

ISSUE 09  
AUG/SEP 2023

FREE MAGAZINE

LUCAN  
LEIXLIP  
CELBRIDGE

# Little Village

DELIVERING  
TO 25,000  
HOMES  
EVERY 6  
WEEKS

YOUR FREE COMPREHENSIVE NEWS HUB  
FOR ALL LOCAL & BUSINESS MATTERS

## POTENTIAL SALE OF LUCAN HOUSE SEE P6



 Flanagan Kerins  
**THE FURNITURE SALE** NOW ON  
Discounts on all stock even special orders!  
[www.flanagankerins.ie](http://www.flanagankerins.ie) [web@flanagankeirns.ie](mailto:web@flanagankeirns.ie) 01 2813338

Up to **50%**  
On Many Items  
*First come, First Served!*

 **Sinn Féin**  
Cllr  
**Derren Ó Brádaigh**  
Lucan-Palmerstown  
Nth Clondalkin  
Balgaddy-Fonthill



Phone: 087 213 6345  
Email: [dobradaigh@clrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:dobradaigh@clrs.sdublincoco.ie)  
Clondalkin Civic Offices, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

 Buy any of our Main Courses from our Dinner Menu and receive a **FREE Dessert**  
(Valid until 31st October 2023)



*The Whistling Pig,  
Celbridge*

 Senator *Emer*  
**CURRIE**  
FINE GAEL 

 085 816 1306  
 [emer.currie@oireachtas.ie](mailto:emer.currie@oireachtas.ie)  
 @emer\_currie1  
 @EmerCurrieFg  
 emercurrie1



# M50 BLINDS & INTERIORS

Your Local Blinds Manufacturer & Repair Centre for 35 Years!

Shop in the  
comfort of your  
own home

WE CALL TO YOU 6 DAYS

Office 01 623 8389 7 Days  
Mobile 085 7812 869

## SHOW ROOMS

Unit 3, Kylemore Park North  
off the Kylemore Road, D12  
(Turn at Rocca Tiles, facing ALDI)

Tel: 085 7812 869 Open 7 Days

Monday - Friday till 5pm  
Sat till 6pm - Sun 12-5pm

FIND US ON  
Facebook &  
Instagram



ROMAN BLINDS / VELUX ROOF BLINDS / WOOD VENETIAN BLINDS / BLACKOUT BLINDS

## TRANSFORM YOUR OLD BLINDS TO NEW

Bring your old Roller Blinds and have New  
Cloth Fitted at DISCOUNT PRICES!

### NEW SPECIALS • DAY & NIGHT BLINDS • ANY FINISH YOU WANT

Full House Roller Blinds €399 up to 25ft  
€499 up to 30ft White/Cream Straight Finish

Patio Blinds €139 Cream or White up to 25 Slats  
New Head Rail €80

3x35mm Wooden Blinds €399 up to 13ft

## Full House & Apartment Fit-outs!

All Blinds Supplied & Fitted • Carpet/Wood Floors, Vinyls  
Fitted Kitchen & Wardrobes • Doors/Floors/Banisters  
All Beds & Bedroom Furniture • Suites • Tables & Chairs

Stairs & Landing fitted from €299 up to 8ft landing

FREE QUOTE • FREE FITTING • FREE MEASURING

### CARPETS/VINYLS



Stairs &  
Landing from  
€299  
Fitted!

### WOOD FLOORING



Finance  
Arranged  
Weekly  
Collections

### DOORS & CARPENTRY



4 Clear  
Glass 4 Panel  
Comes In: Grey,  
Light Grey,  
Dark Grey,  
Oak, White

### BANISTERS



Set of Pine  
Banisters  
€899 to  
€1199

085 7812 869 • OPEN 7 DAYS • SUPPLYING & FITTING FOR OVER 35 YEARS

**SERVING: LUCAN, LEIXLIP, CELBRIDGE, ADAMSTOWN & HILLCREST**

## EDITORIAL

**W**elcome to the Autumn edition of Little Village. Features in this edition include new Dublin Bus routes to Kildare, the potential sale of Lucan House, Children's Reading programme, historical articles and much more. Our thanks again to Mike Power for his articles about local history.

We welcome local contributions about local news and events. If you want to include an article in Little Village email us at [littlevillagenewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:littlevillagenewsdesk@gmail.com)

Kind Regards  
Little Village

### AVAILABLE FROM

- Lucan
- Tesco adamstown
- Aldi adamstown
- Eurospar penny Hill
- Lidl penny Hill
- Chadwicks lucan
- Supervalu lucan
- Mcdonalds lucan shopping centre
- Tesco Hill crest
- Centra lucan village
- Centra Fonthill
- Aldi leixlip
- Supervalu leixlip
- Lidl leixlip
- Aldi leixlip
- Salmon leap leixlip
- The courtyard leixlip
- Spar leixlip
- Tesco celbridge
- Supervalu celbridge
- Aldi celbridge
- Lidl celbridge .



**Ronan Bright**  
: Director / Head of Sales  
: [brightonan83@gmail.com](mailto:brightonan83@gmail.com)  
: 085 199 8321



**Patrick Browne**  
: Graphic Design  
: [hello@patrickbrowndesign.com](mailto:hello@patrickbrowndesign.com)  
: 086 831 9322

### LITTLE VILLAGE MAGAZINE

All correspondence should be addressed to:

Little Village Magazine, 11 Cherryhill Avenue, Kells, Co. Meath.  
Creative Top Publishing Ltd. publishes Little Village Magazine.

**Company registration No. 534480**

No part of Little Village Magazine may be reproduced without the prior consent of the publisher.

#### Disclaimer

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the publisher.

**GOT A STORY? GET IN TOUCH WITH DAVID**

**CALL: 089 472 0266 EMAIL: [littlevillagenewsdesk@gmail.com](mailto:littlevillagenewsdesk@gmail.com)**

*Grow your business with Little Village Magazine.*

**REACH 25,000 HOMES IN YOUR AREA**

**ADVERTISE WITH US!!! CALL RONAN TODAY ON 085 199 8321**



# How to Make a Nutritious Cheap Meal

Eating healthy doesn't have to be expensive. There are many nutritious and affordable meals that you can make at home. Here are a few tips:



## Here are a few tips:

- Use beans, lentils, and whole grains. These foods are packed with nutrients and are very affordable. You can use them in soups, stews, salads, and casseroles.
- Buy in bulk. This can save you money in the long run. Look for sales and buy in bulk when you can.
- Stock your pantry with healthy staples. This includes items like canned tomatoes, beans, lentils, rice, pasta, oats, and whole-wheat bread. These items can be used to make a variety of meals.
- Cook at home more often. Eating out can be expensive. Cooking at home gives you more control over your ingredients and costs.
- Get creative with leftovers. Leftovers can be used to make new meals. For example, you can use leftover rice to make fried rice or leftover chicken to make soup.

## Here are a few recipes for nutritious and affordable meals:

- Lentil soup: This is a hearty and flavorful soup that is packed with protein and fiber. It is also very affordable to make.
- Chicken stir-fry: This is a quick and easy meal that is perfect for busy weeknights. You can use whatever vegetables you have on hand to make this dish.
- Quinoa bowls: Quinoa bowls are a great way to get a variety of nutrients in one meal. You can top your

quinoa bowl with your favorite vegetables, protein, and dressing.

- Hummus and veggie wraps: This is a healthy and satisfying meal that is perfect for lunch or dinner. You can use any type of hummus you like and top your wraps with your favorite vegetables.

These are just a few ideas for nutritious and affordable meals. With a little creativity, you can easily make healthy meals that won't break the bank.

## Here are some additional tips for making nutritious cheap meals:

- Use frozen vegetables. Frozen vegetables are just as nutritious as fresh vegetables and they are often more affordable.
- Buy in season. When fruits and vegetables are in season, they are typically more affordable.
- Shop at discount grocery stores. Discount grocery stores often have lower prices on produce and other food items.
- Use coupons and promo codes. There are many websites and apps that offer coupons and promo codes for groceries.
- Plan your meals ahead of time. This will help you to avoid impulse purchases and to make sure that you have all of the ingredients you need on hand.

By following these tips, you can easily make nutritious cheap meals that will keep you healthy and satisfied.

# Maximall

**YOUR LOCAL PHONE AND COMPUTER SHOP**

**Main Street Celbridge**

**Ph: 01 654 4338**

**SALES | SERVICES | REPAIR**



**Find Promos on Facebook**  
(Maximall Celbridge)



**Phones**  
**Computers**  
**Tablets**  
**Gaming Consoles**  
**Gadgets.**  
**Smart Gadgets**  
**Accessories**

**FAST AND**  
**EFFICIENT**  
**SERVICE**





# Italian ambassador's Palladian villa in Lucan could be purchased and turned into local amenity

An Italian embassy residence in west Dublin could be turned into a tourism destination if purchased by South Dublin County Council, local politicians say.



**T**he Italian government came to an “agreement in principle” with the council in May, and embassy sources indicated it was willing to relocate the ambassador’s residence to Dublin city centre. Lucan House, a manor located 12km west of the city centre, has been home to Italian ambassadors since being purchased in 1954, with Ruggero Corrias the current resident.

Often described as a Palladian villa, the current design dates back to the 18th century. It is a seven-bay country house with two storeys over a basement, the ownership of which previously passed through three historic families – the Sarsfields, the Veseys and the Colthursts.

