

CIAN O'CALLAGHAN & ORLAITH ROCHE CORK CITY & COUNTY ALL STAR YOUTH AWARDS





Cian O'Callaghan (Bishopstown Pitch & Putt Club) & Orlaith Roche (Captain of the Glanmire Minor Ladies Football Team)
Photo credit: Siobhán Russell

The latest winners of the Cork City & County All Star Youth Awards are Cian O'Callaghan, Bishopstown Pitch & Putt Club and Orlaith Roche, Captain of the Glanmire Minor Ladies Football Team, who won the County Title recently.

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Profile of the Month

Monika Kelly

Occupation: Physical therapist at Glanmire Chiropractic Clinic

Born in Lithuania, moved to Ireland in 2009

Colour: Red

Film: The Bodyguard

TV Program:

How to Save a Grand in 24 hours

Drink: Brandy with ice

Favourite gadget:

Treadmill

Pet: Rabbit

Free time/ hobby: sewing/ painting

No 1 person in my life: kids and husband.

Unfortunately impossible to choose one they will have to share the spot light.

What do I like about Glanmire: green scenery and people who have been supporting and trusting me to provide my services to them.

I would take AXE to desert island together with Michael McIntyre the comedian I love, he would keep my spirits up.

My biggest hopes for 2022 to get us all back on track: living, enjoying, communicating and loving our selves as well as others.



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Cian & Orlaith All Star Youth Awards



Cian O'Callaghan (Bishopstown Pitch & Putt Club)

Photo credit: Siobhán Russell

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The latest winners of the Cork City & County All Star Youth Awards are Cian O'Callaghan (Bishopstown Pitch & Putt Club) and Orlaith Roche Captain of the Glanmire Minor Ladies Football Team, who won the County Title recently.

UNCLE'S GIFT OF PITCH and PUTT MEMBERSHIP LEADS TO NATIONAL JUNIOR TITLE.

CIAN O'CALLAGHAN had played pitch and putt as a casual Green Fee visitor in his youth, but it was when he became a member of Bishopstown Pitch and Putt Club in July 2020 at the age of 18 that he took a more serious interest in the game. Membership was a gift from his uncle during the pandemic.

Cian started to play in the club's competitions in August 2020 prior to his first win in Sunday morning competition. Cian was to give a glimpse at his potential as he cinched the Club's Gary Crowley Perpetual Cup as a rank outsider in October. This was the beginning of a monumental journey to success.

Cian was willing to listen and learn and spent many hours working on improving his game.

He started to enter other club's Scratch Cups in 2021 after restrictions were lifted. He entered the National Strokeplay Junior grade in August 2021, his first National or Provincial Competition and qualified for the final in Stackallen, County Meath on 11.9.21. His outstanding final round of 45 gave him a three shot victory with 148 the second

lowest winning 54 hole aggregate in history.

Cian was to follow up this victory by winning the Cork County Intermediate Matchplay in October 2021.

His name is now on three cups within 15 months, National, County and Club, what an exceptional achievement from such a fine young player.



Orlaith Roche Captain of the Glanmire Minor Ladies Football Team

Photo credit: Siobhán Russell

ORLAITH ROCHE has been a member of the Glanmire Ladies Football club since the age of 7 and part of a hugely successful underage team throughout the years, with the majority of girls who started out with her still playing with the club.

The current Club Minor team that have this year won the Minor A county championship for the fourth successive year in a row are undoubtedly one of the most successful underage teams in the County winning every successive county A Championship since U12 A right up to Minor A.

Orlaith has had the honour of captaining the team this year to their 4th successive County Minor title in a row.

This particular team have also represented Cork in the All-Ireland Football Féile in 2017, winning the competition outright and bringing the title back to Cork.

What makes this all the more inspiring is that 7 days prior to winning the Football Féile in Cavan, the majority of this team also won the All-Ireland Camogie Féile as well in Wexford.

A remarkable achievement by a wonderful group of girls who the club could not be more proud of.

Orlaith has been part of the Cork Intercounty team each year since U14 and this year captained the Cork Minors to a Munster title, a wonderful honour for both her and her Club.

She is involved with coaching at underage and regularly helps out at the various club summer camps

that take place. She has played with multiple teams within the Club and started playing with the Club's intermediate team at age 15, training under ex Cork County Senior player Geraldine O Flynn initially.

In 2019 she won the Juvenile Player of the Year for Glanmire.



Are You Living With Sciatica Or Back Pain... When There Is A Non-Invasive, Drugless Solution?

Having back and sciatic pain is a miserable – even crippling – condition.

You might not be able to play golf, work, or even sit in the car for a 30-minute drive. It's almost impossible for anyone around you to understand how you feel. You can't remember the last time you even had a restful night's sleep.

You may have a condition called "Sciatica" if you're suffering from any of these annoying conditions. Sciatica is a compression of the sciatic nerve, usually by an L4 or L5 disc herniations.

Nothing's worse than feeling great mentally, but physically feeling held back from life because your back or sciatica hurts and the pain just won't go away!

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Here's what just one of our patients had to say:

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This means in just a matter of weeks you could be back on the golf course, enjoying your love life, or traveling again.

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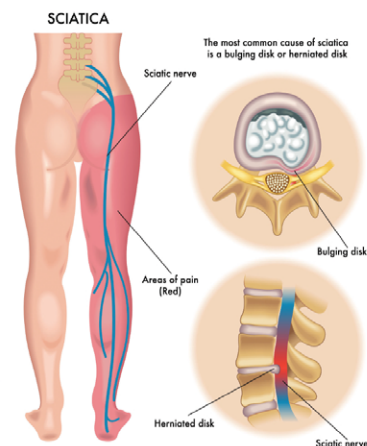
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- We will provide answers to your questions, like...which position, mattress, and pillow you should use for a good night's rest.
...how to exercise the right way so you aren't making your pain worse.

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"NÍL AON GLEANNTÁN MAR DO GLEANNTÁN FÉIN" GLOUNTHAUNE NEWS BY "THE FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT"

PARISH GAA

It is generally acknowledged that the parish is a GAA stronghold and that the most notable alternative is soccer which is well organised and attracts good support. It is surprising there is no rugby club in the parish even though there is no shortage of knowledgeable opinion which in the main emanates from armchair or high stool knees-up TV rugby revelers who very rarely attend a match let alone take on an onerous task of forming a club! Early days though! The parish has a historic connection to the GAA which extends back to its pre-foundation days of 1884 and area teams such as Brooklodge who were known as "The All Blacks", Little Island, Leaside of Glounthaune and Knockraha are spoken of with reverence by "old-timers" to this very day. But very little is heard of two other teams that featured in the parish of old; Caherlag and Springhill Rovers. The 1987 publication, "The Story of Erins Own", which was penned by Liam O'Connell, refers to the fact that prior to the seventeen hundreds the poets of Carraig Na bhFear wrote about a game called "goaling" declaring that "Caherlag's men ruled supreme" and an old "war cry" of ancient hurling teams included; "Come on Caherlag and don't be in dread, for we are the men in the green and red". Referenced games that Caherlag participated include the Lisgoold Festival Tournament encounter against Dungourney in 1888 and the headline of the day was that the County Board subsequently investigated incidents which arose during the game but regretfully the details and outcome are not known. Caherlag drew Queenstown in the Cork County Senior Hurling Championship and this game was played at Middleton on Sunday March 4th. 1888. The "Examiner" carried a report the following day: "Caherlag won the toss and played with the wind in their favour. They got a goal very quickly and showed themselves superior to their opponents in almost every way, and they followed it by two points – good points. The play was rather rough and after this there were more disputes but the Caherlag men made a second goal and a point after which play was suspended for a time on account of a Queenstown player being hurt. On its resumption Caherlag made another point quickly after which half time was called. The play after this was more even and some of the Queenstown men stopped the ball very often but they never made a point or a goal and when time was called the score was two goals and five points to nil for Queenstown".

