



# DALKEY - Deilginis ‘Thorn Island’ COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Irish Heritage Town

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

NEWSLETTER No 450 (Volume 21)

Márta (March 2015)

**March:** Originally first month of the Roman calendar. Named for Mars the Roman god of war, crops and vegetation.

**Flower:** Daffodil

**Guimid lá shona aoibhinn diar mathracha ar a lá speisialta**

**Happy Mother's Day 15th March**



**Beannachtaí na Feile Padraig oraibh go léir**  
**Happy St. Patrick's Day - 17th March**

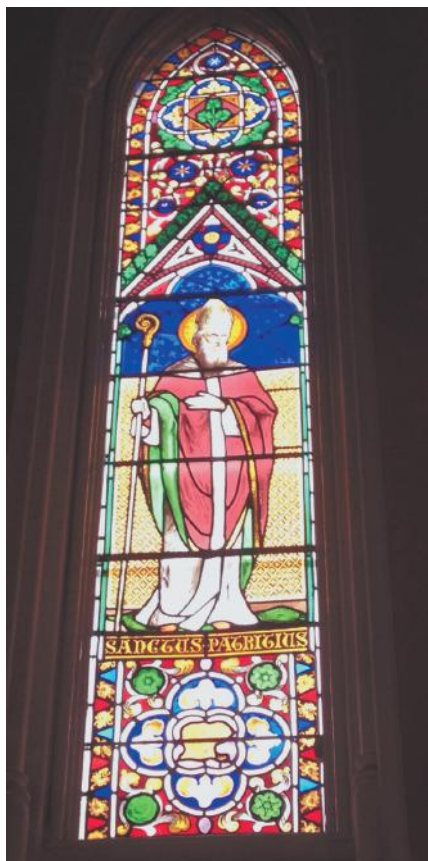


Photo. C. Fogarty

This beautiful stained glass window, made specially in France for the Church of the Assumption, Dalkey, by a famous glass maker in the 1890s celebrates the Patron Saint of Ireland, St. Patrick

Your Area Representative is

.....

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## ❖ SUMMARY OF DCC FEBRUARY 2015 MONTHLY MEETING ❖

The DCC meeting was held on Monday 9th February in OLH.

**TT:** The graffiti problem remains a scourge in the area but it is hoped that the public will be made more aware of the amount of work that the Tidy Towns volunteers and the Gardai are undertaking to tackle this problem when the information meeting is held in the HC on Wednesday 18th February. Remedial work has been carried out on the Torca right-of-way and the Ulverton steps.

**NW:** Dedicated burglary patrols have been set up as a regional response to the incidents of burglaries on a national basis.

**Planning:** The application by the Pegasus group for the development of 57 retirement apartments at Dalkey Manor on Barnhill Road has been lodged. Please see page 24 and 26. The next DCC meeting is Monday 9th March 2015.

## ❖ DALKEY CASTLE & HERITAGE CENTRE ❖



*Orlaith O'Toole and Fionn Murnane get in on the act at Dalkey Castle!*

*Photo.: Jason Clarke Photography*

**‘On Yer Bike with Dalkey’s Writers’** will be performed at 7.30pm on Saturday March 14th, at Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre against the beautiful backdrop of St Begnet’s Church. The show, with linking script written by award-winning playwright, Shay Linehan, has a Flann O’Brien-like character who will conjure up characters to play various well known scenes. The show, directed by Margaret Dunne, is part of our *‘Discover Dalkey’s Literary Gems’* series. It is an entertaining and enlightening whistle-stop ‘taster’ through the work of our internationally acclaimed writers. These include James Joyce, Samuel Beckett, Hugh Leonard, Flann O’Brien, Maeve Binchy, John Millington Synge, Seamus Heaney, Van Morrison and Joseph O’Connor. Advance booking is necessary as places are limited. Tickets are €10 and are available from the Reception at Dalkey Castle or online. We are involved in another literary heritage project to celebrate the life and work of Fr. Desmond Forristal in Dalkey Town Hall on April 17th. More details next month.



**Schools:** The highly popular National Schools' programme is still running until the end of March. We had a photo shoot involving children from Scoil Mhuire, Shankill on the day that it snowed in Dalkey! At this stage, the programme is fully booked. An odd slot may become available due to a cancellation only. We have a waiting list for those wanting cancellations. **Transition Year:** We have a programme specially designed for Transition Year students also. Areas applicable in the study of Maths, Geography, History, Literature and more are all dealt with. Why Dalkey developed as a settlement is illustrated alongside reasons for population growth and decline. Scaled models of transport systems bring clarity to the text. The area's literary and creative wealth has its own space in a dedicated Writers' Gallery. A Writers' Trail Map links Dún Laoghaire to Dalkey with site specific quotes. Fáilte Ireland's Destination Dublin roll-out of marketing plans was held in the Aviva last month. We have been working with Dublin Bay Cruises on one of the strands 'Dublin Bay as a Living Bay' for a number of months. A day package from the city centre which links Howth and Malahide to Dalkey and Dún Laoghaire is being developed. Incoming Tour Operator conference will be held again in March, where the industry meets the providers. Language school business continues to grow and is spreading out over the entire year. The CIE tours will start back in April and increased business is expected from other providers due to the award of excellence recently received from CIE Tours.

**Living History Tours**, where 21st century technology meets with 15th century Living History continue daily, except Tuesdays. Open from 10.00 on weekdays and 11.00 at weekends.

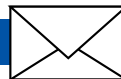
**Contact info@dalkeycastle.com Tel 01 285 8366**

**Margaret Dunne – Manager, Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre**

## INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY is on March 8th



### LETTER TO THE EDITOR



#### THE 59 BUS SERVICE, DUBLIN

A chara,

Before I comment on the 59 Bus service may I say that the drivers on this route are outstandingly considerate in their dealing with their passengers, most of whom, during the daylight hours, are senior citizens.

The 59 Bus service overall, however, is unsatisfactory, no fault to the drivers. Its terminuses are Mackintosh Park in the Cabinteely area and Dún Laoghaire, the time-table being every 40 minutes or so. However, a regular feature is that the No. 59 Bus misses a route which can result in one waiting up to 52 minutes for the next bus.

At the Dalkey bus-stop there is an electronic sign-board which indicates the arrival of the next 59 to Dún Laoghaire (but not to Mackintosh Park). But between Dalkey and Dún Laoghaire (8 stops each way) there is no sign-board, which means that people each way would be totally unaware of a 'missing' bus.

There is also another bus service-(No. 8) - which departs from Dalkey every 55 minutes for Dublin. It does not travel through Dún Laoghaire but through Glenageary and then on to Dublin city, by-passing Dún Laoghaire. The no. 8 terminus is at the end of Ulverton Road in Dalkey. The 59 terminus is about 50 yards away in parallel Hyde Road. High buildings block their view of each other.

The electronic sign-board at the 59 bus-stop at Hyde Road also indicates the departure time of the No. 8. When, however, the No. 8 departs from Ulverton Road, it turns immediately



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right, turns right again 40 yards onwards, and then passes the electronic sign-board in Hyde Road. As the sign-board indicates the departure time of the No. 8 it would be reasonable to assume that the No 8 Bus would stop here for the passengers, especially visitors, tourists to Dalkey heritage town. However, the No. 8 does not stop at this bus-stop, notwithstanding, often, the frantic gesticulations of those waiting.

I would respectfully suggest:

1. That Bus Átha Cliath discontinue the No.59 service and appoint a private operator instead. Or
2. If Bus Átha Cliath refrain from doing so, let Paddy Power bring the No. 59 into his betting systems, e.g.,  
3 to 1 that the X a.m. 59 does not turn up  
20 to 1 that that there will be Y 59's missing in any given week.  
And so on.

As regards the No.8 all is needed is a notice on the electronic board to indicate that the No. 8 terminus is at Ulverton Road, about 50 metres away.

**B. HOULIHAN – Dalkey**



*HSS Stena Explorer off shore*

**Farewell Stena HSS:** An end of an era indeed, as the closure of our doorstep Stena Line HSS ferry-service between Dun Laoghaire Harbour and Holyhead was finally confirmed in February. The historic 200 year old Ireland-Wales sea link is severed, having begun by a mail ship and then a ferry from 1835.

So the final ferry chapter, started over 170 years ago, has drawn to a conclusion, as the sight of the HSS Stena Explorer, is sadly no longer a common sight off Dalkey's shores as the route is to close permanently.

