

Soccer
players
on trials in
Germany

Best Small
Family Business
of The Year 2021



www.echo.ie

Echo

SHOP LOCAL - SUPPORT LOCAL
The Echo Local Business Directory

Online Integrated
Counselor,
Psychotherapist
& Energy Healer
For an
appointment call:
Nuala: 086 0314615

Core Beauty
and more...
Core Glow Facial €75
includes: 1.2hr
Phone: 01411226 or text
01411226

DC Window Repairs
085 7493409
• Prompt and reliable service
• High quality workmanship
• Free quotes and estimates
Call today for a free survey & quote

YOGA
To experience your local business in
the directory phone: 01 882 2200
or email: advertising@echo.ie

Paul Halpin
Window Cleaner
Other services include:
1. Window cleaning
2. Gutter cleaning
3. Christmas lights
4. Gutter runs
5. Garden maintenance
5 years experience
Contact:
085 2406094 or 085 3162479

READ IT, BELIEVE IT, REAL LOCAL NEWS - SERVING CLONDALKIN, BALLYFERMOT AND LUCAN - BE PART OF THE STORY

Ballyfermot
artists get to
showcase
their work

page 31

Marie raises
awareness
of living
with COPD

page 40

page 36



Faces of the
community



9 771649 962066

FIREBOMB ATTACK DESTROYS HOME

A NEWBORN baby was amongst those evacuated on Monday night following the latest firebomb attack in North Clondalkin, reports Maurice Garvey. See page 4

CALLS FOR A TASK FORCE TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO TACKLE GANGS

According to a council report there is a commitment to deliver 8,750 homes in the area

Clonburris housing projects to cost €322 million

AN OVERVIEW of the Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) presented to members this week by South Dublin County Council details nine major projects for delivery by 2032, reports Maurice Garvey. See page 3

STAFFORDS
FUNERAL HOMES



Corner of Drumfinn Rd & Ballyfermot Rd,
Ballyfermot, Dublin 10. Call Us Anytime (01) 623 0050
www.staffordfunerals.com

Tax Returns Made Simple

Book a free initial consultation today to discuss your 2023 tax return.

Contact TaxAssist Tallaght:

01 905 9002

www.taxassist.ie/tallaght

Contact TaxAssist Walkinstown:

01 492 3588

www.taxassist.ie/walkinstown

TaxAssist
Accountants



The Echo Newspaper Group
covers the following areas:

TALLAGHT: CITYWEST, KNOCKLYON, TEMPLEOGUE,
 RATHFARNHAM, WALKINSTOWN,
 BALLYCULLEN, SAGGART, RATHCOOLE & BLESSINGTON

CLONDALKIN: NEWLANDS, MONASTERY,
 RED COW, BAWNOGUE, DEANSRATH,
 LIFFEY VALLEY & NEILSTOWN

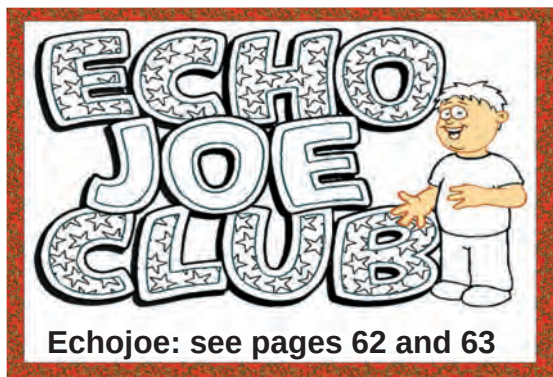
LUCAN: PALMERSTOWN, DODSBORO, ADAMSTOWN,
 ESKER, WESTMANSTOWN & NEWCASTLE

BALLYFERMOT: CHERRY ORCHARD,
 COLD CUT, CRUMLIN, DRIMNAGH, BLUEBELL,
 INCHICORE & KILMAINHAM

Managing Director: Emma Kennedy *emma@echo.ie*
Executive Editor: David Kennedy *editor@echo.ie*
News Editor: William O'Connor *william@echo.ie*
Sports: *sport@echo.ie*
advertising@echo.ie **news@echo.ie**
 Photos taken by *Echo* photographers are available
 to purchase in digital or print format

Next Edition

The next edition of ***The Echo***
in the shops from Thursday,
Nov 21, 2024. **Don't miss it!**

[illegible]

Business starts on page 41



MANSION: The property in Saggart belonged to Daniel Kinahan and was seized by the Criminal Assets Bureau

Crime boss's Saggart mansion on the market

Opening price of €550,000 for ‘impressive detached four-bedroom residence’

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

A CRIME boss's mansion in Saggart has been put up for sale for an opening price of €550,000. The Criminal Assets Bureau (CAB) seized the property that belonged to Kinahan Organised Crime Group's leader Daniel Kinahan, two years ago after it was found to be the proceeds of drug-trafficking. Located at 10 Coldwater Lakes in Saggart Village, the house is an "impressive detached

four-bedroom residence” according to estate agent BRG Gibson Auctions.

BRG have it listed among their online properties and set the auctioning date for Thursday, December 12.

“The house is set on an expansive corner site in a gated development, offering 3,410sq ft [317sq m] of living space across two floors,” reads the listing.

A grand staircase with rich wood banisters and grey carpeting marks the entrance.

The 1,490sq ft [138sq m] ground floor includes a spacious front room with a bay window, a

dining and living room with a classic fireplace, and a guest toilet.

A curved island with black countertops makes the kitchen “unique” according to BRG, and the open-plan design integrates it with a dining area and a living area.

The kitchen also leads to the utility room with an additional toilet.

The first floor spans 1,920sq ft [178sq m] and it includes four large bedrooms with two-ensuites. The main bathroom is also located on the first floor.

The property includes a

“spacious” garage with mirrored walls and a sprung floor, which according to the agent is ideal for use “as a home gym, dance studio, or recreational space.”

According to CAB, businessman Jim Mansfield Jr gave the Saggart mansion to Daniel Kinahan’s group to repay them after a previous deal collapsed.

Mr Mansfield owned the house since 2014, and in 2015 the gardaí found evidence that Daniel Kinahan had lived in it, such as a passport and an Aer Lingus baggage sticker in his name.

Tidy Towns groups granted €61,776 to support activities

TIDY Towns groups in South Dublin County were granted €61,776 by the Council in 2024, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

Every year since 2019, a budget of €100,000 has been available to Tidy Towns groups administered by SDCC Environmental Awareness team.

As of October 2024, the main recipients were Rathfarnham Tidy Towns receiving €27,500, Newcastle Tidy Towns receiving €14,000 and Clondalkin Tidy Towns with €10,362.

€2,000 were granted in the same period to Adamstown, Cherrywood, Woodstown, and Tymon North and St Aongus groups.

Clondalkin, also featuring as the second tidiest town in the county at the Tidy Towns Awards 2024, was among the main recipients in 2023.

According to SDCC data,



ACTIVITIES: Clondalkin Tidy Towns received €23,744 last year

€97,040 of Council funds supported Tidy Towns activities across the county in 2023. €23,744 were granted to Clondalkin Tidy Towns while Tallaght Tidy Towns received €16,554. Rathfarnham followed with €15,000 and Newcastle received €10,500. “SDCC extends heartfelt thanks

to Tidy Towns groups for their dedication to enhancing their communities through hard work and commitment,” said the Council.

“In 2024, these groups have achieved improvements in their areas, driven entirely by volunteers and their relentless efforts.

“Their dedication to creating

cleaner, greener and more beautiful spaces not only transformed South Dublin County, but also fostered community pride.”

Round 3 funding for 2024 opened on Monday, November 11.

Contact
tidytowns@sdbulincoco.ie for more information or visit
www.sdcc.ie to apply.

Clonburris housing projects to cost in the region of €322 million

Report by SDCC says there is a ‘landowners’ commitment to deliver 8,750 homes

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

AN OVERVIEW of the Clonburris Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) presented to members this week by South Dublin County Council details nine major projects for delivery by 2032.

Total cost for the residential projects which include social and affordable housing is €322m.

This includes €186m from the State’s URDF fund, €19m from the National Transport Authority (NTA) and the “balance from landowners.”

According to a report by SDCC, there is a “landowners’ commitment to deliver 8,750 plus homes” in the Clonburris SDZ.

SDCC have capacity for approximately 2,500 homes on council-owned lands within the SDZ.

To date in the overall development, 470 homes are completed, 1,730 homes are under construction, and 3,456 homes have planning permission.

Projects are being carried out in 6 Phases.

Speaking at the council meeting on Monday, Elaine Leech, said they will be submitting proposals for Phases 3-6 to An Bord Pleanála as a planning application.

Of the 2,500 homes on council-

owned lands within the SDZ to be delivered across six phases, Ms Leech said the tenure-mix breakdown is on average 33 per cent social, 33 per cent affordable purchase and 33 per cent cost rental.

“There is also other opportunities to work in the SDZ with private developers, the affordable housing bodies and turnkey opportunities.”

SDCC hope to submit their planning application to ABP by the “end of December/early January at the latest,” according to Ms Leech.

Phase 6 contains proposals for Kishoge Urban Centre and a “high-density” development from “2/3- to 8-storeys” and capacity on council-owned land for approximately 650 homes.

Ms Leech said the options for Phase 6 being presented to members include the procurement of development partners for detailed planning, design and construction.

“We could also examine the possibility of partnering with an approved housing body (AHB) or the Land Development Agency (LDA), or do we wait until phases 1-5 are progressed?”

SDCC proposed the “competitive dialogue process” which “could accelerate delivery within Phase 6” but this model would require Section 183 approval for “building licence and land



CAPACITY: An artist's impression of Clonburris

transfer for the future sale.”

The social and cost-rental units would remain in council ownership under this model.

Speaking at the meeting, Cllr Madeleine Johansson (PBP) does not believe there is enough social housing in the proposal.

“Considering we have a huge housing need in this country, we have thousands and thousands on our social housing waiting lists. There needs to be a thought on how we are going to house people, because this is really the

largest site we have.”

Johansson also took aim at the price of the affordable homes, which are out of reach for “those most in need.”

Countering this point, Cllr Joanna Tuffy (Lab) said affordable homes in Kilcarbery at €300,000 compared favourably with average nationwide house prices of €400,000.

“As a councillor we have a duty, we can say not enough is being done, but we need to promote the good stuff that’s happening,” said Cllr Tuffy.

Cllrs Teresa Costello (FF) and

Pamela Kearns (Lab) also support the mix-tenure as there is a need for housing for “all types” of people.

Responding to Cllr Johansson, Ms Leech said the usual social housing allocation in developments is 20 per cent and they have exceeded this with 35 per cent for Clonburris which is “very high.”

“Financing the development, we wouldn’t get full approval for social housing for over 1,200 units within the development,” said Ms Leech who noted the ‘Housing for All’ policy.

€18.50
PER
CHILD

KIDSPACE

RATHCOOLE & RATHFARNHAM
Children's Indoor Play Centre

CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY AT KIDSPACE RATHFARNHAM & RATHCOOLE



€25 PH
PRIVATE
LASER
QUEST
PARTY

INCLUDES:

- PARTY HOST
- RESERVED SEATING
- CHOICE OF THEMED PARTY ROOM
- DOWNLOADABLE INVITES
- RETURN VOUCHER FOR PARTY CHILD

MENU

CHIPS WITH CHICKEN
NUGGETS & SAUSAGES

OR

A PIZZA PARTY

VEGGIE OPTIONS
AVAILABLE

UNLIMITED CORDIAL
& PARTY TREATS
INCLUDED

MIN NOS APPLY

KIDSPACE RATHCOOLE
GREENOGUE BUSINESS
PARK, RATHCOOLE
D24 WR20

(01) 4016541

KIDSPACE RATHFARNHAM
20 MAIN ST,
RATHFARNHAM
D14 V3H9

(01) 5552103

www.kidspace.ie/ birthday-parties



40kg Superflame Ovoids

SALE Friday & Saturday

15th & 16th November

Down to €19.99

FREE Delivery
On All Orders!





**Ballymount
Coal Depot**

**BEST PRICED SOLID
FUEL IN DUBLIN**

20KG & 40KG BAGS AVAILABLE

SUPERHEAT	OVOIDS	STOVEBLEND
€28	€27	€29



Butane & Propane Gas

Contact for
Prices

Message us on Facebook
with any questions

083 416 3574

Ballymount Road Lower
DUBLIN 12
D12 A625

Only 25 per cent of councillors volunteered to attend the council-funded training on Domestic Violence

ONLY 10 out of 40 South Dublin councillors attended a council-funded training on Domestic Violence, sparking disappointment among elected members, *reports Alessia Micalizzi*.

"I thank the council for their support when I asked to use part of the Budget for this, and it was fantastic to see 52 frontline staff attending," said Tallaght South councillor Louise Dunne (SF) at the council meeting on Monday, November 11.

"I'm very disappointed that only ten elected members attended it, considering how big of an issue it is in the country," she added.

Cllr Dunne called for a Domestic Violence and Awareness Training earlier this year and said she was happy to see three male councillors attending.

"It was very good and informative. If the training is to go ahead again, I think all the elected members should attend it.

"When a victim contacts us, which happens quite a lot, we need to be able to properly advise them, give them the information they need, and direct them to the available service.

"Even though I'm disappointed, I hope it was just due to people's schedules and busy

lives, and that they couldn't attend this time around, but hopefully in the future, they will."

According to SDCC Manager Colm Ward, 25 per cent of councillors turning up at the training was "really good" considering their busy schedules.

"We'll look into it again if we need to," he said.

The training raised awareness on how domestic violence services are increasingly needed.

Clondalkin councillor Francis Timmons (Lab), one of the three male councillors who

attended, was disappointed to learn that 56 people had to be turned away by Saoirse Domestic Violence Services due to a lack of resources and accommodation.

"We need to give these people a place to go," he said at the council meeting.

"There is a challenge with the progression from domestic violence refugees to permanent accommodation," responded Mr Ward.

"We work with all agencies to try and progress on that path while there are transitional housing options as well."



FIRE DAMAGE: The house in Quarryvale which was the target of a firebomb and (right) the inside of the property gutted

Newborn baby is evacuated after house firebomb attack

House gutted in blaze forcing families to evacuate

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

A NEWBORN baby was amongst those evacuated on Monday night following the latest firebomb attack in North Clondalkin.

TD Mark Ward (SF) has warned that someone will be killed if the violent feud in Quarryvale is allowed to continue.

"Another firebomb attack last night has destroyed three homes. I spent time with families this morning who told me that they had to evacuate their home with an 11-day old child," said Deputy

Ward on Tuesday.

The Dublin Mid-West TD has been calling for a task force to be put in place to tackle warring criminal gangs in North Clondalkin, a problem which has been going on for over a year now.

The *Echo* reported in May that Ward raised the problem with senior gardai at a JPC Policing Meeting in an attempt to halt the violence which has led to innocent families fleeing their property due to houses beside them being targeted.

Aspects of the feud have played out publicly on social media.

It is linked to the hit-and-run on Cloverhill Road last month, in which a

man has been charged with attempted murder, and a machete attack in June on Neilstown Road which occurred in broad daylight.

"I personally made the guards and South Dublin County Council aware that the home that was attacked last night was under threat, but nothing was done about it. This has resulted in ordinary decent families having their homes destroyed," said Deputy Ward.

"Things are escalating, and families are living in fear. It is like living in a war zone. I contacted the Minister for Justice in June and asked for a task force to be set up. Local gardai are doing their best but are under-

resourced.

"Last month I again contacted the Minister, the Garda Commissioner and South Dublin County Council and called for an urgent, task force, similar to what was set up in the North Inner City.

"This plea fell on deaf ears and has led to this further firebomb attack.

"I am aware that the local garda station is putting resources in the area, but they are limited.

"We need a dedicated task force with the appropriate resources. South Dublin County Council also have a role to play in the solution on estate management grounds."

“Things are escalating, and families are living in fear. It is like living in a war zone. I contacted the Minister for Justice in June and asked for a task force to be set up

Concerned parents call for security personnel at school

Over 230 sign petition as they believe criminal activity is on the rise in the village

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

CONCERNED parents called for security personnel to be deployed at St Mary's School, Saggart, as they believe criminal activity is on the rise in the village.

Over 230 already signed a petition stating that “reports of suspicious behaviour, potential threats, and dangerous encounters near the school grounds are rising.”

"Whether it's individuals loitering around the vicinity or more serious incidents unfolding on nearby streets, these occurrences are unacceptable," it continued.

"The school yards are open and accessible, during breaks as well," a mother told *The Echo*.

She said the community increasingly witness car and houses being broken into and substance using around the village at any time of the day.

"The Gardaí confirmed to us that crime is generally rising in our area.

"We don't feel safe, and we fear something more serious will eventually happen, but at the

SECURITY: Parents are concerned at the rise of dangerous encounters

SECURITY: Parents are concerned at the rise of dangerous encounters

**“We don’t feel safe,
and we fear
something more serious
will eventually happen, but
at the same time we wish ..**

same time we wish our children wouldn't have to grow up seeing gardaí patrolling around."

After a proposal to deploy guards outside of St Mary's school, parents thought security personnel would be more suitable and are hoping to bring their concerns before the Department of Education.

"The recent spate of negative activity around the school has created a real sense of unease,"

they wrote in the petition.

“We are calling for the local authorities, the school board, and relevant community groups to come together to allocate the necessary funds and resources to hire professional security staff for St. Mary’s School.

“By bringing security to the school, we can deter negative behaviour and ensure that any potential risks are swiftly identified and dealt

with.

“Security personnel would monitor the school’s entrance, parking areas, and surrounding streets, keeping a close eye on potential threats and ensuring the safety of everyone on the premises.”

An Garda Síochána was contacted for comment but a response wasn't received at the time of print.

#CrokeParkChristmas

Santa Experience

at Croke Park

Santa guides his sleigh back to GAA HQ this winter!

Starts 23rd November

BOOK NOW crokepark.ie/santa

GAA MUSEUM
CROKE PARK




THE
PLAZA
HOTEL

December Dining

CELEBRATE THE SEASON

Allow our events team to create a magical gathering for you - all you and your guests need to do is turn up! Book a Festive Lunch or Dinner at Alder Café Bar or Mills Restaurant.

TWO COURSES €28 PER PERSON

THREE COURSES €33 PER PERSON

Both festive lunch and dinner menus include festive table decorations and Christmas crackers. Groups of 10+ receive complimentary mulled wine on arrival. Minimum numbers of 10 guests apply for Festive Lunch & Dinner.

Festive Lunch/Dinner

STARTER

Duck Liver Pate
pistachio crumb, blackberry compote, brioche toast

Seasonal Roast Vegetable Soup
herb crouton, guinness bread

Chicken Caesar Salad
herb crouton, shaved parmesan, crispy pancetta

MAINS

Roast Turkey & Honey Glazed Ham
herb stuffing, mash, seasonal root vegetables, red wine jus

Poached Wild Salmon
green beans, creamed mash, hollandaise sauce

Wild Mushroom Risotto
shaved parmesan

Pan Seared Chicken
basil mash, wild mushroom & tarragon veloute

Boz Sirloin Steak
creaméd mash, cherry tomato, pepper sauce

€5 SUPPLEMENT

DESSERT

Warm Christmas Pudding
brandy custard & cream

Homemade Cheesecake
fresh cream

Apple & Cinnamon Crumble
vanilla ice cream

TEA /COFFEE

REMEMBER OUR VOUCHERS MAKE THE PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFT

To book or for more details call +353 1 462 4200 or email events@plazahotel.ie

www.plazahotel.ie

Vincent de Paul expect 250,000 calls for help before Christmas

Appeal is focused on providing help and hope to struggling parents and families

THE Society of Saint Vincent de Paul (SVP) launched its Annual Appeal on Tuesday as it expects calls for help will exceed last year's record of 250,000.

This year on the 180th anniversary of the SVP in Ireland the Annual Appeal is focused on providing help and hope to struggling parents who wonder how they will provide a happy Christmas for their families.

At the launch of this year's Annual Appeal National President Rose McGowan said, "The calls for help to our offices and local Conferences (Branches) continue to increase. In 2023 we had a record 250,000 + calls.

"This year we are on track to exceed that number as at the end of October we had recorded 182,195 requests for assistance which is up 1.4% on the same time last year. Help with food and energy continue to be the main reason for these requests.

"Our theme for this year, "The Wonder of Christmas", reflects the questions our volunteers face most regularly in the run up to Christmas; I wonder will I have enough for food and toys? I wonder do the kids know we are struggling? I wonder how it is affecting them? I wonder how we got into this situation? I wonder If we will ever get us out of it? I wonder if you can help?"

She went on to say; "Despite the one-off payments made by the Government coming this month and next there are many people who will continue to struggle to meet basic family expenses, particularly on special



LAUNCH: Broadcaster Marty Whelan with Amy O'Neill and her dad Jim who are both volunteers at SVP St Mary's Youth Club in Ballyfermot

occasions such as Christmas.

Those hardest hit will include one parent-families, low-income workers; households on fixed social welfare incomes; low-income households in rural areas; people with disabilities and their carers. That is why we are seeking donations to help families pay for food, heat their homes and ensure their children get a decent Christmas."

The SVP Annual Appeal was launched by broadcaster Marty Whelan. Special guests present were Mary Kennedy, a former Colaiste Bride student in Clondalkin who later this month will receive the Irish Academy Lifetime Achievement Award in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the television industry and Doireann Garrihy, Broadcaster and Podcast Host. Both have strong family connections with SVP.

Others to attend the launch were Amy O'Neill and her dad Jim who are both volunteers at SVP St Mary's Youth Club in Ballyfermot.

Also speaking at the launch SVP Head of Fundraising Elizabeth Smyth outlined many of the communication channels which will be used to draw public attention to the Annual Appeal.

These will include banners on Liberty Hall and SVP buildings around the city. She appealed to businesses to support local SVP branches & for community groups and schools to take part in this year's Gift of Choice campaign or wear a Christmas jumper for SVP.

Ellr. Linda de COURCY

✓OTE

1

INDEPENDENT IRELAND
Forward Together

Printed by PD Visual, Tallaght, D24
Issued by Ken O'Flynn, Independent Ireland

LET'S END ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION NOW

SCAN ME



WANT TO END THE 100 YEAR RULE OF FF/FG?

The *only* one who guarantees not to prop them up.



Vote 1

PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT

Paul Murphy TD

Sinn Féin



**VOTE FOR
CHANGE**

Vótáil Sinn Féin

**Seán
CROWE TD**

**Cllr Niamh
WHELAN**

In Dublin South West vote for your
Sinn Féin candidates in order of preference

court reports



tel: 4685350 email: news@echo.ie

Two years for man on criminal damage and possession of ammunition charges

A MAN with a previous conviction for attempted murder has been given a two-year sentence for possession of ammunition and criminal damage, reports *Niamh O'Donoghue*.

The court heard Charles Darcy has 59 previous convictions and is now in custody serving a number of sentences.

He has convictions for offences including attempted murder, robbery, assault, possession of a realistic firearm, violent disorder, public order, criminal damage, assaulting a police officer, breach of bail and violent behaviour in a garda station.

Darcy (35), The Crescent Building, Parkwest, pleaded guilty to possession of a .38 special calibre Sellier and Bellot ammunition at Junction 9 on the M50, Dublin 22 on May 26, 2018. The father-of one also pleaded

guilty to throwing a fire extinguisher through the window of Applegreen Service Station, Palmerstown on October 13, 2018.

Dublin Circuit Criminal Court heard that on May 26, 2018, the accused was found in a car on the hard shoulder of the M50 and there was a strong smell of cannabis in the car.

Detective Garda Neil McGrath told Tessa White BL prosecuting, when gardai searched him, they found a bullet in his pocket as well as a number of alprazolam tablets.

Under cross-examination Det Garda McGrath agreed with Mr Keith Spencer BL defending, that only a single bullet was found.

The bullet found had been put through his letterbox as a threat, Mr Spencer put it to the witness, but the

garda replied: "I couldn't say".

The court also heard that Darcy demanded cigarettes at a patrol station and when the shop assistant refused, he threw a fire extinguisher through the window.

The court heard the vehicle he was travelling in was a Volkswagen Passat that had been stolen from a man the previous day and was later found burnt-out in Coolock.

The driver of the car was previously sentenced the court heard, but there was no suggestion that Darcy had stolen it himself.

In mitigation Mr Spencer told the court his client came from a good family and was originally a member of the Travelling community.

He didn't get on well in school and found comfort and thrill-seeking behaviour in peer groups.

He had struggled with mental health and depression.

He said Darcy was beginning to turn the corner in prison and was drug-free.

He is also willing to engage in an intensive probation programme on release.

The court heard he is serving a number of sentences and is due for release in September 2025.

Judge Orla Crowe noted he had a considerable history of offending and had a conviction for attempted murder.

She said he was a young man who has spent a considerable amount of time in custody.

She noted he was a member of the Travelling community and his domestic circumstances were adverse. He descended into drug addiction

and spent a significant proportion of his life in custody.

The judge noted he had attended the prison's education centre and had done courses including crime awareness, food safety and word processing which she noted was "entirely commendable".

Judge Crowe also noted his counsel's assertion that he is entirely drug-free, although there was nothing there to vouch for that, she said.

She also noted he was on bail in relation to these matters.

She said he was living a "lawless life".

The judge also noted he "may have been the subject of a threat".

She handed down a two-year sentence but suspended the final six months and backdated it for time spent in custody.

Man sexually assaulted his two step-daughters over seven years

Nevin began abusing the eldest when she was eight and the other when she was seven

A MAN who sexually assaulted his two step-daughters over a seven-year period has been jailed for four years at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court reports *Claire Henry*.

Gerard Nevin (41) of Grove Park, Rathmines, Dublin 6, pleaded guilty to 22 counts of sexual assault committed between 2012 and June 2020 at various locations in Clondalkin, Lucan and Palmerstown.

The victims are Nevin's step-daughters, Catalina Grancea and Alexa Grancea.

They indicated they wished to waive their right to anonymity to allow Nevin to be named.

The court heard that Nevin abused Catalina Grancea when she was aged between eight and 16 years. Alexa Grancea was aged between seven and 15 when the abuse occurred.

Having considered the aggravating factors and the available mitigation, Judge Sinéad Ní Chúlacháin on Thursday imposed a global sentence of six years on Nevin, with the final two years suspended on strict conditions.

Detective Garda Laura Brennan told Caroline Latham BL, prosecuting, that the victims reported the abuse to gardai in June 2020.

The court heard that Nevin and the victims' mother were then in a relationship and they had all begun living together in 2012.

Catalina Grancea was interviewed by specialist gardai in July 2020.

She said when she first moved into the house, Nevin had been very nice, but that after a few months things changed, and he began to grab her breasts and buttocks on a regular basis.

On many occasions she asked him to stop, but he didn't, she told gardai.

She described multiple specific incidents, including a time in 2013 when she had been lying on her stomach on her mother's bed, scrolling through her phone.

Nevin came into the room and lay on the bed beside her, then sexually



assaulted her. He then threatened that if she told anyone, it would be her fault that the family broke up.

The court heard that Nevin pleaded guilty to 12 counts in total relating to Catalina Grancea, which included inappropriate touching of her buttocks, breasts and thigh.

Alexa Grancea was also interviewed by specialist gardai in July 2020. She said the offending happened regularly but gave specific details regarding ten incidents.

She said on one occasion, she had bent over to put something in the wardrobe when Nevin came up behind her and put his hand on her leg; he then moved it up her leg and touched her genital area over her clothes.

She told gardai that there were many occasions of inappropriate

touching of her breasts, buttocks and thighs.

On one occasion, she threatened the accused with a knife. Most of the offences took place in the family home, but they also occurred in his car.

Det Garda Brennan told the court that Nevin was arrested in 2021 and interviewed on two occasions.

He took a trial date but indicated in advance of this that he would plead guilty.

A victim-impact statement on behalf of Catalina Grancea was read to the court by Detective Brennan, which said "While it was still happening, I developed a hatred for myself."

She described how Nevin would "grab her wrists so hard they would bruise" and that she thought this was "what every dad did".

"I was so embarrassed and ashamed and I would get vivid dreams and nightmares."

She said "I would nearly pass out from anxiety," and relayed how she turned to drinking to cope with the nightmares.

She concluded by saying, "I know what happened to me was not my fault."

The detective also read Alexa Grancea's victim-impact statement which read: "While it was happening, I thought it was normal."

She said it took her a year to stop crying and that her relationship with her mother had been ruined.

She described self-harming and suffering from panic attacks.

She said she didn't want to go to school: "I just wanted to escape."

Prosecuting counsel outlined that the maximum sentence available to the court was 14 years.

Eanna Mulloy SC, defending, handed documents to the court, including two letters from Nevin to each of the complainants.

A letter from Nevin's employer was handed into the court, along with a letter from one of his co-workers.

Counsel said that the allegations had shattered the family life.

Mr Mulloy said Nevin is now in a new relationship and has a young child.

He asked the court to consider Nevin's good work history and previous unblemished record.

Nevin entered a guilty plea because he did not want to put the complainants through the trauma of a trial, counsel said.

Residents allegedly painting double yellow lines on roads

Neighbours are parking illegally due to limited resources on parking enforcement

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

RESIDENTS in Citywest are believed to have “painted double yellow lines themselves” outside of their estates to stop their neighbours from parking illegally.

The issue was raised in Citywest Avenue and Edenbrook, two areas where South Dublin County Council recently took charge of some roadways.

“I’m glad to see the taking-in-charge happening so quickly as it’s a new development,” said Tallaght South councillor Louise Dunne (SF) at the council meeting on Monday, November 11.

“But I’m asking the council if they have a plan to do something about this and if they can commit to work with residents up there,” she added.

“It is an issue we had foreseen given the lack of parking space in the adjoining developments, and now there are new residents who have children in wheelchairs and can’t exit their driveways.”

A council officer said SDCC have “limited resources on parking enforcement,” but that they could do occasional checks and work with gardai who are “primarily responsible for this enforcement.”

South Dublin County Council are taking in charge about 1.2km of roads in the area, including Cuil Duin Avenue, Edenbrook Close, Edenbrook Grove, Edenbrook Green and Citywest Avenue.

At the council meeting, SDCC announced the taking in charge of two more roads, namely Moy Glas Glade in Lucan and about 90m of footpath in Newlands Grove, Clondalkin.

TROUBLE: Citywest Avenue



“It is an issue we had foreseen given the lack of parking space in the adjoining developments, and now there are new residents who have children in wheelchairs and can’t exit



UNIQUE CHRISTMAS GIFTS

- Corporate Events 2-30 people
- Couples Christmas Gifts
- Ladies Pamper Days
- Digital & Physical Gift Cards





Looking for something different in 2024 for your Christmas Party?

Why not try Irelands only private day spa, Unique Day Spa, based in Dublin 24

FREE PARKING

We can tailor a package to suit your needs. We have 11 different rooms and services and can accept groups from 2 to 30 persons.

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES:

Call us on: 01 4295749

or email us: info@uniquedayspa.ie

Or purchase an online or physical gift card, an ideal Christmas present.



GIFT VOUCHERS



Ten new sports pavilions get thumbs-up



Councillors welcome go-ahead as a ‘game changer’ and ‘red letter day’

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

PROPOSALS to build 10 sports pavilions for clubs across South Dublin County were approved this week at South Dublin County Council.

Funding close to €10m is required for the 10 pavilions, but SDCC hope to have them all completed in 2025.

Proposed locations include Kilnamanagh open space, Sean Walsh Park artificial grass pitch, Griffeen Valley Arthur Valley Park, Kiltipper Park, Willsbrook Park, Collinstown Park and Tymon Park South, where a Part 8 is still under consultation and will be presented to members at the December council meeting.

Meanwhile, Part 8s are already in place for sports pavilions at Griffeen Valley Park, Corkagh Park and Dodder Valley Mount Carmel.

Presenting the proposals at the council meeting on Monday, Teresa Walsh, Director of Environment, Water and Climate Change with SDCC said they are delighted to have progressed the project this far and hope to have all 10 completed in 2025.

Councillors welcomed the development as “game changer” and a “red letter day” for sports clubs across the county who will benefit from the facilities.

Speaking at the meeting, Ms Walsh said: “The next stage is the tender process which will start January/February, and we will get a couple of them back in. It will be a

single operator framework for the pavilion buildings. We can start with the three that we already have Part 8’s for and simultaneously do them.

“We have a 28-week delivery once we have that tender up and running for each of them. They are modular but they are permanent. There is a 60-year life span on them. The council will be maintaining them but under the usage policy, clubs will have to leave them as they would like to find them. So, they will have to clean up after themselves etc, but in terms of actual maintenance of the building the council will maintain them.”

Estimates for

the cost of a single pavilion are €650k for a three-bay, which includes changing rooms, storage and civil works.

“The general feedback from clubs was that they don’t want showers. They can be very expensive.

“They just want facilities to change, somewhere for the referee etc,” said Ms Walsh.

The council would have a preference for the facilities to be booked in order to monitor demand.

In terms of expansion in the future, Ms Walsh said they would be “demand-led” and they could apply for more sports capital grants to expand the programme if opportunities arise.

In terms of funding for the project, close to €2m was secured in Sports Capital Grants, another €2m from SDCC’s 2024-2026 Capital Programme and an estimate of an additional €6m is required for the enhanced programme, including design/tender and contingency.

“The council will be maintaining them but under the usage policy, clubs will have to leave them as they would like to find them. So, they will have to clean up after themselves

ESTD 1930

MOLLOYS

WINE • LIQUOR • BEER • MERCH

MOLLOYS

EXCLUSIVE WINES

SENSE OF FUN with FRIENDS

Where ALL children are welcome!

Tallaght Cancer Support Group

WINE FAIR

2024

FESTIVE FUN FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

TICKETS

€25

CORPORATE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THE FAIR

MOLLOYS CHRISTMAS WINE FAIR

6PM TO 10PM AT THE STATION @ MOLLOYS - TALLAGHT

MAIN STREET TALLAGHT VILLAGE - D24

GIFT IDEAS - WINE TASTINGS - CRAFT BEER TASTINGS

SPIRIT TASTINGS - FESTIVE NIBBLES - RAFFLES & PRIZES

SENSORY FUN with FRIENDS

Where ALL children are welcome!

Tallaght Cancer Support Group

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE WWW.MOLLOYS.IE

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK TICKETS

ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES

THURS. 21ST NOV. 2024

Cllr. Teresa Costello

tcostello@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Phone: 083 130 3292

Advice Clinics:

Tallaght Village

Saturday 11am - 1pm

Ahernes Pub

Tuesdays 6pm -7pm

Greenhills Community Centre

Monday 7.30pm-8.30 pm

& Friday 9am - 10 am

Brookfield Tuesdays 10 - 11

LIVING IN TALLAGHT

WORKING FOR TALLAGHT

FIANNA FÁIL

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

Help shape an Ireland for all



251 Nissan Offers at Windsor Belgard Nissan

Would you like 2 cars for the price of 1?
Buy a new 251 Nissan and we'll replace it in 2026 with a 261 model, **FREE OF CHARGE!**

Or if you'd prefer flexible finance options, we've got 0% APR on Nissan LEAF and 4.9% on all other models.