The Caherlag goal umpires were J. Kenneally and C. Collins and the field umpire was T. Donnelly. The next round against Cloyne was played on March 25th. and it was reported that "Caherlag opened well and scored a goal quickly but Cloyne hit back and scored one goal and three points. After half time Caherlag only managed to score one point and the full time score was Cloyne one goal and three points to Caherlag's one goal and one point". Caherlag played Aghada's seconds at a tournament at Middleton's "old grounds near the kennel" in March 1890 and the following is the match report: "Caherlag won the toss but it was Aghada who drew first blood by scoring a point. However this advantage was not to last very long and in less than it takes to tell Caherlag was back for a goal. Soon they were to add a point followed quickly by a goal. Aghada played poorly now and conceded another point. The half time score was two goals and two points to one point in favour of Caherlag. Play was improved greatly for the lower harbour men in the second half and they managed to notch three points to their credit. However Caherlag held on and won on the score two goals and two points to four points". On then to February 1897 and the Examiner reports on a Festival game played in Carrigtwohill between Caherlag and St. Finbarr's seconds: "The starting of the match was delayed till well advanced in the evening. Caherlag won the toss and played with the slight incline. The city men rushed them threatening constantly and eventually scoring the first point five minutes from commencement. Caherlag gaining possession of the ball made a good follow up and would have scored but for Sheehan ("Rockett") who returned well for St. Finbarr's. The latter immediately after this performance maintained the struggle in Caherlag territory and were prevented from scoring by the tremendous work of the rural backs. The defence man for Caherlag having struck the ball back over the line, a fifty yards puck was awarded to St. Finbarr's with effect. Play remained pretty even until call at half time and the score stood; St. Finbarr's one point, Caherlag nil. On change of sides both teams stood up in much better form and Harrington of Barr's who played well throughout took up the running and pucked another point for the city boys. Being enervated by this the latter got together and in a short time added to their score by a goal and a point in quick succession. Caherlag now pushed and threatened but the ball having been gone out was soon in possession of St.

Finbarr's on behalf of whom another point was registered. Two more scores were added to the city score. Give and take was the order until a few minutes before call of time when St. Finbarr's took advantage of the very evident fall off of activity of the Caherlag men and scored another point. They increased their score by a goal immediately before the call of full time and the result was St. Finbarr's two goals and seven points, Caherlag nil". Caherlag played Ballinhassig in the championship and on Monday May 24th. 1897 the "Examiner" reported that: "This was a well-fought contest with both teams equally matched. The game was quick throughout and much skillful play was exhibited in the first half hour. Ballinhassig scored a goal and three points while their opponents failed to place anything to their credit. However Caherlag improved their position during the second period and after some speedy play from both sides scored a goal. But for the greater part, good fortune attended Ballinhassig and they added two more points to their score. The result being at the close of time: Ballinhassig one goal and five points, Caherlag one goal". You know what; looking at the aforementioned reports which extend back well over one hundred years; should we not be indebted to the "Examiner" for presenting such historic coverage right up to the present time and the cost of the paper today is less than the price of a half pint? Well the foregoing gives a flavour of Caherlag back then and how interesting is the fact that it had a hurling team of its own? It is fitting, albeit entirely coincidental, that Erins Own headquarters is located there and of course the possibility of Caherlag fielding a team today is preposterous! This sleepy hamlet has not changed enormously from the times we buried our dead at the ancient burial ground where the first Christians worshipped in the area, or where people met at Billy Macs forge on the corner and watched the horses of the gentry being shod. Only passing traffic and sporting activities at the Erins Own HQ remind locals of the outside world today. There is an aura of tranquility when entering Caherlag as residents stroll around their domain in a relaxing carefree manner and when the curious jealous outsiders walk past they receive a customary doff of the hat from the valiant gentlemen. The ladies are observed tripping along as if walking on air and with a slightly bowed head a sweet gentle smile flows forth. In summertime their saunter is interrupted by a slight pause to sense those blooming wild roses and perhaps an

opportunity to pluck a petal or two. Caherlag is an ideal location for a retirement village – but perhaps the area could presently be classified as one! Springhill Rovers is the other team mentioned at the outset but that club was only in existence for one year, 1963! The catchment area was described by their club delegates to the East Cork Board as that parcel of land encompassing Cobh Junction, Killahora, Killacloyne, Springhill and Windsor Hill. Their graphic description of this "neglected area" to the Board was portrayed to such an extent that if Ireland was a member of the then Common Market; the club would have qualified for Regional Fund Aid! The hurling only Springhill Rovers club was drawn against the mighty Watergrasshill in the Junior "B" championship and it was one of the most eagerly awaited matches in the division. The club had a few "get-togethers" leading up to the game, mainly at the Elm Tree, but alas a settled team did not take the field for "that" Sunday evening encounter at Riverstown, and indeed one youngster appeared to be on loan from a "rival" club in the parish! Another problem was that they had no jerseys but match referee Dermot Barry arranged to have the team decked-out in his Glanmire Football Club green and gold set. Such was the dominance of Watergrasshill that the match was over as a contest after just fifteen minutes but everyone could then relax and enjoy the sporting amusing occasion. There were plenty of spills and thrills for both the spectators and players and there was the comical sight of one Springhill Rovers official parading the line, fag in mouth, loosing his belongings and vociferously issuing instructions. There were some dazzling individual displays from players such as Gerry Coffey, Vincent Dillon, Con Murphy of Elm Tree fame and Donal Twomey. The latter played a captain's part when with his team behind by ... a lot ... and now playing a one, fourteen system was awarded a twenty one yard free with a few minutes remaining. With traditional GAA style he duly took his point - "the goals will come" - it was the final whistle and also for Springhill Rovers who played their first and last championship match on the same day. The club was banished by the East Cork Board. Oh, and the Glanmire referee ensured that there was no swapping of jerseys!

SLÁN ANOIS ©



PERSONAL LIFE PLANNING

John O'Sullivan
Personal & Business Coach

Ask anyone the typical Cork greeting, "How's life, boy (or girl)?" and you'll generally get the same reply from most people. They will say, "Not too bad" or even a dull one-word reply, "Grand". It's fair to say these aren't thoughtful answers, but more like automatic replies. But as common as these answers are, they offer an interesting insight into our mind-set.

When someone says their life is "grand", what do they mean? When we say things are "not too bad", we basically seem to say that everything is normal. Not too good and not too bad. Everyday life, mundane and ordinary, can be a bit unremarkable like that sometimes. But what if it wasn't?

The truth is that so many of us are going through the motions of life. Carried along by the tide of our lives, bumping off rocks and tangled in debris as we go. With no clear destination, so many of us are going where the river takes us with no way to steer away from rocks and no way to stop when we reach the perfect place. "Life is a roller coaster" is a phrase you've heard before, but does it have to be as bumpy? And if it is a roller coaster, who the heck is in charge anyway?

