



LUCAN NEWSLETTER



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 24th December 2023

Christmas – A time to count our Blessings

Our small Island nation ranks highly on the list of wealthy nations in the world.

We have much to be grateful for, and have been blessed in very many ways. Although our society is far from perfect, and there remain imbalances and injustices that need to be radically addressed; by comparison with many places it seems that we are heading constantly in the right direction. We have known our days of oppression and deep seated conflict, but thankfully we are at a time in our history when ways of peace prevail, and dialogue is seen as the way forward. This is a dialogue based on mutual respect and recognition; to some large extent we have moved on from the ‘them and us’ mentality, and are prepared to see one another as equals. The journey continues, and we have a distance yet to travel.



Our society has been greatly enriched in recent years by the growing diversity of cultures and nationalities that now make their home in Ireland, and they bring with them so much that we can learn from. Indeed their contribution to the christian churches, of all traditions, is something that is bringing new vibrancy among us.

Christmas is a celebration of our God, the God who reaches out to us in the vulnerability of a new born child. His reaching out to us, is a reaching out in love, and he desires only that we know that and return that love. May Christmas 2023 be a time when his reaching out touches all of our hearts. May the blessings of Christmas be with you and yours.

Philip Curran

St. Mary's & St. Patrick's Lucan.

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



Christmas and New Year arrangements

Our office will be **closed from Friday 22nd December to Monday 1st January 2024** and we will reopen on **Tuesday 1st January 2024** at 10 am.

Citizens Information Phone Service (CIPS)

0818 07 4000 – Christmas holiday opening hours: CIPS will be open as usual up to Thursday 21/12/23

Friday 22/12/23 – 9 am to 5 pm

Closed on 25, 26 and 27 December.

Thursday 28/12/23 and Friday 29/12/23 – open from 9 am to 5pm

Closed on Monday 1 January 2024 and normal hours will resume on Tuesday 2 January 2024

Support Groups

Childline – free phone 1800 666 666 – 245 hour www.childline.ie

Parentline.ie – tel 01 8733500, Monday to Thursday 10 am to 9 pm, Friday 10 am to 7 pm

Seniorline - 1800 80 45 91, 10 am to 10 pm, 365 days a year

AA – www.alcoholicsanonymous.ie tel, 01 8420700

Gamblers Anonymous – tel 01 8721133, 087 – 2622804 10 am to 10 pm.

Jigsaw.ie - supporting young people's health from age 12 to 25.

Treoir – Informing unmarried parents – phone 01 6700120 - Monday to Friday 10am to 4 pm, email info@treoir.ie

Treoir supports parents who aren't married to each other.

NB – check the website for Christmas opening hours

Public Holidays

There are 10 public holidays in Ireland each year (increased from 9 in 2022). Public holidays may commemorate a special day or other event, for example, Saint Patrick's Day (17 March) or Christmas Day (25 December).

From 2023, there is a new annual public holiday in early February to mark St Brigid's Day. The public holiday is the first Monday in February,

except where St Brigid's day (1 February) happens to fall on a Friday, in which case that Friday 1 February will be a public holiday.

On a public holiday, sometimes called a bank holiday, most businesses and schools close. Other services (for example, public transport) still operate but often have restricted schedules.

Upcoming public holidays: Christmas 2023
Christmas Day, Monday 25 December 2023
Saint Stephen's Day, Tuesday 26 December 2023
New Year's Day, Monday 1 January 2024

When a public holiday falls on a day which is not your 'normal working day', you are still entitled to benefit for that public holiday.

For example, you may get an extra day of annual leave, or an additional day's pay, or a paid day off within a month of the public holiday. However, you do not have any automatic legal entitlement to have the next working day off work. See 'Public holidays and your entitlements' on our website.



MERRY Christmas AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Lucan Library will close on Friday 22 Dec at 4.30 and will reopen on Tuesday 2 Jan at 9.45.

Lucan Senior Citizens

Wishing all our members a Happy and Peaceful Christmas, and looking forward to seeing everyone in 2024.



Greetings from all at Lucan Newsletter

We wish all our readers at home and abroad a very happy Christmas, and a peaceful and very healthy 2024.



We thank all our readers, and those who contribute to the weekly edition.

Thank you to our **Sales Outlets** and **Advertisers** - we ask all to do your best to support local businesses!

Big thank you to our very reliable **Collation Team** who also distribute the publication each week. Thanks also to **Christy Gannon** who make sure we have our paper in time every week.

Thanks also to all who sent us Christmas Greetings, and passed on many nice compliments about our publication. Hope Santa brings you everything on your lists!

We look forward to hearing regularly from all our local clubs and organisations, in 2024, which hopefully will be a good year for all.

The first issue of Lucan Newsletter for 2024 will be for Sunday 14th January.

All items for inclusion should be at the usual addresses not later than 10pm, **Wednesday 10th January 2024.**

Lucan Newsletter Team

ANNUAL CURRAGH DOG WALK Sunday 31 December on the race course at 12noon

Please join us- even if you don't have a dog!

A lovely way to end 2023, we meet opposite race course entrance.

