

ISSUE 25  
OCT/NOV 2020

# Little Village

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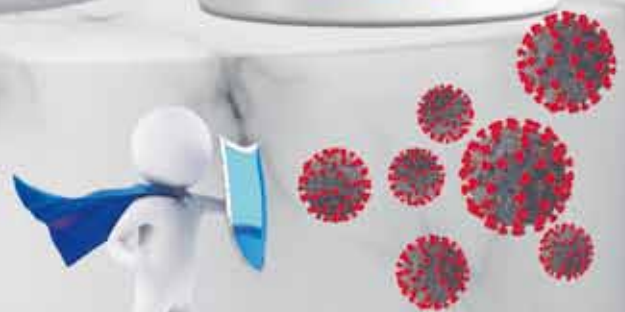
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## EDITORIAL

It has been an interesting few weeks since our last edition, with restrictions being eased only to be put in place again.

Little Village has marked its fourth anniversary, for which we would like to thank our readers and our advertising clients.

All things considered, there is quite a lot going on locally such as a number of refurbishments to Hartstown Park including:

Making the entrances more unified and welcoming with visible signage on the public roadways and to make the entrances universally accessible.

Works to improve sight lines in and out of the Park, a program for the removal of dangerous trees (Winter 2020), Tree and Hedge planting along the boundaries and a collaboration with local groups for art works to the existing walls.

Finger post signage and Feature/Educational Panels at various locations throughout the Park.

Provision of areas which encourage children to participate in play, provision of a play space within the park, and much more.

Our local Junior Minister, Jack Chambers has a number of updates on local projects including: an update on the tendering process and timeframe for the new Edmund Rice School building at in the Phoenix Park Racecourse, the development of Kellystown Cemetery, a new steering group has been established to oversee the development of new transport and mobility plans for the Phoenix Park, and the development of Porterstown Park.

In this edition we have begun a series of features on famous Irish people, past and present. Our first subject is Ireland's first Nobel Prize Winner, and perhaps its greatest poet, William Butler Yeats.

Castleknock Tidy Towns tells us all about their rejuvenation, a local family will be sharing some of their recipes on a cooking show, and we have a message from our local Alcoholics Anonymous group.

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Creative Top Publishing Ltd. publishes Little Village Magazine.

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I am honoured to be nominated to Seanad Éireann as Fine Gael Spokesperson for Work / Life Balance, Employment Affairs and Northern Ireland. Cllr. Shovlin and I will work together to represent Castleknock both locally and nationally, with Cllr Ted Leddy and an Tánaiste Leo Varadkar TD. Issues I have raised in the Seanad include:

- Castleknock school places and buildings, sustainable school transport
- The Internal Markets Bill and the impact on the Good Friday Agreement

- Maternity hospital restrictions
- Support for statutory sick pay following consultation with employer representatives and unions, which the Tánaiste is progressing
- Investment in our villages and businesses due to Covid 19 and the increase in remote work

If I can help you in any way just let me know.

*Sincerely, Emer*



## Introducing Cllr Siobhan Shovlin

I was coopted to Fingal County Council for the Castleknock Local Electoral Area in September to replace Senator Emer Currie. As a primary school teacher and someone who has been involved in

voluntary organisations all my life I am excited to be taking on this role at such an important time for our community. I will be working closely with Cllr. Ted Leddy in Fingal County Council to represent the Castleknock Local Electoral Area covering Blanchardstown, Carpenterstown, Castleknock, Clonsilla and Lucan North.

If I can be of any assistance please get in touch.  
Sincerely,  
Siobhan

## Funding for Local Organisations

Congratulations to community organisations who were successful in securing funds as part of Fingal community's response to Covid 19. So many volunteer groups came together and we are incredibly thankful for everything you did.

## Local Business

Cllr Shovlin has replaced Senator Currie on the Economic, Enterprise and Tourism Development Strategic Policy Committee on Fingal County Council. She is very interested in hearing your ideas for development in these key areas in supporting and developing our businesses here in the Castleknock LEA.



## DART+ WEST UPGRADE

The first stage of the DART+ West project which will double frequency of trains and triple capacity on the Maynooth/M3 line is now underway with a non-statutory public consultation. It's important that residents are aware of the proposals, including the closure of level crossings at Ashtown,

Coolmine, Porterstown, Clonsilla and Barberstown, which involve changes to the local road network. In our submissions we are challenging plans to close level crossings and believe the same capacity and frequency can be achieved without doing so. Email: DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie by 21 October.



# BUSCONNECTS: THE FINAL PLAN

The third and final plan for the redesign of the bus network has been released. Well done to the residents who attended the National Transport Authority (NTA) consultations or Emer's public meetings to explain their concerns and achieved changes.

## HERE THEY ARE:

- The local loop bus (L61) will now connect Blanchardstown Shopping Centre, Hartstown Way, Shelerin Road, Clonsilla, Clonsilla Road, Main St Blanchardstown, Connolly, Waterville, Ballycoolin, TU Dublin and back to Blanchardstown Shopping Centre
- Clonsilla Road will now be served by a new direct bus (37) from Blanch SC to the city centre, that will travel along Blackhorse Avenue and connect to the North Quays
- 3 buses all day routes now serve the Castleknock area and

terminate at Burlington Rd, starting in different places

- **The 34** - Blanchardstown Shopping Centre, Blanchardstown Rd, Diswellstown Rd, Carpenterstown Rd, Laurel Lodge, Castleknock Rd, Ashtown Roundabout, Navan Rd, Phibsborough, Gardiner St, Merrion Sq, Burlington Rd.
- **The 35** - Blanchardstown Shopping Centre, Corduff, Waterville, Connolly Hospital, Main St Blanchardstown, Castleknock Rd, Castleknock Village, Auburn Ave, Navan Rd, Phibsborough, Gardiner St, Merrion Sq, Burlington Rd
- **The 37** - Blanch Shopping Centre, Blanchardstown Rd, Clonsilla Rd, Blanchardstown Village, Castleknock Rd, Ashtown Roundabout, Navan Rd, Blackhorse Ave, The Quays, Burlington Rd.
- Four B spine buses will travel the Navan Road to UCD, Dún Laoghaire and Killiney

## AIRPORT LINK

A connection to Dublin Airport has been secured with a new northern orbital route (N8) from Blanchardstown to the Airport and Clongriffin DART station.

# KELLYSTOWN LOCAL AREA PLAN

- A NEW TOWN PLANNED SOUTH OF CLONSILLA
- R121 CHANGES AND A NEW KELLYSTOWN ROAD

A new town is being planned south of Clonsilla on the lands east of Clonsilla Train station, bordering the R121 and Luttrellstown Road to accommodate circa 1,055 - 1,583 residential units, to be served in the future by the upgraded DART service, Busconnects, the Royal Canal Greenway and a walking/cycling network.

A primary and secondary school is included in the plans, as well as a neighbourhood retail centre, civic square, sporting facilities and park. The public consultation is open until Friday, 6th of November with details on [fingal.ie](http://fingal.ie)



## Christmas Markets

Fingal County Council hope to hold Christmas Markets this year which is very welcome news. Two of the chosen locations are Main Street, Blanchardstown and St. Catherine's Park.



Councillor  
**SIOBHAN SHOVLIN**

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# CASTLEKNOCK TIDY TOWNS - REJUVENATED AND REBORN



**Last year, after a gap of 18 years, Castleknock Tidy Towns sprung back into life.**

**A** Monster Clean Up was held in April 2019 and thereafter, weekly Saturday morning Clean Ups (and Wednesday evening Tidy Ups) took place.

With the removal of overgrown grass verges, paths were up to a metre wider in places. Pollinator-friendly planting was added to 'sad' patches. Local residents were encouraged to give the area immediately outside their homes some love too.

A taskforce set about addressing the graffiti on utility boxes. This coordinated approach resulted in the boxes being repainted by the utility companies. Over 100 instances of graffiti in all were removed and happily, none of it returned.

Myo's pub and the Silver Spoon cafe were especially supportive in providing space to meet after clean ups and for providing refreshments. Most of the businesses in the village made financial donations and also offered spot prizes for a fund-raising quiz night. This quiz received phenomenal local support with 45 teams taking part and raising much-needed funds.

Castleknock Tidy Towns has not only changed the physical look and feel of the village. It has greatly helped

the area with integration too. Volunteers ranged across the generations, from ages 3 years to 80+. Neighbours, living on the same street for 20 years, got to know each other for the first time. Strangers became friends. Schools, as well as local sports and youth clubs, got involved. Everyone was welcomed and more people are constantly coming forward to take part.

In 2019, over 4,000 hours were given by volunteers working across the village. As a result, Castleknock was chosen as the 'Best Presented Village in Fingal' at the Fingal County Council 'Greener Communities Awards' in September.

The work especially paid dividends most recently during the quarantine period. People out walking noticed a clean and tidy village, with a heart-warming return of wildlife. Volunteers individually, and safely, continued to pick up litter and tend to the planting. The pandemic did little to halt the group's ability to keep in touch. Zoom and WhatsApp kept volunteers close.

The group is back out working together (socially distanced), twice a week:

- Saturdays 10am to 12 noon.
- Wednesdays 7.30pm to 9pm.





