



Established 1967

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

Sub. €1

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2025

## Celebrating St. Patrick

The feast of St. Patrick is a great moment to remember the gift of faith brought to our shores in the early centuries. St. Patrick was one among a few missionaries to Ireland who brought the message of Jesus Christ as an invitation to the people of Ireland. Saints Brendan, Ciarán, Enda, Brigid, Senan and Columba arrived with the message of the Gospel during the early centuries also. Through the combination of the knowledge and skills of each of the Irish saints and their followers the emergence of monasticism, the ordination of priests in Ireland and wide range apostolic activity, in God's name, grew.



The image of St Patrick which is widely presented currently is of a secular and comic nature which has nothing to do with a day which is fundamentally Christian and rooted in celebrating the gift of faith in God. The question of faith is one which is often silenced by current society while the fact of belief is one for all to confront, question and examine. Everyone has some belief, even if it is presented in the negative as non-belief. It may be a non-belief in God, but that in itself is a belief.

The fundamental purpose which we have for life, rooted in faith or some existential purpose, is an important lynchpin for us when life pulls us in times of great stress, as happens inevitably. It is easy to sway happily when all is going well, but when the strong winds of challenge hit hard, it is important to have roots of purpose and meaning which hold us firm while the storm passes! What's it all about!? – is something that every human being asks at many stages of life often when moments of great change occur.

As we celebrate St. Patrick, who knew that he was rooted firmly in Jesus Christ and the values of the Gospel let us consider ourselves as individuals in current times and know where we have set our roots. If we don't know and have never considered what purpose we lean into when the going gets tough, or the purpose towards which we give gratitude, perhaps we could take a moment to look at the path we tread and see what it is on which we depend.

What sustains us, holds us firm and gives a meaning in life that is not transient? Are there questions of faith/non-faith that we need to ask ourselves as St. Patrick's Day presents before us again? What is the rooting truth of our lives!

*Cathy Burke*

*Catechist in the Lucan Partnership of Parishes*

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

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

Email – [lucan@citinfo.ie](mailto:lucan@citinfo.ie)

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



### Opening hours

#### Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

#### Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

## Travelling Abroad

[Check travel advice and entry requirements for your destination](#)

Check the travel advice and entry requirements for the country you are travelling to before you travel abroad.

You might need a visa, this depends on your destination. You can find out if you need a visa on the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website.

### Is your passport in date?

Check that your and your families' passports are in date before you book. Passport Online is open to all applicants. You can get information on how to renew your passport or how to apply for your child's first passport. The latest passport turnaround times are available on the Passport Service's website.



### Do you have travel insurance?

You should get travel insurance for yourself and your family. If you have a travel insurance policy already, or travel insurance is included in your health insurance policy, you should check that

you are covered for hospital treatment for COVID-19.

You should bring your European Health Insurance Card with you if you are travelling to the EEA or Switzerland. You cannot use your EHIC in the UK. But you can still get the healthcare you need. You will need to show your Irish passport to the GP or hospital. Make sure that it is in date, it must be renewed every 4 years and each family member needs their own. An EHIC does not replace travel insurance.

Ireland and Australia have a reciprocal health agreement. This means that Irish visitors to Australia will receive emergency services and assistance towards the cost of prescribed drugs and medicines on the same basis as persons ordinarily resident in Australia.

Irish citizens travelling in the UK are entitled to access healthcare through the Common Travel Area.

### Driving abroad

If you plan to drive while abroad, make sure that your Irish driving licence is valid and that you bring it with you.

Always make sure you are properly insured for driving while overseas.

Get more information on driving abroad from the Road Safety Authority and on our website.

### While abroad

Note the address, telephone number and opening hours of the Irish Embassy or Consulate in the country you are visiting. In countries with no Irish diplomatic or consular representation, you may seek emergency assistance from embassies or consulates of other European Union countries. On its website, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade provides advice on how to stay safe while abroad and what to do in an emergency.

### Travel tips

Check if you need any vaccines or immunisations before you travel (at least 8 weeks in advance).

Make a note of the 24-hour emergency number of your bank so you can cancel your credit card or debit card if it is stolen.

Check your mobile data allowance with your mobile phone service provider. (For travel outside of the EEA).

Do you need a special adapter to plug in your electrical devices?

**[More information is on our website.](#)**

## Lucan Toastmasters

Lucan Toastmasters is a friendly, vibrant club which offers a safe environment to develop public speaking and communication skills.



Our next meeting is on Thursday 20th March at 7:45pm at the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip and guests are most welcome to join us. Come along on the night or contact

[vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com](mailto:vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com) to register your interest.

**Thursday 20th March 2025**

**7:45pm**

**Springfield Hotel, Leixlip, W23 W280**

- Do you want to **finally** conquer your fear of public speaking?
- Do you have a speech or presentation coming up that you need help with?
- Do you want to make new friends?

If so, then Lucan Toastmasters is the place for you.

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month in the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip at 7.45 p.m. Admission is free for new guests – don't worry, you won't be asked to speak! Come along on Thursday next, March 20th, where a warm welcome awaits you.

For further details, follow Lucan Toastmasters on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#) or contact [vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com](mailto:vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com)



## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> March –Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30 – 12.30. New members always welcome!



Some of our Green Ladies at our St. Patrick's Day celebration this week.