Proceeds in aid of Kildare Animal Foundation.

ALL dogs must be on leads



Happy Birthday to Chloe



who celebrates her 21st Birthday on St Stephen's Day.
Lots of love Nanny and Granddad Cummins

Lucan Lions

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Manager Ger Joyce, Laura, Adrienne and all of the SuperValu staff for their help in the Lions Club activities in SuperValu Lucan in recent weeks. As a result of the proceeds from these initiatives, the Lucan Lions Club has been in a position to assist a range of charitable activities and causes in the Community for Christmas.



Needless to say we are most grateful to the ever generous SuperValu customers who have enabled us to make this meaningful contribution to the community. Your ongoing support enables us to continue our charitable activities.

We would also like to sincerely thank all our Lions Club members and those non Lions Club members who helped sell tickets for the Luxury Raffle.

The proceeds from the Luxury Hamper Raffle, sponsored by SuperValu, the €2 Till donation and the Christmas Food Appeal will be of substantial benefit to the worthy causes we support.

The winners of the Luxury Hamper Raffle are as follows:

€100 Hampers: Pat McManus, Noleen Armstrong, Gretta McManus, Marian Hand.
€50 Hampers: Karl Goodwin, Helen Farrell.

Wishing all our supporters a Happy Christmas and we look forward to ongoing interactions during 2024.

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to all of the Newsletter crew for publicising the Lions Club activities throughout the year. Happy Christmas to you all.

Mattie McCabe, PRO

OÍCHE NOLLAIG

Don't blow the tall white candle out
But leave it burning bright
To show that they are welcome
here

This holy Christmas night.
Keep the door upon the latch
And leave the fire to keep
And pray that they will stay with us
When all the world's asleep.

Mairtín O'Doireáin, Aran Islands



Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Confessions for Christmas:

Saturday 23rd December: 10.30am – 12noon
and 2pm to 4pm

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve: Sunday 24th December

Sunday normal morning Masses 10.30am and 12 noon.

6pm: Children's Vigil Mass with Blessing of Crib.

8pm: Vigil Mass

10pm: Vigil Mass

(Please note there is **NO** Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve)

Christmas Day: Monday 25th December

9am, 10.30am and 12 noon

There will be **NO** evening Mass on Christmas Day

Tuesday 26th to Friday 29th December

11am Daily Mass in place of 10am

Saturday 30th December:

11am and 6.30pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 31st December:

10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

Monday 1st to Friday 5th January 2024

11am daily

Saturday 6th January – Feast of the Epiphany

Holy Day:

Friday 5th Vigil for the

Epiphany: 7.30pm

Saturday 6th: 11am



Evening Mass at 6.30pm is Vigil for Sunday

(Sunday Masses as normal for 7th January

Saturday Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm.

All Masses are live-streamed on

www.lucanparish.com

We wish all our parishioners every blessing and joy of the Christmas season.

We look forward to seeing you over the Christmas Period.

*Fr Philip, Fr. Ubaldo, Fr Pius, Fr Samuel,
Sr Geraldine, Cathy Burke*

Christian Meditation:

Wishing you all a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and every blessing for 2024.

Keep praying.

Sr Geraldine.

Parish Office: The office will be closed until **Monday 8th January.**

We wish all our parishioners every blessing and joy of the Christmas season.

St. Patrick's Esker/

Dodsboro/Adamstown

www.stpatrickslucan.ie

Confessions for Christmas:

Saturday 23rd December: 10.30am – 12noon
and 2pm to 4pm

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve: Sunday 24th December

6.30pm: Children's Mass with Blessing of Crib.

8.30pm: Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: Monday 25th December

9am, 10.30am and 12 noon

Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th December

10am Daily Mass

Sunday 31st December:

9am, 10.30am, 12 noon

Monday 1st to Friday 5th January 2024

10am daily

Saturday 6th January – Feast of the Epiphany

Holy Day:

Friday 5th Vigil for the Epiphany: 7pm

Saturday 6th 10am

All Masses livestreamed at stpatrickslucan.ie

We wish all our parishioners every blessing and joy of the Christmas season.

We look forward to seeing you over the Christmas Period.

*Fr Philip, Fr. John, Fr. Ubaldo, Fr Pius,
Fr Samuel, Cathy Burke*

Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net



Advent Novena:

Emmanuel Masses continues:

Fri 22nd at 9pm

Sat 23rd at 6pm

Sun 24th at 12 Noon.

You may write out intentions, which will be left in front of the altar for all of the Masses.

"His name will be Emmanuel, God with us."

Christmas Mass Times:

Christmas Eve: Sunday 24th December

Normal Sunday Masses: **10.30am** and **12 noon**

5pm: Children's Vigil Mass

8pm: Vigil Mass

Christmas Day: Monday 25th December

10.30am and **12 noon**

All Masses will be livestreamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net



Ecumenical Reading of the Nativity

Village Green

Saturday 23rd December

1pm

Ecumenical Reading of the Nativity including Christmas Carols with members of the Presbyterian Church, Church of Ireland, Methodist and Catholic Churches.

