



LUCAN

NEWSLETTER

Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 11th January 2026



The turning of a new year invites us to pause at the threshold between what has been and what is yet to come. It is a sacred moment of reflection and resolve, where hopes feel fresh and uncertainties loom just as large. We step forward carrying the weight of cultural shifts, global tensions, and personal struggles that can leave us feeling a little unsettled or weary. Yet for those who place their faith in Christ, the new year is not entered alone, nor without hope.

The world around us is changing at a dizzying pace. Values once taken for granted are questioned, truth can feel blurred, and divisions often seem louder than compassion and calm. These cultural challenges can shake our confidence and test our convictions. But faith in Christ anchors us amid the storm. He is the same yesterday, today, and forever—a steady presence when everything else feels uncertain. As we face a new year, trusting in Him does not mean ignoring the realities of the world; it means engaging them with wisdom, grace, and courage.

Trouble is a part of life, but faith also assures us that we need not be overcome by it. When cultural pressures threaten to erode hope or tempt us toward fear, faith becomes our shelter. It shapes how we speak, how we listen, and how we love in a world that desperately needs light. Through prayer, and community, we are strengthened to respond not with despair, but with purpose and compassion.

At the same time, a new year often brings personal challenges into sharper focus. Unmet goals, fragile relationships, health concerns, and quiet disappointments can weigh heavily on our hearts. Faith in Christ does not promise an easy path, but it does promise His presence every step of the way. He walks with us through uncertainty, offering peace that steadies our hearts and hope that renews our strength. In Him, we find the courage to face what lies ahead, even when the road feels steep.

Hope fuelled by faith is not wishful thinking; it is a confident trust that God is at work, even when we cannot yet see the outcome. This hope empowers us to begin again—to forgive, to persevere, to try once more with determination. It reminds us that our failures do not define us.

As we begin this year, let us choose faith over fear and hope over hesitation. Let us entrust our plans, our challenges, and our changing world to Christ. With Him as our guide and strength, we can weather whatever comes—standing firm, loving boldly, and moving forward with courage, determination, and enduring hope. With all that being said may I wish you and all your family a happy New Year.

*Fr. Bill O'Shaughnessy,
St. Mary's & St. Patrick's Parishes*

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

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



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

USC changes from 1 January 2026

From 1 January 2026, the 2% Universal Social Charge (USC) band is going up to €28,700, from €27,382.

If you earn €28,700 or under, your USC rate stays at 2%, instead of increasing to 3% like before. The increased band limit means if you're a full-time worker on minimum wage, you won't be pushed into the higher 3% band.

Find more about the Universal Social Charge (USC) on our website.

Working from home

You may be able to claim tax relief on additional costs of working from home, including electricity, heating and broadband.

You can apply for the tax relief after the end of the tax year or during the year. If you claim during the year, you can get real-time credits and have your tax reduced during the year.

Your employer can pay you a contribution towards these costs or you can make a claim for tax relief during the year or after the end of the year. Read more about Remote Working Relief on our website.

The cost of items you buy, such as office equipment, is not eligible for Remote Working Relief.

If your employer provides you with equipment for business use, it is not taxed as a benefit-in-kind.

Budget 2026 - Minimum wage increase since 1 January 2026.

The national minimum wage increased by 65 cents to €14.15 per hour on 1 January 2026.

You may get less than €14.15 an hour if you are under 20, as there are reduced rates for younger people.

Learn more about the national minimum wage on our website.

Budget 2026 - Social welfare weekly payments

From January 2026, the maximum rate of most weekly social welfare payments will increase by €10. There will be proportional increases for qualified adults and people on reduced rates of payment.

The Child Support Payment weekly rate will increase by:

€8, from €50 to €58, for children under 12

€16, from €62 to €78, for children aged 12 and over

Working Family Payment income limits will increase by €60 a week for all family sizes.

Working Family Payment will become a qualifying payment for Fuel Allowance in March 2026. The payment will be backdated to January 2026.

School term

February 2026 mid-term break

All primary schools close on Thursday, 19

February 2026, and Friday, 20 February 2026.

Primary schools can use 3 discretionary days to extend this to a 5-day break starting on Monday, 16 February 2026, unless they need these days to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures.

Unforeseen school closures might happen, for example, due to bad weather.

Post-primary schools close for a week, from Monday, 16 February 2026, to Friday, 20

February 2026 inclusive, unless changes are needed to make up for time lost due to unforeseen school closures.

If a post-primary school needs to make up such time, it can shorten the mid-term break by staying open, up to and including Wednesday, 18 February 2026.

Lucan Active Retirement Association

We held our annual Christmas Party on Thursday, 18th December, 2025.



New Members always welcome. Why not come and join us, we would love to see you there.

Lots of activities to enjoy - Bowls, Scrabble, Cards, and the chat.

Most importantly we have Coffee & Cake at 1pm.



We meet in St. Andrew's Parish Centre, Main Street, Lucan, on Thursdays at 11.30am.

Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 14th January: Social Morning in St. Marys Parish Centre 10.30 – 12.30.

Looking forward to seeing all our members back safe and well!

Lucan Dementia Café

Saturday: January 10th, 2026

2pm – 5pm

St Marys Parish Centre, Lucan



Future 2026 dates: February 14th, March 14th, April 11th, May 9th (later start), June 13th and July 12th.

Kindly sponsored by:



Please drop by and join us for a cuppa

Happy Birthday

to Ita

On the 25th January.

