volunteer-driver-service> or by emailing [volunteer@irishcancer.ie](mailto:volunteer@irishcancer.ie)

# Frank always helped people and was a 'true gentleman'

## Beloved husband and dad, he was the mainstay of DHAABS United

By **Stephen Farrell**

[stephenf@echo.ie](mailto:stephenf@echo.ie)

A "TRUE gentleman" from the Tallaght locality died at the beginning of the month.

Frank Nestor, who lived in Old Bawn, passed away on August 10 surrounded by his loving family at Tallaght Hospital.

Frank was beloved husband of Josephine and much loved Dad of Jacqueline, Eddie and Paul and adored grandad of Lisa, Alan, Adam, Aaron, Grace, Leah, Chloe, Jorga and great grandad of Esmé, Arlo, Ella, Ivy and Danny.

One of Frank's many friends was Frank Price, Bolbrook who spoke to *The Echo* about his great friend.

"He was a true gentleman, he looked after people, he helped people out," said Frank, who explained how his friend and his wife, Josephine (Josie) moved to Tallaght in the 1970s.

"He moved into a corporation estate with Josie. Frank used to live in Bolbrook in Avonbeg, this was one of the first estates in Tallaght, he moved to Old Bawn some years ago," said Frank,

**GENTLEMAN: Frank Nestor**



who also explained how he first met his friend.

"In the '70s I was running the road leagues in Tallaght and another friend of mine, Liam Whelan, introduced me to Frank. It was Frank, me and Liam who came up with the DHAABS United name," said Frank.

The name DHAABS United was drawn from the five sections of the local estate namely, Dominic's, Homelawns, Avonbeg, Avonmore and Bolbrook, and was the precursor to the present day Tallaght Town AFC.

"Frank came through the

amalgamation with Tallaght United, which became DHAABS and then became Tallaght Town," said Frank, who also explained the role his friend played in DHAABS United.

"Frank took over the 16s, 17's, 18s and 19s and brought them up through schoolboy into the AUL (Athletic Union League). Frank was then for many years Senior Manager of the Club into the 2000s," said Frank.

"Frank was an excellent manager and coach, he was a mainstay of the senior club. He also managed an AUL representative side in the '90s which was a special honour," added Frank.

Frank's late clubmate not only managed the players under his care to a high standard on the pitch, he was also mindful of their lives beyond the white lines.

"Frank was a very good electrician, he got a lot of his players electrician apprenticeships – that's how he was, that kind of person.

"He was a tremendous person in the area, he was great to his players, he started them out well in life, he was a great leader," said Frank.

Also according to Frank, his late colleague, along with others, instigated Shamrock Rovers coming to Tallaght.

Frank's late friend was also open to trying new initiatives as both he and Frank presented a local television sports programme in the 1980s.

"We had cablelink running, it was pre the 3Gs and 2Gs and the internet, it was supplied to different areas including Crumlin, Kimmage and Finglas," said Frank.

"We presented the programme for a couple of years on Mondays from 8 to 10pm.

"It covered sport in Tallaght, we presented the results and we also interviewed important figures in sport – it was all down to Frank," said his friend.

"Frank was a true friend, a true colleague. They called us 'the two Franks'," added his clubmate.

Frank will be forever loved and very sadly missed by his loving wife, sons, daughter, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, brothers, sisters, son-in-law Fergus, daughters-in-law Alice and Tina, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

## Long-term leasing slammed as a €20 million 'outrage'

A LOCAL representative has expressed "outrage" over the significant money being allocated to long-term leasing of social housing by South Dublin County Council, reports **Stephen Farrell**.

Councillor Darragh Adelaide (PBP) has also expressed his concern at the leasing strategy of South Dublin County Council (SDCC) regarding social housing which was revealed at the July Council meeting.

During the meeting, it was revealed that the Council's revenue budget for 2024 includes an expenditure of €19.35 million to lease approximately 850 homes from private owners.

Funding is received by the Council from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in respect of the payments made to the landlords of these properties.

Cllr Adelaide is concerned about the long-term implications of this leasing strategy.

"Spending nearly €20 million annually on leasing homes from private landlords is not a sustainable solution for addressing our social housing needs," said Cllr Adelaide.

The Clondalkin representative feels that such an approach is merely diverting public money into the pockets of private individuals or entities.

"This approach funnels public money into private pockets, with no guarantee that these properties will remain available for social housing after the 25-year lease period expires," he said.

The People Before Profit representative believes that a more long-term approach is required.

"We need to invest in purchasing



properties outright to ensure long-term security and stability for our community," said Cllr Adelaide.

The first-time councillor feels that spending public funds on the construction of social housing would be a more sustainable and cost-effective approach.

According to Cllr Adelaide building homes would be a wiser use of public funds, providing permanent homes for those in need and securing public assets for future generations.

"By building properties instead of leasing, we can ensure that these homes remain part of the public housing stock permanently, offering long-term benefits," he added.



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# Kishoge station is officially declared open – 15 years late

MINISTER of State at the Department of Transport James Lawless officially opened Kishoge Train Station on Monday, 15 years after its construction, reports *Alessia Micalizzi*.

Kishoge is the 146th station on the Iarnród Éireann network, and it's meant to be a key service for the area as it sits on the Kildare line between Clondalkin Fonthill and Adamstown.

It's a 14-minute train ride away from Heuston, and 28 minutes away from Connolly.

"Kishoge will ensure a high frequency, high-capacity sustainable transport service is in place both for current commuters and for the new communities being developed in Clonburris," said a spokesperson for Irish Rail.

Clonburris Strategic Development Zone plans entail new homes for "up to 23,000 people" who will supposedly be the main users of the new station.

According to Irish Rail, "A total of 96 Monday to Friday services will call at Kishoge, 48 in each direction, with commuter services on the Portlaoise to Heuston route, and on the Newbridge/Hazelhatch to Connolly/Grand Canal Dock route serving the station."

Thirty-six trains will serve the station on Saturdays and 15 trains on Sundays, "with further weekend expansion planned on the route in late 2025."

Already on the Southwestern Commuter Train, the station is also on the route of the planned "DART + South West" project. Irish Rail is waiting on An Bord Pleanála to grant permission to update the service to DART and for infrastructure improvements which will deliver "four times the capacity for commuters along the route."

Approximately €3.7m was needed from

NTA to refurbish the station before the opening, after it sat abandoned since its construction in 2009.

Accessibility standards needed to be updated with current regulations, lifts, platforms, signage, and the station building needed to be renewed.

A temporary car park with 60 spaces adjacent to the station was also developed, taking away one lane from the Outer Ring Road where the station is located.

Minister Lawless, speaking at the opening, said: "I am delighted to see the opening of this rail station, which demonstrates the commitment of this Government to investment in public transport. As a rail commuter myself I understand the importance in providing frequent and reliable public transport services."

Mayor of South Dublin Baby Pereppadan also attended the opening. "South Dublin County Council are delighted to witness the opening of Kishoge Station, a new fast and frequent railway service," he said. "This will further enhance the development of Clonburris in serving this brilliant community."

Minister Lawless speech was echoed by former Green Party leader and now Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan: "From the start of this Government we have prioritised the development of public transport. Four years in we are really beginning to see the impact of this focus, with public transport numbers across all forms at record high numbers."

Minister Ryan also praised delivering transport infrastructure in conjunction with housing development: "Instead of building first and putting in infrastructure later, we are doing it the other way around. This is planning at its best," he said.



DELIGHTED: Cllr Vicki Casserly with her sons, Tom, age 9, and James Casserly, age 18, who is a travel/rail enthusiast @jimbosaccessibleadventures

Picture by Jason Clarke

## Looks like traffic problems with newly opened station



RUSH HOUR: Cars parked outside the train station on the Outer Ring Road

KISHOGE Train Station's opening had Dublin West's Outer Ring Road reduced to one lane in the proximity of the station, on both ways, reports *Alessia Micalizzi*.

Less than two kilometres of the traffic lane – from the Adamstown Avenue roundabout to the station's roundabout – turned into additional station car parks. The space was also needed for cars pulling up, pedestrians, and wheelchair users accessing the station.

The change has made residents and regulars of the Outer Ring Road highly concerned as they witnessed a rise in traffic and delay on the segment already.

"As long as we are delighted to finally see Kishoge open, it's very frustrating that to deliver the station the Outer Ring Road had to be modified," said Lucan Independent Councillor Liona O'Toole.

"I requested this to be placed as a traffic management meeting agenda item, and I asked the county management to review the traffic implications

in the following weeks, so that we can have an idea of the 'before' and 'after'."

Grange Castle Road, renamed R136 and mostly known as the "Outer Ring Road", is a dual carriageway connecting Lucan's N4 to Tallaght's N7. It's a traffic relief road and, as confirmed by Cllr O'Toole, it is the road to resort to when there's an incident on the M50.

Cllr O'Toole received several complaints by residents since when the roadworks started.

One of them wrote: "Before the lane reduction this road already experienced heavy traffic and a build-up of traffic during rush hour. Delay on this route can be up to two hours."

According to the same resident, reducing the road to one car-lane also meant "the number of motorists using the bus lane has increased and will only increase more when the schools return".

Residents fear gridlock will be even worse after the development of new houses in Clonburris, which was the

reason why the station was opened in the first place.

Independent councillor Paul Gogarty has also been highlighting the issue since the roadworks started. "Fifteen years later than planned, and €3.8 million of taxpayer's money wasted by having to do a refurb, we now see a less than ideal closure of a lane on the R136 to facilitate a very limited park and ride," he wrote on his Facebook page after the opening.

While he welcomes a new local station serving the future Clonburris housing development, he believes "it's not primarily designed for the thousands of existing residents plagued by lack of planning and proper public transport."

Cllr Gogarty was echoed by Cllr Trevor Gilligan (FF), who attended the Kishoge train station opening.

"It's an addition to the area, but the current number of car spaces is simply not enough for the existing residents in the area," he said. "If we really want to alleviate traffic in the area, more feeder buses are needed."

As of now, there are only two bus lines which go to the station from surrounding residential areas: 151, serving Bawnogue, Nangor, and Balgaddy, and W4 serving the area around Corkagh Park, Nangor, Balgaddy and Lucan Heights.

“Before the lane reduction this road already experienced heavy traffic and a build-up of traffic during rush hour. Delay on this route can be up to two hours

# ‘Pressure needs to be put on developers’



**BLAZE:** Dublin Fire Brigade at the scene of the blaze at the former Augustinian site in Ballyboden. Photo by Dublin Fire Brigade

## Property developer acquired the former Augustinian site in 2019

FOLLOWING the fire breaking at the former Augustinian site in Ballyboden last Tuesday, Cllr Emma Murphy (FF) said “pressure needs to be put on the developers who own the site”, reports *Alessia Micalizzi*.

Shannon Homes property developer acquired the site from the Augustinian order in 2019, with the plan of building over 400 housing units.

In 2022, a High Court’s judicial review overturned permission for development previously granted by An Bord Pleanála.

According to Cllr Murphy, “They’ve been very absent ever since.”

“They’re obviously hampered by the judicial review,” she added, “But the site can’t be left derelict, and it all depends on what developers decide to do next.”

The abandoned area attracted anti-social behaviour as *The Echo* already reported in June. Over the summer, Ballyboden Tidy Towns reported four fires were lit in the spaces of 14 days.

As she told *The Echo* back then, Cllr

Murphy grew up “four minutes away” from the site, which used to host several community facilities like a boxing club, and a disco.

“It was the focal point for entertainment and for the youth in Ballyboden,” she said.

“Now it’s all about anti-social behaviour. Even if housing is to be delivered, it has to be in tandem with community and recreational facilities.”

Cllr Murphy highlighted the presence of the HSE’s Ballyboden Primary Care Centre, just beside the vacant site, as a good example of recent community development.

“We need a plan for the Augustinian site and we need it quickly.”

Dublin Fire Brigade immediately responded to the fire on Tuesday night, while the blaze caused disruption to the M50 traffic and reached neighbouring areas.

They advised all local residents to stay indoors for precaution.

# Bilingual cafe host medieval combat

Café worked with historical society to organise event

A LOCAL bilingual Irish/English café held an exciting event as part of Heritage week last weekend, reports *Stephen Farrell*.

Aon Scéal Café, Tallaght held a demonstration on Saturday afternoon of medieval combat with the actors involved dressed in medieval armored dress.

“Fragarach Medieval Armoured Combat did a fantastic job entertaining the crowd, they spoke about the weapons they used,

which are historically accurate, and put on a brilliant show. We saw combat techniques and grappling practices, and even a cúpla focail i nGaeilge,” said Dawn Nic Iomhair, Aon Scéal Café.

The bilingual café worked with Tallaght Historical Society to organise the event.

“Tallaght Historical Society received funding for the event through the library, from South Dublin County Council. We are so

grateful for all the support we get from South Dublin County Council. Without that we wouldn’t be able to have these amazing free family days,” said Dawn.

Free refreshments were also provided at the event.

Aon Scéal Café are hoping to invite Fragarach back soon.

“Fragarach will be starting back training in September. We hope to have them return for a family day in October,” added Dawn.



**COMBAT:** Fragarach Medieval Armoured combat in Tallaght Village on Saturday. See page 42

# Child struck by car is rushed to hospital

A CHILD was rushed to hospital on Sunday evening after he was struck by a car in Tallaght.

The incident occurred at Belgard Square when the car collided with a young boy at around 10.50pm.

The child was taken to Our Lady’s Hospital and his injuries are believed to be not life-threatening.

The scene around Belgard Square was examined by gardai and the area has since re-opened to traffic.

Gardai confirmed to *The Echo*: “Gardai attended the scene of a road traffic collision at Belgard Square in Tallaght on Sunday, 25th August 2024.

“The collision occurred when a car collided with a male child at

approximately 10.50pm.

“The child was brought to Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital for treatment. It is believed his injuries are not life-threatening”.

Anyone with information on this collision or who may have video footage is asked to contact Tallaght Garda Station 01 666 6000.



**COLLISION:** The incident occurred at Belgard Square on Sunday evening

# Man charged with Jordan's murder to apply for bail

A 36-year-old man, charged with the murder of a young man in a stabbing in Tallaght last month, is to apply for bail next week, reports Tom Tuite.

Unemployed Patrick Murphy of Drumcairn Parade, Tallaght, was charged with the murder of 20-year-old Jordan Rowan (aka Pakenham) at Drumcairn Avenue, Tallaght, in the early hours of July 26.

Mr Jordan died following an incident in the Drumcairn Estate in Tallaght.

In response to caution, the defendant had said: "I'm real sorry that he died. I didn't mean for this to happen."

Following a brief hearing at Dublin District Court on July 27, he was remanded in custody.

Due to the nature of the charge a bail application could only be made in the High Court in Cloverhill, where it was listed on Tuesday.

It was assigned a priority time to be heard on September 3 next.

The accused, who was unemployed, had been granted legal aid earlier.

The deceased was the eldest of four children in a family from the Rosfield area of Tallaght, about a kilometre from the scene.



TRAGEDY: Jordan Rowan, killed in an incident at Drumcairn Estate

# Kevin suffered fatal injuries when strick by SUV on N81

Garda investigation into death of young man will be forwarded to the DPP next month

By Seán McCárthaigh

news@echo.ie

A FILE on a Garda investigation in relation to the death of a young Tallaght man who was killed when struck by a vehicle near his home last year is to be forwarded to the DPP next month, an inquest has heard.

Kevin Sheedy (23) from Killinarden suffered fatal injuries when he was hit by an SUV on the N81 Tallaght bypass on the evening of January 11, 2023 at around 7.15pm.

Inspector Paul Curtis told a brief sitting of Dublin District Coroner's Court that all Garda investigations in relation to Mr Sheedy's death have now been completed.

Insp Curtis informed the coroner, Cróna Gallagher, that a file on the case would be forwarded to the DPP by the end of September.

He applied for an adjournment of six months of the inquest under Section 25 (1) of the Coroners Act on the basis that criminal proceedings are being considered.

Insp Curtis said he expected it would take up to four months before gardaí would receive a direction from the DPP on whether a criminal prosecution would arise from the file.

A solicitor for Mr Sheedy's family, Luke Hanahoe, indicated his consent to the application.

A number of the victim's relatives attended the hearing but did not address the coroner.

Dr Gallagher granted the application and adjourned the case for further mention until February 25, 2025.

The fatal incident occurred while Mr Sheedy was walking near the junction of the N81 with the Old Blessington Road at Springfield in poor weather conditions with heavy rain reported at the time.

The driver and sole occupant of the SUV which struck the victim, who is understood to be a woman in her 40s, did not require hospital treatment.

Mr Sheedy was pronounced dead at the scene of the collision.

An earlier sitting of the inquest last year

“There's no pedestrian lights there so you have to kind of run across to the middle when there's no traffic

**INVESTIGATION:** The incident occurred at the junction of the N81 Tallaght bypass and the Old Blessington Road at Springfield and (below) Kevin Sheedy was a graduate of Inchicore College of Further Education



heard that a postmortem confirmed he died as a result of multiple traumatic injuries consistent with a road traffic collision.

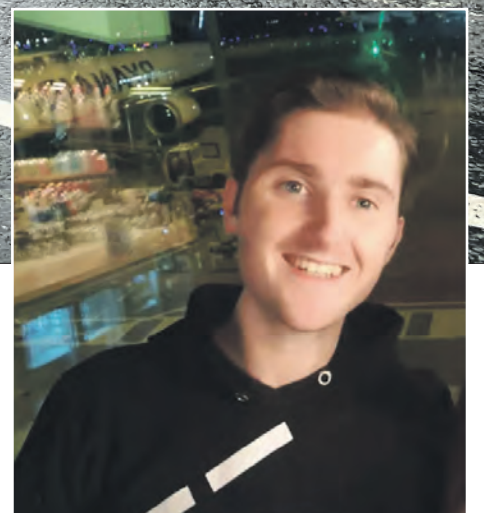
Following the fatal incident, a local independent councillor, Dermot Richardson, described the location of the collision as “a

bad junction.”

“There's no pedestrian lights there so you have to kind of run across to the middle when there's no traffic,” said Cllr Richardson.

Mr Sheedy was a graduate of theatre studies at the Inchicore College of Further Education.

A GoFundMe fundraising campaign established by friends of the deceased to help Mr Sheedy's family with the funeral expenses raised over €13,000.



# Google refused planning for data centre in Grange Castle

Council cites 'the existing capacity in the electricity network grid and lack of renewable energy



REFUSED: The Google site in Grange Castle

SOUTH Dublin County Council has refused Google Ireland planning permission for a new data centre at Grange Castle Business Park, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

In its decision, SDCC cited "the existing insufficient capacity in the electricity network

(grid) and the lack of significant on-site renewable energy to power the development."

It added the proposal lacked "detail of how it will impact power supply once operational (2027)."

As reported by *The Echo* in July, in 2027 the new data centre connection to the national grid would result in 224,250 tonnes of CO2 emissions, which is 0.44pc of Ireland's total CO2 emission projections for that year.

CSO figures previously showed that power consumed by data centres is increasing year by year: they consumed 18pc of Ireland's metered electricity in 2022, up from

14pc in 2021.

The proposed development would have been powered through an existing connection "as agreed with Eirgrid," stated an ARUP planning report.

In order to reduce the climate impact coming from the data centre, Google Ireland had signed a 14 year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Power Capital Renewable Energy for 58 megawatts (MW) of capacity from the Tullabeg Solar Farm through an existing grid connection.

However, among reasons for its refusal SDCC also mentioned "the lack of clarity provided in relation to the applicant's engagement with Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs)."

Besides the excessive power use, the Council ruled that Google Ireland failed to demonstrate the proposed use is acceptable on Enterprise and

Employment zoned lands in accordance with the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-28.

Sustainability goals set by that plan were also not complied with by Google's planning, "in relation to the retention and protection of existing green infrastructure (stream and hedgerow), culverting and alteration of the stream on site, provision of green infrastructure, and the SDCC Green Space Factor."

Google Ireland's request was to build a 72,000 sq m data storage facility, including data halls, offices and staff facilities.

It would have been the third Google data centre in Grange Castle, and one of many data centres owned by several tech companies at the location.

Google Ireland Ltd can now decide whether to appeal the decision to An Bord Pleanála.

“ However, among the reasons for its refusal SDCC also mentioned 'the lack of clarity provided in relation to the applicant's engagement with Power Purchase Agreements

# Clean-ups, cricket match, carnivals and colour dash!

Newcastle community week shows a welcome for new people in the area

By Stephen Farrell

stephenf@echo.ie

"WE WERE a bit like Electric Picnic."

So said Gerard Cullen, Chairperson of the Newcastle Lyons Development Trust Committee (NLDTC) when speaking about the Newcastle community week which was held last week.

The Newcastle community week was an initiative of the NLDTC.

The theme for the event this year was 'Unity in Our Community'.

"We wanted to show a welcome in our community for the people who have moved into the area," said Gerard.

A myriad of engaging and exciting events were held during the week.

"On Monday we had a village clean-up organised by Newcastle Tidy Towns, the following day the Mothers and Toddlers group had a fantastic party. We

also had a demonstration cricket match on Tuesday between Clondalkin and Newcastle to help integrate the Indian community," said Gerard.

On Wednesday the Ladies Social Club and the Retired Active Men's Social (RAMS) had a tea dance, while in the evening the Newcastle youth club ran a bingo session.

On Thursday evening the NLDTC ran a race night in aid of the community hall in Annie May's pub which made €1,500 on the night, with €5,000 raised beforehand in sponsorship.

"We would like to thank local businesses and politicians who contributed and also local people who bought a horse for €10 or €20 on the night," said Gerard.

Over the weekend there was a carnival provided by Hudson's Funfair.

On Saturday St Finian's GAA ran a community colour dash with money

raised being donated to the Little Blue Heroes Foundation.

Later in the afternoon there was a Family Fun Day which was organised by the Re-Newcastle Group, with Laura McGuigan organising bouncy castles, the DJ and a magician.

That evening there was an open air concert which saw Danny Anderson and a DJ performing.

On Sunday there was a coffee morning in aid of As Darragh Did. This was followed by a heritage walk with Eamon Scully which included a visit to the Glebe House, with Frank Keirns making the house available for the visit.

The week's events were rounded off with a mini World Cup, penalty shootout and heads and volleys organised by Peamount United.

"We would like to thank all the clubs who took part or who organised events during the week," said Gerard.



FUN TIMES: The carnival in full swing

# Progress on Corkagh Park enhancements is going well

Depending on weather conditions, the second phase of upgrade will soon be completed

UPDATES regarding enhancements to a local park were received by local representatives from South Dublin County Council on Friday, reports Stephen Farrell.

Councillors were provided with an update regarding the enhancements at Corkagh Park and were informed that the first phase of the work regarding the Green Isle Road Car Park is now complete.

Councillors also learned that visitors are being asked to enter the car park by the main park avenue, 200 metres further on from the original entrance at the Camac Caravan Park.

The second phase of the car park will be complete by the end of September depending on favourable weather and ground conditions, according to Sean Redmond, Senior Executive Parks Superintendent. The St John's Car Park upgrade will commence thereafter.

Furthermore, the Fairy Woodland Trail is almost complete and it is planned to open the facility this autumn, once the landscape areas have had time to establish successfully.

Work on the Hub area and the Café is now progressing well despite the adverse weather conditions earlier in the year, according to Mr Redmond. The contractor has experienced some delays, but they are undertaking to complete the works by the end of January 2025, he added.

UPDATE: Works ongoing in Corkagh Park



A presentation regarding the update was also made available online, which Councillor Eoin O'Broin (Soc Dems) attended.

Mr O'Broin explained that there is also a proposal to amend the provision of bike-parking, as per the original Part

8 proposal, in the three car parks.

"There was provision for bike parking in the three car parks in the Part 8 two years ago. When I asked Teresa Walsh, the Director of Services if there would be bike-parking at the three carparks she said 'yes'," said Cllr

O'Broin.

However, this appears to be no longer the case according to the representative for Clondalkin.

"The proposal now is to only have a bike park in the centre car park. The argument is that it will encourage

people to cycle into the centre, which I agree is a good idea, but, for example, for the parkrun the start point is beside one of the car parks," said Cllr O'Broin.

Further, there was an issue regarding the visibility of the park from the N7, according to Cllr O'Broin.

"The park was hidden by the hedges, now there is a proposal to put up totem poles 30 metres high at the three car parks, so that when you are driving by you will see them, which is a good idea for the N7," said Cllr O'Broin.

The works are being carried out to deliver the Corkagh Park masterplan, which includes the construction of a new 'hub zone' to include a café, multi-use events space with a stage and plaza, picnic areas, amenity lawn, incidental play area and planting.

However the development has not been without controversy with complaints about the stalling of upgrade works made to local representatives, as reported by the *Echo* in July, while the council maintained that the project was on track.

The plans also include wayfinding and signage installations, with arrival beacons at the larger entrances.

The delivery of the masterplan follows on from an initial archaeological investigation and excavation, and an "intensive" public consultation process.

## TOGETHER FM - HOW TO FIND US



Together FM is your local Community Radio Station based in the Ballyfermot Civic Centre.

Please support us by spreading the word among your family, friends and colleagues.

Visit our website [www.togetherfm.com](http://www.togetherfm.com) to tune into our station.

You can also tune in on smart speaker.

Just say Hey Alexa / Hey Google play Together FM on tune in.

Scan this QR Code to tune into our station!



## Volunteer Ireland Awards 2024 – nominations open

NOMINATIONS are now open for the 2024 Volunteer Ireland Awards.

The public is being invited to nominate volunteers in their community across 11 categories, with one volunteer being named Christine Buckley Volunteer of the Year at the ceremony in December.

The Volunteer Ireland Awards take place annually and celebrate the immense contribution volunteers make to communities across Ireland. Nominations can be made at [www.volunteer.ie/nominate](http://www.volunteer.ie/nominate).

South Dublin County Volunteer Centre Manager Tricia Nolan said: "Volunteers make an enormous contribution to our communities and in many cases, deliver critical services that may not otherwise be delivered.

"Their impact cannot be overstated and that's why it's so important to recognise their efforts at a national level. It's not just to show that we value what

volunteers do but also to showcase the incredible work that goes on across the country and inspires others to get involved."

Aside from the 12 awards handed out on the night, every single volunteer that is nominated will receive a special thank you card from Volunteer Ireland. The awards are made possible

thanks to the support

of the Department of Rural and Community Development, and award partners Healthy Ireland.

Minister for Public Health, Wellbeing and the National Drugs Strategy, Colm Burke, said: "I am proud that the Department of Health, through Healthy Ireland, is once again supporting the Volunteer Ireland Awards.

"This is a great opportunity to acknowledge the work of our volunteers who give their time willingly for the common good, helping to foster a sense of connection for people in their communities. I'd like to encourage you all to take the time to nominate a volunteer in your local area as a way of thanking them for all that they do."

This year's Volunteer Ireland Awards will take place in Dublin on December 8.



NOMINATIONS: Community is encouraged to nominate

## Hazelhatch road closed for works

A ROAD was closed last week to allow works on signaling to be carried out, according to a local representative.

"The road at Hazelhatch was closed from Wednesday to Saturday to allow works to change the signaling at the bridge," said Councillor Eoin Ó Broin (Soc Dems).

"This will allow the W6 bus to get over it. There will be a bus then from Newcastle to Hazelhatch train station," added Cllr O'Broin.

South Dublin County Council (SDCC) and the National Transport Authority (NTA) proposed in July of last year to turn the Hazelhatch Bridge, which had proven to be a pinch point, into a single-lane carriageway to accommodate the new W6 bus which will link Maynooth and Tallaght, as reported by *The Echo*.

Due to the narrowness of the bridge, two buses cannot pass by safely, which resulted in the W6 route being split in two by the NTA.

The current arrangement sees the W61 serving the first part of the route, linking Maynooth to Hazelhatch, and W62 looking after the second part, linking Newcastle to Tallaght.

The proposal from SDCC and the NTA will see Hazelhatch Bridge converted from a two-lane road into a single-lane road with traffic control measures.

# 'Children and youths are destroying and burning'

## Mac Uilliam housing estate residents are scared in their own homes

DOORS and windows were broken, and a fire was lit in an empty apartment in the Mac Uilliam housing estate in Tallaght, reports *Alessia Micalizzi*.

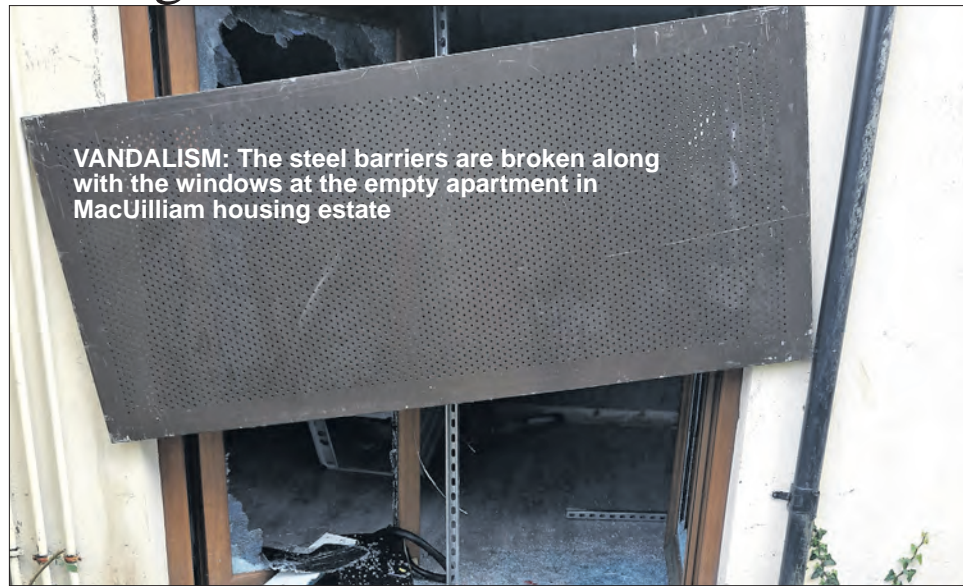
The vandalism was reported by a resident who said anti-social behaviour in the estate has been going on for a long time but escalated in the past few weeks.

"Groups of children and youth who don't live here have been coming into our shared garden for several weeks, destroying and burning everything they can," the resident said.

According to the resident, the empty unit was broken into last Sunday, around 4pm.

The several fires lit, including one in the hallway at Mac Uilliam Dale last week, would activate the estate's fire alarm repeatedly, causing further distress to the residents.

Mac Uilliam estate is run by social housing body Oaklee. When contacting them for intervention, the resident received an automatic "out of office" reply from the social housing officer in charge, who is on holiday until this



**VANDALISM:** The steel barriers are broken along with the windows at the empty apartment in MacUilliam housing estate

Thursday August 29.

"I can't believe we are asked to wait in this situation," said the resident. "When an officer is on holiday, there must be someone covering them for emergencies. We are scared in our own homes."

On Sunday, South Dublin Council representatives reached the site to secure the doors and windows vandalised

in the empty unit.

"South Dublin County Council own Mac Uilliam estate and Oaklee manages a scheme within that estate on behalf of the Council," said an Oaklee spokesperson to *The Echo*.

The spokesperson explained that "South Dublin County Council previously identified environmental, social

exclusion, and representation challenges in the estate and formulated several interventions," and ensured Oaklee is continuing to work closely with SDCC to carry out maintenance and upgrade works.

"On an ongoing basis, we liaise with the Council and the Gardai to help address anti-social behavioural issues, and

we ask residents to raise any safety concerns immediately with the Gardai," the spokesperson added.

However, according to the resident, Gardai on-site said they need Oaklee to report the incidents to start any investigation.

"We feel completely left alone," the resident said. "There's no CCTV or security officer here."

"Every year we're told that when schools return, these groups will leave, but is this how we should live every summer?"

"It's not going to get better with school starting. We will end up caught in a fire."

