



*Established 1967*

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

Sub. €1

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

## **Bizarre Times!**

Current times feel rather bizzare! The voices of a tiny number of extremely powerful people shout above all to squash down those who are vulnerable or different in any way to a space of near total exclusion. The unwarranted adulation of the powerful few further inflates their power, ego and status as they peddle lies and thrive in largely coercive activity. It is very frightening when even democratic societies support that which is strongly dictatorial and largely coercive!

Are we content to live with a situation of racism being at large, the needs of the vulnerable being disregarded and any difference or valued tradition disregarded as disposable? As Irish people, we have had the freedom of the world in terms of seeking refuge and opportunity while in turn the gifts and talents of the Irish concerned, have added value to the new place of residence. That is not to say that the Irish were always treated well by all among whom they lived – of course not, but let us not treat others as we ourselves would not wish to be treated.

Those who are powerful by stealth take advantage of others while seeming to offer them privilege and status. Being chosen by such people will always be a fleeting experience as is the nature of narcissism. The narcissistic person only has eyes for themselves and use others as a mirror in the moment. Lose one's sheen as a mirror, or if they find a better mirror, they will drop one like a hot potato! Best to be discerning by association and slow in adulation.

The scales of justice are tilted one direction currently needing weight and substance to bring about a balance. It is not largely fashionable to stand and declare if what is happening is right or wrong. Every right or wrong that we do, allow or say has impact on others as well as ourselves. The tilt in the scales in the direction of injustice will only occur if good people do nothing, or stay in the comfort zone, when right action needs to be taken. When we hear the boom of the loudest voice it is best to give ear to the quiet voice of heart space and gut core to know what really matters and act accordingly.

The true value of any person or society is realised in how the most vulnerable and marginalised are treated. Let us take time for the formative conversations that might prevent growth of narcissism and enable the appreciation of the value of each one as gift. The busyness of life allows us to forget the value of the long casual chats that work out what is important to us as society and how we truly are connected together.

*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

## Motor Insurance

You must have motor insurance to drive your vehicle on Irish roads.



Motor insurance is meant to protect you against liability in an accident. It will cover the costs of the other driver's property and injuries if you are found at fault for an accident. If you are involved in an accident and found not to be at fault, the insurance of the responsible party will cover your costs.

When you buy a motor insurance policy from an insurance company, you will get an insurance disc and a certificate of insurance. You must clearly display a current insurance disc on your vehicle at all times when driving.

From 31 March 2025, you will need to give your driver number and the driver number of any named drivers on the policy. You can find the driver number in section 4 (d) of an Irish Driver's licence or Learner Permit.

You can get guidance on what you must do if you are involved in a road traffic collision on An Garda Síochána's website. The Government of Ireland has information on how to make an insurance claim if you are involved in a road traffic accident.

There are 3 types of motor insurance available in Ireland:

Third party

Third party fire and theft

Comprehensive insurance

Which you choose will depend on the level of cover you need and how much you are willing to pay – information on our website.

### Driving Without Insurance

Failure to have motor insurance or driving without insurance in Ireland is generally punishable by:

A fine of up to €5,000

5 penalty points; and

At the discretion of the court, a term of imprisonment not exceeding 6 months.

The court may decide that you will be disqualified from driving instead of incurring penalty points. In that case, you will be disqualified for 2 years or more for a first offence and 4 years or more in the case of a second offence committed within 3 years of the first.

You should note that where a member of An Garda Síochána believes that a vehicle registered in Ireland (or outside Ireland) is being used in a public place without insurance, the vehicle may be impounded.

### Accidents involving an Uninsured Driver

In the case of accidents with uninsured or untraced drivers, the Motor Insurers' Bureau of Ireland (MIBI) is the body which compensates the victims.

At the same time, any claim for personal injury must be sent to the Injuries Resolution Board. This is the statutory body which provides independent assessment of personal injury compensation for victims of workplace, motor and public liability accidents.

You must disclose all relevant information to an insurer when initially buying or renewing your insurance. Otherwise, the policy you buy may subsequently be deemed null and void. If you are unsure whether certain facts are relevant, you should disclose them to the insurer and it is then up to the insurer to decide.

### Insurance Ireland

Tel: (01) 676 1820. Fax: (01) 676 1943

<http://www.insuranceireland.eu/consumer-information>

Email: [feedback@insuranceireland.eu](mailto:feedback@insuranceireland.eu)

**More information is available on our website.**

## Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, and lunch in Spa Hotel, 10.30 – 2.30.

New members always welcome!



## Lucan Lions Club

### Melvyn Jones Fellowship Award

Lucan Lions Club member **Will Byrne** was a recent recipient of the prestigious Melvyn Jones Fellowship Award which was presented to him at the Lions Clubs Ireland Annual Convention in Tullamore. Congratulations to Will pictured with Club President Gerry Ennis and his Club colleagues.



