



*Established 1967*

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

Sub. €1

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2025

## **It's not a Competition!**

As the evenings lengthen and mornings brighten, it energises most of us almost instantly as though we are being provided with extra day time hours! That's where we truly can say that our perception is illusionary as we have the exactly the same number of hours!

The thought of this time of the year can be challenging for some as many significant moments present for preparation, anticipation or celebration e.g graduations, religious threshold moments for families, decision time re next steps, etc. For those who might have different needs, recent or sudden bereavement, loss of a job, decision about next step for self or child this time of the year can be difficult as one tries to look 'normal' in a situation where others seem to be jubilant and most able. In most large gatherings of people and families there will be some for whom entering into the mood of the celebration is very difficult. In all those situations, we frequently measure ourselves against what we see of one another.

If at such a gathering or celebration, let's keep in mind that some among us will be struggling, and often, doing so privately. If the only concern that we have relates to things that don't matter beyond the day, let us take a look at the person beside us, behind us or at a distance from us and know that we have no idea what might be going on for them, sometimes no matter how well we might know them. A small kindness, a smile or an acknowledgment might be enough to give someone what they need to get safely through the day.

In current times when we see the millions of people who are displaced in war, the hundreds of thousands who are suffering injury, death & imprisonment let us treasure whatever freedom we have and use it to make a positive difference today. No one chooses to exist in a difficult situation but as we all do at some stage. The value of the fact that we are all part of a world, local, family community calls us to action, compassion and connection with one another at the most vulnerable points as well as the most celebratory points.

If we have the good fortune to be facing a significant moment happily, we are truly fortunate. Some will not have arrived at the same point with the gift of life, or good health, or the means to engage as they truly would wish. Life is not a competition! It's a journey shared with every other human being. It's not a competition!

*Cathy Burke*

*Parish Catechist for 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

## Child Benefit and the New Baby Grant

### Who gets Child Benefit?

You can get Child Benefit if you are a parent or guardian of a child under 16.

You can also get Child Benefit for children aged 16, 17 and 18 if they:

Are in full-time education or full-time training, or  
Have a disability and cannot support themselves

Child Benefit is normally paid to the child's mother or stepmother. However, if you are the child's father or stepfather, you can get the payment if the child lives with you.

### What counts as full-time education or training?

Full-time education includes primary and post-primary school, further education and training courses, and third-level courses.

However, full-time education does not include courses:

That are part of an employment, apprenticeship, or work experience programme.

That arise from employment.

Where the period of paid work experience is more than the time spent in the classroom.

Run by Teagasc where, in an academic year, the period of work experience is more than the time spent in the classroom.

### How much is Child Benefit?

Child Benefit is €140 a month for each child. It is a universal payment, so you can get it regardless of your income and social insurance (PRSI) record.

If you have twins, you get one-and-a-half times the normal monthly rate of Child Benefit for each child. For triplets and other multiple births, Child Benefit is paid at double the normal monthly rate for each child.

### What is the New Baby Grant?

If your child is born or adopted on or after 1 December 2024, you get a New Baby Grant as well as the first month of Child Benefit. The New Baby Grant is €280. If you have twins, you get €280 for each child.

### When should I apply for Child Benefit?

Depending on your situation, you should apply for Child Benefit within 12 months of:

Your baby being born.

The child becoming a member of your family.

Your family coming to live in Ireland.

Starting work in Ireland (if your children are living in another EU country).

You can find out more about Child Benefit on <https://bit.ly/benefitchild>

## Your Benefits and Taxes guide for 2025

Do you want to know the rate for a social welfare payment, how much tax you will have to pay or if you are eligible for free GP visits?

The Benefits and Taxes wallchart and leaflet include up to date rates for:

Jobseeker's Benefit

Illness Benefit

Working Family Payment

Universal Social Charge

Medical card and GP visit card

Check out the Benefits and Taxes wallchart (pdf) and booklet (pdf) or at our office.

## Hedge Cutting

It is illegal for you to cut hedges between 1 March and 31 August.

*This includes:*

Cutting

Grubbing (digging or excavating)

Burning

Destroying

The ban gives species like birds the chance to nest safely and raise their chicks.

There are some exceptions to this rule.

Find more information about hedge cutting and how to report illegal hedge cutting on our website.

## Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.



The Ladies and Gents of Lucan Active Retirement Association enjoying themselves at the Falls Hotel, Ennistymon.



Ladies who won prizes at the Whist Card Playing. Barbara Vaughan, Marie McCormack, Mary McGrath, Mary Rafter, Rose Doyle and Maura O'Reilly.

We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am.

New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends. There is a charge of €4 each week to cover costs, but there is no charge for your first meeting.

Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, scrabble, cards, drama and choir.

Coffee break at 1pm. Organised trips in Ireland and abroad.

## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March – Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30 – 12.30. New members always welcome!