### Everyone can help, even in small ways:

- Volunteer - no need to make it every week (or for the full time slot), simply show up any Sat at 10am (or on Wed at 7.30pm) at Myo's carpark.
- Don't drop litter.
- Don't put grass clipping behind public hedges
- Bag your dog's poop and bin it
- Check out the group's website - it includes a Donate button. All donations are gratefully received and formally acknowledged.

With over 40 regular volunteers (and a steering committee of 11) the group is in good shape. There are great plans for the future including new planting schemes, partnerships with schools and a number of exciting biodiversity projects.

Like a phoenix from the ashes, Castleknock Tidy Towns has been reborn and is fired up for the future!

**Website:** [www.castleknocktidytowns.com](http://www.castleknocktidytowns.com)

**For latest photos:** Facebook@Castleknocktidytowns

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# MAKEOVER FOR HARTSTOWN PARK

Hartstown Park is in the midst of a makeover with a whole slew of refurbishments and additions to its amenities.

**T**here are 170 trees are scheduled for removal due to their condition or their potential impact on user safety. To compensate for the removal:

- 65 trees were planted in during the Winter Works Program last year.

- The Parks Department intend to vary the type of planting within some areas of the park, block planting for example, which would see a number of hundred trees planted over the next few years.

Several headings and associated objectives were drawn up which provided a concentration on specific areas warranting attention, such as:

## The Entrances

Make the entrances more unified and welcoming with visible signage on the public roadways and to make the entrances universally accessible.

## The Boundaries

Works to improve sight lines in and out of the Park, a program for the removal of dangerous trees (Winter 2020), Tree and Hedge planting along the boundaries and a collaboration with local groups for art works to the existing walls.

## Signage

Finger post signage and Feature/Educational Panels at various locations throughout the Park.

## Active Recreation

Facilities to promote fitness for all groups, facilities to cater for those who do not wish to participate in organised sports, facilities to attract family-based groups and distance markers on the paths to promote walking and jogging.

## Biodiversity

Due to the massive building programs within the area, biodiversity has suffered. This initiative will include planting of trees to promote diverse tree stock, develop species in rich areas of flora to increase food sources for the declining insect populations and to construct wildlife habitats to provide shelter for fauna within the park.

## Passive Recreation

Installation of accessible benches to encourage groups of lesser mobility to use the park, to design spaces to

encourage variety of uses and the design of sensory spaces to encourage interaction with nature.

## Play

Provision of areas which encourage children to participate in play, provision of a play space within the park, encourage our children to interact with the nature in the park through play activities.

**A timeline has been set down with defined objective dates within this Initiative:**

## 2020

Entrance Improvement, Boundary Improvement, Signage planning, Pollinator Planting and education initiative Tree works Collaboration with schools for artwork Design and installation of seating and picnic tables.

## 2021

Development of exercise areas and woodland playspace|Installation of signage, Development of biodiversity ideas with the community Structural tree planting Collaboration for the provision of facilities for teenagers.

## 2022

Development of a sensory garden Variety of accessible toilet facilities and the development of sustainable projects with our community.

Speaking to *Little Village*, Cllr Tania Doyle(Ind) said she is delighted to have been involved in the project, especially in terms of the provision for passive recreation, particularly the design of sensory spaces to encourage interaction with nature.

“Earlier this year an upgrade program for the Park was brought before the Elected Members. I have to say that I was delighted to be able to have an involvement in taking this project to commencement. Works have been delayed with the onset of the current health restrictions. A lot of concerns have been raised with the current removal of a number of trees within the Park.

So looking forward to see this upgrade taking it's course, for the benefit of us all and the generations to come,” She said.

# SAFER CYCLE LANES

Local cyclist will receive a boon in the coming weeks as the existing cycle lanes on Hartstown Road and Mountview Road by providing a new kerb to protect cyclists from vehicular traffic.



According to Fingal County Council the project consists of upgrading the existing cycle lanes on Hartstown Road and Mountview Road by providing a new kerb to protect cyclists from vehicular traffic.

## Why?

Now more than ever, we need more people to choose cycling and walking for local and commuting trips;

Cycle tracks physically separated from traffic and pedestrians by kerbs is what people want to encourage them to cycle more; and

Recent surveys show 72% of residents in Fingal support building more protected on-road cycle lanes even if means less room for other road traffic.

## Where is the scheme?

Protected cycle facilities on both sides of Hartstown Road, Mountview Road and Huntstown Way from Blanchardstown Road South junction.

## How will it be built?

A raised concrete separator kerb will be installed between the traffic lanes and cycle lane on both sides of the carriageway.

The kerbs will be dropped to carriageway level to allow for access to side roads, bus stops, and for drainage; and during and after construction, access will be maintained to all properties and residences along the route.

## Commencement Date:

Works will commence on the 12th of October 2020 for a period of eight weeks.

Cllr Tania Doyle (Ind) praised the project saying: The construction of a segregated cycle lane along the Hartstown Road will start soon! The plan is to build concrete and bollards along the current cycling route to segregate it. Construction will take place at night from 7pm in early October daily endeavouring not to affect traffic during the day. This is a significant upgrade in infrastructure within the area which I very much endorse and welcome.

# MEMORY MAKERS

Fingal County Council's Community Development Office has launched "Memory Makers - Reflections and Recollections Cocooners Special Edition 2020", which features inspirational poems and short stories from cocooners across the County.



The beautifully designed publication celebrates the voices of cocooners, reflecting and recollecting on memories, current or past events or fictional work inspired by these unprecedented times we are living through.

In March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Government advised many older people or those who were classed as vulnerable due to ill health to cocoon and remain at home in order to minimise their risk of infection and prevent further spread of the virus. The Fingal Community Call Forum was set up in response to the Government's request to assist the at risk members of our community to access essential services.

In response to this, "Cocooning – A collection of activities for those self-isolating" was developed by the COVID-19 Fingal Community Response Project which is a collaboration between Fingal County Council, Age Friendly Fingal, Castleknock Community Centre Laurel Lodge, Blakestown Community Centre, Corduff Resource Centre, and Huntstown Community Centre.

One element of this publication was the Short Story & Poetry Competition. Cocooners were invited to submit a short story or poem that evoked a memory of a moment in

time or a special event that connected in some way to what is happening in Ireland today.

The response was impressive with 39 entries received in the poetry section and 41 submissions in the short story category. The breadth and depth of the written work is truly impressive.

Two volunteer judges, Marie McCaffrey and Domhnall Drislane had the difficult task of selecting three awardees in each category. They both found the experience of reading all the entries a great privilege and most rewarding experience wishing they could present more awards and wish to congratulate everybody who submitted work.

**We are delighted to announce the winners:**

## Poetry Category:

1. Tom Sullivan – "Come play here with me grandad"
2. Peter Owens – "Cocooning in the lockdown"
3. Rita Ennis – "Cocooning reflections".

## Short Category:

1. Pauline Mooney - "Hello sweetness"
2. Tom Reilly – "The morning after"
3. Colleen Davey – "A Covid story"





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# EXCELLENT RESULTS FOR FINGAL PARKS IN GREEN FLAG AWARDS 2020

Fingal County Council is delighted to receive a total of seven Green Flags as part of the prestigious Green Flag Awards 2020.



**T**he Green Flag Award is an international benchmarking standard for parks and green spaces and the scheme aims to encourage the provision of good quality public parks and green spaces that are managed in environmentally sustainable ways.

As the awards ceremony couldn't proceed as normal, An Taisce chose some Fingal sites to record a virtual flag raising ceremony to congratulate all the recipients countrywide with Minister for State Joe O'Brien, Deputy Mayor of Fingal Robert O'Donoghue and a number of Fingal staff featuring in the video.

The award winning parks in Fingal to receive Green Flag Awards in 2020 are Ardgillan Demesne, Malahide Demesne, Millennium Park, Newbridge House and Farm, Santry Demesne and St. Catherine's Park. Only awarded for exceeding tough environmental standards – in green space management, and excellence of visitor attractions – the Green Flag Award for Parks is the mark of a quality park or green space and is recognised throughout the world. It is therefore a huge achievement for the Fingal parks awarded.

As well as the overall awards Fingal was delighted to receive a 'Highly Commended' award within the Pollinator Project Award for Millennium Park, Blanchardstown as an acknowledgment of the management decision to cease all use of herbicides within the park.

The Park became pesticide free in 2018 following a reduction of 1/3 every year from 2016 as part of the park's pollinator friendly initiatives. Mulch, the by-product of our tree maintenance programme, is utilised to great success as a weed suppressant around trees, benches, boundary walls, bins and other park elements. Not only does the use of bark mulch eliminate the requirement to use pesticide but it also reduces our carbon dioxide emissions as the area of grass cutting decreases. The further reduction of grass cutting areas along with the annual addition of pollinator friendly planting emphasises the Green flag status of the park.

Fingal also received its first Community Award for the Rock Garden, Swords as an acknowledgment of collaboration between the local community group and Fingal County Council working together to improve a community green space. The small park on the Rathbeale Road was developed in 2018 in a joint effort between Fingal County Council and Swords Tidy Towns and is now a very popular outdoor space to sit and relax. In Ireland the coordination of the Green Flag Community Award Scheme, which empowers community groups to improve their local community and environment, is made possible by the support of the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Speaking about the award Mayor of Fingal Cllr David Healy said: "I would like to congratulate everyone in Fingal County Council on the excellent standard of their parks which has been recognised in these Green Flag awards. Parks play a huge role in our lives and are so important for our physical and mental wellbeing, particularly this year when a visit to the park has been a highlight of many people's lives during Covid-19 restrictions."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly said: "Fingal County Council is very proud to receive all these awards and would like to extend its congratulations to all the staff that maintain and manage these sites which makes participating in these awards possible. Providing a space where people can safely enjoy the outdoors has been very important this year and our Parks have been enjoyed in unprecedented numbers by people of all ages and interests across the county."

