

Mayfield Matters

FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER, HIGHLIGHTING LOCAL NEWS

ISSUE 60: Feb/Mar 2012

Local People Outraged at DEIS Cuts.

More than 1,000 people marched through Cork city on Saturday 28th January in protest at the proposed education budget cuts, which could result in a loss of up to 88 teaching positions in Cork city. Mayfield was strongly represented at the march, with protesters from Scoil Mhuire Banríon, St. John the Apostle Boy's School and St. Patrick's National Boys School in attendance. Local people are outraged at the proposed teaching losses; a petition with over 3,000 signatures is testament to this. Local parent, Liz O'Hara said; "The generation to get us out of the recession, is the generation that is being jeopardised." Teachers Paddy O'Brien and Shane Foley from St. Patrick's National Boys School added; "We're not happy with the cuts and we don't want DEIS schools to be affected by cutbacks."

More pictures from the Protest March inside.



Pupils, Parents and Staff of Scoil Mhuire Banríon gather at the DEIS Protest March before marching through Cork City.

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.

Pictures from DEIS Protest March.



Mum Linda O'Brien and daughter Alana were joined by sisters Casey and Kerry Nevin at the DEIS protest. Picture: Andy Gibson



Padraig and Jody Galvin lend their support to the DEIS protest. Picture: Andy Gibson



Teachers Paddy O'Brien and Shane Foley took part in the march. Picture: Andy Gibson

**New ways to
save every day**

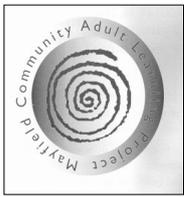
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C.A.L.P.

Mayfield Community Adult Learning Project.

Personal Development:

- A new course starting Tuesday, 14th February 2012.
- 11am to 1pm.
- One morning per week for 8 sessions.
- Topics include self confidence, assertiveness, relationships...

To be held in the CDP Community Resource Centre

Practical First Aid – Cardiac First Response:

- One morning a week for 7 sessions, 10.30am to 12.30am.
- Starting Thursday 1st March 2012.
- Topics covered: Use of a Defibrillator, Common adult & child medical emergencies & resuscitation.

Participants will receive an Attendance Certificate and a Cardiac First Responders Certificate from the Irish Heart Foundation (Valid for 2 years)

Beginners Computers:

- One morning/afternoon, or night per week for 5 sessions.
- Course covers: starting/shutting down the computer, opening documents, saving documents, using icons etc

To be held in the Community Resource Centre.

ECDL module: Power Point

- Wednesday mornings for 10+ weeks.
- 9am to 11am

To be held in a local school.

Introduction to Nutrition (in conjunction with Mayfield Community Education Network)

- One morning per week for 6 weeks.
- Location to be decided.

Beginners computers & internet and email for Men (in conjunction with Mayfield Community Education Network)

- Tuesday afternoons, 2pm to 4.30pm
- Starting mid February 2012
- 6 sessions

To be held in the Community Resource Centre

If you are interested in any of the above courses please ring: 021 450 8562 for further information and to book your place.

All courses have a minimal fee and are funded through part time tutor hours from the City of Cork VEC. Childcare places may be available in the Rainbow Childcare service next to the CDP Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Rd, Mayfield, Cork.

Terry Mulcahy Retires.

Due to technical problems we were not able to include this photograph of Terry's retirement presentation in our Christmas edition. We would like to once again congratulate Terry and wish her all the best in the future.



Pictured with Terry at her retirement event are Left to Right: Derek Connolly, Chairman of Board of Directors; Terry Mulcahy; Finbar Murphy, Chairman of the Management Committee and John

Mayfield Matters.

Mayfield Matters has been published for over ten years now and serves to provide the local community with a comprehensive range of topics, articles and information. As you are aware, this publication is free and has relied on local advertisers and massive amounts of goodwill throughout the years to ensure its continued survival. In this day and age, it is a tribute to those involved to have come so far.

The newsletter provides a platform for schools, local groups and churches to pass on their news throughout the community. It also provides an opportunity for writers to have their work featured. Mayfield Matters would like to encourage anyone wishing to contribute; be it a photograph, an article or story, anything that would be considered relevant to the area would be acceptable. Contributions submitted to the newsletter will be on a voluntary basis. It is hoped that articles or stories from younger people will be a regular feature; so get your pens out and get cracking!

Mayfield Matters would like to introduce Tommy Livingston who will be working on a part time basis on the newsletter. Tommy is of Irish-Scottish extraction and comes from Glasgow. He has been living in Ireland for over twenty years now. His position has been made available through the TUS start up initiative offered by the Cork City Partnership. His areas of activity will cover advertising, contacting local groups and contributors, as well as helping with the editorial process. Tommy has a long history of working with community groups from Glasgow to London and now to Cork. Although a carpenter by trade, because of unemployment he is eligible for this scheme. He writes poetry, stories and songs and one of his pieces is included in our poetry section. Tommy's interests are writing and playing the guitar. He is a carer for his special needs son, Jason. He hopes to have a positive input to the newsletter and is looking forward to working in Mayfield this year.

To All Contributors: Please note that the closing date for articles etc., is printed on the back page of each issue. It would make life here so much easier if you could make a note of this in your diary and have articles in on time. **All articles submitted to us must be in Word format and sent via an attachment.** Please forward your email with attachment to: mayfieldcdp2@eircom.net Thanks to all.

Mayfield Arts Hosts a visit from the President of Ireland.

On Dec 7th 2011 we had the great pleasure of hosting President Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabina at Mayfield Arts, Newbury House to launch our Mayfield Mural Project. They met with all of the young people involved. Our young people presented their projects to him and we also had a group of rappers perform. Ten outdoor murals have been created by over 100 young people and children from Mayfield over the past few months. The murals celebrate the young people's creativity, the local community and the positive contribution that the young people make to our community, Mayfield.

The event was a huge success and a lovely celebration of the creativity of the young people of Mayfield. Having the project launched by the president was huge recognition of our achievements and acknowledged the important role that the arts can play in our communities and what we can achieve by learning creatively together.

The president gave high praise to the young people for their creativity and their active participation in the community of Mayfield. We would like to congratulate all of the young people involved in all they achieved in 2011 and look forward to another busy and creative year in 2012



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. New members and former students are welcome. For more info, ring Maureen on: 086 882 8557.



Happy Talk



'**Happy Talk**' is an exciting new project to improve language and learning among children aged 0-6 years in Mayfield and the Glen. 'Happy Talk' will work with Junior Infant teachers in the local primary schools: St John's, Scoil Mhuire Bannion, St. Mark's, St. Brendan's and St Patrick's Infant School. It will work with local childcare providers in the 14 pre-schools and 6 crèches in the area. It will provide training programmes for parents to help them to support their children's language. Where children need specific supports, '**Happy Talk**' will link children in with services such as the HSE Speech and Language Therapy service.

'**Happy Talk**' is taking a whole community approach to language. It will develop child-friendly signs throughout Mayfield and the Glen and set up 'Story Points' within the community. These will provide parents, teachers and childcare providers with opportunities to develop children's language. The '**Happy Talk**' slogan '**Stop, Listen and Talk**' encourages the adults in children's lives to **Stop** and wait to give the child an opportunity to talk, to **Listen** to what the child is saying and follow their lead and then to **Talk** and respond to what the child has said by providing new words or modelling the correct pronunciation of words.

'**Happy Talk**' involves collaboration among local services and is led by a consortium made up of Cork City Partnership Ltd, Barnardos, Cork City Childcare Company Ltd, Cork City Council, City of Cork VEC, the HSE and UCC. The project is one of eleven projects funded under the National Early Years Access Initiative (NEYAI) which are being run nationally. It is also funded by Tomar Trust which is Cork based. The Project will run until April 2014.

The '**Happy Talk**' Project team comprises Sheila Dillon, Co-ordinator, Jen Keogh and Aoife Doyle, Speech and Language Therapists. Further information from Sheila Dillon, '**Happy Talk**' Co-ordinator, Cork City Partnership, Blackpool. Tel: 087 757 3749.

Mayfield Community Education Network City of Learning Festival

Experience Learning in your Community - Investigate, Participate & Celebrate

Wednesday, 28th March 2012 from 10.30am to 1 pm

Mayfield GAA Hall, Kerry Rd

Come and take part in a morning of music, dance & fun!

Displays & demonstrations from local community education groups, schools & centres.

Refreshments available

For further details ring: 021 450 8562

Mayfield CDP

Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Road, Mayfield.