**Help a Mother in Need for Mother's Day!**

Every donation goes directly to a family in need

[www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop](http://www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop)

Reg Charity No. 22200000

Community Connect  
www.communityconnect.ie

**Drive & Drop**  
National Donation Day

**Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd March 2025**

**NEW ITEMS ONLY**  
Diapers – sizes 1 to 6, Baby Wipes, Nappy Bags, Baby Bath, Nappy Cream, Baby Sunscreen, Baby Cream, Wipes, Packs of Softy soaps and baby lotions (not in cans), Packs of Softy hand sanitiser, Baby Blankets, Packs of Softy pads, Baby Bottles.  
*Financial donations accepted*

Dropoff locations in Athlone, Carlow, Cork, Dublin, Galway & Kilkenny

For more information, see: [www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop](http://www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop) or scan QR code

## Lucan I.C.A.

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March: St. Patrick's Day. We are closed.

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March: Craft group will continue to work on their individual projects. Paula Maguire will give us a talk on new decision support structure which replaces "Power of Attorney" Tea Hostesses: Nuala Corbet and Mary Skelly.

We had a good turnout for our Seachtain na Gaeilge Quiz, and all enjoyed it. Along with the quiz we had some *sean fhocal* with Kathleen May – brought back memories of our school days.



## St Mary's, Lucan

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

### Sunday Mass Times:

Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon, 7pm

**Weekday Masses:** Tuesday to Saturday 10am

Evening Mass: Tuesday to Friday 7.30pm.



### St Patrick's Day

#### Masses:

10.30am and 12 noon.

**NO** Evening Mass on St Patrick's Day



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

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

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

*All welcome. Sr Geraldine*

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

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

**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.*

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

**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.

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

Dates are bookable on line.

Email: [secretary@lucanparish.com](mailto:secretary@lucanparish.com)

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

**Deepest Sympathy** to the partner, family and friends of **Donal Caulfield.**  
*May he rest in peace.*



### St. Vincent de Paul

Church collection at all Masses

**NEXT**

Saturday/ Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> /23<sup>rd</sup> March

**Many thanks for your generosity.**

**During Lent Weekday Evening Mass will be in St Mary's Church at 7.30pm. Covering both St Mary's and St Patrick's.**

**Medjugorje Pilgrimages 2025**



	April	October	All Pilgrimages
Depart:	28 <sup>th</sup> April		Booking Deposit €200
Nights:	9		Single Room Supplement:
Normal Price:	€895 pps.		5 Nights: €230
Pat's Price:	€820 pps.		7 Nights: €350
Depart:	30 <sup>th</sup> April	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	
Nights:	7	7	Travel Insurance extra
Normal Price:	€845 pps.	€875 pps.	(Details from Marian Pilgrimages)
Pat's Price:	€770 pps.	€780 pps.	Terms & Conditions apply
Spiritual Director:	Fr. Ray Kelly	Fr. Ubaldo	

Tour Operator: Marian Pilgrimages  
Fully Bonded - Fully Licensed  
Professional Guides

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

Follow us on Facebook at Medjugorje News Lucan

## St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/Adamstown

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



**Sunday Mass Times:** 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon.  
**The 10.30am Family Mass** is aimed at younger parishioners and their families.

### St Patrick's Day

**Masses:**

9am and 10.30am

**NO Evening Mass on St Patrick's Day**

**Weekday Masses:** Tuesday to Saturday at 10am.

Masses livestreamed at [www.stpatrickslucan.ie](http://www.stpatrickslucan.ie)

### Confirmation

Best Wishes to the boys and girls of *Scoil Mhuire*, Airlie Heights and *St John the Evangelist* who will receive the of Confirmation on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

*Please keep them in your prayers*



**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 Vincent De Paul - St Patrick's Conference

Church Gate collection before and after all Masses **THIS Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## Divine Mercy, Lucan South

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

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

**Prayers of the Church:** Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.  
The Church is open Monday to Friday from **10am to 1pm** for private prayers.

### Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

**Mon:** 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration.

**Fri:** 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle.

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

### Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje: Every Thursday.

**7.00pm:** Rosary and Confessions.

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

**8.15pm** Adoration and Confessions

**8.50pm** Benediction. *All welcome*

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

**Home Visits Holy Communion:** If anyone who 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.

**DIVINE MERCY PARISH  
CHILDRENS CHOIR**

**ARE LOOKING FOR  
MORE SINGERS**

**FROM 2ND CLASS & UP**

Contact: Lucy Power 087 7677659  
Practice Thursday 6:00pm - 6:45pm  
Sing at 10:30 Sunday mass every 2nd week

*We sing upbeat and joyful songs*

**CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY | K78 NH05**

## Anniversaries



**Laddie Birnie**

**18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 19<sup>th</sup> March**

*Still sadly missed by all your family and friends.  
Thinking of May and you both at this time and  
always.*

**Jack Collins**

**18<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 15<sup>th</sup> March**

Late of Sarsfield Park  
Sadly missed along life's way  
Quietly remembered every day  
No longer in our lives to share  
But in our hearts, you are always there.,  
*Loved and never forgotten by his daughters Carol  
Anne, Elizabeth, grandchildren and great  
grandchildren.*



**Joe Fennell**

**5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 20<sup>th</sup> March**

"Every old man I see,  
Reminds me of my father"  
Five years gone but still present every day.  
*Much loved and much missed by his son, Michael*

**John Lynam**

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 16<sup>th</sup> March**

He bade no one a last farewell  
He said goodbye to none.  
The heavenly gates were opened wide  
A loving voice said come in.  
Also remembering his beloved wife Betty who  
passed away 27<sup>th</sup> August 1993.



