



DALKEY - Deilginis 'Thorn Island'

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Irish Heritage Town

First Published April 1974

NEWSLETTER No 423 (Volume 18)

Meán Fomhair (September 2012)

September: *Latin for seven, was the seventh month of the Roman Calendar*

By all these lovely tokens
September days are here
With summer's best of weather
And autumn's best of cheer.

**HAPPY
GRANDPARENT'S DAY !!
9th September 2012**



Flower: Aster



***Queen of Dalkey,
Maeve Binchy
1940 - 2012***

MAEVE BINCHY R.I.P.

Gordon Snell and all the
Binchy family would like
to thank

The Church of the
Assumption,
The Heritage Centre,
Dalkey Business Group,
The Library and
all the people of Dalkey
for their wonderful
kindness and support.

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SUMMARY OF DCC AUGUST MEETING



The August meeting was held in The Masonic Hall, Castle Street on Monday 30th July.

NW: Garda Cathy Burke reported that there has been no significant increase in crime in the Dalkey area. DCC will request a meeting with Superintendent Fitzgerald in the near future to discuss the new policing arrangements for Dalkey following the closure of the Garda station

DTT: Work is ongoing around the town as competition time is here and great efforts are being made to have the town in pristine shape.

AOB: The Red Squirrel Project has been launched by DLR and red squirrels will be re-introduced to Killiney Hill in mid August. There will be updates in the newsletter.

The boat owners and interested parties had a meeting with the Local Councillors and Mary Mitchell O'Connor T.D. about the intended works on Dalkey Island. Concern was raised about the ferry service to the Island following the completion of the work that is due to commence in February 2013. It is not clear whether Coliemore Harbour will be the access point to the Island for the public. There will be further meetings.

DCC will also investigate the closure of the letter box in the post office.

The meeting closed and Susan thanked the Masons for their welcome and the use of their meeting room.



MAEVE BINCHY 1940 - 2012



Maeve Binchy who died peacefully on July 30th was a novelist, playwright and columnist. She was one of Ireland's most loved and popular writers. As an international best-selling author, her books sold over 40 million copies worldwide. They were translated into, at last count, thirty seven languages.

It's a sad time for us in Dalkey. We have lost one of our best friends. Above all else, as George Bernard Shaw would have said, she was 'a product of Dalkey's outlook'. She never missed an opportunity to promote Dalkey in her many media interviews. She supported the setting up of Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre and kept in touch with everything we were doing.

Just a few short weeks ago when we staged her play '*Deeply Regretted By*' as part of our 'Discover Dalkey's Literary Gems' series she wrote wishing us well and saying it broke her heart not to have been well enough to attend. Her husband (the writer) Gordon Snell and her sister Joan came to see the performances. They had to sit down with Maeve on their return to fill her in on every detail of the presentation. Then we got a gracious thank you letter.

She was unfailingly good humoured and courteous. Fame never went to her head. She paid attention to the small things like thank-you notes and letters. She shunned emails even saying on her website "if you write to me, it may take a while but I will reply".

Maeve was born in 1940 and educated in Holy Child School, Killiney. She completed a history degree in University College Dublin. She taught for a number of years and travelled extensively in the long summer holidays.

Maeve said that her writing career began when her mother sent some of her travel logs from her summer holidays abroad to the newspapers. She joined the staff of the Irish Times and soon became Womens' Editor.

She moved to London in 1973. She had already met the man who became the love of her life there, her husband Gordon Snell. She continued her journalistic career but soon branched into other forms of writing.

In 1979, her first published work was '*My First Book*', a collection of articles. Her play 'End of Term' was performed in the Peacock Theatre, Dublin in the same year.

Maeve's first play for television '*Deeply Regretted By*' was commissioned by RTE and was

based on her article 'Death in Kilburn' which appeared in The Irish Times. The play won a Jacobs Award in Ireland and the Best Script Award at the 1979 Prague Television Festival. Maeve and Gordon returned to live in Dalkey in the early eighties where they wrote side by side in the same studio upstairs at their home on Sorrento Road.

It was as a novelist Maeve Binchy became most famous. Her novel '*Tara Road*' was 'Best Novel Nominee' on Oprah's Book Club in 1999. The same year she was given a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Nibbles (British Book Awards). '*Tara Road*' was made into a film, with Maeve and Gordon in cameo roles. The film of her novel '*Circle of Friends*' starred Minnie Driver and Chris O'Donnell. She always insisted that her novels were filmed in Ireland to bring employment to her own country. Other novels include: '*Light a Penny Candle*', '*Firefly Summer*', '*The Copper Beech*', '*Nights of Rain and Stars*' and '*Minding Frankie*'. She had recently completed her last novel 'A Week in Winter' which is expected to be published later in the year.

Maeve talked to thousands of writers and groups. She was a regular speaker at the Dalkey Book Festival. She wrote a short story especially for the 2012 Festival and read the story to a capacity audience in Finnegans on 17th June last. She was a great supporter of communities helping themselves.

She was known for her generosity and encouragement to writers and for her 'write 1,000 words a day and you'll have your book written in three months' philosophy.

We extend our heartfelt sympathies to her husband Gordon, her sister Joan, her brother William and close friends. We will all miss her in Dalkey.

There won't be her likes again. May she rest in peace.

Margaret Dunne, Manager, Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

DCC ANNUAL GARDEN OUTING

*Right:
Our Guide
Lesley
Fennell*



UPON REFLECTION



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Tidy Towns Team 2012

Has anyone noticed the lovely new Heritage signs on Castle Street and Railway Road? The Tidy Towns Committee has been working on this project over the past six months and we are delighted with the end result. Finally, tourists can find their way to the sea, a question they frequently ask. We would like to thank many

people in DLRCC as without their support, this project would not have been feasible. We would also like to thank Dalkey Business Group and Dalkey Community Council for their contribution.

