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Thursday, December 19, 2019

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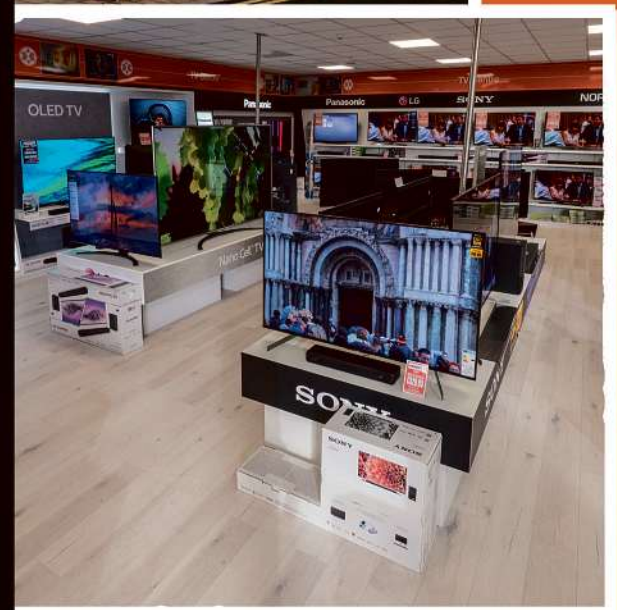


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GOAL MILE FOR MUM

CONOR MCHUGH
 editor@kildarepost.com

Allenwood will have its first ever Goal mile on St Stephen's Day, Thursday, December 26, an event organisers hope will attract attendees from the local community and further afield.

The impetus for the event came from local woman Celine Cronly, who suffered the bereavement of her mother Sheila earlier this year.

Sheila Cronly, nee Brennan, formerly of Ticknevin, passed away on March 11, survived by her husband Pat, daughters Mag, Jemma, Celine and Vera, son PJ, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family.

Celine admits that she was feeling sorry for herself in the months that followed, but that evolved into a determination to do something positive for Christmas, knowing that for many it can be a tough time.



Celine Cronly and her late mother Sheila

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 →



DELIGHT FOR DANNY!

Danny Walsh was presented with the Sheena Walsh Perpetual Trophy at the Special Olympics Christmas Party at the Osprey Hotel in Naas last Thursday. Danny is an active member of the Special Olympics floorball and bowling teams. "He is such a deserving winner of 2019 perpetual trophy," said a group spokesperson. "He rarely misses a training session. Despite many a obstacle in Danny's life he is always good humoured and greets you with his beautiful smile. Well done Danny, we are all so proud of you." The trophy is named after the late Sheena Walsh of Naas, who passed away three years ago. PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY

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NEWS

Goal Mile for mum

→ CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

She has a running background, even completing the marathon this year — although she is keen to add that “I’m no Sonia O’Sullivan” — so she hit on the idea of initiating a Goal Mile in the Allenwood area.

As is turns out, Celine, a garda stationed in Blanchardstown, will be working on Christmas Day so the run will take place the day after.

She contacted Goal, and a couple of locals who she thought might be of help, and the project has gathered momentum since then.

Gardai have agreed to do traffic and the owner of the local Spar shop has sponsored refreshments. Meanwhile Frank Moran, Brendan Wyse and Enda Grace of Dundara TV have all pitched in to help.

Local footballers Johnny Doyle, Jimmy Hyland and Johnny Byrne as well as runner Dave Matthews, and ladies footballer Michella McKenna will take part in the event.

The run will start at the Spar at the cross, make its way to the canal, before turning left and going along the canal until they reach half point, at which point they will simply turn around and come back.

Celine explained that the nearest established Goal Miles in the area are in Clane and Edenderry, so Allenwood will cater to a large swathe of



Celine Cronly and her late mother Sheila

countryside including Ballyteague, in-between, Robertstown, Killina, Ticknevin and Cooleragh. She said it would be great to see people coming from

all those areas.

The event will run from 10am to 12 noon on St Stephen’s Day, with a race at 11am, for the more competitive among the participants.

A Facebook page has been established ‘Goal Mile Allenwood’ with details of the event.

KILDARE GOAL MILES

Meanwhile, a record number of Kildare people are expected to take part in Ireland’s favourite festive fundraiser, the Goal Mile, which takes place in 13 locations in the county over the Christmas period.

The events will take place on Christmas Day, St Stephen’s Day and on January 2.

On Christmas Day they will take place at Naas GAA Club, Sallins Road at 11am; St Conleth’s Community College, Station Road, Newbridge at 11am; Johnstown Bridge GAA Grounds, at 11am; Bishopland, Ballymore Eustace at 10.30am; North Kildare Rugby club at 11.30am and at Carton House Golf Courtyard, Maynooth at 12pm noon.

On St Stephen’s Day they will be at Manzors Car Park, Clane at 10am; Clogherinkoe/Broadford GAA, from 12pm; Le Cheile Athletic Club, Leixlip at 11.30am; Kingslane, Killeel at 10.30am and as mentioned above, at Allenwood Cross from 10am-12pm.

The last Goal mile of this season will be on January 2 at St Catherine Park, Leixlip from 11am-12pm.

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Plus all our regular weekly columns: Stylicious, Motors, Sport, and more

SENAN HOGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

A man who crashed a car, killing him and a mother-of-three, had been living in Newbridge, it has emerged.

Dean Coleman (25) died after his 1995-registered Fiat vehicle struck a pole in Templeogue, Dublin at 1am on Tuesday morning.

Mother-of-three Annemarie

Hooper, aged in her 30s, was a passenger in the car and also died.

The crash victims were pronounced dead at the scene.

The Garda Síochána Ombudsman Commission (Gsoc) was notified about the incident as Garda officers had earlier interacted with the vehicle.

Mr Coleman was originally from Drimnagh but had been residing in recent years in the Great Connell area of Newbridge.

He had been serving an

eight-year driving ban imposed in 2013.

He was previously jailed over a high-speed chase with gardai around Dublin city while his infant child was in the car at the time of the incident.

It is understood that Mr Coleman’s family moved to Newbridge around 10 years ago to stop him hanging around with the wrong crowd.

Floral tributes were left at the scene of the tragedy.

Man who died in crash was living in Newbridge



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Hewetson NS pupils, Freddy Rust, Jamie Kavanagh, Conor McGlynn, at the recent Christmas Fair 2019 at the school. PICTURE: TONY KEANE



LEFT Liz and Jacob Devine pictured at the LARK Musical Society, Kildare, Gala Christmas Concert last Saturday. PICTURE: TONY KEANE

RIGHT: Georgia Kenny pictured enjoying Christmas fun at Lullymore Heritage Park. PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY



CRIMEBRIEFS

Man set upon as he walked home from train station

Gardai are appealing for information after a man was assaulted and mugged walking home from Maynooth train station on the Straffan road. The incident happened on Monday, December 16, at 10.45pm. Two males set upon the injured party, who received a number of blows to the face. His wallet containing cash and cards was taken. Anyone with information is asked to contact Maynooth gardai on 01 629 2380.

Raid at Castledermot pub

Kildare gardai are appealing for information after a pub was raided in the early hours in Castledermot on December 16. According to gardai, raiders kicked down the side door of the pub and stole the safe at 4.14am. There was a substantial amount of cash in the safe at the time. The safe has not been recovered. If you have any information about this crime contact Kildare gardai on 045 527730.

Large amount of electronics stolen from Athy shop

Athy gardai are investigating a burglary at Euronics, part of Shaws store on Duke Street. The incident took place on Friday, December 13, between 6.30pm and 3.30am. Gardai believe entrance was gained through the roof and a large amount of electrical equipment was stolen. Anyone with information is asked to contact Athy gardai on 059 863 4210.

Attempted arson at Athy bar

Gardai are investigating three separate incidents of attempted arson at an Athy bar. On Monday, December 16, at 9.50pm, a man put a wheelie bin at the front door of the Emigrant Bar and set it on fire. He subsequently returned twice more. Gardai believe he may have escaped on a BMX bike. Anyone with information can contact Athy gardai on 059 863 4210.

Two cars taken from Newbridge home

Gardai are investigating the theft of two cars from outside a Newbridge home yesterday, December 18. A grey 161-KE BMW 520 and a 151-D blue Mercedes were taken from the house at the Elms estate between 12am and 6am. Anyone with information is asked to contact Newbridge gardai on 045 431 212.

€4,800 worth of goods stolen at Rathangan house

Kildare gardai are appealing for information after a house was raided in Rathangan overnight on December 13 to 14 last. According to gardai kitchen appliances and jewellery were taken in the raid to the value of €4,800.

Gardai are also appealing for information after a Playstation was stolen from a house in Lourdesville in Kildare town overnight from December 14 to 15. If you have any information on the raids contact Kildare gardai on 045 527730.

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Athy's White's Castle on sale for €450,000

PAUIA CAMPBELL
editor@kildarepost.com

The historic White's Castle, located in Athy, is on the market for €450,000.

This unique 15th century castle is situated on the banks of the river Barrow in a prime location in the centre of the town.

White's Castle is not only in the centre of Athy but has also been at the centre of the town's long and interesting history and has been on the market for some time.

The castle has served many roles including acting as a fortress to guard the Cromaboo bridge and town from the wild Irish 'beyond the Pale'. It has been a prison, and as a family home as recently as 2005.

White's Castle is a three-storey detached building comprised of ground floor, first and second

floors. With a 3,500 square foot interior, this 14-room property sits on approximately 0.3 acres of river fronted land.

The main entrance on the ground floor, is through a gothic style cut stone arch and studded door that leads into the hallway and stair case. The ground floor has a spacious main room with a barrelled ceiling that leads on to a hallway, off of which is a medium sized room and two further small rooms (originally cells), as well as the rear entryway.

The first floor hallway leads to two main rooms — including one very large room (previously two rooms), plus three further small cell rooms. The second floor has a similar layout to the first floor.

The roof may be accessed via a landing on a partial third floor. The perimeter of the roof affords



White's Castle in Athy

magnificent views of the river Barrow.

Over the years, sash windows were installed to allow light to permeate the thick stoned-walled building. However, many of the original arrow-slit features remain throughout the castle.

There are flag stones in the

entrance hallway.

White castle was an occupied private residence up until 2005. The previous owner (2005 - 2012) installed a new roof and stripped the interior of the castle back to stone and plaster ready for further renovation.

The castle was built in 1417 by Sir

John Talbot, the Viceroy of Ireland, to protect the newly built bridge over the River Barrow.

A call was made last April for Kildare County Council to purchase the castle when it came on the market by local Municipal District councillors — however the castle remains for sale.

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NEWS

Decision due on Drehid landfill expansion in the new year

CONOR MCHUGH
 editor@kildarepost.com

A decision on the Bord Na Mona Drehid Landfill application is due in the first quarter of 2020, two years after the initial application was lodged.

That's according to Cllr Aidan Farrelly who had sought clarification from An Bord Pleanála on the case.

Bord Na Mona has applied for permission to alter the volume and nature of waste accepted at the site, as well as the development of additional hazardous and non-hazardous waste capacity and other works.

"As councillors, we raise countless road safety issues at every monthly MD meeting, and all too often the response is that until we have an outcome from this



An aerial view of Drehid landfill site - concerns have been expressed on the damage to local roads

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planning application, making any changes to junctions that also serve as haulage routes to the site would be short sighted," Cllr Farrelly said.

"We know the roads serving this site already account for the majority of our MD Roads Budget. That's without any increase in traffic associated with potential surge in volumes.

"But Kildare County Council engineers are hesitant to commit to any works on this site

or many others until this decision, because they've requested €13.8 million in contributions from Bord Na Mona to complete them."

Cllr Farrelly believes that several local spots need investment, including Firmount Cross and the main crossroads in Prosperous.

"My concern is that regardless of the decision made by An Bord Pleanála, we might never see this level of contribution to the roads

because Bord Na Mona contests that figure from Kildare County Council.

"Indeed they've said the project wouldn't be economically viable if such conditions were attached.

"We are between a rock and a hard place now. These works are necessary regardless of any expansion. We should be considering other funding avenues in order to make sure the roads in North-West Kildare are safe."

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NEWS



Above: Óisín Ó Briain, Ken McMemamon, Mick Cormley, Carmel Henry, Christy Maloney, Clane AC, at the opening of the Club's new track, and left: Sean Lavin, Michael Barber, and Club Chairman, John Finn. Pictures: Tony Keane

Clane Athletics Club open new track

December 2019 marks a major milestone for Clane AC with a new athletic track officially opened by Hamish Adams, CEO of Athletics Ireland, last Friday evening, December 13.

The project was delivered by a team of club members over the past two years, including the club's

volunteer coaches and committee.

With this new facility in Clane, the club has developed a legacy which will benefit the whole community of Clane for future generations.

The track is on the grounds of Scoil Mhuire secondary school in Clane in a strip of land which also

adjoins the two national schools.

Clane Athletic club was founded in the 1970s and lay dormant over the 80s and 90s, until in 2012 a small group came together to revive it.

Since then, thanks to the work of a dedicated group of volunteers, the club has gone from strength to strength developing strong juvenile

and adult running groups.

The club has seen a steady growth in membership numbers year on year.

A team was set-up in 2017 which applied to local and national funding bodies.

In the summer of 2018, Clane AC secured funding from the Kildare

Leader Partnership fund and start-up funding was granted to build a 200m running and sprint track with an in-field events area for jumps and throws.

The project to date has cost €240K which was part funded by the grant received from Kildare Leader.