Come and join us in celebrating our common faith



Anam Cara South Dublin, the organisation that supports

bereaved parents, is holding its monthly Parent Evening for bereaved parents on **Monday 8th January at 7:15pm** 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 whether their death was recent or not.

Pilgrimage - Medjugorje 2024

Pilgrimage departing 15th May 2024.

7 nights - €750 pps including insurance.

€50 discount if booked and €200 per person deposit paid if booked before 1st February 2024.

Terms and conditions apply.

Please contact Pat on 087 2238911 or Marian Pilgrimages on 01 8788159 and say you are travelling with Pat.

If you are **thinking** of joining a pilgrimage to Medjugorje in 2024, please contact Pat.

No commitment needed and no money required at this stage. Information will be used to plan May and October pilgrimages.

Acknowledgement

DES CORWAY

The family of Des Corway would like to say many thanks to all who offered condolences and kindness when Dad passed away. Very much appreciated.

Olive, Marie and Desmond and extended family



Anniversaries

TERESA (TEASIE) GREENE

15th Anniversary - 19th December

In loving memory of Teresa (Teasie). Also **Bill** who died 6th November 2004. R.I.P.

Late of Finnstown, Lucan.

The flowers we place upon your grave

May wither and decay

But the love for you who sleeps beneath

Will never fade away.

Always remembered by their loving family

Death leaves a heartache

No one can heal

Love leaves a memory

No one can steal.

JIM NEALON

1st Anniversary - 29th December

Late of Hillcrest, Lucan.

There is no night without a dawning

No winter without a spring

And beyond the dark horizon

Our hearts will once more sing

For those who leave us for a while

Have only gone away

Out of a restless, care worn world

Into a brighter day.

Forever in our hearts, Ann and family



SUSAN O'DOHERTY (nee MURRAY)

1st Anniversary

No special day is needed

For us to think of you

For you were someone special

We miss you every day.

Sadly missed by your children Joy, Conor, Shane, Amy, Jordan, partner Brendan.

Family Rachel, Ruth, Rona, June, Paul, grandchildren Chloe, Sean, Aaron, Millie, Dylan, Poppy, Archie, Kai and extended family and friends

JOE RYLE

26th Anniversary - 29th December

In loving memory of Joe Ryle (Michael).

Late of Airlie Heights, Lucan.

In the loving care of the Lord our God

May your soul be content

And at Heavenly peace Dad

We miss you so

We always will

Cherished memories of you

Thank God stay with us

And are a big comfort to us still

And we pray they always will.

A special Christmas remembrance also for our loving Mother, your wife **Maureen**. May she rest in peace. And for your brothers **Fr. Kevin** and **Fr. Sean Ryle**, R.I.P. And cherished sweet grandson

Darragh Michael, R.I.P.

With all our love at this special time of year Joe and always, your loving family

Christmas Remembrance

LUKE (LOUIE) O'HANLON

In remembrance of Luke (Louie) O'Hanlon.

Late of Athy and previously of Hillcrest Road, Lucan.

This is our second year without him

At our Christmas table.

He is dearly loved and very much missed by his

wife Sadie, children Ayn, Aidan and Fiona,

their spouses Stuart, Sue, Brendan and his

beloved grandchildren, Hannah, Leah, Grace,

Isobel, Ella, Luke, Aoife and Daire

Forever in our hearts.

BENNY AND MARY O'NEILL

Remembering our parents, Benny and Mary.

Also our loving brother **Bernard** and sisters

Mary and **Margaret Mary**.

CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU

Although it's sad to reminisce

On Christmases we knew

This year I shall celebrate

In memory of you

I put aside my sorrow

With every unshed tear

And concentrate on all the love

We shared when you were here

Our time together taught me

What Christmas time is for

And that's what I'll remember

Until we meet once more.

St Vincent De Paul Christmas Appeal Thank You

Happy New Year to all our loyal supporters.

Throughout 2023, you continued your financial support of our work through the parish website, to the sacristy or parish office, and to individual committee members. For this, we thank you all sincerely.



Reduced numbers at Masses didn't seem to lessen our Christmas appeal, as you all went out of your way to continue your support. The Annual Appeal realised €15,124 which is a wonderful contribution from parishioners within St. Mary's Parish. Because of this, we were able to make Christmas less stressful for many families in our area.

Sincere thanks to the Newsletter staff for their continuous coverage.

Thanks to Fr. Philip, Fr. Obaldo, sacristans Mary and Marie, and parish secretary Deirdre for their encouragement and extra help in taking in donations; special thanks to several of our local schools—principals, staff, parents and students, who ran fundraisers for us. Thanks to our loyal monthly collectors.

Thanks to various local organisations who also ran fundraisers for us during the year.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

May you all have a happy, holy, peaceful Christmas and God's blessings throughout 2024.

St. Mary's Conference, Lucan.

A Big Happy Christmas

to **Tadhg, Cormac and Róisín**, all in Melbourne.

Have a great day!

From all your friends in Lucan



Happy Birthday

to **Tom**

who celebrates his big event over the holidays!

From all the gang!



Nearly there!