## Barnardos Need your Help!

### Administration Volunteer in our Head Office,

Christchurch Square – 1/2 day per week – 9-1pm  
– preferably Wednesday – but that is negotiable

Additional information on application

Would suit a Volunteer with previous office/admin experience

Full training given

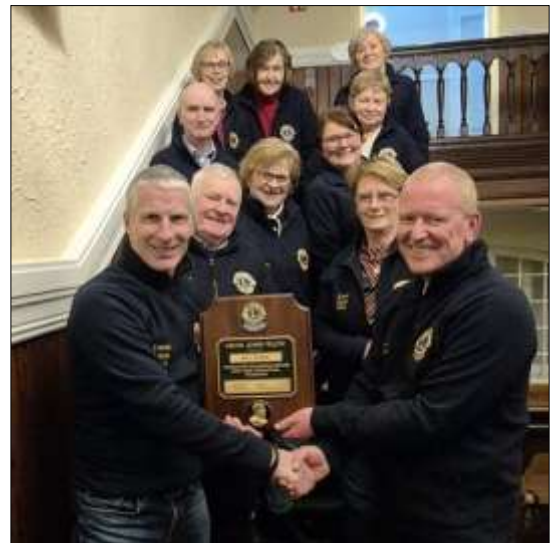
**Apply with your CV to Lisa Tobin** – Volunteer Co-ordinator – [lisa.tobin@barnardos.ie](mailto:lisa.tobin@barnardos.ie)

## Thank You

We wish to thank the Medical Staff at the Main St. Clinic, and all those who helped in a medical emergency last Friday.

Your help and kindness was very much appreciated.

*The Phillips Family*



This prestigious honour is awarded to individuals who demonstrate exceptional service within their local Lions Clubs. Will is Senior Vice President of Finance at Special Olympics Europe Eurasia. The Award recognises his dedication to supporting those on the margins and his commitment to promoting social inclusion for people with intellectual disabilities worldwide. This recognition is therefore truly well deserved.

### Easter Raffle in SuperValu Lucan

Lucan Lions Club will hold its Annual Easter Raffle, sponsored by SuperValu Lucan in the store over the Easter weekend 17-19 April. The prizes will be 4 x €100 and 2 x €50 Easter Hampers. We are grateful to SuperValu for their long-standing sponsorship of this Raffle and their overall support for Lucan Lions Club.

**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)

**Drive & Drop**  
National Donation Day  
Sat 22nd & Sun 23rd March 2025

**NEW ITEMS ONLY:**  
Nappies – sizes 1 to 6, Baby Wipes, Nappy sacks, Baby Milk, Nappy Cream, Baby Spoons, Baby Carion Wipes, Packs of Diapers and other toiletries in bags, Packs of baby formulae tins, Baby blankets, Packs of baby toys, Baby bottles, Formulae alternatives – essential

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

## LOST

Set of Keys lost in Hillcrest Tesco area. If found please phone: J.T. 087 6386816

## Happy Big Birthday Johnny

on 22nd March.

Enjoy your special day!



## St Mary's, Lucan

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



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

**Weekday Masses:** Monday to Saturday 10am  
Evening Mass: Monday to Friday 7.30pm.

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



### Confirmation

Best Wishes to the boys and girls of **Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada** who will make their Confirmation on 27<sup>th</sup> March.

*Please remember them in your prayers*

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



### St. Mary's Readers' Roster April

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

**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.

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

**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.*

**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 **Kay McManus**, Lucan Heights, to the family and friends of **Mary Fagan**, formerly Beech Grove and to the husband, family and friends of **Catherine Strickland**, formerly Arthur Griffith Park.



*May they rest in peace.*

### St. Vincent de Paul

Church collection at all Masses

**THIS**

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: 9 Nights: €220 7 Nights: €150
Normal Price:	€895 pps.		
Pat's Price:	€820 pps.		
Depart:	30 <sup>th</sup> April	22 <sup>nd</sup> October	
Nights:	7	7	Travel insurance extra (Details from Marian Pilgrimages)
Normal Price:	€845 pps.	€875 pps.	
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.

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

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

**Adoration:** Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am. All are welcome.

**Confessions:** Confessions after Saturday 10am Mass and after Thursday 10am Mass.

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

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

## 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.

### Legion of Mary:

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



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

**7.00pm:** Rosary and Confessions.

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

**8.15pm** Adoration and Confessions

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

**Vocations Society of St. Joseph:** We will pray the novena of St. Joseph for vocations during Masses from Weds 19th March (Feast of St. Joseph) until Thurs 27th March. The next meeting of the Divine Mercy branch of the St. Joseph's Vocations Society will be on Weds 26th March at 10.40am in the St. John Paul II Room.

**Home Visits Holy Communion:** If anyone who cannot come to Mass would like to receive Holy Communion at home from Fr. Aidan or a Minister of Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office 01-4572900.

**Wednesday tea/coffee morning:** There is a cup of tea/coffee and a slice of cake after 9.15am Mass in the St. John Paul II Room.

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

**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**

# Anniversary



## Tomás (Tom) Ryle Anniversary of Passing 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024

When you were called to God's rest so unexpectedly and suddenly one year ago. We were not ready for you to go.

We thought we had years for you to be here with us. However, God knew you were tired, and in need of some real rest. So knowing it was for the best, he-guided your soul to his eternal loving caring place of peaceful rest. We thank God for taking such good care of you, and for his compassionate love, as it so often lets us feel your presence, and the sound of your voice nearby. Which helps us face into another year of not having you physically here.

