

LUCAN



NEWSLETTER

Sunday 25th December 2011

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. 50c.

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

We wish all our readers a Happy and Holy Christmas

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Ballyowen Castle Community Centre
Tel: 0761 07 5090. email
lucan@citinfo.ie



www.citizensinformation.ie

Open Mon Fri 10 am to 4 pm
Closed for lunch 1 - 2 pm

The Centre will be closed for Christmas & New Year and will reopen on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. The next FLAC (free legal advice clinic) will be on Thursday 5/1/12.
Happy Christmas to all.

MABS (the Money Advice & Budgeting Service) have a new website www.mabs.ie
The website includes 2 new interactive tools for people to use



- a self help guide to dealing with debt
- a budgeting tool

NAGARHOPE

Christmas Cards

Stock Clearance.

Pack of 12 Cards €5.



Gift Certificates

Looking for a Gift for someone who has everything?

Why not donate to NAGARHOPE in their name, and present them with a Certificate?

Contact Niamh: 087-0666891

Lucan Library Christmas Closing

The Library will close at 4.30pm on Friday 23rd December 2011 and reopen at 9.45am on Tuesday 3rd January 2012.

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain Faoi Mhaise Daoibh

Merry Christmas and a
Happy New Year

GOAL MILE

Christmas Morning, 25th December
10am - 12noon

Lucan Harriers Track
Newcastle Road, Lucan
Info. & Sponsorship Cards
Gerry Martin 087-2132244



Scoil Mhuire

Woodview/Airlie Heights

Our Principal, Mr Henry Thynne is retiring after 27 years.

A special celebratory Mass is being organised on Saturday 14th Jan at 5pm in St Patrick's Church Esker, all parents and pupils, both past and present are welcome to attend.



There will be a function afterwards for Henry and his family in the Springfield Hotel from 7.30pm. Again all past pupils (over 18) parents, past and present and friends of the school are welcome.

In order for us to cater properly for guests we require confirmation by email if you are going to attend the function in the Springfield.

Please reply to
henrythynneretirement@gmail.com
by January 10th 2012.



Lost

Gold Wedding Band lost on Saturday 10th December – in or around St. Mary's Church Car Park. If found, please ring 087-7422347.
(Apologies for typo in this notice in last week's issue).

Camera lost on Thursday 15th December in Lucan Village, possibly in Methodist Church car Park. If anyone found it please contact 086-0621276

Diamond Engagement Ring lost at beginning of December, in Lucan Village. Ph 087-2721303.

FOUND

Sum of Money, Tuesday 20th December, Lucan Village. Ph: 086-8722068

iPod found in Lucan Village recently. Phone 086-0644229

Lucan Newsletter



It's the time of year when we must go down our list of all those who make Lucan Newsletter possible each week.

Thank You

- To all our **Readers**.
- To all our **Contributors**.
- To all our **Advertisers**.
- To all the **shops** providing outlets for Lucan Newsletter.
- To all who forward their copy on to friends in far away places.
- To those who spend hours every Friday collating the pages and getting the finished article out to the shops – **Ann, Bernie, Don, Jack and John**, and all the **teenagers** who have helped out in the past year. It is very much appreciated.
- To **Christy and Terry Gannon** who make sure we have paper on time every week.
- To Parish Secretary, **Deirdre**, and Sacristans **Mary and Ann**, who handle queries from time to time.

The entire project depends on all the above playing their part each week!

**Wishing all a
Happy and Holy Christmas
and a Good New Year
And a Big Thank You to all who sent us
Christmas Greetings!**

**Our first issue for 2012
will be for Sunday 8th January**

Lucan Tidy Towns

Lucan Tidy Towns would like to wish the people of Lucan, including our friends in the Newsletter, a very happy Christmas and all the very best for the New Year. While we may be hanging up our shovels for the next few weeks, the aspiring 'techis' among us are working on developing our own website at www.lucantidytowns.ie, under the direction of an up and coming student of Lucan Community College.... but more about this in 2012. Meanwhile, if you (as we do) love Lucan, think tidy!

Lucan Tidy Towns Committee



Lucan Heights Residents

Wishing you all Joy, Love and Peace this Christmas and in 2012. From all of us in Lucan Heights.
J.P.



Esker Cemetery Group:

We would like to thank both Deirdre in the Parish Centre and the team at Lucan Newsletter for all their assistance throughout the year. It is great to see improvements taking place in Esker Cemetery and in particular we would like to thank William Lavelle for all his assistance. We wish all a very happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year.
Patricia Dowling, Secretary.



Secondary School Reunion



A very happy Christmas to all past pupils and teachers of Presentation Convent St. Joseph's School, Lucan.

Following on from our 50th Anniversary Reunion of First Leaving Cert. on 4th September, a donation has been made to Pieta House on your behalf, from proceeds of the Raffle held on that day.
*le Beannachtaí na Nollag
Anne and all the team*

Congratulations

To **Sarah Cummins** on winning a €1000 shopping voucher for Liffey Valley in a recent facebook competition organised by Liffey Valley Shopping Centre.



Thoughts From The Manger

Baby Jesus saw the shepherds and thought,
One day I'll be a shepherd,
My flock will be the children of the World.



Baby Jesus saw the animals and thought,
One day they'll be my animals,
They will help the people of the World.



Baby Jesus saw His Mam and Dad and thought,
One day I'll share my Mam and Dad
With every little child in the World.

Baby Jesus saw the star and thought,
My love will be a star,
It will be a guide for all the World.



Baby Jesus saw the kings and thought,
One day I'll be a king,
My kingdom will bring peace to all the World.

By Paddy Mulhern.

