



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

First Published April 1974

NEWSLETTER No 387 (Volume 15)

Meitheamh (June) 2009

June: *In honour of the Goddess Juno, patroness of women, marriage and the home.*

Flower:  *Rose*

*A swarm of bees in May is worth a load of hay.
 A swarm of bees in June is worth a silver spoon.
 A swarm of bees in July is not worth a fly.*

*We wish a happy enjoyable Father's Day
 to all the Dads in Dalkey!*

*Guímid Lá Shona, shuairéach do gach
 Athair in Deilginis!*



Guest Speaker, Broadcaster and Dalkey Resident, Ms. Mary Wilson, speaking at the Annual Dinner of Dalkey Community Council recently

Your Area Representative is.....

Telephone: E-Mail:.....



MINUTES OF DCC MEETING – MAY 2009



The monthly meeting of the Community Council was held on Tuesday 5th May when the Chairman welcomed Ms Vandra Costello as a representative for St Begnet's Villas.

The Treasurer thanked all those who had contributed to the Annual Collection so far, but commented that the total was smaller than that collected at the same time last year.

Planning: The DLRCC Draft Development Plan for 2010 to 2016 is on public display in the County Hall, Dun Laoghaire and Dalkey library; it is recommended that everyone should inspect it and send in their comments to the planning department before 3rd July.

One of the changes noted was the removal of the zone previously designated as “no further development” and the introduction of a new category “sensitive infill allowed” in large areas of Dalkey and Killiney. This has the potential to radically alter these areas from what we presently now enjoy.



DALKEY TIDY TOWNS



Dalkey's participation in National Spring Clean was very rewarding and involved more than 150 people on our dedicated weekend in April.

25 Volunteers carried out various projects around central Dalkey. The stars were our young people; Sea Scouts, Cubs and Rangers cleaned the Bulloch Harbour area.

Pupils from Harold Boys School effectively covered Dillon's and Sorrento Parks. Residents from The Rise made a notable difference to their development.

Thank you to all other areas of Dalkey that participated.

On Monday May 11th a PowerPoint presentation on home composting was given at Dalkey Heritage Centre at 7.30pm by ecological gardener Brenda Palmer followed by a talk on Biodiversity by An Taise.

Our next challenge will be the judging by the Tidy Towns Competition adjudicators who will visit Dalkey unannounced anytime during June, July and August. It is imperative that we continue to maintain and improve the standard we have set in previous years if we are to win our category as we have done for the last year four years; Sandycove and Shankill are just a couple of points behind us and eager to overtake us!! So please, continue to keep your area clean and tidy, report dumped rubbish to the County Council and if possible join us on our weekly litter patrols.

Summer Schedule for Litter Patrols

Tuesdays – meeting at 10.30 at Select Stores to cover central Dalkey

Thursdays – meeting at 11.00 at Dillon's Park, Coliemore Road

Saturdays – meeting at 10.30 at the Church car park

Thank you,

**June Barnett,
DTT.**

*BÍ BRODÚIL AS BHÚR COMHSHEILBH * PRIDE IN YOUR COMMUNITY*



The Oldest Community Playgroup in Ireland Celebrates its 35th Birthday!

On Saturday 16th May, Dalkey Community Pre School Playgroup held a fun-filled birthday party to celebrate its 35th anniversary. It was also a chance to officially open the new state of the art, safe surface playground and super duper slide.

Pupils old and new, as well as people from the community gathered together to watch Ryan Tubridy countdown the Big Balloon Release. Over 300 balloons were let off, one for every child that has ever attended the playgroup. It was a spectacular sight and everyone cheered and clapped as they flew up, up and away!



Ryan Tubridy counts down the Big Balloon Release

As well as the balloons, there were craft tables, face painting, balloon modelling and a DJ. There was also a selection of party food and drinks, provided by members of community (Select Stores, Cavistons, Dalkey Fruit and Veg shop, Spar, and Loreto). Local man, Bren Hick was also there providing hot dogs for the adults and hot pups for the kids.

After the balloons had gone up, 'Alkazar' the magician came and entertained the children with his friends Rocky the Raccoon, and a host of other characters. The show had the children (and adults) roaring with laughter at his magic and fun.

Another main feature of the day was the 'Memory Wall'. All past and present pupils were asked to leave their handprint along with their name and the year of attendance. This is going to become a permanent fixture in the playgroup and was starting to look really effective as it filled up. (If anyone who did go to the playgroup has not yet left their handprint, the playgroup would urge you to go down and do so. You can contact Mary on 086-8420617 to arrange or pop in any morning before 1pm).

It was touch and go as to whether the rain was going to hold off, but, save for a soft mist, the rain stayed away for the whole party, with the sun even showing its face for most of it. There was a great atmosphere and everyone was relaxed as they enjoyed the day's entertainment.

Four of the women who started the playgroup all those years ago Judy O'Mahony, Gail Varian, Sheila Lampkin and Pauline Lynch, gave a wonderful speech where they explained how the playgroup came about and what they wanted to achieve.

They were all new mothers feeling a little bit isolated, a little bit out of their depth and a little bit frightened by their new situation. They recognised the enormous benefit of meeting up with other mothers in the same situation. After many chats in the



Playgroup past pupils

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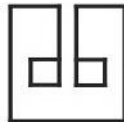
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parks, and discussions over coffee, it was agreed they would open a community playgroup that was affordable to everyone. In September 1973, Dalkey Community Playgroup opened its doors for the first time out the back of Our Ladies Hall. From there it moved to St Lawrence's Hall, down the lane behind 'Hicks' where it stayed for the next 9 years. It was then decided that it was time for their own building and so hours and hours of hard work and fundraising were put in until their own purpose-built building was finished, and it is here that it still remains today.



From the beginning, the ladies were hoping to have a playgroup whose primary function was to provide affordable, safe play facility for the young children of the community and a support structure for the mothers. Not only did they achieve this but it has been maintained for 35 years. Due to the ever increasing legislative restrictions it is becoming harder and harder to keep the costs down, but they are still doing what they can. The feeling of support and community and the lower cost is achieved by the parents regularly getting together to help out with things like cleaning, DIY, maintenance work and fund raising as well as helping supervise the children. The playgroup is run on a totally not for profit basis and so relies heavily on this parental input and community support. The Dalkey Community Playgroup is a really important part of the local community.

