



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 1st December 2024

A Plea for help from Ethiopia

Many of you will remember Fr. Kidus Amanuel, who spent time with us in both St. Patrick's & St. Mary's several years ago. At that time Fr. Kidus was studying in Dublin at the former All Hallows College. Since then, he has returned to his native Ethiopia. Ethiopia has been in the turmoil of a civil war for several years since his return. Life there has been dangerous, and great hardship has been imposed on the innocent people caught up in the war. All aspects of normal life have been disrupted and weakened by the mayhem all around.

Fr. Kidus is based in Tigray and he describes his situation in his own words: "In November 2020, conflict broke out in Tigray, and has resulted in loss of lives, severe injuries, displacement, hunger, gender-based violence and trauma. Many schools, service centres and many other things that form part of normal daily life have been weakened or destroyed due to the conflict. All of us I would say, have been traumatised by the evil war. Thank God, a peace deal and cessation of hostilities was signed and we are hopeful that our lives will slowly return to some level of normality.



As a priest working in these difficult circumstances, I felt obliged to remain among my people, and thank God I am still alive. I now want to continue to do all that I can to support children and families to rebuild their lives. I can do this by providing material support like food and clothing, and through group support, training, helping to rebuild a community ravaged by war.

I need your support.

Fr. Philip has kindly designated the proceeds of the "Giving tree" in St. Mary's this Advent / Christmas season for the support of my work in Ethiopia and I am deeply grateful to him, and for any support that you can offer. May God reward your kindness.

I greatly enjoyed my time among you in Ireland and I thank you for your ongoing friendship and support."

Fr. Kidus Amunuel



The giving-tree will be in place in St. Mary's from Sunday December 1st. You simply take a card with your chosen donation amount, from the cards provided, place your donation in the box beside the tree, and hang the card on the tree.

Philip Curran
St. Mary's & St. Patrick's Parishes

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

Our office is located in the Ballyowen Castle Youth and Community Centre, Ballyowen, Lucan



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

Tuesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Wednesday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

Thursday: 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8pm on 0818 07 4000

MABS – the Money Advice and Budgeting Service is the State's money advice service, guiding people through dealing with problem debt for over 20 years. MABS phone service is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 8 pm on 0818 07 2000

Will I be cut off if I can't pay my electricity or gas bill?

Feeling the cold this winter?

Do you know about the winter ban on electricity and gas disconnections?

If you're struggling with bills, you can't be disconnected during winter during the following periods:

1 Nov 2024 - 31 Mar 2025 - if you are a vulnerable customer.

9 Dec 2024 - 17 Jan 2025 - all other domestic customers.

Learn more about the ban on disconnections during winter on our website.

Paying your electricity and gas bills

When you sign up to an electricity or gas supplier, you should get regular and accurate bills.

Suppliers must give you a range of options for paying your bills.

Increases in energy costs have had a big impact on the cost of living for households. If you are worried about paying your electricity bills, help is available. You can contact your energy supplier to explore payment options or contact MABS for help and advice.

Help with rising electricity bills Budget 2025

It was announced in Budget 2025 that all domestic electricity customers will get €250 off their electricity bills.

The Electricity Account Credit will be paid in 2 instalments of €125. The first payment will be made before the end of 2024, the second will be made in the new year.

Changes to VAT rate

Since 1 May 2022, the rate of VAT on gas and electricity bills reduced from 13.5% to 9%. It was announced in Budget 2025 that the reduced rate will be extended until 30 April 2025.

If you are struggling to pay your bills Help is available if you are worried about paying your electricity bills.

You can:

Make an appointment for free confidential advice with the Money Advice and Budgeting Service (MABS).

Contact your supplier to discuss payment options. Contact your local Citizens Information Service. Your electricity or gas supply could be cut off if you do not pay your bills. MABS has more advice if you have problems paying your bills.

Ban on disconnections during winter

Customers having problems paying their bills cannot be disconnected during the winter months.

Vulnerable customers

Vulnerable customers who are registered as priority services customers cannot be disconnected at any time.

You are a priority service customer if you register with the CRU as being critically dependent on electrically powered assistive devices.

More information is available on our website.

1st December is World AIDS Day observed by the World Health Organisation

World AIDS Day brings together people from around the world to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS and demonstrate international solidarity in the face of the pandemic.

The United Nations International Day for the abolition of slavery is observed on 2nd December.

On this International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, the UN shines a light on the estimated 50 million people worldwide trapped in horrific conditions — from human trafficking to forced labour, sexual exploitation and forced marriage.

More information is available on Modern Slavery 'Affront' to Basic Human Rights, Secretary-General Says in Message for International Day | Meetings Coverage and Press Releases (un.org)



Sarsfield Park residents Association

Wishing our Lucan representatives all the best in the general elections, we hope people who'll work for the better of our community come out on top.

We are having our last meeting of 2024 in Kenny's lounge Tuesday 3rd Dec which we'll carry out our Christmas raffle, we'd like to thank the local businesses in the village for their generous support in this matter.



