



May Day Traditions

May Day traditions are mostly associated with luck and protection. The May bush is one such tradition. It is a hawthorn bush covered in ribbons, coloured Easter egg shells and cloth streamers. It was associated with the luck of a house or a community. May Flowers were picked on the evening before May Day and this was often done by children who went garlanding for flowers. These were sometimes assembled together to make posies or crowns. Yellow flowers, such as primroses, buttercups and marigolds were especially popular, possibly as they reflected the sun and summer.



The custom of erecting a May bush still survives as an individual household tradition, particularly in the Midlands.

Sinead H

Inside this Issue:

- 1 May Day Traditions/ Birthdays
- 2 Calendar/May
- 3 Trip to Galway
- 4 Neil Diamond (part 2)
- 5 Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting/ Remembrance Ceremony
6. Trip to Galway/Platinum Clubhouses visit to Tallaght training centre
7. Number Search/ Answers to Quiz in April edition.
- 8 Contact Details

May Birthdays

Stephen C
Tyca R
John McGlynn
Helen C
Martina D
Seamus D
Darren L
Michael P



May 2023

<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>
1 Bank Holiday Monday Clubhouse Closed	2 House meeting 1.45 pm	3 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment Pool Social	4 Publications 2 pm	5 Adult Learning Festival 10am
8 Policy Meeting 12 noon	9 House meeting 1.45 pm Trip to Tallaght Training centre	10 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	11 Publications 2 pm	12 Adult Learning Festival 10am
15 Policy Meeting 12 noon	16 House meeting 1.45 pm Basic Digital Skills	17 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	18 Publications 2 pm	19 Adult Learning Festival 10am
22 Policy Meeting 12 noon	23 House Meeting 1.45 pm	24 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment	25 Publications 2 pm	26 Adult Learning Festival 10am
29 Policy Meeting 12 noon	30 House Meeting 1.45 pm	31 Standards Meeting 12 noon Education & Community Employment		

May

Though April showers may come your way, they bring forth the flowers that bloom in May, so the saying goes and there was enough rain in March and April this year to bring forth the flowers. May is normally a nice month when the first of the summer flowers are in bloom. If the weather is kind and warm the May flower is in bloom and people are starting to get out in the fine weather and enjoying the start of Summer. The fields are alive with young animals born in Spring. The vegetables are starting to grow and people are looking forward to the Summer Holidays etc., All in all May is one of the nicest months of the year.

Joe G



Trip to Galway

Friday morning, I took a train to Galway city. I arrive at Galway station at 12 noon. I did the city walk to the docks around the city and then up the shop street, to Eyre Square. Checked into a hostel at 3pm. Saturday after breakfast, I went on another walk, an audio tour using headphones on my phone, to learn the history of the city and its buildings. Sunday, I got up early to do some street photography with my phone. At lunchtime I went to McDonald's restaurant. That evening I signed up for a pub tour from the hostel, had Guinness 0.0 non-alcoholic lager and met lots of other visitors to Galway.

Michael B

Art Class on Friday mornings

I with 7 other members joined a well-being class in Platinum. We drew up a class agreement to follow. Everyone completed the registration forms and Joanie told the group what we will be doing. We've decided to do a journal which will take about 20 weeks to complete. We also experimented with paints and we looked at what water colouring is like. We used white paper to paint the crafts.

I, me, myself Debbie G acknowledges that this is the 1st class I have attended and enjoyed in a very long time.

Thanks, Joanie, for a great class - you've inspired me to become an artist doing things in my own way because it's always my way.

I look forward to doing art again on a Friday morning

Debbie G





Neil Diamond (part two)



In 1973, he had signed with Columbia Records for a contract of a million dollar advance per album. Then he released the soundtrack to “Jonathan Livingston Seagull”. The film was a flop, but the soundtrack was a success. In 1976, he returned to live shows with a tour of Australia, where he was very popular.

In 1976, he put a show on at the Greek Theatre, called “Love at the Greek”, which was released as an album. In 1976, he released another album “Beautiful Noise”. Then in 1976, the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas, paid Neil \$650,000 (about \$3 million in 2021) to open its new theatre, and a “who’s who” of Hollywood were at the opening night, including Elizabeth Taylor and Chevy Chase.

In 1977, he recorded a duet with Barbra Streisand “You Don’t Bring Me Flowers”. It hit number 1 in 1978. In 1979, Neil collapsed on stage in San Francisco with a tumour on his spine, needing a 12-hour operation. He had to endure a long rehabilitation before starting work on the film “The Jazz Singer”.

His record sales in the 1980s and the 1990s were not as successful as they were in the 1960s and 1970s. However, his concerts continued to be very popular. During the 1990s Neil covered many classic songs from the movies and from famous songwriters. In 1992 he performed for President Gorge Bush’s final Christmas in a Washington NBC special. Neil became more popular again during the 1990s. “Sweet Caroline” became a popular song at sporting events both in America and abroad

In 2007 he was inducted into the Long Island Music Hall of Fame.

In 2010, he released the album “Dreams” on which he sang 14 of his favourite songs by artists of the rock era. The album included a new recording of “I’m a Believer”. In 2011 he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in New York City. The same year, he received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kennedy Centre. Then, in 2012, he received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Also, in 2012 in the UK, he topped the bill at the centenary edition of the Royal Variety Performance.