Telephone: 021 450 8562



Rainbow Sessional Childcare is based at the CDP Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Road, Mayfield. It caters for children from 6th months to 5 years old. The staff provide two sessions per day: 9.30am - 1pm and 1.30pm - 4pm. The team can cater for eight children per session. There is limited availability at present, so if you require a place, please contact Helena as soon as possible.

The service is provided by fully qualified staff and complies fully with HSE regulations. We are also taking part in the new "Happy Talk" Project.

For further information please contact: 021 450 8562.

Mayfield Community Garden

Work on the Community Garden at the rear of the CDP Resource Centre is continuing. We would welcome anyone who is interested in getting involved especially now as spring is coming. The Tutor Dennis Murphy is here from 11-1 each Wednesday morning to give assistance. This is a great opportunity to learn about growing your own fruit and vegetables, meeting others and having some fun. Why not come along and see for yourself. When the classes are finished we hope local people will take charge and continue to work on the project.

Mayfield Community Market and Village Fair.

We are organizing a second Village Fair on Friday 30th March. The first one which took place in October was very successful but since then, other people have expressed an interest in providing items for sale. If you are involved in producing Jams, Cakes, Plants, Arts & Crafts, Woodwork etc and would like to get involved, please contact Mayfield CDP on: 021 450 8562 for further information. Look out for posters nearer the time detailing times and venue.

Mayfield Carer and Toddler Group.

Are you a parent or grandparent minding children under 5 that would be interested in meeting people in a similar situation? Why not come along to the Mayfield Carer & Toddler Group?

The Group meets on Tuesday mornings from 10a.m - 12p.m at the Kerrigan Tyrrell Youth Centre, Tinker's Cross, opposite Mayfield Shopping Centre. The meetings start on Tuesday 7th February 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

These groups provide an opportunity for children to meet and play, while the adults can have a chat and a cup of tea or coffee.

For further information contact Patty on: 087 653 4419 or: 021 450 8562.

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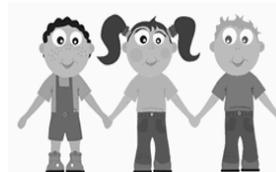
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years onwards once they are toilet trained.

For further details contact Ciara on:

021 450 2997 or: 086 662 4636.

AFTERSCHOOL childrens ages range from 4 to 8
years. For further details contact Janice on:

021 450 2997 or: 085 786 3930.

Lotamore Family Resource Centre, 20 Lotamore Park
(Top of Lotamore Hill), Banduff, Glanmire Road (By
the Grotto)

New Book on History of Mayfield Community Games

A Compelling Read for Contestants and their Families.

The recent launch of the long awaited history of the Mayfield areas involvement in Cork County, Provincial and National Community Games Competitions entitled “Mayfield Community Games 1975 – 2003”, was a highly successful event. The launch took place in St Josephs Community Centre on the 2nd December 2011 in the presence of a large and appreciative attendance that included many of the former dedicated officials and competitors who had contributed so much to the huge success of the games in the Mayfield area.

Among those present were Mr. Michael Bourke, Vice Chairman of National Community Games, and current Chairman of Cork County Board Community Games and Noirin Doyle who has given a lifetime of dedicated service to the Community Games Organisation from local to Cork County, provincial and at national level. In his address to the function, Michael Bourke stated that he was very pleased to be invited to the launch of the book containing the Mayfield areas major contribution to the success of Community Games in Cork County and at National Finals in the period 1975 – 2003. He also paid tribute to the many Mayfield officials who served at County Board level and those who officiated at the National Finals in Mosney for many years.



Pictured at the book launch are; John Sheehan, book author Joe Mullane and local runner; Roy Fahy.

Noirin Doyle stated that she was always impressed by the commitment and dedication of the Mayfield competitors and officials to Community Games where they made a huge contribution to the success and the development of the games at Cork County and at national levels over a 30 year period.

A surprise element at the function was the reading of e-mail messages from Alan O'Connor in Philadelphia, and Claire Ingerton in New York U.S.A., who recalled what their involvement in Community Games had meant to them throughout their youth. The book was researched and compiled by Joe Mullane one of the founding members who remained involved throughout the thirty year period of the local community's participation in the games. In his address to the function, Joe said that during his involvement in the games, he had been privileged to work alongside many of the most dedicated and committed volunteers that would be found in any community in Ireland.

The formal launch of the book was performed by one of the Mayfield area's most popular sporting ambassadors, Roy Fahy, who up to the present time remains involved in middle and long distance road running competitions. During his participation in Community Games Athletics Events, Roy set a new record that still remains intact; by winning two consecutive National Marathon titles and in doing so he bettered the achievement of both Eamonn Coughlan and John Treacy, each of whom won that event on one occasion.

This new book contains a factual account of the local areas competitors whose many outstanding successes and the records they have set have not up to now been fully acknowledged and appreciated. Since the launch of this book many copies have found their way to places such as North Carolina, New York and Philadelphia in the U.S.A., Sweden, Australia, Canada as well as to many parts of Britain and Ireland where many of those who participated in the games have now taken up residence.

A limited number of copies of the book are available at €5.00 each from the caretaker at St Josephs Community Centre, the reception desk in Mayfield Sports Complex or from Joe Mullane, telephone no: 021 455 0059.

Charlie Wilkins - Gardening

Welcome Spring!

Anticipation is very much the mood of February! Early in the month, we enter a time of strong colour; brilliant blue scillas, yellow daffodils, red ribes (with its disappointing smell of tom-cats urine) yellow forsythia and the yellow-green and plum-red growths of young day lilies, peonies, and other border plants. However, there are still some days of waiting before we get that sudden rush of really new growth.

Slowly and imperceptibly, the sun has been getting that little bit higher in the sky warming the frozen soil so that the hedgerows are about to stir into new fresh greenery. For the past three months (it feels much longer) we have been confined to indoors by rain and wind to begin, followed in turn by biting cold, venturing outside only occasionally to peek and admire at close quarters the few winter flowering plants that braved the severe conditions. Now at last, there is something new to admire and wonder at every morning, not least the many varieties of crocus.

Coinciding with the snowdrops, crocus *tommasinianus* is now in full bloom but few realise that it is also a prolific at self-seeding, the most eager in fact of its whole clan. A patch of 10 corms can turn into a multiple of hundreds in a very few years. Mature gardens, where it has perhaps been planted in the past, can seem filled with the narrow mauve flowers which fling back their segments at every burst of late-winter sunshine. They really do grow 'like weeds' but never become a nuisance. The leaves, which rise with the flower buds in February, have died away again before it is time to start mowing or hoeing. You never see the seeds, which lie hidden at the base of the tube, and these are most likely distributed by ants. This amiable little bulb must make a splendid sight in its native woodlands of Eastern Europe once the snows have gone!

Clumps of crocus, like snowdrops, can be moved whilst in bloom and full growth. Ideally of course this is done after flowering but those impatient and anxious to see an effect needn't wait. Do it now by all means, pulling the clumps apart into tufts of half a dozen or so and replanting immediately in fresh ground. Go a little deeper with the planting than you would normally do for it will help support the slender stems until they re-establish.

The real joy of February and early March are the camellias, arch deceivers no less for they look almost too exotic to succeed outdoors as easily as they do, and they also look as though they should be richly scented. Unfortunately, a blade of grass has more perfume. No spring garden is complete without at least one camellia variety for even if the ground is totally lime-ridden, these take to pot culture with a willingness that staggers. Buy a decent sized pot (terra-cotta for preference) and fill it with a mixture of lime free soil to which has been added a copious amount of 'Browngold', leafmould or pine-needles. Into this cake mixture put as big a camellia as you can afford, bearing in mind that the older you are, the more you need to invest in something that won't take a decade and more to reach a commanding size! 'Debbie' is a reliable, free-flowering, vigorous variety which I rate highly but if red is not in keeping with your colour scheme then opt for 'Jury's Yellow' (very unusual, but it definitely requires overhead dappled shade to stop its blooms browning in morning sun following a hard night of frost) 'White Nun' or 'Miss Universe' in white with yellow stamens. A real treasure is the variety 'Lavinia Maggi' in a combination of striped white and pink.

What You Didn't Know About Hydrangeas.

