



Established 1967

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

Sub. €1

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

## Lent – Springing Towards the Light!

We have arrived in the season of Lent – the preparation period leading to Easter. We had the unusual coincidence of St Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday colliding this year. This is very rare as it takes a lot of numbers to stack up together for this to happen. Ash Wednesday is determined by the date of Easter Sunday. The date of Easter Sunday occurs on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring equinox – 20/21 March. The first full moon after the equinox this year occurs on 25 March so that Easter Sunday occurs on 31 March. Ash Wednesday occurs six weeks before Holy Thursday.

Regarding Lent, the liturgical cycle of the Church year leans into the symbolism of the natural seasonal and chronological year. The Church year fits well with the northern hemisphere, and in total contrast in the southern hemisphere. Lent is a time of reaching for spiritual growth while in nature it is the time when bulbs push up through the ground, buds sprout on branches and birds prepare nests in readiness for new chicks.

The growth which occurs in nature is dependent on the right conditions being provided. Water logged ground, rocky terrain and hungry or distressed animals will have less ability to produce new life. All hinges on having the right and appropriate space. The season of Spring is rich with the flourishing hope of producing colour, fruit, energy and a great freshness. This time of the year is a start in nature repeating a natural cycle in an ever-new way.

In parallel, we spend Lent reaching towards the great light and hope of Easter (the great promise that we will have a home with God for eternity), a time by which new natural growth will be burgeoning with enhanced photosynthesis as daylight hours extend. Our own ability for greater activity will increase correspondingly as we will be less likely to spend evenings in our houses. There is a natural, new energy growing in these weeks and a greater alertness to spiritual awakening.

Lent is an opportunity to fast (do without what we don't need), share with those in need, pray and reflect so that we, and all who inhabit the earth with us, may grow towards greater wholeness. It is an opportunity to consider how well we treat our own bodies so that we have best health, how we are with others and how we are with God. It is very much about realigning our lives to live our God-given potential more fully in good relationship with ourselves, others and God. The penance and repentance aspect is about making meaningful change by adjusting physical, spiritual and mental habits that hinder healthy spiritual, physical and mental growth.

To arrive ready for Easter we are called to

- recognise blocks in relationship and seek to mend them
- take an honest look at our lives to sweep away the grit and make space for new hope
- take a look at what priorities drive our family lives and consider if a new order needs to be formed
- treat the gift of the earth with greater respect as a fragile entity
- grow in deeper respect and understanding for the diversity of people, cultures and nature
- connect with our loving Creator God through prayer looking at our lives in the light of the Gospel

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

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

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

Email – [lucan@citinfo.ie](mailto:lucan@citinfo.ie)

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



### Opening hours

#### Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

#### Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

### \*Referendums on family and care in 2024

#### *When will the referendums be held and why?*

Two referendums will be held on 8 March 2024 for Irish citizens to decide if Article 41 of the Irish Constitution should be changed. Articles 40 to 44 of the Constitution set out certain fundamental rights people living in Ireland have.



A constitutional referendum gives Irish citizens the opportunity to decide whether or not the wording of the Constitution will change. There have been 38 constitutional referendums to date, and 32 of them have been approved.

#### *What am I being asked to decide on?*

You are being asked to vote on 2 referendums to change the Constitution. These changes are called the Family Amendment (the 39th Amendment) and the Care Amendment (the 40th Amendment).

The Family Amendment concerns the concept of family in the Constitution and deals with Articles 41.1.1° and 41.3.1°. In this amendment, there is one vote for 2 proposed changes – adding additional text to Article 41.1.1° and deleting text in Article 41.3.1°.

The Care Amendment concerns Articles 41.2.1° and 41.2.2° which deal with the role of women in the home. In this amendment, there is one vote for 2 proposed changes – deleting Articles 41.2.1°

and 41.2.2°, and inserting a new Article, 42B, which deals with care provided by family members.

You can read more about these proposed amendments on the Electoral Commission's website.

#### *Can I vote in the referendum?*

To vote in a referendum, you must be:

An Irish citizen

At least 18 years old

Registered to vote

You can check that you are registered to vote on [checktheregister.ie](http://checktheregister.ie). To vote in the referendum, you must be registered, or register any change of details, by 20 February 2024.

The deadline for postal and special voting arrangements passed on 12 February 2024.

#### *Where do I vote and what do the ballot papers look like?*

If you are registered to vote, your polling card with information on your polling station will be posted to you before polling day. The polling station will be open from 7am to 10pm. You need to bring a valid form of personal identification to your polling station.

The Family Amendment will be on a white coloured ballot paper. The Care Amendment will be on a green coloured ballot paper. You can read more about voting in a referendum.

Read more about the referendums on <https://bit.ly/referendums-in-Ireland>, or call us on 0818 07 4000 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 8pm).

#### *\* Are you an Employee or self-employed?*

There is no special definition in the law that says who is an employee and who is self-employed.

The decision on your employment status is reached by looking at:

What you do

How you do it

Written or verbal agreements between you and the business that pays you

Knowing whether you are an employee or a contractor is important because it affects taxes, social insurance (PRSI), social welfare and employment rights.