The resident doesn't know what area of town the teens and children are coming from. "They aren't Mac Uilliam's tenants. But this has been going on for a long time. It would calm down at times but lately it's been really bad."

"Some tenants would try to block them, but they would keep coming, climbing over walls and such."

"We are also scared of the adults who should take care of them. Who knows what they can do."



## There's a Little Library Bag for every child starting school in 2024!

Pick up their **FREE** Little Library Book Bag at their local South Dublin library.

To help children navigate starting school, libraries have put together a bag with a book, a wallet and **their first own library card!**

The Little Library Bag is available in English or in Irish.

**Visit and join your local library.**

More supports to help the transition to primary school are available at [www.gov.ie/letsgetready](http://www.gov.ie/letsgetready)








**Have you ever had a heart attack or stroke?**

**Do you have poor circulation?**



**Have you considered participating in a clinical study?**

Participating in this clinical study has the potential to improve future treatment options for people living with cardiovascular disease.

**What is the REDEFINE 3 study?**

REDEFINE 3 is looking at the combination of cagrilinitide and semaglutide (CagriSema), which has the potential to impact cardiovascular risk factors. REDEFINE 3 is needed to help us understand the safety and potential benefits of CagriSema on the cardiovascular system.

**What are the BENEFITS for you?**

- Expert medical care and education from a dedicated team of doctors and nurses
- Study-related care, including regular health check-ups
- Helping others by contributing to medical research

**You may qualify to participate if:**

- You have had a stroke, a heart attack (myocardial infarction), or have poor circulation (peripheral arterial disease)
- You are 55 years of age or older
- You are living with overweight or obesity (BMI ≥ 25 kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- You can have type 2 diabetes and/or chronic kidney disease
- You are not treated with any GLP-1 medication
- You are able to attend regular clinic visits and receive phone calls over a period of 2,5 - 4,5 years, depending on when you start with the study

**This study is currently recruiting – please contact:**

Clinical Research Facility, St. James's Hospital, Dublin  
 Clinical Research Coordinator:  
 SHWETA PAWAR Email: [pawars@tcd.ie](mailto:pawars@tcd.ie)  
 Phone: 01 410 3929



This study has been approved by the HPR and NREC  
 Trial ID: NN9838-4942

Global English Master, Version 3.0  
 Date: 10-May-2024



# Clean up the poo, and keep the paths clear

Parked cars and dog waste are two of the biggest hazards

SOUTH Dublin dog owners are being encouraged to clean up after their dogs as part of Vision Ireland's campaign, Clear Our Paths.

The call comes after Vision Ireland published a survey of people who are blind or vision impaired and their experiences of footpath obstacles.

Over a third of respondents were impacted by dog waste in public spaces. Not only does dog fouling present a slipping hazard, but it can also be a problem for white cane users whose canes are often dirtied by faeces.

There were no dog-fouling fines issued by South Dublin County Council in 2023. Overall, very few dog-fouling fines were issued across the country – just 46, a reduction of 36 fines from 2022. Kerry County Council had the highest number of fines for dog fouling offences, with just 13 issued. 18 out of the 31 local authorities issued no fines at all.

While the number of fines issued across the country was low, Vision Ireland has welcomed efforts by local authorities to help reduce dog fouling. A number of councils have run awareness campaigns in order to highlight the issue of dog fouling. Meath County Council developed responsible dog ownership information leaflets. Clare County Council provides dog litter bags at its area offices and other busy locations within its jurisdiction. Both Tipperary County Council and Longford County Council



provide Mutt Mitts, which allow dog owners to dispose of dog waste safely.

Cars parked on footpaths also have an adverse impact on the ability of people who are blind or vision impaired to navigate public spaces. 70 per cent of survey respondents identified parked cars as blocking their route when using public paths.

Data provided by local authorities revealed that over 22,000 fines were issued to motorists who parked on footpaths.

There were 1294 parking on footpath fines issued in South Dublin in 2023.

Kevin Kelly, Head of Policy, Partnerships and External Affairs at Vision Ireland said, "Parked cars and dog waste are two of the biggest hazards people who are blind and vision impaired in South Dublin face on our footpaths. The number of parking fines issued alone is astounding and gives an idea of the many thousands of obstacles people with sight loss face in their daily lives. Fines alone will not solve these problems. We must all work together and do our part to clear our paths. If everyone takes more responsibility for their actions, we can work towards making paths in

South Dublin safer for all."

Chantelle Smith, Vision Ireland's National Access and Mobility Manager said "When people who are blind and vision impaired encounter obstacles like parked cars on footpaths, they often result in them having to take the decision to step off the footpath onto the roadway into traffic. Unfortunately, this places them at significant risk as drivers may not be expecting them to do so as it is not a crossing point. Vision Ireland is calling on the public and motorists alike to be considerate of the needs of vulnerable pedestrians."

## Leaflet issued by council slammed as 'failing to address concerns'

THE public information leaflet created by South Dublin County Council has been criticised as "misleading and one-sided" by Cllr Linda de Courcy (Ind Ire), reports Maurice Garvey.

The leaflet was created earlier this year and contains "fact/fiction" sections about international arrivals.

Cllr de Courcy said it fails to address "legitimate concerns" raised by communities regarding asylum seekers.

"The approach from government and most of the opposition seems to be to conflate the positive aspects of migration such as highly qualified healthcare workers or engineers who are an intrinsic part of our healthcare system and economy coming to Ireland to work, with unchecked mass immigration. Qualified professionals coming to contribute to our society and economy are not the issue, it is the mass influx of what appears to be mostly male asylum seekers into communities that cannot cope with the influx and in many cases these men are being placed into small communities," said de Courcy.

"Often hundreds of men are placed in the only hotel in the area which has massive detrimental knock-on effects to the local economy. To read this leaflet, you would think that none of this is an issue at all."

The leaflet states that 'every single person arriving in Ireland to claim international protection is interviewed, photographed and fingerprinted, and each of them are checked

against the EuroDac system.'

However, Cllr de Courcy cites figures in April by the Justice Minister Helen McEntee which revealed between 2022 and 2023, over 8,250 people presented at Dublin airport without passports.

"How can you perform background checks on someone when you don't know who they are? The EuroDac system is not a criminal database and cannot screen for criminal history," she said.

Cllr de Courcy also highlighted concerns about people coming to Ireland "solely for the benefits", the promise of own door accommodation made by Children's Minister Roderic O'Gorman, and cited a cross-government risk analysis which found that large influxes of populations into local communities could risk damaging social cohesion.

"This is clearly being seen in areas all over Ireland, from Coolock to Newtownmount-kennedy to Dundalk and Dundrum" de Courcy said.

The leaflet also states that asylum seekers are refused refugee status, with 600 refused in January 2024, according to data from the Dept. of Justice.

"Being refused asylum status is not the same as being deported. The government operates a voluntary deportation system and has no data on who actually leaves the country" said de Courcy.

"The council's leaflet proves that people and communities with genuine concerns are being

spoken at rather than being listened to."

Cllr Alan Edge (Ind), who championed the leaflet during his tenure as Mayor of South Dublin County, said: "The successful Fact / Fiction leaflet which was distributed to homes in South Dublin was carefully fact-checked including by a representative of the Department and its aim was to counter the vast amount of disinformation being actively promoted around the issue of asylum seekers by those with a racist agenda.

"The aim of the initiative, like the Mayor's Charter, was to provide the simple facts, in the face of the deliberate disinformation being used to pit one marginalised community against another, and to highlight the fact that seeking asylum is a basic human right and a matter of human dignity. 80 groups to date, representing many thousands of South Dublin residents, have signed the Charter to stand in solidarity with asylum seekers who are being victimised by the kind of fear mongering being peddled by malign actors.

"Neither myself nor the partner organisations involved in the initiatives have responded to questions put by far right conspiracy mouthpieces who have sought, unsuccessfully, to find fault with them, as we have taken the decision not to give oxygen to those organisations and individuals whose sole purpose is to sow division in our society through racist hate. I express the firm hope that the local press won't permit far-right conspiracists the space to promote their racist agenda."

## Echoopinion...

### Parents, stress, and back to school time

PRIMARY and Secondary school students and their teachers will be returning to school this week and next.

This will be a busy time for all concerned.

For many parents this will also be a stressful time.

Not only will they be anxious that their children get settled back into the routine of school as quickly and as comfortably as possible, for some this time will bring an added financial pressure.

While it is welcome that children in Primary Schools and Special Schools will continue to receive free schoolbooks, workbooks and copy books and that all Junior Cycle students will also be provided with free schoolbooks, other costs remain.

The cost of school uniforms, footwear and stationery soon add up, particularly if parents have a number of children attending school.

Further while the Hot School Meals programme, whereby Primary School children in schools approved under the programme receive hot meals, is a welcome initiative, there has been recent criticism that some of the meals available under the programme are ultra-processed.

An additional factor that can contribute to parents' anxiety with the reopening of schools is the school run in the morning.

Indeed we will all see the additional traffic on our roads at this time of year.

For parents there may also be the additional pressure of factoring the school run commute into their own commute to work.

Further while the weather may remain mainly pleasant for a while it may not be long before the wet and colder weather arrives with the darker mornings and eventually evenings.

With such a change to the traffic conditions all road users are encouraged to drive safely and to increase their vigilance on the roads, including at or near to schools.

Be ready for that child who may be late and is rushing between parked cars across the road to his or her school.

Watch out for cyclists, including young cyclists, and be extra vigilant for those who may not have the proper lighting or visible clothing.

Especially on wet mornings, maintain extra distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front to allow extra time to brake.

Be mindful of extra people and children on the pavements and roadsides beside and near schools, especially in the morning time and when school children are leaving their school.

When driving near a parked or stationary school bus or indeed a Dublin Bus be mindful of school children who may be alighting in the morning time or who may be boarding on their way back home in the afternoon.

A good start is half the battle and we wish all students, teachers and parents a prosperous and enjoyable 2024/25 academic year.

Are you still reading your Ma's Echo?



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### Irish talk at Ciorcal Comhrá in library

AN Irish-language conversation circle, or Ciorcal Comhrá, will be starting in Tallaght Library this September.

Every Monday evening, at 6.30pm, participants will have the chance to practice speaking Irish through informal chats and conversation.

Booking is essential, contact tallaghtlibrary@s dublin.coco.ie to join or to find out more.

Ciorcal Comhrá is for over 18s only.

# Queries on visual impact of Lidl's plans for public house

## Council requires more information on 13 points, including impact on residents

By William O'Connor  
william@echo.ie

ADDITIONAL information has been sought by South Dublin County Council for Lidl's plans to construct a public house and four residential apartments at Cookstown Road and the Old Belgard Road.

As previously reported in *The Echo*, Lidl Ireland GmbH lodged plans for the construction of a two-storey, mixed use development consisting of a public house at ground-floor level.

The public house includes internal bin storage and other ancillary rooms.

Proposals included the construction of four residential apartments at first floor consisting of two one-bed units and one two-bed unit and one three-bed unit. All apartments would have private space in the form of balconies with a common area at first floor for access to each apartment with access to this common area off the internal entrance lobby; internal, residential, bike storage room and bin storage room at ground-floor level.

The proposed development includes communal amenity spaces located to the west of the block and at first-floor level; parking of eight spaces including one mobility space, two electric vehicle spaces and is accessed via a new vehicle entrance from the Old Belgard Road. New boundary treatments proposed along with



a drop-off area and wider soft and hard landscaping, including a plaza area which ties into the public footpath on the Old Belgard Road; external bike-parking areas within these external spaces; and, a connecting footpath to the established local centre to the north.

The local authority is seeking additional information on 13 points, including the following: Concerns raised over the potential visual impact of the proposed development when viewed on approach to the site from the south, given the significant deviation in the proposed

building line at this location and the proximity of the proposed development to the adjoining residential area to the south.

In order to help integrate the proposed development into the existing streetscape and to help introduce activity and vibrancy at this important corner to the local centre, the Applicant is requested to review and revise the landscaping proposals and to remove any boundary treatments with the adjoining street/public footpath in order to create a public plaza area to the front of the proposed development that would seamlessly connect the public footpath on

the Old Belgard Road with the new development on the site.

Planning concerns are raised over the design of a number of elements of the proposed scheme and their potential to negatively impact on the amenity of both future users of the proposed apartments as well as existing residents of the adjoining properties to the south.

The applicant is requested to submit a Road Safety Audit, Road and Footpath Widths, and a report showing surface water attenuation calculations for the proposed development.

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An Roinn Comhshaoil,  
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide  
Department of the Environment,  
Climate and Communications



### NOTICE OF DETERMINATION

In accordance with the Foreshore Act 1933, as amended, the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications ("the Minister") hereby gives notice that he has made a determination on an application received on 03/03/2023 for a licence under Section 3 of the Foreshore Act, 1933 (as amended) made by MaresConnect Ltd ("the Applicant") in respect of marine investigative survey works for the MaresConnect Ltd (MCL) Interconnector off the coast of County Dublin (FS007635).

The full Notice of Determination which was published in the Iris Oifigiúil website on 23rd August 2024 can be viewed at: <http://www.irisoifigiuil.ie/>

All documentation in regard to the application, including the Notice of Determination, can be viewed on the website of Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications at:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/foreshore-notice/779e7-fs007635-maresconnect-electricity-interconnector-site-investigation/>

This material may also be inspected free of charge by appointment at the following office of the Department:

Foreshore Section  
Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications  
Newtown Road, Wexford. Y35 AP90

Tel: 01 678 2000

Email: [foreshore@decc.gov.ie](mailto:foreshore@decc.gov.ie).

### REVIEW PROCEDURE

An application for leave to apply for judicial review shall be made within three months from the date when grounds for the application first arose under Section 21(1) of the Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Courts as amended by S.I No 691 of 2011. The time-limit for such a review commences from the Date of Publication of the full Notice of Determination. Further information on the review mechanism can be obtained on the Citizens Information Board website: [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

Department of the Environment,  
Climate and Communications

Dated 29th day of August 2024

Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Y35 AP90  
Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90  
T +353 1 678 2000  
[www.gov.ie/decc](http://www.gov.ie/decc)

# Time for Rhasidat to reflect after long and hard season

Now that the Olympics is over, she admitted to a degree of fatigue and emotion

IN THE wake of another agonising fourth place at the Silesian Diamond League race in Chorzow, Poland on Sunday August 25, Tallaght's Olympic track star Rhasidat Adeleke took time to reflect on what has been a long and eventful season, *reports Ken Doyle.*

In a notable tactical decision in Poland, Rhasidat went hard for the early part of the race, only to be caught in the last 100 metres by her rivals.

Speaking on Sunday's race, Rhasidat said, "Well I guess now is the time of the season where we can experiment a little bit. The main focus of the season was obviously the Olympics and that's over, so I'm still working with my team to work out what sort of 400 metres athlete I should be."

"I've only been running the distance two years, so I think I need to run a few more 400s. My coach and I agree that I definitely need more experience in the event."

Speaking from her base in Austin, Texas Rhasidat admitted to a degree of fatigue on Sunday after the emotional rollercoaster of the games, together with the physical demands of a full season on the track.

"I'm still really motivated because I feel like I have more to give, but sometimes your body just says no. I was actually really sick after Paris and I'd imagine a lot of athletes were. There was definitely something going around over there."

"After the race on Sunday most of us were laid out on the track just exhausted. I actually spoke to Sada

**MORE EXPERIENCE: Tallaght's Rhasidat Adeleke**  
Photo by INPHO/Morgan Treacy



“Sometimes I go into panic mode when I'm leading a race in the home straight and I start wondering 'where are they?' That ruins my form and it's definitely something I have to conquer myself

Williams (Barbadian athlete) after and she told me 'Girl, it's been a long season, this is how it is!' And I just thought 'wow.' It's all experience though and I'm still learning."

Given her young age, (she's just about to turn 22), Rhasidat sees a lot of improvements she can make to take another step up in her career.

"Sometimes I go into panic mode

when I'm leading a race in the home straight and I start wondering 'where are they?' That ruins my form and it's definitely something I have to conquer myself. Sports Psychologists aren't really my thing and I think with experience, I can improve that aspect of my racing."

Rhasidat has one more Diamond League race to go this year, in Brussels

on September 13. After that, she has her sights set on a well-deserved break.

"Well I haven't made any plans yet so I don't know what I'm doing but I'm looking forward to re-setting my mind on a beach somewhere and getting ready for what's going to be another hard year.

"Hopefully I'll get to go somewhere nice and sunny!"

## Young people's good deeds honoured in Garda awards

AN AWARDS night which recognises the good work being done by young people in the community will be held locally next week, *reports Stephen Farrell.*

An Garda Síochána in the Dublin West Division are holding the annual Dublin Metropolitan Region West Garda Youth Awards, in association with Cairn Homes, which will take place in the Clayton Hotel in Liffey Valley on the evening of September 5.

"We will be recognising young people who have done something exceptional in the community on their own bat, where they have helped people or have done something for the community and An Garda Síochána want to recognise that," said Inspector Aonghus Hussey, Lucan Station.

The Dublin West Division of An Garda Síochána has stations in Ballyfermot, Clondalkin, Ronanstown, Lucan, Rathcoole and in parts of North Dublin including Cabra, Blanchardstown and Finglas.

Inspector Hussey also explained some of the background behind the awards.

"An Garda Síochána initially started the awards in 1995, they have been running since then. Each division in the country runs it, the divisional winners are then put forward for the National Awards which will be held in Portlaoise in October," he said.

Almost 100 young people were nominated for an award at the Dublin West awards of which there are four categories including individual, group and special achievement.

"These were whittled down by the adjudicators and judges to the four award winners," said Inspector Hussey, who added that Cairn Homes had very kindly sponsored the awards.

The awards also promote positive relations between An Garda Síochána and young people in the community.

The Community Gardaí promote the awards with the various youth organisations that they work with including youth clubs and schools.

"Then, for example, coaches of a football team may be aware of a child who has done something and put forward that child for an award," added Inspector Hussey.

“We will be recognising young people who have done something exceptional in the community on their own bat....

Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council

### ROADS ACT 1993, SECTION 75 TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF LEIXLIP RD. & MAIN ST. LUCAN VILLAGE, CO. DUBLIN

To facilitate Lucan Festival Committee to hold a Family Fun Day, South Dublin County Council has made an order to temporarily close a section of:

**Road Name:** Leixlip Road and Main Street, Lucan Village.

**Date of Closure:** Sunday 8th September 2024.

**Time of Closure:** 10am to 7pm.

**Diversion Route:** Leixlip Road, Lucan - Lucan By-Pass - Lucan Road.

Local access will be maintained.

Web: [www.sdcc.ie](http://www.sdcc.ie)



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# Family puzzled as to why lung cancer could cause dad's death

Pathologist said it was the 'burden' of the cancer that caused fatal cardiac arrest

By Seán McCárthaigh  
news@echo.ie

A 59-year-old Dublin man who had played a competitive game of hurling for his GAA club a few months before his death suffered a fatal cardiac arrest a day after being discharged from hospital, an inquest has heard.

Raymond McKenna, a married father of two, was pronounced dead on July 2, 2022, after collapsing the previous evening at his family home on Killakee Avenue, Firhouse, Dublin.

An inquest into his death held at Dublin District Coroner's Court on Thursday heard that his family remained puzzled as to why lung cancer could cause someone "to drop dead."

Mr McKenna's wife, Patricia O'Toole, told the hearing that she had tried to get her husband readmitted to Beacon Hospital in Sandyford at around 6.30pm on July 1, 2022 when he vomited after taking medication to prevent blood clots.

Despite that he was discharged from the hospital around 24 hours earlier, Ms O'Toole said she was told readmission was not possible as the Beacon's emergency department closed at 7pm and she was advised to ring 999 if his condition deteriorated.

Her husband was also offered an appointment at the hospital on the following day at 10.20am.

Evidence was heard that Mr McKenna had been admitted to the Beacon on June 24, 2022 where doctors had suspected lung cancer was responsible for the shortness of breath he had been experiencing.

He was discharged from the hospital on June 30, 2022 while he was awaiting a further test at a different medical facility to confirm the diagnosis.

The coroner, Clare Keane, returned a verdict of death by natural causes after hearing complex medical evidence about the case.

The results of a postmortem attributed the cause of death to lung cancer which had also spread to his lymph nodes and adrenal glands.

Deputy state pathologist, Yvonne McCartney, told the inquest it was "the burden" of the cancer which caused the fatal cardiac arrest.

While some blood clots were discovered in the body of the deceased, Dr McCartney did not

regard them as a contributory factor in Mr McKenna's death.

"There are multiple ways cancer like this can cause death," the pathologist stated.

She confirmed that blood clots detected in the body of the deceased were only "microscopic."

Ms O'Toole described her husband as "a strong, fit man" who had still been playing hurling at the age of 59 and working as a plasterer.

She told the coroner that he had lost about two stone in weight in June 2022 after complaining about a shortness of breath and a weakness in his legs.

Although he was very unwell, Ms O'Toole said her husband was "dying to get out of hospital," particularly in time for his mother's birthday.

She said cancer had been mentioned but never confirmed and he had been hoping that the problem might just be blood clots but understood there would be further follow-up care.

The inquest heard doctors had given Mr McKenna medication to take the day after his discharge to prevent blood clots.

However, Ms O'Toole said he started vomiting after taking the medicine when he was at home on June 30, 2022.

"He was very weak and incoherent," she recalled.

"I could not understand why he was discharged when he was worse than when he went in," she remarked.

Her daughter, Róisín, described attempting CPR after witnessing him collapse at the top of a stairs at home later that evening.

"He said he felt awful and weak," she recalled.

A consultant in respiratory medicine at the Beacon, Abhilash Sahadevan, said the decision to discharge the patient was mostly guided by the fact that Mr McKenna "wanted to go home and was well enough."

Dr Sahadevan said Mr McKenna knew there was a chance he had metastatic lung cancer but that there was a need for diagnosis "to guide treatment going forward."

"He was medically fit for discharge," the consultant stressed.

Dr Sahadevan said he had no immediate concerns about the patient but had given him anticoagulants to counter "very small" blood

**ACTIVE: Ray McKenna in action for Ballyboden St Enda's and (below) lifting the Corn Fogarty Cup for Round Tower**



clots that had been detected in his body.

Although Mr McKenna had no large tumours, the consultant said his biggest concern remained the burden of the suspected lung cancer on the patient.

He told the coroner that he did not believe the outcome would have been any different if Mr McKenna had not been discharged from the hospital.

Cross-examined by counsel for Mr McKenna's family, Doireann O'Mahony BL, Dr Sahadevan said the deceased had made clear his preference to go home while waiting to have the further test to confirm if he had lung cancer.

Ms O'Mahony said the deceased was a GAA star who was "taken far too soon."

A member of Round Tower and Ballyboden St Enda's GAA clubs, Mr McKenna had played in an Over 35's hurling tournament in the Easter before his death and planned to play junior championship for one more year.

"He was a leading light in his family and community. His legacy will live on forever," she added.

Counsel for Dr Sahadevan, Rory White BL, said it was clear from the evidence that Mr McKenna's body was compromised by his cancer which had led to a cardiac arrest in what was "a sad and tragic death."



Returning a verdict of death due to natural causes, Dr Keane said her findings were based on facts established at the hearing and she expressed hope that most of his family's questions had been answered.

The coroner said Mr McKenna had been "clinically stable" at the time of his discharge from the Beacon and pointed out that he had agreed to a plan about his discharge and follow-up care.

Speaking after the inquest, Ms O'Toole said she was still struggling to make sense of how lung cancer could cause her husband's sudden death.

"I find it hard to understand how you can die from lung cancer so quickly," she remarked.

**“He was very weak and incoherent. . . I could not understand why he was discharged when he was worse than when he went in . . . I find it had to understand how you can die from lung cancer so quickly**

**Cllr Mick Duff**

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Mick can be contacted on:  
087 2865570

Email: mduff@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie  
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**Mick DUFF**  
From the Community and For the Community

# Autism Innovation Strategy is launched by Disability Minister

THE COUNTRY'S first ever Autism Innovation Strategy has been launched by Minister of State for Disability, Anne Rabbitte.

The Autism Innovation Strategy will deliver over 80 simple actions which will be of huge benefit to many people across the country and will be implemented over a period of 18 months.

The Strategy was developed in collaboration with autistic people, parents, professionals and organisations supporting autistic people, and Government Departments and agencies.

Speaking at the launch of the Autism Innovation Strategy, local Fianna Fáil TD

John Lahart has said: "This is a momentous day. We pride ourselves in Ireland as being a very inclusive country, and today we have reaffirmed that message by launching the country's first ever Autism Innovation Strategy."

The vision for the Autism Innovation Strategy is to provide the building blocks for a more inclusive society, where autistic people are understood to have opportunities to participate in cultural, social, and economic life.

"Having the first ever Autism Innovation Strategy in place is vital for people and children with autism to have the tools available to them to have ample

opportunities in life like everybody else, whether that's in health services, education and employment opportunities, sport, transport or arts and culture."

"Everybody has, or knows of someone with autism in their lives, and although it can be challenging at times for them, this strategy will give them every opportunity to enhance their lives further.

"It is important that the State provides that support, and I am delighted to hear the Autism Innovation Strategy has been launched."

"This will also help parents of children

with autism and give them real hope that their child will grow up in a more inclusive Ireland, and one where their child will have equal opportunities and respected for who they are."

"I want to place on record the hard work that my party colleague, and Minister of State for Disability, Anne Rabbitte has done on the Autism Innovation Strategy.

"She made a promise in 2021 to deliver a national strategy on autism and I am proud to see it delivered so quickly.

"This reaffirms Fianna Fáil's commitment to a more inclusive, diverse, and accepting Ireland."



FACE PAINTING: Lily and Zara got their faces painted at the family fun day

## Fun in the park

### The Park Community Centre hold successful family fun day

A LOCAL community centre held a Family Fun Day on Sunday, reports Stephen Farrell.

The Park Community Centre, Ballycullen held the event from 1 to 4 pm in their community centre.

A number of exciting and engaging events were held on the day including Festival in a Van and a silent disco.

The silent disco began at 1.15 pm with a sensory hour and then continued for a further hour.

The Festival in the Van began at 2 pm. "Silent Disco at the Park Community

Centre was amazing! Two hours of non-stop dancing and singing along to all your favourite songs," Danspire, a community driven dance fitness group, posted on their Facebook page.

MC Health and Fitness and Active South Dublin also provided activities on the day, especially for children.

"Well done to everybody who made the Family Fun Day at the Park Community Centre, such a success! Great work by all! The silent disco was a particularly big hit!" she posted on her Facebook page on Sunday. See photos on page 46



FUN TIMES: Kim McCrave (KymsStoryverse) with kites made by kids

# 10,000 people are expected to attend festival

Community encouraged to engage in activities



LAUNCH: At the launch of the Lucan Festival were Cllr Caroline Brady, Joe Byrne, Cllr Leona O'Toole, Joe Malone, Cllr Shane Moynihan and Cllr Paul Gogarty

LUCAN Festival 2024 was launched on Thursday in the local pub Kennys for its 14th edition, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

From Monday September 2 to Sunday, September 8, the community will be able to access a wide range of games, exhibitions, and stalls around town. About 10,000 people are expected to attend, most of them during the weekend.

This year's novelty is "Murder On Chapel Hill - Lucan Drama", a play portraying the trial for the murder of local priest James McCartan in the 19th century, and based on authentic court transcripts. Ready to be staged in Courtney's Pub from next Monday to next Wednesday, it's already booked out.

Among the other weekday events, two free walking tours of Historic Lucan Village, a chat between present day primary students and their predecessors with "Bygone Schooldays", and a three-day chess tournament. "400 primary school pupils will be there on the Schooldays," ensured Joe Byrne, the Festival chairman.

One of the most awaited among the Festival events,

the fireworks display at Weir View will kick off at 9pm on Friday, September 6. "It only lasts about 15 minutes," said Mr Byrne, "But it's spectacular."

On the following Saturday, Lucan House will host the Festival's fundraiser and will be open to the public for a €6 ticket, with children and adults entertainment and international food samples from eight different countries. "It's a way to make our festival more diverse," said Mr Byrne. "Year after year, we are trying to encourage people from other countries who recently moved to Lucan to engage in the festival."

Sunday, September 8, will be the busiest day: from the "Garda Open Day" at 2pm, making the local Garda station open to the public, to the Duck Race on the Griffen at 4:30pm. In between, local groups and business' stalls, puppet and magical shows, more staged plays, street entertainers, balloon making and face painting.

"We started in 2009, with a Festival that lasted for a weekend only. Now, we are able to go on for a whole week, and the community engagement has increased year after year," said Mr Byrne.

# The Edge and Allotments have a plot to reduce food waste

**PLANS AFOOT:** Pat O'Rourke, Secretary of South Dublin Allotments Association



'Stop Produce Waste' campaign begins next Saturday with excess produce on sale at The Edge

SOUTH Dublin Allotments Association (SDAA) and Tallaght's Edge Café have teamed up to reduce food produce waste and will launch the "Stop Produce Waste" campaign on Saturday, August 31 at 11am, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

Local allotment owners and growers who find themselves with excess produce are encouraged to bring it to The Edge Café on Avonmore Road, where it will be there for other locals to buy.

Money raised from those sales will go to Merchants Quay, a Dublin-based charity supporting the homeless and people dealing with drug addiction.

"We are not trying to compete with supermarket chains or anything like that," said SDAA secretary Pat O'Rourke to *The Echo*, "But product waste is something that local allotment owners and growers are reporting and acknowledging increasingly."

When chatting about it at The Edge, Pat and the café's manager Ross Mooney agreed it would be a good idea to use such a popular spot to recycle that produce.

"Why don't you bring it here?" said Ross. Pat then spread the rumour with local allotment owners and growers, who showed interest and willingness to co-operate.

"It's nobody's fault," said Pat, "When you buy a package of seeds, it's probably a hundred of them. But enough vegetables for a household can grow from ten to twenty seeds. What happens to what's grown from the remaining 80?"

Pat and Ross will set up a few tables in the café's outdoors and showcase the produce.

"We still don't know how frequently we'll do this, but following the harvesting seasons could be a good way," said Pat.

"From November to March, there's very little produce, so it might not be needed. But during abundance periods, it will be better than let it rot in the ground.

"Especially vegetables like rhubarb, cabbage, lettuce, or parsnip tend to be in excess and we would all need and use those in our homes. If we left them there over maturing, they would just go to waste."

Pat reminded that besides tackling food waste, it will also be funding charity's work. "It won't benefit the South Dublin Allotments Association or The Edge financially, it's just good for everyone," said Pat.

"It won't be supermarket prices, but it won't be giveaway either. We are accepting people's offers and at the end of the day we just want the produce not to be wasted."



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## Benefits for families from reductions

FAMILIES across the country are set to benefit from reductions to full-time and early learning childcare services.

From September 1 this year, all families accessing registered early learning and childcare will receive a minimum hourly universal National Childcare Scheme (NCS) subsidy of €2.14 off their out-of-pocket costs, up from a current hourly rate of €1.40.

Fine Gael Senator Mary Seery Kearney said: "Our goal in Fine Gael is to support families across Ireland by reducing the economic pressures of childcare. As part of this commitment, families receiving the NCS universal subsidy will see a further 25 per cent average reduction in the cost of using full-time early learning and childcare services.

"For families on the universal subsidy, this will mean up to €5,007 off their annual bill per child. This represents up to an additional €1,731 off the annual cost of early learning and childcare per child.

"This initiative will ensure that more families can benefit from the valuable early learning opportunities that shape the foundational years of children's lives.

"Additionally, starting in September 2024, families using registered childminders will be able to avail of the NCS for the first time.

"This is coupled by €331m Core Funding provided directly to early learning and childcare services works.

"By reducing the burden of childcare and expanding access to quality services, we are making a strong investment in our children's future," Senator Seery Kearney concluded.