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NEWS

Remembrance tree at Whitewater SC



Announcing the upcoming 'Remembrance Tree' by Newbridge Rotary were Mayor of Kildare Suzanne Doyle MCC, right, along with (from left) Newbridge Rotary President Maciej Krzetowski, Sharon O'Carroll and Pat Brady

The Remembrance Tree by Newbridge Rotary Club will be in place at the Whitewater Shopping Centre from Friday, December 20 to Sunday 22 December, from 10am to 8pm each day.

The Remembrance Tree gives everyone the opportunity to place a ribbon on the tree for someone — perhaps passed away or away from home at this time — to be included at a special remembrance ceremony.

Donations are collected for St Brigid's Hospice as well as other Rotary charities.

Four Kildare projects for Intel Mini Scientist

PAULA CAMPBELL
editor@kildarenationalist.ie

Four Kildare projects have been selected at the Intel Mini Scientist competition to go forward to the National Grand Final which will take place in January 2020 at Maynooth University.

BIG IDEAS

For the past number of months, 4th, 5th and 6th class students from across Ireland have been getting hands on with science and showcasing their big ideas as they take part in the annual Intel Mini Scientist competition. The competition, which is now in its thirteenth year, gives young students the chance to explore science through project based learning and exhibitions.

The first phase of the competition involves students participating at exhibitions in their own schools which are visited by Intel employees who judge the first round of exhibitions



Intel Mini Scientists are students from 4th, 5th 6th classes

and select from each school a winning project to go forward to a regional final.

The four chosen Kildare projects are: What Is The Science Behind Roller Coasters from Saint Laurence's National School, Sallins; Optical Illusions from North Kildare Educate Together (NKETS), Celbridge; Mighty Moss from SN Colmcill Naofa, Athy; and WOW Is That Really From A Cow from Gaolscoil Ui Fhiaich, Maynooth.

Regional finals were held at various locations over the past week including the event at the TU Dublin Blanchardstown campus which brought together over 200 students from 72 different schools in Kildare, Dublin, Laois, Wicklow.

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Pictured in the new Lidl supermarket in Kildare town on Wednesday were Jenny Power (Area Manager) and Nico Sandru (Store Manager). PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY. See also Page 16

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NEWS

Kildare TV producer wins big audience with RTÉ doc

SENAN HOGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

A ground-breaking RTÉ documentary produced and directed by a Kildare woman attracted a large audience when it was screened last week.

Gillian Marsh, who is the daughter of Sheila and the late Jim Marsh, grew up in Calverstown near Kilcullen.

Her dad Jim, who died in 2009, worked as a vet in the racing industry.

The viewership figures for *The Funeral Director* were 313,700 and it had a 28% share of the available audience.

It was also streamed on the RTÉ Player 23,400 times up to Sunday last.

Gillian founded her own TV production company — GMarsh TV — in 1997 which has since built its name producing distinctive television with a rural edge.

Co Mayo-based Gillian told the Kildare Post this week: "I was so delighted the programme went down well.

"It was a tough programme to make, and with a subject like death you don't know how it will be received."

The *Funeral Director* offered an unprecedented glimpse into a world most of us never consider until it is thrust upon us by bereavement.

Told from the perspective of pioneering Sligo funeral director David McGowan, the documentary unflinchingly drew back the veil on an industry that is rarely spoken of.

With unprecedented access to the procedures, science and etiquette of the funeral director, the documentary makers followed David as he shared his personal perspective on the sombre business he describes as his "passion". He described being thrown into the profession when his father bought a country pub which included an undertakers business in the 1970s.

When he joined the family business, he was determined to offer the best possible service to his clients.

He travelled to America, learning his trade at Chicago's Cook County Morgue — one of the world's busiest mortuaries.

In *The Funeral Director*, David recalled the daily workload of murder victims, unclaimed corpses and overdosed high school kids — a world far removed from the West of Ireland funeral parlours and wakes of his formative years.

Since returning to Ireland in the 1980s, he continued to apply all the lessons he learned to a culture renowned for "grieving better than anyone else in



Undertaker David McGowan who featured in the programme. PICTURE: RTE PRESS OFFICE

the world".

Somehow balancing family life with the 24/7 demands of his job, David became famous for transforming giant vehicles into luxury 'glamping accommodation, including a retired airliner a 767 which he transported by sea-barge to his site in Enniscrone.

Viewers met David's friend and client Dougie Hopkins who was a former pilot and biker in the final stages of terminal cancer.

They also witnessed Dougie arrange to have his cremated remains buried in the roots of a live oak tree planted at the rear of the plane.

The programme is available on the RTÉ Player.



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NEWS

New Lidl store open for business today

SENAN HOGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

The new Lidl supermarket in Kildare town opens to the public this morning, Thursday — just in time for last-minute Christmas shopping — and is promising a family fun weekend for customers.

The outlet on the Dublin Road is directly opposite the old foodstore and sits on the

site of the former Magee Barracks.

Events being planned from today until Sunday include face painting, a kids' sweet cart and free balloons.

Customers will also be able to avail of a 'flash sale' of electronic goods this weekend as well as money-off vouchers on groceries in coming weeks.

Discounts of €10 will apply for €50 worth of shopping

during specific shopping periods between January 6 and February 2.

LARGE AND MODERN

The new Lidl store, which is larger and more modern than the old premises, will also be selling its own-brand takeaway coffees.

RIGHT: The new store with (BELOW) Staff and Management. PICTURES: AISHLING CONWAY



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NEWS



No quick fix to 'Fawlty Towers' junction in Naas

The junction at Sallins Road, which has a right turn into Monread Avenue causes hold-ups back towards Naas

PAUL O'MEARA
editor@kildarepost.com

There are no immediate plans to tackle traffic congestion caused by one of the worst bottlenecks in Naas which has been likened to a storyline from the 'Fawlty Towers' comedy series, it emerged.

The junction at Sallins Road, which has a right turn into Monread Avenue (adjacent to the Applegreen

service station), causes hold-ups back towards Naas — because the road width cannot accommodate traffic travelling to Sallins/Clane and into the Monread area.

Now Green Party councillor Vincent P Martin asked for a study to be undertaken and for proposals to improve user safety and alleviate congestion there.

"This is a main artery and if you are turning right you stop all the

traffic leaving Naas," said Cllr Martin, suggesting that Kildare County Council talk to Applegreen and the landowner on the opposite side of the road about a possible solution. "It's a bottleneck on a daily basis, hour in hour out on a daily basis. It's Fawlty Towers stuff," Cllr Martin told a Naas Municipal district meeting.

Veteran councillor Seamie Moore said that some years ago

when Naas Town Council existed there was a proposal to resolve this but it wasn't progressed.

Cllr Bill Clear highlighted the safety issue presented there when cars mount the footpath to get past vehicles waiting to turn right.

Kildare County Council said that it's not currently possible to provide two full dedicated lanes for traffic travelling from Naas lanes due to "geometric constraints".

The council also said the junction operates under vehicle actuation control system and a "presence loop" (vehicle detector) is there to activate the right hand filter arrow to facilitate people driving onto Monread Avenue.

The council said it will review the timings at the junction to see if "any improvement can be made in terms of operational efficiency and traffic flow".



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OUT & ABOUT



Jenny and Peter Casey



Margaret Murphy, Patsy Gorman



Margaret Lackey, Nora Behan, Esther Doyle, Ann Dwyer, Mary Stacy, pictured at the Naas Lions Christmas Party 2019 for Naas Care of the Aged Centre, on Friday night, December 6



Una Flynn, Maureen Stanley

NAAS CARE OF THE AGED PARTY

Pictures: TONY KEANE



Vera and Michael Moore, Carmel Crowe, Madeleine Molloy



Rebecca Kavanagh, Olive Behan, Mary Vivash



Stephanie Doyle, Mary Cassidy

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OUT & ABOUT



Anna Fortune of Kildare Now/Kildare Post presents Joe O'Riordan, representing the winning owner of Bapaume, Suzann Ricci, winner of the Kildare Post/Kildare Now-sponsored Beginners Steeplechase at the Naas Races Christmas Party Meeting, on Monday, December 16



Carl Murphy of the Harris Group at the Naas Races Christmas Party Meeting 2019



(standing) Nellie Egan, Jacinta Maguire, with (seated) Marie Delmer, Josephine Bourke, Helen Moore, of Kill ICA, at Naas Races Christmas Party Meeting 2019.

Out & About

NAAS RACECOURSE CHRISTMAS PARTY MEETING

Pictures: TONY KEANE



Marian Naughton, Marie Lawler, Kathleen Naughton, of McDonnell's Bar, Newbridge, at Naas Races Christmas Party Meeting 2019



Happy group from JRS Scaffolding, Naas, enjoying the day at Naas Races Christmas Party Meeting 2019, and also supporting the Food Bank Naas with a donation



Jockey Paul Townend on board Bapaume, winner of the Kildare Post / Kildare Now sponsored Beginners Steeplechase



Rita Sheridan, Debbie Murphy, Bernie Harrigan, of McDonnell's Bar



Ollie Miley, Bill Mackey, Mick Healy



Pat Dillon, Trisha Byrne, Brid O'Brien, of McDonnell's Bar



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NEWS

A real 'feel-good' Christmas story

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
editor@kildarepost.com

"The winner of the Marymount car raffle is the Walsh and Birchall family from Co Wicklow, c/o Margaret Birchall," read a post on Marymount University Hospice's Facebook page. Despite this being a Cork-based hospice, the winning names caught my attention as I happen to know several members of the Walsh and Birchall family from Dunlavin.

Margaret Birchall nee Walsh is a close friend and is well known to the communities located along the Kildare West Wicklow border as she was senior librarian at Blessington Library for years. Margaret's brother Frank passed away in Marymount during the past summer; his death and that of his mam Eileen the previous year hit the family hard. A native of Dunlavin, Frank had lived in Cork for the past 35 years.

After Frank's sad passing, Margaret and family members went into his room to pack away his belongings at Marymount University Hospice.



The late Frank Walsh of Dunlavin who died in 2019 at Marymount University Hospice

"They came across some loose change of Frank's and decided in his honour, to buy some car raffle tickets at the hospice reception. Naturally distracted on the day that was in it, they wrote scant address details and an old phone number," reported Marymount University Hospice. Margaret stated they were so grateful to the Cork based hospice for the tender care given to Frank during his end of life term, that the family decided to go back to Marymount to join their 'Light up a Life' ceremony in remembrance of departed loved ones.

"We wanted to sponsor some lights on the tree to help fundraise for the hospice. Their care and support for our Frank and for the family will be forever appreciated. Palliative care is vital and the ultimate act of loving care," added Margaret.

Such were the crowds and the level of noise at the ceremony, the family missed the announcement about the car winner.

"After the event the fundraising team rang the number on the ticket but the number was out of service. They resolved they would sort it out



Members of the Walsh and Birchall family at the Light up a Life ceremony at Marymount University Hospice earlier this month, oblivious to the fact they had been announced winners of the car raffle with tickets purchased by the late Frank's loose change

the next day — and in any event if they couldn't get in touch, a second ticket had been selected for this specific reason," stated a member of Marymount University Hospice.

"Later that night, Head of Fundraising Paula McGovern came across some beautiful images of the day on Instagram and got in touch with the user to ask if she could use them." As she was scrolling through, Paula noticed the profile user was a Birchall from Co Wicklow. Could this be? A few PMs later, identity

checks made and a phonecall was made to the Birchall family en route home to Wicklow from Cork to let them know that they had won the car! A huge cheer went up just off the N8.

"That phone call in the car was just brilliant," explains Margaret. "We were in and out of Marymount so often in the summer and we bought so many tickets. We are so delighted though that the winning ticket was bought by Frank's loose change. We found loads in his

pockets — the fact that we bought the tickets with his money and all the near-misses with numbers and social media — Frank would have loved all the craic and it really felt he was with us in the moment" said Margaret

Perhaps this was Frank's way of saying "Thanks guys, you looked after me the finest, I'll miss the craic and I'll miss you all — here's a little farewell gift to raise a smile".

A Christmas message from beyond the grave...



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NEWS

Pool campaign delegation to meet with Dáil members this week

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
 editor@kildarepost.com

A delegation representing Campaign for Pool for West Wicklow met with members of the Dáil on Wednesday, December 18, last. Dáil members included Minister of State for Sports and Tourism, Brendan Griffin TD; Andrew Doyle, TD accompanied by Cllr Avril Cronin, and Minister for Health, Simon Harris, TD.

Speaking to the Kildare Post in advance of the visit, Deirdre McCormack, chair of the group, stated, "We will be discussing the importance of a swimming pool for the West Wicklow area and asking for an update on Wicklow County Council's application for Stream 1 funding under the Large Scale Sports & Infrastructure Fund which

was made last April".

The group which formed last year to fight the campaign for a community pool for West Wicklow recently held a Christmas market at Russborough House, in order to fundraise and support their ongoing campaign. The event was a huge success, with two overflow car parks having to be opened on the day to support the crowds.

"There was a great atmosphere around Russborough on the day and we are already planning next year's market," said Deirdre. "We continue to lobby local councillors and TDs and while we are meeting members of the Dáil, we will be delivering Christmas cards which children at the Christmas market wrote to Minister Harris, Minister

Griffin, Minister Doyle, Deputies Pat Casey, Stephen Donnelly, John Brady and Minister Shane Ross, TD.

"These Christmas cards ask the deputies to help Santa Claus secure a pool for West Wicklow so that the children in this area can swim and learn about water safety. Our fundraising efforts continue and we are currently selling tickets for our Christmas Monster Raffle which will be held this coming Sunday December 22 at 9pm in Murphy's Bar, Blessington".

