



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 9th February 2025

Would You Like to Live on Reality TV!

I can honestly say that I don't watch Love Island and never have! When I see the adverts for it and similar, my eyes go from being crossed, to watering, to wanting to close! The brief glimpse at the washer-board and six pack abdomens on pale Irish\British bodies sprayed with what looks like a Ronseal fence paint in varying shades. The lips (regardless of gender) look like they got stuck to an industrial plunger for a week and would provide bad service to a hot mug of coffee.

As I chill in my cosy armchair it leaves me perfectly (well almost!) happy with, well – something that certainly doesn't look like a six pack – just one floppy pack! I'm just not bought with the idea of a non-delicious green slimy spirulina for breakfast or protein powder as a mid-morning treat! I walk every day, as it's my mental detox and relaxation space, but let me pass on the lifting of dead weights (being a carer took the shine off lifting unnecessary weights) or skipping for 1000 times, unless it is for a challenge that has a purpose beyond honing the body that is made to respect gravity as the years pass.

There is a transfer of above ideas permeating life as the projected images of perfection pop up when opening any social media platform. They ping at night just before sleep assails and as snooze time ends – the platforms are aware of our pattern of day by the apps that we touch on even once. They then turn up like unwanted visitors on the door step who having met once on the DART would assume to have a place in one's home and life. Pointing them towards the garden gate would be the wise move with such visits from unwanted pings! However, I have some clothes in my wardrobe, that looked good on the honed mannequins, but... I have them as a result of not showing such visitors to the garden gate! The images on the pop-up's are photoshopped!

Reality is the very last word that should be used to describe Realty TV. Reality is sharing an evening with friends who don't care what one wears, does, looks like and with whom a good belly laugh (with wobbles) may be had. Reality is accepting that no one is really looking at anyone else – that look is saved for the mirror! Reality is dealing with the stuff that love requires, which is not romantic for the most part, but requires an attitude that lifts up whatever needs lifting up today! Reality is about doing what is needed to have a healthy body and mind to take on the pleasures, challenges, opportunities, responsibilities of life.... Reality is about looking out, not in, connecting with one another and the beautiful world!

Cathy Burke

Catechist in the Lucan Partnership of Parishes

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

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



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

PRSI Pay Related Social Insurance

People in employment must make Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) contributions to the Social Insurance Fund which helps pay for benefits and pensions. This is why it is called a Pay Related Social Insurance (PRSI) contribution. Some people who have unearned income are also liable for PRSI. There are currently 11 different PRSI classes. They are A, B, C, D, E, H, J, K, M, S and P - see 'Social insurance classes' on our website.

The social insurance payments you can get depend on the PRSI class you are in.

Each PRSI class is divided into different subclasses. These subclasses do not affect your entitlements under the social insurance system. They only relate to the amount of PRSI which you or your employer must pay.

How is PRSI calculated?

PRSI is calculated on your reckonable pay. Reckonable pay is your gross pay including any notional pay (or benefit in kind,) if applicable. There is no PRSI relief for employers on pension contributions made by employees. There is some PRSI relief on pension contributions paid by employers.



A wide range of payments are available to people who have paid social insurance. If you are not a Class A contributor, you can't get the full range of social insurance payments. This is because you are paying less towards social insurance than a Class A contributor. In certain cases, if your income falls below a certain amount, you do not have to pay a social insurance contribution, however, you will still be covered by social insurance because your employer must pay social insurance for you. More information is available on our page Paying social insurance.

PRSI contribution week

Your working week may not be the same as the PRSI contribution week. The PRSI contribution week starts on 1 January each year. Week one is the period from 1 January to 7 January, week two is from 8 January to 14 January and so on. For 2025, it started on Wednesday and ended on Tuesday. The contribution week can affect the social insurance cover of part-time workers and people job-sharing.

Most people pay Class A PRSI.

Class A applies to employees under age 66 with reckonable pay of €38 or more per week from all employments. Class A also applies to public servants recruited since 6 April 1995 and employees aged 66 to 70 (born after 1 January 1958) who are not getting a State Pension (Contributory).

Class A does not apply to people over 70 years of age and in insurable employment. They are insurable under Class J.

You can get more information about social insurance classes and the occupations covered by each class in 'Social insurance classes' on our website.

If there is a problem in deciding what class of social insurance you should pay, contact:

Scope Section

Department of Social Protection

Áras Mhic Dhiarmada,

Store Street,

Dublin 1, D01 WY03

Opening Hours: 9am-5pm

Tel: (01) 673 2585

Homepage:

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/a07d6-operational-guidelines-scope-section-insurability-for-prsi-purposes/>

Email: scope@welfare.ie

Lucan ICA

Look forward to seeing all the ladies back after being off for St Brigid's Day last Monday.

Tea Hostesses are Marie and Sally.



We remember Clair McBrearty on her second anniversary on 10th February.

Pauline

FOUND

Single House Key found in St. Edmundsbury last weekend. It is on a Carlsberg keychain.

