



Established 1967

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

Sub. 80c

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Someone to watch over you.....



Angel of God, my guardian dear,  
to whom God's love commits me here,  
ever this day be at my side,  
to light and guard, to rule and guide.  
Amen.

As children of the 50s and 60s, the first prayer we ever learned was to our Guardian Angel! It was reassuring to know that someone had your back.

When I made my First Holy Communion, no different than kids today, I received gifts of money from neighbours and friends, not I might add, anything like the tokens of the 21<sup>st</sup> century – a half-crown was a good sum back then, but one elderly lady gave me a book about Guardian Angels, and as fate would have it, the monies I received are all gone, but I still have that treasured little book. It describes the various angels, and the jobs they had. They were of wonderful colours, and all with feathered wings.



Angels are a strange phenomenon; they are heavenly spirits whom we believe guard and protect us. Often mentioned in the Old and New Testaments, we call to them in prayer in our hour of need. They are different to saints in that saints were real humans with a past history that we can relate to. One remark I've heard of angels is that they are like ideas; we can't see them, but they are there all the same!

Over time, and my little book became invisible among lots of other things hoarded, it moved house and somehow hid itself for many more years.....

In that time, I wouldn't have been thinking much about Guardian Angels, but my late mother had very poor eyesight, and just when she died at 85 years of age, I thought her Guardian Angel must have been looking out for her all those years crossing through busy traffic in Lucan, and indeed in Dublin City. Her Guardian Angel certainly had a busy time keeping an eye on her.

**Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October is the Feast Day of Guardian Angels**, and we pray that they'll watch over and guide us in these perilous times. It's comforting to remember they'll have our backs once again.

*Mary Mulhall*

## Lucan Citizens Information Centre

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



**The CIC office is closed for personal callers until further notice.**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, you can find comprehensive integrated information online at [citizensinformation.ie/covid19/](http://citizensinformation.ie/covid19/) and you can get daily updates on what's changed on Twitter at @citizensinfo. You can also get information and advice from: The Citizens Information Phone Service: Call 0761 07 4000, Monday to Friday, 9am – 8pm.

**Our national call back service:** Visit [citizensinformation.ie/callback](http://citizensinformation.ie/callback) to request a phone call from an information officer. A limited number of appointments are being made in Citizens Information Centres offices where social distancing can be facilitated.

You can ring 0761 07 5000 and leave a message, and an information officer will return your call, or you can email [Ballyfermot@citinfo.ie](mailto:Ballyfermot@citinfo.ie) and an information officer will reply to your email.

### MABS - Money Advice and Budgeting Service

If you're behind in your mortgage payments, you may be worried about losing your home.

Talk to your lender. If you can't - talk to MABS. MABS now has a dedicated confidential, free, and independent mortgage arrears service.

MABS is a one-stop-shop for mortgage debt advice and referral.

No matter what your situation is, MABS will help you work out the next steps.

#### **Take control of what happens next.**

Call MABS today on 0761 07 2000 for independent information, advice and referral.

### COVID-19 Pandemic Unemployment Payment

*This information was edited on 22nd September 2020.*

#### **Who can get COVID-19 PUP?**

Should I apply for PUP or a jobseeker payment?

Rate of payment

Tax and PRSI

Appeals

Returning to work

How to apply

More information is available on the following link:

[https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social\\_welfare/social\\_welfare\\_payments/unemployed\\_people/covid19\\_pandemic\\_unemployment\\_payment.htm](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social_welfare/social_welfare_payments/unemployed_people/covid19_pandemic_unemployment_payment.htm)

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### Citizens Information and COVID-19

During the COVID-19 pandemic, public service information is rapidly changing. The Citizens Information website collates information from across the full range of government sources and our team works hard to keep the information accurate and focused on citizens' needs. There may sometimes be a time lag between information being published by another government department or agency and our content being updated. This is because we want to make sure we check the information fully and integrate it on our website.

If you want to give us feedback on information published on this site or if you think anything is missing you can email us directly at [cinfofeedback@ciboard.ie](mailto:cinfofeedback@ciboard.ie)

You can also contact us via our social media channels – on Twitter at @citizensinfo and on Facebook at @citizensinformation

Note that we cannot respond to queries through our feedback channel. If you need information and advice you can contact:

#### **The Citizens Information Phone Service:**

Call 0761 07 4000, Monday to Friday, 9am – 8pm

Our national call back service: Visit [citizensinformation.ie/callback](http://citizensinformation.ie/callback) to request a phone call from an information officer

A limited number of appointments are being made in Citizens Information Centre offices where social distancing can be facilitated. You can continue to contact your local centre by email or phone using the details in our Find a Centre page.



#### **PLEASE NOTE:**

We are **NOT** operating from the Newsletter Office at the moment, but leave your ads, queries or notices in the **letter box at St. Mary's Parish Centre, before 10pm on Wednesday night**, and we'll collect and look after them.

Alternately email any of the following:

[marylucannewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:marylucannewsletter@gmail.com)

[annalucannewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:annalucannewsletter@gmail.com)

[roselucannewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:roselucannewsletter@gmail.com)

[catherinelucannewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:catherinelucannewsletter@gmail.com)

## Parish Notes



### St Mary's, Lucan

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

In compliance with government regulations St. Mary's Church has suspended all public Masses and the celebration of Sacraments for the coming three weeks.

#### Mass will be available on the webcam:

Monday to Saturday: 10am

Sunday: 11am

**Private Prayer:** The church will be open daily from **10.30am to 6pm** for private prayer. Please ensure social distancing when visiting the church and use hand sanitizers provided when entering and leaving.