Tickets are €5 each or 5 for €20 and can be bought online at tinyurl.com/CPWW. Monster raffle prizes include a Kaleidoscope Festival Family Pass, an AEG Microwave, an original print from local artist Iwona Blasi and over 16 other prizes. "We are delighted with how well



Andy and Sally Ann Pallister displaying their home made crafts at the Christmas Market in Russborough

the fundraising has been going since we officially launched on August 17 at Russborough House. The people of West Wicklow are

100% behind the swimming pool campaign with over €13k raised in only four months! "We have lots of plans for 2020 and encourage anyone

who would like to get involved to contact us by email at poolforWestWicklow@gmail.com," concluded Deirdre.



Kim Hartigan with daughters Hayley and Soaire at the Christmas market in Russborough



Santa gets nabbed by two 'kiddies', Gillian O'Donoghue and her nephew Jack Ward visit Santa at Russborough for an event hosted by Campaign for Pool for West Wicklow



Jane Nolan, Secretary of Campaign for Pool for West Wicklow, with her son Cameron the Elf at the group's Christmas event in Russborough House



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NEWS

Network Ireland Kildare Branch grew members by nearly 50%

The annual AGM and Christmas Dinner of Network Ireland Kildare Branch took place last week in the Cliff at Lyons venue.

The AGM ran smoothly with outgoing committee members thanked for their valuable contribution over the years and the new committee was voted in.

Nellie Dillon became Network Ireland Kildare's first honorary member and was thrilled to accept this membership.

Attendees then adjourned to a beautiful dinner and informal networking to sum up a great year with Network Ireland Kildare Branch.

Outgoing President Emma Murphy stated: "I am absolutely thrilled that we had such a successful year.

"We had 14 local branch events, Current membership is at 144 members and 43 new members joining in 2019 alone so it truly was an amazing year of networking, connections and collaborations.

"Thanks so much to everyone for their support throughout the year and I look forward to staying on as Ex Officio to support Tara

and the 2020 committee.

"On behalf of Network Ireland Kildare I was thrilled to present a cheque for €30,000 to Linda O'Connell from the 2019 nominated charity Aoiheann's Pink Tie."

President for 2020, Tara Lane, thanked the 2019 committee for all their support and complimented Emma on her amazing year.

Tara announced the 2020 theme for Network Ireland Kildare Branch to be 'Grow with Network'.

She said: "It could be your personal growth, your personal development, to learn new skills and develop your talents, to overcome challenges and maximise your potential.

"Perhaps you want to Grow Your Business and we have many events planned for 2020 that will help you do just that.

"From showcasing products or services, listening to excellent speakers and helping with introductions, Network Ireland Kildare Branch can help you with all of that".

The first event of 2020,

Connect with your Network, is being held on January 21 in Kilshee Hotel in Naas at 7pm.

Events are run in association with Local Enterprise Office Kildare and with the support of Kildare Post/Kildare Now along with national partner AIB.

Network Ireland Kildare Branch is an organisation for women in business, the professions and the arts.

With over 1140 members spread across 15 branches in Ireland, the Kildare branch of Network Ireland is one of the most dynamic in Ireland, hosting monthly events ranging across a variety of topics including Women in Leadership, Communication Skills, Marketing and Finance.

They also celebrate International Women's Day in March, have an annual Business Awards Competition and a very successful Annual Charity lunch in November.

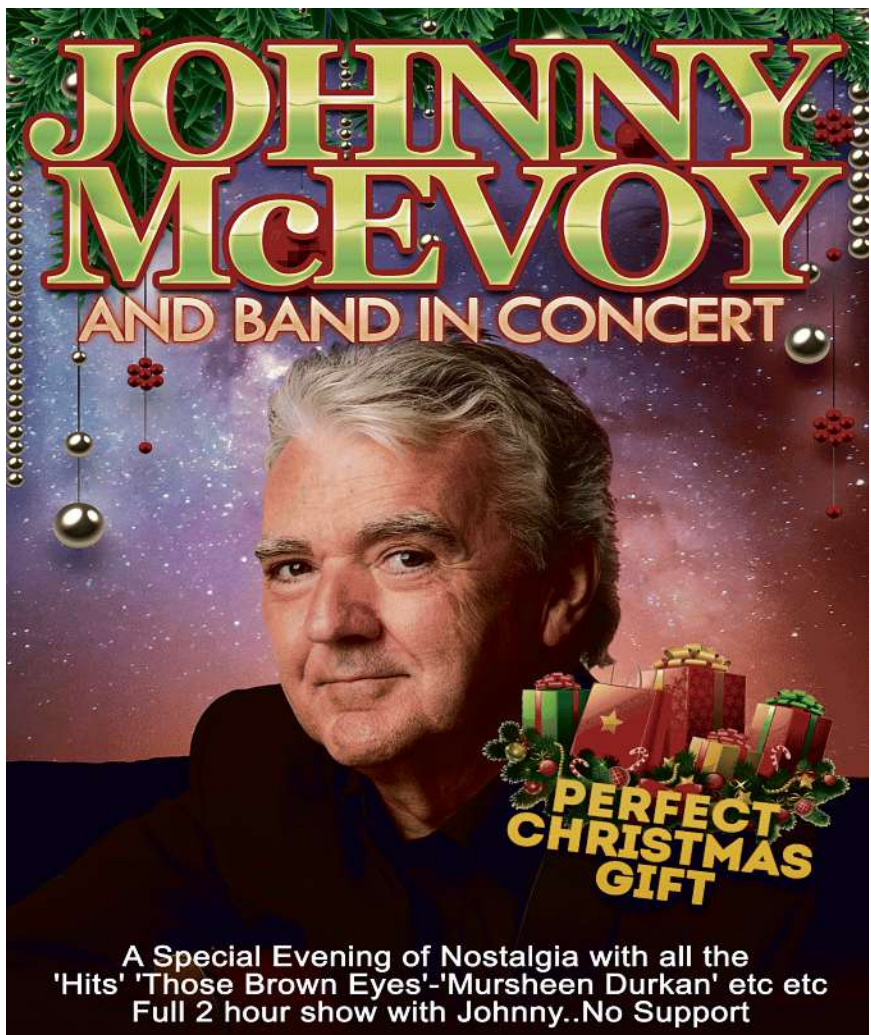
There are 144 members from a large variety of professions, from sole traders to CEOs of large organisations and all are very welcome.



Incoming president Tara Lane with outgoing 2018 president Emma Murphy.
PICTURE: JILL O'MEARA


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LIFESTYLE



Sean Scully, Ann Mooney, Caroline Burns and Bridget Catterson (Director of Nursing) pictured at the Christmas party last Tuesday at Mill Lane Manor



Linda Ellison and Maria Perse with their mother Rita Keating



Sophie Lynne, Isabelle and Millie Chapman

CHRISTMAS PARTY TIME AT MILL LANE MANOR

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



Marion and Ann Bagnall with Brenda Neary and Louisa Curtis



Daniel Butler



Brenda Neary, Maddox Winters Flaiani, Lucy Ronan and Grace Ronan



Phillis and Larry Boyd



Elizabeth and Paddy Fox



Larry and Margaret Byrne



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LIFESTYLE



KWWSPCA

ANIMALS IN NEED

WWW.KWWSPCA.IE

KWWSPCA looks back on a busy year

The KWWSPCA and all the animals still in its care would like to wish all its supporters and readers of the Kildare Post a very Happy Christmas prosperous New Year.

2019 has been a very busy year for the Society but it has also been very rewarding. Almost 250 dogs and puppies that came into our care during the year have been rehomed and over 800 cats and kittens have either been rehomed or have been given veterinary treatment and been neutered, and then returned to their wild homes.

KWWSPCA ANIMAL SHELTER

We are still very actively looking for a new Animal Shelter, but have been allowed a little more time at our present location as a result of the An Bord Pleanála decision to give us two more years where we

are. Our Shelter Fund is steadily increasing and we would like to thank everyone who has donated to the Fund and those who have organised fund raising events for the KWWSPCA Shelter Fund. We are in a position now to purchase land or a suitable property.

DOG OF THE WEEK – NORMA

Little Norma is about a year old and is now looking for a home. She is a terrier cross and is friendly and house trained. She is good on the lead; we find that a harness works best. She likes plenty of love and attention and seems to enjoy the company of other dogs. She is living at our shelter near Athgarvan if you would like to meet her. She has been spayed, chipped and vaccinated. We ask for a minimum donation of €150 to help offset our costs. A dog



Dog of the week - Norma

licence and collar tag are required to complete the adoption, and a home visit applies. A deposit of €50 is required to secure a booking.

With expressions of interest please contact 0871279835 or email kwwspca@gmail.com.

The Kildare & West Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty

to Animals (KWWSPCA) is a Registered Charity (Number CHY 6280) that investigates and deals with reports of cruelty and neglect to animals of all sort; family pets, wild animals and birds, and horses, ponies and donkeys, throughout County Kildare and West Wicklow. The Society is run entirely on a voluntary basis, there are no paid

employees.

KWWSPCA HELPLINE - 087 1279835

KWWSPCA Community Cat Care Group - 087 2517381
Email: kwwspca@gmail.com
Website: www.kwwspca.ie

Very Happy Christmas and Best Wishes for the New Year

These chocolate chip cookies will go down a treat this Christmas

Cook's notes

Once you roll the dough into parchment feel free to freeze this and then you can use whenever you need it, or make an extra batch for the freezer. Do not over mix the mix as this will warm the ingredients and lead to flat cookies.

Makes: 20

Ingredients:

- 100g unsalted butter (room temperature)
- 100g light brown sugar
- 100g caster sugar
- 1 free range egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 275g plain flour
- 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp sea salt
- 100g milk chocolate, roughly chopped

- 50g dark chocolate, roughly chopped
- 50g white chocolate, roughly chopped

Method:

- Preheat the oven to 200°C (180°C fan oven)
- Beat the butter and both sugars together in a stand alone mixer until incorporated but don't mix too much, add the egg and vanilla and beat again. Combine the flour, baking powder and salt in a small bowl and add to the mixer, beat together and then stir through the chocolate.
- Place the mix in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. Remove and scoop out 20 even sized pieces onto two large baking trays lined with parchment paper as you go, spacing adequately apart as they do spread a little.
- Bake in a preheated oven for 12-14 minutes. Allow to cool for five minutes on the trays before transferring to cooling racks to cool completely.



STYLISH & COZY



Have a cosy and stylish Christmas

Red knit jacket from GoldenSpiderweb.ie

RENEW
skin clinic

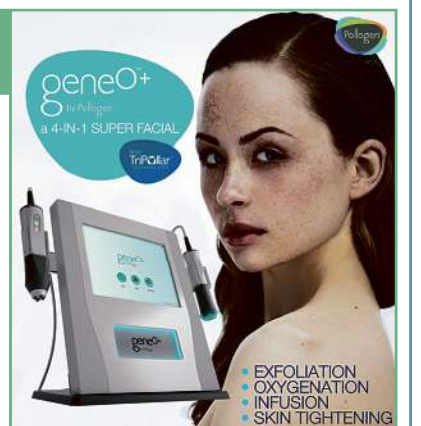
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STYLEFILE

ROSE BARRETT O'DONOGHUE

Your weekly Fashion and Beauty News fix!
For PR or general enquiries, contact us at editor@kildarepost.com



Have yourself a cosy, casual Christmas



Silver shimmer panel front top and shirt combo €69, navy trousers €42 at Goldenspiderweb.ie and its stores nationwide

You want to look stylish at Christmas, but with all the socialising, eating and drinking, by the time the big day rolls around you're also craving comfort and easy dressing.

The sparkling party dresses and high heels have served you well during all the December nights out, but come Christmas Eve and into the New Year, it's all about relaxing in cosy and casual style.

You want to raise your game at Christmas but crave comfort and easy dressing too. Smart casual can be a difficult path to tread but Irish brands [iclothing](http://iclothing.com), Golden Spiderweb and Gianni bags can elevate your ideal day-to-day wardrobe to include seasonal smarts.

Lighting rod sweaters are versatile and add just the

right amount of festive cheer to your outfit. This season's pleated skirt is in seasonal green and can translate in to a night time look with a party top.

A red knit is the Christmas fail safe and cosy too. Accessories are dual purpose too — adding comfort and style to your outfit.

Trainers add a perfect street style edge and crossbody bag in neutral grey allows for hands free shopping.

Not everything has to be about sequins for Christmas. These brands cleverly combine the season's hottest colour palettes and trends with staple wardrobe pieces to create a well-rounded, versatile collection for your casual Christmas.

The prices are great too without cutting on quality.



Cece colour block trainers in beige, €24.95, iclothing.com

This is easy outfit building at its best; mixing and matching quality separates and colours to create a stylish, pared down Christmas wardrobe.

[iclothing](http://iclothing.com) is online 24/7 at iclothing.com.

Golden Spiderweb is in seven stores nationwide,



Kay snake trim heeled ankle boot in camel suede, €39.95 from iclothing.com

including at the Whitewater Shopping Centre in Newbridge, and also at goldenspiderweb.ie

Gianni is available in Debenhams and Pamela Scotts in Whitewater, and also Shaw's.

All are Irish owned and managed retailers.

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THE KILDARE CHRISTMAS ANNUAL 2019

Year in Sport PAGES 72-80

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Inside THIS YEAR'S Edition My Kildare Life Faces & Places

The Kildare Christmas Annual is the ultimate gift this Christmas!

STYLE FILE



Maria pleated skirt in green, €44.95 from iclothing.com



Crossbody bag €45 from Gionni available in Debenhams, Shaws and Pamela Scott



Alex tie neck jumper in camel, €79.99 at iclothing.ie



Red hooded knit €45 and black trousers €42 from Golden Spiderweb



Rita Lightning jumper in grey, €54.95 from iclothing.com

Our Book Professor will meet with the lucky recipient of this experience/voucher to sit, chat and explore a new and exciting world of books.

