



# DALKEY - Deilginis 'Thorn Island'

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

### Irish Heritage Town

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#### NEWSLETTER No 391 (Volume 15)

#### Deireadh Fómhair (October) 2009

**October:** *October: Roman word 'Octo' which means eight, the eight month of the old Roman Calendar. The Anglo-Saxons called it 'Win monath' the month for making wine. They also called it 'Winter-fylleth' (winter falls) because it was thought winter began with the new moon in October.*

*Flower: Calendula/Dahlia*

October gave a party;  
The leaves by hundreds came-  
The Chestnuts, Oaks, and Maple  
And leaves of every name.  
The Sunshine spread a carpet,  
And everything was grand,  
Miss Weather led the dancing,  
Professor Wind the band.

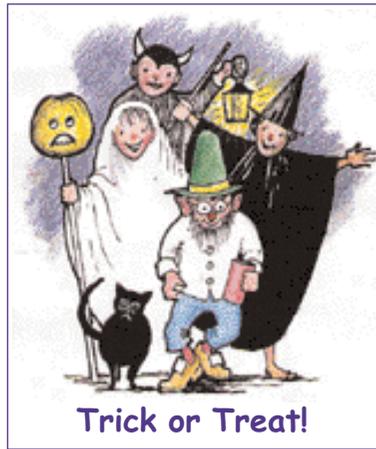


*George Cooper, October's Party*



#### HAPPY HALLOWEEN

Guímid togha spoirt d'ár bpáistí Óga oiche shamhna  
We wish our young children lots of fun at Halloween



#### ❖ SUMMARY OF DCC SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING ❖

The monthly meeting of the Community Council was held on 7th Sept. in Our Lady's Hall.  
**Tidy Towns:** Dalkey Tidy Towns has again won its section in the Dublin County Awards in the national Tidy Towns Competition for the 5th year in succession, (full report inside).  
**Planning:** The appeal to Bord Pleanála for a large house with vehicular access onto the right of way between Knocknacree rd and Torca Rd has been withdrawn by the developer. There was widespread anger by Dalkey residents against the proposal when it was lodged in April; DLRCC planning department refused permission in June which the developer, Noel Smyth subsequently appealed to the Bord. DCC and local residents lodged a strong defence of DLRCC's decision to refuse permission with Bord Pleanála; the appeal was subsequently withdrawn on 28th August. DCC Awards Ceremony took place on 11th September (report inside).

Your Area Representative is.....

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## DALKEY CASTLE & HERITAGE CENTRE



*Danielle Byrne, Cliona Ni Bhuacalla, Charlie McCarthy, Margaret Dunne, Howard Kilroy (Chair of Heritage Co) & Bernard Farrell*

Hugh Leonard -Odd Man In: the RTE Arts Lives documentary was full to capacity (and beyond) in Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre on Friday 11th September The Dalkey Event- which was part of the inaugural Mountains to Sea DLR Book Festival- was to commemorate the passing of playwright Hugh Leonard (Jack Keyes Byrne) RIP in February this year.

The event was introduced and chaired by Margaret Dunne, Heritage Centre Manager who spoke of Jack's long association with the Heritage Centre from its founding in 1998. He had been honoured on the occasion of his 80th birthday in his home county at the Pavilion Theatre in Dún Laoghaire. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co Arts Dept had established a Writers Bursary in his honour at that time. Michelle Reid was announced as this year's recipient.

Many of the audience were seeing the hour-long Arts Lives documentary for the first time. It had been screened by RTE shortly after the writer's death. Playwright Bernard Farrell spoke of the fellow writer and friend he knew so well and the accurate portrait of him that emerged from the documentary, which was so sensitively filmed. Great tributes were paid to the Producer Cliona Ni Bhuacalla and Director Charlie Mc Carthy of Icebox Films who made the documentary over a period of six months in 2008 for RTE.

There was a lively question and answer session with the panel and many great memories shared. The Cathaoirleach Cllr Marie Baker spoke of her memories of meeting Hugh Leonard at Cabinteely House two years ago. She was particularly thankful to the Manager and staff at the Heritage Centre for hosting the event in his memory as part of the Mountains to Sea DLR Book Festival.

The evening finished with a book mark memento given by Jack's daughter, Danielle to each guest featuring the quote from Home Before Night about the moment when while watching The Plough and the Stars by O'Casey in the Abbey Theatre Jack decided to become a writer: "The life that roared through the play itself had spilled over from the stage, sweeping him with it so that he knew he would never again be content just to sit and watch and applaud with the rest of them. May he rest in peace.

# Dalkey Community Council Presentations



*DCC Chairman presents Deirdre Faul with the prize for her outstanding achievement in winning four gold medals at the World Transplant Olympics in Australia*



*Deirdre Faul with her proud family – father Stephen, mother Rita and her sons Stephen and James McDonnell*



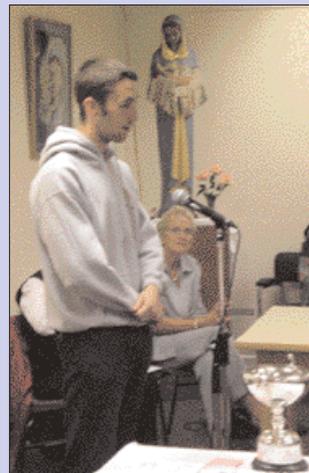
*Left:  
Deirdre Fall,  
Transplant Olympian,  
receiving the  
McCabe Cup  
for Sports  
from  
Oliver McCabe*



*Mr. Fintan Keogh accepted the Community Cup on behalf of D.A.R.A.*



*Left:  
Vandra  
Costello –  
winner of  
"Best Overall  
Garden"  
& "Best Front  
Garden"*



*Right:  
Mr. Simon  
Bradshaw  
accepted the  
Young Achievers  
Cup  
on behalf  
of the  
Leo Club*

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## MY GARDEN – Philippa Thomas

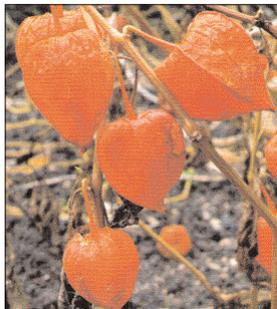


Well, let's be fair, I think we, as Dalkey residents, have a very special 'Thank You' to say to our Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Green Association for their consistently arduous and tremendous work, especially over these past summer months. I honestly don't think I have ever seen one trough, container or hanging basket dried out, sad or miserable-looking. No, in fact, quite the opposite. Our hanging baskets throughout our streets have been a blaze of colour; somewhat like those most famous Hanging Gardens of Babylon!' So, from my heart and no doubt, all our readers, I would like to say to you, Tom Byrne, and your enthusiastic team, a very sincere 'Thank You' for watering, feeding and dead-heading all our magnificent displays throughout our Heritage Town of Dalkey.