Hope you enjoy our party!

From all your family and friends.



Conversational Irish

in

St Mary's Parish Centre

10.30-11.30a.m.

every Wednesday.

All are welcome



Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Mass Times: Vigil: 6.30pm

Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

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

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am.

Masses live-streamed on www.lucanarish.com

Ministers of the Eucharist

The new rota for Ministers of the Eucharist has been sent by email. Copies are available in the sacristy for anyone who can't access their email. Sincere thanks to our ministers for all their service. If there are parishioners who are interested in becoming a minister, please contact myself at the following email:

phylliscleary@gmail.com. This is a beautiful ministry that brings many blessings and you would be made very welcome.

Philomena Cleary

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

Confessions: Saturday Evening 6.30pm Mass.

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

All welcome, Sr Geraldine

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

Bethany Bereavement Support Group: We meet on the 2nd Monday (at 10.45am) and the 4th Thursday (at 8pm) each month, in the Parish Centre. We are available to listen or just be there for anyone who is feeling lonely or lost following the death of a loved one. If you would like to attend a meeting, please contact the Parish Office. (Phone 01 6217041)

Lectio Divina: Lectio Divina meet every Monday evening (except Bank Holidays) at 7.30pm in the Bungalow to reflect for an hour on the following Sunday's gospel. *All are welcome.*

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

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

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

Deepest Sympathy to the husband, family and friends of **Anne Tully**, Westbrook Park, to the partner, parents, family and friends of **Kenneth Seery**, Fforster Crescent. *May they rest in peace.*



Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

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

Weekday Masses: Mon.-Fri. 9:15am. Sat. 10am
Masses livestreamed www.lucansouthparish.net

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

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

Adoration and Holy Hour Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

Mon: 7.30pm: Divine Mercy Adoration.

Fri: 1.15pm: Adoration MMPH Cenacle.

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

Mass of Thanksgiving for the Fruits of Medjugorje: Every Thursday, resuming 22nd Jan:

7.00pm: Rosary and Confessions.

7.30pm: Holy Mass.

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

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

**St. Patrick's Esker/
Dodsboro/ Adamstown**
www.stpatrickslucan.ie



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

Weekday Masses: Monday to Saturday 10am,
Masses livestreamed at www.stpatrickslucan.ie

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

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

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

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

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

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

St Vincent de Paul

St Patrick's Conference – Thank You

1. SVP - St. Patrick's 'in house' 7th December church collection totalling €5,670 we would like to thank everyone who contributed so generously it is very much appreciated and we would like to note all donations received are used and spend in the Lucan community;
2. Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada - A very big thank you to the pupils who fundraised and gave so generously we really appreciate it. The total raised by the children was €240.
3. Thank you for all the 'blue envelope' donations handed into the church for SVP attention thank you all for your very generous donations.

4. We wish to acknowledge a very generous anonymous donation of €400 cash.

5. Lucan Community College (LCC) the students and staff raised a total of €2,353 we would like to thank them for fundraising and their very generous donation it is very much appreciated.

St Patrick's Conference

Pastoral Councils

The Joint Pastoral Councils of St. Mary's and St Patrick's Parishes in Lucan meet every month, alternating the venue between the two parishes.

The agenda for each meeting consists of the following areas:

Worship Formation, Ministry Groups, Youth Matters, Baptism update, Advent preparation, Evangelisation, Sacramental Preparation, Seeds of Faith, Service/Communication,
What do we need to communicate with parishioners currently? **AOB**

The Joint Pastoral Councils can be contacted by parishioners on matters relating to their parish by leaving a message with the parish offices or sacristies.

St. Marys & St. Patricks Joint Pastoral Council.

**“ One Body,
One Spirit ”**

**WEEK OF PRAYER
FOR CHRISTIAN
UNITY 2026**

Opening Service: Sunday, 18th January 2026 at 8pm

Location:
St. Thomas Indian Orthodox Church
Malankara House, Old Lucan Road, Palmerstown,
Dublin 20, D20 VP97

This service has been organised by the Dublin Council of Churches, (dublincouncilofchurches.ie)
Antiochian Orthodox, Armenian Apostolic, Church of Ireland, Greek Orthodox, Jacobite Syrian Orthodox, Lutherans, Methodist,
Presbyterians, Religious Society of Friends, Roman Catholic, Romanian Orthodox, Indian Orthodox Church, Salvation Army

Anniversary

Sean Burke
1st Anniversary

Always in our thoughts
Forever in our hearts
Sadly missed by all the family.



We apologise to the family of Sean for the error made in the above anniversary in our last issue. Newsletter Team.

When Love is not enough

Digging through the rubble that was once their dwelling place.
Hoping against hope, they would find a familiar face.
Mothers clutching babies, keeping them close for warmth.
Nothing left to give them, but the love they got when born.

There is no water. There is no food
There is nothing they can do.
But sit and wait and pray to God
the lorries will get through.
Sometimes they are lucky, and sometimes they are not,
And their little babies pass away
For love is not enough.

The bombs are coming fast and hard
for their neighbours want their land
And all the leaders in the world
can't find a suitable plan
And so their children pass away from
hunger and from cold.
And parents weep and bury their dead
too-broken to be consoled.

Open a window or a door, please Lord
life shouldn't be so rough
For in your heart you know
That love is not enough.

R.D.



