



DALKEY - Deilginis 'Thorn Island'
COMMUNITY COUNCIL
Irish Heritage Town

"Ireland's longest-running voluntary community newsletter"

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Bealtaine (May) 2021

Friendship in the Lockdown



See page 19

Photo: Hugh Fitzgibbon

With Dalkey Castle currently closed and hoping for a summer re-opening, it might be timely to look back over some previous plagues or pandemics. One year and counting into the Covid 19 pandemic, little did we realise that phrases such as *'Ring a Ring a Rosie'* and *'God Bless You'* on sneezing date back to times of plague.

Earliest references: Plagues and pandemics have been with us since time immemorial. In the Bible, when Pharaoh refused to set the Israelites free, God decided to punish him, sending ten plagues on to Egypt.

Plagues/ pandemics hit the world in three waves from the 1300s to the 1900s and killed millions of people. The first wave, called the Black Death in Europe, was from 1347 to 1351. The second wave in the 1500s saw the emergence of a new virulent strain of the disease. Another pandemic at the end of the 1800s spread across Asia and at last gave scientific medicine the opportunity to identify the cause of the disease and its means of transmission. The Spanish Flu 1918-1920 is still in the folk memory of our grandparents.

Locally, Dalkey Island was used as a place of refuge during various plagues, according to the Annals, when people fled from Dublin to the clear air of the island and lived there in tents.

Ring a Ring A Rosie: Aside from various potions, clearing the air was considered an effective remedy to the disease. Plague was thought to be spread by bad air, so homes were fumigated with incense or simply smoke from burning thatch. People carried bouquets of flowers which they held to their faces, not only to ward off the stench of decomposing bodies, but because it was thought this would fumigate one's lungs. This practice gave rise to the children's rhyme *'Ring a Ring a Rosie/a pocketful of posie/ A-tischoo, A-tischoo we all fall down'*. The *'fall down'* was used literally -to die. To this day, judges are still given a nose-gay to carry on ceremonial occasions as a protection against the plague!

God Bless You! One of the symptoms of the plague was coughing and sneezing. It is believed that Pope Gregory I (Gregory the Great) suggested saying *God Bless You* after a person sneezed in the hope that this prayer would protect them from an otherwise certain death. In any case, while we were all taught to say *Bless You* when someone sneezes as just good manners, next time you say it ponder a moment on the origin of its meaning.

The Black Death of 1347- 1351 is most commonly drawn upon as comparison for the current Covid 19 pandemic. According to Friar John Clyn, the Kilkenny-based Franciscan monk whose record is virtually the sole eye-witness account, it first appeared in Ireland at Howth or Dalkey (!), carried there (or here) by infected rats and their fleas in the holds of trading vessels or in merchandise.

Rupert the Archer strongly denies that the plague came in at Dalkey in his script of the Living History Tour at Dalkey Castle and needless to say, he firmly believes it came in at Howth! Friar Clyn says that it spread to Dublin and Drogheda by late July or early August. He reckons it was brought to Ireland on ships directly from the continent, probably from the region of Bordeaux.

The pestilence was highly contagious. Sometimes, whole families were locked into their tiny houses to try to keep the disease inside! In Dublin, once someone had succumbed to the plague, a white 'X' was painted on the front door so that everyone who passed knew the sickness was there.

Four Thieves' Vinegar: Various potions were tried such as a special blend of rosemary, clove, wormwood and other botanicals. Its name was inspired by the legend of four French thieves in the 15th century who wore a special blend of rosemary, clove and other botanicals while they robbed the dead and dying and never caught the plague themselves.



Dalkey Island, where people lived in times of plague. Photo: Kevin Glynn

When the authorities finally apprehended the individuals, they agreed to grant them their freedom in exchange for the recipe. They wrote it up and posted it on the walls of the city (Marseille) so every man could make it for himself. *Four Thieves Vinegar* is still made and used today in the practice of homeopathic medicine as an antibacterial agent, though no one in the modern-day claims it can cure the plague.

Public Health: A plague doctor would come to inspect suspected cases and isolate the infected and their families in their homes. The doctors are famously depicted in cloaks and hats with beaked masks (containing vinegar). These were thought to protect the wearer by blocking the disease or distancing the physician's face – especially the nose and mouth – from the infected patient. Their beak/ bird like appearance led to them being called *Quacks*.

The Barber Surgeon in the Dalkey Castle Living History tour is fully conversant with all of these cures as he lives in the 1530s in the reign of King Henry the Eighth. He uses Four Thieves Vinegar in his cures and wears a fumigant mask to purify the air. He advises visitors to do the same.

Plagues continued to destabilise and reduce populations into the modern day. Death toll from Covid 19 is around 3 million worldwide and rising. Today, however, unlike previous pandemics, we have good news in the form of vaccines...and as we go to print, queues are forming with arms out stretched and hopefully by June's Newsletter, we will be announcing Dalkey Castle re-opening dates and you can come to visit.

Margaret Dunne
Manager Dalkey castle & Heritage Centre

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❖ SUMMARY OF THE DCC ZOOM MEETING ❖

The Meeting was held on Wednesday 7th April 2021

Matters arising: When possible there have been Executive Meetings held during 2020 to monitor the finances, the production of the Newsletter and other local issues.

Newsletter: The team is working hard each month to keep the newsletter published. DCC appreciates all the contributors who submit articles and the continued support of the advertisers. Also all those who deliver the magazine and those retail outlets that keep copies for pick-up by their customers.

Sport: The Community Games have been holding online meetings. There are online events and it is hoped that the outdoor sports competitions will be held later in the year.

NW: There have been several break-ins and incidents of criminal damage in the Dalkey area. It is important to be on the alert for bogus callers and never allow unknown individuals into your home. Always remember to keep your personal data secure and only reveal it to a trusted source. As the better weather is approaching there will be more people out and about and it is important that everyone behaves in a responsible manner and afford the enjoyment of open space to all. Gardai encourage us to become good neighbours and keep an eye on vulnerable residents and report any suspicious activity in our areas – **(01) 666 5000**.

Planning: Here is a short summary of some of the applications for Dalkey.

- The decision for Bulloch Harbour is still with ABP.
- There is no decision from ABP on the Tramyard as this application was appealed by both the residents and the developer.
- The proposed nursing home at Ulverton/Harbour Road has been withdrawn by the developer, but a new similar application D21A/0304 has been lodged with DLR planning department.
- The proposal for a Strategic Housing Development at Dalkey Manor on Barnhill Road has still to be approved by ABP.
- The proposed Windfarm development has been flagged in the newsletter with attention being drawn to the proposed height of the turbines, proximity to the shore and environmental concerns.
- DCC will be making an observation to the proposed County Draft Plan 2022-2028.

The next Zoom Meeting will Tuesday 11th May at 7:30pm.

❖ DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL 2021 ANNUAL COLLECTION ❖

In the April edition we launched our appeal for our annual collection and we thank all those who have already contributed to it. As there will be no envelope collection again this year, we invite donors to contribute to our collection online or for those who are not comfortable with donating online please drop into the AIB, Castle Street, Dalkey where the Dalkey Community Council account is located. Lodgements can be made here or online using our BIC and IBAN.

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Dillon's Park, just below Coliemore Road, was targeted for upgrading just a few years ago by our Dalkey Tidy Towns team as an underused but beautiful space for all to enjoy. Now it is really coming in to its own and especially during the Covid Pandemic when we value open spaces even more. The work involved planting over 30 trees in and around the nature

reserve on the southern end, exposing the sea views along the shoreline, introducing Rosa Rugosa hedging all along the upper wall, installing the large Heritage Stone at the entrance and surrounding it with pollinating plants, excavating the hidden Well of Gailline and installing a little gate for safety, donating picnic benches and clearing graffiti from the granite boulders. DLRCC cuts the grass throughout the Summer months and DTT strims the lower areas which are out of reach for the mowers.

The real bonus is to see artists with their easels capturing the magic, families enjoying picnics - and of course weddings enjoying the beautiful setting.