Hydrangeas are finicky, and just like us gardeners, they like to eat well, drink freely, and be warm about their limbs. If your plants have not given you the kind of return that you see in your neighbours then be assured that you have failed in one or the other. You must not neglect their liquid needs during summer for it ruins their complexion and their potential. Leaves become wrinkled and begin to droop, the blooms open spidery rather than fulsome, and the plant's shape goes obese. Food improves the flowers several times over so do attend to this over the coming weeks. Make a start during a mild spell by pruning off the faded blooms down to the nearest healthy, fat pair of buds. Take out from the centre of established plants one or two old branches, by going right down to their base and remove at the same time any feeble stems you may come across in the process. Opening up their centres like this gives the newer, younger shoots a chance to get extra light and it also allows a little more air movement. Apply a granular feed such as Osmocote to the soil, or even better, apply manure or compost (GeeUp is great) in a mulch of about two inches deep. This will give ample nourishment protecting the soil from drying out during summer, and keep the roots cool. In a drought year, you will thank your lucky stars you had the foresight to mulch and protect.

Grow Community Mental Health

Taking Care of Your Mental Health

Mental health is an issue that affects us all, irrespective of age, gender, background or social status. It is the balance between all aspects of our lives – physical, social, spiritual and emotional. In these current times of economic uncertainty and the knock-on effect this is having on our finances, relationships and general well being, it is becoming increasingly important for us to take care of our mental health. It is easy to see when there is something wrong with us physically, but it is every bit as important to take care of our emotional and mental health and we should take steps to protect in it in the same way we would look after our physical health.

GROW is a Community Mental Health Movement, which provides a support network. Its main strength is the support its members give to each other from their own experience in relation to mental health. In a GROW peer support group, you learn how to change your thinking and behaviour – for the better. GROW aims to help you to take control of your problems and to gain and maintain positive mental health.

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.

GROW offers:-

- A free, support network for positive mental health
- A safe, confidential and non-judgemental environment to discuss your problems
- A Program of personal growth
- It can help you to get your life back on track
- The GROW Program shows you how to find and tap into your own abilities
- With the help and support of your group, it helps you to learn how to use what's inside of you to work on your own problems.
- Opportunity to learn and develop skills in objective thinking
- Helps you to understand feelings and to gain control of how you feel.

The meetings are held every week and last about 2 hours, and are followed by a cup of tea/coffee afterwards. Meetings are held throughout Co. Cork **and the local Mayfield meeting is held every Tuesday evening, 7.30pm in the Mayfield Community Resource Centre, 328 Old Youghal Road.** No introductions are needed. Just come along.

If you are in need of support or would like further information on behalf of yourself, a friend or a relative, please contact Finola on: 086 770 2807, our local office: 021 427 7520 Mon - Fri 9am-1pm, or local: 1890 474 474. Or you can check out our website: www.grow.ie

“You alone can do it, but you can't do it alone” – GROW wisdom

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Free ENGLISH LANGUAGE CLASSES

We can help you to speak English, so why not come along and meet others WHO ARE LEARNING TOO? We cater for BEGINNERS – INTERMEDIATE - ADVANCED. The classes are held at the Cork City Partnership, Heron House, Blackpool Park, Blackpool, Cork and start on Tuesday 14th February 2012 from 7-9pm.

If you would like further information contact: Linda Mc Kernan, Cork City Partnership on 021 430 2310 or email: lmckernan@partnershipcork.ie or visit www.thirdageireland.ie

Mayfield East Community Kerrigan Tyrell Community Centre

Tinkers Cross

Mayfield.

mayfieldeastca@live.co.uk

Tel: 021 450 9275

We can help you with all your Residents Association needs.

Welcome back to all our groups and to the Girl Guides now running every Tuesday from 6.00pm - 7.30pm

Boxing - Tuesday	7.30 - 9pm	Weightwatchers	Thursday	10.00 - 11am
Wednesday	6.30 - 9pm	Ballroom Dancing	Friday	10.30 - 11.30am
Friday	6.30 - 9pm	Bowling	Tuesday	2- 4pm

A full Ógra program is running and all new members are welcome

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

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

Community Safety Forum



Mayfield & The Glen



Venue: Mayfield Community School

Mayfield

Time: 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Date: Monday, February 13th, 2012

The Garda Bus will be picking up from outside St Brendan's Senior Citizen's Centre on Coolamber Drive at 7.15pm and will return to the same place.

The Community Safety Forum is a partnership involving local residents, An Garda Síochána and Cork City Council.

It aims to:

- Make your area a safer and more pleasant place to live
- Enhance local Policing

A follow up report will be presented on actions arising from issues that came up at the last meeting.

All those living in the area are invited to attend. Current issues of concern that relate to community safety and peoples quality of life will be raised and discussed with An Garda Síochána, Cork City Council and other relevant agencies.

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.

Employment & Training

Project ReFocus is a training/education project for 18 to 25 year olds from Mayfield and the Glen. It takes place in St Josephs Community Centre and Phase 2 began in late January. It is supported by local projects such as Glen NYP, Mayfield Training Centre, Mayfield NYP, Mayfield Local Employment Service and Ogra Chorcaia 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 Mayfield Action on Suicide. Last years participants are doing well and will continue to receive some support over the next two years.

Sport in your Community Course



Some of the participants and organisers of the recently completed ‘Sport in Your Community’ course which was held in Mayfield. This was funded by Cork Sports Partnership Picture: Supplied

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.

Cork City Adult Guidance Service

Supporting your return to
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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.

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'Mayfield Matters'

Lucky Lucy.

by Casey Hegarty

There once lived a poor girl named Lucy. She had black hair and brown eyes. She lived in a big house with her baby brother Michael and her parents. Recession had hit Ireland and her parents struggled to pay the mortgage. It was the 12th of December and Lucy really wanted a *puppy*.

At dinner time she asked her Mom and Dad if she could get a puppy for Christmas. “Bow wow.”, yapped Michael in excitement. “Lucy we’re in a recession, we can’t said her father.” “Why don’t you ask Santa for a puppy?”, suggested her mother. “Yes, Santa might get you a puppy.”, replied her Dad. Now Lucy was sure this would be a Happy Christmas! She wrote her letter to Santa that night.

*Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas this year is a little Labrador puppy.
Love from Lucy. xoxoxoxo*

Christmas Eve came. Lucy looked out at the snow. “Lucy, Santa won’t come if you don’t go to bed.”, called out her mother. Lucy lay down and after some time fell fast asleep.

Suddenly a loud crash came from the sitting room. Lucy awoke. Michel came dashing in full of delight. “It’s Santa! “he whispered. They both crept down the stairs. They peeped through the crack in the door. A man in red was placing presents under the Christmas tree. “Lucy, I’m going to sneeze!” whispered Michael. “No Michael, NO!” whispered Lucy “Aaaachoo!”

The man in the red suit opened the door. “So what do we have here?” he said in a jolly voice. “Go on up to bed.” he said. Michael scampered up to bed but Lucy was stubborn. “Oh” he said, “I almost forgot!” He reached deep inside his bag and pulled out a black Labrador puppy. Lucy’s eyes opened wide with delight. She carried her new puppy upstairs to bed. “I think I’ll call you Lucky.” she said. She snuggled up in bed with him. It was too good to be true!

The next morning Lucy awoke to a friendly puppy licking her nose. “Lucky it wasn’t a dream!” Lucy squealed. Lucy spent the rest of the day with Lucky. She couldn’t have had a better Christmas.

Casey Hegarty is a Sixth Class Pupil in Scoil Mhuire Banrion, Mayfield.

Irish Cancer Society Hair Shave.

Local resident, Anita Murphy, is shaving her hair in aid of The Irish Cancer Society. Today FM's Shave or Dye is an annual charity drive to benefit the Irish Cancer Society. The inaugural campaign in 2010 saw Today FM presenters ask listeners to sponsor them to shave and dye their hair, and in turn ask them to do the same. The response was phenomenal, as people across the length and breadth of the country raised more than €800,000 for the Irish Cancer Society. Anita would very much appreciate your support in helping her to raise funds for the charity; she has created a fundraising page on: www.mycharity.ie to enable ease of donation. On it you can read a few words about the event Anita is doing and the charity that she has chosen to support: www.mycharity.ie/event/anita_murphy_hairtodaygonetomorrow. You can sponsor Anita via credit or debit card.

Rest assured that your transaction on the mycharity.ie website is very secure. You will automatically receive an e-mail from Anita thanking you for your support, and acknowledging the amount of your donation. Any donation you can make, no matter how small, will be hugely appreciated!

The Today FM Shave or Dye day is on Friday 17th February.