After acquiring it in the 1950s – the house’s former contents had been sold at auction in the 1920s – the Italian government prevented it from falling into dereliction.

The future of the property has been raised by local representatives, given its location in the heart of the suburban area, and its potential for hosting art exhibitions and cultural events. Residents have discussed options for the building, with some using social media to call on the council to turn it into a museum, a public park, a weekend market or even a “venue with tea rooms”. Some expressed fears over the property being left vacant or turned into an “emergency accommodation”.

“The council hasn’t revealed any specific intentions,” said Sinn Féin councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh, “but is aware that acquiring the property could be a strategic investment.

“As a Lucan councillor, I would definitely advocate for it being turned to the public, and for making it a key tourism destination which can attract many visitors. There is enough ground to set up heritage trails, family outdoor activities along the Liffey, a visitor centre promoting the local history, too. I know there has been a lot of excitement about it.”

No binding agreement for the purchase has been reached yet, but Dublin Mid-West Fine Gael TD Emer Higgins said there were “intentions to go ahead in the process”.

Ms Higgins said there was some issue with the property at the moment such as a damaged wall and other obstacles affecting pedestrians and traffic, but that “she would be pleased to see the place turned into a local amenity”.

“It would be a real benefit for the area,” she said. “There is a lot of history in the property and I think local people are interested in knowing more about it. There is capacity to set up water sports activities and make it an appealing

tourist destination. Lucan could be like Bled in Slovenia.”

Lucan was awarded a “major tourism destination” qualification by Fáilte Ireland in 2021. Back then, €2 million was allocated for projects such as cycle trails connecting to different parts of the Liffey Valley through the village.

A source at South Dublin County Council said an official announcement would follow only when any potential deal reached a more advanced stage. They added that the council had not got to the point of thinking how to convert the property or about its potential future public use.

Reasons behind the Italian government’s decision to sell Lucan House have not been made public, but according to Ms Higgins they likely have to do with the embassy residence being too far from the city centre. The embassy itself is located on Northumberland Road in Ballsbridge, and can take up to an hour to reach during peak traffic times.

**ALL WISE**  
PAVING &  
LANDSCAPING

Up to  
**20% Discount**  
with this advert

All Work Guaranteed  
Free Estimates & Advise

Block Paving | Natural Stone Paving | Tarmacadam | Driveways  
Imprint Concrete | Landscaping | Walls and Pillars | Wheelchair Ramps  
Indian Sand Stone | Flag Stone | Steam Cleaning | Gravel | Walkway Steps

Contact Pat on 087 108 4242 \* Find us on Google  
Email: [allwispavingandlandscaping@gmail.com](mailto:allwispavingandlandscaping@gmail.com)  
[www.allwispavingandlandscaping.ie](http://www.allwispavingandlandscaping.ie)



# SCAM EFLOW TEXT MESSAGES

A text message scam telling recipients they owe toll charges to eFlow is still widely circulating according to Bank of Ireland (BOI).

**T**he fraudulent messages have been circulating since February, with up to 10 fake eFlow websites being set up by fraudsters in a day.

The fake messages tell the recipient they have outstanding toll charges, directing them to click a link contained in the message to pay the balance.

The website linked to in the text message is not genuine and aims to collect the victim's card and banking details.

"Smishing attacks tend to come in waves, and previously we have seen fraudulent messages appearing to be from delivery services, utility companies, Government agencies or banks," BOI's head of fraud Nicola Sadlier explained.

"But this latest attack, with fraudsters sending messages purporting to come from eFlow, has lasted now for several months, which is unusual."

The bank warned it predicts more fraudulent texts will circulate pretending to be Irish brands over the coming months, "particularly electricity and gas companies," Ms Sadlier said.



"eFlow has advised that they do not send text messages with links to confirm account or payment details. Text messages purporting to be from any company should be treated with extreme caution – the general rule is to stop, think and check," she added.

If you receive a text message that you believe to be a scam, BOI advise that you do not click the link or respond to the message. Instead, take a screenshot of the text and then delete it before reporting the matter to your bank. If you believe you have given your information to a fraudulent website, contact your bank immediately.

**Phoenix**  
DRIVEWAY & PATIOS

- PAVING SERVICES
- GRAVEL DRIVEWAYS
- PATIO & GARDENS
- IMPRINTED CONCRETE
- TARMACADAM
- FENCING & WALLING

Pearse St, Dublin 2  
CONTACT JOHN MALONEY  
Tel: 01 697 2087 | Tel: 087 359 1000  
info@phoenixdriveways.ie  
www.phoenixdriveways.ie



# Nitrous Oxide Misuse Continues to Plague Communities

Sinn Féin Councillor Derren Ó Brádaigh is once again raising serious concern at the lack of any real urgency by government to get a handle on the escalating problem of nitrous oxide abuse within communities, and the exorbitant profits being made outside of the intended purpose for which they are manufactured. Cllr Ó Brádaigh said;

“ I tabled a motion 2 years ago calling on the Council to report on the level of cannisters being lifted by their public realm work crews. The findings from data collated at the time from the agreed twelve-month pilot mapping project, carried out by South Dublin County Council between August 2021 and 2022, clearly evidenced that the problem was countywide. Discarded cannisters continue to be removed from almost all our major parks and open green spaces and housing estates across the county.

“A recent HSE report published on their Adolescent Addiction Service has shown that 22% of young people attending their adolescent service admitted to experimenting with nitrous oxide, reflecting an increase of 175% compared to 2021. Only last December, a neurology specialist at the Mater Hospital warned of an increase in the number of patients suffering severe nerve damage after inhaling nitrous oxide gas.

“The Council Parks Superintendent has stated in responses that I have received, that finds of larger cannisters of the substance have been found in large quantities, with finds of hundreds of the smaller silver bullets at some locations also.

“The environmental impact is also a concern, with resident litter pick groups often unsure just how to dispose of them. There doesn't seem to be a day that I don't come across these large 'fast gas' cannisters discarded in my own locality, along the canal cycle track, when participating in community clean-ups or simply walking across the green or through the park.

“Many of my colleagues have continued to raise this issue with both council officials and more importantly in the Dáil. My own Dublin Mid-West party colleague Mark Ward TD has submitted legislation to the Bills Office in the Oireachtas to regulate the sale of nitrous oxide to the industries and commercial operators that use this product. These include the catering industry, dental practitioners, and hospitals. It is about time that Gardaí were given the ability to tackle this problem head on, where they come across individuals within the community in possession of this substance, without any obvious explanation for having it in the first instance.”



Cllr  
Derren Ó Brádaigh



Lucan-Palmerstown  
Nth Clondalkin  
Balgaddy-Fonthill

Phone: 087 213 6345

Email: [dobradaigh@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie](mailto:dobradaigh@cllrs.sdublincoco.ie)

Clondalkin Civic Offices, Clondalkin, Dublin 22

# Kildare County Council appoints new Cathaoirleach & Leas Cathaoirleach

New Green Party Councillor Co-Opted to Kildare County Council. Friday 23rd June 2023:

**E**lected members of Kildare County Council today appointed Councillor Darragh Fitzpatrick and Councillor Tracey O Dwyer as Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach of the County of Kildare respectively, at the Annual meeting of the County Council which took place in the Council Chamber, Aras Chill Dara.

The new appointees will succeed the outgoing Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Fintan Brett and Councillor Joe Neville, following their term.

Cllr Darragh Fitzpatrick and Cllr Tracey O Dwyer were presented with the chain of office at today's meeting and will serve as Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach for 1 year, effective immediately following today's meeting.

The appointment of new Cathaoirleach, Leas Cathaoirleach, Mayors and Deputy Mayors for the five



Municipal District Committees in Kildare will be made at each of the respective Municipal District meetings in July.

A special meeting of Kildare County Council was also held prior to the Annual Meeting, where Green Party member, Mr Bob Quinn was co-opted to the Council following the recent resignation of Councillor Colm Kenny.

**FULL HOUSE & APPARTMENT FIT OUTS**  
Blinds - Carpets - Floors  
Vinyls - Kitchens - Warbrobes  
All Furniture & Beds

# M50

## BLINDS & INTERIORS

UNIT 3 KYLEMORE PARK WEST  
OFF THE KYLEMORE ROAD  
(TURN AT ROCA TILES)  
TEL: 085 781 2869  
OFFICE: 01 6237432  
OPEN 7 DAYS (SUN 1PM - 5PM)

**CARPET SALE**  
Stairs & Landing  
**From €299**  
Supplied & Fitted  
(8X13)



8ft Landing

**LINO SALE**  
Kitchen  
**From €199**  
Supplied & Fitted  
(8X13)



**WOODEN FLOORS**  
Sitting room & Hall  
**From €799 to €899 (30 yards)**  
Supplied & Fitted

**WOODEN FLOORS**  
3 Bedrooms  
**From €899 to €1199 (40 yards)**  
Supplied & Fitted

Stairs & Landing  
in Wood or Lino  
**€799**  
Supplied & fitted  
€30 Per Week

Sitting Room  
in Carpet  
**€299**  
(20 yards)  
Supplied & fitted  
€20 Per Week

**3 Bedrooms**  
€499 to €699  
(40 yards)  
Supplied & fitted  
€25 Per Week



# YOUR INDEPENDENT COUNCILLOR #teamotoole

## Liona O'TOOLE

**Peace  
Commissioner**

**Independent  
Councillor  
for Lucan**



### Get in touch:



@LOTooleLucan



CllrLionaOToole

**Mobile**

087 279 5274

**Email**

lotoole@cllrs.dublincoco.ie

**Web**

www.lionaotoole.com

**T**he lack of facilities in a rapidly expanding Lucan has always been a priority of mine since I have been elected to the council in 2014. I have successfully initiated and supported a number of community groups and clubs in the Lucan area. During the council's €300K "Have your say initiative" workshops in Lucan, I proposed a Multi-Sport Wall Ball amenity in Griffeen Park to facilitate sport and recreation. Thankfully this proposal was selected by the people of Lucan and the constructed wall and surrounding structures became the basis of a Teen Space. To ensure funding for this new amenity I have been pushing for the provision of €500K for teenagers in our annual budgets. This funding has been used to enhance the Teen Space, incorporating

basketball hoops, calisthenics areas, football goalposts and outdoor seating. Additional enhancements are currently in planning stage as part of the second phase which shall see the installation of a new coffee dock.

