



Established 1967

www.lucannewsletter.ie

Sub. €1

Sunday 29th March 2026

Making Ends Meet & Keeping it Together!

As this cold weather snap hits, yet again March style, after a few beautiful days of blue skies and sunshine, the heart could plummet with disappointment at the thought of the heating bills and electricity continuing to peak while the cost of fuel increases! We are living in times where it might seem that everything one could wish for to make life easier is available to all as we see the crowds of people in retail and entertainment places. However, we don't see those who are not in those spaces as the struggle to provide the basics is the main occupation.

There are times when everyone struggles with some aspect of life and feels adrift from everyone else who walks past them on the street. It's part of the human condition! However, sometimes it feels too much to manage, to bear, to get by... While the experience of everyone is unique, something of times of struggle which might be despair, depression, aloneness/loneliness, panic, anger, loss, etc hits everyone at some stage as no one is forever without their challenges. Therefore, empathy with a brother or sister among us who is struggling should be within everyone's capacity.

When struggling, a sense of panic or limitation of sight of possibilities can present like a high wall. Most of us cannot climb a high wall without standing on the shoulders or lived wisdom of others! If we have the shoulders to stand on, we might be led to find an unexpected gem that could bring us someplace safer and happier. Asking for help is difficult for most to do. Yet we all need help at some time if not many times.



Talking to someone could make all the difference to finding some solution to a problem. There are many people and organisations among us whose business and interest it is to listen to and accompany people to walk the path to some new hope. If whatever is sitting on one's heart or mind is upsetting or disturbing or causing loss of sleep or quality of life, it is something that really might benefit from sharing and talking about. Solutions are usually found in most unexpected people and ways. None of us is really alone, even when we feel that we are! For anyone who feels they are alone and struggling, or that life is very difficult right now, try to reach out and connect with someone or some organisation.

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

Lucan Citizens Information Centre

Our telephone number is **0818 07 5090**

www.citizensinformation.ie

Email – lucan@citinfo.ie

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



Opening hours

Walk-ins to see an Information Officer

Tuesday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Wednesday: None

Thursday: 10am – 12pm and 2pm to 4 pm

Reception open

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

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

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

We are closed on Mondays and Fridays.

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

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

Public Holidays

There are 10 public holidays in Ireland each year (increased from 9 in 2022).

Public holidays may commemorate a special day or other event, for example, Saint Patrick's Day (17 March) or Christmas Day (25 December).

Since 2023, there has been a new annual public holiday in early February to mark St Brigid's Day. The public holiday is the first Monday in February, except where St Brigid's Day (1 February) happens to fall on a Friday, in which case Friday 1 February will be a public holiday.

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

Public holidays are:

New Year's Day (1 January)

First Monday in February, or 1 February if the date falls on a Friday

Saint Patrick's Day (17 March)

Easter Monday

First Monday in May

First Monday in June

First Monday in August

Last Monday in October

Christmas Day (25 December)

Saint Stephen's Day (26 December)



Good Friday is not a public holiday. While some schools and businesses close on that day, you have no automatic entitlement to time off work on that day.

How is the date of Easter Monday set each year?

Easter Monday is the only public holiday that can vary significantly from year to year. The date of Easter moves every year.

Easter should be the first Sunday after the first full moon occurring on or after 21 March. This means the earliest possible date for Easter Sunday in any year is 22 March, and the latest is 25 April. Easter Monday falls on 6 April 2026 and 29 March 2027.

Public holidays and your entitlements

Most employees are entitled to paid leave on public holidays. Full-time workers have immediate entitlement to benefit for public holidays and part-time workers have entitlement to benefit when they have worked a total of 40 hours in the previous 5 weeks. Read about 'Part-time employees' on our website.

If you qualify for public holiday benefit, you are entitled to one of the following:

A paid day off on the public holiday

An additional day of annual leave

An additional day's pay

A paid day off within a month of the public holiday

You can ask your employer at least 21 days before a public holiday, which of the alternatives will apply. If your employer does not respond at least 14 days before the public holiday, you are entitled to take the actual public holiday as a paid day off.

Your public holiday entitlements are set out in the Organisation of Working Time Act 1997. You can also read about the appropriate rate of daily pay in the Organisation of Working Time (Determination of Pay For Holidays) Regulations (SI 475/1997).

You can find out more about public holidays on the Workplace Relations Commission (WRC) website.

You can also contact the WRC's Information and Customer Service:

Workplace Relations Commission - Information and Customer Service, O'Brien Road, Carlow, R93 E920

Tel: (059) 917 8990. Locall: 0818 80 80 90

Homepage: <https://www.workplacelrelations.ie/en/>

Lucan Lions Club

Luxury Hamper Raffle in SuperValu Lucan

Just a reminder that we will be having our annual Easter Luxury Hamper Raffle in SuperValu over this weekend 27 to 29 March. Once again, we are grateful to SuperValu for their generous sponsorship of the luxury hampers. We look forward, as usual, to the great support from SuperValu customers. The raffle will take place in the store on Sunday 29 March. Tickets €2 each or 3 for €5.



Lucan Lions Club Family Easter Mile

We are holding our first ever Lucan Lions Club Family Easter Mile on the Lucan Harriers track on Easter Sunday morning 5 April from 10.00 am to 11.00 am.



There is no need to pre-register. Just turn up to this fun family event and participants can walk, jog or run. All donations will be welcome on the day.