Carols for Simon



A big Thank you to all who took part in this year's Carol Singing around the estates.

We nearly perished in the bitter cold of December 13th but the next night was better and we raised €890.75 overall.

Best Wishes to all for an enjoyable Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2012.

E.C.

Lucan Meals on Wheels

A very special thanks to all the drivers for their dedication and flexibility to Meals on Wheels throughout the year.

Wishing you all a Peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

T.K.



Lucan Senior Citizens

We wish all our members a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and Health and Happiness for 2012. Club will re-open Wednesday 11th January. Happy Christmas to Deirdre and all the Parish Centre Staff, thanks also to the Newsletter Staff for their help throughout the year.

Lucan Active Retirement Assoc.

Our Christmas Party on the 15th December was very enjoyable.

Many thanks to our visiting and resident musicians and to Frances and the L.A.R.C.S. Thanks to Deirdre and Marie and the rest of the committee for all the catering and hard work during the year. Thanks to Willie Doyle for doing M.C. for all our Parties and to Willie and Frances for the table quizzes.

Many thanks to Deirdre in the Parish Office and the Newsletter Staff for all their help.

Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year to all.

Our A.G.M. will be held on **26th January**, all motions for same to be with Hon.Sec. by **12th January**. There will be a committee meeting that day.

Club opens on Thursday 19th January 2012.

Eddie Farrell, P.R.O.

Dodsboro Residents Association

The following are the results of the recent Xmas raffle:

1st Prize: €200 – Kathy Forde, Hillcrest.

2nd Prize: €40 – John Campbell, Ryevale Lawns.

3rd Prize: €40 – Bernard McNally, c/o Glen.

4th Prize: €40 – Mick Conboy, Hillcrest.

5th Prize: Nuala Joyce, Hillcrest.

6th Prize: Peggy Croke, Dodsboro.

Thanks to all who bought tickets and helped in any way.

Get well wishes to all who are sick at home or in hospital.

Season's Greetings to all our friends and neighbours.

P. Clerkin.



Christmas

Where is the heart of Christmas?

It's in the children eyes.

It's in excited tiny hands, unwrapping each surprise.

It's in their glowing faces and in everything they say -

For little children truly put the heart in Christmas Day.

St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee wish everyone, especially all our sponsors, participants and the Newsletter Staff, a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.





Beannachtaí na Nollag oraibh go léir

We in Liffey Sound are determined to keep this an economics-free Christmas Schedule; we are focusing on the good things we can do and how we can entertain our local community during these difficult times.

We have decorated the studio, our homes and businesses to show light and hope. We are hoping that our *Christmas Schedule* will decorate the *Lucan radio waves* and make you smile over the Christmas period. We hope too that the *Lucan Diaspora* and those who are on their own may find solace and enjoyment in listening to the many local voices broadcasting from the Liffey Sound Studio.

We take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued support and encouragement of Lucan's Community Radio Station Liffey Sound 96.4fm. Our wish for you this Christmas is that:

Your hearts and homes will be filled with the peace and joy of Christmas

On behalf of everyone in Liffey Sound 96.4fm I would like to wish our listeners, their families, friends and neighbours, the staff of Lucan Newsletter, our advertisers and all who have contributed time and effort to ensure that Liffey Sound is *community radio at its best* a very happy and peaceful Christmas. Nollaig faoi shéan agus athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir, is go mbeire muid beo ag an am seo arís.

Le meas Maria Murphy, Chairperson Liffey Sound 96.4fm



Liffey Sound Christmas Schedule 2011

Christmas Eve: (Saturday)

8.00am to 10.00am	Mark Sheridan at Christmas
10.00am to 12.00pm	Christmas Crackers - Terry, Eddie & Stephen
12.00pm to 2.00pm	Tracey Evens Christmas Eve Special.
2.00pm to 3.00pm	Christmas 80's with John O'Reilly
3.00pm to 4.00pm	Santa Claus sends greetings to Lucan Children
4.00pm to 6.00pm	The Lucan Today Team Talk Christmas
6.00pm to 8.00pm	Jazz up your Christmas with Fiona Dalton
8.00pm to 10.00pm	Christmas Eve Reflections with Jim Sherlock.

Christmas Day: (Sunday)

8.00am to 10.00am	Sunday Sunrise with Audrey & Declan
10.00am to 12.00pm	Out Of This World at Christmas with Pat Quinn
12.00pm to 2.00pm	Christmas Country Flavour with Adrienne Corcoran
2.00pm to 4.00pm	Christmas Magic with Pat McGee & Mick Morgan
4.00pm to 6.00pm	The Glory Train takes its Christmas journey – Ger O'Reilly
6.00pm to 8.00pm	A Woman's Christmas with Phil, Maria & Caroline.
8.00pm to 10.00pm	Country & Western Style Christmas with Padraig McGarrigle

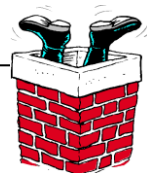
St. Stephens Day: (Monday)

4.00pm to 6.00pm	Joe Byrne hosts the Liffey Sound Drive Time Team
6.00pm to 8.00pm	Giuseppe's World Music at Christmas
8.00pm to 10.00pm	The Road Runner's Night after the Day Before.

Tóg bog é

Bustle over, jobs all done
Sit down and have a hot cross
bun
Oops! Senior moment
Wrong name of pastry
Its mince pies, Yule log
That I'll be eating
With glass in hand
Cake plate beside me
And Liffey Sound tuned on the
wireless
Sure what more would I want
Except to hear my name
Coming across the local radio
waves.
For if I was mentioned
In the dedications
I wouldn't mind if Santa left me
Without the blue slide that I
requested
For I'd be chuffed to get a
mention
On 96.4 Christmas schedule.

mgm



The Station will close @ 4.00pm Christmas Eve and reopen at 4.00pm on St. Stephens Day. Shows from 4.00pm Christmas Eve and all Christmas Day will be pre recorded.



