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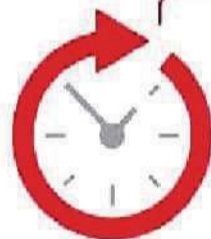
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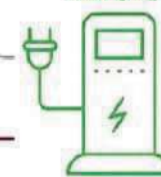


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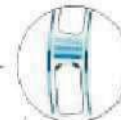
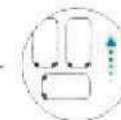
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Thursday, November 21, 2019

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NEWS • ENTERTAINMENT • SPORT

Gran in hunger strike over climate change

SENAN HOGAN
 editor@kildarepost.com

A Kildare grandmother (78) says she has been left with no choice but to go on hunger strike over government inaction on climate change.

Patricia Devlin (right), who lives in Monasterevin, began her protest outside the gates of Leinster House yesterday and vowed to continue until she gets positive commitments on the issue from the Government.

Patricia, who has two young grandchildren, told the Kildare Post: "I worry for the future of our planet and in particular the legacy I am leaving for



my grandchildren.

"I am making a stand on behalf of myself, my family and my generation."

The Australian native said she is seeking a meeting with Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment Richard Bruton and that she may call off her hunger strike if he convinces her that the Government is serious about addressing the dangers of climate change.

She added: "If I meet the minister and he tells me what I want to hear, then I'm off home tomorrow."

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YOUNG FAN MEETS JAMIE IN NAAS

Retired rugby star Jamie Heaslip pictured with fan Eoin Cassidy who got a 2011 photo with the Naas native signed at Barker & Jones, Naas, on Sunday, November 17. Jamie was in Naas to sign copies of his new book All In, See page 36 for more pictures: PHOTO: AISHLING CONWAY

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Contact us

EDITORIAL

Rose Barrett O'Donoghue
News Editor / Multimedia Journalist
editor@kildarepost.com



Senan Hogan
Content Manager
senanhogan@kildarenow.com



Louise McCarthy
Senior Multimedia Journalist
louismccarthy@kildarenow.com



Aishling Conway
Photographer
photos@kildarepost.com



COMMERCIAL TEAM

Anna Fortune
Commercial Manager
086 728 8898
anna.fortune@kildarepost.com



Cathryn Kelleher
Multimedia Account Manager
086 7288 778
cathryn.kelleher@kildarepost.com



Michael McHugh
Multimedia Account Manager
045 408 200
michael@kildarepost.com



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NEWS

Kildare granny in protest over climate

SENAN HOGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

CONT. from previous page

During the protest in Dublin, Patricia held photos of her two grandchildren — Ollie (4) and baby Liam.

Patricia is part of a week-long global action by Extinction Rebellion, which campaigns against the current government's climate policies, which they claim will not meet environmental targets.

Extinction Rebellion said that Patricia has been offered accommodation for the duration of her climate hunger strike.

A spokesperson added: "She has not taken the decision to go on hunger strike lightly, and has had a health check by her GP beforehand.

"However, she says she has no other option given what she describes as insufficient action on the part of Irish political leaders."

Patricia explained that several

parts of the world are being seriously impacted by rising sea levels, extreme weather conditions, desertification and forced migration.

She added: "Many children and families are suffering right now from the effects of climate change."

Patricia said that becoming a grandparent has caused her to reflect more deeply on life and on the future of her grandchildren.

She said: "I fear for what kind of life will my grandsons will have. Will they have a chance to have grandchildren like me?"

"I think other grandparents should be worried as well.

The Kildare resident said she is in good health and has undergone 48-hour fasts before.

She said that a hunger strike is like a fast which was used in Christian times for atonement.

She encouraged others to change their lifestyle patterns and to consider the future of the planet.



Patricia protesting outside the Dáil yesterday with a placard and a photo of her grandchildren. PHOTO: Extinction Rebellion Ireland/Twitter

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Co Kildare Chamber awards night
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Restaurant Review: The Priors
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Plus all our regular weekly columns: Stylicious, Health, Motors, Sport, and more

Yvonne recovers after accident

Kildare native and former model Yvonne Connolly said that she is "grateful to be alive" following a serious horse riding accident in recent days.

The brave TV personality was rushed for emergency surgery in St James' Hospital, Dublin, after she suffered four fractures to her eye socket and cheek bone.

She was also suffered a severe broken nose after being kicked in the face by the animal last week.

Explaining what happened during the traumatic episode, Yvonne said: "So grateful to be alive after a serious riding accident.

"Four fractures to my eye socket and cheek bone and my nose was completely smashed. I also broke

my arm.

"Two surgeries over the past 10 days under the magical hands of Dr Kumara Ekanayake and the incredible hospital staff."

The mother-of-three went on to thank those close to her for their support and kind thoughts during this difficult time for her.

Yvonne added: "Thanks too to all my friends and family and to those who sent such lovely messages of support."

Yvonne recently took part in a series of races to raise money for injured jockeys. In July, she won in the Corinthian Challenge Charity Race Series at the Curragh.

Yvonne split from ex-Boyzone star Ronan Keating in 2010.



Yvonne is a keen horserider and has competed in charity races at the Curragh Racecourse and other venues. PHOTO: Yvonne Connolly/Twitter

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Garda search continues in Monasterevin for missing Laois man

CONOR GANLY
editor@kildarepost.com

The search continues in Monasterevin for missing Laois man, William Delaney (56).

Garda divers and the Irish Army worked with gardai and other specialist policing units near Monasterevin earlier this week in the search for Mr Delaney whom gardai suspect as having been murdered. Monday last saw an extensive search of lands commence on the outskirts of Monasterevin, as part of the ongoing investigation into Mr Delaney's disappearance.

Mr Delaney was reported missing by his family from his home in Fielbrook in January this year with the last definitive sighting being at a house near the Hazel Hotel, Monasterevin on January 30. A signal from his mobile phone on the same date in the Monasterevin area is the last known activity of Mr Delaney.

Laois Offaly gardai are leading the investigation, and are being assisted by the Irish Army engineering corps and the Garda Sub-Aqua unit. The search, which began on Monday last, could take up to five days due to the nature of the terrain. Garda divers were deployed to the Grand Canal in Monasterevin on Monday and a drone was also in operation.

An individual, who is not a suspect in the inquiry, has told gardai that the



A garda sub aqua diver searching the canal at Monasterevin on Monday.
Photo: Michael Scully

last occasion he met Mr Delaney was around 2.30pm on Wednesday, January 30. Gardai are understood to be following up on this information and not new material evidence, other than the mobile phone signal.

Mr Delaney was reported missing by his family on January 23. His daughter, Ann Marie, said the family is very worried.

"We are hoping they don't find anything because we don't want a dead body," she said.

"It is very worrying and stressful for the family. We are worrying every

day about where he is and what he is doing. God forbid if he is murdered or dead," she said. The family have decided not to attend the search scene to allow gardai carry out their work. Gardai upgraded their investigation into Mr Delaney's disappearance to a murder inquiry in June last.

Portlaoise Gardai are leading the murder inquiry and search for Mr Delaney. Anyone with information can also ring the Garda Confidential Telephone Number 1800 666 111, or contact Portlaoise Garda at 057 86 74100, or any Garda station.

CRIMEBRIEFS

Robbery in Leixlip

A woman waiting for a train in Confey train station was approached by two black males on Sunday evening last at 5.20pm. They attempted to take her phone but the woman fought back, and an assault took place, before the men left empty handed. Gardai believe the men left via the train in the direction of Dublin.

Burglaries across Kildare

Gardai are investigating a string of burglaries which occurred in Co Kildare over the past week, and are open to the possibility that they may have been linked. On Thursday, November 14, a house in the Oakgrove area of Derriturn was broken into. The owner went out for a few hours and returned at 6pm to discover that the back patio door had been smashed and property taken.

The Greenhills area of Donadea was the location of a burglary last Friday, November 15, at some time between 8am and 8.50pm. Gardai report that a window was smashed at the side of the house and items were taken.

In the Rathangan estate of Ard Mhuire, last Friday, November 15, between 9am and 7pm, a house was broken into. The owners of the house had gone to work for the day. The front door was forced open and the house ransacked, with property taken.

In Newbridge's Baroda Court last Sunday evening, a homeowner returned to find that their rear window was smashed. Entry was gained and items were taken. The homeowner was away between Friday at 10am and Sunday afternoon.

In Maynooth at Carton Woods, a homeowner was away for the weekend and a burglary occurred. The rear patio door of the house was smashed and jewellery was taken.

Also in Maynooth at 2.30am in the early hours of Monday morning, an electronics shop in Carton Park had its front window smashed and entry was gained. However, the would-be perpetrators got away with nothing. In Straffan Manor, Straffan, a house burglary occurred on the evening of Monday, November 18, between 5.45 to 6pm. Glass was broken in the back door, the house entered and ransacked.

Car theft

Gardai are appealing for witnesses to the theft of a car from the Dublin Road in Naas which occurred on Sunday night or early Monday morning. A grey BMW 520 saloon with registration number 171 D 46318 was taken.

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NEWS

Minister to open €100m Lidl warehouse tomorrow

SENAN HOGAN
editor@kildarepost.com

Lidl will be unveiling its brand new €100m Regional Distribution Centre near Newbridge tomorrow [Friday] morning.

Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohoe will officially open the facility — Lidl Ireland's single largest investment since its arrival in Ireland in 2000.

The Managing Director of Lidl Ireland and Northern Ireland, JP Scally and senior executives are attending the official opening.

Up to 300 workers were on site at any one time during the building of the 54,000 sq/m facility building which is about the size of seven football pitches.

The development is located on the side of the R445 between Naas and Newbridge.

The sprawling 31 hectare site (77 acres) is located between Naas Enterprise Park and the Pfizer plant.

The new warehouse and distribution hub will service Lidl's stores in the wider

Leinster area.

Dublin-based John Paul Construction was the main contractor for the project.

The first sod was turned in late September last year and was attended by Maureen Bergin, president of the Kildare Chamber of Commerce and Peter Carey, Chief Executive of Kildare County Council.

The warehouse will be one of the biggest in Ireland with over 80 loading bays and will include 352 parking spaces to cater for staff vehicles.

A total of 32 cycle parking spaces are also provided for.

A 400m stretch of the R445 regional road has been upgraded as part of the proposed development including junction reconfigurations and partial realignment.

An estimated €1m worth of energy-saving solar panels will be installed on the roof of the large-scale depot.

The solar panels will produce over one million kilowatt hours of energy, enough power for 240 homes — and will reduce the carbon output by some 473 tonnes annually.



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Developer lodges plans for 1,324 homes in Kildare

SENAN HOGAN
 editor@kildarepost.com

A massive single housing development has been proposed for an area near Kildare town.

Being proposed are 1,324 residential units comprising of 516 houses, 808 apartments and a creche.

The planned development by Dublin-based construction firm Makros Ltd is part of a Strategic Housing Development which has been submitted to An Bord Pleanála as part of the Government's fast-track scheme designed to create more housing supply across the country.

An Bord Pleanála is due to decide on the project before January 17.

Developer Makros Ltd was established in 2005 and is based in Howth, Co Dublin.

One of its directors is Patrick J Conlan with an address in Kildare town.

Last year, Makros was



ABOVE AND RIGHT: 516 houses, 808 apartments and a creche are planned on a site a few kilometres from the centre of Kildare town by developer Makros Ltd which was established in 2005 and is based in Howth, Co Dublin

granted permission by Kildare Co Council for 191 homes and new access roads in an area close to the latest proposed development.

The 9.17 hectare site is

located between Green Road and Southgreen Road (also known as Hill Road) and Old Road and the Dunmurray Road (R401).

The approved plans

showed a mix of detached, semi-detached and terraced house type units with green space areas.

Also in the designs were 85 car parking spaces, two ESB

Sub Stations and public open space areas.

Locals are expected to send submissions on this latest development

Meanwhile an Bord

Pleanála has approved a Strategic Housing Development application for 366 homes at Capdoo, Clane.

The application was submitted in June.

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NEWS

Naas rallies around baby Amelia

PAUL O'MEARA
 editor@kildarepost.com

A charity soccer game held in Naas recently for local baby Amelia Fagan was a huge success.

The fundraiser for the young Naas girl was held on Sunday, November 17.

It began with a charity soccer game in Ballycane for Dermot Murray Memorial Cup, a perpetual trophy which was initiated as a fundraising prize in memory of Dermot Murray.

It was donated by residents in Lacken



Noel Murray and Mick Fennessy who helped organise the event

View and the game was organised by soccer coach Noel Murray.

Amelia is the only child of Naas couple Eugene Fagan and Lisa Callaghan.



The 'Red Jerseys' team who took part in the Charity soccer match in aid of the Baby Amelia Fagan Fund, at the Ballycane Celtic pitch, Naas, Sunday, November 17. Pictures: Tony Keane

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The 'Green Jerseys' team who took part in the charity soccer game



Team captains on the day, Tommy Dooley, and Wayne Doyle

On November 6, she underwent an operation at Our Lady's Children's Hospital, Crumlin, to remove a kidney and a huge tumour, which accounted for 20% of her body weight.

A GoFundMe page styled 'Warrior Princess Amelia' has been opened for anyone seeking to make a donation.

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NEWS

€500,000 win in EuroMillions for Kildare construction worker

A construction worker from Leixlip, Co Kildare, is laughing all the way to the bank after he and a group of close friends visited National Lottery offices to help him claim a EuroMillions Plus top prize of €500,000 which he won on Friday, 15 November.

Oliver Morrin (65) who works in the construction industry had been aiming to retire next year, and his pension fund has now been boosted by a half a million euros as he starts planning for his future.

Speaking at National Lottery headquarters on Tuesday last, the delighted winner said, "Believe it or not, I was apprehensive about coming up to Dublin to claim this prize. I needn't have been nervous because this has been one of the most special days of my life! A big group of us got a mini-bus up from Leixlip and the craic has been almighty. I am joined here by my closest friends and I really couldn't have asked for a more magical experience" he said.

Oliver, who is originally from Connemara in Co Galway, purchased his lucky Quick Pick ticket on his way home from work last Friday evening at the Spawell

Service Station in Dublin 6W and he admitted that he has been enjoying the celebrations with his close friends ever since.

"It's not every day that you win €500,000, that's for sure. The very second that I found out, I decided to share the news with my family and friends. While I may have left my home in Galway nearly 50 years ago, I still have a lot of family there so I'm looking forward to getting back out west and carrying on the celebrations with them towards the end of the week," he smiled.

So far in 2019, there have been 28 winners of the €500,000 EuroMillion Plus top prize in Ireland. 2019 could be a record breaking year for top prizes won in the EuroMillions Plus game in Ireland. In 2017 there were a record of 31 winners of the €500,000 EuroMillions Plus top prize.

On his plans for spending his €500,000 windfall, Oliver said that he has already put a plan in place to ensure that the money makes his retirement a lot more comfortable than he had originally planned: "I absolutely love my job and I'm certainly in no rush to retire just yet. I am fighting fit and I don't feel



Oliver Morrin from Leixlip, Co Kildare celebrates with after he claimed a €500,000 EuroMillions Plus top prize from National Lottery headquarters which he won on Friday 15th November. The winning ticket was sold on the Spawell Service station in Spawell, Dublin 6W. David Morrin is pictured here centre with from left - John Hughes, Brian Cushen, Margaret Keegan, Stephen Gartlan and Patsy McDonagh PIC: MAC INNES PHOTOGRAPHY

like I am ready to give up work just yet.

"That being said, I do have a

pension and all of that but this prize just ensures that I'll be able to enjoy it that much more and maybe I'll be

able to focus on my golf a little bit more at some fancy courses," he added.



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Rathangan GAA night

Rathangan GAA are hosting their annual fundraiser this year in Newbridge Greyhound Track on Saturday, December 14, from 7pm.

Organisers said this is a fantastic opportunity to come together as a club and community and enjoy a fun-filled evening.

Santa Claus arriving at 7pm with a treat for the kids.

Family tickets for the evening cost €25.

The club said it is hoping people will come along and support their club.

Tickets can be purchased locally in Natasha's in Rathangan or from committee members.

Annual Christmas Fair at the Mill

The annual Christmas Fair will be hosted at the Mill in Celbridge on this Saturday and Sunday. Activities include festive crafts, jewellery and gifts. Sunday Festive Family afternoon will include Magic Martha, bouncing castle, face painting and of course, Santa's Grotto.

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NEWS

Blue Sari and Mullins makes it a hat trick at Punchestown

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
editor@kildarepost.com

Blue Sari, a runner up at Cheltenham last year validated his 3/10 betting price on Saturday last as he claimed the KildareNow Maiden Hurdle at Punchestown, giving trainer Willie Mullins his third win of the day. Jockey Mark Walsh contained the gelding who was somewhat loose in moving up to challenge for the lead two from home.

Blue Sari, however, stayed the course and saw off the challenge of Ashdale Bob and The Bosses Oscar who finished half a length behind Blue Sari, with 50/1 shot Brinkley finishing strongly to take third place. Walsh noted after the race that he was happy with the gelding winning his first maiden but that perhaps a faster, shorter race might suit Blue Sari.

Faugheen, a crowd favourite at Punchestown romped home to win the Naas Oil Steeplechase Hurdle, despite the horse's clumsy effort on his first day over hurdles. Saldier at 7/1 saw off still competition from favourite Klassical Dream at 2/5 on and Sharjah (7/2) who finished in third and fourth place respectively in the Grade 1 Unibet



Trainer Willie Mullins and jockey Mark Walsh chat after their success with Blue Sari winner of the Kildare Now Maiden Hurdle, at the Punchestown Winter Festival, 2019, Day 1, Saturday November 16. Pictures: Tony Keane

Morgiana Hurdle, another of the three wins for Mullins on Saturday.