# Vintage van gives trip of a lifetime to family

The family completed 2,500km of the Wild Atlantic Way

By Maurice Garvey  
maurice@echo.ie

A FAMILY trip to Munster in an old Toyota van ended up becoming a dream holiday adventure along the coast of Ireland for one Ballyfermot family.

Shane Bates, his partner Niamh and their daughter Ellah (7), took off in their 1990 Toyota Townace 4WD at the end of July for a 12-day jaunt, but they were not sure where the road would take them.

“The original plan was Cork and Kerry, but then we scrapped the plan down there and headed north,” said Shane.

“I didn’t think we’d have enough time to do the things and visit the places we wanted, but we packed most of it in, although there was a couple of

things we missed.”

Overall, the family ended up completing a 2,500km journey of the Wild Atlantic Way in the old van – from Dublin to Skibbereen in Cork, and then the coast road along the peninsulas, all the way to the north of Ireland and the fabled Giants Causeway.

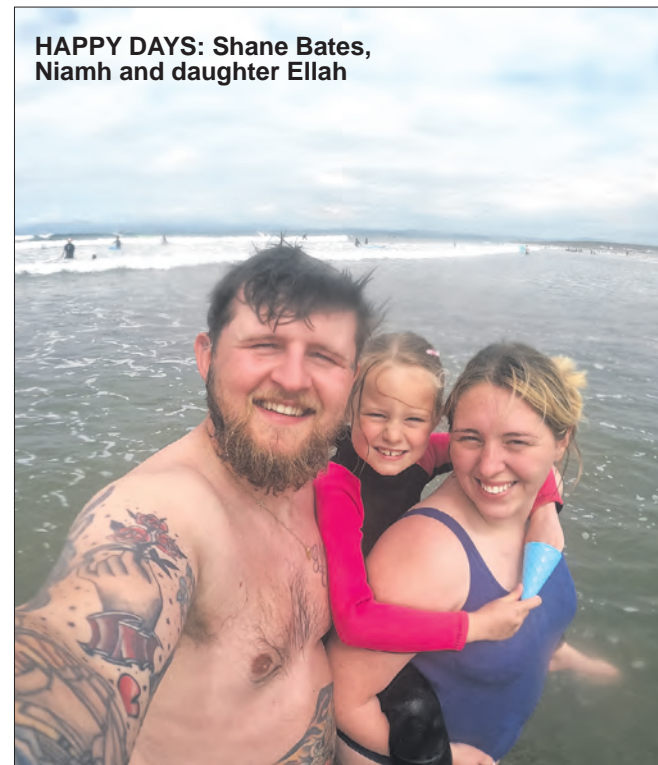
“I’m into old vintage vehicles and the little one is mad about camping, so we turned the van into a seven-seater,” said Shane.

“We laid all the seats down at night and used it as makeshift bed and storage. Every other night we found a campsite to use the showers and facilities. For the most part we were just winging it.

“My daughter loved it saying that the van was old and thinks it’s part of the fun, telling all



YIPPEE: Ellah on the van



HAPPY DAYS: Shane Bates, Niamh and daughter Ellah

her friends before we left that she is travelling all over Ireland in an old van.”

Memories were created along the way from the Dursley Island Cable Car in West Cork, Ireland’s only cable car, to the impromptu campsite locations,

and new people they met on their travels.

“I’d recommend it. It was so nice to get out there and travel our own country and see the amazing places it has to offer – something basic is better,” said Shane.

# Families see a massive 62 per cent increase in rent

Larger families are particularly harder hit, according to councillor

INCREASES in council rents are hurting larger families, according to a local representative, reports Stephen Farrell.

According to Councillor William Carey (SF) families have seen “a massive” 62 per cent increase in their rents when surcharges are taken into account.

“The cost to one family has seen their rent increase from €70 to €236 per week. However, with the additional surcharge being added of €147 it has now risen to a total of €383 per week. This represents a massive 62.3 per cent increase at a time when increases in rent pressure zones are limited to 2 per cent,” said Cllr Carey.

The Clondalkin representative feels that larger families are particularly hard hit.

“As a result of a new policy on assessing household rents, larger families are struggling to meet the new levels imposed by South Dublin County Council (SDCC). The effects of which are only now beginning to hit home with tenants whose children are now entering the workforce. These assessments are beginning to cause huge stress on families struggling to

pay these additional costs,” said Cllr Carey.

The differential rent scheme means that as family income rises so too does the rent they pay. However, according to the Sinn Féin representative, children in a family who are working are now effectively penalised for doing so.

“The new policy is aimed at adding a surcharge of an additional 10 per cent of income to be levied upon families. This policy has meant that families whose income had grown above qualification base lines would be hit with an additional 10 per cent surcharge. In effect all income brought in by adult children in a household is now subject to a 20 per cent differential rent. This is a doubling of the rent that they would reasonably be expecting to contribute to the family home,” said Cllr Carey.

Even teenagers and young people who take up part-time jobs to support themselves as they progress through school come within the remit of this new policy, according to Cllr Carey.

The Clondalkin representative has been very critical of this policy pointing to its



unfairness in particular. “I also made clear that the increase would have a detrimental effect on family dynamics and that these

increases would land on the shoulders of some of our lowest paid workers, i.e. young workers entering into the jobs market,” said Cllr Carey.

In the past five years rental income in SDCC has risen from €26m to €31.2m per annum, according to Cllr Carey.

“In effect all income brought in by adult children in a household is now subject to a 20 per cent differential rent . . . a doubling of rent they would reasonably be expecting to contribute to the family home

## Local history with Albert Perris



Albert Perris is a native of Tallaght and has been prominent in the promotion and preservation of Tallaght's History and Heritage for 25 years. He has worked in a variety of professional roles in the voluntary, community and social care sector, including Independent Social Researcher publishing a number of Social Research reports in the late 1990s; CEO with Respond Support, Head of Services with Alone and National Manager of Specialist Services with SVP. 1999 saw the publication of "Since Adam was a boy: An Oral Folk History of Tallaght" (TWS), preserving for future generations, the oral histories and memories of some of Tallaght's oldest residents, collected over a two year period. The founder and Author of the popular blog, 'A Ramble About Tallaght', his articles on Tallaght have been read over 250,000 times. "A Ramble About Tallaght- History, People, Places", published by O'Brien Press (2023) is available on Amazon.com and in all good bookshops.

# When Adam was a boy

An Oral Folk History of Tallaght", to mark the 25th Anniversary of their first publication back in 1999

**The Memoirs of Willie Kennedy.** Willie Kennedy was born in Greenhills Village outside Tallaght in 1917, in a small house that once stood beside the Cuckoo's Nest. He lived with his four brothers and four sisters, but at nighttime he and one of his brothers slept in the house across the road in which his grandfather had been born, as their own home was too small. Although the village of Greenhills was long gone, Willie could still remember many of the families who had lived there in the 1920s. After working in Guinness for 40 years Willie played a leading role in establishing the first Credit Union in Tallaght in 1969 of which he served as first Chairman. He served as first full time manager there from 1980 to 1989. He was Honorary Treasurer and President of the National Association of the Mentally Handicapped and was on the board of management of Cheeverstown from 1974 to 1998.

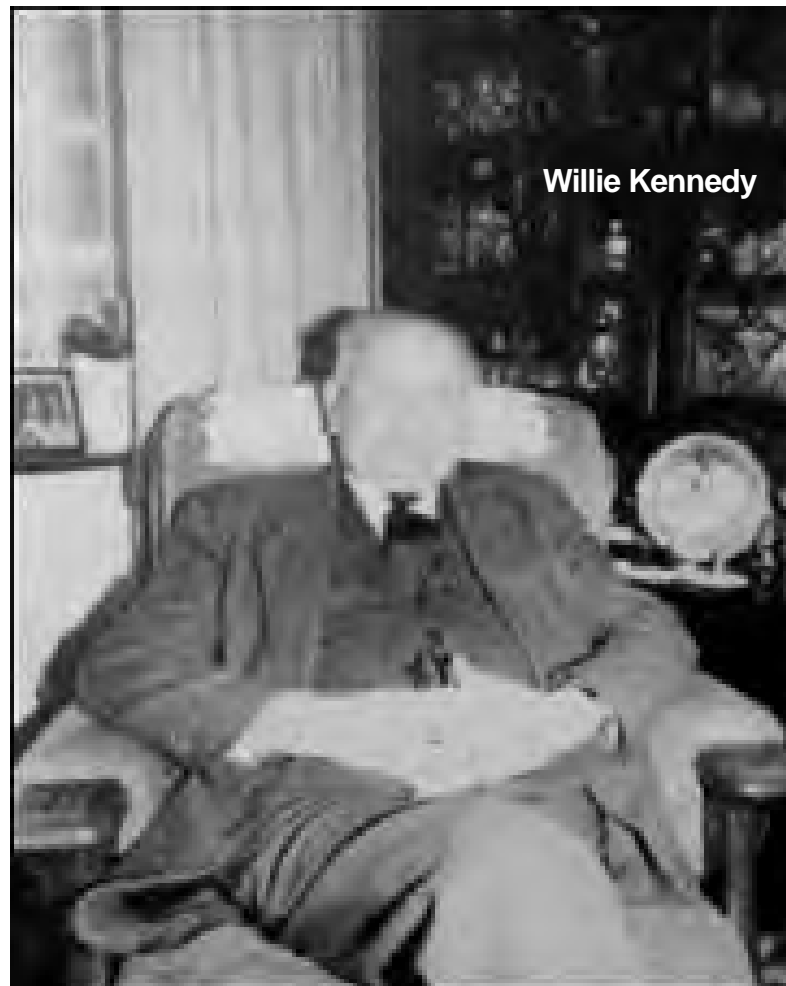
"WD Hancock, in his History (and antiquities) of Tallaght describes Tymon Castle as being between the villages of Greenhills and Balrothery but most people don't know there was a village in Greenhills. At one time there were over sixteen dwelling houses between the Cuckoo's Nest Roadhouse and the junction for Ballymount. At the end of the last century over 27 families gave their address as Greenhills for the purpose of births or marriages in the Parish of Rathfarnham. At that time Greenhills Village was probably bigger than Tallaght Village! Many of the family names associated with Greenhills such as Rossiter, Staunton, Kavanagh and Kennedy are predominantly Wexford names and I suspect a lot of the families in Greenhills had come up from Wexford around the period of 1798 after the turmoil down there.

There were a number of Kennedy families in Greenhills since 1775, many not related, though my own family has been here since 1807. My great-grandfather married in 1847, the year of the famine, and lived in a house facing the Cuckoo's Nest which at that time was a coach-house for people travelling through the area. Greenhills was mostly a farming community in the early days. Ambrose Farrell was a big farmer and had most of the land around

Kilnamanagh. Many, many families lived in Greenhills, There was the O' Tooles, Dempseys, Dollards, Corcorans, Kinsellas, Kennedys, McDermotts, Roantrees and Rafter's. The Rafter Family were big dairy farmers and had land all over Dublin: in Ballyfermot, the Coombe, New Street and Mount Pleasant and had a lot of land all over Greenhills and Tymon. They had a yard on Aungier Street in town, facing Whitefriar Street Church and during the winter they would bring all the cattle in there.

One of my earliest memories is of a big fire on Rafter's farm when I was only three or four years of age, and my father's house nearly going up in flames. It had only been a one-roomed house, but my father had built a thatched room on to it. It was the night after a threshing had taken place on Rafter's Farm- the whole haggart went up and the corn and hay was blazing away. A terrible wind blew up that night, a great gale from a south-easterly direction, and all the blazing hay begun to blow over on to our house. As the night went on, all the neighbours came out, the Allens and all the dairy-farmers living in Rafter's yard, and they gathered buckets of water to dampen the thatched roof on my father's house. Luckily, there was a big tree that stood between our house and the fire and a lot of the flaming hay and blazing corn was caught by that. But anything that wasn't ended up caught in the thatch!

Shortly after the fire my father had the thatched roof taken off and had slate put on instead. After the fire, there were three theories as to how it could have happened. One was that tramps sleeping in Rafter's barn had dropped a cigarette. Another theory was that, because of the threshing the day before, a spark from the thresher lay smouldering in the hay and it was re-ignited when the wind came. The last theory suggested that there may have been a connection between the fire and the Civil War, which was going on around then. The fire on Rafter's farm was around the same time as the Courthouse being burnt down in Tallaght Village and that too was thought to have been connected with the Civil War or the Black and Tans.



Willie Kennedy

The Courthouse was a big red-bricked building, beside the Old Tallaght National School in which I went to school, where the County Council yard is now (1998). I remember myself and my father walking up to mass one Sunday morning and finding the Courthouse burnt to the ground.

As a child, I would often walk up the Greenhills road, up to Bancroft house to get some milk, or into the village to get some groceries. William O'Neill had the main grocery shop in the village at that time, up at the top of the village facing the pub on the corner (The Dragon). A man by the name of Johnny Odlum, who used to go around in a pony and trap worked in O' Neill's shop, and it was reputed that he had been a witness to the Phoenix Park Murders of 1882. He had seen the shooting of Cavendish and Burke in the park! Another family of O' Neills, Larry O' Neill, had the Cuckoo's Nest when I was a child, and you could get some groceries there but not much, maybe a bit of soap or sugar and some paraffin oil for the lamps.

Stepping-Stones to Clondalkin  
A few fields over from the

Cuckoo's Nest was a well that would often flood over during the winter. Now, three or four hundred years before I was born, the boys from the district of Greenhills had to go over to Clondalkin to school in the monastery there, but because the well would flood the path from Greenhills to Clondalkin, the locals laid stepping-stones all the way over, and that area became known as the Clogherauns. All around Greenhills there were sandpits from which the local men quarried sand and stone. Half of Dublin was built using the sand drawn from the pits of Greenhills. Where the new motorway crosses the Greenhills Road, that was once a huge sandpit, and the old Tymon lane went above that over to Ballymount, before it was diverted over to the Cuckoo's Nest in the 1950s. A lot of men from around would have worked in the local sandpits and quarries.

### Airton Lodge

A Surgeon, Lentaigne, before the Dominicans came, had owned much of the land around Tallaght. His city residence was what later became Vincent's Hospital on the Green in Dublin. Lentaigne had large amounts of land all over

Tallaght but later sold up to the Dominicans. Not far down the Greenhills Road, behind the Priory were two lodges. One was beside the stream that runs behind Gallagher's Tobacco factory: the Noone Family lived there until one of the daughters married into the Dunnes and then they lived in it. The other Airton Lodge was further down the Greenhills road. Sean Dempsey the leading Irish Piper lived there. The two lodges belonged to Airton Farm which was where Packard Electric was (built). The farmyard used to be just where the carpark was.

### St. Dominic's Tallaght Pipe Band

In 1929, as a young lad, I joined Thomas Davis GAA club and played with them in the Under 12s for a few years. I continued playing until I was 18 or 19 years old, but by then I hadn't the time as I started working in Guinness in town when I was fifteen. I was playing with the Pipe Band in Tallaght from 1934 until the 1950s when it disintegrated. I was a founding member of the Tallaght Pipe Band in 1934 and played alongside the Whittys and Kellys from the village and Jack Carroll. Before we had set it up there had been a Fife and Drum band over in Firhouse but there hadn't been a band for Tallaght. We had some success over the years and came second in the first All-Ireland Band Contest held up in Balmoral in Belfast in 1946 and again the following year.

One year when it was held in Iveagh Gardens in Dublin we didn't get placed, after there had been a mix up with one of the adjudicators. At that time the band competitions were held with the adjudicators 'under cover'. There would be four adjudicators: two for piping, one for drumming and one for marching and discipline. He was the only one that wouldn't be 'under cover' because he needed to see what was going on. But he only had a few marks to give so unless the band was very bad his marks couldn't change the result very much anyway! This one year, the draw for the order of playing was made just before the start of the competition and in theory the judges weren't supposed to know what band was playing outside. So we were about to play when the announcer said "The next band into

the arena will be the St. Dominic's band from Tallaght" and everyone looked around and thought "My God! Why is he telling the adjudicators who is coming in next?" So then the announcer apologised and said "I'm very sorry- I shouldn't have said that! So I will ask that band to retire and we will have them back later in the competition". While we were waiting to play, someone said "You can be sure you won't win today, because if you do, people will think you only won because of the mistake! So if you're good or bad you can be sure you won't win today!" After that we had our minds made up that we wouldn't win anyway. Now at that time, it was the habit for the bass drum to lead the band, and he would hold the drum with one hand and beat the drum lightly with the other one.

But that day our bass-drummer, Willie Madden from Ballyfermot said "Well if we're not going to win we might as well lose in style!" and he let loose with the drum and threw his sticks up in the air! We went out with a bang, but we didn't win that year!

A few years ago, in 1996, I got an invitation from the Royal Scottish Pipe Band to go to Belfast for the fiftieth anniversary of the 1946 competition. I'm one of the few survivors of the competition left, but I couldn't go.

A couple of years before setting up the pipe band in Tallaght I had started working in Guinness- the 1st of June 1932. A few men from the district had worked there- Dick Mullally from the village and Ned McCabe and Mr. Redmond from Firhouse. They had all worked there before me, but I was one of the first people to get into Guinness by open competition, straight from the National School in Tallaght. Mr Manning from the village was the Principal for the boy's school and his assistant was Ms Casey from Edmundstown. Ms Little, who also lived in the village, looked after the girls' school with the help of Ms Wogan from Knocklyon.

I was only in Guinness a year when the bad snow came in '33, so I couldn't cycle into work in the morning because of the ice- I'd have to walk into town and walk back every day. There was no other way to get into town at that time. Because I was 15 when I started in Guinness I was considered 'A boy'. In Guinness' at that time, you were a boy until you were 18 years old. Then until you were 21 you were called 'A Lad', and after that you were 'A Man'. There was three types of Boys: Boy Labourers, Boy Messengers and Boy Laboratory attendants. I went in as a Boy Messenger in the internal postal service and was there for a few months before being put into the Accounts Department. I worked in Guinness for 40 years, up until the time I retired in 1972, having spent most of my time there in the

engineers department. In 1941, I was asked to join the Internal Fire-Brigade, so after the training I ended up doing a number of weeks full-time service with the City fire-brigade during the war. I got married in 1940, and moved into one of the little cottages on the Greenhills Road three years later. The two little cottages facing Kilnamanagh had been built in 1907, on ground given to the County Council by Alderman Flanagan, on the condition that two of his workers got the houses. They were given to the Stauntons and Jim Dunne, my grandmothers' second husband, after her first husband had died young.

At that time, when someone died, they were very rarely taken to the church. They would be waked in the house and would be buried straight from there as there was no such thing as funeral homes then. A wake would be an all-night affair, maybe two nights. I remember in 1933 a bachelor from down the road died and they went to bury him. They carried the corpse up to the graveyard in Tallaght (there was no hearses at that time), but when they arrived they discovered that the grave hadn't been opened yet, so they just left the corpse in the shed overnight so he could be buried the next day. On the rare occasions when a corpse was taken to the church up in Tallaght, in accordance with the tradition of the time, on the way to the graveyard the funeral would come down the village and around Cunningham's garden (Esso garage), before going up to the graveyard for the corpse to be buried. The Cunninghams lived there for years; Thomas Cunningham was a character- he played the melodeon at weddings around the district, or would provide the music for a half-set in someone's house.

At that time there were a number of Dance Halls around Tallaght. Doyle's Dance Hall was at the top of the village, where the snooker hall is now (1998), and Byrne's Dance hall was up on the Kiltipper Road. There was another Dance Hall off the Old Bawn Road, where Seskin View is now. Up a little slip road about 200 yards, Muldoons had a Dance Hall there for years. We would often go to the Library in Clondalkin or the Mills in Saggart for a ceili, or Rathmines Town Hall or the Mansion House. You would get to know people from Milltown or Dundrum and Inchicore. People would travel from all over the city for a ceili at that time".

*Albert Perris (Memoirs (Edited) as set down in recorded audio interviews over several days, with Albert Perris in Glenview Lodge Day Care Centre, Glenview, Tallaght, Co. Dublin in 1999. First published by Tallaght Welfare Society in "Since Adam was a Boy- An Oral Folk History of Tallaght (Perris, A., TWS, 1999).*

# TUH Talks Health

## Clinical Professor in Dermatology Trinity College Dublin and Clinical Lead in Dermatology for the HSE talks about our skin and why it is so important to protect it and more importantly how to protect it.

**Professor Anne-Marie Tobin, Consultant Dermatologist Tallaght University Hospital**



IT MAY be hard to believe but people should protect their skin from April to September in Ireland. During these months the sun is high enough in the sky to cause UV rays at ground level to burn skin, even on a cloudy day. We see so many patients who have had bad sunburns on a cloudy day it is such a common mistake. Most Irish people have fair skin and burns easily and it is important to use at least an SPF 30 on the face, neck and back of the arms and then long sleeve T shirts and trousers to protect the body.

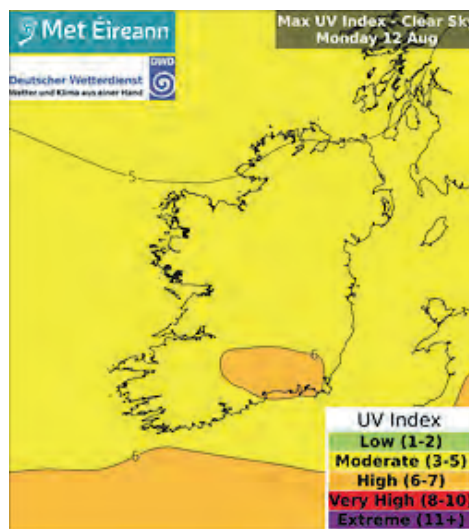
Children should use an SPF 50, I think parents are so good at protecting their children, they need to remember their own skin!

### Sunburn and skin cancer

When skin burns in the sun, the top layer of cells are damaged and these can become cancerous and result in skin cancers. The most serious skin cancer is melanoma as 20% of people diagnosed with melanoma can die from it. It is now the third most common cancer in women after breast and lung cancer and in men after prostate and lung cancer. A melanoma can present as a new mole, people do get new moles until their mid to late thirties though. It can also arise in an existing mole that gets bigger or darker.

The next most serious skin cancer is a squamous cell carcinoma and these come up on the face in neck as hard growths that are painful, 20% of people can die from this form of skin cancer also. The last type of skin cancer is basal cell carcinoma which presents as a red sore or a scar that won't heal usually on the head and neck, these are less serious as they do not spread.

It is important to remember that sunburns add up over your lifetime and that sunburns in childhood can increase your risk of melanoma.



### Sunbeds and skin cancer

We are seeing an increase in the number of patients presenting to our rapid access skin cancer service who have used sunbeds. The UV index is a measure of the amount of radiation at ground level on any given day and

can be found on the Met Eireann website.

Sunbeds have a UV index of 12 putting them in the extreme category. The skin cancer risk for sunbeds is up to six times higher than that for Mediterranean sunlight. Using sunbeds increases risk of melanoma, especially in young people.

### The sun and aging

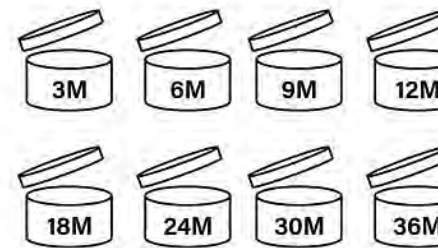
The two changes in skin which are most aging are loss of volume which results in wrinkling and also pigment changes such as redness and dark spots both caused by excess sun exposure. UV radiation from the sun or sunbeds damages the collagen in our skin and this leads to wrinkling, once collagen is damaged by the sun it is impossible to replace. The SINGLE most important anti-aging thing ANYONE can do for their skin is wear sun cream from April to September, and it is CHEAP, no need for expensive cosmetic procedures.

### What Sunblock should I use?

When choosing a Sunblock or Sun Protection Factor, there are two important things to consider. The Factor 30 means that if you burn within 10 minutes of being out in the sun, by using Factor 30 you are protected by 30 x 10 minutes. So SPF should be applied in the morning and then reapplied at lunchtime. There is also a star rating which protects from UVA which is most cancer causing radiation, so a sunscreen should have a star rating of 5



I prefer sunblocks rather than moisturisers or make ups with SPF in them as they give better protection and the order should be moisturiser, sunblock and then make up. There are a lot of excellent suncreams in pharmacies and supermarkets.



Suncreams do expire so check the expiry date and also on the back of the tube there is a jar symbol which shows how long a cream will work once it has been opened.

Finally sun exposure can also cause cataracts so it is important to wear sunglasses and a hat to protect from glare so be Sunsmart from April 1st to the end of September.

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# Mystery Tour hits all the buttons for fun and frolics



**DESTINATION UNKNOWN:** John Owens, Joe O'Neill and Catherine O'Neill

A GREAT way for the elderly to have a carefree and cheerful day out, the "Mystery Tour" departing from Ballyfermot last Saturday was a success for the 29th year in a row, *reports Alessia Micalizzi*.

Organised by local resident Noreen Fogarty and Decies County Bar, it calls to all the senior citizen customers and friends of the bar to hop on one or two coaches and spend the day out together in a nice location. There's only one rule: they can't know the destination in advance.

Two coaches with 90 participants, aged between 60 and 91, left Decies County Bar in lower Ballyfermot at 12 noon.

They found out with great delight their first stop would be The Woodenbridge Hotel and Lodge in Arklow, surrounded by Wicklow's nature, and then moved to Summerhill House Hotel in Enniskerry, not too far from the Wicklow Mountains National Park.

"Both of them beautiful, very well-kept locations," said Noreen. After enjoying their free meal with a stunning view, the participants fully embraced the planned activities and brought in the fun.

"We set up bingo, a quiz game which they loved, dancing and singing too," said Noreen.

"Do you want to know who danced the longest? Joe O'Neill, 90 years old," she laughed. "He was after all the women too, he just wouldn't stop. I think the next day painkillers were involved."

"It was great to see people walking with trolleys, or even wheelchair users, having the chance to spend the day out and having fun. And people who usually struggle walking, enjoy a dance.

"I want to thank Mullally Coach Hire for being so thoughtful and making these people travel comfortably," added Noreen.

She said the excitement for discovering the destination is also a big part of the fun. "At every signpost they would ask 'is it here we're stopping?'. All of this while driving along the amazing coast."

Participants were also surprised with a small present at the end of the dinner, wrapped in gold paper for men and in flower-printed paper for women.

The dancing, however, was the most entertaining part for everyone according to Noreen. "Just a fantastic day," she said, "We left at noon, and came back at 11.30pm. Nobody fell asleep."

The ladies from the Decies darts team, who travel along to assist the participants during the day, also enjoyed it.

Fundraising for next year's Mystery Tour has already started at the Decies County Bar.

Noreen, who runs the darts team and has been involved in the Mystery Tour for decades, calculates half the money is raised locally and the other half contributed by Decies County Bar.



**MYSTERY FUN TIME:** Edna Barry, Bernie and James Ryan



# Bowling, m celebrations The children love fives after bowling

DOWN Syndrome Dublin celebrated two years of their beloved bowling nights with a "medal night" at Tallaght's Leisureplex last Tuesday, *reports Alessia Micalizzi*.

The bowling group grew through the years and counts now 26 children and teenagers aged from 10 to 18. Last Tuesday night, they all got a medal to wear with pride, while playing, singing and dancing together.

"What we really want to highlight and celebrate are the special, long-lasting friendships that were created thanks to these nights," said organiser Sandra O'Reilly.

Together with other local parents, in

August 2022 Sandra set up the bowling nights which are supported by Down Syndrome Dublin.

They don't involve the organisation's volunteers, as children come in accompanied by their parents.

"We believe that nobody with Down syndrome should be sitting at home on their own. They should live their life and enjoy time with friends," said Sandra.

Bowling nights started as a replacement for hip-hop nights, at a time when Covid regulations were still in place.

Now, hip-hop classes are back, but these children grew fond of bowling

**“We believe nobody with Down Syndrome should be sitting at home . . . They should live their life and enjoy time with friends**



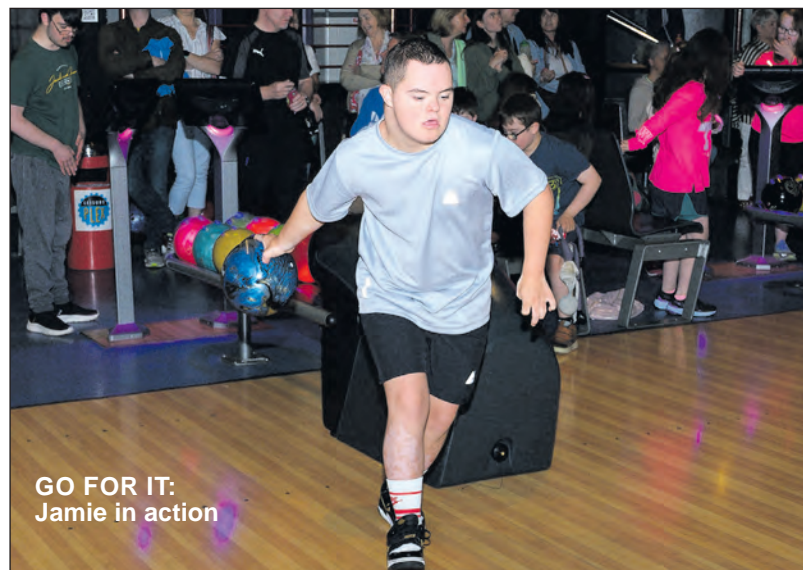
HIGH TIMES: The boys with Ben and Shuna from TLC



HAPPY DAYS: Fionn, Sé and Odhran



FUN TIME: Liam, Cathal, Jackson and Andre



GO FOR IT: Jamie in action

# Medals, fun and prizes at Leisureplex

## the high of a strike

and look forward to it every week. Sandra asked some of them to tell *The Echo* what they like the most about bowling nights. "I love that it's on a Tuesday," said one. "I love when we hug or high five after a strike!" said another participant. "My favourite thing is that we bring in cakes when it's somebody's birthday." Parents also benefit from it, added Sandra, "as they can chat between each other about issues they might be worried about, in relation to their children. They know that they will be understood and not judged." Bowling nights take place every Tuesday at 7.00 pm at Tallaght's Leisureplex. "We'd like to thank Leisureplex for giving us their space and Down Syndrome Dublin for their support," said Sandra.

For more information, or to join the bowling nights with your kids, contact [Hayleigh@downsyndromedublin.ie](mailto:Hayleigh@downsyndromedublin.ie).



BOWLING THEM OVER: The girls enjoying the bowling

# ‘Erratic’ driver in front of a funeral charged with 17 counts

Audi driver allegedly attempted to ram the patrol car, says Garda who gave chase

By Tom Tuite  
news@echo.ie

A FATHER of two drove “erratically” in front of a funeral procession in Tallaght, Dublin, before attempting to ram gardai and “weaving in and out of traffic” at 150km/h on the M50, a court heard.

Michael Casey, 28, was charged with 17 counts of dangerous driving during the alleged chase from St Aidan’s Church, Tallaght, to Woodhaven Golf Club, Bray, Co. Wicklow, on Saturday afternoon.

Mr Casey, of Hazel Hill, Tallaght, allegedly pursued by a Garda helicopter, “made no reply” when charged, Dublin District Court was told on Monday.

Objecting to bail, Garda Neil Lynch told Judge William Aylmer that officers responded to 999 calls from the public about scrambler motorcycles and a car set on fire at Brookfield Road.

A public order unit also arrived at the scene.

It was alleged a 2008-reg Audi A3 left St Aidan’s Church, “driving erratically in front of the procession”.

Garda Lynch’s patrol car followed the Audi and was joined in the pursuit by the Air Support Unit.

He alleged the driver pulled into a Circle K garage, where gardai



**DANGER:** Dublin Fire Brigade puts out a van fire close to St Aidan’s Church while a BMW car rams a car on fire during the incidents

attempted to stop the car and got a view of the driver.

