



Established 1967

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Sub. €1

Sunday 1st June 2025

What's on the Other Side?

I was driving over a very sharp hill in Newcastle Lyons last week where it is not possible to see what is on the other side of the hill until at a point of driving down on the other side. An automatic courtesy of hooting of car horns exists for drivers who are familiar with the hill/bridge concerned, so that the first to hoot drives over the top – slowly, unless one wishes to lose the front of one's car! Change of mind having reached the top is not a safe option, so letting go and moving to the other side must happen.

The image of the hill/bridge brings me to the subject of threshold moments which are in abundance at this time of the year. This is the time of year when families have many celebrations to juggle, many career/course/school choices in consideration, many retirements and taking up of new posts are actively in play. Letting go and embracing the new are active dynamics for individuals, families and communities after the hooting proclaiming the impending move to another point is heard and felt.

Letting go by the individual concerned, of parents, families, communities of beloved people is often difficult as a gap is formed and some fear of the hurt of the wrench of the move away from the fabric of belonging. Taking the decided move over the hill/bridge into the new space can be exciting and frightening all at once. With the Lyons bridge, one must go over the top to the other side, before ever considering a return – but a return would bring back a person with a different knowledge and experience.

The journey of the one that didn't hoot to indicate that they are moving out of the space is necessary to make space for the new arrival, so that letting go in turn on all sides makes for the healthiest way of dealing with changing spaces. As we are all created with different personalities, we need to be patient and accepting of one another as some run eagerly into change and others freeze on the threshold or freeze watching someone on the threshold! We'll all get there, but not necessarily at the same time!

This is certainly a time of the year when energy is low for many, so that rest, fun, comfort and supporting friendship is needed, particularly if involved in some part of the cycle of significant change. Every good wish to all who are involved in the cycle of change this month or summer!

Cathy Burke

Catechist in the Lucan Partnership of Parishes

Acknowledging error in last week's front page

I referred to Hamas with regard to infants deprived of nutrition as a result of blockage of transportation of goods and aid, when the reference re place should have been Palestine/Gaza. Also, it is important to acknowledge that innocent infants/children/families of many nationalities, faiths and cultures are falling victim to the horrendous catastrophe occurring before our eyes.

Cathy Burke

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

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



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

Be Online Smart campaign

This is a European Union initiative in May 2025. The campaign aims to help the public understand how algorithms shape what we see online — from social media feeds to news recommendations. You can find out more from the European Digital Media Observatory.

SUSI - What is the Student Grant Scheme?

The Student Grant Scheme is the main financial support scheme for students studying full-time courses in Ireland and abroad. It is also known as the SUSI grant because Student Universal Support Ireland (SUSI) is the awarding authority for the Student Grant Scheme.

Student grants are divided into:
Maintenance grants and Fee grants

Maintenance grants help students with their living costs. Fee grants pay tuition fees for students who do not qualify for the Free Fees Scheme. Fee grants can also pay the student contribution and the cost of essential field trips.

If you qualify for the maintenance grant, you also get the fee grant. Some people only get a fee grant, terms and conditions apply.

You cannot get some types of social welfare payments and the student grant.

Part-time fee scheme

If you're doing a part-time course, you may qualify for the part-time fee scheme depending on what course you're studying. Read about the part-time fee scheme for undergraduate courses on our website.

Postgraduate students

If you're doing a postgraduate course, you may get financial support under the Student Grant Scheme. Read about postgraduate student grants on our website.

Student Grant applications 2025-2026

Online applications for the 2025-2026 academic year are open.

The first €5,000 of any eligible scholarship or bursary will not be included in reckonable income as part of the means test.

Students getting a scholarship from public funds that is listed as an eligibility exclusion under the Student Grant Scheme (pdf), which doesn't fully cover their fees, may be eligible for a grant to cover the remaining fees.

Read about other changes to the Student Grant Scheme for 2025-2026 on the SUSI website.

Who qualifies for a student grant?

To qualify for a student grant, you must meet all the conditions of the scheme. These include:

Nationality condition

Residence condition

Means test

Approved course of study: you must be attending an approved course of study

Progression: you must be progressing from your previous level of study

Maximum period of grant assistance

How to apply for a student grant

You must apply for your grant online before the closing date. Applications usually close in early November.

To register with SUSI and apply online for a student grant, you will need your:

Personal Public Service (PPS) number

Email address

Phone number

You can use your verified MyGovID account to automatically create and log in to your SUSI account without having to register directly with SUSI.

SUSI has a helpdesk for email and telephone queries - 0818 888777

You can use SUSI's online application tracker to get the most up-to-date information about your student grant application and confirm that your supporting documentation has been received.

Lucan ICA

We will not be open next Monday as it is a bank holiday. We will be back the following Monday 9th June to continue our chicken scratching cushions that the ladies are making, they are all enjoying the class.

Tea hostesses are Noreen and Maura.