Contact: 086 – 1954940

Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 12th February – Valentine's Social



Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30 – 12.30.

New members always welcome!



Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its

monthly **Parent Support Evening** on **Monday 10th February at 7.30pm in the Maldron Hotel**, Whitestown Way, Tallaght.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was. You do not need to register in advance.

We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Minder & Toddler Group

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

All Welcome!



Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

Email: info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie

Telephone: 01 253 6105 or 085 867 1245

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



Baby & Toddler: Our Baby & Toddler Group is back on Mondays from 11-12.30 this is suitable for ages 0-3 and gives parents or caregiver a chance for a chat and well-deserved cup of tea.

Active over 55's: Due to popular demand our Qigong class has been extended until 6th of March. Everyone is really enjoying the class and the tea and chats after.

New Class Alert: We have a new Dance Fitness class starting on Tuesday 11th of February from 7pm-8pm.

Record Fair: We are delighted to have the Lucan Record Fair at the centre Sunday 9th February starting at 10.30am until 4pm.

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

Planning Application Objection

I, Pat Colgan write in relation to planning application number SD24A/0290W made by Kilross Properties Ltd. With regard to lands adjacent to Ardeevin Manor, as submitted.

I wish to object to the proposed development. My objection is based on the following observations and grounds:

Health & Safety

For 97 units, there should be at least 160 car parking spaces, not 101, this is a joke. This will clog up parking in Ardeevin Manor and Avenue, so how will an ambulance or emergency vehicle get to houses at the top of the avenue, the Manor or indeed the proposed development.

If they are to come through Primrose Lane, there will be no turning space.

How are they to get to hospital, etc? Similarly, for fire brigade, ESB, waste collection, etc.

This is a health and safety issue, and the proposed development should be refused.

I would be grateful if you would consider the above in your assessment of the planning application.

Yours sincerely
Pat Colgan.



Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Sunday Mass Times:

Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon, 7pm

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

On Saturdays from the conclusion of the 10am Mass to 11.30am – funerals permitting.

Christian Meditation:

We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.

All welcome. Sr Geraldine

Lectio Divina:

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

Bethany Bereavement Support Group:

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

Confessions – Nuns' Chapel:

Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Legion of Mary:

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

Divine Mercy Devotion:

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

Baptisms:

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 are bookable on line.

Email: secretary@lucanparish.com

Visits to the housebound:

If 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 family and friends of **Anne Daly**, Beech Park.

May she rest in peace.



Society of
St. Vincent de Paul
St Mary's Conference,
Lucan

For assistance, phone: 01 8550022
or email: info@svp.ie



Medjugorje Irish Centre

**WIN A TRIP TO
MEDJUGORJE**

Medjugorje Irish Centre
Free Prize draw taking
place on 1st April. Prize for

one person includes 7 nights B&B, return airport transfer and flights up to €300.

To enter go to prize draw page on website

www.med-irishcentre.com

Tel. 01 443 4510 or email reservations@med-irishcentre.com

Quote:

Our prime purpose in life is to help others.
And if you can't help them, at least don't hurt them.

Dalai Lama

St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



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

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

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday at 10am.

All Masses livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

Adoration:

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

Confessions:

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

St Patrick's Prayer Meeting:

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

Communion for the Homebound:

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

secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie

Tea/Coffee:

Every Wednesday 10:30am in the Parish Centre.
All are welcome

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times: Vigil: 6pm.

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

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

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net



Mass with Anointing of the Sick

Saturday 8th February, 12 noon
Please consider inviting someone who would appreciate this celebration of healing.

There will be refreshments after the Mass.

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:

Every Thursday.

7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions.

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

8.15pm Adoration and Confessions - **8.50pm** Benediction. *All welcome*

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

Prayers of the Church:

Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

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

Legion of Mary:

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

St Joseph's Young Priests Society:

St Joseph's Young Priests Society has been set up in Divine Mercy Church, Lucan **for all the Lucan parishes**. We meet up on the first Wednesday of each month for one hour at 10.40am.

Home Visits Holy Communion:

If anyone who cannot come to Mass would like to receive Holy Communion at home from Fr. Aidan or a Minister of Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office 01-4572900.

Divine Mercy Food Bank:

Divine Mercy Food Bank has reopened.

Donations of nonperishable food items can be left in the green containers inside the doors of the church.

Wednesday tea/coffee morning:

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

Bingo:

Bingo takes place every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.30pm. All welcome.

Anniversaries

Michelle Brady

4th Anniversary

Until We Meet Again

Those Special Memories of you
Will always bring a smile
If only I could have you back
for just a little while
Then we could sit and talk again
Just like we used to do.
You always meant so very much
And always will do too
The fact that you're no longer here
Will always cause me pain
But you're forever in my heart
Until we meet again

*Gone but not forgotten by your loving family
Mam, Dad, David, Karen, Brian, Susanne and
Gary*



Joe Byrne

2nd Anniversary, 10th February

In loving memory of dear husband, father,
grandfather and brother.
We hold you close within our hearts,
And there you shall remain.
To walk with us throughout our lives
Until we meet again.