On gaining an insight during this chat as to what they like to read, the Book Professor will prescribe them books they may not have found for themselves. It is ideal for the most avid reader looking for something unique, to the reluctant reader who needs their imagination ignited.


They will enjoy this experience in our relaxed environment with a Hot Chocolate and a treat.

This gift will come in a beautiful keepsake gift box, which will be filled with all the information on how to arrange their chat with the Book Professor, a €30 Book Voucher, a Book Professor collectable Tote bag, a stylus pen and a Book Professor bookmark.


The Book Professor will help them explore a world of pure imagination.
This fabulous gift is available in our shop, or online for just €45.


The Book Professor

Experience the Difference



A fabulous gift for a book loving child or teenager in your life!





Christmas reads

An amazing array of books by local authors would make great festive presents from your local bookshops

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
editor@kildarepost.com

I popped into Barker & Jones in Naas recently and asked one of the store managers to show me some books by local authors. Before you could say 'Happy Christmas!', he had an array of books before me — "Just a small selection here," said Jason "Lots more if you need them!"

I'm going to start with children's books. One of the many joys in being a grandmother is choosing books for my grandson Jack who will be three in February next. We're going through the Gruffalo series and I'm all Baby Sharked out too! Jack pretty much loves anything written by the Gruffalo authors, they're beautifully illustrated with daft and engaging text.

Children love the familiarity of characters in books, using repetitive phrases or rhymes, hence the enduring popularity of Winnie the Pooh, Rupert Bear and the afore-mentioned Gruffalo series.

From Kildare author Emma Jane Leeson comes the latest in the Johnny Magory series: Johnny Magory and the Forest Fleadh Cheoil. Illustrated by Don Conroy, this is the fourth book in Emma Jane's collection. This book is just delightful and delicious to read!

Encompassing traditional Irish instruments and native wildlife, you will be teaching your child about our native animals and Irish music. It's such an engaging interactive book, with a robin 'hidden' on each page — and there is some Irish to be learnt

therein also. Clever, fun and a fun way to educate children on their Irish heritage and wildlife. Available in bookstores or directly from Emma Jane at www.JohnnyMagory.com

Next up is Pippy's First Adventure by Mary Grace of Naas. A familiar face at the Harbour View Hotel, Mary has written a book around a little bear called Pippy who coincidentally wears spectacles. So any child who is not content with wearing prescription glasses, maybe introducing Pippy might help. Pippy's adventures include very normal things most children do — Sunday lunch, playing in the garden, a visit to the woods coincidentally to Bluebells and Buskers near Rathangan, the zoo, bathtime and Pippy's first time on an airplane. It's so sweet and a great book for children developing their reading skills. You can read it to younger children but older children can also pick it up themselves and maybe identify with Kildare's latest adventurer. Available at €8.95 in Barker & Jones or from marygrace149@gmail.com

I couldn't resist purchasing a couple of copies of Mouse's Night Before Christmas by Tracey Corderoy and Sarah Massins, I don't know if there is a Kildare connection but they're so cute and retail at €7.99 in Barker & Jones, Naas.

Over to adult books now and I'll start with Newbridge-based author Orla McAlinden. Her first award winning book, the Accidental Wife didn't 'grab' me initially. Then I realised it was the underlying tension and violence that I, as a



My pick of the delightful books available locally

resident of the south (the Republic of Ireland) have absolutely no comprehension of whatsoever. I know my history but I understand little of the complexities and hidden divides of today's Northern Ireland. I've kept it by the bedside and dip in and out regularly.

Last summer, one of my reads was McAlinden's first novel, The Flight of the Wren. I had brought my usual thriller and 'girlie' read on holidays and the Wren tale was my third book.

I loved it; it's not for those of you who like your female heroines to come in a steely blue eyed and blonde haired format. Sally is a dubious heroine at best, she is simply a survivor of the Great Famine and her well-intentioned actions have negative repercussions for others. Everything about this book is unconventional, including the central character herself, the plight her life takes, a love story that ensues and again, her actions throughout the book make her a dubious heroine.

McAlinden's description of the conditions the female captives endure on the convict ship is all too realistic. I swear I could feel the stench of body odours, of vomit and urine of the women trapped below; I could feel the sway and nausea of the convicts, and the stomach rumblings of real hunger. It's not for those of you who like a cushy Mills & Boons tale — but it was definitely a book I completed and enjoyed the author's different style and vivid prose.

Full of Grace is McAlinden's most recent work, and it was shortlisted for An Post Short Story of the Year. I'm dipping in and out of it, and maybe because I endured with the Accidental Wife, I'm not put off by the underlying tensions and relationships set within Northern Ireland. Available widely in bookstores across the county.

There are lots and lots of history books available by Kildare authors. Anything by James Durney is recommended and you can pick them up and delve into



them without feeling you have to read from start to finish. There's a Reflections Recollections by Larry Breen on recent and not so recent events in Naas; a book by County Kildare Archaeological Society for art and cultural buffs; Cuisle Chill Dara 'the Heartbeat of Kildare' by authors from Naas Writers' Group, which includes short stories and poems on issues many of us can identify with.

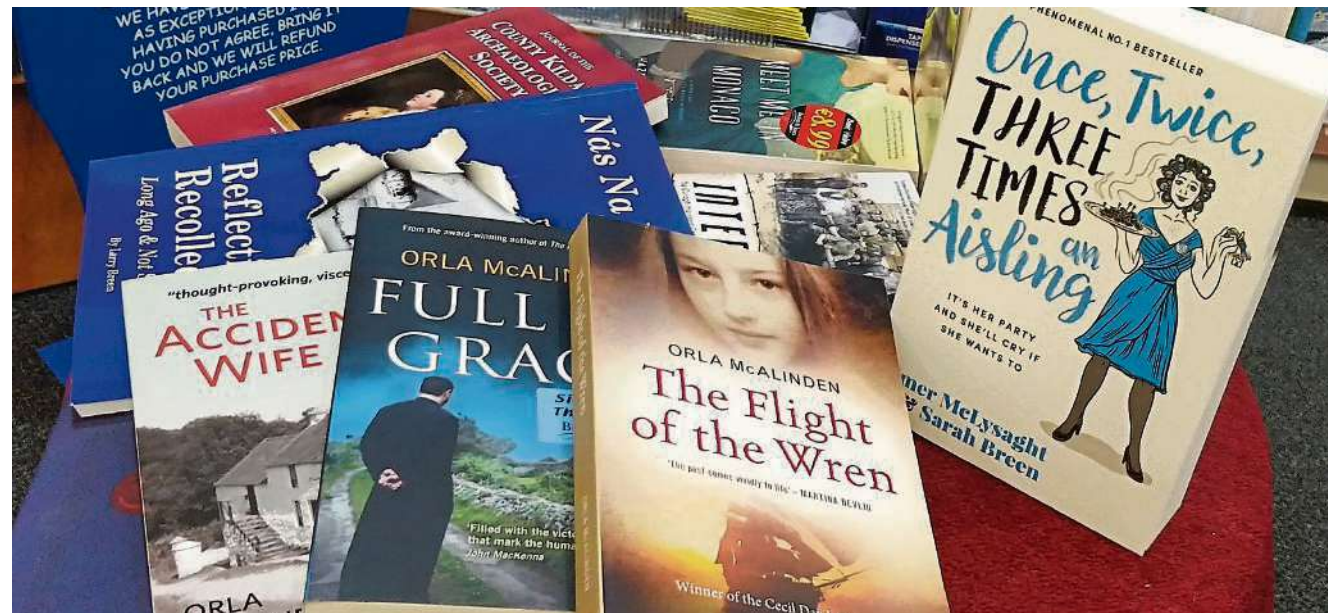
Jamie Heaslip's All In, with Matt Cooper is now €19.99, and in complete contrast, there are the Aisling books (now three in the series) by authors Emer McLysaght from Kill and Sarah Breen. These books are a great 'girlie giggle'. I can liken them to Bridget Jones books written with a hint of Marian Keyes style, a humorous reflection on the modern Irish woman and often, her dysfunctional family and relationships. It's a good stocking filler.

For those of you who do enjoy a romantic novel, I'd recommend Hazel Gaynor's book co-written with Heather Mariah Webb. Meet Me in Monaco is based on the impending marriage of actress Grace Kelly to Prince

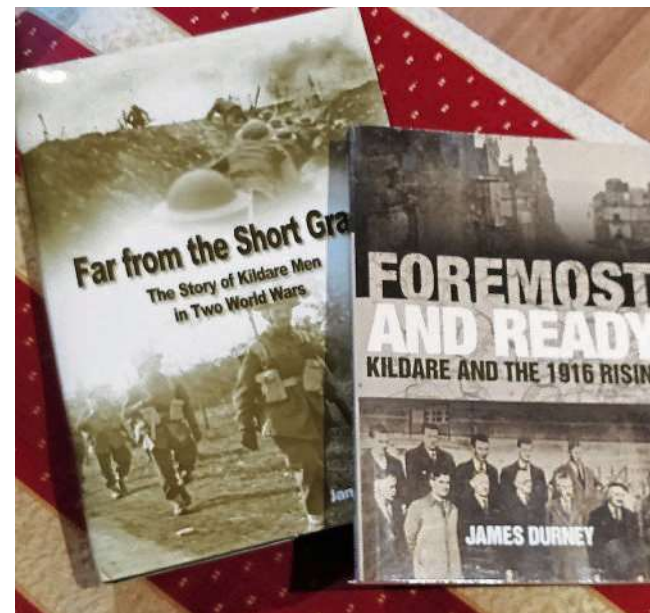
Rainier of Monaco. It gives a good insight into the horrendous pressures and the insatiable hunger of the then press into the happenings of the Hollywood movie idol as she takes a completely different path in her life. I couldn't help but compare it to the frenzied paparazzi who followed the late Princess Diana to her death.

The royal romance is mirrored with a second couple, a hapless British photographer and a young French perfumer, each one struggling with their careers, finances and trying to balance family responsibilities. For the romantic, another recommended stocking filler.

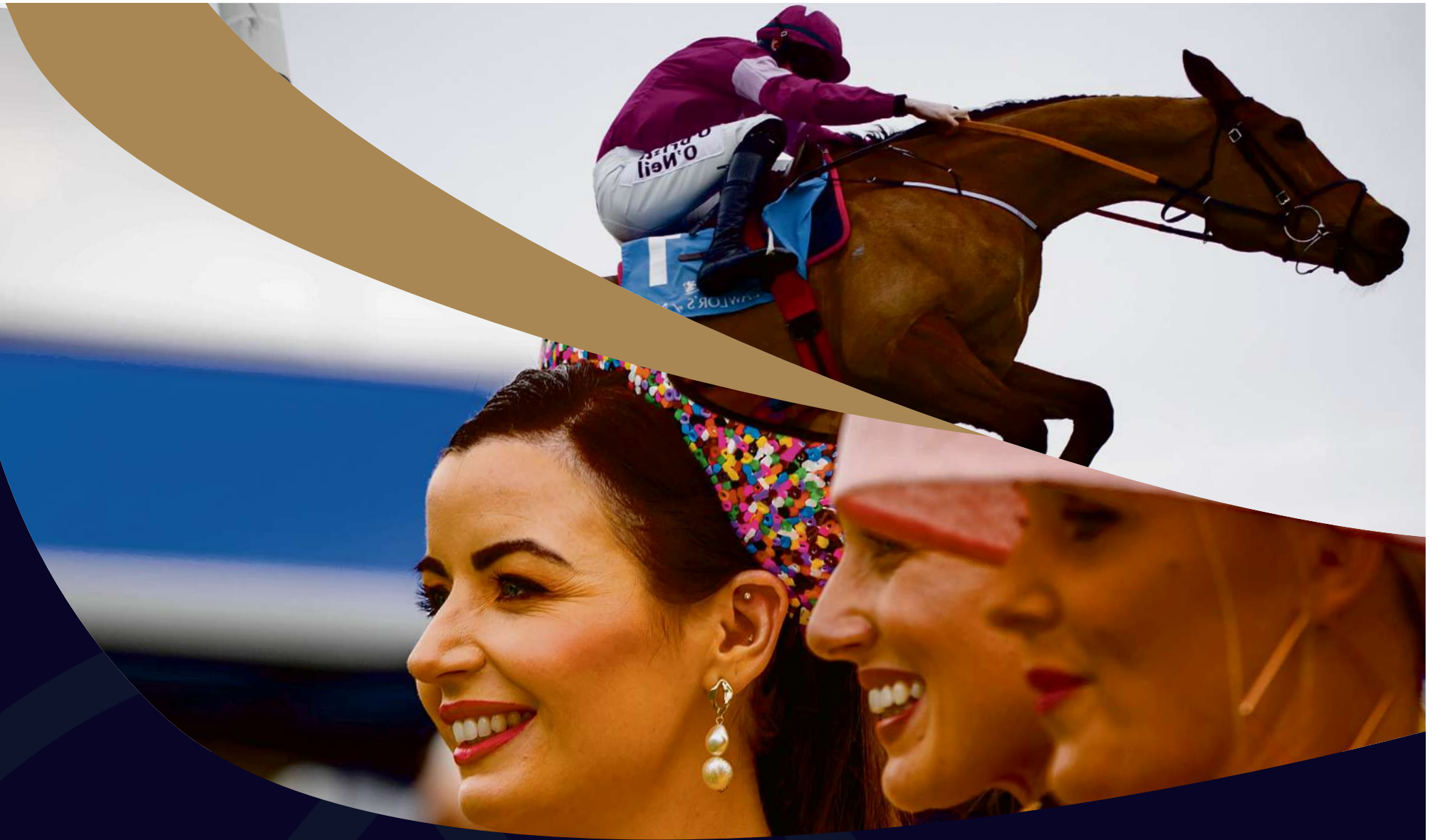
Whatever your choice of books, from autobiographies to history or culture, kiddies' books, thrillers, romance, fiction and non fiction, support your local bookstore. I love dropping into Barker & Jones, to Woodbine Books, Kilcullen and other Kildare bookstores. Just ask the staff on duty what niche books you seek, male or female recipient, adult or child and they'll have a selection of books before you blink!