Kevin Halpenny Senior Parks Superintendent said: "We are delighted to receive these Green Flag Awards which are a testament to the commitment of Fingal County Council Parks and Green Infrastructure Department to develop Parks and Open Spaces that balance environmental sustainability and biodiversity with providing amenities that can be enjoyed by every park user."

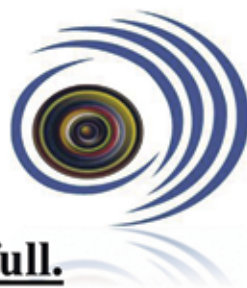


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- Pre-Paramedic Ambulance and Fire
- Pre-University Arts
- Pre University Liberal Arts
- Pre-Primary and Secondary Teaching
- Pre-University Law
- Pre-Uni Business Law
- Pre University Sports and Food Science

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# DUNBOYNE COLLEGE OF FURTHER EDUCATION

This September, Dunboyne College of Further Education commenced its 18th year of offering a quality education product to Meath, west Dublin, north Kildare and surrounding areas. Dunboyne College has grown to nearly 1,000 students who are studying for QQI level 5 and 6 and ITEC qualifications at our campus in Dunboyne Business Park. It is now recognised as one of the leading Further Education Colleges of the future.

**D**unboyne College has gone to great lengths to put together the most robust plans for safety and access to chosen courses for this year's students. In this time of uncertainty at third-level, it is important to offer the most comprehensive service possible to this geographic area. As well as being the only dedicated further education college in County Meath, west Dublin and north Kildare, Dunboyne College also has students coming from all over the country to access courses that are frequently only offered by DCFE.

In terms of Covid preparation there was considerable planning involved to be able to re-open the doors, safely and on time, to over 1,000 students. Dunboyne College has spent this summer refitting its buildings to put the appropriate infrastructure in place and ensure strict adherence to Government, NPHE, Department of Education, SOLAS, ETBI and union guidelines. This included signage, PPE, staff training, deep cleaning, ongoing fogging and misting systems to sanitise premises, and protective screens for all common areas, practical rooms, and computer labs. Students are separated by a 2-metre distance in their lectures and are required to wear masks at all times.

Students of Dunboyne College enrol on over fifty programmes in the department areas of Health and Community Care, Pre-University, Business/I.T. or Pre-Employment options. Pre-employment courses provide an opportunity to gain a terminal qualification necessary to gain employment in a particular industry, for example, Healthcare or Childcare. Last year the college launched 12 new courses which all filled quickly. These include; Forensic Science, Environmental Science, Business and Accounting, Criminology and Psychology, Community and Youth Work, Journalism, Digital Media and Public Relations, Architectural Technology and Design, Physiotherapy Studies, Fine Art and Design 2D, Pre Paramedic Fire and Ambulance, as well as Office Accounts Administration and Information Processing.

This year the college launched the, 'MyDCFCE,' website link which is a one-stop shop for any information that a current student requires, such as; up-to-date timetables, maps, policies, COVID updates and facilities to name just a few. It also allows students full access, through their phones, to all current college information, activities and notices. MyDCFCE ensured that all students completed their induction and safety briefings safely and with no hassle, early in September, ensuring that they could commence their course on time and in a safe manner.

Teachers have engaged in blended learning and IT training so they can successfully combine on-site learning with remote learning. Dunboyne College places great value on providing a college experience for students. In order to balance this with the need for small class sizes and allow for social distancing, a week-in college and week-online system is in operation. Classes are delivered live to half the class in the college while it is broadcast, through live stream, to the other half of the class who actively engage from home. Students switch every week, so they are being trained on-site and remotely alternatively week on week. This system equips them with a range of skills for the future blended workplace. Teachers have shown themselves to be multi-skilled and have adapted very well to the demands of blended learning through the use of Moodle and Microsoft Teams. New upgraded multi-media resources mean no student is left behind or misses out.

Over 90% of the students who have achieved a full QQI level 5 award with Dunboyne College in recent years have accessed third level offers, and countless others have proceeded directly to employment. Courses are increasing in popularity, with this year over 2,450 students applying for 1,000 places. In these COVID times with huge uncertainty about educational progression, a one-year QQI Level 5 programme, like the majority run in Dunboyne, is an ideal way to pursue a course in an area of interest and to access a third level course. The flexible options in Dunboyne allow students to sample various modules in September and October to make sure







they are pursuing the correct course choice for them. Dunboyne College also runs a week of short induction courses in subject related skills to make sure students are equipped to fully engage in their programme.

Students are very successful in accessing third level courses from Dunboyne College. Final figures for 2020 graduates will be available in November, but we know already they are accessing courses like; Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Media studies, Computer science, Psychology, and Social Science in Maynooth University. Two of our law graduates are now students of Trinity College law school as well as others in Trinity studying Biological and Biomedical Science, Chemical Science and Nursing. Others have moved to courses like Commerce or Law in UCD, Nursing or Business in DCU, Pharmacy in TU Dublin, or nursing in the UK.

In the past, Further Education (PLC/QQI) courses were considered a backup option for not achieving the required results to progress to higher education. In fact, students attend Further Education courses for many reasons including: a desire to try out an area of study, a feeling of being too young to progress directly to Higher Education or a general uncertainty of their future direction. In the present climate, with much uncertainty around the amount of remote learning at third-level, QQI level 5 courses like those at Dunboyne College, can provide a valuable year for students to truly decide their career path, acquire new skills and maximise their chances of accessing their chosen course. A further advantage of

PLC courses is that, compared to a single year of college, the cost is very low.

School leavers, mature students, lifelong learners and those who want further opportunities to progress in their jobs will all benefit from these QQI programmes in Dunboyne College. Further Education should be viewed as a year to explore and examine, in detail, the opportunities that are available and achieve a qualification that makes it all possible. Feedback from students is consistently excellent and they regularly report that further education gives them the confidence to go on to future learning, to build up their skills, and to access job opportunities. One of this year's Psychology graduates Lynn Cahill commented: "Dunboyne College was the best decision I ever made. It gave me the perfect foundation to progress into university. Without Dunboyne, I would never have believed in my abilities and definitely would never have been confident enough to apply for university. Thanks to Dunboyne, I am attending Maynooth University as a psychology student on course MH106 (PSI accredited pure psychology). I owe so much to Dunboyne, the teachers and the support. I will be forever indebted."

# IT'S A FAMILY AFFAIR AS THE THIRD EPISODE OF TASTES LIKE HOME WITH CATHERINE FULVIO

Visits Sisters in Blanchardstown and Mexico in the fifth series of the Delicious and Enticing Cooking and Travel Show



**T**his week (21st September) in episode three, Tastes Like Home looks back at Catherine's visit to Blanchardstown, Dublin and Playa del Carmen in Mexico as well as creating new dishes based on the flavours she tasted during her Mexican adventure.

We meet Alexandra Ikkert and her family in Blanchardstown who are originally from Russia where she shows Catherine how to make her Seafood Chowder and later we see Catherine visit Alexandra's eldest sister Anna in Playa del Carmen, Mexico along with now husband Gabriel Morales. Later we will see Catherine cook up some delicious Mexican treats including her own twist on Enchilladas with her original Coriander and Lime Chicken Enchilladas along with new dishes Prawn Tacos with Mango Sweetcorn Salsa & Red Pepper and Black Bean Tacos with Pico De Gallo + Prawn Scallop Mango and Avocado Ceviche.

In Blanchardstown, Catherine meets Alexandra, mum Marina and younger sister Aisha and grandparents, who moved to Ireland in the 90's from Russia and we experience traditional Russian dishes in their home, then it's off to Playa del Carmen, Mexico. to visit Anna, Alexandra's sister who lives there.

Playa del Carmen is approximately 70 km south of Cancún and is at the centre of the Mayan Riviera making it a popular tourist resort with over 4 million visitors to the area each year. A major attraction throughout the Riviera Maya are coastal and reef aquatic activities dependent on the coastal water and Belize Barrier Reef which begins near Cancun and continues along the whole length of the Riviera Maya continuing southward to Guatemala. This barrier reef system is the second longest in the world.

Catherine heads into the jungle to meet and cook with a traditional Mayan family, tries her hand (and tests her heart rate) at Zip-lining and visits a Cenotes, (a natural sinkhole), which are very common the Yucatán Peninsula of Mexico.

It was a lot of fun hanging out with Catherine and the crew. Also I could never have imagined to be linked with the family in Ireland in that way. I think the show is a brilliant idea and it was a great experience overall," said Anna Ushakova, of her Tastes Like Home experience."

Proudly sponsored by Belling, Tastes like Home, the new eight part series Catherine Fulvio visits families across Ireland who show

her how to make their favourite family dishes, before travelling to locations around the world to recreate these 'tastes like home' for family members now living abroad. In the past two weeks episode's Catherine has visited South Africa and Canada and in the coming weeks will visit San Sebastián and Barcelona in Spain, as well as Dubai & Portland, Oregon to capture eight individual stories, from contestants who refuse to let the physical distance from home curb their appetite for home-cooked meal that "Tastes Like Home".