How did they do it?

We often give out about An Post – it's almost a compulsion with us! Imagine a parcel was posted in Lucan on Saturday last at 1.50pm, and arrived in the outback of Donegal before 16.50 that evening! You couldn't drive there in that time, let alone distribute

letters and parcels! Perhaps they've got a loan of Santa's sleigh!!!



We send special greetings to Lucanians in every corner of the world – may you all have a happy Christmas!

Hopefully lots of Lucanians managed the trip home. Fingers crossed, the weather won't hamper the travel this winter.

Welcome home to **Neville** and **Carol Curtis** who have just returned from Melbourne to spend the Christmas holidays in Lucan.

Congratulations

to **Geraldine** and **Frank Archbold** on the arrival of her twin grandchildren - two little girls **Leah** and **Sarah** will be expecting Santa this year!



Other Christmas Babies celebrating.....

Happy 9th Birthday to **Chloe** on St. Stephens day. Love and cuddles from Nanny & Grandad Cummins.

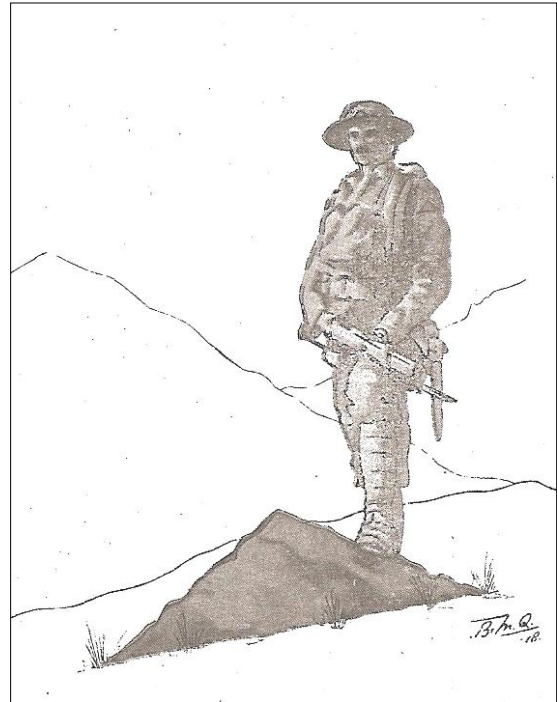


Happy Birthday To **Ewan**, on St. Stephen's Day! Have a good one! From all your fans!



Happy Birthday To **Aaron Burchael** From Mam and all the family.

From the Front – Christmas 1918



Wishing you a cheery Christmas

This is the card which **William (Billie) Lanigan** sent from the trenches of World War I to his mother in 18 Weir View.

Billie was one of the many young men from Lucan who headed off to war in that era. Unfortunately, he didn't return.

I have recently received copies of letters and documents in relation to Billie's time in the army, and hope to publish them in the New Year.

Mary Mulhall.

Crackers by Joe King

If the Three Wise Men were Three Wise Women they would have:

1. Asked directions and arrived in time.
2. Helped deliver the baby
3. Cleaned the stable.
4. Made a casserole
5. Brought practical gifts
6. Ensured that there was peace on earth



Acknowledgement

ANDERSON (MICHAEL)

The family of the late Michael Anderson wish to thank most sincerely all those who sympathised with them during their sad bereavement. Those who sent Mass cards, flowers and attended the funeral. A special word of thanks to our kind relatives and neighbours and friends, Dr. Feeney and Fr. Hassett. We can't thank you all enough. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

Appreciation

KEARNS (MARY)

It was with great sadness that the staff and management of Tesco, Lucan learnt of the recent passing of our very dear friend and work colleague Mary Kearns after a short illness borne with great dignity and courage.

Mary was an inspiration to us all as well as being a great character, with a wicked sense of humour. She was without doubt one of a kind. On many occasions she regaled the staff at various retirement parties with her unique style on the squeeze-box. A quiet and unassuming sort, she was graced with so many talents, not least her remarkable talent for dry-flower arranging. But we will miss her most on the shop floor where she made so many friends among the staff as well as shoppers. Her memory will always be in our hearts. To her family and friends, we offer our deepest sympathy. A light has gone out in Tesco, one that shone brightly for 27 years.

Christmas Remembrance

MOFFITT (ANN)

3rd Christmas Away from Home

Still sadly missed.

Always in our thoughts and prayers.

"Happy Christmas Mam".

Love Mick, John, Dermot, Anita, Martina & Anthony xxx

WILLIAMS (MAY)

6th Sept '11 – 1st Christmas Away from Home

Those who die in grace

Go no further from us than God

And God is very near.

Forever in our hearts.

Muriel & all the family



Anniversaries

BEHAN

In loving memory of Chrissie & Pop. Late of Sarsfield Close.

The happy times we spent together

Will linger in our hearts forever.

Always remembered by Mollie & family

COLEMAN (PAUL)

1st Anniversary – 1st January

My heart is full of memories

With pride we speak your name

But life goes on without you

It will never be the same.

Always missed by your loving wife Mel, daughters, sons & grandchildren

O'BRIEN (JIMMY)

1st Anniversary – 5th January

First anniversary of our dear Dad and also remembering our dear Mam **Eileen**.

It's hard to believe a year has passed

Since you were here with us

But you knew that God wanted you

So you left without a fuss.

In our hearts your memories we treasure

And in our hearts you will stay forever.

