



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 10th May 2026

To thine own self, be true and the rest will happen!

I took part in Strictly Come Dancing some years ago sharing in a fund-raising venture. I never enjoyed dancing and always preferred to sit and listen to music or watch others dancing. I took part to support a charity and hoped that I might develop a passion for dancing with the benefit of good coaching. The wonderful coach started by trying to engage me and my unfortunate dance partner in a nicely choreographed waltz. As the weeks went on, and despite practicing many hours more than anyone else, the choreography was reduced to little more than a heavy plod matching the beat of the waltz music! I neither won (we came last) nor did I graduate with a new hobby!



I tell this true story at a time when young people are choosing courses of study or occupations as they graduate, and wondering what they might do! I've always been passionate about education, music, parish, catechetics, writing and leadership. My heart is alive when I think or engage in any of these things. I get inspired at many times, including during the night, and can engage without time being important.

I meet many people in Lucan who are very passionate about what they do, filled with creative energy and able to make positive impact on the lives of many. Look at the difference those with passion for gardening, music, theology, medicine, cooking, teaching, journalism, IT, etc make in the community and in the world! Heartfelt, gut passion has the energy to ensure that true talent, skills and interests will find a shape that fits well. A lukewarm interest in an activity or way of life falls limp and dies. Life is too short to live it without passion.

It's a true joy to engage in conversation with someone who is passionate about what they do. I've heard the passion of: a dietician who was excited to be part new discoveries re longevity; a musician who recently found a mode of music that married with the core of their being; a person of senior years who discovered their own artistic skills; an English graduate who found that acting in Greek plays was his at-home place...

The heartfelt choice or decision, tested by the gut, is life giving. We are made as God's co-creators so that we have the natural instinct to add something to the world from the heart. Discovery and use of our unique bundle of talents brings true joy and a sense of satisfaction. For those who have not yet found that which is fuelled by passion in life, keep looking, learning, talking...until you feel at home with who you are and what you do!

I'll never be a dancer because the skills are not among my bundle of gifts. Every practice felt like a chore and I watched the clock throughout. My tank of passion was empty to the point of bone dryness! Life is a series of beautiful adventures fuelled by the true passions and talents within. To thine own self, be true and the rest will happen!

*Cathy Burke,
Catechist in the Lucan Partnership of Parishes*

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

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



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

**Organ donor awareness week
runs from 16th to 23rd May 2026**

What is Carer's Allowance?

Carer's Allowance is a weekly social welfare payment to people who care for someone because of their: Age, Disability, or Illness (including mental illness).

To qualify for the payment, your income must be below a certain amount (more information is on our website.).

If you care for 2 or more people, your rate of Carer's Allowance is increased by 50% (maximum) each week.

If you get another social welfare payment, you may get half-rate Carer's Allowance.

Budget 2026

From July 2026, the weekly income disregard for Carer's Allowance will increase from €625 to €1,000 for a single person, and from €1,250 to €2,000 for a couple.

Carer's Support Grant

If you get Carer's Allowance, you automatically get Carer's Support Grant in June each year.

Other supports for carers

If you get Carer's Allowance, you can also get: GP visit card, Free Travel, Household Benefits Package (if you live with the person you care for),

Fuel Allowance (you need to meet the criteria for Fuel Allowance, including the Fuel Allowance means test)

Can I get Carer's Allowance?

You can get Carer's Allowance if you care full-time for someone who is:

Aged 16 or over, and who is so incapacitated that they need full-time care and attention for at least 12 months, or

Aged under 16, and for whom you get Domiciliary Care Allowance.

You can read 'What counts as full-time care' below:

As well as providing full-time care, you must:

Be aged 18 or over

Be habitually resident in Ireland

Not be employed, self-employed, doing voluntary work, training, or any education courses for more than 18.5 hours a week

Not live in a hospital, convalescent home, or a similar institution

Pass a means test

What counts as full-time care?

To get Carer's Allowance, you must care full-time for someone who is:

Aged 16 or over, and who is so incapacitated that they need full-time care and attention for at least 12 months, or

Aged under 16, and for whom you get Domiciliary Care Allowance.

Full-time care means:

You continuously supervise the person so they don't put themselves in danger, or

You continuously supervise and assist the person throughout the day with personal care (for example, helping them to eat, drink, get washed and dressed).

You must care for them at least 35 hours per week, over 5 to 7 days.

The Department of Social Protection (DSP) will decide if you are providing full time care.

Care-sharing

You can share your caring responsibilities with another carer, where you each care for the person on a part-time basis.

You both must provide care from Monday to Sunday, but on alternate weeks. By law, anyone providing full-time care on a part-time basis must do so for a complete week (Monday to Sunday).

You must meet all the usual qualifying conditions for Carer's Allowance.

In this case, you and the second carer share:

A single Carer's Allowance payment, and

The annual Carer's Support Grant.

You each get Free Travel.

Full information is available on our website.



A huge thank you to everyone who has supported us over the past number of weeks. It truly means so much.

We look forward to welcoming you all on the morning of May 9th. Please try to arrive early where possible gates open from 3am, and you will be guided through by our traffic management team.

