

# Mayfield Matters

**FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER, HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL NEWS**

**CHRISTMAS ISSUE!**

ISSUE 59: Dec/Jan 11/12

## Mayfield Teens send Positive Message to the Community.

A local group of Mayfield young people, who make up the Youth Committee of the local Drugs Task Force Project, have spent considerable time planning and promoting “The Hoody Campaign.” This Campaign is promoting positive mental health and sending inspirational messages to other young people in the community. “It’s not who you are that holds you back, it’s who you think you’re not” and: “Have no fear to talk, 1 is the loneliest number.” These quotations are examples of messages that appear on the back of the hoodies.

In the next few weeks we’re planning on talking to local schools and groups in Mayfield to further promote the campaign.

For any further information contact Deirdre Dennigan, Ogra Chorcaí, Community Drugs Worker based in the Kerrigan-Tyrell Youth Centre on: 086 852 3077.



Pictured at the Hoodie launch were, from L: Deidre Dennigan, Youth Worker, Committee Members; Lisa Hogan, Stephanie Hogan, Eoghan Ryan, Catrion Hogan, Kerry Cullinane, James Cotter, Tasha McCarthy, Damien O’Sullivan, Joanne Coakley and Youth Worker Rose Gubbins.

Picture: Andy Gibson

Mayfield Matters is staffed by a dedicated team of volunteers who contribute to the Newsletter in all the various stages of production. All contributors who write for the Newsletter do so on a voluntary basis. Mayfield Matters operates independently and is entirely self-funded.

# Mayfield Village Fair.



**Christine Reville and Caroline Higgins are pictured manning their cake stall at the Mayfield Village Fair.**

Picture: Andy Gibson

On Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October, the first community market in Mayfield was held in the Kerrigan Tyrell Centre at Tinker's Cross. The aim of the market was to highlight local skills and crafts within the community and to offer the suppliers a chance to generate some extra income in a community setting.

Mayfield CDP, with Paul McGuirk RAPID Co-ordinator, were the organizers of the event and we had great support from Michelle Whooley of Newbury Arts Centre who created the logo, and the publicity material. Thanks must go to the trainees of Mayfield Youth Training Centre for their work on producing a large colourful roadside sign to promote the event.

A great range of products were available for sale; knitting, crochet, handmade cards, woodcraft, photographs, homemade jams and honey, cupcakes, apple tarts and books etc. The kitchen was manned by the boys from Aisling Day Services who, with the support of their mentors, provided tea, coffee and cakes for all the visitors. Music was supplied by a group from the Cork Academy of Music who entertained us all with a great variety of tunes. Face painting was available for the younger visitors and hot food was also available.



**Two customers, Amy and Jane Ellis, enjoying the day at the Mayfield Village Fair.**

Picture: Andy Gibson



**Stall Holder Andrea Barrow and her daughter Ashleigh pictured during a quiet moment at the Village Fair.**

Picture: Andy Gibson

**Ken Murray,**

**his family**

**and SuperValu Staff**

**wish you all**

**the best for the**

**Festive Season**

**St. Joseph's Parish Church Mayfield**  
**Christmas Mass Times.**  
*Celebrating the Birth of Christ.*

*Saturday 24th. December : Christmas Eve : 6pm.and 8 pm.*  
*Sunday 25th. December Christmas Day: 9am. 10.30am.and 12noon*

**Confessions**

**Penitential Service**

*Tuesday 20th. December 7.30pm.*

*Visiting priests will hear Confession.*

*Wednesday 21st. December 2011 7pm to 8pm.*

*Thursday 22nd December 7pm to 8pm.*

*Friday 23rd December 7pm to 8pm*

*Saturday 24th December 12noon to 1pm.*

*Confessions will also be heard each morning from Tuesday 20th December to Saturday*

*24th December from 10.30 am to 11am.*

*Our Christmas carol service organised by the Marian singers will be held in St. Joseph's Church on Friday 16th. December at 7.30 pm. School choirs along with visiting choirs will sing at our service. Everyone is welcome to this evening of carols*

**Adoration chapel**

**Christmas /New year Schedule**

*Closed Saturday 24th all day (Christmas Eve) R-opens Thursday December 29th with usual opening hours.* *Closed Saturday 31st December all day (New Years Eve.)*

*Re opens Thursday January 5th 2012 with usual opening hours.*

**Advent**

**Advent is the time for the coming of the Word of God.**

It is therefore also the time for receiving the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ our Lord. :The advent traditions of the Church teach us to be attentive to those comings of the Word.:in the stable in Bethlemen in the hearts of all who believe and in the fullness of time when Jesus shall come again.

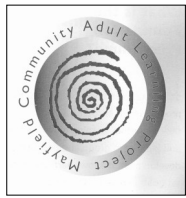
This receiving of the Word is like a new birth: The Word comes to take on the flesh of humanity to bring to birth a new life within our humanity and to open a new hope and a new love for our humanity, this birth has to take place within each one of us who seek to be one of His disciples.

In all of this we seek to follow Mary for after all, she is the first of the disciples .what she does we may strive to do also. Or rather we strive to say "let it be done to me according to your Word.( Luke 1:38)

**We Pray**

Lord God you sent your Son into our world to speak your word and to make us holy  
Bless us in everything we do, open our hearts and minds, make us alert to your voice  
That this holy season may be a blessing for us and for all those we cherish.





# Mayfield Community Adult Learning Project. C.A.L.P.

The voluntary management of C.A.L.P. wish all our participants and the Mayfield Community a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year .

The Project will endeavour to continue to be a valuable resource for individuals and groups in providing support, information and courses in the Mayfield community. We hope it will remain and maintain its current provision for 2012.

Over one hundred adults completed courses in Computers, Personal Development, Internet & Email, Occupational First Aid, Practical First Aid, etc., over the last 6 months. Well done to everyone who participated.

Courses for January 2012 will be dependent on the existence of C.A.L.P. and the available funding post budget 2011. They may include:

Foundation Programme – personal development.

Beginner computers

Computer Literacy Foundation Level 3 FETAC

Internet & Email

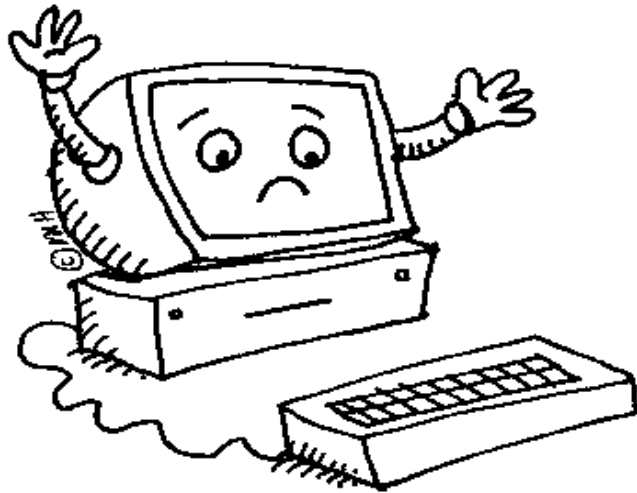
Practical First Aid

E.C.D.L. Modules

Occupational First Aid

Lap Top Computer training

Just contact: 450 8562 to book a place on any of the courses or call into the office in the CDP Community Resource Centre.



## Do you need access to a computer?

*To write a letter, access the Internet or email, practice between C.A.L.P. computer courses and so on.  
If so, this is for you.*

Access to computers in Mayfield is available at the Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Rd  
just contact the centre to book a time.

A small fee of €2.00 per hour for the use of the computers is charged.

### Opening times:

Monday to Thursday – 9.30am to 5.00pm, closed for lunch from 1 pm to 2 pm. Evening opening: 7pm to 9pm.

It is essential that you ring first to find out if computers are available for use.

# Mayfield CDP

Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Road, Mayfield.  
Telephone: 021 450 8562.

The CDP Resource Centre was extremely busy throughout 2011 and we hope all our funding will continue and that 2012 will also be a busy one. Thanks to everyone who took part in our activities and groups throughout the year.

## Youth Café/Youth Club

The Mayfield Youth Café will be re-opening in January on Friday nights in the Kerrigan Tyrrell Centre from 7-9pm. This will cater for young people from 12 years. In order to cater for the younger age children 8-12, we are hoping with the help of Ogra Chorcaí to start a club on Thursday nights. We need volunteers to support these activities and would appeal to the readers to see if any of you would be interested in getting involved in this worthwhile voluntary work. Training will be provided and you will be required to obtain Garda Clearance. Why not give it a try for the New Year? Contact us on: 450 8562 for more information.

## Community Garden

Work has begun on the community garden in the back of the CDP Resource Centre. A small group of men and women have taken part in a Gardening Course over 8 sessions and will now continue to work on developing the garden. It is open to anyone who is interested so why not drop in and see how you can get involved.

## Irish Classes

If you are interested in learning basic Irish, we hope to start a course for beginners in the New Year. This will be basic and would suit those who wish to assist their children or grandchildren with their Irish homework.

If you are interested in any of the above items please call to the Resource Centre or telephone: 450 8562.

## Christmas Wishes

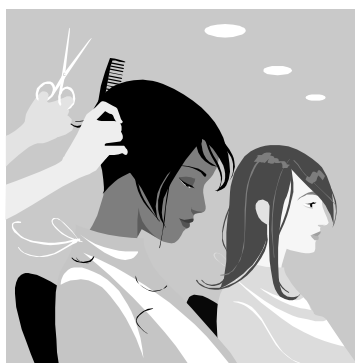
We would like to wish everyone in Mayfield a very happy and peaceful Christmas. We look forward to working with you all in the New Year. Santa will be coming to visit the young people in our Crèche on 22<sup>nd</sup> December and we will then close for Christmas holidays until January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The crèche will re-open on the 9<sup>th</sup> January.



## Julie's Hairdressing Salon

021 450 7201

103 Old Youghal Road  
Dillon's Cross, Cork.



*Creative Cutting*  
*Artistic Colour*  
*Easy Meche*  
*Perming*  
*Bridal Parties*  
*Debs & Grads*  
*Unisex*

***Confirmations and Communions***

**Open Mon-Fri. 9 a.m.-5.30 p.m.**

**Saturday 8.45 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**Gift Vouchers available**

Frances Nolan,  
N.C.C.L.C.CH.M.I Ch.Pod.Org

## CHIROPODIST

Glanmire Medical Centre  
Glanmire, Co. Cork.

Gift Vouchers Available

For appointments:

Tel. 021 486 6745

Mobile: 086 369 3204



Home Visits  
on Request

## Glen - Eire Cabs

The Glen Supermarket Complex, 28B Mc Curtain  
St, Cork

021 450 0500 and 021 500 5009

24 hrs/365 days a year

Taxi, Hackney, Minibus, Wheelchair Access

special prices quoted for

regular journeys/ contract work

Serving the people of Cork for 50 years  
Eire cabs bringing satisfaction to our customers

You've tried the rest, now try the best

## Baile Beag Community

### Childcare Ltd

Ardbhaile Community Centre,  
ArdBhaile,  
Old Youghal Road,  
Mayfield,  
Cork  
021 450 6977

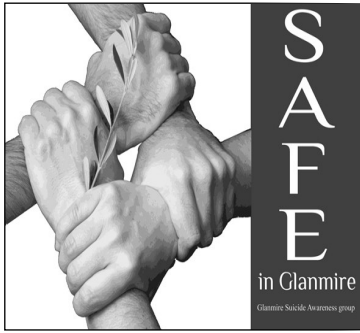


## Parent And Toddler Group

Mondays 1:45p.m. - 3.00p.m.