The very observant resident may also have spotted the new map on the Noticeboard in the church car park. Again this was designed with the visitor to Dalkey in mind, highlighting things to do, places to see and the Castle Street area of the town. More of these maps will be put up over the next few weeks and a pocket-size version is being commissioned.

The Bulloch Harbour plans with Dublin Port Co. and DLRCC are progressing: new signage and improvement to the paths and kerbstones are all scheduled to happen over the coming weeks.

The Tidy Towns helpers, Marius and Saulius have done a great job painting the bollards,



lampposts, refuse bins and some of the planters around Eurospar. The front of Our Lady's Hall has also been painted to match the fresh new look of the Library. The boundary wall outside The Corner Note has also been painted, and looks very smart behind the new signs, The box hedges in the planters at Writer's Corner have been trimmed and reshaped. We have asked DLRCC for more planters and to replace any dead plants. We also requested that the broken sign at Dalkey Ave be taken down and DLRCC have now done this.

Otherwise, general weeding, spraying, planting, dog poo removal and litter picking duties have been continuing over the busy summer season. We really appreciate the efforts of the volunteers who are so generous with their time.

Everyone is welcome:.....meet at Select Stores every Tuesday and Saturday at 10.30 a.m. and at Dillon's Park on Thursdays at 10.30 a.m. if you would like to participate.

If that isn't possible please at least pick up rubbish if you see it and don't just pass it by.

Enjoy Dalkey in all its Summer glory!

Blaithín O'Brien

Tidy Towns team at work



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There is something rather wonderful about September. To some, it is the loveliest month of the year It is our month of satisfaction it sort of marks the zenith for all the efforts we invested during this past year, yet beckons us, do you not think, to look forward to our future. Clashing colours in our Dalkey gardens can look pretty sensational, vibrant reds, smoky purples, oranges, all add to that tropical look. September is a month of transition, summer is slowly winding down, "the borrows of summer and the whispers of autumn".

Autumn is finally creeping into our gardens bringing a slight chill, a crisp nip in our morning air and then, a shortening of our days. We see seed heads and fruits of so many of our plants, then the onset of autumnal colour on our leaves provide rich warm hues. Our Pyracanthas and Cotoneasters look simply magnificent. Cornflowers, Teasels, Sunflowers, and Evening Primroses are all great seed plants for attracting moths, butterflies and bees. Growth is still somewhat active but reduces dramatically by the end of this month; soon we will witness sparkling dew drops on our grass.

So, as our ground is still relatively warm, it's such an opportunity to get bulbs planted and your favourite seeds sown. Must say, all summer long while travelling on our Dart, I have admired our various shades of pink Valerian and that lacy creamy white one, (Centranthus) that abound so effortlessly here and there. This, sometimes, understated plant originates in the Mediterranean region; it seems to thrive on old lime walls and in well drained soil, sunshine and again, seems to self sow freely. Agapanthus, too presently are truly



Agapanthus - They dislike having their feet in water in soil that gets waterlogged



*Hypericum 'Rowallane Hybrid.
I heard on the radio yesterday, that these are hugely 'back in fashion again*

special architectural plants. Some people call it, Lily of the Nile, possibly more accurate, blue African Lily. There are so many super varieties. They are all evergreen and native to coastal areas of South Africa and so many species thrive in containers and really appreciate a sunny position and again, well drained soil. If I had to choose a single favourite plant right now, I'd choose Verbena Bonariensis, I could write forever about its qualities. It creates a haze of purple flowers throughout summer and attracts plenty of good garden insects and then is the ideal plant for any sunny border as it grows up to 180 cm tall and compliments rather than obscures the other plants and flowers around it; it self seeds and doesn't need supporting - is a tender perennial - what more can we ask for?

The coming few months are the most challenging time for our house plants and growth in general, usually stops. Mostly, our houses are heated our air can be pretty dry; sometimes, we forget all this and continue our summer watering habits, leaving our treasures in saucers of water then dust from our fires etc. further obscures the available light and draughts too, can chill plants. So best to reduce these difficulties by moving



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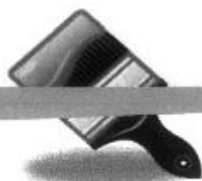
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Oconium are at their best in early Autumn.

A native of Morocco, easily grown from pieces of stem and do exceptionally well in a conservatory

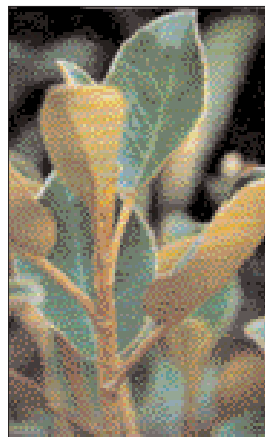
plants away from behind curtains etc., into more suitable places. They, mostly love a rub down from a clean soft cloth of lukewarm water which almost acts like what we call ‘A Makeover’.

MIGHT DO / MAYBE SEPTEMBER JOBS:

1. Many kinds of perennial flowers produce viable seeds; these can be collected as they ripen and stored in a cool dry place.
2. Make sure to keep Camellias and Rhododendrons in pots well watered and fed to encourage flower buds for next year.
3. Maybe if the mood grabs you, clear up withered debris in borders to prevent fungal diseases overwintering.
4. Allowing house plants to stand in a saucer of water leads to many being affected by root rot diseases so it's a good idea to allow plants to drain for an hour after watering.
5. Think it's a good idea to take off all flowers and small fruits that are unlikely to develop on tomato plants, leaving only those that are a good size and already beginning to colour.
6. A pot planted with a variety of winter plants can look so well near a doorstep or near an entry door and even better, if scented plants are planted. For a centre piece, why not consider Christmas Box or Sarcococca, a glossy leaved, small evergreen shrub with a magnificent perfume from its tiny creamy white flowers, especially so in the New Year.