#### More information

You can get detailed guidelines and criteria that clarify whether a person is an employee or self-employed in the Code of Practice for Determining Employment Status 2021 or on our website.

## Nagarhope Ireland

Nagarhope Ireland, registered in 2009, is an Irish charity that supports the work of Nagarhope Basic School (NBS) in Nagarkot, Nepal. Regular fundraising events and sponsorships have helped thousands of children's education in Nepal over the years. This coming April, 2024, will mark the 10th anniversary of Nagarhope Basic School, which caters for 130 children and 13 staff at the pre-primary and primary levels. Nagarhope Ireland continues to support the salaries of 7 teachers, the mid-day meal programme and various other activities during the year.

The school runs various sports programmes for students including football leagues, table-tennis competitions, quizzes, dance competitions and a regular Friday afternoon programme for parents, as well as a very popular annual Women's Day outing to coincide with International Women's Day.

Nagarhope Ireland extends it's thanks and best wishes to Lucan Sarsfield's GAA Club for it's continued support, and for the use of the Function Room facilities for it's upcoming fundraiser.

Please support Nagarhope's Table Quiz in the Clubhouse on Friday, March 8th March, at 8.00pm and enjoy the fun challenge!



## Lucan ICA

*Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February:* Craft Ladies meet as usual, 10am to 12.30pm. All busy at different projects.

**Tea Hostesses:** Fiona and Carmel.

We hope to teach the T.Y. Students from St. Joseph's how to crochet a cot blanket. The venue is the Canon Despard Centre on 29<sup>th</sup> February, 10am to 2.30pm.

*Pauline.*



## Lucan Senior Citizens

*Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February:* Social Morning and lunch in the Spa Hotel. 10.30am – 2.30pm



## Community Connect

**Drive & Drop Event 10<sup>th</sup> March 11- 1 pm  
St Mary's Church Car Park**

**DONATE TO HELP FAMILIES IN NEED!**

Help us to gather much-needed essential items for pregnant mothers and families with new babies around the country – just pick up a few extra items in your weekly shop!

Welcoming a new baby is a very special time in any family's life, but can be a challenging time for those who are struggling financially. Every donation you make will go directly to a family in need.

**Items that can be accepted (new items only):**



Nappies – size 1 to 6, Baby wipes, Nappy Sacks  
Baby Wash/Shampoo,  
Nappy Cream, Baby  
Sponges, Baby Cotton  
Wool, Packs of babygros

and vests (newborn to 6 months), Packs of baby hooded towels, Baby blankets, Packs of baby bibs, Baby bottles. Hospital bag items - dark towels, maternity nightdresses, slippers, toilet bags, sanitary towels, breast pads, nipple cream, new packs of dark underwear. Unopened Gift Items for Mothers: hand cream, lip balm, body lotion, body wash, fluffy socks/slippers, etc. (no candles or glass items please)

Financial donations also accepted on the day.

**For more information**

**see: [www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/](http://www.communityconnect.ie/driveanddrop/)**

# Parish Notes

## St Mary's, Lucan

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



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

**Weekday Masses:** Monday to Friday 10am and 7.30pm. **(NO evening Mass this Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February).** Saturday 10am.

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

### Confirmation

Best Wishes to the boys from **St Mary's BNS** who will be confirmed this Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

*Please remember them in your prayers.*



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

The roster for readers at the Saturday vigil, 12 noon and 7pm Masses on Sundays in St. Mary's for the month of March 2024 has been sent to all readers by email. If any reader has not received it a copy is available for inspection in the sacristy.



**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:** Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Saturdays. (funerals permitting) from 10.30am to 11.30am. *All welcome.*

**Christian Meditation:** We meet every Tuesday night at 8pm in the Parish Bungalow. *All welcome, Sr Geraldine.*

**Divine Mercy Devotion:** Every Wednesday morning in St. Mary's Parish Church after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral), the Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed during exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. This devotion, revealed to St Faustina by Our Lord, is necessary to defeat evil, for peace in the world and for our journey to eternal life.

**Deepest Sympathy** to the wife, family and friends of **Paddy Callanan**, Beech Park, to the husband, family and friends of **Miriam Slaven**, Laraghcon and to the wife, family and friends of **Jerry Butler**, Lucan Heights. *May they rest in peace.*



**Baptisms:** Dates are bookable on line. If you need to cancel email: [secretary@lucanparish.com](mailto:secretary@lucanparish.com)

**Confessions – Nuns' Chapel:** After Saturday 10am Mass and Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

**Bethany Bereavement Support Group:** We meet every **2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 10.45am and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday at 8pm of the month** in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen to or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. *Sr. Geraldine.*

**Legion of Mary:** Meeting every Thursday 5.30pm in the **Parish Bungalow** for Rosary and Prayers. *All Welcome.*

**Lectio Divina:** The season of Lent presents an opportunity to review our spiritual wellbeing and pay particular attention to how we can enhance our lives through the three central pillars of Lent: Prayer, Almsgiving and Fasting. Lectio Divina involves spiritual reflection on the Gospels and calls us to change our ways in response to the Gospel message in terms of being more prayerful, giving to the poor, and small acts of self-denial. It involves setting aside an hour each week to read, meditate, contemplate and pray about the following Sunday's gospel.

