

NEWSLETTER NO. 330 Volume 10

Aibreán (April) 2004

April: Possibly named for Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love or from the Latin verb meaning 'to open' or the Greek word meaning 'the opening'. Greeks called the season of Spring 'the opening'

Flowers: Sweetpea & Daisy

April hath put a spirit of youth in everything

William Shakespeare

Happy Easter to all our readers

Cásc Shona díbh go léitheóirí

***DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
CELEBRATING THIRTY YEARS OF PUBLICATION - APRIL 2004***

The 30th Annual General Meeting of the Dalkey Community Council was held on Monday, 1 March in Our Lady's Hall.

The Chairman's Statement, Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were presented and adopted by the meeting. Chairman's Statement published inside - Ed.

These and the reports of the sub-committees Newsletter, Sports, Functions, Neighbourhood Watch and Planning & Environment will all be published in future editions of the Newsletters.

The meeting was also given an update by the Tidy Towns Committee.

All reports were adopted by the meeting. Following the presentation and adoption of all reports the floor was opened up to Any Other Business.

NUMBER 8 BUS:

A resident inquired about the lack of transport, especially at weekends, and wondered could the Number 8 Bus be returned. Despite all the efforts of the Community Council in writing to two successive Transport Ministers as well as Dublin Bus with the weight of the huge response received to the petition behind the Council, it is no nearer to making any progress in the matter. It was suggested to the meeting that as the local elections are due to take place in June that the residents of Dalkey should lobby the candidates for a suitable and satisfactory service.

TRAFFIC:

The wish for a pedestrian crossing in Castle Street and the difficulties with speeding, congestion and parking were all raised. The Community Council is continuing to lobby Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council to find suitable and appropriate solutions to the congestion etc. in the town. However it was also pointed out that we, the residents, are also at fault as more often than not we are the ones speeding etc..

THE FLAGS:

A resident asked about the development taking place at the top of The Flags. The Community Council was informed that the closure of The Flags by gates is a temporary measure and that the trees will be replaced by the Parks Department of the County Council in due course.

As there was no further business the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and declared the 30th AGM closed

The March meeting of the Dalkey Community Council was held following the AGM. The Chairman welcomed three new representatives to the Community Council - Ms Rosaleen Callaghan representing the Ladies Club, Ms Mary Rigney representing Dalkey Players and Ms Meriel Kilroy who is representing St. Patrick's Dramatic Society.

As this was an election year for the Community Council the new Executive Committee was also announced. In addition, as Mr. Richard Mooney's tenure as Chairman had come to an end a new Chairman had to be elected. Doctor Susan McDonnell is the new Chairman of the Dalkey Community Council for the coming two years.

As the AGM had only been held reports from the various sub-committees were not necessary. However it was mentioned that a new 'pay by weight' for household waste was being introduced in January 2005 by Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. It is due to be piloted from April 2004 in Dalkey, Ballybrack, Denasgrange, Taney and Stillorgan with approximately 10% of households taking part.

The meeting was asked had any area in Dalkey yet been asked to take part in the pilot. There being no further business and the hour quite late the meeting was deemed closed.

• EASTER •

Easter is believed to have taken its English name from the Teutonic festival celebrating

the return of spring each year which was called Eostur.

Easter celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and Easter Sunday falls between 22 March and 25 April. It falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following March 21, the vernal equinox (the time in spring when day and night are of equal length).

The date of Easter Sunday was established by the church council of Nicaea in 325AD. The egg is a symbol of Easter as it signifies renewed life since ancient times. Some people decorate eggs - the sun symbolises good fortune, the rooster fulfilment of wishes, the deer good health and flowers symbolise love and charity.

And so what was happening in April 1974

2nd April: French President Georges Pompidou died.

3rd April: "The Sting" won seven Oscars and Glenda Jackson was best actress in "A Touch of Class".

10th April: Golda Meir resigned as Israeli Prime Minister over differences with her Labour Party colleagues and Yitzhak Rabin became the new party leader on 22 April.

14th April: Andrei Sakharov in Moscow calls on Soviet leadership to renounce Marxism.

15th April: Patty Hearst, carrying a gun, took part in a bank raid with her kidnappers. This surprise appearance was captured by the bank's video cameras and she was later convicted for the crime.

