



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

"Ireland's longest-running voluntary community newsletter"

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Lúnasa (August) 2021



Dalkey announces Energy Plan to help cut Carbon Emissions

See page 41

Photo: Albert Morris

Dalkey Castle is delighted to be open again for Living History Theatre performances and exploration of the site.

A Visit to Dalkey Island: In advance of our opening, we went on a refresher trip to Dalkey Island with archaeologist, Christiaan Corlett.

Coliemore Harbour: We left from Coliemore Harbour under Ken the Ferryman's careful stewardship. The harbour was completed in 1868 by a local builder, John Cunningham.

Dalkey Sound: In the medieval period, the Sound was used as a shelter for ships approaching Dublin City. Dublin Bay was a notorious hazard for ships due to shifting currents both offshore and at the mouth of the River Liffey. The early Irish and Viking ships were able to skim in and out of the bay, but as ships became larger and deeper during the medieval period, the number of shipwrecks increased.

Dalkey town became rich for a time in the medieval period as ships, anchored in the Sound and offloaded their goods to Dalkey merchants before they were carted into Dublin City. This was when the seven castles were built to store the goods. However, the Sound is not a safe natural harbour as it has a fast tidal stream and frequent high waves.

In 1804, the military built a boat harbour - the same harbour that is used to land on Dalkey Island today. This was to facilitate the building of the Martello Tower to protect against an expected, but never materialised, Napoleonic Invasion.

One of the first features we encountered, and one that is seldom written about, is the Promontory Fort. It is on the high ground on the left of the harbour. Over 200 promontory forts are known in Ireland, which were in use between the late Bronze Age and the post-medieval period. In the late 1950s, the archaeologist David Liversage undertook a research dig on this promontory fort.

These excavations uncovered evidence of human activity from the Mesolithic (7500-4000BC) to the early medieval periods.

Dalkey Island's first harbour: At the shoreline at the north-west edge of the promontory fort, there is a small sandy beach that opens out in a wedge shape onto Dalkey Sound. Dr. Jason Bolton in his DLR Conservation Report on Dalkey Islands contends that this was the original landing place onto the island, in use for thousands of years until the military harbour we landed on was built between 1804 and 1805.

This original small landing place has a smooth sandy bottom which allowed Mesolithic skin boats, log boats, later plank-built boats and Viking and medieval ships to beach on the island. On older maps, this area is marked as the '*boat harbour*' of the Dalkey Islands.

The prehistoric finds from Dalkey Island included a variety of flaked stone tools including Bann flakes which were used as spearheads, scrapers, blades, hammer stones and 'limpet scoopers'. There was Neolithic pottery and the bones of domesticated cattle, sheep, pig, fish, birds, seals and bear. Most haunting of all, was a human burial, radiocarbon dated to 3350-2700BC with the skull carefully filled with periwinkle shells. We can only conjecture what burial ritual was involved in this.

Moving on towards St. Begnet's Church, we crossed the defensive ditch which separates the fort from the rest of the island. This ditch was dug in the early medieval period when Dalkey Island acted as the port for Dublin with late-Roman and post-Roman pottery and glass found from archaeological excavations there.

St. Begnet's Church is one of two churches dedicated to St. Begnet in Dalkey.

It was built during the period of Viking lordship. Chris Corlett thought this a strange time to build a Christian Church, surrounded by Vikings, hostage taking and slave trading. There are many things we still don't have answers for.



Dalkey Castle's visit to Dalkey Island with Chris Corlett (right).

Photo: Dalkey Castle

The gable walls of St. Begnet's Church have antae - a short extension of the walls on both gables. This is a distinctive characteristic of early Irish stone churches. The workmen who built the nearby Martello Tower and Battery decided to adapt the church as residence rather than brave crossing over the Sound. They built the fireplace in the back wall and inserted new windows.

Outside there are two early Christian crosses carved into the face of the rocky granite outcrop. Next on our itinerary was the iconic Martello Tower.

The Martello Tower and Battery and boat harbour were built in an incredibly short time during the summer and autumn of 1804, and immediately were armed with two 18-pounder cannons. It is the only Martello Tower in the world built without a doorway because it was vulnerable to naval attack from all sides. A ladder was secured to two metal fittings which you can still see on the parapet of the roof. The blocked-up doorway we see on the side of the tower today was inserted by the Commissioners of Irish Lights in the early 20th century.

Unlike the majority of Martello towers, this one was probably never used as a residence, as there was ample room in the Battery at the end of the island. We had a good ramble around the red-bricked Battery and there was lots of wildlife in evidence which can be dealt with another time.

Family Fun on land and sea: The combination of a visit to the Living History performances at Dalkey Castle and a ferry trip to Dalkey Island is a memorable experience during summer time. Dalkey Castle has an MP3 player to guide your visit with text by Dr. Jason Bolton.

The Living History Theatre Experience at Dalkey Castle runs every 90 minutes from 10.00 on weekdays and 11.00 at weekends (Closed on Tuesdays).

DLR Summer of Heritage: There are two DLR sponsored FREE time slots for the Living History Experience at 10.00 (11.00 at Weekends) and 4.30 each day. There is also a Maeve Binchy and Irish Writers Guided walk at 6.00pm on Thursdays from 22nd July to 26th August. Booking at www.dalkeycastle.com

Margaret Dunne, Manager Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre

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Pictured from left to right: Sinéad Wylde (Camogie Ambassador), Sam McCauley (McCauley Health and Beauty Pharmacy, Glasthule), Seán Moran (Hurling Ambassador), Jennifer Dunne (Ladies' Football Ambassador), Damian McKeown (Cathaoirleach, Cuala), Raouf Djeffal (co-owner of Ouzos Steak and Seafood Restaurant, Castle Street, Dalkey), and Con O'Callaghan (Men's Football Ambassador). Not in photo: Eric Kinsella (co-owner of Ouzos Steak and Seafood Restaurant, Castle Street, Dalkey).

Cuala GAA is pleased to announce it has received a significant boost towards the proposed redevelopment of its Dalkey facilities following two donations of €50,000 each from Sam McCauley of McCauley Health and Beauty Pharmacy in Glasthule, and Eric Kinsella and Raouf Djeffal, co-owners of Ouzos Steak and Seafood Restaurant, Castle Street, Dalkey. Approval for the flagship redevelopment was received, following a vote by County Councillors of Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) to grant full planning permission for the project last month.

The project is a collaboration between Cuala GAA Club, Dalkey United AFC and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) to provide a modern, state of the art sports facility for the thousands of children and adults that play team sports with both clubs and for the use of the wider community.

The new development will be built to the highest environmental standards and result in the first sports facility in Ireland to achieve Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold accreditation and a BER rating of A2.