**Lectio Divina meet in the bungalow each Monday evening between 7.30 and 8.30pm.**

**St Vincent de Paul – Church Collection**  
at all Masses **THIS**

Saturday/Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> February.  
*Mary thanks for your generosity*

### Pilgrimage - Medjugorje 2024

Pilgrimage departing 15<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

**Spiritual Director: Fr Ray Kelly**

7 nights - €750 pps including insurance.

€50 discount if booked and €200 per person deposit paid if booked before 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

During Lent Weekday Evening Mass will be in St Mary's Church at 7.30pm except on the following dates when there will be **NO** evening Mass: **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February.**



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

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



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

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

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

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

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

**St Patrick's Prayer Meeting:** Meeting every Monday night in the Pastoral Centre, (Side of St Patrick's Church) from 7.30pm to 8.15pm.

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

**Communion for the Homebound:** If any member of your family is sick and housebound, and would like to receive Holy Communion, do please let us know. You can ring the Parish Office on 01 628 1018 and leave you name and address, or email us at: [secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie](mailto:secretary@stpatrickslucan.ie)

**Tea/Coffee:** Every Wednesday Morning 10.30am in the Parish Centre. *All are welcome.*

### St Vincent De Paul – St Patrick's Conference

Church Gate collection before and after all  
Masses **THIS**

**Saturday/Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> February**

*Thank you for your generosity.*

## Lucan Active Retirement Association

We meet in St Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am. New members always welcome, come and join us in a friendly atmosphere and meet new friends. No charge for your first meeting.

Lots of activities to enjoy. Bowls, scrabble, cards, drama and choir. Coffee break at 1pm. Organised trips in Ireland and abroad.

## Divine Mercy, Lucan South

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

**Sunday Mass Times:** Saturday Vigil: 6pm.  
Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12.00 noon.

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

All Masses will be livestreamed on  
[www.lucansouthparish.net](http://www.lucansouthparish.net)

**Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje:** Every Thursday, in the Church of Divine Mercy, Lucan South.

**7.00pm:** Rosary and Confessions. **7.30pm:** Holy Mass. **After Mass:** Adoration, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Benediction. *All welcome*

**Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** **Mon:** 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration. **Fri:** 1.15pm: Adoration MPMH Cenacle. **Fri:** 2-3pm: Divine Mercy Devotion/Adoration.

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

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

**Legion of Mary:** The Legion of Mary meets every Tuesday evening at 7.30pm in the Confessional Room in the church. Their works include home visitation and outreach to the poor.

**St Joseph's Young Priests Society:** St Joseph's Young Priests Society has been set up in Divine Mercy Church, Lucan **for all the Lucan parishes.** We meet up on the first Wednesday of each month for one hour at 10.40am.

### Minder & Toddler Group

**Thursdays**  
in **St. Mary's Parish Ce**  
from **9.30am to 11.30am.**

*All Welcome!*



**Don't give from the top of the purse, but  
from the bottom of the heart.**

*Divine Word Missionaries*

### ROBIN CUNNINGHAM R.I.P.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Cunningham Funeral Directors on the death of **Robin Cunningham**.

*Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis*

## Birthday Remembrance

### KEVIN CLINTON

**Died 22<sup>nd</sup> January 1983 and would have been 81 on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

You have never been forgotten  
And you will remain in our thoughts  
And our memories forever.  
We miss you Daddy.

*Happy Heavenly birthday to you, from your children, Deirdre, Colm, Orla, Ronan, Damien, Adele and Una*

## Anniversaries

### FREDA BYRNE

**48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary R.I.P.**

We lost a wife and mother  
With a heart of gold  
How much we miss her  
Can never be told  
She shared our troubles  
And helped us along  
If we follow her footsteps  
We will never go wrong.

*Loved and remembered always by your husband Dick, your family Elaine, Richard and Emily xxx*

### FREDA BYRNE

Masses offered.

Freda, since you passed away  
Life just hasn't been the same  
I would move Heaven and earth  
To have you here with me again.

*Loved and remembered always by your sister Tessie x*



### PATRICK (PADDY) BYRNE

**8<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Gone is the face  
We loved so much  
Silent the voice  
We loved to hear  
So nice to remember Paddy  
Who once was here  
Though absent now  
Is just as dear.

*Loved and missed by Maeve, sons Damien, Austin and Denis, daughters-in-law and grandchildren*



### JOHN COLLINS

**10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Those we love don't go away  
They walk beside us every day  
Unseen, unheard but always near  
Still loved, still missed  
And very dear.

*Missed every day, Joan and family*

### TOM DUFF

**11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

Seasons come and seasons pass  
Since your branch fell from our tree  
Why did it break so early?  
How could it ever be?  
We did not know it then  
But in the roots, you still grow strong  
Your there in Springtime when leaves bud  
In Autumn when leaves fall  
Throughout every weather  
The tree stands there all year long  
The tree will last forever  
Sure you made it extra strong.

