



# LUCAN NEWSLETTER



Established 1967

[www.lucannewsletter.ie](http://www.lucannewsletter.ie)

Sub. 80c

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2021



## CATHOLIC

Covid-19 continues to stalk us almost two years on. Life has changed for us all. This wretched virus hangs over us like a dark gloomy cloud that threatens to take away all joy.

But in the midst of the gloom of the pandemic we prepare to celebrate the 'dawn from on high', the coming among us of the one who declares himself 'the light of the word', an invitation to pure joy.

On behalf of the St. Mary's Catholic Parish Community in Lucan I wish all people of good will in our community the joy and peace brought by the word who was made flesh, and dwelt among us.

**Fr. Philip Curran**  
Moderator – Lucan Parishes Grouping

## METHODIST

Greetings from the Methodist Church family. Once again, we celebrate Advent and Christmas in a global context which is dominated by multiple threats to life, such as Covid 19 and all its variant mutations, climate change, vaccine injustice among poor

nations of the world and conflict. It seems that, against such a background, the gifts of Advent, hope, love, joy, and peace may sound abstract and unrealistic. However, these are the very gifts that the world needs to hear, the assurance of "Immanuel", God who is with us through every step of the way. Merry Christmas and best wishes in the New Year.

**Rev Tawanda Sungai**  
Minister – Lucan Methodist Church

## PRESBYTERIAN

News doesn't have to be bad. Even though the media is full of doom, gloom and despair, we know that the Christmas season relentlessly testifies to the Good News which is great joy for all people (Luke 2:10). That includes you and me!

As the popular carol announces, "Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die". This really is the best news we could hear!

On behalf of the Presbyterian community in Lucan, I want to wish all our neighbours and friends a Christmas of good news of great joy in Jesus, our eternal Saviour.

**Rev. Richard Houston**  
Minister – Lucan Presbyterian Church

## CHURCH OF IRELAND

A great international event is taking place at the first Christmas. The Emperor Augustus has called for a census of the whole Roman world. Right across Europe and into Asia people are on the move. It's frenetic, unsettling and in some cases financially rewarding for the towns and cities where travellers will congregate. With these events taking place another story is unfolding. A young pregnant woman is travelling with her husband. They too will be counted but it is their story, which at first glance appears very ordinary, which will define the lives of millions as yet unborn. In the quietness, far away from the public gaze, the Son of God is born.

Let's allow ourselves time to turn from the great activity of our preparations and gaze upon the quietness of the stable. For us all life has greatly changed. There is much to perplex us in these days of Covid uncertainty but let us seek God with us, God for us and, if we choose to allow it, God in us. A Happy and Blessed Christmas to you all.

**Rev. Scott Peoples**  
Rector – St. Andrews Church of Ireland

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

[www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)

**NB** please note our phone numbers have moved to a new **0818 prefix**.



The old 0761 numbers will remain operational in tandem with 0818 until 31 December 2021. However, from 1 January 2022, only the 0818 numbers will connect you to the relevant service.

**COVID-19** has changed the service we offer to the public. Our drop-in service is not currently available, but we are taking phone calls, answering emails, and providing a call back service.

**Call us on 0818 07 5090**, leave a message with your name and number and an Information Officer will return your call within 2 working days, or you can email your query to us at [dscis@citinfo.ie](mailto:dscis@citinfo.ie) and someone will reply.

### Christmas Holiday Arrangements:

Lucan CIC will be closed for Christmas from 12.30 pm on Thursday 23/12/21 until Bank Holiday Monday 3/1/22. The office will reopen on Tuesday 4/1/22.



Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) 0818 07 4000

CIPS opening hours are as follows for the Christmas period:

Monday 20/12/21 to Thursday 23/12/21 open from 9 am to 8 pm

Friday 24/12/21 open from 9 am to 5 pm

**Closed from 27/12 21 to 29/12/21**

Thursday 30/12/21 and Friday 31/12/21 open from 9 am to 5 pm.

Closed on Bank Holiday Monday 3/1/22

Normal opening hours will resume on Tuesday 4/1/22 from 9 am to 8 pm.

**Happy 11th Birthday to Conor**  
and

**Happy 8th Birthday to Eoghan**

Lots of love from Nanny and  
Granddad Cummins



## Thank You

Many thanks to the Members of Lucan Red Cross for their surprise gift of goodies.



May you all have a safe and Happy Christmas!

*Ann O'Neill*

## LUCAN Festival

Another year with no Festival!

Even though the pandemic is still with us we have agreed to hold our Festival in early September next year. Here's hoping nothing stops us.

*We wish all Lucanians a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.*

**Just a short aside on another matter, I am not the Joe Byrne of the Planning Council.**

Again we look forward to next September.

*Joe Byrne*

*Chairman Lucan Festival*

### Lucan Goal Mile

**Christmas Day 10am – 12 noon**

**Lucan Harrier Athletic Club**

*Adamstown / Newcastle Road.*



Open to everyone, Young & Old!  
Please support those who may not get to celebrate Christmas this year.

**Info: [www.goal.ie](http://www.goal.ie) or 087-2132244**

**Timed Miles every 20 minutes.**  
*Covid-19 protocol observed.*

## Greetings from all at Lucan Newsletter

We wish all our readers at home and abroad a very happy Christmas, and a peaceful and very healthy 2022.



We thank all our readers, and those who contributed to the weekly edition, even though at times, there was little to report on. It's reassuring to know that all the local groups are still out there, itching to get back to whatever normal is!

Thank you to our **Sales Outlets** and **Advertisers** - we ask all to do your best to support local businesses!

Big thank you to our very reliable **Collation Team** who also distribute the publication each week. Sadly, we lost Don MacDonald in recent times. Thanks also to **Christy** and **Terry Gannon** who make sure we have our paper in time every week. Happy Christmas, Lads!

Thanks also to all who sent us Christmas Greetings, and passed on many nice compliments about our publication. Hope Santa brings you everything on your lists!

We look forward to hearing regularly from all our local clubs and organisations, in 2022, which hopefully will be a better year for all.