Catherine Fulvio said of her Mexican experience "Vibrant, fresh flavours to tickle the tastebuds, colours that delight and a humble pride in tradition are the overwhelming memories of my experience in Mexico – but they should have warned me about the deep fried grasshoppers in the guacamole! Mexico was a fabulous culinary experience from start to finish and it is a country that I would love to visit again and learn more."

The fifth series of Tastes Like Home is sponsored by Belling, Darren Quinn National Sales & Product Manager for Belling appliances said, "The Mexican feel of this episode is so apparent. At Belling, we love the Mexican inspired prawn dishes that Catherine recreates for sisters, Alexandra and Anna, truly capturing the essence of Tastes Like Home."



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# APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR FESTIVALS AND EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN FINGAL IN 2021

Fingal County Council's Events Unit is pleased to announce that it is accepting applications for financial assistance for Festivals and Events taking place in 2021.

**A**pplications from groups and organisations seeking financial assistance from Fingal County Council's Events Section for Festivals and Events taking place in 2021 will close on Tuesday, 15 December 2020, at 3pm.

All applications should include a Covid compliance plan in adherence with current government guidelines.

Applications will be accepted for existing and/or new events or festivals which animate public spaces in creative and innovative ways, and which are focused on developing measurable tourism impacts in the County.

Interested parties must meet several other eligibility criteria including:

- Have a Covid-19 compliance plan in adherence with current government guidelines.
- Have a general audience appeal and be socially inclusive.
- Clearly demonstrate potential to generate economic, social and/or cultural benefits.

- Complement the County's calendar of events in relation to attracting overseas' visitors.
- Meet the Events Unit's objective of compiling a varied programme of events throughout the year including content, seasonal and geographical spread.
- Demonstrate financial sustainability and the capacity to develop the event.
- Have a clear PR and marketing plan including a social media strategy to actively promote the event.

Fingal County Council's Events Unit supports tourism through the Fingal Statement of Tourism Strategy 2017 - 2022 and businesses in our towns through a wide-ranging programme of events.

The closing date for applications for funding is on Tuesday 15 December 2020 at 3pm for events taking place in 2021 .

For more information and an application form, please email [events@fingal.ie](mailto:events@fingal.ie) or visit: [www.fingal.ie/festivalandevents2021](http://www.fingal.ie/festivalandevents2021)

## COUNCILLORS APPROVE €260,000 IN GRANTS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND PROJECTS IN FINGAL

Councillors voted to approve substantial funding grants of just over €260,000 to 218 community groups and projects in Fingal at the monthly meeting of Fingal County Council on Monday. The grants will support communities in restarting activities and events that had been delayed due to COVID-19.

**This funding is set to go to groups and projects as follows:**

- Covid-19 Grants: €74,424 granted to 76 groups
- Youth Sports Grants: €115,200 granted to 96 groups
- Summer Projects: €32,300 granted to 18 projects
- Community Activity & Arts Grants: €38,331 granted to 28 groups

The money will support specific groups and projects in Fingal communities in responding to the specific challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and will help them to hold events safely.

The Funding Scheme has been developed as a response to the Covid-19 crisis and is managed by the Community Development Office. All applicants will need to prove their event or activities will adhere to government Covid-19 guidelines to safeguard volunteers and support vulnerable members in the community.

Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. David Healy said after the approval: "It

was important that this funding was approved as it provides the necessary supports for many community groups and projects across Fingal that have been hit hard by Covid-19. While we are still dealing with the virus it is important to learn how to live with it in whatever safe way we can, and this will help our communities to get active again."

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, said: "The funding that was approved on Monday night will help community groups to start to organise holding events and activities again, which had been postponed or cancelled over the past few months due to Covid-19 restrictions.

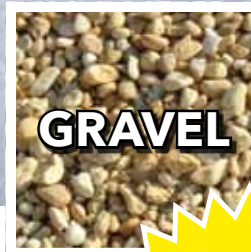
"This funding will go towards planning these activities in a safe way to continue to adhere to the guidelines while allowing the communities to restart their lives. I would like to thank the councillors for working alongside us to get this funding through."

Each community group is advised that they are responsible for ensuring all volunteers and participants follow public health guidance in relation to the Covid-19 crisis.



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# APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN FOR FINGAL MAIN STREET SHOPFRONTS AND RESIDENCES IMPROVEMENT GRANTS



**Applications are now open for the Shopfront and Main Street Residences Painting and Improvement Grant Scheme where main street property owners can apply for grant funding of up to 50% of eligible costs and a maximum of €1,500 to replace and renovate shop fronts in Fingal town centres.**

**I**n partnership with the Dublin Fingal Chamber of Commerce, the Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce and Malahide Chamber of Commerce, Fingal County Council have developed the Shopfront and Main Street Residences Painting and Improvement Grant Scheme for Fingal.

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr. David Healy said: "This initiative again exemplifies the Council's commitment to the business community in Fingal during this difficult period. As we continue to deal with Covid-19 it is imperative that the main streets of Fingal are invested in to keep a positive public sphere and to ensure that businesses can recover from the impact of Covid-19."

Owners, proprietors, lease holders or tenants (with the permission of the owner) of buildings located along the main street and streets leading directly off the Main Streets of towns and villages in Fingal may apply for grant assistance.

Any works relating to the relocation of security measures will be 50% of the approved cost to a maximum amount of €3,000.

Application forms can be found at <https://bit.ly/2RWWlyZ>

and be submitted by email to [econdev@fingal.ie](mailto:econdev@fingal.ie) or in writing/in person to Local Development Section, Economic Enterprise and Tourism Development Department, County Hall, Swords, Co. Dublin, K67 X8Y2 on or before 4 p.m. Friday 30th October 2020.

The scheme seeks to improve the streetscape and public realm of main streets in towns and villages throughout Fingal as an aid to economic recovery post Covid-19 by supporting owners of properties in the centres of towns and villages to carry out improvement works.

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council said: "The Main Streets of our towns are the social and economic heartbeat of our communities that have suffered so much during Covid-19. It is imperative then that we continue to invest in these areas. This scheme aims to improve and enhance the properties and general streetscape through painting and improvements to existing frontages along the Main Streets and the cores of towns and villages in Fingal."

To successfully apply for this scheme any planned works must be scheduled for completion by Friday 11th December 2020.



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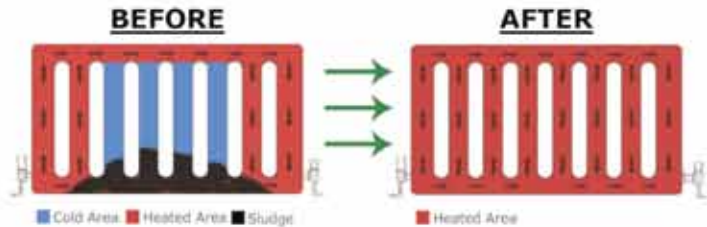


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# Councillor John Walsh

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**Email:** john.walsh@cllr.fingal.ie

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**LABOUR**



## *Dear Resident,*

Firstly, I hope you are well and staying safe at this difficult time. I would like to give a brief update on some local issues. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or would like to get any information around the permitted activities under the current Covid-19 restrictions.

## **KELLYSTOWN DRAFT LOCAL AREA PLAN**

- Fingal Council has brought forward a draft Local Area Plan for Kellystown 2020-2026, which will come back to the Councillors for decision. The plan will have long-term implications for Dublin 15, especially Clonsilla, Ongar and Porterstown. The draft Local Area Plan includes a written statement, maps and environmental screening reports, which may be viewed in the Civic Offices, Blanchardstown, Blanchardstown Library & Luttrellstown Community Centre or at the following link: <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/consultation/draft-local-area-plan-kellystown-dublin-15>
- The draft plan is on public display and you can make submissions until **Friday 6th November 2020 at 5pm**. Submissions may be made in writing to: **Senior Executive Officer, Planning and Strategic Infrastructure Department, Fingal County Council, County Hall, Main Street, Swords, Co. Dublin K67 X8Y2**; online at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en/browse> or by email to [Fingal.DevelopmentPlan@fingal.ie](mailto:Fingal.DevelopmentPlan@fingal.ie)

# Cllr John Walsh



## PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS IN DUBLIN 15

- A planning application has been made for a hotel and office development at Junction 6, River Road, which would contain four blocks, varying from 6 to 28 storeys in height. I have made a submission to Fingal County Council objecting to this development, as it amounts to gross over development on this site and is totally inconsistent with residential estates just across the N3. Such a development would cause increased traffic congestion on the N3 and will lead to overspill parking in residential estates. If approved, this would be the tallest building in the Republic of Ireland and is more like a US style skyscraper than an appropriate development for a suburban area such as Dublin 15.
- Yet another application has been lodged by Bartra Property for a Co-living development containing 210 bed spaces at Brady's Pub, Old Navan Road, following the decision of the High Court to quash the permission granted on this site. I have consistently opposed co-living development of this kind as it fails to provide for sustainable communities and is completely wrong for a suburban area. Moreover, Co-living is not only inappropriate but dangerous during the Covid-19 pandemic, as social distancing and self-isolation would be impossible in such cramped, substandard conditions. I have called on the Minister for Housing to ban further Co-living development straightaway by amending the statutory guidelines adopted by his predecessor in 2018.

