



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 22nd February 2026



Lent comes to us each year as a gift—quiet, searching, and deeply hopeful. It is not meant to be a gloomy season of self-criticism, but a grace-filled opportunity to look honestly at our lives in the light of faith. The Church, in her wisdom, gives us these forty days so that we can pause, step back from the noise, and ask ourselves a simple but profound question: Am I becoming the person God created me to be?

We all carry habits, patterns, and attitudes that slowly shape who we are. Some of them build us up; others quietly diminish us. Lent invites us to examine these patterns with courage. That examination is not about shame. It is about freedom. When we notice a habit that does not do us any good—resentment we cling to, impatience we excuse, distractions that consume us – because let's face it we all have distractions, but Lent gives us a focus, a chance to let it go. To discard what weighs us down is not a loss; it is a liberation. It makes room for something better.

This is why prayer, fasting, and giving more to charity remain at the heart of Lent. Prayer helps us see clearly. Fasting teaches us discipline and detachment. Charitable outreach stretches our hearts outward. Together, they create space for grace. They remind us that we are not slaves to our impulses, our comforts, or even our weaknesses. With God's help, we can choose differently.

Lent is also a time to practice doing something good and different for a change. Sometimes we become stuck in routine. Trying something new—a daily act of gratitude, a deliberate word of encouragement, time set aside for someone who is lonely—awakens us. It keeps our hearts supple. When we step outside our usual patterns and consciously choose goodness, we grow.

There is a beautiful simplicity to this: if we remove what harms us and replace it with what nourishes us, we will grow. Growth in love does not happen by accident. It happens by intention. Each small sacrifice made with love, each act of patience, each moment of honest self-reflection shapes us more deeply into the likeness of Christ.

And that is the goal. Lent is not just about spiritual achievement. It is about relationship. It prepares us for Easter by drawing us closer to the Lord who gave everything for us. As we examine our lives, discard what does not lead to life, and practice new habits of goodness, which helps us grow in virtue, we find ourselves loving more generously and forgiving more readily.

By the end of Lent, if we have taken it seriously, we should be a little different—not perfect, but freer; not flawless, but softer of heart. Closer to God. More attentive to one another. Lent reminds us that change is always possible, grace is always available, and growth in love is always worth the effort.

Fr. Bill O'Shaughnessy

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

Getting a Prescription from your Pharmacist

Did you know you can now get a prescription directly from your pharmacist?

This means you may not need a GP appointment.

If you have one of 8 common conditions, your pharmacist can help. These include cold sores, shingles and urinary tract infection (UTI).

To get a prescription for these conditions, you can visit a participating pharmacy for a consultation and a prescription. All patients, including medical card holders, must pay a fee for this consultation.

You may need to see a doctor instead if:

You belong to certain age groups (especially young children)

Your symptoms keep coming back.

Find out more about getting a prescription from your pharmacist on our website.

Cross-Border Healthcare Directive

If you are entitled to health services that are publicly funded and available in Ireland, you can choose to get those services in another EU or EEA country under the Cross-Border Healthcare Directive.

The rules for the Cross-Border Healthcare Directive include:

The treatment abroad can be in public or private healthcare.

Some types of treatment need to be authorised in advance.

You pay for the healthcare and then apply for a refund.

You need the same kind of referral for healthcare abroad as you would for healthcare in Ireland, for example, from a GP (family doctor) or hospital consultant.

Travel costs and living expenses abroad are not covered

More information available on our website.

Treatment Abroad Scheme

You may be able to use the Treatment Abroad Scheme to get the treatment in the EU, EEA or Switzerland if you are a public healthcare patient and if the:

Treatment is not available in Ireland or

Treatment is not available within the usual time needed to get it, taking account of your medical circumstances

Other rules apply for the Treatment Abroad Scheme, including:

The treatment abroad must be in public healthcare.

Treatment must be pre-authorised.

You do not have to pay the healthcare provider abroad for pre-authorised treatment.

You must be referred for treatment abroad by an Irish-based consultant who is treating you as a public patient. You cannot refer yourself or be referred by a GP.

The Treatment Abroad Scheme may include travel costs for the patient and a travelling companion where appropriate

You can read more about the Treatment Abroad Scheme on our website.

Bodywhys EATING Disorder Awareness Week

runs from Monday 23rd February to Sunday 1st March 2026. #EDAW2026 will be a place to share and to listen to stories about experiences with eating disorders. Throughout the week, we will explore the idea of community: how connection can support recovery, the potential risks and benefits of different community spaces, and how we can collectively create environments where individuals and families affected by eating disorders feel seen, supported, and understood.