We are expecting visit from the "Big Man" on Sunday Dec 22nd prior to his big day, please reach out via committee, WhatsApp, email etc to ensure we have the names of the little ones for the event

Lucan Toastmasters

Lucan Toastmasters is a friendly, vibrant club which offers a safe environment to develop public speaking and communication skills. Our next meeting is on Thursday 5th December at 7:45pm at the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip and guests are most welcome to join us. Come along on the night or contact vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com to register your interest.



Thursday 5th December 2024
7:45pm

Springfield Hotel, Leixlip, W23 W280

- Do you want to **finally** conquer your fear of public speaking?
- Do you have a speech or presentation coming up that you need help with?
- Do you want to make new friends?

If so, then Lucan Toastmasters is the place for you.

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month in the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip at 7.45 p.m. Admission is free for new guests – don't worry, you won't be asked to speak! Come along on Thursday next, December 5th, where a warm welcome awaits you.

For further details, follow Lucan Toastmasters on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#) or contact vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com



Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 4th December: Social Morning and Christmas Lunch in the Spa Hotel, 10.30 – 2.30.

Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

Email: info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie

Telephone: 01 253 6105

or 085 867 1245

Find us on Facebook and Instagram to see what's going on in the centre!



Active over 55's: Our new Wellness Program has started but anyone interested come along on Thursday 1-3. **The Wellness Program** will focus on movement and visualisation for the mind and body. This will incorporate some visualisation work, Tai Chi and other movement for the body. We will then follow on the workshop with tea, coffee and a catch up.

Baby & Toddler Group: Baby and toddler group will continue on Mondays. If you would like to come along, please don't be shy its **Monday morning from 11-12.30.**

Christmas Fair: Our Christmas fair along with Santas Grotto will take place this Sunday 1st, why not pop down and start your Christmas shopping while supporting local businesses. A visit to Santa will be €5 per child with any additional children costing €2.



The Centre will be closed on Tuesday 3rd December due to Electrical works sorry for any inconvenience.

Room booking: Would you like to book a room in the centre for a meeting or a group activity? We have some availability and offer competitive rates. Email us to make a booking.



St Mary's Camera Soirée
12th Exhibition of Photographs



St. Mary's Parish Centre
Saturday 30th November 6pm to 7.30pm
Sunday 1st December 10am to 1.30pm

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com

Sunday Mass Times: Vigil: 6.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon, 7pm

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com



St. Mary's Readers' Roster December 2024

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of December 2024 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Saturdays from the conclusion of the 10am Mass to 11.30am – funerals permitting.

Christian Meditation: We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.
All welcome.

Lectio Divina: Lectio Divina meet every Monday evening (except Bank Holidays) at 7.30pm in the Bungalow to reflect for an hour on the following Sunday's gospel. *All are welcome.*

Bethany Bereavement Support Group: We meet on the 2nd Monday (at 10.45am) and the 4th Thursday (at 8pm) each month, in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. If you would like to attend a meeting, please contact the Parish Office. (Phone 01 6217041)

Divine Mercy Devotion: Every Wednesday morning in St Mary's Parish Church after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This devotion, revealed to St Faustina by Our Lord is a prayer of atonement for our own sins and the sins of the whole world. We pray especially for evil to be defeated and for peace in the world.

Confessions – Nuns' Chapel: Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Cuppa: Why not come into the Coffee Dock for a cuppa and a chat after the 10am Weekday Mass and on Sundays after the morning Masses.



Legion of Mary: Meeting every Thursday 5.30pm in the **Parish Bungalow** for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

Visits to the housebound: If you are housebound you can call Deirdre at the parish office (01 621 7041) we will be happy to call on a monthly basis.

Baptisms in St. Mary's: Dates are bookable on line. Email: secretary@lucanparish.com

Recent Death

Deepest Sympathy to the wife, family and friends of **Bernie (Bernard) McCann**, Ardeevin, Lucan.
May he rest in peace.



Church Art Calendar 2025

On sale - €2. St. Mary's Parish Centre

Medjugorje Mass St. Mary's Church, Lucan

Monday 2nd December

Mass 6.15pm

Celebrant: Fr Joe Poole,

Guest speaker: Medjugorje Guide (Rosary and Prayers 5.45pm)



ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

How quick the year has flown, and Christmas is just around the corner again.

This year, the National Christmas Appeal for the St Vincent De Paul takes place at all Masses

NEXT Weekend 7th/8th December

We, the SVP in Lucan, rely on your generosity to achieve the goal of helping families in Lucan to ensure they will enjoy the festive season and through the forthcoming year.

*We thank you for the support,
St Vincent De Paul, Lucan*

PLEASE NOTE:

The Tap & Go System at St Mary's Church is **NOT** to be used for special collections, e.g., St Vincent de Paul.

This collection will take place in the Church itself.

St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



Sunday Mass Times: 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon.

The 10.30am Family Mass is aimed at younger parishioners and their families.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday at 10am.

All Masses livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

Adoration: Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am. All are welcome.

Confessions: Confessions after Saturday 10am Mass and after Thursday 10am Mass.