Sadly missed by Jacqueline, Alan, Tracey, extended family & friends

Anniversary Mass for Jimmy is Sunday 8th January at 7pm.

RYLE (MICHAEL – JOE)

14th Anniversary – 29th December

Late of Airlie Heights, Lucan.

Dear Lord our God we thank you so

For looking after Joe

Although another year has come and gone

Loving memories of you Joe

Give us the strength to journey on.

Also a special Christmas remembrance for your dear grandson **Darragh Michael**.R.I.P. and your brother **Fr. Kevin Ryle** R.I.P.

Joe you are greatly loved & missed always by your wife Maureen & family

WILLIAMS (BERNARD)

6th Anniversary – 28th December

God called his name so softly

That only he could hear

And no-one heard the footsteps

Of angels drawing near

The golden gates stood open

God saw he needed rest

God's garden must be beautiful

He only takes the best

No matter how life changes

No matter what we do

A special place within our hearts

Is always kept for you.

Loved & missed every day, Muriel & all the family

Recently Deceased

BECK ESTES (MARY)

Cary, North Carolina, USA & formerly from Sarsfield Park, Lucan & Leixlip.

Will always be remembered by family & friends

Another Mouth to Feed

Panus was worried. He hadn't slept too well last night; luckily his soccer match was cancelled due to the ice and snow. He knew he wouldn't have played well. He suspected he mightn't have been picked because his manager probably would have noticed that his face had lost its usual smile. There was no *probably* about it, his manager would have noticed that Panus was not himself.

Panus' dilemma began when he heard his father assuring his mother that they would manage *another mouth to feed this Christmas*. Panus knew that his Mum & Dad did not have much money to spend, but another mouth to feed would put pressure on the already depleted wages that they had to live on.

His father came to Ireland in 2002 because he had heard there was great money to be earned in Ireland. His Dad worked all the hours God sent helping to build new houses and apartments. He learnt the expression *all the hours God sent* from Paddy Joe who lived over the road. Paddy Joe and his father had worked together on the buildings, travelling in and out to work together in Paddy Joe's old escort. Paddy Joe said why *buy a new fangled model* when his old jalopy never let him down. Paddy Joe didn't go to work with Panus' Dad any longer; he had lost his job due to the downturn in the economy. Economy was something else that Panus had learned about from Paddy Joe. Paddy Joe was always talking about it saying things like *economy* sure they don't know how to be economical, they don't have to count their pennies. The only economy they look after is their own, making sure their pension pot is full. When Panus asked Paddy Joe who *they* were he said *that shower, the ones who'd go to the opening of an envelope if it meant getting their picture in the local paper*.

Panus was wondering if there was any way he might earn some money to help out? He had heard about paper rounds but when he asked in the local shop he was told that that practise had died out, it was hard enough to sell newspapers these days with everything been available on the net 24/7 without delivering them as well the newsagent said. Then he wondered about doing the shopping for some elderly neighbours but his mother nearly freaked out when she heard that he got two euros from Mrs Sullivan for carrying home her shopping bags, she made him give it back, and what's more he had to tell Mrs Sullivan he'd help out any time she asked as he was going to be a good Samaritan. He really didn't have any other ideas; it was different in summer when the grass needed cutting and the hedges trimming. There again knowing his mother she'd probably tell him the very least he

could do was help out their elderly neighbours, after all he'd be old himself one day.

Old! He might never get to be old if there wasn't enough to eat, what with another mouth to feed and Christmas coming. His mother was thinking of looking for another part time job to fit in with the home help job she had at the moment. Things were bad and from what Paddy Joe said they were going to get worse. Panus knew that life was full of problems, however he remembered that his teacher Ms Smith said that all problems had a solution. That was what she said about their Maths homework and she said the same principle applied to everyday life, for example she said *do your homework and you will have no problem with me*.

Panus began to think he wouldn't get much sleep tonight either, he had been trying to think what he could do since early morning and now it was nearly bedtime and he was none the wiser!

He heard his mother calling him saying his supper was ready. In he went to sit at the kitchen table for his warm milk and cookies but he really didn't have an appetite. Next thing he heard his father asking him what was the matter. Panus first said nothing, then he father said *come on son* what's worrying you? That was it, there was nothing for it but to tell his parents that he'd heard them talking about *another mouth to feed this Christmas*. He took a big breath and started to talk; at first there was silence but then all he could hear was his parents laughing. He got annoyed saying this is not a laughing matter what with *another mouth to feed this Christmas*. Panus' mother and father were spluttering; *son* his mother said that other mouth to feed is Paddy Joe.

Paddy Joe, Paddy Joe ooooooooooooo!!!!!!

His father said that since Paddy Joe would be on his own this Christmas they had asked him to join them for Christmas dinner and he had said yes. So that was what he'd heard, *the other mouth to feed* was Paddy Joe's. His mother said that it actually was a blessing in disguise as Paddy Joe was providing the Christmas dinner. Paddy Joe got a present of a goose every Christmas from his cousin in Galway and this year it would grace their Christmas table.

Panus let out a sigh of relief finished his milk and went off to bed yawning. He was now wondering what he's make for Paddy Joe for Christmas, he wondered if his father would have any wood to make a bird table as Paddy Joe was always throwing out crumbs to the birds. He's wait till the morning to ask him; all he needed to do right now was to catch up on his sleep so he'd be right for Christmas.



Mgm

Out come the memories too....

Like taking out the decorations every year, memories of past Christmases are always evoked during the season.

For myself, Christmas really started on the 8th December – as children, we were unaware of the season of Advent!