## DART+WEST

- Irish Rail are holding a non-statutory consultation for the DART+West project involving electrification of the Maynooth line and Clonsilla-Hansfield route. Electrification of the Maynooth line is long overdue and is an essential advance for our area. Unfortunately, there are serious problems with the emerging preferred options identified by Irish Rail. At a recent Zoom meeting which I held about DART West, residents from Dublin 15 and the Navan Road expressed strong objections to proposals for the closure or replacement of all six level crossings along the route.
- The proposals for the replacement of Coolmine level crossing with an over bridge from Stationcourt and St Mochta's Grove to Riverwood Court and Luttrell Park are fundamentally flawed and should be reconsidered. A major new road bridge would intensify traffic, is environmentally damaging and would destroy local green spaces and mature trees. The option of keeping the existing level crossing open with resignalling and electronic barriers should be considered.
- Residents have expressed concern that the proposed underpass at Ashtown would be unsafe for cyclists and pedestrians and that the works would remove green space in estates close to the station.
- The consultation is open until 21 October at 5pm – submissions can be made at <http://www.irishrail.ie/DARTMaynooth>; email [DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie](mailto:DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie) or post to Community Liaison Officer, DART+ Maynooth, Iarnród Éireann, Inchicore Works, Inchicore Parade Dublin 8, D08 K6Y3. If you have concerns which you would like me to raise with Irish Rail, please let me know.

# THE WORLDS GREATEST POET? (PART 1)



**Rather than the usual feature on a famous landmark. Little Village will be producing a series of features on famous Irish men and women. This is the first part of a two piece feature which will be printed over two editions.**

**O**ur first subject is Ireland's first Nobel Laureate, the driving force behind the Irish Literary movement, and pivotal in the Gaelic Revival, in this writer's opinion, the greatest poet in the English language, William Butler Yeats.

William Butler Yeats, Irish poet and one of the foremost figures of 20th-century literature. A pillar of the Irish literary establishment, he helped to found the Abbey Theatre, and in his later years served two terms as a Senator of the Irish Free State. He was a driving force behind the Irish Literary Revival along with Lady Gregory, Edward Martyn and others.

Yeats was born in Sandymount, Ireland, and educated there and in London. He spent childhood holidays in County Sligo and studied poetry from an early age, when he became fascinated by Irish legends and the occult. These topics feature in the first phase of his work, which lasted roughly until the turn of the 20th century. His earliest volume of verse was published in 1889, and its

slow-paced and lyrical poems display debts to Edmund Spenser, Percy Bysshe Shelley, and the poets of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. From 1900, his poetry grew more physical and realistic. He largely renounced the transcendental beliefs of his youth, though he remained preoccupied with physical and spiritual masks, as well as with cyclical theories of life. In 1923, he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Literature.

William Butler Yeats was born in Sandymount in County Dublin, Ireland. His father, John Butler Yeats (1839–1922), was a descendant of Jervis Yeats, a Williamite soldier, linen merchant, and well-known painter, who died in 1712. Benjamin Yeats, Jervis's grandson and William's great-great-grandfather, had in 1773 married Mary Butler of a landed family in County Kildare. Following their marriage, they kept the name Butler. Mary was of the Butler of Neigham (pronounced Nyam) Gowran family, descended from an illegitimate brother of the 8th Earl of Ormond.

Yeats had a lifelong interest in mysticism, spiritualism, occultism and astrology. He read extensively on the subjects throughout his life, became a member of the paranormal research organisation "The Ghost Club" (in 1911) and was especially influenced by the writings of Emanuel Swedenborg. As early as 1892, he wrote: "If I had not made magic my constant study I could not have written a single word of my Blake book, nor would The Countess Kathleen ever have come to exist. The mystical life is the centre of all that I do and all that I think and all that I write." His mystical interests also inspired by a study of Hinduism, under the Theosophist Mohini Chatterjee, and the occult—formed much of the basis of his late poetry. Some critics disparaged this aspect of Yeats's work.

His first significant poem was "The Island of Statues", a fantasy work that took Edmund Spenser and Shelley for its poetic models. The piece was serialized in the Dublin



University Review. Yeats wished to include it in his first collection, but it was deemed too long, and in fact, was never republished in his lifetime. Quinx Books published the poem in complete form for the first time in 2014. His first solo publication was the pamphlet *Mosada: A Dramatic Poem* (1886), which comprised a print run of 100 copies paid for by his father. This was followed by the collection *The Wanderings of Oisín and Other Poems* (1889), which arranged a series of verse that dated as far back as the mid-1880s. The long title poem contains, in the words of his biographer R. F. Foster, “obscure Gaelic names, striking repetitions [and] an unrelenting rhythm subtly varied as the poem proceeded through its three sections”:

*We rode in sorrow, with strong hounds three,  
Bran, Sceolan, and Lomair,  
On a morning misty and mild and fair.  
The mist-drops hung on the fragrant trees,  
And in the blossoms hung the bees.  
We rode in sadness above Lough Lean,  
For our best were dead on Gavra's green.*

“The Wanderings of Oisín” is based on the lyrics of the Fenian Cycle of Irish mythology and displays the influence of both Sir Samuel Ferguson and the Pre-Raphaelite poets. The poem took two years to complete and was one of the few works from this period that he did not disown in his maturity. Oisín introduces what was to become one of his most important themes: the appeal of the life of contemplation over the appeal of the life of action. Following the work, Yeats never again attempted another long poem. His other early poems, which are meditations on the themes of love or mystical and esoteric subjects, include *Poems* (1895), *The Secret Rose* (1897), and *The Wind Among the Reeds* (1899). The covers of these volumes were illustrated by Yeats's friend Althea Gyles.


During 1885, Yeats was involved in the formation of the Dublin Hermetic Order. The society held its first meeting on 16 June, with Yeats acting as its chairman. The same year, the Dublin Theosophical lodge was opened in conjunction with Brahmin Mohini Chatterjee, who travelled from the Theosophical Society in London to lecture. Yeats attended his first séance the following year. He later became heavily involved with the Theosophy and with hermeticism, particularly with the eclectic Rosicrucianism of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn. During séances held from 1912, a spirit calling itself “Leo Africanus” apparently claimed it was Yeats's Daemon or anti-self, inspiring some of the speculations in *Per Amica Silentia Lunae*. He was admitted into the Golden Dawn in March 1890 and took the magical motto *Daemon est Deus inversustranslated* as ‘Devil is God inverted’.[b] He was an active recruiter for the sect's Isis-Urania Temple, and brought in his uncle George Pollexfen, Maud Gonne, and Florence Farr. Although he reserved a distaste for abstract and dogmatic religions founded around personality cults, he was attracted to the type of people he met at the Golden Dawn. He was involved in the Order's power struggles, both with Farr and Macgregor Mathers, and was involved when Mathers sent Aleister Crowley to repossess Golden Dawn paraphernalia during

the “Battle of Blythe Road”. After the Golden Dawn ceased and splintered into various offshoots, Yeats remained with the *Stella Matutina* until 1921.


In 1889, Yeats met Maud Gonne, a 23-year-old English heiress and ardent Irish Nationalist. She was eighteen months younger than Yeats and later claimed she met the poet as a “paint-stained art student.” Gonne admired “The Island of Statues” and sought out his acquaintance. Yeats began an obsessive infatuation, and she had a significant and lasting effect on his poetry and his life thereafter. In later years he admitted, “it seems to me that she [Gonne] brought into my life those days or as yet I saw only what lay upon the surface the middle of the tint, a sound as of a Burmese gong, an over-powering tumult that had yet many pleasant secondary notes.” Yeats's love was unrequited, in part due to his reluctance to participate in her nationalist activism.

In 1891 he visited Gonne in Ireland and proposed marriage, but was rejected. He later admitted that from that point “the troubling of my life began”. Yeats proposed to Gonne three more times: in 1899, 1900 and 1901. She refused each proposal, and in 1903, to his dismay, married the Irish nationalist Major John MacBride. His only other love affair during this period was with Olivia Shakespear, whom he first met in 1894, and parted from in 1897.

**Read the second part in our next edition.**



*There is a Solution Group*



*Alcoholics Anonymous*

*Corduff Dublin 15*

Our group meets every Saturday morning at 11am in the **Corduff Community Resource Centre, Blackcourt Road, Corduff, D15** the meeting is **OPEN**, and everyone is welcome to attend and discover what we do. Our only purpose is to show other alcoholics *precisely* how we have recovered, and the **only** requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking, nor are there any fees to be paid. Alcoholics Anonymous is an international fellowship of men and women who have had a drinking problem. It is nonprofessional, self-supporting, multiracial, apolitical, and available almost everywhere. There are no age or education requirements. Membership is open to anyone who wants to do something about his or her drinking problem.

We can be contacted at the following:

Tel: 0858141164

Website: [www.thereisasolutiongroup.wordpress.com](http://www.thereisasolutiongroup.wordpress.com)

E-mail: [tiasgcorduff@gmail.com](mailto:tiasgcorduff@gmail.com)

**All enquiries will be treated in the STRICTEST CONFIDENCE**

# COUNCIL TO BEGIN €4M SCHEME TO SUPPORT SAFER CYCLING AND PEDESTRIAN MOVEMENTS

Fingal County Council is to commence the roll out of a €3.9m programme aimed at developing safer infrastructure for cyclists and pedestrians in towns and villages across the County.



