

# DALKEY - Deilginis 'Thorn Island' COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Irish Heritage Town

"Ireland's longest-running voluntary community newsletter" First Published April 1974

#### **NEWSLETTER No 453 (Volume 21)**

#### Meitheamh (June) 2015

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

Flower: ROSE

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.



Guímid lá sona, suairc ar aithreacha uile Dheilginise! We wish a happy enjoyable Father's Day to all the Dads in Dalkey on June 21st



#### DALKEY TIDY TOWNS VOLUNTEERS,

Dr. Susan McDonnell and Mr. Des Burke-Kennedy, recently received certificates of recognition from the Cathaoirleach of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Ms. Marie Baker

See page 17

Your Area Representative is	
Telephone:	E-Mail:



The 9th DCC Public Meeting was held on Monday 11th May in OLH.

\*

The different committees presented their annual reports and these can be found in the centre of this edition of the Newsletter.

**AOB:** There was an animated discussion about the cruise ships that will be visiting Dun Laoghaire. The proposal to build a berth for them on the Coal Pier was not met with great enthusiasm, Our Local Councillors, Patricia Stewart, Cormac Devlin and Mary Fayne assured us that the public would get the opportunity to make submissions when the plans go for public consultation. The old Baths will be re-developed and the area along to Newtownsmith will be a landscaped amenity area with fountains. The Floating Bridge swimming area for the East Pier will require an entry fee. Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD stated that the harbour needs revenue to maintain and keep it running. There are 100,000 passengers due into Dun Laoghaire this year and the businesses in the town must respond to the shoppers needs. The spin-off from the tourists is potentially a huge benefit to Dun Laoghaire and the immediate environs.

The next DCC Monthly Meeting is Monday 15th June 2015.

#### \* DALKEY CASTLE & HERITAGE CENTRE

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Dalkey Castle will play its part in celebrating the world famous literary event that is Bloomsday on Tuesday 16th June. One of the scenes in Joyce's world famous novel, 'Ulysses', locally referred to as 'The Dalkey Schoolroom scene', in the Nestor Episode, will be brought to life before your eyes in a memorable dramatisation featuring Mr Deasy, Headmaster, and Stephen Dedalus (James Joyce). There are surprising Dalkev connections with Jovce which will be uncovered in the guided Joycean Walk, led by an expert Joycean Guide immediately





Sharon Nealon plays Molly Bloom in Dalkey Castle on June 16th Photo: John Fahy

afterwards. Must be prebooked. Admission €10. Get to know more of Joyce's work at the highly popular Joycean Evening where a team of actors will perform enlightening extracts from 'Ulysses', 'Dubliners,' A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man' and more. Sharon Nealon playing Molly Bloom in the final soliloguy of 'Ulysses' is a particular highlight to round off the evening's gaiety. Tenor Simon Morgan and Soprano Donna Malone will be accompanied by Josh Johnston in songs that James Joyce sang or which feature in his work. Gather a few friends and come along and join us. Refreshments will be served. Admission €15.

**DLR Summer of Heritage** is a programme to open up access to many of the sites in the council's' ownership. It is run by the Heritage Office of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co. Our Living History tour in Dalkey Castle will be part of the series. The free tours for locals will be on Monday and Thursday mornings at 10.40 in July and August. See their brochure for times and dates or visit www.dlrcoco.ie/heritage You can book in advance for the DLR funded tours in Dalkey Castle by email, or by calling in to reception.

**Dalkey Island:** The MP3 player with the audio tour of Dalkey Island will be ready by the end of June. We look forward to the return of the ferry to the island. Ken can be contacted at 085 242 6516.

Our Maeve Binchy and Irish literary Highlights guided walking tour got off to a good start and will continue through the summer. Other writers, with Dalkey connections, covered will include: James Joyce, Hugh Leonard, Flann O'Brien, JM Synge, GB Shaw Samuel Beckett and more.

**Dalkey Book Festival:** we look forward to hosting as many events as we can in the sixth Dalkey Book Festival from 11th -14th June. The 150th anniversary of the birthday of WB Yeats on June 13th will be celebrated all day in Dalkey Town Hall. Check www.dalkeybookfestival.org for all details.

#### **Bookings:**

**Joycean events:** Booking online at **www.dalkeycastle.com**. At Reception in Dalkey Castle in person every day except Tuesday. Phone booking available by credit card.

Email info@dalkeycastle.com Tel 01 285 8366

MARGARET DUNNE, Manager, Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

#### DALKEY COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS



Dalkey Community First Responders were in attendance at the Seapoint Rugby Blitz on the 26th of April and the Dalkey United Blitz on the 3rd of May. These were two hugely successful outings for the Dalkey CFR as they trained children, parents and supporters from all over the country in CPR. CPR is a lifesaving skill

and the Dalkey CFR want to train more people in the Dalkey community in this lifesaving skill. If you or someone you know is interested in learning CPR please contact Dalkey CFR on info@DakleyCFR.ie or see their website, DalkeyCFR.ie for more details.

Dalkey CFR is always looking for now volunteers, both as responders and to help organise the group, please do not hesitate to contact them on info@DakleyCFR.ie for more details.





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Cuala County Hurlers

Photo: Cuala GAA

The Cuala GAA club, based on Hyde Road, is now one of the top four GAA clubs in Dublin. This year 6 of its members play with the Dublin Senior Hurlers, while three play with its under 21 hurling team. In addition Michael Fitzsimons plays with the Dublin Senior Footballers.

The Club has close to 2,000 members. It fields four adult hurling and 4 adult football teams and has 2 under 21 football and 2 under 21 hurling teams. On the Ladies side, Cuala now has 2 senior camogie and one Senior Ladies football teams. The club has developed a comprehensive range of juvenile teams for both boys and girls.

The Community Council would like to congratulate the Cuala GAA club success. We wish acknowledge the major contribution it makes to the sporting prowess and fitness of our young people and to the wider community. We hope to see some All-Ireland Medals in Dalkey again this year. Finally, we would also like to thank its officials for the very willing assistance they have given our Tidy Towns Committee this year.



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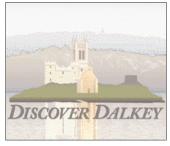


Discover Dalkey has made a submission on the Draft Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Development Plan 2016-2022. The following are extracts from that submission:

#### 1. The Historic Town of Dalkey

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Dalkey is an ancient urban settlement and thrived as a port town hundreds of years before any other town in the County existed, for hundreds of years before even Dublin existed. Heritage and Ireland's historic environment is estimated to account for € 1.5 billion or 1% of the State's Gross Value Added (GVA) and some



2% of overall employment (approximately 65,000 employment positions). Policies and objectives in the Development Plan 2016-2022 need to support and develop Dalkey as a heritage destination, for the benefit of the County as a whole.

#### 2. Zoning within the Historic Town of Dalkey

Until recently, Dalkey was designated as a District Centre. In the Draft Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Development Plan 2016-2022, the principal zoning indicated for the Town of Dalkey is 'Neighbourhood Centre'. This is the main zoning for Dalkey in the present Development Plan. The 'Neighbourhood Centre' zoning is applied to a wide range of small local shopping and commercial precincts throughout the County. While Dalkey is a relatively small town, it punches very significantly above its weight. Dalkey was ranked in the second quartile (Places 26-50) of the "100 best towns and cities in Ireland" by Retail Excellence Ireland. Dalkey outperformed all other Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown towns in the survey, with Blackrock, Dun Laoghaire, Dundrum and Bray listed in the third quartile (Places 51-75).

If the County wishes to recognise, develop and maximise the benefits from Dalkey's draw as a visitor destination for the local area, regionally and in terms of tourism potential. It is suggested that a new zoning, possibly named 'Historic Town Centre', be created and applied to Dalkey and other historic centres in the County.

It is also noted that the proportion of comparison retail offer in the town has dropped, while non-retail uses have increased dramatically since the town was downgraded from a District Centre. It may be that a more comprehensive, holistic and nuanced approach to use management within the town is required. Given this, Discover Dalkey would be in strong support of the preparation of a Local Area Plan for Dalkey and Environs (preferably to include the villages at Sandycove, Glasthule and Killiney).

#### 3. Development of the tourism potential of Dalkey and its environs

Visitors need access, facilities and accommodation, and the Plan should contain policies and objectives that would improve provision in each of these areas.

Visitor access has three components:

- A. Ensuring that locations of interest may be reached by a variety of transport modes,
- B. Ensuring that these locations are properly signposted, and
- C. Ensuring that sites of interest are open to the public.

From Sandycove to the County boundary north of Bray, access to sites in the coastal zone of the County is restricted under all these three headings. This area has a very dense and rich heritage, including Mesolithic sites, numerous early Christian, mediaeval, 18th, 19th and 20th century historic buildings and sites, sites of international industrial heritage importance, and many places with creative and literary associations. The Development Plan should contain specific objectives to improve visitor access in this zone.

Discover Dalkey Committee



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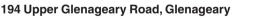
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#### Dalkey Ladies' Club visits Áras an Uachtaráin.

The Club had a very successful visit to the Áras recently where we were shown around the House and had tea and wonderful small cakes and scones were had in a beautiful dining room with portraits of past presidents of the walls. Both he and his Aide-de-Camp, Sgt. Grennan.

It was both an interesting and enjoyable experience.





The President's Aide-de-Camp, Sgt. Grennan



#### NEWS FROM LORETO PRIMARY SCHOOL DALKEY

#### **GREEN SCHOOLS REPORT**

For the last two years we have been working towards our Green Schools Travel flag.

We have held many WOW (Walk to School) days as we have been encouraging the pupils to walk, cycle or scoot to school.

We have also held COW (Cycle on Wednesdays) and SOW (Scoot on Wednesdays) days. On 9th March as part of our Green Schools Travel Flag our Green Schools Travel Officer Karen Moore visited us to meet with the Green Schools committee and to give some of the pupils a Scooter Safety and Skills workshop. Great fun was had by all and they learned how to be safe on a scooter - 'Be Safe, Be Seen' and how important it is to wear safety gear. Karen gave them tips on scooter maintenance and then tested their skills with relay races around obstacle courses. Karen will be back after Easter for more Travel Flag fun and to examine safe cycle routes to the school.

As part of our Green Schools programme we carried out a 'cycleability audit'. On Thursday April 16th three Environmental Officers from An Taisce came to guide us (six pupils who were frequent cyclists and Mrs Edwards) on a cycle through the area surrounding the school. During this cycle we noted all the areas that would be problems for the pupils who were cycling to school.

We were able to ascertain how safe it was for pupils cycling to our school. We will receive a

report from An Taisce with the results of our survey.

We will receive our Travel Flag on May 19th in the Helix.

Green School Committee Loreto P. S. Dalkey





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Dalkey Raven

Photo: M. Ryan

It's twenty years since the Dalkey Tern Project began in 1995 which means it's also twenty vears since the longest, warmest summer that many people ever knew. If I recall correctly the spring of 1995 was cold and wet and held little promise for the long days to come but eventually the sun arrived and when it came it stayed. For months. The country sizzled in the heat and with weeks of endless clear blue skies and warm windless nights it seemed as if the whole country had moved a little closer to the Mediterranean. There were 35 days of consecutive warmer-than-average temperatures from July 24th to August 27th. Kilkenny recorded the highest temperature of the year at 30.8°C. The east coast had less than half the average rainfall and the odd downpour had little effect on the browning vegetation.