Fiction and non fiction by Kildare authors available at Barker & Jones Naas



For history buffs, anything by James Durney is excellent!



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ENTERTAINMENT



XNás na Rí Singers with the County Kildare Orchestra Vivaldi Ensemble performing at their 'Vivaldi Gloria' Christmas Concert, which took place in Naas Parish church, last Friday night, December 13, supporting Homeless Care CLG, Naas

Out & About

NÁS NA RÍ SINGERS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Pictures: TONY KEANE



Annmarie Caffrey, Christine O'Grady, Laraine Cooper, Pauline Delaney, Caoimhe Lardner



Marion Rackard, Sheelah Wartson, Sheila Farragher, Anette Farrell



Germaine Lloyd, Barbara Crawford, Liz Boland, Charlotte Pitt



Paul Fitzsimons and Brian Walshe



Geraldine Bean and Ciaran Tierney



Nás na Rí Singers, Deirdre Lloyd, Nuala Breen, and Leslie McCarthy



CHRISTMAS GIFTS ALL WRAPPED UP!



Fri. 10th Jan.

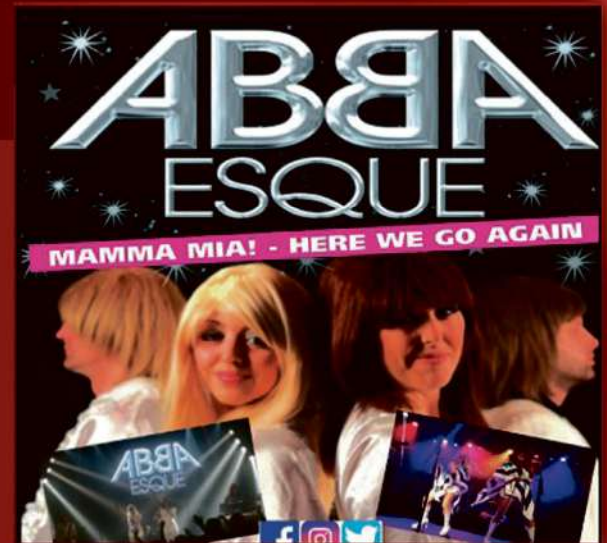
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LIFESTYLE



Stephen, Jamie, Katie, Sophie and Patriia Barrett, pictured enjoying the Christmas fun at Lullymore Heritage Park last weekend



Daniel and Leon, looking forward to Christmas!

Out & About

CHRISTMAS AT LULLYMORE PARK

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



Mrs Claus with Santas Helpers at Lullymore Heritage and Discovery Park



Frank, Ollie, Farrah and Vivienne Conlon



Jack, Isla and Nicola Fife



Emma, Barry and Thomas St John



Trish, Harry, Evie and Gavin Shorten



Graham and Jamie Doyle



The O'Neill family



Picture: File photographs via Pixabay



Top 10 Tips for a sustainable and green Christmas

Ireland will generate approximately 90,000 tonnes of packaging waste this Christmas. Academics at the University College Cork (UCC) Environmental Research Institute (ERI), have come together to dream of a green Christmas. Here are their top tips to follow!

1. Buy a real Christmas tree!

Given that it involves cutting down trees, this might at first sound counter-intuitive as a sustainability measure. After all, you could re-use a fake tree year after year, sparing a tree every time. But that would be the wrong way to look at it because your plastic tree will eventually end up in landfill, whereas if demand for real trees continues then they will keep being replanted. (Dr Markus Eichhorn, School of Biological, Ecological, Earth and Environmental Sciences)

2. Give the gift of a plant.

Now is a good time of year to take cuttings from your house plants and pot them up as gifts for your nearest and dearest. It's easy to take cuttings from many succulents, spider plants or Christmas Cactus and pop them into some peat-free compost in a recycled or re-usable plant pot. Alternatively, mid-winter is a good time to plant a deciduous tree outside in Ireland as it will need the full spring season to develop a decent root-system for the drier months. (Dr Eoin Lettice, Plant Scientist at the School of Biological,

Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES) and the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) at UCC)

3. Create your own crackers.

Some 15 million crackers will be pulled in Ireland over Christmas, contributing further unnecessary plastic waste. Maybe consider making your own home-made Christmas crackers with recyclable materials (and better jokes). (Dr Tom Reed, Senior Lecturer in Zoology, School of Biological, Earth and Environmental Sciences (BEES), UCC)

4. Chestnuts roasting on a...

if you've been burning coal, peat or wood in your living room fire, then you have been very naughty indeed. Domestic Solid Fuel burning is one of the largest sources of air pollution in Ireland. Your fire is not only harmful to you in your own house, but also to your neighbours, because 90% of the smoke and chemical fumes end up next door. Burning coal, wood and peat is especially harmful to asthmatics, the young, the old, people with existing heart conditions and the pregnant. And just think what it does to poor old Santa when he tries to deliver your fantastic presents down the chimney. We can only hope that he has good medical insurance! To keep Santa (and us) healthy, wherever you live in Ireland, then put some solar panels on your roof, insulate your homes better and install a heat pump.



(John Sodeau, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, UCC)

5. Be a Sustainable Foodie.

Try to resist buying enough food to feed an army, as much of this will probably end up as waste — instead, try a 'refuse, reuse, rot' approach to your food shopping. Refuse to overbuy, reuse all leftovers and rot or compost what's left. Planning ahead by ordering your fruit and vegetables through a local box scheme, enjoy some social festivities and visit your local farmers market, or buy in bulk (plastic-free, of course!) and batch cook so that you've more time to enjoy family traditions. (Dr Claire O'Neill and Professor Mary McCarthy, UCC CUBS)

6 Don't fight at the dinner table!

The Christmas family get together is famed for its fights and fall-outs — all that food, mulled wine, and being cooped up for one day with your nearest and dearest can prove too much. We are always advised to avoid talking about religion and politics at the dinner table. Likewise, if climate change is an issue that raises some hackles at

the Christmas dinner table, and one that you feel strongly about, we would recommend that you listen as much as you talk, avoid reciting too many climate change facts, and connect the issue to everyday life such as that local cycle path that could be extended to the community school. Of course, try to avoid gloom and doom and focus on the positive benefits of climate action - it is Christmas after all! — (Dr Paul Bolger, Manager of the Environmental Research Institute, UCC)

7. Leave the door open for Santa!

An open fireplace with a chimney is very handy for Santa but he can also choose to come in the door if you decide to install an efficient stove or upgrade your heating system. Burning a fuel like coal in your fireplace over the winter produces about one tonne of Carbon Dioxide (a heat-trapping gas). This is similar to a person taking a return flight to New York. Heat-trapping gasses are causing our climate to change in ways that are not good so trying to reduce our emissions is the perfect gift for the planet! (Dr Paul Deane, Energy Policy and Modelling Group, MaREI Centre)

8. Think electric. Christmas can be when we mull buying a new car for next year. So look at the electric options, you can now choose from battery-electric vehicles (BEV) to plug-in

hybrid-electric vehicles (PHEV) to hybrid-electric vehicles (HEV). BEVs have a motor tax of €120. A HEV, such as the Toyota Corolla, costs about 7ckm and comes with a motor tax of €170.

9. Avoid the plastic! Earlier this year UCC researchers found plastic 2,100m under the sea off Co Kerry coast. When buying presents look at their plastic wrapping, try to avoid toys or other gifts that would increase the amount of plastic waste you generate. Why not replace the glossy, non-recycled paper wrapping with recycled paper?

Whenever possible try to buy your gifts and food from local sources and in family-owned shops, to promote local communities and also reduce the carbon footprint of transporting things all over the world. Nowadays we all enjoy internet shopping, but one should take this time of the year to reflect on the environmental and social costs of big online retailers (Dr Rossana Henriques, Senior Lecturer in Plant Genetics at the School of BEES, UCC).

10. Think of the birds! UCC research earlier this year outlined how climate change is occurring so fast that common birds such as magpies cannot adapt and are at the risk of extinction. This Christmas leave the gift of water and the correct food out for our feathered friends.

LIFESTYLE

ALL THINGS INTERIOR

LOUISE HIGGINS



ASPIRE DESIGN
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Simple Christmas dining decór tips

For most people, Christmas dinner is their favourite meal of the year. This week I thought I share some simple ideas on how to add some festive cheer to your dining table setting.

With Christmas Day, St Stephens Day and New Year's Day fast approaching, this is the perfect time to introduce some festive decór to ensure you wow your dinner guests, both big and small. Whether you love to make your own centre pieces and decorations or if you'd rather purchase, we've lots of suggestions to suit your taste and budget. Items suggested here are sourced locally from Kildare stores.

ADD A CENTRE PIECE.

There are many ways you can add a festive centre piece to your table. Consider creating your own using garlands and then customising with cones or baubles depending on the mood and style you want to achieve e.g. fun, opulent etc. To create a rustic centre piece consider using candles of different heights, mixed with wood and greenery.

Alternatively, if table space is minimum opt for a smaller centre piece. You could create your own DIY festive vase like these beautiful candy cane vases filled with roses. This Berry

Tree from the Kilkenny Shop would also make a great centre piece. For atmospheric light consider these Atticus and stone votives from Carraig Donn which are perfect for tea lights and leave ample space on your dinner table for your festive meal.

You could create your own DIY festive vase like these beautiful candy cane vases. Simply stick some candy canes to the outside of a jar, add some red ribbon and finish with some red roses.

DINING CHAIR UPDATE

You can simply use some red ribbon, greenery and pine cones to update your dining room chairs for an instant stylish look. Another DIY idea is to create your own small wreaths to hang on the back of your dining chairs. Alternatively, for younger guests you could add these Santa chair covers available for just €2.99 from Home Store and More in Newbridge.

FESTIVE NAPKINS

Napkin holders are a great way to add some festive cheer to your tables setting. You could opt for these beautiful reindeer etch napkin ring set at €19.95 for a set of six from Meadows and Byrne. Alternatively, you could add some rosemary or candy

canes and a festive ribbon for an instant Christmas feeling. Another option is to use some cinnamon sticks mixed with some greenery. This will look fantastic and add some Christmas scent to your dining room.

ADD SOME DIY PLACE CARDS

Placemats are also a great addition as well as practical too. Paul Costello Living have a lovely Christmas range at €15 for a set of four from Dunnes Stores. Add some customised place cards to your table setting. These can be fun and festive, or sophisticated and elegant depending on your guests and the look you want to achieve. These festive wreaths made simply from wire and rosemary look super. For children consider these festive Santa Hat place cards.

Thanks again for taking the time to read my interiors column and I hope you found the content helpful. I hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and Best Wishes for a peaceful, healthy and prosperous New Year. Remember if there is a topic that you would like covered in 2020 then please drop me a line.

Louise is the winner of TV3's Showhouse Showdown, 086399926, info@aspire design.ie.



DIY place cards and rosemary wreaths add a festive touch to your table



A DIY festive centre piece with baubles and greenery



TOP: Festive table setting. LEFT: DIY creative centre piece with candy canes and roses. RIGHT: 10 piece taper candle tray, €98 from Meadows and Byrne



ABOVE: Cinnamon evergreen napkins

LEFT: Hang wreaths on the back of chairs for a festive look

Fantastic four-bed home close to Kilmeague on the market

KIM O'LEARY
editor@kildarepost.com

This spacious four-bedroom detached bungalow close to the village Kilmeague village includes a bright sunroom and good-sized gardens for an asking price of €420,000.

No 5 Ballintine Park, Allen, Kilmeague, is a most impressive, beautifully presented, spacious detached dormer bungalow. It sits on a corner site which enjoys generous site enjoying panoramic views of the surrounding countryside.

This wonderful family home offers well-proportioned rooms with a modern efficient layout and many warm, welcoming features which ensure this is an ideal home designed around today's family lifestyle specifications.

Inside the property benefits from four to five good-sized bedrooms and four bathrooms (including

two en-suites), an entrance hall, lounge, spacious kitchen/dining room, a bright sunroom which receives excellent sunlight during the summer months, a utility room, and a guest WC.

Outside are generous grounds with attractive lawns, a patio area and ample off street parking.

Kilmeague village and all amenities are within easy walking distance including shops, primary school, church, pubs and a host of excellent recreational facilities. Dublin city and its surrounding areas are easily accessible via convenience to both the M7 motorway.

This is a rare opportunity to acquire a beautiful home in a superb, convenient location.

APPOINTMENT TO VIEW

Viewing is highly recommended and for more information contact Sherry FitzGerald Reilly on 045 868 412.



Lovely family home in the Newbridge area

KIM O'LEARY
editor@kildarepost.com

This four-bedroom detached home in Newbridge would ideally suit a young family as it boasts spacious accommodation and proximity to local amenities for an asking price of €320,000.

No 9 Roseberry Hill, Newbridge, is situated on a corner site of a private cul-de-sac of nine homes.

Inside accommodation comprises of four good-sized bedrooms, four bathrooms (including family bathroom and two en suite), a bright entrance hall, fully fitted solid oak kitchen with generous adjoining dining area, utility room, guest WC, and a stylish living room. There is also a large attic room with great storage potential and other features include gas fired central heating and an alarm system.