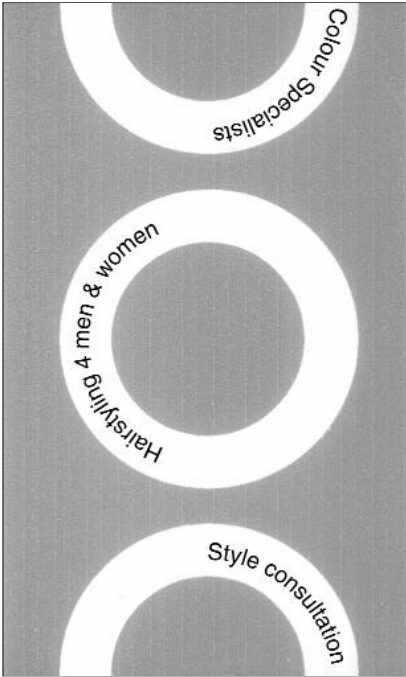
As is reflective of the Dalkey Community as a whole, the playgroup has lasted this historical length of time because of this pulling together and helping each other out. This is why Dalkey is so proud that it hosts the oldest original community playgroup in Ireland.

The party was a lovely natural and relaxed place to be on the 16th May, which makes you understand why the playgroup has lasted 35 years. Congratulations Dalkey Community Playgroup - it's a fantastic achievement!

JENNY DILLEY



*Ms. Peggy Comerford with friends Ann Petty and Vyonne Fogarty
at the annual Community Council Dinner*



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BELLS ARE RINGING

The dictionary tells us that a bell is a hollow metallic object which gives forth a clear musical ringing when struck. We can also find out that the bell shape, as we know it, has a crown, a shoulder, a waist and even a lip! Even to make it more human-like it has a tongue!

There is no record of when the bell was invented. The material used to make bells, known as bell metal, contains 77% bronze and 23% tin. They can also be made from brass, iron, gold, silver and even glass. From using these materials humans learned the great skill of bell making or bell founding.

Thousands of years ago bells were mentioned in the Book of Exodus. Having made the Tabernacle of the Testimony, garments of ministry for ministering in the holy place were made. All around the hem of these garments or robes were “bells of pure gold”. Chinese bells date back 2,000 to 3,600 years. We can conclude that bells have been around for millennia.

In the Western world we had church or town bells and in the Eastern world temple or palace bells. The town bell was rung by swinging the bell with ropes. Church bells at first were handheld bells and were known as Sanctus Bells. Temple or palace bells were rung by rapping a stick or struck a blow on the outside by means of a swinging beam.

The Latin ‘cloca’ means a bell. The Dutch word ‘klok’ and French word ‘cloche’ mean bell also. We have the Irish word ‘clog’ for bell or clock. We can now clearly see a connection between these words and ‘clock’ in English. The tolling of bells was at one time the only way of telling the time! Paulinus at Nola in Campania (Italy) was the first to do this and so we have the words campanile and campanology. Our own round towers can be described as bell towers. Famous bells exist all over the world, examples being Big Ben and Liberty Bell. We have in the National Museum St. Patrick’s four-sided bell which is like the Austrian cow-bells. Hand-bells were first used in Britain by the Romans to summon servants.

Bells are part of music, literature and the daily lives of people. So why am I telling all this? The only bell, it seems to me, that gets no recognition is the school bell! Why? It’s part of everyone’s life between the ages of four and eighteen. Even Shakespeare, who mentions the “schoolboy with shining morning face, creeping like snail unwillingly to school!” fails to acknowledge the school bell in the Seven Ages of Man! Maybe they weren’t part of schooling then. It could be a relatively recent item of school equipment. I have to confess also that I don’t remember the sound of the school bell when I was a student. Seamus Heaney is the only adult whom I’ve read that mentions the school bell in his youth in his very sad poem “Mid-term Break”. He remembers the bell knelling the end of classes as he “sat all morning in the college sick-bay”, waiting for a neighbour to drive him home. With few exceptions it seems no one remembers the school bell except adults who worked in schools!





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In my own case, having spent 38 years working in two schools, I remember clearly the sounds the bells made. In Arklow, where I started, the bell had a very ‘clang-clang’ sound and the Principal rang it at noon to remind teachers it was Angelus time, three threes and then nine clangs! When I came to Scoil Haróid in 1971 it was a hi-tech bell. The new wing had been added to the school in the mid-Sixties and an electric bell had been installed. A boy from the Principal’s class had the honorary job of pressing a button on the wall near the office six times daily for the start of school, the breaks and the ending of the school day. Towards the mid to late 70’s we had a bell problem! When pressed, the bell began to squeak, then hiss, then ring just once and then go completely silent. The Principal, Proinsias, being a man of music, decided that all six teachers in the school would go en masse to choose a bell with a good musical sound. We did so when Proinsias had left us, the lovely ‘bong-bong’ sound reminded me of him and other colleagues who had made the bell journey. On April Fool’s Day it was so easy to remove the bell’s tongue and watch as the poor honorary bell-ringer tried to ring the silent bell! If the bell sounded at an unusual time all the heads came up in wonder with looks of “what’s wrong?” Then on the day of school holidays the bell was rung at an earlier time to smiles from children who knew the bell told them of endless days of freedom. School bells are precious sounds remaining in my memory and long may the hand-bell live in school. To coin a phrase they ‘ring the bell for me’.

Seán Ó Gormáin

MAY GARDENING TALKS

Sat. 20th June 7.00pm

Alpine Garden Society of Ireland

“A Midsummer Party”.

Venue:

National Botanic Gardens, Glasnevin.

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Lily Nepalense

Well, I just wonder, have you at this stage given any thought at all to purchasing a few packets of seeds to grow or surprising your neighbour with a freshly, aromatically cut, bunch of parsley? Next month, I hope to share with you our great news regarding a recent unexpected visit to our house by a lady who carried our some amazing tests on our tap water. Hopefully, I will be able to give you the exact percentages of chlorine, etc, contained in our water, in our next Dalkey Newsletter. I must say that she was most impressed, as I myself have been, with our excellent drinking water.

