



DALKEY - Deilginis ‘Thorn Island’ COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Irish Heritage Town

First Published April 1974

NEWSLETTER No 420 (Volume 18)

Meitheamh (June 2012)

June: *In honour of the Goddess Juno, patroness of women, marriage and the home.*

**A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay.
A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon.
A swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly.**



*Flower: Rose
Rosa ‘Constance Spry*

Guímid Lá Shona, shuairéach do gach Athair in Deilginis!

We wish a happy enjoyable Father’s Day to all the Dads in Dalkey on June 17th!



*Adam Kelly, who kayaked from Coliemore Harbour to Dalkey Island recently
to celebrate his 10th birthday.*

Adam is a Cub with the Dalkey (41st Dublin) Sea Scouts.

Your Area Representative is.....

Telephone: E-Mail:.....

❖ SUMMARY OF DCC ANNUAL PUBLIC MEETING - APRIL 30TH ❖

The 6th Dalkey Community Council Annual Public Meeting took place on Monday 30th April in Our Lady's Hall. The various committees presented their reports and please see the enclosed supplement.

DTT: Warning signs are badly needed at Bulloch /Ulverton Road to prevent heavy trucks getting caught on Harbour Road and having to manoeuvre at the school as they can't access Leslie Avenue. Parents who are waiting for their children should not litter the area by throwing cigarettes or paper out of their cars. The large blue signs on the Vico Road aroused negative comments and hopefully something can be done about them.

Planning: It was recognised that the application for the Sports Hall at Loreto while benefiting the school would also be a huge asset for the local community with groups such as the Dalkey Dashers availing of the facility. The problems with the traffic have to be resolved and the groups will work together for an acceptable resolution.

It was agreed that another public meeting would be arranged to keep the momentum of the issue of the proposed oilrig alive in people's minds.

As there was no further business the meeting ended.

❖ DISCOVER DALKEY'S LITERARY GEMS ❖

AT DALKEY CASTLE & HERITAGE CENTRE

Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre is continuing Discover **Dalkey's Literary Gems**, a series of Rehearsed Readings, Dramatisations and Short Plays on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 12.45. Writers still to be featured are George Bernard Shaw, James Joyce and Hugh Leonard. On Bloomsday Sat 16th June we will have the usual dramatisation of the Dalkey Schoolroom Scene from 'Ulysses' at 15.30. Week Four will have a compilation of many writers' work by playwright, Shay Linehan. The same show is presented each of the three days. The Shows will last no more than 50 mins and will finish on Saturday June 23rd.

George Bernard Shaw: 28th May, June 1st and June 2nd. There is part of a major Shaw convention with international academics in Dalkey Castle on **Friday June 1st**. A Rehearsed Reading of 'An Elderly Gentleman' by GB Shaw will be open to the general public that day at 11.30am as part of the convention. George Bernard Shaw wrote that the happiest moment of his life was when he heard he was going to live on Dalkey Hill. Michael James Ford from Bewleys Café Theatre will direct a Rehearsed Reading of the comedy 'Village Wooing' by GB Shaw on Monday 28th and Sat June 2nd. (No show on Thursday 31st on account of the Referendum). This classic short comedy tells of two vastly mismatched young people whose hilarious verbal jousting leads to the unlikely of romances.

On Yer Bike... with Dalkey's Writers: June 4th, June 7th and June 9th features a compilation from the work of many writers by playwright Shay Linehan. This is a unique take on famous local writers- James Joyce, Samuel Beckett, Hugh Leonard, Flann O'Brien, Maeve Binchy, John Millington Synge and Joseph O'Connor. The show has a Flann O'Brien like character who is very well versed in all the literary luminaries associated with Dublin and Dalkey. He conjures up characters to play various well known scenes which will enlighten and entertain the audience. This will be followed by a Guided Joycean Walk for those attending.

James Joyce: 11th, 14th & 16th: On **Bloomsday Sat 16th June** will have the usual dramatisation of the Dalkey Schoolroom Scene from Nestor episode 'Ulysses' at 15.30.

This will be followed by a Guided Joycean Walk for those attending. On the 11th and the 14th the Show will feature well-known humorous scenes from 'Ulysses'. The audience will see scenes set on Sandymount Strand, Barney Kiernan's Pub and the bedroom at 7 Eccles St for part of Molly Bloom's soliloquy at **12.45**.

Hugh Leonard: 18th, 21st and 23rd.

The season will finish with a newly discovered play by Hugh Leonard about the fit-ups (travelling theatre companies) in Ireland called 'Magicality'. We are delighted that award winning actor **Nick Dunning** will be part of the team bringing this play to life. In true Leonard fashion there is humour and pathos brought to a scenario that was all too prevalent in Ireland in the 40s and 50s when the fit-up touring companies travelled around Ireland putting 'wild ideas into the heads of the local youth'!

Times: Most shows start at 12.45 and end by 13.45. Note variations of date and time for GB Shaw (June 1st) and James Joyce on June 16th. **Admission** is €8 for each show. Tokens for a discount on set lunch prices in participating local restaurants can be provided at Dalkey Castle with your theatre ticket. Free Guided Literary Walk in Dalkey for participants will occur at 3.00 pm on the days of the show.

Booking at Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre, Tel 01 285 8366. Credit Card bookings can be made by telephone (Closed on Tuesdays). Email maeve@dalkeycastle.com or book at reception in Dalkey Castle.

Classes continue with:

Pilates: on Mondays in Heritage Centre: Contact Lizanne Barry 087 8572408

Zumba Fitness classes: continue in Dalkey Town Hall on Wednesdays. Contact Lukasz: 085 216 33 04; Email: info@zumbagalaxy.com

Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre is part funded by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co, Dept SP (Pobal) & FÁS



Actor Nick Dunning

DALKEY BOOK FESTIVAL

DALKEY, VARIOUS LOCATIONS

This is the third year of the Dalkey Book Festival and it's bigger and better than ever, with world-class authors, including Seamus Heaney, Maeve Binchy, Robert Fisk, Kevin Barry, Pauline McLynn, Derek Landy, Chris Judge and many more. Whatever you're interested in, comedy, politics, children's literature, writing workshops or just a bookish day out, the Dalkey Book Festival is the place to be this June.

Tickets go on sale **May 28th** but sign up for our newsletter and you can book early, from May 21st.

See dalkeybookfestival.org



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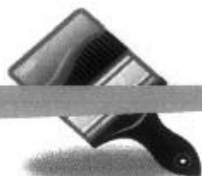
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MY GARDEN - MAY by PHILIPPA THOMAS



In all honesty, is not gardening all about pondering, pottering about, planning and planting Is it not too, all about sitting back occasionally and just looking, appreciating and imagining? Every year, I'm pretty sure that I think our little garden is at its very best in May but then, come June it seems to fall under its own very magical spell. It is the time now to plant out those tender crops of summer flowers that will lift our spirits and then likewise, our veg and herbs will fill our tummies and our freezers in the coming months - what food for thought! We have in this month of June, midsummer's long days and warm nights, actually, midsummer's day falls this very month - our longest day of the year and yet, it seems as though summer has just begun. Are not some of our treasured Dalkey plants telling us, 'we are here, please look at us, we are looking our Very Best for you'? So, this is a time to stand, stare and share our beauty, all around.