Or choose from the significant trade-in boosters available below.

Nissan Qashqai
€2,500
Trade-in Booster

Nissan X-Trail
€3,000
Trade-in Booster

Nissan LEAF
€4,000
Trade-in Booster

Nissan Juke
€2,000
Trade-in Booster

Nissan Ariya
€2,000
Trade-in Booster



Windsor Belgard Nissan
Belgard Road, Tallaght,
Dublin D24 FE84
Call: 01 463 3500 or visit: www.windsor.ie

*Terms and conditions apply to displayed offers. Contact us to find out more.

Completion of pool remains a challenge

Long running swimming pool saga stretches back decades

DELAYS: An artist impression of the Lucan Swimming Pool



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

COUNCILLORS are to be invited to an onsite visit to Lucan swimming pool.

The long running saga of a pool for Lucan, which stretches back decades, has yet to reach a conclusion, with works on the current project delayed by numerous factors.

Speaking at the council meeting

on Monday, SDCC chief executive Colm Ward said they will arrange an on-site visit to Lucan swimming pool for councillors.

Details of the project have not been disclosed publicly due to “sensitivities” surrounding a live contract.

An update by the council last month said work continues at Lucan Leisure Campus with “significant progress on electrical and external works, along with

gym, reception and fitness studio areas as additional sub-contractors have returned to site.”

“Completion of the building remains a challenge for key items such as the main pool hall, wet changing areas and commissioning of the mechanical and electrical installations, so we will examine how to facilitate earliest access for the operator to begin preparations for operational opening in phases as soon as possible in conjunction

with the childcare and boxing facilities in the original building while we continue to intensively engage with the contractor for overall project completion.”

Cllr Paul Gogarty (Ind) believes the pool will not open until early 2025.

In a briefing on his website in July, Gogarty said the project costs started at a €12.5m in the tender stage, but that it could cost in excess of €20m upon completion.

Centre will not hold ‘public meetings in the short term’

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

A COUNCILLOR who booked a room at a community centre to discuss an increase of burglaries and anti-social issues in the area, received notification that the booking was cancelled, less than 24 hours before it was due to be held on Wednesday night.

Councillor Linda de Courcy (Ind Ire), says she booked and paid for a room to host a public meeting at Saggart Schoolhouse Community Centre a week ago.

However, on Tuesday night, the Clondalkin Cllr received an email from the Board of the centre informing her that a decision was made not to hold

“any public meetings in the short term.”

Although the Board met on Monday, Cllr De Courcy says they waited 24 hours after having their meeting before sending her an email to cancel the booking on Tuesday at 8.35pm.

“I think it’s really bad form. I’m an elected representative who was contacted by residents concerned about serious issues in their area,” said Cllr de Courcy.

De Courcy also contacted South Dublin County Council chief executive Colm Ward.

“I don’t believe they should have the right to cancel a meeting organised by an elected representative in a publicly funded building about an issue that is concerning to the community,” said Cllr de Courcy.

“I’m going to have to go to the centre at 7pm tonight and stand there for half an hour/40 minutes in case people show up who do not know it has been cancelled.”

SDCC invested €3.5m to transform the former old St Mary’s National School in Saggart into a multi-purpose community centre, which officially opened earlier this year.

The Echo contacted SDCC and the Board of Saggart Schoolhouse Community Centre for comment.

Cllr de Courcy has a motion for the Clondalkin area committee next week, seeking agreement for a nighttime curfew for IPAS residents at Citywest Hotel “after being contacted by Saggart residents concerned with

the increase in crime.”

The motion seeks agreement for curfews used to be imposed on IPAS applicants, de Courcy suggesting a “10pm to 6am curfew.”

An email sent to Cllr de Courcy on Tuesday night by the board of Saggart Schoolhouse Community Centre said they “became aware late in the evening of Monday, November 11”, of her “planned public meeting for tomorrow, Wednesday 13.”

“The Board held a meeting this evening, a decision has been made not to hold any public meetings in the short term, therefore we need to cancel your booking. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause,” said the email.

Echoopinion...

Campaign trail is in full swing

THE campaign trail for the General Election is in full flow but rather than shock value to attract interest from the public, it is schlock value that always seems to be a key element of the election game.

No party or candidate wants to be involved in controversy this close to polling day on November 29, it’s not good for business.

This leaves us with the sight of party leaders and candidates engaged in amazing feats of community spirit and action, cheered on vociferously by supporting party members, and cheered to the hilt no matter what they do.

This week we were treated to the sight of Taoiseach Simon Harris and Sinn Féin leader Mary Lou McDonald dancing with a Tik Tok shopkeeper in Monaghan, while in Lucan, Tánaiste Micheál Martin went for a run on the tracks with Palmerstown-Fonthill Cllr Shane Moynihan.

Stay tuned for more totally organic meet and greets for the cameras over the next two weeks, and then whoever is elected can get back to work.

Councillor asked to ‘remove ethnically motivated remarks’

DUBLIN South Central councillor Philip Sutcliffe (Ind Ire) was criticised by some councillors this week for remarks he made about the state of anti-social behaviour in the city and noticing “coloured people” selling drugs on the street, reports *Maurice Garvey*.

Speaking at the Dublin City Council meeting on Monday, Cllr Sutcliffe said: “Dublin is not safe. There is so many immigrants on the streets, selling drugs. You walk down O’Connell Street today and it’s spot the Dub.”

Sutcliffe took aim at the government for “letting down the people of Dublin” and facilitating “the state of the city in the last decade.”

A number of councillors interrupted Sutcliffe after he said the word ‘coloured’ with Deputy Mayor Donna Cooney (GP) calling for the “racial slur” to be withdrawn.

“It is not okay to indicate anti-social behavior comes from a particular place. We’ve had drug issues in the city since the 80s,” said Cooney.

Mayor James Geoghegan also asked Sutcliffe to “remove ethnically motivated remarks.”

Cllr Sutcliffe said he is not racist but was just reporting what he sees walking down the street.

“If she wants me to say sorry, no problem,” said Sutcliffe.

Shortly after being elected in the local elections last June, Sutcliffe was on the receiving end of a barrage of criticism from councillors after he criticised “heavy handed action” by gardai at the protests in Coolock.

The boxing coach and former army man, was responding to a Motion put forward by Cllr Daithí Doolan (SF) calling for protestors to “feel the full rigors of the law.”

At the meeting, Sutcliffe referenced videos shared on social media of riot guards beating a man on a footpath, and of protestors being pepper sprayed.



REMARKS:Cllr Philip Sutcliffe



0% APR Finance plus €500 Dunnes Stores Gift Card*.

We've lowered our finance offer to an **unbeatable 0% APR** for 251 registrations, PLUS all new cars ordered before December 31st will receive a **€500 Dunnes Stores gift card**.

Discover the award-winning Opel 251 range today at Windsor Belgard and celebrate 125 years of Opel with us.

Windsor Belgard Opel
Belgard Road, Tallaght,
Dublin D24 FE84

Call: 01 463 3500 or visit: www.windsor.ie

* Terms & Conditions apply. Vehicle must be ordered by December 31st 2024 to avail.

Windsor
Drive happy

‘You’ll be in for a wonderful night’ at Person of the Year

‘There’s so much love and support for all the incredible people who do such good work off their own bat’

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

“YOU’LL be in for a wonderful night,” said comedian Al Porter as he braces to be MC at the Tallaght Person of the Year 2024. The most-awaited ceremony in the area, the Tallaght Person of the Year Awards 2024 will take place on Saturday, November 23 at The Maldron Hotel, with category winners being revealed too. “I’m honoured to have been asked for a second time because it’s such an inspirational night and a special thing to be part of,” Al

told *The Echo*.
“You leave the event feeling so motivated and excited for the year ahead, asking yourself what more you can do for your community.”
“It’s not like other awards ceremonies that are competitive, there’s so much love and support for all the incredible people who do such good work off their own bat.”
“And that brings a wonderful atmosphere into the room.”
Being a comedian, one of Al’s tasks as MC will be to make sure that everyone enjoys the night and has fun.
“Of course, the night is about all that serious and important work



TALLAGHT PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2024



BOX OFFICE

CLOSING THIS MONDAY 18th NOVEMBER

Tickets are €45 and on sale from box office at 01 4685350

Box office is open daily. Mon. to Fri. until Mon. November 18th, 10.00 am to 2.00 pm *

Gold Sponsors



Silver Sponsors



75% Tickets Sold

Media Partner



Trusted Local News

Graphic Design Partner



*Important Note: Ceremony seating is theatre style, event ushers will seat you. Please follow their direction. Each nominee (individual, group or business) can book a maximum of 4 tickets - nominee plus 3 guests. A waiting list is generated for requests exceeding this ceiling.

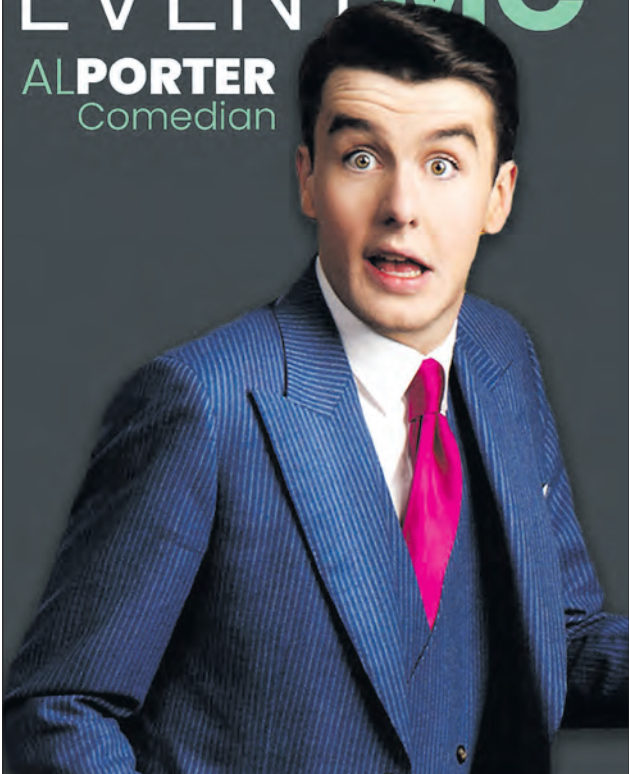
COMEDY GOLD:
Al Porter brings his own unique style



TALLAGHT PERSON OF THE YEAR

EVENTMC

AL PORTER
Comedian



being done in the community.
“I hope I can bring a bit of fun – last year we had many laughs – and lighten everyone’s mood to give the right balance.”
TPOTY Awards also contribute to making the people of Tallaght, like Al, feel as proud as they should of where they come from.
“Every time, I left holding my head up high,” he said.
“I understood that it’s not a minority of do-gooders, but that the majority of Tallaght do great things for each other.”
According to Al, Tallaght Person of the Year also helps people “connecting and broadening their reach.”
“If he wasn’t for my role as MC of last year Awards, I wouldn’t have known about HOPE mental health service and I wouldn’t have ended up doing a comedy gig for them,” he explained.
“Finally, I enjoy hosting the awards because the tickets are sold so quickly that I probably wouldn’t be able to be there otherwise,” laughed Al.
“And I would miss the stories of all those unseen and unsung heroes.”
“I know it gets a lot of coverage, but to actually be there to hear them is something else.”

“You leave the event feeling so motivated and excited for the year ahead, asking yourself what more you can do for your community

Help for the bereaved

AN ONLINE workshop for anyone in organisations who is interfacing with family members who are bereaved in traumatic circumstances, takes place on Thursday, November 21.

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents and family members, is hosting the online event.

They organise in-person and online workshops throughout the year, with another online workshop schedule for December 5.

The all-day workshop on November 21 begins at 9.30am and is on until 4pm.

It is relevant to many different types of workers including gardai, PSNI family liaison officers, emergency first responders, funeral directors, hospital and hospice staff, emergency departments, medical staff, social workers, chaplains/clergy, therapists/counsellors, and anyone working in community organisations/NGOs.

If you would like to join this online workshop, contact Anam Cara on info@anamcara.ie or call 085 2888 888.

As there is a limit to the number of places, they encourage people to register as soon as possible for this event. There will be a certificate for five CPD hours issued to all participants.

Council budget earmarks €170m for housing needs

Funding of over €62m will go towards libraries, art projects and sports

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

ALMOST half of South Dublin County Council expenditure in 2025 will be on housing according to the Draft Annual Budget 2025.

SDCC plans to spend nearly €400 million next year, reflecting “the needs of a county that continues to develop and grow,” read the Draft Budget.

Over €170 million will be spent on housing and building, with most of it being allocated to Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS) and Long Term Leasing (LTL).

At least 3,600 homes are expected to be delivered under those schemes, while more than €20m will be used to maintain and refurbish existing housing stock.

About €12m is to support the council’s housing strategy and construction programme and almost €2.5m additional funding was allocated to respond to local and regional homelessness.

The second highest expenditure was planned for Recreation and Amenity.

Funding of €62,096m will go to public realm services, libraries, arts projects, leisure areas, sports and community facilities.

The Draft Budget highlighted more than €24m was allocated to management, maintenance and development of parks, pitches and open spaces, and over €12m to community, sports and wellbeing initiatives and grants.

Over €50m will be spent in Environmental Services.

Besides enhancing climate action policies, SDCC focused on waste and litter management with over €13m allocated to it.

€10.5m will be provided for street sweeping, cleansing and illegal dumping, village maintenance, litter bins and graffiti removal.

A total of nearly €25m will be spent to maintain footpaths, regional and local roads.

And €1m more than in 2024 was allocated to Road Transport and Safety, to cover “increased maintenance costs for regional roads, traffic lights and signals, public lights and

associated materials for work.”

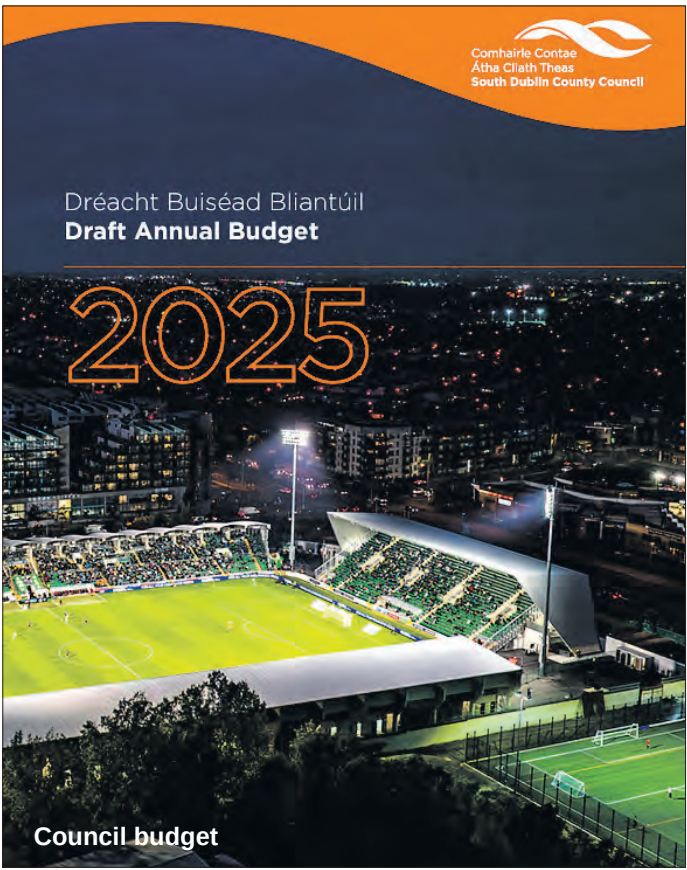
Enhancement of the main county villages will be explored, with €50,000 spend for the Tallaght Village Enhancements feasibility, and €50,000 for the same consultation about Rathfarnham.

Design work on a Clondalkin village improvement scheme will be funded with €500,000 transferred from revenue, while €1.5m will support management and promotion of the extended Grange Castle Business Park.

Other expenses will go towards Development Management, Water Services, Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare, along with miscellaneous services.

While no increase was proposed for the current Commercial Rates, the council highlighted that the 15pc reduction in the Local Property Tax (LPT) applied in October 2024 “is not a sustainable ongoing position in the medium-term.”

“This decision has removed over €11m in potential discretionary additional funding,” SDCC reported.



Tower Credit Union

FLEXILOAN

CELBRIDGE, CITYWEST, CLONDALKIN, GREENHILLS & NEILSTOWN

Loan Amounts from €10,000 - €60,000

6.25%

(6.43% APR)

Apply for your Loan Today!

Apply Online, By Phone,

In-Branch or through

our Members App

CALL OUR MEMBER SERVICES TEAM

Your Loan Your Way!

01-4570884

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

www.towercu.ie

Tower

Credit Union Limited

Typical Example: Monthly repayments of €486.27 with an APR of 6.43% based on a loan amount of €25,000 over a repayment period of 60 months. Total cost of credit €4,175.57. Total amount repaid €29,175.57. Terms and conditions apply. Personal loans only and some exclusions may apply.

Tower Credit Union Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland

Tower Credit Union

CHRISTMAS CASH LOANS

CELBRIDGE, CITYWEST, CLONDALKIN, GREENHILLS & NEILSTOWN

01 457 0884

Apply for your Loan Today!

Apply Online, By Phone,

In-Branch or through

our Members App

Now Available

CALL OUR MEMBER SERVICES TEAM

Download on the App Store

GET IT ON Google Play

www.towercu.ie

Tower

Credit Union Limited

Tower Credit Union Limited is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland



DISGRACE:
Friarstown Allotments

Many allotments abandoned and weeds allowed to grow wild

Council management asked to ensure that they are being utilised on a regular basis

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

NEARLY half of the allotments in Friarstown are not being used, a councillor reported at the last SDCC meeting. Rathfarnham/Templeogue councillor David McManus (FG) raised the issue with the council management as residents are

“It’s a great resource for the community but some people are waiting two or three years after they apply. They appear to be ignored

struggling to be assigned allotments across the county. “It’s a great resource for the community but some people are waiting two or three years after they apply,” he said. “They appear to be ignored, on not fully utilised allotments and we should be taking a fair approach on this. “And say to people, ‘You need to be using it actively or we’ll give it to somebody else who will.’” SDCC manager Colm Ward advised Cllr McManus to deal with the Director of Environment to better address the issue, but ensured the council “constantly update and check if the allotments are still being used by people they’re allocated to.” There are currently 317 allotments in Friarstown, and over 150 people on a waiting list. In September 2024, South Dublin County Council issued almost 100 letters to allotment owners in Friarstown who have underused

or abandoned their plots for a significant amount of time. The South Dublin Allotments Association previously told *The Echo* that the number of unused plots in Friarstown went from 65 in 2023 to over 100 in 2024. Of those ones, 17 have been abandoned for two years, 14 for three years and 7 for four years. There are three plots whose owners haven’t set foot in them for six years. As overgrown weeds on the abandoned plots can affect the cultivation on the adjacent plots, the SDAA has been calling on the council to act on this for a long time, and suggested the association should be given permission to take care of the abandoned plots. Applicants who wish to register for an allotment must complete the SDCC application form, to be requested by calling 01-4149000 or downloaded from www.sdcc.ie/en/services/sport-and-recreation/allotments.

Cllr Mick Duff

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

Mick can be contacted on:
087 2865570

Email:
mduff@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Twitter: [@CllrMickDuff](https://twitter.com/CllrMickDuff)



Mick DUFF

From the Community and For the Community

Social Democrats

Cllr. Eoin Ó BROIN

Working for the people of Saggart, Rathcoole, Newcastle, Brittas and Clondalkin

086 384 0040 [eoinob@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:einob@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie)





South Dublin Christmas Markets

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL
TALLAGHT

FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2024
12PM – 8PM

HOT FOOD & DRINKS
ARTISAN PRODUCE
+ CRAFT STALLS

RATHFARNHAM
CASTLE PARK

SUNDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2024
12PM – 5PM

ALL DAY
ENTERTAINMENT



court reports



tel: 4685350 email: news@echo.ie

Jail for two who flew in €8.4m worth of heroin on light aircraft

Nemeth, a former Soviet fighter pilot during the Cold War, had chronic heart and kidney issues

By Jessica Magee
news@echo.ie

TWO men, including a former Soviet fighter pilot, who flew heroin worth €8.4 million into Dublin in a light aircraft last year, have been sentenced to ten and eight years in prison.

Aradi Ignac (50), of Kecskemet, Hungary and Zoltan Nemeth (63), of Sukosd in Hungary, pleaded guilty to smuggling heroin into Weston Airport on dates between November 28 and December 1 last year.

A further charge against Aradi, of facilitating or enhancing organised crime, was taken into consideration.

In a ruling at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on Wednesday, Judge Elma Duffy set a headline sentence of 13 years for Aradi, imposing an actual term of ten years.

Judge Duffy said Aradi was higher up in what she described as a sophisticated operation, as he had been involved in the planning of bringing a plane-load of drugs into Ireland on a light aircraft, "effectively by the back door".

"It's clear there was a big operation behind this and he was part of this big operation," said Judge Duffy.

She set a headline sentence of ten years for Nemeth, a retired army pilot with 25 years of public service, as she said he may not have been involved in planning and had turned "something of a blind eye" as to what was being transported.

Nemeth told gardaí that he was aware that what they were carrying was illegal, but that he thought it was some kind of prohibited earth or metal material used in the making of microchips.

Judge Duffy said it was "particularly tragic" that Nemeth, who put in many years of public service in the former Soviet Union and Hungary, retiring at the level of major, had found himself engaged in illegal activities.

Both accused have been in custody since their arrest last December where they are on 23-hour lock-up for their own protection, the court heard.

Detective Sergeant Leo Clayton told Jane Horgan-Jones BL,

DESTINATION: Weston Airport where the men flew in



prosecuting, that the Garda National Drugs and Organised Crime Bureau (GNDOCB) had received confidential information about the scheduled landing of a specific Cessna 210 light aircraft.

The court heard that staff at Weston airport noted that the aircraft piloted by Nemeth appeared to be tail-heavy as it was coming in to land, and that men requested a hangar, which was unusual.

Both men indicated to airport staff that they would be staying for a few days, before they left the airport in a taxi.

Gardaí then found 60kg of suspected diamorphine in blocks inside black bags, hidden in the tail of the aircraft.

The haul was analysed by Forensic Science Ireland as comprising 120 packages of heroin, each weighing approximately half a kilo, with a total estimated street value of €8.4 million.

The aircraft and the men were kept under observation for a few days before Nemeth was arrested after he arrived back at Weston Airport intending to fly to a smaller airfield in Celbridge, Co Kildare.

Aradi was arrested when the car he was driving was stopped on

Hazelhatch Road in Celbridge.

Nemeth told gardaí he was a qualified pilot and instructor who had served in the Hungarian military between 1979 and 2005.

He said he didn't know what was in the plane, although he knew the packages were illegal.

Gardaí confiscated the sums of €3,270 found on Aradi and €630 found on Nemeth.

Aradi said he had owned a number of construction companies but had fallen into debt to unnamed, but very dangerous, individuals, to the tune of around €1 billion.

Photos of the drugs were found on his mobile phone and he admitted that he was aware he was transporting controlled drugs and that he was the person with the keys for the aircraft.

Aradi said he was to have €200,000 cleared from his debt for transporting the drugs.

The court heard that both men had landed in Weston Airport several times in the two months prior to the offence, travelling either together or with a different pilot, once using the same plane and once using a different plane.

Both Aradi and Nemeth outlined

their flight route, giving details of travelling via the Netherlands and France en route to Ireland.

Nemeth has no previous convictions in any jurisdiction.

Aradi has ten previous convictions, including theft, criminal damage, fraud, obstructing the operation of public interest and smuggling counterfeit goods.

Sgt Clayton agreed with Michael Bowman SC, defending Aradi, that he had been mannerly with gardaí and had answered all questions, although he had refused to give details on any third parties involved in the operation as he feared for his family's safety.

"My family is in danger," Aradi said, apologising for not being able to say to whom he owed money or where he was to deliver the drugs.

Aradi told gardaí he had fallen into debt and had borrowed about €200,000 from a loan shark, but that interest was added to the loan almost every day and he ended up owing a billion.

He said he felt he had been "tested" by doing a few trial runs to Ireland in the months before the delivery, to see if he was someone that could be used to transport a large amount of drugs.

Commenting on the operation behind the offence, Sgt Clayton said: "Drugs go hand-in-hand with money-laundering and hand-in-hand with violence."

The court heard that Aradi has five children, one of whom died in a car crash two years ago at the age of 21.

He began abusing pain medication and was diagnosed with a brain tumour, although he appears to be in remission.

Fiona Murphy SC, defending Nemeth, said he had also answered all questions, cooperated with gardaí and pleaded early.

Counsel said Nemeth had spent a significant portion of his life in public service, initially training as a fighter pilot in the former Soviet Union during the Cold War.

He then worked his way back up in the Hungarian military where he served for 25 years and raised five adult children before an amicable divorce, the court heard.

Nemeth also has a young child with his second wife.

On his retirement from the army, Nemeth worked as an instructor in an aerobatic school.

Letters of reference speaking highly of both accused were handed into court from family members, friends and former employers, including a testimonial for Nemeth from the former president of an aviation association.

The court heard that both men have received four visits from family since they went into custody and that they find being in an Irish prison a very lonely and very isolating experience.

Both have very little English and Nemeth suffers from chronic heart and kidney issues, the court heard.

Judge Duffy directed that Nemeth receive medical assistance for his conditions.

She said he was a man of previous good character and was lower down the ladder in the offence but added that he had brought his piloting skills to bear in this operation.

Both sentences were backdated to December 1 last year, when the men went into custody.

Accused with a history of violence beat a man over the head in Dublin city centre with a bicycle saddle

A CRIMINAL with a history of violence who beat a man about the head with a bike saddle in an unprovoked and "brutal" Dublin city centre attack has been jailed for two years and nine months, reports Isabel Hayes.

Patrick Byrne (27) of Cooleven Close, Cloverhill Road, pleaded guilty to one count of assault causing harm to the 33-year-old man at Westmoreland Street, Dublin 2 on October 15 last year.

The court heard the victim in the case was left with a scar to his forehead after Byrne attacked him in an entirely unprovoked encounter as the man was walking through town at 9pm on the evening in question.

Byrne has 36 previous offences, including three for assault causing harm, as well as

attempted robbery, drugs, and threat to kill. He received a suspended six-and-a-half-year sentence in 2020 for attempted robbery.

Sentencing him at Dublin Circuit Criminal Court on Monday, Judge Orla Crowe said Byrne "has a tendency to violence".

"This was a senseless, brutal attack on a man who was out minding his own business, socialising with a friend," the judge said.

She noted that while the victim was left with a physical scar, "It is the sheer safety and peace of mind that is taken from the injured party".

She sentenced Byrne to two years and nine months in jail and backdated it to when he first went into custody.

Garda Stephen McDonald told Aileen Collard BL, prosecuting, that the victim was walking

across O'Connell Bridge on the night in question when a group of young men started shouting at him and telling him he owed them money.

He took refuge in Supermac's on Westmoreland Street and, when the group appeared to have calmed down, he went back outside to try and reason with them. The court heard the victim did not know any of the men and tried to tell them this.

At this point, Byrne hit him twice over the head with a bike saddle, causing cuts to the man's forehead and lip.

Gardaí were called to the scene and the victim was taken to hospital for treatment. After looking at CCTV footage of the incident, gardaí identified and arrested Byrne just over an hour later around the corner on Aston Quay.

In a victim-impact statement read out by counsel, the man said he is now wary and vigilant when he goes out and does not go in town much any more. "Every time I look in the mirror I see a scar on my forehead," he said.

David Fleming BL, defending, said his client had carried out an "unprovoked and vicious assault" and there was no excuse for it. He said Byrne's position was that this was a "case of mistaken identity".

He said his client had a history of drug abuse since he was a teenager and he wished to apologise unreservedly to the injured party.

Prosecution counsel sought leave to re-mention the case, noting the issue of the offence possibly being carried out while Byrne was on a suspended sentence may need to be dealt with.

Phase two
of Kiltipper
park works
commence

PHASE Two of improve-
ments works at Kiltipper Park
recently commenced on site
according to South Dublin
County Council.

The construction period of
nine months is subject to
favourable ground and
weather conditions.

The works include the
construction of an extended
car-park, footpath and
pedestrian entrance
improvements at the northern
side, GAA pitch construction
and associated drainage
works, construction of a new
view point area, hedgerow
rejuvenation works, and all
ancillary site drainage and
landscaping works.

South Dublin County
Council has proposed
additional funding within the
2025 budget to allow for the
extension of this contract to
include the two planned
soccer pitches and play-space
within this current phase of
works.

THE **Echo**

Best Small
Family
Business
of The
Year 2021



Real Local News

Over fifty people find out how to navigate a new life

Seminar outlines a person’s rights, the law, and safeguarding children

OVER 50 people attended a South Dublin
Migrant Integration Forum (SDMIF) seminar
to understand how to better navigate their new
life in Ireland, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

The seminar, called “Know your rights, your
entitlement, the law of the land and
safeguarding children from harm and abuse”
was held in Tallaght library on Saturday,
November 2.

“The SDMIF feel it’s important to hold an
event like this every year because it gives the
newcomers, especially those in the asylum
process, to be aware of the law of the land,
their right and entitlements and how to
safeguard their children from harm and abuse,”
said Chair Yemi Ojo.

“Participants found it very informative and
suggested having the event more than once a
year, they gave it 10 out of 10,” she added.

A garda from the Garda Diversity Unit,
Independent immigration advocate and
consultant Andrew Ukponu, and social worker
Ruth Omoregie all spoke to inform the
participants, who then actively engaged in a
questions and answers segment.

“I’m elated by how successful it was,” said
Yemi. “Thanks to SDMIF executives, Tallaght
library and SDCC for their support.”

“Participants found
it very informative
and suggested having it
more than once a year



INFORMATIVE: People who attended the South Dublin Migrant Integration Forum

WORKING WITH YOU
WORKING FOR YOU

CLLR
ALAN
EDGE

INDEPENDENT

Your Independent voice
for Dublin South West





To find out more about what
I stand for visit my website,
www.alanedge.ie

Ten special schools included in therapy support phases

The focus of the pilot scheme is to provide enhanced in-school therapy

FOLLOWING the commencement of the first phase of the enhanced in-school therapy supports pilot announced in August, Minister O’Gorman, Minister Foley, Minister Rabbitte, Minister Naughton, senior HSE and NCSE officials have today welcomed the further announcement of ten special schools included in the second phase of the pilot.

The focus of the pilot is to provide the effective delivery of enhanced in-school therapy supports to children in selected special schools, managed in a coherent and collaborative manner.

Subsequent to detailed deliberations by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, the Department of Education, the HSE and the NCSE, which looked at a range of criteria including considerations around lessons learned from the rollout of Phase 1, the level of educational need, and existing levels of resources available in the respective Children’s Disability Network Teams (CDNTs), a number of schools were selected as being most suitable for the second phase. This suitability does not diminish the existing needs of other schools, the selection of these schools reflecting a combination of areas of relatively greater need and capacity to deliver on the Pilot objectives.

Eight special schools in the Dublin/Cork area were selected for inclusion in Phase 2 and, in the context of the imperative to ensure deliverability of the previously agreed Government commitment to include a further ten schools in the pilot, the selection process was extended to a third location from which the final two schools were selected.

In Dublin, the special schools included in the

“Today’s announcement is a further positive step towards supporting children with complex needs and their families



ABACAS is based in St Kevin’s School in Kilnamanagh

second phase of the pilot are: Cheeverstown House, Kilvare, Templeogue, Saplings Special School, St Mary’s Convent, Ballyroan Crescent, Rathfarnham, and ABACAS Kilnamanagh, C/O St Kevin’s Special School, Treepark Road, Kilnamanagh.

Key stakeholders including the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth, the Department of Education, the Health Service Executive, lead agencies, the National Council for Special Education and special schools will continue to collaborate to ensure the

effective delivery of this pilot. The Steering Group overseeing this pilot will continue to meet on a weekly basis to ensure the expansion of the pilot is as efficient as possible and communication between stakeholders is clear and effective. The expansion of this pilot to the additional ten schools is expected to commence, on a phased basis, starting in January 2025, subject to discussions with relevant stakeholders.

Minister O’Gorman commented: “Today’s announcement is a further positive step towards supporting children with complex needs and their families. It comes following comprehensive

engagement between officials in my Department and their counterparts in the Department of Education, the HSE and NCSE. I welcome the expansion of in-school therapy supports pilot programme to a further ten schools and look forward to seeing the improved outcomes for these children and their families as part of the overall Government effort to improve children’s disability services across the country under the Progressing Disability Services programme. This integrated approach will seek to ensure the educational, health and social needs of children are met with the support of appropriate services.”

Sinn Féin

CLlr William Carey

📞: 085 2076950

✉️: wcarey@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

South Dublin County Council,
Clondalkin,
Dublin 22

CONSTITUENCY CLINIC TIMES

🐾 Tue	10am - 11am	Bawnogue Community Centre
🐾 Wed	10am - 11am 11.30 - 12.30	Saggart – Old School House Newcastle – St Finians Com. Centre
🐾 Thurs	10am - 11am 11.30 - 12.30	Knockmitten Com. Centre Rathcoole Community Centre
🐾 Fri	10am - 11am	Clondalkin Civic Offices

Oil spill pollutes the River Poddle near Bancroft Park

AN OIL spill allegedly contaminated the Poddle flowing through Bancroft Park on Saturday, November 9, causing a “strong smell” around the area.

According to Brian Mac Cormaic from Cairde Pháirc Thigh Motháin – Friends of Tymon Park, an Environment Officer from South Dublin County Council promptly attended the scene on Saturday evening, but it was too dark to understand the source.

“I received a message from Inland Fisheries yesterday at 16.40 reporting this,” said the officer.

“In one night, the pollution could easily get all the way to Tymon Park where there are children playing

“I was on site about an hour later but due to darkness setting in, it was impossible to get a source.”

The officer added he was back on site on Sunday, November 10 at 8am to place pads and booms at the back corner of the Astro Park.

“The issue is coming out from a pipe that services Broomhill Road area. Investigations are ongoing in the hope of finding the source.”

Previous polluting materials that affected the Poddle in Bancroft Park were proved to come from Cookstown Industrial Estate improper discharge.

In the case of the last accident, *The Echo* understood it is still not sure whether the source was industrial or domestic.

“The stream was finally clean again and then this happened,” said Mr Mac Cormaic. “In one night, the pollution could easily get all the way to Tymon Park where there are children playing.

“Wildlife, pets and children playing in the park can be seriously affected by it.”

B R I A N M C E L R O Y

F U N E R A L D I R E C T O R S

The Square, Tallaght
Tel: 452 3030



Delighted to be offering our services in Tallaght *Superb Facilities*

Our Guarantees to you:

- Personal supervision of all your instructions to us
- Funeral costs tailored to suit the family
- Peace of mind immediately after speaking with us regarding your desired requirements.

In fact, complete funeral arrangements conducted for you efficiently, competitively and competently.