According to Garda Lynch, the Audi driver “attempted to ram the patrol car” and then headed southbound on the M50, reaching speeds in excess of 150 km/h.

The contested bail hearing was told Mr Casey allegedly drove on the hard shoulder and across hatch markings. It was also claimed he was “weaving in and out of traffic”, and other motorists had to take evasive action to avoid collision.

Garda Lynch explained that he had to disengage from the pursuit at one stage due to the high risk, but his colleagues in the Air Support Unit continued following the Audi.

The court heard he caught up with the car at the golf club, that the accused was arrested there and had three or four car registration plates.

The judge was told the unemployed married man also faces three related charges for driving without a licence or insurance and unlawfully possessing car registration plates. However, the

garda said more serious charges could be brought.

Judge Aylmer heard that gardai are enquiring whether the Audi, which allegedly bore false number plates, was stolen.

Defence solicitor Tertius Van Eeden said there had been a high-profile funeral, and gardai were present.

Garda Lynch maintained that roads had to be sealed off due to the Audi.

The defence pleaded for bail and argued that the objections were weak, but Mr Casey did not address the court

or indicate a plea.

Judge Aylmer set bail in his bond of €1,000 and required approval of a €1,500 independent surety.

He must obey conditions, including providing a mobile phone number, remaining sober and signing on regularly at a garda station if he takes up bail.

Mr Casey, who was granted legal aid, was remanded in custody with consent to bail, and will appear at Cloverhill District Court on September 10 next.

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**SCAN ME**



**PAUL MURPHY TD**

**PEOPLE  
BEFORE  
PROFIT**

# New free hormone replacement therapy to be introduced by Department of Health

PLANS by the Government to introduce a publicly funded hormone replacement therapy (HRT) scheme have been welcomed.

Local Fianna Fáil Councillor Teresa Costello has welcomed reports that Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly, intends that the Government would cover the cost of HRT medication being available to those who need it.

Clr Costello said: "The

publicly-funded HRT scheme will be a game-changer for women's healthcare. This is hugely welcome news.

"There has been an increase in demand for HRT medicines in the last number of years, both due to public information campaigns run by the Government and to the work of many individuals, organisations and public representatives in highlighting the need for better

menopause care for women.

"However, women have faced issues in using HRT medicine, from access to cost disparity.

"These issues are in addition to the already challenging experience of menopause. It represents a significant change in the reproductive system and brings with it a lot of other symptoms, everything from hot flashes to weight gain, hair loss, anxiety, depression, sight loss,

arthritis and diabetes.

"The scheme would put an end to the barrier posed by costs in accessing effective and essential healthcare treatment. Women are faced with costs of €30 to €70 per month for HRT, the cost of a GP visit which can be between €60 and €80 and the cost of having to have see a consultant which could be hundreds of euros for one consultation.

"Publicly-funded HRT is an

investment in the individual health of those women who access the medicines as well as in the health of families and entire communities. I look forward to the details of the scheme being published in the coming weeks.

"The scheme is the latest example of Fianna Fáil's commitment in Government to supporting women's healthcare and removing barriers to access wherever we can."

# Father of two faces 'demolish or go to jail' order over cabin

## Long-running feud with council over home built on family land comes to a head

By **Maurice Garvey**

maurice@echo.ie

A FATHER of two is facing jail over a long-running saga during which, South Dublin County Council refused planning permissions for a cabin home on family land in Brittas.

Brendan McDonagh (44), who recently lost his mother, has battled planning authorities for seven years in an ordeal that has caused hardship for the family, who are effectively homeless since January after being forced out of the 57sq metre cabin he built.

The cabin is located on land that has been family land since 1952.

Brendan has until October 1 to demolish the cabin or risks being sent to prison.

After contacting the council eight years ago and learning that his self-employed status mean he was not eligible for any housing support, Brendan built the cabin on land beside the family home he grew up in, and where his parents lived.

Brendan and his wife Ewelina (35) could not afford to buy, and wanted to remain living in the area where he worked, and where they raised their two kids Mia (9) and Colin (5).

Brendan switched to a PAYE job in an effort to qualify for assistance but to no avail.

A court order last December meant that they had to leave the cabin in January and the family have been staying at a friend's house ever since.

Brendan wasn't allowed to visit his sick mother Terri, who lives in the family home beside the cabin, due to the legal terms, and Terri died from cancer on July 10.

"They robbed me of special time with my mother who was in palliative care for the last eight months. She didn't deserve that," said Brendan.

"Everything came on top of me before Christmas. I was told by my legal team that I had to sign an undertaking to go before the judge on December 19, or I would be arrested.

"For the past seven years I have applied for planning and retention and appealed all decisions to be refused each time. I now have until October 1 to have my family home demolished. I have an order of costs against me from SDCC. The council have no housing to offer me but have spent the last seven years trying to take our home."

Offers of a potential room at a B&B

**CABIN SAGA:** Brendan and family and (inset) the cabin home



in Gardner Street or a hostel in Swords are unsuitable.

"You are told to ring after 7pm on the day to see if there is anything available. I won't put my kids into a place like that or in some apartment block. It is dangerous and we are country people. We are from Brittas, have lived and worked here, our kids go to a local school."

Clr Linda de Courcy (Ind Ire) met the McDonagh's last week and has submitted a motion for the Clondalkin local area meeting requesting SDCC "desist in threatening to jail Brendan McDonagh if he doesn't demolish his home."

"The stress the family have been put under is shocking and totally unnecessary in my opinion. He and his

wife have two young children, nowhere else to live and we are in the middle of a housing crisis," said Clr de Courcy.

Some of the reasons given for planning refusals are that the applicant did not display a genuine need for a house and public safety traffic hazard arising from additional traffic.

Brendan disputes if the council did their due diligence.

"They said you can't see out of the driveway, which has always been a problem, but I got a digital survey done and the road department said it was fine. Another one was that there was "no social need" but we work and live here, the kids go to school here," said Brendan.

"Crooksling now means there is so much more extra cars and buses coming

down my lane, yet my log cabin was going to cause a traffic hazard. They have been bending and breaking laws to house refugees in all manner of buildings, bringing in hundreds of thousands from all across the world with no skills, dependant on welfare.

"New planning guidelines which came into effect in 2022 for a medical need, I supplied all the doctor's letters for my mother's chemotherapy, but it was denied. I worked for all the quarries in the area, supplied their names, but not one of them got a call from the council to verify if I worked for them," said Brendan.

A spokesperson for SDCC said: "The council does not comment on individual cases.

Unauthorised development occurs

when construction, alteration, or change of use of land or buildings is carried out without the necessary planning permission or in breach of the conditions of a granted permission, and the council has the power to take enforcement action against unauthorised developments, which can include orders to cease operations, remove structures, or revert land to its original state."

SDCC also referred to its Rural Settlement Strategy set out in the Core Strategy and Settlement Strategy and Chapter 6: Housing of the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022-2028, which was made by resolution of the council on June 22, 2022 and came into effect on August 3, 2022.

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



## Butterflies and the weather



**COLD-BLOODED:** A butterfly will fully close its wings when it is too hot

BUTTERFLIES are cold-blooded creatures.

They cannot regulate their body temperature and so they need to draw heat from the sun to fly, search for food, and find a mate.

Butterflies need to be at a certain temperature before they fly. Day-to-day weather conditions can have a huge effect on their activities, and in Ireland this is a real challenge.

They take time to warm up in the morning. In its sheltered overnight spot, the butterfly begins by vibrating the muscles on its chest that operate its wings.

This raises its body temperature enough to allow it to take flight and to find a sunny spot to warm up fully.

Its wings are like solar panels, absorbing and distributing heat from the sun to the rest of its body.

When it is cold, it will bask on leaves or flowers with its wings held flat to the ground beside its body, catching as much of the sun's warming rays as possible.

They are often seen basking on dried, brown grass, or on sunny walls and stony footpaths.

These substrates heat up faster in the morning sun, allowing the undersides of the butterfly's body and wings to also benefit from the warmth rising up underneath it.

As it warms up, the butterfly will change the angle of its wings.

It raises them halfway up over its body, reducing the area of the wings that are fully exposed to the sun and allowing some cooling air to circulate around its body.

If it gets too hot, it will close its wings completely, and it may also move to a shadier spot until it cools down.

Just like Goldilocks, butterflies like conditions that are not too cold and not too hot. They can suffer from too much heat as well as from very cold conditions.

A changing climate will therefore bring further challenges to insects like these that are very sensitive to weather conditions.



**ANGLED:** Wings held at this angle suggest that this butterfly is at a comfortable temperature

# Jack takes a 'Wicked' holiday

**FLYING HIGH:** Jack Woolley on his return from the Paris 2024 Olympic Games in Tallaght.

## Taekwondo Olympian Jack Woolley

"CHECKING-IN with fellow athletes and not being harsh on myself." That's how two-time Taekwondo Olympian from Jobstown Jack Woolley is going about his post-Olympics "reality check", after he flew home from Paris a few weeks ago, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

"There's obviously going to be a bit of comedown when you're back home from the most important event of your life.

I've trained so hard since when I was six, and then it's all done in one day. You ask yourself 'What now?'"

After chatting to other Irish athletes at the homecoming ceremony, and to international Taekwondo athletes over the phone, he realised that was just the way everyone felt, and he was reassured. "That shows how there's no point in suffering in silence, and that we need to keep talking about how we feel."

Woolley's hopes for a bronze medal vanished when, in the first repechage round, he lost to Spain's Adrian Vicente Yunta. Speaking of his results, he underlined again how looking after yourself is more important than anything else: "Of course, it wasn't the result I wanted, but it was a good performance because I enjoyed it, and that was my main goal."

Dwelling on it is not something he finds useful either: "I don't think there's a point in watching my fights back, I've fought with those lads a couple of times and we know each other. I only do that before a competition to remind myself that I can do it and get that energy boost."

Having supporters around him, unlike last time in Tokyo 2020, also helped him to have a better Olympics experience. "With Covid ongoing, and being so far away from home, I felt really alone in Tokyo. But this

time was different, people were around me, and it was just over the sea. I enjoyed it much more."

With Taekwondo being such a full-on sport – ranking competitions for the Olympics used to be on a four-year cycle – Woolley said he rarely took breaks throughout his career.

Now, he is not planning to get back in the ring before October.

"It's now changed to a two-year cycle, so ranking for the next Olympics hasn't started yet and I have to appreciate this breather while I can. I'm excited to get back, but I know I need a break.

"Distressing, not kicking, having a nice time at home. On Saturday I'm going to see 'Wicked' in the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre. That's what a holiday is to me."

October's competitions will help him get ranking points to fight in the World Taekwondo Grand Prix taking place at the end of the year. Chinese city Taiyuan will host The Grand Prix, which will see the world top-sixteen Taekwondo athletes fighting in each weight category.

Woolley is confident in wanting to pursue his third Olympics, Los Angeles 2028: "The dream is to be on that podium," he said.

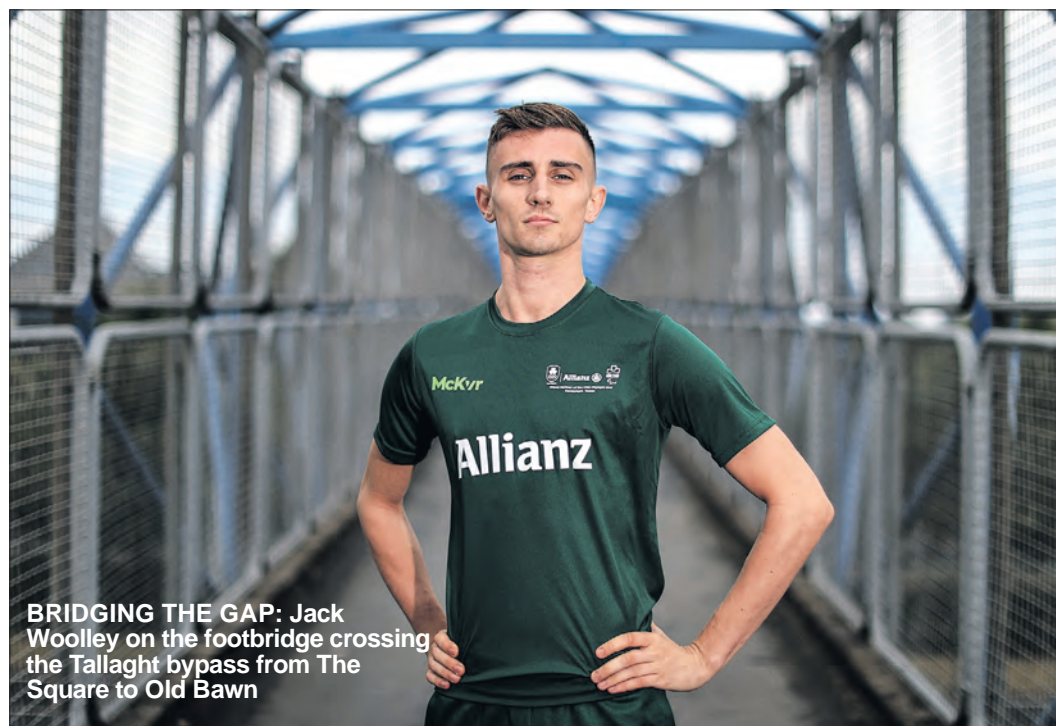
But having about a year and a half before the build-up for L.A. starts, Woolley is looking forward to having time between competitions to "just do every day, normal people things."

As the first Irish Taekwondo athlete to have qualified for the Olympics, Woolley sees a bright future for Irish Taekwondo and thinks the sport is being increasingly showcased and supported in the country.

"My Dublin training partner Leeroy [Nsilu Dilandu, fighting in the 68kg weight category] is about to break the top-ten in



is planning to get back in the ring in October



**BRIDGING THE GAP:** Jack Woolley on the footbridge crossing the Tallaght bypass from The Square to Old Bawn

Taekwondo world ranking, and I know a few kids aged 11 or 12 who already are at a higher standard than I was at their age," he said.

To the kids looking up to him in South Dublin Taekwondo Club, Woolley said "to always keep enjoying what they do."

"If you don't enjoy it, you are going to think about it as a job and you're not going to improve.

"As a kid, it can be difficult to put all these high expectations on yourself. Up until when I was 13, I didn't necessarily think about the Olympics.

"Everyone dreams about being at the highest

level, but I recommend doing it recreationally and having fun while training.

"Before I left for Paris, parents and kids gathered at the club to watch our training. It was a good way to show them how hard they must train if they want to reach these levels, but also that if their coach says they can have a water break, they can take that time to chat with friends and have fun."

Woolley said that he would have felt too "emotional" to come by the club right after flying back home, but that he's ready to pop in and say hello "in the next couple of days."

# Reaching out to those interested in joining St John Ambulance

ST John Ambulance's Walkinstown Division is hosting an opening evening next Friday, September 6, 2024, at the Assumption Primary School on Kilnamanagh Road, Walkinstown, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

It will be an hour-long meeting, starting at 7.00pm, aimed at reaching out to locals who are interested in joining the first-aid organisation as volunteers. Current members will showcase the organisation's work and talk about what it brings to the community.

The Echo spoke to Robert Nesbitt, who joined St John Ambulance fifty years ago at the age of 14.

He grew up volunteering with the Pearse Street division and then moved around wherever his contribution was most needed. He is now with the Walkinstown division and will be at the opening night.

"The Walkinstown division covers several areas, from Tallaght to Crumlin and Drimnagh," he said. "But we encourage people from any area of Dublin to come over."

"If they don't live around Walkinstown, we'll be happy to provide them with contacts for the other divisions."

The Walkinstown division was established in 1977, followed by a junior sector created a few years later.

All St John Ambulance members are volunteers who do this on top of their main occupation: they are on call to provide first aid in case of emergencies in the areas they cover, or they attend local concerts, festivals or sports matches, to be already on-site and respond to the emergency immediately.

"We have doctors, nurses, and paramedics among our members, but also people who got trained to be first-aiders with us and then progressed into careers in the Health Service.

"We hope we are not much needed, but if we are, we have the confidence

and the skills to step forward while we wait for the national ambulance to get there."

Mr Nesbitt recalled a time when a man who just attended their cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training was able to do a cardiac compression on someone in the Northside. When the national ambulance showed up, the man was told that "he gave that person a chance to live."

"This is our aim, training people to be useful for the community when public services are not there.

"If there's a car crash, an elderly person not feeling well, or someone caught by a heart attack, you would recognise your neighbour from down the road wearing St John's uniform and you'd know they're able to help."

Volunteers can also help with administration work, driving assistance, or just train new members.

They are required to attend the organisation's Friday meetings from 7.00pm to 9.00pm at least once per month, to update their skills, "but people usually have no issues in giving us a couple of hours every Friday," said Mr Nesbitt.

When asked how people balance their work schedules with volunteering for St John Ambulance, he said many join in their 20s, likely during college when they have more free time. They would fall away for some time and then get back to the organisation when they are settled with a family and work routine.

Other times, it's empty nesters who find themselves having a lot of free time and wanting to feel useful for their community.

"That's what our work is all about, no matter how much time you give us," added Mr Nesbitt, "You're giving back to your community."

For more information on St John Ambulance and their local Walkinstown division, visit <https://www.stjohn.ie/divisions/walkinstown/>.

"This is our aim, training people to be useful for the community when public services are not there. If there's a car crash, an elderly person not feeling well, or someone caught by a heart attack, you would recognise your neighbour from down the road wearing St John's uniform



**EAGER:** St John Ambulance Members in the Aviva Stadium

# Councillor reveals replacement for Tallaght Central seat won recently

## Former bricklayer, Dean Donnelly, is set to be nominated for Council seat

By **Stephen Farrell**  
stephenf@echo.ie

A LOCAL representative has revealed who he intends to nominate for a seat which he won in the local elections.

Patrick Holohan (Ind) who was elected as a councillor in both Tallaght South and Tallaght Central has revealed that he will nominate Dean Donnelly to take his seat for Tallaght Central.

“Dean is Tallaght born and bred, he has worked side by side with me in Tallaght Central. He works in my gym and has done work in relation to anti-bullying, he is the kids’ co-ordinator, he has helped hundreds of kids,” said Cllr Holohan.

Mr Donnelly also runs a programme that helps children with additional needs, according to Cllr Holohan.

“He runs a programme called Functional Fitness, for children with additional needs. He also has concerns that the services are not there, that there are long waiting lists. Dean did all the work, he has a qualification, the programme is out the door, it gives kids help to merge into the class setting,” said Cllr Holohan.

Mr Donnelly has also provided sessions to children with cerebral palsy to assist with and improve their walking.

The representative for Tallaght South gave some further background detail on Mr Donnelly.

“He went to school in St Mark’s, he is a bricklayer by profession and so has lots of experience of working in housing estates, he’s not political, he’s not affiliated to any political parties,” said Cllr Holohan.

The former Sinn Féin representative explained further why he chose Mr Donnelly.

“I need someone whom I can trust, someone who has worked with me a long time, Dean has worked alongside me in Tallaght Central,” said Cllr Holohan.

Meanwhile People Before Profit have nominated Kieran Mahon to fill the Tallaght Central vacancy.

“The people of Tallaght Central deserve the most democratic, fair and transparent approach by Councillors in filling this vacancy. There are strong and compelling democratic reasons why there is not an automatic right for an individual elected in more than one ward to simply nominate a replacement and have them rubber-stamped by the council,” said Councillor Jess Spear (PBP).

Councillor Spear feels that her fellow local representatives should be guided by the election results.

“It [the election] is the most recent and relevant barometer of the intentions of voters in Tallaght Central. This is why People Before Profit – Solidarity is nominating Kieran Mahon to fill the vacancy.

“Kieran came sixth in the six-seat ward on the first count, and finished seventh at the final count, just 138 votes off being elected. This represents a strong mandate from the people of Tallaght Central that should not be ignored or disregarded,” said Cllr Spear.

Cllr Holohan was nonplussed by the concerns raised by People Before Profit – Solidarity.

“I have no response to People Before Profit. I ran in Tallaght South and Tallaght Central and no



one said anything. People Before Profit only said something when I was elected. The electorate of Tallaght Central had a chance to elect Kieran Mahon, but they didn’t,” said Cllr Holohan.

When asked if he had any intentions to run in the general election, Cllr Holohan said that he was

focused on the work he is currently doing. “I’m taking it as it comes, I will see what the lay of the land is. I’m focused on the work that I am currently doing,” said Cllr Holohan, who added that he would continue to work for Tallaght Central.

“He runs a programme called Functional Fitness, for children with additional needs. He also has concerns that the services are not there, that there are long waiting lists.....I need someone whom I can trust, someone who has worked with me a long time, Dean has worked alongside me in Tallaght Central

# Sinn Féin

## Cllr William Carey

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✉: wcarey@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

South Dublin County Council,  
Clondalkin,  
Dublin 22

### CONSTITUENCY CLINIC TIMES

FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

- 🐾 **Tue** 10am – 11am Bawnogue Community Centre
- 🐾 **Wed** 10am - 11am Saggart – Old School House  
11.30 – 12.30 Newcastle – St Finians Com. Centre
- 🐾 **Thurs** 10am – 11am Knockmitten Com. Centre  
11.30 - 12-30 Rathcoole



## Kingswood CC gets ‘heart’ award

A NUMBER of Dublin schools are beginning the new academic year with an Irish Heart Foundation award for training their students in the lifesaving skill of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) among them is Kingswood Community College.

Kingswood CS received CPR 4 Schools awards, which recognise schools, teachers and students for remarkable efforts in CPR promotion and training.

They were among 36 schools across Ireland presented with 57 awards as part of

the national heart and stroke charity’s CPR 4 Schools programme.

Since its inception, 2,630 teachers in 649 post-primary schools have taken part, learning how to deliver CPR and giving the programme a reach of over 350,000 post-primary school students.

The charity aims to build a generation of life savers by training students to perform CPR and respond in a cardiac emergency, use an AED (defibrillator) and respond when someone is choking.

# Applicants left disappointed with the cost rental scheme

## Applicants did not meet criteria for any of the newly built 184 apartments in Cookstown

COST rental scheme in Cookstown Gateway left many applicants disappointed as they didn't meet the criteria for any of the newly built 184 apartments, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

Sinn Féin TD for Dublin South West Seán Crowe criticised the scheme saying that "It's simply not delivering for those who need it."

"Cost rental scheme rules are putting people who earn too much for social housing, but too little for cost rental into a limbo that is dominated by overpriced private rental accommodation," he stated.

Deputy Crowe visited the Cookstown development with local Sinn Féin Councillors Niamh Whelan, Róisín Mannion and Louise Dunne after they were contacted by several failing applicants.

He explained: "People were eager and excited to get themselves onto a list to be in with a chance of being allocated one of the 184 units that became available this month and unfortunately, many were left bitterly disappointed to find out after submitting their applications that their wage was too low to qualify them for any of these properties, even though it was too high to qualify them for social housing through South Dublin County Council."

Council."

The high-quality development delivered through the LDA's Project Tosaigh initiative, in partnership with Stranwill Ltd, includes a mix of studios, 1 and 2-bed apartments.

It overlooks Cookstown Luas Stop on the Red Luas Line and is within walking distance of Tallaght University Hospital and The Square Shopping Centre, as well as being close to local amenities, shops and services.

Rent prices in the development were estimated to be at least 25% lower than comparable market rates. They are set at €1,000 for a studio apartment, €1,225 for a 1-bed and start at €1,425 for a 2-bed.

Deputy Crowe highlighted why these prices are still not suitable for many applicants: "The rent cannot be more than 35% of your net income so a single person looking for a studio apartment would need to be earning approximately €4,000 a year. For a one or two-bedroom apartment, they would have to be earning higher again.

"We had one constituent on an annual wage of €55,000 who did not qualify to rent a one-bedroom apartment because their earnings were just €600 per year short.

"We need to reexamine the thresholds for cost rental because we are creating a huge chasm between social housing and cost rental that is only going to catch more and more workers and families out and leave them once again excluded from schemes.



CRITICISM: Sean Crowe, TD with Cllrs Niamh Whelan, Róisín Mannion outside Cookstown Gateway

“People were eager and excited to get themselves onto a list to be in with a chance of being allocated

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AS PART of *The Echo* celebrating over 40 years, we're celebrating you, and local faces and places. Over the last four 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 Brittas resident Buddy Mansfield

Buddy Mansfield

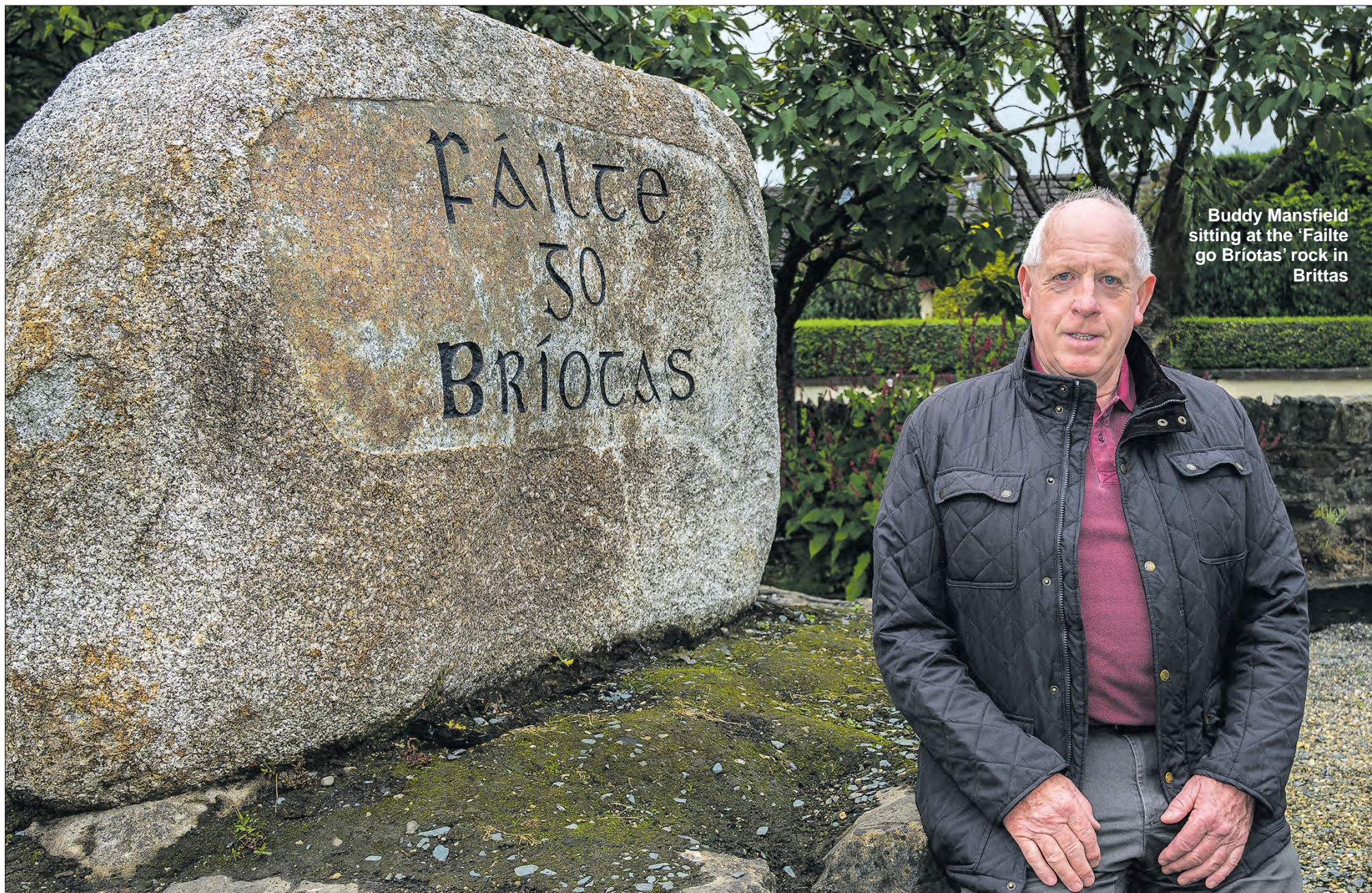
1916 - 2016

IN MEMORY OF  
ALL THOSE WHO DIED  
DURING THE EASTER RISING

*...To know they dreamed  
And are dead,  
And what if excess of love  
Bewildered them till they died?  
I write it out in a verse -  
MacDonagh and MacBride  
And Connolly and Pearse  
Now and in time to be,  
Wherever green is worn,  
Are changed, changed utterly;  
A terrible beauty is born.*

*Easter 1916 - W. Yeats*

***The Echo – celebrating  
community for 44 years***



Buddy Mansfield sitting at the 'Failte go Bríotas' rock in Brittas

**BUDDY** Mansfield of Brittas is one of those people who hold communities together.

A taxi driver and lifelong resident of the fine little village, Buddy has lived and worked in Brittas for his entire life. We got the chance to speak to him recently and he told us all about his life and the characters he's encountered along the way.

I had assumed Buddy was the only taxi driver in Brittas, but he quickly disavows me of that notion.

"There's actually four of us in the village," he says, "The other three are all from Galway, all related, and all called McDonagh. I'm glad to say we all get on very well and help each other out with work where needed."

A quick note, Buddy's real name is John, but he says if you ask around Brittas for a John Mansfield, nobody would have a clue who that might be. So Buddy it is.

On his early years, he tells me, "I was born in The Coombe and brought home to our two-roomed wooden house in Mount Seskin, which my father built. That was home until 1957 when the family moved to Brittas. I've been a proud member of the community ever since."

Speaking of which, Buddy has been involved in various community projects and initiatives over the years, but nowadays his activities are limited to the regular clean-ups he and his great friend Seamus Proctor carry out

around the village.

"I'm a bit past the committee stage myself, but we've got some great people working to improve the village these days. They're doing some excellent work," he tells me.

Buddy was quite the sportsman in his day. "I was okay," he offers modestly. "I played for Dublin Juniors and Minors and I was a Thomas Davis clubman for some years."

"When I finished playing, I became chairman of St Martin's GAA club here in Brittas. I was involved in the club for a great portion of its existence."

"The club was first formed in 1963 and they won the 'B' league in 1966. Tommy Reilly, Hughie Reilly and Johnny McDonagh would have been some of the men in charge in those early years. Unfortunately, some years later the club went into decline only to be resurrected in 1982."

"The well-known local property developer Jim Mansfield (no relation), donated the land for the pitch to the club and inaugurated the 'Jim Mansfield Cup.' Believe it or not, when the team played its first match, the same Jim Mansfield dropped the ball into centre field from his helicopter!"

The new incarnation of St Martin's went on to have a great, trophy-laden start but again, for a number of reasons, participation waned and the club folded again. Buddy is one of many people in the area who'd love to see them back in action.

During our chat, Buddy is at pains to mention the people of Brittas who have provided something to the community over the years.

"Another great thing we had for the kids was when Michael

O'Keeffe and his family started up the Cubs in the village. Later, people like Susan Fox, Sandra Mansfield, Gwen Fitzsimons and Ann Balfe got involved and it became a huge success."

"There were constant trips to Larch Hill, Inistiogue, Lough Dan, and various other camping and hiking hotspots around Ireland. The kids absolutely loved it."

In his professional life, Buddy never strayed too far from his beloved home.

"I was actually one of the first pupils of St Martin's National School when it opened in 1960. I have to admit though, school wasn't really for me and I had very little schooling really."

"When I left school, I became a barman at the Blue Gardenia and then I got a job at the poultry farm up the road. After that, my father passed and left me his truck, so I drove for many companies in the area."

"25 years ago I became a taxi driver and really I haven't looked back since. As you'd expect, I have a lot of regular local clients but I do a lot of runs to the airport for various businessmen in and around the area. I'm kept going, that's for sure."

Naturally enough, Buddy is extremely proud when he tells me about the family he and his wife Sandra ("a Kimmage girl") raised in Brittas. The couple have two sons, Robbie and John, and two girls, Linda and Debbie.