Des Burke-Kennedy



Paget McCormack and Louisa Hickey making the most of their wedding day in Dillon's Park



Please join the DTT for a full Dalkey clean-up, all ages are welcome:

SATURDAY, MAY 2nd – ARCHBOLD'S CASTLE

ALL WILLING VOLUNTEERS ASSEMBLE AT 10.00am

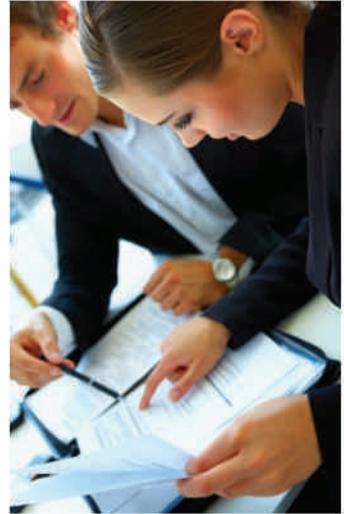
Litter pickers and refuse bags will be provided by Dalkey Tidy Towns.

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To the Editor,
Dalkey

Community Newsletter:

Further to the PR article by Dublin Array regarding building 45-61 windmills at 310 metres high (10 times the height of Kish Lighthouse) to be built on the Kish Bank in Dublin Bay.

The article makes no mention that Germany, Belgium and Netherlands have introduced 22 kilometre EXCLUSION zones for OFF SHORE Wind for good reason.

In fact, the map on the Dublin Array website indicates that there **IS ANOTHER shallow area approximately 20km out**, approximately 10km beyond the Kish Bank.

It makes no mention of the fact that **Wind energy is NOT Dependable and therefore FOSSIL FUEL POWER PLANTS are needed to supplement them**—they are constantly running in the background.

It makes no mention of the destruction of bird life “*The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates that between 140,000 and 500,000 bird deaths occur at wind farms each year. (1 Oct 2020).*”

It’s just one of several HUGE near shore windfarm projects that are being fast tracked ahead of adopting a Marine Spatial Plan and the Designation of Marine Protected Areas. Both require urgent legislative reform AHEAD of approving these commercial windfarm projects, as they would legislate for **in-depth public and environmental consultation**. Thank you for publishing these letters; we need to keep the discussion going!

R & L Connor, Dalkey



Dear Editor,

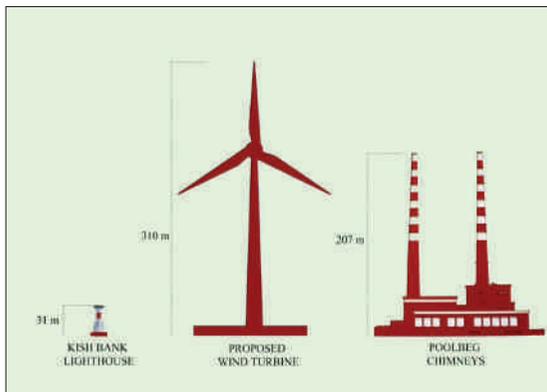
In response to your letter to the editor in the April edition from local residents, Colm & Dr. Kamila Torris in relation to the on-going issues of littering in Hyde Park.

I am pleased to inform your readers that following several requests from neighbours and local residents for the return of a much needed litter bin in Hyde Park, the Council has confirmed that they will finally be replacing this bin. This follows several requests that I have made since I have become a Local Councillor for our area. It is anticipated that a new bin location will be agreed upon and delivered during May.

The photographs, that Colm & Kamila included in their letter illustrates the problems of litter, not only in Hyde Park, but right across Dalkey. I would like to acknowledge the representations made by Colm & Dr. Kamila Torris and thank them and their neighbours for their engagement in relation to this issue. I look forward to DLR Parks meeting with concerned residents to address the ongoing concerns and indeed the long awaited bin for the area.

Yours sincerely,

Councillor Justin Moylan





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The swift housing project initiated by Dalkey resident Trish O’Leary was put slightly on hold last year and not as many nest boxes were able to be positioned as hoped due to pandemic restrictions.

A friend, Mark, had put up a double swift box in his own house in Wicklow town but one box had been occupied by a house sparrow and he was wondering whether he should do anything about it. I didn’t have an answer but knew someone who would, Lynda Huxley of Swift Conservation Ireland who has been giving

great support and advice to Trish and gave a fascinating lecture in the Heritage Centre a couple of years ago which included a live feed from some swift nest boxes. So I emailed Linda about the sparrow squatter and she promptly replied

‘No problem with the sparrow taking up residence from the swift’s point of view because if a swift finds the box and wants to use it then it will evict the sparrow.’

‘Yes it’s a common event and the swifts normally appreciate all the bedding taken in by the sparrows. I think he’s right to leave the sparrows to do their own thing because at least the boxes are being used to good purpose until swifts decide to use them’.

Lynda added ‘I had an example of great tits using an external swift nest box which had a camera fitted. We could see that they made a lovely mattress of moss and dry grass which the swifts moved in to and really appreciated. Last year at the built-in swift nest boxes at Castlebar Swimming Pool, blue tits took up residence in one box and that same box was later used by swifts. So, it seems that swifts like to use nest sites where other birds have already done the hard work of making a nest. I personally like the thought that the swift nest boxes are providing a home for other bird



A swift in flight and (below) young swifts in a nest box, photo courtesy Lynda Huxley of Swift Conservation Ireland



species until the swifts start to use them so this is an added bonus.’

So if you have swift boxes up and another species has moved in don’t worry, nature will take its course.

Years ago the local South Dublin Birdwatch branch had a nest box project where we’d position boxes in local parks and subsequently monitor them for occupancy and clean out and maintain the boxes between nesting seasons.

Mostly using boxes designed for Blue and Great Tits and also positioning a

few open fronted boxes, designed for robins or spotted flycatchers, which we would place hidden behind ivy. There was a very good occupancy with most of the blue tit boxes being used.

A few years later two of us branch members met the new park supervisor at the park to discuss how it could be further enhanced for wildlife.

We hadn’t been at the park for a while and as we passed a large wooded area I realised the other branch member was looking as dismayed as I was. We’d seen there were new nest boxes everywhere, some on trees almost adjoining other trees that already had boxes on them. Blue tits are very territorial and if two pairs nest too close to each other there could literally be feathers flying which was why we originally only put up the number of boxes we thought the area had capacity for. Some of the open front boxes had been repositioned on bare trunks or had the ivy stripped away from them leaving them totally undisguised and highly visible to people and predators not that any bird would probably now use them anyway.

The park supervisor hadn’t been responsible for the boxes overkill, someone else in the park had thought more boxes would increase

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the nesting potential whereas in fact it probably did the exact opposite. It was a real case of more being less but neither of us was willing to criticise the actions since they were evidently well intentioned.

The Guardian newspaper recently reported that Marks & Spencer had announced they were going to ‘do good for the environment’ by releasing 30 million honeybees into the countryside in the UK, having placed 1,000 hives on 25 farms to produce honey to sell to their customers as part of a Farming with Nature project.

A very worthwhile initiative you might have thought but instead it produced dismay, an immediate backlash and much criticism by many conservationists, especially ones involved in protecting insects who argued that huge numbers of introduced honeybees would outcompete native bumblebees and hoverflies in collecting nectar from available flowers. They said the priority should be restoring and creating the food sources for the pollinators, wild flowers, trees and hedgerows rather than artificially introducing commercially bred honeybees. An ‘opportunity missed by M&S, this is greenwashing or beewashing at its most blatant,’ tweeted the chief executive of the Bumblebee Conservation Trust.’ “It’s not natural at all – it’s farming,” said an ecologist and pollinator adviser adding the high street chain had got it “horribly wrong” A French study published in 2019 found that the spread of the European honeybee around the world threatens local biodiversity because they outcompete wild pollinators such as hoverflies, bumblebees and red mason bees.

