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Tipperary singer returns from Sydney to break music scene

By **DYLAN WHITE**
e-mail: dylan.white@iconicnews.ie
Twitter: @TipperaryLive

A talented musician from Clonmel has moved home from Sydney, Australia, intent on breaking the Irish music scene.

On the back of releasing his first song on Spotify, Luke Hyland says he is "unrecognisable" from the teenager

who went to CBS High School in Clonmel.

The I Want You hitmaker dropped out of a course in Aircraft Systems at IT Carlow after a year and started working with Abbott in Clonmel. He moved to Sydney two years ago to "get away from Ireland and experience something new", crediting the move as the source of inspiration which kick-started his music career.

"I went Down Under like

any other Irish person, and the Sydney experience was amazing. If I never went to Sydney, I would have never gotten exposure in the music industry, which has given me the courage to do what I'm doing now," the 22-year-old tells South Tipp Today.

"In Australia, I was less affected by other people's opinions, like from family and friends. When you say you want to be a musician, it doesn't go down too well, es-

pecially if you're in a good job. It's very hard for someone to come out and admit they want to be a musician.

"When I went over to Sydney and was on my own, I didn't have that pressure to get a good job and that's when I really figured out that my future is in music. I have come back to Ireland with that mindset," he continues.

Read more on Page 9



Rockwell College's Michael Doyle, Shane Neville, Mikey Bergin, Adam Maher, Casey Jay Coleman, David Carroll, Henry Buttimer, Edith Carroll, Philippa Harold Barry, Emma Rochford, Aoife Leahy, Katelyn Drohan and Maeve Murphy raised €35,000 for the Hope Foundation in Kolkata

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Family delight at Frank's All Time Great win

Family members of the late Frank Patterson are celebrating this week after the Clonmel tenor won the Tipperary All Time Great online poll in TipperaryLive.ie.

In a closely fought final he beat off the challenge of legendary Tipperary hurler Jimmy Doyle.

The two had won through to the decider after an intriguing vote that captured the imagination of Tipperary people at home and abroad.

Frank Patterson fans logged on in large numbers to vote and none are more delighted than his surviving family in Tipperary and the United States.

"We are absolutely thrilled", says Frank's sister Imelda Malone who lives in Ard na Greine, Clonmel.

"All the family is delighted, those in Clonmel and also in the United States.

"Everyone got involved in the vote and the stories online and on Facebook were shared widely. It generated great interest. There was great expectation every week to see the the outcome of the latest vote".

Imelda says that Frank himself would have been delighted with the result.

While he was honoured across the world for his beautiful voice, it would have

meant so much to him to be recognised by his own in Tipperary.

"He was always so proud of Clonmel and Tipperary and this would have meant so much to him", points out Imelda.

And she adds that it's wonderful for his surviving relatives to know that he is still so well remembered two decades after his death.

Adding to the prestige of the achievement was the overall quality of the sixteen Tipperary people who were nominated to run in the poll, any of whom would have been a worthy winner.

On his way to winning, Frank had got past the challenge of fellow Clonmel woman and Chernobyl children's advocate Adi Roche; poet and patriot Charles J Kickham and of course Jimmy Doyle in the final.

Imelda recalls a concert for the Chernobyl fund with Adi Roche in St Patrick's cathedral in Dublin where Frank performed.

He was also a great admirer of the writings and works of Kickham, while as a long-standing supporter of Tipperary hurling, he was in awe at the brilliance of Jimmy Doyle.

"So there was a nice link between Frank and those he came up against on his way to this win", remarks Imelda.



Family members gather at the statue of Frank Patterson in Clonmel to mark his win in the Tipperary All Time Great poll - Riain Patterson, Deirdre Patterson, Ian Patterson, Cara Patterson, Niamh Hassett, Abbie Hassett, Mary Patterson, Imelda Patterson, Norma Slater, Michael Murphy, Mary McGrath, Peggy Burke and sitting Kitty Murphy Picture: John D Kelly

Or course Clonmel and its people has long recognised the brilliance of Frank Patterson, and his funeral nearly twenty years ago, following his untimely death at the age of sixty one, was one of the largest seen in the town.

And a wonderful statue of

Frank was later erected in Mick Delahunty Square - named after another iconic Clonmel musician - and the family gathered there last weekend for a photograph to mark the occasion.

Imelda says that Frank would have been delighted to

reach the final in the company of Jimmy Doyle, who will always be a Tipperary great.

The Tipperary Sarsfields man won six All-Ireland senior medals, nine Munster medals and seven National Hurling League medals.

He was also named on the Team of the Century and the Team of the Millennium and is regarded as one of the greatest hurlers that the game has known, in the company of such as Christy Ring, Mick Mackey and his Tipperary team mate John Doyle.

'Serving your community is what it's all about'

Tipperary Fine Gael general election candidate Garret Ahearn won't wait to test the political waters in the next Dáil election, which isn't expected until sometime early next year.

Instead, he will enter the fray at local elections when he seeks a council seat in Clonmel in May.

In a controversial move by the Government, the existing Clonmel-Cahir electoral area is to be split for the May elections, with Clonmel becoming a stand-alone area and Cahir joining up with Cashel-Tipperary.

Clonmel gains a seat, going from five councillors in the existing council to six in the new body, and Mr Ahearn hopes to win that extra seat for Fine Gael.

It is understood that Mr Ahearn believes that the campaign itself and the exposure if elected should prove a considerable boost to his Dáil aspirations.

He says it was always his intention to contest this year's elections. "Local politics and serving your local community is what it's all about," he tells South Tipp Today.

"It was a privilege to be selected last year as the Fine

Gael candidate in the next general election and since my selection I have worked extremely hard to represent the people here in Tipperary. I know that Tipperary needs strong representation locally as well as nationally.

"Both my parents were local councillors and I know they took immense pride in helping people in the locality and seeking to get the facilities and services our community deserves.

"My focus now is on May 24 and winning an extra seat for Fine Gael in Clonmel. I look forward to meeting as many people as possible during the campaign," Mr Ahearn adds.

He has called on Minister for Local Government John Paul Phelan to allocate extra funding for the newly formed six-seater Clonmel Municipal District.

"While I welcome the decision by Minister Phelan of a standalone Clonmel Municipal District, it is extremely important that funding and resources are not affected by these changes. There is a fear that because the population of the district is reducing from 36,000 to 24,000, then funding will also reduce. I will be putting pressure on Minister Phelan to make sure enough funding is allocated to Clonmel."

The initial recommendations of the independent

committee saw the new four-seat Cahir district sit with Clonmel Municipal District, but Minister Phelan has instead moved Cahir into the Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District.

"Minister Phelan gave very clear reasons on why the decision was made to move the Cahir district into Cashel. The terms of reference put forward last year by the Government stated that all five previous borough councils and any other town with a population over 30,000 would have its own municipal district. This in effect meant Clonmel must be a separate municipal district. No Oireachtas member voiced their concerns at that time when they had the opportunity to put forward submissions."

Minister Phelan also acknowledged his surprise that Rosegreen, where he has relatives, had been moved into the Clonmel district. He said this was an independent decision made by the boundary committee.

"I can understand the frustration within the community of Rosegreen to be moved from the Cashel district to Carrick and now to Clonmel. In respect of Cahir, I would expect for the next review of the local electoral boundaries that submissions will be put forward to have Cahir as a single municipal district," Mr Ahearn adds.



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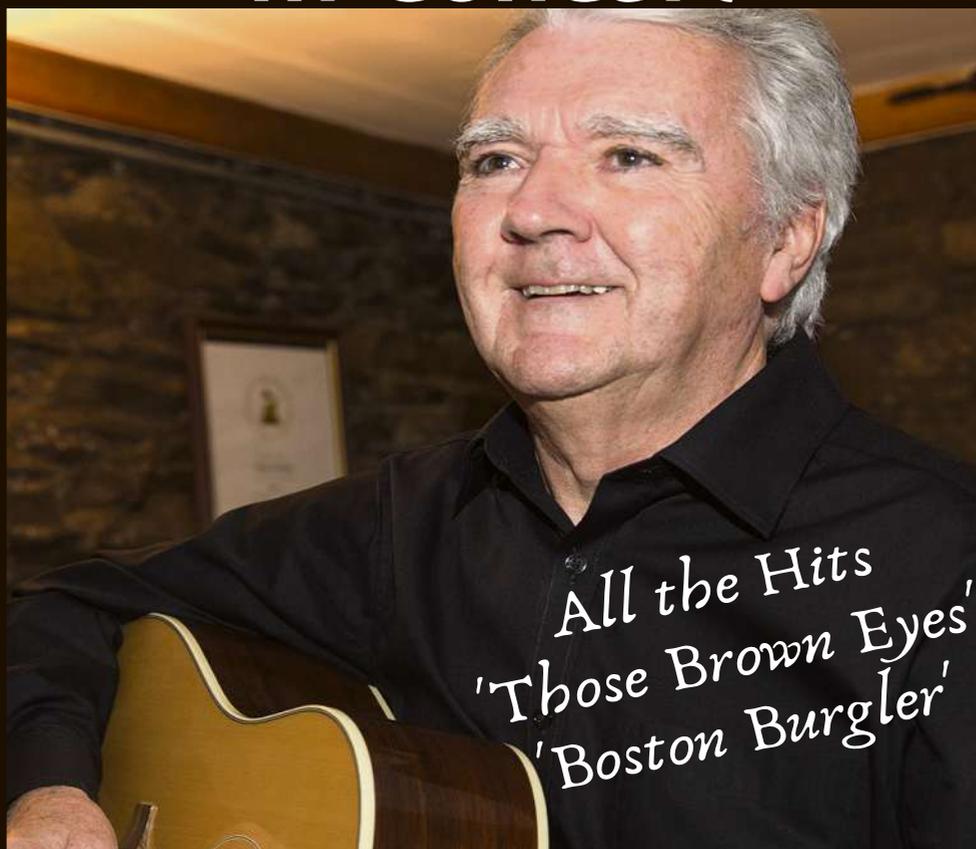
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Multi-million euro plan to transform Scoil Aonghusa

An ambitious multi-million project which will enable the dedicated staff at Scoil Aonghusa, Cashel, to continue providing such an invaluable service to the community for generations to come is taking shape.

Space is at an absolute premium at Scoil Aonghusa, which has a waiting list for pupils, and planning permission is about to be sought for a multi million plan to transform the school with a four/five phase building programme.

Scoil Aonghusa caters for 107 pupils for children with intellectual disability, challenging behaviour and life limiting conditions with profound disability in a pre school, primary and secondary unit providing a full curriculum with a programme tailor made for each student.

The implementation of the building plan will transform Scoil Aonghusa providing ten new ASD classes, a sports hall and extra pre school ASD rooms. Land beside the school has already been acquired.

How restrictive the site is on an everyday basis is clearly evident from a visit to the classrooms during which the devotion and desire of the staff stands out as they care, engage and teach the pupils.

What they need to make the lives of the students more comfortable and to equip themselves to make every pupil "the best they can be" is more space.

"We have not one square inch left on this site, we just need the space and urgently need to start to build," said sports programme coordinator Geraldine Ryan Mea-

gher.

Space is at such a premium classrooms that should have one specific function only are doubling up as multi purpose rooms causing frustration for the staff and for the pupils themselves.

The limitations of the existing school site regarding capacity is highlighted by the fact that every day some of the pupils that arrive at Scoil Aonghusa by bus have to get off that bus and get on another one to bring them to two classrooms in the centre of town a few miles away.

"This is totally unsatisfactory on so many levels. It causes huge disruption for the children. For them to get on and off buses is very difficult and frustrating in itself and the functioning of the school suffers because of the split and the need for some of the pupils to be separated from all the other classes causes huge obstacles and inconvenience on a daily basis," said Geraldine.

Three years ago a building committee was established comprising of parents, staff and management and they have brought plans to an advanced stage. Government funding will arrive in due course but the Scoil Aonghusa community have to get the project off the ground and embark on a major fundraising campaign.

"There will be a massive effort required because as a community we will have to raise significant funds ourselves. It will cost in the region of €1.5million for each of the phases involved," said Geraldine.

Purpose-built school needed

Scoil Aonghusa was established in 1978 and moved to its current site on the Cahir Road in 1985, catering for 32



Scoil Aonghusa's Raise the Roof choir will make their first appearance on stage at the fundraising concert

students.

During the following decades, the school numbers steadily increased and the profile of the students attending also changed.

The necessary adaptations to the school building were made to accommodate the growing numbers. The students attending Scoil Aonghusa are doing so because their individual and

complex needs cannot be catered for within any other setting.

The school building is now catering for 107 students, but only has the maximum capacity to accommodate 64. To meet the capacity, the school has rented a building off the school site and also has rented accommodation beside the main school building and have now exhausted any

further adaptations of the school environment.

"The splitting of the school into three sections is putting demands on school resources and is certainly not conducive to planning for a whole school approach. As a school community that cherishes every child regardless of their disability, we urgently need the Department of Education to invest in the future of Scoil

Aonghusa and its students and staff," principal Siobhan Keys Ryan told South Tipp Today.

"We require a purpose-built school that will provide a caring, stimulating environment and allow students to develop educationally, socially and creatively to their full potential."

Pupils to take centre stage at concert

Every year, one major fundraiser is held to support Scoil Aonghusa and this year the pupils themselves are playing a leading role.

They will be centre stage as they perform excerpts from The Lion King, The Jungle Book, Oliver and Annie at the Halla na Feile on Friday (March 1) at 7.30pm.

The pupils and staff have been incredibly busy for the last few weeks making preparations for the big night.

The variety show will also involve dancing, singing, comedy, magic and lifesize puppets. It will be a special event as it will feature the first on stage performance of the Scoil Aonghusa school choir, which comprises of up to 40



Getting ready to perform The Lion King, The Jungle Book, Oliver and Annie at the Halla na Feile on March 1

children and staff.

Sports programme coordinator Geraldine Ryan Meagher said the purpose of the concert was twofold. Geraldine said it would act as the primary fundraiser for the year and it would also allow the pupils to showcase their talents.

"We see every day how talented the pupils are - the potential that is there for them to make the very most of the talents they have. Some of them are born with hugely challenging needs, they all have a character, personality and a great sense of fun, and all of the staff here do their utmost to make that shine and ensure that the potential of

every individual is fulfilled," said Geraldine.

Tickets for the variety concert can be purchased from any parent of pupils at the school, any member of staff or arrangements to buy tickets can be made by ringing 062-62644.

"The concert promises to be a special night for all involved. Everybody has been incredibly busy putting in a huge effort for rehearsals, getting costumes ready and making sure everything is ready for the night. All of our fundraising events have been very well supported and we are very grateful for that continued support," added Geraldine.

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'We need a local acute psychiatric inpatient unit'

A Dundrum man has written to the Minister for Health appealing for the reopening of St Michael's Acute Psychiatric Unit in Clonmel and highlighting the hardship its loss has brought to mentally ill patients and their families in this county.

Derek Maxwell from Scarrough House, Dundrum sent the letter to Minister Simon Harris a month ago and is awaiting a response to his appeal.

The 50-bed St Michael's Unit at South Tipperary General Hospital was closed by the Government in 2012 despite fierce local opposition. Ever since South Tipperary patients with psychiatric illnesses requiring inpatient care have been admitted to the psychiatric unit at St Luke's Hospital in Kilkenny city.

Derek has first hand experience of how the closure of St Michael's has impacted on South Tipperary people suffering from acute mental illness and their families. His late father James, a retired farmer, was admitted to the

St Luke's psychiatric unit for three days about three and a half years ago suffering from depression.

Derek described to South Tipp Today both in a letter and interview how the long distance of the Kilkenny unit from where he lived posed a huge difficulty for him in visiting his father when he was in hospital. He doesn't drive and there is no direct public transport to Kilkenny.