### Lucan Dementia Café

Saturday: 8<sup>th</sup> of March, 2025

2pm – 5pm

St Marys Parish Centre, Lucan



Future 2025 dates: April 5<sup>th</sup>, May 10<sup>th</sup> (later start time) June 14<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup>

Kindly sponsored by:



Please drop by and join us for a Cuppa



Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Monday 10th March** 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](mailto:info@anamcara.ie)

## St Mary's, Lucan

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

**Eighth Sunday**  
in Ordinary Time

**Sunday Mass Times:** Vigil:

6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon, 7pm

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

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> March is Ash Wednesday.**

Masses: 10am and 7.30pm. Blessed Ashes will be distributed at both Masses.



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

### Confirmation

Congratulations to the boys of *St Mary's B.N.S.* who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation today Thursday.

Best Wishes to the boys and girls of *Gael Scoil Naomh Pádraig* who will be Confirmed on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

*Please remembered them in your prayers.*

### An Introductory Course to the BIBLE

The Bible is one of the most significant set of texts ever compiled. People may have heard key stories from it, yet for many it largely remains a mystery.

**What is it really about? Where to begin?**

**Tarsus Scripture School** of Maynooth College has made available an Introductory Course - '**OPENING the BIBLE**' which is aimed at those who want to take that extra step. There are six presentations to help you open the Bible and begin reading Scripture.

*The course is available to everyone online, at any time, and it's FREE.*

**Log on to:**

[www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie](http://www.tarsusscriptureschool.ie) or look up: youtube tarsus scripture school.

**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)

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

**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.*

**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.

**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.

**Deepest Sympathy** to the family and friends of *Thérèse Talbot*, formerly Ardeevin, to the family and friends of *Ita O'Dowd*, Ardeevin and to the wife, family and friends of *Séan Reidy*, Primrose Lane.  
*May they rest in peace.*



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

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

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

**Sunday Mass Times:** 9am, 10.30am, 12 noon.

**The 10.30am Family Mass** is aimed at younger parishioners and their families.

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

**5<sup>th</sup> March is Ash Wednesday**

Mass: 10am. Blessed Ashes will be distributed.



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

### Confirmation

Best Wishes to the boys and girls of *Scoil Áine* who will make their Confirmation on Thursday 6<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 Patrick's Prayer Meeting:

Every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St. Patrick's Church) from 7.00pm to 7.45pm.

### Communion for the Homebound:

If any member of your family is sick and housebound, and would like to receive Holy Communion, do please let us know. You can ring the Parish Office on 01 628 1018 and leave your name and address, or email us at:

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

### Tea/Coffee:

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



**Aontas Choir** are holding fundraiser cake sale  
In St Patrick's

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March after all Masses**

*There will be lots of lovely treats on sale.*

## 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

**5<sup>th</sup> March is Ash Wednesday.** Blessed Ashes will be distributed at Morning and Evening Mass.

**All Masses will be livestreamed on**

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

### Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Confessions every Saturday 5.15pm and after the evening Mass.

### 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*

### Prayers of the Church:

Mon. to Fri.: 8.40am.

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

### Legion of Mary:

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

### 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 every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room.

### Bingo:

Bingo takes place every Wednesday in the St. John Paul II Room. Doors open at 7.00 for 7.30pm. All welcome.

### Quote:

The more we genuinely care about others,  
The greater our own happiness and inner peace.  
*From Divine Word Missionaries Calendar*

## Anniversaries

### Bridget (Ciss) Behan

#### 13<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 1<sup>st</sup> March

Late of Dodsboro Cottages  
Mam with an aching heart  
We whisper low  
We love you Mam  
And miss you so.

*Forever in our hearts and minds*

*Love Ann and Mary and all the family xxxx*



### Neill Muldowney

#### 9<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 26<sup>th</sup> February

Gone are the days we used to share  
But in our hearts, you are always there.  
The gates of memory will never close  
We miss you more than anyone knows.  
With tender love and deep regret  
We who love you will never forget.

*Love always, Mam, Dad, Paula, Nicola,  
Liam and families. xxxx*



## Thank you from St Francis Hospice

On behalf of St Francis Hospice, please accept our deepest thanks for the very generous contribution of €2,290.00, being the proceeds of the funds raised for the hospice at the Carol Service in St Mary's.

The continued support is deeply appreciated and I would like to convey our sincere thanks to the parishioners of St Mary's and all who attended, for their support and generosity.

We really appreciate all your efforts and please know you have made a difference. You have all helped to create funds so that patients and families will experience compassionate caring at a deep physical, spiritual and emotional level when they are in most need of support in their lives.

It is so important as a community that we care for each other and to that end the staff and volunteers of St Francis Hospice will at all times strive to ensure the highest quality of care for patients and families.

Again, our deepest and heartfelt thanks for your support of St Francis Hospice.

