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A modern day martyr

In October 2020 an Indian Jesuit Priest Fr. Stan Swamy SJ was arrested and imprisoned in India on terrorist charges. In late May of this year he was moved from the prison to Holy Family Hospital in Mumbai where he died on July 5th.

Dr. Ian D'Souza, medical director of Holy Family Hospital, said Swamy had a heart attack early July 4. He was put on a ventilator and never regained consciousness. Father Swamy had Parkinson's disease, and D'Souza said, "he had pulmonary infection, post COVID-19 complications in the lungs and pneumonia."



For decades Fr. Swamy had been an outspoken critic of the Indian authorities because of their treatment of the indigenous people of Jharkhand state. The trumped-up charges against him accused him of being in cahoots with Maoist rebels in a plot to destabilize the federal government. Shortly after his arrest the elderly Jesuit was airlifted to Mumbai and imprisoned there with 15 others accused under the same pretext. This group comprised academics and lawyers. The All India Catholic Union reaffirmed demands for a judicial inquiry into the priest's jailing and death. "In jail, with his health failing with advanced states of Parkinson's disease, he was denied basic human dignity and facilities, including a simple water sipper, as he could no longer hold a cup in his trembling hands," the union said in a statement.

It noted that one of Swamy's last messages from jail was: "What is happening to me is not something unique, happening to me alone. It is a broader process that is taking place all over the country. We are all aware how prominent intellectuals, lawyers, writers, poets, activists, student leaders — they are all put in jail just because they have expressed their dissent. ... I am ready to pay the price, whatever it may be."

Fr. Stanislaus D'Souza, Jesuit provincial of South Asia, told Catholic News Service from New Delhi: "Father Stan stood up for the poor tribals, lived among them and led a simple life like them. We pray his life and his death in [this] extraordinary situation will be inspiration for all those who work for justice."

Xavier Jeyaraj SJ of the Social Justice and Ecology Secretariat in Rome wrote an appreciation of Fr Swamy on the secretariat website:

Fr. Swamy was truly a prophet who lived his life fully for others particularly the adivasis, dalits and other marginalised communities. While in prison he said, "A caged bird can still sing" and sowed 'hope' in the hearts of everyone. Today he is a liberated bird who sings from Heaven calling each of us to keep alive that hope for true liberation from injustice, oppression and denial of rights.

Swamy became a conscience keeper and awakened the hope in everyone he encountered. Let us all remember others in similar cases who are denied their human dignity and rights.

Philip Curran, St. Mary's Lucan

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

www.citizensinformation.ie

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



Call us on 0761 07 5090, leave a message with your name and number and an Information Officer will return your call within 2 working days.

Or you can email your query to us at dscis@citinfo.ie and someone will reply.

Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS) 0761 07 4000 operates on Monday to Friday 9 am to 8 pm.

MABS: The Money Advice and Budgeting Service is the State's money advice service, guiding people through dealing with problem debt for over twenty years. MABS Clondalkin, phone 0761 07 2270 or email clondalkin@mabs.ie

Springboard +

I'm unemployed and I want to return to work.
Are there free courses I can take to develop my skills so that I am more employable?

Springboard+ provides free higher education courses for people who are unemployed (or were self-employed) and those looking to return to the workforce.

Courses are offered in different areas including information and communications technology (ICT), medical technologies, cybersecurity, sustainable energy and financial services.

The courses range from certificate to master's degree level – levels 6 to 9 on the National Framework of Qualifications (NFQ). Most of the courses are part-time and last for one year or less, but there are some full-time courses.

You can access a free Springboard+ course, if you are getting a qualifying social welfare payment such as Jobseeker's Allowance, Jobseeker's Benefit or the COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment (PUP). You can get a full list of qualifying payments for Springboard+ on citizensinformation.ie

If you are not getting a qualifying social welfare payment, you will have to meet the residency criteria for Springboard+.

You can also apply for a Springboard+ course if:

You are a qualified adult of working age (under 66) on someone else's social welfare payment
You are signing for social insurance credits
You are on an Employment support scheme such as Community Employment or TUS
To apply for a Springboard+ course, you choose the course(s) you are interested in on springboardcourses.ie and apply online, following the instructions on the website. You can apply to up to 10 courses, but you can only take one course.

If you are getting a social welfare payment, you should notify your Intreo Centre or local Social Welfare Branch Office and check what further steps (if any) you need to take.

If Springboard+ doesn't meet your needs, there are several other ways to go back to education.



PLEASE NOTE:

We are **NOT operating from the Newsletter Office at the moment**, but leave your ads, queries or notices in the **letter box at St. Mary's Parish Centre, before 10pm on Wednesday night**, and we'll collect and look after them.

Alternately email notices/reports to any of the following:

marylucannewsletter@gmail.com

annalucannewsletter@gmail.com

roselucannewsletter@gmail.com

catherinelucannewsletter@gmail.com

Final Summer Issue Next Week!



Next week's issue, **Sunday 1st August** will be our final publication before our 3-week summer break.

Notices for events for the month of August, including any for Heritage Week, should be with us by next Wednesday night, 28th July, 10pm at the latest.

Palmerstown Camera Club

Palmerstown Camera Club is a group of local photographers who meet up once a week on a Wednesday evening from 8 pm to 10 pm. We have met this past year online due to COVID. We are a club with members of all levels, from Novice, Intermediate and Advanced.