We're delighted to have some amazing singers and an MC joining us on stage helping to create a special and meaningful atmosphere as we begin our walk together through St. Catherine's Park.

From all of us at Darkness Into Light Lucan thank you for being part of this journey.

If you need any further information, feel free to contact us on 087 279 5274

And great news the Lucan Village Green will be open with local cafés ready to welcome you after the walk.

Historical Tour of Lucan Demesne with SOL: history & stories



You can book your spot on the June 17th SOL volunteer historical guided tour of Lucan Demesne starting at 11am sharp, details here: with Guide Eugene McGrattan <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/1988787805864?aff=oddtcreator>

Access vis Gates on Lucan Rd (R835). (Opposite to Primrose Lane Lucan).



Lucan House and Grounds

Lucan House proper looks like it will be mostly closed to public access to the interior for the next few months, while SDCC work on essential repairs and conservation works. However, it has been extremely exciting that the public can now enjoy weekend access to the grounds of Lucan House, giving everyone a unique opportunity to experience this historic setting as a welcoming green space for park users.



The demesne will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 11am to 7pm including bank holiday Mondays, providing a new destination for walking, relaxation and outdoor enjoyment. Already there have been hundreds of happy visitors and people having picnics.

Access to Lucan House demesne will be via the Leixlip Road entrance, opposite Primrose Lane. Visitors are advised that there is no public parking available within the grounds. Paid on street parking is available in Lucan Village. Buses stop a 3 minute walk away.

Celebrating 35 Years
Conductor: Claire Condron
Celbridge Concert Orchestra
 Sunday 10th May 2026
 4pm
 Lucan Spa Hotel

Tickets €10
Concessions €5
Under 12's FREE
For tickets email: celbridgeconcertorchestra@gmail.com
Limited tickets at the door.

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com

Sunday Mass Times:

Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

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

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am.

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanparish.com



Best Wishes to the girls of
Scoil Mhuire G.N.S.
who will be receiving their
First Holy Communion this
Saturday 9th May.

Hope you all have a lovely day.

Please remember them in your prayers

Adoration:

Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am unless there's a funeral.

Confessions:

After 10am Mass on Thursdays and Saturdays (providing there is not a funeral). After Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

Christian Meditation:

We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow.

All welcome, Sr Geraldine

Baptisms in St Mary's:

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

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.

Bethany Bereavement Support Group:

Members of the Bethany Group are available to meet by appointment on the 2nd Monday (at 10.45am) and the 4th Thursday (at 8pm) each month, in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one, or a bereavement of any kind.

To make an appointment please contact the Parish Office by phone 01 621 7041 or email secretary@lucanparish.com

Divine Mercy Devotion:

Wednesdays, in the church after the 10am Mass and until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Chaplet to the Divine Mercy is prayed to atone for our sins and the sins of the whole world. With the Blessed Sacrament exposed on the altar we pray God to defeat evil in the world and bring peace in these troubled times.

Legion of Mary:

Meeting every Thursday 6.30pm in the Parish Bungalow for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

Rosary

The Rosary will be said at the Grotto outside the Church for the

month of May.
Monday to Friday at
6.30pm each evening.



Legion of Mary

Visits to the housebound:

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

Cuppa:

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



Medjugorje Mass

St Mary's Church, Lucan.

Monday 11th May.

Mass at 6.15pm.

(Rosary and Prayers 5.45pm)

All Welcome

St. Patrick's Esker/ Dodsboro/ Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie



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

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am.

Masses livestreamed at www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Adoration: Adoration is held every Saturday morning after the 10am Mass from 10.30am to 11.30am unless there's a funeral.

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

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

Tea/Coffee: Coffee Morning every Wednesday after the 10am Mass. Do drop in. *All welcome.*

Parish Pilgrimage to Knock On Saturday 30th May 2026

Bus leaves:

St. Joseph's Lay-by 8.15am
St. Patrick's Church, Esker 8.30am
The Statue at Dodsboro 8.45am

The cost is €30.

**To book your seat please
contact one of the following:**

Marie T. Anderson 087 2691786
Marie McBride 087 1226766.



Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

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

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

Masses livestreamed www.lucansouthparish.net

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

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

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration.

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle.

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

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of

Medjugorje: 7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions.

7.30pm: Holy Mass.

After Mass: Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction. **8.15pm** Adoration and Confessions **8.50pm** Benediction.

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 Communion at home from Fr. Aidan or a Minister of Holy Communion, please contact the Parish Office 01-4572900.

Divine Mercy Food Bank: Donations of **non-perishable food items** can be left in the green containers inside the doors of the church.

Wednesday tea/coffee morning: There's 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 for 7.30pm. *All welcome.*

QUOTE:

It's not the load that breaks you down.
It's the way you carry it.

From the Divine Word Missionaries Calendar.

Anniversary

Josie and Bill Mahady

38th Anniversary

Never forgotten.