*“Modern standards & services,
traditional values & Understanding”*

info@brianmcelroy.ie

Gay Murphy and
Charlie Fox at our
Tallaght branch
to help you with
all your funeral
requirements



Crumlin Village, Dublin 12

Tel: 455 9101

Monastery Road,

Clondalkin Village, Dublin 22

Tel: 464 0048

The Square, Tallaght

Tel: 452 3030

www.brianmcelroy.ie

Chest pains checked in 30 young people after Covid-19 vaccine

None of the investigations presented abnormal results and all received their second vaccine

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

THIRTY children and teenagers attended Tallaght University Hospital with chest pains after their Covid-19 vaccine during a period of eleven months, a new study found.

The study, published on Thursday, October 24 on the Irish Medical Journal, investigated the period between August 2021, when the vaccinations started for that age group, and June 2022.

In that time, 23 boys and seven girls aged between 12 and 15 attended TUH emergency department with chest pain, shortness of breath,

syncope, palpitations or dizziness within six weeks of their Covid-19 mRNA vaccination.

Thirteen reported symptoms after their first dose, while seventeen attended the department after their second dose.

The aim of the study was to assess the cardiac investigations carried out on the patients.

All 30 patients underwent an electrocardiogram (ECG), and the results of five ECGs required further discussion or review with the cardiology department.

Two ECGs had a type of tachycardia as their only finding, while one showed evidence of hypertrophy, but all the patients were discharged.



CONCERN: Tallaght University Hospital

Twenty-eight patients had a troponin test to detect a heart attack or other cardiac injury, 20 went through a chest radiography and 12 had their creatine kinase levels measured to check muscle or heart damage.

None of these investigations presented deranged or abnormal results and a clinical follow-up of the patients revealed that the vast majority had a mild, self-limited period of symptoms, which resolved a few days later.

All the patients reporting symptoms after the first vaccine chose to receive their second dose and reported no recurrence of symptoms thereafter.

The study took into consideration that chest pain following mRNA vaccination for Covid-19

has been reported in the adult population, with some cases developing in cardiac inflammations such as pericarditis and myocarditis.

These were also documented in some adolescent patients, mostly male, typically within a week of the second vaccine dose.

Among the 30 patients attending TUH in the assessed period, none developed those conditions.

Within its limited analysed sample, the study “supports the safety of continued vaccination even in those who experience initial side effects.”

It also “highlights the need for ongoing monitoring of at-risk populations such as males and those receiving second doses.”

‘Empowering our volunteers enriches the lives of the young’



BIG MISSION: The Big Picture Foróige Club Tallaght – Geraldine Mooney, Anthony Clinton and Wayne Travers

FORÓIGE volunteers from all over Ireland came together in Salthill, Galway at the weekend for the organisation’s 52nd annual Volunteer Conference. This year’s event welcomed over 220 dedicated volunteers, celebrating their essential role in youth development across the nation.

This year’s conference featured psychologist Shane Martin as the keynote speaker, who addressed the resilience in volunteer work.

“Empowering volunteers not only enhances their well-being but also enriches the lives of the young people they interact with,” Martin noted. “The impact of dedicated volunteers on young people is immeasurable.”

The event included a variety of workshops and group discussions designed to foster collaboration and idea-sharing among

volunteers. Participants connected with speakers and each other, exploring new ways to enhance their impactful work within their communities and sharing stories of how volunteering has changed their lives.

Odhrán O’Mahony, Chairperson of Foróige, opened the conference with a message of gratitude and inspiration: “Each of you plays a crucial role in shaping young people’s lives. Your dedication and passion are what make Foróige a pillar of strength in communities throughout Ireland.”

Reflecting on the future, O’Mahony added, “Foróige aims to ensure that every young person who wishes to engage in youth work has the opportunity to do so. Our vision is to have flourishing Foróige clubs and projects in every county, attracting and retaining passionate volunteers to continue our mission.”

Echo on Tour



VIVA LAS VEGAS: Anita, Helena, Lee & Peter at the Harry Reid International Airport, Las Vegas on a recent trip to to celebrate Helena's 50th Birthday

Actress Callie (11) 'is one to watch for the future'

Tallaght girl is a familiar face to viewers of Fair City and will feature on Bad Sisters'

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

A young Tallaght actress featuring in the new Bad Sisters' season will be "one to watch for the future," according to her agent.

Callie Weir (11) is a familiar face for viewers of RTÉ's Fair City, where she plays Kim Duff.

In March 2023, she embarked in a new adventure when she was chosen to play Jessie Loftus in the second season of Apple TV show Bad Sisters.

"Callie and her mam loved every second of the filming that took place between Dublin and London," said her agent and coach Maureen V Ward.

"They were over the moon to go over and stay in London, on and off for nearly a year.

"Plus, everyone is waiting for Bad Sisters' second season, so this added up to the excitement."

Callie's talent rose from her first shows with drama school Talented Kids and now appearances in several films and tv series.

In her list of credits are 'Here Are The Young Men', 'Sisters', 'Layla' as well as numerous

commercials, voice overs and a recent role in the Abbey Theatre production Safe House.

In Bad Sisters, she will be joining household names such as Sharon Horgan, Eve Hewson, Anne-Marie Duff and Daryl McCormack.

"We can't reveal much about her role as the first episodes are just being released, but it is a good part," said Maureen.

"She will be in the series for the whole second season and, who knows, if there is a third season there is space for character development."

According to Maureen, who saw Callie grow through Talented Kids and now represents her in MVW Talent Office, the young Tallaght star has potential to go as far as she likes in her career.

"She has a perfect presence, she's very natural on camera and quick to follow instructions from direction.

"Besides being a talented actor, she is a brilliant singer and dancer. She just has it all."

The first two episodes of Bad Sisters' new season were released on Wednesday, November 13, on Apple TV Streaming.

Callie can also be seen by tuning in to RTÉ One's Fair City airing on Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 8pm.



TALENT: The cast from Bad Sisters and (right) Tallaght girl Callie Weir who will feature in the new series

“They were over the moon to go over and stay in London, on and off nearly a year. Plus, everyone is waiting for Bad Sisters' second season, so this added up to the excitement

KEANE
Windows & Doors

Est.1985

**SHOWROOMS
OPEN 7 DAYS**

Trinity Court, Fonthill Business Park, Liffey Valley



**QUALITY
& SERVICE
SINCE
1985**



- Double Glazing • Triple Glazing
- Anti-Bandit Windows
- Composite Doors & Repairs

For a FREE quote call:
01 6203232
www.keanewindows.ie

Pre-arranged
Financing Available

FLEXI-FI
finance made simple



**Join a Financial Institution
that cares!**

JOINING IS EASY....



**Members can borrow
up to €100,000.**



01-451 0811



info@twcu.ie



www.twcu.ie

Loans are subject to approval T&Cs Apply. WARNING: If you do not meet the repayments on your loan, your account will go into arrears. This may affect your credit rating which may limit your ability to access credit in the future. Credit Unions are regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.



Twenty four ACE students

CONGRATS: Mount Seskin pupils with parents

Top bursary reward for sixth-year students after hard work throughout the year

TWENTY-FOUR sixth-year students were granted ACE bursaries for their future college life, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

The students, who attend Killinarden Community School, St Aidan's Community School and Mount Seskin Community College in Tallaght, gained a place in Higher Education colleges following their participation in the Access College Education (ACE) programme.

"They worked hard throughout the whole year,

so it was really their highlight of the year," said ACE coordinator Eamonn Nolan.

"They engaged in extra classes, after school activities, and got a fair chance to realise their full potential.

"This bursary will help them getting settled into college, maybe reducing their need for part-time work."

ACE is partnered with Technological University Dublin and University College

Dublin, where the bursary recipients will enrol in majors such as Medicine, Business, Computer Science, and Nursing.

The recipients were awarded with the bursaries on Friday, November 8, in St Aidan's Community School, Tallaght.

As the initiative came to its 25th anniversary, Keith O'Connor, the first student receiving the bursary and now Chair of St Aidan's board spoke to the students about his journey.

Parents and teachers from the three schools attended, as well as current ACE students, to show their support.

"All of them were very happy of their achievement, and having the support of their parents helped them through the year," added Mr Nolan.

"The recipients included Ukrainian refugees and International Protection Applicants."

See photos on pages 60 & 61

Cllr. Shane

Moynihan

GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATE
FOR DUBLIN MID-WEST

Do ghuth láidir.
Your strong voice.

Get in touch...

087 784 0898

smoynihan@cllrs.dublincoco.ie

www.shanemoynihan.ie

Follow me on my socials...

cldrshanemoynihan

shanemoynihan

cldrshanemoynihan

FOLLOW ME ON INSTAGRAM

FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

COLM O'COILAIN & CO
SOLICITORS

Have you made your Will?

Have you made sure your assets and property go to your loved ones?
Don't leave it on the long finger

Services can be provided over the phone where possible. If you have any queries or need any advice please get in touch.

We are offering a Consultation and Will Drafting Service for only €100.00

Special offer also available on probate fees

Please contact:

Colm O'Coilain at Colm O'Coilain & Co Solicitors,
First Active House, Tallaght, Dublin 24
at 01 4590684 or through our website
at www.ocoilain.ie to make an appointment

From Vikings to the modern port of Dublin



MARITIME INTERESTS: Cormac Lowth, from the Maritime Institute

Cormac Lowth spent many years as a merchant seaman, and he’s had a lifelong interest in maritime history. His ‘History of Dublin Port’ talk promises to be a treasure

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

“DUBLIN only exists due to its port,” said Cormac Lowth from the Maritime Institute of Ireland.

On Monday, November 25, Mr Lowth will illustrate the history of Dublin Port in Clondalkin’s Áras Chronáin.

The development of the port from the first Viking settlement in Wood Quay will be discussed and the “great engineering works that helped to expand the port throughout the centuries.”

Rare and interesting illustrations, including photographs, charts and paintings, will be shown.

Mr Lowth, originally from Ringsend, has lived in Tallaght for most of his life.

A retired builder, he’s had a lifelong interest in the sea and maritime history, besides spending several years as a merchant seaman on cargo ships and scuba-diving.

He has been involved in boats since childhood and was a crew member of the Galway Hooker ‘Naomh Crónán’,

based in the Poolbeg Yacht Club in Ringsend, for many years.

“There are so many things to discover about the Dublin Port, many events that happened through history and many people involved in them, explained Mr Lowth.

“I was first asked to put together a talk when an old generating station in the port was converted into a heritage centre, and now I’m giving this lecture for the Clondalkin History Society.

“But I had a hard time in deciding what to include and what to leave out, because it’s such a big subject.”

According to Mr Lowth, the development of the port, in the 19th century especially, turned Dublin from a scarcely populated place to what it is today, enhancing access for people and “millions of tonnes of goods.”

“A History of Dublin Port” by Cormac Lowth will take place in Áras Chronáin, Watery Lane, Clondalkin, on Monday, November 25 at 8pm.

Tickets are available for €5 at the doors, and the event is free for all members of Clondalkin History Society.

“I was first asked to put together a talk when an old generating station in the port was converted into a heritage centre, and now I’m giving this lecture for the Clondalkin History Society



Your vote is your voice

Friday 29 November is Polling Day for Ireland’s General Election.

Find out all you need to know about the candidates in your constituency, so that you’re ready to be a voter.

Don’t let others speak for you. Be a voter on 29 November.

An Coimisiún Toghcháin
The Electoral Commission

Ireland’s independent electoral commission



Do you want the good news or the bad news?

Over 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week



Scan the QR code to subscribe online

Echo.ie Telling the whole story
Your Local Newspaper



PROMOTING EQUITY: Cllr Vincent Jackson (left), Derek Farrell (DCC), Pat Tehan (DCC), Pat Smith (DCC), Prof Debbie Stanistreet (RCSI), Shauna McIntyre (DCC), Vinnie O'Shea (Healthy Ireland), Ellen O'Dea (HSE), Alan Sherry (DCC), David Mitchell (Healthy Ireland), Dr Talent Nyamakope (Sláintecare), Beatrice Casserey (DCC Social Integration Officer), Eunice Phillip (RCSI), Lord Mayor of Dublin James Geoghegan, Joanna Kelly (Sláintecare) and Roma Acosta (RCSI.) Photo by Arthur Carron

Programme will improve health and wellbeing of disadvantaged

Community voices will be at the heart of decision-making to help those most affected

THE Community Perspectives on Health Needs and Assets in Sláintecare Healthy Community Programme Areas in Dublin report was launched in Ballyfermot Community Civic Centre.

The report elaborates on the findings of a study conducted by RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences supported by Sláintecare Healthy Communities in Dublin City Council.

The Sláintecare Healthy Communities Programme (SHCP) is a cross-government initiative that aims to reduce health inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing of the most disadvantaged communities in Ireland.

This report underscores the necessity of placing community voices at the heart of decision-making, moving from top-down solutions to co-creating solutions with the communities most affected by health inequalities.

The launch of this report marks the start of Dublin city's Inclusion and Integration Week. This week-long programme will see the city host multiple events, workshops and talks, each of which will promote equity and encourage attendees to become agents of change in their communities.

Inclusion and Integration Week takes place this week until Sunday, November 17 throughout Dublin city.

The aim of the week is to highlight the positive work carried out by Dublin City Council and other agencies to promote social inclusion, integration and diversity in our city. The week's events are organised by Dublin City Council's Housing and Community Services Department working collaboratively with a range of delivery partners.

There are a variety of cultural and wellbeing events for people from all

walks of life. Some of the events taking place throughout the week include practical language workshops, exhibitions, health and wellbeing seminars and live music.

Speaking in advance of the opening event of this year's Inclusion and Integration Week, the Lord Mayor of Dublin James Geoghegan said "Our programme this year represents the best of social inclusion and integration initiatives in Dublin city.

"I'm delighted to see that Dublin is home to so many fantastic organisations, and am eager for their good work to continue.

"Our opening event is indicative of the positive work that can be achieved when collaboration, real inclusion and active listening exists between stakeholders and communities, work that makes Dublin more equitable for all".

The Community Perspectives report represents a crucial step towards enhanced and targeted social inclusion and community empowerment in Dublin's disadvantaged areas.

The findings highlight meaningful and structured engagement processes in communities in Dublin to make health experiences more equitable and inclusive for residents of those areas.

The report highlights the need for a fairer distribution of health and opportunities so that every child and adult in Ireland has the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Professor Debbi Stanistreet, Associate Professor and Head of Public Health and Epidemiology at RCSI's School of Population Health, who led the research, said: "I'm pleased to present our findings, which we collated through engagement with the local communities. Their lived

experience forms the basis of this report and is reflected in actionable recommendations, at both local and national levels. I look forward to seeing the recommendation implemented."

The local communities who engaged with the project are Ballyfermot and Cherry Orchard.

Vinnie O'Shea, National Co-ordinator of Sláintecare Healthy Communities, spoke of the report launch and said: "This report is just the beginning of what ultimately will be significant work done to truly implement social inclusion in health across these communities.

"Health and social care are reliant upon these voices, and we're very grateful for the participants in these studies for engaging with us, and excited to see the positive effects resulting from this report."

Groups of youths responsible for throwing rocks at buses are using park's blackspots to their advantage

SOUTH Dublin County Council was asked to act after hearing that rocks were being thrown at buses on the N81 road from Kiltalown Park, reports Alessia Micalizzi.

"You would hear about it every now and then, and last month it happened again," said Tallaght South councillor Louise Dunne (SF).

Groups of youths are believed to be

responsible for the rock-throwing in the evening hours, using some of the park's blackspots to their advantage.

"They don't understand the consequences of what they do," said Cllr Dunne.

"It's extremely dangerous. Should one of those rocks get through the bus windscreen it could cause a serious accident.

"Luckily so far no one was injured, but when buses like the 27 or the 65b are cancelled because of the rock-throwing, local people don't know how to get home, wheelchair users can't get around."

At the last area committee meeting on Tuesday, October 29, Cllr Dunne asked SDCC if netting around the park and alongside that segment of the N81

could be installed.

"The proposed installation of netting along the N81 has been assessed and is not considered practical," according to South Dublin County Council.

"It wouldn't fully prevent rock throwing, it could create safety concerns by being used for climbing, would require extensive maintenance, and would have negative environ-

mental and visual impacts."

SDCC Public Realm is monitoring the area for debris and "will work with An Garda Síochána to explore more effective measures, such as increased surveillance and community engagement. The recent upgrade to Kiltalown Park playground is also providing additional passive surveillance," they added.

New CEO of Advisory Council to address the rights of children

Daire Hennessy, of Citywise Education, who has been appointed to the Young Ireland Advisory Council, is ‘hopeful’ of making a difference

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

A TALLAGHT man will represent the rights of children and young people in new Young Ireland Advisory Council. Daire Hennessy, CEO of Jobstown-based Citywise Education, was appointed by the Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth Roderic O’Gorman to the new council established on Thursday, October 24. Daire has spent about 20 years of his life volunteering and then working with Citywise, a not-for-profit organisation running education and personal development programmes for the local youth. He is “hopeful” of the difference his appointment will make for children and young people in disadvantaged areas. “There’s a willingness to include voices of young people, civil society and groups that work with young people,” he explained. The establishment of the Young Ireland Advisory Council follows the Government launching Young Ireland, a new policy framework for children and young people, in November 2023. Working with the Children, Equality,

Disability, Integration and Youth department, the Young Ireland Advisory Council will meet five times a year and give independent advice and support on policies that affect children and young people. Its 16 members all have great knowledge of the issues that Young Ireland is trying to address, “through their work, lived experience or both.” Daire is ready to bring in “Citywise’s creative approach and expertise,” and talk about the “transformative impact” the organisation had on his community. “Citywise are doing great work in their area offering opportunities and learning. “For us, early intervention and relationship-building are key. We focus on involving young people from an early age through fun activities which then lead to learning. “When delivering activities, we become their local role models and lead the way for them to do the same when they grow up.” Established in Dublin in 1994 as a response to educational under-achievement of young people with difficult backgrounds, Citywise has since then run programmes countrywide. West Tallaght Citywise Education has served the community since 2004 from the purpose-built Durkan Centre.

“Citywise are doing great work in their area offering opportunities and learning. For us, early intervention and relationship-building are key. We focus on involving young people from an early age through fun activities which then lead to learning



FOCUS: Daire Hennessy spent 20 years volunteering



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Is féidir iarratais a dhéanamh ar Scéim Íocaíochta na bhForas Máithreacha agus Naíonán anois.

Scéim Íocaíochta is ea í seo a chuireann íocaíochtaí airgid agus tacaíochtaí sláinte ar fáil do dhaoine incháilithe chun na cúinsí a sheas siad in Institiúidí Máithreacha agus Naíonán agus i dTeaghlaigh Chontae in Éirinn a aithint. Tá an próiseas iarratais an-simplí, agus tá tacaíocht ar fáil dóibh siúd a bhfuil sé i gceist acu iarratas a dhéanamh.

Chun cur isteach ar an Scéim Íocaíochta, nó chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil, féach ar gov.ie/paymentscheme nó cuir glaoch orainn ar **01 522 9992**.

Do you want the good news or the bad news?

Over 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week



Scan the QR code to subscribe online



Vine group Aloha concert raises €2,500 for families

Event, which attracted a great crowd, raised money for school equipment

By Alessia Micalizzi

alessia@echo.ie

OVER €2,500 was raised at the Aloha concert hosted by Tallaght Vine group in the Church of the Incarnation in Fettercairn.

"This was from the people who attended on the night only, but we believe there's much more that came in and still needs to be counted," said the group chairman Joe Geoghegan.

On Sunday, November 10, a couple of hundred people turned out for the performance of local singer and entertainer Michael Finglas as well as a raffle and tombola.

Among Elvis impersonations and dancing, the night "made everyone happy," according to Joe, while it also allowed families all over Tallaght to receive significant

Campaign by Tallaght Vine group . . . helped 50 families and provided equipment for a school



HAPPY: Joe Geoghegan, Martin Hunt, and Pat Cullen

Drama, cards, choir and Scrabble!

NEW members are always welcome to join in the activities at Lucan Active Retirement Association.

The group meet in St Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am.

New members are welcome to join a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends.

There is a charge of €4 each week to cover costs, but no charge for your first meeting.

Lots of activities to enjoy include bowls, Scrabble, cards, drama and choir. Coffee break at 1pm. Throughout the year, the group organises trips in Ireland and abroad.

Arts, crafts and fun at the fair with ICA

THE LUCAN guild of the Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA) is hosting a Christmas arts and crafts fair this weekend at St Mary's parish centre (November 16/17).

Ladies at the club have been finishing off their crafty items this week for the Arts & Crafts and Produce Fair.

The fair takes place on Saturday evening from 6pm to 7.30pm and Sunday from 10am to 2pm.

donations.

Michael organised the event for the "Help Us Help Others" campaign started by Tallaght Vine group 10 years ago, which last year helped 50 families and provided equipment for a school.

"We hope that with the increasing number of donations we'll be able to help one more school this year, helping those families who can't afford to

buy all the equipment needed for their children," said Joe.

"We would like to thank Lidl Fortunestown and Lidl Whitestown for making their excess stock available for donations, and all the people who contributed to making the event happen besides," added Michael.

"This is the pinnacle of what the Vine Group want to do for the community."

New Residents Association formed in Springfield to help improve conditions

RESIDENTS in Springfield have come together to form a new residents' association and have their voices heard.

"We feel like we've been neglected over the years and we want to get better representation," Chairman Ken Harrington told *The Echo*.

From road safety to public lighting, are the issues that Springfield residents ask South Dublin County Council to address as the area becomes increasingly populated.

"The conditions of our rented properties also need to be improved," said Ken.

While he was running as an Independent for the local elections in June, the lack of a residents' association came up a lot in his door-to-door canvassing.

"I want to present a positive force for our community and have people's rights be respected by our council.

"We need to go back to a time when Springfield was a tight community and had a great community spirit.

"I also got the idea from the local Tea Party Girls, who are running an amazing annual

initiative raising money for Our Lady's Hospice."

The creation of Springfield Neighbourhood Residents Association was announced on Wednesday, November 6, in the Scout Hall opposite St Mark's Church.

Over eighty people attended, including local councillors Kay Keane (PBP) and Teresa Costello (FF).

A committee of ten was formed and they met the following Wednesday, November 13, to formally state the association's constitution and goals.

The association will include residents of several roadways in Springfield, such as Maplewood, Raheen, Ashgrove, Alderwood, and Lannedale.

While the committee is currently working on setting everything up, the association's first public meeting is likely to take place after Christmas, and that will "officially kick it off," explained Ken.

Residents from all over Springfield will be welcome to join, and they will be able to pay their €10 yearly membership at the local shop, Mix Flowers.

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 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!





Over 3,000 calls for help made on domestic violence helpline

Many women stay in abusive situations because they've nowhere else to go

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

MORE than 3,000 calls for support were made to a South Dublin domestic violence helpline in 2023.

"2023 was the year with the worst record of domestic violence perpetrated on women and girls, and it's been rising each year," said Director of Services at Saoirse Domestic Violence Services (SDVS), Nadine O'Brien.

SDVS reported receiving 3,107 calls in 2023 and decided to launch a freephone helpline to make their service even more accessible.

On Thursday, November 14, they formally established their 24/7 freephone helpline, 1800 911 221, available to all women experiencing domestic violence.

A huge step forward, the helpline breaks several barriers preventing women from getting out of abusive and violent relationships.

A freephone line allows women from any financial background to access support, and to reach out even when

they are not financially independent or mainly rely on their abusers.

"Many women end up staying in those abusive situations because they don't have anywhere else to go," explained Director of Services at SDVS, Nadine O'Brien.

"Costs are one of the main barriers that we're trying to break."

Anonymity is preserved with free calls, which don't leave traces on bills controlled by the abusers, and trust is enhanced as a freephone helpline is perceived as more victim-centred.

The support provided is comprehensive and unlimited, ensured SDVS, with victims welcomed to call as frequently as needed and request further information and resources.

Nadine explained, "Many don't understand that domestic violence is not only what happens within the house, but also intimate violence, violence in the early stages of a relationship, abuse on a woman by family members or the whole family system."

"One in four women is believed to experience one of those in her life, and if it's not

you, you will encounter one who does, so it's important to highlight that support is available out there."

According to Nadine, a spike of calls to the free helpline was recorded when it was first unofficially announced on their social media pages in early October.

"We just got it installed and we needed to test if it was working, but you could already see the difference it would make," she said.

The free helpline was entirely funded by "good will," as SDVS understood that they couldn't rely on private telephone services providers anymore.

"We didn't get funding by the Government, so we had to fundraise," said Nadine.

"It was a collective action which will cover the costs for the first year or two, but we will have to keep receiving the same support to keep the service going."

Besides launching the free helpline, SDVS recently started an e-learning academy and are carrying out healthy relationship workshops in South Dublin schools.

They enhanced their services dedicated to women suffering from addiction and refurbished their "safe house" properties.

If you are experiencing violence and abuse in your relationship, family or home, contact the 24-hour Freephone Helpline 1800 911 221.

Alvin, did you view Echo.ie in 2023?
We think you're

One in a Million!
Actually you're one in 2,383,955

Page Views
2,383,955

Users
993,135

Top Story
15,000 Views

Top Video
112,900 Views



Echo.ie
Your Local Newspaper

Sessions
1,581,054

Best Reach
153,000

Link Clicks
3,200

Social Media
followers
88,058

Telling the whole story

Pick up a copy of **The Echo** in your local shop* every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online



*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves



“If you are experiencing violence and abuse in your relationship, family or home, the contact 24-hour Freephone Helpline 1800 911 221

Over €14,000 raised for Cara's therapy room extension



SUPPORT: Elizabeth Edwards, Cecilia Murphy and Geraldine McNamara at the fundraiser

Over €4,000 was raised for Cara Kelly, a 13-year-old-girl from Tallaght with developmental and intellectual disabilities who needs an extension of her room.

On Saturday, November 9, a table quiz and raffle night in Firhouse Community Centre brought the community together for the cause after more than €10,000 was already donated online.

"All the tables for the table quiz were sold out and so many took part in the raffle," said Cara's mother Rachel who organised the fundraiser.

"With €10,000 now raised online and the revenue from the event, Cara will definitely get her room extended for her therapies equipment, and adapted bed and what's left will go to her therapies."

"Thank you so much to the community who came together for Cara." See photos on page 52

Mural gives people creative alternative



PROGRAMME: Tammy and Anthony with students working on the mural

RONANSTOWN Youth Service in collaboration with South Dublin County Council, South Dublin County Partnership and North Clondalkin Community Development Programme have engaged a group of local young people from the Balgaddy area to work on a community mural project over the Halloween mid-term school break.

Working with an established community artist the young people took part in a series of pre-development workshops to bring ideas to the table about what they would like to work on and how this would best reflect their area.

The aim is to make this project a sustainable and interagency collaboration for the area of Balgaddy with a view to becoming an annual community art project.

Speaking of the project, Empowering Communities- Local Development Programme Manager Anthony Duffy told *The Echo*, "We're delighted to present this project, particularly at this time of year. Hopefully we're giving our young people a creative alternative to contributing to Halloween related anti-social activities."

"We're very hopeful that we can build stronger links to our neighbouring areas and offer something for our residents to be proud of and help create an element of civic pride within the community of Balgaddy. And if this proves to be successful, we hope to do more in the future."



SHOWCASE: Group of artists displaying their work in Ballyfermot Library are Linda O'Grady, Nicola Smith, Christine Finn, Angela Shvnen; Front row, left to right, Tony O'Reilly, Pam O'Reilly and Brenda O'Neill.

Artists go off their wits

Works created by participants in The B

By Ken Doyle
news@echo.ie

THE Ballyfermot library is proudly hosting an art exhibition of local artists.

Works created by class participants from both The Bungalow, Cherry Orchard Family Resource Centre and The Markievicz Community Centre will be on display.

The three classes are mentored by two tutors who are funded by The City of Dublin Adult Education Services in Ballyfermot.

The exhibition opening was on Tuesday, November 5 and will continue for viewing until Friday, November 22.

Art tutor and organiser Angela Shvnen told *The Echo*: "The tutors for the art classes are provided free by the City of Dublin Educational Training Board and have proven to be a great success."

"A lot of the students currently are older ladies who, maybe, finally have some free time after rearing their families.

It's been a great way to re-introduce them into society and life outside their homes. I must say though, the courses are open to everyone."

"All abilities are catered for and we have a philosophy, "If you can't draw a straight line, we have rulers for that. We support and encourage all of our students to release their potential and to have a go. All you can do is your best."

The exhibition is a great opportunity for the people of Ballyfermot to show what they can do, and it is the culmination of a lot of hard work by all the students. Angela is excited to display the pieces to the wider public and hopes it will inspire others to start their own art journey.

"We hope that, as well as the public at large, friends and family of the students will come along and see the talent we have in Ballyfermot."

"With a bit of luck, people will see these works and think, 'I wonder what I could do with a bit of guidance and the right atmosphere'."

“A lot of the students currently are older ladies who, maybe finally have some free time after rearing their families. It's been a great way to re-introduce them into society ...



et to show works

Bungalow, Cherry Orchard and Markievicz Centres



EXHIBITION: Artists William Page, Gerard Duff, Christine Kelly, Catherine Hawkins, Denise McShannon, Noel Kelly; Front row Arlene Dodril Higgins and James Moans in Ballyfermot Library

Citywise welcome eight students from Indonesia at afterschool course



PROGRAMME: Some of the students on the programme in Citywise

CITYWISE had the privilege to welcome eight students from Indonesia through the Indonesian International Student Mobility Awards (IISMA) to participate with our afterschool programme participants recently!

IISMA is a scholarship scheme by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia to fund Indonesian students for a one semester-mobility program at top universities and reputable industries overseas.

Offering two schemes for undergraduate and vocational students, IISMA exposes Indonesian students to international academic and cultural diversity.

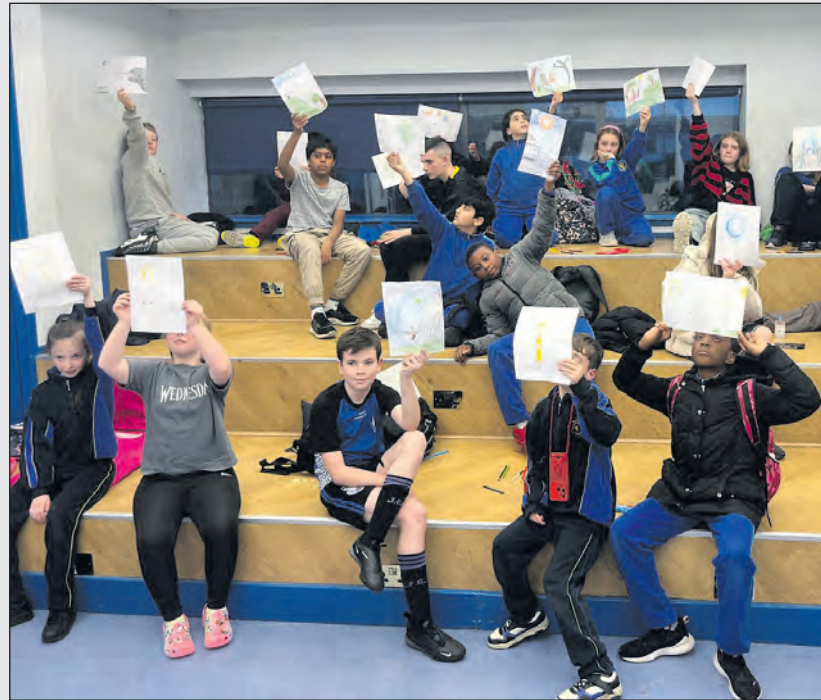
In Citywise, the ISSMA team promoted Indonesian culture to afterschool programme members

who got involved in fun activities, including traditional games, dances, storytelling, drawing session, and even taught some basic phrases in Indonesian, making the experience both educational and fun.

There was also some souvenirs from Indonesia to commemorate the cultural exchange memories.

"Citywise would like to express our appreciation to Adrian Varino Geovanny, Sara Dyah Puspawati, Crescentia Lymanyada Tanuwijaya, Delvira Damara Zeta, Winda Kartika Laoli, Imtiyaz Putri Hanifa, Vipassati Varra, and Farhanah Arifah" said Adam Donovan Development Officer Citywise Education.

"We thoroughly enjoyed having them out to Citywise and a great day was had by all".



CULTURAL: Students enjoying the programme in Citywise

Safe school zones rolled out to reduce traffic congestion

Initiative is in response to safety concerns raised by parents

By Maurice Garvey
maurice@echo.ie

SAFE school zones were recently completed at locations across the county including St Dominic's NS on Mountain Park, Scoil Maelruain SNS on Old Bawn Avenue, Coláiste Chilllain in Clondalkin, and St Pius X, Terenure.

The initiative is part of the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) programme, aimed at improving access for students by reducing traffic congestion at school gates.

A report by South Dublin County Council say it is in response to safety concerns raised by parents with the SRTS team at An Taisce in the 2021 SRTS survey, "where 94 per cent of respondents supported improvements that prioritise pedestrian and cyclist safety."

Features of Safe School Zones include colourful school railings, improved footpaths, raised zebra crossings, pencil bollards and planters.

According to the report, the 'Park and Stride' aspect to the initiative involves "parking up to 10 minutes away from the school and walking the rest of the way."

Cllr William Carey (SF) questioned if this aspect of the scheme is "realistic" at the council meeting on Monday,

"I don't know of any schools where there is parking ten minutes away. I understand that when we agreed with the original two schools, the safe schools was



“I don't know of any schools where there is parking ten minutes away. I understand that when we agreed with the original two schools, the safe schools was part of a pilot scheme

part of a pilot scheme . . . and we were going to take a report back after it was implemented," said Cllr Carey.

"Cllr O'Broin (SocDems) has referred to one in Clondalkin outside Coláiste Chilllain which has been put in place for over a year now. Has any report been convened for us to have a look at, because if we are going to roll this out we need to know we have something to base it on?" said Cllr Carey.

In relation to Safe Schools, Colm Ward, chief executive SDCC, said they are going to put in a bit of "extra funding" on top of what is already provided by the National Transport Authority.

"There will be a review in terms of works that were put in, particularly in relation to Clondalkin and the expansion of the scheme will go through the SPC," said Mr Ward.

Tender process for council litter bins

A TENDER process for public realm litter bins across the county is currently being undertaken by the council.

The tender process includes an emphasis on innovation to meet both current and emerging needs of citizens.

In line with shared practices, South Dublin County Council is observing the recent initiative by Dublin City Council and Re-turn, where 80 bin surrounds for Re-turn logo plastic bottles have been installed in Dublin city centre, enabling the public to donate bottles and cans for collection and recycling by others.

SDCC will review the results of this pilot to inform future decisions. Additionally, some of our bins are equipped with cigarette trays to provide a designated disposal area for cigarette butts, which helps reduce litter.

165 public lighting outages

THE local authority says the number of public lighting outages across Rathfarnham, Templeogue, Firhouse and Bohernabreena is 165.

