

FEBRUARY 2023

MU
CLUBS
& **SOCS**

VOL 2. ISSUE 1

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET INVOLVED:
DIGITAL PROMOTIONS TEAM, ORIENTATION
LEADER, SMC & CMC

CLUBS & SOCS NEWSLETTER

FIRST FAIRS
DAY AFTER
THE
PANDEMIC

COFFEE MORNINGS &
MAYNOOTH LIFE
PODCAST



CLUBS & SOCIETIES HIGHLIGHTS:
**MUMS TAKE LONDON, MAYNOOTH'S
BEST DANCE CREW & MORE!**

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WELCOME,

to the first issue of our Clubs and Societies Newsletter for this Academic year.

As we reflect on what was a very busy and sometimes challenging Semester for all our Clubs and Societies, we have a huge sense of pride for the fantastic work our Committees have done, and the achievements they have made throughout Semester 1.

From the start of this Academic year, our Clubs and Societies' Committees were determined to get back to normal activity, and worked tirelessly to provide fun activities for their members.

They were very committed to helping our 1st year Students integrate as best they could into University Life, and also put a huge focus on providing day time activities for our large Commuter population.

The Clubs and Societies Office recognise and would like to thank all our Committees, for their commitment and the huge effort they have put in during Semester 1.

All their hard work and dedication, has certainly helped to create and maintain that sense of Community, that we are so proud of here in Maynooth University.

As we head into Semester 2, we are excited for what's to come for our Clubs and Societies.

The Clubs and Societies' Calendar is packed with exciting events, and we hope that all our members will continue to get involved, support each other, and have lots of fun!

The Marys



MARY MAC COURT

Clubs & Socs Coordinator



MARY BANAHAN

Clubs & Socs Coordinator

COFFEE MORNINGS

It became very clear that as students began to return to campus in the 2nd semester of 2021/22, many were struggling to integrate into campus life as we began to navigate the new “normal”.

As a result, the Clubs & Societies Co-ordinators, the Chaplain and the Student Engagement Officer wanted to create a “space” where students could gather in a simple way and begin the process of re-engaging with one another and with the university community.

This led to the idea of hosting a coffee morning every Wednesday during term time between 10.45am and 12.15pm in the Arts Block. The 4 staff (Mary MacCourt, Mary Banahan, Ciarán Coughlan and Ian Russell) offer a warm welcome, a free hot or cold drink as well as some treats each Wednesday. This initiative has continued into this current academic year in our new location of the Arts Building where anywhere between 300 and 400 students visit each week and the numbers are growing.

Many thanks to Michael Rafter and his Campus Services Team who have helped facilitate this initiative as well as the other offices that have continued to support and promote the coffee mornings including Student Services, Student Skills and Success and the Office of the Dean of Teaching & Learning.



[We] wanted to create a “space” where students could gather ...and begin the process of re-engaging with one another.”



“Student Coffee Mornings in the Arts Block from 10.45 am until 12.15 pm every Wednesday during term”



MAYNOOTH LIFE

Maynooth Life Podcast

The Maynooth Life Podcast was created by Ian Russell (Student Engagement Officer), Ciarán Coughlan (Chaplain) and Bret Zawilski (Critical Skills) as a result of a conversation around the fact that we have so many students commuting in the university and how best to try and connect with our commuters and pass on much needed information.

The podcast aims to help and support our students during their time here in Maynooth. In particular, we are looking to help our new students as they make the transition to university life irrespective of what route

You can access the podcast via all major distributors of podcasts including Spotify, Google and Apple under the name "Maynooth Life Podcast"



New Outdoor Gym

The new outdoor gym is located the Courtyard Apartments. The outdoor gym will be fully completed in the Spring, however, the rest of the facility, particularly the workout equipment, is open and available for use!

The Outdoor Fitness Area is set out for individuals, teams or group fitness sessions. There are recreational basketball areas and open spaces that can be used for group or individual activity such as yoga, stretching, shuttle runs, or warm-ups. The installation also comprises Kompan's Street Workout products. Simple in design, they are everything you need for a good workout, whatever your level, based on the Calisthenics system.