We've had a great choice of Carol Services and Craft Fairs this year. It's great to see such talent and activity in our community. Well done to all the participants!

Speaking of talent, well done to **Billy** who set up the crib outside St. Mary's once again!



Waiting for the Birthday Boy on Christmas Day!

More very blustery weather as we go to press on Thursday – hopefully Santa will get a tail-wind on Christmas Eve

Where's all the Holly? There seems to be a shortage of the traditional decoration this year – long gone are the days when there were a few trees around Lucan, and people could help themselves!



GOAL Mile Posters! We hear that poster put up last Saturday mainly at the N4-Newcastle Road junction were removed by the following Monday. Not much thought for those in need worldwide!

Bah Humbug!!!

James Gandon 1743 - 1823

This Christmas Eve 2023 will be the bi-centenary of renowned architect James Gandon's death. Famed for several Dublin buildings, including the Custom House, the Four Courts, King's Inn, and the portico of the House of Lords at College Green (*now Bank of Ireland*), his work was not always well-received by Dubliners, deeming the Palladian style not suitable for the times. Gandon's view was that these special buildings should be grand and stand out as being very important – all are popular landmarks today.

In 1805, Gandon purchased the Canonbrook estate on Esker Hill in Lucan, and following renovations, he took up residence in 1808. He also acquired the Pettycanon area of Lucan – *ie* the area between The Hollow on the Lock (Adamstown) Road, and Main Street, which is bordered by Primrose Lane to the west and to the east the border is roughly where the Esker Lawns/Lucan Heights estates are.

Although coming to the end of his career when he took came to Lucan, the architect's influences are to be seen in several local buildings including St. Andrew's Church which was designed by his pupil, Henry Aaron Baker. Dating back to 1823, the church is on a site donated by James Gandon in return for a leather-bound prayer book annually, and on condition that there would be no burial ground at the site.

The old Lucan Garda Station and Primrose Hill House have also seen some influences connected to Gandon.

Born in England, he was married and had family there, but spent most of his later life in Ireland. One of his sons, Captain James Gandon, an army physician, lived in Griffeen Lodge, just behind Courtney's Bar.

On his death in 1823, hundreds of Lucanians attested to his popularity when they walked to his funeral in Drumcondra where the great man was laid to rest on Christmas Eve. It would not be unreasonable to assume that James Gandon was a wealthy man when he died, but on the contrary, he was financially

broke, and ended up sharing a grave with antiquarian Francis Grosse, in Drumcondra Churchyard.

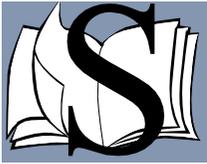


James Gandon's portrait hangs in the National Gallery. Two artists were involved, Tilly Kettle who painted the head, but fled Dublin from his creditors, with the picture being finished by William Cuming.

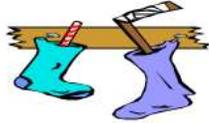


An Post recently issued two stamps to commemorate the bi-centenary of James Gandon's death.

From his home in Canonbrook House, Gandon would have viewed Lucan's Main Street across the fields, with the farms of Westmanstown in the distance. One wonders what he would think of the view today! *M.M.*



SCHOOL NEWS



Lucan Community College

Important Dates

8th Jan: School reopens after the Christmas Break

18th Jan: 5th Year PT Meeting

22nd Jan - 3rd Feb: Mock Exams for 3rd & 6th Year Students.

Congratulations to 2023 LCA Students: We are delighted to announce that two students from last year's Leaving Certificate Applied class have achieved the highest credits (determined by the SEC) and will be presented with Fergal Quinn national awards in January. The students are Hannah Lynch and Dylan Harford. Both students are highly deserving of this as they applied themselves to the programme from the outset with the support and care of their teachers and SNA's in the classroom. Congratulations to both students.

Ty Charity Committee: Transition Year Charity Committee have gathered boxes for Team Hope. These will be delivered to the local representative of the charity ahead of Christmas. Thank you to all who contributed.



Work Placements: All our students were fortunate to get placements for the first session of Work Experience and many had glowing reports from employers. We are always so proud of the way our students represent the school and indeed themselves and their families with Work Experience. I would like to thank you all for your efforts to secure the placements and to extend my thanks to all employers.

The students engaged in a reflection session after session 1 and it was interesting to see the broad variety of placements that the students took part in and how they had learned from the experience. They had a new appreciation for the demands of

working life and the efforts parents and guardians make on their behalf.

The next session is from the 22nd of January until February 2nd - students need to return their completed forms to me by the 15th of January. A reminder that Garda vetting is required in some work settings and needs to be applied for weeks in advance to ensure it is available for a particular date. Students need to be 16 before vetting can be applied for.

Some of our students were lucky enough to get placements at Microsoft for an extra week of Work Experience. To be fully insured and allowed to accept such positions, it is vital to ask for permission in advance and to provide an email with confirmation of such placements. Other students attended placements at The Defence Forces, An Gardai Siochana, Trocaire, Jigsaw's Walk in my Shoes, DCU, TCD and SAP Technologies.