Age 1 - 3 years

Limited Places Available. Register Now!



SAFE Glanmire is a community lead initiative in the Glanmire area. This group was formed in 2009 to educate and raise awareness of suicide prevention and mental health issues locally.

SAFE Glanmire will host a talk on Mental Health; “Encouraging positive mental health” on Thursday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 2011 at 7pm in Glanmire Community College. The main speaker on the night will be John Saunders of SHINE and the See Change campaign, who will be speaking about mental health stigma and the See Change campaign. Cork Mental Health Foundation will address “Minding our mental health”

There will be space and time for questions from the floor. There will also be information stands from groups who work in mental health locally and nationally. Everyone is welcome

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## Grow Community Mental Health

These days we are all under pressure and never has the line been so fine between coping and being on the very edge. When you need to cut through an emotional upset, to keep order in a crisis, to think clearly and to come to grips with your problem:

1. Be Definite. Answer the question: What ***Exactly*** am I troubled about?
2. Be Rational. Answer the question: Is it ***Certain?*** Is it ***Probable ?*** Is it ***Possible?***
3. Be Wise. Answer the question: How ***Important*** is it?
4. Be Practical. Answer the question: What shall I do ***About*** it?

This is part of Grow Literature. Why not come to one of our meetings and find out more? Mental health is so important. So is handling the pressure.

We encourage you to come along to our meetings at: The Mayfield Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Road, from 7.30pm to 9.30pm every Tuesday night.

Whether you suffer from depression, stress, anxieties, isolation, panic attacks, lack of self esteem, . GROW's 12 Step Program can offer assistance in a practical, positive and confidential manner.

For more information on our meetings, please contact Finola on: 086 770 2807, our local office: 021 427 7520 Mon/Wed/Fri 9am-2pm, or local: 1890 474 474. Or you can check out our website: [www.grow.ie](http://www.grow.ie)

*You alone can do it, but you can't do it alone*

## Pictures Available

All pictures included in this issue are available for purchase from the Mayfield Community Development Project in Old Youghal Road. Priced at a very reasonable €7, the photographs are sized 7” x 5”. Other sizes are available on request. Contact the CDP for orders or more details on: 021 450 8562.



**Mayfield East Community  
Kerrigan Tyrell Community Centre  
Tinkers Cross  
Mayfield.  
mayfieldeastca@live.co.uk  
Tel: 021-4509275**

We can help you with all your Residents Association needs.

Many Services are run from the Mayfield East Community Association including:

. Community based Drug & Alcohol Services  
Mayfield Youth 2000 Phase 1 & 2  
A Local Drugs Task Force Initiative

Contact Deirdre Dennigan, Youth Worker on: 086 852 3077

**Neighbourhood Watch.**

What is Neighbourhood Watch? It's a partnership between An Garda Siochana and the public. It is a self help crime prevention and community safety programme for urban areas. Every member of the community, young or old, can help to improve the quality of life, by keeping a look out for their neighbours and reporting suspicious activities to the Gardai.

**Neighbourhood Watch aims to:**

Reduce the impact of crime  
To prevent crime  
To improve community and Gardai relationships  
To improve community safety

*Handbooks available at the centre*

Contact: *Sergeant John O Connor Ms. Brid Houlihan*

**Other Groups And Activities Include:**

- Ballroom Dancing Fri - Morning 10.30 am
- Cork transport Rugby Club
- Boxing Club 3 times a week  
Tuesday 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Wednesday 6.30pm - 9.00pm  
Friday 6.30pm - 9.00pm
- Village united F.C. Tuesday & Thursday from at Silverheights Pitch
- Weightwatchers Thursday mornings 10am - 11am
- Indoor Bowls Tuesday 2pm -4pm
- Dillons Cross F.C.
- Cork Parks Tennis Summer Camps
- Youth Cafe Every Friday for Teens 7pm - 9pm

For information on any of the above you can contact us on the phone number above.

The office opening hours are: Mon - Thurs 9am - 1pm Fri 9am - 12.30pm

# Christmas Remembered

by Geraldine Mc Auliffe

With just a few days before Christmas, and no holly gathered, it was time to head for the woods. Christmas without holly was inconceivable. It was gathered to decorate the windows, doors and the tops of old pictures that were hanging on the walls in my house. There were plenty of holly trees in the woods, and the best holly with the bright red berries were usually found on the top part of the trees. I had to reach up tall to reach the nice pieces and even though the thorns hurt me and sometimes got stuck in my fingers; sure it was not like Christmas without it. When this very important task was completed the holly was tied with some twine, as I carried it home in time for Christmas. In the fifties, Christmas trees displayed in homes, usually belonged to prosperous people. It was only a tree, and as a child it really did not really matter very much to me.

In the fifties we had long harsh cold winters, and with no central heating. People wore their knitted jumpers, and if you were brave enough on went the knitted stockings as well. It was cool at that time to wear the Aran sweater, as so many people around Ireland were buying the Aran wool to knit these jumpers for relatives and friends. Wool was frequently used to try and keep out the cold. Coal and turf fires were the norm, and the smell of the turf burning could be smelt around my neighbourhood. Candles and gas lights were also widely used throughout the winter months.

November to me seemed long and dreary, and I often wonder why November was dedicated to the Holy Soul's. Easter to me seems to be more cheerful and bright. When eventually the month of December arrived it appeared to have a magic all of its own. Gone were the bleak, dark, dreary days, as we welcomed the arrival of Santa Claus. Santa Claus and Christmas was all I spoke about during that month. There seemed to be a wave of happiness about the town.

Unemployment was temporally forgotten, as shops were beautifully decorated, with tinsel in all different shapes, shades and sizes. In school I was busy making my own paper decorations to hang up in my home. Times were difficult then, and the extra money saved went towards food and presents for Christmas.

I regularly went to town to see the beautiful toys displayed in Kilgrew's shop, and the Munster Arcade in Patrick Street. Santa Claus had arrived there dressed in red with a white long beard with parcels covered in pink for the girls, and blue for the boys. I watched the boys and girls unwrapping their parcels, with shouts of delight. I knew I would have to wait for Christmas morning to receive my presents, and I was quite happy with that arrangement.



After seeing Santa Claus I went home and started to write to him for my present, and I kept hoping that my letter would reach him in the North Pole. I told him we had the chimney cleaned, and that I would leave a drink for him. As most people kept giving him drink at Christmas, I hoped he would not forget to bring my presents. Well, he did call and brought Rudolph the Reindeer with him as well! How about that!!

The games that I played were very basic indeed; one did not have to be a great scholar to play these uncomplicated games. As computers were unheard of, and television had not arrived in Ireland; book reading was quite popular. Visiting the Cork City library on Saturday morning was something I

looked forward to. I loved the smell of old books, and the sheer peacefulness of the place was something I will always remember. During the Christmas my friends and I patiently searched for Enid Blyton's books; the Famous Five, Black Beauty, and the Fairy Tales of Ireland. Without television in Ireland, book reading had become very popular then, and the good old city library gave me hours of enjoyment.

## Christmas Remembered (cont'd)

Life was so simple then, and as there were no big demands for expensive presents. What was on display in the shop windows were games like Snakes and Ladders, Draughts, Ludo, Bingo, Tiddly Winks, and several others games. These games were played in most homes around Christmas, when children had their holidays. Most houses had the red candle placed in front of the window, and it was lit on Christmas day. Turf was also used in the fire, and the smell of it was evident as we came nearer to Christmas. When the postman arrived, children would go out to greet him and the woman of the house usually gave him something to drink. Delivering letters in the rain and snow was always difficult. Families were anxiously waiting for letters, and small parcels to arrive for Christmas, and these were not to be opened until Christmas day. Christmas Eve was full of excitement, as I hardly closed my eyes waiting for Christmas Day.

The church at Christmas was usually decorated with flowers, and goodwill was evident on that special day, as people shook hands with one another after Mass, Silent Night and Adeste Fideles were sung as people joined in to sing. Christmas brought joy and happiness into our lives on that special day.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas, and a Prosperous New Year.

# **THE PERFECT PRESENT**



## **BRIAN DILLON'S SOUVENIR CALENDAR**

### **2012**

**NOW AVAILABLE**

**Featuring over 90 Great Photos!**

# Christmas Greetings for Hard Times

by Aidan O'Shea ©

*Happy Holiday, Season's Greetings, Have a Cool Yule, Merry Xmas.* In these hard and cynical times, Christ is often deleted from our Christmas greetings. Nativity cards huddle on the bottom shelf at Eason's, pushed aside by Santas and sleighs, holly and ivy, perky robins, kisses and mistletoe.

"I hear that in many places something has happened to Christmas; that it is changing from a time of merriment and carefree gaiety to a holiday which is filled with tedium; that many people dread the day. The obligation to give Christmas presents is a nightmare to weary, bored souls; that the children of enlightened parents no longer believe in Santa Claus; that all in all, the effort to be happy and have pleasure makes many honest hearts grow dark with despair instead of beaming with good will and cheerfulness." I did not write this paragraph. Julia Peterkin did, in *A Plantation Christmas* (1934).

So, let's turn down the piped music, close our eyes and get back to the basic fact that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, became man and was born in a stable in Bethlehem. There is only one true Christmas, and John Milton has captured its meaning in the following verse:

## ***On the morning of Christ's Nativity.***

*This is the month, and this the happy morn*

*Wherein the Son of Heaven's eternal King*

*Of wedded maid and virgin mother born, our great redemption from above did bring;*

*For so the holy sages once did sing, that He our deadly forfeit should release,*

*And, with His Father, work us a perpetual peace.*

John Milton 1608-1674

Even for those without Christian faith, the infant Jesus' message of hope and peace is compelling. We in Ireland may be clinging to the wreckage of economic decline and political incompetence, but we should remember these lines by Yeats:

*Cast your mind on other days, that we in coming days may be still the indomitable Irishry.*

Having got the fundamental meaning of Christmas right, we can resist the suggestion that we should now spend more to restart the economy, the world having spent the last five years on a credit binge. If you wish to spend a little more, why not support your St. Vincent de Paul or Simon Community? You may prefer to cast your giving wider by supporting third world charity. Either way, why not collect the coins scattered about the house in drawers, handbags and pockets, and put them to work for those in need. Let's be realistic too. Some Christmas habits do not change. We shall probably eat and drink too much, squabble over the TV remote control and wearily ask one another: how did you get over the Christmas? Nollaig shona dhíbh go léir.