**The first issue of Lucan Newsletter for 2022 will be for Sunday 9th January.**

All items for inclusion should be at the usual addresses not later than 10pm, Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

**Lucan Newsletter Team**

### A Big Happy Christmas

to

**Tadhg, Cormac** and **Róisín**,  
all in Melbourne.

Santa should visit them  
in the early stages of his round.  
Have a great day!



## A Christmas gift from Wells for Zoe

As a thank to the people of Lucan who have supported us in any way since 2005, with a special mention to the staff of Lucan Newsletter and the Tidy Towns Group for lifting our spirits, we will plant 2000 indigenous trees (out of over 6 million) in our reforestation project.



(Nurseries are ready, holes are being dug and planting will begin after Christmas for the rainy season. Pictures and drone imaging will be on the website or maybe even on the newsletter as we go along)

*John and Mary*



**Looks like Santa** will be wearing his mask again this year! We hear he has a busy few days before Christmas Eve, as he is dropping in to many of the schools in the



Lucan area.

Hope he is good to all of you!

**Winter Solstice** this Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> when we have the shortest day of the year. The good news is that the days will be getting longer again after this!



**Birdie** enjoyed a trip to the **Wild Lights** at Dublin Zoo on Monday last. There were wonderful creations from outer space, and countries all around the world, but the greatest show of all was the Moon on that particular night! You can't beat nature!

# Parish Notes

## St Mary's, Lucan

[www.lucanparish.com](http://www.lucanparish.com)



## Christmas 2021

Given the current public health guidelines, the following restrictions will govern our Christmas celebrations at St Mary's

A maximum of **450** people will be admitted to all Masses – the doors of the church will be closed when this number has been reached.

**Entry will be on a first-come basis.**

### Christmas Mass Times:

#### Christmas Eve:

**6pm** (Vigil Mass especially for families with children),

**8pm (Vigil Mass) and 10pm**

#### Christmas Day:

**9am, 10.30am and 12 noon**



There will be **NO** evening Mass on Christmas Day

We propose to distribute **Holy Communion directly after the 12 noon Mass on Christmas Day** for those who are nervous about attending Mass because of the covid crisis or for those who may have been unsuccessful in attending because max attendance had been reached.

Children who are in 3<sup>rd</sup> Class and above are requested to wear face masks while attending, as are all others.

**St Stephen's Day: Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon. NO** evening Mass

Please note that Sunday Obligation remains suspended in these Covid times.

To assist with the regulation of numbers Stewards will be required at the start of all Masses.

**If you would be willing to help, please contact Deirdre in the Parish Office**

**01- 6217041 or by email at [secretary@lucanparish.com](mailto:secretary@lucanparish.com)**

### Confessions for Christmas:

We will not hold a Reconciliation Service this year. Confessions will be offered after all 10am weekday Masses until 24<sup>th</sup> December and also after the 6.30pm Saturday Evening Mass.

**Daily Masses from Monday 26<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> will be 11am**

**Full Christmas Arrangements** are available in the Church Porches together with envelopes for Christmas Dues.

### Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday to Saturday 10am

**Important:** We need to remember that Covid is still very much with us. We must continue to **wear face coverings in the church and use the hand sanitizer on the way in.**

For all Masses, please **enter the Church via the Main Door and exit via the other 2 doors.**

**Masses will continue to be live-streamed on [www.lucanparish.com](http://www.lucanparish.com)**

### St. Mary's Readers' Roster January 2022:

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil and Sunday masses for the month of January 2022 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.

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



**Deepest Sympathy** to the family and friends of **Dermot Donnellan**, Old Lucan Road.  
*May he rest in peace.*

## St. Andrew's Church of Ireland

### Calendar of Christmas Services:

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> December:

**5pm:** Carol Service at St Andrew's, Lucan

**7pm:** Carol Service at St Mary's, Leixlip  
**NO** morning services in either Church

#### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> December:

**6pm:** Zoom Family Service

**11.30pm:** Midnight Service in St Andrew's National School

#### Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> December:

**9am:** Service in the Parish Centre

**10am:** Service in St Andrew's

**11.30am:** Service in St Mary's

#### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> December:

**10am:** Service in St Andrew's

**11.30am:** Service in St Mary's



Services are available on our parish Facebook pages: **[St. Andrew's Church, Lucan](#) or [St Mary's Church, Leixlip](#)**



## St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

[www.stpatrickslucan.ie](http://www.stpatrickslucan.ie)



**Sunday Masses:** Vigil Saturday 7pm,  
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon.

**The 10.30am Family Mass** is aimed at younger parishioners and their families; it is an accessible liturgy for children and enables them to participate more fully in the Sunday Mass.

**Weekday Masses:** Monday to Friday at 10am.

All Masses continue to be livestreamed at [stpatrickslucan.ie](http://stpatrickslucan.ie)

We must continue to **wear face coverings in the church and use the hand sanitizer on the way in.**

### Christmas Arrangements

Given the current public health guidelines Christmas Masses will be by **ticket only** as it will be unsafe for our usual large congregations to assemble. Participation will be at half the normal capacity. We wish to remind our Parishioners that the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended during these Covid times.

**You can book tickets online** ([www.stpatrickslucan.ie](http://www.stpatrickslucan.ie)) **or call the Parish Office (01) 6281018**

Christmas Masses will also be available on our webcam, and we strongly encourage families to join us from their living rooms to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

### Christmas Masses:

#### Christmas Eve:

**5pm:** Away in a Manger – A Nativity Service. Families with young children are invited to join us for a Parish Crib Service. Our Service will tell the story of Jesus' birth and sing Christmas Carols, this is not a full Mass with Holy Communion and may be more suitable for some families. It is a reflection on and celebration of the story of the First Christmas.

**6.30pm:** Children's Mass

**9pm:** Vigil Mass

#### Christmas Day:

Masses: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon.

There will be **NO** Evening Mass on Christmas Day.

