



Established 1967

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

Sub. €1

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025

## Following Shiny Lights! Are you following Trump!

Ignatian spirituality holds the image of light before us as a guide in decision making and prayer. St Ignatius was originally a soldier and had been in battles where it was important to hold and follow the standard of the battalion in order to ensure that one was in the right direction. The standard usually was flown on a shiny pole so that light and reflection would first beckon and then the colour of the flag as focus for the eye.

In Ignatian spirituality one becomes alert to the fact that light shines from both the friendly and the enemy camp so that we must look deeper and at the subtleties for greater certainty, security and purpose. It is usually tempting to following the light and things that are shiny; even supposedly if we are magpies!

Today's world shines many lights that draw us in many directions. I think that the greatest danger that we have in seeking the right light for ourselves and our community is that of rushing because we don't take time to discuss, consider and reflect. The quickest delivery of light filled ideas and things come through social media as quick flash lights. A quick flashlight just about provides us with direction for one step forward! If, instead, we stop and stand still for a while our eyes, senses, ideas will accommodate even to darkness and allow for a finding of a greater sure-foot!

Watching the inauguration of President Trump was shocking in its' demonstration of narcissism, capitalist power, condemnation of any difference or contrasting opinion, total casting aside of past leadership as a chain of connection and absolute delusion. The delusions of one person has many explanations whereas the delusions of that one with a large cohort of followers then becomes very destructive!

We can do nothing about the new era in the US, but we can watch our own consumption of information and check if the light that guides us is enduring and life-giving or simply flashing. We need to engage in broad and open discussion, take time to step apart and reflect and to have sure foundation and propose for all decisions and actions. As was posed at a recent input at the ecumenical gathering in St Mary's on Monday last, the questions of **Who do we believe in** and **What do we believe in** make a difference to how we live as individuals and as a universal people. We each have great power to do good or wrong. Let's choose our lights carefully and hold onto roots with deep meaning!

*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

### Were you off work due to the severe weather?

Your employment contract or statement of terms might include a set procedure for what happens if a severe weather event disrupts your work.

*If it doesn't, the following applies:*

If your workplace closes due to severe weather Your employer may lay you off if they cannot provide you with work temporarily.

If you are laid off, you may qualify for Jobseeker's Benefit or Jobseeker's Allowance depending on your situation.

If you are getting Working Family Payment, it may be affected if your working hours are reduced.

#### Employment rights when laid off

While laid off, you are still an employee of the company, and your contract of employment is still valid.

You do not build up annual leave during lay-off, but you can use any annual leave you earned before being laid off.

#### If you can't make it to work due to severe weather

Your employer does not have to pay you if you miss work because of extreme weather. You may be able to take annual leave, but this needs to be agreed with your employer.

Some employers offer flexible arrangements, like working from home or making up the lost hours. These options are at your employer's discretion.

The Workplace Relations Commission have more information about absence from work during extreme weather events.

Find more information on our website.

### XL Bully Dogs

From 1 February 2025, it will be illegal to own an XL Bully dog unless you have a Certificate of Exemption.

So, if you already own an XL Bully, you must get a Certificate of Exemption before 1 February 2025. The certificate means you can keep your XL Bully at a particular location until the end of their natural life.

The rules for this ban are set out in the Control of Dogs (XL Bully) Regulations 2024.

If you are an XL Bully dog owner with questions about these regulations you can contact [DogControl@drdcd.gov.ie](mailto:DogControl@drdcd.gov.ie).

The Department of Rural and Community Development has a useful FAQ document (pdf) on the new XL Bully dog regulations.

#### How do I know if my dog is an XL Bully?

XL Bully dogs are a variant of the American Bully breed. They are usually bigger in height and body shape than other American Bully breed types.

The Department of Rural and Community Development has published a physical confirmation standard (pdf), which you can use to check if your dog meets the physical characteristics of an XL Bully dog.

It is your responsibility as the owner to determine if your dog is covered by the ban.

#### How do I get a Certificate of Exemption for my XL Bully dog?

If you own an XL Bully, you need to get a Certificate of Exemption before 1 February 2025. To get a Certificate of Exemption, your XL Bully must be:

Licensed

Microchipped

Neutered

You can apply for a certificate before 31 January 2025 by completing and submitting a form to your local authority. You get the application form from your local authority. It is free to get a Certificate of Exemption.

More information on our website.

## Lucan Men's Shed are seeking a Premises

Lucan Men's Shed has been successfully operating for a number of years.



Unfortunately, we have lost our Shed premises and are currently meeting by kind permission in St Mary's Parish Centre on Tuesday mornings from 10.30am

We engage in numerous activities and visit places of interest. We are affiliated to The Irish Men's Shed Association (ISMA) and are one of over 450 Sheds in Ireland. The Shed provides an important resource for men to engage with each other and adheres to the maxim that men talk 'shoulder to shoulder' rather than 'face to face'.

Ideally, we are seeking a premises in Lucan Village or within the nearby surrounding area.

