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# Kildarepost

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Thursday, February 6, 2020

www.kildarepost.com

NEWS • ENTERTAINMENT • SPORT

## Kildare decides: All eyes on general election 2020

**SENAN HOGAN**  
editor@kildarepost.com

TDs elected across County Kildare in this weekend's general election will be crucial in the formation of the next government.

Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil are desperately hoping to maximise their Dáil seats in Kildare North and Kildare South constituencies — but there could be significant electoral wins from Sinn Féin, Labour, the Greens or Independents.

A significant showing would make these parties

very attractive Coalition members.

Polling stations open at 7am on Saturday but brace yourselves for the weather — Met Éireann has warned of heavy rain and gusts — and even snow on high ground.

The ballot boxes will be brought under Garda escort to Punchestown Event Centre on Saturday night and sorting and counting will begin on Sunday morning.

**SEE OUR COMPREHENSIVE  
GENERAL ELECTION  
COVERAGE ON PAGES 4&5  
AND 44 TO 48.**



A packed house at a Meet the Candidates event for Kildare South jointly organised by Newbridge Community Development and Kildare Community Action at Newbridge Town Hall on Monday, February 3. MC was broadcaster Shane Beatty. PICTURE: TONY KEANE

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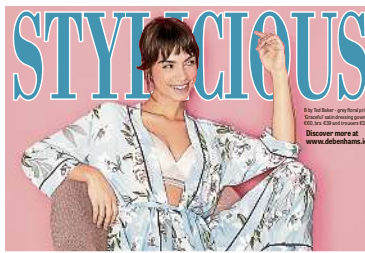
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## Contact us

### EDITORIAL

**Rose Barrett O'Donoghue**  
News Editor / Multimedia Journalist  
editor@kildarepost.com



**Senan Hogan**  
Content Manager  
senanhogan@kildarenow.com



**Louise McCarthy**  
Senior Multimedia Journalist  
lousemccarthy@kildarenow.com



**Aishling Conway**  
Photographer  
photos@kildarepost.com



### COMMERCIAL TEAM

**Anna Fortune**  
Commercial Manager  
086 728 8898  
anna.fortune@kildarepost.com



**Cathryn Kelleher**  
Multimedia Account Manager  
086 7288 778  
cathryn.kelleher@kildarepost.com



**Michael McHugh**  
Multimedia Account Manager  
045 408 200  
michael@kildarepost.com



### GENERAL ENQUIRIES

**Kildare Post**  
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## NEWS

# Strike over pay hits County Kildare secondary schools



Colm Dillon, Maria Keeley, Danny McGarvey, Sarah Greally and Michelle Costigan on strike at Piper's Hill College, Naas. PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY

**PAUL O'MEARA**  
editor@kildarepost.com

About a dozen second level schools across County Kildare closed on Tuesday as a result of industrial action taken by teachers seeking a pay rise.

The staff, all members of the Teacher's Union of Ireland (TUI), said they were taking action against what they regarded as pay discrimination.

Specifically, teachers who

qualified after 2011 are on a lower pay scale than their colleagues. They say this means that they will be paid up to €110,000 less than older qualified teachers, over the course of a career.

"Over a period of ten years ten years we are losing out by €50,000. We are doing the same work, at the same school, with the same students as all the other teachers," said Holly O'Riordan, a home economics teacher at Piper's Hill College (PHC) in Naas.

She added: "We were told that negotiations would take place to resolve this but this hasn't happened."

Another striker, history teacher Gráinne Brennan, said morale has been affected by the pay disparity and added "teachers cannot be recruited because people don't see this as a worthwhile career at this rate of pay".

PHC, with nearly 1,000 students, is the largest school in

County Kildare affected by the 24 hour work stoppage, which ended at midnight on Tuesday, February 4, and which also hit night classes at the affected schools.

Some 23 schools operated by the Kildare and Wicklow Education and Training Board in both counties were directly affected by the strike.

The TUI says the pay campaign will continue, though what form the next phase of industrial action will take has not yet been decided.

## INSIDE

Road safety clampdown  
PAGE 9

€20m development for Brownstown  
PAGE 8

Decision on €70m Naas project due  
PAGE 16

Lots of Out and About  
photographic coverage by  
Aishling Conway and Tony Keane



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

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**TOP LEFT: Entangled: Daragh Conneff as 'Flintlocke' and Kathy Kearns as 'Rapunzel' in Kill Musical and Dramatic Society's panto Entangled.**

PICTURE: TONY KEANE

**TOP RIGHT: Masquerading for charity: Anna Fortune (Commercial manager Kildare Post/ Kildare Now) and her sister, Kate Fortune at the Masquerade Ball in aid of the Irish Injured Jockeys Fund**

PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY

**RIGHT: Sophie's Christening: Father Paul Dempsey with parents Ollie and Sandra McGuinness at their daughter, Sophie's christening at St Conleth's Parish Church, Newbridge. See more photos on page 48.** PICTURE: AISHLING CONWAY



**CRIMEBRIEFS**

**Attack in Newbridge**

Two males, one a juvenile, have been questioned by Newbridge gardai investigating an attack on two men at the local train station.

The incident took place on Friday at around 6.40pm.

The pair were subsequently treated at Tallaght Hospital.

Gardai said a file is now being prepared on the matter for the Director of Public Prosecutions. A Kildare Garda spokeswoman said yesterday that the investigation is ongoing and she thanked members of the public for their assistance with their inquiries. She added: "The investigation is continuing."

**Burglary in Prosperous**

An attempted burglary took place in Anne Street in Prosperous on Tuesday, February 4.

Clane gardai are appealing for information.

**Burglaries in Clane**

An attempted burglary took place in the Abbeylands area of Clane on Tuesday, February 4.

A rear window was forced by the intruder. Clane gardai are investigating.

A burglary took place in the Castlebrown area of Clane on January 29 last. The incident took place between 3.40pm and 6.30pm.

**Burglaries in Celbridge**

Gardai are investigating a burglary in the Castletown Drive residential area of Celbridge on Monday. The incident

took place between 3.30pm and 4pm. Gardai are investigating a burglary which took place in the Crodaun Forest Park area of Celbridge on January 31.

A back door was forced at around 6pm.

**Beauty salon targeted in Naas**

A beauty salon has been burgled in Naas.

The incident happened at Friary Road between 4pm on January 28 and 9.30am on January 29.

According to gardai a sum of cash was robbed from the premises after the front door was forced open.

**Golf clubs taken from car**

A set of golf clubs were stolen from a car in Naas.

The clubs, worth €900, were in a blue-coloured Audi A4 vehicle parked at Rathasker Heights in the town.

Gardai believe the incident took place between 2am and 11am on January 25.

There was no sign of damage to the vehicle.

**Window jemmied at Sallins home**

Naas gardai are investigating a burglary at a residence in Sallins.

The incident happened at around 2.45pm on January 25.

The occupant was upstairs at an address in Sallins Pier when he heard a noise.

He discovered that a window frame had been jemmied, but nothing was stolen.

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# Crisis in higher education is debated at MU

**HENRY BAURESS**  
editor@kildarepost.com

General election candidates from Kildare North and Meath East debated the future funding of higher education at a town hall meeting hosted, on February 4, by Maynooth University and Maynooth Students' Union.

Niamh Connolly, Media Relations Officer, Maynooth University (MU), said candidates debated the crisis in third level funding and responded to audience questions across a range of policy issues, including how their parties would address a 40% drop in state funding per student over the past decade.

She said five candidates accepted an invitation to participate: Fine Gael Deputy Bernard Durkan (Kildare North), Fianna Fáil Deputy James Lawless (Kildare North), Green Party Cllr Vincent P Martin (Kildare North), Green Party candidate Sean McCabe (Meath East) and People Before Profit candidate Paul Mahon (Kildare

North).

Welcoming the candidates to campus, Professor Philip Nolan, President, MU, said the Irish third level education system, which has been the driver of this nation's economic success and resilience for decades, "has reached a crisis point."

Prof Nolan said student enrolment across the university grew by 21,000 students between 2008 and 2018. "Here at Maynooth University, we accounted for 22% of that growth."

He said funding shortfall is now at a critical juncture. There is a real risk that the quality of our higher education system, already showing signs of strain as represented by a fall in international rankings, will be seriously damaged. If we allow that to happen, it could take years, even decades, to recover the lost ground."

The university and students union argue that to make up the funding shortfall, the representative bodies are proposing a two-part solution for the next



General election candidates Deputy Bernard Durkan (FG) and Cllr Vincent P Martin (GreenParty) were among the candidates who participated in a debate at Maynooth University jointly hosted by Maynooth University and MU Students' Union on Tuesday, 4 February last. PICTURE: KEITH ARKINS PHOTOGRAPHY

three years until a longer-term funding model is agreed by the political system.

Part one involves a commitment from the next government to increase core exchequer funding to third-level by at least €100 million per year over each of the next three years.

Part two recommends using at least an additional €200m per year from the National Training Fund (NTF). The National Training Fund (NTF) is funded through a levy on employer revenues. That levy has been increased in recent years and will have a surplus of €1 billion by the end of 2020, growing to €1.5 billion

by 2022.

Commenting on the situation, Professor Philip Nolan, President of Maynooth University, said: "If we delay the implementation of the Cassells Report further, there is a real risk that the quality of our higher education system, already showing signs of strain.

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# Big attendance in Newbridge to hear election candidates

There was a large turnout at Newbridge Town Hall on Monday last when all the candidates contesting the South Kildare constituency were present, apart from Sinn Féin's Patricia Ryan who was out of the country.

The big issues discussed on the night were: housing, health, childcare, crime, climate action, transport and of course, the working conditions for members of the Defence Forces and their families. MC was Shane Beatty of Newstalk who introduced each candidate who then was given a minute on the podium to express their priorities, policies, etc. The order of sequence was previously chosen by lot.

In order, Cllr Fiona

McLoughlin Healy (Ind) was followed by Deputy Fiona O'Loughlin (FF) with her FF running mate, Cllr Suzanne Doyle up next. Linda Hayden (Social Democrats), Dr Cathal Berry (Ind) and Anita Mhic Gib of Aontú spoke next before Green Party candidate, Ronan Maher took the microphone.

Deputy Martin Heydon (FG) was followed by Cllr Mark Wall (Lab) with Roisin Ui Bhroin (People Before Profit) being the final candidate to address the audience.

The poor working conditions and wage structures for members of the Defence Forces was later debated as the 'white elephant in the room'.



Kildare South candidates, Fiona McLoughlin-Healy, Independent; Fiona O'Loughlin Fianna Fáil; Suzanne Doyle, Fianna Fáil; Linda Hayden, Social Democrats; Anita Mhic Gib, Aontú; Roisin Ui Bhroin, People Before Profit. PICTURES: TONY KEANE



Kildare South candidates, Cathal Berry Ind; Ronan Maher, Green Party.



ABOVE: Kildare South candidates, Martin Headon, Fine Gael and Mark Wall, Labour. LEFT: Evonne Boland and Orla O'Neill of the organising committee with MC for the evening, Kildare resident Shane Beatty of Newstalk at 'Election 2020, Meet the Candidates for South Kildare Event', jointly organised by Newbridge Community Development and Kilcullen Community Action, Newbridge Town Hall on Monday, 3 Feb PICTURES: TONY KEANE



**Cllr Mark Wall**  
Laois/Offaly  
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My name is Mark Wall and I am seeking your number 1 vote in this general election. I have been a County Councillor in South Kildare for the past 10 years. On a daily basis I assist people who are experiencing personal and family difficulties as well as dealing with community concerns. This election is about choices. Making the choice to assist and protect working families. We must take care of those that have retired from work or cannot work and find real opportunities for those that want to work.



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## NEWS

# Kildare braces itself for Storm Ciara

**SENAN HOGAN**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Met Éireann has warned Storm Ciara will bring extreme weather as it tracks across parts of Ireland this weekend.

The national forecaster predicted strong to near gale force winds and heavy rain on Sunday.

It's yet unclear the impact Ciara will have on Kildare and other Leinster counties.

Ciara is the third locally-named storm of the winter season, following Storm Brendan in January and Storm Atiyah in December.

The UK Met Office has already issued a Yellow Weather Warning for Northern Ireland from 6pm next Saturday to midnight on Sunday.

It warns of the potential for travel disruption and coastal areas may be affected by large waves.

Its forecast says gusts between 80-100km/h (50-60mph) are likely across inland areas.

They could reach speeds of 115km/h (70mph) and possibly 130km/h (80mph) in exposed hills and coasts.

Met Éireann said: "After a mostly dry start on Saturday morning, heavy rain and strong winds will move eastwards over the country bringing a risk of very strong squally winds for a time in the afternoon.

"The rain will clear to showers in the evening. Cold and largely dry for overnight with frost in places. Another spell of rain and strengthening south to southwest winds overnight will be in western areas later in the night.

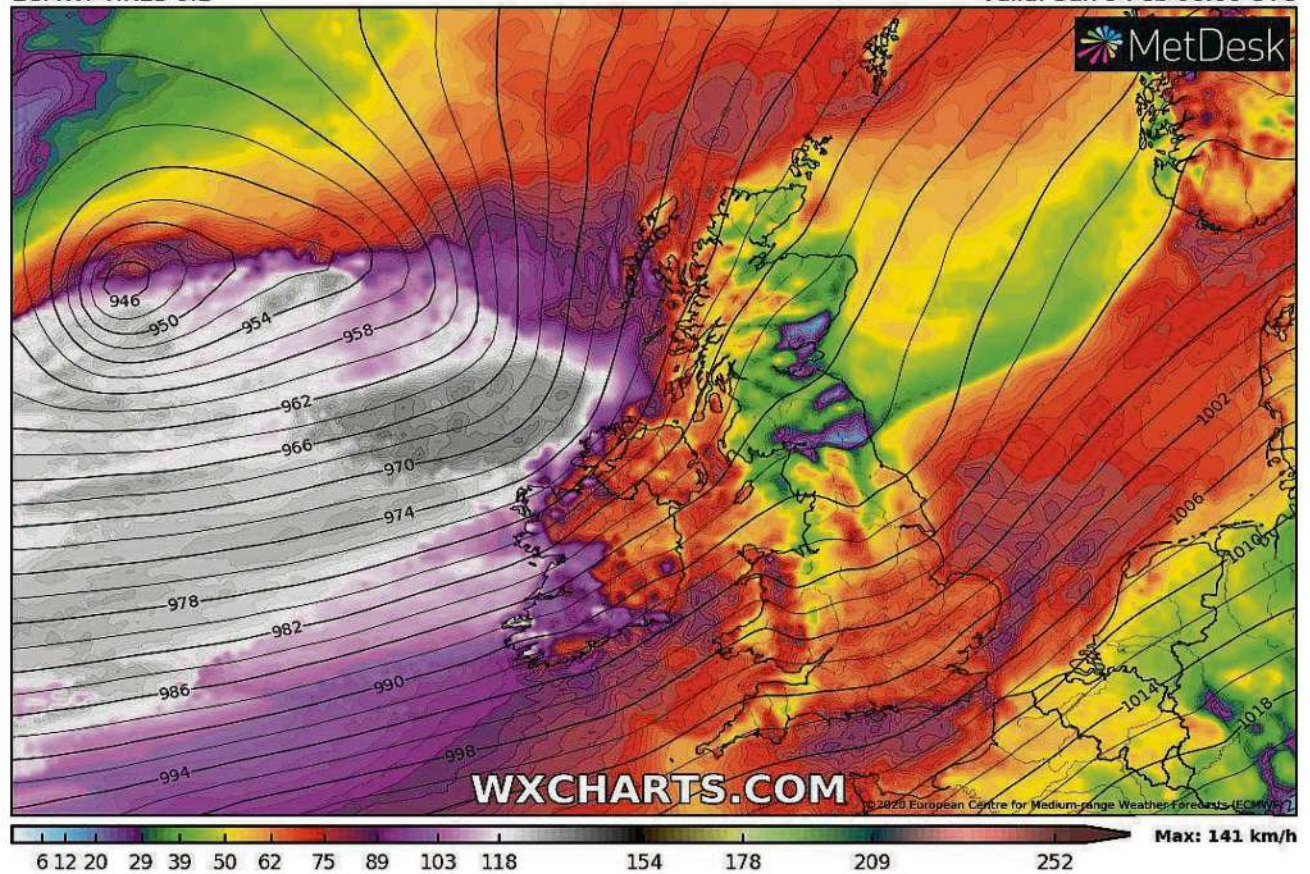
"Current indications suggest a very strong and squally southwest wind will develop on Sunday along with heavy rain as Storm Ciara moves eastwards to the north of the country.

"The rain will clear to showers and squally westerly winds later in the day," Met Éireann has said.

"The unsettled weather with strong winds and potentially stormy conditions along with high seas currently look set to continue into the early days of next week, with cold weather prevailing.

There will be spells of heavy rain or showers turning wintry at times."

**Peak Wind Gust (km/h)**  
ECMWF HRES 0.1°



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Weather charts indicate that Storm Ciara will bring extreme weather conditions to Ireland in coming days

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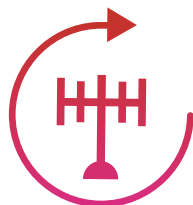
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# Dubai Duty Free extends Derby sponsorship

The Curragh Racecourse has announced that Dubai Duty Free have extended their sponsorship of the Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby for a further two years. In addition, they have agreed to sponsor five additional races which will all benefit from significant increases in prize money.

The world's leading airport retailer has been the title sponsor of Ireland's premier Classic since 2008 and this extension is a very welcome development for racing.

The three-day Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Festival returns to a weekend time slot on June 26, 27 and 28 and will showcase world-class racing and entertainment. In a new development this year, The Dubai Duty Free Village located in the new Curragh garden, over the three-day Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Festival, will provide a new entertainment venue close to the parade ring, offering an array of food and beverage outlets and a full programme of entertainment. Dubai Duty Free will also continue

to sponsor the very popular most stylish racegoer competition with a 5-star Dubai holiday awarded to the winner.

Total prize money on Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby Day on Saturday June 27 is increased from €2m in 2019 to €2.25m for 2020. In 2021 all races will increase to a minimum value of €100,000.

Dubai Duty Free will also continue to support the Irish Derby "Free Entry" initiative which is an incentive for owners to run their horses in the Curragh Classic. In addition to the existing races, the Dee Stakes and the Chester Vase at Chester Racecourse and the Prix De Lys in Longchamp have been added for this year.

Dubai Duty Free have also increased their support of stable staff, continuing to present a trophy to the groom whose horse wins a Dubai Duty Free sponsored race together with a cash prize for the best turned out horse in each of their races.

Colm McLoughlin, Executive Vice Chairman and CEO of Dubai



The Curragh crowd cheers on Sovereign and Pdraig Beggy after winning the 2019 Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby. Picture: Patrick McCann/Racing Post

Duty Free, said: "The Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby is a premium race meeting, generating global media coverage. Our title sponsorship of the Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby is in line with our global strategy of promoting both our own duty free brand and the city of Dubai itself. This sponsorship enables us to reach our potential audience and to speak to them through the medium of exciting, premium sport.

"We have successfully sponsored the Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby for the past twelve years and we are happy to renew our sponsorship for another two years including this year, 2020 and 2021. We are very pleased that we have

been able to grow this festival, with the help of our partners at the Curragh. The weekend is now much more than racing with various ancillary events happening off the track over the weekend including a golf classic, a charity lunch and lots of local community initiatives which we are proud to support. It has grown to become a 'must visit' festival and we are proud to be the title sponsor of this prestigious racing festival."

Pat Keogh, the Curragh Racecourse Chief Executive, commented: "Dubai Duty Free have been outstanding partners of the Curragh and I would like to acknowledge the significant

contribution that Colm McLoughlin and his team have made to the success of the Irish Derby since 2008. Their increased support across their six sponsored races for the next two years will ensure we can maximise the quality and competitiveness across all races.

"The 2017 Dubai Duty Free Irish Derby was the highest rated race in the World and our objective is to ensure we attract the very best three-year-old horses in Europe. The extension of the 'Free Entry' is a great initiative and will encourage owners and trainers to be part of Ireland's greatest and most valuable horse race."

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# Projects worth over €20m coming to Brownstown



ABOVE and BELOW RIGHT: New developments will inject cash into the local economy of Brownstown in coming months

Three separate developments with a value of over €20m have been earmarked for Brownstown village on the edge of the Curragh.

A new residential estate of 46 homes as well as the building of a car dealership showroom will inject money into the local economy in coming months.

The latest investment ventures come a few months after a €10.5m solar farm was granted permission for a site on the edge of Brownstown.

This week, Bella Enterprises Limited has been granted

permission for the construction of a new vehicle showroom in Brownstown village.

The company, which trades as Dunlea's of Kilcullen and is a Kia dealer, wants the development to include an entrance lobby, a display area and offices.

The designs include workshop/service areas all at ground floor level.

The plans feature totem signs and general signage.

There will be on-site parking for display of vehicles and secure vehicle compound storage areas.