Why not now that we are approaching the month of June, give our house plants a little holiday? We all know that plants ooze life into a house. But you know, I'm sure, most of our house plants come from warmer climates and finding a suitable spot for them outside will, instantly, add a touch of the tropics to your garden. Sometimes it's a good idea to sink your house plants in their pots into the soil and move them around as the mood takes you. Remember, of course, to bring them back into the house in the autumn. So, as most house plants are more than happy to spend a few weeks outdoors in the summer, and believe it or not, asparagus ferns, spider plants and tradescantias ('Wandering Jew') are some of the happiest. One could even make a stylish container display, using some of the above plants. Last summer I saw a classy and distinctive display which was made up of approximately two Asparagus Ferns, three Spider Plants and one Mother-in-Law's Tongue (Sansivieria Triasciata 'Laurenti') and two tradescantias ('Wandering Jew'). Obviously, these fabulous foliage plants have very different characters and when watered regularly will last right through to September.

Who needs extravagance, especially now with our glorious Recession coming into full swing? The newest and most up-to-date, 5 seater sofa, extraordinary coffee table, -etc, where does it all end? I believe one has to take a backward step, sit down quietly, think, observe, decide and then plan on a few basic priorities and, of course, their cost. An open heart, sensitivity to nature and to those very simple things in life that can mean the 'essence' of life. Perhaps a simple arch, with a climbing and rambling rose intertwining through it with a pendulas clematis or a granite bird bath or perhaps just a natural terracotta pot filled with cream geraniums placed by your hall door can speak volumes! These can be the very qualities that make a home a 'real' home.

We're hearing on the radio and television virtually every day to get "stuck into" growing our own vegetables, fruits and herbs, and needless to say we can save a fortune. You really can't beat the invigorating flavour of fresh herbs and they don't come much fresher than home grown. What about some delicious chives to snip into your Saturday morning scrambled eggs or mint for your new potatoes and rosemary for your Sunday roast lamb? Even a little window box will provide the necessary space to grow some of these jewels. Why not consider growing some herbs in your hanging basket, e.g. sage, oregano, greek basil, thyme and creeping rosemary?

Basil: Don't they say that Basil is the marriage of a tomato?



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Basil

Arguably, it is one of the most popular herbs. If you're inclined to use it a lot in food, then it really is worth growing your own. Once young plants reach approximately 15 cm tall, remove the shoot tip in order to encourage more leafy growth. We can of course buy basil in pots in the supermarket or garden centre. Look out for bushy plants with lots of wide shoots and no sign of flowering. You can make more plants by taking cuttings. Cut off a piece of stem about 8 cm just below a leaf joint, remove the lower leaves, then pop the cuttings in a jar of water and wait for them to form roots. Once they've rooted, pot them



up in a free-draining compost and then look forward to a continued supply of fresh basil without another trip to the supermarket. Remember to keep your basil in the sunniest spot and water sparingly. If you find you have a bumper crop at the end of the summer, pick the lot and make into a pesto sauce. If basil doesn't take your fancy, what about trying flat-leaved parsley or curly parsley, lemongrass, lemon verbena, tarragon, fennel, chives, mint, bay, oregano, rosemary or sage?

Yesterday, I took our darling Precious (now 9 months old, a Ruby King Charles) for a walk up Killiney Hill. Initially, I could have been ever so cross with him as I found him in our little garden scampering through our divine clump of *Astrantia*, ('Ruby Wedding') while at the same time devouring one of my best cream-flowering dendrobiums (*Cane Orchids*) which he had literally masticated into shreds! I guess it was his way of telling me, "I'm fed up with this place. Please will you take me out for my daily walk!" So, harness on and off we went. I have to say Killiney Hill and all its walking trails are an absolute pleasure to walk. My goodness, the County Council, led by Mr. Tom Byrne, has done mammoth work in cutting back, clearing, etc. Every enclave and vista looks quite stunning at present and the benches dotted here and there are ever so inviting. God bless those workers, well done to each of you.



Bowl of Rocket

TIPS:

1. Are my seeds in that old brown envelope still fresh to sow or simply 'gone'?
A useful test is to crush a seed or part of the white endosperm onto paper and if a small stain remains, the chances are that the seeds are good because oil is a source of energy for germination.
2. If you get plants off to a healthy start, they are better able to resist pests and diseases.
3. Move shrubs in pots into cooler positions in order to reduce the stress of hot weather and to reduce the amount of watering needed.
4. Pick gooseberries as soon as they are grape size in order to spread the harvest over a longer period. The latter fruits will swell even longer as a result.
5. Try and keep your lettuces cool.



Gooseberries



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You can marvel at the extraordinary skill of the medieval Archer with his long bow and selection of deadly arrow heads. Smack your lips to the Cook's description of the evening's feast and barely resist scratching due her vivid description of living conditions of the time. Last but not least-painful- the travelling Barber-Surgeon will offer to trim your hair and your beard; tempt you to a blood letting, amputation and more....all in character and in engaging good fun!

Enjoy the fun of 'The Medieval Experience'! Great family fun day out!

After the performance you can climb to the battlements for panoramic views of surrounding sea and mountains. Later you can enjoy the tranquillity of the 10th Century Church and Graveyard dedicated to St Begnet and read the local literary connections in the Writers' Gallery.

GUIDED HISTORICAL WALKS – EVERYDAY!

Walk and talk....an experienced guide reveals the stories behind Dalkey's streetscape and ancient history. Guided Historical Walks leave daily from Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre, May 1st -August 31st: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 14.00 and Tuesday & Fridays at 11.00. Price €4. Walks for groups can be pre-booked at other times by arrangement.

Special Offer: Half price admission to 'The Medieval Experience' with Walks ticket! Walk and 'Medieval Experience' – only €7.

Guided Literary Walks to settings in the work of James Joyce, George Bernard Shaw, Flann O'Brien and Hugh Leonard can be arranged (minimum number required).