*Tomás you are deeply missed, and loved very much by your family and friends.*

## To know you are there

(Anon)

I heard your voice and listened well  
but was not so sure it was you

I followed footsteps up some stairs  
my thoughts obscured my view

Am I gone mad to understand this time you  
spent with me  
was chosen in this moments time  
in the hope that I might see

He is there if you seek him out  
in all the ways we should  
through prayer and talking with the Lord  
reveals himself to us

He showed me things I did not know  
I wondered where they came from, the  
mind plays tricks, I tell myself  
these thoughts I must escape from

I trust your message through and through  
but doubts they flaunt about  
and ever wonder to this day  
why I was singled out

I am not one  
I am not many  
I am but me

an open pathway to the Lord  
a heart opened fervently

Can I trust you Lord this day  
to say you really spoke  
then wake me from this slumber time  
your blessings as I awoke

An open mind forever closes when doubting  
takes it grip  
be brave and take a few steps forward  
on this most lonesome trip

So scared am I but no need to be  
I trust Him all I can  
to lead me to his guiding hand  
unto God's sacred plan.

# 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  
Hugh 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, Ballinteer, Dublin 16. Tel: 01 494 1171
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## Daffodil Day Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March!



Every Spring, on Daffodil Day, Ireland turns yellow as people stand together against cancer – to bring hope, provide support and drive progress.

**Please Support**

## 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 have had an amazing turn out for our Chair Yoga with full capacity for this class. Great to see everyone looking after body and mind.

**Annual General Meeting:** Our AGM took place on Thursday 13th March. We are delighted to have new board members from our community elected on the night. We would like to thank our board members new and old for all their hard work. We also said our goodbyes to Shane Moynihan who has been our chairperson for the past 3 years and helped to grow the centre to what it is today. Thank you Shane you will be missed.

**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.



**Another brilliant Lucan Parade!** It was great to see so many out in the fine weather, albeit it cold, on Monday last. Congratulations to all the groups who took part, and well done to all the Parade Volunteers on a great job!

**Spring Equinox** already, as we go to press on Thursday morning 20<sup>th</sup> March, and just another week to go until the clocks change. Spring is certainly in the air.....

### Items held over.....

In case anyone is wondering why their article has not appeared yet in Lucan Newsletter, we have a few items held over due to pressure of space. Never fear, we will include them over the next few weeks!



## Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade 2025

### Winners

Grand Marshals Prize - Lucan Gospel Choir  
Peter Brady Perpetual Award Best in Parade - Garda Westmanstown Gaels  
Paddy Kenny Perpetual Award Best Turned Out - Lucan United  
Jim Toner Perpetual Award Best Commercial Entry - VStyles  
Best Youth Entry - Lucan Special Olympics  
Best Performance - Finglas Concert Band  
Best Individual Entry - Adamstown Blue Connect  
Most Colourful - Goldwings  
Most Energetic - Na Gaeil Oga  
Most Entertaining - Lee Byrne



Little Blue Heroes from Lucan & Ronanstown are Aoife McQuillan, Dylan Lestar, Isacc Keenan, Sean Grant, Eoin McStravick Sloan, Massie Crossan, Tristan, and unable to join us on the day Ameilia Somers, Mia Nasinska.



In the Garda Car with their Garda buddy Garda Anne Gabot is Aoife McQuillan and Issacc Keenan

It was another great parade for Lucan in 2025, we have over 30 entries from local groups, the children gave us demonstrations of their skills all along the route, we saw football, hurling, boxing, cricket, skipping, dancing, music. There is a club for everything in Lucan, and not only did we have loads of colour in the parade we had loads of talent.

Big thank you to all our volunteers, we had over 100 people volunteering on the day, there are lots of jobs and a job for everyone like putting out barriers, setting up refreshments for volunteers, dressing the review stand, marshalling the parade into order, stewards along the route, packing up after the parade, and tidying up the village. We were very thankful to South Dublin County Council the depot staff for picking up and dropping back the barriers and helping us set them up

along the route. We also had Lucan Tidy Towns and Lucan Mens Shed out in full helping us Steward the parade. Lucan Red Cross provided first aid, medical, and ambulance assistance, thankfully no incidents to report. We had the Transition Year Students from St. Josephs College volunteer as face painting and balloon modelling (we run facepainting and balloon modelling workshops in the college for the TY year in February every year). They did a great job and the children loved their balloons and face painting. Toner Transport were amazing as always and provided the truck for us to use as a review stand, this makes a huge difference to the children walking by and really makes their day to perform in front of the guest on the review stand. A very big thank you to Lucan An Garda Síochána without whose help and support we would not be able to put on a parade.

Thank you to our sponsors South Dublin County Council, Kennys of Lucan, Carrols of Lucan, Courtneys of Lucan, AIB, Ambassador Beds, Fort Lucan, Gallagher Kitchens, IFS, Lucan Credit Union, McDonald Property, PJ Garvey, Spa Hotel, Tuthills, Weir Wealth, Muintir na Tire, and Tesco

*Caroline Brady 0852551602, Organiser*

## Divine Mercy Parish and Schools Fundraiser

On April 4th Divine Mercy Schools and Parish are hosting a Garth Brooks tribute act in the Spa Hotel. All funds will go towards the schools and Parish. Tickets are on sale on Eventbrite, in both schools and the parish centre. So get your Stetson and Cowboy boots and come along to enjoy the show!

