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HAROLD'S CROSS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

HAROLD'S Xpress

FROM THE HAROLD'S CROSS VILLAGE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

ISSUE 7 - SPRING 2018

2018

Your Community **Your Festival**

14-20 MAY

EVENTS, TIMES & VENUES AT
www.haroldscross.org

MY HAROLD'S CROSS

LOCAL WINNERS

A PASSAGE TO INDIA

KIDS ZONE

GALLAGHER CELEBRATION

LOCAL NEWS, EVENTS, RECIPES, PERSONALITIES & MORE!

9th COMMUNITY FESTIVAL TO BREAK ALL RECORDS

The 2018 Community Festival takes place in week commencing May 14th culminating in the Family Friendly Weekend in the Park on the 19th & 20th.

- BY XPRESS REPORTER

This is its 9th anniversary and the Festival Team has delivered a programme that breaks all records for the number and variety of events with over sixty items on the schedule – all with FREE ADMISSION – thanks to generous sponsorship of our local businesses and Dublin City Council! Here's a flavour of what's to look forward to.

Eleanor McEvoy

Erin Fornoff

The Festival kicks off on the Monday morning with "A Date With Nature" for our most important VIPs – our children. Éanna NíLamhna hosts a session in Harold's Cross Park for each of the local Primary Schools – Harold's Cross National School, St Clare's Primary School and Scoil Mológa. In the evening Éanna will "Go Wild in the Garden" at 7.30pm in the Rosary Pastoral Centre.

Tuesday's talk, again in the Pastoral Centre is hosted by local resident Patrick Gageby SC. The title of Patrick's talk is "Harold's Cross over Time and Space – Revolutionaries & Luminaries" explaining how the village evolved, featuring many interesting old maps and focussing on some well-known figures with connections to the village.

Wednesday is "Ladies Night" when we welcome the "Sisters of the Revolutionaries" to the Pastoral Centre. Teresa and Mary Louise O'Donnell will relate the remarkable story of Margaret and Mary Brigid Pearse, sisters of Patrick and Willie - executed for their roles in the 1916 Easter Rising. The Pearse sisters have long been overshadowed by their famous brothers but they too travelled interesting paths in life.

The Festival's first musical notes ring out from the Church of Our Lady of the Rosary on Thursday evening with a Gala Concert featuring the International Soprano Niamh Murray. Also on the programme are the School Choirs of St. Clare's and Harold's Cross National Schools.

Eanna Ní Lamhna

Rose Henderson & Pat Nolan

Edel McWeeney

Niamh Murray

Highlights on Friday are "Playing with Poetry" in the splendid Education Theatre in Our Lady's Hospice and adventures As Gaeilge for teenagers in the Pastoral Centre. Local poets, Catherine Anne Cullen, Amanda Bell and Erin Fornoff come together for a lush evening of award-winning poetry and music with classical guitarist Sam Brown who will play a selection from Sor, Villa-Lobos and Dyens between readings. The evening will close with the band RTÉ Culture called "Pearse McGloughin's ever-evolving cosmic groove merchants", Nocturnes.

Meanwhile Spleodar will be celebrating their 20th anniversary by hosting a youth club entirely As Gaeilge in the Rosary Pastoral Centre from 7pm.

Saturday sees a hive of activities for all tastes. z will be on location in the Park from 11am to 2pm. Other activities include a guided Walking Trail, the Dublin Concert Band, Chess, demos from local sports clubs, Baton Twirlers, Musically Sound, Clowns for Haiti, St Charles Tour, Fun with Felt, Historic Re-enactments and Zorbs.

Rose Henderson and Pat Nolan perform their acclaimed drama "Take off your Cornflakes" in the Hospice Theatre on Saturday evening. Laughing in the face of death is a choice. This is a play about love. You will laugh, you may cry, but you will find a very beautiful and moving piece of theatre. After which McGowan's hosts the Festival Club with fun, craic and traditional music by Edel McWeeney & Friends.

Sunday morning brings an opportunity to join top notch photographer Esther Moliné for her annual Festival "Photo Walk". The afternoon has the usual amazing variety of activities for the younger folk in the Park Circle – the Tent of Creativity, Thumbelina, Face Painting, Lasair, Irish Dancing, magic, chess and much more. The ever popular Crematorium Open Day runs from 1pm to 4pm.

The Main Stage is graced with Eleanor McEvoy (A Woman's Heart), Daire Bracken and Martin Tourish (Altan) and big band The Swing Kings.

You are invited to visit the Mary Aikenhead Heritage Centre in Our Ladys' Hospice from Wednesday to Saturday from 10.30am to 12 noon. Your audio-visual experience will finish with a complimentary cup of tea or coffee. Hospice gardener Eileen Nolan welcomes guests to the award winning garden in the Hospice at 2pm on Sunday.

The HAROLDSCROSS.ORG website has a wealth of local information including the most up-to-date details of Festival events

2018

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14-20 MAY

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MUSIC & DANCE ELEANOR MCEVOY / NIAMH MURRAY / NOCTURNES / MARTIN TOURISH / SWING KINGS MUSICALLY SOUND / SAM BROWNE / ST CLARE'S SCHOOL CHOIR / BATON TWIRLERS HX NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOIR / LASAIR / DUBLIN CONCERT BAND / EDEL MCWEENEY

DRAMA & POETRY HANG UP YOUR CORNFLAKES / CATHERINE ANNE CULLEN / AMANDA BELL ERIN FORNOFF / SCOIL MOLÓGA DANCERS

ART, TALKS & WALKS EANNA NÍ LAMHNA / PHOTO WALK / PATRICK GAGEBY / HISTORICAL WALKING TRAIL O'DONNELL SISTERS / NIKI COLLIER / SHEILA FLAHERTY / FUN WITH FELT / SPLEODAR

TOURS CREMATORIUM / MARY AIKENHEAD HERITIAGE CENTRE / HOSPICE GARDEN / MOUNT ARGUS RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

FUN & GAMES CHILDREN'S FUN TENT / THUMBELINA / ZORBS / CHESS / FACE PAINTING / MAGIC WOOLY WARDS PET FARM / DRUMMING / SPORT EXHIBITIONS / LIVING HISTORY CARNIVAL STALLS / CLOWNS FOR HAITI

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Advertise in the Festival Programme

Each year over 3,000 copies of the Festival programme are posted in letterboxes in Harold's Cross and distributed at Festival events. This is an ideal opportunity for local businesses to communicate their own special message directly to local residents while supporting the Festival.