Joe



Cemetery Sunday

Esker, Lucan

Mass for the Dead

Will be celebrated on

Sunday 30th August 2026

At 3pm

(Weather permitting)



Anam Cara,

the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent Support Evening on **Monday 11th May** 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

OUR NEXT ONLINE

Bereavement Information Evening for bereaved parents. All Anam Cara events are free and open to parents whose child or children have died, regardless of the age of their child, circumstances of their death, or time since bereavement.

This event will take place online on **Tuesday 19th May at 7pm.**

Our professional speaker this month is Niamh Finucane. Niamh is a Principal Social Worker with St Francis Hospice, working as the Bereavement Co-ordinator. She has worked in palliative care and bereavement for the past 20 years, supporting patients and their families navigate illness, and loss. She has extensive clinical experience working with and supporting families after the death of a loved one. Using the national framework the Adult Bereavement Care Pyramid, Anam Cara qualifies as a Level 2 support. Many people who experience the death of a loved one, even a complex death like that of a child, will only require the crucial foundation of community supports, such as those offered by your parish or church. Sometimes, community leaders and members may feel they don't know the right thing to say to grieving families, or they are still worried about a parent even after offering help. This is where Anam Cara can come in as a supplement, not replacement, to the incredible care you provide as a community.

To find out more about the services we offer please email us at info@anamcara.ie or call 085 288 8888.

BE STRONG IN THE LORD!
HLI IRELAND MISSION NIGHT

100 YEARS OF FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING!
VENERATE RELICS OF ST THERESE & THE HOLY FACE OF JESUS

100 YEARS OF ST THERESE'S CANONISATION!

JOIN HLI IRELAND'S MISSION!
TO MAKE JESUS CHRIST KING OF OUR HEARTS
**ST PATRICK'S CHURCH
GORDUFF, BLANCHARDSTOWN!**
WEDNESDAY 27TH MAY, 7PM

Human Life International (Ireland), Goodhope Centre, Main Street, Eneagh, Co. Mayo, F21 K70X, Ireland
Tel. No.: 094 937 0985 Mob. No.: 085 946 8833 Web: www.humanlife.ie Email: info@humanlife.ie
Charity Reg. No.: 20029004 Charity No.: CHV 0558 Company Reg. No.: 214475

Epilepsy Ireland
#EpilepsyWeek
May 18th - May 24th

For further information, please visit www.epilepsy.ie/content/national-epilepsy-week-2026-epilepsyweek

Lucan Drama

Written and directed by Lucan Drama's Graham Donlon "Dubs in Space" is a sci-fi comedy which will receive its world premiere during our upcoming evening of One Acts.



In the year 2100, the Irish Space Ship "Jonathan Swift" is on its way to Pluto when Captain Vinny Murphy obeys his AI at the very worst moment. It's up to Commander Sally Rider and the android Lieutenant Bleep Blorp, as well as the good people in Mission Control in Lucan, to save the day!

Tickets will be available soon.

Lucan Drama - Bringing Drama to your Doorstep.

Lucan Dementia Café

Saturday:

May 9th, 2026 (later start),

2.30pm – 5.30pm

St Marys Parish Centre, Lucan



Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

We finished our Chair Yoga last week, which the members had enjoyed and we hope to do more in the future. Last week we started Table Tennis and had the usual Bowls, Scrabble and Whist Card Game.

Our visit to the Dáil has been confirmed and we will be going there this month. We are planning to have a Cruise on the Shannon, and a trip to Kellys in Rosslare over the Summer.

Meanwhile some members are planning a Cruise to the Mediterranean with the option of finishing the holiday with a week's holiday at a luxury hotel in Majorca in Autumn.

We are closing for Summer Holidays on 25th June and hope everyone has a great Summer. We will be back on 10th September.

Most importantly we have Coffee & Cake at 1pm. We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30 am.

New members always welcome.



We hope all enjoyed being around the village last weekend, between the newly opened Village Green, and our *Parc Italiano* at Lucan House. It was lovely to see so many young people taking in the latter!

There will be plenty of opportunity to see the immediate grounds of Lucan House over the coming months, so put it on your 'to do' list!

SOL: We might mention here, that we've plenty of items for publication from SOL – our local history group, and will carry them as soon as space permits.

The beautiful weather last weekend left us with no shortage of places to explore in the area. One such was Castletown Park in Celbridge, where the fields of Rapeseed were like fields of big sunshines!



Closer to home, we admired the work of our local Tidy Towns Group, and marvelled at their cleverness in sowing particular shrubs that are still around year after year. One such plant is a heavily laden blue bush at the Lucan end of Tesco footbridge – a sight to behold!



They are also responsible for beautiful flower beds all over Lucan – Well done to all!

Our Village 'Green'!

What do our Readers think?

Some of our team visited the newly opened site on Saturday last, and were pleasantly surprised by the lovely atmosphere, helped in no small way by the brilliant sunshine on the morning.

After a stroll around, we took a coffee break at one of the tables, and watched locals, young and old, take it all in.

People were happy and kids excited, feeding the ducks, and generally running around, climbing up and down steps / seating.

That's when the older, sensible person comes out in one! We knew the site had been power-washed the previous day, but those ducks are not fussy about keeping the place clean, regardless of who is visiting, and it seems that dogs were not bothered either!