Commenting, Sam McCauley of McCauley Health and Beauty Pharmacy in Glasthule, said: *“When we see the tremendous number of children actively engaged in sports each week, we wanted to get behind this important project for Cuala and the Dalkey community. We would encourage others who may be in a position to provide support to do so also.”*

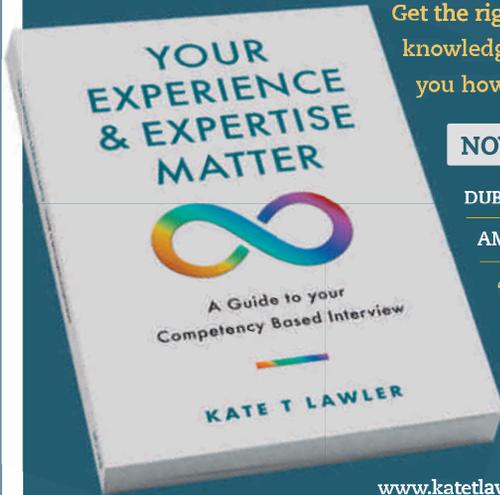
Cuala receives €100,000 donor boost ahead of redevelopment

Raouf Djeffal, Chef-Patron, Ouzos Steak and Seafood Restaurant said: *“Ouzos is delighted to contribute to the redevelopment fund for new facilities at Cuala and we congratulate everyone involved including Dalkey United AFC and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for their commitment to providing fantastic new facilities for the people of Dalkey. We are proud to be part of this vibrant community and we are delighted to play our part in ensuring its success.”*

Commenting, Cathaoirleach of Cuala, Damian McKeown, said, *“These donations will be a great boost prior to the formal fundraising launch, which will kick off in the autumn once planning permission is granted. I would like to thank Sam and Raouf and Eric Kinsella, co-owners of Ouzos for their generous support and for showing great community leadership.”*

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Dear Editor,

The Dalkey inter church migrants support committee are seeking toys for migrant children in Mosney

In the last 2 years four families in Mosney have had triplets.

Toys in good working order suitable for young children under 10 years of age would be appreciated.

If you can help please send an email to our co-ordinator Claire Conroy at claireasysteps@gmail.com

Peter Woods, Chairperson, Dalkey inter church migrant support group

P.S. We sought to buy a triplet buggy recently through "DoneDeal". The person who was selling it gave it for nothing when she discovered it was for Mosney. The person herself was the mother of quads born in Dublin 2 years ago!

Peter

❖ ASK THE PHARMACIST – Menopause ❖

Q. TREATMENT OPTIONS IN MENOPAUSE?

A. The main treatment option in menopause is Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT). The logic of using this treatment is that the majority of the symptoms are caused by a reduction in oestrogen so a replacement of that helps to relieve the symptoms.

Progesterone is used alongside it to have a protective effect on the womb (provided the womb is intact). HRT can be given as a tablet, patch, gel or implant.

The oestrogen and progesterone can be given separately or as a combination product depending on what is indicated.

There can be a slight increased risk in breast cancer, deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and stroke but this would be assessed by the doctor to weigh up the risks v the benefit to each individual patient.

HRT works when there is a range of symptoms but there are other options that can be used in addition to or independently of HRT depending on the need.

For local vaginal issues oestrogen pessaries/cream can be used which only have a local effect and are very well tolerated.

For the mood changes and anxiety which are commonly linked to menopause, regular exercise and relaxation techniques can help. Cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) and/or antidepressants may also be warranted.

Osteoporosis or weak bones is linked to menopause as reduced levels of oestrogen can be the cause. HRT can help prevent this as it stops the bones getting weaker but this effect wears off once the medication is stopped. Vitamin D and calcium help to improve bone strength. Regular exercise which is weight bearing such as walking also helps improve bone density.

A non hormone based therapy is also available which can help combine night sweats.

Alternative therapies and vitamin supplements containing Sage (for night sweats) and/or Soya (which mimics oestrogen in the body) can be helpful but should be discussed with your GP to determine if they are suitable.

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



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TRIP TO SANDYCOVE BEACH

Second class recently took part in a sandcastle competition at Sandycove Beach. The boys worked in teams of four or five. They were allowed to bring in buckets, spades and props. We feel so



Sandcastle Competition at Sandycove Beach

lucky that our school is in such a beautiful part of Dublin, we are very grateful for that!

When we arrived at the beach, each team picked a spot and began to plan their build. It was great to see the wonderful teamwork and sportsmanship that took place. The boys were up and down to the edge of the water to fill their buckets and were busy digging and building. After an hour of constructing, their teacher took a look at what they had all created and chose one team as the overall winner. They had a super day out and everyone was exhausted when we returned to school in the afternoon!

Photos: HBS

HBS



**FAREWELL
FR. PADDY**

After 11 years of pastoring in Dalkey parish Fr. Paddy is leaving us. We join in thanking him for his ministry and his presence with us and wish him well during the years ahead. We hope that retirement will bring him a well-earned rest, good health and more time to enjoy his many interests.

Our new Parish Priest is Fr. Liam Lacey who has been ministering at St. Fintan's in Sutton for the past 11 years. I am sure that Dalkey will give Fr. Liam a warm

welcome when he arrives at the end of August. He will bring much experience and refreshing new insights from his previous pastoral appointments.

I look forward to working closely with Fr. Liam as he settles into his new appointment. He will find a great history and many stories as he gets to meet parishioners and members of Dalkey Community.

May God bless his work in the years ahead!



Fr. Declan

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**6th Class
Say
Goodbye
to
Loreto**

*Right:
Mrs.
Kavanagh's
6th Class*



Usually, sixth class go on lots of trips and adventures, especially at the end of the year. Since we couldn't do that this year our teachers made an extra special effort to make our last few days in Loreto enjoyable and memorable.

Ms. Coyne from Loreto Abbey helped us plan fun activity days for the younger classes. In return she gave us a fantastic fun day with water games, sports and an amazing 'slip and slide.' Our graduation Mass was celebrated on Zoom. We were at home with our families, while Fr. Peter O'Kane celebrated Mass in our classroom with Mrs. McKenna and our teachers. There was a lovely slideshow of photos of us over the years from junior infants to sixth class. We recorded some songs in school and they were played in the background during the slideshow.

Our teachers brought us to Sandycove for a swim and a picnic. Even though the water was cold, we had lots of fun. On our second last day of school, we did an art class with Katie and Niamh from Pine Forest Art Centre. We painted enamel pendants and did some beading. At the end of the day our teachers ordered pizzas for us and Ms. Browne, our teacher from junior infants, sent doughnuts to us.

To finish our eight years of primary school, we were given our yearbook on the last day of school. There were pictures of us throughout the years and lots of articles, poems and stories. Then we all walked to Dalkey and got an ice-cream. We have had an incredible time in Loreto Primary School and we will miss it dearly.



*By
Ruby Rose O'Herlihy
and
Rachel Skinner
(Mrs. Patton's class)*

Mrs. Patton's 6th Class

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Street artist Johnman stunning piece “Saol agus Grá” brings life and love (and the DART!) in all its beauty to the walls of Mulgrave Street

At the end of June, Dún Laoghaire became an open-air canvas for 14 established up-and-coming local street artists. The result is 14 completed works dotted throughout the town borrowing from its maritime heritage and all of the elements that make Dún Laoghaire unique. This project is called Dún Laoghaire Anseo, which means “here” in Irish. Dún Laoghaire Anseo grew from a proposal I submitted to the Economic Development and Enterprise Special Policy Committee last October, that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council (DLRCC) introduce street art in Dún Laoghaire Town. My Councillor Colleagues, Dún

Laoghaire Town Team, and DLRCC embraced the proposal.

Dún Laoghaire Anseo has injected colour and vibrancy into the town. It could not have happened without the support and enthusiasm of the local business community, who

offered their walls to host the paintings. Anseo showcases the work of Ireland’s most talented street artists. It acts as a fantastic open-air gallery for people to enjoy and is an important new attraction for visitors to Dún Laoghaire.

Details of artists, location of the works and the inspiration behind each piece are available on the [dlrcoco website](#)

Anseo is only one of several projects taking place in Dún Laoghaire right now:

Work on a new civic plaza which includes a play area for children and public seating, is complete in front of Tesco Bloomfield.

Following a public consultation, DLRCC have pedestrianised George’s Street Lower for a three month period, from the 5th July to the 30th September 2021. Already this project is transforming the atmosphere in the Town.