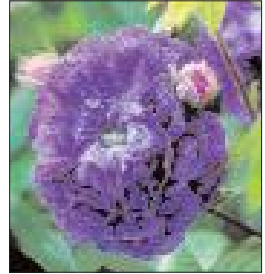
June, surely is a great month for ornamental plants. Borders that were not fully furnished last month are now flushed with growth.

Bedding plants and containers are growing rapidly and coming into flower, adding new dimensions of colours. Many other plants are still building towards their crescendo later in summer. This morning very early, I went straight from my bed, with a china mug of tea, special 'Precious', at my side, out into our pretty tiny back garden. It was a mystical morning here in our eastern sea-coastish garden. I seemed to watch the fog lifting as I noticed droplets of water, the size of tiny marbles perched delicately on our lady's mantle, 'alchemilla mollis' and our 'aquilegias', aka Granny's Bonnets. The bird song around seemed to be in such harmony, then silence. When you first grow your own 'anything', even your very own single seed, isn't it such a miracle. You wake up in the a.m., look and look again, in awe, it's just that special moment - the last time you looked, there was nothing there, nothing at all, then suddenly, out of nowhere, you see this rich tapestry of life - a whole new cycle of life in this little plant, seedling, weed, its colour, shape, form, texture. What promise, what hope. Every gardener has a favourite cuttings method but I swear by rooting in a tiny cylindrical glass tumbler on our kitchen windowsill. As soon as, my almost test tube like container shows signs of rooting, I place these tender roots in a pot, some of my friends add vermiculate to the compost, in this way, cuttings seem to be less prone to rot. Admittedly, taking cuttings is sometimes, something of a little obsession for me - the lure of a special plant is simply too great to resist.



Tomatoes must be the most popular of all home grown crops

Fuchsias, pelargoniums, petunias, mint, etc. all do well this way. I picked up some lovely little tomato seedlings at one of our gardening monthly charity tables, two weeks ago. I purchased yellow perfection (cherry), pink lady, beef v sweet and black cherry. It's so great to check them out briefly each morning and to witness their progress. Tomatoes must be the most popular of all home-grown crops. There can be few homes without a tomato plant in a pot or grow bag, carefully nurtured or casually neglected, in the hope of producing a bumper crop of tasty, sun-ripened fruits. Picking them ripe when they are ready to eat will have a profound effect on the taste and the only way to do that is to grow your own.



*Rosa Cardinal de Richelieu
Roses are fairly easy but
slow to root from cuttings.
The best time to take rose
cuttings is from mid-June.*

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MIGHT DO/MAYBE JUNE JOBS: -

1. Possibly a good idea to group your containers together in order to prompt you to water them, this way your special pots will protect each other from drying winds.
2. Please, please, please, do not be fooled by summer rain, your plants will more than likely still be gasping, so water them with a generous watering can of water as often as you can.
3. It's also a good idea to group together plants with similar water requirements. Best to water plants at their base as a lot of water can be wasted when poured over the tops of plants.
4. Succulents and many plants with silver leaves are normally drought tolerant.
5. That shady area that you wonder about constantly, can be an opportunity, not a problem. Woodland plants are possible, - essentially with all woodland plants, - the longer they are in leaf, the better they will flower next year.



Rocket Science!

It is impossible to get a salad anywhere now without its complement of rocket. It is so tasty! slightly spicy. So, so easy to grow. Sow a few seeds in any bit of good soil and you will have leaves within a few weeks.

ENJOY YOUR GARDEN!

Philippa



Floating Flowers

Floating individual blossoms in a shallow bowl of water is a classic way to display their beauty. Perhaps commandeer a suitable bird bath in the garden – Clematis works really well. Flat flowers are lightweight and float beautifully

❖ Dalkey Community Council Ltd. 32nd Annual Garden Competition ❖

This competition is open to everyone in the Community Council area. There are several prizes including four Perpetual Cups. In addition to nomination for the "Surprise" Garden section there are the following categories:

- > **Best Overall Garden**
- > **Best Front Garden**
- > **Best Display** – window boxes, hanging baskets, flower troughs and pots
- > **Best Communal** - Garden/Open Space
- > **Environmental Award** (Presented by Dalkey Tidy Towns)

Entries to be submitted not later than Thursday, 21st June, 2012. Judging will take place on Tuesday 26th June. Presentation of the prizes will take place in the Autumn.

If first place was achieved in any category in 2011, entry will not be eligible in that category in this year's competition.



DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL LTD. GARDEN COMPETITION ENTRY FORM

I / we wish to enter for (please tick ✓)

- ☐ Overall Garden
- ☐ Front Garden

- ☐ Display - window boxes, hanging baskets etc.
- ☐ Communal Garden / Open Space

Name(s):

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GARDEN EVENTS – MAY 2012



BOTANIC GARDENS, GLASNEVIN

Sunday 10th June 2:30pm. Meet at the Visitor Centre. Guided Walk - **Plant Adaptations** – Glynn Anderson. Join guide Glynn Anderson on a walk and talk in the National Botanic Gardens about how plants adapt to their environment. See native, jungle and desert plant leaves, amongst others and learn the inventive ways in which they have adapted to live, grow and reproduce in difficult conditions in their environment. Learn how plants adapt to wind, rain, drought, cold, heat, fire, shade, pollinators and predators, to name but a few.

Saturday 16th June 11.00am. Meet at the Visitor Centre Cost €20 Proceeds in aid of the Irish Museums Trust. **Gardening Workshop** - ‘Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme...’ Get some top tips from our garden expert on how to plan out your herb garden. Some herbs are annuals and some are perennials; find out how to grow a range of herbs successfully in your own garden.

Saturday 16th June 11.00am. Meet at the Visitor Centre Admission Free. Advance booking essential. **Pond Dipping** – A fun event exploring the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and minibeasts living in and around the pond at the botanic gardens. This workshop is suitable from age 8 upwards. Organised with the Dublin Naturalists’ Field Club

Thurs. 21st June to Sun. 1st July Daily in the Gallery Space, Education & Visitor Centre **An Óige’s Annual Photographic Exhibition.** This ever-popular Annual Photographic Exhibition is organised by An Óige’s Photographic Group. Featuring a wide range of prize-winning images for 2012.

Saturday 23rd June Time: 11.00am. Meet at the Visitor Centre Cost €25. Further Details and booking www.thedrawingworkshop.org **Fusing Drawing and Science** - Taking a closer look. Drawing nature and plant life on the micro and macro scale. The third in the monthly series of art workshops for adults fusing art and science together and fostering creative ways of seeing and exploring the intricate and rich biodiversity that exists at the National Botanic Gardens

www.botanicgardens.ie/news/events



BLOOMS GARDENING GROUP



We are a group of friends - Circle of Friends Gardening Group - who met through our passion for Gardening.