There is also a raft of very sporty and active grandchildren. Between them, they play hurling, camogie, soccer and just about every sport in between, martial arts and kayaking included.

Buddy is a natural storyteller and what he doesn't know about Brittas, really isn't worth knowing. We chat on and he tells me about all the local characters the village has had down the years.

There's Molly Connors, the Irish Dancing teacher and Joe Dowling, Brittas' archivist.

Then we get to Boysie Nolan, Paddy the Stick, the Lone Ranger Eustace. Also, we have 'The Singer' Brady, 'Sangster' Gibbons and 'The Derby Keogh.' Buddy knew them all and keeps their memories alive with great pride and pleasure.

He speaks wistfully about his younger days, swimming in Brittas Pond and picking mushrooms for pocket money.

Before we get too misty-eyed, I ask Buddy about his hopes for the future of the village that made him.

"I'd really love it to retain its 'old village' character whilst attracting some new blood hopefully too."

So for now, we thank Buddy for his insights into one of the less visited corners of the *Echo* Empire. He's been a great guide and as he tells me, he'll play his part in making the future of Brittas as bright and charming as its past.

"We'll do our best," he says. "Sure we don't always get it right, but we keep trying."

“Another great thing we had for the kids was when Michael O’Keeffe and his family started up the Cubs in the village. Later, people like Susan Fox, Sandra Mansfield, Gwen Fitzsimons and Ann Balfe got involved and it became a huge success.



# 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

## Total number of journalists killed by Israeli forces in the past year has amounted to 170

Dear Editor,

RECENTLY another journalist was killed by the Israel Defense Forces while working near the Mustafa Hafez School.

The school was the scene of a slaughter by the IDF in which 12

were killed last week.

The journalist Hamza Murtaja's name is famous as he is the brother of Yaser Murtaja, the first journalist killed by Israeli forces during the Great March of Return in 2018.

Yaser was shot by a sniper while covering the peaceful protests near

the border with the occupied territories.

He was shot in the abdomen while wearing a vest clearly marked "Press." The year 2018 was famous for the sheer number of civilians killed and maimed by snipers during these demonstrations.

As usual, there was little reaction to the killings by the Western powers supporting Israel. With Hamza's death, the total number of journalists killed by Israeli forces since October 7 of last year has risen to 170, marking the deadliest toll in modern warfare for journalists.

Hardly any Western media have commented on such a large-scale death rate among its fellow journalists.

Yours sincerely,  
Paul Doran,  
Clondalkin.

## Street art celebrating Rhasidat Adeleke

Dear Editor,

A MURAL of Olympian Rhasidat Adeleke – one of dozens of such murals beautifying Waterford city, inspiring creativity and wonder – has been made public on Jenkins Lane, in Waterford Street street art festival.

The large-scale works in the arts festival range from abstract art to depictions of mythology, together with freestyle graffiti to 'hyper-realistic portraits' of celebrities.

Rhasidat Adeleke (21), from Tallaght, narrowly missed out on the medals podium in her two events, the women's 400m and the 4 X 400 relay.

The athlete came fourth in the individual event while the Irish quartet came close to bronze in the team event; breaking a national record in the process.

The Adeleke tribute on Jenkins Lane was created by Graffiti/Muralist, JEKS; a pioneering member of North Carolina's burgeoning street-art scene. Starting off as a graffiti artist in the mid 1990s, JEKS's penchant for the aerosol medium has evolved into a self-learning mastery of the spray-can.

An accomplished muralist, JEKS's portraits of artists and pop culture icons have adorned cultural landmarks. The mural was created during Waterford Walls, Ireland's largest international street art festival in Waterford. The Walls Project in a social media post, mused: "How lucky are we to have such amazing talent here in Ireland?"

As Tallaght's first-ever female Olympic sprint finalist, she is emblematic of what's awesome; exemplifying athletic ability, and success at the highest level and diversity. Congratulations to RTE on its excellent and authoritative coverage of Olympian, Rhasidat Adeleke.

Yours sincerely,  
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh.



TOP CLASS: A mural of athlete Rhasidat Adeleke by street artist JEKS on Jenkins Lane, Waterford city

## Pride in those who took part in Relay for Life

Dear Editor,

EVERYONE in our community knows of someone who has died, is fighting or survived cancer.

The Relay for Life South Dublin raised €20,205 for supports in our community for cancer.

This is due to the huge efforts of a committee who put dedication and work into raising these much-needed funds.

This is highly commendable, but equally important is they gave us a beautiful event and space to remember all our loved ones.

This is invaluable to all of us who mourn loss and crave hope.

I wanted to publicly thank each and every person involved in Relay for Life 2024 and tell them how proud we are of them to give up their time to host such an important and special event.

I look forward with Hope to the Relay for Life 2025.

Yours sincerely,  
Cllr Francis Timmons,  
Clondalkin.

## Remembering Nell – one of the great feminist champions of liberalisation

Dear Editor,

RENOWNED journalist, feminist, activist and 'mould-breaker' Nell McCafferty, co-founder of the Irish Women's Liberation Movement (IWLM), who passed away in Beech Hill Care Nursing Home, Fahan, Co. Donegal, aged 80, blazed a trail for feminists.

Born in Beechwood Street, Derry in 1944 to Hugh and Lily McCafferty, she was admitted to Queens University in Belfast where she became enmeshed in civil rights politics. She wrote for

The Irish Times, Hot Press and the defunct Sunday Tribune.

Her authored books include: A Woman to Blame, describing how an all-male tribunal sat in judgement on Joanne Hayes in patriarchal Ireland of the 1980s.

Her 1980 polemic, Armagh is a feminist Issue; featured women republican prisoners on hunger strike in Armagh jail; Peggy Deery: A Derry Family at War; her own autobiography, and 'Goodnight, Sisters' – Selected Writings of Nell McCafferty.

She was in a failed love affair with fellow author Nuala O'Faolain, who died in 2008, but their affection never failed.

Campaigning to legalise contraceptives in the 1970s, she famously participated in the Contraceptive Train in 1971 when members of the IWLM journeyed across the border to Belfast, brandishing hundreds of banned contraceptive pills. The pills were in fact aspirin.

The IWLM group arrived at a pharmacy in Belfast not knowing they needed a prescription. They took the fake contraceptive products to

Dublin's Connolly station where a protest was staged.

As TV appearances ended, she signed off with her tagline: 'Goodnight, Sisters' – also the title of two volumes of her writings.

She was one of the great feminist heroes of Ireland's liberalisation. Nell McCafferty born: March 28, 1944, died: August 21, 2024.

Yours sincerely,  
Gerry Coughlan,  
Kilnamanagh.

# All things Mexican at the National Ploughing c'ships

## Garnacha introduces authentic handcrafted Mexican salsas to the Irish market

ONE OF South Dublin's best small businesses will get a chance to exhibit their business to almost 300,000 people at the National Ploughing Championships in Ratheniska, Co Laois next month as part of the Local Enterprise Village.

Garnacha who are supported by Local Enterprise Office South Dublin has introduced the first-of-its-kind authentic Mexican salsas to the market.

Their handcrafted salsas, meticulously produced in small batches, represent a fusion of tradition and innovation, utilising whole ingredients and time-honoured techniques to deliver an unparalleled culinary experience.

The Local Enterprise Village, an initiative of the Local Enterprise Offices, will house over 30 small businesses and will be located at the heart of this year's National Ploughing Championships from September 17-19.

With some of the biggest companies in Ireland taking up residence at the Ploughing every year, the Local Enterprise Village continues to be a popular destination on the site for those looking to pick up something unique to bring home from some of the best small businesses in Ireland.

Andrew Brady and Andrea Bustos of Garnacha said: "We're delighted to share that Garnacha will be at the

Ploughing Championship this year! It's a wonderful opportunity for us to bring the true taste of Mexico to you. We warmly invite you to visit us and experience the beauty and complexity of authentic Mexican salsas—our culinary treasures that capture the essence of Mexican cuisine. We look forward to seeing you there and sharing a moment of delicious discovery together."

A selection of businesses from across the country helped launch the Local Enterprise Village for 2024 at Airfield Estate in Dublin. These included Leah Cleary of Fore Distillery (supported by LEO Westmeath), Dublin fashion designer Jennifer Rothwell (supported by LEO Dublin City), Anouk O'Connell of natural wool company Olanmor (supported by LEO Wicklow), Aymar Gourdet of Le Skinny Chef (supported by LEO Laois), Joanne Doyle of Enchanted Castle Melts (supported by LEO Carlow), Aoife Potie of Nuasan (supported by LEO Galway) and Mildred Tang of canvas tote company Chic Tote (supported by LEO Dun Laoghaire Rathdown).

Peter Connolly – Senior Enterprise Development Officer said "This is an opportunity like no other for a small business in Ireland. The chance to bring their ideas and products to almost 300,000 potential customers is a showcase like no other. The Local

**AUTHENTIC:** Andrew Brady and Andrea Bustos of Garnacha



Enterprise Village has become one of those areas everyone wants to drop into to find their local business and see what they can pick up.

There is a huge variety of businesses highlighting the depth of sectors that the Local Enterprise

Offices support from manufacturing to food and beverage, to software solutions. Whatever you are interested in there is something for everyone at the Local Enterprise Village."

Some of the clients involved this year cover areas such as children's

clothing and games, agtech products, luxury bathing and skincare products, artisan food and drink producers, sustainable clothing and beauty products and a range of innovative products from Ireland's best small businesses.

**“It's a wonderful opportunity for us to bring the true taste of Mexico to you. We warmly invite you to visit us and experience the beauty and complexity of authentic Mexican salsas**

## C & C intend to return €150m to shareholders

BULMERS maker C&C remains confident of achieving its earnings expectations for the full year despite a challenging period for the group, reports Maurice Garvey.

Headquartered in Bulmers House, Crumlin, the group previously announced that it intends to return at least €150m to shareholders over the next three financial years ending in February 2025, 2026 and 2027.

This will be carried out through a mix of share buybacks, dividends and special dividends depending on prevailing circumstances.

C&C commenced a €15m share buyback programme on 1 March 2024 which has been completed.

The group said it will begin the second tranche shortly.

"Subject to shareholder approval today, the directors have also proposed a final dividend of 3.97 cent per share," C&C said.

"An interim dividend of 1.89 cent per share was paid in December, making a full year dividend of 5.86 cent per share."

This week the group announced that IDA Ireland chairman Feargal O'Rourke will join the Board as an independent, non-executive director and also become a member of the Audit Committee.

This is separate from the group's recent engagement with Engine Capital.

In June, activist investor

Engine Capital, which owns just under 5 per cent of C&C Group, called for a sale of the business.

In a public letter to the group's board, US-based Engine Capital called on the Bulmers maker to explore "strategic alternatives" for the company, describing C&C Group as a "perennial underperformer."

The company reported a pre-tax loss of €111m for the year to the end of February, plunging from a profit of €52m the prior year.

Back in June, previous C&C chief executive officer Patrick McMahon stepped down from his role with immediate effect following accounting errors at the company.



**CONFIDENT:** Bulmers had a challenging period

# Pure Telecom researchers find lengthy voice notes ‘unacceptable’

Many people confess that they often forget what was said in a long recording

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

THE vast majority of people find voice notes over a minute long to be “unacceptable.”

This is according to research by Citywest company Pure Telecom, which found that 75 per cent of the population think that sending voice notes exceeding a minute’s duration is unacceptable.

The research also found that adults in Ireland are prolific users of voice notes, with 54 per cent saying they send them at least once a week and a chatty 23 per cent send them at least once a day.

Broadband and telecoms provider Pure Telecom’s annual Connected Lives survey, is a nationally representative survey of 1,006 adults in Ireland, conducted by Censuswise.

The research found that voice notes are still popular with many, as 77 per cent of adults have recorded and sent at least one in the last 12 months while a third of the population report that they are the primary way in which they communicate with friends.

However, the research found that just 11 per cent

of men will tolerate a voice note that goes beyond one minute in length, compared to 21 per cent of women.

Almost all adults consider voice notes of longer than three minutes unacceptable.

The research found that the public is divided in their overall opinion of the voice notes, with less than half saying they actually like receiving them, while nearly a quarter admit to being irritated when they see that they have received a voice note.

More than half confessed that they often forget what was said in a lengthy recording, while 46 per cent said that they often forget what they, themselves, have said in their voice notes.

Paul Connell, CEO, Pure Telecom, said: “The way in which we communicate and connect with each other is always changing and evolving and it is clear that voice notes are a growing, if divisive, medium. By providing our nationwide customers with the best quality broadband available in their location, Pure Telecom’s network is here to help people to connect and stay in touch with each other. However, while our network won’t be the cause of cutting a rambling voice note short, we can’t always say the same for the recipients!”

**VOICE NOTES:**  
**Paul Connell, CEO**  
**of Pure Telecom**



“... is always changing and evolving and it is clear that voice notes are a growing, if divisive, medium

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## Bristow Ireland get approval for helicopter maintenance at Weston Airport

**TOP MARKS:**  
Bristow delighted with approval



BRISTOW Ireland Limited, a subsidiary of Bristow Group, has achieved a major milestone this week as the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA) granted Part 145 approval to the base at Weston Airport, reports Maurice Garvey.

According to a statement by the company, the accreditation confirms that the team and the facility meet or exceed all the standards for maintenance, repairs and inspections for the AW189 helicopter, which will be phased in to deliver lifesaving search and rescue operations under the new contract for the Irish Coast Guard.

It gives the Bristow Ireland engineers at Weston Airport the authority to carry

out critical engineering and maintenance operations. They are cleared to complete all the essential tasks which will keep the new helicopter fleet flying safe, day and night, as the transition period begins.

The accreditation not only covers line maintenance – when helicopters are inspected and routine maintenance is carried out on a daily basis – it also covers base maintenance, when aircraft undergo much deeper and more significant scheduled work.

Bristow Ireland say this means they can carry out major repairs and modifications at the Weston base.

Bristow Ireland Director, Philip Bartlett, said: “This is a significant moment in our

support for the future of search and rescue in Ireland.

“It falls right on schedule as we look towards phasing in new bases, new aircraft and new technology over the managed transition period. Huge credit to the team and thanks too to the Irish Aviation Authority for their continued and ongoing support.”

Recently, Bristow Ireland received planning permission for a new building at Weston Airport as part of its transition of all search and rescue (SAR) operations.

All heavy maintenance requirements for the fleet of six Leonardo AW189 Irish Coast Guard helicopters will be carried out in the new facility.

# Woofing Oven's gourmet dog treats hits the spot

Bakery catering to homemade celebration treats for dogs sees expansion in the future

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

A HOBBY that quickly grew into a passion, led to the formation of a start-up business that is thriving.

Georgia González baked a cake for her dog's birthday two years ago and this simple task was the catalyst for her business idea – a bakery dedicated to crafting gourmet dog treats.

"Seeing the joy and the love she received that day inspired me to create homemade celebration treats for dogs," said Georgia.

Fusing a love for dogs and baking, the Woofing Oven was established in October 2022.

"At the beginning, we operated as a home-run bakery dedicated to crafting gourmet dog treats. Since February 2024, we moved our production to ACE Enterprise Park in Clondalkin, keeping our commitment to South Dublin local produce," said Georgia, who is originally from Venezuela and has been living in Ireland since 2012.

Since launching, the business has been steadily growing.

"I began selling treats at farmer markets while working an office job. However, when my job required me to return to the office full-time, I chose to fully commit to The Woofing Oven. Now, we're focused on becoming Dublin's premier dog bakery, offering 100 per cent natural, locally sourced treats."

Georgia acknowledges support she has received along the way from South Dublin Local Enterprise Office (LEO), which has led to her inclusion in the SuperValu Food Academy.

"It is hard work and a long process but the support from the Food Academy and LEO South Dublin has been invaluable. They've guided me through the process of refining our products to meet retail standards, which has been crucial for our growth. Their mentorship and resources have helped shape The Woofing Oven into a professional and thriving business."

Looking ahead, Georgia is excited to expand the business in Dublin and beyond.

"My goal is to see The Woofing Oven's treats in stores across the city, continuing to strengthen the bond between dogs and their owners through our products."

**"I began selling treats at farmer markets while working an office job. However, when my job required me to return to the office full-time, I chose to fully commit to The Woofing Oven. Now, we're focused on becoming Dublin's premier dog bakery"**



**PASSION:** Georgia González from The Woofing Oven

## Budget 2025 prompts call for State to recognise global impact on Ireland

AS BUDGET 2025 approaches, ISME (Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Association) has called on the Government to recognise the global economic landscape's potential impact on Ireland's financial health, and ensure a robust focus on indigenous industrial policy. ISME has also called for a shift away from the State's over-reliance on corporation tax contributions.

Recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics has highlighted a significant softening in the U.S. labour market, with 818,000 fewer jobs added than previously estimated between March 2023 and March 2024, suggesting that the era of continuous strong US growth may be ending.

Coupled with the upcoming U.S. presidential election, where candidates are proposing significant changes to U.S. corporation tax, there is a looming uncertainty over future Irish corporation tax revenues.

Neil McDonnell, CEO, ISME, said: "The implications of these potential changes cannot be

**CALL OUT: Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Association calls for a shift away from over-reliance on corporation tax**



understated. As recently cautioned by the Taoiseach's economic adviser, Stephen Kinsella, the exit of even one large U.S. multinational could have a profound impact on the Exchequer's corporation tax yield, not to mention the significant

payroll contributions these companies make.

"This global uncertainty underlines the necessity of a stronger emphasis on indigenous enterprise policy in Ireland. ISME's pre-budget submission for 2025 places significant emphasis

on this area, advocating for a shift away from the over-reliance on multinational tax contributions."

Ireland's current tax policy and regulatory framework disproportionately favour the 886 companies that employ over 250 people, despite SMEs accounting for 389,000 of the 390,000 active enterprises in the country.

"This approach leaves Ireland vulnerable to external shocks.

Neil McDonnell went on to say: "The €250 million seed and venture capital scheme announced by the Department of Enterprise and Enterprise Ireland this month for high-growth firms is welcome news, but we need to go far further to support indigenous business. Considering that the State supported Intel to the tune of €32.5 million in 2023, we need a real focus on how we can support our local businesses in achieving scale and resilience.

"The elimination of the illogical and ill-considered proposal to apply a CGT liability to the transfer of family businesses worth more than €10m would be a good place to start in Budget 2025."

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# Rents rise again by 2 per cent – marking the 14th rise in a row

Average rent was almost €2,000 per month, up 41 per cent higher than before Covid

MARKET rents rose by an average of 2 per cent in the second quarter of 2024, according to the latest Rental Report by Daft.ie.

This marks the 14th consecutive quarter in which rents nationwide have increased and the 45th time in the last 48 quarters.

The average open-market rent nationwide in the second quarter of the year was €1,922 per month, up 7.3 per cent year-on-year and 41 per cent higher than before the outbreak of Covid-19.

Inflation in market rents remains significantly lower in Dublin than elsewhere in the country.

In the capital, rents in the second quarter of the year were 3.5 per cent higher than a year earlier, while elsewhere in the country, they were on average 10.6 per cent higher.

Market rents rose particularly sharply in Limerick city (up 21 per cent year-on-year) but the three other cities also saw double-digit increases, ranging from 13 per cent in Galway to 10 per cent in Waterford.

Outside the cities, the rate of increase was similar, on average, between 9.3 per cent in Munster and 10.5 per cent in Connacht-Ulster.

As has consistently been the case in recent years, availability on the rental

market remains extremely tight.

On August 1, there were just over 2,200 homes available to rent across the country, effectively unchanged on the same date a year previously and half the 2015-2019 average of 4,400.

Commenting on the report, Ronan Lyons, Associate Professor in Economics at Trinity College Dublin and author of the Daft.ie Report, said:

“Between mid-2022 and mid-2023, a slow-down in inflation in open-market rents occurred, driven by Dublin and in particular by the construction of significant numbers of new rental homes in the Dublin area.

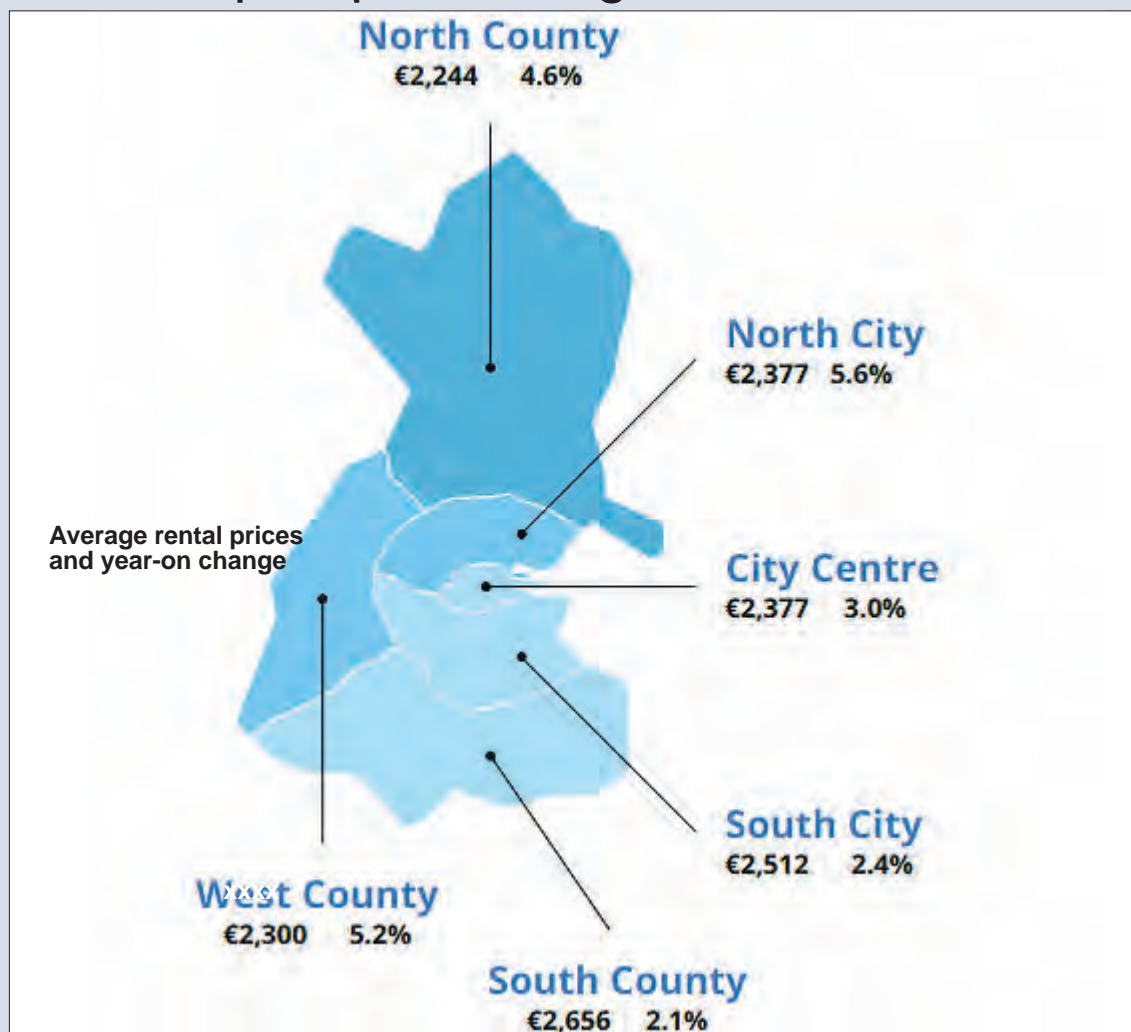
“However, as seen by very rates of inflation in market rents in the other cities, this was limited to the capital, where new supply was concentrated.

This most recent reports suggests that, even in Dublin, improvement in the availability of rental homes is stalling.

Without new rental supply, it is likely that future pressure on rents will be upward, further straining affordability for those on regular incomes.

“It remains incumbent on policymakers to first develop a thorough understanding of rental supply dynamics and second devise a detailed plan on dramatically increasing rental supply, in all major rental markets, over the coming years.”

“Between mid-2022 and mid-2023, a slow-down in inflation in open-market rents occurred, driven by Dublin and in particular by the construction of significant numbers of new rental homes in the Dublin area



## Dubs captain opens Lidl Newcastle store

DUBLIN LADIES Gaelic Football Captain Carla Rowe was the guest of honour to cut the ribbon and officially open Lidl Ireland's brand-new store on Main Street Upper in Newcastle.

Crowds gathered early to be amongst the first shoppers across the door to enjoy opening day entertainment and exclusive in-store offers.

The highly anticipated new store offers customers a premium shopping experience, with a modern fit-out including high ceilings, wide aisles, and a large sales floor.

The first ten shoppers through the doors received complimentary vouchers to shop Lidl's renowned range of high-quality products at market-leading value, and huge savings on middle-aisle favourites.

To mark the opening, the store team in Newcastle welcomed John Kinsella from neighbouring St Finian's Community Hall to accept a donation of €1,000 in Lidl vouchers. The volunteer-led group run the local facility for the benefit of the whole community, providing a welcoming space for everyone to socialise and avail of support.

Speaking at the opening of the store, Lidl Newcastle Store Manager Dawn Hayden said: “We've been looking forward to finally opening

the doors of our brand new, state-of-the-art store here in Newcastle. I'm thrilled to see customers out in force today and to feel the hugely warm welcome from everyone. Newcastle is a booming community, and this new store opening has been highly anticipated by local residents. So, we're delighted to welcome everyone to enjoy this unrivalled shopping experience with Ireland's best value discount retailer.

With this new store opening, we have a brand-new team of 30 colleagues, and it's been a very proud moment for us as we've worked hard behind the scenes to get the store ready. It's great to see the team's hard work pay off with a successful opening today. Many thanks to Carla Rowe for supporting us today and giving us that star power!”

LGFA legend and Dublin captain Carla Rowe, said:

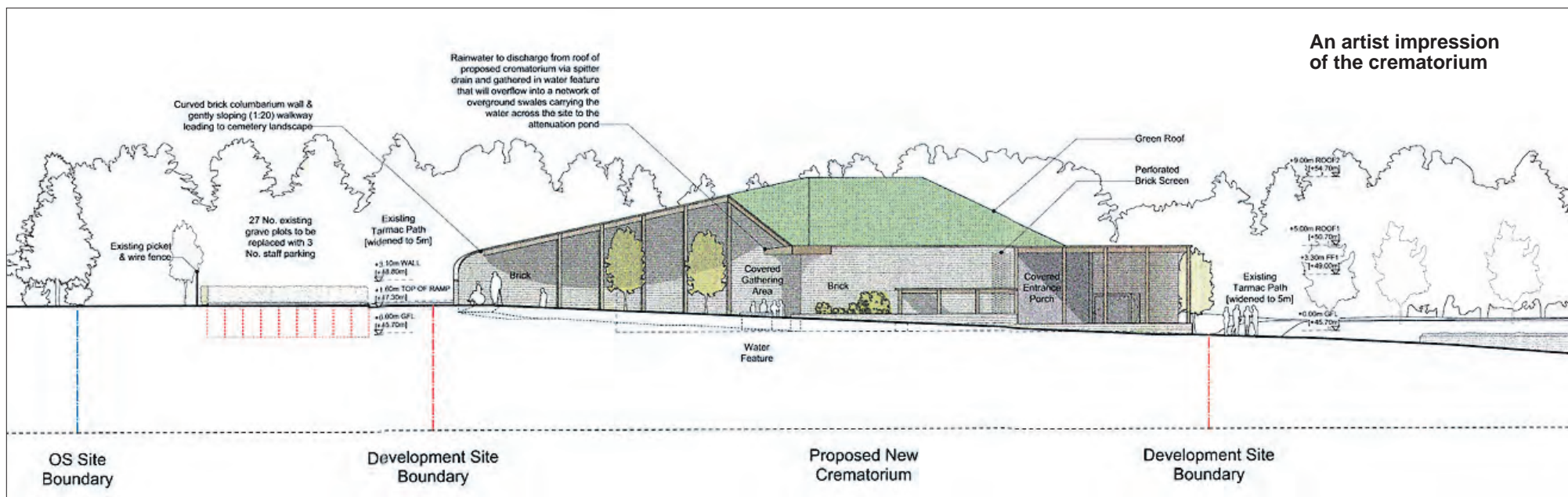
“The atmosphere here at the opening of Lidl Newcastle has been fantastic, it's great to see local shoppers out enjoying the new store and snapping up those opening day bargains. Newcastle is really thriving at the moment, so the new Lidl store is a significant addition to the town and a great place to shop. I'd encourage everyone to come down and check out the store.”



FANTASTIC: Carla Rowe and Dawn Hayden open Lidl's state-of-the-art Newcastle store

# Opposition to plans for new crematorium at Esker Lawn

Already there have been 51 appeals to An Bord Pleanála against Sth Dublin County Council's decision



An artist impression of the crematorium

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

FIFTY-ONE appeals have been lodged with An Bord Pleanála against South Dublin County Council's decision to grant permission for a new crematorium within the grounds of Esker Lawn Cemetery.

Applicant Esker Lawn Cemetery

Limited lodged plans with the local authority for the construction of a new 485 m2 crematorium within the grounds of Esker Lawn Cemetery.

The development also consisted of a congregation space, one electric cremator and associated plant and services spaces, and the provision of visitor toilets, and ESB substation.

However, 51 third-party appeals were lodged since the council's decision was made on July 15 with locals, including Cherbury Park Residents Association,

Cllr Vicki Casserly and Emer Higgins, TD raising their concerns.

Also included in the plans were the provision of new car-parking area and minor adjustments to existing parking, resulting the net addition of two parking spaces; amendments to existing site landscaping involving removal and reduction of existing hard surfaces and roadway surfaces and all associated works.

Proposals allowed for the construction of new landscaping works

including a contemplation pond, water feature, planted landscape berms and swale drains at the building perimeter and at the adjacent area designated for grave spaces under SD10A/0331 as part of a combined suds drainage and biodiverse planting strategy; temporary access for construction traffic to be provided from the eastern boundary, and the existing boundary treatment reinstated post construction.

Some of the points made by locals, included the applicant, does not satisfy

the conditions in South Dublin 2022-2028 County Development Plan Written Statement for the consideration of crematoria; the applicant has not demonstrated a need or demand for the development of a crematorium; the proposed crematorium would adversely impact on the amenity of adjacent existing residents, traffic issues and the Lack of clarity in the Grant of Planning Permission in relation to the permitted operational hours of the Cremator Plant.

## Go-ahead given at Old Orchard Inn site for pizza restaurant offering takeaways

RETENTION permission has been granted to the Old Orchard Inn pub in Rathfarnham for a single-storey structure to function as a pizza restaurant offering takeaway, collection and delivery, reports Aideen O'Flaherty.

The structure is single-storey and timber-constructed with a flat roof to operate as a standalone premises.

It is built over a parking island at the loss of nine car-parking spaces, reducing the available parking from 140 to 131.

The drainage arrangements are to tap into the existing private Old Orchard pub drainage, and rainwater will be allowed to fall onto the car park where the private road gully will pick it up.

A new stepped and ramped pedestrian access will be provided for customers and delivery drivers to access the collection/delivery waiting area.

A cover letter lodged by planning consultancy Architectural Construction Technology on behalf of the Old



**SUITABLE:** The Old Orchard pub site is well able to accommodate extra traffic

Orchard Inn outlines why they believe the site is suitable for the restaurant.

"The overall property is well-suited to such a use and can easily accommodate the retention of the restaurant," wrote the consultancy firm.

"The site is well able to accommodate any additional traffic due to the arrival of the restaurant as the use of personal cars for visiting pubs has declined considerably in recent years.

"The existing car-parking is

never full and is well able to accommodate the circulatory movement of the restaurant customers and delivery drivers."

South Dublin County Council granted retention permission for the structure on August 7 for a period of five years.