Instructions on the various exercises are posted on the equipment along with a QR code that links to an animated movie of the exercise and the muscle groups it works.

Grab a work-out buddy, go by yourself or bring your Club or Soc group for a class and try it out!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming dates in the semester to note for your diary

**27
FEB**

CLUBS & SOCS NOMINATIONS

The nominations for the Clubs and Socs Awards open. You can nominate your club or society for a certain category on MU Life.

**13
MAR**

CLOSE OF C&S NOMINATIONS

The nominations for Clubs and Socs awards closes at 10am.

**13
MAR**

MUSE AWARDS DEADLINE

Find more information about MUSE Awards on page 12!

**28
MAR**

CLUBS & SOCS AWARDS

Awards Night for Clubs & Socs in the Glenroyal Hotel!



Opportunities to get involved

Jobs opportunities with Clubs & Socs & more

Do you have a passion for college life and want to get involved? There are opportunities for the upcoming college year of 23/24 to work within MU Clubs and Socs or the Orientation Team!

DIGITAL PROMOTIONS TEAM

The Digital Promotions Team help with the promotion of the Orientation Programme and Clubs and Societies events & activities. This will include graphic design for posters / social media, producing digital, video and audio content for these areas.

ORIENTATIONS TEAM

Orientation Leaders (OLs) will work with groups of first-time students in order to assist them in their transition to a university setting. More specifically, OLs will acquaint students and their families with the academic, cultural, social, and physical environment at Maynooth University.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The election of the Clubs and Societies Management Committees will take place before the end of Semester 2. The Committees roles are to encourage, promote and develop Clubs and Societies' life on campus. These Management Committees are made up of a number of Maynooth University staff and students.

Club Rep categories: Development Sports Rep, Field Sports Rep, Court Sports Rep, Martial Arts Rep, Individual Rep, and Outdoor, Adventure & Water Rep.

Society Rep categories: Academic Rep, Political Rep, Performance Rep, Interest & Hobbies Rep, Civic, Social and Cultural Rep, and Faith Rep.

NEW SOCIETIES



MAYNOOTH LEGO SOCIETY

Our goal is to provide an on-campus space to chill out, de-stress and get creative with Lego!

Everybody is always welcome so come along, bring a friend and remember, if you can think it, you can build it! <3



UKRANIAN SOCIETY

We strive to promote, project and preserve Ukrainian interest among the students of Maynooth University!

Our goal is to showcase and appeal our history, literature and traditions through events & activities, so students to immerse themselves into our rich and diverse Ukrainian culture.



THE CATHOLIC SOCIETY

Our goal is to create a welcoming community for Catholics and those interested in the faith, where we can build friendship, pray together, and have fun together!



“ THE FIRST FAIRS DAY AFTER THE PANDEMIC ”

Fairs day is always an important one in the clubs and societies calendar. However, this year was extra special. For the two years prior, Covid-19 restrictions meant that fairs day had to take place online. So, this year being the first in person event since 2019, the atmosphere was ecstatic. Taking place on the 28th and 29th of September, Fairs Day 2022 was one to remember.

Maynooth University boasts over 100 clubs and societies. With everything from tea to trampolining, there is truly something for everyone. Fairs day presents a unique opportunity for clubs and societies to promote themselves and encourage others to join. Each club and society has their own stall and students can pop in throughout the day, chat to committee members and see what they are all about.

A real sense of community, inclusivity and fun was felt throughout. The days were an overall success, definitely not to be missed. The digital promotions team were out and about on both days and interviewed many different clubs and societies. These can be found on Instagram @muclubsandsocs.



“Amplifying the Student Voice”

New student based structures to manage Clubs & Socs.

In order to expand and enhance the student voice as well as promote a partnership approach, a new structure was introduced by the Clubs and Societies Committee for clubs and societies on the run up to the 2021/22 academic year.

What are the CMC & SMC?