*Sadly missed by your loving wife
Monica, Thomas, Jeanne and Chris.*

Kathleen Kelly

11th Anniversary, 9th February

In loving memory of Kathleen
Will those who think of Kathleen today,
A little prayer to Jesus say.

*Loved and missed, now, always, and forever by
Mam, sisters Therese, Ann, Gemma, Louise and
Michelle.*



Jim Smith

20th Anniversary, 6th February

Twenty years ago, just this week,
We stood astounded and confused,
Looking down, as they lowered you down,
The tears fell down and hit the ground,
We couldn't believe this was the end,
A father, a husband, a wonderful friend,
Who is with us always and forever,
In each and every possible way!

*Always missed and remembered fondly,
Eileen, Joe, James and all other friends and
family.*



Kathleen O'Kane

1st Anniversary, 13th February

Late of Lucan Heights and Ballinalee,
Co. Longford

Your Footprints

May you rest now, in peace
your toil has reached its end
and a life like yours deserves
a restful glory

May you sleep now, at last
the slumber of the loved
You have lived each chapter of
your wondrous story

May you pass now, it's time
if permission speeds your way
We let go with love, for love
is what you gave

May you know now, in life
you were treasured every day
and we daily walk the paths
your footprints made.

- Donna Ashworth

*Loved and missed every day by your loving
husband Bill, children, grandchildren, family and
friends.*

**Kathleen's Anniversary Mass will be offered at
12pm on Sunday 16th February at St Mary's
Church, Lucan.**

Esker Active Retirement Association

We had a great attendance at club today for our usual activities, plus we had a visit from Elaine Hannon, Liffey Sound. Elaine chatted to us about the radio station and interviewed a few of our members.

We meet every Wednesday 1.30 to 4pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Main Street Lucan.

Regular activities include cards scrabble and bowls, with occasional other events such as chaerobics, line dancing etc. We also organise trips in Ireland and abroad. New members always welcome.



Quote:

Patience is a form of wisdom.
It demonstrates that we understand the fact that
sometimes things must unfold in their own time.
From Divine Word Missionaries Calendar



Happy Valentine's Day to all our Readers – we're still a few days away, but enjoy those lovely surprises!

Hard to make head nor tail of all the work in the village – we can hardly call it the

'Village Green' anymore!



Flying High! On a happy note, we spotted Lucan Pilot, **Lisa Cusack** on RTE News promoting the fact that Aer Lingus are now "re-opening training in a push for more female pilots".



Aer Lingus First Officer, Lisa Cusack at the controls.....

Great opportunity for all girls to aim as high as Lisa these days!

It's that time of year again! Time to be thinking of your entry for the Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade.....



Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade 2025

The Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade 2025 will take place on the Bank Holiday Monday, March 17th. Parade starts at 3pm shar. Don't miss out on the fun! Parade entry forms are now available online—be sure to submit your entry as soon as possible, as places are limited. Go to www.lucanstpatriksday.org/entry-form/ or scan the QR Code below. We can't wait to celebrate with you and make this year's parade the best one yet!



Volunteer on St. Patrick's Day

We need you on St. Patrick's Day, please volunteer, there is a job for everyone, AND it's great craic. eMail us info@LucanStPatricksDay.org or fill out the online form (QR Code below), or phone Caroline Brady 085 2551602



Mr Fox! This fellow posed for Conor from St. Mary's Camera Soiree. The red fox is one of Ireland's native animals, and in the wild, the typical life-span of the animal is one to three years although some individuals may live up to ten years.



Palmerstown Camera Club

Palmerstown camera club monthly competition (Still life) was held on Wednesday the 29th of January in the Palmerstown Parish Centre.

The winners in Novice were Annie Whitley, John O'Flaherty, Ben Emmet, Maria Harrington, Linda Ffrench.

Intermediate winners were James Greenfield. Ciaran O Rourke, Kieran Cahill, Miriam Power, Aidan Lawlor, Ulla Devitt.

Advanced winners were Lorraine Morris, Eddie Kavanagh, Orla Brady, Aoife Tierney, Kevin Naughton.

And the image of the month went to Kevin Naughton.



Palmerstown Camera Club is always open to new members joining. We run every Wednesday night from 8 to 10.



Lucan Dementia Café

Saturday: 8th of February, 2025

2pm – 5pm

St Marys Parish Centre, Lucan



Future 2025 dates: March 8th, April 5th, May

10th (later start time) June 14th, July 12th

Kindly sponsored by:



Please drop by and join us for a Cúnao



Kishoge Community College

USED CLOTHING COLLECTION

Fundraiser for Kishoge Community College and Laura Lynn Children's Hospice

Drop off your bags at Kishoge Community College Eircode K78DC89

DATES AND TIMES:

- Monday, February 10th: 9:00 AM and 3:45 PM
- Tuesday, February 11th: 9:00 AM and 3:45 PM
- Wednesday, February 12th: 9:00 AM only
- Thursday, February 13th: Morning: Before school starts Afternoon/Evening: 3:45 PM to 7:00 PM
- Friday, February 14th: 9:00 AM only

Items Accepted

- Clothes, jewellery, paired shoes, belts, socks, bags, scarves.
- Hats, ties, soft toys, linens, bedding, towels, curtains.