Gaisce Awards: Five of our sixth year students took on the challenge of completing the Silver Gaisce Award last year. They dedicated a minimum of 1 hour per week for 26 weeks to each of the three challenge areas; personal skill, community involvement and physical recreation. They completed their adventure journey in Glendalough in February 2023. The awards were recently presented to students by Gaisce Development Officer, Ger Brady. Well done Cian, Niamh, Ruby, Milly and Millie! Congratulations on achieving the prestigious Silver Gaisce



Lucan Community College Night Classes

Spring term is opening for booking on our website Lucancc.ie. If you would like to meet new people, make new friends and learn a new skill, why not try one of our fun evening classes.

Couch to 5K, French, Italian, Spanish, Irish, Knitting, Crochet, Art Portfolio Preparation, Drawing and Watercolours, Tai Chi, Yoga, Kettlebells, Gardening, Leaving Cert Irish and Leaving Cert French.

St. Joseph's College

Art Trip: On Thursday 14th

December, our fifth year Art students had a guided tour of the fantastic 'Andy Warhol: Three Times Out' exhibition in the Hugh Lane Gallery. It was a great day out that our students really enjoyed and learned a lot from. A big thankyou to their teacher Ms. Garvey for organising.



Junior Gaelic football: Hard luck to our junior Gaelic footballers who lost out in their quarter final on Friday morning to Dominican College. They had a great year with some big victories in the group stage of the competition. This is a very young team who we are hoping will be back next year.

'Girls Go Circular': The TY's enjoyed a workshop on Friday called 'Girls Go Circular'. This workshop was delivered by Junior achievement Ireland. It was a day the students really enjoyed where they learned how the global fashion industry can become more sustainable and be part of the circular economy which allows for products to be reused and recycled with benefits for the environment.

Carol singing in St James' Hospital: On Monday morning a group of students were accompanied by Ms. Keogh and Ms. Hanlon to St James' Hospital for carol singing. The group from St. Josephs visited ward 4 and helped to spread some Christmas cheer for the patients and staff

Opening of first phase of new building: There is excitement in the school with the opening of the first phase of the new school building after Christmas. It has been a long wait for this day in St. Josephs but all staff and students are looking forward to the opening of the first phase which is to include two new science labs and a new home economics kitchen.

Happy Christmas: Everyone in our school community would like to wish a happy Christmas and a prosperous new year to the Lucan community and thank you for your ongoing support of the school.



Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Follow Us on

Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Website: www.stjosephslucan.com

Adult Education Service

The Adult Education Service in Lucan Education Centre, on Esker Hill are currently enrolling for free and flexible part-time courses commencing in January / February 2024. These Back to Education Initiative (BTEI) courses are at times to allow you to choose between one and four different subjects to fit around your busy life. Each subject is 4 hours, 1 morning per week. This can lead to QQI qualification.

The following subjects are available this term:

Spanish for Beginners; Office Procedures; Wellbeing and the Internet; Data Entry; Developing your Business English Language Skills; Working with Microsoft Excel; Working with Microsoft Word; Work Experience; Medical Terminology; Bookkeeping: Manual & Computerised.

For more details, contact

lorrainekavanagh@ddletbaes.ie

or call (01) 6283557.



160 Years of Mount Sackville

In 2024 Mount Sackville will proudly celebrate 160 years of education in Ireland. The school was founded by the Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny in Chapelizod, Dublin in 1864. As part of the celebrations, we invite past pupils and staff to share your stories, photographs or any archival materials of your time here or your association with the school.

By email: memories@mountsackville.ie

By Post: Mary Delaney, Mount Sackville Secondary School, Chapelizod, Dublin 20, D20WP68

In person: Please present the material to the school reception in a sealed envelope with your name and address to ensure you have the original material returned safely.



Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Soccer: Our **u15 team** have qualified for the Dublin West League quarter-finals after finishing in 2nd place in their group of four. The team had an anxious wait of a week or so before discovering the final group positions and they did just about enough with 4 points from their three group games to claim 2nd spot.

Our **TY team** defeated Kylemore College 1-0 on Monday in the 1st rnd of the TY Leinster Cup with Patrick Rance scoring the only goal of the game shortly before half-time with a precise finish from close range

Our **1st yr** soccer team were narrowly beaten 3-2 by Hartstown CS last Wednesday in their 3rd group stage match of the Dublin Metropolitan League with Kaelan Cosgrove and Yassine Echaib scoring the Lucan goals.

Chess: The Junior and Senior Chess Finals were held in the Study Hall last week. 1st yr Ahmed Elshawari defeated 2nd yr Alex Keogh to claim the title of Junior Chess Grand Master 2023! 6th yr Conor Langabeer justified his pre-tournament favourite tag by defeating 5th yr Travis Narte claim the Senior title. Both winners were presented by lovely chess sets by tournament organiser Mr. Moran.

