



DALKEY - Deilginis 'Thorn Island'

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Irish Heritage Town

"Ireland's longest-running voluntary community newsletter"

First Published April 1974

NEWSLETTER No 472 (Volume 23)

Márta (March) 2017



St. Patrick's Day

17th March

Happy Mother's Day

26th March



Authors from Harold Boys' N.S.
who competed in Scríobh Leabhar/Write A Book Competition
organised by Blackrock Education Centre

See page 15

Photo: Harold Boys' N.S.



SUMMARY OF FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING



Summary of the February Monthly Meeting held in OLH on Monday 6th February 2017

Tidy Towns: DTT is working on the granite rocks in Dillon's Park and plans to improve the seating and stone platforms there. It is planned that the project for improving the area around the commemoration plaque in Sorrento Park will go ahead and it is hoped to fully restore the park to its former glory.

NW: Some residents have received fraudulent emails and SMS (text messages) purporting to come from Revenue seeking personal information (bank account details, etc.) from taxpayers in connection with a tax refund or seeking credit/debit card details. These emails and text messages are **not** from Revenue and anyone who receives an email or text message purporting to be from Revenue and suspects it to be fraudulent or a scam should simply delete it immediately.

Planning: The application for the proposed development at Bullock Harbour has been refused planning permission by DLR. *See page 9.*

There is a new site application for Dalkey Manor Barnhill Road. Planning for 28 houses is being sought where 18 of these will be three-storey and there is provision for 56 car parking spaces.

AOB: Residents are reminded to allow good time when getting the Aircoach from Dalkey to the airport as the journey time now takes at least an hour and a half due to a change in the route. The bus now leaves the airport 35 minutes past the hour. It is important to check the timetable before setting out on a journey. Check: www.aircoach.ie

The next meeting will be on Monday 13th March 2017



DALKEY CASTLE AND HERITAGE CENTRE



AWARD OF EXCELLENCE 2016, (more Silverware!) Dalkey Castle has just won an Award of Excellence from CIÉ for the Tours that come to the castle and the town from April –end of October. This was “for attaining a rating of 90%+, as decided by our clients. These ratings, which are derived from our client surveys, are evaluated independently & externally”. The award ceremony will be held in City Hall. We are delighted, and even more delighted that the tours will continue in 2017.



DLR COUNCIL'S 'SPRING INTO HERITAGE' - As part of the DLR County Council's Spring Programme, there will be eight council-sponsored free tours in Dalkey Castle, for local adults on Sundays at 14.40.

This is a fully-guided visit of Dalkey Castle (1390AD) and St Begnet's Church & Graveyard (700AD). Costumed actors bring history to life as part of the guided tour. Visitors can browse the multilingual, interactive Heritage Centre. Here we have the Pathé News footage covering the crowning of the King of Dalkey, Alderman Thomas Kelly on Dalkey Island in 1934.

Dun Laoghaire Harbour 2017 tours will have a special focus on the building of Dún Laoghaire Harbour from Dalkey granite in the harbour's bi-centenary year.

The Writers' Gallery features many of the internationally renowned writers and creative artists from Joyce to Bono and Beckett to Maeve Binchy.

Dates: Sundays from 30th April –18th June. Must be pre-booked and early booking is advisable as numbers are limited. The tour will last 75 mins approx.



The Archer (Deilg Inis Theatre Company) protects Goat Castle from the O'Byrnes and O'Tooles!

Photo: Deilg Inis

The school tours are now fully booked until after Easter.

INCOMING TOUR OPERATORS We will be attending the Incoming Tour Operators Conference in Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel in March. This is the annual event where all the tour operators who bring groups into the country meet representatives of the industry. We hope to add more groups to the list of those already coming to Dalkey. We have made pitches to various companies since Christmas and feedback for 2018 (!) is looking very positive.

FÁILTE IRELAND and a large destination management company are bringing 80 high-end international buyers and suppliers into the region in May. They will be showcasing the Dublin region and East Coast. We have pitched that they locate some of the events here in Dalkey Castle. We now provide falconry and an archery demonstration as supplementary options for business tourism, incentives and corporate clients. So we are confident for the year ahead. Do please send any wandering visitors you encounter into the Castle.

Margaret Dunne,

Manager, Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

Contact info@dalkeycastle.com. Tel.: 2858366

Your Area Representative is

Telephone: E-Mail:



DALKEY NEWSLETTER ONLINE



Please note that all copies of the Dalkey Newsletter from 2003 to date can be accessed on our website. Simply go to www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com and click on the link *Newsletter and Back Issues*.

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Our Winter is finally slipping away to reveal in our Spring, to our Dalkey air. So, we're ready to discard our firesides, sofas, blankets etc. No one who gardens regularly (and pottering about, is many of our ways of relaxing,) – can doubt its health benefits; doesn't it calm and order the mind and then, builds up a healthy appetite – and thirst, too! – as we anticipate and welcome our Spring Borders literally, surging into life and energy? Hedges often get neglected at this time of the year, as they are the backgrounds of our displays rather than Our Potential Stars. To enable strong healthy foliage, it is well worth clearing the weeds underneath and then, trimming their tops and giving them a good fertiliser. As our warmer temperatures arrive, our grass is growing steadily so we must be gentle with it and raise our mower blades to their highest settings to avoid cutting it too short while it is growing.

You may see in the early days of Spring, big fat bumblebees, they look rather clumsy as they fly from flower to flower. These bumblebees are, in fact, Queens and are the sole survivors of their last year's colonies. In March, when our temperature rises they leave their winter hiding place beneath the ground, – their thick fur keeps them from cooling down too much. Buzzing loudly, they quickly go in search of energising nectar, which can be found in crocuses, snowdrops, bluebells, aconites, anemones, narcissi, scillas, etc.

Assessing Your Soil Texture – For an idea of your soil texture, take a small amount of damp soil and rub, between your palms, soils that feel gritty and will not form a ball that holds together, are sandy. Those that form a ball or sausage shape, are higher in clay and silt... Some gardeners believe that the ideal garden soil is loam, since it drains freely, yet holds moisture and nutrients well. Loam has a mix of clay, sand and silt. Most soils can be improved by adding organic matter – However, there are some tough little survivors that go on surviving, even in the poorest of soils. Several of these are self-seeded plants.



Verbena bonariensis Photo: P. Thomas

I think that these plants flesh out the garden in months rather than years. They are accommodating and versatile in their various forms and needs and provide continuity and interest with their flowers and foliage as they romp away, effortlessly and always look attractive.

Tidy Roses to Boost Growth and Beat Disease – *Is Not the Calming Sight of Dew on a Rose petal – Not Persuasion Enough?*

Then, we happily await our new growth of our Roses in the garden before we discover our first tender leaves, Rose aphids generally have already inhabited them. The black eggs of the large



Pansy frizzle sizzle raspberry Photo: P. Thomas

Top Ten Self – Seeding Plants

Common Poppy, *Papaver*, Foxglove, *Digitalis purpurea*, *Verbena bonariensis*: everybody just loves this plant, Lady's bonnets, *Aquilegia*, Lady's Mantle, *Alchemilla mollis*, with its scalloped green leaves and frothy haze of lime green flowers that flush, twice, Forget-Me-Nots, *Myosotis*, Fever Few, *Chrysanthemum Parthenium*, Honesty, *Lunaria annua*, Sea Holly, *Eryngium*, Bronze fennel, *Foeniculum*.



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Rose aphid, *Macrosiphum Rosae*, have wintered unnoticed in the woody shoots. The wingless green aphids feed on sap, sucking it from the leaves with their proboscises and also from the tender rosebuds. If the infestation becomes too severe, the plants are weakened by the numerous needle pricks of the proboscis and the loss of nutrients. As a result, our roses produce fewer shoots and flowers. By May, these little creatures have developed wings and are now ready to colonise new nearby plants. Both Hybrid Teas and Floribundas should be pruned in early Spring. The main reason for pruning is to create a less crowded shrub so there is better air circulation to help to avoid fungal disease such as blackspot. It will also encourage vigorous flower growth, - it is advisable to remove any weak or twiggy growth plus and stems that rub against each other.



Pansy frou frou mixed

Photo. P. Thomas

MIGHT DO, MAYBE, MARCH JOBS

Watch out for tempted bargains of Summer bulbs at cut prices. Sometimes, these can produce weaker plants and spindly stems. Size really does matter. Better to spend on large heavy bulbs. The bigger the bulb the stronger the plant and the larger the blooms.

Cut back Climbers before they do damage. In Spring, they love to scramble under roof tiles and to wrap themselves around gutters. – Gently tease them out.

Newly-bought plants take a while to grow new roots into your surrounding soil, so they are dependent on you to keep them watered initially.

Old trees and their branches can be colonised by moss but it's nothing to worry about. They are mostly fruit trees and should be allowed to grow old gracefully, moss can be a decorative feature of the tree.

Even a heavy downpour of rain won't keep container compost moist as rain usually falls off the foliage and doesn't permeate the roots or root ball.