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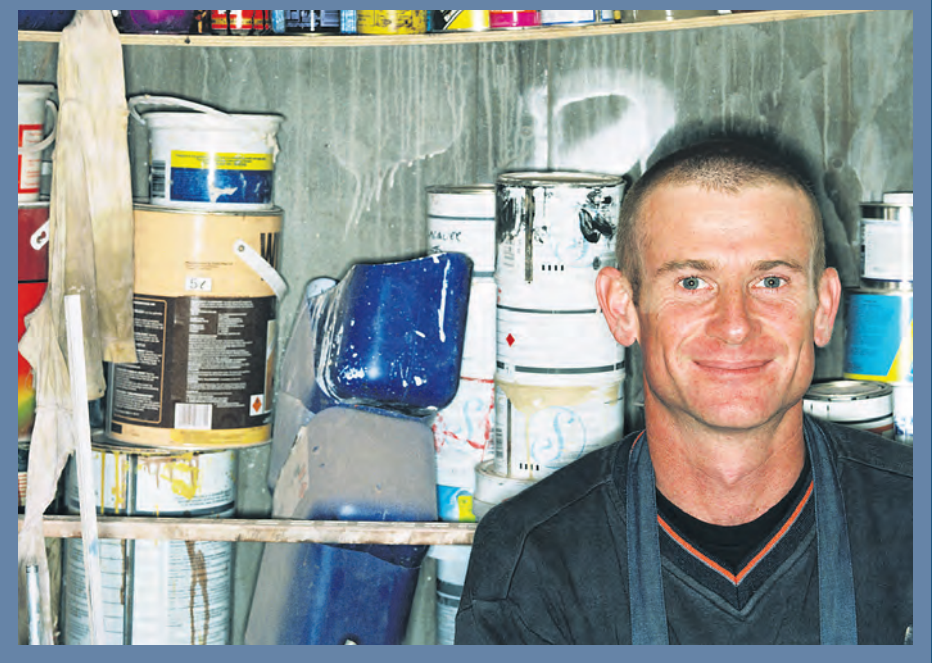


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**Letter of Application, with CV and two recent references  
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Dated: the 7 day of August, 2024.

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All persons; men or women having any claim in respect thereof by way of sale; exchange; gift; mortgage; charge; trust; inheritance; possession ; lease; lien or otherwise howsoever are requested to inform the same in writing to the under autograph having there office at, **Two B Glenfield Park Clondalkin Dublin**; within fourteen days from the date hereof failing which; the claim or claims if any of such persons; man or women; will be considered to have being waived and or abandoned and this transfer shall be lawfully complete;

Schedule Above Referred To:

Property Legally Once Known As: **Nine Glenfield Drive; Clondalkin; Dublin; a plot of ground being part of Clondalkin; Dublin; Containing two bedroom semi detached house; containing front and back gardens and Nine A out building; folio number: DN22060F.**  
Private Property now Lawfully Known As: **A-j T-r House Estate; Nine Glenfield Drive Clondalkin Dublin.**

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# Life & Social

The Echo - dedicated to having the conversation about local arts and entertainment. Tell us your story.  
tel: 01 4685350 email: news@echo.ie

## Evening of contemporary music

### COLM GAVIN TO PERFORM IN CONCERT IN ÁRAS CHRÓNÁIN

By Ryan Butler  
news@echo.ie

COLM Gavin, a well-known singer-songwriter from Clondalkin, will perform as part of an evening of contemporary Irish music that Aras Chrónáin.

Gavin recently performed two sold-out benefit concerts in New York City at the prestigious Joanne's on West 68th Street, a venue run by Lady Gaga's father, Joe Germanotta.

Gavin curated and performed at both concerts, which were in aid of the Lupus Research Alliance, the illness that Lady Gaga's aunt Joanne passed away from in December 1974, and for whom the venue is named.

Colm Gavin's brand new album 'Diggin' the Idleflower', his fourth official release with Beo Records, was launched in Whelan's in May this year. "There's flavours of jazz, ragtime, & folk all the way through this record," according to Colm from a previous interview with *The Echo*; "that's a degree of freedom I wouldn't have if this was released with a major label." He has Aidan Duffy to thank for helping him to produce the album, describing him as a "master" who "treats the process of recording like butterfly catching; swing your net and watch your aim; keep quiet for the big ones; and try to stand left of the process wherever possible."

'Song for Sam', one of the tracks from the new record, has spent the better part of a month on the RTE Radio 1 Recommends list. He is fresh off the heels of a UK/US/IRL tour, becoming one of the most celebrated artists on the Irish music circuit today.

This tour saw him return home to bring his own unique blend of witty onstage banter and sensitive compositions to venues in Galway, Clare, Connemara, Armagh, Belfast, and Dublin.

New York City-based performer Madelyn Monaghan's adaptation of Irish folkloric ballads and astute musicianship have earned her an international following. She states when asked about the evening, "It'll be a special evening of traditional and contemporary Irish music."

Caitríona Sherlock is a member of Systir (formerly Anúna). Caitríona's angelic vocal prowess and melodic proclivity shine through in her captivating stage performances & musical arrangements. Caitríona exclaims, "I have been looking forward to this concert!"

This week, we sat down with Colm to discuss the show, which takes place on September 1 at 8:30 in Watery Lane in Clondalkin for 10 euros per ticket, available through Eventbrite.

**How did this concert come about?**

Madelyn & I performed together at Joanne's on West 68th Street in New York City back in

May. Joanne's is a venue that's owned and operated by Lady Gaga's father, Joe Germanotta. I've always been a great fan of Caitríona's work and this September we've all found ourselves in one place at the same time. All three of us are full-time performers whose schedules, more often than not, clash. Sharing the stage together is something we've all wanted to do for a long time, and I'm glad we could make it happen.

**How long has it been in the works?**

As I mentioned, it was good fortune that placed us all in the same country at the same time. As a touring musician, you know your schedule sometimes up to a year in advance and can't always make the dots line up. The stars aligned this time. Caitríona is an erstwhile member of Anúna & Systir; audiences on these shores might know her from working with those groups. Madelyn has earned herself an international following through her TikTok and Instagram posts of Irish spoken vocal interpretations.

**Have there been any highlights or challenges in the run-up to it?**

This is a fickle business; one day you're playing a sell-out show, and the next you're frantically promoting a concert to sell tickets. Getting the word out is the hardest part, but I've no doubt this will be a gig to remember, so to whomever might read this, mark the date and join us on September 1st

**Is it fun working with Madelyn and Caitríona? Can we expect any future collaborations?**

Both are consummate professionals, I've never had the good fortune to work with Caitríona, but I've long been a great admirer of her work. I'd love to record something with the three of us; maybe the opportunity will present itself.

**What's next for you after this?**

I've just finished a string of shows in the USA & UK, and I'm back out on the road with D. Cullen for a series of shows in the autumn and winter. We'll be playing in Armagh, Donegal, and hopefully a big

hometown show before Christmas.  
**Who would you like to thank for putting all of this together?**

Madelyn & Caitríona have invested so much time and energy into making this event happen, and I'm just delighted to be a part of it.

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# Heritage Week

## CELEBRATION IN CAFE AON SCEAL IN TALLAGHT VILLAGE

Photos by Paddy Barrett

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Gavin Clare with Stephen, Luca and Darragh



Tom Leigh, Seos Ó Colla, Amber LeBryn, Gavin Clare and Gaelan Miller



Colm and Fidelma Byrne



David and Marie Smith



Rosaleen Dwyer and Anne Hanrahan



Zachane and Sydney



Michelle and Dara Corcoran



Canon William and Val Deverell

# Exhilarating season of events

## CIVIC THEATRE HAS A BUSY FEW MONTHS AHEAD

By **Ryan Butler**  
news@echo.ie

THIS season, the Civic is proud to host five world premieres. Four of these new works are featured as part of the prestigious Dublin Fringe and Dublin Theatre Festival. These premieres showcase the cutting edge of contemporary theatre, featuring bold, innovative voices and stories that reflect the vibrant cultural landscape of Dublin.

Each show will be complemented with post-show discussion and offer a mix of matinée and lunchtime theatre.

The five exciting world premieres are 'The Man Who Talks To Statues,' written by and starring Shane Casey; 'The 3:30 at Cheltenham,' written by and starring young Tallaght playwright Kenneth Hudson and supported by Gambling Aware and 'Dream Factory,' a musical theatre, dance, and circus spectacle for the whole family and presented by Britain's Got Talent stars Lords of Strut.

Other shows getting to grace the stage for the first time ever in the Civic include 'Home, Boys, Home' written by Dermot Bolger and delving into themes around race and identity in a new Ireland; and 'Sandpaper on Sunburn' written and directed by David Horan.

These five shows will premiere one after the other over the next six weeks; get your tickets now and don't miss out on what is sure to be an exciting season for the Civic!

"We are thrilled at The Civic to announce an exhilarating season of events! As we look ahead to the final months of 2024, we're thrilled to present a dynamic and diverse lineup of performances, premieres, and community programmes that promise to engage, entertain, and inspire. There truly is something for everyone.

This season, we are proud to host five world premieres of new works as part of the prestigious Dublin Fringe and Dublin Theatre

Festival. These premieres showcase the cutting edge of contemporary theatre, featuring bold, innovative voices and stories that reflect the vibrant cultural landscape of Dublin.

The Civic Theatre is proud to announce our participation in Black History Month in October. This will be a yearly commitment to celebrating the rich history, culture, and contributions of the black community, starting with a reading of the award-winning play 'The Mountaintop' by Katori Hall. For families and young audiences, our very own productions of 'Hansel, Gretel & The Witch' will enchant audiences this Halloween with a spooky yet heartwarming retelling of the classic fairy tale. In December, the magic continues with our annual pantomime, 'Tickles and the Beanstalk', a festive extravaganza filled with laughter, music, and holiday cheer! We are delighted to announce the return of the award-winning 'No Magic Pill' by Christian O'Reilly in November. This heartfelt and hilarious story of Martin Naughton, a leader of the disability rights movement in Ireland, breaks new ground in Irish theatre with its authentic casting of disabled actors, providing a powerful and poignant experience for all. Our education program continues to flourish, expanding its reach into all local primary and secondary schools with a variety of creative and innovative initiatives. These programs are designed to nurture the next generation of theatre enthusiasts and practitioners, fostering a love for the arts within our community.

Last year was the busiest year on record for The Civic Theatre, and with your support, we aim to make 2024 another landmark year. Join us in celebrating the arts, supporting local talent, and making this season unforgettable for everyone involved. We look forward to seeing you at The Civic Theatre Tallaght for an extraordinary season of performances and events." Niamh Honer, Civic Theatre.



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# Tattoo Day

## FUNDRAISER IN KINGSWOOD COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR FÉILEACÁIN

Photos by Paddy Barrett

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Jenny, Sinead, Leanne, Jenny, Yvonne and Doireann



Billy, James and Matthew



Natasha, Shauna and Callie



Lorraine and Danielle Reilly



Jenny Lawrence and Dano



Ciara and Natalie



Nadine and Nicole



Audrey and Lennon

# Band In The Park

## ONE OF THE SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS FOR LUCAN CONCERT BAND

By **Ryan Butler**  
news@echo.ie

ONE of the highlights of the summer season for Lucan Concert Band are the 'Band in the Park' gigs held on the bandstand in the grounds of Farnleigh House. These events are organised by the Office of Public Works (OPW) throughout the summer, each Sunday from June to September. Local bands are invited to participate on selected dates, and it is very popular with visitors to this fabulous location.

On the first Sunday of each month, there is also a farmers market, which adds to the attraction.

Lucan Concert Band performed here on July 28, which coincided with a perfect summer day with beautiful sunshine and a large crowd of visitors.

Many of the audience members were able to be seated in front of the bandstand, and the remainder reclined on the lawn. The band played a varied

repertoire of popular classics, movie themes, musicals, etc., which entertained the crowd for 2 hours with loud applause.

The band enjoyed the event immensely, and "we were so grateful to members who played with a number and also brought along their families for the occasion," according to spokesperson Frank.

They would like to especially thank their musical director, Ken Whelan, for conducting and compering the gig.

Also, a special thanks to the LCB committee members involved in organising and preparing for the event, including Robert Eastman (secretary), Triona O'Rourke (music librarian), Edel Kennedy (event management), and Marie O'Hanlon from OPW.

Unfortunately, Noel Barr (the treasurer) and the tuba player were unable to attend due to illness. "Noel, we missed you and hope you are well enough to join us again soon."

Thanks to Frank for his collaboration on this review!



PERFECT SUMMER DAY: Lucan Concert Band performed at Band in the Park

# Clondalkin Youth Band

## HIT THE RIGHT NOTES AT THE ROSE OF TRALEE

DEDICATION: The Clondalkin Youth Band played at the Rose of Tralee last week



By **Ryan Butler**  
news@echo.ie

THE Clondalkin Youth Band, Ireland's largest concert and marching band, has once again made waves at this year's Rose of Tralee Festival. Their invitation to return was almost immediate after their stellar performance last year, highlighting the lasting impression they left on organizers and festivalgoers alike.

This year, they surpassed all expectations. As the band marched through the streets of Tralee, their infectious energy quickly captivated the crowd. Their setlist was a hit, featuring a diverse range of crowd-pleasers such as "Country Roads," "Accidentally in Love," "Funky Town," timeless hits from Led Zeppelin, and the ever-popular "Hey Baby." The entire audience was swept up in the moment, singing along and dancing to the lively tunes.

The nighttime parade on Saturday evening brought with it crowds of people singing and

dancing to CYB's popular mix of music; this in turn set the tone for the following day's performance, which again solidified their place as a beloved fixture in the Rose of Tralee Festival lineup.

The Clondalkin Youth Band's journey to the Rose of Tralee Festival is one marked by dedication and passion. These musicians and dancers have invested countless hours into rehearsing and perfecting a repertoire that appeals to a broad audience. Their hard work was evident in the enthusiastic reception they received, as more and more people were drawn into their vibrant performance.

For those inspired by their performance, the Clondalkin Youth Band will hold an open evening on September 5th at Coláiste Chillian in Clondalkin from 7 PM to 8 PM. They are welcoming new enrolments for both beginners and experienced musicians, offering a fantastic opportunity to join this dynamic group.

Thanks to Tara O'Flaherty for her collaboration on this review!

# Family Fun Day

## IN THE PARK COMMUNITY CENTRE, BALLYCULLEN ON SUNDAY

Photos by Paddy Barrett

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email [reception@echo.ie](mailto:reception@echo.ie) or call 01-4685350.

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Saoirse and Sandra



Dave Farrelly (SDCC) and Tricia Saab (Centre Manager)



The McHugh and Murphy Families



Grace and Ella



Annabel, Karla, Dylan and Johnny



Fitzsimons Academy of Irish Dancing



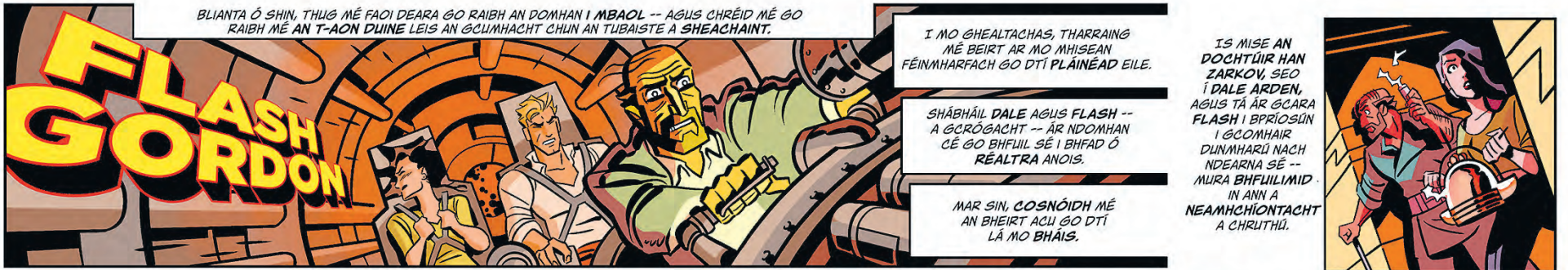
Fitzsimons Academy of Irish Dancing



Aria, Orla, Jo and Barbara



Lily and Zara



**FLASH GORDON**

BLIANTA Ó SHIN, THUG MÉ FAOI DEARA GO RAIBH AN DOMHAN I MBAOL -- AGUS CHRÉID MÉ GO RAIBH MÉ AN T-AON DUINE LEIS AN GCUMHACHT CHUN AN TUBAISTE A SHEACHAINT.


I MO GHEALTACHAS, THARRAING MÉ BEIRT AR MO MHISEAN FEINMHARFACH GO DTÍ PLAINÉAD EILE.

SHÁBHÁIL DALE AGUS FLASH -- A GCROGACHT -- ÁR NDOMHAN CÉ GO BHFUIL SÉ I BHFAD Ó RÉALTRA ANOIS.

MAR SIN, COSNÓIDH MÉ AN BHEIRT ACH GO DTÍ LÁ MO BHÁIS.

IS MISE AN DOCHTUIR HAN ZARKOV, SEO I DALE ARDEN, AGUS TÁ ÁR GCARA FLASH I BPRÍOSÚN I GCOMHAIR DUNMHARU NACH NDEARNA SÉ -- MURA BHFUILIMID IN ANN A NEAMHCIONTACHT A CHRUTHU.

CRÉIDIMID GO BHFUIL AZURA, AN BHANRÍON-CHAILLÍ Ó KIRA DHIAMHAIR, FREAGRACH AR SHLI ÉIGIN.



NÍL AON RUID LE FÁIL AR AN TEILIFÍS CIORCAD IATA ÓN BPÁLÁS NÓ AN DRÓN...

...MAR SIN, TOISC GO BHFUIL MÉ LEAGHTA SUAS AG COS BHRISTE, IS AR DHALE A THITEANN SÉ SVLÚIT AMBASADÓRA NA KIRA A SHLEAMHNÚ AG LORG FIANAISE.



CUIREANN SÍ LEINE COSANTA FLASH UIRTHI AGUS HAICEALAIM AN DRÓN CHLUN SÚIL A CHOIMEAD UIRTHI.

TAGANN SÍ AR GHINEARÁL KAHL ISTIGH SA SVLÚIT AGUS DUINE ÉIGINN A CHEASADH AIGE AR ROTH PIONÓSACH...

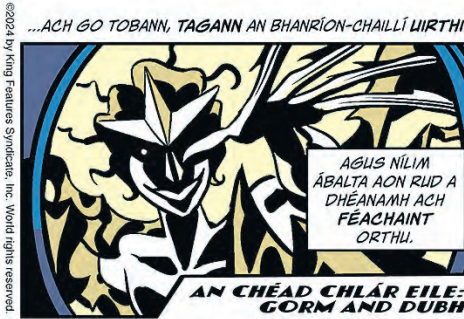


...FEICEANN SÍ MEAISÍN MISTÉIREACH I LAR A CEATHRÚNA.



FANANN SÍ ANN CHUN DEIS A THABHAIRT DOM É A AITHINT...

...ACH GO TOBANN, TAGANN AN BHANRÍON-CHAILLÍ UIRTHI.



AGUS NÍLIM ÁBALTA AON RUID A DHÉANAMH ACH FEACHAINT ORTHU.

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SISTER, AIN'T IT SWEET OF MY POPEYE TO TAKE US OUT T'DAY?

HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD BOY!



C'MERE, SWEETPEA.

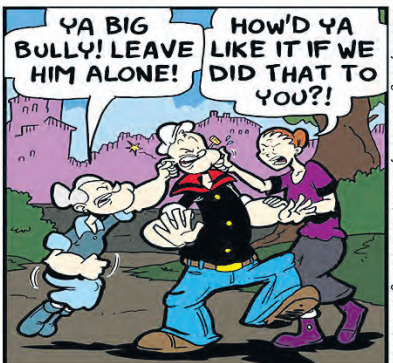
YA GOTS DIRT ON YER FACE.

IS THAT SPIT?!



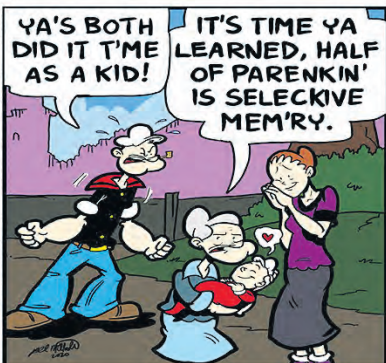
YA BIG BULLY! LEAVE HIM ALONE!

HOW'D YA LIKE IT IF WE DID THAT TO YOU?!



YA'S BOTH DID IT T'ME AS A KID!

IT'S TIME YA LEARNED, HALF OF PARENKIN' IS SELECKIVE MEM'RY.




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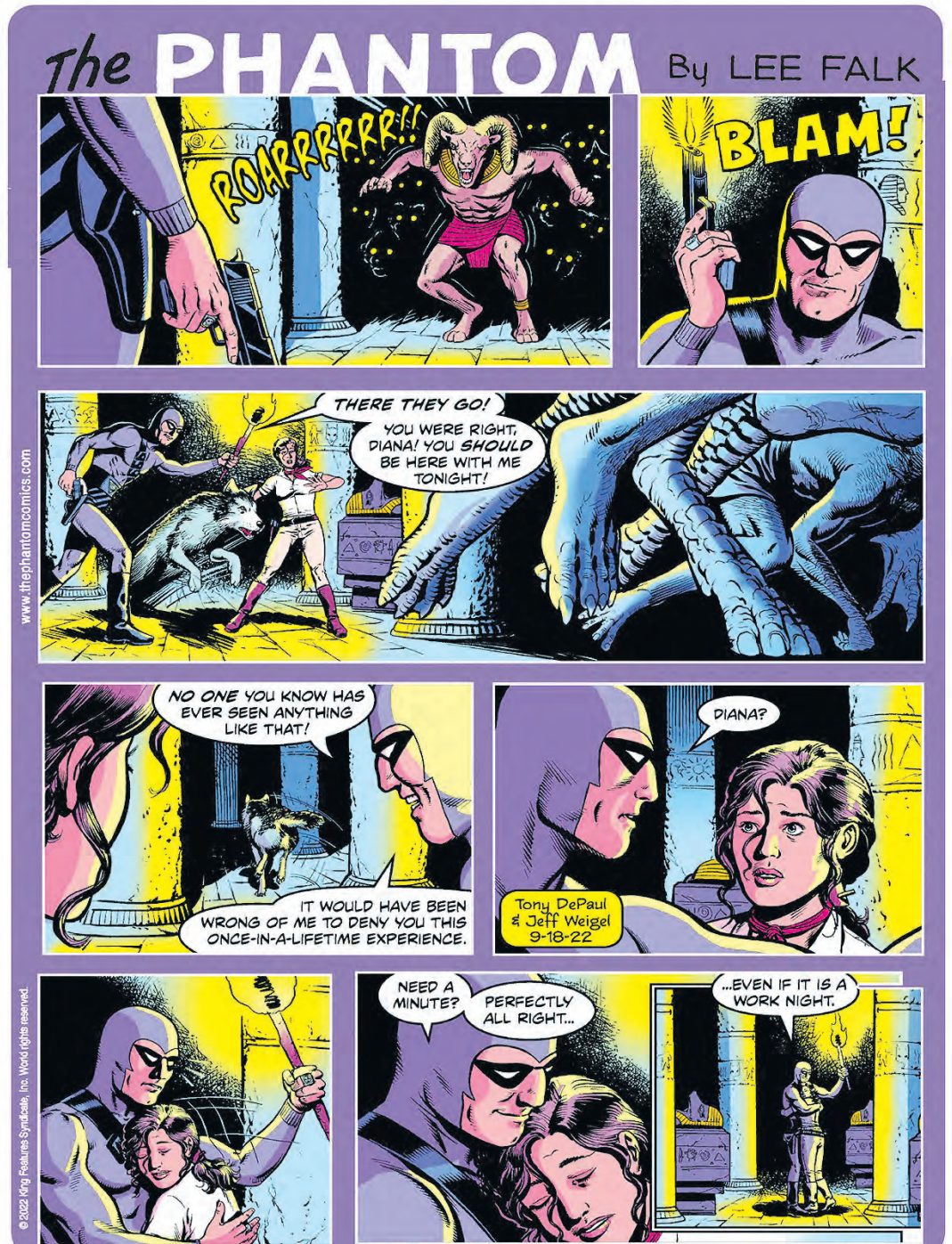
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## The PHANTOM

By LEE FALK



ROARRRRRR!!

BLAM!

THERE THEY GO!

YOU WERE RIGHT, DIANA! YOU SHOULD BE HERE WITH ME TONIGHT!

NO ONE YOU KNOW HAS EVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THAT!

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN WRONG OF ME TO DENY YOU THIS ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE.

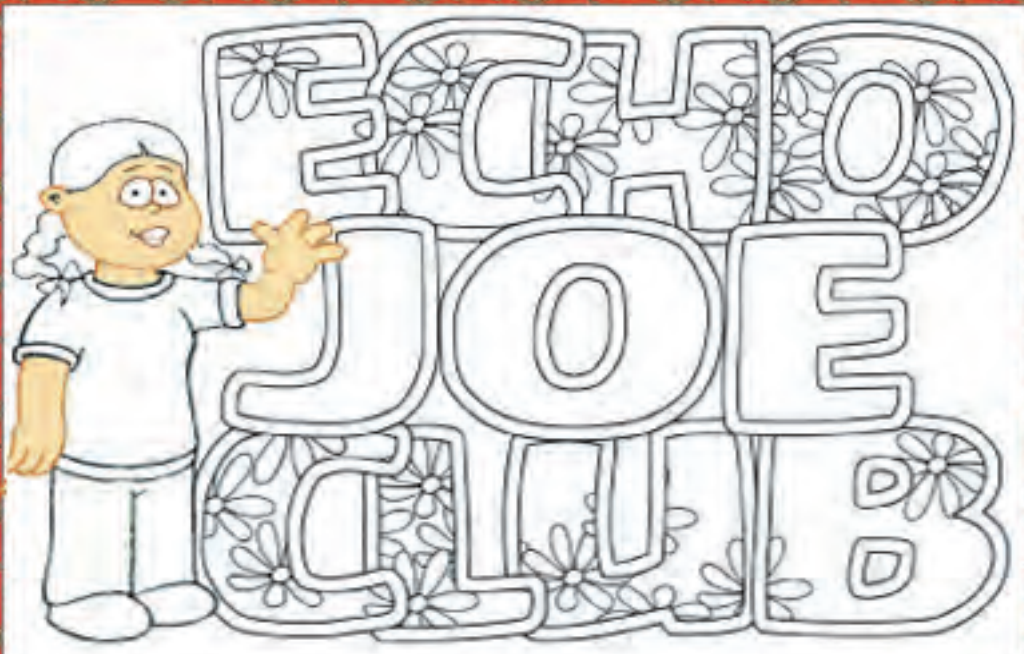
DIANA?

Tony DePaul & Jeff Weigel 9-18-22

NEED A MINUTE?

PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT...

...EVEN IF IT IS A WORK NIGHT.



**COMPETITION:** 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 **PRIZE.**

A Word with Echo So...

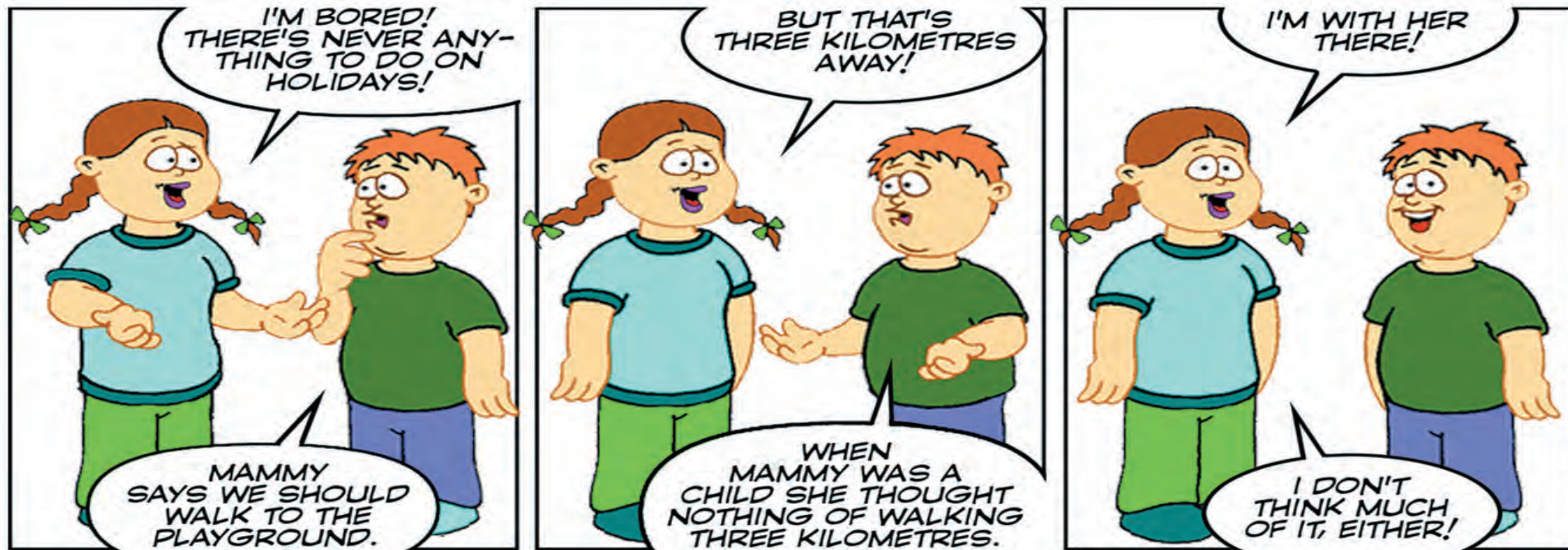
## Back to School



**CLUBBERS, HOW MANY WORDS (TWO LETTERS OR MORE) CAN YOU MAKE FROM THE ABOVE WORDS?**

5-20 pretty good! 21-35 excellent! 36 and over - you do realise these have to be real words, don't you!

1	14	27
2	15	28
3	16	29
4	17	30
5	18	31
6	19	32
7	20	33
8	21	34
9	22	35
10	23	36
11	24	37
12	25	38
13	26	39



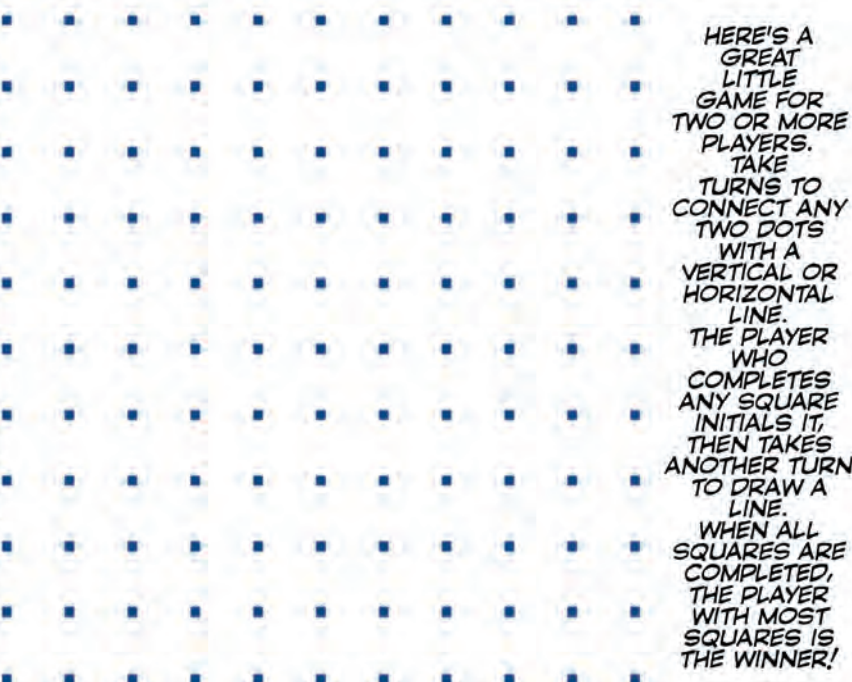
**Panel 1:** Girl: "I'M BORED! THERE'S NEVER ANYTHING TO DO ON HOLIDAYS!" Boy: "MAMMY SAYS WE SHOULD WALK TO THE PLAYGROUND."