Medjugorje Mass
St Mary's Church, Lucan.
Monday 12th January
Mass at 6.15pm.
(Rosary and Prayers 5.45pm)

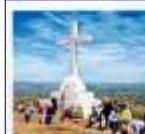
MEDJUGORJE 2026

Depart 13th May for 7 Nights
Dublin to Dubrovnik at 7.30am



Normal Fare: €875.00
Our Price: €785.00

SAVE €90.00



Book before 30th Jan. €50.00

€735.00

Insurance: €35.00

To Book Please Contact PAT on
087 223 8911

or call Marian Pilgrimages on
01 878 8159



(AND SAY YOU ARE TRAVELLING WITH PAT'S GROUP)
Spiritual Director: Fr. Ray Kelly



Anam Cara
Supporting Parents after Bereavement

Anam Cara, the organisation that supports bereaved parents, will hold its monthly Parent

Support Evening on Monday 12th January at 7.30pm in the Maldron Hotel, Whitestown Way, Tallaght.

This event is free and open to all bereaved parents regardless of the age your child died, the circumstances of their death, or how recent their death was.

You do not need to register in advance.

We also offer an online support group meeting. To find out more call 01 4045378 or email info@anamcara.ie

Letters, Words and Wobbly Lines

Local author and illustrator, Aisling Ní Dhoibhlín, has recently published her first children's book, **Letters, Words and Wobbly Lines**.



Inspired by her experiences as a parent and educator, the book gently explores what it can feel like when learning doesn't come easily. While rooted in raising awareness of dyslexia, the story is really about confidence, perseverance and helping children feel understood and "enough" just as they are.



Written and illustrated by Aisling herself, the book shares a child's perspective through expressive artwork and sensitive storytelling, offering validation and reassurance to children, as well as insight for families, friends, educators, and the wider community. It is a meaningful way for peers and adults to better understand and support children who learn differently. The book aims to open conversations about different ways of learning and reminds every child that their path is valid; even when it's a little wobbly.



The book is available to purchase via the QR code or on social media @the_a.n.d_project

Christmas Tree Recycling

SDCC has arranged for recycling at the following locations in Lucan up to **Monday 12th January 2006**:



Beech Park Open Space
Sarsfield Park Open Space
Griffeen Valley Park – Haydens Lane Car Park
Foxborough Open Space



Happy New Year to all our Readers, at home and abroad. May 2026 bring you all good health, peace and happiness.

Brrrrr..... Christmas is not the same without a cold frosty snap, but thankfully, we escaped the worst of it on this side of the country.

How are the New Year Resolutions going? We see lots of people out walking. It is great to have vehicle access to Castletown House and parklands again. Some of us took the opportunity to have a lively walk there, witnessing a glorious sunset.



And the Roadworks! It took a bit of getting used to the quietness of the roads around Lucan over the holiday period, but the workers were back bright and bushytailed last Monday morning, and God love them, they must have been frozen – not the ideal job for this time of year.....

Well done to the Flower Fairies in St. Mary's and St. Patrick's who provided lovely displays over Christmas. The cribs in both churches were also very welcoming.

Photo Puzzlement!

This picture appears to have been taken at a church or convent building, and may be a procession from times past – perhaps back as far as the late 1800's.

It's definitely not a Lucan picture, and we don't think it is Clondalkin either.

We don't know the true source – it came in an email from Divine Mercy Parish.

Any ideas anyone?



A COMMUNITY RETHINKING
ITS ENVIRONMENT

Maynooth Road, Celbridge (beside Salesian College)

ACRE Book Club - Expression of Interest

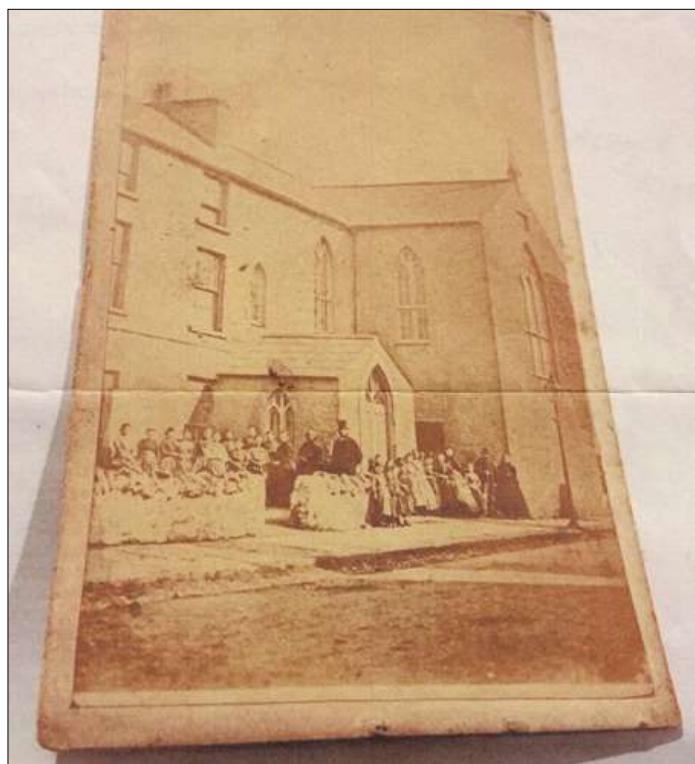
If you enjoy reading, good conversations and connecting with others in the community, we would be delighted to welcome you to the ACRE Project Book Club.