Speaking after the race, Anna Fortune, Commercial Manager Kildare Post/KildareNow and the Leinster Leader stated that Kildare Now under Iconic Newspapers ownership was delighted to support the racing industry and to support the team and management at Punchestown.

"With 220,000 unique users, and almost 1.2 million page views per month, KildareNow continues to deliver local news, plus a variety of entertainment, columns and community news. Racing too is in the DNA of many Kildare people, so the collaboration of a breaking news website with the ever improving racecourse at Punchestown, home of national hunt racing, is a perfect mix!"



Anna Fortune of Kildare Now / Kildare Post presents to trainer of Blue Sari, Willie Mullins, winner of the Kildare Now Maiden Hurdle



Anna Fortune of Kildare Now / the Kildare Post with Janet Creighton

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NEWS

Top businesspeople gather for annual Chamber Business Awards

Businesspeople from across Kildare will be gathering at the Killashee Hotel next week for Co Kildare Chamber's annual Business Awards.

A record 142 applications were received and a winner in each of the 14 categories will be chosen at the ceremony held in association with Kildare County Council and LEO Kildare on Friday, November 29.

The Kildare Post is sponsoring the Networker of the Year Award which has attracted a high calibre of nominees.

Commercial Manager of the Kildare Post and the Leinster Leader Anna Fortune will be attending the awards ceremony to present the winning trophy.

Best of luck to those shortlisted in all the categories.

These are the categories, the sponsors and the nominees:

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The Glenroyal Hotel
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OVERALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

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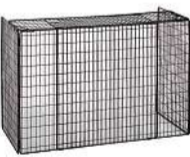









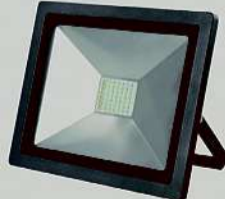

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ADVERTORIAL

Copper Beech Farm – a truly interactive Santa experience!

New purpose built Santa centre with live animals is opening near Clane... plus, read on to win a Nintendo Switch

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
 editor@kildarepost.com

Looking for somewhere new to take the kids this Christmas? Santa is coming to Clane this year and he's ready to bring a fun-filled, multi-stage adventure to Copper Beech Farm that the whole family can enjoy!

And there's plenty to enjoy here – from Santa's Canteen, where you can enjoy a mince pie with tea or coffee or hot apple juice – or minerals, sweets and treats for the kiddies. There's also soup for anyone who is feeling the cold. Your hot drink is included in the admittance fee.

This purpose built Santa experience is the brainchild of brothers Henry and Walter Farrell, and Walter's wife Mary.

"We wanted to create a different Santa experience for the modern child, something that captures the spirit of Christmas and reminds them of the celebration behind it, that is, the birth of baby Jesus".

THE MANGER

After some delicious beverages in the canteen, families can take the kiddies into the manger, where they'll meet a couple of busy elves who will show the children the crib and talk about the of baby Jesus, and what Christmas really means.

"It's nice to remind children of the true meaning of Christmas and maybe to encourage a little kindness for children less fortunate.

"We have a live donkey, ER, our resident turkey Dustin, some sheep, etc to create a real crib scene. Children can feed ER, and there's a donation box for Jack & Jill Foundation if anyone wants to contribute" continued Henry.

"We won't spoil everything for you, but next up is Santa's Post Office where you meet more elves and one very annoying one, Sleepy the elf.

Here, there's interaction with the children as they try to wake Sleepy up.

There's an element of pantomime for the children



The purpose built Santa centre at Copper Beech Farm, near Clane presents a variety of stimulating play areas

before they move onto Santa's workshop and they try to get Sleepy working!

"The elves and children make some festive ornaments, and can enjoy the play area here, before moving onto Santa's grotto (there might even be a goofy grinch along the way).

"Santa comes down the chimney to visit the children in his grotto. This is more than just a quick visit to Santa experience," added Henry.

"At the grotto, there's a sing-song, before each child gets to chat with Santa and is presented with an age appropriate, quality

Christmas gift."

The Farrells want to ensure your visit to Copper Beech Farm is more than just a trip to Santa's Grotto.

"We want you and your children to be entertained from start to finish, so we have included plenty of interactive scenarios and even a mini-pantomime" concluded Henry.

NOW BOOKING

To book tickets or find out more, see beechcopperfarm.ie

The new Santa centre is located at Ballinagappa, Clane Co Kildare, W91 X253.



Interactive play with elves and of course, a one to one meeting with Santa himself (above).

Email: copperbeechfarm1@gmail.com
 Phone: 089 487 7753.

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT OFFER

10% off ticket prices for the first two weekends, from 30 November until 8 December.

Opening times: Friday, 4-7pm; Saturday/Sunday from 11am-7pm.

Please check Copper Beech Farm on Facebook and see their website for extended opening hours and

additional days.

Cost: babies up to 18 months free of charge; child (1.5-12 years) €16; adult/teenager (13+) €12.

COMPETITION TIME

To be in with the chance of winning a Nintendo Switch in time for Christmas, log onto Copper Beech Farm Facebook page.

Just like and share, and tag three friends – you could be the lucky one! Winner to be announced on December 17.

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Leave it to the experts ChemDry Kildare and have your house spruced up for Christmas!

As Christmas approaches, and the weather is pretty glum, you can't help but notice how tired the carpets and flooring look, with tell-tale signs of the year behind you!

If you've already done the pre-festive de-clutter, you're thinking your kitchen presses have sticky finger marks and grease stains (as do the armchairs and sofa).

Then there are the floor tiles are looking rather shabby and the grouting needs a good steam cleaning, not to mention the dog and cat hairs everywhere. You want to put up the Christmas decorations and de-clutter before the festive season, but you just don't know where to start!

What cleaning products and chemical go with what? Take a deep breath, make a list of rooms and areas you need addressed – and call ChemDry Kildare! Yes, ChemDry Kildare, a simple, safe and painless solution – painless for you, and totally safe for your staff, your family and even for your house pets!

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ChemDry's secret is that the firm uses the power of carbonation to extract dirt from deep within the fibres of carpets, ensuring a deeper longer lasting clean.

These ingredients are completely natural and safe for children and pets. ChemDry Kildare's signature cleaning solution, 'The Natural', is a cleaning mixture that – through the power of carbonation – lifts dirt to the surface where it is whisked away. 'The Natural' is nontoxic and ideal for use in the home and workplace.

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After the seasonal festive celebrations, no matter how careful you were, you'll see the tell tale signs of red wine spillages, children's markers, sticky sweets or gum, even make up spillages which can be difficult to remove from upholstery or carpet.

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comes from repeat custom or referrals. Don't sweat it – or stress the cleaning you feel you need to undertake, leave it to the professionals. Domestic or commercial cleaning, contact CHEMDRY KILDARE at 045 882 200 and 01 624 3888. Email: info@chemdrykildare.ie See www.chemdrykildare.ie.



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Catherine, Sallins ★★★★★
Big thanks to Des, Nicole & the team at ChemDry Kildare who went above and beyond to get a carpet cleaned at extremely short notice for me. I was absolutely delighted and blown away with the results. Would definitely recommend them.

Cathy, Newbridge ★★★★★
I have used Chemdry Kildare for years and would thoroughly recommend them to everybody who has a carpet & sofas in their home. They are a very efficient team and have always brought my carpets up like new. They are also excellent for cleaning upholstery and did a wonderful job on stain removal from my dining room chairs.

Marian, Kilcullen ★★★★★
I am delighted with the service. Both my 20 year old carpet and rug looked great after being cleaned. I would Highly recommend ChemDry Kildare



NEWS

Naas lights up this weekend for a very special visitor!



Mounted gardai, sniffer dogs and foot patrols all engaged for arrival of Mr Claus

PAUL O'MEARA
editor@kildarepost.com

There will be a significant Garda presence in Naas this weekend. The security operation involving sniffer dogs and police officers on horses has been unveiled in advance of the arrival of a very important visitor on Saturday.

Santa Claus is coming to town and there'll be as many gardai around as if Donald Trump himself was about to pay a visit.

And as usual he will make his way (having first arrived from the North Pole) aboard a fire engine starting out from the fire station at Newbridge Road, earlier at 2pm. Personnel, both human and canine, attached to the Garda Dog Unit, will be in town (from 10am to noon) as one of the attractions for the official turning on of the Christmas lights.

The Garda Mounted Support Unit will be there for the switching on of the Christmas lights.

Two of Kildare's foremost singing talents will also perform at the lights ceremony, which takes place at Naas Town Hall at 5.30pm. Renowned soprano Celine Byrne, who will stage her special Christmas show at the Bord Gais Theatre on December 5, along with Eadestown tenor Patrick Hyland, who has performed at many prestigious venues.

It won't be the only music lined up for the festive celebrations as nearby Poplar Square will also host some musical entertainment. Performers at either venue will include the Kildare



Blast from the past: Cadbury's Cadvent Truck in Naas in recent years Jack Fitzpatrick, with Tanya and Jade Walsh PIC: AISHLING CONWAY

County Council Choir and pantomime entertainment will be provided by Smash and Grab, the ensemble established by Conor Sweeney and Cathal Healy who have performed many times at the Moat Theatre.

There will also be a Zumba dancing and a performance by members of the Brian Brady Youth Theatre. Other attractions are planned such as an exhibition of work by members of the Naas Men's Shed.

"Santa will be as popular as ever and we also have a number of other events taking place and some of these have a musical theme, there will be something for everyone. It is an attractive programme of events and hopefully lots of people will turn up," said Kim Kelleher, a long-standing Naas business woman (Jingles boutique at North Main Street) and a member of the organising Naas Traders group.

Sixteen-year-old James

Greene, a Newbridge College Student from Prosperous, will display some of his wooden creations such as Christmas trees, decorations and more besides — all of which are hand made from pieces of wood that have fallen from trees. James will have a stand at Poplar Square from 10am to 6pm.

On December 8, a special event will take place at 2pm which will appeal to anyone with an interest in autism or special needs. It runs until 5pm and booking is necessary by emailing santa@kildarecoco.ie A live crib will be opened at the Church of Our Lady and St David at Sallins Road on December 14 and it will run from 12pm to 7pm.

A Ceremony of Light is planned for December 21 after 6pm mass at the Sallins Road church. People are invited to walk from the Sallins Road, behind a music playing gpiper, to the Canal Harbour where they will

release special candles, enclosed in plastic, in remembrance of a loved one or for any intention.

"This will be special and poignant event and is a lovely idea for anyone who wants to



Naas Country Market will host a weekly festive fayre market from Friday, November 22, at the Moat from 9am- 12.30pm

remember somebody, maybe a loved one who has passed away this year," said Kim, adding that the candles will be safely collected from the water afterwards.

Conway Photography will

host a pop up studio with Christmas props available on Saturday at the Town Hall, with a special family offer for €20.

For information, email aishling.conway@gmail.com.



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ENTERTAINMENT



Some original members who have been there since the start pictured at Naas Musical Society's 25th anniversary gala at the Moat Theatre last week

NAAS MUSICAL SOCIETY'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Pics: AISHLING CONWAY & PAUL O'ROURKE (STAGE SHOTS)



LEFT: Denis Kenny

RIGHT: Mona Conroy and Brian Brady

PICTURES CONTINUED ON PAGE 22



Mairin Dowling and Joy Donohoe



Ciara O'Neill sings a song from Calamity Jane



Mairin Dowling, Shirley Mooney, Catriona Kilbride, Teresa O'Donovan, Della McCarthy, Joy Donohoe, Katie Laheen, Eugenie Hopkins, Claire Regan and Claire O'Reilly



Soprano Norah King sings a song with the chorus

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ENTERTAINMENT



Joy Donohoe, Mike Fox, Mary Fox, Mona Conroy and Deirdre Hoxtor



Mona Conroy and Rose Barrett O'Donoghue (Editor of the Kildare Post)



Kathy Byrne and Caitriona Kilbride

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20

Naas Musical Society 25th Anniversary Gala Concert



LEFT: Laura Laheen, Rosemarie O'Dowd (Chairperson Naas Musical Society) and Mary Rafter



RIGHT: Shane Byrne sings



John Dooley, Peter Fay and Denis Kenny

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Kildare County Council Comhairle Contae Chill Dara

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OUT & ABOUT



Curragh Post Primary students, Brandon Higgins, and Kaya McNally presented a project on the Solar System at the Newbridge Science and Technology community exhibition, which was held in Newbridge Town Hall last Saturday, November 16



Aimee Prestreshi, Ryan McKeon, presented a Physics Project



Steven Pitman, Kilcullen, at the Exhibition

SCIENCE EXHIBITION IN NEWBRIDGE TOWN HALL

Pictures: TONY KEANE



Tess Foy, twins Nadia and Sophia Piesik, and Nikola Kaczmarek of NETNS

CHRISTMAS 2019

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Emer Dowling and Abby Mullen, Holy Family Secondary School, Newbridge



Oisín and Liam Higgins from Nurney at the Exhibition

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OUT & ABOUT



TD James Lawless, Mayor Carmel Kelly, Mary Whelan (Group Co-ordinator), Rose Malone (Book Editor) and Pat Mullen (Book Editor), pictured at the launch of the Naas Creative Writers Group's anthology Cuisle Chill Dara at Naas Library on November 15



Elaine Cowper, Carlos Clarke and Lesley Cowper



Mayor Carmel Kelly and Mary Whelan (Group Co-ordinator)

NAAS CREATIVE WRITERS GROUP LAUNCH ANTHOLOGY

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



LEFT: Nicola, Alan, Mary, Sinead and Laura Whelan



RIGHT: TD James Lawless and Mayor Carmel Kelly



Tom McKenna, Gwen Clarke, Dee Scallan and Mary Whelan

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John Bercow addresses Kildare Chamber business breakfast

Former House of Commons Speaker guest at local business gathering

CONOR MCHUGH
 editor@kildarepost.com

Sponsored by Dooley Insurance Group, over 350 guests attended the Co Kildare Chamber breakfast on Thursday, 14 November, and all waited with anticipation to hear the former House of Commons Speaker, John Bercow. Always engaging, always animated, the entertaining Mr Bercow did not disappoint, albeit it was a very different setting to his previous role in Westminster where he constantly called 'Order, order in the house!' as British members of parliament debated (and rejected) various Brexit deals with the EU.

Tim Dooley, of Dooley Insurance Group who sponsored the event spoke prior to Mr Bercow's address. He explained that the company is 62 years in business and believed that Brexit would affect him going forward because, as he explained, "In the last three years, the volume of business we now place with Lloyds of London, in terms of liability, has increased by 500% because domestic insurers based in Dublin are moving out of that market and we're very dependent on the whole London market.

"Brexit is a huge concern" he said. "It will be a major English/Irish problem". He noted that 50% of agricultural goods go from Ireland to England, and Ireland is the fifth most important export market of British goods.

Mr Dooley stated: "The business was set over up over 60 years ago by my dad Ned Dooley. He's a little bit older than me - he'll be 90 next year and he still has an involvement in the business".

Dooley Insurance Group has, Mr Dooley said, grown to be in the top three percent of brokers in the country, with 10,000 customers.

"We've acquired over 10 brokers in the last 10 years and we're proud of our success. We work hard for our clients, and that's important. We are a one stop shop with health,



Allan Shine, CEO Co Kildare Chamber with keynote speaker, John Bercow, and sponsor Tim Dooley of Dooley Insurance Group, Naas photographed at the chamber's business breakfast last week at the K Club.

life, investments - there's no area that we don't cover.

"Many of our clients are with us for 50 or 60 years, and we're very proud of it."

Mr Dooley also thanks his family, wife Mary, and children Tadhg, Rebecca and Sophie for their support. He presented the former speaker with a purple

passport.

"It's made of Italian leather, handcrafted in Kilcullen, so it's a true European passport, John," he said as he made the presentation at the K Club.

Mr Bercow spoke at length about his role as speaker and his take on Brexit, which is, he said is, "Britain's greatest foreign policy mistake

since the Second World War". He's not impressed with it, and not impressed with the magical thinking that lead to it.

He addressed, in particular, the belief, as expressed by MP Liam Fox, that it would be the easiest trade deal in history.

"The average trade deal takes seven years to negotiate so the idea

that we are any time soon going to get Brexit done is, in my judgment, for the birds.

"We will be debating Brexit in the UK in one form or another. Most certainly the next five years, in all probability for the next 10 years, and quite conceivably for the next 15 years," he told the audience.

Returning to that theme later in his 40 minute speech, he remarked: "Quite what possessed Liam Fox, to think that it was going to be the easiest trade deal in history is something that I just cannot fathom.

"I like Liam personally, he has always been courteous to me and so on, but I cannot penetrate the inner recesses of his mind. I don't know what made him think it would be easy."

Mr Dooley told the Kildare Post that he was extremely impressed with the Chamber's special guest. "We spoke at length prior to the breakfast and I found him to be very articulate, a no nonsense talker. He truly feels that British politicians are neglecting the youth of Great Britain in their decision to leave the EU, it is a decision that will adversely affect future generations".



Rebecca and Sophie Dooley with John Bercow at the K Club last week



Ned Dooley, who founded the company, and his son Tim, managing director of Dooley Insurance Group, Millennium Park, Naas

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ENTERTAINMENT



Dave Butler, Cllr. Chris Pender, and Dawn Butler pictured at the reunion night last Friday, November 15, in Ryston, Newbridge, for fans of the legendary Nijinskys nightclub. The alternative/rock nightclub drew revellers to the Jockey Hall on the Curragh throughout the 80s and 90s. Original DJ Fergie Pearson featured once more last Friday at Ryston



Lisa Doyle, James and Mary Hughes



June Devlin, Eileen Dermody, Lisa Ryan

RYSTON REUNION FOR NIJINSKYS FANS

Pictures: TONY KEANE



LEFT: Tom Brady, Deirdre Lane, pictured at Nijinskys Reunion Night, Ryston Social Club, Newbridge, Friday, November 15



Gráinne Dunne, Fiona Mulrennan, Brenda Keogh

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OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER 8 AM TO 4 PM.