October is our month of rosy apples, scarlet hips and as our autumn leaves fall and our berries blaze with colour, the sumptuous ripe, richness of the season is all around us and particularly here in Dalkey, where we find ourselves surrounded by our seascapes, Dalkey Island and Killiney Hill with its woodland walking trails. Most of our trees and plants have come to the end of their cycle. To celebrate this they seem to put on the 'very best' that is in their wardrobe and wear it, flamboyantly, for a few brief weeks, if not for a few days. Such a beauty is Gingko Biloba, (one of the oldest trees in the world) - its leaves turn to a clear butter-yellow and just as you think about inviting a friend around to admire it, - it's truly irresistible shading around its leaves have been blown away in our October gales. In the hedgerows the dogweed is turning deep red and as one meanders along our country roads,

one can see patches of deep intense crimson.

This is the time of spiders webs, 'silvered in' our early morning mist and dawn. I see in our own glass room floating silken ladders and the most intricate complicated creations of webs. Honestly, I find it difficult to diffuse them because, after all, they are very definitely playing their part in Nature's Divine Plan.



*Chinese Lantern*

*These plants grow very easily from seed and grow very quickly*

turn to astonishing shades of orange, scarlet and shining crimson before they fall.

Chinese Lanterns, their seed cases (*physalis franchetii* or *physalis alkergerii*) are an autumn delight. I cut some from a friend's garden last year and they looked just so seasonal and carried me through (in a vase) until almost Christmas. Their thin, papery creased fragility is part of their charm. These plants grow easily from seed and grow very quickly. Remember the round seeds that rattle about within the 'lanterns' are poisonous and must never be eaten

Obviously, having done some clearing and tidying up in the garden, the odd one of us will be thinking hard about buying the odd shrub and when space is at a premium it is as well to choose shrubs or trees that oblige, twice a year, with flowers in spring and a harmony of colour in autumn. Azaleas have spring flowers and the leaves of deciduous varieties sometimes



*Chinese Lantern*

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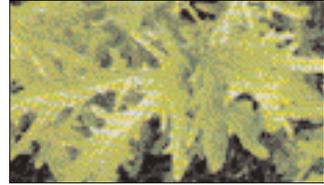
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### TIPS AND IDEAS:

1. Perhaps consider investing in or making your own terrarium. It's like having a little piece of the rainforest in your lounge/studio. Your choice of plants will depend of course on the size of the container that you have. Some garden centres - and supermarkets too - sell small plantlets which are ideal. Try micro **SAINTPAULIA**, such as 'Pip Squeak'.



*Rocket, undoubtedly my favourite herb*

2. **'ROCKET'** is undoubtedly my favourite herb. I simply cannot ever seem to get enough of it and when I'm out in a restaurant, have to be content with the small amount that I sometimes get! I read recently how a gardener in Edinburgh waits until his rocket plants have formed swollen seed pods (rocket can - almost overnight - 'flower' then it runs to seed quite suddenly. This man harvests the contents while they're still tender. Apparently, they have all the 'pepperness' you expect from rocket but in concentrated form - ideal for salads and stir-fries.

3. If you have a **BAMBOO** – green, black, purple or such as this golden one, it is an excellent time of the year to show it off to its best advantage. Simply cut off its lower leaves on each stem in order to reveal its beautifully coloured canes beneath. A suitably coloured background will show them off even more.



*Lichen – What a magnificent picture*

4. **LICHEN** – Should I worry about lichen growing on my plants? I actually asked this question myself to an O.P.W. worker while on a recent garden visit to Killmacurragh Arboreteum in Co. Wicklow quite recently.

Apparently, 'lichens' aren't parasitic so they don't cause damage to plants they grow on but their presence can indicate that a plant needs pruning. He believes that the best thing is to remove congested growth as lichen thrives where air circulation is poor. I must say that I love its appearance..

5. If you've inherited an overgrown back garden with some big old shrubs that are taking up too much room, rather than ripping them out, try 'standardizing' them, i.e. removing their lower branches so that you are left with a bare trunk and growth at the top like a tree, and more space below.

6. Remember, over these coming wintery months, growing plants in pots enables flexible displays and also extends what you can grow in your garden.

7. What about this: **EUONYMUS OXPHYLLUS** - a slow-growing medium-sized tree. Its leaves turn burgundy then a most astonishing red, before falling. Its fruits are rich red and abundant.



*Euonymous Oxphyllus*

8. Soak dirty pots and trays in a mild bleach detergent solution in order to kill pests and diseases.

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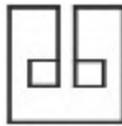
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9. **STEMS AND SEEDHEADS**, as they wither, can offer wonderful shape and texture in our autumn and coming winter. Of course, you can remove the odd messy type of seedhead but, remember, that can look truly spectacular when 'frosted'. Having said this, fallen leaves and dead dying plants should be removed in order to free up space and to allow air to circulate, which, in turn, reduces rotting caused by moulds.



*The papery coins of honesty seed-heads*



10. **TOMATO or CHILLI PLANTS** can be pulled up in November, the soil shaken off and the plants hung upside down in order to allow the fruit to ripen but watch out for rotting!



## GARDEN TALKS IN OCTOBER 2009



### THE ALPINE SOCIETY

**Thursday, 1st October 8.00 p.m.** *'Bleeding Hearts and their Relatives'* by Magnus Liden, Director of Uppsala University Botanic Gardens, Sweden.

**Venue:** National Botanical Gardens, Glasnevin.

### IRISH ORCHID SOCIETY

**Monday, October 5th 8.00 p.m.** **Venue:** National Botanical Gardens Glasnevin.

**Talk:** Shane Kerr Chairman IOS: *'My Name is Shane Kerr and I'm an Orchaholic'*. Shane will give a presentation offering his advice, opinions and confessions on his 25 year struggle with orchid addiction- exhibited with many photos from his collection.



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR – PARKING & DRIVING

There are still hundreds of irresponsible and highly dangerous people driving around holding mobile phones to their ears. Do these people NOT listen to or look at News programmes which continually report on the thousands of people who have so far been prosecuted for these offences, and given penalty points as well as being fined heavily.

Do they not also realise that over 97% of mobile phones now have either hands-free kits or speakerphone facilities or Bluetooth headsets/car kits?