Naomh Bríd, Muire Na nGael.

Le Aodán Ó Sé.



CROIS BHRÍD

Is mó traidisiún agus nósanna a bhaineann le Naomh Bríd nó Muire na nGael mar a ghlaitear uirthi comh maith. Is iad Bríd, Pádraig agus Colmcille pátrúin na h-Éireann. Ag tagairt do Bhríd (a mhair ón mbliain 451 go 525), rugadh í i bhFochairt lámh le Dún Dealgan. Págánach abea a h-athair, agus ainmníodh í gcuimhne ar bhandia (goddess) Cheilteach, Bríd. Deirtear gurab é Naomh Pádraig a bhaist Naomh Bríd. Is ionann Lá Fhéile Bhríde agus lá thosach an Earraigh - an chéad lá Feabhra.

De réir lámhscríbhinní (manuscripts) a deineadh sa 7ú aois, bhunaigh Naomh Bríd mainistir i gCill Dara do mhnáibh amháin. Toisc comh naofa agus comh fial leis na bochtáin abhí Bríd, .d'fhás cáil uirthi ar fud na h-Eorpa, is tá séipéil tiomnaithe (dedicated) di sa Fhrainc, sa Bheilg agus i Sasana; mar shampla St. Bride's, Fleet Street, Londain. Toisc go raibh príosún i n-aice leis an séipéal sin i n-am Annraoi a hOcht, tugtar "Bridewell" ar phríosún fós i nÉirinn agus i Sasana. Tá an-chuid aibhneacha ar fuaid na h-Éireann leis an ainm Bríd freisin. Ina dteannta siúd tá an sloinneadh (surname) Mac Giolla Bríde (Kilbride) comónta (common) go leor.

Creidtear go bhfuil Bríd thar a bheith comhachtach chun ocras agus dóiteán (destructive fire) a sheachaint (to avoid) . Sin é an fáth go gcuirtear crois Bhríd ar dhoras an tí, agus go gcuirtear brat nó éadach ar an dtalamh amuigh istoíche roimh a féile. De réir an traidisiúin, bhuail Bríd le fear bocht ag fáil bháis ar thaobh an bhóthair. Dhein sí crois as luachair (made of rushes) chun beannacht Chríost a chur air.

Seo chugaibh paidir i n-ómós do Naomh Bríd.

A Bhríd, a mhaighdean gheal chóir,
Cuidigh liom roimh Dhia na Glóire,
I mo shuí, i mo luí, san oíche nó sa ló
Go mbeidh mé leat choíche is go deo.

Bríd, o maiden bright and fair
Stand by me as I face my God
Sitting or sleeping, be it day or night
I want you near me now and forever more.

Know Your Rights

February 2012

Question:

I am a bit confused by the new Household Charge, who has to pay it?

Answer:

In general, if you own a residential property in Ireland, you must pay the Household Charge. People on Social Welfare payments must pay the charge unless they qualify for one of the specific exemptions or waivers listed below. For private rented accommodation, the landlord pays the charge, not the tenant.

Properties exempt from the Household Charge include those:

- Owned by government departments or the Health Service Executive (HSE)
- Owned by local authorities or voluntary housing bodies (including dwellings not yet fully bought from a local authority under the shared ownership scheme)
- In a discretionary trust or owned by an approved charity
- Which are part of the trading stock of a business and have not been sold or been the source of any income since construction
- Which are liable for commercial rates
- Mobile homes.

People who do not have to pay the charge

If you have moved out of the property due to a long-term mental or physical infirmity you do not have to pay – for example, if you are in a nursing home or moved in with relatives because of your need for care.

However, if you were living in the property on 1 January this year, you must pay the charge for 2012.

If you were entitled to Mortgage Interest Supplement on 1 January 2012, you qualify for a waiver. People living in certain unfinished housing estates also qualify for waivers for 2012 and 2013. Details of qualifying estates are on www.householdcharge.ie.

You must register the property in order to claim a waiver.

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: 0761 07 6880. *Opening hours are Monday to Friday 10.00am – 1.00pm, Monday to Thursday 2pm – 4pm and Wednesday Evening 7.30pm – 9pm.*

Citizens Information is also available through the Cork City (North) Citizens Information Service at 0761 07 6850, the Citizens Information Phone Service 0761 074 000 or online at www.citizensinformation.ie

Please note our extended opening hours and new phone number.

HSE is Seeking to Recruit Foster Families



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Fostering Social Work Team,
St. Finbarr's Hospital,
Douglas Road,
Cork
Telephone: + 353 (021) 492 3025
Fax: + 353 (021) 492 3040
fosteringcork@mailp.hse.ie

Do you think you could care for a young child or support a teenager and help them develop life skills? If so, we would like to meet you.

No special qualifications are needed to be a foster carer. Even though the job of looking after a young child or a teenager can be demanding and challenging, training and support is provided and a fostering allowance is also paid to fostering carers.

Would you like us to hold an information event in your locality?

For further information, please contact Christina O'Brien at the HSE Fostering Resource Unit on Tel: 021 492 3025 or e-mail fosteringcork@hse.ie

Frank O'Connor Library

Murmont, Old Youghal Road.

Tel: 021 492 4935 Email: 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 carers 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.

The Library staff extends its warmest wishes to Mary FitzGerald who has left and is now Executive Librarian in Tory Top Library, Ballyphehane and to Dave Barrett, who is now porter in the Central Library, Grand Parade.



St Joseph's No Name Club.

Following the Christmas break, the weekly club night sessions for club members resumed on Monday 9th January 2012. At this stage the new club members have one final session to complete to qualify them for their certificate in Personal Development, Leadership and Organisational Skills that will be presented to them at a graduation function at the end of the season.

The annual internal club competition to choose the host and hostess in the club for the 2011/2012 season will commence shortly.

This event is open to all club members and the winner in each category will have the honour of representing the club in the 2012 National Awards Competition, the Regional Final of which will take place on the 25th February at a venue to be decided.

All new members will shortly receive a new issue of club hoodies that will have the distinguishing No Name Club logo, the club name and the members name prominently displayed on them.

What are the benefits to young people who join the No Name Club?

In the present culture in society with its emphasis on consuming alcohol at every social occasion, the 50 No Name Clubs that are currently operating successfully countrywide are providing a real and positive alternative for young people aged between 15 – 19 years to the pub culture in society. Since its establishment in 1998 the St Joseph's (Mayfield) Club has had a positive influence on the lives of young people and on family life in the local community with young people rating their membership of the club very highly.

The young people involved in the No Name Club are mainly in Transition Year in second level education and they play a leading role in the planning and delivery of a wide ranging programme of healthy social activities. These programmes provide the club members with many opportunities to enjoy themselves socially with their peers in a warm, safe and friendly environment where they are free from the dangers of becoming involved in alcohol and drugs.

Through their involvement in No Name Clubs the young people are eligible to take part in inter-club competitions which allow them to demonstrate their skills and talents and make new friends in a safe and warm environment.

The work that takes place with the club members in No Name Clubs complements the efforts of the parents in the home and the teachers in the schools by helping the young people to use their free time constructively, and to make good life choices in their young adult lives by advising them of the dangers that are inherent in indulging in alcohol and drugs at a vulnerable time in their young lives.

The young people who have been involved in St Josephs (Mayfield) No Name Club since its formation in 1998 have become exemplary young adults who became role models for their peers in the community where they had a major influence on others for the good of society. St Josephs No Name Club has been acknowledged among the leading clubs in the organisation where they have received a number of prestigious awards at national and local levels while club members have won 7 high profile Garda Awards that recognise the outstanding contribution made to society by young people.

Age Action “Getting Started” Programme.

As part of our fight against digital exclusion, Age Action's Getting Started programme delivers training on computers, the internet and mobile phones to people over the age of 55.

Since 2006, over ten thousand older people have been trained in twelve counties by over one thousand volunteer tutors. The training is on a one-to-one basis and classes take place in libraries and community centres etc. The course is held over three classes, one per week for three weeks, and a €20 administration fee is charged on registration.

If you would like to take part in a course in the Mayfield area, contact Susan at Age Action on: 087 195 6026. For further information about Age Action visit our website: www.ageaction.ie



Mayfield Community Arts Centre
Newbury House
Old Youghal Road, Mayfield, Cork.
021 4530434
mayfieldarts@gmail.com
www.mayfieldarts.org

FETAC courses and Open Studio Session

FETAC courses in Drawing and textiles have resumed at the arts centre and will run until Easter. FETAC Horticulture will begin on Wed Feb 22nd and will run throughout the Summer. Open Studio art sessions have also resumed on Thursday mornings. For more info on FETAC course we provide or our Open studio art classes, phone the arts centre on: 021 453 0434.