Many businesses take the opportunity to run a promotion around the Festival using the Festival logo.

Could this also work for you?

To book your ad or to get a copy of the Festival Logo email - haroldscrossf@gmail.com or call 086 832 7450

FESTIVAL STEWARDS NEEDED!

Up Our Street...

Neighbourhood notes in The Harold's Xpress

MOUNT DRUMMOND & DISTRICT

The recent snow storm brought out the best in communities - ignoring the well publicised bad elements.

People were checking in on those considered vulnerable and neighbours even went out of their way to cook up hot meals for those in need.

The photos from the neighborhood show the fun we had too - the Igloo looked warmer than our houses during the electricity outage!

MOUNT ARGUS YOUTH GROUP

Darkness into Light takes place on 12th May in over 180 venues in 4 continents. The Mount Argus Youth Group invite locals to walk with them in the Phoenix Park to raise funds for Pieta House - preventing suicide and self-harm. Last year over 180,000 people were awake early and walking in aid of this worthy cause.
Contact: mountargusyouthgroup@gmail.com

MOUNT ARGUS & CHURCH PARK

Over Easter we had our second annual Easter egg hunt, which was a huge success. Chairman of the Mount Argus and Church Park Residents Association Conor O'Leary said: "I would like to take this opportunity to thank Eoin Duggan who put a lot of effort in organising the event for a second year and to all the residents who came along and contributed. There were a lot of happy bunnies with full bags of eggs."

Our annual clean up will be taking place on Saturday April 21 between 11am and 1pm - it is good fun and yet another way to meet your neighbours.

Our annual street feast will be held on June 17 - so save the date! We would urge as many as possible to come along as it is a fun day. We will have a face painter to keep the little ones happy.

As you all know the Harold's Cross Festival is approaching and we are looking for volunteers to help out for an hour on Sunday May 20 between 1pm and 5pm.

You can send an email if interested in volunteering to mountargushx@gmail.com.

KENILWORTH PARK RESIDENTS

A big shout out to over 40 residents who helped clean our street on Saturday 21st April as part of our first time participation with Team Dublin Clean-up. It was a fantastic community effort and people really enjoyed meeting their neighbours in the wonderful sunshine. A special word of thanks to Dublin City Council who provided the equipment and very promptly collected everything afterwards.

LOWER KIMMAGE ROAD

Lokra, the residents group, took possession recently of four more new black-painted planters for along the road.

They have been planted out with box hedging and birch saplings, which will hopefully enjoy coming into leaf in the long-awaited spring.

Residents are asked to help maintain the planters and give them a drink of water if we are lucky enough to experience any prolonged dry spells over the coming months.

We will be asking Dublin City Council to help cover the costs of a new seasonal bedding scheme under the "Welcome to Harold's Cross" sign on the road at the junction with Mount Argus.

It is hoped we can do this and clean up the existing planters in time for the community festival in May. Any willing volunteers can contact lokra2025@gmail.com.

Plans for the new schools at the former greyhound stadium include a new pedestrian crossing on the Lower Kimmage Road beside McGowans pub.

After the successful erection of flashing digital speed signs near Mount Argus church, we will continue to campaign for further speed calming measures. Recent proposals by the city council to extend the city centre 30km/h limits to Harold's Cross do not apply to our road, as it is deemed an arterial route.

GREENMOUNT

Planning permission for the apartments in the Greenmount Business Estate has been refused.

BLUES LEGEND RORY CELEBRATED BY FENDER IN 'PERFECT' HAROLD'S CROSS

VILLAGE STRIKES A CHORD WITH FAMED GUITAR MAKERS - BY XPRESS REPORTER

One of the world's most iconic guitar-makers has paid tribute to blues rock legend Rory Gallagher with the unveiling of specially commissioned artwork in Harold's Cross. The stained glass installation was erected at the Irish headquarters of Fender in the village, during a celebration of what would have been Donegal-born Gallagher's 70th birthday.

It depicts his famously battered 1961 Stratocaster, made by Fender, and is adorned with other memorabilia including pieces of his instruments, outfits and even letters. The boardroom at the Harold's Cross offices was also renamed in honour of Gallagher, who sold more than 30 million albums.

The late guitarist's brother Donal, President Michael D Higgins and the Scottish artist who created the installation Alec Galloway were among those in attendance. "My family and I greatly appreciate the honour Fender gave my brother by naming their boardroom after him," said Donal Gallagher. "As a musician, my brother's weapon of choice was his Fender Stratocaster, which allowed him to spread his music message worldwide.

"Rory owned one of the first Stratocasters in Ireland, so this day will seem to make a full 'Celtic' circle."

Pictured left to right: Managing Director, Fender Graeme Mathieson, Alec Galloway, Donal Gallagher, President Michael D Higgins and Dan Barry of Fender guitars

President Higgins, who keeps a treasured picture in his office of Gallagher playing with Phil Lynott at Punchestown in 1982, told the gathering he was "lost in admiration" for the pioneering guitar hero.

Dan Barry, who heads Fender's Ireland operation, said the tribute had originally been planned for one of the company's other worldwide offices, but when they opened in Harold's Cross it was decided to locate it here. "It just made sense, Rory being an Irish man and as a company, we have a strong connection with the Gallagher family, Rory's brother Donal in particular," he told the Xpress.

"We love it here in Harold's Cross. Most of us knew the area before we moved here three years ago, and a lot of our staff live nearby. "It's perfect for us, we love the area and we love to eat in the local cafes."

There are currently 12 staff at the Fender offices, which focuses on making apps for the company.

Gallagher, who died in 1995, would have been 70 in March this year.

NASHVILLE SINGERS STOP OFF FOR ONLY DUBLIN SHOW

The Trevecca Nazarene University Singers from Nashville in the US are putting on a show at the Rathgar Methodist Church. Around 30 singers will make up the ensemble, which is currently on a European tour. The Brighton Road show on Tuesday May 15, at 8pm, will be the choir's only concert in Dublin. Admission is free but there will be a retiring collection on the evening.

Rory Gallagher

A PASSAGE TO INDIA

While most of us were battling the biting cold of an epic winter, prize-winning writer Amanda Bell made a memorable journey from her Harold's Cross home to Kerala, where she was among a star-studded line-up at the sun-kissed south Indian region's annual literary festival. Here, for the Xpress, she evokes the sights, sounds and smells of her trip while uncovering surprising links between home and away.