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

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

**All Masses will be livestreamed only during level 3 measures:**

**Sunday Masses:** Vigil Saturday 7pm, 9am  
10.30am family Mass and 12 noon.

**Weekday Mass:** Masses on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10am.

**View the following on** [www.stpatrickslucan.ie](http://www.stpatrickslucan.ie)

Mass Readings for the week

Morning Prayer – Lauds

Evening Prayer – Vespers

Take five at 10 Daily Reflections–Weekdays:  
10am

Taizé – Watch and Pray

### Divine Mercy, Lucan South

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

**All Masses will be livestreamed only**

**Sunday Masses:** Saturday Vigil 6.30pm,  
Sunday 10:30am and 12.15pm

**Weekday Mass:** Monday to Friday 9:15am,  
Saturday 10am.

**Mass on RTE 1 this Sunday at 11am**

Chief Ccelebrant for Emigrant Sunday

*Fr. Alan Hillard*

with members of the  
**Choir of Divine Mercy Church,  
Lucan South**



**NAGARHOPE** annual church gate collection will **NOT** take place at St. Mary's this weekend as advertised in last week's newsletter. This is because there won't be any Masses (except online) due to Covid restrictions.

As you read in Doc's mail, Nagarhope continues to provide education in Nepal, though Covid restrictions are limiting this.

For those of you who would still like to contribute, we will gladly receive donations at 191 Beech Park. You can also make a donation through any bank using the following IBAN no. IE30 ULSB 986040 10122317.

Alternately, you can donate through the website [nagarhope.com](http://nagarhope.com).

If you would like an acknowledgement, please ensure that your name appears on your donation.

*Many thanks*

*Niamh Clandillon*

**JOIN JOE for  
JUSTICE**



**Joe will walk a  
marathon -  
26 miles  
over a month (or  
two or three !!!)**

The event has been organised for riase funds for two

charities working to lift people out of poverty. Marys Meals provides school based meals in some of the poorest parts of the world helping children to stay in school.

The second is to provide tutors for a women's literacy project founded by the Presentation Sisters outside Delhi in India.

For more information on the event or for sponsorship cards please contact  
Fr Joe 087 6632944, Hartstown Parish Office  
01 8249651 or Sr Ann 086 3256307

**Don't just "Talk to Joe" but "Walk with Joe"**

## Message from Archbishop Diarmuid Martin

I am seriously concerned that many people may be underestimating the seriousness of the current situation in County Dublin and indeed now in other counties. The spread of the virus has reached serious levels and constitutes a real risk of radically increased infection within the community. In many cases, the increase in numbers is due to gatherings within households and communities.

That is the reason why the public health authorities are stressing the urgent need to reduce the number of contacts that each one of us has in this period. Reducing contacts requires a specific effort on the part of each of us to deliberately change the number of people with whom we would normally come into contact. This is as important in the current situation as the need for face masks, social distancing and handwashing.

The need to reduce contacts and the size of gatherings is also at the root of the norms that ask us to limit public worship and close Churches. It is true that due to the extraordinary effort of parishes in adapting Church buildings and reducing attendance, thank God, there has been no indication of the virus being spread in worshipping communities. However, the situation today has changed and the measures introduced, no matter how they may sadden us, are appropriate at this time.

I have seen reports quoting a Vatican document urging a rapid return to normal worship. Some are using that as an indication that the official line of the Holy See is to object to restrictions. This is a very serious distortion of what that document says. The document, as I quoted yesterday, strongly supports the application of restrictive measures and “painful decisions even to the point of suspending the participation of the faithful in the celebration of the Eucharist for a long period”, when the need is great.

I understand the disappointment of families who had been ready for the celebration of First Communion and Confirmation and find them postponed. Unfortunately, they cannot take place during the current period. Places of worship must remain closed except for private prayer as well as for limited attendance at funerals and weddings. I am also worried about parishes taking initiatives to “get First Communion and Confirmations done”. I appreciate the pressure that families and schools can bring in parishes. We have to remember that First Communion and

Confirmations are sacramental acts and must be celebrated in an appropriate liturgical context and catechetical preparation.

The idea that sacramental acts have to be done quickly and can be done outside the normal liturgical situation is false. There is no urgent need to celebrate these sacraments just because they fit into the school calendar. In many dioceses, celebrations of First Communion have yet to begin.

Some efforts, often well intentioned, run the risk of reducing the administration of sacramental acts almost to the level of a supermarket in which you can drop in and “get the sacrament done”. This would reduce the Eucharist to a commodity. First Communion and Confirmation ought to be celebrated through personal participation in a liturgical act. Indeed, I have been hearing many very favourable comments on the small and intimately prayerful celebrations that have been taking place in most parishes and I am very appreciative of parishes who have arranged this. They show that carefully taking time produces better results than undue haste.

*Diarmuid Martin*  
*Saturday 19 September 2020*

## Trusting In Love

*O Lord, be gracious to us;  
we wait for you.  
Be our arm in the morning,  
our salvation in time of trouble.  
[Isaiah 33]*

We echo the words of Isaiah,  
your prophet, Lord, in difficult times,  
always clinging to hope and  
trusting in your love.  
As pandemic grips our world and  
separates us from one another,  
embrace us with your tenderness and mercy.  
United in your care,  
may our lives reflect your loving kindness.  
We pray in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

*Fr. Jim Lyons (New Zealand)*

**Please note that the obligation to attend Sunday Mass is temporarily lifted by Pope Francis for the duration of the crisis.**

# Acknowledgements

## KENNEDY (ANTHONY - SKIDS)

1<sup>st</sup> Birthday away from home

27<sup>th</sup> September

Happy Birthday to our much loved father, husband and granddad.

Chris Kennedy and family, Hillcrest Drive, would like to express their sincere gratitude to all their neighbours and friends who offered their sympathies on the loss of Sid Kennedy. We would like to send a special thanks to the staff of Blanchardstown Hospital for all their help and support at an extremely difficult time.