While attending a seminar in the Botanical Gardens organised by the Royal Horticultural Society, we learnt about Blooms’s idea of including a Cameo Garden Category for gardening groups. Always open to a challenge and with inspiration screaming at us in the form of Killiney Hill with not only providing magnificent scenery is a haven for anyone who is interested in their environment. Dalkey Quarry which provided all the stone for one of the most important harbours in Ireland - Dun Laoghaire we could not resist.

Our Garden is called Reflections of a Hill and is not a model of what is there but our interpretation. The Hill has some magnificent monuments which bring us back to a time when Ireland was undergoing huge suffering - the Famine. Today, we have suffering in a different way. Also, we are living in a time when Climate Change which is creating real hardship in different parts of the world. Coming across an article in Time vol, 10 179 no. 10, March 10 2012, written by Daniel Goleman about the importance of Hand Prints - not Foot Prints - the brainchild of Gregory Norris a lecturer in Public Health in Harvard. The idea is not to dwell on the harm we have caused to the Planet but on the positive. Creating gardens which can provide refuge for our birds, animals, insects and plants - every small space added up makes a difference, in London rooftops have beehives providing shelter for one of our tiniest insects upon which a huge burden lies and also a rich food sources for its citizens.

We hope by designing and building our Garden we might be an inspiration to others as Bloom is Ireland’s premier Garden and Food Festival which opens on Thursday 31 May until Monday 4 June.

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Deilginis, Sea Stallion of Glendalough and skiff on the Liffey

The Dublin Port tug Deilginis (See Sept issue) named after our hometown ‘as Gaeilge’, has since been sold to owners in Co. Donegal.

Deilginis (as pictured) on the Liffey and a rowing ‘skiff’, also of Scandinavian origin and used by Dalkey Rowing Club, were escorting the replica Viking warrior longboat Sea Stallion of Glendalough. The original longboat having being built in the capital was constructed of Wicklow oak.

The ‘Stallion’ was retracing a historic Viking voyage of over 900 years ago between Roskilde Fjord, Denmark and Dublin Bay, where such a sight would have wreaked terror of an impending invasion, but her arrival in 2007 at the end of the Celtic Tiger era, was greeted by thousands of welcoming onlookers.

Five years on and the nation has been turned upside down with the invasion of recession. Having said that, an initiative to lift some boats at least was given a boost with the arrival to Dun Laoghaire Harbour in late April by more foreigners! ...in the form of tourists on board what is believed to be the smallest cruiseship in the world, the Quest of 1,180 tonnes.

She was on a nine-night garden-themed cruise of the UK and Ireland, with prices starting from £3,000stg and her 50-plus passengers visited the ‘Garden of Ireland’ at Powerscourt and Mount Usher Gardens.

In total five calls are scheduled this season, as part of Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company’s ‘masterplan’ to develop the cruise industry in which the harbour has secured a coup as Cunard Line’s ‘cruise liner’ Queen Mary 2 (QM2) is to call in May 2013. The deep-drafted



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The Quest and HSS fast-ferry depart Dun Laoghaire

and very large 151,000 tonnes ship is to anchor offshore and over 2,600 passengers ferried ashore to a new tender dock recently installed at Traders Wharf, next to the Coal Harbour.

Currently cruiseships berth at the former 'mail-boat' Carlisle Pier (site of

proposed Diaspora Centre) but there are proposals to build a new €18m cruise terminal in the centre of the harbour. It should be noted that rivals Dublin Port Company are also proposing a €30m cruise terminal.

After dredging work at this proposed new Dun Laoghaire facility, the harbour will be able to accommodate not just small and medium vessels but also the largest of the next generation of cruiseships in the world, in which there will more frequent callers in the waters off Dalkey.

The new Dun Laoghaire terminal has the potential to receive 130 cruise calls annually in five years' time, generating €365m over 30 years, with €112m going to Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. The new source of income offsets the over-dependence of the traditional revenue from the anchor-tenant, Stena Line, whose HSS service to Holyhead has been reduced considerably (See Oct. issue).

Should the terminal be built, it will be hard to fathom the sheer physical scale of these whopping mega-sized vessels of 225,000 tonnes actually occupying the harbour. They will carry over 6,000 passengers and over 2,000 crew alone. Only the very longest of these cruiseships will 'not' be able to turn inside the harbour but exit astern (backwards) between the pier-heads.

No doubt this new business will be welcomed throughout the borough, bearing in mind the new tender dock is also proposed for operating boat tours in Dublin Bay and Dalkey Island. This development brings a new dimension and will be covered in another edition of 'Maritime Dalkey'.

Dun Laoghaire is by no means completely new to cruise calls as the famous 'QE2' called twice, followed by *Norway* (ex. France) and the last 'anchorage' caller was *Constellation* in 2002. On that occasion the smaller 90,000 tonnes vessel anchored off Scotsman's Bay, an imposing yet impressive sight off Bulloch Harbour.

For greeting cards of 'Maritime' Dalkey and more, visit NEW LOOK website
www.shipsireland.com

Words and Photos
(c) Jehan Ashmore



Cruieship Prinsendam off the 'Gen Battery' end of Dalkey Island



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ANNUAL SCHOOL MILE CHALLENGE

At the beginning of May our pupils had the opportunity to participate in the AVIVA School Mile Challenge which is promoted in conjunction with the Irish Schools' Athletic Association and Athletics Ireland. Although the event is primarily aimed at encouraging teenagers in secondary schools to get a taste of recreational participation in sport, and promoting running or walking as part of a balanced healthy lifestyle, our boys and girls were keen to embrace the fun competitive element of this Challenge.

A mile long course was laid out around the School grounds and during their PE class each group of children set off either walking or running. The time of every pupil who took part was accurately recorded and graded to show what category of runner they were. They were rewarded with a coloured coded wrist band that correlates to the time they ran. All pupils were aiming to improve on their time from last year's Challenge and most were successful in this.



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Congratulations to the twenty two pupils from Form II who celebrated their First Holy Communion at the Church of the Assumption on 12th May. Following the lovely Ceremony which was conducted by Fr Gallagher and Fr Devitt all the families returned to the School and enjoyed a reception with refreshments in the Front Hall of the Castle.

FORM II - VISIT TO THE ZOO

On a cold and rainy morning at the end of April, Form II headed off to Dublin Zoo for an interesting educational outing. Here are some comments from the children about the day:

I liked the elephants because they were playing and splashing around in front of us – **William**

I liked the monkeys because they were staring at us and making funny faces – **Luke**

I liked the Victorian Crested Pigeon because it was so big – **Conor**

I like the penguins because they were swimming and flapping about in front of us – **Luka**

I liked the red pandas because they were so cute – **Jack**

I liked the meerkats because they dug a big hole in front of us when we were having lunch – **Pierce**

The parrots were fun because they were loud and noisy and they said hello - **Ella**

The giraffes looked really funny because they were eating orange peels – **Millie**

THE CHIEFTAINS "VOICE OF AGES", 50TH ANNIVERSARY ALBUM

We are delighted at the success of the recently launched "Voice of Ages" album which celebrates 50 years of the Chieftains. Members of our Senior Choir and pupils from Form V were invited to participate in recording part of the album in late autumn here at the School, they feature on the track "School Days Over". Castle Park pupils feature prominently in the promotional material as well as in the DVD that accompanies the CD showing how the album was made. The DVD also gives a brief history of the Chieftains.