When his dad was discharged from St Luke's, Derek spent €120 on a taxi to go to Kilkenny to collect him and bring him back home. "As I am on social welfare, €120 is a lot of money to me," he said.

He points out that if St Michael's Unit had been open, it would have been much easier to visit his father when he was in hospital as it was local and accessible for public transport. His dad passed away following a physical illness in October, 2016 at the age of 77.

Derek is also very concerned about the overcrowding problem at St Luke's acute psychiatric unit and the reports of patients forced to sleep in chairs or couches. A relative of his had

to sleep on a chair when he was admitted to the unit about a year ago.

Derek was an inpatient at St Michael's Unit years ago during his own battle with depression and he found the treatment and care he received there very good.

Due to the overcrowding problems at St Luke's and its long distance from where he lives, he is "fearful and anxious" at the prospect of having to go to Kilkenny if he ever becomes acutely ill again.

"I am not being judgemental about the Kilkenny unit and I am sure they are doing their best, but we need a local acute psychiatric inpatient unit.

"The Clonmel unit was for the people of South Tipperary. It was only 40 minutes drive from my home and there is public transport.

"I know there is the argument about keeping people with psychiatric illness in community care. That is fine but sometimes some people need the acute hospital services. They need to be in hospital for their own safety and well being."

Derek pays tribute to consultant psychiatrist Dr Alan Moore, the Save Our Acute Hospital Services Action Group and Tipperary's Fight for Mental Health Services Group on their campaigning to get St Michael's Unit reopened.

"I do believe people have died for the want of a local acute inpatient psychiatric service in Tipperary," he added.

HSE RESPONSE

South Tipp Today contacted the HSE for a comment on the issues Derek Maxwell raised about the difficulties the closure of St Michael's Unit is causing to people with acute psychiatric illness and their families.

A spokesperson for HSE/South East Community Healthcare responded that it did not comment on individual cases to protect client confidentiality and because of legal requirements under the Data Protection Act.

However, the HSE was happy to discuss any matter directly with a patient, client and or their family members.

They defended the care



Dundrum's Derek Maxwell has written to Minister Simon Harris appealing for St Michael's Acute Psychiatric Unit to be reopened

provided at St Luke's General Hospital's 44-bed psychiatric unit and other mental health services in the region.

"The HSE would like to reassure the public that all staff in the South East Community Healthcare mental health services are committed to the provision of a quality and safe mental health service to the population it serves in

counties Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary.

"There are a range of mental health services accessible in the Carlow, Kilkenny and South Tipperary in different settings including the individual's own home, inpatient facilities, outpatient clinics, day hospitals and day services," the spokesperson added.

HSE preparing report on options to restore St Michael's unit

The seven-year campaign to reopen St Michael's acute inpatient psychiatric unit in will reach a crucial point over the next few weeks as a HSE report ordered by the Minister of State with Responsibility for Mental Health Services on the options for restoring the unit is due to be published.

Independent TD Seamus Healy, who chairs the Save Our Acute Hospital Services Action Group, said Minister Jim Daly gave the HSE a deadline of the end of January to complete the report and the group hopes to meet with the minister within the next month to discuss its outcome.

The long-running campaign to re-open St Michael's intensified last year with local Oireachtas members, the Save Our Acute Hospital Services Action Group and other mental health services campaigners holding meetings with Minister Daly about restoring acute inpatient hospital beds for psychiatric patients in South Tipperary. The minister visited South Tipperary's mental health facilities last February.

The issue was debated in the Dáil and more than 1000 people took part in a protest march in Clonmel last June

organised by the Tipperary's Fight for Mental Health Services Group.

In the Dáil that month, Minister Daly told Deputy Healy he had written to the HSE outlining there is a need to restore some acute beds for adults in Tipperary given the transport and access difficulties to St Luke's mental health unit in Kilkenny and to the unit in Ennis.

Deputy Healy said their last meeting with the minister on the issue of reopening St Michael's Unit was at Leinster House in December. It was at this meeting that the minister requested the HSE to prepare the report outlining options for restoring acute psychiatric beds in South Tipperary.

He said the minister at least now acknowledged the closure of St Michael's was wrong. He and the HSE also acknowledged there were not enough inpatient hospital beds for psychiatric patients in the South East and there was a need in South Tipperary for such beds.

It was progress in the right direction, he admitted, but stressed they were not at the stage of an imminent decision or announcement to restore the unit.

During the Dáil debate last June, Minister Daly indicated

there was potential to provide acute psychiatric beds at the new 40-bed unit being developed at South Tipperary General Hospital. Deputy Healy, however, doesn't be-

lieve this is a runner as the modular extension to the hospital is specifically dealing with existing overcrowding at South Tipperary Hospital, which is operating

at 125% capacity.

He believes the best option is to use part of the old St Michael's Unit at South Tipperary General Hospital. About half of the unit is cur-

rently in use by the hospital for other purposes. Alternatively, the beds could be located in part of the old St Luke's Hospital campus, he added.



Brian Acheson, Davy Russell, Shane Foley and JP Wynne celebrating the official opening of the newly-refurbished Emigrants Rest



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Kieran to lead Clonmel St. Patrick's Day parade

Clonmel's national president of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Kieran Stafford will be the grand marshal for the town's St. Patrick's Day parade.

Organised by the St. Patrick's Day committee, the parade will celebrate the tremendous work carried out by St. Vincent de Paul and its 11,000 members throughout communities across the country over the years.



Kieran Stafford will be the Clonmel parade grand marshal

It will also recognise the work of those in the background towards their mission to fight poverty.

Kieran Stafford has continued to volunteer locally in St. Vincent de Paul.

This year the society celebrates 175 years of helping those in need and Tipperary has been part of that work since then also. The aim is to help people back to self-sufficiency through financial support and friendship.

Volunteers also visit thousands of homes each year

throughout Ireland, providing families and individuals with essential support for food, fuel, rent and education needs.

In addition to St. Vincent de Paul, the Clonmel Bionconi Twinning Committee are working with visiting groups that will arrive for St. Patrick's weekend.

Trofaia in Austria will celebrate the 25th anniversary of its twinning pact with Clonmel, and the mayor of Reading will also join the St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Clonmel.

The day will commence with the traditional flag raising ceremony at St. Patrick's Well at 8.30am. The morning parade leaves Emmet Street at 11.30am, following the unveiling of a plaque at 11am to commemorate the four representatives from Tipperary in the first Dáil Eireann 100 years ago. This parade will proceed to St. Mary's Church in Irishtown, where mass at 12 noon will be celebrated in Irish.

The parade will be led by Banna Chluain Meala and will include the grand marshal, councillors, visitors from Clonmel's twinned towns and representatives of town organisations.

The starting area for the main St. Patrick's Day parade, which commences at 3pm, is



Clonmel St. Patrick's Day committee - back: Catherine McCormack, Carol Creighton, David Shanahan, Cliona Maher. Front: Anthony Coleman, Mayor Richie Molloy, Aidan Fennessy

Upper and Lower Irishtown and it will follow the same route through the town as previous years, finishing in Parnell Street outside the

former Town Hall.

Any groups wishing to participate in the parade can do so up until March 5 by registering on the County Tip-

perary Chamber website. Keep up-to-date on the parade by following the St. Patrick's Day Parade Facebook page.

Finding A Voice to celebrate women composers

Clonmel has certainly had a strong tradition of music-making over the years. Performers like the Irish Baroque Orchestra and Mary Hegarty, who appear at the March Finding a Voice concert series, join luminaries such as the 19th century virtuoso Franz Liszt who famously included the town on his tour of Ireland in 1840.

It was not long before performers and musicians from the town began to make a name for themselves on the international stage, including the Clonmel-born violinist Maud MacCarthy, who played with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra in 1902 at the tender age of 19 and who went on to blaze an early trail in the fields of ethnomusicology and music therapy.

Other pioneers from the town include iconic composer, musician and cultural visionary Micheál Ó Súilleabháin, whose sad passing late last year saw tributes flooding in from all quarters including from President Michael D Higgins who de-

scribed him as being "proud of his roots in Clonmel".

Another Clonmel native, broadcaster and journalist Tommy O'Brien, ruled the airwaves with his immensely popular music programme Your Choice and Mine on RTE. O'Brien's tremendous passion and enthusiasm for opera introduced decades of listeners to the joys of classical music.

Other famous voices from the town include internationally renowned tenor Frank Patterson, one of the outstanding singers of his generation. A bronze sculpture of the man described as Ireland's Golden Tenor was unveiled in the town in 2002 to commemorate his many achievements.

Today, the town is proud to add the concert series Finding a Voice to its longstanding and diverse tradition of music-making. Following on from the hugely successful first edition, Finding A Voice—a celebration of women composers, curator Róisín Maher has focussed on women composers

through the ages, building and expanding on the 2018 event and in particular celebrating the anniversaries of three significant women composers: the 400th anniversary of the birth of celebrated Italian baroque composer Barbara Strozzi (1619-1677), the 200th anniversary of the birth of German romantic composer Clara Schumann (1819-1896) and the 70th birthday of Alexina Louie (b.1949) with a performance by yet another Clonmel-born musical talent, the award-winning soprano and rising star Kelley Lonergan.

Kelley will be joined by young talent Ellen Jansson on piano and a string quartet to perform Falling Through Time: The Music of Alexina Louie, featuring solo and chamber music from one of Canada's most sought after composers, Alexina Louie, who will be in attendance on her first-ever visit to Ireland.

The Irish Baroque Orchestra, directed by Claire Duff with soprano Sarah Power, will celebrate the

vocal music of Barbara Strozzi on March 8 at 8pm.

The following day will be Clara Schumann Day at Finding a Voice. The lunchtime concert features one of Ireland's most celebrated singers, soprano Mary Hegarty, who will perform romantic lieder by Schumann. This lunchtime concert will

also feature the world premiere of Jane O'Leary's Clara for clarinet/bass clarinet and speaker with Paul Roe and Aideen Wylde. At 8pm that evening, the Fidelio Trio will continue the tribute to Clara with a concert of music for solo piano and piano trio. This concert features the world premiere on

Reflections on a Theme by Clara Schumann, commissioned by Finding a Voice and performed by renowned pianist Mary Dullea.

Finding a Voice 2019 starts on International Women's Day, March 8 and continues until March 10. Full details on southtippartscentre.ie.



Orla, Ellen and Mia Farrell; Megan, Jessica and Jenna Mai Davis; Belinda St. John; and Marie Davis at the grand finale of Operation Transformation in Cahir

'Sydney allowed me dream about becoming a musician'

Continued from Page 1

Luke surrounded himself with different nationalities in Sydney, allowing him to develop culturally, professionally and as a person. He worked as a labourer on the Sydney Light Rail project, taking a half day on Wednesdays to practice music at The Artist Studio.

"It's very different being Irish abroad. For a lot of Irish people who go to Australia, it's like still being in Ireland because there are Irish pubs, villages and companies. You can still go there and be surrounded by Irish people, but I went the opposite way. I surrounded myself with people from Australia and countries like Sweden. It really opened up my mind to be around people with different cultures.

"I got inspiration from my uncle who played the guitar and I started around 13, but I wasn't very good. I never went for a guitar lesson, and it was only the past year that I started getting vocal lessons in Sydney. It has taken me a good while to get to the level I'm at.

"I had to write a new song every week for The Artist Studio, which got me into the routine of songwriting and developed my skills. I also got to perform at Venue 505, which was hosted by The Artist Studio and gave me great exposure."

Luke returned home to Ireland one month ago and put the finishing touches to I Want You. "When I came back to Ireland, I didn't know anyone in the music scene. I just had this song and I wanted to get it out there to get the positive momentum going.

"It has been slow getting things going back here because I had built up a good range of contacts in Australia. It was like starting all over again, but I've been sending out loads of emails since the release of my song and managed to get a gig out of it in a Dublin pub."

Luke says his past experiences with women are at the heart of I Want You. "I started off with the chorus and really felt the energy of the song. I tried to apply my past experiences with women into the melody to make a really upbeat song. Past experiences are the life and soul of a song, because it's extremely difficult to make up a song from scratch. The best way to do it is from memory, pinpointing certain experiences that have affected you, which makes it a hundred times easier."

Luke believes the digital age has created the platform for young Irish artists to shine in the coming years. He

takes inspiration from artists such as Ed Sheeran, Khalib and Shawn Mendes. "Shawn Mendes writes in a way that is very vulnerable, really goes in-depth about his feelings and is very open, which I admire because it's very hard to do that. The whole tone of Khalib's voice is amazing and the songs he writes are incredible. It's really good that young Irish artists can take inspiration from people in America and across the world because of the internet age.

We are going to see a lot of Irish artists in the future with different influences."

Luke, who is the son of Mandy Murphy from Clonmel, is "really excited" about flying to London next month to record two songs with a producer. He encourages other young people dreaming of breaking the music scene to start writing songs and fulfill their passion. "If you are motivated enough, it doesn't make a difference that you have no con-

tacts. It's easy to say you've no contacts and can't do it! Get

into the scene, do your thing and the contacts will come

with that," he smiles.



Clonmel's Luke Hyland has released I Want You on Spotify

For a lot of Irish people who go to Australia, it's like still being in Ireland because there are Irish pubs, villages and companies

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LEINSTER Express

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The Leinster Express is looking for a talented journalist who is passionate about sport to mastermind our coverage in print and online. From match reports to interviews, from features to online and back-page exclusives, we need an all-rounder who is determined to produce high-quality work and make our sports pages stand out.

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THE MCGRATH SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCE

March 14th 2019
7:30pm
The Mall, C.T.I



WILD ABOUT SOUTH TIPP

River Suir Walk

Wildlife Matters

Albert Nolan

The day was dry but blustery as I carefully negotiated my way over the bridge in Golden.

At least parking was easy to find by the church. Golden daffodils were up in the beds, while a chorus of starlings was singing on the electricity wires.

I was exploring the River Suir Heritage or Blueway. This trail is 56km long and for the very energetic and fit stretches all the way to Cashel. A sign by the bridge makes walkers aware that this walk is prone to flooding, until at least March 1. The River Suir was very fast flowing and strong, and I was happy that I didn't have the kids with me on this occasion.

I was glad of the initial shelter from a tall line of conifer trees, as the wind was bracing. Tall willow trees grow by the edge of the river. In a few weeks their flowers will be full of bees. A tiny wren flew out from the undergrowth and just past my feet. I had to be careful not to step on him, and once safe he gave a burst of song.

The walk opened out into fields and hedges. These hedges had turned into linear woodland edges. I heard the chuckling calls of jackdaws from the nearby church. There was also an old

building, the ideal nesting spot for the jackdaws. Docks had been left to seed and these are food for birds like bullfinches. The leaves of the dock are also the food plant for the larva of the small copper butterfly. Redwings and fieldfares - winter migrants kept abreast of me on the walk - were very flighty at my approach. This part of the walk has more riverbank trees and often they completely screen the river. The willows and alders also help stabilise the bank. The energy of spring was all around me. Alder catkins were hanging from the branches, and the tree was covered in an amazing array of lichens. Fresh leaves of common hogweed and cow parsley were up. With the electric wire blocking animal access, there should be a fine wildflower edge in the summer.

I past the first style and the hedgerow was full of bramble, hawthorn and ash trees. This was a great nesting location for birds as it provides shelter and protection. Nettles are a few inches high, and despite a detailed search I couldn't find caterpillars on the leaves.

This field was also flooded, and if the water stays frogs might get the opportunity to spawn. Lesser celandine yellow flowers were opening in the damp shade of the trees.

The next style had a little drop down some beautiful stone steps. A natural high tree covered bank bordered the walk. I could see a few rabbit burrows and along the walk they have been busy digging. A robin and wren were singing, and a blackbird gave a scolding alarm call as he flew up the river. Tall oak and beech stretched out over a small pond. The trees must have been at least a 150 years old.