Mattie McCabe PRO

Lucan Drama

The Beauty Queen of Leeanne is a multi-award-winning play written by Martin McDonagh and directed by Jacqueline Carroll. Set in the West of Ireland it brings us on a rollercoaster ride of emotions. At times touching, hilarious and heart breaking it's a play that you won't want to miss.



The show will be performed upstairs at Courtney's in Lucan Village from April 13th to 16th, tickets are now available at gr8events.ie

Lucan Drama - Bringing Drama to your Doorstep

Daffodil Day 2026



I would like to thank my family, and friends and neighbours for their help on Daffodil Day, also the I.C.A., Kennys, Tesco and SuperValu. **We raised €9581.**

*Thank you all,
Margaret Hynes*

People's Art & Craft Fair



**This Weekend
Sat 28th & Sun 29th March
11am-4pm**

**Canon Despard Centre
Chapel Hill, Lucan.**

In aid of Alice Leahy Trust



Lucan I.C.A.

Monday 30th March: We will not be open due to Holy Week, and Easter Bank Holiday Monday.



We wish all our members and Newsletter staff a very enjoyable Easter!

See you all on 13th April.

Left: Our lovely Easter Bunny Display from Geraldine!

Parish Notes

St Mary's, Lucan

www.lucanparish.com



Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday 29th March:

This day commemorates the triumphal entry of the Lord into Jerusalem and sets the scene for the coming days. **Blessing of Palms at all Masses.**

Masses: Vigil Saturday, 6.30pm.
Sunday: 10.30am, 12 noon and 7pm

Weekday Masses: Monday - Wednesday:
10am and 7.30pm

Confessions: Holy Week

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
after 10am Mass (Funerals excepted)

Holy Saturday: 11am to 12pm and 2pm to 3pm

Holy Thursday 2nd April:

No morning Mass today.

On this day we celebrate the institution of the Blessed Eucharist at the Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

8pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

This ceremony incorporates the washing of feet, reminding us of our call to service of others.

A guided 'Watch and Pray' hour is celebrated from **10pm to 11pm.**



Good Friday 3rd April:

3pm: Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion; this includes Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

8pm: Stations of the Cross



Holy Saturday 4th April:

9pm: Easter Vigil

Do come and join us for this joyous celebration.

Easter Sunday 5th April:

Masses: 9am, 10.30am, and 12 noon.

There is NO Evening Mass on Easter Sunday.

All Services will be live-streamed on
www.lucanparish.com

Deepest Sympathy to the wife, family and friend of **Brendan O'Neill**, Ardeevin. **May he rest in peace.**



Divine Mercy Devotion:

Every Wednesday, in after the 10am Mass until 11am (unless there is a funeral).

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy as a Novena is prayed starting on Good Friday and continuing during the 9 days leading up to the Feast of Divine Mercy (the Sunday after Easter). Novena leaflets will be available in the main porch during Holy Week.



Divine Mercy Tridium

'Blessed are the Merciful'

Friday 10th April 2026 at 7.30pm

Holy Mass & Divine Mercy Novena Prayer. **Celebrant:** Fr. P.J. Madden

Saturday 11th April 2026 at 6pm

Holy Mass & Divine Mercy Novena Prayer. **Celebrant:** Fr. Aidan Kieran

Sunday 12th April 2026

2.00pm Divine Mercy Devotions
Priests available for confession from **1.45pm**

3.00pm Prayers

3.30pm. Holy Mass

Celebrant: Bishop Paul Dempsey
Followed by Veneration of The Divine Mercy Image and individual blessing with **Relics of St Faustina**

**Venue: Church of Divine Mercy
Lucan South - Balgaddy**

All are invited to come and especially on Divine Mercy Sunday as Jesus told St. Faustina that "On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are open all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy." (Diary 139) *A wonderful blessing from the Lord.*

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



Palm Sunday 29th March:

This day commemorates the triumphal entry of the Lord into Jerusalem and sets the scene for the coming days. **Blessing of Palms at all Masses.**

Masses: Sunday: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon.

Weekday Masses: Monday - Wednesday: 10am

Confessions: Holy Week

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

After the 10am Mass (Funerals excepted)

Holy Saturday: 11am to 12pm and 2pm to 3pm



Holy Thursday 2nd April:

No morning Mass today.

On this day we celebrate the institution of the Blessed Eucharist at the Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Supper.

8pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

This ceremony incorporates the washing of feet, reminding us of our call to service of others.

Good Friday 3rd April:

12pm: Stations of the Cross for Children

3pm: Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion, including the Veneration of the Cross and Holy Communion.

8pm: Stations of the Cross with guided meditations.

Holy Saturday 4th April:

9pm: Easter Vigil

Holy Saturday is a sombre day, recalling the Lord in the tomb. The Sacraments are not celebrated today until the **Easter Vigil at 9pm.**

Do come and join us for this joyous celebration.

Easter Sunday 5th April:

Masses: 9am, 10.30am and 12 noon

All Services will be live-streamed at stpatrickslucan.ie



Divine Mercy, Lucan South

www.lucansouthparish.net

Palm Sunday 29th March:

Saturday Vigil 6pm,

Sunday Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

Weekday Masses: Mon - Wed. 9.15am

Holy Thursday 2nd April:

5pm: Family Mass

8pm: Mass of the Lord's Supper

9pm to 10pm: Hour of Prayer

Good Friday 3rd April:

12pm: Children's Stations of the Cross

3pm: Commemoration of the Lord's Passion

8pm: Reading of the Passion

Holy Saturday 4th April:

9pm: Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 5th April:

Masses: 10.30am and 12 noon.