More examples of Artist of the Week



PLANNING APPLICATIONS - Weeks 15-18 10/4/2012 to 4/5/2012

The material in the Planning Section of the Newsletter is based entirely on data taken from Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's website. If you are concerned about a particular item it is strongly recommended that you examine the relevant file in the Council's offices.

Reg. Ref. D12A/0136

Application Rec'd Date: 12-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Robert Fennelly, 39A (Mineholm), Barnhill Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Planning permission is sought for development which will consist of: A) Widening of existing vehicular entrance 2.53m to 4.2m and associated automatically operated gates to front elevation. B) Proposed pedestrian gate 0.9m wide to front elevation. C) All associated works. Application Type: Permission.

Reg. Ref. D12A/0156

Application Rec'd Date: 27-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Kevin Nowlan & Kirsty Foynes, 26, Castlepark Road, Sandycove, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Planning permission is sought for alterations and extensions to existing house comprising internal modifications, relocation of front door, new bay window to the front of house, part demolition of existing single storey extension and garage to the rear and side of house. The erection of a two storey extension to the side of the house and a single storey extension to the rear and side together with widening of existing vehicular entrance and all associated site works. Application Type: Permission

PLANNING DECISIONS - WEEKS 15-18 10/4/2012 - 4/5/2012

Reg. Ref. D12A/0063

Decision: Request Add. Info

Date: 11-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: T. Bennett, 15, Springhill Park, Killiney, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Permission is sought for development which will consist of; 1. Demolition of single storey detached garage structure to the side of existing property and construction of, 2. Two storey pitched roof extension to the side with bay window. 3. New pitched roof single storey porch to the front. 4. Two storey pitched roof extension to the rear. 5. Conversion of attic with new rear dormer window. 6. New Velux roof lights in main roof to the side. 7. Elevational alterations including external insulation rendered with smooth finish. 8. New landscaping and driveway to the front including widening of vehicular entrance and ancillary site works. Application Type: Permission.

Reg. Ref. D12A/0064

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 13-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Kevin Nowlan & Kirsty Foynes, 26, Castle Park, Sandycove, Co. Dublin

Proposal: Permission is sought for a single storey granny flat to the side of permitted development (Reg. Ref. D11A/0553) together with modifications to the configuration of the previously approved single storey extension to the rear of the property.

Reg. Ref. D12B/0049

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 10-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Joe & Theresa Byrne, 14, Saint Begnet's Villas, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for retention is sought for works to date which consist of alterations to D11A/0029 which includes alterations to roof height and design and for the change in position of first floor window and for permission to complete the development.

Application Type: Permission

Reg. Ref. D12B/0063

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 13-Apr-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Mrs. Teresa Meghen, Livorno, Sorrento Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for a new timber pitched roof to existing single storey flat roofed house with Velux windows to front and rear and with gable end walls and extended chimney. Application Type: Permission

Reg. Ref. D12B/0066 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 12-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Ciara Byrne, Alcove, Barnhill Road, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for relocation of existing window to a new position at first floor level on the front elevation facing public road, at the existing part single, part double storey semi-detached dwelling. **Application Type:** Permission.

Reg. Ref. D06B/1009/E **Decision:** Request Add. Info. **Date:** 16-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Killiney Towers Management Co., Gate Lodge at Killiney Towers, Killiney Road, Co Dublin.
Proposal: For the construction of a first floor level to the existing gate lodge.
Application Type: Extension of Duration of Permission.

Reg. Ref. D11A/0578 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 17-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Board of Management, Loreto Abbey Secondary School, Loreto Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin
Proposal: Permission is sought for development consisting of the construction of a new stand alone, detached PE Sports Hall building with roof-light windows, part 1 and part 2 storey, total area 1760m2 approx, with external viewing terrace of sports pitch, existing boundary wall screening to prevent overlooking of adjacent properties, 12 new car-parking spaces, bicycle parking area and associated landscaping works all on the land on the West side of Loreto Avenue. The sports hall will be accessed from existing access road, Loreto Avenue. The site is adjacent to but outside the curtilage of Loreto Abbey which is a protected structure, RPS 1445. A Natura Appropriate Assessment Screening Report has been carried out and is attached to the application. **Application Type:** Permission.

Reg. Ref. D12A/0071 **Decision:** Grant Permission for Retention **Date:** 17-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: David Coulson, The Old Tramyard, 15, Castle Street, Dalkey, Co. Dublin
Proposal: Retention permission is sought for development at a site of c. 0.1 ha located within the former Tramyard, 15, Castle Street, Dalkey. The application site is located within an Architectural Conservation Area and includes the tram lines, gates and entrance piers which are Protected Structures (Refs. 1463 & 1471). Retention permission is sought of a 3 year period for a number of structures/uses on site as follows: Art Studio (c. 21.3 sq.m); Retail/Showroom & Art Gallery (c. 62.16 sq.m); Landscape Studio (c. 3.81 sq.m); Garden Centre (c. 6.65 sq.m); Coffee Shop with ancillary areas (c. 141.8 sq.m); 2 wall murals totalling c.22.6 sq.m; signage (including freestanding sign and shop signs) totalling c. 8.87 sq.m. All associated site development and landscaping works including timber decking areas. The total gross area of development to be retained is c. 235.72 sq.m.
Application Type: Permission for Retention

Reg. Ref. D12B/0068 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Decision Date:** 23-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Tom Kenny, 1, Barnhill Grove, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for conversion of attic to storage including dormer windows to the side and rear and a velux roof-light to the front all at roof level.
Application Type: Permission

Reg. Ref. D12B/0069 **Decision:** Grant Permission for Retention **Date:** 26-Apr-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Richard & Corrinna Moore, Prince Patrick House & cottage, Knocknacree Road, Dalkey.
Proposal: Retention permission is sought for the full demolition of the roof and external walls of the rear annex/rear return (total floor area - 62 sq.m). Permission is also sought for the retention and the completion of the reconstruction of a portion of the demolished rear annex/rear return on ground & first floor in a flat roof construction (total floor area 42sq.m). **Application Type:** Permission for Retention

Reg. Ref. D07A/1030/E **Decision:** Refuse Ext of Duration of Permission **Date:** 3-May-'12
Applicant Name & Location: Peter Monaghan, Old Tramyard, 15, Castle Street, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for development on this site of c. 460sqm subsequent to grant of permission as per Reg Ref D06A/0910; PL06D.220098. This permission relates to site which includes the tramlines which are PROTECTED STRUCTURES. Permission is sought for the provision of 2 no. retail units (1 no. unit c. 86sqm GFA, and 1 no. unit c. 100sqm) and 1 no. café unit (c. 35sqm GFA) at ground floor level in compliance with Condition 2(a) of Grant of Permission Reg Ref D06A/0910; PL06D.220098. This application also seeks revisions to elevations associated with the proposed commercial/café uses at ground floor level. The total gross floor area relating to the application is c. 221sqm. **Application Type:** Extension of Duration of Permission.