*Yours sincerely,  
Bernadette Gillis,  
Events/Community Co-ordinator*

## FR. MICHAEL SOPOCKO 50th Anniversary Celebration

Fr. Sopocko was St. Faustina Spiritual director.  
Jesus said to St. Faustina  
"He will be My visible help for you on earth. He will help you to carry out My will" (Diary 53)



There will be a special Holy Mass to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Fr. Michael Sopocko in The Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan South.

Please join us for this very special night to honour him

**Monday 10th March @ 7pm**

Celebrant: Fr. Aidan Kieran

Special Guest Speaker: Dermott Dowdall

**CHURCH OF DIVINE MERCY - LUCAN SOUTH - K78 NH05**

## Are You Looking To Make Lent Special?



Why not come along to a one night per week programme starting on Wednesday March 12<sup>th</sup> and concluding on April 16<sup>th</sup> in Our Lady's Parish Centre, Leixlip 8/8.30 to

9/9.30pm followed by tea. (**March 12<sup>th</sup> 8.30 pm start.**)

Charis Ireland, which is part of Charis International set up by Pope Francis, has invited all small Christian communities to host an outreach programme during Lent to mark this year's Jubilee year theme "Pilgrims of Hope" This is our response to the invitation. **Everyone welcome.** Further details on parish website: [www.ohn.ie](http://www.ohn.ie)



## Ballyowen Castle Community Centre

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

Telephone: 01 253 6105 or 085 867 1245

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



**Baby & Toddler:** Our Baby & Toddler Group is on Mondays from 11-12.30 this is suitable for ages 0-3 and gives parents or caregiver a chance for a chat and well deserved cup of tea.

**Active over 55's:** We are entering our final week of Qi gong. This has been a very success class and enjoyed by all. We would like to thank the lovely Aileen Slieth for delivering this course we hope to see her back in the future. Keep an eye as to what we have lined up next.

**Annual General Meeting: As Ballyowen Castle Youth & Community Centre continues to grow we are looking for new participants to join the Board of Management.**

**If you have experience or skills in the below we'd love to hear from you.**

Board Management

HR / Finance / Operations

IT

Community Outreach

Please contact us if you'd like to express interest or for more information.

**We will be electing new board members at our AGM on March 13th @ 8pm.**

**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.



### **Pancakes on the horizon this week!**

It seems more and more people are making them from a bottle, or even buying them ready made!

In auld God's day, as the fellow would say, the woman of the house would make the

batter early on in the day, leaving it standing with a damp tea towel or the likes over it, until it was time to feed the hungry masses.....

**Get those hedges cut!** March 1<sup>st</sup> is just here, so very little time to clip those garden hedges – the birdies will be building their nests and rearing their chicks from 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**The greening of Lucan!** Have you noticed the slightest tinge of green coming over the trees all over Lucan this past week – Spring must be sprung!

Lots of Daffodils along the roadways too, and it's good to hear the sound of lawn mowers again after the long winter.....

**What about the 6 Nations!** The game against Wales was heart-stopping last weekend. We all need the break this week in preparation for next weekend.....

**And the Dubs** ran away with the game against Derry – things are looking good in that camp!

Music, Poetry, Drama or Song .  
Register or just come along !

**THE CONNECT FACTOR**

OPEN MIC NIGHT

Kenny's Bar  
8pm  
to  
10 30pm

In association with

Find us here

@connectfactoropenmic

17th March 3pm

FREE Music, Face Painting, Clowns, & Balloons from 2pm

Entry Form

Volunteer

**LUCAN**

**St. Patrick's Day Parade**

www.LucanStPatricksDay.org

## 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 our Club Evaluation and International Speech Contest on Thursday 6th March at 7:45pm at the Springfield Hotel, Leixlip. 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 6th 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 6th, 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)



Women's  
Collective  
Ireland  
LUCAN

Women's Collective  
Ireland Lucan (WCI  
Lucan) Update –  
February 2025

What an incredible start to the year! We're absolutely thrilled to see all our classes fully booked, a true testament to the amazing energy and engagement of our community.

### A Look Back – Galentine's Celebration

On Monday, February 10th, we had a fantastic afternoon at The Pennyhill Gastro Pub, celebrating friendship, connection, and community spirit. With a delicious three-course meal, an exciting raffle, and goodie bags for all, the event was a resounding success. A huge thank you to the generous businesses that donated raffle prizes: Base Pizza, SuperValu, All Seasons Flowers, and Dunnes Stores—your support means the world to us!

### Coming Up – International Women's Day 2025

Mark your calendars for **Thursday, March 6th!**

Join us for an empowering evening event:

🌟 **"EmpowerHER: Drumming Up Change for Women's Equality"**. Facilitated by the inspiring life coach and teacher, Michelle Kinsella Thursday, March 6th, 7:15 – 9:15 PM Ballyowen Community Centre Get in touch to book your spot!

### 🌟 New Women in Leadership Programme – Starting April

We're excited to launch a brand-new 8-week **Women in Leadership** program this April, designed to equip women with the skills, confidence, and tools to take on leadership roles in their personal and professional lives. More details coming soon!