While on the subject of Road Safety there is another point worth mentioning, viz.

Children should NEVER be put into a vehicle/taken out of a vehicle on the ROAD side of the vehicle but from the kerbside of the vehicle, no matter how INCONVENIENT that might seem to the person concerned.

The dangers of NOT heeding that advice are obvious!

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**COMING SOON:**

- Check out local nutritionist Oliver McCabe on RTE’S “The Afternoon Show” giving health advice.

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## TRAVELS IN EAST AFRICA

### TANZANIA UGANDA RWANDA CONGO BURUNDI KENYA

*A Journey by John & June Barnett – 21 January to 5 February 2007*

A long day's travel brought us to historic Stone Town, a World Heritage Site on the coast of Zanzibar, Tanzania. Hotel Serena was charming, but first impressions of the town were not too good in the midday sun when deserted. Without the hustle, bustle and colour of people at bazaars, markets and the docks, the litter and untidy building sites stood out the most. However, Alex latched onto us. This boy of ten was out of school for the afternoon. His ambitions were in tourism and we were fair game. We saw the famous ornate doors and ancient buildings as we acclimatised from an Irish winter to the equatorial heat.



*Needs must*

Still in Zanzibar we moved on to the Bluebay Beach Resort to a comfortable lodge. Within a coral reef there was a shallow lagoon where women harvested seaweed, so successfully that they were commanding status and power within their families, a rare occurrence here. When the tide was out the fishermen erected bamboo fish traps, returning for their catch on the next outgoing tide. This activity was constant and fascinating to watch. The resulting bounty was succulently served for dinner.

**24 January:** A Flight to Entebbe in Uganda where we were met by our driver/guide named

Alley, who took us to overnight at Sofies Motel but did not tell us that electricity (hydro) was shared by one district at a time. Homes and businesses had generators, according to their means, and that meant dim lighting and not much else. We took it as it came, relaxed and enjoyed it. The basic dinner cooked on a camping stove was good. We dined with two charity workers who were trying to change the world or at least mining law, in an effort to protect those displaced by mineral development. Breakfast was simple as the power was still off therefore sour milk and no toast,



*Local Transport*

but coffee, fruit and bread never tasted so well.

On to Kibale National Park and the Jacana Lodge. The region is volcanic, full of crater lakes, mountainous extinct volcanoes and very beautiful. Roads are generally not good; transport is by four-wheel drive with the poor relation, guess who, sitting in the back! The eco friendly Lodge was built from local natural products at a lakeside within the park. A UK travel agent was checking out the credentials for future promotion. The food and service went off once she had left! A nice touch was a romantic pontoon trip onto the lake at sunset where dinner could be served. We visited other national parks, but the highlight was a boat trip along the amazing Kazinga Channel that connects Lakes George and Edward and boasts over 600 bird species. The guide on board knew every bird and it seemed that we saw most of them, plus hippos, water buffalo, elephants and lizards. We and the other passengers, in particular an Australian family who were camping in the care of a local guide, became acquainted as we tried to keep up with the commentary and took literally hundreds of



*Children carrying water*

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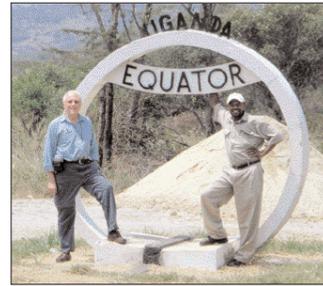
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photos. We compared notes later overlooking the Channel from a height at the Maw Hotel, which is the venue for a Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference in November that Queen Elizabeth is to attend.

**29 January** was a long drive to Kampala airport with a stop at the equator en route. A change from the usual souvenirs was an interesting sales pitch issuing personalised certificates of authenticity that you had been here. Official and compact giving a great return for the investment of a colour photocopier! John's smart comment in the visitor's book 'another sucker' caused roars of laughter.



*John and friend chat at the Equator*

The flight to Kigali in Rwanda was followed by a stopover to recover from the day's travel. However this overnight, arriving at midnight, was to end at 4am in order to reach the gorilla trek on time! John complied but, as this time schedule was not on the itinerary, I reneged. The agent eventually agreed that I should leave at the civilised time of 11am. Breakfast provided an interesting encounter with a South African and an Australian who were negotiating with the Rwandan Minister of Education about student exchanges between their countries. The three hour drive to link up with John was through the countryside where abundant crops grew from the roadsides to the hilltops like patchwork quilts. Whole farming families, babies bound to their mother's backs climbed miles before they could even start their day's work. Bicycles carried up to three bunches of bananas, their riders straining under the weight as they had to get up and down hills. Every few miles there was a roadside market where trading and socialising took place. Trucks collected produce brought there solely by manpower, often carried on heads. Some cyclists were balancing plastic containers, carrying water or homemade beer for the workers or to sell at the markets. Palm leaves were woven to make baskets for eggs to sell at the roadside or for beehives that were tied high in trees to collect honey. (No recycling here, everything was natural). Tobacco leaves were drying on racks outside wooden shacks and a type of hop for beer making was hanging around the roofs to ripen. These small homesteads had hens, sheep or goats and food growing outside their doors. The industriousness of these people has to be seen to be believed. One thing is sure, they may have little material wealth but no one is hungry. I told the driver of my interest in Tidy Towns in Ireland and he happily told me that a Tidy District Competition had been introduced in the Kigali region three years earlier. Sure enough every so often we passed roadside borders of flowers and the absence of litter was notable. The young president is popular, playing down Hutu and Tutsi rivalry, insisting that all are Rwandan and equal.

Kinigi Lodge was unique, being owned and staffed by displaced women from the genocide that ended 12 years ago. It was basic and friendly with a log fire in the communal reception



*Exotic local birdlife*

area in the evening when it was cool due to the high altitude. Temperatures were similar to summertime at home and the garden was full of beautiful Angel's Trumpet trees and familiar plants such as Arum Lilies and African Violets. The novel open-air laundry was entertaining, with your smalls draped over shrubs or laid on the grass to dry. Our personal encounter here was with the dining room manager. Maria was distressed at receiving a message that one of her children, cared

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for by her mother in a town some miles away, had developed Malaria. She had managed to get time off and we were so pleased to able to help when she asked for transport. Following discussion with our guide we discovered that it was safe to cross the border into nearby Congo for a day trip. This meant another country to add to the tally, making five for John and six for me, quite a coup. We saw the aftermath of an earthquake from eight years earlier and a typical shantytown (Goma) where the people were busy making a meagre living.