Our door is always open to welcome new or returning members.

During the summer months, we organise some evening photography outings.

Over the next few weeks, we have some exciting outings planned in the club:

- Portrane at 8 pm on the 28th July.
- Carton House at 8 pm on the 4th August.
- Maynooth College at 8 pm on the 11th August.

If you would like to attend, please keep up to date on the Facebook page for all info relating to the summer outings.

The meeting point for each event will be posted on the Facebook page a few days before each event.

Palmerstown Camera Club adheres to Government COVID guidelines on these outings.

Below: Collage by **Noleen Kavanagh** from our **Howth Outing**.



Virtual Fundraiser Festival

Liffey Sound's virtual fundraiser festival is back this year - The Highdrop virtual festival will be streamed live on our Facebook page and broadcast on 96.4 FM on the **27th of August** from 6pm. We are now looking for submissions from local artists, singers, bands, DJ'S, spoken word artists, choirs & dance groups. Please send a video of you performing to jon@liffeysoundfm.ie

Also it would be great if you could remind people to donate to our GoFundMe page after your performance. **The deadline for submissions is the 31st of July.**

Liffey Sound 96.4FM - Lucan's Community Radio Station

www.liffeysoundfm.ie or catch up on Facebook

"That was the big thing when I was growing up, singing on the radio. The extent of my dream was to sing on the radio station in Memphis."

Johnny Cash



Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Sunday Mass Times:

Saturday Vigils: 5pm and 6.45pm

Sunday: 8.45am, 10.30pm, 12.15pm and 7pm.

Notice:

We ask those who have already booked Masses for the weekends to please phone the Sacristy 01 6281487 and check whether the time of their Mass is different due to changes in Sunday Mass times.

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am

All Masses will continue to be live-streamed on
www.lucanparish.com

Our churches are open for Public Masses. While number will continue to be restricted and social distancing enforced it does mean that in St Mary's we can have a maximum of **69** people in attendance for Masses.

There are 27 places on the individual chairs (11 as you enter from the porch, 12 at the Sacristy side and 4 at the front of the altar.) **There are then 42 in the pews.**

There can be no movement between these two areas. Each area will have separate entrances and exits.

Admission to all Masses will be on a first-come-first-served basis. Enter at the main porch door, queueing from the left across the front of the old part of the church maintaining social distance at all times.

We rely on your understanding to make this work. Masks must be worn.

Praying with Scripture:

Praying with scripture is continuing on zoom. If interested please contact Cheryl Murphy at 086 8343754 to register.

Private Prayer:

The Church is open daily for private prayer on weekdays from 10.30am to 6pm (funerals permitting) and on Sundays after the 12.15pm Mass to 6pm. Please enter by the Main Porch Door and exit by the side door (near the Nun's Chapel).

Deepest Sympathy to the family and friends of **Ethna Coyne**, The Square, Lucan
May she rest in peace.



Visits to the housebound: If the housebound person has been fully vaccinated and at least two weeks have elapsed since the second dose, either Fr. Tom or Fr Philip and/or any ministers of the Eucharist who are also fully vaccinated can call once again. As a precaution we will wear face coverings and ask those to whom we are calling to do the same.

If you were on the house call list prior to the pandemic you will automatically receive a visit. If you are housebound and are not already on the list you can call Deirdre at the parish office (01 621 7041) and leave your details, we will be happy to call on a monthly basis.

Confessions – Nun's Chapel:

Monday and Wednesday after 10am Mass

Saturday after the 10am and 5pm Masses

St. Andrew's Church of Ireland

St Andrew's: Sunday 10am. **Wednesday:** 10am
St Mary's: Sunday: 11.30am. **Tuesday:** 10am

Numbers limited to **50**. Please follow the directions of the Church Wardens.

Bookings for both church services can be made at bookleixlip@gmail.com, please indicate which service you are booking for and the number of people.

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

Lucan Presbyterian Church

Morning Worship: 11am.

Our maximum capacity is **30** people.

Reserve a place for church services: It's easy. You can either register via our simple online booking form or give us a call on 0858231123. There will be 2 spaces available for anyone who drops in. But these will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

You will need a face covering (unless exempt) and your own Bible.

Services will be streamed online and available on Youtube?

St. Patrick's Esker/Doddsboro /Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



Sunday Masses:

Vigil Saturday 7pm, Sunday: 9am, and 12 noon.
10.30am Family Mass – live streamed only This online Mass is aimed at younger parishioners and their families; it is an accessible liturgy for children and enables them to participate more fully in the Sunday Mass.

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday at 10am.

Numbers continue to be restricted to **50 people** in the church building.
Admission will be on a first-come first-serve basis

For Sunday Masses only:

When capacity is reached parishioners can remain in their cars in the car park behind the church and receive communion.

All Masses are streamed live on the Parish You Tube channel

Parish Notice:

All Baptisms, Confirmations and First Communion have been postponed until further notice.

Confessions:

Confessions can be requested after Mass. The confession box is not to be used. However, a space that respects open privacy is available in the Church to receive the Sacrament.