**The Parish Team wish all our Parishioners every blessing and happiness for Christmas and the New Year.**

## Divine Mercy, Lucan South

[www.lucansouthparish.net](http://www.lucansouthparish.net)

### Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 6:30pm,  
Sunday 10:15am and 12:15pm

### Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday 9:15am. Saturday 10am

**Important:** We need to be diligent in continuing with the **wearing of face coverings and hand sanitising upon entering the church.**

All Masses will be livestreamed on [www.lucansouthparish.net](http://www.lucansouthparish.net)

### Penitential Service and Confessions



**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> December**

Starting with Reflection at **7.30pm**

### Christmas Arrangements

#### Christmas Eve:

**5pm:** Family Mass (Broadcasted online)

**9pm:** Mass

**12am:** Midnight Mass

#### Christmas Day:

**10.15am** and **12.15pm**



**Don't forget to visit our beautiful crib and say a little prayer there. It is situated in the courtyard of the Church.**



## Acknowledgements

### BRADY (PETER)

The family of the late Peter Brady would like to thank our extended family, friends and neighbours, Peter's friends and colleagues in Fine Gael and everyone in the Lucan community who gave us so much support during Peter's short illness and passing. There was an outpouring of love for Peter in the community over the last few weeks and we loved hearing your stories of how much Peter helped you. We thank you for all the phone calls and messages.

We would like to particularly acknowledge An Garda Síochána for their invaluable assistance and friendship, the wider Lucan community and local business for the mark of respect shown to Peter as his Funeral cortege proceeded from his home in Dodsboro through Hillcrest and Lucan Village on to Esker Cemetery.

Thank you to Dr. Stuart Kenny, Dodsboro Medical Centre, the Public Health Nurses in Lucan Health Centre Sarsfield Park, the Doctors and Nurses of Mary Mercers Ward, St. James Hospital and Our Lady's Hospice Harold's Cross for the loving care Peter received.

Thank you to Fr. John and the Bereavement Team in St. Patrick's Church, Esker, for the beautiful Funeral Mass.

Thank you to Gerry, Danny, Damien and the staff of Kenny's for supporting us and for the lovely refreshments and food after the Funeral service.

**Peter's Months Mind will be on Sunday  
19<sup>th</sup> December at 12 noon Mass in St. Patrick's  
Church, Esker.**

*A Mass will be offered for your intentions. Thank you from Patty, Caroline, Peter, Declan, Denise and Garret*

### FARMER (MADGE)

A heartfelt thank you to all our relatives, neighbours and friends and everyone who knew our Mam for all the love and kindness that has been shown to our family. Mam lived in Lucan for over 60 years and loved Lucan Village and all the people she met over the years.

To Lucan Village Pharmacy, Fiona, Nessa and staff, The Medical Centre, Dr. Lombard, Dr. Denise Collins and all the staff. It meant a lot, the care and kindness that was always given to our Mam will never be forgotten.



Madge loved to drop into Lynch's which is now Centra and have a chat with Tommy and the staff. In Kenny's she was always given a warm welcome by John and Gerry and the best lamb chops were always served up to her in Collins Butchers by Niall, Margaret and staff.

Our Mam was given an amazing send off by the people of Lucan and Kenny's provided a beautiful amount of refreshments and food after Mam's Funeral Service. Cunningham's, Home Instead Agency and Lucan Lodge – there are no words to thank you.

*God Bless you all. Helen, Linda, Mick and David Farmer.*

## Birthday Remembrance

### MORRIS (JENNIE) - Mother 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday - 13<sup>th</sup> December Fourth away from home

You filled our days with rainbow lights  
Fairy tales and sweet dream nights  
Kisses to wipe away our tears  
Lots of hugs to comfort our fears  
Beautiful memories treasured forever  
Of all the happy birthdays we shared together.  
*Happy 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday Mother, love always your daughter Jane, son-in-law Dessie, sons Billy, Harry, Joseph and Jerry*

### MORRIS (JENNIE) - Nanny

Your special day still fills a space  
In the hearts of those who adore you  
The love, kindness and time shown  
To each grandchild  
Helps our fond memories to remain true.  
*Happy Heavenly Birthday Nanny, love always your grandchildren Karen, Lisa, Kevin, Breda, Andy and Rachel x*

### Granny Bus

Happy Birthday Granny Bus in the sky  
We know you're there to keep an eye  
To watch us as we make our way  
In this world as we grow, day by day  
We often think of you and smile  
And we stop sometimes to chat for a while  
To recall the stories that you told  
You were kind, warm and wise but never old.  
*Happy 99<sup>th</sup> Birthday Granny Bus from your great grandchildren, Laurajane, Nikki, Daniel, Kelsie and Craig xxxxx*



## Anniversaries

### GREENE (TERESA - TEASIE)

14<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 19<sup>th</sup> December

In Loving Memory of Teresa (Teasie)  
Also **Bill** died 6<sup>th</sup> November 2004, RIP.  
Late of Finnstown, Lucan.  
Gone from our home their smiling faces  
Their cheerful happy ways  
Their hearts that won so many friends  
In bygone happy days  
*Always remembered by their loving family*



### KEOGH (TESS)

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

Two years ago you slipped away  
Our goodbyes we never could say  
Your life with us we will always treasure  
The void left behind beyond measure  
You were missed then, we miss you still  
We cannot question what was God's will  
*Remembering you and our love always, Gus,  
Peter, Ray, Trudy and all the family*

### O'BRIEN (PATRICIA)

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 17<sup>th</sup> December

We never knew that day Ma  
The sorrow that day would bring  
A million times we needed you  
A million times we cried  
If our love could have saved you  
You never would have died  
In our hearts and minds forever  
Beautiful memories you left behind.  
*Love you forever, never forgotten, from your  
loving family*

### RYLE (MICHAEL - JOE)

24<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 29<sup>th</sup> December

Late of Airlie Heights, Lucan.  
Years have gone by Dad since you passed away  
And still missing you is something  
We do almost every day  
We ask God to always keep you happy and safe  
Surrounded by his wonderful love  
And thank God sincerely for giving you  
Such a restful peaceful home with him above.  
A special Christmas remembrance too for our  
dear Mother, your loving wife **Maureen Ryle**,  
RIP. Your baby grandson **Darragh Michael**, RIP.  
And your brothers **Fr. Kevin** and **Fr. Sean Ryle**.  
May they rest in peace.  
*You are deeply missed and loved Dad, by your  
loving family*