Helpline Service - 01 - 2107906,
email Support Service info@bodywhys.ie

Lucan Active Retirement Association

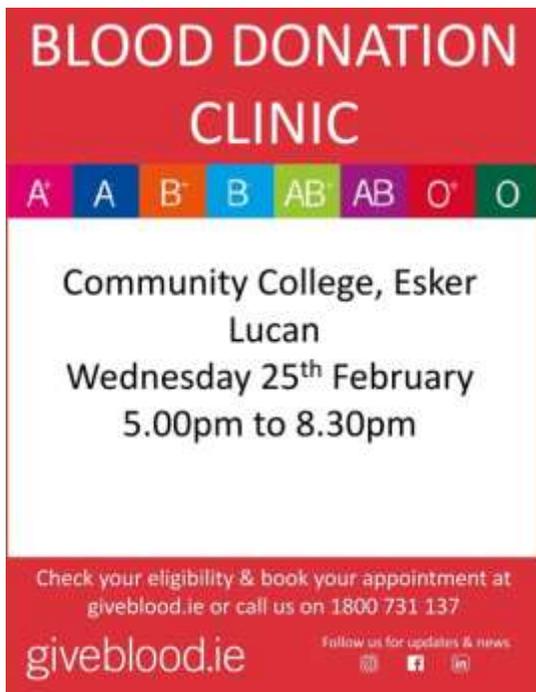
Some members went to see the film "Hamnet" last Friday in the Vue cinema and had a very enjoyable evening. Some members thought the film was a bit sad, but all agreed that the acting was outstanding.

The next outing is to the Johnny Cash Show in the Bord Gais.

We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, every Thursdays at 11.30am.

New Members always welcome. Why not come and join us; we would love to see you there. Lots of activities to enjoy - Bowls, Scrabble, Cards, and the chat.

Most importantly we have Coffee & Cake at 1pm.



BLOOD DONATION CLINIC

A A B B AB AB O O

Community College, Esker
Lucan
Wednesday 25th February
5.00pm to 8.30pm

Check your eligibility & book your appointment at giveblood.ie or call us on 1800 731 137.

giveblood.ie Follow us for updates & news.

Carers & Toddlers Group

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

All Welcome!



COMMUNITY CONNECT DRIVE & DROP

DONATE TO HELP FAMILIES IN
NEED!

SUNDAY MARCH 8th

10PM-13PM - Church Car Park

Help us to gather much-needed essential items for pregnant mothers and families with new babies around the country – just pick up a few extra items in your weekly shop!

Welcoming a new baby is a very special time in any family's life, but can be a challenging time for those who are struggling financially. Every donation you make will go directly to a family in need.

ITEMS THAT CAN BE ACCEPTED

(NEW ITEMS ONLY):

Nappies – size 1 to 2, baby wipes, Nappy Sacks.

Baby Wash/Shampoo, Nappy Cream, Baby Sponges, Baby Cotton Wool.

Packs of sleepsuits and vests (newborn to 3 months).

Packs of baby hooded towels, Baby cellular blankets, Packs of baby bibs, Baby bottles.

Hospital bag items - maternity nightdresses, slippers/fluffy socks, toilet bags, sanitary towels, breast pads, nipple cream, shampoo, conditioners, body wash, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant.

Unopened Gift Items for Mothers: hand cream, lip balm, body lotion, cosmetic gift sets (no candles or glass items please)

Financial donations also accepted on the day.

For more information see:

www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/



Lucan I.C.A.

Monday 23rd February:

Members continue doing their embroidery, crochet and knitting. They have knitted 100 premature baby hats and 50

premature baby cardigans for the Rotunda Maternity Hospital which was very much appreciated.

Tea Hostesses: Sally and Anne Beales.

Get Well Wishes to all who are unwell at the moment.



Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 25th February: Social Morning and Lunch in the Spa Hotel, from 10.30 to 2 o'clock.

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Sunday Mass Times:

Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

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

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Saturday 10am,

Tuesday to Friday: 7.30pm

NO Evening Mass on Monday 23rd February due to First Confessions occurring.

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Adoration:

Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am unless there's a funeral.

Confessions:

After 10am Mass on Thursdays and Saturdays (providing there is not a funeral. After Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Christian Meditation:

meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow. *All welcome, Sr Geraldine*

Baptisms in St Mary's:

Procedure for baptisms in the parish. Parents who register their children for baptism are invited and must attend a preparatory meeting in the month before the ceremony. The ceremony of baptism will take place in two parts. The children will be welcomed at a short ceremony during 10.30am Mass, the Family Mass, on the Sunday prior to their actual baptism date. Dates bookable on line.

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:

Members of the Bethany Group are available to meet by appointment 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, or a bereavement of any kind.

To make an appointment please contact the Parish Office by phone 01 621 7041 or email secretary@lucanparish.com

Divine Mercy Devotion:

Wednesdays, in the church after the 10am Mass and until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Chaplet to the Divine Mercy is prayed to atone for our sins and the sins of the whole world. With the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar we pray God to defeat evil in the world and bring peace in these troubled times.

Legion of Mary:

Meeting every Thursday **6.30pm (time change)** in the Parish Bungalow for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

Visits to the housebound: I

f you are house-bound you can call Deirdre at the parish office (01 621 7041) we will be happy to call on a monthly basis.