Items NOT Accepted:

- Duvets, blankets, pillows, cushions.
- Carpets, rugs, mats, furniture.
- Workwear, uniform with logos, mobiles, tablets.

PIC • COLLAGE



SCHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

Mock exams

The very best of luck to all our 3rd and 6th year students who are completing their mock exams over the next two weeks.

Parents Association Quiz Night: Quiz Night 28th February at 8pm in Kenny's pub, Lucan village. €10 per person with lots of great raffle prizes. Please come and support The Parents Association in their fundraiser for New Team Jerseys for all the school.



Many had flown in from abroad including London and The Netherlands to catch up with old friends. All reminisced with very fond memories of their days in St. Joseph's, many had great stories of their time, some even wished to be back again! It was great to see all going their own way and doing so well. It didn't take them long to be right back as Joey's girls when they all got together again!

Junior debating: Well done to our Junior Debating team who participated in the MACE debates competition in Belvedere College over the weekend. Our teams performed excellently throughout the competition and were highly praised by the judges. MACE is the oldest and largest debating competition in the UK and Ireland. Each MACE debate consists of two teams, a proposition and an opposition.



Class of 2014 reunion: A brilliant evening was had on Saturday night with the Class of 2014. It was great to hear where all have been and are now, ten years on. From Barristers, Nurses, Actors, Stunt-Workers and Writers to Business Owners, Civil Servants, Influencers & Mothers - it was hard to catch up with and remember all.

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan
Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan
Website: www.stjosephslucan.com

Coláiste Phádraig CBS

DCG: Our Design and Communication Graphics 6th yr students were busy in recent weeks putting the finishing touches to their Leaving Cert project which was due in on Friday 24th January. 40% of the total marks in DCG are allocated to the production of the student assignment which involved graphical communication, creative problem-solving, spatial visualisation, computer graphics and Computer Aided Design (CAD) modelling skills. The students focused this year on modelling microphones and Mr. McCormack was very impressed with the high standard of finished projects!

The students will sit the final drawing exam in June, which accounts for the remaining 60% of the overall marks.

LCVP: The 6th yr LCVP classes completed their recorded interviews last week in the school with their teachers Mr. O' Carroll, Ms. Gough and Ms. Shanahan. The Recorded Interview is an ideal opportunity to prepare students for the world of work or further education whilst being an innovative form of the LCVP assessment. The students had prepared questions about themselves and about some of the LCVP activities, experiences and skills gained throughout the past 18 months. They were being assessed on their ability to communicate effectively in appropriate depth and detail, express informed opinion, support their answers with relevant examples, engage positively with the interviewer and use appropriate body language.

The feedback was very positive as the students talked about the skills they developed such as Communication and Planning skills. The Recorded Interviews, worth 12% of their Portfolios, lasted approximately 5 minutes and they will now be submitted for external correction. The students are working towards a deadline of Wednesday, 5th March for the completion of their LCVP Portfolios of Coursework, which is worth 60% of the overall marks available. The written part of their exam is worth the other 40%, and this will be held in early May.

Football: Hard luck to our senior footballers, who were beaten by the smallest of margins by Holy Family Rathcoole in the Senior Football Shield 1-4 final last Thursday. There was a little confusion as to the score-line at the end, with Lucan seemingly convinced that the scores were level, but the referee explained that one of Lucan's apparent scores, that was initially verified by the score umpires behind the goal, was in his view a wide. Unfortunately, there is no Hawk-Eye

technology is school's football! Eoin Maher impressed for Lucan in the full forward line, and he scored a fine goal mid-way through the 1st half as he bulldozed his way through a series of challenges before drilling a powerful low right-footed shot past the keeper into the bottom corner. Darragh Garrigan was also influential in the half-forward line with his strength in the air, speed, game intelligence and work rate. He also got some important scores for the team throughout.

Derry Ware, who was carrying a slight injury pre-match, came on in the 2nd half and he also had an excellent game. Derry's renowned strength, fitness levels and stamina were on display in a dynamic 2nd half display and it was his



“score” mid-way through the half that proved to be the subject of much debate at the final whistle. Lucan almost scored a point in the last seconds, but the post came to Rathcoole's rescue and they held on to win the game 3-9 to 2-11.