## **CHRISTMAS QUOTATIONS.**

*When we were children we were grateful to those who filled our stockings at Christmas time. Why are we not grateful to God for filling our stockings with legs? ~G.K. Chesterton (1874-1936).*

*What is Christmas? It is tenderness for the past, courage for the present, hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.*

*~Agnes M. Pharo*

*Christmas gift suggestions: To your enemy, forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance. To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service. To all, charity. To every child, a good example. To yourself, respect. ~Oren Arnold*

*Christmas is a time when kids tell Santa what they want and adults pay for it. Deficits are when adults tell the government what they want and their kids pay for it. ~Richard Lamm (b. 1935)*

*Oh, for the good old days when people would stop Christmas shopping when they ran out of money. ~Author Unknown*

*No matter how carefully you stored the lights last year, they will be snarled again this Christmas. ~Robert Kirby (b. 1962)*

*The Christmas season has come to mean the period when the public plays Santa Claus to the merchants.*

*~John Andrew Holmes*

# Charlie Wilkins - Gardening

## Garden Writers

Quite recently I had to admit that my enthusiasm for gardening begins to curl at the edges as we approach the Christmas season. This time of year, particularly, brings on a kind of anxiety that threatens to fill me with trepidation. So what do you think I do? Well, when I was a younger man and sometimes lost my way, reading would always rudder me. It still does, so during the festivities, I shall occasionally delve into the world of writers whose vitality for plants will comfort and educate me. I shall read (again) some of the writings by Christopher Lloyd, Robin Lane Fox and Vita Sackville West.

Vita Sackville West (1892-1962) spent 16 years writing and enchanting garden readers of the Observer newspaper. Her name became legendary among the English gardening public, for she wrote with a poet's eye, a friendly personal tone, and a literary prowess that few before (or since) seem able to match. Her style was warmly personal, and for this reason, people from all over Britain, sent her cuttings, seeds, ideas, bulbs, books, tips on how to make good compost, herbal remedies, even ways to prolong one's lifespan!. Thousands of non-gardeners read her articles too, because they liked writing which gave an elegant performance amid the depressing headlines of the day (some things never change!)

Over the years I have learned from many of these authors and (in particular) from many wonderful, gracious, Irish gardening women who have inspired, educated, and enthused me in the finer points of this most wonderful hobby. I may never have been trained in horticulture but I have been willing to listen to my peers and to learn by questioning, reading, and experimentation. It proves yet again, that it is not in college that one makes the observation that Daphnes are more scented by night, (not day), that the best shrub of all for attracting butterflies is Escallonia 'bifida' which flowers in August when all else is getting a little blown, and that spring bulbs should never be larger than golf ball size and be equally as hard. Other tips gleaned came through sheer tenacity, not schooling, and these include removing the leaves of nerines in late June rather than bemoaning their persistence up to August. It does not interfere with their blooming. Watching camellias has taught me that bud-drop has more to do with watering and feeding in September than cold or drought at flowering time, and that branches of flowering currant (Ribes) if cut and put in a vase indoors, will always bloom in a magnificent shade of white and not raspberry as is normal when grown outdoors.

These practical tips may have brought me a degree of popularity and success in recognised gardening circles but I am still the last person to claim authority in botanical nomenclature and identification or knowledge of whole families. For all that, I lust after yet more knowledge and the kind of friends that are better at this writing and gardening lark than I can ever be. I still like what I do and hopefully I can continue for some time to come

### THE SEASON OF GOODWILL?

The season of goodwill and peace on earth is once again with us but it is also the time for theft and fraud on a grand scale. I'm really not surprised for when people will steal holly, ivy, and Christmas trees, they'll steal just about anything! To illustrate the point, let me tell you that I know of at least one garden centre owner who, every late November has to literally 'hide' the large holly tree growing within the ever-open entrance gates to his property. To avoid the tree being stripped of its valuable berry crop, the thirty foot high female plant is hidden by draping it from view with large sheets of black, wind-break material! The camouflage works handsomely but sooner or later...

From now, up to and including late February, would be a particularly good time to inspect garden features such as paths, walkways and steps. Old gravel paths will be greatly improved by the addition of a little fresh, quality gravel. I stress the word 'quality'. It doesn't cost the world (delivery is the most expensive factor so if you can arrange this, then it will turn out to be much cheaper), it needs no maintenance apart from occasional raking, and it can act as a kind of crunchy advance warning system of welcome and unwelcome visitors. Keep all hard landscaped areas free from discolouration, moss and algae. Jeyes Fluid will work wonders if mixed at the rate of an egg-cup to one gallon of water. Apply via a watering can or sprayer. If you notice that the likes of candleabra primula roots have been exposed by the weather then cover them with some topsoil or old compost. Watch out for spring bedding also and firm as for the wallflowers. Left exposed to the elements they could easily come to harm, and in the process, rob you of a really good display in just a few weeks time. Take care not to damage any bulbs which are just about to push their snouts above ground. Inspect all sacking, bracken, straw or other material being used as protective cover on semi-tender plants.. With these thoughts I wish all readers a *Happy Christmas and Joyous New Year.*





## Mayfield RAPID Update

*RAPID is a process of community groups, local agencies, residents and councillors working together for the good of the area. This is an outline of the current activities in the Mayfield part of the Mayfield/Glen/Blackpool RAPID area. The initiatives outlined below are a result of the hard work on the ground by a variety of the people outlined above.*

### November 2011

#### Employment & Training

*Project ReFocus* is a training/education project for 18 to 25 year olds from Mayfield and the Glen and it takes place in St. Josephs Community Centre. It is supported by local projects such as Glen NYP, Mayfield Training Centre, Mayfield NYP, Mayfield Local Employment Service and Ogra Chorcaí as well as agencies such as the Dept. of Social & Family Affairs, FAS, Cork City Council and City of Cork VEC. The group is currently planning a fundraiser for a local cause. Last years participants are also doing well and will continue to receive some support over the next two years.

#### Sport in Your Community Course

An ‘*Introduction to Sports Development in your Community*’ course was recently completed in Mayfield. This was a part-time course which was aimed at those who are unemployed and have an interest in promoting sport and physical activity in their local community. It was funded by Cork Sports Partnership and took place in the Kerrigan Tyrell Youth Centre and the Spraoi Sports Centre in Montenotte. The graduation ceremony for the participants will take place on 5th December in the Kerrigan Tyrell Youth Centre.

A *late night soccer initiative* has proved very popular in Mayfield Sports Complex on Friday nights. This is supported by Cork City Council, the City of Cork VEC, Ogra Chorcaí, an Garda Síochána, RAPID and Mayfield NYP.

#### Family Support

The *Happy Talk* initiative is an early learning and language project for 0 to 6 year olds. It is led by Cork City Partnership with an interagency steering group. It is funded through the National Early Years Access Initiative and philanthropic funding. The initiative covers the Glen/Mayfield area and two staff, Sheila and Jennifer, have recently been recruited and are visiting the preschools and the primary schools in the area.

#### Physical Environment

The *Community Warden*, Mick Murphy, continues to work closely with local residents on a range of environmental issues e.g. clean-ups, bulky goods collection, removing graffiti.

*May we take this opportunity to convey Seasons Greetings to all those living and working in Mayfield and best wishes for the New Year*

## **Cork City Adult Guidance Service**

Supporting your return to  
Education

This is a free, confidential and impartial  
service

To make an appointment you can drop in to  
our Resource Centre, at 22 South Mall

**Monday to Thursday  
10am to 12noon 2.30 to 4p.m**

or

Telephone: 021 490 7149

Email: [guidanceinfo@corkvec.ie](mailto:guidanceinfo@corkvec.ie).

## **CORK MONEY ADVICE & BUDGET SERVICE**

**CONFIDENTIAL & INDEPENDENT.**

Problems paying off  
debts ?

Experiencing  
Financial  
Difficulties?

Need advice on  
money  
management?

**MABS  
NATIONAL  
HELPLINE**

**1890 283 438**

HELP is available at:

Cork M.A.B.S. Unit 12, Penrose  
Wharf, Penrose Quay, Cork.



**New Astro Turf Pitch  
Now Open  
At Mayfield Sports Complex**

**Old Youghal Road  
Mayfield**

The full sized pitch can be sub divided into four separate 7-a-side pitches with a separate access gate and divided by a sliding net curtain. The facility, with its retractable goals, is fully floodlit allowing for night time use.



The pitch will be a valuable asset to the schools and the community, and will be available to hire for matches and training.

Special introductory offers are available and anyone interested in booking the pitch should contact Helen on:

**021 450 6232**

# Church of Our Lady Crowned, Mayfield

## Arrangements for Christmas 2011

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Carol Concert at 7.00pm

### Christmas Masses

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve  
Mass at 6.00pm Vigil Mass at 9.00pm

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day  
Mass at 9.00 am, 10.30 am and 12.00 noon

Monday 26<sup>th</sup>  
Mass at 10.00am

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Penitential Service:  
Sunday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 5.00 p.m.

Confessions: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
10.30 am - 11.00 am

Saturday Dec 24<sup>th</sup>  
10.30 am - 1.00pm 3.00 pm -5.00pm

### Christmas Message

*The people that walked in darkness  
Have seen a great light;  
On those who live in the land of deep shadow  
A light has shone.*

In a very short while we will come together from every corner of the earth to celebrate the greatest event the world has ever witnessed; the birth of our Saviour. He will be born in a small stable surrounded by humble people. Shepherds will hurry across the fields to welcome the Christ-Child and to praise God. The Angels will watch over Him and the world will rejoice. Christmas is a great celebration of our faith in Jesus. He will never let us down because He is the Light of the world.

We wish you and your loved ones a Blessed and Peaceful Christmas  
Fr. Aidan Fr. Pat and Sr. Imelda - Parish team

### Local Churches Mass times and contact information

Church	Saturday and Holy Day Mass	Sunday Mass	Daily and Holy Day Mass
Holy Family		10.30am	9.30am
Our Lady Crowned	7.00pm	9.30am 12.00 noon	9.30am
St Josephs	6.00pm	11.00am	10.15am
St Patricks	6.00pm	12 noon 6.00pm	10.15am

#### Holy Family Church, Military Hill

Priests: Canon Dan Crowley PP - 450 2696  
Canon Liam Leader - 450 0282  
Fr John Cotter - 450 4848  
Parish emergency mobile 087 825 2284  
Sacristan: Jacinta Fitzgerald - 450 9311  
Sacristy contact no. - 450 9311  
Email - stpatricksparishoffice@eircom.net  
Website - www.stpatrickscork.com

#### St Joseph's Church, Mayfield

Priest: Very Rev Christy Harrington PP- 450 1861  
Parish emergency no. - 087 266 7699  
Sacristan: Eddie O. Mahony  
Parish Office nos. - 450 3531 or: 087 959 8505  
email - stjosephschurchmayfield@eircom.net

#### Our Lady Crowned, Mayfield

Priests: Very Rev Aidan O'Driscoll PP - 450 3116  
Fr Pat O'Mahony SMA CC - 450 3564  
Parish emergency mobile 086 2308622  
Sacristan; Pat O'Leary - 455 1276  
Parish office - 455 1276  
email - office@olcmayfield.ie  
website - www.olcmayfield.ie

#### St Patricks Church, Lower Glanmire Rd

Priests: Canon Dan Crowley PP - 450 2696  
Canon Liam Leader - 450 0282  
Fr John Cotter - 450 4848  
Parish emergency no. - 087 825 2284  
Sacristan: David Dwyer - 451 8191  
Parish office: Aonghus O'Broin - 451 8191  
Email - stpatricksparishoffice@eircom.net  
Website - www.stpatrickscork.com

# Our Lady Crowned to Celebrate her 50<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 10th June 2012

Preparation for the 50<sup>th</sup> jubilee of the opening of Our Lady Crowned Church in 2012 is underway and your support is required. So make your interest known and let us celebrate in style. Among the proposals, is to have "The Priests" perform in the church and we are looking for a sponsor for this proposed event, so if you are willing, please contact me. It is hoped to have televised Mass broadcast and to have an extra special mass on the day of the anniversary and to have a community Social, on the Friday night before; so if you have any other ideas or would like to help in any way, we look forward to hearing from you, as without you, and I mean each and every one of you, it will not be worthwhile celebrating it at all, so please support this momentous day and year.