We know all great corporations have strategic plans. This isn't a fad, these guys

know what they're doing. Every business (and everyone) needs to have a clear vision of the future, a goal if you like, and a plan about how to get there. World famous coach and mentor, Brian Tracy puts it very well when he writes, "You can't hit a target that you can't see". In other words, if you don't know where you're going in life, you could wind up anywhere. In order to get the best out of any situation, we have to be deliberate!

So, how many of us have a plan? Do you have a vague notion of how you might like things to be at some point in the future? Maybe you have a clear goal in your mind – perhaps you plan to buy a home, or start a family or launch your own business? Maybe you even have a list of goals written down? If you do have a list of goals, you're 42% more likely to achieve them, according to a study by the University of California.

But goals and plans are one thing. What many people forget is that a vision for your future allows all the other smaller plans to fall into place. Here is how this might look to you:

1. Pick a point in time – perhaps 5 or 10 years in the future.

2. Describe in fine detail what life will be like for you at this point – write, draw, meditate

on it. Whatever you do, really vividly create this place and situation in your mind.

3. Now work backwards! Create a set of linear steps that will bring you to this point. Beginning with the furthest away and working back each tiny step to where you are today.

4. Now identify your first next step. It should be small and achievable, but it's the beginning your journey.

The next important part of having a vision and a plan is to use this long term vision as a filter for all the other things you want to do. If you plan to have a down payment for your first home in 5 years' time, then use this as your main objective. If you have a chance to work some overtime, then you can decide if the extra cash will help you towards this goal. If your friends are all heading to Benidorm for a post Covid holiday, then you can choose if this is going to help or hurt your 5 year plan to buy your first home. It's all connected!

This isn't to say that you can't let your hair down and enjoy the simple pleasures of life. Of course you can. You might have worked overtime every weekend and be well ahead of your 5 year goal. Then you can either choose your holiday (guilt free, I might add) or choose

to buy your home sooner. The point is, that a plan like this gives you choice. And with choice comes control. And control gives you a set of paddles to use as we hurdle downstream in life, allowing us to avoid the rocks and gives us the choice to stop when and where we want!

If we make a plan in life, we might not always reach our desired goal. We may fall short or we may even exceed our goal. But like a ship without a rudder, you will have little control over your life if you don't know where you are going. So, go on, grab a pen and a sheet of paper and make your own Personal Life Plan. There is nothing to lose and a maybe a whole lot to gain!



John O'Sullivan
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Charlie Wilkins

NEW BEGINNINGS

February dawns and new life is springing up across the late winter garden! Illumination all but dazzles now and out of the remaining darkness colour breaks noiselessly. Observe it by getting outside every day. Miracles are still waiting for those who appreciate the sacredness of life and creation.

Up beyond our neighbouring bungalows, where the road narrows, the remains of a drystone ditch still exist and here, the very first primroses are now emerging. These wild primroses (thankfully left untouched) love to huddle together creating a picture of demure simplicity beneath the encroaching wayside herbage. But how they have escaped the invasive wild garlic is beyond me for it spreads with a willingness that stuns.

Obviously, wild garlic tastes like garlic. But it differs from the more common cloves in that it is more mellow and has a distinct grassy flavour. The raw leaves have a strong pungent smell, but they taste delicate and sweet. Use it in the same way you would with normal garlic in pesto and mayonnaise.

Funnily enough, wild garlic has become one of the food joys of spring in recent years. It grows in abundance along this forgotten ditch, but it can be found in many byroads throughout the county. It's easy to identify, its leaves being bright green with a pointed shape, and flowers which are white having a six-pointed star shape arranged on a single flower head. Its bulbs are small and white.

That said, the whole plant is edible, and it can be enjoyed raw or cooked. Many animals rely on plants for survival, so never take more than you plan to eat as this could also deny wildlife from a valuable food source. In the

UK however, all wild plants are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), which makes it illegal to dig up or remove a plant.

Wild garlic is at its best before too many flowers appear, signalling tougher leaves and a more bitter flavour. In April, when wild garlic is at its peak, you are more likely to find delicious tight buds more than open flowers.



Wild Garlic

For all my promotion of spring and emerging treasures it's still early and the weather remains fickle. Hard frosts may be getting rarer, but heavy, continuous rain seems unstoppable. It is unwise therefore to undertake planting of any kind when the soil is exceptionally wet and sticky. It is better to stay off the soil altogether—at least on those mediums which are classed as 'heavy'. If the soil is light and quick draining then essential work can be done but even then, you risk compaction.

Make sure there is plenty of humus-forming material on beds and borders during the next few weeks for it will help to rectify deficiencies. Farm and horse manure, leaf mould, garden compost or anything else that is organic, will give you this beneficial effect and may be spread or worked in from now up to the end of March.

LESSONS IN GEOGRAPHY?

My schooldays were difficult and filled with fear, dread, and physical abuse. I shrunk from sport, developed a fear of authority, and an impediment which lasted

for years. I excelled at English, Geography and Art. We were schooled in all subjects through the medium of Irish.

Through Irish, I became familiar with the counties of Ireland, their mountains, rivers, principal towns, and their industries. Later, I would come to know the same features and facts about our nearest neighbours the UK.

Why tell all this now? Well, it seems to me that many in England know very little of my country, and that is a real pity. The example which follows illustrates this.

A few short years ago I had some old English legal tender, which could only be redeemed with newer notes by the Bank of England in London. At the door of this great establishment, I was not alone asked for identity but had to show the money in question. I was then shown to a long mahogany counter fronted by glass where a young lady enquired as how she might help. Showing her the old sterling, she proceeded to ask my name, address, and phone number before disappearing for a considerable time behind shutters. Eventually, she came back and said that unfortunately she could not find Cork. I was taken aback at this, became confused, and didn't know how to proceed. A male assistant approached to explain their problem and seek further confirmation of my home address. When I said I came all the way from Ireland the penny dropped (pardon the pun) and they quickly returned to their respective desks. Shortly afterwards they exchanged my money and bid me a polite Gooday! No mention of an apology or regret at their ignorance of Irish cities.

I could have rattled off every Shire, County, river, mountain, and important city in their country and they didn't know of our second largest city. Again, what a pity.

deep, 8" or so on a mound of grit or gravel to improve drainage. Finally, never mix varieties or they'll flower in a scrappy fashion. In pots, place three or five together (without touching) at least two thirds deep, then top off with enriched compost. As growth becomes visible liquid feed whenever possible for best results.



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Glanmire, Co.Cork



THE FEBRUARY GARDEN

It is a greater act of faith to plant a bulb than to plant a tree, and so, lilies continue to be stuck in wherever a 'safe' spot can be found. 'Safe' means a square foot of ground where nothing else is visibly planted. Even then, there may be bulbs

hidden there already! I get tired, bored, and sick to death of this job yet every year I find afresh how worthwhile it is. As I work the pictures come flashing through my mind: the white of 'Regale' and 'Longiflorum', the sugar pink of 'Pink Perfection' and the red and scarlet of 'Stargazer'. How could you not fall in love with these oriental lilies? Plant them



GLANMIRE LADIES FOOTBALL CLUB



Orlaith Roche All Star Youth Award Winner

Cork City and County All Star Youth Award

Congratulations to our Minor Captain, Orlaith Roche, who was recently presented with the Cork City and County All Star Youth Award for leading her team to a fourth consecutive Minor A County Championship win. Orlaith has made a huge contribution to Glanmire Ladies Football and had a huge impact on the Minor A Championship this year getting vital scores up front. Orlaith also had the privilege of captaining the Cork Minor team to Munster glory, which is a huge achievement for Orlaith, her family and the club. Congratulations Orlaith.