St Patrick's Prayer Meeting: Every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St. Patrick's Church) from 7.00pm to 7.45pm.

Communion for the Homebound: If any member of your family is sick and housebound, and would like to receive Holy Communion, do please let us know. You can ring the Parish Office on 01 628 1018 and leave your name and address, or email us at: secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie

Tea/Coffee: Every Wednesday 10:30am in the Parish Centre. *All are welcome*

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday Vigil: 6pm.

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12.00 noon.

Weekday Masses: Mon.-Fri.9:15am. Sat.10am

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje: Every Thursday.

7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions.

7.30pm: Holy Mass. **After Mass:** Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction. *All welcome*

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration.

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle.

Fri: 2-3pm: Divine Mercy Devotion/Adoration.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

Prayers of the Church: Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

The Church is open Monday to Friday from **10am to 1pm** for private prayers.

Legion of Mary: The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Confessional Room in the church.

Aontas Choir Present

An Evening of Christmas Music and Carols

Featuring Special Guests,
St Joseph's NS Choir, Kilcock

Wednesday 11th December 2024
Venue: St Patrick's Church,
Lucan, Co.Dublin
Time: 7:30pm

Refreshments will be served following the concert

Raffle on the Night
No Admission fee

Church of Divine Mercy
Welcomes you to our
Christmas Carol Service
Friday 15th December 2024, 7pm
(Doors open from 6.45pm)

Featuring Music from the Divine Mercy Choirs & Raffle
(Donations to the Parish welcome on the night)

Anniversaries

Pat Brady and Jack Brady 35th Anniversary

Like falling leaves the years go by
But memories of you never die
Always remembered by Joe and all the family



Anne Jarvis 27th November, 13th from Home Barney Jarvis 20th September, 11th from Home

Missing a special Mum and Dad
Simply the best one could have had
Gentle and wise & full of advice
Loving us all even through sacrifice

Even though we miss you both
You're not too far away
our hearts are full of memories
We treasure every day

We know you're up in heaven
Smiling down on us
Until we meet again
Here's a special prayer from us.

*Sleep tight, love always your children
Ken, Linda, Elaine and Anne Marie, extended
family and grandkids.*

Patrick Kilduff 26th Anniversary

Chapel Hill
In loving memory of our dear brother Paddy.
"Silent thoughts of times together,
Hold memories that last forever "
Remembered by all the family



Dympna Murray-Fennell 7th Anniversary, 1st December

"All things pass away," my mother once wrote reflecting on revisiting the much changed garden at her old school (an extension had chopped off half of it while a basket-ball court had also made a sizeable dent) but then she spotted "a robin making himself at home in a spray of new clematis shoot, and a clump of yellow primroses reflecting back the spring sunshine." And of course, memories may fade but new reflections, new "I wish she was here for this" means loved ones are never far away.

Remembering her with much love today – and every day, Michael

Elizabeth (Betty) McCabe 27th Anniversary, 2nd December

Late of Sarsfield Park.
*Sadly missed and loved always by
Catherine, Robert, Anne, Eileen and
their families.*

Birthday Remembrance

Mary Mills

A year gone
*Dearly missed by all your neighbours and friends.
Rest in Peace.*

Deepest Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to
Cathy Burke
(Catechist to the Lucan Partnership of Parishes)
on the recent death of her mother

Mary Burke

Knock, Co Mayo

May she rest in peace.

Lucan Newsletter Team



Bayside Alpha

are hosting on Zoom a two part series:
St Francis of Assisi: Sign of Contradiction with Bishop Barron and Franciscan Friar Fr Dave Pivonka on **Sunday the 15th and 22nd of December at 7:30pm.**

To join this free series email Paul at alphabayside@gmail.com

Quote:

*Success is the sum of all efforts,
Repeated day in and day out!*

Robert Collier



December is here at long last, and hopefully we'll have plenty of cheer around the place.

There appear to be lots of Christmas fairs, markets etc, all around the place, and for some real Christmas spirit, we should look in on some of the carol services

Late Late Surprise! We had a lovely surprise on Friday night last as we tuned into the weekly programme – there before our very eyes was Lucan Village live, with a promise of good news to come for somebody in Lucan. (Probably it was just as well it was dark, given the present scene in the village!)

Anyhow, after a short while, all was revealed, and we learned that Niamh McCabe, had contacted the Late Late, looking for a Toy Show ticket for her best friend, Lyndsey Daly, who will generously donate a kidney to Niamh, in the New Year.



Best friends, Lyndsey (*left*), and Niamh, were awarded two tickets for the Toy Show on Friday 6th December. We hope they enjoy the show, and wish them every blessing for 2025!
(And yes, we did spot the lady in slippers and dressing gown in the background)

Demesne Wall – Readers may recall, a mention in an earlier issue, that the wall being rebuilt at the moment, was only going to be raised to half its original height. NOT TRUE! SDCC have confirmed that the “*wall would not be re-instated in any fashion other than it's original state, this is in accordance with the requirement of a protected structure*”.