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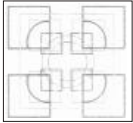
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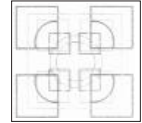
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BLOOMSDAY FESTIVAL 2009

The Dalkey Schoolroom Scene from **Ulysses** will be re-created at 3.30pm at Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre. This will be followed by a Joycean Walk in Dalkey. Later at 8.00pm we will host **A Joycean Evening** with fun extracts from Joyce's work linked by music and song. Niamh Murray will be soprano again this year. The festival is sponsored by The DLR Heritage Office. Admission €15. Book early to avoid disappointment as numbers are limited.

Visit www.dalkeycastle.com for more details; Tel 01 2858366 or email info@dalkeycastle.com.

*Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre is supported by
Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Co Co; FÁS and CRAGA (Pobal)*

❖ THE NIGHT OF THE BIG WIND - 6th / 7th JANUARY 1839 ❖

I have previously mentioned that one of the questions put by Relieving Officers to old age pension applicants in 1908 when they were unable to provide written proof of their age was 'did they remember the night of the Big Wind and what could they recall about it?' 'since anything they recollected could be checked. On the night of 5th January 1839 heavy snow fell across Ireland and was replaced on the following morning by an Atlantic warm front which brought calm to the country with temperatures rising during the day resulting in the rapid thawing of the snow that had fallen the previous night. But unknown to everyone during the day a deep Atlantic depression began moving towards Ireland and created a cold front when it collided with the warm air over Ireland bringing strong winds and heavy rain. Around noon reports of severe weather were reported from western parts of Co. Mayo with the storm gathering strength as it moved eastwards across the country. By midnight the winds had reached hurricane force and it's believed that this storm was the most severe storm to impact on the country for several years. Severe damage occurred in Connacht, Ulster and North Leinster with between one fifth and a quarter of houses in Dublin being damaged ranging from broken windows, tiles stripped from roofs and the complete destruction of poorly built houses while all over the country the badly built homes of the poor suffered greater damage and destruction. Farmers were particularly affected with stacks of hay and corn for livestock being damaged. Shipping was also affected with a number of ships being wrecked while trying to ride out the storm.

According to Frank Hopkins in '*Hidden Dublin - Deadbeats, Dossers and Decent Skins*' published by Mercier Press, several churches in Dublin opened their doors to hoards of citizens who sought refuge from the storm even though several of these were damaged including St. Patrick's Cathedral, St. Matthew's at Irishtown and Phibsboro church while many of the big houses on St. Stephen's Green and Merrion Square suffered structural damage.

How many died as the result of this storm has never been quantified but it's estimated that between 300 and 400 people lost their lives – in Mary Street six people were killed in a fire; in Glasnevin a member of the Dublin Metropolitan Police was killed when a wall of the Botanic Gardens collapsed on top of him while in Guinness's brewery nine dray horses were killed when a stable wall fell on them.

Given the scale of this storm, most of those over seventy would have some recollection of it and this is why this event was used as one of the qualifying questions for applicants.

James Scannell

PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED Wks 16-19 14/4'09 - 8/5'09

Reg Ref: D09A/0042

Date: 26th Jan 2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Enda Kearns, 9, Mapas Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin

Proposal: Permission is sought for a 1) construct a single storey extension (approx. 16.5 m²) with pitched roof and 2 no. velux rooflights to rear of dwelling 2) single storey extension with pitched roof to front of dwelling; 3) conversion of existing garage to habitable accommodation with first floor extension above, 4) attic conversion with 1 no. dormer and 1 no. velux to rear, 2 no. velux to front and 1 no. velux to side of dwelling and 5) widening of front entrance from approx. 2.5 m to 3 m in width. The development will also include alterations to the internal layout and associated site development works. Add. Info/: 17-Apr-2009.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0156

Application Rec'd Date: 17-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Debbie & Stephen O'Flaherty, Clonturk, Ardburgh Road, Dalkey. **Proposal:** New single storey extension to rear of existing bungalow.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0159

Application Rec'd Date: 17-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: M. Healy, 2, Saval Park Gardens, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Construction of single storey extension to rear (north-west) of existing house and conversion of existing attic space to non-habitable room with dormer window to rear and side.

Reg. Ref.: D08A/1146

Application Rec'd Date: 10-Oct-2008

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Hilarie Geary, 11, Castlepark Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: 1) The demolition of the single storey extension to the rear of the existing 3 storey terraced house. 2) The construction of a new single storey flat roof extension with roof lights to the rear. 3) Ancillary site works. Add. Info: Clarification Of A.I.: 26-Feb-2009, 23-Apr-2009.

Reg. Ref.: D08A/1392

Application Rec'd Date: 19-Dec-2008

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Dominic Galvin, 66, Ulverton Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Demolition of existing garage to side gable of 66 Ulverton Road, construction of new five bedroom, three storey split level detached dwelling with balcony to rear; existing vehicle entrance extended to accommodate 2 no. car parking spaces. To include all hard and soft landscaping and associated site works. Additional Information: 20-Apr-2009.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0072

Application Rec'd Date: 03-Feb-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Suzanne and Vincent Finnegan, 2, Ard Mhuire Park, Dalkey.

Proposal: The demolition of the single storey garage and two storey house and the construction of two, two-storey, 4 bedroom, semi-detached houses House 1: 193sq.m, House 2: 182sq.m, the widening of the existing access to 3.5m and new 3.5m wide access, both with entrance gates and piers, new boundary walls to both sides and between front and rear gardens of proposed houses, and all associated works. Additional Information Rec'd (New Adds): 23-Apr-2009.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0275

Application Rec'd Date: 21-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: P. & J. O'Loughlin, 57, Mapas Road, Dalkey, Co Dublin

Proposal: Permission sought for relocation of existing side conservatory to rear of existing house and changes to the approved development (Reg. ref. D07A/1152, Bord Pleanala Ref. PL06D.226816) consisting of: An increase in floor area at basement level and first floor level to the front of 31.7sq.m (total proposed new house area 230.7sq.m.) elevation changes and a revised lower roof profile and ancillary works.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0285

Application Rec'd Date: 28-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address: Noel & Anne Marie Smyth.