I was delighted to assist with the introduction of Lucan's first boules court or "pétanque" located in Griffeen park (beside hockey pitch). This sport is open to all ages and abilities, and anyone interested should check out Griffeen Valley Pétanque Club's Facebook page.

Lucan's Swimming pool has become one of my biggest projects to date. I raised numerous motions and had many debates to ensure the provision of a Lucan Pool was included in the 2016 County Development plan. This was a key milestone to ensure funding was available for planning and design stage of the pool. I worked with other Independent councillors and community groups to ensure there was widespread political support for the delivery of the pool. Through my connections with the Independent Alliance, I was able to lobby the then Minister for Sport to ensure funding was available for the construction of the pool. I have consistently monitored progress or lack of progress on the pool construction and requested updates at every opportunity. While there has been a number of delays which have been very frustrating, I can now provide a report below which I received recently from the Council Chief Executive confirming that the pool will finally be completed this year.

Now that Lucan Pool is near completion I move onto my next challenge, the pool promised for Adamstown.....

#### Lucan Pool:

Following detailed assessment by the County Architect and his team of the contractor work programme and associated dependencies, including supply chains, sub-contractor engagements and utilities, the current projected completion date for Lucan Swimming Pool is 26th October 2023. The delays are obviously far beyond what could reasonably have been envisaged at the outset of the project. While the well-documented significant and unprecedented challenges in construction in recent years due to various local and global factors outside of the control of the contractor and the Council account for considerable delays, project management and performance have also contributed to the timeframe. We have explored all options to see out the delivery of the facility as expeditiously as possible and, with no reasonable or viable cost- or time-neutral alternatives available, there has been detailed engagement with the contractor to provide the updated programme showing the revised practical completion date at the end of October 2023, although this is still obviously dependent on timely connection of remaining utilities and no further supply chain or specialist/sub-contractor delays. Enhanced project management measures have been put in place by our Architectural Services team and the project consultants to deal with issues arising and to mitigate any further delays. We are also working with Aura Leisure, who have been selected as the facility operator, to programme the necessary recruitment, fit out works and branding to facilitate prompt opening after the construction programme is over and we all look forward to this wonderful amenity finally being open and available to the people of Lucan and South Dublin County."

# Looking for a good read by an Irish Author ?

Though the first Irish novels that might come to mind may be beloved classics, the catalogue of stories from brilliant, modern Irish writers is greater than ever.

Check out these titles:



goodreads

## Normal People

by Sally Rooney

This novel follows the complex friendship and relationship between two teenagers, Connell and Marianne. Weaving in and out of each other's lives over the years, they develop an intense bond that brings to light the traumas and insecurities that make them both who they are.

## The Searcher

by Tana French

Cal Hooper thought a fixer-upper in a bucolic Irish village would be the perfect escape. After twenty-five years in the Chicago police force and a bruising divorce, he just wants to build a new life in a pretty spot with a good pub where nothing much happens. But when a local kid whose brother has gone missing arm-twists him into investigating, Cal uncovers layers of darkness beneath his picturesque retreat, and starts to realize that even small towns shelter dangerous secrets.

## Exciting Times

by Naoise Dolan

Ava is newly arrived in Hong Kong from Dublin and spends her days teaching English to rich children. Julian is a banker who likes to spend money on Ava, but can't say that he loves her. Edith is a Hong Kong-born lawyer, striking and ambitious, Edith takes Ava to the theater and buys her flowers. Ava wants to be her, and wants to be with her. When Julian writes to tell Ava he is coming back to Hong Kong, will she return to the easy compatibility of Julian or take a leap into the unknown with Edith?

## Out of Love

by Hazel Hayes

Out of Love begins at the end. Angel and Theo call it quits after nearly five years, and while holding a box of her ex-boyfriend's belongings, Angel

wonders: How could they have spent so long together? When did they fall out of love? Were there good times before the bad? But instead of moving forward through the emotional fallout of a break-up, Out of Love moves backward in time, weaving together an already unraveled tapestry, from tragic ending to magical first kiss.

## Small Things Like These

by Claire Keegan

It is 1985 in a small Irish town. During the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal merchant and family man faces into his busiest season. Early one morning, while delivering an order to the local convent, Bill makes a discovery which forces him to confront both his past and the complicit silences of a town controlled by the church.

## We Are the Brennans

by Tracey Lange

When twenty-nine-year-old Sunday Brennan wakes up in a Los Angeles hospital, bruised and battered after a drunk driving accident she caused, she swallows her pride and goes home to her family in New York. But it's not easy. She deserted them all—and her high school sweetheart—five years before with little explanation, and they've got questions. Sunday is determined to rebuild her life back on the east coast, even if it does mean tiptoeing around resentful brothers and an ex-fiance. The longer she stays, however, the more she realizes they need her just as much as she needs them.

## Solar Bones

by Mike McCormack

Once a year, on All Souls' Day, it is said in Ireland that the dead may return. Solar Bones is the story of one such visit. Marcus Conway, a middle-aged engineer, turns up one afternoon at his kitchen table and considers the



events that took him away and then brought him home again.

### From a Low and Quiet Sea

by Donal Ryan

This novel follows the different stories of three men, each searching for some version of home, their lives moving inexorably towards a reckoning that will draw them all together.

### Last Ones Left Alive

by Sarah Davis-Goff

Raised by her mother Maeve on Slanbeg, an island off the west coast of Ireland, Orpen has a childhood of love and stories by the fireside. But the stories grow darker, and the training begins. Ireland has been devoured by a ravaging menace known as the skrake, and though Slanbeg is safe for now, the women must always be ready to run, or to fight. Orpen is then faced with a tumultuous dilemma, so she sets off on a journey that will test her to her limits, on which she will learn who she really is, who she really loves, and how to imagine a future in a world that ended before she was born.

### The Pull of the Stars

by Emma Donoghue

Set in 1918 Dublin during the height of the Great Flu pandemic, this novel follows Nurse Julia Power as she works at an understaffed hospital in the city center, where expectant mothers who have come down with the terrible new Flu are quarantined together. Into Julia's regimented world step two outsiders—Doctor Kathleen Lynn, a rumoured Rebel on the run from the police, and a young volunteer helper, Bridie Sweeney. During their three days together, these women change each other's lives in unexpected ways. From grappling with the loss of patients from the pandemic to delivering new life into the world, these women discover that with tireless tenderness and humanity, carers and mothers alike somehow do their impossible work.

### Actress

by Anne Enright

This is the story of Irish theatre legend, Katherine O'Dell, as written by her daughter Norah. It tells of early stardom in Hollywood, of highs and lows on the stages of Dublin and London's West End. Katherine's life is a grand performance, with young Norah watching from the wings. But as Norah uncovers her mother's secrets, she acquires a few of her own. Then, fame turns to infamy when Katherine decides to commit a bizarre crime. Actress is about a daughter's search for the truth: the dark secret in the bright star, and what drove Katherine finally mad.

### Pond

by Claire-Louise Bennett

This novel is a collection of twenty short stories, all told from the perspective of one woman, who lives a solitary existence on the outskirts of a small coastal village. Focusing on the details of her daily life, from how she eats her porridge to the ending of an affair, all are written in story-length, story-like stretches of narrative, sometimes in fragments no longer than a page.

### Unraveling Oliver

by Liz Nugent

This novel follows happily married couple Oliver and Alice Ryan, award-winning children's books writers and illustrators. Their life together is one of seeming enviable privilege and ease, until one evening after a delightful dinner, Oliver delivers a blow to Alice that renders her unconscious, and subsequently beats her into a coma. In the aftermath of such an unthinkable event, as Alice hovers between life and death, the couple's friends, neighbors, and acquaintances try to understand what could have driven Oliver to commit such a horrific act.

### Milkman

by Anna Burns

Set during The Troubles in Northern Ireland, the story follows an unnamed 18-year-old girl as she begins being harassed by a local paramilitary known as the milkman, as the girl attempts to avoid him and keep spreading rumors at bay.

