

# Sandymount Park Press

Issue 4 2019-2020

## Editor's Note...

In this issue we bring you a wide range of articles, poetry and artwork completed during this time of quarantine. It has been hard adjusting to this new way of working but we are extremely proud of this issue and we hope you enjoy it!

~ Ava Gill (editor) Féa Maher (deputy editor) Greta Whipple (copy editor)

## Ideas to keep you busy during Covid-19...



Mabel Healy

A lot of people are finding it hard to be motivated or find something to do especially now that the summer holidays are approaching, so here is a list of things to do if you're bored or want to have some fun!

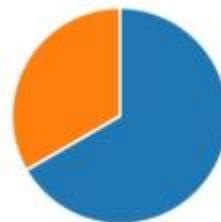
- Try learn or play an instrument (I heard that playing an instrument relieves stress).
  - Read all the really long books you've avoided until now.
  - Learn a new language (you can use YouTube for this but there's also a few apps such as Duolingo, Memrise, Babbel, etc.)
  - Try writing a letter to family or friends.
  - Go through all your clothing and sort it all out, make a pile of things to give away.
  - Try to upcycle some clothes and make new ones!
  - Write a short story.
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- Clear out the living room and camp in doors with all blankets, popcorn and scary movies.
  - Write a book with your family and each write a chapter about your biggest adventure.
  - Dye your hair.
  - Try make one of those rainbow cakes you see that look so easy...they are not.
  - Rearrange all your furniture.
  - Try build a replica of your house with Lego.
  - Try to learn to write with your non-dominant hand.
- 
- Try and go a full 24 hours with just moving in slow motion.
  - Get loads of sleep...
  - Drink loads of water.
  - Learn how to do double Dutch skipping.
  - Compliment everybody you see for 24 hours
  - Learn origami.
  - Make your own recipe.

- Throw water balloons down from the highest place you can go.
- Do the ice bucket challenge.
- Try food you have never had before.
- Have a bake off where two or more people make dishes and judge which one is better.
  - Learn every Hamilton song off by heart.
  - Make a stop motion film.
  - Try to paint a detailed picture on your nails.
- Learn how to knit.
- Cover a bagel in cream cheese and sprinkles and make it look like a doughnut...
- Combine all the fruit in your house and make a smoothie.
- Re-write the words of a song.
- Draw your friend.
- Try go 24 hours only eating vegetables.

## How has our productivity been affected by lockdown?

4. If in September we were to return to school, would you say that you made good use of the time over lockdown?

[More Details](#)



Arlo Daly

During this lockdown, we have all spent the time on our hands in various ways. Although the separation from our friends and classmates has been tough, there are many things that we can do or learn from this time.

I hope that we have all used our free time to learn new skills or practice old ones, from the survey I sent I see that the range of activities that people have been doing is very wide. Popular answers were schoolwork, studying and exercise/sport even if many people are watching a bit more Netflix or spending more time playing video games. A few people said that they spent the majority of their time

between screens and school. I wouldn't blame those who spent a lot of time on the Xbox or Playstation because more than two months inside with the sun beaming outside can be a little teasing!

We have all been spending more time with our families through different activities such as exercise, board games and talking, even if it is not the most of the time, hopefully their company will hold off the pain of not seeing our friends until the restrictions ease a little more.

Overall, I think that the students of Sandymount Park have been using this free time well, and they agree with me.

It's great to see that our classmates have been doing a good job with schoolwork, family time and exercise. For those who feel they could do a little bit more over lockdown, is there a book that you've been meaning to read? Perhaps there's an musical instrument in the house which isn't used, could you try to pick up some new skills along the way? But no matter what you've been doing, if it isn't breaking HSE guidelines well done. Good work Sandymount Park!