Reg. Ref. D12A/0096 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 04-May-2012
Applicant Name & Location: Ciara Byrne, Alcove, Barnhill Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin
Proposal: Permission is sought for a new vehicular entrance onto Barnhill Road with car parking for two vehicles to front elevation. **Application Type:** Permission.

APPEALS NOTIFIED by An Bord Pleanala Wks. 15-18 10/4/2012 to 4/5/2012

None for Dalkey Area

APPEAL DECISIONS of An Bord Pleanala Wks 14-17 2/4/2012 to 27/4/2012

None for Dalkey Area

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May is a busy month in the Tidy Towns Calendar. It started early with the Annual Clean Up Day on 28th April. While there wasn't a queue of volunteers outside Eurospar, those who turned up did a stalwart job. There was also a significant minority who saw a job to be done and did it in their own time. Have you noticed the lack of litter on Vico Rd? Also we appreciate the schools that came out during school hours and did a blitz on the town. The committee would like to thank everyone who helped. Unfortunately, due to all the rain, painting of the badly corroded lampposts has been slow.



Annual Spring Clean at carpark border

May is also the month for filling in the Tidy Towns entry form. This is quite a detailed document and it involves a lot of work. A National Tidy Towns Judge will pay an unannounced visit to Dalkey in June and/or July to make their judgement.

Following many meetings by Dalkey Tidy Towns with the Dublin Port & Docks Board, contractors were out in Bulloch over the past 2 weeks, between the showers. They've done lots of pointing on the road, filled in the big hole behind the stone bench and removed one of the old redundant poles. They re-positioned all the benches - now in a row - which are

going to be varnished as soon as the weather permits. They're working on the new signs and will come out and locate those, at the same time they're repairing the chains.

We have now moved to the Summer Schedule for volunteers. Meeting at 10.30 every Tuesday and Saturday at Writers Corner and every Thursday at Dillon's Park.

Look out for lots of colour around the town once June arrives.



Annual Spring Clean at carpark border



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New Zealand Sauvignon is quickly becoming the most popular white wine sold in wine shops and supermarkets across Ireland. So why is it so popular? Let's find out...

Marlborough has quickly become the famed area for Sauvignon Blanc in New Zealand. The first Marlborough Sauvignon was made in 1980 much to my surprise! Just over thirty years and the quality and depth of the wine could rival any French sauvignon. The climate is cool dry and sunny which leads to a tangy and citrus white wine with lots of gooseberry and bell-pepper fruit being produced. It is easy to drink on its own but it would also be a perfect match with light summer foods such as salads or fish dishes. Astrolabe is the main contender in Marlborough winning a number of awards in the last few years. Even knocking Cloudy Bay off its pedestal! If you like New Zealand style sauvignons then this is the perfect wine for you.

In my next issues New Zealand's neighbour, Australia, will be our main topic as I am heading Down Under for a year!



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DALKEY BUSINESS GROUP UPDATE



Dalkey Business Group entered Year 3 with Kathy Irwin chairing the first meeting at the Dalkey Heritage Centre on Tues April 24th 2012.

DBG has applied for a business promotion grant with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council.



The proposal submitted by the committee on behalf of DBG included details of a 'Discover Dalkey' campaign with radio advertising, web development and advertising in leading Tourism guidebooks.

Dalkey Book Festival 2012 runs from Friday June 15th to Sunday June 17th with Sian Smyth and David McWilliams once again as the main organisers. Please check www.Dalkeybookfestival.org for all up to date information on this exciting local event now in its 3rd year. www.ilovedalkey.com has a new up to date local DBG News Blog with PRO Blogger Oliver McCabe. Check it out for all the latest DBG news. Otherwise if you are a member of the Dalkey Loyalty Card you will receive a new monthly DBG Ezine with the first starting in June which summarizes all recent DBG news.

A Major reconstruction of the Eurospar supermarket is underway including the excavation of Gemmas and this will take place until 28th May. From 4th June the back of the shop will be closed off for refurbishment and this work will take 4 months. The shop will be extended in stages until all of the works are completed. The front of the shop will stay the same and the original Gemma's shop front will be retained. Full plans were displayed to the meeting. It is envisaged that service levels will be retained and full fresh food supply will be available for visitors etc. The new shop will be more spacious especially for buggies and trollies.

The old Clock will be repaired and new hands installed. Parking will be unaffected. Thanks to Ken for his update.

Blaithín O'Brien gave an update on the Dalkey map which has been commissioned by DBG. Featuring a hand drawn graphic image of Castle St. It will also identify key places of interest / scenic locations etc. While the map will be distributed free to visitors, the marketing of it has yet to be decided. Local businesses will not be marked on it but ads may be available on the edges.

A brochure is also being developed with walks, sea etc. All of the material will reflect the livery of the new signage being developed by Dalkey Tidy Towns. DTT are also developing 'footprints' to guide visitors around the various tourist attractions in the town.

DBG is deeply saddened by the closure of 'The Exchange Bookshop' and 'Nosh' Restaurant. We wish Michael, Sam and Sacha the very best for the future and their presence will be missed very much.



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THE WEBSITE LAUNCH – Our school website was launched in April! Parents from all classes in the school came in to the hall to see the event happen. Two speakers from each class spoke to the parents about the articles on line. The student councillors introduced each speaker as they came up. The website was put up on the projector screen in our school hall. We give our many thanks to our S.N.As, parents, students and teachers and especially to Mrs Shanahan and Ms. Guiden for making the day so enjoyable and memorable. Ms Guiden worked tirelessly to organise the event and we thank her very much for the time and effort that she put in to the event to make sure that everything would go swimmingly.

Tori Dunne and Rachel Byrne

SANTRY – In June the Santry School Sports event is coming up. Pupils in the senior part of the school have tried out during lunch and after school times for 500m sprints, shot putt, long jump, high jump, relay and hurdles and more. We will send our athletes to compete against athletes from other schools in these events. Our Active Week will be held during the last week of school. We will have our sports day on Monday and play different, exciting sports every other day that week. We hope the weather will be good and we will hope to have a wonderful time!

Aisling King

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – Second class made their First Holy Communion on the 26th of May. Father Declan Gallagher celebrated the Mass in The Church of the Assumption, Dalkey. The second class had worked very hard at preparing for their First Holy Communion and they all looked lovely!

Liliana Borza



THE EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS BELL – On Thursday 3rd May we were so grateful to have the privilege of having the Eucharistic Congress Bell come to our school. We are very thankful for the work Ms Howard and her father did to organise this special occasion. The last time the Bell was in Ireland was 1932. The whole school went out to the grass and we had a beautiful Mass, celebrated by Fr. Michael Scott with songs and prayers overlooking the sea. It was a great day and we will remember it forever!

Alannah Byrne



First Class Art Work

END OF YEAR – Loreto Primary School Dalkey has a very exciting month of June to look forward to. The new Junior Infants will be visiting the school and seeing their new classrooms. They will also get to meet their new classmates and teachers. The Eucharistic Congress is being held in June and our Sacrament Classes - 2nd class and 6th class - are going to a special Mass in the RDS.