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.



Deepest Sympathy to the wife, family and friends of **Joe Kinsella**, Beech Park.

May he rest in peace.

St. Vincent de Paul

Church collection at all Masses

THIS

Saturday/ Sunday 21st / 22nd February

Many thanks for your generosity.

**During Lent Weekday Evening Mass will be in St Mary's Church at 7.30pm.
Covering both St Mary's and St Patrick's.**

NO Evening Mass on Monday 23rd February due to First Confessions occurring.

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times:

Vigil: 6pm.

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

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

Masses livestreamed www.lucansouthparish.net

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.

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.

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje:

7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions.

7.30pm: Holy Mass.

After Mass: Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction. **8.15pm** Adoration and Confessions
8.50pm Benediction.

Legion of Mary:

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

Home Visits Holy Communion:

If anyone who Communion at home from Fr. Aidan or a Minister of Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office 01-4572900.

Divine Mercy Food Bank:

Donations of **non-perishable food items** can be left in the green containers inside the doors of the church. The Food Bank Team want to express sincere gratitude to parishioners for your ongoing generous support.

Wednesday tea/coffee morning:

There's a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake after 9.15am Mass in the St. John Paul II Room.



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 10am.

Masses livestreamed at www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Adoration:

Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am unless there's a funeral.

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

Baptisms in St Patrick's:

Procedure for baptisms in the parish. Parents who register their children for baptism are invited and must attend a preparatory meeting in the month before the ceremony. The ceremony of baptism will take place in two parts. The children will be welcomed at a short ceremony during 10.30am Mass, the Family Mass, on the Sunday prior to their actual baptism date. Dates bookable on line.

Tea/Coffee:

Coffee Morning every Wednesday after the 10am Mass. Do drop in. *All welcome.*

St Vincent De Paul - St Patrick's Conference

Church Gate collection before and after all Masses **THIS Sunday 22nd February**
Thank you for your generosity.

Anniversaries

Martin Boland

29th Anniversary, 25th February

Remembered always by Martin, Elizabeth, Micheal and family.

Martin's Anniversary Mass will be on Sunday 22nd February at 10:30am

Freda Byrne

50th Anniversary, 17th February

Masses offered

Another year goes by without you

Another day to reminisce

Of all the time we shared together

And we think of all the special

Times you've missed

Loved always by your husband Dick, your family Elaine, Richard and Emily

Freda Byrne

50th Anniversary, 17th February

You're far away from me, like stars

But still you're so close to my heart

Loved always by your sister Tessie

Patrick (Paddy) Byrne

10th Anniversary, 25th February

Gone is the face, we loved so much

Silent the voice, we loved to hear

So nice to remember Paddy, who once was here

Though absent now, is just as dear

Loved and missed by Maeve and sons Damien,

Austin and Denis, daughters-in-law and grandchildren

12 noon Mass in St Patrick's.

William Delany (Junior)

3rd Anniversary

Late of Airlie Heights

In loving memory

Your memory is our keepsake

With which we will never part

God has you in His keeping

We have you in our hearts

Loved and missed always your wife

Mary, daughters and son, grandchildren and great grandchildren xxx



Gerard Carey

3rd Anniversary, 19th February

3rd year away from home of a much loved son, brother, dad, uncle and grand uncle.

Late of Beaver Street and Beech Park

Forever Young

If memories keep us closer, Ger

Then we are never far apart

You are always on our minds

And forever in our hearts

May the winds of Heaven blow softly

And whisper in your ear

How much we love and miss you

And wish that you were still here

In laughter and in sorrow, in sunshine and in rain

I know you are watching over us

Until we meet again

Today, tomorrow, our whole lives through

We will always love and remember you

Forever in our hearts

Loved and missed every single day, miss you so much son

From your heart-broken Mam, brothers, sisters, nephews, nieces, grand nephews and nieces.

xxxxxxx



Brendan Curtis

29th Anniversary, 19th February

For twenty-nine years, the world has spun,

Through winter, snow, summer & sun,

But in our hearts, we miss you still,

With a space, only a Dad could fill.

Your name is spoken (Brendan) with love,

To the bright stars and the heavens above.

We miss your laughter, we miss your face,

We miss your presence and your warm embrace.

A generation 's passed,

since we said our goodbyes,

Yet we see you shine in your

grand children's eyes.

Through every joy and every tear,

We wish so deeply you were here.

Though decades apart, the bond stays true,

In everything we say and do!

Love always your wife Trish, and loving family

Len, Al, Carol, Grace and Nev xx



James (Jimmy) Kane

3rd Anniversary, 23rd February

We hold you close within our hearts

And there you shall remain

To walk with us throughout our lives

Until we meet again

Loved too much to be forgotten by Josephine,

Susan, Aideen, Eóin, Sarah, Jack, Max, Ryan

and Lucy and son-in-law Phillip



John Lally

26th Anniversary, 20th February

Late of A.G.P. Lucan.