The estimated construction cost of the project is estimated at €4.7m. Kildare County Council granted planning permission in late January.

Meanwhile, work began in January for an extension to the Brownstown Manor residential area near the Curragh.

A total of 46 homes will be built comprising mostly of 31 three-bedroom, two-storey units.

Other dwelling types include four-bedroom, two-bedrooms and one-bedroom homes.

The total estimated value of the construction project is €5,457,969.

The development will take about two years to be completed, according to the developers.

The total site is comprised of 1.87 hectares.

The developers are Glan Developments Ltd which were established over 40 years ago and are based in Ballymount, Dublin 12.

And in September, Kildare County Council granted permission for a €10m solar farm at the former KTK landfill near Kilcullen.

Starrus LFG Ltd, which is based in Dublin, are

building a solar farm at the restored landfill in the townlands of Brownstown and Carnalaway with an export capacity of three megawatts.

The development will consist of photovoltaic panels on ground mounted frames, a connection to an existing single-storey ESB sub-station building, and the installation of three transformers as well as ducting and underground electrical cabling.

The plans had been revised by further information consisting of a construction management plan detailing the building techniques.

The council had expressed reservations about the possible impact the development would have in relation to landfill gas emissions but the developers provided data to allay these concerns.



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NEWS

# More garda checkpoints and patrols in Kildare during February

**SENAN HOGAN**  
 editor@kildarepost.com

Kildare gardaí have begun a county-wide campaign to promote road safety during February.

Officers have vowed to mount more high-visibility checkpoints and patrols with the aim of strictly enforcing road traffic laws.

Gardaí will be issuing fines for offences such as using mobile phones, not wearing seat belts, speeding, driving while intoxicated and dangerous driving.

Additional speed checks will be conducted with new speed detection devices — the TruCAMII and the TruSpeed SXB.

Superintendent Eddie

Golden of the Roads Policing Unit said: “I welcome the provision of the new speed detection equipment and remind all drivers that the speed limits around the country are the maximum permissible limit not necessarily the safest due to changing road weather and traffic conditions.

“The new equipment enhances our ability to conduct speed enforcement checks over a 24-hour period.”

Last year saw a 4% increase in road traffic fatalities with 148 deaths on the road, up seven on the same period in 2018.

Supt Golden said driver distraction creates a real risk to drivers and vulnerable

road users yet it is clearly visible to all of us that a significant proportion of drivers still use their mobile phone while driving.

He continued: “A survey conducted by the Road Safety Authority has also found that those using a mobile phone while driving were more likely to be non-compliant in other areas such as speeding, drink driving, insurance and motor tax.

“During the month of action Gardai will be proactive in issuing fixed penalty notices for these offences.

“Members of the public are reminded that this offence carries three penalty points and a €60 fine.”

On the issue of seatbelts,



Supt Eddie Golden of the Roads Policing Unit demonstrating a new speed detection device


Supt Golden appealed to drivers to ensure passengers are wearing a seatbelt

particularly those in the rear and especially children. He added: “Many tragic

accidents could be avoided if drivers and passengers were wearing seatbelts.”

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# Parents 'afraid to die', carers meeting hears

**PAULA CAMPBELL**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Kildare primary caregivers of adult children with intellectual disabilities — some of whom are 70 and over and are still the primary carer of their adult children — stated at a recent crisis meeting that they are “afraid to die” and leave their adult children without access to proper long term care.

The meeting was held recently at Moore Abbey in Monasterevin with parents of adults of intellectual disabilities to launch a campaign about lack of funding.

An ambitious campaign was launched by parents, some of whom are elderly and afraid to die and leave their adult children, alongside staff of the Muiriosa Foundation, to secure €211m per year over the life of the next government. They want so people with intellectual disabilities to have “access to basic support”.

The Muiriosa Foundation provides support services to over 1,200 people with an intellectual disability and their families in South Kildare and the midlands. Chairman Sean Abbott explained: “Across age groups there are people with



**Sheila O'Neill, Kildare Regional Director, Siobhan Bryan, CEO, and Amanda Murphy, East Midlands Regional Director, Muiriosa Foundation**

intellectual disabilities who are not currently able to access basic supports. Adults who have an intellectual disability and need to move out of the family home have no system to access residential supports – with only a small number of emergencies being funded this year.”

And the meeting heard that close to 400 of whom are over 80 years old, with no visibility of a residential support for their loved one in sight. Meanwhile, disability services were informed earlier this month of an additional €20 million cut to their already underfunded budgets.

# Women's shelter asks candidates for their support

**PAULA CAMPBELL**  
editor@kildarepost.ie

Kildare's only emergency support shelter for woman and children fleeing domestic violence, Teach Tearmainn, has called on candidates and politicians to pay significant attention to the crisis of violence against women in Kildare during General Election 2020.

Launching this week #NoMore Excuses2020, a National Manifesto for a Safe Ireland for All, Lorraine Rowan, manager of Teach Tearmainn, said that it was difficult to understand how such an enormous issue, affecting so many women and children, could continue to be sidelined from political conversation.

“In their lifetime, at least one in three women in Ireland will experience abuse by a male partner,” she said.

“Domestic homicides have outpaced gangland murders by almost two to one in the last three years.”



**More funding and support is called for at the shelter**

In Kildare in 2019, Teach Tearmainn provided support to 304 women and 62 children who were experiencing domestic violence and abuse.

Teach Tearmainn accommodated 28 women and 43 children in Teach Tearmainn's refuge. Due to a lack of refuge spaces, Teach Tearmainn were unable to accommodate 113 women and 138 children who requested refuge.

The manifesto also calls for increased funding, capacity and training for the creaking and overloaded services, like Teach Tearmainn that respond to women first.

It also highlights the link between homelessness and domestic violence.

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## NEWS

# Kildare dancer Brian Dowling remembers late mum

**KIM O'LEARY**  
 editor@kildarepost.com

It was a weekend full of nostalgia for the celebrities on Dancing with the Stars Ireland, as with Kildare natives Brian Dowling and Sinead O'Carroll reflected on their most memorable year.

Brian said that his family have been hugely supportive of him being on the show. Dowling family and friends, plus members of the public, will gather in Rathangan on February 23 for the annual 'Run for Rosie' event meeting at 12 o'clock at the community centre. The race is in honour of Brian's mum Rosie, who sadly passed away from Sudden Arrhythmic Death Syndrome (SADS) on

February 21, 2018. "The race will include a 3k, 5k and 10k and a buggy run for a worthy cause for the Family Screening Centre at the Mater Foundation, last year we raised almost €30,000," he said.

Newbridge native and former B\*Witched singer Sinéad O'Carroll got the ball rolling as she and her professional dance partner Ryan McShane brought viewers back to 1998, as they danced an energetic cha-cha to Sinéad's debut single with B\*Witched, C'est la Vie.

The catchy tune went straight in at number one in the UK and Irish charts in 1998, and it went down a storm with the audience on Sunday night. Speaking after

the performance Sinéad said: "It was really weird" dancing to her own hit.

Yet disappointed judge Lorraine Barry said: "It wasn't enough for me." Julian Benson was more favourable, rounding off his remarks with "Well done Sinéad and Ryan". The pair scored 19 points from the judges.

#### FAMILY TRIBUTES

For Brian Dowling and his partner Laura Nolan, Sunday night was all about family as he paid tribute to his beloved mother.

"In 2018 I lost my mam and she was my best friend, she was so supportive to me in every way. I wasn't in the country when she passed away but my dad and my six

sisters were amazing at home until I could get there, they were so strong," explained Brian.

He and dance partner Laura Nolan danced an upbeat cha-cha-cha to We Are Family by Sister Sledge showcased Brian's strong bond with his six younger sisters as they popped up in a booth on the dancefloor.

After they finished the emotional performance Brian said: "That was for my mam, and if she was here she'd be in her element."

Judge Brian Redmond said that Brian and Laura's routine was "very entertaining but needs to work on the technique." Lorraine Barry said the routine had "all the fun and Cuban action" of the cha-cha-cha.

"You've made a new memory with your sisters," she told Brian, while Julian Benson praised them for a 'razzle-dazzle cha-cha'. Brian and Laura scored a solid 17 points from the judges.

Due to RTÉ's Election 2020 coverage, next weekend's exciting switch-up week on Dancing with the Stars will be aired on Saturday night at 6.35 pm on RTÉ One.



Rathangan man Brian Dowling paid tribute to his beloved late mum Rosie on last weekend's Dancing With The Stars

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## John O'Neill Memorial Cup in Blessington



Billy and Richie's teams who competed last year in the John O'Neill Memorial Cup

The family of the late John O'Neill will host a fifth soccer game, the John O'Neill Memorial Cup, on Saturday week, February 15. The event will be hosted at the astro turf pitch in Blessington GAA Grounds, commencing at 2pm.

As always, brothers Billy and Richie O'Neill will captain a team each with Christy Browne and Billy Loughlin 'mentoring' the two teams.

The late John died tragically in February 2015; an ace soccer and GAA footballer, his parents Mary

and Pat decided on an annual soccer contest to be held, and one to be played in John's own 'competitive nature with a bit of devilment'!

To date, the family have raised over €17,655 in aid of Pieta House.

"Again, we will be supporting Pieta House this year" said Mary O'Neill.

"This is the fifth year of the match; and it's two wins apiece to date for Billy and Richie so all to play for!"

Mary added that presentations will be made in Paddy Murphy's on Saturday evening, February 15, after

his anniversary mass in the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Ballymore Eustace at 7pm.

"As always, his many friends and sporting colleagues are welcome to the game and the presentations that evening. It's a fitting way to remember John," she said. "Music is by George Washington and we can mourn and celebrate John at the same time".

The John O'Neill Memorial Cup at 2pm on Saturday, 15 February at the astro turf pitch, Blessington GAA grounds.

**Cllr. Suzanne Doyle**

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NEWS

# Quick thinking friend and pharmacist to the rescue!

**KILDARE NOW REPORTER**

editor@kildarepost.com

Blessington resident Keith Downey, developed a severe allergic reaction while eating in a local restaurant last Saturday.

He went into a complete state of shock and was having trouble breathing.

Luckily a family member, Dean Siney, realised the severity of the situation and immediately phoned an ambulance. Keith had had an allergic reaction before and had been told if it happened again, he would need an EpiPen shot but didn't have one with him that evening.

Dean also rang local pharmacist, Kilian McGreal, from McGreals Pharmacy who advised him to bring Keith straight to McGreals Blessington and to tell the ambulance to meet them there. Kilian assessed the situation and determined that an EpiPen had to be administered immediately as they didn't have time to wait for the ambulance. Keith has since made a full

recovery.

Dean thanked McGreals Pharmacy Blessington and Kilian McGreal in particular for his help and support in a very serious situation.

"I've no doubt his actions saved a life," he said.

"When we got to the pharmacy, Kilian treated him with the necessary emergency medication (EpiPen) luckily just in time as his breathing was getting very bad. As I've said I've no doubt what he did saved a life and I couldn't thank him enough.

"I'm also just sharing this situation for those who have allergens, just be super cautious and make sure you have the right medication on hand at all times as the consequences can be fatal."

Kilian McGreal from McGreals Pharmacy said, "I am really pleased Keith has made a full recovery. We encourage first aid training and also want to highlight the importance of carrying medication you may require in the case of emergency."



Keith Downey with Kilian McGreal



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NEWS

# Decision due soon on €70m housing project for Naas

**SENAN HOGAN AND PAUL O'MEARA**  
 editor@kildarepost.com

A decision is due in coming days on a massive development of 314 residential homes on a site of over eight hectares in Naas.

The planning application by Cairn Homes Properties Ltd is a Strategic Housing Development which will be decided upon by An Bord Pleanála on February 13.

The construction value of the project earmarked for the Jigginstown area is over €70m and is one of the biggest single developments in the county.

Also being proposed at the site at Jigginstown, Naas West is a crèche and a retail unit.

The planned properties are a mix of two-bedroom, three-bedroom and four-bedroom houses and one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom

apartments.

The designs include open space of 1.32 hectares including playground areas.

Cycle paths and a pedestrian bridge over Yeomanstown Stream are planned.

Cairn Homes Properties Limited, which was set up in November, 2014, is based in Dublin 2.

Meanwhile, two new school wardens are being appointed to County Kildare schools.

They are at St Anne's National School in Ardclough and another to serve Maynooth Educate Together School and Scoi Uí Fiach Maynooth.

According to Kildare County Council the wardens have been recommended by the council's road safety officer.

They join 26 other wardens at schools throughout County Kildare.

Separately, the practice of switching off lights at motorway junctions across County Kildare came under fire at a recent Kildare County Council meeting.

Cllr Bernard Caldwell told the meeting that the council should write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland, which maintains the motorway system and national routes, "as the current policy is a cause for concern."

He said the junctions are dangerous and accidents have taken place in these areas

He was supported by Cllr Ide Cussen, who said that turning off lights is "providing a very dark area for criminals."

The provision of lighting is a health and safety issue said Cllr Patricia Ryan.



The planning application by Cairn Homes Properties Ltd is a Strategic Housing Development which will be decided upon by An Bord Pleanála on February 13



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**COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL DARA**  
Kildare County Council

**Expressions of Interest for designated 'Cycle Cafes' at local business**

Kildare County Council is seeking to engage with local businesses who are interested in being considered as a designated host for a 'Cycle Café' on their premises. A cycle café would best suit local amenity shops or service stations in towns and villages. It is proposed to designate five Cycle Café's this year initially, as part of Bike Week 2020.



The purpose of a 'Cycle Café' is to promote cycling and provide cyclists and cycling groups with a 'pit stop' to allow them a refreshment or toilet break along their route, the use of a bicycle repair unit if required and to take advantage of local attractions, amenities and tourism.


Each Cycle Café will be managed and maintained by the individual business owner solely. Kildare County Council will have no liability in any activity or incident, if occurred. Kildare County Council will identify and promote the local amenity shop/service station as a 'Designated Cycle Café' along a proposed new map of cycling routes for County Kildare. The council may assist with the installation of a bicycle repair unit and a bicycle parking station to successful applicants.

Further details and an expressions of interest form is available on the council's website <http://kildare.ie/CountyCouncil/RoadsandTransportation/RoadSafetyCyclingandSustainableTransport/Cycling/DesignatedCycleCafes/>

Closing date for submissions is Friday, 28 February 2020.

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### Important new rules about the sale, supply and advertising of pets and animals

New regulations have come into force as of February 1, which will hopefully help control the sale, supply and advertising of pet animals. Anyone who sells or supplies more than six pet animals in a calendar year must now be registered with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and obtain a Registration Number. Their premises must also be registered.

When a pet is advertised, the new registration number or the Charity Number, if it is being advertised by a charity such as the KWWSPCA, and in the case of dogs, its microchip number must be included. There are other regulations such as the minimum age at which an animal can be sold. It is hoped that this might help restrict some of the illegal and cruel practices with regard to the breeding and sale of dogs and cats and other small pets. As

you can see in our information about Shay, our Charity Number and his microchip number are now included.

**MONSTER BOOK SALE**

Date for your diary. Monster Book Sale in aid of the KWWSPCA Shelter Fund will be held on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 February from 11am-5pm in the Town Hall/Heritage Centre in Kilcullen. Many books of all kinds and DVDs will be on sale at very reasonable prices including a large number of children's books.

**CAT OF THE WEEK - PARROT**

(Our last Cat of the Week, Tomika, has found a lovely new home.) We have featured Parrot before but she is still looking for a home. She is a very pretty kitten who is about four and a half months old. She is very playful and loves to be cuddled and petted. She is living in a foster home near Athy if you would

like to meet her. She has been fully vaccinated and treated for worms and fleas and will be neutered when she is old enough. There is an €80 adoption fee when a kitten is adopted to help cover the cost of its veterinary treatment. Call Shauna on 086 175 1841 for more information about this delightful kitten.

**DOG OF THE WEEK - SHAY**

(Our last Dog of the Week, Meggie, has gone off to a good home in County Donegal, happy days ahead for Meggie!)

We have featured Shay before but he still has not found his forever home. Shay is a two-year-old male collie cross who is living at the KWWSPCA Animal Shelter near Athgarvan.

Shay is quite unhappy at the moment and is somewhat depressed because he had been adopted and was then returned to us. He is



The KWWSPCA will host its book sale on Friday 14 and Saturday 15 February next, from 11am - 5pm in the Town Hall/Heritage Centre, Kilcullen

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affectionate, loves to play with a ball and loves cuddles in our kitchen. He walks very well on the lead and loves his walks.

But he does not like other dogs very much and he would not suit a home where there are cats. We think a home in the countryside would be most suitable and we also feel that Shay would benefit from a home where he has something to occupy his mind such as 'work' or some sort of agility training. He would not do well if left on his own for long periods of time. He is house trained.

Shay is neutered, microchipped,

(972274000301121) and vaccinated and you can meet him at our Shelter, Monday to Saturday, 1 - 3pm.

We ask for a minimum €150 donation to partly offset our veterinary expenses, a dog licence and collar tag are required to complete the adoption and a secure garden is a must.

A home visit applies. Please contact 0871279835 or email [kwwspca@gmail.com](mailto:kwwspca@gmail.com) for more information (registered charity number CHY 6280).

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 sorts; 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.

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Cat of the Week, playful Parrot





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**NEWS**



**LEFT:** Winning team Section A, Scoil na Naomh Uilig, Newbridge, Ivy Li, Rian Lally, Christopher Dooley and Jim Ferron, at the Life Credit Union School Quiz 2020, at Toughers, Naas, Friday, January 31



**RIGHT:** Oisín Bonner and Diarmuid Nolan

**LIFE CREDIT UNION SCHOOL QUIZ 2020 AT TOUGHERS OF NAAS, FRIDAY, JANUARY 31**

**Pictures:** TONY KEANE



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**St. Mary's NS, Maynooth, team, Kirill Korostelev, Paul Hourigan, Liam McDonald, Michael Kelleher, 3rd place, U-13s section**

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NEWS

# Kildare boxers Katelynn Phelan and Eric Donovan impress at Celtic Clash

**KIM O'LEARY**  
 editor@kildarepost.com

It was a triumphant weekend for both Athy boxer Eric Donovan and Kildare town native Katelynn Phelan as they won their respective fights at the Celtic Clash in Belfast on Saturday last.

Irish featherweight champion and Athy native Eric 'Lilywhite Lightning' Donovan gave a flawless display against Josefat Reyes at The Devenish Complex in Belfast on Saturday, February 1.

Donovan was originally to face off against Spaniard Cristian Montilla who was forced to pull out of the bout prior to the fight.

Donovan, 34, was paired against Mexican Reyes and he stopped his opponent in round seven, taking his record to 12-0 (7KOs). Reyes, who had not been stopped in any of his previous 20 fights could no longer withstand the Donovan onslaught and the referee called a halt in



**Eric Donovan in action**

what was the penultimate round, with Donovan emerging victorious.

The five-time Irish amateur champion and European bronze medallist now has his eyes on a major professional belt.

It was also a successful outing to the Devenish for Kildare town woman

Katelynn Phelan, 19.

She greatly impressed in her lightweight division bout against Bulgaria's Borislava Goranova, winning all four rounds in a decision.

The light-welterweight from Kildare town is Ireland's youngest female professional fighter.

Katelynn comes from a

highly respected family of boxers and she is a graduate of St Brigid's Boxing Club in Kildare town. Daughter of Martina and Paddy, she is the youngest of four children and her brother Allan Phelan is a current featherweight pro, while her brother Darren also an accomplished boxer. Her sister Lisa-Marie is a qualified dietician who advises her on what to eat while her father Paddy trains her.

Katelynn made her first professional bout in March 2019 where she defeated Olympian Monika Antonik at the Clash of the Titans event in the National Stadium in Dublin live on TG4. Katelynn also won her second professional bout against Galina Gyumliyska in the Neptune Sports Arena in Cork back in July.

Katelynn's proud dad and trainer Paddy Phelan said: "It was a massive win for Katelynn on Saturday against 41-year-old Borislava Goranova, who has many

years of experience. Katelynn is absolutely over the moon, I couldn't believe the difference in her from her last fight at the Neptune in Cork. She trains six days a week, she works very hard."

Naas boxer Gary Cully was

crowned the new Irish lightweight professional champion after stopping Joe Fitzpatrick in under two minutes in the first round in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, last Saturday night. This brings his pro career wins up to 12.