### SMITH (CHARLIE)

11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 21<sup>st</sup> December

Late of Hillcrest Grove.  
The flowers we place upon your grave  
May wither and decay  
But the love for you who sleeps beneath  
Will never fade away.  
*Loved and missed every day by your loving wife  
Pauline, daughters Lesley and Paula,  
grandchildren Dylan, Luke, Amelia and Abi*

### WHELAN (SANDRA nee CORRIGAN)

6<sup>th</sup> January

In loving memory of our dear Sandra.  
God called your name so softly  
That only you could hear  
And no-one heard the footsteps  
Of angels drawing near  
The golden gates stood open  
God saw you needed rest  
His garden must be beautiful  
He only takes the best.  
*Sadly missed and always remembered by your  
loving family*  
**Anniversary Mass will be held in St. Patrick's  
Church, Esker, Lucan on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup>  
January 2022 at 10am.**



As this text is being written,  
Lucan Men's Shed is closed  
for the Christmas and New  
Year break.  
The same welcome and  
hospitality will be on hand,  
for members and visitors alike, for times ahead.  
The Shed will reopen on Tuesday, 11th January,  
2022, from 10.00 a.m. until 1.00 p.m. and on each  
Tuesday following.  
Right now, rightly so, our energies and thoughts  
are on other matters.  
Last Tuesday afternoon, a Christmas lunch was  
held for members in Kenny's Lounge, Lucan  
Village. The occasion was enjoyed by 14  
attendees.  
Everyone wants to be safe. We can be safe by  
doing what we have been told to do over and over  
again. Perhaps we are really tired, but what we do  
must be repeated, again and again. That's how to  
keep safe. This is what is done in the Shed.



## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The Soirée has taken a break for Christmas and unless there is a further tightening of restrictions on account of the latest variant of COVID we plan to be back in the Coffee Dock of the Parish Centre, windows and doors open, masks on and socially distanced, on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 when we will be working flat out preparing the photographs for our “on-line” exhibition on the Parish Website at the end of January. Each member of the group will be able to submit three photographs for inclusion in the exhibition. This will be the group’s 9<sup>th</sup> annual exhibition. The establishment of the group was an initiative of Deirdre, our Parish Secretary back in 2012 that has proved extraordinarily successful. How time flies!



Last week at our meeting Donal displayed his expertise in Still Life photography and Frances presented some wonderful photographs of cut turf, a sight that is gradually disappearing around Ireland.

This week for the Newsletter Conor submitted more wild life photos, Paddy was around the Royal Canal at Carton and Kay showed off the autumnal splendour of the Botanical Gardens.



*All that remains for me is to wish you all a peaceful and safe Christmas and express the hope for a more normal 2022. Stay safe!*

## Christmas Folly

Tis the season to be jolly,  
You saved up hard,  
Now spend the lolly.  
Go to the shops,  
Buy the jolly.  
Go to the church,  
Kneel at the crib,  
It's decked with holly.  
Thank the Lord,  
For all your blessings,

And Little Molly.



All the streets,  
Are thronged by golly.  
We've not enough hands,  
We need a trolley,  
To hold on to what we've got.  
There's much much more to  
come

Got to get another trolley.  
O God above,  
Your Christmas time,  
Sure makes us jolly.  
We spend on bling,  
We dance and sing,  
Make the rafters ring,  
O forgive us all our follies.

*By Stephen Byrne*





## CHOOL NEWS



### Lucan Community College

**Amy Represents Ireland Again!** Well done to Amy Wade for representing Team Ireland in the ITF European Championships in Taekwondo in Spain recently. She narrowly lost to an older and more experienced girl but it was an amazing experience for her to represent Ireland (Amy was the youngest member on the team). Amy is the current national champion and she is looking forward to representing Ireland again in the coming months.

### Kenwood Young Baker Success!

Congratulations to our exceptionally talented 6th year student, Andreea Vasilo, who placed third in the senior category of the Kenwood Young Baker Competition. Her Vanilla Raspberry creation is definitely a showstopper. The prize for third place is a Kenwood Chefette and a Kenwood Goodie Kit. Well done Andreea! Thanks to teachers Ms. Walsh, Ms. Feeney and Ms. Hackett.



### St. Vincent de Paul Secret Bag Fundraiser:

This December marks 36 years of you, the Lucan Community College families, students and staff supporting the local St. Vincent de Paul Society. Fundraising for the local society has been hugely impacted by Covid-19 restrictions so it has never been more important to keep up the tradition of supporting St. Vincent de Paul here in the local community.

On Thursday 16th of December, we are having our annual Christmas 'Secret Bag' collection for the local St. Vincent de Paul society, St. Patrick's Lucan. Please give as generously as possible. Most importantly, if you are a family in need the services of St. Vincent de Paul are available to you. Please contact your local office. Thanks to teachers Ms. Mulhern and Ms. Walsh.

**Drop Everything And Read:** The much anticipated Reading Week has arrived! Each day students have some DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) time! Students are also taking part in bookmark and poster competitions throughout the

week. Watch out for the results! Thanks to all in the English department for reminding us that it is not about "having" the time to read but rather it is about "making" the time to read!

Thanks to student Ruby Crocker Dunne and teacher Ms. Hickey who have compiled a Recommended Reading List for us. This will surely provide much wanted inspiration for students to read during Reading Week and maybe even put one or two on their Christmas lists! You can find the list here.

Students can join the library and use a dropbox to borrow books here.

### Students Make an Art of Christmas

**Decorating!** Well done to our Third Year and Transition Year Art students who are getting the festive spirit going with their beautiful felt Christmas tree decorations. A big well done especially to Kirsten Rowan who has well and truly given us a master class in this beautiful art form! Thanks to teacher Ms. McKeever.