Sixth class will be performing a play called “The Peace Child” after our Graduation Mass. We are all very excited but sad as well as this is our last play and last year in Loreto Primary School.

Ainah Balili & Abbey Finlay

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❖ JUNE 2012 LOCAL HISTORY TALKS – James Scannell ❖

Friday June 1st at 1 p.m. Lay Joe will present a 30-minute Curator's Talk - 'The Irish War Horse' in the Museum of Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7. Admission free but booking required - call 01-6486453 or email: bookings@museum.ie.

Thursday June 15th at 1 p.m. Dr. Audrey Whitty will present a 30-minute Curator's Talk - '20th and 21st Century Irish Ceramics and Glass' in the Museum of Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks. Admission free but booking required.

Saturday June 16th at 12 Noon Jill Connaughton will give a 60-minute Saturday Talk - 'Rings, Rocks and Rosaries - The Power of Jewellery in Medieval Ireland' in the Museum of Archaeology and History, Kildare Street, D 2. Admission free - no booking required - not wheelchair accessible.

A BOOK TO READ

GPO Staff in 1916 - *An intriguing story of how ordinary men and women react in extraordinary circumstances* - by Stephen Ferguson, published by Mercier Press

This book was launched during April in the appropriate setting of Dublin's General Post Office, a landmark building on O'Connell Street, and famous as the headquarters of the leaders of the 1916 Easter Rising. While the activities of the rebels who occupied it during the Rising have been covered in a number of books, this particular book looks specifically at how these events affected the staff who worked there.

Using Post Office records, personal accounts and photographs, many previously unpublished, Stephen Ferguson reveals the story of men and women who worked in the building and for the Post Office at the time of the Rising, and explores their involvement in and response to the events of Easter week. Their accounts provide a fresh perspective on the rebellion that highlights the crucial importance of the GPO and its staff in this pivotal event, which defined Irish history and politics for close to a century.

Author Information – Stephen Ferguson has worked in several branches of the Post Office since he joined the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. He is currently Assistant Secretary of An Post as well as the Curator of the An Post museum. He is also author of 'The Irish Post Box', which covers the history of the Irish post box and its role in mail collection.

GPO Staff in 1916 is published by Mercier Press in paperback at €12.99.

❖ HAROLD BOYS SCHOOL NEWS ❖

CIAO FROM HAROLD!

Melita, a native Italian from the coastal town of Rimini near Bologna came in today to talk to us about Italy. She works in Eurospar, Dalkey.

We learned about school in Italy. It starts each day at 8.30 am and finishes at 1 or 2 o'clock. They go to school Monday to Saturday so they only have 1 day off. There are only 5 years spent in primary school and in middle school there are 3 years. They only do about one hour a week of sport in school. Students have to choose which subjects they would like to specialise in at the age of 14. They have some of the oldest universities in the world. Some people in Italy live with their parents in their mid 30's.

She told us that Italians love their food. Her own grandmother lived with them and made homemade pasta. Fish is very popular especially around the coast. Melita lives about 10 minutes from a fantastic beach and a 2 hour drive from Venice.

Italians are very serious about their football. She supports Juventus and they just won the Serie A title. She is looking forward to the European Cup Ireland vs. Italy match!

Many thanks Melita for making Geography so interesting.

Written by Daniel Bailey and Noah Kouadri, Rang a 5





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Well done to everyone who took part in the An Taisce National Clean Up on 28th April. Apart from the unsightliness of discarded litter if it ends up in the wrong place it can cause suffering and death to many creatures, particularly plastic when it ends up in the sea as so much of it does. Plastic bags have been found in the stomach of whales and vast amounts of plastic have been found in the stomachs of seabirds accounting for the deaths of thousands of albatrosses and other species.

It has long been known that turtles sometimes mistakenly swallow plastic bags resembling jellyfish a favourite food of the turtle and researchers in Queensland, Australia found that marine rubbish was the major cause of sea turtle death. Tiny bits of plastic were found to have perforated the gut of a turtle hatchling but adult turtles were susceptible to a more painful lingering death due to the structure of their throats which have downward facing spines which prevent them regurgitating. The plastic gets caught in the gut and any food they ingest can't be swallowed, decomposes and leaks gas in to the turtle's body cavities causing the turtle to float, eventually starving to death or being left liable to be predated on or hit by a boat.



The cliffs below Vico Road hold a bird I often mention, the Fulmar which unfortunately is also very vulnerable to discarded plastic. The Fulmar's name derives from an Old Norse word meaning 'Foul Gull'. Fulmars aren't gulls at all but members of the family of birds that includes Petrels and Shearwaters, their stiff-winged gliding flight, like that of the Albatross, being an adaptation to save energy as they travel vast distances over the sea. The foul part of the name derives from the contents of their stomach which is used by young birds as a defence, vomiting the foul liquid on anything bird, animal or human that approaches them on the nest. Apart from the bad smell this liquid can actually destroy the waterproofing of bird's plumage ultimately causing their death.

Fulmars are one of the longest living birds, individuals over 50 years old are still alive. They don't breed until over six years old and when they do breed they lay one egg which takes 50 to 54 days to hatch. The chick then isn't fledged for over 70 days, over three months from when the egg is laid till the chick can fly a very long investment in time and energy.

Fulmars have had a great expansion in their numbers and range since the early 20th century. Until then the nearest breeding colonies were in St Kilda and the Orkneys with most of the population further north in Arctic regions especially Iceland and Greenland. It's believed they dramatically expanded their range by following whaling ships and in subsequent years trailing trawlers south, getting easy meals from the discarded offal. They feed off the surface of the sea taking crustaceans, squid, fish and carrion and it's easy enough for them to mistake a bit of floating plastic for a piece of offal. Between 2002 and 2006 in research in the North Sea the stomachs of nearly 1100 beached fulmars was analysed and found to have over 0.1g of plastic in 45 to 60% of the birds.

Fulmars were recorded prospecting nests off Mayo in 1907, began breeding on the cliffs there in 1911 and then rapidly colonised most of our coastline. During the 'Seabird 2000' survey, nearly 40,000 nesting sites were counted around Ireland. A scientific paper, The Fulmar Population of Britain and Ireland, 1959 by James Fisher records them at Killiney in 1958 and interestingly records the species at Sorrento Point and Upper Dalkey Quarry in 1946-1948. Over twenty years ago after a particularly torrential spell of rain Fulmars sat on rocks in the quarry under the Telegraph Tower perhaps after having been washed out of their nests in the wall below the railway line. They didn't nest in the quarry that time but I was fascinated to see they'd been recorded there previously and on further inquiry I was told by Oscar Merne, one of Ireland's foremost experts on seabirds, that he remembers them in Dalkey Quarry in the 1950s.

They can be seen over White Rock beach on the cliffs to the east and sometimes nesting in holes in the



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supporting wall. They frequently sit on the top of the wall beside the railway line totally indifferent to trains thundering past less than two metres away.

Seen up close they have an extraordinary hooked bill made up of oddly mechanical plates. What looks like a telescopic sight on the top of the bill is actually to excrete salt and desalinate them.