The announcement on the future of the 52 nautical mile route (served by the HSS since 1995) has been the 'worst kept secret' in the Borough and also amongst our counterparts in Anglesey, Wales. In recent years the service has been loss-making for numerous and for well publicised reasons.

According to the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company, Stena apparently had tried to secure a smaller fast-ferry; instead, they will now concentrate on their existing route out of Dublin



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Port. However, other operators are hoping to run a new Dun Laoghaire-based seasonal service, but not until 2016.

This development is to be welcomed as the harbour was recently designated a 'Port of Regional Significance'. Any effort to retain a ferry connection makes strategic sense alongside amenity and leisure-craft users and the rising cruiseships trade-boom, boosting the local economy and Dalkey too.

The seasonal-only service (only run since 2012), came to an end on 9th September with the final sailing departing to Holyhead. As for the route's secondary shoulder/shorter season over the Festive Season & New Year, these sailings were cancelled and that led to HSS Stena Explorer laying up in Holyhead for the duration.

The term HSS (*High Speed Sea-Service*) referred to her original 99 minute crossing time which caused initial unforeseen side-effects, as the wake of the craft caused large waves and deployed strong undercurrents that reached the coastline. This led to speed restrictions being introduced but still the effects could be felt and caused the County Council to erect signs along our coastline to warn bathers of the possible dangers.

Notably, the HSS became the World's first fast-ferry also able to handle large freight trucks and at 40 knots! (75km/h) due to its revolutionary gas-turbine water jets.

She joins a long list of ships to have served on the link. Each type of passenger ship reflected different times, the technology and how each of the generation would recall them. As reported in the Dec.14/Jan.2015 issue, I reminisced on the HSS's predecessor, *St. Columba*, the route's last conventional car ferry (Sealink/British Rail, then Stena).

Also clearly recalled was '*Explorer*'s maiden call to Dun Laoghaire, where the strikingly futuristic craft (first of a trio of HSS 1500 Series sisters) entered between the harbour arms hewn from Dalkey granite.

Preceding '*Explorer*'s 19 year-run, a succession of '*Lynx*' small fast-craft, had operated in tandem with the aforementioned '*St. Columba*'. As for the '*Holyhead Ferry I*', the route's first ferry to have drive-on drive-off capability, would berth at the East Pier where the new 'Urban Beach' is to be located.

Prior to that, of course, this important role was carried out by 'mail-boats' and delving further back are the 'steam-packets' which started such services once Holyhead Harbour had been built to complete the railway connection linking Dun Laoghaire (Kingstown) and London.

Before that, the stream packet services included routes to Liverpool, Bristol, Falmouth and even directly from Dublin Port all the long way to London and notably through Dalkey waters! (See Oct. 2011 issue).

Words & Photos © Jehan Ashmore, who is the Ports & Shipping Correspondent for [www.Afloat.ie](http://www.Afloat.ie)

Newsletter back-issues (see link on) [www.Afloat.ie](http://www.Afloat.ie)

<http://www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com/index.htm>



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I had heard about a young swan which had a non-fatal collision with a train near Booterstown last year and had then been rescued off the tracks by the Booterstown Dart stationmaster. He had kept the cygnet safe and comfortable in a back room till it was taken to the animal hospital in UCD where it was kept overnight before being transferred the following day to the Kildare Animal Foundation, a charity which takes in, treats and rehomes domestic animals as well as caring for a increasing variety of wild animals and birds.

I wasn't able to get in touch with the stationmaster and presumed the bird probably hadn't survived. I eventually got in touch with the Kildare Animal Foundation and was pleasantly surprised to hear that the swan was in fact still alive, in very good health and they hoped that after a period of rehabilitation they would be able to re-release it back into the wild.

The Kildare Animal Foundation website itself is fascinating. When a Dormouse, a mammal previously unknown in Ireland before this century, was found in the wild (actually asleep in a treehouse, the person who found it thought it was a baby squirrel) in a Kildare garden in 2010 it was taken to the Kildare Animal Foundation.

Dormice are found in Britain but are a threatened species there and very rare but, like most Irish people, the nearest I'd have got to a dormouse would be reading about the one who slept through most of the tea party in Alice in Wonderland.

They're beautiful little creatures with golden brown fur, big eyes and, unlike other mice species a very fluffy tail. The tail is probably an asset to keeping it warm as they do hibernate and it's estimated they can spend up to three quarters of their life asleep.

Somebody had photographed two young dormice on a bird feeder in Kildare a few years before but this was the first adult found in the country. At the time it was thought they might have been escaped or released pets but when I spoke to Dan Donohoe of the Kildare Animal Foundation he told me since that individual was found they had received quite a few more dormice into their care and it seems likely there is a small breeding population in Kildare. It's now thought that they might be of a European race rather than of British origin and DNA samples have been taken which should ascertain where they originated. One theory is that they might have been imported in hay, possibly hibernating sound asleep, from the continent. Since they aren't native mammals they can't be released back into the wild but they will be well looked after at the foundation. Many imported non-native species can be very detrimental to native species, the grey squirrel being one of the worst offenders, but researchers reckon that even if the dormouse becomes established it will not be a threat to any Irish species.

The Kildare Animal Foundation has now developed such expertise working with other native wild animals that a lot of cases are now referred to them. One of their recent cases was a short eared owl that was found injured in Skerries and they have also treated kestrels,

otters, red squirrels and pine martins as well as many other birds and mammals. If you'd like to support their work, one way you can do it is by 'adopting' a wild animal to pay towards its treatment. Hedgehogs are €15, Hares €20, Swans €25 and there's a range more of animals. For that you will receive a sponsorship



*Dormouse – Photo: Kildare Animal Foundation*



*Badger and Fox – Photo: Kildare Animal Foundation*

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pack and you will also receive an update on the sponsored animal. Their website is <http://animalfoundation.ie>

I eventually got in touch with the stationmaster at Booterstown who had rescued the swan and he told me that their station and Grand Canal Dock Dart station regularly get swans in trouble, the birds often standing immobile on the tracks (it's possible some of them may have collided with overhead wires), and they have become quite adept at catching them, throwing a big coat over them and wearing gloves to avoid pecks and then either returning them to water or else getting help for them if injured. The Booterstown stationmaster, Peter Ridgeway, told me that last year there was a swan leading a family of tiny cygnets outside the station on the car park side. The swan began walking, with little family in tow, towards the main road and possible calamity but Peter caught up with them, headed off the swan and drove them back into the safety of the marsh.

If you do encounter a wild animal or bird in trouble and you can't get immediate professional help the website of Irish Wildlife Matters is invaluable for giving instant information on how to handle or catch injured animals, how to assess their injuries and how best to keep them or transport them if further treatment is needed. It also has a list of contacts around the country some of whom specialise in treating specific creatures such as hedgehogs or birds of prey and they will either give appropriate advice or actually take in the injured animal or bird. – <http://www.irishwildlifematters.ie>

If asked what species of goose has the longest migration from breeding ground to wintering area you might think that it's a species like the bar-headed goose which flies from its breeding grounds in Mongolia over the Himalayan Mountains to winter in southern India. Although they fly high there is another species of goose that travels much farther.

In fact the goose with the longest migration distance is the light bellied Brent, the same small goose you can still see now often gathered in numbers in Booterstown Marsh, feeding on the rugby pitch at Blackrock College, swimming around Scotsman's Bay, feeding on Dalkey Island or flying up the coast at dusk after feeding in Wicklow, in fact all along the east coast in winter. They nest in the eastern Queen Elizabeth Islands of Arctic Canada and migrate to Ireland via Greenland and Iceland and some of the birds who will be leaving our shores in March or April will be nesting in June just 500 miles south of the North Pole.

Before their breeding grounds turn to sub-zero temperatures and 24 hours of darkness the majority of the world's population of light-bellied Brent will move south through Greenland and Iceland to spend winter in Ireland making them one of our most important wintering birds. The geese's favourite food is a type of marine plant



*Brent Geese at Booterstown – Photo: M. Ryan*

called eelgrass or *Zostera*, which grows in estuaries and around the coast but this will all be consumed by late winter and after this food source has been exhausted they move on to pasture and other green areas, often football pitches and parks.

While in Dublin Bay they might be threatened by foxes and chased by dogs but when they're sitting on their nests they'll be in danger from Arctic foxes and wolves. The word 'brent' is derived from the Norse word 'brand', meaning burnt. The geese were given this name because of their colour - like charcoal. Before April is over these birds will be on their way north again.