The poster features three logos at the top: the Divine Mercy Parish logo, a photograph of the Spa Hotel Lucan, and the Divine Mercy Schools logo. The main text reads: **THE GARTH BROOKS EXPERIENCE** by **MARCUS PROUSE** at **THE SPA HOTEL LUCAN** on **FRIDAY APRIL 4TH 2025** with **DOORS OPEN 7PM**. Below this, it says **RAFFLE** and "Be in with a chance to win exciting prizes and experiences from our locality". It lists ticket availability from Junior & Senior School reception, the Parish Office, and online via Eventbrite. Ticket prices are: Event Tickets €20, Raffle Tickets €2 each or 3 for €5. A QR code is in the bottom right corner.





## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Gaeilge:** Bhí a lán imeachtaí agus gníomhaíochtaí éagsúla ar siúl ar fud na scoile an tseachtain seo caite chun **Seachtain na Gaeilge** a cheilúradh. Bhí comórtais postaeir, tráth na gceist, cluichí biongó, toraíocht taisce, searáidí, gearrscánnáin, dúrún dúmharaithe, drámaíocht, ról-imirt, díospóireachtaí agus amhráin Gaeilge ar siúl ins na ranganna Gaeilge agus bhí spraoi ag gach duine a ghlac páirt sna h-imeachtaí.



There were a lot of activities and events held throughout the school last week to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. There were poster competitions, table quizzes, bingo games, treasure hunts, short films, a murder mystery, drama, role-plays, debates and Irish songs in Irish classes throughout the school and the students certainly enjoyed the week's events.

Ms. Winters and Ms. Kennedy took their 5<sup>th</sup> yr Irish classes to The Light House Cinema in Smithfield to see "Kneecap", the ground breaking Irish film shortlisted for two Academy Awards at this year's Oscars. The students thoroughly enjoyed the film's hilarious exploration of Northern Irish identity, language loss, and lingering sectarianism.

Principal Mr. O' Meara made a lot of announcements as Gaeilge over the intercom during the week and also called out questions for a different Year Group each day, with spot prizes for the 1<sup>st</sup> student to answer correctly. Well done to all who took part with such enthusiasm and interest. Beatha teanga í a labhairt (a language lives through being spoken).

**Home Economics:** Our Home Economics students celebrated Shrove Tuesday in the most delicious way possible-by making and baking

their own homemade pancakes! The 1<sup>st</sup> yr and TY students took to the Home Economics kitchens with relish, flipping their deliciously appetising golden pancakes and experimenting with a variety of tasty toppings such as classic lemon and sugar, chocolate spread berries and maple syrup. The students thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a fun tradition and learning some practical, hands-on cooking skills.

**Hurling:** Congratulations to Derry Ware and Henry Greene (TY) on their selection for the Dublin Minor Hurling panel for the upcoming Championship campaign. Both students have been fantastic hurlers for the school and their club (Lucan Sarsfields) over the past number of years and their selection is a great reward for their phenomenal dedication, hard-work and talent. We are very proud of them and we shall be following their progress with the Dubs with great interest throughout the year. They will be competing in Tier 1 alongside Galway, Kilkenny and Wexford, so they are certainly up against some of the best teams in the country!

**Careers:** 40 of our students, from 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> yr, attended a campus tour of Trinity College last Thursday. The students met with Ms. Hunt and Mr. Todd on campus before beginning their guided tour with some of Trinity's postgraduate students. It was an extremely immersive exploration of Ireland's most historic campus. They learned about the huge array of courses on offer, the many societies, the fantastic sports facilities, the accommodation, admissions, the beautiful (and newly named) Eavan Boland Library etc. Our 6<sup>th</sup> yrs thoroughly enjoyed the tour and they are to be commended on their maturity attentiveness and exemplary behaviour throughout.

**Transition Year:** Our TY students enjoyed an interesting tour of Collins Barracks last Wednesday. The interactive tour focused on the story of what was originally called the Royal Barracks, and the lives of the soldiers who lived there between 1706 until 1993. The students learned about their daily activities, living conditions, drilling and marching practices and experiences going to war. They also learned the story of how Collins Barracks became a museum and they got to see some of the most fascinating artefacts, such as weaponry, ceramics, furniture, silver and glassware, in the museum's collection. In doing so, they got to explore the idea of what an artefact is, and what objects can teach us about the past and those who lived it.

## Lucan Community College

**DDLETB Ethos Ambassador:** Congratulations to our seven student ethos ambassadors who took part in an excellent training session in DDLETB head office lead by Caroline Daly. Our students received their ethos ambassador's badges from director of schools Mark McDonald and will now take on a leadership role in our school. The students are Ciara, Cillian, Emily, Skaiste, Joshua, Grace.



**TY Enterprise:** Our three TY enterprise groups from Class O' Riada represented LCC in the Student Enterprise Awards. The three companies were:  
-Wood Buds - Oisin and Cillian  
-The Pawfect Bites Company - Ella, Aoibhe, Sophie, Clara and Reka.  
-A key to Christmas - Dupe, Diana and Kayla.  
The Pawfect Bites Company won the sustainability award in the senior section and Lucan CC won Enterprise school of the year South Dublin. Well done to our three groups who showed fantastic creativity and team work in their Enterprises.