Outside, the property benefits from a spacious cobblelock driveway with ample parking for several cars, a double pedestrian side gated entrance, as well as a maintenance free front garden and rear garden with a raised paved patio area.

Roseberry Hill is a modern



residential development with on-site shopping and recreational facilities and easy access to the town centre and train station.

Early viewing of this property is highly recommended and for more information please contact Maura Donohoe Auctioneers in Newbridge town on 045 449 688.



IN THE GARDEN

Add some Christmas inspiration to your garden in December

It's December and we can't believe how fast the year has gone! Throughout the year you have seen your garden transform from being covered in frost, to the colours of spring, the blooms of summer and the fabulous autumnal leaves from popular autumnal plants including rhus typhina, liquidambar and the beautiful parrotia percisa tree.

The days are shorter, the weather is really taking a wintry turn and chances are, you don't want to be out in your garden in December too much.

As always, we are here to help with some gardening tips and advice. Here, we outline some key tasks to incorporate into your December gardening plans. We are also sharing some Christmas inspiration for your garden!

Christmas Ideas

Decorate the outside of your home with a cone-shaped, evergreen conifer or a pyramid-shaped boxwood tree. Just add some battery-operated, outdoor, fairy lights for the perfect Christmas setting. To add an extra hint of intrigue, under plant your tree with winter flowering heather. This will add colour and interest to your outdoor space over the festive period.

Now is an ideal time to choose the perfect Christmas tree for your home this festive season. Paraic recommends the Irish-grown Nordmann

Fir tree. It is a non-shed Christmas tree with rich green foliage and a fresh pine scent. The layered branch structure makes it ideal for decorating and the tree looks and smells fantastic. To find out more about real Christmas trees, including how to choose the perfect tree and how to care for it, click here.

Care Tip: Cut 3 - 4 inches off the bottom of the tree before placing it into a stand. Refill the stand with fresh water daily.

Lawn Care

December is the ideal month to reapply a dressing of Zero Lawn Liquid to your lawn. Zero lawn liquid kills lawn moss quickly without turning the grass black. Zero lawn liquid should be applied every six to eight weeks during the winter months. This will give you a lush green

lawn come spring.

Garden Care

The foliage of boxwood balls and cones can look a little tired and yellow during the winter months. Care for them by applying a dressing of Topbuxus Health Mix. Simply mix the health mix solution with water and apply to the foliage. This mix will encourage a rich green colour, that will last throughout the season.

Remember to look after the wild birds in your garden this December, while their food is in short supply. Feed the birds with high-protein nuts and sunflower seeds, one of the best food sources for your garden songbirds.

Prune back your fruiting trees this December. Shorten this year's growth by 2/3rds, removing any damaged or diseased branches. Next, apply a dressing of winter

wash to the entire tree to kill any overwintering pests.

Look after your deciduous trees and shrubs by applying a dressing of winter tree wash. This product will clean the trees of overwintering bugs and pests. It is suitable for use throughout December and January.

Install a water storage butt into your garden to help harvest rainwater. Rainwater is the cleanest water you can use in your garden. It is chemically free of chlorine and fluoride and your plants will love it. Simply install a water storage butt now to a water down-pipe on your greenhouse or home and enjoy lots of fresh, clean water next spring and summer.

Cover your compost heap with an old carpet or black plastic sheeting. This will keep the temperatures up, ensuring decomposition can continue, even when it is very cold. Keep turning it if



possible and watch out for any animal life that may become trapped by your insulating layer.

Store at least one bag of sowing compost, one potting-on compost and one multi-purpose now in warm, dry conditions. Then, if it is needed quickly, it will not be frozen or waterlogged. Plants and seeds do not do well in sodden, cold compost.

Garden Colour

Plant scented hyacinth bulbs into patio pots. These

will add a splash of colour and sweet scent to your outdoor space as you ring in the New Year.

December remains one of the best months to plant beech hedging plants. Purple and green beech can be planted now to form a strong screen of shelter and privacy around your garden and home. Beech hedging is easy to grow, very hardy and adds fantastic seasonal colour in any garden.

By Paraic Horkan of Horkans Garden Centre in Glen of the Downs. Check out: www.Horkans.ie



New ŠKODA SUPERB lives up to its name

BREDA CORRIGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

The original Škoda SUPERB was first launched in Ireland back in 2001 and has become one of the brands best-selling models with over 18,000 SUPERB vehicles currently on Irish roads.

This is the third and most successful version that has been extensively revised both inside and out. Available in a Combi (Estate) and Saloon (Lift back) versions, Škoda has slightly modified the exterior of the SUPERB and has carefully refined the front section. The redesigned front bumper means the car's length has increased by 8mm (to 4,869mm) in the Škoda SUPERB, and by 6mm (to 4,862mm) in the SUPERB Combi.

SLEEK DESIGN

The typical ŠKODA grille now bears double slats, is larger and protrudes a little further down into the front bumper. From the entry-level version, the narrower headlights come with LED technology as standard for the dipped and high beam. At the rear, a horizontal chrome trim connects the full LED

tail lights whilst the new 'ŠKODA' block lettering define the new ŠKODA design language.

ENGINE & TRANSMISSION OPTIONS

The engine line-up features 1.5 TSI petrol units producing 150bhp, offered with 6 speed manual or 7 speed DSG automatic transmissions. The diesel offering includes a heavily revised 2.0 TDI 150bhp with new turbo charger and intercooler configuration combined with new crankshaft and injector arrangement. A 1.6 TDI 120bhp 7-speed DSG also features, as well as a more powerful 2.0 TDI 190bhp unit with a 4x4 option. A plug-in hybrid (PHEV) is set to join the SUPERB line-up in early 2020.

IMPRESSIVE SPEC & TECH

The SUPERB update includes new technologies and an even more sophisticated interior. Full LED Matrix headlights are available for the first time in a Škoda production model, and feature as standard on SportLine and L&K models. Several new assistance



systems are also making their debut, such as Predictive Cruise Control. There are five trim levels available in the new SUPERB – Active, Ambition, Style, SportLine, and range-topping L&K (in honour of Vaclav Laurin and Vaclav Klement, who founded the car company we now know as Škoda). The SUPERB SportLine differentiates itself from its siblings by using striking black features

including a remodelled radiator grille and 18-inch alloy wheels – both of which come in black. The radiator grille frame and the trim between the full LED tail lights are also gloss black. Full LED Matrix headlights and a sports chassis, which has been lowered by 10 mm, are included as standard. The black interior sets itself apart with sport seats featuring Alcantara®/leather

materials. In order to distinguish the 'L&K' model from other models in the range, Škoda has adorned the front wings of the car with Laurin & Klement's signatures, along with insignia visible on door sill-plates front & rear.

TEST CAR

My test car was a Škoda SUPERB L&K 2.0 TDI Combi, which was fitted with a

7-speed DSG (Automatic) gearbox, and was finished in striking Moon White metallic paint. With 190bhp, and a whopping 400Nm of torque on tap, the car can sprint from 0-100km/h in just 8.4-seconds, and is capable of a top speed of 227km/h (where permitted, of course). Annual road tax is just €200, and fuel consumption as low as 5.2l/100km's is possible on a combined driving cycle. Standard L&K specification includes such key items as LED Matrix headlights, SunSet rear insulating glass, heated front & rear seats, adaptive suspension, Canton™ sound system, 19" Trinity anthracite alloy wheels, aluminium pedals, KESSY keyless central door locking with engine start/stop, electrically operated tailgate

The amazingly-wonderful, and impressively practical new Škoda SUPERB Combi is quite possibly 'all the car you will ever need'. Pricing starts at €32,250 (ex-works) for the 1.5 TSI 150bhp Active model, with my test car specification priced at €49,750.

Contact Sheehy Skoda Naas on 045 906600.



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TOUGHER BUSINESS PARK, NEWHALL, NAAS

The innovative Nissan LEAF has just become a sparkling Nissan Christmas TREE, powered by regenerative energy.

The Christmas car features a spectacular festive light display, powered entirely by its own regenerative braking energy system through e-Pedal and B mode.

The innovative Nissan e-Pedal and B mode regenerate energy under braking and decelerating, extending drivers' range during commutes. Energy regenerated through driving the Nissan LEAF for 18,000 km represents 20% of the overall domestic electricity consumption of an average European household for one year.

LET IT GLOW, LET IT GLOW, LET IT GLOW

Decked out in a spectacular light display, the Nissan TREE showcases the way the electric car regenerates power when braking or decelerating. Two driving functions provide energy regeneration in the Nissan LEAF.

The Nissan LEAF ePedal allows the driver to start, accelerate, decelerate and stop using only the accelerator pedal. The e-Pedal also helps the car to harvest energy via regenerative braking. This works by recycling the energy from the movement of the car during braking or

deceleration, which then goes straight back to the batteries, where it is used to recharge them. Meanwhile, B mode is a driving function that regenerates energy under braking, with drivers using the traditional brake pedal as normal. Fitted with thousands of LEDs, shimmery baubles and a reindeer, the car is brighter than Rudolph's nose. The sparkling display reminds sustainably minded drivers about the energy generation made possible through owning an electric vehicle. Over an annual mileage of 18,000km's, Nissan LEAF drivers would potentially generate enough energy to power up:

- 266 Christmas trees with 700 incandescent lights for a full hour of joy
- 297 ovens for one hour to cook your Christmas dinner
- 744 televisions for five hours to watch your favourite Christmas movies
- 10,783 houses with 1,000 LED lights for five hours

"Santa shouldn't be the only one with a festive mode of transport. We wanted to make the Nissan LEAF more fun at this time of year whilst driving home a very important message," said Helen Perry, Head of Electric Vehicles for Nissan Europe. "We hope this custom-made vehicle inspires people about the endless benefits of regenerative energy. After nearly ten years since LEAF

was first introduced in Europe, Nissan continues to be fully focused on providing consumers a more sustainable lifestyle through electric mobility." Helen Perry added

HOW DOES THE TECHNOLOGY WORK?

Two driving functions provide energy regeneration in the Nissan LEAF. The Nissan LEAF ePedal allows the driver to start, accelerate, decelerate and stop using only the accelerator pedal. The e-Pedal helps the car to harvest energy via regenerative braking. It works by recycling the energy from the movement of the car during braking or deceleration, which then goes straight back to the batteries, where it is used to recharge them. Using the ePedal gives the driver more range.

Meanwhile, B mode is a driving mode that regenerates energy under braking, with drivers using the traditional brake pedal as normal. The Nissan LEAF is an iconic and pioneering electric vehicle, with nearly 150,000 on the roads today across Europe.

Learn more about the Nissan LEAF and its intelligent regenerative braking technology by visiting www.nissan-europe.com. Contact Naas Nissan on 045 888438.

Seasons Greetings from Sheehy Motors & Audi Naas



We look forward to seeing you in the New Year

Christmas and New Year Holiday Opening Hours

SALES DEPARTMENT

Monday 23rd December 9am - 4pm
 Saturday 28th December 10am - 4pm
 Monday 30th December 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Eve 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Day Closed

PARTS DEPARTMENT

Monday 23rd December 9am - 4pm
 Saturday 28th December 10am - 1pm
 Monday 30th December 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Eve 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Day Closed

SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Monday 23rd December 9am - 4pm
 Monday 30th December 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Eve 10am - 4pm
 New Year's Day Closed

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Please see our website for further details www.nahanagan.com

Location: This role will be based in Kilcullen Co. Kildare.

Requirements:

- Level 7 or higher qualification in Electrical Engineering
- Proficient in MS Office, CAD
- Full clean driving licence
- Be driven and goal oriented
- Have good people skills and be clear and concise in all dealings with co-workers and clients
- Needs to be able to work on their own initiative and also as part of a team
- Qualified or apprentice electrician an advantage with a good general knowledge and appreciation of electrical power systems and drawings
- This offer is open to graduates or candidates with 2-3 Years suitable HV commissioning experience

Job Description:

- To work with the project team and to develop as an Engineer in carrying out installation, assembly, maintenance and commissioning of HV equipment including HV switchgear, transformers, protection relays G10 and EGIP panels etc. All the necessary training and supervision will be provided. This will involve both site and office work.
- To gain a good working and operational knowledge of HV networks and equipment and to become an SAP (Senior Authorised Person) with responsibilities for carrying out HV switching and isolations on live HV networks. All the necessary training will be provided.
- Develop and update CAD drawings.
- Finalizing maintenance and commissioning reports and submitting to clients including following up and meeting with clients to discuss and complete any issues and recommendations.

The Package: Attractive package including good salary, performance bonus, company vehicle, fuel card, laptop, iPhone.

All necessary and relevant training and development will be provided to the successful candidate.

Good opportunity to progress within a growing specialist company.

Contact: Please forward CV's to the Attention of Róisín at engineering@nahanagan.com

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Noel O'Reilly intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at The Chase, Connyburrow, Celbridge, Co. Kildare. The development consists of alterations and extension to existing garage and sheds at side and rear of existing house, to create a granny flat, along with all ancillary site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Planning permission sought for the construction of 2 No. Four bedroom, two-storey, detached dwellings, access driveway and all site works at Curryhills, Prosperous, Co Kildare. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application. Signed : Charlie Devine

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Pippa Maloney intends to apply for Planning Permission for a development the Demesne, Rathangan, Co. Kildare. Permission is sought for the conversion of an existing double garage for use as a Granny flat, construction of single storey link between the existing house and proposed granny flat, associated alteration to side & rear elevations of house & all elevations of garage, up grading of existing on site effluent treatment system and percolation area and all associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the planning Authority of the application. O'Loughlin Architects Ltd 087 9858836



KildareNow.com AS THE NEWS HAPPENS



DELIVERY CONSULTANT (IT SDLC Implementation)

Who we are:

Headquartered in Bethlehem, PA, USA with offices in Naas, Ireland and New Delhi, India; Glemser Technologies is an IT solutions business.