I mentioned Blue Tits being very territorial. A nest box at the back of our house hosts a pair of blue tits every year. A few days ago we saw one was continually flying at our bedroom window, sometimes perching on the sill but usually fluttering on to the glass. Initially I hoped it might be feeding on tiny insects or their eggs but it soon became obvious it was almost certainly attacking its own reflection, and soon its mate joined in. Basically the birds were attacking themselves.



An Early Bumblebee, *Bombus pratorum*, about to collect nectar from the *Berberis darwinii*

We alternated closing the blinds with leaving them open and lighting a lamp behind the glass but nothing would deter the birds. Bird silhouette stickers are designed to stop birds hitting windows but since the bird (below) would attack the glass while I was standing behind it I didn’t think they’d be a deterrent. I’m not holding out any great hope for my latest effort, an owl shaped cushion standing on the sill inside the glass accompanied by a little soft toy cat. They’re now standing on duty, an owl and a pussycat probably doing little to keep the angry birds away.



You couldn’t put it better than ‘they’re not eejits’ which is what renowned naturalist Éanna Ní Lamhna said during a recent radio interview when talking about feeding birds in your garden after winter. A reason once cited not to feed birds in the summer was the concern that the parent birds would choke their young by feeding them peanuts but, as Éanna said so succinctly, they’re not stupid and they’ll only give suitable food, usually insects, to the young while availing of what’s in the feeders for themselves leaving them more time to search for the ‘baby’ food.

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A big ‘hello’ from all at Dalkey Library! We hope that everyone has been keeping well. We’ve certainly missed trading recommendations and chatting with our community every day. To get back into the swing of things, we wanted to ensure that everyone was getting full usage of their library membership- did you know that you can download books, audiobooks, newspapers and magazines directly to your device at home? If you have a library membership (or would like to set one up) and need a bit of assistance accessing your online library, you can contact us for a **tutorial session** over the phone. We’re also offering help with joining Zoom- the video chat programme many have been using to stay in touch with loved ones online. Eventually, we’re hoping to grow our online tutorial drive into a community-led programme, but for now don’t hesitate to give us a call or email us if you’re interested in a tutorial session, need on-the-spot help, or if you know anyone who could use a hand with downloading a good book, audiobook, magazine or newspaper. You’re also welcome to send us a short review for our social media channels if you’ve read something from our digital library that you recommend! Have you heard about the national **Grow It Forward** campaign? In partnership with Healthy Ireland and Libraries Ireland through the Government of Ireland’s Keep Well initiative, 50,000 seed packs are being given away, with participants being asked to share the experience with ten people. Contact us with your phone number and postal address and as soon as we reopen, we’ll post your free pack of seeds.



You may also be interested to know that dlr Libraries still have events scheduled! Visit our website to browse upcoming **online workshops** or talks for all ages.

If you have items borrowed from 2020, don’t worry, we’ve already renewed them for you and know that our items are in good hands until we can welcome you back to the library. To keep up with the latest dlr Library news, chat and fun, follow our social media channels @dlrlibraries. Please direct any queries to 01-2855277 or via email to dalkeylib@dlrcoco.ie. Keep well and we hope to see you soon!

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Harold
Boys
happy to be back
at school



Photo to HBS



The Long-Awaited Return to School

We were so glad to welcome our boys from 2nd class back to school on Monday, 1st of March. It was a unique time in our school – our school only has boys in 2nd-6th class, and so we had just one class back for these two weeks. This created much excitement

among the boys, in particular that they got the whole school-yard to themselves. The school felt a little empty for that fortnight and the boys were ready to see their older peers.

On Monday 15th of March, the rest of our classes, 3rd – 6th, returned to school. On the morning we had some balloons and ‘Welcome Back’ banners on display to show the boys how happy we were to see them all again. Our teachers and SNAs had been in regular contact with the boys on Zoom, Seesaw and Edmodo, but nothing quite compares to that face to face interaction (even with masks!).

Remote learning proved to be challenging at times during the schools’ closure. The class-teachers managed to move along with the curriculum, but the boys were eager to get back to school to see their friends and to have a new place to go each day. It is great to be back!

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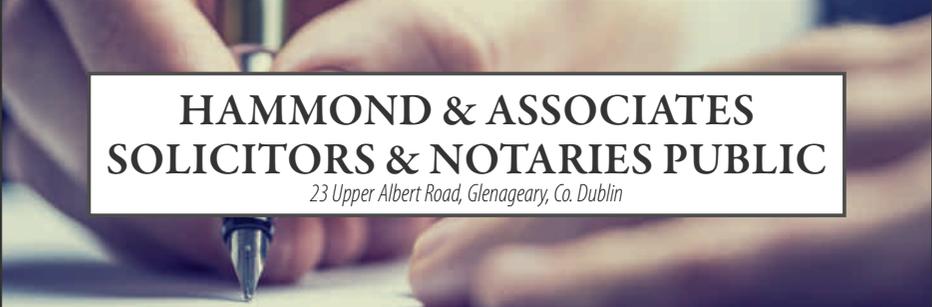
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Friendships in a Lockdown

During Covid friendship has probably been one of the most important things. Over the last few months there have been many places where I have experienced friendship.

On the 17th March or better known as St. Patrick's Day, I saw friendship in a whole new light! While watching all the different buildings and monuments being lit up in green all over the world, I realised that after the Famine when Irish people emigrated or when they chose to leave Ireland that St. Patrick's Day brings a sense of friendship from everybody worldwide, whether they are choosing to celebrate our Irish culture or not.

Another way I've seen friendship is with our pets.

They say dogs can be really good for relaxing and calming people but I think that whatever animal you love can do that for you. Spending more time at home with my two dogs, a rescue whippet called "Nessa" and a Labrador/Alsatian cross called "Elmo" has definitely helped me through lockdown especially on the days I didn't want to go for a walk or "W" if your dogs are like mine and you can't say walk in front of them. After everything the country has been through I have formed a special bond with my dogs and I feel lots of people have created that special bond too.



One other friendship I'd like to talk about is my sister Nelly. Before lockdown we didn't do anything together even though we live under the same roof. Now we walk the dogs together, we go to the shops together and watch TV together. I couldn't have gotten through everything without her and I love her very, very much.



By Faye Fitzgibbon

Dalkey School Project 6th Class

Photos: DSP

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Weeks 10-13 2021 8/3/2021 to 2/4/2021

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

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

Reg. Ref.: D16A/0005/E **Application Rec'd Date:** 12-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: David Murphy, Site at 23 Whites Villas, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for the demolition of an existing 9 sqm single storey rear extension, the construction of a single storey 5.8 sqm extension to the front and 45.47 sqm two storey extension to the rear consisting of 25.15 sq metres at ground floor level and 20.32 sq metres at first floor level, the application of external insulation and all associated elevational and landscaping works. All on a site of 176 sq metres.

Application Type: Extension of Duration of Permission.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0216 **Application Rec'd Date:** 16-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Gary McGuire and Orla McCabe, 1, Dalkey Grove, Dalkey, A96 Y103,

Proposal: Permission for the provision of the following, including all associated site-works; a) A ground floor extension (9sq.m.) with a first floor extension (15sq.m.) over, to the side and front, with front facing roof-lights. b) A relocation/centering of the front door to the dwelling, and alterations to the fenestration to the side and rear. c) A new vehicular entrance on the north eastern side boundary. d) A raising to 1.8m of the side boundary (1.2m wall with a 0.6m fence on top) from the new vehicular entrance to the front building line of the existing dwelling. e) A widening of the existing vehicular entrance on the north western boundary. f) The construction of two balconies at first floor level facing north east and north west.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0219 **Application Rec'd Date:** 18-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Patrick Riordan and Emmet Riordan, 60 Saint Begnet's Villas, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for new vehicular entrance to include removal of pedestrian gate, section of wall, repositioning of original piers, dishing of footpath and associated site works.