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Spring, has almost sprung so let's get going and spring into our very own action! Right now is the time to prepare our gardens for this Summer's festivities. I personally think Spring arrives around mid-March when one season then seems to roll effortlessly into the next and remember, Summer may seem like a distant Golden Dream but like so many other anticipated dreams, it's really only a season away. Again, work really does start now if we are to thoroughly enjoy every aspect of our Summer gardens. For me, the morning I swept into the kitchen with stains all over my hands was the day that Spring came. Whether your garden is cricket pitch size or just a window box, you can attain and maintain a little bit of paradise whether you want a bowling green lawn or just a square of velvet green grass, regular mowing starting around now, will improve the appearance of your lawn and really help to keep it looking its best. If your daffodils were 'blind' this Spring, (no flowers), maybe wait until April and then deadhead, leaving their foliage, unknotted, then fatten up the bulbs with tomato feed and divide them, if crowded.



*Omphalodes - a cousin to the Forget-me-not, also called Blue Eyed Mary. One of the most desirable spring carpet plants. Will last for many years in the garden and thrives in a low terracotta pot*

As our weather warms up, our slugs and snails are simply, in their element - they just love all our new soft growth and especially tender buds so, keep a beady eye out for these creatures, and deal with them now before your 'beauties' (plants) disappear before your eyes, be it egg shells, copper bands, and there's also a copper-based barrier 'tape'. My personal favourite is grit, as it creates a sharp surface, making it difficult for slugs to slide over. Maybe you might prefer to use milk or beer traps; there are also organic slug pellets that don't harm children, animals and wildlife.

I generally say to myself, early every Spring, that I must try and divide up more of our little space in order to create extra intimate and interesting rooms outside. Internal divisions enable us to create surprises and a sense of mystery. Are we not tempted to explore and discover what is around that corner? Remember too, that a light here and there gives instant drama, at the flick of a switch! (Again, there are so many solar types available and are ever so cheap).

### **MIGHT DO, MAYBE DO, MARCH JOBS**

Here are a few ideas that hopefully will give you maximum drama for minimum efforts: -

1. Right now is a perfect time to order your **Plug Plants**. Nurseries generally send them at just the right time for planting. You don't even need a greenhouse to grow them in. Try a sunny back bedroom or windowsill. Give the tips a pinch out, a couple of times while the plants are young; this will make them firm and bushy and in return, you will have a lot more flowers.
2. **A Grass Alternative** – Chamomile, Corsican Mint and Carpeting Thymes are alternatives, especially in shaded small areas. These plants are good value for money and offer great Winter interest and then, none of these plants mind being trodden on, occasionally, and when crushed, release their wonderful fragrances, especially the powerfully scented Peppermint. Such an area would not make a suitable surface for energetic games.





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3. **Trellis - Works!** – Trellis really works well in almost every style of garden and is available in so many patterns. It can look classic or warm and traditional. Strong double trellis can make a useful screen within the garden. It is especially good for small spaces because unlike cement or other boundaries, it simply doesn't close one in too much and then creates that important sense of privacy.
4. **Containers** – Whatever container you choose, it's a really good idea to go for the largest, you can afford. Not only does one larger one have greater impact than several smaller ones but it is also more practical because the compost will dry out less quickly so needs less watering. Several containers together make more of a show if they are in the same style and material and are grouped together rather than dotted around. If you possess a particularly striking container, maybe you could just leave it unplanted and allow it to make a strong sculptural statement. The more elaborate the container the simpler the display of plants in it need to be and vice versa, so a very ornately decorated pot will look stunning with just one type of plant. Personally, I think the most attractive containers are those that are packed with plants. Maybe, choose plants of different habits, some trailing to soften the edges, some upright in order to add height to the display and some bushy to fill out.



*Hellebores Torquatus*

Finally, if the mood grabs you, cut off the old leaves of your Hellebores in order to expose their new flowers. It also helps remove possible foliar disease such as hellebore leaf spot, then as we can see, weed seedlings are growing daily, and it's best to scoop them out now before they get out of hand. Watch out too, for downy mildew and black spot on pansies: your pansies will carry on into Spring and even early Summer if attended to frequently. Lastly, let's strip our perennials of their dead leaves, old stalks and seed heads. Enjoy every single Spring day!



## DALKEY DASHERS - COMMUNITY GAMES



Following a very successful year in 2014 the Dalkey Dashers Community Games will recommence on **Wednesday 1st April at 7.00pm in the Loreto Abbey Hockey pitch**. All boys and girls aged 6 years and over are very welcome. We are also looking for parents to help out at the training sessions. With the large groups at training each week we always need new volunteers. Your help is crucial to ensure that we can continue to cater for the large numbers each week. The training sessions are held from 7.00pm to 8.00pm each Wednesday evening.

*Peter Duffy Winner u12 600m 2014*



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*President Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabina with Aisling Seaver*

Spending a year studying in China is a challenging experience, especially coming from the small town of Dalkey, as it could not be more different from Beijing. At the beginning of my expedition to learn Chinese in Beijing I longed for the quiet streets of Dalkey, with little traffic and that fresh sea breeze I always complained about. I was feeling a little homesick when suddenly, a surprise visitor shook me out of my sullen mood....President Michael D. Higgins was coming to Beijing and we had the chance to meet him! As Irish students studying abroad we felt it compulsory to welcome our leader to this foreign city and even if we didn't get to meet him, we had heard there would be free food and drink there, so of course around 20 of us all pushed and shoved our way onto the subway at rush hour and headed towards the Irish embassy located in downtown Beijing. Michael D and his wife Sabina were both at the event, talking about the growing relations between China and Ireland and all of the benefits this had for both countries. We all felt a huge sense of pride watching this man hold the attention of about 200 people, both Irish and Chinese, with his gentle presence and compelling words. What surprised me the most was that after his speech, Mr. Higgins waited as people queued up around the room to get a picture and a handshake with him. It was getting late but he had the decency to welcome every person in that room to the Irish embassy and thank them for listening. He is a credit to Ireland and a fantastic representative of our small-but-mighty country. He had such an impact on the Chinese people in Beijing that I heard the previous evening they had illuminated the famous Tiananmen Square with green spotlights and had Irish flags hanging up around the square and around the Forbidden City which are both considered national landmarks in China. And I can't leave out the free food we received! After about two months of eating Chinese food we were all absolutely delighted to find smoked salmon on McCambridge's-style brown bread, Wexford strawberries, proper succulent Irish beef and what tasted an awful lot like Lily O'Brien's decadent chocolates! It was an all-round fantastic evening and I will never forget meeting Michael D in Beijing, it truly was a pleasure getting to see him.

**AISLING SEAVER**



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### FINCHES AND BUDGIES

One day, seated at the table making a garden bird box with various tools and small nails to hand, I briefly left the room. Upon my return, continuing the work, I suddenly realised there were no nails! Thinking I had accidentally swept them to the floor I searched the carpet but to no avail. Mystified, I carried on with fresh ones. Sometime later my wife said “Have you seen this?” I went over to look and was amazed to see twenty silvery nails neatly woven together around the rim of the nest that TickTock (our bird at the time) and his companion sleep in at night. A practical use of handy items!

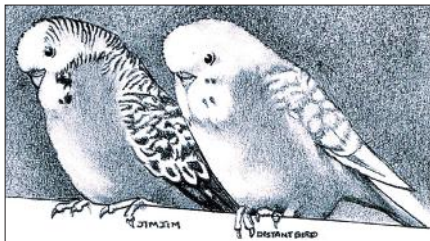
With all the joy that these creatures bring, we still have to deal with melancholy events. Since the previous article was written, Smudge, our little flightless female finch has died, Despite several such events, it still comes as a painful loss.

About three years ago, a different bird entered our lives. Another gift, a bright green budgerigar, who again highlighted the remarkably differing personalities of individual avians. JimJim (for that is his name) proved to have a friendly but highly independent nature, full of curiosity, which, on occasion, resulted in near fatality, trapped in a vase he was inspecting. In earlier days we would have been fascinated by activities such as pushing or chasing a metal ball around the floor, hanging upside down from lampshades, or inspecting our teeth and trying to remove them. As he has grown older and also gained the companionship of another male budgie, he has, to quite a degree, lost interest in us. But, even so, now being about four years old (middle aged?) and less playful, he does retain some little tricks, though these tend to be of a more destructive nature, knocking over small items, chewing picture frames and, in particular, he will not tolerate the presence of a small plastic dog and cat which he will despatch from a shelf with a flourish, then look down to ensure that they have fallen to the floor. If approached at an unsuitable time, he will twitter loudly and often bite, but unless very angry, which he can become, the bite is not severe. Conversely, if in the right mood, usually in the evening, I can get a kiss, a gentle nibble on the lips, and my wife is allowed to pick him up and rub her cheek on his wing.

