



Established 1967

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

Sub. €1

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## Celebrating Education!

At this time of the year we celebrate the gift of Catholic Schools Week. The theme for this year is inspired by the great life of Carol Acutis: ***Normal lives, Called to Holiness!*** The word holy means to be worthy of God, to be blessed in action and life, to be true to one's purpose as given by God.... Holiness is not abstracted from the ordinary, but calls us to be our best selves right where we are with the greatest respect for ourselves and others. The very word educare (Latin word of origin for education) reflects that which is holy! Educare implies that we bring out what is already within but currently perhaps nudging or unknown!

It is always wonderful to look at the young people at the Science exhibition in January and see what they manage to bring about when they trust the knowledge they already have and step from a nudging question to a real and possible answer. The thousands of projects grow from a question in the minds of the young people concerned and a belief that there is a new and unfolding answer in our time! This is made possible for the young people because teachers and parents support and trust in the new ideas that emerge. We have within us what we need for the world as it evolves.

It takes courage to leap towards new ideas and possibilities. However, we need to MIND THE GAP and not fall down to despair or into a tiny rabbit warren of other people's ideas! We are born with courage. Young people are brave and able for whatever arrives before them needing teachers, parents, caring adults to broaden the path before them with safety bars on the side, but not road blocks in front of them!

The same may be said for every one of us, as while the outer shell might become a little worn or wrinkly, the heart is ever young and ready for newness. We each have a gut and heart sense of what is right for us and for what we need to do in the now. Resisting this is like placing a restricting fist-hold on our ability to discover each day's newness and possibilities! Resisting one's gut sense is exhausting and draining! We are ever drawn to be true to ourselves. None of us need the ramblings of WhatsApp groups or other social media conversations to know what is right for us and for our families. It really hurts to go against what is true for us! Whither we call it holiness or being true to self, we are each gifted to live whole and meaningful lives! Let's ease out the reigns of control on our thoughts, gut sense and dreams so that great things may happen in our ordinary lives. Always ***Semper Eruditio, Semper Melius!*** learning, always better!

*Cathy Burke*

*Catechist in the Lucan Partnership of Parishes*

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

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

Email – [lucan@citinfo.ie](mailto: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

**United Nations Holocaust Memorial  
Observance Day is on 27th January, 2026**

## Recall of some Irish Passports

Was your Irish passport issued between 23 December 2025 and 6 January 2026? If it was, it may not meet international standards.

You should return your Irish passport and passport card to the Passport Service. A new passport will be issued. This may take up to 10 working days.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has more information about the passport recall.

## What is auto-enrolment?

If you are an employee and do not pay into a pension, you may be automatically included (auto-enrolled) in a new pension scheme from 1 January 2026. The pension scheme is called MyFutureFund.

You, your employer and the Government all pay a certain amount into the pension fund.

After 6 months, you can choose to leave the scheme and get a refund of your pension contributions.

You can view and manage your fund by logging in to the MyFutureFund portal, if you have a verified MyGovID.

Employers can register on the MyFutureFund employer portal.

## Who will be automatically enrolled?

You will be automatically enrolled in MyFutureFund if you are an employee and you:

Are aged between 23 and 60

Do not pay into a pension through payroll

Earn €20,000 or more per year across all employments, or more than €5,000 over a 13-week period

## Can I choose to join (opt in) if I am not automatically enrolled?

If you do not meet the age or income requirements above, you can still choose to join the pension scheme if you are not paying into a pension through payroll. You must be an employee and aged over 18, up to the pension age of 66.

You can opt in using the MyFutureFund portal or download a form from [myfuturefund.ie](http://myfuturefund.ie).

## Does my employer have to participate?

Yes, if you are eligible for auto-enrolment or you opt in to the scheme. If your employer does not meet their auto-enrolment obligations, they will face penalties such as fines and prosecution.

For example, if they don't make contributions on your behalf, they may be fined and have to make repayments with interest.

## More information

The website [myfuturefund.ie](http://myfuturefund.ie) has information for employers and employees. It is the website of the National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority, NAERSA, which has been set up to run the scheme.

You can watch the Department of Social Protection's videos on auto-enrolment and read its information on auto-enrolment. You can also read its frequently asked questions about auto-enrolment.