Reg. Ref. D21A/0227 **Application Rec'd Date:** 22-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Shane Rushe, 39 Castle Street, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for change of use from the existing retail premises for the sale of ice cream including all internal modifications, customer service area, retail counter, internal door to lobby to be blocked up, modifications to the existing building facade, including a new external glazed door dedicated to the ice cream shop with new signage over and all ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0236 **Application Rec'd Date:** 23-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Sarah Jane O'Connor, 42a Castle Street, Dalkey. A96 CX44

Proposal: Permission is sought for extensive upgrading works to the existing residential accommodation. This work is to include partial demolition and rebuilding in an altered state, of the rear return, a full remodelling and fabric upgrading to the internal layout and an additional floor area of 35m² of extended residential accommodation at Ground and first floor levels. No works are envisaged to the front facade or to the Shop Unit at GFL.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0239 **Application Rec'd Date:** 24-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Mark & Claire Homan, Clooneva, Rockfort Avenue, Dalkey, A96 X896.

Proposal: Permission is sought for the following works: 1. Demolition of the two storey rear return and construction of new two storey extension and single storey extension to the rear. 2. Demolition of part two storey part single storey side extension and replacement with new part two storey part single storey side extension in its place. 3. Internal alterations. 4. New window to east elevation of existing house. 5. Inclusion of 6 no. roof lights. 6. Site landscaping to front garden including new driveway and alterations to front boundary wall and provision for new manual gates providing vehicular access to street. 7. Demolition of existing garage and construction of new garage in its place and associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0065 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date:** 24-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Gas Networks Irl., Barnhill Rd DR1ug, Barnhill Rd, Bullock.

Proposal: Permission for the installation of a 4.05m x 1.1m x 2.2m (LxWxH) above ground enclosure, to house a new natural gas District Regulating Installation with all ancillary services and associated site works to replace the existing below ground natural gas regulating unit.

Reg. Ref.: D20A/0545 **Application Rec'd Date:** 5-Aug-2020

Applicant Name & Location: Kathleen & Ruairi Cahill 'Kephas', 4 Corrig Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought. The proposed development consist of; (i) demolition of existing single storey extension to rear and chimney to side; (ii) construction of a part single-storey/part two-storey extension with rooflights to rear and side if existing dwelling with mono-pitch roof to single-storey element; (iii) existing side dormer window to attic to be enlarged to accommodate new attic stairs; (iv) new attic dormer window to rear; (v) new attic velux window to front; (vi) new agreed boundary treatment along boundary with no. 6 and no. 8 Corrig Road. Other works include; alterations to all Page 3 of 27 elevations, landscaping, boundary treatments all necessary ancillary works to facilitate the development. **Application Type:** Add. Information Rec'd (New Adds): 01-Apr-2021.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0261 **Application Rec'd Date:** 31-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: John Wilson & Christine O'Rourke , 29, Church Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for development. The development will consist of: 1. Demolition of side gable wall, side garage structure, rear conservatory extension and partial demolition of existing pitched roof. 2. Construction of a new side extension matching the existing pitched roof including 'velux' rooflights to the front and rear. 3. Extending and refurbishment of existing roof dormers to the front and rear. 4. Construction of a new single storey flat roof extension to the rear. 5. Elevational alterations and internal alterations and modifications to accommodate new internal layout. 6. Alterations to landscaping including widening of existing vehicular entrance, drainage works and ancillary and associated works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0265 **Application Rec'd Date:** 31-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Savalside Ltd. Caldragh, Saval Park Road, Dalkey, A96 ET93

Proposal: Permission for alterations to the apartment block which formed part of the granted planning permission, Ref. Number: D19A/0561. Alterations include the introduction of a new high-level window at second floor level, on the west elevation of unit 11, and proposed new stone cladding finish to the right of the front entrance door at ground floor level.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0270 **Application Rec'd Date:** 01-Apr-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Name Michael Good, Site at rere of, 44-45, Castle St. Dalkey

Proposal: Permission for a two-storey, three bed, end of terrace house previously given an intention to grant permission by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (P/1668/19) but refused a grant of permission by An Bord Pleanala (305227-19). Proposal to include minor changes to site layout of overall terrace and to provide three new pedestrian accesses from the terrace to laneway off Castle Street and with main access via Castle Cove, Supervalu carpark. Proposal to include ancillary site works

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0274 **Application Rec'd Date:** 01-Apr-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Gerry Kelly, The Coach House, Victoria Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for amendments to previously approved planning permission ref: D13A/0287/E including modifications to the approved floor plans, lowering the window cills on the two ground floor windows of the existing former coach house, a single storey extension (28sqm) to the approved living room area on the North West facade into the walled garden courtyard, the construction of a dormer window at roof level on the North East facade, revised Green roof plan and rooflight positions, ancillary landscaping and site development works.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0155 **Application Rec'd Date:** 31-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Jean Moran, 25, Hyde Park, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for development. The development will consist of 1. First floor extension over the existing ground floor side extension. 2. New 'velux' type rooflights to the side and rear of existing and new pitched roof. 3. Elevational alterations, ancillary and associated works.

PLANNING DECISIONS Wks 10-13 8/3/2021 to 2/04/2021

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0026 **Decision:** Refuse Permission **Date:** 11-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Bartra Property Ltd., c. 0.6 Ha site 'Yonder', (previously demolished), Ulverton Road and 'Maple Tree House', Bulloch Harbour, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for development comprising the former residence. the development will consist of the demolition of the existing 2 storey dwelling 'Maple Tree House' (c.289 sq m) and the removal of the foundation slab of the previously demolished 'Yonder' and the construction of a 104 No. bedroom nursing home, ranging in height from part-two to part-five storey (total gross floor area measures 5,618.40 sq m). The development will also include the provision of a vehicular entrance off Ulverton Road and the spur off Harbour Road; ca and bicycle parking; green roofs; PV panels; ancillary signage; boundary treatments; hard and soft landscaping; plant; lighting; changes in level; and all other associated site works above and below ground.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0037 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 12-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Dalkey Pharmacy Ltd. Nos. 2 & 3, Railway Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for development. The development will consist of: Amalgamation of No. 2 (retail unit) & NO. 3 (Dalkey Pharmacy) with the construction of a single storey link extension in the courtyard to the rear / side of both premises; Including the part demolition of rear/side external walls of both premises to facilitate the interconnection. To provide an extended pharmacy / retail use in No. 2 with patient consultation room and office space including new / relocated stairs to access existing attic storage. Alteration of existing front elevation / shopfront of No. 2 to include lowering of parapet height, new shopfront including fascia / signage, lighting and replacement shop window and entrance door. All associated internal demolition, fitout, finishes and layout alterations.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0184 **Decision:** Declare Applic Invalid **Date:** 12-Mar-2021
Applic, Name & Location: Savalside Ltd., Caldragh, Saval Park Rd, Dalkey, A96 ET93
Proposal: Permission for alterations to the apartment block which formed part of the granted planning permission, Ref. Number: D19A/0561. Alterations include the introduction of anew high-level window at 2nd floor level, on the west elevation of unit 11.