*Left:
This old variety, 'Kwanso' day lily, still holds its own, especially late August - early September it is vigorous and forms a solid clump*



*Right:
Seaside gardeners are always looking for good wind-resistant plants and this is one of the best.
Formerly Senecio and now Brachyglottis Rotundifolia, its leathery leaves signal its fitness for any battle with salt-laden winds*

DR. JULIAN HART. R.I.P.

It is with regret that we note the passing of one of the Council's long-standing members who died recently in Wicklow in a tragic accident. We extend our sincerest condolences to his family and remember with fondness his modest, kind manner and interest in contributing to the Dalkey community.



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INAUGURAL DALKEY LOBSTER AND JAZZ FESTIVAL 2012



Raouf Djeflal, Gerald Keane and musician Jaime Nanci

‘Lobster, Crab and all that Jazz’ Ireland’s most famous literary town came out of its shell for a celebration of its maritime and musical heritage.

Dalkey, home to some of Ireland’s best-known authors, musicians and media celebrities - hosted its inaugural ‘Lobster, Crab and all that Jazz Festival’ from August 24 to 26. A huge programme of fun events lined up for all the family to enjoy, including a Celebrity Masterchef competition and cookery displays by the town’s chefs.

Outside of the kitchen, a ‘Who’s Who’ of world-famous musicians served up a feast of jazz around the picturesque heritage town. The Late Late Show’s Camembert Quartet, The Guinness Jazz Band, Drazan Derek of The Café Orchestra, saxophonist Richie Buckley, The Discovery Gospel Choir, Paddy Sherlock, guitarist Louis Stewart, Sean Hession and many more shook off the Irish Summertime Blues.

Dalkey was Dublin’s main port for centuries and the festival celebrated its sea-going past with maritime-themed events such as the annual ‘blessing of the boats’; walking history tours along the coast; a shellfish barbecue in the town’s Tramyard; and lots more!

While all that activity was going on, the town’s restaurants, cafes and pubs plated up a mouth-watering selection of lobster, crab and fish dishes.

Fancy yourself as a chef? ‘Celebrity Bainisteoir’, Gerard Kean, hosted a Dalkey Masterchef competition where members of the public had their culinary skills judged by a panel of food lovers including ‘The Restaurant’ star, Tom Doorley, restaurant critic Lucinda O’Sullivan and RTE’s Evelyn Cusack.

The first ever ‘Lobster, Crab and all that Jazz Festival’ was organised by Dalkey’s business community.

“People associate Dalkey with rock stars and TV personalities. What they don’t realise is that it’s a working fishing town with roots that stretch back through the Middle Ages. Dalkey was actually the primary seaport of Dublin up until the 1600s. We have some of the best seafood in Ireland literally on our doorstep. We also have some of the greatest jazz artists in the world living here. There will be fantastic music and food on offer during the festival, and plenty to keep the kids occupied too” said festival spokesman, Padraic Hanly.





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By Jehan Ashmore: www.shipsireland.com info@shipsireland.com



Busy scene at Dalkey Harbour

THE CROSSING

*The two women would never have met if it hadn't been such a lovely day. They would have been inside with their families, at a meal or playing games but they did meet, because they had each walked around the decks and stopped to watch the seagulls whirling and swooping in the clear blue sky – **Maeve Binchy***

The above is an introduction to a short story by the late, much esteemed local novelist, which was published in 'Failte', an on board magazine of the B&I Line (British & Irish Steam Packet Co. Ltd) during its 150th anniversary in 1986.

At that time, she was working as a columnist for The Irish Times London office, having notably held a previous post in Dublin as the papers first Women's Editor. However it was during her years in London that she wrote her first novel "*Light a Penny Candle*" and where she married Gordon Snell.

By an uncanny coincidence in the same edition of Failte magazine, there appeared an article by Dalkey-based Theodora Fitzgibbon, who was cookery editor also of The Irish Times. Accompanying her overview of Irish food were photographs taken by her partner, film-director George Morrison.

Likewise Morrison supplied the photographs to the paper's culinary column, though there was a hilarious mix-up over 'that photograph!' ... to illustrate a veal dish, which was widely recounted in the media on news of her passing.

The origins of Maeve's talent stem from amusing letters posted to her family while she was off seeing the world "on the decks of cheap boats" with calls by these freighters to far-flung places. Subsequently the letters were forwarded to the newspaper and ultimately led her to becoming a journalist and novelist.



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Excursion rib off Dalkey Island

On a related note to travel by sea, B & I's formation in 1836 saw the introduction of a Dublin-London service which took four-days! , , , when steamers sailed by in Dublin Bay (if not Dalkey Sound!) and made en-route calls to Plymouth and Falmouth, noting the route to Holyhead was not an option until 1848. (*See Oct. issue*).

B&I's successor is Irish Ferries, whose rivals Stena Line operate the fast-ferry HSS Stena Explorer on our doorstep to Holyhead (in a mere 2

hours) and with London reached on the same day! Having said that, for the first time this year, a seasonal only service is running until 11th September.

Returning to even closer 'home' waters, what about the unresolved licensed!...ferryboat service to Dalkey Island? Yet again another season has come and gone without the five-minute crossing of the 300m wide sound which has been a traditional service for generations running from Coliemore Harbour.

At a meeting held in July at the Cuala GAA Club, County Councillors discussed with a small public turnout, primarily the importance of the 'local' ferry. Also discussed was the PART 8 process and plans to develop the island, implement a management plan, restoration of historic buildings for potential tourism and 'safer and improved access' with a 'new' island harbour subject to a foreshore license.

According to a consultant's report (in 2010) for Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the cost of a new harbour was estimated at €70,000. Subject to approval, works could start in Feb/Mar 2013 and completed around June and where 100 people per day would be allowed to visit the small (22-acre) island designated as a 'public park'.

However, will a licensed ferry, which is the responsibility of the Marine Survey Office at the Dept. of Transport, be ready in place in such a timeframe? As for the service running out of Coliemore, among the issues raised were of restricted car-parking and lack of WC facilities. There have also been suggestions of a new high-speed RIB service from Dun Laoghaire Harbour (see June issue).