**Right Price Oil is Ireland's Leading Online Oil Brand.**

**DELIVERING EXCEPTIONAL VALUE FOR MONEY ALWAYS !**

**Covering from Dublin to Galway.**



**Get it right with Right Price Oil! [www.RightPriceOil.ie](http://www.RightPriceOil.ie)**





**From**  
**€997\***  
**for a fully fitted electric garage door.**

**Gotta get a Garolla.**

WHAT'S INCLUDED WITH EVERY DOOR:

- EXPERT MEASURING & FITTING
- 2 REMOTE CONTROLS
- ACOUSTIC & THERMAL INSULATION
- FREE DISPOSAL OF YOUR OLD DOOR
- AVAILABLE IN 21 COLOURS



\*Offer valid for openings up to 2.6m wide & including 2 remote controls, 55mm white slats, internal manual override.

Garolla garage doors are expertly made to measure in our own factories, they're strong and solidly built. The electric Garolla door rolls up vertically, taking up only 8 inches inside your garage, maximising valuable space. Our expert local installers will fit your new door and they'll take away the old one too, so there's no mess.

Give us a call today and we'll come and measure up completely **FREE** of charge.

**GAROLLA**  
**ROLLER SHUTTER DOORS**



[www.garolla.ie](http://www.garolla.ie)

CALL US TODAY ON:

**01 568 6725**

**LINES OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK**

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

facebook

# M50 BLINDS & INTERIORS

UNIT 3 KYLEMORE PARK NORTH  
OFF THE KYLEMORE ROAD  
(TURN AT ROCA TILES)  
**TEL: 085 781 2869**  
**OFFICE: 01 6237432**  
OPEN 7 DAYS (SUN 1PM - 5PM)

## NUMBER 1 FOR BEDS IN IRELAND



**CRUSH VELVET**  
**BED SET**  
**Now**

**Double Bedset €299**



- Split Base
- Head Board
- Orthopaedic Mattress
- All Colours



**4ft 6' Double Bed**  
**Now €229**

- Irish made
- Double Quilted Divan
- Complete With
- Platform base



**3ft Single Bed**  
**Now €129**

- Irish made
- Crushed Velvet headboard C69
- 3ft Delux deep Base



Call us today for more information



**Crush Velvet Bed Set**

**KING SIZE (5FT)**  
**ONLY €399**

- Split Base
- Head Board
- Orthopaedic Mattress
- All Colours

**BEST PRICES IN DUBLIN - RING FOR DELIVERIES - CALL 085 781 2869 TODAY**



# Free Little Library Bags to all Kildare children starting primary school in September

An exhibition of selected works from Kildare's Municipal Art Collection at Riverbank Arts Centre



**A**ll children starting school in September 2023 can visit their local library to get a free My Little Library Bag at their local library.

This initiative, funded through Dormant Accounts Funding, offers a free book bag with storybooks for children and supportive information for parents for all children starting school in September 2023.

The aim of the initiative is that all children will start school with storybooks in their homes and as members of their local library.

This year's initiative builds on the success of My Little Library 2022 when over 46,000 book bags were distributed to children starting school, in their local library. The initiative resulted in over 37,000, 4 and 5-year-old children joining the library.

## Each My Little Library Book Bag contains:

- Three books on starting school, making friends and being comfortable to be yourself
- A story card on going to the library
- A postcard the child can write or draw on and send to their new teacher, or bring to give to the teacher on their first day at school

- Their very own library card and special 'My Little Library' cardholder

Book bags are available in both Irish and English.

Inviting all children starting school this year to come and collect their Book Bag, Right to Read Coordinator, Amye Quigley said:

"Kildare Libraries look forward to welcoming all 4 and 5-year-old children starting school and their families to collect their book bags and discover the benefits of library membership. Reading is so important for developing imagination, creativity, empathy and for supporting children as they grow. Stories can really help children to understand and deal with the stepping stones of life, such as starting school.

We hope that these new library members and their families will come back regularly to refill their book bags and take part in all the events and activities we have on offer at the library."

The 'My Little Library Book Bag' initiative is a collaboration between libraries and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth as part of the First 5 Strategy.

Children and their parents or guardians can collect the bags at any library throughout Kildare.

# M50 BLINDS & INTERIORS

Your Local Blinds Manufacturer & Repair Centre for 35 Years!

Showroom Open 7 Days (Sun 12-5)

Unit 3 Kylemore Park West Beside Rocca Tiles

01-6237432 - 085 7812 869

HALF PRICE DEAL

**3 SEATER  
+ 2 ARMCHAIRS**  
With 4 recliners

Was €1999

**NOW €1099**

Including delivery



**CORNER SUITE**

With Coffee Dock  
and 2 recliners

WAS : €1999  
NOW

**€1399**



Sizes

3ft

4ft

4.5ft

5ft

**STORAGE BEDS €399**

BLACK & GREY - FAUX LEATHER

Double with mattress



**CARPET  
SALE**

**STAIRS & LANDING €299**

Up to 8ft Landing

**FIND US ON**  
Facebook &  
Instagram



# THE WHISTLING PIG

## *The Whistling Pig, Celbridge*

*All your local pub should be!*

*Great service, quality food and drinks,  
speciality coffees,  
live music, atmosphere and craic!*

*Try our delicious, breakfast, lunch and  
dinner menus - Monday to Saturday  
9am-9pm*

*Tasty, family - friendly Carvery Lunch  
served on Sundays - 12pm to 6pm.  
A la carte Dinner menu 6pm-9pm.*

*Enjoy live music, craic and buzz on Friday  
and Saturday nights.  
Bands from 9:30pm,  
followed by DJ until 2:30am*

*A warm welcome awaits you at  
The Whistling Pig, Main Street, Celbridge :)*

*thewhistlingpigcelbridge@gmail.com*

*☎ 01 253 5535*

*Buy any Main Course from our Dinner Menu and  
receive a FREE Dessert*

*Valid until 31st October 2023*

# Kildare County Council publishes overview of extensive impact and contribution of 2022 Local Property Tax Funding

Over €5.4m in Local Property Tax Funding allocated to the 5 Municipal Districts in 2022. Hundreds of Projects & Initiatives delivered throughout the County



**2** 3rd June 2023: As we celebrate 'Your Council Day' 2023 Kildare County Council has today published an overview of the extensive contribution and impact of Local Property Tax funding in 2022.

Over €5.4m in Local Property Tax funding was allocated to the county's 5 Municipal Districts in 2022 which contributed to the development and delivery of hundreds of community projects, environmental initiatives, county maintenance as well as creative and cultural programmes. Local Property Tax is an annual tax on residential

properties, based on their market value and the allocation of this funding on an annual basis by Kildare County Council contributes to the quality of life and infrastructure of the citizens of Kildare across the 5 Municipal District Areas of the county.

Local Property Tax in 2022 significantly supported communities and community groups across Kildare through a wide range of projects and grants which included:

- Significant programme of works to maintain and improve existing parks and open spaces
- Over €117,000 allocated for Christmas lights





# WarmEdge Windows Ltd



**NO CALL OUT CHARGE!**



## WINDOW & DOOR REPAIRS

Call us today and put the life back in your Windows & Doors!



**PROTECT YOUR HOME - NO MORE DRAUGHTS!**



**UPGRADE YOUR LOCKS & PROTECT AGAINST INTRUDERS**

### We Supply & Fit

- High Security Cylinders
- Emergency Lock Opening
- All Window & Door Locks
- Replacement Glass
- Replacement Seals
- Child Safety Locks
- Hinges & Handles
- Burglar Prevention
- Patio Tracks & Wheels
- Door Closers
- Letter Boxes

[www.warmedgewindows.ie](http://www.warmedgewindows.ie)

[warmedgewindowrepairs@gmail.com](mailto:warmedgewindowrepairs@gmail.com) Airlie Heights, Lucan, Co. Dublin.

**01 621 34 81 085 882 98 83**

in towns and villages across the county

- Over €26,000 allocated to Women's & Men's Shed groups
- Over €176,000 allocated in grants to Resident's Associations
- Over €170,000 allocated to support 22 Tidy Towns Groups

Local Property Tax allocation in 2022 also significantly contributed to many maintenance projects throughout the county including footpath repairs, road signage, street cleaning and road maintenance. Over €140,000 in LPT funding in 2022 was allocated to maintenance and upgrading of public lighting throughout the county.

Kildare County Council is committed to leading a climate resilient Kildare, by building climate change resilience, action and sustainability into service and infrastructure, while protecting and promoting our natural built environment for the well-being of present and future generations. Significant LPT funding in 2022 was allocated

to projects and initiatives to support this commitment including parks and landscaping, biodiversity projects, active travel initiatives, support of Tidy Towns initiatives, amongst others. Over €155,000 in LPT funding was allocated to tree planting and maintenance throughout the county in 2022.

A number of arts and cultural projects were supported through LPT funding allocations in 2022 also, including the Decade of Commemorations, Music Generation, Creative Places and the Brigid 1500 Cultural Programme. Funding of over €600,000 was allocated to Library and Arts projects, including major capital projects such as the development of new libraries in Clane and Celbridge.