8th December

An early memory is of being at Kitty Murray's funeral in the old Esker Cemetery on the 8th December, 1959 or '60. We attended the funeral Mass in St. Mary's on that Holy Day, and walked behind the hearse to her final resting place. Kitty was a charming lady who worked in the office at Collins Butchers, and lived on Main Street with her sister Nellie. I still have very fond memories of her.

During the burial, it began to snow leaving the earth completely covered in a white blanket. While I remember the snow being heavy, it probably wasn't too bad, as after the burial my mother took the three of us into Dublin on the bus, to see Santa! My main concern on the day was that my mother wouldn't stop talking to people after the funeral, and it would be too late to go on our annual trip.

We went to 'Dublin' back then as opposed to 'Town' these days! If you lived in Palmerstown or Chapelizod, you went to 'Town', but if you lived out in the country in Lucan, it was 'Dublin' you were heading for.

Still, every 8th December, I remember Kitty!

Sadness

A very sad Christmas happened around the end of the 1950s, when Martin Kilduff, a little boy of about 5 or 6 years of age passed away on Christmas Eve. I must have made my First Communion at the time, as I was at the 8am Mass with my mother, on Christmas morning when we heard the news. Back then, if receiving Holy Communion, it would only be at the early Masses, as a three-hour fast was still in force. Previous to that, it had been a fast from midnight.

Martin was in my brother's class in the Convent School – Sr. Michael their teacher spoke for years after about her four Martins – Martin Kilduff, my brother Martin, and two others.

I remember my mother sympathising with Mrs. Kilduff who was at that 8am Mass on Christmas morning. The grieving mother's reply was something to the effect that they were grateful for having him for so long – he had been delicate from birth. It must have been a dreadful Christmas for that family.

Strange things happen. I was visiting a class in St. Thomas' School, Esker, just over a year ago for their local history day, when a little boy related to me the story of his 'uncle' who had died at Christmas, and how they still had his Christmas presents - never unwrapped.

It turned out that this child was a grand nephew of the little boy I remembered, and his name was also Martin.

That Turkey

My father worked for Cromer's Builders, and every Christmas, William Cromer delivered a turkey for the family. This great big bird hung on the back of the door for a couple of days, and more than once he gave a bit of a flutter, sending us kids running for cover – thinking he wasn't really dead!!!

It happened one Christmas when I was in Secondary School, that my mother got a very bad dose of flu. She must have been really sick, as she didn't easily take to the bed. I can remember wondering was she so bad that we might lose her!

My father was far from domesticated, but he did his best. The turkey had been delivered as usual, and on Christmas Eve, it had to be prepared for the oven – that meant cleaning it out and removing the lower legs and head etc. There was a trick to removing the legs – they had to be pulled so as the sinews would come out of the thigh, as opposed to cutting the legs off leaving part of the sinews, which would toughen the meat.

In fairness to the man, he got it cleaned out, but he couldn't figure out how to deal with the legs. I still have this vision of him carrying the turkey into the bedroom to my sick mother, asking her to help him with the legs! She summoned all her strength and told him to jam the feet in the door and pull hard. Problem solved! We held the door on the turkey's legs and Dad pulled hard and the job was done.

Christmas Masses

Joe Dignam's three taxis ferried the elderly people from Dodsboro and the outlying areas to and from Mass on Christmas Day and indeed every Sunday. The younger people and children all walked the journey. Buses went nowhere near Dodsboro or the Finntown area back then.

On Christmas Day, priests were allowed say three Masses. Fr. Brennan and Fr. Loughran were the two Lucan priests. Mass was in Latin, and if you got the old Fr. Brennan, you had to really pay attention, as he said his three Christmas Day Masses one after the other, and it was very easy to get caught for all three Masses.





The Village

The Lucan of my childhood was very different than today.

They were pre-EEC days, and we could do a lot of things then that are simply not allowed any more. The above picture testifies to that – **Collin's Butchers at Christmas 1946**, with the plucked turkeys hanging outside. **Giltraps** at the other end of the village would have had a similar display. Though already plucked, these birds would still have to be cleaned out.

For most of the year, **Cormack's** sold and repaired bicycles and radios, but at Christmas time their shop window turned into a mini winter wonderland with 'snow' and decorations, and lots of dinky cars and toys on display. **Keady's** on The Mall also made a big effort, and **Saunders' Newsagents** had every Annual under the sun, so we had a great opportunity to study what we might put on our list for Santa! We waited anxiously on Christmas Eve listening for him to read our names out on the radio, and reassure us that he was on the way.

The Toys

Some boys got **cowboy suits**, and guns and holsters with 'diamonds' in them. Others got **Indian suits**, with bows and arrows. A rifle was the in thing before the space-age guns arrived. The girls got things like **dolls in frilly dresses** with straw hats, and perhaps a dolls pram. A **compendium of games** was a very welcome gift for older children. The books on the go were **Bunty** and **Judy, Beano, Dandy** and **Topper**. When you had moved beyond the annuals, there was the **What Katy Did** series, and remember the **Biggles Books!**



School Holidays

The day of the school holidays was also looked forward to, not just because of the break from school, but because the Nuns gave us a **Christmas Party** every year. Lots of sticky buns and sweets plus if you only missed one day from school you got an extra sticky bun. If you missed no days, it was two extra buns. I estimate there were close on 400 pupils in the Convent Primary School at the time – an awful lot of buns!!!

Winter Weather

The weather also provides seasonal memories. One is of the buses stranded in the Village during heavy snow and very icy roads. Often times, villagers brought cups of tea and sandwiches out to the drivers and conductors as they waited for assistance to get up the hill out of Lucan.