We spent many an evening in the car park of what was then the Dalkey Island Hotel where we had a telescope set up to monitor the terns on the rock and to show the birds to any passing member of the public who might be interested. It was lovely to hear the birds' calls drifting across the motionless water but on many of those evenings our watch was accompanied by an acrid smell in the air. Because the silver lining of those long sunny rainless days had a dark cloud which was literally dark clouds, smoke from burning gorse and vegetation. All over Wicklow and the Dublin Mountains fires burnt, sometimes for weeks on end, as the tinder dry soil itself simmered beneath the ground's surface. Virtually all the vegetation was burnt off the slopes of the Sugar Loaf right down to bare rock in places and the smoke from gorse fires on Howth hill drifted all the way across the bay.

Dalkey and Killiney hills didn't escape with the worst fires in decades destroying acres of habitat and incinerating vegetation, nests and insects. Fires broke out in the banks below the Vico Rd and beside the Dart line. Fires are a regular occurrence with gorse, whose dry foliage makes them very incendiary but whereas normally the flames would sweep through the gorse, heathers and other vegetation. However, the fires of 1995 simmered under the ground's surface sometimes flaring up and burning through the soil and the roots of the plants. In previous fires trees might have escaped with some burning of the trunks but the '95 fires destroyed many old mature trees on Killiney hill. There had been two Douglas Firs which had grown to tower above the rest of the trees and may have been two of the tallest trees in the parkland until a smouldering fire whipped up by the wind burnt through the roots of one causing it to collapse. The skeletal remains of its mighty trunk still lie against the hill where it fell.

Already this year there have been very bad fires at Glencree in Wicklow and around Muckross House in Killarney suspected, though unproven, to be caused by individuals burning off undergrowth to promote new growth for grazing sheep. The timing of the fires couldn't have been worse for ground nesting birds. The north end of Glencree has for years

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been one of the few constantly reliable spots to hear a cuckoo calling in the spring and that's because the area has had lots of breeding Meadow Pipits, the host bird whose nest cuckoos will lay their own egg in. Meadow pipits are ground nesting and very susceptible to fires so if they are in decline in the area that might have a knock on effect on the cuckoos, birds whose own numbers have been dropping for a long time.

It had been a unusually dry spring this year up till the May Bank Holiday weekend's heavy rainfall, even the pools in the lower level of Dalkey quarry were bone dry but after over 24 hours of rain by the following



Dalkev Blackbird

Monday they were full to the brim again, hopefully attracting the dragonflies that have been a very welcome addition to the area in the last few years.

The Sunday of that weekend happened to be International Dawn Chorus Day and Derek Mooney hosted a midnight to dawn series of programmes on the radio with broadcasters at different locations around the country. One of the locations was a live broadcast from the Presidential residence, Áras An Uachtaráin where a group of people from Birdwatch branches would attend and I considered myself very lucky when I found I was had been invited to the event as a past Branch member. An early morning walk in the grounds followed by breakfast in the house itself was very appealing. The previous day before the event it had rained relentlessly from dawn to dusk but the forecast had said it would clear up before the following morning. It didn't, it was raining as heavy as ever at the unholy hour of 2.00am. As we drove in through sheets of rain we listened to Mooney's show and the Dawn Chorus had already begun in Cork with many birds singing there where the weather was much kinder. When we reached the President's residence at 4.00am there wasn't any sign of the rain easing off. Through the gloom the grounds looked lovely, rows of mature trees and an ornate walled garden of clipped box hedge. The trees with heavy foliage soon attracted a huddle of sheltering bird people under them. The birds were very slow to start singing though, possibly the rain laden clouds delaying the morning light so while a marsh in Cork resounded to a symphony of bird song, in the Phoenix Park all we could hear was a solitary robin and the sound of raindrops drumming off soaking clothes. But around five a.m. a blackbird began to sing and, as if in competition, another one began almost instantly. Soon the grove of conifers opposite the President's residence was a glorious chorus of singing blackbirds. You've probably noticed blackbirds singing joyously during showers, maybe it makes the ground softer to pull worms out and therefore it makes it more important to proclaim their territory but, whatever the reason, it's a lovely sound. I'm always a bit sad when we reach the longest day of the year as summer will have peaked but even before then the blackbirds will have stopped singing, taking on parental duties and falling silent till another cycle of seasons has passed and the first blackbird song of the year will begin again next year on a cold winter morning. After a very welcome breakfast in the President's house, served by cheerful staff who had also arrived at an unearthly hour, we left, soaked wet and a little bit weary, to make our way back to the car park. As we set off through the park the clouds cleared, the sun appeared and soon steam was rising off the warming vegetation. Typical!

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Royal Princess Maiden

Photo Jehan: Ashmore

Massive Cruiseships Offshore: Against the backdrop of the continuing controversy of the proposed €18m cruise-berth within Dun Laoghaire Harbour (see, last issue), is this season's massive cruiseships to Dublin Bay ports. If schedules are kept, readers by now will have noted *MSC Splendida's* imposing inaugural anchorage call off Dalkey, with tenders calling to Dun Laoghaire Harbour on 21st May.

The 137,936 tonnes *MSC Splendida* with a capacity of 3,900 passengers was originally scheduled to first visit Dun Laoghaire on 11th May. Instead on that very same day she made a historic call to Dublin Port as the largest ever ship to Dublin Port.

MSC Splendida entered 'stern' first (reverse) as the port's longest cruiseship at 333m, which prevented turning within the confines of Alexandra Basin. Should the proposed €30m double-cruise berth get the go-ahead, the quay reconfiguration allows for even larger ships to enter normally.

Ironically, the largest cruiseships to the proposed Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company's cruise-berth will still have to approach the harbour 'astern' (reverse) having turned around outside the harbour According to DLHC by 2017 there could be 130 cruise-callers, this invariably will have varying impacts both on the dynamics of Dublin Bay and those felt ashore as previously highlighted in several issues.

The day before 'Splendida' call, the mighty Cunard 'liner' Queen Mary 2 of even larger tonnage, 151,000 tonnes was to anchor, having first called in 2013. Whereas, Royal

*Princess*, albeit smaller, at 142,714 tonnes but with a larger 3,600 passenger capacity launched the season's opening call on 12th May out of a record 21 callers in which she is to make a total of 9 visits. In total 100,000 passengers and crew are to call but how many will directly visit the attractions of the borough?

Both *MSC Splendida* and the newer 2013 built *Royal Princess* christened by Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge, are the largest ever such ships to enter Irish waters. Her namesake predecessor, named by Diana, Princess of Wales in 1984 first called to Dublin Port during the 1990's where I made a port visit to the 44,000 tonnes ship. She seemed so large but given today's Dublin only based ferries to Holyhead are bigger, notably



Musandam Omam Photo Jehan: Ashmore





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*Ulysses* and not newcomer *Stena Superfast X* of only 30,000 tonnes.

As alluded to in the last issue, the new dynamics of Dublin Bay could potentially see the mega 'Quantum' class of 168,000 tonnes not just call to Cobh, Co. Cork but indeed pass offshore of our Dalkey waters. Noting already in service are the behemoths, the 'Qasis' class of a whopping 220,000 tonnes! Which could potentially use Irish ports in the future given the demands of a global cruise boom.

Round Ireland Speed Sailing Record - The flagship of the Sultanate of Oman, the MOD70 foot trimaran *Musandam-Oman* sail screamed past the Muglins on 6th May to break the prestigious 700 mile event by breaking a 22 year-old record.

The multihull reached 30 knots when entering Dublin Bay to claim the record time of 40 hours, 51 minutes and 57 seconds as ratified by the World Sailing Speed Council. The previous holder held by the late Steve Fossett, whose long-standing record was 44 hours with *Lakota* back in 1993.

The 'Formula 1' racing craft of the seas sailed off the Muglins in 2013 (see Oct. 2012 issue). On that occasion it was the Dublin City Bay Races in Scotsman's Bay and Leg Two of MOD70 race to Cascais, Portugal.

Word & Photos (c) Jehan Ashmore, who is the Ports & Shipping Correspondent for www.afloat.ie and magazine and contributor to Irish & UK marine periodicals among them www.shipsmonthly.com



#### \*

#### **CELEBRATION OF VOLUNTEERS**



At a Celebration of Volunteers event, held on 25th April, 2015 for approximately 100 nominated volunteers from across the County, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Marie Baker recognised the volunteers for giving up their valuable time and expertise for the betterment of their community and in turn the betterment of society.

The object of this celebration was to honour and recognise individuals who are representative of the body of volunteers that contribute their time and effort to help their own communities in the County including areas such as sports, arts, community, environment and heritage. Each volunteer at the event was nominated by members of their community to attend the event so that they could be recognised for their time and commitment to volunteering within Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Speaking at the event, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Marie Baker said "The community believed that each person in attendance should be recognised for consistently and unselfishly offering up their time and effort for the good of their community, group or club. This is indeed a high honour. I hope you take encouragement from it".

Each of the volunteers in attendance received a certificate and token to remember the occasion and their names were on display on a 'Volunteer Recognition Wall' at the event which will move to dlr LexIcon in Dún Laoghaire for display throughout the year.

In a closing statement, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Marie Baker thanked everyone for their dedication

"I hope that what you take from this event today is the sincere and clear message that your efforts are greatly appreciated by other volunteers, by the people you help in so many ways, by the wider society and by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council".

# 'They won't be kids forever'





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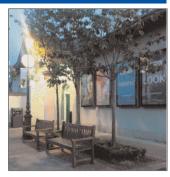
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June 21st is our longest day of the year and all this extra light and warmth encourages our gardens to put on such an exuberant burst of growth. Isn't June a simply wonderful time in the garden? Everything feels fresh, flowering and free growing: Surely it's a time of plenty? In a way I suppose our June gardens are rewards for all our planning and planting. So, lets hope our summer really is here and we can enjoy long, warm, balmy, sunny days with delicious afternoon teas, summer drinks, barbeques etc., all giving us such great opportunities to gather together treasured friends, neighbours and precious family.

"We love June for summer beauty. June is almost everybody's favourite month in the garden. Even gardeners



Foliage at dusk

who have been too busy to garden can draw some comfort from the fact that nature will take over this month and every inch will be brimming with flowers, roses a go-go, herbaceous borders in full song, shrubs puffed up like peacocks and sadly - weeds, slyly self-seeding. Enjoy it all but remember we still have work to do." Words by: James Alexander-Sinclair.

Why not now, as we are approaching this month of June, give some of our house plants a seasonal holiday? We all know that plants exude and ooze life into our houses but as so many of our house plants come from warmer climates, finding a suitable spot for them outside will instantly add a touch of the tropics into your garden. You could even sink one or two pots into the soil and move them around as the mood takes you. Remember of course, to bring them back into the house in early autumn.