Kildare County Council publishes its Local Property Tax allocations annually in the 'Schedule of Municipal District Works' which is available to view on the Council's website here-<https://kildarecoco.ie/YourCouncil/YourElectedCouncil/MunicipalDistricts/>

# BOYNE ROOFING SERVICES<sup>®</sup> EST. 1976



REFERENCES AVAILABLE

SPECIAL OFFERS ON NEW ROOFING PROJECTS

**Low Cost Repairs**  
**All Insurance Work Carried Out**  
**Domestic, Commercial & Industrial**



- Flat Roofs • Slates / Tiles • New Roofs
- Lead / Copper Work • Valleys & Flashings
- Fiberflex Roof Sealing • Chimneys Repaired / Rebuilt
- Gutters Repaired / Renewed / Cleaned
- Fascia, Soffit Boards Replaced

We Also Provide Chimney Cleaning Services

**087 - 784 8399**  
**www.boyneroofing.ie**



<< BEFORE



AFTER >>



<< BEFORE



AFTER >>



## BRINGING NEW LIFE TO YOUR KITCHENS

- BASED IN DUBLIN 15
- VERY COMPETITIVE RATES FOR ALL JOBS

FIFTY SHADES  
 — OF —  
 SPRAY

**CALL TODAY ON**  
**085 229 8550**



Visit Facebook for tons of before-&-after pics.

info@fiftyshadesofspray.ie  
[www.fiftyshadesofspray.ie](http://www.fiftyshadesofspray.ie)



# Kildare County Council announces commencement of Summer Stars Reading Programme

Get Kids Reading with 'Summer Stars' at Your Library



**C**hildren of all ages can take part in the Summer Stars Reading programme, which started this week and runs in all Kildare libraries throughout the summer.

The purpose of the free programme is to encourage reading for fun over the summer. To help children keep track of their reading, Summer Stars reading cards are available at the library or can be download online. Children can record their reading and get recognition and encouragement each step of the way.

The aim of the programme is to encourage reading so all children who participate will receive a certificate of achievement from their local library at the end of the summer.

Children can share reviews of the books they read online at [www.summerstars.ie](http://www.summerstars.ie), where they can also find recommended reading lists for all ages and helpful reading tips.

All Kildare libraries will be hosting fun events, activities and storytime's throughout the summer. Follow us on social media or sign up to the library newsletter to see what's happening near you.

A special Summer Stars collection is also available on

Borrowbox, our free online eBooks and audiobooks service which is available to all library members.

Librarians' top tips for helping kids to find the fun in reading this summer:

- Encourage children to choose stories they are likely to really enjoy.
- Try to keep stories appropriate to your child's reading level; if the story is too hard or too easy, they may lose interest or confidence.
- Comic books or graphic novels can be a good way to help children to follow the story if they have difficulty reading or are reluctant readers.
- If they find a word they don't understand, try to avoid telling the child the meaning straightaway; instead ask them instead to guess what the unknown word is likely to be based on the pictures near to it or by looking at the full sentence around it.
- Give lots of encouragement and praise for even the smallest accomplishment.
- Focus on the enjoyment and fun of reading. If you show an interest in reading and learning yourself, your child will be more likely to follow your lead and explore as well.

# Further delays to Lucan pool as opening now scheduled for October

THE COMPLETION date of the new Lucan Swimming Pool has been pushed back and will now be finished in “late Summer at best and maybe into Autumn” following significant delays.



**T**he swimming pool is part of the new €13m ‘Lucan Leisure Campus’, which will feature a state-of-the-art swimming pool and fitness centre and operate in conjunction with the existing leisure centre. It has been under construction since 2019 and was due to be completed in May this year but has now faced further delays.

The existing leisure centre, which is located adjacent to the new campus, has been closed since August 2021 to facilitate urgent structural works and will be re-opened under joint management. The centre, once repaired and upgraded, will form part of the Lucan Leisure Campus together with the new swimming pool.

At a recent South Dublin County Council meeting, CEO Daniel McLoughlin said that he hoped that Lucan Swimming Pool would have been finished at the end of last Summer, but it is currently looking like being a year late “at least”.

“It has been a challenging project in terms of the nature, through Covid, post-Covid, and the nature of the build ingredients, the need for steel and different products that have been in short supply,” Mr McLoughlin said speaking at the meeting.

“We are working through that and trying to get the best possible estimate for a completion date.”

He added that the completion date would be “late Summer at best and maybe into Autumn”.





Scan code to  
view a full  
range of our  
**CUPRA** stock



**BRADYS**  
**CUPRA**

# Is recent hot weather a consequence of climate change?

Yes, the recent hot weather can be a consequence of climate change. Climate change is causing the Earth's atmosphere to warm, which is leading to a number of changes in weather patterns. These changes include more extreme weather events, such as heat waves.



**Y**es, the recent hot weather can be a consequence of climate change. Climate change is causing the Earth's atmosphere to warm, which is leading to a number of changes in weather patterns. These changes include more extreme weather events, such as heat waves.

A recent study by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) found that the number of heat waves in the United States has increased by 50% since 1960. The study also found that the intensity of heat waves has increased, with temperatures now reaching record highs more often.

The recent hot weather in Ireland is also consistent with the effects of climate change. In 2022, Ireland experienced its hottest summer on record, with temperatures reaching over 30 degrees Celsius in some places. This heat wave was made more likely by climate change.

It is important to note that climate change is not the only factor that affects weather patterns. Other factors, such as natural variability, can also play a role. However, climate change is making these extreme events more likely and more severe.

As climate change continues, we can expect to see more

extreme heat waves in the future. This will have a significant impact on our lives, our communities, and our environment.

Here are some of the ways that climate change is making heat waves more likely and more severe:

- The Earth's atmosphere is holding more heat, which is causing temperatures to rise.
  - The jet stream is becoming more wavy, which is allowing heat to build up in certain areas.
  - The oceans are absorbing more heat, which is causing them to expand and release more water vapor into the atmosphere. Water vapor is a greenhouse gas, so it traps heat in the atmosphere, which further warms the planet.
- We can take steps to reduce our impact on climate change and help to mitigate the effects of heat waves. These steps include:
- Reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and switching to renewable energy sources.
  - Improving energy efficiency in our homes and businesses.
  - Planting trees, which help to cool the air and absorb carbon dioxide.
  - Adapting to the effects of climate change, such as building heat-resilient infrastructure and developing heat-r



# Planning underway for Lucan Festival

The community-based festival will take place between September 5 -10 and provides an opportunity for groups and cultures all over Lucan to meet and celebrate.



Organisers hope that in these challenging times, the festival could help generate additional revenue for traders in Lucan. Currently, organisers are speaking to business, sporting, and recreational groups in the greater Lucan regarding their participation and they hope this will provide a “better opportunity for the ethnic minority community” to engage with the wider community.

The festival will feature historic walks/tours, a Lucan’s got talent show, performances of local choirs, and an exhibition of local artists and street performers.

The festival is planned to coincide with the open day at Lucan Garda Station.

The Garda Band will perform, an afternoon concert adjacent to the station at 2pm.

The Lucan Festival committee, say they need lots of volunteers to assist at events.

Meanwhile, applications are now open for this year’s food stall holders.

Lucan Festival Family Fun Day will take place on Sunday, September 10.

The festival committee will issue applicants with an approval number if they have been successful.

A current copy of your food and trading licence, your health and safety certificate must be attached with the application.

**Float Well**  
CELBRIDGE

**Floatation Therapy  
& Wellness Hub**

Float Well  
Main St, Celbridge, Co Kildare  
W23W9W0  
01 628 8811  
[www.floatwell.ie](http://www.floatwell.ie)





# Senator Emer CURRIE

Fine Gael Spokesperson for Special Education, Inclusion and Northern Ireland

Seanad Éireann, Leinster House,  
Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

085 816 1306

emer.currie@oireachtas.ie

*Lucan (Dublin West) - Laraghcon, Rokeby, Westmanstown*

## Progress Report on the new Greenway to Lucan Village

Fingal County Council has confirmed a consultant is currently examining route options for a Greenway from Lucan Village to the Royal Canal Greenway in Westmanstown.

This follows the Part 8 planning approval for a cycling and walking route between the Grand Canal and Lucan Village in South Dublin. When the two projects combine it will create the Royal Canal, Grand Canal Loop.

There are a number of constraints in the Lucan North area including natural and built heritage, farm holdings, ecological, environmental and archaeological issues, which all must be considered during the route options process.

I look forward to seeing the recommendations and sharing them with you for your feedback.



## Laraghcon road markings

Following my request, Fingal County Council has advised that the road markings on the raised road section at the entrance of Laraghcon estate will be inspected, and if necessary, the location will be listed on the road marking renewal programme. It's getting harder to see the markings, particularly at night so I have impressed upon the Council the need to do this work.



## New Bin

I'm sure you have all seen the long-awaited new bin that was installed at the bottom of Laraghcon Hill. If you have any views as to this location, please let me and my colleagues Councillors Shovlin and Leddy know. For some time I have also requested a bin closer to St Catherine's Park.



## Laraghcon Hill

Last year I asked the Council to tidy up the area behind the Laraghcon 'Welcome Stone' as the hedge was looking unhealthy and untidy. Attempts were made to save the hedge, but weren't successful, so it has been removed and a pollinator bed is being installed instead. Well done to the Residents Association on making it look so well.



## Dangerous pothole at Westmanstown Sports and Conference Centre

Thank you to residents in the area who recently brought to my attention a dangerous pothole located outside Westmanstown Sports and Leisure Centre. I am glad to say Fingal County Council has agreed to repair the road.

## St Catherine's Park Free WIFI

Free wifi is set to be installed in St Catherine's Park ensuring better access to the internet in communities and making the Park an attractive place for all.



## Dublin Airport Drop-Off Charges Dropped

You may recall that I led an appeal of Fingal County Council's decision to grant planning permission to Dublin Airport Authority (DAA) for tolling infrastructure. Following our high profile media campaign and the public outcry in opposition to the move, DAA has now dropped their plans to introduce drop-off charges.