We meet monthly to explore a wide range of books. Whether you are an avid reader or simply looking to try something new, our club is a warm and inclusive space for everyone.

If you would like to join or want more information, please contact Harry@acreproject.com

Learn from
yesterday,
Live for today,
Hope for
tomorrow.

Albert Einstein





CHOOL NEWS



St. Joseph's College

Happy New Year:

Everyone in St Josephs, Lucan would like to wish every parish member and our wider school community and healthy and prosperous 2026.

Senior Soccer:

Hard luck to our senior soccer team who put up a great fight against a tough Colaiste Phobail Fola. This is the senior soccer teams third game in the group stages of the competition and unfortunately, they won't progress to the next round of the competition.

also hopes to support teachers, families, and support staff to gain a deeper understanding of the challenges and to provide more meaningful help to pupils with Dyslexia.



Upcoming events:

- Thursday 8th January – TY ice skating
- Friday 9th January – 2nd year science trip to Stripe Young Scientist
- Tuesday January 13th - 6th year Politics Trip to Brussels and All Ireland Camogie quarter final vs St Killians, College in Cushendall, Co. Antrim

Stripe Young Scientist:

Best of luck to Jodie Byrne who is exhibiting at the Young Scientists Exhibition over the next 4 days, with Ms Cannon. Jodie's project called Dyslexic Lens explores how pupils with severe dyslexia visually experience text during reading. Through a series of animations Jodie hopes to have a better understanding of dyslexia, how it affects pupils, and how to help them by understanding what they are experiencing. She

Follow Us on Twitter:
@StJosephsLucan
Follow Us on Instagram:
@stjosephscollege_lucan
Find us on our Website:
www.stjosephslucan.com

Divine Mercy Senior National School Part-time Cleaners Wanted

Divine Mercy Senior National School is seeking two dedicated reliable part-time cleaners to join our team at our school in Lucan, Co Dublin. We are in search of proactive and responsible professionals who excel in teamwork, possess a keen eye for detail, and easily adapt to work routines. Job start date: ASAP Details:

- Monday to Friday work schedule.
- Term time only.
- 19 hours per week.
- Weekly payments
- Competitive Pay Rate
- Work Location: In person

We invite you to submit your application to office@dmalgalgadysns.ie or contact Cronan on 0861967962

Coláiste Phádraig CBS

Science: We would like to wish the very best of luck to our 17 students who will represent the school at the Stripe Young Scientists Exhibition 2026 that takes place over 4 days this week. Their projects showcase an impressive range of curiosity, creativity and scientific thinking across the areas of science, technology, engineering and social research.

Several projects explore decision-making and behaviour under pressure, examining how time limits, competition, cooperation and digital testing environments influence stress, risk-taking and ethical choices among adolescents. These studies have clear relevance for schools, sport and assessment design.



A strong environmental science theme is also evident, with investigations into the effects of micro-plastics on freshwater ecosystems and comparisons between biodegradable and conventional plastics under challenging conditions. These projects address urgent global concerns around pollution, sustainability and environmental protection.



In the area of health, sport and biomechanics, students are analysing hand grip strength, training methods for teenagers, and how anatomy and exercise types influence physical performance. This practical research has potential applications in PE, coaching and youth fitness.

Finally, innovative energy and engineering research is represented through the construction and testing of a fuel cell, exploring how chemical variables affect electrical output and efficiency. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, teamwork and scientific rigour shown by all participants. We wish them every success at the exhibition and look forward to seeing their hard work recognised on the national stage.

Football: Our senior football team had a convincing 4-15 to 1-02 win against St. McDara's Templeogue before Christmas in their final group game of their Dublin League campaign. Killian Costello, Michael O' Brien, Ciarán Deegan and Rory Clarke scored the Lucan goals.

Having also won their opening game against St. David's College, the team topped the three-team group and secured a home draw in the semi-finals.

They then played St. Paul's College, Raheny on Tuesday for a place in the League Final. Extra-time was ultimately needed to separate two evenly-matched sides, with Raheny winning by 3 points at the end of an energy-sapping and highly competitive match on a score-line of 3-10 to 0-16. Ciarán O' Sullivan had an excellent game for Lucan as he scored 0-8, with Michael O' Brien (0-3), Killian Costello (0-3) and Dara Garrigan (0-2) also getting scores. A few too many wides and some missed goal chances unfortunately cost the team in the end.

PE: Our 6th year PE students completed one of the most important elements of the Leaving Certificate PE course just before the Christmas Break: The Physical Activity Project (PAP). Worth 20% of the final grade, the PAP requires students to apply theoretical knowledge to a practical performance setting and demands careful planning, analysis and reflection.

Students selected a competitive activity of their choice and completed the project as a performer, coach or choreographer. Activities ranged from athletics events such as sprinting and throwing to martial arts, agility and flexibility-based tasks. All students were assessed on their performance of key skills and their ability to analyse and improve these over time.

Continued over.....

Coláiste Phádraig CBS *continued....*

A central feature of the PAP is identifying three key components of performance relevant to the chosen activity, such as strength, speed, power, agility, technique or coordination. Based on these, students set four performance goals that guided their training and analysis. The final submission consisted of a 1,500-word handwritten report and three annotated video clips demonstrating progress toward these goals.