We had noticed that JimJim would often seek the company of the finches, but when flying to them they would take fright, leaving him to wander alone and rejected. This was quite sad to see, and so we bought him a companion, resplendent in cream, turquoise and grey feathers, and proving eventually just how different two birds can be. This one always stays at the back of the cage, very quiet and shy. I said to my wife “He’s a very distant bird” - and that became his name! However, we were in for a surprise. One day he started to sing. We were astonished at how beautiful it was, enough to match any nightingale. Not only that, but JimJim himself began to sing in response. Now sometimes we can’t hear the radio or T.V. properly for the chorus. They will sing to music, people talking and even the vacuum cleaner. A particularly charming feature of this singing is that they will address themselves to a point of focus such as a clock, an ornament or a curtain ring, nodding their heads or bouncing up and down at intervals.

JimJim still likes the finches, often going to visit them, much to their consternation. But now he has his friend, it’s not so disconcerting to see them fly away. He won’t join us at meal times anymore for a piece of potato or a couple of peas, but will come to the water jug for a splash around if I am painting a picture, and will pluck the bars of the cage to gain attention.

Distant Bird continues to be distant, with his inscrutable gaze, and they both remain a source of unending pleasure.



**MICHAEL SALTER**

*Market Harborough, England (A former resident of Dalkey)*

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The mobile apps industry is booming, with Google and Apple offering 700,000 applications each in their respective stores. So if you are a budding oenophile or a fully fledged one then there are plenty of apps out there to educate and challenge you. Let's take a look at the most popular apps out there.

**Vivino** is an online wine community with seven million users.

If you upload this app, you can buy, rate and review wines. If you see a wine in store, by taking a picture of it you can look up reviews to see what other tech-savvy wine lovers thought of it, giving you a better chance of buying something that you won't have to pour down the sink. When you taste the wine you can also add your review – good or bad by a small write up and a one to five scale rating. Vivino is not the only one of its kind, an app called Delectable is slowly growing their customer base. Very similar to its competitor, if not a little easier to navigate.

The "Local Wine Events" app uses your location and informs you of any wine events/tastings that are happening near you. It is very useful when travelling abroad especially if you are not tuned into the local wine scene.

If you prefer a challenge or are more into gaming the "WSET (Wine & Spirit Education Trust) Wine Game" is for you. It consists of six different levels. You are given a wine label, the name of the wine and the name of the region. Now you have 60 seconds to select the region that the wine comes from. You have ten wines to match before the time runs out ...Go! A word of warning if you decide to download this app- It can be quite addictive!

There are also very handy websites out there, one in which I thought is worth mentioning is [www.matchingfoodandwine.com](http://www.matchingfoodandwine.com). It is a great site full of information. It contains articles with tried and tested food and wine matches.

**Sinéad Tyrell**

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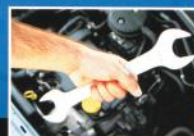
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## DISCOVER DALKEY UPDATE

We have been a busy bunch and although it is now six months since Discover Dalkey's Open Night last summer, some real progress has been made but there is much more to do.

### **Discover Dalkey has two main tasks before it:**

1. To continue to build the Discover Dalkey brand promoting Dalkey at home and abroad as a 'must see' visitor destination.

2. Through Dalkey Business group re-invigorate and help grow business in Dalkey.

We have been successful in winning grant aid from Dun Laoghaire Rathdown CoCo in both these areas, with grants awarded for festivals, heritage and business promotions. We are seeking and have applied for grants from other funding bodies. We are also seeking sponsorship, and have already received offers from a number of interested companies and institutions.

We are working to develop business in Dalkey, sector by sector, as the Business Group arm of Discover Dalkey. We are conscious that each business sector has particular needs and offers different opportunities for business development. At present the hospitality sector is well represented on the present committee. But other sectors e.g. business services, health and beauty, financial, institutional, etc., also need a voice. We believe that, in the past, the time constraints of general meetings of DBG have not always allowed for issues affecting particular groups or individuals within the Dalkey business community to be raised or discussed. We need a more efficient way of raising particular business issues and supporting business development in Dalkey.

We are, therefore, seeking volunteers from each business sector in Dalkey, who might focus on the needs of their sector, canvas the opinions of their colleagues and might be willing to represent these from time to time on the main Discover Dalkey Committee.

We are also aware that at the Open Night last summer, and following from it, a significant number of people offered to work as volunteers for Discover Dalkey, particularly in relation to promoting the image and heritage of Dalkey and its surroundings. We will be back in touch with these volunteers in the coming weeks to seek their support in our efforts. Finally, Discover Dalkey will continue to develop cooperation with Dalkey Community Council, Dalkey Tidy Towns, Dalkey Active Retirement Association, Dalkey Civic Trust, the Dalkey Parishes and other local organisations, with a view to supporting these organisations in their work.

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY - UPCOMING EVENTS!**

**Dalkey Vintage Festival:** 3rd August 2015

**Dalkey Lobster Festival:** 28th/29th/30th August 2015

*Kind regards,*

*The Discover Dalkey Team*



IRISH CANCER SOCIETY

## **Dalkey Daffodil Day**

**COFFEE MORNING IN OUR LADY'S HALL**

**Saturday, 21st March, 2015 10am -12.30 pm.**

*Come along, have a coffee and buy a daffodil!*



*Rosemary Pearson*



*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.:** D15A/0008

**Application Rec'd Date:** 13-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** A & J McGouran, 12 Ulverton Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for a single storey extension to the side and rear of existing house, new boathouse to the rear, a new pedestrian entrance from Ulverton Road and a new vehicular access from Carysfort Road and changes to existing external finishes. Located in an Architectural Conservation Area.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0555

**Application Rec'd Date:** 28-Aug-2014

**Applicant Name & Location:** Iarnród Éireann, Dalkey Station, Railway Road, Dalkey. (A Protected Structure)

**Proposal:** Permission for the relocation of a ticket vending machine, removal of metal grilles, access gate and turnstiles in the station building to the north of the railway lines and their replacement with new turnstiles, windows and glazed doors. A new level access drain, new turnstiles to replace the existing turnstiles and roller shutter will be installed in the shelter to the south of the railway lines. The central handrail at the steps to/from the shelter will be removed. Located in an Architectural Conservation Area. Additional Information: 21-Jan-2015.

**Reg. Ref.:** D15A/0030

**Application Rec'd Date:** 23-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Iris O'Malley, 21 Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey (The White House)

**Proposal:** Permission for Retention for a revised alignment to the boundary wall between House B (constructed) and approved House A (D13A/0317 PL06D.242469). **Applic. Type:** Permission for Retention

**Reg Ref:** D15A/0051

**Application Rec'd Date:** 30-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Pegasus Life, Lands at Dalkey Manor, Barnhill Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the demolition of existing two storey dwelling 'Dalkey Manor' (273 sqm), entrance gates, piers and splay walls and the construction of a specialised 'later living' development, consisting of: (i) 6 no. four storey blocks in two terraces with a recessed fifth floor level (over basement car parking level) providing 57 no. accommodation units with private balconies/terraces as follows: 8 no. one bedroom (60-62 sqm); 48 no. two bedroom (92-152 sqm) and 1 no. three bedroom unit (211 sqm) with separate access to each block at ground floor level and interconnected circulation between the blocks at basement level; (ii) communal facilities (643 sqm) located at basement, ground and 4th floor levels, incorporating a wellness suite, resident's dining area, gym, reflection and relaxation rooms, physical therapy/care suites, staff facilities (27 sqm), guest accommodation unit (32 sqm) and a resident's lounge (52 sqm); (iii) 74 no. parking spaces incorporating 5 no. surface visitor spaces and 69 no. basement parking spaces, (including 4. no. disabled and 18 no. stacker unit spaces), 57 no. bicycle parking spaces and space for parking and charging of mobility scooters; (iv) garden terrace over basement car park level; (v) public open space and passive landscaped areas including boundary treatments, tree protection measures and supplementary tree planting along all site boundaries; (vi) access road and footpath along north-west boundary with entrance gates and piers; (vii) new vehicular access from Barnhill Road at north-west corner of the site, including setback of existing boundary wall; and (viii) all ancillary development works necessary to facilitate the development, including alteration of site levels, provision of fire tender access route, green roofs, basement level storage, bin store, plant (including electricity substations and switch rooms), electric car charging points, SUDS surface water drainage, foul drainage, lighting and drop off area.