Dad always remembered and never forgotten,
Forever in our hearts.

(In memory of my dear dad John)

There is no one else on earth,

So special as you were to me.

I hold you forever, my precious dad,

In my heart and memory.

You made me laugh every single day,
you were really the best,

Even though you are not here,

The time we had was blessed,

I wish I had just one more chance

To see your tender smile,

To laugh with you again my dad,

Just for a little while.

So, this is not goodbye and this is not goodnight,

Because you are still here by my side,

Holding onto me tight.

*Remembered and loved so much from your
daughter Joyce, son in-law Mark, 3 grandsons,
Jonathan, Ciaran, Matthew, great grandson
Ollie.*

Those who think of John today,

A little prayer to Jesus say.

**Mass offered, for John, his mum Molly, sister-
in-law Anna Fitzpatrick in Fore Church,
Westmeath, at 6 o'clock Mass.**



John Lally

26th Anniversary, 20th February

Though your smile is gone forever

And your hands, I cannot touch,

I still have so many memories
of a dad I love so much.

Although I cannot see you,

Your love has kept me strong

Stay beside me always and help me carry on.

Never forgotten from your loving daughter,

Debbie son in law Peter and Grandchildren

Niamh, Karla and Aine xxx



William (Willie) Thompson

9th Anniversary, 20th February

Sad was the parting, no one can tell

So sudden on earth, the sorrow fell

The blow was hard, the shock severe

To part with one I loved so dear.

Dearer still as years depart

His memory lives within my heart

*Greatly missed and loved dearly by
your loving wife Betty.*



William (Willie) Thompson

9th Anniversary, 20th February

What we would give if we could say

Hello Dad in the same old way

To hear your voice, see your smile

To sit with you and chat a while....

sit with you and chat a while....

Loved and missed always by Paul,

Sharon and Katie.

William (Willie) Thompson

9th Anniversary, 20th February

Silent memories keep us near

As time unfolds another year

Out of our lives you may be gone

But in hearts, your memory lives on.

Missed every day by David (Billy), Laura,

Alicia and Ella

People's Art & Craft Fair

March 2026

Open call for artists and crafters to
participate in this year's

"People's Art & Craft Fair",

Sat 28th and Sun 29th March

The venue is

Canon Despard Centre,

Chapel Hill, Lucan.

The fee for the 2 days for

artists is €60 per stand,

and €60 per 6ft table

or €40 per 4ft table for crafters.



Please contact us at

peoplesartlucan@gmail.com

for a booking form as soon as possible as

places will fill up quickly and we have

limited space.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**During Lent, let us find concrete
ways to overcome our indifference.**

Pope Francis

Lucan Lions Club

Supporting Koins for Kids

Lucan Lions Club is currently raising funds for Koins for Kids, a 100% voluntary Irish charity supporting children with serious illnesses and medical conditions.



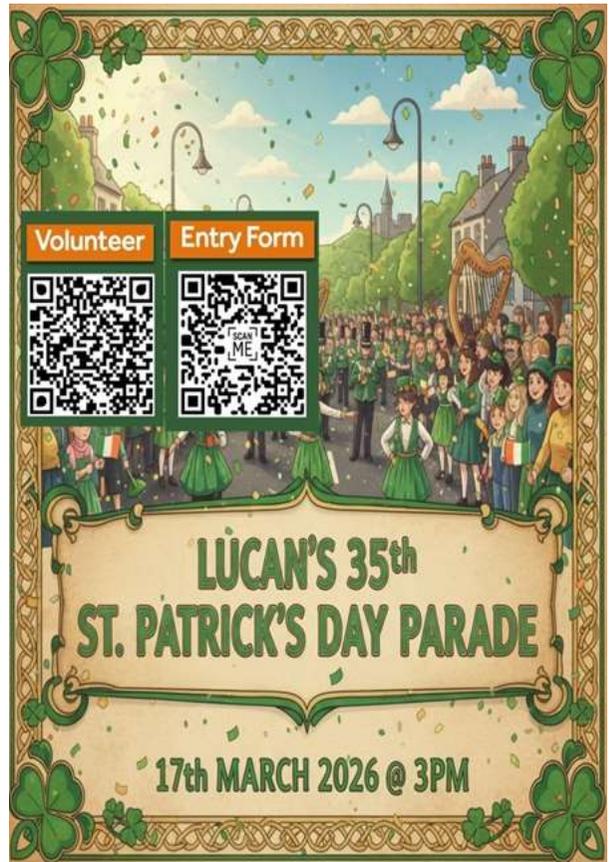
Koins for Kids works to provide vital medical equipment, including funding towards a Paediatric MRI Scanner for the new Children's Hospital in Dublin. This specialised equipment will help doctors diagnose and monitor conditions that cannot be detected using other imaging methods.

A unique part of Koins for Kids' fundraising is their acceptance of all currencies, including foreign and non-euro coins and notes, which are repatriated to help fund this life-changing equipment.