The remaining space at St. Michael’s Church is now open for everyone to enjoy. It includes a large oak tree, ornamental planting, seating and play space.

Please visit Dún Laoghaire to check out all the new changes!



John Brady’s mural pays tribute to Vera Breslin, whose fish stall, was a familiar part of the landscape of the town for many years.

Lorraine Hall
Fine Gael Councillor for Dún Laoghaire

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ST. PATRICK'S SQUARE AND IRELAND'S 1853 GREAT INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION

Back in 1834, Ireland's first railroad ran from Dublin to Dun Laoghaire. This commuter rail line was the earliest dedicated commuter line in the world. The Contractor was William Dargan, known as the founder of railways in Ireland. By the 1850's, he employed over 47,000 people and was a very wealthy man.

It was no surprise that Dargan agreed to cover all the expenses of Ireland's Great Industrial Exhibition which ran from May 13th to October 31st in 1853. Based at Leinster House, it covered 12 acres with 6.8 acres of covered space. It was attended by 1.2 million people, including Queen Victoria. A total of 38 nations were

involved. Its centre point was the fantastic glass structure of the Temple of Industry. This was 425ft long and 100 ft high. The centre point was the Fine Arts section which outshone London's earlier Exhibition.

Following the Closing Ceremony of the Great Industrial Exhibition on October 31st 1853, the Temple of Industry and other structures were dismantled. This included the removal of two cast concrete benches with an anchor emblem embedded on both ends. If you pay a visit today to St. Patrick's Square behind

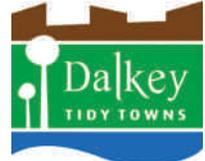


SuperValu Supermarket on Castle Street, you will see these two benches in all their glory in the small park area. They almost look like new as our Dalkey Tidy Towns team just recently replaced the rotting woodwork and finished their restoration.

*Des Burke-Kennedy
Dalkey Tidy Towns*

*Restored seats at
St. Patrick's
Square*

Photo: DTT



DALKEY DASHERS UPDATE

Dublin Community Games will be holding the athletics finals in Santry on a single day with a reduced schedule on Saturday 28th August 2021. Dalkey Dashers will hold trials to select teams to represent both the Dalkey and Glenageary/Dun Laoghaire areas for the Dublin Community Games finals. Please note this year that only **ONE** competitor (normally two) will be selected to participate in each event for each area.

With many people away for the summer and the short time frame available a trial and selection night will be held for each age group.

Trial and selection Nights: 7-8pm **Tuesday** 10th August: Under 12's and Under 14's
Wednesday 11th August: Under 10's **Thursday** 12th August: Under 8's

The age cut off is as follows:

- Under 8s: Under 8 (over 6) on or before 31st July
- Under 10s: Under 10 (over 8) on or before 31st July
- Under 12s: Under 12 (over 10) on or before 31st July
- Under 14s: Under 14 (over 12) on or before 31st July



If your child would like to attend a trial night, please express interest by emailing dalkeydashers1@gmail.com Further registration forms and Covid-19 forms will be sent in August.

SUMMARY OF THE DCC ZOOM MEETING

The Meeting held on Tuesday 13th July 2021

TT: The Litter Patrols are still out once a week but individual volunteers are working on and off during the week. DLR are being very proactive in helping to keep the town tidy as there is more outdoor activity during these months. Dalkey has made their submission to the TT Competition for 2021. Due to Covid the competition is online this year with a changed format. DTT is still tackling the graffiti problem and managing to clear it as soon as it is possible. Special thanks to Alan Winter who is remaining vigilant and single-handedly removing many of the tags.

Sports: Dalkey Dashers plans to run training sessions on the second week in August in preparation for the Dublin Finals to be held in Santry on Saturday 28th August.

Planning: the application for the nursing home at Yonder/Maple Tree house on Ulverton/Harbour Road has been appealed by the developer. The Local Councillors have overwhelmingly voted to grant permission for the new Cuala Centre at Hyde Road.

DCC will take a summer break during August and the next meeting will be in September.

The next Zoom Meeting will Tuesday 7th September at 7:30pm



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DALKEY SWIFTS



Thankfully our “Dalkey Swifts” arrived safely this year and all nesting sites are occupied. Another generation of “Dalkey born Swifts” will soon make their arduous non-stop perilous journey to tropical Africa.

The good news is that there are 2 triple nest boxes to be erected at the rear of SuperValu. The installation of these boxes will be undertaken by SuperValu who have kindly agreed to carry out the work and cover the costs of it – well done SuperValu!

There are also two more triple boxes to be erected; one at Dalkey Library and the second at Dalkey Castle and Heritage Centre. It has been impossible to have these boxes erected due to the Covid restrictions. We need help to get these into place for next summer’s visitors. If there is a company or anybody with the suitable know-how and the necessary equipment to finalise this project and put these remaining boxes in situ the group would be very grateful.

Offers of help can be made through the newsletter by emailing: perryann37@gmail.com

Dalkey Swift Project Group



A Swift returning to the nest with a full bolus to feed the hungry chicks...



NATIONAL HERITAGE WEEK 2021



The Heritage Council is delighted to announce that National Heritage Week 2021 will take place from Saturday, 14th August to Sunday, 22nd August 2021.

This year, National Heritage Week is about getting as many people to enjoy heritage as possible. In particular, heritage project organisers are encouraged to consider how they can connect with ‘heritage newcomers’, who have not engaged with National Heritage Week before; groups or individuals who may not traditionally feel included in local heritage; and heritage enthusiasts of all ages, when planning their projects.

National Heritage Week projects can involve creating something new, such as developing research about a particular place in your locality, or developing an oral history collection about a moment of history in a community. Projects can also involve revisiting or building on a heritage project that you have already worked on, such as showcasing research you have done on a monument, waterway or traditional skill, and finding new ways to grow awareness of it.

Projects can be uploaded via **the project organisers portal** from Wednesday, 16th June. The last day to submit a project to the National Heritage Week website will be Monday, 30th August.

All projects uploaded by 30th August will be considered for a National Heritage Week Award.

For now, check out last year’s amazing winners!

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Covid 19 stopped everything in its tracks but Dalkey Players found ways to keep being creative through the various different lockdowns. In January 2020 we

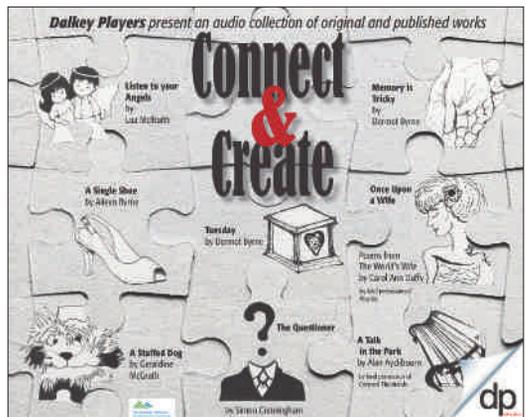
performed the one act play *“The Proposal”* directed by newcomer Luke Treacy to a sell-out audience in the Lexicon Studio in Dun Laoghaire. We then took it to the One Act Festivals in Glenealy and Bray. The Spring Production *“Eurydice”* following its Town Hall Dalkey run took to the All Ireland Drama Festival circuit and had completed four festivals to great acclaim when the axe fell on the nation.

In order to keep in touch a diary of the Tormented Thespians of Dalkey Players was instigated on our WhatsApp page and rapidly filled up on a sometimes thrice daily basis with limericks, verse, poetry general banter and craic. There was such an abundance of material at the end of the first lockdown, we decided to print it in book form as a memento of all that had happened. A writing group formed from the nucleus of Diarists and we spent the summer writing, reading and performing our own work via Zoom. An attempt at Garden Theatre in August was quickly scuppered by the virus and so we headed into the autumn with renewed writing vigour. This culminated in the printing of 25 short plays and sketches by the DP writing group.....Christmas presents for the families!!!!