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

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

Reg. Ref. D09B/017

Application Rec'd Date: 29-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Julie & Brian Keane, 3, St. Margarets Close, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Planning permission is sought for extension and alterations to existing two storey dwelling to include new rooflight window to existing front / west elevation, demolition of existing conservatory and erection of new part one storey, part two storey flat roof extension to rear / east.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0176

Application Rec'd Date: 29-Apr-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Andrew Fitzpatrick, 13, Mapas Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: The conversion of existing attic space to habitable room, with dormer window to the rear, two velux type windows to the front elevation, along with internal amendments.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0183

Application Rec'd Date: 30-Apr-2009

Applic. Name, Address & Location: Siobhan Noonan, 3, Wolverton Glen, Castlepark Rd, Dalkey.

Proposal: Planning permission sought for single storey side and rear extension, associated alterations and site works.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0313

Application Rec'd Date: 07-May-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Martin Whelan, Linden Lodge, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Planning permission is sought for A: Alterations to the existing Linden Lodge including removal of extraneous additions to the front, side and rear, including the conservatory and utility buildings. B: The refurbishment of the remaining part and change of use from residence to nursing home. C: Construction of additional buildings to provide for the nursing home consisting of 60 bed spaces to the sides and rear of Linden Lodge. D: Construction for undercroft parking facility for 15 cars, 25 bicycles and bin storage with access from Castlepark Road via re-opened older entrance in the interests of traffic safety. E: Decommissioning of existing entrance to Linden Lodge in the interests of traffic safety. F: Restoration and improvement of existing boundary stone walls and metal railings. G: Improved tree planting and landscaping to the edges (public realm) including upgrading of walls where necessary.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0303

Application Rec'd Date: 05-May-2009

Applicant Name, Address & Location: Tom Kavanagh, Waterside, Queenstown Castle, 34, Coliemore Road, Dalkey, (Having Shared Access Through Queenstown Castle)

Proposal: Retention permission sought for development which will consist of; 'As built' partially constructed split level 2 storey detached dwelling house with basement accommodation to rear accessed from foreshore jetty. The dwelling will comprise of 4 bedrooms with associated bathrooms and living accommodation, stores, external terraces, railings, stairs and boundary walls (238.3 sqm total floor area). A protected structure. **Application Type:** Permission for Retention

PLANNING DECISIONS FOR WEEKS 16-19 – 14/4/09 to 8/5/2009

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0051

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 24-Apr-'09

Applicant Name: Obelisk Communications Ltd., 27, Castle Street, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Mounting of 2 no. panel antennas and 1 no. Link dish to be placed behind existing front facade of the building at roof level, for the purpose of mobile telecommunications with associated telecommunications equipment located in the rear yard.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0090

Decision: Grant Permission

Date: 23-Apr-2009

Applicant Name: S. and B. Gordon, 33, Mapas Road, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposal: Permission is sought for roof gable extension, attic conversion with dormer windows to rear, a roof-light to front and internal alterations and ancillary works.

Reg. Ref.: D09A/0160

Decision: Request Add. Information

Date: 27-Apr-2009

Applicant Name & Location: Clarity Developments. Ltd., Site at, 9, Mapas Road, Dalkey..

Proposal: Part demolition of the western side of the existing house (comprising garage, Wc and staircase) and refurbishment and extension at first floor level of said house (including internal revisions and construction of new external wall); and construction of one new 4-bedroom detached

house of approx. 163sqm with individual new vehicular access onto Mapas road and off-street parking; all landscaping and ancillary site development works.All on a site of approx 0.06 ha.

Reg. Ref.: D09B/0111

Decision: Withdraw The Application

Date: 30-Apr-2009

Applicant Name & Location: Siobhan Noonan, 3, Wolverton Glen, Castlepark Road, Dalkey.

Proposal: Permission is sought for a single storey side and rear extension, associated alterations and site works.

APPEAL DECISIONS An Bord Pleanala Wks. 16-19 6/4/2009 to 8/5'09

Reg. Ref.: D08A/0927

Decision: Refuse Permission

Appeal Decided: 1-May-2009

Council's Decision: Refuse Permission

Location: The White House, 21, Dalkey Avenue, Dalkey, Co. Dublin.

Proposed Development: The demolition of the existing two storey four bedroom house (226 sq nm.) and the construction of 4 No. three storey five bedroom detached dwellings (1 @ 500 sq. m. and 3 @ 325 sq. m each) with roof mounted solar collectors on each dwelling, minor modifications to the existing vehicular access, the provision of a new vehicular access at the metals, off street car parking to each dwelling, landscaping and ancillary site development works.

Applicant: Iris O'Malley.

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PRETTY IN PINK “PAVLOV-ETTES”



You will need

- 4 egg whites
- pinch salt
- 200g caster sugar
- 1 tsp. corn flour
- Teensy drop of pink food colouring
- 1 tsp. lemon juice
- 140ml cream
- 150g natural yoghurt
- 500g fresh fruit



What to do

1. Put the oven on 140 degrees C or Gas Mark 1
2. Prepare the flat tin by cutting out a piece of grease proof paper that will fit snugly onto the tin.
3. Crack each egg carefully into a jug- separating the egg yolk or yellow part from the white jelly part.
4. Place the egg whites into a large mixing bowl add the salt. Using an electric mix whisk until stiff.
5. Gradually add the sugar, whisking all the time.
6. Stir in corn flour, pink colouring and lemon juice. Spoon onto the baking sheet as one big pavlova or spoon into 12 small ‘pavlovettes’ Bake for 40-45 minutes.
7. Put the cream into a clean bowl and whisk until thick. Add natural yoghurt.
8. Decorate with fresh cream and fresh fruits.

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LOCAL HISTORY LECTURES

On Wednesday June 14th Colin Scudds, Dun Laoghaire Borough Historical Society will lead a **“Guided Walk of Carrickbrennan Graveyard, Monkstown, Co.Dublin”** between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

A BOOK TO READ

“Told in Toberona - A Memoir” by John Swift, published by Watchword.