*June & John Barnett with local people*

Next stop was Bujumbura in Burundi. Club de Lac Tanganyika was a comfortable sojourn before the journey home. We swam and watched the fishermen hauling in their nets on the beach. Bicycles with wicker baskets were standing by to transport the fish. The genocide here ended only three years ago. Other 'guests' were South African military personnel, apparently off duty for the weekend.

**04 February.** A flight to Nairobi began the journey home. The late flight time persuaded us to take a day room in the lavish Stanley (Dr. Livingston I presume) Hotel. From there we strolled to the Railway Museum that came complete with sound effects as it was beside the main station. This was an insight to the history of how the railroads opened up Africa over 100 years ago, a fine end for our visit to these fascinating countries.

© June Barnett



*The last of Dalkey Tidy Towns weekly patrols of central Dalkey for this summer. Thank you to our band of regular, willing and friendly volunteers who join in when they can*

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Thank you, June Barnett, DTT

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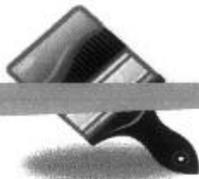
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## DALKEY TIDY TOWNS – September 2009 Report



*FIRST PRIZE  
was awarded to  
Dalkey Tidy Towns  
for the Tidy Districts  
Competition for a  
town with a  
population over a  
certain number.*

**Tidy Towns results** were announced on 7 September and I am proud to report that DTT once more won the County Award. Several committee members attended the ceremony at The Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, and there was a lovely shot of 4 of us on RTE Nationwide that evening. We increased our points by 6 to 274 (maximum is 400) and the overall winner 'Emly' in Co. Tipperary had 305 points.

More and more residents are caring for their own areas and another increase in volunteer numbers for Litter Patrols is just wonderful progress. We need more committee members for DTT as two of our stalwarts have had to resign. A person working at home on our behalf for an hour or two would help. Please come forward if you can contribute.

National Heritage Week involved several local activities including a nature walk on Dalkey/Killiney Hill. This was a perfect summer's evening where we learned about the history, geography and development of this outstanding scenic Park as well as the flora, with contributions from many of those present. The leaders were members of the Dublin Naturalists' Field Club. Approximately 25 people attended including DLRCC Biodiversity Officer and a representative from Parks.

Please bin your cigarette butts and chewing gum, do not fill public bins with household rubbish, clean up after your dogs and check your motorised road sweeping dates.

Thank you.

**June Barnett, DTT**

### Special Occasions Deserve Special Attention

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## PLANNING APPLICATIONS - Wks 33-37 10/8/09 to 11/9/09

- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0587      **Application Rec'd Date:** 10-Aug-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Barbara & Gary Morrison, 42, Ulverton Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission sought for development which will consist of widening the existing pedestrian access gateway to the lane at the rear of the property to create a new vehicular access, and associated works.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0607      **Application Rec'd Date:** 17-Aug-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Mrs Phil Murphy, 9, Hyde Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Planning permission is sought for the widening of existing pedestrian gate to allow vehicular access and dishing of public footpath to front.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0330      **Application Rec'd Date:** 12-May-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Mr & Mrs Shane & Sheelagh O'Neill, San Elmo Lodge, Torca Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Planning permission is sought for proposed two storeys extension to existing dwelling incorporating all associated site works. Additional Information: 27-Aug-2009.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0636      **Application Rec'd Date:** 27-Aug-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Mr Timothy & Mrs Sinead Bouchier-Hayes, 33, Castlepark Road, Sandycove, Co. Dublin  
**Proposal:** Permission is sought for an extension to the front and side of house comprising two storeys plus basement; the demolition of existing one-storey extension, a detached shed and 9.5m of the existing boundary wall to the side; construction of a new rendered block-work boundary wall; the installation of 5sq.m solar panels on the roof of the existing house; widening of the existing gateway and replacement of the existing 3.13 metre wide entrance gate off Castlepark Road by 4.315 metre wide new gate.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09B/0367      **Application Rec'd Date:** 24-Aug-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Mr. H. Mooney, Belgard, Saval Grove, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission is sought for alterations to a mono pitch roof to include high-level windows.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0634      **Application Rec'd Date:** 31-Aug-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Anthony Cosgrave, Thalassa, Torca Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission is sought for widening main entrance gates from 2950mm to 3450mm and the provision of double entrance gates and railings enclosure fixed over existing boundary walls to existing car spaces.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0655      **Application Rec'd Date:** 04-Sep-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Coral Hillary, 47, Hyde Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission is sought for a new 3m wide vehicular entrance, piers and entrance gates to facilitate parking on the existing paved area to the front of the existing dwelling house.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0320      **Application Rec'd Date:** 08-May-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Sheila Davis, 2, Whites Villas, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission is sought to increase in width of the existing pedestrian access to front boundary to 3.6 m wide to facilitate a new pedestrian and vehicular access. New gate posts to be incorporated both sides. Add. Info.: 10-Sep-2009.
- Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0682      **Application Rec'd Date:** 11-Sep-2009  
**Applicant Name, Address & Location:** Tom Kavanagh, Waterside, Queenstown Castle, 34 Colliemore Road, Dalkey.  
**Proposal:** Permission sought for development on this site; 'Waterside', Queenstown Castle, 34 Colliemore Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin having shared access through Queenstown Castle (a protected structure). The development will consist of: partial demolition of existing partially constructed dwelling house and structures on site. (b) Construction of a new split level 2 storey detached dwelling house (189sq.m) with basement accommodation (54sq.m) to the rear accessed internally via access stairs and externally from the foreshore jetty. The dwelling will comprise of 3 bedrooms with

associated bathrooms, living accommodation, stores, external terraces, roof terrace, railings, stairs, boundary walls, entrance court and canopy and all hard and soft landscaping. (243sq.m total floor area). (c) Alterations to the fenestration of the 'as built' boathouse (25sq.m) on the foreshore and completion of boathouse and slipway (previously approved under PI Ref D06A/0739 & An Bord Pleanala Ref PL 06D.219006).