New Government – hopefully by this time next week, we'll know who our new Taoiseach and government will be. There could be very long counts in this one!

Winter Bees in Lucan Village!



This little Bee Hive was spotted recently, at the PTSB building beside the Liffey Bridge, and the sign beside it gives a few interesting facts eg in wintertime, a bee colony reduces from 40,000 to between 8,000 and 10,000, consisting of the Queen Bee and Workers. The Drones have all been evicted to save on energy. Have a look the next time you're walking by!

All Shook Up! We send good wishes to St. Joseph's Transition Year Students who are putting on a great show this weekend. Looking forward to the report next week.



Lucan ICA

Monday 2nd December: Craft Group busy working on their various projects from 10am to 12.30p.

We will also have a short Business Meeting. Tea Hostesses: Miriam Gavin and Marie O'Sullivan.

Wednesday 4th December: Members are going to An Gránán for our Christmas Day out. There will be Christmas themed classes making wreaths, decorations cards, and cookery.

We will have Christmas dinner and evening tea with music and singing by the Termonfechin Gospel Choir.



Bus Pick-up at Church Car Park at 8.30 sharp.

Wear your Christmas jumpers, hats or whatever, to add to the ambience of the day.

A big thank you to our members who donated filled shoeboxes for the Hope Foundation, it is very much appreciated. The boxes to children in Eastern Europe and Africa who never get a resent.





Women's
Collective
Ireland
LUCAN

Ballyowen Castle Youth & Community Centre

WCI Lucan Community Update

As we approach the close of another incredible term, it's hard to believe how quickly the weeks have flown by! This has been a busy and rewarding time for WCI Lucan, with nine vibrant programs running alongside a series of inspiring community events.

Meet the Candidates Event

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who joined us for our *Meet the Candidates* event last week for the Dublin Mid-West region. The evening was a resounding success, filled with meaningful dialogue and community engagement. Well done to all who participated in shaping the conversations that matter to us all.

Christmas Celebration

Get ready to jingle all the way to WCI Lucan's **Christmas Celebration on Wednesday, December 11th, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** Expect a joyful morning brimming with *Festive Fun*, featuring mince pies, carols, festive treats, and our much-loved *Silly Santa Raffle*. Whether you're here for the treats, the tunes, or the raffle, this promises to be a wonderful way to share the holiday spirit.

'The Red Shoes – Los Zapatos Rojas' Art Installation

We are thrilled to host the **first-ever Irish installation of *The Red Shoes – Los Zapatos Rojas* on December 8th.** This breathtaking and powerful artwork, created by women from the 17 WCI projects across Ireland, serves as a poignant tribute to lives impacted by violence and a unified call for justice. Don't miss this historic and moving event.

Nollaig na mBan Celebration

Time is running out to grab tickets for our **first-ever Nollaig na mBan afternoon celebration!** Happening on **Monday, January 6th, 2025**, at the stunning Lucan Golf Club, this event promises an afternoon of elegance, joy, and community. Tickets are €25 and include a sumptuous three-course meal, entertainment, and a raffle packed with spot prizes. Join us in celebrating Women's Christmas in true WCI Lucan style. Act fast—there are only a few tickets left!

As we wrap up this remarkable term, we want to extend our deepest thanks to everyone who has

participated in and supported our programs. You are what makes this community so special.

For more information or to get involved, please email us at lucan@womenscollective.ie or reach out via WhatsApp, call, or text at **083 860 7947**.

Here's to a joyful, festive season and a bright year ahead!

Warm regards,

The WCI Lucan Team

Rosegrove United, who as well as having an awful name are useless in David's opinion. David has two other problems. Firstly, his embarrassing Dad, who thinks he is a soccer expert because he watches Match of the Day. Secondly, Whacker Whelan, the soccer playing bully. Can David overcome these challenges and win the Player of the Year trophy.



Illustrations by
Caoilfhionn Walsh & Ciarán O'Brien.

A must for any Xmas Stocking
available at buythebook.ie

Suitable for ages 6 to 60!
Local author and set in Lucan.

www.buythebook.ie

Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

We meet in St Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am. New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends. There is a charge of €4 each week to cover costs but there is no charge for your first meeting.

Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, scrabble, cards, drama and choir. Coffee break at 1pm. Organised trips in Ireland and abroad.

Minder & Toddler Group

Thursdays, in St. Mary's Parish Centre, from 9.30 to 11.30am.

All Welcome!





SCHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

In November, We Remember: November is an important time in the liturgical calendar. It is a month when we remember and pray for our loved ones and past students who are no longer with us. Ms Carey and her religion class created a fantastic display in the school to remember loved ones past. Each white ribbon on the display represents a deceased loved one from our school community.