The rules for auto-enrolment are set out in the Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings System Act 2024.

**More information** is also available on the Citizens Information website.

Contact:

**National Automatic Enrolment Retirement Savings Authority (NAERSA)**

**MyFutureFund**, TCS Drive,

Letterkenny Technology Park,

Letterkenny, Co. Donegal, F92 W8CY

**Opening Hours:** 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday

Tel: +353 (01) 568 9555

Homepage: <https://myfuturefund.ie/>

## Griffeen Art Group

Hi all, we are back to the drawing boards on Tuesday, 27th January, hope everyone had a good Christmas and is rearing to go with some new painting projects. Hope to see you all back.

The group meets on a Tuesday night 7.30 -9.30 in the Muintir Na Tire Hall, beside Methodist Church. New Members always welcome, why not come and join us, we would love to see you there.



We don't have a teacher, but help one another with different styles of painting.

We don't take ourselves too seriously. Most importantly we have Tea, Cake and the Chat at 9 pm.

## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Social Morning and Lunch in the Spa Hotel, 10.30am to 2pm.



## 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](http://www.recoveryireland.ie)

## Carers & Toddlers Group

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



## Lucan Heights entrance to Church

Joanna Tuffy TD raised concerns in the Newsletter about changes that were made to the Lucan Heights entrance to St Joseph's Presentation College and the right of way to St Mary's Parish Church. I add my agreement and support.



Prior to the recent schools construction work there was a vehicle entrance and a small pedestrian entrance. The pedestrian entrance was on the Lucan Heights side and was used by parishioners walking to and from Mass and by pupils attending the College.

The newly constructed entrance has no pedestrian entrance on the Lucan Heights approach as before. A new pedestrian entrance for pupils has instead been provided on the Lucan Road side, with steps up to the college.

The new vehicle entrance has limited line of vision for motorists entering and exiting and for pedestrians who use it. I consider it to be dangerous and only a matter of time before some serious accident occurs.

Like many others I walk to and from Mass using the Lucan Heights entrance. I respectfully urge whoever has responsibility, to restore the pedestrian entrance to where it was before.

*Kevin Carroll*

## Lucan I.C.A.

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January:  
We will have our Business Meetings this morning to arrange our events for the next month.



Members continue to work on their crafts afterwards.

**Tea Hostesses** are: Noreen and Geraldine.

We had a lovely class of Silhouette Embroidery with teacher, Breda Bohan, on Monday. We thank her very much for her patience. We all enjoyed the class.

## Conversational Irish

in St Mary's Parish Centre  
10.30-11.30a.m.  
every Wednesday.  
**All are welcome**



## Parish Notes

### St Mary's, Lucan

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



**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.

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

#### Adoration:

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



**Confessions:** Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.



#### St. Mary's Readers' Roster February 2026

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of February 2026 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.

#### Christian Meditation:

We 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.

#### Bethany Bereavement Support Group:

We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday (at 10.45am) and the 4<sup>th</sup> 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).

#### Legion of Mary:

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

*All Welcome.*

#### 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.

#### St Mary's Chorale

St Mary's Chorale has vacancies in all parts. If you are interested in joining the choir please contact Bernie on 0872240606.

We rehearse each Wednesday from 8-9.30pm.

#### 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.*

#### 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.

### Prayer for Ecumenical Week

**Our local service for Christian Unity Week** will take place in the

**Presbyterian Church in Lucan  
on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 8.00p.m.**

All are invited and welcome to prayer with refreshments afterwards.



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

For assistance, phone: 01 8550022  
or email: [info@svp.ie](mailto:info@svp.ie)

## Divine Mercy, Lucan South

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

## Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



### 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](http://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.

### Bingo:

Bingo takes place every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room. Doors open at 7 for 7.30pm.

*All welcome.*



### 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](http://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](http://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.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie)

### Tea/Coffee:

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

*All welcome.*

## Anniversaries

**Kathleen Collins**

**12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 21<sup>st</sup> January**

Late of Sarsfield Park

Silently the leaves of memories fall

Gently we gather and remember them all.