All on a site of 0.937 hectares. The proposed development is adjacent to Dalkey Lodge, Barnhill road, Dalkey. (A Protected Structure - RPS No. 1483).

**Reg. Ref.:** D15A/0052

**Application Rec'd Date:** 30-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Siobhan Smyth, 54A Ulverton Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for Granny Annex extension/alterations to side of two storey dwelling house previously granted permission under D06A/1619/E (PL06D.221728). The application will cover new entrance and driveways, landscaping, boundary wall, provision of drainage and services and ancillary works at rear garden.

**Reg. Ref.:** D15A/0067

**Application Rec'd Date:** 5-Feb-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Pam Rafferty, 48 Carysfort Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the following: 1. The demolition of the existing rear single storey garage and the provision in its place of a single storey granny flat with pedestrian access from Carysfort Drive. 2. The provision of a new vehicle access in revised location to replace the existing vehicle access on Carysfort Drive with sliding gate in the side boundary wall. 3. To increase the height of the existing side concrete block wall to a height of 2 metres along the boundary with Carysfort Drive.

## PLANNING DECISIONS Wks 3-6 12/01/2015 to 6/02/2015

**Reg. Ref.** D14A/0565

**Decision:** Grant Permission

**Date:** 14-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Siobhan O'Rourke, 1, Dalkey Grove, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission to construct a single-storey, flat-roofed detached dwelling (114sq.m.) in the existing side, rear garden including separate vehicular and pedestrian entrances, all associated site works, off-street parking, and the provision of a front boundary wall to the public footpath.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0733

**Decision:** Grant Permission

**Date:** 16-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** John Power, 2, Vico Terrace, Vico Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission is sought for the demolition of existing sunroom over garage extension and the construction of a new two storey over garage extension. The development also includes 2 no. replacement dormer windows, alteration of fenestration and upgrading works to the main house, landscaping, drainage and ancillary works to facilitate the development. (Located within an Architectural Conservation Area)

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0365

**Decision:** Grant Permission

**Date:** 23-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Dermot & Mary Divilly, Saint Aubyns, Sorrento Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the construction of a new 2-storey house (214 sqm) with associated landscaping and main foul drainage connection in the North Western Corner of the garden to the existing house.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0740

**Decision:** Grant Permission

**Date:** 20-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Mrs A Manley, 12 The Rise, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for the demolition of the single storey garage with shed to the side of the existing two storey detached dwelling. Construction of new single storey extension with roof lights to the side. Alterations to the window openings on the front, side and rear elevations. Relocation of the main entrance to the new side extension. New entrance door on the side/north elevation. New roof lights and dormer windows to the sides of the dwelling. Widening of the vehicular entrances.

**Reg. Ref.:** D15A/0002

**Decision:** Declare Applic. Invalid

**Date:** 19-Jan-2015

**Applicant Name & Location:** Richard McCarthy, Ulysses, Ardbrugh Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Permission for extension and renovation to existing dwelling house: (i) Demolish existing porch, construct front (south) extension comprising sunroom and entrance/porch to ground-floor, winter-garden and balcony above to first floor. (ii) 2 no. new balconies to first floor rear (north) elevation. (iii) Modification of window opens and doors and associated modifications of internal layout. (iv) new roof lights to rear (north) slope. (v) Existing front (south) boundary wall raised to height of existing timber plank fence, in line with height of neighbours wall to west, with new sliding gate to existing access.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0273      **Decision:** Grant Permission      **Date:** 27-Jan-2015  
**Applic.Name & Location:** Mr & Mrs Jack Donnelly, Lands adjacent to 4A Ardbrugh Rd, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission for the construction of a new 2 storey four bedroom family home and all ancillary works.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0758      **Decision:** Grant Permission      **Date:** 28-Jan-2015  
**Applicant Name & Location:** George & Louise Brady, 31 Knocknacree Park, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission for: **1.** Alterations to front comprising garage conversion & extension for new bedroom, enlargement of existing porch & widening of window at first floor level. **2.** Alterations to rear, comprising 2 storey extension and patio area. **3.** New garden room to rear of back garden. **4.** Various associated works, including widening of vehicular entrance, replacement of all windows and external render, replacement of roof finish with zinc and ancillary site works.

**Reg. Ref.:** D14A/0775      **Decision:** Grant Permission      **Date:** 4-Feb-2015  
**Applicant Name & Location:** Rob Downes, 15 Church Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission for the widening of existing gate, conversion of garage to side at ground floor, construction of extension at first floor to side and rear.

### **APPEALS NOTIFIED by An Bord Pleanála Wks. 3-6 12/1/'15 to 6/2/2015**

**Reg Ref:** D14A/0682    **Reg. Date:** 22-Oct-2014    **Location:** Shamrock Lodge, Barnhill Ave., Dalkey.  
**Development:** Permission for; (a) demolition of existing detached house and detached mews, (b) construction of 2 no. detached two storey 4 bedroom 189.25 sqm dwellings, (c) construction of 2 no. semi-detached two storey 4 bedroom 181 sqm dwellings, (d) 3 no. new vehicular entrances to Barnhill Avenue and all associated site works. **Council Decision:** Refuse Permission. **Appeal Lodged:** 19-Jan-2015 **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Refusal of Approval. **Type of Appeal:** 1st Party Appeal

**Reg Ref:** D14A/0716    **Reg. Date:** 7-Nov-2014  
**Location:** Apartments 1 & 4 Queenstown Castle, Coliemore Road, Dalkey.  
**Development:** Permission for the removal of the existing conservatory at lower ground floor level and removal of the existing roof terrace at upper ground floor level, to be replaced by construction of new conservatories at lower ground and upper ground floor levels, all on the eastern elevation. A protected structure. **Council Decision:** Refuse Permission.  
**Appeal Lodged:** 4-Feb-2015. **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Refusal of Permission.  
**Type of Appeal:** 1st Party Appeal

### **APPEAL DECISIONS of Bord Pleanála Wks. 2-5 5/1/2015 to 30/01/2015**

**Reg. Ref.** D14A/0434    **Appeal Decided:** 28-Jan-2015    **Appeal Decision:** Grant Permission  
**Council's Decision:** Refuse Permission. **Location:** Site at Torca Road, Dalkey, bounded to the east by San Elmo Lodge, to the north by a right of way leading to Knocknacree Road and to the north-west by Torca Road. **Proposed Development:** Permission for development consisting of the construction of a 4-bedroom, 2-storey dwelling house (gross floor area c.300 sqm) with south-facing balcony. New vehicular entrance onto Torca Road with off-street parking.  
**Applicant:** Glasmount Investments Ltd.

### **DALKEY MANOR PLANNING PROPOSAL**

Concerned local residents attended a meeting held on 11th February at Killiney Castle Hotel to discuss the proposed plan for 57 'later living' apartments at Dalkey Manor on Barnhill Rd. The meeting was attended by approximately 60 residents living beside the Dalkey Manor site as well as a representative from Dalkey Community Council's Planning Committee. The main issues raised were the scale of the development, traffic concerns, over-looking, and over-shadowing. A committee was formed to draw up a plan of action and aid communication amongst the residents. Residents throughout Dalkey are encouraged to lodge their observations about the proposal to the Planning Department of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council before **5th March, 2015** as the development will have a major impact on Dalkey. (Planning reference number D15A/0051)



We recently had our green school assessment for our Energy Flag. Everything went really well and fingers crossed we will be awarded our second Green Flag.

This month we are participating in the Green Passport initiative in partnership with DLR Leisure Services. This encourages our students and families to appreciate the great outdoors and become familiar with all our local services and attractions. This means they are using their own energy and reducing the energy used from the plug sockets at home - a win/win for all!!

The idea of the passport is to get families up and out of the house and joining in fun activities together. They all have their own passports and have to visit different places to find codes. Some of the places to visit are local parks, farmers markets, local leisure centres, beaches, farmers markets and historical buildings.

Students earn stamps for their passports on completion of the activities. Apart from getting fitter, there is the added incentive of winning prizes for completed passports. Everyone is very excited about the challenge and looking forward to getting started!