Life Long Learning Festival 2012

This year's Life Long Learning festival will take place from March 25th to 30th throughout Cork City. As part of the festival, a number of events will take place at the arts centre. On Tues 27th March at 11am there will be an exhibition of artwork produced by Cúig Artists and Gael Scoil Ghoirt Alainn students who are currently working on a collaborative art project. Cúig artists will display some of their art work during the week and will open their studio space to the public from 9.30am to 1.30pm each day. Our community gardens are also open to the public from 9.30 - 1.30 throughout the week.

On Wed 28th March, an Exhibition of photos of our Mural project will take place at Mayfield GAA Hall. The murals were created by local young people and were recently launched at the Arts centre by President Michael D. Higgins.

Creative Connections

Creative Connections is a two year inter-cultural arts training programme for Cork women run by Mayfield Arts centre & Cork Midsummer Festival, funded by the European integration fund. Last year the participants created a body of work entitled 'Home is where the art is' and also ran a series of Autumn workshops with women and children from all over the city and county.

The project is now continuing into the next phase with participants creating a book tracing the journey from 'Home is where art is' to a new body of work for Cork Midsummer festival 2012. The group will also deliver art workshops to different groups around the city in the coming months, any groups interested contact kath@corkmidsummer.com Check out www.creativeconnectionscork.com for more info.

Portfolio Preparation Classes

Art portfolio preparation classes will take place at the arts centre for ten weeks beginning Tues Feb 14th from 7-9pm. These classes are ideal for students intending on applying for a third level art course. For more info text or ring Danielle on: 086 395 6602

ImaginNATION in a changing world.

Are you an Artist, Activist, Youth Worker, Community Worker, a creative person hoping for change? Are you concerned about the future of our communities and the world? Mayfield Arts, Newbury House is hosting a creative exploration and conversation crossing fields and themes of creativity, arts in social context, transformative learning and creative activism. The event will explore creative methods to support youth in re-examine their values, re-imagining their futures and becoming part of the change they want to see. It will take place in May from March 29th-April 3rd. For more information please contact Jess or Nora on: 021 453 0434. You can also find out more from visiting our website at: www.imaginationinachangingworld.com

Teenage Art Workshops

We are running series of afterschool workshops from 4.30-6.30pm on Mondays evenings. We are looking for young people with an interest in art, meeting new people, getting involved in your local community, learning new things and open to new experiences. If you are interested, please call Nora on: 021 453 0434

Memories of Emigration in the 1950's.

by Billy Herdman

They came from over Munster,
And down to Penrose Quay.
The tears they cried, would taint the tide
On the banks of our beautiful Lee

I was reminiscing with some old friends not long ago, about our lives as boys and young men in the forties and fifties. It was a grim and bitter era for the Irish people, as it was the start of a mini famine, and so the exodus started to Britain and America and many other places. I will now tell you why I was implicated in this misery. I joined the M.V. Innisfallen in Dumbarton near Glasgow in 1948, where she was built. I signed on as deck boy at the age of sixteen, and I was as proud as Punch when we sailed into Cork on a beautiful spring morning. There was a band playing on the quayside with hundreds of people waving and cheering. It would not be long before the cheers turned to tears. From then on the Innisfallen would be affectionately known as the "Fallen". She sailed that route for twenty years and I was there for all of them. At that time the cities of Britain were being rebuilt after the Second World War and who better to do it but the Irish.

The recession was beginning to bite deeply here and so started the emigration once again, it was boom time for the passenger ferries and sad to say our jobs were safe. But it was heartbreak for the men and women, who had to tear themselves away from their loving families, and so they made their way from the towns and villages of Ireland. The people that we got would be mainly from around Munster. I will give you a brief description of their journey from the bus terminal on Parnell Place to the Innisfallen on Penrose Quay as they alighted from the bus. The first thing that they would hear were the voices of young men shouting "Carry your cases to the boat for a Tanner" which was a sixpenny piece. The cases were big brown contraptions with a handle and made of thick cardboard with usually a belt holding them together. That tanner would be part of their budget so it was mostly declined. I can see them even now from my vantage point on the stern of the ship as they trudged down Penrose Quay with their families or friends beside them.

As they stepped on to the cobblestones of the quay, it would be a hive of activity, especially if it was on a Friday as two other ships would be unloading their cargos. One of them would have been the Fastnet and the other one was the S.S.Kenmare which sailed to Liverpool from Cork every week and also carried a limited number of passengers.

The Dockers working there were some of the hardest grafters I've ever seen. They would push and pull a two wheeled truck with one man pushing and the other pulling. They had to do it at a trot because if they slowed down it would be twice as hard. That would go on all day between the ship and the warehouses across the road. In wet weather they would fold a sack to cover their heads and shoulders. They were probably the first hoodies in Cork. Most of them had nicknames such as Doughbags, Buanella, Straighten Me Cap, Aul Stock and his son Young Stock. There were many families also working on the quays. The O'Sheas, the Raymonds, the Mathews and the Fords. Not forgetting Banksy, one of the Stalwarts of the older Dockers. They've all now passed away. May their labours be lighter in the docklands in the sky and may they rest in peace.

So back to the emigrants, as they moved towards the "Fallen", a small herd of cattle would be driven out of the holding pens to the ship that they were travelling on. Maybe they would be reminded of home if they were farm workers. Another obstacle would be the manure which they would have to negotiate, after that they would pass Frank Ahernes Bar which would be full of drinkers spilling out on to the quay. Then on to the departure hall which we called the shed because that was what it was, a dank door building with a concrete floor reached by a flight of worn stone steps, and so to sea.

Farewell my lovely Lee, tell me what I've done to thee.



Cork Mental Health Foundation would like to thank the people of Mayfield for their generous support in the Foundations' recent church gate collections on the weekend of 21st and 22nd of January 2012.

Ógra Chorcai

St. Josephs Youth Programme

Where?

Based in St. Josephs Community Centre (beside the library).

For who?

All young people aged 8 - 18 years living in St. Josephs Parish of Mayfield.

What do we do?

- Group - issue and activity based including personal development work, drugs awareness programmes and other youth led issues.
- One to One support on any issues young people may have.
- Family support work.
- Work with young people in the local primary and secondary schools on issues like health and drugs.
- Work in the community to promote youth activities and programmes.
- Home visits.

Ongoing groups include:

- Issue based groups.
 - Art groups
 - Youth Committee
 - Playstation and pool leagues
 - Golf programmes
 - Chill out nights
- And there are more programmes always being developed!!

How do I get involved?

Simple! Call or pop in to see the Youth Workers below and chat to them about what options are available for you. Fill out an application form and that's it!

St. Joseph's Youth Programme
St. Joseph's Community Centre
Old Youghal Rd
Mayfield 021 455 9085

Youth Workers -
Mairead Quarry 086 810 3632
Fiona Callanan 087 997 0951

Poets in the Long Valley

Cork's vibrant poetry workshop.
by Aidan O'Shea ©

Cliff Wedgbury has been a friend of mine from the early days of Everyman Theatre. He is a Londoner married to a Cork girl and settled here for over thirty years. Cliff writes ballads and poems and has written one major commercial success, a ballad about Tom Crean, Antarctic explorer. This has been recorded by several other artists and brings in a tidy royalty. You can sample Cliff's work on www.wedgbury.com. It was Cliff who told me about the visit of Britain's poet laureate Carol Ann Duffy to Cork, and we planned to go to the session together. Cliff cried off at the last minute because of a family event, so I went alone to the upstairs lounge of The Long Valley Bar, opposite Cork GPO, on a bleak Monday last December.

When I arrived at 9pm, the small lounge was already packed with over forty people, young and old. I learned that these poetry sessions are held weekly under the title Ó Bhéal, which receives a small grant from Cork City Council, Foras na Gaeilge and The Arts Council. Details of programmes and times are on www.obheal.ie. Pints flowed freely as the fear an tí took us through a three-part programme. Firstly, the poetry slam: the audience called out five random words and then all were invited to write a short poem including these words. The chosen words were rubbish, tolerance, wife, molasses and nose (or knows?). We scribbled away, and after the whistle blew, there were 19 new poems to read out! What a clever idea to get the evening under way! The one which got the loudest applause won a free pint.