All services will be live-streamed on

www.lucansouthparish.net

Ecumenical Way of the Cross Good Friday, 3rd April: 12pm:

Departing from St Mary's processing to Lucan Methodist, Presbyterian and Church of Ireland Churches.



Do Join Us!

Ecumenical Dawn Service

Easter Sunday Morning

5th April

at 7.00 am

Hermitage Golf Club

(by kind permission)

All Welcome

Anniversaries

Kitty Brady, 18th Anniversary

Still loved. Still missed
Still so constantly remembered.
RIP Mam.
Love Joe



Anna Carton, 5th Anniversary, 27th March

Late of Hillcrest View
Your life was a blessing
Your memory a treasure
You are loved beyond words
And missed beyond measure
*Sadly missed by her loving husband Liam,
sons Mark and Shane, daughter Tara,
family and friends.*



Patrick 'Paddy' Downey, 2nd Anniversary, 1st April

To the one in a million man,
Husband, Father, Son, Brother, Friend
Life has lost its sparkle and shine with you gone,
But, we remember the laughter
and endless memories,
they keep us warm at night,
and make us smile when times are tough.
In true Paddy Downey style,
we leave you his joke:
'What did the monkeys in Dublin Zoo get for their
lunch?'An hour of course!
Love always, Colette, Lisa, Ryan

Jimmy Eiffe, 9th Anniversary, 28th March

Time, they say is a healer
That can mend a broken heart
But often it's a reminder
of the time we've been apart
I miss your stories, your smile and the craic
But when I remember the memories for a
while I have you back
*Sadly missed every day, your loving son
Viv and Joanne xx*
Also remembering *Ma (Breda) xx*



Liam and Anna Harrison

Remembering both Liam and Anna whose 7th and 3rd
Anniversaries occur on 28th March and 7th April
respectively.

Late of Esker Lawns,
Gone but with us in spirit always.
May They Rest in Eternal Peace.
*So very sadly missed every day by their loving
daughter, Ruth, son in law, Mick and grandson,
Ajay.*

Betty Fallon, 4th Anniversary, 28th March

Of all the special gifts in life
however great or small
To have you as our mam
was the greatest gift of all
May the winds of love blow softly
and whisper in your ear
"We love and miss you Mam
and wish that you were here"
Deep in our hearts your life is kept
to love and cherish, not forget
No more tomorrows we can share
but yesterdays are always there
A silent thought, a secret tear
keeps your memory ever near
in our hearts forever
*Sadly missed and loved by your daughters
Catherine, Liz and Mary, son Gabriel,
grandchildren and great grandchildren*

John (Jack) Kilduff, 42nd Anniversary

Late of Chapel Hill.
In loving memory of our dear father
"Silent thoughts of times together
Hold memories that last forever"
Remembered by all the family.

Kathleen McGarrigle, 1st Anniversary, 22nd March *Kathleen,*

We miss your smile, your loving ways
We miss the things, you used to say,
You shared our joys,
You cheered when sad,
The greatest friend we ever had.
*Fondly remembered and sadly missed by husband
Padraig, daughters Ailish, Caitriona, Michelle,
Nessa, Patricia, grandsons Sean, Calum, Patrick,
Ross, Aaron and Conor.*

Birthday Remembrance

Declan Kane, 61st Birthday, 28th March

Just as you were, you will always be
Someone special in our memory.
*Never forgotten by his Mam, sisters Susan and
Aideen, nephews, nieces and brother-in-law.*



Lucan Senior Citizens

Wednesday 25th March: We enjoyed our Easter Party, Easter Bonnet competition and raffle. Fr. Bill called in and was impressed with the joyful, colourful and creative vibe in the hall.



Above and Below – Winning Easter Bonnets



We were delighted to welcome our stylist and impartial judge, Maeve. All hats were diligently examined and style and creativity noted. Philip Tracy would be inspired! Thank you, Maeve for your expertise and singing was an added bonus.



Maeve checking the style!

Happy Easter to everyone!



We're springing forward this weekend! Don't

forget that the clocks go forward on Sunday morning – an hour less in bed. At least it and



Mother's Day are not on the same Sunday as has happened previously!

Who was up early enough to see a good shower of snow last Wednesday morning? Birdie is hoping that we see no more of the white stuff!

Our Boys in Green take on Czechia this Thursday night – Fingers crossed, there'll be a good result. Birdie is around long enough to remember the good times that began with the Euro's 1988, followed by Italia '90, running for many years.

Esker Active Retirement Association

On Wednesday 25th our club had a vintage themed Afternoon Tea Party with music and dancing, to celebrate our 10 year anniversary. Our club started from scratch in March 2016; we now have well over 100 paid up members. We had a great attendance, and everyone had a lovely time. We were delighted to welcome our guest Mai Quaid, National President (ARI). Mai has been a great support to our club over the years.



We meet up every Wednesday for bowls, scrabble and card games. We frequently have guest speakers, also other activities organised by SDCC.

We organise day trips during our summer break, 4-day breaks around Ireland in Spring and Autumn, as well as annual holidays abroad. Our next trip this May is to Portugal.

We meet every Wednesday at 1.30 to 4 pm in St Andrew's Parish Hall, Main Street, Lucan new members are always welcome.

Rambling in March.....

At the new entrance to Lucan Demesne the “Arch” structure is to accommodate a lighting system – as per engineer at site.

3 new Juniper trees set in Demesne to replace 3 which failed last year.

Gorgeous Spring display of Daffodils and Crocus behind the Post Box Lr. Tandy’s Lane, and new planting at Ardeen. Bravo our Tidy Town Supremos.