Attempts at filming some of these short plays came to naught as the Xmas lockdown put paid to that. *“Never say die”* said the Artistic Committee and so the concept of Radio Plays was born and in April we launched this week-long Festival of 8 Audio Plays via Eventbrite, six of which were written by members. These were all performed and directed by group members some of whom were directing for the first time. Incidental music was also written by members and sound effects were professionally inserted. We all learned so much from creating this Festival.

As theatres were still dark and enthusiasm for the Radio style plays was strong, Dalkey Players decided to tackle an aural version of *“Alice in Wonderland”* directed by Emma Jane Nulty. Pupils from the Harold Boys National School (where we normally rehearse) came on board when DP sponsored an Art Competition that would feature characters or activities from the story. The Pupils produced stunning artwork which then featured online as one listened to the broadcast of the story during the week of June 29th – July 3rd.

Diary number 2 written between the



29th December 2020 to May 31st May 2021 was recently printed providing a daily history of the third lockdown. We are on a break for the summer months to enjoy quasi freedom once more but our Autumn Programmes are under consideration so as you can see Dalkey Players have not been idle. Hope to see you all soon!

Lua McIlraith – PRO

REFLECTION FOR AUGUST

August; so what's in a word?

One can view the traditional term for August relating to the accolade given in 8 B.C. by the Roman Senate to Caesar Augustus by renaming the month Sextilius with Augustus in his honour, later to be abbreviated to August.

Then we can look at the dictionary definitions of the word- august- meaning: *'respected and impressive'*. *For myself, I prefer the term: 'consecrated and venerable'*.

In this regard and this brings it home to Dalkey, the anniversary of the death of Saint John Henry Newman occurs on the 11th of August. A man who stayed in Dalkey in the summer of August 1854, having established Newman College on Saint Stephen's Green, later to become University College Dublin.

A beautiful plaque with his prayer is displayed on the church wall which is recited by the celebrant each day at the end of mass

"May He protect us all the day long, till the shades lengthen, and the evening comes, and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over, and our work is done. Then in His mercy - May He give us a safe lodging, and a holy rest, and peace at the last."

Personally, my late father Leo and my late mother Evelyn loved this prayer and her birthday was the 10th of August.

John T Murphy

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WHAT'S ON IN DALKEY LIBRARY



“There are far, far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” — C.S. Lewis

Welcome back readers! We are delighted to welcome you back inside our libraries. There's still time for young readers to fill their Summer Stars cards with stamps this month! The Summer Stars reading programme draws to a close at the end of August- if your young

bookworm doesn't have a card yet, grab a registration card and get reading for spot prizes and a chance to enter a draw at the end of the summer.

In addition, Libraries Ireland is inviting children to stretch their imagination and write a short story as part of 'Summer Stars'.

The story must begin with the line: *Of all the places in the world, I never thought I would be here.*



The competition is open to 6-18 year olds, with three age categories: age 6-9; age 10-14, and age 15-18. So start writing!

Have you used our dlr Libraries app?

As well as brilliant features such as keeping track of the whole family's library cards and loans in one place on your phone, we now have a great new function. You can now use the app to self-issue and self-return your own items with your smart phone, perfect for when you are on the go or if you wish to avoid interactions with self-service machines or library staff at this time.

As always our online services are available to all members of the library and include eBooks, online learning courses, eMagazines, language learning, music streaming, newspapers and reference databases.

Need help getting online?

Sign up and a member of staff will contact you for a 45 minute tutorial session on:

- Setting up a library account
- Availing of our online services
- Basic Zoom usage

We will continue to provide you with service updates as they resume through our social media channels, our fortnightly e-bulletin and on our website – libraries@dlrcoco.ie

Alternatively for more information on any of the above, you can always call us on 01-2855277 or get in touch via email dalkeylib@dlrcoco.ie

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Opening Hours:

Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat

10am – 1pm and 2pm – 5pm

Tue, Thu: 1.15pm – 8pm



Left: Maeve Binchy Seat

Images: Dalkey Library

PLANNING APPLICATIONS – Weeks 23-27 7/6/2021 to 9/7/2021

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.: D21A/0517

Application Rec'd Date: 8-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Castlepark School, Castlepark Road, Dalkey, a protected structure (Ref. 1405)

Proposal: Permission. The development will consist of the construction of new vehicular and pedestrian gates & modifications to the existing roads, footpaths and kerbs to the access road from Castle park Road and the access from Castlelands top Castle Park School and to increase the height of the stone boundary wall delineating Castle Park School from residential development to the west of the school from 1.8m to 2.4m and associated site works at Castle Park School, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0531

Application Rec'd Date: 9-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Mr. Edward Doyle, Office Unit 6, The Courtyard, rear of No. 19, Castle Street, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission for the Retention of Development.

Application Type: Permission for Retention.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0542

Application Rec'd Date: 11-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Briege & Brian Coe, Ardan, Ardbrough Road, Dalkey, A96 TC62

Proposal: Permission is sought for the extension to existing detached dwelling and construction of domestic garage structure. the development will consist of the following principal elements: 1) Construction of new two storey extension with flat roof to the rear and alterations to the existing internal floor layout. 2) An attic conversion with roof lights and new roof covering to existing house. 3) The construction of a two storey domestic garage structure to the front of the property with parking for 2 cars at ground level and an attic floor gym room with separate external doors and with glazed link to existing house at lower ground level. 4) New pedestrian gate to the rear garden from Ardbrough Close. 5) The existing vehicular entrance to be moved and increased in width to 3.5 m including alteration to existing front garden and all associated landscaping and ancillary works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0568

Application Rec'd Date: 18-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Michael Good, 44-45, Castle Street, Dalkey, (within an architectural conservation area).

Proposal: Permission at site at rear for a two storey, three bed, end of terrace house (no.3) 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 Pleanála (305227-19). Proposal to include changes to the two permitted (305227-19) terraced houses (no's 1 & 2) consisting of moving them 950mm southwards, increasing the ridge height by 550mm, realigning their garden walls and providing three pedestrian gates to laneway off Castle Street. Proposal to include ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0573

Application Rec'd Date: 18-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Fiona O'Doherty & Ian Robertson, Juverna, 1, Alexandra Villas, Rockfort Avenue, Dalkey, A96C8X4, (Architectural Conservation Area)

Proposal: Permission is sought for demolition of existing hipped roof & glazed roof

extension to access attic at second floor as part of existing rear return; Extension of floor area of existing attic space (5 m sq) with an increase in height of roof apex by 600 mm, with new external terrace and bounding walls and associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0318

Application Rec'd Date: 14-Apr-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. New flat roofed detached garden room in the rear of the back garden. 7. Alterations to landscaping including widening of existing vehicular entrance, drainage works and ancillary and associated works. **Add. Info.:** 23-Jun-2021.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0578

Application Rec'd Date: 22-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Kate Goodison & Brian Rainsford, Sala Tiga, Meany Avenue, Dalkey, A96WD83

Proposal: Permission for development comprising alterations to previously permitted works under reg ref. D21B/0074: A reduction in the extent of the permitted single-storey extension to the north facade and alterations to the windows to the south facade, all to the proposed living/kitchen/dining area: a single-storey extension to the north-west end at proposed bedrooms; alterations to the first floor plan, including modifications to the footprint and facades, with associated internal layout changes; and relocation of the garden shed. The proposed ground floor extends to 147 sq.m, reduced from 154 sq.m, whilst the first floor remains at 50 sq.m.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0585