Transition Year: Our TY students enjoyed adrenaline-fuelled days at Kylemore Karting, Ireland's premier Karting arena, over the past two Wednesdays. The students had an amazing day of competitive racing, with numerous thrills and spills along the way! The students had practice laps 1st before doing timed laps, which determined whether they would be competing in the A, B or C Final. For the Time Trials, they raced on Track 3-Circuit de Susuka, Kylemore's newest track and its multi-level figure of eight is similar to the Formula 1 Circuit de Suzuka in Japan. It is 320m in length and known for its very challenging banked corners and fast speeds on its two full blast straights. After the qualifying laps were completed, there were six competitors in each Final and each one was filled with drama, thrills and plenty of talking points! Jack Norry and Paul Cronin won the two separate “A” Final, with both averaging impressive speeds of approximately 31 secs per lap. A thrilling, exciting and memorable day was had by all and we would like to thank the staff at Kylemore for taking such good care of our group. Safety was paramount at all times and the helpful and supportive staff ensured that all safety regulations were strictly enforced and followed at all times. It was undoubtedly one of the highlights of the year so far for the students.

Lucan Community College

First year Boys Soccer: The first year boys football team beat Holy Family CS 3-1 and Coláiste Pobail Setanta 1-0 this week, with Christian Scanlon scoring all four goals.



TY Awesome Walls: The Transition Year Classes are getting the opportunity to visit Awesome Walls in Finglas for wall climbing this week. Some amazing strength and agility on display from the students. Wall climbing offers a vast array of benefits including mental focus and problem solving, improving balance and coordination, promotes social interaction and it is also fun and challenging. Well done to all our TY students who were willing to get involved and give it a go.



National Relay Squad: A huge congratulations to our 6th year student Saoirse Fitzgerald who has been selected as part of the National relay squads for 2025. Saoirse will take part in the U20 4x400 squad. Best of luck to Saoirse.



Athens Challenge European Cup 2025: Two of our students, Abbie (first year) and Ryan Wade (TY) competed in a European kickboxing competition at the weekend and came away with one gold and 3 Silver at the Athens Challenge European Cup 2025 in Greece. An outstanding result to not only have competed but to have come home with 4 medals. Congratulations to Abbie and Ryan.



Looking at February

“Anois teacht an earraigh, beidh an lá dul chun síneadh,

Is tar éis na Féile Bríde ardeoidh mé mo sheol.”

So said Antaine Ó Raifteirí the poet.

He was looking forward to the lengthening day and to be out and about.

Taking daylight hours and growth into account, February can be considered the start of spring.

However, meteorologists regard February as the last month of winter. They take temperature into account in deciding this. As we know February can sometimes give us very cold weather. One reason for this is the sea around Ireland is at its coldest in February and March. Another reason is the influence of anticyclones over Europe and Greenland which sometimes can send us very cold winds at this time of year.



Saint Valentin's Day (February 14)

The angle at which the sun shines down on us is the sun angle. By Saint Valentine's Day the sun angle we have gives us stronger sunshine than at any time in November. The bigger the sun angle the more heat we get from the sun and the rate of increase in this is faster in February compared to January. The increase is from 13 degrees angle at Christmas to 24 degrees angle at St. Valentine's Day. The direct heat of the sun becomes more noticeable on our faces as we go for a walk and puts a pep in our step even if the air temperature is cold. For reference, at the summer solstice (June 21) we have a very respectable 60 degree sun angle. Why are we not warmer than we usually are in summer? The sea temperature around us is relatively cool and in normal circumstances prevents the air temperature over us from rising too high.



Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD)

SAD sufferers often report that they start to feel better around Saint Valentine's Day. SAD is related to the quantity of daylight and February brings a noticeable stretch in the evenings.

St. Valentine's Day 1998

At Casement Aerodrome an amazing 16C was recorded on February 14, 1998. This was 8 degrees above normal, making it the warmest St. Valentine's Day in 30 years. The reason for this was a southerly wind originating in the Sahara Desert. The following morning (February 15) a

covering of Sahara dust was to be seen on many cars in Lucan. Two months later, on Friday, April 10, 1998, snow was falling as politicians left Stormont. They signed The Good Friday Agreement. The variability of weather always amazes.

Weather Saying

Candlemas Day is February 2.

*“If Candlemas Day be fair and bright,
Winter'll have another flight.*

*But if Candlemas Day be
clouds and rain,
Winter is gone and will not
come again”.*



Explanation

The hope is that clouds and rain will bring in mild temperatures from the Atlantic, putting an end to the cold winter weather.

February News from The Past

Thomas Moore, poet and lyricist died on February 25 1852.

On February 11, 1926, W.B. Yeats unsuccessfully tried to stop a riot at The Abbey Theatre by appealing to the crowd from the stage. It was the third night of *“The Plough and the Stars”* by Seán O'Casey. The opening night was a great success. However, on the second night some people voiced their objections to the members of The Irish Volunteers bringing an Irish Flag into a public house. This was a harbinger of things to come. On the third night there was a lot of disturbance, shouting and singing. Eventually the police ejected the rioters, and the play was allowed to continue to the end.

The Stardust fire occurred on February 14, 1981.

Many young people tragically lost their lives while enjoying themselves on a night out.

On February 10, 2000, the Dart in Dublin was extended to Malahide and Greystones.

An Impressive February Day

On February 26, 2019, 17C was recorded at Casement Aerodrome! The normal temperature would be about 9C. The Irish Daily Mail referred to a Moroccan plume of warm air over the country. Photos from newspapers show people sitting outdoors or going for a walk on that February day with a taste of summer.