In 2014, he performed a concert at his alma mater, Erasmus High School, in Brooklyn. At the same time, he announced the “Melody Road World Tour” for 2015. In 2017, he released “Neil Diamond 50 – 50th Anniversary Collection”. The same year, he began his final concert tour – the “50 Year Anniversary World Tour”, which began in California. About his personal life: Neil has been married three times. He married his High School sweetheart Jane Posner in 1963. They had two daughters. They divorced in 1969. Also in 1969, he married Marcia Murphy, a production assistant. They had two sons. The marriage lasted twenty-five years.

In 2011, Neil, now 70, announced his engagement to the 41-year-old Katie McNeil. In 2012, the couple married in Los Angeles. Katie is a big animal lover and is campaigning for the proper treatment of animals. In her spare time, she enjoys nature and is an amateur photographer of wildlife. Katie is 49 years old and her net worth is over \$4 million.

Neil’s net worth in 2022 is \$300 million and he is 82 years old. In the October 4th 2021 edition of the British newspaper, “The Express” Neil says of his health “I’m in denial” as he is unable to accept his debilitating diagnosis.

To sum up: Neil Diamond is a superstar from a humble background who has packed more into his life than most people would in ten lifetimes. He will leave behind him a legacy of great songs as it was always songs and song writing that he was passionate about.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Wikipedia, The Express website, Biographypedia , and the Irish Mirror website as the sources for the material in this article.



Carrot Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting

Ingredients

For the Carrot Cake

150g Butter softened

150g Caster Sugar

250g grated Carrots

2 Eggs beaten

250g Odlums Cream Plain Flour

1tsp Goodalls Ground Cinnamon



Method

In a large bowl, beat the butter and sugar until pale and fluffy.

Crack the two eggs in a jug and whisk with a fork.

Slowly beat the eggs in a small amount at a time so the mix doesn't curdle.

Now fold in the flour, cinnamon, and baking powder through a sieve. Add the grated carrots, chopped almonds and fold through.

Add in a small amount of the milk to loosen the mixture, you may not need it all. Grease a 900g loaf tin or a 6inch round tin.

Bake for 40-50mins at 160^oc and remove to cool.

While baking the cake make the frosting by mixing in a large bowl and keep refrigerated.

Once the cake is cooled top with the frosting and enjoy.

Remembrance Ceremony

There was a Remembrance Ceremony held in Platinum Clubhouse on Thursday 13th April.

This was to remember our deceased members.

It was a lovely ceremony.



Picture by Kevin McEvoy

Linear Park on a Sunday Morning

A lovely sunny Sunday morning I started out at France's grave took a couple of photos, said good morning and then headed for the carpark at the riverside. There were five swans on the rapids only two youngsters. Four had left the river for pastures new, one of the adult swans was very aggressive posturing and chasing the others off as I walked into the Linear Park I could smell a fox, further on a pigeon came down on a sunken tree to drink from the fast-flowing river. Walking around the park there were several dogs playing chase on the expanse of grass and many dogs on leads walking at heel. Coming back to the path I sat on a bench and a pair of ducks came down to the water, then two pigeons settled in the bushes and a robin came over to watch me, he came within a foot of me very inquisitive. I photographed him as he strutted round me and several fish touched the surface of the slack water. Around the bend a heron stood in the shallows waiting and he plunged into the weed and came up with a fish in his beak, breakfast was caught.

He stepped into the deep water and shook the weed out of his beak, swallowed the fish and turned and went back to his fishing spot. I photographed him and moved on.

The wild flower section was in full bloom with crocus and daffodils blowing in the wind. A thrush was feeding amongst the flowers and made a nice shot for the camera. A lovely way to start the day. Then back to the car park and a hot chocolate to sit and watch the world go by.



Paul C

Number Search

8	5	4	2	3	5	7	2	3	4	7	8	1	4
1	0	2	4	5	8	0	7	6	8	7	3	9	1
6	7	2	9	3	8	9	4	3	0	1	7	6	2
8	6	5	7	2	1	7	5	6	1	3	8	3	5
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7	8	6	9	4	3	9	3	6	4	3	6	6	7
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9	2	7	5	0	1	3	2	7	6	9	1	0	5

015973, 056810, 088374, 103790, 143791, 193786, 217586, 265973, 295783, 326497, 369824, 394213, 408641, 458307, 491870, 501967, 562910, 592547, 617942, 641973, 684201, 734186, 765971, 781405, 819359, 865010, 895214, 927501, 962317, 984189

Answers to April edition Quiz

1.Four, 2.Central Perk, 3.Once, 4. A Nautical Mile, 5. 1970, 6. Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton, 7.Silverstone, 8. Berlin, 9. Christopher Eccleston, 10. Nelson Mandela House, 11. Red, 12.Naples, 13. Edinburgh, 14. 1000’c. 15. Amazon, 16. London Heathrow, 17.Prince William, 18. Mount Everest, 19.Red, 20. Olaf, 21. Go round and round, 22. a giraffe, 23.Ron Weasley and Hermione Granger, 24. Woody, 25. Eight, 26. 11players, 27. Three.

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***