Carol Ann Duffy came next, accompanied by a very amusing Scot named John Sampson. He introduced each poem with a musical flourish from a daft range of wind instruments ranging from a tiny fife to a giant alpine horn. Carol Ann was well up for this spirit of mischief and fun, and she read nine of her excellent poems. Three in particular posed the question: what is it like to be the wife of a famous figure? From this poetic conceit she gave us Mrs Midas whose flesh turned to gold and lost all sensation, Mrs Tiresias, whose husband went out for a walk as a man and returned as a woman, and Mrs Darwin whose house was cluttered with notebooks, dried lizards and trays of moths. This feminist view of history (sometimes called herstory) was witty and thought-provoking. She can convey mystery and intensity in just a few lines, as in this short piece:

Spell.

*Yes, I think a poem is a spell of kinds
That keeps things living in a written line,
Whatever's lost or leaving – lock of rhyme-
And so I write and write and write your name.*

Carol Ann is an excellent reader and performer and stopped to enjoy a pint before closing time. Books were signed and more pints were poured.

The third part of the evening was set aside for those locals who had recently written a poem and wanted to share it. This was still going strong when I glanced at my watch and saw that it was 12.10am! I excused myself to the woman next to me and said that I was heading for a taxi. She then offered me a lift home, explaining that her car was parked on Parnell Place (near Cork's red-light area) and that she needed a male companion to make sure that she reached her car unmolested. I obliged and arrived home at 12.30am.

Cork is a remarkable city, with so many little events and interest groups meeting to encourage and support one another. I did not know that Ó Bhéal has been going strong since April 2007, featuring most of Ireland's leading poets as guests, and bringing on new writing here in Cork. Support is important in these difficult times. Creative writing benefits from the response of an audience and from the exchange of ideas with other writers. Ó Bhéal, in its modest and informal way, offers entertainment, good companionship and inspiration in equal measure. It's free of charge (pints are extra!) and lights up The Long Valley every Monday night at 9pm. You don't have to be writer to enjoy the sessions. Look up the programme on www.obheal.ie. See you there.

Let's leave the last word to Carol Ann Duffy. "I don't know that poetry has any duty. For me poetry is the music of being human."

Valentine's Day.

By Geraldine McAuliffe.



February 14th is just around the corner, and it is time once again to celebrate Valentines Day. The most thoughtful present that can be given is a love letter. If you find it difficult to express yourself, letter writing can give you the opportunity of expressing your true feelings by putting them down on paper and in your own words.

Valentine's Day has a different meanings for people depending on who you are talking to. Some people may hate the day, because they may have not a special person to celebrate the event with. If an individual meets a special person Valentine's Day seen to have more meaning. This special day can be filled with love and it gives the person a chance to bring flowers, chocolates, and a card.

On Valentine's Day not many people remember St. Valentine as they open their special card. The stories vary about St. Valentine who continued to marry couples in secret when marriage was

outlawed .According to romantic legend, when he was in prison a young blind woman regained her sight as a result of his prayers, and just before his death he left her a note signed - From your Valentine. As Valentine died for his love of the faith, it helps us to remember him and to celebrate his feast day.

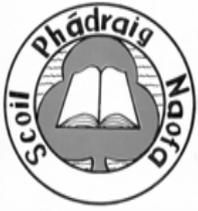
By sending a message, it is hoped that it will have a warm and good effect on the person who receives it. On Valentine's Day, we think about the people that give meaning to our lives, those people that are near and dear to us. How much they add to our life whenever they are near. They are the people who have crossed our paths, and they can be family, friends, and others.

They are the people who stand out in our lives today and who are special and who will never be forgotten. Those who have encouraged us in our lives, and who go out of their way to be kind and caring, and who have enriched us in many ways just by being themselves.

If Valentine's Day did not exist, there would be no flowers, gifts, or special cards. We would have to search for a way to express our thoughts and feelings to others. Here's hoping you have a day to remember. If you find yourself lonely today, it might give you comfort to realise that though you might not feel loved, you are loved beyond measure by God in your life every single day.

Happy Valentine's Day





St. Patricks B.N.S.



‘Ó gach duine a dhícheall’

Irish History Live.

The boys were invited to dress in costume and handle artefacts and weapons of different eras in history when Michael Moylan called to our school. All classes thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity. Here is what Luke O Donoghue of Mr. Foleys sixth class had to say about it:

On Thursday 12th January in St. Patrick B.N.S Michael Moylan visited us. He came to talk to us about history. First and second class learnt about the Stone Age. Third and fourth learnt about the Vikings and fifth and sixth learnt about the world wars.

I was really excited when I first came into the hall because I saw all the artefacts and weapons at the top of the hall. Michael Moylan then started telling us about Hitler and the Russians. He was telling us about the war while using volunteers from our class. The first five boys came up and were dressed in soldiers' uniforms and helmets.

Then he invited us up to look at all the equipment he brought with him. This was really interesting. After school, I spent a half an hour helping him to reload the equipment back into his vehicle. I would recommend it to other schools. It's brilliant. I learnt loads of new things about the war. I really thought it was cool and fantastic.

A Great School for a Great City.

by Éamonn Finnegan

Like other important cities in Europe, wouldn't it be great for Cork if it had a primary school with a long, historic tradition of educating pupils to become future leaders of society?

Prestigious positions such as professorships at UCC [Séan Teegan, Tadhg O' Ciardha], world famous writers [Frank O'Connor], artists [Séamus Murphy] and sporting superstars [Dónal Linehan, Tomás O' Leary] could come from its ranks. Imagine the huge beneficial impact that such a school would have on the City and Irish Society in general? Well don't worry, this isn't another aspiration waiting to be realised in the current economic environment. Such a school has existed in Cork for the last one hundred and eighty years! Its name is St. Patrick's Boys' National School.

At the moment, there are two hundred and twenty pupils and twenty-two teaching staff. The eleven class teachers are supported by the Principal [Mr. Joe Mc McCarthy, M.A. in Education], and the recently appointed deputy principal and sixth class teacher [Mr. Shane Foley].

There is a very strong Parents' Association which provides great support to the school on an ongoing basis. They are a source of assistance when it comes to Communion, Confirmation and Christmas activities. The school encourages and welcomes visits from anyone who may be interested in seeing what we have to offer. We especially look forward to enquiries from Parent[s] and Guardian[s] who want a school which provides an holistic education for their son.

Please don't hesitate to contact us at: Tel: 021 450 2024 or via our recently updated website:
www.stpatricksboys.net

News from Nowhere.

by Michael O'Donnell.

Thought of the month.



“I believe you’re Irish your Grace?” a young Subaltern asked the Duke of Wellington as they were strolling through Hyde Park. “If one is born in a stable, one is not necessarily a horse.” replied the Iron Duke.

News from Nowhere is reminded of Irishmen's involvement in the British army while fighting for the Empire. The Boer War memorial in Connaught avenue is a reminder of our not so distant past. Connaught Avenue is named after, Prince Arthur Duke of Connaught, youngest son of Queen Victoria, who was the Commander-in-Chief of the British army in Ireland from 1900 - 1904.

The Memorial was erected in 1904, in memory of the men of Cork who died in the Transvaal. Over 4000 Irishmen died in the Boer war. Some fought with Irish Regiments in the British army Others battled with the Irish Transvaal Regiment, founded by Major John MacBride. John MacBride fought in the Easter Rising of 1916 and was shot by a British firing squad.

The Cenotaph in the South Mall also remembers Irishmen who died in the two World wars- 1914-1918 and 1939-1945. A memorial service is held annually in November. The most poignant inscription on the Cenotaph reads -

When you go home tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow we gave our today

A stone’s throw away is the National Monument in the Grand Parade. This Memorial commemorates those who fought in the Risings for Irish freedom. It was erected by the Young Ireland Society.

This memorial gives an account of Irish history unlike any other Monument. For example on the 1867 side is the name, Catherine, Marchioness of Queensberry benefactor to the Fenians. This lady was the grandmother of, Lord Alfred Douglas (Bosie) a friend of Oscar Wilde. Bosie’s father, Jack Douglas was instrumental in the downfall of Oscar Wilde. When penning these words, Wilde had in mind the Marquess of Queensbury riding to hounds, “The unspeakable in full pursuit of the uneatable”

The 1848 section bears the name, Thomas Francis Meagher (Meagher of the sword) He returned from France in 1848 and presented a Green, White and Orange flag- now our National flag- to the Citizens of Dublin. Meagher was friendly with Jane Francesca Wilde (Speranza of the Nation) mother of Oscar Wilde. Jane was in love with this dashing Young Irishman and described him as being, “handsome, daring, reckless of consequences, wild, bright flashing eyes, glowing colour and the most beautiful mouth, teeth and smile I ever did see.” Love at first sight, one might say.