I crossed a little bridge and came across a muddy bank. Willow trees lied prostrate in the river, but were growing fine. Their flowers were like rows of white pearls. I examined the tracks in the mud and identified them as badgers. I paused to admire the most knobbly and knotty hawthorn tree I had ever seen. It has survived countless storms, floods and grazing and was covered in lichens. The presence of large bracket fungi was an indication that it is coming towards the end of its natural life.

An old car was growing out of the mud, and it had been many years since it travelled on any road. My time was up, and I stopped in a field full of young turnips and back breaking stones.

On the walk back I saw a snipe, heard a chaffinch, and observed a mixed flock of rooks, jackdaws and starlings in a field across the river. I will return again in the summer to discover more wildlife along the River Suir walkway.

Comments/questions to albert.nolan@rocket-mail.com or 089-4230502. Albert is also available to give walks/talks to schools, tidy towns, youth and community groups.

Explore the great outdoors with your pet this spring



Makes pets happy

Spring is just around the corner and there's plenty of opportunities to discover the great outdoors with your pet.

DISCOVERING NEW SPORTS WITH YOUR DOG

Come springtime agility courses can be great fun for dogs. Scampering over hurdles in a race against time, balancing on seesaws, creeping through tunnels and coursing through sla-

loms - these kinds of challenges prove to be great fun for the majority of dogs. And because their owners have to run along alongside them, this helps to keep everyone fit! Agility, like most types of dog sports, involves physical fitness that strengthens the bond between a dog and his owner.

THROWING GAMES

If you are looking for a sport that will give both you and

your dog a good workout, then why not try your hand at dog frisbee. Disc dog, as the sport is known, is basically centered on throwing a frisbee for your dog to catch. Owners who become true masters of the art don't stop at simple throws however - they employ special techniques that challenge their own physical control and speed as well. Please also make sure that you only use special discs that have

LEGAL ADVICE

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Taking action in cases of medical negligence

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WHY DO PEOPLE CONTACT A SOLICITOR?

The medical profession is rightly held in high esteem. Huge trust is placed in a health professional when you submit yourself for an operation or even when you hold out your arm to receive an injection.

When things go wrong the reaction of an injured patient or their family is understandably an emotional one. This is often combined with a strong sense of the breach of this trust.

There is a perception amongst injured patients and their families that when something goes wrong, the medical profession closes ranks and they cannot get straight answers to the straightforward questions.

I find that injured patients hire Solicitors, not because of the desire to obtain compensation, but instead by a desire for knowledge about what happened to them. The inability to get answers and the desire to get an apology is often the primary reason to litigate. In many cases, therefore, we achieve both compensation for clients with an apology.

ARE THESE TYPES OF CASES VERY DIFFICULT?

Unlike with other types of personal injuries, medical negligence cases are very complex. In a lot of cases, the person is sick before they ever go about getting treatment, or they are suffering from a serious underlying condition, such as

cancer. One of the tasks which both the client and the Solicitor faces is to distinguish what the outcome would have been but for the negligent act or omission which took place.

Quite often, the other side will argue that the illness or disease that the person had when they submitted themselves for treatment was the determining factor in the final outcome. In the context of a surgical treatment, it will often be argued that the injury complained of is within the realm of acceptable error - "a recognised complication."

Another difficulty is the lack of knowledge: when somebody gets injured in a factory, or is in an accident on the road, what led to the event is rarely in dispute. However, in a medical context, the background of the facts can be so vast and complex, that very often it is difficult to understand what happened.

Another issue is that medical negligence cases are still David v Goliath type challenges. They involve you (an individual) taking on a large institution (more often than not, the HSE) which has deeper pockets and no emotional stake in the outcome.

HOW WOULD SOMEONE KNOW IF THERE HAS BEEN AN ACT OF MEDICAL NEGLIGENCE?

It is very difficult to establish at an early stage. It is not unusual for a patient not to be told that an error has oc-

curred. So typically, a patient or relative becomes suspicious because of this lack of information. This suspicion is often the only reason that someone would know that there is a need to further investigate the circumstances of the operation or treatment.

WHAT INITIAL STEPS SHOULD YOU TAKE TO ESTABLISH A POSSIBLE CASE OR "CAUSE OF ACTION"?

Medical negligence claims, in a similar way to personal injury claims, are made up of a series of hurdles. If you do not clear the first hurdle you cannot move on to the next. The first hurdle is often establishing if there is a case to answer. To begin to find this out, we take up copies of all medical records and check them. In some cases we may even send them to a medical records expert for analysis.

We would also write to the doctor, health care professional or institution we believe is responsible for the injuries caused. Medical experts specialising in the particular area of medicine involved will then be asked to consider whether or not the treatment received was negligent or substandard and if so the extent of the damage it caused. If we consider that we have enough evidence to prove a case of medical negligence, then we advise starting court proceedings immediately. Clinical negligence cases can be settled by negotiation without the need to proceed to a full trial but they are rarely resolved without starting court action. It is important to bear in mind that the fact that things did go wrong does not necessarily mean that you have a case.

been designed for dog sports. Catching a regular frisbee could hurt your dog's mouth and teeth.

CAT LITTER: WHAT TO CHOOSE

People can be picky about their own bathroom habits, so is it any surprise that cats will be picky about theirs? Choosing a litter can be an important decision, for best chances of pleasing your feline friend, makes sure you know the information necessary to choose the right litter for her, and for you.

NON-CLUMPING LITTER

Using non-clumping litter has its own unique set of advantages and disadvantages. It is designed to absorb instead of hardening into clumps. However, changing the litter box becomes quite a chore with non-clumping litter. Waste still has to be scooped out daily, but urine sits in the litter until it begins to smell, and the only way to clean the box is to dump it all out and replace it with fresh litter. If you wish to avoid juggling rubbish bags, non-clumping litter may not be the right choice for you, or your cat, as you will inevitably put off

changing the litter box.

CLUMPING LITTER

The beauty of clumping litter is that rather than absorbing urine until the litter becomes saturated and smelly, the litter forms hard clumps around the urine. As a result, the litter box is easy to manage: just use a slotted litter scoop to remove clumps and waste, leaving the loose litter in the box for next time. As the level drops, just refill the box with fresh litter.

Still not sure? Call into your local store to speak with our Maxi Zoo Pet experts.

Tipperary County Council to develop a 'more formal friendship agreement' with China

Tipperary County Council will explore the potential for economic and tourism co-operation between Liaoning Province, China, and Tipperary following a positive meeting held with the Chinese Ambassador to Ireland.

Its aims include expanding and building upon existing economic relations within the county, along with seeking to develop further opportunities in the areas of agriculture, education, energy and tourism.

The Chinese Ambassador to Ireland His Excellency Dr Yue Xiaoyong paid a visit to Nenagh on February 19. The first secretary of culture Oujia Wang and liaison person Dr Yupeng Liu had requested a meeting with Tipperary County Council cathaoirleach Cllr Mattie Ryan to discuss future potential benefits between Tipperary and the Liaoning Province. Deputy Alan Kelly was also in attendance.

The meeting afforded an

opportunity to showcase Tipperary and the opportunities for growth and investment in the areas of economic development, agriculture and energy. Cllr Mattie Ryan welcomed the distinguished guests to Tipperary and thanked them for the interest they expressed in the county. He stated that he would welcome the opportunity to forge economic, cultural and tourism links with the Liaoning Province, owing to the existing business links already in place. He also noted that over 60% of the current Chinese population within Ireland originated from the Liaoning Province.

Nenagh Municipal District director Marcus O'Connor spoke about the central location of Tipperary within Ireland from which to operate business, with key arterial routes linking all major cities and airports. He gave examples of the strong track record of the local authority working with the business community to develop projects in Tipperary such as the Hydro Electric Project at Sil-



Back: Ger Walsh (senior executive officer), First Secretary of Culture Oujia Wang, Mary Ryan (Economic Development Office), Dr Yupeng Liu. **Front:** Marcus O'Connor (director of services), Cllr Mattie Ryan (cathaoirleach), His Excellency Dr Yue Xiaoyong, Deputy Alan Kelly

vermines and the bioeconomy campus at Lisheen Mines.

The tourism potential of Tipperary and developing direct links with the Liaoning Province were also dis-

cussed.

The ambassador thanked the cathaoirleach and district director for the courtesy shown to him and stressed the importance of developing further relations between

China and Tipperary.

The cathaoirleach concluded the meeting by making a presentation to His Excellency Dr Yue Xiaoyong and by saying that Tipperary is looking forward to devel-

oping further connections between with China, aimed at learning more about it's diverse cultures and traditions with a view to developing a more formal friendship agreement.

Tipperary students visit Kolkata

Rockwell students raised €35,000 for the Hope Foundation in Calcutta, India which they visited from February 15 to 22.

After a long flight of 12 hours plus a 2 hour flight change in Dubai the Rockwell students final arrived in Calcutta early on the February 16. This is a synopsis of their visits to the various centres which are run by the Hope Foundation.

On the evening of 16th the Rockwell group visited The Be Kind Boys Home. Here they spent some time with the boys (aged between 6-13). The boys are taken out of dangerous situations (many still have their parents, but others are orphaned). Some are returned to their families when it is safe but a number remain in the orphanage.

They receive their education in same schools which they had been attending and they also receive regular health checks, counselling and get the opportunity to attend many events and play sports. One such event was the Arts and Crafts Competition that was run with the boys from the Ashar Alo Home (protection home for boys aged 10+) which the



Rockwell and High School students at one of the Hope run orphanages during their recent visit to Calcutta

Rockwell group visited that evening. Here some of the boys got the opportunity to meet with older/younger brothers also in protection homes. This helps to integrate the children so that moving from one home to another is not too traumatic when the time comes.

The students were also told that some of the boys in this home will attend the Cricket World Cup for street children (for which they were selected on ability) in the UK next month.

On the 21st the Rockwell students along with the High

School visited Calcutta International School (CIS), a private school. They knew this school would be different to what they had seen but they didn't know quite what to expect. Would it be all or mostly foreign students, would they speak English a first language, and how much different would it be to the schools they'd seen so far?

They were greeted by happy children playing in the yard, basketball court and soccer pitch, similar to what they were used to at home. It made them realize that education like this shouldn't be a

privilege and should be available to all children; to the children just over the school's wall living in a slum where a family exists in a hut the size of a garden shed. They went upstairs to a room where there were eight groups partaking in a quiz, with one Irish student allocated to each of the six groups. Following this, they took a mini tour of the school. There were mission statements posted all over the walls of the school. These stated that this school was preparing to become a standard setting school, where by 2025 they

hoped they would significantly improve the standard of education in India and where every child can have a promising future having been fully educated.

It was good to see that the privileged in the community were making an effort to solve inequality in Kolkata. The Rockwell students then took a group picture and went to lunch at the Hope Lifeskills' Centre, where they had been at a few days earlier. This is where Hope trains people in areas such as technology, beauty, textiles and cooking and is also the site of the Hope Café, a restaurant where the trainees gain experience and hone their skills.

Following lunch they went to a male rehabilitation home, where teenage boys from the street are sent, having being addicted to substances, the majority of these being solvents. When they are clean, most can return to their families and are slowly introduced back to mainstream society as they overcome their addiction. The boys were normal and happy and their dancing skills were very impressive, as always. It makes one wonder what would happen to these boys if it were it not for the Hope

foundation. They make such a tremendous impact on each child they help and with the help of all of our donations and fundraising, they're able to help them and give them a better life.

Having spent half an hour there the students headed for the jersey market. The first row of about twenty shops was full of jerseys, all selling for about the equivalent of €1.70. They had all kinds of jerseys from English football to Kolkata clubs and Indian cricket teams. That night was Sari night where all the students had to dress up in Indian attire and for girls this involved a process of about an hour getting ready. However, for all the effort, it was worthwhile to have the experience (and the pictures). They went to dinner and the Hope coordinator said a few words on the great work they are doing among the under privileged in Calcutta.

The students enjoyed their last night in India. It was enlightening to see that a dramatic improvement is taking place among the homeless in Calcutta with the Bengali State government contributing to social welfare over the past four years. This had not happened prior to that.

Tipp students set for Junk Kouture Southern Final catwalk

TIPPERARY SCHOOLS will take to the catwalk for Southern Regional Final of Junk Kouture, Ireland's premier recycled fashion event for secondary schools, at the Limerick University Concert Hall on Friday, March 8

The highly anticipated competition is open to all schools nationwide and showcases the most eye catching designs from recyclable material. Over the last nine years, Junk Kouture has

established itself as a fantastic opportunity for teenagers throughout Ireland and Northern Ireland to express their artistic ability.

Among the thousands of entries in this year's competition, 80 designs from each of the four provinces were lucky enough to be given the chance to represent their schools.

Fifteen outfits and one wild card will be chosen in Limerick to go forward to the Grand Final, which will be held at the 3Arena, Dublin, on May 2. The team at South Tipp Today wishes all the students every success in the competition.

Presentation Clonmel

From 1,400 entries, seven creative outfits will represent the Presentation Secondary School in Clonmel at the Southern Regional Final.

Presentation Secondary School has a very proud record in this competition. The school was the overall national winner in 2011 and last year was the overall winner in the Southern region.

The students had the fantastic experience of appearing on the Ray Darcy Show and a trip to Cannes, France.

This year's Presentation entries include Gaia, Guerrero De Acero, Eternitá, Tietan, Fortitude, Supernova and Arcoiris.



ABOVE: Gaia was designed by Presentation transition year students Holly Burke (model), Ciara O Farrell and Grace Flynn
LEFT: Tietan was designed by Presentation transition year students Aimee Hennessy, Kayleigh Rayn and Leah Clancy (model)



From left to right: Guerrero de Acero was designed by Presentation transition year students Hazel Kirwan, Aoife Lambert and Vera Lambert (model); Arcoiris was designed by Rachel Lambe and modelled by Clara Harte; Fortitude was designed by Emma Bates (model), Ava Brannigan and Ellie Toomey; and Supernova was designed by Sophie Crotty (model) and Sophie Pyke

Patrician Presentation Fethard

Three outfits from Patrician Presentation Secondary School in Fethard will take to the Southern Regional Final catwalk in Limerick. These include

Each outfit has a team of transition year students working on the piece, including the model. Each team used their artistic skills and social awareness, with inspiration coming from issues of environmental pollution, mental health and well-being.

Modelling In a Tangle is Samantha Buckley, with Phoebe Duggan and Megan Ryan on the team. This is made from hundreds of green

water bottles, garden netting and plastic milk bottles which were cut, twisted and put in place.

Modelling EleMental is Michelle Cronin, with Rachel O'Loughnane and Patrick Shine on the team. This is made from thousands of little cut out pieces - resembling sequins - from plastic prescription drugs packaging and hand sewn in place.

Modelling Athena is Alison Connolly, with Nell Spillane and Page on the team. This is made from thousands of 'helicopters' or seeds from the oak tree and other forest finds, all meticulously shaped and placed.



Michelle Cronin modelling EleMental for Patrician Fethard



ABOVE LEFT: Alison Connolly modelling Athena
 ABOVE RIGHT: Samantha Buckley wearing In A Tangle

Rockwell College

Rockwell's sole entry at this year's Southern Regional Final is titled Bloom.

Aoife Leahy (model), Siobhan Whelan, Lucy Holohan and Katelyn Drohan spent the past 10 weeks in preparation for this competition, designing, modifying and restructuring the outfit many times before the final product. The dress is made from old tights and the flowers are designed from recycled paper. Their teachers -

Fiona Roche (home economics) and Eleanor Kilroy (art teacher) - gave them great help and encouragement in designing this outfit.



St Ailbe's School Tipp Town

That's so Silage Season will fly the flag for St Ailbe's School in Tipperary Town. Its the creation of transition year students Brid Nash and Megan Heffernan.