## The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree Mass will be held in Our Lady Crowned Church on the Sat and Sun the 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Tags from the tree for your gifts will be available from the Tree from Sat. the 26<sup>th</sup> November and all gifts can be brought to the Church on Saturday / Sunday 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> December at all masses after which they will be distributed to needy families and individuals. The idea is that you take a tag from the Christmas tree and place it on a gift that you will leave it at the sacristy on any day prior to the 12 o'clock mass on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> December stating, the age that it is suitable for, say boy/girl, approximate age or if it is suitable for an adult, male or female, or a family, the need is great and your generosity is very much appreciated. We would ask that you give this your kind consideration.

The Candlelight Reflective Masses, which were a great source of comfort last winter, are continuing this winter. Please try and attend one and experience it for yourself.

We are holding our December Reflective Candle Light Mass on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6 pm. All welcome.

## Christmas Carol Concert

Note the date and come along and get into the spirit of Christmas on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup>. December at 7.00 p.m. in Our Lady Crowned Church, please support this venture by the Finance Committee and help to clear the ever reducing debt. Many thanks for your continued support. All welcome and do bring a cushion for your own comfort and enjoyment.

## Christmas cake Draw

This is also a fund raiser and will consist of buying a ticket before Mass on the Sat./Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup>.and 4<sup>th</sup>. December and win a Christmas Cake on the following Sunday when a ticket will be chosen for each mass time and the winner will have a scrumptious cake to enjoy, for Christmas.

## Exam Mass.

June saw another Exam mass take place on the evening before the commencement of the Junior and Leaving Certificate and those who attended received great encouragement and support. We look forward to welcoming those sitting the exams again this year. It is a welcome relief from the stress of study and sets one up for the tension of the following day. Thanking all those who assisted and attended. Looking forward to your continued support and wishing all every success in the coming year.

## Radio Broadcasts of All church services.

A radio to receive the church services can be purchased at a cost of €25.00 each. Coverage to most areas of the Parish is possible and can be demonstrated by contacting 087 938 4225 for further details.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have participated in any way with the parish over the past year, those who attended Mass or any other activity, and especially the Parish Council and team who have worked so hard throughout the past year, I would like to convey my and our sincerest best wishes for Christmas and the coming year and ask that God bless and care for each and every one of you and your families.

Tel: 021 450 8300

*Now open every morning (Mon – Fri) 10.00am – 1.00pm  
Mon to Thurs 2pm – 4pm and Wednesday 7.30pm – 9pm*

## Know Your Rights November 2011 Question

I have been renting my home from the local authority for 12 years. I understand there is a new incentive for me to become a 'tenant purchaser. What are the details?

### Answer

There is a new Fixed Term Tenant Purchase Scheme which will remain open until the end of 2011. If you have been a local authority tenant for over 10 years you can buy your home at a discount from current market prices. The maximum discount available is 45% on the market price of your home. (This discount is based on a 3% discount for each year of tenancy up to a maximum of 15 years.) You must also pay stamp duty on the purchase. This is fixed at €100 for all sales under the Scheme.

You can finance the purchase price in the following ways:

- From your own resources
- With a mortgage loan from a financial institution or city/ county council (terms and conditions apply)
- With a combination of a lump sum deposit and a mortgage loan

If you wish to apply for a mortgage loan to your local authority you will have to show (with documentary evidence) that you have been refused a loan by two financial institutions and your income must be below a certain amount. You must also state the amount of the loan refused. If you wish to sell your house within 20 years of purchase you must get the consent of your local authority.

The new Fixed Term Tenant Purchase Scheme does not replace the existing Tenant Purchase Scheme which remains in place until June 2012.

**The Fixed Term Tenant Purchase Scheme is open for applications only until the end of December 2011.**

For further details you should contact the Housing Section of your local authority (city or county council).

### Further Information

Further information on this and other matters is available in confidence from the Mayfield Citizens Information Centre, Roseville House, Old Youghal Road, Mayfield. Telephone: (021) 450 8300. *Opening hours are Monday to Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm, Tuesday to Thursday 2pm – 4pm and Wednesday Evening 7.30pm – 9pm.*

Citizens Information is also available through the Cork City (North) Citizens Information Service at 021-4302 301, the Citizens Information Phone Service 1890-777 121 or online at [www.citizensinformation.ie](http://www.citizensinformation.ie)



# Keeping Safe This Winter

A public Open Evening entitled 'Keeping Safe this Winter' was held for the Mayfield Community on the 26<sup>th</sup> October in St Joseph's Community Association Centre. The evening was organised by members of the HSE Primary Care Team based at Teach Mhuire / Roseville on the Old Youghal Road. The theme of the evening had a focus on safety and access to services as winter approaches. There was very positive feedback from the evening and several people suggested sharing the information with the public by way of Mayfield Matters.

The evening was opened by Breda Maher, HSE Occupational Therapist from the local Primary Care Team. Breda provided a brief summary of the services that are available to the local community within the Primary Care Team. Members of the team include the GP, Public Health Nurse, Physiotherapist, Occupational Therapist, Dietitian, Clinical Psychologist and Speech/Language Therapist. Access to these services is available via your GP.

Following on from this opening, representatives from several voluntary and support bodies spoke, to highlight the services they provide and how the public can access them. These are outlined below:

Tom Droney, Senior Executive Engineer from Cork City Council discussed access to salt/grit supplies in the event of a repeat of bad weather like last year. The council is currently in liaison with local community groups to arrange storage of these supplies of salt and grit. In the event of snowfall Tom encouraged the public to act quickly and sweep paths outside houses so that the snow would not freeze over and become dangerous. Members of the public suggested purchasing shoe grips for icy weather – these are now widely available.

The Community Guards highlighted safety issues to be aware of over the winter, encouraging use of caution when opening the door to strangers and vigilance for possible scams that may be sold door-to-door. A helpful 'yellow card' is available from the local Garda station which can be handed to callers to ensure they are genuine.

John O'Mahony from Age Action Care Ireland gave a summary of the excellent Care and Repair Service. Care and Repair is a free service where a team of voluntary handymen are available to carry out minor repairs and odd jobs for older members of the community who find it difficult to manage the jobs themselves. Contact: John O'Mahony 021 453 6554.

Friendly Call Cork is a free daily phone call service for people living alone and is available in the Cork City area to older people and anyone feeling lonely, isolated or vulnerable. The friendly phone call service offers a free confidential phone call, five days a week to provide company and increased security for people living alone. For more information contact Brenda or Jim on: 021 430 1700 or 087 636 6407.

Personal Alarms for the Elderly: A grant is available to cover the cost of these. Please contact Mayfield CDP, 328 Old Youghal Road, Mayfield. Tel: 450 8562 for further information.

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## Terry Mulcahy Retirement Presentation

After 25 year's service to the Community in Mayfield Terry Mulcahy has decided to retire as Principal Teacher of Naionra Naomh Sheosamh which is situated in St Josephs Community Centre. Terry who has a lifelong association with the Irish language and for 25 year's teaching pre school children Irish, before they go into mainstream school. Terry has now handed over the school to Grace Boyle who is from Mayfield and will carry on the service.

# St. Josephs (Mayfield) No Name Club

The new season in the above club commenced on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October, when the new club members met with a number of last year's members and the clubs adult leaders to discuss the programme of activities for the coming year.

Later that month, the club was represented by two teams, comprising of four young people each, in the annual Ogra Chorcaí inter-club bowling tournament that was staged in the Planet Entertainment Centre, Blackpool. Our teams competed in the under 19 category where team "A" that comprised of Shannon Gibson, Stephanie Gray, Daniel Smollen and Adam Gyulavari, were worthy winners and they each received a trophy to mark their achievement.

A number of our clubs adult leaders joined with adults from other clubs in the southern region on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> October in the Christian Brothers College, Middleton, where they participated in the National Youth Council of Ireland Child Protection Awareness Programme, for which they received certification.

A representative group of club members, accompanied by adult leaders, joined the large crowd of people of varying ages in late October, to attend the Halloween Show in the Nightmare Realm in Albert Quay, Cork. Those present witnessed a most challenging show for the bravest among us.

The newly recruited club members attended the first of three training sessions on the 7<sup>th</sup> November in the Community Centre, where they were introduced to the aims, objectives and philosophy of the No Name Club organisation and the benefits to becoming a member of this adult volunteer led national youth movement. The remaining two sessions will take place over the coming weeks.

On Saturday the 19<sup>th</sup> November, a group of young club members, accompanied by adult leaders, travelled to the Garda College, Templemore, where they joined with the large numbers of young people and adults who are involved in No Name Clubs that are operating throughout Munster and Leinster. The occasion was the annual No Name Club Conference that is organised to inform young people of issues of concern to them in their everyday lives. This year's topics included: alcohol, drugs, antisocial behaviour, smoking cessation and road safety awareness.      **Look after yourself – Look after your mental health.**

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## The Altar

by Harry A. O'Shea

Kneeling in our hill-top church  
As the sunshine filtered in,  
I saw Saint Anthony stand there  
with the Christ-child next to him

There, on the altar just above  
on a throne of glittering gold,  
Sat Mary with her baby  
Whose glance could melt a stone

A Rosary beads presented  
to Saint Dominic kneeling there,  
While Catherine, with a crown  
Of thorns, looks on in silent prayer

This altar of the Rosary  
All white and blue and gold,  
Sends us a signal message  
Which the power of Prayer unfolds

# Hints to Minimise the Risk of Frozen Pipes

Damage to pipes occurs when they freeze and this only becomes apparent when the pipe starts to thaw. The damage caused by flooding can cause a lot of distress and cost thousands of euros to put right. These simple tips could make all the difference.