February is not the cheeriest of months in Ireland, but a perfect time to visit south west India. This year, Ireland was guest nation at the third Kerala Literature Festival, and I was one of six invited writers sponsored by Culture Ireland to travel there, along with Gabriel Rosenstock, Alan Titley, Paddy Bushe, Conor Kostick and Liam Carson. In Ireland, literary festivals are relatively small; KLF2018 was on the scale of the Irish Ploughing Championships – 200,000 people attended over the four days.

We left Dublin in the snow early on Tuesday 7th, arrived at Calicut airport at 3.30am on Wednesday 8th, and were immediately flung into the 'Brownian motion' that characterises India – even at that hour of night the roads were teeming with highly decorated lorries, all beeping and overtaking seemingly at random. Our hotel, in the city centre, faced onto a four-lane highway, which we soon became accustomed to crossing using the local method of stepping out into the flow of tuk-tuks, scooters, cars and buses with one arm raised.

The festival was held on a number of large stages along a palm-lined beach. Flocks of egrets fished the shoreline, kites soared overhead, and large wild dogs dozed in the shade. In the six days that I was there, in temperatures high even by Indian standards, I never once saw someone in the sea. The lack of alcohol meant that night-time concerts, attended by huge crowds, had a friendly, non-threatening atmosphere, and didn't leave the trail of litter characteristic of almost all events in Ireland.

The opening ceremony was attended by the Irish Ambassador His Excellency Mr Brian McElduff, who hosted a rooftop dinner reception for the Irish, Latvian, Norwegian and Australian visitors. Kerala is a foodie paradise, and the food was delectable everywhere we went. We started out being very cautious about salads, ice, fruit etc – no-one wants an upset stomach when they're abroad, not to mind on stage – and even though we relaxed somewhat as the days progressed none of us had any problems.

The festival organisers had laid on a number of extracurricular activities for visiting writers, and we were busy 15 hours a day. For me, highlights included a concert of Sufi music on the beach, and a walking tour through the traditional markets, visiting small businesses where peppercorns are sorted, coconuts dried, and coir made into different grades of rope. In these markets, goods such as bags of rice are still transported by 'head bearers'. We also had an evening walking tour around a series of small mosques, followed by a performance of traditional song and dance by Calicut Girls' High School, and ending with a buffet meal cooked by the students

The theme of the festival was 'No Democracy without Dissent'. Arundhati Roy, a native of Kerala, who is better known in India for her activism than her fiction, drew an enormous crowd. Kerala has one of the highest rates of literacy in India, and the audiences for all panels at the festival were well-read and highly engaged.

As the week went on more and more connections between Ireland and Kerala became apparent, from their traditional exports of spice, rice and textiles to an exchange of people – there is a warm regard in Kerala for the Irish religious orders and their contribution to education in India, and a large number of people currently working in the Irish healthcare system are Kerala natives. We also share a dual language legacy. There are many languages spoken in India, but the talks were held in either English (which is widely read and spoken), or the local language of Kerala, Malayalam. The festival director, Professor K. Satchidanandan, is a noted bilingual poet and critic in both languages.

Discussions with the Irish panelists focused on the riches of Irish language literature as well as foreign influences on Irish writers, including Japanese-form poetry and contemporary fantasy writing. Gabriel Rosenstock and I premiered a bilingual reading of his book-length sequence about extinction, Sasquatch, which I have translated. All of the readings and discussions were well attended, and it was fascinating to discover different points of connection with audiences. I was very moved by the response to a poem from my collection which references Hindu festivals.

The poem is dedicated to the memory of Savita Halappanavar, whose name and tragic story are well-known in Ireland, and who was born in Karnataka, just north of Kerala.

Next year's Kerala Literature Festival takes from 10-13 January – a month earlier than this year because of the heat.

Amanda Bell's most recent book, First the Feathers (Doire Press), is shortlisted for the Shine Strong Award for best first collection published in Ireland in 2017.

Dark Days

i.m. Savita Halappanavar

Suspended at the end of Krishna Paksha,
the moon is a sickle
freeze-framed in the night sky.
The fireworks have been cancelled,
replaced by candles
and a vision of you
dancing on the cusp.
These are dark days
between Diwali and Advent,
waiting
for the moon to wax.

AN BHFUIL GAEILGE AGAT?

Ie Eoin MacLochlainn

Chuala mé Sionnach i lár na h-oíche. Ní fhaca mé é mar bhí sé ró-dhorcha sa ghairdín. An oíche ina dhiaidh sin chuala mé é (nó í) arís. A ghuth cosúil le Bean sí

Bhí mé ag luí i mo leaba ach ní raibh fonn codlata orm. Anois is arís feicim sionnach ar an mbóthar agus mé ag siúl abhaile ach níor chuala mé ceann sa ghairdín riamh. Ach tá gairdín fiáin againn agus tá go leor fásra ann. N'fheadar an raibh an sionnach ina chónaí ann, i ngan fhios dom?

An mhaidin dár cionn chuaigh mé amach sa ghairdín. Bhí éiníní ag canadh ins na crainn. Bhreathnaigh mé faoi na sceacha ach ní fhaca mé aon rud. Bhreathnaigh mé taobh thiar den chró ach ní fhaca mé aon sionnach ansin ach oiread. Chuaigh mé isteach agus bhí bricfeasta mór maith agam.

An oíche sin chuala mé an sionnach arís! Bhí sé ró-dorcha ar ndóigh agus ní fhaca mé aon rud. Thit mé i mo chodladh.

Chuaigh an t-am thart agus tháinig an t-earrach. Bhí na h-oícheanta ag dul chun síneadh. Bhí na h-éiníní ag canadh ag titim na h-oíche. Bhí sé níos gile sa ghairdín anois. Oíche amháin thug mé faoi dearadh go raibh rud éigin ag corraí sa ghairdín. Bhí sionnach ina luí ag an bhalla agus bhí beirt coileáin ag diúil aice! Bhí siad an-óg agus bhí siad go h-álainn.

Ní raibh na coileáin rua go fóill - bhí cótaí liath orthu. Bhí an máthair an-aireach. Rinne sí cúram maith dá mhuirín bheag. Chomh luath agus a chonaic sí mise, léim sí agus sciob sí léi na páistí agus sciuird siad leo as radhairc.

An rud is annamh is iontach!

GROWING with Eileen Nolan

Bloom multi-award winning garden designer Eileen Nolan - head gardener at Our Lady's Hospice in Harold's Cross - bids goodbye to the stark winter and says hello to many months back in the garden.