To all those who sent Mass cards and messages of sympathy and provided support to the family on this sad occasion, your kindness is very much appreciated.

“After the clouds, the sunshine, after the winter, the spring, after the shower, the rainbow for life is a changeable thing”.

## McCUE (MAUREEN)

Died 25<sup>th</sup> August 2020

The family, Ken, Harry, Deirdre and Siobhan wish to express our gratitude to all those who sympathised with us on the sad loss of our much loved Mother, Maureen.

To our extended family, relations, neighbours and friends and all who under such difficult circumstances extended their love to us at the Church and on the webcam. To those who sent flowers, Mass cards and letters of sympathy through the internet, we thank you all so much.

A very special thanks to Mam's wonderful neighbour Jean, her carers Siobhan, Helen and Debbie who looked after Mam so well. To the medical staff of Stoneybatter Family Clinic, Dominick her pharmacist, the medical and nursing staff of the Mater Hospital; we thank you all so much.

To Fr. Patrick OFM Cap. and the team in St. Michan's Church, Halston St., who made Mam's Mass so personal and Michelle Donnelly whose singing touched all our hearts.

A very special thanks to Alan Harmon and the staff of Bourke's Funeral Directors whose guidance and support got us through our saddest days.

We hope that this acknowledgement will be accepted as a token of our appreciation and a Mass will be offered for your intentions.

**Maureen's Month's Mind will be shared this Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 11am on the webcam in St. Mary's Church, Lucan.**



# Anniversaries

## BEHAN (TOMMY) R.I.P.

49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - 29<sup>th</sup> September

Late Dodsboro Cottages.

In loving memory of Dad

Much loved and missed.

*Remembered and loved always Ann and Mary and all your family xxx*

## ENNIS (JOSEPH - JOE)

11<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Late of Kew Park.

Sadly missed, never forgotten.

*With love, his wife Angela, daughters Orla, Finola, Siobhan, son-in-law Aaron and grandchildren*

## JARVIS (BERNARD - BEN)

7<sup>th</sup> Anniversary away from home

He never looked for praises

He was never one to boast

He just went on quietly working

For the ones he loved the most

His dreams were seldom spoken

His wants were very few

And most of the time his worries

Went unspoken too

He was there ... a firm foundation

Through all our storms of life

A sturdy hand to hold on to

In times of stress and strife

A true friend we could turn to

When times were good or bad

One of our greatest blessings

The man that we called Dad.

Thinking of you and missing you Dad.

*Love always from your children Ken, Linda, Elaine and Anne Marie and grandchildren Richard, Katie, Ava and Jack and extended family*

## MILLS (JOHN)

1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary - 29<sup>th</sup> September

In loving memory of Dad.

In the rising of the sun

And in its going down

In the blowing of the wind

And in the calm of its stillness

In the opening of the buds

And the re-birth of spring

We fondly remember you.

*Rest in peace, Mary and family*

### PLEASE NOTE:

There is NO charge for Anniversaries, etc.

## Society for Old Lucan (SOL)

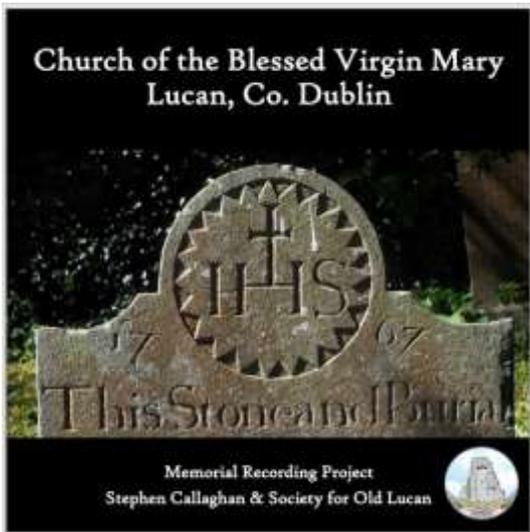
SOL is the **local history group** for Lucan; open to everyone. Free to join - email

[OldLucan@gmail.com](mailto:OldLucan@gmail.com).

Facebook group; “*Society for Old Lucan (SOL)*” & Twitter: @Soc4OldLucan.



## Graveyard Recording Project: Church of The Blessed Virgin, Lucan On Sale Now!



Our new publication by Stephen Callaghan and SOL, 21 x 21 cm, 68 pp., illustrated with all colour photos, is now on sale. It contains a photo and written transcription of every gravestone in the graveyard in Lucan village; the Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary. We are very proud of the quality of the work and production. It is now **on sale in Lucan Library for €15**. We are also selling copies directly with **P&P covered to anywhere in the ROI for €20** – please email [OldLucan@gmail.com](mailto:OldLucan@gmail.com) if you wish to arrange a P&P order. We can facilitate orders to other locations on request. All profits go to SOL running costs.

## Lucan Toastmasters

We meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7.45 p.m, and currently we meet on Zoom. Admission is free for new guests.



Email [vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com](mailto:vpmlucantostmasters@gmail.com) for an invitation. A warm welcome awaits you.

## On picking up an old Book

### Things Everyone Wants to Know (Title)

This book with its yellow stained pages and red cardboard cover was purchased in Henrietta Street, Dublin on 27<sup>th</sup> August 1923, nearly 100 years ago. The purchaser was a young man who was setting out to go into Service as a trainee butler in some of the Great Houses in his native Tipperary and other parts of Munster. This was a time of enormous political and social change in Ireland when working in the Great Houses which was previously regarded as very desirable employment was by now less safe and in some instances downright dangerous.



The book is an inexhaustible list of tasks, chores, rhymes and aphorisms. It would take a long time read it, let alone trying to master the practical skills within its covers.