Stay tuned for further updates, and as always, thank you for being part of our wonderful WCI Lucan community!

[lucan@womenscollective.ie](mailto:lucan@womenscollective.ie)

Tel: 083 860 7947

*Warm regards,  
Rita, Joanne & Jackie  
The WCI Lucan Team*

## 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. 20206555

### Drive & Drop

National Donation Day

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

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

**NEW ITEMS ONLY**  
Nappies – sizes 1 to 6, Baby Wipes, Nappy Sacks, Baby Wash, Nappy Cream, Baby Sponges, Baby Cotton Wool, Packs of babygros and vests (newborn to 6m), Packs of baby hooded towels, Baby blankets, Packs of baby bibs, Baby Bottles.  
*Financial donations accepted.*

## Minder & Toddler Group

**Thursdays**

in

**St. Mary's Parish Centre**  
from **9.30 to 11.30am.**

*All Welcome!*







## SCHOOL NEWS



### Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**School tour:** 40 students, from TY and 5<sup>th</sup> yr, and 6 teachers travelled to the popular ski resort of Bansko in Bulgaria during the mid-term break. They spent six days there where they got 4 hours of fun ski lessons from highly qualified instructors each day. The resort has an excellent network of downhill runs, ideal for beginners and intermediates alike, with over 50km of piste in the resort. On the last day, the students were gracefully cruising down the more daunting slopes like seasoned Olympic skiers! They group also enjoyed numerous fun evening “apres-ski” activities such as swimming, karaoke, quizzes, board games, ice-skating and shopping. They returned home on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, tired but exhilarated after a memorable school tour.



This was a once in a lifetime trip and the students were very grateful to the teachers who travelled with them. The group have created wonderful memories for themselves and some have even been bitten by the skiing bug so it won't be the last time on the slopes for some of them!

All of the students are to be commended on their maturity, good manners and exemplary behaviour throughout. The students' fantastic co-operation made life easier for the remaining teachers. They really were excellent ambassadors for the school throughout the entire trip.

**Soccer:** Well done to our 1<sup>st</sup> yr soccer team, who advanced to the Dublin West Regional League Final after defeating local rivals Lucan CC 2-1, in a frantic, frenetic, feisty and ferocious local derby held on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February. Finn O' Sullivan

and Daniel Abbott got the crucial goals to secure a hard-fought win for the team.

They will now face Salesian College, Celbridge in the Final, which will be held on the astro in Ballyoulster United FC next Thursday. The winners will advance to the Dublin Metropolitan League semi-finals, along with the Dublin North and Dublin South Regional Winners. The three regional runners-up will then play off for the one remaining semi-final place.

**Athletics:** Our athletes were in action again recently at the Cross Country Leinster Finals, held in the Phoenix Park on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February. 1<sup>st</sup> yrs Daniel Abbott and Max Henleywillis ran in the Minor Boys 2km race, which involved 1 full lap of the challenging course. Daniel finished in a respectable 38<sup>th</sup> place (out of 110 runners) in a time 7:13, while Max placed 66<sup>th</sup> in a time of 7:37. Both students gave their all in a highly competitive field, packed with experienced cross-country athletes. There were just 10 secs separating 16 athletes in Daniel's finishing group, with about 20 athletes separated by a similar time in Max's group, so they were both very close to much higher finishes.

We also had a team of four 3<sup>rd</sup> yrs, Conor Abbot, Paddy McGonigle, Conor Gilmore and Harry O' Connor, competing in the 4.5km Inter Boys race, which involved three full laps of course A. Conor finished in 18<sup>th</sup> place (out of 102 runners) in a time of 16:17, but unfortunately he just missed out on qualification for the All Ireland Finals (only the top 15 qualified). It was a typically gutsy, brave, determined run from Conor who was with the leading pack throughout the fast race. He left plenty in the tank for a strong finish but agonisingly missed out by a few seconds. Senan, Conor and Harry also completed the extremely tough course in respectable times, as they finished among the pack just behind the elite athletes. We are very proud to have such talented and committed cross-country runners represent the school, with such great distinction, in these prestigious competitions.

**Fundraising:** Coláiste Phádraig recently held a Valentine's Day Coffee Morning, which was a heart-warming event that brought staff together in support of Pieta House, raising an impressive €314 to aid their vital work in mental health and suicide prevention. The atmosphere was filled with warmth and generosity as everyone came together to enjoy delicious treats, great conversation, and a shared commitment to making a difference.

*Continued over.....*

## Lucan Community College

**Junior Girls Hockey:** Well done to the Junior Hockey Girls team who fought all the way to the final minute to secure a 1-0 win against a very strong Loreto Bray side. Great team performance! Onto the semi-finals now!