Application Rec'd Date: 24-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Kai ming Poon & Xiao jin Wu

Applicant Name & Location: 3C, Castle Street, Dalkey, A96WA26, (junction of Hyde Road & Ulverton Place), This development is located within Dalkey Architectural Area

Proposal: Permission is sought for development consisting of: alterations to existing outdoor seating area to include the following: (i) removal of existing screening panels around seating area; (ii) construction of a single structure comprising of an outdoor dining area enclosed with aluminium and timber panelling with retractable fabric awnings and new porch entrance providing pedestrian access off Ulverton Place; (iii) alterations to front facade to include the removal of existing 2 no. windows and cills to install new bi-folding screens providing access to outdoor area; and (iv) all ancillary works required to facilitate the development.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0311

Application Rec'd Date: 23-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Eva Hamilton & Paul Murphy, The Gables, Barnhill Road, Dalkey, A95 WP96

Proposal: Permission for a proposed new two storey extension at first floor level which incorporates conversion of attic to storage space only, New dormer window to rear at attic level, new Bay window to front elevation at first floor level, the provision of 4 No. Velux windows to front roof and all associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0374

Application Rec'd Date: 28-Apr-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Mark Littlejohn, 1, Cunningham Drive, Dalkey, A96N296

Proposal: Permission is sought for development. The development will consist of the demolition of an existing garage structure, the construction of a single storey extension to

the rear and a two-storey extension to the side of the existing property. The proposal also involves 2 no. new windows to the North elevation of the house at ground floor level, in conjunction with some internal alterations and the relocation of the entrance door from the side elevation to the front elevation . Permission is also being sought for the widening of the existing vehicular entrance to the front of the house accessing Cunningham Drive and the replacement of an existing rendered wall with a granite wall. **Add. Info.:** 2-Jul-2021.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0616

Application Rec'd Date: 1-Jul-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Brendan Seaver, Odessa, Ardeevin Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for the demolition of the existing single storey pitched roof return to the rear, single storey bay windows to the side and front and the removal of the first floor pitched roof and dormers and construction of a first floor flat roof extension to form a contemporary 2 storey flat roof, 3 bedroom dwelling, with terraces to the front and rear and associated internal modifications fenestration and elevation modifications and all associated site works to facilitate 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/0322

Application Rec'd Date: 29-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Darragh & Alison Fagan, Shamrock Cottage, Ardburgh Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission sought for a first-floor extension over part of existing building, a first floor roof balcony, internal alterations and all associated site works to existing dwelling house. **Declare Application Invalid:** 7-Jul-2021.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0326

Application Rec'd Date: 29-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Clare Salley & Declan O'Rourke, Greenoge, Killiney Road, Dalkey, A96XD32.

Proposal: Permission is sought for development. The development will consist of the demolition of an existing single storey extension to the rear of the existing house, in conjunction with the construction of a proposed single storey extension which will accommodate a kitchen, dining and living area. As part of the works some internal alterations are also being proposed.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0458

Application Rec'd Date: 20-May-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Neil Vaughan, 3 Sorrento Drive, Dalkey, A96 XE63

Proposal: Permission is sought for the demolition of the single storey garage to the side and chimney to the rear, the construction of a single storey extension to the side as a 'Granny Flat', the widening of a dormer window to the rear, the widening of the vehicular access onto Sorrento Drive and all associated works. **Add. Info.:** 9-Jul-2021.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0624

Application Rec'd Date: 6-Jul-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Mark and Sarah Fitzpatrick, 12 Old Quarry, Dalkey.

Proposal: Retention permission for constructed sub-structure elements and full demolition of roof and external walls of house, part of which were to be retained in accordance with a previous planning permission ref: D20A/0854 and planning permission is sought for the reconstruction of the demolished walls and roof structure back to their original positions together with the completion of the development in accordance with the size, layout and design as previously approved under register ref: D20A/0854 with minor design changes.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0184

Application Rec'd Date: 16-Apr-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Michael Shelly, Number 1 Rocklands, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for: Development consists of a 19.3sqm balcony at first floor level to the rear with glass type balustrade, conversion of window opening to sliding/bi-fold doors and all associated site works. **Add. I Info:** 9-Jul-2021.

PLANNING DECISIONS FOR WEEKS 23-27 2021 7/6/2021 to 9/7/2021

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0338 **Decision:** Refuse Permission **Date:** 11-Jun-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Rosario Rizzo, 'Gortevan', Barnhill Road, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for A. Alterations to the existing house 'Gortevan' consisting of: demolish roof and construct new first floor with pitched roof, widen existing windows to front and sides of main house. Construct single storey extensions to rear of retained rear extension, new roof to rear extension and widen/alter existing windows to rear extension. Widen vehicular gate to Barnhill Road and fit sliding gate. B. Construction of 2 no. semi-detached dormer dwellings (single storey with dormer upper floor with mansard type roof) including site excavation, parking area, landscaping, bin stores, services, widen the existing vehicular access to the rear of the site accessed from Wolverton Glen.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0352 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 11-Jun-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Marzena & 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 2-storey extension to house a bedroom & an office at 1st floor level and a kitchen-dining-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, (6) Proposed outbuilding tot rear garden to be used as shed & (7) Ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0512 **Decision:** Declare Application Invalid **Decision:** 9-Jun-'21
Applicant Name & Location: Fiona O'Doherty & Ian Robertson, 'Juverna', No. 1 Alexandra Villas, Rockfort Avenue, Dalkey, A96 C8X4. This building is in an Architectural Conservation Area.

Proposal: Permission is sought for demolition of existing hipped roof & glazed roof extension to access attic at second floor as part of existing rear return etc.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0184 **Decision:** Request Add. Info. **Date:** 9-Jun-2021
Applicant Name & Location: Michael Shelly, No. 1 Rocklands, Dalkey.
Proposal: Permission is sought for: Development consists of a 19.3sqm balcony at first floor level to the rear with glass type balustrade, conversion of window opening to sliding/bi-fold doors and all associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0193 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 11-Jun-2021
Applicant & Location: Stephanie MacNulty, Roan Carraig, Harbour Rd, Dalkey, A96 TR63
Proposal: Permission is sought for [1] the construction of a single-storey extension to the western side and rear of the house with flat roof, parapets and rooflights; with new steps and landing to the side; [2] the extension of the existing dormer window section in the front elevation to the western gable; [3] the connection of the two existing dormer window sections in the rear elevation and the extension of this connected dormer window section the western gable; [4] the replacement of all windows; and [5] the rendering of existing pebbledash areas with smooth render to match the finish of the proposed extension works; with all associated site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0227 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 17-Jun-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/0373 **Decision:** Request Add. Info. **Date:** 18-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Iseult and Ronan Greany, 2, Mapas Rd. Dalkey, A96PF54
Proposal: Permission is sought for a 2 Storey extension to the side of the existing house with access from front and rear to accommodate a new home office and living room.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0374 **Decision:** Request Add Info **Date:** 18-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Mark Littlejohn, 1, Cunningham Drive, Dalkey, A96N296
Proposal: Permission is sought for development. The development will consist of the demolition of an existing garage structure, the construction of a single storey extension to the rear and a two-storey extension to the side of the existing property. The proposal also involves 2 no. new windows to the North elevation of the house at ground floor level, in conjunction with some internal alterations and the relocation of the entrance door from the side elevation to the front elevation. Permission is also being sought for the widening of the existing vehicular entrance to the front of the house accessing Cunningham Drive and the replacement of an existing rendered wall with a granite wall.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0202 **Decision:** Request Add Info. **Date:** 17-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Julie Campbell & Jamie Airey, 11, Corrig Road, Dalkey, A96V3W8

Proposal: Permission is sought for development. The proposed development consists of: (i) the demolition of the existing extension to the rear; (ii) refurbishment of the house and addition of roof-lights to the rear roof; (iii) the construction of a 34m² single storey, pitched roof extension to the rear, for a 7m² flat roofed porch to the front and for the provision of a bin and bike storage unit to the front garden. Other works include landscaping and all necessary ancillary works to facilitate the development.