The pages of the book fell open at an entry entitled The Rules of the Road. I soon realised it covers both motor car drivers and men on horseback.

*The rule of the road is a paradox quite,  
Both in driving and riding along;  
If you go to the left you are sure to go right,  
If you go to the right you are wrong.  
But in walking the streets 'tis a different case,  
To the right it is right it is right you should bear;  
To the left should be left quite enough of free  
space,  
For the person you chance to meet there.*

## Mindfulness Ireland

### The Irish Cure for Everything:

Upset - cup of tea  
Weak - cup of tea  
Lonely - cup of tea  
Sinned - cup of tea  
Worried - cup of tea  
Anxious - cup of tea  
Unhappy - cup of tea  
In danger - (quick) cup of tea  
Depressed - cup of tea  
Lack of Faith - cup of tea  
Need Courage - cup of tea  
Need Direction - cup of tea





### Level 3 for Lucan!

Here we go again, and maybe it will get even worse. It's up to each and every one of us to do those little things to break the chain.

When you think of all the groups in Lucan who can't meet up since last March – Senior Citizens, Mens Shed, ICA, Bridge Clubs, Self-help groups, Art Classes, Active Retirement etc, these are the groups that most of the older people could meet up in one or two days a week. They are being robbed of any social interaction these days.

### Congratulations to Liffey Sound's Maria

**Murphy**, who featured in South Dublin County's stories of Volunteers who helped keep our country connected during the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic.



When she and other volunteers could no longer work from their studio, Maria kept her end of the show on the road from her back bedroom, and learned all kinds of new things, as well as interviewing some very interesting people, and virtually visiting many far away places! Well done, Maria!

**On your bike!** Carrick-on-Suir's Sam Bennett gave us all a lift last Sunday as he took the green jersey in the Tour de France. It seems like only yesterday that we had lots of little Stephen Roches and Sean Kellys tearing all around Lucan.

**South Dublin County Council ran a virtual Bike Week Treasure Hunt** on Twitter this week. They show photos of a bicycle parked at various locations in the county, and the entrant had to guess the location, to be in with a chance of winning a goody bag. The things we get up to during pandemics!

### Where are all the Chestnuts?



Looking at the trees opposite the Ballalley, there's not a conker in sight – lots of rustic leaves on the trees, but no chestnuts.

Time was when you would be bombarded by these missiles while walking along here at this time of year.

Has something happened those might trees?

### Cat-ech(o)-is-thought-1



**I want to get on that road that Saul in the Bible was on. The road to De-Mask Us.**



A Nitika Don Bosco Catechetical Presentation:  
nitikadonbosco@gmail.com



## SCHOOL NEWS



### Principal Michael Maher waves goodbye to St. Thomas' Junior National School, Lucan.



Michael Maher a native of Rahugh Co. Westmeath and resident of Leixlip, Co. Kildare began his teaching career in St. Kevin's Boys National School Kilnamanagh, Dublin 24, in 1981. During his time there he made a hugely positive impact on the boys in the school bringing the school Gaelic team to no less than 7 all Ireland winning finals in Croke Park. Those memories are still entrenched in the minds of his past pupils and many have commented on the positive direction he gave them as a teacher, which stayed with them and in fact influenced the paths many of them took throughout their lives. Michael was also very proactive and progressive with regards to ICT and set up the computer room in St. Kevin's- a room that was the envy of all the local schools. Indeed, a man ahead of his time!

Fast forward to 1999 and Michael shook off stiff competition to take up the Principal's role in St. Thomas' Junior National School in Lucan. The parish of Esker was growing at a vast rate and consequently the school was also growing. From a staff of 12 teachers, one support teacher, a shared caretaker and a Fás secretary in 1999 the school now consists of 20 mainstream teachers, 14 support teachers, 9 Special Needs Assistants, a full time secretary caretaker and a housekeeper. Despite an on-going campaign in the last 10 years

for a school extension to support the schools growing needs and for which Michael has relentlessly fought for, his leadership has always been driven and guided by his belief that every child and family in the parish of Esker deserved only the very best and nothing less.

As highlighted by many parents and colleagues over the years, Michael immediately made a hugely positive impact on all those around him and brought lots of vitality along with him. Michael adopted the motto of 'Mol an Óige' for the school (Praise the youth and they will succeed). However these were not just idle words seen on a wall or school crest. The sentiment was very real and was practised by Michael throughout every day that he worked in the school. The children were always at the centre of everything that Mr. Maher undertook and developed with regards to teaching and learning within the school. He would expect the very best for them and from the teachers who taught them. He was often heard saying in relation to Sport's day, field trips, WOW walks-that '*these are the days that the children will remember*', so hence fun was always an element that he incorporated into the culture of the school.

For such a large school, he knew almost every child by name and visited all classes each Friday to chat with the children, reward them and he was a very interactive principal (no mean feat in this day and age). It would take most of the day to carry out these 'rounds' as he called them, but it meant the world to the children and their little eyes would light up when they heard his kind and wise words. This is what made it a priority for Mr. Maher, no matter what other challenges the day had brought.



*Continued over.....*

## Principal Michael Maher *cont'd*

Michael had a great gift of bringing people with him, a true people's person, a quality that is very necessary in order to lead well, and lead extremely well he certainly did. He made so many incredible connections and relationships over the years with Boards of Managements, Parent Associations, Staff, local Principals, Community and Parish and brought us all along on the Mr. Maher vision. Half of the time we were not even aware that this was happening, such was the ease with which we were all won over by his enthusiasm, drive, integrity and respect for all no matter who you were or what your role. He also gave so freely and generously of his time, mentoring young principals and encouraging leadership development right throughout the school, giving opportunities to the newest of qualified teachers straight out of college, right up to the more senior staff.