Something you'll never see again is a milk lorry carrying crates of milk which when frozen resembled candles sticking up out of glass bottles, popping their foil caps. It was actually the cream at the top that was frozen – EEC got rid of the cream in the milk since then! **Dublin Dairies** and **HB** were the providers of the day.

A Christmas Tree

The Christmas Tree at **Fulfil's** was a sight to behold – *Fulfil's* was what we called the garage close to the Demesne entrance, where Maxol is now. Every year the big tree was decorated with lots of colourful lights, and it was part of Christmas to walk up to see that tree.

And so rest the memories until this time again next year, please God.

Mary Mulhall



We wish all our members, supporters and patrons a very happy Christmas and a prosperous new year.

The Lucan Sarsfields "Sports Persons Dream" Draw
As an alternative to the traditional Christmas Draw, this year Lucan Sarsfields is joining as a partner in a Draw called "Sports Persons Dream". 1st prize is tickets for all major sporting events in 2012 – rugby, soccer, GAA, golf, racing etc. plus €5k. There are about 15 other prizes. Tickets are available from mentors or from www.sportspersonsdream.com
The last day for return of these tickets is Wednesday 28th December.

Well done to Emer Maloney and Clodagh Flanagan

pictured below who were selected to play for the Dublin u-17 Football team. They have completed a training programme and played in a blitz two weeks ago. Sinead O'Keefe also took part in the training but unfortunately could not take part in the blitz. Emer was part of the successful junior ladies team this year and herself, Clodagh and Sinead played both minor and U-16 this year.



St.Stephens Day in the 12th Lock

This Stephens day our **U-14 footballers** who won the division 2 Dublin Feile this year will take on their parents at 12 o'clock on the all weather pitch. Then at 1pm we will have the **Married v Singles** game. Half hurling, half football, half mad!

Best wishes to outgoing U-16 mentors who have brought their teams all the way from Nursery to the end of their Juvenile status.

Camogie - A: Joe Whyte, B: Bill Ryan;

Boys Football - A: Paul Quinn and Brian Flynn. B: John Mullen and Mike Hanley

Hurling - Brian Flynn and Mike Hanley

Club Shop: The club shop is now closed for the Christmas break and will re-open at 7.30pm on January 10th.



An end of season **Camogie newsletter** is now available to read or download from the club website.

To access click - The Club - tab, then go to forms and click on Camogie newsletter link.



Congratulations to **Ali Twomey** (left) on winning her first Dub Star Camogie award on Tuesday last. Ali has always been one of the most prominent players involved with Lucan's juvenile camogie revolution of recent years.

The Dub Stars will play against the Dublin camogie team on Tuesday next December 27th in the home ground of St. Brigids GAA Club Russell Park 11am

Club Person of the Year

Nominations are now being taken for the 2011 Club Person of The Year. Please email the name of your nominee and the reason you are nominating them to the Club Secretary alicewhyte1@gmail.com. Nominees cannot be current members of the Executive Committee. Closing date is January 6th

This years U-10 Footballers pictured below after winning the Leinster Blitz earlier this year are our top ticket sellers for this years Christmas draw.



Deepest sympathy to the family of Colm Moran

Long time Club member Colm passed away on 15/12/11. Colm, who hailed from Kerry and never forgot his roots, was a great supporter of Lucan Sarsfields since he moved to Lucan in the early 70's. He was involved in numerous aspects of the Club including playing a leading role in Golf Classics, Lotto and fund raising. He had a huge interest in the playing side of the Club, both football and hurling at all levels. Colm made a huge number of friends through his involvement with the Club and will be missed by them all. May he rest in peace.

Last weekends Lotto Numbers 3-15-16-21. No Winner. This weeks **Jackpot €9,500.** Esther Keenan's team will be in charge on Tuesday 27th when the draw will be sponsored by Lucan Village Pharmacy.
IF EVERY MEMBER BUYS JUST 1 TICKET IT WILL BE A HUGE HELP TO THE CLUB.

SPORTS

LUCAN PITCH & PUTT CLUB

Well the Bonanza was played under very tough conditions last weekend, even the Greens were harder than usual. (Excuse the Pun).

The winners of the Bonanza 34 Stableford are:

Gents:

Snr: Johnny Price 74Pts.
Int: Andy Fitzgerald 82Pts.
Jnr: Peter Anderson 80Pts.
(About time with that handicap).



Ladies:

Class 1: Philo Condron 67Pts.
Class 2: Tracey Smith 73Pts.
Thanks to Leixlip Butchers for their sponsorship of the Bonanza.

There was also a 17 Stableford **Turkey**

Competition for non-winners and the winners here are:

Gents:

Snr: Tom Bolger 37Pts.
Int: Eddie Mc Crory 31Pts.
Jnr: Ronnie Guinan 42Pts.



Ladies:

Class 1: Adrienne Kelly 36Pts.
Class 2: No non-winner in this section.
The Winter leagues once again kindly sponsored by Pat Toolan begin 8th January and team sheets are now down. Good luck to everyone taking part.

St. Stephens Night music is by Julian €5p.p. and New Years Eve music are - **The Lads** - €7.50p.p. There will be a Scramble on St. Stephens's day starting at 11am, played on the winter greens. Come all ye Faithful.

We would like to thank The Newsletter team for their continued help and wish them and our members a peaceful & happy Christmas. Every good wish for 2012.

ST. MARY'S CARDS

1st: John Garde
2nd: Tom McDonald
3rd: Tony Rigney
4th: Joe McPartland.

Happy Christmas to all and many thanks to the Newsletter Staff for all their support.
Cards resume on Sunday 8th January.

GARDA GAA CLUB & WESTMANSTOWN GAELS



Training for all teams will resume in early January.