Most importantly the public will be invited to make submissions in a consultation process after dates are made known following a meeting by DLR County Council on 10th September.



Dalkey Ferry to Dalkey Island

Words and photos (c) Jehan Ashmore



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Pinellis' Winery, Australia

Just to keep you all interested, this month instead of Margaret River we decided on a day trip to Swan Valley. We were persuaded by friends to wait a little while for the weather to get warmer to take the trip down otherwise we would get the flu! Temperatures reaching zero at night so maybe not a good idea especially when camping.

We spent many hours deciding on exactly what day trip to take to Swan Valley. There is “food and wine trail package”, “sampler package” and “Indulgence wine tour” just to name a few but the list is endless. In the end we went with “cruise the Swan tour”. So early on Sunday morning we got the train into the city to meet our coach and very lovely coach driver/guide with some very excited passengers on board. We started in Waters Edge Winery, a beautiful place with fantastic gardens looking out over the Swan River. We were brought down into a cellar where we were introduced to their main wines. The wine that stood out for me was their white sparkling wine “Wagtail”. It had lots of soft bubbles and a huge burst of apple fruit. A nice low alcohol content helped as it was only 10 am.

We then headed for Pinnelli's Winery a short drive away in Guildford. Famous for its wine and also famous because Heath Ledger attended Guildford school and grew up in the area. Pinnelli's is a family owned business, they were very welcoming and it did feel as if you had walked into someone's home. Their Rosés really stood out. It packed a punch of strawberry and raspberry fruit. I liked it so much that I bought a bottle.

Everyone was feeling a little hungry so we headed on to Houghton winery for our last wine tasting and lunch. Inside Houghton they have their own gallery in which their local artist hangs his paintings. This elegant winery is situated on beautiful grounds which are open for all the public to enjoy. There were families picnicking and children playing Frisbee, truly, a wonderfully friendly vibe.

We boarded the coach for the last time to meet our boat on the Swan River. We sat outside in the sun sipping white wine and cruising down the River with on-board entertainment provided by the friendly staff. It was the perfect end to a perfect day trip.

SINÉAD TYRRELL
Perth, Western Australia



Swan River

PLANNING APPLICATIONS - Weeks 28-31 9/7/2012 to 3/8/2012

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

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0232 **Application Rec'd Date:** 11-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: G. Kelly, 10, Hyde Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for extension and alterations to existing house to include the construction of a two storey extension to the rear, the replacement of existing porch to the front, and associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D12A/0271 **Application Rec'd Date:** 18-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Board of Management, Loreto Primary School, Loreto Ave., Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for development consisting of the demolition of existing garage store (10m2 approx.) and the removal of temporary prefab standalone building with 2 classrooms (80m2 approx.) and construction of a single storey annex comprising 2 mainstream classrooms, store room, and ancillary site works, total area 200m2 approx. The extension will be located near to and behind the stone boundary wall fronting onto Loreto Avenue. The site is adjacent to but outside the curtilage of Loreto Abbey which is a protected structure, RPS 1445.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0252 **Application Rec'd Date:** 30-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Dermot O'Riordan, 19, Mapas Avenue, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for an extension to side at first floor over garage including attic conversion with dormer windows to rear and Velux rooflights to front, side and rear.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0251 **Application Rec'd Date:** 27-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Andrew Kershaw, 10, Anglesea Park, Killiney.

Proposal: Planning permission for the construction of a single storey extension to the front of house.

PLANNING DECISIONS for Wks. 28- 31 9/7/2012 to 3/8/2012

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0177 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 12-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Roger & Geraldine Barnes, Moreana, Ardeevin Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought to renovate and make alterations to our existing bungalow which consists of the following: A) Construct hardware timber pergola to front elevation, B) Replace glass roof with single membrane to front, C) Construct stone cladding over existing stonework to front terraced areas, D) Construct external chimney to living space, E) Remove window and replace with folding doors to rear elevation, F) Replace railings to front elevation, G) Replace windows throughout, H) Ancillary internal alterations, I) Ancillary site works including the construction of a patio area to the rear garden area.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0189 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 27-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Conor & Gay Jones, 36, Gosworth Park, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for a 34 sq.m ground floor extension to rear and addition of 3 dormer windows to rear of roof at attic level.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0190 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 26-Jul-2012

Applicant Name & Location: James Broderick, 73, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey.

Proposal: Planning permission for a single storey extension to the side of existing dwelling. Extension to include new front entrance door, utility room, and bathroom with two number Velux windows to roof and all associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0188 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 31-Jul-2012

Applic. Name & Location: Donal & Inesa O'Gallagher, Linden Lodge, Castlepark Rd, Sandycove.

Proposal: Permission is sought for development which will consist of (1) The demolition of the front porch and the rear extensions at ground floor and first floor of 'Linden Lodge', (2) Construction of a new 174 sq.m 2-storey, part single storey extension along the eastern elevation and rear of 'Linden Lodge' resulting in a new total floor area of 278 sq.m, (3) Renovation of the existing 'Lodge', (4) New solar panels to the sloped south facing roof of the new extension. The development will include all associated site works. Application Type: Permission.

Reg. Ref.: D12B/0202

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 2-Aug-2012

Applicant Name & Location: Joe & Ann McGouran, Chatswood, Saval Park Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for a detached single storey store to front of dwelling house.

APPEALS NOTIFIED By An Bord Pleanala Wks. 28-31 9/7/2012 to 3/8/2012

None in Dalkey Area

APPEAL DECISIONS OF An Bord Pleanala Wks 27-30 2/7/12 to 27/7/12

Reg. Ref.: D11A/0579

Decision: Refuse Permission

Decided: 2-Jul-2012

Council's Decision : REFUSE PERMISSION

Location: 21, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin

Proposed Development: Permission is sought for modifications to approved plans, Reg. Ref. D11A/0193, D11A/0389 & D11A/0454 to convert the attic space of house C to provide an additional bedroom (16 sq.m) with a raising of the lower roof ridge and new dormer window to the front elevation. **Applicant:** Mrs Iris O'Malley.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I'm just reading through Nature Corner and admiring the picture of the beautiful fox. I would like to raise concerns on the matter of fox poisoning as I believe there is somebody in the area who is deliberately poisoning these beautiful animals.