They have shading around their dark eyes which looks like hastily applied eye shadow but in fact its function is to act like sunglasses, reducing glare when they're feeding from glistening waters.

I was wondering was a very determined grey squirrel to blame for the rapid emptying of my sunflower seed feeders during May, a month when the birds should be finding abundance of food in the wild. Our most consistent visitors to the feeders are bullfinches with up to three pairs coming to the feeders regularly. They get through a lot of the seed but at this time of year they can be seen feeding on flower buds and dandelions which we can provide for them in abundance. So I was glad to see that the seeds were disappearing not into a squirrel but into eight greenfinches crowded on to the feeders. We hardly get any now in the winter and greenfinches have declined by up to 33% in some areas but they do seem to be regular summer visitors to our feeders and I'm always glad to see them.

Unfortunately, greenfinches are particularly susceptible to a parasite borne disease called trichomoniasis which causes the birds throat to swell making it unable to swallow food. Many people have reported sick greenfinches in their gardens in recent years. The birds will be lethargic showing none of their usual alertness sometimes with feathers fluffed up and may be drooling or regurgitating food. The disease is caused by a parasite which can't live long outside the host but keeping clean feeders, bird baths and other surfaces that the birds might feed from can significantly help reduce the chance of the disease spreading. Trichomoniasis can't be caught by humans.

Our visiting greenfinches looked healthy but like any good restaurant I'll prioritise hygiene standards for the benefit of my visiting diners.



Greenfinch



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MEEKNESS

She had worked for years in the Florentine in Dalkey.

She made cakes and pies, day-in, day-out

Her husband had drowned at sea.

When I first met her, she had taken retirement

Her back was crooked from the work.

Her old hands showed the damaged of so much work.

I read her notice in which she offered to help.

I worked 31/2 days a week. She could mind the children.

She had a neat perm. And she called me 'Maam.'

Gentle she said she wasn't up to hoovering or cleaning.

I wasn't wanting that. Then she said what she'd like to do:

A bit of cooking and baking. I was amazed and so it went.

The children's' books were put out by me.

Mrs. Toner made lovely stews and buns. She was a huge welcome

To my husband, who always had a big appetite and the children too.

One Christmas, she iced our cake, always saying 'Maam' to me. I called to the daughter's house and she had passed away. I went to say a prayer at her grave.

It was a plain wooden cross, meek and humble as she was herself.



**MRS. TONER
REMEMBERED**

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Bank Holiday	Mon 4 June	Last date for entries for DCC Garden Competition	
Blooms Day	Sat 16 June		Thurs 21 June
Dalkey Book Festival		DCC Garden Comp. - judging	Tues 26 June
	Fri 15-Sun 17 June	Sorting July Newsletter in OLH (1-2pm)	Thurs 28 June
Father's Day	Sun 17 June	July DCC Meeting in OLH	Mon 2 July

EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH

Karate for all age groups 6-9pm Tues. & Thurs. Contact Wayne Deegan at 086 857 2546

Dalkey Players Theatre Group - The Carry Hall Killiney, 7.30-10.30pm Tues. & Thurs. Contact Caroline Hickey 086-8092850 or check www.dalkeyplayers.ie for details.

St. Patrick's Dramatic Society Northover hall at 8pm. Mons and Thurs. Contact Deirdre 087 9566460 or check www.stpatsdramsoc.com for further information.

The Irish Vintage Radio & Sound Society meets monthly in Dalkey. Call 086 8391839.

Cuala Set Dancing Classes: Every Sunday from 8-10pm. €6 per night. All welcome. Holy Trinity Killiney.

Altissimo Concert Sat. 30th June. Altissimo: Ireland's only Viola Quintet formed by players of the RTE National Symphony Orchestra. A fundraising concert for Holy Trinity will be held in Holy Trinity on Sat. 30th June at 8pm. Tickets: €20 (€15 concessions). As part of this event Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel will be offering an Early Bird menu from 5.30pm to 7.00pm. 2 Course dinner €20, 3 Course dinner €25.

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DALKEY LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

Due to building works Dalkey Library will close from Friday 6 April 2012
for approximately 3 months

LAST DAY for Articles for next 2 issues: JULY 2012: 11th June, 2012; AUGUST 2012: 9th July, 2012.

ALL ARTICLES STRICTLY TO: The Editor, c/o Post Box, Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey

NOTE: All Advertising Enquiries to: Ms. Helena Feely, Advertising Manager, 47, Dalkey Park, Dalkey.
Phone: 01-2858025. (Office hours Mon- Fri.).

All other queries etc. should be addressed to: The Secretary, c/o Our Lady's Hall, Castle St. Dalkey

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Oh! How Television (and Radio) has changed over the years . . .

Last month I mentioned how the weather can sometimes influence television reception. From time to time the sun's "hot-spots" can cause a condition called SKIP, this phenomenon can cause radio and television waves to travel much further than they are designed to travel, so UK television signals (which are not designed to reach Ireland) interfere with locally based Irish transmissions. SKIP however is welcomed by those in the Amateur Radio clubs (CB Radio), as it can greatly influence how far a radio signal can travel. By way of an example a radio operator may only be able to talk within a 50-mile radius, however when there is SKIP he may be able to talk to somebody in New York or South Africa, or even further.

*Ian Macdonald,
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OVERMATTER



HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO DALKEY – A Ballad



Tune : The Garden Where The Praties Grow'

Have you ever been to Dalkey, boys? If not, you've heard the name.
It's famous for its countryside, and for its gorgeous dames.
We have at present got a team - much better far than Tipp!
And to prove to you this very point - they won the championship.

So come all ye heroes, one and all, and listen to my lay,
How the boys of Dalkey Mitchells won the cup, that rainy day.
October first the day and date, keep ever in your mind,
For the like of them who played that day, we never more may find.

The boys from Scoil Haróid were there, to cheer their heroes on,
Ger Doran had our green and white, oh! looking like the dawn.
Our subs were ready for the fray, when'er they saw a fall,
And we're justly proud of everyone who answered to the call.

An artist first, an artist last - Jack Priest is just the man,
He painted green, he painted white, he painted Byrne's van.
Oh! What a sight the flags to see, a-blowing in the wind,
'Twas worth a point - the confidence it gave the lads to win.

The team is made of "super" men. Yes, super is the phrase,
From Byrne in goal right down to Doran, Kennedy and Mick Hayes.
The game caused great excitement, from the referee's throw-in,
And when the backs moved into place, 'twas Dalkey had the wind.

The play was fast and furious - and no man could be frail!
It took their best from the Dalkey men to hold stout Clanna Gael.
The scoring wasn't very high, but the marking was so tight,
Yet! Somehow Dalkey looked the team that wouldn't lose the fight.

But when the half-time whistle blew the outlook was not bright,
Til words from Tadhg, Proinsias and Noel bolstered Dalkey's might,
They started like fire-engines in the second half, 'tis true,
And our hopes were soaring higher - each and every one of you.