**Katelynn Phelan**

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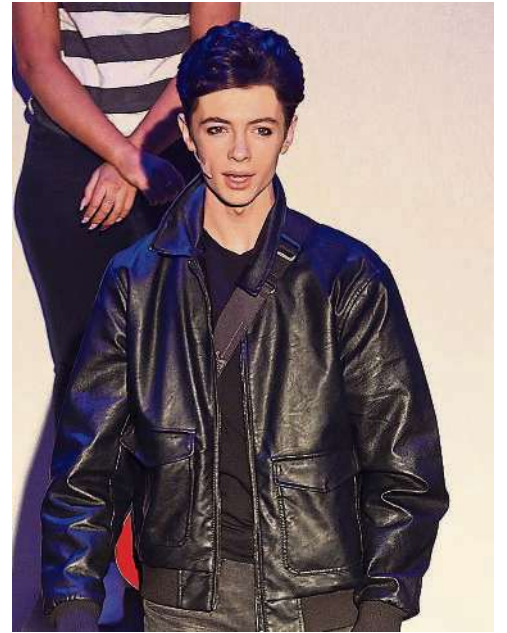




The cast of All Shook Up



Victor O'Brien and Aaron Doyle



Leon Sweeney

# NAAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE STAGES ALL SHOOK UP! AT THE MOAT THEATRE, NAAS

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



LEFT: Leon Sweeney, Kevin Reilly and Sean Joyce



RIGHT: Leon Sweeney



Charlotte Buchanan, Keelyn Fox, Esme Robinson and James Dunne Kelly

## MOVIE OF THE WEEK

# Dolittle

**DIRECTOR:**  
Stephen Gaghan

**STARRING:**  
Robert Downey Jr, Emma Thompson, Selena Gomez

**GENRE:**  
Fantasy, Action

**RUN TIME:**  
100 minutes

**RELEASE DATE:**  
February 7

Dr. John Dolittle lives in solitude behind the high walls of his lush manor in 19th-century England. His only companionship comes from an array of exotic animals that he speaks to on a daily basis. But when young Queen Victoria becomes gravely ill, the eccentric doctor and his furry friends embark on an epic adventure to a mythical island to find the cure.





LIFESTYLE



Tony Victory as the 'Courtier', Brian McCabe as 'The King', Joey Smith as 'Willie Wonkey', and Damien Donegan, as 'The Prime Minister, Kill Musical and Dramatic Society's panto Entangled on Tuesday, January 28



Cast members, Rachel Brennan, Lucy and Ciaran O'Shea, Ciara Noonan, Mamina Treacy and Sasha Dayton

KILL MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC SOCIETY PRESENTS 'ENTANGLED'

Pictures: TONY KEANE



LEFT: Joy Donohoe, Kathleen Lambe, at the Show



RIGHT: Fiona Thompson as 'The Queen', and Brian McCabe as 'The King'



Katie and Marie O'Malley at the Show



Adam Pamplin as 'Annihoo', and Denise Donegan as 'Mother Coddle'



Helen Smith, and Tom McCarthy, as 'Fruit and Nut'

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Kieran Murray, Amber Masterson, Mick Moloney, Moorefield Chariman; Sean Hall, MD Manguard Plus; Darran Hall; Adam Tyrrell, Barry Dempsey, Alan Courtney and : Colm Hayden; in front, members of the Moorefield Mini Moores

# Manguard Plus announce 10 year sponsorship for Moorefield GAA

**KILDARE POST REPORTER**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Manguard Plus, the largest Irish privately owned security firm in the country, has announced a major sponsorship arrangement with Moorefield GAA Club.

The 10-year deal will see the firm's sponsorship spanning all football divisions within the Moorefield GAA Club from Nursery to Senior Ladies and Men's teams.

Chairperson of Moorefield GAA Club, Mick Moloney said "We are delighted with this extended sponsorship agreement with Manguard Plus. I say extended because Sean is no stranger to Moorefield GAA Club. Over the past eight years Manguard Plus has provided

vital sponsorship to our 'Mini Moores' Underage Football' section with Sean also being an important part of our Mini Moore's coaching team.

"This year sponsorship agreement with 'Manguard Plus' which covers all football sections within Moorefield GAA, is extremely important to our club. It helps to provide a stable financial platform into the future and will ease some of the financial burden associated with running a large GAA club."

Sean Hall, Managing Director of Manguard Plus, said "Manguard Plus is delighted to announce this major sponsorship deal with Moorefield GAA Club.

"We have had a long association with the Club and it is

a proud moment for us as we unveil this ten year deal. We will be sponsoring all divisions from nursery to Ladies and men's senior teams.

"We have sponsored the Mini Moores for the past eight years and I see this announcement as a natural progression of our involvement with, and backing for, Moorefield GAA Club.

"The commitment and dedication displayed by players, managers and backroom staff is of paramount importance.

"Moorefield play a key role in the life of Newbridge and the wider county and is vital to the fabric of our community, fosters important relationships and crucially, gives confidence to our young sports people," Mr Hall concluded.

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**SPONSORED CONTENT**

# KBowl – the perfect venue for a perfect day out!

Celebrate your communions and confirmations with KBowl.

KBowl at Ladytown Business Park, Naas is the One-Stop Entertainment Centre for all ages and an ideal venue for communion and confirmation celebrations.

KBowl really puts the emphasis on fun – choose a Bowling Package that suits you and enjoy a fun filled day out in KBowl with your special communion /confirmation boy or girl or indeed just come along and celebrate any occasion!

Why not add to the special day out with one of the all time favourite pizzas including Margherita, Pepperoni or the delicious KBowl Feast – a treat for everyone!

Why not order a platter of hot finger food to share (chicken bites, chicken wings, sausages, onion rings with wedges or chips and dipping sauces).

**MEAL DEALS**

Hot food meal deals are all also available along with the healthier option of a salad bowl of your choice – all freshly prepared and cooked in KBowl and served to you in KDiner or on the lanes while you bowl away and try for that 'strike!' – the choice is all yours and at great prices too.

As it's your special day – why not finish off your meal with a nice Star Slush of your choice with a great selection of flavours on offer.

**WACKY WORLD PLAY AREA**

Wacky World Play Area is perfect for the smaller kids with slides, climbing frames, ball pits and lots more so everyone can come along and have fun and celebrate this special day.

Don't let the fun stop there – bash away at the new big wave air hockey, play some pool, take a trip in the simulator, try out the new 'Typhoon' or just simply have fun with the great selection of video games – plus of course,



**LEFT: Yunika Chu celebrates her birthday with friends and family at KBOWL, RIGHT: Twins Clodagh and Caoimhe celebrate their birthday in the party room at KBOWL** PICTURES: AISHLING CONWAY



the ever popular 'grab' machines – there's lots to be won with movie and cartoon characters all 'up for grabs'!

**SCHOOL TOURS**

Planning your school tour – KBowl really puts the emphasis on fun for kids offering great school tour

packages starting with as little from €5 per child for bowling or the smaller kids can enjoy the fun in Wacky World Play Area with slides, climbing frames, ball pits and lots more!

Popcorn or hot food with soft drink packages are also

available - KBowl caters for large school groups so everyone can come along and join in the fun. Why not book your school tour, pick your teams and let the kids have fun, fun and more fun.

Open 7 Days from 11am with free parking - KBowl

really puts the emphasis on fun, comfort and convenience for everyone so come along and enjoy a great fun day out.

Phone 045 408 144 or email info@kbowl.ie

Online booking now available, see www.kbowl.ie



# Birthday Parties!



- 1 hour Bowling and/or 1 Hour Play in Wacky World Children's Play Area
  - Popcorn and juice drinks while doing your activity
- Choice of hot food, sausages, chicken bites, fish bites served with chips and soft drink
  - Party Bag for every child
  - Tea/Coffee for Parents
- Birthday Invitations available to print from our website

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| YEAR                            | MAKE          | MODEL            | TAX  | ENGINE  | SPEC  | GEARBOX | COLOUR | MILES  | PRICE   | FINANCE FROM PER WEEK |
|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|------|---------|---|---------|--------|--------|---------|-----------------------|
| <b>DIESEL CARS</b>              |               |                  |      |         |   |         |        |        |         |                       |
| 181                             | OPEL          | INSIGNIA         | €200 | 1.6D    | GRAND SPORT SRI 1.6 1 136PS 5DR   | MANUAL  | GREY   | 21,000 | €23,950 | €89                   |
| 182                             | AUDI          | A5 SPORTBACK     | €200 | 2.0D    | 190 BHP S TRONIC, HEATED BLACK LEATHER SEATS, SAT NAV, 18"ALLOYS, XENON LIGHTS              | AUTO    | BLUE   | 29,000 | €35,950 | €134                  |
| 181                             | BMW           | 520D M SPORT     | €190 | 2.0D    | M SPORT, 18"ALLOYS, PRIVACY GLASS, SAT NAV, HEATED BLACK LEATHER, PDC                       | AUTO    | WHITE  | 15,000 | €36,950 | €142                  |
| 181                             | BMW           | 116 D            | €200 | 1.5D    | SE, AUTOMATIC, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, SAT NAV, ALLOYS, PARKING SENSORS                       | AUTO    | COPPER | 21,000 | €25,950 | €96                   |
| 181                             | AUDI          | A6 BLACK EDITION | €190 | 2.0D    | 2.0 TDI BLACK EDITION, REVERSING CAMERA, SUNROOF, 20"ALLOYS, HEADS UP DISPLAY, HEATED SEATS | AUTO    | WHITE  | 18,000 | €36,950 | €142                  |
| 172                             | KIA           | STONIC           | €190 | 1.6D    | SAT NAV, REVERSING CAMERA, PARKING SENSORS, K3  | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 12,000 | €17,950 | €67                   |
| 171                             | VOLVO         | S60              |      | 2.0D    | D3 SE 4DR   | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 70,000 | €19,950 | €74                   |
| 171                             | JAGUAR        | XE               |      | 2.0D    | R SPORT AUTO 180 BHP ONLY 34,000 KMS, IRISH CAR   | AUTO    | GREY   | 21,000 | SOLD    | €93                   |
| 171                             | SKODA         | OCTAVIA          | €180 | 1.6D    | AMBITION 1.6 TDI 90HP 4 4DR   | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 68,000 | €14,950 | €55                   |
| 171                             | BMW           | 520              | €190 | 2.0D    | 520 D G30 SE 4DR AUTO, UPGRADED 18"ALLOYS, BEIGE LEATHER, SAT NAV, REVERSING CAMERA,        | AUTO    | BLACK  | 33,000 | €32,950 | €126                  |
| 171                             | SEAT          | LEON             | €200 | 2.0D    | 2.0 TDI 150HP FR 5DR  | MANUAL  | RED    | 43,000 | €17,950 | €67                   |
| 162                             | MERCEDES-BENZ | A-CLASS          | €200 | 1.5D    | 180 D AMG LINE 5DR AUTO   | AUTO    | GREY   | 31,000 | €23,950 | €89                   |
| 161                             | VW            | POLO             | €180 | 1.4D    | TRENDLINE 1.4 TDI 75HP MANUAL 5 SPEED 5DR   | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 40,000 | €11,950 | €44                   |
| 161                             | MERCEDES-BENZ | C-220D           | €190 | 2.2D    | C-220D SE 4DR AUTO, BLACK LEATHER   | AUTO    | BLUE   | 47,000 | SOLD    | €85                   |
| 161                             | TOYOTA        | AVENSIS          |      | 1.6D    | 1.6 DLUNA NAV 4DR   | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 49,000 | €15,950 | €59                   |
| 161                             | VOLVO         | S60              | €190 | 2.0D    | D3 SE, HEATED BLACK LEATHER SPORTS SEATS, ALLOYS, PARKING SENSORS, IRISH CAR                | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 54,000 | €17,950 | €67                   |
| 161                             | AUDI          | A6               | €190 | 2.0D    | 2.0 TDI S LINE S-TRONIC AUTO ONLY 53,000 KMS  | AUTO    | BLUE   | 32,000 | €26,950 | €100                  |
| 161                             | BMW           | 3 SERIES         | €190 | 2.0D    | 316 316D SE ZLBF 4DR AUTO   | AUTO    | BROWN  | 25,000 | €20,950 | €82                   |
| 161                             | AUDI          | A4               | €190 | 2.0D    | 2.0 TDI 150 S-TRONIC SE ULTRA, BLACK LEATHER, ALLOYS  | AUTO    | SILVER | 33,000 | €21,950 | €85                   |
| 161                             | VW            | GOLF             | €180 | 1.6D    | COMFORTLINE, 110HP, PARKING SENSORS, BLUETOOTH, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL                     | MANUAL  | SILVER | 25,000 | €16,950 | €67                   |
| 151                             | CITROEN       | DS3              | €180 | 1.6D    | BLUEHDI 120BHP DSPORT 2DR BLUE HDI 120  | MANUAL  | RED    | 25,000 | €11,450 | €39                   |
| 151                             | RENAULT       | FLUENCE          | €200 | 1.5 DCI | LIMITED EDITION, SUNROOF, ALLOYS, PARKING SENSORS, BLUETOOTH                                | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 53,000 | €10,950 | €44                   |
| 151                             | MINI          | ONE              | €180 | 1.5D    | 5 DR, MINI ONE, BLUETOOTH, ALLOYS   | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 48,000 | €12,950 | €52                   |
| 141                             | TOYOTA        | COROLLA          | €270 | 1.4D    | 1.4 D-4D LUNA 4DR   | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 88,000 | €10,950 | €41                   |
| 141                             | MERCEDES-BENZ | B 180 CDI        | €200 | 1.8D    | CREAM LEATHER, ALLOYS, AIR COND, BLUETOOTH  | MANUAL  | BEIGE  | 38,000 | €15,950 | €63                   |
| <b>DIESEL ESTATES</b>           |               |                  |      |         |   |         |        |        |         |                       |
| 171                             | TOYOTA        | AVENSIS          | €200 | 2.0D    | 2.0 D LUNA TS 4DR   | MANUAL  | GREY   | 28,000 | €20,950 | €78                   |
| 161                             | SEAT          | LEON             | €180 | 1.6D    | ST 1.6 TDI 110HP SE S/S 5DR   | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 22,000 | €14,950 | €55                   |
| <b>SUVS / 7 SEATERS</b>         |               |                  |      |         |   |         |        |        |         |                       |
| 181                             | FORD          | KUGA             |      | 1.5D    | TITANIUM 1.5 TDCI 120PS ONLY 13,000 KMS   | MANUAL  | GREY   | 8,000  | €24,950 | €93                   |
| 182                             | RENAULT       | KOLEOS           | €270 | 1.6D    | SIGNATURE NAV DCI 130 FULL LEATHER  | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 14,000 | €28,950 | €108                  |
| 181                             | RENAULT       | KOLEOS           | €270 | 1.6D    | DYNAMIQUE S NAV DCI 130 4DR   | MANUAL  | BROWN  | 14,000 | €27,950 | €104                  |
| 172                             | RENAULT       | GRAND SCENIC     |      | 1.5D    | DYNAMIQUE S NAV IV D 4DR AUTO, 7 SEATER.  | AUTO    | GREY   | 36,000 | €23,950 | €89                   |
| 171                             | VW            | TIGUAN           |      | 2.0D    | HIGHLINE 2.0 TDI 150HP AUTO, GLASS ROOF, DIGITAL CLOCKS, 18"ALLOYS, ONLY 19,000 KMS         | AUTO    | BLACK  | 12,000 | €28,950 | €104                  |
| 171                             | VW            | TIGUAN           |      | 2.0D    | GLASS ROOF, HEATED BLACK LEATHER, XENON LIGHTS, REVERSING CAMERA, SAT NAV, ALLOYS           | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 57,000 | €24,950 | €96                   |
| 171                             | NISSAN        | X-TRAIL          |      | 1.6D    | 1.6 SV DP 5 SEAT WITH DESIGN PACK   | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 16,000 | €22,950 | €85                   |
| 171                             | SKODA         | YETI             |      | 2.0D    | OUTDOOR 2.0 TDI 11 110HP 4DR  | MANUAL  | GREY   | 39,000 | €17,950 | €67                   |
| 171                             | FORD          | KUGA             |      | 1.5D    | TITANIUM 1.5 TDCI 120PS F FWD 4DR   | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 30,000 | €20,950 | €78                   |
| 171                             | NISSAN        | QASHQAI          | €200 | 1.6D    | 1.6 DSL 130 BHP SV, GLASS ROOF, 17"ALLOYS, BLUETOOTH, 1 OWNER, IRISH CAR                    | MANUAL  | GREY   | 37,000 | €18,950 | €70                   |
| 162                             | DACIA         | DUSTER           | €200 | 1.5D    | SIGNATURE 1.5 DCI 110   | MANUAL  | GREY   | 58,000 | €11,950 | €44                   |
| 162                             | BMW           | 218 D            | €200 | 2.0D    | 218 218D SE ZA2K 4DR AUTO, HEATED BLACK LEATHER SEATS, 7 SEATER                             | AUTO    | SILVER | 43,000 | €21,950 | €82                   |
| 161                             | RENAULT       | KADJAR           | €180 | 1.5D    | DYNAMIQUE S NAV ENERGY 4DR AUTO   | AUTO    | WHITE  | 37,000 | €17,950 | €67                   |
| 161                             | HYUNDAI       | TUCSON           | €570 | 2.0D    | 4WD EXECUTIVE 5DR AUTO  | AUTO    | BLACK  | 38,000 | €21,950 | €82                   |
| 161                             | MAZDA         | CX3              | €190 | 1.5D    | 2WD 1.5 D 105PS GT SL 4DR   | MANUAL  | RED    | 22,000 | €17,950 | €63                   |
| 161                             | MINI          | COUNTRYMAN       | €390 | 2.0D    | COOPER D AUTO, HALF LEATHER, 17"ALLOYS, PRIVACY GLASS, ONLY 53,000 KMS                      | AUTO    | GREY   | 32,000 | €19,950 | €78                   |
| 161                             | KIA           | SPORTAGE         | €200 | 1.7D    | LX, 17"ALLOYS, PARKING SENSORS  | MANUAL  | GOLD   | 33,000 | SOLD    | €74                   |
| 152                             | KIA           | SPORTAGE         | €280 | 1.7D    | PLATINUM SE 4DR   | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 47,000 | €15,950 | €59                   |
| 151                             | HYUNDAI       | SANTA FE         | €390 | 2.2D    | 2WD COMFORT 4DR, ONLY 60,000 KMS  | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 37,000 | €22,950 | €85                   |
| 151                             | BMW           | X5               | €390 | 2.0D    | X5 M SPORT 7 SEATS, 20"ALLOYS, REVERSING CAMERA, XENONS, HEATED LEATHER SEATS,              | AUTO    | BLACK  | 57,000 | €40,950 | €165                  |
| 142                             | MERCEDES      | GLA              | €200 | 2.2D    | 200 CDI URBAN, 18"ALLOYS, BEIGE LEATHER SEATS, REVERSING CAMERA                             | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 48,000 | €18,950 | €70                   |
| 141                             | HYUNDAI       | IX35             | €280 | 1.7D    | 1.7 EXECUTIVE 4DR   | MANUAL  | SILVER | 75,000 | €12,950 | €48                   |
| 141                             | HYUNDAI       | IX35             | €280 | 1.7D    | 1.7 EXECUTIVE, 17"ALLOYS, HALF LEATHER, REVERSING CAMERA                                    | MANUAL  | SILVER | 54,000 | €14,500 | €53                   |
| 12                              | NISSAN        | QASHQAI + 2      |      | 1.6D    | ACENTA 7 SEATER 4WD   | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 83,000 | €9,950  |                       |
| <b>PETROL AND ELECTRIC CARS</b> |               |                  |      |         |   |         |        |        |         |                       |
| 182                             | NISSAN        | LEAF             | €120 | 0       | 40K EV SV 40KW '18 4DR AUTO   | AUTO    | WHITE  | 19,000 | €26,950 | €100                  |
| 181                             | NISSAN        | QASHQAI          | €270 | 1.2     | 1.2 SV, GLASS ROOF, ALLOYS, SAT NAV, REVERSING CAMERA, ONLY 10,000 KMS                      | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 6,000  | €21,950 | €82                   |
| 181                             | AUDI          | Q2               | €200 | 1       | 1.0 TFSI 116 SE, ALLOYS, HEATED SEATS, BLUETOOTH, ONLY 29,000 KMS                           | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 18,000 | SOLD    | €89                   |
| 181                             | NISSAN        | QASHQAI          | €270 | 1.2     | 1.2 SV, GLASS ROOF, SAT NAV, REVERSING CAMERA, ALLOYS                                       | MANUAL  | BRONZE | 36,000 | €20,950 | €78                   |
| 181                             | FORD          | FOCUS ST-LINE    | €190 | 1       | ST-LINE 1.0 ECOBOOST 125PS 6 SPEED  | MANUAL  | RED    | 24,000 | €19,950 | €78                   |
| 172                             | NISSAN        | QASHQAI          | €270 | 1.2     | 1.2 SV PREMIUM, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, GLASS ROOF, REVERSING CAMERA, SAT NAV                 | MANUAL  | BLUE   | 21,000 | €19,950 | €74                   |
| 171                             | OPEL          | ASTRA            |      | 1       | ASTRA+ SRI 1.0T 105PS S/S 5DR   | MANUAL  | GREEN  | 20,000 | €14,950 | €55                   |
| 171                             | HYUNDAI       | TUCSON           | €390 | 1.6     | IX35 1.6 COMFORT PETROL 5DR   | MANUAL  | BROWN  | 26,000 | €18,950 | €70                   |
| 171                             | NISSAN        | JUKE             | €270 | 1.2     | 1.2 SV PREMIUM 4DR  | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 15,000 | €15,950 | €59                   |
| 171                             | VW            | PASSAT HIGH LINE | €200 | 1.4     | HIGHLINE 1.4 TSI 150 BHP VIRTUAL COCKPIT, HEATED LEATHER SEATS, PRIVACY GLASS, IRISH CAR,   | MANUAL  | SILVER | 55,000 | €21,950 | €85                   |
| <b>COMMERCIALS</b>              |               |                  |      |         |   |         |        |        |         |                       |
| 172                             | VW            | CADDY            | €333 | 2.0D    | PV TREND TDI 75HP MANUAL 5 SPEED 5DR  | MANUAL  | GREY   | 8,000  | SOLD    | €59                   |
| 172                             | DACIA         | DUSTER           | €333 | 1.5D    | COMMERCIAL SIGNATURE 1.5 DCI 4WD, PRICE INCLUDES VAT  | MANUAL  | WHITE  | 25,000 | €10,950 | €55                   |
| 171                             | RENAULT       | TRAFIC           | €333 | 1.6D    | LL 29 DCI 115 BUSINESS +AIR CON, PRICE INCLUDES VAT   | MANUAL  | BLACK  | 52,000 | €14,950 | €55                   |
| 171                             | MINI          | OUTLANDER        | €333 | 2.2D    | OUTL 4WD 6MT N1 17MY 4DR, PRICE INCLUDES VAT  | MANUAL  | GREY   | 56,000 | SOLD    | €70                   |
| 161                             | AUDI          | Q5               | €333 | 2.0D    | 2.0 TDI 190 Q S-TRONIC SE AUTO COMMERCIAL, VAT INCLUDED IN PRICE                            | AUTO    | GREY   | 54,000 | €24,950 | €96                   |