Many students completed gym-based projects, resulting in a busy PE department after school, while others used recognised fitness or psychological assessments to support their analysis. Despite some last-minute pressure, all projects were submitted on time, and students expressed great relief and pride in their work. Students will next complete their performance assessment in March 2026 (30%), followed by the written examination in summer (50%).

Economics: 6th year Economics students also reached a major milestone with the submission of their Economics Research Study, worth 20% of the Leaving Certificate grade, on the same date. Submitted digitally, the project marked the culmination of months of independent research and analysis.

This year's study focused on the impact of a recent external economic shock occurring since 2020. Students selected one of two SEC-set topics. The first examined how an external shock affected Ireland's economic resilience, focusing on a specific firm within sectors such as agri-food, energy, ICT or pharmaceuticals, and evaluating government policy responses.

The second explored the impact of economic shocks on consumer behaviour in areas such as energy, food or housing, alongside an assessment of government supports and their implications for fiscal sustainability.

Students demonstrated strong analytical and research skills, drawing on data, surveys and official reports while applying economic theory to real-world issues. Teachers praised the originality, maturity and independence shown throughout the process. With the Research Study complete, students can now fully focus on preparation for the June examination.



Women's
Collective
Ireland
LUCAN

WOMEN'S
COLLECTIVE
IRELAND -
LUCAN

We were delighted to kick off the New Year by celebrating **Nollaig na mBan, 6th January**, at Carroll's Gastro Pub in Lucan Village. Nearly **50 women** came together for a joyful afternoon filled with connection, conversation, and celebration. It was a wonderful way to honour Women's Christmas and start 2025 in true community spirit.

Looking ahead, our **Registration Morning** is happening next week, giving women the opportunity to sign up for our upcoming programmes for the new term.

Registration Morning

Date: Tuesday, 13th January 2025,
Just some of the classes/ Workshops we're offering this term include:

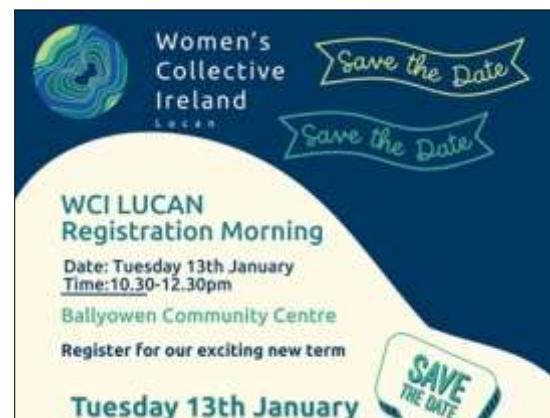
- Restorative Yoga.
- Chair Yoga.
- Crafting for Connection.
- 60's & Living Life Social Group.
- 55's & Thriving Social Group.

Monthly Read-Along – this month featuring

Nesting by Róisín O'Donnell

...and many more engaging classes designed to connect, inspire, and empower women.

Places are limited, so we encourage anyone interested to come along and secure a spot.



A huge thank you to the women of Lucan and the surrounding areas for your continued support, openness, and energy it's what makes our community so special.

Warm regards,

The WCI Lucan Team

Rita, Jackie, Joanne, Mel & Luda

Ballyowen Community Centre, Ballyowen Ln,
Lucan, Co. Dublin, K78 N263



Happy New Year from Lucan Library!

Below are all our upcoming events for January 2026.

Please Note:

All events and activities are free of charge.

All events are subject to change, but we will try to keep changes to a minimum.

To register for events via Eventbrite, a valid email address is required. Booking through Eventbrite Essential for all events. Tickets are available exactly a week before the event.

Please cancel if you can no longer attend. Non-attendance without cancellation may affect your ability to book future events with SDCC Libraries.



ADULT EVENTS

REGULAR EVENTS

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

Knitting Group - meets every Monday from 10am to 12pm.



Lucan Library Creative Writing Group - Thursdays 08th + 22nd January, 10am – 12pm.

New members most welcome



Classic Film Club - Tuesday 27th January. Tea/coffee from 5.30pm, film starting at 6pm. All Welcome!

ADDITIONAL ADULT EVENTS

Art with Olla! – Recreate iconic Dublin Doors, all materials will be provided. 28th January 10am-12noon. Book your place on Eventbrite from 21/01/26.



Irish Sign Language ISL Course – Course for beginners with the Irish Deaf Society. Participants must commit to attending all 8 weeks. starting Thursday 29th January at 6.30pm ending 19th March. Book your place on Eventbrite from 22/01/26.

Introduction to Python – Learn how to create an interactive quiz using python with Coding Ireland. Friday 30th January at 10-11am. Book your place on Eventbrite from 23/01/26.

Firstival

Joomchi Paper Crafting – Firstival Festival

Tuesday 13th January 10.30- 12.30

Explore the beauty of traditional Korean paper art with this unique Joomchi workshop, part of this year's Firstival Festival. Joomchi is an ancient technique that transforms layers of handmade paper into richly textured, felt-like artworks using only water, pressure, and movement. The result is stunning, organic pieces that can be used in collage, bookmaking,



textiles, and more. In this hands-on session, you'll learn the fundamentals of Joomchi, experiment with colour and texture, and create your own expressive paper artwork to take home. No experience is required — just curiosity and a love for creative discovery.

Join us for a meditative, tactile craft experience and uncover the magic of Joomchi during Firstival!