Cork City Council advises the public that in order to help prevent incidences of frozen pipes and stopcocks this winter, the following precautionary measures should be taken:

- Leave heating on longer than normal
- Open the attic trap door to allow heat in from the hall or rooms underneath
- Remove insulation from the area of the ceiling immediately under your roof tank so that it can get heat from underneath
- Leave a light on in the attic if available
- Lag all pipes in the attic area
- Open the stopcock chamber and remove any water
- Fill the stopcock chamber with non-absorbent material such as rock wool or fibreglass wool to provide insulation – don't use absorbent material as it will act as a conductor to the frost
- Place a piece of insulation e.g. carpet/matting over your external stopcock
- Wrap a towel around an outside tap
- If you are going away ideally consider having someone check the house daily. Also consider leaving the central heating on low, or turn the water supply off at the internal stopcock, usually located under the kitchen sink and drain the system (except fire sprinkler lines).

Remember if you have a burst pipe or frozen supply do be careful with the use of heating systems, washing machines and other water-dependent appliances and facilities.

If you have a problem or concern we would advise that you contact a qualified plumber for advice.

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## Photography Classes Available In Mayfield

Time: Tuesdays at 10:30am  
Place: New centre next to Roseville  
Group: Complete beginners with compact digital cameras (not professional ones)  
Teacher: Maureen Considine  
Contact: 086 882 8557  
Email: [maur.considine@gmail.com](mailto:maur.considine@gmail.com)

## Mayfield Novice Camera Club

Mayfield Novice Camera Club meets on the 1st Monday of every month to discuss project work and on the 3rd Monday of the month to learn basic photography related computer skills. Each meeting is held in Mayfield CDP from 7pm onwards. New members and former students are always welcome. For more information, ring Maureen on: 086 882 8557



# Voices of Cork – Community Choir

Voices of Cork is a four part harmony community choir. It formed in 2005 as a FÁS project with Cork's appointment as the European Capital of Culture. The aim of the choir is to provide good choral music within the community, with particular focus on people with limited access to such music and to give people an opportunity to participate and become members of a choir, regardless of prior experience.

Members of the choir are men and women of all ages from diverse backgrounds and are drawn from all over Cork, but in particular Dillon's Cross, St Luke's Cross, Mayfield and Blackpool areas. It is a lively choir and our repertoire includes popular songs, ballads, jazz, classical and sacred music. The musical director is Mr Eamonn Nash, BMus (Hons) and MA in music therapy.

A community choir with a mission - we're here to enjoy ourselves! We sing because we love it, our concerts are for pleasure and we like a night out together just socialising.

The choir will be performing at Blackpool Shopping centre on 10th December from 3 - 5pm. Carol Singing will also take place at the Christmas Markets on the Grand Parade on 17th December from 4.30-5.30pm. Please come along and see the choir perform.

New members are always welcome. In particular, the choir would love to see more Tenors and Basses join. Give us a try for a few weeks and then we hope you'll decide to stay on.

*No experience required... you just need to like singing.*

When The choir meets on Wednesday nights. We aim to arrive by 7.15, for chat and settling in, and then practice begins at 7.30 and ends at 9.30 p.m. In the run-up to a concert we sometimes have extra rehearsals.

Where St Patrick's Infant School at top of Gardiner's Hill

Cost Music is supplied, but to help cover our costs we all pay a weekly contribution of €5 and a subscription of €15 per term.

Check out our website [www.voicesofcork.com](http://www.voicesofcork.com) and Facebook page for more details. You can also contact us by email at: [sing@voicesofcork.com](mailto:sing@voicesofcork.com)

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## Ógra Chorcaí

Mayfield Youth 2000 Phase 1 & 2 is a Local Drugs Task Force Initiative, providing support for people and families on a wide range of issues and Assessment for Drug & Alcohol Problems.

Other services available are Access to Community Addiction Counsellors: Pat O'Riordan & Liam O'Mahony (free of charge), Access & Referral to Affordable Counselling, Family Support & Family Support groups, "Reduce your Use" Groups, for people who want to change drug & alcohol use/habits, Various other groups/programmes e.g. Strengthening Family Programme & Youth Committees and Drug Awareness talks & info for groups of interested young people and adults.

For more information contact either:

Deirdre Dennigan, Drugs Task Force Worker, Mayfield Youth 2000 Phase 1, Kerrigan Tyrell Centre, Tinkers Cross, Mayfield. Mob: 086 852 3077  
or Martina O'Keeffe, Drugs Task Force Worker, Mayfield Youth 2000 Phase 2, Family Resource Centre, 20 Lotamore Park, Mayfield. Mob: 086 368 2061



# Mayfield Action on Suicide Ceremony of Light

Monday 12th December at 7pm

Inisowen, Iona Road.

*The tree provides an opportunity for people to place messages and tokens of  
Remembrance for their Loved Ones*

*Music, Prayer, Candle lighting*

Tea/Coffee available afterwards at Mayfield Neighbourhood Youth Project.

Everyone welcome.





# Dishwasher Predators

by Victor Sullivan

Eight-year-old Carol went to put a plate in the dishwasher, its door was slammed rapidly and she returned looking somewhat bemused, still carrying the plate and announced: 'There's a mouse in the dishwasher, Daddy.' We live in an old house where mice are an occasional problem, usually solved with a trap or two.

'We seem to be faced with three options,' I declared, keen to display my strategic wisdom in such a situation, 'One, we could open the door and chase it out of the machine. Two, slip in a baited trap, close the door again and wait. Three, switch on the machine and give the mouse a good hot wash.'

'Aaaaaaaah! NO! Daddy. How would you like to be shut in a machine and sprayed with very hot water?'

'I certainly don't want any mice running about inside the house.' declared her mother vehemently.

'What's his name?' contributed Carol's younger brother.

'Don't be daft. It's only a mouse.' snapped Carol.

'He must have a name, how would other mice know what to call him if he had no name? I think his name is Monty. Monty Mouse sounds respectable.'

I gently opened the dishwasher door a fraction. Then a bit further, and then another bit but there was no trace of Monty or any other rodent.

'Carol! You made it up. There's no mouse in there,' I accused, triggering an instant chilliness.

One bright, sunny morning I went to empty the dishwasher that had performed its duties overnight and saw, with my own two eyes, a mouse leap from inside the filter basket in the floor of the machine onto the lower rack and vanish.

I was obliged to dine on humble pie and apologise profusely to my smug daughter. Yes, there was a real mouse. OK, it probably was Monty, but how did Monty get into the machine and how did he vanish so quickly?

Both trays out, meticulous inspection of dishwasher; discovered an air vent at one side I had never noticed before. I had to hand it to Monty for sheer mastery of his environment. The little fellow had worked out that once the machine fell silent all he had to do was wait until it cooled sufficiently before entering via the vent pipe and eating his fill from the food scraps caught in the filter basket before returning to safety via his secret vent-pipe. What a mouse!

We ran the machine empty and ensured that no food remained in the filter basket. Two baited traps were introduced. A plug of nylon pot-scourer was prepared and placed near the dishwasher, ready to be inserted quickly into the vent as soon as Monty was observed inside the machine. As there had been no sightings for a day or two the top tray became loaded with glasses and a few plates. The lower tray had been removed.

'Monty's back!' Carol announced next evening.

Cautiously I opened the door of the machine a fraction. A thin tail was just visible projecting from beneath the bottom rotor. A skilful movement got the nylon pot-scourer into the vent and the door was closed. Monty was now incarcerated with no hope of escape and no food supply other than the bait on the two mouse-traps. All we had to do was wait... and wait... and wait... Nothing happened.

We needed the dishwasher. The family demanded that I should 'DO something!'

A peep inside confirmed that Monty was still there. Direct and brutal terminal violence would have to be resorted to. I decided to apply the Snooker Cue technique. Not having a cue, a broom-handle, equally long and straight, was selected as weapon of choice.

The Sheffield Crucible has never seen such a tense scene. Even Sam, our very large German Shepherd dog joined the semicircle of excited onlookers that gathered behind me as I approached the dishwasher, broom-handle at the ready, intent on rodent murder.

CLICK!

The door opened out and downwards and I caught a glimpse of that tail protruding from under the rotor. Now to remove Monty's cover by turning the rotor 90 degrees with the broom-handle. Success! But Monty then scuttled to the back of the machine seeking an alternative refuge. My angle of attack was too high for my weapon of choice to fit under the heating element. Crouch low... lower still, feet astride the open dishwasher door... take careful aim... steady... deep breath... ready...

Suddenly I was heaved off my feet as something very powerful charged through between my legs from behind and the kitchen ceiling light passed rapidly forwards over my head as I landed on my back on the floor, feet still astride the dishwasher door. I howled in pain as furiously clambering canine claws sought a firm footing, digging into my thighs and other important places while my disorientated brain deduced that the large hairy monstrosity lunging agonizingly again and again on top of me was the tail end of our big dog. Sam's dormant hunting instincts had been reawakened on seeing me stalking the mouse and he had decided to demonstrate his expertise in such matters.

## Dishwasher Predators (Cont'd)

His repeated lunges into the dishwasher were accompanied by the sound of teeth snapping against teeth, snapping on the rotor, snapping on the heating element and snapping on .... CLICK! With a mighty yowl of pain the dog's head violently struck the underside of the top tray, lifting it off its rails, smashing the glasses on it and showering him with the splinters as he recoiled from the shock of the mousetrap tripping in his great jaws. Sam then shot backwards, sat on my face for a moment, dug several more claws into me and retreated to a remote, less hazardous corner of the kitchen, shaking off shards of glass as he went.

All the other members of my audience were convulsed in unsympathetic hysterical laughter with tears of mirth streaming down grinning faces. My anatomy bore the claw-bruises for months. No trace of Monty, living or dead, was ever found. He really deserved to get away. What a mouse!