It's hard to believe that what greeted us all on the 1st week of March is thankfully becoming a distant memory. It is now green grass once again with the squirrel below eating the nuts from the bird feeders. The daffodils resilient to all weathers still rally on to yet again create an amazing display throughout the grounds.

When the first warm days of spring lure you outdoors, it is time to start cutting the lawn, give it the first cut of the year try not to set the mower set too low. This will help to tidy the grass and should take up any debris that has fallen over the winter. Make sure you don't cut it too tight as this can encourage moss.

If you have moss in your lawn spring is a good time to start treating it, killing the moss and removing it is just the beginning, it is a process and a strict regime by improving the vigour of the grass and eliminating other contributing factors such as overgrown trees or large shrubs that may be shading the area. It may just be something like soil compaction which can cause damp areas encouraging moss. Apply a spring fertilizer and moss killer, lightly rake out the dead moss and follow by over seeding any bare patches. This will help the grass to eventually take over, however the work doesn't stop here it needs to be continued into the autumn which is a good time to scarify.

Other jobs for the spring include:

- **Complete rose pruning and feed afterwards with a general purpose fertilizer or proprietary rose fertilizer. While feeding roses, we tend to put the feed too close to the base of the plant, however it's good to stretch the circle of feed outwards around the plant as the feeding roots are further out from the base. Use a hoe to dig it in lightly if there is no sign of rain. Mulch afterwards with garden compost or manure.**
- **Divide summer-flowering herbaceous perennials if getting too big for the space they occupy before any new growth appears.**
- **It is a good time to clean out bird feeders, bird baths and nesting boxes as we keep our feathered friends full and plenty and healthy over the winter. It can also help to prevent the spread of disease and routine cleaning can make all the difference.**
- **Deadhead daffodils as the flowers begin to fade, but allow leaves to die back naturally.**

Looking forward to warmer times after a long winter, lots to do before the growth catches up on us.

If you have a gardening question you would like to ask Eileen, email us at xpress@haroldscross.org

HAROLD'S CROSS: APRIL 14 2050AD

A letter from the future in Harold's Cross from resident Paddy Murray

It's nice to be back in Harold's Cross. I used to live here back in 2018. I could tell back then that the place was changing. There was building going on all over the place. And change it did.

Can't believe the secondary school - it's not even thirty years old - is celebrating winning the Leinster Schools' Cups in both Gaelic Football AND rugby. Fantastic achievement beating St Mel's in the GAA and Mary's in the rugby.

Anyway, I'm back here meeting some friends from the "old days" when I lived in Harold's Cross.

We didn't have any Michelin starred restaurants back then though Craft had, of course, the Michelin Bib Gourmand.

Now it has the star as do three others in the area. The area has got quite a name now. In fact I saw the Irish Times online - I'm still sorry they gave up printing a paper edition years ago - says Harold's Cross is Ireland's "Gourmet Capital!"

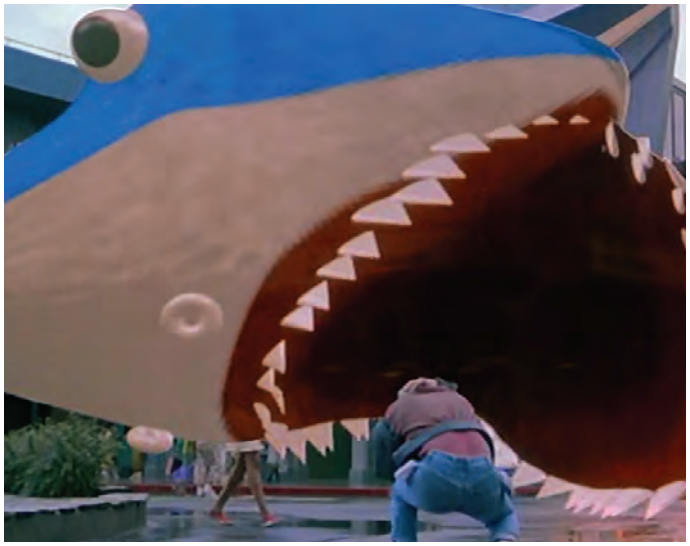
And of course, Fallon and Byrne did so well in Rathmines, they bought the old Classic Cinema site and built a fantastic store there. And isn't there a certain irony in the old Dublin City Council car pound becoming their car park?

There's a great buzz in the area. I suppose that was inevitable what with all the new houses and apartments we saw go up twenty and thirty years ago.

I suppose older established areas like Harold's Cross needed an influx of younger people and we certainly got that.

Great to see many of the emerging bands playing in McGowans and, indeed, our own superstars like The Stunning and Danny O'Reilly and Maria Doyle Kennedy stepping up to the microphone too to celebrate Eamon Carr's 100th birthday.

And, of course, the five star Allen Hotel in the old Quaker Orphanage has brought new life - and lots of celebrities - to the area. It's named, of course, after the anti slavery campaigner Richard Allen.



That's one of the things, apparently, which prompted Coldplay to stay there. Chris Martin wanted to find out all about Richard Allen before they played their gig in Marlay Park a couple of years ago. Though I think Ed Sheeran stayed there when he was a surprise guest at a tenth birthday party on Casimir Road.

I wonder how the LUAS works will affect the hotel?

Yes, finally, after half a century they've announced plans for a LUAS line as far as Nutgrove in Rathfarnham.

Yeh. Right. Sure they announced that in 2025, 2040 and a couple of years ago too.

And anyway, I don't know where they'd put it now that the bike lanes have taken over two thirds of the road space. Seems fair with two thirds of people cycling. And it's not like there's going to be road rage over that with most of the cars being driverless.

So I'm back in Harold's Cross now and off for a nice meal. Haven't been in Craft since it got the second Michelin star so I'm looking forward to it.

First, though, off to the movies in the new Kenilworth Cinema. Posher than the Stella of course! I wondered back then what they'd do with the Kenilworth Motors site. And a cinema is perfect though I'm surprised the developer was allowed to build nine storeys above it. Harold Tower. I don't even like the name.

Anyway, right now I just have to whistle for my car to pick me up and bring me there.

JOHN JORDAN

Poet, writer and revered critic John Jordan played a seminal role in the success of many of Ireland's greatest - and best known - literary figures.