I live in St. Begnets Villas and have been feeding the foxes over the past two years. There was a female who had cubs this year and quite a few neighbours were feeding her. She was quite a character and very friendly by all accounts. She was found dead last Sunday in a neighbour's back garden, and obviously we were all quite upset. Some neighbours thought she was poisoned as there were no visible marks of an accident or a fight that may have happened. I chose not to believe that somebody would use poison.

Interestingly enough I was down in the local vet yesterday evening and happened to mention the death of the fox. He stated that only recently he received a call from somebody who lived on Hyde Road, they had a fox lying in their back garden and they thought it may have been knocked down. When he arrived there was no evidence to suggest that the fox had been in an accident. He said it was twitching and very cold. These were signs of poisoning and the humane thing to do was put the poor animal out of its misery.

I haven't heard about any cases in the past which would leave me to believe this may be someone new to the area or St. Begnets Villas.

It is illegal to poison any animal, this causes terrible suffering to the animal.

I would love if Michael Ryan could do a piece on this in Nature Corner just to get the message across that this is illegal and you may find yourself on the wrong side of the law if caught. Also the knock on effect is that other animals, domesticated and wild, could be affected and it is also a matter of human safety, children may be in danger of coming into contact with the poison.

Can you please advise if Michael would be in a position to write about this, either way I will be raising the issue with the ISPCA as I believe this is something that cannot be ignored.

Kind Regards,

Sabrina Rochford, Dalkey

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Some very disturbing reports in late June about separate incidents of people in motorised inflatables dangerously harassing the little pod of three bottlenose dolphins that had been seen regularly in Killiney over the last few years. One person reported seeing an inflatable near Dalkey's White Rock beach which circled the dolphins forcing them into a tight group then seeming to drive the boat straight at them with a total disregard for the dolphins' safety. Apparently people on the beach were very distressed and were shouting at the boat's occupants who were reported as laughing loudly as they drove at the dolphins.

Somebody else had seen a similar incident the previous week in the bay near Sorrento Terrace and wrote this account:

'On the afternoon of 24th June around 3pm I witnessed a speedboat which was circling the pod of dolphins at high speed and placing them at risk. The boat in question was a 20 foot (approximately) RIB with a white fibreglass hull and grey flotation tanks. It had what appeared to be a 80-100 horsepower outboard engine and a central steering console. The person in charge was, in my estimation, grossly reckless. On several occasions he appeared to aim the boat directly at the dolphins and had no concern for their safety. Whilst doing this he was towing a large floating tube with a person in it; he also had several passengers. The incident was witnessed by several yachts and lasted about 10 minutes. In addition, the RIB in question appeared to be within the safety distance from shore as per coastal regulations. This incident was also witnessed by my daughter, from a different vantage point, who was equally horrified by the spectacle. I might add, I have not seen the dolphins in the bay since then, although that might be coincidental.'

What's even worse is the fact that from their description these incidents seemed to have been caused by two different boats. At the time of writing I haven't seen the dolphins for over six weeks and there have been no sightings of dolphins in Killiney or Dun Laoghaire logged by the IWDG, the Irish Whale and Dolphins Group's website since early July whereas before they were being reported on almost a daily basis. There was a group seen near Howth on 4th July but there was at least six in that group so very probably not the same pod.



Nature Beetle on Thistle

There are strict Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources regulations regarding behaviour of boats that encounter dolphins and whales under Marine Notice No. 15 of 2005. Any incidents of deliberate malicious harassment of these creatures should be reported to the coast guard.

The IWDG say they are very concerned with these incidences and would be interested in talking to somebody in the coastguard for evidence of the harassment. They say they would be prepared to test the force of the Department notice if the



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evidence was available.

A nice story in mid August about a adult Cuckoo which was found in a very sorry state in south-west London, with a wounded wing, injured head and infested with parasites. It had been found two weeks previously very close to death. Possibly weakened by a shortage of its staple food – caterpillars – due to the very bad summer, she had been badly attacked by other birds.

She was one of a small number of cuckoos that had been fitted with a satellite tag last year to find out where the birds spend winter and the routes they fly to get there. She was nursed back to health by Leatherhead's Wildlife Aid Foundation (WAF) and then since she was very late migrating British Airways agreed to fly her on a plane to Italy, accompanied by a veterinary nurse from where she would be released to continue her journey south to her wintering grounds in Nigeria. A case of the early bird getting the worm but the late bird getting the plane.

Most adult cuckoos would be gone from our shores by mid July but any cuckoo chicks that would have been born in other birds nests could be here a lot later. In the last long hot summer we had, in 1995, I went to Donegal in August and while walking down a laneway in Gweedore I looked into a field and saw a bird perched on a stone in a field. It was a

juvenile cuckoo and while I watched one of its foster parents, a Meadow Pipit about one third of the cuckoo's size, flew in with a bill full of insects to feed its enormous adopted fledgling. The good weather of that year might have prompted the cuckoos to stay a little longer since their host birds, the pipits probably had extra broods to avail of the insect food.

Someone told me that many years before their father had found a cuckoo and figuring it was abandoned had put it in a cage and fed it over the winter. I don't know what happened to the bird which at the least would have been confused at spending the winter in Ireland rather than under a African sun. It was probably a juvenile which I always think are one of the greatest wonders of nature when, never having seen their parents, they can fly unaccompanied half way down the planet and do the same journey in reverse six months later.



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❖ SEPTEMBER 2012 LOCAL HISTORY TALKS – James Scannell ❖

Saturday September 1st at 11 a.m. the Quarterly Meeting of The Medal Society of Ireland takes place in The Teachers' Club, 36 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1, and will be followed by a Medal and Militaria Fair from 12 noon to 3 p.m. which is open to the public.