These include 44 outages in Firhouse-Bohernabreena and 121 outages in the Rathfarnham-Templeogue area.

Regarding repair times, under normal circumstances the average is 14 days.

According to the council, they say: "Unfortunately in the current circumstances, it is difficult to provide a reliable timeline as we are dependent on ESBN to attend site to allow us carry out repair/replacement".

Human remains on De La Salle site the subject of library talk

A PUBLIC talk on excavations at De La Salle, Ballyfermot, takes place on Thursday, November 27, at 6pm, in the Shay Geraghty room of Ballyfermot Library, reports Maurice Garvey.

The talk is being hosted by Dublin City Council, in association with the Ballyfermot Heritage Society and Archaeology Plan Ltd.

It will provide attendees with a great opportunity to learn about some of the fascinating discoveries at the construction site.

Earlier this year, over 30 human remains were identified at the medieval site of the former De La Salle National School and monastery in Ballyfermot.

According to Dublin City Council's archaeological section, evidence suggests this was a cemetery settlement in use during the second half of the first millennium (AD 500 to



AD 1,000).The land is currently in the midst of a massive construction project with Dwyer Nolan Developments Ltd building 927 residential units.

Work has stopped a number of times over the last year as archaeological finds, including that of human remains and historical artifacts.

In June, videos on social media depicted a skeleton in the ground at the site while a second video showed someone lifting a cover off the remains and touching its teeth.

This led to further calls by local representatives for security at the site to be increased.

The public event will feature a talk by archaeological consultant Antoine Giacometti, Director of Archaeology Plan Ltd. This event is free of charge with bookings through Eventbrite.

Over 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week.

Do you want the good news or the bad news?



The Echo
Telling the whole story

Pick up a copy of The Echo in your local shop every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online



Echo.ie
Your Local Newspaper



MOLLOYS
WINE | LIQUOR | BEER | MERCHANDISE

ESTD. 1933

MOLLOYS
EXCLUSIVE WINES

SENSORY FUN with FRIENDS
"Where ALL abilities are welcome"

Tallaght Cancer Support Group

WINE FAIR 2024

FESTIVE FUN FOR A GOOD CAUSE!

TICKETS €25

CORPORATE DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE AT THE FAIR

MOLLOYS CHRISTMAS WINE FAIR
6PM TO 10PM AT THE STATION @ MOLLOYS - TALLAGHT
MAIN STREET TALLAGHT VILLAGE - D24

GIFT IDEAS - WINE TASTINGS - CRAFT BEER TASTINGS
SPIRIT TASTINGS - FESTIVE NIBBLES - RAFFLES & PRIZES

SENSORY FUN with FRIENDS
"Where ALL abilities are welcome"

Tallaght Cancer Support Group

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE WWW.MOLLOYS.IE
SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK TICKETS



ALL PROCEEDS DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES

THURS. 21ST NOV. 2024

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



What about Wax Caps?



PRETTY: The Pink Ballerina Wax Caps are particularly delightful

IN SUMMERTIME, the meadows and grasslands in our parks can be great places to spot a wide variety of grasses and colourful wildflowers.

In autumn and early winter, they can also be a place to spot mushrooms, maybe even the very colourful Wax Caps.

These mushrooms are so named because of the wet, slippery, shiny texture on the fungus's cap.

They come in a variety of different colours, including vibrant red, yellow, orange, and even green.

Their common names can be just as colourful, including the Pink Ballerina, the Green Parrot, The Crimson Cap, Scarlet Cap, and the Butter Wax Cap.

Wax Caps grow best in short grass rather than in long grass.

For this reason, they are mostly found in grasslands that are well-grazed by cattle, sheep, horses, and rabbits, or where the grass is cut short at the right time before autumn sets in.

Wax caps mostly appear to grow in what are termed old soils.

This describes soils that have not been ploughed for a long time.

Ploughing disturbs the soil and breaks up the fungus's underground mycelium, which look like a mass of tiny white roots.

Also, because these fungi prefer low-nutrient soils, they do best in old soils which have not been fertilised for a long time.

When conditions are right, Wax Caps can pop up in old meadows and pastures, coastal cliff paths, upland soils and heaths, and also in urban lawns, parks and roadside verges.

Many species of fungus grow in partnership with plants and trees, where the fungus breaks down soil matter and supplies it to the plants in return for sugars which the fungus needs.

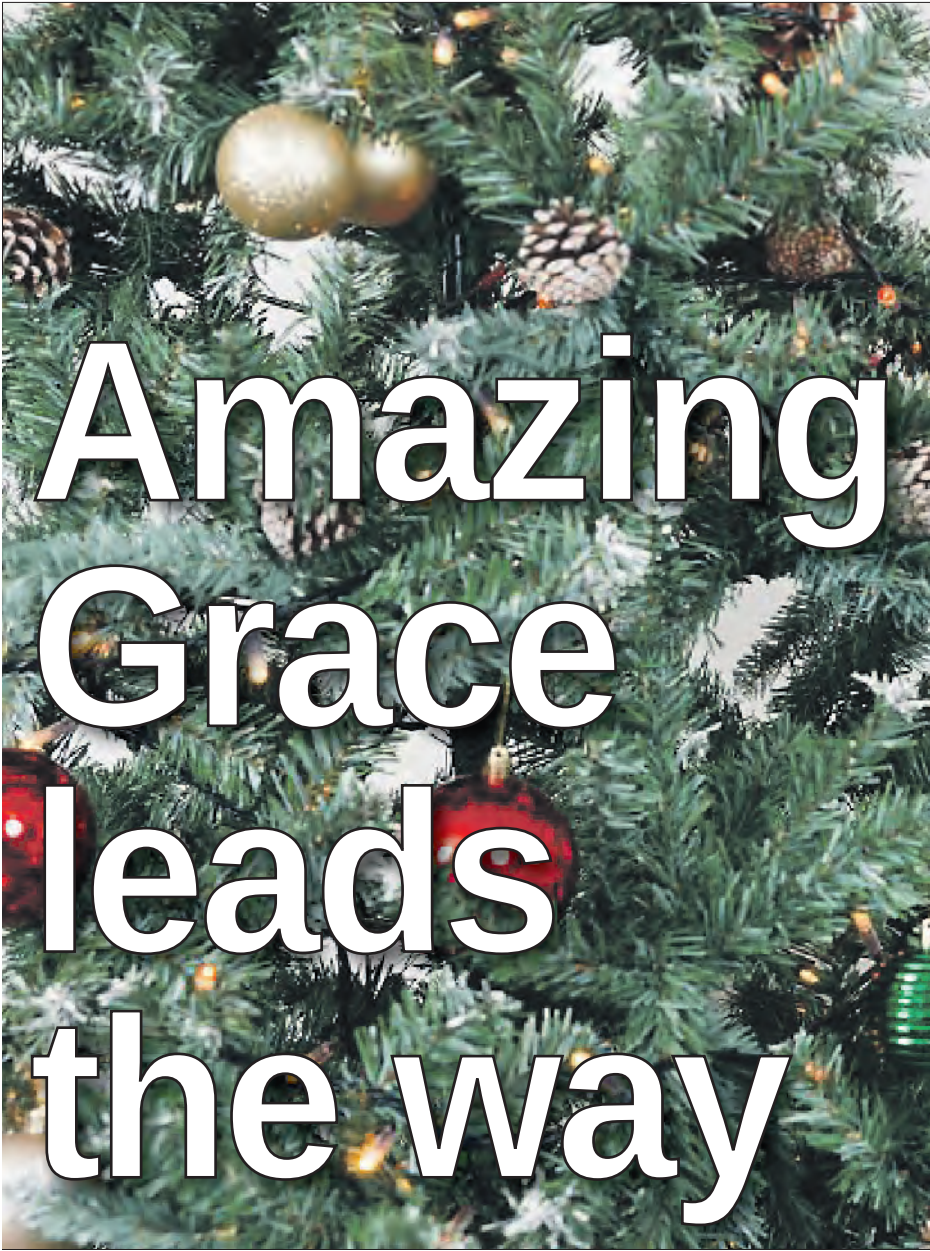
Scientific studies, however, suggest that Wax Caps appear to partner with mosses instead, not plants.

Low nutrient, mossy, unploughed meadows are no longer very common habitats in Ireland.

This makes it particularly delightful when we see Wax Caps popping up, bringing a colourful display to areas of short green grass in October and November.



COLOURFUL: This conical yellow Wax Cap is growing in a road side verge in Old Bawn



Amazing Grace leads the way

Despite her months of therapy Grace chooses to enjoy life

By **Alessia Micalizzi**
alessia@echo.ie

“WE follow her lead as she is the most resilient and positive child,” said the mother of an 11-year-old girl who partially lost her mobility after a sudden brain injury.

Grace Donegan, from Kilnamanagh, was practicing with her gymnastics club in January when she collapsed and was transported to hospital.

Doctors explained that the brain bleed was caused by an arteriovenous malformation (AVM) Grace was born with, but that was never evident until that moment.

Grace, a football lover and player with Kilnamanagh FC, spent 14 weeks in Temple Street hospital and undertook three months of intensive physiotherapy and speech therapy in the National Rehabilitation Hospital in Dun Laoghaire.

“The AVM is still there, since she was born with it,” said her mother Linda, “But she has been unbelievable.”

“People call her ‘Amazing Grace’,” said mam Linda, because of how strong and kind she chose to be in spite of going through such a long recovery and being forced away from what she loves doing the most.

Grace, who went back to St Kevin’s Girls’ National School full time for her fifth year, still hasn’t gained back full mobility in the right side of her body.

She can’t use her right arm as she used to, and she has a splint on her right leg, explained Linda, “But she keeps pushing forward, getting up every day with a smile.”

Grace is hoping to start radiation therapy soon, which could represent a chance to shrink the AVM.

In the meantime, she hasn’t missed a chance to be active and enjoy life in the community.

“On Tuesdays she goes to a youth club, on Thursdays she attends a local dance academy, and on Fridays she swims, which is helping her a lot with her muscles and mobility,” said Linda.

Grace also joined a Cerebral Palsy (CP) Football team, open to individuals with physical impairment, where she plays once a month.

But the best day for Grace among months of long recovery was Tuesday, October 29, when she could walk alongside professional footballer Katie McCabe at the Ireland-Georgia match in Tallaght stadium.

“She was the team’s mascot. Walking out with Katie was her biggest dream and they went above and beyond to make it come true,” said Linda.

In the lead-up to Christmas, Grace was also asked to be a patient ambassador for Children’s Health Foundation’s Christmas Jumper Day.

Supporters are asked to wear a festive jumper in their favourite community settings anytime during the second week of December and help raise vital funds for patients in Children’s Health Ireland centres.

“With her steadfast spirit, active and joyful, Grace continues to make strides in her recovery and is preparing for further treatment,” said CHI.

“Grace’s journey underscores the critical need for resources and support for young patients and their families.”

“This is the impact she was able to make,” said Linda. “It was an honour to be asked.”

For more information on how to participate, visit childrenshealth.ie/christmas-jumper-day.

WONDERFUL GIRL: Grace Donegan, age 11 and a patient at Children's Health Ireland, joins Children's Health Foundation to launch Christmas Jumper Day, raising vital funds for hospital sites and urgent care centres



AMAZING: Grace Donegan led out the Irish womens team with Katie McCabe against Georgia in October

“But the best day for Grace among months of long recovery was Tuesday, October 29, when she could walk alongside professional footballer Katie McCabe at the Ireland-Georgia match in Tallaght stadium

Philip is deemed a cut above the rest with award



Mary-Liz Trant (Director of National Apprenticeship Office), Philip McDonagh Lambe (Apprentice of the Year in Hairdressing), and Barry Comerford, from National Apprenticeship Alliance

A TERENCE man was awarded “Apprentice of the Year” in Hairdressing at the National Apprentice Awards 2024. Philip McDonagh Lambe proudly collected the award on Wednesday, October 23, at the Mansion House in Dublin. He topped his category after beating “tough competition and exceptional talent.” “It has been an amazing experience,” said Mr McDonagh Lambe, who trained as a hairdresser at Ciaran Nevin Hair Salon in Terenure. “A big thank you to the team at Ciaran Nevin Hair Salon for their kind support and helping me to be the best I can be as I progress in my career.” Coordinated by the National Apprenticeship Office, the #GenerationApprenticeship Apprentice of the Year Awards aim at celebrating apprentice talent across the country. Apprentices were nominated by their employer or training provider and judged on their outstanding skills and qualities in leadership, teamwork, creativity and problem-solving. Currently, over 70 Generation Apprenticeship training programmes are active in Ireland, with 28,400 apprentices training nationwide.

Combining learning in a training centre with learning in the workplace, apprenticeships now offer qualifications from a NFQ level 5 certificate to a Level 10 PhD. The Apprentice of the Year Awards 2024 saw a record of 400 nominations this year, doubling the numbers of the two previous celebrations. Seventeen apprentices made it to the finals in 13 categories, including Auctioneering, Plumbing, Engineering, Laboratory Technician, Scaffolding, Electrical, Manufacturing, Insurance, Commis Chef, Software Development and Logistics, Mechanics and Retail Supervision. “We wish the warmest congratulations to Philip McDonagh Lambe on winning a top award in the Apprentice of the Year 2024,” said Director of the National Apprenticeship Office Mary-Liz Trant. “Apprentices are at the heart of Ireland’s skilled workforce, with remarkable attributes of leadership, teamwork, creativity and problem-solving. “These awards not only celebrate the nominees, but also the power and impact of apprenticeship as a mode of learning and career development for people of all ages and backgrounds.”

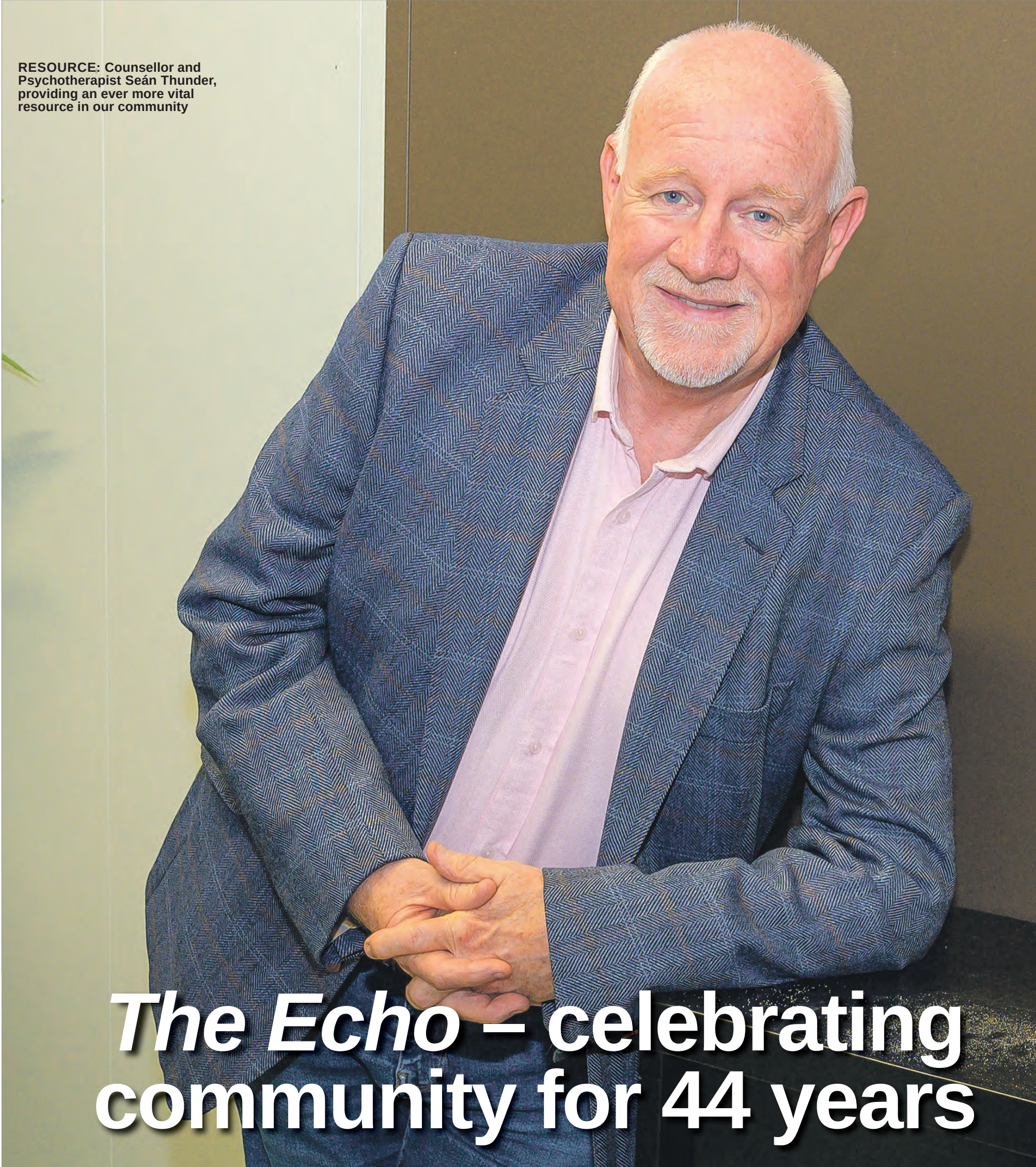
Five South Dublin Council parks waving the Green Flag

FIVE South Dublin County Council parks have been awarded the prestigious Green Flag Awards by An Taisce. This recognition celebrates our commitment to high standards in park management, environmental responsibility, and community engagement. The parks honoured with Green Flags are Waterstown Park, Sean Walsh Park, Tymon Park, Corkagh Park, and Rathfarnham Castle Park. The Green Flag Award scheme aims to promote the development of high-quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in an environmentally sustainable manner. It encourages parks and green spaces to achieve high environmental standards and effective management, with awards based on eight key criteria. Additionally, Tymon Park and Waterstown

Park received high commendations in the 2024 All Ireland Pollinator Award. Speaking on the announcement, Colm Ward, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council said; “Achieving Green Flag awards for five of our parks recognises our commitment to the continued development and management of high-quality parks and green spaces. “It is great to achieve this prestigious award for our parks which are havens for recreation and enjoyment by all. “I would like to particularly thank our Public Realm staff for their hard work and dedication which has been instrumental in securing these awards, supported by active and welcome involvement by community volunteers and local residents’ groups.”

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 Counsellor and Psychotherapist Séan Thunder, specialising in the area of problem gambling.

RESOURCE: Counsellor and Psychotherapist Séan Thunder, providing an ever more vital resource in our community



***The Echo* – celebrating
community for 44 years**



OUR subject in 'Faces of the Community' this week is a man providing an ever more vital resource in our community, Counsellor and Psychotherapist Seán Thunder.

Seán works with clients of all backgrounds and with all manner of problems, but he specialises in the area of problem gambling, a true growth industry if ever there was one.

Seán's story begins in Cappaghmore Estate in Clondalkin where he grew up.

A former student at Moyle Park College, some unpleasant experiences conspired towards him leaving school with minimal qualifications and entering the job market at a very young age.

For Seán, being a 'glass half full' kind of guy, he saw this as an opportunity, as he will tell you himself.

"Oh I thought my future was sorted," Seán laughs. "I was going to head off to the States and be a long distance trucker for the rest of my days. Instead I became a painter and decorator in Dublin and absolutely hated it!"

After unenthusiastically suffering through his time in painting and decorating, Seán eventually had his life on the road as he became a self-employed van and truck driver for many years.

"I eventually became a taxi driver until 2008, when the global economic crisis hit, and the car got repossessed. That was a huge blow."

But as Seán will tell you, things are always darkest before the dawn.

"Then I had a huge stroke of luck when I was taken on by Bus Eireann, where I eventually spent 15 very happy years."

Bus Eireann was the perfect move for Seán at that point, and it inadvertently set him on his way to his future career in psychotherapy and counselling.

"My experience was I had undiagnosed depression and

through Bus Eireann, I went for counselling and found it really helpful."

"I eventually became Trade Union representative and shop steward at Bus Eireann, and I started to notice something. If one of our lads job performance, out of nowhere, falls off a cliff, I always found that there was a problem outside of work that was affecting them."

"My first counselling experiences, if you like, were talking things through with these guys and trying to help them with plans and solutions. I was drawn to counselling from there."

In short order, Seán studied and achieved an accreditation from Maynooth College and began practicing whilst still driving a bus. He then got his degree from IICP in Killinarden, Tallaght.

He credits his old colleagues hugely for helping him along the way.

"My colleagues at Bus Eireann and the NBRU (National Bus and Rail Union) were a constant source of help and support and were with me every step of the way."

Seán's first big settled position once he'd qualified was as a counsellor and Psychotherapist at Ballyfermot Family Resource Centre, a location he still inhabits. He also has a regular clinic in Quarryvale Family Resource Centre.

Come January though, his focus is to change as he moves into running a program concentrating on problem gambling. This is a development he's very enthused by.

"Gambling has become a huge problem in society," Seán says. "It can damage personal relationships, isolate people from their friends and family, and leads to dishonest behaviour, leading in turn to job loss, divorce or criminal behaviour."

"Problem gamblers are also much more likely to attempt suicide than the general population."

"Studies show that people with gambling problems have a

suicide attempt rate that is up to 15 times higher than the general population."

It's a sad fact that one in five problem gamblers has attempted suicide. This is one of the highest suicide attempt rates among any addiction or mental health disorder.

"My new programme, called The Lighthouse Programme, will offer one to one personal counselling/psychotherapy. We begin with up to, but not limited to, 12 sessions, delivered in person, on-line or by phone."

"We focus on the individual and their issues with a view to understanding their behaviour. Through psychotherapy we try to uncover the issues which lead to their behaviour, addressing this and making peace with it. This helps in gaining understanding of their role, enabling them to take responsibility thus enabling change."

"There's also an aftercare programme and a relapse prevention programme to support and complement the course."

"I would put two questions to anyone who thinks they might have a gambling problem, the first is 'Have I ever spent more money gambling than I planned to and have I ever lied about my gambling? These are key points to understanding the addiction."

In a life full of great achievements, raising his family is at the top of the list for Seán.

Happily married to Mary for more years than either of them would care to remember, they have three grown up children: daughter Lily-May, and sons Karl and Paul. A year ago, Seán was the proud dad as Paul married his husband John.

And if any of them ever need a bit of guidance, there's no better man than their dad to dish out a bit of sage advice.

For More Information contact:
www.seanthundercounselling.ie or www.gambleaware.ie
Or call Quarryvale Family resource centre on 01 626 9051.

“Gambling has become a huge problem in society. It can damage personal relationships, isolate people from their friends and family, and leads to dishonest behaviour, leading in turn to job loss, divorce or criminal behaviour

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
www.seanthundercounselling.ie or
www.gambleaware.ie or call Quarryvale Family
resource centre on 01 626 9051



Winter temperatures will impact 1,340 km of roads and footpaths

Council expects to distribute salt bins around villages and estates across the county

OVER 1,000 kilometres of footpaths and 340 kilometres of roads in South Dublin County Council will be impacted by winter temperatures in the next months, *reports Alessia Micalizzi.*

South Dublin County Council presented their Winter Services Plan 2025, which will be in place from Monday, October 14 to Wednesday, April 30.

"Gritting will take place at 7pm and 5am on all the major distributor roads," said SDCC Senior Engineer Gary Walsh at the Tallaght area meeting on Tuesday, October 29.

"Spread-rates of rock salt will be at 10 grams per square meter, with brine sprayed in conjunction on some routes."

Mr Walsh said a new brine facility was also installed in Palmerstown and was happy to report that Winter Services are getting more "environment-friendly" year after year.

"Brine is now made up of 23 per cent salt and 77 per cent water, which allows a quicker acting treatment and reduces the impact on the environment," he said.

In case of severe cold weather, icing or snow, some of the major routes which cover emergency services and food distributions

will be prioritised.

The distribution of salt bins around villages and estates across county became "more geographically even" according to Mr Walsh, who advised a map can be accessed by residents at www.sdcc.ie.

However, when it comes to footpaths, parks and estates, gritting and salting are still up to residents themselves.

"The material is not the issue, it's accessible to everyone, but we don't have the manpower resources to cover footpaths and estates ourselves," explained Mr Walsh. "We will address the main footpaths by taking resources from other departments only in case of severe weather conditions."

Following a request by councillors, South Dublin County Council committed to provide informative material in the coming weeks to instruct residents on taking care of their footpaths and estate roads during winter.

2023 had an "overall very, very mild winter," according to the council's report, with severe conditions only occurring for some time in January.

The lowest road temperature recorded was -5.4° Celsius – 2,500 tons of rock salt were spread throughout the season.



“We don’t have the manpower resources to cover footpaths and estates ourselves . . . We will address the main footpaths by taking resources from other departments in cases of severe weather conditions

Social prescribing concept now helps support people in areas such as loneliness and isolation

THE relatively new concept of social prescribing, which links people to health services on a 1-1 basis, was outlined in a report in Clondalkin this week, *reports Maurice Garvey.*

The South Dublin County Partnership Social Prescribing Service was launched in Clondalkin in 2022 under the HSE's Sláintecare Healthy Communities initiative.

Social Prescribing involves a 1-1 service to support people in areas such as loneliness, isolation, and lack of connection.

It aims to offer a practical, community-based pathways to better health and

quality of life.

At Áras Chrónáin in Clondalkin, a wide range of stakeholders attended the launch of the partnerships 'Clondalkin Social Prescribing Service Evaluation Report 2022-2023.'

The report focuses on participant experiences and outcomes from engaging with social prescribing, measured through wellbeing scores and interviews conducted after programme completion.

According to the partnership, findings suggest that participants experience a range of benefits, including improved mental and physical health, enhanced social connections, and greater



LINKS: Kim Dempsey, Margaret McQuillan, Simon Monds (CEO of South Dublin County Partnership), Coco Kenny and Tara Deacy at the launch



CONNECTIONS: Coco Kenny with Margaret McQuillan and Keith Ryan (HSE Health Promotion and Improvement)

overall wellbeing.

Speaking at the launch, Coco Kenny, Social Prescribing Link Worker with SDCP in Clondalkin said: "Social Prescribing is a relatively new initiative in Clondalkin, and it involves more than simply linking people to resources. It is a 1-1 service that involves supporting and empowering people to address social factors which we know can heavily impact health, factors such as loneliness, isolation, and lack of connection.

"Social Prescribing offers practical, community-based pathways to better health and quality of life. We

are delighted that the report we are launching today highlights the positive benefits that social prescribing can have on individuals, from improved mental health and wellbeing to increased social connection, and reduced feelings of isolation and loneliness."

A NALA-approved 'Plain English' booklet with key findings was also launched on the day.

The research was commissioned by SDCP, and conducted by external evaluators TASC.

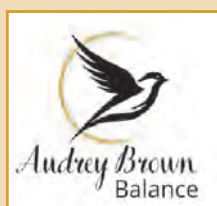
The full report can be read here: – <https://sdcpartnership.ie/health-wellbeing/social-prescribing/>

SHOP LOCAL - SUPPORT LOCAL

The Echo Local Business Directory

Online Integrated
**Counsellor,
Psychotherapist
& Energy Healer**

For an
appointment call:
Nuala: 086 0314615



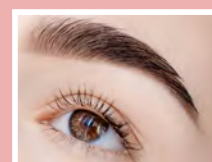
Audrey Brown



- Yoga
- Meditation
- Retreats
- Workshops

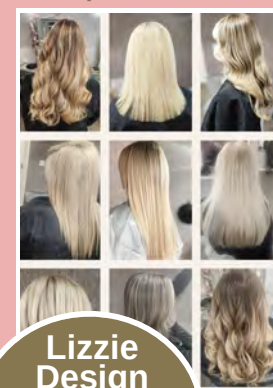
Finding balance in every day life, bringing the community of Tallaght together in wellness. I offer gentle yoga movement, meditation, retreats & workshops for all levels and ages. For class information:

Phone 085 1605066 or follow me on FB and Insta @AudreyBrown Balance



Alfaparf Salon

Microneedling Facial €89.99
Powder Brows €199
Top-up ONLY €129



Lizzie Design
12 week
blowdry only:
€90 - €140

THREADING,
PMU BROWS, LIPS
MICROBLADING & MORE

BROW - TECH
NAILS & EYEBROWS

WALK-INS
WELCOME
089 2307933

Call: 085 195 0542
Old Bawn Shopping Centre

Core Beauty
Old Bawn SC, Tallaght

Core Beauty

Where Family Meets
Beauty, Hair, & Aesthetics,
our promise is to make you
look and feel fabulous.

SPECIAL OFFER:
Core Glow Facial €75
(normally €120)

Phone 014515226 or book
online: @corebeauty.ie

WORK



What We Offer?

Office spaces • Coworking
Meeting Rooms • Events
Networking • & More

Reach out today:

- 01 912 5420
- workiq@oxin.ie
- www.workiq.ie



Paul Halpin
Window Cleaner

Other Services include:

1. Window cleaning
2. Gutter cleaning
3. Christmas lights
4. Dump runs
5. Garden maintenance

5 years+ experience
Contact:
085 2405894 or 086 3162476



DF Window Repairs
085 7493409

- Draughty windows?
 - Fogged up or broken double glazing
- Hinges, locks, child safety restrictors,
seals & glass repair.

Call today for a free survey & quote



Mark Flynn Yoga
FIND STRENGTH IN STILLNESS

YOGA
FOR ALL LEVELS

"Build a strong foundational practice in
a safe environment, with elements of
breathwork, meditation and alignment"

Join me every Thursday from 7-8pm
Venue: The Round Tower in Clondalkin

TO BOOK A CLASS
CONTACT MARK

087 7495429
@flynn_mark_

movewithmarkyoga@gmail.com



Scan here to find all your local
business services.



To advertise your local business in
the directory phone: 01 468 5350

Or email:
advertising@echo.ie

Echo.ie
Trusted Local News

Twenty years on, Marie doesn't allow COPD to take over her life

'I was not surprised when I got diagnosed, as I was a heavy smoker'

By Alessia Micalizzi
alessia@echo.ie

"I DIDN'T allow COPD to take over my life," said Marie Ritchie, nearly 20 years on from her diagnosis.

Born and bred in Ballyfermot, Marie is turning 73 this week and is still very active in raising awareness on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD).

At 54 years old she was diagnosed with emphysema, one of the lower respiratory diseases grouped under COPD which cause shortness of breath.

She had already cared for her father who suffered from COPD and she had been a smoker since her early teenage years.

"I was not surprised when I got diagnosed as it runs in the family and I was a heavy smoker," she told *The Echo*.

In these 20 years, she was hospitalised three times and doesn't leave the house without her three different types of inhalers.

Feeling "breathless" is the main condition people with COPD are forced to live with, as a cure hasn't been developed yet.

Difficulties in breathing can also cause extreme tiredness after small tasks and oxygen levels going down faster than usual.

"But I never thought it would be the end of my life," said Marie. "I just learned how to deal with it and how to manage my breathing."

"If you are walking and you are fighting to breath, you stop and control it, or use your inhaler, but you can do it."

Marie undertook a rehabilitation programme in St James Hospital, where she was educated on the breathing exercises she would need.

After eight weeks, she was left to deal with the condition on her own, but not really.

She had become friends with another woman with COPD during rehab, Anne Murphy, and the two started searching for more information about the disease, which wasn't as well known back

ACTIVE:
Marie Ritchie
– never leaves
the house
without her
three inhalers



then as today.

The first big step was attending water aerobics classes. Marie was terrified by water, but had to admit they were "tremendously helpful" for her breath.

Five years later, in 2010, Marie and Anne set up a support group in Ballyfermot which is still going today even after Anne passed away.

"We wanted to raise as much awareness as possible, and let people know that they didn't

have to feel scared or alone after their diagnosis," said Marie.

According to her, joining your local support group is vital and will be "the most important part of living your life with COPD."

"Meeting other people who are going through the same will help you understand that you can still go on with daily activities and hobbies, just at a slower pace."

"Of course, family support has been important too," said Marie. "My family is my backbone and I want to be healthy so that I can be there for them and be actively involved in their lives."

Marking World COPD day, November 20, Marie reminded everyone who is experiencing difficulties in breathing and long-standing coughing to get checked and be tested.

"At the beginning it might look like an infection, but it can be COPD."

While Marie quit smoking a good while ago, she highlighted that smoking is only one of the main causes of COPD.

"It can also be your working environment, or your cleaning products. Any dangerous substances you might be breathing."

"Back in my days a lot of people would work in the textile industry without any sort of protection and that's what caused it."

Marie's group meets on Tuesdays between 11am and 12 noon at the Liffey Gaels GAA Club in Ballyfermot.

They offer exercise sessions and breathing techniques to improve physical health, and a social outlet made up of mutual understanding which helps mental health too.

On Wednesday, November 20, the group will be one of the many national COPD support groups organising information stands and events to raise awareness.

Anyone worried about COPD can call the COPD Advice Line on Freefone 1800 832 146 Monday to Friday, from 9am to 5pm.

A respiratory health professional will call back to answer questions and refer people to local supports.

COPD Support Ireland are releasing their new booklet "COPD & Me", an essential guide to living with COPD packed with advice and tips from diagnosis to treatment, exercise and nutrition.

To check their events on World COPD day, download or order a copy of the information booklet, or visit www.copd.ie.

“If you are walking and you are fighting to breath, you stop and control it, or use your inhaler, but you can do it

With almost €5m for road safety 'we have a responsibility to make our school areas safer'

SOUTH Dublin County council allocated €4.5 million to road safety improvement and promotion while residents highlighted the issue once again, *reports Alessia Micalizzi*.

At the Tallaght area meeting on Tuesday, October 29, councillors mentioned schools and areas such as St Kilian's, Scoil Santain, Kiltalown Avenue and Maplewood Road, where parents don't feel safe when dropping and picking up their children.

"Until we move to a system where things are safer and slower, we have a responsibility to make our school areas as safe as possible," said Councillor Jess Spear (PBP) who submitted a motion asking SDCC to take initiative.

"I ask that the council investigate those areas, so far the onus has been on the schools and the parents."

"Traffic-calming measures, double-yellow lines and many other small changes for improvements can be done," said a council officer in response to Cllr Spear.

"But when all these are being disobeyed, that's the responsibility of the driver. It has to be a combined effort."

SDCC allocated funding for 2025 to implement the South Dublin Safe School Zones programme, hoping to mark the start of a "multi-annual programme to improve safety at school locations in the county."

In the Draft Annual Budget 2025, €2,552 million was allocated for road safety and improvement works including €825,000 for new pedestrian crossings and traffic calming works.

€2,185 million will be provided

for Road Safety Promotion, School Wardens and Education Work, and over €500,000 will be used to manage on-street and off-street parking.

Speaking of Scoil Santain National School, the council said a Road Safety Officer is appointed at the moment, conducting a traffic and pedestrian flow survey.

"A preliminary study of the school arrival areas indicates that proper road marking and signage are in place, while in some places worn markings can be refreshed."

"When the school drop-off survey is conducted, other recommendations may be recommended, and these can be installed at that time."

"SDCC will continue to identify locations around schools that require further safety measures."