Most soft leaved herbs can be chopped or rubbed and then frozen in ice cube trays with water-this is one of my 'list-to-do' jobs shortly. I picked up, in one of our One Euro shops recently, the most fabulous plastic sections, tiny individual containers - so I'm simply dying to get going and do this job. Parsley, both curly and flat leaved, chervil, dill, chives, lemon balm, basil, fennel, marjoram, rosemary, sage, thyme, watercress, spearmint, peppermint, mint, apple mint, pineapple mint, basil mint, orange mint, etc. So many herbs are good preserved this way. Then if you feel a little more adventurous, you could try dropping the frozen cubes into soups, gazpacho, casseroles and sauces. Some of these leaves taste and look so marvellous in summer drinks also.

**Ferns** – Welcome to the world of *Pteridology*! Fern mania, the craze for ferns. Some people consider ferns the 8th joy of gardening. Recently, ferns enjoyed renewed interest, thanks to the architectural appeal of their handsome foliage and the utter beauty of their unfurling fronds. Possibly, they're at their most effective when planted in groups to create a lush verdant feel - different ferns with fronds in contrasting shapes and sizes. They are intricate, lacy, elegant and graceful. I just love every single species. Who can deny their particularly mysterious ways of unfurling their fronds into the most amazing and fascinating of green designs and shapes? Basically, they love well-drained soil with plenty of humus and can tolerate drying out for a time as long as they are not in direct sunlight.

#### MIGHT DO, MAYBE JUNE JOBS

- 1. When planting out new annuals, maybe deflower the plants as this will encourage them to grow a better root system; then by pinching out the shoot tips, bushier plants develop along with more stems leading to more flowers.
- 2. Cut back ceanothus, weigla, escallonia, etc. where necessary to control growth and prune fast growing hedges like privet, etc.

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- 3. Water camellias and rhododendrons with a generous helping of sequestrene plant tonic. This also helps the leaves not to turn vellow.
- 4. Dampen down the greenhouse on hot days to increase humidity and prevent red spider mite.
- 5. Feed your lawn with a special lawn fertilizer to encourage healthy green growth.



Universal Pansies blooming on Castle Street,

- 6. To conserve water, water the soil rather than the plants, making ponds around individual plants so that the water can really soak in.
- 7. Strong colours and architectural forms transform summer borders. Why not create a summer container with a modern twist, be it a purple and orange heavenly match, one of my favourite combinations, or lime green, pink or magenta.
- 8. To make rose water, another one of my aspirations! Sacrifice some flowers when still fresh and plump.
- 9. The wafting scent of lavender is a true fragrance of summer, however some of our lavender species are short lived. Why not raise new plants from cuttings and 'such' are totally free of charge - only simply, a labour of love!
- 10. Finally, try to keep the use of chemical controls to a minimum. They may kill off pests but they also kill the beneficial insects that prey on them such as ladybirds and hoverfly larvae.

HAVE A TRULY BLISSFUL JUNE.

## Dalkey Community Council Ltd. 35th 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 Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2015. Judging will take place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Presentation of the prizes will take place in the Autumn.

> If first place was achieved in any category in 2014, 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 $\checkmark$ ) Overall Garden ☐ Display - window boxes, hanging baskets etc. ☐ Communal Garden / Open Space Front Garden Signature:..... Date:...... Date N.B. Please print your entry and put into the DCC postbox in Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey

#### PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Weeks 16-19 13/4/2015 to 8/5/2015

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.

Due to variation in the publication dates by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, please note that the deadline for planning observations/objections may have lapsed when it is read in the Dalkey Newsletter.

Reg. Ref.: D14A/0590 Application Rec'd Date: 11-Sep-2014

Applicant Name & Location: David Coulson, Former Tramyard, 15, Castle Street, Dalkey.

**Proposal**: Retention permission for a 3 year period for development as follows: a) extension and change of use of previously approved single storey landscape studio (reg ref D12A/0071) to retail bookshop (8sq.m), b) extension to previously approved single storey coffee shop (reg ref D12A/0071) in 2 areas, including relocation of previous smoking area and incorporation of refurbished Tram as servery area (82sq.m total), c) external seating of 14. no. movable bench seats with associated 4 no. timber planter screens, d) external tarpaulin roof structure for use for future winter weekend market area covering, e) all associated site development and landscaping including timber decking; at the c.01ha site. 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). **Application Type:** Permission for Retention.

**Additional Information:** 15-Apr-2015

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0240 **Application Rec'd Date:** 13-Apr-2015

Applicant Name & Location: Glen Finegan, Site at Ardbrugh Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:**Permission to amend a consented scheme (Planning application reference D13A/0172) for the erection of a single dwelling house and the creation of new vehicular and pedestrian entrance.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0305 **Application Rec'd Date:** 6-May-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Colm & Valerie O'Rourke, The Old Pavillion, Leslie Avenue, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the change of use of derelict part 2 storey part single storey building to a family dwelling and permission is sought for a first floor flat roof extension to the rear and side, minor amendments to existing window openings, velux roof lights, a first floor balcony facing east and the opening up and minor reconfiguration of the existing vehicular entrance to Leslie Avenue and all ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref.: D15B/0162 Application Rec'd Date:

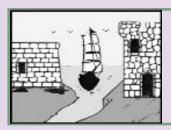
Applicant Name & Location: Niall Power, Heatherdene, Saval Park Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal**: Permission for Retention of a single storey store room with mono-pitched roof and ancillary site works to the side of existing two storey house and construction of new 1.8m high front boundary wall and fence. **Application Type:** Permission for Retention.

#### PLANNING DECISIONS WEEKS 16-19 2015 13/4/2015 to 8/5/2015

**Reg. Ref.**: D14A/0404 **Decision**: Grant Permission **Date**: 16-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** Glencairn Flat Management Ltd. Glencairn Apartments, Harbour Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal**: Permission for 4 additional apartments (2 at new 3rd floor level and one at each of 1st floor and 2nd floor levels) and associated circulation and landlord areas, representing an increase of two units from previously approved application reference D10A/0614 (PL06D.239478). Also, revised vehicular gate position (as previously approved) to facilitate additional car parking spaces and general elevational modifications to entire building.



# DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## **ANNUAL REPORTS**

from the

**PUBLIC MEETING** 

held in

OUR LADY'S HALL, DALKEY

on

Monday 11th May 2015 at 8pm

**Special Supplement** 

#### BACKGROUND

Dalkey Community was born out of a tragedy when the entire Howard family was lost in a house fire in 1974. With such an amount of community and, indeed, national grief, it was felt that an active community-based organisation was necessary to assist and support the growing community of Dalkey at that time. The Community Council was formed on the back of the success of the Ladies Club and a formal inauguration was held in Hyde Road presided over by the then President, Erskine Childers.

Ever since, the Community Council has striven to build on the initial goals through its Memorandum of Association, having being incorporated in recent years.

This has been done through the following goals as listed in the Memorandum:

- 1. To represent the residents, businesses, clubs and organisations in Dalkey.
  - (a) To increase community harmony and fellowship.
  - (b) To foster the well-being of all the inhabitants of Dalkey without any distinction of any nature whatsoever.
  - (c) To foster facilities in the interest of social well-being, health, recreation and leisure.

The overall improvement in the general well-being of people in Dalkey during this time is marked. One of the methods used successfully has been the regular publication of a Newsletter, which is believed to be the longest running free community-based newsletter run entirely on a voluntary basis. Indeed, the entire Community Council is run by residents who are volunteers in their community and new members are always most welcome.

This Supplement represents the Reports from the various parts of the Community Council at the recent Annual Public Meeting held in Dalkey. We would like to sincerely thank all those who contributed Reports to the Meeting.

#### CHAIRMAN'S 2014 REPORT

#### For Public Meeting, May 2015

For the last 40 years we have been active in the community and have liaised with the County Council and other agencies to represent the community's views on various issues and topics important to the area e.g. when the parking charges were first introduced, planning matters and traffic issues.

We celebrated our 40th year as a community group last year holding our Annual Dinner in Fitzpatrick's Hotel in April; many previous members attended the event as well as present members enjoying the dinner and entertainment that followed.

The Community Council is made up of representatives from approximately 60 local areas, consisting of two or three roads or streets throughout Dalkey, in addition to representatives from clubs and local organisations. We meet once a month to discuss topics and issues concerning Dalkey. Members also deliver our Newsletter every month to residents and businesses in Dalkey. We have an Executive Committee of 12 members who decide the policies and their implementation and future planning of the Council and meet again on a monthly basis.

In addition we have several sub committees:-

*Planning* – we monitor the planning applications for Dalkey each week and comment on those that have some impact on the community to the planning department. Residents contact us when they are concerned about a planning application in their immediate locality and we try to help/advise them if at all possible.

Sports - including the Community Games which we fund every year. This involves over 100 children and their trainers who meet weekly during the summer months culminating in their participation in the Dublin Community Games Competition in Santry and any winners going on to the National Community Games in Athlone. We also have a swimming team which has had outstanding success in recent years.

*Neighbourhood Watch* - our local Community Garda attends our meetings and gives a report of any incidents in Dalkey; this gives us an opportunity to liaise directly with the Gardaí.

The Editorial Committee which compiles the monthly Newsletter. We believe it gives a snapshot of life in Dalkey as well as providing local information and news of events. The advertising goes from strength to strength giving local businesses the opportunity to promote their enterprises and products to the 3,000 households in Dalkey that we deliver to. This has in turn become a great source of information for residents looking for local tradesmen. Thanks must go to Lena Feely our Advertising Manager who organises this important aspect of the Newsletter

*The Functions Committee* that organises the events, competitions and the social side of the Council. (Garden competition, Art Exhibition, Christmas Event, etc.)

*Heritage* - we have a member on the Board of the Heritage Centre who gives an overview of its activities and events to our members.

Tidy Towns - we work closely with Dalkey Tidy Towns, several of our members are also on their Committee. This organisation has had a huge effect on much of what we see and appreciate in Dalkey. Most of the new projects around the town were instigated by the Tidy Towns Committee. In recent years due to the decrease in numbers of personnel in DunLaoghaire- Rathdown County Council much of the maintenance of our streets and parks has been taken over by this organisation, liaising with various departments in the Council. This work is done by a small number of volunteers who work away throughout the year. On behalf of the Community Council, I should like to thank them for all their work which has made real improvements to our town.

The reports from the group sub committees will explain more fully some of our activities.

As can be seen from this overview of the Community Council we are involved throughout the town in its many and varied aspects; however, like many voluntary organisations we are suffering from a lack of new members.

It is important that we have ideas and opinions from new people to keep our organization vibrant and in touch with all parts of the community to continue the work of the last 40 years. I would ask anyone who has a little time to spare, to contact us and join the Community Council; you will enjoy the experience making new friends and also becoming aware of local issues that you can have an input into.

Another worrying trend has been the decrease in the size of our Annual Collection-there was a marked decline in the numbers of households contributing to the collection last year. Of the 3000 households and businesses to which we deliver our newsletter, only between 600-700 actually contribute to our Collection.

We are a totally self-funded voluntary organisation but without a healthy response to our Annual Appeal by all living in Dalkey, we are in danger of slowly grinding to a halt and ceasing to exist as a meaningful community organisation.