**Transition Year Leisure Pursuits:** A huge congratulations to Lucan CC's Transition Year Leisure Pursuits class on completing their self-defence course this term. The students were excellent throughout the programme, acquiring new skills and developing in self-confidence. With thanks to Liam, our self-defence expert for delivering the course to our students. It was enjoyed by all. Well done Transition Year students, you have been so great to work with. Thanks also to teacher Ms. Geraghty.

### Green Schools Committee Gets Early

**Christmas Present!** The Lucan CC Green Schools committee contacted Seed Bomb Ireland and received a generous gift in the form of seed bombs and two oakling trees that are two years mature. You will hear about the plans for these in the near future!



**International Human Rights Day:** Last Friday 10th December, Lucan CC students celebrated International Human Rights Day! The Amnesty Team organised some activities for the 1st Year CSPE classes. Big thanks to Ms. McCarthy and the Amnesty Team for organising these events.

## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Awards:** Well done to 5<sup>th</sup> yr Matthew Barnes who won the Mark O' Neill Student of the Month Award for November in recognition of his very pleasant manner, enthusiasm, diligence and co-operation in all of his classes. Matthew treats everyone with the utmost respect at all times and he is wonderful ambassador for the school.

Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> yr **Seán Connell** who won the Sports Star of the Month Award. Seán was voted the player of the tournament in the recent 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer fundraising event after a series of extremely impressive displays for his team.

Comhghairdeas freisin le Tasleem Ahmad ón séú bliain e a bhuaigh an gradam Gaeilgeoir na Míosa do mhí na Samhna mar gheall ar an sár-iarracht a dhéanann sé an Ghaeilge a labhairt ach go háirithe agus an sár-obair atá déanta aige sa rang Gaeilge. The three winners each received a 20euro voucher as well as a framed certificate to recognise their achievements.

Well done also to the class tutor student of the month winners who each received a 5euro vouchers for the school canteen.

**Food collection:** The Christmas food collection was a great success and there was enough food brought in for at least ten large hampers. The food was delivered to the Lucan/Leixlip Lions Club Ireland this week by Ms. Casey and they already have families lined up to receive the hampers in the coming days.

Ms. Casey would like to thank all those that contributed, especially the 1<sup>st</sup> yr students who responded so generously to the appeal while we would like to thank Ms. Casey for organising, promoting and co-ordinating the collection. Mar a deir an seanfhocal “*Ní neart go cur le chéile*”. (Unity is strength)

**Fundraising:** Calum Conway presented the proceeds from the 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer tournament to Kieran McBride, President of the local conference of St. Vincent De Paul, on Tuesday. In total 250euro was raised thanks to the efforts of Calum and the Transition Year students so well done to all involved.

A Christmas Jumper Day was held in the school on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December to raise funds for Pieta House. In total 1,225e was raised by the students and staff, which was a fantastic effort all round. A cheque for this amount will be presented to Pieta House at a later date.

**Jumper Day:** The Christmas Jumper event certainly raised everyone's spirits and there was a very festive atmosphere in the school throughout the day. Our 1<sup>st</sup> yr students had decorated their base classrooms for Christmas the previous week. The classes became quite competitive with each other and the spectacular laser lights, tinsel, Christmas trees,

baubles, garlands, frosty Santas and snowmen, reindeers and wreaths definitely lifted everyone's mood and further added to the festive atmosphere. As a reward for their compliance with the Covid related health and safety regulations, the principal Mr. Brady arranged for *The Rolling Donut* to visit the school throughout Christmas Jumper Day. Students and staff all got to savour their favourite tasty donut from chocolate and strawberry frosted donuts, to jelly or cream filled, pink iced to blueberry glazed, cinnamon sugar to traditional jam filled so there was a donut to suit all palates! They certainly went down a treat!

The day also saw Marie Melia catch up with her friends and colleagues in the socially distanced staff for tea and donuts. Marie is officially retired now having spent 27 years working in the school kitchen and shop and she was a beloved member of staff thanks to her kindness, generosity and helpfulness. A function will be held for Marie whenever it is safe to do so in the near future.

**Soccer:** The 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer trials ended recently with 60 1<sup>st</sup> yrs having attended over a period of 4 weeks. The final panel selection was extremely difficult as a result. There were so many talented players that a provisional panel of 32 was named and the panel have now had three intensive training sessions together in preparation for their Dublin League campaign in January.

**Exam news:** Our 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, TY and 5<sup>th</sup> yr students began their Christmas exams on Wednesday. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> yr students will attend Block Classes for the duration of the Christmas exams. They will attend a block of 2hr class sessions for each subject with short movement and fresh air breaks in between. School finishes up for all on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.



**Christmas wishes:** The staff and management of Coláiste Phádraig would like to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the staff and readers of the Lucan Newsletter. Nollaig Shona agus Athbliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.

## St. Joseph's College

**Christmas Spirit:** Ms. Finlay's 5th and 6th year religion classes have been very creative over the last few days creating personalised Christmas cards. The groups write a personal seasons greeting inside each card and these cards will be delivered to local nursing homes in the area just in time for Christmas. Well done to these groups on this lovely idea I am sure that they will be much appreciated by their recipients.

**Charity Work:** There have been a number of Charity Fundraisers held in the school for very worthy causes over the last few weeks. Ms. Keena has been selling boxes of Charity Christmas Cards, for a local animal charity that she volunteers with called Clondalkin Animal Aid, this charity takes in stray/injured/abandoned cats & dogs around the Clondalkin, Lucan and other neighbouring areas in order to rehome them. Due to Covid they have had very little opportunity to fundraise and all proceeds from these Christmas cards go straight back into the charity to cover vet's bills, kennel costs, animal food etc. Ms. Keena has collected over €250 currently from the staff and is extremely grateful for all the donations.

Ms. Kearney has been fundraising also with a lovely hamper up for grabs with the proceeds going to The Capuchin Day Centre which provides food and meals for the numerous homeless people in the Dublin City Centre Area. This raffle which was open to students and staff will take place on Friday. We thank the teachers for their effort in organising these fundraising events for two very worthy causes.