Private Prayer:

Church can continue to be accessed daily for private prayer. Access is through the **side door at the bell tower** 10.30am and 12.30pm

View the following on www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Mass Readings for the week
Morning Prayer – Lauds
Evening Prayer – Vespers
Take five at 10 - Reflections–Weekdays: 10am
Taizé – Watch and Pray



Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Sunday Mass Times:

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

Weekday Masses:

Monday to Friday 9:15am
Saturday 10am

Admission will be in a first-come first-serve basis to a max of 50 people

Follow the instructions of the Church stewards – they have purple hi-vis vests so easily recognized.

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net

Private Prayer: The Faustina Chapel is open for private prayer from 10am to 12 noon Monday to Friday.

Ceremonies: All Baptisms, Confirmations and First Communion have been postponed until further notice.

Daily Readings on website: Under our Welcome menu you will find links for the Daily Mass Reading which updates every day as well as Sunday Mass Reading for the following Sunday's Mass. It is a great way to be able to read along during Mass if you so wish or take time to reflect on the passages during the week and see what message they have for you. One quick note is that if it is a Sunday and you want to see the Gospel for today then click on the Daily Mass Reading link as the Sunday listing will be for the following week.



**CORONAVIRUS HELPLINE FOR
OLDER PEOPLE**

0818 222 024

ALONE manage a national support line and additional supports for older people who have concerns or are facing difficulties relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus). Professional staff are available to answer queries and give advice and reassurance where necessary. The support line is open seven days a week, 8am - 8pm, by calling 0818 222 024.

Anniversaries

Rose Donnelly

4th Anniversary – 26th July

Of all the gifts in life,
However big or small
To have you as our mother
Was the greatest gift of all
*Always loved and never forgotten by Paula, Bren,
Andrew, Rachel, Samantha, Freya and Harry x*



Mam

“Your life was a blessing
Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure”
Love Gavin, Doreen and Tom

Rose Donnelly

Your presence we miss
Your memory we treasure
Missing you always
Forgetting you never
*Sadly missed by Derek, Lyndsey,
Bubba and Russell xxx*



Rose Donnelly

In loving memory of Rose who we remember this
week and every week.
*Sadly missed but never forgotten by Robert,
Denise, and her grandchildren*

Maura O'Toole

10th Anniversary – 18th July

Sarsfield Park
Sadly missed by all her loving family.



Pathways: Exploring Faith as an Adult

Pathways is a two-year, one evening a week, Adult Faith Development course on Thursday evenings. Run by the Archdiocese of Dublin in DCU St. Patrick's Campus (MDCCE), Drumcondra Road. Late September to May (7.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m). Application now open for September 2021. **Early application advised.** Contact: *Pathways* Director, Eileen Houlahan at 01 8087594 or pathways@dublindiocese.ie. Web: www.evangelisation.ie

FIRST WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY - 25th July 2021

Pope Francis has established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly and it takes place this Sunday 25th July.
The theme is “I am with you always”

Dear Elderly Friends,

“I am with you always” (Mt 28:20): this is the promise the Lord made to his disciples before he ascended into heaven. They are the words that he repeats to you today, dear grandfathers and grandmothers, dear elderly friends. “I am with you always” are also the words that I, as Bishop of Rome and an elderly person like yourselves, would like to address to you on this first World Day of Grandparents and the Elderly. The whole Church is close to you – to us – and cares about you, loves you and does not want to leave you alone.

PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

I thank You, Lord,
for the comfort of Your presence:
even in times of loneliness,
You are my hope and my confidence,
You have been my rock and my fortress since my youth!

I thank You for having given me a family
and for having blessed me with a long life.
I thank You for moments of joy and difficulty,
for the dreams that have already come true in my
life and for those that are still ahead of me.
I thank You for this time of renewed fruitfulness
to which You call me.

Increase, O Lord, my faith,
make me a channel of your peace,
teach me to embrace those who suffer more than
me, to never stop dreaming
and to tell of your wonders to new generations.

Protect and guide Pope Francis and the Church,
that the light of the Gospel might reach the ends
of the earth.

Send Your Spirit, O Lord, to renew the world,
that the storm of the pandemic might be calmed,
the poor consoled and wars ended.

Sustain me in weakness
and help me to live life to the full
in each moment that You give me,
in the certainty that you are with me every day,
even until the end of the age.

Amen.



Phew! It's hot stuff out there this week. We should be careful what we wish for!

Joking aside, it's great to have the bit of fine weather, especially when we are best advised to stay on the Costa del Irlanda.

Not as many walkers out in the middle of the day, but well done to those who left bowls of water outside their houses for the doggies. Some people are great for thinking of such little things!

could whoever left him out , bring him in for a night or 2



Indoor Dining – as we go to press, it is looking like indoor dining will be permitted for those vaccinated, from next week, and the pubs will welcome back some very thirsty people.

Just remember, it's up to each one of us to take personal responsibility and be very careful.

Getting back to normal? This time last year, we were looking forward to getting back to normality – little did we know!!!

SDCC are doing a great job cleaning up the N4 between the Newcastle junction and the turn off for Dodsboro. Fierce amount of ivy along here, and now that it's gone, we can see the buggies, and car seats, and some other items which were just illegally dumped.

Don't forget! After next week's issue, 1st August, Birdie and Co will be taking their summer break. Be sure to get notice of any upcoming events to us in time.

My Get Up and Go Has Got Up and Went



How do I know that my youth is all spent?

Well, my get up and go has got up and went,

But in spite of it all I am able to grin.