Independent.ie

Irish News

**'The only thing green about it is the colour of money' - plans for Dublin Airport paid drop-off zone face An Bord Pleanála appeal**



THE FINE GAEL  
Westmanstown,  
Laraghcon & Rokeby TEAM  
FINE GAEL 



Taoiseach  
Leo Varadkar TD



Frances  
Fitzgerald MEP



Cllr Ted  
Leddy



Cllr Siobhan  
Shovlin





# CLASSIC

windows & doors



**WE HAVE 25 YEARS EXPERIENCE, ARE FULLY INSURED & ARE AN IRISH OWNED COMPANY**

We supply & fit:

- COMPOSITE DOORS
- PVC WINDOWS
- PATIO DOORS
- FRENCH DOORS
- TURN & TILT WINDOWS

**WE PROVIDE A FULL & COMPLETE MAINTENANCE / REPAIR & GLAZING SERVICE**

***Showroom available by appointment!***

- **FREE Security Check on your home**
- **FREE Repair Survey**
- **No-obligation Quote**



**Contact Paul 085 1085 502 or 01 6271 386**





# Garden trends for 2023

By Ellie Reeves Reproduced from B&Q



## What's flourishing in the world of gardening?

As we gear up for the next gardening season, we've put together a list of trends set to take your gardens by storm in 2023. Whether you want a peaceful place for reflection or a productive plot for growing – our gardens are forever moulding to our changing needs and wants. From quaint cottage gardens to growing your own fruit and veg, carry on reading for the lowdown on the biggest garden trends for 2023.

## Charming cottage gardens

Cottage gardens are a breath of fresh air in a world of structured landscapes. If you're looking for an outdoor space that is charming, romantic, and eclectic, then you're in luck – cottage gardens are on the rise.

They have a vivid history, dating back to Medieval England when families used to grow a little bit of everything to feed the household. Flowers, herbs, fruit trees, and



vegetables were all mixed in a small plot of land. Today, cottage gardens are appreciated for their relaxed style. They encourage a carefree approach to gardening, with pathways winding through beds overflowing with colourful blooms.

Whether you're a gardening pro or just starting out,



creating a cottage garden is a fun way of bringing beauty to your outdoor space.



### Alternative lawns: goodbye grass

At B&Q we're embracing the growing trend of alternative lawns. Gone are the days of mowing and watering your grass only for it to still look patchy and dull. Choosing an alternative lawn removes the need for mowing, scarifying and weeding - saving you time for other garden activities, such as tending to your vegetable patch or simply soaking up the sunshine. The local wildlife will be thanking you as well!

### Traditional grass lawn alternatives

- Hardy low growing plants such as clover, creeping thyme, Corsican mint or sedum.
- A moss lawn is perfect for those who prefer an earthy look.
- Bring colour into your garden and grow a beautiful wildflower meadow.
- If you have a small garden, you could use gravel, mulch, or bark to cover any empty spots.



### Multipurpose garden rooms

Garden rooms are no longer just a place to relax and enjoy your morning coffee. They've become an extension of our homes. As we continue to blur the lines between work and leisure, garden rooms are growing in popularity. If you need an extra room in your home, a multipurpose

garden room is an affordable way of gaining more space. As opposed to pricier solutions such as moving home or undergoing an extension.

With more and more people choosing to work remotely, a garden room can be transformed into a dedicated workspace away from the distractions of homelife. As well as an office, you could use a garden room to create your own yoga studio, music room, art studio, playroom, or even a home cinema. The possibilities are endless!



### Making your garden more eco-friendly

The world is changing, and so are our gardens. Gardening has always been a wonderful way to connect with nature. With the increasing threat of climate change, it's important to think about using more sustainable gardening methods. From using less water and creating more plant diversity to choosing ethically and locally sourced materials, there are so many ways to create a harmonious garden.



### Zen gardens

These peaceful gardens have been a staple of Japanese culture for centuries – they were originally a place for monks to reflect on the Buddha's teachings. In today's fast paced world, our gardens are a respite from our hectic lifestyles and busy schedules. More and more of us are embracing zen gardens for their serene beauty and calming effects.

Spending time in a natural environment can have a positive effect on mental health and wellbeing. If you live in a bustling city, a zen garden is a way to escape the chaos of the city and connect with nature. Plus, the process of looking after a zen garden is fantastic for the mind. Raking sand or gravel to create patterns is a meditative activity that can help reduce stress and promote mindfulness. So, if you want a place to stop and be still for a moment, consider creating an oasis of calm in your garden.

### Going peat free

There's a new trend taking over the gardening world; going peat free. That's right, it's time to say goodbye to peat and hello to more sustainable gardening practices.

Peatlands create bogs and wetlands, providing unique ecosystems for a diverse range of wildlife. Peat bogs are a critical habitat for many species of plants and animals. The harvesting of peat for gardening purposes has a devastating impact on these ecosystems. At B&Q, we're committed to moving away from peat in our products, as peatlands are vital in helping to protect natural habitats and tackle climate change.

We've led the industry in this area for over 30 years, since 1991, when we first introduced peat-free compost. We stopped selling 100% peat in 2008 and introduced a range of peat-free bedding plants in 2014 and further peat-free grown ranges since then.



### Xeriscaping: water-wise gardening

Xeriscaping is a technical term for water-wise gardening. It's the perfect solution for those who don't want the hassle of constant watering. This gardening movement involves using native and drought tolerant plants which don't require loads of water. Other water-saving techniques include using mulch to retain moisture, creating raised garden beds to improve soil drainage, and installing a water butt to collect and store rainwater.

As the summer months continue to get hotter in the UK & Ireland, we can foresee more people looking for ways to use less water in their gardens. Not only will you be

reducing your water usage and saving on bills, but you'll also be doing your part for the environment.



### No-dig gardening

The recent rise of the "no-dig" method is changing our approach to gardening, offering a more sustainable and low-maintenance way of growing fruit and veg. If you don't know what it is yet, it's a method of growing crops without disturbing the soil structure. There are loads of benefits to no-dig gardening, including soil conversation, reduced weed growth, increased water retention, and improved soil fertility. The no-dig method creates a carbon and fungi-rich soil resulting in organic fruit and veg that tastes delicious!



### Growing your own fruit and veg

People are turning to their own gardens to grow fruit and vegetables. Growing your own produce gives you access to fresh food, and you can be confident that what you're eating is free from harmful chemicals. What's more, you'll save yourself a trip to the supermarket!

Whether you have a small or large garden, there are plenty of ways to create your own vegetable patch – and it's easier than you might think! All you need is a sunny spot, compost, and some seeds.



**TaxAssist Accountants**

**Book a free,  
no obligation  
consultation today**

# Here to help you thrive



Visit us in store



Meet us online



Chat on the phone

**Switching accountants is simple.  
Get the support and advice you deserve.**

Call: 01 906 0400  
Email: [siobhanstowe@taxassist.ie](mailto:siobhanstowe@taxassist.ie)  
Visit: [taxassist.ie/lucan](http://taxassist.ie/lucan)

4 Lower Main Street  
Lucan  
Co. Dublin  
K78 FT97



**TaxAssist Accountants**

The Accountancy and Tax Service for Small Business

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

facebook

# M50 FLOORS & BANNISTER DESIGN

UNIT 3 KYLEMORE PARK NORTH  
OFF THE KYLEMORE ROAD  
(TURN AT ROCA TILES)  
TEL: 085 781 2869  
OFFICE: 01 6237432  
OPEN 7 DAYS (SUN 1PM - 5PM)



Solid Shaker  
Doors

**Only  
€399**

Supplied &  
Fitted With  
Full lock sets

Available with clear glass, 1 Panel or Laminated glass



**Only  
€399**  
Supplied  
& Fitted  
Grey  
Extra  
€100

Comes In Light Grey, Dark Grey, Oak or White



**SPECIAL  
OFFER**

5 White regency  
Doors  
ONLY €899/999  
With Full Lock Set  
Supplied & Fitted



**Banisters Designs  
Transform the complete  
look of your hall, stairs  
and landing!**  
Shanford and Traditional Styles

**From Only  
€899 / €1199**  
**Free Estimates**

## WOOD FLOORS FOR LIFE



**Straight Flight  
Full Set  
Modern Finish  
ONLY €799**



**Wooden Floor  
On Stairs and  
Landing  
ONLY  
€799**

## APOLOGIES TO ALL CUSTOMERS

*It has been brought to my attention that  
some customers are finding it difficult  
getting out of bed in the morning due to my  
mattresses being too comfortable!*



**WARNING:**  
ALL MATTRESSES  
ARE SUPER COMFY  
& MAY CAUSE  
DROWSINESS!

**The Mattress Price Fighter**  
**Mattress Mick's**

COOLOCK, UNIT 3 MALAHIDE ROAD IND PARK. 01-677 2485

BUY ONLINE OR IN-STORE!

**www.mattressmick.ie**

## AEC Electrical

Domestic / Commercial & Industrial Services.