It would not have been a good day for the Tidy Towns Judges to visit Lucan! We wonder how cleanliness at the site will be maintained, as apart from the ducks and dogs, there were pieces of food and spilled drinks all over the place. One had to be careful before sitting in the new 'amphitheatre'..... Not a good look!

We counted 3 bins, which were overflowing each time we visited. Why not put the new solar bins on site, given the density of people here?

We did our best to be positive, but had to look away from children bounding over the concrete structures - maybe we're just getting too old for such a new creation in our village. We hanker after the days we brought our own kids down to run and tumble around on the grass, and even to our own time as children when we climbed into the

Griffeen in our wellies, trying to catch pinkeens in jam jars...



It's not quite what we were sold!



Above is a section from the architect's sketch, showing what we believe to be a nice stretch of grass, and a 'bandstand' with **NO RED ROOF!**

When did the red roof come into the plans? It looks hideous!

When entering the village from the Lock (Adamstown) Road, all one can see is this great big red dome! Where does this fit in with heritage etc....

The grass (*below left*) to say the least is very disappointing – when we expect grass to be soft, and able to cushion the tumbles and falls of small children, of whom there were dozens around.

Hopefully, over time when plants have matured, it will be easier on the eye – it would seem there's no going back at this stage, but things can be done to improve what we're left with now!

L.N.T.



St. Joseph's College

Cooking Demonstration: Last week our TY Event Management and Home Economics Department collaborated in hosting a free cooking demonstration by Thermomix. It was an excellent evening with plenty of delicious food all made using the Thermomix. Thank you to everyone who attended the event. Our TY's are currently learning the importance of nutrition with our Future Leaders programme so it was great for them to get some tips on delicious nutritious meals.



North Leinster Athletics: Well done to all who participated in the North Leinster Athletic competition in Santry last week. Congratulations to our medal winners and to all who took part in the various sports. St Joseph's College was very well represented at this event. Medal winners on Monday 27th April were Julie Heynen, Anna Kilkullen, Ellen Kenny and Rachel Doyle. Medal winners on Wednesday 29th were Lucy Cassidy, Ana Jones and Holly Whelan.

Sports Day: Last Thursday the whole school made its way over to Lucan Harriers Athletics Club and Weston Hockey Club for our annual sports day. The atmosphere on the day was fantastic with students participating in a wide variety of track and field events, tag rugby, tug of war, hockey and rounders. Many thanks to Ms. Borza for organising the BBQ on the day and to the entire PE department for all the planning and hard work that goes into facilitating and organising such a big event for over 900 students.

Joey's Splashers: Seventeen TY students 'Joey's Splashers' took to the River Barrow as part of the Athy Dragon Boat Regatta, competing in the U18 Category against the Carlow Juniors and the Barrow Dragons. There were 21 Teams taking part in total and the students had a great day on the water!

Despite not setting foot in the Dragon Boat before, the students had practiced in their positions to perfect their team work and synchronised strokes! With great help from the Dragon Boat organising team, the students improved greatly from Race 1 to Race 2 and 3. They completed the 200m in 1 Min 53 seconds in Round 1 and reduced it to 1 Min 41 seconds by Round 3.

The Dragon Boat Teams come from all over Ireland. Many of the teams that take part are Breast Cancer Survivors. The students were initially due to take part in the Regatta in September but it had to be postponed until now. In September, 'Joey's Splashers' held a Bake Sale for Breast Cancer Ireland, raising €575.20 at the time!

Joey's Splashers team were delighted to come home with a Bronze Medal each for their 3rd place finish!! Thank you to Katherine Gibbons & family for supporting the team from the sidelines.



Minor Camogie: Hard luck to our minor camogie team who were beaten in their championship final on Tuesday afternoon. They played brilliantly all throughout the year and again in the final. Despite leading at half time the team ultimately came up short in the final against Manor House, Raheny. The good news is that this is a young team and many of them are underage again next year and we are hoping that this years experience will stand to them next year. Best of luck to all our students and their clubs in the upcoming Feile competitions.

Coláiste Phádraigh

Athletics: The arrival of the warmer spring weather traditionally heralds the start of the Post-Primary Schools Athletics season, and our school has once again been making waves on the track. This year, we proudly entered a strong team of 32 students, from all the different year groups, in the West Leinster Schools Track and Field Championships, held over two exciting days last week at the National Athletics Stadium in Santry Demesne.

The highlight of the championships came in the Senior Boys 200m final, where 6th yr James Dunne delivered a superb performance to qualify for the Leinster Finals, to be held next month. The majority of our athletes competed in track events, and each one represented the school with pride, determination, and sportsmanship. The level of competition was exceptionally high, but our students rose to the challenge and performed admirably throughout. Our relay teams narrowly missed out on qualifying for the Leinster finals. We extend our congratulations to all athletes who took part and we wish James the very best in the Leinster Final.