The new Clubs Management Committee (CMC) and the Societies Management Committee (SMC) encourage, promote and develop clubs and societies life respectively on campus.

What is the goal CMC & SMC?

These structures place students at the very heart of decision making for clubs and societies including being in the majority in the Club Management Committee (CMC) and the Societies Management Committee (SMC).

6 student representatives and 2 staff members on both committees. The structures are supported by the MU Clubs & Societies Office along with the Sports Officer and the Student Engagement Officer.

Structure Of Clubs & Societies



MEET THE SMC

Societies Management Committee

The Societies Management Committee has been established to encourage, promote and develop Society life on campus and will be made up of Maynooth University staff and students.

The committee comprises of 6 students reps from each category, the MU Student Engagement Officer, & an MU Clubs & Socs Co-Ordinator.

The categories for the student representatives fall under Academic, Civic, Social and Cultural Political, Performance Interest & Hobbies, and Faith.



IAN RUSSELL
Student Engagments Officer



DIANA SMAU
Performance Representative



SNEHA THOMAS
Academic Representative



HIRA KHAN
Faith Representative



MARY BANAHAN
Clubs & Societies Co-Ordinator



SARAH LINDSAY SWAN
Civics, Social & Cultural Representative



PADRAIG CAWLEY
Political Representative



CARRIE O'NEILL
Interests & Hobbies Representative

MEET THE CMC

Clubs Management Committee

The Clubs Management Committee has been established to encourage, promote and develop Club life on campus and will be made up of Maynooth University staff and students.

The committee comprises of 6 students rep from each category, MU Sports Officer, MSU VP for Student Life, and an MU Clubs & Socs Co-Ordinator. The categories for each student representative fall under Field, Development, Court, Martial Arts, Individual, and Outdoor, Adventure & Water.



MARY MAC COURT

*Clubs & Societies
Co-ordinator*



PAUL DAVIS

Sports Officer



GRAINNE HONER

*Outdoor, Adventure &
Water Sports Representative*



MICHAEL KENNEDY

Field Sports Representative



LUCAS JEANNOT

SU Vice President Student Life



MICHAEL COMER

Individual Sports Representative



LAURA CHRISTIE

Martial Arts Representative



COREY LACEY

Court Sports Representative

GET THE RECOGNITION YOU DESERVE WITH **MUSE AWARDS**

Whilst at MU, you are gaining skills from every area of your life. The Maynooth University Student Experience (MUSE) Awards recognise and reward your contribution to non-credit bearing activities such as club and society involvement, work experience, volunteering, student representation and lots more!

As well as being a fantastic addition to your CV, this Award will help you to articulate the skills you develop on your journey towards becoming a distinctive Maynooth student and future graduate.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF COMPLETING THE MUSE AWARD?



STEPS TO GET STARTED

1. Log on to MU Future Ready Connect and navigate to the MUSE Award Pathway.
2. Review all the key information and start with the Bronze Level.
3. If progressing beyond the Bronze Level, undertake relevant activities and get them verified.
4. Record and reflect on your learning and the skills gained.
5. Update your CV or complete an online interview (MUSE Platinum Level).
6. Submit your assessment and receive the award!

Find out more at
www.mu.ie/museawards

Any queries? E-mail the
Experiential Learning
Office at
explearning@mu.ie

C&S HIGHLIGHTS

MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY SIGERSON CUP 22/23 CUP

The Sigerson cup team began their year in a very strong manner with the league campaign. Maynooth finished top of the group narrowly beating ATU Sligo, GMIT and NUIG, progressing further in their league campaign. The footballers then played against UCC in the Quarter final and using their home advantage they walked away with a 1 point victory. DCU were the footballers rivals for the semi final and DCU showed their class in the first half as they went in 7 points up. People may wonder what Davey Burke said to those lads at halftime but they all came out fighting and made a miraculous turnaround winning yet another game by a point.