CLOSED WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER

CLOSED THURSDAY 26TH DECEMBER

CLOSED FRIDAY 27TH DECEMBER

OPEN SATURDAY 28TH DECEMBER -
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Fantastic Christmas present for some lucky girl or boy!

This marvellous rocking horse, right, has been donated to the KWWSPCA by Wheatfield Prison. It was made by some of the prisoners in the carpentry workshop at the prison and we are delighted that they have given it to the society to help raise funds for the shelter fund. It will be on display and silently auctioned this week at Goffs Bloodstock in Kill, Co Kildare, during their foal and breeding Stock Sales which run until Friday, November 22. If you would like to put in a bid, please call Caoimhe on 045 886 600 or Sally on 087 680 3295.

KWWSPCA SHELTER OPEN DAY - SUN, 24 NOV, 12-3PM

The KWWSPCA Animal Shelter near Athgarvan (Eircode W12 EV60)

will be hosting its Christmas Open Day on Sunday, 24 November from 12-3pm. There will be stalls selling Christmas gifts for pets, dog lovers, decorations, calendars and Christmas cards, a cake stall, a book stall and other interesting stalls.

There will be face painting for the children and a chance to see some of the dogs and kittens in the care of the KWWSPCA. Light refreshments will be available. Free entry and lots of free parking. (Please do not bring your own dogs or family pets to this event.)

KITTENS OF THE WEEK - BB

This little kitten is Bb and he is available for adoption. Bb is male and about nine weeks old. He is very affectionate and playful and is used to living with dogs and other



This wonderful rocking horse was made by prisoners at Wheatfield Prison, and will be auctioned at Goffs Bloodstock Sales this week.

cats. Please contact 087 251 7381 or email kwwspca@gmail.com.

He is vaccinated, wormed and has been treated for fleas. There is an €80 adoption fee when a kitten is rehomed to partly offset their veterinary costs and this also includes the cost of their mandatory neutering at five months of age.

DOG OF THE WEEK - MISSY

Missy is a three year old Jack Russell terrier who is now living at the KWWSPCA Shelter and looking for her forever home. She gets on well with other dogs and is an affectionate and friendly little dog. She is very active and quite strong on the lead, and loves nothing better than to go exploring. She would suit a home where there is a large but secure garden and where she could be out taken for long walks.

She loves company and would not do well if she were left for long periods on her own. Because she is an active dog she would be best suited to an active family, she should not go to an inactive home. She should also not be paired with a quiet, older dog. Missy has been

microchipped, spayed and vaccinated. You can visit her at the Shelter outside Athgarvan, Monday to Saturday 1 - 3 pm or outside these hours by appointment. With expressions of interest please contact 087 1279 835 or email kwwspca@gmail.com.

We ask for a minimum donation of €150 when we rehome a dog to partly offset our veterinary expenses, a dog collar tag and dog licence are required to complete the adoption and a home visit applies. A €50 deposit is required on booking.

KILDARE & WEST WICKLOW SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

The Kildare & West Wicklow Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (KWWSPCA) is a Registered Charity (Number CHY 6280) that investigates and deals with reports of cruelty and neglect to animals of all sorts; family pets, wild animals and birds, and horses, ponies and donkeys, throughout County Kildare and West Wicklow.

The Society is run entirely on a voluntary basis, there are no paid

employees.

KWWSPCA HELPLINE - 087 127 9835

KWWSPCA Community Cat Care Group - 087 251 7381

Email: - kwwspca@gmail.com

Website: - www.kwwspca.ie



Missy, Dog of the Week



Bb, Kitten of the Week

CHRISTMAS OPEN DAY

KWWSPCA ANIMAL SHELTER
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Sunday, 24 November, 2019
12-3pm



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Sometimes it is only a secondary problem, with people not realising that not moving the bowel every day is a problem. It is associated with skin problems, hormonal imbalances, headaches, high cholesterol and many immune and inflammatory conditions including higher risk of

cancer, therefore it needs to be addressed immediately.

Constipation is most often caused by reduced fibre in the diet; when vegetables and complex carbohydrates are replaced by chips and refined products one can easily get clogged up. Lack of magnesium in these foods exacerbates the problem, as it is needed for peristalsis. Dehydration hardens the stool, making it difficult to move. Weight conscious people can make the mistake



Constipation is most often caused by reduced fibre in the diet

of eating very small portions, so there is not enough bulk in the bowels to initiate peristalsis. Low fat diets reduce bile production, which is a natural laxative and prevents bacterial overgrowth.

Trying to avoid the

uncomfortable effects of constipation, many people would reach for laxatives, and use them daily. Laxatives - whether pharmaceutical or natural herbal remedies - work similarly by aggravating the smooth muscles of the bowels or by

pulling water into the colon, to soften the stool. When used regularly for long periods of time, they make the bowel lazy and dependent on the medication - not a good idea.

Preventing these uncomfortable and dangerous changes is the best policy, but once you have slow bowel transit there are lots of things you can do to reverse it. Consume a wholesome diet, including fermented foods full of beneficial bacteria. Overwhelming the bowel with harsh fibre such as wheat may make things worse. In certain conditions you may have to avoid nuts, seeds and wholegrains - so make sure to get plenty of gentle vegetable fibre; don't peel potatoes, carrots, parsnips and try to include more mucilaginous plants, such as seaweeds and slippery elm.

Oils and fats such as duck

fat, coconut oil, cold pressed seed and olive oils, oily fish and avocado can soften the stool, making it easier to pass. Don't be afraid to drizzle olive oil on your food once served, it is the base of the famous health-giving Mediterranean diet. Taking liver supporting herbs and turmeric can encourage bile production when coupled with fat intake and help to make the bowel move.

But what if the fibre-water-exercise regime doesn't work and actually make you feel worse? Behind the majority of these cases are specific microbial overgrowth, intestinal hyperpermeability, inflammation and food intolerances are found. Nutrient deficiencies, hypothyroidism and many other conditions may also be the issue. I run functional tests in my clinic to locate the root of the problem - find out more on my website!



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See www.kwetb.ie for more details or call to one of our centres today

Toastmasters award the funniest and sharpest talkers in Kildare!

On Tuesday November 12, Kildare Toastmasters held the Area 28 finals of the Humorous Speaking Contest and Table Topics Contest to a capacity crowd in the Silken Thomas, Kildare town.

In the Humorous Speaking Contest, the contestants had between five and seven minutes to deliver an individually prepared comedy sketch. David Clinton from the Athy Club delivered a half-time talk for an underage GAA team. Ray Cotter from the Maynooth Club delighted with the wonders of the single life. Rob Healy from the Kildare Club amused with his experiences learning how to ride a horse.

Pat Byrne from the Naas Club gave a leaving speech for the employee from hell. In an extremely tight competition Rob Healy and Ray Cotter were selected in first and second place. Rob was presented with the Inaugural Adrian Melia Perpetual Plaque by members of the Melia Family.

For the Table Topics Contest, each of the four contestants was challenged



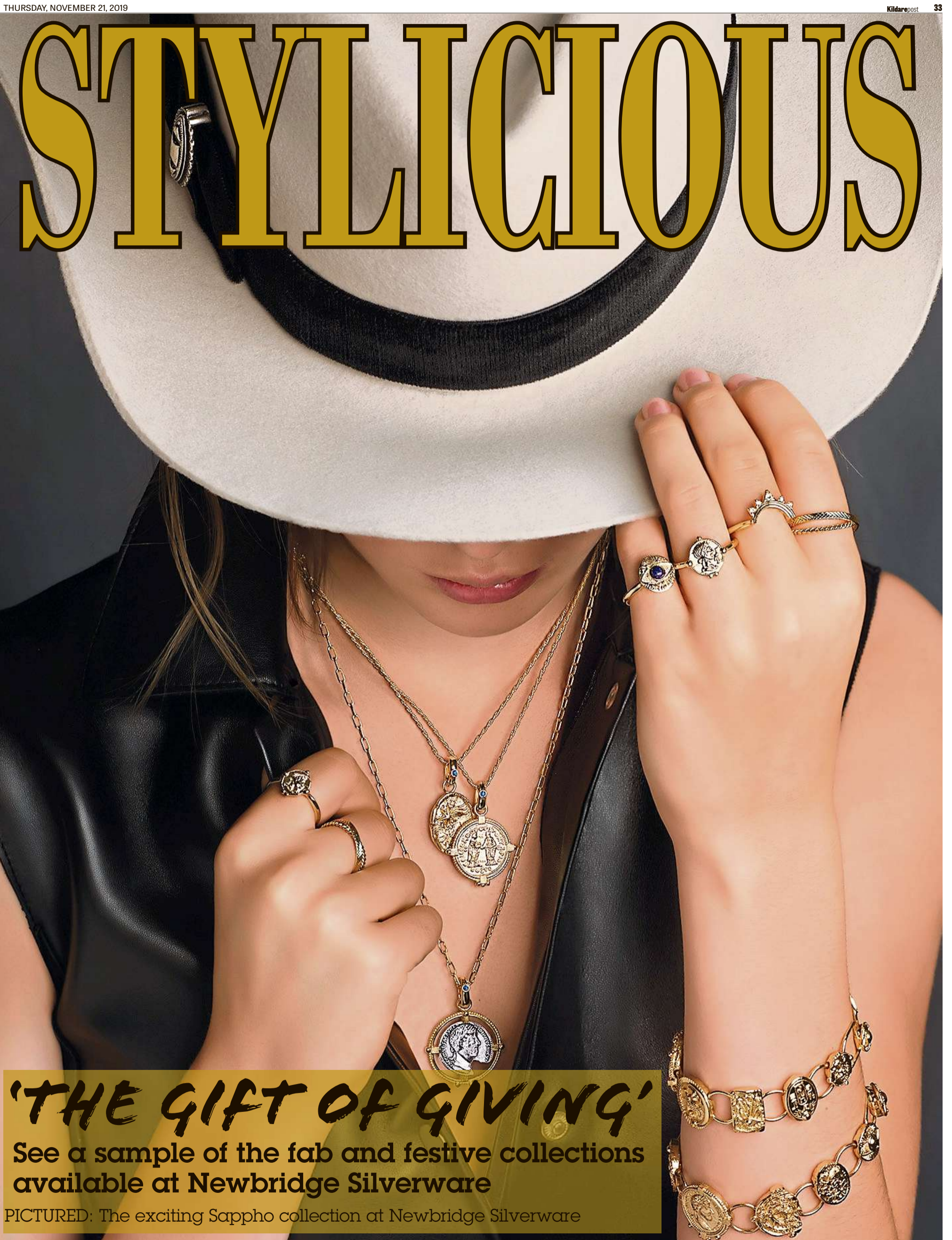
I-R Terence Melia, Rob Healy, Pattie Melia at the presentation to Rob of the Adrian Melia Perpetual Plaque for hte Winner of the Humorous Speech Contest

to speak for two to three minutes on a topic they had never seen before. In an apocalyptic topic contestants battled to find sympathy, humour, honesty and joy before the end of the world.

Eileen Loughman from the Kildare Club, Anne Patterson from the Maynooth Club, Shaun

Durkin (Naas) and Loretto Kenny (Athy) all proved their quick thinking and steady nerves as they delivered excellent impromptu speeches. In a close-run competition Loretto Kenny and Shaun Durkin were selected in first and second place. A most engaging event, well done to all.

STYLICIOUS



'THE GIFT OF GIVING'
See a sample of the fab and festive collections available at Newbridge Silverware
PICTURED: The exciting Sappho collection at Newbridge Silverware

STYLEFILE

ROSE BARRETT O'DONOGHUE

Your weekly Fashion and Beauty News fix!
For PR or general enquiries, contact us at editor@kildarepost.com



The original hand painted illustration for the pattern of this exclusive Advent Calendar Pillar Candle by Newbridge Silverware was inspired by our favourite Christmas symbols. Burning a small section of this candle each day is a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. €20



This ear cuff with the added touch of sparkle has five asymmetrically arranged beads inspired by the ancient belief that two and three together represents the balance between heaven and earth. 14k gold plated ear cuff with a protective anti tarnish layer, clear Preciosa crystal stone settings. Needs no piercing, just pop the ear cuff on at the top where the ear is thinnest and slide it down towards the ear lobe for a secure hold, €15.



Take charge of your style with this on trend unisex timepiece. This classic collection is timeless and effortlessly smart, an ideal gift for any occasion. Premium Unisex IP Rose gold plated timepiece with high resistance to scratching, black triangular face, black genuine leather strap, presented in a Newbridge Silverware gift box. €125.

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Newbridge Silverware launch 'the Joy of Giving' collection

'The Joy of Giving' is the 10th edition in a series of annual commemorate decorations.

To celebrate the 85th anniversary of Newbridge Silverware, the company has created a special dated decoration collection, featuring a festive Christmas wreath adorned by nine small symbols, each representing one of the nine other collectible decorations in this unique range.

Two illustrations of Christmas scenes from 1934 and 2019 depict different generations and each sharing Newbridge Silverware gifts.

So while times may have changed, the excitement of receiving a Newbridge Silverware gift remains the same throughout the generations since our inception in 1934. This fabulous piece will make a stunning addition to any Christmas collection.

But Newbridge Silverware offers so much in terms of festive shopping, from giftware for a new arrival, to a wedding present or anniversary, to a piece of jewellery from their many collections.

What I love about the visitor centre, is the vast selection. If you want rose gold, or

something from the Guinness Collection as a gift for a younger person, you are sorted; on the other hand, if you want more classic diamanté and pearls, there are gorgeous pieces from the Princess Grace collection and others.

Silver plated, silver, gold plated or rose gold, the variety is impressive, never mind the fab household ranges from copper pots to delph rose garden collections, to books, aprons, and of course, a massive selection of Christmas decor and giftware.

Stylish, affordable and right here in Co Kildare! Newbridge Silverware - I can personally say that it was the one store last year and the previous year, where every member of staff I encountered smiled and extended Christmas greetings, along with gift wrapping my chosen purchases.

RIGHT: Show off your love of Guinness with this Christmas tree decoration, featuring intricate detail and guaranteed to become a popular collectors item. The silverplated three dimensional Christmas tree hanging decoration with a protective anti tarnish layer, features both the iconic Guinness® and Harp logos plus the gravity pint. Silk screen printed colour, beautifully presented, €20.



Your attention to detail and sense of style shows in the accessories you choose making this salt and pepper mill an excellent choice for those who love to entertain, perfect for every occasion €55.



Unique coin bracelet represents the mystical knowledge of our ancestors that still inspires us today. 14k gold plated mixed coin bracelet with a protective anti tarnish layer, removable catch for easy adjustment, presented in a Newbridge Silverware gift box, €70.



Some dated special edition pieces from the 'Joy of Giving' collection.

Our Book Professor will meet with the lucky recipient of this experience/voucher to sit, chat and explore a new and exciting world of books.

On gaining an insight during this chat as to what they like to read, the Book Professor will prescribe them books they may not have found for themselves. It is ideal for the most avid reader looking for something unique, to the reluctant reader who needs their imagination ignited.

They will enjoy this experience in our relaxed environment with a Hot Chocolate and a treat.

This gift will come in a beautiful keepsake gift box, which will be filled with all the information on how to arrange their chat with the Book Professor, a €30 Book Voucher, a Book Professor collectable Tote bag, a stylus pen and a Book Professor bookmark.

The Book Professor will help them explore a world of pure imagination.

This fabulous gift is available in our shop, or online for just €45.

The Book Professor

Experience the Difference

A fabulous gift for a book loving child or teenager in your life!



LOCAL FUNDRAISER

Fundraising appeal to acquire service dog for Donadea's Sophie

KIM O'LEARY
editor@kildarepost.com

A family from Donadea in Co Kildare are fundraising to get their 13-year-old daughter a service dog after a rare autoimmune disease left her wheelchair bound.

Young Sophie Buckmaster, 13, also has autism and in July 2017, she was struck down by autoimmune encephalitis, a rare illness which causes inflammation of the brain.

Speaking to the Kildare Post this week, her mother Samantha explained that the family has this week launched a GoFundMe campaign to get Sophie her very own service dog.

"For two years Sophie couldn't really speak and she can't walk at the moment. She's in a wheelchair and we had to get the house modified and a lot of other changes. It's been really hard for us all, especially for Sophie because she can't run around like she used to

anymore," explained Samantha, who is also a mum to three other children.

Sophie had to change schools because of her needs and she now attends CRC in Clondalkin which caters to children with physical disabilities. According to her mum Samantha, Sophie has been on a waiting list since 2016 to receive a service dog to help her with her autism.

"She's been on the waiting list for three years now, there's such a high demand for service dogs and we're hoping to get her a service dog from My Canine Companion which caters to children with autism.

"But it is very expensive to raise and train a service dog to that level, although we feel that a service dog will help her to feel safe at her hospital appointments which is why we are now fundraising.

"After she got sick, Sophie lost her confidence for a while as she can no longer run around now that

she's in a wheelchair. It's been very difficult for her.

"Sophie is also a huge animal lover and a service dog would help keep her calm when she's out and about going to hospital appointments, the dentist or shops," said Samantha.