## Opinion- "Ireland Is Become More Diverse Every Day"



Stephen O'Connell & Ava Gill

I both disagree and agree with this statement, Ireland has in recent times had a large amount of people who are emigrating here but most of those people are from the same three or four areas. The world population review shows that in Dublin in 2011, 2.9% of the population was Polish, 2.9% were Asian, 1.7% were from the UK and 1.6% were from Africa. Every other country had a population less than 1%. This shows that there is diversity in our capital city as there is a high population of people from other countries but they are only from a handful of areas. The central Statistics Office shows that in Cork there

is also a similar demographic with 16,276 people identifying as Polish, 12,636 from the UK and 2,717 from Lithuania. In Galway the statistics are also very similar. These are the three biggest cities in Ireland and they all have the highest population of people who have moved here from the same few countries.

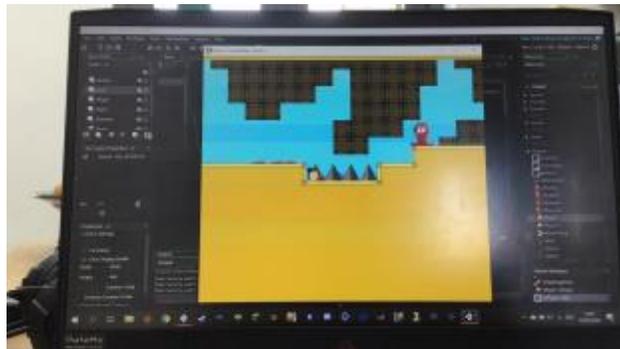
I believe there is a misconception about how diverse Ireland is due to the lack of diversity in the past. In the 70s and 80s not many people were emigrating to Ireland, in fact it was quite the opposite with many people from Ireland leaving due to a lack of work and the recession. Ireland is much more diverse when compared to that period of time but that is not hard. Yes, more people are emigrating here but we are no where near as diverse as places like the UK or the US. Though they do have much larger populations than ours, the percentage of people living there who were not born there is much higher than ours.

Another part of diversity is the acceptance and inclusion of other nationalities, it is not enough just to have people from outside Ireland. Everyone in Ireland needs to feel accepted and included in order for Ireland to be truly diverse and so far this is not the case the 2016 census showed 21.9% gave Race/Skin colour/Ethnic group/Nationality as a reason for discrimination, so although diversity is improving discrimination is not.

In order for Ireland to be properly diverse, discrimination needs to stop everywhere in Ireland!

## My Video Game

Ed Nicell



<https://sway.office.com/OhwRmDaT00Wc3xzX#content=FwjyqgQYL0DjJV>

## Climate Change & Covid-19



Gwen Corrigan

The entire world is experiencing change in their daily routine due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and the need to reduce or stop travel for the sake of global health. From the washing of hands, tutorials on how to make your own hand sanitizer to working from home and the endless lines for shops...

Companies have now closed their doors, allowing their employees to work from home. We are decreasing our carbon emissions by working from home, not having to make the daily commute to

work/school is saving tons of carbon dioxide. “Working from home has the potential to reduce over 300 MILLION tonnes of carbon emissions per year” said the Climate Group.

In lockdown, areas such as China and Italy have seen the air quality improving tremendously. Venice’s Grand Canal is now fully visible, previously the bottom of the canal had not been visible in years due to the pollution of boats. In China the carbon emissions have dropped by 25% between the 3rd of February and the 1st of March. Times Square, Central Park and Pen Station are all empty and New York’s Carbon Monoxide count is down by 50%! Animals have been seen roaming around the big cities of the world were they would have never been seen before.