### PLANNING DECISIONS - Wks 33-37 10/8/09 to 11/9/09

**Reg. Ref:** D09A/0466      **Decision:** Refuse Outline Permission      **Date:** 20-Aug-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** D. & E. Coulson, Site to side of Shamrock Lodge, Barnhill Avenue, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Outline planning permission sought for a new 208sq.m two storey detached dwelling with two storey return and single storey accommodation to rear, new boundary wall between proposed new and existing dwellings, retention of existing vehicular entrance to serve proposed new dwelling and creation of new vehicular entrance to serve existing dwelling, and all other associated site works on site to side of Shamrock Lodge, Barnhill Avenue, Dalkey. **Applic. Type:** Outline Permission

**Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0492      **Decision:** Request Add. Info.      **Date:** 20-Aug-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** Fionn Comerford & Ann Marie Casey, 14, Saint Begnet's Villas, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Full planning permission to construct a two storey extension to the rear and side of the dwelling house, relocation of the cross-over and adaptations to the front boundary at 14, Saint Begnet's Villas, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

**Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0228      **Decision:** Grant Permission for Retention      **Date:** 4-Sep-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** Dermot Duffy, The Coach House, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Retention permission sought for random rubble wall 2000mm high including Pedestrian gate 900mm wide on the front site boundary to Dalkey Avenue with 1200mm wide footpath outside boundary wall to Dalkey Avenue. **Application Type:** Permission for Retention.

**Reg. Ref.:** D09B/0315      **Decision:** Grant Permission      **Date:** 31-Aug-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** P. Crosbie & D. Simpson, Rossgannon, 49, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Planning permission is sought for alterations and extensions to existing bungalow comprising ground floor extension to rear, attic conversion and first floor extension to rear, total area 57sq.m including associated alterations to roof configuration and internal alterations and the provision of roof lights to front and side.

**Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0511      **Decision:** Request Add. Info.      **Date:** 7-Sep-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** Eileen Sullivan, Parkville, Sorrento Road, Dalkey.

**Proposal:** Planning permission sought to demolish existing two-storey house and construct a new 2 storey house with attic room on the same footprint including drainage, landscaping and ancillary works.

**Reg. Ref.:** D09A/0521      **Decision:** Request Add. Info.      **Date:** 10-Sep-'09  
**Applicant Name & Location:** Robert, David & Michael Doyle, San Antonio, 73, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin

**Proposal:** Planning permission for a two storey house part of which is below original ground level to the rear of San Antonio, 73, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin together with alterations to the front and side of the existing house and modifications to site services, landscaping and garden walls to facilitate the development. The site is to be subdivided to create two independent houses with a shared access.

### APPEALS NOTIFIED BY An Bord Pleanala - Wks 33-37 10/8/09 to 11/9/09

**Reg Ref:** Ref 6709

**Location:** 52, Ulverton Road, Dalkey, Glengearry, Dublin

**Development:** Removal of existing garden gate and adjoining wall to create an opening for a double leaf gate at 52 Ulverton Road, Dalkey, **Co.Council Decision:** Refuse Certificate of Exemption.

**Appeal Lodged:** 1-Sep-2009. **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Declaration. **Type of Appeal:** 1st Party Appeal.

**APPEAL DECISIONS OF An Bord Pleanala - Wks 33-37 3/8/09 to 11/9/09**

**Reg. Ref. D09A/0285 Appeal Decision:** Withdrawal of Appeal **Appeal Decided:** 28-Aug-2009

**Council's Decision:** Refuse Permission

**Location:** Site adjacent to the public right of way, Off Torca Road, Bounded By 'San Elmo', And 'San Elmo Lodge', Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

**Proposed Development:** Demolition of one existing derelict outbuilding, area 25sqm. and the construction of a new two storey 3- bedroom, 440sqm, detached house with four outside car parking spaces, with access from new vehicular entrance off existing laneway; a new pedestrian entrance off laneway; renovation of existing structure on the site, area 13sqm into studio, associated landscaping and site works. **Applicant:** Noel & Anne Marie Smyth.

**2009 ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION**

The Annual Art Exhibition will take place in Our Lady's Hall, Castle Street, Dalkey on Saturday and Sunday, November 7th and 8th, 2009.

Entry Forms, together with full payment, must be submitted by post (no entries will be taken at the door) to: Ms, Helena Feely, 47, Dalkey Park, Dalkey, Telephone:01-2858025, or in the DCC postbox in Our Lady's Hall.

There will be a charge of €3.50 per picture.

Entry forms will not be accepted after October 28th 2009.

Confirmation of entry will be sent to all applicants and will include Exhibition number(s), together with a disclaimer form.

Paintings, framed, clearly labelled and ready for hanging, must be brought to Our Lady's Hall on Friday, 6th November at 12.30 p.m. Paintings must be accompanied by a signed disclaimer and exhibition number(s) for the painting(s).

Only two paintings per artist will be allowed.

"Not for Sale" exhibits will not be accepted.

All paintings must be collected from the hall between 5 and 6 p.m. on Sunday, 8th November, 2009.



**ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION ENTRY FORM**

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..... Tel. No. ....

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Entry 2: ..... Price: .....

Signature: ..... Date .....

PLEASE POST COMPLETED FORM TO:

**Ms. Helena Feely, 47, Dalkey Park, Dalkey, Co. Dublin. Tel.: 01-2858025 to arrive no later than October 28th, 2009 or to the DCC Postbox in Our Lady's Hall, Dalkey.**



## NATURE CORNER – Michael Ryan



As part of Heritage Week the Dublin Field and Naturalist Club hosted a guided botanical walk around Killiney and Dalkey hills pointing out wild flowers and native trees. It began at the area where the Parks Department gardener Mick Kingston has planted a new native wild flower meadow, sown with locally sourced suitable wild flower seed. To make the soil condition suitable involves stripping off the top soil which would be too rich for plants used to growing in natural meadows and hedgerows. It was looking very well with delicate subtly flowered autumn plants and the mix of seed will ensure the future rotation of native plants in flower from early spring till late autumn. Among the seed sown are Oxeye Daisies, Corn Marigold, Corn Chamomile, Poppy, Corn Marigold and White Campion.

Everyone was impressed with this innovation and I look forward to seeing its results in the future. The walk moved up through the woods past the tea house with the two Field Club botanists David Nash and Sylvia Reynolds showing how to recognise various trees and ferns. It was fascinating to have names put on the flowers that we walk past regularly. I must say I'd be very hesitant trying to identify a particular type of grass species such as the species of barley grass which we were shown growing at the base of the wall. This grass apparently is commonly found in cities but when you have something identified to you and given a name it always seems more interesting.

A further treat at the top of the hill when the accompanying group were allowed into the obelisk and up the staircase to get the ultimate view of Killiney Bay and Wicklow from the balcony. A few yards from the obelisk we were shown a few tiny pink flowers of Thyme which was a revelation to most of us though thankfully Mick Kingston and our botanists were well aware of it beforehand. David Nash pointed out a spot where other unusual plants had once grown but it happened to be near one of the most scenic viewing points on the hill and hundreds of footprints had obliterated them, possibly even my own, unknowingly, in the past.