**Maura (Maudie) Stones**  
**1st Anniversary,**  
**15<sup>th</sup> March**

Late Sarsfield Park  
*Missed immeasurable by her  
daughters, sons,  
grandchildren, great  
grandchildren, extended  
family and her loving friends.*

## Birthday Remembrance

**Jonathon Heffernan**

**1970 - 1986**

With loving thoughts of Jonathon on his  
**55<sup>th</sup> Birthday on 12<sup>th</sup> March.**  
*Always with us, Mam and Chris.*



**St Francis Hospice**  
**Walk your own 5k**  
**Spring Memorial Walk**  
Supported by our Hospice Therapy Dogs

Anytime, anyplace in the  
months of March/April!  
Raise funds for Hospice  
Registration Fee €25

To register  
Call 01-8327535  
or visit [www.sfh.ie](http://www.sfh.ie)

Today I walk  
to remember  
you. Thank you!

Sponsored by amazon

Scan here to register

Charity Number 1034 Registered Charity Number 200270

**LOUGH DERG**  
ST. OLIVER PLUNKETT PILGRIMAGE  
Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

DEPART:	RETURN:
Friday 6 June 2025 @ 8.00am	Sunday 8 June 2025 @ 2.00pm
Friday 4 July 2025 @ 8.00am	Sunday 6 July 2025 @ 2.00pm
Friday 8 August 2025 @ 8.00am	Sunday 10 August 2025 @ 2.00pm

Advance Booking Essential (to secure seat on bus)  
Cost €145 includes coach, boat and stay on island  
Direct Coach departs Parnell Square outside  
High Lane Art Gallery at 8.00am sharp.

For full information and booking form contact:

St. Oliver Plunkett Pilgrimage Office Tel: 086 385 3027	Ms. Miriam Delaney, 90 Broadford Crescent, Ballymore, Dublin 16. Tel: 01 494 1171
--	---



**Happy St. Patrick's Day** to all our readers, especially those in far off lands.

Birdie is looking forward to the Lucan Parade – hopefully the sun will shine on the day.

**Covid 19 five years on!** The time has flown so quickly. Here in Lucan Newsletter, we remember the day well. We were working on the weekly edition on the Thursday morning, when a gentleman came in to place an ad, and told us about Leo announcing the Lockdown! We thought he was joking until we checked the RTE News. It would be the last hard-copy Newsletter for some time. Thankfully, we were online!

*Remember all the terms we became familiar with!*

- |                               |                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Flatten the curve             | Together apart    |
| We're all in this together    | Wash your hands   |
| Stay home, save lives         | Social distancing |
| Self-isolation                | Break the chain   |
| Keep our distance             | Don't hoard       |
| Stay safe                     | Covid tracker     |
| Face coverings                | 2 metres apart.   |
| 2 kilometres                  | 5 kilometres      |
| Ní neart go chur le céile     |                   |
| Stay safe, protect each other |                   |

Hopefully, we'll never see the likes again!

**Empower Her** – We were delighted to see Lucan's Lisa Cusack, First Officer with Aer Lingus, feature in Galway University's Empower Her exhibition. She is up there with lots of famous Irish women. Imagine, only 5% of pilots worldwide are female.



**Break-ins in Lucan!** We've heard quite a few reports over the past few weeks about house break-ins in the area. Hard to know what to do apart from the obvious, and maybe it would help to have more Gardaí on the beat.

One can only wonder how there is so much money available to spend on the various sites around Lucan village, when organisations such as the Gardaí could do with some of it.....

**Happy 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

to our grandson **Craig** on March 15<sup>th</sup>.

Hope you have a fabulous day!  
Love Nanny & Granddad Bevan



**Esker Active Retirement Association**

We had a very enjoyable club meeting today, in addition to our usual activities we had a great chaerobic session with Carmel. Her music had us all tapping our feet and working out to all the old favourite tunes. We're hoping she can fit us in for another visit in May or June.



There won't be a club meeting next Wednesday 19th as a large number of our members will be in Killarney for our 4 day spring break. We'll be back at club following Wednesday 25th. We meet at St Andrews Parish Hall, Main Street Lucan at 1.30 to 4pm. New members always welcome.

**Updates related to Safe Harbour**

*(an illustrated storybook for children who have been bereaved by suicide)* which are outlined below.



A second new version of the Safe Harbour story book, has been developed and is now available. In this new version, the child's mother dies and is supported by their father. Having two versions of the book allows us to provide a resource that better aligns with a child's experience.

There is also an Irish version of the original book (where the child's father dies and is supported by their mother).

The accompanying guide for Parents and Carers has also now been updated to support both books.

Both versions of the book – Book A (where the dad dies) and Book B (where the mother dies) – are now available to download on [childhoodbereavement.ie/safeharbour](http://childhoodbereavement.ie/safeharbour)

People who would like to order printed copies of Safe Harbour, can now do so by completing an order form, which they can find here Getting a copy of Safe Harbour - Irish Childhood Bereavement Network.

The previous method of ordering books (by email) is no longer in operation.

On [www.healthpromotion.ie](http://www.healthpromotion.ie) you can now find and order the leaflet about Safe Harbour for general promotional purposes.