If you wish to donate, have spare change or unused foreign currency, please consider donating at the Lucan Lions Club collection box in SuperValu Lucan.

As a 100% voluntary charity, 100% of donations go directly to helping children. Learn more at www.koinsforkids.ie

Mattie McCabe PRO



Lucan Toastmasters

Taster Meeting

Is 2026 the year you'll 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.

If you've ever wondered what happens at a Toastmasters Meeting, this is your chance to find out. We're running a Taster-Meeting for members of the public to come along and see what we are all about at Lucan Toastmasters!

Saturday 28th February, 2pm-3.30pm

Lucan Library

Unit 33, Lucan Shopping Centre

Newcastle Rd. K78 V295

Come along on the day or contact vpmlucantoastmasters@gmail.com to register your interest.

You can also follow Lucan Toastmasters on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#)





Still waiting for Spring to spring!!!

It's lovely to see some of the daffodils bursting into bloom, and hopefully we'll see lots of colour over the next few weeks.

Mid-term for the scholars this week. While secondary schools have the full week off, the primary boys and girls seem to have only Thursday and Friday off, which is fine given the awful weather.....

Library Knitters! We had some great feedback for our Library Knitters page in last week's issue. Fair play to them all!



We have a couple of photos which we didn't fit in last week – this little horsey above is on the way to being somebody's favourite toy, and is being created by Aideen Lowry, who is a member of the group, and below, some of the ladies in action...

Rezoning rearing its head in Lucan once again!

Please do your best to study what is proposed – it seems we didn't pay enough attention to the Village Green proposals!!!

See details on page 10 of this issue.....

The Boys in Green came up trumps last weekend, when they beat Italy, who have become a force to be reckoned with.

Fingers crossed, they can do the same against England at Twickenham!

A Blue Weekend – Dublin Footballers came good, against Monaghan on Saturday last. Let's hope they can make it two in a row – against Kerry in Croke Park this Saturday night.

The Dublin Hurlers will face Wexford, also in Croke Park this Saturday.

The Lady Footballers take on Kildare on Sunday! Good luck to all!

Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade – We gather that there will be a parade despite all that's going on in the Village construction-wise. With less than a month to go, everybody needs to get the skates on.....



There's bikes, and 'bikes'....

We came across the above photo in our archives recently – **Freda Byrne**, from Dodsboro, was a familiar sight, with her trusty mode of transport, when she was snapped in July 2007.

Nearly twenty years ago, it's a far cry from the electric models, and scooters of today!

Don't forget! St. Mary's Camera Soiree Exhibition in Lucan Library!

Them floods..... This photo of the Weir Promenade was taken on Friday 13th February, leaving Birdie gobsmacked!



This area has been badly flooded over the years, with the waters coming up and into the back gardens of The Mall. One can only wonder at the damage that might have been caused to the ongoing works on this occasion, and will this mean that these same works will take longer to complete?

LUCAN FESTIVAL

In 2009 a hastily organized Lucan Festival took place over a weekend.

Since that time, it has gradually expanded into a week-long event and this year will take place from 1st to the 6th September.

The Committee are busy organizing events which will include Drama, Historical and Culture and of course children's entertainment.

Many thanks to our supporters particularly the financial ones for their continued support over the last 17 years.

Further details as we progress the year.

Joe Byrne
Chairman



Would you look at this! All the giving out we do about the village works, and now they are providing us with umbrellas for all this rain!!!





Faces of Lucan - Just recently, someone remarked how nice it was to see faces from days gone by, in Lucan Newsletter. We got this collage together as a result.

Many have passed to their eternal reward, namely John McDonald, Dinny Malone, Martin Corry, Ewan O'Flynn, Gerry Butler, Sr. John Bosco, Laddie Birnie, Fr. Denis Carroll, Joe Byrne, and Eileen Floody. Still with us are Rev. Trevor Morrow, Fr. Joe Coyne, Anne Beales, Noreen Kealy, Hannah Kelly, Sr. Irene, and May Clifford.

Tuesday 24th from 5.30:

Lucan Library Classic Film Club

All welcome



ADULT EVENTS

No booking is required for the below events - all are welcome to attend!



Every Monday 10am - 12noon -
Lucan Library Knitters Club, new members welcome.

Thursday 26th from 10am – 12noon: Lucan Library Creative Writers Group



Saturday 21st at 12noon: NEW “What’s the Story” Writing Club! Email Aine at Creativelucan@gmail.com to book your place or look up Creative Social on Eventbrite.ie

Saturday 28th at 12 noon- 4pm: Toastmasters session. Please book your place on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com) from Saturday 21st.

BOOK CLUBS

Enquire at the desk about joining one of our book clubs - new member’s welcome!

Monday Lunchtime Book Club:
Monday, 23rd February at 12noon.