We went on down the path past the Blackthorns, Scots and Monterey Pines and Larches. Sylvia told us of the medicinal and culinary use of various plants and shrubs.

One of Dalkey's specialist plants is in fact a tree, the Irish Whitebeam, a relative of the Rowan tree. Many of them grow along the top of the quarry just over the wall beside the path but she showed us the variations in leaf shape of some of them which suggested they might be hybrids.

The beautiful warm weather we'd started off with had been replaced by a cool southerly wind and the walk had sadly reached its conclusion. I learnt to identify a few wild flowers, forgot the names of most of them but will be willing in the future to make the effort to get a book and try and figure out what they are for myself.

Rooks are what I always think of as the country crow. Roosting and nesting high in trees in big colonies and swarming together in big flocks in autumn and winter they're the crows that follow the ploughs and tractors their big powerful bills digging into the soil after leatherjackets, the larval form of craneflies (Daddy Longlegs) and other insects and worms. With their beaks pale with a featherless area around its base, suitable for a bird that spends a lot of time with its face in the ground, and their heavily feathered legs that resemble baggy trousers they aren't the most elegant of birds but I always think of their call as being one of the most resonant of the countryside.

All members of the crow family are intelligent particularly



*Bird photographs courtesy of  
BirdWatch Ireland*



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ravens but recent findings have shown what bright birds the rooks can be and possibly proves that one of the classic Aesop's fables may have been based on fact. In the tale, written more than 2,000 years ago, a crow uses stones to raise the water level in a pitcher so it can reach the liquid to quench its thirst.

Now a study published in *Current Biology* reveals that rooks, a relative of crows, do just the same when presented with a similar situation.

'The birds were shown a clear tube containing a small amount of water. Floating upon it was an out-of-reach worm. And a pile of stones was positioned nearby.

Dr Nathan Emery, co-author of the paper, from QMUL, said: "The rooks have to put multiple stones in the tube until the worm floats to the top."

And the four birds did just that. Two, called Cook and Fry, raised the water-level enough to grab the floating feast the very first time that they were presented with the test, while Connelly and Monroe were successful on their second attempt.

Footage of the experiments shows the rooks first assessing the water level by peering at the tube from above and from the side, before picking up and dropping the stones into the water. The birds were extremely accurate, using the exact number of stones needed to raise the worm to a height where they could reach it'.

There's a video, hopefully still available to view at

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8181233.stm> It shows the rook approaching the tube its head tilted sideways to assess the situation as it looks at the worm before a little pile of stones are placed near it. Then it immediately bounces over to them and begins to drop them in the tube till the worm is within reach. The bird wasn't trained to do it, it just reasoned out the problem and solved it. Who's a clever boy then?

Crossbills are getting to be regular annual summer visitors to Killiney and Dalkey hills and the surrounding area and they often land on a small stand of spruce trees behind the car park on Dalkey Hill. Spruce are often the only trees found in commercial plantations around the countryside and they've earned a bad name for themselves. Those plantations are usually dense, dark and lifeless and are almost depressing to walk through but when spruces are standing alone or intermingled with other conifers they can be quite elegant. There aren't too many of these trees on the hill and their cones seem to be a preference for the Crossbills.

Many of these birds come from Scandinavia; they breed early then fly south for richer conifer harvests. Crossbills are usually in tight bouncy flocks making a 'chip chip' type call and though often flying in large numbers when they land on a tree they almost disappear, taking on the appearance of the trees cones which they'll hang on to then tear open with their powerful beaks on which the mandibles are crossed, specifically evolved for ripping open cones to feed on the seeds under the little plates.

The first flock I saw this summer had about 40 birds in it including a number of male birds which are a lovely brick red colour. The females and juvenile males are green and resemble Greenfinches.

Often one sees some type of birds or animals when you're looking for some other kind. The following mornings I was carefully scanning those trees for more crossbill sightings. As the spruce trees move up the hill they merge into Douglas Firs and sitting out on top of one of those was a red squirrel chewing away at a cone, one of the best views I'd ever had of one.

A few days later there were two of them on the same tree again sitting out in the open, tails curled over their heads with a load of discarded cone pieces under them. Didn't see the Crossbills again but I didn't mind.



*Killiney Woods*

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## MEMORIES OF DALKEY

Various memories of Dalkey have been written over the years by people who were born and lived there. I have not as yet read an account of how Dalkey moved into a new age.

Dalkey, when I was growing up, bore very little resemblance to the upmarket, thriving suburb we see today. In the 1940s, Hyde Road was still a field; Hillside Estate was still farmland; the local Loreto Primary School boasted less than 300 pupils and there were very few cars on the roads. Trams rattled down Castle Street, and in general Dalkey was little more than a sleepy village. The older generation will quickly correct that phrase by reminding us that because it has a town hall, Dalkey is and always was a 'town'.

As children we came home from school, did homework and, apart from pals meeting in each other's homes, there were few social outlets, apart from swimming in summertime.

In the early Fifties, Fr. John Moloney -recently ordained in Rome where he had studied in the Irish College - was appointed Curate in the Church of the Assumption, Dalkey. I suppose, having settled in he set about getting to know what was happening around him.

He realised that the young people of Dalkey had nothing to do! Young persons did not go to the pubs; there were no coffee houses and there were no cinemas. He decided to take something on himself which would revolutionise Dalkey.

With the hesitant approval - bordering on disapproval - of the then Parish Priest, Fr. John called on many houses in the area and invited boys and girls in their final year at school to attend a meeting. At that meeting, he said he would like to stage a Passion Play in Dalkey Town Hall. This would involve lots of rehearsals. His idea was enthusiastically received and, after many weeks of work involving choral work and elocution lessons the play was staged. The excitement among us all was great. We were draped in biblical garments and appeared on stage - many of us for the first time. The play was a huge success - acclaimed by all who saw it.

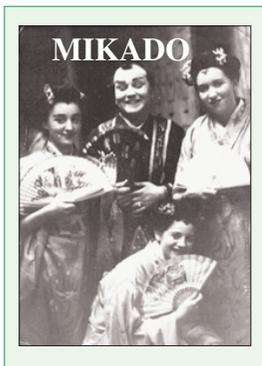
Little did we know that this was just the beginning of the idea of what Fr. John had in mind!