John Duffy,  
Resource Officer for Suicide Prevention  
Oifigeach Achainní um Féinmharú a Chosc





# Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2025, 3pm



## Parade Marshal 2025 The Little Blue Heros

1	Flag Bearers	18	SuperValu Lucan
2	Little Blue Heroes (Grand Marshal)	19	Lee Byrne Academy
3	23rd Lucan scouts 180th Lucan South scouts 142nd Dublin Esker Scouts 48th Lucan Beavers Scouts	20	Beech Park FC 
4	St. Patrick (Ronan Smith)	21	Lucan Men's Shed
5	Lucan Special Olympics Club	22	Dew Drop Indian Drum Band
6	Jimmy Stagg & Lucan Cycling Club	23	Lucan Utd FC
7	Adamstown Blue Connect	24	Adamstown Cricket Club
8	Poets Perch	25	VJ Driving school
9	V Styles Hair Specialist and Academy	26	Esker Celtic FC
10	Arthur Griffith Park FC	27	Vikings Dubh linn Ostmen
11	Goldwing Owners Club	28	Griffeen Valley Patanque
12	RTH Property Management	29	5 Star Attics
13	Andri Kryzhanivskyi	30	Ahmadiyya Muslim Association of Ireland
14	Na Gaeil Óga CLG 	31	Domino's Pizza
15	Lucan Boxing Club	32	Finglas Concert Marching Band
16	Lucan Sarsfields GAA	33	EFAST
17	Lucan Gospel Choir	34	Lucan Red Cross

**Lucan Concert Band performing at Spar Dodsboro from 2pm to 3pm**

**St. James Brass & Reed performing at the AIB gate from 2pm**

**Free Face Painters, Clowns, Balloon Artists**

at Bank of Ireland in village and at the yellow carpark beside McDonalds from 2pm



**Thank you** to Toner Transport who supply the Review Stand, Joe Keegan for DJ & PA System, and Print & Promotions for the Sound System.

The Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade is grateful to South Dublin County Council who provide a grant for the parade and the Parks Department who help us with barriers and clean up after the parade and to the Lucan Traders who sponsor the parade.

Thank you to Lucan An Garda Síochána for their support and a big thank you to the Little Blue Heroes who are on duty today as our amazing Grand Marshals.

The Parade is made possible by their continued support since 1991, over 30 years.





## St. Joseph's College

**Yeats Exhibition:** Last Thursday, Ms Hanlon and her 5th year English class visited the Yeats exhibition in the National Library. It was a great opportunity for students to see poetry come to life and relate the poetry of Yeats to their everyday lives. It was a great day out that all the students enjoyed and hopefully will help them in their poetry studies in the coming weeks.



**5th years in DCU:** Thanks to Paul Hegarty and his ambassadors at DCU for the great welcome shown to our 5th year students. It was a great day as students were given a tour of the campus and learn about the courses on offer that might interest our 5th year students next year.

**National Gallery of Ireland:** Last Friday our 5th year art students visited the AIB Portrait Exhibitions at the National College of Ireland in preparation for their next practical project. They also visited the European rooms to see Impressionist and Post Impressionist paintings as part of their Visual Studies course.

**Concern Debating quarter finals:** A massive well done to Mr Smyth and our senior debate team who have progressed to the quarter finals of the All Ireland competition. The quarter final of the All Ireland competition takes place this Thursday evening at 7pm in the Concern Head Office on Camden Street.



**ICA visits St. Joseph's TYs for Crocheting Workshop:** We were delighted to have the ICA ladies join us once for the Crocheting Workshop with 30 TY students on Thursday, 27th Feb. A lovely morning and afternoon was spent with Pauline, Mary C, Mary S, Patricia, Fiona, Marie, Miriam, Anne and Ann! The students have, once again, learned a very enjoyable craft of crocheting the Granny Squares to complete a Baby Blanket in less than 10 weeks. Stories were shared, while new skills were learned – looking forward to seeing the finished blankets in May!

**Bronze Gaisce Trip to Wicklow:** We were delighted to have 97 Transition Year students take to the hills of Wicklow once again this year to complete their Adventure Journey requirement of the President's Award. Kitted out in their hiking boots, rain gear, hiking poles and treats along the way, all students and teachers climbed Paddock Hill and Trooperstown Hill on Thursday (16km) and then ventured across the valley to Glenmalur on Friday to complete their 26km. It was a great experience for all and the rain and descending mist did not dampen any spirits. A huge thank you to all the staff who came along. A new past-time for many now as they plan their next excursions on the hills.



**Under 14 Soccer:** Hard luck to our under 14 soccer team who were beaten in the semi finals of their cup competition on Friday. The girls played superbly against St. Marys, Naas in a tight game that finished 3-3 after normal time. Unfortunately, the team were then beaten on penalties to be knocked out of the competition. Player of the match was Grace Levingstone.

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Follow Us on Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

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



## Scoil Mhuire Girls' National School

### Celebrating Our Talented Students and

**School-Wide Achievements:** We are thrilled to share some incredible news and exciting events happening at Scoil Mhuire Girls' National School! From arts and reading festivals to performances and STEM workshops, our students have been lighting up the school with their talents and enthusiasm.

**6th Class Shines at the Peace Proms Choir:** On Sunday, 2nd February, our 6th Class pupils performed as part of the **Peace Proms Choir** at the RDS, joining 2,500 students from across Ireland. Spectators enjoyed a vibrant array of songs and dances, and our girls had the honour of being conducted by the world-renowned **Grey Beardsell**. It was a fantastic day of music and celebration! 🎵🎶



**📖 Ready Steady Read Festival – Inspiring a Love of Reading:** This exciting festival, running from 24th February to 28th March, celebrates the magic of books and encourages all students to foster a love of reading. During this time, pupils are collecting sponsorships for their reading efforts, with funds going towards a new all-weather, multi-sport pitch and restocking classroom libraries.