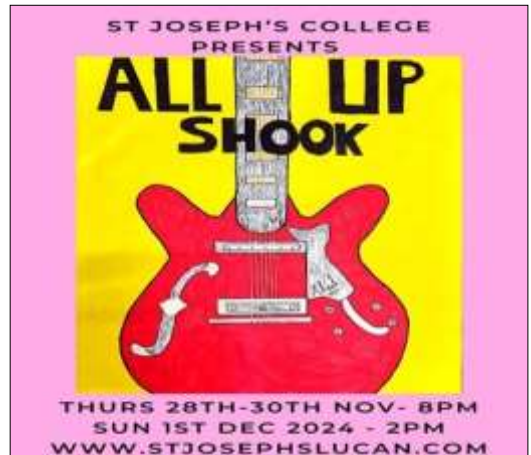
Junior Debating: Well done to our junior debaters who had a fantastic day at the St. Andrews MACE competition on Saturday afternoon. MACE is the oldest and largest debating competition in the UK and Ireland. Each MACE debate consists of two teams, a proposition and an opposition.



Under 14 Soccer: Well done to our under 14 soccer team who had a great win in their league game St. Setons in Ballyfermot.

Its Show Time: Our TY students have put the finishing touches on their performance and everyone is looking forward to a fantastic show this Thursday – Sunday. Tickets can still be purchased from the school website, social media pages and also by calling into the school reception.

All Shook Up Tickets: Tickets for TY musical ‘All Shook Up’ are now on sale and can now be purchased from the school Instagram and X pages, school website and also at the door on night of the shows.



Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Website: www.stjosephslucan.com



St Thomas JNS, Esker, Lucan

We are now open for applications for
Junior Infants September 2025

Please visit our website at
www.stthomasjns.com

To complete an application form.

Closing Date is 12 December 2024



Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Soccer: Our 1st yr soccer team completed the group stages of their Dublin League campaign with a 3-0 win against Coolmine CS on Tuesday. After a goalless 1st half, Lucan stepped up a level in the 2nd half with David Stroe, Alex Deegan and Ryan Webb scoring the goals in an impressive team display. After a win and a draw in their opening two matches, this victory guarantees the team a place in the knockout stages of the competition (that won't begin until early February). At this stage, they are most likely to finish top of the group, which will ensure a home match against the runners up in another group.



Our **TY soccer team** defeated St. Michael's College, Ailesbury Rd, 1-0 on Friday in the 1st rnd of the TY Leinster Cup. Lucan thoroughly deserved the win as they were the dominant team throughout, even though they needed an own goal to secure the victory. Jack O' Dwyer, Alex Kennedy and David Walsh were the standout performers on the day for the team. They will now face Creagh College, Gorey in the 2nd round. Our TY team got to the Leinster Cup Final last year, so this year's cohort are determined to also go far in the competition.

Business: Our senior business students attended BioMarin, a global biotechnology, pharmaceutical company based in Dublin 2, on 20th November for World Quality Week. A past pupil of the school, Kevin Gough, brought the students through aspects of working in the bio pharmaceutical industry, including clinical trials, supplier qualification and manufacturing and distribution. Executives of BioMarin Commercial, Finance and Legal team provided presentations on "Careful Communication", "The Commercial Pharmaceutical Career Path" and "The Alternative Journey to becoming a Financial Accountant". The students thoroughly enjoyed an interesting and educational day.



Careers: A CAO information evening for 6th yrs and their parents was held in the school on Tuesday. It was very well attended and important information about the CAO process, college applications and RACE scheme (reasonable accommodations for certificate examinations) was shared on the night. Everyone in attendance felt much more informed afterwards so we thank Ms. Hunt and Mr. Todd for guiding everyone.

Hurling: Our senior hurling team defeated Scoil Aodháin (Whitehall) 5-17 to 4-12 on Tuesday in their opening group stage match of their Dublin "C" League campaign. It was high standard encounter with both teams hurling superbly throughout. Lucan were behind at half time (3-6 to 1-10) but an excellent 2nd half display saw them claim a hard-earned win against their spirited opponents. Killian Costello, Conor Dillon and Derry Ware got most of the team's scores while James Duffy excelled at full back with a commanding and authoritative display. Lucan were also indebted to their goalkeeper Alex O' Neill who made a string of excellent saves throughout. The team play St. MacDara's CC next week in their 2nd and final group match. The top two advance to the knockout stages of the competition.

Good luck to two of our senior hurlers, Killian Costello and Conor Dillon, who will be representing Dublin South Colleges in the Leinster Post-Primary Schools Groups Senior A Final on Sunday, when they take on Westmeath Schools. The final represents the culmination of the knockout series of games and winners will then compete in the Leinster Championship proper, where they will compete against the likes of 58 times winners St. Kieran's Kilkenny and other such hugely successful and traditional hurling schools and colleges.

Football: Our senior football team began their Dublin League "C" campaign in style on Thursday with an emphatic 6-12 to 0-8 win against Skerries CC. Conor Dillon (3-0), Adam Salmon (1-0), Killian Costello (1-4), Michael O' Brien (0-4), Derry Ware (1-1), Karl Quinn (0-1), Cian Devitt (0-1) and Darragh Garrigan (0-1) got the scores in an impressive win for the team. They face Coláiste Choilm, Swords in their 2nd and final group stage match in early December.