Reg. Ref.: D20A/0854 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 19-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Mark and Sarah Fitzpatrick, 12, Old Quarry, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is being sought for the relocation of vehicular entrance and driveway, new front boundary wall, alteration of north elevation, change of roof finishes, single storey extensions to the front, rear and sides and the addition of a 1st floor to existing single storey house and the lowering of ground levels and all ancillary site services.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0061 **Decision:** Refuse Permission **Date:** 19-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Brendan Seaver, Odessa, Ardeevin Road, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for the demolition of existing single storey pitched roof return to the rear and single storey bay window to the side and construction of a dormer roof extension to the front and rear at first floor level with new recessed terrace to the rear, existing 2no. flat roof bays to the front to form terraces and associated internal modifications, fenestration and elevation modifications and all associated site works to facilitate the development including a free standing store at the vehicular entrance. Demolition of the existing kitchen to the side, subdivision of the site and vehicular lay-bys on existing driveway were permitted under reg ref : D20A/0703.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0015 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date:** 16-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Rudi & Jessica Neuman, 34, Hyde Park, Dalkey. A96E2H1
Proposal: Permission is sought for the construction of a two-storey extension to the side and part first-floor extension to the rear (total 75.2 sq.m) with pitched roof to match existing, rooflights and PV panels, and all associated site development works

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0073 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 24-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Mr. Edward Doyle, Units 1-4, The Courtyard, Rear 19, Castle Street Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for the partial yet extensive demolition of the existing office units numbers. The works are to consist of: The reconstruction of the existing accommodation in an altered state to provide a Change of Use to 1 ground floor office to provide for an Office/ Shop unit and the provision of 3 extended office units all reconstructed and remodelled providing new facades and upgraded & additional floor space on 2 and 3 levels accessed from the existing courtyard & by a new external staircase.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0079 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date:** 26-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Stephen O’Dea, 21, Castle Street, Dalkey, A96F9D3.
Proposal: Permission for the following development. Change of use from commercial to residential use, as 2 apartments (including associated works): Apartment 1 (1 bed) to be 45 sq.m. at 1st floor level. Apartment 2 (one bed) to be 66 sq.m. duplex at 1st and loft levels. (including minor modifications to 10 sq.m. ground floor access level and entrance door).

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0084 **Decision:** Request Add. Information **Date:** 26-Mar-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Jarlath & Susan O’Leary, Site of approx. 1,588 sqm, at the site to be known as, Imladris, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey, bounded to the south by an existing dwelling known as Scarsdale, (Eircode A96C425), and to the North and North west, by Killiney Hill Park
Proposal: Permission for development. The proposed development shall provide for the clearance of the existing site and the construction of 1 no. residential unit (c.734sqm) and including associated garage (c.56qm) within the lower ground floor. The residential

development proposed comprises a 6-bedroom residential unit with associated private garden to the rear, garden terraces at ground, first and second floor level and the provision of PV panels on the sedum roofs. The unit is one to three storeys in height over lower ground floor. The development will include lower ground floor level car parking for three cars and a lift from the lower ground to the second floor. A new access point for pedestrians and vehicles will be provided on to Dalkey Avenue as part of the proposal with a new automatic steel gate (approx 2.7m in height) and stone piers. The development will also include all associated site development works above and below ground including site services and landscape works.

Applicant Name & Location: The Board of Management of Loreto Abbey Secondary School, Loreto Avenue, off Harbour Road, Dalkey, A96 YC81 Loreto Abbey is a Protected Structure (RPS 1445).

Proposal: Permission for development. Permission is sought for the upgrade of existing recreational area to provide a synthetically surfaced practice hockey pitch c.2,500m²; adjoining four lane athletics track (c.220m²) above a modified granular sub-base; a 1.8m perimeter fence spanning approximately 330m; 6 no. proposed floodlight columns at 12m in height, with upgrades to existing floodlighting components; and all associated site and engineering works to facilitate the Proposed Development. The proposed development is adjacent to but outside of the curtilage of Loreto Abbey. A Natura Impact Statement (NIS) accompanies this application.

Reg. Ref. D21A/0249 **Decision:** Declare Applic. Invalid **Date:** 1-Apr-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Marzena and David Maxwell, 31, St. Begnets Villas, Dalkey, A96KT53

Proposal: Permission is sought for a development consisting of: (1.) Demolition of shed to rear of house. (2.) Construction of a rear two-storey extension to house a bedroom, and an office at first floor level and a kitchen-dining- Page 22 of 27 family room at ground floor level, (3.) Alterations to entrance area window and door arrangements, (4.) Widening of front vehicular access gates to 3.4m width, (5.) A pedestrian gate from the rear garden onto Hyde Park and (6.) Ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref. D21B/0031 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 30-Mar-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Elenaor Denny, Doonecoy, Castlepark Road, Sandycove, A96Y9K8

Proposal: Permission for a two-storey side extension to the existing dwelling containing an extended kitchen, utility, boot room and wc/shower room, with master bedroom suite over, the replacement of existing windows and front bay, a new entrance door and canopy and associated external works.

Appeals Notified by An Bord Pleanála Wks. 10-14 8/3/2021 to 2/4/2021

None for Dalkey

Appeals Decision by An Bord Pleanála Wks. 10-13 1/3/21 to 26/3/21

Reg. Ref.: D20B/0370 **Appeal Decision:** Withdrawal of Appeal **Appeal Decided** 10-Mar-'21. **Council's Decision:** Grant Permission.

Location: Woodmere, 2, Hyde Park, Dalkey, Glenageary. A96A2H3

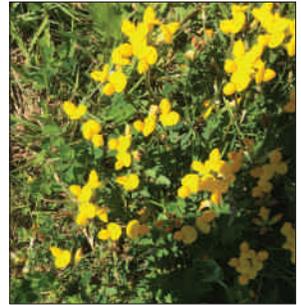
Proposed Development: Permission for works to an existing house. The development will consist of the renovation and alteration of the existing house, including part demolition and the addition of a new single storey extension to the side and rear, increasing the overall floor area from 201 sqm to 222 sqm. Permission is also sought for all associated site development works. **Applicant:** Maurice & Karen Johnson.

Reg. Ref.: D20A/0521 **Appeal Decision:** Withdrawal of Appeal **Appeal Decided:** 16-3-'21.
Council's Decision: Grant Permission. **Location:** 7 Tubbermore Road, Dalkey. A96 Y5D1
Proposed Development: Permission for development consisting of the removal of existing partly demolished structures in rear garden, and the refurbishment, extension & alteration of existing terraced dwelling house comprising rear single storey extension for new kitchen, utility, wc, dining & living room, & refurbishment of existing dwelling to provide two bedrooms, bathrooms, office & associated internal & external alterations, all arranged around new courtyard garden, alterations to existing rear access to mews laneway and associated works to landscaping, drainage, boundaries etc. **Applicant:** Gillian Keily.

OUR GARDENER



Our gardener,
PHILIPPA THOMAS
is taking a break from writing our garden articles but hopes to return in September. We hope she enjoys her break and we look forward to her return in the autumn.



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Seachtain na Gaeilge in Loreto

For St. Patrick's Day this year in Loreto, the Student Council organised a whole school video. We asked the students to send in either a photo or a video of themselves doing an Irish activity.

The students sent in videos of baking, dancing, singing, playing instruments, Irish sports and many more. Ms. Quinn and the Student Council compiled all the videos and photos. We had a whole school assembly on Zoom, where we showed the video. Everyone loved it. We also had a 'dress in green' day, where you could wear green, from jumpers to accessories and T-shirts to hair bobbins. Even the teachers dressed up!

We held St. Patrick's Day art competitions. The junior end had a colouring competition and the senior end had a Seanfhocail competition, where we could write an Irish proverb and decorate it. All the entries were ar fheabhas! There was one winner in each class. Each winner won a goodie bag.

During Seachtain na Gaeilge, we all made an effort to speak Irish. Each class did fun activities in Irish, like games and quizzes. We all had a great time even with the restrictions. *Tá súil agam go raibh Lá Fhéile Pádraig iontach agaibh go léir!*

By Tiana Murphy and Sophie Hefferon (Student Council)



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Q. I have been experiencing a change in the way I feel and am very thirsty, I have been waking at night needing to go to the toilet more

A. The symptoms you are describing are common symptoms related to diabetes so I would recommend making an appointment with your GP to have your blood sugar levels checked.

There are two types of diabetes that result in too high levels of sugar in the blood. The level of sugar in your blood is controlled by a hormone called insulin which is produced by your pancreas.

When you eat food and it is broken down into your bloodstream, Insulin moves glucose from this food out of the blood and into your cells where it is used to make energy. But in Diabetes, the body cannot break down the glucose in the bloodstream, either because there is not enough insulin or because the insulin produced does not work properly.

In Type 1 diabetes the body is not capable of producing insulin as the body's own immune system has attacked and destroyed the cells that make insulin.

In Type 2 diabetes the body does not produce enough insulin, or the cells no longer react as efficiently to the insulin.