**T**he funding was part of a €55m allocation by the National Transport Authority under the Government's July Jobs Stimulus Plan to support local authorities' response to Covid-19 challenges and assist with their work to equip local communities and businesses with improved walking and cycling infrastructure.

The first scheme to commence will be in Dublin 15 with the creation of a 5km segregated cycle track, 2.5km in each direction, along Hartstown/Hunstown Road which will provide safer cycling route for local people to access schools, recreational areas and local businesses.

The scheme is expected to commence in October and will involve the installation of a concrete kerb and delineators for the cycle lanes along with improvements to existing junctions and cycle lanes.

To minimise disruption to local traffic the works will be undertaken overnight, with a stop/go traffic management in place. Residents and businesses owner living in the area will be informed in advance.

#### Other projects to have received funding are:

- R108 Sillogue – Road Network upgrade including advisory cycle lanes

- R132 Lissenhall, Minister's Road to Blake's Cross and Kilhedge Lane – Improve cycle connection from Lusk to Blake's Cross via Corduff NS. Traffic calming to reduce speeds and redesign of former national road for reduce volumes of traffic and increase cycling and pedestrian activity
- R108 Naul GAA Club – junction improvement required for all road users including cyclists
- Malahide Estuary Cycle connections Seatown Road and Estuary Road – improve cycle connection from Swords to Malahide
- Rathingle Road/River Valley Road, Swords – light segregation of existing cycle lane
- Grange Road, Baldoyle - light segregation of existing cycle lane
- Howth Road - light segregation of existing cycle lane from Sutton to Howth villages
- Skerries Road - light segregation of existing cycle lane
- Skerries Coast – new cycleway beside existing walkway

Mayor of Fingal, David Healy (GP) said: "I welcome the allocation of this significant funding from the NTA towards



the development of walking and cycling infrastructure across the County. With the pandemic we are seeing much higher numbers of people walking in our communities. There has also been a resurgence of cycling during the Covid-19 period. With public transport capacity massively reduced, it is crucial that we develop quality routes for walking and cycling routes to allow movement within our communities.

“As we continue to work to protect ourselves and each other from the Covid-19 pandemic, the availability of safe space for people to walk both for transport and for exercise is more important than ever.

“It is a key action in our Climate Change Action Plan to build out Fingal’s cycle network offering direct routes to local destinations, and this funding will very much allow this to happen. It will have the additional benefit of reducing car use and lowering carbon emissions and reducing congestion.”

Chief Executive AnnMarie Farrelly said: “We want to promote the development of cycling in the County with an emphasis on promoting direct, comfortable, convenient and safe routes. Encouraging people to walk or cycle will also help Fingal County Council to respond to Climate Change, while the promotion of active travel will also improve the health of citizens.

“With the impact of Covid-19 on the use of public transport, it is important that people who would otherwise use public transport are encouraged and facilitated in

choosing a sustainable form of transport such as walking and cycling.”

Director of Operations David Storey said: “Fingal County Council is actively working to improve pedestrian and cycling infrastructure and is prioritising the safety of cyclists through the development of segregated cycle paths where possible. Segregated cycle lanes are known to encourage a wider demographic across the community to cycle/scoot, rather than drive short distances to amenities and schools.

“Providing safe and sustainable infrastructure will undoubtedly assist the growing numbers of cyclists who are now using our roads in towns and villages across Fingal. The segregated cycle routes will encourage all age groups to take a bike to travel short and medium distances, which will help to removed unnecessary vehicular journeys and as a consequence, reduce traffic volumes.”

Chairperson of the Transport and Infrastructure Management Strategic Policy Committee, Cllr Ted Leddy (FG), said: “I am looking forward to seeing the first pilot project commence in Dublin 15 as it will have significant benefits for the residents of this expanding area as they access schools, sports and community facilities, as well as local shops and businesses. The funding will also allow for changes to traffic management arrangements to facilitate the reallocation of overall road space to improve facilities and safety for pedestrians and cyclists.”

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## RETENTION OF 10% LOCAL PROPERTY TAX REDUCTION CRUCIAL TO MAINTAINING COUNCIL SERVICES

**The Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, AnnMarie Farrelly, says the decision of councillors at this month’s Council meeting to retain a 10 per cent reduction in the Local Property Tax for 2021 is crucial to maintaining Council services next year.**

**T**he elected members in Fingal voted by 30 votes to seven, with one abstention, to accept a motion to retain the 10 per cent reduction. Councillors have the option each year to make an adjustment in the Local Property Tax of up to 15 per cent. The vote means that Local Property Tax bills in Fingal will remain unchanged for a fourth successive year

Fingal County Council will invest the €2m now available as a result of the decision in local communities across a range of different services and the Chief Executive said this sum is vital given the pressure on Council budgets.

Ms Farrelly said: “The decision of the elected members to retain the 10 per cent reduction is required to maintain services next year. As we are now facing difficult budgetary challenges because of the impact of the COVID-19

pandemic. As in the previous three years, this decision will yield €2m in funding which will be ring-fenced for a range of services for important areas such as housing, parks and open spaces, operations, community and libraries.

“The Council’s Management Team will continue to work closely with the Corporate Policy Group and the various political parties to agree the 2021 Budget. Our key objective is to ensure our operational services are maintained. There is no doubt that having an additional €2m a year to spend since 2018 has made a difference across the county and I would like to thank our Elected Members for their continued support.”

The discussion on the Local Property Tax at the September monthly meeting can be viewed at :

**[www.fingal.ie](http://www.fingal.ie)**

# Cllr. Ted LEDDY

FINE GAEL 



In 2019 I was appointed chair on the Transport and Infrastructure Management Strategic Policy Committee (SPC). This is a very important SPC that brings together all the stake holders to formulate policy that could better improve our existing walking and cycling infrastructure.

There are a number of projects underway to improve transport in Dublin 15, such as Bus Connects, electrification of the Maynooth line and the Royal Canal Greenway extension. However, these projects will not be completed for several years. This is why we must initiate

changes in the shorter term, that improve our existing infrastructure which will help to alleviate congestion.

The need to improve our existing infrastructure has been highlighted even more during Covid restrictions. There are many shorter journeys which the residence of Dublin 15 could take on foot or by bicycle if the quality infrastructure were in place. I am determined to use my new role to make meaningful changes in these areas that will help address the worsening traffic and congestion problems that we have witnessed in recent years.

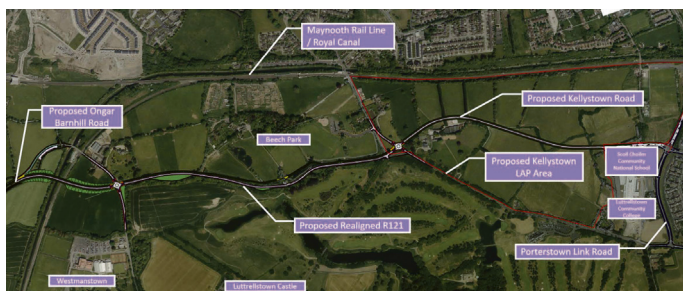
## MAYNOOTH LINE ELECTRIFICATION

The electrification of the Maynooth line will be of massive benefit to the people of Dublin 15. The consultation process is currently underway. Due to feedback from residents and public representatives, Irish Rail have made the decision to further extend the public consultation period for DART+ West until 21st October at 17:00hrs. If you wish to make a submission you can do so by emailing [DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie](mailto:DARTMaynooth@irishrail.ie) or logging on to [irishrail.ie](http://irishrail.ie)

## 28 STOREY HOTEL

A planning application has been submitted for a four block commercial development on the site of Junction Six, where the N3 meets the M50. While I have no objection in principle to new development on this site, one of the blocks will consist of a 28 storey hotel. This would make it the tallest building in the Republic of Ireland. In my view such a development would be unacceptable for local residents as it would completely dominate nearby housing estates. If anybody wished to discuss this further, please get in contact with me at [tedleddy2014@gmail.com](mailto:tedleddy2014@gmail.com)

## KELLYSTOWN ROAD



Fingal County Council is proposing to develop the Kellystown Road which will provide a link from Porterstown to Barnhill, to improve road safety & connectivity whilst allowing for the development of a new urban neighbourhood. Read more & have your say at <https://consult.fingal.ie/en>





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# Jack Chambers TD

Government Chief Whip - Príomh Aoire an Rialtais

Minister of State for Sport & The Gaeltacht | Aire Stáit do Spórt & don Ghaeltacht

**FIANNA Fáil**  
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY



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I want to take this opportunity to update you on local matters outlined below which I hope will be of interest to you. I appreciate this is a very difficult time for so many households and families. A key priority of the government has been to protect and support key public services across education, childcare and healthcare whilst suppressing the virus during this pandemic. We recognise an important

balance has to be struck between protecting people's physical and mental wellbeing while also ensuring our society can recover from the necessary health restrictions that have been put in place. The Resilience & Recovery roadmap is our medium-term approach to managing risk and repairing the damage that COVID-19 has inflicted on society. The roadmap works in conjunction with the €7.4bn July Stimulus package and the recent €17bn Budget 2021 - all of which will protect jobs and support businesses. However the actions of individual people in everyday life remains the most important factor in tackling the virus. Good hand hygiene, proper wearing of face coverings, social distancing and limiting our contacts are essential in preventing the spread of infection. Our overall objective is to suppress the virus to its lowest possible level and continue to support our economy and society.