Clay Pots: Plants in clay pots need more water than those in plastic pots – the more porous the material the more water is sucked through it. In cold weather, the pottery insulates and protects the root ball. If you don't like the white fleck, you can wash it off, using citrus or vinegar cleaner. I must say I love it - that Aesthetic Woodland Appearance.

Seedlings: When they have two true leaves, seedlings are the ideal size for potting.

Sedums benefit from *The Chelsea Chop*.

Just one fresh bay leaf is enough for soups, stews and meat dishes. Fresh is more aromatic than dried. Make small tears or cuts in the leaf to release the flavour.

Avoid putting peanuts into bird feeders as the young nestlings can choke on them. Good foods to use are black sunflower seeds, meal worms, wax worms, soft apples and pears, bananas and grapes cut in half.

Red Cabbage and Beetroot can stain your hands, red or purple. Citric Acid removes these stains, so rub your hands with half a used lemon and wash off immediately. 'Same' works for fish and garlic smells.

Worth Remembering

In the '*Which Garden Trial*?' it was noticed that the most popular flowers with butterflies were purple and orange. Well-watered plants will produce more nectar for hungry butterflies.

*Linking Colours Creates Harmony and Continuity
Flashes of Colour in Borders Command Attention*



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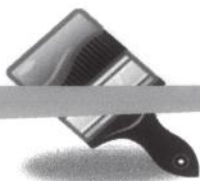
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Planning Applications for Bullock Harbour Refused

As I am sure most readers will be aware, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council has refused permission to Bartra Property Ltd. to implement its development and demolition planning applications for Bullock Harbour. The Community Council and Bullock Harbour Protection Association welcome the Council's decision to refuse both applications.

We would like to record our respect and gratitude to all those who campaigned

with us to protect the harbour and its heritage. The response from Dalkey residents, from former Dalkey and Bullock residents who now live abroad, from Departments of State, from Dublin Port Company and from An Taisce was immense. This was evidenced not least by the number of negative observations received by the County Council. It received a total of 459 observations against Bartra's submissions.

The extent of the public's commitment to saving Bullock was also clearly evidenced at a public meeting in Killiney Castle Hotel on January 5th. Approximately 470 people attended the meeting. It was clear from their questions and comments that the audience strongly supported our endeavours.

We should like to thank all the County Councillors who have given us such support and guidance over the last few weeks.

What Next?

While Bartra's current planning applications have been turned down, the Company has a number of options

1. It can appeal the Council's decisions to An Bord Pleanála and, possibly, to the High Court.
2. It can submit a new application to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
3. It can sell or otherwise offload the site.

In these circumstances it is essential that our Association remains alert and continues to ensure its readiness to contest any development proposal "*which does not ensure adequate provision for marine-related uses*" and which does not respect Bullock's heritage or its current significance for Dalkey and on-site residents, for leisure and commercial fishing boat owners, other harbour users, and tourists. We will be ready to address any concerns which may arise with the on-going collaboration with members of Dalkey Community Council and Dalkey/Tidy Towns Committee.

Your assistance in identifying or addressing any such concerns will be welcome. Should you wish to assist us please leave your details at;

1. Save Bulloch Harbour on Facebook, or
2. Save Bulloch Harbour C/O Dalkey Community Council, Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey or
3. Email to: perryann37@gmail.com

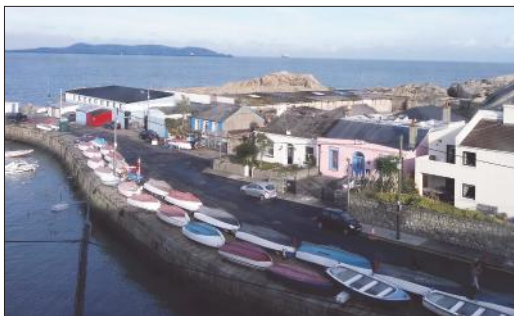


Photo: BHPA

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Malbec may be Argentina's claim to fame but it actually originates in Cahors, France. The two regions are more than 11,000 km apart. Their terroirs have very little in common, giving us a real view of how terroir affects the vine.

Malbec, Cahors, South West France:

– You will find the town of Cahors in a U-shaped bend along the River Lot. The Valentré Bridge- 'Pont Valentré' is a symbol of the town and completes its dramatic appearance with three medieval towers along its length. The vineyards of Cahors lie 210km from both Atlantic and Mediterranean coasts. This results in the climate being subjected to multiple influences- continental, maritime and Mediterranean. Malbec thrives here, either on the limestone plateau of Causses which produce tannic, longer-lived wines or on the gravelly slopes between the plateau and the river which produce more fruit driven approachable reds. The overall characteristics of a typical Cahors Malbec is deeply coloured wine, savoury and tart on the palate with plum and blackberry hints with a firm tannic finish.

Malbec, Mendoza, Argentina: – Argentina's most-highly rated Malbec originates from Mendoza's high altitude wine regions of Luján de Cuyo and Uco Valley. These districts are located in the eastern foothills of the Andes, in the shadow of Mount Aconcagua. The vineyards here are planted between 2,800 and 5,000 feet elevation. When Malbec was first planted here in 1853 it took advantage of its terroir. The high altitude meant fully ripened grapes with good acidity and the mountain shaded it from heavy rainfall which meant minimum risk of phylloxera that severely affected France towards the end of the 19th century.

This unfortunate phase in French history gave Argentina its time to shine and helped build its reputation today as one of the key players in the international wine industry. Argentinian Malbec is fruit forward, plummy with a velvety texture. The grape generally has a bold ABV. Level sometimes as high as 15% however in recent years they are producing more restrained reds, medium body with 13% alcohol. The resulting wine is full of fruit character and still offers a smooth velvety finish. Some of the best examples can show black cherry, violet and plum with tobacco and smoke. It has great ageing potential.

TWO TO TRY: – **Uco Valley Argentinian Malbec- The Exquisite Collection** – Plums and blackberries on the palate with subtle violet hints to give a wine with great structure and a long and intensely fruity finish. **Aldi- €8.49**



Mendoza Vineyards, Argentina

Photo. S. Tyrrell



Pont Valentré Cahors, France

Photo. S. Tyrrell

Calvet Cahors Malbec – Deeply coloured with dark berry and spice aromas. Blackberry and grippy tannins. **Tesco- €14.00**

World Malbec Day is on 17th April so to keep updated about Malbec tastings and events happening in Dublin - check www.jeansmullen.com.

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The Great Famine of 1845 – 1852 heaped misery of biblical proportions on a large swathe of the Irish populace in the form of starvation, disease and death. It resulted directly in the mass eviction of tenant farmers from their homes and an unprecedented wave of emigration from the country.

The devastation became embedded in our collective memory, galvanised our national identity and we as a nation developed a fixation with property ownership to this day that is not evident in other European countries, except perhaps the United Kingdom (An Englishman's home is his 'Castle' after all!).

This obsession with property ownership was one of the reasons why the country experienced the near collapse of most of its banks, the subsequent bailout of those banks by the taxpayer and the resultant bailout of the state by the European Union, European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund (the so-called Troika!).

The mania however, is not entirely attributable to our sense of injustice at the treatment of famine era tenants and our now deep-rooted longing for security of hearth and home. From a much more mercenary perspective, excepting those who bought property in the years immediately prior to the financial crisis of 2008, ownership of residential property in this country has been extremely financially rewarding. House prices in Ireland have increased threefold and more, in the past 25 years.

The fascination for home ownership ingrained in the national psyche is sustained by many aspects of our tax system. We have had mortgage interest relief, first time buyers grants, VAT rebates for home improvements and Stamp Duty exemptions and reductions. These reliefs pale into insignificance however when compared to the principle private residence (PPR) exemption from Capital Gains Tax (CGT).

A principle private residence is a dwelling house or part of a dwelling house, together with up to 1 acre of garden or grounds which has been occupied by the owner as his or her only or main residence. Any gains realised on the disposal of such a property will be wholly exempt from CGT but only where the property has been occupied by the owner for the full period of ownership.

This is a very valuable exemption from taxation for homeowners and while not unique to Ireland, many other countries would apply some level of taxation to the gain. By way of illustration, without this exemption, if I were to dispose of my own home of 25 years in Killiney, (which while it couldn't be described as modest is certainly not a trophy home!), I could expect to pay in excess of €200,000 in CGT from the proceeds.

The revenue authorities do not lack a sense of fairness however and provision has been made to ensure that homeowners do not fall back into the tax net when they find themselves confronted with the normal vagaries of family life. For example where the homeowner is forced to work abroad or away from the home for a period of time, the exemption can still stand but appropriate planning is required to ensure it.

Unfortunately some homeowners, more than one might imagine, manage through ill-informed actions, to surrender the exemption and place themselves well and truly within the tax net and find themselves on the wrong end of a 33% tax bill.