26th April: Armed gang stole paintings worth over €10 million from Russborough House.

At that time too the cost of a dozen eggs cost 57 cents (45p), best quality tea was 14 cents (11p), 2lb bag of sugar was 14 cents (11p), sliced white bread 18 cents (14p), per pound - sirloin steak 95 cents (75p), rib steak 60 cents (47p), best back rashers 76 cents (61p), sausages 37 cents (29p), leg of lamb for the Easter table 67 cents (53p), 3½lb potatoes 11 cents (9p), cheese 44 cents (35p) and lb of butter 38 cents (30p).

CLEAN-UP KILLINEY BEACH

Killiney Beach Awareness Group are holding a clean-up on the beach on Saturday 3rd April from 10.30am to 12.30pm in conjunction with An Taisce National Spring Clean Up. Further information from Joan O'Regan. Phone: 2851719

NEWSLETTER REPORT - AGM 2004

The Dalkey Community Council's December 2003/January 2004 Newsletter brings the total number of Newsletters published by the Council to 327 and sees Volume 10 complete and the commencement of Volume 11. This coming year we celebrate 30 years of publication and these past years have seen many changes not least in Dalkey but the Newsletter which has gone from strength to strength comprising originally of one page to

editions that run each month to five and quite regularly six pages with even the odd seven pager thrown in there for fun!

It is through the dedication of elected Community Council members, each and every one a volunteer, who helps that same Community Council continually strive towards its objectives. The monthly Newsletter is the most known activity of the Community Council, other activities being as the likes of the Art Exhibition and Gardening Competition. However it is the Newsletter that reaches each and every household in Dalkey, some 3,000 homes, each and every month. An outstanding achievement for any organisation but in the Dalkey Community Council's case even more outstanding when it is taken into consideration just what goes into producing that monthly Newsletter.

From the editing to the ads to the manual collation to the delivery it is a marvellous piece of volunteer engineering. To you the reader could I ask you to spare a thought for your road representative who has delivered your Newsletter over the past year in varying degrees of weather but still persists in the quest to bring as much of the local news as possible to your door. The delivery of issue number 327 means that almost one million Newsletters have been delivered in Dalkey since April 1974 - what other publication can lay such a claim. In fact we believe that Dalkey's Newsletter is the longest running of its kind in Ireland, unless you can tell me otherwise.

However through the Dalkey Home Page, courtesy of Cyber House, our Newsletter has a far greater readership than we could ever imagine and one we just could not quantify. This AGM affords me the most appropriate and suitable time to take the opportunity to thank all contributors during the past year to the Newsletter, as well as our advertisers. Without all these contributions there would be no Newsletter. I hope each and every one of you enjoys reading the Newsletter and perhaps you might like to contribute an article or two at some stage. Please remember that this town's Newsletter is a living record of the history of Dalkey for generations to come.

With this edition of the Dalkey Community Council Newsletter we have now reached 30 years of publication and it is right and fitting that all contributors for so many years are acknowledged for helping us reach this milestone. In particular it is appropriate that the Editors of this Newsletter down through the years should be congratulated and acknowledged for all their hard work; to Dick Blake, Jeremy Chapman, Charles Aliaga Kelly, the late John Rowlands and the late Deirdre Devine. If I have omitted anyone, my sincere apologies but noethless the thank you is as sincere for your wonderful contribution to what is a record of our likfe in Dalkey since 1974

COOKS KITCHEN

Lamb Roast with Garlic:

Leg of lamb, tablespoon olive oil, 2 heads garlic broken in cloves, 2 large sprigs rosemary or thyme, 2 slices of lemon or lime, a little salt.

Heat the oil in a heavy casserole, large enough to take the lamb with a tight fitting lid. Brown the lamb. Add all the unpeeled garlic cloves, the herbs, lemon or lime and seasoning. Cover the casserole tightly with tin foil and then the lid and place in the pre-set oven for approximately two hours, gas 4, 180°C, 350°. When the lamb is cooked wrap

in foil to rest before serving. Boil up the juices in the casserole.