"The inspiration for this dress came from both our farming backgrounds," Brid and Megan tell South Tipp Today.

The design is created from used meal bags and left over silage wrap. The pink silage wrap was leftover from the 2018 Wrap It Pink campaign that raised money for breast cancer. "By creating this silage wrap design, we hope to show our support to all women fighting breast cancer in Ireland.

"We made our dress from used meal bags and leftover silage wrap from our farms. We designed the top of the dress by plaiting silage wrap. We cut, washed and ironed shapes out of meal bags for the skirt. The headpiece was made from both materials to tie the outfit together."

That's so Silage Season will fly the flag for St Ailbe's School in Tipperary Town. Its the creation of transition year students Brid Nash and Megan Heffernan



Cashel Community School

Two entries will represent Cashel Community School at the Southern Regional Final. What a Catch was the created by Jennifer Phelan, Fiona McInerney and Edel Walsh as the model. It was constructed using a variety of seashells and discarded fishing nets.

Cereal Killer was created by Éabha Carroll,

Aisling Bourke and Jessie Horgan (model). The costume had a breakfast theme and was constructed using a variety of breakfast cereal boxes, the caps of various milk and juices as well as coffee pods. Their costume warns of the dangers of the high levels of sugar in the breakfast food.



Cereal Killer being modelled by Jessie Horgan and What a Catch being showcased by Edel Walsh

St Anne's Secondary School

St Anne's Emma Hogan topped both the southern regional and national online vote with her design Harlequeen.

Transition year student Emma created her piece using drawstring bags, goal-post nets, wine corks, toilet roll tubes, cassette foil from a photo printer and egg cartons. Her design uses the harlequin pattern, from which the title is derived, inspired by Joan Miró's abstract work. The skirt was also inspired by Irish designer Orla Kiely. The fluffy knitted goal net top follows current trends and the sleeves are based on the original Snow White.

Emma is an exceptionally talented art student and designer. With a previous design in 2017, Emma reached the national final of Junk Kouture.

"Your style reflects your attitude and outlook. The bright colours and lively textures represent modern and youthful trends. The most beautiful thing you can wear is confidence and Harlequeen is certainly the queen of happiness and fortitude," Emma tells South Tipp Today.

Emma's art teachers, Mairéad Hayes and Helen Ryan, are both delighted with



Emma's design and very grateful to everybody who voted in the online vote, which took place from February 18-22. Emma swept the vote with over 5,000 votes,

finishing first of 320 designs in Ireland. "This is an enormous achievement. We wish Emma the very best of luck," the teachers add.

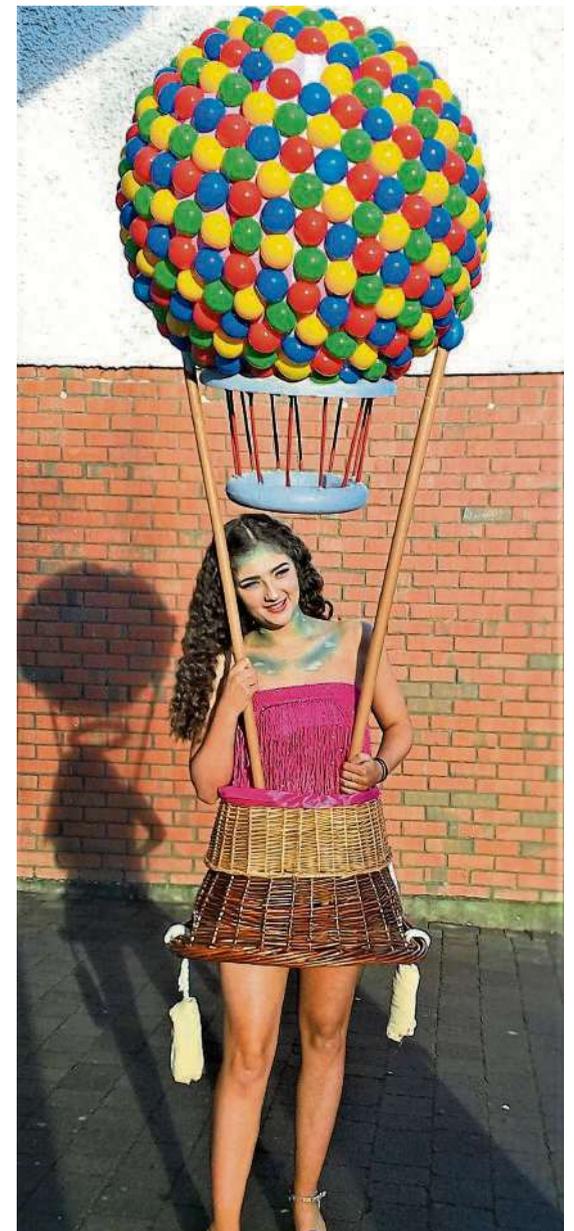
Loreto Secondary School Clonmel

The Sky is the Limit design from Loreto Secondary School, Clonmel, is one of the selected teams to go through to the southern regional finals. This team was one of two that entered from Loreto Clonmel this year. The other entry from Loreto, titled Ceólísta, was by Claire Moylan, Lena Slattery and Ríona O'Sullivan. This was a fantastic creation made from recycled discs and cables.

The Sky is the Limit group includes TY students Sarah Conway (model), Jessica Redfern and Colette Looby. Recycled items incorporated into the design include disused wicker baskets, a discarded exercise ball, curtains to create the bandeau top, and sandbags and wooden poles to support the upper half of the costume, multi coloured plastic balls, ribbon, and styrofoam.

Sky is the Limit is a creative two-piece outfit that is hand-constructed to resemble a hot air balloon.

According to team member Jessica Redfern, "the name sends a message to aim high, as anything is possible. The inspiration for this piece came from our desire to gently float high above the clouds and see the world beneath us."



Coláste Dun Iascaigh

Coláste Dun Iascaigh's three entries include Buckle up, Caffinesse and Take a Walk on the Wild Side.

Buckle up was created by Shannon Morrissey, Robin Carey and Aoibhe Tobin-Wall.

The entire outfit was made from old seat belts and car parts. "We cut and frayed the seat belts to make the fringed trousers and sprayed and weaved belts to form the top. We used a steering wheel to form the headpiece, type tubes for the shoes and a buckle for the necklace. We sourced the materials from local car garages and car junk yards," the girls tell South Tipp Today.

"We want to draw the spotlight on road safety and raise more awareness of the importance of wearing seatbelts, because we feel strongly that people don't take it seriously enough."

Caffinesse was created by Hayley Barrett, Rosanna Kiely (model) and Ceili McGinley.

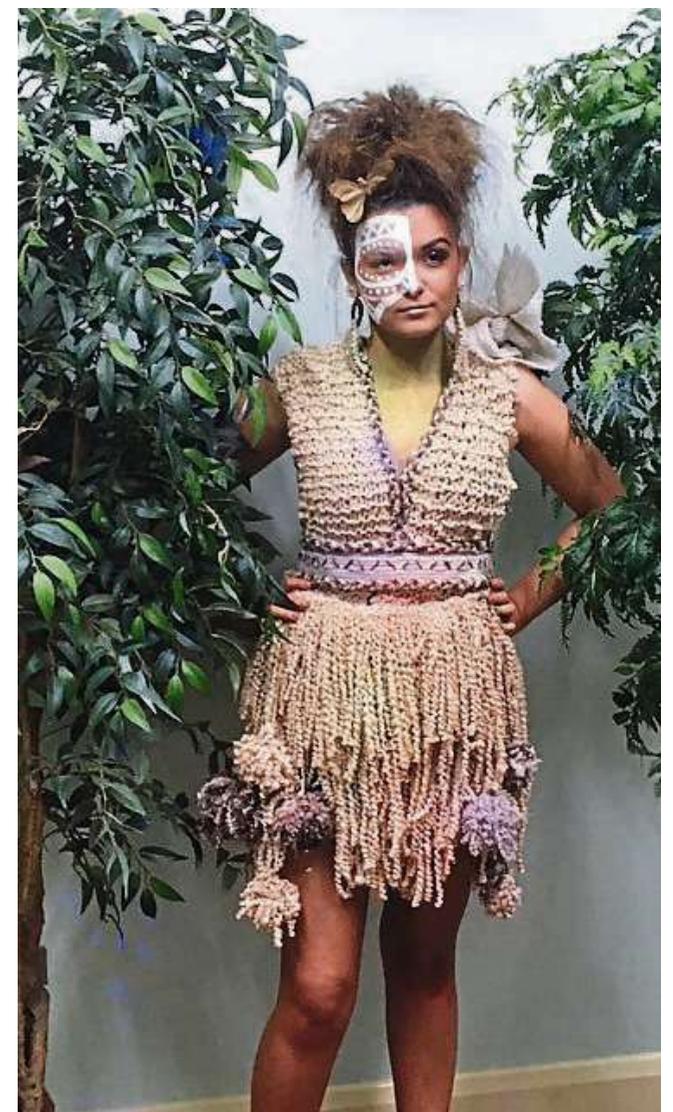
They collected used Nespresso Coffee capsules from teachers, family members and friends; coffee filters donated by a local cafe; and recycled beads from old

broken jewellery. "We cleaned and cut over 650 capsules and used every part of them to form the flowers for the bodice and the headpiece. We used hundreds of layers of coffee filters to form the skirt," they say.

Take a Walk on the Wild Side was created by Lucy McEniry (model), Kaytlin Rowe and Saoirse Kinsella. "We wanted our design to have a natural wild look. We made it out of old carpet, a car belt and old flip flops. We manipulated our material in as many different ways as we could. We wanted our design to look well thought out and we focused closely on the detail. We didn't dye or paint any materials as we felt it would take away from the natural beauty look that we were going for," they say.

The dress was made entirely out of old carpet. They used the lining underneath the carpet to make the shoulder piece. They also used old flip flops which were worn and no longer in use, and a car belt from a garage.

"The image of our dress suits our theme, which is to be yourself and release your inner wildness instead of holding it in."



Buckle Up being modelled by Robin Carey and Walk on the Wild Side being showcased by Lucy McEniry

Knockanrawley Childcare

Exciting developments in the early years sector



Knockanrawley Childcare is one of the largest and longest established childcare facilities in Tipperary town.

This modern facility provides an affordable, professional and caring environment to young children from both urban and rural communities for over 25 years.

Our qualified staff are dedicated towards nurturing a fun, safe and happy environment in which good learning

experiences are our daily routine for each child and this is evident as we are now caring for some of our past children's children who wish to offer their child the same positive experiences they remember.

We implement Aistear, Siolta and Highscope into our curriculums in order to ensure all children enjoy the highest quality of care and participation and reap the benefits of quality early years education.

Childcare Capital Grants 2019

Guidelines setting out the application process for over €6.1m in childcare capital grants were published today recently.

Announcing the publication, the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Dr. Katherine Zappone T.D. encouraged providers to study the document and prepare the groundwork for their applications.

The 2019 Early Learning and Care and School Age Capital programmes will be opened for applications from February 25 to March 27 2019.

Decisions are expected to be delivered in June 2019.

The available strands of funding are as follows:

Strand A: Creation of new places for 0-3-year olds - €4.231m (max. €50,000 per grant).

Strand B: Fire Safety for community early years services - €0.875m, (max. €15,000 per grant).

Strand C: Creation of new school age places - €1m (max.

€20,000 per grant).

Both early learning and care and school age childcare providers are invited to apply.

The Application Guidelines is a detailed document containing all the information prospective applicants need to prepare themselves for making an application under the programmes.

Any interested parties are encouraged to contact their local City/County Childcare Committee (CCC) with any further questions they may have, so that they can begin work and submit their applications as early as possible.

Minister Zappone added: "This is a significant year for childcare. It will see overall Government funding increase by 117% from 2015. This year I am delighted that we have been able to secure over €6.1m for capital work which can be carried out over the summer, with a further €3m to follow on the roll out of the Affordable Childcare Scheme in the later part of the

year.

"Last year's programmes saw the creation of 1,950 new early learning and care places and 807 new school age places, as well as funding 111 essential maintenance projects for community services. I anticipate that 2019's programme will continue this good work.

"Publication of the guidelines in a timely manner will give providers more time to consider and prepare their applications so that children can enjoy the benefits at an early date."

Registration of School - Age Childcare Services

Services providing childcare for school-going children are required to register with Tusla by May 18, 2019. Registrations opened on February 18, 2019.

Minister Zappone on January 2 last published the Child Care Act 1991 (Early Years Services) (Registration of School Age Services) Regulations 2018. In support of the operation of the Affordable Child Care Scheme it will be a requirement for all providers

of a School Age Child Care Service to register with Tusla. Registration is now a legal requirement for school age services other than those which operate in a drop-in centre or operate in a temporary capacity.

In the first instance it is imperative that you advise Tusla of your intention or not as the case may be to register, you can do so by simply emailing us at sac.registration@tusla.ie please advise Tusla of your name (provider only), the name and address of your service, a contact phone number and email address.

Applications for registration will be made via an online portal on the Tusla website and this is the only way applications can be processed. The portal has not yet been launched and will not be operational before February 18 next. Once launched it can be accessed only through the Tusla website.

If it is your intention not to proceed with registration your service will be required to cease operation.

We look forward to the introduction of the Affordable Childcare Funding Scheme in October.

More information is available from Tipperary Childcare Committee Office at info@tccc.ie or call 062-



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Tipperary Childcare Committee provides the following services:

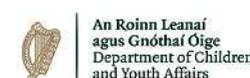
- Information and support to **Parents** concerning their childcare needs
- **Childcare Providers** are supported with a wide range of services, including quality training, child protection training, network information events, funding applications, financial returns and sustainability issues
- Supporting **Childminders** through the Registration & Voluntary Notification process, with funding applications and providing training events
- Providing **Parent & Toddler groups** with advice, support and grant applications
- Advice on setting up a childcare business
- General childcare queries.

Please feel free to ring any of our friendly team or call to our office to help with your query.

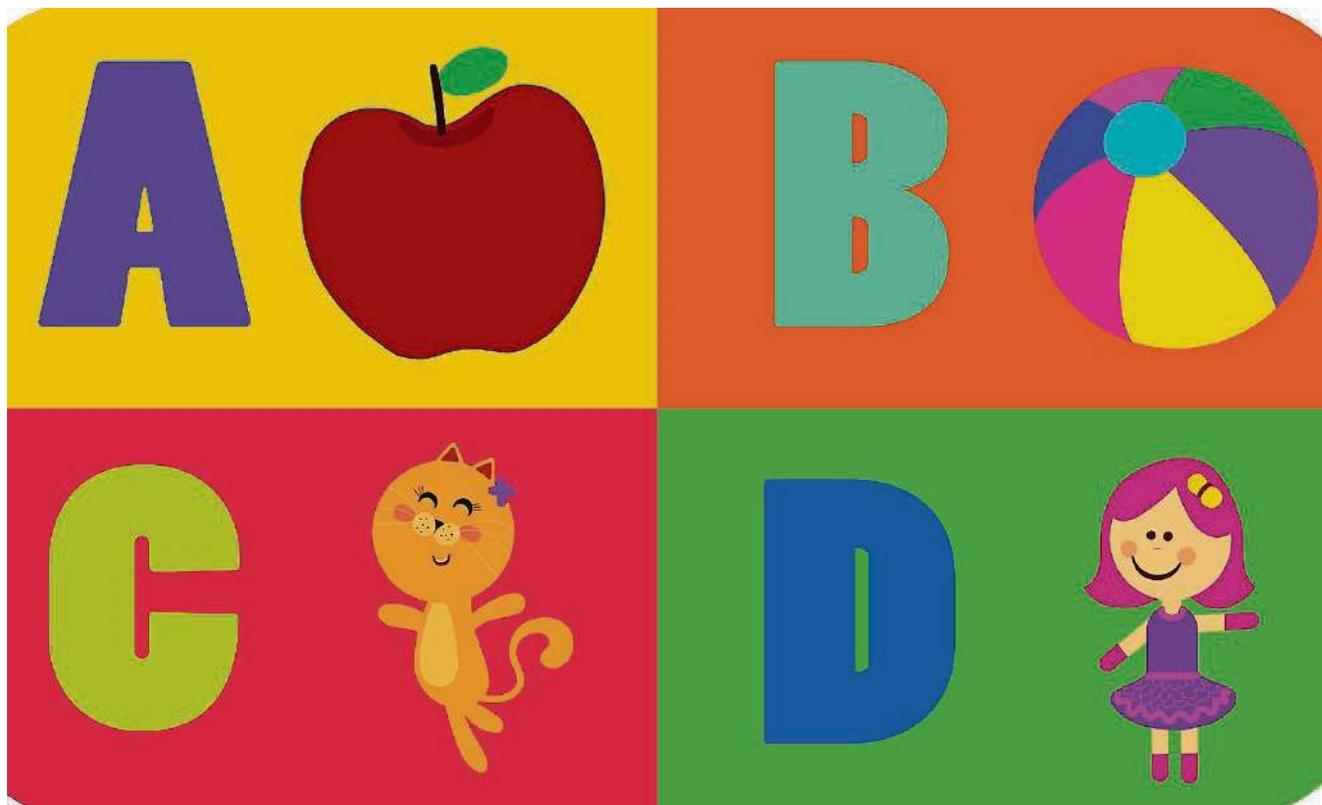


Contact: Tipperary Childcare Committee, 2nd Floor Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel, Co. Tipperary.