To mark the 30th anniversary of his death, friend and fellow poet Hugh McFadden remembers a precocious schoolboy prodigy from Harold's Cross who went on to help revive Dublin's mantle as a literary heartland.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of the death of one of the more significant Irish literary figures of the second half of the 20th century, John Jordan (1930-1988), whose family home was in Park View Avenue, Harold's Cross.

Poet, short story writer, distinguished literary critic, broadcaster and academic, John Jordan was born on 8th April 1930 in the Rotunda Hospital, Dublin, the eldest child of John Anthony Jordan, a cooper in Guinness's brewery, and Mary Agnes Jordan (nee Byrne) who was born of Irish parents in Jarrow, England. He had one brother, James, and a sister Kathleen who joined the Sisters of St Louis Order of teaching nuns and is known as Sr Grace Jordan.

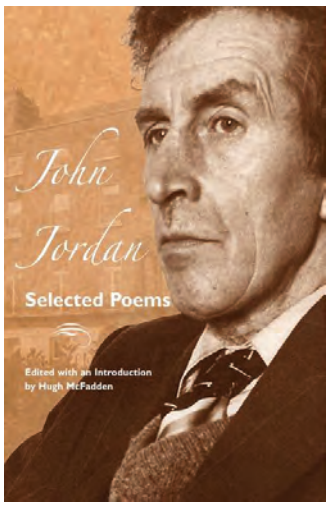
He was educated at Synge Street CBS in Dublin, UCD and Pembroke College, Oxford, and became a lecturer in English at UCD in the 1950s and 1960s, where he influenced a generation of students of English, including a number who became well-known as poets and writers themselves: Paul Durcan, Michael Hartnett, Brian Lynch, Michael Smith, Macdara Woods and the present writer, among others.

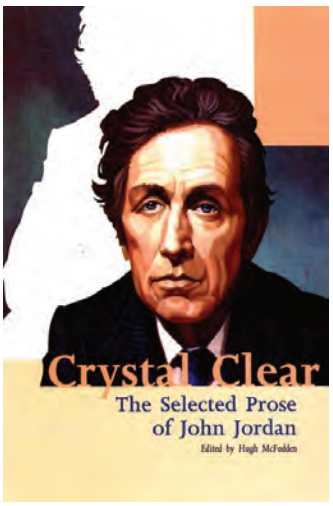
At school in Synge Street his friends included the poet Pearse Hutchinson, the painter Patrick Swift and the broadcaster Ronnie Walsh. His teachers included the novelist and broadcaster Francis MacManus, in whose honour RTE inaugurated their annual short story competition.

Among the general public, John Jordan was probably best known for his radio broadcasts, particularly on RTE's Sunday Miscellany programme, on the Thomas Davis Lecture Series and such radio shows as The Pleasures of Gaelic Literature. But in the Irish literary world he was best known as a very perceptive literary critic and as the influential editor of two literary magazines - Poetry Ireland in the 1960s and, as the first editor in the 1980s, of Poetry Ireland Review, a magazine that survives today as the house journal of the Poetry Ireland Society.

As a schoolboy at Synge Street he was very precocious, corresponding at the age of 14-15 with the then famous English theatre critic James Agate. At the age of 16 he became a play-reader for the Gate Theatre's directors Hilton Edwards and Micheál Mac Liammóir, and in his late teens acted at the Gate. While a scholarship postgrad student at Oxford he also acted there for the college drama society and at Cambridge University. He returned to Dublin in 1955 to take up an academic position at UCD, where he became a college lecturer in English.

In 1962 Jordan began editing Poetry Ireland, which had a profoundly seminal influence on the Irish literary scene; publishing such poets as Seamus Heaney, Pearse Hutchinson and Thomas Kinsella, as well as the established writers Austin Clarke, Padraic Colum, and Patrick Kavanagh.





It also introduced John Jordan's students Paul Durcan, Michael Hartnett (Harnett), Michael Smith and Macdara Woods. By now Jordan had established his own reputation as an erudite and scrupulously fair critic: 'our own fastidious

John Jordan', Seamus Heaney called him in a Field Day pamphlet, Open Letter.

He wrote and reviewed for a number of magazines and journals, including University Review, Hibernia, Studies, The Crane Bag and the Irish Press and Irish Times newspapers.

He was both a friend and confidant of the poet Patrick Kavanagh, as well as the writers Brendan Behan, Ben Kiely, Kate O'Brien and Gainor Crist, the real-life prototype of J.P. Donleavy's character 'The Ginger Man'.

In June 1980 the Poetry Ireland Society was set up, and Jordan became editor of its new magazine, the Poetry Ireland Review. He edited the first eight issues and introduced a new generation of poets; some were his own discoveries.

Not alone did he provide continuity with the 1960s Poetry Ireland, but he imbued the new journal with his patrician taste and style.

In 1986 he suffered the first of several strokes and was hospitalised briefly (he was a heavy smoker and, in later life, became alcohol-dependent). When he died suddenly on 6th June 1988, while attending a meeting of the Cumann Merriman summer school in Cardiff, Wales, the literary scene was a good deal healthier than it had been when he first began to influence it in the 1950s.

Poetry Ireland had a society and its Austin Clarke Library. Literary magazines and small presses proliferated. The short-story form was robust; the standard of criticism had risen. Much of the improvement was due to his lifetime's work as a man of letters.

He was buried in Mount Jerome cemetery, Harold's Cross, on 14th June, 1988, after Requiem Mass in the Church of the Holy Rosary, Harold's Cross, con-celebrated by the Augustinian priest and UCD historian F.X. Martin, OSA. His friends and fellow writers Ben Kiely, Francis Stuart, Paul Durcan, Pearse Hutchinson, Macdara Woods, and the present writer paid tribute to him with readings at the church and graveside.

His own works that remain in print, which I edited, include: Crystal Clear, Selected Prose (Lilliput Press, 2006); Selected Poems (Dedalus Press, 2008); and Collected Stories (Poolbeg Press, 1991).

When I Think of You

for John Jordan - HUGH MCFADDEN

It will be verdant summer
with cloudless blue days
and star-dusted nights
of laughter, wine and music:
the chestnut trees on the Green
in full and glorious bloom.

Or it will be joyous Easter,
both of us in great form;
you singing the Easter Parade,
as we walk up the avenue.

Wild flowers growing out of stone:
and, always, we'll be going home.