**ALL ELECTRICAL WORK**  
**FIRE ALARM INSTALLATION & REPAIRS**  
**EMERGENCY SERVICE/ MAINTENANCE**  
**HOUSE REWIRING**  
**ENERGY SAVING SURVEY**



**Servicing  
Dublin for  
over 20  
years**

**089 6153278**  
rightsparks@gmail.com





For enquiries regarding our courses contact our Guidance Counsellors:

Derek Ball [dball.dbc@lmetb.ie](mailto:dball.dbc@lmetb.ie) Meabh Nimmo [mnimmo.dbc@lmetb.ie](mailto:mnimmo.dbc@lmetb.ie)

### Healthcare

- Social Studies / Social Care
- Youth and Community Work
- Applied Psychology with Criminology
- Criminology, Psychology with Law
- Early Learning and Care (Childcare)
- Pre-University Nursing
- Health Care Assistant
- Pre-Paramedic Fire and Ambulance (with PHECC EFR)
- Physiotherapy Studies
- Occupational Therapy Studies
- Pharmacy Assistant
- Special Needs & Classroom Assistant
- Speech and Language Therapy Studies

### Science

- Pre-University Science
- Pre-University Agricultural Science
- Pre-University Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Science
- Pre-University Forensic Science
- Pre-University Environmental Science
- Pre-University Sports Science
- Pre-University Food Science-Nutrition, Health and Well-being
- Pre-University Animal Science
- Pre-University Physiotherapy

### Computers and Design

- Software Development & Games Design
- Creative Digital Media
- Pre-University Computing, Networks and Software Systems
- Graphic Design
- Architectural Technology and Design
- Media and Film Production
- Music Performance
- Sound Production
- Art (Fine Art or Design/2D)
- Animation

### Business

- Pre-University Business
- Pre-University Business and Accounting
- Auctioneering, Valuation & Estate Agency
- Legal and Medical Secretary/Office Administration
- Office Accounts Administration & Information Processing
- Journalism, Digital Media and Public Relations
- Tourism and Business with Event Management
- Online Marketing / eBusiness
- Accounting Technician Apprenticeship
- Human Resource Management

### Arts, Law and Teaching

- Pre-University Arts
- Pre-University Liberal Arts
- Pre-University Arts / Teaching
- Pre-University Politics, Economics and Social Science
- Pre-University Law and Politics
- Pre-University Law
- Pre-University Business Law

### Services and Leisure

- Airline Studies
- Beauty Therapy
- Pre-Apprenticeship Hairdressing
- Professional Cookery
- Sports Management and Coaching
- Sports Injury Prevention and Massage Therapy
- Animal Care and Grooming
- Equine Studies

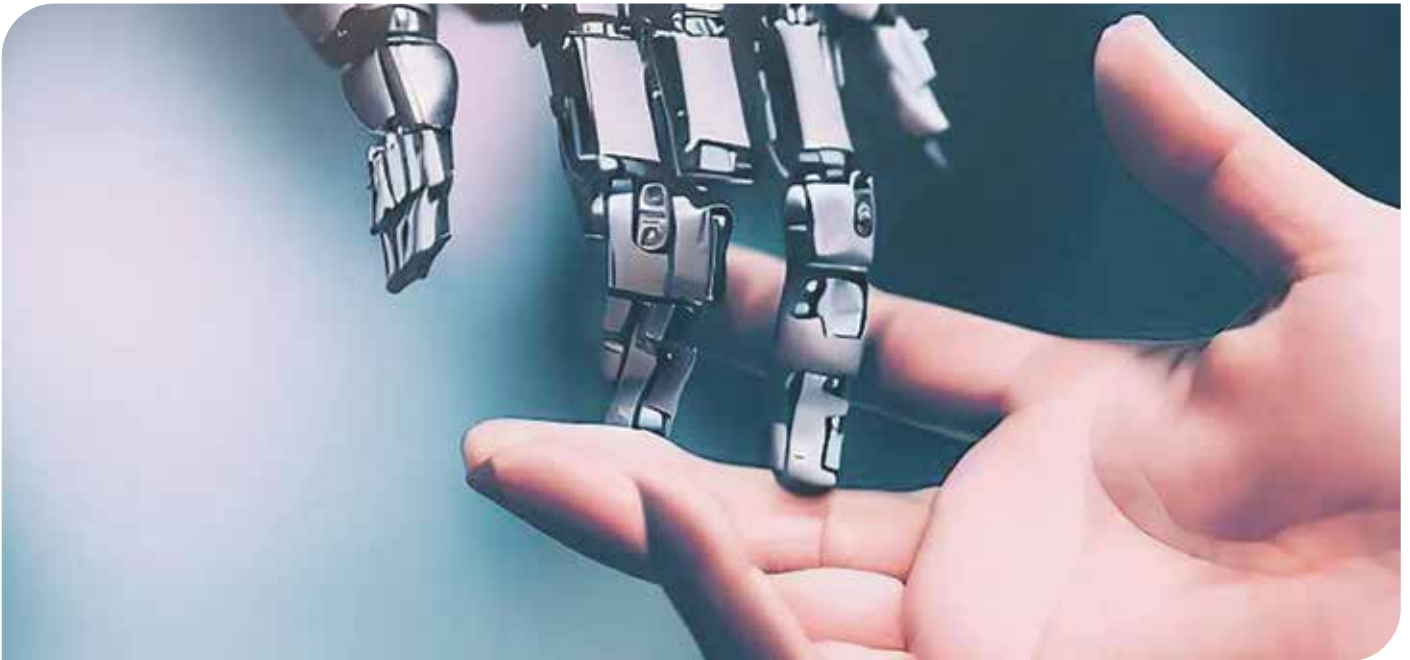
### Level 6 Courses

- Advanced Early Learning and Care
- Advanced Professional Cookery
- Senior Trade Hairdressing
- Hairdressing Apprenticeship
- Advanced Beauty Therapy
- Advanced Office Administration or Business Management
- Advanced Equine Breeding
- Advanced Animal Science

### Higher National Diplomas

- Film Production
- Arts Development for Musicians
- Sound Engineering

# Is Artificial Intelligence a threat to humans?



Whether AI is a threat to humans is a complex question that has been debated by experts for many years. There are certainly some potential risks associated with AI, such as the misuse of AI for malicious purposes, the loss of jobs due to automation, and the potential for AI to become so intelligent that it surpasses human intelligence and control. However, there are also many potential benefits to AI, such as its ability to solve complex problems, improve efficiency, and create new opportunities.

Ultimately, whether AI is a threat to humans depends on how it is developed and used. If AI is developed responsibly and used for good, it has the potential to greatly benefit humanity. However, if AI is developed irresponsibly or used for malicious purposes, it could pose a serious threat to our existence.

**Here are some of the potential threats and benefits of AI:**

## **Threats:**

AI could be used to create autonomous weapons that could kill without human intervention.  
AI could be used to manipulate people and spread misinformation  
AI could lead to mass unemployment as machines become capable of doing more and more jobs.  
AI could become so intelligent that it surpasses human intelligence and control, leading to a scenario

known as “superintelligence.”

## **Benefits:**


AI could be used to solve complex problems that are currently beyond human capabilities.  
AI could improve efficiency and productivity in many industries  
AI could create new products and services that improve our lives.  
AI could help us to understand the world around us better.  
It is important to note that these are just some of the potential threats and benefits of AI. The actual risks and benefits of AI will depend on how it is developed and used. It is essential that we have a thoughtful and informed discussion about the future of AI so that we can ensure that it is used for good and not for harm.






MERRION  
VAULTS

# Safe Deposit Box Rental

 (01) 254 7900


 [MerrionVaults.ie](http://MerrionVaults.ie)

from  
**€4**  
per week



MERRION  
GOLD

# Invest in Gold & Silver Bullion

 (01) 254 7901

 [MerrionGold.ie](http://MerrionGold.ie)



# New Bus Routes

Elected representatives in Lucan and Clondalkin have welcomed the new W4, W61 and W62 bus routes which started operating on the 25th June.



**P**eople Before Profit TD for Dublin Midwest Gino Kenny particularly welcomed the new W4 bus which will take passengers from Tallaght via Grange Castle, Lucan and Liffey Valley to Blanchardstown.

The W61 will run from Maynooth to Hazelhatch and the W62 will run from Newcastle to Tallaght. It was originally envisioned that W6 would run from Maynooth all the way

to Tallaght, however the road between Hazelhatch and Newcastle is too narrow according to the NTA.

Gino Kenny TD commented: "I've had a lot of people contact me about getting a bus service from Lucan to Blanchardstown. Many people attend the hospital in Blanchardstown and with the new W4 route it means that they can get the bus to and from the hospital."

# Float Well Flotation Therapy

Float Well, floatation therapy and Wellness Hub, opened its doors in March 2023 to provide the people of Celbridge and surrounds with a home to look after all things mental health and mental strength.

**O**ne of the standout services at Float Well is Floatation Therapy. Flotation Therapy is relaxation through proven and tested scientific techniques. Removing your sensory overload allows your brain to drift away into the half-asleep/half-awake type Theta state, where mind and body restore and rejuvenate. Levels of the stress hormone Cortisol decline, while they are feel-good, happy hormone dopamine rises.

During the float, joints are supported and relaxed, and your lower back begins to decompress and align itself. Once your mind is at rest, your body can focus on healing itself naturally. As you remove the harsh effects of gravity, your joints, muscles and connective tissues begin to rest and recover.

Alongside Floatation Therapy there are classes offered in Mindfulness, Breathwork and Yoga with the introduction of Sound Baths and other recurring workshops from September.

The core message behind Float Well is to promote active participation in programmes and activities that align people more with the present moment, therefore reducing stress, anxiety and other ailments attached to the pace of the world we live in. Like a gym is designed to keep your body healthy, Float Well is a space to keep your mind healthy.