Maynooth University then faced UCD in the Ryan cup final. The game was tit for tat from start to finish and there was some standout performances on the night from the likes of Dermot Hanifin, John Lawlor, Darragh Walsh, Darragh Kirwan and Paddy McDermott but the honourable mention goes to Darragh Warnock, the man that kicked the monstrous winning point to send our Maynooth men home victorious and winners of the Ryan cup (league) 1-07 to 0-09.

Unfortunately, the Sigerson cup campaign was not as successful as we had hoped. The Sigerson cup football team travelled to Dangan to face NUIG in the first round and suffered defeat. In order to progress, the team had to then beat MTU Cork but unfortunately the Cork side showed their dominance on the night and knocked Maynooth out of the competition.

Big thank you to everyone involved throughout the year especially to players, management and sponsors. I'd like to wish Davey Burke the best of luck with Roscommon for the year ahead and I'd like to give a special thank you to Mick Corley who has been fantastic as Kit man for the last couple of years too.

Let's hope next year is another successful year for the footballers!

This year, 9 clubs and societies battled it out to be crowned Maynooth's Best Dance Crew. Afro Soc were deemed a crowd favourite after they took the stage by storm with their performance choreographed by Angel Agharia.

Although Fashion x Purpose and Filipino Soc gave them a run for their money, they proved also to be judge favourites, as they were given the title of Maynooth's Best Dance Crew!

2nd place was awarded to Filipino Soc. Choreographed by Allen Joy Flores, their performance was fun and energetic and incorporated elements from traditional Filipino dancing.

Fashion x Purpose Soc joined forces to compete and with their routine choreographed by duo Diana Smau and Kingsley Okakpu, they took 3rd place on the podium.

MAYNOOTH'S BEST DANCE CREW



MUMS TAKE LONDON!

What a trip! Maynooth's Musical Society took to the streets of London from Jan 19 - 21st and what an experience. When we arrived in London, we were straight out the door again to our west end workshop, hosted by *City Academy UK* and taken by the wonderful *Ughetta Pratesi* and *Ash Harvey*. Ash did a fabulous job of teaching us the harmonies to the song 'Loathing' from the popular musical, 'Wicked' and Ughetta paired some amazing choreography to accompany it!

That evening we headed out once more to the London Troubadour Wembley Park Theatre to see... 'Newsies!' And it was phenomenal. The staging, the lighting, the dancers, the voices. It was truly an unforgettable show. We even had the pleasure of meeting a few of the actors after the show, and they were absolute gems.

(CONTD ON NEXT PAGE)



In August 2022, MU Drama decided to apply to an International Youth Theatre Festival in Germany, with our original play *Coffee Cures F**k All* (written & directed by Niall Finnegan). To our delight we were then invited to compete as finalists this January, alongside seven other theatre groups from all over Europe.

After a lot of back and forth (because of exam season) we finally found ourselves in Bremen on the 4th of January, ready to perform the following day. Since our performance was at the very start of the festival, we had plenty of time to take part in the various expert workshops organized by the festival, as well as to go on a daytrip to Hamburg. Even though the language barrier made it quite difficult at times to get to know the other participants, we did meet a lot of super fun and interesting people during our time in Germany.

In the end, all of our hard work leading up to the festival was rewarded with a special jury prize for the perfect implementation of our genre (stand-up comedy and epic theatre). We are very happy with our performance and the new things we learned about the art of theatre, as well as the new friends we made along the way.

MU DRAMA at KULTURONTOUR 2023

The next day we headed back towards Shaftesbury Theatre to see the musical “&Juliet”, a jukebox musical about the what if scenarios following Romeo and Juliet. We were up and out of our seats for almost the entire show, with popular songs like “Roar” by Katy Perry, “Problem” by Arianna Grande and “I can’t feel my face” by The Weekend. Talk about empowerment. Everyone LOVED &Juliet, and again it is another 10/10 would go again, High recommendation by all MUMS members! It was an amazing experience that wouldn’t have been possible without the amazing work of our Vice Treasurer/Inter-varsities rep Colleen Doyle! She absolutely nailed it!

MUMS TAKE LONDON!