Speaking from bitter experience, there appears to have evolved a practice at the height of the boom, whereby homeowners constructed brand new houses, moved into them and for reasons best known to themselves, retained their old home and let it out to tenants. Once this occurs the revenue can rightly contend that the owners have vacated their original

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principle private residence and have established themselves in a new PPR.

If the original home is disposed of, after more than a year has elapsed, then any gain realised on disposal will not be wholly exempt but partly liable to CGT at 33%. The portion of the gain liable to tax is approximately the same proportion that the owner's period of absence bears to the full period of ownership. The longer the property is unoccupied by the owner, the greater the portion of the gain that falls to be taxed at 33%.

Similar rules apply where part of the property ceases to be the owner's principle private residence. For example where part of the property is let out to a business, that part of the property will no longer be exempt and any subsequent gain on disposal will be partly taxed at 33%. Caution is also required where a family home is being disposed of as a result of marriage or civil partnership breakdown.

There have been mutterings in the past about removing the PPR exemption and we are all familiar with the usual argument that in other countries things are different but realpolitik has so far prevailed. However, in a country with a persistent housing crisis and ever decreasing levels of home ownership, someday a tipping point may come when this exemption will be seen as a tax benefit for the privileged. This is probably the most valuable tax relief currently available, homeowners should ensure that they don't become a voluntary tax payer – after all that's what the national lottery is for!

John Neary is a Chartered Accountant, Chartered Tax Adviser and lecturer in taxation and economics at the Whitaker School of Government and Management at UCD Institute of Public Administration. He can be contacted by email at john@nearytaxation.com or via www.nearytaxation.com

NEWS FROM HAROLD BOYS' N.S.



Authors from Harold Boys' N.S. Photo: Harold Boys' School

This month, we have been working on our entries for the *Scriobh Leabhar/Write A Book* competition organised by Blackrock Education Centre. We have participated in this competition for over 10 years, with books written in both English and Irish. This year 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th class did their books through Irish while 6th class did theirs through English.

Many local schools participate in this competition

every year. This is the 31st year the competition has been running. It usually takes about four weeks to write, edit and illustrate our short stories for the competition. When we are finished writing we send our books to another school to be judged. The overall winner from each school attends a ceremony at Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel in Killiney.

The standard has been getting higher and higher each year. The books were on display at our Open Night on the 24th January, and were admired by many visitors on the night. We can't wait to see who this year's winners are!

Matthew Meehan and Cian Rainsford



Castle Park Swim Academy & Sports Centre

PUBLIC SWIMMING

Castle Park Swim Academy is open to the public for open and lane swimming at the following times: Monday 12pm & 1pm; Wednesday 9am & 1pm (CP Ladies Swim, booking essential); Thursday 8.15am & 9am; Friday 8am & 8.45am; Sunday 1pm, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm.

AQUAFIT

AquaFit or Aqua Aerobics classes take place on Wednesday and Thursday mornings at 9am. All classes are instructed by our fully qualified staff, and prove to be hugely beneficial both physically and socially.

PRIVATE LESSONS

Private 1-to-1 lessons are now available with all of our fully qualified Level 2 Swimming Instructors. Time slots are varied and will depend on availability.

MASTERS SWIMMING

Masters Swimming sessions are now running on Tuesday evenings at 8.15pm and Saturday evenings at 4.45pm. Sessions are suitable for everyone from competitive swimmers, open water swimmers & triathletes, to those working on fitness. All sessions are coached by Level 2 & Level 3 coaches.



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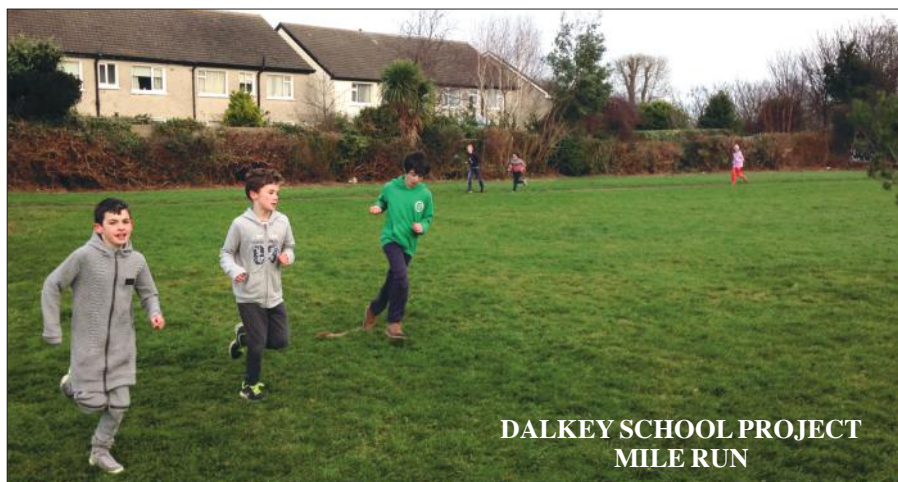
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**DALKEY SCHOOL PROJECT
MILE RUN**

Photo: Dalkey School Project N.S.

DALKEY SCHOOL PROJECT NATIONAL SCHOOL

At DSP we are thinking more about fitness and health for the new year. Some new initiatives have been introduced to the school. As well as the health benefits, the children are enjoying them too!

Mile Run – Lots of classes are making great progress on improving their fitness levels by training for a Mile Run. Everyone is encouraged to participate at their own level. We are delighted to see runners and walkers appreciating their environment, time outside, time to chat, time to learn to be comfortable in the outdoors and to build body (physical) and brain (mental) strength.

GAA – GAA is a new after-school activity for the school. Coached by two of our fabulous teachers, it is proving to be an instant hit. It is great to see children who haven't played before learn side by side with those who have. We can see how it is helping with co-ordination and concentration, team spirit and is lots of fun as well.

Finding Out about Sugar

Indoors, 2nd class investigated the amount of sugar in some common breakfast cereals. Their findings are displayed at the top of the stairs for us all to see. It's pretty scary stuff! We were shocked to learn also that a popular yoghurt drink has more sugar than a can of coke. Thanks to 2nd class for helping us to see how much hidden sugar can be consumed in a day.



Photo: Dalkey School Project N.S.

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Photo: Loreto Primary School

Loreto at Dublin Schools Handball Championship

Loreto Dalkey's 3rd class competed in the Dublin Schools Championships for Olympic Handball on Tuesday, December 6th, 2016. This was our first time to compete in a Handball competition. We had been training every Thursday for the past few weeks with our coach, Mr. Derek Saville, who teaches in our school. We travelled to the tournament by bus. We had to be in school for 8.15am. It was very early! We left the school at 8.30am. The journey took an hour and a half and the tournament was held in Gormanston College, which is a boarding school in County Meath. We wore our school tracksuits. Some of us were shivering even though it was not cold because we were a bit nervous. When we got there we split into three groups of eleven, seven on the pitch and four subs. We played three matches. Each match was fifteen minutes long. The matches were held in an indoor hall. When we were not playing, we were up in the stands cheering our other two teams on and eating our lunch. We were one of the youngest contestants in the competition and were in the under tens group. Some of the other teams looked really competitive and were very tall. This was not very good for us because it was hard to score goals against them! Some of the other teams had probably been in the competition before because they had their own handball uniforms.

Unfortunately, we did not make it to the finals but we all played really well for our first time at a handball championship. We hope to compete again next year because we had such a great time. We would definitely recommend it to schools that have an interest in handball. Many thanks to Mr. Derek Saville for coaching us and organising the trip to the tournament.

Ellen Hughes and Mia Morrissey

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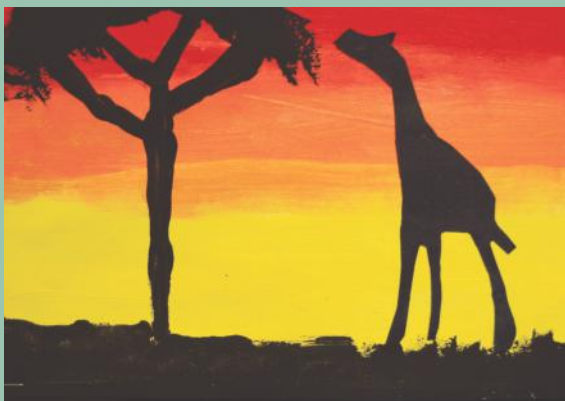
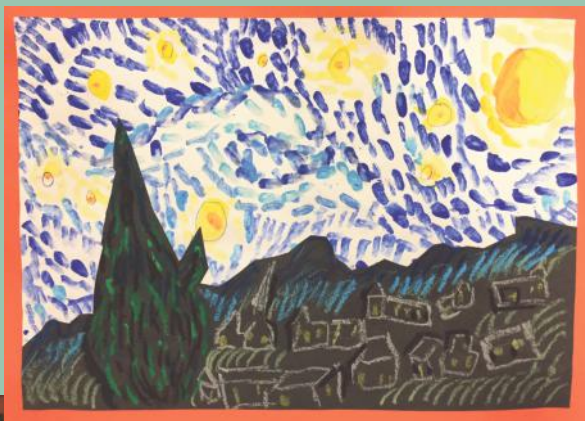
ARTIST OF THE WEEK

Each week during term time we celebrate the creativity of our pupils by nominating an “Artist of the Week”. A piece of their work is displayed outside the Art Room and is also featured in our Weekly Newsletter, circulated to each family in the School every Friday afternoon.