The whole of the St. Thomas' Community would like to wish Michael the very best of health and happiness on a well-deserved retirement and to congratulate him on a fantastic career as Principal of our school. We also wish to offer a very sincere thank you to him for all he has tirelessly given our school, staff and our pupils. We will miss him dearly but his influence and legacy will be seen, heard and felt by all of us for many years to come. We hope to see him as a regular visitor to the school in the future. Enjoy the next chapter Michael.

*Lorraine Murray (Deputy Principal)*

*Maura Egan (Former Deputy Principal)*

*On behalf of all the staff of St. Thomas' J.N.S.*

### South Dublin Libraries

All library items on loan have had return dates extended to October 30th. There are drop boxes outside all our libraries during opening hours to drop off items. We also have a contact and collect service operating. Online resources available 24/7.



## Adamstown Community College

### Adamstown Community College 6<sup>th</sup> year Class of 2020

Many congratulations to all our 6<sup>th</sup> year students on your recent achievements (despite C19 restrictions !!) of securing places in Third Level Institutions, Colleges of Further Education Apprenticeships and Employment. We wish you great success in whatever path you have chosen. As past pupils of the college you are now our Ambassadors, bringing the experiences of second level that have shaped your values around an inclusive Education to bear on all those you meet, we know you will represent us well !

Steve Jobs, is quoted as once saying: "Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma—which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary." Seems like good advice!

Again many congratulations, enjoy your new horizons wherever they be, until we meet again Ms. Kenny

*Pictured from left two of our top performing students Cormac Sharkey alongside our Principal Mr. Dave Anderson, Haritha Olaganathan with their Year Head Ms. Annmarie Kearney.*



### South Dublin Co. Co. on Dumping

Household Waste Collection Services are operating and Civic Amenity sites are open.

**If you witness dumping contact**

[014149000/wasteregulation@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:014149000/wasteregulation@sdblincoco.ie)

## Coláiste Phádraig CBS

**School news:** Our students are approaching almost a month back in school at this stage and the overwhelming emotion is one of relief that it has gone smoothly so far. While the adjustment process has been challenging for students and staff alike, there is a noticeable determination to make the best of a bad situation by remaining vigilant and positive at all times. There is a tangible sense of discipline, resolve and a spirit of togetherness throughout the school, qualities that no doubt will help carry us through these difficult times. There is a proverb in Irish that perfectly sums up the 1<sup>st</sup> few weeks of this new school year: “Ní neart go cur le chéile” (There is no strength without unity) and it has been truly inspiring to see this in operation throughout the school. Another Irish proverb “Níl tuilleadh dá mhéad nach dtránn” (There is no flood that won’t subside eventually) gives us all hope that we can defeat this virus by working together in a spirit of goodwill and togetherness.

The open door policy throughout the school certainly makes for a somewhat different and rather unique teaching and learning atmosphere as teachers try their best to make their voices heard through their masks while also taking care not to be disturbing the surrounding open door classes! Anyone walking around the school is sure to learn some French, German and Irish from the corridors so the open door approach (implemented to improve ventilation) also has its educational value these days!

Teaching a classroom of masked students is certainly challenging and at times frustrating and comical in equal measure. Voice projection is more important than ever now to ensure every student can fully hear the teacher. From the teacher’s perspective it can be rather difficult at times to make out who is answering a question so this can result in some humorous misunderstandings on occasion! As the teacher cannot circulate around the room, quietly spoken students especially can be hard to hear at times through their masks but these issues are a small price to pay for the school remaining open of course.

Collecting and correcting copies used to be a straightforward undertaking for the teacher, now the copies have to be quarantined for three days before correction and another three days after correction so there is certainly an extended time-lag before the students get their feedback! Some teachers correct online using the likes of Google Docs so this alleviates the need to follow quarantine regulations naturally.

The lack of pair and group work in class (due to social distancing rules) is certainly a hindrance for the language teachers especially although students can practice their language skills with each other using technology such as Zoom etc.

Over the next few months we will be bringing you interviews with students from the various year groups in which they will detail how they are coping with the new routines of school life so it should be interesting to hear their perspective.

**Economics:** A new specification for Leaving Certificate Economics was introduced last year so our current 6<sup>th</sup> yrs will be the 1<sup>st</sup> group to be examined in 2021. The main change for the students is that they must now do a Research Study project that is worth 100 marks (20% of the overall mark). A Research Study Brief (with its theme and associated topic) was issued this week by the State Examinations Commission and is common to Higher and Ordinary Level. The students, with the guidance of their Economics teacher Ms. Shanahan, must now decide on an individual line of inquiry based on the research theme and the topic they have chosen from the prescribed list. This open-ended research process is intended to empower the candidate to take responsibility for his/her own learning process based on the knowledge, understanding, concepts and skills developed in their study of economics. The theme this year is “The Covid 19 crisis has revealed a number of critical challenges in relation to Ireland’s economic, environmental and social sustainability” which is of course is very relevant to their life outside of school. The students are currently learning all the theory behind the important Government decisions in this area. The Research Study Report must be presented in a digital completion booklet and submitted for assessment by 21<sup>st</sup> December.

**Talent Show 2020:** The Talent Show is always one of the most eagerly anticipated school events of the year. This year’s Show will have to be a virtual affair in order to comply with COVID-19 restrictions and regulations surrounding social distancing. Audition recordings will be done at home and Ms. Bonner will work with the Transition Year students editing the recordings that qualify for the Final which is to take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The final edited recordings will then be shown in all classrooms from 11:10am with each class then voting for their top three acts. The act with the most votes will of course be announced as Talent Show Winners 2020!

We wish all participants the best of luck.