*Green School Committee holding their Passports*

## After School Service @ Betty Allen`s

### (GLENAGEARY MONTESSORI SCHOOL)

- Places available
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### A TRIP TO LEINSTER HOUSE



*Harold Boys' Visit to Dáil Éireann*

On the 21st of January my class (6th) visited Leinster House. We left the school at 9:30 and got a DART into Dublin city. When we arrived at Leinster House, we were greeted by Mary Mitchell O' Connor T.D who kindly arranged the visit. We took a photo with her and went inside using a side entrance. After we put our coats and bags away we were told to go up the stairs which brought us to the viewing gallery of the Dáil chamber. There were eight T.Ds in the chamber and they were debating the 'Mother and Baby homes' issue. We listened to both sides of the debate and then our tour began. Our tour guide's name was Donal and he escorted us to the main hallway. The wall was lined with pictures of former Taoisigh. We learnt their names and when they were in power. As we walked further down the corridor, Donal pointed out the portrait of Countess Markievicz. She was the first lady to be in the Irish government. Our tour progressed until we came to Seanad Éireann. It was not in session but it gave us a chance to admire the ornate ceiling. As our tour ended we passed through the main entrance, which held portraits of important people from Irish history. We really enjoyed the experience.

**Written by  
JACK LAYDEN AND DONNCHA MURPHY**

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### “FROM THE HILL TO HARBOURS”

**Big Belly’ Solar Bins:** You will have noticed the change in bins in Dalkey since mid-December. For several years the Tidy Towns Committee has been seeking to have these large capacity bins installed in a few key locations where litter is prevalent. Having carried out trials along the frontage in Dun Laoghaire, at the end of last year the Local Authority decided to roll out this type of bin in order to reduce collection costs, etc.

Following discussions between the Local Authority and Dalkey Tidy Towns, nineteen Big Belly Solar bins have been installed at agreed locations in Dalkey.

We are conscious that they are not visibly as attractive as the traditional ‘heritage’ style bins. However, while it is early days yet, but there are indications that their deployment has led to a reduction in litter. (Incidentally, the ‘Big Belly’ bins are manufactured from recycled steel and plastic).

They possess several significant advantages over the traditional bin. Firstly, they have considerably greater capacity, not just due to their size but also through the compacting of the rubbish, thus providing further extra capacity.

Another noteworthy advantage is that they can communicate! Just like mobile phones, they use cellular data to communicate. They can communicate to selected servers in terms of how full or otherwise they are. Thus they can be continuously monitored. This will lead to greater efficiency and effectiveness in the ‘rubbish’ collection system and site selection. .

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council seek to recoup at least part of the outlay on these bins through these efficiencies and also by on site/bin advertising. However, we are seeking an exemption from the placement of advertising on the bins located in Castle St. We feel that would be inappropriate in the centre of a Heritage town such as Dalkey.

We are in the process of gearing up to address the observations by last year’s National Tidy Towns Adjudication. More about that in the near future and how you can help in enhancing your locality.



**Malcolm Connolly**



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## ASK THE PHARMACIST



### **Q. I suffer from a 'burning sensation' in my chest especially after meal times - what could be causing this and how could I treat it?**

**A.** The symptoms you are describing are more than likely heartburn or acid reflux. This happens when acid from the stomach moves up the throat causing a burning sensation. It is generally not something to be concerned with and can be managed by dietary changes and/or medication. Small and significant changes to your lifestyle can make big differences:

- Eat smaller, more frequent meals
- Avoid fatty foods and eat fruit every day if possible
- Get plenty of fibre in the diet
- Avoid spicy food if they cause a problem for you
- Be physically active and try to get to an ideal weight for your height
- Stop smoking or less often if this is not realistic
- Reduce alcohol and caffeine consumption
- Avoid going to bed directly after mealtime
- If you suffer from night time reflux, elevate the head of your bed and lie on your left side

There are many treatment options of over-the-counter medications which include:

- Antacids: These neutralise stomach acid for a short while
- Alginates: These act by protecting the stomach lining
- H2 Antagonists: These act by suppressing the production of stomach acids
- Proton Pump Inhibitors: These work similar to H2 Antagonists but provide better and longer acting relief



Always discuss with your Pharmacist or your GP your specific symptoms, before treating the condition, so that the correct treatment option can be offered.

You should visit your GP if you experience any of the following: weight loss, loss of appetite, difficulty or pain on swallowing, vomiting blood or passing bloody stools.

### **Q. I have a lot of difficulty swallowing tablets - do you have any tips on how to help with this?**

**A.** This can be a common problem for people and one easy solution is the 'pop bottle technique'. To do this you:

- Fill a flexible water bottle with water
- Place the tablet on your tongue and close your lips around the opening of the bottle
- Take a drink from the bottle, keeping contact between the bottle and your lips and using a sucking motion. Swallow the water and the pill right away.  
(Don't let air get into the bottle as you swallow - the bottle should squeeze in on itself as you swallow)

It is sometimes possible get a liquid form of the medicines or to crush tablets or open capsules so always check with your Pharmacist if this is an option.

*If you have any questions you would like answered please email us on [maxwellpharmacydalkey@eircom.net](mailto:maxwellpharmacydalkey@eircom.net) and put Dalkey Newsletter in the message subject line.*



## DALKEY LADIES' CLUB NEWS



The Ladies Club started back after the Christmas break with several very good speakers, but unfortunately, due to the terrible weather, the attendance was not as good as usual. In mid-February we had our Annual dinner in Killiney Golf Club and, once again, this was a most enjoyable and lively occasion. In March we expect to have an evening of poetry, our annual auction, St. Patrick's Day celebration and an Easter Bonnet Parade. We are looking forward to good attendances and new members will be very welcome.

*Rosaleen Callaghan*





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### Fundraising for The Caroline Foundation – Awareness Ribbon Day

#### THE CAROLINE FOUNDATION

The pupils and staff at Castle Park School have been enthusiastically fundraising in aid of The Caroline Foundation, [www.thecarolinefoundation.com](http://www.thecarolinefoundation.com). The Caroline Foundation was recently established in memory of Caroline Dwyer-Hickey who passed away two years ago aged 35, after a nine year battle with cancer. The purpose of the Foundation is to support the work of Professor John Crown and the Cancer Clinical Research Trust

([www.ccrt.ie](http://www.ccrt.ie)) by funding an additional research scientist to work with CCRT.

On Wednesday 4th February, we marked World Cancer Day by wearing coloured ribbons to School to show our support for research to beat cancer. We have also been collecting loose change in all the denominations up to €2 and the children were challenged to estimate how many of each type of coin were collected.

The children were very creative with their coloured ribbons, making beautiful hair bows, rosettes and brooches to wear. Cecelia in fifth class wove her multi-coloured loom bands into ribbons which her classmates pinned to their jumpers and Toby, also in fifth class, donated a huge jar of coins which he had collected at home over the last few months.



*The Monies collected*



## NATURE NOTES MARCH 2015



### Tuesday 3rd March

in Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel, Killiney at 8pm. South Dublin Branch AGM, followed by Robert Busby's Israel Trip Report and the Annual Quiz set by Stephen McAvoy.

### Sunday 8th March

Outing to Tolka River Estuary, Clontarf. Meet at 10:30am in the car park on Clontarf Road that is opposite "The Yacht" public house.

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## MARCH 2015 LOCAL HISTORY LECTURES



**Wednesday 4th at 6.30pm** – Tony Behan will present his lecture ‘*The Way We Were: 80 years of the Old Dublin Society*’ at 6.30 p.m. to The Old Dublin Society in The Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 - 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. Admission free - all welcome.

**Thursday 5th at 8pm** – Myles Reid will present his lecture ‘*From Seed Shops to Garden Centres*’ to the Mount Merrion Historical Society in The Mount Merrion Community Centre, North Ave. Mount Merrion. All welcome - admission €4 / Student €2.

**Monday 9th at 7.30pm** – Ms. Melanie Hayes will present her talk ‘*Building Connections: Domestic Developments in Early Georgian Dublin and London*’ to the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland in Society House, 63 Merrion Square South, Dublin 2.

**Tuesday 10th at 8pm** – Maura Flood will present her lecture ‘*American Records - Researching Irish Emigrants to the U.S.*’ to The Genealogical Soc. of Ireland in Dun Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland St. Dun Laoghaire. Donation of €3 requested.

**Wednesday 11th at 6.30pm** – James Scannell will present his lecture ‘*Too Many Bags in the Boat: the 1876 Kingstown Lifeboat Accident*’ to The Old Dublin Society in The Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 - 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. Admission free - all welcome.