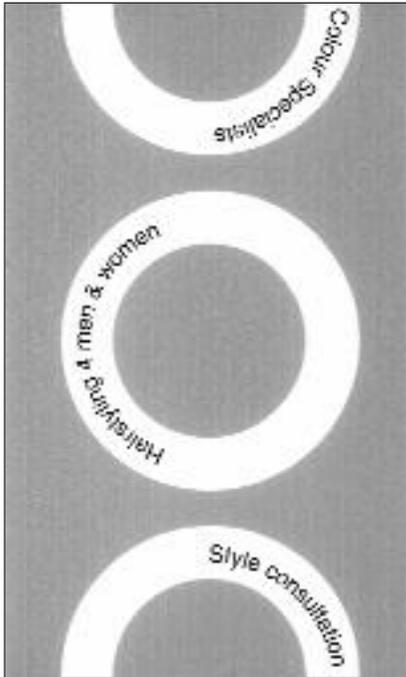
After Easter, a get-together meeting of us all took place in what was known as the Parish Council Rooms. We were treated to a party and as we had all got to know each other during rehearsals, a great time was had by all. This was definitely a 'first' such function in Dalkey. During the party he announced the his next venture would be a production of *'The Mikado'* by Gilbert & Sullivan. We all gasped! How could inexperienced people like us aspire to such heights?

Soon rehearsals were under way. Fr. John was very skillful. Added to the *'Passion Play'* cast he had asked young persons of other denominations to join up. He invited Lionel Cranfield of Rathmines and

Rathgar Musical Society to produce a show. Evelyn O'Sullivan became our very patient Musical Director. He then enlisted the expertise of Tommy Doyle, a conductor of some fame, to get together an orchestra. Mrs. Pierce, a local Elocution Teacher, was asked to help with the script. Dym Cogan was assigned the task of arranging a Make-Up Team. Strange thing was that nobody realised the extent to which they were being co-opted.

The first floor rehearsals were a pantomime in themselves. Imagine fifty-odd young persons learning to use 'fans' and to move around the stage - dancing and singing. Again, it was a huge success. The Parish Priest actually got up and made a speech on the last night, praising all who had made the shoe such a success. He warmly congratulated Fr. John for all he was doing to bring the young people together.





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Lionel Cranfield handed over future productions to the very capable Maurice O'Sullivan - a very active member of the Rathmines and Rathgar Musical Society. Maurice continued to produce all our shows - as well as taking leading roles.

After that, there was no stopping either Fr. John or ourselves. The following year *'The Gondoliers'* played for a week in the Town Hall.

The Parish Priest was by now quite pleased with the success of Dalkey Musical Society, so much so that Fr. John's proposal to purchase a premises suitable for rehearsals was accepted. The hardware premises of R.J. Swail became vacant, and, to the surprise of many, a tender bid was made by Fr. John for its purchase. This premises was in pretty bad repair but, undaunted, rehearsals immediately transferred to this old, draughty building. To keep all and sundry happy, a statue of Our Lady this had been presented to Fr. John by the Italian Sodality in Dublin, was installed. As we all know this statue stands in what was then the Swail shop, but now better known to us all as Our Lady's Hall - the much used premises of Dalkey Active Retirement Association as well as Dalkey Community Council and many other organisations.

We were all young adults by then and some of us were already working and some were still in college.

The years rolled on and so did the shows. Success followed success. Next production was *'Iolanthe'*, then *'Patience'*, followed by *'The Pirates of Penzance'*, a repeat of *'The Gondoliers'*, and then, by popular request, a repeat of *'The Mikado'* followed by the very ambitious *'Yeoman of the Guard'*.

By now there were several romances and Fr. John performed the marriage ceremonies for at least a dozen couples who had met in Dalkey Musical Society.

Sadly, Fr. John was moved to be Parish Priest of Rathgar and eventually became a Monsignor. At his farewell party, we all cried bitterly as Fr. John sang a song we will always remember him by - entitled *'Can I Forget You?'*.

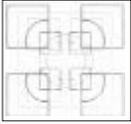
Efforts were made to keep the Society going, but by then we were all young marrieds with families and little time to spare.

I still marvel at his foresight in bringing together so many young persons in the happy, wonderful world of music.

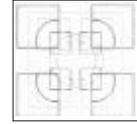
Fr. John is still with us. He is now in his nineties and lives in the parish of Rathgar, but to those of us who knew him, like to think that his memories of Dalkey are very special.

**Ann Scully (née Martin)**





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*Left to right, (Back Row): Peter Farrell, Larry Dowd, Brendan Henderson, Charlie Byrne,  
Patsy Farrell, Raymond Poulter, Jim Farrell, Gerry McDonald, Jack Dowd.  
Front Row, (Left to right): Fr. Paul Tyrell, Frank Mullen, Dessie Swords, Michael Byrne, Fr. Holohan*



*Back Row: Phil Browne, Jack Dowd, Dermot O'Neill  
2nd Row: Johnny Quinn, Cyril Murray, Frank Quirke, ? ?  
Front Row: Charlie Byrne, ?, ?, ?, Tony Duggan, Kevin Dowd, Sean Browne,  
3 names in question Seamus Gannon, James Foley, Jimmy Dean*



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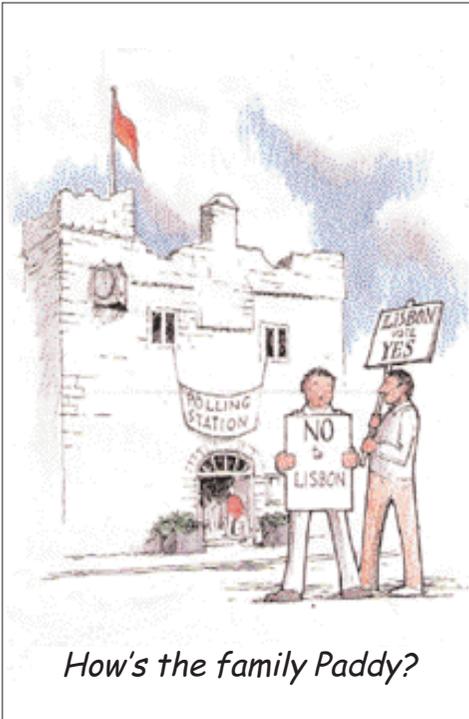


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## OCTOBER EVENTS IN DALKEY LIBRARY



**Film Club** - this exiting new initiative will be held the last Tuesday of each month. Tuesday 27th October at 7pm: *'The Visitor'* will be screened. €4 for film, tea & coffee and discussion of film afterwards.