Highlights from the festival so far include:

**Monday, 24th February:** The official festival launch, featuring our ever-popular **Scoil Mhuire Book Swap**. Pupils from all classes donated books and chose new titles to take home, fostering an eco-friendly love of reading!

**Wednesday, 25th February:** A captivating performance by **High Rock Productions** (as Gaelige) entertained pupils from 1st to 4th Class.

**Thursday, 27th February:** Beloved children's author **Mary Murphy** led creative workshops with Senior Infants, 1st Class, and 3rd Class, where students learned about writing and illustrating. 🍀

**Friday, 28th February:** Award-winning author **Debbie Thomas** visited 5th Class for an inspiring writers' workshop, encouraging students to craft their own stories.

**Monday, 3rd March – Friday, 7th March:** The school hall was transformed into the '**Page Turners Restaurant**', where pupils in all classes participated in our **Book Tasting**. Pupils were served up a menu of tasty reads from all genres to suit all tastes and reading abilities, including fiction, non-fiction, graphic novels, silent books, Irish-language books, dual-language and international literature – a true festival highlight!

**Thursday, 6th March – World Book Day:**

Pupils celebrated **World Book Day** by dressing up as their favourite book characters and discussing their most-loved stories in class. It was wonderful to see the creativity on display and hear the excitement as students shared their favourite reads with their peers.

**Monday, 10th March:** 2nd Class participated in a creative workshop led by **Belinda Byrne** entitled "*I Wish the World Would Run Out of Pink!*"

**Tuesday, 11th March:** 6th Class enjoyed a creative writing workshop with author and playwright **James Butler**, where they shared and developed their own stories.

There's still more to come, and we're excited to see how much our pupils will read and raise by the festival's end! Thank you for your continued support.

**Seachtain na Gaeilge Celebrations:** As part of **Seachtain na Gaeilge**, 6th Class students enjoyed paired reading sessions with 1st and 2nd Class pupils. Bhí gliondar croí ar na páistí a gcuid leabhar féin a roghnú, agus bhí na daltaí ó rang a sé chomh togha leis na cailíní níos óige! Maith sibh gach duine! 🌸

Additionally, students from 1st to 6th Class participated in our annual **Tráth na gCeist** in Halla Mór. Congratulations to the winning teams:

**Rang a trí agus rang a ceathair:** **Aaima Shehzad, Zoe Rehill, Lauren Ryan, Sarah Daly, Liza Smirnova,** and **Sibéal Boasiakoh**  
**Rang a cúig agus rang a sé:** **Julia Lungu, Samera Mollah, Sophie Mannion, Jessica McGuire,** and **Ava Sophia Mooney**

**STEM Fun with Steam Academy:** On

**Wednesday, 5th March**, pupils from all classes were treated to an exciting display of STEM resources and demonstrations from **Steam Academy**. From robots to programming, students explored the wonders of technology in a hands-on and engaging way.

**Confirmation Day Celebrations**

Finally, this week, after months of preparation, our 6th Class pupils will celebrate their **Confirmation** at **St. Mary's Church** on **Thursday, 13th March**. This momentous day will be enriched by our 5th Class choir, under the direction of **Ms. Gavan**, who will provide beautiful music for the ceremony. A huge thank you to Ms. Gavan, **Ms. Daly, Ms. Ward**, and our 5th Class teachers for their dedication and hard work in preparing the pupils for this important occasion.

## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Table Quiz:** The Parents Association of Coláiste Phádraig will run a pub quiz fundraiser in Carroll's pub in Lucan Village on **Friday 4th April @8pm**. Tickets will be €10 per person and the quiz will run with tables of 4 on the night. Tickets can be purchased on the night. Monies raised will go towards funding for school facilities. As part of the fundraiser, the PA plan to have a raffle on the night and would appreciate any sponsorship or prize donations from the wider parent group. If any parent or company that they work for would like to donate or sponsor a prize, please leave same in the school office for collection by the Parents Association. Keep an eye out for more details on this event. We hope that as many of you can join us on the night for what we hope will be a fun and successful fundraiser!



**Awards:** Well done to **Adeolu Adebomi** from 2Achill who won the *Mark O' Neill Student of the Month* Award for February in recognition of his excellent manners, strong work-ethic and co-operation in all of his classes.

Congratulations also to **Jack Palmer** from 1 Barley who won the *Sports Star of the Month Award* in recognition of his impressive displays at centre back for the 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer team.

Comhghairdeas freisin le **Aidan Hamill** ón gcúigiú bhiaín a bhuaigh an gradam *Gaeilgeoir na Míosa* do mhí Feabhra mar gheall ar an sár-iarracht a dhéanann sé an Ghaeilge a labhairt agus an sár-obair atá déanta aige sa rang Gaeilge.

The three winners each received a 20euro voucher as well as a framed certificate to recognise their achievements. They will also now be invited to the schools Awards Night in May, where they will receive an engraved plaque to further acknowledge and celebrate their achievement. Well done also to the class tutor student of the month winners who each received a 5euro voucher for the school canteen.



**Soccer:** Our 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer team were beaten 3-0 by Salesian College, Celbridge in the Dublin West League Division 1 Final. Missed opportunities, in the 1<sup>st</sup> half especially, proved costly in the end and Salesians proved to be more clinical on the day. Our 1<sup>st</sup> yrs will now play Clonkeen College, Blackrock at home in the Dublin Metropolitan League play-off match. The winners will advance to the 1-4 finals of the competition.