When I think of the places my get up has been.

Old age is golden, So I've heard said
But sometimes I wonder, as I get into bed.
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup

And my eyes on the table until I wake up.

Ere sleep dims my eyes I say to myself
"Is there anything else I can put on the shelf?"

And I'm happy to say as I close the door
"My friends are the same, perhaps even more."

When I was a young thing my slippers were red,

I could kick my heels as high as my head.

Then when I was older, my slippers were blue,

But still I could walk the whole day through.

Now I'm still older, my slippers are black.

I walk to the store and puff my way back.

The reason I know my youth is all spent,

My get up and go has got up and went.

But really, I don't mind when I think with a grin,

Of all the grand places my get up has been.

Since I have retired from life's competition

I busy myself with complete repetition.

I get up each morning and dust off my wits,

Pick up the paper and read the 'obits',

If my name is missing I know I'm not dead

So I eat a good breakfast and go back to bed.

The Spa Hotel and the School

Last year, local historian, **Joe Byrne** gave a talk in Lucan Library on the Lucan Spas and Hotels. Below is an interesting piece from that talk.

The original Spa Hotel was on the site of what is now the County Bar and dates from around the 1760s.

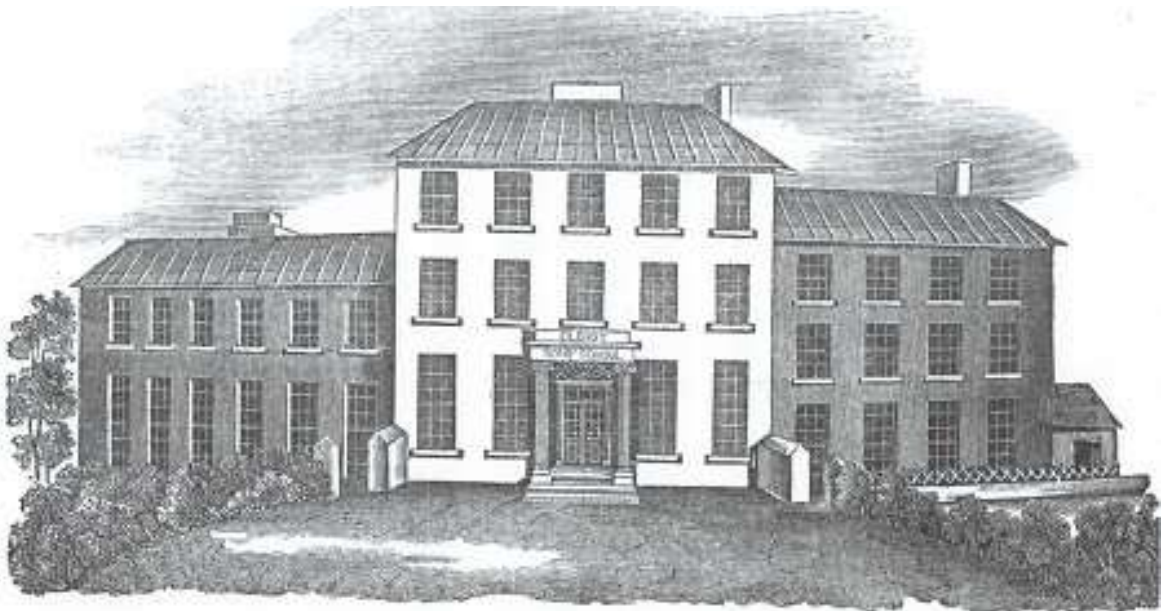
The Spa Well went out of favour with the public from around the 1830s and in 1837/38 a School took over the Hotel. This was the *School for the Sons of Irish Clergy* which had been only established in 1836 in Edgeworthstown.

The School was for boys between the age of 9 and 12 years of age and was free to those who were in difficult financial circumstances.

Up to 120 boys were accommodated in the building. Typical school day (6 days a week) was as follows.

Rise 5.45am, Class 6.30 am to 8am, Class 10 to 12, Class 2 to 4. Study for next day (homework) was 5 to 7. Bed 9pm.

The School left the premises in or around 1853, and in 1857 became Dr Steward's Spa House Asylum for children with disabilities.



A drawing of the School found in their annual report for 1840

The right-hand side of the building is now not there (demolished in the late 1880s) but otherwise you can easily identify it with the present County Bar.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

What a week weather-wise this has been with temperatures up to 27 degrees so far at the time of writing. We might as well enjoy it while we can as temperatures are forecast to drop to more normal figures for an Irish summer by early next week.

The good weather has resulted in a bumper crop of photographs being exchanged on the Soiree's WhatsApp group. We have had flowers from members' gardens, puffins with their colourful bills, seals and examples of the beautiful flora of the Burren.



One of our members has resorted to still life photography in order to get away from the heat although he did have to go outside to collect the materials he needed!





This Friday instead of a field trip we are meeting in the garden of the Parish Centre for a cup of tea and a chat. Given the talk about a 4th wave of Covid 19 being on the way the possibility of being able to mount our normal



physical photographic Exhibition successfully in the Parish Centre at the end of October sadly seems somewhat remote at the moment. So we will discuss what we should do for the coming 12 months.

Despite the restrictions imposed by COVID the enthusiasm of the members of the Soiree for their photography hobby remains unabated and their photographs will continue to give pleasure to the readers of the Newsletter into the future.