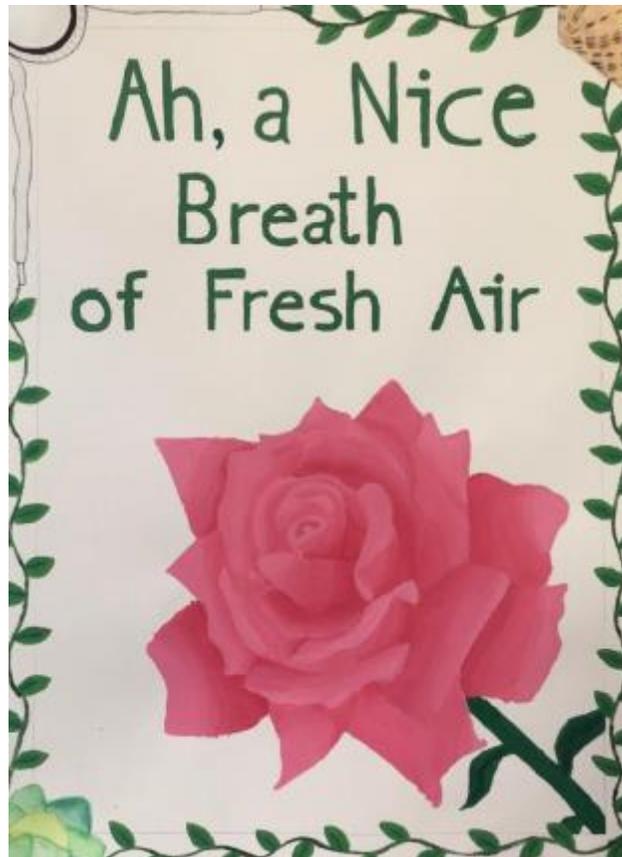
Sadly it is not all silver linings. Medical waste has quadrupled to 200 tons per day due to the constant use of PPE by our healthcare workers, natural ecosystems and protected species are at risk because the workers who are normally there to protect themselves required to stay at home the coronavirus crisis. Their absence has resulted in a rise of illegal deforestation, hunting and fishing, people have lost their jobs and now have to rely on the government to pay their income and many families have lost loved ones during this time.

But as always it is important to look on the bright side!

### Creativity Corner...



1 - Sofia Shields



2 - Sarah Bossier

*Stronger Together.*

~ Ava Gill

She's standing strong,

fists clenched silently,

She lifts her head up, up, up

and away.

Away from the battle

The terror that picks our lives apart,

The terror that sparks the tears,

That trickle down.

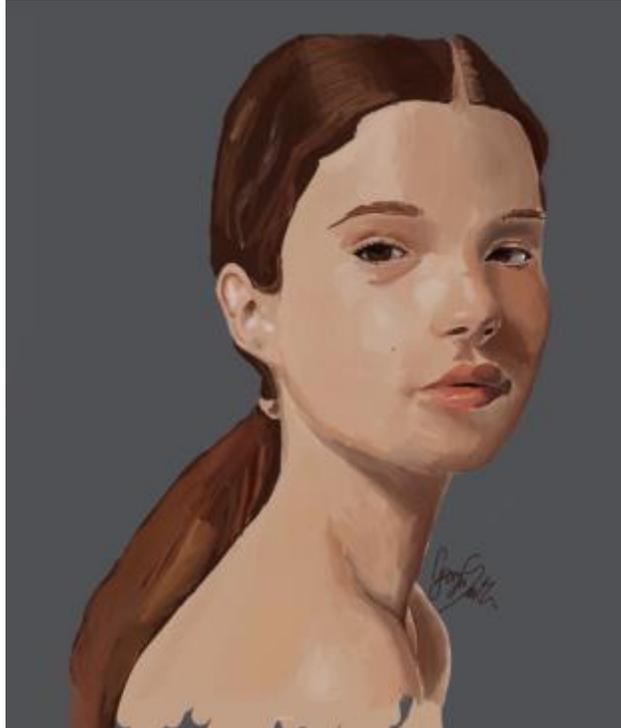
Caught as she brushes them swiftly away.

My hand reaches up  
Looking for the comfort  
The anchor for the sinking ship that is my future.  
She sees me and whispers apologies,  
her voice cracking as the tears threaten to force their way through.

But that is not what I see  
I see her standing strong,  
The defiant smile that says,  
You can't hurt us.  
The eyes that say,  
We won't lose hope.  
The heart that says,  
I love you.

We catch hands,  
And turn to face the fear,  
That can't hurt us.

Because we are standing strong.  
Stronger together.  
And stronger forever.



3 - Georgia Smith



4 - Georgia Smith



5 - Georgia Smith