Aubergine & Pepper Parcels:

3 Peppers - quartered, large aubergine, olive oil and salt.

Place the pepper quarters under a hot grill until the skin turns black. Remove and cover with a clean tea towel. Thinly slice the aubergine, brush the slices with olive oil and fry, if possible, on a black edged pan to get a lined effect. Turn the slices. Set the cooked slices aside. Peel the peppers and slice into finger-size strips wrapping 3-4 strips of pepper in each slice of aubergine. Lay the parcels on a large flat dish. Brush with a little olive oil and season.

Courtesy An Bord Bia

Chocolate Nest Cake:

Ingredients:

6oz margarine, 6oz caster sugar, 3 beaten eggs, 6oz self-raising flour, grated rind and juice of 1 lemon, 2oz chocolate. Decoration: 4oz butter, 8oz icing sugar (sifted), 4oz chocolate, 3 tablespoons apricot jam, Flake Bars, Mini-Eggs.

Method:

Preheat oven to 375 °f, 190°c, gas mark 5.

Put margarine, caster sugar, eggs and self-raising flour in a bowl. Combine ingredients, then beat well until mixture is light in colour and texture. Stir in orange rind and half of the juice. Stir melted chocolate through cake mixture. Bake cake in preheated oven for 30 minutes until spongy to touch. Turn on to a wire tray and allow to cool.

Beat butter until soft, then gradually beat in icing sugar and remaining orange juice. Melt the 4oz chocolate and beat into buttercream to make a smooth mixture. Cut cake in half. Spread both halves with jam and sandwich. Place cake on a plate and, using a small palette knife, spread chocolate buttercream over surface, leaving it rough in appearance. Arrange flake bars to give a nest appearance and fill the centre with the Mini-Eggs.

ROBERT BROWNING

***The year's at the spring
And day's at the morn;
Morning's at seven;
The hill-side's dew-pearled;
The lark's on the wing;
The snail's on the thorn:
God's in his heaven,
All's right with the world!***

Mr. Carter retired from "headmastering" in 1989 and the current Headmaster, Mr. C. R. Collings was appointed. This maintained a family link with the school dating back to the 1930's, since his father-in-law, E. M. Booth and his late brothers-in-law, Roger and Philip Booth were all Old Cepians. Castle Park obviously has tremendous appeal to those who have been at the helm since in its 100 year history thus far, there have only been four Headmasters. The '90's saw the introduction of a Montessori junior school for 3-6 year olds and the continued expansion of the Preparatory School to its current enrolment. Today, Castle Park is an inter-denominational school for girls and boys. It is no longer a boarding school and all 258 children attend as day pupils, although day boarding is still an option whereby children can stay as late as 7pm to accommodate working parents and it continues to accommodate children from all parts of the world, although in very differing circumstances as people increasingly travel the world with their chosen professions.

Castle Park today is a pleasant mix of the old and the new. The school obviously keeps up to date with modern teaching methods and staff have attended the curriculum training days to ensure that the new primary school curriculum can be implemented appropriately. The school continues to teach science in its specialist laboratory and to teach modern languages (French and Spanish). However, it maintains many of the old traditions established by W. P. Toone. The school maintains its House system which used to require much complicated explanation but since the Harry Potter books and films were released this has not been necessary! There are many inter-House competitions and the Houses compete for House points and for trophies some of which were donated as far back as 1909. The school's motto, *Mens Sana in Corpore Sano*, a healthy mind in a healthy body, is still vigorously pursued and W. P. T's initial vision for the school, where children not only achieved high academic standards but were also encouraged to participate in a range of healthy activities and were also encouraged to be good citizens, is still very much part of the school's ethos 100 years later.

The school has continued to develop its links with the local community and its choirs sing each year at Our Lady's Manor. We receive regular visits from the Church of Ireland Rector, Dean Ben Neill and from Father Murphy from the Church of the Assumption. As mentioned before the Centenary year will be launched on 15 March and there will be other activities throughout the year. These include an Old Cepians Day in May, a Centenary Ball in June and a thanksgiving service in the Autumn. There will be on-going projects and activities for the children during the school year. We anticipate receiving visitors from all over the world at some stage during the year and many of our past pupils have expressed an interest in attending some of the events. The current Board of Directors is also looking to use the Centenary as a spring board to launching a Development Plan to take the school into its second century. Thus, it is an interesting time, one of fond reflection as we look to our past and recall with pride the achievements of the school and its past pupils, and one of excitement as we look to the future and the challenges that lie ahead to lay the foundations for the next one hundred years.