*Loved and remembered by her daughters*

*Carol Anne and Elizabeth, grandchildren  
and great grandchildren.*



**Marie Cowley**

**5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 26<sup>th</sup> January**

Those we love don't go away

They walk beside us everyday

*Sadly missed, always remembered by  
Michael and family.*



**John McDonald**

**12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 23<sup>rd</sup> January**

Beloved husband, father and granddad of  
*Clare, Joan, Mary, Emma and Barry and  
grandchildren.*  
R.I.P.

**Catherine Regan**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

Late of Chalet Gardens

Always in our thoughts

Forever in our hearts

*Martin, Gerard, Teresa, Paul  
and Neil.*



**Veronica O'Leary**

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**

It's been a year since you left us

But not a day goes by

That you're not in our hearts.

*Miss you always,*

*Gerry, Lynsey, Paddy and Jake.*

**Anniversary Mass Sunday,  
January 25<sup>th</sup> at 12 o'clock,  
St. Patrick's Church, Esker.**



**Veronica O'Leary**

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary**

People may die but the memories  
remain for a lifetime.

Sadly missed.

*Phil and Pat.*

## MEDJUGORJE 2026

Depart 13th May for 7 Nights  
Dublin to Dubrovnik at 7.30am



**Normal Fare: €875.00**

**Our Price: €785.00**

**SAVE €90.00**



Book before 30th Jan. €50.00

**€735.00**

Insurance: €35.00

To Book Please Contact PAT on

**087 223 8911**

or call Marian Pilgrimages on

**01 878 8159**



(AND SAY YOU ARE TRAVELLING WITH PAT'S GROUP)

Spiritual Director: Fr. Ray Kelly



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Why not drop a line to our Spiritual Director, Fr Des Farren by text on 089-4672000, by phone on 01-4123456, or come and pay us a visit at Radio Maria Ireland, St. Anthony's Business Park, Ballymount Road, Dublin 22. D22 R7W2.

## St. Mary's SVP Conference, Lucan.

St. Mary's SVP Conference, Lucan, gratefully acknowledge the named and anonymous parishioners, who generously donated an amazing €13,250 to our recent Christmas Appeal. The following schools/societies also ran fundraisers for those in need in our community: Scoil Mhuire GNS Sale of Work, Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig Carol Service, St. Mary's BNS Christmas Jumper Day, St. Andrew's NS Carol Service, St. Joseph's College Calendar Sales, Hermitage Bridge Club, Leixlip Union of Parishes.



On behalf of our deserving clients, we wish to thank the above schools/organisations for their welcome support of the St. Vincent de Paul Society locally. The efforts of school principals, staff, students and parents, are greatly appreciated ... a lot of hard work goes into these support organisations by all concerned. Thanks to the parents of students involved which enabled the fundraisers to be so meaningful, focussed and successful.

We also wish to thank St. Mary's Parish for the proceeds from the Christmas Giving Tree, totalling €1,670, and thank those who contributed to same. Thanks to Fr. Bill and Fr. Ubaldo for promoting the Giving Tree, and thanks to Deirdre, Mary, Marie, Parish Office staff, and count team, for their continued back-up service.

Wishing all our supporters a safe, healthy and prosperous 2026.

## The lads from long ago.....

We dated this photo, sent in by Paul Dunne, back to the late 1930s, and we believe it was taken at the front of what is now Courtney's Pub.

L-R: Dinny Malone (Scorp), Joe Dignam, Barney Thornberry (*uncle of Paul Dunne*), Paddy Mulligan (Thady), Noel McConnell and Sean Graham (Tweed).

It's nice to hear all those old familiar Lucan names again!

The advertisement under the window ledge is for Will's Wild Woodbine Cigarettes!



## Those Northern Lights.....

We saw wondrous pictures of the Northern Lights from last Monday night. Unfortunately, some of us were all tucked up in bed and missed the real thing.....

Well done to those who braved the cold, to capture those scenes. St. Mary's Camera Soiree have some nice images this week.



**Who remembers** getting sad and fed up about the news in Covid times? We're thinking it's getting a bit like that again with all the horrible news coming our way these days. Enough to make one switch off!!!

## A bit of good news is that our Jack

is progressing well after getting his new hip! Looking forward to seeing him back in the office – the apple tart will be waiting!