Welcome to all the new club members who transferred to us recently.

Many thanks to all who contributed so generously to the club collection for the local St Vincent De Paul. A total of over €1200 was raised for this very worthy cause.

Join Westmanstown Gaels! Our annual membership fee is €60. For more information, see <http://www.westmantowngaels.ie>.

Visit us at the Westmanstown Sports Complex any Saturday at 10am from January 07 2012. All juvenile teams start again on the weekend of 7th January with the nursery section beginning on Sat 14th January. Membership open to everyone!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of our members and Dublin GAA fans.

LUCAN GOLF CLUB

Sat. 17th Dec: Front 9:

1st Pearse O'Connell (24) 21,
2nd Austin McLoughlin (17) 22 -1,
3rd Christy O'Toole (21) 22-1;
Back 9: 1st Terry Edwards (23) 24-1,
2nd Tom Conway (18) 21,
3rd Colin Downes (6) 20.

Sun. 18th Dec: Front 9:

1st James Walshe (17) 23,
2nd Dave Thompson (12) 24-1,
3rd Barry O'Leary (16) 23-1;
Back 9: 1st Joseph Cochrane (20) 23,
2nd Stephen Dignam (9) 23-1,
3rd Derek Molloy (19) 22-1.

LUCAN TROUT & SALMON ANGLERS

Wish to thank all who supported us on the night and all the traders who gave generously to our raffle.

The A.G.M. will be held on 18th January 2012 in Kenny's (KEEP) Pub at 8 pm sharp.



Political Notes



Minister Frances Fitzgerald – Fine Gael

01 457 7712. Frances.fitzgerald@oir.ie
www.francesfitzgerald.ie

Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada: I was delighted this week to welcome news that construction will begin on a new school site for Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada in 2012. This is what the children, parents and teachers have been campaigning on for years – it is fantastic news for them and a tribute to their hard work and determination. Since my election, I have been keeping pressure on Minister Quinn to deliver for this school and the other schools in Lucan which are in need of additional accommodation.

Christmas Wishes: I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year. I look forward to continuing to work with residents throughout Lucan in 2012.

Cllr. Eamon Tuffy- Labour Party Chairperson, County Development Board

22 Liffey Wood, Lucan. Tel: 6109313; Mobile: 0863863173. Email: etuffy@sdublincoco.ie

Christmas Lights on the Green: It's good to see the Christmas lights on the trees and gazebo in the Village Green. I had contacted the Parks Department on Monday, was told that the electric cable had been severed, and that the Council had requested the ESB to do repairs. Hopefully next year we might have a more extensive display. Rathcoole Village is worth seeing.

Happy Christmas: Best wishes to everyone in Lucan for a peaceful, safe and happy Christmas. I would like to thank very much all the volunteers who give of their time to publish and distribute the Lucan Newsletter, for their kindness and courtesy during 2011.

PS-Council Emergency Contact Number is 4574907. See www.sdcc.ie Useful Emergency Contacts for a more complete list.

Joanna Tuffy TD

(Labour Constituency Office Dispensary Lane, Lucan, Co. Dublin phone 6218400 email joanna.tuffy@oir.ie www.joannatuffy.ie)

Christmas Wishes

I would like to wish all Lucan Residents a Happy Christmas and New Year. Thank you too to all at Lucan Newsletter for their work throughout the year.

Derek Keating TD, Fine Gael

Peace Commissioner. 66 Beech Park
Tel/Text: 087 285 7435 (m). 01 618 4014 (o)
Web: www.derekkeating.net

Email: info@derekkeating.net

A New Year is upon us soon with new opportunities. I assure you of my continued commitment in representing ALL residents of Lucan and beyond. I wish you and your family a healthy and prosperous future.

School News for Lucan: I welcome that *Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada* is at last approved for its new building, and the refurbishment of *Scoil Mhuire National School*, Airlie Heights. I continue seeking approval for other local school applications with the Department of Education.

CD/DVD: The response is amazing with national airplay and awareness of the work of Pieta House - visit iTunes to download "*Bridge Over Troubled Water – Pieta*"

Welcome Home: to family members and visitors for Christmas. I look forward to meeting you over the holiday period.

Email Newsletter: To receive my free Email Newsletter, send me an email marked 'Subscribe'.

Councillor Guss O'Connell

Independent Community, Chairperson Lucan Area Committee. Tel 0876838254

gussoconnell@gmail.com

Budget: We voted €237m as against €249m for 2011 to cover the 2012 services of SDCC. I was not prepared to doubling the price of a burial; we (Alliance) were able to balance the budget partly by putting the figure proposed for our personal attendance at conferences back into the pool. The amount transferred from the National though smaller than last year was less of a drop than that applied to other Dublin Authorities, so we cut the rates by better than 2% to encourage employment. The sooner we get a more equitable method of funding local services the better. The €100 household tax is not the answer.

Go raibh síochán Na Nollag agus Bliain Nua faoi shéan 's faoi shonas ort 's ar do mhuintir.

May the peace of Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year be with you and yours.



Cllr. Emer Higgins – Fine Gael

087 921 7741

ehiggins@sdublincoco.ie

www.emerhiggins.com

Emergency Contact Details: South Dublin County Council offices will be closed during some of the Christmas period, but an emergency number will be in operation. To contact the Council in the event of an after-hours emergency phone 457 4907. I will remain available to residents throughout Christmas. It looks like we will have a much milder Christmas than we have had the last couple of years and it is hoped that houses will not suffer frozen water or burst pipes.

Christmas Wishes – I would like to wish all Lucan residents a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.