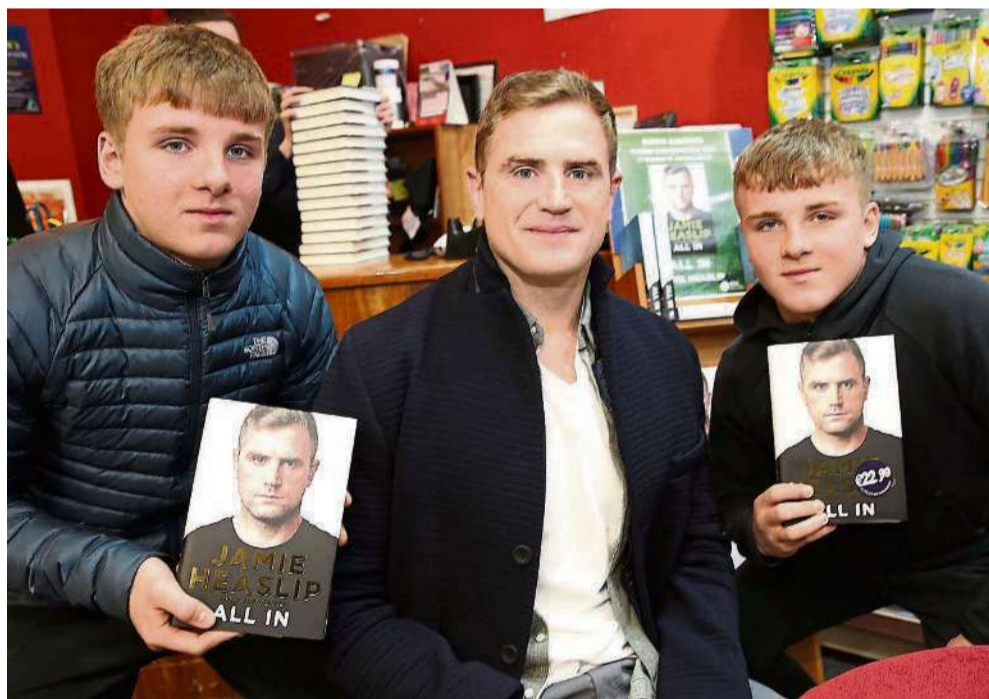
Sophie's family are now hoping to raise €10,000 or as close to it as possible so that she will receive a service dog as soon as possible. In the last few days, the family has so far raised over €4,000.

"We really appreciate all the support we've been shown in the last few days, people have been very generous. Even my oldest son's friends who are seventeen years of age have donated money to help us get Sophie her service dog," said Samantha.

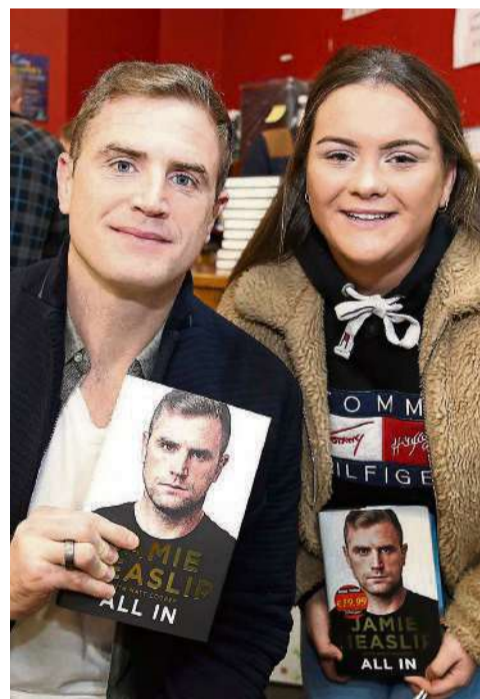
To donate visit to GoFundMe campaign at www.gofundme.com and search for 'A service dog for Sophie'.



Thirteen-year-old Sophie Buckmaster from Donadea



Leinster and Ireland rugby star, and Naas native, Jamie Heaslip with Jack and Charlie Sheridan, signing copies of his new book All In at Barker & Jones, Naas, on Sunday, November 17



Jamie Heaslip with Rebecca Francis



Jamie Heaslip with Nicola Flood and Harper Smullen



Jamie Heaslip with Ann Austin



Jamie Heaslip and Kyle Keely Grant



Jamie Heaslip with Kathleen Robinson and Caroline Doyle

JAMIE HEASLIP BOOK SIGNING AT BARKER & JONES, NAAS

Pictures: AISHLING CONWAY



LEFT: Jamie Heaslip with Kathleen Robinson and Caroline Doyle



RIGHT: Jamie Heaslip with Paul Dolan

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- Denim €49.99
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ENTERTAINMENT

Dating delights for Patrick on Pulling With My Parents

As an advertising executive with Iconic Newspapers — owner of the Kildare Post — Patrick Bermingham is always finding solutions for his clients. Finding a special somebody to share his love with has proven more elusive — but help is at hand!

Patrick, who works for our sister papers the Kilkenny People and The Kilkenny Reporter, will make his TV debut next week in the hit RTÉ show, Pulling With My Parents.

Single for more than a year, Patrick has thrown himself back into the dating game. This time, though, he has the help of his mother Liz and her twin sister Ellen, who will also feature in the popular Monday-night show.

The concept is that parents get to take over dating life of their offspring, in the hope of finding true love.

In his day job, Patrick is constantly on the move, meeting clients and working

on their advertising campaigns across both print or digital. He prides himself on finding the perfect way to sell his clients' brand and story, but he hasn't had the same success in selling himself in the singles market!

After seeing a Facebook post looking for applicants, he decided it was time to take a leap of faith.

The show first appeared in early October and Patrick will have a starring role in episode 6 on Monday next, November 25.

The Kilkenny People's brand ambassador Siobhan Donohoe reckons her colleague will prove a hit with viewers.

"To say he is a cheeky chappy would be an understatement — and he definitely has the gift of the gab! Our advertisers love his upbeat positive personality," Siobhan says.

"As for his colleagues, there's never a dull moment

with Patrick in the newsroom. On one particular occasion, he kindly offered to carry a heavy delivery upstairs and in the process somehow managed to burst the seat of his trousers.

"Luckily his mother works only a few doors away and was able to come to the rescue with a new pair of pants!"

Patrick claims he is absolutely not a 'mammy's boy' his mother goes along with that. "It's his grandmother he idolises," Liz says.

However she is not up to the task of finding him a partner so my sister and I have taken on the challenge instead — and boy, what a challenge it has been."

Patrick, who is 30, has been impressed with the matchmaking efforts of Liz and Ellen.

"Surprisingly, they know their stuff," he says.

"At the start, I thought they would be of no help but I was proved wrong. So as the



Patrick Bermingham entrusted his love life to his mum and aunt for the RTE show

saying goes — mother really does know best!

DATE SUCCESS

"They arranged two dates for me. They found one date online and another the old fashioned way, in the real world," he said.

"It was great to see how a

TV programme is produced — and it's actually quite nerve-wracking been filmed everywhere you go. The most petrifying moment was when Mam took over my Tinder account and was telling me what to say to the girls.

"That was part of the show

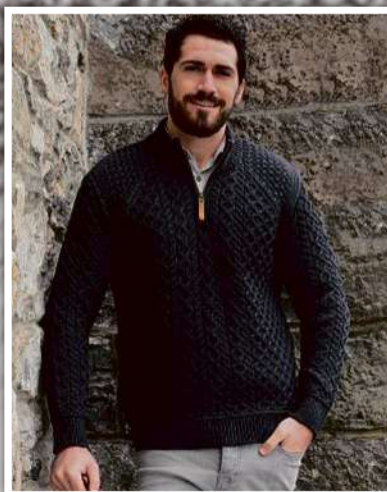
— what Mammy said, I actually had to do. I lost complete control and a bit of street cred too along the way!"

Pulling With My Parents, featuring Patrick, is on RTÉ2 at 10.05pm on Monday, November 25.

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ENTERTAINMENT

Christmas really is all wrapped up at Whitewater!

ROSE B O'DONOGHUE
editor@kildarepost.com

The festive season really kicks off at 12pm on Saturday next, 23 November at Whitewater Shopping Centre with Santa, music and face painting in Whitewater! Santa and Mrs Claus will travel in a horse-drawn carriage, with the Patrician Band accompanying them from the garda station on main street, Newbrige at approximately 1.30pm, to arrive at Whitewater Shopping Centre for 2pm.

Santa and the band will then parade through the popular centre — with snow canons a-plenty and lots of festive decor and cheer! Local gardai will assist with traffic management before Santa is met by a band of drummers in the popular Newbrige centre where he and

Mrs Claus will make their way on a silver sleigh to the grotto in the Sports Lounge.

And the festivities continue; from Thursday 28 November until Sunday December 1 with live presentations, music and amazing festive décor. 'Get Christmas all wrapped up at Whitewater' is the centre slogan and they certainly deliver.

Shoppers are invited to complete their shopping list with one swift visit to Whitewater where style advice, gift wrapping and one-off discounts will be available. Well-known stylist Marietta Doran (fresh from Ireland AM and best dressed presenter at Punchestown) along with influencer Rebecca Rose Quigley (33,000 followers on Facebook alone) will share the stage on Thursday 28, for a unique collaboration. Get some invaluable



Meet Santa and Mrs Claus at Whitewater SC on Saturday. Music, face painting - who knows, it might even snow!

tips on how to stand out from the crowd this Christmas from these two style leaders. Learn how to set an elegant Christmas table, how to co-ordinate your wardrobe for the festive season, see their season picks and get tips on how to choose that special something for every one on your shopping list.

Free gift-wrapping for presents bought on Thursday 28 and at selected times during the weekend, with KFM live broadcast from the Avenue on Thursday afternoon. On Black Friday, there will be live musicians at the Mall during the afternoon with Boombastic meandering around the centre,

and an evening broadcast with iRadio on site.

Saturday 30 will see the 'Heebeegbees' on stage for a mega performance keeping the party vibe going! The festivities culminate on Sunday, December 1 with Kilcullen Gospel Choir, for another upbeat performance.

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Shh... He's on his way
Saturday November 23rd

**Follow Santa in his amazing horse drawn carriage
with the Patrician Primary School Newbridge Band
through the town**

**& help to welcome him to Whitewater at 2 pm.
*Entertainment begins at 12 pm***



KILDARE EVENTS



Staff members, Tiana Phibbs, Carrado Fusciardi, Leanne Byrne, franchisee Sean Quirke, and staff member, Paul O'Brien, McDonalds open at Circle K M9 Service Centre, on Sunday, November, 17, last



Staff member Michaela Lawler

Out & About

OFFICIAL OPENING OF MCDONALD'S KILCULLEN AT CIRCLE K, M9

Pictures: TONY KEANE



Staff members, Leah Mallon, Olivia Crawford



The new McDonalds at Circle K M9



Laura Quirke, Anne O'Reilly, Tina Fitzgerald, Adam O'Connor



Customers at the new McDonalds in Kilcullen



Franchisee, Sean Quirke, and outlet manager Theresa Savage



Franchisee, Sean Quirke (left), receives a round of applause and well wishes from friends and family at the opening of the new McDonalds at Circle K M9 Service Centre, on Sunday, November 17

ENTERTAINMENT



Megan O'Neill and her band in St David's Church, Naas. The unique atmosphere accentuated the Ballymore Eustace singer and band's performance last Saturday night



Megan O'Neill on stage and, below, with Amanda St John



Fiona and Aisling Gillgunn

MEGAN O'NEILL AND BAND WOW THE AUDIENCE AT ST DAVID'S, NAAS SATURDAY, 16 NOVEMBER

Pictures: @ourphotographer1





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ENTERTAINMENT



Jackie and Tim Ronaldson enjoying the concert in Naas on Saturday, November 16



Performers Amanda St John and Megan O'Neill



Jude Ann and Morgan Cunningham

Out & About

MEGAN O'NEILL AND AMANDA ST JOHN concert at St David's Church, Naas

Pictures: ROSE B O'DONOGHUE



Maria Barton



Annette McLoughlin and Libby O'Toole



Brenda and George Delaney



Laura and John Buckley at the concert



Jenny Conway and Sharon Broderick



Mary Callaghan, Megan O'Neill and Catherine Marsh

ADVERTORIAL

Ho! Ho! Ho! Strike it Right at KBowl this Christmas

As the festive season is fast approaching, are you looking for fun and entertainment and something different for your Christmas night out? KBowl at Ladytown Business Park Naas is the venue for you. KBowl offers 12 lanes of ten pin bowling and can cater for up to 72 people at any time so all age groups can join in the festive fun.

Book your night, pick your teams — enjoy your Christmas Party at KBowl with great packages on offer for both Kids Club outings or adult groups. Prices range

from €7 for kids' groups and offers them a choice of bowling or Wacky World children's play area with popcorn and soft drink; or they can choose to go with the bowling or Wacky World play children's area with hot food meal and soft drink from only €9.50. For adult groups, staff nights or indeed just a Christmas get together for a group friends, you can really enjoy a great night out for only €15 per person for bowling, hot food with a choice of a bottle of beer, glass of wine or a large soft drink.

Fun and laughter and bright light is always the theme at KBowl! Relax in comfort and enjoy the buzz and atmosphere of the bowling lanes with neon lights to give that extra feel for the festive season. Furthermore, there is pool, basketball, air hockey and a great selection of arcade games.

Open 7 days from 11am - 10pm (Sun to Thurs) and 11am - 11pm (Fri and Sat), KBowl really puts the emphasis on fun for the festive season! Phone 045 408 144 or email info@kbowl.ie



From kiddies Christmas parties to family get togethers, to office parties, K Bowl at Laydtown, Naas, has it all — from bowling, to pool, air hockey and a great selection of games in the arcade. The perfect venue for kids, teens or adults





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Good financial advice is hugely important

They say things happen in threes and that was certainly the case for me last week.

I encountered three people who reached out for advice, and while their situations were all different, the common denominator and link between the three, was that they were all on the receiving end of terrible financial advice.

The first person holds a couple of doctorates, is a world renowned expert in their area of speciality and holds a senior position in a very large, well known pharmaceutical company.

They held a pension with a previous employer and the advice given by the scheme's administrators regarding what they should do with it, was shocking.

The advice received was going to cost them at least 60% of the value of their fund. And that loss could easily have been avoided.

What they were advised to do was absolutely needless. But the damage has been done.

I asked them why they followed through with the advice, and did they understand it in the first place? Their answer was no.

They went on by saying, I'm a scientist Liam and I trusted what they said. I had no reason not to, but I didn't have anyone I could fact check what they were saying either, so I did what they told me to do.

I explained why the advice was poor and what they should have done, and their response was: "Well, there you go Liam. As they say in my world - doctors differ, and patients die."

And they're absolutely right. So, it's important to have a doctor who'll give you the right diagnosis and medicine, not a quack.

I can only suspect the advice they were given was for the financial firm's benefit rather than theirs.

I can't think of any other reason. It appears to me, the firm gave advice based on



The late Gay Byrne had a terrible experience at the hands of his financial advisor/accountant who swindled €200k of his savings

them getting paid a commission now rather than in five years' time, and maybe thought they had better get paid quickly, just in case they find another adviser.

The other people I encountered also received awful advice.

One lady I met, along with her daughter, explained how she lost €250,000 from advice she received from her bank which, again, was hugely inappropriate.

And the final person I met, a gentleman, advised how he invested pension money with a local financial adviser. And being the very nice person he is, he wanted to help this adviser out and give them a turn.

But the turn, turned out very poorly for the gentleman when I discovered the guy he was trying to help had loaded on extra management charges that were being applied to his fund, which the adviser pocketed.

He also loaded on penalties if he ever moved the fund (he did this so he could continue to pocket the extra charges that were being applied to the fund because the penalties were so high the poor man

wouldn't be able to move his fund without incurring huge exit costs)

How terrible is that, when someone takes such advantage of someone else's good nature?

Anyway, this encounter had cost him €7,200 up until we met, but now at least we've been able to stop the bleeding since.

And before I continue, let me say, be very mindful of ever getting financial advice from friends, family members, or someone you know, even if they work in the financial services sector.

I would keep the relationship you have with your financial adviser, a strictly professional one. You don't owe each other anything.

The late Gay Byrne thought his good friend and accountant, Russell Murphy, was looking after his money, and only discovered to his horror after Murphy died in 1984, that he misappropriated about €200,000 of Gay's savings.

The purpose of this article isn't to put you off seeking out an adviser either, I would encourage you to do so, because of the value add they can create.

The relationship with your financial adviser is an important one and getting the right one and knowing what you need to be on the lookout for, is incredibly important which is why I'm attaching so much importance to it, and why I'm devoting another article next week to this topic.

Because as the saying goes: when a person with experience meets a person with money, the person with experience ends up with the money and the person with the money ends up with the experience.

So, I'm going to tell you what to be on the lookout for, and be aware of, when assessing, reviewing and or selecting a financial adviser and there are 10 of them, and all will follow next week.

ASK LIAM

Our personal finance expert answers your questions ...

Q: Liam, childcare costs are a considerable part of our outgoings each month and nearly as big as our mortgage. It's a constant struggle for us to make ends meet. Is there any financial help at all for a couple like us with three young children that can help with this outgoing each month?

A: The timing of your question is very good, because the National Childcare Scheme is open for online applications from November 20 and will replace all previous childcare programmes.

We're being promised it will be easy to use and access, and its aim is to help parents meet the cost of childcare.

A subsidy will be paid to families with children aged between 24 weeks and 15 years who are attending a Tusla registered childcare service.

And there are two types of subsidies, both of which are paid directly to your childcare provider.

The first is available to all families with children under three years of age. It's also available to families if their child is older than three who've not yet qualified for the free preschool programme.