We remember our founder member Philly Burchael whose 1st Anniversary was on the 25th May. Philly was a great crafter and always willing to share her knowledge with the members.

May she rest in peace.



People's Art & Craft Fair Lucan in Canon Despard Centre

Chapel Hill,
Lucan, K78YX96

Sunday 1st June
Monday 2nd June
11am - 5pm



Please come along,
support local Artists and Crafters,
enjoy a Cuppa and maybe win a Prize!

Everyone is welcome!

In aid of Alice Leahy Trust
(supporting Homelessness)

email peoplesartlucan@gmail.com

Best Wishes for retirement....

Wishing **Diane Birnie** well in her last week with the entire cohort of students and staff, as Principal of LCC. We are so proud of all the hard work she has put in over the years.



Lots of love. Declan, Oisín, Eoin, Billy.

€900 Raised for Gaza Relief at Lucan Meena Bazaar

On Sunday, 18th May, the Women of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association (AMA) Ireland held their 14th National Meena Bazaar at Educate Together School in Lucan. The event brought together locals from all walks of life to enjoy food, culture, and community spirit.



Visitors sampled homemade treats, shopped at vibrant stalls with henna, clothing, and jewellery, and enjoyed family-friendly fun including a bouncy castle. An information stall offered insights into Islam, encouraging dialogue and understanding.

The event raised €450 for Trócaire and €450 for ActionAid, supporting humanitarian work in Gaza. A charity representative praised the event's spirit and impact.

The day also highlighted the Voices for Peace campaign and featured the new Irish-language edition of World Crisis and the Pathway to Peace, launched recently in Dublin.

AMA Ireland continues its year-round community work, including support for shelters, homelessness initiatives, and participation in events like the St. Patrick's Parade.

The group looks forward to welcoming the community again at next year's bazaar.



St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Sunday Mass Times: Vigil: 6.30pm
Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: On Saturdays after the 10am Mass to 11.30am (funerals permitting)

Confessions: Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Christian Meditation: We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.
All welcome, Sr Geraldine

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

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

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.*

St. Mary's Readers' Roster June: The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of June 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.

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

Divine Mercy Devotion: Every Wednesday, in after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral), during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Chaplet to the Divine Mercy is prayed in atonement for our sins and the sins of the whole world, asking God to defeat evil and bring peace to the world in these troubled times.

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

Cuppa: Why not come into the Coffee Dock for a cuppa and a chat after the 10am Weekday Mass and on Sundays after the morning Masses.



Thank God and sincere thanks also to our many listeners and supporters as RADIO MARIA IRELAND continues to grow. As an Irish-run Catholic Talk-Radio Station we enjoy commercial free broadcasting - Prayer, Catechesis, Uplifting music, Talks, Interviews and Testimonies – do join our growing faith family!

Here's how you can listen:

Via Digital TV - Saorview Channel 210

Download our FREE App "RADIO MARIA IRELAND"

Streaming on our WEBSITE -

www.radiomaria.ie

Via our 'Listen Live Radio' link on our Facebook Page.

Via PHONE – get live radio feed by calling +353 (0) 1 437 3277 (no extra charges apply).

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

Mass for Students who are sitting examinations

All students who are sitting exams shortly are invited to

12 noon Mass

on Sunday 1 June

in St Patrick's Parish Church

and in St Mary's Parish Church.

We pray that you may know & feel God's presence with you during the exams and that God will guide you in decisions that you are making.

(There will be other intentions prayed for at this Mass also.)



Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net



Sunday Mass Times: Vigil: 6pm.
Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

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

Masses livestreamed www.lucansouthparish.net

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

Prayers of the Church:

Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

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

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration.

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle.

Fri: 2-3pm: Divine Mercy Devotion/Adoration.

Legion of Mary:

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

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

8.50m Benediction. *All welcome*

Family Choir:

The Family choir is looking for more members who love to sing or could play any instrument like: string, wind or percussion. We practice Friday evenings here in the Church and sing at 12:00pm Sunday Mass.

If you know of anyone who may be interested, please share this with them or approach any of the choir members after Mass to link you with Tina or Mike.

Vocations Society of St. Joseph:

We will now be meeting on the last Monday of the month at 9.45 am in The Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan South.

The Society has been set up in Divine Mercy Church, Lucan for all the Lucan parishes and are looking for new members. All welcome.

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.

Wednesday tea/coffee morning:

There is a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake after 9.15am Mass 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

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.

Masses livestreamed at www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Baptisms in St Patrick's:

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

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.

Tea/Coffee:

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

Acknowledgement

David Gannon

The family of the late David, beloved son of Martha and brother of Caroline and Robert, wish to convey our sincere thanks for your kind expression of sympathy in our recent sorrow.