Until next week stay safe!



Political Notes

Liona O'Toole – Independent

087-2795274. lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

www.lotoole.com

Lucan village outdoor defibrillator: Concerns have been raised regarding the defibrillator that is located at Carroll's Gastro Pub. This was installed in Lucan village back in 2014 when I arranged a fundraiser and thanks to the members of Lucan's Operation Transformation group, students in Primary school Scoil Áine Naofa, owners of local business DBS Promotion and management in Carrols Gastro pub we were able to purchase and install the unit in a special outdoor casing. The defibrillator was recently used, and it now requires a report to be issued before we can replace the machine with new pads. Once this process is completed it will be reinstalled as before. Thanks to everyone in the community for highlighting this and it is hoped that more people will be made aware of this vital piece of equipment. A huge thanks to all in Carroll's Gastro pub.

Treasure

The treasure is not buried deep. It is right before your eyes, under your nose, at your fingertips; just sit here in the woods for a few minutes or a few hours. A great slope down to the river in St. Catherine's Park in Lucan; thick groves of ash and beech, hawthorn and holly, floored with ivy and the decaying glory of fallen trees. Stop: open your eyes and let the myriad shades of green and brown soak into your vision settling all other thoughts. Then you begin to hear it: birdsong of blackbird, robin, Mistle thrush; calls of rook and magpie, the faint scrabbling of tiny tree creeper claws on bark, a symphony of leaves in wind. Look again, and a wren, tail upright, is perched nearby. Shadows and reflections dance on the slow river, a swarm of Mayflies churns, and ripples of a fish rising spread, mesmerising. Breather deep; cool air rising from earth, the smells of green and growing things sweet wild garlic and the more subtle hawthorn blossoms are the days perfume. Layer upon layer of beauty reveals itself as you wait: moss on tree trunks, the small miracles of forget-me-nots in the undergrowth, coiled ferns unravelling. Look up, and the leafy ceiling provides lacy glimpses of a rich blue sky. The treasure is not buried at all.

Allison Hudson. Lucan Creative Writers Group,

Lucan (SDCC) Library Events

(All events on Lucan Library Facebook)

Make a Spinner or Rainbow Blower

Tue, 27 July 2021, 14:00 – 15:00

Online: www.eventbrite.ie

Join Aoife Munn for an exciting activity as participants make a spinner or rainbow blower. This event is suitable for children aged 8-12 years old.

This workshop will be delivered online via Zoom. 1 ticket per device, 1 device per household.

A valid email address is required to register for this workshop as the link to the workshop will be sent to the supplied address by the facilitator.

Pollinator Plants: A Gardening Talk for Adults with Aoife Munn, Tue, 27 July 2021, 19:00 – 20:00

Online: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/pollinator-plants-a-gardening-t>

Learn which plants will most benefit pollinators and increase the wildlife in your area.

Discover the great combinations for lasting colour in your garden and how to plant up pots in sun or shade.

This talk will be delivered online via Zoom.

1 ticket per device, 1 device per household.

A valid email address is required to register for this workshop as the link to the workshop will be sent to the supplied address by the facilitator.



Furry Friends and Feathery Fiends with Author and Illustrator Alan Nolan 28 July 2021, 3pm

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/furry-friends-and-feathery-fiends-with-alan-nolan-tickets>

Join author and illustrator Alan Nolan in this family event as he talks about feathery fiends from his last book, Sam Hannigan and the Last Dodo, and furry friends from his new book (with Sarah Webb) Animal Crackers. Learn how to draw some cool animals, and play along with Alan's hot new quiz show Alive, Extinct or Just Plain Stinky!

This online workshop is suitable for kids aged 7 to 11.

The event will take place through Zoom. The link to access the event will be emailed to you the day before the event.

A valid email address is required to register for this event. South Dublin Libraries will forward the email address you use to register to the facilitator who will then send an access code to your email address to enable you to attend the workshop. Please do not book this event if there is any chance you cannot attend on the day. It is a live event.



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



The third round of the adult hurling leagues

were played last weekend and it was mixed fortunes for Lucan with wins for our Junior As and Junior Bs, but defeats for the Seniors and Junior Cs. The action commenced on Thursday night when the Junior As got the better of Faughs in AGP, and then the following evening the seniors lost out to Kilmacud Crokes at the 12th Lock. Also on Friday evening the Junior Cs lost to Good Counsel/Liffey Gaels on a scoreline of 2-7 to 6-13. Then on Sunday morning the Junior Bs had a good win over Kevin's 4-12 to 2-8.

In Ladies football, the inters had an away league win at Skerries, while both junior teams won their first championship matches at home. Minor A and C both won at home to Kilmacud in the last of the round-robin league games.

U16A camogie reached the Div1 League final with a win over Erin's Isle. Elsewhere in



Camogie, the seniors took the points away to Plunketts while the Inters shared the spoils with Naomh Olaf. Results for all games and match reports are on the website.

A reminder to all teams to return nets and flags to the correct storage locations at the end of games, and to replace the goalmouth protection on Pitch 1 and Pitch 2.