**Cross Country Championships:** Well done to all the Lucan CC who competed at the Leinster Schools Cross Country Championships in Phoenix Park. Isabel Cuffe (5th Year) and Conal Fitzgerald (2nd Year) qualified to compete at the National Cross Country Championships.



**DDLETB Festival of Music:** Tickets are on sale for the DDLETB Festival of Music.

Tickets are €10 for an adult (over 18), €5 for children (under 18), and €30 for a family/group of 4.

Good luck to our students who will be performing at this year's Festival of Music.

Visit the National Concert Hall website to buy tickets.

## Coláiste Phádraig CBS *continued.....*

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and creativity of our Transition Year students, who baked an array of mouth-watering cookies, delicious cupcakes, and tray bakes in their Home Economics class. The treats were thoroughly enjoyed by all in attendance!

**Basketball:** Hard luck to our 1<sup>st</sup> yr basketball team who were beaten by an exceptionally strong St. Fintan's HS, Sutton in the East Boys A League 1-4 final on Monday. The 1<sup>st</sup> 1-4 was very competitive with Fintan's managing to open up a narrow lead (15-12). Simon Sunday scored all of Lucan's points in another powerful individual display. The 2<sup>nd</sup> 1-4 was, in contrast, unfortunately one-sided as Fintan's stretched their lead to 33-12 by half-time. They dominated the next two

1-4s as well, to eventually win 60-20, to advance to the semi-finals at Lucan's expense. Simon scored all 20 of the team's points while Elliott Reilly, Liam Whelan and Matthew Mackey impressed for Lucan with energetic, committed and whole-hearted performances.



## St. Joseph's College

**Parents Association Quiz Night:** A reminder to all parent(s)/guardian(s) that we are holding a fundraising Table Quiz for St. Joseph's this Friday at 8.00pm in Kenny's Bar, Lucan. Funds raised will go towards buying sports kits for our sports teams and, if funds remain, the provision of board games & recreational activities for our students. Parents can support by coming along on the night to take part in our Table Quiz (€40 per table of four) and/ or supporting our Raffle. If you cannot attend on the night, you can still be in with a chance to win a raffle prize. Raffle tickets are on sale all this week (€5.00 per one Ticket Strip) and can be purchased by cash or card from the Student Council or Ms. Bligh. Our very generous sponsors have helped to gather a fantastic set of over 24 prizes on the night! Students can buy tickets for parents/guardians all this week up to Friday, 28th February. Many thanks to our wonderful Parents Association for organising all & to Mr Smyth as Quizmaster on the night! Looking forward to seeing you there!



**Minor Camogie team:** Hard luck to our minor: camogie team who were beaten in their second championship game by Loreto Balbriggan. The team fought hard in very wet, cold and windy conditions but ultimately were beaten on the day. They play their next championship game this Friday against Colaiste Cillian in Lucan Sarsfields GAA at 11am.

**Minor Football:** Well done to our minor football team who drew in a local derby against Lucan Community College before the mid-term break. Conditions were extremely wet and cold but both teams fought hard and played well in an exciting game of football.

**GOAL Global initiatives:** Over the mid-term break students attended St. Andrews College as

part of GOAL Global initiatives. Our Delegates were involved in lobbying and preparing policy statements. Over the course of the event our delegates engaged with approval panels, security councils and various committees. Thanks to St Andrews for hosting the event.

**NUIM scholarships:** A huge well done to past pupil Caoimhe Daffy on receiving an NUI Maynooth Entrance Scholarship 2024. Caoimhe received this award for her outstanding achievement of attaining over 575 points in her Leaving Certificate. Caoimhe's hard work and dedication has truly paid off and we are incredibly proud of her.



**Senior Concern Debating:** Our senior debating team were in action on Monday in evening in the last 16 of the All Ireland competition. They were up against a strong Patrician High School, Carrickmacross team. The teams were debating the motion 'Worldwide, the benefits of economic growth outweigh its costs'. The verdict is not expected by the adjudicators until the weekend but we wish our team all the very best and are so proud of them for making it this far into the competition.



**Follow Us on Twitter:** @StJosephsLucan  
**Instagram:** @stjosephscollegelucan  
**Website:** [www.stjosephslucan.com](http://www.stjosephslucan.com)

## Lucan Library – March Events

### Please Note:

1. All events and activities are free of charge.
2. All events are subject to change, but we will endeavour to keep any changes to the absolute minimum.
3. To register for events via Eventbrite, a valid email address is required.

### Have Your Say - Lucan House Public

**Consultation.** South Dublin County Council is inviting the public to help shape the Masterplan for Lucan House through their online consultation form and our upcoming in-person consultation sessions. Paper copies of the survey are available at the library. If you are interested in attending an in-person consultation, please email [LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com).

### Saturday 1st March - 2pm

Lucan Vocals Adults Fun Choir perform popular hits at the library, all welcome!

