

Locals petition for additional funding



Fiona Martin (left) handing the petition to Rachel Hopkins M.P. for Luton South outside the Houses of Parliament.

Fiona Martin, our Youth & Heritage Officer, took a petition to Parliament on 9th July. The petition, signed by more than 10,000 local people, is seeking additional funding for Luton

"I started the petition as the devastating impact of Covid-19 on the airport directly affects the funding for many charities in the town and the essential services such as social care delivered by Luton Borough Council. This petition was a way of having the people's plea for support heard by the government," explained Fiona.

Win a £50 voucher and have your say



Enclosed with this newsletter are some questions about reopening clubs again in the LIF centre and an ethnicity form. We're so keen to know what you think that we're giving a £50 voucher for The Pines Bar & Hotel to the lucky winner in a draw of everyone who returns both forms.

Diary

Tuesdays 7:00-8:00pm
Irish Language chat by Zoom

Tuesdays 11:00am & Fridays 10:00am
Art Groups by Zoom

Thursdays 10:00-11:00am
Tea & Chat by Zoom

Fridays 2:30-4:30pm
Calligraphy by Zoom

Tuesday 11th August 4:00-5:00pm
Trustees Meeting by video link

Saturday 22nd August 2020, 10:30-11:30am
Annual General Meeting by Zoom
Please see invitation sent to Members with this newsletter.

LIF Piper playing online

This year's High Town Festival went online and featured the LIF Emerald Pipe Band. As well as a specially recorded performance by Jim Boyd from the Emerald Pipe Band playing the pipes, video clips and images of the band from previous years are included.



Thank you very much to James for putting on his kit and playing and to Christine for organising and her great video work.

Answers to puzzles on page 2. 1 Sandbox. 2 Man overboard. 3 I understand. 4 Reading between the lines. 5 Long underwear. 6 Crossroads. 7 Down town. Tricycle. 9 Split level. 10 Three degrees below zero. 11 Neon lights (knee on lights). 12 Circles under the eyes. 13 High Chair. 14 Pair of dice (paradise). 15 Touch-down. 16 Six feet underground. 17 Mind over matter. 18 He's beside himself. 19 Backward glance. 20 Life after death. 21 GI overseas. 22 Space program(me). 23 See through blouse. 24 Just between you and me. 1=False. 2=False. 3=True. 4=True. 5=True. 6=False. 7=False. 8=False. 9=True. A=Lough Neagh. B=Connacht. C=Nicky Byrne. D=Blue. E=Offaly. F=Clare. G=L Leitrim. H=Sally Rooney. I=Bram Stoker. J=Kerry. Secret message: In summer when it is hot I like to go swimming in the river.



LUTON IRISH FORUM

WELFARE, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL OPPORTUNITIES

July 2020 - Special Edition

Join AGM with video or by phone and meet our Trustees

We weren't able to all get together for our Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June as usual due to the Covid-19 restrictions and with large gatherings not looking possible for some time yet, the Trustees have agreed to hold this year's AGM by Zoom and it has been rescheduled for Saturday 22nd August at 10:30am.

Members will receive an invitation to the AGM with this newsletter and you can join in by video link or by phone if you don't have access to the internet. A 'How To' guide on joining Zoom meetings by video and by phone was included with our June newsletter, just get in touch if you need a copy.

Our AGM is an ideal way to keep up to date with what's been happening inside and outside the



Clockwise from top left: Noreen Kellett, Luke Kitching, Mary Winter, Elleesa Rushby.



Discovering culture

Congratulations to the 100 young people who achieved an Arts Award, part of our Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) funded cultural education programme. Below is just one of their pieces of work.



Forum over the year and to have your say as a LIF Member. Three of our Trustees have completed their terms - Frank Horan, Noreen Kellett and Mary Winter. We are extremely grateful to them for their valuable expertise and contributions as Trustees as well as all the practical help and time they have given in running our clubs and activities, representing LIF at events, and all the other miscellaneous duties they've taken on over the years! Due to the volume of work and to ensure continuity if Trustees are away or unwell, the Board was expanded to 12 members in February.

Cont'd on page 3...

Tease your brain

Have a go at these different quizzes and puzzles. Answers are at the bottom of page 4. Good luck!

Say what you see

How many words or phrases can you work out? Thanks to kraks.co for this one.



True or false?

1. You only use 10% of your brain.
2. The Royal Family are not allowed to play Monopoly.
3. In your lifetime, you'll produce enough saliva to fill two swimming pools.
4. A child could swim through the veins of a blue whale.
5. It's possible to hear a lion's roar from five miles away.
6. Lightning never strikes the same place more than once.
7. The youngest person to climb Everest was 10 years old.
8. It's illegal to kill a fly in the Houses of Parliament
9. It would take about an hour to drive to space.