**Wellbeing Week:** Lucan CC had a great week last week for wellbeing week. Some of the activities that were on included mindful colouring, quiet reading room, pilates, meditation, karaoke, busking, card playing, a bake sale and war hammer. Wellbeing week encompasses activities that foster a sense of community and belonging as

well as promoting both physical and mental health. Thank you to the teachers who organised it and for everyone who participated.

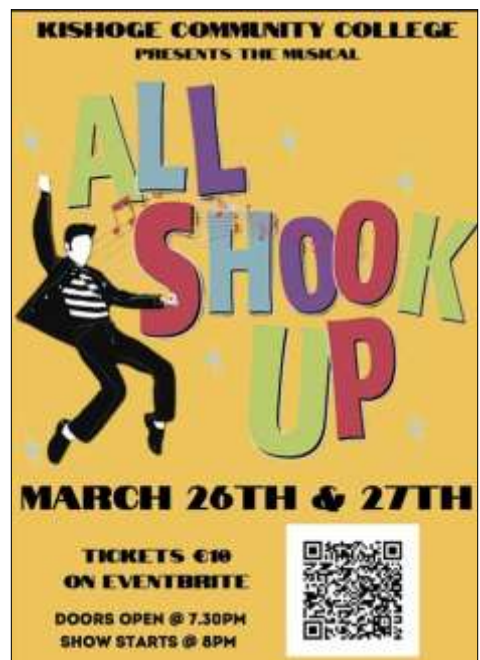
**2nd year Boys Basketball:** 2nd years boys that won the East Leinster plate final against Newpark Comprehensive in the Oblates Hall. The final score was 45 to 37. A big thank you to the parent's association who funded the new kit worn by the lads here.



## All Shook Up at Kishoge Community College

Kishoge Community College presents the musical 'All Shook Up' for 2 nights only. Join us for an evening filled with music, dancing, and fun, it promises to be an amazing show. You don't need to have a student attending the school to come along. Tickets are available via [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com), or via the QR Code on the attached poster. Some tickets will also be available at the door on the night. Everyone welcome.

Kishoge Community College, Thomas Omer Way, Lucan, K78 DC89.



## St. Joseph's College

**Flag Day 2025:** A huge thank you to everyone who took part in and supported Flag Day last Friday. It was a great day of celebration of the Irish Flag and all the nationalities in the school that make our school community to brilliant. Our fundraiser for Women's Aid has brought in a massive €1,579.38 so far! A massive thank you to all the students who contributed and to all the staff who baked, bringing in treats from their many countries as part of the bake sale to raise money for the charity. A massive well done to Ms. Bligh for all her hard work in the organising of such a big event in the school and also to our wonderful TY and 3rd Year Flag Day Committees for organising all - we hope everyone enjoyed it!

**Amsterdam trip:** Last week our TYs spent three days in the brilliant city of Amsterdam. Over the three days the students explored many of the highlights of the city including the Anne Frank museum and a boat trip down the Amstel River which along with their guide allowed them to explore the city from a different viewpoint. The students also visited the Efteling Theme Park and enjoyed the many rides and attractions for the day. A massive thank you to all the teachers who took care of and looked after the students for the duration of the trip – Mr McCabe, Ms. Hanlon, Ms. Dunne, Ms Ennis, Ms McMahan and Ms Girigan.

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

**Pi Maths quiz:** Well done to our students who competed in the Irish Maths Teachers Association regional round of the Pi Quiz 2025 in St Kevin's Community College last week. It was a great opportunity for our students to put their maths skills to the test in a competitive and fun environment.

**Concern Senior debating:** Last Thursday evening our senior Concern debating team were in action in the All Ireland quarter final against Sandford Park. The debate was hosted in the Concern Head Office on Camden Street. Our team were proposing the motion 'There should be limits to free speech on social media'. Unfortunately, on the night our team were on the wrong end of a close decision. We, as a school community, are exceptionally proud of the entire cohort of debaters and researchers. They performed so brilliantly and they dealt with their undoubted disappointment with absolute integrity, style and class. What the students achieved this year cannot be underestimated and their incredible efforts during the course of the year debating seven motions and reaching the quarter finals of the All Ireland debating competition.

**Basketball:** A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS to the First year basketball team who won the Dublin Schools League basketball final against Firhouse Community College. Well done also to the Second year basketball team who were beaten by 1 point in the last few seconds of a nail biting game against Luttrellstown Community College. All players were outstanding and we're super proud of them. Both First and Second year teams will now go through to the All Ireland playoffs and we wish them the very best of luck

**Emmanuel Concert:** Last Wednesday night, 39 students participated in Emmanuel in the Helix. All of our students who were on stage performed brilliantly in front of a large crowd and the reception from the audience was amazing. We look forward to hearing you perform again next year.

**Dublin Port visit:** Last Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> year economics and business students, along with their teachers Ms. Ward and Mr. Collins visited Dublin Port. The students were brought on a guided tour of the port and learned about the economic importance of the port for the economy of Dublin in areas such as employment, trade and international connectivity. A special word of thanks to Cormac Kennedy and Grainne Hannon who organised the trip for the students.