Christmas Tree Collection

Thank you to Michael Hannon for organising and running another successful Christmas tree collection and to Dave Carey, who also gave a hand in what is a great fundraiser for our club. We look forward to the next one in 2022!

Raffle for an iPhone 13!

Christmas 2021 also included a great fundraiser for the club

and one that turned out to be extremely successful. A great idea initiated and run by Michael O' Sullivan saw a raffle take place with 1st Prize being an iPhone 13. The raffle took place over the Christmas period with the draw taking place in the year. Well done to our winners!

Back Training

January has seen the return of some of our teams for their pre season. First up was our Intermediates who hit the ground running in Sars Astro which had a huge turnout of over 30 girls. Our U15's were next to return on Friday nights, while the majority of our teams will return over the January/February period.

Well Done

Well done to all teams on a fantastic 2021 with many bringing home silverware and many more also contesting finals. This year saw our intermediates contest a second consecutive county final, while our second adult team also contested a county final. The U16 made it to another A county final, while they won the east



Minor A Winners

cork league and championship. The Minor A squad won a fourth consecutive county, while more U16, U14 and U12 teams contested county finals and east cork finals. Here is to another successful season for 2022.



Intermediate County Finalists



U12 County Finalists



U14 Development League Winners



U16 East Cork Championship Winners



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Mrs Lindsay agus Luíochán na Druipsí- Cuid 1

Micheál Ó Súilleabháin

Le linn Chogadh na Saoirse, 1919-21, tharla mórán eachtraí tragóideacha. Ceann díobh be ea scéal Mrs Lindsay agus Luíochán na Druipsí. Ar an dá thaobh, bhí daoine a chreid go daingean ina gcás féin. Léirigh sé a thábhachtaí is a bhí sé pleanáil chríochnaitheach a dhéanamh agus gach rud a choimeád faoi rún. I gcás luíocháin, bhí sé tábhachtach go mbeadh fíor-bheagán ar an eolas ach sa chás seo, a mhalairt a bhí fíor. Bhí toradh tubaisteach dá dheasca.



Mrs Lindsay

Saolaíodh Mary Georgina Rawson i mBaile Chruaich in Iarthar Chontae Mhaigh Eo. Dlídóir a raibh cleachtas mór aige ba ea a hathair. Bhíodar go maith as agus bhí roinnt tithe ag an teaghlach ar fud an chontae. Bhaineadar leis an uasaicme. Bhí gaolta ag muintir Rawson i dtionscal an línéadaigh i gContae an Dúin agus i mBéal Feirste. Bhí beirt dheirfiúracha ag Mary Georgina. Nuair a bhí sí ag fás aníos, chuir roinnt oifigeach airm suim inti ach ní raibh Richard Rawson, a hathair, sásta leo. Bhí súil aige go bpósfadh a hiníonacha fir shaibhre.

Thugadh muintir Rawson cuairteanna ar Thuaisceart Éireann agus, ar cheann de na cuairteanna, chuir ceannaí línéadaigh, John Lindsay, suim i Mary Georgina. Duine saibhir ba ea é agus, dá dheasca, bhí Richard sásta a bheannacht a thabhairt don chleamhnas. Mar sin, phós Mary Georgina agus John Lindsay. Bhí Mary Georgina 21 bliain d'aois agus John Lindsay 33 bliain d'aois.

Chuir na Lindsays fúthu i nDroichead na Banna, Contae an Dúin. Bhí éirí in airde ar Mary Georgina agus theastaigh uaithi go n-aithneofaí í mar 'bhanríon línéadaigh' i measc lucht gnó an Tuaiscirt. De réir a chéile, fuair sí amach nach raibh sé chomh héasca a bheith aitheanta mar bhall den uasaicme. Bhraith sí uaithi an stádas a bhí aici i gContae Mhaigh Eo. Dá dheasca, theastaigh uaithi imeacht ón Tuaisceart. Bhí leisce ar a fear céile, áfach, scarúint leis an oidhreacht a bhain leis an teaghlach i gContae an Dúin. Ach, go tráthúil, thug gaol John Lindsay cuireadh dóibh dul go Contae Chorcaí le haghaidh saoire. Fad is a bhí na Lindsays i gCorcaigh, fuairadar amach go raibh feirm 100 acra agus teach mór Seoirseach ar díol in aice le hÁth an Chóiste. Bhí suíomh aoibhinn ag an teach in aice le habhainn na Laoi. Cheannaigh muintir Lindsay an teach agus an talamh

agus d'aistrigh siad go Leemount House in 1901. D'fhostaigh siad gairneoir, builtéir, cócaire, cailín aimsire, cóisteoir, cailín tí agus cúigear oibríthe feirme. Daoine áitiúla ba ea iad ar fad cé's moite den bhuiltéir, James Clarke, a tháinig leo ó Chontae an Dúin. Bhí sé soiléir ón tús go mbeadh deacracht ag Mary Georgina dul i dtailthí ar na nósanna sóisialta áitiúla. Nuair a chonaic sí grúpa daoine ag siúl trí pháirceanna na feirme, chuaigh sé go dtí cigire áitiúil na bpóilíní chun stop a chur leis na treaspásóirí. Ní raibh taithí aici ar a leithéid sa Tuaisceart mar a raibh meas ar shealúchas daoine. Nuair a d'fhreastail sí ar sheirbhís an Domhnaigh ag Séipéal Mhaigh Guairne, fuair sí amach go raibh suíocháin ar leith curtha in áirithe do bhoic mhóra an cheantair agus bhraith sí maslathas go raibh daoine ar cheim níos airde ná í féin. Ach chuir an Reachtair i in aithne dá comharsana agus chuireadar fáilte roimpi. Ansin thug sí faoi deara gur ardaigh muintir an cheantair a gcaipíní, nuair a bheannaigh siad di agus bhraith sí gur dhuine tábhachtach í. Fuair sí cuireadh ó Chlub Seilge Mhúscraí dul ag fiach leo. Chuir sí cóisirí ar siúl ag Leemount House d'uaisle an cheantair.



Crosaire na Druipsí 1910

Chuireadh sí cóisir bhliantúil ar siúl d'oifigigh Arm na Breataine. Cheistigh a comharsana Protastúnacha flaithiúlacht den chineál seo. Dar leo, tharraing sé aird orthu nach raibh ag teastáil uatha. Bhí Mary Georgina an-sona ina timpeallacht nua ach níorbh amhlaidh dá fear céile. Duine ciúin, aonarach ba ea é agus bhraith sé uaidh Droichead na Banna. Théadh sé ag siúl cois abhann ina aonar agus thug daoine faoi deara gur chaith sé tamall fada ag stánadh isteach san uisce faoi mar a bheadh sé ag machnamh go domhain. Sna blianta tosaigh di ag Leemount House, chuir Mary Georgina í féin in iúl mar dhuine beo, dáiríre, flaithiúla a raibh féith an ghrinn ag baint léi. Ach, de réir a chéile, tháinig athríú ar an íomha seo. Nuair a bhris an Chéad Chogadh Domhanda amach, rinne sí gníomhaire earcaíochta d'Arm na Breataine di féin. Chuir sí póstaer earcaíochta 'Your Country Needs You' in airde ar fhallaí Shéipéal Mhaigh Guairne. Ach dúirt an Reachtair léi nach raibh an séipéal oiriúnach dá leithéid. Dar léi, feall in aghaidh na Breataine ba ea Éirí Amach 1916. Ghlaoigh sí 'ár mbuachaillí' ar shaighdiúirí na Breataine. Bhí sí oscailte faoi. Níor thaitin caint den chineál seo lena comharsana Protastúnacha agus thuigeadar go rabhadar i seilbh tailte a

bhain leis na Gaeil tráth. In 1918, bhí an Bhreatain ag iarraidh coinscríobh a chur i bhfeidhm. Theastaigh ó Mary Georgina go dtabharfadh Reachtair Shéipéal Mhaigh Guairne, an tUrramach Alcock, tacaíocht oscailte don bhille coinscríofa ach dhiúltaigh sé. Ansin fuair a fear céile, John, bás agus chuir sí in uaidh é ina cúlghairdín lena mhada, cé gur theastaigh uaidh go gcuirfí i gContae an Dúin é. Chuir sé seo alltacht ar an Urramach Alcock. Bhí díoma uirthi nach dtabharfadh a comh-Phrotastúnaigh tacaíocht oscailte di ina cuid iarrachtaí tacú leis an mBreatain, cé go mb'fhéidir gur aontaigh siad go príobháideach léi.