Thanks to our D.D.C.C. teams who cut back, sweep up and care for our walkways. From St. Catherine’s Park past that magnificent Cuchulainn piece – nearby stands a companion stump which might one day be crafted as Cuchulainn’s wife!!!

Walking the Clonee Road past that sad *Glenwood House*, a long Standford’s Hill leaving *Hillview* property, and *Oonavaragh* reaching *Bleach Green* lands which have been acquired by Fingal C.C. to develop parkland connecting St. Catherines Park via riverside paths. This will open up the ancient roadway from Kildare etc to Dublin via Weirview, Strawberry Beds etc. - as park engineer at works site.

Leixlip Castle Opening times – March, May, June and August.

Walking towards village past the Orchard property, very distinctive decorative pointing around stonework of high was is to be seen.

At the White Gate entrance to Lucan Demesne, very old Blackstone decorates the gates, which was quarried from the Liffey, and sculpted by years of river turbulence – by tide and time

Care please for the Coade Stone pieces of the Demesne, and those of Griffeen pillars.

Might permission be sought to professionally age an Esker road discovered during excavations in Lucan in 1970?

The herd of Monumental Buffalo at Lucan House which have to be safely corralled regularly!?!)

Dangerous barbed-wire fencing left of riverside paths from Farmers Gate to the bridge – why permitted?

For the gifts of chattering birdsong, Daffodils and sunshine on our walk lands – D.G.

To our Pilgrim Spirits – bless the paths we walk and the roads we travel.

Brida (L.C.)



Giving to Charity

by Liam Gleeson

It would be nice if we all gave something back,
More preferably to all those who do lack.
Like the homeless, the hungry, the
depressed and the bereaved,
When their situations are fully understood,
it will all be believed.

It matters not if the amount is too big or
too small,
It will make a real difference to them all.
If a single currency from each person was
got,
A massive amount would always help a lot.

Like a dollar from every Canadian you see,
Perhaps one Yuan Renminbi from every
Chinese.
Please dig deep into your pockets so that
we,
Can get as much as we can for charity.

Remember that we're serving the needs of
others,
Like some young children and young
mothers.



St. Joseph's College

Senior Concern Debating

Hard luck to our senior Concern debate team who were unfortunately beaten last Thursday night in the All Ireland quarter final. The girls were debating the motion 'AI –

such a worthy cause there will be a bake sale, silly socks day and posters competition held in the school.

Second Year Basketball Final

The very best of luck to our second year basketball team who are competing in the regional final this week against Adamstown CC in Inchicore.

Follow Us on Twitter: @StJosephsLucan

Follow Us on Instagram: @stjosephscollegelucan

Find us on our Website: www.stjosephslucan.com



Lucan Community College

1st year trip to Newgrange

Class Newgrange enjoyed a memorable visit to Knowth and Newgrange in Co. Meath. The day began at the Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre, where students explored the exhibition on this UNESCO World Heritage Site.

They then travelled to Knowth for a guided tour of the mound, its satellite tombs, and artefacts. At Newgrange,

students entered the passage tomb and experienced a recreation of the winter solstice illumination, highlighting its remarkable prehistoric design.

World Home Economics Day

TY students along with their Home Economics teachers Ms. Ennis, Ms. Thompson, Ms. Murray and Ms. Fitzpatrick created smoothies and granola pots to celebrate World Home Economics Day which took place on the 21st March.

Derry Trip

Thirty students from fifth and sixth year politics and history classes visited the city of Derry last week. They took in sights and the history of the Museum of Free Derry, the Apprentice Boys Museum and a tour of the murals along the Bogside. Thanks to Ms McGroarty for organising the trip.

Neurodivergence Awareness Week

This week in the school is Neurodiversity Awareness. This global initiative focuses on challenging stereotypes and celebrating the unique strengths of neurodivergent individuals, including those with autism, ADHD, dyslexia and dyspraxia. This year's theme is 'From Awareness to Action'. To help raise money this week for



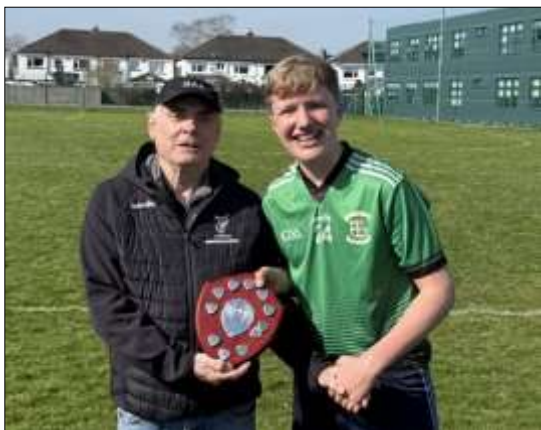
Well done to all students for their engagement, and thanks to the tour guides and accompanying staff.

Coláiste Phádraigh

Football: Congratulations to our u16 Football team, who won the Dublin Junior Football “C” Shield after defeating local rivals Lucan Community College 6-08 to 1-02 in the Final last Thursday. The team started the game very well, and scores from midfielder Daniel Godson (2-1), full-forward Max Campbell (1-0) and half-forwards Daniel Wallace and Justin Mariner (0-1 apiece) gave them a pretty unassailable 4-03 to 0-0 lead at half-time.



CBS refused to get complacent and they started the 2nd half with a similar tempo and desire. Conor Gilmore was outstanding at centre back, as he repeatedly rose highest to claim most of the kick-outs, before initiating numerous attacking moves with his precise passing and intelligent link-up play. LCC did manage some attacks of their own, but they found Dylan O’ Byrne in fine form in goal as he made some important saves and blocks.