## St Joseph's College

Our 1st Year students were delighted to be the first to try out our new range of **outdoor benches** on Wednesday! The girls decided on the layout of the benches and were more than happy to have a chat, at a distance! Many thanks to Lynam Garden Furniture for the lovely benches and to our Parents' Association for sourcing chairs to seat many students!

all of our Concern debaters, past and present! We would ask all of our parents/guardians to encourage your daughters to come into the school building in the mornings and not to congregate at the school gate. The school building is open for students from 8 am. Thank you.



Sadly the **Concern Debating competition** had to be cancelled this year. Our school team was one of the 8 finalists remaining in the competition out of the 161 schools who entered. On Friday, our 8 team members participated in a Zoom meeting, during which, the Concern Debating organisers expressed their appreciation and acknowledged the great contribution made by the students over the past year. The 8 students who participated in the Zoom presentation were Hannah Farrelly, Hannah Kinsella, Ashling Sharry, Grainne Maher, Ella Lacey, Sophie Bradley, Mishka Desai and Vaishavi Srivasan. Well done to Mr Smyth and to



***Congratulations and best wishes to our new head girl Aine O'Brien and her deputy Laura Sharkey!***

School website <https://stjosephslucan.com>

Follow us on Twitter: @STJosephs3

## Cllr. Shane Moynihan – Fianna Fáil

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

Ph: 087 7840898

[Facebook.com/cllrshanemoynihan](https://www.facebook.com/cllrshanemoynihan)

Twitter: @shanemoynihan

Instagram: cllrshanemoynihan

**Joint Policing Committee:** I attended the quarterly Joint Policing Committee last week. I raised issues raised with me by residents including the increasing dangerous discharges of fireworks and worrying levels of open drug dealing in parts of Lucan. We have been informed that more targeted and proactive patrols are taking place to deal with these issues. However, key to tackling the danger of fireworks is identifying how they are being supplied. If you see or know of fireworks being sold locally, please inform local Gardaí – breaking the supply chain is key to keeping everyone safe.

**Lucan Pool update:** I learned this week that the Council is engaging with the contractor to agree a revised handover date for the swimming pool, given the impact of the COVID-19 restrictions on the original timeline. The competitive tender process to appoint an operator will begin shortly.

## Emer Higgins TD, Fine Gael

Ph: 01 4013416 [emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.higgins@oireachtas.ie)

The Orchard, Lucan

**Level 3 Restrictions:** This week I asked the Minister for Health for more detailed information on current Covid 19 cases in our area. In response he released the number of live Covid 19 cases over the last 14 days by Local Electoral Area (LEA). The data also shows our infection rate per 100,000 people in the Lucan area is at 83.8 well above the average rate 52.8. Please follow the Level 3 advice and help to bring down the infection rate in our community.

**Confirmed Cases in LEA:** 28

**LEA rate per 100k pop:** 83.8

**R. of Ireland rate per 100k pop:** 52.8

**Halloween:** Illegal fireworks have been set off in many areas weeks before Halloween, this is very frightening and dangerous. Gardaí have started their annual crackdown on fireworks and bonfires one month earlier than usual in an effort to tackle the problem.

## Gino Kenny TD- People Before Profit

Phone: 01-6183816. Email: [gino.kenny@oir.ie](mailto:gino.kenny@oir.ie)

**Dying with Dignity Bill:** Last week I introduced the Dying with Dignity Bill alongside Vicky Phelan, Tom Curran and Gail O'Rourke. The Dail debate on the substantial issue will happen in the next number of months. I have called for a free

vote if a political party or grouping has not formulated a position on the issue. A number of political parties have shown support for the legislation to progress to the next stage of the process. I look forward to the debate ahead. A link to the bill is included here

<https://www.oireachtas.ie/en/bills/bill/2020/24/>.

**Griffen Community College:** I received a correspondence from the Minister for Education in regards to temporary buildings to provide for five general classrooms for the GCC College. Disappointingly the Dept. could not provide a timeframe for progression of the project. I'll continue to raise the issue with the minister.

## Liona O'Toole – Independent

087-2795274.

[lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:lotoole@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie) [www.lionaotoole.com](http://www.lionaotoole.com)

### Adamstown District Centre granted:

Delighted to report that the long-awaited district centre in Adamstown has been granted planning permission. It will include a supermarket, a number of retail units and a car park. My motion to have a dedicated SDZ meeting inserted into our council calendar was passed last year. We had our first meeting which facilitated detailed discussions on all aspects of Adamstown and Clonburris. These meetings will be held every quarter.

### County Development Plan public consultation:

Deadline for submissions on the County Development Plan is this **Monday 28th**

**September.** I would encourage as many to make a comment, submission, or observation on how you would like to see the county developed. What would you like to see in your community, how would you like to make the best use of space. Your submissions feeds into the planner's draft.

## Lucan Library



### Space Week 2020.

Join our forces on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October at 5.30pm. Digital Fabrication and Steam Taster 3D Printing in Space Prototyping, Coding Software Development. An online 3D Digital Fabrication workshop with TechCreate to celebrate Space Week. This workshop is suitable for 11 to 14 year old. 3D Printing in the Space. Product prototyping using 3D printing technology. Demonstration of 3D design software. Discussion around how this is used in industry and potential jobs in the future.

**Please Note:** One participant per device.

A valid email address is required to register for this event. Your email address will be forwarded to the facilitator who will send you on the Zoom codes for the live workshop.

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Cumann na Sáirséalaigh Leamhcáin



## Lucan Sarsfields are 2020 Dublin Junior 'C' Champions!



Our Junior B's triumphed over St Sylvesters to capture the Junior 'C' title in O'Toole Park last Sunday. This was a second successive championship win for our Junior B's, having captured the 'D' title last year, but over in Parnell Park, it was heartbreak for the Junior A's as they lost by the narrowest of margins to St Brigids in the 'A' Final.