LIFESTYLE



Pupils, Michael Hoyne, and Brendan Carville, with their grandparents Andy Dempsey, Margaret Hoyne, and Maguerite Dempsey at grandparents Day at Caragh NS



Aidan Kane with his grandfather John Regan



Stella Reilly with her grandson Ryan Corcoran



Michael Hoyne with his grandmother Margaret Hoyne



Sean, Aisling, and Clodagh Gallagher, with grandparents, Eileen and Sean Gallagher

# CARAGH NATIONAL SCHOOL HOSTS GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Pictures: TONY KEANE

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LIFESTYLE



Father Paul Dempsey with Ollie, Sandra and baby Sophie, pictured at Sophie's recent christening at St Conleth's Parish Church, Newbridge. Left, friends and family gathered for the christening. PICTURES: AISHLING CONWAY

# Out & About

## SOPHIE MCGUINNESS CHRISTENING IN NEWBRIDGE



Ollie, Sandra, Anne and Tom McGuinness with baby Sophie



Sandra and Ollie McGuinness with baby Sophie



Godparents Jim Mcevoy and Karen O'Reilly with Sandra and Ollie McGuinness and Sophie



Sandra, Ollie and baby Sophie McGuinness with Riona, Maisie and Mick McAdden



Aisling, Alan, Alex, Amber and Aaron Dobbyn with Sandra, Ollie and Baby Sophie McGuinness



Sandra, Ollie and Sophie McGuinness with Theresa and Ava O'Donnell



Ollie, Sandra and Sophie McGuinness with Clodagh Kelly



Ollie and Sandra McGuinness with Father Paul at Sophie's Christening



Karen and John O'Reilly with baby Sophie

# Cllr. Suzanne Doyle

Not afraid to stand up  
and stand out  
#AnIrelandForAll



FIANNA FAÏL  
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY





**SPECIAL FEATURE**

**WWW.KILDARENOW.COM LOG ON AND VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE PIC!**

**SNAPSHOTS - A UNIQUE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE**



This photo is of the late mother Margaret Mooney and Michael Walsh both from Ticknevin, Carbury. It was taken in Dublin City centre 63years when they first got engaged. This lovely picture was sent in by their daughter Brigid Egan

**What is Snapshots?**

We have all become used to scrolling through the galleries of photos on our smartphones but what about those much-loved print photographs stashed away in the attic, in a box under the bed or in that “miscellaneous” drawer in the kitchen? Are they destined to be forgotten forever in the digital age?

**Well, it's time to dig them out and show them some love.**

We want readers to take a photo of those much-loved print photos and send them to us. Whether it was taken a few years ago on an instant camera or a few decades ago, we want the photo that stands out for you.

It can be from a social event, a landscape shot, a funny pic or even a holiday snap — we want them all. Yes, even those dodgy “look at the state of my hair” debs photos!

**SEND US YOUR PHOTOS**

We want you to dust off the golden oldies, take a picture of your old picture and email it to us.

We will feature your pictures in both our print and online editions. In addition to running your images on longfordleader.ie and our social media pages we will also carry two pages of your images every week in the Kildare Post.

**POLL**

We will run a poll every week on KildareNow.com and our weekly online readers can vote for their favourite image of the week.

Two winners will go forward every week, leaving six of our readers images going forward to the grand finale with a chance to win our amazing prize package. The overall winner as voted by the public will win the fantastic prize.

**It's not too late to enter. All you have to do send your photos to snapshotskildare@gmail.com and we will do the rest!**

**VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE NOW!**

**Log on to [www.kildarenow.com](http://www.kildarenow.com) to cast your vote for your favourite picture from this week's entries**



A picture of “the Ball” in Naas. All that is missing is the sprig of holly on top! It was taken in January 2010. Sent in by Pat Breen



Tommy Higgins from the Moat Club Theatre on St Patrick's Day 2011, pictured on a busy Beijing street. Paddy Travers sent it to us



The case of the curious sheep on the Curragh was submitted by Cathal Malone, of Browstown, Curragh

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**McDonald's**

**NEWBRIDGE DRIVE - THRU**  
**MONREAD DRIVE - THRU (24hrs)**  
**KILCULLEN (24hrs)**



**SPECIAL FEATURE**

**SNAPSHOTS - A UNIQUE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE**



The start of a Gordon Bennett Run, which wasn't today nor yesterday. John Weld is in front - can you help us identify who the other people are in this marvellous photograph? It was sent in by Florence Brindley. Keep your Snapshots coming! See panel for full details



ABOVE LEFT: A family affair; Grandmother Eileen, aunt Janet front right, Trish McKibblin front middle and little sister Marilyn behind. They are on the bridge beside Whites Castle in Athy, Co Kildare in 1969. This lovely picture was sent in by Trish Mckibbin, of Kilcullen

ABOVE: The Curragh cinema fire on October 18, 1989. It was submitted by by Cathal Malone

LEFT: Panto Party, another super picture - and this one was sent in by Anna Woods

Leinster Leader **Kildarepost**

# Snap Shots

In association with

**SEND US YOUR PICTURES TO BE IN WITH CHANCE OF WINNING A FANTASTIC PRIZE PACK!**

**HOW TO GET INVOLVED!**

All you have to do to get involved is take a picture of your favourite old pictures and send them to us! **IT'S THAT SIMPLE**

**HOW IT WORKS!**

Each week for three weeks we will publish your pictures in the paper. Polls will run on our website to choose the pictures that will go through to the Grand Final

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**TAKE A PICTURE OF YOUR PICTURE NOW AND E-MAIL IT TO US [snapshotskildare@gmail.com](mailto:snapshotskildare@gmail.com)**

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# HomeCOOKING

by Barbara Collins



## Elderflower Spongecake

I got this recipe for Elderflower Spongecake from Paula McIntyre. She created it with Papas Mineral Company's excellent Elderflower Cordial as her inspiration. You can buy Papas cordials in shops and at events. If not, ask for it to be stocked. The whole range is amazing. I also love the Sarsaparilla which is like an old-fashioned root beer and the best-selling ginger. Superb with Prosecco, in cocktails or diluted with sparkling or still water.

You can fill this cake with buttercream icing or just dust with icing sugar and keep one in the tin for later in the week.

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

### METHOD

Set oven to 180oc.  
Grease and line two 7 inch cake tins with parchment paper.  
Beat the sugar and butter until pale and fluffy. Beat in the eggs and vanilla a little at a time.  
Fold in the flour and cordial.  
Divide between the tins and smooth off.  
Bake for about 20 minutes or until an inserted skewer comes out clean.  
Remove from tin, peel off parchment paper and cool on a wire rack.

### INGREDIENTS

- 225g soft butter
- 225g castor sugar
- 4 eggs
- 225g self-raising flour
- 3 tablespoons Papas Mineral Company elderflower cordial
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract



Contact Barbara:- Twitter: @thegoodchinaset | Email: [barbara@thegoodchinaset.com](mailto:barbara@thegoodchinaset.com)

spin  
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All classes only € 7

## Gym Class Timetable

|           |                   |                      |
|-----------|-------------------|----------------------|
| MONDAY    | 10AM BODY TONING  | 7PM BOOT CAMP        |
| TUESDAY   | 10AM SPIN         | 7PM ZUMBA FITNESS    |
| WEDNESDAY | 10AM BODY TONING  | 7PM SPIN             |
| THURSDAY  | 10AM SPIN         | 7PM CIRCUIT TRAINING |
| FRIDAY    | 9.30AM ABS & BUMS | 7PM SPIN             |
| SATURDAY  | 10.15AM BODY PUMP |                      |

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# STYLISHIOUS



B by Ted Baker - grey floral print  
'Graceful' satin dressing gown  
€60, bra €39 and trousers €35

Discover more at  
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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](mailto:editor@kildarepost.com)



**B** by Ted Baker - grey floral print 'Graceful' satin dressing gown €60, bra €39 and trousers €35



Debenhams Valentines PJ set €37.50



**J** by Jasper Conran navy trim chemise €42

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# Spice up your Valentine celebrations with some exciting new lingerie!

See [www.debenhams.ie](http://www.debenhams.ie)

Debenhams' new exciting lingerie range throws up a vibrant selection of separates and lounge wear.

For the young at heart Valentine, there's the Jenny Packham range of push up bras, knickers, briefs and thongs, along with a selection of dotty and heart patterned lounge wear and PJs.

Of course, there are teddy suits, satin and lace separates, suspenders and stockings galore available in store or online.

Drop into Debenhams at Whitewater Shopping Centre, Newbridge and get your Valentine lingerie now. See [www.debenhams.ie](http://www.debenhams.ie) for more.



Nine by Savannah Miller - Mid Rose graphic lace padded underwired plunge bra €28 and brief €15



FAR LEFT:

LEFT: Debenhams black body €60



RIGHT: No 1 Jenny Packham bra €39 and brief €21



## Calling All Valentines



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# FASHION FIX



## PARFOIS

# Parfois — wear your heart on your sleeve: special collection from Parfois for Valentine's Day

Jewellery, bags, scarves and fashion for playing Cupid on the most romantic day of the year. In addition to the collection of products, Parfois has developed two Instagram filters with Valentine's Day motifs.

Valentine's Day marks the date for celebrating love in all its forms — romantic, between friends and family and self-love — and Parfois has created a collection for each one. The quintessential symbol of St Valentine's Day, the heart, is reinterpreted in pieces of jewellery, bags, scarves and other accessories. This line was designed to be timeless and is versatile enough to adapt to your wardrobe throughout the entire year.

### The collection

Think outside the box (of chocolates) and open your heart to illustrated patterns that combine romantic slogans with cacti, keys and other designs you might just as easily find in a contemporary painting. Personalise your style with bags, purses, document holders and reusable bottles, featuring a print with discreet romantic slogans in shades of yellow, green and red.

The scarves created for the Valentine's Day collection are adorned with different

details that allow you to add a touch of colour to your look, whether worn on the head, neck or even attached to a bag. Stand out with a pair of quilted cases in different colours, perfect for storing office supplies or using as mini toiletry bags.

Find two bags in a red tone-on-tone design or contrasting black leather with heart detail for the perfect mix between classic and cool. Extra Points: they can be used as handbags or shoulder bags, and the heart can be removed.

The jewellery comes in more delicate formats, and the pieces can be layered or worn by themselves. Different approaches for different styles: the silver strap on a watch-style bracelet featuring a black heart with rhinestones in the centre, or a thin silver-plated chain with white rhinestones. From the sterling silver collection come the necklaces with engraved heart pendants in silver or gold. Just as special are the stainless steel items: the long necklace with spaced letters forming the word "Love", or the hoop earrings in the shape of a heart.

There is also the "Be What You Love" watch, whose clean, refined design makes it one of the collection's star pieces.



€25.99



Gorgeous patterned scarf €25.99



Watch €35.99

# KIDS IT'S BACK! Whitewater Kids Club Returns!



Every Thursday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm from January 23rd to February 13th



PARFOIS



FASHION FIX



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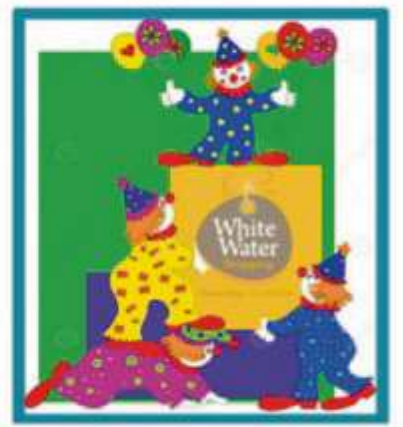
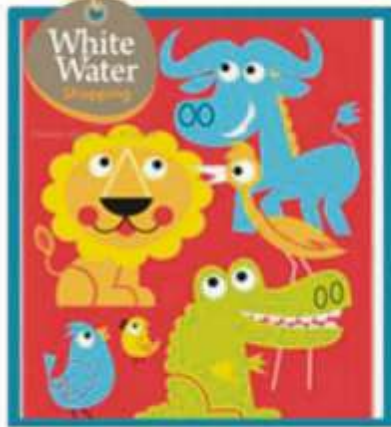


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KIDS IT'S BACK! Whitewater Kids Club Returns!



Every Thursday 10.30 am to 12.30 pm from January 23rd to February 13th



LIFESTYLE



Kate Fortune, Anna Fortune (commercial manager at Kildare Post, KildareNow and Leinster Leader) and Linda Blanchfield (sales and marketing manager, Palmerstown House Estate) and Allan Shine (CEO Kildare Chamber)



Heather MacGuinness, Dympna Lahiffe, Lorraine Donegan, Linda Blanchfield, Marie McKeon and Sinead O'Riordan enjoying the ball

# Out & About

## MASQUERADE BALL AT PALMERSTOWN HOUSE ESTATE

### in aid of Irish Injured Jockeys Fund

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



Michael Higgins (Chief Executive Irish Injured Jockeys)



Adeline Molloy (Interior Designer) and Lorraine McGuirk



Conor Brophy, Ciara Corcoran and Eoin Corcoran



Sinead and Allan Shine (CEO of Kildare Chamber)



Aileen Morrin, Linda Blanchfield (sales and marketing manager at Palmerstown House Estate) and Triona O'Reilly



Chris McManus and Lisa McGowan (Lisa's Lust List)



Linda Blanchfield (Sales and Marketing Palmerstown House Estate) and Michael Higgins (Chief Executive Irish Injured Jockeys)



Alisha and Lesley Ann McCormack from Irish Injured Jockeys





Natasha, Clare, and Lucia Marron, from Clane, pictured with Amanda McGarr of Clane Florists 'Flowerz' at the Westgrove Hotel Wedding Fair on Sunday, February 2



Local wedding band '52nd St.' members, Kevin Mulvey, Sean Smith, Dave Flanagan, Vinnie Thorpe, and piano man John Forde at the Westgrove Hotel Wedding Fair 2020.

## WEDDING FAIR AT THE WESTGROVE HOTEL, CLANE

Pictures: TONY KEANE



LEFT: Naas based wedding photographer, Ben Kelly, at the Wedding Fair 2020



RIGHT: Wedding Fair 2020 at the Westgrove Hotel, Clane, Sunday, February 2.



Tom Kinsella of AT & T Chauffeurs, with Jerry Russell, General Manager of the Westgrove Hotel, pictured at the Wedding Fair 2020 PHOTO TONY KEANE.



Dunboyne based photographer Alan Dunne at the Westgrove Hotel Wedding Fair 2020



Elizabeth Moran and Mark Fagan pictured with Nicole Keogh of Creative Cakes



Pauline and Rachel Forde promoting local Wedding Band 52nd St.



# OVERNIGHT VALENTINES PACKAGES AT OSPREY HOTEL



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\*Pre-booking of dining times is essential as they are subject to availability

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Happy Valentine's Day

# Swing into the mood on Leap Year day, February 29!

Traditionally, the day when ladies can go down on bended knee and 'pop the question' to the gent in her life, why not really put a swing into your lovelife this year and join Luke Thomas the Swing Cats at the Moat, Naas.

Multi-awarding vocalist Luke Thomas and his band are coming to Naas with their hit show 'The Story of Swing' on February 29. Thomas and the Swing Cats have celebrated numerous, sold-out shows at the National Concert Hall and the Olympia Theatre as well as a number one album and more recently, have had two TV concert specials aired on Virgin Media One.

This show is unique in capturing the full evolution of swing music, from its birth in the 1920s to the big band era of the thirties and forties and on to the golden age of the fifties and sixties

A musical timeline of swing classics from the 1920s to the modern day, it features the music of legends Louis Armstrong, Fred Astaire, Bobby Darrin, Frank Sinatra, The Rat Pack, Nat King Cole, Luis Prima right on up to the

modern day music heroes, Michael Bublé and Paolo Nutini.

Hear such classics as "King of the Swingers" "Puttin' on the Ritz" "When The Saints Go Marching In" "Mack the knife" "I Can't Take My Eyes Off You" "Mr Bojangles" "New York, New York" and many more along original hit songs from their No.1 album "Dance With Me" performed live by the Swing Cats!!

The Swing Cats led by vocalist Luke Thomas have amassed a huge following throughout Ireland and Europe, thanks to their distinctive sound and style which is steeped in the golden age of swing music. Don't miss this theatrical and energetic show performed by one of the most in-demand bands in the country.

Remember, Leap Year only occurs once every four years, so if you really intend popping the questions, ladies, get ready to go down on one knee.....

An absolute must for all music fans, The Swing Cats perform at The Moat Theatre, Naas on Saturday 29 February at 8pm. Call 045 88 30 30 or book online at [www.moattheatre.com](http://www.moattheatre.com)



Luke Thomas and the Swing Cats at the Moat Theatre on February 29



Karl Ruffley (DJ Karl)



LEFT: Maeve Fitzgerald and Anthony Kearns

## WEDDING SHOWCASE AT THE KEADEEN HOTEL, NEWBRIDGE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



BELOW: Keith Long and Leah Mulvany





LIFESTYLE



Patricia Waters, Noel Dinneny and Margaret Kehoe



Brian O'Neill

# Out & About

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS LEINSTER AT K BOWL, NAAS

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



ABOVE: Deirdre Ibegu, Patricia Smithers and Tabor Fenlon



James Salter, Paul Nolan and Sam McHugh



LEFT: Sinead Fitzgerald, Claire Murphy and Siobhan Doyle



Megan Burke, Annemarie Kearney (Owner) and Natasha Gilligan (Manager)



KBowl Owners Liam and Annemarie Kearney with TD Fiona O'Loughlin, Mayor Carmel Kelly, Paddy O'Reilly (Regional Development Officer Special Olympics Leinster)





## COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHILL DARA Kildare County Council

# VOTING ON ELECTION DAY

## FIND YOUR NUMBER – FOLLOW THE SIGNS

## FIND YOUR ROOM

The following affects certain persons on the 2019-2020 Register of Electors who have already received polling cards.

Some room numbers have changed at polling locations.

To cast your vote you are advised to follow signs erected at each polling location.

Signs will show voter numbers and your room.

Your voter number is located on the top left of your polling card.

The following polling locations are affected.

The number of rooms at each polling location are stated below.