Telephone: (062) 64200 | Email: info@tccc.ie
www.tipperarychildcarecommittee.ie



Longfield Academy Clonmel offering a wide range of services



Longfield Academy, Clonmel
Tel 052 61 29792

Longfield Academy is a purpose built childcare centre in Clonmel, located on the Cashel Road, close the town centre adjacent to Boston Scientific & Abbott Vascular.

We are open 52 weeks a year*, Monday to Friday 7.30am to 6.00pm.

Our building is bright and spacious with each room opening out onto our large and attractive play area with safety surface which provides a fun and safe environment. We have a vast selection of bicycles, play houses and outdoor toys to engage the children.

We offer a wide range of services from Babies (12 mths)

& Toddlers, to Pre-school and an After School service. Our emphasis is on the holistic and individual development of each child. We provide them with an environment which is safe, secure and rich in opportunities therefore, enabling children to grow and learn through their own experiences. We encourage

self expression promoting enthusiasm for learning.

The team at Longfield Academy work in partnership with parents to ensure your child gets the right start!

For further information please go to www.longfieldacademy.ie



Longfield Academy

Bansha Preschool

Bansha Preschool is located in the Primary school in Bansha.

We would like to congratulate John on achieving a FETAC level 6 qualification last summer. Amy is currently studying for her degree in Early childhood studies and Paula is studying LINC in order to become an Inclusion Co-ordinator.

Bansha preschool was one of 7 services in the country to be involved in the Aistear in Action project, Aistear is the National Curriculum and we fully embrace it. We also achieved the highest

standard when we formally engaged with Siolta, the National Quality framework.

This year we had our first Department of Education and Skills inspection, showing the educational value of our preschool. At Bansha preschool we believe that the preschool belongs to the families who attend. This year we extended our outdoor play area with some new equipment and a sensorial garden.

Our Open Night will be held on Wednesday April 10 at 7pm. All are welcome.



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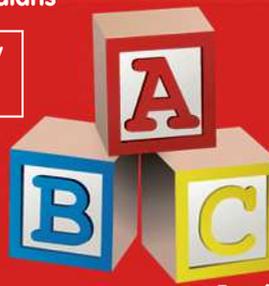
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FEATURE

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Clever Clogs, Elm Park, Clonmel Contact

Clare at 052 6189377 Or find us on Facebook

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for your child while offering you excellent value for money.

Our service was chosen to take part in the Better Start Programme. Better Start provides a Quality Development Service to ECEC providers in implementing Siolta, The National Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Aistear,

The National Early Years Curriculum Framework. This is an on-site mentoring service which works with early years managers and staff to plan and implement quality development goals.

Our Early Years Educators are highly qualified and we implement the HighScope Approach with all children.



Busy Bees Clonmel - relaxed, loving atmosphere

Busy Bees Clonmel - Vanessa Moriarty - (086)0444202

Our aim at Busy Bees Pre-School and After-School service is to create a friendly, caring and professional service where children can learn and develop in a relaxed and loving atmosphere. We are committed to providing excellent standards of care for the holistic development of your child. Our mission statement is to prepare and provide the most natural and life enhancing environment to support the fulfillment of each child's greatest poten-

tial. We strive to provide a happy and secure environment. We promote parental involvement and foster good relations with parents.

We have expanded our operation in recent years to meet demand and now are providing services at the Presentation Primary School, Rathkeevin National School, St Mary CBS Clonmel, Gael Scoil Clonmel and also at Ardfinnan National School.

Busy Bees After School offers a school collection service from all the local schools within Clonmel. We open 38 weeks of the year offering

Homework club (overseen by teachers) computers, sports, art and crafts, baking and more.

In September 2016 we opened our Preschool to offer the free preschool year (ECCE) to children aged 3-5 years at Rathkeevin National School.

We base our curriculum around Aistear and Montessori. Aistear is the Irish for journey. We believe each child is on their own journey and hope to guide them through these young years. Now open for enrolments for September 2019.



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- We offer the Affordable Childcare Scheme which is a new national scheme of financial support for parents towards the cost of their childcare with fees costing as little as €12 per week.
- Children aged 18 months to 5 years on a sessional, part or full time basis in our Waddler, Toddler & Preschool rooms.
- All staff are trained in implementing the Highscope Approach, to ensure our children become competent and content learners.

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BUSY Bees

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Rathkeevin National School, Rathkeevin, Clonmel.

St. Mary's C.B.S., Irishtown, Clonmel.

Gaelscoil, Cluain Meala

Ardfinnan National School, Ardfinnan.

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'Typical rural childhood' inspires Orla's play

By **DYLAN WHITE**
e-mail: dylan.white@iconicnews.ie
Twitter: @TipperaryLive

A County Tipperary woman brings her first full-length theatrical play home next month.

Orla Murphy's *Remember to Breathe* was developed as part of a year-long Directing for Theatre programme with Fishamble Theatre at The Source Arts Centre in Thurles.

The tale of swimming against the tide and making it takes to The Source stage on March 9 at 8pm.

The destinies of an Irish father, daughter and a Kiwi swimming coach collide in a swimming pool in Christchurch, New Zealand, via the hayfields and hay barns of the Golden Vale.

Orla had a "typical rural childhood" growing up on a farm in the townland of Ballydrehid outside Cahir. The customs and traditions of the area are at the heart of the play, which also references the Galtee Mountains.

"We spent most of our time outside and we loved summers when all our cousins came to visit and stayed with my grandparents who lived next door. We particularly loved the hay-making and baling as there were always extra people around and my mother made the best teas then," Orla fondly recalls.

Orla loved reading, writing, going to plays and watching films growing up. Her creativity crafted together the foundations which

allowed for her passion to come to fruition. "I wanted very much to be in that world, but I had no family or connections so it seemed impossible. Growing up on our farm, there was an old building that was in disrepair. One wall had fallen away, exposing the upper storey to the ground floor. I don't know where I got the idea that it could be a stage, but I did! And I persuaded my siblings and the neighbouring family, the Hennessys, to become both the cast and audience. For one wet summer, we staged plays daily - writing, directing and performing - and I got hooked."

Orla feels theatre is "very important" to communities. "It's a place people can go to feel, think and heal what ails them communally. A place to laugh, cry and laugh again together, and above all else a place where the imagination can roam free. There are so many pressures in daily life that it is good and necessary that places like that exist."

She says the best part of the job is meeting audiences after shows, relishing her date at The Source. "I make theatre for audiences and not for critics. While the lovely responses from critics is good for the show, what I love most is taking the show on the road because that is when I get to meet audiences, hear their thoughts and their stories in response to the one we just told. We have had so many moving and funny moments with this show in most counties in Ireland at this stage, so I am really looking

forward to bringing it home."

Orla takes pride in *Remember to Breathe* winning the Lustrum Award on her birthday at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2016, but admits that the industry brings with it many challenges. "There was one night during the first national tour in 2016 where 20 minutes before curtain-up the lead actor's shoes disappeared and the lighting desk literally blew up - sparks and all - in the venue with a huge crowd waiting outside. We were the show opening the autumn programme so they had everyone that was interested in theatre there."

"Now we have 64 lighting cues in *Remember to Breathe* - difficult to reprogramme that many in an hour let alone 20 minutes. Thankfully someone found another desk, I cut the cues to 10 minutes, the chairman of the committee blessed us all with holy water and the show went on - as it always must - with a bare-footed actor. We had a great night, which ended in the longest standing ovation we have ever had. At the end of the day the audience went home happy and that's what it's all about."

Thematically, *Remember to Breathe* is about how the ripple effects of "big economic, environmental and social events are felt by small ordinary people in rural communities". Orla says it's a relatable story because the "world is full of people who leave and people who stay behind without them".

She adds: "It's a show



Orla Murphy brings *Remember to Breathe* to The Source Arts Centre, Thurles, on March 9

about survival, redemption and the strength people show in adversity. It's a celebration of the beauty of the Irish countryside and of how that never leaves you once you've experienced it. And it is also, I hope, shot through with the dry Tipperary that I grew up hearing. The character Johnny in particular reminds me of many men I used to listen to coming and going on

the farm and in the co-op. He has a way of putting things that are both funny and wise at the same time.

"Doreen, who is a Kiwi, is nonetheless inspired by the women I knew growing up. She doesn't do self-pity and she's strong but has a great heart underneath it all. And Maeve is probably closest to my own experience, having emigrated very often myself and now happily settled back

here in Ireland.

"My own childhood was marked by emigration and return as was my extended family's. Growing up in the country never leaves you and the sense memories of that time have found their way into the play in a very strong way. We also have a hay bale in the show, which is very important to the plot as you'll find out if you come see it."

Secret wedding celebrations for Clonmel's Mark and Rebecca

An 'engagement party' turned into a secret wedding in Clonmel this month.

Clonmel's Rebecca Purcell, the sister of model Roz Purcell, and her partner Mark Young organised the party at Raheen House Hotel for friends and their families.

Little did the gathering know, they were heading to the couple of 15 years' wedding.

There were no speeches, bridesmaids or grooms at "the best wedding ever".

The couple's friend, South Tipp Today's very own Anne Phelan, acted as their celebrant.

The management at Raheen House Hotel were fantastic, helping to keep everything under wraps in the build-up to the big day.

Rebecca's sister, Roz, shared the couple's happy news and photos of the occasion with her 250k Ins-

tagram.

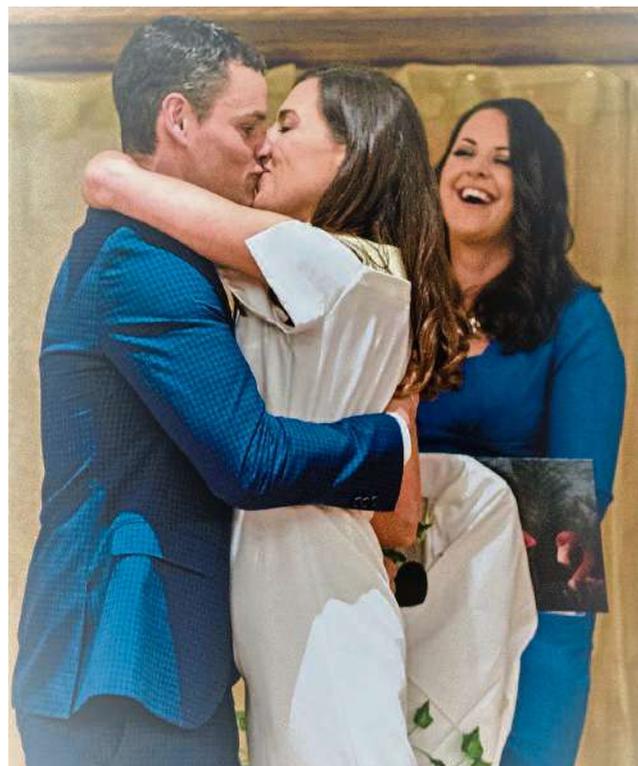
"I'm filled with so much love and happy feelings from the weekend," Roz captioned a post.

"It was meaningful and short - true Purcell style - so we could get straight to the food and partying to 90s disco. They are the best couple ever, even after making us wait 15 years, but the surprise was worth," she said.

Rebecca is a business lecturer at Mary Immaculate College, while UK native Mark has been living in Clonmel for 19 years and owns My Eco Construction.

Both are founding members of Clonmel Triathlon Club.

"My sister Rebecca was the most beautiful bride," Roz added.



Mark and Rebecca's first kiss after getting married



The Purcell family, Killurney, at the happy occasion

Jim's new play A Living Will is coming to Cashel

It's always exciting to see new, fresh and exciting talent take to the stage in Tipperary.

Recently, there has been a particular current of anticipation among drama enthusiasts as news emerged of a local gentleman who had risen to the challenge of penning his own stage play.

Expectations were enormous among the hundreds of people who flocked to Knockavilla Community Hall for three sell-out nights and again to a packed house in Doon Community Hall at the end of 2018 to see Jim Keane's brand new play A Living Will.

Golden's Keane is a well-known crafter of his art, having spent his entire life involved in drama and theatre in the community.

The story of A Living Will is simple on the surface, but the devil, as always, is in the

detail. The setting is a typical Irish farmhouse wherein resides Fintan Flynn and his family.

The ensuing drama is a storm of emotion as the greed and the evils of rural hunger do battle with the forces of truth, as a dark secret simmers, just waiting to emerge and destroy the Flynn family forever.

Jim Keane's wonderful dialogue and feverish story are more than carried aloft by a fantastic cast. Among the layers of darkness, there is, of course, comic relief. What else would you expect?

A Living Will is a work that expresses some very real issues, which resonate with the rural audiences of our community. Issues such as home, love, family, parenthood and identity sit comfortably alongside themes of betrayal, jealousy, infidelity, dishonesty, hatred and greed in a drama as finely crafted as a



Back: Rose Wallas, Alice Quirke, Bobby Russell, Jim O'Dwyer, John Cash, Michael Lonergan. Front: Paudie Quirke, Aisling Moloney, Lisa McGrath, Sarah Keane, Lisa Shanahan, Jim Keane, Geraldine Keane, Sinead Cash. Missing: Kerri Maloney

John B. Keane tragedy, with sufficient spells of razor-sharp humour to bring the audience on a spellbinding

journey into the heart of a family.

This is not one to be missed!

A Living Will comes to Brú Ború, Cashel, on Friday and Saturday, March 8 and 9, at 8pm nightly. Admission is €15

and tickets can be booked on Brú Ború or by calling 062-61122.

The Karan Casey Band to perform live in Clonmel

Clonmel World Music is delighted to welcome back one of the best folk and traditional singers in Ireland to Raheen House Hotel on March 7 at 8pm.

Waterford native Karan Casey has long been one of the most innovative voices in Irish traditional and folk music.

Her career has spanned 30 years, from the early days as a jazz performer in Dublin to her heady days in New York

with the band Solas and onto her now established solo career.

Karan has sold over half a million records. Karan released her first album with the group Solas, which quickly became the most celebrated Irish band in the United States and her four years with the group were pivotal.

Since embarking on her solo career, Karan has released six solo albums, a duo album (with John Doyle), an album for children and nu-

merous contributions to other artists' projects.