Reg. Ref.: D21B/0207 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 18-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Cuan McCoille & Hillary O Donovan, 21 Barnhill Ave, Dalkey A96 NX60.

Proposal: Permission for development. The development will consist of: First-floor extension to the side and front, single story extension to the front and rear. Attic conversion with part raised gable to the side. Dormer to the rear. Roof window to the front.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0236 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 22-Jun-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/0384 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 22-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Gordon & Siobhán Butler, Helm Crag, (12) Killiney Road, Dalkey, A96 H704

Proposal: Permission for development. The development will consist of the removal of the existing flat roof extension (12sqm) and the existing garage (15sqm) to the rear, the construction of a new extension to the rear (with an additional floor area of 60sqm), the conversion of the attic (28sqm), external alterations to all elevations, the installation of roof lights, the widening of the existing front vehicular gates from 2.5m to 3m wide, the widening of the parking area to the front and associated ancillary works to facilitate the development including drainage, site development works and landscaping.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0432 **Decision:** Grant Permission **Date:** 29-Jun-2021

Applicant Name & Location: Barbara Morrison, 42, Ulverton Rd, Dalkey, A96D1H7

Proposal: Permission is sought for: 01) Widening the existing rear pedestrian access gateway to the lane at the rear of the property to create a new vehicular access and 02) Ancillary site works.

Reg. Ref.: D21A/0433 **Decision:** Grant Permission for Retention **Date:** 2-Jul-2021.

Applicant Name & Location: Fiona & Barry Ruane, 22 Church Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for the retention of the existing access widened for temporary construction access to now provide for a permanent vehicular entrance with off street parking, all with associated siteworks. **Application Type:** Permission for Retention.

APPEALS NOTIFIED By An Bord Pleanála Wks. 23-27 7/6/'21 to 9/7/'21

Reg Ref: D21B/0193 **Reg. Date:** 21-Apr-2021

Location: Roan Carraig, Harbour Road, Dalkey, A96 TR63

Development: Permission is sought for [1] the construction of a single-storey extension to the western side and rear of the house with flat roof, parapets and rooflights; with new steps and landing to the side; [2] the extension of the existing dormer window section in the front elevation to the western gable; [3] the connection of the two existing dormer window sections in the rear elevation and the extension of this connected dormer window section the western gable; [4] the replacement of all windows; and [5] the rendering of existing pebbledash areas with smooth render to match the finish of the proposed extension works; with all associated site works. **Council Decision:** Grant Permission.

Appeal Lodged: 25-Jun-2021 **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Condition(s). **Type of Appeal:** 1st Party Conditions.

Reg Ref: D21A/0304 **Reg. Date:** 12-Apr-2021

Location: c.06 HA site, comprising the former residence 'yonder', (previously demolished), Ulverton Rd. & 'Maple Tree House', Harbour Rd, Bulloch Harbour, Dalkey.

Development: Permission for development. 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 vehicular entrances off Ulverton Road and the spur off Harbour Road; car and bicycle parking; green roofs; PV panels; ancillary signage; boundary treatments; hard and soft landscaping; plant; lighting; changes in level; and all associated site works above and below ground. **Council Decision:** Refuse Permission

Appeal Lodged: 28-Jun-2021. **Nature of Appeal:** Appeal against Refusal of Permission. **Type of Appeal:** 1st Party Appeal.

APPEALS DECISION by An Bord Pleanála Wks 23-27 31/5/2021 to 2/7/2021

Reg. Ref.: D19A/0984 **Appeal Decision:** Grant Permission

New Determination Date Due: 14-Apr-2021. **Appeal Decided:** 22-Jun-2021

Council's Decision: Grant Permission **Location:** Twin Trees, Nerano Road, Dalkey.

Proposed Development: Permission is sought for the construction of a new dwelling (269m²/2,896ft²) and a widened vehicular entrance with 2no. off-street car parking spaces to the front of the site and the demolition of the existing 1950s dwelling (206m²/2,217ft²). The proposed new dwelling consists of living areas at Nerano Road level, with bedrooms at lower ground level and a hobby room with utility at basement level.

Applicant: Mr James and Dr Mary Foley **Reg. Ref.:** D21B/0050

Appeal Decision: To Remove Condition(s) **Appeal Decided:** 29-Jun-2021

Council's Decision: Grant Permission. **Location:** 4 Saval Park Road, Dalkey.

Proposed Development: Permission is sought for amendments to previously granted application no. D20B/0300, which will consist of two no. new dormer windows, one to the front, one to the rear of existing roof, and 3 no. of Velux type of windows, two to the front, one to the side of existing roof. **Applicant:** Karolina Lynch.

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When we first spotted one of these little creatures in Tullyally Castle last year we presumed it was some type of bee but weren't able to identify it. Small, with a mostly dark body except for the deep orange underside of the abdomen. I couldn't figure out was the orange a natural pigment or was it from pollen the insect had gathered. Then a few weeks ago I saw one again, this time in our garden where it landed on a pelargonium and, using its jaws like scissors, began sawing out a little semi circular segment from a petal.



A Leaf Cutting Bee cutting through a petal.

Found out subsequently it's a Leaf Cutting Bee which cut out bits of leaves or petals to line a nest inside a bamboo or a hollow plant stem. This one had cut nearly all the way through the petal before abandoning it. I was sorry afterwards it hadn't finished cutting as

apparently what happens next is they will roll up the segment they've cut then, holding it underneath their body, fly back to line the space into which it will lay eggs. That would have been a sight to behold. And yes, the orange is the natural colour of the bee.



A juvenile raven at Kilmacurragh with leg rings. Coloured rings are to identify the bird from a distance with telescope or binoculars

Whenever we visit Kilmacurragh Botanic Gardens we always try to avail of the free guided walks where one of the staff shows you around while explaining the history of the grounds and the wonderful trees and plants growing there.

I always urge anyone visiting to avail of the guided walk and think anyone who doesn't misses out on some of the full experience of the garden. We visited the garden in June this year, arriving in time for the scheduled walk at 12 noon and found we were the only people accompanying the guide.

Our guide Philip lives in Tinahely where he recently had a couple of interesting visitors

to his garden in the form of two Pine Martens. He's passionate about trees and was rhapsodizing about the 45 metres high Giant Redwood towering elegantly over us when the distinctive croak call of a raven sounded from above. We were expecting to see it wheeling into view as the calls continued then we realised that, with a degree of stylish posturing, it was actually perched at the very top of the redwood.

Philip told us they regularly nested nearby and I wondered would that be of news to Ann Fitzpatrick, the NPWS ranger who rings raptors and ravens around the east coast. Later in another part of the garden three ravens were perched on a tree and we could see the most visible one had a standard ring on one leg and a yellow band around the other so evidently Ann knew of the nest and had already ringed them.

Ann and her colleagues usually only monitor and ring birds of prey but ravens are included, having been granted a sort of honorary status for their great size and intelligence.