Transport Users

I wish to thank all our supporters, well wishers, readers and the Newsletter itself for the assistance and help you have given us over the past year. Our main aim is to ensure a good transport system for this great country. We are very close to achieving that aim, Unfortunately there are a few bodies still supporting vested interests that could undermine a satisfactory solution crippling this country for generations to come. The response from the Authorities has been very disappointing they say the decision has been taken even now when the flaws have been discovered. Nobody should have the right to destroy a country no matter how powerful they are. I will keep you updated in the New Year.

T. Newton 086 3127364.

Cllr. William Lavelle - Fine Gael

36 St. Andrews Drive

0874107885

wlavelle@sdublincoco.ie

Seasons Greetings:

May I wish the readers and staff of the Lucan Newsletter a Merry Christmas and Happy 2012.

Council Budget:

The council has agreed a 2.4% rates cut for local businesses facilitated by a less-than-average reduction in the government contribution to the council as requested by Fine Gael councillors in our recent meeting with Minister for Environment Phil Hogan. FG councillors also secured the ring-fencing of €200,000 for gully improvement works. I have secured agreement for **drainage works at Esker Lane/Woodville** in the New Year.

Schools News:

May I wish all the best to Henry Thynne who retired this week as Principal of Scoil Mhuire. Henry has been a superb principal. Best wishes to new Principal John Egan. I am delighted that both **Scoil Mhuire & Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada** have this week been given approval for school building construction in 2012.

Fianna Fáil (Sarsfield / Connolly Cumann)

Thanks to all who have contributed so far to the memorabilia collection.

Our next Cumann Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 31st January 2012. All members, past and new, are welcome.

Bíodh Nollaig Shona agus Siochánta agaibh.

Caitríona McClean (Rúnaí)

lucanff@gmail.com

A Christmas Memory

Frost on the window panes,
Snow in the Lane.

Robin sings his song there,
Its Christmas time again.
Pudding on the table,
Holly around the door.



In the front window,
A big red candle there,
To tell Mary and Joseph
You are welcome here.

Children in the parlour,
Hanging coloured paper chains.
A carol comes on the radio,



All the children sing a
Song of the Christ child
It's Christmas time again.
Frost on the window panes,
Snow in the lane,

Robin sings his song there
It's Christmas time again.

Stephen Byrne.

Seasons
Greetings

CHURCH NOTICES FOR CHRISTMAS 2011



St. Mary's – Lucan

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve:

- 5.00 pm Soloist, Nicky Hendy
 6.30 pm Soloist, Kathy Nugent with Organist, Gavin Kelly
 8.00 pm Chorale with Eithne Donnelly, Director; and Organist, Michael Grant
 11.30 pm Traditional Carol Service - Congregation
 Midnight Mass Soloist, Edmund Brown with Organist, Joe Fitzgerald.
 Also, Congregational Singing

Christmas Day:

- 8.45 am Soloist/Instrumentalist, Breeda Ward
 9.45 am Children's Choir with Anne O'Shea, Director and Edel Murphy, Assnt, with Organist, Gavin Kelly.
 11.00 am Praise and Worship Singers with Trish O'Neill, Director
 12.15 pm Soloist, Bernie Martin with P.J. Crawley, Instrumentalist.

No Evening Mass.

Monday 26th – Mass at 11.00 only

Tuesday 27th – Friday 30th December 10 am Mass only. Saturday 10 am

Sunday 1st January – Vigil Saturday 6.30pm, 8.45am, 9.45am, 11.00am, 12.15pm & 7pm.

Monday 2nd January – Thursday 5th 10 am Mass

Friday – Feast of the Epiphany Holy Day & First Friday, Masses Vigil Thursday 7.30 pm, 10.00 am, 11.00 am & 7.30 pm.

Confessions: Christmas Eve – 10.30 am – 12.00 noon & 2.00 – 4.00 pm.

Christian Meditation Tuesday 3rd January.

Deepest Sympathy to the wife and family of **Colm Moran**, late of Ballydowd, also to the family and relatives of **Mary Beck Estas**, formerly Sarsfield, and Leixlip – Mary died in America, and to the Presentation Community on the death of **Sr. Enda**. Her funeral Mass is on Saturday at 10 am. *May they rest in peace.*

St. Patrick's–Esker / Dodsboro /Adamstown

Masses – Christmas Eve: Children's Mass at 6.00 pm. Christmas Eve Mass 9.00 pm

Christmas Day: 9.00 am, 10.30 am & 12.00 noon

Monday 26th December – Mass at 11.00 am

Tuesday – Friday Mass at 10.00 am

Saturday 31st December: Vigil 7.00 pm

Sunday 1st January Masses at 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 12.00 noon.

Divine Mercy – Lucan South

Masses: Christmas Eve 6.30 pm Family Mass. 8.30 pm Vigil Mass

Christmas Day – 10.30 am & 12.00 noon

St Stephen's Day – 12 noon

Tuesday 27th – Saturday 31st Mass at 10.00 am

Saturday 31st Vigil Mass at 6.30 pm

Sunday 1st January – 10.30 am & 12.00 noon

Confessions: Christmas Eve – 10.30 am – 11.30 am & 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm.

St Andrew's Church of Ireland

Saturday Christmas Eve – 11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist, St. Mary's Church, Leixlip

Sunday Christmas Day – 9.00 am Holy Communion & 10.00 am Holy Communion St. Andrew's Church, Lucan

11.30 am Holy Communion, St. Mary's Church, Leixlip

Lucan Methodist Church

Christmas Day – 9.30 am Morning Service, Rev. Bill Mullally



Christmas Eve

**Ecumenical Service at the
 Lucan Village Green
 at 1.00 pm**