DEVELOPER ADDS MORE APARTMENTS AT MOUNT ARGUS

Sixteen more apartments are to be built at the Mount Argus Mill development. Developer Marlet has been granted permission for the additional units, which will bring the total number to 196. These include there studios, 56 one bedroom apartments, 121 two beds and 16 three beds. The latest application included a revised internal layout to provide for a gym, residents' lounge, hot desk zone, meeting room and a multipurpose room. The complex is part of Marlet's 'Dublin Living' scheme - Ireland's largest ever Private Rented Sector (PRS) public offering, in conjunction with its finance partner, international asset manager M&G Investments. The former St Clare's covent site in Harold's Cross is also part of the portfolio.

PARKINSON'S GROUP LAUNCHED TO HELP SUFFERERS "BE THERE FOR EACH OTHER"

- BY XPRESS REPORTER

Organisers of a new Parkinson's support group in Harold's Cross have hailed its launch as a great success.

Retired local school principal Sinéad O'Kane helped set up the group after she realised how many people in the area are living with the condition. "We meet on the first Wednesday of every month at 11am in the pastoral centre of the Holy Rosary Church in Harold's Cross," Sinead told the Xpress. "Sometimes we get a speaker in, for example a physiotherapist, a speech therapist, health care professional or someone promoting aids to assist with Parkinson's and such like.

"The main function of the group is for people with Parkinson's to get together and talk to each other, exchange ideas and experiences and just be there for each other."

Initially established for the Dublin 6, 6W, 12 and 24 areas, it has already extended to include Dublin 8, 16 and 14. "In fact, we welcome anyone who has Parkinson's disease who would like to attend," added Sinéad.

The official launch by Senator Kevin Humphreys, was attended by Paula Gilmore, chief executive of Parkinson's Association of Ireland, as well as Eugene Cashell, chair of the Dublin branch.

"It was a hugely successful event, which was made possible with the great help of local people, including Siobhan Spears, Olive Miggan and Mary O'Dwyer of the parish pastoral council," said Sinéad.

BIG WHEEL KEEPS TURNING FOR LANDMARK VILLAGE BIKE SHOP

Third generation of Delaneys mark more than a century selling and fixing bikes at gateway to Harold's Cross

- By Ben O'Reilly

Anyone approaching Harold's Cross Bridge from the city will be struck by a landmark premises, bedecked in pillar box red, which has been there for as long as living memory. It is nestled in among a number of shops, the names of which have changed through the decades. But not so Delaneys.

Ever since Thomas Delaney moved from Kildare to Harold's Cross in 1917, the premises have remained in the hands of the same Delaney family. The current third generation - Paul and Brian - continue in the long tradition of their grandfather Thomas and, later, their father James. The Delaney family have seen many changes around the immediate area over the decades: the installation and eventual removal of cobble stones on the bridge itself, the rumblings of the cattle as they were guided over the Grand Canal crossing and into the local slaughterhouse. And the installation of traffic lights at the junction.

The shop has also been home to the Delaney family, with the original chimney still intact in the basement. The area at the back of the outlet - where repairs are currently carried out - was the original living area for Thomas and his wife. It was here they reared three boys and two girls: Denis, Paul, Ena, Kay and James. The first bicycles to cross the threshold of Thomas's shop were a lot different than the lightweight, trendy models of today. Apart from the basic puncture and brake repairs, he also had to contend with oil Lamps, which prefigured the modern front and back lamps systems we now know.

Paul and Brian have also overseen many changes down through the years in the style, range and varieties of bicycles available to the public. Apart from the usual bikes and motorbikes, they have also sold and repaired - among other things - lawnmowers and mopeds.

Today's shop - which really hasn't changed that much over the decades - is a cornucopia of bicycle bric-a-brac with bikes new and those in for repair dotted around the floor. Helmets, brakes, lamps, cables, protective gear are all in abundance.

But for those who have had the experience of purchasing a bike or having a bicycle or motorbike repaired, Delaney's pièce de résistance is the family themselves.

The family tradition of actually enjoying what they do continues onto the current generation, with Paul and Brian attentive and helpful to all, bringing their years of experience and patience to all who visit their premises.

And so too the new generation - Conor, Amanda, Niamh and Mary - who as children helped out during the summer months and at weekends, always in the wings. Perhaps the phenomenon which is the Delaney's ongoing presence in Harold's Cross will continue into the future with them.

WRITER SEEKING PAGE APPEALS FOR HELP FINDING ADDRESS

An author is seeking help tracing the whereabouts of a house in the village - BY XPRESS REPORTER

Hugh Sweeney is penning a book about the Sweeney family who ran a fruitier and general grocers at 5 Harold's Cross Road. The shop was later called Sweeney Bros.

The writer said his upcoming book will feature one of the Sweeneys, who he says was the first casualty in Dublin of the Civil War. Under his command at the time was a Joseph Page, with an address at 93 Harold's Cross Park. "That postal address no longer exists," said Hugh.

"I am hoping someone in the village would have knowledge as to where the address applied. "I have personal knowledge, having grown up in Harold's Cross, that St. Paul's Terrace was subsumed into the Lower Kimmage Road. "The O'Sullivans who lived here also feature in the book."

Anyone who can help trace the former 93 Harold's Cross Park can email xpress@haroldscross.org

This handpainted ghost sign was recently uncovered on Harold's Cross Road

DROP OFF FEARS FOR CHILDREN AS FORMER DOG TRACK TO BE "MAXIMISED" IN SCHOOL BUILDING SPREE

Greyhound stadium to house a number of schools.

- BY XPRESS REPORTER

Concerns have been raised about the safety of children making their way to and from a new temporary school on the Harold's Cross greyhound stadium site.

Planning permission has been granted for a "car free" campus at the former dog track, which will initially cater for just over 50 pupils in pre-fab classrooms, ahead of the promised construction of permanent school buildings. Children will have to access the school from Grosvenor Lane, to the rear of Leinster Road.

Residents have voiced their fears that surrounding streets will become a de facto car park for staff and parents, while traffic to and from homes and businesses on the lane itself could pose a danger to the children. "There are huge concerns about access to the school on what is essentially a back lane, particularly around safety" said a Harold's Cross Village Community Council (HCVCC) spokesman. "We are talking about children walking, cycling and taking scooters to school where there is no footpath and parents are being encouraged to drop them off at Leinster Road, Leinster Place, Grosvenor Lane and Parkview Avenue."

"New houses are being built on Grosvenor Lane, as well as the existing homes and businesses, so there will be traffic there, even if the school doesn't allow cars onsite." Despite city council assurances that a school management plan would be reviewed on an ongoing basis, the HCVCC spokesman said "serious concerns remain in terms of health and safety as much as anything else."