In the Camogie Junior 3 Shield Semi-final on Sunday, Lucan Sarsfields advanced to the final next Sunday at the expense of Commercials after extra time was played, however, the Junior 4's lost their Shield semi-final at home to Naomh Peregrine. Next Sunday will also see the Intermediate Camogie team face CBC/Portobello in the Shield Final

The Senior and both Junior football teams continue their cup campaigns this weekend.

The Ladies Football Intermediate and Junior league competitions continue and move to Sunday afternoons from the 27<sup>th</sup>

All underage games have been suspended until at least October 10<sup>th</sup>, please continue to observe the guidelines, remember, no spectators are allowed at adult games.

**25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!!** On the Third Sunday in September, 1995, the Boys in Blue won their 22<sup>nd</sup> All Ireland Title.

### Coming up next week...

Please find below information about the first event in the RCSI MyHealth Series 2020/2021, 'Living with the New Normal'. This will be a virtual only event. A panel of RCSI experts will address the significant impact that

sudden and extreme change can have on people's lives, what we can do to make change easier to accept, and how to talk to our children about COVID-19. The panel discussion will be aired on Tuesday, 29 September at 6.30pm. A link to watch will be shared in advance.

For more information and to register your interest, please visit [www.rcsi.com/MyHealth20](http://www.rcsi.com/MyHealth20). Details on the next two events, 'A Toolkit for Winter Readiness' and 'Supporting Child and Youth Health this Winter' can also be found on the website.

The **Lucan District Credit Union Academy** for girls and boys born in 2013, 2014 and 2015 only, returned last Saturday. To register your child for a place, contact David Moran, Club GPO, on 0879267607. Pre-registration with David is essential.

The **12th Lock Café** opening hours 6-9pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am to 1:30pm on Saturday. These times may change in line with Covid-19 guidelines. Now on sale: Club Midi Socks!

**Club Shop** opening hours: Thursday, 7:30-8.30pm and Saturdays 10am-1pm.

### Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club Lotto Jackpot €4600

There was no winner of the €4200 Lotto Jackpot sponsored by **Clandillon Motors** held on 17th September, The numbers drawn were **2, 9, 16, and 23. The lucky dip winners of €30 each are:** Clodagh & Donal Brady, Kevin Porter, Mary Roche, B. Young and Madeline Cotter. The jackpot for the next draw is €4600, sponsored by **Coláiste Laichtín, Inis Oírr**, managed by Cormac Gordon and will be held on Thursday 23rd September. You can enter the draw by clicking <http://bit.ly/LucanSarsfieldsClubLotto> before 6pm on Thursday.

If you have Match reports and articles for inclusion in the weekly Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club Notes, please email them to [lucansarsfieldspro@gmail.com](mailto:lucansarsfieldspro@gmail.com) before 9pm on Monday Evening.



## Lucan Sarsfields Healthy Clubs

GAA National Inclusion Day was on Wednesday 23 September. Lucan Sarsfields GAA were delighted to celebrate the GAA National Inclusion Fitness day #GAABelong #BeActive @officialgaa @sportIreland @EUSport. Our SARS Stars team were highlighted on Gaa.ie

### 'Sars Stars' show the power of inclusion *By John Harrington*

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September was GAA National Inclusive Fitness Day where clubs all around the country make an extra effort to promote sport and physical activity to everyone in their community regardless of age, sexual orientation, ability, ethnicity, nationality, or fitness level.

The GAA's mission statement is, 'Where We All Belong', and it's important that every unit of the organisation lives up to that ideal.

Lucan Sarsfields in Dublin have certainly done that through the establishment of their 'Sars Stars' GAA for All training sessions for children with additional needs.

Unfortunately now on a temporary hiatus due to Covid 19, 'Sars Stars' was an instant success when it was established in April 2018.



"Everybody thought that it was one of the best things that we've done in the club really," says Lucan Sarsfields Healthy Club Officer, Audrey Kane.

"To see these kids coming out every week and giving them the opportunity to play and really feel a part of the club was lovely to see.

"Many of these kids would have brothers and sisters in the club so it was great for them to also have training just like their siblings.

"For their parents too it was great to be able to sit back and relax and watch the kids getting out and training together.

"I know some of the parents were saying their kids really progressed in terms of socialising and participating as the weeks went on.

"So it was really very positive. It was one thing that everybody in the club that everyone would comment on, that it was great to see the club embark on such an initiative and that everybody had a chance to come up and participate.

"It really made those kids feel like they were part of the club and they weren't just coming up to watch their brothers and sisters or other kids playing.

"They were each given a 'Sars Stars' team jersey and training. It wasn't just that someone had bought them something to wear, they were actually wearing their team colours because they are club players now too, and I think that meant a lot to them."

'Sars Stars' was established by club-members Jo Mahon, Colette Condon, Triona Leonard, and club Games Promotion Officer, David Moran.

Working with young children with a variety of additional needs such as Downs Syndrome, autism, and physical disability, it created a safe

and fun environment in which to play Gaelic Games ever Tuesday evening.

"It was great to see the positive impact that it had," Triona Leonard told GAA.ie

"We had one child who his mother had said was non-verbal when he was outside of the home. While he would talk to his mother, Dad, and siblings, he didn't communicate at all with anybody else.

"We had seen since he started with us that we were getting a few words out of him, but just before Covid kicked in we were getting sentences out of him, we were getting conversations out of him.

"He became very relaxed and very happy to be in our company to chat and connect with us, which was brilliant. His mum was astounded, she thought it was great that he would feel that comfortable in the environment we'd created that he'd have that conversation."