She has toured constantly throughout North America, Europe and Japan, performing solo, with her own band and with many other diverse artists. Recent years have seen Karan appearing with Folk legends James Taylor, Liam Clancy, Peggy Seeger, Mick Moloney, The Dubliners and Imelda May.

Karan has won awards for Best Folk Album and Best

Folk Female from Irish Music Magazine. She has been nominated for the BBC Folk Awards and the Danish Grammys, and was a key member of Paul Winter's Grammy-award winning Celtic Solstice.

Hieroglyphs That Tell the Tale is the title of Karan's new album, set for release on October 19. The album sees her return to a mix of traditional and folk songs imbued with a modern twist, sitting along-

side some new self-penned songs. She is joined on vocals by some of her favourite singers, including Karen Matheson, Niamh Dunne, Pauline Scanlon, Maura O'Connell and Aoife O'Donovan.

Produced by renowned Scottish musician and Bafta-nominated composer Donald Shaw, the album also features Karan's long-time musical collaborators Kate Ellis, Niall Vallely, James MacKintosh,

Ewen Vernal, Dirk Powell and Mike McGoldrick as well as younger voices such as Sean Óg Graham and Catriona McKay.

While singing songs from contemporary folk writers Janis Ian, Eliza Gilkyson, Patty Griffin, Mick Flannery and Bob Dylan, the album showcases Casey's talent as a songwriter.

Tickets to the Clonmel gig are available on www.clonmelworldmusic.com.



The Karan Casey Band performs at Raheen House Hotel on March 7

The Coachman,
Parnell St., Clonmel | Tel: 052-6121299

Thursday 28th February
Crazy Night in Aid of South Tipperary Hospice
Music By: **PAT HOLLAND**
Jackpot: €270/€100/€50/€40

Friday 1st March
Bar: **MICHAEL HUMPHRIES**
Ballroom: **Jive Course with Niall Doorhy**
7pm - 8.20pm & 8.30pm - 9.50pm

Saturday 2nd March
DEUCES WILD

Sunday 3rd March
BOG THE DONKEY

Tuesday 5th March
Clonmel Folk Club presents **THE CEDARTOWNS**

Thursday 7th March
Crazy Night in Aid of South Tipperary Hospice
Music By: **ROBBIE TAYLOR**

Friday 8th March
VINCENT VAUGHAN

Saturday 9th March
NEVER HEARD OF EM TRIO

Sunday 10th March
TERMINAL 2

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Social Dancing Class @ 7.30pm.
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Thirsty Thursday

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The Waxies

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Acoustic Beats

Sunday 3rd March
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Monday 4th March
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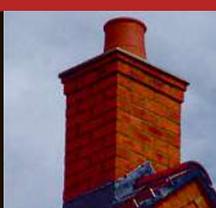
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TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

We wish to apply to the above authority for planning permission to construct a storey and a half type dwelling, domestic garage, septic tank and percolation area and all associated site works at Shanakyle, Drangan, Thurles, Co. Tipperary. Signed: David and Hazel Mc Cormack. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation 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.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Thomas O'Dwyer is applying to the above authority for permission for the retention of partially completed dwelling and for permission to modify and complete the partially completed dwelling [previous planning ref 08-726 & 01-614], installation of wastewater treatment system and all associated site works at Soloheadbeg Donohill Co. Tipperary. 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 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.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Significant Further Information:
Under Planning Reference Number 18/600987, We Dominic and Sarah Glasheen intend to apply to the above Authority for Retention Planning Permission for an extension to an existing dwelling and all associated site development works at Ballynagleragh, Lattin, Co. Tipperary. Significant further information in relation to the application has been furnished to the planning authority and is available for inspection or purchase at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the authority during its public opening hours. The significant further information includes for a new percolation area to be connected to the existing septic tank and all associated site works. A submission or observation in relation to the further information may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, not later than 2 weeks after the receipt of the newspaper notice and site notice by the Planning Authority. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

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PLANNING NOTICES

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Denis English, intend to apply for planning permission for construction of a dwelling at Main Street Ballyporeen, Co. Tipperary. 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.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

James Ryan is applying to the above authority for permission for the retention of partially completed dwelling & entrance and for permission to complete the partially completed dwelling, installation of wastewater treatment system and all associated site works at Glengar Cappawhite Co. Tipperary.

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TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Morrissey Construction Ltd. intend to apply to the above Authority for Planning Permission to change the house type at site 52 of previously granted planning application reference number 15600495 and all associated site works at Powerstown Way, Knockauncourt, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation 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.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Sheila Forest, intend to apply to the above authority for permission to construct a single storey extension to the rear of my existing dwelling and all associated site development works including modifications to the existing dwelling at 12 Riverview Court, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation 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

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

TJ & Joan Shine intend to apply to the above Authority for Planning Permission to (i) extend and renovate an existing dwelling and (ii) to construct a garage – and all associated site development works at No. 1 Bengurragh Square, Cahir, Co. Tipperary. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation 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.

TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL

Take notice that I, Paul Flanagan, intend to apply to the above Authority for Planning Permission for a Dwelling, Garage and Entrance utilising the Septic Tank & Percolation Area already constructed to serve the Dwelling granted on foot of planning permission Ref. No. 04/1531 and to construct a new Septic Tank & Percolation area to service that existing Dwelling along with all associated site works - all at Woodinstown, Cahir, Co. Tipperary. This 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 this 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 and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

LONERGAN

(Acknowledgement & 1st Anniversary)



Tommy Lonergan

Southview, Irishtown
Clonmel
Co. Tipperary
8th March 2018

In loving memory of Tommy on his First Anniversary.

His daughter Helen, son Donal, son-in-law Pat, daughter-in-law Marie, grandchildren Aoife, Donal, Ciara and Caoimhin, brother and sisters wish to express our sincere thanks to all who supported and sympathised with us on our loss. Thanks to those who sent Mass cards, messages of sympathy and attended his funeral.

Special thanks to Canon Meehan, Canon Crowley, Fr B Power and Fr P Hayes for celebrating his Mass and to sacristan Eddie.

Condon's Undertakers for their professional help during this time.

Sincere thanks to all his Home Helps who cared for him over the years. Thanks to the Doctors, Nurses and staff of South Tipperary General Hospital and Melview Nursing home for their care and kindness during his illness.

As it would be impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our sincere thanks.

Tommy's First Anniversary Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 9th March at 10am in St. Mary's Church, Irishtown.

THANKSGIVINGS

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention request). 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. Amen. Say prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. (never known to fail) Many thanks for favour granted. MW

THE MIRACULOUS PRAYER

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention request). 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. Amen. Say prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. (never known to fail) KOB

SACRED HEART OF JESUS

In the past I have asked you for many favours. This time I ask you this very special one (mention favour). 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. Amen. Say prayer for three days. Promise publication and favour will be granted no matter how impossible. (never known to fail) P.F.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

MEANEY

(Acknowledgement)



Catherine (Kitty) nee O'Halloran

Boloughera, Lissycasey,
Co. Clare

1st February 2019

We the family of the late Kitty would sincerely like to thank all those who sympathised with us on our recent loss, especially those who travelled from afar to be with us.

We would like to thank the many people who sent Kitty Get Well messages and Mass bouquets during her illness and those who sent us sympathy cards and perpetual enrollments.

We are very grateful to all the people in Clonmel who helped Kitty during her illness.

We wish to thank all those involved in Kitty's care, especially the nurses and doctors in South Tipperary General Hospital, especially all the Nurses, Doctors and staff in the Emergency Department, the Oncology Department, Medical Ward 3 and Medical 1.

We would also like to thank the carers from the HSE and the palliative care team as well as South Tipperary Hospice Movement.

Also a big thank you to all the carers from Bluebird Care.

As it would be impossible to thank all the people who helped us, please accept this acknowledgement as a token of our appreciation.

Kitty's Months Mind Mass will be celebrated in St. Mary's Church, Cranny, Co. Clare on Saturday 2nd of March at 7.00pm.

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

GREENE

(Birthday Remembrance)



Birthday remembrance of a dear father, grandfather and great-grandfather Peter Greene, Oakland Drive, Clonmel whose birthday occurs at this time.

We hope a choir of Angels are around you on this day, singing Happy Birthday in their own special way. Put your arms around him Lord and give him a great big hug. Tell him it's from Frances, Kieran, Shannon, Nicole, Brogan and Keegan and it's sent with all our love.

Miss you so much xxxxx

Your birthday is a time for gifts and to turn another sod. But the greatest gift we ever got was given back to God.

Loved and remembered always Dad - your loving daughter Catherine, Jim, Jamie and Tara xxxxx

A birthday wish we send you today, but not on a card in the usual way. But written in gold on a cloud above and sent to you with all our love.

Always in our thoughts, especially at this time.

Love you Dad, from your daughter Ann-Marie, grandchildren and great grandchildren xxxxxx

IN MEMORIAM

BOURKE / KERTON

(25th & 6th Anniversaries)

Edgware, London and Clonmel

Please remember in your prayers our dear brother John who died on 1st March 1994. Also our aunt Bridie Kerton, Fr. Matthew Terrace whose 6th anniversary occurs on 16th April.

Please also remember our parents Jim and Mary Ellen and our brother David, uncle Willie Kerton and other members of our family.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord.

Those we hold most dear never truly leave us. They live on in the kindness they showed and the love they brought into our lives.

Always remembered by their family and friends in Clonmel and London.

Masses offered.

IN MEMORIAM

CONDON

(38th Anniversary)



In loving memory of our darling sister Linda Marie, who died on the 27th February 1981.

We think of you today dear Linda.

We never knew that morning, the sorrow that day would bring, a heart of gold stopped beating, we could not do a thing. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone, for part of us went with you, the day God called you home.

May the winds of love blow gently, and whisper for you to hear, we'll always love and miss you, and wish that you were here. We see your face in every rose, your star shines from the sky, and as the rain keeps pouring down, your tears fall down with joy.

From your loving brothers, sisters, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nephews and nieces.

Mass offered

CONNOLLY

(2nd Anniversary - 27th February 2017)



Sheila Connolly
(nee Clancy)

Marian Court, Clonmel.

Today is a day we light a candle and say a special prayer. We take a step down memory lane and know that we will find you there. We know you walk beside us and when our lives are through, we pray that God will take our hands and lead us straight to you.

Lovingly remembered - niece Kathleen, her husband Derek and their daughters Rachel, Sarah and Alice.

Also remembering Sheila's sister Betty Kennedy, Second Anniversary on 20th February. RIP

Masses offered.



*I am
Still
With You*

*If it seems that I
am far away on
this empty and
solemn day,*

*Just open your
heart and know
it's true,*

*that I am still
right here with
you.*

*If during the day
things are going
wrong,*

*please don't feel
sad and alone.*

*Just open your
heart and know
it's true,*

*that I am still
right here with
you.*

*When nighttime
falls and the day
is done.*

*If you are feeling
alone and sleep
won't come,*

*Just open your
heart and know
it's true,*

*that I am still
right here with
you.*

*Close your eyes,
and feel the warm
embrace.*

*Sleep peacefully
in the wings of
grace.*

*If sadness finds
you in the
morning light, if
you feel alone,*

*don't give up
trying!*

*Hold this feather
close and know
it's true,*

*that I am always
here with you.*



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IN MEMORIAM

DAHILL
(3rd Anniversary)



John Dahill

Marfield Road,
Clonmel

In sad and loving memory of my loving husband John who died on 4th March 2016.

What I wouldn't give to clasp your hand, you dear sweet face to see. To hear your voice, to see your smile, that meant so much to me.

Love you always

Your loving wife Mary

DAHILL
(3rd Anniversary)



John Dahill

Marfield Road,
Clonmel

No-one knows how much we miss you. No-one knows the bitter pain we suffered since we lost you, we will never be the same.

Love and miss you every day Dad....

From your daughters, sons, sons-in-law, daughters-in-law and grandchildren.

FOX
(21st Anniversary)

In loving memory of Peggy, late of McDonagh Crescent, Old Bridge, Clonmel, whose anniversary occurs 28th February.

Sadly missed by her daughter Della, son-in-law Kieran, grandchildren, Aisling, Eoghan and Deirdre, great-grandchild Siadh and brother Tom.

"Safe in the Arms of Jesus"

Masses offered in Naas.

IN MEMORIAM

HALLEY
(40th & 10th Anniversaries)



& Birthday Remembrance)

In loving memory of my beloved sons Adrian and Glen, whose anniversaries occur on 21st February and 2nd March, late of 70 Elm Park, Clonmel.

Also remembering Adrian's 45th Birthday which occurs on 21st February and Glen's 43rd Birthday which occurs on 13th March.

To know, to love and then to part, is the saddest fate of the human heart.

Always loved and remembered by Mam.

Anniversary Mass on Saturday 2nd March at 7.30pm in St. Oliver's Church.

HEALY
(4th Anniversary)



Noreen

Clonmel,
Co. Tipperary.

Look around your garden Lord, she won't be hard to find, for she has a face so full of love and a heart that is good and kind.

Always loved and remembered by your loving family xxxx

HENNEBRY
(2nd Anniversary)



In loving memory of our dear friend Bridget Hennebry, late of No 2 Jubilee Tce., Kilsheelan, who died on 25th February 2018.

We think of you in silence, we talk about you too. We have some lovely memories but we wish we still had you.

Sadly missed by Ann, Geraldine and Olive xxx

IN MEMORIAM

HUGHES & SMITH
(24th & 14th Anniversaries)



In loving memory of my mother Kathleen Hughes (little Nanny) also her sister Nonie Smith (nee Hughes) whose anniversaries occur at this time RIP.

A Mass, a prayer are all we can give and these ye shall have for as long as we live. Mass offered.

Always remembered by daughter Bernadette, son-in-law Johnny, your sister Violet Grant and family, grandchildren Geraldine, Tony, Raymond, Cathy, Marie, 13 great-grandchildren and 16 great-great-grandchildren.

MCGEE
(9th Anniversary)



Cherished memories of our dear mother Ellen McGee, late of 70 Griffith Avenue, Clonmel, who died on 19th March, 2010. R.I.P.

To hear your voice, to see your smile, to sit and talk with you awhile. To be together in the same old way, would be my dearest wish today.

Sadly missed and always loved by your loving family.

Anniversary Mass in St. Oliver's Church on Saturday 9th March at 11.30am.

IN MEMORIAM

O'BRIEN
(27th & 17th Anniversaries)



In loving memory of our dear parents Mary and Willie O'Brien, late of Ard Fatima, Clonmel whose anniversaries occur at this time.

It does not take a special day, to bring you both to mind. A day without a thought of you is very hard to find.

Forever in our hearts and thoughts

Donal, May, Breda, Martin, Seanie, Dina, Noelle and Billie, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and extended family.

Anniversary Mass in St. Oliver's Church on Sunday 3rd March at 12 noon.

O'BRIEN
(27th & 17th Anniversaries)



In loving memory of our dear parents Mary and Willie O'Brien, late of Ard Fatima, Clonmel whose anniversaries occur at this time.

There is a path of beautiful memories. from here to Heaven above. That keeps us very close to you and it's called the path of love. Your shadow walks beside us, forever at our sides. It's always there to guide us, ever since the day you died. Oh Angels take this message, to a dear Mam and Dad up above. Tell them, we really miss them and give them all our love.

Always remembered by Breda, Martin, Donal and May, Seanie and Dina, Noelle and Billie, Keith and family, Andrea and family, Mark, Caz and family, Chris and family, David and family, Joanne, Sean and family, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Anniversary Mass in St. Oliver's Church on Sunday 3rd March at 12 noon.