**Joeys Tidy Towns:** We are delighted to have our 2022 Calendars on sale! All proceeds will go to St. Vincent De Paul & are on sale from the school and Centra, Lucan for €10.00! Our Tidy Towns students have created these calendars from their photos while out on duty! Please support if possible. Contact the school to order a calendar on [stjosephslucan@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephslucan@gmail.com) or 01-6281160. Choice of two calendars available! Images of our two calendars can be found on our website under the news section.

**Wellbeing trip:** On Tuesday we had a Wellbeing trip for two groups of students in the school, these groups were 2A4 and 5A5. They enjoyed a great outing to Go Quest followed by a trip to Liffey Valley for a little bit of Christmas shopping. This trip was as a reward for their outstanding positive credits from Term One, well done to both groups involved and to Ms. Lynn all her work on the positive credits initiative. A big thank you to the teachers who accompanied them on the trip.

**Transition Year:** A Wonderful coffee aroma wafted its way along the corridor today, courtesy of Dublin Barista School. Dublin Barista School held coffee making workshop on Thursday in school, this



workshop was facilitated by Marco & Thomasz. These gentlemen busily demonstrated to students how to make their own coffee before it was the students turn to become Baristas. The Students were delighted with the educational experience which is also an excellent skill that they can add to their CV. There were many grateful Teachers awaiting samples of the student's work which gave them a pep in their step prior to their online 3rd year parent teacher meetings.



Donal Walsh, the Kerry teenager who touched so many lives when he came to prominence through his writings and subsequent appearance on RTE Brendan O'Connor's 'The Saturday Night Show'. Donal who fund raised tirelessly while battling Cancer has now had the Donal Walsh #Livelife Foundation set up by his family primarily in order to promote his anti-suicide #Livelife message. His parents Elma and Fionnbar visit schools and other venues to help promote his message. The foundation will also assist in his other causes of providing age appropriate teenage facilities in hospital and hospice care centres. On Friday morning our Transition Year students had an inspirational talk via zoom from Elma. They got the opportunity to have a questions and answers session with Elma at the end of the session. After being inspired by the talk students began to brainstorm ideas for a fundraiser that they will hold later in the year for the #Livelife Foundation.

Ms. Careys transition year class were busy this week making Christmas wreaths in their religion class. The group had a huge amount of fun while they were making the wreaths in class and they took them home to proudly display them on their front doors. All the images of the wreaths can be seen on the school website under the news section.

**School Website:** <https://stjosephslucan.com>  
**Follow us on Twitter:** @STJosephs3





## Festive Nagarmail

Warm greetings one and all, wherever you may be. As Christmas 2021 beckons, we reflect on the almost two years of life affected by the Covid pandemic and how it has jolted the lives of each and every person. For a time during 2020, the world was closed to daily life, nothing happened, we all shared the unwanted spoils of indefinite lockdowns.

Nepal has been no different in this respect. During 2020, we endured lockdowns, partial openings, 2nd and 3rd waves, a real rollercoaster ride of emotions and having to deal with the restrictions. The school year ended two months later than usual, school and college exams were affected, hundreds of thousands of students were denied any education at all due to lack of internet access in rural areas.

Nagarhope Basic School (NBS) started running classes in July of 2021, three months delayed due to the delays of 2020, and we are delighted to report that classes have kept going since then, sometimes on a half day basis, but mostly full days. At present, NBS has 130 children in attendance and 14 staff, 5 of them now paid by the local municipality. We have a new principal in Udhav Parajuli, a teacher with 25 years experience.

The local municipality provided us with a grant to build a new toilet block this year, separate urinals for boys and girls, complete with water tanks and septic tank. Also, Red Cross provided our school with clean drinking water and hand washing facilities during a project that supplied clean uninterrupted drinking water to each and every household in the surrounding areas, 150 houses in total. Thanks to the workers for both of these projects for giving their all.

We also constructed 2 new classrooms early 2021 to cater for the growing number of classes and students. These 2 large classrooms cater for our Pre-Primary level and have eased the pressure on Nagarhope to finally fulfil a dream to construct an earthquake-proof concrete structure to take us into the future. Plans are afoot, a full design has been drawn up, land has been measured. Over the next 18 months to 2 years, we will require a lot of extra funding to initially start this venture. We are in talks with the local municipality regarding funding and they have told us that they may provide 40 % of the total cost of the project.

Since October / November 2020, the local municipality has been providing 15 Rupees per day per child for a midday meal at our school. This has only applied when the school is open full time and running classes all day. It has been stop start but is fully up and running now again this year. It makes such a massive difference that our students are getting hot and healthy meals, many students leave at 8am and do not get home until 6pm due to the distance to the school itself.



In July / August 2021, our staff, myself, Dhurba and our driver on the day received both shots of the Corona vaccine at the local health post. A small gesture it may seem, but an important first step in keeping our staff safe in order to continue running classes should any cluster of cases appear in our area. Thank God that our area has seen very few cases since the pandemic began and no staff or students have been affected to date.

Our 12th annual picnic took place on March 8th 2021, International Women's day at Surya Binayak, Ghyampe Dhanda with 70 older women. A great day for all and enjoyed by all who attended. It was comforting to bring them on a day trip after the restrictions of the previous year and the scaled down picnic the year before.

Our Nepali committee took a 3 day trip to Pokhara, the lake city in July of this year. It was a great team building exercise and happened after a hiatus of 4/5 years.

Nagarhope Nepal's work has been impeded over the last 2 years due to the pandemic. Our scholarship of school and college students in Government schools in the Nagarkot area has been affected due to school closures. We hope to catch up on these delays over the coming months and have been in touch with the schools and colleges in question with regard to providing uniforms, books and bags. To be honest, with Nagarhope Basic School growing in size and stature over the years, the vast majority of resources and spending have been directed to its upkeep and running. This was always going to happen as we grew but is a testament to the success of our flagship project.

Sponsoring a child in another school takes so little work, as in we sign a contract and pay the school, everything else is up to the student, family and school in question. Whereas with our own school, every single individual child is our responsibility, ours to mould and shape for the future, each problem becomes our problem, every step taken, we take it with them.