*Cont'd over.....*

It wasn't just the young children who took part in 'Sars Stars' who benefited from the experience.

The club recruited young coaches from within the club who helped out with the programme as part of their Transition Year in school, and they gained an awful lot from their involvement too.

"For some of them it really opened their eyes," says Leonard. "I know two of the girls who helped us last year wanted to help again this year and have been asking when we might be able to get training back again."

"Even though they're no longer in Transition Year they got so much out of it that they want to help. The boys who were in Transition Year who helped us out when we first started also stayed longer and the only reason they stopped was because they had their Leaving Cert to prepare for and didn't have the time."

"We've been very lucky with the Transition Year students we've had and I think they've enjoyed it as well because they got great craic out of the kids."

"It works both ways. The kids are obviously gaining a lot from the experience but so are the teenagers and adults. Everyone involved is gaining something."

Considering how much everyone benefited from their involvement in 'Sars Stars', it's a real shame that the GAA for All programme is currently on hold due to Covid 19.

Leonard is looking forward to the day when they will be able to bring the children back together again for their weekly training sessions.

"Most definitely. We've kept in touch with the odd message asking them if they're all okay and letting them know that we haven't forgotten about them and that we'll be back together as soon as it's safe to do so."

"The plan is as soon as we're allowed we'll definitely be back up and running because it's something that's of benefit to the kids and their parents."

"My husband Joe met one of the Dads of one of the children in the supermarket a few weeks ago and he said every Tuesday his son still says 'GAA, GAA'. He knows he's meant to be playing his GAA with Sars Stars on a Tuesday."

Having seen first-hand the positive impact 'Sars Stars' has had within her own club, Leonard is a strong advocate for other clubs putting in place a GAA For All programme for children in their area with additional needs.

# SPORTS

## LUCAN HARRIERS A.C.

### Lucan Harriers Track Group Open Training

**Morning:** Ever thought of getting back to competitive sport or trying it out for the very first time? Ever thought of trying track & field athletics?



Lucan Harriers has a track group of senior (adult under 35) and masters (over 35) athletes training in your community and would love a few more like-minded sportspeople to join their group. (We currently cater for men and women from 17-60, as you can see from the picture above).

There are both indoor and outdoor events all year round that you can compete in and a small community means it can also be a great way of meeting people, staying fit and healthy while remaining competitive.

**The group trains on a Monday at 6pm, Thursday at 6.30pm and Saturday at 10am.**

The training is a mixture of track work and strength and conditioning. The best thing about it is that you can choose which session/s suit you. We have a grade 4 AAI coach and there's also lots of experience within the group for those looking to improve or to achieve certain goals.

We're planning on hosting an **open training** session for those looking to give it a try on **Saturday 3rd Oct**. It will be held at the track (opposite SuperValu) at **11am**. If interested email: [lauramcgonigle@gmail.com](mailto:lauramcgonigle@gmail.com) or just show up on the morning. Covid guidelines will be in place on the morning.

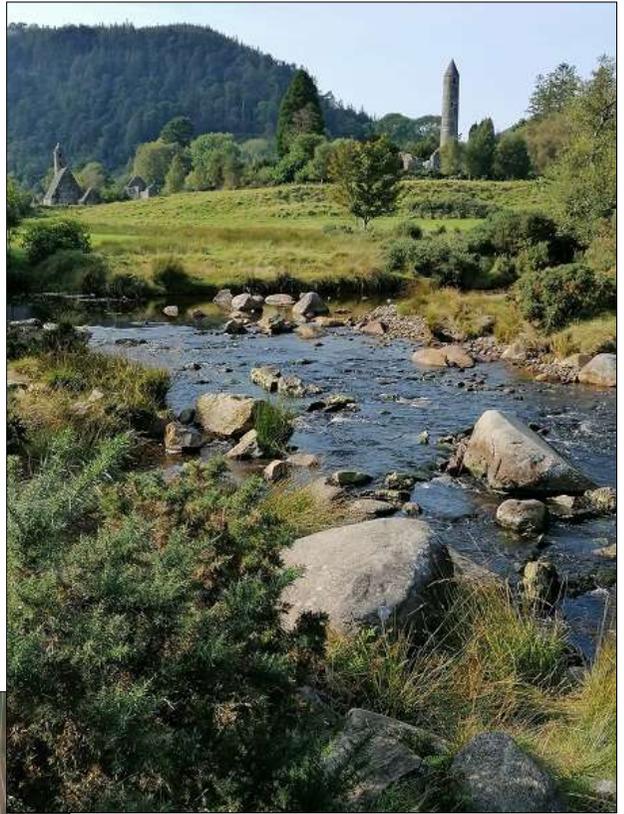
**Why not come down and give it a try?**

**It may be the best thing you ever did!**

## St. Mary's Camera Soirée

The group was lucky last week to be able to take in the Art Exhibition before Dublin moved from level 2 to level 3 and indoor gatherings were prohibited, and Kathrine Geoghan had unfortunately to prematurely close her beautiful exhibition. As a consequence of moving to level 3 the members of the group have been, like everybody else, restricted in their travels to Dublin County.

As we move into October the thoughts of the group turn now to planning their virtual exhibition which will be hosted on the St. Mary's Parish website in about a month's time. I think that this will be the 8<sup>th</sup> annual exhibition. It is amazing how time flies and how the group's annual exhibition became a much anticipated and well-attended fixture in the Parish Centre calendar.



Over the past six months the group has taken of the order of 700 photographs. So they will have plenty to choose from and hopefully the virtual exhibition will be up to the standard of previous years although we will all miss the fun and excitement of the printing and framing of the photographs and the actual physical mounting of the exhibition in the Parish Centre.



*Until the next time  
stay safe!*