**Model UN Club:** Our Model UN Club sent a team of five students to the annual WCDMUN Conference which was held on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March at Wesley College. The conference was completely student led with

senior students from Wesley designing the rules and procedures of the debate. There were over 400 students participating this yr, with 25 schools represented, as they gathered to showcase their debating skills and knowledge of international affairs. Coláiste Phádraig were representing Australia throughout the conference. The Secretary General and Deputy Secretary General opened the conference before the group was sent to their committees for debate and discussion of the various topics.



On Saturday the students become more accustomed to the procedures and practices and they began to speak up more and give their thoughts on some of the resolutions that were being passed. A General Assembly session was held in the afternoon with the entire conference in debate. While Coláiste Phádraig did not win any awards, they gained further invaluable experience of how Model UN conferences operate.

**School news:** Advance Medical Services were in the school this week conducting a comprehensive, doctor-led Cardiac Screening Programme for students who had signed up for it. Cardiac Screening is ultimately aimed at reducing the incidents of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome and international best practice recommends that this be done every two years, most especially for those involved in competitive sport. In Italy cardiac screening is mandatory for those who play competitive sport and this has reduced incidents of SADS by 89% in the past 25 years. The students will get their personalised results in the coming weeks.

**English:** Our 6<sup>th</sup> yr HL students went to the Gate Theatre last week to see a fantastic production of William Shakespeare's "King Lear", which they are studying as their single text, worth 60marks, in their Leaving Cert English course. The students were extremely impressed with the fully immersive production, which really brought the play to life for them. The production did a good job of communicating the plot and character relationships to the young audience in a clear and accessible manner, and seeing the play being performed on stage should definitely help the students write more informed and insightful answers in their exam in June.

## Lucan Community College

**Senior Girls Hockey:** Well done to our Senior Hockey Girls on their fantastic 1-0 win in the Leinster League finals. Superb performance full of grit and resilience against a great Templecarrig team. Well done to Ellen Birnie who scored the winning goal.



**DDLETB Festival of Music:** Huge congratulations to our Lucan CC students who performed at the DDLETB Festival of Music in the National Concert Hall. A special well done to Eva Norton, Lauren Gaynor, and Sophie Kennedy for their outstanding performances, and to all our students who took part in the Inter-School Choir. You did us proud!



**Senior Boys Soccer:** Congratulations to the Senior Boys soccer team who are the winners of the Dublin West league.



**Italian Kickboxing Championship:** Amy, Ryan and Abbie Wade competed for Ireland in Italy and came home with 1 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze. Congratulations from all at Lucan CC.



**Junior Girls Hockey:** Hard luck to our brilliant Junior Hockey Girls after their outstanding performance in the Leinster Finals. A 3-2 loss doesn't tell the full story of a truly epic encounter against Rosemont. Thank you to Mr Branagan for all his guidance throughout the season.



**Lucan CC TY Musical:** Lucan CC are delighted to announce that our TY musical will be the iconic 'Legally Blonde' which will take place in May. Our TY's are busy rehearsing and getting ready for this musical. We are still looking for sponsors to help with the cost of sound, lighting, set design and costumes. If you know a business or individual who would be willing to help with sponsorship, please get in contact with [sponsorship@lucancc.ie](mailto:sponsorship@lucancc.ie), visit our website for more information. Thank you to all of our sponsors so far.



**Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin**



### GAA National Club Draw

Thank you everyone for your efforts and support in the GAA National Draw sales. We sold 607 tickets in total and raised over 9 grand! Congratulations to our U11 girls who sold a whopping 95 tickets and sold the most overall in the juvenile section as well as most overall in the club. Well done to the Senior-Inter Camogie teams who sold the most in the adult section.



### Summer Camps

Our Easter camp and summer camps for 2025 are now open for registration. Open to all boys and girls starting primary school in September or just finishing primary school this year.

We welcome both members and non-members of all abilities. All of our camps are dual football and camogie/hurling, hurls ad helmets can be provided if needed. This year alongside our camp jersey each child attending will also receive a Lucan Sarsfields Camp sliotar!

We would like to thank Keane Windows for their continued support of our camps. Bookings can be made via clubzap, the QR code in the poster or the following link:

<https://lucansarsfields.clubzap.com/categories/camp/products>

**LUCAN SARSFIELDS GAA CAMPS 2025**

- All camps will be dual code
- Gaelic Football
- Hurling and Camogie
- Fun games and skill development

**DATES**

- Easter 14th - 17th April
- Cúl Camp 30th June - 4th July
- Club Camp 7th - 11th July
- Club Camp 4th - 8th August
- Club Camp 11th - 15th August

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY  
**KEANE**  
Windows & Doors

FURTHER INFORMATION AND BOOKING  
VIA CLUBZAP OR QR CODE

### Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €2,200. The Numbers were **8,9,10,20.**

**Lucky dip's go to** Damien O'Brien, Michaela Caseley, Hickey Family, Pat Keane, Catherine Dardis. This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €2,600. This draw is sponsored by Clandillon Motors.



*Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.*



**Lucan Library  
St Patrick's Day  
Weekend  
Opening Hours**

**Fri 14 CLOSED  
for staff training**

**Sat 15 CLOSED**

**Sun 16 CLOSED**

**Mon 17 CLOSED**

**Tues 18 March -  
Reopening at 9.45am**

**Wishing all our library patrons  
a Happy St Patrick's Day!**

# SPORTS

## LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

### Goal Mile - Final Over-all total

The final figures are in for the Goal Mile fundraiser held at the track on Christmas day! We raised a whopping €9,811.58. Congratulations to Gerry and team for such a fabulous achievement.



### National Masters Indoor championships - Run

*Report courtesy of Carol Kearney*

6 LH athletes travelled to Athlone to compete in the National Championship, a very successful day for all. 1st up Leanne Wellings won the silver in the 60m then all 6 athletes competed in the 200m in their relevant categories, Sorcha Dineen ran a pb winning silver followed by Laura Mc Ateer winning bronze, Leanne Wellings ran a sb to get the silver, Carol Kearney won the gold as did Eileen O'Brien with John Flanagan running a strong 200m. Next up Eileen ran the 800m, she's becoming a real expert at the track, this time she got a silver medal.




3 athletes ran the 400m Sorcha Dineen ran a big pb to get a silver with Carol Kearney a sb to bring home gold and John Flanagan had a great finish to get the bronze. Finally last event of the day saw the LH ladies run the 4x200, Sorcha, Laura, Carol and Leanne stormed home to win the silver. A great day and a great finish to the indoor season.



Congratulations to Saoirse and Jacob on receiving this award from Athletics Ireland. This is a great achievement for the athletes, coaches and the club overall.



## DODSBORO GOLFERS ANNUAL OUTING



Venue : Lucan Golf Club  
Date : Friday 9th May  
Tee Time : 14:00 - 16:00  
Price : €45 (Golf & Food)  
Members & Visitors Welcome  
\*Contact Joe Curtis (089-425-4684)

*"There are only two kinds of people in the world: the Irish and those who wish they were."*

Irish saying

## Minister Emer Higgins TD

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhiginstd  
[www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD](https://www.facebook.com/EmerHigginsTD)  
[emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)



**New Special Classes for Lucan:** I'm delighted that two new Special Classes have been sanctioned for Lucan, one at Coláiste Phádraig, and one at St. Joseph's College. These much-needed additions will provide vital support for children and families in our community.

**Ballyowen Community Centre:** €25,213 in funding has been awarded to Ballyowen Community Centre for required upgrades. This funding will make a significant difference to those using the centre as well as the local community. **St. Patrick's Day:** At the Tánaiste's request, I'll be representing Ireland in Australia this St. Patrick's Day. I'll be keeping a close eye on the Lucan Parade from afar, my first time missing it since being elected. Well done to Cllr. Caroline Brady and the organising committee for all of their hard work. I'm sure it will be a fantastic day, as always.

## Shane Moynihan TD – Fianna Fáil Dublin Mid-West

Phone: 01-6184128

Email: [shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie](mailto:shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie)

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

**Lucan Luas:** Since being elected, I have pushed for progress on Lucan Luas. Following representations, this week I was informed that an Emerging Preferred Route will be identified later this year and put to public consultation in 2026.

**Special class:** I welcome the announcement of a special class for Coláiste Phádraig which was announced last week.

**Ballyowen Community Centre:** Congratulations to all at Ballyowen Community Centre on their grant award of €25,213 this week. I worked closely with the centre on this application so delighted to see it come through.

**Liffey:** Delighted to see long overdue yellow lines painted on Liffey Grove and Liffey Rise this week - something I previously raised as a councillor.

**Clinics:** Lucan clinic takes place on Monday 24 March, in Ballyowen Community Centre from 1.30 - 3pm.

## Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell.

*"Not just at election time"*

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

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

**Lucan Swimming Pool Update:** My understanding is that the gym part of the complex should finally be able to open in April. However, there are ongoing complications with the pool section even though the building is substantially complete. At time of Lucan Newsletter going to print a number of elected reps (myself and Cllr Helen Farrell included) were due to get an updated tour of the pool and leisure centre site.

In this context it is worth checking out my website; by Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> there should be an update to the last substantive report. Search "Lucan Pool Update March".  
**St Patrick's Day:** Wishing all Lucanians and visitors a fantastic Lá Fhéile Pádraig.

**Peace Commissioner signatures:** If you need a statutory declaration signed, get in touch. Affidavits need a solicitor.

## Derren Ó Brádaigh – Lucan Sinn Féin Area Rep. Mobile: 087-2136345

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

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

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Phone: 01-6184128

Web: [www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com](http://www.sinnfeindublinmidwest.com)

**Lucan Demesne – Upgrade:** At this month's council meeting, management brought forward for approval, planned upgrades that will see a 105m timber boardwalk from the Lucan Demesne entrance down to the Liffey bank. This will help enable ease of access, whilst adding an interesting feature to the overall works. **Lucan – St Patrick's Day Parade:** Luckily, we will once again enjoy Lucan's very own wonderful celebration of St Patrick's Day with what promises to be a fantastic event. Congratulations and big well done to all those participating and of course to the organisers that bring this incredible day to the village.

**Backweston – Need for Bus Shelters:** Through our Lucan Sinn Féin constituency office, I have reached out to Dublin Bus asking that they consider bus shelters on the new Celbridge Link Road.