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT TO AGM FOR 2004

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you all here tonight to the 30th Annual General Meeting of Dalkey Community Council. The year 2003 has been another very busy one for your Executive. I shall highlight just a few of the things we did on behalf of you, the residents of Dalkey, and you will hear fuller details of these in each of the following Annual Reports. During the year we again wrote many letters mostly to the County Council on such items as dog fouling, bad footpaths and roads, and also on abandoned cars and vans of which there were several.

During the year we again undertook a number of social events. We did tree planting, with the help of the County Council. In the Summer we had our Garden competition which again was an outstanding success. Also in the Summer we had our Annual Outing which was very successful and most enjoyable. In the Autumn we then had our annual presentations for the Garden Competition and we again used the occasion to include presentations for the Community Council cup, our Sports presentation of the McCabe Cup made each year by Mrs. McCabe in honour of her late husband Paddy. Late Autumn saw the holding of our Annual Art Exhibition which again exceeded all expectations. Our final social event was, of course, the lighting of the Christmas Tree which this year was held at the Church car park and was an outstanding success. At this point it is appropriate to thank a number of people with whom we have had contact during the year, viz., Margaret Dunne, Dalkey Heritage Centre and Dalkey Players for providing the personnel for the Christmas Crib. Tom Byrne and John Devine of the Parks Department, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council for their help during the year especially during Tree Planting week and with the Christmas Tree. Garda Arthur O'Neill and the other Gardai at Dalkey station for their help and advice during the year. Santa's elves, Colleen and Karen Hogan for their usual dedication to duty at the Christmas festivities. Dalkey Tidy Towns and Dalkey Business Association for their continued co-operation during the year. All those people who work in the background to help us during the year.

In conclusion and as this is my final year as Chairperson, I wish to especially thank Ann Perry, our Secretary, for her diligent recording of the Minutes etc. each month. Helena Feely, our Treasurer and Advertising Manager for her very efficient handling of our finances and advertising. Colleen Hogan for her efficiency in compiling the Newsletter each month. Finally, the Chairpersons of the various sub-committees from whom you will now hear. I also wish to thank ALL members of the executive with whom I served and ALL members of the Council for the help and courtesy extended to me during my term of office. I look forward to working with the new Executive and wish it well.

Richard Mooney

BOOKBRIEF

History Ireland - Spring 2004

As always, there is an excellent selection of articles in this, the latest issue of History Ireland magazine with excellent articles covering such tropics as '17th century West

Offaly - accommodating the new realities'. 'King Billy - a military assessment', 'Devilish devices or farmyard friends? - The Free State coinage debate', 'There's no such thing as a bad boy - Fr. Flanagan's visit to Ireland, 1946' plus the usual features of 'Events', 'Shorts', 'Letters', 'The Interview Spot' and a look at 'Counties in Time: documents and commentaries from the National Archives'.

J Scannell

LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURES

Tuesday, 13 April:

Ms Linzi Simpson will present her lecture 'Anglo-Norman settlement in east Wicklow and South County Dublin' at 8pm in the Foxrock Community Centre. Ms Moira Laffan will give a short talk on 'Countess Markievicz and South Dublin'. Admission €3. All welcome .

Wednesday, 14 April:

The AGM of the Ballybrack & Killiney History Society will take place at 7.30 pm in the Parochial Hall of SS Alphonsus and Columba Church, Ballybrack and will be followed at 8 pm by a talk by John Lennon on ' The History of the Post Office'. Admission €2. All welcome.

Wednesday, 21 April:

The AGM of the Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society will take place at 8 pm in the Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, and all members are requested to attend. There will also be a short talk from a guest speaker .

APRIL IN THE GARDEN

- Fertilise outdoor plants.
- Weed beds and borders
- Apply a mulch to help control weeds and improve the soil.
- Complete pruning, support climbers, loosen tree ties.
- The grass will need to be cut, apply a suitable fertiliser,
- Re-sow/re-turf damaged grass areas and edges.
- Watch out for pests and/or diseases.