**Past Pupil visits:** A big thank you to occupational therapist and past pupil Sarah Walsh, and her colleague Speech and Language Therapist, Anna Ceroni who took time out of their busy work schedule to talk to our 6<sup>th</sup> year students about their jobs, their path to obtaining their qualifications and the challenges they faced along the way.

**First year fundraising:** A massive well done to our first year students who raised €1,172.50 from their Witches Walk earlier in the year. All of this money raised was donated to the chosen charity of the students, Concern Worldwide.



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

## **A Potential for Misuse of Authority: Altering a Part 8 Approved Project via Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994**

South Dublin County Council (SDCC) recently had a consultation titled Lucan Road Boardwalk Alterations. South Dublin County Council (SDCC) appears to be attempting to alter a Part 8 Approved Project by invoking **Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994**. This raises concerns about transparency, community involvement, and the proper use of legislative powers in urban planning and development.

### **Understanding the Processes**

**Part 8 Process:** Under the **Planning and Development Regulations 2001**, the Part 8 process allows local authorities to seek planning permission for specific projects, such as public infrastructure. It mandates public consultation, giving elected councillors and community members the opportunity to voice their opinions and concerns. After considering this feedback, the local authority finalizes its plans.

**Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994:** This section grants local authorities the power to implement traffic management measures without undergoing the full planning process required by Part 8. While intended for quick traffic-calming measures, it can bypass the essential public consultation and transparency that Part 8 ensures.

**The Issue at Hand:** Any changes to an already approved Part 8 project should require a **new Part 8 process**, ensuring that the community and elected councillors can review and provide input on the proposed alterations. Using Section 38 to bypass this process constitutes **executive overreach**, undermining transparency and community involvement.

**Lack of Effective Communication:** SDCC has proposed significant changes to the **Lucan Demesne** and the **cycle path from the Greenway into Sarsfield Park**, both of which were approved by councillors in 2022. However, there has been **no effective communication** with the over 60,000 residents and businesses in Lucan regarding these alterations. Key concerns include:

**No Leaflet Drops or Local Press Announcements:** Residents and businesses were not informed about the proposed changes unless they were on a specific SDCC mailing list or happened to visit the SDCC public consultation portal.

**Overwhelming Online Consultations:** SDCC simultaneously launched **three public consultations/surveys** (Lucan Demesne, Sarsfield Park cycle path, and Lucan House development) without adequate communication. This approach overwhelms and confuses residents, making it difficult for them to respond effectively.

**Misleading Terminology:** SDCC has used the terms "**consultation**" and "**survey**" interchangeably, potentially blurring the lines between formal submissions and informal feedback. This could undermine the legal weight of public responses.

## **The Lucan Road Boardwalk Alterations Survey: A Biased Approach:**

The Lucan Road Boardwalk Alterations survey is particularly problematic. It is designed in a way that **skews responses toward a predetermined outcome**: **Question 7:** Respondents must agree to parking removal to submit their answers, effectively excluding those who oppose the changes. This makes the survey **biased and unreliable**, as it does not fairly represent public opinion.

**Misleading Terminology:** The survey refers to the cycle path alterations as "**Lucan Road Boardwalk alterations**", further confusing respondents about the nature of the changes.

**Inappropriate Use of Section 38:** SDCC is proposing significant alterations to the **2022 Part 8-approved cycle path** into Sarsfield Park, including the construction of a **90 metre board walk**, the removal of a considerable number of trees and 8 car parking spaces on Lucan Road. These changes warrant a **new Part 8 consultation**, as they significantly deviate from the original plan. Instead, SDCC is attempting to implement these changes through **Section 38**, which: **Sidelines Councillors:** By using Section 38, SDCC is removing the decision-making and voting rights of elected councillors.

**Exceeds the Scope of Section 38:** The correct use of Section 38 is to introduce traffic-calming measures **on or within the boundaries of public roads**. The proposed works, which involve cutting down trees and creating a new boardwalk, fall outside this scope. **Cost Exemption:** Projects exceeding **€126,000** are exempt from Section 38. The proposed works far exceed this threshold, making Section 38 an inappropriate mechanism.

**Conclusion:** SDCC's actions raise serious questions about its commitment to transparency and community involvement in urban planning. By attempting to bypass the Part 8 process and using Section 38 inappropriately, SDCC risks undermining public trust and sidelining elected representatives. The proposed changes to the Sarsfield Park cycle path warrant a **new Part 8 consultation**, ensuring that residents and councillors have a meaningful opportunity to review and respond to the alterations.

### **Key Questions for SDCC:**

Why has SDCC failed to communicate effectively with the local population regarding these significant changes?

Is the simultaneous posting of multiple consultations a deliberate strategy to overwhelm and confuse residents?

Why is SDCC using misleading terminology, such as conflating "consultations" with "surveys"?

How can SDCC justify the biased design of the Lucan Boardwalk survey, which excludes opposing views?

Why is SDCC using Section 38 inappropriately to bypass the Part 8 process and sideline elected councillors?

*David Lombard*



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



### St Patrick's Day

Our juvenile players took part in the annual Lucan St Patrick's Day Parade followed by an evening of festivities in the club house. Thank you to everyone for getting involved.



### Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €2,600. The Numbers were **12, 18, 20, 25.**

**Lucky dip's** go to Joe Lavin, Bridie Burke, Darragh Quinn, Teresa Dunphy, Michael & Joan Molloy. This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €3,000. This draw is sponsored by O'Grady's Hearing Care Services.



### Healthy Club Committee

Lucan Sarsfields Healthy Club would like to thank Ryan Jones (Tyrone) and Saoirse McCarthy (Cork) for facilitating a Movember Ahead of the Game workshop for our U15 girls last week. Thank you also to Rose and the U15 girls and parents for their engagement on the night - feedback was very positive.

The campaign and workshop is formulated to enable young players, their parents, and coaches, to better understand mental health, build mental fitness, and strengthen resilience to deal with challenges in sport and life through a series of

interactive workshops, delivered by the members of the GPA (all of whom are present or past inter-county players). The programme is effective because it uses sport to help participants acquire important skills and knowledge.

This is the 2nd workshop that we have hosted at Lucan Sarsfields and we hope to welcome back #MAOTG in the near future to facilitate more sessions for our players and parents.

See link below for coach handout

[https://learning.gaa.ie/sites/default/files/2024-08/MCS-0040%20AOTG%20IE%20GAA\\_Coach\\_Handout.t.pdf](https://learning.gaa.ie/sites/default/files/2024-08/MCS-0040%20AOTG%20IE%20GAA_Coach_Handout.t.pdf)

### 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

**Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.**

## LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

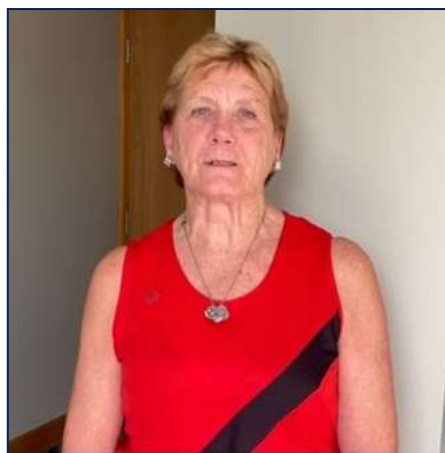
### Podium 5k - Leicester

Well done to Aoife Coffey who ran a superb new PB and club record for the 5k in a time of 16:21 at yesterday's Podium 5k in Leicester.



Excellent results from the National U20 & U23 Championships in Athlone Last Sunday. **Kate O'Connell** won the U23 400m in 55.11. Superb running also from **Saoirse Fitzgerald** in the U20 400m running pbs in both the heat and final finishing 3rd in 55.54.

Excellent performances also from Benjamin Caullier (4th U23 1500m), Maggie Jez (6th U20 800m), Aisling Fitzpatrick (7th U20 1500m) and Jacob Ciomek (8th U20 1500m). Well done all.



### Active South Dublin Sports Star of the Month (February)

Double World Record holder **Eileen O'Brien** was recently awarded Active South Dublin Sports Star of the month for February. Check out Eileen's interview on Facebook where she talks about the achievement and puts our 5 Mile Road race!



**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)

## 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.

**Lá Fhéile Phádraig:** It was wonderful to see such crowds on the streets of Lucan yesterday for the Lucan St Patrick's Day Parade! Well done to the organising committee, the volunteers and the various groups on a magnificent display of colour, fun and community!

**Bus services:** I will be holding a follow-up meeting with Go-Ahead Ireland management to discuss their local bus service provision and whether or not improvements have been made. I will also be meeting Dublin Bus management this month to discuss the services they operate. If you have noticed any gaps or deficiencies in local services, please let me know and I will raise it on your behalf.

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

## Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Féin Rep.

Mob: 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)

### Road/Hill Between N4 & Lucan Village -

**Improved Lighting:** I am calling for a public lighting survey/inspection by the Council, that seeks to address the poor lighting on Adamstown Road (hill stretching from Fairy House down to Courtney's Pub), whilst also committing to refer any necessary interim tree pruning works that are encroaching on the existing lighting.

**Newcastle Road – Path Upgrades:** For too long, the section of path opposite St Patrick's Church has remained in a poor state. The section at the bus stop also needs to see the raised lip removed or levelled to allow for ease of wheelchair access and to remove what is essentially a trip hazard. I have submitted the relevant details to SDCC, requesting an inspection of this area with a view to scheduling the necessary upgrades into a future works programme.

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

(085)2551602

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

### Sarsfield Park Age Friendly Development:

I raised concerns with the council and contractor regarding key issues, including the dilapidation survey and traffic / site management.

Communication remains a key issue, and I continue to advocate for clear updates from the contractor. Completion is scheduled for December 2025.

**Finnstown:** The tree on the grass verge at Ashberry was inspected after concerns about its stability, particularly following the recent storm. It is listed for removal, and the works are assigned to a contractor. The removal will be scheduled and prioritised accordingly.

**Willsbrook:** Concerns about two overgrown trees adjacent to Willsbrook Drive were raised.

Following a February 2025 survey, these trees are listed for routine pruning under the 2023-2025 Tree Maintenance Programme. Necessary works will be prioritised accordingly.

## Minister Emer Higgins TD

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd

[emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

**Public Health Nurses:** I recently asked the HSE about the ongoing shortage of PHN's in Lucan. They have assured me that priority services such as birth notification visits, primary visits for newborns, and postnatal assessments remain their main focus. The HSE also confirmed that they are taking steps to address the issue, including expanding clinical rotations for hospital and graduate nurses in community settings.