Anniversaries

Michael Balfé

5th Anniversary

Rest in peace
Never more than a thought away
Sadly missed by Catherine, Mary, Ian and Nigel, Grace, Catherine, grandchildren and great grandchildren



Robert Cullen

25th Anniversary

Dad, you may not be with us any more
But all the memories we shared together
We cherish always.
From your loving daughters, sons, grandchildren and great grandchildren.



Teresa (Tess) Curran

3rd Anniversary

We lost our Mam with a heart of gold,
How much we miss her can never be told,
She shared our troubles and helped us along,
If we follow in her footsteps,
We will never go wrong.
We miss you from your kitchen chair,
Your loving smile, and gentle air,
Your vacant place, no one can fill,
We miss you Mam, and always will.
She was a mam, so very rare,
Content in her home, and always there,
On earth she toiled, in Heaven she rests,
God bless you Mam, you were the best.
Sadly missed by her loving children and their partners.



Teresa (Tess) Curran

If flowers grow in Heaven Lord,
please pick a bunch for us,
Then place them in our granny's arms,
and tell her they're from us.
Tell her that we love her, and miss her,
And when she turns to smile,
Place a kiss upon her cheek,
And hold her for a while.
Remembering her is easy,
We do it every day,
Missing her is a heartache,
That never goes away.
Tess is sadly missed by all her grandchildren.

Kathleen Durkin

11th Anniversary, 28th May

Greatly missed and always remembered.
By your loving family

Bridget Finn

39th Anniversary, 31st May

In loving memory of a dear wife and mother Bridget
There is no night without a dawning
No winter without a Spring
And beyond deaths dark horizon
Our hearts once more will sing
For those who leave us for a while
Have only gone away
Out of the restless care-worn world
Into a brighter day
Always loved and sadly missed by Eddie, Angela, Edward, Les, Ken and families. xx

Jonathon Heffernan

39th Anniversary, 29th May

Remembering our always beloved Jonathon who left us on 29th May 1986.
"But I am sad below the depth of words
That never more we two shall draw anear"
Mam and Chris.

Birthday Remembrances

Alan Carey

45th Birthday, 3rd June

Wishing you son, a very Happy Heavenly Birthday, 4th away from home. Late of Beech Park and Ballydowd

Forever Young

A heavenly birthday wish, Alan
Your chair may now be empty Al
Your music now is still
Like the void you left in our hearts
We cherish all the memories you left us
Some say that as time goes by
Our heartache will subside
But it's the feeling in our hearts today Alan
Are the same as the day you died
Happy 45th Birthday Sweetheart
Hoping you are partying up there with your brothers and sister and Dan
Until we meet again Alan
Love you forever, your heartbroken Mam, Dad, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews. xxxxxx

Sandra Corrigan Whelan RIP

5th Birthday away from home, 1st June

Your absence is felt deeply,
but so is the warmth of your love,
that lives on in our hearts.
Happy Heavenly Birthday
our beautiful Sandra
Forever in our hearts,
With love from your family xx

Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 4th June – Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30am – 12.30pm.
New members always welcome!



Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Monday 9th June at 7.30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght.**

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

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

Please note that this will be the last meeting before we break for the summer in July and August. We will recommence on **8th September**

Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

We will be going to Fairyhouse Racecourse this month for a day out where will watch the horses, have our own box and a meal. Further day trips are being planned, along with the usual Annual Summer Holiday to somewhere sunny. Why not come and join us. We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am.

Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, Scrabble, Cards, Choir, and the chat. Coffee break at 1pm.

New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends.

Hospice Sunflower Days

Can you spare an hour or two for Hospice Sunflower Days?

Our volunteers will be returning to shopping centres all over South Dublin on **Friday 6th and Saturday 7th June.**

We are currently recruiting volunteers for South Dublin – a few hours can make all the difference!

Please contact 01 4911072 or fundraising@olh.ie



Good Luck in the Exams!

We extend best wishes to all those sitting the Leaving and Junior Cert Exams from next week. Take it easy – it will be over before you know it!

We send best wishes also to

Lucan Community College's Principal, **Diane Birnie** as she retires after many years. No doubt, there will be great adventures ahead, Diane!

The Blue Flowering Shrub! The shrub mentioned in last week's issue at the Tesco footbridge, is indeed a *California Lilac*, which is one of 50 – 60 shrubs under the botanical name *Ceanothus*. Apparently, this shrub can grow very big, prompting some locals to remove them from their gardens.

Many thanks to the readers who sent us the info.

New set up at pay stations in supermarket!

While pay stations and the likes are updating all the time, one local supermarket has a CCTV screen just above where payment is made. BUT if you're not careful, and are putting your PIN into your phone, this too is filmed!!!

That's a bit much now.....

The Acacia tree in St. Mary's was all abloom over last weekend – for some reason or other it doesn't flower every year. Sadly, the wind and rain has shortened its blooming this season.