October 1st: **All Ireland Poetry Day**: Readings will be held at 6.30pm. Writer in Residence Paul Perry reads along with special guests Dermot Bolger & Jane Robinson

**Bookclub** 1st Saturday of month: Sat 3rd October @ 10.30-12pm - All Welcome  
*'Authenticity'* by Deirdre Madden.

**Irish Bookclub** 1st Tuesday of Month: Tues 6th Oct @ 6.30-8pm - All Welcome. *'Ding agus na Pavanaigh'* le Sean Mac Mathuna

**Writers** @ the Library meet every 2nd Thursday @ 6.30-8pm. New members are always welcome. Meetings: October 15th & 29th.

**Crochet** is taught at the library every Thursday @ 3.30-5pm. Beginners and experienced crocheters are all welcome.

**Internet Trainings** sessions available weekly in the library (2 Sessions x 2hrs). Come along to learn how to set up email and use the web. Small waiting list - please leave your name with the library.

**Flip Flop Alien Adventures Workshop** – Thursday 8th October 3.30-4.15pm.

Age 3-6yrs. Strictly 10 only. **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL FOR THIS WORKSHOP.**

**Storytime in Dalkey Library** is now on Wednesdays @ 3.30pm. Suitable 3-6yr olds, All welcome.

**Parent & Toddler Group** meets every Friday between 10am-12pm, Toys & Books, Tea & Coffee are provided. Please note due to space constraints we can only have ten adults + accompanying children at any one time.

**Girls & Boys Book Clubs** happen each month. New members always welcome. Please enquire at library for dates, times and books.

**Susan Lynch Senior Librarian** – Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Library Service

Dalkey Library Tel: +353 1 2855277| Fax: +353 1 2855789|

E: [slynch@dlrcoco.ie](mailto:slynch@dlrcoco.ie) | [www.dlrcoco.ie/library](http://www.dlrcoco.ie/library)

And they're off . . .



Dalkey  
Sea Scouts



Right:  
*Sarah McDonagh (Watch Leader)*  
*receiving one of her two medals*

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### DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

#### ADVERTISING RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM FEBRUARY 2009 ISSUE

**BLACK & WHITE:** Quarter Page: €45. Half Page: €65 Outside Back: €90.  
Small Adverts. €0.60 per word. (14 words max.)

**COLOUR** Quarter Page: €60 Half Page: €85 Outside Back: €115

No full page Advertisements.

*Unless otherwise agreed with the Advertising Manager all Advertisements must be paid for in advance of publication.*

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

October DCC Meeting	Mon 5 Oct	Closing date for receipt of entry forms for the
Parents' Week	Mon 5-Sun 11 Oct	DCC Art Exhibition
National Recycling Week	Mon 12 -Sun 18 Oct	Wed 28 Oct
Summer time ends - hour goes back	Sun 25 Oct	Sorting November Newsletter
Bank Holiday	Mon 26 Oct	Fri 30 Oct
		November DCC Meeting
		Mon 02 Nov

**EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH**

**Living History in Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre** – Mon-Fri 9.30- 5.00; Sat. Sun. & Public Holidays 11.00-5.00; Last tour at 4.15pm. Open all year (excl Christmas).

**Co Co Markets** continue in Dalkey Town Hall every Friday 10.0-3.00. Among the produce on offer you will find: Fish from Kilmore Quay; organic vegetables and meat from the Dominican Farm in Wicklow and fresh traditional garden flowers in season. A number of new vendors have joined the Market recently with appetising gluten free products and fresh Wexford strawberries.

**Karate** sessions for all age groups @ 6.00-9.00pm Tuesdays & Thursdays Contact Wayne Deegan at 086 857 2546.

New Venue for **Dalkey Players Theatre Group** - The Carry Hall, Killiney. Tuesdays & Thursdays 7.30-10.30pm. Contact Caroline Hickey 086 8092850 or check [www.dalkeyplayers.com](http://www.dalkeyplayers.com) for details.

**National Recycling Week** – The theme this year is '*Recycle More - Recycle Better*'. Visit [www.repak.ie](http://www.repak.ie) for ideas for the family and facilities in your area.

**Parents' Week** – This is the fifth National Parents Week. Each year it gets bigger and better with more and more individuals and organisations getting involved. While National Parents Week 2009 is about parenting generally, this year Parentline will focus on five parenting topics: **Premature Babies From Day One** ([www.prematurebaby.ie](http://www.prematurebaby.ie)): Mon. 5th October. **Post Natal Depression**: Tues., 6th October. **Primary School Children**: Wed. 7th Oct. **Teens/Secondary School Children**: Thurs. 8th October. **Fathers**: Fri., 9th October. For a full schedule of talks and events, contact 01 8787230 or [www.parentline.ie](http://www.parentline.ie) for further info.

**Winter Fair** organised by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Enterprise Board on 14th & 15th November. Contact Suzanne May, Event Manager for info at Tel 839 1630 Email: [suzannemay@killeenhouse.com](mailto:suzannemay@killeenhouse.com).

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**NEW Library Times:** Mon & Sat. 10a.m. - 1p.m., 2p.m. - 5p.m. **Tuesday. & Thurs.** 1.15p.m. - 8p.m  
**Wed. & Friday.** 10am - 5pm. Telephone 285 5277

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LAST DAY for advertisements & Articles for next 2 issues: NOVEMBER: 9<sup>th</sup> Oct. '09, DEC/ JAN: 6<sup>th</sup> Nov. '09.

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

NOTE: All Advertising Strictly to: The Advertising Manager, Mrs. Helena Feely, 47 Dalkey Park, Ph: 2858025

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

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**EDITORIAL POLICY** — The Editorial Staff reserve the right to edit and/or emend 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*),  
Richard Mooney, Danny Merity (*Distribution*), Helena Feely (*Advertising Manager*)  
**Web:** [www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com](http://www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com) **Email:** [gerard@dalkeycommunitycouncil.com](mailto:gerard@dalkeycommunitycouncil.com)

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*About 20 years ago I attended an introductory course about using fibre optic cable for satellite distribution (as opposed to coaxial cable). At the time the cost was horrendous, and a small reel of fibre optic cable and a few plugs was the same price as a small car.*

*Thankfully that has all changed and there are now satellite dishes on the market that have a single fibre optic cable attached, and from this one fibre you can feed countless satellite receivers, even if they are 100s of metres apart. The fibre is only the thickness of a human hair, and with the protective sheath it is about the thickness of a drinking straw. So if you are considering installing multiple satellite receivers in your home (or work place), fibre optic is without a doubt the way to go.*

*Ian Macdonald,  
Maxtec Systems*

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