*Victor Sullivan is a member of Cork Non-Fiction Writers Group. Their work is published in the blog <http://corknonfictionwritersgroup.blogspot.com>*

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## Ennismore News

### Open The Door

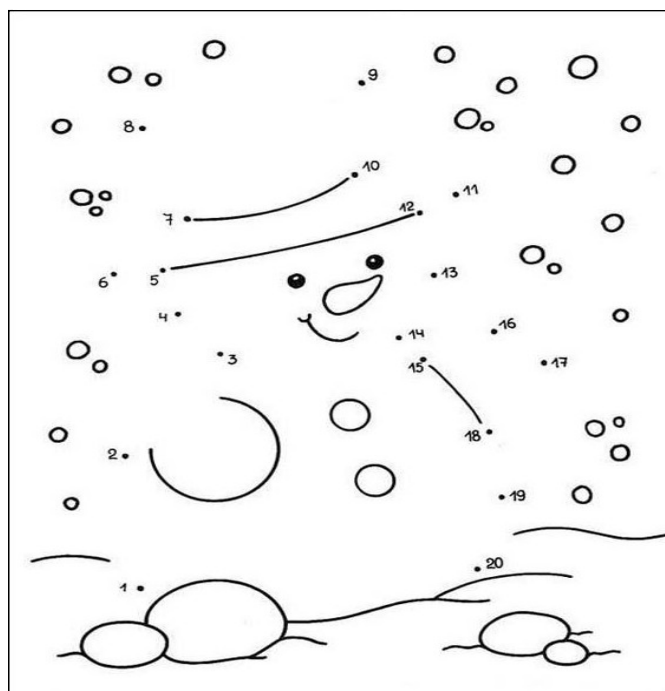
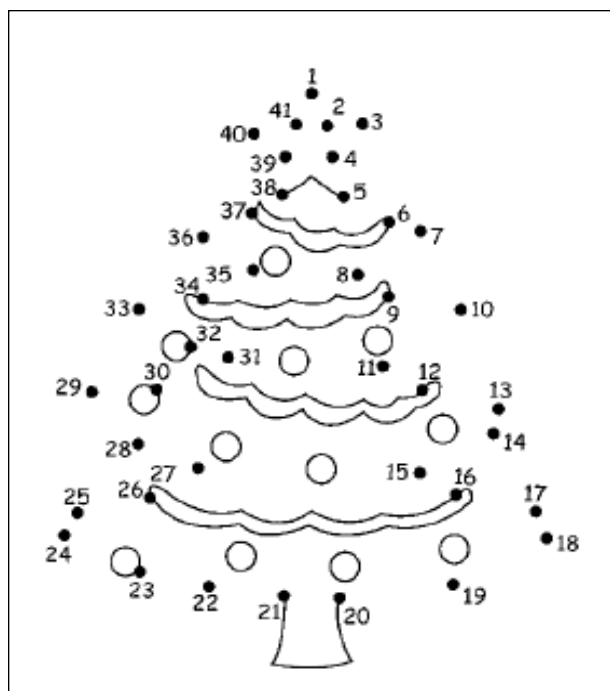
Four Wednesday mornings in December  
10.30a.m. - 12.30p.m.  
Reflection for Advent  
Facilitated by : Ann Coughlan RSM

For information and bookings  
Phone: 021 450 2520

Wishing all the readers of Mayfield Matters a  
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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Bored? Join the Dots.



# St. Patricks Infants School

by Martina Barry

## Sponsored Walk

We would like to say a great big **THANK YOU** to all the people who donated generously to our annual sponsored walk, which was held on October . We use this opportunity to meet and greet people in our local community, to become familiar with the Geography of Gardiner's Hill and to cover aspects of our S.E.S.E. curriculum . €2000 was raised from the event and it will go towards school funds. A special thank you also to all the boys and girls who took part in the sponsored walk.

## Irish History Live

The boys and girls were in for a real treat when “Irish History Live “ came to our school last month. Facilitator Michael Moylan thrilled one and all with his animated, dramatic storytelling of what life was like in Ireland long ago . He also brought to life well known Irish myths and legends. The best part of all was dressing up in the vast array of costumes which were available to the boys and girls. Through this approach, history becomes tactile, fun, exciting and “live”.

## Green Schools

Water is the third theme our school is undertaking for the Green Schools programme. As with the previous themes, Litter & Waste and Energy, there are four steps to tackling the theme of water:

1. Analyse the problem
2. Devise an action plan
3. Measure success
4. Maintenance.

Our Green Schools student council will be busy informing all classes on the general aims, which are:

- 1 .To heighten the pupils awareness of where water comes from and its many uses
- 2.To understand why we must conserve water and to show ways of conserving water
- 3.To enable the pupils to become more aware of the implications of wasting water

Keep an eye on our Green Schools notice board for simple steps and tips that can lead to large reductions in water consumption both in school and in the home and for more updates on our Green Schools project.

## Baking with Transition Year Students

The boys and girls from Room 9 recently paid a visit to St. Patrick's College where they were invited to bake Gingerbread Men with the help of Transition Year students. Each child was given the opportunity to create a gingerbread man in a fun, hands on approach. They set to work mixing, rolling, cutting and decorating and watched with great anticipation as the gingerbread men baked to perfection. The children were shown the importance of washing up properly and how to keep their work station clean. On leaving they were given a recipe to take home and their very own gingerbread man to enjoy. A big thank-you to the T.Y. students and to Ms. Catherine Horgan for organising this activity.

## Yoga for Children

Over the past few weeks each class has been enjoying a weekly “ Yoga for Children” lesson facilitated by Aileen Holbrook. Child specific yoga practices are being taught through Drama, Music, Storytelling, role-play, discussion, group work, visualisation and relaxation. It is designed to compliment the Social, Personal,Health Education and the Physical Education curriculum. The program is child centred and child friendly and it encourages the development of the whole child. This is proving a big success with everyone.

# St. Patricks Infants School (cont'd)

## Up The Rebels!

On 11th November, our school was a sea of red and white as the boys and girls donned the “rebel colours” in honour of the Cork Ladies Senior Football team who recently won the All Ireland championship. Headbands were worn and flags were waved as player **Brid Stack** proudly showed off the **Brendan Martin** cup to the children and staff and spoke about the importance of eating healthily, being a member of a team and being physically active. A big congrats to Brid and her team mates who have now won six All Irelands in seven years.

Corcaigh Abu!

## Library Visits

We are delighted to report that the Senior Infants have all had a visit to Mayfield Public Library. Visiting the library is very beneficial to the children in helping to establish a positive attitude towards literacy. The children met the librarian and learned all about working in the library, as well as getting the opportunity to read and explore some of the wonderful books available. Many thanks to Mary Fitzgerald and the staff at Mayfield Public Library for all their help and support with this venture. We are hoping that Mary will visit our school in the near future to chat to the Junior Infants , to encourage their interest in reading and to instil a love of books.

## Practical Presents for Christmas

Here are some practical ideas for Christmas presents that are also educational and highly beneficial for your child:

Books: One can never have enough books.

Jigsaws: Ideal for developing spatial awareness.

Magnetic Letters: Great for practicing sounds and making words.

Whiteboard and Markers: A fun and easy way to practice writing

Threading toys: To help with co-ordination for writing.

Dressing Up Toys: To fuel imagination.

Games for 2 and more players: To encourage turn-taking and sharing.

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## News From Nowhere

by Michael O'Donnell.

### Thought of the Month.

“Not for me a life of leisure: not for my tumultuous soul: but for me a life of struggle for a proud and lofty goal.”

People who are ignorant of the society in which they live, who know nothing of its place in the world and who have not thought about their place in it, are not free people even though they have a vote. They are easy game for the hidden persuaders.

The general public sees the presentation of political news and current affairs on television as even handed and impartial, but this view is open to question. Television, more than any other media, moulds political opinion. It is influenced by and influences opinion polls. Witness the Presidential debates; some candidates were roughed up because of past histories; while other aspirants were soft-soaped. Candidates were going up and down the opinion polls like yo-yo's. The polls and not the individual voter were determining the election outcome. Therefore, it's not surprising that 34,020 people didn't bother to cast their preference in Cork North Central alone.

The question is why did 34,020 people in Cork North Central not bother to vote? Did the T.V. debates turn them off? Was the outcome predetermined by the polls? If we want to preserve what is left of our Democracy these and other questions must be confronted. We take our voting rights for granted and one morning we'll wake up to discover that our voting rights have gone: like our Government has discovered that the right to make economic decisions have gone elsewhere.



# Mayfield Arts, Newbury House

Old Youghal Road, Mayfield, Cork

021 4530434

mayfieldarts@gmail.com

www.mayfieldarts.org

## Christmas Coffee Morning!

Our annual Christmas Coffee morning will be held at the arts centre on Thursday Dec 1<sup>st</sup> featuring an end of year art exhibition, cake sale, art & crafts sale, raffle and presentation of FETAC certificates by Cllr John Kelleher. All money raised will be in support of the Cúig project. Everyone welcome!

## Cúig Christmas event in the Pavilion

Some of Cork's best known singers songwriters will come together to each perform a cover of a Christmas song in the Pavilion bar, Carey's Lane on Thursday 15th December at 9pm. Cúig artists will also be displaying some of their artwork, as well as selling a selection of prints, paintings, badges, bags and other lovely Christmas gift items in the bar throughout the day.



**Cúig artists; Frankie Burton, Ailbhe Barrett and Angela Burchill with President Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabina, on a recent election campaign visit to the Arts Centre.**

Picture: Supplied

## Open Studio & FETAC Courses

Open Studio art sessions will resume again in the new year. Anyone from the locality interested in joining the Thursday morning art sessions should contact the art centre on: 453 0434. Sessions cost €3 with art materials and tea and coffee supplied. No experience necessary!





## Mayfield Arts (cont'd)

### Mayfield Mural Launch

Since September, over 100 young people and children from Mayfield have been working on creating 10 outdoor murals. The murals celebrate the young people's creativity, the local community and the positive contribution that the young people make to our community, Mayfield. Mayfield Arts, Newbury House have collaborated with St. Johns Primary school, Scoil Mhuire Banrion, Mayfield Training centre, St. Patricks Girls College, The Mayfield refocus Group, The Neighbourhood Youth Project as well as our own after-schools and youth initiative programmes to create these murals. We will launch the murals on Monday 19th December at 6pm. We invite the local community to come along and support the young people involved in the event.

For more information please contact Nora on: 453 0434.

### One World Week

Congratulations to the young people from Mayfield who performed and exhibited creative work for Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr. Tony Fitzgerald for the One World Week event held in Cork On November 12th. The National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI) hosted the event in collaboration with Mayfield Arts. Rapping, Songwriting and Visual Arts were showcased at the event exploring the theme 'Consume with Care'. The event gave young people the opportunity to express themselves on this matter and to think about what we consume as individuals affects other people both locally.



## Lotamore Preschool and Afterschool Service

Places available early 2012

**PRESCHOOL** children can start from two and a half years onwards once they are toilet trained.

For further details contact Ciara on: 450 2997 or: 086 662 4636.

**AFTERSCHOOL** children's' ages range from 4 years to 8 years, for further details contact Janice on: 450 2997 or: 085 786 3930.

LOTAMORE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE, 20 LOTAMORE PARK (TOP OF LOTAMORE HILL)  
BANDUFF, GLANMIRE ROAD (BY THE GROTTTO)



# Easy Christmas Cake Recipe



## Ingredients

- 12oz Plain flour
- 1 Teaspoon mixed spice
- 4oz Ground almonds
- 8oz Currants
- 8oz Sultanas
- 8oz Raisins (stoned)
- 4oz Cherries (halved)
- 8oz Butter
- 8oz Soft brown sugar
- 6 Eggs, beaten with 8 tablespoons of milk
- 1 Tablespoon black treacle

## Method

- (1) Mix flour, spice and ground almonds together.
- (2) Clean and mix fruit.
- (3) Beat butter and sugar to a cream.
- (4) Beat the eggs and milk together.
- (5) Mix all these ingredients together.
- (6) Add the fruit last. Bake for about 4 hrs.

First hour in a moderate oven 180°C (Gasmark 4), then slow oven at 150°C (Gasmark 2).

- (7) Enjoy.