Team captain Mason Butler with the U16 Shield

Finn Garner made a great impact off the bench as he slotted home a penalty to extend the team’s lead. Team captain Mason Butler, who was imperious throughout at full-forward, scored a superb point from an angle, Daniel Wallace added another point from close range, while Jack O’ Connor scored 1-1 late on from the half-forward line, to ensure a comfortable, and well-deserved victory.

Well done also to Mr. O’ Carroll and Mr. Lyons for coaching and managing the team so well throughout the campaign.

Business: Last Thursday, some of our younger Business Studies students had the exciting opportunity to visit AIB in Lucan. Arriving bright and early, the students were welcomed into the branch before it opened to the public, allowing for a private tour and information session.

The group was greeted by Linda, the branch manager, who gave an engaging and informative talk about the

important role of a local bank in the community. Students learned not only about everyday banking operations but also about how banks support local businesses and residents. Linda’s presentation offered insights into financial services and the responsibilities involved in running a successful branch, making it a highly educational experience for the students.



Continued over.....

Coláiste Phádraigh *continued*.....

A particular highlight of the visit was a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the ATM machines. Students were shown how to safely and confidently operate the machines, giving them practical skills they can use in everyday life.

The visit concluded with a wonderful surprise: Linda presented the school with a generous cheque of 200e to support our students' educational resources. This kind donation will go a long way in enhancing learning opportunities and helping students access materials to further their studies. The staff also gave the students Easter Eggs, which they were delighted to receive! We are so grateful to the kindness and generosity shown by Linda and her wonderful staff to our students.

Transition Year: On Friday 13th March, our Transition Year students organised a highly successful fundraising day that showcased teamwork, creativity and community spirit. The main event was a well-run car wash for teachers, where students worked in teams to clean vehicles thoroughly using a two-station system. Their attention to detail and organisation ensured excellent results, with teachers praising the high standard of work.



Alongside the car wash, students hosted a lively "Shave or Dye" event, which generated great excitement across the school. Teachers and students took part, with some opting for colourful hair transformations while others chose bold haircuts. TY student Ancel Jobi impressed everyone with his professional barbering skills.



Additional fundraising activities included a whole-school raffle and a non-uniform day, encouraging widespread participation. In total, an impressive 1,500e was raised for Dogs Trust and the Irish Cancer Society, with an additional €250 donated to Féileacáin (The Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Association of Ireland). Many thanks to everyone who supported the students throughout the day.

School tour: Good luck to the 61 2nd yr students and seven teachers who are travelling to Barcelona on Monday morning for an exciting four-day school tour. Hopefully, the weather in Barcelona will be a welcome improvement on what we are currently experiencing at home! We wish everyone a safe, enjoyable, and rewarding trip, and look forward to hearing all about their adventures when they return.

Soccer: Our u15 soccer team were knocked out of the Leinster Minor Shield last Friday after suffering a disappointing 3-1 defeat to Kildare Town in their 1-4 final encounter. Conor Brennan got Lucan's goal with a fine strike from just inside the box with 10mins left, but by that stage Kildare had opened up a 3-0 lead and they held on comfortably enough to earn a place in the semi-finals.



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.



Patternmaking Course: Over 3 Saturdays; 11th, 18th, 25th at 1.30pm. Book on Eventbrite from 04th April, participants are asked to attend all 3 weeks.

Wear Well, Live Well: A Talk on Fast Fashion! Thursday 02nd April at 6.30pm.

Call For Volunteers: Volunteers wanted for a new English Conversation Group. Training will be provided by Failte Isteach. Please contact library staff for details by emailing us at lucanlibrary@sdblincoco.ie

APRIL MID TERM



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

Wednesday 01st April at 2pm: **Card Swap!**

No need to book, come along on the day to swap Pokemon, Match Attax and more!

Wednesday 01st April at 3.30pm: **3D Design with Jennifer for ages 8-12.** Curious about 3D design? Come along and print something unique to take home!

Wednesday 08th April at 3.30pm: **Library Crafts for Crafty Kids! for ages 6-10.** Easter Crafts with Library staff

Thursday 09th April for 9-12 at 3.30pm: **Crafts with Elena for ages 9-12.**



ADULT EVENTS

Regular Events:

No booking is required for the below events – all are welcome to attend! Monday 13th April at 6.30pm:

Adult Chess Club - all levels welcome, meets once monthly. Every Monday 10am - 12noon - **Lucan Library Knitters Club**, new members welcome.

Meeting Tuesday 7th April due to the Easter Bank Holiday. Thursdays 09th and 30th April from 10am – 12noon: **Lucan Library Creative Writers Group**

Tuesday 07th April at 6.30pm: **Poet's Perch – Monthly Poetry Circle for Adults.** All levels welcome. Saturday 11th April at the slightly different time of 11am: **“What’s the Story”**

Writing Club! Email Aine at CreativeLucan@gmail.com to book your place or look up Creative Social on Eventbrite.ie



Additional Adult Events

New: Irish Sign Language Conversation Circle: Drop in from 6.00pm -7.00pm on 08th and 22nd of April. Building from our recent ISL classes, you are invited to come along for a cup of tea/coffee and a chat using ISL!

BOOK CLUBS

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

Monday Lunchtime Book Club: Monday 27th April at 12noon.