Find other quizzes and more at www.corkbeo.ie

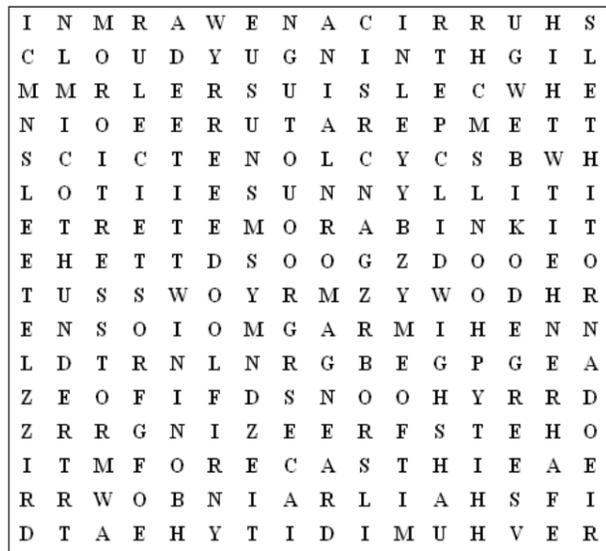
Quizzes with a cuppa

- A. What is the biggest lake in Ireland?
- B. Which province has fewest counties?
- C. Who represented Ireland at Eurovision 2016 in Sweden, with the song 'Sunlight'?
- D. If carpets in the Dáil chamber are blue, what colour are the carpets in the Seanad?
- E. Which county does Barack Obama trace his roots to?
- F. Which county is Bunratty Castle in?
- G. Which county has the smallest population in Ireland?
- H. Who wrote the novel Normal People, which has been adapted into a series for RTE?
- I. Who wrote Dracula (hint: a Dubliner)?
- J. Who has won the most All-Ireland senior football championships?

Visit www.joe.ie/life-style/ and www.corkbeo.ie for lots more quizzes and lifestyle news.

First, find all the weather words in the box below. Then, write down all the letters that have not been used and work out the secret message that the letters spell out.

STORM	FORECAST	HUMIDITY	THERMOMETER
SLEET	ICE	LIGHTNING	BLIZZARD
FREEZING	SUNNY	ISOBARS	BAROMETER
WINDY	CELSIUS	CYCLONE	TEMPERATURE
DEGREES	DRIZZLE	RAINBOW	WARM
THUNDER	TORNADO	TYPHOON	HURRICANE
CLOUDY	FLOOD	FOGGY	FAHRENHEIT
FROST	COLD	HAIL	HEAT SNOW



This puzzle was compiled using Toolbox. For a free trial go to www.discoveryeducationalsoftware.co.uk/toolbox_e.htm

AGM and Trustees joining the Board

...Cont'd from page 1

Noreen and Mary agreed to stand for nomination to the Board again and both were nominated by at least one Member each, as were two additional Members who hadn't served as Trustees before - Luke Kitching and Elleesa Rushby. No further nominations were received and so all four were appointed to the Board. Read a little about each below.

Noreen Kellett

"I have been a member of the Luton Irish Forum almost from the beginning and have gained a very good knowledge of how the Forum works. For most of this time I have been a volunteer in the finance section, handling cash and accounts. I have also been involved in community cohesion, working with the Irish community and the broader population, and was honoured to receive an MBE for this in 2008. I believe that the Board of Trustees should be a balance of experience and youth and look forward to welcoming the energy and fresh ideas of our new board members."

Luke Kitching

"I wish to stand as a Trustee so I can use my skills and experience in a way that allows me to give back and contribute to the local community. I hope that as a younger person, I can offer a different viewpoint and approach based on my

own experiences which when balanced out with the other Trustees, can offer huge benefits. I hope to support and shape the work of the LIF, putting the needs of all the beneficiaries first and helping make a significant difference."

Elleesa Rushby

"I'm keen to serve strategically in LIF's future, as it champions the changing needs of Luton's Irish community. I have fifteen years' experience of educational governance. I'm particularly interested in multi-generational projects, engaging with second and third generation Irish to preserve community and heritage. My background is in Irish literature and history. Volunteering for St Brigid's Day and representing LIF externally has given me a huge sense of purpose. I'm committed to serving LIF."

Mary Winter

"I have been very honoured to have been on the board of Trustees for the last three years and to have represented the Irish Forum at external events. I am very involved with the Tuesday and Wednesday social clubs and also the Baby and Toddler Group and always enjoy meeting and speaking with everyone. I am standing again so that I can help the Forum through this difficult time around Covid-19 when I'm sure we will be heavily called upon by the local community to continue all the brilliant work we do."

WANTED: Your stories for new look website

Following a successful in kind funding bid last year we have we not only have refreshed our branding, but have a new look website to help support our work on the Building a Stronger Britain Together (BSBT) project.



section. Included there will be images, videos, written and spoken accounts of the Irish community in Luton and the ventures and events that they have been involved with. We have some really wonderful contributions that local Irish

people gave for our previous Catching The Boat site and we want to develop this area with even more stories of the Irish diaspora.

Designed by M&C Saatchi, the international advertising agency network, our new website has a fresh and clean appearance while maintaining the Forum's identity.

If you, your parents or grandparents have a story to tell about coming to England or the UK from Ireland, we'd love to hear it. Get in touch via fiona@lutonirishforum.org or tel. 01582 720 447.

The site remains at the same internet address: www.lutonirishforum.org where as well as news on our services and events there is an Archive