# Useful numbers

Fire Brigade/Ambulance 999 or 112	ESB Emergency 1850 372 999
Mayfield Garda Station 455 8510	Bord Gais Emergency 1850 20 50 50
Southdoc 1850 335 99	City Council 496 6222 or After Hours 496 6152

## Listening and Support Numbers

National 24 Hour Suicide helpline 1life:	1800 247 100
Samaritans (24 hrs):	1850 60 90 90
AWARE (10am to 10pm):	1890 303 302
Freetext "headsup" to:	5024

## Support Websites.

National Office for Suicide Prevention	<a href="http://www.nosp.ie">www.nosp.ie</a>
Website on mental health and young people	<a href="http://www.headstrong.ie">www.headstrong.ie</a>
Website for young people	<a href="http://www.letsomeoneknow.ie">www.letsomeoneknow.ie</a>
Website for younger people	<a href="http://www.spunout.ie">www.spunout.ie</a>
Turning the Tide of Suicide.	<a href="http://www.3ts.ie">www.3ts.ie</a>

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## Christmas Word Search

E N A C Y D N A C H T A E R W S S  
T H I S S N O I T A R O C E D H Y  
E G G N O G M E H E L H T E B E O  
G I F T S F R U I T C A K E T P T  
R E G N A M H F R I E N D S F H S  
S L T R E E I E C S C S R R S E E  
T S H N E G A S A A E A A A T R J  
H A R A S E N N T L N N R A T D E  
G I E G S E T I C L K D K O G S S  
I T E G L A K I K I E S L O L T U  
L T W O B E C A N C O T L E N S S  
F E I B E I I C L G O D O E S N J  
A S S O L L E R A F C T M E M O O  
M N E T L N B N B N W A S Y A W S  
I I M T S O G A B A N O R E R M E  
L O E E J E O L T R G R N D Y A P  
Y P N Y L L O H O S H L Y S S N H

ANGEL  
BELLS  
BETHLEHEM  
CANDLES  
CANDY CANE  
CAROLS  
DECORATIONS  
EGGNOG  
FAMILY  
FRANKINCENSE  
FRIENDS

FRUITCAKE  
GABRIEL  
GIFTS  
GOLD  
GREETING  
CARDS  
HOLLY  
ICICLES  
JESUS  
JOSEPH  
LIGHTS

MANGER  
MARY  
MISTLETOE  
MYRRH  
ORNAMENTS  
POINSETTIA  
SANTA  
SHEPHERDS  
SKATES  
SLEIGH

SNOWFLAKES  
SNOWMAN  
STABLE  
STAR  
STOCKING  
THREE WISE  
MEN  
TOBOGGAN  
TOYS  
TREE  
WREATH

# St John the Apostle B.N.S

## World Renowned Educationalist Visits St. John's

We were delighted to welcome Dr. Joseph Dreisson to our school in mid- October. Dr. Dreisson, a New Zealander and a world leading figure in educational research and strategy, facilitated a two-hour professional in-service module for staff. Dr. Dreisson praised our school, describing St. John's as '*an excellent example of a warm and innovative school where boys can be nurtured and developed to reach their potential.*' He praised the staff for their creativity and professionalism.

## Parents' Association

It is with great pleasure that we extend a warm welcome to our new Parents' Association- Monika Stapor, Irene Cassin and Siobhán Myers. The ladies are already working hard planning a Christmas Cake Sale and a Raffle for December.

## Sport

The school's Sciath na Scol Football team did very well this year. They did the school proud in every match, with some fantastic wins and one or two close defeats. Training continues every Tuesday for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class and every Thursday for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Tennis coaching continues every Wednesday.

## Library Visits

All the pupils from the Junior end of the school are now members of the Frank O Connor library, in Mayfield. Pupils from Junior Infants, Senior Infants, First and Second Classes went on a special trip with their parents and teachers, and have been borrowing books since. Many thanks to Mary Fitzgerald for her time.

## Poetry and Song

On Tuesday 18th October, the sixth class boys were invited to Mayfield Library for a poetry workshop. Dr. Freeman, a Scottish music lover, presented the work of popular poet Robert Burns through music and song. The boys' learned many facts about his life, listened to some of his music and sang folk songs in a Scottish accent!

## Junior Apprentices

Miss Cronin's class were entrepreneurs for a day when they came up with ideas and turned them into small businesses. With the Junior Achievement Programme, they designed an advert for their product, and learned valuable marketing skills.



## Green Flag

As we are well on our way to being awarded our second Green Flag, the school had an All-Green Day where pupils dressed in green and had to survive without their modern electrical appliances, such as the Interactive Whiteboards and computers for the day. At the moment, members of the student committee are measuring the heat in each room, and trying to figure out ways to prevent heat loss.

## Community Art

The boys from 5<sup>th</sup> class are taking part in Art Workshops in Newbury Arts Centre on Thursdays. Over the course of the next 5 weeks, the boys will be working to create murals relating to the theme of *Community* which will then be displayed in the school and community.

## Dates to Remember

Our Lady Crowned Choir Service, School Choir performing: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Christmas Cake Sale, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011. Christmas Concert, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

# Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn

## Féile na Scoile i nGaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn

As the only Irish-medium multi-denominational Educate Together school in the country, we celebrate a core curriculum festival with our school community each year. This year, our annual festival is based on the ethics and environment strand of our core curriculum. Our theme is 'Uisce' – a vast and varied subject! We will be engaging in research, project work, song, artwork, poetry, drama, science experiments and much more based on this theme. A large variety of topics will be explored, for example, flooding, explorers, the Sahara, the Arctic, the Antarctic, tsunami, the uses of water and global warming. We will be very busy in our classes, preparing and learning about water in dynamic and interesting ways. Táimid ar fad ag súil go mór leis an bhféasta foghlama!

## Naíonáin Mhóra mar Cheannródaithe i bhForbairt na Litearthachta go Náisiúnta

In an effort to support the National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy, the Professional Development Service for Teachers (PDST) will use exemplars of best literacy practice as part of the professional development programme for all teachers nationwide. Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn was selected by PDST to provide some exemplar footage of early literacy instruction in Irish medium education. This footage was captured in Naíonáin Mhóra on 27 October 2011. We are very proud and excited that our school has been chosen for this initiative. Comhghairdeas a Mhúinteoir Lisa agus a Naíonáin Mhóra! Maith sibh.

## Scoláirí na Gaelscoile i nGála Snámha na Mumhan

On Sunday 6th November, as the rest of us were preparing to come back to school, four of our students participated in the Munster Schools Swimming Gala in Limerick. Cian Ó hEaraile, Rang 6, May Ní Earraile, Rang 5, Aislinn Keena, Rang 4 and Erin Nic Fhíobhuí, Rang 4 did Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn proud. Comhghairdeas libh!



## Sciath na Scol 2011 – An Chraobh buaite ag Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn

Tá bliain eile de pheil ghaelach nach mór thart anseo i nGaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn. Tá éacht déanta ag na scoláirí a bhí i mbun traenála gach Máirt agus gach Déardaoin ó thus na scoilbhliana. Ghlac níos mó ná ochtó páiste páirt sna seisiúin. D'imir na buachaillí le beocht agus le gaois i ngach cluiche. Tá a mbliain istigh anois. Déirigh leis na cáilíní peil na mban a thógaint go leibhéal eile i mbliana. Bhí said páirteach i Sciath na Scol Dé Máirt, 22 Samhain i bPáirc Uí Rinn agus bhuaigh siad an chraobh!. Maith sibh ar fad!

Comhghairdeas ó chroí!

# Cuimhní na Nollag

le Nuala Ní Loingsigh

Nuair a chuimhním ar an Nollaig, cuimhním ar laethanta m'óige sa bhaile. Ag an am ní raibh leictreachas sa teach ach lampa íle ar an bhfalla. Ní raibh solas iontach ansin, beagáinín níos fearr ná coinneal. Níos déanaí tháinig an tilley agus bhíodh sé crochta i lár na cistine. Ba mhór an feabhas é sin. Ina dhiaidh sin bhí an gás againn roimh theacht an leictreachais.

Thosnaíodh an t-ullmhúchán don Nollaig thart ar an ochtú lá de mhí na Nollag. Bhíodh an áit á glanadh, an chistin á néatú agaus no cuirtíní á ní againn. B'aoibhinn liom féin nuair a bhí an áit réidh chun na maisiúcháin a chur suas. Chuirimis coinneal isteach i bpróca dhá phunt (ina mbíodh subh), le min ann. Sháimis an coinneal dhearg isteach agus mhaisímis an próca le páipéar Nollag daite nó páipéar crepe. Sháimis cuileann timpeall ar an gcoinneal. Ansin chuirimis ar an bhfuinneog é. Timpeall ar sin sheasaímis na cártaí Nollag ar Oíche Nollag. Bhíodh cuma an-deas ar an bhfuinneog. Timpeall ar an gcuirtín istigh bhí réaltaí i ndathanna geala – dearg, uaine, buí agus dathanna nach iad ceangailte le chéile le sreang. Cheap mé go rabhadar dríaochtúil leis an solas ag lonradh orthu. Treasna na cistine bhí slabhraí de pháipéar daite agus i lár baill bhí clog a osclaíodh amach. Bhíodh an obair seo déanta don tae, Oíche Nollag agus ansin shuímis síos chun ithe. Bhainimis an-taitneamh as na sólaisti deasa ar an mbord – an báirín breac, ceann mór ciorclach a thugadh an siopa dúinn. Bhíodh císte milis, a chuireadh m'aintín i gCorcaigh chugainn, maisithe go gleoite agus blas iontach ann. Bhíobh subh againn i bpróca dhá phunt a d'úsaidtí an bhliain dar gcionn don choinneal.

Ba bhreá liom éiri maidin lae Nollag leis an dtine curtha síos agus an coinneal ar an bhfuinneog ar lasadh. Bhí atmaisféar draíochtúil so chistin agus sinn ag ullmhú chun Aifrinn. Bhíodh an t-ádh linn mar thagadh fear céile m'aintín, Bill, ag traill orainn so charr do laethanta na Nollag. Bhíodh trí Aifreann, ceann i ndiaidh a chéile, agus bhuaímis le haintíní agus le huncailí tar éis Aifrinn agus bhíodh gliondar ar gach éinne.

Ta cáil ar Éirinn don nós faoin gcoinneal lasta ar an bhfuinneog ar Oíche Nollag. Deineann Máirtín Ó Direáin tagairt don nós seo in Oilean Árann agus iarrann sé ar Mhuire glacadh le cuireadh uaidh go hOileán Árann:

*“Deonaigh glacadh le cuireadh uaimse  
Go hoileán mara san iarthar cianda.  
Beidh coinnle geala i ngach fuinneog lasta...”*

Cuirimis fáilte roimh Chríost i mbliana le grá inár gcroí agus grá dar gcomharsana.

## Gluais

Cuimhní:	Memories
Lampa íle:	Oil Lamp
Maisiúcháin:	Decorations
Min:	Meal
Sháimis:	We used to stick
Mhaisímis:	We used to decorate
Cuileann:	Holly
Cuirtín:	Curtain
Uaine:	Green
Buí:	Hello
Sreang:	String
Draíochtúil:	Magical
An-t-ádh:	Luck
Ag triall orainn:	to collect us
Gliondar:	Happy
Cáil:	Famous



# Scoil Mhuire Banríon

## Halloween Make Over

All the girls were very creative in their witches costumes and not so pretty faces. It was a very colourful display. Thankfully no pupil was turned into a frog and all returned home safely! Thank you to all the parents who contributed to the Parents Association. € 300 was raised. The money will be well spent.