It would be a great pity after over 40 years of active involvement in the life of Dalkey and a poor reflection of our appreciation of the effort of all those past members who have worked so hard for the common good, that we forget to return the donation envelope with a contribution. If our funding decreases even further, we will be unable to continue our work for the community of Dalkey into the future. So I urge you to give generously to our Annual Collection – it will go directly back to the community through our work and projects throughout Dalkey.

I shall conclude by thanking all the members of the Community Council for their work throughout the year.

#### Dr. Susan McDonnell

(Chairman, Dalkey Community Council)

#### DALKEY CASTLE AND HERITAGE CENTRE

We picked up three **awards** during the year. We were particularly pleased to get an award of excellence from CIE in the first year of the operation of the Leisurely Ireland series. We had to score over 90% from customer feedback to get the award. For the second year running, we achieved an excellence rating from Tripadvisor. Best of all, we got the Community Council cup for heritage excellence in Dalkey!

**Visitor numbers** continue to grow to the Heritage Centre and are well spread throughout the year. We had an increase of 13% last year. The numbers yielded 39% domestic and 61% overseas. The American market continues to grow and is helped by the CIE tours which are now a regular feature in the town. The great curiosity factor here is Finnegans "where Bono brought Michelle Obama for lunch" and fans of the late, great Maeve Binchy. The EFL (English as a Foreign Language) business is our mainstay, due to the visual nature of the actors from Deilg Inis Living History Theatre Company who are contracted to the Centre. The fact that we are open all year round is a big positive factor in the business.

**Having a heritage town and a visitor attraction**, like we have, at the edge of a capital city, gives visitors from Dublin a short half day or evening break from city congestion and traffic. We all must keep up the marketing and publicity efforts so that visitors get to hear about Dalkey and may come out of curiosity by day or by night, so everyone benefits.

**Dalkey Island Ferry.** We are working closely with Ken and Dave Cunningham who have the licence from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co to bring people to and from Dalkey Island. With DLR support, we have commissioned and prepared the script for an audio tour on MP3 players which we will have for sale in the shop. This will be in keeping with best practice for not littering the island with information leaflets as people will keep the MP3 players afterwards.

Literary events. We had many highlights in celebrating the literary heritage of this area. Our show 'On Yer bike with Dalkey's Writers' had a number of performances for American universities who are studying our writers. We were part of the 2014 Dalkey Book Festival and Dalkey Creates Writing Festival. We commissioned a new work from playwright Shay Linehan to adapt a Maeve Binchy novel for the stage. This 'Scenes from Minding Frankie' played to great critical acclaim, especially from Gordon and the family and Maeve's London agent. We are currently working on another commission to adapt another of Maeve's works for stage during the Dalkey Creates Writing Festival in October. We helped out in the Evening Tribute to former PP and writer, Fr Desmond Forristal in April. We are making some literary proposals for funding for 1916 associated events.

Dalkey Irish Heritage Town Co, the company that operates the Heritage Centre and the Town Hall finally secured another 10 year lease from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Coco to manage the facilities here in March 2015.

Working with the Dept. of SP for Community Employment and TUS participants, we keep the facility open all year round. The Company greatly values the goodwill of the people of Dalkey and the support of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co in keeping the facility operational in difficult trading times.

#### Flor O'Mahony

Community Council Representative on the Board of the Heritage Centre

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#### **FUNCTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2014**

#### ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner this year was held on Saturday, April 11th. As this was our 40th year we decided that Killiney Castle would be a suitably prestigious location in which to celebrate. There were 60 at the dinner.

We had invited Bernard Farrell to be our guest and speak to the group. Bernard has long been a supporter of the Community Council and he expressed his pleasure on receiving the Newsletter each month. He delighted us with excerpts from his early life where he was almost a local and described in his usual manner his trips to the theatre with his whole family and also his visits to the doctor in Dalkey.

This was followed by a little vignette by Shay Linehan and performed by Brenda of the Deilginis Players.

#### **GARDEN COMPETITION**

There were a large number of entries this year and, again it was in July which seemed to suit most of the participants. Although for the second year running it was not raining and was, in fact, a lovely day. The judges were excellent, very pleasant, charming and easy to work with. They were assiduous in their study of the gardens. Most of the gardens were so attrative that I don't know how they could decide how to select first second and third. We had so many gardens that the judges had to start earlier and finish later than usual. At the end of the day they were dropped off, went into Killiney Castle and finished their consultations and, consequently, very quickly provided us with the results.

#### GARDEN OUTING

We went to Wexford this year. Our first stop was at Glenavon Japanese-style garden in Riverchapel near Gorey. The owner had over the years adopted a Japanese style in her garden as it was close to the sea and this was easier to maintain. It was a very tranquil and soothing garden. The hostess, helped by her daughters and granddaughters, provided us with tea/coffee, brack and scones. All this enjoyed sitting out in her beautiful garden in the sunshine. We went from there to Springmount Garden Centre in Ballycanew. We were able to look round here, purchase necessary garden goods and interesting plants as well as have lunch. We went from there to Wells House and Gardens in Ballyedmond. Here we went on Lady Frances' Woodland Walk through an Elizabethan forest, then visited the Victorian Terrace Garden, the Craft Courtyard, toured the House and visited Mrs. Stones' Tea Rooms where we again had tea, coffee and cakes.

#### GARDEN RECEPTION AND COMMUNITY AWARDS

Once more, the Garden Reception proved to be a most popular event. One of the judges spoke for both of them and commented favourably on most of the gardens and was most encouraging to all the entrants. The first three winners in each category received vouchers for a local garden centre, with each overall winner receiving a cup.

*Community Cup* – Margaret Dunne from the Heritage Centre for her work in promoting tirelessly and putting Dalkey Castle on the tourist map.

*McCabe Sports Cup* – Iona O'Sullivan as promising, up-coming athlete.

*Comerford Cup for Young Achievers* – Andrew Patton for setting up Dalkey's First Responders.

#### ART EXHIBITION

This was a very well-supported event and there was a warm and pleasant atmosphere in the Hall. It was opened by a very popular artist, Thelma Mansfield, who told us her first home was in Dalkey. Thelma was most supportive about the exhibition and offered words of praise to all aspiring artists. We sold a large number of pictures, more than we had sold in the last few years.

#### CHRISTMAS MEETING

This is a quiet event and is for members of the Community Council. After our monthly meeting we enjoy mince pies and stollen as we socialise and look forward to the festive season.

None of these events would have been possible without the assistance of the other members of the Functions Committee. They are a very hardworking, encouraging and most supportive group who come along and help to set up for all the events and then clean up afterwards. If I ask for something to be done it is finished before I turn around. As I say every year, ladies and *one gentleman* take a bow.

Rosaleen Callaghan Functions Manager

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF DALKEY TIDY TOWNS 2014/15

2013/14 was Dalkey's 28th successive year entering the National Tidy Towns Competition.

#### NATIONAL COMPETITION RESULTS

Dalkey was awarded a Bronze Medal in Category E (Large towns) of the National Tidy Towns Competition in 2013/14. Its' score improved by one point on the previous year; 298 out of a potential total of 450. (The overall winner was Kilkenny with a score of 320).

Out of 36 entries in County Dublin, Dalkey came joint third behind Skerries (316 points) and Malahide (300), with Shankill joining us on 298 marks; the previous year Dalkey secured second place in the County.

The slight improvement in Dalkey's overall rating disguises contrasting fortunes between the various judging criteria.

On a positive note, Dalkey significantly improved its' rating on 6 out of 8 assessment criteria, gaining no less than an additional 14 marks while on one dimension (Approach roads, Streets & lanes) our marks remained unchanged. Indeed, Dalkey would easily have had its' best ever score but for lapses on the key dimension of 'Tidiness and Litter Control'.

Unfortunately, on the day of the adjudicator's visit, litter was present at several locations; weeds growing along some kerb sides and bins smelling at an off-street location. The reduced marks awarded on this key dimension largely negated the advances made on the other judging criteria.

While the Adjudicator was impressed by Dalkey's streetscape and buildings, some excellent shop frontages and vibrant atmosphere, it was observed that the upper floors in the town, in some instances, did not look as well as they might, with weeds growing from roofs and some premises needing painting.

It should be noted that the adjudicator urged consideration be given to lessening signage and window advertising.

The Adjudicator's comment below is a sharp reminder of the need for the whole community- individuals and businesses - to be to be alert to lapses and energised to correct them.

"At your level in the competition rigorous attention to consistency and detail is important."

#### TIDY TOWN ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST YEAR

The litter patrols & maintenance programmes, such as repairing & painting street furniture; tending flower/shrub beds & planters (at over 20 locations), clearing a number of

'rights of way', such as the Cats Ladder, Ulverton steps, etc. continued through the year. In addition, a number of key projects were initiated over the past twelve months, some of which are still ongoing. The following paragraphs touch on a few of these:

Non-amenity open space beside the Masonic Lodge/Castle St/ Ormeau Drive — We undertook a major up-grade of this space. This involved drawing up an initial outline design for approval by DLRCC, commissioning a landscaper- Jason Blackmore- who came up with the interesting patterns, effectively creating a 'mini-plaza'.



The idea was to transform a fairly dull, hard to maintain area, into an attractive outdoor feature more in keeping with surrounding streetscape. Our thanks go to DLRCC for their generous financial aid and support.

**Graffiti action project:** This is a major scourge often not seen by locals thanks to the prompt removal of the tags. Damage caused by Graffiti vandals in Dalkey peaked last August. In this small area, a total of 316 tags were removed by DTT in that month alone. In the past year, over 1,700 tags have also been removed by hand. Rather than just accept this ongoing vandalism to property, we set up a programme to defeat it. Based on research and experiences of communities as far afield as Buffalo, New York, our response involved the following elements:-

- 1. Establishment of an action plan with DTT, the DLRCC and the Gardaí.
- 2. Source removal materials from DLRCC and confirm best removal routines
- 3. Set up a geo-tagged photo data base of all tags in the area for the Gardaí
- 4. Create a core volunteer group willing to remove tags within 24hrs.
- 5. Place cameras in Graffiti black-spots to discourage and identify culprits
- 6. Patrol black-spots daily if possible
- 7. Issue monthly reports with tag photos to DTT, DLRCC and the Gardaí
- 8. Organise a Leaflet Drop to inform our community on our actions
- 9. Place Graffiti Action Posters in areas of high visibility as required
- 10. Organise a general Community Meeting to involve our Dalkey neighbours

The Community Presentation took place at the Town Hall / Heritage Centre in February. A support effort entitled DALKEY ADOPT MY STREET was launched. Attended by 77 neighbours, 22 of those present adopted their street with a commitment to carry on our anti-Graffiti activities in their vicinity. Instruction was given where needed.

Presentations were also organized for local School children at St Patrick's, Loreto and Harold Boys and the feedback has been most positive, with the result that further presentations are planned.

We have now involved Irish Rail in our programme. They requested our advice on methods used to combat the serious Graffiti scourge which faces them along the entire Dart Line from Bray to Howth. This is ongoing.

In support of our efforts, DLRCC have now agreed to increase their budget for surveillance cameras during the School Holiday periods to discourage the culprits and help to identify and apprehend them.