Come visit us on Celbridge Main Street, we look forward to welcoming you in.





# Rest assured. Have your own say.

A LIMITED NUMBER OF BURIAL PLOTS AND ASH INTERMENT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO PRE-PURCHASE IN ADVANCE OF NEED

SELECTED PLOTS ARE AVAILABLE TO PRE-PURCHASE



## TRADITIONAL BURIAL PLOTS

(capacity 3 coffin burials and 4 urn burials)

**NOW AVAILABLE FROM €5,000\***

\*at time of making imminent funeral arrangements

## ASH BURIAL PLOTS

(capacity 4 urn burials) inclusive of headstone

**NOW AVAILABLE FROM €5,500**

## COLUMBARIUM MEMORIAL WALL

(2 urn capacity) includes urn, memorial plaque & first inscription

**NOW AVAILABLE FROM €3,950**



**ESKER LAWN**  
C E M E T E R Y

LUCAN/NEWLANDS ROAD, LUCAN VILLAGE, CO. DUBLIN.

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

Cemetery Office hours: Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4pm, Saturday 10am to 1pm

For further information or to arrange an appointment please contact: **083 165 8604** or email all enquiries to: [info@EskerLawnCemetery.com](mailto:info@EskerLawnCemetery.com)

# A1shutters & doors

**C2 Registered & Fully Insured**  
Covering All Dublin & Surrounding Areas

**Manufacture & Install all kinds of Garage Doors & Roller Shutters & Industrail Doors**



**From €755** T&C's apply

**Free Quotes : 01 8497399 or 087 7654 979**  
[www.a1shuttersanddoors.ie](http://www.a1shuttersanddoors.ie)



**GLINMAHON**  
CONSTRUCTION LTD

FOR ALL YOUR BUILDING NEEDS



**Extensions, Garage/Loft Conversions, New Builds, Home Renovations, Garden Renovations and Paving.**

**Fully insured & ALL work guaranteed.  
Free no obligation quote.**

Tel: 01 233 0488

Mob: 085 844 3341 or 089 436 3104  
[glinmahonconstruction.ie](http://glinmahonconstruction.ie)

# Your History - Your Home

## Leixlip. A Dynamic Heritage Town

### by Mike Power



What does the name Leixlip conjure up for you? The Liffey ? Guinness? Intel? , Carlton House ? The Liffey Descent ? Traffic jams? perhaps.. Yes, Leixlip is all these things and more besides. History has now indeed come full circle in this part of our little island .From a place that was a thriving industrial hub years ago, boasting mills of many kinds as well as providing houses to generations of local worthies, to the dynamic , forward-looking IT centre of today. The ‘Silicon Valley’ of north Kildare ! But read on to discover the really interesting history of this north Kildare town ..

**B**ack in the 1820s ,Leixlip was a dormitory town for well- to -do professionals commuting into near-by Dublin.

Nowadays, a similar situation applies with the exponential growth of the local population here , many of them working in the nearby Intel plant. ‘Leixlip’ (Lax haup in old Norse) means the ‘place of the leaping salmon’ and we can see how the place originally got it’s name , as not just one, but two rivers flow through it, ie the Rye stream coming through Carton House.Maynooth, where it forms an ornamental lake, and the Liffey.

‘Leaping ahead’ is this town’s motto and how appropriate

that is for such an innovative and dynamic town !

Both the Ryvale stream and the Liffey.Rivers were always attractive to early settlers and it’s felt that Leixlip was probably at the furthest extent of navigation by Viking longboats.

#### **Ancient History**

Leixlip has a very impressive history and pedigree. It was always a kind of frontier town, sited as it is at the western edge of the Pale.Proximity to the capital guaranteed that Leixlip would become the focus for many of the burgeoning industries of the 18th and 19th cent. Ready access to water-driven power and a skilled local labour



force ensured it's success in the early industrialisation days of Ireland.

Leixlip stands at a strategic point at the confluence of the rivers Rye and Liffey and in it's early days was part of the Hiberno-Norse kingdom of Dublin. At the battle of Confehy (917), the Vikings under King Sitric (the pub's name!) won a decisive victory over King Mac Aiella of Leinster and, consequently, the area remained under Viking control until the battle of Clontarf (1014).

After the Norman settlement of 1169, one Adam de Hereford was given permission by Strongbow (Richard Fitzgilbert) to build a fort here to strengthen these westward Norman defences against bands of local marauding Gaels! Leixlip became part of the Norman barony of Salt North ie saltus salmonis (the place of salted salmon..). As time went on, the inhabitants of Leixlip found they could live relatively undisturbed lives, secure and protected as part of this 'English' colony in Ireland

### Industries

With the advent of the Industrial Revolution in England from the 1740s, the many natural advantages of the early (water power not least) Leixlip began to attract industrialists to the area.



Old Ryvale Water Mill

### Guinness

While Arthur Guinness's later brewing at St James Gate brewery in Dublin is well-known, what may not be quite so appreciated is the fact that his first brewery was actually located in Leixlip! Abundant water and a ready supply of labour ensured that this enterprise was a complete success. With these profits, and aided by a fall in property prices, he was able to found his new brewery at St James's Gate, Dublin.

Another first for Leixlip! And just before leaving this 'alcoholic' theme, it's good to know that Leixlip in those days also boasted a whiskey distillery in the Rye Valley. This produced more than 20,000 gallons of the spirit annually until its closure in the 1890s. So plenty to drink in Leixlip! This building is now apartments.

### Dynamic Economy

Robert Lawe, a local entrepreneur, began a calico printing factory in Leixlip in 1783, this material being made from unbleached cotton. At this time British colonies like India were producing huge quantities

of cotton for English cotton-mills. No fashionable household of those days was complete without calico printed curtains and sheets. The customer could choose from a book of samples in the comfort of their own home and select the particular design they preferred. This was really the beginning of the domestically-based interior design movement later to reach its pinnacle in the arts and crafts designs of William Morris.

The 1790s in Ireland were notable for the construction of the killer communication 'app' of those days, ie canals! In the 1790s the Dublin Royal Canal Company launched their brave attempt to connect both east and west parts of Ireland.

However, snaking out from Dublin the builders met a daunting engineering challenge in building supports for their canal going over the Rye river in Leixlip. Their solution..? - build a massive earthen aqueduct over 100 ft high to span the river. And this was done- it only took the work of 1000s of labourers 6 years to complete!! Predictably, these enormous financial outlays soon bankrupted the company. The arrival of railways (1834) finished off this much-heralded enfant terrible form of transport. Now our canals are solely recreational, testament to the fragility of all communication enterprises..

### Leixlip's Future?

Leixlip has blossomed into a dynamic and prosperous area with traffic problems the envy of more marginalised, less-developed places! Property prices too reflect the forward-looking potential of the area. Once wholly rural, Leixlip is now firmly embedded in Ireland's modern technological revolution. And it couldn't happen to a nicer town!! Hollywood was a cut-throat business then. In order to improve her looks she changed her natural brunette hair to ginger-red and had electrolysis to raise her eyebrows and smoothen her forehead. In 1949 her lips were voted 'best pout of the year' by united artist guild! One major hit film for her was You Never Looked Lovelier (1942) with Fred Astaire. Astaire agreed that Hayworth was one of the finest dancers he'd ever worked with.

Finding roles hard to come by in the 1960s, she did a lot of tv work instead. Her last film role was in a film called 'The Last Wrath of God' 1972. Sadly, Rita had been developing the symptoms of early-onset dementia exacerbated by her chronic alcoholic habit in her 40s, making it very hard for her to remember her lines. She passed away in 1987, aged 68 yrs.

In 2001, Manor homes bought Ongar farm, promising to build 243 homes there. Today the count stands at over 2,000. The 'Ongar House' we see today is just a facsimile, the original building having burnt down in Sept 2002. Another famous house in this locality, Luttrellstown House, was the scene of 'Posh' and 'Beck's' marriage in July 1997.

This is Ongar, a place with a showbiz heritage and a bright exciting future!

# Is your kettle full of limescale?

Make your home limescale-free



was €1,395

€749

Special Sale Price

Call us today to order your  
**Premier Water Softener**

**01 8081378**

#### David Bredin



I spoke to Jason and emailed him before and after the install and have to say he is a very courteous person. We got the hot water boiling tap and the water filtration system installed and cannot be more happy for the moment. We had dreadful limescale and although it is not completely gone, I would say it's a good 90-95% eliminated, which is a huge improvement. The water also tastes great.

Jason is already ready to answer any question and we found his prices to be very reasonable. Also his installer was also very professional and cleaned up after himself.

#### R M N



Have recently installed water softener with profine filter in Belinwoods, we got a group discount which was nice. Installer was able to move pipes slightly to fit the softener and explained why he was doing it. Overall happy with the performance of softener. Would highly recommend.

#### Conor William Callaghan



They were very professional and fitted the system well. I had a small space in which to place the water system, but they were able to fit it in and rebuilt shelves under my sink to accommodate the unit. Overall very happy with the service.



T: 01 8081378

E: [info@eurowatersolutions.ie](mailto:info@eurowatersolutions.ie)  
W: [www.eurowatersolutions.ie](http://www.eurowatersolutions.ie)  
Showroom at Unit D1, North City Business Park, North Rd, Finglas, Dublin 11