**Irish Astronomy Week.** Thursday 6th March, 6.30pm. The Life and Times of a Star with Dr Donnacha O'Driscoll, committee member of the Irish Astronomical Society where he leads the Lunar Observatory



Group. What is a star, where do they come from, how do they create so much heat and what happens when they die. This is a story of strange worlds, massive explosions, black holes and one of nature's greatest displays, Solar eclipses. We may not get to see much of the Sun this time of year in Ireland but at least we can talk about it! Book Here:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/life-and-times-of-a-star-astronomy-talk-for-adults-tickets-1249918232079?aff=oddtcreator>

**Seachtain na Gaeilge.** Tuesday 11th March, 3.30pm. **Bug Hotel As Gaeilge** le Méabh, for 6-8 year olds. Displaying and celebrating the different insects that live around us, using the book Óstán na bhFeithidí. No need to know any Irish, this is a dual language workshop! Booking Essential from Tuesday 4th March at 3.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/failte-chuig-ostan-na-bhfeithidi-welcome-to-the-bug-hotel-tickets-1226404180919>

**International Women's Day:** Saturday 8th March. 1pm: Macramé Workshop for Adults with Martina Kirwan. Learn how to make a simple macramé plant holder. Booking essential as places are limited. Booking opens on Saturday 1st March at 1pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/macrame-workshop-tickets-1228013103249>



**Poet's Perch** – Monthly Poetry Circle for Adults Tuesday 4th March, 6.30pm. All levels welcome.



**Sensory Play Session for Pre-School Children** with Rebecca McDermott, founder of This is Me and qualified Play Practitioner. Wednesday 5th March, 10am. Play session for pre-school children led by Rebecca. Please book a ticket for each pre-school child attending. Children must be accompanied by parent/guardian. Booking essential <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/sensory-play-sessions-for-pre-school-children-tickets-1226323329089>

Life & Times of a Star  
Talk for Adults by Dr Donnacha O'Driscoll  
Irish Astronomical Society

Lucan Library  
Thursday 6th March, 6.30pm  
All Welcome

Celebrating Irish Astronomy Week 1-8 March 2025

### Art & Creativity with Elena Buttner

For 6-8 years: Thursday 13th March, 3.30pm. St Patrick's themed workshop. Booking essential from Thursday 6th March at 3.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-6-8-years-tickets-1226810957599>

For 9-12 years: Thursday 20th March, 3.30pm. Booking essential via Lucan Library Eventbrite from Thursday 13th March at 3.30pm:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/art-and-creativity-with-elena-at-lucan-library-for-9-12-years-tickets-1227741621239>



**Who Gives a Focal?**  
An entertaining look at the words we Irish have given the English language  
with author Colin Murphy

**Lucan Library**  
Thursday 13th March  
7pm

All Welcome  
A Seachtain na Gaeilge event

## Have your say

South Dublin County Council is inviting the public to help shape the Masterplan for Lucan House through our **online consultation form** and our **upcoming in-person consultation sessions**.

South Dublin County Council wants you to shape the future of Lucan House.

Scan the QR code and have your say.

A series of in-person events will be held in February and March and if you are interested in attending an in-person consultation, please email [LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com).

Photo courtesy of Paul Butler from 'Society for Old Lucan'.

## Cuir do chuid tuairimí in iúl

Tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag tabhairt cuireadh don phobal an Máistirphlean do Theach Leamhcáin a mhúnlú tríd an bhfoirm chomhairliúcháin ar líne agus trí sheisiún chomhairliúcháin ar an láthair a bheid ar siúl go luath.

Tá Comhairle Contae Átha Cliath Theas ag iarraidh ort cuidiú leo todhchaí Theach Leamhcáin a mhúnlú.

Scan an Cód QR thíos chun do chuid tuairimí a chur in iúl.

Béidh sraith d'imeachtaí ar an láthair ar siúl i mí Feabhra agus i mí an Mhárta. Má tá spéis agat a bheith ag ceann de na himeachtaí chomhairliúcháin sin, seol ríomhphost chuig [LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com](mailto:LucanHousePublicConsult@teneo.com).

Grianghraf le cainchead Paul Butler ó 'Society for Old Lucan'.



Kilias na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland



Stáit Chomhairliúcháin ar líne  
EU Assisted by the  
European Union



Tionól Réigiúnaigh an Deisceirt  
Regional Assembly  
Southern Regional  
Assembly



Clárúcháin Contae Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council

## The Lucan Memorial Campaign

Remembering Lucanians who lost their lives through conflict.

With public consultations for the future of Lucan House due to commence. We would be grateful to anyone who would consider raising the prospect of a local war memorial within the Lucan Demesne. Thank You.

Please scan the QR code for information on those recorded, or visit The Society for Old Lucan website: [soc4oldlucan.com](http://soc4oldlucan.com)



## Lucan I.C.A.

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:

Craft Groups meet as usual from 10am to 12.30pm.

Ladies are very busy working on their preferred crafts.