We analyse, comprehend, and implement IT systems compliance, validation and regulatory adherence for pharmaceutical, life science, biotech, medical devices, and high-tech manufacturing customers.

We help businesses to adapt to technological change and to successfully implement the latest IT systems that will help them to gain a competitive advantage by getting products to market safer, faster and cheaper.

Our immediate requirement:

To identify academically strong computer & business science candidates who have gained up to two-years post-graduate experience working on successful IT SDLC implementations within a regulated enterprise.

Our preferred candidate:

Has achieved a 2:1 BSc. Enterprise Computing degree and up to two-years post graduate system application development and validation experience.

Must have excellent interpersonal and communication skills for client facing presentations and is comfortable working as a team member to achieve strict transactional project deadlines.

Work location:

Primarily based at our office in Naas, County Kildare but with remote home-office flexibility and limited international travel to our EU client sites.

Remuneration:

Excellent and competitive employment terms and conditions will be offered to the successful candidate depending upon experience and qualifications.

How to apply

- A detailed Delivery Consultant job profile is available upon request.
- Email your application and current CV to information@glemser.com



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KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I Rachael Taylor intend to apply for permission for a development at Ovidstown, Straffan, Co. Kildare. The development will include the following, A) Construction of a 4 bedroom two-storey style dwelling, B) Single storey domestic garage, C) Stable building consisting of 4 No stables, tack room and open storage area, D) New Sepcon wastewater treatments system and percolation area, E) New recessed vehicle entrance, along with all associated and facilitating site development works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. The application was prepared and submitted by: David Higgins Dip Arch Tech, DHArchitectural & Planning Services 045-434763 / 087-6740531, email: david@dharchitectural.ie

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I Howard Tracey, intend to apply for retention permission for development at this site, Blackhill, Kill, Co. Kildare, W91 P527.

The development consists of the retention of alterations to dwelling previously granted under planning ref. no. 04/2725, alterations to existing dwelling include;

(1) Alterations to layout including removal of rear projections decreasing the overall floor area and reducing bedrooms from 6 to 5.

(2) Minor alterations to all elevations including positioning, size and style of windows and doors, and garage doors.

(3) Addition of first floor dormer window to side elevation

(4) Addition of saddle rooflight to main roof pitch

(5) Replacement of 2 no. dormer windows on rear elevation with 2 no. dormer style doors with integrated roof balconies and all ancillary site works.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. Signed on behalf of the applicant by DalyHudson Building Surveying & Architecture www.dalyhudson.com 045-530766

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Ger Kehoe, am applying to Kildare County Council for full planning permission for the following: (a) removal of existing single storey flat roof and construction of new first floor extension to side of existing dwelling, (b) construction of additional new single storey family flat type extension to side/rear of existing dwelling, (c) modifications to 1 no. window at ground floor level, (d) connection to all existing mains services on site and all associated development works at 61A Mount Carmel, Newbridge, Co. Kildare. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Joe Feeney intend to apply for permission for development at Number 43, The Paddocks, Naas, Co. Kildare, W91 FEX0.

The development consists of permission for development as follows:-

(i) a new 18.5 m/2 single storey extension to the rear of our single storey detached dwelling

(ii) a new 3m/2 entrance porch,

(iii) a new window at attic floor level to the front elevation.

The development will consist of the retention of the following:-

(iv) the conversion of the existing carport (13.8 m/2) to a bedroom and re-positioning of the main entrance door,

(v) an attic conversion of 77.2 m/2, stairwell & roof lights to existing pitched roof and all associated ancillary site development works.

The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

John & Edel Murphy intend to apply for full planning permission for a development at Loughanure Commons, Clane, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing an agricultural vehicular entrance, and all associated ancillary site-works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Stephen Whelan, intend to apply for planning permission for the construction of a dormer dwelling (c.266sqm) and a single storey garage. Planning is to include proposed new site entrance and all associated site works and proposed wastewater treatment system all at Newtown Great, Eadestown, Co. Kildare. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Department, during its public opening hours, and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the Planning Authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the Authority of the planning application.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Brook Advantage Ltd intend to apply for full planning permission for a development at Oldgrange-wood, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing 28 no. dwellings consisting of 16 no. two-storey semi-detached dwellings on sites 23-30 & 39-46 The Green, with option for attic accommodation on sites 30 & 46 The Green. It also includes construction of 12 no. terraced houses on sites 19-22 & 31-38 The Green (permission was previously granted for 28 no. dwellings under planning file 04/1043 but now withered), and all associated ancillary site-works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Quinn's of Baltinglass Ltd intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Lewistown, Naas, Co. Kildare. The development consists of demolishing an existing one and half storey office building and weighbridge and the construction of two grain stores, new two-storey office building, two-weighbridges, machinery store, retaining walls and all associated site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

We, Commissioners of Public Works, intend to apply for planning permission for development at Farm Buildings at Castletown House and Demesne, Celbridge, Co. Kildare.

The development will consist of: Alterations to existing external platform outside the 'Brewer's House' incorporating stairs/wheelchair compliant ramp; new entrance and external steps into the 'Long Hall' from the 'Upper Courtyard'; new external stairs and wheelchair accessible ramp at the 'Bleacher's Green'; new replacement gates/doors to the ground floor archways (Lower Yard); internal modifications consisting of new stairs from lower ground floor to the 'Long Hall'; new stairs and platform lift from 'Billiard Room' to the 'Long Hall'; removal of the non-original staircase from the 'Brewer's House' to the loft; widening of doors and opes; installation of new internal finishes and services and all associated site works. The proposed works are generally consistent with previously approved scheme under ref. no. 13/613 (now lapsed) and feature the modifications as described above. The site is located within the curtilage of Protected Structures no. B 11-13; B11-14, and within Proposed Historic Landscape Area (Character Area). The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. c/o Gaffney and Cullivan Architects

1 Farnham Street Cavan, 7 Clonard House, Market Sq. Navan, Co. Meath

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

TMC Siteworks Ltd intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Cooleragh West, Coill Dubh, Co. Kildare. The development consists of revision to planning file 19/530 for the construction of an additional detached two-storey house, (three houses in total), revised boundaries and all ancillary site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I Rachael Taylor intend to apply for permission for a development at Ovidstown, Straffan, Co. Kildare. The development will include the following, A) Construction of a 4 bedroom two-storey style dwelling, B) Single storey domestic garage, C) Stable building consisting of 4 No stables, tack room and open storage area, D) New Sepcon wastewater treatments system and percolation area, E) New recessed vehicle entrance, along with all associated and facilitating site development works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission. The application was prepared and submitted by: David Higgins Dip Arch Tech, DHArchitectural & Planning Services 045-434763 / 087-6740531, email: david@dharchitectural.ie

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Bernadette Sweeney, am applying to Kildare County Council for full planning permission for the following: (a) change of use of existing doctors surgery to residential dwelling. Subject building was originally granted permission for change of use from residential use to doctors surgery under Planning Reference No. 99/500083, (b) minor internal modifications, (c) connection to all existing mains services on site and all associated development works at 7 Basin Street, Naas, Co. Kildare. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Retention Planning Permission is sought by Mr. Kurup Balagan-gadharan at 21 Castle Village Crescent, Celbridge, Co. Kildare for the retention of a shed type structure in the rear garden of his existing house. The development consists of a single storey prefabricated shed type structure. Currently used as a home office / gym with tea making facilities and a WC with shower. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Significant Further Information I, Vincent Dempsey, hereby give notice of the submission of significant further information in relation to planning application ref no.; 19/614 at Blackberry Stables, Laragh, Maynooth, Co. Kildare for a development consisting of; 1) The erection of a steel clad agricultural shed for horse breeding purposes. The layout of the shed comprises of; stables (x7), loose horse housing area, office, feed / hay room, tool / tack room, 2) The installation of a new effluent holding tank to the rear of the shed, and all associated works. Significant Further Information consists of; revised site layout plan to include the addition of a dung collection area (as per Teagasc specifications) and the addition of a surface water pollutant interceptor tank to the rear of the proposed shed. The significant further information is available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority during public opening hours of the Planning Department. A submission or observation in relation to the further information may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee within 2 weeks (within 5 weeks if the application is accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment report) from receipt of new notices by the Planning Authority (this fee is not applicable to persons who made original observations / submissions).

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Star Primary Care intend to apply for planning permission for the demolition of an existing building on site and re-cladding the shared gable to match the remaining neighbouring building and the construction of a new three storey over basement mixed use development consisting of a basement car park and plant room, pharmacy unit, convenience store unit and retail unit at ground floor, 4no. units of medical consultation suites at first floor and 1 unit of medical consultation suites with ancillary office space at second floor, ancillary car-parking, boundary treatments, new site entrances and ancillary siteworks at the junction of Newbridge Road and South Ring Road, Naas. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

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Murtagh makes winning trip to Dundalk track

Curragh trainer Johnny Murtagh was among the winners at Dundalk on Friday night where Distant Vista took the opening division of the 7f nursery handicap.

Owned by Michael Ryan, the 9/2 shot was never far off the pace and went clear inside the final furlong to win by two and three-parts of a length from the Ado McGuinness-trained Eglis.

Kill trainer Ross O'Sullivan took the rated novice chase at Navan on Sunday with 3/1 chance An Fraoch Mor. Ridden by Robbie Power, the six-year-old eased clear of his rivals from the second last fence to beat the Arthur Moore-trained Brosna George by 11 lengths.

The winning trainer said, "He's a horse we liked a lot and I was very nervous coming here today. He'd a lovely run behind Debuchet for his first run over fences and it was always the plan to come here. I think he's going to be a lovely staying chaser. How high he'll go, I don't know but Katie has ridden him in all his work and she absolutely loves him."

"He loves jumping fences and is 17 hands. He's a real three-mile chaser and has a lovely attitude. There is novice handicap in Naas, a 0-130 if the handicapper there lets me in, that he could go for in the middle of next month."

Mark Walsh was also among the winners on Sunday as he partnered Kinsale trainer Robert Tyner's Fairly Legal to land the 2m4f handicap chase. Backed from 7/2 to 5/2, the nine-year-old had loads in hand as he beat Karl Thornton's Shanroe Al C by four and three-parts of a length.



An Fraoch Mor ridden by Robbie Power jumping the last fence to win The Free Racecourse WIFI at Navan Rated Novice Steeplechase Navan on Sunday. Photo: carolinenorris.ie



Trainer Johnny Murtagh

Triple success for Kildare at annual Horse Racing Ireland Awards

Two racing greats, Pat Smullen and Kill's Ruby Walsh, were honoured with the Irish Racing Hero Award at the Horse Racing Ireland Awards in Dublin last week.

Moonee trainer Jessica Harrington picked up the Flat Award and rounding off a huge night for the county, Naas Racecourse was honoured as the Racecourse of the Year.

The winners in 11 categories were announced at a ceremony which was attended by many of the industry's leading figures.

Guest of honour was Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed TD and those in attendance were welcomed by Chairman of HRI, Nicky Hartery.

Upcoming Fixtures

Dundalk - Friday, December 20 (First Race 5.15)
Thurles - Saturday, December 21 (First Race 12.10)



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SPORT

Mullins has eye on Fairyhouse in the New Year for budding mare Dolcita

Dolcita will follow in the footsteps of the mighty Laurina and bid for the Grade 3 Solerina Mares at Fairyhouse early in the New Year after her success in the mares' maiden hurdle at Tramore on Tuesday.

Willie Mullins' French import scored an 11-length success under Paul Townend on her first start for the stable, easily justifying odds of 8/13 favourite in the colours of Sullivan Bloodstock.

Joseph O'Brien and Mikey Sheehy were the early winners at Dundalk on Friday where the well-backed 13/8 favourite Ozone scored a runaway success in the 12f handicap.

The three-year-old had been running over hurdles and he could hardly have won any easier under Sheehy who was riding his seventh career winner. Castlecomer trainer Pat Murphy won the 8f handicap with Able Jack which was ridden by apprentice Gavin Ryan. Owned by Mark Finnane, the 12/1 chance made light of his outside draw to win by a neck from Dark Magic.

Murphy made it two on the night when May Remain added to an earlier course win in the 6f handicap. Dubliner Gary Halpin was in the saddle on this occasion as



Monkfish, ridden by Paul Townend, winner, at an early stage in The Irish Racing Yearbook Maiden Hurdle at Fairyhouse for Willie Mullins on Saturday. Photo: carolinenorris.ie

the 10/1 chance scored by half a length from Tom McCourt's A Likely Story.

Willie Mullins and Paul Townend were winners again as Monkfish won the 2m7f

maiden hurdle in fine style at Fairyhouse on Saturday. Another odds-on favourite, the 1/2 chance went clear from the second last hurdle to win by 11 lengths from the Joseph O'Brien-trained Time

To Get Up. Joseph O'Brien was also on the mark again as he won the concluding bumper with Castra Vetera. Ridden by Tom Hamilton, the 3/1 shot led inside the final furlong and won by all of

seven lengths from outsider Carrigeen Lotus.

Joseph O'Brien rounded off the week with another bumper winner 5/4 favourite Uhtred impressed in the Listed "Future champions"

INH Flat Race at Navan on Sunday. Hamilton was again in the saddle as the four-year-old eased to a four and a half length victory from the Gordon Elliott-trained Fantasio D'Alene.

Irish Injured Jockeys receive cheque for €7,699

Davy Russell and Johnny Murtagh were on hand to accept a donation of €7,699 on behalf of Irish Injured Jockeys from Tote Ireland and Off The Ball ahead of the busy Christmas racing period.