43 Beech Grove, Lucan Garden Open Day & Art Exhibition

in aid of



Date: Sat 14th June 2025

Time: 10.30am – 4.30pm

Bring a Friend

Contact: Joe & Aine Clayton 086 0561497

Esler / Lucan Pilgrimage to Knock Saturday 24th May 2025



James' Coaches had once again a special journey to make on Saturday 24 May last to St Patrick's Parish Esler/Lucan, for they were entrusted with bringing local pilgrims to Knock Shrine for their annual pilgrimage. The first collection point was the layby in Lucan, next onto St Patrick's Church and then forward to the Marian Shrine in Dodsboro to collect our remaining pilgrims, before heading to the N4 motorway, then westward bound for Knock.

It was a bright sunny morning as we set out, there were plenty of acquaintances renewed, plus meeting pilgrims who were first timers joining the pilgrimage, indeed there was one pilgrim who had jetted over to join us all the way from the USA. On our journey to Knock, we took time out to recite the Rosary. Joyful, Sorrowful & Glorious Mysteries were fervently offered to Our Lady alongside our petitions. We took a pitstop on reaching Longford, at the Longford Arms Hotel, we were delighted when we were issued into our own dining room where heated scones and tea or coffee was awaiting us. We boarded the bus once more and headed to Our Lady's Shrine, our driver took the scenic route through Strokestown, Balinlough, Ballyhaunis before arriving in Knock.

There is so much to see and do in Knock, my companions and I firstly touch the original stone on the gable wall, mentioning our fervent petitions as we pray there. We partake of our packed lunch and tea in St Joseph's Centre before

heading out as pilgrims. The Stations of the Cross stand as a solemn reminder of Calvary between the Parish Church and the Basilica. The Reconciliation Chapel is cleverly positioned underground, situated to your right when facing the Basilica, it is a sanctuary of peace. Apart from the many Confessionals, it is home to a Beehive structure where a pilgrim can sit in peace and quiet and contemplate.

The Esler/Lucan pilgrimage normally coincides with the Society of African Missions pilgrimage. Their priests concelebrate Mass and anoint the Sick, this year our Fr Samuel joined them on the altar. There is an extra special moment in the Mass when the Loreto House Intercultural Group, in song and dance present the book of the Gospels for the proclamation of God's Word and Offertory Procession.

Then, once the ceremonies have concluded it is back to the Bus for our return journey, taking in the usual pitstop in Longford town. We pilgrims wish to sincerely thank Marie McBride and Marie Anderson for organising the pilgrimage and Fr Samuel for joining us on our journey.

To conclude I am including a quote from the SMA Knock Leaflet:

*We carry this moment with steady hearts,
Grateful, attentive and open to what is still
unfolding.*

mgm



SCHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

Green flag award:

Well done to our Green Schools Committee who travelled to the Helix last week to collect the schools second green flag. Green Schools Ireland were awarding St Josephs a green flag for water conservation. Well done to all the Green Schools Committee who worked tirelessly on this campaign all year raising awareness and promoting good habits with regard to water usage in school for both our staff and students.

Graduation Mass:

Congratulations to the 6th year class of 2025 who celebrated their graduation last Wednesday night in St Marys Church followed by refreshment's in the school afterwards. It was a lovely evening with singing from the school choir, kind words and stories of the past six years of this group from the principal, year head and teachers. All the staff and students in St. Joseph's would like to wish this sixth year cohort all the very best with all that life brings their way after school and also wish them the very best of luck in their upcoming leaving cert exams.

See Graduation Photo below.....

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Follow Us on Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Find us on our Website: www.stjosephslucan.com

Awards day 2025: Last Thursday in the school we had our annual awards day. It was a fantastic for our whole school community where our students are recognised for their achievements both in and out of the classroom. As well as students and staff, there was also members of the Board of Management, Parents Association and past staff and students in attendance.



The big winners on the day where Bihone Shala, 6th year who won the 2025 student of the year and Sadhbh Kehoe who was voted as the head girl for the 2025/2026 academic year.



The families of both students were present on the day as they picked up their awards and were recognised by whole school community. Well done to Ms. Hanlon and Ms. McMahon for organising and coordinating the event and ensuring everything went smoothly on the day.



Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Graduation news: Congratulations to our 84 6th yr students who graduated in St. Mary's Church and the school on Thursday 22nd May. The Mass went smoothly, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our students, who participated with enthusiasm and respect, and especially Ms. Peel, who put in an enormous amount of work in the weeks leading up to the night. The Gospel choir's beautiful music added a touching dimension to the occasion, perfectly capturing the spirit of the day. Fr. Ubaldo's words of encouragement and guidance were inspiring, offering valuable advice to the graduates as they embark on their new journey. The students then returned to the school where the Sports Hall filled up with close to 500 people as parents, guardians, family, friends and staff gathered together one final time to bid farewell and wish good luck to the class of 2025. As usual at these bittersweet occasions, there were mixed emotions for the students as they celebrated the completion of their second-level education, at the end of their 6-year journey.