Do you have a sporting story or sports souvenir that you are proud of? Share it with EPIC to have it included in the Europeana Sport collection. - It will be shared as part of Europeana - Europe's platform for digital cultural heritage and be recognised as part of Ireland's sporting history. For more details, please see the club website, www.lucansarsfields.ie

Well done to the winners in the Fantasy Golf competition based on the Open. 1st - €400 Tom Keating. 2nd - €100 Aiden Walsh, Joint 3rd - €60, Kevin Fitzgerald, Joint 3rd - €60, Darren Maher, Joint 3rd - €60, Robbie Keenan, Last €25 Matt McCaffrey. Thank you all very much for entering the competition which has been very successful, generating much-needed funds to help cover the costs of running our Senior Hurling Team in

2021. We very much hope that you enjoyed the competition and that it added to your enjoyment of The Open. Finally, many thanks to Frank Wade, a keen golfer and Excel fan, who despite having no connection to Lucan Sarsfields, spent a huge amount of time on helping administer this competition accurately and efficiently.

Lucan Sarsfields Golf Society. Results from Moyvalley Outing, Saturday 10th July 2021; 39 played. Overall Winner Aidan Roche (15) 41pts, (BB9, BB6). 2nd Overall Mick O'Hara (13) 41pts, (BB9), Winner Category 1 Joe Donnelly (15) 41pts, Winner Category 2 Tom Nolan (19) 38pts, Winner Category 3 Mick Sherlock (25) 40pts. Congratulations to all the winners, and many thanks to all who played.

Next outing is in Kilcock GC on Saturday 7th August 2021.

Remaining Outings booked for 2021; Aug 7th (Sat), Kilcock GC. Aug 28th (Sat), Luttrellstown GC (Jack Butler's Captain's Day). Sept 25th (Sat), Millicent GC, (refixed from 18th Sept).

Following changes to the way tickets are being allocated by Dublin GAA for the Leinster championship games, it is necessary to enter club members who wish to attend the games into a draw for tickets. Some of our members may have moved house and/or changed their phone numbers or email addresses. To ensure that you receive updates for future events, draws and offers, please join our member's mailing list <http://eepurl.com/gSDqc1>, or to have your contact details amended on the club database, please contact our Club Registrar, by email on lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com.



Congratulations to Ciara Dardis, the lucky winner of the two Premium Tickets for last Saturdays Leinster Senior Hurling Championship Final, thanks to all who entered the draw.

The **LDCU Academy** takes place on Saturday mornings for boys and girls aged between 4 and 7. Pre-registration is essential, see website for details.

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

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

Sarsfields Lotto Results on next page



Na Gaeil Óga CLG

Fáilte chuig an Nuachtlitr is déanaí ó Na Gaeil Óga, áit a gheobhaidh tú an t-eolas is déanaí faoi gach rud atá ag tarlú inár bpobal bríomhar.

Post Ar Fáil - Oifigeach Forbartha Cluichí Lán-Ghaeilge

Tá an club ag earcú Oifigeach Forbartha Cluichí faoi láthair. Is post lán-aimseartha é agus is é €30,000-€45,000 an scála pá a bhaineann leis an bpost. Tá tuilleadh eolais ar fáil ar <https://www.nagaeiloga.ie/foluntas>

Full time Position Available – Games Development Officer

The club are currently in the process of recruiting a games development officer. This is a full time position with a pay scale of €30,000-45,000 for the successful applicant. Further details on the position and how to apply are available at <https://www.nagaeiloga.ie/foluntas>

Foireann Iomána (A)

Bhuaigh an chéad fhoireann iománaíochta a tríú chluiche i ndiaidh a chéile nuair a fuair siad an lámh in uachtar in aghaidh Caisleán Cnucha maidin Dé Domhnaigh i bPáirc Chaitríona. Bhí tús maith ag na Gaeil Óga, agus cúl o Niall McQuillan ag seasamh amach. Tháinig leaidh Chaisleán Cnucha ar ais go láidir sa dara leath, ach le cúl ó Brian Moran, bhí Na Gaeil Óga in ann an bua a fháil, agus bhí seacht cúilín le spáráil acu ar deireadh. D'imir Steve Donohue agus Brian Moran an-mhaith.

Foireann Iomána (B)

D'imir an dara fhoireann iománaíochta in aghaidh Cumann Báire na Státseirbhíse trathnóna



Dé hAoine i bPáirc Chaitríona. Faoi theas na gréine, bhí an cluiche an-taitneamhach. Bhíodar ar chomhscór ag leath ama ach fuair leaidh na Státseirbhíse dhá

cúil chinniúnach sa dara leath agus bhí an bua acu. D'imir Conor Crowther, Killian Everard agus Seán Ó hAodha go maith d'fhoireann Na Gaeil Óga.

Cluichí na Seachtaine

Foirne Fásta

Foireann na bhFear A v Naomh Breandán, 25 Iúil 2021, 11:00, Gráinseach Ghormáin

Faoi aois

Iomáint Buachaillí F9 v Naomh Olaf, 24 Iúil 2021, 10:00, Páirc Uí Bhriain

Iomáint Buachaillí F11 v Na Cloigthithe Lusca, 24 Iúil 2021, 11:00, Páirc Naomh Chaitríona
Camógaíocht F10 v Gaeil Raghmallach, 24 Iúil 2021, 12:00, Gaeil Raghmallach

Peil Buachaillí F12 v Clanna Gael Fontenoy, 24 Iúil 2021, 12:15, Páirc na Rinne
Camógaíocht F8 v Beann Éadair, 25 Iúil 2021, 10:00, Beann Éadair.