### JAMES (JIMMY) KANE

**1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary - 23<sup>rd</sup> February**

Sarsfield Park.

Think of me as one at rest  
For me you should not weep  
I have no pain, no troubled thoughts  
For I am just asleep.

*Loved too much to be forgotten by Josephine, Susan, Aideen, Eóin, Sarah, Jack, Max, Ryan and Lucy and son-in-law Philip*

**Anniversary Mass 6.30pm on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February.**



### That time of year again.....

On the last Sunday in February 1967, Lucan Newsletter appeared for the very first time. So on our 57<sup>th</sup> Birthday, we thank all our contributors and readers who have kept the publication

going over all these years. Indeed what we have is 57 years of the social history of Lucan and the surrounds – things you won't find anywhere else perhaps!



### Around every corner is a little surprise!

Years of work from our Tidy Towns people and residents associations, have left delightful little spots full of Spring blooms all over Lucan. This delightful display is at the junction beside Ardeevin estate. God bless all the green fingers!

### 2 down, 3 to go on our 6 Nations journey!

Let's hope Ireland do a good job on Wales Saturday. If you are lucky enough to have a ticket, great! The rest of us will be glued to the telly.....

### At last, the Dubs won a game!

Hopefully, the Boys in Blue are back on track after a win over Roscommon footballers. This weekend, they face Kerry, and the Hurlers take on Limerick. Lots of action this weekend.....

## Dublin Transport

We have received many complaints about the existing bus services, mainly unreliable due to buses passing full resulting in long waiting and users late for work or appointments. It is also happening on Saturdays. These problems would be even greater but for so many working from home.

The problem is caused in our view with too many buses going beyond the city centre and not getting back to where they are needed.



The Quays are heavily congested with traffic due to the planners getting it wrong again. Their new proposed plan will make very little difference because they are putting all the buses that use Dame St at present on to the Quays and on the Luas line on Nassau St. They blame the car again, they are failing when they start blaming.

There is a simple solution: the Quay Bus Contraflow that gives the bus, the train track effect along the quays, no delays.

Tom Newton 086 3127364 ACRA.



Spotted Hector doing the weather forecast from Lucan Pitch & Putt Club on Thursday morning last – and it was a cold one!



## WHAT IS DEMENTIA?

**DEMENTIA CARE**  
INFORMATION & SUPPORT

Our monthly sessions are intended for all people  
Interested in or Affected by Dementia



**THURSDAY  
7TH MARCH 2024**

EDUCATION CENTRE  
MARYMOUNT CARE CENTRE  
**7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM**

**BOOK NOW**

 +353 1 8204500  
 Westmanstown, Lucan, Co. Dublin  
 foh@mmcc.ie





## SCHOOL NEWS



### St. Joseph's College

**Senior debating:** Well done to our Concern Senior Debaters for reaching the final 32 of this year's competition. Unfortunately we came up against a very strong school in the Round of 32. Huge commendation to our intrepid group of debaters and researchers who once again did St. Joseph's College proud. We wish all of them the very best for the remainder of the year and will come back even stronger in the autumn.

**Relove fashion:** Well done to Maram Zaioueche and Rebecca Liddle who were shortlisted for the national Relove Fashion competition. Relove fashion is all about taking old clothes that you no longer wear and want and giving them a new lease of life. It is run through the ReDiscover centre and is open to all secondary schools in Leinster to enter.

**Junior athletics team:** A massive congratulations to the Junior Athletics team who came an unbelievable third in the Leinster Cross Country Championships. The event was a 2000m race in the Phoenix Park. The team consisting of Ana Jones, Poppy Lyons Kennedy, Isabelle Lyons Kennedy, Ellen Kenny, Maia Hannon, Siofra Gough and Hannah O'Brien now go on to represent St. Joseph's in the All Irelands in March.

**Madrid trip:** Our fifth years have returned from Madrid after their four day trip before Mid term break. The students had a fantastic time exploring the city and visiting sites such as the Royal Palace, the ancient Spanish city of Toledo, Retiro Park and the famous art museum Museo del Prado. Our own Ms. Garcia, who is a native of the city of Madrid, brought the students on a guided tour of the city on day one of the trip. She also gave them some great information and background to many of the works of art in Museo del Prado as she also has a degree in art history.

**U14 camogie team:** The very best of luck to our under 14 camogie team who play their first game in the Dublin A championship against St. Wolstan's from Celbridge on Wednesday morning.

**Transition year subject talks:** This week transition year students are having subject option talks from teachers in the school as they try to guide and inform them as they prepare to choose subjects they will study for their Leaving Certificate.



**Incoming first year entrance assessment:** The very best of luck to our incoming first years who sit their entrance exams in the school this coming Saturday morning, 24<sup>th</sup>.

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



## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**Awards:** Well done to 6<sup>th</sup> yr **Liam Higgins** who won the *Mark O' Neill Student of the Month* Award for January in recognition of his excellent manners, consistent application, attentiveness and exemplary behaviour in all of his classes. Congratulations to TY student **Michael O' Brien** who won the *Sports Star of the Month Award* in recognition of his brilliant displays for the school's Gaelic football teams.