*“February brings the rain,
Thaws the frozen lake again”.*
Sara Coleridge.

D.T.



Derren Ó Brádaigh - Sinn Féin

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F/B: <https://m.facebook.com/DerrenOBradaighSF>

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Web: www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com

Doddsboro: Road Water Surface

Following representation on behalf of Doddsboro residents, I am delighted to report the council undertook works to clear blocked gullies and congealed leaf debris build-up on Doddsboro Road.

St Helen's Parking: The local Sinn Féin office have requested that SDCC undertake a review of parking arrangements on Adamstown Way / St Helen's, after this was brought to my attention.

Arthur Griffith Park Back Lanes: Recently, I have assisted some residents with issues regarding lane access difficulties. If you feel that I can be of assistance to you, get in touch.

Health Fair: Last Friday saw the first Lucan / Adamstown Health Fair. This was a tremendous event that brought together 35 service providers in Adamstown, networking together to offer our community care and support. Well done to all involved in this wonderful initiative!

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

(085)2551602 CBrady@SDublinCoCo.ie

Westbury: Following a request from residents I made representations in relation to the existing yellow box and raised that residents highlighted concerns about limited visibility when exiting the estate, particularly due to stationary traffic and large vehicles. In response, the Council confirmed that the yellow box will be extended in both directions.

Castle Riada Avenue: Following concerns from residents about parked cars obstructing access and visibility on the narrow bend at Castle Riada Avenue, a representation was made to the Council for yellow lines. The Council confirmed that double yellow lines will be installed.

Crowes Corner new car park adjacent to the Maxol and opposite the Demesne: The accessible space markings are temporarily missing due to recent resurfacing. Once weather permits, they will be painted. A temporary accessible space sign will be installed in the coming days.

Minister Emer Higgins - TD - Fine Gael

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginsTD

www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD

emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

Lucan Demesne Ongoing Upgrades: As part of the ongoing upgrade to Lucan Demesne entrance, SDCC is proposing to install a 105m timber boardwalk from the new plaza to the riverside path. You can view the plans online at consult.sdublincoco.ie until 28th Feb 2025. You can make observations or submissions before 5pm on 28th Feb 2025.

Team Power of 1: Congratulations to TeamPower of 1 on their incredible 5000km Atlantic row in memory of Saoirse O'Driscoll, raising vital funds for Heart Children Ireland and The Children's Heart Centre at CHI Crumlin.

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Fantastic Night at 'Donate a Dress' in Lucan Sarsfields: A huge well done to the organisers of Donate a Dress at Lucan Sarsfields for an incredible event on Friday, 31st January. The event was a huge success and I've no doubt raised a significant amount to support the club.

Paul Gogarty - TD - Independent - P.C.

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell

"Not just at election time"

Dáil office: 01-6184078. Whatsapp: 089-2364871

Website: www.paulgogarty.com

Works in village: I've been informed that the current timeline for the completion at the entrance to Lucan Demesne is early April. The works in the village green area are scheduled to be completed in August. All timelines are indicative only and there's no definitive update on the works around the weir.
Planning applications: I have made submissions expressing concern about two planning applications, one at the top of Primrose Lane behind Ardeevin and the other on Cooldrinagh Lane. These both constitute overdevelopment in my view given their specific contexts.

M50 tolls adding to congestion in Lucan: Have this on agenda for discussion, subject to lottery system in Dáil.

Peace Commissioner signatures: I am available on Monday or Friday to sign any documents covered by the Peace Commissioner role.

Cllr. Helen Farrell - Independent

Email: hfarrell@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

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

In December 2024, I was honoured to be co-opted by Paul Gogarty, T.D., as his successor, serving as an Independent Local Councillor on South Dublin County Council. It's a privilege to continue his dedicated work and collaborate with fellow councillors.

I am a member of the Land Use, Planning and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee and am participating in Area Committee Meetings for Lucan, Palmerstown, and North Clondalkin, along with other SDCC meetings.

Many of you know me from my involvement with the Society for Old Lucan (SOL) and the #Pool4Lucan Campaign alongside Sandra Whelan. My priorities as local councillor include promoting our heritage, ensuring the delivery of our pool, and focusing on ecology, quality of life, education, and planning.

For my latest updates and project details, including weekly clinics, please follow my Facebook page.

Political Notes cont'd after Library page.



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Membership Renewal: The 2025 membership renewal season is well underway here at Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club! Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st, so let's get everyone set up for another great year.



Important reminders:

- All managers, mentors, and committee members must be full members of Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club to participate
- All players must have a current club membership, so they're covered by the injury fund to train and play.
- All players need to be registered on Foireann at least 3 days before a game to be eligible to play games.
- Log on to foireann.ie and make sure your profile is up to date

Ready to renew? Just head over to Membership Signup and follow the steps.

New members or transfers?

If you're joining us for the first time, switching from another club, or having any trouble renewing, we've got your back. Drop us an email at lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com, and we'll sort it out! Remember to log on to foireann.ie and add Lucan Sarsfields to your profile

Looking forward to seeing everyone back for an exciting year ahead!