We would be delighted to engage with a commercial business, organisation or individual who might kindly wish to enable us to obtain a 'new home'.

The age profile of our members ranges from those in their 60's up to a member who has attained the age of 92. Although we have reached capacity, we prefer not to turn people away.

We are willing to carry out minor repairs or decorate if required. We can pay rent and hold public liability insurance.

If you have a suitable premises and are willing to allow it to be used as a Men's Shed. Please contact the undersigned.

*Alan Nason (Secretary)*

Mob 086 8211275

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

## Irish Conversation



If you would like to practice or improve your Irish Conversation, we are a group of like-minded people that meet on

**Wednesday mornings in**

**St. Mary's Parish Centre 10.30am – 11.30am.**

Why not join us for a cupán tae and cúpla focail.

Bí gí linn chun gaeilge a labhairt!

There is no charge, just donation towards Tea / Coffee.

## Lucan ICA

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January: Crafts continue from 10am to 12-30.

For the Committee Ladies, there will be a short meeting at 10-30am.

*Tea Hostesses* are Patricia and Mary.

We are open for new members to join; we do all types of crafts and topics such as knitting, sewing, embroidery, health talks, day trips, Theatre, Group nights (meeting up with neighbouring guilds), card making, jewellery making, and gardening talks to name a few.



We meet every Monday except bank holidays in St Marys Parish Centre. Do drop in if interested, where you will meet friendly ladies for a chat and a cup of tea with homemade scones provided.

*Pauline*

## Q: Who is my Neighbour?

**A: All Mankind.** Looking at the news it is heart-breaking to see the suffering that is being experienced by our neighbours in Gaza. Parents watching their children fading away from starvation or possibly young children deprived of parents.

People are now, during the six-week respite, going back to their homes only to find rubble. Try and put ourselves in their position, it's almost impossible to perceive.

Can we do anything to help our neighbour? If we are serious about helping there are some ways we can make a difference! Possible you are thinking of going on pilgrimage to Lourdes, maybe you could put it off until next year and donate the cost to one of the voluntary organisations who give their time (and sometimes their lives) to help – as much as they are allowed to. If you intend taking a few short breaks during the summer possibly you could leave one out and donate the cost to one of the many good organisations helping in Gaza.

Encourage your own children / grand children to donate some of their pocket money to help children living in such terrible conditions, they will probably be so happy to know their small donation can help other children.

Let us all remember the widow's mite. Giving can bring such happiness to the donor.

Maybe some day at the end of our life we might hear "Well done good and faithful servant".

*M.S. – details with Lucan Newsletter.*

# Parish Notes

## St Mary's, Lucan

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



### St. Mary's Readers' Roster February 2025

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of February 2025 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.

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

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

**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.*

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

**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.

**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 10:30 a.m. Mass, the Family Mass, on the Sunday prior to their actual baptism date. Dates are bookable on line.  
Email: [secretary@lucanparish.com](mailto:secretary@lucanparish.com)

**Deepest Sympathy** to the family and friends of **Anne Coogan**, Cherbury Park Road, to the family and friends of **Esther Boyle**, Esker Lawns and to the wife, family and friends of **Michael Griffin**, Roselawn.  
*May they rest in peace.*



**Lucan Parish**  
**PILGRIMAGE TO**  
**LOURDES**

**MYRIAM**  
Tours

Tour organizers: MYRIAM, Licensed by the Irish Aviation Authority. TA 0776

**MAY 11 -15, 2025**  
Led by Fr Philip Curran  
€795 per person sharing in double/twin room.  
Full board in 4-star hotel in Lourdes

TO BOOK: Please call us on 057 9355050 and we can take your booking and payment (debit card only) over the phone. Or email us on: [info@myriam.ie](mailto:info@myriam.ie) for a payment link or more information.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aer Lingus flights Dublin to Toulouse</li><li>• 10kg checked-in luggage plus small bag</li><li>• 4 nights in a 4-star hotel in Lourdes</li><li>• Breakfast, lunch and dinner each day</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full time accompaniment</li><li>• Coach transfers in Lourdes to/from airport</li><li>• Trip to Bartres</li><li>• Organisation of a full religious programme</li></ul>
---	---

Call us on 057 93 55050 or email us at [infor@myriam.ie](mailto:infor@myriam.ie)

### Quote

Kind words can be short and easy to speak but their echoes are truly endless.  
*From Divine Word Missionaries Calendar*

## Divine Mercy, Lucan South

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



**Sunday Mass Times:** Vigil: 6pm.  
Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12.00 noon.

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

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

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

**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*

**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.

**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.

## 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 at 10am.

**All Masses livestreamed at** [stpatrickslucan.ie](http://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](mailto:secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie)

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

**St. Patrick's Parish Lucan  
Fundraiser Lotto**

*Your support makes a real difference*  
Jackpot increases every week plus a weekly winner prize

**Play**  
Pick 4 numbers  
The same numbers will be played for you each week

**Pay**  
1 line for €2.50, 2 lines for €4  
or 3 Lines for €5  
Maximum 3 lines per person

**Win**  
Match 4 numbers to win the Jackpot

**Join now.**  
Scan the QR code or go to our website

  
Our Fundraiser

<https://www.ourfundraiser.ie/org/stpatrickslucan>

Powered by Our Fundraiser - fundraising made easy For more information email [info@ourfundraiser.ie](mailto:info@ourfundraiser.ie)

### Quote:

Be grateful, and be positive.