Ms. O’Neill, Head of Art & Design, works with all the pupils in the Prep Department during their twice weekly art lessons. There is also the opportunity for pupils to sign up to participate in an After School Hobby each afternoon with Ms. O’Neill. Every week there are four different art, craft or design hobbies to choose from, for example, this Spring Term mosaics, weaving, 3D modeling and mindfulness colouring are on offer. As a result, Ms. O’Neill has a wide range of subject matter to choose from when selecting her Artist of the Week.

Amanda Mollard, Castle Park School, Dalkey

ARTIST OF THE WEEK CREATIONS



Photos: Castle Park School

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DILLON'S PARK RESTORATION BY DALKEY TIDY TOWNS IS READY FOR SPRING



Roses and bulbs for summer
Photo: Dalkey Tidy Towns

several trucks. Then our Strimmers arrived to remove the nettles, thorns and weeds over a very large area. The ancient Well and its access path were uncovered. The final stage of repairing the vast amount of broken granite seating areas is now also underway and will be ready for Summer.

With Spring just around the corner, hundreds of daffodil bulbs were planted around the trees and boulders in the Park and these are just about to come in to sight as we write.

As the days get longer, here is what we invite all



Daffodils by the sea
Photo: Dalkey Tidy Towns

This major project began eighteen months ago. Dillon's Park was a very sad sight back then. Overgrown and abandoned, intimidating for visitors and local residents, spoiled by litter and graffiti and with few views of the beauty beyond. Thankfully, hoping for the best, our Dalkey Tidy Towns volunteers set up "Team Tuesday" to try to resolve these problems.

As we now head towards Spring 2017, you would not recognise Dillon's Park. It has once again become a truly beautiful place. "Team Tuesday" did an enormous job of clearing vast amounts of brambles, rotting trees and ivy. They also collected enough bottles, cans, and abandoned rubbish to fill



Granite seating repairs
Photo: Dalkey Tidy Towns

in Dalkey to do: Bring your camera. As you arrive at the Park entrance on Coliemore Road, now what you see is one of the most beautiful views ever: Dalkey Island is almost within arm's reach. The many large granite boulders uncovered by "Team Tuesday" give you a place to rest and take in the unique scenery which was obscured for many decades. This is now a place of rest and beauty and it is there to be shared by all. You can also help by making sure that any litter is placed in the Big Belly Bin at the entrance and by encouraging all dog owners to do likewise with their poo bags. Let's all try to keep this special place as you now see it. To have this on our own doorsteps makes us a very lucky community.

A special thanks to "Team Tuesday" for their enormous efforts as volunteers - Paddy, Des, Frank, Marius, Martin, John, Linda, Ann-Sophie, and all the others who kindly gave their time.

Des Burke-Kennedy

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Q. I am a 60 year old man and am concerned that I may have high cholesterol as it runs in my family. Is there a way to test for this and should I be making any lifestyle changes?



A. High cholesterol can have a genetic link so it is important that you do get tested if other family members have a history of it. The reason it is important to test for cholesterol is that it is a risk factor that increases your chance of getting heart disease and stroke.

Cholesterol is a type of fat that is found in the blood and while a certain level is necessary for cell function, if there is too much it sticks to the artery walls to form plaques. This can result in narrowing of the arteries which can lead to heart attack or stroke. There are two main types of cholesterol HDL (high density lipoprotein) and LDL (low density lipoprotein). HDL cholesterol is known as the healthy cholesterol as it clears up cholesterol left behind in your arteries and carries it to the liver where it is broken down and excreted. Regular exercise, a healthy diet and stopping smoking can increase your HDL levels.

LDL cholesterol is called the bad cholesterol as it sticks to the walls of the arteries making it narrower reducing the blood supply to your heart and brain. Foods high in saturated fats raise your LDL cholesterol. LDL levels can be decreased by increasing intake of Monounsaturated fats (found in olive, peanut, rapeseed, avocados, seeds and nuts) and omega 6 fats (found in vegetable oils, soya beans and some nuts).

A third type of fat in your blood is triglycerides which increases the chances of getting heart disease and stroke. High levels are more likely if you are overweight, drink too much alcohol, eat a lot of sugary foods and are not active.

Your cholesterol levels are measured by a blood test that is done when you are fasting so is normally carried out first thing in the morning. This is done with the GP but most Pharmacies offer a screening service.

The healthy levels that should be aimed for are:

Total cholesterol – less than 5 mmol/L

LDL cholesterol – less than 3 mmol/L

HDL cholesterol – more than 1 mmol/L

Triglycerides – less than 2 mmol/L

If you have high cholesterol that cannot be managed with changes to your diet then it is likely that you will be started on medication to lower your cholesterol. This is done to reduce your risks of developing cardiovascular disease.

Overall good heart health can be maintained by maintaining a healthy weight, taking regular exercise, eating a diet low in saturated fat and processed foods, eating more wholegrain food and oily fish twice a week. Other factors that impact on heart health are smoking, high blood pressure and stress.

*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.*

Photo: CDC USA



PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Weeks 2-5 9/1/2017 to 13/1/2017

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.: D17A/0016

Application Rec'd Date: 10-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Castle Park School Ltd. Castlepark School, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for the extension of an existing playground by 193 sqm, comprising the removal of an existing 1.6m to 2.7m high embankment, the construction of a retaining wall, the infilling of the former embankment to the upper level, the relocation and extension of the perimeter fence and gates and all associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D17A/0041

Application Rec'd Date: 19-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Alison Harvey & David Cunningham, 24 Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for the refurbishment and extension of a semi-detached dwelling. The works include modifications to the existing windows on the front and rear façades; re-building at the existing garage and first floor level over (to side); a new entrance porch to the front side and new window; extending to the rear at ground and first floor; roof-lighting to the flat roof and removal of an existing chimney. The works also include the proposed widening of the front entrance gates to Dalkey Avenue, external landscaping and new plant shed to rear and miscellaneous other works.

Reg. Ref.: D17B/0024

Application Rec'd Date: 16-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Brian Gardiner, 2 The Paddocks, Ulverton Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for Retention of the following change to already granted permission Reg. Ref. D07B/0301. Replace permitted recessed balcony to front elevation with 6.1m2 additional internal floor area at 1st floor. **Application Type:** Permission for Retention.

Reg. Ref.: D17B/0032

Application Rec'd Date: 19-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Barbara Conroy, 20 White's Villas, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for a two storey side extension, replacement single storey rear extension, single storey front extension, associated site works and alterations to existing two storey terraced house.

Reg. Ref.: D17A/0069

Application Rec'd Date: 26-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: The HSE, Dalkey Community Unit, Kilbegnet Close, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for a 130 sq.m 4-bed extension facing the adjoining church carpark at first floor level with staircase to ground level. A 30 sq.m dining room extension at first floor level at the rear. Alterations to two existing first floor west facing windows. Reduction in overall bed numbers from 50 to 46. One additional car parking space, widening of vehicular entrance and associated works.

Reg. Ref.: D17B/0044

Application Rec'd Date: 26-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: John Thornhill, 98 Coliemore Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for the provision of bay window to front façade in lieu of 2 no. existing windows and the provision of 3 no. conservation type roof lights to front pitch.

Reg. Ref.: D17A/0076

Application Rec'd Date: 30-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Richard & Eleanor McCann, Osmunda, 2 Torca Rd, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for development. The development consist of 1. subdivision of existing site and 2. construction of a new fully serviced three storey dwelling house, new connection to public mains sewer and all associated site works.

PLANNING DECISIONS WEEKS 2-5 9/1/2017 to 13/1/2017

Reg. Ref. D16A/0753 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 13-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: James Dinniss, 22, Springhill Park, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for a domestic extension and alterations to existing two-storey semi-detached dwelling. The extension and alterations are comprised of: single storey extension to rear; conversion of existing single storey garage to side to habitable use; two-storey extension to side; elevational changes; modifications to existing house; narrowing of existing entrance gateway; and all ancillary works.

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0824 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 10-Jan-2017

Applicant Name & Location: The Select Vestry, St. Patrick's Church, The Rectory, Barnacoe Park, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for demolition of part single-storey and part two-storey extension to the rear of existing two storey detached dwelling house comprising pantry, garage, WC's and bathroom and construction of new two-storey extension to rear of dwelling comprising family room, utility room, WCs, bedroom, ensuite and bathroom at the The Rectory.