The subsidy is not means tested and provides 50c per hour towards the cost of childcare up to a maximum of 40 hours per week.

So, the subsidy could be worth €20 per week per child to you.

The second subsidy is provided for children aged between 24 weeks and 15 years and is means tested and is calculated based on your individual circumstances.

The amount of subsidy paid will depend on your household income and if your family income is less than €24,000 the maximum amount is paid, and the subsidy will reduce in size as the income increases, and a subsidy will be paid in all cases once your family income is less than €60,000.

For example, if your family income is €32,500 and your child is two years old, the hourly subsidy rate is €4.18, so a maximum of €167.20 would be paid each week which is €8,694.40 over one year.

If your family income was €42,500 and your child was eight years old, the hourly subsidy is €1.93 and the maximum paid each week, €77.20, which is €4,014.40 over one year.

If you decide to apply online, you'll need a MyGovID account, your child's DOB and PPS number, you and your partners employment and income details and your PPS numbers.

A paper based application will be available from January 2020.



I would keep the relationship you have with your financial adviser, a strictly professional one. You don't owe each other anything

DID YOU KNOW?

There's a form of insurance available in America which covers wait for it... Alien Abduction. Also known as UFO insurance, it's supposed to cover you in the event that you can prove you've been abducted by non-human life forms. Along with providing this proof you must also get the signature of your ET as well.

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Four newly-built homes in Naas

Numbers 1 to 4 Railway House are newly-built unique homes situated on the Dublin Road in Naas.

The houses have been constructed by Renson Ltd, who have acquired a very strong reputation for quality homes.

These homes have designated parking and are located just a few minutes walk to Main Street Naas, Dunnes Stores, church and primary and secondary schools.

The Arrow rail link at Sallins is just a short drive away and provides a direct train service to Heuston Station, the IFSC and Grand Canal Dock.

Each house has three bedrooms (two with fitted



wardrobes), contemporary Shaker kitchen complete with hob, double oven, extractor fan, fridge freezer, dishwasher and washing machine.

Features include a maintenance free exterior (traditional wet dash with stone) future proof double glazed windows, ultra tech hardwood frame and prestige front door.

The heating system is an air to water heat pump system with an A2 rating, and is a fully pressurised system. These homes are fully painted throughout and are fitted with a security alarm.

Number 1 Railway House, extends to 102.7m² and is on the market for €345,000.

Number 2 is sale agreed.

Number 3 Railway House, extends to 105.3m² and is for sale for €348,000

Number 4 Railway House, extends to 114m² and is on the market for €349,950

The development is on view this Saturday, November 16 at 12. Appointments may be made through Sherry FitzGerald O'Reilly phone 045 866466, info@sfor.ie.



The four newly-built homes at Railway House in Naas

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Art Source 2019



Kildare artist Lisa Keegan's work



Violin sculpted from Bog Oak by Brian O'Loughlin



Michelle O'Donnell, Glass Hammer Studios



Artwork by Rosemarie Kamana



Kildare artist Karen Hickey



Artist Jean Lowndes



Artist Theo Hanley



Artist Karen Halpin

This week I was out and about at Art Source 2019 in the R.D.S. The art fair ran from 15th – 17th of November and had some inspiring artwork on display from some of Ireland's top artists, as well as some prints from renowned artists like Banksy on the Gormley's Fine Art display. Art source showcased over 200 Irish and international artists and galleries gathering together to feature painting, sculpture, prints, photography, ceramic and glass art. Due to the variety of mediums on display there was something to suit all tastes and budgets.

The Art Fair had a mix of styles from cutting edge contemporary art, realism or portraiture, abstract art and landscapes so there was something to suit everyone. It was a fantastic opportunity to meet up with some of the existing artists I use for my interior design projects, but also to meet new emerging artists as well as established artist that I never had an opportunity to meet in person before.

One of my favourite seascape artists Theo Hanley was exhibiting at the show. His seascape paintings evoke feelings of tranquillity whilst portraying the energy of the sea and I was not surprised to hear that he had sold the majority of the artwork from his stand. See www.theohanley.com.

I also met with many fellow members of the Interiors Association — Karen Hickey, Fran Halpin, Michelle O'Donnell and Jean Lowndes who had fantastic displays of their artwork.

Kildare artist Karen Hickey had a fantastic display of her larger than life character portraits. Karen draws her inspiration from bygone days and creating portraits that tell a story through her art. www.artistkarenhickey.com

Irish artist Fran Halpin shares her childhood memories of skimming stones with her dad through her stunning pebble paintings. Her paintings depict her love of water and its reflective properties through her calm water scenes and highly reflective wet pebbles. Her slow drying water-based medium allows her extra time for blending and creating textures to create a three-dimensional feel to her artwork. www.franhalpinart.com

Jean Lowndes is a palette



Art Source 2019 RDS, Dublin

knife artist with stunning artwork that awakens the imagination. See www.jeanlowndesart.ie.

Michelle O'Donnell of Glass Hammer studios creates stunning sculpture with glass. Her work covers a broad spectrum from internal architectural commissions to large public state bodies. See www.glasshammer.ie.

Art Source gave me an opportunity to meet with other artists and hear their story of what inspired them to create their stunning pieces. I met with Kildare sculptor Brian O'Loughlin from Rathangan who creates stunning sculptured pieces from bog oak.

His stand was a hive of activity and it was fantastic to see a local sculpture do so well. Everyone was so interested to hear how he worked with bog oak and how he could create stunning pieces from this precious and ancient material, formed thousands of years ago when the great oak forests of Celtic Ireland were subsumed into peat bogs. Brian went on to explain how he comes up with the idea for the sculpture he wants to create and then searches for just the right piece of bog oak to create the piece. Pictured here is his violin piece that was on display at the show. Contact Brian O'Loughlin, Rathangan, or visit www.irishbogoak.com or call 0872453021.

Another Kildare artist exhibiting was Lisa Keegan from Celbridge who launched her 'snapshot' series with

Snapshots of Dublin at Art Source. These colourful snapshots use vibrant colours and thick black lines to accentuate shape and form. See www.lisakeegan.com.

Upstairs in the balcony section I saw an additional 25 artists displaying their artwork. Some of the artists that caught my eye were Rosemarie Kamana whose work is influenced and inspired by her African heritage and tradition. Her work is about ethnicity, diversity, freedom and natural beauty. My favourite was Rosemarie's The Chosen One Masai portrait pictured left. www.rosemariekamana.art

Another innovative Irish artist that caught my eye was Julie Potter of www.juliepotterart.com who paints using a unique technique of bleach and acrylic paint on black fabric to create captivating artwork that almost looks like movie stills. Truly amazing.

Lastly, I also met with Rita Oates of www.ritaoatesartist.ie who had some lovely serene paintings on display that were thought provoking and optimistic. Perfect in our busy world where mindfulness is growing in importance.

Overall the Art Source art fair was amazing, and I will certainly be visiting again next year. I hope you found this column interesting and that these inspiring artists have made you feel proud of the wonderful artistic talent we have here in Ireland.

Contact Louise at info@aspiredesign.ie or phone 045 982265 / 086 3999926.

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ABOVE: Cottage style kitchen with patio doors leading onto the back garden

LEFT: The sitting room area

RIGHT: The four-bed detached bungalow at Priory Walk



Lovely four-bed Celbridge home on the market for €429,000

This spacious four-bedroom detached bungalow close to Celbridge, with amenities on its doorstep, would ideally suit a family for an asking price of €429,000.

No 9 Priory Walk, Celbridge comprises a detached family home extending to c 1,500 sq ft. Inside the accommodation comprises four bedrooms, including a master ensuite, kitchen/dining room, additional reception/dining room on ground floor/suitable for a large playroom, main bathroom and guest WC.

This property is wonderfully bright as it enjoys a south facing rear garden, making the most of the morning and evening sun. Outside this property offers ample parking and his beautiful it also benefits from a dual side entrance; a driveway for off street parking, with an attractive



Lovely gardens at Priory Walk a bonus for a family

lawn area (front and rear) which includes a selection of mature trees, shrubs and flowers.

The back garden is a sun trap and is blissfully private, complete with a small patio area and a storage shed.

This four-bedroom house is an ideal family home, or suitable for a first-time buyer, or as an investment property, which enjoys a superb location within walking distance to Celbridge village, schools and all local

shops and amenities.

Celbridge is also considered to be one of the most popular locations in North Kildare with its historic village, Celbridge Abbey and Castletown House and is well connected to both public transport and motorway infrastructure, with the M4 nearby.

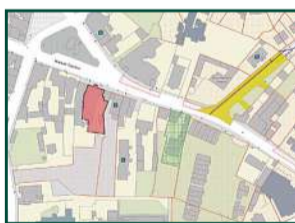
Early viewing of this home is recommended; for more information contact Coonan Estate Agents on 01628 8400.

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IN THE GARDEN

WITH JO

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All hands on deck, it's bareroot season!

At this stage in the year, we in the nursery are at 'full throttle' as this is what we commonly refer to as our bareroot season. We are madly lifting, grading, selling and planting our footballed and bareroot stock. We idly throw these names around as part of our every day and expect that they are part of everyone else's language too, forgetting that as in so many businesses, we need to stop using our industry terminology or explain exactly the meanings, so here goes

BAREROOTS

Bareroot plants are plants that have been grown in the open ground and then lifted to be transplanted during the dormant season. This is generally between November and March and means that plants are 'sleeping' before kicking back into gear for growth, when the weather warms up in spring. There are many advantages to buying bareroot; without the need for pots and extra compost, they are a more cost effective option, especially when buying in bulk for hedging.

Producing bareroot plants also require less resources at the nursery. Bareroot plants need less fertiliser, less water and less plastic, making them more environmentally friendly. They take up less space than potted plants, making them easier and cheaper to transport, again thinking environmentally this has got to be a winner. Bareroot are also easier to transplant, and having had a chance to set down roots while still dormant, are usually in a great position for growth come spring.

A little care must be taken when handling bareroot plants, as it is

important not to let the root dry out completely, or get too exposed to the elements. They can be kept in bags for seven to ten days once stored in cool, dark conditions, but ideally, should be planted as soon as possible. Roots should be wet before planting to retain moisture and give the the plant the best possible start.

When choosing the size of bareroot hedging plants, cost, maintenance and purpose are usually the deciding factors.

While 1-2ft plants will be cheaper than 4-5ft, more care is required to ensure that smaller plants are clear of weeds, competing for nutrients necessary for growth. It will also take several years for smaller plants to reach the same maturity in terms of size and growth, as the larger version of the same variety.

Medium sized bareroot hedging (2-3ft and 3-4ft) plants are a popular choice based on the fact that they are small enough to be economical, but big enough not to be bothered by weeds.

At this stage, they are usually more stable than the smaller versions, but still not too cumbersome to plant.

Larger bareroot hedging (4-5ft) are the most popular choice for hedging, giving instant impact, without having to wait the years it would take smaller plants to reach the same growth. Larger sizes will require larger holes in the ground for planting and may also need to be checked from time to time, to make sure they are not getting loose in the ground. The general rule is to plant three plants per metre for a single row, and six per metre for a double, staggered row. This will provide a



Purple beech hedge with a smaller yew hedging underplanting

decent, thick hedge to mark a boundary or provide screening. Young plants and shrubs need plenty of moisture. They should not be allowed to dry out completely, but its important not to let them get waterlogged either.

CHECK SOIL MOISTURE

Check soil moisture by digging your finger into the soil around the root system. If it feels dry it needs water. There is no need for fertiliser until spring, we recommend waiting until after St. Patrick's day, as anything used now while the

plant is dormant will just be wasted on the soil.

So whatever hedging you are planting, whether it be beech, hornbeam, white or blackthorn or plenty of our other deciduous plants the advise is pretty much the same. If you are looking for evergreen options then these fall into the rootballed plants that I will cover next week. There is a couple of exceptions to the rule, box hedging is one of those, being at such a small size box can cope with being transplanted bare root and we usually lift and sell these unto

around 50cm tall in bare root options, again another difference with the sizes being much smaller than most you are usually planting between 5 to 7 plants per metre but your nursery can advise you not his or feel free to ask us directly.

We also have bareroot trees too but the majority of our trees are rootballed as our preferred tree sizes are usually too large for bareroot, the footballed just give them more stability and less chance of failing but I will give you the full run down of all those next week, for now — happy planting!



This plant has a strong bareroot structure



Planting a double row hedge using bareroot plants properly

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MOTORING



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Ford's sporty new EcoSport ST-Line



BREDA CORRIGAN
 editor@kildarepost.com

Ford has radically revamped its dynamic EcoSport mini-SUV in order to keep it fresh in the face of strong competition.

The result is a dramatically different car in terms of driving dynamics, interior and exterior design and improved infotainment. The uninspiring interior of the previous model has been resigned to the history books, replaced with an interior much more along the lines of the stunning new Fiesta.

The EcoSport is based on Ford's global 'B-car' small platform, the same architecture that underpins the highly acclaimed new Fiesta. With the all-new Fiesta being one of the best superminis, (if not, the best) on the planet, this bodes very well for the new Ford EcoSport.

The original Ford EcoSport was launched in Ireland in 2014 as a small SUV designed to capitalise on the booming demand for small Sport Utility Vehicles

throughout Europe. Now, four years later, rivals to the new EcoSport include the Mazda CX-3, Hyundai Kona, Renault Captur, Seat Arona, Nissan Juke and Opel Mokka X.

SPECIFICATIONS

Two trim levels are offered in the new EcoSport – Titanium and ST-Line, while engine options consist of an EcoBoost 1.0-litre, 3-cylinder turbocharged petrol unit or a 1.5-litre TDCi turbo-diesel, featuring 4-cylinders. A six-speed manual gearbox is standard with both engines, while a six-speed automatic is only available in petrol guise.

Ford's innovative 1.0-litre EcoBoost petrol engine is a six-times winner of the International Engine of the Year award. With 125bhp and 170Nm of torque, you get all the power of a conventional 1.6-litre engine, with outstanding fuel economy and low CO₂ emissions – leading to annual road tax of just €200.

Standard EcoSport Titanium specification includes air-conditioning, cruise control with speed

limiter, rear camera, rear parking sensors, keyless start, auto lights and wipers, ambient lighting, electric windows front & rear, partial leather seating, SYNC 3 (with 8" touchscreen, DAB Radio, emergency assistance, Apple CarPlay, Android Auto, 2 x USB slots and 6 speakers), LED daytime running lights, roof rails and front fog lights. Step up to the sporty ST-Line specification and you will also benefit from 17" 'Dark Tarnish' alloy wheels, full body-styling kit, rear spoiler, contrast coloured roof and mirror caps, ST-Line wing badges, sports tuned suspension, partial leather and suede seat trim with red stitching, ST-Line multi-function and flat bottomed leather steering wheel with red stitching, ST-Line scuff plates and sports pedals for a real sense of occasion.

MY TEST CAR

My test car was a new Ford EcoSport ST-Line EcoBoost (1.0-litre turbo petrol) finished in Blue Lightning metallic paint with contrasting black roof and

mirror caps for maximum visual impact. Optional extras fitted to the test car included rear privacy glass, front parking sensors, keyless entry, and metallic paint. Ford's multi award-winning petrol engine is capable of achieving fuel consumption as low as 5.3l/100km (53.3mpg), while completing the 0-100km/h sprint in just 11.1-seconds on the way to a top speed of 177km/h (where permitted).

On the road, the new EcoSport performed with excellent composure and agility. Front-wheel drive is standard on all models, with the front tyres providing plenty of grip during acceleration, thereby leading to unrivalled handling prowess.

Thanks to relatively stiff suspension, body roll through bends is minimal, while the cars direct steering is confidence inspiring. Overall, the new EcoSport is actually one of the best handling small SUV's currently on the market. The manual gearbox in my test car offered precise and pleasant

gear changing ability, and added to the general ease of drivability of the car.

EXCELLENT SAFETY FEATURES

The original Ford EcoSport was tested by EuroNCAP in late 2013 and achieved a four-star rating, with an excellent adult occupant score of 93 percent. Ford engineers claim that the new model should be even better thanks to the use of more high-strength steel in its construction and it also comes with more electronic safety technology.

The new EcoSport has what Ford calls 'Roll Stability Control' which adjusts engine torque and braking to help drivers maintain control. It also has a new driver's knee airbag, new side airbags with improved chest protection and a larger coverage area.

Styling is also mostly new - Ford's attention has been concentrated on redesigning the front end of the EcoSport. The rear is for the most part unchanged, but slight detail tweaks and personalization options help set it apart from

the previous model. As a result of these changes to the EcoSport, the new model is now clearly a proud family member of Ford's revitalized passenger car range.

IMPRESSIVE SPACE

Interior packaging in the new EcoSport is impressive for a car measuring just over 4 metres in length. Boot space stands at 356-litres with the new adjustable boot floor in its lowest position and the rear seats in place. However, drop the rear seats and this space increases to a substantial 1,238-litres.

Available in a choice of 10 colours, the new EcoSport mini-SUV is priced from just €23,525 (ex-works) in Titanium trim, with the ST-Line priced from €24,775 (ex-works). With the optional extras fitted to my test car, it came with a price tag of €25,790 (ex-works). The new EcoSport is a truly impressive offering from Ford.

Contact Ford Finlay Motor Group at M7 Motorpark, Naas, Co Kildare, phone: 045431725 or email: sales@finlaymotorgroup.ie

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Kia Soul Voted Continental Irish Car of the Year for 2020



BREDA CORRIGAN

Member of Irish Motoring Writers' Association (IMWA)

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The Kia e Soul has been voted Continental Irish Car of the Year, the first time ever this award has been won by an electric car. E Soul also created another first in that it won three awards at the ICOTY ceremony in the Westin Hotel in Dublin

recently — Compact Car of the Year, Green/Efficient Car of the Year and of course overall winner.