**Thursday 12th at 8pm** – Ciara Cullen and Hubert Mahony will present their lecture ‘*Irish Women Volunteers (VADs) in the Great War*’ to the Kilmacud Stillorgan Local History Society in The Function Room, Glenalbyn Sports Club, Stillorgan. All welcome - Contribution €3.

**At 8.30pm** – Chris Barlett will present his lecture ‘*Glendalough: City of God*’ to The Enniskerry History Society in The Powerscourt Arms Hotel, Enniskerry Village. All welcome - Contribution €3.

**Friday 13th at 8pm** – Col. Donal O’Carroll will present his lecture ‘*Waterloo - a close-run thing*’ to The Military History Society of Ireland Griffith College, South Circular Road, Dublin 8. All welcome.

**Wednesday 18th at 8pm** – Dr. Seamus Cannon & Emlyn Cullen will present their lecture ‘*The History of Monkstown Castle*’ to The Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society in The Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. Admission €3.50 / Retired €2.

**Thursday 19th at 8pm** – Jim Rees will present his lecture ‘*The Life and Times of Robert Halpin, a Mariner from Wicklow*’ to the Bray Cualann Historical Society in Bray Chamber of Commerce House, 10 Quinsboro Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All welcome - admission €4.

**Wednesday 25th from 10.30am to 12.30pm** – The ‘*March Open Morning Meeting*’ of The Genealogical Society of Ireland takes place in Hardy’s Bar, The Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire. Contribution €3 – includes Tea/Coffee).

Dr. Thomas Morrissey S.J., will present his lecture ‘*Laurence O’Neill, Lord Mayor of Dublin from 1917 to 1924: Patriot and Man of Peace*’ at 6.30pm to The Old Dublin Society in The Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. Admission free - all welcome.

**Thursday 26th at 8pm** – Brendan Langley will present his lecture ‘*Electricity - Ireland’s Invisible Power*’ to The Rathmines, Ranelagh & Rathgar Historical Society in Rathmines Town Hall, Rathmines Rd, Rathmines. Admission €3 - Car parking available in the Swan Centre - €1.50 (Total) from 6 p.m. to 12.30 a.m.

**Monday 30th at 8pm** – Mary Hayes will present her lecture ‘*Trim: A Fairly Medieval Town*’ to the Clondalkin Historical Society in Arás Chronáin, Watery Lane, Clondalkin. All welcome.



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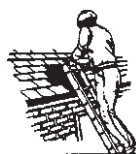
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**Services for February 2015** **Sundays:** 8.30am Holy Communion, 10.45am Morning Service  
**Midweek Services:** Thursdays at 10.30 am.

**The Carry Centre** – The newly-refurbished Carry Centre, the parish centre of Holy Trinity, Killiney, will provide a wonderful service to the whole community, President Michael D. Higgins said at its official opening on Sunday January 25. The President praised the parish for its invitation to a wide range of groups to use the centre and paid tribute to the generosity of spirit and resource shown by parishioners in taking on the project.

The centre on Killiney Hill Road was full to capacity with parishioners, ecumenical guests, public representatives, the Dean of St Patrick's Cathedral and many other well wishers.

The refurbished Carry Centre was blessed by the Archbishop of Dublin, The Most Revd. Dr. Michael Jackson. He gave thanks for all who had worked on the project and asked blessings on all the people who would use the centre for many years to come.

In his speech, the President said he was struck by the explicit invitation to all who may come to use the Carry Centre. He said that as President had had the

pleasure of visiting places all over the country to see the efforts being made by people of different backgrounds to take hold of public space. He added that this taking hold of public space as a result of groups working together could be incredibly empowering.

He noted that Killiney usually featured in the property pages of the newspapers rather than elsewhere but he said communities like Killiney were trying to renew themselves. Speaking of the importance of community he said, in the current circumstances, it was necessary to value everything done in the public space particularly as "we are coming out of a period of extreme individualism".

"This project was not without its difficulties and literally blood, sweat and tears went into its development," he stated adding that, contrary to popular opinion, Killiney was not a rich parish but they were rich in good will. He thanked all who were involved in the refurbishment project hoped that the fruits of their labour would be a catalyst for community activity for many years to come.

Over the past six months, the parish has undertaken works to upgrade the Carry Centre to enable the wider community to benefit from the hall. The upgrading works have brought the hall into line with current regulations. The project received some small grants from private charities but the majority of funding has come from within the parish through gifts and loans.



*The President and Mrs Higgins are welcomed to the Carry Centre by Rev. Niall J. Sloane*



## Castle Park Swim Academy & Sports Centre

# Easter 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 a party is held at the end of each week. Camp will run for two 4 day weeks, with daily rates and early morning and late evening daycare also available.

**Week 1 -**  
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**Week 2 -**  
7th April - 10th April

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In addition to the Centre's current usage, the new hall could be a venue for many activities including a Mother and Toddler group, clinics/workshops, educational activities, senior citizens clubs and socials, integration of non-Irish citizens to the community, ministry to children and young people, youth organisations and groups, local clubs and environmental and heritage awareness events and workshops. For more information and bookings please visit [www.carrycentre.ie](http://www.carrycentre.ie)

**Lent** – As we journey through Lent there will be a mid-week service every Wednesday at 8pm in Holy Trinity. All welcome.

**Killiney Keep Fit Class** – Sadly all good things come to an end and the Killiney Keep Fit group which was started by Babs Smythe over 40 years ago may have run its course but it could be regenerated if there was enough new interest within the community. The Keep Fit has always been a group drawn from the neighbourhood and across the community and was run on a voluntary basis so that over the years it has been able to support many charities to the tune of over €50,000. The Hospice, Drug squad, Laura Lynne and many, many others have benefited, besides funding various Church repairs, and helping local people in need. This is a proud record for the ladies as well as the benefits of improved health and fitness! When Babs retired she handed over to a group whom she had trained up to run the class, Imelda Greaney, Aine Marr who has sadly passed on, Rosaleen Corbet who has retired, and Jason O'Carroll. Imelda has been keeping the books since 1997 and organising things together with Jason and they are willing to continue if there is enough interest. Mondays at 10.00am & the cost is 20 Euros for 8 weeks - 75minute work out which can be taken at you own pace. For more information contact: Imelda on 087 6810700 or Jason 087 2706831

**Sheep Thrills - Made in Ireland** – Every Thursday at 11am in the Carry Centre.

Our community-based textile group continues with great enthusiasm and with lots of new ideas already put into operation. Sheep Thrills products will be sold locally and given to selected charities for the homeless both at home and abroad. So anyone interested please contact Joan @ 0872460078. Admission €3-€5.

**The Y Club (Killiney Men's Society)** – Thursday March 26th ~ Dinner in National Yacht Club, Dun Laoghaire at 8pm. All Gentleman are very welcome to attend. More information from Paul O'Brien, Nigel Pierpoint or the Rector.

**Table Tennis** – The table tennis club meets every Monday at 8pm in the Carry Centre. If you are interested in trying out table tennis, you would be very welcome (and we will even lend you a bat!). For more information contact Linda Franck (086 8296029).

**Ladies Guild** – The next meeting will be on 10th March, 10.30 am in the Carry Centre. Ann Fleeton will speak on Quilts and Patchwork. Visitors welcome.

**SILK - Socials Involving Ladies of Killiney** – The next gathering will be a trip to the Cinema on Wednesday 18th March. For more information please contact Judy Jones - 2855159

**Bible Study and Prayer Group** – The next Bible Study on Tuesday 24th March at 10.30am in the Carry Centre. All are very welcome to attend.



*The President and his wife Sabina were presented with products made by the Sheep Thrills knitting group which meets weekly in the centre. They are pictured with the Rector of Holy Trinity, the Revd Niall Sloane and Sheep Thrills coordinator, Joan Millar*

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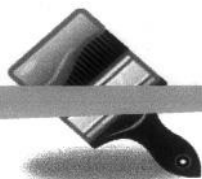


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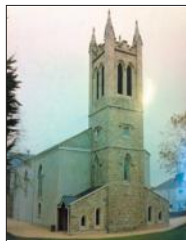
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We had a wonderful year of renewal in Dalkey Church last year with a continued emphasis on faith development and also on spreading the joy of the Gospel with lots of social activities and retreats. It was wonderful to see so many old faces returning to the church for Christmas ceremonies and also to see the many new faces at Mass each weekend. We look forward to continuing this emphasis in 2015 - to try and follow the example set by Pope Francis by Living Joyously and giving thanks for each and every day.

We now turn our attention to preparing for the coming Easter. This is a time of preparation, an opportunity to look inwards to where we are in our lives and to prepare for the resurrection. As the days lengthen we look forward to more light in our lives both physically and spiritually as we connect with the new season. What a wonderful time of the year.