Transition Year: Our TY students have been taking driving lessons in the school yard over the past few weeks. Under the patient guidance of instructors from Airport Driving School, students have been introduced to the essential skills required to drive safely and responsibly. They learned how to carry out basic safety checks, including inspecting brake fluid, adjusting the driver's seat, fastening seatbelts, and checking mirrors. The instructors also demonstrated how to start and stop the engine, select gears, and control the car smoothly.

Once comfortable, students had the opportunity to put these skills into practice. At a very controlled and slow pace, they practiced steering, turning, braking, and even parking around the school yard. Not only did the students enjoy the thrill of driving, but they also gained a strong awareness of road safety and responsibility.

Four new benches were professionally installed on the school grounds last week, marking a significant enhancement to the outdoor space between the main building and the modular classrooms. Overlooking the wide open GAA and soccer pitches, these benches have quickly become a popular focal point for both students and staff. In the fine spring weather, teachers have already taken the opportunity to bring their classes outdoors, making use of the seating for group work, pair activities, and more relaxed

learning experiences. The benches can accommodate up to 30 students, creating an ideal environment for collaborative work.

Building on this development, Transition Year DIY students took on the challenge this week of constructing two additional benches for the Memorial Garden. Under the guidance of Mr. Todd, students worked in small groups to assemble the benches, carefully following instructions to ensure each structure was safe and sturdy. They also sanded down the wooden surfaces, demonstrating attention to detail and pride in their work.

This hands-on project provided TY students with valuable practical skills while also giving them the satisfaction of contributing to the school environment. The newly completed benches in the Memorial Garden will offer a calm and reflective space, further enhancing this special area.

A sincere thank you to the Parents Association for funding these benches. With more developments planned, these improved outdoor spaces will continue to benefit the entire school community for years to come.



Chess: The Chess Club Finals concluded in Room 1 after months of competition, featuring four finalists: Alex Keogh, Sean O'Brien, Marshwin Thomas, and Harry Burke. Each played three matches in a tightly contested round-robin. Early wins for Alex and Sean set the tone, but Marshwin's resilience kept him in contention. A dramatic final round saw Marshwin defeat Sean, forcing a tie-break. In a high-quality decider, Marshwin's superior endgame play secured victory and the title of School Chess Grandmaster 2026. Sean finished runner-up, Alex placed third, and Harry fourth. Congratulations to all players and to Mr. Jose for organising a highly successful competition.

Lucan Community College

Chess Tournament: Well done to the school Lucan CC chess team who came runners-up in the DDLETB Inter-schools chess tournament on Friday, a great achievement competing against 10 schools from around the Dublin area.



West Leinster Track & Field: Well done to all of our students who proudly represented the school at the West Leinster Track & Field event in Santry last week. A special congratulations to Conal Fitzgerald, Ferdia McDonagh & Charlie Bermingham, who have all qualified for the Leinster's in Tullamore - a fantastic achievement! It's always a great event that our students thoroughly enjoy. Well done to everyone involved!



Chess Tournament: Congratulations to Julie, Moria, Conor and Raghad who qualified for and participated in the National Microsoft Specialist Finals at Microsoft Dreamspace last week, where they competed with students from all over Ireland. What a fantastic achievement - Well done! Thanks to Billy and Prodigy Learning for organising such a positive event.



Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 13th May: Social Morning in St. Mary's Parish Centre, 10.30am – 2.30pm.




Olivia Merriman Founder of the

Living With Ambiguous Loss Circle

Finding Comfort & Connection Through Grief

A Supportive Space for Those Experiencing Ambiguous Loss

- A loved one with dementia or serious illness
- Addiction
- Estrangement from family (often families become distant or disconnected)
- Missing loved ones
- Separation, Divorce & Complicated Relationships



Join Us at Lucan Library
You Are Not Alone

Wednesday 13th May 2026
5:45PM - 7:45PM

Every second Wednesday of each month

For more information contact
Olivia Merriman 089 4650669
livingwithlosscircle@gmail.com

Lucan Library – May Events



Bealtaine Events

Eventbrite will open exactly a week before the event at the same time as the event starts.

Tuesday 12th May at 6pm: Transformative Power of Perimenopause and Menopause, talk by Siobhán Daffy.



Thursday 14th May at 2pm: Bealtaine Table Quiz. Come test your knowledge at our Quiz! Book in with Geraldine at the library desk.

Thursday 14th May at 6pm: Hormones and Harmony -What's it fogging all about. This very popular informative workshop is suitable for perimenopausal, menopausal & post-menopausal women. Men are also encouraged to attend.

Saturday 23rd May: Record Fair taking place all day. All Welcome.

Friday 15th May. Eco-Friendly Puzzle Swap Time changed to 12-2pm. All welcome



Tuesday 19th 5pm. STEAM Session: Make up a story with Lego! Build each scene to tell your tale. Let your imagination run wild! (Ages 6+)

Booking on Eventbrite.

ADULT EVENTS

No booking is required for the below events – all are welcome to attend!



Monday 11th May at 6.30pm: Adult Chess Club - all levels welcome, even complete beginners, meets once monthly.

Every Monday 10am - 12noon - Lucan Library Knitters Club, new members welcome.