Bhí an ghráin dhearg ag Mary Georgina ar Chaitlicigh ina hóige. Ach ansin, fuair sí amach go raibh an sagart áitiil, an tAthair Shinnick, ar aon aigne léi faoi choinscríobh. Thug sé tacaíocht oscailte ón altóir don bhille coinscríofa. Bhí formhór a foireann oibre ina gCaitlicigh, chomh maith, cé's moite dá builtéir, James Clarke, a bhí ina Phreispitéireach ó Chontae an Dúin. Chun bualadh leis an Athair Shinnick, théadh Mary Georgina ag rothaíocht agus bhuaileadh sí leis ar a chuairteanna. Labhraíodís faoi Chogadh na Saoirse agus d'aontaigh an bheirt acu go ndéanfaidís a ndícheall Áth an Chóiste a shábháil ón scrios a d'éireodh as luíocháin agus as na bearta díoltais a leanfadh. Cheistíodh Mary Georgina an tAthair Shinnick faoi na bochtáin sa phobal Caitliceach agus thugadh sí cabhair do na daoine a d'ainmníodh sé. Dar leis an Athair Shinnick, duine bea ea Mrs Lindsay nach raibh aon naimhdeas aici leis an bpobal Caitliceach. Dar leis an bpobal Caitliceach, bhí an tAthair Shinnick as a mheabhair. Bheadh an bheirt acu i lár na n-eachtraí tragóideacha a bhí le teacht.

Tá an t-alt seo bunaithe ar na leabhair seo:
Lady Hostage: tim Sheehan;
Execution: Seán O' Callaghan.

Gluais:

cleachtas=practice
éirí in airde= uppishness
bhraith sí uaithi=she missed
treaspásóir=trespasser
sealúchas=property
póstaer earcaíochta=recruiting poster
gníomhaire earcaíochta=recruiting agent
feall=treachery
gráin dhearg=hatred
bille coinscríofa=conscription bill
bearta díoltais=acts of revenge
eachtraí tragóideacha=tragic events



Citizens Information

KYR: Social Welfare Support for People who live alone



Q. Can you tell me if there is an extra payment for people on social welfare payments who are living alone?

A. Yes there is a payment called the Living Alone Increase which is paid to people on **certain** social welfare payments who live alone. From January 2022, the weekly Living Alone Increase will increase by €3 from €19 to €22.

If you are 66 years or over and live alone, you will qualify if you are getting one of the following payments

- State Pension (Contributory)
- State Pension (Non-Contributory)
- Widow's, Widower's or Surviving Civil Partner's (Contributory) Pension
- Widow's/Widower's Pension under the Occupational Injuries Benefit Scheme
- Incapacity Supplement under the Occupational Injuries Benefit Scheme
- Deserted Wife's Benefit

You will also qualify if you are under 66, live alone and are getting Disability Allowance, Invalidity Pension, Incapacity Supplement or Blind Pension.

To get the increase in your payment you must live completely alone. However, there are some exceptions:

If you are living in an extension of a family member's home, for example, in a granny flat, you can qualify for the increase if you can show that you have facilities to cook and eat alone. You must also have your own living/dining and sleeping accommodation.

You may also qualify as living alone if you are aged or infirm and have a friend or relative to stay for security reasons at night-time only. The friend or relative must not contribute to the household financially.

The increase may also be payable if you live alone during the day but stay with relatives or friends at night or if you live alone during the week but have a relative to stay at the weekend (the living alone condition is satisfied as long as the relative has a permanent home address

elsewhere).

You will also qualify if you live alone but occasionally take in paying guests (for example, during a local festival). However, if you run a bed and breakfast business (even for part of the year) you will not qualify.

People who live in sheltered accommodation may qualify if they are regarded as living independently within the institution. You will not qualify if you share dormitory accommodation with others, or have round-the clock supervision or nursing care.

People who live in nursing homes will not qualify as they cannot be regarded as living completely or mainly alone.

To apply you must complete the Living Alone Increase application form, which you can get from your local Citizens Information Centre or Social Welfare office. You then send the completed form to the section of the Department of Social Protection that pays your main pension or benefit.

For anyone needing information, advice or who has an advocacy issue, you can call a member of the local Citizens Information team in Cork City North weekdays from 10am to 4.30pm on 0818 07 6850, they will be happy to assist. Alternatively you can email us on hollyhill@citinfo.ie or log on to www.citizensinformation.ie for further information.



SVP SOUTH WEST 'HUMBLED' BY PUBLIC SUPPORT AS OVER €275,000 RAISED FROM ANNUAL CAR DRAW



individuals in need in Cork, and all the proceeds raised in Kerry going directly to support families and individuals in Kerry.

"Once again, I would like to extend a sincere and heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated or bought raffle tickets for our car draw, and also a huge thank you to our sponsors CAB Motor Company for their continued support," he concluded.

Lord Mayor of Cork City, Cllr. Colm Kelleher, drew the ticket for the top prize, a brand-new Ford Focus and was joined by Conor Cavanagh, CAB Motor Company, Paddy O'Flynn, SVP Regional President, Regional Vice President for Kerry Mary Frances Behan and Canon Bertie O'Mahony (representing the Bishop of Cork and Ross.)

The charity has said it looks forward to giving the keys of the brand-new Ford Focus from CAB Motor Company to the lucky winner, Aileen O'Leary, from Ovens, Co Cork in the coming week.

St Vincent De Paul South-West has paid tribute and thanked the public for its "phenomenal" support of its annual Car Draw in association with CAB Motor Company.

The charity has reported that more than €275,000 was raised from the 2021 car draw through ticket sales and donations both Cork and Kerry since its launch in late October and they are humbled by the generosity of the public during such difficult times.

SVP South-West Regional President Paddy O'Flynn said the much-needed funds would "go a long way" to assisting struggling families in the region and will help fund key supports such as food vouchers and hampers, heat and utility costs and education, with families contacting the Society seeking urgent assistance and support for each of these in recent weeks.

Mr O Flynn said: "We've always had extremely generous support for our annual car draw from the people in Cork and surrounding areas. We made no secret of the fact that this was

going to be an unprecedentedly difficult year for us in terms of fundraising as a result of COVID-19 and people came out in their droves to support us - it was a huge success.