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0906 **Decision:** Refuse Permission **Date:** 3-Feb-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Bartra Property Ltd. Former Western Marine Building, Bullock Harbour, Dalkey. A96 X6W2

Proposal: Permission for the demolition and site clearance of the existing industrial single storey warehouses and sheds (1210 sqm) and the development of a mixed-use marine commercial, leisure/community and residential based development. The proposal is for the construction of: 1. A new mixed use block of two and three stories high containing 7 number marine based units at ground floor level along the quayside and six residential units at ground floor to the rear and first and second floor overhead. Unit 1 - Relocated commercial and marine leisure based unit (26 sqm), Unit 2 - Harbour Café (69 sqm), Unit 3 - Marine/Harbour based retail unit (35 sqm), Unit 4 - Marine/Harbour based retail unit (30 sqm), Unit 5 - Community water sports facility (30 sqm), Unit 6 - Relocated clubhouse (12 sqm), Unit 7 - Relocated harbour activity (15 sqm); Six number residential units above, comprising 5nr three storey 154 sqm three bedroom harbour residences / 1nr two storey 89 sqm one bedroom harbour residence with associated balconies/roof terraces along the quayside and off street parking for 11 cars to the rear. 2. Construction of 3nr three storey detached five bedroomed dwellings (House 1 - 400 sqm / House 2 - 448 sqm / House 3 - 400 sqm) with roof terraces; each with off street parking for 2nr cars and 1nr visitor space set within private landscaped gardens and boat storage. 3. The existing south-western vehicular access and gates from Bullock Harbour will be maintained and upgraded, creating a two-way roadway and shared footpath affording access to the proposed dwellings from the rear of the development. The existing boundary wall will be maintained and repaired with natural coursed granite stone. The development will also include piped infrastructure and ducting; changes in level; provision for outdoor seating and tables along the site frontage; separate communal bin storage to serve the marine units and the residential units; cycle parking; site landscaping and all associated site development and excavation works above and below ground.

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0916 **Decision:** Refuse Permission **Date:** 3-Feb-2017

Applicant Name & Location: Bartra Property Ltd., Former Western Marine Buildings,

Bullock Harbour, Dalkey. A96 X6W2

Proposal: Permission for the demolition of the former warehouse buildings to facilitate future development, subject to planning. 1. The demolition and removal of the existing portal frame warehouse, rubble wall/brickwork workshop (excluding the boundary wall to the harbour-side) and 2-storey stone wall office (excluding the gable wall to the harbour-side) down to excavation level, to include the breaking up and removal of the concrete slab across the external area of the site. 2. The erection of temporary support works to adjoining walls.

Appeals Notified by An Bord Pleanála Wks 2-5, 9/1/2017 to 13/1/2017

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0758 **Date:** 14-Oct-2016 **Location:** Bella Vista, Coliemore Rd., Dalkey
Development: Permission for the demolition of the existing single storey pitched roof property and construction of new detached flat roof three storey to the front and two storey to the rear house. The works will also consist of lift access to a recessed roof terrace, front balconies, gangway access to rear garden, roof lights, new driveway entrance with landscaping and ancillary and associated works. **Council Decision:** Refuse Permission
Appeal Lodged: 13-Jan-2017. **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Refusal of Permission
Type of Appeal: 1st Party Appeal.

Appeal Decisions of An Bord Pleanála Wks. 2-5 2/1/17 to 6/1/17

Reg. Ref.: D16B/0300 **Appeal Decision:** Grant Permission **Appeal Decided:** 9/1/2017
Council's Decision: Grant Permission. **Location:** 55, Saint Begnets Villas, Dalkey.
Proposed Development: Permission is sought for alterations and proposed extension to existing dwelling comprising rearrangement of the front elevation including the construction of a bay window and the relocation of the front door, the construction of a two storey extension to the rear of the dwelling (47sqm total), providing open plan kitchen living area to ground floor (32sqm) and additional bedroom at first floor (15sqm) and is to include all ancillary site development and landscaping work all at 55 St. Begnets Villas Dalkey. **Applicant:** Ciaran and Tara Regan.

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0039 **Appeal Decision:** Grant Permission **Appeal Decided:** 17-Jan-2017
Council's Decision: Grant Permission

Location: Site at The Barn, Atmospheric Road, Dalkey.

Proposed Development: Permission for construction of two new dwellings on this site to the side of the existing house, as well as associated landscape and site development works. House A will be a detached two storey over part basement four bedroom house with balcony to southern elevation and vehicular access via the existing entrance on Atmospheric Road. House B will be a detached two storey four bedroom house with vehicular access via a new entrance from Barnhill Lawn. Each house will be served by two dedicated car parking spaces. **Applicant:** Bernard & Dawn McCormick

MARCH

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



Flower: Daffodil

LETTER TO THE EDITOR



TRAFFICMATTERS

Now that the crossing at Harold Boy's N.S. has been imposed upon the residents of St. Patrick's Road, and is operational, it is appropriate that the following points should be noted.

1. The 'Set Down' box, which is part of the crossing, will be just that i.e. stopping briefly to allow pupils to alight from cars etc., and no parking will be allowed, no matter how brief; 24/7.
2. Anyone, - including parents - parking there will be booked either by the Parking Wardens or the Garda Traffic Corps who have been asked by DLRCOCO to monitor it on an on-going basis.
The whole scheme will be reviewed in nine months and, if it is not working, will be removed and the Road re-instated to its previous condition.
3. Motorists should also note that there is no grace period allowed under the Road Traffic Acts for parking on Double Yellow lines. It is illegal anytime.
4. While it has been illegal for many years to use a hand-held mobile phone while driving, yet despite the heavy fines and penalty points in operation there are many idiots out there still doing it!!!

Final point: The footpaths in Dalkey Town are not cycle paths and should not be used as such.

Richard Mooney, Dalkey Town

FORMER PARENTS OF DALKEY COMMUNITY PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUP

Remember those days when the children were young and they had great fun at the Playgroup? We would be delighted if you might think of reconnecting again in some way.

We are currently looking for new Board members who would be familiar with the traditions and ethos of this very special Playgroup. As you know, it was founded and established over forty years ago by local parents and run as a not for profit community organisation. It has become well established in the community over the years. It had a humble beginning, starting off simply by renting space in the former Boys Club at the back of Our Lady's Hall and then the Workmen's Club behind Hicks. It was possible then in 1983, due to some mammoth fundraising on behalf of the parents and with the assistance and goodwill of FÁS and local builders, to construct a purpose-built premises on Convent Road.

It is now a most beautiful place, maintained to a very high standard due again to the parents' fundraisers and the most generous support of the Dalkey community particularly at our annual Christmas Fair. It is a vibrant Playgroup run by a well trained long serving and loyal professional staff. Its legal structure was formalised in 2008 when it became a Limited Company with charitable status. The Playgroup receives some Government funding which includes financial support for the ECCE scheme. Statutory inspections by Tusla, the Dept. of Education, and Pobal also take place on a regular basis.

In terms of management, it is run by a Board of Management in conjunction with representatives from the parents. We have a professional skill base represented on the Board in the areas of Finance and HR. We need to maintain representation from former parents who can uphold the traditions and ethos as we go forward. These links with former and current parents, are vital in maintaining the Playgroup as an important resource for the community of Dalkey.

Do please get in touch if you would be interested in becoming a Board member. We meet once a month, evening time, at the premises. Please contact Judy on 087 6595363 or e-mail: omahony.judy@gmail.com

Judy O'Mahony, Dalkey



'Beneath a Turkish Sky – The Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the Assault on Gallipoli'
by Philip Lecane, published by The History Press Ireland.

The 1915 Gallipoli campaign was intended to remove Germany's ally, Turkey, from the First World War. While the bulk of the Allied troops taking place were Australian and New Zealand, it's often overlooked that there was substantial Irish participation in this operation through the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and this remarkable, fascinating and detailed book, Philip Lecane recalls their participation in the landings at Sedd el Bahr.

Drawing from letters, photographs, and variety of sources, readers are introduced to many of the officers and men the reader of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and who later appear in the narrative as the story of the landings and subsequent fighting unfolds.

In order to protect the assaulting Royal Dublin Fusiliers, accompanied by the Royal Munster Fusiliers, from Turkish fire during their landing at the beach of Sedd el Bahr on

25 April 1915, they were packed into the modified steamer SS River Clyde which was to run up to the beach and from which the troops were to disembark from specially cut exits for this purpose but the ship grounded short of the beach and the troops had to disembark and make their way ashore in ships' boat under enemy fire all the time.

Unfortunately for the Royal Dublin Fusiliers and the Royal Munster Fusiliers, the strength of the Turkish forces were underestimated by the planners, put up much better resistance than planned and ultimately in time the Gallipoli operation was cancelled without ever attaining its objective and the remaining forces evacuated.

James Scannell

The advertisement for Dalkey Taxis features a yellow banner at the top with the company logo and the text 'RELIABLE ON TIME SERVICE'. Below this is a blue map of South Dublin with the text 'SERVICING THE South Dublin AREA'. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the phone number '285 77 77' and the website 'www.dalkeytaxi.ie'. A small image of a taxi is also present.