### KILDARE NORTH

|  |
|--|
| Celbridge – Aghards National School<br>Rooms 1-10      |
| Celbridge – Scoil Na Mainistreach<br>Rooms 1-12        |
| Clane – Scoil Bhríde<br>Rooms 1-8                      |
| Prosperous – National School<br>Rooms 1-3              |
| Leixlip – Confey National School<br>Rooms 1-8          |
| Leixlip – Scoil Bhríde, Green Lane<br>Rooms 1-7        |
| Leixlip – Scoil Mhuire, Green Lane<br>Rooms 1-5        |
| Balraheen – Rathcoffey National School<br>Rooms 1-2    |
| Kilcock – Boys National School<br>Rooms 1-6            |
| Maynooth- Boys National School<br>Rooms 1-7            |
| Maynooth – Girls Presentation School<br>Rooms 1-6      |
| Kill – Kill G.A.A. Hall<br>Rooms 1-6                   |
| Naas – Christian Brothers National School<br>Rooms 1-9 |
| Naas – Convent of Mercy Primary School<br>Rooms 1-7    |
| Naas – Scoil Bhríde, Oldtown Sallins<br>Rooms 1-6      |
| Rathmore – The Hall, Rathmore<br>Rooms 1-2             |
| Sallins – Sallins National School<br>Rooms 1-7         |

### KILDARE SOUTH

|   |
|---|
| Athy – Scoil Mhichíl Naofa<br>Rooms 1-7                             |
| Ballyshannon - National School<br>Rooms 1-2                         |
| Castledermot – National School<br>Rooms 1-3                         |
| Moone – National School<br>1 room only                              |
| Derrinturn – National School<br>Rooms 1-2                           |
| Kilmeade National School<br>Fontstown – Room 1<br>Skerries – Room 2 |
| Inchaquire – Crookstown National School<br>1 Room only              |
| Robertstown – National School<br>Rooms 1-2                          |
| Kilrainy – Clogherinkoe National School<br>1 Room only              |
| Kildare – Boys National School<br>Rooms 1-10                        |
| Rathangan – Boys National School<br>Rooms 1-5                       |
| Newbridge – Patrician Primary School<br>Rooms 1-12                  |
| Newbridge – Scoil Mhuire Junior, Ballymany<br>Rooms 1-10            |

### Supplementary Register:

Polling cards will issue in the coming days for persons recently added to the Supplementary Register.

Room numbers for these people are unaffected and polling cards will reflect your polling station/room.

### Enquiries:

Signs and staff at polling locations will direct you to your room. However, if you vote in the areas above and wish to confirm your room in advance of the election you can do so by contacting below:

**Phone: 045 980 201 or**

**Email: [register@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:register@kildarecoco.ie)**

### KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare. W91X77F.

Telephone: 045-980200 • Emergency Number  
(Outside Office Hours) 1890 500 333



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## ELECTION 2020

## KILDARE SOUTH

|   |  |
|---|--|
|    | <b>Cathal Berry</b> (Independent)                |
|    | <b>Cllr Suzanne Doyle</b> (Fianna Fáil)          |
|    | <b>Linda Hayden</b> (Social Democrats)           |
|    | <b>Deputy Martin Heydon</b> (Fine Gael)          |
|    | <b>Ronan Maher</b> (Green Party)                 |
|    | <b>Cllr Fiona McLoughlin Healy</b> (Independent) |
|    | <b>Anita Mhic Gib</b> (Aontú)                    |
|    | <b>Deputy Fiona O'Loughlin</b> (Fianna Fáil)     |
|   | <b>Cllr Patricia Ryan</b> (Sinn Féin)            |
|  | <b>Cllr Mark Wall</b> (Labour)                   |

## KILDARE NORTH

|   |  |
|---|--|
|    | <b>Réada Cronin</b> (Sinn Féin)                |
|    | <b>Deputy Bernard Durkan</b> (Fine Gael)       |
|    | <b>Deputy James Lawless</b> (Fianna Fáil)      |
|    | <b>Senator Anthony Lawlor</b> (Fine Gael)      |
|    | <b>Pól Mac Mathuna</b> (People Before Profit)  |
|    | <b>Cllr Vincent P Martin</b> (Green Party)     |
|    | <b>David Monaghan</b> (Independent)            |
|    | <b>Dep Catherine Murphy</b> (Social Democrats) |
|   | <b>Séamus Ó Riain</b> (Renua)                  |
|  | <b>Deputy Frank O'Rourke</b> (Fianna Fáil)     |
|  | <b>Emmet Stagg</b> (Labour Party)              |
|  | <b>Wayne Swords</b> (Independent)              |

\*Ceann Comhairle Seán O Fearghail is automatically returned.

# Housing, health and crime are the issues for Kildare North's Catherine Murphy

Henry Bauress  
editor@kildarepost.com

Kildare North Social Democrat Catherine Murphy has tackled the government on some of the most controversial financial issues in the state in recent years but it was the general national issues which came up on the doorsteps when we joined her for a canvass in her town of residence, Leixlip last week.

No politician likes to hear that he/she is a hot favourite for a seat but that is where the bookmakers have her. At prohibitive odds of 1/25, few would bet against the Leixlip woman being a member of the next Dáil.

In 2016, she polled over 11,000 first preference votes and was the only TD to be elected on the first count.

Her role in a number of national financial issues, including Siteserv, has given her a high national profile, and not just a constituency one.



Deputy Murphy with Robin Falvey (top right) and Rhaine McGivern

But life does not run smoothly for any candidate — and so it was for Deputy Murphy on January 28.

She and her team, including husband Derek and Cllr Nuala Killeen, started their 2pm Tuesday afternoon canvass in the relatively new Rinawade estate off Green Lane in west Leixlip.

Cars peppered driveways but initially many doors went unanswered; all were out at work.

The team's plan was to return later in the evening to meet the residents.

At nearby Slí an Chanail estate, which is run by a housing association, most residents seemed happy with things in general, but frequently cited hospital waiting lists. Others spoke of the homeless problem.

On Green Lane, one woman was annoyed with Deputy Murphy for not returning an email regarding the Bus Connects project — and stated she would vote for Sinn Féin this time.

A more senior citizen who

came from the Curragh to live in Leixlip in 1943 had no worries for himself, but raised the issues of housing for his grandchildren.

One of them was a teacher, he told us, and some of that grandson's peers were in the Middle East working to try and raise deposits and money.

"It is very hard for the young to get a house," he told the TD, who nodded in agreement. "The housing issue is cross-generation," she said.

## TALES OF CRIME AND LIGHTING WOES

Crime stories were told. There was also an issue with public lighting in the Green Lane area.

Deputy Murphy's notebook came out because the request came from a woman whose car had been broken into recently.

A family member went out to investigate and found two people at the car. The details were taken down — and then it was on to the next door.



# Good governance is the foundation of a fair society – Cllr McLoughlin Healy

**ROSE B O'DONOGHUE**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Judging by the response on the doorsteps last week in Wellsley Manor, Newbridge, the consistent calls for accountability and transparency by Independent Councillor Fiona McLoughlin Healy, who was reelected to the Newbridge-Kildare Municipal District last year, regarding publicly funded boards is striking a chord with voters.

There's certainly no shortage of supporters willing to campaign with the Kildare South candidate. Twenty-two were out canvassing last week, ranging in age from 15 to 76 years.

"I thought long and hard about running," said Ms McLoughlin Healy. "Politics can be a nasty business but my decision was based on the mandate I received in the local elections. I feel a real duty to raise issues and to continue my work in fighting for transparency and accountability in governance bodies."

She doggedly stuck to her criticism of the lack of accountability in the Kildare Wicklow Education Training Board (KWETB) finances. As she began her canvass, Cllr McLoughlin Healy cited the ongoing overspend on the children's national hospital and still no hospital; the disgraceful shennanigans of the FAI, and as yet, no one being held accountable.

With a blistering knowledge of facts and figures, in the space of a few hundred metres, she spoke of the €20 billion in the national

pension fund which was drawn down to bale out the banks after the collapse of the Irish economy.

"Now that the banks are back in profitability, this money should be reinstated to the National Reserve Pension Fund. Look at the scandalous overspend in the children's hospital project, €2bn estimated spend and still no hospital. You know Colm McCarthy the economist stated this debacle was 'scandalous but routine' here in Ireland". Companies tender for projects and are awarded contracts on costings submitted, she claimed, but when costs are over run, they look for extended time and more money — "but no one is held accountable!"

She continued "The children's hospital project was sold on a 'it's this or nothing' — I don't believe we know the full story even yet! I'm not making idle promises on what I might do; vote for me on what I have done and I am proud of what I have achieved as an Independent. People now understand why I'm constantly harping about transparency and accountability — because it's money out of their pocket!"

The first householder who answered the knock and recognised Cllr McLoughlin Healy enthused: "You'll be getting at least four number one votes here. We identify with your goals and calls for transparency and good governance — it's the foundation for a fair society." The householder noted she had previously voted for main parties but would no longer be doing so. "I'm canvassing on your behalf!"



Newbridge resident Tony Cross welcomed Cllr Fiona McLoughlin Healy on last week's canvass

she told the councillor. "Accountability is everything".

The woman's husband then raised the issue of commuting and having to drive to Sallins train station which is so much cheaper than just taking a train from Newbridge, the station being a mere kilometre from his home. "It's not fair that Newbridge is not on the commuter loop and it is much

dearer to travel from here than to take the train from Sallins to Hueston station.

Homeowner Andy Cross requested a chat with Cllr McLoughlin Healy and put it straight up to her: "What are you going to do for me?" He was, he claimed, familiar with her work in recent years and again, transparency and good governance

was discussed. The afore mentioned issues were cited, along with more robust governance controls to prevent cost overruns on major projects; strict criteria for appointments and duration times for board members on publicly funded bodies, strengthening of the Freedom of Information Act, etc.

High on her agenda is the restoration of the state pension to 65 years of age, amendments to the tax credit base to benefit the lower paid, health and housing changes and notably, better regulation of the Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs).

"I have worked with residents of the AHB in Newbridge, Kildare town and Monasterevin to expose on a national level the governance issues arising in their housing associations. This is a local and national issue".

Again, with a blistering pace, she listed a number of local projects she would like to see furthered relating to youth and community amenities, promoting our natural environment (Greenway and Blueways Project), greater public transport for South Kildare commuters, cycle lanes and infrastructures plus changes in tax policies for SMEs and the regeneration of rural towns and villages.

This journalist had writer's cramp after only an hour on the canvass trail with Cllr Fiona McLoughlin Healy. It is as an Independent candidate she stands, and to represent South Kildare as an independent voice in Dáil Éireann, fully accountable to her constituents and supporters.

## Social housing, SNAs and the commute: on the canvass with Cllr Suzanne Doyle

**PAULA CAMPBELL**  
editor@kildarepost.com

I joined long-time local councillor and first time Dáil contender, Suzanne Doyle (FF) on a canvass last week, to get a sense of the issues coming up on doorsteps. Dara Park, Kildare town was the location of the canvass and the big issues included social housing and better terms and conditions for SNAs, creche workers and CE workers and life on the commute.

"Carers — that's my issue. I'm able to manage but I need more support," said resident Christy Ryan on the doorstep at Dara Park. The Fianna Fáil hopeful noted that Mr Ryan is the primary caregiver for his wife.

"I'm on the clock the whole

time," he says. He is not on his own in this situation — and the conversation moved to the huge number of people saving the government a fortune by caring for loved ones at home.

"More needs to be done for them," Cllr Doyle adds.

Several houses are empty as the occupants are at work and that brings us to the next issue — commuting woes.

"There's a lot of people commuting by car or train from Kildare town to Dublin," she adds. "Time is the big issue for the commuter — everybody needs more time that could be spent with the family instead of on the commute."

The solution, according to this candidate, is local job creation, hot desks and hubs.

"It is expensive to do

business in Dublin and we could offer more competitive rates here in Kildare. Bord na Mona, for example, was a big employer locally and it could be again in the future. The commute will be a big challenge for me if I get in and if I don't I'll happily stay around as a local councillor."

Another issue on way round was the need to improve working conditions for members of the Defence Forces.

"FF have plenty of issues to tackle and we will just have to roll up our sleeves and do it," she says as we arrive to a big welcome at Tony Monahan's house.

"The election takes on a different complexity when you have a local candidate," he explains. "Suzanne looks

after us more than well."

The next stop is Pat Sweeney's house, where we are invited inside to see the Relics of St Therese and hear of her miraculous healing powers.

Cllr Doyle takes the opportunity to touch the relics and declares: "If I get elected — if that miracle is carried off — I'll know who to thank."

There is no doubt Cllr Doyle is well known around here having put in the work for the past 17 years. "I am a local councillor but I don't want to let this opportunity to get to the Dáil go" she concluded.

Cllr Doyle is joined on the Fianna Fáil ticket by fellow party member and sitting TD, Fiona O'Loughlin.



Christy Ryan of Dara Park with Cllr Suzanne Doyle (FF) in Dara Park, Kildare last week



# Ex-Army man has fighting chance of final seat

**SENAN HOGAN**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Come Sunday night, independent candidate Dr Cathal Berry may well be the local story of the general election — he has come from nowhere to be within a fighting chance of winning a seat in Kildare South.

The former Army ranger and qualified doctor is

installed with odds of 2/1 to be elected as experts believe he will soak up a lot of transfers across the constituency.

Dr Berry has already raised over €30,000 on the Gofundme website, mostly in hundreds of donations of €10 and €20 from members of the public.

Almost 150 people attended Berry's campaign launch in the Keadeen Hotel

on January 23, where he was endorsed by former Tanaiste and attorney general, the Independent senator Michael McDowell.

Dr Berry said: "It was a fantastic night and it kickstarted everything. There were people there who never went to a political event before. There was great energy in the room because people want something out of this election."

Housing and healthcare are Berry's biggest priorities but he also wants to get fair pay and conditions for Defence Forces personnel.

In fact, he said he has received strong support from frontline workers such as the Army, gardaí, nurses, firefighters and teachers.

His campaign team is made up of friends and former Army colleagues who never worked on an election before and have limited interest in politics.

When Berry canvassed on the Main Street of Newbridge last week, he was approached



**Frank Burns, Con McNamara, Emma Browne, Dr. Cathal Berry, Deirdre Carbery, Brian Dowling and Paul Allen at Berry's campaign launch.** PICTURE: MICHAEL DONNELLY

by local resident Nora Whelan, who tells him she is trying to get planning permission for a house for her daughter.

Nora tells him: "She's just trying to get a roof over her head but there are hold-ups with it because it's a one-off dwelling and not in an estate."

Another voter who strolled along is Kildare town native Ray Quinn, who wants long-distance commuters to get some relief from the next government.

He said: "I see people on the roads at 5.30am in the morning because they have to beat the rush."

"I also see children being

left late in creches in the evening because the parents aren't home yet from work."

Another factor working in Berry's favour is that alphabetically, his name will be top of the ballot paper.

He quipped: "I'll be the first face people see, so hopefully it will result in more number ones for me!"



X

## 'A principal with principles' for Aontú, the 'party of conscience'

**ROSE B O'DONOGHUE**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Contesting South Kildare is Anita Mhic Gib, principal of Gaelscoil Nás an Riogh. A member of Aontú, Ireland's most recently founded political party, Ms Mhic Gib describes the party as "arguably the most diverse political party in the country with former members of FF, FG, Labour, the Greens and People Before Profit compiling the backbone of Aontú".

A mother of five, she knows first hand and through those of her pupils, the appalling lack of support services in education.

"I am utterly frustrated at the delays in assessments for young children; then trying to access an appointment for an occupational or speech therapist, the delays are horrendous. It can take years for the assessment never mind securing therapists and special needs assistants (SNAs) and all these delays during what are the vital early learning development

years for the child".

In Baroda Court, Newbridge last week, we met with Dr Deirdre Gleeson on the doorstep, and her experience in trying to secure an assessment for her son mirrored the candidate's findings.

"My son had dyslexia and only we had the resources ourselves to get psychological reports, we'd never have secured an assessment, it took two years even at that to complete the process." She stated the two tier pay of teachers, the poor pay/conditions of secretaries and workers in early child care are all indicative of a lack of investment and interest in the education sector.

Wasteful management of funding was another issue she addressed: "€60m was returned to the Minister for Children, why? Because monies was to be allocated per social worker to handle children in care cases but there weren't enough social workers to cope, so the money was returned to the Exchequer. That's shameful,

why wasn't the funding distributed to other childcare services or to the voluntary sector?"

"The Indicons Report states that every euro invested in youth saves the state a further €2.20 in other expenditures such as crime prevention, mental health, etc"

When Ms Mhic Gib, along with her husband Muiris and five children, moved from Newbridge to Kilcullen, she was horrified to find the family was placed on a waiting list to access GP services locally. "We were effectively waiting on someone to die, or move from the area, to secure the services of a GP."

Ms Mhic Gib empathises with workers in the health service, to which Dr Gleeson, an Occupational Health Specialist, stated: "It's intolerable; my colleagues are leaving their GP practices because they are overworked, under resourced, underpaid — and grossly under valued!"

The candidate noted that giving medical cards to U13s sounds like a good idea but when there are far



**Dr. Deirdre, and Norín Gleeson, Newbridge chat with Aontú Kildare South candidate Anita Mhic Gib, canvassing in Newbridge, Thursday, January 30.** PHOTO TONY KEANE

more genuine cases needing the service, this she felt was an election gimmick. "The elderly waiting on surgeries such as joint replacements, children awaiting scoliosis procedures — it's shocking. Resources should be going to where the needs are greatest! Our two tier health system needs to go".

Crime and the increase in people using recreational drugs was another point of discussion.

"We only have 11 gardaí in Kildare Drug Squad," said Ms Mhic Gib — and three only in Co Laois. "Skeletal garda services from Portllington, across Co Kildare right up to Kill — you ring a station and get passed on to a central phone system, that's not good enough. Smaller communities are badly

impacted; youth drop out of school and it's not even picked up on the radar.

"I'm 20 years a political activist" she said "I'd be well able to speak up for the people of South Kildare in the Dáil; remember, the favourites don't always win! A lot of elected representatives are sympathetic on the doorstep, as is they weren't in the last government and had nothing to do with policies made!"

She concluded: "I'm not going to make empty promises to secure votes, the way other politicians 'flip flop' on important issues. The principal with principles, she certainly has great passion and commitment and offers a completely fresh, new approach to politics."



# Vincent P Martin seeks a first Dáil seat for the Greens

**PAUL O'MEARA**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Green Party general election candidate Vincent P Martin is bidding to become his party's first County Kildare Dáil representative.

Like the rest of the candidates, he is out seeking support and this touré recently took him to the Arconagh residential area in Naas. The Naas-based councillor had been here last year for the first time, during the run up to the local elections and could recollect the people he met, maybe not by name, but at some houses and occupants he knew where they worked or where they went to school.

There's no doubt that Martin has one of the easiest campaigns. The Greens haven't been in power long enough to upset anyone and most people accept that climate change isn't a myth. Even if Green isn't your political shade, it's hard not

to be taken by Vincent P Martin's enthusiasm.

The P in his name is a reference to his granduncle Vincent (Pepper) Martin, a US-based pro-boxer who once figured on the front cover of Ring, the sport's prestigious magazine. That P was a prospective world champion who sadly died prematurely of pneumonia in the 1920s.

The Green Party candidate keeps bees, and has written a legal education programme for prisoners, another aimed at second level students and has quoted Patrick's Kavanagh's verse at county council meetings.

He has political experience because he has been a councillor on Monaghan County Council and on Carrickmacross Urban District Council.

By day, he's a barrister or a senior counsel to be precise, representing people in the High Court or the Supreme Court.

He didn't hear much to discourage him to date on the campaign trail.

"It's been very encouraging, there is a lot of goodwill and many people are aware that the Greens could be in an influential position after the election. But there are problems in Kildare North and Naas. Homes are being built but the infrastructure like schools, roads and medical facilities are not," he said.

He added: "It's a big ask but I've a chance of taking a seat and if I do I will use it to exert influence to ease some of these problems caused by an expanding population."

If he succeeds, it will be the Green's first ever Dáil seat in either Kildare constituency.

A year ago it would have seemed unlikely. But his poll topping performance in the local elections saw him take a first Green seat on Kildare County Council for two decades last time out.



Vincent P Martin with some of his canvassing team seeking support at Kingsfurze Avenue, Naas

## National issues are local, says Fianna Fáil's O'Loughlin, as she campaigns to retain seat

**PAULA CAMPBELL**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Deputy Fiona O'Loughlin TD says the same issues are being raised on the doorsteps in South Kildare as at national level — housing, health, education and transport/commuting.

"Housing, health, education and transport — I'm on the doorsteps for the past three weeks, and these are the issues continually being raised," according to the Fianna Fáil woman campaigning to retain her seat.

"Everybody should have a safe and secure home, social, rented or private," she added. "This is the first generation that cannot aspire to home ownership. The need for a rapid delivery of large-scale affordable housing; and looking at how we deliver that in line with infrastructure."

Health, according to the FF woman, is a key issue with Kildare voters — that means access to proper services, investment in primary care with sufficient GPs for the population and proper

community care packages.

That's not all, of course. "Effective public transport that is affordable, accessible and that has sufficient capacity is also another issue — we need communities with good transport, proper traffic management plans with good infrastructure.

"The woeful conditions endured by our commuters and students have to change. I'm calling for fair fares and a new medium-hop zone covering travel from Athy, Monasterevin, Newbridge and Kildare to Dublin.

Then there is quality of life, people having access to good jobs at home, and climate change.

Education, she said, is another big issue. People are "literally crying out in this constituency for school places and new schools. I want to see rapid action on a new secondary school for Newbridge, Curragh / Kildare.

"Access to ASD units is another massive problem, Kildare schools are under resourced and support services for children with



special needs are appalling. Parents are waiting not just for occupational therapists,

they can't even access an assessment appointment quickly. It's shameful —

especially when the early development years are critical for young children".