MEET THE DPT

Meet your Digital Promotions Team (DPT) for the 22/23 Academic year! The DPT is made up of a group of students, all from different degrees, brought together with a passion to create. They each specialise in their own areas of digital promotion, ranging from graphic design, photography, videography, to social media management.

The Team promotes the Clubs & Societies, different events, and resources Maynooth University has to offer. Their job is to photograph and record different eye-catching moments that help promote the diverse selection of clubs and societies.

DPT can be booked by Clubs and Societies through an online form on the @muclubsandsocs Instagram to better promote their club or society.

Additionally, the Team is a great source of help for new students trying to find their footing in the University. Q&A sessions are hosted by the Team on Instagram during important periods of the semester, such as Introduction week or Exam Season, as well as posting helpful information and resources made to guide students in the right direction.

You can find the DPT on Instagram at @muclubsandsocs for Clubs & Socs queries & @mymaynooth for general University queries. Never be afraid to reach out and see what they can do to help you!

TARA ENGLISHBY

Photographer & Editor



JULE LOESCHER

Photographer & Videographer

HANNA FUZESI

Photographer & Graphic Designer



AMBER SINCLAIR

Social Media Engagement

BRYAN REGAN

Videographer & Editor

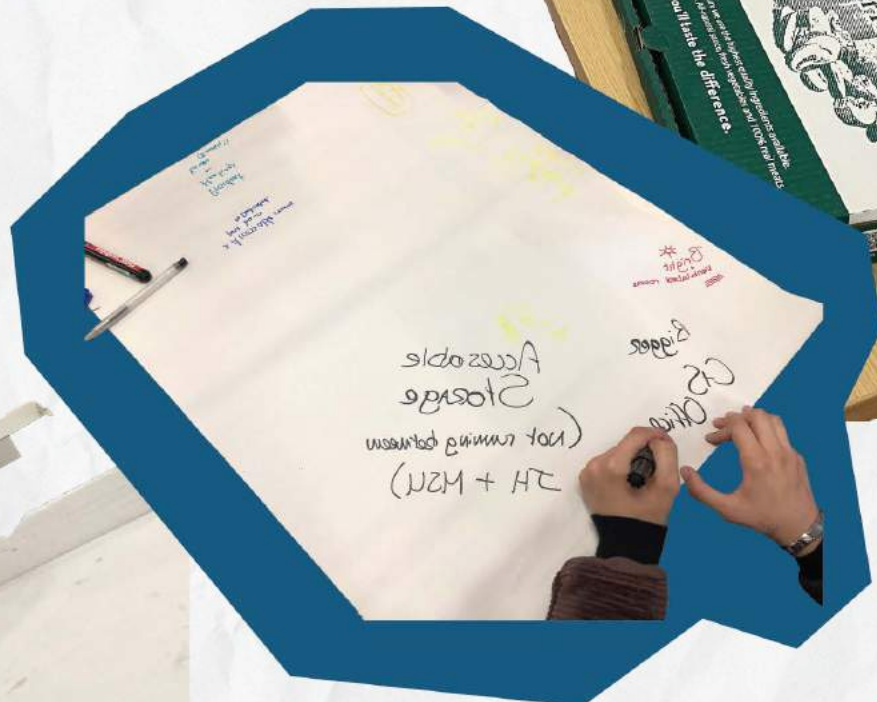


PADDY GARLAND

Videographer & Editor

C&S FORUMS

The Clubs Forum and the Societies Forum advise the CMC and SMC of any or all issues that are relevant to the smooth running of Clubs and Society Life on campus.



SEMESTER 1 AT A GLANCE



Fairs Day 2022



**Meet & Greet
Disney Soc**



**Welcome Week
2022**



Coffee Mornings



**Water Pong
MUCK X Surf X Snow**



**Turn Maynooth Pink
Cancer Soc**



**Shave or Dye
Cancer Soc**



**Debs Festival
Drama Soc**



**Maynooth's Best
Dance Crew**



**Halloween Party
Disney Soc**



**Maynooth's Best
Dance Crew**



**Uni Inter-varisities
Athletics Club**