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Red squirrel, Killiney, in early February. It was one of a pair that had been tearing around the trees a few moments earlier and it seemed to be taking a quick break from the excitement. Photo: M. Ryan

During a brief respite from days of torrential driving rain and high winds we were glad to get out for a morning walk and headed up over the top of Dalkey Hill negotiating the puddles then up the steps. We'd passed the Telegraph Tower and were heading towards the aircraft beacon when out of the corner of my eye I saw a red squirrel scuffling along the top of the wall beside the old footpath while a magpie flew down dive bombing it. It dived down the far side of the wall and for a second I doubted myself having seen a squirrel in such an unlikely place, could it have been a rat, but it appeared back on to the top of the wall again. It was a red squirrel and it dived back into the ivy on the quarry side. We looked over the wall and could see it scrambling down the side of the quarry then moving across the few trees growing up the steep bank. Later I thought how unusual it was to be looking down at a squirrel throwing itself from tree to tree below us since we spend so many hours craning our necks looking up into treetops at them.

It was evidently at a great disadvantage away from the treetops, it may have run along the ground before getting on the wall and where it was going had only a few sparsely distributed trees among the gorse bushes. Its travels were possibly being motivated by the seasonal urge to go out and find a new territory and mate. At least three red squirrels have been found dead as road casualties around Killiney in the last six years so this can be a dangerous time for adventurous squirrels

The day after seeing that squirrel on the highest point of Dalkey Hill I was on the slopes of Killiney Hill under a large Scots Pine, heard bits of cone dropping from above me and eventually, through a maze of branches glimpsed a red squirrel on the very crown of the tree. We'd been seeing reds regularly on this particular tree and an adjoining pine since the



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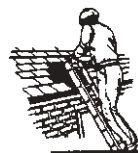
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Red squirrel, Killiney. Just starting to remove the scales from a Scots Pine cone to get at the seed.

Photo: Michael Ryan

beginning of November and there were evidently still lots of seed-filled cones being produced. The Scots pine has male and female flowers growing on the same tree which pollinate each other, the pollen carried by the wind. The ripe cones don't all appear at once ensuring there will be continuous seed production, and squirrel food, over the season. The park staff also supplement the squirrels diet with peanuts and hazel nuts placed into feeder boxes.

This individual above me eventually came out on to a drooping branch then leapt over to the adjoining pine where I was delighted to see another red, which had been there all the time. They embarked on a wild chase, spiraling around tree trunks in what could well have been courting behaviour.

Leaping from tree to tree red squirrels can travel so fast and cover a large area in such a short space of time that it can be difficult to gauge exactly how many individual reds there are in a area and you never know whether you're seeing the same one in different places but on one day late last year we saw a pair in one pine grove then another distinct pair on the other side of the hill so we knew there were at least four in the woods and hopefully a lot more in the vicinity with possibly some setting up winter residence in gardens as they've done in previous years..

After a prolonged spell of heavy rain you often have to be careful not to step on the profusion of earthworms that appear wriggling across paths. They'll have been driven to the surface to escape getting flooded. It's not a good situation for them to be in since on the surface they'll be seriously vulnerable to predation by birds, foxes and badgers.

Some clever birds have developed a strategy to take advantage of this situation without having to wait for it to rain. Recently I've regularly noticed one particular Herring Gull on the centre island of a local roundabout performing what is known as 'dancing', when a bird will raise each leg in turn and stamp their feet on a grassy area. The movement of their feet on the grass causes vibrations which are similar to that created by rain. The vibrations from their paddling cause worms to move to the surface believing it is raining. They repeat the rhythmic beating and the gulls can then be observed, head tilted, scrutinizing the ground waiting for their easy snack to emerge. Apparently this is a learned behaviour that young gulls will copy from their parents and is more likely to be found in gulls inland rather than coastal dwelling birds.



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MANAGING RETIREMENT

Since retiring from work in 2004, I have been thinking about the challenges which retirement brings and searching for ways to make this a very positive phase of life. I knew from observation that retirement can be a time of hope, or a time of depression, a time to enjoy a new freedom or to mourn the loss of a familiar way of life, a time to make new friends, or to regret losing old ones. It can be an exciting time or a lonely time – perhaps both – at the same time.

And it will be a time of declining health – eventually.

Shortly after retiring my daughter Joanne gave me a present of a small book called “Elf-help for a happy retirement” which contained the following:

“Ancient wisdom has it that only three things are necessary for happiness: Something to do; someone to love; something to look forward to.”

This simple statement has provided me with a basis of my thinking on the subject.

Over my years at work I have come to realise that employment provided us with much more than an income. *It gives us something to do, a community to work with and a structure in which to do it.*

From the time we were infants we need something to do. I have been observing my grandson age two, always busy; building with Lego, learning new words, communicating his needs, looking at pictures, observing his surroundings and listening to stories. If he is not busy he is probably sick or ready for bed. Doing something gives meaning to his life. This need to do something remains with us for life. As we get older, this need is met by our job, our family, our other interests and hobbies. From these we find meaning in our lives and faith in the future – hopefully.

This need is described with great skill by the renowned Viennese psychiatrist (1905-1977), Viktor Frankl in his classic book *“Man’s Search for Meaning”*. The book describes Frankl’s experiences in a number of concentration camps during the Second World War and the conclusions he reached from observing prisoners who died and those who survived. One incident in particular describes the link between loss of faith in the future and the danger of giving up. A fellow prisoner told Frankl in February 1944, that he had had a dream in which it had been revealed to him when the war would end and he would be free. When Frankl asked what the date was, the prisoner whispered 30th March. As the days passed, it appeared from the news reaching the camp that the war was unlikely to end on that date. On the 29th March the prisoner became suddenly ill and ran a temperature. On 30th March he became delirious and lost consciousness. On 31st March he was dead. To all appearances he had died of typhus.

Frankl goes on to write “Those who know how close the connection is between the state of mind of a man – his courage and his hopes or lack of them and the state of the immunity of his body will understand that the sudden loss of hope and courage can have a deadly effect.” My own observations confirm Frankl’s conclusions. I have seen people go into decline as a result of bereavement. And retirement can be a significant bereavement if the retired person has not found meaning and hope outside of work.

A job provides us with two of our basic needs – something to do and a group of people with whom to do it. This “something to do” usually provides elements of meaning and the people we work with provide us with a community of people we meet and relate to each day – year after year. Some of whom usually become valued friends. Retirement brings loss of the “something to do” and the loss of the colleagues and friends we have known. Keeping in touch with former colleagues can be difficult – if we drop into the office they are busy and can only give us a few minutes and they frequently live too far away to meet regularly.

I am coming to the conclusion that what we need are new communities of people we can meet regularly and which have a common purpose which binds us together. I have been working with three such communities which meet these needs – The Dalkey Active Retirement Association (DARA) creative writing group since 2007, the DARA choir since 2011 and a Dalkey men's Fitness Group since autumn 2012. All these groups display the following characteristics;

- A feeling of belonging to the group and a willingness to remain with the group from one year to the next
- The development and deepening of new friendships
- Shared sense of purpose
- Desire for personal development
- A desire to be creative
- Sharing thoughts and feelings at a deeper level
- Development of new ideas

I have come to the conclusion that the implementation of simple ideas can create healthy happy communities and deep new friendships, even as we grow old.

VINCENT RYAN
Dalkey

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MARCH LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY TALKS



Wednesday March 1st at 8 p.m.: Theresa Hicks will present her lecture '*The Kennedys of Mount Kennedy*' to the Rathmichael Historical Society in Rathmichael National School, Stonebridge Road, Shankill, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €4.

Thursday March 2nd at 8 p.m. Brendan Twomey will present his lecture '*Jonathan Swift and Money: Swift – clergyman, author, and innovative pro-banker*' to the Mount Merrion Historical Society in the Mount Merrion Community Centre, North Avenue, Mount Merrion, Co. Dublin. All welcome – admission €4 / Students €2.

Wednesday March 8th at 6 p.m.: Mark Davies will present his lecture '*King of all Balloons: the first flight across the Irish Sea to Holyhead in 1817 and other aerial escapade*' to The Old Dublin Society in The Conference Room of Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 – 144, Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All welcome – admission free.

Thursday March 9th at 8 p.m.: Bryan MacMahon will present his lecture '*Captain Flora Sandes: an Irishwoman in the Serbian Army in the Great War*' to the Kilmacud-Stillorgan Local History Soc. in Glenalbyn Sports Club, Stillorgan. All welcome – Contribution €3.

At 8.30p.m. Frank Tracy will present his lecture '*The Story of Glencree*' to the Enniskerry History Society in the Powerscourt Arms and Country House Hotel, Enniskerry Village, Co. Wicklow. All welcome – admission €4.

Tuesday March 14th at 8 p.m.: Ms. Ciara Kerrigan will present her lecture '*National Library Ireland, The Manuscript Collections of the Genealogical Office*' to the Genealogical Society of Ireland in Dún Laoghaire Further Education Institute, Cumberland Street, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome.