Joint-Chairman of the Irish Car of the Year Committee, Anthony Conlon said: "Congratulations to the Kia team on a very worthy win, I am sure that the Irish Car of the Year title will be a huge boost for the e-Soul during the busy January car sales period."

Joint-Chairman of the Irish Car of the Year Committee, Bob Flavin said: "This is the first time that an electric car has won Irish Car of the Year, a real sign of things to come I think. Regardless of its fuel type, the e-Soul came out as the clear winner and was hugely popular with my motoring journalist colleagues".

The newly appointed MD of Kia Motors Ireland, Ronan Flood, commented "Right from the start we have received really positive feedback from journalists



KIA e-Soul - ICOTY Continental Tyres Irish Car of the Year 2020 Award presented to Ronan Flood of Kia Motors Ireland by Tom Dennigan of Continental Tyres. Photo Chris Bellew /Fennell Photography

after they had driven e Soul particularly in regard to build quality ,driving dynamics ,comfort and of course, the 400km plus range on a full charge . Credit for this, of

course, goes to our designers and engineers in Korea who are of course also responsible for our eNiro model."

The Kia eSoul launched earlier this year is a high spec,

high tech EV with a range of 452kms with a distinctive, dynamic and innovative exterior and an interior packed with comfort, safety and infotainment



equipment. E Soul is available with two trims and one long range (64kw/452kms) power plant. Both trim levels are generous featuring 10.25" touchscreen AV/Nav display and 7" supervision cluster and safety features including Lane Keep Assist, Smart Cruise Control and Front Collision Avoidance.

Additional features on the K3 include full leather trim, Harmon Kardon Sound System, Heads Up Display and Blind Spot Detection. The K2 is available at €35,995 and the K3 at €37,495 both prices including VRT relief and government grants.

The three awards were presented to Mr Flood (left) by Tom Dennigan of Continental Tyres .

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³Hyundai Kona HEV. Retail price €28,495. Finance amount €19,371.75. 36 monthly repayments of €277.77. Total cost of credit €1,804.51. Optional final payment of €11,113.05. APR 3.9% as at 27th September 2019. Minimum deposit €9,973.25. Lending criteria, conditions apply. Available at authorised dealers for models booked before 30th November 2019 and registered in January 2020. Hire purchase by Bank of Ireland t/a Bank of Ireland Finance. Dealer charges apply. *Price excludes dealer delivery and related charges. Offer applies to 201 Kona HEV booked before 30th November 2019 and registered in January 2020. Model shown for illustrative purposes. Fuel consumption in l/100km for the Kona Hybrid: Combined 5.4l/100km, CO2 Emissions 122g/km.

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The All-New Clio launches in Ireland

Thirty years on, it's still Europe's most popular supermini



BREDA CORRIGAN

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The all-new fifth generation Clio has arrived on Irish shores and continues the trend for success and innovation set by the 1990 original. In the 30 years since the iconic supermini first went on sale, Clio has become Renault's best-selling model worldwide, with 15 million Clios finding homes and shows no signs of slowing down, having proved to be Europe's most popular B segment model since 2013.

The All-New Clio also continues Renault's strong tradition for safety, having already been awarded a five-star EuroNCAP rating.



Contact Joe Mallon Renault Dealers, located at Sallins Rd, Monread South, Naas, Co Kildare for all your Clio or Renault enquiries

MULTI-AWARD WINNING ALL-NEW CLIO

The already multi-award winning All-New Clio arrives here with totally refreshed exterior styling combined

with revolutionary interior design and is available to order at Renault's 27 dealerships from €16,990 RRP. Underpinning the All-New Clio is the strong and

scalable CMF-B platform, which delivers improvements in space, safety, technology and weight saving. There's also a new range of petrol and diesel engines, plus the debut of a new E-TECH petrol-electric hybrid option later in 2020.

HIGHER QUALITY MATERIALS

All-New Clio features higher quality materials, for a better fit and finish, coupled with greater use of safety and driver technologies from entry level and upwards. New and optional is the 'Smart Cockpit' with 9.3-inch portrait infotainment screen and a 10-inch TFT instrument cluster available as option on R.S. Line. All-New Clio also has many enhanced customisation options available, and new colours including the eye-catching Valencia Orange, Celadon Blue, Pearl White and Urban Grey.

IMPRESSIVE ADAS (ADVANCED DRIVER ASSISTANCE SYSTEMS)

All-New Clio boasts class leading levels of specification, with LED headlights and an array of ADAS features now standard across the range, and there is more interior and boot space but more compact exterior dimensions. Dynamique features the new EasyLink

system with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto, while Iconic's EasyLink with built-in navigation includes intuitive Google address search. For the ultimate expression of All-New Clio's tech leadership, the R.S. Line boasts full exterior R.S look, with 17" alloy wheels and the 9.3" EasyLink screen as standard.

The All-New Clio engines range from 75hp up to 130hp with automatic, manual, petrol and diesel to cater for every customer's driving style.

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* Model shown for illustrative purposes only. With Land Rover Personal Contract Plan (PCP), Discovery Sport can be yours from just €367 a month, plus deposit and optional final payment. Price shown is for Discovery Sport Discovery Sport 2.0 150PS Diesel FWD and excludes delivery and related charges. On the Road price is €37 485. Finance example is over 37 months and includes - customer deposit or part exchange to the value of €10 646.00, amount financed €24 839, 36 monthly payments of €367.43, cost of credit is €2 290.97 and an optional finance payment (GMFV) of €13 839. Offer available on all new Land Rover Discovery Sport models registered by 31st March 2020 at participating retailers. APR 3.9% is inclusive of a documentation fee of €63.49. This is a Consumer Hire Purchase agreement provided by Bank of Ireland t/a Bank of Ireland Finance. To qualify for this finance offer, a minimum deposit of 10% of the 'On the Road Price' applies. Ownership remains with Bank of Ireland until the optional final Payment is made. Rate quoted is correct as at 1st November 2019 and is subject to change. Please drive responsibly on and off road.



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PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Cathal Behan intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Millicent South, Sallins, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing a one and half storey type house in lieu of house design previously approved under planning file ref. no. 16/773, and all associated ancillary site-works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executor of the Estate of Luke Mullins intend to apply to Kildare County Council for Retention Permission at 13 Standhouse Road Newbridge Co Kildare W12 A407 for Front and side single storey extension as constructed on site to existing 2 storey house and all associated site development works. That the planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Anne-Marie Mahon, am applying to Kildare County Council for retention permission for the following: (a) single storey extension to side of existing dwelling house, (b) 3 no. rooflights, one rooflight is located in the roof plane facing west, one rooflight is located in the roof plane facing east and one rooflight is located in the roof plane facing north. The rooflight facing North as it currently exists, is a variation to the rooflight that was permitted under Planning Reference 98/1093. (c) connection to existing site services where applicable and all associated development works at Roslevin, Mullacash, Naas, Co. Kildare. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, Joan Flanagan intend to apply for Retention Permission for a development on this site at Boston Common, Rathangan, Co. Kildare. The development consists of (A) retention permission for as built changes to dwelling house granted permission under Reg. Ref. 01/970 - for dwelling house, septic tank, the changes include altered plan layout (mirrored plan) with minor internal alteration and additional floor area and related changes to all elevations, (B) retention permission for garage / fuel store for domestic use, (C) retention permission for agricultural storage shed and (D) retention permission for combined recessed entrance and all associated site works serving the agricultural storage shed and paddock. That the planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, William Casey, am applying to the above mentioned for planning permission for a single storey dwelling, detached garage, bored well, waste water treatment system and percolation area, use of existing entrance and laneway and all associated site works at Tipper South, Naas, Co. Kildare. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the office of the planning authority during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submission or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.
Signed: PDS - Planning & Design Solutions. www.pdsclarlow.ie

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

We, Springwood Limited intend to apply for planning permission for the following development - (a) change of use of existing disused stables to residential use comprising two bedroom single storey house, 1 no. one bedroom apartment and 1 no. two bedroom apartment on ground floor, together with 1 no. 1 bedroom apartment and 1 no. two bedroom apartment on first floor, (b) the proposed works to the stables buildings will include the removal of existing asbestos roof, all internal and external alterations and modifications. New building works to include provision of balconies with handrails, new stairwell extension, new slate roof, new zinc clad dormer roofs, concrete barges, external brickworks, new external walls as required, external windows and doors and other associated works. (c) demolition of tool shed, (d) all associated site development work including hard landscaping surface, road, footpaths, car parking, soft landscaping spaces and connection to all services including foul sewer, water mains, surface water, ESB, associated utility services and lamp standards, (e) internal and external alterations and modifications to existing cottage together with new single storey residential extension. The site is within the curtilage and attendant grounds of Protected Structure Ref: NS 19-072 known as Oldtown House, Oldtown Demesne, while containing a Protected Structure Ref: NS 19-094 known as Earthwork Site, Oldtown Demesne, located on the Sallins Road, Naas, Co. Kildare. The granting of planning permission for this proposed development will involve a variation in the planning permission of Kildare County Council register reference 17/807. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

Signed: PDS - Planning & Design Solutions. www.pdsclarlow.ie

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I, James Donnelly, intend to apply for retention for development at this site, Happy Campers Playschool, 1255 Campion Crescent, Kildare, R51 DT38. The development consists of the following: Retention of alterations and construction single storey extension to rear of existing playschool building previously granted planning permission under planning ref. 03/2200, including all ancillary site works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.
Signed on behalf of the applicant by DalyHudson Building Surveying & Architecture www.dalyhudson.com 045-530766

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Ramona Mooney intends to apply for full planning permission for a development at Painstown, Donadea, Naas, Co. Kildare. The development consists of constructing a one and half storey type house, detached domestic garage, recessed vehicular entrance, effluent treatment system, and all associated ancillary site-works. The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare, during its public opening hours. A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to the Planning Authority on payment of the prescribed fee, €20, within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the Planning Authority in making a decision on the application. The Planning Authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

Application is being made for FULL PLANNING PERMISSION for the following:
Extensions and alterations to existing bungalow to include (A) Single storey extensions, bedroom, front porch and bay window to front of existing house (B) Single storey bedroom extension to rear of existing house. (C) Single storey extensions, kitchen, dining, living and utility to rear and side of existing house (D) Modifications to windows / creation of new window opes to all elevations. (E) Relocation of site entrance and associated works (F) All associated site development works
All at Russellstown, Kilmeague, County Kildare. For Amanda McDermott & Barry Manning. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the planning authority during its public opening hours and that a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.

PLANNING NOTICES

KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

I KENDRA KEOGH intend to apply for PERMISSION for development at this site at GRANGECLARE WEST, KILMEAGUE, CO. KILDARE. The development will consist/consists of: PERMISSION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A SINGLE STOREY BUNGALOW, SINGLE STOREY DOMESTIC GARAGE, SECONDARY EFFLUENT TREATMENT SYSTEM, ACCESS ROAD TO THE PROPOSED HOUSE AND ALL ASSOCIATED SITE WORKS. The planning application may be inspected, or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy, at the offices of the Planning Authority during its public opening hours and a submission or observation in relation to the application may be made to the authority in writing on payment of the prescribed fee within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application.
Prepared by DEREK WHYTE planning/engineering /architecture 0866001194

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SPORT



Simone O' Brien and daughter Emma O' Brien



Naas Ladies' Gaelic football committee L to r Joe O' Connell (Vice Chairman), James Costello (Chairman), Stephanie Bergin (PRO), Ann Ryan (child welfare officer), Elaine Reddington(secretary) and Seán Conboy (treasurer).



Members of Naas senior ladies squad who assisted in presentation of medals to acknowledge the participation and efforts of all the players.

Naas Ladies' Gaelic Football Club end of year celebrations 2019 at Naas GAA

On Friday 15 November, Naas GAA Clubhouse was the venue for the annual Celebration Night for all the players who don the blue and white colours to represent Naas Ladies' Gaelic Football throughout the county. The clubhouse was awash with blue and white and a sense of club spirit permeated the hall. There was a huge attendance with players of all ages including the youngest players in the nursery section and the more adult teams representing the Naas Senior team and the Gaelic 4 Mothers and Others (G4MO).

It was testament to a very exciting and action-packed year, enjoyed by all the players, parents, guardians and supporters. It is very important to acknowledge and celebrate all the players' enthusiasm and efforts, to develop their skills and ultimately enjoy one of the most popular sports in the country.

Killian Whelan, former senior mens player was the compere on the night and he added to the enjoyment of the night with his pleasant and personal approach. He started the proceedings by introducing Naas Club Chairman John Mc Mahon who cordially welcomed all the players and their families and congratulated the efforts of the players and the committee throughout the year.

James Costello, Cathaoirleach Cumann Peil na mBan - Nás na Ríogh, addressed the gathering and

encouraged all the younger players to give a hearty cheer to all the girls as they received their medals. He praised the dedication of mentors and the ongoing development of the players' skills, along with committee members in relation to the general administration, publicity, fund-raising, along with the work of Club Executive, pitch co-ordinator and the ground committee.

Killian Whelan then proceeded to introduce the various age groups with humour, providing a brief outline of each team's achievements and activities during the year. A very entertaining power point followed, featuring memorable moments experienced by all the teams. The senior team followed by Gaelic for Mothers and Others (G4MO) were the first teams to be presented and they received a warm welcome from the attendance.

The senior ladies had qualified for the Division 2 League final and Intermediate semi-final due to their spirited efforts.

It augurs very well for 2020 season. There was a genuine excitement as the youngest exponents of the sport, the Nursery Group (5- 7 years) were presented with medals by some of the seniors, in recognition of their development as young players experiencing the game for the first time.

This group were followed by other teams, ranging from seven



Emily Merriman

years to minor level. The U15 team, who participated in u16 Division 6 were given a rousing applause as winners of the county final. The team proudly sported their trophy and were presented with their county medals.

After the presentations, food and refreshments were served at the clubhouse while players mingling and reminiscing about the fun and enjoyment on and off the pitch in 2019.

"It was an apt way to end the

season as players, mentors, parents and supporters enjoyed a social event while looking forward to another successful and most importantly another enjoyable and fulfilling year of football in 2020" said Stephanie Bergin, Club PRO.

Racing with Horse Racing Ireland

More success around the tracks for Clane's Mark Walsh

Mark Walsh enjoyed great success last week when adding to a winner at Clonmel on Thursday with success at Punchestown over the weekend. The Gordon Elliott-trained Shattered Love got the Clane man up and running as she won the Listed mares' chase in great style at the County Tipperary venue. A strong 4/7 favourite, the eight-year-old was in a class of her own as she beat Listen Dear by all of 34 lengths.

At Punchestown on Saturday, Walsh was back in the winners' enclosure as the Willie Mullins-trained Blue Sari made a winning return in the 2m4f maiden hurdle. Sent off a 30/100 favourite on the back of some fine bumper form last season, the four-year-old had to battle a little harder than many would have expected to see off The Bosses Oscar, trained by Elliott, by half a length.

Walsh was the first winner at Punchestown on Sunday where the Enda Bolger-trained Yanworth gave the County Limerick trainer his tenth win in the Risk Of Thunder Chase over

the banks' course in 12 years. Sent off the 5/6 favourite, the nine-year-old won by a length and a half and now heads to Cheltenham next month. He was a winner again when partnering Drop The Anchor to a cosy success for Leighlinbridge trainer Pat Fahy in the 2m handicap hurdle. The well-backed 2/1 favourite scored by two and a half lengths from the James Nash-trained Scheu Time. Kildare jockey Ricky Doyle teamed up with Ratoath trainer Dermot McLoughlin to win the handicap chase over the same 2m6f trip with Freewheelin Dylan for owner Sheila Mangan. The 7/1 chance dug deep to win by half a length from the Joseph O'Brien-trained Punches Cross. Ted Walsh landed the bumper with Dewcup, a winning ride for champion amateur Patrick Mullins who had taken two rides at Cork Racecourse earlier in the day. It was worth the trip as the 4/1 chance came home a four-length winner for owner Michael Ryan whose colours had been carried to success earlier in the day by the John



Shattered Love and Mark Walsh win the T.A. Morris Memorial EBF Mares Chase (Listed) at Clonmel 14.11.2019 PHOTO: PATRICK MCCANN/RACING POST

Queally-trained Sacchoandvanzetti.

Michael Halford and Ronan Whelan shared three winners at Dundalk on Friday where they scored with two market leaders and a 25/1

outsider. Sampers Seven was their double-figure winner in the opening 5f maiden as she got the better of the gambled-on 13/8 favourite Big Gossey, trained by Charles O'Brien, by a short head for

owner Nicky Hartery. But the pair landed a far more popular success with punters as 3/1 favourite Arcaneers, owned and bred by Carol Roper, took the handicap over the same distance by half

a length from the Aidan Fogarty-trained Enough Said. Spelga, a 5/2 joint-favourite, completed the trebles when winning the second division of the 10f handicap for owner Paul Rooney.

Top award for Pat Smullen

Pat Smullen was recognised for his brilliant career in the saddle with a Cartier/Daily Telegraph award in London early last week. Smullen received was the Award of Merit winner on a night that saw Enable declared the Cartier Horse of the Year for a second time.

One of the outstanding jockeys of his generation, Smullen was crowned champion jockey on nine occasions, winning a multitude of big races around the globe. In more recent times, Pat has been hugely

involved in fundraising for the fight against pancreatic cancer after his own diagnosis with the disease early last year.

