



## Aware Christmas Fundraiser

On Friday 8th December we did a 5 km walk in Newbridge, Michael Mc L and Michael B.

This is part of the Aware Christmas fundraiser.

We purchased our tickets online from Aware.

It was great to be involved in this event.

Hopefully people will benefit from what we and many others will do.

The weather was freezing cold with light snow on the ground.

The route we took was from the Platinum Clubhouse to the Bridge and back again also a lap around the industrial estate.

On our return we had a warm welcome and a good lunch.



Michael B, Michael McL

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### January Birthdays

James C  
Damian O'T  
Barry McK  
Ronan B  
Tracy K



# January 2023

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<b>2</b> Policy Meeting 12 noon	3 House meeting 1.45 pm	4 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	5 Publications 2 pm	6 
<b>9</b> Policy Meeting 12 noon	10 House meeting 1.45 pm	11 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	12 Publications 2 pm	13
16 Policy Meeting 12 noon	17 House meeting 1.45 pm Basic Digital Skills	18 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	19 Publications 2 pm	20
23 Policy Meeting 12 noon	24 House Meeting 1.45 pm	25 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	26 Publications 2 pm	27
30 Policy Meeting 12 noon	31 House Meeting 1.45 pm		6 <sup>TH</sup> – 15 <sup>TH</sup> January First Fortnight 2023	

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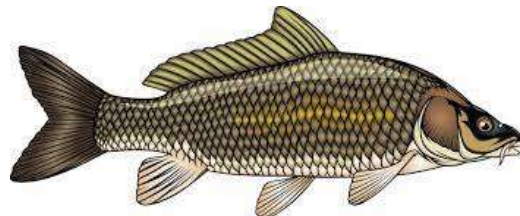
## The Monks Legacy

Once I had to do an errand for my father, a three-mile bike ride to his friend's house out in the fens. I took the ride via Toynton Fenside and round trip back to Holton Fenside along the bank of the Black Horse drain. I paused at the bridge where the large dyke joins the drain leaning on the brick parapet wall. I spotted some large fish in the water. There were dozens of them rolling over each other playing chase. They were carp.

The water level was high being kept at that level by the pumping station at Midville, irrigation was being done across the fields, miles of pipes were laid out and pumps running day and night. I was excited at the prospect of catching one to prove their existence and took off pedalling hard the 1 ½ miles home. After delivering the tools to father I found my fishing reel somehow and ½ a bread loaf and pedalled like mad back to the bridge only to find the fish had gone.

The irrigation dyke joins the Blackhorse drain to the Bellwater drain. They were dug out by Dutch navvies to turn the waterlogged fens into top class arable land. The fishing is very good in these waters, pike, bream, perch, roach and eels. Fishermen come from all over the country by the busload, but the carp hide away in the wilds and are never seen in the busy areas, I was so lucky to see them, the monks had carp in their take for food, but they left the parish 200 years ago. Some of the carp escaped into the drain and have done well. My father had heard the story of carp that are never caught. He had an experience on the Blackhorse drain, helping an elderly lady get a bucket of water, he disturbed a monster pike easily 40lbs plus, it swam out from under the staging and created a large bow wave, father nearly fell in with the surprise.

Paul C



## **Bread and Butter Pudding**



### **Ingredients :**

1 loaf Fruit Soda Bread  
50g/2oz Butter, softened and extra for greasing  
600ml/1pt Milk  
4 Eggs  
150g/5oz Shamrock Golden Caster Sugar  
100g packet Shamrock Chocolate Chips

### **Method:**

Preheat oven to 180C/350F/Gas Mark 4. Grease an ovenproof dish with butter.  
Slice fruit soda bread into slices and butter each slice.  
Whisk the milk, sugar and eggs together in a bowl.  
Place a single layer of the bread in the dish, pour  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the milk mixture over and then sprinkle  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the chocolate chips on top.  
Repeat another layer of the bread, milk mixture and chocolate chips.  
Then finish with a final layer of bread, milk mixture and chocolate chips, and bake for 50 minutes in preheated oven until golden brown and crunchy on top.  
Serve warm with cream