## Happy 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday

to **Cormac Fitzgerald**  
in Melbourne

Hope you have a great day!

From all your friends in Lucan



## Society for Old Lucan

The group invites readers to take a look at the following online lectures.



### St. Finian's Esker & Adopt a Monument

Take a look at a guest lecture, delivered to attendees at a Heritage Council conference on preparing for Heritage Week, 2025. The experiences and achievements of the "Adopt a Monument" participation by SOL at St. Finian's Church, Esker, Lucan are discussed in detail by Helen Farrell. See:

<https://youtu.be/hq5tx9fZGLY?si=pGRaRpgcM3LQeIsf>



## Lucan Framed Prints

Did you know you can support the work of SOL and get a beautiful, framed print, including local delivery for 35 euro? See two examples below or contact us at [oldlucan@gmail.com](mailto:oldlucan@gmail.com) for commissions.



## The Power of Three – Sol Guest Lectures The IAI Dec 2025!

Paul Butler (SOL Chair) Jonathan Cully (SOL Secretary and founder of Lucan Memorial Campaign) and me (Helen Farrell) were invited to deliver a guest lecture for the Institutes of Archaeologists of Ireland (IAI) in December 2025, as part of their CPD series!

We called our talk "The Power of Three" and each of us took 3 projects that we have, or are working on, to showcase to archaeologists. It was a real honour to be asked, and testament to just how far Society for Old Lucan (SOL) has come. So grab a cuppa and biscuit (January is too miserable to go without!) and sit back as we guide you through 3 projects each all about Lucan's history and archaeology....

YouTube link here:

<https://youtu.be/8gP3dLrNgvs?si=Sht-mubdYq710LBM>

## Lucan Active Retirement Association

We have elected our New Committee and we are all ready and rearing to go 2026.

We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, every Thursday 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!





## Lucan Community College

**6th year Biology and Chemistry Trip:** Our 6th year Biology and Chemistry students attended a day in Maynooth University, where they took part in practical experiments geared towards their Leaving Cert exams. These activities will be very helpful to them in their exam preparation. It was a great day of learning and also gave students a small taste of university life. Thanks to the teachers who accompanied the students on the day.



**TY Awesome Walls:** The TY students enjoyed a great day out in Awesome Walls, Finglas this week. They got to test their strength and endurance while taking on a variety of climbing challenges and obstacles along the way. The students showed great determination and teamwork as they pushed themselves to try something new. It was a very enjoyable day out and a fantastic activity for building confidence as well as improving fitness.



## St. Mary's B.N.S.

Our school helped to raise €770 for St. Vincent de Paul before Christmas for wearing Christmas jumpers and Santa hats.

Our student council presented the cheque of €770 to our local St. Vincent de Paul representative, Seamus Clandillon.



## St. Joseph's College

**European Parliament Visit:** Our 6th year Politics group had a jam-packed itinerary in Brussels last Wednesday where they got to visit the European Parliament and have a Q&A session with Aodhan O'Riordan MEP. After that the students got to visit the Parliamentarium exhibition and learn about the history of the EU. Thanks to Aodhán and his team for this opportunity.



**Hockey:** Our hockey teams were in action last Friday. The junior team were unfortunately beaten and the first-year match ended 0-0. It was the first match for the first year team in which they played on full pitch with 11-a-side. Well done everyone.

**6th year Art Trip:** On Tuesday, 6th year art students visited the National Gallery of Ireland where they had a tour of 'Picasso: From the Studio' exhibition. They then visited the National Museum and viewed the Bronze Age and Iron Age objects.

**Fundraising:** Congratulations to Sienna Jackson and Joan Phelan for donating all of their profits from their TY Enterprise Fair of €112.50 for Pieta House by selling their custom-made Christmas cards.

**Gaisce Hike:** On Sunday morning 29 Gaisce students from TY, 5th and 6th year hiked the Dublin mountains in practice for the Gaisce 2 day and 3 day hikes in March. The group completed almost 15 km across the Dublin Mountains and had spectacular views with blue skies along the way.

Thank you to Ms. Butler & Ms. McElwain for accompanying the groups with the tour guides and Ms. Bligh. All the students were very happy to complete the walk from Cruagh Woods, along Tibbradden Mountain and to finish at Johnnie Fox's Carpark.