Basketball: Our u16 basketball team continued their good run of form with an impressive 61-38 semi-final victory over St. Aidan's CBS, Whitehall on Friday to qualify for the East Boys Shield A Final. Lewis Ajinakou scored an incredible 37 points to help his team secure a richly deserved win.

Lucan Library – December Events



Christmas Events at the Library

Make Treats for Santa with the Cool Food School Monday 2nd December. 3.30pm: 6-8 years.

Booking essential <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-cool-food-school-for-kids-aged-6-8-yrs-tickets-1087135083299?aff=oddtcreator>

5pm: 9-12 years. Booking essential <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-cool-food-school-for-kids-aged-9-12-yrs-tickets-1089849261479?aff=oddtcreator>

Christmas Wreath-Making Workshop for Adults with Wicklow Willow. Tuesday 3rd December, 10.30am - 12.30pm. Very limited spaces for this popular workshop. To book please phone or email the library, or come to the desk. If you book a space and cannot attend, please let us know.

Musical Tots: Saturday 14th December, 10.30am. Booking essential from Saturday 7th December at 10.30am: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/musical-tots-with-karen-at-lucan-library-tickets-950857298777>

Poet's Perch – Monthly Poetry Circle for Adults Tuesday 3rd December, 6.30pm. All levels welcome.

Lucan Library Classic Film Club: Tuesday 17th December, 5.30pm. Register at Library Desk.

Sensory Play Session for Pre-School Children with Rebecca McDermott, founder of This is Me and qualified Play Practitioner. Wednesday 4th December, 10am. Play session for pre-school children led by Rebecca. Please book a ticket for each pre-school child attending. Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. Booking <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/sensory-play-sessions-for-re-school-children-tickets-1084024599759>



Art & Creativity with Elena Buttner

For 6-8 years: Thursday 5th December, 3.30pm: Booking essential via Lucan Library Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/christmas-art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-6-8-years-tickets-1087113498739>

For 9-12 years: Thursday 12th December, 3.30pm. Booking essential via Lucan Library Eventbrite from Thursday 5th December at 3.30pm: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/christmas-art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-9-12-years-tickets-1073448847399>

Events for Younger Children:

Storytime - Tuesdays at 3pm. All welcome!

Parent and Baby Reflexology with Anne O'Connor: Wednesday 11th December at 10am. Booking essential from Wednesday 4th December at 10am: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/parent-and-baby-reflexology-tickets-1089899902949>



Lucan Community College

Well done to our senior Girls hockey team who played a great match in difficult weather conditions and beat St. Andrews 1-0. Both teams showed wonderful team spirit and sportsmanship throughout the match. Well done to Lucan CC girls.



Well done to the winners of our Science Week poster competition. Lucia, Emily, Ammarah, Sameerah and Nicole are pictured with their very creative posters when collecting their prizes. Congratulations and well done to all who entered!



Well done to our U19 Ladies soccer team who drew 3-3 with Mount Sackville in the league. Goals came from Reka Kiss Kalo, Ciara Hylands and Sophie Carberry.

Despite the cold weather Ms. Geraghty's TY Active class embraced the cold weather and enjoyed playing Ultimate Frisbee. A great way to start the day and blow away the cobwebs! Well done TY students, some terrific play out there



Our First Years at LCC had a great time in Coláiste Cois Life on Tuesday for an afternoon of fun activities as Gaeilge, thanks to Coláiste Cois Life for hosting us.



The Heart of Christmas

Our first Christmas in our home in Hillcrest was in 1973.



Fond memories of Fintan and I and our eldest daughter Marian looking forward to Christmas Day, especially with Marian's 1st birthday on St Stephen's Day. It also was the first occasion we would be cooking Christmas dinner in our own home. Our usual grocery shopping list included additional items such as turkey, ham, sprouts, breadcrumbs and herbs for the stuffing.

Our Crib and Christmas Tree took pride of place



in our sitting room, I should say that I had made a Christmas Pudding in November carefully following my Mother's recipe.

Thinking back, if we had decided to join either of our families in their homes for Christmas dinner, it would have entailed a walk with Marian in the *go-car* to the village for the 25 Bus to town.

Note: prams and go-cars were the terms in use in those days.

It is amazing to think that this year is our 51st year living in Lucan. Over the years we have seen so many changes, and no doubt we will see many more.

I remember walking to the village to shop on Friday 17 May 1974 and on my way hearing about the Monaghan & Talbot Street bombing. Other memories include joining in to sing

Carols on the Village Green, walking along Tandy's Lane and passing Airlie Stud



and Somerton on our way. Our first Polling Station was in the Boy's School in Lucan, we would all walk down together to Vote, answering the children's questions passed the time plus there was

always the opportunity to say Hello to Doyle's Donkey on the way past their house, remember there was no N4 motorway in those days. It was easier to placate the children with the addition of an ice-pop for the walk home.

Nowadays, Fintan & I are the only voters in Dublin Mid-West and our polling station now is in Scoil Áine, while our children and grandchildren are voters in other constituencies nationwide.