It continues to be a great honour to represent the people of Dublin West in the Dáil and also in Government as the Chief Whip and Minister of State for Sport and the Gaeltacht.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if I can ever assist you with any local or national issues.

Yours sincerely,  
Jack



Chabhraigh mé le déanaí, i mo ról mar Aire na Gaeltachta, le seoladh #SEAS20 do Conradh na Gaeilge ag Teach Laighean. Bhí sé iontach dul i dteagmháil arís le Julian de Spáinn, Ard Rúnaí na heagraíochta agus cuid eile den foireann chun maoiniú, tacaíocht agus reachtaíocht a phlé leo chun an Ghaeilge a chosaint agus a chuir chun cinn.

## PORTERSTOWN PARK UPDATE

I have received the following update from Fingal County Council in relation to Porterstown Park: "Some path and pitch improvements have been completed over the past 12 months. Over the coming 12 months and following a successful Part 8 planning process it is planned to

construct the new recreational hub incorporating a full-sized all-weather soccer pitch and all-weather running track with associated flood lighting and path network." I am working to ensure these plans are carried out in a timely manner.



# KELLYSTOWN CEMETERY

I have received the following update in relation to the development of Kellystown graveyard from Fingal County Council: "The pre-qualification stage for Phase 1B of this development was completed at the end of Q1 and we have shortlisted 7 contractors to move on to the next phase of the tender process. The design team have reported that due to changes required to allow contractors comply with Covid 19 requirements the detailed design has had to be changed which has resulted in a delay in the tender issue. It is now

expected that the deadline date for the return of these tender documents will be late September 2020. Following the return of documents, a tender assessment panel will be set up comprising in house technical staff and members of the consultant design team and tender specialists to assess the tender. It is still hoped to have a preferred contractor selected and all the due diligence completed as part of the tender process and to have a contractor on site and commencing work in November 2020."



As Minister for Sport I launched the Irish Sport Monitor 2019 report recently alongside Minister Catherine Martin, Chairman of Sport Ireland Kieran Mulvey and Sport Ireland CEO John Treacy. The report showed adults are exercising more regularly than ever before while the gender gap between those regularly participating in sport has also fallen.

## PHOENIX PARK UPDATE

A new steering group has been established to oversee the development of new transport and mobility plans for the Phoenix Park. The group, comprised

of the CEOs of the OPW, Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council and the NTA, will review submissions received from previous public consultation processes and report back to the Minister this autumn with a range of options to address transport and mobility challenges in the Park. These options will then put to a further public consultation in the coming months. I will keep you updated on developments in this regard.

## EDMUND RICE SCHOOL

I am eager to see the development of the permanent school building for the Edmund Rice Trust school in the Phoenix Park Racecourse without any further delays and

I am in regular contact with the Department of Education in relation to the project. The most recent information I have received is that the tender returns for project are due back in mid-November with a contract awarded and work to start on site in February 2021. Phase 1 Handover of the school is due to take place in February 2022 with full handover scheduled for October 2022. I am working with the school to try and progress this matter.



## Jack Chambers TD

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Minister of State for Sport & The Gaeltacht  
Aire Stáit do Spórt & don Ghaeltacht



# FESTIVAL OF HISTORY



**The fourth annual Fingal Festival of History was launched by the Mayor of Fingal Cllr. David Healy last month.**

**T**his year's festival took place online with all talks being made available on the Fingal Libraries YouTube channel and social media platforms throughout the week of the festival from September 12 to 19.

The centenary of the Sack of Balbriggan took place this year and provided the main theme for the Festival. This year's programme again featured the History at the Castle day with a variety of speakers presenting on topics relating to the Sack of Balbriggan, the War of Independence and other political conditions relevant during this period of Ireland's history.

The Mayor of Fingal, David Healy (GP) said: "With everything that has happened so far this year it is important to have a perspective on things. It is important that we take time to look back on our history, and it is fantastic that this year's Festival of History still took place. Like most events these days it was done differently with all the history talks being recorded in the Chapel at Swords Castle. I would like to thank all of the Library staff of Fingal County Council who have made these talks possible."

County Librarian Betty Boardman said: "We were determined to go ahead with the Fingal Festival of History this year despite COVID-19. However, this was a festival with a difference, because due to very necessary COVID-19 restrictions, there were no live audiences, but the talks were recorded and broadcast for people to enjoy on our YouTube channel and our social media platforms. Staff in Libraries put together a fascinating programme marking the centenary of the Sack of Balbriggan and the 175th anniversary of the visit to Ireland of Frederick Douglass, African American abolitionist and former slave."

Talks being recorded in the Chapel at Swords Castle included a retrospective view of the Sack of Balbriggan from local historian and former Senior Librarian, Fingal libraries, Jim Walsh, events interlinked to the Sack of Balbriggan by Cllr. Cathal Boland, how the Sack of Balbriggan inspired Brian Gallagher's successful children's novel *Pawns* and the life of Molly Adrian by Lou Boland.

Declan Brady examined Local Government and the War of Independence in Fingal; historian Brian Hanley discussed the role of the Tans and Auxiliary forces during the War of Independence and Brian Dorney discussed how the War of Independence unfolded in Dublin.

To conclude David O'Connor accompanied by Aidan and Helen Lawlor performed a selection of music and songs relating to the period with songs including 'The Bold Black and Tan' and 'Kevin Barry'.

AnnMarie Farrelly, Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, said: "The Festival of History is such an important annual event for Fingal, and it is fantastic to see the dedication that our Library's team have put in to make sure that the Festival could take place this year. The focus of this year's Festival was the centenary anniversary of the Sack of Balbriggan and a wonderful programme of talks were lined up to commemorate this event."

A special feature of this year's Fingal Festival of History is the specially commissioned exhibition produced about the Sack of Balbriggan. The exhibition, curated by Catherine Keane, Senior Librarian, Fingal Libraries was on display in the Atrium at County Hall, Swords during September. This exhibition was also available for viewing online.

The exhibition included six mounted information panels and the display of original documents specific to this event including, original hand-written Minutes of meetings of Balbriggan Town Commissioners, an original copy of the Decree of Compensation for Criminal Injury to Property awarded to a Clonard Street resident and the acknowledgement by William Cochrane that he will attend a meeting regarding the matter with the Provisional Government and Michael Collins. British Pathé news reels footage showing the aftermath of the destruction also formed part of the exhibition.

U.S. historian Cecelia Hartsell who specialises in African American history and American social history also presented talks on Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass in Ireland and *Blood Sacrifice: Political struggles of Irish Nationalists and African Americans during the Great War Period*.



# CHARACTER OF VILLAGE UNDER THREAT?



The future of Clonsilla village in terms of the retention of its character is under threat due in part to the proposed sale of the Old Lodge in Clonsilla, a local representative believes.

**C**llr Tania Doyle (Ind) who has been consistently active in protecting Clonsilla's historic character, particularly in the campaign to save an ancient oak tree which was unfortunately cut down.

"Daft.ie on behalf of Sherry FitzGerald Castleknock has the Old Lodge in Clonsilla listed for Sale. at a guide price of €1.5 Million. The Lodge itself dates back to before the turn of the 20th century. It is not a protected structure sadly. For some time now I have called for an up to date Clonsilla Urban Strategy to give a vision for the development of this linear village and I anticipate it's release towards the end of the year. I've brought forward a number of Motions over time among which I secured that all Development within the curtilage of Clonsilla Village is limited to three storey in height. Special significance was given to the "Old Schoolhouse" but Clonsilla is loosing it's linear village aspect. Given that this sale of by private treaty I will be writing to the Heritage Department of Fingal County Council to raise Objective CLONSILLA 4 of our County Development Plan which specifically gives mention to "Protect the historic character of Clonsilla Village by conserving old houses and cottages and only permitting sensitive development" Clonsilla has lost enough it can't lose any more.

**A spokesperson for the council responded saying:**

"Fingal County Council cannot comment on an



**Cllr Tania Doyle**  
(Independent)

advertisement for the sale of a private site. The County Development Plan and the Clonsilla Urban Framework Plan provide planning tools to assess and guide future development proposals for Clonsilla Village. Fingal County Council will also be engaging with councilors and the community when we begin the process of updating the current Clonsilla Urban Framework Plan in the coming months."

# RUN YOUR TOWN

## 500 participants in Run Your Town Initiative

**T**his year's festival took place online with all talks being made available on the Fingal Libraries YouTube channel and social media platforms throughout the week of the festival from September 12 to 19.

Fingal County Council's Sports Office in partnership with the Fingal Orienteers Club, the Irish Orienteering Association with support from Sport Ireland through Dormant accounts funding organised a very successful orienteering initiative called 'Run Your Town' which was launched during the European Week of Sport.

The programme saw 147 registrations with 509 participants taking part in this innovative programme that gave participants the opportunity to try out orienteering in Balbriggan, Castleknock, Lusk, Portmarnock and Tyrrelstown. Participants used a live map downloaded onto their phone and ran a short, medium or long course around their town in a specific order to hit the exact points on the map.

### The figures for participation in each area is as follows: Numbers that took part:

**Balbriggan - 202**

**Castleknock - 36**

**Lusk - 117**

**Portmarnock - 124**

**Tyrrelstown - 30**

**Total = 147 Registrations (509 people)**

Mayor of Fingal, David Healy (GP) said: "The Run Your Town Initiative is a fantastic development and a great way to get people active in the community. In this new world of travel restrictions and reduced movement between countries and event regions it's promoting activity in your area and I would hope we are able to offer this initiative to every town in Fingal."