In 1916 John Swift, who was working in England, was conscripted into the British Army and imprisoned as a conscientious objector before he was later forcibly drafted into that war. As confectioner by trade / profession, he wrote part of this personal memoir of his life while in prison and later completed it in the late 1980s. Born in Dundalk in 1896, Swift provides the reader with a fascinating insight into what Dundalk was like as he grew up, the many people his family were in contact with and some of the characters of the town. His account of being imprisoned as a conscientious objector is one of the few written accounts of those who experienced this and is possibly the only written account of an Irish conscientious objector during the First World War. A lifelong Socialist, Trade Unionist and Secularist, after the war Swift held several key positions within the Trade Union Movement. A prolific writer, he wrote countless articles for The Irish Times and numerous labour periodicals.



His widely acclaimed book ‘*History of the Dublin Bakers and Others*’ was published in 1948. John Swift died in 1990.



Above:
Alan Nuzum, Caroline Hickey, Emma Jane Nulty
and Sharon Nealon.

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Right:
Dalkey Players enjoy the party.

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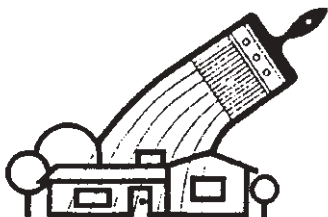
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LETTER TO THE EDITOR



C/22 Kensington Ave
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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I took a short trip to Ireland from the UK last weekend. I am Australian on an extended visit to this part of the world.

I hired a car last Friday to take on a scenic trip. My first stop was Dalkey. I parked the car in the churchyard carpark, went to put money in the machine, at which point I realised I had no Euro on me only Sterling as I had come straight from the airport. I then went to find an ATM and get change. This took me no more than 15 mins, though it only took this long as I went into the market in the castle to change my note and had a brief and friendly conversation with the gentleman selling apple juice. I then made my way to the carpark to put money in the meter so I could go and have some lunch in a cafe, only to discover that in that short time my car had been clamped!

The notices warning of this were written in tiny letters I might add.....not broadcast in huge letters as such an abominable fine should be.

It cost me €90 to be unclamped, despite me telling the gentleman my legitimate story and the fact I had only been a few minutes. I was clearly a tourist and clearly in a hire car. I was not taking the proverbial.

I came to Dalkey to spend money in the shops and market and had every intention of paying for my parking too. I find this fine to be absolutely disproportionate to the offence and to say it ruined my trip would be a massive understatement. €90 might not be much to you people in oh-so expensive Ireland but in my currency that is a bloody fortune and one I could not afford to part with. I understand the need to raise revenue...but I do not understand the need to do it in such an unjust and inhuman manner, with complete disregard for legitimate circumstances. Had the ferocity of the clamping issue been made clearer I would have left a note explaining I had gone for money.

I have kept the receipt for this. I would now like to request what recourse I have to appeal this fine as to not do so would be to go against everything I believe in. I did not deserve to be fined €90 that day. I did not deserve to have my trip ruined over such a trivial matter.

I would like to request full compensation and would like to know my rights in accord to making this claim.

Your correspondence would be much appreciated.

Regards
Rowan Campbell

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SPRING WAS IN THE AIR

I'd seen the female Sparrowhawk over three consecutive weekends perched on different trees but always in the same small area of woodland and I was certain she was nesting nearby. When their chicks are hatched they parent bird will often perch on nearby trees keeping watch, rather than perching on the tree they're nesting in and possibly drawing attention to the nest and its contents.

A lot of birds of prey have very basic nests or use old nests of crows but Sparrowhawks build their own nests with the male initiating the building by placing a few twigs on a conifer tree then bringing the female to view the site. He might prospect a few nest sites before he finds one she approves of and then they'll begin building. For a number of years Sparrowhawks had nested in a Larch tree with the nest no higher than fifteen feet up the tree, which itself was only a few feet away from a frequently used path. Unfortunately that tree was blown over one winter and I hadn't seen them nesting in the vicinity for years but this time it looked like they were back. The fourth weekend after first seeing her my companion and I stopped to look for her and soon saw her perched on a dead conifer. Sparrowhawks have one permanent expression, fierce. With big alert yellow eyes and hooked bill they look like angry killing machines, though very beautiful and graceful ones. But this bird was emitting soft short calls and we soon saw why when a male Sparrowhawk, a much smaller bird almost half her size, flew in through the trees then flew up on to her back. They mated very briefly before he perched a few feet away. They made low calls to each other and that's probably as near to being romantic as Sparrowhawks get.

The following week I was in the wood again. Lots more leaves on the trees and no sign of the Sparrowhawk but thought I'd have a look with the binoculars anyway. Almost instantly I saw her, perched on a Larch tree. And then, incredibly, the male flew in again and was mating with her again almost instantly, this time they were face on to me. I'd have thought they'd have finished mating weeks before but maybe it's a way of strengthening the pair bonding. Or maybe they're just a lot more romantic than I thought.



Lady's Smock

A few years ago I found a lovely little mauve pink flower growing in the garden and eventually identified it as Lady's Smock, a native wild flower usually found growing in wet or peaty land. How it got in my garden I've no idea. I wouldn't have thought the conditions in my garden would have been suitable and although very wild and overgrown in places it certainly doesn't resemble a bog. I'd have thought the soil was too well drained since you only have to dig down a few feet before hitting solid granite. Maybe the granite actually stops the soil drying out. Anyhow, I was delighted to have it and was very careful to avoid cutting the charming little plant and

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gradually over the years it has spread around the garden and now numbers dozens of plants. I've no doubt I've accidentally eliminated a few of them under the lawnmower since their small leaved stem blends in very subtly with tufts of long grass but there is still a ever expanding population. I just heard recently they are a very good food plant for Orange Tip butterflies which emerge in late spring.



Lady's Smock is also known as the Cuckoo Flower, not because it parasites other plants but because its flowers emerge in late April when the male Cuckoo arrives and begins calling. There was a very reliable report that a Cuckoo had been calling on Killiney Hill one evening in late April this year. They often start calling as soon as they hit land but if no female is attracted they'll move on. A few years ago one spent a few days calling in the wood on Torca Road and I was very lucky to be able to see it perched on a Eucalyptus tree.

I, like many volunteers around the country, have been conducting bird surveys on designated areas of one square kilometre for the last 10 years.