Donate a Dress: Our Donate a Dress sale took place on the 31st of January. It was very much a community event and so many people got involved in different ways and the committee of Aisling, Carmel, Colette, Jackie, Rose & myself want to thank all the club members and non-club members who helped.

Donations poured in from the beginning in the form of dresses, jackets, tops, handbags, shoes, jewellery & spot prizes. It was incredible. Thank you to everyone who cleared out their wardrobes for this event.

Thank you to everyone who bought a ticket for the event, to people who couldn't make it on the night but sent across donations and bought raffle tickets.

Thank you to everyone who came on Friday night. It was great to see so many people enjoying themselves. So many people helped us before, during and after the night and we want to say thank you. Thank you to the Friday night card

players who managed to keep calm in the bar on the night!!!

We couldn't go without mentioning the following people. Jackie & Ronan, our chairperson Mary who never moved from the same spot on Friday (her poor feet), McKeever for supplying rails and hangers, Josephine & Alice who managed crowd control, Emma who looked after our nails so well, Sara who sourced extra clothes rails for us and to Greg who collected and returned the rails. Our wonderful bar staff of Aimee, Cian, Andy, Ann Marie, John & Rachel. Our juvenile members who worked behind the stalls and who sold the raffle tickets. Last but not least a special thank you to Marie Fitzgerald.

Thank you again to everyone. Le dea-ghuí,
Tracey Walsh.

GAA National Club Draw: It is the time of year again for the GAA National Club Draw. Tickets for the draw cost €15 per ticket. All proceeds from the draw are allocated to the club selling the tickets.

This year we are again incentivising the sale of tickets. The Adult and Juvenile teams who sell the most tickets will get allocated the monies they raise up to a max value of €1K. Teams can sell their tickets online through the QR code on our poster or the link below, just select your desired team in the drop-down

menu; <https://lucansarsfields.clubzap.com/products/24009/purchases/new>

NATIONAL CLUB DRAW GAA

WIN UP TO **€1,000** FOR YOUR TEAM

TICKETS **€15**

1. €50,000 Cash Prize
2. €20,000 Cash Prize
3. €10,000 Cash Prize
AND MORE

Scan for tickets

Lotto: We had a winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €1,000. Congratulations to Norma Shanahan. The Numbers were 3, 8, 19, 24. Lucky dip's go to Carmel Bellew, Paul Heneghan, Louise O'Neill, Pat Keane, Cormac Gordon (SPOT PRIZE). This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €1,400. This draw is sponsored by John Ryan, Accountant.

Lucan Library – February Events

Lucan Lifestyle for Older People, delivered by Lucan Community Healthcare Network Tuesdays 11th, 18th and 25th March, 12noon - 1.30pm. A 4-week group for Older People. The sessions will focus on the individual – keeping well physically, maintaining cognitive resilience; The home – safety at home, grants system, preventing falls at home; The activities you do – volunteering, exercise, leisure groups in the area. Speakers include Consultant Neurologist, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Community Gardaí, Dietician, & Nursing. Free of charge but booking essential. To book a space, phone the Lucan Community Healthcare Network on 01 7955236 or email: Lucan.chn@hse.ie



Parent and Baby Reflexology with Anne O'Connor: Tuesday 11th February at 10am. Booking essential at:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/parent-and-baby-reflexology-tickets-1221985243759>



Mid-Term Activities:

Wednesday 19th February, 11.30am:

Viking Show with Knights for Hire. Interactive History Workshop with artefacts from the Viking age. Booking Essential:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/knights-for-hire-presents-the-history-of-the-vikings-in-ireland-tickets-1222115774179>

Thursday 20th February, 1pm: **Active Lego** (families with children aged 5-9 years). Join us for a Lego Session with a twist! Sometimes children feel unsure or unable to attend Lego Sessions as they find focusing or staying seated the entire session too difficult. In this session there are floor stations with STEM sets to play with, and gross motor skill obstacle courses available whilst our Lego session takes place too! This session is fun for all of the family, so parents/guardians and children should attend together. Booking essential-one ticket per child (includes parent/guardian).



<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/active-lego-for-5-9-year-olds-with-rebecca-mcdermott-tickets-1223578077969>

LED Card Kit for Valentine's Day

Create your own light-up Valentine's Day Card. Register for a kit via Eventbrite <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/valentines-day-card-kits-for-children-tickets-1223371921349>. Kits can be collected from Thursday 6th February during library opening hours.



History Talk for Adults:

Thursday 20th February, 5.30pm
Girl Power in the Viking Age: Examples of powerful Viking women in Ireland from a social, political and legal perspective, by Dublinia staff Patrick Herbage & Mark Louth. Explore the lives of powerful Viking women, including Aud the Deep-Minded, through social, political, and legal lenses. An eye-opening look at gender dynamics in Viking Ireland. Book via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/girl-power-in-the-viking-age-a-talk-by-dublinia-tickets-1222124410009>

Ireland Reads - National Reading Day,

Saturday 22nd February 2025

2.30pm: The Secret Garden - a book celebration with Méabh for ages 8+. Booking essential from Saturday 15th February at

2.30pm: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/the-secret-garden-book-workshop-tickets-1222005404059>

Lucan Library Classic Film Club: Tuesday 25th February, 5.30pm. Register at Library Desk.