Christmas is a special occasion in all Murphy family homes, yet we make time to meet up prior to Christmas for family *fun*, this includes sharing memories, a competitive quiz, Kris Kindle swapping followed by some tasty treats to keep the hunger at bay, and concluding with the regulatory Carol singing. This year we have two new additions to our family, the big question is how will Sinéad and Julia cope when all the Murphys gather together and the room echoes to their voices. Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh.



P.S. As in all stories there can be a twist or turn, so returning to Christmas Day 1973, being responsible for cooking my first Christmas dinner, I followed the example of my late Mother including warming the plates..... I thought it better, in the interest of safety and a toddler in our midst, to put the dinner onto our plates before bringing them to the table! However, in my enthusiasm I forgot I had heated the plates, lifted a hot plate and immediately dropped it onto the floor..... Luckily we did enjoy sharing the plate of Christmas Dinner that remained.

Nollag 2024 - mgm



Esker Active Retirement Association

Meeting every Wednesday in St Andrews Parish Hall, Main Street Lucan, from 1.30 to 4 pm. We play bowls, scrabble and card games. But the most important part of the club is meeting up with friends old and new.

We're all looking forward to our Christmas festivities, music, dancing food and fun. Our in-house party is Wednesday 18th, always a good event.

Are you over 55 years old with some free time on your hands?

This could be the Volunteering opportunity for you! Are you passionate about reading and understand its value?

Want to help children reach their potential?

Is Finglas a commutable location for you? – WoW is

based in several primary schools located in Dublin 11.



Wizard of Words (WOW) is a school based intergenerational paired reading programme, focused on improving children's overall reading achievement. It aims to improve the children's reading ability, as well as their enjoyment of reading.

Would you like more information?

Please contact Lisa:

lisa.tobin@barnardos.ie or volunteers@barnardos.ie for an application form ASAP.

Interviews are being held in our Head Office in Christchurch Square ASAP and training is over the course of 3 days in November, dates to-be-confirmed – Volunteers must be available to attend both training & interview.

The Epic Origins of Hurling

From a translation of the original work **Sceal na hIomána** - the history of hurling before the GAA, which ran to about 820 pages of dense academic print in Irish.

There is much in the way of fascinating detail on the ancient game to be discovered within the book's covers, from early reference in the mythology of Cúchulainn through the ages to where it stands today.

Available exclusively online in hardback at Amazon. Information: visit www.epichurling.com



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PILGRIMAGE TO
LOURDES**

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Call us on 057 93 55050 or email us at infor@myriam.ie



This little lad was sent in from St. Mar's Camera Soiree



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Donate a Dress

Our Donate a Dress Fundraiser is back and will be hosted on the 31st of January in the club at 8pm. Please donate dresses, jackets, coats, tops & bags in good condition. This is a great way to declutter your wardrobe and promote sustainable shopping while also raising money for the club. Donations can be dropped off to the bar on Mondays and Tuesdays from 7:30pm to 9pm. Tickets for the event will go on sale on January 1st and will cost €5. Contact Tracey Walsh 087 973 5655 or Colette Condon 086 379 9270 for more information.



Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €12,200. The Numbers were **6, 10, 15, 22.**

The lucky dip prizes go to Hickey Family, Annette Healy, Edel Mooney, Claire O'Neill & Cian McHugh. This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €12,600. The draw is sponsored by Diamond & Gem Jewellers



Pool Leagues

There are a number of places available in our pool leagues which will restart this month. Please contact Ronan 086 142 3694 if you are interested.

Camogie

Both of our U21 camogie teams play in their championship semi-finals this Sunday the 1st of December. Our U21A's play St Jude's in Tymon Park at 10:30am while our U21B's face Ballyboden at 12:30. All support welcome!

Applications are invited for the position of Minor A Camogie Management for 2025.

Anyone interested in being considered, please email

secretary.lucansarsfields.dublin@camogie.ie.

Closing date is Sunday 1st December 2024.



Adult Football Coach Development

Lucan Sarsfields are planning to commence the above programme in the coming months. If you are interested in becoming a coach, please complete the form below and we will be in contact with you.

<https://www.surveyhero.com/c/xtpesbuu>

New Director of Adult Hurling

After 4 years in their roles, Paul Stapleton and Vince O'Connor, are stepping down as Directors of Adult Hurling. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to them for their dedication,



leadership, and invaluable contributions to hurling in Lucan Sarsfields over the last 4 years. Their hard work and vision have helped shape the path we are on today, and we are deeply appreciative of their commitment to our mission and goals.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Directors of Adult Hurling, Declan O'Leary and John Kennedy. Declan has been involved in the club for many years as mentor, serving on the Executive and as chairperson. He is currently chairperson of Dublin GAA Bord na nÓg. John has also mentored teams at juvenile level and was club secretary for 2 years.

Each brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to their roles, and we are confident they will continue to drive hurling forward with innovation, passion, and dedication. We look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead as we continue to grow and evolve with their leadership.