On Friday 24th December, we are having a small Christmas party in Nagarhope Basic School. As ever, Dhurba will don the Santa Claus costume and we hope to give each of our 130 students a small gift. Anyone who would like to donate a small amount for this cause please contact myself or Niamh to do so: [docclandillon23@gmail.com](mailto:docclandillon23@gmail.com) or [niamhclandillon@hotmail.com](mailto:niamhclandillon@hotmail.com) or 0870666891

A very merry, safe and happy Christmas and New Year to one and all, at home, abroad, wherever you all may be. Let's hope the new normal will treat us all well and fairly as the present bids farewell to the past and embraces the future.

*Dum Spiro Spero, Mise le Meas  
Fachtna 'Doc' Clandillon*

## Palmerstown Camera Club

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas as Palmerstown Camera Club hosted its annual Mince Pie night on Wed just gone. It was a quiz hosted by Susan Carney one of our members and all-around it was a great evening and just a bit of fun.

We have an exciting line-up of speakers for the New Year online at present.

And we have our judging evening on the 5th of Jan for our Weather competition. Then on the 12th of Jan, we have a talk by Mark from Shutter Ireland an awarding winning wildlife photographer.



A few weeks back Old School Bikers & Bikers of Eire brought Santa through many towns along a route including Celbridge, Newcastle, Rathcoole, Maynooth, Leixlip and Lucan. Bringing smiles to many kids faces and also boosting the spirits of the residents in

Marymount Nursing Home & Stewarts. One of our photographers Lorraine Kelly was on hand to catch an image of the Man himself.

***Wishing all a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful & Healthy 2022 from all at Palmerstown Camera Club.***

People interested in joining the club or even attending one or two meetings free of charge to see how their photography could benefit from being a member can do so by contacting [secpcc@gmail.com](mailto:secpcc@gmail.com)

## St. Mary's Bridge Club

The President and Committee of St. Mary's Bridge Club would like to wish all our members a very happy and healthy Christmas and New Year.

We hope things will be back to normal soon.



## CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES IN LUCAN IN TIMES GONE BY

*Elaine Hurley, Sol Committee*

If you have free time over the Christmas break, you might enjoy reading about some of the seasonal festivities from years gone by in Lucan. The Dúchas Schools' Collection contains social history and folklore documented in the 1930s.

[Lucan \(B.\) | The Schools' Collection | dúchas.ie \(duchas.ie\)](http://lucan(B.)|TheSchools'Collection|dúchas.ie(duchas.ie))

This link includes festive examples, like this description of the preparations before Christmas day by 13-year-old Joseph Mahony of Grange, who wrote it in 1938.

*"Christmas comes every year on the twenty fifth of December. The shops in Dublin are very busy selling toys to the children and Christmas boxes to the people such as sweet cakes, boxes of Player's cigarettes and other presents. The real work for the boys is getting holly and ivy to prepare the house for Christmas. There are many sweet things made such as plum puddings and sweet cakes. The children enjoy stirring the pudding. People buy the makings it, such as flour breadcrumbs, milk, currants, candy peel and sugar. These are all mixed in a dish and wetted with milk, and whoever is in the house can stir the pudding and he will get what he wishes for. While I was stirring it, I was wishing to taste it, but I would not be let, because there is stout in it. It was put into a bowl and covered with grease-proof paper and put it into a big pot, to boil for seven hours. When it was boiled my Granny put it before the fire to dry and when it was dry, I got a slice of it, but I did not get any more of it till Christmas day. 2021 [National Folklore Collection, UCD](http://NationalFolkloreCollection.UCD)*

## LAST CALL FOR PRINTS OF LUCAN ORDERS

Paul Butler's beautiful photographic prints of Lucan make a great Christmas present, so get your orders in now! All prints are 12 x 8 and mounted (11 x 14) and are ready to be framed in standard frames. Free local delivery.

There are 4 prints available, costing €15 each. Sunset at the Weir.

Under the Bridge at the Weir.

St. Finian's

Gate Lodge (Lucan House)

We also have SOL keyrings are €3 each or 2 for €5, with St. Finian's, and the SOL logo on the back.

**Free local delivery.** All profits go to SOL to help with our running costs and to help run free events. Please contact us at [OldLucan@gmail.com](mailto:OldLucan@gmail.com) ASAP.

## Lucan Planning Council

A reminder of our Public Meeting this **Saturday December 18<sup>th</sup>** re our efforts to restore the former 25 and 239 bus service. The meeting will be on the green beside the Spar Shop, Dodsboro, commencing at 11.30am. We look forward to a good turnout, including local politicians. Those attending are advised to wear masks as protection against Covid.

Concerns have been expressed about the location of the new bus stop at A.I.B. in the village. Our suggestion is to move the stop back a short distance which should improve traffic flow at this point.

We had a good response to our plan for Lucan Village traffic and hope to have further discussions with other interested parties in the coming weeks.

Finally, we wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

*Joe Byrne, Lucan Planning Council.*

## Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

78 The Orchard, Lucan

01 401 3416 [Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

**Beannachtaí na Nollag:** 2021 has been yet another challenging year for us all. I would like to say thank you to every member of our community who made sacrifices for the common good and a special thanks to those working on the frontline to keep us safe this year.

**Huge thank you** to the Lucan Newsletter staff for keeping this brilliant publication going throughout the pandemic.

**Wishing all my neighbours in Lucan a very safe and healthy Christmas and a brighter 2022.**

**Useful Contacts:** Lucan Garda Station: 016667300, South Dublin County Council After Hours: 01 457 4907, Electricity Emergency (eg. power lines down): 1800 372 999, Report a Phone Outage (Eir): 1800 773 729, Gas Networks Ireland 1800 20 50 50, Irish Water 1800 278 278

## Gino Kenny TD - People Before Profit

Phone: 085-7211574. Email: [ginokenny@oir.ie](mailto:ginokenny@oir.ie)

**Happy Christmas:** I would like to take this opportunity to wish everybody Happy Christmas and a peaceful new year from People Before Profit Dublin Mid-West. It's a year that has been dominated by the public health emergency of Covid-19. The vaccine rollout has been hugely successful in regards to the uptake. There is very uncertain times ahead so hopefully we can get through this together. Keep safe and take care of one another.