Wednesday Book Club:
Wednesday 25th February, 7pm

New Book Club:
Read and Eat Cook Book Club Thursday 19th of February at 10.30am
Please book events on Lucan Library/ Eventbrite



OLDER CHILDREN EVENTS

Saturday 21st February at 2pm:
Create a Fantasy Dragon Egg for Ireland Reads! For 6-10 year olds, booking on [Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com)

Exhibitions:
Poet’s Perch Exhibition of Poetry



St Mary’s Camera Soirée – Photo exhibition



My Open Library is a new service that offers extended library opening hours by allowing access to registered My Open Library members outside of staffed hours.

How does it work?

- You must go through an induction with staff before you can register for MOL.
- Once registered, you can scan your library card at the door to enter the library during My Open Library Hours and not allow access to others.
- My Open Library will let you enter the library between 8am and 10pm every day - even bank holidays!

Ask staff at the desk about registering for My Open Library extended hours access!

There is no charge to become a library member, and borrowing items is also free with no fines for overdue items.

So why not join South Dublin Libraries today and get access to free events, books, e-resources and much more.



Can February march? No, but April may!



Days Gone By

It's hard to explain how things were done,
When our generation was carefree and young.
No data, no WhatsApp, no shopping online,
Everything planned and done in its time.
No T.V, no pictures with cinema scope
The radio for some brought a glimmer of hope.
No mobile phones, nor a phone in the house,
The message passed on by word of mouth.
The paper was weekly, and read end to end.
And when it was finished, passed on to a friend.
There was no competition of what we would
wear,
And nobody noticed should our clothes have a
tear.
Our main meal was basic, mostly bacon and
cabbage,
And in the season of hunting, we all had rabbit.
You may think it was dull with no fun at all,
But believe me, I tell you we all had a ball.
We played in the fields; we ran through the
heather.
Enjoying the sun we all had together.
There were chores to be done, no doubt about
that.
We accepted the jobs and gave no back chat.
Communities then, worked all together,
Helping each other in all kinds of weather.
And now I can see how blessed we were then,
For the skills that we learned, made us strong
women and men.
Our children now benefit from our hard work
and toil,
And they too will remember their youth with a
smile.

R.D.

Support Group for Mental Wellbeing

If you or someone you know is struggling with: stress, tension, anxiety, fear or sleeplessness, you are not alone! Recovery Self-help Ireland can help.

We offer group support to anyone who wants help to reduce suffering and improve their mental health. The members demonstrate a method by which they deal with the trivialities of everyday life without feeling overwhelmed by them.

Why not come along to our next meeting and try the method out. You can bring a friend. The meeting is confidential. Only first names taken.

Every Friday at 8pm in The Parish Centre, Lucan, beside the R.C. Church.

Phone 01 6260775 or find us at www.recoveryireland.ie

COLÁISTE PHÁDRAIG
PARENTS ASSOCIATION

TABLE
QUIZ

PLEASE HELP US FUNDRAISE FOR
SCHOOL LAPTOPS

TICKETS €40 per team of four
Available on the Door

DONATE via the QR Code!

WED, 25TH FEBRUARY @ 9PM
KENNYS PUB, LUCAN

Amazing Raffle Prizes!

Conversational Irish

in **St Mary's Parish Centre**

10.30-11.30a.m.

every Wednesday.

All are welcome





Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €6,600. The Numbers were

13, 14, 17 & 27.

Lucky dip's go to

- Kevin Meehan
- Luke Walsh
- Anna McGillicuddy
- Shane Biggs
- Patrick Stapleton.



This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €7,000. This draw is sponsored by McDonald Property and will be led by Josephine Donohue.

Please scan attached QR Code to see details and register to play.



Membership

2026 membership renewal is open at Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club!

Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st, so let's get everyone set up for another great year.

Please see previous notes on ClubZap for procedures on how you can renew.

25 Card Drive

Date: Fridays until 8th May 2026.

Time: 8.00pm Sharp

Prize: 1st €50 (if 12 or more players),

Entry: €5 per player.

Venue: Lucan Sarsfields Clubhouse (Bar)

Everyone is welcome- from beginner to those who played years ago and would like to resume playing.

You don't have to be a Club member to play.

Contact Bill Ryan 086-8500376 or Mary Flannery 087-7469143 for further information.

Vetting/Safe Guarding

Please keep an eye out on our socials for any Garda Vetting Clinics or Safe Guarding courses coming up!!!

Easter Camps

Our Easter Camps will run from 7th to 10th April 2026, 10am–2pm each day.

Please keep an eye on our social media channels and ClubZap notifications this week for full details on how to sign up.

Club Pitches

The grass pitches remain closed, including the surrounding areas. We kindly ask everyone to stay off these pitches to help protect the surfaces and ensure they are ready for play once conditions allow.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support on this matter.

Academy

Our academy is back and is open to all boys and girls aged between 4-7. The academy runs every Saturday – no need to sign up in advance, just turn up and give it a try.

Age group times are as follows;

- 2021/2022 - 9am, 2020 – 10am
- 2019 – 11am.



Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.



Cllr. Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD

Email: hfarrell@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Tel: 087-2794936. Facebook: <http://bit.ly/4jHwrjR>

Lucan Rezoning Threat: Act Now! SDCC has opened its Public Consultation on major residential rezonings proposed for Lucan & County. This is the only opportunity for the public to respond to plans that would add significant new residential land across areas, including St. Edmundsbury, Adamstown West, Aderrig, Finnstown Castle lands, etc. Building homes is urgently needed, but Lucan's infrastructure and services are at capacity before additional rezoning of land for housing. Our green spaces need strong protection.

To make this easier, I've created a webpage that outlines:

- What's being proposed for Lucan.
- How you can respond.
- A template submission that you can personalise.



The consultation closes on 13 March 2026; your early action is essential. I'm available to meet with local groups and Residents' Associations to discuss impacts and support you in preparing submissions.

Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd

Email: Emer.Higgins@oireachtas.ie

Planning Proposals from SDCC: The Minister for Housing has asked every Council to zone more land to help meet national housing targets of 300,000 new homes by 2030. South Dublin County Council has been tasked with identifying land for 8,000 new homes, alongside longer-term landbanks. Following a review of 46 expressions of interest across 39 sites, up to 23 locations have been recommended for potential rezoning, subject to viability, infrastructure and environmental considerations. Proposed zoning changes are being considered across parts of the Lucan area, including St Edmundsbury, Finnstown Castle, Tubber Lane North, Stonewall Backweston and Foxhunter. The Councils proposals are open for public consultation until Friday 13 March 2026.

A Public Information Session takes place in Lucan Library, Wednesday 4 March, 2pm–8pm. View maps and make submissions before 13 March 2026 at: <https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/>

Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell

“Not just at election time” Dáil office: 01 6184078.

WhatsApp: 0892364871.

Website: www.paulgogarty.com

Lucan Rezoning Threats: There are multiple threats to Lucan in terms of new rezonings proposed by SDCC on foot of a Government request. These make no sense in the absence of guarantees on facilities and infrastructure, and some, like St Edmundsbury, are an abomination. Some Councillors and ‘Local Area Reps’ are being very vague about their voting intentions on

several key sites in Adamstown and elsewhere. The groundswell is massively against this, so they should get off the fence and show early leadership. People need to make submissions before March 13th. Pressurising Councillors comes later. Helen has created an excellent information page on her website. If you can't scan the QR code in her notes, search 'rezoning 26' on my website and the article will link to her page.

Cllr. Caroline Brady - Fine Gael – P.C.

(085)2551602 CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie

Proposed Zoning Changes: Public consultation on the proposed variation to the County Development Plan is now available and public **submissions** to be made by **13th March 2026**. A public information session will take place in **Lucan Library on Wednesday, 4th March, 14:00–20:00**. Information available from Consult.SDublinCoCo.ie or contact me for hard copies. Your submitted observations are important to ensure your voice is heard and represented in The Chief Executives Report and Recommendations presented to councillors who vote on the proposal in mid-May. I am available to meet residents to discuss this proposal.

The **Local Community Safety Partnership** will meet this **Friday 20th February**. The job of this group is to create and implement local safety plans. Please continue to contact me with issues you want raised.

AGP Flooding: Drain debris cleared and the area added to the regular Jetter Programme.

Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Féin Rep

Mobile: 087-2136345. Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Email: do布拉达ighsf@gmail.com

Land Rezoning – Public Consultation Now Open:

So, what's happening? Government have set new annual housing growth targets up to 2040 and all planning authorities now have a 'mandatory' requirement to revise zoning for housing within their County Development Plans.

South Dublin County Council have identified 22 potential sites for residential rezoning.

7 of these are in the Lucan catchment:

- 1) Adamstown SDZ West.
- 2) Finnstown Castle
- 3) Tubber Lane North.
- 4) St Edmundsbury
- 5) Stonewall.
- 6) Foxhunter.
- 7) Adamstown South & West (Outer).

How do I find out more details? You can view the proposal, documents, maps and reports by visiting the council's public consultation portal.

You can also make a submission (free of charge) here too - up until 13th March;

<https://consult.sdublincoco.ie/en/consultation/proposed-variation-no-2-south-dublin-county-development-plan-2022-2028>

2 x Public Information Sessions:

Lucan Library - Wed 4 Mar - 2pm – 8pm

County Hall, D.24 - 25th Mar - 2pm - 8pm

Political Notes continued over.....

Political Notes Continued.....

Shane Moynihan - TD – Fianna Fáil

Email: shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie

Phone: 01-6184128. Find me on Facebook, Instagram, X and TikTok.

Postal Services: I have been in touch with the CEO of An Post about the deterioration in postal services that has been reported to me in recent years. I have been informed that additional resources have been in place to get the service back to where it needs to be. If your postal service has not improved, please get in touch with me. I will maintain contact with An Post on this matter.