### **Thank You**

A big thank you to Dominos Pizza for their kind pizza donation to Platinum Clubhouse. It was very much appreciated.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all at Dominos Pizzas a Happy New Year 2023

## New Year

January brings the start of a New Year and resolutions are made. How long they last is another matter. I'm still trying to lose weight ten years after I made a resolution to do so. What I particularly like about the month of January is that the days are getting brighter and some of the first flowers of Spring are starting to appear.

Hopefully the New Year will see the end of Covid and this will be the year it finally dies out

As we approach the end of January, we might get a bit of kindness in the weather and we will start to get out into the garden and the whole work of preparing the ground, sowing seed and admiring the early flower will start all over again.

Hopefully the war in Ukraine will end and peace will be restored to the world. Hopefully it will happen in the New Year and then we can all have a prosperous New Year.

Joe G



## Men's Shed

I am a member of Kildare Town Men's Shed and we meet every Tuesday at 10 O Clock for two hours. We do some woodwork and make benches and flower tubs. We used to do some gardening and work around the yard of the building and we in the past had different people in giving talks to us, and things from photography to bee-keeping all in all it is very enjoyable being involved in the Men's Shed.



Joe G

## Peter Pan

Review of Peter Pan panto in the Red Cow Inn on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2022.

It was the story of Peter Pan played in the Red Cow Inn. It was the basic story of Peter Pan. Now the audience was made part of it like when we saw Captain Hook we had to stand up and salute him and shout loudly, "Eye, Eye captain". Some of the pirates would come down and dance at the side of the audience. Now also to note most of the male roles were played by women. In this version of Peter Pan, Captain Hook had a son. Also, to note Captain Hook was killed in the panto and his son took over from him, his name was Harry Hook. If I was asked to mark the performance, I would mark it 20 out of 10 it was that good.

*James P*



## *Happy New Year 2023*

“ I close my eyes to old ends. And open my heart to new beginnings.”

“ The New Year stands before us like a chapter in a book, waiting to be written. “

Make New Year’s resolutions.

Write them down.

Visualise your success

Take action. Be determined.

Do not give up when faced with obstacles.

Make perseverance your word for the year

“And now we welcome the new year. Full of things that have never been.”

Sheena H

### A Winter's Day

The Winter leaves so gold  
It's a beauty to behold  
Crisp and crunchy on your feet  
And very cold

Animals hibernate  
As children wrap up warm  
Hats scarves and gloves  
Hot chocolate to be drunk

Rain falls from the sky  
Turning snow to ice  
Slipping and sliding all over the place  
Everyone feeling the cold on their face

So that's a Winter's story told  
Having fun in the cold  
Children being bold  
Fun for all the family young and old

Sinead H



### Trip to Holland

Nearly in the end of 2022. I spent 10 days in Holland. I flew with Ryan Air. It was my father's 85<sup>th</sup> birthday and we celebrated it in a restaurant mingling with lots of relatives. I also had a sister's day. We spent it looking for grave ornaments as my mother passed away last September.

I also visited a museum and spent my other days with my good friend.

Glad to be home though. Have a good 2023 and stay safe.

Tyca R



## ***About Platinum Clubhouse***

*Clubhouse is a member run and centred service, where every individual has something valuable to contribute to the clubhouse and to society at large, irrespective of their diagnosis or level of function.*

We offer members a supportive environment in which they can work alongside staff in planning and operating the Clubhouse.

Members participate in mutually planned vocational, educational and social activities.



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*The Clubhouse guarantees four main rights:*

- ***Right to a place to come***
- ***Right to meaningful work***
- ***Right to meaningful relationships***
- ***Right to a place to return***