Because life is too short to always be worried.  
Let go of the stress and realise you are blessed.

*From Divine Word Missionaries Calendar*

## Acknowledgement

### Sean Burke

The family of the late Sean would like to thank all those who supported them in their recent bereavement. All who attended the funeral, gave their condolences and Mass Cards. Also thanks to the Dodsboro Clinic and the Doctors and Nurses at Beaumont Hospital. Sean's month's mind Mass will be offered at 12pm on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January at St Patrick's Church, Esker, Lucan.



## Anniversaries

### Marie Cowley

4<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 26<sup>th</sup> January

Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us every day  
Unseen, unheard but always near  
Still loved, still missed and very dear  
Till we meet again, rest in peace.  
*In loving memory from her husband  
and all the members of the family.*



### Paddy Monaghan

2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary, 25<sup>th</sup> January

Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us everyday  
Unseen, unheard but always near  
Still loved, still missed and very dear.  
*Missed and loved so much, Kathleen, David,  
Alan, Patricia and Philip, daughters in law  
and all of his grandchildren.*



### John F McDonald

11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 23<sup>rd</sup> January

The Mall (Auctioneer)  
*Always remembered by his loving wife Clare,  
daughters Joan, Mary, Clare, Emma. Helen and  
son Barry, his grandchildren, all his extended  
family both in Ireland and overseas and his  
neighbours.*



## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30 – 12.30. New members always welcome!



## Minder & Toddler Group

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



Age Action  
Getting Started  
Digital Skills  
(One to One)

Classes for older people. Support using your phone, laptop, tablet.

Every Tuesday 10:30am – 12:30pm, Leixlip Library.

To sign up for the free classes please call T:01 4756989 or email: [gettingstarted@ageaction.ie](mailto:gettingstarted@ageaction.ie)

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



**Batten down the hatches!**

That's the advice on going to press this week as Storm Éowyn is heading our way. Looks like we're in for a real battering. Stay safe everyone!

**Lucan was in the news** again last weekend, as word spread of the death of a man in a fire in the village. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends, who received the sad news.



**After five and a half years, we have our footpath back,** and what a good job it is – it looks like the whole stretch of footpath from this point to the village could do with upgrading.....

Maybe there'll be a few bob left over from all the other works!

Last week, we mentioned that the wall opposite Courtneys was no more!

Just wondering where the ghosts of these old lads go now!!!



**The Millennium Candles!**



Can you believe that it is just over 25 years since each household received the Millennium Candle – the idea was to light your candle on New Year's Eve 1999.

The following verse was enclosed with the candle:

*When time began to rant and rage  
The measure of her flying feet  
Made Ireland's heart begin to beat;  
And Time bade all his candles flare  
To light a measure here and there;*

*W. B. Yeats "To Ireland in the coming times"*

**Stealing the headlines from Trump!**

It certainly got us talking about something other than Trump, when we witnessed the chaos at Dáil Éireann on Wednesday last!

Right or wrong, you had to feel sorry for the Ceann Comhairle.....



## Village Green Steps

### Introduction

Under the supervision of the SDCC, contractors have been refurbishing the Village green in the Centre of Lucan for several weeks.

One of the features of this so-called enhancement works is the construction of a stair as part of the new layout design.

Some local people have commented adversely on the construction of a stair because of the safety implications for the public when in future use. The plan helpfully also includes the construction of a ramp that can be used in lieu of a stair.

### Background

The stair will be used by the general public which will include the elderly, possibly the visually impaired, children pulling, pushing, reaching while playing. The physically impaired including all ages and capabilities.

Steps by their nature are inherently dangerous, their usage can result in many injuries ranging from minor to major such as broken legs or spinal injuries in the worst cases. Many patients are admitted to hospitals resulting from slips, trips and falls yearly.

Apart from the desirability of a stairs which is in question, the existing design is not as safe as it could be, because the "rise" and the "going" as presently envisaged is insufficient on grounds of safety. The SDCC has been informed of the preferred dimensions of the "rise" and the "going" in writing.

### Action

If you have concern about the current design which includes a stair in this location or have any other concerns, you may want to contact the SDCC directly or the resident site engineer at email [joekelly@sdublincoco.ie](mailto:joekelly@sdublincoco.ie)

Sincerely  
Martin Regan  
Liam Murray  
Beech Park.