Thursday March 16th at 8 p.m.: Dr. Charles Hannon will present his lecture '*Roger Casement and 1916*' to the Bray Cualann Historical Society in the Royal Hotel, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow. All Welcome – Visitors €5.

Tuesday March 21st at 8 p.m.: John McKeown will present his lecture '*Grand Revival – Royal Restored*' to the Foxrock Local History Club in Foxrock Parish Pastoral Centre, rear Foxrock R.C. Church, Foxrock, Co. Dublin. Liam Doyle will give a short talk on 'W.S.Gosset'. All welcome – admission €5.

Wednesday March 22nd at 6 p.m.: '*Open Evening & Presentation on the Old Dublin Society's website and library*' in the Conference Room of Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 – 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. All welcome – admission free.

At 8 p.m. Cormac Lowth will present his lecture '*The History of Dun Laoghaire Harbour - great many aspects of the Harbour over the past two hundred years, 1817 – 2017*' to the Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society in the Royal Marine Hotel, Marine Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome – entrance €3.

Tuesday March 28th at 6.30 p.m.: The Dalkey Library Local History Group meets in Dalkey Library, Castle Street, Dalkey, Co. Dublin. All welcome.

INCREASE IN THE PRICE OF THE PINT – JANUARY 1917

On January 1st 1917, Messrs Guinness and the other brewers announced a price increase - stout was increased by 12s.6d. per barrel and single porter by 12s.9d. per barrel to publicans while consumers found that a bottle of stout increased by a ½d. to 4d.; a pint of single porter by 1d. to 5d. and a pint of stout by 1d. to 7d. Understandably Dalkey publicans were concerned and apprehensive about the effect that these increases would have on their trade but had to accept them none the less. In neighbouring Bray, publicans accepted the price increases in the hope that it might curb excessive drinking which often saw publicans run out of supplies until new deliveries took place. As it was, deliveries to publicans had already been reduced by 30% by the brewers due to the war.

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Hon. Secretary of the Select Vestry: Clive Christie, Tel: 2823356

'Review Distributor': Marianne Irvine, Tel: 2858136

Rector's Surgery: Holy Trinity Rectory every Tuesday from 7-8 pm.

Services for March 2017

Sun.: 8.30am Holy Communion, 10.45am Morning Service **Midweek:** Thurs. at 10.30am.

From the Rector – I've just returned from the annual clergy conference in Galway. As always it is good to catch up with colleagues and discuss the joys and challenges of ministry. Thank you to the organising committee who put together a superb programme including inspiring talks from Canon David Hewlett of the Queen's Foundation in Birmingham. The conference is a time for reflection, conversation, listening and engagement – an exfoliating experience for the soul!

Lent – The solemn season of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 1st March. A service of Preparation will be held in Holy Trinity at 8pm.

Throughout Lent we will be teaming up with our friends in St Paul's, Glenageary where Dean Victor Stacey will be leading us through a study of John Pritchard's book 'Something more'. The gatherings will take place every Monday in Lent (excluding Holy Week) at 8pm in St Paul's Parish Centre. All welcome.

World Day of Prayer – This year's service will be held on Friday 3rd March at 11am. The congregation of the Church of the Assumption, Dalkey will host the service which will be followed by refreshments. All welcome.

Ladies Guild: The Guild will meet next on Tuesday 14th March in the Carry Centre at 2.30pm. Speaker: Joan Millar. All Welcome.

SILK - Socials Involving Ladies of Killiney: On Wednesday March 15th the Ladies are having a cinema evening. For more information please contact Judy Jones – 2855159

Sunday Club: Will next meet on March 19th in the Carry Centre.

The Y Club (Killiney Men's Society): Thursday March 23rd at 8pm. Topic to be confirmed. All Gentlemen are very welcome to attend. More information from Paul O'Brien, Nigel Teggins or the Rector.

Select Vestry: The Vestry will meet at 8.00pm in the Carry Centre on Monday 27th March.

Bible Study and Prayer Group: The next gathering will be on Tuesday March 28th at 10.30am in the Carry Centre.

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.

Table Tennis – The table tennis 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).



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The Carry Centre – A full programme of activities and events is now available – please visit www.carrycentre.ie for more information.

Tree Planting – As part of the One Million trees in One Day Project (www.onemilliontreesinoneday.com), Holy Trinity was delighted to participate on Saturday 11th February. Trees were planted in the Church, Centre and School grounds.

Thank you to all those who came along and helped out.

National Maternity Hospital, Holles Street – Well done and thank you to Sheena McGinley, Rebecca Hayes and Karen Wilson from Holy Trinity, Killiney who organised a Coffee Morning recently in aid of Holles Street Hospital. Here they are presenting the cheque for €1,000.



Presentation of cheque at Holles Street Hospital

Photo: Holy Trinity Church, Killiney



THE JOURNEY



I looked around at the extremely large kennel. There were three oddly-shaped dogs at the table. This was my first time out of the kennel. I could smell a sweet and rich scent from a brown, solid bar. In front of me was a boy with brown curly hair and two really big blue eyes. “Have any of you fed the dog?” said a slightly bigger boy (or, as they called him ‘Stan’). At this point I should introduce myself; my name is Teddy, I’m five year’s old (which is 35 in Dog Years) and this is how my journey began:...

The old, brown dirty doors creaked open. Standing there like statues, a man, a lady and a boy stared at me in silence. All of a sudden, the lady muttered something: “He’s perfect!” the boy walked towards me. I backed away in case they were going to be like the others; nasty, cruel, making me feel rejected. However, before I knew it, I was being rubbed by the boy and adopted by the family.

The journey home was long, weird – but secretly awesome! I was allowed to stick my head out the window. My tongue flapped in the breeze whilst the city flashed before my eyes. Finally, after the secretly awesome car journey, we arrived at a big, brick, 3 D building. We all rushed in like a herd of cattle. While I explored, the man, lady and the boy made me a snack. That’s when it came to me: maybe they aren’t like the others. Maybe, just maybe?

Months have passed and my family thinks I’m mature enough to go out of the house (mainly because I’m up-to-date with my vaccinations). As I went out the fresh breeze hit my face. I strolled on dreaming about the things I’ll see. Suddenly, something caught my eye: A dog that looked just like me. I paused as he came rushing over to me. We stared at each other for what felt like hours. All of a sudden, he whispered something crazy: “Hello, son!” A million thoughts rushed through my head. Could this be my father? Has the journey finished? Or has it just started?

Zara Tobin – Age 10,
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At the time of writing the words of Charles Dickens describe the day; ‘it was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold, when it is summer in the light and winter in the shade. It also reminds us of the duality of the world in which we exist, where there is light and dark.

It must be the month for quotes as this week one of our wise parishioners delivered a poster to the parish office which said: *Good Morning, This is God, I will be handling all of your problems today. I will not need your help, so relax and have a great day!* Can we truly live out of faith and put our trust in

God each morning and trust that He has our highest interest at

heart and knows what’s best for us each day? Sometimes it is a relief to let God love and protect us especially during this time of turmoil and change in all our lives and in the world. Or as Pope Francis recently said ‘*nothing is impossible if we turn to God in prayer. We can all be builders of peace in our lives*’.

If you would like to include a person or intention in prayers in the Church please include their details in our intentions book at our Lady’s Altar. All of the intentions are remembered at weekend Masses in our Church.

Lenten Talks Series

This year’s Lenten talks series once again organized by our own and St Patrick’s parish team will commence on Tues 16th Feb from 7.30 – 9.30 and run for 4 weeks. The theme is The Bible and Christian Faith today and includes topics such as *The Composition of the Bible* with Dr. Martin O’Kane, Emeritus Professor of Biblical Studies, University of Wales, *The Prophecy of Isaiah* with Dr. Katie Heffelfinger, Lecturer in Biblical Studies and Hermeneutics, *Praying the Psalms* with Fr. Dermot Connolly, St. Patrick’s Missionary Society, Kiltegan and *Exodus, Passover, Resurrection* with Mr. Sean Goan, Faith Development Officer, Le Chéile Trust. Everyone is welcome and Adm is free.