Additionally, 26 new community nursing posts have been allocated, prioritising high-pressure areas like Dublin Mid-West. I'll continue to push for increased resources and staffing to ensure Lucan gets the healthcare support it needs.

**St. Patrick's Day Success:** Well done to all involved in another fantastic St. Patrick's Day in Lucan! A special thanks to Cllr. Caroline Brady and the volunteers who ensured a great local event for all. Your hard work is truly appreciated.

## 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)

**Dáil report:** This week I contributed to two housing debates, a discussion on the need to upgrade the Carer's Allowance and a debate on security/international trade. I also called on the Government to respond to Trump's recent insult to the women of Ireland on March 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Swimming Pool:** The gym element of the complex looks as if it may open by the end of Easter, but the usual caveats apply. There's more progress on the pool finally also, but this will take longer. Search "Lucan Pool Update March" for the latest information and analysis by myself and Cllr Helen Farrell, who has a long history of involvement in the swimming pool campaign.

**St Patrick's Day Parade:** Well done to the Parade Committee and all the participants; another fantastic event.

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## Political Notes Cont'd

### 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:** Last week, original Lucan Tram tracks were discovered under the road at St. Joseph's School. I requested their removal and storage, with the possibility of future display at Lucan House to celebrate Lucan's rich transport history. More on this, as I hear.

**Homeless Action Plan:** I attended a focus group on the Homeless Action Plan with other councillors. The Dublin Region Homeless Action Plan (DRHE) is drafting the plan 2025-2027, aiming to prevent and reduce homelessness, with a draft expected by April.

**Lucan's St. Patrick's Day Parade:** It was an honour to attend the parade and be part of the viewing stand along with fellow councillors and TD's. The energy of the children, teens, and adults involved was wonderful. Well done to all who contributed to this fantastic event for our community.

### Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independently Working For You – PC.

0872795274.

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

**Ramps-St. Finian's Estate:** Following my representations to the council, I am delighted to see that the ramps in St. Finian's Estate have finally been repaired. If you know of any areas in need of repair, please don't hesitate to contact me.

#### Community Recognition Funding Update:

I have been assisting local clubs with their Community Recognition Funding applications, and unfortunately, some have received news that they were unsuccessful. I have helped submit appeals for these groups and clubs and will continue working to ensure Lucan receives its fair share of funding.

**HRT Access for Women:** I will continue to raise the issue of women still not receiving the free HRT medication promised in Budget 2024. I will also be seeking reimbursement for those who have made payments since January 2025, ensuring that the commitment made is fully honoured.

*Happiness is when what you think,  
what you say, and what you do,  
are in harmony.  
Mahatma Gandhi.*



## Esker Celtic FC

You are invited to take this:

**Esker Celtic FC Club Development Survey 2025.** Esker Celtic FC is planning for the future, and we need your input!

We're asking players, parents, volunteers, and the wider community to take part in our Club Development Survey 2025. Your feedback will help shape the club's future and ensure better experiences for all.

The survey takes just 5 minutes to complete, and your responses will remain anonymous.



### Help us spread the word!

Please share this survey with teammates, friends, family, schools, and community groups—the more responses we get, the better!

Thank you for your time and support in shaping the future of #TeamEskerCeltic! 🏆❤️

## Lucan Library – March Events

### Events for Younger Children:

Storytime - Tuesdays at 3pm. All welcome!

**Lucan Library Classic Film Club:** Tuesday 25th March, 5.30pm. Register at Library Desk.

### Lucan Library Book Clubs:

Monday Lunchtime Book Club: Monday 31st

March, 12noon. Wednesday Book Club:

Wednesday 26th March, 7pm

Junior Book Club: Wednesday 26th March 3pm

**Lucan Library Knitters Club** - Every Monday 10am - 12noon - new member's welcome

**Lucan Library Creative Writers Group** - Thursdays 27th March, 10am – 12noon.



## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

Frances was out in Hillcrest and captured some of the participants in the Lucan St. Patrick's Day Parade on camera. There was a very interesting documentary on RTE 1 on the day about the saint. It appears that there were Christians in Ireland before the arrival of Patrick and that prior to Patrick's arrival Pope Celestine 1 had sent the Frenchman Palladius as bishop of the Christians of Ireland.



Turning to the present day, Brendan sent in a photo of the Hermitage Golf Club House taken from an unusual vantage point.

He treated us to a sunny March morning in St. Catherine's Park and also provided a closeup of Willow Catkins. Catkins have a very important role in spreading tree seeds, thereby allowing the tree to reproduce and show us that Spring is well and truly on the way.

Brendan also gave us a fascinating example of the refraction of light in photography. If you look closely at the raindrop in the photograph of daffodils you can see the reflection of a daffodil in it. Refraction is the bending of light as it passes from one transparent substance into another. Refraction also happens with sound, water, radio and other waves.



This bending by refraction makes it possible for us to have lenses, magnifying glasses, prisms and rainbows. Even our eyes depend upon this bending of light. Without refraction, we wouldn't be able to focus light onto our retina.

*Until next week stay safe!*