The money was raised by the weekly charity bet on Off The Ball's Friday Night Racing programme which has been sponsored by Horse Racing Ireland since July 2018.

Speaking at the cheque presentation, Ger Gilroy, Managing Director, Off The Ball, said: "We have great fun with the Tote charity bet every week on Friday Night Racing. I really enjoy chatting to all the jockeys and I'm constantly amazed by their bravery and resilience, so I'm delighted that, through the Tote charity bet, we were able to raise €7,699 for Irish Injured Jockeys to support their excellent work for these amazing athletes. I hope we

can raise even more money next year."

Ross Kierans, General Manager, Tote Ireland, said: "The Tote charity bet is a great way for us to engage with Friday Night Racing's racing fans and help them understand horse racing that little bit better. During our partnership with Off The Ball and Horse Racing Ireland, we've had some big returns for small stakes that has raised a substantial amount of money for Irish Injured Jockeys, an important charity which supports our jockeys while they are out of action."

Michael Higgins, General Manger, Irish Injured Jockeys, commented: "I would like to sincerely thank the Off The Ball team, Tote Ireland and Horse Racing Ireland for their generous donation. Not only has Friday Night Racing showcased the stars of our sport, it has raised vital funds for Irish



Tote and Off The Ball present €7,699 to Irish Injured Jockeys in time for Christmas. Pictured L to R: Johnny Murtagh, Ger Gilroy of OTB, Johnny Ward of OTB, Michael Higgins of IJJ, Davy Russell and Ross Kierans, Tote Ireland.

Injured Jockeys to help us achieve our mission to make a real difference to the lives and welfare of jockeys, past and present and their families by raising funds to provide enhanced help, care and support."

Horse Racing Ireland is the title sponsor of Off The

Ball's 'Friday Night Racing'.

Presented by Ger Gilroy, Friday Night Racing's content is shared across Off The Ball's radio, online and social channels, providing listeners and followers with in-depth, behind the scenes racing action and analysis every week.

Tote Ireland, the Ireland-based pool betting site is licensed by the Irish government as the sole operator of pool betting on Irish horse racing and is also regulated by the UK Gambling Commission. The structure allows players to participate in bets with

others, with the awarded amount determined by the number of winning tickets.

Irish Injured Jockeys was set up in 2014 to increase awareness and raise vital funds to support our injured jockeys. Funds raised go to the injured riders who are in most need of support.

Flynn fires on return as Kildare get the better of Wicklow

O'BYRNE CUP GROUP 1
ROUND 2

KILDARE
WICKLOW

2-14
2-7

ROBERT CRIBBIN
in Aughtim

It arrived a week later than initially expected, but Daniel Flynn's return to the Kildare jersey coincided with a seven point win over Wicklow in the O'Byrne Cup.

Flynn finished with 1-2 and his second half goal sparked a Kildare comeback that saw them run out easy winners in the end.

Wicklow manager Davy Burke was always going to have his team fired up for this one and so he did when they raced into a 0-6 to 0-0 lead and they even had a nine point advantage at one stage of the first half but the gale force wind on show allowed Kildare to fight back.

After dropping a few players from his panel this week Jack O'Connor was

keen to see lads put their hand up for selection and in the likes of Con Kavanagh, Chris Byrne and Liam Healy he got that as Kildare went up a level in performance.

Coming into the contest both had already lost so a win was imperative to stay in the hunt for progression and Kildare still have a chance of doing that when they meet Carlow in the first week of January.

Wicklow had the aid of a very strong breeze in the opening half and they dominated proceedings in the first quarter with Kildare struggling to get out of their own half.

The Garden County wasted no time in getting on the scoreboard when a quick free from Dean Healy found Chris O'Brien and the full forward opened the scoring after only a minute's play.

O'Brien doubled his tally in the next play and by the 15th minute Wicklow were six points clear.

O'Brien with an advanced mark, Mark Jackson with a long range free extended the advantage before Mark Kenny and Zach Cullen had Davy Burke's team cruising.

It wasn't until the 23rd minute that Kildare registered on the scoreboard with great interplay between Daniel Flynn and Chris Byrne resulting in Flynn having a shot stopped on the line before Byrne forced the ball home on his first start in a Kildare jersey.

The goal coincided with Wicklow stopper Mark Jackson going down injured and play was held up for a couple of minutes.

The break gave Wicklow time to get a breather though and two goals in three minutes had them nine points clear.

The first three pointer arrived when a long free from Dean Healy found its way over the Kildare defence and Darren Hayden coolly slotted home.



Kildare captain David Hyland races past the out stretched arm of Wicklow's Dean Healy during the O'Byrne Cup game

Hayden then doubled his tally when a mistake from Aaron O'Neill allowed the wing forward to kick into an empty net.

To their credit Kildare had the deficit back to six points by the interval after Kevin Flynn, Jack Robinson and Daniel Flynn all scored.

The second half was the complete opposite of the first with Kildare piling the pressure onto Wicklow as they rattled off 1-6 without reply and had reeled in the deficit by the 40th minute.

Wicklow needed a steady start to the second period to fight off a Lillywhite rally but within sixty seconds of the restart sub keeper Robert Lambert was taking the ball from his net after his mistake allowed Daniel Flynn to rifle a shot into the top corner.

The elusive Jack Robinson then followed up with two of the next three points with Johnny Byrne also on target as Jack O'Connor's side levelled the game.

Robinson with a free then kicked Kildare in front and

when he added on two more scores to bring his total to six points Kildare led 2-9 to 2-6.

After going scoreless for over thirty four minutes of football a Chris O'Brien free ended the Wicklow drought but they couldn't kick on and after emptying the bench Kildare rather cruised home with points from Daniel Flynn, David Hyland, Neil Flynn, Sam Doran and David O'Neill putting the seal on a convincing win in the end.

KILDARE: Aaron O'Neill; Conor McCarthy, Eoghan Bateman, Liam Healy, Con Kavanagh, David Hyland 0-1, Shea Ryan, Johnny Byrne 0-1, Tommy Moolick, Kevin Flynn 0-1, Paddy Brophy, Chris Byrne 1-0, Jack Robinson 0-6 (0-2fs, 0-1 mark), Daniel Flynn 1-2, Darragh Kirwan.
SUBS USED: Neil Flynn 0-1 for Kirwan 44 mins, David O'Neill 0-1 for McCarthy 46 mins, Robbie Phillips for J.Byrne 47 mins, Keith Cribbin for Ryan 51 mins, Tony Archbold for C.Byrne 55 mins, Jimmy Hyland for Robinson 60 mins, Paschal Connell for Moolick 64 mins, Sam Doran 0-1 for K.Flynn 65 mins, Padraig Nash for Brophy 67 mins, Conor Hartley for Bateman 67 mins.

WICKLOW: Mark Jackson 0-1 (0-1f); Jamie Snell, Wayne Doyle, Eoin Murtagh, Zach Cullen 0-1, Shane Mooney, Conor Healy, David Devereux, Padraig O'Toole, Andy Maher, Dean Healy, Darren Hayden 2-0, Mark Kenny 0-1, Chris O'Brien 0-4 (0-1f, 0-1 mark), Eoin Darcy.
SUBS USED: Robert Lambert for Jackson 25 mins, Ross Davis for Darcy 59 mins, Cian Lee for Kenny 59 mins, JP Hurley for D.Healy 68 mins.

REF: Dan Stynes (Dublin)

Kildare's finances continue to rise as Mick Gorman is announced as Chairman

In an age where bad news is found everywhere the story of Kildare GAA's ever improving finances is one that needs to be publicised.

A surplus of €484,000 was announced for the year 2019 by treasurer Alan Dunney in what caps off an incredible six years in the coffers of Kildare GAA and is an increase of €124,00 from the year previous.

It was only back in 2013 when Kildare needed a loan from Croke Park or a bailout if you will and with that loan almost paid in full the finances are only rising in Lillywhite land.

Of the €484,000 surplus that was made this year €200,000 has gone into the St Conleth's Park development fund that now stands at €650,000 as we await news of the go ahead for the proposed redevelopment.

Alan Dunney has overseen the improvement over the last few years and major credence must go to the Kildare Draw and the Club Kildare Raceday as aspects of the upturn which have both proved to be a big hit.

The streamline of gate receipts in Clane, Hawkfield and St Conleth's Park for championship games has also improved matters while the Senior Football Championship final as there is a development of St Conleth's Park on the way and we have a new senior football manager. "Kildare GAA have plenty of hopes for the future, our senior footballers and hurlers are already



back on the field and we wish all our management teams the best of luck in 2020 and our recent underage success gives us plenty of hope going forward."

Gorman then went on to heap praise on Ger Donnelly, his club St Laurence's and his family.

"I'd like to thank the outgoing chairman Ger Donnelly on his commitment, dedication and hard work over the last five

years. Ger had many difficult situations to deal with but did them in a dignified and professional manner. He's done a fine job as chairman and should be very proud of his record and we should be very grateful to him on his fine contribution.

"On a personal level I want to thank my club St Laurence's who I have been involved with since I was 12 years old and some of my greatest sporting moments happened there for whom I learned much about sport, life and people.

"A special thanks also to my wife Cora and my three sons Matthew, Aaron and Luke. One of my great joys in life is supporting Aaron and Luke on the playing fields."

Prior to Gorman's promotion, Ger Donnelly gave his final speech as the main man and gave his many thanks to his family, fellow county board members, the various Kildare management teams as he brought the curtain down on his five year term as chairman which in his own words he admitted was a huge honour.

Chairperson

Mick Gorman, St. Laurences

Vice-Chairperson

Colm Farrell, Johnstownbridge

Secretary

Dave Cahill, Clane

Treasurer

Alan Dunney, Caragh

PRO

Christine Murray, Moorefield

Coaching Officer

Shane Power, Raheens

Irish Officer

Seamus Meade, Ardclough

Leinster Council Delegates

Mick Mullen, Celbridge
Larry Curtin, Rathangan
Central Council Delegate
Ger Donnelly, Castlemitchell

Leinster Convention

Dave Cahill, Ger Donnelly, Alan Dunney, Colm Farrell, Mick Gorman

Congress

Dave Cahill, Petria Dobbins, Ger Donnelly, Alan Dunney, Mick Gorman

Kildarepost Sport

www.kildarenow.com



Trainer Murtagh makes winning trip to Dundalk
- Page 51

O'Connor to cull large panel after Christmas



Kildare manager Jack O'Connor

ROBERT CRIBBIN
editor@kildarepost.com

Kildare senior football manager Jack O'Connor, who recorded his first win in charge of the Lilywhites last weekend, has indicated he will cut squad numbers after Christmas. Kildare got their 2020 season up and running with a 2-14 to 2-7 victory over Wicklow in the O'Byrne Cup in Aughrim on Saturday afternoon.

Despite the win, O'Connor admitted there is still a lot of

improvement to be made after overseeing a poor first half display where they trailed by nine points at one stage. He commented: "I have to say the first half certainly wasn't pretty and it was tough watching on for at least twenty five minutes and the lads dug a big hole for themselves.

"To be fair to them though they got themselves out of it and in the first five minutes of the second half they kicked 1-4 which got us back and obviously Daniel Flynn's goal

was the instigator there.

"I'm happy with the second half response but obviously there is a lot of work to do. There was nothing much to be said at half-time, we just needed to work harder and pin them in rather than let them come at us because they were quite comfortable when we stood off them in that first half.

"The fellas spoke about tackling in the opening period but they didn't actually do it so we pushed up and increased the pressure.

"There was a strong wind there so we knew they would have difficulty getting out of their own half if we applied more pressure in the second half and that's what happened."

Daniel Flynn's second half goal was the catalyst for a second half turnaround and while the manager gave praise to Flynn he also singled out a couple of other performers as he confirmed that the panel will be reduced after Christmas.

"Daniel Flynn is a big

player for us and the lads get great energy from him because he puts the fear of god into the opposition and we hope it stays that way.

"Jack Robinson really found his feet and the first day as he will admit himself was a bit of a nervy outing for him but that is to be expected as it was his Kildare debut and I'm very happy with him as I was with Con Kavanagh who had a fantastic game in the half back line.

"Conor McCarthy and Darragh Kirwan got their

first starts too and it's important in these competitions to give lads games as the League is so important.

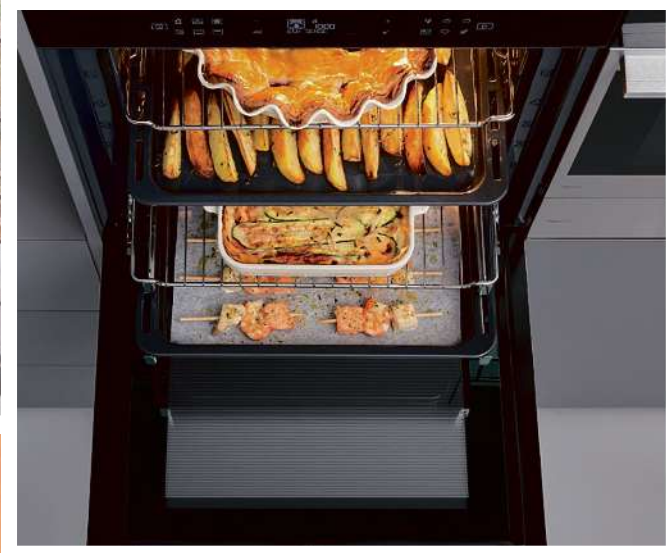
"We are very determined to bring in some new blood into the squad and some of those lads are doing well and we hope they can continue that form after Christmas.

"We are trying to be fair to the lads and giving them as much of a chance as possible so we'll make a cut of the squad after Christmas," O'Connor said.

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