**Panel 2:** Girl: "BUT THAT'S THREE KILOMETRES AWAY!" Boy: "WHEN MAMMY WAS A CHILD SHE THOUGHT NOTHING OF WALKING THREE KILOMETRES."

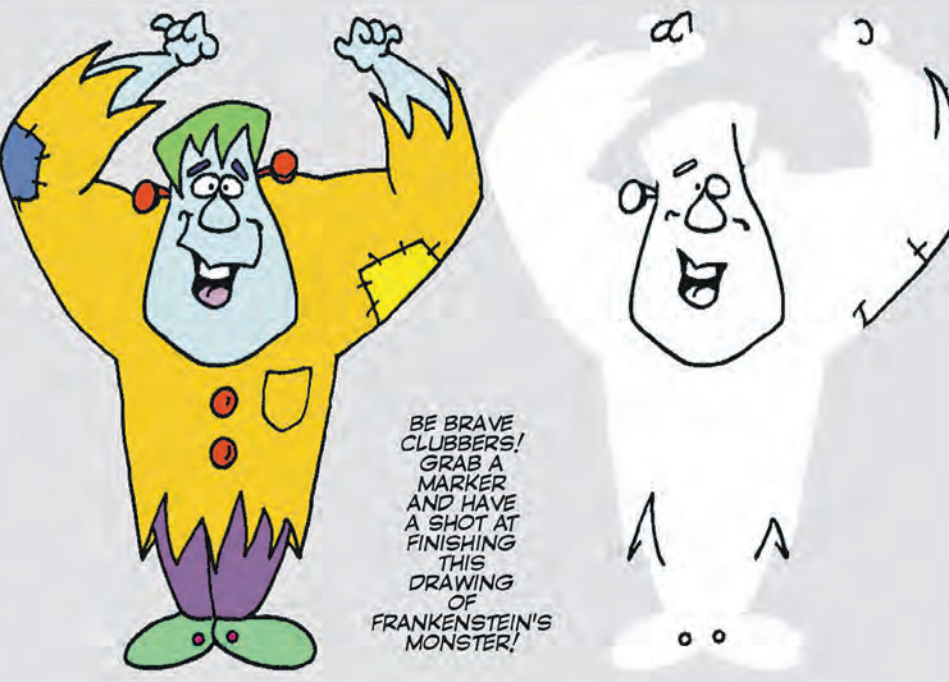
**Panel 3:** Girl: "I'M WITH HER THERE!" Boy: "I DON'T THINK MUCH OF IT, EITHER!"

### SQUARES

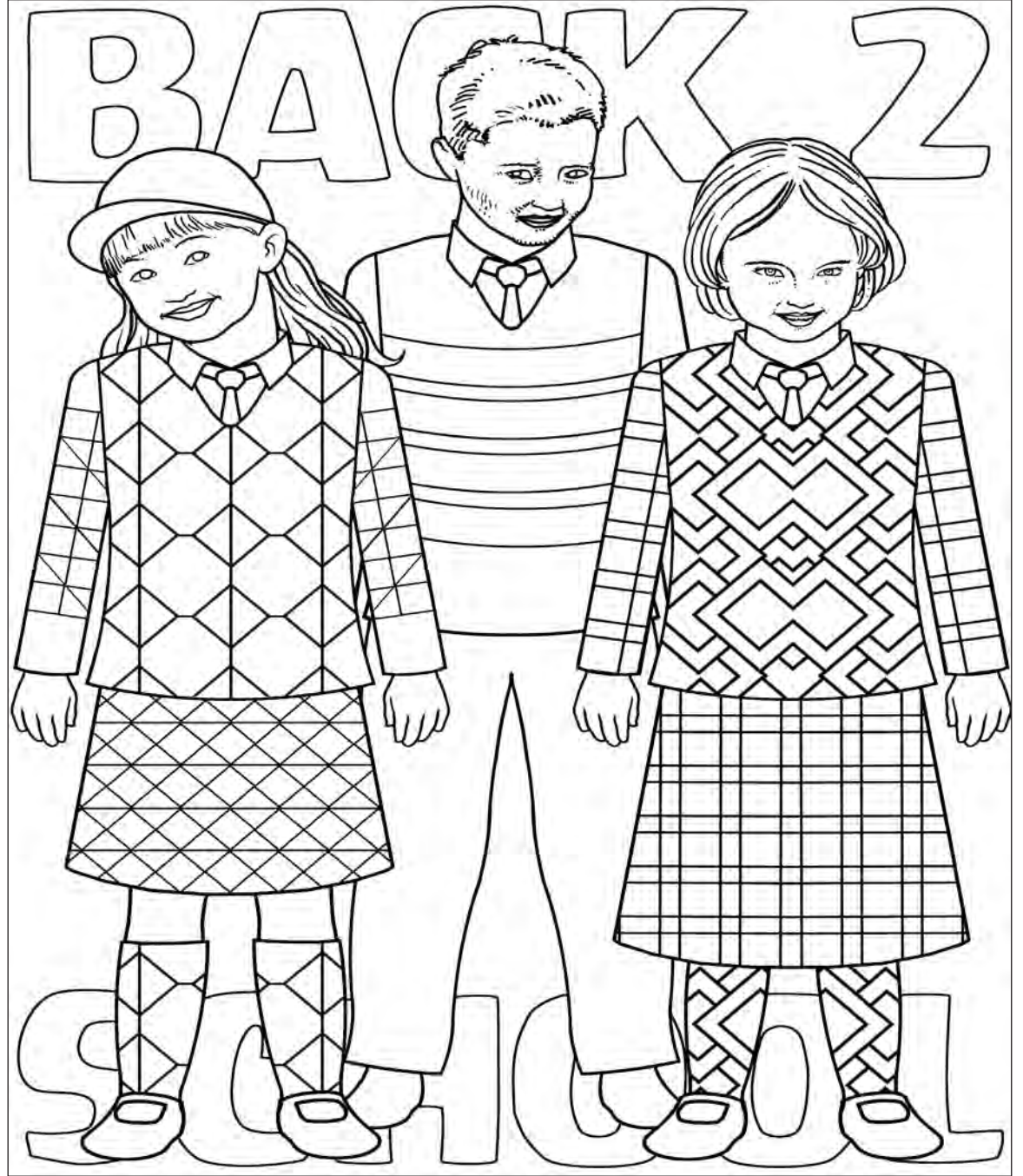
A GAME WITH/ FOR SQUARES



HERE'S A GREAT LITTLE GAME FOR TWO OR MORE PLAYERS. TAKE TURNS TO CONNECT ANY TWO DOTS WITH A VERTICAL OR HORIZONTAL LINE. THE PLAYER WHO COMPLETES ANY SQUARE INITIALS IT, THEN TAKES ANOTHER TURN TO DRAW A LINE. WHEN ALL SQUARES ARE COMPLETED, THE PLAYER WITH MOST SQUARES IS THE WINNER!



BE BRAVE CLUBBERS! GRAB A MARKER AND HAVE A SHOT AT FINISHING THIS DRAWING OF FRANKENSTEIN'S MONSTER!



**LETTER LINK LOG-JAM**

A MISSING LETTER ON EACH ROW FINISHES ONE WORD AND STARTS THE NEXT...

BUT WHAT ARE THE LETTERS?

SIL		ALK
RAN		NOT
MIL		ROP
FIR		ESS
CHA		HIN
ARE		CNE
FLO		LUG
BAB		ARN

the missing letters: T, K, D, M, T, A, P, Y.

**winner**

Lauren Casey O'Connor age 8, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Lauren, your prize will be on the way to you soon. All entries stay in so you have another chance to win!

# Family Fun Day

## AT RATHCOOLE COMMUNITY CENTRE ON SATURDAY

Photos by Paddy Barrett

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You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on [echo.ie](http://echo.ie)



Lynda Prendergast and Cllr Shane Moynihan



Kristina Harford, Sarah Jane Kinsella and Marie Kinsella



RAMS entertaining the crowd



Jelena Jakubovska and Jurijs Budniks



Gemima and Jaydan



Tricia Kellett and Michael Broderick



Anne and Paul Mulhern

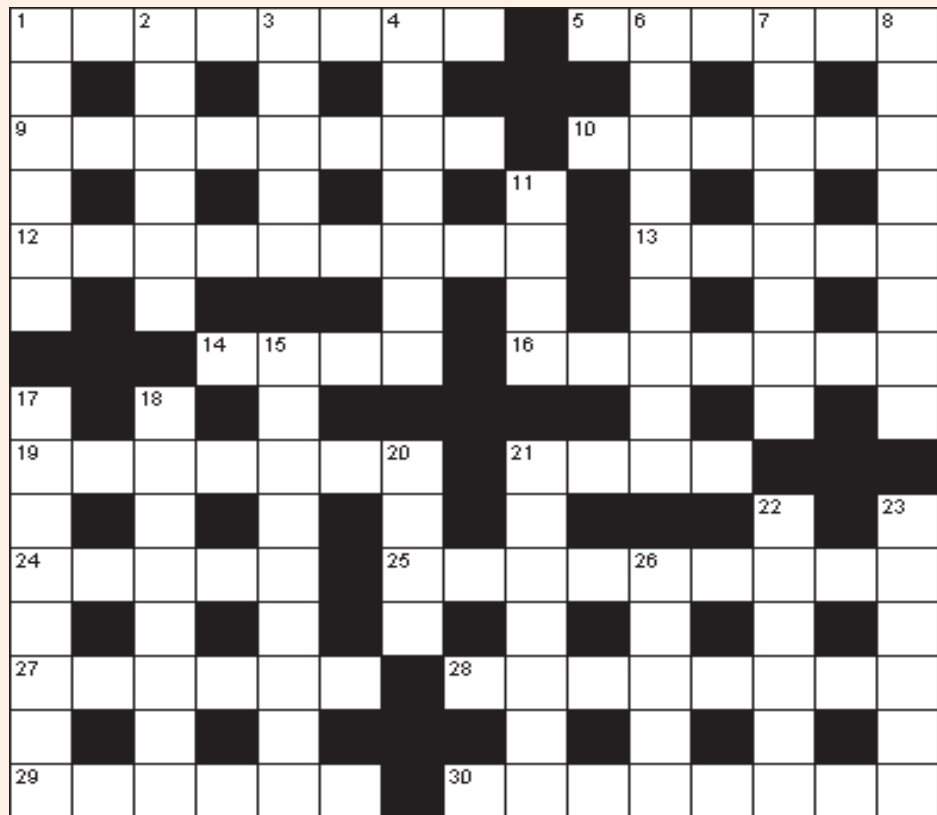


Patrick, Jennifer and Emma Cleary



Kolby enjoying the fun

# echocrossquiz Q2908



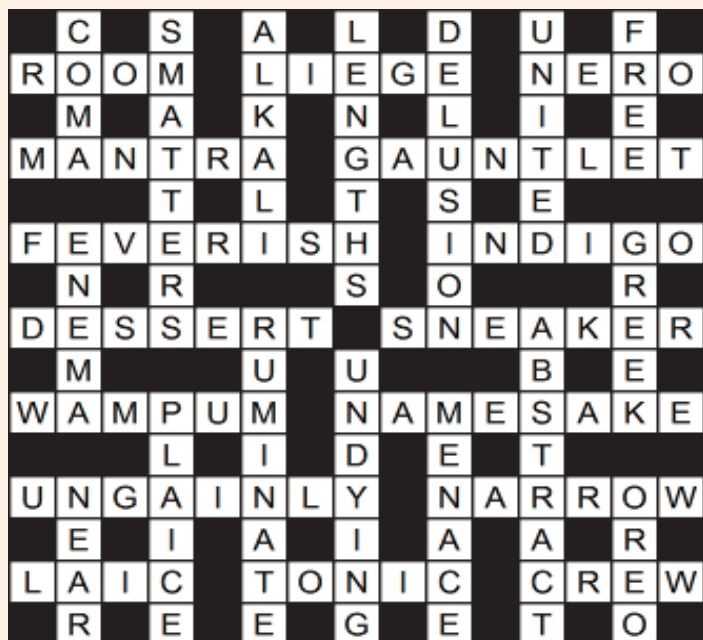
**ACROSS**

- 1. Worn to shreds (8)
- 5. Forgo (6)
- 9. Supply with water (8)
- 10. European peninsula (6)
- 12. Without nationality or citizenship (9)
- 13. Piece of armor for a thigh (5)
- 14. Fired a weapon (4)
- 16. Violent disorder (7)
- 19. Lacking physical depth (7)
- 21. Pouch (4)
- 24. Hebrew unit of dry measure (5)
- 25. Consequently (9)
- 27. Not the input (6)
- 28. Featuring (8)
- 29. Decypher (6)
- 30. Shockingly repellent (8)

**DOWN**

- 1. A craving to drink (6)
- 2. A man's headdress (6)
- 3. US bird symbol (5)
- 4. Implore (7)
- 6. Pertaining to a nucleus (9)
- 7. Shepherd (8)
- 8. "It doesn't matter" (8)
- 11. Russian emperor (4)
- 15. Cerberus was one (9)
- 17. Space rock (8)
- 18. Hapless (8)
- 20. Accompanying (4)
- 21. Temporary housing for homeless (7)
- 22. Eye mask (6)
- 23. West Indian music (6)
- 26. Bird's nest (5)

**LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS 2208**



CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

## SUDOKU 1

2								
		9			5	7		8
	1	4			2			
			4					
				6				5
3					7			
			9					1
				1		5	7	3
	4		5		3	2		6

## SUDOKU 2

				6		2		
5		8			1			7
1			5		7	3		
7							3	
						7		4
6	2							
9		5	6	4				
	1				3			9
						5		

## ANSWERS

3	6	5	6	2	9	1	7	8	4
8	6	4	9	3	4	7	5	1	2
1	1	7	2	8	4	6	5	3	9
9	5	8	5	9	2	1	3	7	4
4	1	7	1	6	9	3	5	8	2
2	3	6	7	9	4	8	1	5	6
6	6	8	3	7	9	5	2	4	1
7	8	6	5	8	1	4	2	5	9
5	6	8	2	3	1	9	4	7	2
2	5	4	8	6	1	2	5	3	7

SUDOKU 2

6	6	2	3	8	5	1	4	7	4
9	6	8	2	1	4	5	7	3	6
5	2	3	9	7	6	8	4	1	2
3	9	6	8	5	7	4	1	2	9
4	7	2	3	6	1	9	8	5	5
1	8	5	4	2	9	3	6	7	1
8	1	4	7	3	2	6	5	9	8
6	3	9	1	4	5	7	2	8	3
2	5	7	6	9	8	1	3	4	6

SUDOKU 1

# Poet's Corner

## STRETCH MARKS

by Sandra Matthews

When baby first arrived  
 She drew stretch marks on  
 my heart  
 Pink and tiny bundle  
 Brought to us a fresh new  
 start  
 When baby first came home  
 Her clothes dried on the  
 landing  
 Pink and tiny signs of a  
 family expanding  
 When baby settled in  
 Her every move we studied  
 Fascinated by this child  
 Whose glow could not be  
 muddied  
 When baby called the shots  
 We would joyfully obey  
 Tending to her needs  
 Without question or delay  
 When baby woke at night

We would groan from lack  
 of sleep  
 Yet through exhaustion's  
 fog  
 We would still our promise  
 keep  
 When baby captured us  
 She transformed our every  
 dream  
 Considering her best life  
 Became part of plan or  
 scheme  
 Now the line holds jerseys  
 Pegged up next to jeans  
 Washing her own clothes  
 Dreaming her own dreams  
 Those stretch marks on my  
 heart  
 Will never fade away  
 This life of ever letting go  
 Is best lived day by day

# Celebrating Clondalkin's Heritage

## BIG CROWD TURNED UP IN ÁRAS CHRÓNÁIN AND BRÚ CHRÓNÁIN

Photos by Paddy Barrett

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email [reception@echo.ie](mailto:reception@echo.ie) or call 01-4685350. You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on [echo.ie](http://echo.ie)



Nikki and Josephine



Niall Charleton (Tidy Towns) and Eileen Brady (Clondalkin Heritage Society)



Janet Blackburn, Colette Appleby and Maureen Murray



Mary Sherwood and Joy Stewart



Srón - Aidan Cranny, Damian MacGabhann, Ciaran Massey and Padraig Walsh



Ella and Laragh



Diarmuid, Megan and Aodhla



Alan Milton (Chairperson Round Tower GAA Club) and Tomás Milton



Nikki Caddle, Marnie Caddle, Eimear Ging, Teresa O'Leary and Nora O'Brien

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\*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves



# **Echo**.ie

Your Local Newspaper

# Ballyfermot Heritage Day

## IN BALLYFERMOT LIBRARY ON SATURDAY

Photos by Paddy Barrett

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You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on [echo.ie](http://echo.ie)



Pat Craig, Rita Nolan, Margaret Oakes and Vickey Kearney



John and Georgina



Sean Brennan, Joe Coleman and Ken Larkin



Sitabiso Dhlwayo and Marian Cullen



Brian Durnin, Paul Coleman, Roy Byrne, Larry Quinn and Richie Foran



Wally and Lorraine Jones



Rose O'Connor Quearney, Diarmuid and Barry O'Connor



Matt Dodd and Ken Larkin



Phyllis Shields, Evelyn Geraghty and Catherine Brien

# Mystery Tour

## SENIOR CITIZENS IN BALLYFERMOT ENJOYED A FREE DAY OUT

Photos by Paddy Barrett

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Sally Kinsella, Mick Lynch, Paddy Kinsella, Noel Mooney, Martin Griffin and Debbie Salenger



Thomas Thomas, Joan Miller, Liz Finegan, Eugene Finegan, Angela Thomas, Phyllis Brady, Joe Darcy and Dorothy Hannon



Sheila Hickey, Maureen Murphy and Sheila Mooney



Carmel, Peter, Bernie and Lillian



Frank Mooney, Ben Murphy and Billy Joyce



Noreen Fogarty, Joe O'Neill, Gay Traynor, Linda Doran, Thomas and Miriam Sheridan

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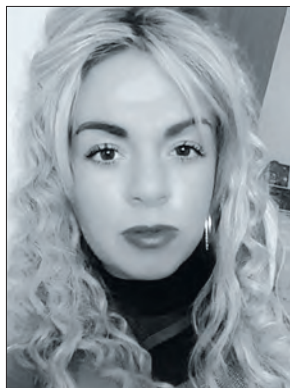


# family notices

**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



*It followed your car for a while,  
I made you a beautiful rainbow,  
I hope it would show me see your smile.  
I flew down a robin,  
As I know how much you love to see them,  
It landed right there on your ledge,  
I prayed he would give you the strength.  
To push yourself back from the edge,  
I try every day to remind you,  
That I'm not that far away,  
The feathers the robins are my way of trying to stay.*

**Carroll, Danielle (Danzer)**  
7th Anniversary away from home occurs 30th August. Late of Kilmartin Drive. Our loving Daughter, Mother, Sister, Auntie and Friend. Also remembering my wife Maggie who is 5 months away from home, my daughter Pauline who is 6 and half years away from home and my son Franer who is 8 months away from home. I miss and love you all so very much.xx

### Our Precious Daughter

*There is no one else on earth,  
So special as you were to me,  
I hold you forever, my precious daughter,  
In my heart and memory.  
Words cannot describe the loss I feel,  
Saying farewell to you,  
Letting you go was the hardest thing,  
I've ever had to do.  
I wish I had just one more chance,  
To see that happy smile,  
To hold you close again daughter,  
Just for a little while.  
I wish that I could hold your hand,  
And make everything alright,  
I would tell you that it's not the end,  
Not goodbye, only goodnight.  
Missing you dearly Danzer,  
back reunited with your Ma.  
My world is broken. Mind Pauline & Franer up there till we reunite. It will be the happiest day of my life. Love your broken Da. 7 long years without you. xxxxxxxx*

**Mam**  
*Unknown to the world,  
You will always be by our side,  
For our love is something special,  
Death cannot divide.  
You were such a wonderful mother,  
We were blessed to have had,  
Oh how we would love to see you again,  
But we can't so we're looking at your pictures instead.  
We will always search for you in the sunsets & rainbows.  
Forever in our hearts  
goodnight our angel mam meet us in our dreams your sons DJ and Carter Woo. xxxxxxxx*

**Little Sis**  
*I left you a little white feather,  
I place it right there in your way,  
I wrapped it with love and a message,  
To let you know you'll be okay.  
I drew you a colourful rainbow,*

**Love and miss you beyond words can say. Skin how it's been 7 years without you. Haven't seen your beautiful face or heard your infectious laugh. You're sorely missed, so much family reunited with you. Now mind over us here on earth. Love you always your heartbroken sister Caroline & Karl. xxxxxxxx**

### Our Auntie Danni

*Once in a lifetime an angel is sent,  
To bring joy and love and light,  
You shone over every life you touched,  
And made countless memories bright.  
We will see you in the rainbows,  
Feel your warmth in the shining sun,  
And when we ask for guidance,  
We'll hear your words of pure wisdom.  
Rest softly our precious angel,  
Know that your guiding light shines on,  
You may no longer be here with us,  
But angels are never truly gone.  
Love and missing you always.  
We talk about you all the time.  
You'll never be forgotten. All our love your nieces Brooke & Alishia and nephews Blake & Braxton. xxxxxxxx*

### Danielle

*Time slips by and life goes on,  
But from our hearts you're never gone,  
We think about you always,  
We talk about you too,  
We have so many memories,  
But we wish we still had you.  
Thinking of you Dan on your 7th Anniversary away from home. Love always from Nicky, Lou, Shauna and Glen. xxxxxxxx*

### Gone too Soon

*Words cannot describe the loss I feel,  
Saying farewell to you,  
But heaven chose to give you wings,  
And now it's time you flew.  
I wish that we could have more time,  
That god had let you stay,  
Forever would not be long enough,  
But I would take one day.  
I wish I had just one more chance,  
To see that tender smile,  
To laugh with you again my dear,  
Just for a little while.  
Gone too soon, but not forgotten,  
Forever you will remain,  
My guiding light, my shining star,  
Until I see your face again.  
7 years today Dan. Miss you always my beautiful friend. Love always your best friend Linda and your nephew Dean. xxxxxxxx*

## 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. U.K.*

## ANNIVERSARY



**Carroll, Jason**  
11th Anniversary away from home.

*It was a sudden parting,  
To bitter to forget,  
Those who loved you dearly,  
Are the ones who can't forget,  
We often sit and think of you,  
And think of how you died,  
To think you could not say goodbye,  
Before you closed your eyes,  
Your life was one of kindly deeds,  
A helping hand for others' needs,  
Sincere and true in heart and mind,  
Beautiful memories left behind,  
The blow was hard,  
The shock was severe,  
To part with one we love so dear,  
Our loss is great, we'll not complain,  
But trust in God Jay, we'll meet again.*

**Too dearly loved to be forgotten, sadly missed by your heartbroken Mam and Dad. xxx You'll never walk alone.**

## ANNIVERSARY



**Cousins, Stephen**  
23rd Anniversary away from home occurs 31st August.

**Stephen**  
*No special day is needed,  
For us to think of you,  
You are always in our thoughts,  
No matter what we do,  
We hold you close within our hearts,  
And there you will remain,  
To walk with us throughout our lives,  
Until we meet again.  
Loved and never forgotten,  
Mam, Dad, sister Carol and brothers David & Richard.*

## ANNIVERSARY



**Carroll, Jason**  
11th Anniversary away from home.

*You're a lovely brother Jay,  
I've adored since I was small,  
And for me the day you left us Jay,  
Was the saddest time of all,  
But all the memories that we shared,  
From when you were a boy,  
Have only ever filled my heart,  
With happiness and joy,  
You grew up and proved to be,  
A man both fair and true,  
And every day throughout my life,  
I will always think of you,  
Family, where life begins and love never ends.  
Sadly missed by your loving sister Jennifer and brother-in-law Pedder. xxx*

### Uncle Jay

*We remember when we were small,  
And you were kind and strong,  
You really haven't changed a bit,  
As life has moved along,  
We know that you were thoughtful,  
And today you're still the same,  
You're always helping others,  
And that has never changed,  
You've always been right there for us,  
In good times and in bad,  
You laughed with us in happy times,  
And cried with us in sad,  
You were a special uncle Jay,  
As special as can be,  
More than that, you've been a friend.  
Love and missed Taylor, Jack, Casey and Renzo. xxx*

## ANNIVERSARY



**Carroll, Jason**  
11th Anniversary away from home.

**Daddy**  
*We thought of you today,  
But that is nothing new,  
We thought about you yesterday,  
And days before that too,  
We think of you in silence,  
We often speak your name,  
All we have are memories,  
And your picture in a frame,  
Your memory is a keepsake,  
From which we'll never part,  
God has you in his arms,  
We have you in our hearts.  
We miss you and love you Da,  
Love from your Princess Libby, Cody, Jake & Glenn. xxxxx*

## ANNIVERSARY



**Carroll, Jason (Jay)**  
11th Anniversary away from home.

*Jay it's not what we write or even say,  
It's how we feel inside,  
As we think of you each day,  
No matter how life changes,  
No matter what we do,  
A special place within our hearts,  
Is always kept for you,  
A bouquet of beautiful memories,  
Sprayed with a million tears,  
Wishing God could have spared you,  
If just for a few more years.  
Love and miss you always from your brother Kevin, Lisa, Rhyece, Lauryn, Leighton and Jayce. xxx*

## 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.B.*

## NOVENA

### Novena to the Sacred Heart

*Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your broken heart where your holy Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say prayer for 3 days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. M.C.*

## NOVENA

### Novena to the Sacred Heart

*Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it dear Jesus and place it within your broken heart where your holy Father sees it. Then in His merciful eyes it will become your favour, not mine. Amen. Say prayer for 3 days. Promise publication and favour will be granted. M.M.*

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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 Fiona and Lloyd Dunne, intend to apply for planning permission to develop at this site. 1 Oakdale Cres, Oldcourt, Dublin 24, D24 C7P2. The development will consist of. Attic conversion for storage. With a raised gable to the side and a dormer window to the rear, a new gable window. With two Velux windows to the front roof area. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours, and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

Contact **The Echo** to have a planning notification published  
Call **468 5350** or email **reception@echo.ie**

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) ACTS 1963 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1977 TO 1994

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WEEK ENDING AUGUST 16, 2024

<p><b>SD24A/0025</b>    <b>13 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission and Retention Additional Information</b> Applicant: Room 2 Grow (Creche, Montessorie &amp; Afterschool Group) Location: Millrace Green, The Millrace, Saggart, Co. Dublin Description: Retention Permission to retain and complete modifications to the internal layout of the existing unoccupied ground floor creche to provide a new reduced sized creche with an outdoor play area and to retain and complete the change of use from permitted creche use to accommodate three number one bedroom, one number two bedroom and one number three bedroom ground floor residential apartment units and associated open space provision. Permission for modifications to the southern elevation to include replacement of existing door opening with an infill wall at ground floor and modifications to the eastern elevation to include a replacement of an existing window opening with new entrance doors all located withing curtilage of a Protected Structure being the existing Rag Store , entrance gates, Chimney, Tail Race, Mill Ponds of the Swiftbrook Mill now known as Mill Race Green on foot of previously approved by An Board Pleanala decision PL 06S.248162 all at Mill Race, Saggart, County Dublin.</p>	<p>D6WFD28 Description: The development will consist of alterations to unbuilt elements of a previously permitted and a partially built extension (reg. ref: SD21B/0411) to include; (i) an enlarged first floor extension with flat roof and roof lights (in lieu of permitted) to the rear of the existing dwelling; (ii) associated alterations to the side and rear elevations; (iii) the addition of a single storey flat roof porch to the front; (iv) the addition of a single storey pitched roof garage to the side &amp; all ancillary works to facilitate the development.</p>	<p>Applicant: Anayat &amp; Sons Ltd Location: Unit 13, Trinity Court, Fonthill Road, Dublin 22, D22 KW44 Description: 1) Change of use of the warehouse area from Light Industrial / Warehouse (Class 4) use to Wholesale Warehouse (Class 5) 2) Construction of a 205m2 mezzanine level and associated internal revisions to the warehouse area and 3) all associated site works</p>
<p><b>SD24A/0118</b>    <b>14 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Retention Additional Information</b> Applicant: Charles River Microbial Solutions International Limited Location: Unit 648, Greenogue Business Park, Jordanstown Aveue, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin Description: Charles River Microbial Solutions International Limited intend to apply to South Dublin County Council for retention permission at unit no. 648, Jordanstown Drive, Greenogue Business Park, Rathcoole, Co Dublin. The retention permission consists of: Retention of minor alterations to elevations associated with changes to the window on the First Floor Level. Retention of an increase in Floor Area of the External Cold Store/freezer compound with an associated increase of size to the Cold Store and the Freezer Units, and all associated works.</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0191</b>    <b>12 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: HPC Sales Ltd Location: Former Exertis Ireland Ltd Premises, M50 Business Park, Ballymount Road Upper, Ballymount, Dublin 12 Description: The reconfiguration of 47No existing staff car parking spaces to allow for safer movement of vehicles and temporary storage of materials elsewhere in the existing yard, including new staff vehicular and pedestrian entrances and other associated minor works which are similar to what is currently permitted as part of a more substantial development Reg Ref SD19A/0222</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0196W</b>    <b>15 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: Tallaght University Hospital Foundation Location: Fourth Avenue, Cookstown Industrial Estate, Adjoining &amp; Bounded by Tallaght University Hospital, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 K5990 Description: The proposed development, Innovate Health, Centre of Excellence in Brain Health and Dementia, which will consist of: The demolition (in part) of the existing concrete beams adjoining the neighbouring unit and relocation of existing underground services. A five-storey building with part six-storey elements and set-back accommodation and plant rooms. (c. 6,590m<sup>2</sup>). The building functions comprise a reception area, caf?/restaurant, central atrium, radiology department, treatment, assessment and consultation rooms, research facilities, associated offices and meeting rooms and associated staff facilities, plant and storage rooms. Roof terrace at Level 05 at the south end of the building. Extract flues above roof level for laboratory ventilation. The removal of 14 car park spaces in the existing adjacent TUH car park to facilitate a new Entrance Park consisting of hard and soft landscaping and lighting. New footpath, signage, loading bay and accessible parking space off Fourth Avenue. New footpath, signage, set down area and two accessible parking spaces off the internal hospital campus road to the west. Extended footpath to the west of the adjacent car park and new pedestrian crossing to enhance pedestrian access to the existing multi-storey car park. New pedestrian crossing to connect the new Entrance Park with the main entrance to Tallaght University Hospital. Secure enclosed staff bike store to the North and visitor bike racks in the Entrance Park. Bin store to east side of building. Boundary fencing, walls and gates to east of site. The new facility will employ an extension to Tallaght University's Hospital current waste license. All associated ancillary site development and drainage works.</p>
<p><b>SD24A/108W</b>    <b>10 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission Additional Information</b> Applicant: Thomas Weldon Location: 5, Tig Mo Croi, Colbert's Fort Cottages, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24 KW1E Description: Demolition of the porch side entrance. Demolition of the existing garage. In the side garden. New single storey three-bedroom detached house with two dormer windows to the rear. New vehicular access for the existing house. Remove part of the front wall to allow access.</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0192W</b>    <b>13 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: Dublin City University DCU Location: DCU Tony Ryan Academy for Entrepreneurship, Lake Drive, CityWest Campus, Dublin 24, D24 DR02 Description: Submission Type Change of use from education to office use within the existing building. No increase in area, external alterations or extensions are proposed.</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0197</b>    <b>16 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: Uday Alkazzaz &amp; Hassan Taki Location: 8A, The Mall, Main Street, Lucan, Co. Dublin. Description: The proposal outlined in this application involves the placement of a temporary ice cream trailer/stand within the premises of 8A The Mall, Main Street, Lucan Village, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 P9T0. The trailer/ stand will be positioned in the outdoor area between the existing retail unit frontage and the boundary wall on Main Street, Lucan. It's important to note that the proposal doesn't entail any alterations, fixtures, or modifications to the existing site. Measuring 2.0m x 2.5m, the trailer or stand is intended to serve pre-made ingredients, all of which will be prepared off-site. This approach not only supports sustainability but also minimizes impact,enhancing the visual amenity of the space, by reducing waste, promoting eco-friendly practices, and offering a unique and delightful experience for the community. The proposed trailer I stand aims to contribute positively to the vibrant atmosphere of Lucan Village, providing a convenient and enjoyable option for passersby while adding to the overall charm of the local area.</p>
<p><b>SD24B/0195</b>    <b>14 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission Additional Information</b> Applicant: Jane Murphy Location: Dwelling at, Glenasmole, Tallaght, Dublin 24, D24V120. Description: New single storey extension to side of existing house and all ancillary site works.</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0193W</b>    <b>13 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: Rowland and Gay Jordan Location: 17, Greentree's Road, Dublin 12, D12 ENV6 Description: Partial demolition of the existing ground floor rear and side extensions and the partial demolition of the existing garage conversion, the extension of the garage conversion to the front with a new porch extension to the front, a new rear ground floor extension, the demolition of the existing detached garage and the construction of a two storey, three bedroom detached dwelling with a new vehicular entrance and all associated site works.</p>	
<p><b>SD24B/0209W</b>    <b>12 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission Additional Information</b> Applicant: Seamus &amp; Laura O`Sullivan Location: 11, Wainsfort Crescent, Terenure, Dublin 6W,</p>	<p><b>SD24A/0194W</b>    <b>14 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b> Applicant: Sharon Smyth Location: Montessori Matters, 108 Esker Manor, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 AE93 Description: Extending the existing the school with a single storey office &amp; administration extension to the south of the building, and a single storey classroom extension to the east of the building. The works will also include alterations to the interior of the existing building to accommodate a new accessible WC and food preparation area. The works will include all associated ancillary works, landscaping and services.</p>	
	<p><b>SD24A/0195W</b>    <b>15 Aug 2024</b>    <b>Permission New Application</b></p>	

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# Echo Sport

Deputy Sports Editor: William O'Connor

Thursday, August 29, 2024

## Rovers have it all to do in Europe



Stephen Bradley's side play PAOK in the return tie of their Europa League play-off  
Photo by Mark McDermott

## Bradley's side look to overturn a 4-0 deficit in Tallaght

SHAMROCK Rovers return to European action tonight when they play PAOK Thessaloniki FC in the return tie of their Europa League play-off in Tallaght Stadium *reports Stephen Farrell.*

The game has an 8pm kick-off time and 'the Hoops' and their fans know that they have it all to do if they are to overturn the 4-0 defeat they suffered in the first leg last Thursday.