The squares are visited twice in the breeding season early in the morning, once in late spring and then at least 6 weeks after, usually in early June before the birds stop singing. All birds seen and heard are recorded as you walk two transect paths. The survey, the CBS or Countryside Breeding Bird survey, is to record declines or increases in breeding bird populations and will go on for many years. The squares were picked at random to cover every possible type of habitat from the middle of towns to lakesides, bogs and every other type of habitat.

My square is in North Wexford and although a long distance to drive to in the early hours, it is in a beautiful setting, a farm in a valley with rolling hillsides, pastureland and woods. Delighted this year to hear a Cuckoo calling on the farm though it gradually moved away inland and I didn't get a glance of it.

Cuckoos are in serious decline in the UK and Ireland and no one knows exactly why although there are a few theories. Their main host species in Ireland is the Meadow Pipit and although there has been a decline in their numbers it has been nothing like the Cuckoos decrease. There is a possibility they might be facing hazards in their African wintering ground or on their long migration route.

There used be a supermarket manager in Dalkey who told me his father had kept and fed a young Cuckoo in a cage over the course of a winter since he presumed it was abandoned by its parents and I've heard of other well intentioned people keeping young cuckoos, thinking they wouldn't be able to survive in the wild. Of course Cuckoos in the wild will never see their parents anyway, they are probably well on their way back to Africa while their offspring are still being frantically fed by their 'foster' parents. When fledged and able to fend for themselves they will fly all the way to southern Africa, alone and just using their inbuilt navigation system to get there.

One of the most memorable 'birding' sights I've ever been lucky enough to see was during the heatwave summer of '95 when I was touring around Donegal in beautiful sunshine. I'd stayed a night in Gweedore in a B&B and in the morning walking down a laneway I saw a young Cuckoo sitting on a rock in a field being fed by a Meadow Pipit, a bird perhaps half its size.

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The dog had sounded her squirrel bark but evidently the squirrel had taken the most effective action and froze motionless in the pine tree. But we kept looking and after a few minutes we saw a movement along a branch. At first I saw pale fur and thought it a Grey but when it moved I saw it was the white fur of the underside of a Red Squirrel. It moved on to a Sycamore and began eating the newly opened flowers. I'd seen reds eating the flowers of Horse Chestnut trees before and the newly opened flower bracts of regenerated Elm trees are a very substantial part of their diet in spring but hadn't seen one on a sycamore before.



It moved on to another sycamore, right over the path and made its way out on to a dead branch. No flowers here, just leafless twigs but the squirrel started gnawing on the bark and seconds later a shower of peeled bark was raining down around us. The Grey Squirrel causes a lot of damage to young trees when it peels off the bark to eat the rising sap but this branch the red was eating was dead and it might well have been eating fungus which is another substantial part of its diet. Sap or fungus, whatever it was eating it was enjoying its meal, totally oblivious to us and our barking dog a few feet below.

A few weeks later, early one morning, the dog tore ahead and I saw a Red on a tall thin Larch tree. It was quite a way up but started coming down the trunk which I thought odd until I saw there was another red squirrel further down the trunk. They were snaking around the tree chasing each other then went out on higher branches and leaped on to the next tree. They're wonderful animals to see, moving through the tree canopy racing up the trunks and effortlessly leaping from branch to branch. Compared to the Reds, Greys are much heavier and clumsier leaving bending boughs in their wake, maybe because they spend more time feeding on the ground.

It was great to see a pair of Red Squirrels together in the woods on Killiney Hill and they definitely looked like a 'item' so, with a bit of luck, they might breed and have a family.

❖ A 1922 DALKEY FIRE ❖

During the week of August 19th to August 26th 1922 Dalkey Fire Brigade, under the command of Acting-Captain John Healy, was called to the residence of Mr. Frederick Healy, Graigueulands, after an outbreak of fire at the rere of this residence broke out.

When the brigade arrived at this incident, the fire had taken a firm hold and after a hard and difficult operation, brought it under control and prevented it from spreading further.

The police subsequently complimented several local residents for the invaluable assistance they rendered to the brigade while engaged in the fire fighting operation.

James Scannell

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- Hedge trimming
- Weeding
- Seasonal pruning
- Garden, terrace or balcony design, creation or renovation
- Dead-heading
- Lawn mowing
- Garden clearance

SPRING AND SUMMER WORK

- Grass sowing and turfing
- Sowing and planting out of bedding plants and shrubs
- Woodwork care for decking, fences, trellis, etc.
- Improvement projects – paving, terraces, decking, ponds, etc.
- Lawn fertilizing weeding and conditioning
- Pest and disease control
- Tidying for summer

Please contact us to talk about your garden, terrace or balcony.
No-obligation free estimates



FULLY INSURED REFERENCES AVAILABLE BSc.(Hons.) Ag. & Hort.

FORTY YEARS OF MEALS-ON-WHEELS IN DALKEY

The Annual General Meeting of Dalkey Meals-on-Wheels took place on April 27th in Our Lady's Hall. The President, Averil Brennan, welcomed us and said how delighted she was to see such a large turnout on this, our 40th Anniversary. Four of the original volunteers - Kathleen Beirne, Yvonne Fogarty, Mary Kerr and Zita McNicholl - were at the Meeting, and each of them was presented with a small gift in appreciation of their long years of service. Averil told us of two young volunteers - Anne Magee and Deirdre Breslin - who won the Community Council Cup. They started cooking on Sundays when they were in Transition Year, and now they are both in college and still continue to cook for us on Sundays. Congratulations to them both, and perhaps more young people might be encouraged to become volunteers. The Secretary, Olga Stewart, read the Minutes of the last meeting and our Co-Ordinator, Mary Scott, gave an overview of the progress of Meals-on-Wheels during the past year.

Our Treasurer, Bobby Neiland, produced the Annual Accounts and explained them in detail. In the 12 months ending March 31st, the cost of food per meal has increased by 12.2%, and the number of meals served in that period has grown by 942 to 22,718. Our first delivery, back in 1969, consisted of 5 meals and the recipients then paid one shilling (about 6.3 cent). The cost is now €2 per meal (an increase of about 3,150 %!).