Sensory Play Session for Pre-School Children

with Rebecca McDermott, founder of This is Me and qualified Play Practitioner. Wednesday 5th February, 10am. Play session for pre-school children led by Rebecca. Please book a ticket for each pre-school child attending. Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. Booking essential from Wednesday 29th January at 10am:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/sensory-play-sessions-for-pre-school-children-tickets-1221991763259>

Art & Creativity with Elena Buttner

For 6-8 years: Thursday 13th February, 3.30pm. Valentine's themed workshop. Booking essential from Thursday 6th February at 3.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-6-8-years-tickets-1221996798319>

For 9-12 years: Thursday 20th February, 3.30pm. Booking essential via Lucan Library Eventbrite from Thursday 13th February at

3.30pm: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/midterm-art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-9-12-years-tickets-1221997410149>

Events for Younger Children:

Storytime - Tuesdays at 3pm. All welcome!

Arts and Crafts for 3-5 years with Méabh:

Tuesday 11th February, 3.30pm. Booking Essential

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/library-crafts-tickets-1221980750319>

Liona O'Toole – Independent. P.C.

087-2795274. lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie
www.lotoole.com

"Always working, always available"

Irish Water: At this week's Irish Water clinic, I raised several concerns brought to my attention. Lucan is primarily served by the Peamount Reservoir, though at times, the supply has been blended with water from the Leixlip Water Treatment Plant. Given recent reports of water discoloration, I questioned whether this issue was linked to the recent storm. Irish Water is continuously addressing multiple leaks in the area. While repairs are ongoing, these works may cause temporary water disruptions. To receive real-time updates on water issues affecting your area, you can register your account here:

<https://www.water.ie/your-home/your-account/register-with-irish-water> I will continue advocating for improvements in our water infrastructure and addressing concerns

Several footpath repairs I requested are included in the 2025 programme, including Finnstown Abbey Green. If you know of a damaged footpath in need of repair, do contact me.



Older people need your support!

ALONE is recruiting volunteers to provide companionship and support through their Telephone Support & Befriending service for older people.

ALONE asks that interested volunteers commit to one set shift of 2 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months.

Visit alone.ie/volunteers for more information.

Music, Poetry, Drama or Song . Register or just come along !

THE CONNECT FACTOR

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Kenny's Bar
8pm to 10 30pm

In association with

Find us here

2nd Tuesday of every Month

@connectfactoropenmic

Medjugorje Pilgrimages 2025

<p>April</p> <p>Departing 28th April 9 Nights Normal Price: €845pps. Pat's Price: €770pps.</p> <p>Departing 30th April 7 Nights Normal Price: €795pps. Pat's Price: €720pps.</p> <p>October details later</p>		<p>Prices include €50 early booking discount</p> <p>Booking Deposit €200 to be paid by 31 January 2025</p> <p>Single Room Supplement 9 Nights €220 7 Nights €150</p> <p>Insurance €35 Extra pp</p> <p>Terms and conditions apply</p>
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Spiritual Director: Fr Ray Kelly

Tour Operator: Marian Pilgrimages

Professional guides
Fully Bonded
Fully licenced

To Book, Please Contact:
Pat on 087 2238911 or
Marian Pilgrimages on 01 8788159
And say you are travelling with Pat's Group

Hope and Renewal.....



Joe, from St. Mary's Camera Soiree, photographed some snowdrops in Lucan. Snowdrops, which have been known since early times, bloom in late winter and early spring, before the Vernal equinox, and consequently symbolise hope and renewal.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

Last week the Camera Soirée discussed their programme for 2025. A programme of field trips is being drawn up and we have reintroduced the monthly photographic theme. The theme for the month of February is “Spring Flowers”, be they cultivated or wild. Joe was on the ball immediately with a photograph of Crocuses taken in Chalet Gardens.



Our photographs from Australia include some of Cape Woolamai Beach on the southern tip of Phillip Island in Victoria and of the reading room in the Victoria State Library in downtown Melbourne. Cape Woolamai has a world-renowned surf beach. Victoria State Library was established in 1854 as the Melbourne Public Library, making it Australia's oldest public library and one of the first free libraries in the world.



Here at home Conor got to Balbriggan and sent us a photograph of the St. Brigid's Festival in Balbriggan. Saint Brigid is the patroness saint of Ireland, and one of its three national saints along with St. Patrick and St. Columba. Some historians suggest that Brigid is a Christianisation of the Celtic goddess Brigid.

Finally, Conor gave us a photograph of the Little Grebe (Irish Spágaire tonn) which is resident on ponds and lakes throughout Ireland.



Until next week stay safe!