THANKSGIVINGS

THANKSGIVING NOVENA TO ST. JUDE

O Holy St. Jude, Apostle and Martyr, great in virtue and rich in miracles, near kinsman of Jesus Christ, faithful intercessor of all who invoke your special patronage in time of need, to you I have recourse from the depth of my heart and humbly beg to whom God has given such great power to come to my assistance. Help me in my present and urgent petition. In return I promise to make your name known and cause you to be invoked. St. Jude pray for us and all who invoke your aid. Amen. OH

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*I am
Still
With You*

If it seems that I
am far away on
this empty and
solemn day,

Just open your
heart and know
it's true,

that I am still
right here with
you.

If during the day
things are going
wrong,

please don't feel
sad and alone.

Just open your
heart and know
it's true,

that I am still
right here with
you.

When nighttime
falls and the day
is done.

If you are feeling
alone and sleep
won't come,

Just open your
heart and know
it's true,

that I am still
right here with
you.

Close your eyes,
and feel the warm
embrace.

Sleep peacefully
in the wings of
grace.

If sadness finds
you in the
morning light, if
you feel alone,

don't give up
trying!

Hold this feather
close and know
it's true,

that I am always
here with you.



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When someone
you love becomes
a memory, the
memory becomes
a treasure.

Author Unknown



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IN MEMORIAM

O'CONNOR

(13th Anniversary)

Cherished memories today and everyday of our beloved daughter, Jennifer O'Connor, late of Farrannagark, Cahir, who died on the 28th February, 2006.

We think of you in silence, we often speak your name, but all we have are memories and your picture in a frame.

Your resting place we visit and put flowers there with care, but no one knows the heartache as we turn and leave you there.

Sadly missed and loved by Mam, Dad, sisters Grace and Amy, grandparents, uncles and cousins.

Mass offered

O'DONNELL

(5th Anniversary)



In loving memory of John O'Donnell, late of Link Road, Tipperary Town, who died on 27th February 2014 RIP

Time passes, memories stay, still loved and remembered everyday.

Sadly missed by his Dad, Mam and sister Lisa.

Anniversary Mass in St. Michael's Church Tipperary Town on Saturday 2nd March at 7pm and Sunday 3rd March at 11am.

O'SULLIVAN

(10th Anniversary)



Denis (Dinny)

Droimainn, Cahir Rd,
Clonmel

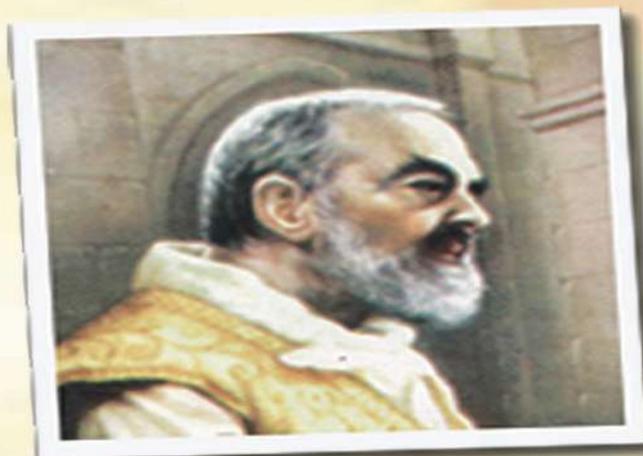
In loving memory of a much loved husband, Dad and Grandad, Dinny O'Sullivan whose 10th anniversary occurs on March 10th.

A smile for all and a heart of gold, one of the best this world could hold. Never selfish, always kind, a beautiful memory left behind.

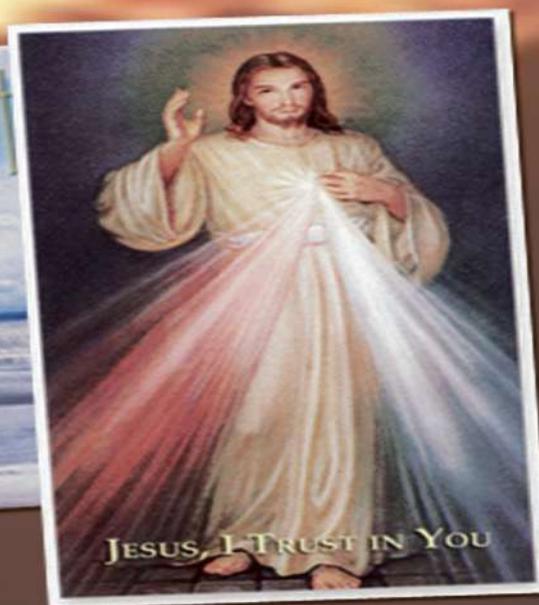
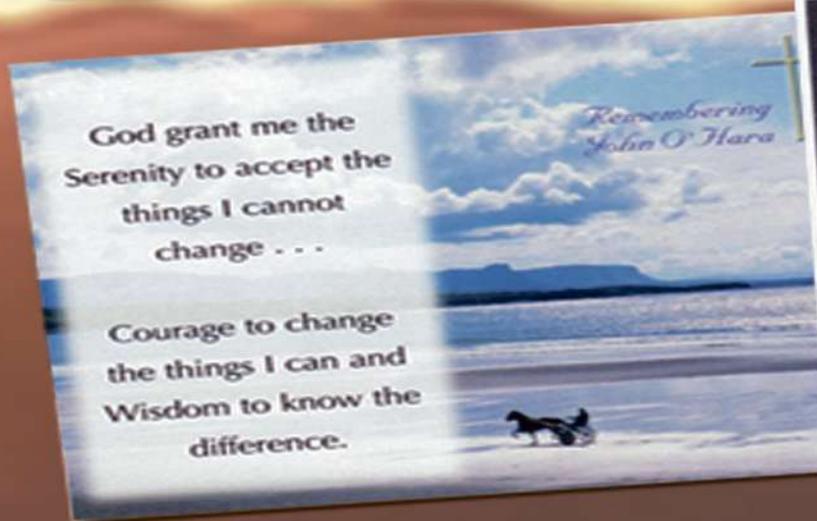
Always loved and forever missed by his loving wife Kathleen, son James, daughters Martina, Catherine and Denise, sons-in-law, daughter-in-law and all the grandchildren.

Mass offered.

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May He support us all the day long till the shades lengthen and evening comes and the busy world is hushed and the fever of life is over and our work is done. Then in His mercy may He give us a safe lodging and a Holy rest and peace at the last.
Cardinal Newman



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Make walking with your local community part of life

The Irish Heart Foundation has teamed up with parkrun in an initiative to get local communities throughout Ireland walking back to good health.

Together they are inviting people across Ireland to join with others in their community on March 2 and take part in their local free park walk.

Park walk is a new six-week initiative held in conjunction with the normal parkrun where you can join the parkrun team and walk the route at your own pace. Thousands of people across Ireland have already joined park walk, rediscovering the joy of exercise.

The Irish Heart Foundation is encouraging walking leaders, walking groups and individuals to attend parkrun, which takes place at Clonmel Racecourse every

Saturday at 9.30am.

A regular programme of walking can keep your heart strong, improve muscle strength, help to manage your weight and make you feel good.

Register for parkrun at www.parkrun.ie/register, choose #IrishHearts as your club and print the barcode before turning up to walk with your local community.

With events in 85 locations in Ireland, parkrun is free, safe and easy to take part in alongside your local community.

People looking to get active can take up the Irish Heart Foundation's Move More Walking Challenge, a six-week programme to support people to achieve physical activity guidelines and walk a 5km route at their own pace with the goal of completing a parkrun walk. Each week, participants will be encouraged to increase their

step count, increase the distance they walk as well as introduce some mobility, stretching and strength exercises. The Move More Walking Challenge can be downloaded from the Irish Heart Foundation's website.

The Irish Heart Foundation will provide parkrun with a number of initiatives. Volunteers will be provided with the opportunity for free CPR training, giving volunteers the knowledge and confidence to perform CPR in an emergency. Parkrun e-zine subscribers will now receive heart health information, healthy eating tips, video demonstrations and information on physical activity.

Regular physical activity can improve your wellbeing as well as reducing your risk of high blood pressure, heart attack and stroke. Make walking part of your life with your local community.



Muay Thai champion Dylan Meagher targets world title

By **DYLAN WHITE**
e-mail: dylan.white@iconicnews.ie
Twitter: @TipperaryLive

A County Tipperary Muay Thai fighter is preparing to defend his European title in the United Kingdom this April.

Irish and European Muay Thai boxing champion Dylan Meagher completely

changed his life after taking up the sport seven years.

The Grange man was overweight and low in self-esteem, driving him to embark on a rigorous training regime with Clonmel club Courage Muay Thai. "I was really in my shell before starting Muay Thai," Meagher tells South Tipp Today.

"It took me a year to lose

any bit of weight, and then I really put the head down and started dropping it rapidly. I competed in some amateur competitions and got on really well in them. Losing the weight definitely helped me, my confidence was starting to grow and after six fights I turned professional."

Meagher has competed in 15 professional fights, win-

ning 14 and losing just one. His most recent victory came at Siam Warriors Cork hosted Rumble at the Rockies earlier this month, when he took home the Iska Four Nations title at light heavyweight (81.5kg) after a "challenging" five rounds. He knocked out Wicker Camp UK's Chrystian Korzeniowski in the fifth and final round, taking his winning streak to seven-in-a-row.

"Training ahead of a fight is very similar to boxing - a lot of bag work, pad work, sparring, long-distance running, sprints and weight training in the gym. It's a very heavy workload, with two sessions a day six days a week. I'm dreaming of becoming a world champion later this year," he smiles.

Courage Muay Thai was afforded a mayoral reception by Clonmel Borough District's Mayor Richie Molloy before Christmas. The occasion celebrated Meagher winning the Irish Light Heavyweight Championship and the Roar Combat League European title at light cruiserweight, while also acknowledging the success of his clubmate Ian Crotty who became an Irish champion at bantamweight. Meagher credits retired Courage champions Sean Long and James O'Connell for



Dylan Meagher completely changed his life after taking up Muay Thai

inspiring him to fight in the professional ring.

"You need to be very strong minded to compete at professional level in Muay Thai. I looked up to the likes of Sean and James when I joined the club because both of them were Irish champions. It's great to be able to follow in their footsteps," Meagher, a personal trainer at Xtreme CSC Cashel, says.

Meagher encourages more people to get involved in this "growing and exciting" sport. "It's not the biggest sport because people don't

know about it. It has grown in popularity the last two years, thanks to the quality of shows that are being put on across the country, particularly down in Cork.

"We have around 40 members at Courage and only around 10 on them compete. It's suitable for everyone because it's enjoyable and the training is fun. We train every Tuesday and Thursday - kids at 5.45pm, beginners at 6.45pm and advanced at 7.45pm. It helps you become more social and gives you the confidence to help others," he adds.



Courage Muay Thai members with Mayor Richie Molloy and Mattie McGrath TD at their mayoral reception

Peter shortlisted for top health and fitness award

A Clonmel personal trainer and nutritionist has been nominated for a top award.

Peter O'Halloran has been shortlisted for the Health and Fitness Blog/Vlog/Writer of the Year Award at this year's NUTRAMINO Health and Fitness Awards.

Bloggers, vloggers, gyms, personal trainers and active workplaces are set to be cel-

ebrated at the awards, which take place in the round room of the Mansion House on March 8.

Over 200 entries were received this year, demonstrating a remarkable boom within the Irish health and fitness sector.

A number of top health and fitness professionals and facilities have been shortlisted for this year's event. A Defence Forces sniper in-

structor, Peter runs his own business called PPT Fitness and Nutrition.

He won Ireland's Best Fitness Nutritionist/Dietician award at the 2018 Irish Fitness Industry Awards and a few days later took the prize for Best Use of Social Media by a Gym/Personal Trainer at the Social Media Awards.

The NUTRAMINO Health and Fitness Awards recognises the most talented, in-

novative health and fitness professionals, and celebrates community and engagement initiatives. Due to demand, the ceremony is divided up into three sections this year, including the programme and media awards, facility awards, and the people awards.

The ceremony aims to acknowledge exceptional accomplishments, inspire healthy Irish communities,



and future health and fitness industry professionals.

Judges include Conn McCluskey (CEO of Ireland Active), Matt English (CEO of Special Olympics Ireland) and Brenda O'Donnell (Inclusive Sport and Fitness Co-ordinator at CARA).

A recent report from Irelandactive.ie shows that 500,000 people in Ireland are members of health and fitness clubs, equating to 10.5% of the total population.



Dundrum AC's Elaine Hayes, Christina Fryday, Claire Ryan, Brid Quirke and Naoimh Doole at the Adare 10k



Dundrum AC's Patricia Ryan, Mairead Julian, Aisling Crowe, Catherine Fogarty, Mary Keane, Catherine Quinn, Laura McCarthy Armstrong, Karen Coughlan and Rebecca Lenehan won bronze in the team event at the County Novice Road Championships in Moyne

Stunning Tipp Classical line-up to rock Semple Stadium

The line-up for the rebranded Tipp Classical concert series has been unveiled with acts such as Transvision Vamp's Wendy James, Picturehouse, Therapy? and The Stunning set to return to the hallowed grounds of Semple Stadium alongside the Irish Chamber Orchestra once again this September.

"We've listened and we're delighted to announce Tipp Classical, a new expanded two-day festival with a line-up that's a mix of classic 90s and contemporary artists, curated with the ICO's tributes to some of Ireland's biggest names in music.

This year fans can choose on the night to take a seat in the stand or enjoy the gig from the pitch without having to storm security! I know Jerry Fish was delighted to have been the ring leader of such anarchy last year, he'll have to come up with some new plans for mischief for his tent the Tipp Big Top and leave out rebellion at the Main Stage this year," says festival curator Tom Dunne.

Also adding to the growing line up will be Mundy, The Sultan's of Ping, The Fat Lady Sings, The Frank and Walters, Jerry Fish and Eleanor McEvoy.

Now rebranded as Tipp Classical, the festival's capacity has also been expanded to accommodate an extra

10,000 fans for 2019.

Last year some 20,000 music lovers took to the streets of Thurles for the revamped Feile festival bringing an estimated €9 million boost to the local economy.

Festival goers will also be able to sample the delights of the extended food village and prosecco tent. Also returning is the Tipp Classical Eco-Glampsite with campers treated to some tribal luxury with cosy pre-pitched tents Tipis and Yurts.

Tipp Classical takes place on September 20 and 21. Weekend tickets cost €159.50 including booking fee from www.TippClassical.com.