Available to book here on Eventbrite from Jan 02nd at 10am

Terrarium Crafting – Firstival Festival

Wednesday 14th January 6pm- 8

Bring a little greenery into your life with this calming and creative Terrarium Crafting workshop, part of this year's Firstival Festival. In this hands-on session, you'll learn how to design and build your own miniature garden using soil, stones, moss, and a selection of small plants. It's the perfect blend of crafting and nature, offering a relaxing way to create something beautiful and long-lasting. Our facilitator will guide you step-by-step through layering, planting, and caring for your terrarium, so no experience is needed. You'll leave with a unique living creation to brighten your home — and the satisfaction of having made it yourself. Discover the joy of tiny worlds and take home your own pocket-sized ecosystem at Firstival! Available to book on Eventbrite from Jan 02nd at 10am

Mystery Craft- Saturday 17th afternoon 1.30-

3.00pm. Break free from last year's challenges and brighten up your new year embracing your cracks and turning mental struggles into golden moments. Step into a story of imperfection, resilience, and honouring the past. No experience needed.

Available to book on Eventbrite from Jan 02nd at 10am

BOOK CLUBS

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

Monday Lunchtime Book Club – Monday 26th January - 12noon

Wednesday Book Club - Wednesday 28th January at 7.00pm

Read and Eat Cook Book Club (new!) – Thursday January 29th at 10.30am

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Please book events on Lucan Library/ Eventbrite Events for young children:

Cuidíú Breastfeeding Group - Meets twice monthly. Next meeting: Friday 02nd and 16th January at 10am. No booking required.

Musical Tots - Saturday 24th of January at 10.30am. Book your place on Eventbrite from 17/01/26.

Reflexology for Babies and Parents - Wednesday 14th of January at 10am. Book your place on Eventbrite from 7/01/2026.

Storytime - Every Tuesday at 3pm - no booking required, all welcome!

The Needs and Problems of Community Organisations in Lucan 1980 /'81

A community study project was carried out by Lucan Social Studies Group, at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth, under the guidance of Niall McKelvey.

A few snippets.....

Modern Expansion: Lucan is a mixture of old and new communities with all the attendant problems of such a community. In 1951 Lucan had a population of 1,297 and had no employment problem. A flour factory, a woollen mills, a cement factory and numerous shops in the Village provided employment for Lucan residents. In the 1960s, with massive house building, Lucan expanded rapidly. This building was first in the form of municipal housing and then private building. Lucan now has a population of approx. 12,500 and approx. 3,200 houses. This figure is larger than a town like Kilkenny, Carlow or Wexford. Dublin County Council's Development Plan for 1972 for the area has now been completed and a Draft Plan 1980 is now ready for implementation. Large parcel of land in the area are scheduled for more private house building within the next five years.

Community Centre: The proposed Community Centre building will commence as soon as the builder is ready. Two grants have been sanctioned and the development will be in 2 phases. Money is still being collected locally. The Centre will cater for a wide range of indoor and outdoor sports, and it is hoped to cater for social gatherings, such as Senior Citizen parties etc. There was a very high awareness among the groups surveyed about the proposed Community Centre. The majority of the associations were in favour of the Community Centre. However, there were serious reservations expressed by two associations with regard to its location. Hillcrest and Woodview / Woodview Heights residents Associations have expressed opposition to the Community Centre for the following reason: *"It was considered that the Centre is to be situated too far from the estates, inhibiting the use of same by women and children generally".*

Library: The acquisition of a site for a permanent Library in Lucan is being pursued. In the meantime, a Mobile Library Service for the area is being provided.

Shopping Facilities: Shopping facilities in the area were found to be inadequate with people having to go to Clondalkin, Blanchardstown or Dublin City Centre for their main weekly shopping.

Activities: It was noted that relatively few activities were organised by the associations.

The main activities were as follows:

Dinner Dance – 4 groups

Children's Party – 4 groups

Sports Day – 4 groups.

Hillcrest Residents Association organise weekly swimming at Kings Hospital for adults and for children at St. John of God, Islandbridge every Saturday 12-1. Beech Park Residents Association also organise a weekly swimming session in Clondalkin. They have also organised a Youth Club which meets once a week in the Parish Hall (Saturday 7.30 – 9.30).

Hillcrest F.C. - Current membership is 90 and approximately 60% of its members are over 20 years, but it does cater for underage teams. Home ground is Arthur Griffith Park.

Woodview Celtic – It has a membership of only 17 which caters for the 20 – 35 age group. The home grounds are in Arthur Griffith Park.

Arthur Griffith F.C. – Current membership is 90 approx., but a vast increase in membership is anticipated, expecting to cater for 250 members in about 3 years.

Pitch & Putt – The local course has 18 holes, well-maintained course, at the 12th Lock. Current membership is in the region of 250, and ages range from 6 – 60 years. The property is owned by the club.

Lucan Harriers Athletic Club - Current membership is 150 – 90% are less than 19 years, with a majority falling into the 6–12-year age group. Membership is expected to increase, needing to cater for 220 members in the net few years. Harriers use St Thomas' School, Esker and Arthur Griffith Park for club facilities.

Grade 10 Canoe Club – It has 40 members and is expected to double in the next few seasons. Canoeing takes place on the Liffey.