Winter Fair: The Coláiste Phadraig Winter Fair was held in the canteen on Thursday 14th Dec and it proved to be a huge success with all stock completely sold out! The TY students decorated the canteen with Christmas decorations and then set up their own stands packed with an assortment of goods and wares for sale. There was a wide selection of tasty treats available to students and staff on the day from popcorn to cinnamon rolls, homemade cookies to multi-cultural meals! The Spice Fusion stall was a huge attraction on the day with students lining up for the delicious South Indian snacks, the home cooked Chicken Shawarma (a tasty Middle eastern dish) biryani, a mixed rice dish from Modern India, Samosa, a fried South Asian pastry with a savoury filling and freshly sliced onion bhaji on offer. The strong, spicy flavours and fresh, aromatic smells (as well as the low prices!) proved to be an irresistible combination for the students (customers!) at the Fair and the stall did a roaring trade throughout. The Music Club were also in attendance, entertaining the crowd with their festive renditions



of *Feliz Navidad* and *Last Christmas*.

All of the students did a fantastic job presenting and selling their products using all the skills and tips they picked up in their Business classes. There was also some basketball, golf and soccer challenges with great spot prizes on offer. The raffles and guess the number of sweets in a jar competition were also very popular.

Wellbeing: Three 5th yr students; Abhinav Sriram, Aniruddh Sriram and Sam Jacob, have been very busy working on their project for this year's BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition which will take place in the RDS in January. The students have designed a project which will be showcased in the newest BTYSE category - *Health and Well-being*. They have been very active conducting surveys (a 'well-being check-in') across the year groups and they have developed a working algorithm which will allow them to convert various well-being indicators into a usable index. They have designed an App entitled *Be – Well* which will collect and display information for the index so we wish them well.

Dr. Ciara Mahon, a postdoctoral researcher at the Youth Mental Health Lab at UCD, visited the Transition Year classes this week to survey the students on completion of the *Be Real Body Kind* programme (as co-ordinated by Ms. Farrell). The *Body Kind* programme is a body image curriculum specifically designed for Irish secondary school students. The programme focuses on social media and gives students tested tools to help them with comparisons they make of themselves to the images they see in their social media feed.

Football: Our senior football team advanced to the Dublin League 1-4 finals after defeating Coláiste Choilm, Swords 3-14 to 2-09 last week in their preliminary round match. Conor Dillon (1-1), Michael O' Brien (1-1), Callum Morris (1-0), Luke McGovern (0-8) Reece Kelly (0-2) and Alex Leonard (0-1) got the Lucan scores and the team now face Gaelcholáiste Reachrann in the 1-4 finals in January.

Food collection: Tom Kelleher, from the Lucan Lions Club, came into the school on Monday afternoon to collect the food donations brought in by 1st yrs over the past three weeks. Ms. Casey would like to thank all those that contributed, both students and staff, so generously to the appeal while we would like to thank Ms. Casey for organising, promoting and co-ordinating the collection.

Christmas wishes: The staff and management of Coláiste Phádraig would like to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all the staff and readers of the Lucan Newsletter. Hopefully 2024 brings joy and happiness to all in the surrounding communities. Nollaig Shona agus Athbliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir.



Memories at Christmas Time

What will you remember when Christmas is done?

The eating the drinking the craic and the fun,
The joy in their eyes, shouting Santa's been here
"He's ate the mince pies and drank all the beer

Or will you remember the man on the paving
Begging for help to deal with his craving
You gave him some money and whispered so low
Happy Christmas dear friend, as tears started to flow

Or will you remember the Christmas staff party
With everyone looking so hail and so hearty

The buskers singing all over the town
Maybe you're watching the next Shane MacGowan



Or will you remember that call to your brother
It's been two lonely years since you talked to each other

It now doesn't matter who was wrong or was right

As you chatted together on Christmas Eve night

Christmas makes memories both happy and sad
We strive for the best Christmas we've ever had
The joy is in giving and reaching out to each other
Just like you did with that call to your brother

Even happy memories have a twinge of regret
Opportunity missed makes us worry and fret
Be kind to yourself, we all make mistakes
You're a wonderful person who's got what it takes.

Benny

A CHRISTMAS STORY

That Santa Claus is very old
Is something we have all been told.
Born over a thousand years ago
In Turkey, where there is no snow
All kinds of weather he'll endure
Children's happiness to secure.
Christened Nicholas, when very young
His parents died and he was brung
Up by monks. Skilful scanners
Of character, they taught him manners
And Christian virtues. He became
Bishop of Myra. He assumed the name
Santa Claus, his kindly acts
Preserved in legend; these are the facts.

Italian merchants brought Santa's bones
To a shrine in Bari. There were no phones
So three ships came with banners lying
With bands and heralds loudly crying
That here the Saint's remains would stay
And inviting people to cheer and pray.
A tale they told of destitute lord
Whose daughters, three, were never wooed
Because local men could not see how
Their dad could manage a decent dowry.

Rescued Daughter One from spinsterhood
And he threw in another for Daughter two.
The father wondered who would do
Such a generous deed. He boarded up
The Window. Late he supped
To catch the stranger off his guard.
But no fool Santa – clever he
Climbed the roof and for Daughter Three
Threw gold down the chimney chuckling 'Hee hee hee'. Coins filled the sock
Where it hung during – a lovely shock!