The Stunning will make a return to Semple Stadium this September

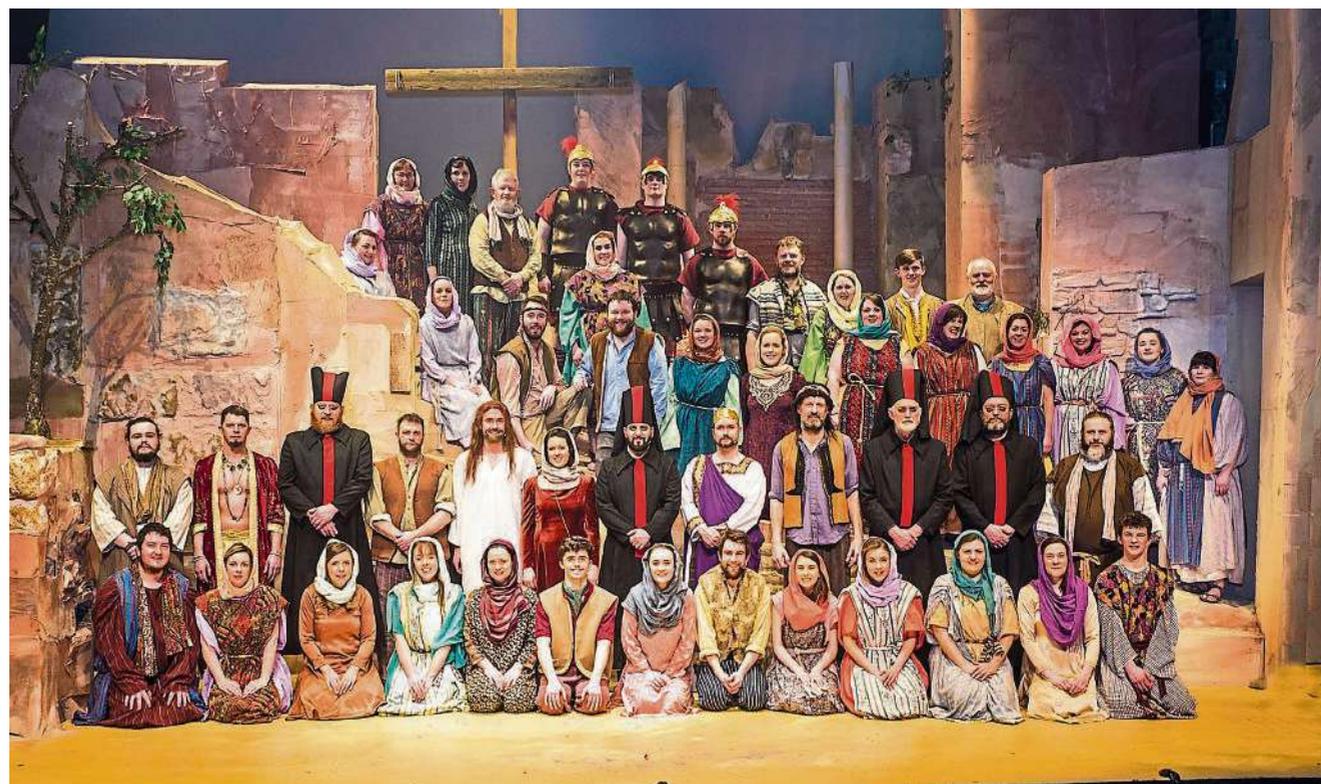
Standing ovation for Jesus Christ Superstar at Tipperary Excel

The Simon Ryan Theatre in Tipperary Excel was transported back to Jerusalem during Jesus' time this month as Tipperary Musical Society presented Jesus Christ Superstar.

This show was first performed by the society in 1996, and this time, 13 years later, a fresh approach to a traditional telling of the

story was brought about by the production team of Bill Stafford (director), Miriam Ball (choreographer) and Helen Colbert (musical director/chorus mistress). The set for this production, designed and painted by Ben Hennessy and built by Kenny Ryan, was immense, complete with ramps, a tunnel and a variety of different heights and spaces.

A spectacular frontline ri-



The outstanding Tipperary Musical Society cast members in Jesus Christ Superstar were given a standing ovation nightly

valled that of the West End, firstly with Cashel's Thomas Grogan as Jesus, who took the audience through the pain, suffering and acceptance involved in Jesus' final days. Thomas wore the same sandals that Gerry Ryan, the lead role in 1996, had worn for the role. Though Thomas played each moment of this role with such grace and commitment, a special mention must go to his solo song Gethsemane and his convincing portrayal of Jesus' death on the cross, which evoked an immense audience response each night.

Clonmel's Emmet Donlan was a powerful and passionate Judas, who conveyed all the tragedy and conflict needed to help the audience connect with this character.

Emmet displayed great versatility between the high-energy rock numbers and the heartfelt, frenzied and thought-provoking moments which caught the audience off-guard. Judas' death was a scene of particular repute and Emmet handled this with superb intensity.

Tipperary Town's Deirdre Ryan played the sole female principal role of Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus' closest friends, who admits to herself that she is deeply in love with him. Deirdre brought both strength and tenderness to this role and her vast stage experience was very evident. Her solo song I Don't Know How to Love Him and Could We Start Again Please?, her duet with Peter the Apostle (Jack Sharpe),

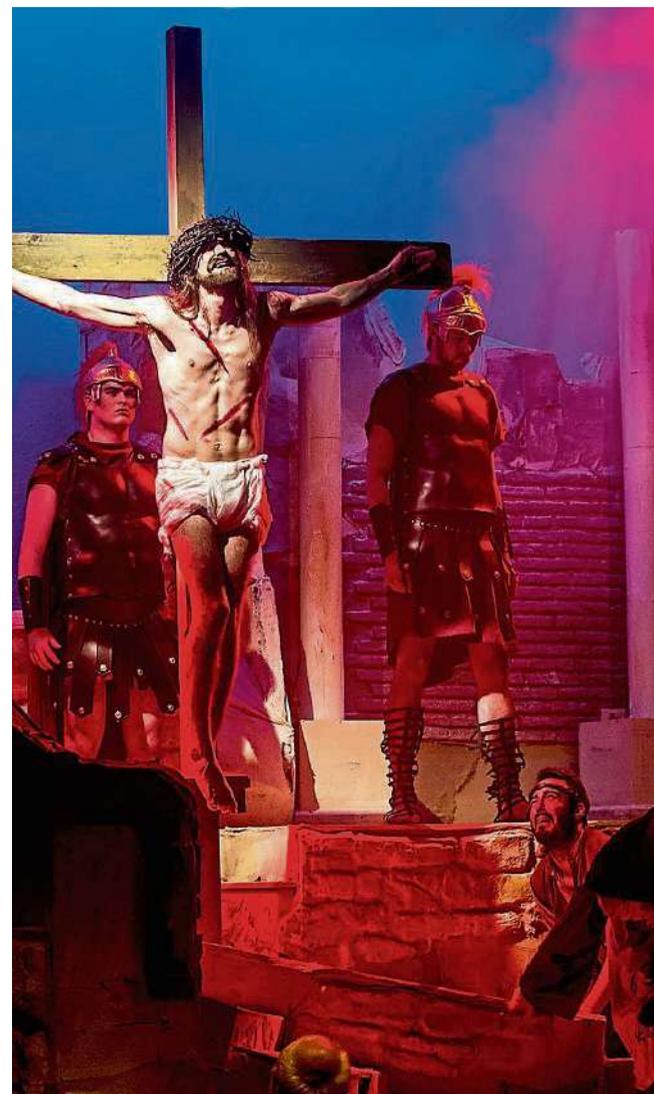
were two moments of great emotion and beauty in the show.

The quartet of High Priests were formidable antagonists in the show. A special mention must go to Derek Ryan for a fierce performance as Caiaphas and James O'Donovan for bringing great character and energy to the role of Annas. Aidan O'Connell brought depth and empathy as Pilate, in particular the scenes of Trial Before Pilate and The 39 Lashes were both haunting and captivating. The choral work in these scenes was also exceptional.

Martin Cosgrave presented a new interpretation of King Herod as a sadist and manipulator, and his scene with the puppet dan-

cers elicited gasps from the audience each night. Alan Kennedy's enthusiasm in his role as Simon Zealotes was contagious and Jack Sharpe portrayed a Peter full of angst and despair.

The chorus throughout the production was remarkable, with their hours of rehearsals becoming apparent as the ensemble transitioned confidently and seamlessly between heartfelt choral work, animated and energetic choreography, and powerful mob scenes. The audiences each night were spellbound, taken on an emotional rollercoaster of fear, sorrow and elation, and even from opening night it was clear that this show was something very special indeed.



Cashel's Thomas Grogan took audiences through Jesus' final days

LOCAL SPOTLIGHT

Send community news/photos to dylan.white@iconicnews.ie

FOSTERING

Fostering Fortnight runs in Tipperary from March 4-15. It aims to promote public awareness of fostering, to celebrate the amazing work that foster carers do and to shine a light on how foster care can change the lives of vulnerable children.

Anyone interested in learning more can attend fostering information events, which takes place in Clonmel on March 5 and Thurles on March 12. The theme this year is Celebrating Foster Care and Fostering Stories, encouraging all involved in foster care to tell their story and in doing so help to raise awareness for foster care in Ireland. "Everyone involved in foster care has a story to tell, and everyone deserves a chance to tell his or her story and share their experiences," a Fostering First Ireland spokesperson says.

"Fostering makes a real difference in a child's life, providing children and young people with a loving home and the support and encouragement they need to flourish."

There is currently a shortage of foster carers across the country and Fostering First Ireland wants to hear from potential foster families who are keen to make a difference and provide a safe environment to young people in 2019. If you have always had an interest in becoming a foster carer but didn't know where to get the right information, Fostering First Ireland are running a large number of information events across the country, including the events at Clonmel Community Resource Centre on March 5 from 11am-1pm and at The Order of Malta building, Boheravoroon, on March 12 from 6-8pm.

"At these events you can meet a fostering advisor who will be happy to answer any questions you may have and get all the information you need to start your journey towards making a real difference in the lives of children and young people. There will also be opportunities to speak with a foster carer at most of these events, who can tell you how fostering has changed their lives as well as the lives of the children they care for."

For more information on becoming a foster carer and for a full list of nationwide events, call 01 4171944 or visit Fostering First Ireland's website.

NEWCASTLE

Church collection

In aid of Good Morning



New Inn-Knockgraffon Community Games swimmers Jack Nugent, Alex McNamara, Sean Hayes, Sarah Stafford and Conor Hayes enjoyed competing at the County Finals in Thurles last weekend

South Tipperary will take place at Newcastle mass on March 2.

KILSHEELAN/KILCASH

Ladies Club

Celebrates 45 years of club activities in the parish with mass in Kilcass Church on March 8 at 7pm, followed by a celebratory dinner. Three course meal is €25 per person. All past and present members are cordially invited. Contact Phil Flood on 052-6133171 or Margaret O'Keeffe on 087-3811723.

BREXIT TALK

A free talk titled Brexit: An Analysis of a National Meltdown will be delivered by Professor of Finance at Trinity College Dublin Dr Brian Lucey at The Source Arts Centre, Thurles, on March 12 at 7pm. Pre-booking is necessary. Contact The Source on 0504 90204 or email boxoffice@sourcearts.ie.

VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Tipperary Volunteer Centre is hosting a pop-up shop until March 1 at 4A Main Street, Tipperary Town. Time 9.30am to 4.30pm. The idea behind the Pop-Up shop is to make it easy for individuals and community groups to meet with the staff of the volunteer centre. They can help individuals find suitable volunteer roles and help community groups recruit and retain volunteers. Members of the volunteer centre will be there all week to meet with the public. Contact Tina on 086-0418019 or email tina@volunteertipperary.ie.

CLONMEL

STAG

A new arts and crafts session for junior STAG will run from March 2 to April 13. Three space in the primary and two in the senior sections are available. The seniors start their batik course on March 2 and will complete their creative pottery, while the primary section will continue with imaginative drawing and painting while commencing a creative pottery course.

The adults art group is for sale at Mr Bumbles Restaurant, Befani's Restaurant, My Cafe, Slievenamon Golf Club and the outpatient corridor at South Tipperary General Hospital. Contact 086-8096823.

NCBI Shop

The NCBI Shop is holding a coffee morning on March 6 from 11am until 3pm. Photography exhibition and sale sponsored by Dave Messenger of Fujifilm Clonmel with prizes for the three best pictures donated. The shop will be giving away free children's books to celebrate World Book Day on March 7.

The Cedartowns

Clonmel Folk Club presents The Cedartowns on March 5 at the Coachman Bar. Doors open at 7pm, with concert at 8pm. Tickets are €10 from clonmelfolkclub.com, the Arts Centre, Ger Ambrose Jewellers and the Coachman Bar.

Belle Voci

The choir is holding a fundraising table quiz and raffle in Liam Daly's Pub on

March 7 at 8.30pm. Table of four is €20.

Probus

Next meeting in Raheen House Hotel on March 7 at 10.30am. Con Harrington will deliver a talk on solar energy. Contact Jim Trehy on 087-9608713.

Coffee morning

Fine Gael local election candidate Garret Ahearn will host a coffee morning in aid of Cuan Saor Womens Refuge on March 8 from 10am-12pm in his Clonmel office.

Table quiz

A table quiz in aid of Irish Cancer Society Night Nurses will be held in Moynihans, Gladstone Street, Clonmel, on February 28 at 8.30pm. Table of four is €20.

AGM

Wilderness, Carrigeen and Oakland Drive AGM takes place in in Oakland Community Hall on March 12 from 7-8.30pm.

Flower Club

Next meeting in Hotel Minella on March 12 at 7.30pm. Eileen O'Brien will give a teaching demonstration with an emphasis on beginners. All are welcome. The titles for the club competitions are: beginners 'Pots of Seasonal Delights' 60cm, intermediate Less is More 60cm and advanced Tea for Two 80cm.

Horticultural society

Meeting in Hotel Minella on March 6 at 8pm with speaker Emer Hartigan.

PUBLIC MEETING

Dealing with substance misuse will be the topic of a

Tipperary public consultation next month.

In a joint initiative between researchers at Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT) and the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force - with the support of HSE/South East Community Healthcare - a free public network café will take place at Clonmel Park Hotel on March 4 at 6.30pm to gather information towards identifying priorities for a Drug and Alcohol Implementation Strategy for the South East. The South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force has commissioned the Health Sciences/Nursing and Healthcare Department of WIT to conduct a situational analysis and implementation plan, which will aid the task force in its role of coordinating the implementation of the National Drug Strategy in the context of the needs of the South East.

A principal goal of the National Drugs Strategy in Ireland is to minimise the harms caused by the use and misuse of substances, promoting better health and social outcomes through the provision of a range of treatment, rehabilitation and recovery services. The strategy also identifies the need for meaningful participation amongst individuals, families and communities in the planning, design and delivery of effective services.

Regional and local drug and alcohol task forces play a major role in assessing the extent and nature of the drug and alcohol problems within the areas they serve. The task forces coordinate a

multi-disciplinary targeted local response. In this regard, the South East Regional Drug and Alcohol Task Force, in collaboration with researchers at WIT, will be hosting the network cafés across the region. The purpose of these events is to facilitate collaborative conversation between those in service provision, volunteers, users of the services and/or their families, and members of the community affected by issues of substance misuse.

Dr Michelle Foley, a researcher at WIT with extensive experience in the research field of drug addiction, is the principal investigator of the Drug and Alcohol Implementation Strategy for the South East. Looking forward to the process, Dr. Foley said: "Developing a strategy is a pledge to our communities in the South East that drug and alcohol misuse and its effects will be robustly tackled through a number of approaches, including prevention activities, education, community empowerment and treatment provision. "The strategy will complement the vision of the Reducing Harm, Supporting Recovery Strategy, aimed at reducing the damage caused by substance misuse to individuals, communities and Irish society as a whole by 2025."

The Clonmel event is free to attend. Those who would like more information can contact Chris Purnell on chris.purnell2@hse.ie and Dr Michelle Foley on mfoley@wit.ie.

BALLYLOOBY/DUHILL

Fundraiser

The Text Alert Group has organised a fundraising table quiz for March 1 in Duhill Hall at 8.30pm. Table of four is €20.

Daffodil Day

Duhill Community Centre is holding a coffee morning after gam mass St Patrick's Day.

NEW INN

Parish news

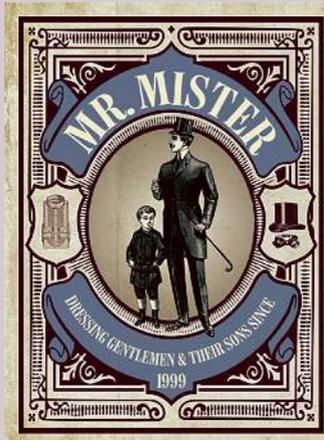
Confirmation on May 15 and First Holy Communion on May 25.

Thank you

Phil Ryan would like to thank all who supported the recent church gate collection in aid of the Irish Wheelchair Association, which raised €216.

Tidy Towns

Meet at the Grotto in New Inn at 11.30am every Saturday. Remember to wear your hi vis (or one will be provided) along with disposable gloves.



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