Thursdays 14th and 28th May from 10am – 12pm: **Lucan Library Creative Writers Group.** New members welcome.

Saturday 16th May, 12pm – 1.45pm. **“What’s the Story” Writing Club!** A Short Story Writer Club for Storytellers! Share 5-min tales, tackle a live prompt challenge, and creatively collaborate. Adults welcome! Booking via Creative Socials on Eventbrite.ie.

Lucan Library Classic Film Club.

Tuesday 26th May from 5.30. All welcome.

Saturday 23rd 2pm - Ann Tuite and the Heavenly Harpers. All welcome
Additional Adult Events



New: Irish Sign Language Conversation

Circle: Drop in from 6.00pm -7.00pm on **20th of May.** Building from our recent ISL classes, you are invited to come along for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat using ISL!

Living with Ambiguous Loss – Support Circle starts on Wednesday, **13th May**, from 5:45 pm to 7:45 pm, and will continue the second Wednesday of each month thereafter. A gentle peer support group for people experiencing ambiguous loss, such as when a loved one is physically present but psychologically absent. The group will offer a safe, supportive space for people experiencing grief or ambiguous loss.

Wednesday the 13th May 11:30am **Biodiversity Talk.** All welcome

BOOK CLUBS

Enquire at the desk about joining one of our book clubs - new members welcome!

Monday Lunchtime Book Club: **Monday 25th May at 12noon.**

Wednesday Book Club: **Wednesday 27th May at 7.00pm**



Read and Eat Cookbook Club:
Thursday 21st May at 12pm.

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Please book events on Lucan Library/Eventbrite

Events for Younger Children:

Friday 15th of May at 10.00am: Cuidiú Breastfeeding Group meets twice monthly. No need to book.

Wednesday 13th May 10am Reflexology for Babies and Parents.

Every Monday at 3pm: Storytime. Stories in English and Irish with a small arts and craft included! Please book your space on Eventbrite.

Saturday 16th May at 2:30pm Bee Anatomy in this workshop children will learn about Bee anatomy and will make an anatomically correct Bee cookie. Suitable for ages 5 and over.

Thursday 21st May, 3.30pm – 4.30pm Art and Creativity with Elena for 9–12-year-olds. A fun arts and crafts session for 9–12-year-olds.

May Exhibition:

History of the Census 5th - 31st May

QUIZ NIGHT

in aid of

nagarhope

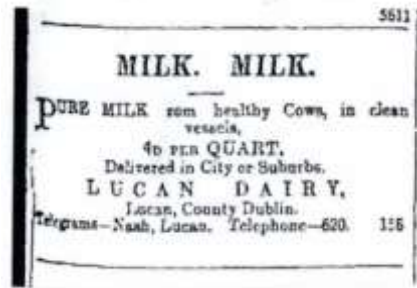
assisting Nagarhope Basic School construct 5 classrooms

Friday 8th May 2026 @ 8pm in Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club

€40 table of 4

Giving a future to children in Nepal

LUCAN FESTIVAL



Milk delivered to your doorstep in 1893 (133 years ago), and from Lucan itself.

The above ad appeared in the Evening Herald on 23rd June 1893.

Telegrams to Nash who was living in Finnstown House, and had a telephone as well.

[Learn all about him and Lucan Dairies in September during the Festival.](#)

ACRE project A COMMUNITY RETHINKING ITS ENVIRONMENT

Salesian College, Maynooth Rd, Celbridge
info@acreproject.com

THE ACRE PROJECT ANNUAL SUMMER FUNDRAISER

Plant Sale

Saturday & Sunday
 May 16-17 2026 • 10-5pm

Plant Sale • Bake Fair • Cookery Demos

Benefits of No Mow May

1. Supports Pollinators
2. Enhances Biodiversity
3. Provides Habitat
4. Reduces Environmental Impact
5. Supports Local Wildlife
6. It's Accessible

Carers & Toddlers Group

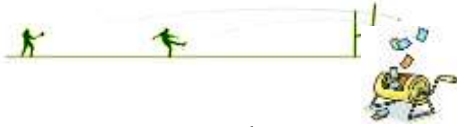
Thursdays,
 in St. Mary's Parish
 Centre, from 9.30 to
 11.30am.



All Welcome!



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Lotto

We had no winner of Thursday 30th April lotto jackpot of €11,000. The numbers drawn were **15, 17, 18 & 226. Lucky dip's** go to Gerry McAndrew, Maryanne Ryan, Fiachra McGrath, Hickey Family, Laura Clarke This week's Lotto on Thursday 7th May will be for a jackpot of



€11,400. This draw is sponsored by Newcastle Golf Centre and will be led by Gerry McAndrew. Please scan attached QR Code to see details and register to play.

Lucan Sarsfields Golf Classic

Our Golf Classic is officially sold out! A huge thanks to everyone who entered — 64 teams are now set for what promises to be a brilliant day on the course!

We're creating a waiting list for any additional entries. Want your name on the course without swinging a club? Sponsor a tee box for €100 or two for €150 and join those club members who have been longtime supporters of our Golf Classic fundraiser

If any members or local businesses would like to get involved in sponsoring the Classic in any way, please get in touch with a member of the committee.