## Happy 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday

to **Cormac Fitzgerald**  
in Melbourne



Hope you have a great day!  
From all your friends in Lucan

## Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

Email: [info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie](mailto: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:** We have started a 4-week Qigong class this is open to anyone over the age of 55. It's on Thursday's workshop 1-2 then stay for tea and chats until 3. This is pay as you go €5 per class.

**New Year, New Term:** There are lots of other classes to get involved in. Some of the classes are Yoga, Pilates, Irish Dancing and Art for both children and adults. If you are interested in any classes feel free to get in touch.

**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.



Women's  
Collective  
Ireland  
LUCAN

WCI Lucan  
Community Update -  
January 2025

We're delighted to share that our **Registration Morning** was a huge success, and we're thrilled to welcome so many of you to our new term programs! A few spaces are still available in the following groups:

- **Mixed Crafts** (Adamstown)
- **Conversation Club**
- **55 & Thriving Social Group**

If you'd like to join any of these, get in touch quickly as places are filling up fast!

For those who purchased tickets for our **cancelled Nollaig na mBan event**, we'll have an update for you very soon—stay tuned!

**We're Hiring!** Exciting opportunities to join the WCI Lucan team are now available. Check out the job advert for all the details. If you or someone you know is interested, we'd love to hear from you!

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another fantastic year of community programs and events.

*Warm regards,*

*Rita, Joanne, Jackie & Marie*





# SCHOOL NEWS



## St. Joseph's College

**Junior Camogie:** Hard luck to our junior camogie team who were beaten in the Junior A Shield final last Wednesday by Maynooth Community College. Despite our girls having a bad start to the game they battled back heroically to get themselves back into the game and could well have pushed on and won the game in the end. Despite the end to the year it was a fantastic year for our junior camogie team and a great achievement to reach the final. Mr Quinn and Mr Kirwan would like to thank all the players for their hard work and commitment throughout the year.

**Nursing careers talk:** A big thank you to our past student Kris McNally who visited the school to talk to our 6<sup>th</sup> year students about a career in nursing. Kris gave a brilliant insight into the positives and challenges of following a career in nursing.

**First and Second Year basketball:** Well done to our first and second year basketball team who had a great win against Holy Faith, Rathcoole in their opening league game. They play again this Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> January against Kishogue Community College. Best of luck to the team



**Liberties College Visit:** Last Thursday a group of sixth years visited Liberties College for their open day. The students got a brilliant amount of information on the campus, facilities and the courses they have to offer. Thanks to the guidance department for organising the trip.

**Mental Health Week:** Last week in the school was Mental Health Week. The theme on Monday during Mental Health Week was to connect and the students had fun connecting at lunch time

playing games and boardgames. The theme on Tuesday during Mental Health Week was to Keep Active so the students took out the Skipping Ropes and had fun Keeping Active during lunchtime. Learning a new skill is good for our mental health so today the students shared their skills of hair braiding, crocheting, learning Ukrainian, karate, batoning & guitar at lunchtime.

**Under 17 soccer:** Well done to our under 17 soccer team who had a great win against St. Setons in their league game on Monday.

**Senior Concern Debaters:** Well done to our Senior Debaters and our intrepid team of researchers. You did the school proud in your performance against a very strong team from Maynooth Community College. We await the adjudication and feedback with interest. We should have a result by early next week. Once again a big thank you and a shout out for all of Joey's teaching staff accommodating our debating students in their preparations and practice.



**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.

**Follow Us on Twitter:** @StJosephsLucan

**Instagram:** @stjosephscolgelucan

**Website:** [www.stjosephslucan.com](http://www.stjosephslucan.com)

## Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

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

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

## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Soccer:** Our **u19** soccer team's campaign came to a disappointing end last Friday when they were beaten 6-2 by Marian College in the 1<sup>st</sup> rnd of the Leinster Senior Shield. Marian took a 3-0 lead before Lucan struck back with goals from James Keogh and Eoin Maher. The game was in the balance for 10mins or so as Lucan pressed hard for an equaliser. As Lucan committed players forward at every opportunity, Marian took advantage of the space in behind late on to score three further goals to win well in the end.

Our **u17** team were beaten 2-0 by Ashbourne CS in the 3<sup>rd</sup> rnd of the Junior Leinster Cup on Wednesday. Ashbourne took a 1<sup>st</sup> half lead with a well taken free-kick from just outside the box. Lucan pressed hard for an equaliser and created some good opportunities, especially in an excellent 2<sup>nd</sup> half display. However, Ashbourne scored a penalty in the last minute to seal the win. Our **u15** team were knocked out of the Leinster Minor Shield last week after a narrow 1-0 defeat to Templeogue College in their 2<sup>nd</sup> rnd encounter. It was a very tight game, with very little between the teams, and Lucan were unlucky a number of times in front of goal, with some last-ditch defending and some slightly fortunate blocks denying them what would have been a deserved equaliser.