County Development Plan: South Dublin County Council has published its proposed variations to the County Development Plan.

These are currently open for public consultation which runs until 13 March. Please take a look and make a submission on the proposals. They can be viewed at consult.sdublincoco.ie.

Clinic: My next advice clinic in Lucan will take place on Monday 23 February at 1pm.

Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent – PC. Tel: 0872795274.

lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie www.lotoole.com

Additional Zoning in Lucan Have Your Say Before 13 March:

There is still time to make submissions on Proposed Variation No. 2 to the South Dublin County Development Plan but the deadline is fast approaching. As of Wednesday evening, only 38 submissions have been received, most from Lucan residents.

Proposals include additional residential zoning at Tubber Lane North (500), Adamstown SDZ West (1,000), Finnstown Castle (1,000), St. Edmundsbury (1,398), Liffey Valley (1,500), Stonewall (Modular homes)(132), Foxhunter (37) and long-term lands at Adamstown South & West with potential for 5,000–8,000 units.

If residents have concerns or comments they must submit them through the official consultation process before Friday 13 March. After that it will be too late to influence this stage.

Thank you to those who have already engaged with me. I am happy to assist anyone who needs guidance.

Cllr. Joanna Tuffey, Labour Party Representative. Phone 087 392 0931

Email jtuffey@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

All social media links at linktr.ee/joannatuffey

Rezoning Proposals for Lucan: Due to demands from various stakeholders and ultimately Government, Councils were told to come up with proposed variations of their County Development Plans for housing. This is happening in between the normal County Development Plan process. I don't agree with this approach - I think we have enough land zoned in South Dublin for building on. But the Chief Executive and Planners have, in accordance with what they are being required

.....to do under the National guidance, made proposals to rezone various sites. Under these proposals Lucan very much bears the brunt but what is particularly worrying is that the lands zoned High Amenity at St. Edmundsbury are being proposed for rezoning. I urge residents to inform themselves of the proposals and make submissions as they see fit. As regards St. Edmundsbury, I would encourage very focused submissions that concentrate on the impact on the environment of the proposed change.

Metro Dart Should Use Standard Rail Gauge

Rail gauge is the width between the two rails that a train runs on. If a different rail gauge is used on any section of the track, the train can't continue and a change must take place. This happened in many places throughout the world in the early stages of rail. This became a major costly problem for rail use. Fortunately, common sense prevailed and standard rail gauge is used everywhere to suit each country's needs to avoid unnecessary changing as this adds to time especially for work.



Dublin has a great rail network, but it just needs to be linked up to make it fully effective. This requires just one rail line overground from Blanchardstown to Donabate via Airport and Swords. Now all rail lines link each other like roads. All areas of Ireland including Lucan with rail will have direct access to Dublin Airport and direct for work around Dublin, if this new line is allowed to use standard rail gauge. If the wrong rail gauge is used it will undermine the whole rail network in Dublin. It will leave three (3) rail lines fully operational with trains almost empty and won't utilise two more double rail tracks that are presently idle. By using different rail gauge leads to users having to change unnecessary. If going from Lucan to Airport or for work in that area, it will require an extra change at Glasnevin, if from the countryside at least two changes. Each change can add up to 15 minutes extra in travel time on average. It makes no planning sense in not linking up the short distance of less than two miles on open lands from Swords to Belfast line at Donabate. Now users in that big catchment area must go into centre to go back out the Airport or for work in that area. Using the wrong rail gauge further undermines rail extension to where it is needed. Most politicians and people are aware of the problems of using a different rail gauge. Have a look at this to ensure another major mistake is not made.

Advice from outsiders has let us down in the past. Next week why using the same rail gauge can reduce the cost of building a rail link to the Airport to zero.

Tom Newton 086 312 7364 @acratu.com

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The Soirée's photography exhibition continues in Lucan Library until 9th March so there is plenty of time to drop in and have a look if you have not already done so.

The terrible weather has had an impact of the efforts of the group to take photos but Don, Joe and Josie have come up trumps. Don sent in a photo of the viaduct at Fenit pier in Kerry. An act of parliament in 1880 led to the commencement of work on the pier which continued for three years. The piles for the viaduct were driven in 1883. The viaduct was originally of wooden construction while the pier was made of concrete. The viaduct and harbour were upgraded in the 1950s.



Joe sent in a photo of a spectacular mural he found in Leixlip.



Josie sent in photos of the flooded sand dunes on Dollymount Strand taken last Sunday and of the statue of Our Lady Star of the Sea which is located at the end of the Bull Wall and which is over 21 meters in height. The statue, which unusually faces towards land, was sculpted by Wicklow artist Cecil King and

erected in 1972. The idea for such a statue was first suggested in 1950 with the intention that it be erected in time for the 1954 Marian Year but raising the necessary funds took a bit longer!

Finally, to cheer us up Josie sent us a photograph of some daffodils, the symbol of hope and new beginnings.

Stay safe until next week!