Tuesday September 11th at 8 p.m. Siobhán Fitzpatrick will speak on *'The Records of the Royal Irish Academy as a Resource for the Family History Researcher'* to the Genealogical Society of Ireland in Dun Laoghaire College of Further Education, Cumberland Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Contribution €4.

Monday September 17th at 7.30 p.m. Ms Suzanne Begley & Dr. Miriam Moffitt will present their talk *'Planned Land Settlement in 19th and 20th century Ireland: - Clanricarde's planters and land agitation in east Galway, 1886 to 1916 & The Land Commission and the making of Ráth Cairn, Co. Meath, 1935'* to the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland in the Helen Roe Theater, 63 Merrion Square South, Dublin.

Tuesday September 18th at 1.05 p.m. Edward Coleman will present a 40-minute Friends of Medieval Dublin lunchtime talk, *'The Crusader's Tale'*, in the Wood Quay Venue, Civic Offices, Dublin 8. Admission free.

At 8 p.m. James Scannell will present his lecture *'Dublin: a Hundred Years Ago - The Good Old Days?'* to the Foxrock Local History Club in the Foxrock Parochial Centre behind Foxrock R.C. Church, Foxrock, Co. Dublin.

Wednesday September 19th at 8 p.m. Sophie Evans will present her talk on *'Charles Haliday of Monkstown Park, Dun Laoghaire: Merchant, Bibliophile, Antiquarian and Public Health Reformer'* to the Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society in the Kingston Hotel, Adelaide Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. All welcome – €3.50.

Thursday September 20th at 8 p.m. Peadar McArdle will present his lecture *'Gold Frenzy - The Story of Wicklow's Gold Rush'* to the Bray Cualann Historical Society in Bray Chamber of Commerce House, 10 Prince of Wales Tce, Quinsboro Road, Bray. All welcome - €4.

Wednesday September 26th between 10.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. the September *'Morning Open Meeting'* of the Genealogical Society of Ireland takes place in Hardy's Bar, Royal Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. Contribution €4.

Thursday September 27th at 7.30 p.m. John Gillis will present his lecture *'The Faddan More Psalter - Recovery and conservation of an 8th-century Irish manuscript discovered in a bog in 2006: the first discovery of a medieval text in over 200 years'* to the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland in the Helen Roe Theatre, 63 Merrion Square South, Dublin 2.

BOOKS TO READ

'DISSIDENTS - IRISH REPUBLICAN WOMEN 1923 -1941',

by Ann Matthews, Mercier Press.

This is the sequel to Ms. Matthews' earlier work *'Renegades'*, (also available from Mercier Press) and with this new work Ms. Matthews explores the role and experience of women within the Republican movement and their impact on the political landscape between 1923 to 1941. In this fascinating and engrossing study, Ms. Matthews reveals that while around 10,000 Irish women were actively involved in the fight for Irish freedom during the War of Independence, the role of women in Irish politics declined with the outbreak of the Civil War so that by the early 1940s only a handful of women were involved.

This decline is explored in *'Dissidents'* ranging from the divisions caused by the signing of the Anglo-Irish Peace Treaty which led to a fatal splintering of Cumann na mBan, the women's Republican organisations, the effects of internment on females during the Civil War, the failure

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of the leadership to realize the financial conditions that many ordinary members had to endure, ideological dissent and differences, the emergence of Fianna Fail and the relegation of the majority of women in Irish politics to the margins.

During the Civil War over 600 women were interned, at least 12 of whom were from Dalkey, yet during this period Cumann na mBan's effectiveness continued to decline to the extent that by the 1930s this organisation had become a footnote in Irish history.

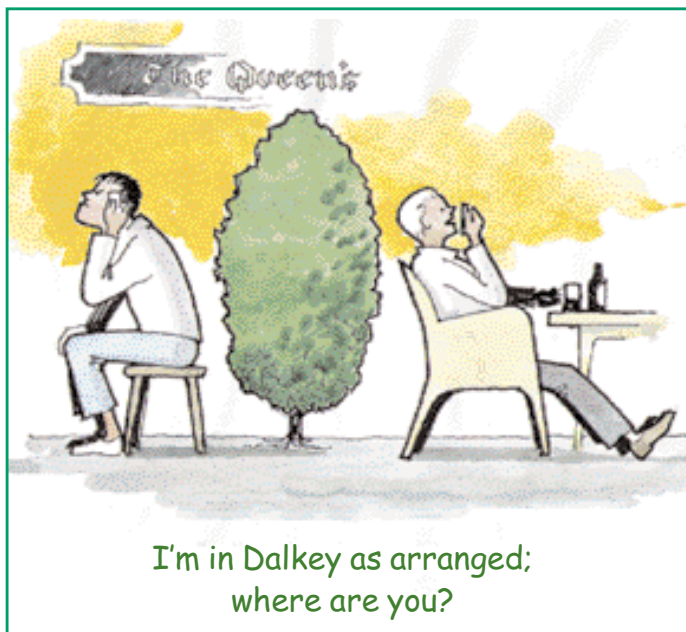
Also explored in this book is how the majority of Irish women were sidelined in Irish politics due to the splintering of the Republican political movement caused by internal warnings and dissent and the rise of Fianna Fáil to power.

NOSTALGIC IRELAND – Classic Postcards of Ireland from the John Hinde Archive, *Published by John Hinde Ltd.*

Photographer John Hinde revolutionized picture postcards in Ireland in the 1950s, 1960s, and 1970s, both in the way they were published, colour quality, and in image composition and it can be said that the John Hinde images have become the modern equivalent of the Lawrence collection of the 19th century.