## Esker Active Retirement Association

*Hi everyone*

On Wednesday we had our Christmas party and it was fantastic - thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. The food was gorgeous and drinks were plentiful, and as for the deserts; cakes, buns, mince pies, Treasa's chocolate brownies and especially Joan Murphy and Mary Callopy's pavlovas, out of this world. Thanks so much for baking them ladies. Mai Quaid, our Regional Development Officer, drove all the way from Co Wicklow to attend our party and we really appreciated her taking the time to come and celebrate with us today. Our Committee, Helen, Sean, Treasa, Hilda, Rita and I, actually gel together very well. We love organising our parties and outings; we are very fond of all our members and try our best to keep everyone happy and to feel part of a big family. A lot of us are on our own so meeting up with our friends in the club is something we all look forward to each week.

It was lovely to stand back and look at all the tables, all decked out in Christmas tablecloths and wine glasses and then see the smiling faces of our members, hear the laughter and the conversations at each table, so good to be in a position to have a party again as we couldn't have any last year. Thanks to our wonderful Committee and to all of our Members, you make this club special, without all your great personalities, our club wouldn't be the same!

I think everyone in the room won a spot prize today, it was great fun. Our music was provided by Tom Gaffney who has looked after this for us for many years now and he always does a great job.

We have collected money over the last couple of weeks and we have donated it to St Vincent de Paul and to the homeless so we hope we can make Christmas special for those less fortunate than us at the moment.

***Our club is now closed until mid-January 2022***



**Have a Happy and a Holy Christmas everyone and keep safe. Till next time,**

*Marian Egan (Club Secretary)*  
086 1269 043





**Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin**



involved in various Dublin camogie roles from juvenile to adult. We like to wish Niall and his management team every success.

**Camogie:** A mixed weekend for Camogie. Minor A lost out albeit after extra time, while Minor B progress to a Final next weekend, Minor C also lost out. U20 Camogie thru to a Christmas week final.

**Christmas Draw:** Tickets are slow to be returned for the weekend's Christmas Draw. We would ask everyone to return tickets as soon as possible. To facilitate this we will be opening the clubhouse from 7:30pm 'til 9pm each even this week.



**The LDCU Academy** has taken a break for Christmas but will resume in the New Year.

**12<sup>th</sup> Lock Café** is open from 6pm-8pm weekdays and Saturday 9am-2pm when training is taking place.



**The Club Shop** is open Thursdays 7-9pm and Saturdays 10am to 1pm.



**LATÓ NA SÁIRSÉALAIGH LEAMHCÁIN  
Lucan Sarsfields Club Lotto**

*Ní raibh aon buaiteoir phota óir de €3,000 sa chrannchur a tharla ar an Déardaoin, Last week's €3,000 club lotto draw had no winner. The numbers were 3, 7, 10 and 26.*

The five lucky dip winners were, *Buaiteoirí tobair an áidh a fhaigheann €30 an duine ná: Olive Benson, Claire Joyce, Michael Tracy, Aileen Ennis, and Michelle Collins.*

Next week's draw will be for a prize of €3,400 and is sponsored by REA McDonald.

*Beidh sé beo ón Na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin, an leathanach Facebook. Déan cinnte go bhfuil d'iontráil curtha isteach agaibh roimh 6 i.n. oíche an chrannchuir, chun í a chur san áireamh sa chrannchur na seachtaine sin.*

The draw will be held on Thursday 16th

December, at 8pm, and live streamed from Lucan Sarsfields Clubhouse, on our Facebook page. Make sure your entry is submitted before 6pm on the evening of the draw to be included in that week's draw.



*Is féidir libh ticéadaí a cheannacht ar líne leis an nasc seo:*

Tickets can be purchased online at the following link: <http://bit.ly/LucanSarsfieldsClubLotto>,

**New Director of Football:** David Herlihy has agreed to take up the role of Director of Football. David is a lifelong club member having played underage in both codes. He has 20 years playing adult football for the club including 12 seasons with Senior football team. David is also an All-Ireland medal winner with Dublin Junior team 2008.

**Backpack Appeal:** Collections from last weeks backpack appeal continue, donations can be dropped to the club raft from 6-8pm any evening this week.

**Ladies Football:** The Ladies football committee are delighted to announce the appointment of Niall Daly to the position of Intermediate LF manager. Niall has coached club juvenile teams in both camogie and boys football in Lucan and been

*Go raibh míle maith agaibh as ucht tacú le Na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin.*

**Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.**



## *A tribute to Pete*

I knew a man his name was Pete  
The gentlest soul that you could meet  
His clothes were shabby and often torn  
His boots were old and very worn  
His diet was bread and tea most days  
His work was hard with little pay

Not giving much thought to pencil and pen  
He went to work when he was ten  
Some local farmers took him on  
The work was hard and the days were long  
Milking cows and saving turf  
Were some of the jobs to earn a crust

When he as older and more mature  
He got a job that was more secure  
A basic wage paid out each week  
Was just the job to help poor Pete  
A change of clothes and new boots to wear  
And a secondhand bike to take him there

In frost and rain he cycled far  
To break up rocks and mix with tar  
And then to fill the potholes up  
With a couple of shovels of this black stuff

Returning to his shack at night  
A meal to cook and the lamp to light  
A primus stove and a frying pan  
Not much to cook on for a working man

He died one night while in his bed  
All alone in this cold damp shed  
I wasn't there, I was far away  
Working hard to earn my pay

But he had older and wiser friends  
Who stuck with him to the very end  
And they were there and they laid him to rest  
For Pete to them was the very best

Had things been different and rolls reversed  
Pete would be there, his sorrow to express  
For he saw the best in everyone  
And never judged if they did him wrong

Farewell my friend I miss the craic  
And the many times I stopped to chat  
The shack stands empty and all alone  
The shack you loved and called your home.

R.D.



**Faces from Christmas past! Esker Friends of the Elderly at their Christmas Party in the early 1980s**