There was a sense of joy and celebration of their time in Coláiste Phádraig, tinged with a little sadness that is common to graduation ceremonies, as the realisation dawned on the students that they would soon be leaving behind a lot of friendships and happy memories as they prepared to sit their exams and move onto the next stage of their lives. Mr. Lyons addressed the students in his capacity of Year Head. Drawing on his own life experiences and values, he offered insightful reflections and words of wisdom to deliver a message that truly resonated with the graduating class of 2025. Cillian Lawlor delivered the valedictory address and he reflected on the joyful six years he has spent in the company of a terrific year group, highlighting the strong friendships and connections formed along the way. The principal Mr. O' Meara then addressed the congregation before the students were then called onto the stage in groups of five where they received their graduation certs, 6th yr group photo, as well as a set of cufflinks as mementoes of their

time in Coláiste Phádraig. We wish the class of 2025 good luck in their exams and all the best for the future.

Transition Year: The Transition Year Graduation was held in the Sports Hall on Wednesday 21st May. It was a brilliant evening of nostalgia, laughs, memories and celebration of a hugely successful and enjoyable Programme. The evening was mainly run by the TY students themselves. Liam O' Donoghue and Patrick Dignan acted as MCs for the evening and they both did a superb job. Noah Dolan and Sean Gormley spoke of their work experience placements while Leo Jordan reflected on his CPR training and BT Young Scientist participation. Academic awards were then presented for each subject, while there were also special awards in areas such as Inclusion Week, work experience, Guidance, Life Skills, Driver Education, CPR, rowing, horticulture and spirit of TY. To wrap up the evening's entertainment, an end-of-year photo montage of the year's activities, set to Green Day's "Good Riddance (Time of your lives)" succinctly captured the bittersweet essence of the year gone by, reminding everyone to cherish the memories and look forward to new beginnings. Tea, coffee, biscuits and sandwiches, kindly served by the Parents Association, completed a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining night for all.

Basketball: We are delighted to announce that Transition Year student Lewis Ajinakou has been selected to represent Ireland's U16 Basketball National Team at the prestigious FIBA EuroBasket tournament, taking place in Skopje, North Macedonia this summer. Lewis will be competing against elite teams from across Europe, with Ireland drawn in a challenging group featuring the hosts, Slovakia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Poland, and Cyprus. The tournament will run from August 7th to 16th. We wish Lewis and his teammates all the best for the tournament.

Exams: Our 6th yr students sat their Computer Science Leaving Cert written exam in the school on Wednesday 21st May. The exam was worth 70% of the overall marks, with the students having already submitted their projects worth the remaining 30%. The students reported that the exam was challenging but fair. Overall, the students were content and happy to have a full exam completed by now. The Junior Cycle and Leaving Cert exams begin for all students on Wednesday 4th June at 9.30am. Good luck to all of our exam students.

Lucan Community College

A Fond Farewell to Principal Diane Birnie

As Principal Diane Birnie of Lucan Community College prepares for a well-earned retirement, the entire school community—and the wider DDLETB family—joins in extending heartfelt thanks and warmest wishes for the future. A proud Lucan native, Diane began her teaching career in Collinstown Park in 1986 before joining Lucan Community College in 1990, where she taught as a Maths teacher and later as a passionate school leader. Appointed Principal in 2009 following the retirement of Seamus O'Neill, Diane has led the college with exceptional care, wisdom, and dedication for the past sixteen years. Her deep love of learning, her unwavering support for students, and her kindness toward colleagues have been the cornerstones of her leadership.



Beyond the college, she has been a steadfast friend and mentor throughout the DDLETB network, always ready with encouragement and support. While her daily presence will be sorely missed, Diane's legacy will live on in the lives she has touched and the values she has instilled. As she embraces this new chapter, we offer our sincere gratitude for her extraordinary service and wish her a retirement filled with happiness, tennis, and wonderful adventures with her family and friends.

Good luck, Diane—and thank you.

Lucan Community College Presents: Legally Blonde – The Musical

From May 7th to 9th, the Transition Year students of Lucan Community College took to the stage with their unforgettable production of Legally Blonde – The Musical. After nearly six months of hard work, rehearsals, and preparation, the students delivered a show full of energy, talent, and heart. Lead roles were played brilliantly by Lucy, James, Matilda, Sadhbh, Ruby Rose and Jack but every single cast and crew member contributed to making the production a standout success. With a set that looked truly professional and performances that wowed the audience each night, the show was a true celebration of

teamwork, creativity, and dedication. Bravo to everyone involved!



Ethos Competition

Congratulations to Aoife and Nicole, two First Year students from Class Robinson, for winning our Ethos Postcard Competition! Their outstanding designs beautifully captured how our school values — Respect, Care, Community, Equality, and Excellence in Education — are lived out every day in our school. From the vibrant illustrations and thoughtful messages, their postcards reflect the heart of our ethos and will be shared as a proud representation of what we stand for. Well done to both girls on their creativity and meaningful work!