Once again we look forward to our every popular Lenten talk's series in conjunction with St Patrick's parish. The theme for this year is Sexuality, Spirituality and Scripture and they continue each Wednesday evening in Lent at 7.30pm in Harold Boys' School, Patrick's Rd. Speakers include Fr Kieran O'Mahony OSA, Brian Glennon (spiritual director and member of GCVI), Ger and Maree Mahony (marriage preparation and enrichment), V Revd Dermot Dunne (Christ Church Cathedral), Dr Brad Anderson (Mater Dei) Moninne Griffiths of Faith In Marriage Equality. All welcome. Free entry. Tea & coffee at 9pm.

**Confirmations** – We welcome all the children coming from our local schools Harold Boys, Loreto, Castlepark, St Patricks and Rathdown for Confirmation this month. May the Holy Spirit guide and protect them as they grow and may we as a faith community encourage them achieve their best potential in life.

**St Patricks Day** – Saint Patrick as our patron saint and national apostle of Ireland, is credited with bringing Christianity to Ireland. Most of what is known about him comes from his two works; the Confessio, a spiritual autobiography, and his Epistola, a denunciation of British mistreatment of Irish Christians.

People today seek spirituality. Some find a value, a meaning for their lives which continues to sustain them. Others try on spiritualities like new clothes, and abandon them when they become tired of them. Patrick shows us spirituality, which is very simple. He is loved, blessed and called by God and he responds.

St Patrick had stickability. His holy mountain in the West of Ireland - Croagh Patrick - has many lessons for us. We can see its majestic summit from a distance. But as we begin to climb, the summit vanishes and all we can see is the intervening slope. The summit is often covered by fog. For ordinary people Croagh Patrick is quite a difficult climb, and it demands grit and determination to get to the top. St Patrick can



*St. Patrick's Window in the Church of the Assumption.*

*Photo: C. Fogarty*





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lead us to ascend life's mountain where, like Moses and Patrick, we meet the living God.

**Parent and Toddlers Group** – Our Parent and Toddler Group meet each Monday in the Youth hall (back of Our Lady's Hall) at the usual time, 10.45-12.00. All are most welcome!

**Bereavement Counselling** – The bereavement counselling service, which are non denominational, offers confidential counselling on a one to one basis by trained volunteer counsellors in Presbytery No.2 on every Tuesday night from 7-9pm. Just call 01 8391766 for an appointment. There is no fee for this appointment but donations are welcome.

We would like to hear from you. If you are interested in getting involved, sharing your views with us or simply want to say hello, you can drop into the Parish office between 10.30 and 12.30 each day, email [office@dalkeyparish.ie](mailto:office@dalkeyparish.ie), tweet @dalkeyparish, call 01 2859418 or visit

[www.dalkeyparish.ie](http://www.dalkeyparish.ie)

Caitriona Fogarty – Dalkey Parish Office



## NEWS FROM ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH



**Rector:** Rev. Bruce Hayes

**Email:** [brucejohnhayes@gmail.com](mailto:brucejohnhayes@gmail.com)

**Parish Office**

Email: [dalkeyparish@gmail.com](mailto:dalkeyparish@gmail.com)

Phone (01) 284 5941

Web: [www.stpatricksdalkey.com](http://www.stpatricksdalkey.com)

Twitter: @DalkeyParishorg

### Sunday Services for March 2015.

1st March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Parish Eucharist.
8th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am All Age Family Worship.
15th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Parish Eucharist.
22th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Morning Prayer.
28th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Parish Eucharist

### UPCOMING EVENTS FOR MARCH

**Children's Programme** – Cinema Night for March is on Saturday 7th in the Northover Hall at 7pm.

**Our Football Club** resumes again after the Winter break each Saturday, commencing on Saturday 7th March in Castle Park at 5pm and continues right through to the 6th June. We welcome back our regular team and look forward to any new members who wish to join. Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to add your name to the incoming transfer list, which is now open!

**Joint Parish Lenten Talks** – The Dalkey Inter-Church Lent Series, organised by The Church of the Assumption and St. Patrick's Church, is titled '*Sexuality, Spirituality and Scripture*'. This series of talks continues each Wednesday during Lent (new venue), Harold Boys' School, Patrick Road, Dalkey, at 7.30pm each evening. At the time of going to print this newsletter, the 1st talk will have been on **Wednesday 25th February** by Fr. Kieran O'Mahony OSA. The March talks continue on **March 4th**. *Sexuality and Spirituality in traditional marriage and in emerging patterns of partnership or personal support*.

Revd. Ginnie Kennerley, Brian Glennon (spiritual director and member of GCVI) and Ger and Maree Mahony (Marriage Preparation and Enrichment). **March 11th**. *Sexuality, Spirituality and Ethics in relation to Scripture*. V Revd. Dermot Dunne (Christ Church Cathedral) and Dr. Brad Anderson (Mater Dei) **March 18th**. What have we learned and what yet to explore? Fr. Kieran O'Mahony, Revd. Bruce Hayes, Fr. Paddy Devitt or Fr. Declan Gallagher and Moninne Griffiths of Faith In Marriage Equality. All welcome. Free entry. Tea and coffee at 9pm.



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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



DCC March Monthly Meeting	Mon. 9 Mar
Mother's Day	Sun. 15 Mar
Scouts Tea/Coffee in OLH after 10am Mass in OLH in aid of the Terry Connolly Fellowship	Tues. 17 Mar
Dalkey Daffodil Day Coffee Morning in OLH (10am - 12:30pm)	Sat. 21 Mar
Sorting of April Newsletters in OLH (1pm-2pm)	Thurs. 26 Mar
St. Patrick's Dramatic Society "The Deep Blue Sea" at 8pm in Dalkey Town Hall	Wed. 25 - Sat. 28 Mar
Summer Time begins (clock goes forward one hour)	Sun. 29 Mar

### 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](http://www.dalkeyplayers.ie) check for details.  
**St. Patrick's Dramatic Society:** Rehearsals in Northover Hall, Harbour Road from 8pm-10.30pm Mon. & Thurs. or check [www.stpatsdramsoc.com](http://www.stpatsdramsoc.com) for further information.  
**The Irish Vintage Radio and Sound Society** meets monthly in Dalkey. 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 6.15pm 7.15pm 8.15pm. 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.  
**The So & Sews** in aid of Alzheimer's on Monday's at 3pm with afternoon tea in Derrymore, 35, Coliemore Road. Call Jasmine on 275 1876. **Start date Mon. 2nd March.**  
**Ballroom/Old Style Dancing Classes** on Fridays with Tom Whelan in Dalkey Town Hall begin on March 13th. Tel: 285 8262  
**Nature Notes March 2015** See Page 35.

### DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

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**Last Day for Articles only for next issues: April:** 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015; **May.:** 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

**Last date for receipt of Advertisements: April.:** 6<sup>th</sup> March 2015; **May:** 10<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

**ALL ARTICLES STRICTLY TO:** The Editor, c/o Post Box, Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey preferably by e-mail to [gerard.coakley56@gmail.com](mailto:gerard.coakley56@gmail.com). Images should be in JPEG format.

**NOTE: All Advertising Enquiries to:** Ms. Helena Feely, Advertising Manager, 47, Dalkey Park, Dalkey. Phone: 01-2858025. (Office hours Mon- Fri.). All other queries etc. should be addressed to: The Secretary, c/o Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey

**EDITORIAL POLICY** — The Editorial Staff reserve the right to edit and/or amend articles submitted to the Newsletter. The views and comments published within the Newsletter are not necessarily the views shared or condoned by Dalkey Community Council Limited.

**Editorial Team:** Gerard Coakley (*Editor*), Ann Perry (*Assistant Editor*), Danny Merity (*Distribution*), Helena Feely (*Advertising Manager*), Dr. Susan McDonnell

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

*On the odd occasion I receive requests from customers who want to receive Radio stations from various countries. Most people would be unaware as to the sheer amount of Radio stations available via satellite. The Astra satellites (located at 28 East) broadcasts nearly 100 radio stations including all the BBC stations, not to mention the commercial stations some of which are fully automated, play no ads, have no DJ's and just play back to back music in CD quality. There are now specialised receivers available designed for the radio listener, once connected to a suitable stereo you will not be stuck for something to listen to. (All nine of RTE's digital radio channels are also available from Astra).*

*Ian Macdonald  
Maxtec System*



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