"We are eternally grateful to every single person who pledged their support to this year's car draw. The money raised will enable us to continue supporting those in need during these extremely challenging times, with all of the money raised in Cork going to support families and



SVP Paddy and Mary Frances



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- **GiGi D'Avilez** - GiGi's Blast Fitness Class - Every Thursday evening in Your Community Hall. Contact Gigi on 085 7581088
- **Zumba with Tiffany** - Every Tuesday in your Centre. Contact Tiffany on 086 162 6084



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White's Cross GAA News

whitescrossgaa.ie



Astro Turf Update

The first training session has officially taken place on all-weather training facility. Though the lights are to be installed shortly to complete the project, the turf is laid and the pitch is now fully in use. This time 12 months ago the country was in strict lockdown with no meetings or work allowed. However, the committee dedicated to the construction and fundraising project, spearheaded by chairperson Mike O'Flynn, were diligently planning the various aspects of the role and were ready to hit the ground running. They certainly achieved that with a massive fundraising effort conducted over 6 months.

There were many highlights along the way from the ceremonial turning of the sod by the newly appointed Club President Con Delaney to the actual turning of the sod by the construction company in late September. We also had the hugely successful community-day / fundraiser in mid-October; namely our Shoot-for-the-Stars event which drew a large crowd to the club grounds on the day. All of

this work, and some fun too, has come to fruition as we have now have a top-class facility in place which will benefit the club for many years to come!

Underage AGM

The juvenile section of White's Cross GAA held their AGM on January 18th last. For the second year in a row, this meeting was held online due to public health concerns. A very healthy attendance was recorded on the evening as the four outgoing officers presented their detailed reports of activity within the underage section over the past year. The growth of the girls section of the club was one of the highlights. This area is going from strength to strength and the club now is fielding teams Ladies Football and Camogie as well as hurling and football. The relationship with Carraig Na Bfhear GAA club under the St Colmcille's banner had been cemented in the past year. More success came to the club with wins at under 13, under 15 and under 18 level. The under 18 success was a particular highlight as it came in a year when Rebel Og restructured

their competitions. We effectively had two minor teams; one at under 18 and another at new under 17 level. Both of the teams reached football finals with the under 18s winning theirs and the under 17s coming up short by the narrowest of margins. Both finals were against Glenville.

The future All-Stars continues to create a great atmosphere within the club. The chairman commented on the buzz that he sees up in the field every Tuesday night when they meet to train. The under 8,9 and 10s also typically train on that evening and it was a delight to see so much activity around the club. A number of blitzes were organised for the under 10s throughout the year. We hosted one of these which was a great success.

The adult chairperson Mike O'Flynn presided over the election of officers. The four outgoing officers were returned unanimously. Sean Coughlan will continue as chairperson. Kevin O'Callaghan stays in his role as secretary as does Brian Harte (treasurer). The longest serving officer is Finbarr Pyne who is the communication and games development officer. He, too, will be staying in situ for 2022. To conclude the meeting Sean Coughlan urged anybody with an interest and some spare time to join the committee for the coming year as it sets about its programme of work for the coming season. We wish the officers and committee the best and look forward to another successful year.

Junior Hurling and Football Leagues

A full, 'normal' hurling and football season awaits us in 2022 for the first time in a number of years. We will see the implementation, in full for the first time, of the 'split-season' which see intercounty championships being played up to June/July and the club championships being played when Cork exit the intercounty scene. The Cork County board have published a full calendar and is available to view on their website. This allows the club player know when they will be playing games throughout the year. The opening games in all adult leagues is scheduled for the weekend 12th/13th of February. This is designated as a football weekend. The first hurling game will take place the following weekend the season will continue with hurling/football on alternate weekends.

The county board will run an under 19 league and championship programme beginning on the 30th of March this year. With the traditional minor grade moving from under 18 to under 17, this new under 19 grade is being implemented to aid transition from juvenile to adult grades. These under 19 games are being scheduled to take place mid-week so that players would play in this grade and also at Junior level in White's Cross.

The Rebel Og competitions will also begin on a staggered basis for the various age-groups from February onwards. A short preseason competition will take place to ensure that clubs are graded correctly when their league programme commences.



Peil na gCailíní : Gleann Maghair



Tréaslaimid le Caoimhe Ní Shúilleabháin, Evie Ní Thuama, Liaden Nic Aoire (Bl.5), Clodagh Ní Dhonnabháin (Bl.5) agus Hazel Ní Mhuirí (Bl.5) a bhí ar fhoireann Peile na gCailín, Gleann Maghair a bhuaigh Craobh Chomórtas na Mionúir A, ar na mallaibh. Bhuadar ar Áth Fhada 2-19 le 3-7. Maith sibh a chailíní. Táimid an-bhródúil go deo asaihb.

Scoláireacht Iontrála



Ár gcomhghairdeas len ár n-iarldhaltaí a ghnóthaigh Scoláireacht Iontrála Quercus chun freastal ar Choláiste na hOllscoile, Corcaigh, mar a bhfuil; Cáit Ní Chrulaoi, Síomha Ní Aodha, Conchúr Ó Drisceoil, Aoife Ní Floinn agus Sinéad Ní Threasaigh. Táimid thar a bheith bródúil astu go léir agus guímid gach rath agus séan orthu sa toadhchá. Ár seasamh oraibh, tá gaisce bainte amach agaibh.

Matamaiticeoirí



Thuas: Iníon Ní Chrulaoi agus Iníon de Búrca ag bronnadh teastaisí ar dhaltai mata ó Rang 1D. D'éirigh go hiontach leo i gcomórtaisí Olympiad agus Bebras. Comhghairdeas le Shauna, Danielle, Aoife, Seán agus Ciarán. Maith sibh.

Thall: Max Ó hAoláin, Sophie Farrugia agus Evie Ní Chonaill leis na liathróidí a bhuaigh an Titim Liathróid Sneachta. Ár mbuíochoas le gach éinne a cheannaigh ticéid agus ár mbuíochoas freisin do Dhaidí na Nollag a tháinig chugainn ar lá na laethanta saoire cé go raibh sé an-bhroidiúil an lá úd!

Foireann na hÉireann



Thuas. Mór comhghairdeas le Ruth Nic Pháidín (Bl.5) a bhí ainmnithe ar phainéil cispheile na hÉireann Fe18. Beir bua Ruth.

Titim Liathróidí Sneachta





ERIN'S OWN LADIES CLUB



East Cork Minor League Champions 2021

Congratulations to the Minor and U16 Football teams on winning the East Cork League finals against Fermoy and Aghada.



East Cork U16 League Champions 2021



Junior Camogie Team 1



U12 Football



Mar 2020



u13 Camogie Team



u10 sept1

#20X20

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#Can'tSeeCan'tBe

New members always welcome.



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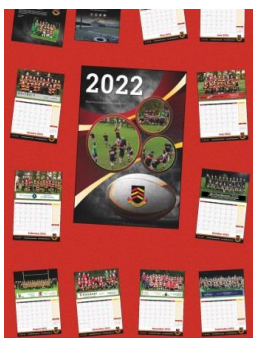
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Erin's Own Ladies Club Page Sponsor



OLD CHRISTIANS RUGBY CLUB

Here at Old Christians we are getting back to normal after our christmas break. We still have some calenders available if you haven't already gotten yours.



2022 Calenders

Rhinos:

The Rhinos are as busy as ever. U7's up train hard on a Saturday morning come rain or shine.



Under 7s cheering to finish their training session.



Under 8s



U10s v u11s

To take a break from training the u10s took on the u11's in a hard fought battle early on a Saturday morning.