Lucan Library – June Events

June Bank Holiday: Lucan Library will be closed from Friday 30th May at 4.30pm and reopen on Tuesday 3rd June at 9.45am.

The Library will be accessible to those members who have signed up for My Open Library. Please ask at desk about joining My Open Library.

Exam Students: The library staff wish all the students who have studied so hard in the library this year, the very best of luck in their exams next week.

Ruaille Buaille Children's Music Festival -

taking place in Lucan from Wednesday 4th to Saturday 7th June. Visit www.ruaillebuaille.ie for information. On Saturday 7th June, the stunning grounds of Lucan House will play host to the Ruaille Buaille Music Village 2025 including an extensive range of Cruinniú na nÓg @ Ruaille Buaille events – BE THERE!

Wednesday 4th June - The Lullaby Project

An Early Years music & culture project for young children and parent groupings coming from a variety of cultural backgrounds. The project is focused on sharing and learning lullabies from different cultures. Lullabies exemplify music that is beautiful, accessible, poignant, relatable, and common to us all. Led by experienced facilitators Eamon Sweeney, Malachy Robinson and Lisa McGuinness the sessions will use ukuleles, guitars, cello, voice, chimes and percussion.

Booking essential: 10.15am:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/ruaille-buaille-the-lullaby-project-tickets-1363280431469?aff=oddtcreator>

11.30am: <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/ruaille-buaille-the-lullaby-project-tickets-1363505655119?aff=oddtcreator>

Wednesday 4th June, 3.30pm - 5.30pm

Adult Chess Club - all welcome

Poet's Perch – Monthly Poetry Circle for

Adults Tuesday 3rd June, 6.30pm. All levels welcome.



Cruinniú na nÓg

Saturday 7th June, 12.45pm and 1.30pm

Feel the Beat - an exploratory sound workshop designed to bring music to life for Deaf and CODA children. Join violinist Jane Hackett and circus artist Olivier Dietrich to interact with music through movement, vibration, and sensory engagement. This introductory music workshop will provide the children with an understanding of musical elements and will support them to create their very own musical composition. The workshop will last circa 40 minutes and an ISL interpreter will be present. Pré-booking essential via Eventbrite:

Workshop 1 – 12.45pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/feel-the-beat-with-jane-hackett-and-olivier-dietrich-tickets-1320158261899?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=>

Workshop 2 – 1.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/feel-the-beat-with-jane-hackett-and-olivier-dietrich-tickets-1320167349079?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-term=>

This project was funded through South Dublin County Council's Cruinniú na nÓg 2025 Open Call

Exhibition: Library Landing:

The Proclamation of the Irish Republic: A typographical view. Back Walls: Hues to My Muse: An Art Exhibition by Satbdi Deb. A journey through life in colour, emotions and experiences. A collection of Indian Folk art and expressionistic style of work.





Women's
Collective
Ireland

Lucan Update – May 2025

We're thrilled to be in full swing with our spring term, and it's been heartening to see such strong engagement across our programmes. Here's a snapshot of our current programmes: Introduction to Creative Writing, Women in Leadership Programme, Mixed Crafts – Adamstown, Conversation Club – Adamstown, 55 & Thriving Social Group, Crafty Byrds – Ballyowen. The weeks are flying by we can't believe we are over half way through the term.

We're also delighted to be hosting an exciting Masterclass in Confidence, happening online Wednesday 11th June from 7pm-9pm. This one-off session is open to all women young or old who are looking to boost self-esteem, build assertiveness, and reconnect with their inner confidence — don't miss it! We'd love to welcome you along!

Coming soon: Keep an eye out for a special Wellness Morning – details to be announced shortly. It promises to be a relaxing and uplifting space for connection, calm, and self-care.

To register or find out more about any of our programmes or events, get in touch at: lucan@womenscollective.ie or through our social media pages, or Ph: 083 860 7947

Thanks as always to our amazing community for your ongoing support!

*Rita, Jackie, Justyna & Joanne
The WCI Lucan Team*

Esker Active Retirement

We had a lovely day this week at our club meeting, with almost 60 members enjoying bowls, scrabble and card games.

We will be open Wednesdays in June at 1.30 in St Andrews Parish Hall, Main Street Lucan, finishing up with our end of season party on 18th June.

On the 11th of June, Ann Marie Gabbett, our Community Garda is coming along at 3 pm to give us a talk on home security, which I am sure you will all find helpful.



Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

Email: info@ballyowencommunitycentre.ie

Telephone: 01 253 6105 or 085 867 1245

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



Baby & Toddler: Due to the bank holiday we will have no Baby and Toddler group, we will be back on Monday 9th 11-12.30

Active over 55's: Bealtaine activities have come to an end it has been a very creative 4 weeks. We would like to thank the wonderful Martina Kirwan for facilitating the 4 weeks. Our over 55's will have a week's break and be back on Thursday 12th June, 1-3.