**Football:** Our **1<sup>st</sup> yr** football team were beaten by Clonkeen College in the Dublin League Plate semi-final last Thursday. The team made a great start and Rian Burke scored the opening goal after 10mins. Clonkeen struggled to deal with Austin Radford's powerful, direct running in the early stages and he knocked over three excellent points in the 1<sup>st</sup> half. Clonkeen eventually got a foothold in the game and the teams were level at 1-05 apiece at half time.

The game slipped away from Lucan a little at the start of the 2<sup>nd</sup> half as Clonkeen took advantage of a strengthening wind to score a further 1-05 without reply. Ruairí Dowling gave the team hope with a superb goal from distance and Daniel Kavanagh added a well-taken point, but Clonkeen held on to win 2-11 to 2-06.

Hard luck also to our **2<sup>nd</sup> yr** team who suffered an agonising extra-time defeat to Coláiste Chiaráin, Leixlip in the Dublin League "C" semi-final last Wednesday. Aaron Farrell, Caolin Reilly, Rían Murphy (2) scored the goals but it wasn't enough on the day as Coláiste Chiaráin eventually took control of the game in extra-time to win by 4 points (4-19 to 4-15).

**Recycling:** Coláiste Phádraig has introduced a special orange bin for recycling Re-turn bottles

and cans in the school. The company behind the scheme, trading as Re-Turn, provided Ms Casey with the bin for students to deposit their empties. It has been placed at the student school entrance for returning any unwanted plastic bottles and cans.

By introducing deposit return here in our school, we will help reduce litter and waste as well as raising awareness about how important it is to help protect the environment. The money raised through this scheme will be donated to a charity at the end of the school year.

Re-Turn have also set up a 'Communities Map' to highlight the different initiatives taking place around the country which Ms Casey has signed up to. This may help increase the volumes by highlighting our fundraiser in our area for people to support. Re-Turn have had a lot of queries from people asking how to donate their containers rather than bringing them to a machine or putting them in the bin. By directing people to the Map, they hope that they will be able to find a fundraiser nearby to support.

They also have a lot of companies who are interested in supporting local initiatives, so again they can be directed to the map to find an initiative to support. The information on the Map is the Eircode Ms Casey provided, and no other contact details are visible. A huge thank you to all the staff and students who have deposited their bottles and cans to date. It is very much appreciated

**Home Economics:** Last week, our 1<sup>st</sup> yr Home Economics students embarked on a fun and delicious baking class, preparing a classic sponge



cake filled with jam and cream. With a focus on mastering basic baking techniques such

as the whisking method and skilfully lining their baking tins, the students used electric mixers, ensuring the cake was light and fluffy. After baking, they skilfully spread a layer of sweet jam and whipped cream, and assembled the cake. The experience not only taught them important culinary skills, but also gave them a sense of accomplishment as they enjoyed the delicious fruits of their hard work!

## Lucan Community College

**Congratulations:** A warm congratulations from Lucan CC to 'Team Power of One' who rowed 5000km across the Atlantic Ocean from San Sebastian de La Gomera to Antigua, not only did they complete the race, but they managed to come in third place. The team consisted of 5 men Conor, Daragh, Enda and Roger and John who is the father of our late LCC pupil Saoirse.



The men took on this challenge in honour of Saoirse and to raise vital funds for Heart Children Ireland. To donate go to our school website or simply type team power of one and donate to find the page.



**Team Maths:** Lucan CCs Math's team has started their training for their Team Math's competition. Team Math's is a table quiz for teams of 4 students from Leaving Certificate years with questions based on the Leaving Certificate higher level course. Ordinarily, regional rounds are held nationwide by local branches under common rules and questions with teams qualifying for the National final. Best of luck everyone.



**Basketball:** The Junior boys played against Old Bawn CS on Monday.

1st Years lost their game but top scorers were Ryan Essombo and Iker Aguado.

2nd years won 42 points to 8, with Jamie Geary scoring 20 baskets in that game.



**Coláiste Chiaráin,  
Leixlip,  
Co. Kildare**



### **EVENING CLASSES** **Spring 2025**

QQI Classes: SNA Level 5 and Healthcare  
Hobby Classes: Computers, Languages,  
Crafts, Cookery, Music, Exercise .... And  
much more!

**Enrol online now at:**

**[www.colaistechiarainleixlip.com](http://www.colaistechiarainleixlip.com)**

Classes are due to commence on Tuesday and  
Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> January (unless  
otherwise specified).

NEW: Some daytime classes and Saturday  
workshops

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Classes are open to anyone over 16 years of  
age.

For further details go to:

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

Email: [adulded@colaistechiarain.com](mailto:adulded@colaistechiarain.com)

Phone (01) 6247624 / 6295046



**SOLAS BHRÍDE**  
CENTRE AND  
HERMITAGES

BRIGID 1500

Phone: +353 (0)45 522890

Email: [info@solasbhríde.ie](mailto:info@solasbhríde.ie)



## Events 2025

Friday - 31/01, 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

### **Pilgrimage on St. Brigid's Eve**

Japanese Garden's  
Carpark Japanese Gardens,  
Kildare. Join us for a candlelight  
pilgrimage at the dawn of  
springtime and the eve of St.  
Brigid's Day.