Comhghairdeas freisin le **Josh Aju** ón triú bliain a bhuaigh an gradam *Gaeilgeoir na Míosa* do mhí Eanáir mar gheall ar an sár-iarracht a dhéanann sé an Ghaeilge a labhairt agus an sár-obair atá déanta aige sa rang Gaeilge.

The three winners each received a 20euro voucher as well as a framed certificate to recognise their achievements.

Well done also to the class tutor student of the month winners who each received a 5euro voucher for the school canteen.

**School Tour:** 44 students, from TY and 5<sup>th</sup> yr, and 5 teachers travelled to the popular ski resort of Sappada in Northern Italy during the mid-term break. The group had an early-morning flight from Dublin Airport on Saturday morning (10<sup>th</sup> February) and they flew into Venice Marco Polo Airport before transferring to their picturesque resort in the Dolomite Mountains.

They spent six days there where they got 4 hours of fun ski lessons from highly qualified instructors each day. The resort has an excellent network of downhill runs, ideal for beginners and intermediates alike, with 22km of piste in the resort.

As they improved their skills and confidence, they then got the opportunity to head down the more daunting slopes themselves, free style! The resort boasts a new chairlift that takes skiers to the slopes of Monte Siera, which was the perfect location for our students to develop their skiing whilst enjoying the spectacular mountain scenery. On the last day, the students were gracefully cruising down the more daunting slopes like seasoned Olympic skiers!

The group stayed at the Bella Italia Village in Piana di Luzza, a beautiful residence complex very close to the ski resort. The complex boasts a multi-purpose sports centre, a swimming pool, wellness centre, restaurants and a discotheque for all ages to enjoy!

They also enjoyed numerous fun evening "apres-ski" activities such as snow tubing, swimming, karaoke, movie-night, volleyball and indoor football. They returned home on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup>

February, tired but exhilarated after a memorable school tour.

This was a once in a lifetime trip and the students were very grateful to the teachers who travelled with them. The group have created wonderful memories for themselves and some have even been bitten by the skiing bug so it won't be the last time on the slopes for some of them! Unfortunately, our deputy principal Mr. Canning suffering a fairly serious leg injury on the slopes on the Monday afternoon of the tour. He is currently in hospital in Italy and we are all thinking of him and wishing him a speedy recovery. Mr. Canning was extremely grateful to 5<sup>th</sup> yr Alex D'Alba who acted as his translator in the hospital. Alex speaks very good Italian and without his help, the situation would have been more challenging.



All of the students are to be commended on their exemplary behaviour throughout. They really stood up to be counted when it mattered, as this particular day was quite stressful. They responded with wonderful initiative and maturity throughout the whole ordeal. One of our students also had an accident on a different day that required an overnight stay at the hospital so there was pressure on the remaining teachers with a number of their colleagues either in hospital or accompanying the injured student throughout his hospital stay. Thankfully, the student was discharged the next morning so he is doing fine now. The students' fantastic co-operation made life easier for the remaining teachers. They really were excellent ambassadors for the school throughout the entire trip.

**Soccer:** Our **TY team** advanced to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the TY Leinster Cup after defeating a strong Scoil Mhuire, Clane 2-1 just before the mid-term break. Daniel Power and Sam Deegan scored the all-important goals. They will now play CBS Kilkenny away in the last 16 of the competition.

## Lucan Community College

**Festival of Music:** Tickets for the DDLETB Festival of Music 2024 are now available to purchase on the NCH website: <https://www.nch.ie/all-events-listing/dublin-dun-laoghaire-etb-festival-of-music/>. It is taking place on Tuesday 27th February at 7:30pm. Tickets are €12.

Lucan Community College is extremely proud and lucky to have two music groups flying the flag on the evening. The Lucan CC Choir will be performing Seasons of Love and the 3rd Year band 'The Breaks and Splits' will be performing Teenage Dirtbag.

In addition, we will have a group of students singing in the Interschools Choir who will be performing a varied repertoire ranging from sacred to musical theatre. These students have spent countless hours practicing on Saturday mornings in Castleknock CC and with Mr. Murphy in the music room. It promises to be a great evening.

**TY Global Citizenship Student Workshop:** TY Global Citizenship class participated in a Concern Worldwide workshop on conflict on Wednesday last. Thanks to Georgina for facilitating such an informative workshop and Ms Flanagan for organising this experience for the Global Citizenship students!



### Wellbeing Week in Lucan Community

**College:** Teachers and students enjoyed a fabulous week of Wellbeing activities prior to the Midterm Break. An action packed calendar was put in place for students which included Fitness classes, meditation and music performances. The teachers also enjoyed an after school 'Wellbeing Walk' after school which allowed for a chat and a chance to remind themselves of the importance of

keeping active. We finished up the week with a whole school quiz before we departed for our Midterm Break. Many thanks to the Wellbeing Committee led by Ms Walsh for putting on a fantastic week.



**TY Wall Climbing:** TY students enjoyed a great week of wall climbing with a trip to Awesome Walls before the Midterm Break. Teachers commended TY students for their enthusiasm & willingness to take part in a new activity - some even showing potential to take part in future competitions. Thanks to Ms Higgins for organising.