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Find us on our Website:  
[www.stjosephslucan.com](http://www.stjosephslucan.com)



## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Awards:** Well done to 6<sup>th</sup> yr **Joel Mananga** who won the *Mark O' Neill Student of the Month* Award for December in recognition of his excellent behaviour, good manners and pleasant demeanour in class and around the school. Congratulations to 1<sup>st</sup> yr **Killian Costello** who won the *Sports Star of the Month Award* in recognition of his hugely impressive displays for the school's senior hurling and Gaelic football teams.

Comhghairdeas freisin le **Jazim Khan** ón rang 1Heuston a bhuaigh an gradam *Gaeilgeoir na Míosa* do mhí na Samhna mar gheall ar an sár-iarracht a dhéanann sé an Ghaeilge a labhairt agus an sár-obair atá déanta aige sa rang Gaeilge.



The three winners each received a 20euro voucher, as well as a framed certificate. Well done also to the class tutor student of the month winners, who each received a 5euro voucher for the school canteen.

**Basketball:** Our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> yr basketball teams played the 2<sup>nd</sup> of their 4 group games in the East Boys A League on Tuesday against Adamstown CS.

The 1<sup>st</sup> yr game was a high-quality affair between two very attack minded teams. There was nothing to separate the teams at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> 1-4, with the scores level at 8-8. Nathan Adjinakou (4), Billy Gogarty (2) and Alfie Donohue (2) got the team's scores. Adamstown showed the strength of their panel as they opened up a 21-8 lead by half-time. Lucan recovered well in the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1-4 to reduce the deficit to 6 points (21-27) and set up an exciting final 1-4. Nathan (7), Billy (4) and Alfie (2) once again got the scores.

Our 1<sup>st</sup> yrs were simply outstanding in the final 1-4 as they remained calm under pressure and delivered at both ends of the court. Point Guard Nathan showed leadership beyond his years, managing the game brilliantly as Lucan launched their comeback in sensational style. He scored a further 8 points, bringing his personal tally to 19 for the game, while Billy (4) and Alfie (2) got the other key scores.

If the 1<sup>st</sup> yr match was exciting, it was eclipsed by the nerve-shredding tension of the 2<sup>nd</sup> yr match that followed. The opening 1-4 was fairly uneventful as Lucan opened up an 8-3 lead thanks to sores from Eric Savin (4), Matthew Mackey (2) and Blake Carey (2). The 2<sup>nd</sup> 1-4 was more exciting as the team extended their lead to 22-10. Nathan Adjinakou, fresh from his MVP performance in the 1<sup>st</sup> yr game, scored two lovely baskets, as did Sam O' Brien and Cillian O' Neill, while Oisín Major got the other basket.

Adamstown began their comeback in the 3<sup>rd</sup> 1-4 as they reduced the deficit to 7 points (33-26) with a strong and committed performance. Nathan (7), Abdullah Ahmad (2) and Eric (2) got the scores for the team in this 1-4.

The final 1-4 was a thrilling spectacle as both teams traded baskets under immense pressure and momentum swung back and forth. Adamstown actually took the lead late on as they led 42-39 with 16 seconds remaining. Nathan incredibly equalised with a simply stunning 3 pointer to level the scores with seconds left on the clock. In the last play of the game, Lucan regained possession and Eric Savin was the hero as he scored the winning basket with a calm finish under the net.

**Soccer:** Our u17 Soccer team defeated Oatlands College, Mount Merrion 4-2 last Wednesday to advance to the 2<sup>nd</sup> rnd of the Leinster Junior Shield. The in-form Seán Connell scored two fine goals, while the influential Alex Kennedy also bagged a brace with two emphatic finishes. The team were also in action on Tuesday as they faced Coláiste Pobail Setanta, Clonee in the Dublin West League 1-4 final. Lucan raced into a commanding 3-0 lead by half-time thanks to two goals from Josh Kenney and another from Bobby Guy. Bobby scored again in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half to ease the team to victory.

Our senior team advanced to the Dublin West League Final after a hard-fought 2-0 win against Holy Family, Rathcoole last Friday. John Donohue and Matthew McEvoy scored the goals that sealed a deserved win for the team. They will now face Castleknock CC in the Final.