While progress is encouraging, other surrounding communities and Irish Rail need to launch similar programmes to help avoid Graffiti "leakage" to the Dalkey area. This is certainly a long term project

You can play your part by emailing any sightings of graffiti to-info@dalkeyadoptmystreet.com

**Approach roads** — We are conscious that first impressions play a key role in the formation of attitudes to a locality. With this in mind we are currently in the process of enhancing several approach roads:-

**Junction of Hyde Rd & Castlepark Rd:** We will be putting in two 'island' shrub beds, edged with granite sets, and erecting 'Welcome to Dalkey' (in Irish & English) granite stones on each side of the road.

As part of the preparatory work, with the help of the Council, we recently removed the metal barriers (a number of which were damaged), concrete uprights and redundant piping left over after the drainage works on Castlepark Rd. Overgrowing brambles were cut back and the tree canopy raised to let in more light to allow for re-seeding.



**Squareabout' junction -traffic islands:** (close to the Topaz

station) — As part of improving the appearance of the approach roads new bespoke planters are being fabricated and will be installed on two traffic/pedestrian islands at 'The Squareabout'.

Hyde Road. & 'Squareabout' junction island Ulverton Road. & 'Squareabout' junction island

We have also tidied up the green space at the junction of Barnhill Rd. & Ave. and acknowledge that there is more to be done.

**'Big Belly Bins:** We have sought these bins for several years and their roll-out by the Local Authority at 19 locations in Dalkey (agreed between DLRCC and ourselves) is welcomed and they would appear to have resulted in less litter. We are seeking an additional bin for the Supervalu car park, failing that, we will have the least utilised bin repositioned to this key location.



**DART station:** We meet with executives from Iarnrod Éireann on a regular basis on various aspects of the station and its surrounds such as graffiti, boundaries, embankments, fly-tipping, landscaping, etc.

We have asked them to consider replacing the rather unattractive metal siding of the pedestrian bridge (which drew adverse comment from the Adjudication),

with a mesh type material. The photo is an example of the type proposed.

**Dillon's Park:** Various improvements have been made to this park, including clearance of undergrowth to allow better access to the seafront, removal of several non-native trees (after discussions with DLRCC) to provide an enhanced view of Dalkey Island; repair of the pergola & trellis at the 'tea room'; planting of new shrub beds and seats repaired & varnished.

**'Dalkey goes Green'**: We are currently reviewing the initiative launched last year aimed at businesses. The objective was to reduce wastage costs, the number of bins, traffic congestion (due to the number of different collection company vehicles) and, amongst other things, improved re-cycling,



**Thanks** — We have been very fortunate to have had the services of Marius (until recently on a Job Bridge scheme) who recently has been joined by Andrew and also Lynda Coleman, a trainee landscaper, who continues to offer her services on a voluntary basis having completed her course with us.

We are indebted to the proprietor of the Tramyard for accommodating a number of Dalkey tidy towns needs, including providing storage space for our equipment for several years and latterly thanks are due to the Parish Office of the Church of the Assumption for providing us much needed storage space. We would also wish to acknowledge the support of the Heritage Centre for hosting the Graffiti meeting.

A big thank you is due to all our litter patrollers. Litter patrols continue for the summer season outside Select Stores every Tuesday & Saturday at 10.30 and every Thursday at Dillon's Park at 10.30 am.

We look forward to continued support from the Local Authority. We believe Dalkey, as a Special Area of Conservation and as a Heritage Town, is unique within the County and, given local commitment, is deserving of full support.

We welcome: Flor. O' Mahony as a new member of our Committee which comprises; Paddy Rigney; Dr. Susan McDonnell, Terry Wheatley, Malcolm Connolly, Blaithín O'Brien, Frank Dillon, Des Burke Kennedy

As always any help is most welcome and we are pleased to report that several residents have volunteered to look after shrub beds in their neighbourhood.

Malcolm Connolly
Dalkey Tidy Towns

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT 2014**

Dalkey has now been without a Garda station since the end of June 2012 and its closure is still regretted by many residents. The town and Dalkey area is policed by the Garda Station in Dun Laoghaire. The Garda Clinics are held in OLH and the Community Garda is on duty there from 11am to 12pm on every first and third Thursday in each month.

DCC enjoys a good relationship with the Gardai and during the year meetings take place with Superintendent Fitzgerald and Inspector Tom Condon to discuss issues that affect the town and share information. Our Community Garda Cathy Burke attends the DCC Monthly meetings and gives the members a report on crime trends and figures for each month. Any matters of concern or problems are brought to her attention and she takes note of them for further investigation.

NW did not hold an AGM in 2014 due to work commitments and personal constraints of the executive members. There will be one in 2015 as NW is re-generated and areas are reconfigured.

It is up to us all to help the Gardai to fight crime and NW is a partnership that provides a basis for the prevention of crime. It is important that any suspicious activity is reported as this may lead to an arrest of a culprit or provide evidence in the compiling of a case. The success of the graffiti campaign is a template where the partnership of DTT, DLR, Gardai and the public working together can bring about change.

Dalkey is such a lovely place to live in that we must keep the town free from anti-social behaviour. It should be a safe place for residents and all our visitors who come to the town should want to return to it.

Dun Laoghaire Garda Station Tel: 666 5000.

Confidential line: **1800 666 111**Neighbourhood Watch Rep.

#### **SPORTS REPORT FOR 2014**

#### DALKEY COMMUNITY GAMES - SWIMMERS

The swimming team that represents Dalkey in the Community Games is a young and very dedicated set of swimmers who enjoy the full support of a very dedicated set of parents.

The Dalkey Swimmers came home with - 10 Gold Medals from the Leinster Competition held in June 2014

- 5 x Silver Medals
- 5 x Bronze Medals
- 2 x 4th place medals

The team was also presented with the Over All Cup - for the Team with the most points. This is the second year running that Dalkey has won this Cup.

In total fourteen swimmers went through to the National finals in Athlone in August. The swimmers brought home gold for the Girls U13 Relay team, Aislinn Rowlands U10 Backstroke and Rhys Rowlands U14 Backstroke.

#### DALKEY COMMUNITY GAMES - ATHLETICS

The Dalkey Dashers is a voluntary running group run by parents to train children from the Dalkey/Killiney and Glenageary/Sandycove areas as part of the DCG. Conor Patton manages the Dashers and we are ever grateful for his total commitment for organising and running the training sessions each week from the end of March to the end of June. He oversees the training of the young athletes in the different disciplines. The athletes are always very successful each year in the Leinster and National DCG competitions.

2014 was a very successful year for the Dalkey Dashers with the largest number of children representing both Dalkey and Glenageary in Santry.

Under the DCG rules only two competitors can go to Santry for each event and in addition a competitor can only participate in one individual event and one team event. The final evening in Loreto with the medal presentations for all runners was a great success. All those who qualified to go to Santry train in Kilbogget track for the last two weeks to give everyone the experience of running on a full size 400m track. In Santry a total of 28 individuals and three relay teams qualified for the finals on Saturday and Sunday which was a tremendous performance. There were 2 overall winners taking gold medals and perpetual cups and 9 other medal winners.

This year the DCC Sports Cup was awarded to Iona O'Sullivan Ball throw u12 who is a young and promising athlete.

#### DALKEY COMMUNITY GAMES

DCG has been very active with computerising much of the forms and information on the many competitions. As with many organisations they are in need of volunteers and particularly young volunteers.

I would like to thank Conor for all his efforts in organising the Dalkey Dashers, and Marie Fahy who runs the DCG Swimmers. I would also like to thank DCC for their support and Mr. Dunne the Principal of Loreto for the use of the grounds at the school for the training sessions and thanks to Cabinteely Athletic for facilitating Dalkey Dashers for those weeks before the Leinster Finals.

We hope 2015 will be an equally successful year for both the Dalkey athletes and swimmers.

Elaine Feely Secretary Dalkey Community Games

#### **NEWSLETTER REPORT FOR 2014**

#### For Public Meeting of Dalkey Committee Council Limited, 11th May 2015

#### INTRODUCTION

2014 was a good year for the Council's Newsletter. The regular contributors continued to supply us with a regular flow of interesting and readable material for every issue. Our readers enjoyed what we gave them. Two important events during the year had a bearing on the Newsletter. Firstly, a highlight was the publication of the Fortieth Anniversary Commemorative Issue in April which collected a selection of the activities in Dalkey Town during the forty years of the Community Council's existence. Secondly, the Newsletter became a separate entity for financial purposes from the Council with all the key decisions being made at the regular Editorial Group Meetings which preview the forthcoming issues.

#### **EDITORIAL**

Our regular contributors were wonderful in the way they delivered their material in accordance with our production schedule. The most popular subjects were Nature Corner; Gardening; Planning; Local History Talks; Heritage Centre Updates; Tidy Towns; Schools' Updates; Dalkey Business Group Updates; Maritime Dalkey; Dalkey Scouts; Letter to the Editor. Sinéad Tyrrell's Wine Corner was another article of general interest.

#### **PRODUCTION**

Printing costs were maintained at the same level again this year in keeping with the general trend in the industry. We kept a grip on costs and deliveries with our current printer during the year. We also investigated other print quotations but, whilst apparently good, were not good enough to warrant changing to a new printer and typesetter. Our conclusion is that we are getting a good price for the service we expect from both the typesetters and the printers.

We streamlined the Newsletter's publication scheduling during 2014 which has proved quite successful. This manifests itself in the fact that every Dalkey resident gets a regular delivery of the Newsletter and this must, inevitably, improve our local profile as a reliable and a worthwhile community service as well as satisfying our advertisers.

#### **ADVERTISING**

Last year saw our advertising income maintain at a high rate due to the excellent work of Ms Helena Feely, Advertising Manager and the attractiveness of the Newsletter to regular and potential advertisers. The use of colour advertising has brought a significant benefit to the advertising income. We found that we had to squeeze in some advertisements and balance them with the actual editorial copy. This is a result of our overall success with the Newsletter's readership which has obviously become of keen interest to advertisers.

Special mention must be made in that we are most fortunate to have had the benefit of the experience and knowledge of our Advertising Manager, Helena Feely, throughout the year. She has been a superb member of our Editorial Team and has maintained an excellent relationship with the advertisers, even the ones who are late with payment!

#### DISTRIBUTION

The sorting of the Newsletter takes place on Thursdays in Our Lady's Hall. Road Representatives collect their own bags as well as the bags for some others in their nearby areas. This has actually resulted in a more efficient distribution of the Newsletter, despite our initial concerns. We delivered more than 36,300 copies of the Newsletter in Dalkey during the year. As always, there will be minor hitches mainly to do with Road Representatives not delivering their Newsletters quickly after publication; this may be due to family commitments, illness, holidays, etc. Special thanks to our Distribution Manager, Danny Merity, who has done another excellent job in 2014 and continues to do so this year.

#### COSTS AND OUTLOOK

As mentioned above, an important event for the Newsletter in 2014 was that it was decided to treat it as a separate entity for financial purposes within the Council. Fortunately, we had the benefit of Helena Feely's experience and knowledge which has resulted in sufficient advertising income coming in to cover the costs of producing the Newsletter. The result is that we did not made a loss during 2014. We expect to continue in this vein for 2015.

Many thanks to all the Team!