The Department of Education has vowed the greyhound stadium site will be "maximised" in a school-building programme. Education Minister Richard Bruton recently announced a number of new schools are to be "established" countrywide. These include a 16-classroom primary school to serve children in Dublin 6 and Dublin 6W, which is to open next year, and a 1,000-pupil post-primary school for the same areas to open in 2020.

Already announced by the department are plans for a 24-classroom primary school to serve Dublin 2, 4 and 6 and a 1,000-pupil post-primary school to serve Dublin 2,4,6 and 8. Both are due to open this year.

The department is presently deciding on appropriate sites for the schools. A department spokesman told the Xpress: "Clearly the use of minister-owned sites, such as the Harold's Cross site, will be maximised in this regard." He added: "The acquisition of the site at Harold's Cross is in the final stages of conveyancing process. "Once the acquisition is complete, the department will be in a position to progress the project to architectural planning with a view to providing permanent accommodation on the site."

Contractors have already been invited to tender for the construction of a 12-classroom temporary school, consisting of pre-fabs, ancillary facilities and road access, on the former dog track which has yet to be handed over to the government. Asked about who would run new schools earmarked for Harold's Cross, the department said the patronage process is overseen by an external independent advisory group, the New Schools Establishment Group (NSEG).

The most recent NSEG report on the department's website recommends a new Educate Together primary school be opened in Dublin's south city, after a survey showed 62% of parents in favour of it. The department has not confirmed the patronage of any new schools yet in Harold's Cross. It is expected more than one school will be established on the 6-acre former dog track site.

The department agreed to buy the stadium last year for 23 million euro. The State acquisition followed a successful local campaign against plans by the Irish Greyhound Board to change the zoning of the site to residential. The semi-state greyhound board wanted to sell off the track to help plug a 20 million euro hole in their finances.

An old photo of the dog track setup for soccer

Courtesy of www.fantasyjackpalance.com

'YOUNG SCIENTIST' CLAIRE IMPRESSES WITH HOUSING STUDY

Local student Claire Gregg, 16, scooped the individual runner-up award at this year's BT Young Scientist event. The Loreto College transition year pupil impressed judges with her project entitled 'An Analysis of the Housing Shortage in Ireland using Agent-Based Modelling'. The study addresses one of the most pressing challenges in Irish society at the moment in a sophisticated way by modelling complex data on the housing shortage. The model identifies the most salient factors affecting the Irish housing market by drawing on extensive data sources. There were 2,031 projects from 4,251 students across the island of Ireland entered in this year's contest.

MY HAROLD'S CROSS JACK MULLARKEY

Up and coming Harold's Cross actor Jack Mullarkey is landing plum roles in some of the greatest plays ever penned. While his star is undoubtedly on the ascendant, his feet remain firmly on the ground he loves, as the Xpress discovers, in a one-to-one with the village's latest one-to-watch.

Tell us about home.

I've always lived in Harold's Cross. My favourite memories of the village revolve around the festival, I love it, it's such a spectacle. It is great to see so many local people milling about together. The place is full of great talent from musicians to actors to artists and poets, everyone gets together, it's lovely. There's something wonderful about Harold's Cross that is hard to put my finger on - there's a real friendliness, a camaraderie, I think there's a real warmth to everyone who lives here. I work part time in Centra, I see the same people coming in every day, you would think I would get sick of them, but I can honestly say that I look forward to seeing the same people every day. I never get tired of them. I've yet to meet a bad Harold's Crossite! (Or is it Haroldovian?! - Ed)

How did the acting start?

I've always been drawn to acting, I've always had a big passion for film and theatre. I only took it up in my final year in school while I was doing my mock exams for my Leaving Cert. After school I studied at the Gaiety School of Acting, I only finished up last summer in July 2017. Since then I've been in productions of King Lear and Romeo and Juliet for a touring company and the Mill Theatre in Dundrum. To keep things afloat I've also worked as a painter, handyman, and labourer on construction sites.

You're young, but you've seen some changes in the village...

I'm sad to see the closure of Rosie O'Grady's. It was a place where we had lots of family get togethers. My Christening was there, my Grandfather's 80th birthday, lots of events. I'm sad to see it go. Also, the park was very different when I was a child. The playground was tiny and the whole place wasn't as clean and smart looking as what it is today. Great work has been done on it, thanks to the community council.

Anything you would make different?

I would like to see less apartments and more facilities such as a new theatre. When you think about it, Dundrum has its own theatre. There's no reason why Harold's Cross shouldn't have one. It would be nice to have a leisure centre and a library, maybe even a cinema and a sports centre for kids. It would be great to see a hall where locals could meet up for events - hopefully when the schools arrive something like that will be put in place for locals. I'd also like to see more restaurants in the village and a late bar.

And what would you not change?

I feel really blessed living in Harold's Cross, it's so central, I barely have to commute anywhere. I love that there are so many people from different backgrounds living close by each other. I think it's great, for instance, that Steve Wall lives up the road from me - there are so many famous and talented people living locally.

NEW 30KM/H SPEED LIMITS PLANNED FOR VILLAGE STREETS

Calls for traffic to be slowed on arterial routes too - BY XPRESS REPORTER

Speed limits are to be cut in Harold's Cross under plans by transport chiefs.

City council officials have signaled a 30km/h limit already operating in the centre is to be extended into selected suburbs. Harold's Cross is one of 12 areas on the southside earmarked for inclusion.

If the measures are backed by city councillors, all but arterial routes through the village are expected to see a reduction from the existing 50km/h limits.

There are also plans for special speed limits at certain times of the day in designated zones such as outside schools. But Ciarán Cuffe, chairman of the council's transportation committee, has already called for the reduced speed limits to apply on arterial routes as well.

"This would improve safety on such streets where there are a large amount of deaths and injuries," he said.

Both the busy Harold's Cross Road and Lower Kimmage Road are deemed arterial routes, as they are heavily used for traffic travelling in and out of the city. Mr Cuffe also called for more Garda enforcement of existing speed limits on residential streets.

"More people are being killed in Dublin by speeding cars than gangland crime and we should ensure that more effort is made to tackle speeding," he said. If passed by the transportation committee, the speed limit reduction proposals could go to vote by councillors as early as June.