**Fiona O'Loughlin on the campaign trail with some supporters**



# GENERAL ELECTION 2020

POLLING DAY: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

## ELECTION BRIEFS

Social Democrats looking to make impact in Kildare South

Candidate Linda Hayden (Social Democrats) is standing on a broad platform in Kildare South and is keenly aware of the pressing issues facing voters in the constituency.

The party did not run in the 2016 general election but Cllr Chris Pender was elected last year in the locals.

Hayden said many workers in the Defence Forces are struggling with their low pay and poor conditions and they have a constant battle to cope with the cost of living.

Hayden told the Post: "All these worries are affecting morale and mental health. We need sufficient pay and pension reform to ensure that the current crisis never reoccurs."

If elected, she also pledged to champion working



**Candidate Linda Hayden of Social Democrats with Cllr Chris Pender in Newbridge**

families by extending paid and unpaid parental leave so parents have the choice to stay at home.

The Social Democrats hopeful added: "I'm like many constituents as I'm working full-time and I worry about the rising cost of living, my housing situation and the direction the country is going."

Greens open first office in Kildare North constituency



**Cllrs Hamilton, Martin and Liston at office launch**

Three Green Party Kildare county councillors were present on January 30 to officially open the first ever Green constituency office in Kildare North.

The office is located at Riverview House in Celbridge. A party spokesperson said they hoped to open one in Kildare South as well.

The party's election candidate, Cllr Vincent P.

Martin, as well as councillors Vanessa Liston and Peter Hamilton opened the office, which will provide a location for the party to support residents in the community, as well as an administrative hub for the constituency.

The event was followed by a workshop. This was by the new Climate Response Ireland community group on "How to Develop your own Air Quality Monitor."

# 'Youth quakes' will determine the outcome of this election says Sinn Féin candidate

**ROSE B O'DONOGHUE**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Sinn Féin candidate contesting the general election in North Kildare, Reada Cronin, welcomed the inclusion of her party leader, Mary Lou McDonald to the Prime Time debate on RTÉ earlier this week. Following Sunday's results from the Business Post Red C Poll, Sinn Féin now shares the top slot with Fianna Fáil, ahead of Fine Gael, whose support has dramatically slipped back in recent weeks.

North Kildare SF candidate, Miss Cronin, a former county councillor, stated "Micheál Martin and Leo Varadkar should be quaking in their boots, having to go up against Mary Lou on live television. We saw last week how capable she was, and when faced with real solutions, they should be worried!"

She continued: "We in Sinn Féin are putting forward real solution for the Irish people, and not being dictated to by the bankers, builders and vulture fund holders."

"I'm hearing it on the doorsteps" said Ms Cronin. "Voters are fed up with the main parties; Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael don't have an automatic right to the Dáil. This is a republic and the electorate no longer want their 'smash and grab' politics!"

Ms Cronin described the



**Sinn Féin election candidates Reada Cronin (right) North Kildare and Patricia Ryan who is contesting South Kildare, pictured at last year's local election count. PICTURE: TONY KEANE**

impact that young people are having in this election as "youth quakes."

"Never before have we witnessed so many youth who have persuaded their parents and indeed, grandparents to vote Sinn Féin and to veer away from the crippling policies of the two main parties."

People, she said, want to engage at the doorsteps, and she feels that the youth of Ireland have completely re-energised the political landscape and put some excitement back into the general election.

She said: "We are just a few days out from polling day, and instead of discussing how to solve the housing crisis or how to give workers and families a break, Micheál Martin and Leo Varadkar are

squabbling like children trying to outdo themselves in attacking Sinn Féin. They are under the cosh and resorting to desperation tactics."

She continued: "I think they need to grow up. They have spent this entire campaign making a whole lot of noise but not a whole lot of sense. Sinn Féin will give workers and families a break, and are offering up real solutions. Over the weekend, we published the first piece of legislation that we would introduce in government — to guarantee your right to a pension at 65. People know exactly what the establishment parties will do in government — more of the same."

"Sinn Féin will deliver real change. I'm saying to people; give Sinn Féin a chance and

judge us on how we perform" she concluded.

\* Sunday's Red C poll by the Red C poll put Sinn Féin at the top of the leader board, sharing the highest vote share predictions with Fianna Fáil, the first time ever that Sinn Féin was ranked ahead of Fine Gael in the poll. The poll estimated: Fianna Fáil 24%, down 2; Sinn Féin 24%, up 5; Fine Gael 21%, down 2; the Greens 7%, down 1; Labour 5%, up 1; Social Democrats 3%, no change; Solidarity-PBP 1%, down 1; Aontú are 2%, up 1 and Independents and others are 12%, down 2.

(Note, the poll of 1,000 voters has a margin of error of plus or minus 3%; the poll was taken over six days up until Thursday, January 30).

## Plenty of time to cast your ballot at polling stations on Saturday

Polling stations will be open between 7am and 10pm on election day, this Saturday, February 8.

By now, if you are registered to vote, you will have received your polling card, which will give details of your local polling station.

Voters will need to bring a form of photo ID with them to confirm their identity to polling station staff.

The following documents are acceptable for identification purposes: a passport; a driving licence; an employee identity card containing a photograph; a student identity card issued by an educational institution

and containing a photograph; a travel document containing name and photograph; a Bank or Savings or Credit Union book containing your address in the constituency and/or a Public Services Card.

When polling closes at 10pm on Saturday, ballot boxes will be sealed and brought via Garda escort to the Puncestown Event Centre which is the designated count centre for Kildare North and Kildare South.

The boxes will be opened and sorting and counting of votes will begin on Sunday morning.

## Bookies lay out their odds on candidates most likely to succeed

Bookies are finding it very hard to call the final seats in both Kildare South and Kildare North.

According to data from the Paddy Power betting firm, there could be a political shock in each constituency.

In Kildare South, Fiona O'Loughlin is the most fancied to take a seat, at odds of 1/7 while Fine Gael party chairman Martin Heydon is also heavily odds-on at 1/6.

The bookies believe Mark Wall of Labour will take the third seat, pricing him at 11/8, but newcomer Cathal Berry (Ind) is a danger to him at 2/1 while Sinn Féin's Patricia Ryan is seen as having a

fighting chance, with odds of 5/2. Fianna Fáil's Suzanne Doyle is 5/2 for a seat.

Catherine Murphy of the Social Democrats is the clear front runner in Kildare North and is virtually unbackable at 1/25.

Her constituency rival James Lawless of Fianna Fáil also looks likely to return to the Dáil with 1/6 odds.

### DRIFTED

Fine Gael stalwart Bernard Durkan has drifted out to 11/10 to retain his seat and a similar price has been given for Anthony Lawlor (FG) and Vincent P Martin (Green Party).



**The 2016 general election count at Puncestown — where ballot boxes will be opened and Kildare North and Kildare South votes tallied again this Sunday. PICTURE: TONY KEANE**





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# ALL THINGS INTERIOR

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## Fantastic feature wall ideas

Most interior design enthusiasts strive to create a beautiful home to enjoy with their families. One simple way to enhance your home is to create a feature wall to draw attention to a stunning area of your room and create a wonderful focal point. Paint is a wonderful way to easily add a feature wall to your home but there are other options to also consider. This week I thought I would share some inspiration with you on different styles of feature walls to give your home a real wow factor.

### ART

Art is a wonderful and cost-efficient way to instantly create a feature wall in your home. Areas to consider are a large blank wall space alongside a dining area, over a sofa, along a hallway etc. You can choose an art piece that creates the perfect mood for your room whilst complimenting your taste e.g. fun, energetic, calming, etc. When choosing your artwork, it is important that you consider the colour scheme of your room as a whole. Things to consider are your curtains, blinds and upholstery fabrics, paint colour, the colour of your furniture and your flooring. There are many wonderful Irish artists who would be happy to commission a piece using your selected paint colours. Some Irish artists to consider are Theo Hanley, Emma Campbell, Karen Hickey, Fran Halpin, Rachel McDermott, Rita Oates, Michelle O'Donnell and Jean Lowndes.

### FRAME MOULDING

Frame moulding is a stunning way to create a feature wall in your home. The frames can be painted in the same colour as your wall for a contemporary look or in

a contrasting colour for a more classic style. Another option is to wallpaper inside the frame moulding as I've pictured here in a bedroom with the beautiful Lyra wallcovering in colour pacific from the Etsu wallcovering collection by Romo at €114.50 per roll from my Aspire Design studio which creates a textured design with delicate lustre.

### PANELLED WALLS

There are plenty of different panelled designs to choose from to create an eye-catching feature wall. Consider floor to ceiling box moulding as pictured in my grey bedroom design here. Other panelling options are vertical panelling, board and batten, wainscot panelling, horizontal panelling etc. If you are feeling very creative you could opt for a bespoke abstract designed feature wall like the Games Room pictured here that I designed for one of my clients.

### PICTURE GALLERY

Many of us have lots of photos that we are meaning to develop. Why not create a picture gallery to showcase your favourite family prints. Picture galleries over the sofa or along a staircase can look super. When choosing your frames take into account your existing colour scheme e.g. the colour of your walls, light switches, sofa etc. If creating a picture gallery, consider using frames of the same colour or mounts of the same colour to create unity and allow your pictures to take centre stage.

### WALLPAPER

Another easy way to create an instant feature wall is to add some stylish wallpaper. Consider the shape of your room as you may like to take this opportunity to enhance



Feature panelled wall designed by Louise Higgins Aspire Design



Picture gallery as a feature wall in a bedroom



Feature wall in Master Bedroom by Aspire Design



Artwork as a Feature Wall in a Dining Room

its shape by choosing a pattern that can make a room seem wider or a wall seem taller. Areas to consider are wallpaper along a staircase like the image shown here where the wall is papered in Japura wallpaper in colour quartz available to order from our studio at €133.50 per roll. This showcases an exotic

scenes of palm trees and lush foliage to create a tropical feature wall. Another area to consider is the wall behind a bed as seen here in one of our other bedroom designs with a feature wall in Boheme chinchilla priced at €107.00 per roll. A fireplace wall or a feature wall behind a dining table are also great areas to

add wallpaper.

Thanks again for taking the time to read my interiors column and I hope you found the information helpful. If you are interested in any of the stunning wallpapers featured here, then please get in touch and I can order you a sample. Remember if there is a topic that you would like

covered in 2020 then please drop me a line as I'd be delighted to hear your suggestions.

Thanks, Louise — winner of TV3's Showhouse Showdown, 0863999926 info@aspiredesign.ie www.aspiredesign.ie

Clr. Suzanne Doyle

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**PROPERTY**

# Significant Irish silver piece among 1,100 lots which are up for auction this weekend

Well-known Meath Auctioneers Matthews of Kells conduct their first auction of the new year on the weekend following the general election. On Saturday and Sunday 15 and 16 February, the auctions commence each day at 2pm.

**SIGNIFICANT IRISH SILVER PIECE**

One of the most important pieces of early 20th Century Irish silver in existence will be offered in the auction with an estimate of just €1,500-€2,500. Described as a mether, it is a uniquely Irish drinking cup, a communal vessel. This piece dated 1908 was made by renowned Dublin silversmiths Hopkins & Hopkins, the same craftsmen who made the iconic Sam Maguire Cup.

**MODERNIST DESIGN**

Measuring 11 inches high, an impressive scale for the form, it predates the Art Deco Movement. The auctioneer Damien Matthews describes

it as "a spectacular piece of Irish modernist design, it could be described as aeronautical, futurist even, but it was created in 1908, one year before the Italian futurist manifesto was published".

He noted: "It was to be another nine years (1917) before Eileen Gray began her career in earnest as a designer. Truly, it's a wonder of early twentieth century Irish Design".

**EDWARDIAN EMERALDS**

Also in the auction is a fine Edwardian ladies ring presented in its original box. Emeralds and diamonds of high colour set on platinum it has a very classical look much in vogue. The estimation on this lot, €2,000 to €3,000.

"It's an honest, good-value country sale with a few highlights, the best one we've had in a while and definitely worth coming along to view" said the auctioneer.

**OVER 1,100 LOTS**

Over 1,100 lots in the auction it promises to garner



**This magnificent antique ring, still in its original box, contains Edwardian emeralds and diamonds**

interest both nationally and internationally. And while the catalogue can be viewed online on the auctioneer's website, [www.matthews-auctionrooms.com](http://www.matthews-auctionrooms.com), the sale itself will be on public view in

the Duke Brothers Building, Kells from Thursday, 13 February at 11am.

Saturday and Sunday February 15-16, auction commencing at 2pm daily. each day.



**This superb silver cup will be going to auction over the weekend of February 15 and 16 and was made by the same designers of the Sam Maguire Cup**

# Four-bedroom family home in Newbridge on the market for €359,000



**KIM O'LEARY**  
editor@kildarepost.com

This spacious four-bedroom detached home in Newbridge will ideally suit a family as it includes a sunroom and landscaped gardens for an asking price of €359,000.

No 2, The Avenue Walshestown Park, Newbridge, extends to c.1750sqft offering spacious living accommodation to any potential purchaser. It comes in excellent condition and has been well maintained and tastefully decorated

throughout by its current owners. Inside, the spacious accommodation comprises of four bedrooms, three bathrooms (including en suite), an entrance hallway, a kitchen/dining, utility, guest wc, sitting room, and a

bright sun room. Outside the property includes landscaped, mature gardens and a decking area to the rear of the property. Walshestown Park is located just off the Athgarvan Road on the outskirts of Newbridge town. An array of



amenities can be found in the town. These include schools, shops, bars, restaurants, leading supermarket chains, cinema, Whitewater Shopping Centre and much more. There is a train station and a fantastic bus service while

access to the motorway is only a stones throw making this an ideal choice for any commuter.

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KILDARE POST

# PROPERTY

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## Urban living surrounded by countryside at new homes in Bellingsfield, Naas



### The Bellingsfield development in Naas

Bellingsfield boasts a blend of urban family living and peaceful surroundings, all within easy reach to the bustling town of Naas, which is filled with everything you need for a vibrant modern lifestyle.

The properties are spacious A rated family homes with superior specification throughout, landscaped green spaces and surrounded by excellent schools.

Developed by award winning developer Ballymore and located in the popular town of Naas, these stylish three- and four-bedroom homes combine with stunning landscaped green areas to deliver two developments that are perfect for growing families.

Light and space are maximised, with generous ceiling heights at ground floor the compliment interior

layouts which been designed to suit a modern lifestyle.

The homes at Bellingsfield are designed to offer features such as stone work tops, utilities and luxury bathrooms as standard.

These homes are also premium energy efficient, features include high levels of thermal insulation, A+ integrated appliances and air to water heat pump systems.

The energy efficiency of these homes will lead to lower

energy consumption and lower running costs.

Ideal for commuting, Bellingsfield is conveniently located for travel into Dublin City Centre by car or public transport. These homes also benefit from being surrounded by some of Kildare's most regarded schools and sports clubs, supporting a range of needs for every age group.

Prices start from €315,000 for a three-bedroom home

and €365,000 for a

Ballymore's high-quality specification and premium finish, showcased in the show houses which will be on view at both Bellingsfield and Longstone this Saturday and Sunday from 12pm until 1.30pm.

You may be entitled to claim back income tax up to the value of €20,000 through this scheme.

Each home is designed to

and €365,000 for a Ballymore's high-quality specification and premium finish, showcased in the show houses which will be on view at both Bellingsfield and Longstone this Saturday and Sunday from 12pm until 1.30pm.

**For more information or to arrange a viewing please contact local Selling Agent CME Estate Agents on 045 89 77 11 or visit the website at [www.bellingsfield.com](http://www.bellingsfield.com)**



# IN THE GARDEN

## WITH JO

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# A sign of your love that will not wither

Love is in the air and it's that time of year when we start thinking of a little something for that special someone. Whether you want to make a bold statement or just something small and thoughtful to show you care, we're always searching for new and unusual gift ideas.

While we'll never say no to a bunch of beautiful flowers, the idea of something so short-lived is bitter sweet. The gift that keeps on giving is something that will last year on year and serve as a delightful reminder of this special time. We've put together a list of a few of our most romantic options below.

**Hydrangea Macrophylla**, or the big leaf hydrangea, has beautiful mopheads of colour. It is best grown

in rich, medium-moisture, well-drained soils in slight shade. This plant tolerates full sun only if grown in consistently moist soils. The soil pH affects the flower colour of most cultivars except white (blue in highly acidic soils and lilac to pink in slightly acidic to alkaline soils). These are currently available in a nice handy sized 5l pot.

**Trachelospermum Jasminoides, or Evergreen Jasmine** is a stalwart plant for summer scent and striking winter colour. This is a climber with rich, dark green leaves which turn bronze in winter. From mid-to-late summer, pure white, fragrant flowers are produced. It can be grown against a wall or with support but needs are protected position away from cold, drying

winds.

Sweet smelling **Lavender Angustifolia 'Hidcote', or English Lavender**, will send you to sleep dreaming of your love. Hidcote is a very reliable compact selection great for an unusual low hedge or formal border of the bed, instead of box hedging. It's one of the most popular lavenders with its dense silver-grey foliage, covered in fragrant, blue flower spikes in mid-summer.

**Crateagus Paul's Scarlet, or Red Hawthorn**, is a small rounded deciduous tree with green, glossy leaves and pink/red double flowers. Being of the Hawthorn family, this does have thorns, but its late spring show is truly magnificent.

This will grow to an eventual

height of under five metres.

Beautiful blooming **Cherry Blossom trees**, or flowering cherries as some people call them, are as romantic as it gets, a symbolic flower of spring and a time of renewal. Cherry blossoms and leaves are actually edible, and used in many traditional Japanese sweets and tea. They are usually pickled, but when preserved can even be used to make cocktails! We have some truly beautiful cherries currently available at the nursery, that can still be planted in time for your own stunning show this spring.

**Prunus Kanzan**, a popular, hardy, double flowering cherry tree with an abundance of bright pink double flowers. With an eventual height of around six metres, the leaves uncurl in a deep bronze colour turning green to orange in the autumn. We have a couple of mid sized trees and a couple of very large impressive specimen to choose from.

**Prunus Shirotae**; this Japanese flowering cherry is grown for its wide-spreading, slightly arching branches, covered in white,

fragrant flowers in mid-spring. Vibrant, green leaves in summer turn orange to red in autumn. This is a small but wide tree, a favourite of ours here on the nursery.

**Prunus 'Oku-Miyako'**, also known as the 'Blushing Bride' flowering cherry, is a smaller growing cherry which grows in a table-top shape, blossoms carmen pink in the spring and has wonderful autumn foliage. It requires staking and tying when young and will benefit from a light annual feed of a general garden fertilizer in spring. Apart from that, it requires little maintenance.

This spreading cherry tree, which is wider than it is tall, flowers later than most. It's light pink buds, which open to white flowers, are sometimes likened to little ballerinas. Full height is approximately 5 metres tall but can grow up to 8 metres wide. The height of these plants isn't as important as the girth as they are table top trees.

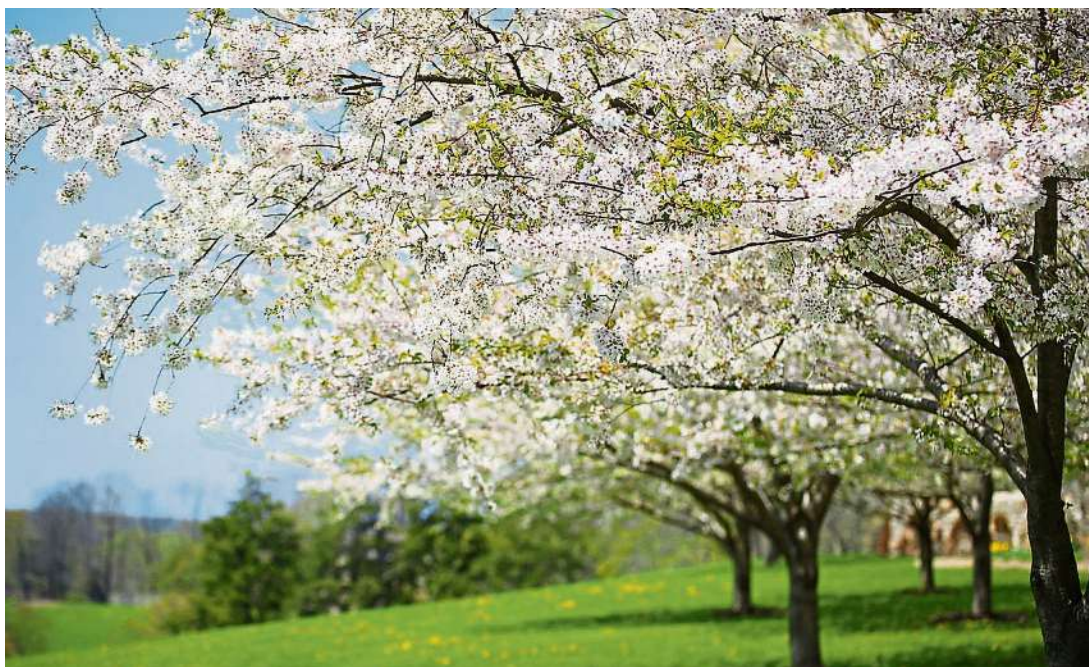
These offer a good alternative, a longer lasting gift which you and your loved one can enjoy for years to come.