**Past pupil news:** We are proud to congratulate past pupil Alex D'Alba, who graduated in 2025, on receiving a prestigious academic award from Trinity College Dublin on Tuesday night. The award, a 150e voucher and a framed certificate, recognises the Highest Leaving Certificate Results in our school in 2025. Alex, who is studying Engineering at the college, got over 600 points in his exams, a remarkable achievement that reflected many years of dedication, consistency, and hard work.

**Knitting Group** - meets every Monday from 10am to 12pm.  
**All Welcome.**



## ADDITIONAL ADULT EVENTS

**Art with Olla!** – Recreate iconic Dublin Doors, all materials will be provided. 28th January 10am-12noon. Book your place on Eventbrite from 21/01/26.



**Irish Sign Language ISL Course** – Course for beginners with the Irish Deaf Society. Participants must commit to attending all 8 weeks. starting Thursday 29th January at 6.30pm ending 19<sup>th</sup> March. Book your place on Eventbrite from 22/01/26.

**Introduction to Python** – Learn how to create an interactive quiz using python with Coding Ireland. Friday 30th January at 10-11am. Book your place on Eventbrite from 23/01/26.

## BOOK CLUBS



Enquire at the desk about joining one of our book clubs - new members welcome!

**Monday Lunchtime Book Club** – Monday 26th January - 12noon

**Wednesday Book Club** - Wednesday 28th January at 7.00pm



**Read and Eat Cook Book Club (new!)** – Thursday January 29th at 10.30am

## Classic Film Club

**Tuesday 27th January**

Tea/coffee from 5.30pm,  
film starting at 6pm.

All Welcome!



## YOUNG CHILDREN

**Storytime** - Every Tuesday at 3pm - no booking required, all welcome!



## EXHIBITIONS

Kishoge Community College - Exhibition of Poetry: Starting 07th January  
1960's Dublin Photo Exhibition: Starting 12th January



### Other Resources:

#### My Open Library

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!

## CLOSED FEBRUARY BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

**Sat 31st - Mon 02<sup>nd</sup> inclusive**

Please enquire with staff about My Open Library/ Extended Hours membership.



## Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



### Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €5,000.

The Numbers drawn were **3, 4, 13 & 16.**

**Lucky dips** go to

- Brian Mahon
- Dolores Maher
- Linda Murphy
- Margret Brooks
- Mark Kelly.



This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €5,400. This draw is sponsored by Newcastle Golf Centre and will be led by Cormac Gordon.

Starting next week, January 29<sup>th</sup> we will be moving to our 32 number draw. Please scan attached QR Code to see details and register to play.



### Membership

A reminder that our 2026 Membership is now due for payment. Please log into ClubZap and follow the directions to see all payment options.

### 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.

### 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 and 2019 – 11am.

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



### Palmerstown Camera Club

Palmerstown Camera Club had our monthly competition on Wednesday the 7th of January in the Palmerstown Parish Centre. The theme was (macro).

The winners were:

**Novice** - Mairead Harrington.

**Intermediate** - James Grandfield, Michael Toner, John O Flaherty, John Dunne, Liam O Daliagh, David Barrett

**Advanced** - Aoife Tierney, Kevin Naughton, Susan Carney, Lorraine Morris, Nina Butler.



The image of the month went to Lorraine Morris. Palmerstown Camera Club is always open to new members joining. We run every Wednesday night from 8 to 10pm in Palmerstown Parish Centre.

## From days gone by.....



Before Sarsfield Park existed!

These photos from Dublin City archives date from the 1950s, when Lucan was regarded as a rural village.

It was usual to see sheep graze on this site, which was owned by Shackletons back then.

The area behind The Square and Vesey Terrace comprised of allotments where locals grew their vegetables.

*Wonder who the fellow with the bicycle is!!!*

The same site viewed from the Old Spa.

The houses on Chapel Hill are visible, and just at the bottom of the picture, is a chimney of the Old Spa House, where many families were raised since the early 1800s.

The last family left in 1968, and the house was demolished.

The Old Spa was an Iron Spa, and up to the 1970s, a pump was on site, for anyone who wanted the spa water. It was situated close to the bottom of the steps leading from the Main Road down to present day Sarsfield Park.