LUCAN SARFIELDS LOTTO RESULTS



Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club Lotto Jackpot

€11,400. There was no winner of the Club Lotto Jackpot of €11,000 held on 15th July 2021. The numbers drawn were: **5, 8, 11, 13.**

The Lucky Dip winners of €30 each: Joe Lavin, Judie Crowley, Ciaran O'Toole, Bridie Burke, Gemma Mulrooney.

The Jackpot for the next draw, to be held on Thursday 21st July, is **€11,400**, and is sponsored by: **Feargal McCarthy, Painter and Decorator.**

The draw managed by Frank Fleming, will be held in the 12th Lock Café, at 9pm and live streamed on our Facebook page. Tickets can be purchased via the website, ClubForce APP or at the following link:

<http://bit.ly/LucanSarsfieldsClubLotto>.

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

DODSBORO GOLFERS ANNUAL OUTING

Venue: Lucan Golf Club
Date: Friday 27th August 2021
Tee Times: 2.20pm - 4.20pm
Entry Fee: €35 per player
Members and Visitor welcome
To book a tee time contact Joe Curtis
(089) 425-4684 text or whatsapp

The Square Ball

“Here we are”, Robert Mahoney said to his wife and ten-year-old son, Sean. “Let’s step into McCormack’s Bar”, out of this weather. We can go through to the lounge and get some tea and sandwiches”.

They had walked the two miles from the local GAA pitch after attending a game of junior hurling in heavy rain. The north-easterly wind felt like it was cutting into their bones; they were wet, cold, and tired.

As they walked through the crowded bar, young Sean stopped to look at all the pictures of yesteryears’ county football teams that hung on every wall in the old bar. He also noticed on the very top shelf a hurley and an old slither, along with a brass plaque with the inscription “THE SQUARE BALL 1937”.

His father told him to hurry along and led them both into the near-empty lounge; they sat down and waited to be served. Sean asked his father to explain the reason behind the title on the plaque.

Robert Mahoney scratched his head and looked around the lounge. “Ah, there he is! Come on, Sean; I want you to meet a special man!” He took his son over to the old man sitting at the large open fireplace. “Sean, this is Dr. Colm Bradley, retired GP in our village. He is the very man to explain all about the Square Ball”.

The old man greeted them, looked down at the near-empty glass on the table in front of him, and then looked up at the boy’s father. “It’s an Irish Baby Power, if you please. Sit down, young man, and tell me – what do they call you?”

“Sir, my name is Sean Mahoney”. “Mahoney, was your grandfather by any chance George Dempsey on your mother’s side, from Tubber Cross?” “Yes sir; that is correct”. “Well, your grandfather George, a small man with a big heart, played GAA hurling and football. He was a better hurler than he was a footballer, could run like the devil himself was chasing after him, and was a very hard man to mark. As slippery as an eel he was, and he could turn on a sixpence. Now, the story behind the Square Ball goes back many years to when your father was only a child. At that time, I was just out of medical college, and I started my practice here in the village of Tubber. I also did a lot of volunteer work up in the St. John of God’s hospital, working with those poor people. It was there I met my good friend Michael; Michael was a long-time patient there”. As the old man mentioned Michael’s name, he blessed himself



with the sign of the cross and wiped a tear from his old wrinkled face.

“Michael was 18 years of age and volunteered as a working member of the local GAA club. It was Michael who introduced me to the president of the club. Michael was very passionate about his GAA; apart from being their mascot, he also looked after the jerseys. After every match, home or away, you would see Michael running around gathering up the sports gear. Woe to anyone who did not hand in his jersey when the match was over.

He had his own green and gold shirt, shorts, and stockings, with the number 20 printed on the back of the shirt. He carried around his own hurley. He never missed a match and liked nothing more than when it was necessary to make up the numbers for a practice match. He could catch and strike the ball like anyone.

“I soon established myself on the club hurling team. I never liked to play football; I came from a good hurling background up in the north of the country, across the border, of course. However, in the district around the village of Tubber Cross, there was a hurling challenge up tournament called the Tubber Cross Challenger Cup. Teams from different villages within a radius of 20 miles would compete against each other for this trophy. It was a right serious competition. Our village only got to the final once. That was in 1937, we had a good set of players that year. I remember it as if it were only yesterday. That year, we got through to the final for the first time ever, there was great excitement. The green and gold banners and flags were flying from every house and shop, even from the church gates. On the day before the match, we were dealt a blow. Our captain had taken ill and was declared out. I was picked to captain the team, which of course was an honour for me”

They were disturbed by Sean’s mother calling young Sean, “Come away and stop annoying the old man. Come along now, son, and have your tea.” She was wasting her time – the young boy was transfixed by the story.

“So, Sean, even before the game started, we were down a good man. Kevin Graham was our captain and our regular fullback, a big strong fellow; he would prove a great loss. More importantly, we had a panel of only 18 players fit to play, because at the time, most of the young men had left the village and indeed the country to search for work. We were now down to 17 players, meaning that we had only two subs instead of three.