Wednesday Book Club: Wednesday 29th at 7.00pm

Read and Eat Cook Book Club: Thursday 16th April at 10.30am

CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Please book events on Lucan Library/ Eventbrite Events for Younger Children:

Friday 10th and 17th of April at 10.00am: **Cuidiú Breastfeeding Group** meets twice monthly. No need to book.

Wednesday 17th of April at 10am: **Reflexology for Babies and Parents.**

Tuesday 28th of April: **Musical Tots with Karen!** Switching to Tuesday at 10.30 just for April.

Every Monday at 3pm: **Storytime** – Changing to Mondays. Stories in English and Irish with a small arts and craft included! Please book your space on Eventbrite from each previous Monday at 3pm.

NEURODIVERSE EVENTS

Friday 10th April and Friday 24th from 12noon-4.00pm: **Sensory Afternoons.** Selection of sensory toys and Magic Table games in calm, dimmed environment. Booking on Eventbrite from 10th April Thursday 16th April at 6.30pm: **Talk on**

Developing Self Esteem, Self-Contentment and Resilience in Our Children: Booking on Eventbrite from 09th April.

Friday 17th of April at 10am: **Sensory Play Session for Pre-School Children** with Rebecca McDermott, founder of This is Me and qualified Play Practitioner.

Closed from Good Friday 2nd until Easter Monday 6th inclusive



The Girl Child

At Easter 2005 I woke in a no star hotel room in Malawi, at about 4am and was outraged at what I had seen in the previous ten days, waking Mary in the process. I figure this rage is still in me. I was outraged then about the sight of women and girls spending their lives sourcing and carrying filthy water, while many in Ireland had travelling to New York and Dubai for their Christmas shopping.

We were all Global Citizens, with the same declared human rights, but centuries of inequity apart in reality. To me this was unfair, unjust and any kind of Christian, contrary to any right-thinking person's human values. Maybe the problem was that I had seen it, up close and personal and it hasn't let me go since.

It wasn't that the World wasn't interested. It was that the system was unsuitable and ineffectual as it still is. The message was loud and clear, but many of the messengers were not up to the task. The technologies were expensive and inappropriate and often still are eleven years later.

I'm not much of a reader but the odd quote hits me, like Ghandi talking about how little we can achieve. *"Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is important that you do it, because no one else can"*

I also think about Desmond Tutu - *"Too frequently we think we have to do spectacular things. Yet if we remember that the sea is actually made up of drops of water and each drop counts, each one of us can do our little bit where we are. Those little bits can come together and almost overwhelm the world"*.

In that early morning we had the choice to come home and say that the task was too great, or do something. Thank God we chose the latter which has had us on a mad roller-coaster ride for over eleven years now, being supported by people we have never met from Alaska to Australia, who trust us to deliver on our promise that 100% of their donation gets all the way to Malawian villages untouched. We had no great strategic plan, just a passion and a Mission, but we're not Missionaries or so they tell us.

Again my little reading brought me to Lao Tzu, Chinese Philosopher, founder of Taoism, ("The Book of the Way") 600 BC-531 BC and was impressed by his ideas on development and so adopted them for our Mission.

*"Go to the people. Live with them.
Learn from them. Love them.
Start with what they know.
Build with what they have."*

*But with the best leaders, when the work is done, the task accomplished, the people will say
"We have done this ourselves"."*

We do all we can to enable people to empower themselves. At this stage we have a pump we are happy with. Our team of four men and two women manufacture the pumps in our factory in Luwanga, Mzuzu, while women in villages are taught to maintain them. Over half a million villagers have access to clean, safe drinking water as a result, while the team continue to make and install about 20 on a good week.

In the main we work with women's groups, but what's new about that as women do most of the really important work in all countries. If Malawi is ever to develop it will be through its poor rural women. But strangely that may be a long way of now.

Bringing clean water to women in villages changes everything. Women are freed from the slavery of carrying water, everyone has better health and at least some little dreams can become reality. At least maybe we encourage them to dream and plan, and find hope to be a most powerful weapon. For almost a year now we have a new push on facilitating girls who have qualified for Secondary school to take up their places. It is a huge undertaking where we expect our numbers to reach well over 100 this year.

We would love to have then all sponsored but we know the money will come from somewhere, and up to this people from all over the world have been amazing. It costs 180 Euro to pay fees, books, clothes, assist families, transport and all the other unforeseeable shocks.

We have no Government or Corporate funding, but our donors never let us down and because our founders cover all expenses our money goes a long way. A few more volunteers in our Charity Shop in Queen St, opening an extra day might pay for many of our girls. We have never begged for money, as we feel that would do a big dis-service to the strong and proud women we journey with in Malawi, but thankfully there has been no need.

Another hope for income generation, was launched at a three-day Agricultural Fair last week: our new irrigation pump, which we will sell looks like being a real winner, with interest in this appropriately simple device, from all over the country. The profit margin will be low and the pump will be free to the poorest. But it will enable all to grow food in the dry season, help with starvation and in the long term generate a recyclable income.

At the same fair we displayed some of the 35,000 seedlings we will produce on the farm this year. Many we will give away free, but those we sell to other NGO's will add to our local pool of fun.



Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



Lotto

We had no winner of Thursday 19th March lotto jackpot of €8,600. The numbers drawn were **3, 11, 15 & 25**. **Lucky dips** go to Jackie Foley, Barry Moran, Gillian Ryan, Claire O'Neill and Martin Smyth. This week's Lotto on Thursday 26th March will be for a jackpot of €9,000.



This draw is sponsored by Clandillon Motors and will be led by Cormac Gordon. Please scan attached QR Code to see details and register to play.