Indeed if Rovers were to secure a draw or perhaps sneak a one or two nil victory, this may be seen as progress as PAOK are a seasoned outfit when it comes to European football.

In the first leg the Hoops were unlucky as they were holding their own in the first half until an own goal in the final seconds of the opening period handed the advantage to the home side.

However, in the second half PAOK began to show their experience when they extended their lead through Taison, with the experienced Giannis Konstantelias putting real day light between the teams with his side's third goal.

At this level the margin for error is very small and the sending off Rovers then suffered only added to the mountain they had to climb.

Indeed PAOK had the luxury of being able to squander a penalty before Fedor Chalov completed the victory by scoring his side's fourth goal.

However, Rovers know that they still have the safety net of dropping down to the league stage of the Conference League if they do not succeed in overturning the 4-0 deficit tonight.

Such an eventuality would still be financially very favourable to the Tallaght club as it would

bring their earnings up to a minimum of €3.87 million.

The Tallaght club will also receive additional five year and ten year rankings UEFA prize money that may come to close to another €1 million.

However Rovers and their head coach will certainly want to put in a performance tonight and show their supporters and other observers what they are about.

It is interesting to note that the PAOK squad is peppered with players from various countries including Croatia, Poland, Spain, Portugal, Ghana, Guinea, Austria, Brazil, Russia, Serbia, Bulgaria and the Netherlands.

By contrast the vast majority of the Rovers players are from Ireland, with only goalkeeper Léon Pohls and recent signing Marc McNulty

the only players from overseas coming from Germany and Scotland respectively.

Rovers were out in the League of Ireland Premier Division at the weekend when they secured a 1-1 draw at home to Galway United.

It was the away team who came within two minutes of pulling off a famous victory in Tallaght Stadium but substitute Danny Mandriou rescued Rovers with a late header.

Galway took the lead in the 74th minute through Patrick Hickey but the home team managed to retain their very slim hopes of securing a fifth league title in a row with a last gasp equaliser.

Returning to tonight's tie, while European club history is littered with teams over-turning big deficits, a good performance is what everyone wants from the Hoops.

## Hoops women are left Shel-shocked after FAI Cup defeat

THE sight of Jemma Quinn celebrating Shelbourne's FAI Cup win in the centre of the Tallaght turf will undoubtedly sting for the Dublin 24 faithful for years to come, *reports Christine Allen.*

On what was an autumnal August evening, Eoin Wearen's side showed their appreciation for the travelling contingent by executing a symphonic string of passes and switches of play on an impressive loop - Kate Mooney all flair and fire as the Red's conductor.

A relentless press from Roma McLaughlin led to Shelbourne's first real chance.

On foot of a hasty clearance triggered by McLaughlin's persistence, Christie Gray nipped the ball off Shauna Fox's toes and tore beyond Savannah McCarthy - unleashing a low and powerful strike on goal.

For not the first time that night, former Red Amanda Budden would keep the score level as an army of shirts launched wave after wave of

attack on The Hoops back line - timely interceptions from Jessica Hennessy proving crucial as Shelbourne singed the Tallaght turf.

Alex Kavanagh, Mc Laughlin and Mooney were formidable for the visitors, their press unrelenting as they switched the ball in what was a testing triad for Rovers - both McLaughlin and Mooney coming within a hair's breadth of opening the scoreline.

Despite an abundance of quality shown by Shels in the first half, Ella Kelly and Joy Ralph very nearly turned the game on its head for Rovers, injecting a venomous bite into the contest for the home side.

Ralphs trademark rove carved out two half chances for Rovers, the Greenhills native very nearly sucker punching Shelbourne on the lip of half-time.

A deft lob from skipper Aine O'Gorman saw Kelly rattle the frame of Amanda McQuillans goal with an absolute rocket from an obtuse angle

on 45 minutes - the smack of ball on wood disturbing the breakfast cutlery as staff at the Maldron Hotel finished preparations for the morning buffet.

In the second, Hennessy once again saved her side's blushes, stopping a Gray threaded through ball to Mooney with her boot as Maria Reynolds shepherded danger.

O'Gorman would splinter the frame of the goal in the 63rd with an exquisite set piece that floated and dipped with the precision and power of a Tiger Woods drive off the 18th tee at Augusta.

With twenty minutes of normal time remaining, skipper Slattery sandwiched O'Gorman and was brandished a second yellow.

Chants of "SHELBOURNE, SHELBOURNE, SHELBOURNE" accompanied Rovers as they began to switch the ball on the right, O'Leary in swinging crosses met with a jovial cheer whenever The Reds cleared their lines.

With neither side able to break the deadlock, the game transitioned to Extra Time where a sublime save from Budden kept The Hoops in the game.

Collie O'Neill switched Ralph and Kelly for the fresh legs of Lauren Kelly and Fiona Owens as the second 15' of Extra Time approached.

The contest looked destined to be decided on the Russian roulette of penalties until Megan Smyth-Lynch was awarded a free-kick on foot of a Scarlett Herron slider at the edge of the box.

Sixty seconds out from a penalty shootout, The Reds swarmed Budden as the goal minder directed her three piece wall.

Smyth-Lynch's decision to deliver the set piece low and with pace towards the front post was the right one and in an effort to clear the danger, Zambra's outstretched boot would cruelly guide the ball into the back of her own net.

Retribution for Shelbourne who avenge their semi-final All Island Cup loss to The Hoops.

## Hockey

# 'An honour and privilege to have played for my country'

## Shane scores and captain's Ireland in his final international match

IRISH Hockey legend and long-time Glennane Hockey Club clubman Shane O'Donoghue brought the curtain down on a glittering career on Sunday August 25, scoring in a 4-0 win against Chechia at the Sport Ireland Campus. This win ensured that Ireland secured bronze in the Euro Qualifying Finals as a strong Polish team took the gold reports Ken Doyle.

With only the tournament winners advancing to the A Division European Championships next summer, both these sides are now facing the prospect of B Division European Championships in 2025 regardless of result of the bronze medal play-off.

Having opened the scoring in the sixth minute and wearing the captain's armband in the absence of Sean Murray, Shane put in a typically strong performance, leading the team to an impressive win. Alastair Empey, Lee Cole and Louis Rowe completed the scoring for the Irish team.

When the final hooter went however, all eyes turned to Shane. After a magnificent international career spanning fourteen years and featuring a record 124 goals, scored in 242 caps, Shane addressed the assembled press, looking back on his illustrious spell in the green jersey. A spell which included a World Cup campaign, a European bronze medal and appearances at two Olympic Games.

"It was nice to get the win today. Obviously we came in with a goal to win gold and get that ticket. That wasn't to be, but it's been a long year with the Pro-League and obviously straight back into camp after the Olympics. Mentally not easy but it shows the character we have in this group."

"It's been a journey. It's been an absolute honour and privilege to have played for my country over 200 times and met people who I now consider friends for life"

"It's been great to finish here at home in front of family and friends. My wife Emma and my Mam and Dad and so many others. The people who have picked me up in the bad times and enjoyed



Shane O'Donoghue called it a day on his international career

celebrating the successes with me."

"There's a mountain of people who played a big role in my career who I have to thank. I'm sure I'll get to them all in the next few days and weeks."

As he makes the difficult transition from player to spectator, Shane remarked, "I wish nothing but success to this team going forward. I think we have

a really special group and I'll be on this side of the fence with a beer in hand, getting quite animated, cheering them on."

"I'm excited to see where this group goes over the next few years."

"All I can hope is that I've left that jersey in a better place."

## Athletics

## Rhasidat secures fourth place in Diamond League



Rhasidat secured fourth place in the 400m in Poland

Tallaght's Rhasidat Adeleke secured fourth place in the 400 metres race at the Diamond League in Poland on Sunday.

It was her first 400m race since the Olympic Games in Paris where she also claimed fourth spot in the final.

A member of Tallaght Athletic Club, Rhasidat registered a time of 50.00 flat, again behind Olympic champion Marileidy Paulino who was first past the line in a time of 48.66.

The 21-year-old sprinter started the race brightly and took the lead before Paulino bounced back to take first spot with Salwa Eid Naser in second with Natalia Kaczmarek completing the places in third.

Rhasidat has led through the first 200 metres in lane seven but could not keep up the momentum in the final stages.

Only two weeks after the Olympic Games, this was a very competitive race with seven of the eight finalists in Paris competing in Poland.

## Lucan Harriers members compete in Celbridge 5k



Some of the Lucan Harriers group

Lucan Harriers was very well represented at the Celbridge 5K, with 16 runners completing the race, many of those secured impressive PBs. Ciara Rooney, one of our newest Fit4life club members participated in her first ever Road race and secured an impressive PB, readying her for the imminent Harriers 5-mile race.

A fast flat course awaited those participating in the Celbridge 5k, an initial 2km slight decline with a 2km slight incline finishing on the Celbridge AC grass track. Sky Blue T-shirts were available for the first 250 participants.

A cold, 12 degrees, and very wet night was on offer with Storm Lillian certainly making her presence felt. Warm up was swift, as participants chose to wait for as long as possible in the warm and inviting clubhouse before bracing the elements.

The race commenced at 8pm near the club house, heading out along the Clane Road, with a gradual continual descent towards Celbridge Abbey, and a sharp left up Church Road where the incline started. Runners were cheered on along the way by some hardy spectators, donning rain coats and wellies dodging the rising puddles. Making a left at Scoil na Mainistreach along Shackleton Road, the final Km returned along the Clane Road towards the Club house for a final lap of the grass club track. Goodies were on offer in the clubhouse after the race for the water logged participants.

## Motorsport

## Daire remains in second in the championship

DAIRE Flock continues to grow in confidence as he remains in second place in the championship as he goes to Donnington Park with three rounds still to go, to decide the championship.

As Daire entered race day in Snetterton last week, the weather was going to play a factor as the forecast was high temperatures at the Norfolk track reaching 32 degrees!

Qualifying was only 15 minutes pre-race testing on Friday suggested the drivers had to bring the tyres up to temperature and not to over heat them. This proved to be the case as the best times were set at the end of the session. Leaving Daire qualifying 2nd for race one and pole for race two.

A poor start in Race One demoted Daire to third, this started a race long battle to regain second. Over 20 minutes he would swap places several times with his fellow competitor, who followed closely behind Daire in the championship. Unfortunately, this battling for second allowed his team mate to pull away, developing a 1.5 second gap that the leader maintained. With 5 mins to go Daire was able to grab second on the last corner which he was able to keep to the chequered flag.

Again a poor start from pole in Race 2 put Daire in second which he maintained for most of the race until a small mistake pushed him wide demoting him to third.

This started a race long battle between three cars, being so close and with very little in between the cars, Daire tried throughout the race to reclaim second, which unfortunately he was not able to do.

Daire said after the weekend, "I was confident I could have managed a couple of wins after my Anglesey victory, unfortunately it was not meant to be, I now look forward to Donnington Park. I would like to thank

my team Westbourne Motorsport for their amazing support and help, my sponsors, Reactive Welding, Glenhaze Distribution, Rygor Group, Gorilla Design, Brandfixx and Halls Motorsport



Daire Flock remains second in the championship

Soccer

# Bangor tops in seven-goal thriller

## Rovers girls in U17squad



Shamrock Rovers player Ella Kelly

The Ireland Women's Under-17's will take on Portugal in two International Friendlies in Lisbon.

Included in the team is Tallaght girl Ella Kelly who plays for Shamrock Rovers. Ella's teammate Laura Fanning is also in the squad as Anna Butler who plays in the forwards.

Head Coach James Scott gets to use the two games as part of the squad's preparation for their UEFA WU17 European Championship qualifiers in November.

The Girls in Green beat Northern Ireland 3-1 in Belfast last week and will aim to build some momentum from that as their 2024-25 season gets going.

Bangor Celtic recorded a 4-3 win over Wayside Celtic and (right) action from the match.

Photos by Anthony O'Brien

SPECTATORS at the Transport Club in Crumlin were treated to a thriller on Sunday as the home side Bangor Celtic took the honours in a seven goal nail-biter reports Ken Doyle.

Wayside Celtic were the opposition in the Crumlin outfit's first game of the new Leinster Senior League Senior Division campaign.

And what a game it was, with Bangor's Ognjen Lovic giving the hosts the lead after just two minutes. Darragh O'Connor equalised for the visitors before Ryan Carberry restored Bangor's

lead in the 44th minute. A Lewis O'Neill goal for Wayside on the stroke of half time ensured the sides went into the break level.

In the second half, Wayside went 3-2 ahead through Cian Fay and as the 90th minute approached it looked like being the decisive goal.

The game then swung back into the balance as Troy Stedman struck for Bangor on 90 minutes.

Deep into injury time, Shane O'Keeffe scored the winner for Bangor prompting wild celebrations among the

players and the Bangor Celtic faithful.

Speaking after the game, and once he'd got his breath back, Bangor manager John Scott told *The Echo*, "it's great to start the season with a win, we can't ask for any more. The players gave everything and we're on the board for the season. No complaints here."

Regarding the rest of Bangor's season, John told us, "I believe we've had a good pre-season and had minimal disruption to the squad. Adam Condron and Ronan Hanaphy moved on and we wish them all the best, but we were

delighted to be able to bring in Shane O'Keeffe who's commuting from Longford to play for us."

Asked if Celtic could improve on last season's sixth place, John said, "well sometimes it's difficult to compete with clubs with more resources than ourselves, but I firmly believe that with a full squad, we can put it up to any of them."

"I'm very optimistic about the season and we have three points on the board so with a bit of luck, we'll be in there challenging."

Boxing

# Westside host successful Emerald Cup

WESTSIDE Boxing Club brought another successful Emerald Box Cup to Tallaght. Held in the Tallaght Leisure Centre it took place over three days from August 23rd to the 25th reports Ken Doyle.

Westside Boxing Club which is based in Brookview have been run by the Stacey family now for over thirty years and was very proud to host the

second annual version of the competition. The club has membership of over 100 boxers and caters for all age groups.

The Emerald Box Cup had seen boxers from across England, Scotland, Wales, Holland, Spain, France and several other countries. With over 400 entries the competition three boxing rings were constantly in use over the

three days.

Tallaght was well represented at Emerald Box Cup, with many of our promising young boxers taking titles and medals galore. Westside BC was of course involved, along with St Mary's BC and Jobstown Boxing club.

Every aspect of the tournament was run perfectly, having been overseen by

Westside headcoach Frank Stacey. Frank told *The Echo*, "This competition wouldn't be possible without the help of our members volunteering their time and effort put this massive tournament together. Jablink were also a huge help in the organisation of the event."

"It was great to see the local clubs do so well and all the Tallaght clubs

who sent boxers, St Mary's, Jobstown BC and ourselves, winning titles and showing that boxing within our community is alive and going very well."

"We'll be back again next year and looking forward to seeing this tournament grow as it has proven to be great for Tallaght and the businesses around the local community."



Emmunuel Oubunmi from St Mary's Boxing Club enjoyed success



Westside's Alice Stacey presents Jamie Lynch with his certificate



Daniel Fakoyede from Westside BC, won by a third round stoppage



Ref Marty O'Neill presenting Boxer of the Tournament to Brandon Geoghan

## GAA

## Big victory for Boden over Syl's

Having lost the first match to Ballymun, Ballyboden St Enda's senior footballers ongoing involvement in the championship depended on winning this match against St Sylvester's which they did 0-15 to 1-9.

Boden played against the wind in the first half and were first to score after four minutes when Daire Sweeney converted a free with his left foot from a difficult angle to the right of the goal posts.

Sylvester's cancelled this out a minute later before Colm Basquel converted two frees from the other side one following a foul on himself as he tried to make progress towards goal.

Both sides were playing cagey football and Sylvesters scored three points in a row (two frees, the other hopped over the bar) to put them a point ahead with 17 minutes gone.

Daire Sweeney scored from play after 22 minutes, but Syls cancelled this out two minutes later. There were no further scores before the half time whistle, with the score at 0-4 to 0-5.

Ross McGarry and Galway star Cein D'Arcy put Boden ahead with a point each in the first five minutes of the second half. Syls levelled matters again with a converted free. McGarry then set up Colm Basquel for a point from play on eight

minutes followed shortly afterwards by a point from Mick McDonald.

Then, on 10 minutes disaster struck when Sylvesters got through for a goal to put them a point ahead. Boden didn't panic with Daire Sweeney (2) and Donogh McCabe popping over points from play. Syls got a point back from a converted free, but Boden again responded well with points from play from Mick McDonald and Harry Donaghy with 20 minutes gone.

Hugh O'Sullivan brought off a great save and in the next attack, Colm Basquel converted a free to put Boden four points ahead with 26 minutes gone. Then, another disaster, as the referee awarded a penalty to Sylvesters. Again, Hugh O'Sullivan came to the rescue and dived to his left to save the penalty. Syls were not giving up and they came back with two points, well into added time, to bring the Boden lead down to two points. With 35 minutes gone, Daire Sweeney knocked over the last score of the game and, shortly after, the final whistle sounded to the great relief of all Boden members.

Next up is the last round robin match against Ballinteer St John's with the winners progressing to the quarter finals and the losers exiting the competition.

Aisling O'Neill clears her lines for St Anne's in the final against Kilmacud Crokes.

Photos Maurice Grehan



## Jameson on form for Mary's

CONOR Jameson was on form for St Mary's senior footballers as they overcame St Maur's 4-15 to 1-8 in Group 3 in the championship at the weekend.

Jameson helped himself to two goals and nine points as he tormented the Maur's defence throughout as Mary's got their campaign back on track.

Mary's were 1-9 to 0-4 ahead at the interval with

Jameson grabbing his first goal after 25 minutes.

In the second half Shaun O'Toole and Jacob Clarke found the back of the Maur's net while Eoin Murray, Blaine Kelly, Adam Brady, Shane Buckley, Adam Drewett and Harry O'Keeffe were on target.

Mary's plays Parnells in their final group match requiring a victory to see who reaches the next stage.

## Davis seniors get their campaign back on track

THOMAS Davis did just enough to get their Senior Football Championship campaign back on track as they pipped Skerries Harps by 5-13 to 3-17 in their thriller in Balgriffin.

Their first three scores were goals, coming via Eoin Kirby, Eamon Conroy and a Chris Sallier penalty with Sallier's second spot kick

and a Davy Keogh goal after the break seeing them over the line.

Sallier helped himself to two goals and two points to emerge Thomas Davis top scorer while Eoin Kirby kicked six points, five from frees to get them over the line.

Elsewhere, Lucan Sarsfields went down to Raheny 1-10 to 2-16.

## Brave Anne's fall to Kilmacud in final

KILMACUD Crokes registered all their scores from open play as they secured a second Go Ahead Ireland Dublin LGFA Championship title in three days, as their C team claimed Junior E honours with a 13-point victory over St. Anne's 4-14 to 2-7 at DCU in Glasnevin on Sunday, reports Cólín Duffy. This win followed the Junior I title clinched by their D team on Friday reports Cólín Duffy.

St Anne's, last year's Junior F champions, were aiming for another step up the ranks. However, they knew the challenge ahead, having previously lost to Kilmacud Crokes 2-14 to 3-8 in the group stages. The match started slowly, with both teams struggling in blustery conditions. Kilmacud Crokes' Orla Fahey opened the scoring in the fifth minute, and the Stillorgan side quickly gained momentum.

Kilmacud Crokes raced to a 1-4 to 0-0 10th minute lead, with a well taken Aisling Carroll goal and points from Claire Young, Ava Burke, and Emer Crowley. St. Anne's responded with a

point from Katie Callery after a fine solo run by Abaigh Pollock, followed by a Caragh Jones free.

As the game progressed, Kilmacud Crokes hit a purple patch, scoring 1-3 unanswered from the 25th to 28th minute, including a goal from Sinead Murphy after good work by Fahey.

A St. Anne's goal chance from Katie Callery was thwarted by Crokes keeper Alana McCrohan, while at the opposite end Fahey's third point pushed Crokes to a 2-8 to 0-3 lead. St. Anne's managed a goal from Ava Barnes, after good work by Mya Clare on the stroke of injury-time but Crokes still led by nine at half-time, with Ava Burke adding to their tally.

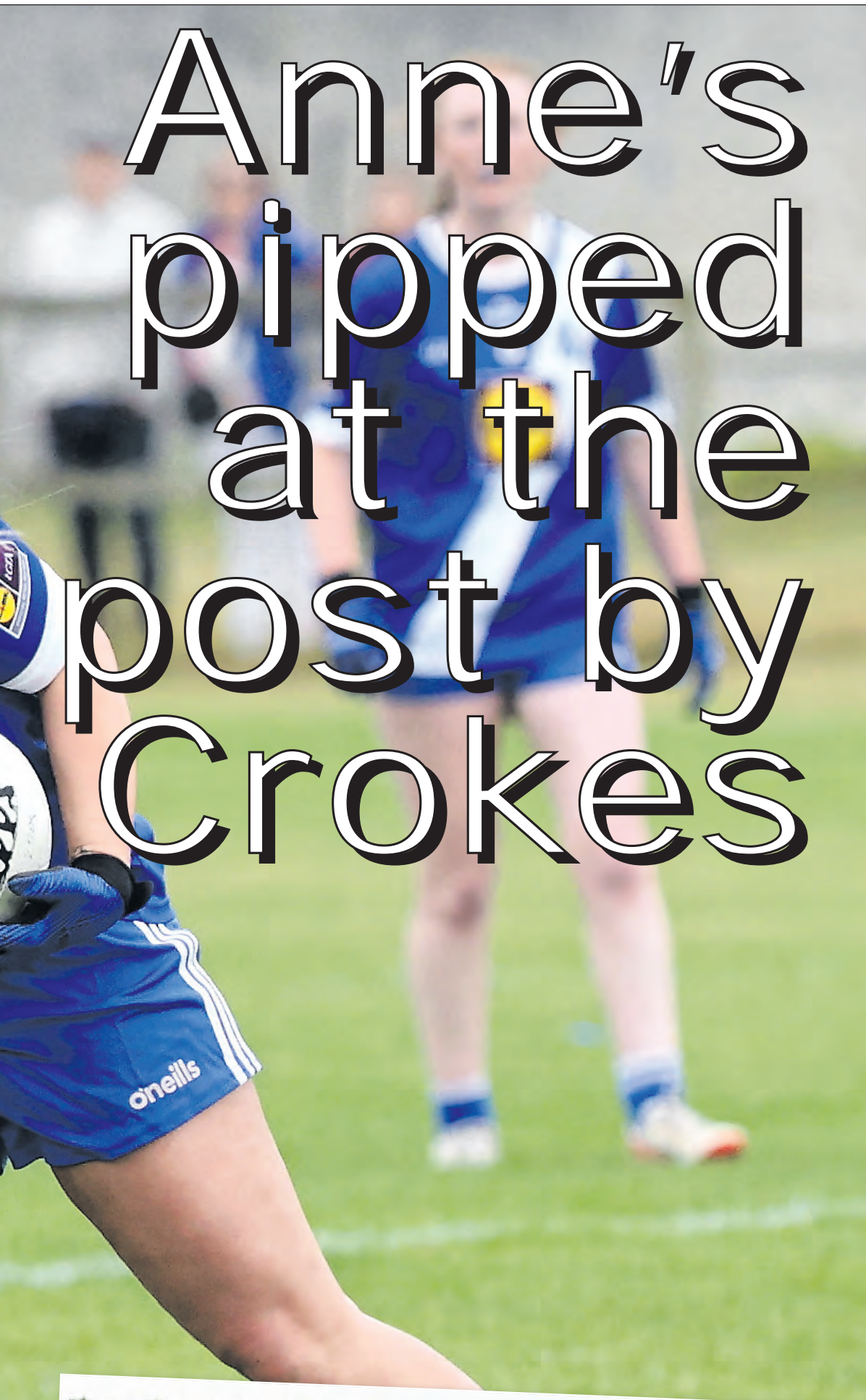
The second half saw both teams struggle to score early on, but Kilmacud Crokes extended their lead with points from Aisling Carroll and Roisin O'Connor. St. Anne's tried to stay in the game with points from Callery, Jones and Clare but Carroll netted her third goal in the 56th minute to seal St. Anne's fate.

Despite a late goal from Anna Barnes, St. Anne's couldn't close the gap.

Kilmacud Crokes captain Grainne Reynolds received the Cup from Dublin LGFA Secretary Mary O'Connor, and St. Anne's defender Orla Walsh was named the Go-Ahead Ireland Player of the Match.

**ST ANNES:** Maryjane Douglas; Aisling O'Neill, Jodie Coghlan, Cara Barnes; Tanya White, Orla Walsh, Amy Tyrell; Abaigh Pollock, Megan Doran; Maria Lee, Katie Callery (0-2, 1f), Ava Barnes (1-1); Mya Clare (0-1, 1f), Shona McNally, Caragh Jones (0-2, 1f).

**Subs used:** Anna Barnes (1-0) for Tyrell (29); Eva Byrne for O'Neill (HT); Sunnibhe Peelo for White (37); Ellen Corcoran (0-1) for Jones (45); Leah Kirwan for O Walsh (57). Panel: Grace Mahon, Abbey Mahoney, Emma Walsh, Leah Kirwan, Lily O'Connor, Katie O'Hara, Lynn Murphy, Abbie Doran, Katie Doran, Lauren Quinn, Abbey Donaghy.



St Anne's ladies football team went down to Kilmacud Crokes in the decider

# Spirited Davis ladies go down to Ravens



Thomas Davis went down to Fingal Ravens in the Junior F Club Championship title  
Photos Maurice Grehan

Niamh Mulvany was her sides top-scorer with 2-6, including a crucial injury-time goal, as Fingal Ravens secured the Go-Ahead Ireland Dublin LGFA Junior F Club Championship title winning 2-8 to 0-0, overcoming a spirited second-half comeback from Thomas Davis at the windswept DCU Sports Grounds on Sunday, reports *Cóilín Duffy*.

Mulvany, the eventual Player of the Match, played a pivotal role, with her 66th-minute goal settling Fingal Ravens in a tense match. Ravens led by seven points at half-time, but Thomas Davis rallied fiercely in the second half, reducing the deficit to just one point by the 55th minute after Nicole Scott's fifth point.

Defensive efforts from Alex Giglione, Emma Kennedy, Destiny Ogbonna, and Sinead Murray kept Thomas Davis in the game, but Ravens led 1-5 to 0-1 at half-time.

Newman pushed them eight points clear on the restart, Thomas Davis mounted a strong comeback, with Scott adding two frees, but a penalty save by Ravens' keeper Maebh Browne tested their resolve.

Ravens were reduced to 14 players following the sin-binning of Lucy Butler, while Thomas Davis continued to etch into the Ravens lead.

Thomas Davis cut the gap to one point with scores from Karla Plowman, Scott (2) and Katelyn



Action from Thomas Davis ladies final against Fingal Ravens

However, Thomas Davis couldn't find the equaliser.

Thomas Davis made one enforced change, with Sarah Prendergast replacing Caitriona Payne, who had battled hard to return from a calf injury, but unfortunately this final came too soon for the talented defender. Fingal included Ciara Farrell in place of Nicole Harford in their line-up.

Mulvany and Scott exchanged early points, and although Mulvany blazed a seventh minute penalty over the crossbar, it still saw Ravens take a lead they never relinquished, despite Thomas Davis's strong efforts.

The game was marked by challenging conditions, with strong gusts affecting both teams' accuracy. Thomas Davis had three wides in the first quarter, while Ravens also missed opportunities. Despite these challenges, Ravens scored their first goal in the 20th minute through Mulvany, assisted by Amy McCaffrey.

Murray, but Mulvany's late 1-1 during the nine-minutes of injury-time proved decisive. Despite a fine point from Abby Ferns and good work by keeper Abby Whelan, Fingal Ravens held on to register their first women's championship title win.

After the match, Fingal Ravens captain Blathnaid Ní Scanail received the cup from Dublin LGFA Secretary Mary O'Connor, capping a hard-fought victory.

**THOMAS DAVIS B:** Abby Whelan; Alex Giglione, Stacey Byrne, Sarah Prendergast; Destiny Ogbonna, Emma Kennedy, Sinead Murray; Karla Plowman (0-1), Abby Ferns (0-1); Nicola Staunton, Katelyn Murray (0-2), Hollie Byrne; Kelly Mc Kiernan, Nicole Scott (0-6, 5f), Georgia Plowman.

**Subs used:** Emma Ferns for G Plowman (35); Sara Moody for Stacey Byrne (40); Lauren McGovern for Prendergast (45); Natasha O'Neill for McKiernan (47) Panel: Siobhan Byrne, Leah Farrell, Aisling Phillips, Caitriona Payne

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