Saturday - 01/02, 10:00 am - 11:30 am

### **Cross Weaving**

Solas Bhríde Centre Solas Bhríde Centre &  
Hermitages, Tully Road, Kildare Town, Co.  
Kildare. St. Brigid Cross is the most enduring  
tradition associated with St. Brigid.

Saturday - 01/02, 12:00 pm - 12:01 pm

### **Kildare calls for a Global Pause for Peace**

Join us in a global Pause for Peace.  
Time: 12.00 local time - St. Brigid's day,  
February 1st

Sunday 2/02, 10:30 am - 11:30 am

### **Mass at St. Brigid's Well**

St. Brigid's Well Brallistown Little, Kildare  
Town, Co. Kildare.  
Time: 10.30 a.m. Venue: St. Brigid's Well.  
Car parking facilities are available at Solas Bhríde  
Spirituality Centre.

Sunday 2/02, 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm

### **Gathering around the Hearth**

Solas Bhríde Centre Solas Bhríde Centre &  
Hermitages, Tully Road, Kildare Town, Co.  
Kildare.  
Celebrating Brigid through traditional music,  
story, conversation and poetry.

Monday 03/02, 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

### **The Stones of the Hollow Hill- Kerdiffstown Park**

Solas Bhríde Centre Solas Bhríde Centre &  
Hermitages, Tully Road, Kildare Town, Co.  
Kildare.

Inspired by the discovery of a Brigid's Day solar  
alignment, artist James Winnett will give a  
presentation ...Free.

Wednesday 05/02, 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

### **Annual Celtic Lecture: "The Material World of St. Brigid"**

Kildare Education Centre Friary Rd, Kildare  
town, Co. Kildare.

Exploring what light archaeological evidence can  
shed on people, the economy and life in Brigid's  
period. Accounts of St. Brigid in the lives written  
in the 7th century and later centuries portray not  
only a remarkable, holy woman, but one who  
seems grounded in the real world, taking part in  
household chores.

### **St Brigid's Prayer**

You were a woman of peace.  
You brought harmony where there was  
conflict.  
You brought light into the darkness.  
You brought hope to the downcast.  
May the mantle of your peace cover  
those who are troubled and anxious,  
and may peace be firmly rooted in our  
hearts and in our world.

Inspire us to act justly and to reverence  
all God has made.  
Brigid you were a voice for the wounded  
and the weary.  
Strengthen what is weak within us. Calm  
us into a quietness that heals and listens.  
May we grow each day into greater  
wholeness in mind, body and spirit.  
Amen.

*(author unknown).*



## On Planning.....

A proposal to erect a four-storey building with 20 apartments on a corner site within 50 meters of the busiest controlled road junction in the whole of Lucan is back in the limelight, in spite of a planning refusal four years ago. I am quoting from the planning inspectors 37 page Report.

Planning permission as refused and four reasons were given: It is contrary to local planning policy; it is contrary to national planning policy; it breaks section 3 of the Building Guidelines; the proposed building “would be visually obtrusive and would adversely impact on the visual and residential amenity of adjacent properties” and result in the intensification of traffic onto a heavily-trafficked regional road.

I would add that there was a heavy volume of objections and would note that my own submission was rejected by the Planning Authority as ‘invalid’.

The development is in direct contravention of the zoning objective ‘to protect and improve residential amenities’. It poses an immediate and permanent danger to the hundreds of school children who cross the very busy road within a short distance of the corner. In addition to all of the objections noted above I would add a few more. The proposed four storey building is completely out of character with the existing streetscape and devalues properties in its vicinity. It towers over and overlooks the girls-schools’ playing areas with dangerous implications.

Not a single voice has been raised in defence of this official vandalism. Not a single four-storey building has been erected in Lucan during the fifty years I have lived here. We have fought many campaigns in that time to protect our village and to preserve the beauty of the Liffey Valley.

It is a real pity that residents are threatened with a desecration of the neighbourhood which they have invested so much. They deserve our support.

*Hugh Mulrooney.*

## Adult Education Service

The Adult Education Service in Lucan Education Centre, on Esker Hill are currently enrolling for free and flexible part-time courses commencing in January 2025. These Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) courses are at times to allow you to choose between one and four different subjects to fit around your busy life. Each subject is 4 hours, 1 morning per week. This can lead to QQI qualification.

*The following subjects are available this term:* Spanish for Beginners, Introduction to Computers Internet and Email, Introduction to Office Skills, Personal Effectiveness, IT Skills, Work Experience, Customer Service, Medical Terminology for Medical Secretary, Introduction to Psychology, Bookkeeping Using Sage Software.

For more details, call (01) 6283557.

Email: [lorraiekavanagh@ddletbaes.ie](mailto:lorraiekavanagh@ddletbaes.ie)

# Learn Beekeeping in 2025



Our hands-on beekeeping course will immerse you in the fascinating world of beekeeping, teaching you everything from hive management to honey harvesting.