Membership

All players are reminded that the registration deadline is next Tuesday 31st March 2026. Any player who renews their membership after this date must ensure their registration is completed at least 3 days before they take part in any game or competition. Players who are not fully registered by then will not be eligible to train or play in club fixtures until this 3-day period has passed, in line with GAA eligibility and insurance requirements. Please see previous notes on ClubZap for procedures on how you can renew.

New Website

We're delighted to announce the launch of our brand-new Lucan Sarsfields website, which went live last week! The new site makes it easier than ever to stay up to date with everything happening around the club. You'll find the latest fixtures, results, news updates, and event information, along with links to membership details, Lotto, and team contacts. Make sure to check it out and bookmark it to stay connected with all things Lucan Sarsfields!

Ladies Juvenile Football

Our U15C Ladies Footballers picked up their first league win of the season in fine style this afternoon, as they overcame Thomas Davis B on a sunny day for football in Lucan.

Right from the first whistle, Lucan showed real intent, dominating possession and taking some excellent early scores that set the tone for the game. The teamwork and work rate across the pitch were outstanding, with the defensive unit standing strong and repeatedly turning over possession to launch counterattacks.

The strength and determination shown by the backs provided the perfect foundation for the forwards to flourish, leading to a series of well-taken goals and points that reflected the team's efforts and skill. Lucan maintained their focus right to the final whistle, securing a well-deserved victory.

Final Score: Lucan Sarsfields 7-9 **[VS]** Thomas Davis B 3-3

Easter Camps

Our Easter Camps which will run from 7th to 10th April 2026 are now sold out!!!

Lucan Sarsfields Golf Classic

The Lucan Sarsfield's Annual Fundraising Golf Classic will take place at Lucan Golf Club on Friday, 19th June 2026. A four-person team is €450 which includes a round of golf, a goodie bag and meal. Great prizes on the day for Best Team Score, Nearest the Pin, Longest Drive, Hole-in-One, 2's Competition and Putting Green Competition. This year we are proud to partner with our chosen charity CRY - Cardiac Risk in the Young www.cry.ie

We recognise and greatly appreciate the continued support of those who regularly contribute and attend this fundraising event. If you would like to enter a team, sponsor the event in any capacity, donate a prize, or join the Golf Classic Committee please contact a member of the committee.

Sara Hickey 086-8187070, Maggie Mulqueen 087-2866581,

Ruth Langton 086-823 1139, Darren Lancaster 087-

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REGISTER NOW

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Paul Gogarty TD – Independent

Working with Cllr Helen Farrell
“Not just at election time” Dáil office: 01 6184078.
WhatsApp: 0892364871.
Website: www.paulgogarty.com

Dáil Report: Several of my contributions this week focused on the need to support people facing increased energy costs and knock-on price rises, especially the most vulnerable in our society. I also pointed out the requirement to ramp up measures to make Ireland self-sufficient via wind, wave, solar and tidal renewables and related battery storage and green hydrogen conversion. We are too dependent on imported fossil fuels and need to be able to withstand likely future price shocks. I also made contributions on the scourge of illegal and fake medicines available online.

Swimming Pool: The pool is still due to be handed over at end of month. It will take a further four weeks for Aura Leisure to train staff. Cllr Helen Farrell will update as new information arrives.

Minister Emer Higgins TD – Fine Gael

01 618 3013. Insta: @emerhigginstd
Emer.Higgins@oireachtas.ie

Stronger supports for people with Down

Syndrome: On Saturday 6th March, which also marked World Down Syndrome Day, I was delighted to announce Glór – Voices for Life, a new partnership between my Department, the HSE, Down Syndrome Ireland, the Down Syndrome Centre Dublin, the Down Syndrome Centre Cork and Hub 21. This programme will expand access to Speech and Language Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy, benefiting children and adults with Down Syndrome across the country.

New measures to help with fuel and energy costs: This week, the Government introduced new measures to help households with rising fuel and energy costs, including cuts of 22c per litre on diesel and 17c per litre on petrol. The fuel allowance has also been extended by four weeks, supporting pensioners, carers, people with disabilities and low-income working families with home-heating costs.

Cllr. Helen Farrell, Independent

Working with Paul Gogarty, TD. Tel: 087-2794936.
Email: hfarrell@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie
Facebook: <http://bit.ly/4jHwrjR>

Lucan Village Green: It was very disappointing to hear the SDCC Manager roll back on a promise to use semi-mature trees in the planting of Lucan green, as he'd promised us at the last Area Committee Meeting. I'm now trying to investigate if this can be achieved another way, as the stone

design is very harsh at present, and semi-mature trees would help to soften the look.

Café Clinic This Week: My café clinic this week – The Tram Café at Adamstown will be 12.00-1.00 Wednesday 1st April. If you need my services as Peace Commissioner, please message me in advance at 087-2794936. Want to discuss issues in Lucan that you'd like me to raise at the April Area Committee Meeting with SDCC management; please pop by!

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

(085)2551602 CBrady@Cllrs.SDublinCoCo.ie

Housing for All - Affordable Homes Keepers

Lock, Clonburris: A total of 25 new homes are being offered for sale by SDCC under an Affordable Dwelling Purchase Agreement (ADPA). Homes include 2-bed apartments and houses, and 3-bed duplexes and houses. Applications open at 10am on 9th April 2026 online at <https://sdcchousing.submit.com/>

EV Charging Infrastructure: The Council began installing new public EV chargers under the Dublin local authorities' agreement with ePower. Fifteen sites are planned in South Dublin, including four in Lucan: Tandy's Lane, Hermitage Park, Castlegate Rise and Lucan Leisure Campus. Works started at Tandy's Lane in mid-March. Installations take 5–8 days, followed by ESB connections taking 2–4 months. Site delivery depends on power availability, permissions and design approvals. These installations form part of a wider county programme to expand access to fast destination charging.