## Knitters Galore: All hands on Deck

This year again the girls in third and fourth classes were delighted to support Age Action Ireland in knitting wonderful little hats for the Innocent Smoothies drinks. We made a total of 240 hats. We had great help from our expert knitters. Parents and Grandparents were happy to join us for our Knitathon. Well done to everyone.

## National Board Games Playing Day

We are committed to encouraging the playing of board games. On the Friday of the Hallowe'en break all the girls had a great time playing board games with their friends at school. Many hours of fun and laughter can be had at home and at school. There is a huge variety of traditional and not so traditional games available in the shops. Perhaps even Santa will think of bringing some more this year!

## Visits to the Library

The two first classes had a very enjoyable visit to Mayfield Library. They were entertained by author Dolores Keavney who told one of her own stories about Honey Bee. The pupils learnt about the life cycle, the honey comb and how important bees are to the world.

## Storyteller session in the library

Infants and fifth and sixth classes had a rare treat in Mayfield library recently. They were entertained and enthralled by storyteller Niall de Burca.

## Newbury Arts Project

The pupils from fifth class were part of an exciting project run by Newbury Art Centre. The project involved many groups in the community. The aim is to replace the existing murals in the locality. During the workshops they choose designs and colours and used stencilling and painting to create beautiful, colourful and positive pieces of Art. They had a terrific time.



## National Science Week

For National Science week, fourth and fifth classes had a Dome experience! We had a visitor from Blackrock Observatory armed with her space dome. Here is Sarah's account: For Science week, our class visited the Dome in the halla. It was big and blue and shaped like an igloo. As we went to go into the Dome, we had to move as if we were swimming. Inside it was the semi-circular. We looked up at the ceiling and saw the day and night skies. We learnt about the stars and planets. Next we were shown a little 3-D movie about dinosaurs and how a comet wiped them out. It was the best fun ever.

## Parish Carol Concert

The children from the infant classes, supported by the pupils in fifth class will be taking part in the annual Carol concert in Our Lady Crowned on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November. We look forward to seeing you there.

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir, ó gach duine i Scoil Mhuire Banríon.



# Book Review

## The Return Journey by Maeve Binchy

reviewed by Anita Murphy

This book is available from: Mayfield Library, Old Youghal Road, Cork

This book is a sophisticated collection of short stories. It takes the reader on a journey of discovery. Each story is as engaging as the next. Each gives a snap shot into the characters' lives. Binchy informs the reader via the characters' trials and tribulations that nothing is ever as simple or as perfect as it seems.

It is a testament to her writing skills that the characters physique and personality can be seen in their full form. The central theme is love; this presents itself in a number of forms; love triangles, torrid affairs, suffering on different levels, consequently issues surrounding trust and infidelity.

In addition, with some characters there is a false sense of security. My verdict is one of praise and sheer delight.

Overall, there was a nice relaxing tone and I found the book hard to put down. Every ending keeps the reader in suspense. No judgements are passed as the stories unfold. I like to think that Binchy invites the reader to come to their own conclusion as to how the story finishes. It is an incredible book and a must read.

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## Funnies

Thank God for church secretaries with typewriters. These sentences (with all the bloopers) actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced in church services.

The Fasting and Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.

Irving Benson and Jessie Carter were married on October 24th in the church. So ends a friendship that began in their school days.

The Associate Minister unveiled the church's new campaign slogan last Sunday: 'I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours.'

Potluck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and medication to follow.

The eighth-graders will be presenting Shakespeare's Hamlet in the church basement Friday at 7 PM. The congregation is invited to attend this tragedy.

This evening at 7 PM there will be hymn singing in the park across from the church. Bring a blanket and be prepared to sin.

At the evening service tonight, the sermon topic will be: 'What is Hell?' Come early and listen to our choir practice.

Please place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want to remember.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Next Thursday there will be tryouts for the choir. They need all the help they can get.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our community. Smile at someone who is hard to love. Say 'Hell' to someone who doesn't care much about you.

# Mayfield GAA thanks the Community

The Club wishes to sincerely thank the community of Mayfield for the incredible support our team and members received in advance of the County Junior Hurling Final and Replay. The fantastic buzz created in the community was a great help to the club and our team and gave a real lift to the community in general.

The generosity of our Club Main Sponsor: Murrays SuperValu, Team Sponsor: Cormac O'Connor & Sons, Club Members and the Community towards the County Final fund was exceptional and a great help in easing the substantial burden of costs (Team kit, transport, coaching and medical) on the club on reaching the final.

New members are always welcome and if you wish to get involved with the club, please contact AJ Cronin or any Club Member. mobile: 087 273 2704 or email: [chairperson.mayfield.cork@gaa.ie](mailto:chairperson.mayfield.cork@gaa.ie)

This has been a very significant year for the Club with many achievements on the playing fields and we look forward to even greater success in 2012. On behalf of all the members, the Chairperson A.J. Cronin would like to wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year. For all your parties & social occasions contact Rob at Mayfield GAA Club on: 450 0813 to book your date!



**Our U13 Football team in action against Eire Og. We wish them well in the U13 Football County Final which will be played shortly.**

Pictures: Jim Doherty

# Frank O'Connor Library

Murmont, Old Youghal Road.

Tel: 021 492 4935 Email: [mayfield\\_library@corkcity.ie](mailto:mayfield_library@corkcity.ie)

Opening Hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10.00 - 1.00 & 2.00 - 5.30  
Closed Lunchtime 1.00 – 2.00

## Read, Learn And Explore

You do not need to be a member to make use of many of the Libraries' resources, such as Local Studies, Learning & Reference resources, newspapers & journals, or to attend any of the talks, readings, classes or other events which take place regularly in Cork City Libraries. Use of these is free to the public.

Membership Fees:

Everyone up to 18 years **FREE**

Adult: Standard :**€15**, Concession\* :**€5**, 65 years of age and older **FREE**. Visually impaired persons **FREE**

\*If one of these categories applies to you, you qualify for the concession fee:

1. Persons on disability pension & dependent spouses
2. Persons in receipt of carer's allowance.
3. Unemployed persons, persons on disability benefit and dependent spouses.
4. Lone parents.
5. Asylum seekers.
6. Students over 18 in full-time education.

Up to ten items — whether books, CDs, DVDs — may be borrowed at one time, for a period of two weeks. You can renew these items online or on the phone.

## WHATS ON?

WEDNESDAY, 7 December at 11.00a.m.

A morning of song and music presented by The John Bermingham Singers, conducted by Michael Joyce.

## CHRISTMAS BOOKS FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES OLD FAVOURITES AND NEW STORIES

*It was a winter's night, starlight and frost-bright.....*

**Room for one more by Maggie Pearson & Gavin Rowe**

*Wide awake when the world is still, watch the snow fall, soft and slow.....*

**Christmas with you by Julia Hubery & Victoria Ball**

*Whenever I see light feathers of snow moving slowly down a window.....*

**A Christmas Card by Paul Theroux**

*Once, in a town called Nazareth, there lived a girl called Mary.....*

**The very first Christmas by Louie Stowell.**

If you want to read or borrow any one of these books or any of our Christmas books they will be available from Thursday 1 December.

Call in and make your own Christmas card, materials will be available every afternoon from Thursday 8th December.

**Christmas Colouring Competition**  
*Saturday 3rd, 10th and 17th DECEMBER*  
**PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES**

## Christmas Closing Times

The Library will close at 5.30P.M. On Friday 23rd December 2011 and reopen at 10.00A.M. on Tuesday 3rd January 2012. Happy Christmas from all library staff.



# Santa comes to Mayfield

by Billy Herdman

Christmas Eve is nearly here  
And Santa's on his way  
With lots of toys for girls and boys  
Heaped up upon his sleigh.  
The stars are shining brightly  
As he races through the night  
He looks down at the windows  
With their Christmas trees alight.

With long white beard outside his coat  
You'll never see his chin  
But look a little closer  
And you'll see a huge wide grin.  
In his Toyland home in Lapland  
He's had to cut some staff  
Some leprechauns and goblins  
He'll miss their merry laugh.

But recession touches everyone  
And Santa's growing old  
Maybe Sean the leprechaun  
Will find a pot of gold  
But never fear my children dear  
We'll bounce back once again  
So keep on sending letters  
And he'll read them in his den.

Now Santa's nearing Mayfield  
On what a welcome sight  
He'll land his sleigh and gather hay  
On this Silent Holy Night.  
He'll feed his hungry reindeer  
For animals come first  
And then some ice cold water  
To quench their journeys thirst.

He's half through his travels  
Of a million miles or more  
He's climbed down countless chimneys  
And by magic through each door  
He always lands in Mayfield  
That's where he has his break  
The children there they really care  
And leave some milk and cake.

He strolls the roads around him  
Then into Avonmore  
Is that an impish face he sees  
Is that a gentle snore  
Then into Ballinderry Park  
There's Barry, James and Dick  
There's Leah, Jane and sweet Elaine  
And Mary who is sick.

Then on up to Silverheights  
And back to Old Youghal Road  
Every child will get their toys  
And lighten half his load  
He ambles into Brosna  
And down to Corrib Lawn  
The children there are fast asleep  
They're dreaming of the dawn

So children say your prayers tonight  
For those who are in need  
Then Santa's off to Africa  
To help and love and feed  
As he hovers over Mayfield  
His work down there is done  
So Happy Christmas one and all  
Have lots and lots of fun

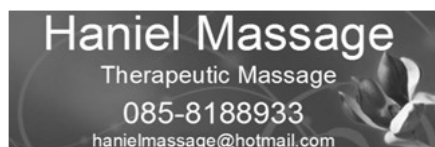
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## As I Walked Out

by Esther Morgan.

Don't tell me you never dreamed of this-  
Of waking in a room with a wide open window,  
The air clear and ringing after night rain;  
Of needing no other reason than a sky  
The unbelievable blue of which  
Sends you flitting deftly through the house  
Past the year-old jar of nails and flies,  
The pile of dishes in the sink, and out the back door  
Where you're caught for an instant in the brightness  
Because the future's so much easier than you thought-  
Slipping your heart under the rosebush like a key,  
Everything you need in the canvas bag  
Resting lightly at your hip

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## **COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL NEWS**

All information printed in this issue is understood to be true and accurate at the time of printing. The views expressed herein are not necessarily those of Mayfield Matters or Mayfield CDP. We do not accept responsibility for information found to be untrue, but we do accept responsibility for any and all grammatical and typing errors. We hope you enjoyed reading our newsletter. Watch out for our next issue, which will be available in local shops and services.

Deadline for inclusion of stories, news or advertising in the next issue is

**STRICTLY: MONDAY 23RD**  
**JANUARY 2012**

Email items to: [mayfieldcdp2@eircom.net](mailto:mayfieldcdp2@eircom.net)  
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