Gerard Coakley
Editor
Dalkey Newsletter
Dalkey

### SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 2014

The most significant change to the meeting schedule of DCC for the year 2014 has been the alteration of the meeting date for the Monthly meeting that is attended by all members from the first Monday in the month to the second Monday in the month. This change was effected in October 2014 with the monthly meeting taking place on 20th October and the November meeting take place on the 17th of the following month. As we go forward the meeting dates for 2015 have been confirmed and the dates for the Monthly and Executive meetings have been scheduled for the same night. This means the Monthly Meeting commences at 7:30pm and the Executive Meeting is held directly after it. This change has resulted in a reduction of the meeting time for those members who are both members of the Council and Executive and has also reduced the rental costs.

The May Monthly meeting was held in the Masonic Hall and we thank John Hewitson and the Masons for the use of their meeting room. The 2014 Public Meeting was held on Monday 6th May in OLH.

The sorting of the monthly Newsletter from 1pm to 2pm on the last Thursday of every month (except December) is suiting most members and DCC is indebted to the Distribution team managed by Danny Merity who organises, distributes and delivers the bags so efficiently. I also want to thank Christine Feely who comes on a regular basis to help with the sorting of the Newsletters.

DCC thanks the Parish Council for the use of OLH and is also very grateful to Mairead O'Donoghue, Manager of the Parish Centre for her help with the scheduling of our meetings and events the Community Council runs there throughout the year.

The Editorial Group continues to use the small room in St. Patrick's for the monthly Editorial meetings and DCC would like to express their appreciation to Reverend Bruce Hayes and the Select Vestry for their support and also to the Secretary Dermot Deverell for his continued assistance during 2014.

Postal correspondence is minimal with most communications coming via email to the Editor, Gerard Coakley.

The text method of communicating information to members continues to work very well and is the most efficient way to send everyone notices of forthcoming meetings and other pieces of relevant news. I stress that mobile numbers are not passed onto third parties without the express permission of the owner.

Finally, I would like to thank my Assistant Secretary Elaine Feely who stepped in and took the minutes of meetings that I missed during 2014 and to thank the Chairman and the other members of the Executive for their support and hard work during the past year.

#### **Ann Perry**

Secretary, Dalkey Community Council

## TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2014

The summary of the DCC finances ending 31st December 2014.

The two primary sources of revenue for the organisation are Advertising and an Annual Collection.

The printing costs of the Newsletter were covered by the advertising revenue and this was due to the great efforts of the Advertising Manager Mrs. Helena Feely and DCC thank her for her continued work with this task.

This year's annual collection was disappointing as 2014 saw the 40th anniversary of the Community Council Newsletter. The collection only realised  $\in$  8,000 and this was down by 31% on the 2013 figure. Money raised barely covered the annual running expenses of the council this left DCC with no money to fund any local projects. The Dalkey Community Games did receive some funding but all other local initiatives had to be shelved until the council is in a better financial position.

The Executive has organised a strategy to target areas where the return of the collection envelopes is zero or very poor in an effort to increase our funding. I would encourage residents to contribute to our collection as Dalkey Community Council runs various activities during the year, Garden Competition, Art Exhibition and the Christmas Celebration. The Community Council deals with many issues and concerns that are brought to the local authority on behalf of residents. It is only with sufficient finance that DCC can remain in existence and continue to be a vital organisation in the area. DCC is committed to re-investing money into initiatives and projects to keep the heritage town of Dalkey a beautiful place to live in and it is only with your help that DCC can continue to do this for the benefit of the whole community.

Edward O'Neill

Treasurer

Dalkey Community Council

# PLANNING REPORT FOR YEAR 2013 FOR MAY 2014 PUBLIC MEETING

There were 91 planning applications during 2014 in the Dalkey area compared to 78 applications in 2013. 4 of these were declared invalid, as a result of problems associated with the site notice.

There were 4 applications for retention and these were granted permission; 2 further applications from the previous year were refused permission. Additional information was requested in 17 cases and supplied in 19 cases (2 relating to the previous year's applications.)

The category of an application for the extension of duration of permission appeared 3 years ago; in 2014 there were 8 such cases, whose 5 year permission had run out of time; they were all granted permission.

74 decisions were made, of these 64 were granted permission, 10 were refused and 4 applications were declared invalid. Decisions for the remaining applications were made during 2015.

13 decisions were appealed to An Bord Pleanala; of these 4 were 1st party appeals against either refusal for permission or the conditions imposed by the planning department of the County Council.

There were 9(no) 3rd party appeals lodged against the County Council's grant of permission.

An Bord Pleanala handed down 14 decisions during the year, of these 5 had previously been granted permission by the Council and upheld by the Bord.

Of the remaining 9 decisions, 6 had been refused permission by the County Council and these decisions were upheld by Bord Pleanala.

3 were refused permission by Bord Pleanala when they had previously been granted permission by the County Council.

It is interesting to note that the number of applications for planning permission during 2014 is still only half of that that was lodged in 2005 and 2006.

#### **FIRMBANK**

We were concerned about an application in November 2012 for a 4 bed room house on this site which is situated on former allotments at "Clay Hill". There have been several applications in previous years for this site. The proposed development would be surrounded by public open space on three sides and would, we believe, appear incongruous in its setting and would not be a positive visual contribution to the area. We were concerned about the access which is across public lands owned by the County Council and the site's proximity to "the Metals". We were also concerned on traffic safety grounds about the entry onto Dalkey Park near the junction with Dalkey Ave. The Planning Department

refused permission in 2013 as it considered that having regard to the proposed works on the existing right-of-way to serve the proposed dwelling, it considered that this part of the site was not within the ownership of the applicant. This decision was appealed. Bord Pleanala refused permission in April 2014 on the following grounds- 1) The developer had no Wayleave from the County Council and had not demonstrated sufficient legal estate or interest in the site to carry out the proposed works and, therefore, the proposed development would be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

2). The site of the proposed development is in close proximity to 'The Metals', a significant element of Dalkey and Dun Laoghaire's industrial archaeology, which it is policy in the current County Development Plan to manage and enhance, while also encouraging use of it as a walking route. The Metals is also deemed to be of national and potentially international importance. The site directly bounds this route and in this regard, the Board was not satisfied on the basis of the documentation submitted with both the planning application and the appeal that the proposed development would not significantly detract from the existing visual amenities of the area and the character and setting of the historic railway.

The site was rezoned from Zoning F-"to preserve and provide for open space with recreational activities" to Zoning A-"to protect and/or improve residential amenity" in the present DLR Development Plan 2010-2016. As a new development Plan for 2016-2022 is being prepared, we approached several of our local Councillors to support our belief that the zoning should be reversed to its former status as any development at this public open space would be contrary to the stated stance of An Bord Pleanala and would detract from the visual amenities of the area. However after a vote at a Council meeting, the Councillors would not support our aim.

#### 36 COLIEMORE RD

In April 2013 an application for the demolition of the 2-storey house on Coliemore Rd overlooking the sea and the construction of a 2-storey over basement building was lodged. We were concerned about the scale of the house, overlooking of neighbouring houses, the removal of many of the large trees and the loss of the Protected Views over to Dalkey Island. This was granted permission but appealed to Bord Pleanala who refused permission on the grounds of excessive width of the development on the site.

Another application was lodged in January 2014 for a slightly reduced house; this was granted permission by the County Council. The application was appealed to An Bord Pleanala who refused permission on the grounds that it considered that the proposed development would be unsympathetic to the character of the area, would seriously detract from the visual and residential amenities of the area, and would fail to enhance the unique qualities of the Architectural Conservation. The proposed development would, therefore, be contrary to the proper planning and sustainable development of the area.

A further proposal has been lodged this year for a smaller proposal; we are waiting for the planning department to make a decision. Concerns have been raised by residents about the present dilapidated state of the house on the site as it has been the target of vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

#### CASTLEPARK SCHOOL

An application for 15 houses in the grounds of the school was lodged in August 2014. We were contacted by several residents who had concerns about the proposal. We believed that such a development would have adverse effects on the extensive wooded site that is the subject of an Objective in the present Development Plan" to preserve and protect trees and woodland".

This had been the basis for refusal for proposed developments on the site by Bord Pleanala in previous years.

We also had concerns about the layout of the site and its impact on the nearby protected structures and issues concerning overlooking of neighbouring properties.

The application was refused by the Planning Department on several grounds including those that we had expressed.

#### LANDS AT CUNNINGHAM DRIVE

A proposal for a development of 18 houses was sought on this steeply sloping site in the former grounds of the protected structure "Santa Maria". There was widespread opposition to the development by the residents around the site. We also expressed our concerns including overlooking of properties on Cunningham Dr, the proposed block of houses at the rear of the garden of Santa Maria, and concerns about the amount of traffic generated by such a development using the already compromised Cunningham Rd. We believe that this large scale development of large terraced houses will detract and impact on the views view towards Killiney and Dalkey Hills and their present sylvan slopes, when viewed from Ulverton Rd and be contrary to the preservation and setting of our historic Heritage Town.

The Planning Department granted permission with several conditions including the omission of one row of houses.

This has been appealed to Bord Pleanala and we expect the decision soon.

#### DALKEY MANOR DEVELOPMENT

In December an article about a large scale "later living" development on Barnhill Rd was placed in The Newsletter; it also indicated that the development company would be having an exhibition about the proposed development in the Town Hall later that month where a 3-D model of the proposal could be viewed and representatives from the company would be present to answer questions.

In January of this year a proposal for the demolition of the house known as Dalkey Manor, the entrance gates and walls and the construction of 57 apartments in two blocks on the site was lodged with the planning department.

There was widespread unfavourable reaction by residents throughout Dalkey on many grounds. These included overlooking and overshadowing of adjacent properties, removal

of large numbers of trees from the site, impact on the adjacent Protected Structure-Dalkey Lodge and traffic issues along Barnhill Rd amongst others.

Residents held meetings to discuss the issues raised- something which has rarely happened for a residential development in Dalkey.

The application was withdrawn in March before a decision had been reached by the Planning department.

In regard to planning applications, I should like to stress to everyone, the importance of vigilance in respect of site notices. If one appears in your neighbourhood, it is important that you find the time to inspect the relevant plans for the particular application in the Planning Office in County Hall, Dun Laoghaire if you believe the proposal will affect your property or view it on-line on the County Council's website.

The applicant must lodge the plans with the Planning Department of the County Council within 14 days of displaying the site notice.

Following the lodgment of plans in the planning office, the public has 35 days to submit their observations and objections, accompanied with a 20-euro fee. If you believe you will be affected, it is vital that you write into the planning department to voice your concerns.

The planning authority will then make their decision.

Following the decision, the public has 28 days to appeal to Bord Pleanala if they had previously submitted the relevant objection to the planning department. The fee for this is 210 euros.

Following the lodgment of an appeal with An Bord Pleanala, the public has 28 days to submit their observations, the fee being 60 euros in this case.