Following vandalism over the years, the pump was removed, and in 2005, the site filled in.

Sarsfield Park was built in three stages, beginning in 1960, and being completed in 1968.

# Political Notes

## Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Fein Rep

Mobile: 087-2136345

Email: [dobradaighsf@gmail.com](mailto:dobradaighsf@gmail.com)

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

### Adamstown - New Boulevard Park Update:

The Central Boulevard Park is due to commence construction in Q1 2026 and will provide a strategic open space of c2ha adjacent to Adamstown Boulevard. This strategic park will link the Plaza with Airlie Park and provide for biodiversity and passive and active recreation. In addition, the proposed civic building accommodating library, community and enterprise uses is at pre-planning stage and will provide a civic focal point adjacent to Adamstown Plaza.

### Doddsboro Shops – Attention to Recent Works Needed!

Last year the Doddsboro Shopping Centre vicinity underwent some changes to the car park and shops front area, as part of the councils wider District Enhancement Scheme project works. On a recent walkabout here, I was disappointed to note that the grass buffer area between Spar and the car park have been left incomplete, with two manholes exposed and this space being somewhat hazardous for shoppers and passers-by.

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

(085)2551602 [CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie](mailto:CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie)

### Esker Park Flood Alleviation:

Following my representations, the Council investigated recurring flooding at Esker Park and confirmed that a replacement gully and new connection were required. Works commenced last week, and this should resolve flooding at this location.

**Active Travel Government Funding** announced this week delivers significant investment for Lucan, including Grand Canal to Lucan Urban Greenway Phase 1a €445,000, Phase 1b €200,000, Phase 1c €50,000, Canal Loop Phase 2 €12,500, 12th Lock to Hazelhatch Bridge €100,000, Esker Permeability Scheme €100,000 and Clonburris Southern Link Street €1,000,000. **Safe Routes to School** funding includes Scoil Áine Naofa €150,000 and St. Thomas €100,000. A further €50,000 is allocated to progress a **Quiet Streets** programme to support safer residential areas.

Please contact me if you wish to raise issues at meetings of the County Council, Lucan Area or South Dublin Community Safety Partnership.

## Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 618 3013.

Insta: @emerhigginstd

[Emer.Higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:Emer.Higgins@oireachtas.ie)

### Safe Routes to School – Lucan:

I am delighted to share positive news for schools across Dublin Mid-West, in particular two schools in Lucan having received significant funding awarded under the Safe Routes to School programme to support safer and more sustainable travel for students.

### Funding has been allocated as follows:

- Scoil Áine Naofa, Lucan – €150,000
- St Thomas' JNS, Lucan – €100,000

This investment will help improve road safety and encourage walking and cycling in our communities.

### Lucan Swimming Pool Update:

The latest update from the January 2026 County Council meeting confirms that the pool is now being filled, with arrangements for handover to the operator being finalised. This is a significant step forward, and I am hopeful the facility will open to residents soon.

## Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell

“Not just at election time”

Dáil office: 01 6184078.

WhatsApp: 0892364871.

Website: [www.paulgogarty.com](http://www.paulgogarty.com)

### Dáil Report:

This week my contributions included again highlighting the transport gridlock in Lucan and lack of workable public transport alternatives. I also raised a number of geopolitical issues globally, discussed EU presidency priorities and tourism issues, highlighted the need to invest in water infrastructure nationally and locally and supported a motion seeking additional legal measures to control the sale of nitrous oxide canisters for drug-related use. I also queried the funding and enforcement of new measures announced in relation to providers of home care supports.

### Esker Cemetery Columbarium Wall:

South Dublin County Council got back recently with details of pricing. I posted this on local Facebook pages but it can now also be viewed on the home page of my website under “updates” or else at [www.paulgogarty.com/post/columbarium](http://www.paulgogarty.com/post/columbarium).

*Political Notes continued over.....*

## Political Notes *Cont'd.*

### Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD, Independent

Email: [hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie](mailto:hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie)

Tel: 087-2794936.