Lucan Sarsfields G.A.A. Membership is approximately 280. All age groups are catered for. 44% of active club members are in the age group of 60+. The club caters for hurling and football and takes an active part in promoting Irish culture – song and dance. Membership is expected to rise sharply in the next few years to a total of 530. Home grounds are Arthur Griffith Park. Lucan Sarsfields have purchased their own grounds recently at the 12th Lock, where they are currently constructing community style facilities – dressing rooms, club rooms, dance hall and bar. Squash courts and handball alleys are planned.

Continued over.....

Weston Aerodrome – It caters for some 200 aeroplane enthusiasts. The age group is 20 – 60 years. Facilities are described as adequate.

Spa Riding School – all age groups catered for.

Conclusions

When drawing any conclusions about Lucan as a community the major issue which confronts one is the existing size (demographically and geographically) of Lucan and the potential growth of the community in the near future. Is it nonsense to talk about Lucan as a uniform community when the population is fast heading towards 20,000 and the physical boundaries are constantly expanding? Add this to the diverse social groups within the area and the many physical dividing lines, and you end up with a very diverse population which does not lend itself to the building up of a close-know community.

The questionnaires were completed by:

- 9 Residents Associations.
- 20 Educational and Cultural Groups.
- 8 Social Service Groups.
- 18 Sports & Recreational Groups.

Thank you to the kind lady who dropped a copy of the survey to us some time ago. Unfortunately, we can't remember her name!

Apologies

We are recruiting **Volunteer Drivers** in your area!

The Irish Cancer Society's Transport Service are seeking compassionate volunteer drivers in your community.

Why Volunteer?
Your time can help to continue the vital service of providing transport for patients attending cancer treatment appointments. Your generosity can ease the journey for many during a challenging time, offering comfort and support when it's needed resulting in a hugely rewarding volunteer experience for you.

What is required?
If you have a minimum of 2 days per month to spare, a valid driving license, and a safe, reliable vehicle, you're the perfect candidate to make a significant difference. Full training will be provided.

Does this sound like you?
For more information or to become a volunteer driver, scan the QR code or contact Monica at volunteer@irishcancer.ie



I absolutely love volunteer driving – meeting new people all the time, having a chat and helping ease their burden at the same time is a great feeling - *Pauline*



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Lotto

We had no winner of last week's lotto jackpot of €4,200. The Numbers were **2, 18, 20 & 27**.

Lucky dips go to Mark Kelly, Ruth McKenna, Mary Flannery, Noel Simpson and Kevin Brennan.

This week's Lotto will be for a jackpot of €4,600. This draw is sponsored by McDonald Property and will be led by Shay Hurson



25 Card Drive

Date: Fridays until 8th May 2026

Time: 8.00pm Sharp

Prize: 1st €50 (if 12 or more players),

Entry: €5 per player

Venue: Lucan Sarsfields Clubhouse (Bar)

Everyone is welcome- from beginner to those who played years ago and would like to resume playing. You don't have to be a Club member to play.

Contact Bill Ryan 086-8500376 or Mary Flannery 087-7469143 for further information.



Academy

Our academy returns on **Saturday 17th January 2026** and is open to all boys and girls aged between 4-7. The academy runs every Saturday – no need to sign up in advance, just turn up and give it a try.

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

Thank You for supporting Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club.



Political Notes

Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Fein Rep

Mobile: 087-2136345

Email: dobradaighsf@gmail.com

Twitter: @DerrenBrady1

Woodview Heights - New Access Path:

Over the Christmas period, a new tarmac path was constructed providing improved pedestrian access for residents and walker in Woodview and Airlie Heights. This was completed under the Draft Public Realm Improvement Works Programme.

Adamstown - Cobble Block Paths:

Despite having a motion agreed in November 2023 and pursuing the issue of dangerously raised cobble blocking at multiple locations throughout Castlegate/Adamstown, we have not seen any substantial repairs. I have raised this matter with South Dublin County Council again this week.

Hillcrest / Moy Glas & Sarsfield Park – Traffic Calming:

The public consultation for proposed traffic calming measures is now closed. Under the proposal Sarsfield Park will receive new speed ramps. During December I completed an information leaflet to residents' homes in Moy Glass and the affected roads in Hillcrest. I hope that you had an opportunity to consider making a submission.

Cllr. Joanna Tuffy, Labour Party Representative.

Phone 087 392 0931

Email jtuffy@clrs.sdblincoco.ie

all social media links at linktr.ee/joannatuffy

One of the issues that was raised with me by several residents last year was the taking away of the pedestrian entrance and gate that led from the Lucan Heights Road to the back of the Church. I am aware that one parishioner made very detailed submissions to the Council that the new arrangement was dangerous to parishioners who walked to mass because they have to cross the entrance using the same gate as cars. But this complaint unfortunately was not taken on board by the Planning Enforcement Section who believe the changes are compliant with the Planning Permission for St. Joseph's. I also raised this issue with the Planning Enforcement section without success. In a letter from the Council, I received just before Christmas I was told "This is an issue for the Board of Management of the School and Church/parishioners. A new pedestrian entrance may require planning permission."

Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD, Independent

Email: hfarrell@clrs.sdblincoco.ie

Tel: 087-2794936.

Facebook: <http://bit.ly/4jHwRjR>

Athbhlain faoi mhaise daoibh go léir; go raibh sláinte, sonas agus áthas agaibh i 2026. Happy New Year to all wishing you health, prosperity and joy in 2026.

Lucan Transport: Upcoming Dublin Bus & NTA Meetings:

Thank you all who sent detailed feedback at short notice for Mon 12 Jan Dublin Bus meeting.