Today, this wonderful , historical monument is in a state of decay and needs urgent attention. Those who value our history and the sacrifice of those inscribed in stone are asked to contact city hall and elected representatives and request that this National Gem is preserved for future generations.

Billy the Kid in Mayfair! (A Memory)

by Cliff Wedgbury.

I spent a weekend in Central London recently, and on a quiet, warm and sunny Sunday morning, I found myself, after a span of fifty years, strolling from Park Lane towards Grosvenor Square. On passing the American Embassy I was amazed to see high iron railings completely surrounding the entire building. I stopped and peered through the bars, and to my surprise, standing silently at one corner of the building, staring back at me suspiciously, was a policeman carrying a large automatic weapon.

I continued my stroll, and at the front of the building was a covered reception area which contained security “bag scanners,” that you would find at airports. On each corner of this vast building an armed policeman stood quietly observant. I felt almost guilty at being there.

Then my mind flashed back to the spring of 1961, when as a fifteen year old office boy I worked for an old solicitor, (now deceased) around the corner in Park Lane. Each day I would spend my three shilling luncheon voucher at a delicatessen in Mount Street, purchasing a cheese and chutney sandwich, a yoghurt and a soft drink, and on fine days I would enjoy consuming the same, actually sitting on the front steps of the said embassy, watching people entering and leaving.

Then quite suddenly another memory returned to my mind when Mr. Prescott, my aged boss, called me into his office and requested me to take a deceased client’s service revolver around the corner for valuation to Purdys, the famous gunsmiths in South Audley Street. (The same firm is still there to this day, a short distance from the embassy.) Mr. Prescott placed the weapon into a large brown envelope and handed me a covering letter.

Being a fan of cowboy films and imagining myself as a fifteen year old version of Billy the Kid, I removed the revolver from the envelope as soon as I had left the office, and on walking towards South Audley Street, began spinning the heavy weapon on my index finger, pointing it at every lamppost and saying, “Stick’em Up!” as any self respecting gunslinger would in all the Roy Rogers and Gene Autry films I had ever seen at the Odeon Woolwich!

As I entered Purdy’s, gun in hand, I was confronted by a tall man wearing an immaculate suit of dark pin striped cloth, and also wearing an expression of angry incredulity. “YES?” He demanded.

I handed him the letter of requested valuation, at which he delicately removed the revolver from my hand with a thumb and a long, bony index finger. Holding it away from his body as though it had a bad smell, he put his face close to mine and aggressively uttered one word, “WAIT!”

He disappeared through a door at the back of the shop, which I presumed to be some sort of store-room or workshop as I could hear other voices beyond.

As I patiently waited, I looked around and observed all the shotguns secure in their glass fronted cabinets, and above them, near the high ceiling, heads of stuffed animals were on display. Bison, elk and deer, and other smaller exotic animals I couldn’t recognise.

After a few minutes the door of the workshop opened and an elderly man wearing a leather apron peeped out. The door then closed again. Moments later it again opened slightly, and I observed half a bearded face intently scrutinising. Then from the room I could hear a lot of muffled laughter followed by more conversation and more, slightly louder sounds of merriment.

Fifteen minutes later the immaculately dressed man returned, carrying a brown cardboard box, tied up securely with thick hairy string knotted tightly. On each knot, a blob of terracotta coloured sealing-wax had been melted and quickly set.

Billy the Kid in Mayfair! (A Memory) (cont'd)

He stood in front of me with an expression of disdain, handed over the box and said, "The valuation is within. Take this straight back to Park Lane, don't you dare stop, and don't you even think about opening it. This occurrence is most irregular. NOW GO!"

"Yes Sir" I fearfully replied. I ran down South Audley Street like an athlete, turned right into South Street, entered the back entrance to our suite of offices and breathlessly placed the box on top of the vast oak desk of my aged boss, who sat there smoking a Du Maurier cigarette and drinking Gordon's gin.

"Good boy!" He cheerfully observed. "Bag any pigeons?"

Back then I was just an innocent messenger boy, who did what I was told for very meagre wages. The whole landscape of security has now changed so much in recent years compared to those innocent times back in 1961, when I pretended to be Billy the Kid in Mayfair!

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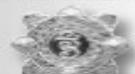
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Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn

Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn forges partnership with South African School

Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn has recently created a partnership, through the LINK School Development Programme, with Kwa-Ngxabane Junior Secondary School in rural South Africa.



Our school will correspond by post, skype and by phone with our partner school to share learning goals and curricular projects which will be undertaken by both schools simultaneously. Link Community Development (LCD) provides curriculum-linked development resources to both schools once a term on the themes of the environment, health, gender, global poverty, education for all and global partnership. Irish and African schools then exchange examples of their curricular work, letters and photos.

Rang 4 agus Rang 5 in Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn have recently exchanged letters and emails to their new penpals in Kwa-Ngxabane Junior Secondary School in South Africa.

Nuacht Rang a Sé

Tá Rang a Sé ag cur tionscadail le cheile ar mhaithe le comórtas RTÉ. An tionscadal: Caithfidh Rang a Sé cáca nó dealbhóireacht mór a dhéanamh as aon rud (paipéar, cart, srl.) An duais atá i gceist ná turas i gocmhair 30 páiste agus seisear daoine fásta go dtí Disneyland i bPáras go ceann 3 lá, 2 óiche in Aibreán.

Tá Rang a Sé ag ullmhú do na scrúdaithe iontrála. Rinne Emma a ceann ar an Satharn agus beidh scrúdú ag na páistí a bheidh ag dul go dtí Coláiste an Phiarsaigh ar an Satharn seo chugainn. Tá gach duine eile ag staidéar comh maith.

Tá daltaí Rang a Sé ag scríobh go dtí pinnchairde san Iodáil. Táimid ag foghlaim faoi chultúr difriúil agus faoi chaitheamh aimsire na bpáistí ann sa chathair Flórans. (Fiorentina, Florence). Tá gach duine sa rang i mbun oibre le cúrsaí ealaíona agus le cúrsaí filíochta don chomórtas EuroChild faoi láthair. Bhí giotaí ag Meadhbh, Aodán, Glenn, Muireann, Thomas agus Holly sa leabhar anuraidh.

Alex de Búrca agus Daithí Mac Eanraic

Rang a 6

Bliain Nua na Síneach i nGaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn – Gung Hay Fat Choy!

Gung Hay Fat Choy! *Happy New Year!* Bhí ceiliúradh iontach ag Naíonáin Mhóra an tseachtain seo do Bhliain Nua na Síneach. We made Chinese lanterns, sampled Chinese cuisine and dressed up in traditional Chinese fashion. Bhaineamar ard-taitneamh as an bhféile a cheiliúradh.

Ardranganna na Scoile ag obair le Ealaíontóirí Newbury House

Beidh Rang 5, Rang 5/6 agus Rang 6 ag obair le Ailbhe, ealaíontóir ó Newbury House an téarma seo. Bhí deis againn cúpla ceardlann a dhéanamh go dáta. We are currently exploring the charcoal on paper process with Ailbhe. We also had an opportunity to respond to some of Ailbhe's work – a stimulating and inspiring experience!



Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn



Sciath na Scol football winners 2011, Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn with their teachers/coaches, Múinteoir Deiric agus Múinteoir Keith. Picture: Supplied



Déirigh le scoil áitiúil, Gaelscoil an Ghoirt Álainn, Sciath na Scol 2011 a bhuachaint. Sa ghriangraf tá captaen na foirne, Maedbh Ní Cheallacháin agus leas chaptaen, Síofra Ní Fhionnagáin Déagáin. School captain, Maedbh and vice captain, Síofra celebrate their Sciath na Scol win above. Picture: Supplied

Mayfield HEALTH ACTION ZONE Activities 2012.

Monday:

Walking for Fun at 10.0am. meet in Roseville Centre, new members welcome.

Bingo for fun at 2pm in Roseville Centre; All welcome

Swimming classes for beginners 3pm at Mayfield Sports Complex 6 week programme €5 per class.

Singing for fun: Monday nights at 7.30pm. in CDP Resource Centre. €4 per session.