With money about the suitors tarried
And all three girls got happily married.
Santa had found the ideal way
To offer gifts. He decided to stay
On earth forever. Angels complained,
Saying, this mortal must be restrained,
But the Lord God said, It seems to us
To interfere would be ridiculous.
If we stop him now, children might
Make blasphemous protest in our sight.

So saints and angels bowed their heads
Leaving Santa with his elves and sleds
To roam the world and drop his toys
Down chimneys for little girls and boys
Reminding them that once they grew
They could be kind and generous too

From "Blinking Lighthouse" by Brian Power

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POLITICAL NOTES

Cllr Derren Ó Brádaigh - Sinn Féin

Mobile: 087-2136345.

Email: dobradaigh@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Road Conditions and Safety – Lucan:

At our final Area Committee meeting of the year, I tabled a motion highlighting the need for closer liaison between the Council and new housing developers / contractors in Lucan, to maintain roads of construction site mud, where roads are not yet taken in charge.

Road / Potholes Repairs – Arthur Griffith Park:

Following a further final motion to the local Area Committee in December, SDCC have confirmed that AGP is listed for consideration for the 2024 Road Works Programme. This will hopefully address the potholes in the square parking areas raised with me again by some residents.

Nollag Shona Daoibh agus Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh!

Following a very busy year, I would like to wish all readers of the Lucan Newsletter, and indeed everyone in Lucan, a Happy Christmas and a safe, happy and healthy New Year!

Cllr. Paul Gogarty P.C.

“Not just at election time” Tel: 087-2752489

Web: www.paulgogarty.com

Thoughts for the Season:

Thanking all the Newsletter staff for their ongoing commitment and dedication. Wishing all Lucan residents and former Lucanians reading this a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful Prosperous 2024. Guímíd ar leith orthu siúd a d’fhulaing méala nó a bhfuil deacrachtaí acu - thoughts especially for those in need or who have suffered a bereavement recently. And may next year see a kinder world, where peace and dialogue triumphs over violence.

Bus User Survey:

We are now at 800 responses and rising. We need as many people as possible to do the survey at www.bit.ly/BusCorrect. Definitely still a shortage of Young Adult Leap Card users (18-23), so if you know a friend or family member, please pass the link on.

Website:

The best way to keep updated locally. Check out www.paulgogarty.com.



Cllr. Joanna Tuffey, Labour Party

Representative. Phone 087 392 0931

Email jtuffey@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

All social media links at linktr.ee/joannatuffey

Happy Christmas!

Happy Christmas to all! Thank you to all involved in the production and distribution of the Newsletter, especially Rose, Mary and Anna for their hard work. I look forward to continuing to work on behalf of residents of Lucan in 2024.

Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 401 3416. Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie

Beannachtaí na Nollag:

I would like to extend my very best wishes to all residents in Lucan and hope that you have a safe and peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to the Lucan Newsletter staff for their hard work and dedication to this brilliant publication. Some emergency contacts just in case you need them over the Christmas holiday period.

Lucan Garda Station **016667300**

South Dublin County Council After Hours **01 4574907**

Electricity Emergency **1800 372 999**

Report a Phone Outage **1800 773 729**

Uisce Éireann **1800 278 278**

Gas Networks Ireland **1800 20 50 50**.

Lucan Gospel Choir:

Lucan Library hosted the Lucan Gospel Choir for a Christmas session this week. They were, as always, incredible. A great night for the soul! Thanks to all involved.

Caroline Brady - Fine Gael – P.C.

- 085 2551602 info@CarolineBrady.com

Energy Credits:

Households will receive €450 Energy Credits as part of Budget 2024, paid in three €150. Credits apply automatically to bills; no application or contact with suppliers is needed. The first credit was applied December 1st while the second and third will be applied on January 1, 2024, and March 1, 2024, respectively.

Thank you very much for taking the time to speak with me this year and share your priorities. I look forward to continuing to work with you next year. I wish you a very happy, peaceful, and 1 all you wish for in 2024.



Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent

0872795274. lotoole@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie
www.lotoole.com

Sister Shed for Lucan: Councillor L. O'Toole's motion, seeking Chief Executive support for a Sister Shed in Lucan, responds to significant constituent interest. This initiative aims to complement existing community groups, fostering camaraderie, skill-sharing, and mutual support. The Community Officer, tasked with this project, will engage the community to gauge interest and determine the optimal approach for establishing the Sister Shed. If you're keen to get involved, please reach out using the contact details provided above. Your input is crucial as we work together to enrich our community and create a space that promotes collaboration and shared interests. Stay tuned for updates on this exciting venture!

Adamstown Community Centre extension:

I've actively sought support from both council management and councillors to develop a plan for extending the Adamstown Community Centre, in accordance with the initial agreement made during the design and construction phases.



Cllr Shane Moynihan - Fianna Fáil

(Palmerstown-Fonthill) Ph: 087 7840898

Email: smoynihan@cllrs.sdblincoco.ie

[facebook.com/cllrshaneMoynihan](https://www.facebook.com/cllrshaneMoynihan)

Twitter: @shanemoynihan

Nollaig Shona:

Thanks to the Lucan Newsletter team for all their work throughout the year and I hope that they, as well as everyone in the area, have a happy and peaceful Christmas.