P  
O  
L  
I  
T  
I  
C  
A  
L  
N  
O  
T  
E

## Cllr. Joanna Tuffy, Labour Party Representative. Phone 087 392 0931

Email [jtuffy@cllr.s.dublincoco.ie](mailto:jtuffy@cllr.s.dublincoco.ie) all social media links at [linktr.ee/joannatuffy](http://linktr.ee/joannatuffy)

**Lucan Road (R835), layby and Lucan Heights junction:** In relation to works on Lucan Road (R835), layby and Lucan Heights junction I have been seeking updates. In January in reply to a question from me at the Local Area Committee of the Council I was told that the works are required under the permission for the St Joseph's College extension. More recently on behalf of local residents, I raised the tightness of the junction with the road leading to Lucan Heights etc. I also raised the narrowness of the Lucan Road as a result of the works, particularly for buses. Following my representations a safety audit was requested by the Council's Senior Engineer. The Director of Land Use and Transport updated me this week that he has asked the engineering consultant that is part of the design team on site for their opinion and potential amendment options.



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

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

**Have your Say:** extension to the survey for the Lucan House and Demesne Masterplan now closes **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> Mar at 10am**. Login

to [Consult.SDublinCoCo.ie](http://Consult.SDublinCoCo.ie) to complete the survey.

### **Request for Pedestrian Crossing Leixlip Road /**

**Ardeevin:** This route serves a high volume of pedestrians traveling back and forth between Adamstown, Dodsboro, Lucan, and Lucan Demesne via N4 pedestrian bridge (Tesco). This issue has been added for review by the SDCC technical team to assess feasibility of a crossing to improve safety and accessibility. **N4 Flyover Lock Road:** I raised that debris from a recent car crash at Lock Road (R120) pedestrian lights adjacent to N4 flyover was obstructing pedestrians and posed a safety risk. Pleased to report SDCC promptly cleared the area and repaired the damaged barriers.

If I may assist you or your family, **please contact me.**

## Cllr. Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD, Independent

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

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

**Recent Issues Raised:** This week, I worked on planning regulation breaches, illegal dumping, pedestrian gate access, and traffic light alignment. Contact me to raise issues in your area.

**Beacon-Free Pedestrian Crossings: Pedestrian Visibility & Safety:** Paul and I received many reports about the new beacon-free pedestrian crossings recently installed in the area. At the March Council meeting I raised a motion for a safety review in low light of all crossing in the county. SDCC agreed to a two-level audit of these crossings for pedestrian visibility.

### **Consultation Survey on Lucan House Extended!**

Help shape the masterplan for Lucan House & Demesne. Survey closes on 18 March at 10.00. <https://buff.ly/3COjxQ4>

### **Emerging Athlete Bursary Scheme:**

€65,000 is available for emerging athletes (14+) in SDCC to cover training, travel, accommodation, equipment, and more. See: <https://buff.ly/35xSKZs>

## Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent – PC.

0872795274.

[lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie) [www.lotoole.com](http://www.lotoole.com)

**Public Bus Service from Lucan-Dublin Airport:** At the Area Committee meeting my motion requesting the National Transport Authority (NTA) to introduce a public bus route from Lucan to Dublin Airport was agreed. A letter will now be sent to the NTA highlighting the need for a Dublin Bus-operated service. With concerns about private operators potentially discontinuing their routes, a public service would provide a more reliable and affordable transport option for residents, airport workers, and commuters while also helping to reduce congestion on the M50. **Irish Water Update:** In the past week, I reported several households experiencing brown, discoloured water due to interference with their supply.

## Scoil Bhríde, Green Lane, Leixlip invites applications for the position of School Bus Escort



The Bus Escort will be required to accompany and support pupils with ASD on the school bus. The post is between 10 to 15 hours per week (every morning and afternoon).

The Bus Escort should be available between 8.00am and 9:30am and between 14:45pm and 16:00pm. The exact hours will be confirmed in mid-April, depending on the bus route.

The Bus Escort will make sure that all aspects of safety are carried out effectively.

Good communication skills are essential and experience of caring for/working with children with additional needs is desirable. Please include details of any Continuous Professional Development such as First Aid/Manual Handling etc.

Appointment is subject to Garda Vetting requirements, occupational health check and verification of references. Please include names and contact details of two referees; one work reference and one character reference.

Closing date for applications Friday 28th March 2025

Applications by email only to [applications@scoilbhrídeleixlip.ie](mailto:applications@scoilbhrídeleixlip.ie)

KISHOGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
PRESENTS THE MUSICAL  
**ALL SHOOK UP**  
MARCH 26TH & 27TH  
TICKETS €10  
ON EVENTBRITE  
DOORS OPEN @ 7.30PM  
SHOW STARTS @ 8PM



## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

This week there is a watery theme to many of the photographs submitted by members of the Camera Soirée.

But first a couple of spring flowers. Brendan submitted a photo of the wild flour, the Common Fumitory which he describes as one of the most beautiful and overlooked wild flowers. Historically, herbalists have used Common fumitory to treat skin diseases, and to cleanse the kidneys. However, the plant is actually poisonous, so this should not be tried at home. Kay submitted a photo of an early flowering Cowslip which is a member of the primrose family. This plant also has a very long history of medicinal use.



Donal was in the vicinity of Vicarstown in County Laois and submitted some photos of house boats on the Grand Canal and bridges over the canal.

The canal was built in stages with the portion from Sallins to Dublin opening in 1779. After that attention was turned to completing the link to the Shannon at Ballinasloe. In all it took 47 years to build the entire route. The official opening took place in April 1804.

Paddy was out early in Howth where he caught a fisherman competing with seagulls for his catch. Finally, he caught a beautiful sunrise over Dublin Bay from Clontarf.



*Until next week stay safe!*