Dublin Bus operates services, but decisions on routes, timetables and service levels rest with the NTA. A fuller meeting (likely a workshop) with the NTA is expected c. end-February, and that is where route changes/ fixes could be discussed. Email me with your issues.

Main issues flagged so far: insufficient frequency on key routes, cancellations and "ghost buses", overcrowding, loss of Route 25, lack of reliable public transport to schools, weak Airport/rail/Luas connectivity and safety/antisocial behaviour concerns.

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

(085)2551602 CBrady@Clrs.SDublinCoCo.ie

South Dublin Local Community Safety Partnership:

I've been appointed to the Partnership by the Minister for Justice. The objectives are to prioritise issues raised by the community, improve multi-agency communication, and increase confidence in services. Statutory responsibilities include developing and implementing a three-year Local Community Safety Plan. First meeting 20th February, 10am. Please contact me with issues.

Free Bicycle Engraving at Lucan Garda Station 11th January, 12noon to 3pm:

To prevent theft and aid recovery get your Eircode engraved on your bicycle. Please bring proof of address and identification.

Happy New Year:

Wishing you a healthy, peaceful, and happy new year. Thank you to the Newsletter team for your work throughout the year, and to all volunteer organisations in Lucan for your outstanding contribution to our community. I look forward to working with you in the year ahead.

Political Notes continued over.....

Cllr. **Liona O'Toole, Independent**

Ph: 0872795274

Email: lotoole@clrs.sdublinccoco.ie

www.lionaotoole.com

I would like to wish everyone a **Happy New Year!**

This week I submitted a detailed report outlining key issues and questions relating to the bus network in the Lucan area. This report will inform a **Dublin Bus** presentation to councillors at next Monday's Council meeting.

This briefing is separate to the more detailed engagement with the NTA which is progressing following my successful motion passed last November. The **NTA meeting** will allow for a deeper, more technical discussion focused specifically on local issues.

To assist me in compiling evidence and local experiences I would really appreciate your input. Please take a moment to complete the short survey at the link below:

<https://forms.gle/rTapAL9jfwREosGRA>

Representation:

My deadline to submit motions for the next Area Committee meeting is Tuesday. If you have any local issues you would like raised, please do get in touch.

Shane Moynihan TD - Fianna Fáil, Dublin Mid-West

Email: shane.moynihan@oireachtas.ie

Phone: 01-6184128

Find me on Facebook, Instagram, X and TikTok

Athbhliain faoi mhaise:

Happy New Year to all the readers of the Lucan Newsletter and the Lucan Newsletter team.

Stripe Young Scientists:

Thanks to all the students from St Joseph's, Coláiste Phádraig CBS and Adamstown Community College who took the time to speak to me about their projects at this year's Young Scientist Exhibition in the RDS. I was blown away by the ingenuity, creativity and passion of the students and credit is due to all the teachers who have worked with them on their projects.

DART+ SouthWest:

Pleased to see progress on the timing of the delivery of Dart+ Southwest this week. I have been fighting for this project to be prioritised and will continue to do so until delivery is confirmed. Update: My latest update is available at <https://www.shanemoynihan.ie/your-december-2025-update/>.

Help is at hand for those New Year Resolutions!



Courtesy of St. Mary's Camera Soiree

Carers & Toddlers Group

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

All Welcome!



ADVERTISING RATES

- Line ads of **15 words or less** cost **€2.00**
- Line ads containing **more than 15 words** cost **.20 cent for every word in the entire ad.**
- **Block/Display adverts 6cm wide x 4cm high**, cost **€10 for one insert.**
- **No Business Ad.** will be carried for two consecutive weeks, with only **ONE AD.** per person or business
- **Lost & Found ads.** – No Charge
- **WEDNESDAY 10pm is the DEADLINE**

Ads should be **placed in an envelope** containing the **correct payment** and dropped to any of the following addresses before deadline:

St. Mary's Parish Centre, Church Grounds, Lucan

Or 3 Hillcrest Walk, Lucan.

Please do not ring doorbells when leaving in items for the Newsletter!

While Lucan Newsletter accepts items for publication in good faith, we cannot be held responsible for the reliability of our advertisers.

St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The Camera Soirée returned to St. Mary's Parish Centre this Friday after their Christmas break. On behalf of the group, I hope all readers of the Lucan Newsletter had a wonderful Christmas and I wish them all a peaceful 2026.

Throughout 2025 Joe has been recording the seasons in St. Edmundsbury and on Monday morning last captured the frost on the fields there.



Donal captured a beautiful scene in the grounds of Carton House.



The moon's phases and the months of the year are closely linked. Apparently, the word "month" takes its roots from the word "moon". I have discovered that each full moon has a nickname. Many of the Moon's nicknames have come to us from Native American culture. Because for their way of life, the cycles of the lunar phases were just as important a method of timekeeping for the Native Americans as the longer solar cycle of the year (from which the Gregorian calendar is derived). The Native American nickname for January's full moon is "Wolf Moon" and is named after the howling of hungry wolves lamenting the scarcity of food in midwinter. February's full moon will be on the 1st of the month and is nicknamed "Snow Moon" and reflects February's typically cold, snowy weather in North America at this time of year.



Michael B was down by the Liffey and captured some canoers wrestling with the flow of the river after Christmas.



Frances sent in a photo of the first full moon of 2026.



Stay safe until next week!