What stonewalls Anders, Byrne and Cahill - this trio proved to be,
Not far behind, indeed, were Ryan, O'Donnell, Pat Murphy,
Mick Kennedy, Kearns (of Wicklow fame), brave Delahunt and Maher,
Phil Gleeson, Ciarán Dunphy, they drove thro' them like a car.

Jim Doran here, Jim Doran there, Jim Doran everywhere,
He struck it right, he struck it left, he struck it in the air,
Clans tried to mark him, but alas!, their efforts were in vain,
And he gave us reason to be proud that he was our captain.

There was a clearance from our goal-line nearly 80 yards did go,
It was buried in the enemy net by Harry Robert's blow.
Elusive Purcell solo-ed thro' O'Toole Park, to and fro,
And he shook the Clanna Gael net, with another mighty blow.

You may talk of Ring and Rackard, Jimmy Doyle or Des or Lar,
But the darling boys for Dalkey were, no doubt, Purcell and Maher,
Murt Gleeson did a high caul cap, as Clanna Gael did crack,
When brave Brendan got right thro' them, yet another mighty whack.

At last the ref's long whistle blew - its sound was like a song!
And the medals came to Dalkey - for this we'd waited long!
Do join in wishing them good fortune, from this date,
And we hope they will repeat this win in 1968.



HAVE YOU EVER BEEN TO DALKEY



Liam Taylor is a neighbour of mine and a native of Dalkey. I met him some weeks ago and he gave me a copy of the ballad 'Have you ever been to Dalkey' and also told me he had been given it by Alan Doran whose father, Gerry and uncle, Jim, are mentioned in it.

The words are by Proinsias O Maoláin, who taught in Harold Boys' from 1941 to 1984 and Mick Priest, son of Jack, also mentioned in the ballad.

Damien Byrne, great Dublin and Cuala hurler, explained to me the context of the ballad. The G.A.A. club in Dalkey in 1967 was called Dalkey Mitchell's. The surname Mitchell was adopted because the Young Irishman, John Mitchell, mentioned in his diary when he was being deported that the last thing he saw as he left Ireland from Dun Laoghaire was Dalkey Hill. The club had reached the final of the Dublin Junior Championship and the ballad tells of that day in October when they won it. The following year they reached the final of the Intermediate Championship and while they did not win they were promoted to senior club status in 1969. It must be recorded that Dalkey Mitchell's was the first senior hurling club in South Co. Dublin.

The ballad tells of this historic moment when the town of Dalkey celebrated an historic occasion and welcomed home champions.

Sean Ó Gormáin.



Melanie Kovero, owner of AI Computers, describes life as part of Dalkey's IT crowd

How do you rate Ireland on its IT competence?

Swathes of people are being left behind. I think Ireland should do what South Korea has done - it has the cheapest, fastest internet in the world. We should put 100 megabit internet across the country and get everyone learning through Lynda.com.

What mistakes do people make when choosing IT systems?

Four things: not being clear why they want it, not getting the best security software, skimping on backup solutions, and overlooking ergonomics.

Are most of your customers local?

Dalkey Clinic and Dalkey Castle are clients, and some architects in Dun Laoghaire, but other than that, no - we have customers all over Ireland, from Kerry to Donegal.

How many computers do you deal with in a year?

We fix around 5000 machines a year including Apple Macs. By the time a computer comes to us, everyone's had a go at it - the brother in law, the son, the neighbour. So it's usually in a big mess.

We're particularly good at recovering data. People will come in with their hard drive in their hands and say 'I know the photos are on there...'. We had one instance where a child had died and the only photos of the child were on the hard drive. We were able to get them back.

Why would customers choose you, a small local firm, over one of the big boys?

Personal service, security, continuity. Our clients - aged 9 to 90 - use computers for home, hobby and business, and we treasure them all.

When people give us their computer they're handing over all their intimate secrets, from their bank records and family tree to all their photographs and who knows what else. In bigger IT companies, staff change regularly and may not always care. Also they may be tied to brands and sales commission. At the other end of the scale, it amazes me that people will hand over their computer to someone who has just stuck up a card on a supermarket noticeboard. People think it's like getting a bike fixed, but it's not.

Who is your ideal customer?

Anyone who values their data and will listen to our honest advice. Owner-run businesses and professional practices are our best clients. They depend on having efficient IT. We can provide computer equipment and software, servers, cabling, wireless networks, websites, cloud IT and phone systems.

Is it easy finding the right staff?

No, our staff need to be very highly trained and experienced, and to have maturity both in dealing with the IT end and with clients. They need patience and humour. Computers and humans are complex. Combine them and frustration can arise. We're lucky to have excellent staff. Currently we're looking for the perfect business account manager - enquiries to jobs@aicomputers.ie



Melanie Kovero



AI Computr Team



DALKEY

Spring 1970 and a new job for the bread winner brought our totally English family by ferry across the Irish Sea to live in the Dublin region. Driving south along the coast towards the caravan park where we were to live for several months, we passed in glorious sunshine, scenic harbours, and beathtaking Coliemore and Vico Road. I contentedly remarked to my husband that surely he had brought us to heaven.

Over the following weeks we explored north, south and east of County Dublin for a new home and Dalkey won hands down. I found such friendliness on the main street, wide ranging shops from haberdashery to shoe repairs, choice of good schools, a welcome at the church, train station, bus route, easy access to the capital city, nearby Ferry Terminal, and of course the seaside. Sure enough we moved into our new home six months later and the rest really is history.

I feel we have done it all. Moored a boat in Bulloch Harbour, fished for mackerel in Dalkey Sound, learning the hard way to gut the fish at sea! Picniced and counted the goats on Dalkey Island, been involved with the community at large - festivals, clubs, hostels, you name it. We have happily thrived, worked from Castle Street, made many friends and enjoyed Dalkey's development along with our own for 42 memorable years.

Now there are half Irish grandchildren, who we remind are half English too, by taking them to see the sights of London as they mature - the Eye, Greenwich, the Tower of London and Harrods! Their own choice of highlights when their time comes.

But home is Dalkey, whether the future brings oil rigs, cruise ships or hard times. How we would miss the lighthouses flashing as they guide seafarers; the strange alarming cries, (sounding like children in distress) that worried me for years until a friendly sailor enlightened me that they were seals; the quacking flocks of geese flying daily through the Sound - north and south to roost or feed each evening and morning; the starlit nights, the cycle of the moon and the trails from planes; our garden flourishing in the climate here compared to the harsh Pennines in the north of England; the absailing from Dalkey Hill down to the beach at Whiterock; the Seven Castles and the history of Medieval Dalkey performed live at the Heritage Centre, followed by guided walks! Bus loads of visitors from abroad, all ages, eager and proud to speak to locals practising their knowledge of the language. Their advance research is usually obvious.

There are historic parks, rock climbing in old granite quarries, Italian road names, Martello towers, a Bay resembling that of Naples, spectacular Sunday morning yacht racing, regular glimpses of dolphins, even a telescope for bird watching. It really has to be seen to be believed and yet we are isolated with no through major road to or from anywhere. The quiet, quaint, village-like town of Dalkey. My home.

June Barnett – Dalkey