SAFETY FIRST: St Mark's School in Springfield

November 14, 2024

Citywest Leisure celebrates 25 years with upgrade of facilities

Club now boasts a 20-metre swimming pool, two spa areas and three fitness studios



GROWTH: Citywest Leisure Club staff (from left) Sandra Kane, Amy Louth, Bohdan Shorkin, Janine Geoghegan, Richie Balass, Glenda Gaffney (Club Manager), Jason Kenny, Benyamin Kowalczyk, Ciara Purdy and Nikhil Panikar

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

CITYWEST Leisure Club is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year, a period of significant growth for both the business and the

“The club is thriving and just this past February, the gym has undergone a complete overhaul and upgrade and layout of equipment and studios . . . We would like to give a special thanks to all the local schools/GAA clubs and the community in general, for their local support over this past 25 years

community it caters for.

When the doors first opened in 1999, there were no bus routes or Luas lines to Citywest, but vastly improved transport links led to an increase in membership, according to Glenda Gaffney, Citywest Leisure Club Manager.

“Since the input of the Luas and bus routes,

we noticed the influx of new faces joining the club,” said Ms Gaffney, who has worked at the business since its inception.

In 1999, Saggart had a population of approximately 550, but it is “now one of the fastest-growing towns in Europe” with a population of approximately 10,000, notes Gaffney.

As part of their silver jubilee celebrations, Citywest Leisure Club recently carried out a complete overhaul of its facilities, to continue helping members achieve their fitness goals.

“The club is thriving and just this past February, the gym has undergone a complete overhaul and upgrade and layout of equipment and studios,” said Glenda.

“We would like to give a special thanks to all the local schools/GAA clubs and the community

in general, for their local support over this past 25 years.”

The club boasts a 10,000 sq ft gym which includes three fitness studios, a 20-metre swimming pool and two spa areas (steam room, saunas and jacuzzis).

A full class schedule every week include Les Mills, Yoga and Pilates, which is all-inclusive for members.

“We have fantastic teams, from the hygiene team to our fitness team. Some are here 25 years like myself, and we wish to continue this journey for the next 25 years and more,” said Glenda.

Membership is currently open.

Call 401 0700 for more details on membership, or mail leisureclub@citywesthotel.com

Keynote speaker at Chamber Christmas lunch is Bressie

MUSICIAN and mental health advocate Niall Breslin is the keynote speaker at this year's South Dublin Chamber Christmas lunch.

The Chamber Christmas lunch takes place on Friday, December 6, at the Clayton Hotel, Liffey Valley, from 12.30pm to 3.30pm.

Members are invited to bring along colleagues and clients for one of the most enjoyable nights in the Chamber's calendar.

Guest speaker for this year's lunch is former Blizzards frontman and Leinster

rugby player Breslin, who became an award-winning author for his book *Me and My Mate Jeffrey*.

The memoir/self-help book won the 2015 Irish Book Award for popular non-fiction.

Breslin is a prolific advocate and public speaker on mental health, doing podcasts on the issue, and is an ambassador for Cycle Against Suicide (CAS).

He opened up on his blog about his struggles, having experienced a severe panic attack during a live taping on the

first series of *The Voice of Ireland*.

Breslin sought professional help and ultimately decided to manage his anxiety, by adopting a more active lifestyle.

There will be the customary mulled wine at reception, a segment of the event which is sponsored by the hotel itself.

Cost of tickets is €90 per person or €900 for a table of ten.

Book your place/table at this premium event by clicking <https://tinyurl.com/3tpkk8ss> or contact Clíodhna at 458 5247 or email cliodhna@sdchamber.ie



AWARD-WINNING: Niall Breslin, former rugby player and Blizzards frontman

Radisson at Dublin Airport bought by Dalata Hotel Group

DALATA Hotel Group, which operates all the Maldron and Clayton hotel brands, announced the purchase of the Radisson Hotel Dublin Airport in a deal worth €83m, reports Maurice Garvey.

The 229-bed Radisson Hotel Dublin Airport sits on 4.4 acres at Dublin Airport and is a four-star hotel with full four-star facilities.

It will be rebranded as a Clayton Hotel when the deal is complete, according to Dalata.

The site also has two significant planning approvals, offering development opportunities into

the future.

Last month, Dalata accounted that it has refinanced its existing debt facilities to fund future growth plans, which include a €100m green term loan, as well as a multi-currency revolving credit facility of €375m.

The remaining tenure of the leasehold at the Radisson Hotel in Dublin Airport is 107 years, and the transaction is scheduled to close in the first half of 2025, subject to Competition and Consumer Protection Commission approval.

The Maldron Hotel in Tallaght is part of the Dalata Group



Dalata said Dublin remains a “strategic growth market” for the company and this transaction represents a very attractive opportunity for the group to “secure a well-invested four-star hotel, in close proximity to Terminal 2 in Dublin Airport.”

Dermot Crowley, CEO of Dalata Hotel Group, said the acquisition is an exceptional opportunity in a vibrant hotel market.

“We will continue to balance disciplined growth, capital efficiency and financial strength with returns to shareholders,” he said.

“C&C identified . . . errors which have resulted in the restatement of results

stronger
you FOR LIFE



Emma Kennedy
Strength & Fitness Instructor

Join my Resistance Training & Fitness Classes Online:
www.strongeryouforlife.com

- Daily live classes - Resistance Training, Pilates and Yoga
- Suitable for all levels
- Huge on demand library
- Communities, mentors and more
- Scan or visit strongeryouforlife.com
- Membership from just €6 per week



Get and stay stronger so that you can live long and live well.

www.strongeryouforlife.com

SafetySquad.ie



FREE
SAFETY
REVIEW

- Consultancy
- Training
- Safety App

Call 01 63 63 **112**

WorkIQ and TU Dublin join forces to create unique link

Students will have a great opportunity to connect with like-minded peers

WORKIQ, the new home of start-ups and growing enterprises in South Dublin and part of the new Innovation Quarter Tallaght, has partnered with Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin) to provide students with direct access to the entrepreneurs and businesses operating in the WorkIQ Innovation Centre.

The partnership between WorkIQ and TU Dublin will provide students of the University with access to resources such as networking events, skill-building workshops, and internships in high-growth sectors which will empower and inspire the next generation of entrepreneurs.

WorkIQ offers modern and flexible office and coworking space for up to 60 businesses and is already home to a number of successful entities, including local startups and companies such as InDigital, a performance marketing agency and H3D, an innovator in AI CAD technology for healthcare.

Both WorkIQ and TU Dublin are committed to connecting the next generation of entrepreneurs with the thriving ecosystem in WorkIQ and the wider Tallaght Innovation Quarter through a variety of engaging opportunities.

Students will be invited to WorkIQ for interactive events, mentoring sessions and hands-on experiences that will bridge the

gap between academia and industry.

Through these initiatives and workshops, students will have the unique opportunity to engage directly with local innovators, connect with like-minded peers, and develop skills essential for a career in today's rapidly evolving marketplace.

Daniel Halpin, Business Growth Manager at WorkIQ, says:

"We are delighted to be partnering with TU Dublin in inspiring and equipping South Dublin's future entrepreneurs and innovators. This partnership is a significant milestone for WorkIQ as we continue to create a supportive, innovation-driven culture that empowers students to be bold, confident, and proud of their ideas."

By creating an environment where students have direct access to the successful businesses and entrepreneurs within WorkIQ, we're not only fostering their entrepreneurial spirit but also helping them find their voice and feel genuinely supported in pursuing their ambitions.

This partnership highlights the importance of collaboration, growth, and resilience within the Tallaght community.

A massive 'thank you' to everyone involved in bringing this vision to life."



PARTNERED: WorkIQ – Career Development Seminar with Curtis Murray

Panda waste management firm make profits of over €45 million

BALLYMOUNT waste management firm Panda reported operating profits last year of €46.35m, reports Maurice Garvey.

Latest accounts filed by the owner of Panda Waste, Broom Holdings Bidco Ltd, show that it recorded revenues of €744m last year.

In the report, directors say they plan to "continue to pursue its objective of becoming a significant waste management provider through identifying suitable acquisitions in the next financial year."

The new accounts follow news last month that Beuparc Utilities, the parent company of Panda, Greenstar and Irish Packaging Recycling, plan to invest more than €300m in its facilities over the next four years.

Beuparc said the funding will not only create hundreds of jobs across the group but also enhance their ability to recycle plastic.

Revenues for Panda Waste in the 12 months of 2023 are 14 per cent down on the €866.52m in revenues for the prior 17-month period from July 23, 2021 to December 30, 2022.

Irish revenues for the group in 2023 totalled €344m while UK operations enjoyed revenues of €375m.

Staff employed at the group increased last year from 2,618 to 2,847, and staff costs totalled €136.8m.

Directors' pay last year stood at €523,000,



SIGNIFICANT: Panda continues to invest.

which includes salaries of €471,000 and €52,000 in social insurance costs.

Australia's Macquarie Infrastructure Fund purchased Beuparc Utilities group in 2021 from businessman Eamon Waters for €1.4bn.

A fire that occurred at a Panda recycling facility in Ballymount in January "is expected

to take up to nine months" to repair.

The group increased revenues on a pro-rata basis in 2023 despite the group deciding in 2022 "to make a controlled exit from the Irish energy supply market due to the unprecedented and sustained price increases in the wholesale energy market."

Your Local Business News
at Your Fingertips.

Subscribe for full access to
Echo.ie content and the weekly
ePaper. All for less than the
price of a coffee!



Scan to
Subscribe



business@echo.ie

Cost Rental apartments at Airton Plaza in high demand

Eligible applicants are now entered into a lottery for an equal chance

By William O'Connor
william@echo.ie

INTEREST in the 230 brand-new, A-rated apartments at Airton Plaza, on the Belgard Road has been high with eligible applicants now entered into a lottery for an equal chance of securing a life-changing home.

The deadline for applications closed on Wednesday evening for these reduced rent apartments with lifetime tenancies which has seen high demand and are located at the junction of Airton Road and Belgard Road.

Rent for each of the 75 one-bed apartments is €1,400 per month, a saving of 26 per cent on the market rent for a similar apartment in the area. The rent for each of the 148 two-bed apartments is €1,715 each per month, a 27 per cent discount on market rents. The seven three-bed apartments offer the greatest discount on market rents – at €1,800 per month, they represent a 34 per cent discount. In addition to the low cost to run these brand-new homes, new Cost Rental residents will also benefit from secure, life-long tenancies and high-quality, responsive management and maintenance.

Cost Rental is a new, secure form of rental housing tenure in Ireland, designed for people whose income means they don't qualify for social housing or other support, such as HAP, but who still struggle to rent on the open market. All Cost Rental homes have their rents set at a minimum level of 25 per cent below the local market rents. The rents in Cost Rental homes are set to cover the cost of construction, maintenance, and operation of the development, ensuring long-term affordability for residents.

According to research published by Clúid and other Approved Housing Bodies in Ireland, existing Cost Rental residents found

“These 230 Cost Rental apartments will provide the new residents with a secure, life-long tenancy



INTEREST: Airton Plaza at the junction of Airton Road and Belgard Road

their new secure tenancies to be life changing. One resident said:

“I think it changed my life. It pulled me forward, it put me that step forward to do things and to create a family. I think that's a huge change.”

John Cotterell, Head of Housing at Clúid

commented: “These 230 Cost Rental apartments will provide the new residents with a secure, life-long tenancy in a high-quality home, for rents at least 25 per cent below the market rate.”

These Cost Rental homes were delivered by Clúid in partnership with South Dublin

County Council, and with the support of the Department of Housing, Heritage and Local Government, The Housing Agency and the Housing Finance Agency. They were developed by Mableground Ltd with Glenbriar Construction as the main contractor.

Rent rises in Dublin since last year now at twice the rate of inflation

MARKET rents rose by an average of 1.7 per cent in the third quarter of 2024, according to the latest Rental Report by Daft.ie, marking the 15th consecutive quarter in which rents nationwide have increased.

The average open-market rent nationwide in the third quarter of the year was €1,955 per month, up 7.2 per cent year-on-year and 43 per cent higher than before the outbreak of Covid-19.

Inflation in market rents in Dublin has accelerated in recent months, bringing it closer to rates seen elsewhere in the country. In the capital, rents in the third quarter of the year were 5.2 per cent higher than a year earlier, twice the rate of inflation seen at the end of

2023. Elsewhere in the country, the rate of inflation is now 8.9 per cent (down from 12.3 per cent).

Market rents continue to rise sharply in Limerick City (up 19 per cent year-on-year) while both Cork and Galway cities saw increases of just over 10 per cent. Rents in Waterford city were up 5.8 per cent year-on-year and outside the cities, rents increased 8.3 per cent.

After 18 months of improving availability, the number of homes available to rent on the open market is falling.

On November 1, there were just over 2,400 homes available to rent across the country,

down 14 per cent on the same date a year previously and well below the 2015-2019 average of almost 4,400.

Commenting on the report, Ronan Lyons, Associate Professor in Economics at Trinity College Dublin and author of the Daft.ie Report, said:

“This latest Rental Report confirms the signals that emerged three months ago that pressure is building once more in Dublin.

“During 2023, as Dublin experience a significant pipeline of new rental homes, it enjoyed very little inflation in rents, as supply and demand were largely in balance. However, the upswing in construction of rental homes in

Dublin is over.

“As the rate of building of rental homes continues to fall, Dublin is likely to resemble the rest of the country, where availability has been tight over the last three years, leading to dramatic increases in open-market rents.

“When thinking about boosting housing supply, owner-occupied homes and social housing have dominated policymaker attention over the last few years.

“The new government will have to address the lack of supply of private rental housing early in its term, if it is to bring about a change in conditions similar to what Dublin enjoyed in 2023 but across all rental markets.”

Top award for the age-friendly development at Brady's Court

Older citizens now have access to high-quality, secure and accessible homes

THE AGE-FRIENDLY housing development at Brady's Court, Old Bawn in Tallaght was recognised in the 2024 National Age Friendly Recognition and Achievement Awards winning in the Housing Award category.

South Dublin County Council says: "The 'Age Friendly Housing' award celebrates excellence in social housing development that addresses the unique needs of our aging population."

Brady's Court, Old Bawn represents thoughtful urban planning, prioritising accessibility, safety, and community engagement for residents.

This innovative approach ensures that the development not only meets the physical needs of older residents but also supports health and social well-being.

Designed by SDCC Architects and implemented on-site by a design team led by O'BFA Architects, Brady's Court are purpose-built, energy-efficient homes intended to support long-term independent living and future adaptation where necessary.

The development also integrates communal spaces for residents to foster social connections and reduce isolation.

The council has a number of similar age-friendly housing initiatives across the county that incorporate the successful elements of Brady's Court, which will help to create age-friendly neighborhoods tailored to the specific needs of residents.

Speaking on the announcement, Colm Ward, Chief Executive of South Dublin County Council said;

"Winning the Age Friendly Housing award for our development at Brady's Field, Old Bawn recognises our commitment to the continued development of high-quality housing developments across the county."

"It is great to achieve this prestigious award for our age-friendly development that offers our older citizens access to high quality, secure and accessible homes."

"I would like to particularly thank our Housing, Community and Architects staff for their hard work and dedication which has been instrumental in securing this award."



AWARD: The Age Friendly development at Brady's Court in Old Bawn, Tallaght

McDonald's seeks go-ahead for development at Doddsborough



DEVELOPMENT: McDonald's in Doddsborough

MCDONALD'S Restaurants of Ireland has lodged a planning application for permission for development at McDonald's restaurant on Lucan Road in Doddsborough.

The development will consist of proposed external and internal modifications/upgrade works, including new entrance lobby and associated works; improvements to drive-thru lane

including relocated height restrictor, signage, canopy, ordering device and bollards; new booth windows to replace existing; new fast-forward booth and associated bay; upgrade works to existing windows.

Applicant McDonald's Restaurants of Ireland Ltd plans include new elevational signage; new gates and wall to existing yard to match existing,

with associated works to the rear of the unit including partial removal of existing store to provide increased corridor; internal alterations to facilitate all modifications/upgrade works; additional bollards; landscaping works including outdoor furniture; boundary treatment works; and all associated works to facilitate the proposed development

REA McGEE

Sales - Lettings - Valuations - Property Management

YOUR LOCAL ESTATE AGENT

Tinking of selling?
Thinking of letting?

Contact us today! We have offices in
Tallaght & Harolds Cross.

Tallaght: 01 405 7700
info@reamcgee.ie

Harolds Cross: 01 671 1111
hello@reamcgee.ie

*Proud to be working with you
for over 20 years.*

www.reamcgee.ie

Why exercising your voting rights is so important in this day and age

Many of our ancestors were not entitled to vote at all – in any election

SO, IT'S finally formally announced – we will have a general election on November 29, 2024 to elect our representatives to the 34th Dáil.

Apologies if this article appears “preachy”, but some people may be voting for the first time; others may not be aware of sources of information about the voting process.

The websites of both South Dublin County Council and also the Citizens' Information Service provide reliable information about voting in elections – see https://issuu.com/southdublincountycouncil/docs/90570_sdcc_your_vote_your_voice_a4_booklet_v1 and also <https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/government-in-ireland/elections-and-referenda/voting/voting-procedure-in-a-general-election/#35fb3c>.

Voting in elections is one of the primary duties of citizens. For our democracy to work properly, it's important that people who have the right to vote do so.

Why? Because voters' preferences can only be considered if they vote (i.e. cast their ballot). Obviously, non-voters' preferences can't be taken into account.

When you go to vote, bring proof of your identity with you to the polling station on time on the day in case an official there asks you for it. Proofs of identity include passport or driving licence.

(For the full list of accepted IDs, see the Identification When Voting section at the Citizens' Information Service website above.)

The polling card which will be delivered to your address is not proof of your identity.

The polling card merely tells the addressee where to vote (officially known as the polling station) and when.

Even those who have voted for many years are advised to check their polling cards to make sure their usual polling station is at the same location as before. Occasionally, the location can change.

If by some mischance your polling card doesn't arrive, then see SDCC's

For Voters section at <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/our-council/elections-and-voting/for-voter-s/> and select the Find Your Polling Station tab at the bottom of the webpage where you can consult the map entitled Polling Station Locations 2024 SDCC.

Otherwise, in plenty of time make an enquiry to South Dublin County Council's Customer Care section by email to info@sdublincoco.ie or by phone to 01-4149000.

Brief History of voting rights (enfranchisement) in the Republic of Ireland

We weren't always the democracy we know today. “One man, one vote” wasn't always available to the majority of people here. Many of our forebears were not entitled to vote at all, in any election.

They had no input regarding what laws were passed or what decisions would be made which affected the country or its general population. It took a long time and much effort to change that situation. We owe it to those who worked hard to obtain our right to vote, to do so.

No voting rights for ordinary people

Down through the centuries, most of the people in Ireland and Britain didn't have voting rights, nor could take part in choosing who would represent them in government.

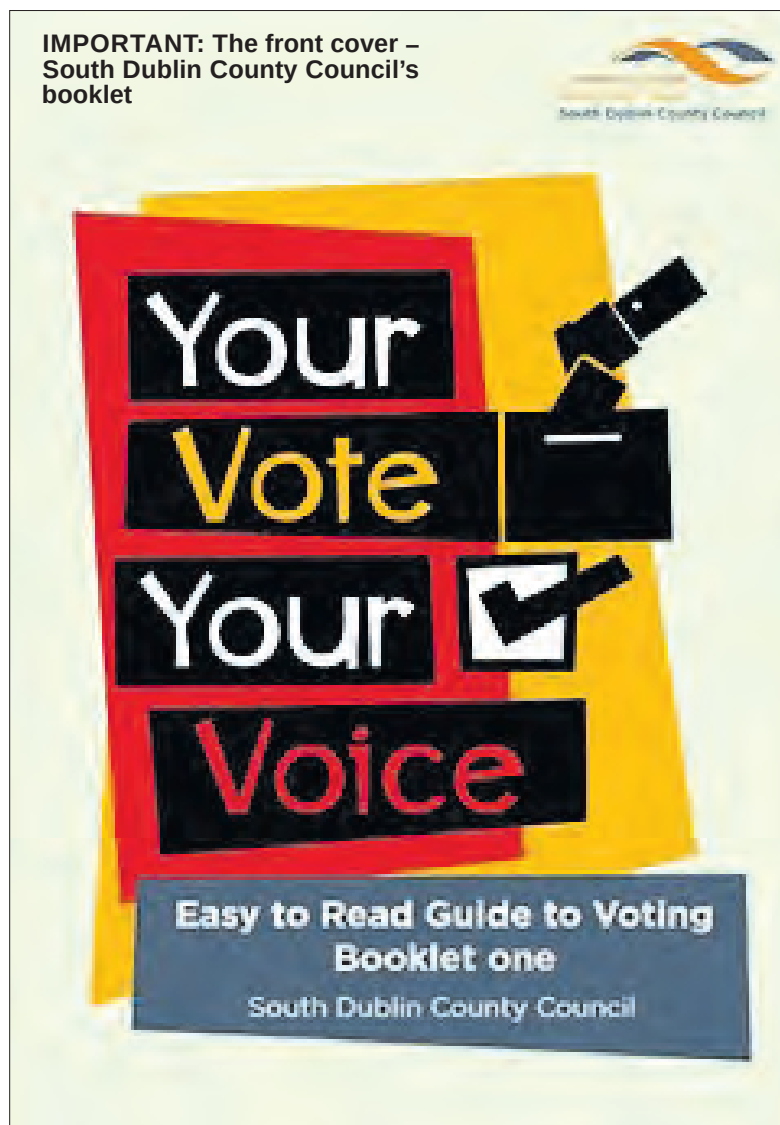
Property ownership and religious beliefs combined in the time of the Penal Laws and onward to discriminate against both men and women. Gradually, and with great difficulty, a series of laws were passed in the Westminster Parliament.

Together they resulted in lifting the discriminations, but at that time only adult men could vote.

Women remained disenfranchised, no matter what their age or status.

Caitriona Crowe's article – See <https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/heritage/how-irish-women-won-the-right-to-vote-in-1918-1.3697389> – traces the difficulties that many had to face to obtain voting rights.

IMPORTANT: The front cover – South Dublin County Council's booklet



For instance, a woman in the Ireland of the 1870s had a deeply restricted existence – not the kind of life we may take for granted nowadays.

As well as being disenfranchised back then solely on the basis of their sex, women were also forbidden membership of public boards or local

authorities, they were discouraged strongly (i.e. socially prevented) from earning their own living, their education was “unnecessary and undesirable”.

Any property they owned before they married became their husbands' the moment they said “I do”, and their

legal custody of their children ended when each child reached the age of seven.

Ordinary men's lives were also curtailed, but less so than women's.

1918 – Men (and some women) can vote

Crowe says the 1918 Representation of the People Act was important in getting voting rights for men and (with restrictions) women.

The British Government recognised the difficulty of denying voting rights to servicemen who had fought in World War One.

It recognised that many women had also served during the Great War.

The 1918 Act gave voting rights to all men in Britain and Ireland aged 21 or over.

Men who had seen active service could vote from age 19. Women could vote, but only if they were aged 30 or over and if they owned property above a certain value and other restrictions.

The General Election in December 1918 was held only a month after the official end of World War One.

Irish Government – full voting rights

Our newly-born State granted equal voting rights to women in 1922, six years before British women gained the same status. Then, in 1972 Ireland reduced the minimum voting age from 21 to 18.

So, what has the Dáil ever done for us?

Here are just three examples:

First example –

Gone since July 31, 1973 is the infamous “marriage bar” (also colloquially known as “the marriage ban”). It had operated since 1924 and cut short many a good career.

The bar meant that any unmarried woman who worked in the Irish civil service had to resign upon marriage and could not be re-employed in any similar career. The bar extended to other permanent, pensionable jobs as well.

Second example –

Another change here is the Family Home Protection Act, first brought to law in 1976.

Broadly, the Act prevented a spouse (usually back then, the woman's husband) from “selling the house from under her feet”, as the saying was in those days when such things did happen.

Third example –

Who remembers the Marriage Equality Referendum in 2015? More than 60 per cent of eligible electors voted, an exceptionally high turn-out.

Many eligible Irish people working away from their home base that May returned in time specifically to vote in the Referendum and took the next available flight, rail, boat or road-trip back to their workplaces.

Whether or not you liked the outcome, there was no doubt what the majority of the voters clearly wanted, and obtained.

There are various important national issues requiring legislation. Draft legislation is debated in the Dáil and voted into law by the people who will become our TDs in the next Dáil, but only because a sufficient number of ordinary people voted for each of them.

Everyone's vote is important.



E education•training•jobs

advertising@echo.ie

Excel Training at the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght ENROLLING NOW



September, October, and November schedule.
1st class starts Friday 6th Sept.

6 Courses to choose from:

Excel Basics, Intermediate Excel, Advanced Excel, Power Query, Power BI, and PowerPoint

- Bring your own laptop.
- Suitable for individuals
- & for businesses to upskill their employees.



Audrey Reynolds

To enrol contact Audrey on: 086 8072450
audrey@softwareskills.ie www.softwareskills.ie



Advertise Education, Training and Jobs,
in print and online, contact us today:

Phone: 01-4685350 advertising@echo.ie
www.echo.ie

ENTEGRO ARE HIRING!

We are at the forefront of Telecommunications, designing and deploying gigabit networks for the future. Partnering with communities, industry, and service providers, we empower and connect people, homes, and businesses.



● Senior Commercial Administrator - Dublin

Maintain commercial data base including downloading PowerBi Revenue and Cost reports and issuing in the required format to the Senior Management Team (SMT). Provide operational support to the Management Teams, Commercial Team and Finance Department. Submit Deviation from Estimates (DFEs) on both AFS and MIS, including explanations for clients.

● Senior Delivery Project Manager - Dublin

Responsible for overseeing the planning, execution, and delivery of complex Survey, Design and Build programmes. The successful candidate will collaborate with cross-functional teams, stakeholders, and clients to achieve project goals and deliver high-quality results.

● Operations Manager - Dublin

Responsible for overseeing the daily operations of the shared services team, ensuring efficient and effective delivery of support services across various business units. This role involves managing processes, optimising performance, and driving continuous improvement to enhance service delivery and operational excellence.

We offer a competitive salary along with a comprehensive benefits package, and opportunities for professional development

Send your CV to careers@entegro.ie or visit our website www.entegro.ie



Over 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week.

Do you want the good news or the bad news?



The *Echo* Telling the whole story

Pick up a copy of *The Echo* in your local shop* every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online



*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves

Echo.ie

Your Local Newspaper

Criminal investigation ongoing into death of plumber at work

Married father of three suffered fatal injuries in a workplace accident on Boot Road

AN INQUEST had heard that a criminal investigation is ongoing into the circumstances of how a plumber was killed while working at a house in Dublin last year, *reports Seán McCárthaigh*.

Aidan Dunne (55), a married father of three, from the Limekiln area of Walkinstown, suffered fatal injuries in a workplace accident at a property on Boot Road, Clondalkin on October 5, 2023.

An inspector with the Health and Safety Authority (HSA), Edward Wall, told a sitting of Dublin District Coroner’s Court on Thursday, that further time was needed by the HSA to complete its investigation into Mr Dunne’s death.

Mr Wall explained that the original inspector assigned to the case had since left the HSA and another inspector was now in charge of the investigation.

He applied to the coroner, Clare Keane, for a six-month adjournment of the inquest but added that the HSA was hopeful that it would not take that long to decide on whether a criminal prosecution should arise out of Mr Dunne’s death or not.

“An inspector . . . [said] the original inspector assigned to the case had since left the HSA and another inspector was now in charge of the investigation

Mr Wall noted that if the HSA investigation concluded a criminal prosecution was warranted that a file would need to be forwarded to the DPP for the actual decision to initiate a prosecution.

No details of the results of the postmortem were released during the short hearing which was attended by the deceased’s wife, Linda Dunne and two of the couple’s three sons, Adam and Mark.

However, it was reported at the time of his death that Mr Dunne was electrocuted during the course of working on the house.

Dr Keane granted the HSA application and adjourned the case until May 8, 2025.

Mr Wall promised to notify the coroner before that date if there had been a decision made about the consideration of a criminal prosecution.

Garda Philip Shaw gave evidence of the deceased’s body being identified by Mr Dunne’s son, Adam, in a garage at the property in Clondalkin.

Offering her sympathy to Mr Dunne’s family, Dr Keane observed that it was “an incredibly difficult time” for them.

Mr Dunne, who came originally from Santry, had his own business, Shanowen Heating and Plumbing. A GoFundMe page established by fellow plumbers to help his family has raised over €15,500 to date.



TRAGIC: Aidan Dunne was electrocuted while working in a house in Clondalkin

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

Covid-19 enquiry format has ‘no powers of compellability’

Dear Editor,

THE long-awaited Government announcement on the format and time-frame of the evaluation of the Covid-19 pandemic dubbed an ‘evaluation’ is “voluntary, with no powers of compellability” whose secretariat will be drawn from the civil service is a huge disappointment.

Sir Humphrey Appleby, a fictional character from the British television series, Yes, Minister and Yes, Prime Minister, giving advice to his minister was uppermost in the Government’s planned “evaluation” into how Covid-19 was grasped.

The decision to avoid a Senior Counsel-led inquiry with all its forensic trappings will be tackled by a multi-disciplinary panel with relevant expertise to be chaired by Prof Anne Scott, Professor Emerita with UCG and heretofore Deputy President of Dublin City University (DCU).

In 2020 she was appointed the Independent Chair of the Cervical Check Steering Committee.

The ‘evaluation’ on Covid-19 that claimed 7,010,681 lives worldwide is expected to pinpoint grave errors on the part of the state in the way it prepared for the risk of the pandemic.

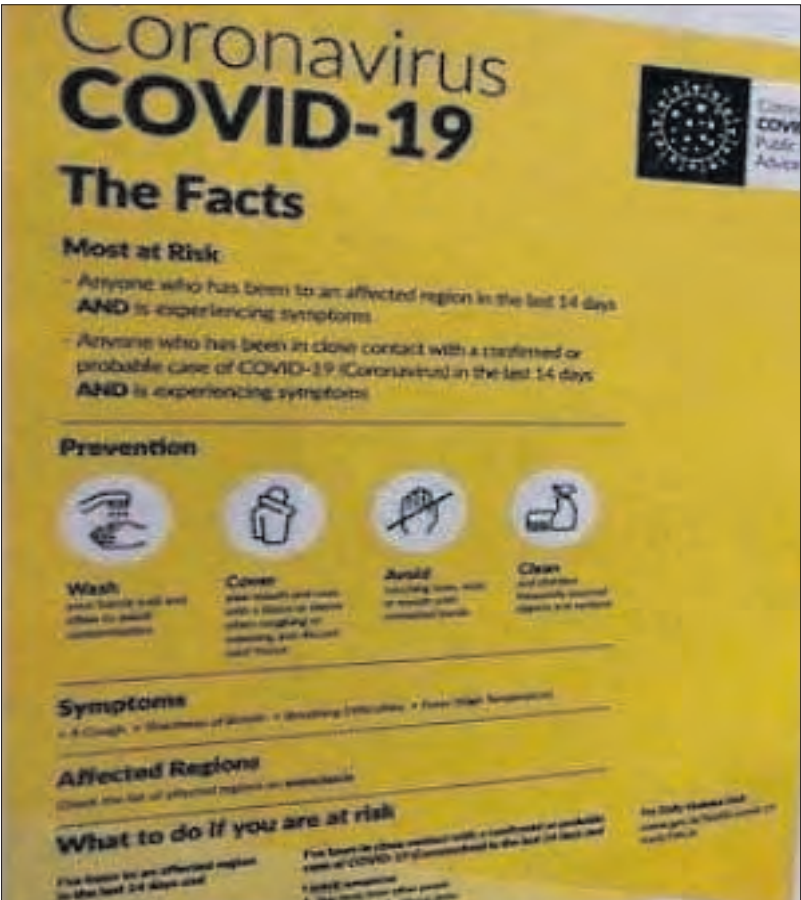
Eurostat says Ireland’s excess deaths for August 2024 were 19.3 per cent above the baseline and in double digits monthly since March.

The pandemic that caused ‘grief, untold misery and economic turmoil’ could have been averted if the government were better prepared.

It was beset by fatal strategic flaws and citizens everywhere were failed. Medics found the situation incredibly difficult and without lockdown restrictions it would have gotten worse, not a trivial amount worse, but really quite substantially worse.

The next pandemic may be even more transmissible and lethal and likely to occur in the near to medium future.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh.



COULD BE LETHAL: Covid-19 is likely to occur

Booing of God Save the King cost FAI €10,000

Dear Editor, UEFA doled out a €10,000 fine to the FAI commensurate with booing of God Save the King prior to the Nations League clash between Ireland and England at the Aviva Stadium last September.

This is the standard penalty meted out by UEFA for national anthem disturbances. But the British FA was hit by a more sizeable fine of €12,500 for the away fans’ booing of ‘Amhrán na bhFiann’, as England supporters having previously expressed their strong disapproval in booing opposing anthems.

This attracted criticism in the aftermath of September’s Nations League match.

On the pitch, Jack Grealish and Declan Rice were booed vociferously by a jostling clamorous mob throughout the game, as Ireland was defeated 2-0 by England in the Nations League.

Fines totalling €15,250 were imposed on the FAI for the ignition of flares (€9,250) and the invasion of a spectator onto the pitch (€6,000).

Heimir Hallgrímsson, the Icelandic, presided over his first win as Ireland’s head coach in the Nations League B2 encounter with Finland in Helsinki.

His third game at the helm, will contest England in the return fixture in Wembley on 17th November.

Yours sincerely,
Gerry Coughlan, Kilnamanagh.

Event was ‘an insult’ to Republican beliefs

Dear Editor, FOR many years I have supported Sinn Féin through thick and thin, but lately I have called into question my judgement with their various mishaps, be it their antics in the last referendum, their endeavours to move to the ‘centre ground’, or Mary Lou’s remarks after the Dublin riots. She obviously has listened to the grassroots.

This particular event in Belfast was an insult to my Republican beliefs. We can all respect many different traditions but we don’t have to kneel at their altars.

I now will have to look elsewhere to use my vote.
Yours sincerely,
Paul Doran, Clondalkin.

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

Exploring the science of sound

THE PIECE WITH THE DRUMS PRODUCTION COMES TO THE CIVIC

By **Ryan Butler**

news@echo.ie

OVER three years ago, choreographer David Bolger of CoisCéim Dance Theatre received a typical 'ping' alerting him to a new message. This one particular ping stood out—it was from jazz percussionist Conor Guilfoyle. Guilfoyle, deeply connected to rhythm, had been struck by the idea that playing the drums was, in essence, a form of dance. This invitation sparked an exciting collaboration between the two, blending their passions for sound, movement, and rhythm.

Bolger had been exploring the science of sound—how vibrations and frequencies affect human emotions and behavior. This aligned perfectly with Guilfoyle's vision of rhythm as a form of communication beyond just sound.

Together, they embarked on a unique experiment, delving into how the dancers' bodies could not only respond to music but create an atmosphere that transcended the rehearsal space.