### History and Politics Students trip to Belfast:

Transition Year and Fifth Year Students enjoyed a fantastic trip to Belfast recently. Students visited Stormont to see the Northern Ireland Assembly on its first day in action – a historical day, they then visited Crumlin Road Gaol, and had a walking tour of Shankill and the Falls areas of Belfast led by local tour guides who explained the history of the two communities. Thanks to Ms McCarthy and Ms Mulhern for organising a great trip and our wonderful SNA's Mary Hanlon and Deirdre Reynolds for accompanying our students.



# Political Notes

## Cllr. Paul Gogarty P.C.

"Not just at election time" Tel: 087-2752489

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

### Further Swimming Pool Update:

There has been significant progress over the last few weeks. While SDDC are reluctant to go into timelines, the expectation is that everything on the construction should be signed off by June. This further delay is frustrating but as the remaining workload decreases, clarity of timeline is increasing. We had a detailed meeting with the pool management company Aura Leisure last Tuesday and got some information on likely opening times and prices. It will take them two months after pool construction to fit out gym, IT and other equipment and to train staff during this period. All things going to plan, we are looking ok for September. Type 'pool feb' in search bar of my website for a full report.

### Bus Correct Survey:

Last few weeks to have your say [www.bit.ly/BusCorrect](http://www.bit.ly/BusCorrect).

## Cllr. Shane Moynihan – Fianna Fáil

Email: [smoynihan@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:smoynihan@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie)

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

Facebook: cllrshanemoynihan

Instagram: cllrshanemoynihan

Twitter: @shanemoynihan Phone: 087-7840898.

### Fonthill Road Roundabout:

Thanks to the South Dublin County Council crews who responded to my request to cut back the overgrowth, brambles and branches at the St Loman's Road/Fonthill roundabout. I'm working on getting the footpath opposite St Edmund's cleared and to see if it is possible to fully connect the cycle lane from the Fonthill Road onto St. Loman's.

### Salt Bins Map:

South Dublin County Council have created an online map showing the locations of various salt bins around the county. You can access the link at <https://sdublincoco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/insant/sidebar/index.html?appid=a7cba7c0aacd4bdf9fa865c9fee9faf1>

### Ballyowen Castle Shopping Centre:

I submitted an observation to the recent planning application made at Ballyowen Shopping Centre, requesting that the Council mandate improvement of the car park surface, lighting in the general area and removal of trip hazards in the centre as conditions of the planning permission if it is to be granted.

## Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 401 3416. [Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:Emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

### An Post - Lucan Delays:

Several constituents and businesses have been in contact recently as they are experiencing disruption to the postal service. A new operational plan for the Fonthill and Blanchardstown delivery offices has resulted in delays for both regular mail and package deliveries in Lucan and Clondalkin. I raised this issue with An Post and in the Dáil chamber. An Post assured me that steps are being taken by management, staff and staff representatives to address these issues and they are working to minimise the impact on customers.

### Senator Regina Doherty:

Congratulations to my colleague Senator Regina Doherty who has been selected by Fine Gael members in Dublin to represent the party at June's European Elections. Fine Gael is a pro-European party with a proud record. Regina intends to build on the fantastic work done by Frances Fitzgerald MEP.

## Gino Kenny TD- People Before Profit

Phone: 085-7211574. Email: [ginokenny@oir.ie](mailto:ginokenny@oir.ie)

### Lucan Community College:

This week public representatives met with the Parents' Association of LCC. The parents' association are very frustrated with the lack of progress on the proposed redevelopment of the school. This issue has been ongoing for the past 16 years. I will continue to raise this issue with the Department of Education and seek clarification on a timeframe on when the works will be completed.

## Caroline Brady - Fine Gael – P.C.

- 085 2551602 [info@CarolineBrady.com](mailto:info@CarolineBrady.com)

### Esker Lane/Woodville:

I am pleased to inform you that your query regarding the repainting of a yellow box at the above location has been forwarded to our Area Roads Engineer for investigation and report.

### New Higher Education Courses for students with an intellectual disability:

It was announced this week that courses are to be delivered in 10 higher education colleges across the country and will provide significant opportunities for students. €10million in funding has been provided to open up our higher education system to learners with an intellectual disability. This will commence in academic year in the 2024/25. You will find more detailed information on [www.gov.ie](http://www.gov.ie)





## Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin

### Notice

Lucan Sarsfields has recently moved from ClubForce to ClubZap. Going forward it can be used for club communications, to pay and renew membership and to play the lotto. It will also provide our members with both match fixtures and results. We encourage all our members to download ClubZap. It can be downloaded through your app store on your phone and make sure to turn on the notifications in your phone settings.

### Football

Hard luck to the Senior and Intermediate Footballers who lost to Castleknock and O'Dwyers in the opening round of the league.



### Hurling

Good luck to the Senior hurlers who play have their first league match of the season this Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> of February against Raheny. The match is throwing in at 10:15 on the Senior pitch, 12<sup>th</sup> Lock.