Dr. Susan McDonnell

Chairman, Dalkey Community Council



**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0131 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date:** 21-Apr-2015

Applicant Name & Location: Donal McBrinn, Plot 1, 60 Ulverton Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the demolition of existing single storey dwelling & garage. Construction of 1 no. 2 storey dormer style detached dwelling (142.65 sqm). Relocation of existing vehicular access and associated site works.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0132 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date**: 21-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** Parliament Property Ltd. Plots 2 & 3, 60 Ulverton Road, Dalkey. **Proposal:** Permission for the demolition of existing single storey dwelling. Construction of 1 no. 2 storey dormer style detached dwelling (254.03 sqm) on Plot 2 and 1 no. 2 storey dormer style detached dwelling (266.80 sqm) on Plot 3. Provision of 2 no. new vehicular access entrances and associated site works.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0137 **Decision**: Refuse Permission **Date:** 22-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** RCGB Ltd., The Magpie Inn Public House, 115-116 Coliemore Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission to construct a new single storey 2 bedroom apartment (87.72 sqm gross floor area) over existing first floor to Public House, including provision of west facing balcony, courtyard area and stairway access etc. The site is located in an Architectural Conservation Area. A concurrent application for Retention Permission for an existing 2 storey apartment is also to be lodged with this application.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0138 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date**: 22-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** RCGB Ltd. The Magpie Inn Public House, 115-116 Coliemore Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for Retention of Change of Use to residential use of 2 storey 2 bedroom apartment (81.20 sqm) gross floor area) situated over ground floor to Public House and Retention for associated roof garden and also permission for new enclosed fire-protected access/egress routes to serve apartment. The site is located in an Architectural Conservation Area. A concurrent application for Permission for a new single storey apartment is also to be lodged with this application.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15A/0166 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date**: 29-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** Siobhan Smyth, 54A Ulverton Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for new dwelling house with entrance provided from Southwinds including driveways, landscaping, boundary wall, connections to drainage and services already provided and ancillary works at rear garden.

**Reg. Ref.**: D15B/0056 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date**: 27-Apr-2015 **Applicant Name & Location:** Ross & Elizabeth MacMahon, The Coach House, Vico Rd, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for change of design of first floor window serving bedroom no. 5 (at left hand end of sea facing/south east elevation), which forms part of the development (not yet constructed) granted permission under Register Reference no. D14B/0117.

## **APPEALS NOTIFIED by An Bord Pleanála Wks. 16-19 201513/4/15 to 8/5/15**

**Reg Ref:** D15A/0092 **Registration Date:** 12-Feb-2015 **Location:** 9 Barnhill Avenue, Dalkey **Development:** Permission for: 1. Construction of first floor extension to side over existing single storey part dwelling with new door to side. 2. Demolition of single storey shed to rear and construction of single storey extension to rear and altered first floor window design. 3. Construction of single storey front porch. 4. Conversion of attic to study room with roof lights to front, side and rear. 5. Widen vehicular access, solar panels to side roof and associated internal alterations.

**Council Decision:** Grant Permission, **Appeal Lodged:** 21-Apr-2015, **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Grant of Permission. **Type of Appeal:** 3rd Party Appeal.

**Reg Ref**: D15A/0088 Registration Date: 12-Feb-2015 Location: Site to rear of 28 Sorrento Road, Dalkey (also known as 8 Rockfort Avenue)

**Development:** Permission for: Demolition of 1.5 storey extension and single storey garage to the rear of existing dwelling; making good and alterations to the rear facade of existing property; demolition of boundary walls and gates along the laneway to the north; construction of 1 no. dwelling (part 2-storey, part single storey) with off-street car park space, drainage connection and all associated site and landscape works.

Council Decision: Grant Permission. Appeal Lodged: 28-Apr-2015.

#### APPEAL DECISIONS of An Bord Pleanála Wks. 15-18 7/4/15 to 101/5/15

None for Dalkey



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#### Dalkey Rowing Club launches the "Coliemore"

On Sunday 26th April, Dalkey Rowing Club held the official blessing of the new boat and revealed the new name - "The Coliemore" to all. Father Declan Gallagher from the Church of the Assumption said some lovely words, wishing a safe passage to all who will row in her, and then baptised the boat with holy In keeping with boat launching tradition, Gerald Cunningham followed this by cracking open champagne over the boat. In both instances the spectators and the boat got wet! Special thanks go to Terence Kehoe and his gang of helpers for building, by hand, this magnificent boat. We hope to be reporting many successes achieved in her this season. The local community gave a lot of help, and we would like to extend our thanks to all our supporters and sponsors who made it possible.



the Tramyard that afternoon. The event was marked with a beautiful cake that was shared with everyone, courtesy of "Daniela Cake Design"

The Dalkey Regatta took place in Scotsman's Bay, on the afternoon of Sunday 14th June. It's usually a great afternoon, especially if the sun is shining

and the rowers always enjoy a bit of extra support, so please feel free to come along.

Rowing takes place in Coliemore Harbour every weekday evening throughout the summer and anyone are welcome to come down and try it out.

JENNY DILLEY – Dalkey Rowing Club



Fr. Declan Gallagher officiates at the Blessing of the boats



#### NEWS FROM HAROLD BOYS' NATIONAL SCHOOL

**The Garden** – The entrance to our school has been greatly improved with the help of a school parent, Jacqueline Bagnall, and a St Patrick's Road resident, Ray Kenny. They reshaped the edges of the flower beds and planted Hydrangea and Sarcococca shrubs. It took six months planning and a lot of hard work. We are very grateful to all involved for their efforts.

Bingo Night – On Friday the 24th of April, Harold Boys' N.S. held a Bingo fundraising night. It was held in Cuala GAA hall. There



Flower beds at Harold Boys N.S.

were a lot of amazing prizes to be won on the night including the following: Easter eggs, Toblerones, Whiskey, Vouchers and a 32" inch TV! The place was packed with young 'n' old alike! The tuck shop was filled with all the sweets you could want! There was also a round announced as Gaeilge. We would like to thank Cuala GAA Club, Dalkey, for letting us use their hall. The night was a great success!





From Thurs. 25th June - Sun. 5th July there will be a Clarins Promotion in store with a FREE gift bag including a range of trial size products with any two purchases

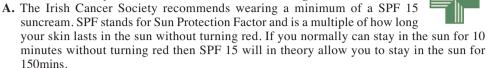


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# Q. I have been told it is very important to apply suncream in Ireland even when it is cloudy out. What factor should I be wearing?



Using sunscreen reduces your risk of skin cancer by lowering your exposure to the suns UV rays. This means applying to the skin even on a cloudy day as up to 90% of UV rays can pass through clouds. There is a UV index used which gives the UV radiation on a given day ranging from 1-11+. If the UV code is higher than 3 then suncream should be applied.

It is important that the sunscreen has protection against both UVA and UVB rays. The bottle should have a UVA symbol on the bottle and the SPF is a measure of the UVB protection and while SPF 15 is the minimum recommended, the higher the SPF the better.

Just as important as the SPF used, is the correction application of the sunscreen. The

suncream should be applied to dry skin at least 30 minutes before going out into the sun. It should be re-applied liberally every two hours (more often is sweating, swimming or towel drying). Take extra care of ears, neck, bald patches, hands and feet.

While enjoying the sun it is very advisable to follow the SunSmart code:

- Slip on sun protective clothing
- Slap on a hat
- Slop on sunscreen
- Seek shade (especially from 11am to 3pm when UV rays are at their strongest)
- Wear wrap-around sunglasses

If you have any questions you would like answered please email us on

#### maxwellpharmacydalkey @eircom.net

and put Dalkey Newsletter in the message subject line.





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# SINÉAD'S WINE CORNER





Photo S. Tyrrell

#### Jerez de la Frontera-Part One

Sherry is one of the treasures of the wine world. Until recently it has certainly been underappreciated. Earlier this year I had the opportunity to visit Jerez (Sherry), a fascinating wine region in Spain and only a 90 minute drive from Malaga along the Costa Del Sol. As the name indicates, the region is famous for the production of Sherry. There are three main cities in the area: Jerez de la Frontera, El Puerto de Santa Maria and Sanlucar de Barrameda. Grapes grown for Sherry production in these areas all have unique tastes because of differences in soil and the effect of the Ocean.

I organised to visit Lustau, one of the most celebrated Bodegas in Jerez to gain more information on Sherry and its production. There are three main grape varieties in this region and this winery has two vineyards which grow them all - The Palomino grape which is used to make dry Sherries, Pedro Ximénez grape and Muscatel grape which are used for sweet Sherries. Lustau's Montegilillo vineyard contains the regions famous 'Albariza' soil which is ideal for growing their Palamino grape and their second vineyard- Las Cruces which is located near the coast with its sandy soils is perfect for growing its sweeter grape varieties- Muscatel and Pedro Ximénez varieties.

Lustau's Bodega is impressive. The main courtyard on entering has 120 year old vines which meander up the walls and, in season, form a canopy which provides much needed shade for the throngs of tourists that flock to the area during the hot summer months (see picture). It was here i was joined by my guide Luis Miguel. A lovely man with a wealth of knowledge about the Bodega and its processes.

We entered into the Cathedral-style winery with its vaulted ceilings and Albero floors. These floors are flooded to keep the barrels cool in summer when temperatures outside can reach 40 Degrees. At 20,000m<sup>2</sup> this winery was the biggest I had ever seen with rows upon rows of barrels stretching as far as the eye could see. Truly an impressive place.

In next month's issue I'll continue my tour of Lustau and the making of Sherry with its many flavour characteristics and food matches.

Sinéad Tyrrell, Dalkey

#### \*

# DALKEY GARDA CLINICS



The idea of the Garda Clinic is to assist the local community who may not be able to travel to the Garda Station with matters such as form stamped/signing or any community policing matters which arise. The Garda Clinic is not designed for crime reporting, however, the Gardaí are very keen that all suspicious activity is reported to them at the local centres which, for Dalkey is



Dun Laoghaire Tel: 01-666 5000 The next Clinics for Dalkey residents will take place on

THURSDAY 4th JUNE FROM 11am to 12pm THURSDAY 18th JUNE FROM 11am to 12pm

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Activities include pottery, puppet making and batik

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#### AROUND THE HOUSES AT CASTLE PARK SCHOOL

Every pupil in the Prep Department at Castle Park, First to Sixth class, is enrolled in one of four Houses: Edwardes, Pringle, Toone or Ross. The Houses are named after people who played a major part in the School's history over the years: Mr. Toone founded the School in

1904 and Mr. Edwardes was amongst the first teachers he appointed. Mr. Pringle was initially a teacher and then took over as Head in 1938 and Mr. Ross was the Head of Brook House School which amalgamated with Castle Park in the early 1990s. There is a House Teacher in charge of each House and all pupils in Sixth class become House Leaders during their final year in the School. Each House has its own colour and symbol which are proudly displayed at various events throughout the year.

\*

\*



This year's Sixth class House Leaders have decided to develop their leadership and entrepreneurial skills by organising a series of fundraising events which have taken place throughout the academic year. The process of putting on these events has proven important in developing the children's understanding of how much timeking, planning, budgetary considerations and effort it takes to bring an event to fruition.

So far Edwardes House have shown their support for the DSPCA by running a spooky Hallowe'en Fair, whilst Pringle have fundraised for Temple Street Hospital with their "Mexican Day". Ross House have been selling wristbands in aid of the Jack and Jill Foundation and have some more exciting events planned over the next few weeks. At the very end of the academic year Toone House will be setting up some additional fun games and activities for everyone to join in with on Sports and Parents day. They will be raising funds to support those affected by the recent earthquakes in Nepal.