COUNCIL BACKS KEY LINK IN "PODDLE PATH" PLAN

Connection could help establish new traffic-free 'Greenway' campaigned for by residents groups

- BY XPRESS REPORTER

Council chiefs have agreed "in principle" to link Mount Argus park with a new section of parkland to be handed into public ownership on the completion of the 180-apartment Mount Argus Mill development.

Local residents groups have been campaigning for the integration of the lands fronting onto Lower Kimmage Road, on the banks of the river Poddle, with the existing park.

Proposals were handed to Dublin City Council as part of a wider aim of establishing a cycling and walking "greenway" or Poddle Path.

The plan would see a new opening at the north end of Mount Argus park, outside the gates to the church, and a corresponding opening on the other side where the new apartment complex is nearing completion.

Following a recent meeting officials at the site, the council said it "would certainly agree in principle" to the proposed new openings and an interconnecting path.

An official told the Xpress that once the Mount Argus Mill complex is completed, when the new lands are due to be handed over, a design would be decided and costs agreed.

A number of other measure to help improve the appearance of Mount Argus Park were agreed.

New benches are to be installed over the coming weeks: one overlooking the pond and another on the high path next to the priests' accommodation.

More signs warning dog-owners to clear up after their pets are to be erected in more visible areas around the park, with dog wardens being asked to patrol the park to see if they can catch any offenders.

Shrubbery is to be cut back after the bird-nesting season, in October or November, to deter anti-social behaviour.

Council officials have also vowed to replace the unsightly concrete aprons around the pond with a sown wildflower meadow area.

TREE PLANTING SCHEME WOULD ENHANCE HISTORIC COTTAGES, SAYS LOCAL ARCHITECT - BY XPRESS REPORTER

Plans have been drawn up for a tree-planting scheme at the historic Harold's Cross Cottages.

Architect and lecturer Madeline Moore, who has lived in the area for 17 years, is looking to gather support for her proposal to plant around 30 trees in the neighbourhood.

Ms Moore said the low cost improvements to the streetscape could easily be carried out by Dublin City Council in the immediate future. "The trees would all be located along the gable ends of the houses so they would not be outside anyone's windows – so not blocking light- and cars could park between them in the manner of Greenville Terrace," she said. "A further option would be the closure of some of the crossroad junctions to cars with bollards - the cars can still access all streets but go an alternative route. "These reclaimed spaces at the junction of streets could be planted with additional planting, bicycle and moped parking, and possibly public seating. "This in turn could have social benefits as many elderly people live here, most alone."

Ms Moore told the Xpress residents love living in the cottages, built by the Dublin Artisan Dwellings Company, but they have no front garden to tend or interact with passers-by. "The streets although pleasantly quiet from traffic noise, are dominated by parked cars," she added. "Trees offer well documented benefits especially as these houses have no gardens, and they offer shade and cool on hot summer days. "Green spaces at street corners would be a great improvement to the neighbourhood and trees."

Ms Moore, a member of the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland, said she wants to "speak up for this small network of streets" and has drawn up proposals, based on precedents elsewhere in the city and internationally, where trees have been planted on small peninsulars out from the pavements and cars can park between them.

Dublin City Council are assessing the plans. Anyone who would like to get in touch can email xpress@haroldscross.org

Answer to back page riddles: Riddle 1 - Your Name, Riddle 2 - A Map

PENTHOUSE PLANS KNOCKED BACK OVER LACK OF DETAIL

Plans for a penthouse at the new St Pancras development have been dealt a blow. An application by the developers to add a fifth floor at the Mount Tallant Avenue site has been deemed by Dublin City Council to have insufficient information. Planners were not satisfied that the additions complimented the existing plans or the streetscape in which it will sit. The application did not clearly address the overall unit mix, size, internal floor space, amenity, aspect, landscaping or car parking. The developers have until September 20th to file the requested details.

CHILDREN TO SUPPORT NOTED SINGER IN FESTIVAL CONCERT

An internationally-renowned soprano will lead school children in a special concert in the village. Niamh Murray, who has performed in the US, France, Spain, Italy and the UK, will head the concert on May 17th at 7.30pm. Also on-stage will be choirs from St Clare's Primary School and Harold's Cross National School. Everyone is invited and admission is free.

kidzone

Word Search

Find the 15 Springtime words in the wordsearch below

Z S W R L K Y M V L A X T I I C N G B C
L Y K V F D T O F R C K L T H K Y O S M
N S K V U T A G Z T S K Y M A H C R A M
V U G K H B V F B A I N W Y Z J S H T Z
N S S J T F U U C T S O D B A B R D M S
B L K U Z G N T E H O N V E R F Q B Q T
S I O J H N A Z T Y Z X Y L I R P A V Q
M D V J J I M L A E D K D D X S Z O U S
O O S V T R Q V L X R C O M N F F C G I
S F I R S P Y A M E Z F R C E I F I J K
S F Q J E S H T A Q R S L J Q Q W M B B
O A Y D H W S A X K Q B F I X J D L O S
L D S M W L O J A I R R M O E Q C D R Q
B Q P P O W Q H V J F Y R U L S T E I P
Y D I Q L Z A D S Q P L G F C E W H D G
R V L S T R I G A D G V H H F O T Q J N
R U U V T C J J T G O S T F L L A X R E
E N T O V Q E L L O C L F F M A X C G V
H B Y X T G M O Q W P U P U D D L E S O
C E F Q F P N I B O R W X Y N U G L Y U

ROBIN	PUDDLES	FLOWERS
APRIL	UMBRELLA	MARCH
MAY	DAFFODILS	SHOWERS
KITE	TULIPS	BUTTERFLIES
SPRING	WINDY	CHERRY BLOSSOMS

Riddle 1

This belongs to you, but everyone else uses it - what is it?

Answer: On previous page

Spot the difference

Find the 12 differences in these 2 Springtime Scenes

Funny Corner

Did you hear the rumour going around about butter? Never mind, I shouldn't spread it.

Teacher: What can you tell me about the Dead Sea?
Student: I didn't even know it was sick!

I hate Russian dolls. They're so full of themselves.

Why did the banana go to the doctor?
It didn't peel well.

I don't trust atoms...
I heard they make up everything.

Gravity always gets me down.

Did you hear about the claustrophobic astronaut?
He just needed a little space.

What happens if you get scared half to death twice?

I've had amnesia as long as I can remember.

Riddle 2

I have cities,
but no houses.
I have mountains,
but no trees.
I have water
but no fish.
What am I?

Answer: On previous page

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