Tuesday:

Camera Course for Beginners Roseville Centre at 10.30am. €4 per session

Health and Stress Management 6 week programme at 10.00a.m in Roseville Centre.

Line Dancing at 11am. in Mayfield Sports Complex €5 per class.

Sewing /Alterations Course 2pm in Roseville Centre €5 per class (Limited availability)

Tai Chi beginning on 7th February 2pm in Roseville Centre €5 per session.

Flower Arranging Classes: Tuesday 21st February 10.30am. (Tuesday. 21st February)

Wednesday:

Coffee Morning 1st Wednesday of every month 10.-1pm in Roseville Centre. All welcome.

Introduction to Bio Dynamic Drama Therapy 11a.m in Roseville Centre (1st February)

Art for Beginners afternoon 1.30pm €4 per class.

Bridge: Practice every Wednesday afternoon 2pm in Roseville Centre.

Thursday:

Food for a Healthy Lifestyle Programme Beginning 2nd February at 10.30am. Roseville Centre.

Fun Dancing with Jo – every Thursday St. Joseph's Community Centre 10.00am.

Salsa Dancing – Thursday nights 7pm Roseville Centre €5 per session, new members welcome.

Friday:

Yoga Roseville Centre 10.00am. €6 per class.

Ballroom Dancing: Kerrigan Tyrell Hall, Tinker's Cross. €4 per class.

Other courses available depending on interest: Beauty & Skincare, Card Making, Interior Design, Story Telling Group.

Contact Patty O'Brien, Community Health Worker, Health Action Zone for further information telephone: 087 653 4419.

Carers of the Year and Young Carer of the Year Awards 2012.

Nominations sought for Carers of the Year and Young Carer of the Year Awards 2012.

Throughout Ireland, Family Carers dedicate themselves to providing remarkable levels of care in the home to their loved ones. Once a year we can give them the acknowledgement they deserve through the Carers of the Year Awards.

The Carers Association invites you to celebrate these carers, if you know a relative, neighbour or a friend who you think should be recognised and rewarded for the extraordinary levels of care they provide to a loved one, then please nominate them by visiting the website: www.carersireland.com/carersoftheyear2012.php

Alternatively call Karen Phelan on: 056 775 3600 or by email: kphelan@carersireland.com to request a nomination form in the post.

The closing date is Friday 30th March 2012.



Christmas Carol Concert

We were treated to a wonderful variety of choirs in Our Lady Crowned church. A combined group from our infant and fifth classes represented Scoil Mhuire Banríon. The girls who took part in the tableau created a beautiful visual image of the Christmas story.

Well done also to the many soloists who sang so well. In particular, congratulations to one of the younger soloists - Niamh O Sullivan.

Parent /Teacher Meetings

Parent /Teacher meetings were held recently in Scoil Mhuire Banríon. They were very well attended. It is an important opportunity to meet with the teachers and keep up to date with your child's progress.

Ceremony of Light

The girls in sixth class will attend their ceremony of light on February 22nd in Our Lady Crowned Church at 7 p. m. as part of their preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. At this ceremony their parents will pass their baptismal candle to their children.

School Jubilee

As we will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the school in July 2012, we would welcome photographs from former students which we would use . Please send these in to Mary in the office.

Cork Heritage Project

Fifth class has been very busy with its history projects for the Cork Heritage Project. This is an annual event run by Kieran Mc Carthy. Besides the groups working on Cobh and the Titanic – Then and Now, other topics being covered by the class are The Famine, Fashion 100 years ago, Monastic and Viking Cork and the Bridges of Cork. Parents and children have work very hard.

One Book One Community

On first February One Book One Community will be launched in Mayfield Library by the Lord Mayor Terry Shannon. This is the fourth year of this project. We will be reading "Spirit of the Titanic" by Nicola Pierce. The boys, girls and their families in all the Mayfield/Glen/St. Patrick's schools are involved. This is a very successful and exciting reading initiative. Children and adults will be transported back to this king of historic era. With the centenary of the sinking of the Titanic in April 2012 it is particularly appropriate.

Happy Talk

Our Junior Infants and their parents will be taking part in an Oral Language initiative with the Teachers and Speech & Language Therapists .It will run for 9 weeks.

Speaking & Listening is an essential skill for our children so that they will succeed in school.

Enrolments

Please contact the office if you wish to enrol your daughter for next September. With places limited, you are advised to contact us soon. Phone: 021 450 3003 - Mrs Mary O Sullivan



Scoil Naomh Eoin Aspal

St. John The Apostle Boys Primary School

St. John the Apostle would like to wish all our school community and friends a happy and prosperous New Year. We would also like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone for their support, between the people of Mayfield and the organisations, in our campaign against the proposed department cutbacks. We are confident that this support has made an impact, and we will continue to fight for the needs of our children and school.

Sacrament Classes

Sacrament preparation is continuing in both 2nd and 6th class. On January 14th, second class had its first *'Do This in Memory'* mass of 2012. James Hogan, Alex Cotter, Patrick O Leary and Glynn Ford had the special task of bringing up the gifts. The *Ceremony of Light* will take place on February 29th in Our Lady Crowned, for the confirmation class.

Sport

Indoor hurling has begun for 3rd and 4th classes with Tony Hegarty of Mayfield G.A.A. There will be a *Sciath na Scol Blitz* for 4th class on Tuesday, January 31st and for 3rd class on Tuesday, February 8th. We wish our boys the best of luck!

Finbarr Kiely is coaching the boys of 5th and 6th classes on a weekly basis and matches will be coming up soon. Thanks to Miss Barry and Mr. Lyons for all their work with our school teams.

Boys of the upper classes are trying really hard to gain a place on the Tennis team for the upcoming *Barbar Cup*.

Literacy and Numeracy

Each class is continuing with their literacy and numeracy drives. Miss Henchin and Miss Barry are team teaching and station teaching in the junior classes, which is proving to be very successful.

Miss Walsh's 4th class are partaking in the *One Book One Community Project*, where they will be reading *'Spirit of the Titanic'* by Nicola Pierce. We hope everyone at home will join in with the project as part of the 100 year anniversary of the Titanic.

Miss Neville's boys have been enjoying Story Sacks with parents for the last 4 weeks. Many thanks to parents Helen Heffernan, Aisling Ahern, Margaret Brooks and Sylvia O'Brien for their fabulous work and enthusiasm with the class.



Poetry

Making The Bed.

Unfold me,
Spread me like a sheet
Across this vacant bed.
They are sleeping
In New Zealand.
We should lie down too,
See what can be salvaged
From our tiredness.
All day long I have been folded
Like a concertina,
Or that paper game
We played as kids.
So spread me out now
But tuck me under.
No one should see what's written
Beneath any of my corners

by Helena Nolan

Winner of the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry
prize 2011

The Sleeping Hand.

Far from the land of the sleeping hand
Where the ancient spires and temples grow,
To the shadow cast as time collapses
And history goes the way it goes.
Far from the hearth and the simple things
to the tune that makes the heart grow.
From the valley of song as night comes along
A sonnet caresses the crow.
A blackbird thrills with the tune of hills
And mountains prance with the laugh of dance,
Time itself leaves nothing to chance
As a full moon weaves its earthly glow.
And so moves this meadow, a meandering dream
As wind whispers its secrets to corn stalks sighing.
This ancient way, its song surviving,
A new tune is found
And this world is
Reviving

By TJ Livingston

Dear Board Pleanala.

Dear Mr. Board Pleanala
Whoever you may be
You **cannot** lose our Tank Field
I hope you'll heed my plea.

Please don't spoil the Tank Field
Before this story's told
It is a very special place to us
It is used by young and old.

I walked there this morning
With the dew upon the grass
It was with a heavy heart I thought
The beauty may not last.

Then I met this old man
With a big smile on his face
He had just walked around the Tank Field
He said he was feeling great.

He said he walks there every day
It saves him from the blues
So **please** Mr. Board Pleanala
Put yourself in this mans shoes.

Don't deprive him of this one pleasure
As he knocks on Heaven's door
Him and many like him
Who are not fit for the hard road!

Then I met this lady
Recovering from ill health
She had struggled all the way
Up from Dillon's Cross
For therapy in the Tank

She said the air was bracing
She was housebound for so long
So you see Mr. Board Pleanala
Why building in the Tank Field
Is really wrong.

By A.O'D.

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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: FRIDAY 23RD
MARCH 2012
Email items to: mayfieldcdp2@eircom.net
For further information contact:
021 450 8562