Derren Ó Brádaigh – Sinn Féin Rep

Mobile: 087-2136345 E: dobradaighsf@gmail.com

New Glass Recycling Bank – Airlie Park:

At this week's Lucan Area Committee Meeting a motion was passed after being submitted by my colleague Cllr Fennell on my behalf. The motion requested additional glass recycling facilities within the 1km residential radius as outlined in the council's own strategy. It has been agreed that a bottle bring bank will be installed in Airlie Park.

Additional Solar Bins – Lucan: Similarly, a motion was also agreed to consider a number of locations that I have proposed to the council to locate solar bins. This request follows the recent instalment of a number of these units in Lucan Village. The additional bins requested would come through the next phase of the programme. The suggested locations include Griffen Valley Park (at Hayden's Lane), Lucan Leisure Campus, Lidl Shackleton, Adamstown Train Station.

Cllr. Liona O'Toole – Independent

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

I raised a number of motions/questions on key issues affecting Lucan at my area committee meeting.

Over **900 trees** planted across the area in 2025 with further mini woodlands planned alongside continued biodiversity initiatives supporting our parks and pollinators.

Now that **The Paddocks** has been taken in charge, I am working to progress outstanding traffic safety measures previously raised by residents. I also sought clarity on the **Canal Loop project** particularly changes to the originally approved **boardwalk** design.

I continue to push for the **extension of Adamstown Community Centre** to be included in the next Capital Programme reflecting ongoing population growth and demand for community space.

Other matters raised included community dog training, canal safety and the need to reconvene the Liffey Valley Monitoring Committee.

Get in touch if you have an issue, you would like raised at future meetings.

Cllr. Vicki Casserly PC – Fine Gael

Peace Commissioner. Tel: 0858317982.

vcasserly@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie

Proposed Rezoning & Housing Growth –

Lucan Area: I have made a formal submission on Proposed Variation No. 2 to the South Dublin County Development Plan 2022–2028.


While national housing targets must be planned for, I have raised concerns regarding further intensification in Lucan, Adamstown, St Edmundsbury and the Foxhunter area without clear evidence that infrastructure is keeping pace.

Current pressures include traffic congestion, school capacity, healthcare access and delays in transport upgrades. The Development

Plan requires that growth is infrastructure-led and aligned with environmental protection and quality placemaking. In my view, this must be clearly demonstrated before additional zoning or density increases proceed. I won't be supporting the variation to the current development plan.

Residents can make their own submission online through the South Dublin County Council consultation portal or by post to the Forward Planning Section at County Hall, Tallaght.

Metro Dart Rail Extension Ideal Solution

Metro Dart rail overground will be even better if it is extended by another four miles. It will provide an express rail service to Dublin Airport and quick access around Dublin for work.  Lucan Adamstown station to Airport 15 minutes, Heuston Station to Airport 15 minutes and a great benefit for country users for quick access to the Dublin Airport from all areas of Ireland with this short rail extension. With all city rail lines in Dublin being upgraded to Dart, it makes no sense leaving out the missing rail link as a Dart. This vital rail line links up the whole Irish network. It would be even more foolish to build this new rail link up line with a different rail gauge that would prevent direct linking. This rail link up line allows the three existing rail lines operating idle at present even with a full complimentary of trains at peak times to be fully utilized. Now with so many activities and work outside the city centre it makes no sense bringing almost all transport modes and users via the centre, enduring more time to go back out again making their travel extra-long. This also uses up vital seat capacity. This new rail link ensures most users can go direct to any destination. These changes will revolutionise the whole concept of rail travel. This is all overground, using standard rail gauge and all areas benefit with minimum disruption. This link with the extra four miles extension increases rail capacity by over fourfold more than enough to self-finance this project for zero cost. Is there a better system out there to benefit you let us know if there is. Airport to city centre area underground serves very few areas but it will cause major unnecessary construction disruption for many years at massive cost.

Tom Newton 086 312 7364 @ acratu.com



St. Mary's Camera Soirée

This Friday in the Parish Centre the members of the Soiree had another interesting working group on still life photography under the direction of Donal.

After last week's excursion to Taiwan, we are back in Ireland with our selection of photos for the newsletter. Don sent in a photo of the beautiful nineteenth century oratory on the lakeshore of Guagán Barra, the source of the river Lee, near Ballingearry in the Muskerry Gaeltacht. The name *Guagán Barra* comes from Saint Finbar, who is said to have brought Christianity to the southwest of Ireland.



Michael G was in Dun Laoghaire and submitted a photo of the harbour taken from the function room of the National Yacht Club, hence the reflection of the chandelier in the window. The club was founded in 1871 as the Kingstown Royal Harbour Boat Club. The name was changed in 1931. It is the only yacht club in Ireland with a warrant from the Irish Herald of Arms (part of the National Library of Ireland) to use the State Harp on its Ensign.



Josie was down in the grounds of Maynooth University and took photos of some of the trees in blossom there. She also managed to find a quiet pigeon sitting on her nest.



Donal was down by the Liffey and found the light just right to take a nice photograph of the Weir at Shackelton's Mills.



Stay safe until next week!