As I said before, your grandfather was a very difficult man to mark. He played out of his skin that day and scored a number of points. There were only two points between the teams at halftime. At the interval, our team manager, Father Black, who was the curate in the parish at the time, told us to watch for the tackles from our opponents. He knew they would not like being held to a two-point margin at halftime to a team of underdogs. "We were matching them in every position so he thought they might start to bring in the dirty play, and true to what he told us, your grandfather went off injured halfway through the second half. Our day was turning into a nightmare. Minutes later, our goalkeeper was next to go. It was the only way they could get to us. On came our last sub, lasting only ten minutes we were down to 14. Our opponents went back on top. Two points divided us; they were scoring straight from the put outs. We were missing our midfield men; in a matter of minutes, we were three points down. With only a minute to go, we had a free from just inside the halfway line. I was to take it; I looked to our manager for instructions. I saw Father Black with his face in his hands on the side-line.

I ran up to see what the matter was and also to ask him what I should do. Oh, Bradley; it don't matter what we do! Even if we did win, we cannot claim the trophy because we have only 14 men on the field, and one of the local competition rules states that each team must have 14 players on the field at the start and end of the match. It's an old local rule. We've used all our subs, he said. I was furious; I had forgotten all about the local rule. I looked around the field for inspiration and got it: I spotted Michael standing on the side-line dressed in his green and gold. I mentioned this to Father Black. Father, bring on Michael; after all, he is a member, and he's already togged out". The referee was telling us to hurry or he would reverse his decision for time wasting.

We were now heading into injury time, and there would be a few minutes to add. "Father, bring on Michael!"

"Are you out of your mind Bradley? He would be killed out there, those fellows from Milltown Towers will not show him any mercy". "Father, he'll be fine. Put him over in the left halfback position; he'll have myself and Jem O'Reilly to look out for him. Sure the game is almost over". "Bradley, I hope we're doing the right thing". He called for the referees. "Referee, we're bringing on a fresh man". "When the opposition saw Michael. 'This young man is not a normal player and should not be allowed. It isn't safe!'

Michael handed the referee the slip of paper with his name as the ref checked the list. Father Black told him his name was not on the list and said, 'I wasn't sure who I could use, so I filled the necessary words *duine eile* (meaning another)', which is one of the oldest tricks in the GAA game! The referee didn't see a problem, as there was little or no time left, and allowed him on.

"Michael was on. Raising his arms high in the air, he ran over to take up his position. His opposite number shook his hand, and the crowd started cheering, calling out his name. Michael was the happiest man in the whole of Ireland. What a great character! The game restarted. We had our free, we needed a goal. Michael stood all alone in the left centre of the field. The only other player near him was the opposition goalkeeper. Our free was on the opposite side of the pitch. Michael looked down the field and saw all the players;" all 27 were down at the opposition goal area. And for no reason, he ran down straight into the middle of the melee, players pushing and shoving. I hit the sliotar high into the sky, hoping it would drop short in front of the goal, and ran like the wind to get there before it, hoping for the breaking ball. It came down just short of the parallelogram. Hands and Hurleys tussled for the sliotar. "Michael was running diagonally across the parallelogram box and saw that one of our players had been knocked to the ground. 'Man down, ref'. He continued on his run toward the fallen player, who was lying inside the parallelogram box. The breaking ball was half cleared, only as far as Michael and hit him on his left leg. He knew nothing about it; however it rebounded from his leg and ended up in the goal. The green flag was raised; the opposition went wild, shouting, 'Square ball! Square ball!' It was a difficult decision to call. "The referee immediately went to check with the umpires. The goal stood: The Challenger Cup was going into extra time. The opposition never recovered from Michael's goal, and Lady Luck stayed with us in extra time. Every breaking ball went to us; they had wide after wide. We believe bringing on Michael had brought us good luck, and we went to win the Challenger Cup by two points: 1-15 to 0-15.

The sliotar on display is the sliotar that was used in that final of the Tubber Challenger Cup, played on Sunday the 12th of September 1937, a week after Tipperary beat our county in the All-Ireland hurling final. That hurley is the exact one used by Michael on that day in 1937 The Square Ball plaque is a fitting memorial to a special young man who played in that hurling final in Tubber Cross, County Tipperary, back in 1937".

Joe Malone (Pen to Paper)

Summer long ago

A day at the seaside, it was a **Doddsboro** residents outing back in the 1950s. We can only imagine the preparations involved in the trip making sure to pack everything for the dozens of children that were in Doddsboro back then. No doubt the flasks and sandwiches were all part of the great day.



Remember the 'sand sandwiches'!

Back L-R: B. Monaghan, J. Donnelly, C. Fallon, Jean Monaghan, Rosaleen Monaghan, Mattie Murray, and Ann Murray.

Mid: Kitty Croke, Lil Murray, May Murray, Mattie V. Murray, Patrick Murray and Margie Donnelly.

Front: Licia Monaghan, Ger Murray, Tom Croke, Pat Murray, Fred Croke and Ronnie Donnelly in the very front.

The above picture is courtesy of Paddy Monaghan, who has turned up many a gem for us in the past.

From The Man on the Bridge.....

Pictured right with her mother, is a young Pauline Condron (*nee McCormack*), who passed away recently.

The scene was captured by the **Man on the Bridge**, **Arthur Fields**, with the iconic Nelson's Pillar in the background.

Pauline appears to have a small case in her hand, very likely to carry her bits and bobs to school in an Infants Class.