Other News: The centre will be closed on Monday 2nd June due to the Bank Holiday.

Volunteer's: As the centre is growing, we are looking for the help of locals. If you have some spare time and would like to volunteer at some of our events please 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.

Adult Education

The Adult Education Service in Lucan Education Centre, on Esker Hill are currently enrolling for free and flexible part-time courses commencing in September 2025. The Return to Education Programme 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 Microsoft Excel (Spreadsheets)
Career Preparation / CV and Interview Skills
Business English Language Skills
Data Entry – Improving Keyboard Skills
Office Skills
Business Administration
Word Processing (Advanced)
Social Studies (Introduction to Sociology)
Payroll Using Sage Software

For more details, contact lorrainekavanagh@ddletbaes.ie or call (01) 6283557.

LUCAN HOUSE – new beginnings for Ruaille Buaille!

In the heart of Lucan Village, the stunning grounds of Lucan House will play host to the Ruaille Buaille Music Village 2025 on **Saturday June 7th, from 12 noon.** including an extensive range of Cruinniú na nÓg @ Ruaille Buaille events – BE THERE!



Events include

Joan Pinos and the Apocadixie Six, from Barcelona, SongTales presented by Thomas Johnston

The Trad Buaille Stage – Fiddles, Banjos, Mandolins, Drumadore – lots of drums....

Kylemore Early Music Ensemble, Listening Post – Sonic Tapestry: Sounds of Lucan House

Juggling and Circus Workshop and Performances, Sensory Explorers for all sizes and ages

The Mobile Library will also visit

Primrose Hill Gardens
is an old-world garden with many
different plants in flower

Open 1st June – July 4th,
and
Heritage Week 16th August
Open since 1992.

Adults €6.00. Children Free.

Top of Primrose Land, Lucan
Post Code K78L1W9



POLITICAL NOTES

Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Féin Rep

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Email: dobradaighsf@gmail.com

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

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Web: www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com

Adamstown Civic Building & Library – Update:

The Adamstown Civic Building/Library is currently at pre-planning stage, with a planning application anticipated in late 2025. The programme for delivery forecasts construction commencing in Q1 2027. This represents a delay. In a response I received this week, the council state that the drawdown of the specific Urban Regeneration Development Funding comes with significant governance, legal, risk management and procurement requirements and associated additional timeline pressures to the project.

Raise The Roof – Housing Rally: Housing continues to be the number one issue negatively impacting people's lives in Ireland. The cost of a new home and rents have spiralled out of control and are crippling our young people. A protest will take place on Tuesday June 17th 6pm at the Dáil. The 'Raise the Roof' campaign.

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

(085)2551602.

CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie

Lucan Traffic Management Meeting

27/05/2025 Update. This month I raised the following residents' concerns: Sarsfield Park – Proposed junction works, which following a 2024 public consultation include a new pedestrian crossing and junction tightening. Works are scheduled for July and August. The project is in the design phase, and following a safety audit, the Council will consult with the Residents Association on site.

Lucan Main Street / Griffeen Bridge Junction –

Unclear road markings at the junction, where drivers are forming two lanes leading to confusion, near misses, and blocking of the yellow box. The Council noted that due to the ongoing undergrounding of ESB cables in the village, no changes will be made for now. The junction will be reviewed once village works are complete.

If you have concerns, contact me and I'll raise with council road engineers.

Minister Emer Higgins TD

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd

emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

Relay For Life South County Dublin:

Relay for Life South County Dublin will host their third annual Relay on Saturday 31st May from 1pm, in Corkagh Park. This 24-hour fundraising event in **support** of the Irish Cancer Society, promises to be a family-fun day filled with lots of entertainment. The event is a celebration of cancer survivors while remembering those loved and lost to cancer.

Candle bags can be purchased for €5 in memory of loved ones for the incredibly moving, Candle of Hope Ceremony at 9pm.

Visit www.relayforlife.ie

Free Electrical Recycling event: I am hosting a free electrical recycling event on Monday 9th June, alongside Cllr. Caroline Brady. Happening from 9:30am–12pm, at Tesco Lucan Carpark. Bring along any item with a plug or battery for recycling. Thanks to Recycle IT and Tesco Lucan for their support.

Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD, Independent

Email: hfarrell@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie

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

Current Issues:

Issues reported to SDCC on behalf of residents included addressing unsafe parking near St. Andrew's school, coordinating waste collection along the Griffeen River, and ensuring pedestrian safety near St Helen's. Concerns about footpath and fencing in Hermitage Park and Hillcrest, requesting maintenance for Esker Cemetery, and updates on a laneway closure were also logged. To be followed up with constituents in the coming days.