Chief Executive of Fingal County Council AnnMarie Farrelly said: "We have all seen the benefits of the involvement in physical activity over the last few months and it's great to see a project developed as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. It demonstrates Fingal's commitment to working within the community to provide important health and wellbeing initiatives in a fun way."

Director of Services, Housing & Community, Margaret Geraghty, said: "The Run Your Town project is a great



initiative by Fingal County Council's Sports Office. The sports office has worked hard over the last number of months coming up with new and innovative ways to keep people active and engaged in sport throughout the pandemic. It further enhances the amenities in the Balbriggan, Castleknock, Lusk, Malahide and Tyrrelstown and provides a recreational tool, which can be used by its residents at a time that suits them."

For this initial phase of the project 5 towns were selected around Fingal and it is hoped more towns, villages and areas around Fingal could be mapped with orienteering courses set up to allow people the opportunity to try out this free orienteering programme in their locality.

**The programme is still live so why not walk or run at your own pace and find parts of your town that you didn't know existed. If you're interested in registering or would like to know more about the Run Your Town project please check out: [bit.ly/33vEdXG](https://bit.ly/33vEdXG)  
Email [sports@fingal.ie](mailto:sports@fingal.ie)**



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# COUNCIL AND O'DWYERS SIGN CONTRACTS TO PAVE WAY FOR GAA CLUB'S MOVE TO BREMORE REGIONAL PARK



O'Dwyers have sold their facility at Hamlet Lane to the Council and taken a long-term lease for a 10 acre site on the northern boundary of Bremore Regional Park which it will now proceed to develop into a state-of-the-art sporting facility.

The Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Ann Marie Farrelly, completed the contract process when she put pen to paper during a virtual meeting involving club officials, council staff and councillors from the Balbriggan Local Electoral Area. The meeting was held online to comply with Government measures in relation to COVID-19.

"The move to Bremore Regional Park will allow O'Dwyers to put in place the foundations for the next 100 years of its history and will also assist the club with the work it is doing for the youngest population in Ireland," said Mayor of Fingal, Cllr David Healy.

In 2018, members of O'Dwyers agreed to move to a new facility at Bremore Regional Park and to sell their current ground at Hamlet Lane to the Council to facilitate road improvements and new housing in the area. The club are planning to develop a new clubhouse, sports hall, sports pitches, parking and training areas at Bremore which will be in alignment with the council's overall vision for the park.

Ms Farrelly said: "We are delighted that we have now signed the contracts and look forward to seeing O'Dwyers develop a top-class sporting facility in Bremore. The rejuvenation of Balbriggan through Our Balbriggan is a key priority for the Council and the provision of better sports facilities across the

town is very important. Sport has an important role to play in terms of physical and mental well-being, community integration and tackling social issues such as Anti-Social Behaviour.

Liam Howley, Chairman of O'Dwyers GAA Club, said: "It has taken a long time and a lot of hard work to get to this point and are delighted that we can now plan to commence construction and deliver this fantastic project. O'Dwyers is a fully integrated club, active in all areas of social and sports activities promoted by the GAA. The new facilities will allow us to better cater for our growing membership and increased number of teams. We are all very excited about delivering this project for the whole of the Balbriggan area. I would like to thank everyone who has helped get the project to this stage."

Fingal County Council's Director of Planning and Strategic Infrastructure, Matthew McAleese, said: "This agreement gives O'Dwyers the opportunity to develop a state-of-the-art sports facility that will cater for their growing membership and will be another excellent facility attached to Bremore Regional Park as well as being a major asset for the town of Balbriggan."

Bremore Regional Park is a 100-acre facility in north Balbriggan along the R132 which is being developed by the council to support and service the outdoor recreational needs of the town's young and rapidly growing population.

It will feature a major community and tourism hub focused around the restored medieval Bremore Castle and associated visitor services.

A range of sporting facilities will be provided including the already completed 3G All-weather sports pitch as well as at least six additional public grass pitches.



# CLUB NOTES

## ST BRIGIDS

The Trustees and members of St. Brigids wish to extend our deepest sympathies to the Phillips Family on the passing of Daniel O'Brien, father of Stephanie Phillips.

O'Brien Daniel, Cleenish Park, Enniskillen, died peacefully, 2nd October 2020, in the loving care of the palliative care staff, Omagh Hospital, surrounded by his loving family. Dearly beloved husband of Mary O'Brien and loving father of Stephen (Sally) & Stephanie (Fearghal Phillips), devoted grandfather to Eva, Sean, Hannah, Cara, Aimee, Jessie and baby Katie.

Our Club Nursery continues every Saturday from 9.30 to 11.00. All 4 to 7 year olds welcome. Just pop down and join in the fun. Thank you to Sherry Fitzgerald for their sponsorship.

Mid-Term advanced camp for 13 to 16 year old boys and girls from 30th October to 1st November. Click on the MIDTERM CAMP button on the website for details and to sign up. Level 1/Award 1 Coaching Course Friday 30th November 7pm - 10pm, Saturday 1st December 10am - 4pm, Friday 7th December 7-10pm, Saturday 8th December 10-4pm, Contact @BarryMullane1 or barry.mullane.gpo.dublin@gaa.ie to book your place.

Congratulations to Eoin Kennedy and Carl Browne who had a comprehensive win in the Senior Doubles Semi-final against Gavin Buggy and Tommy Hynes, winning 21-3, 21-8. They will now face Meath pairing Brian Carroll and Gary McConnell in the All-Ireland final on Saturday 27th October in Croke Park.

Well done to the Intermediate 1 Camogie team who won their Shield Final, 3-05 to 1-09 against St Peregrines. Team spirit and a great work rate was in evidence and the players pushed hard to earn a great win. Well done to the players and to Aodh and Anne. Match report now on website!

Congrats to both our Minor Hurling teams who qualified for their respective Championship Quarter Finals.

AFL7 Footballers also recorded a great 1-09 to 1-08 league win over Ballinteer St Johns.

Minor Football Quarter Finals this weekend, A team is home to Naomh Mearnog at 11, B team away to Ballyboden.

Junior hurlers have home quarter final and play Naomh

Mearnog at 12.00 on Sunday while AHL4 have their final league game on Saturday in Russell Park at 4.30pm.

U13 Ladies football play Cup final on Saturday and meet Clontarf.

Thank you to everyone who supports St Brigid's Club Lotto and to our great Lotto Committee. There was no Lotto Jackpot winner last week. Our next Lotto draw is in the Roselawn Inn on Thursday 18th October when the Jackpot will be €7,400.

All in St Brigid's would like to extend our sympathy to the Hilliard family following the passing of Brendan Hilliard.

Great results for our Adult and Minor teams who were in action this weekend. Our Senior Ladies Footballers withstood a late comeback from Thomas Davis to reach the Championship final where they will meet Foxrock Cabinteely this Friday evening.

Both our Minor football teams gained Championship wins over St Catherines and Castleknock on Sunday. Our Inter Hurlers are through to their semi-final and will play Naomh Mearnog. Our Junior Hurlers had a good win over Round Towers Clondalkin also in Championship.

Eoin Kennedy will be in action on September 29th, when he faces Westmeath's Robbie McCarthy in the All-Ireland Senior Singles final.

Dublin Masters and Dublin Ladies Football teams were invited by the Lord Mayor to a Civic Reception on Tuesday last, it was a lovely occasion and great to see so many St Brigid's representatives.

Nursery every Saturday from 9.30 to 11.00. All 4 to 7 year olds welcome. Just pop down and join in the fun. Thank you to Sherry Fitzgerald for their sponsorship.

Thank you to everyone who supports St Brigid's Club Lotto and to our great Lotto Committee. There was no Lotto Jackpot winner last week. Our next Lotto draw is in Myo's on Friday 28th September when the Jackpot will be €6,800.

Keep up with all our news on our website [www.stbrigidsgaa.com](http://www.stbrigidsgaa.com) and on our Twitter and Facebook pages.

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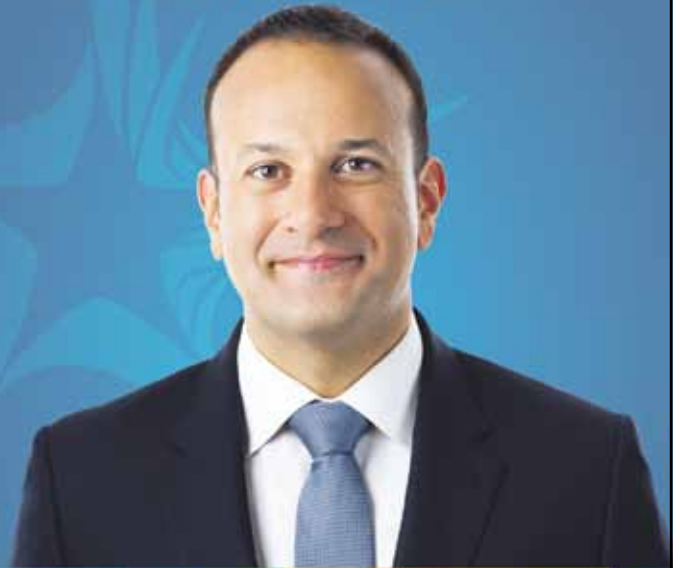
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