**Tea Hostesses:** Noreen Doolan and Maura Kennedy.

We had a good attendance at our meeting on Monday.

Enjoy the sporadic sunshine! *Mary C.*



## Esker Active Retirement Association

We had a good attendance at club today in spite of the miserable weather, and enjoyed our usual activities, bowls, scrabble and various card games. We now have well over 100 paid up members for the coming year.

Last week Mark from Fit for Life showed us some exercises to help balance and strength which our members found really interesting. A good number are attending follow up classes in St Andrew's Hall at 11.30 and 12.30 every Tuesday morning.

Maintaining good balance is particularly important as we get older so it is good to see so many of our members taking part.

Next Wednesday 5th February at 1.45 Paula Swayne from Age Friendly Ireland will be giving a short talk about helping to make our homes age friendly, this will be followed by our usual activities and refreshment.

We meet at 1.30 every Wednesday on St Andrews Parish Hall, Main Street Lucan.

## Looking for something different to do this St Patrick's Day?

### The Duck Race



is back in Kilcock, from 2.45 pm.

Cash prizes for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd ducks.

Ducks will be on sale outside Supervalu, Kilcock on Saturday 15th March from 10 am, for €5 each, with proceeds in aid of voluntary social clubs for people with additional needs.

For further information feel free to contact us at [northkildaresearchclub@gmail.com](mailto:northkildaresearchclub@gmail.com)



**Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin**



### Membership Renewal

The 2025 membership renewal season is well underway here at Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club! Membership runs from January 1st to December 31st, so let's get everyone set up for another great year.

### Important reminders:

- All managers, mentors, and committee members must be full members of Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club to participate
- All players must have a current club membership, so they're covered by the injury fund to train and play.
- All players need to be registered on Foireann at least 3 days before a game to be eligible to play games.
- Log on to foireann.ie and make sure your profile is up to date

**Ready to renew?** Just head over to Membership Signup and follow the steps.

### New members or transfers?

If you're joining us for the first time, switching from another club, or having any trouble renewing, we've got your back. Drop us an email at [lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com), and we'll sort it out! Remember to log on to foireann.ie and add Lucan Sarsfields to your profile Looking forward to seeing everyone back for an exciting year ahead!



### Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €1,400. The Numbers were **12, 15, 17 & 18.**

**Lucky dip's** go to Molloy Family, Mick Roche, Rory Murray, John Condon, Claire O'Neill. This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €1,800. This draw is sponsored by Newcastle Golf Centre.

### GAA National Club Draw

It is the time of year again for the GAA National Club Draw. Tickets for the draw cost €15 per ticket. All proceeds from the draw are allocated to the club selling the tickets.

This year we are again incentivising the sale of tickets. The Adult and Juvenile teams who sell the most tickets will get allocated the monies they raise up to a max value of €1K. Teams can sell their tickets online through the QR code on our poster or the link below, just select your desired team in the drop-down menu;

<https://lucansarsfields.clubzap.com/products/24009/purchases/new>

### Healthy Clubs

This Our healthy club committee would like to encourage our members and supporters to donate blood. There will be a blood drive in Lucan Community College on

the **12<sup>th</sup> of March** from 5pm-8:30pm. More information on blood donations and clinics can be found through the following link:

<https://www.giveblood.ie/>



*Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.*

# POLITICAL NOTES

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

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

Web: [www.shanemoynihan.ie](http://www.shanemoynihan.ie)

Facebook: shanemoynihan\_td

Instagram: shanemoynihantd

Twitter: @shanemoynihan. Phone: 01-6184128

### **Ballyowen Shopping Centre:**

I was very pleased to see overdue work take place to repair the main road and car park at Ballyowen Castle Shopping Centre today. It is something I pushed as a councillor and I am pleased to see the management company respond to these concerns. Thanks to all who raised it with me.

### **Go-Ahead:**

I am due to meet with Go-Ahead Ireland in the coming weeks. This follows my initial engagement with them at the start of the month where I set out the difficulties residents have encountered with their service. Please let me know if you have encountered such difficulties in recent weeks.

### **Clinics and contact details:**

I will be commencing weekly clinics in Lucan from March. In the meantime, please contact my office (01-6184128) if you would like help or assistance with any matter.

## Derren Ó Brádaigh – Lucan Sinn Féin Area Rep.

Mobile: 087-2136345

Email: [do布拉达ighsf@gmail.com](mailto:do布拉达ighsf@gmail.com)

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

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

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

### **Grand Canal Greenway – Update:**

Contractors to construct the Grand Canal Greenway from 12<sup>th</sup> Lock to Hazelhatch were appointed in late December and have commenced works on site. It is expected the works will be complete by the end of the year.

### **Ballyowen - Car Park Parks Works:**

The commencement of long-awaited works to upgrade the very bad private roadway entrance into the Eurospar and Pennyhill complex are very welcome.