Lucan Swimming Pool Pricing:

My motion at the Area Committee Meeting requested a detailed update from SDCC on their actions ensure a fair pricing structure by Aura Leisure Services for Lucan Leisure Centre users. I strongly objected to charging commercial prices in a public pool. SDCC assured that specific groups would be subsidised, but it appears the prices have risen from those proposed to councillors in 2024.



Political Notes continued over.....

Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell “*Not just at election time*” Dáil office: 01 6184078.

WhatsApp: 0892364871.

Website: www.paulgogarty.com

Dáil report; This week I raised the issue of people being approved for the First Home and Help to Buy schemes. but then finding that house prices have risen in the interim and their applications invalidated. Some people can afford to join the overnight queues for limited housing stock, but those working whose income is lower face huge barriers, as they are often not eligible to go on waiting lists for social housing either.

I again spoke on the horrific situation in Gaza and called for real justice for the family of the late Shane Farrell.

I queried public procurement policies that do not penalise companies with poor records and highlighted the need to allow people without cards or chequebooks to pay bills to agencies and local authorities using postal orders.

Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent PC

087 279 5274 lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

www.lotoole.com

“Always working, always available”

Fighting for Fair Access to Local Leisure

Facilities: I continue to push for fair and affordable pricing for the new Lucan Swimming Pool and Leisure Centre. As a publicly funded amenity it must remain accessible to all not priced like a private gym. I've called on the Council to ensure oversight and push for a pricing model that reflects its public nature.

Separately I've raised urgent concerns about the **possible removal of the long-promised public swimming pool in Adamstown**. I've advocated for a non-statutory public consultation so the community can have their say before any decision is made. I'll keep residents fully informed as this develops.

Delighted my motion passed for shared use of Adamstown's Community College **basketball courts** more safe recreational space for young people coming soon with school funding the fencing!

Shane Moynihan - TD – Fianna Fáil

Email: shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie

Phone: 01-6184128. Find me on Facebook, Instagram, X and TikTok. Working with Cllr Jacqueline Sheehy (Palmerstown-Fonthill)

Transport Committee: I raised a number of issues with the National Transport Authority at this week's Transport Committee, including the need to look at starting some of Lucan's bus routes at staggered start points to provide

additional capacity to people living at later stages of the route. I have also requested that flexibility be given to providers to provide additional weekend capacity in response to events in the city centre. The NTA is now actively examining how this might be delivered.

Lucan Road layout: Having engaged with both the school and the Council, I was pleased to be informed that technical adjustments will be made to the Lucan Road junction at St Joseph's College to maximise safety for pedestrians, drivers and cyclists. These works will be carried out in the coming weeks.

Lucan Traffic Problems

Traffic is a major problem everywhere and getting worse, who is to blame? In my view it is the city centre planners. They have reduced over ten thousand vehicles per day passing through Dublin city centre over the last ten years without adequate public transport. Where did they think these cars would go, most of them were pushed onto the M50. Now they must travel twice the distance to get to their destination. This has overloaded the M50 so much so, variable traffic lights had to be introduced to ease this traffic problem. This system has a knock-on effect on local roads further adding to traffic congestion.



The M50 is now a very dangerous route due to their actions. Fear of being trapped is a big problem now on M50, one accident can cause a holdup for hours resulting in many personal problems. M50 is different from other roads it is not close to houses and many local exits, to ease these problems when they arise. There is no point in having the city vehicle free if it causes major traffic congestion for the rest of Dublin and other areas.

Now a new ring road is needed to ease overloading on M50, that will induce more car movement. Give public transport a chance, look at the New alternative public transport plan that addresses most of these problems, now users will have a choice with this balanced plan. If the Metro Link underground was built already it would have little effect on the M50 problems. Planners should act in a responsible way and be accountable for their actions. The great principle of planning ‘in solving a problem don't create another.’

Tom Newton 086 3127364
Transport Officer ACRA.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

Despite the weather members of the Soirée submitted many nature photographs, some of which are being held over until next week.

Joe's photo of two birds "keeping warm", in St. Edmundsbury last Sunday evening, was particularly appropriate.



Frances caught a photo of a squirrel in Willsbrook Park and there was great excitement when Joe submitted a photo of a bumble bee.

Ireland has 21 native bumblebee species. Of these, 6 species are

cuckoo bumblebees, so-called as they don't make their own nests, but instead lay their eggs in the nest of a true bumblebee who will inadvertently bring up their young. The Great Yellow Bumblebee is on the verge of extinction from Ireland.

Josie got a colourful shot of the Saturday Market in Leixlip.



Michael G was in Barberstown Castle and spotted a beautiful vintage car in the grounds. According to the Revenue Commissioners a vintage vehicle is a vehicle proved to be more than 30 years old. The owner of such a car can avail of the special 'ZV' series of registration numbers available for 'vintage' cars, which this car does!

Until next week stay safe!