The main symptoms of diabetes are:

- Feeling very thirsty
- Excessive tiredness
- Slow healing cuts or wounds
- More frequent urination especially at night
- Weight loss and loss of muscle bulk
- Blurred vision

Once diagnosed with diabetes a healthy diet with regular exercise is recommended. Exercise has an independent effect at reducing blood sugar levels. There is no cure for diabetes – the treatment aims to manage the blood sugar levels to as normal a level as possible and try to prevent future complications.

Type 1 diabetes is treated with insulin injections for the rest of your life and requires regular testing of the blood glucose levels. A combination of insulins may be required, some long and some short acting to mimic your body's natural insulin response more closely.

Type 2 diabetes is normally first tackled with targeting three areas – diet, weight management and exercise in the hope of controlling or reversing the condition. However medication may be needed to control the blood sugar levels. This can involve one or more oral tablets.

Ongoing high blood sugar levels can impact on your heart, eyes, feet and nerve endings. It is important to have regular foot check-ups with a podiatrist, diabetic retinopathy screening and heart health checks. You may be put on preventive heart medication to prevent cardiac complications from developing such as cholesterol, blood pressure or blood thinning medications.

Any issues you have should be discussed with your GP, Pharmacist or Diabetic Nurse.

If you have any questions you would like answered please email us on maxwell.dalkey@gmail.com and put Dalkey Newsletter in the message subject line.





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Due to Government restrictions on public meetings, indoor gatherings and non-essential travel as a public health measure to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the following events are being held online or via Zoom - donation/charge may apply.

Tuesday 4th at 7 pm: Fiona Fitzsimons will present a Fingal Libraries Family History Genealogy live Webinar covering ‘*Evidence in census records*’ - access via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/family-history-and-genealogy-talk-with-fiona-fitzsimons-eneclann-part-4-tickets-137600076533>

Thursday 6th at 8 pm: Christopher Moriarty will present ‘*The History of the Irish Quakers*’ to the Mount Merrion Historical Society - members only.

Tuesday 11th at 7 pm: Fiona Fitzsimons will present a Fingal Libraries Family History Genealogy live Webinar covering ‘*Evidence in gravestones and burial records*’ - access via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/family-history-and-genealogy-talk-with-fiona-fitzsimons-eneclann-part-5-tickets-137600427583>

At 8 pm: Tony Keane will present ‘*The Vartry to Stillorgan Water Works*’ to the Foxrock Local History Club - access via info@foxrocklocalhistory.ie

Wednesday 12th at 7.30 pm: Liz Gillis will present ‘*The Burning of the Custom House, Dublin, May 25th 1921*’ to the Old Dublin Society - members only.

Friday 14th at 8 pm: Anthony Kinsella will present ‘*The Evacuation plan for Dublin during the Emergency*’ to the Military History Society of Ireland - members only.

Tuesday 18th at 7 pm: Fiona Fitzsimons will present a Fingal Libraries Family History Genealogy live Webinar covering ‘*Evidence in newsprint*’ - access via <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/family-history-and-genealogy-talk-with-fiona-fitzsimons-eneclann-part-6-tickets-137600754561>.

At 8 pm: Liz Gillis will present ‘*The burning of the Customs House, Dublin*’ to the Foxrock Local History Club - access via info@foxrocklocalhistory.ie.

Wednesday 26th at 11 am: The Genealogical Society will host its ‘*May Open Morning Meeting*’ on Zoom - members only.

Thursday 27th at 7 pm: Cathy Scuffil will present ‘*Dublin’s Housing Crisis in Revolutionary Times, 1915-1923*’ to the Rathmines, Ranelagh & Rathgar Historical Society - members only.

The Atmospheric Railway

In September 1842 the Dublin & Kingstown Railway announced that construction on the Kingstown to Dalkey atmospheric railway would commence immediately. Samuda Brothers were awarded the contract for the 100 hp pump house at Dalkey; William Dargan the contract for the construction of earthworks, with the D & K providing the rails and carriages. Pipes were to be laid from the pump house in Dalkey towards Kingstown and tested at intervals to ensure air tightness. The line was scheduled to commence operation on May 1st 1843 but for a variety of reasons did not open to the public until March 29th 1844. Of all the atmospheric railways built in Britain and Ireland, where it was the only one built, the Dalkey to Kingstown line was the most successful and operated for nearly 10 years whereas those in Britain ceased operation within two years of opening.

Publications

‘*The Quiet Captain: An Irish Seaman in War and Peace*’ by Rorke Bryan,
published by Tellwell Talent, ISBN 978-0-2288-1499-3.

Dalkey’s Dr. John De Courcy Ireland, one of Ireland’s foremost maritime historians, always maintained that as a nation we neglected our maritime heritage and never honoured the men of the Irish Mercantile Marine for their heroic service during the years of the 1939-



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45 Emergency for keeping the nation supplied with essential items by engaging in deep sea and long distance voyages using ships fit only for the coastal and cross-channel routes.

Biographies of Irish mariners during the First and Second World Wars are few and far between so this book excellently written by Rorke Bryan about his father Captain George Bryan, who died prematurely in January 1948, aged 54, covering his experience during the First World War, the Inter-War years and during the Emergency, with illustrations by Maurice Bryan, is especially welcome and extremely illuminating as it provides the reader with a fascinating insight into what it was like to be a mariner during the period.

George Bryan was born in Dublin in August 1893, the youngest of eight children and although he was indentured as a drapery assistant with Brown Thomas & Co in Dublin's Grafton Street, he always wanted to go to sea and in 1914 was apprenticed to the Irish Shipowners Company in Belfast, better known as the Lord Line, but his service on the North Atlantic routes was curtailed due to the death of his father in 1915 and when he returned to service discovered that his ship the *Lord Antrim* had been requisitioned for war service so he joined the *Rathlin Head* operated by the Ulster Steamship Company, known as the Head Line and completed 10 round trips on her until he transferred to the *Inishowen Head* and then to the *Torr Head* before returning to the latter vessel which struck a mine and sank off the Pembrokeshire coast on February 14th 1917 with the loss of one crew member.

Unable to obtain a position as a deck office on another Head Line ship, he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve as a Sub-Lieutenant as the Royal Navy had a great need of experienced officers to man naval escort and patrol vessels and trained as a Hydrophone Officer with the chapter 'Hunting U-Boats with the Northern Patrol' giving a very concise description of the submarine war at that time.

Released from the Royal Navy in 1919, he returned to the Head Line but was seconded to Palgrave Murphy in 1925 and after receiving his Master's Certificate in 1927 returned to the Head Line and the chapter '*Peacetime through the Great Depression*' contains a fascinating insight into the way the shipping industry operated during this period and some of the voyages that Bryan took part in. In 1932 Captain Bryan moved to Palgrave Murphy where he was appointed Master of the *City of Antwerp* and later moved to the *City of Ghent* and following a voyage to Tangiers in 1935 was appointed Master of the *City of Bremen* on which he was to serve for the next seven years. An attempt to come ashore in 1937 by applying for the post of Dun Laoghaire Harbour Master was unsuccessful so he remained at sea.

The *City of Bremen* was sunk with no loss of life on June 2nd 1942 by a German aircraft off the Scilly Isles while en-route from Lisbon to Dublin with a cargo of grain. In addition to Maurice Bryan's image of this attack, the cover features another image of this attack by the maritime artist Kenneth King. Despite a protest from the Irish authorities the German government denied responsibility and refused to pay compensation. Moving to the *City of Dublin* Captain Bryan served with this ship for the remainder of the WW2 years and afterwards to 1947 until his death in January the following year at the early age of 54 following the onset of a sudden cardiac condition. This may have been due to the sustained incessant strain that captains like Captain Bryan had to ensure by sailing through war zones without modern navigation aids where they faced the additional threats from submarines, aircraft and mines in addition to the customary marine hazards of violent gales, poorly-charted coasts and shifting sands. It should not be forgotten that the crews of these ships also suffered from these stresses.