Lucan village Christmas lights:

We are very lucky to have such committed volunteers driving and organising the Lucan Festival every year. We are also lucky that they are the driving force for lighting up the village for Christmas, which they have delivered again for this year! This week, the Lucan, Palmerstown and North Clondalkin Area Committee unanimously adopted my motion congratulating the Lucan Festival Committee. From all of us, thank you.

Ballyowen Castle Shopping Centre: I am disappointed not to have received a response from the management company in relation to my call to improve the upkeep of the centre. I will be following up again.

survive&thrive

Information and support for those who have completed treatment for cancer

Survive and Thrive Programmes 2024

The Marie Keating Foundation's **Survive and Thrive** programmes have been created to help men and women who have finished cancer treatment to adapt to their 'new normal' after a cancer diagnosis.

The programmes include information and support guided by facilitators, lots of discussions on issues such as coping with emotions, feelings, stress and anxiety; becoming a self-manager - managing fatigue and other symptoms; changing nutritional and physical activity needs.

There is lots of engagement which creates a space to learn and grow and empowers you going forward in life.

This is an eight-week programme, Tuesday evenings from 6.15 –9pm, we would love to help you to transform yourself and meet people who have gone through a similar experience who get you and you get them.

Programme Commences Tuesday 9th January – 27th February 2024.

For further information contact Fiona on 087 9657144 or 01 628 3726 or e-mail fsullivan@mariekeating.ie

To book a place log on to
www.mariekeating.ie

All programmes are free to attend but places are limited and registration is essential.



SPORTS

LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

'Tis the season for giving and making a real impact!

For over 40 years, the **GOAL Mile** has seen tens of thousands of people run or walk a mile to raise funds for GOAL at Christmas, bringing people together in their communities to support GOAL's humanitarian work in Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.

Join us at Lucan Harriers Athletic Track on Christmas day 10am – 12 noon to raise funds for GOAL's life-saving programmes around the world.



Josephine Dignam, Fanchea Gibson ready for the big day!

Gerry Martin has been the main organiser of this event at Lucan Harriers over the years and last year €6,500 was raised in total, including on the day contributions and online donations.

Everyone is welcome on the day so lace up your shoes, bring your holiday spirit and let's share the gift of hope, solidarity and support. For more information go to <https://goalmile.org>



Lucan Harriers Track

Newcastle / Adamstown Rd
(opp Supervalu)

**Christmas Morning 10 – 12 noon
Run – Walk – Jog
to support the most vulnerable!**

See Goalmile.ie for virtual product purchase items details.

Open to everyone, just turn up and participate. All the family, dogs on lead welcome.

For info: Goalmile.ie

Lucan Harriers Facebook or 0872132244



Lucan Golf Club 2024



**Applications for Tee Box Sponsorship
Now Open.**

**If interested, please contact:
Paul Hennessy, Sponsorship Secretary
Telephone: 087-1892478
Email: pghennessy8@gmail.com**



St. Mary's Camera Soirée

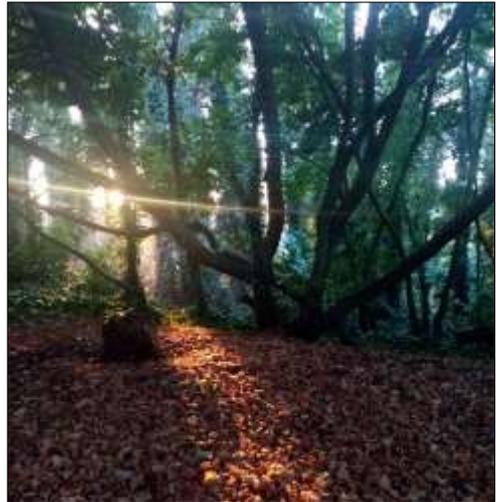
Given the Christmas season pride of place this week must go to Joe's photograph of a robin given the bird's strong association with Christmas. The bird, which is relatively unafraid of people and is drawn to human activity, has taken a starring role on many Christmas cards since the mid-19th century. There are at least two legends around the robin's distinctive breast. According to one legend when Jesus was dying on the cross, the robin, then simply brown in colour, flew to his side and sang into his ear in order to comfort him in his pain. The blood from his wounds stained the robin's breast, and thereafter all robins carry the mark of Christ's blood upon them. An alternative legend has it that its breast was scorched fetching water for souls in Purgatory.



Paddy and Donal were in town taking some photographs of the Christmas lights on Grafton Street and of the illuminated façade of the Bank of Ireland on College Green.



Anna captured a very moody shot of winter sunlight through the branches.



While not strictly relevant to the activities of the Soiree, I think it appropriate to congratulate all involved in the Carol Concert in St. Mary's Church last Sunday afternoon. It was an afternoon of music of the highest quality. A number of people have enquired about the piano! It was a Steinway 6 ft. grand piano. Steinway is regarded as perhaps the best piano there is.

All that remains for me is to wish you all a peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2024. The Soiree will be back in action in the Parish Centre in January 2024.