They explored the profound connection between motion and sound waves, ultimately crafting 'The Piece with The Drums.'

This production offers a dazzling experience for lovers of jazz music and dance. CoisCéim Dance Theatre, one of Ireland's premier dance companies, is now bringing their critically acclaimed show to audiences across the country, including the Civic, from November 15-16. This week, we sat down with David and Conor to discuss the Tallaght performance;

Tell us a bit about the "ping" that inspired 'The Piece with The Drums'?

David: Conor got in touch with me via a Facebook message about three years ago. It was during lockdown, and he expressed his desire to work with myself and dancers. To explore the connection of rhythm, especially the Jazz Drum kit and how movement might be created from how they sound, vibrate, and play melodic rhythms. I jumped at the chance, as I know Conor to be one of the finest jazz percussionists in the country. So I consider that the "ping" alerting me to a new message was the first beat of rhythm and is itself part of 'The Piece with The Drums.'

Have there been any highlights or challenges during production? How does it differ from past projects?

David: The highlight for me on this project has to be the fact that I was able to research the world of historical jazz rhythms, when they were composed, and by whom. Conor's knowledge is sublime. The challenge for me as a director and choreographer was to try and find a layered narrative within the piece and how to interpret the joyous feeling that the drums, through Conor, can make. There is a very special bond between

the dancers and Conor on stage, and it is a delight to hear the audience wanting to be part of it all. Our audiences are very vocal, and the performance sometimes feels like a rock gig!

What drew you to the Civic? Is there any special connection to Tallaght?

David: The Civic celebrates 25 years this year, and the theatre has always welcomed us in performance. The audience that the theatre attracts is so supportive, and I love the sense of community and openness within the building. It seemed perfect that both the Civic and CoisCéim are celebrating two major milestones this year, and to be part of the Civic 2024 program is very special.

And finally, congratulations on 30 years! How are you feeling?

David: After a super year of events celebrating our 30th year with a packed program, I feel rejuvenated and very much looking forward to what the future will hold for the company. Our plans for 2025 are in place, and we cannot wait to tell you what we have in store. But first, we are thrilled to be back at The Civic with two performances of 'The Piece with The Drums.'

What inspired you to contact David—and why David vs. another choreographer?

Conor: What inspired me to reach out to David was really a fascination I've had for a long time about movement and rhythm. I love the idea that when I play, other people move. Even if that's just a foot tap or a finger snap. I love playing for dancers in general. I had salsa bands for a long time, and I really enjoyed that. It was during lockdown, and I thought this was a good opportunity to get in contact with David, so I dropped him a line to see if he would be interested in exploring this—the free expression between a jazz drum set improvised and contemporary dancers improvised—and to see where it went.

I'd worked with David 25 years ago in Dublin and on tour with a show called 'When Once Is Never Enough' and I hugely admire his work. I saw the way he worked with dancers, his understanding of movement, and the body in a way that I couldn't possibly. So when I wanted to explore this idea of rhythm and movement, David was the obvious choice for me.

How has this run been different from the first one in 2023?

The first run was really exploratory for me because I'd never done anything like this before. I'd never really even gotten out from behind the drum set! Except maybe to make an announcement for my band. So it was new territory for me and quite nerve-wracking to do that. I had to push myself. But as the show went on, I got more confident, I suppose, and at the



UNIQUE EXPERIMENT:
Conor Guilfoyle
and Alex O'Neill

end of the premiere run, I was really quite happy with what had happened and proud of myself that I managed to do it. I learned a huge amount on that run, and this time, I'm starting from that place. So I know what the show is about; I know what's needed to be done, and it's really been about improving and changing things for the better. This tour has been a more relaxed affair for me; it's certainly still a challenge, but I'm really enjoying the show and am no longer

terrified to get out from behind the drum set!

What have been the highlights of the tour?

I have to say the highlight of the tour is working with the dancers. They are so great and so professional, and they really understood what I was trying to do. Having the opportunity to indulge ourselves with the time to be able to work with such a great, creative bunch of people. It's a pleasure and an honour to be able to tour 'The Piece with the Drums' across the country.

FROM EDEN

Two lost individuals, Alan and Eva find themselves locked in a bathroom together on New Year's Eve...

TUE 19TH - SAT 23RD NOV | DRAMA

See www.civictheatre.ie or contact Box Office (01) 462 7477

THE CIVIC

Presented by
**GLASS MASK
THEATRE**

BY **A PLAY
STEPHEN JONES**



Knock Three Times

THE THIRD INSTALMENT OF “A REALLY KEELEY GOOD NIGHT”

THE KEELEY BROTHERS are back with their highly anticipated third instalment of “A Really Keeley Good Night,” titled “KNOCK THREE TIMES.” Set to take place on Monday, 18 November, at The Civic Theatre, Tallaght, this show is a heartfelt tribute to the trio’s 20 years of unforgettable gigs, many of which have been hosted on Monday nights.

Drawing inspiration from two decades of performing, “KNOCK THREE TIMES” encapsulates the essence of the Keeley Brothers’ journey through music and laughter.

Known for their tight harmonies, engaging storytelling, and infectious energy, the brothers will take the stage to share their favourite songs, celebrating the connection they’ve built with audiences over the years.

Eldest brother Chris says, “With ‘KNOCK THREE TIMES,’ we want to celebrate invite everyone to join in the fun, laughter, and music that has truly cured the Monday blues over the years”

The evening will feature some of Tallaght’s finest musicians

performing a mix of showband classics, and some delightful surprises. The Keeley Brothers’ ability to connect with their audience makes each performance feel like a family gathering, encouraging sing-alongs and heartfelt participation.

Event Details:

- Title: A Really Keeley Good Night: KNOCK THREE TIMES
- Date: 18 November 2024
- Time: Doors 7:30pm
- Venue: The Civic Theatre Tallaght
- Tickets: Available at CivicTheatre.ie
- Full link: <https://www.civictheatre.ie/whats-on/a-really-keeley-good-night-knock-three-times/>

Join The Keeley Brothers as they take you on a trip down memory lane with “KNOCK THREE TIMES.” Whether you’ve been with them from the beginning or are discovering their charm for the first time, this show promises an evening of laughter, music, and brotherly love that will resonate long after the final note.



DYNAMIC: The Keeley Brothers are a dynamic trio celebrated for their harmonious vocals and engaging performances. With a legacy spanning 30 years, they have forged a deep connection with their audience, making each show a memorable experience filled with music, laughter, and warmth

18 NOV 2024

THE CIVIC THEATRE

A REALLY KEELEY GOOD NIGHT!

KNOCK
THREE
TIMES

Susan, did you view Echo.ie in 2023?
We think you're

One in a Million!

Actually you're one in 2,383,955

Page Views
2,383,955

Users
993,135

Top Story
15,000 Views

Top Video
112,900 Views

Sessions
1,581,054

Best Reach
153,000

Link Clicks
3,200

Social Media followers
88,058

Echo.ie
Your Local Newspaper

Telling the whole story

Pick up a copy of The Echo in your local shop* every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online

*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves

Passion for art

WORK TO BE FEATURED AT WORLD-CLASS EVENT

By **Ryan Butler**
news@echo.ie

"MY aunt would give me a colouring book to occupy myself," smiles Knocklyon-based artist Shay Maguire when asked of what inspired his passion for art. South Dublin artists such as Shay are set to take centre stage as they feature their work at Ireland's largest and most exciting art fair.

The best and brightest in Irish art are set to appear alongside world-class international artists when Art Source opens its doors at the RDS from November 15-17. Contemporary artist Shay closed out his career as an engineer after Covid to pursue a lifelong passion for painting. Working primarily in watercolour, oil, and acrylic, Maguire's works are defined by a refined composition and in how he captures movement, mood, and light. His work features prominently the wildness of Mayo and Dublin landmarks, reflecting the places he spends the most of his time.

And Hung Nguyen, originally from Vietnam and now residing in Donnybrook, paused a lifelong love of painting to pursue a two-decade long career in computer science.

In 2021, he rekindled his creative outlet by diving into the techniques of the oil masters and now creates landscapes, portraits, wildlife,

and still life, predominantly rendered in oil, with occasional forays into acrylic or watercolour.

Art Source features a huge selection of affordable art as well as a wide range of pieces from some of the biggest names in the art world, including Banksy, Andy Warhol, and Julian Opie, making it an unmissable event for art lovers.

"Over the past number of years we have seen that the Irish public have shown an enormous appetite for art, and Art Source has become a major destination for buyers who are interested in art from some of the world's most recognisable artists," said show organizer Patrick O'Sullivan.

This year will once again feature Art Source's 100 for €100 event, where artists have been asked to create one original piece of artwork, which will sell at the fair for just €100. After this event, Shay has an exhibition in Westport next month and will be working on a new theme in the New Year; he also hopes to exhibit regularly on Stephen's Green and get feedback. He would like to thank his wife for "putting up with all the paintings around the house," his aunt for giving him the push to pursue his passion in his early years, and the people who have supported him.

Art Source opens on Friday, November 15 at 11am, and runs until November 17. For more information and tickets, visit artsource.ie



PASSION: Art by Knocklyon's Shay Maguire; 'Wooden Bridge Clontarf'

Waiting for Texto

ELECTRIFYING COMEDY

By **Ryan Butler**
news@echo.ie

'WAITING for Texto', an electrifying new comedy set to light up the Civic Theatre Tallaght on Saturday, November 16.

It speaks of an incredibly raw yet utterly universal experience—waiting for someone to respond to your carefully crafted message on WhatsApp.

"If men are such visual creatures, why can't they see my texts?!"

'Waiting for Texto' hurls audiences into the intricacies of contemporary relationships in the digital age.

Follow Lucy as she navigates the treacherous waters of love, singledom, and the relentless pull of social media addiction.

Her journey becomes even more chaotic as she finds herself entangled with a man who seems barely alive. Her life is hyper-connected, yet she is lonely.

Have you ever written a text message and agonised over its contents? Felt genuine distress as you waited for its return? 'Waiting for Texto' brings these ubiquitous experiences to the stage, showcasing real-time SMS exchanges, social media deep dives, swiping, and unexpected twists that delve into the comical complexities of co-dependency and the quest for purpose in a family-centric society.

Don't miss your chance to witness this riotous new play that captures the essence of contemporary relationships with razor-sharp wit and heartwarming charm when it comes to The Civic on November 16.



MORAN

RED COW INN

EST. 1690

FUNERAL & MEMORIAL PACKAGES AVAILABLE

The Red Cow Inn, located just off the M50, is within easy access of all routes. Gatherings can be catered for in our main lounge or if you require a private room we can cater for 50 - 350 guests. Please contact the Conference & Banqueting department for a tailored quote.

Red Cow Inn, Naas Rd, Dublin D22 R5P3 | T: +353 1 4593650
E: redcowinn@moranhotels.com | www.redcowinn.ie

Fundraiser for Cara

OVER €4K RAISED TO BUILD EXTENSION FOR 13-YEAR OLD GIRL

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email reception@echo.ie or call 01-4685350.
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on echo.ie



Ann, Marie, Trisha and Gillian in Firhouse Community Centre



Nicola Tate, Hilda Huddleston, Dave Wheeler and Trishia Tate



Liam and Rachel Brady



Leanne Ennis and Rachel Kelly



Stuart, Monica and Nathan



Sharon and John



Rachel Kelly, Gillian Teague and Lynda Prendergast



Elizabeth Edwards, Cecilia Murphy and Geraldine McNamara

Rock of Ages

MUSICAL SOCIETY PUT ON A RIP-ROARING PRODUCTION

By **Ryan Butler**
news@echo.ie

ACROSS 5 performances last week, Kilmainham Inchicore Musical Society put on a rip-roaring production of Rock of Ages at ICFE! The 40+ person cast and production team worked tirelessly over the past few months to bring together a truly incredible performance that had the audience laughing in their seats.

The juke-box musical features songs by bands such as Foreigner and Twister Sister, all set in the hair-raising 1980s L.A. Everything from the set design to costumes and lighting was worthy of any professional show, along side epic performances by every person on stage.

The excitement didn't stop there with the society giving out two awards to hard-working members on the last night. Claire Neill was bestowed with Lifetime Membership to KIMS for her tireless and continued commitment to the community group, while Denise Bennett was awarded the Anna Marie McQuillan Spirit of KIMS in recognition of her long-standing dedication to the group.

KIMS turns 10 years old next year, so watch out for more exciting announcements!



JUKE BOX MUSICAL: The cast of Rock of Ages during the show
Photo by Darragh Carroll



PANTO: Sarah Harvey as Baroness Trump, Kevin Keeley as Tickles, Ruth Leonard as Fairy Ruthless, Aidan G as Mootilda, Keila Ann Whelan as Jill and Robert Downes as Dame Dottie

Civic Panto

TICKLES AND THE BEANSTALK

By **Ryan Butler**
news@echo.ie

TICKLES might not always have the brightest ideas, but with his Ma Dottie by his side, they can conquer anything. BUT! They're facing a big challenge: the Evil Baroness wants to take their home away...

What's a family to do? Sell their hilarious all-singing, all-dancing pet cow, Mootilda? Maybe Jill, the Baroness's niece, can help change her aunt's mind about being so mean? Or perhaps a giggly fairy will swoop in, sprinkling magic dust to ensure Tickles and Dottie find their happily-ever-after?

Find out at 'Tickles and The Beanstalk' this year's spectacular and hilarious Civic Panto. The team who brought you 'Jack & The Beanstalk', 'Snow White', 'Sleeping Beauty', and 'Cinderella' returns for The Civic Panto 2024, which runs from December 4-January 5; tickets are on sale now, so don't miss out!

Do you want the good news or the bad news?

Over 80 news, community, sport and feature articles every week



Scan the QR code to subscribe online

The *Echo* – Telling the whole story

“Everyone has a favourite cake, pastry, pudding or pie from when they were kids.
Paul Hollywood

Food with Passion

WHITE CHOCOLATE & AMARETTI BUNDT CAKE

by **John Paul Kennedy** / jpkennedy.kennedy@gmail.com



The Bundt cake is an all in one cake, mix all the ingredients together in a large mixing bowl, pour into the cake mould and into the oven! How simple is that! You will need a Bundt cake tin but these are readily available from most good homeware stores. I've made this cake many times, in fact it served as one of my desserts last Christmas. That was actually the last time I made the cake until last week, I made it and was quickly reminded just how delicious this cake is. Perfect served with whipped double cream with vanilla and a drizzle of crushed amaretti biscuit! Sheer cake and dessert indulgence!

Ingredients: (Serves 8-10 people)

- 300g Self-Raising Flour
- 220g caster sugar
- 3 eggs
- 310ml of milk
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 160g crushed amaretti biscuits (keep two tablespoons back to decorate the cake)
- 250g melted white chocolate (melt in a bowl over simmering water)
- 185g melted unsalted butter

John Paul Kennedy IS a Self-Taught Cook and an avid Fan of Collecting Cookery Books with a Passion For good old-Fashioned Home Cooking. His Passion For Proper Family Cooking stems from his two grandmothers, who were both excellent cooks, one of whom was a trained Chef. **JP** Promises To Bring us plenty of Tasty Treats and Family-Inspired Recipes while Showing us How To get The Basics Right.

Method:

1. Preheat your oven to 180degrees (165 fan /350F) and grease your Bundt cake tin.
2. In large mixing bowl add the flour, sugar, eggs, melted chocolate, butter, milk and vanilla and combine everything until you have a nice smooth batter.
3. Pour half the batter into the cake tin, then sprinkle evenly the amaretti crushed biscuit mix on top then add the remaining cake batter on top.
4. Place into the preheated oven to bake for between 45 -60 minutes (all ovens vary). once the cake is golden and coming away slightly from the edges of the tin it's cooked.
5. Leave to cool completely before removing from the tin and placing on a cake stand or serving plate. Then adorn with a dusting of the crushed amaretti biscuits, serve with lightly whipped vanilla double-cream and enjoy!

This is a beautiful cake visually to serve your guests, the bundt cake tin does all the work. It goes a long way. It's perfect for larger group celebrations and believe me will leave your guests gasping with lots of uoooooooo's and ahhhhhhhhh's and very appreciative of the efforts you've gone to! Incredibly easy to make but absolutely delicious to eat, I guarantee this cake will go down a treat when you make it for family and friends! Simply gorgeous.



Contact JP on: **Twitter:** @JPKCooking
Email: JPKCooking@gmail.com
Instagram: [jpkennedy.kennedy](https://www.instagram.com/jpkennedy.kennedy)

“ To enjoy the glow of good health, you must exercise.

Gene Tunney

Health & Fitness

HOW POSITIVE WINTER HABITS WILL HELP GET YOU THROUGH THE DARKER, COLDER MONTHS

by Ursula Frawley / info@moveitfitness.ie

As winter is well and truly here, it brings shorter days and colder, damp weather. It becomes easier to pull the duvet over and enjoy more time in the quiet, cozy darkness of our bed. The shorter days and longer nights are often a time of reflection, rest and recovery. However, do you find it challenging to care for your physical and mental well-being? Let's have a look at some small changes to your daily habits to hopefully help you keep your mood up and keep healthy this winter season.

Embrace any opportunity for sunlight.

I know the days are shorter, but sunlight is critical for one vital nutrient - Vitamin D. This is vital for bone health and a healthy immune system. During winter, take advantage of sunny days by getting outside, even if just for a few minutes. If you are taking a coffee break at work, for example, why not have your break outside to catch some winter sun. Also, talk to your GP about considering a Vitamin D supplement. This can help to compliment your health, especially when the weather is less sunny.

Add those yummy comfort foods!

Winter is the perfect opportunity to enjoy some delicious soups, roasted root vegetables and nourishing warm breakfast ideas – like baked oats or freshly baked scones. The perfect comfort foods can provide delicious and vital nutrients. Add as much colour as you can



URSULA FRAWLEY IS A PERSONAL TRAINER AND OWNER of MOVE IT FITNESS. Her ONLINE STRENGTH & FITNESS CLASSES, WHICH RUN LIVE SEVEN TIMES A WEEK, HAVE BEEN HELPING WOMEN TO FEEL STRONGER AND FITTER SINCE 2020. Her ONLINE AND IN-PERSON PROGRAMMES ARE FOCUSED ON MOTIVATING AND CHANGING A MINDSET TO ENJOYING THE FITNESS JOURNEY, WHILE FEELING EMPOWERED WITH A POSITIVE MINDSET. URSULA LIVES IN DUBLIN 24 WITH Her Husband AND four CHILDREN. Get More INFORMATION by EMAILING Her AT info@moveitfitness.ie OR WWW.MOVEITFITNESS.IE

to soups and stock up on as many delicious root vegetables to roast with herbs and winter spices!

Enjoy indoor, gentle exercise

Why not try something new like yoga, gentle stretching exercises or meditation? Light a candle for atmosphere and search for an enjoyable routine on YouTube that will support you at your pace and ability. It's also a fabulous time of year to throw on some music and dance around your kitchen! That's a fantastic way to get the heart pumping and enjoy exercise and movement indoors.

Wrap up and get moving

Don't forget that it's not about bad weather - it's about bad clothing! So, wrap up warm and enjoy lovely walks in this crisp, chilly weather. Winter can be a wonderful opportunity to try new cozy and nourishing activities and foods! Just create a warm, inviting environment with candles! Time to embrace it! This article is not a substitute for medical advice, diagnosis or treatment. Remember, always consult with your GP before embarking on any change in diet or new health & fitness regime.



MORAN
RED COW INN
EST. 1690

STUFFY

AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

A Panto With Pure Imagination!

**WED 18th–MON 30th
DECEMBER 2024**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

BOOK NOW: 01 4593650
redcowcabaret@redcowinn.ie

BUY TICKETS



Annaleah Geoghegan and Pat Cullen



John Geoghegan, Martin Hunt and Pat Cullen



Ryan and Callum Anderson



Trish, Bernie, Pauline and Joan



Theresa McNamara, Pat Cullen (Elvis) and Joan O'Toole



Tony Geoghegan, Pat Cullen and Karson McGrath



Emma, Christina, Lily and Aaron



Cian, Clodagh, Ada and Susan



Derek, Andrea and Christy



John Geoghegan and Mary Kelly

Aloha concert

BY THE VINE GROUP IN THE CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION FETTERCAIRN

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email reception@echo.ie or call 01-4685350.
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on echo.ie



Enjoying the concert on Sunday



Brian, Catherine, Siún, Cáit and Nóra



Réitlín and Joe Geoghegan



Natalia, Irena and Katerina



Rita Keogh, Pat Cullen and Joe Flynn

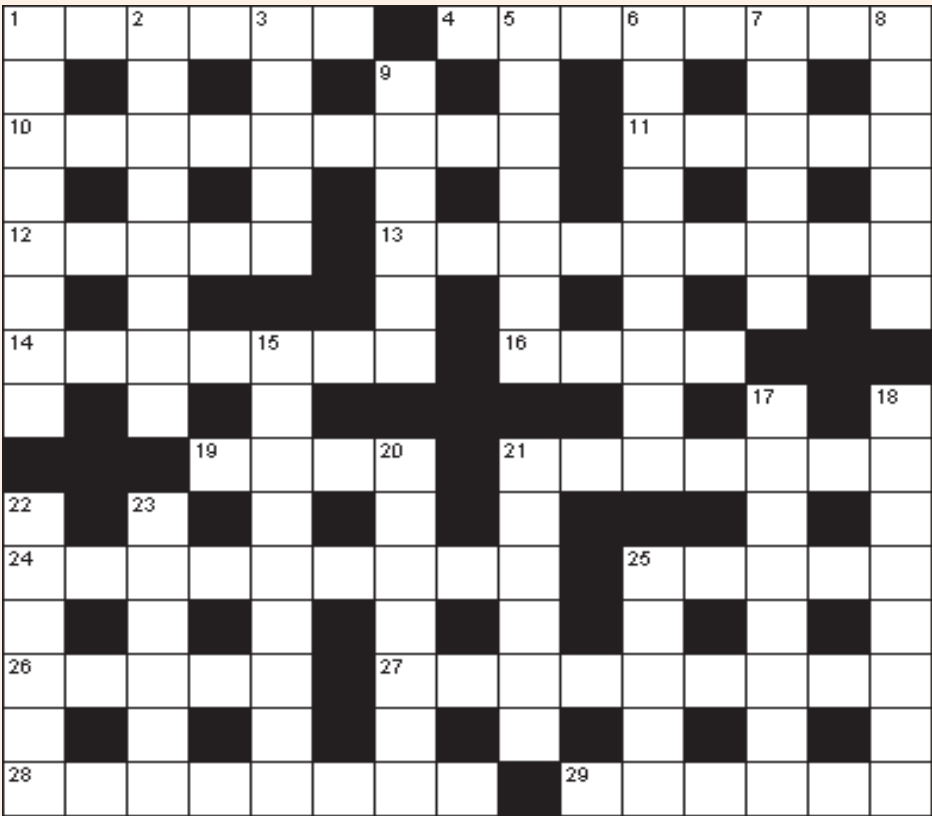


Mary Kelly and Tony Geoghegan



Michael Finglas, Karson McGrath and Heather Geoghegan

echocrossquiz Q1411



- ACROSS**

 - 1. Pertaining to the backbone (6)
 - 4. Not suitable or right (8)
 - 10. Irrational (9)
 - 11. Unprecedented (5)
 - 12. A timid man (5)
 - 13. Investigator (9)
 - 14. Unpredictable (7)
 - 16. All excited (4)
 - 19. Portent (4)
 - 21. A shipping receipt (7)
 - 24. Whatever person (9)
 - 25. Drive (5)
 - 26. Large Asian country (5)
 - 27. Cradlesongs (9)
 - 28. Jack of all trades (8)
 - 29. Semiformal evening dress for men (6)
- DOWN**

 - 1. An elderly unmarried woman (8)
 - 2. Unreal (8)
 - 3. Furious (5)
 - 5. Territorial reserve (7)
 - 6. A communal dining-hall (9)
 - 7. Sanction (6)
 - 8. Somewhat (6)
 - 9. Corrosive (6)
 - 15. Not permanent (9)
 - 17. Out of bounds (8)
 - 18. In the open air (8)
 - 20. A short novel (7)
 - 21. Trill (6)
 - 22. Anchor up (6)
 - 23. Aureate (6)
 - 25. Blunder (5)

LAST
WEEK'S
ANSWERS
0711



CAN YOU BEAT THIS WEEK'S CROSSQUIZ?

SUDOKU 1

							8	
6		2					1	9
	5	7			8			
1			3			6		7
9								2
5		8						
				4				
					9	2	4	5
			8	1				

SUDOKU 2

								7
	7				9	3		
	3	8	7		2			
		3					9	
9					6	5		
5		4					6	
					1	2	3	5
	4					7		
1				2	7	8		

ANSWERS

6	4	8	7	2	3	6	5	1
9	1	7	5	9	8	2	4	3
5	3	2	1	9	4	7	6	8
8	9	3	7	6	7	4	2	5
3	7	5	6	4	2	1	8	9
2	9	4	8	5	1	3	6	7
4	6	5	9	2	7	1	3	8
1	2	3	9	8	6	5	7	4
7	8	6	4	3	5	9	1	2

SUDOKU 2

3	9	6	2	1	8	5	4	7
5	4	2	9	7	6	1	3	8
8	7	1	3	4	5	9	6	2
1	3	4	7	2	9	8	6	5
2	5	8	1	6	4	3	7	9
7	9	6	5	8	3	4	2	1
6	2	3	8	9	1	7	5	4
9	1	5	4	3	7	2	8	6
4	8	7	6	5	2	9	1	3

SUDOKU 1

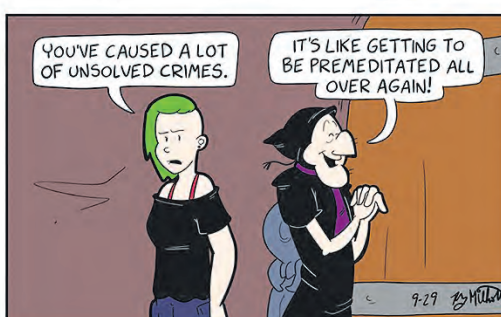
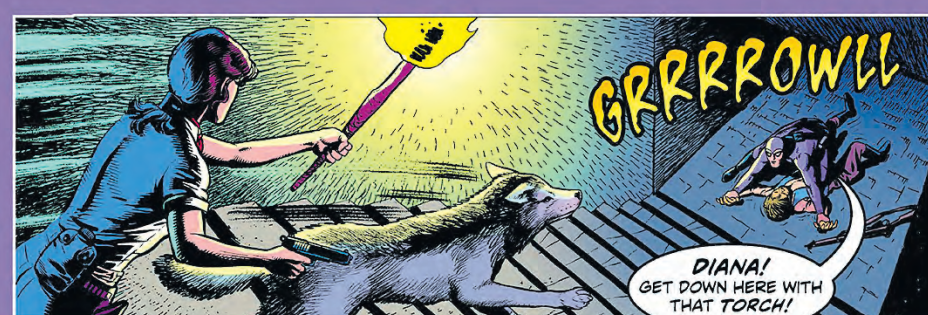
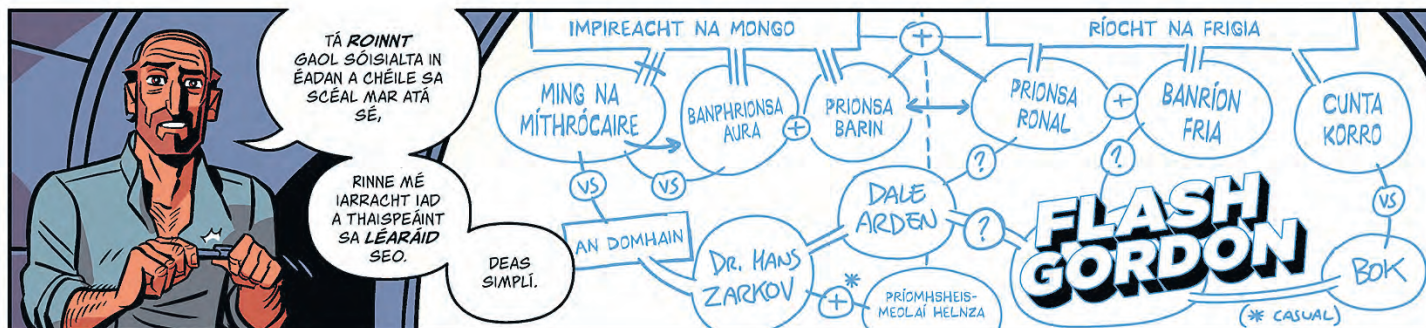
Poet's Corner
IGNORED AND ABANDONED

by Laura Keegan

My name is Laura and I've been writing poetry since I was a child. It's something I like to do in my spare time and how I like to express myself through this art form.

Our people are dying, waiting long, In hospital beds, along the halls, something's wrong. The system's broken, and it's clear to see, The government turns a blind eye They only care about money, power, and greed. Our nurses and doctors pushed to the edge, Working hard, with

no time to rest. But the ones in charge don't care to see The real damage done to you and me. They don't care, won't take the blame, Just want the power, the wealth, the fame. Staff burning out, the system cracked, While they sit back and count up their cash.





Rachel Edwards with Saoirse Molloy Smith



Students from Killinarden Community



Elizabeth Sheehan and Keith O'Connor with Conor Kedney



Rachel Edwards with Kevin McCarthy



Hannah Carley and Eamonn Nolan with Lucy Geraghty



Hannah Carley and Eamonn Nolan with Nataizya Simemba



Mount Seskin Community College students



Leah Masterson and Keith O'Connor (Chair of Board of Management at St Aidan's and former student)

ACE bursary awards

24 STUDENTS DELIGHTED TO RECEIVE BURSARIES

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email reception@echo.ie or call 01-4685350.
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on echo.ie



Hannah Carley and Eamonn Nolan with Ivan Medel



Rachel Edwards with Robert Durera



Students from St Aidan's received bursaries



Mount Seskin Community College students with their parents



Killinarden Community School students with their parents



Rachel Edwards with Adam Duke

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

A Word with Echo So...

DECORATIONS

CLUBBERS, HOW MANY WORDS (TWO LETTERS OR MORE) CAN YOU MAKE FROM THE ABOVE WORD?

5-20 pretty good! 21-35 excellent! 36 and over - you do realise these have to be real words, don't you!

1	14	27
2	15	28
3	16	29
4	17	30
5	18	31
6	19	32
7	20	33
8	21	34
9	22	35
10	23	36
11	24	37
12	25	38
13	26	39

crossword

vegetables

ROUND ROBIN

AMAZE FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS WITH YOUR DRAWING ABILITY!

1. DRAW

2. ADD

3. RUB OUT

4. DRAW

5. ROBIN!

YOU HAVE TO CONCENTRATE IN CLASS, JOE!

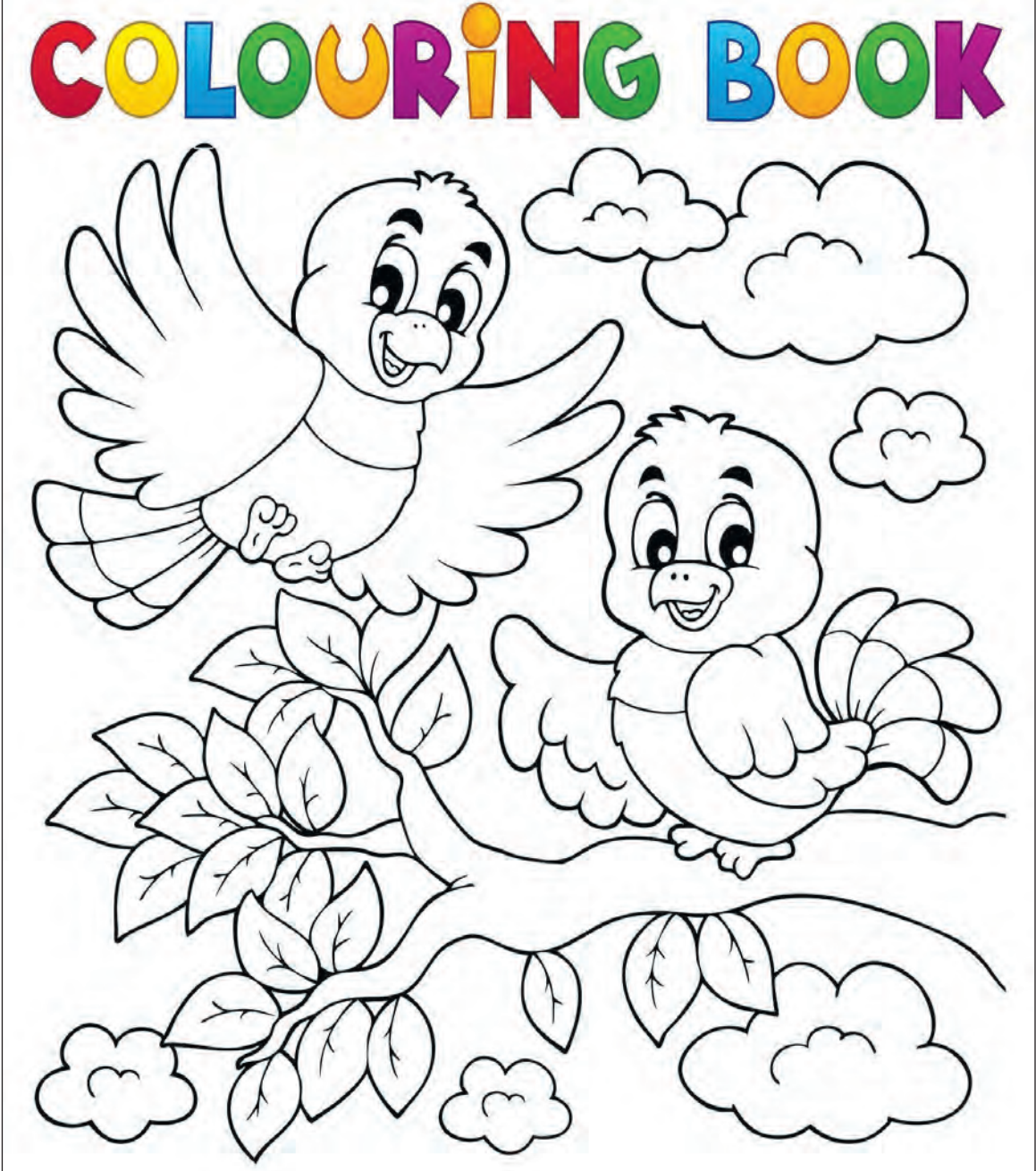
REALLY?

YES, YOU STRUGGLE IN EXAMS BECAUSE YOU DON'T PAY ATTENTION TO LESSONS.

SOPHIE, YOU COULD BE RIGHT. SOMETIMES IT'S LIKE TEACHER IS JUST TALKING TO HERSELF.

DO YOU HAVE TROUBLE HEARING HER?

NO, I HAVE TROUBLE LISTENING TO HER.



LETTER LINK LOG-JAM

A MISSING LETTER ON EACH ROW FINISHES ONE WORD AND STARTS THE NEXT...

BUT WHAT ARE THE LETTERS?