### Academy

Our Academy is on every Saturday morning from 9-11am and provides a great opportunity to get involved in Gaelic, Hurling and Camogie. It is open to children born in 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020. Training times are age dependent, please contact our club Games Promotion Officer, Alan O'Neill - 0871213587

### Social



There will be a **Table Quiz** in the club on Friday the **8<sup>th</sup> of March** in aid of

**Nagarhope Ireland**, an Irish charity that supports

the work of Nagarhope Basic School (NBS) in Nagarkot, Nepal.

The cost of a table of four is €40.

Please contact  
0872189960 /  
087066891 /  
0894220302.

The club has recently introduced **Honorary Life Membership**. Club Members over the age of 70, who have been members of the club for at least 20 years, can be nominated for approval by the Executive for this Membership of the club. Such nominations can be made by any full member of the club by emailing

[lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com](mailto:lucan.sarsfields.registrar@gmail.com)



**Our Annual Awards Night** will take place on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> of February at 8pm in the clubhouse. We look forward to seeing you all there.

**The GAA national draw tickets** are being distributed to teams to sell and they can also be purchased on ClubZap. The club has decided to add an extra prize for ticket sales. The adult and juvenile teams who sell the most tickets can earn up to €1,000 for their team.

**The Cúpla Focal Club** started on Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> of January from 8-9pm and will continue every Monday. This is a great opportunity to learn Irish. All welcome.

### Healthy Club

We are taking part in the Irish Life 'Every Step Counts' Challenge again this year. We encourage all our members to signup via the Irish life app. This is a great opportunity to exercise and with the change of winning some money for the club.

### Lotto

No Winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €4,600. The Numbers were **7, 9, 19, 21**.

**The lucky dip prizes** go to Alan Haran, Connor McKeon, Cormac Gordon, Darragh Ryan and Lorna Hurl.



This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €5,000. The draw is sponsored by Henley Forklift Group and will be led by Frank Fleming.

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

**FREE WORKSHOP**

# Easy Ways to Save Energy at Home

with the **ThinkEnergy HOME ENERGY SAVING KIT**

1 kit  
5 tools &  
100 ways to save

**WINNER**  
2019 National Energy Saving Competition

7pm Wed 6<sup>th</sup> Mar  
TICKETS FREE  
Booking advised

Lucan Library,  
Lucan Shopping Centre  
Lucan, K78 V295



## Na Gaeil Óga CLG

Fáilte chuig Nuachtlitir Na Gaeil Óga, áit a bhfaighidh tú an t-eolas is déanaí faoi gach rud atá ag tarlú inár bpobal bríomhar.

### Buachaillí F10 - Iomáint

Bhí na buachaillí faoi 10 ar ais ar an bpáirc ar maidin - ag iomáint ag barr shléibhte Átha Cliath in aghaidh Réaltaí na hÉireann! [@starsoferin](#) Cluiche den scoth a bhí ann & táimid an-bhródúil astu.



### Buachaillí F9 - Iomáint

Iontach na leaids a fheiceáil ina gcuid geansaithe nua. Míle buíochas do Paul, athair Oisín agus [@focalmedialtd](#) as ucht urraíocht a dhéanamh. Táimid ullamh don séasúr nua. Beirimis bua!

Bhí an chéad chluiche ar ais againn maidin inné. Tá an cleachtadh agus an obair chrua ar fad le feiceáil anois. Léirigh na leaids fíordhiongbháilteacht i rith na gcluichí agus níor stop siad riamh. Tá siad ag fáil an-mhuinín agus ag obair mar fhoireann. Maith sibh achan duine.



### Turas Go Gaillimh

Bhí deireadh seachtaine iontach ag foirne peile, iomána is camógaíochta fása an chumainn i nGaillimh. D'imir muid cluichí dúshlán in éadan CLG Bhóthar na Trá-Cnoc na Cathrach [@skgaea](#) Thug Aoife ó [@micildistillery](#) cuntas fíorshuimiúil dúinn ar dhéanamh an phoitín agus bhlaiseamar de shaol cultúrtha na cathrach. Míle buíochas leo sin ar fad as ds iontach a chur ar fáil. Má tá fonn ort páirt a ghlacadh ina leithéid amach anseo, bí le NGÓ!

### Lucan Golf Club 2024

Applications for  
Tee Box  
Sponsorship  
Now Open



If interested, please contact:  
Paul Hennessy, Sponsorship Secretary  
Telephone: 087-1892478  
Email: [sponsorship@lucangolf.ie](mailto:sponsorship@lucangolf.ie)



# SPORTS

## LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

### Donadea 50k Ultra Marathon

On Saturday 10th February two senior ladies, Ellie O'Neill and Anne McGrane represented the Club in the 50km ultra marathon in Donadea Forest.



This was a tough, hilly and muddy course comprising 14 laps of the forest. Anne came home in a time of 5.24 and Ellie came thundering behind her in a time of 5.41.