Youths:

Our Youths are back playing and we had some very good news several of the u16s and one of our u18s have been selected to participate in Munster training sessions.

Adults:

Our J1's are back playing this weekend after a long break they will be travelling the length of Munster over the coming months.



J1s

Our J3's are back playing under lights on Friday night.



J3s

Keep an eye on our social media for the latest match fixtures. Don't forget to play the lotto there 5 grand up for grabs.

Hilary Clarke, P.R.O.



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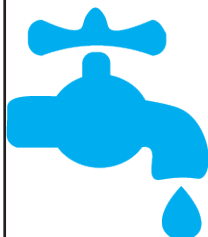
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In Memoriam

If you want to place an anniversary memorial, please do so by the 20th of the month for publication in the following month.
Contact the Editor for further details:
086 8294713

Ted Dunne

In loving memory of Ted Dunne, late of The Woodlands, Sarsfields Court, whose first anniversary occurs on the 9th February.

You always had a smile to share, a laugh, a joke and time to care, you left a place no one can fill, we miss you Ted and always will.



Lovingly remembered by his wife Sheila, daughter Lilley, son TJ, brothers Michael and Pat, sisters Marian, Suzanne and Siobhan and all his relatives, neighbours and friends.

Nora (Nonie) Allen
Fifth Anniversary
3rd Jan 2017

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GLANMIRE MACRA

This month was a quieter one as our sports night was cancelled due to new restrictions. We are looking forward to the new year and hopefully the recommencement of our normal activities.



Our PRO Aisling Walsh won a presidents medal in the leadership of the year awards and took part in the national semi finals

Good news came from Macra Head of office as our club PRO Aisling Walsh was awarded a president's medal for her role as Seandún Macra PRO for the last two years. She took part in the national semi finals in the leaders of the year competition which took place on the 5th of January via zoom. It was a very interesting debate on how we can make macra more relevant to 22 year olds.



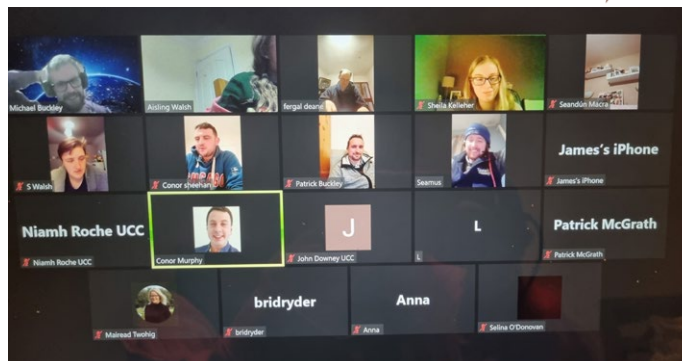
Seandún Macra held a farmwalk

December also saw us attend the Seandún farmwalk held by Whitechurch Macra member Vincent Murphy. It was very informative and very well attended. Thank you Vincent for a great day. We look forward to the next one.

January was a virtual one for Glanmire Macra as we attended both Seandún Macra's pre officer meeting and the monthly regional meeting on Wednesday via zoom. It was great to see members from many clubs present. Glanmire are looking forward to seeing more in person events happening soon hopefully as our capers cast await the national semi finals next month hopefully. We are also holding our own monthly meeting this Wednesday with a planned game of pictionary. Make sure to join us if you're around and hopefully next month will see the return of our weekly sports night. New members are always welcome.

Don't forget to keep an eye on our social media pages for upcoming events as we prepare for the new macra year. We also set up a new tiktok page this week so make sure to give @glanmiremacra a follow. We have also set up a new snapchat account glanmire_macra New members are always welcome so make sure to send us a message.

Article by Aisling Walsh
Glanmire Macra PRO



Our members attended Seandún Macra's monthly meeting



Some of our members attended a walk at the Atlantic Pond in memory of Ashling Murphy. Our thoughts and sympathies are with her family



A two year throwback to titles night



A 4 year throwback to titles night



VIN

WINTER WARDROBE INSPIRATION

February is a great month for looking at our wardrobes and decluttering. Letting go of items we are storing unnecessarily can be difficult for a variety of reasons such as guilt, nostalgia, shame.... Do you feel overwhelmed when you open your wardrobe or your kids' chest of drawers? So many of us feel embarrassed when it comes to our wardrobes. It is time to let this embarrassment go and with a little professional help. To get started is a small action but a life changing decision. We can tackle this daunting task together. I can help you use your existing clothes more effectively, save time, money and stress in the morning when frantically searching for a matching outfit. You can ring /email me on the details below for a non judgemental, confidential chat.

This time of year is also about layering, with the chilly mornings and wintry showers. I hope I can give you some tips on practical but still stylish layering. Here I feature some items that can be worn and if looked after with care, can be stored away at the end of the season and will be in perfect condition to resurface next winter again. When it comes to base layers; I go for quality rather than quantity. Surfdome is a great website that features many renowned brand names of base, active wear. Here you can purchase long and short sleeved base layer tops which can be worn for formal and casual wear and wash beautifully. Thermal base layers come in a variety of styles from camisole to long sleeve which makes them more attractive to all ages and professions. Let's make dressing for these colder months fun, functional, fashionable and suitable to our lifestyle and budget.

1. Knitted Sleeveless Vest



I like the idea of layering to be a seamless part of my day-to-day styling. I have purchased two wool blended sleeveless

vests this year, beige and a vibrant orange. They can be styled easier than you think. They offer a balance of functionality by keeping me warm, natural breathability as well as being an interesting versatile style piece in my wardrobe for transitioning seasons. My beige cable knit wool vest over a cream mandarin collared embroidery blouse and jeans and camel suede ankle boots makes a cosy casual weekend look. I pair my orange wool vest with my white shirt and faux leather leggings, black wool coat and trainers for a chic day look when I am rushing around and want to integrate a pop of colour into my outfit.

2: KNITTED DRESS



This cosy option will cancel out the need for trousers and a knitted jumper, a one decision knitted dress can see you through your entire day and be comfy enough to accompany you to your dinner date that evening. Today we see a variety available from cable knits in flattering a line style to a classic long, roll neck with belted waists and effortlessly chic oversized cashmere options. There is a suitable style for everyone. You can make your knitted dress work for you in many ways by some simple styling tricks, simply switch your trainers for kitten heeled high boots then layer up with coats or underpin with your thermals as mentioned above. If you are keen to bring out your spring footwear early, the trendy white ankle boots will also result in your knitted dress looking very eye-catching.

3: CASHMERE ACCESSORIES



I am a big advocate of buying quality over quantity and when it comes to hats and scarves cashmere is a sure luxury. Cashmere

has become more affordable now and is now widely available on the high street. Cashmere accessories enable you to step up your outfit game in a major way. With chilly temperatures here for a while, snoods are a versatile accessory you want living in your handbag or jacket pocket. Snoods come in all different sizes from cable knit neck warmer to Sherpa style that will keep you warm and stylish at the same time.

4: FLEECE LINED BOOTS



Whether you are taking to snow covered slopes or local walking trails I have you covered. I treated myself to a pair of "Sorel" boots this winter which are surprisingly affordable. These boots are very well insulated so you don't need to wear thick socks, waterproof, stylish and exceptionally lightweight. They are a footwear investment. For years now stylish celebrities have come to "Sorel" for their staple winter boots such as Kate Middleton has opted for this brand's snow boots on multiple occasions and OPRAH included them in her list of favourite things. I can dream of snow-covered mountain scenes while wearing them.