John Hinde's breakthrough was to introduce bright foreground colours into his cards and was following a naïve concept of colour picture-making which was at the same time being discouraged by art experts in magazines. Using blatant primary colours was considered unsuitable and the wrong way forward but Hinde was probably unaware of these strictures and carried on nevertheless and did what experts said was wrong: - he struck primary colours prominently in the foreground to accentuate to viewers the idea of that yes, they were looking at a colour photograph and this meant more than mere colour tinting as carried out by his competitors and Hinde produced images with strident colours and vivid sunsets which were consumed by a mass public who fell in love with them.

Much of this pioneering work was carried out in his Dalkey residence and this fascinating book



contains a selection of some of the early classic John Hinde postcard images from all around Ireland and happily the company has now also reprinted and re-issued some of these images in postcard form which can be obtained from wherever John Hinde postcards are sold.

Copies of this excellent book are available from booksellers and is an ideal gift to send to friends and family overseas.

James Scannell

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King Larry

Outside the window a myriad of colourful hire boats bob gently in the lee of the granite walls of Bulloch Harbour. Tankers lie at anchor in the bay awaiting a berth in Dublin Port. Nearby window boxes sport geraniums and lavender laden with cuckoo spit and everywhere summer is in the air. Dalkey was once described by Cardinal John Henry Newman, renowned Church of England Theologian turned Catholic Primate in the 19th Century as one of the most beautiful places he had ever seen.

Surveying the vista from inside the window, the trappings of technology on a table beside him, ('Senior Surfer of the Year recipient in 2011) is Larry Wilmott, once King here and lifetime resident of this, his beloved Dalkey Kingdom.

Now in his 91st year, Larry was born one of three siblings in Ardbrugh Villas in August 1921. He remembers a very different Dalkey to the trophy village many see it as today. A resident now of Our Lady's Manor, appropriately for a king in the grounds of Bulloch Castle, Larry relaxes just down the road from his earliest memories at just three years of age at St. Patrick's National School, a stone's throw from "Ivy Cottage" in Leslie Avenue where he lived as a youngster when the family moved from Ardbrugh. He was to live there indeed until 1948 and his marriage to his beloved Betty moving then to Mayville Terrace.

Earlier in the day from his adopted throne in Margaret's "Country Bake" where he regularly holds court, Larry recalls the village life of former decades. He wasn't always spoilt by the delicacies of this wonderful home bakery and by the attentions of Margaret, her daughters Paula and Ciara and her staff. This year celebrating 25 years in the village, Margaret's was once a General Stores run by "Ma Reilly". Larry points to an accomplished pencil drawing of "Ma" on the bakery wall depicting a petite, elegantly dressed and hatted lady from bygone days in the village. Looking back, the War of course had taken its economic toll on rural villages such as Dalkey. Many premises lay empty but there were still shops such as "Findlaters" (general merchants), Gilbeys, (wine merchants), McConkeys and O'Brien's (butchers), and Connolly's Bakery where Larry recalls the then philanthropic tradition of distributing stale bread to the poorer village folk of a Saturday, and hostelryes included, Murphy's, Donaghy's and McDonagh's, the latter a familiar brand at the end of Castle Street until very recently indeed. Retail aside, Dairying was of not inconsiderable significance. Dalkey Hill was once strewn with Friesian Cattle supplying milk to "The Limerick Creamery" in the village. Dalkey even had it's own abattoir in the early days to the rear of Castle Street today.

These days three times a week or so Larry takes a taxi from Bulloch the few minutes to the Country Bake. He recalls though when the transport consisted of the No 8. Tram which would have taken you to Dunlaoghaire for a penny halfpenny and a train that ran three times daily to the City. The trams ran until 1956 and not without event either as he reflects on one such event when instead of terminating at the end of Castle street, the morning tram careered off the rails embedding itself in O'Grady's, now the Magpie Inn, at the end of the village to the consternation of onlookers. Prior to the trams indeed private bus operators Falcon, or Grand Central also provided transport to the City and for an extra halfpenny recalls Larry would leave you to your door, such was the parochial nature of the village which in those early days was home to no more than eight or nine hundred inhabitants.

Often over Margaret's breakfast Larry will talk of the characters in the village in earlier times, of the well known Dublin families who lived in Dalkey and its surrounds - among them the Findlaters, the Eason's, the Jacobs and the Weirs (Grafton Street) all familiar names in Retail still. Larry was to work indeed for Weirs as a watch maker for 10 years (it didn't do much for his timekeeping) before moving across the road to Trinity College as a lab technician where he spent almost 40 years. He remembers from the village, the characters of yester year and some of the members of the old Dublin Metropolitan Police (DMP) immortalised as a force in the works of Flann O'Brien (Dalkey Archive)



Country Bake

Larry himself is Dalkey's modern day character. His colourful contribution to the life of the village was marked in 1987 when he was crowned King, a position he was to occupy also in the following Millennium year. "Fun days - the Town Crier days" he will smile with a roguish twinkle in his eye - a fond twinkle though, a twinkle for times past, for happy memories of his village subjects and most of all a twinkle for his beloved Betty, missed so much.

With his taxi pulling up at the door, the King is off - Margaret there as ever to assist if needed - with a tip of his cap and an admonishment with his walking stick he is gone back to his Bulloch view with a Flann O'Brien like - "Must go - here's me tram, oh and by the way don't quote me on some of that historical stuff".

Larry Wilmott

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194 pages. Published by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and Fingal County Councils



The French Ambassador at the book launch

This is a fascinating look at the history of the Martello Towers that dot Dublin Bay. It explores their origin in Cape Mortella in Corsica. It contains many detailed images and diagrams as well as a wealth of photographs to illustrate various aspects of the towers.

Martello towers are an integral part of the city of Dublin. We're probably familiar with one or more of them, and most of us know that they were built to resist a Napoleonic invasion of Ireland. Beyond that, many will know very little about these buildings dotted along the coastline. In fact, it is

probably because they have become so familiar to us that we tend to take them for granted. Unlike many other historic buildings, these towers have entered our collective imagination through their presence in street names, in the names of businesses, and perhaps most famously because of the Sandycove tower provides the setting for the opening chapter of James Joyce's masterpiece *Ulysses*. Their story is part of the story of Dublin.