PES		URN
ARM		EAR
LAK		LSE
BUM		ANT
TRA		IST
SEE		ING
KNE		NVY
LEA		LAT

A cartoon girl with red hair in pigtails, wearing a blue shirt and green pants, looking confused with her hands outstretched.

the missing letters: T, Y, E, P, M, K, E, F

winner

A cartoon girl with green hair, wearing a green shirt and green pants, pointing to a large, colorful, stylized logo that says "JOE CLUB". The logo is made of thick, blocky letters with various patterns and colors inside them.

Liam Stewart, is this week's winner of The Echo Joe Club logo colouring competition. Liam, your prize will be on the way to you soon. All entries stay in so you have another chance to win!

FireBytes

A FIRE PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE IN ÁRAS CHRÓNÁIN

Photos by **Paddy Barrett**

Photos taken for *The Echo* are available to purchase. Email reception@echo.ie or call 01-4685350.
You can view *The Echo* Photography Policy on echo.ie



Firebytes in Áras Chrónáin on Saturday



Enjoying the show on Saturday



Linda Kelly and Lynsey Meagher



Garry Conroy and Keith Robinson



Nicole Martin and Ingrid O'Beirne



Molly Furlong and Brian Flynn



Ciara, Matthew and Laura Lysaght



Aoife Ní Ghallachóir and Laura Ní Raighne

ARCHITECT

House& Extension Plans

Architectural Drawings & Planning Permission Online

Experience the Future of Home Design. Get your Architectural Drawings & Planning Permission Online. Remote Service for a Quicker, More Efficient Process.

No Call-Outs Required. Get Started Today!

01 561 0396

info@houseandextensionplans.ie
www.houseandextensionplans.ie

APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Appliance Repair Centre

59 Seskin View Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24
Ph: 01 4057853 • Mobile: 087 2622740

Expert service and repairs for all domestic appliances

WASHERS • DRYERS • DISHWASHERS
COOKERS • GAS BOILERS • GAS COOKERS

RGI registered and fully insured

ELECTRICIAN

CORE

Electrical & Building Services
Fully Insured & Registered Company

Internal & External Lights & Sockets

- Replace Old Fuse Box with new TripSwitch Board
- Full House Rewires Including Extensions and Attic Conversions
- 24 Hour Call-Out and Maintenance Service

• Domestic • Commercial • Industrial
Mobile: 087 9790697
Office: 01 532 6573
email: coreelectrical@live.ie

GATES

CASWELL Wrought Iron

Gates & Railings, Ram Bars etc.
MOBILE WELDING - 24 HOUR CALLOUT

ESTIMATES FREE
Lowest Prices

Ph: 4519773
086-2503130

GAS & OIL

GAS & OIL Services

New Gas Boiler fitted from **€2,300** inc VAT
New Oil Boiler fitted from **€2,500** inc VAT
ALL Gas and Oil Boilers repaired - Best Prices
Gas Safety Certs Supplied
Oil Boiler Service
Gas Boiler Service

Personal Supervision with over 35 Years Experience

New Radiators - New Cylinders - New Showers & Repairs
New Attic Tanks - New Sinks - Outside Taps etc

Government SEAI grants available
www.gas-oil-services.com

Call: 086-8132203 or 01 2442976

LANDSCAPING

Blossom Landscaping

Full landscaping services include:
Patios • Walling • Decking
30 years' experience in planting of shrubs and trees

- Patios
- Front Driveways
- Instant Lawns
- Fencings
- Plants and Trees
- Garden Lights
- And all other gardening needs.

Aidan Flood
Mobile: 087 2443220
Home: 01 4591916

Free Estimates. No job is too small.
No payment until job is completed.

PLUMBER

CJS HEATING AND PLUMBING LTD

REGISTERED RGI GAS INSTALLER

For all your heating and plumbing needs.

Gas boiler repair
Gas boiler replacement
Hot water cylinders
Bathroom reovations etc.

087 2901325
Email: Cjsheating@gmail.com
www.cjsheatingandplumbingltd.ie

Echo.ie

Your Local Newspaper

SOFTWARE TRAINING

Excel Training at the Maldron Hotel, Tallaght

ENROLLING NOW

September, October, and November schedule.
1st class starts Friday 6th Sept.

6 Courses to choose from:
Excel Basics, Intermediate Excel, Advanced Excel, Power Query, Power BI, and PowerPoint

- Bring your own laptop.
- Suitable for individuals
- & for businesses to upskill their employees.

To enrol contact Audrey on: 086 8072450
audrey@softwareskills.ie www.softwareskills.ie

Audrey Reynolds

WINDOWS

H.K. REPAIRS

WINDOWS & DOORS

EXPERT REPAIR SERVICE
Over 30 years Experience

SECURITY

- Locks • Handles
- Hinges • Snap safe cylinders fitted
- Child locks fitted to windows

REPAIRS

- Windows & Doors • Locks
- Double Glazed units • Patio Doors
- Tracks • Wheels

Also "A" Rated Windows & Doors
Supplied and Fitted at keenest rates!

Tel: **4557605** or **087 6500913** anytime
Email: **hkrepairs@eircom.net**
www.hkrepairs.com

KEANE

Windows & Doors
Est. 1985

SHOWROOMS OPEN 7 DAYS
Trinity Court, Fonthill Business Park, Liffey Valley

• Double Glazing • Triple Glazing
• Anti-Bandit Windows
• Composite Doors & Repairs

For a **FREE** quote call: **01 6203232**
www.keanewindows.ie

Pre-arranged Financing Available

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



McCabe, Thomas
3rd Anniversary occurs
17/11/24.

Dear Husband
I wish I could see you one more time,
Come walking through the door,
But I know that is impossible,
I will hear your voice no more.
I know you can feel my tears,
And you don't want me to cry,
Yet my heart is broken because I can't understand why,
Someone so precious had to die.
I pray that God will give me strength,
And somehow get me through,
As I struggle with the heartache,
That came when I lost you.
Also remembering our son **Anthony** whose Birthday occurs 27th November.
Happy Heavenly Birthday. Loved and missed always, your loving Wife & Mother. xx
Also remembering my grandson Richard, born an angel.

Never Forgotten
You'll never be forgotten dad,
That simply cannot be,
As long as I am living,
I'll carry you with me,
Safely tucked within my heart,
Your light will always shine,
A glowing ember never stilled,
Throughout the end of time.
No matter what the future brings,
Or what may lie ahead,
I know that you will walk with me,
Along the path I tread.
So rest my angel, be at peace,
And let your soul fly free,
One day I'll join your glorious flight,
For all eternity.
Also remembering my brother **Anto** on his Heavenly Birthday. **Loved and remembered always, Tina, Eric, PJ, Colby, Nikita & Jay.**



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. **L.H.**

NOVENA

Miracle Prayer
Dear heart of Jesus I ask you this special favour (mention one) take it dear heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your father sees it. Then in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. Amen. say this prayer 3 days promise publication and favour will be granted never known to fail. **M.C.**

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Glass, Colette
81st Birthday, 14th away from home occurs 18th November. Late of Avonmore Park.

Mam
A million tear stained kisses,
We send especially to you,
Because today's your birthday,
And we are really missing you.
Love today and always Colette, Tina and Brian. xxx

Super Nan
Happy Birthday Nana.
Love always your Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren. xxx

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
O, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruit of the Vine, splendorous of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O, Star of the Sea, help me and show herein you are my mother. O, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power, O, show me here you are my mother. O, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee. Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. Amen. **V.D.**

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **F.J.**

ANNIVERSARY



Kavanagh, Carmel (A Triplet)
1st Anniversary away from home. Late of Homelawns Drive, Tallaght. 19/11/23

Carmel
You had a special smile, a special face,
And in our hearts a special place,
No words we speak can ever say,
How much we miss you every day.
To hear your voice and see your smile,
To sit and talk with you awhile,
To be together in the same old way,
Would be the dearest wish of ours today.
Miss you so much, from your loving Brothers and Sisters.

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **B.B.**

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **F.E.**

Dear Echo customers

The Echo reception opening hours are
10am-2pm Monday to Friday.

You can still contact our team up to 5pm
every weekday via email:

General queries: reception@echo.ie
News & Entertainment: news@echo.ie
Sport: sport@echo.ie
Advertising: emma@echo.ie

You can also submit all queries, Memorials and Plannings through echo.ie

Cut-off times are now:
Memorials 1pm on the Friday prior to publication
Plannings 1pm on Tuesday prior to publication

Phone: 01-4685350
Mobile Text/Whats App/Phone: 0830106275

Pick up a copy of The Echo in your local shop* every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online

*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves



Echo.ie

Your Local Newspaper

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



Duncan, Joseph (Joe)
2nd Anniversary occurs 18th November. Formerly of Kingswood Heights.

*How do we write on paper,
The feelings we have inside,
From your heartbroken sisters and brother,
Who have missed you since you died.
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
Our secret tears still flow,
For what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.
Call Joseph's name out softly,
Lord,
And when he looks your way,
Tell him that we love and miss him every day.
Your name is often spoken,
We talk about you still,
You haven't been forgotten,
You know you never will.
No words or verse could ever say,
How much we miss you every day,
Deep in our hearts your memory is kept,
We love you too dearly to ever forget.
Never forgotten by your loving sisters Breda and Mary & brother Christy.
Safe in the arms of the divine mercy.*

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Scannell, Mary
12th Birthday away from home occurs 17th November. Late of Killinarden Estate. Also remembering my dad John.

*Our memories build a special bridge,
When loved ones have to part,
To help us feel we're with them still,
And soothe a grieving heart.
Our memories span the years we shared,
Preserving ties that bind,
They build a special bridge of love,
And bring us peace of mind.
I think of you in silence,
I often speak your name,
Now all I have are memories,
And your picture in a frame.
Your memory is my keepsake,
With which I'll never part,
God has you in his keeping,
But I have you in my heart.
"Happy Birthday Mam"
Loved, remembered and missed by your son John.*

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Doyle, Robert
Late of Palmerstown. Whose 47th Birthday occurs 14th November, his 17th away from home. Also remembering his dad Tom at this time.

*We cannot stop the hands of time,
Or live again the past,
But we will love and miss you,
As long as life will last,
Memories are precious,
They don't fade away,
We think of you always,
Especially today.
For our loving son and brother,
Robert, on your 47th Birthday.
From your loving Mam, sisters Michelle, Sharon and Jennifer & brother Wesley. Kelley, Megan, Shane, Sister-in-law, Brothers-in-law, Nieces and Nephews, Friends and Family.*

BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE



Gibbons, Leslie
54th Birthday occurs 19th November.

*Big happy 54th birthday wishes,
To you from all your family below,
We miss and love you dearly,
I'm sure you already know.
Your Birthday's not forgotten,
And your memory lives on,
We celebrate the life you had,
Even though you've gone.
So we're sending 54th birthday hugs and kisses up to you.
We hope you're celebrating up there,
We love you and miss you loads.
Love from your partner Olive, kids Raymond & Christine & grandkids Lacie, Layla & Myla, & the McCarthy and Boyce Families. xxxxxx*

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
*St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **B.B.***

NOVENA

9 Day Novena to St. Anthony.
*St. Anthony, I resort to thy protection and aid, as proof of my affection and faith, I offer this candle which shall burn every day. Please comfort me in my difficulties and through thy living in the house of my Saviour, intercede for me and all those I love so that we may always hold God in our hearts and be provided for in our necessities, I beseech thee, St. Anthony, to have infinite pity in regard to the favour I ask of thee (here mention your favour). Please help me to overcome all difficulties which I now leave at thy feet. 3 Our Fathers, 3 Hail Mary's, 3 Glory Be to the Father's. This novena should be said for 9 days in succession. Each day a candle should be lit and a copy of this prayer left in the Church to help another soul in distress and to increase devotion to St. Anthony. This miraculous Saint grants everything no matter how difficult and before the termination of the nine days. But even if your request is granted, the Novena must be fulfilled. Holy St. Anthony pray for us. **F.E.***

NOVENA

Angel Of Portugal
*Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly. I offer you the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which he is offended. And, through the infinite merits of his Most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners. **R.G.***

NOVENA

Angel Of Portugal
*Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore you profoundly. I offer you the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference by which he is offended. And, through the infinite merits of his Most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners. **T.G.***

NOVENA

Memorare Prayer
*Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that any one who fled to thy protection, implored thy help or sought thy intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, We fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins my Mother; to thee do we come, before thee we stand, sinful and sorrowful; O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not our petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer them. **G.C.***

NOVENA

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel
*O, most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, Fruit of the Vine, splendorous of Heaven. Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O, Star of the Sea, help me and show herein you are my mother. O, Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and earth, I humbly beseech you from the bottom of my heart to succour me in my necessity. There are none that can withstand your power, O, show me here you are my mother. O, Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee. Sweet Mother, I place this cause in your hands. Amen. **S.R.***

TALLAGHT STONE CENTRE

HEADSTONES CRAFTED FOR ALL CEMETERIES



DESIGNED

SCULPTED

ERECTED

RENOVATED









OUR COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES INCLUDE

HEADSTONES ~ INSCRIPTIONS
RENOVATIONS ~ CHIPPINGS ~ RE-LETTERING
COUNTER TOPS ~ FIRE PLACES ~
HOUSE NAMES
& GRANITE ESTATE SIGNS

BELGARD ROAD, TALLAGHT, DUBLIN 24
(OPPOSITE JACOBS)
TEL: (01) 462 6200 FAX: (01) 462 6209

EMAIL: info@tallaghtstonecentre.ie
WEB: www.tallaghtstonecentre.ie

planning notices

All planning applications must be in before 5pm Monday

tel: 468 5350
email:reception@echo.ie

South Dublin County Council
Planning Permission is sought for Decommissioning of existing septic tank, and installation of new waste water treatment system, percolation area, and associated site works all to existing dwelling, at Friarstown, Bohernabreena, Dublin 24, D24YY22. Signed Ann McEvoy . This application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of South Dublin County Council during its public opening hours of 10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
We, Clive & Sam Ryan intend to apply for retention permission for development at this site 27 Elm Castle Walk Kilnamanagh D24Y4XK. The development will consist / consists of external insulation to the front of the property. The Planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. During its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.00pm, and may also be viewed on the council's website - www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of (20.00 euro) within the 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

South Dublin County Council
Planning Permission is sought for 1/ Demolition of existing outhouses, and 2/ Renovation and extension of existing dwelling to include construction of new two storey extension to rear comprising ground floor kitchen/dining/living room and first floor bedroom with en suite bathroom and walk-in wardrobe, and associated site works. at 3 School Rd, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin, D24 YV20. Signed Cherie Fearon. This application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of South Dublin County Council during its public opening hours of 10am - 12pm & 2pm - 4pm, Mon-Fri, and a submission or observation may be made to South Dublin County Council in writing and on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

South Dublin County Council
We, John Dwan and Una Costello, intend to apply for Outline Permission at: 173 Woodfield, Scholarstown Road, Dublin 16, D16 X0T4. The development will consist of: Outline planning permission for the construction of a new two-storey detached dwelling on the corner of Woodfield, adjacent to No. 173, with provision for new vehicular access, a dropped kerb from Woodfield, and all associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24, during public opening hours (Monday to Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm), and may also be viewed on the Council’s website – www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of €20, within 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council. Such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority.

South Dublin County Council
We Charles Dempsey and Sinéad O’Connor are applying to South Dublin County Council for Permission to construct the following: 1) A single storey extension to the rear, side and part of the front of our house. The rear extension will consist of a kitchen / dining area, the corner of the proposed extension will be a utility room while the side of the extension will accommodate a downstairs wet room / wc, a home office and a bedroom. The front portion of the proposed extension will project to the front of the existing house to allow the access door to be positioned to the side away from the prevailing winds. The existing ground floor area is 52.94 sq.m. and the proposed wrap around extension will add 70.96 sq.m. Giving a total ground floor area of 123.90 sq.m. The first floor area will be unaltered at 49.59 sq.m. 2) All ancillary site works associated with the above proposal. The development to take place to our home at 27 Carriglea Drive, Firhouse, Dublin 24 D24YP2K. The Planning application may be inspected or purchased at the offices of South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Town Centre, Tallaght, Dublin 24. During its public opening hours of Monday to Friday from 9.00am - 4.00pm, and may also be viewed on the council's website - www.sdcc.ie. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to South Dublin County Council on payment of a fee of (20.00 euro) within the 5 weeks of receipt of the application by South Dublin County Council and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions or may refuse to grant permission.

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) ACTS 1963 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT) REGULATIONS 1977 TO 1994

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 1, 2024

S25423/12 APPLICATION Applicant: Cignal Infrastructure , Ltd (Cellnex Company) Location: Bawnogue Shopping Centre, Clondalkin, Dublin 22 Description: Telecommunications street works solutions and ground cabinet	01 Nov 2024 Additional Information	SECTION 254 LICENCE	SD24A/0047 Applicant: Board of Management Scoil Aonghusa Junior & National Schools Location: Scoil Aonghusa SNS and JNS Buildings at, Scoil Aonghusa Campus, Balrothery, Dublin 24, D24 YN34 Description: Construction of a new approx. 592 sqm single storey extension to the Junior National School to provide a new SEN suite comprising 2 no. classroom bases, a central activities space, shower & WC facilities, ancillary spaces and a new external play areas and a new approx. 345 sqm part-two storey extension to the Senior National School comprising 3 no. en-suite new mainstream classrooms and 2 no. resource rooms. Along with a remodelled car park increasing the number of car spaces from 35 no. to 45 no. and associated site works.	01 Nov 2024 Permission Clarification of Additional Information	SD24A/0236W Application Applicant: Anna & James Callaghan Location: lands at Nowosielec Stables, Old sports ground, Raheen Description: Removal of existing modular dwelling and construction of 2 bedroom bungalow, with associated vehicular access, wastewater treatment system with percolation area
SD24A/0210W Information Applicant: Mr T and Mrs A Lucas Location: 386, Orwell Park Crescent, Dublin 6W, D6W TK31 Description: 2 storey 2 bedroomed semi-detached house to side of 386 Orwell Park Crescent	01 Nov 2024 Permission Additional Information		SD24B/0150W Applicant: Donnacha & Karen McCarthy Location: Redgap, Rathcoole, Co. Dublin Description: Alterations to existing two storey detached house to include partial demolition works, new two storey front extension, new single storey rear extension, new chimney stack to rear and side, alterations to existing external window fenestration, energy update including full external insulation system, revised external elevations, increased ridge and chimney stack height to facilitate new slate pitched roof, internal modifications, additional habitable floor area, landscaping works, SuDS drainage and all associated ancillary works to facilitate the development.	29 Oct 2024 Permission Clarification of Additional Information	SD24A/0237W Application Applicant: Mary Pluck Location: CHILD AND FAMILY CENTRE, MELE AN RI ROAD, BALGADDY, K78X5D2 Description: An original mural on side wall of Baladi Child and Family Centre. The mural has been funded by Creative Ireland in collaboration with South Dublin County Council. One such recommendations of the grant was to apply for planning permission for the mural.
SD24B/0364W Information Applicant: Ross & L?ra Killen Location: Saffron Meadow, Brittas, Co.Dublin, D24 YY67 Description: Demolition of existing carport and shed at rear with a single story pitched roof replacement structure proposed in the same location. Proposed extension to include a balcony area to the rear, southwestern side, accessible from existing raised rear garden level. Associated internal modifications and site works.	31 Oct 2024 Permission Additional Information		SD24A/0235W Application Applicant: Vantage Towers Limited Location: Ballinascorney Lower, Tallaght, County Dublin Description: New Application for the erection of a 12 metre high monopole telecommunications support structure on a 0.05 metre high raised foundation (providing an overall height of 12.05 metres) together with associated antennas and dishes and a ground cabinet within a timber fenced compound.	29 Oct 2024 Permission New	SD24A/0238 Application Applicant: James Hargrave Location: Rear of 30, Barton drive, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, D14 HY30 Description: Change of use from a residential flat, to the uses as a Creche/ Childminding facility, for 24 childcare places, from the house 7am 6.30pm, Monday to Friday
SDZ24A/0021W Additional Information Applicant: Adam Pater Location: 7, Aderrig Place, Adamstown, Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 C9C4 Description: Proposed development within Area 8 of the Adamstown Strategic Development Zone comprising part change of use of existing dwelling to allow a creche (46.5 sqm) to operate from the premises for a temporary period of five years, involving minimal internal alterations at first-floor level.	29 Oct 2024 SDZ Application Additional Information				SD24B/0480 Application Applicant: Tom Elson & Ciara McDevitt Location: 107 Marian Road,, Rathfarnham,, Dublin 14. Description: The conversion of the existing garage, the construction of a two storey extension at the side and alterations to the existing porch at the front.

Contact *The Echo* to have a planning notification published
Call 468 5350 or email reception@echo.ie

Echo Sport

Deputy Sports Editor: William O'Connor

Thursday, November 14, 2024

Locals in running for FAI awards

THE nominees for the 34th Football Association of Ireland (FAI) International Awards have been confirmed ahead of the event on Thursday.

Shamrock Rovers academy graduate Gavin Bazunu was nominated for both the Irish Senior and Young Men's International Player of the Year, while Katie McCabe is up for Senior Women's International Player of the Year.

The Arsenal left back has also received two nominations for International Goal of the Year, after her brilliant strikes against Canada and Northern Ireland.

Former hoop Sinclair Armstrong and former St Patricks Athletic player Sam Curtis are both up for Men's Under-21 International Player of the Year, while Derby County's Freddie Turley has been nominated for Men's Under-19 International Player of the Year.

Shamrock Rovers pair Kate Thompson and Corey O'Sullivan are up for the Women's and Men's Under-19 International Player of the Year awards respectively.

Manchester City bound Michael Noonan was nominated for the Men's Under-16 International Player of the Year, while Ella Kelly of Shamrock Rovers was nominated for the female equivalent of the award.

The League of Ireland's Men's Player of the Year awards sees Lee Grace of Shamrock Rovers, Chris Forrester and Jack Moylan nominated.

Brody and Desmond go on trial with Hoffenheim

Shamrock Rovers players were spotted on U16 international duty



Brody Collins is cousin to Ireland international Nathan

SHAMROCK Rovers and Ireland U16 players Desmond Armstrong and Brody Collins are on trial with German Bundesliga side Hoffenheim this week.

Both teenagers from Clondalkin come from well-known footballing stock, with Desmond a brother of Ireland Senior international Sinclair Armstrong and Brody first cousin with Brentford and

fellow Irish Senior International Nathan Collins, who's father also played for Liverpool and Oxford United.

Eamonn Collins, also a relation of Brody, is one of the youngest ever players to play adult football in England when he did so at 14 years of age.

Both Armstrong and Collins were spotted by Hoffenheim scouts in the



Desmond Armstrong is a member of the U16 Shamrock Rovers team
Photo Robert Goggins

Ireland U16's 2-2 draw against Belgium last month, with Armstrong netting a late equaliser and Collins picking up Man of the Match.

Hoffenheim hold one of the most prestigious academies in not just Germany, but the whole of Europe, with Irish underage internationals Matthew Moore formerly of Cork City, and

former Shelbourne player Finn Sherlock both already at the German club.

They won the league and cup double at U19 level last season, whilst also claiming the u17 league title.

Armstrong and Collins have been at Rovers since they were eight years of age, with rumoured interest in the pair from various European clubs.

'We have created history' Rovers boss

STEPHEN Bradley has commended his Shamrock Rovers side for creating history after their 2-1 victory over The New Saints in Tallaght on Thursday, reports James Ffrench.

Rovers now sit seventh in the Conference league table having amassed the same number of points, an unprecedented amount for an Irish side in the group stages of one of UEFA's flagship competitions.

"We have created history tonight, regardless of what people's opinions are of us as a team, us as a club, me as a manager, you can't rewrite the history books, as much as some people might want to, you can't do it and these players created history tonight", Stephen Bradley said in his post-match press conference following the game.

In terms of what the result means for progression in the competition, Rovers are now already most likely through as one of the top 24 sides, with the win also rewarding the club financially, bringing in €400,000 and taking the total European prize money pot for this season to approximately €5.55 million.

Despite this significant achievement, one which solidifies the hoops as potentially the first Irish side ever to progress to the knockout stages of a European competition, Bradley is adamant his side can pick up more points as they aim to finish as high as possible in the table.

"Hopefully more League of Ireland teams come after us and do the same, but these are the first group to do it which is special, but I keep saying, we didn't pin seven points up in the dressing room and then say when we get that we will all pat each other on the back and have a good Christmas.

"That's not the focus you know, it's seven points, gave us a great platform and let's attack the next games and see where it takes us."

Johnny Kenny, the opening goal scorer on the night, took his European tally to four, the most of any Rovers player along with making it 17 for the season-a personal best.

His future however remains undecided, but Bradley emphasised his thoughts are well

known to Celtic, who have all the power in terms of any deal being struck according to the Rovers boss.

"Them discussions are ongoing with ourselves and Celtic. Like I said, Celtic are in the driving seat, they call the shots, whatever they say goes it's as simple as that, but we have a really good relationship at every level with Celtic."

"I think Celtic are quite clear on my feelings on what needs to happen but again all parties will need to sit down, Johnny included obviously and make a plan that we all agree on.

"But If you're asking me would I want him back here next year, I think yeah that's quite straight forward of course I would, his finish tonight sums him up."

"Their centre-half on the right-side Davies, he's a good defender and he was getting Johnny but Johnny takes it so quick left foot into the top corner.

"There's not many in the league that can finish like that left or right foot."



Shamrock Rovers manager Stephen Bradley was delighted with the win in Tallaght Stadium.
Photo by George Kelly

Basketball

Éanna are back on track

DEFENDING Men's Super League champions, Griffith College Éanna were taken to double-overtime before finally managing to pip EJ Sligo All-Stars 100-99 in an edge-of-the-seat encounter in Coláiste Éanna on Saturday night.

Darren McGovern's side had to fight their way back from 10 points down early in the fourth, Mark Reynolds holding his nerve from the free-throw line to tie the game up and force added time.

Tyland Crawford, on his debut for the Dublin side, put up a combined 13 points with Sean Jenkins in overtime, taking their game total to 51, while Joshua Wilson carded 11 rebounds and nine assists to help see Éanna

scrape over the line against their Sligo rivals, who had five players in double figures, including Jonathan Brown (25) and Thomas Child (22).

The victory marked a return to winning ways in the league for Éanna, after successive reversals at the hands of Energywise Ireland Neptune and Killester saw them lose ground on table toppers, Garvey's Tralee Warriors.

"Sligo played flawless most of the game, but we got stops and played our way back to send it to overtime" said Éanna head coach, Darren McGovern.

"Again, some fantastic efforts defensively put us into position to win the game, but we have work to do to be more consistent and better overall" he admitted.



Darren McGovern will be happy with Éanna victory



Action from the game at the weekend

'This is a massive window of games ahead' says Mark Keenan

"I believe it's the strongest squad we could possibly have from the players available for selection" says Ireland head coach Mark Keenan has selected three uncapped players in an extended 20-man squad for the upcoming FIBA Basketball World Cup 2027 Pre-Qualifiers against Azerbaijan and Kosovo.

Keenan, who is a member of Templeogue Basketball Club welcomes Azerbaijan to the National Basketball Arena on Thursday, November 21 before taking on Kosovo, also in Dublin on Sunday, November 24th for the must win double header.

Griffith College Éanna players James Gormley and Sean Jenkins are in the squad as is Aidan Igheon who is a member of Clondalkin side Joels Dublin Lions.

There's a first inclusion in a senior squad for Energywise Ireland Neptune's Darragh O'Sullivan, who is enjoying his first season back in the Men's Super League after spending five years in the United States, four of which were under former

Neptune head coach Billy Mimms at Florida Tech. The 6'6" 24 year-old has played at all three levels of youth basketball for Ireland and is joined by his brother Conor O'Sullivan in the panel.

Ireland currently sit in fourth place in Group A of FIBA Basketball World Cup 2027 pre-qualifying following an 83-76 defeat against Kosovo and an 86-63 loss to Switzerland in their opening two games of the campaign back in February. The group winner will advance to the second round of qualifying alongside the best ranked second placed team from three groups.

On the upcoming fixtures, Ireland head coach Mark Keenan said: I'm really delighted with this 20 man squad we've just announced. I believe it's the strongest squad we could possibly have from the players available for selection. This is a massive window of games ahead. Two home games and both must win. We are all looking forward to this challenge ahead.

Ireland Head Coach Mark Keenan believes he has the strongest possible squad heading into their two games



Dublin Lions move to joint second

IN what was the only Women's Division One fixture during this week's international window, Abbey Seals Dublin Lions went joint second in the table with iSecure Swords Thunder following their 89-68 victory over Templeogue in Coláiste Bride.

A very slow start to this game would prove costly for Templeogue as they were outscored by 17 in the first quarter, and while they managed to recoup 11 in the third, they could not close the gap on their neighbouring rivals.

Both sides recorded a good spread of scoring with Lions seeing five players in double figures, including top scorer Sofia Paska on 19, while Hannah Byrne led the charge for Templeogue with 17 points and 10 rebounds, but even that was not enough to inspire a recovery.

"I thought we started the game really well, our defensive intensity was superb and we executed superbly the other end" remarked Dublin Lions head coach, Martin Conroy.

"We played awesome team basketball in the first half, but credit to Templeogue for the way they came out firing in the third quarter.

"They got it down to six points at one stage and it took a massive effort from our players to stretch the lead back out and give us the result we wanted" he said.

Templeogue and Lions edged out

CHARLIE Coombes' last-minute bucket was all that separated Bright St. Vincent's from Templeogue as they edged a 74-72 win in Saturday night's bottom of the table Division One Dublin derby in St. Vincent's CBS.

In what was a frantic battle between two teams desperate for a second win in six league outings, it was the hosts who clinch the much-desired spoils, thanks in no small measure to Jaron Thames' 24 points and the combined 23 rebounds that Giorgi Tvalabeishvili and Eoin McCann soaked up.

While the win lifted St. Vincent's up into a share of ninth place, Templeogue have been left rooted to the foot of the table, despite the 55-point contribution they had from Immanuel Allen and Taviás Fagan.

Limerick Sport Eagles were another team to surpass the century mark, running out 109-82 winners over Joels Dublin Lions in UL Arena.

Alexander Carlisle, with a game-high 33 points, was the most prolific of the five players to finish in double digits for Limerick, while it was Aidan Igheon who again spearheaded Dublin Lions' challenge with 30 points and 11 rebounds.

Athletics

Donore athletes impress



Donore Dublin senior cross country runners in Citywest

Donore Harriers junior women and men who performed fantastically well along with the young women won team bronze and our men won team silver at the Dublin Senior and Junior Cross Country Championships in Citywest last week.

The future is looking good with this great young team. Well done also to ultra specialist Sorcha Loughnane in the senior women's race and to club stalwart Niall Lynch, new member Koffi Kpolgo and Niall McGuinness in the senior men's race. Koffi ran his first cross country race coming off the marathon a mere week ago.

The results included U19 women's Team – 3rd Donore, U19 men's Team – second Donore Harriers, senior women 7.5km: 9th Sorcha Loughnane (29.43), senior men 7.5KM: 48th Niall Lynch (28.12), 56th Koffi Kpoglo (29.19) and 60th Niall McGuinness (31.22)

In the younger age groups the club had 52 more athletes competing from under 9 to under 17, the boys under 17 team won gold and Charlie O'Neill took the u17 individual title with many qualifying for the national and were top 10.

Pick up a copy of *The Echo* in your local shop* every Thursday or scan the QR code to subscribe online



*The Echo is on sale in local stores from Thursday to Monday each week, please ask in-store if it is not on shop shelves

Echo.ie
Your Local Newspaper

Swimming

Brian delighted with Swim Performance Coach Award

Templeogue Swim Club member coaches Olympian Ellen Walsh

BRIAN Sweeney of Templeogue Swim club was announced as Performance Coach of the Year at the 2024 Swim Ireland Awards for the second year in a row, reports James Ffrench.

Sweeney has coached Irish Olympian Ellen Walshe since she was eleven years old and receives the prestigious award off the back of a very successful year working with Walshe in Paris during the summer.

"I am delighted with the award, its representative of the opportunity to work with Ellen and many capable athletes over the year.

"We have a staff of five and to have Ellen here truly is fantastic."

Walshe had never qualified for the 400m until this year, and she did so in record breaking fashion as she beat the national record.

The Templeogue Swim club athlete was ranked 13th before her Olympic race in the summer but managed to finish seventh.

Qualifying for the 400ms finals remains one of Sweeney's crowning moments during his coaching career.

"From a coaching perspective, I was at the start/finish end of the pool, and it truly was one of the greatest moments of my coaching career to see her put her hand up on that wall and look up to see she is an Olympic finalist."

Sweeney is part of a team of five coaches at the Templeogue club which works with various athletes day to day.

"Yeah, it's more representative of the club as a whole and its continued focus to improve the quality of swimmers within the club."

"We have 19 swimmers on regional and national squads, five on national squads.

"The club is only 126 kids this year so to have that depth of athletes training every day is just representative of the nature of the



Performance Coach of the Year recipient Brian Sweeney with Olympic finalist Ellen Walshe, both members of Templeogue Swim Club

Photo by INPHO/Bryan Keane

club."

"We had a very strong Leinster Championship, the orientation of the club is that kids have the competitive attitude to progress over time at the sport of

competitive swimming. You're trying to give everyone the skillsets to let everyone grow and that comes back to the skills and the facilities."

"My role is that I'm the head

coach in a team of five head coaches so you're trying to get the underpin of ideologies to create good swimming is in everything we do here."

Next up for Sweeney is the

short course World Championships in Budapest in December, where Ellen Walsh will be looking to go one better than her silver medal picked up at the event back in 2021.

Hockey

Brave show from Glenanne against leaders

THE Glenanne Men's 1s team started out strong on Saturday against the league leaders Railway Union, who are undefeated this season, but in the end went down 4-2.

After 5 minutes, Glenanne found themselves 1-0 up after Lukas Odendaal chased a ball into the corner of the pitch, before spraying it across the circle to Iain Walker who finished calmly with a lovely squeeze shot.

In the second quarter Railway levelled the game through a short corner, proving too difficult for the Glens to deal with.

Fortunately, Glenanne were able to conjure up a quick response, which seemed like deja-vu, Lukas Odendaal finding Iain

Walker again in the circle for a deflection through his own legs sending Glenanne into a 2-1 lead at halftime.

Railway came back hard in the third quarter, to which Glenanne defended a number of penalty corner attacks with great saves from Marko Lanovic, Gary Shaw and Grant Pio. Railway got their leveller with 30 seconds to go in third quarter, leaving it all to play for in quarter four.

Railway scored early in the final quarter, which meant that Glenanne were now chasing the game. Glenanne had sustained amount of pressure and forced good saves from the Railway GK through Lukas Odendaal, Zack Waters and Marco Gayubo Kinch.

Although having a large amount of possession, Glenanne conceded a fourth goal on the break from Railway, leaving the game 4-2 to the home team.

Despite the result, there were improvements from this newly formed Glenanne M1 side who are finding their feet in the EY2 qualifier.