Contact me by phone on 086-2599539 if you have any fashion queries. Email me on lyndadiblaslasi@yahoo.com. Check out my website www.lyndsdi.com.

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Glanmire Library



Local History with Michael



With Love from Cork.

It is widely accepted that the Christian church decided to place St. Valentine's feast day in the middle of February in an effort to "Christianise" the pagan celebration of Lupercalia. Celebrated on February 15, Lupercalia was a fertility festival dedicated to Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture, as well as to the Roman founders Romulus and Remus. Later in the day, according to legend, all the young women in the city would place their names in a big urn. The city's bachelors would each choose a name and become paired for the year with his chosen woman. These matches often ended in marriage. The Catholic Church recognises at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. John Sprat was an Irish Carmelite Friar and well-known preacher. He visited Rome, where he received a relic of Saint Valentine from Pope Gregory XVI, and Sprat brought the Reliquary containing the relics to his Whitefriar Street Church in Dublin where it remains to this day.

In France and England February 14 was assumed to be the beginning of the birds mating season, which added to the idea that Valentine's Day should be a day for romance. The English poet Geoffrey Chaucer was the first to record St. Valentine's Day as a day of romantic celebration in his 1375 poem "Parliament of Fowles," writing, "For this was Seynt on Valentynes day / Whan every foul cometh ther to choose his mate." Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, although written Valentine's didn't begin to appear until around 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt.

Image supplied by Michael Linehan

In America the exchanging of hand-made valentines became very popular in the early 1700s and some wonderful early English examples exist in the Victoria & Albert Museum. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace handwritten letters due to advances in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. An explosion of affection in the form of Valentine cards made its way through the postal system thanks to the introduction of the penny post by Rowland Hill on 10 January 1840.

Corkonians were quick to respond to cupid's arrow and some Victorian advertisements by W. Wheeler Junior give us examples of his high-class stock of Valentine's Day gifts. Valentines in boxes, from 3d. to £1 15s 03d containing solid silver jewellery, perfume, bottles, cards, cigar, and cigarette cases could be had from his premises at 4 & 5 Patrick Street. Another advertiser proclaimed that there was no charge for love notes to purchasers of Valentines at sixpence and upwards. Valentine novelties such as hummingbird Valentines were very popular shop window displays. W.J. Murray of Georges Street (now Oliver Plunkett Street) was doing a brisk trade in Valentine cards including those of the sentimental, poetic, refined and comic variety which could be posted nationwide post free. The bard himself William Shakespeare mentions Saint Valentine's Day in A Midsummer Night's Dream (4.1.145) and in Hamlet, where he alludes to the superstition that if two single people meet on the morning of Saint Valentine's Day they will likely get married:

Tomorrow is St. Valentine's Day
All in the morning betime
And I a maid at your window,
To be your Valentine.

Today St. Valentine's Day has become a much more commercial proposition. Bouquets of red roses, magnums of champagne, handmade chocolate, cuddly toys, organic candles, jewellery and of course the romantic candle lit meal are now standard fare. Well after all love is in the air so why not spice up your life with a little bit of romance.

Love is in the air this Valentines month and whether you prefer a nice old-fashioned book in your hand, a book on your screen or an audio book as you take your walk, we've got something for you. Whether you're looking for a Romantic Comedy, a historical romance, or a tearjerker with a happy ending check out our Valentines day offerings.



The Viscount who loved me is the second instalment of Julia Quinn's hugely popular historical romance series that follows the Bridgeton families search for love in regency era London. The Netflix adaptation of this book is due to be released in March so now is the perfect time to read the original!



Romance author January and literary fiction author Gus are rivals who end up in neighbouring beach houses for the summer. Both are broke, suffering from chronic writers' block and have deadlines over them. They agree to swap genres for the summer. She'll take him on field trips worthy of any rom-com montage, and he'll take her to interview surviving members of a backwoods death cult (obviously). Everyone will finish a book and no one will fall in love. Really.



Trevor Benson never intended to move back to New Bern, North Carolina. Tending to his grandfather's beloved beehives, Trevor isn't prepared to fall in love with a local... yet, from their very first encounter, Trevor feels a connection with deputy sheriff Natalie Masterson that he can't ignore. But even as she seems to reciprocate his feelings, she remains frustratingly distant, making Trevor wonder what she's hiding.



For more book reviews, please join the Library Lover's Book Club Page. All new members welcome.



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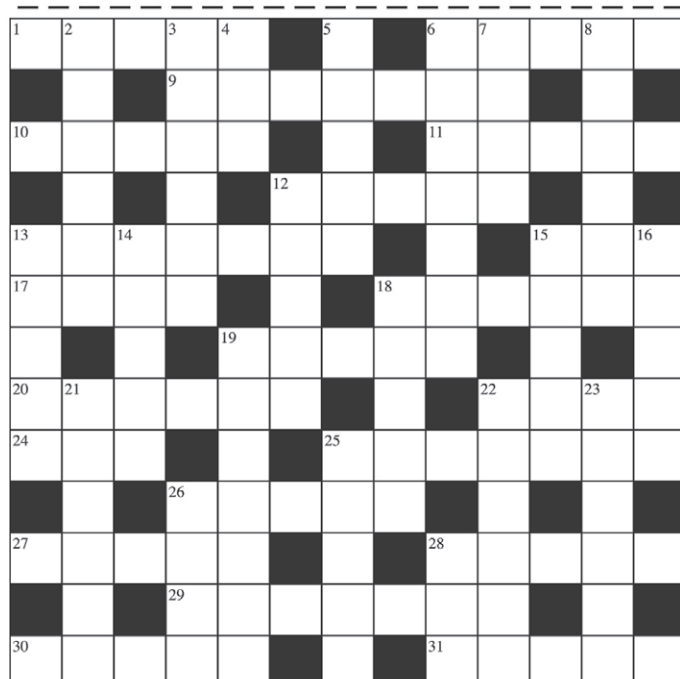
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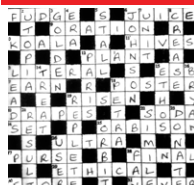
Across

1. Stalks of wheat (5)
6. Finished (5)
9. Large planet (7)
10. Drop a line (5)
11. Succinct, curt (5)
12. Beg (5)
13. Kidney glands (7)
15. Michael Stipe group (3)
17. Consider, judge (4)
18. Popular board game (6)
19. Helpers (5)
20. Entitlements (6)
22. Hold on (4)
24. Age, epoch (3)
25. Home, domain (7)
26. Take exception (5)
27. Half note (2 beats) (5)
28. Dam on Nile (5)
29. Perform surgery (7)
30. Ticker (5)
31. Perimeter (5)

Down

2. Rant (6)
3. Song of praise (6)
4. Small (3)
5. Not moving (5)
6. Necessitates (7)
7. Require (4)
8. Occurred (6)
12. Capital of France (5)
13. Love (5)
14. Rule as king or queen (5)
15. Area of responsibility (5)
16. Waterlilies painter (5)
18. Type of tree (5)
19. Try (7)
21. Chemical element no.53 (6)
22. One-sided (6)
23. Harm (6)
25. Go quickly (5)
26. French couture house (4)
28. Consumed (3)

Crossword Winner: Paula Quigley, Glanmire, Cork city



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SEND your entries marked CROSSWORD to "Aitinn" Sarsfields Court Glanmire, to arrive by 18th February. The prize is a meal in BEVA CAFE which will be awarded to the first all-correct entry opened. Please include your telephone number, home or work, your email and your address.



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