#### JUNE 2015 LOCAL HISTORY LECTURES



**Saturday June 6th** – Between 2 p.m. and 4.30 p.m. there will be a Historic Re-enactment '70th Anniversary of the end of World War 2' with historic re-enactors The World War 2 Club on Clark Square of the Museum of Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 2. Admission free - come along and see the equipment and uniforms of the Allied and Axis Forces used during World War 2.

**Tuesday June 9th** – James Scannell will present his lecture 'DMP Casualties during the War of Independence - Part 2' at 8 p.m. to The Genealogical Society of Ireland in Dun Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Donation of €3 requested.

**Sunday June 21st** – At 3 p.m. Lt. - Col. Dan Harvey, Irish Defence Forces, will present a free 60-minute lecture '*The Irish at Waterloo*' in the Museum of Decorative Arts and History, Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 2.



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Website: www.htkilliney.dublin.anglican.org
The Carry Centre - www.carrycentre.ie

Bookings: Sandra Moore ~ 087 6291568 / 01 2854281/

carrycentre@dublin.anglican.org

Holy Trinity Rectory every Tuesday from 7-8 pm.

Services for June 2015 Sundays: 8.30am Holy

Communion, 10.45 am Morning Service

Midweek Services: Thursdays at 10.30 am.

From the Rector – The Fete is over ... what can I say? THANK YOU! What a fantastic day in the life of the parish and wider community. Thank you to those who helped in preparations, set-up, gathering, baking, making, growing, chopping, buying, selling, cleaning, tidying - the list goes on and on! A huge thanks to the organising committee and especially to Nigel Pierpoint (possibly his last Fete to organise in Killiney!?) who co-ordinated the day with efficiency and good humour. Thank you.



Preacher, Peter Byrne (centre) with a visual aid from his sermon with the Church wardens

emphasis on the recent events in Nepal). Thank you to all those who supported this very worthwhile cause.

Pentecost Service - Sunday 24th May - On the feast of Pentecost, we gathered with the Rector & parishioners of St Matthias', Ballybrack for a festive Holy Communion in the Old Church of Killiney on Marino Ave. The Steadfast Band led us in music, in what proved an uplifting event.

**Table Tennis** – The finals took place on 22nd April. Well done to

Summer in Holy Trinity – It is planned to have the Church open daily (Monday to Saturday 2-4pm) for July & August, if you are interested in volunteering with this, please speak with the Rector or put your name on the sign-up sheet in Church

Christian Aid — Christian Aid Sunday was on 10th May. A themed service was held in Holy Trinity at which our guest preacher was Mr. Peter Byrne from Christian Aid Ireland. The service was followed by refreshments in the Carry Centre at which over €700 was raised for the work of Christian Aid (with particular



Table Tennis Team



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all who competed and congratulations to the winners: Mixed Handicap Singles, Winner: Michael Heney, Runner-up: Brian Meyer. Mixed Handicap Doubles, Winners: Gordon Smith and Victoria Jones. Runners-up: Liz Crampton and Ken Peare. Ladies Championship Singles, Winner: Iris Darley. Runner-up: Liz Crampton. Men's Championship Singles, Winner: Paul Ivory. Runner-up: Peter Hayes

**Glenageary-Killiney National School** – As everyone begins to prepare for the Summer holidays: every blessing to students who are moving on to other schools; thank you to the wonderful staff team in the school, especially to the Principal; and to all the boys and girls who make G.K.N.S. a very special and happy place. Enjoy the Summer!

**Parish Archives** – We are looking for any photos, information or historical artefacts relating to Holy Trinity, Killiney. If you have any such records please contact the Rector.

Finally... - Our thoughts and prayers are with all those who are sitting exams



Did you know that your Biological age can be up to forty years older than your chronological age due to diet and stress

Vico Health now offers a Biological Age Testing service where a class 2 medical device is used to test the state of the arteries and overall Biological age.

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We also offer a range of therapies to improve health & wellbeing including Acupuncture, Craniosacral therapy & Naturopathy.

For the month of June we are offering the Test for 40 euros for all Dalkey Newsletter readers.

vicohealth.ie

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AVRIL IVORY (M.Sc.Dip.Ac.Dip.Nat)

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# Castle Park Swim Academy & Sports Centre

# Summer Multi Activity Camp 2015!

Children from ages 3 - 12 years will enjoy a wide variety of sporting activities and skills as well as arts and crafts and games. They will enjoy a daily swim, and parties are held at the end of each week. The camp is fully catered by our on site chef with children getting a healthy break, a hot nutritious lunch and a desert each day. Camp will run from June 29th - September 2nd. Daily rates available. Early morning and late evening daycare options also provided.

# **Swim Intensive Camp**

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Swim Academy & Sports Centre



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### NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH





**Rector:** Rev. Bruce Hayes **Email:** brucejohnhayes@gmail.com Web: www.stpatricksdalkey.com

Twitter: @DalkeyParishorg

#### **Parish Office**

Email: dalkeyparish@gmail.com

Phone (01) 284 5941

# DALKEY CHURCH MINISTER HELPS SHOULDER FIREWOOD BURDEN TO HIGHLIGHT PLIGHT OF ETHIOPIAN WOMEN

Dalkey rector, Reverend Bruce Hayes, (St. Patrick's) carried a load of firewood up 'Beacon Hill, Dalkey to highlight the plight of poor women in Ethiopia. Reverend Hayes is

supporting the Christian Aid Week 'Share Loko's Burden' campaign to help Ethiopian women living in extreme poverty.

'I was moved by the story of a 29-year-old mother, Loko Jarso, who lives in Borena, a remote part of Ethiopia. Four times a week Loko has to make a back-breaking eighthour trip to find and gather wood. When she sells the firewood she earns just about €2 for it - barely enough to feed her children,' Reverend Hayes said.

Loko walks that eight-hour journey alone, carrying a load of up to 30kg on her back. It's a task she dreads, but she steels herself to do it because if she doesn't, her children will starve.

Loko has a family of eight to feed. To earn enough money to feed her children one small meal a day, she needs wood to sell. When she is not collecting firewood, she is at the



Reverend Bruce Hayes

local market looking for buyers. She has no safety net, no one else to support her family if she falls ill or injures herself.

In the Borena community, girls are expected to fetch and carry wood and water to provide for their family. Denied a good education and the respect of their community, women are trapped in a life of poverty.

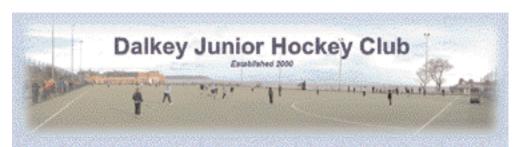
Reverend Hayes is appealing to people help raise funds to help women like Loko find a way out of poverty.

'Christian Aid is working to give women like Loko the means to earn a decent living. A cow, for example, will mean that Loko can sell the milk and butter and earn enough money to feed her children properly - and send them to school.' In Ethiopia, Christian Aid partner HUNDEE works with both women and men in poor cattlerearing Borena communities to challenge violence against women and harmful traditional practices, such as child marriage and female genital mutilation, to bring about lasting change



Loko with her burden

and ensure women can live in dignity and are treated with respect.



#### Now enrolling for September, 2015

Dalkey Junior H.C. provides the opportunity for players of all ages to develop their hockey skills within a safe and fun environment. We look to develop technical skills, tactical awareness, teamwork and sportsmanship. We encourage participation, whilst also entering competitions at all levels.

The new season will start on Sunday, 6th September, 2015 and all sessions will be held at the Loreto Abbey Dalkey Secondary School hockey pitch:

11.15 am to 12.15 pm Senior Infants/1st/2nd/3rd/4th Class

12.15 pm to 1.15 pm Sth/6th Class

12.15 pm to 1.45 pm 1st/2nd/3rd/4th Year

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They also provide the poorest women in pastoralist communities with livestock, raising their status within society, because when they have a cow they have a voice in community decision making, as well as a means to earn a living.

Discrimination against women is one of the greatest injustices of our time. In many countries girls are treated like second-class citizens while boys are provided with opportunities for an education, work, food and even decision making at the expense of their sisters.

Almost as soon as girls are strong enough to walk, many can spend hours fetching water, wood and doing household chores. Often forced into early marriages, they eventually face the dangers of



St. Patrick's recent fête

giving birth before their young bodies are ready. Deprived of an education, women have to rely on men for their financial security, leaving them vulnerable to deprivation and violence.

You can help to change the lives of women in places like Ethiopia this Christian Aid Week by donating online at www.caweek.ie or calling 01 496 7040.

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Father's Day	Sunday 21 June
Entry deadline for the DCC Garden Competition	Monday 22 June
Sorting of July Newsletter in OLH (1pm-2pm)	Thursday 25 June
DCC Garden Competition	Thursday 2 July

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

#### **EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH**

**Karate** sessions for all age groups in Town Hall @ 5.00-9.00 pm Mondays & Wednesdays **Boxing/Conditioning Classes** - Also available. Contact: Zach Deegan at 085 147 2334 **Dalkey Players:** Rehearsals in The Carry Centre from 7.30-10.30pm Tuesdays & Thursdays. Contact Aileen Byrne 087-9842337 or www.dalkeyplayers.ie check for details. **St. Patrick's Dramatic Society Dalkey:** Rehearsals in Northover Hall, Harbour Road from 8pm-10.30pm Mondays & Thursdays or check www.stpatsdramsoc.com for further information.

The Irish Vintage Radio and Sound Society meets monthly in Dalkey.

If interested please call 086-8391839

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

**Pilates:** Classes on Monday evenings in DHC at 6.15 pm 7.15pm .8.15 pm. Bookings please Contact Lizanne Barry STOTT Instructor on 087 857 2408 or See Facebook Page Lizanne Barry Pilates Classes for details.

**Scrabble & Afternoon Tea** in aid of Barnardos every Wednesday at 3pm in Derrymore, 35, Coliemore Road, Dalkey. Call Di Fitzpatrick at 285 0593 for more information.

**Baby & Toddler Group.** All pre-schoolers with parents/minders welcome on Tuesdays from 3-4.30pm in the Methodist Church, Northumberland Ave., Dun Laoghaire. €2 includes light refreshments & story time. Contact Diane 087 778 7608

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Last Day for Articles only for next issues: July 2015: 8th June 2015; August 2015: 13th July 2015. Last date for receipt of Advertisements: July 2015: 5th June 2015; August 2015: 10th July 2015.

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

In 1984 there was no such thing as (domestic) satellite TV, and Video recorders and Video rental shops were all the rage. If you wanted to purchase your own Video recorder you would have to pay as much as £1000 punts for the latest offering from Panasonic, and should you have added a Television set to the purchase, a 26-inch screen from Philips could knock you back a whopping £1090 punts, that's the equivalent of  $\leq$ 2650 for the TV and the Video recorder. Today you could buy a 40-inch screen and a Video recorder / DVD player and expect change from  $\leq$ 600 . (Sony also sold a 27-inch screen which was the largest TV available at the time costing £1750 punts the equivalent of  $\leq$ 2222)

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