Pink hydrangea in full bloom in a Corfu garden in Greece



Heart carved in tree close-up



Tree with White Spring Blossoms of Cherry in the garden on a sunny day

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## MOTORING

# Hyundai i30 Fastback



## BREDA CORRIGAN

Member of Irish Motoring Writers' Association (IMWA)

Hyundai have added an extra dash of style to their i30 family car range with their new i30 Fastback. Five-door coupés have had limited appeal in the past, but Hyundai feel that their new i30 Fastback will attract style-conscious family car buyers who want to stand out

from the crowd.

### SLEEK BODYSTYLE

Based on Hyundai's amazing i30 hatchback, the i30 Fastback is visually different in a number of ways. There are minor tweaks to the front and sides, while the sloping rear gives the car a more rakish appearance. Under the sleek bodywork Hyundai has carried out changes to the running gear in order to provide the Fastback with a unique driving experience.

The springs are 15 per cent stiffer than those in the hatchback, while the Fastback sits 5mm lower for a more streamlined look. The

bodysell is marginally wider thanks to restyled wheelarches, although the wheelbase remains the same as the hatchback.

### ONE TRIM, TWO ENGINES

The new Hyundai i30 Fastback is available in just one specification, while two engine options are available – a 1.0-litre T-GDi (Turbo-Gasoline Direct Injection) and a 1.6-litre turbo diesel unit.

Available in a choice of 11 colours and priced at just €25,745 (ex-works), the i30 Fastback comes extremely well equipped. Standard specification includes 17" alloy wheels, chrome

belt-line, body-coloured door handles, mud guards front and rear, split folding rear seat with ski hatch, front armrest, rear armrest with cup-holders, leather 3-spoke steering wheel and gear knob, spare wheel, driver and passenger seat height adjustment with electronic drivers seat lumbar support, halogen headlights with static bending, power folding and electrically heated exterior door mirrors, LED daytime-running-lights, LED positioning lamps, LED side repeaters on exterior mirrors and air-conditioning.

It furthermore offers rear privacy glass, electric windows front and rear,

Bluetooth with voice recognition, cruise control with speed limiter, idle stop and go, keyless entry, tyre pressure monitoring system, 8" touchscreen with Android Auto and Apple Car Play, Aux and USB ports, RDS radio, satellite navigation, autonomous emergency braking, lane-keep assist with driver fatigue system, rear parking sensors, rear camera, six airbags, electronic stability control and hill-start assist.

### EXCELLENT CABIN AND BOOT SPACE

While the new Hyundai i30 Fastback combines striking looks with superb

build quality and an exceptionally generous level of standard equipment, it doesn't suffer in terms of cabin space. The Fastback is surprisingly uncompromised for a five-door coupé, with as much legroom as the hatchback and very nearly as much headroom. With a boot-space volume of 450-litres, it is even bigger than that on offer in the hatchback.

### MY TEST CAR

I spent a week with the new Hyundai i30 Fastback 1.0-litre T-GDi, and I absolutely loved it – from its sleek good looks to the way it



## New VW Caddy makes world debut!



## BREDA CORRIGAN

Member of Irish Motoring Writers' Association (IMWA)

The new-generation VW Caddy is going to be very different to its predecessor, and yet it fulfils all familiar demands.

The new Caddy will nevertheless again become the benchmark vehicle in the A-segment of commercial urban delivery vans, and privately used family MPVs. For as a marvellously spacious vehicle with two wheelbases, it continues to fulfil all traditional desires for far-reaching transport options and high levels of freedom in the everyday routines of the manual trades, service providers and families.

### 100% NEW, 100% CADDY!

The new Caddy's concept designs are becoming more concrete, as it is clear that a

lot is going to change on Volkswagen Commercial Vehicles' small van/MPV model. The Cargo version of the Caddy underlines the new confidence in the otherwise so functional, practical category. The draft design shows clearly that the roof line slopes down slightly towards the back, while the short wheelbase is becoming longer and the wheels, as requested, bigger.

The LED light graphics too are becoming very innovative, as the front lights visually extend the grille and lead directly on to the vehicle body's sporty, elegant side lines. The draft design of the new Caddy also already clearly indicates more vertically arranged, slim lights at the back. Everything different, but still with a large cargo capacity and great flexibility. The features that always made the Caddy attractive to its customers are retained. In short: 100 per cent new, 100 per cent Caddy.

### FUTURE CLASS BENCHMARK

An example of more sportiness in the segment is made clear on the passenger car variant too. As a short

wheelbase, the vehicle does not only look more serene, it is in reality broader and longer. The new Caddy will thus be considered by many customers, including those keen on sport and active leisure pursuits, as an interesting, practical option. One eye-catching feature is without doubt the huge panoramic glass roof, the largest in the segment. The new Caddy shows its sporty slim design – with a serene, coherent appearance. These are all signs that the new model is launching with the aim of being the benchmark in its class.

### ALWAYS CONNECTED

At the same time more driver assistance systems than ever before find their way here into the urban delivery vehicle / family MPV class. The new Caddy is 'always connected'. That means it becomes its own internet device with real-time information on wheels. Urban delivery van and family MPV versions of the new Caddy will both be presented to the world's public for the first time at the end of February.





# - style with substance

handled every road surface that I travelled on with the greatest of ease. The car performed every task I asked of it with excellent poise and confidence, and returned excellent fuel economy in the process.

Hyundai's impressive 3-cylinder 1.0-litre petrol engine produces a healthy 118bhp and is capable of a 0-100km/h sprint in 11.5-seconds on the way to a top speed of 188km/h (where permitted). Hyundai claim fuel consumption as low as 4.6l/100km on an extra-urban driving cycle, while annual road tax is just €270.

This engine is very well suited to the new i30 Fastback and never gives the impression that it is too small an engine for such a well proportioned family car. This is testament to how far engine technology has come over the last few years.

**COMPREHENSIVE WARRANTY**

The i30 Fastback is a niche proposition, but it certainly has substance to go along with its elegant style. Thanks



to its refreshing design, high level of standard specification and low running costs, it is a far more interesting proposition than most cars of this size and price. The new i30 Fastback is a truly impressive offering from Hyundai and will, undoubtedly, attract even more buyers to the brand.

Hyundai's 5-year, unlimited mileage, warranty

comes as standard – along with 5-years of free health checks and a 5-year AA roadside assist package for total peace of mind.

Contact Fitzpatrick's Garages for details on the i30 and all Hyundai models: Dublin Road, Kildare 045 533 300; Dublin Road, Naas 045 848 800 and Church Road, Tullamore at 057 935 2700. Happy motoring!

**Hyundai i30 Fastback**

- 1) STUNNING COUPÉ STYLING
- 2) EXTENSIVE STANDARD SPECIFICATION
- 3) 1.0-LITRE TURBO PETROL ENGINE
- 4) PRACTICAL, SPACIOUS & REFINED
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The Hyundai 5 Year Unlimited Mileage Warranty applies only to Hyundai vehicles that have been originally sold by an authorised Hyundai dealer to an end-customer, as set out in the terms and conditions of the warranty booklet. \*Hyundai Tucson Comfort. Retail price €27,495. Finance amount €17,871.75. 36 monthly repayments of €200.63. Total cost of credit €1,787.01. Optional final payment of €12,373. APR 3.9% as at 27th January 2020. Minimum deposit €9,623.25. Lending criteria, conditions apply. Available at authorised dealers for models booked and registered before 29th February 2020. Hire purchase by Bank of Ireland t/a Bank of Ireland Finance. Dealer charges apply. \*Price excludes dealer delivery and related charges. Offer applies to 201 Tucson Comfort Passenger booked and registered before 29th February 2020. Model shown for illustrative purposes. WLTP Co2 183 g/km. Fuel consumption 4.9L per 100 km.





# The Care Trust and the all-new Renault Clio – a winning combo

Renault Ireland will partner with Irish charity The Care Trust (TCT) to supply 36 All-New Renault Clios for its series of fundraising lottery draws in 2020. Renault Ireland Brand Ambassador and Today FM Breakfast Show presenter Ian Dempsey was on hand to launch the new partnership.

The Care Trust is a non-profit organisation and a registered charity, raising much needed funds for the CRC, Rehab, and the Mater University Hospital since 1974.

In 2019, The Care Trust provided €2.15m to CRC, Rehab and the Mater Hospital from its fundraising efforts. These funds help to

ensure that thousands of children and adults with physical, medical or intellectual disabilities, those who are socially disadvantaged and those requiring medical care have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.

The Care Trust runs three draws every month, and an All-New Renault Clio must be won in every draw. In the 30 years since the iconic supermini first went on sale, Clio has become Renault's best-selling model worldwide, with 15 million Clios finding homes. The fifth generation of Clio arrived with a totally refreshed exterior styling combined with revolutionary interior

design, and sets new standards for quality, technology and practicality.

It's also one of the safest cars in its class, as highlighted by its five-star EuroNCAP rating.

Conor Dixon, from Renault Ireland commented: "We're delighted to partner with The Care Trust, which does such fantastic work through its beneficiaries at the CRC, Rehab and the Mater Hospital. We wish all 36 lucky winners safe and happy driving in their All-New Renault Clios!"

Senan Mullins, chief executive of The Care Trust added: "We are very grateful to Renault Ireland for their tremendous support and



Today FM radio star Ian Dempsey with the all-new Renault Clio

goodwill and we are looking forward to a great partnership which will offer our contributors the chance, well 36 chances this year in fact, to win an All-New Renault Clio, along with cash

prizes in every draw.

"The Care Trust has been fundraising since 1974, thanks to our generous and loyal contributors from all over the country, who make a huge difference to the lives of

children and adults in Ireland.

"So many people depend on the fantastic services provided by CRC, Rehab and the Mater University Hospital".

## RSA statement on NCT tests

Since the issue of the scissors lift in NCTS Centres has come to light the Road Safety Authority has been working with Applus and engaging with other relevant stakeholders to ensure that they are appraised of the issue and to establish the extent of the problem and possible resolutions.

This also includes engagement with An Garda Síochána.

The NCTS contractor Applus is working to resolve the issue with the lift supplier as a matter of the utmost urgency and they expect to have some centre lifts coming back on line shortly following the completion of an initial condition survey of lifts in some centres.

### SAFETY

The safety and wellbeing of the staff of the NCTS Centres, and customers' property, is of paramount importance and the safety checks must be completed before any lifts can be brought back into commission.

As an interim measure, a Vehicle Inspection Report will be issued in the normal way following a test.

While it will indicate the



NCT testing

result as a 'Fail' it will clearly indicate "No lift inspection done" in relation to Stage 3 of the test dealing with the visual inspection of the underbody.

Motorists affected by the issue are advised to keep a

copy of their Vehicle Inspection Report with them in their vehicle.

In keeping with existing practice motorists are being advised that they must rectify any defects that are detected on any part of the test that is

conducted (Stage 1 and Stage 2).

Any defects will be identified, as usual, on the Vehicle Inspection Report and should be rectified at the earliest opportunity.

All vehicle owners are

reminded that the roadworthiness of their vehicle is always their responsibility, not just at the time their car is due an NCTS test. If their NCT is due, vehicle owners should make a booking as normal and keep

their NCTS test appointments.

Motorists are again advised to keep a copy of their Vehicle Inspection Report with them in order to present it to a member of An Garda Síochána if required.



# New Audi A4 saloon – an intense progression



## BREDA CORRIGAN

Member of Irish Motoring Writers' Association (IMWA)

Despite challenging conditions, Audi delivered 1,845,550 cars worldwide in 2019, an increase of 1.8 percent on 2018. A constant best-seller for Audi is the A4 Compact Executive Saloon, and a new A4 has recently been launched by the premium-brand German car manufacturer. The new Audi A4 Saloon stands for sportiness, emotion and prestige. By focusing on the dynamic quattro elements and harmonious proportions, these attributes become visible all around. At the rear, a continuous chrome strip connects the LED lights to each other, highlighting the horizontal design.

The stepped diffuser surface with the integrated trapezoidal end pipes creates a sporty finish. In the side view, the sports lines of the Audi A4 Saloon continue with wide fenders and distinctive side sills. At the front, the deep and wide single-frame grille, the bumper and the accented wide air intakes form a powerful unit.

### SPORTY CHARACTER

Thanks to a new language of design and an almost completely new body, the sporty character of the Audi A4 saloon comes into play more than ever. It appears dynamic and powerful, while attractive and aesthetic at the same time. A high-quality and functionally designed interior, innovative technologies in the

fields of digitisation, infotainment and driver assistance systems, and powerful engines round off the overall package.

New standard features such as 3 zone climate control, front and rear parking sensors, reversing camera, and heated front seats makes the new Audi A4 Saloon a leader in its class. Another visual feature of the Audi A4 Saloon is its progressive lighting design. The standard equipment includes headlights with LED technology. These ensure daylight-quality illumination immediately after switching on. Optionally, you can opt for the Matrix LED headlights with dynamic lighting and dynamic turn signals. Matrix LED technology combines a camera system with LED light sources and precise optics. This allows the system to selectively shield oncoming vehicles while leaving other areas of the road brightly lit. When you unlock or lock the vehicle, the front and rear Matrix LED headlights give an impressive light show.

### CLASS-LEADING INTERIOR QUALITY

The stylish interior of the Audi A4 Saloon is where you will find a generous amount of head, leg and elbow room, and an arrangement of the interior elements which is designed to maximise brightness and space. The continuous air-jet band emphasises the width of the vehicle, while a chrome application strip above it creates a high-quality accent.

A large compartment in the centre console offers a practical storage space, while the standard interior lighting package creates a feel-good atmosphere on every journey. Class-leading interior quality

ensures that the new A4 feels as though it is built to last for generations – a well known Audi trademark.

### ENGINE, TRANSMISSION AND TRIM OPTIONS

Engine options in the new Audi A4 consist of a petrol-powered unit (2.0 TFSI) with a choice of 150bhp or 190bhp, while diesel-powered (2.0 TDI) engines produce 136bhp, 163bhp or 190bhp. The latter variant features quattro all-wheel drive ensuring optimum traction and driving dynamics. Some of these engine variants feature a 12 volt mild hybrid system with a belt-starter generator and a Li-ion battery. This technology allows, for example, a shutdown of the engine while driving, which reduces fuel consumption.

A six-speed manual transmission is only available in 150bhp TFSI guise, with all other engine options coming as standard with Audi's terrific S-Tronic (7-speed automatic) transmission for pure driving pleasure. There are two trim levels in the new A4 – SE, and S Line, with both specifications coming with such standard features as front and rear seats in leather, heated front seats, 3-zone deluxe automatic climate control, front & rear parking sensors, rear view camera, Audi drive select, cruise control with speed limiter, Audi Smartphone Interface, LED interior lighting package, electric folding exterior mirrors (heated and auto dimming), along with a suite of advanced safety features.

### MY TEST CAR

My test car was a new Audi A4 35TDI S-Tronic (163bhp) S Line Saloon, which was finished in stunning Navarra Blue metallic paint for maximum visual impact. Key S Line features include 19" Audi Sport alloy wheels. S line front and rear bumpers, headlining in black cloth, decorative



inserts in matte brushed aluminium, black gloss look (area surrounding gear knob), scuff plates with aluminium inserts in front (illuminated, with "S" logo), leather / alcantara sports seats with S embossing, and sports suspension.

Producing 163bhp and a healthy 380Nm of torque, the A4 35TDI can sprint from 0-100km/h in just 8.5-seconds, on its way to a top speed of 223km/h. The smooth-revving TDI engine is capable of consuming as little as 5.1-litres of diesel for every 100km driven on a combined driving cycle, while annual road tax is just €190. On the road, the new A4 drives with excellent poise

and precision, with a strong suspension set-up ensuring that road surface imperfections are absorbed very well indeed.

The car remains composed through corners, while admirable driving dynamics and strong brakes provide terrific driver enjoyment. Audi's slick-shifting 7-speed S-Tronic transmission is a pleasure to use, and it is a perfect match to the serene refinement offered by the new A4. Boot space in the new Audi A4 is very similar in size to its Mercedes-Benz C-Class and BMW 3-Series rivals with 480-litres available, but a large opening in the A4 enables greater ease of access than its

rivals can offer. When the rear seats are folded, the available boot space on offer increases to an impressive 965-litres.

### VERDICT AND PRICING

Overall, the new Audi A4 Saloon is a genuinely impressive compact executive car in every area, while drivers looking for even greater practicality may want to consider Audi's new A4 Avant (estate) bodystyle. Pricing for the new Audi A4 Saloon starts at €40,570 (35TFSI). As proof of the confidence Audi have in the quality of their product range, they offer a three-year/100,000km manufacturer's warranty, three-year paint warranty, and a 12-year body protection warranty. The paintwork on every new Audi is covered against manufacturing defects for a period of three years.

Check out the new Audi A4 saloon at Audi Naas, Newbridge Rd, Jigginstown, Naas. Tel: 045 906666.



### Audi A4 Saloon Fact Box

\* NEW DESIGN LANGUAGE

\* CLASS-LEADING INTERIOR QUALITY

\* NEW ENGINE TECHNOLOGY

\* IMPRESSIVELY EQUIPPED

\* PRICED FROM €40,570

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**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Philip Duffy intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Rathcoffey North, Rathcoffey, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing a bungalow, detached domestic garage, effluent treatment system, vehicular entrance, and all associated ancillary site-works, in lieu of development previously granted to me in planning file ref. no. 16/1330. 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.

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Soroban Ltd. intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Fuller's Court Road, Ballitore, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing 33 no. 2 storey semi-detached houses, 1 no. 2 storey detached house, 3 no. detached bungalows and 1 no. 2 storey block containing 1 no. semi-detached house & 2 no. maisonette units. The development also includes a new recessed 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**

Permission sought from Kildare County Council to construct Bungalow, Domestic Garage, Oakstown waste water treatment system and percolation area and all associated works at Timahoe West, Coill Dubh, Naas, Co. Kildare. Dean Casey. 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 €20 within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Loman Byrne intend to apply for permission for development at Mylerstown, Carbury, Co.Kildare. The development will consist of the construction of a two storey dwellinghouse with a waste water treatment system and percolation area, separate domestic garage, private well and recessed entrance onto public roadway and all ancillaries. 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, Marie O'Brien intend to apply for Planning Permission for a development on this site at Carbury, Co. Kildare. The development consists of  
(A) Erection of single storey type house,  
(B) garage / fuel store for domestic use,  
(C) the installation of a Proprietary wastewater treatment system and polishing filter and  
(D) Installation of new recessed entrance and all associated site works.

That 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 that 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. This planning application was prepared and submitted by CROSS Chartered Building Surveyor 11 An Crois, Allenwood, Naas, Co.Kildare. Tel. 045 - 860284

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

Rosaleen Duffy intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Rathcoffey North, Rathcoffey, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing a two storey type dwelling, detached domestic garage, effluent treatment system, vehicular entrance, and all associated ancillary site-works, in lieu of development previously granted to me in planning file ref. no. 16/1329. 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.

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**SIGNIFICANT FURTHER INFORMATION**  
We, Kevin & Julie Hickey, at this site Bawnogues, Boreen Road, Straffan, Co. Kildare. Reference number of the Application: 19/1175  
Development description per original notice: Permission for removal of existing stone chimney and arch at entrance and place new entrance extension feature with new front window, replacement of all windows, attic conversion with 4 no. rooflights, small rear extension and internal modifications. Significant Further Information has been submitted and consists of:  
1.Regularise wastewater treatment system by seeking retention planning permission in respect of same.  
2.Omission of 2 rooflights.  
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 revised plans may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee within 2 weeks from receipt of new notices by the Planning Authority [this fee is not applicable to persons who made original observations/submissions.

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

I, Valerie Boland, intend to apply for PERMISSION and RETENTION PERMISSION for development at Monasterevin Road, Kildare Town R51WC82.  
The development will consist of, Retention permission for additions to existing dwelling. Additions include; (i) single story garage adjoining rear of dwelling, (ii) single story brick sunroom adjoining side of dwelling, (iii) single story brick entrance hallway. Permission for, (i) the construction of a new habitable room above existing garage, (ii) new wastewater treatment system and associated percolation 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 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**

Planning permission is sought by Kee Design (www.keedesign.ie) on behalf of Andrew Behan for a dwelling, effluent treatment system and all associated site works at Cloneybeg, Nurney, 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.