Senior Hurling Management

The club is pleased to confirm that this year's Senior Hurling Management will continue for next year. Headed by Charlie Carter as Manager, with Kieran Murphy (coach), Dermot English (coach) and Gerry Bellew as selectors.

Emer Keenan (goalkeeping coach), Mark Smith (logistics), Ciaran Donohoe (S&C), Oisín McCabe (physio) and Phillip Lanigan (performance analysis) all on board again.

We wish Charlie, his management team and the panel of players the very best for the year ahead.

St Stephen's Day - 'Puck it for Marsey'

Save the date! - On St Stephen's Day (Thursday 26th December) there will be a Long Puck competition in the Club in memory of our former great, Derek Maher ('Marsey'), who passed away earlier this year. The competition will include categories for adult players, U18 players, and retired/non player in both men's and women's. The pucking will start at 1pm with refreshments in the bar afterwards. We are asking all adult and minor Hurling and Camogie teams to support this very special event and aim to have two or three entries from every team. Entry is €10 for adults, €5 for under 18s. Entry details will be advised in coming weeks.

U21 Hurling

Our Under 21 hurlers travel to St Anne's Park next Saturday (30th) to face Raheny in the semi-final of the A Championship. Throw in at 2pm on Clontarf pitch no. 34. All support appreciated.

Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.

Bereavement Information Evening

This event will take place online on
Tuesday 3rd December at 7pm

This Bereavement Information Evening is open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age the child died, or the circumstances of their death. Our guest speaker for the evening will be **David Tricky**.

David is a leading Consultant Clinical Psychologist who has specialised in working with traumatised children, young people and their families since 2000. He continues to focus on direct clinical work, and the training and supervision of others working with traumatised children, young people and their families.

[Register for Anam Cara Online Bereavement Information Evening](#)

Online Workshop on Thursday, 5th December

For anyone in your organisation that is interfacing with family members who are bereaved in traumatic circumstances.

This workshop is relevant to:

Garda Siochana and PSNI Family Liaison Officers, Emergency First Responders, Funeral Directors, Hospital and Hospice Staff, Emergency Departments Medical staff, Social Workers, Chaplains/Clergy, Therapists/Counsellors
Anyone working in Community Organisations/NGO's in contact or supporting bereaved families

If you would like to join us for this online workshop, please get in touch with us on info@anamcara.ie or call 085 2888 888

As we have to limit the number of places, we would encourage you to register as soon as possible for this event. There will be certificate for 5 CPD hours issued to all participants.

A Christmas Blessing

During this Christmas season, may you be blessed with the spirit of the season which is peace;
the gladness of the season which is hope;
and the heart of the season which is love.



Lucan Harriers Athletics Club

Senior & Fit4Life Women & Men

Senior and Fit4Life Women and Men (18+)
If you're into walking, running, jumping or throwing, Lucan Harriers has something for you. We have a large group of abilities and fitness levels, where everyone is made to feel welcome.
Scan QR code for training times and contacts.



ADVERTISING RATES

- Line ads of **15 words or less** cost €2.00
- Line ads containing **more than 15 words** cost .20 cent for every word in the **entire ad**.
- **Block/Display adverts 6cm wide x 4cm high**, cost €10 for one insert.
- **No Business Ad.** will be carried for two consecutive weeks, with only ONE AD. per person or business
- **Lost & Found ads.** – No Charge
- **WEDNESDAY 10pm is the DEADLINE**

Ads should be **placed in an envelope** containing the **correct payment** and dropped to any of the following addresses before deadline:

St. Mary's Parish Centre, Church Grounds, Lucan
Or 3 Hillcrest Walk, Lucan.

Please do not ring doorbells when leaving in items for the Newsletter!

While Lucan Newsletter accepts items for publication in good faith, we cannot be held responsible for the reliability of our advertisers.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

Exhibition weekend has finally arrived. The Camera Soiree's 12th exhibition is open this weekend in the Parish Centre on Saturday evening from 6pm to 7.30pm and on Sunday from 10am to 1.30pm. The exhibition will also be available on our YouTube channel from 2pm on Sunday. You can access the channel at <https://youtu.be/69rL5K-tUnQ>. It is hard to believe that twelve years have passed since our Parish Secretary, Deirdre, set up the group and that it is still going strong. We even managed to keep going on line during COVID!

Now to this week's photographs which are really a celebration of the diversity of the wildlife found around Lucan. They have all been submitted by Conor.

We have a **buzzard**, often seen sitting on fences and telegraph posts or soaring high in the sky, a **jay**, another local resident and probably one of the most colourful and striking birds breeding in Ireland and a **kingfisher**, of which there are 87 different varieties in the world. Conor also got a lovely shot of a fox lazily sunning himself.



Given the diversity of bird life in Lucan you might like to know that BirdWatch Ireland is calling on people across the country to help monitor the health of the country's bird populations by counting the birds visiting their garden over the winter. The survey commenced on 25th November and will continue until February 2025. Full details of how to participate are on the Birdwatch Ireland website www.birdwatchireland.ie. Stay safe until next week and don't forget to visit our exhibition!