A special thank-you to our main Golf Classic sponsor – Colm Corrigan Builders for their fantastic support. This event is the Club's main fundraiser for 2026, and your support makes all the difference! Sara Hickey 086-8187070, Maggie Mulqueen 087-2866581, Ruth Langton 086-823 1139, Darren Lancaster 087-2134598.



Mini All Ireland Series

We are delighted to announce that registration has now gone live for our Mini All Ireland Series. All Lead mentors will have received an email with the registration link. Please have this completed and returned by the 15th May 2026.

We look forward to a fun week in the 12th lock with great skills on display from various age groups.

Academy

Our academy is back and is open to all boys and girls aged between 4-7. The academy runs every Saturday – no need to sign up in advance, just turn up and give it a try.

Age group times are as follows; 2021/2022 - 9am, 2020 – 10am and 2019 – 11am.

Feile

This weekend 9th May, we have three teams in Feile action across Dublin. We have games in Raheny, Clontarf and we proudly host the Division 10 group games and finals at the 12th Lock. Keep an eye on our socials for throw in times later in the week!!

Let's get a big crowd out to support the girls, soak up the atmosphere, and cheer on our teams on what promises to be a brilliant weekend of camogie.

Summer Camps

Our club summer camps are filling up fast, let's not leave it till the last minute and book your spot before it's too late!!!

Cul Camps are fully sold out!!

Dublin Camogie

Huge congratulations to Erin Hynes and Issy Johns who were part of the Dublin U17 Camogie Development panel that captured the All-Ireland title with a fantastic win over Limerick last Saturday in St Peregrines An incredible achievement for both players, their families, and everyone involved with the team. It's a proud moment for the club to see our players performing and succeeding on the biggest stage.

Well done Erin, Issy, and all the Dublin panel on a brilliant All-Ireland victory!



Darkness Into Light

Lucan Sarsfields are proud to support Pieta's Darkness Into Light on Saturday, May 9th at St. Catherine's Park. The walk begins at 4:15am Many people take part as a group — from sports teams, schools, workplaces and families, and we'd encourage as many of our members and supporters as possible to get involved.

Every day may not be good... but there's something good in every day.

*Alice Morse Earle
American Historian*

POLITICAL NOTES

Shane Moynihan - TD – Fianna Fáil

Email: shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie

Phone: 01-6184128. Find me on Facebook,

Instagram, X and TikTok.

Working with Cllr Tanya McDonald

New Gardaí:

I welcome the deployment of 33 additional Gardaí to our constituency, of which 15 will be assigned to Lucan and Ronanstown stations which will enable more high visibility policing in our area, including Lucan village and parks. I am also pleased to see Operation Irene underway which is ensuring high Garda visibility in our parks.

DART+ SouthWest:

Last week in the Dáil, the Minister told me that he believed DART+ Southwest can be brought forward to 2028. I have been working on making the case for bringing it forward for some time. I will continue doing so, ensuring all the necessary building blocks are in place.

Clinic:

My next Lucan clinic takes place in Ballyowen Community Centre on Monday 11 May at 1pm. Bileoga dátheangacha: Tá mo nuachtlitir is déanaí ar fáil go dátheangach.

Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd

Emer.Higgins@oireachtas.ie

Lucan Garda Station:

Welcoming news for Lucan Garda Station, which is set to receive 7 additional probationary Gardaí boosting local policing, visibility, and community support.

Lucan Men's Shed:

Delighted that Lucan men's shed received €1,652.95 over the past few months from the Department of Rural and Community Development. It provides a vital service enabling men to come together in a safe and inclusive environment where they can share skills, connect with one another and locally.

Griffeen Community College:

I was pleased to welcome Griffeen Community College students into Leinster House this week. It was a great opportunity to discuss our political system in practice, explore Ireland's legislative process, and answer thoughtful questions from the students.

Lucan Pool:

Lucan pool is officially open! I hope Lucan residents enjoy this fantastic new facility, and all that Aura Leisure Centre has to offer.

Cllr. Caroline Brady - Fine Gael Peace Commissioner

(085)2551602

CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie

Local Community Safety Partnership Meeting (LCSP):

A public meeting of the South Dublin LCSP will take place next Thursday 14th May at 7.30pm in Tallaght Stadium. This is an opportunity for you to raise local safety concerns directly and help shape priorities for our community. Feedback will inform our three-year Community Safety Plan. Register to attend on Eventbrite – search “LCSP”.

Sports Pavilion – Griffeen Valley Park:

Works are progressing well at Griffeen Valley Park as part of SDCC's pavilion programme to deliver modern changing room facilities for local sports groups and park users. The pavilion at Griffeen, is now scheduled for delivery in May 2026, following delays due to challenging weather conditions earlier in the programme. Delivery of the remaining locations will progress after completion of the two initial sites (Griffeen & Corkagh).