**Who:** Beginners and those looking to improve their skills

**OPEN EVENING, INTRODUCTORY CHAT**  
Meet the Beekeepers!  
Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> of February 7pm onwards 

**Course Starts:** Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> of March  
7:30 - 9:00pm  
(tea/coffee beforehand from 7pm)

**Where:** St. Marys Parish Centre, Lucan (K78 E138)

**Cost:** €60 (Inc. Annual Membership)

**The Course**

- 1 Evening per week over 6 weeks
- Experienced Beekeepers leading the course
- Practical hands-on approach
- Meeting in an informal setting
- Access to our Apiary in Blanchardstown (see the bees in action) every Saturday throughout the summer (weather permitting)



Scan Me

[www.eblanabeekeeping.ie](http://www.eblanabeekeeping.ie)  
email: [secretary@eblanabeekeeping.ie](mailto:secretary@eblanabeekeeping.ie)

# POLITICAL NOTES

## Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

Office: 01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD](https://www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD)  
E Mail: [emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

### Lucan Village Health Centre:

Over the last number of months, many Lucan residents have asked me on doors about the future of Lucan Village Health Centre. The HSE have confirmed with me that it will continue to operate alongside the new Adamstown Primary Care Centre, which is welcome news for the many who rely on its services. I remain committed to advocating for our community and ensuring continued access to vital healthcare services.

### Community Recognition Funding 2025:

The final application window for the Community Recognition Fund 2025 is now open until 23rd February. This fund supports local groups, sports clubs, and community initiatives with €2.25m allocated for South Dublin County. Eligible capital projects include facility upgrades, equipment purchases, and community improvements, to be completed by the end of 2025. Find out more at SDCC website.

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

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

### Dodsboro Roundabout:

I reported the damage to the roundabout following the collision over Christmas and I'm pleased to report that the roundabout is now repaired with bollards are back in place.

**Hillcrest:** Footpath repairs at Hillcrest Heights are forwarded to the SDCC Area Roads Engineer for investigation and report. I'll update you as soon as I have further information.

### Tree Maintenance:

Adamstown Link Rd and Newcastle Road/R120 to include Lucan Harriers car park frontage partially complete, Esker Glebe and Esker Lane OS Mature trees, Esker Glebe, The Glebe and Esker Lane street trees, Esker Lodge street and mature trees in progress, Ashpark mature trees, Brookvale, Elm Estate street trees and mature trees, Esker Park rear of houses on open space (Additional), Tandy's Lane Park (Additional), Scheduled quarter 1 and Castle Riada scheduled quarter 1 / 2.

## Paul Gogarty – TD - Independent

"Not just at election time" Tel: 087-2752489

Email: [info@paulgogarty.com](mailto:info@paulgogarty.com)

### Dáil Questions:

Initial queries tabled in relation to delays in free HRT rollout and Lucan East ETNS relocation. Check my website soon for updates.

### Works in Village:

Works announced before Christmas to insert cabling ducting commenced this week and will necessitate some unavoidable traffic and pedestrian disruptions after 7pm for a period of four weeks, concentrated initially near the AIB and continuing northwards.

### Works Near Schools:

Works at the lay-by near St Joseph's College continue and, as mentioned previously, this is part of the canal greenway project school cycle spur, which will see the area turn into a drop-off. At the same time a pedestrian crossing is being put in at the steps leading towards St Mary's BNS and a new layout is being installed at the junction from Esker Lawns/Lucan Heights hill at Lucan Road.

### Have you ever noticed,

Those people on the wing?  
The ones that always pass you by,  
And never say a thing.  
And even though you know them,  
They hurry past in haste,  
No quick hello or friendly smile –  
They have not time to waste.  
For those poor people on the wing,  
who never stop to say a thing,,  
Their minds are full of this and that;  
There isn't time to stop and chat.  
Until, someday when they're not well,  
Will stop you with a tale to tell,  
Of all the aches and pains they've got –  
And of, course, you too will trot.

*Author unknown*





Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



### Membership Renewal

We're kicking off the 2025 membership renewal season 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 adult players, managers, mentors, and committee members need to be full members to stay registered with the GAA, Camogie Association, or LGFA.
- Youth players must have a current membership too, so they're covered by the injury fund to train and play.
- All players need to be registered on Foireann by March 31st to stay eligible!

For families with both male and female players, you might notice a slight delay in the Foireann confirmation email—don't worry, that's normal!

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](mailto:lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com), and we'll sort it out!

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

### New Director of Camogie

After 7 years in the role, Ollie Mahon is stepping down as Director of Camogie. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to him for his dedication, leadership, and invaluable contribution to camogie in Lucan Sarsfields over the last 7 years. His hard work and vision have helped shape the path we are on today, and we are deeply appreciative of his commitment to our mission and goals.