James Scannell

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A new book on Dalkey man Mathew Cullen

Dalkey man's memoir to be published soon the life and times of Mathew Cullen who owned the Colamore Hotel, later the Dalkey Island Hotel will be published later this year. The book, entitled *A Leaf in the Wind* (Gregmar Books), starts with an account of Cullen's early years in the Co. Louth village of Castlebellingham, before his family's move to the outskirts of Dublin in 1908 - to Portobello, then known as 'Little Jerusalem'. After his father, Patrick Cullen, a publican and businessman, died suddenly at the age of 38, Mathew's mother Caroline (nee Hoysted) was left penniless with four young mouths to feed and another on the way. The family returned to live in

Castlebellingham but money shortages saw Mathew being sent to St. Saviour's Boys Orphanage in Dublin, a harsh, Dickensian-style institution. The book details Mathew's daring escape from the city centre orphanage and how he used the north Dublin railway line to find his way back home to Castlebellingham on foot - much to the surprise of his mother. He also recounts his time in New York in the 1920s. He later shares his sporting achievements, not least his success in local, provincial and international athletics. He went on to serve in public life on the Fianna Fáil national executive and as a Dublin city and local county councillor. His memoir also revolves around his experiences as an owner of men's shops in Dalkey after World War II and living locally on Sorrento Road and Hyde Park. He headed up the local LDF Company during the Emergency years. He was hired by Bord Fáilte as a tourist guide escorting overseas film crews and anglers to suitable locations around the country and was owner of the Colamore Hotel in Dalkey in the 1950s. He was a keen golfer and all year round sea swimmer. Mathew Cullen was married with eight children. He died in 1991, age 86.

A Leaf in the Wind - An Irishman's Memoir

is published by Gregmar Books and was adapted and edited by Michael Cullen, Mathew's youngest son.



Mathew Cullen during his days working with Bord Fáilte

❖ NATURE EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH ❖

South Dublin BirdWatch Branch Summer Events

Our May 'indoor' talk will be presented as Webinars using Zoom. Links to access each will be circulated via the branch's mailing list. If you received our Newsletter you are on the list, alternatively if you would like to be added to the branch mailing list please email secretary@southdublinbirds.com with your email details.

Tuesday 4th May – Zoom talk at 8pm – Swift Conservation by Edward Meyer

Zoom Link: will be sent to your email address approx. 2 days before each talk

❖ NEWS FROM CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION DALKEY ❖

Easter is upon us, the high point of the Christian year. Alleluia! Come to think of it 'Alleluia' is said so quickly and often without thought. The word is supposed to express how important resurrection is to us Christians. As we move from the darkness of Good Friday, we feel all well – chosen words are useless to describe the wonder and joy of the risen Christ, our true morning Sun.

Alleluia has accompanied the church since its early days. Through the ups and downs of over two thousand years, it has been sung over and over again in the cathedrals and country churches of the entire world. Alleluia is a Hebrew word and the church has treasured it down the centuries as a reminder that so much of its heritage is rooted in the Jewish soil. The word is a cry of jubilation meaning "Praise the Lord" and occurs frequently in the psalms. We Christians struggle to adequately describe the amazing Mystery we celebrate at Easter. Our usual intelligible vocabulary is inadequate, so let us stammer in amazement like little ones and really appreciate the rich origins of this beautiful word the next time we sing it or even say it. *Alleluia!*

May is the month when we traditionally spend a little more time thinking about the privileged position Mary has in God's plan for the salvation of the world. It is important that we continue this tradition. We think of Mary who can intercede for us at all times, but especially as our world struggles with the ravages of the pandemic. The rosary is recited over the webcam each day after Mass. Each mystery leads us through many key moments in the life of Mary. Maybe at Angelus time we could pause to think about the Angels visit to Mary, her 'yes' to the message and the moment of Jesus birth. These are all key moments found in the Bible.

Sacramental Celebrations

At the moment there is still much uncertainty as to when churches can reopen in safety. This is being monitored closely by the Diocese. We may soon be able to welcome small congregations back to our ceremonies. When this happens, numbers will be much reduced, probably something similar to when we reopened last summer. Regarding the celebration of sacraments, we will be communicating with the parents of 2020 First Communicants and the 2021 candidates for First Communion and Confirmations in a letter from the parish through the schools.

Fr. Declan Gallagher

We are delighted to hear from many parishioners who have successfully received vaccinations and can now venture out a little more. This beautiful weather brings us all hope, the sun is warm and new growth is well underway.

Recording on the webcam – It is now possible to record Masses and services in our Church. Recordings will remain on our website for one week so that parishioners can watch them in their own time. Just click 'webcam' and 'recordings' on our website, www.dalkeyparish.ie.

Virtual Eucharistic Adoration – If you are unable to go to church for weekly adoration, why not click on <https://virtualadoration.home.blog/> and join in from your home, where Jesus is waiting for you. "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest" Mt 11: 28.

 **Alpha Course 'Come as you are'**. What is Alpha? Alpha is an 11 week course where people meet, once a week, to watch a talk and join conversations about faith, life and God. It has never been easier to join an Alpha series. We are now running Alpha online in Dalkey and we would love for you to join our post-Easter course. Please contact us at alphadalkey@gmail.com to register your interest.

Caitriona, Dalkey Parish Office office@dalkeyparish.ie

A MAY REFLECTION

So where did that year go?! As we enter the month of May, memories come flooding back of childhood and yes, you've guessed it.... the May Processions. Were they really always beautiful blue skied sunny days - it seems so.

Assembling in groups, of course in our 'SUNDAY best' (remember that phrase?) in the Church with an air of excitement as though we were to play an All- Ireland Final or perform in the St. Patrick's Day parade. The said groups with their own traditional banners comprised of -The Legion of Mary, The Children of Mary, Women's and Men's Sodalities, The Altar boys, Reverend Sisters from the Convent, Cub scouts and Brigini Guides, Family groups often by street, All the priests, Choir groups of all ages and of course the girls who had made their First Holy Communion in their pristine white dresses with veils flowing and not a ringlet out of place!

They had little baskets filled to the brim with the petals of roses and early summer flowers gathered early that morning and lovingly placed there in anticipation of their special role in the procession. This group would be positioned in front of the main priest celebrant who would carry the Monstrance bearing The Blessed Sacrament which was surrounded at the four corners by altar boys each holding a pole supporting a cloth canopy with golden frills. A step behind was the sacristan with the Communion bell which would be rung periodically throughout the procession. Although there was little noise in the Church as people took their places, there was the usual natural sound of human presence. Without any announcement and as if by magic, any gentle background sound instantly turned to absolute silence. The priest read some prayers in Latin and placed the large host from the tabernacle into the Monstrance. The assembled congregation followed the priest and his escorts outside where a beautifully decorated statue of the Virgin Mary positioned on a wooden platform supported by six members of the Men's Sodality was waiting. The First Communion girls would lead the procession as they gently cast the flower petals on the ground followed by the Statue and the Blessed Sacrament. (It was always amazing that no matter how long the procession was that the petals never seemed to run out - a bit like the loaves and the fishes). The fragrance of the flowers was magnificent and helped portray an air of spirituality which was palpable. As if, with one voice the various choirs spread throughout the procession started with the special Marian hymn: *QUEEN OF THE MAY*. The almost never ending procession worked its way around the church and then through the streets and avenues of the parish. All of those who walked had their rosary beads and privately and reverently recited the rosary. This sound combined with that of the hymns was divine. After many hymns were sung, the procession reverted to the church where the priest concluded with Benediction.

Perhaps this month in the year 2021 we will remember all those who have gone before us who experienced such joyful devotion and as the hymn suggests we decorate the statue of Our Lady at a little shrine at home if we can't get out or at the statue in the Church garden throughout the month of May.

If you have a relative or friend who you think might remember such times maybe you could show or read this to them as a special memory:

QUEEN OF THE MAY:

Bring Flowers of the rarest; bring blossoms the fairest, from garden and woodland and hillside and dale.

Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling the praise of the loveliest flower of the vale.

O MARY, we crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the angels and Queen of the May.



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Sunday Services for May

Each Sunday – 10.30am Morning Prayer on Zoom

As the situation may change at short notice please check our website for all the latest details.

Our Lady's Manor – The Eucharist will be celebrated in Our Lady's Manor on the 11th and the 25th of the month. An updated leaflet entitled '*Pastoral Care Information for Residents & Their Families*' is available from the Parish office or from reception in the Manor. The leaflet gives details of service times, some prayers for personal use and contact details for the chaplain.

Craft Group – No-one could be less qualified than I to write about St. Patrick's craft activities. I've enjoyed membership of the group for over two years now, but my absences are too frequent and my creative output is ... well... lacking. Before we made the transition from real to virtual and with patient tuition and guidance, my small pink crocheted octopus had only been unravelled once and progress was being made. Slowly, since then, my only efforts at needlework have involved fighting a losing battle with repairs to the dog's bed. Not so my fellow crafters. Every week I am in awe of their commitment and industry as new creations are unveiled. Never have multi-coloured chickens and bunnies procreated with such alacrity as in the run-up to Easter, and there must be a special mention for our very own punk pink Zandra the Zebra - maybe up for adoption as our Lockdown Mascot?! More seriously, as well as being a hive of crafting activity, Tuesday afternoons offer a welcome opportunity to meet, to create, to chat and an invaluable way of keeping in touch with friends in the parish and sharing all the news! Our meetings are lively and welcoming and we would love to meet new members. Refreshments now are sadly remote, but we look forward to sharing real tea breaks again post-Covid. If you would like to join us to share creativity and camaraderie, please do get in touch with the Parish Office for contact information. Our Zoom "room" is open to all from 3.30-5pm weekly. (G.S.)

St. Patrick's Dramatic Society – A number of online play reading evenings have taken place during 'Level 5' and have been a great source of amusement for all involved. Please keep an eye on the parish website for details of the next evening.

Book Club – Our Book Club will meet on Zoom on Friday 7th May at 8.00pm. Our chosen book for May is *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles. The book is available across a full range of formats: electronic, audio and even paper! If you are new and would like to join the Book Club you would be very welcome to do so; simply email the Parish Office and details will be sent to you nearer the time of the meeting.

"To what end, he wondered, had the Divine created the stars in heaven to fill a man with feelings of inspiration one day and insignificance the next?" - Amor Towles; *A Gentleman in Moscow*

Choir News – Congratulations to Kevin O'Sullivan of Kiltarnan and the Lockdown Collaboration Choir who have produced an excellent online performance of "The Crucifixion" by John Stainer. Members of St. Patrick's Choir were very happy to take part.

Centering Prayer – Centering Prayer is a way of praying that helps us into a growing awareness of the continual presence of Christ with us. It is a way of praying that helps us find that inner sense of security which cannot be taken from us. It is a process - and for some of us, a slow process. But slow growth is good growth! It is better to be travelling slowly in the right direction than rushing the wrong way. All are welcome to join our Zoom Centering Prayer group that gathers at 7pm on Monday evenings. We will gladly send you the Zoom link if you let the Parish Office know that you would like to be included.

NEWS FROM HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

Rector: Rev. Canon Gary Hastings, Tel: 2852695
E-mail – rector.htkilliney@dublin.anglican.org
Day Off — mostly Mondays
Website – www.htkilliney.dublin.anglican.org
Facebook - www.facebook.com/holytrinitykilliney
The Carry Centre – www.carrycentre.ie Bookings:
Sandra Moore, Tel: 087 6291568
carrycentre@dublin.anglican.org

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



Review Notes:
Meriel Nuzum, merielnuzum@gmail.com
'Review Distributor':
Marianne Irvine, Tel: 2858136

Sunday Worship Service 10.45 am Thursday Holy Communion Service 10.30 am

All services are currently online – see link to Videostream below.

From the Rector: I would like to very sincerely thank not just my own parishioners here in Killiney, but many people across the dioceses for all the care and support shown to us around my wife Cairtriona's illness and death. I am very grateful for all the phonecalls, texts, cards, letters and food parcels. Our appeal on RIP.ie for the Hospice and for Motor Neurone disease has raised over €7,000 which would have greatly pleased Cairtriona. Your thoughtfulness is very much appreciated, and will not be forgotten.

May the Lord repay your kindnesses to us. Gary.

Easter General Vestry – Our Easter General vestry took place via the Zoom conference facility on Sunday, 11th April at 12 p.m. The following people were nominated/elected to serve for the year ahead: Mr. Mark Heaton - Rector's Churchwarden, Mr. Paul O'Brien - Rector's Glebe Warden and Mr. Eric Brown - People's Glebe Warden.

Select Vestry – Bryan Burdett, Clive Christie, (Honorary Secretary) Lewis Purser, Daniel Stanford, Helen Irwin, Linda Franck, Laura Martin, Sandra Moore, Joan Millar, Meriel Nuzum, Libby McElroy, Sorcha O'Reilly, John Wynne (Parish Treasurer).

Videostream of Sunday Church Service – The Videostream of the live Sunday Church Service at 10:45 and Thursday at 10:30am can be accessed via the link on the website (<https://holytrinitykilliney.com/>) or through our Facebook page.

Flower Guild: our reduced size team decorated the church for Easter and many thanks to those who contributed. There was no social interaction at all and this was greatly missed. Decorations were done with the online camera in mind, since the church was still closed for public worship. However, our next major decoration event will be for Harvest and, hopefully, we will be back to our full team of socially mixing helpers. We also hope to return to a flower rota soon.

The Carry Centre: The Blossom Crèche started up again on the 8th March and it is nice to see the Carry Centre being used once more. We are hopeful that Table Tennis will recommence in September provided we all have been vaccinated!!

Sheep Thrills: are thoroughly enjoying our well-attended and most productive Zoom meetings with lots of very talented produce. We have throws, sweaters, baby jackets, hats and other ideas currently on the needles. The pandemic is definitely bringing out interesting ideas and we take great joy supporting selected charities and the homeless. Please visit Facebook/sheep thrills. Contact Joan at 087 2460078.

Alternative Fête – It is now clear that as there will only be a slow and gradual lifting of current Covid-19 restrictions we will not be able to run the Fête this year. As well as being a great parish and community event, it is also an essential element of our fundraising, which helps us meet everyday parish expenses and also allows us put money towards special projects in the parish and the broader community.

As an alternative, our plan this year is that each household in the parish sets itself a

particular outdoor “challenge” over the course of two weeks from 22nd May to 7th June 2021 (to coincide with our usual Fête time), and uses this to raise sponsorship from wider family, neighbours and friends. This might be a series of walks up Killiney Hill, a regular jog or cycle ride, or even a regular dip in the sea! Other great ideas such as singalongs or random-acts-of-kindness are also possibilities – the only limits are those of your imagination! And even with the current restrictions such activities are possible within a household “bubble” and would encourage us to enjoy our beautiful locality at a lovely time of the year. Further details and a sponsorship form were distributed with the Easter edition of the Obelisk parish newsletter and additional copies can be obtained by contacting Lewis Purser via email at lewispurser@eircom.net. The form can be personalised to reflect your preferred “challenge”. Alternatively, some may simply wish to make a donation.

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JUNE 2021: 7th May, 2021; JULY 2021: 4th June 2021.

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

DAB Radio (digital audio broadcast) started transmitting in 2006, and as the name suggests this is digital radio (unlike analogue VHF / FM). The service was available in Dublin, Cork and Limerick, but due to appalling listener figures (less than 0.5%) RTE have pulled the plug, and from the 31st of last March anybody listening on DAB will have to switch back to FM radio, or listen online.

On a different note I would like to thank so many of our customers who waited patiently for our business to reopen, and all going well we will be back to full service by the time you are reading this article.

*Ian Macdonald
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