Cllr. Helen Farrell, Independent Peace Commissioner

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD

hfarrell@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

087 2794936. www.helenfarrell.com

Facebook: bit.ly/4jHwrJR

Thank you to the Lucan Village traders who attended my Business Meeting, Wed 6 May. It was a strong turnout, with valuable engagement from attendees.



Many thanks to Danny Kenny for his hospitality in hosting the meeting at Kenny's Pub and co-chairing. Lawrence and Chloe from SDCC's Economic Development team are now reviewing the feedback received. If you are a Lucan village business, add your feedback now to my survey (open until Tuesday 12 May 2026 – see QR code).

This data will help shape the targeted promotional campaign by SDCC to support Lucan businesses, focusing on increasing footfall and boosting sales. It will also inform the background to my upcoming motion calling for temporary rates credit of 30% for 2026, applied retrospectively for village traders adversely affected by the prolonged works.

Political Notes continued over...

Cllr. Tanya McDonald

Ph: 083 1221069

Email: tmcdonald@cllr.sdublincoco.ie

Find me on: Facebook and Instagram

Working with Shane Moynihan TD.

In the recent Area Committee meeting I raised a motion asking the Manager to review the boundary wall between Foxborough and the R136, and to bring forward proposals and a timeline to complete it with a suitable finish, in line with other estates bordering the R136.

I also requested a letter be written to the ESB, asking them to carry out a thorough clean of ESB owned land opposite Kishoge Community College, and to secure the site to prevent further illegal dumping in this area.



Finally, I have received confirmation from the council that the yellow box will be re-instated at exit point of The Oaks, Abbeydale estate, following my recent representation.

Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent

0872795274. lotoole@cllr.sdublincoco.ie

www.lotoole.com

Remember I'm always just a message away!

 **Darkness Into Light Lucan** . There is still time to register for the walk taking place on Saturday 9 May at 4:15am in St. Catherine's Park. A huge thank you to everyone who has supported this incredible cause through registrations, sponsorship, volunteering, donations and sharing the message of hope throughout our community. We look forward to welcoming everyone on the morning. Following the walk participants can enjoy a coffee in Lucan Village with Babble opening from 6:30am while Cora and Artisan Pantry Lucan will open from 5am.

Lucan Pool/Village Green: It has also been wonderful seeing so many people enjoying the reopened Lucan Village Green and Opening of Lucan pool. I have raised additional parking concerns at the pool and will continue campaigning for mature trees to be reinstated at the Village Green.



Parking in Lucan

Now that the long road works have come to an end. It is time to finally sort out the parking in Lucan Village for the sake of the traders and Lucan residents. The planners want less parking in the village but do nothing about all the through traffic that is using the village as a short cut. There are two types of parking, business parking and for tourists. Parking in embassy ground mainly for visitors. Now we proposed extra parking for business and short time usage. The bus lane opposite the Ball Alley down to the AIB bank can now be used for car parking spaces during the day. This space is available after 9. 30 when the bus lane ends. This area can cater for up to fifty additional parking spaces, creating many more with the 30-minute free limit. Inside the embassy wall ideal and safe for cycling. This is a great opportunity to put Lucan on the right parking track.

Tom Newton 086 3127364

Lucan Planning Council

Castletown House – Celbridge

May 2026

Key Events at Castletown House (May 2026)

- May 13th (6.00 am)
Dawn Chorus with Birdwatch Ireland
- May 16th (Dusk)
Dusk Chorus with Birdwatch Ireland
- May 20th Irish
Wolfhound Club
Championships



Cultural and Educational Programme (via Heritage Ireland)

- The House of Guinness Talk: A focus on local history
- The Painted Decorations in the Long Gallery: Expect talks on the house's art
- Musical Performances: including the Royal Irish Academy of Music and Beartha Ó Flatharta Céili Band
- Outdoor Sculpture Tour: Available throughout the month



St. Mary's Camera Soirée

This week we have another photograph of Reginald's Tower in Waterford taken by Joe. This one has a replica Viking longship exhibited beside the tower and reminds me that 2026 marks the 50th anniversary of Tim Severin's Voyage of the Brendan Boat. In 1976/77 the British explorer, with a group of fellow explorers sailed from Brandon Creek in Dingle to Newfoundland in a leather boat, proving that early Irish monks, such as St. Brendan, *could* have reached the New World nearly 1,000 years before Columbus. The boat is on display at Craggaunowen Castle, near the village of Kilmurry in Co. Clare.



Joe also sent in some photos of partridges in St. Edmundsbury. According to Greek legend, the first partridge appeared when Daedalus threw his apprentice, Talos, off the sacred hill of Athena in a fit of jealous rage.

Supposedly mindful of his fall, the bird nests on the ground and does not take lofty flights.

He also found an Orange Tip butterfly. The male butterfly is the one with the orange tips on its wings.



Josie was in Seville and sent us a photograph of the magnificent Plaza de España built to showcase Spain's industry and technology exhibits when Seville hosted the Ibero-American Exposition World's Fair in 1929. The plaza chronicles each of the regions of Spain in ceramic provincial alcoves and benches and today the buildings have been renovated and adapted for use as offices for government agencies.



Stay safe until next week!