### Intermediate & Masters National Cross Country Championships



Mary Browne was the lone Lucan Harrier in Dundalk DKIT for the Intermediate & Masters National Cross Country Championships on February 11th. Conditions were very mucky and difficult to find respite on a firm patch. Mary

finished age category 2nd in 00:21:30. Pauline Moran Mayo AC 1st in 00:21:25 (same result as last year). Mayo AC also won O50 Team Gold.

### Rathcoffey 10k Road Race

Tony Keaney took part in the Rathcoffey 10k road race on February 10th and achieved a PB in 46:57 and also came 22nd in his age group. A Challenging course with rolling hills, out in the Kildare countryside, lovely scenery and the early spring sun was shining.



**Walk and Talk  
Lucan**

**Mondays @ 7pm  
Meeting @Lucan Harriers  
Clubhouse**

For more information contact  
Liona @ 087 279 5274

**Walk, Talk & Connect.**

Proudly supported by 



## LUCAN PITCH & PUTT CLUB

### Winter League

Week six of the Winter League was played in dry weather conditions. The weekend was all about the quarter finals and who would qualify. First up was the Murph's versus the Philipos and the Philipos came through in this section. We then had Flynn's Flyers taking on Coogan's Bluff and it was Flynn's Fliers that came through. We then had the Dream Team taking on New Faces with the Dream Team securing the win. Last but by no means least was the Tractormen taking on the Poppys with the Tractormen securing the win. Next weekend sees our Semi Finals taking place.



### The Semi Finals are as follows:

9.30am - Philipos v Flynn's Fliers

11.00am - Dream Team v The Tractormen

Best of luck to all teams – please come along and support the teams. The ladies secured three scalps this week with Catherine Leonard beating Alan Doyle, Roisin Harper beating Gordan Parker and Philo Condron beating Andy Fitzgerald – well done ladies.

Thank you to Halpenny Golf for continuing their sponsoring of this competition.

### Membership Fees

Membership Fees can be paid on a Sunday morning at the club house to any committee member or you can pay online ensuring you quote your name and registration number.

### Valentines Night

Congratulations to both our Captains – Una and John who organised the questions and games for our fun night. Well done to Marie and Michael Morris who won the main prize and to Trish and Pete Anderson who were runners up with Tracy Needham and Ann McCann coming in a close third. A great night was had by all and again a big thanks to our Captains who organised all the fun.

It was great to see Michael Morris and Marie O'Shaughnessy back in the club again and looking well. Delighted you are both making great progress.

### New Members Welcome – Adults and Juveniles

Our Club is now open for membership.



If you would like to join our Club please download an application form from the website and fill in the relevant details and return same – or email the secretary at [info@lucanpitchandputt.com](mailto:info@lucanpitchandputt.com). Indeed, you are more than welcome to call into the Club House and ask for any committee member who will be only too willing to discuss your enquiry – best time to call is on a Sunday from 10am

### Full Zip Tops / Jackets / T-Shirts

Members, please note that Dora Keane is the contact for the stock of our club zip tops / jackets and t-shirts.

### Function Room for Hire

Please note that we have a function room for hire in the evenings from circa 5pm. Contact the secretary or email [info@lucanpitchandputt.com](mailto:info@lucanpitchandputt.com) for details of same – T&C apply.

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## I dare you...

When a new day dawns, dare to greet it with a smile.

When all you see is darkness, dare to be the first to shine a light.

When there is injustice, dare to be the first to condemn it.

When something seems difficult, dare to try anyway.

When life knocks you down, dare to get back up.

When there seems to be no hope, dare to find some.

When you're tired, dare to rest.

When times are tough, dare to be tougher.

When love has hurt you, dare to forgive.

When someone is hurt, dare to help them to heal.

When another is lost, dare to guide them to find their way.

When the enemy has fallen, dare to offer a hand to lift them up.

When a friend is in trouble, dare to listen without judgement.

When you meet a stranger, dare to smile.

When life is great, dare to share it.

When life is a struggle, dare to admit it.

Dare to live the best life you can – today.

When today has ended, dare to trust that tomorrow will give you another chance.

## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The Camera Soirée's photographic exhibition currently on display in Lucan Library will be taken down on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March. So if you are visiting the library between now and then don't miss it.

Last week some of our members were in Italy and France. This week we are closer to home. Kay sent in photos of lovely crocuses in bloom in her garden, more evidence that Spring is coming, although given the temperatures we are having it is probably here already.



Kay's photo of old and new together, our theme for the month of February, was taken in the grounds of Dublin Castle. I think the "old" is part of the Coach House (originally known as the State Stables, built in 1833 to house the Viceroy's coach and horses) and the "new" is some incompatible building development behind it on Stephen Street.



Conor sent in great photos of a Heron in flight as well as one of a cheeky robin.



It is ironic that according to the OPW website as far back as the early 19<sup>th</sup> century proposals were drawn up to conceal the backs of the houses on Stephen Street as seen from the first-floor windows of the State Apartments. The building known as the Coach House was, in part, intended to achieve this purpose but failed even then! It has to be said that over the years since 1922 there have been a few unsympathetic development within the castle grounds itself. The Strategic Framework Plan for Dublin Castle published in November 2022 will, hopefully, address some of these issues.

*Until next week stay safe!*