His fund-raising efforts have resulted in over €2.5 million being raised for Cancer Trials Ireland, his campaign highlighted by the Pat Smullen Champions Race For Cancer Trials Ireland at the Curragh in September which saw stars from the past including Tony McCoy, Ruby Walsh, Charlie Swan and Paul Carberry return to the saddle.



Blue Sari and Mark Walsh win the Kildare Now Maiden Hurdle at Punchestown 16.11.2019 PHOTO: PATRICK MCCANN/RACING POST

Upcoming Fixtures

THURLES - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21 (FIRST RACE 12.15)

DUNDALK - FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22 (FIRST RACE 5.45)

GOWRAN PARK - SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23 (FIRST RACE 11.50AM)

NAVAN - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24 (FIRST RACE 12.30)

RACING with Horse Racing Ireland

Annual awards time again for Horse Racing Ireland

A total of 35 nominations have been made for the Horse Racing Ireland Awards, an increase of nine on last year.

The awards, which will be presented early next month, draw on nominees from across the Irish racing industry. Once again, a public vote will decide the outcome of the 2019 Ride of the Year winner with the contenders, chosen by Pat Smullen and Barry Geraghty, to be announced next week.

Eight category winners are decided by a ballot of the Irish racing media – Horse of the Year, National Hunt Award, National Hunt

Achievement Award, Flat Award, Flat Achievement Award, Point-to-Point Award, Racecourse of the Year and the Emerging Talent Award which is a new category for 2019.

Members of the Racegoers Consultative Forum, the Irish Racehorse Trainers Association, the Association of Irish Racehorse Owners, the Irish Jockeys Association and the Irish Stablestaff Association will also vote on the Racecourse of the Year Award.

The six nominations for Horse of the Year are dual Aintree Grand National

winner Tiger Roll, Cheltenham Gold Cup winner Al Boum Photo, Kemboy, successful at the Aintree and Punchestown festivals, three-time Hatton's Grace winner Apple's Jade and multiple Group 1 winners on the Flat, Magical and Iridessa.

Trainers Willie Mullins, Gordon Elliott and Henry De Bromhead and jockeys Rachael Blackmore and Paul Townend are nominated in the National Hunt Award category. The Flat Award nominees are trainers Aidan O'Brien, Jessica Harrington,

Ger Lyons and Joseph O'Brien and jockeys Donnacha O'Brien and Colin Keane.

There are six nominees for the Flat Achievement Award: Ken Condon for his success with Group 1 Prix du Jacques le Marois winner Romanised, Shane Crosse who improved on last season's tally and rounded off the year with three Group 3 winners, Seamie Heffernan who landed the biggest win of his remarkable career in the Epsom Derby on Anthony Van Dyck, Denis Hogan for his handling of Make A Challenge, the winner of six races during the season,

Wayne Lordan for his association with the fillies Hermosa and Iridessa and Matthew Smith who created Galway festival history and was a winner on Longines Irish Champions Weekend with One Cool Poet.

The four nominees for the National Hunt Achievement Award are: Jamie Codd who became the winning-most amateur at the Cheltenham Festival, Gavin Cromwell who landed his first winner at the Cheltenham Festival with the record-breaking Espoir D'Allen, Tony Martin for his continued success in the Guinness Galway Hurdle and Davy Russell who became the

first Irish-based jockey to win consecutive renewals of the Aintree Grand National.

The Point-to-Point category is made up of Colin Bowe, Sam Curling, Barry O'Neill and Maxine O'Sullivan. A new category this year is the Emerging Talent Award and the nominees are Point-to-Point handler Peter Flood, joint-champion apprentice jockey Andrew Slattery, Joey Sheridan who rode 20 winners in his first season and Darragh O'Keeffe who rode out his claim this month and occupies second place in the jockeys' championship.

Plenty of action on the track at Punchestown Winter Festival

Battleoverdoyen made it two wins from as many starts over fences when landing the Grade 2 Florida Pearl Novice Chase for Gordon Elliott and Davy Russell at Punchestown on Sunday. The classy six-year-old had to work for his success but was always in control as he beat Any Second Now, the Cheltenham Festival winner, by five lengths.

Leopardstown's Christmas meeting is next on the agenda for the winning 2/5 favourite. Ratoath trainer Dermot McLoughlin landed the handicap chase over the same 2m6f trip with Freewheelin Dylan for owner Sheila Mangan. The 7/1 chance dug deep to win by half a length from the Joseph O'Brien-trained Punches Cross under Kildare jockey Ricky Doyle.

Noel Meade was among the early winners at Fairyhouse on Tuesday when the Sean Flanagan-ridden

Diol Ker scored a seven-length success in the 2m4f maiden hurdle. Sent off at odds of 7/2, the five-year-old was far too strong for the Willie Mullins-trained 6/4 favourite, Monkfish. Kilmessan trainer Matthew Smith was a winner again as Ronald Pump scored an easy success in the beginners' chase. Owned by the Laois Limerick Syndicate, the 10/1 chance was in front under Adam Short between the final two fences and pulled clear on the flat to score by all of eight lengths from the Dermot McLoughlin-trained Captain C.J. Gordon Elliott and Davy Russell landed the concluding beginners' chase with 6/1 chance From Eden which carried the colours of the Call It What You Like Syndicate. The six-year-old scored by half a length from The White Volcano with Diamond Turf, another trained by Elliott, a close

third. There was no shortage of County Meath success on the all-weather at Dundalk on Friday night where former champion jockey Declan McDonogh partnered the Joseph O'Brien-trained Grandmaster Flash to a narrow success in the 12f handicap. John McConnell landed a double with Rockview Roman. Owned by the Let's Get Lucky Racing Club, the 9/4 favourite, won with plenty in hand under Wayne Lordan in the opening division of the 10f handicap while Kevin Manning had to work far harder for his narrow success on 6/1 chance Bellick in the concluding 6f handicap in the colours of the Rockview Racing Club. Gavin Cromwell was also a winner as Point Reyes scored success in the 8f nursery handicap for owner Lindsay Laroche. Conor Maxwell was in the saddle as the 9/1 shot beat the Joseph O'Brien-trained Gold Factory by a length.

Jockeys photographed at the Winter Festival last weekend at Punchestown



A total of 35 nominations have been made for the Horse Racing Ireland Awards, an increase of nine on last year. The awards, which will be presented early next month, draw on nominees from across the Irish racing industry.

PHOTO CHRIS BELLEW / FENNEL PHOTOGRAPHY.

HRI cancel registration of syndicate's horses

Horse Racing Ireland (HRI) has confirmed that all registrations of horses under the Supreme Horse Racing Club banner have been voided following the failure of the Club's Trustee to provide HRI with information requested.

It means that Supreme Horse Racing Club will not be permitted to be owners or part-owners of racehorses registered under Rules in Ireland.

The HRI said it has consistently sought, and not received, the requested complete members' information for horses running under Supreme Horse Racing Club.

A HRI spokesperson said: "Despite repeated requests, Supreme Horse Racing Club has failed to provide the

members' details required under Horse Racing Ireland Directive 15 Racehorse Ownership, and as a result of not receiving this requested information, HRI is unable to stand over the shareholding of each horse – a fundamental aspect of any owner registration.

"After consulting with our legal advisors, the decision has been taken to void the owner registration for all horses run under Supreme Horse Racing Club in accordance with powers under HRI Directive 15 and Rule 123 (iv) of the Rules of Racing.

"Horse Racing Ireland is disappointed that it is necessary to take this step but due to the lack of engagement and failure to provide the necessary

information there is no alternative but to withdraw approval of the Club and to cancel its registrations as a recognised Club.

"Following complaints from Supreme Horse Racing Club members, and the introduction of Directive 15 - Racehorse Ownership in July, HRI met with Supreme Horse Racing Club Trustee Steve Massey on July 31, 2019. At that meeting there was a commitment by Supreme Horse Racing Club to file the necessary paperwork with HRI.

"There was repeated correspondence in August, September and October, seeking members' information from Supreme Horse Racing Club, which yielded no or inadequate responses."

SPORT

New Championship structure passed at November county board meeting

ROBERT CRIBBIN

The main takings from the November meeting of Kildare County Board was that a new intermediate and senior football championship structure has been proposed and passed for 2020.

The new concept will be rolled out on a one year trial basis before then being reviewed on a view to extending it.

The championship restructuring was passed without much comment but afterwards there was a bit of

talk with a delegate from Ballyteague wanting a whole restructure of the club championship in Kildare citing that the junior and intermediate champions are only yo-yoing between the competitions.

Along similar lines Eadestown delegate Willie Casey brought up the case of the Kerry model of the divisional system where junior and intermediate players get the opportunity to play in the senior championship and was shown in great light when

East Kerry recently defeated Dr Crokes in the county final with young starlet David Clifford to the fore.

Elsewhere Michael Conneff and Eoin Stapleton were confirmed as the respective managers of the Kildare minor football and hurling squads with Stapleton having a two year term and Conneff in for one year.

Finally, the accounts are still in good order while there was no new update on the St Conleth's Park redevelopment with Kildare

still awaiting an announcement on funding and they expect to hear something on those lines around the end of November or the start of December.

New Senior and Intermediate Football Championship

ROUND 1

Open Draw 16 teams (8 winners and 8 losers)*Note: Round 1 winners shall retain their status for the following years championship Group Stage Winners drawn into 2

groups of 4 Group A and Group B - Open Draw Losers drawn into 2 groups of 4 Group C and Group D - Open Draw

GROUPS

Top 2 teams in Group A and B to Quarter final (QF)
 Top team in Group C and D to Quarter Final (QF)
 Team 3 in Group A and B to Pre-Quarter Final (Pre QF)
 Team 2 in Group C and D to Pre-Quarter Final (Pre QF)
 Team 4 in Group A and B are out of the Championship (Out)
 Team 3 in Group C and D are out of the Championship (Out)
 Team 4 in Group C and D in relegation Final (Relegation

Final)

KNOCK OUT GAMES

(Repeat Pairings Allowed)
 Pre Quarter Final 1 - Team 3 in Group A v Team 2 in Group C
 Pre Quarter Final 2 - Team 3 in Group B v Team 2 Group D

Quarter Final 1 - Team 1 Group A v Pre QF 2
 Quarter Final 2 - Team 1 Group B v Pre QF 1
 Quarter Final 3 - Team 2 Group A v Team 1 Group C
 Quarter Final 4 - Team 2 Group B v Team 1 Group D

Semi Final 1 - QF 1 v QF 4
 Semi Final 2 - QF 2 v QF 3
 Final



Pat O'Brien, Fran Mahon and Barry Brophy Vice President Naas RFC



Mike Higgins Naas RFC President, Horse trainer Johnny Murtagh, Martin Corry former England Rugby player and Joey Wynne



Michael Hannigan, Stephen Walsh and David Silk

NAAS RFC HOST 24TH ANNUAL BUSINESS DINNER AT KILLASHEE HOTEL

Pictures: BEN KELLY



Barry Flanagan and Thomas Stapleton



Pat Brophy and John Kehoe



Catherine Moriarty and Catriona Haverty

SPORT

Athy dig deep to claim Under 21 B title after extra-time

TONY DONOHOE U21 B FOOTBALL FINAL

**ATHY 1-18
BALLYMORE EUSTACE 1-13**

BY ROBERT CRIBBIN

It took all of eighty minutes but eventually Athy were crowned U21 B football champions with a five point victory over Ballymore Eustace.

The game went all the way to extra-time when Tadhg Barrett scored a fortuitous stoppage time goal and Ballymore even had a chance to snatch the win but Simon Murphy missed a late opportunity.

It would have been daylight robbery in a way though as Athy were much the better side and they showed their class in the added on period as they outscored Ballymore 0-6 to 0-1 with Kieran Farrell, Fintan Lawler, Brian Maher and Ben Purcell all kicking over insurance scores.

It's a fine end to the year for Athy who had members of their senior team in their management including

James Eaton as selector and Kevin Feely as physio.

Ballymore had 13 players on show who are also part of their senior squad that are preparing for a Leinster junior championship semi-final this weekend and they had the better start with Niall and Simon Murphy kicking points before Athy's Donal McGrath stopped a goalbound effort on the line.

Athy eventually found their groove with a brace of scores from Fintan Lawler levelling up matters before Nick Jackman kicked them in front.

Simon Murphy fisted over an equaliser in the 11th minute but again Athy kicked on with points from Lawler and Brian Maher.

It was then tit for tat for the rest of the half as Athy maintained their two point lead with Maher, Kieran Farrell and Sean Moore on target and although the two Murphy's replied for Ballymore they still trailed at the break as an entertaining half ended with Athy leading 0-8 to 0-6.

Niall Murphy kicked his third point at the beginning of the second half for Ballymore

but Athy continued to have the edge as after Sean Moore kicked over Brian Maher rattled in a 35th minute goal to give his side a 1-9 to 0-7 buffer.

Athy looked in an ideal situation at that stage but despite Maher, Lawler and Farrell adding on points they could never properly fend off their opponents.

Ballymore kept plugging away with Caolan Halpin, Brian Crowe and the two Murphy's kicking late scores to leave just three points between the sides entering stoppage time.

Athy had chances to kill off the game there and then but after failing to do that they were punished when in the fifth minute of injury time Ballymore found the net as Tadhg Barrett hoofed a long ball into the square.

Both BME's Simon Murphy and Athy's Matthew Anderson went up to compete but it evaded them and went into an empty goal to set up extra-time.

With darkness almost descending on St Conleth's Park, Ballymore looked to have the momentum but they only scored one point in the



Athy David Considine spins out of the challenge of Niall Murphy Ballymore Eustace during the Tony Donohoe U21 B Football Championship Final

added on time as Athy found another gear.

Niall Murphy got Ballymore's sole effort with Athy sub Ben Purcell having a big impact as he kicked three points on his introduction and with Lawler, Farrell and Maher on target once more Athy took the win.

ATHY: Matthew Anderson; Donal McGrath, Gearoid Considine, David Kelly, Aodhagan Lawler, David Considine, Sean

Bride, Brian Maher 1-4, Oisín O'Rourke, Nick Jackman 0-1, Kieran Farrell 0-3 (0-2fs), Eoghan McGlinchey, Sean Finn, Fintan Lawler 0-5 (0-4fs), Sean Moore 0-2.

SUBS USED: Ben Purcell 0-3 (0-1f) for Kelly 44 mins, Michael Spillane for Jackman 65 mins, Jamie Griffin for Farrell 65 mins.

BALLYMORE EUSTACE: Colm Daly; Ben Noone, Kevin Kelleher, Evan Keogh, Aaron Deegan, Steven Davis, Brian Crowe 0-1, Caolan Halpin 0-2 (0-2fs),

Enda Byrne, Joe Broderick, Callum McClintock, Tadhg Barrett 1-0, Simon Murphy 0-5, Jordan Deegan, Niall Murphy 0-5 (0-3fs).

SUBS USED: Darragh Gilroy for Byrne h-t, Ronan O'Malley for J.Deegan 42 mins, Ciaran Kelleher for Keogh 51 mins, Jack Sammon for McClintock 58 mins, Paul Pierce for O'Malley 60 mins, Callum McClintock for Noone 65 mins, Jordan Deegan for Pierce 65 mins, Enda Byrne for A.Deegan 73 mins.

REF: Matthew Redmond

McLoughlin display returns U21 B title to Clane

HAVEN HIRE UNDER 21 B HURLING FINAL

**CLANE 2-10
LEIXLIP 1-7**

IAN BAKER

Clane won back-to-back U21 B hurling championship in Hawkfield on Sunday evening when Brian McLoughlin scored a crucial 45th minute goal to break the deadlock.

Despite registering fourteen wides over the course of the game, Clane still managed to dispatch Leixlip with relative ease.

Holding a one-point lead at half-time through Aidan Mooney's goal, when Daragh Melville levelled the game in the second-half, Brian McLoughlin showed his true class.

Already scoring three points, his 45th minute goal broke the deadlock, which Leixlip had no answer to in the closing fifteen minutes.

Both teams started slowly in this game, at least on the scoreboard. While Neil Ryan opened the scoring after the third minute, Leixlip supporters had to wait a further nine minutes for

Conor Burke to add a second point.

Clane on the other hand hit everything except points, registering eleven wides in the first-half and taking seventeen minutes before Caolan Smith opened their account.

But eight minutes after his opening point Caolan turned provider, setting-up Aidan Mooney for a crucial 25th minute goal.

Possibly taking a deflection en route, Mooney's goal gave Clane the lead for the first time at 1-1 to 0-2.

Fourteen minutes between scores Leixlip responded through Daragh Melville and Cian Bracken points by the 27th minute to level the game.

But with Smith registering his second free, despite eleven wides, Clane took a 1-2 to 0-4 lead into half-time.

Using the momentum that Mooney's goal advanced them, Clane dominated the second-half, despite Cian Bracken levelling the game at the beginning of the second-half.

McLoughlin responded with two quick points, the first of which he kicked over,



Clane U21 B Hurling Champions 2019

before Sam Hyllier re-established Clane's three-point lead.

But with that, Daragh Melville once again levelled the game, this time finding the net in the 44th minute from a Burke pass.

Clane stepped into another gear, responding through McLoughlin's 45th minute goal. Scoring 1-3 in four minutes, Cormac Vizzard, Smith and then

McLoughlin pointed to give Clane a 2-8 to 1-5 lead by the 49th minute.

When Mark Doyle denied a Karl Burke goal-chance and Melville blazed over minutes later, the likelihood of Leixlip winning without a goal became unlikely.

Rounding off fine performances, Smith registered two further frees for a five-point tally, while Melville could only move the

needle on his personal tally of 1-3 with a concluding point.