St Patrick’s Day

The history of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who was born in the 2nd half of the 4th century, is inevitably sketchy. Even his year of birth is uncertain, with some scholars hitting on 373 while others calculate 390. Similarly, the place where St Patrick was born cannot be confirmed. It is known that he was raised near a village called Banna Vemta Burniae but its location cannot be identified. It may have been in lowland Scotland but is equally likely to have been Wales, which was under Roman control at the time. Patrick’s real name was probably Maewyn Succat. His father, *Calpornius*, was a Roman-British army officer and a deacon. Despite this family involvement in the church, the young Patrick was not a believer. His life was ordinary, and completely unexceptional, until the age of 16. But dramatic events then occurred which set the history of St Patrick, and the history of Ireland, on a new course. The young lad was kidnapped, along with many others, by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. According to his autobiographical *Confessio*, which survives, the next 6 years were spent imprisoned in the north of the island and he worked as a herdsman of sheep and pigs on Slemish Mountain in Co. Antrim. During this period, he became increasingly religious. He considered his kidnapping and imprisonment as a punishment for his lack of faith and spent a lot of time in prayer. After a vision led him to stow away on a boat bound for Britain, Patrick escaped back to his family. There he had a dream that the

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Irish were calling him back to Ireland to tell them about God. This inspired him to return to Ireland as a priest, but not immediately as he didn't feel adequately prepared for a life as a missionary. His studies took him to France where he was trained in a monastery, possibly under St Germain, the bishop of Auxerre, and he dedicated this period of his life to learning. It was some 12 years before he returned to Irish shores as a bishop sent with the Pope's blessing. The next chapter of the history of St Patrick is better known than his earlier life. He landed at Strangford Loch, Co. Down. Although he is often credited with having brought Christianity to Ireland, he was not the first to have done so. An earlier mission had seen Palladius preach to the Irish. St Patrick meets King Lóegaire to ask permission to preach Christianity. Of course, it wasn't all plain sailing. The history of St Patrick is littered with periods of imprisonment when his teachings had upset local chieftains or Celtic Druids, but he always escaped or gained freedom by presenting his captors with gifts. For 20 years he travelled the length and breadth of the island, baptising people and establishing monasteries, schools and churches as he went. By the time he died, on 17 March 461 (or 493, depending on which date you started your calculation), he left behind an organised church, the see of Armagh, and an island of Christians. This date – 17 March – has been commemorated as St Patrick's Day ever since. He was buried either in Downpatrick, Co Down, or in Armagh. We celebrate the feast of St Patrick in Dalkey with Masses at 7.30pm on Thurs 16th March and 8.45am, 10am, 11.15am 12.30pm and 7.30pm on Fri 17th.

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 bestpotential in life.

Parent and Toddlers Group

Our Parish Playgroup for parents with toddlers and babies meets every Monday morning 10.30-12.00 (except school holidays) in the Youth Hall behind Our Lady's Hall. This is an opportunity for mums and dads to get together to have a cuppa and a chat, while the kiddies play.

Bereavement Counselling

The bereavement counselling service, which is non-denominational, offers confidential counselling on a one to one basis by trained volunteer counsellors in Presbytery No.2 every **Tuesday** night from 7-9pm **and on Wednesday** afternoons from 3 - 5. Just call 01 8391766 for an appointment. There is no fee for this appointment but donations are welcome.

Caitríona Fogarty

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Sunday Services for March

5th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Eucharist
12th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am All Age
19th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Eucharist
26th March	9am Eucharist	10.15am Morning Prayer
Midweek	Every Thursday	10.30am Eucharist

Our Lady's Manor

The Eucharist will be celebrated on 14th and 28th March in Our Lady's Manor at 2.30pm.

Dalkey Inter-Church Lent Talks

The Lenten series of talks this year is entitled 'Our Response to Migration'. The talks will run over four evenings in March on the 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th respectively. The talks will all take place in Our Lady's Hall and begin each night at 7.30pm. Many thanks to all those from both Dalkey churches who have put so much hard work in behind the scenes to make the Lenten series of talks so worthwhile.

World Day of Prayer

Alternating between the four local parishes, a group of women from The Church of the Assumption, Holy Trinity Church, St. Stephen's Church and St. Patrick's Church organise the World Day of Prayer service which takes place all over the world on the first Friday in March. Changing from year to year, the service is devised by women from one country. This year's service with the theme 'Am I being unfair to you?', based on Matthew 20:1-16, has been prepared by Christian women of the Philippines. I would like to invite you to join us in this beautiful ecumenical service, which will be travelling with the sun around the world on 3rd of March. We will be praying with, and for the women in the Philippines. It

takes place on Friday 3rd March at 11am in St. Patrick's Church.

Ash Wednesday Soup Lunch

The Ash Wednesday Soup lunch is on Wednesday 1st March in Our Lady's Hall from midday until 2pm. All are very welcome.

Parent & Toddler

Come along and meet others for fun, support and fellowship at our Parent and Toddler Group. It takes place in the Northover Hall each week on a Tuesday at 10.30am for an hour and a half.

Choir Practice

The choir meets to prepare the music for the Sunday Service each



Rev. Bruce Hayes, Dr. Paddy Devitt, Pastor Stephen Arras and Fr. Declan Gallagher, pictured in advance of the recent Ecumenical Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Photo. Church of the Assumption, Dalkey

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Bernard Farrell's comedy

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DEAR ALICE

at the Lexicon Theatre Studio, Dun Laoghaire

nightly at 8pm SHARP

from

Wednesday 5th to Saturday 8th April, 2017

Tickets (€18) available on eventbrite.ie

or from

087 259 5027

Wednesday of the week at 7.30pm in the church. New members are always welcome.

Bible Study

Come and enjoy conversation and spiritual growth as we study the Bible together. This group includes people familiar with the Bible and those new to the Holy Scriptures. It takes place in the Gallery Room of the Northover Hall on Thursday 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th of March from 7.00-8.00p.m. The readings we look at are those for the coming Sunday, from the Revised Common Lectionary. Bibles are provided along with some study notes. All are welcome, including newcomers!



NATURE NOTES MARCH 2017



Tuesday 7th March: Branch AGM followed by a social evening with tea/coffee etc. chat and perhaps a short "FUN" Quiz

Sunday 11th March: Coach trip to Dundalk, Giles Quay and Carlingford. Coach places limited to 30.

All talks take place at 20.00 hours in Fitzpatrick's Castle Hotel, Killiney.

Coach bookings taken at the branch meetings or at bookings@southdublinbirds.com

Contact person is Eleanor

Keane 087 6446029

elekeane@gmail.com

Community Games 2017

Season commences on

Wednesday 29th March

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL DAFFODIL DAY



DALKEY DAFFODIL DAY

will take place in Our

Lady's Hall on

Saturday 18th March

from 10am-12:30pm.

All proceeds in aid of the

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Gents from €85 - €140
(1 Hour 15 minutes - 2 Hours)**



FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Ash Weds. – Soup lunch in OLH (12:00-2:00) in aid of combined charities	Weds. 1 Mar
DCC March Monthly Meeting	Mon. 13 Mar
Dalkey Daffodil Day in OLH from 10am-12:30pm	Sat 18 Mar
Dun Laoghaire Musical & Dramatic Society present	
“From the Page to the Stage” in the dlr Lexicon at 8pm	Tues 28 – Sat 1 Apr
Sorting of April Newsletter in OLH (1pm-2pm)	Thurs. 30 Mar

EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH

Karate sessions for all age groups in Town Hall from 5.00-9.00 pm Mon. & Wednesdays

Boxing/Conditioning Classes - Also available. Contact: Zach Deegan at 085 147 2334

Dalkey Players: Rehearsals every Tues. in **Harold Boys School** from 7.30-10.30pm Tues. & Thurs. Contact Aileen Byrne 087-9842337 or www.dalkeyplayers.ie for details. New members welcome.

St. Patrick's Dramatic Society: Rehearsals in Northover Hall, Harbour Rd. from 8pm-10.30pm Mon. & Thurs. or check www.stpatsdramsoc.com for further info. New members welcome.

The Irish Vintage Radio & Sound Soc. meets monthly in Dalkey. Tel 086-8391839 - **NO Texts Please.**

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

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

Parkrun - Every Saturday at 9.30am in Cabinteely, Shanganagh and Marlay Park

Dalkey Library Local History Group meets on the last Tuesday of every month in Dalkey Library starting at 6-6:30pm. All welcome.

U3A (University of the Third Age) Dun Laoghaire Dalkey Killiney. U3A meets every Tuesday at 10:30am in The Pastoral Centre, St. Joseph's Church, Glashule. Email: dldk.u3a@gmail.com

Community First Responders – Volunteers needed for Dalkey First Responders (CFR). Training given. Please contact: info@dalkeycfr.ie

DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

BLACK & WHITE:	Quarter Page: €45.	Half Page: €65	Outside Back: €90.
	Small Adverts. €0.60 per word. (14 words max.)		
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Copy and Advertising Deadlines for next two issues:

APRIL 2017: Friday 10th March 2017; MAY 2017: Friday 7th April 2017.

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. Images should be in JPEG or TIFF format.

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

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

Web: www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com **Email:** gerard.coakley56@gmail.com

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

Last month RTE supplied terrestrial set-top receivers to about 200 homes in the Louth / Meath area as part of a test for their DTT (Digital Terrestrial Television) system. There were 30 channels on offer including channels from Sky the BBC, ITV (and RTE). I also tried one receiver with an indoor aerial, and it simply did not work properly and needed a small rooftop aerial to ensure the pictures were perfect. So fortunately there will still be a demand for professionally fitted quality roof top aerials for many years to come !

(This article was first published 10 years ago, there are only 8 channels available on what is now called Saorview)

*Ian Macdonald
Maxtec Systems*



Phone: 2850848 / Fax: 2851111 / Mobile: 087 2579222 / email sat@maxtec.ie

Tom O'Higgins

ESTATE AGENT

w: tomohiggins.ie

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