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

I, Emma Mahady intend to apply for Planning Permission for a development on this site at Capinargid, Rathangan, Co. Kildare. The development consists of  
(A) the erection of a Two storey type house,  
(B) garage / fuel store for domestic use,  
(C) the installation of an Oakstown BAF wastewater treatment plant with Tertiary treatment in a Sand polishing filter percolation area and  
(D) erection of boarding kennels with 10 no. dog kennels and dog feed store.  
That 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 that 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. This planning application was prepared and submitted by CROSS Chartered Building Surveyor 11 An Crois, Allenwood, Naas, Co.Kildare. Tel. 045 - 860284

**PLANNING NOTICES**

**KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL**

I, Brenda O'Brien wish to apply for planning permission for the following (i) retention of as constructed dormer style dwelling house, (ii) retention of double garage, (iii) retention of existing waste water treatment system, (iv) new percolation area to service existing waste water treatment system and all associated site development works. The boundaries of the land proposed for sterilization purposes has been modified. Previously planning permission register reference 00/500167 was granted on this site. All development to take place on revised Site Layout Plan at Site 3, Tipper North, Naas, Co. Kildare W91 KTD8. 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.

**Thanksgiving**

**The Miraculous Prayer.**  
Dear Heart of Jesus in the past I have asked for many favours. This time I ask you for this very special one. take it, dear Heart of Jesus and place it within your own broken heart where your Father sees it. Then, in his merciful eyes it will become your favour not mine. Say this prayer for 3 days and promise to publish. Prayer will be answered after the third day. M.C.

**Thanksgiving**

*Thanks Giving*  
to  
**St Jude**  
for Favour  
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LIFESTYLE



Male chorus of All Shook Up



Cast members enjoying the show!

# Out & About

NAAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENT  
'All Shook Up!'  
At the Moat Theatre, Naas

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



Adam Brady, Jack Taaffe and James Leonard



Mazin Elbedawi, Ronan Cribbon, Laura Kelly, Stephen Reid, Ella O'Connell, Josh Brodgeman, Lucy Burns, Leon Sweeney, Ella Kavanagh and Bonnie Sheridan



All Shook Up cast and crew



Nia Thomas, Eva Heffernan and Veronica Certeza



Ella O'Connell, Josh Brodgeman and Ella Kavanagh



# Kildare trainer and jockey combine for well fancied win at Down Royal

Curragh trainer Pdraig Roche and Clane jockey Mark Walsh were responsible for the shortest-priced winner at Down Royal last week.

After the shock 100/1 success of Department Of War in the opening maiden hurdle, a more normal service was resumed as the pair landed the rated novice chase with 6/4 favourite Castle Oliver in the colours of JP McManus.

The six-year-old got up in the final strides to beat the Gordon Elliott-trained 11/4 chance Diamond Turf and Davy Russell by a neck.

Niall Madden struck with another well-fancied winner as 6/1 shot Golden Sunset found his form in the 2m4f handicap chase.

A beaten favourite when second at Tramore in December, he unseated his rider at Down Royal on St Stephen's Day and was then pulled-up at Fairyhouse but got off the mark with a two-length victory over Misty Adage with Simon Torrens in the saddle.

## FINE RUN

Oliver McKiernan and Barry Browne maintained their fine run of form at Limerick on Thursday where Difficult Decision readily won the 2m5f handicap



Castle Oliver and Mark Walsh win the Irish Stallion Farms EBF Rated Novice Chase at Down Royal for Curragh trainer Pdraig Roche PICTURE: PATRICK MCCANN/RACING POST

hurdle.

The seven-year-old led after the second last hurdle and got the better of the Terence O'Brien-trained 5/2 favourite Frere Fontaine by four and a quarter lengths to add to his recent Clonmel success.

Ronan Whelan and Ado McGuinness were again among the winners at Dundalk on Friday night last where Bowerman recorded an impressive win in the conditions' race.

Owned by the Total Recall Racing Club, the well-backed

4/6 favourite challenged between horses with over a furlong to race and skipped nicely clear to win by three and three parts of a length from Princess Yaiza. Curragh trainer Johnny Levins won the 8f handicap with 10/1 chance Nordic Passage, the

longest priced winner of the night.

New Ross jockey Donagh O'Connor had an easy time of it on the Hugh Ward-owned five-year-old which readily got the better of 2/1 favourite Miracles In May by a length and a quarter. Johnny Feane

landed the finale as the Robbie Colgan-ridden Lightning Charlie, carrying colours of the Dundalk Bay Sea Foods, came home half a length to the good over the Andy Slattery-trained Comghairdeas at odds of 7/2 favourite.

## Faugheen lights up Leopardstown

Leopardstown came alive on Saturday, in front of a crowd of 14,204, as wonder-mare Honeysuckle produced the performance of her career to take the PCI Irish Champion Hurdle on an afternoon her rider Rachael Blackmore described as "magic" as she lit up day one of the Dublin Racing Festival.

Blackmore and trainer Henry de Bromhead had already combined to take Grade 1 honours in the ERSG Arkle Novice Chase with Notebook, but a very special reception was reserved for

Honeysuckle as she scored at odds of 8/11 favourite at the main expense of her own stable companion Petit Mouchoir and Gavin Cromwell's Darver Star.

The second day of the Dublin Racing Festival, attended by 12,270, was highlighted by the remarkable Faugheen, which rolled back the years to take the Grade 1 Flogas Novice Chase.

The loveable 12-year-old was out-jumped almost throughout by fellow market leader Battleoverdoyen, but

he was always in touch and the crowd went wild as he took it up between the last two.

Paul Townend's gallant partner had a battle on his hands from the last as his own stable companion Easy Game threw down a determined challenge but he was more than up to the task.

He scored by half a length with the crowd in raptures, and many of them showing a fair turn of foot of their own as they descended on the parade ring to welcome their hero.

## More people going racing

The 2019 Irish horse racing and breeding industry statistics confirm an increase in people attending racemeetings in Ireland and continued growth in racehorse ownership.

The number of horses returned in training in Ireland — a key driver of employment — rose for the third time in four years, with a 3% increase in 2019.

New owner registrations were up by 6.8% year-on-year with over 850 new racehorse owners registered with Horse Racing Ireland.

The bulk of these new registrations (600) were sole owners and partners, as well as 216 new syndicates.

HRI Chief Executive Brian



Kavanagh said, "Horse racing generates a very significant return to the rural economy in Ireland and a positive international profile for our country."

"None of this success could be achieved without the support provided by the Government. 2019 was a good year for Irish racing, however the industry requires long-term certainty of

funding to be able to plan strategically, not least in the context of the challenges provided by Brexit. The increased revenue from betting tax provides the basis for such a long-term funding mechanism and Horse Racing Ireland will engage actively with the incoming Government in the coming month to achieve this objective."

Cllr. Suzanne Doyle

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## SPORT

# Ladies re-energise for second half and quash Sligo threat

LIDL LADIES NFL DIVISION 3,  
ROUND 2

KILDARE  
SLIGO

2-13  
1-8

KILDARE POST REPORTER  
at St Conleth's Park

A dominant second half that saw Sligo hit one point as Kildare burst from the blocks ensured that the home side would quickly turn around a half time three point deficit to claim their second victory of their Lidl Ladies National Football League Division 3 campaign.

Sligo were first to open the days tally with a point right from the throw-in. Winning the ball they burst towards the Kilcullen end where Rachel O'Brien pointed.

With the sides tentatively working their way into each others half it took Kildare four more minutes to level, a long ball from Grace Clifford dropped on top of the large rectangle it was Grace White who profited gathering to slice over off the inside of the right boot.

Sligo's Lisa Casey who looked to advance the Sligo cause with a free before Nicola Brennan put two between the sides.

At this point it was Kildare who were struggling to breakdown the Sligo defence as at every opportunity they flooded the back third with 12-14 players.

A free on 12 minutes was as much as Lara Curran could muster in the opening quarter.

A further exchange of free from Casey and Curran maintained the single point Sligo advantage as the tie headed into the final ten minutes of the opening half.

Determined to keep Kildare in the shadows Sligo again thundered forward with O'Brien again the profiteer with a quick offload to the poaching corner



Kildare's Orlaith Sullivan on the attack for Kildare against Sligo

forward allowed her to sneak past Mary Hulgraine before Casey added her third free of the day to leave five separating the sides.

Looking eager to give the loyal supports something to watch Kildare attacked into the town end and after a wide a poor Rachel Quigley kick out fell straight into the hands of Neasa Dooley who quickly fed through to White the deficit was sliced to two before an infringement on the kick out again gifted Curran an opportunity to cut this to one. Seasoned over the paced ball the centre forward made no mistake with the finish.

With Casey looking to add to her day's tally it was two quick points from play before the break that left Kildare trailing by three as the sides took to the dressing rooms.

On the restart within minutes Orlaith Sullivan had the sides within two before

Sullivan who had the ball in the back of Rachel Quigley's net only for referee Barry Redmond rule that the Kildare forward in the square.

Four frees in seven minutes from Curran sent Kildare into the lead for the first time as they rose to the ascendancy.

Holding a two point advantage heading into the final ten minutes of action it was Curran who was again poaching on the edge of the large rectangle.

With Dooley gathering and finding her path blocked she was aware to Curran's presence, off-loading to Currah who made no mistake it's the finish. Further points from Sullivan and Aoife Rattigan left seven between the sides with eight minutes on the clock as Kildare had managed to hold Sligo scoreless since first half injury time.

Eilise but two two points from Curran and Sullivan rounded off a accomplished eight point victory and a second victory of the 2020 season for Kildare.

Following on from a fantastic second half performance that saw his side take a second victory in as many weeks Kildare manager Daniel Moynihan was very happy with the response that his side gave to their below par opening half performance "we made hard work of it" admitted the man in charge.

Moynihan stress although it wasn't pretty "it is something that his side need to be able to deal with, it is difficult but I think for our forwards and mid fielders, we needed to show a level of patience."

Moynihan was also quick to admit that this wasn't there in the opening period of play. "In the first half we got a little bit frantic on the ball and we did things that we don't normally do."

Kildare are in action again on Sunday, against Wicklow, again at St Conleth's Park, Newbridge.

Scorers: Kildare: Lara Curran 1-8 (8f); Grace White 1-1; Orlaith Sullivan 0-3; Aoife Rattigan 0-1.

Sligo: Lisa Casey 0-5 (3f); Rachel O'Brien 1-1; Nicola Brennan 0-1; Eilise Codd 0-1.

KILDARE: Mary Hulgraine; Claire Sullivan, Lara Gilbert, Shauna Kendrick; Rachel Cribbin, Dervla McGinn, Louise Scully; Siobhan O'Sullivan, Grace Clifford; Grace White, Lara Curran, Joanne Daly; Neasa Dooley, Grainne Keneally, Niamh Sinnott. Subs: Orlaith Sullivan for Deay, 30; Aoife Rattigan for Sinnott, 30; Megan O'Connor for White, 47.

SLIGO: Rachel Quigley; Claire Dunne, Ruth Goodwin, Aoife Morrisroe; Jane O'Down, Nicola Brennan, Jade Lyons; Sinead Reagan, Tara Carty; Sinead Naughton, Lisa Casey, Louise Merrick; Leah Kelly, Eilise Codd, Rachel O'Brien. Subs: Sarah Cunney for Dunne, 30; Megan McCormack for O'Brin, 30; Tara Walsh for Kelly, 41; Denise McGrath for Merrick, 47; Roisin Scanlon for Lyons, 57; Leonie Gaughan for Carty, 61; Clíodhna Fleming for O'Dowd, 61.

## TAKE 5 - Kildare Vs Clare (NFL)

### MAIN MAN

#### KEELAN SEXTON (CLARE)

Not for the first time the skilful corner forward caused a Kildare defence a whole multitude of problems. He finished with four points from play including two crucial efforts in the second half. His performance was best summed up when he bounced off a challenge from Eoin Doyle late on

### TURNING POINT

Paddy Brophy's red card certainly turned the game in Clare's favour. Kildare weren't playing well but they still managed to get level but after the Celbridge man was dismissed they lost all impetus and Clare took full advantage. See match report with Robert Cribbin on p 64.

### TALKING POINT

The performance of Sligo official Barry Judge came in for a lot of talk afterwards and the inexperienced official seemed to give a lot of decisions against the visiting side including the black and red cards for Paul Cribbin and Paddy Brophy which looked pretty harsh.

### SCORE OF THE GAME

It could have been any of Sexton's points but his 58th minute effort from near the sideline was a beauty that edged his side in front and helped his team get over the line.

### WHAT NOW?

Kildare travel to the Athletic Grounds on Saturday night to take on Armagh with Clare taking on Roscommon the following day.

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SPORT

# Kildare outclass Warwickshire in one-sided hurling league tie

**KILDARE** 5-18  
**WARWICKSHIRE** 0-1  
**ROBERT CRIBBIN**  
editor@kildarepost.com

Kildare made it two wins from two in the Allianz Hurling League (Division 2B) when demolishing Warwickshire at Paire na hEireann, Birmingham, last Saturday, on a final scoreline of Kildare 5-18, Warwickshire 0-1.

In the absence of team manager David Herity, whose wife gave birth on Friday to a baby son, Declan O'Toole took charge of the the Lilies and, as the scoreline suggests, it was job done with some ease as the home side were simply outclassed all the way through.

Last year, when these sides met, Kildare won 8-19 to 0-6 and it was something very similar as captain Brian Byrne gave a magnificent display of hurling, scoring 3-9.

From the first whistle, it soon became clear Warwickshire were out of their depth as Shane Ryan scored the first point within minutes, which was shortly followed by another from Niall O Muineachain.

An early goal from James Burke opened the flood gates as the Midland men became



**Niall O Muineachain sets up an attack for Kildare**  
PHOTO MICHAEL ANDERSON

increasingly frustrated, and a red card was dealt to Anthony Hands for a dangerous blow which sealed their fate. At half time, the Lilies had the comfortable score line of 2-12 to 0-1.

The second half continued on a predictable path as Kildare simply pulled further and further away, the home side failing to raise a flag of any description in the second half.

**KILDARE:** Paddy McKenna; Cian Ford; Simon Leacy; Rian Boran; Niall O Muineachain (0-2); Aran Kelly; Cathal Derivan (0-1); Paul Divilly; Mark Delaney; Cathal Dowling; Brian Byrne (C) (3-9 6f, 1 s/l); James Burke (0-3); Conor Kiely;

Jack Sheridan (0-2); Shane Ryan (1-1).  
**SUBS:** Declan Molloy (1-0) for Conor Kiely (51 mins), Cathal Melville for James Burke (54 mins), Liam Dempsey for Paul Divilly (57 mins), Ronan Dunne for Rian Boran (62 mins), Sean Whelan (0-1) for Shane Ryan.

**WARWICKSHIRE:** Phil Crean; Diarmuid Murphy; Anthony Hands (Red card); Tom Kelly (Yellow card); Ciaran Heaney; John Collins (C); Michael O'Regan; Daire King; Robbie Curley; Alan Brooks; Ian Dwyer; Robert Duggan; Pauric Crehan (Yellow card); Luke Hands (0-1); Kelvin Magee (Yellow card).

**SUBS:** Breen Fallon for Robbie Duggan (35 mins), Darren O'Neill for Alan Brooks (51 mins), Fintan White for Diarmuid Murphy (55 mins).

**REFEREE:** Kevin Brady (Louth)



**Kildare's Mark Delaney** PHOTO MICHAEL ANDERSON

## GAA FIXTURES

### SATURDAY FEB 8

**2020 Europcar Dowling Cup Group A**  
**At Ardclough,** Ardclough V Castlemitchell 14:00, Ref: Peter Farrell  
**At Robertstown,** Robertstown V Rheban 14:00, Ref: Owen Murphy.

**2020 Europcar Dowling Cup Group B**  
**At Cappagh,** Cappagh V Athy 14:00, Ref: Thomas Smyth.

**2020 Europcar Dowling Cup Group C**  
**At Murphy Memorial Park, Grange,** Grangenolvin V Athgarvan 14:00, Ref: Stephen Foley  
**At Stephen O'Rourke Park,** Ballykelly

V Kill 14:00, Ref: Colin Kearney  
**2020 Europcar Keogh Cup Group A**  
**At Suncroft,** Suncroft GFC V Ellistown 14:00, Ref: Matthew Redmond  
**At Straffan,** Straffan V Milltown 14:00, Ref: Fergus Devereux.

**2020 Europcar Keogh Cup Group B**  
**At Ballymore Eustace,** Ballymore Eustace V Kilcullen 14:00, Ref: Alan Lagrue

**At Sallins,** Sallins V Clogherinkoe 14:00, Ref: John Enright.  
**2020 Europcar Keogh Cup Group C**  
**At Leixlip,** Leixlip V Nurney 14:00, Ref: Alan Archbold

**At Two Mile House,** Two Mile House V Kilcock 14:00, Ref: Billy O Connell.

**2020 Europcar Keogh Cup Group D**  
**At Ballyteague,** Ballyteague V Rathangan 14:00, Ref: Henry Barrett

**At St Kevin's,** St Kevin's V Allenwood 14:00, Ref: Killian Jones  
Fixture

### SUNDAY FEB 9

**2020 Europcar Dowling Cup Group B**  
**At St. Farnans Park,** Caragh V Rathcoffey 11:30, Ref: Paraic McGivern

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# Kildarepost Sport

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**Racing:**  
Kildare trainer and jockey combine for well fancied win at Down Royal, Page 61

## Clare show bite to overcome off colour Kildare

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE  
DIVISION 2 ROUND 2

CLARE  
KILDARE

0-11  
0-10

ROBERT CRIBBIN  
editor@kildarepost.com

In some ways, the dark and dreary weather in Ennis on Sunday afternoon last summed up the Kildare performance as a resurgent Clare took a one-point victory.

After losing to Westmeath in their opening game, Clare were like coiled springs and they took advantage of their opponents' uncertainty to claim the victory.

The Banner are without the likes of Gary Brennan and Jamie Malone this term, and what will frustrate Kildare the most is that they couldn't put away a depleted Clare team.

Kildare led for periods of the first half, but could never kick on and eventually the loss of Paul Cribbin (temporarily for a black card) and Paddy Brophy (permanently with a red) scuppered their chances of taking home the points.

It was an incredibly indisciplined Kildare display where they received 10 cards in total, and it's something they will have to improve on for the rest of the campaign, starting with Armagh on Saturday.

Kildare started well with

an opening minute Neil Flynn free before Clare responded with a Keelan Sexton point from play.

Kildare, with the aid of a strong breeze in the opening period, then kicked on with three points in a row from Flynn, Paddy Brophy and a wonderful individual effort from Jack Robinson.

Niall Kelly and Gearoid O'Brien then exchanged scores before a Banner brace from Sexton and Eoin Cleary left just a point between the sides.

Paddy Brophy, with his second of the half, soon pushed that lead out to two points but after Paul Cribbin got a black card in the 32nd minute, Clare went into the break level at 0-6 apiece after Cleary and Sexton improved their tallies.

Kildare started the second half in style with a couple of quickfire points from Kevin Feely after good work for both by clubmate Niall Kelly.

Clare weren't going away, though, and after a brace from O'Brien levelled the game, the Banner roar could be heard in full voice when Cleary put them into the lead for the first time in the 51st minute.

Feely replied with a free, but minutes later Paddy Brophy was sent off on a second bookable offence and Kildare's challenge really suffered as a result.

Clare kicked on, with

Sexton converting two fine attempts from play and there was two points in it entering the final few minutes.

Kildare had their chances though with sub Adam Tyrrell missing the target on a couple of occasions before Feely kicked his fourth point of the game.

Four minutes of added time were then played, but Clare's cynical approach in the final few minutes slowed Kildare down and the hosts held on for an 0-11 to 0-10 victory.

Scorers for Clare: Keelan Sexton 0-4, Gearoid O'Brien and Eoin Cleary (1f) 0-3 each, David Tubridy 0-1 (f).

Scorers for Kildare: Kevin Feely 0-4 (2fs), Paddy Brophy and Neil Flynn (2fs) 0-2 each, Niall Kelly and Jack Robinson 0-1 each.

**CLARE:** Stephen Ryan; Kevin Hartnett, Cillian Brennan, Gordon Kelly; Sean Collins, Pearse Lillis, Dean Ryan; Ciaran Russell, Cathal O'Connor; Gearoid O'Brien, Keelan Sexton, Dermot Coughlan; Eoin Cleary, David Tubridy, Cian O'Dea.

**SUBS:** Emmet McMahon for O'Connor (53), Cormac Murray for Coughlan (59), Eoin Collins for Ryan (70+2).

**KILDARE:** Mark Donnellan; Peter Kelly, Mick O'Grady, Eoin Doyle; Con Kavanagh, Johnny Byrne, Shea Ryan; Kevin Feely, Liam Power; Paul Cribbin, Niall Kelly, Paddy Brophy; Jack Robinson, Daniel Flynn, Neil Flynn.

**SUBS:** Kevin Flynn for P Kelly (17), Keith Cribbin for N Flynn (HT), Jimmy Hyland for Robinson (45), Adam Tyrrell for P Cribbin (57), John Treacy for N Kelly (63).

**REFEREE:** Barry Judge (Sligo).



Kildare centre back Johnny Byrne breaks free from the hold of Clare Cian O'Dea during the Allianz National Football League Division 2 Round 2 game

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