SCORERS - CLANE - B McLoughlin 1-3; C Smith 0-5 (4f); A Mooney 1-0; S Hyllier and C Vizzard 0-1 each.

LEIXLIP - D Melville 1-3; C Bracken 0-2f; N Ryan and C Burke 0-1 each.

CLANE: Mark Doyle; Eamonn Little, Adam Donovan, James Coonan; Cian Shanahan, Sam Donovan, Aaron Connolly, Colm O'Sullivan, Brian Healy; Aidan Mooney, Caolan Smith, Ger D'Arcy; Ciaran Kavanagh, Sam Hillyer,

Brian McLoughlin. Subs: Cormac Vizzard for Kavanagh (h/t); Declan Kavanagh and Brian Corbett for D'Arcy and Coonan (58); Iain Cribbin for Hyllier (61).

LEIXLIP: Keith Callaghan; Sean O'Connor, Dara Mooney, Conor O'Neill; Daithi Martin, Kieran Kilbane, Michael Browne; Neil Ryan, Conor Higgins; Conor Burke, Cian Bracken, Karl Burke; Danny Buggle, Sean Higgins Daragh Melville. Subs: Evan Malone for Browne (37 mins).

REFEREE: Billy O'Connell.

SPORT

Second half goals seal win for Celbridge

TONY DONOHUE U21 'A' FOOTBALL SEMI-FINAL REPLAY

CELBRIDGE MOOREFIELD

**4-7
0-10**

BY ROBERT CRIBBIN

Celbridge will face off with Naas in the U21 football final after they got the better of Moorefield at the second time of asking in a bitterly cold Manguard Plus Hawkfield on Sunday evening.



Moorefield Adam Meehan drives clear from the chasing John Clarke of Celbridge during the U21 A Football Semi Final

Evan O'Brien's stoppage time heroics merited the last four contest going to a replay but it was the Celbridge goal threat that proved too hot to handle for Moorefield.

Celbridge found the net on four occasions but it was Paddy Wall's 20th minute effort that really got them going as Moorefield opened up an early 0-4 to 0-0 lead.

Celbridge got four goals in total with Darragh Archbold, Liam O'Flynn and Tony Archbold all netting in the

second and it was the latter's contribution that stood out as he put in a storming display from half back.

Moorefield raced out of the blocks and were four points up within ten minutes after a pair of frees from Evan O'Brien were followed by scores from the midfield pair of Aaron Masterson and Evan Kavanagh.

Masterson could have had a goal during that period as well but he had a shot deflected wide before Celbridge found their feet with points from Dean O'Donoghue and Darragh Murphy.

Celbridge themselves had a chance at goal when Ryan Quirke saved from Conor Doyle but moments later the net was bulging when a poor kick out from Quirke went straight to Paddy Wall and he finished to the net.

O'Brien then kicked his third point of the half with a free from range as the teams went into the break deadlocked.

Moorefield kicked three of the first four points at the start of the second half with efforts from Masterson and



Moorefield Aaron Masterson is challenged by Celbridge Daragh Murphy during the U21 A Football Championship semi final

O'Brien giving the Newbridge side a two point lead after Niall O'Regan replied for Celbridge.

Come the 40th minute Celbridge were back in front though when Tony Archbold set up namesake Darragh with a quick free and the wing back fired a shot into the top corner.

Murphy then added on a free before Moorefield scores from Masterson and O'Brien left the sides level at 2-4 to 0-10 going into the final ten minutes.

Celbridge took control in that final period as they scored 2-3 on the trot with Moorefield failing to score.

Liam O'Flynn, Paddy Wall

and Darragh Archbold got the points before O'Flynn's deflected goal in the 52nd minute essentially settled the game.

There was still time for Tony Archbold to score an outrageous individual effort in the final few minutes where he took on five players before scoring past Quirke for one of the goals of the year.

Moorefield threw Aaron Masterson in at full forward for the final few minutes but nothing broke for him as Celbridge sealed their place in this weekend's final.

CELBRIDGE: Tadhg Halpin; Adam Synnott, Lee Maycock, John Clarke, Darragh Archbold 1-1, Cian Powell, Tony

Archbold 1-0, Dean O'Donoghue 0-1, Darragh Murphy 0-2 (0-2fs), Conor Doyle, Niall O'Regan 0-1, Paddy Wall 1-1, Cillian Devlin, Liam O'Flynn 1-1, Ross Maycock.

SUBS USED: Johnny Owens for Maycock 18 mins.

MOOREFIELD: Ryan Quirke; Ciaran Shiels-Conlon, Tom Harrington, Callum Sourke, Adam Meehan, Cathal Cribbin, Ian Dunne, Aaron Masterson 0-3 (0-1 45, 0-1f), Evan Kavanagh 0-1, Dylan Quirke, Evan O'Brien 0-6 (0-6fs), Adam Sweeney, Sean McDonnell, Jordan McGrath, Eoin Meehan.

SUBS USED: Aaron Martin for E.Meehan 47 mins, Robbie Higgins for McDonnell 60 mins.

REF: Conor Daly

The House turn on the style in second half to take U21 C title

TONY DONOHUE U21 C FOOTBALL FINAL

TWO MILE HOUSE RATHANGAN

**3-12
2-3**

BY ROBERT CRIBBIN

Two Mile House took home the U21 C football title after easing to a twelve point win over Rathangan on Sunday afternoon.

Two Mile House led by four points at half-time but a second half where Rathangan failed to score and Two Mile House scored 1-5 without reply was the difference.

Adam Byrne got the House's second half goal and on the back of efforts in the opening period from the impressive Byrne and Adam Conneely the final scoreline doesn't flatter the victors.

Rathangan were competitive in the opening period with goals from Ben Savage and Kevin Forde but anything that could go wrong at the change of ends did for them and they finished with only 13 men after both Rob Walsh and Alan Tyrrell were given their marching orders.

Two Mile House started

the better and were in front within two minutes after Adam Byrne scored from play.

Rathangan replied with a free from Muir's Curtin but The House soon raced clear with a goal from Adam Conneely after Tony O'Connor set him up.

A pair of Didier Cordonnier efforts then improved the Two Mile House lead but a Rathangan goal from Kevin Forde kept them in touch.

Just four minutes after finding the net Rathangan soon went into the lead when they got a brilliant second goal with a poorly directed kickout from Luke Coy going to Ben Savage and the Rathangan half back lobbed the ball over Coy's head and into an empty net.

Rathangan couldn't build on the lead though and Two Mile House points from Byrne and Liam Coleman increased the lead.

Rathangan replied with scores from Rob Walsh and Shane O'Loughlin to leave the sides level but Rathangan's effort was really punctured when Adam Byrne found the net on the back of an inside



Two Mile House Adam Byrne turns inside the cover of Rathangan Shane Mooney during the Tony Donohue U21 C Football Final played at St Conleths Park, Newbridge

pass from Cordonnier.

Cordonnier then kicked his third point of the half a couple of minutes later as Two Mile House took a 2-7 to 2-3 lead into the break.

It looked set for a cracking second half but Rathangan never showed up and they remained scoreless over the

thirty minutes.

Three points in the opening six minutes of the half from Coleman, Jack Collins and Andrew May essentially settled the game in Two Mile House's favour as they went seven clear and it was officially done and dusted in the 42nd minute

when Byrne was brought down for a penalty and he himself slotted the kick into the bottom corner.

It was at this stage that Rathangan lost their discipline with Rob Walsh firstly seeing red on two bookable offences while Alan Tyrrell also went just mere

minutes after appearing as a sub.

Two Mile House then rounded off the game with points from Coleman and James McGuinness as they coasted their way to the title.

TWO MILE HOUSE: Luke Coy; Will Purcell, David Hanley, Neil Fitzsimons, Andrew Cregg, Michael McLoughlin, Liam Cummins, Jack Collins 0-1, Joe O'Sullivan, Andrew May 0-1, Tony O'Connor, Didier Cordonnier 0-3 (0-2f), Adam Byrne 2-3, Adam Conneely 1-0, Liam Coleman 0-3 (0-2fs).

SUBS USED: Neil Coyle for Fitzsimons 53 mins, Conor McAuley for Coy 56 mins, James McGuinness 0-1 for Cummins 58 mins.

RATHANGAN: Josh Smullen; Austin Bolger Hinds, Shane Mooney, Oisín O'Loughlin, David Vaughan, Rob Walsh 0-1, Ben Savage 1-0, Michael Fitzsimons, Rian Teahan, Conor Jamieson, Tadhg Fluskey, Shane O'Loughlin 0-1 (0-1 45), Kevin Forde 1-0, Kian Shiels, Muir's Curtin 0-1 (0-1f).

SUBS USED: Eric Ivers for Shiels 34 mins, Colin Gleeson for Mooney 41 mins, Aran Teahan for Jamieson 43 mins, Jordan Burke for Fluskey 45 mins, Alan Tyrrell for Savage 53 mins, Pat Kelly for A.Teahan 55 mins, Tiegan Kenny for Burke (Black Card) 60 mins.

REF: Paul Donnelly

SPORT

Tullaroan show their class as Naas fall at semi-final stage

AIB LEINSTER IHC SEMI-FINAL

NAAS 1-13
Tullaroan (Kilkenny) 3-17

BY ROBERT CRIBBIN

It looked a difficult task on paper and so it proved as Tullaroan were too hot to handle for Naas in the Leinster Intermediate Hurling Championship Semi-Final at Sean Lockes Gaa Club in Callan.

Tullaroan eventually got over the line in Kilkenny a few weeks ago after knocking on the door profusely and the club who have twenty senior titles to their name had too much class for Naas.

Naas were competitive throughout with the likes of James Burke, Brian Byrne and Jack Sheridan finding the target frequently but it was further back where the issues lied for the County Town as their back six struggled with Tullaroan's ruthless attack.

Tullaroan essentially had the game wrapped up by the break when they found the net on three different occasions with Peter Walsh and Martin Keoghan on the double scoring.

Naas had got back to within five points entering first half stoppage time but Keoghan's second goal really punctured Naas' revival.

Naas as a result struggled

to get anything going in the second half and Jack Sheridan's late goal only served as a consolation.

Naas needed a good start but the opposite occurred as after Bill Gaffney pointed in the opening minute Tullaroan were soon four points clear when Peter Walsh offloaded to Martin Keoghan for him to finish past Jeff Keane.

Naas responded with a phenomenal sideline cut from Jack Sheridan near halfway before Tullaroan hit back with an effort from Shane Walsh with the first of his eight points as the Kilkenny side opened up a 1-2 to 0-1 advantage.

The teams then

exchanged scores with Brian Byrne knocking over two long range efforts for Naas on the back of Tullaroan points from Gaffney and Dylan Simpson.

Tullaroan looked very dangerous in attack and it wasn't long before they added goal number two when Peter Walsh knocked a shot into the top corner.

Shane Walsh, Keoghan and Pdraig Walsh then followed up with points and all of sudden Tullaroan were nine points to the good.

Naas kept plugging away though and they scored five of the next six points with a trio of Byrne scores being added to by Burke and Sheridan.

Shane Walsh got Tullaroan's only point during that spell as Naas looked in contention but a stoppage time goal from Keoghan after Simpson had a shot saved by Keane left the Kilkenny champions eight clear.

Byrne and Sheridan did hit back with Naas points before the break as Tullaroan led 3-7 to 0-10 at the interval.

Naas were slow starters in the second half after three Shane Walsh points pushed Tullaroan into a big lead and they also won a 34th minute penalty when Keoghan was fouled while shooting in the square but Dylan Simpson could only blast the shot wide of the goal.

Simpson didn't dally on that miss for long though as he knocked over his second point minutes later to open up a double score lead.

Naas didn't get their tally for the second half going until the 49th minute when Brian Byrne knocked over a free but



Ross Kelly Naas gets his shot away from Tommy Walsh Tullaroan in the AIB Leinster Club Intermediate Hurling semi-final in Callan on Saturday. Picture: Martin Rowe

instead of a momentum shift Tullaroan went up a level with Gaffney, Shane Walsh and John Walton getting successive points.

Tullaroan then emptied their bench in preparation for a final date with Offaly's Seir Kieran and Naas quickly

got 1-2 without reply with points from Byrne and sub John O'Malley followed up by a Sheridan goal.

Fittingly though Tullaroan finished in style with Gaffney and Shane Walsh rounding off on a comprehensive ten point success.

TULLAROAN: Paul Buggy; Diarmuid Doherty, Tommy Walsh, Stephen Maher, Martin Walsh, Pdraig Walsh 0-1, Jack Keoghan, Dylan Simpson 0-2, Mark Walsh, Bill Gaffney 0-4, Martin Keoghan 2-1, John Walton 0-1, Shane Walsh 0-8 (0-3fs), Tommy Walsh, Peter Walsh 1-1.

SUBS USED: Tomas Dunne for Keoghan 42 mins, Shane Cuddihy for Simpson 52 mins, Ken Coogan for M.Walsh 58 mins, Adam Talis for T.Walsh 58 mins, Stephen Dowling for P.Walsh 58 mins.

NAAS: Jeff Keane; Paul Sullivan, Richie Hogan, Donie MacSweeney, Sean Gainey, Rian Boran, Simon Leacy, Shane Broderick, Cathal Dowling, James Burke 0-3, Ross Kelly, Conor Dowling, Shane Ryan, Brian Byrne 0-6 (0-4fs), Jack Sheridan 1-3 (0-1f).

SUBS USED: John O'Malley 0-1 for MacSweeney h-t, Mick Purcell for Conor Dowling h-t, Kevin Aherne for Ryan 58 mins, Mark Nevin for Broderick 58 mins, Eoin O'Hehir for Cathal Dowling 60 mins.

REF: Sean Stack (Dublin)



Shane Ryan Naas ,has his eye on the ball in the ,A.I.B. Leinster Cub Intermediate Hurling Semi-Final v Tullaroan in Callin ,on Saturday 16/11/2019 Photo Martin Rowe .

FIXTURES

THU 21 NOV

2019 U17 B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI FINAL

Venue: Robertstown, Newtown Gaels V Raheens 20:00, Ref: Colin Kearney 2 x 10 mins ET if Required (Note Date Change)

SAT 23 NOV

2019 U17 D FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Venue: Manguard Plus Hawkfield, Abbey Rangers V St Kevin's 16.00, Ref: Jack O Connell 2 x 10 mins ET if Required

SUN 24 NOV

2019 U17 A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Venue: Newbridge, Clane V Naas 12:30, Ref: Kieran Harris 2 x 10 mins ET if Required

2019 TONY DONOHUE U21 A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Venue: Newbridge, Celbridge V Naas 14:15, Ref: Billy O Connell 2 x 10 mins ET if Required

2019 U17 B FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

Venue: Manguard Plus Hawkfield, Maynooth V Newtown Gaels / Raheens 18:00, Ref: Damien Whelan 2 x 10 mins ET if Required



Ross Kelly Naas on the run from, Dylan Simpson Tullaroan in tne A.I.B. Leinster Club Intermediate Hurling Semi -Final in Callin on Saturday 16/ 11/ 2019 .Photo Martin Rowe.

LEINSTER JFC SEMI-FINAL

Ballymore primed to reach Leinster decider



ROBERT CRIBBIN

With Naas having been defeated in the Leinster Intermediate Hurling Championship semi-final at the weekend, there is now only one Kildare club left standing in the Leinster shake-up, and that's Ballymore Eustace.

The Kildare junior football champions will take on Clann Na Gael of Meath in the Leinster semi-final at Trim on Saturday afternoon but their preparation has been far from ideal.

Ballymore were

impressive winners over Longford champions Kenagh in the opening round on an impressive 2-20 to 0-5 scoreline but instead of full focus being on Saturday's encounter, Ballymore had to cope with the distraction of an U21 B county football final.

Up to 12 or 13 players were in the team that took on Athy last weekend and the worst thing for senior boss Paul Breen was the fact that the game went to extra-time. Tadhg Barrett's stoppage time goal brought the game to added on time before Athy eventually pulled away to win

by five points.

But playing such a tough game over eighty minutes was probably the last thing Ballymore needed.

Star man Niall Murphy went down with a knock near the end of the game but he seemed to recover well and a lot will be expected of him when Ballymore take to the field on Saturday afternoon. The team standing in their way of reaching a provincial final is Clann Na Gael and the Meath side have had a very eventful few weeks.

They captured the Meath junior championship title in October when defeating

Moylagh on a 3-8 to 1-9 scoreline after a replay with Darragh Griffin, Ger O'Sullivan and Ryan McNamee getting the goals. As a result, they advanced to a Leinster semi-final with Westmeath's Ballynacargy in Mullingar and by coincidence or not, they came out on top on the exact same scoreline as the county final.

The Athboy/Rathcairn based outfit were helped by two goals from Darragh Griffin and he seems to be the Meath side's go to man so Ballymore will have to keep a close eye on him.

The weekend gone was a

busy one for Clann Na Gael as well as Ballymore as they completed a League and Championship double on the hurling side of things with a few dual stars involved.

On paper this looks a tough test for Ballymore and they will need to curb Clann Na Gael's goal threat but the Kildare side have huge talent in their ranks and if they gel on the day, they won't be far away.

One worry though is the continued absence of Mark Barrett through injury and his availability would certainly be a huge boost to Ballymore.

The Kildare senior star hasn't played since the county final win over Robertstown so he would have to be classed as very doubtful. In saying that, if the likes of Niall and Simon Murphy as well as Tadhg Barrett can get enough ball inside, there is the potential for them to put up a winning score.

Ballymore Eustace v Clann Na Gael (Meath) on Saturday in Trim at 1.30pm.

Verdict: Ballymore Eustace

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