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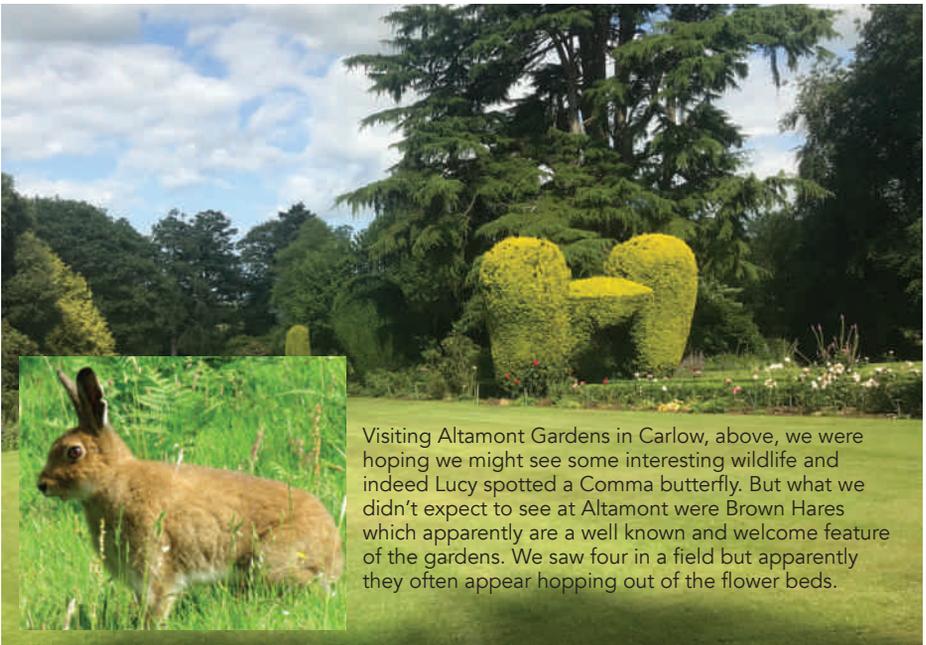


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This curious little creature is the White Plume Moth. When perched during the day (or concealed under a leaf, right) it resembles a tiny twig with its wings sticking out at right angles from its body giving it the appearance of a cross and legs that have short 'spurs' coming out of them. The wings, when the moth is static, are folded around each other, wrapped like the sails on a ship's mast, but when opened (above) form five feather like plumes.

The larvae of the White Plume Moth are laid on and then feed on Bindweed or Convolvulus, a plant hated by many gardeners for its rapid growth and ability to smother plants and bushes combined with it being extremely difficult to remove, but apart from being the host of the young of the White Plume Moth the bindweed flowers are very attractive to bees and hoverflies.



Visiting Altamont Gardens in Carlow, above, we were hoping we might see some interesting wildlife and indeed Lucy spotted a Comma butterfly. But what we didn't expect to see at Altamont were Brown Hares which apparently are a well known and welcome feature of the gardens. We saw four in a field but apparently they often appear hopping out of the flower beds.

In early July there were reports of flying ants being on the wing, some in such numbers that they were picked up on radar that was monitoring aircraft. The ants' flights in the UK often coincide with Wimbledon where they're frequently unwanted visitors to the tennis matches.

August can still have lots taking to the air, nearly always on very still and humid days.

The flying ant phenomenon occurs when female winged ants, known as princesses, will take to the air and set off to establish new colonies. Some, much smaller, male ant will also fly so they can mate with the females. They lose the wings after they land so their maiden flight is their first and only time flying.

The flying ants are a great food source for many birds and when they fly the sky will often be filled with

Black Headed Gulls, House Martins and Swallows wheeling around to snatch them out of the air. The ants are defenceless and weak flyers so they rely on the sheer numbers that take to the air to ensure some make it to propagate the species. I heard someone recently comparing them to aircraft lined up on an aircraft carrier and a similar comparison had struck me before, the worker ants busying themselves like a ground crew preparing the winged ants for take off. For all I know they might line up and salute the females as they take off. It's fascinating seeing the intensity of it and the communal effort involved.



The winged female 'Princess' ant, above, is being prepared for take off. The worker ants seem to be preening them, rubbing their wings as if waxing them and often seeming to be encouraging them to take off. In the picture below three females prepare to launch themselves into the air after climbing to the top of a wall.



Lucy spotted and photographed this pair of Blackcaps having a wash together in our birdbath and later saw them mating in the garden. The blackcap is one of the last songbirds to be still singing after midsummer.

Photographs by Michael Ryan & Lucy Desierdo

❖ LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY LECTURES AUGUST 2021 ❖

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

Tuesday 10th at 8pm: The Genealogical Society of Ireland will host *'The O'Donnells - a history legacy'* by Francis M. O'Donnell on Zoom - members only.

Wednesday 11th at 7.30pm: The Old Dublin Society will host *'Murder by the Throat: Crown Forces in Dublin 1919-1921'* by Lar Joye on Zoom - members only.

Monday 16th at 8pm: The Medal Society of Ireland will host *'Spike Island's Republican Prisoners, 1921'* by Tom O'Neill on Zoom - members only.

Wednesday 25th at 11am: The Genealogical Society of Ireland will hold its August Open Morning Meeting on Zoom - members only.

Monday 30th at 7.30pm: The Offaly Historical & Archaeological Society will host *'The dead of the Irish Revolution, 1916-21'* on Zoom by Dr. Daithí Ó'Corráin - access via info@offalyhistory.com

The Rathmichael Historical Society Summer Lecture Series 2021

Theme - The Archaeology of Ireland's Bogs - will take place nightly from Monday August 16th to Friday August 20th consisting of the following presentation –

Monday August 16th: *'The Archaeology of Raised Bogs'* by Dr. Ellen O'Carroll;

Tuesday August 17th: *'Interpreting the Physical Features of the Faddan More Psalter'* by Dr. John Gillis;

Wednesday August 18th: The Leo Swan Memorial Lecture: *'50 Years on from Leo Swan's Research Flights over the Céide Fields in 1971'* by Prof. Séamus Caulfield;

Thursday August 19th: *'Commercial Development of Irish Bogs in 19th and 20th Centuries'* by Donal Clarke;

Friday August 20th: *'The Contribution of Archaeobotany to Archaeology'* by Dr. Gina Hannon and Dr. Richard Bradshaw.

All talks will take place nightly at 8pm and will be delivered via Zoom. The fee for non-members is €5 per lecture or €25 for the series (to include membership and all lectures up to December 31st 2021).

Last Shots – According to the official report compiled on the bombing of Dublin's North Strand in the early hours of May 31st 1941, a gun battery at Dalkey fired the last shots in this incident at an unidentified aircraft.

PUBLICATIONS

'IRA Terror on Britain's Streets 1939 - 1940. The Wartime Bombing Campaign and Hitler Connection' by Dick Kirby, published by Pen and Swords Ltd. ISBN 978 1 52678 642 5.

This fascinating and engrossing book recalls the 15-month IRA bombing campaign in Britain known as 'The 'S' [Sabotage] Plan' during which there were 265 explosions, in which seven people were killed, one hundred and seventeen injured, and ninety-nine of the bombers convicted and imprisoned.

In 1938 Seán Russell, Quartermaster-General of the IRA, with considerable financial support from J. J. McGarrity, head of Clan na Gael in the U.S.A., produced a plan to force the British to leave Northern Ireland which included a bombing campaign in Britain if this did not happen. James O'Donovan, who lived in Shankill, Co. Dublin and worked in the Electricity Supply Board in Dublin, was recruited to assist with the plan and spent five months training volunteers in the skill and art of bomb making. In late 1938 an advance party sent to Britain came to the attention of the authorities and although they had left their accommodation when raided by the police, documents found revealed the presence of other

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IRA members in Britain.