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/4jHwrjR>

### Newly Appointed Peace Commissioner & Clinic Next Week:

I was delighted to be appointed a Peace Commissioner in December 2025. A Peace Commissioner is an appointed official authorised to witness signatures and certify true copies of documents for legal and citizenship matters. My clinic next week will be on Monday 26 Jan at 12.00-1pm in the River Café, Lucan village. Please email or WhatsApp me in advance, if you plan to attend for Peace Commissioner services.

### Microsoft Change X Funding Opportunity Open:

I attended the launch of 2026 Microsoft Community Fund for South & West Dublin. Two Lucan schools received 2025 grants: St. Andrew's NS for a sensory garden and Lucan Community NS for STEM projects. Community groups can apply for up to €5,000 - [www.changex.org](http://www.changex.org) – scroll down the page for details.

### Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent

0872795274..

[lotoole@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie](mailto:lotoole@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie) [lionaotoole.com](http://lionaotoole.com)

### Bus Survey:

Following my successful motion, I have secured meetings with the National Transport Authority to discuss the bus network serving our area. Please take a moment to complete the survey below.

Every response strengthens the case for improvements to routes, frequency and reliability.

<https://forms.gle/rTapAL9jfwREosGRA>

### Road Resurfacing and Footpath Repair:

If you have previously reported a damaged footpath or road surface that remains outstanding, please get in touch. I will shortly be reviewing the 2026 Roads Works Programme, an opportunity to highlight locations unresolved or not currently listed in the draft. Flagging issues now will help ensure they are raised and considered.

Did you know you can receive the South Dublin County Council weekly planning list?

Email [info@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:info@sdblincoco.ie) to be added and get updates showing planning applications and proposed developments in your area each week locally nearby areas.

## City Bus Network Undermined

Taking all buses out of Dame St makes no transport sense. This street has been one of the key pillars for bus public transport in Dublin centre for over one hundred years. Never any complaints in my time. It created balance in the city centre. Now other streets will have to take up all these buses all for an extended city Plaza. The Plaza is a welcome initiative for College Green as originally proposed, but suddenly it was decided to extend it an extra few hundred yards for no extra advantage.



So almost one thousand bus trips a day will be diverted to other streets for no extra passengers makes no planning sense, when more buses with passengers are needed to ease traffic congestion. Some routes will be diverted away from the city centre, not great for elderly or users with a disability who use these routes. We should adhere to the old proverb if not broken don't fix it.

We need a simple solution for the bus network in the city centre, otherwise the public transport network in the city centre will choke itself and will leave buses short where there are needed. See bus and rail solution @ acratu.com

*Tom Newton 086 3127364 ACRA*

## Grandma Always Said

- Don't go where you're not invited.
- Don't talk about what you don't know.
- Don't interfere with things that are none of your business.
- Don't open cupboard or fridge doors in other people's houses.
- Don't go to see people at lunchtime.
- Don't call people after 10pm.
- Don't go into anyone's bedroom without permission.
- Good manners are easy carried and never go out of fashion.

*A good friend is like a four-leaf clover,  
Hard to find and lucky to have.  
Irish Proverb.*

## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

There was great excitement amongst the members of the Camera Soirée last Monday night when the Northern Lights (or 'Aurora borealis' in the northern hemisphere) put on their show. Sadly, it was impossible to see the display in some part of Lucan because of the pollution of the nighttime sky caused by street lighting and other nighttime lights. However, Kay managed to get some shots wherever she was. According to the Met Éireann website these displays are the results of collisions between gas particles in our atmosphere and charged particles ejected from the Sun's atmosphere. The colour of the Northern Lights will change due to the type of gas particles that are colliding. Oxygen molecules produce a greenish-yellow colour and blue or purple auroras indicate the presence of nitrogen molecules.



Don sent in an interesting slow exposure of the headlights and tail lights of rush hour traffic on the M4 motorway as well as of a cargo vessel presumably off the coast of Kerry.



Paddy got to Corkagh Park which is located near the Naas Road, stretching towards Clondalkin village. The park was opened to the public in 1986 and was formerly part of Corkagh Demesne which had been purchased by what was then Dublin County Council

in 1983. The name Corkagh is possibly derived from the old Irish word meaning marsh. This would be in keeping with the fact that the River Camac flows through the middle of the present-day park and former estate lands.

*Stay safe until next week!*