The Martello Towers of Dublin explores the history of the 26 towers and 10 batteries stretching from Bray to Balbriggan, from their construction in the early years of the 19th century to the present day. Their history begins among the wars between the great European powers in the late 18th and early 19th centuries when Napoleon's rise to power threatened the security of Britain and a French invasion of Ireland seemed imminent. The origins of the Martello tower are rooted in the original Corsican tower that was the inspiration, but surprisingly not the architectural model, not only for the Martello towers of Dublin but also for the many other Martello towers that were built on five continents between 1796 and 1917.

The Martello Towers of Dublin explains why Dublin's towers were built so rapidly, It examines their military role and what happened to them when the crisis of the Napoleonic Wars passed. The journey begins amid Mediterranean battlefields and the threat of an invasion of Ireland that gave rise to artillerymen standing tensely at the horizon, waiting for a French armada to sail stealthily up the Irish Sea. The story recounts how the towers changed and evolved over time, from gun platforms, to objects of derision, to desirable residential properties and a variety of other uses.

This publication is the result of historical research commissioned by the Heritage Offices



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of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and Fingal County Council, with the support of the Heritage Council, to better understand and raise awareness of the significance of the Martello towers and batteries of Dublin.

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❖ KILLINEY HILL RED SQUIRREL PROJECT ❖



*Staff
from
Sciurus
Ecological
Solutions
and the
council
erecting the
squirrel
enclosures*

RESTOCKING OUR NATIVE RED SQUIRREL ON KILLINEY HILL

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in partnership with the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) are restocking the red squirrel population on Killiney Hill, which has dropped to critically low levels. This is part of a local conservation project for our native red squirrel, which is threatened by the non-native grey squirrel. The red squirrels are to be held in enclosures for a couple of weeks prior to their release. Fifteen red squirrels will be translocated from Raven Nature Reserve in Wexford to Killiney Hill later this week. The work is being carried out under licence from NPWS and a company called Sciurus Ecological Solutions has been commissioned to provide technical advice and expertise. The Council are encouraging local people to get involved and support the project.

Anyone who would like to know more about the project can log on to

<http://www.dlrcoco.ie/Parks/redsquirrel.html> or

contact Mary Toomey, Biodiversity Officer on 01 2054773 or
email mttoomey@dlrcoco.ie.



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS



DCC Monthly Meeting Mon. 3 Sept
 Senior Citizens return OLH Chat, Bingo,
 cuppa & meet a new friend. All welcome.
 (2.30pm - 4.30pm) Tues. 25 Sept
Dalkey Ladies Club resumes at the earlier
time of 7:45pm. New members welcome
Thurs. 13 Sept

Hospice Coffee Morning (9:30am-1:00pm in
 Benitos) Unwanted gifts can be donated to the
 raffle. Call 087 973 2362. Thurs. 20 Sept
 Garden Reception and Presentation of awards
 (8pm-10pm in OLH) Fri. 21 Sept
 Sorting October Newsletter in OLH
 (1-2pm) Thurs. 27 Sept
DCC (Oct.) Meeting in OLH Mon. 1 Oct

EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH – Classes resume in September:

Pilates: Mon. 6pm. Heritage Centre. Tel: Lizanne Barry 087 8572408. E: lizanne.barry@gmail.com

Zumba Fitness : Town Hall, Thurs. 7pm. Tel: Lukasz: 085 216 33 04; E: info@zumbagalaxy.com

Karate sessions for all age groups @ 6-9pm Tues. & Thurs. Wayne Deegan: 086 857 2546

Dalkey Players If treading the boards or working backstage interests you Dalkey Players Drama group will be back in action on Tues. & Thurs. from beginning of September Contact Caroline Hickey 086 8092850 or check www.dalkeyplayers.ie for details.

St. Patrick's Dramatic Society Dalkey. Contact Deirdre 087-9566460 or check www.stpatsdramsoc.com for further information.

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

Cuala Set Dancing Classes: Every Sunday from 16th Sept. 8-10pm. €6 per night.

HOLY TRINITY KILLINEY – Mon. 3rd Sept. @ 7.30pm Table Tennis resumes new season. The Carry Hall, Killiney Hill Road. New members welcome. **Wed. 19th Sept. Holy Trinity Golf Outing** at Killiney Golf Club. Enquiries to Helen Irwin, 2801275. **Sat. 29th Sept. @ 8pm** Holy Trinity Church, Killiney Hill Rd.- An evening with classical guitarist Darragh O'Neill. Tickets available at door €20/€15 concessions.

Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival - Tues. 4th -Sun. 9th September. Dates announced by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council. This year's festival incorporates the **Poetry Now festival** for the first time. Location: various; Time: Various; Cost: Various. Further information is available on the website www.mountaintosea.ie and via Facebook and Twitter or via general enquiries : 01 2719531

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NO FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENTS	<i>Unless otherwise agreed with the Advertising Manager all Advertisements must be paid for in advance of publication.</i>		

DALKEY LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

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

LAST DAY for Articles only for next 2 issues: October: 10th Sept. 2012. November: 8th October 2012.

Last date for receipt of Advertisements: Oct.: 7th Sept.; Nov.: 5th Oct; Dec/Jan: 9th Nov. 2012.

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

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

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

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.

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Web: www.dalkeycommunitycouncil.com **Email:** coakley@ireland.com

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

After watching the Olympics I felt compelled to give credit where credit is due.

The BBC's coverage was superb, with no less than 24 different high definition channels set up to cover the event. From a technical view this was a huge challenge for the BBC, with hundreds of satellite links to broadcasters all over the world, and presenters from around the globe broadcasting back to their home station. My thought is now with the Brazilians who host the games in 2016, they certainly have their work cut out, as the BBC have set an extremely high standard.

*Ian Macdonald,
Maxtec Systems*



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