Meanwhile, the Glenanne mens seconds bounced back from their first defeat of the season to come out on top against a young, competitive Pembroke side in Serpentine Avenue on Saturday evening.

Captained by the impressively solid Zane at left back, Glenanne got off to a great start - forcing Pembroke to lose possession from their outlet phase

throughout the first quarter and forcing plenty of circle entries.

Eventually the pressure told and a nice team move up the right-hand side found its way to Ross McGauley who coolly slotted home on his reverse stick side. A feat made even more impressive by the fact Ross usually spends his time on Saturday's wearing the goalkeeping pads.

The second quarter was equally dominant with Darren Sherlock testing the keeper twice more and a few corners going astray - we should have been further ahead when we reached the break.

Pembroke brought on the cavalry in the second half - a few stragglers returning from other

games - and it made a big difference, as they missed a few guilt edge chances and were able to put more pressure on our circle. Shout out to Dominic Cunningham, Oran Dunne and Waide Jacob's who all stood tall to keep the clean sheet.

It was shaping up for a tight finish but thankfully we got the buffer goal with five minutes to go from a counter attack which ended with a fine strike on the turn from Rory O'Donoghue.

The win lifts Dave McDonnell's troops to second in the table, with a game in hand on league leaders Skerries. Some fine hockey was played, with a mixture of experienced heads and young talent so it's shaping up to be a great season.

Martial Arts

Tallaght Martial Arts athletes shine at WAKO European Championships

SEVERAL talented athletes from Tallaght Martial Arts (TMA) have returned from the WAKO Senior & Masters European Kickboxing Championships in Athens, where they represented Ireland with pride and determination. The competition, held last week, saw top kickboxers from across Europe battle it out for prestigious titles in multiple disciplines. For the TMA team, it was a significant opportunity to showcase their dedication, hard work, and skill on the international stage.

The team, led by Head Ireland Coach Dave Heffernan and TMA Head Coach Martin Bannon, featured both seasoned veterans and young fighters transitioning from the junior ranks to the senior divisions. Dave Heffernan said: "This is the youngest senior team we have ever taken away to the senior championships, but we knew they are good enough, we trust them to perform and it is the next stage of their development".

The young athletes rose to the challenge in their respective divisions, ranging from Points Fighting to Light Contact and Kick Light, with some securing podium finishes while others more importantly, performed gaining valuable international experience.

These WAKO European Championships were designated as qualifiers for the 2025 World Games in China, the highest Olympic level of competition that international kickboxing

has been invited to so far on their Olympic journey.

Garreth Ryan a former WAKO European Champion targeted these games earlier this year and after delivering outstanding performances this week, earning a Bronze Medal beaten in the semi-final by the winner but securing a place in the World Games. This is an amazing achievement, unfortunately he was the only Irish fighter to secure qualification for these prestigious games.

Naman Shrivastava also earned a Bronze Medal in his first Senior Championship in Points Fighting, an impressive display from this young man, he is definitely one to watch for the future.

Stephen Jones a stalwart of the Irish team secured a Gold Medal in veterans Points Fighting and adding a Bronze Medal in Veterans Light Contact to his collection.

Liz White, made her debut at the WAKO European Championships. Although new to the European scene, White, who is also known for her remarkable photography skills, fought with heart in the veterans Points Fighting division to secure Silver, a remarkable achievement for her first WAKO competition. Tara Jones, also competing in her first WAKO European Championship, claimed a bronze medal in Veterans Points Fighting, further strengthening the team's impressive



The TMA mens team in Athens

medal haul

One of the most difficult stories to come out of the championships was that of Jodie Browne, Ireland's reigning World and European Champion and World Combat Games Champion. Just days before the European Championships, Browne suffered a devastating injury during preparation for the event. The injury, which severely hampered her movement and kicking ability, forced Browne's coaches to pull her out of her division, thinking first of her safety and the exciting future this young star has.

While not every athlete walked away with a medal, all of the TMA competitors displayed remarkable spirit and resilience throughout the competition. Keri Browne, a highly skilled Points Fighter, gave it her all but was unable to secure a medal. Similarly, Ellen McCaughey competed across Points Fighting, Light Contact, and Kick Light divisions, showing great heart in every match.

Eryn Birkhead, competing in her first senior WAKO event, also fought valiantly in the Light Contact division but didn't make it to the podium. Like Birkhead, Dylan McClelland, also competing in his first senior WAKO European Championships, gave a strong performance in Points Fighting.

Fergus Daly, a seasoned veteran, showcased his experience in the Points Fighting division, fighting hard in each bout. Similarly, Shauna Fitzpatrick, who fought with great determination, in her

Points Fighting category.

Zara Jones, Szymon Rycek and Cian Colvin, in the Points Fighting category, showed great skill throughout the competition narrowly losing out. Martin Bannon stated, "Yes this was a young team for us but we are very proud of how they performed on and off the mats, our sport is growing stronger every year and our club is full of an amazing range of people, we had 18 year old athletes preparing alongside 55 year old athletes, both helping and advising the other, it is something very special to be part of"

The TMA team's sense of camaraderie was a defining feature throughout the competition. Despite the individual nature of the sport, the athletes rallied behind one another, supporting each other through the highs and lows. Whether celebrating a win or reflecting on a tough fight, the team's unity was evident at every stage of the championships.

Looking ahead, the team is focused on continuing their development and preparing for upcoming challenges, including the 2025 World Games in China, Junior European Champions and World championships in Abu Dhabi in 2025.

With the dedication, leadership, and team spirit displayed in Athens, Tallaght Martial Arts continues to solidify its place as one of Ireland's top kickboxing clubs, and the athletes' commitment to excellence is sure to inspire the next generation of fighters.

Silver for Jack in Athens



Jack Riddell with his silver medal

Jake Riddell represented Ireland at the WAKO European Championships in Athens, Greece last week.

Riddell competed in the -69kg light contact divisions and the -69kg kick light, picking up a silver medal in the latter class.

In the light contact division, unfortunately Riddle bowed out in the last 16 to Hungarian fighter Adam Csorba but he would get the opportunity to fight him again later in the competition.

In the kick light division, he defeated Swiss fighter Francis Dylan Hauser 3-0 to progress through to the quarter final of the class.

It was here in the last eight of the kick light division where Riddle got the opportunity to fight Csorba who had beaten him earlier in the tournament, and this time he was the victor as he defeated the Hungarian 3-0 to guarantee a medal and progress to the semi-final of the division.

In the last four, Riddle fought Italian Luca Perisichini in an end-to-end fight which the Dubliner came out on top in on split decision 2-1.

The final saw Jake Riddle up against Polish fighter Slavomir Malik and the Irishman narrowly lost on split decision 2-1 securing a silver medal for Ireland in Athens.



Liz White secures silver and celebrates with team mates

Jimmy's Kenpo Academy host ceremony

JIMMY and Mary Poland received their 10th and 9th Degree black belts respectively last week at an event hosted in the Ballyfermot Community Centre.

Community was a theme that ran through the day as pupils old and new recalled and recounted tales of the exploits of Jimmy's Kenpo Academy throughout the years at this prestigious ceremony.

One of the club's instructors, Stephen White, posed a question to the assembled audience, "How long does it take the average practitioner to earn a black belt and how long does it take the average black belt to reach ninth or tenth degree?"

The answer to both is never, an average martial artist will not reach black belt, and the average black belt will not achieve what Jimmy

and Mary have achieved", White added in response to his question.

The panel of Grandmasters who had awarded the ranks, including Grandmaster Maurice Mahon, Shay Paget, Snr Master Eddie Cummins, Master of the Arts Mike Reilly, Gerry Griffin, Freda Roberts, Dermot O'Reilly and Snr Master Alan Corrigan who performed the grading event spoke at length of Jimmy and Mary's commitment to the Art of Kenpo, Irish martial arts and the embitterment and success of generations of the many Irish black belts who have trained under and alongside the pair over the years.

Jimmy Poland began training in martial arts way back in 1972, before marrying his wife Mary six years later and setting up 'Jimmy's Kenpo Academy' in 1991.



Jimmy's Kenpo Academy hosted a club ceremony

GAA

Former Dubs star appointed Lucan manager

FORMER Dublin footballer Stephen O'Shaughnessy will be in charge of the Lucan Sarsfields Senior footballers for the 2025 season after Conor Bresnan stepped down from the role.

In the announcement on the club's official website, it said, "Conor Bresnan has stepped down as manager of the senior football team. In his short period in the role, Conor oversaw significant change in both the management team and the playing panel."

"He built a strong management structure with great people and developed a young and inexperienced panel into a team capable of competing at the highest level in Dublin club football."

"The key objectives of this year of transition was to retain our status in senior 1 league and championship were both achieved and he leaves strong foundations for the coming seasons."

O'Shaughnessy will be joined by much of the same coaching and support team, but with Fergal Gavin replacing Damien O'Brien as selector.

The statement read as follows, "Stephen O'Shaughnessy is taking over as senior manager."

"Stephen brings a wealth of playing experience both with club and county as well as years of management experience in his role with county underage teams."

"Stephen will build on the work commenced by Conor with most of the coaching and support team remaining in place."

The Sarsfields clubman won three Leinster titles during his intercounty career and was nominated for an All Star in 2005 off the back of an impressive year.

Delight for Jude's minor footballers securing c'ship



St Jude's were crowned Dublin Minor A Football Champions after their win over St Patricks of Donabate

ST JUDE'S were crowned 2024 Dublin Minor A Football champions after a 4-05 to 0-08 win over St Patricks Donabate in O'Toole Park on Sunday morning.

The winning margin was tough on a St Pat's team that more than held their own for the large part but the ability of their opponents to find the net at pivotal times ultimately proved the difference between the well-matched sides.

In what was a maiden Minor A final in either code, Jude's dual player Callum Graham plundered a brace of goals in the first-half to hand his side a 2-02 to 0-03 half-time lead and Billy Shouldice was on the end of two excellent moves after the break to help secure his side a deserved success.

The final unsurprisingly began with both sides displaying nerves, before Jude's opened the scoring through Hugh O'Neil

after three minutes.

Donabate were enjoying their fair share of possession and they duly levelled matters two minutes later as Adam Conroy showed his talent with smart score on the turn.

Momentum swung back in Jude's favour following a fortuitous goal and a penalty save from their keeper Joe Moore. Matters deteriorated further for Pats in the 23rd minute as Graham highlighted his predatory instincts when he fired into the roof of the net after Collins had produced a superb save to deny O'Neill.

Five points separated the sides at the interval after an exchanging of points on the stroke of half time.

Donabate started the second-half on the front foot through a brace of scores from Conway and should have trimmed their arrears even further but for some hesitant

attacking play.

In stark contrast, Jude's were far more clinical in possession as they restored their healthy lead through the boot of Shouldice.

Fionn Hickey and Billy Standbridge took the fight to Jude's, but their fate was effectively sealed following a fisted point from Shouldice following some good build up play.

Scores from Oisín Costello, Oisín O'Brien, Paddy Keighran and Oisín Gough put an added gloss on the scoreline for Jude's, to secure a first ever Minor A football championship.

Speaking following the game, manager Ian Bassett said, "It's a huge achievement for the club because historically very few Dublin clubs win senior without winning a minor one first."

"It shows the work the club has put in at

underage, we have a huge juvenile section coming through so hopefully this is the start of something."

Jude's will also take part in a Minor A hurling final this weekend, with the opportunity to scoop the highest honour in both codes at the level, an achievement which has not been done for a number of years.

Juggling both codes may be seen as daunting for other clubs, but it is a reality for Jude's.

"I've been involved for 14 years working with Sean McCarthy who is the Minor Hurling Manager, and we have a great relationship."

15 players from the Minor A winning side will take part in the hurling final at the weekend, as they look to become one of the few who have won the highest honour at both codes.

St Anne's joy with minor success

ST ANNE'S claimed a first Minor Championship win since 2011 after they defeated Castleknock 1-19 to 2-13 in Bohernabreena on Sunday.

1-07 from Anne's Starman Matthew Murphy was key as they clinched the Minor C title.

The first half saw both sides in full flow with chances either end, as Anne's went in ahead by the minimum at the break.

They started the second half strongly and extended their lead to five thanks to a goal from Murphy, who finished top scorer on the day.

Castleknock responded well to that setback and reduced their arrears to one point after a deflected shot deceived Eoin Murphy in the Anne's goal.

Murphy would make a wonder save just minutes later to keep his side in the game, as the hosts trailed by a point heading into the final minutes.

Shane McKeown, who scored 0-05 points on the day, stepped up in the final moments to send the game to extra time.

Anne's went ahead at the restart thanks to crucial scores from Matthew Murphy and that man McKeown again, and they saw the game out to win a first championship at this level in over a decade.



St Anne's claimed their first minor championship since 2011 when they beat Castleknock last Sunday



*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

Soccer

Davis girls edged out in final

THOMAS Davis were narrowly defeated 2-04 to 0-07 by St Sylvester's in the U13 Division 4 final.

Thanks to scores from Sophie Smith and Siofra Maguire, Davis led at the break, but Sylvester's fought back in the second half to claim the title.

A Sylvester's goal in the opening moments did little to discourage Davis who responded well and led 0-06 to 1-01 at the break thanks to four points from Sophie Smith and two from Siofra Maguire.

Collen Twamley and Maguire were both solid in the Davis defence, with Aimee Kenny very impressive in midfield throughout.

Maguire added to her tally in the second half but another major from Sylvesters stretched the gap heading into the final moments.

With just a minute to go, the outstanding Smith found herself through on goal, but her effort was not successful and Sylvesters were crowned champions.

Despite the disappointment, Davis enjoyed a good year, earning promotion from Division 5 and reaching the Division 4 Championship final.



Thomas Davis U13's lost out in the Division 4 final to St Sylvester's

Tower's contest U16 decider

ROUND Towers Clondalkin will contest the U16 Division Two hurling Championship Shield final against Naomh Mearnog on Saturday.

Towers defeated Clontarf by two in the semi final after finishing third in their championship group following narrow defeats to Cuala and St Mairs.

The group, managed by Niall Reilly and mentors Ken Coi, James Kenny, Mark Ward and Paul Wisely, have enjoyed success over recent years including winning the U15 Division 2 hurling title last year.

Ahead of Saturday, Niall Reilly said; "As a juvenile section of the club we are always looking to consistently compete in division one or two feile's, the team coming behind us is playing in Division 2 which is great."

"There will be great crowd at it, there has been great success in the girls camogie section as well so it's now the boys turn to get to a final and hopefully win it, I don't think we've had any success in boys underage finals this year."

Nearly all those playing on Saturday are dual players, who were beaten in the Division 2 Championship cup football final against St Maur's recently.

They will have the chance to finish the season on a high on Saturday, a sentiment Reilly agrees with.

"We will have a right rattle on Saturday and hopefully they bring it back to the clubhouse."

Good show from Anne's U14s



St Anne's claimed the U14 Division 4 final with a win over Good Counsel/Liffey Gaels in Abbotstown

DAY two of the Camogie Finals weekend saw St Anne's once again travel to Abbotstown in search of Championship glory.

This time it was the U14 Division 4 final with sixteen of the St. Anne's team that had played in the U15 Championship final a day earlier taking part.

Good Counsel/Liffey Gaels were the opposition on Sunday with both teams in good form having topped their respective group stages.

Good Counsel had the better of the early part of the half with a goal and a point in the opening ten minutes.

St. Annes responded with a well taken score by Laragh Fogarty, followed by a free from Ellie Mahon. Good Counsel/LG added another score to restore their lead to three points after 20 minutes, but two minutes later Annes raised a green flag thanks to Mahon to level the game.

The game was very tight and competitive throughout and on the stroke of half-time, Good Counsel

restored their lead with a well taken goal.

The restart saw Anne's put over two consecutive points to reduce the lead to the minimum.

Good Counsel responded with a goal to extend their lead to four before a period of dominance from St. Annes saw them hit the four consecutive points to restore parity mid-way through the second half.

A Laragh Fogarty major gave Anne's a two-point lead with 10 minutes remaining, but that lead did not last long as Good Counsel responded with a goal of their own to retake the lead.

The last five minutes saw Anne's throw everything at a resolute and stubborn Counsel defence.

Following several attacks their goal was eventually breached as Alyson Kelly put St. Annes two points up with as many minutes remaining.

St. Annes continued to attack extended their lead to five points with another goal in the final moments to seal the victory.

Tower's U13s celebrate c'ship title

ROUND Towers Clondalkin lifted the U13 Division 8 camogie title at the weekend after a 5-2 to 3-0 win over Lucan Sarsfields at the Community Centre.

Two second half goals from Hollie Johnson secured the victory for Towers, along with a goal each from Macey Rossiter, Mary Quinlan and Holly Nicholson.

Despite the second half blitz, it was actually Sarsfields who got off to a flying start as they scored two quickfire goals within the first ten minutes.

Clondalkin responded with points from Johnson and Quinlan, but they went in at the break six points behind.

The restart saw Towers start strongly, and powered on by Player of the Match Anastasia Stromecka, Clondalkin took control of proceedings thanks to two majors from Johnson.

Quinlan, Rossiter and Nicholson all got in on the act to secure a second camogie title in the space of a couple of weeks for Towers at this level, after they won the Division Three title.



Round Towers lifted the U13 Division Eight camogie title with a win over Lucan Sarsfields

Soccer

Dillon in Cerebral Palsy squad for World Cup

THE Ireland Men's and Women's Cerebral Palsy squads have been announced for the 2024 IFCF World Cup in Salou, Spain.

The men's 14-man squad sees six Dubliners included, Amy Heffernan, Carl McKee, Dillon Sheridan from Ballyfermot, Ryan Nolan, Conor Halpin and Jake Hannon.

Monaghan hold the second largest contingent of players with two.

The women's 10 players squad includes three Dubliners, Heather Jameson, Katie Finegan and Ella Sherlock.

Ireland Men are in in Group D where they will come up against Iran, Venezuela and Germany, while the Women's Team are in a group against the USA, Denmark, Australia and Japan.

Both teams warmed up for the tournament with an International Friendly Series held at the AUL Complex, Dublin in September. The Men's Team recorded a 3-2 win over Scotland and a 1-0 win over the USA, while the Women's Team overcame Denmark 11-4 and lost to World No 1 USA.

Aisling Conway, Head Coach of the Women's CP Team, said: "It wasn't even a year ago we played our first ever international game, and now we're heading to the World Cup. It's great exposure for not only CP football but for women's football in general.

"We've prepared right, we've trained well, we had a Friendly Series to build up to the tournament and we have confidence about us going out to Spain - I'm excited about the coming week."

Mick Doyle, Head Coach of the Men's CP Team added: "We've prepared very well for the World Cup and have trained every Saturday for the last three months or so. A few weeks ago we had positive results against Scotland and the USA - the Americans are ranked fourth in the world.

"The players are fit, confident and in great spirits and I'm looking forward to the opening game against Germany on Monday. It will be a case of one game at a time and we'll see where the journey takes us."

All games from the tournament will be live streamed on the IFCFP social media channels.

GAA

Anne's U15s pipped at the post



St Anne's U15 camogie team missed out on the Division Five Championship final against Clontarf

CLONTARF were victorious over St Anne's in the U15 Division Five Camogie Championship final at the weekend on a scoreline of 3-02 to 0-06.

Abbottstown was the venue for Saturday's Championship clash, with both teams having met earlier in the Championship group stages with Clontarf coming out on top in a close

fought game. Saturday was no different with two well-matched teams looking to pick-up the silverware.

Both teams traded points early on before Clontarf struck a well-taken goal to push the lead to three. A further score from Clontarf edged them further in front before a good score from St. Anne's left it at three between the teams

at half-time.

The second half was a very tightly contested affair with Clontarf opening the scoring with a goal but St. Annes clawed back with three excellent points.

The decisive score came again from Clontarf with another goal with six minutes remaining.

St. Annes were chasing the game and

a series of great saves from the Clontarf goalkeeper kept St. Annes at bay.

They added another point when a goal would have been the preferred option to reduce it to five, that is how it remained.

It was a deserved win for Clontarf, who's ability to score goals at key times was crucial.

Commercials U16s in tune against Harps



Commercials had a five point victory over Skerries Harps to claim the U16 Division Four final

COMMERCIALS found success at the weekend after a five-point victory over Skerries Harps in the u16 Division 4 camogie final.

Goals from Aoibheann Coughlan, Lara Scanlon and Ella O'Loughlin were key in Commercials edging the affair.

Despite the final result, Skerries started well and got the first point of the match.

Commercials grew into the first half and thanks to some excellent free taking from Aoibheann Coughlan, along with goals from Coughlan and O'Loughlin, they went in at half time seven points to the good.

After the restart, once again Skerries started positively, determined to get back into the game and cut into their arrears.

Midway through the second half,

after two quickfire goals they did so with just a point between the sides heading into the final quarter.

However, Ella O'Loughlin decided to take the game by the scruff of the neck and score three consecutive points to restore their cushion.

Skerries threw everything at Commercials in the final minutes, but they stood strong, in no small part to the excellent Riona Hunter who controlled things from centre back, to win 3-09 to 3-04.

Captain Erin Caverly lifted the cup on behalf of her team, who were managed by Sonia Smyth, Jeff Crowder and Gary Sheehy.

Much of the Commercial's side was made up of players still eligible for U14 and U15, with camogie within the club looking to have a bright future ahead.

FUTSAL SESSIONS



€5 PER SESSION

Date & Time: Fridays 7:30 - 8:30pm

Location: Balrothery School Hall

Ages: Open to all born 2009-2012

To book your place, contact Keith on 087 069 2757



GAA

Tower's U16 camogie enjoy shield success



ROUND Towers clinched the Division Three camogie shield after a convincing 9-08 to 2-08 victory over Beann Eadair in Howth on Sunday.

Towers started positively and within minutes Kitty Quinlan raised a green flag after a period of significant pressure. Further goals from Molly Fennelly and Katie Manning saw Towers go in 7-02 to 0-06

up at the interval. With a squad of nineteen players changes were made and all players played a vital role in the match. The second half saw another

further intensity displayed by Towers with some superb performances from Neasa Breen, Saoirse Maher, goalkeeper Nora Jane Walsh and captain Tara Kelly.

Further scores were added in the second half from Ashley Trusler, Imogen Sullivan and Laura Casey, with Kitty Quinlan scoring 5 -2 on the day.

Round Towers had a convincing win over Beann Eadair to clinch the u16 Division 3 camogie shield

Soccer

All eyes on U19 UEFA Euro C'ships

Ireland u19 boss Tom Mohan has announced his squad for their upcoming UEFA European Championship qualifiers this week.

The 20-man squad includes a healthy contingent of current and former Shamrock Rovers players, with current hoops Corey O'Sullivan and Cian Dillon included alongside former Rovers players Naj Razi who is now at Serie A side Como, Freddie Turley at Derby County and Ike Orazi who is at French Ligue 1 side Stade de Reims.

Ireland face Moldova first, then Azerbaijan and finally Iceland over the next week, with the top two sides in the group progressing to the final round of qualifying.

Speaking ahead of this week's qualifiers, Tom Mohan said: "They're a great group of boys who have been scouted on a regular basis by our staff and scouting team. They're (the squad) really positive and have come through some tough games, which can only help their development."

"We've had two good windows with them. We started our season off against France, and they don't get much tougher than that. We've come up against Kazakhstan, Slovenia, Croatia, Greece and Mexico, they all presented us with different styles and challenges and I'm really pleased with how the boys performed in these games and especially in the recent Croatia Tournament where the boys showed great quality and spirit to beat Mexico in our last game to top the group."

"There are very few easy games in international football. You can see the work that is going on from countries who didn't have the infrastructure in the past. Their facilities are getting better, as are their academy structures, their teams, and their coaching and it is tougher than ever to qualify."

"No nation can be underestimated, and we know we'll be in for big tests in each of our games."

"These are three massive games, which we as a group of staff and players, have put a lot of work and preparations into and look forward to the challenges ahead."

Davis U16 girls capture cup title



Thomas Davis beat Naomh Brid to lift the U16 Division Five Cup

THOMAS Davis lifted the U16 Division Five cup after a 5-06 to 0-01 victory over Naomh Brid in the final, reports James Ffrench. A first half blitz gave Davis the platform to come out on top,

with Caoimhe O'Rourke notching 1-01, Niamh McFarlane scoring a goal and Ruby Gartland picking up 1-02 to give the Tallaght side a 12 point half time lead.

Second half scores from Caoimhe O'Donovan, Sadbh O'Donovan and Sarah Moody along with brilliant performances from goalkeeper Kate Hoey and Lucy McDermott, Kate

McCauley, Emily Katvare, Alex Kelly, Ailbhe Ni Leanachain and Sophie Phillips in the backline secured the victory. Captain Sarah Moody lifted the trophy following the win and

she was also named Player of the Match. Sarah Wall was manager of the team for the year helped by coaches Cormac Kelly, Mary Moriarty and Gareth McGrath.

Soccer



Templeogue lad played a key role in Shels winning league

IT HAS been two weeks since the final whistle was blown at the Brandywell and Shelbourne were crowned 2024 League of Ireland Champions, but that feeling of tremendous relief and joy is something which will remain with Conor Kearns for the rest of his life, *reports James Ffrench*.

"It's been a whirlwind from the moment the whistle ended, it's been an array of emotions", Kearns said.

"We worked so hard to get there, it's a moment I've been waiting for my whole life."

The Templeogue native began his footballing career with his local side Templeogue United, before departing to UCD in 2015 where he made 64 senior appearances for the club.

Like teammate Evan Caffrey who also starred for the Students before his move to Shels, Kearns' impressive form in D4 warranted interest from Irish sides further up the football food chain as he joined St Patrick's Athletic in 2019.

The road to the top was not without its challenges, as the form of veteran shot stopper

Brendan Clarke kept Kearns out of the side, warranting a move west to Galway United just over a year later.

The former Ireland u21 international shined for the westerners in the Irish First Division across a two-year spell, and when Shelbourne pipped John Caulfield's Galway to the title in the 2021/22 season, Kearns performances caught the eye of a certain individual.

"Duff said he had been impressed by me at Galway, but he wanted me to be Conor Kearns for Shels, not Conor Kearns for Galway."

"He wanted me to be the best keeper in the country, he instilled a lot of confidence in me.

"He had this aura when I met him, it was infectious, and I was ready to sign from the very first conversation I had with him."

Along with reaching the FAI Cup final, Shels finished seventh in their first year back in the big time as Kearns started all but one match in his maiden season starring in the top tier.

A fourth place finish a year later did little to put

The Reds in any sort of title conversation heading into the 2024 season, but after six wins from their opening seven games confidence grew immeasurably.

A blip did occur prior to their final three games, when Shels won just one of their previous ten league fixtures, but the playing squad stayed calm, according to Kearns.

"I think the nerves were natural, the thing I'm proudest of the most with regards to the staff and players was the more the season went on the calmer things got.

"The manager was amazing keeping things light in training, like if it was a bad day we wouldn't do any analysis. Obviously, the famous day when we just walked in and watched only fools and horses and did no analysis, then went out to train."

Duff came up with fresh ways to motivate his side heading in the run in, with the Jose Mourinho video messages grabbing most of the headlines, but it was a talk from League of Ireland legend Colin Hawkins which brought the greatest

inspiration.

"Colin Hawkins who had a cancer diagnosis which has a low survival rate, prior to the Drogheda game, he came in and spoke of his targets of having dinner at Christmas with his family, talking about his own football career as well, it put things into perspective for us and the meaning of what we were achieving."

Despite their status as champions heading into next season, Shelbourne remains behind favourites Shamrock Rovers and St Patrick's Athletic for the title according to the bookies, not that Damien Duff's side will pay any notice.

"I suppose we won't know what the season will be like but there is lots of transfers and players moving clubs", Kearns added.

"The thing I've learned about the league is the speculation gets thrown out the window after the first month.

"We will just focus on ourselves, there are other targets with clean sheets and points tallies that we didn't hit last season that we will be focused on."

Bangor march on in Metro Cup

Leinster Senior 1 Sunday league, while Bangor are in fourth place a division above them.

The Dublin side defeated Dunboyne AFC 3-1 in the previous round, while Edenderry beat Templeogue United away 3-1.

Despite being slight underdogs, Edenderry started the game well and were assured in their shape.

Very few early chances came for the hosts, who had their keeper Jordan Walker to thank for not being behind after he made numerous good saves to keep it at a stalemate.

Bangor enjoyed large spells of possession without creating a great deal, with Jordan Andre looking dangerous on the win for the hosts.

The pitch conditions didn't help either side, as the second half continued much the same as its predecessor, with Edenderry failing to find an opening goal thanks to numerous saves from Walker.

A Dan Mullins red card on 65 minutes after he was deemed to be last man back only piled on the pressure for the hosts.

The best chance of the game came in extra time when the Offaly side hit the crossbar, as the 120 minutes came to an end with penalties to decide the winner.

Hayden Roche stepped up first for Bangor and he dispatched his penalty, which was followed up by a save from Walker from Shane Nealon's spotkick.

Bradley Rogers scored to make it 2-0 to the hosts before Walker saved another to put his side in the driving seat in the shootout.

Shane O'Keefe tucked away his spot kick and Edenderry finally got on the board as Nikita Sapovals beat Walker finally, setting up Eoin Stokes to score the winning penalty and send Bangor through to the last eight.



Soccer

‘Opportunity to look at options’ - Crawford

IRELAND U21 boss Jim Crawford has named a squad of 24 players for their double header against Sweden in Spain.

The squad features a strong former League of Ireland contingent, with multiple former Shamrock Rovers and St Patricks Athletic players included.

Noah Jauny of French Ligue 1 side Stade Brestois and Kevin Zefi of Serie A side AS Roma make up the former Rovers contingent, while there are six former Pats players in the squad, James Abankwah of Udinese, Darius Lipusic of Stoke City, Adam Murphy of Bristol City, Glory Nzingo of Swansea City, Tommy Lonergan of Fleetwood Town and Ben Quinn of Mansfield Town.

Crawford has selected the squad based on players eligible for the next qualification campaign with only players born during or after 2004 able to feature in the 2027 UEFA European Under-21 Championship Qualifiers, with the Sweden games an opportunity to look at players from this age range before competitive games begin next year.

Any players still eligible for U19 were not included due to the Ireland u19's qualifiers next week.

Speaking ahead of the games, Jim Crawford said: "This is a great opportunity to look at all our options ahead of qualification games next year. Much of the squad would have come through our international pathway, but for most this is their first involvement in an Under-21s squad."

"The opportunity came to test ourselves against Sweden and we jumped at the chance. I always say the players will get more out of it when they are challenged, and this will be a challenge – Sweden have the quality."

The friendlies against Sweden will be the first time Jim Crawford's side will see action since the heartbreaking end to their 2025 European Championship qualifying campaign, one in which saw Ireland miss out on qualification despite picking up 19 points, the highest tally of any side to finish outside the top two.

Crawford added: "Last month was really difficult to take, but I'm proud of the players and what we achieved as a group. We had five players involved with the senior team during the campaign, with two earning full caps (Andrew Moran and Sinclair Armstrong) and that's a huge indicator of success."



St Francis secure first win in league

Action from the game between St Francis and Crumlin in John Hyland Park
Photos by Paddy Barrett

Clondalkin side come from behind to topple Crumlin

ST FRANCIS secured a 2-1 home victory over Crumlin to pick up their first win this season in Leinster Senior League Major Saturday at John Hyland Park.

All three goals on the day came from the penalty spot, with Andrew Farrell converting twice to cancel out an early Leon Heffernan spot kick.

The opening to the game was frantic to say the least as Crumlin won a penalty which

was duly converted by Heffernan to give his side the lead.

Francis responded well and got their equaliser on the stroke of half time as Matthew McCarrick cut inside on the right wing and he was taken down as he entered the box.

Farrell dispatched from 12 yards to restore parity at the break.

The hosts grew into the game as the second half

progressed, with number six and eventual man of the match Dean Joyce leading the charge for his team in a superb midfield performance.

The pressure told with four minutes to go as Babatunde Animashaun showed excellent skill to cut inside and enter the Crumlin box before having his legs swept from under him resulting in a third penalty being awarded by referee Mark McConnell.

Once again, Farrell was composed from 12 yards as he put Francis back in the lead heading into the final few minutes.

Crumlin did put the hosts under a degree of pressure in the final moments, but Francis should have wrapped the game up as they squandered multiple chances on the counter attack.

They held out for their win of the season, as they travel to face Ballymun next.



St Francis secured their first win of the season with a 2-1 victory over Crumlin



Crumlin lost out to St Francis despite taking the lead early on from the penalty spot

Five-star ROC remain on top



ROC Celtic beat Valley Park Utd to stay top of the league Photos by John Mooney

ROC CELTIC remain top of the combined UCFL/AUL Premier Division after a convincing 5-1 away win over Valley Park United on Plunkett Avenue, Finglas, on Saturday, reports John Mooney.

This was a cracking game, especially in the opening half, but kind of fell apart after the home side had a player dismissed around the hour mark.

It was then up to the Celts to show what they could do against ten men and they didn't disappoint, as they wrapped up the points that keeps them sitting top of the pile.

There was very little between these two in a very open game and the only surprise was the score was only 2-1 at the break, when both had 11 players on the field.

Plenty of goal mouth action to take in, where keepers were kept busy, and the opening goal arrived in the 20th minute when Dylan Graham squared the ball to Keith Williams on the edge of the area, and he slotted home past a helpless Sean Power in the ROC goal.

However, that lead lasted just five minutes as the visitors were back on level terms with a cracking free kick from Killian Brennan, after Jason O'Neill was fouled just outside the box.

It got even better for ROC as the half drew to a close as a beauty of a ball from Craig O'Brien caught the home defence napping, and George Farrell raced in behind them and slotted home.

We were all set for more of the same when the second half got underway and for around 15 minutes both sides delivered, but when the home side were reduced to ten men you felt that there would only be one outcome.

ROC began to turn the screw and when Farrell, netted his second of the afternoon, and Jason O'Neill both scored in the space of a couple of minutes, with just 15 minutes remaining, it was game over.

In the final nine minutes of this tie ROC were also reduced to 10 players but they still managed to score one more, as Bernard Grendon fired home a spot kick in the dying minutes.

ROC CELTIC: S. Power, J. Kavanagh, D. Kershaw, M. Hendrick, S. Donohoe, C. O'Brien, A. Shortall, J. Maher, J. O'Neill, G. Farrell, K. Brennan, A. Collins, I. Bermingham, W. Kershaw, B. Sheridan, J. Kershaw, D. King, B. Grendon.



ROC Celtic's Jason O'Neill gets away from Valley Park's Darren Hughes

MiDental CARE

Location One:

Unit 4, Milltown Centre, Milltown Road, D06 Y278

Book: 01 260 3741

NEW OWNERS OF

MIDENTALCARE GLENVIEW

189 Glenview Park, Tallaght,
Dublin, D24 YX30

Book: 01 462 3963

**DENTAL & AESTHETIC SERVICES
PRSI APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE
NEW PATIENTS WELCOME**

www.midentalcare.ie