The discussion at the meeting was mostly concerned with parking - or lack of parking - in Kilbegnet Close. It is only in the last few years that the drivers have been experiencing great difficulty in both collecting and returning the food containers to the kitchen. All volunteers have been cautioned against using the disabled bays - which are usually empty - even for the few minutes it takes to collect and return the containers, as using them can result in a parking ticket. Since most of the recipients are in some way disabled, and many of the drivers are elderly, it seems unfair that short-term use of vacant spaces cannot be availed of. Strict enforcement of the rules by Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and the Traffic Wardens, and a certain amount of hostility from some of the residents of Kilbegnet Close, combine to create a real problem for us. The local Gardaí are sympathetic, but are powerless in this matter. As there is a County Council election in June, it was suggested that Cooks, Drivers and Recipients should lobby any Councillor - or would-be Councillor- on this issue.

THE MEETING ENDED WITH SUPPER AND A 40th BIRTHDAY CAKE.

Ann Purcell

IT WASN'T ALL BAD

The world's oldest set of bells are to ring again after lying silent for 20 years. The five bells of St. Lawrence church in Ipswich date back to the 1450s and are known as Wolsey's bells after Henry VIII's cardinal, who was born nearby and would have heard them ring as a young man.

The medieval tower had grown too weak to support them, but a restoration project is to move them to a lower, reinforced part of the church, allowing their distinctive peal to be heard once again.

Source: THE WEEK, ISSUE 714 9TH MAY 2009



STROKE IDENTIFICATION



At a garden party a friend stumbled and took a little fall, blamed the terrain and the shoes, seemed fine and carried on normally. She died the following morning.

STROKE IDENTIFICATION: **S T R** **Smile Talk Raise both arms**

1. Ask the individual to SMILE.
2. Ask the person to TALK and SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE (Coherently) (i.e. It is sunny out today)
3. Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

If he or she has trouble with ANY ONE of these tasks, call an emergency number immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

New Sign of a Stroke ————— Stick out Your Tongue. If the tongue is ‘crooked’, if it goes to one side or the other, that is also an indication of a stroke.

A cardiologist says for every ten people reading this; you can bet that at least one life will be saved.

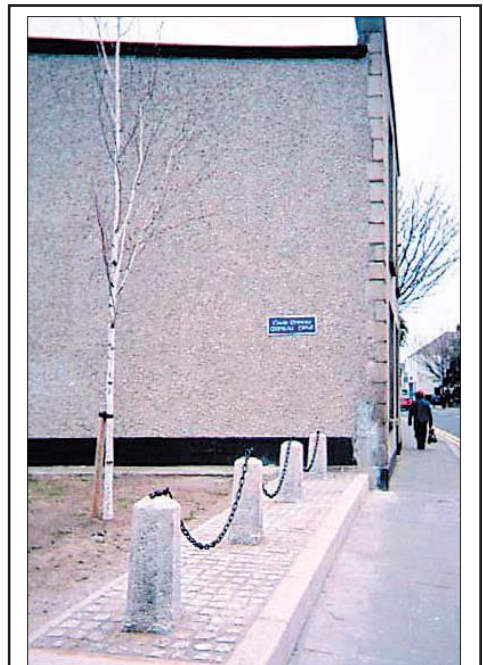
A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 hours he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke...totally. He said the trick was getting a stroke recognized, diagnosed, and then getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which can be tough.



Copyright 17th Dalkey Scouts

SCOUTS' PARADE

17th Dalkey Scouts on parade in Dalkey as part of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations 2009



The Maritime Feature mentioned in the May issue of the Newsletter

❖ FORTHCOMING EVENTS ❖

Bank Holiday	Monday 1 June
DCC June Monthly Meeting	Tuesday 2 June
DCC Garden Competition - judging	Thursday 11 June
Blooms Day in HC @ 3.30pm "The Dalkey Schoolroom Scene" from Ulysses. Admission incl. Walk €10	Tuesday 16 June
Joycean Walk 4.00pm leaves from Dalkey Castle	
Joycean Evening 8.00 Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre, Niamh Murray, Soprano Adm.€15	
Father's Day	Sun day 21 June
Sorting July Newsletter	Friday 26 June
July Community Council Meeting	Monday 6 July

EVENTS THROUGH THE MONTH

Karate sessions - Contact Wayne Deegan 086 857 2546 Tuesdays & Thursdays

Juveniles from 6.00-7.00pm & Adults 7.00-9.00pm

Dalkey Players Drama Group (HC) 7.30-10.30pm Tuesdays & Thursdays

Co Co Markets continue in Dalkey Town Hall every Friday 10.0-3.00. Fish from Kilmore Quay; organic vegetables and meat from the Dominican Farm in Wicklow and fresh traditional garden flowers in season. Please support the CoCo market if you can.

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

LAST DAY for advertisements & Articles for next 2 issues: JULY.: 5th June '09; August: 10th July '09.

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

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

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

DALKEY COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING RATES

EFFECTIVE FROM FEBRUARY 2009 ISSUE

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

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

No full page Advertisements.

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

EDITORIAL POLICY — The Editorial Staff reserve the right to edit and/or emend articles submitted to the Newsletter. The views and comments published within the Newsletter are not necessarily the views shared or condoned by Dalkey Community Council Limited.

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Richard Mooney, Danny Merity (*Distribution*), Helena Feely (*Advertising Manager*)

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Marié's Centra

11-12 Barnhill Road
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**OPEN 6.30am to 11pm - 7 DAYS
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- TEA & COFFEE
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Oh! How Television (and Radio) has changed over the years.....

Panasonic has announced that it will launch its new "Freesat" receivers this June. There are a few different models to choose from, and its flagship receiver (which supports all SD and HD channels) is quite a machine. Not only does it boast a twin tuner (to record 2 channels at the same time), it also has a full blown Blu-ray DVD player built in as well, and if that's not enough you can play a DVD in high definition and record 2 satellite channels all at the same time from the one unit! As soon as they become available I'll be putting it through its paces . . . watch this space.

*Ian Macdonald,
Maxtec Systems*

M A X T E C

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