Tip of the Month:

Although the increasing warmth of the sun and rising soil and air temperatures promote growth in the garden, plants can be badly damaged by one night of frost. Spring frost is a major threat when the sky is clear and the soil is dry. Cover with fleece any plants at risk before dark when there is a threat of frost, plants that do get frosted can be sprayed with a fine spray of water before the sun damages them. Slugs can cause a lot of damage too. However take time to enjoy the burst of colour and growth in your garden.

NATIONAL SPRING CLEAN

Now in its sixth year, National Spring Clean is Ireland's biggest anti-litter campaign. It encourages people from all walks of life to take pride in their local environment and to

take action against litter. The campaign runs throughout the whole month of April. Help combat the litter problem, register now and remember:

Litter - it's OUR Responsibility! - Bruscar - is orainn an curam!

Register by ringing 7077066 or www.antaisce.org/projects/nsc.html

A free Clean-Up Kit is provided to all volunteers who register through An Taisce. Courtesy of NSC

PAY BY WEIGHT

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council proposes introducing a Pay by Weight System for the collection and disposal of waste in January 2005. Last year the Council collected over 60,000 tonnes of waste and disposed of it in the landfill at Ballyogan. This new system is to encourage a reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill. By introducing this scheme the County Council hopes to reward those householders who work towards reducing the amount of waste presented for collection e.g. recycling. Bins will be divided into three parts:

- An annual service charge for the provision of waste collection and disposal service to the customer.
- A charge per lift. A charge is made for each time the bin is collected.
- A charge per kilogram of waste collected.

Trials are commencing in April 2004 in Dalkey, Ballybrack, Deansgrange, Taney and Stillorgan covering about 10% of customers. These customers will be notified directly by the County Council. Taken from DLRCC Website www.dlrcoco.ie

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION FOR HOUSEHOLDERS

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council is organising free collections of Hazardous Waste items such as Paints, Strippers, Thinners, Batteries, Fluorescent Tubes, Insecticides, Old Medicines, Cleaning Agents, Detergents, Bleaches and Waste Oils. These hazardous wastes SHOULD NOT be presented with normal household waste for landfill.

A Cara Chemcar truck will be located at the West Pier council car park (Salthill/Monkstown) on Saturday, 6 March and on Saturday, 4 April at Our Lady's Girls' National School, Ballinteer Avenue between 9am and 1pm and 2pm to 5pm.

It is very difficult to predict the amount of hazardous waste being deposited so unfortunately once the Chemcar truck is full on the day no more items can be accepted. For further information please telephone 2054817, e-mail environ@dlrcoco.ie or check our website www.dlrcoco.ie.

FORTHCOMING (&PAST!) EVENTS

8pm Mon 29th

Monthly Community Council Meeting -	Mar
Rugby - Ireland v Scotland	Sat 27th Mar
<i>Eiffel Tower officially opens</i>	31st Mar 1889
April Community Council Meeting	Mon 29th Mar
<i>April Fool's day</i>	1st April
Clean up - Killiney Beach 10.30 to 12.30`	Sat 3rd April
First Day of Passover	6th April
<i>Dr William Cheddar discovered the art of cheese making</i>	1st April 1627
<i>Dr Martin Luther King assassinated in Memphis</i>	Tues 4 April 1968`
Easter Sunday	11th April
<i>American Civil War began</i>	12th April 1861
Lecture	8pm Tues 13th April
AGM Ballybrack & Killiney Historical Society	7.30 Wed 14th April
<i>Earthquake and resulting fires destroy San Francisco</i>	18th April 1906
<i>The Republic of Ireland was formally proclaimed</i>	18th April 1949
AGM Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society	8pm Wed 21st April
Earth Day	Thurs 22nd April
<i>The world's worst civil nuclear disaster - Chernobyl</i>	Mon 26th April 1986
Collating of May Newsletter	Fri 30th April
Bank Holiday	Mon 3rd May
May Community Council Meeting	Mon 10th May

Storytelling for children aged 3-6 years old takes place each Thursday between 3.30pm and 4pm in Dalkey Library.

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