At the end of December 1938 teams of saboteurs, who were the top trainees were infiltrated into Britain, followed by others who had shown that they were adept at bomb making.

On January 12th 1939 a letter was sent to Lord Halifax, Foreign Secretary, in London, and to the heads of governments worldwide. The Council of the IRA gave the British four days to indicate its intention to issue a Declaration of Abdication and to carry out a military evacuation from Northern Ireland and that failing this appropriate action [a bombing campaign] would follow. On receipt of this letter the Home Office in London contacted the Department of External Affairs in Dublin which indicated that the Irish Government had no intention of waging war against Britain so this warning letter was filed under 'irrelevant' and not forwarded to Special Branch.

The bombing campaign in Britain commenced at 5am on Monday January 16th 1939 when an explosive device destroyed an electricity supply pylon in Northumberland as part of a series of simultaneous explosions which took place at a number of locations. But using some of the documents found the previous year, Special Branch soon made a number of arrests with those arrested successfully prosecuted and sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

The author continues the story of the bombing campaign, describing all the incidents and naming all those involved in them. On several occasions when members of the public encountered these improvised explosive or incendiary devices, they simply threw them to a place of safety or placed them in a bucket of water without due regard for their own safety. The result of all these bombing incidents facilitated the passage of new legislation which gave the police wider powers of search and arrest, to hold suspects for up to 5 days without charge, and enabled the Home Secretary to deport and exclude from Britain persons he was satisfied were connected with the IRA.

The most serious and tragic incident in the bombing campaign occurred in Coventry city centre on August 25th 1939 when a 5lb bomb concealed in a carrier cycle exploded around 2.32pm in Broadgate, a busy shopping centre, in which 5 people were killed and 72 injured, 12 seriously.

The two perpetrators of this act, who are named in this book, escaped undetected and returned to Ireland but two others involved in it, Peter Barnes and James Richards, were later convicted charged with these murders, sentenced to death and hanged on February 7th 1940. The case against these men and their trials are covered in detail by the author over several chapters.

After the Coventry bombing, the IRA campaign continued, though the outbreak of World War Two on September 3rd 1939 slowed this down as IRA volunteers now had to carry a National Identity Card. The greater surveillance at arrival ports from Ireland meant that all arrivals were subjected to scrutiny by the authorities preventing those known to them from entering Britain. But the campaign carried on until Christmas 1939 when it paused and then resumed with a number of minor incidents with the last one occurring on March 18th 1940 ending the 'S' Plan campaign.

James Scannell



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Sunday Services for August — Each Sunday 10.15am Morning Prayer

Guidelines for Safe Reopening of Church

The guidelines that were in place for the church previously are still in effect.

- A maximum of 50 are permitted to attend, and the following protective measures continue to apply:
- 2 metre social-distancing guidelines must be adhered to (members of the same household can sit/stand close together)
- Please wear face coverings
- Please use the hand sanitisers that have been made available
- No gathering of people outside the church before or after any service
- Congregational singing is not currently permitted
- Attendance at funerals and weddings is increased to 50



School News – We have had a busy and exciting last term in school. To celebrate Friendship Week, the pupils painted individual pebbles. The pebbles were displayed in the Northover Hall and everyone got to take a look at all of them and then pick and keep their favourite as a token of friendship. It was rounded off by a visit from Bel Gelato with an ice-cream for everyone in the school. This was very kindly funded by the PTA. A big thank you for this; it was a very nice treat. We said goodbye to sixth class, Class of 2021, on Wednesday 23rd June. Miss Cooke and Mrs. Kirwan organised a pizza and movie night in the school for them. It was a lovely evening and although current restrictions didn't allow for a big graduation party, everyone had a great evening with lots of laughs and chats.

Book Club – For over the summer there is a choice of three books; you may read one or all if you have the time! Then in September we will have an evening where we can discuss them. The books are *The Summer Book* by Tove Jansson, *Apeirogon* by Colum McCann and *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Happy reading!

Centering Prayer – We meet for Centering Prayer by Zoom at 7.00pm every Monday evening. You are welcome to join us. No experience needed. We will happily send you the link if you contact the Parish Office or Carol Casey at carolflylikeabird@gmail.com

Choir News – On Sunday, 13th June 2021, the choir met for the first time since the end of March 2020. An appropriately socially-distanced and musically-silent gathering took place in the Rectory garden, but this joyous reunion was tinged with deep sadness. We were gathered to celebrate Matthew Breen's time as our Parish Organist and to bid him farewell on his appointment to a position in the Cathedral Church of Christ in Liverpool. As we feasted in the sun, presentations were made to Matthew on behalf of the parishioners and the choir. As Dr. Seuss would say: *'We're not crying because it's over. We're smiling because it happened'*. Thank you, Matthew.

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DALKEY TARGETS 4,200 TONNES OF ANNUAL CARBON EMISSIONS

Four thousand, two hundred tonnes is an enormous weight. This is the equivalent of 2,600 Tesla cars or 840 bull elephants or 340 double decker buses! That is also the weight of carbon dioxide which the Heritage Town of Dalkey aspires to help remove annually from local emissions in an effort to help reduce global warming. This will also lower household energy bills and increase levels of comfort. The Dalkey Sustainable Energy Community (DSEC), part of Dalkey Tidy



Towns Group, devoted much of the past two years to creating a detailed Energy Master Plan for their locality. The objectives were clear – identify the current level of energy use, create a profile of 2,603 occupied domestic dwellings, quantify the impact of transport, survey the community and create an Energy Management Action Plan. Put simply, this would lead to the identification of what Dalkey residents could do to play their part, what costs and payback times are involved and what community grants are available through SEAI (Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland).

The Government’s ambitious National targets for retrofits in dwellings include the plan to upgrade 500,000 dwellings to BER-2 rating (or better) by 2030. This equates to approximately 25% of the National housing stock. Applied to Dalkey, it amounts to 750 houses in total or 75 upgrades per annum.

The Dalkey Sustainable Energy Community plans to meet and possibly exceed these National targets.

Julie Farrelly of the SEAI stated: *“Well done to all in Dalkey SEC for completing your EMP. The EMP was really well done. The community aspects are just bursting out of the report. I loved the art competition at the beginning and the attached community survey was great! I loved to see that an emphasis put on transport (including cycling) which is often times overlooked by so many. Overall, a great job”*



On June 14th Dalkey Sustainable Energy Community delivered details of their 35 page Plan to the Minister of State for the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform: Ossian Smyth TD.

Dalkey Tidy Towns invites residents/business owners, who are interested in retrofitting their homes/premises **and availing of higher SEAI community grants**, to submit their contact details to fiona@dalkeytidytowns.com or write to: 3, Railway Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

DTT will contact anyone who has expressed an interest once SEAI announce their 2021 Grant Programme.

Dalkey Tidy Towns Sustainable Energy Team



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

Saorview (RTE's digital terrestrial service) was officially launched on the 28th of May by the Minister for Communications Pat Rabbitte. As a run up to the launch RTE2 HD broadcast the Leinster / Northampton rugby final from Cardiff in High Definition. Myself and a pub full of screaming rugby fans enjoyed what has to be one of the most memorable games ever, and we were fortunate enough to watch the game in glorious High Definition, thanks to RTE's new Saorview digital system. RTE2 HD is currently only available on Saorview, while standard definition RTE2 is available via the old analogue aerial system, UPC and Sky.....

This article is from July 2011, and RTE2 (in standard definition) is still available on older Sky systems.

*Ian Macdonald
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