We are delighted to announce the appointment of our new Director of Camogie, Jenny Costello. Jenny has been involved in the club for many years as a juvenile mentor. She brings a wealth of experience and a fresh perspective to the role, and we are confident she will continue to drive

camogie forward with innovation, passion, and dedication.

We look forward to the exciting opportunities ahead as we continue to grow and evolve with her leadership.

### Awards Night

Our annual awards night takes place on Saturday 25th January. We look forward to seeing you all there.

### Volunteers Needed

Our club could not function without the work of volunteers but there are always more jobs to be done. No contribution is too small, if you are in any position to help in the following list of volunteer activities, please contact Mary on 087 746 9143

- Saturday Maintenance crew (all trades/DIY welcome)
- Pitch liners
- Fundraising committee
- Sponsorship committee
- Development committee
- Adult & Juvenile games committee
- Marketing/communication/graphic design
- Club lotto

### Donate a Dress

Our Donate a Dress Fundraiser will be hosted on the 31<sup>st</sup> of January in the club at 8pm. The last day for donations is Friday 24th January.



Thank you to everyone who has already kindly donated so many beautiful things. Tickets are still on sale for the event and are €5 including the glass of bubbly! They can be purchased on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday at the club cafe or from Tracey 087-9735665.

### Lotto

We had a winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €3,000.

Congratulations to Stephen Rowan.

The Numbers were **6, 7, 15, 22.**

This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €1,000. This draw is sponsored by Clandillon Motors.



*Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.*



## Lucan Library – January Events

Celebrating  
St Brigid's Day

*Create traditional  
St. Brigid's Crosses  
with Wicklow Willow*

Find out why St Brigid's Crosses could be found in most Irish homes up to the last century as you learn this 1500 year old craft.


Places are limited - booking is essential on Eventbrite from Mon 20th January

Monday 27th of January  
Choose from one of these workshops:

- 3.30-4.00pm
- 4.00-4.30pm
- 4.30-5.00pm
- 5.00-5.30pm



 **FBS Bhale Átha Clíath agus Lár na Tíre**  
HSE Dublin and Midlands



A free 4 week group

**LUCAN LIFESTYLE**

Lucan Library  
Tuesdays in February (4th, 11th, 18th, 25th)  
12:00-13:30

Speakers will include; Consultant Neurologist, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Social Work, Community Gardaí, Dietician, & Nursing

- 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

To book a space, phone the  
**Lucan Community Healthcare  
Network on 01 7955236.**  
Lucan.chn@hse.ie



### Lucan Library Book Clubs:

Wednesday Book Club: Wednesday 29th January, 7pm

Junior Book Club: Wednesday 29th January 3pm

**Storytime** – Tuesdays at 3pm.

All welcome.

### Lucan Library Knitters Club -

Every Monday 10am - 12noon - new member's welcome



**Exhibitions:** St Mary's Camera Soiree  
Photographic Exhibition



You can follow Lucan Library or South Dublin Libraries on Facebook to see all library events across South Dublin County.

 **Beginning Experience**  
listen. accompany. heal

**Separated, Divorced, Widowed  
Are you coping?**

**Few people are able to cope alone with the pain and loneliness following the loss of a life partner.**

Do you find that you need more support than family and friends can provide?

**Beginning Experience is a peer support group dedicated to helping those who are navigating life following the loss of a life partner.**

A team of trained facilitators, who are themselves widowed, separated or divorced share with you how they coped with their loss.

**A three day Coping with Life Alone programme will be held over three Saturdays commencing on Saturday 25th January, February 8th and February 15th 2025.**

**Venue: Carmelite Community Centre, Whitefriar Street, Dublin 2.**

For further information and to register, phone  
**BEGINNING EXPERIENCE DUBLIN - 085 0877379**  
(leave message or text if phone is unattended)

Or email: [bedublin@gmail.com](mailto:bedublin@gmail.com)  
[www.beginningexperience.ie](http://www.beginningexperience.ie)

Charity No: 2020072 Ireland



## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

Last week at the Soiree we continued to see what was possible using Google photos and at our gathering this Friday we looked at how to restore and digitise old photographs. Next Friday we take down our exhibition in Lucan Library. So, this is your last chance to see it. After that, as the weather hopefully improves, we resume taking photographs.



Our photographs this week have an emphasis on nature. Joe captured an interesting cloud formation which he described as “Swan clouds St. Edmundsbury” – not a meteorological description, I think, but apt.

Anna caught a lovely sunrise over Lucan.



Turing to our feathered friends Conor sent in a photo of a female Merganser duck on Malahide estuary. According to Wikipedia these birds are very scarce in Ireland.



The most spectacular photo of the week comes from one of our members who is in Australia at the moment. He sent us a photo of two Rainbow Lorikeets. The Lorikeet is a species of parrot and the birds often fly in pairs! They are native to eastern Australia, mate for life and can live to be 30 years old. Despite their beauty they have been classified as pests in parts of Australia and in New Zealand.

*Until next week stay safe!*