### **MEP Constituency Visit:**

Delighted that my Sinn Féin colleague and Dublin MEP Lynn Boylan will be here in Lucan and visiting the Adamstown Community Centre next Monday. If you are interested in popping along to say hello or require any further details, please feel free to contact me.

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

(085)2551602

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

### **Larkfield Footpaths:**

Representations made on behalf of residents in Larkfield Rise for footpath repairs. The council confirmed the issue is referred to the Area Engineer for inspection and assessment. Any necessary repairs identified in the report will be scheduled as part of the council's programme of works.

### **Lucan Village Footpaths:**

This week, I raised a motion at the Lucan Area Meeting to review and upgrade footpaths in the village. The council responded that addressing the issues would require significant works and funding, potentially through a Part VIII process. While a pavement repair is possible, they are reluctant to proceed as it would be costly and not a comprehensive solution. I will continue to work on this issue and keep you updated.

## 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)

### **Dail report:**

My contributions this week included speeches on gender-based violence, the third anniversary of the invasion of Ukraine, supports for people with disabilities, and driving test waiting times. Hopefully these will all be up on my website shortly.

### **Works at Ballyowen Castle Shopping:**

Centre: After a huge amount of effort chasing this up over the last year, it's great to see the road surface at the entrance to the shopping centre finally being upgraded, with lining on the way also. This is a private road, so thanks to property management company Robzala for liaising with me on this.

### **Illegal Parking near Airlie Park all-weather:**

pitches: Clubs, please inform members and parents that the parking spaces in Shackleton Terrace apartments are assigned to individual residents. Please do not park here.

*'Life isn't tied with a bow, but it's still a gift'  
'Everyone smiles in the same language*



## 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/4jHwriR>

### Recent Issues Raised:

In the past week, I have lodged concerns from residents regarding street lighting, drainage affecting pedestrians and roads, road safety, roadworks, and road markings. Positive responses have been received from SDCC.

### Beacon-Free Pedestrian Crossings:

Residents have expressed concerns about the visibility of pedestrians at beacon-free pedestrian crossings (Dept of Transport TSAN-2024-01 - Zebra Crossings) particularly Esker Manor and Castle Road. Ensuring pedestrian safety is a top priority, and I am actively working on this issue.

### Heritage Trail for Lucan:

I enquired about a Heritage Trail for Lucan; SDCC are planning this for later in 2025 and have funding allocated for the project.

### Lucan House & Demesne Consultation: Reminder!

The opening of Lucan House & Demesne will significantly (and positively) impact Lucan. Share your views here: <https://buff.ly/3CQjxO4>.

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

0872795274

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

“Always working, always available”

### Community Updates

#### Defibrillator Expansion:

My motion was passed at the area committee meeting, calling on the council to explore introducing outdoor public defibrillators beyond council buildings. I also passed a motion requesting the Gardaí to explain why these life-saving devices are not installed in all stations, especially 24-hour ones.

#### New Footpath:

I'm pleased to confirm that, following my efforts, a new link path from Woodview Heights to Tandy's Lane is included in the 2025 Improvement Works Programme. The works will be carried out in consultation with the transport section to ensure a safe and well-designed connection.

#### Lucan Christmas Tree Event:

Following my motion, the council will engage with the Lucan Festival Committee on plans for the Christmas Tree event. The Village Green works, including festive lighting power points, are progressing, with completion expected by September 2025.



**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!**

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Scan here to register

Charity Number 10568 Registered Charity Number 20027193



### Older people need your support!

ALONE is recruiting volunteers to provide companionship and support through their Telephone Support & Befriending service for older people. ALONE asks that interested volunteers commit to one set shift of 2 hours per week for a minimum of 6 months. Visit [alone.ie/volunteers](http://alone.ie/volunteers) for more information.



## St. Mary's Camera Soirée



The Camera Soirée has chosen the subject of “gates” for the month of March but we still have some Spring flowers from February, in particular a photograph of the first Wood Anemone spotted by Brendan along the Strawberry Beds. The flower is part of the buttercup family and blooms from March to May in this part of the world.

Conor has produced the first photographs of the subject for the month of March with his photograph of the gates at the back entrance to Luttrellstown Castle.



The castle dates from the early 15<sup>th</sup> century. The demesne and adjoining lands had been granted to Sir Geoffrey de Luttrell about 1210 by King John of England and the castle was in the hands of the Luttrell family until the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Victoria Adams married David Beckham there in 1999.



Conor spotted some Cormorants on the Liffey just above the weir. Cormorants are generally sociable birds that nest in colonies, gather in flocks and often hunt together in groups.

We got some nice monochrome photos from Donal which captured the light and shade beautifully.

Brendan got quite excited that Donal had managed to photograph a bumble bee and remarked that he had seen his first tortoiseshell butterfly, both surely signs that Spring is here. Ireland has 21 native Bumblebee species. Four are endangered, 2 are vulnerable and the Great Yellow Bumble bee is on the verge of extinction.

*Until next week stay safe!*

