

Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association Newsletter



www.sandycoveandglashule.ie

November 2007

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Circulation 2,500

Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association is thriving and active. The main object of the Association is to promote the best interests of the residents of the area. We regularly publish this newsletter, which is distributed to 2,500 households. The printing of this newsletter is paid for by members' subscriptions. If you are a member, thank you. If you are not already a member, please consider joining. An application form is enclosed with this newsletter.

O BATHS, BATHS, WHEREFORE ART THOU BATHS?

Our 6 ward councillors, under the chair of Councillor Jane Dillon Byrne, well over a year ago (before the General Election!)

finalised a plan for our baths site which was approved by the Council. The other members of the committee were Councillors John Bailey, Cormac Devlin, Kealin Ireland, Mary Mitchell O'Connor and Eugene Regan.



We still await the commencement of the plan or, indeed, any news at all!

RESIDENTS GATHERING

Date Thursday 22nd November 2007

Time 8 pm

Venue **St Paul's Community Hall**

St Paul's recently opened modern community hall is located adjacent to St Paul's Church on the corner of Adelaide Road and Silchester Road

Charge €5 per person (to cover meeting expenses)

The Gathering will also be an opportunity for residents to hear about the latest developments in the area, to ask questions and to express their opinions.

ALL MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS FROM SANDYCOVE AND GLASHULE ARE WELCOME

If there are any topics you wish to be discussed at the Gathering please tell us by emailing info@sandycoveandglashule.ie or writing to The Secretary, Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association, c/o Mount Carmel, Sandycove Road

The next edition of the newsletter will contain a report of the 2007 AGM and notice of the 2008 AGM.

Unless expressly attributed, the views expressed in this newsletter are based on editorial decisions broadly reflective of the policies decided by the committee of the Association and should not necessarily be attributed to any individual committee member.

URSULA'S BITS AND PIECES

We welcome:

Mick Cussen and Eileen Buckley to Wine Buff, 47 Sandycove Road.

Sam McAuley Pharmacy, Glasthule Village.

Matt Britton Floor Covering Company, Glasthule Village, under managers Dave Murphy and Ross Britton. Ross plays for Dalkey United managed by brother Matt—Dalkey head the league.

Bliss now renamed Daydream at 30 Sandycove Road, with additional working partners and expanded services. We wish you continued success.

The **2006 Garden Awards** presented at our AGM last April were as follows:

All Year Round Garden – Eithne Jackson, 4 Marine Avenue

Spring Garden – Maura McGuirk, 3 Villarea Park

Autumn Garden – Kathleen Kirby, 21 Rosmeen Park

The **2006 Best Premises Awards** winners were:

Best Commercial Premises: Mitchell and Sons

Best Shopfront: Sandycove Fine Arts and Antiques

Best Window Displays: Bloomsday Flowers

Well done

Thanks to our award sponsors, Peter Dunne Butcher, Spar Supermarket, Glennon's Pharmacy, and ODELLS Restaurant.

"Class Acts"

Congratulations to:

Rasam Indian Restaurant, Georgina Campbell and Bridgestone awards.

Cavistons, Bridgestone award and Michelin Guide recommendation for their restaurant and Check Out "Best in Fresh" award for Best Fish Offer in their shop.

Cavistons recently celebrated 60 years in Glasthule - well done, and we wish them many more years of successful business. It is good to see the third generation well settled into the business.

Sandycove Tidy Towns did very well in the National Competitions Category C: winner for Dun Laoghaire Rathdown area - Supervalu Endeavour Award. The Gum Litter Task Force Regional Award. Well done to Margaret Browne and the committee.

Congratulations to Glasthule Buildings and Sandycove Tidy Towns on their successes in the Tidy Districts Awards.

We also congratulate the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and the band of local volunteers on receiving the Green Coast Award for Sandycove.

After some time recuperating at the Seal Sanctuary many residents witnessed the releasing of a four month old seal back to the sea at Sandycove harbour earlier this year.

The Irish competitors at the Special Olympic games in Shanghai were great ambassadors for Ireland, with their good results. We record the local participation, especially Aisling O'Brien, Ballyghien Avenue, who won a gold medal with the Irish women's basketball team.

PATTON FLYER

Congratulations to Trevor Patton and his Patton Flyer Dublin Airport buses which are a huge success and greatly welcomed by residents of the whole area. The Patton Flyer leaves from 4am on the hour right through to 1 am the next day. The buses utilise the Dublin Port Tunnel and thus passengers from Dalkey (Cuala GAA sports grounds) should reach the airport within the hour. The coaches drop off and pick up at the following stops in or near our area: (1) Cuala GAA – Dalkey, (2) St Joseph's Church – Glasthule, and (3) Royal Marine Hotel – Dun Laoghaire. Pictured here is committee member Bob Waddell and his wife Claire (right) together with her sister Joan (centre) about to board the Patton Flyer on her return to New York.



ST MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL, DUN LAOGHAIRE

The Sisters of Charity have apparently sold the St Michael's car park to the Sisters of Mercy. Subsequent to that, property developer Noel Smyth submitted a planning application for 8 storey 80 apartments on the site which was turned down.

A very well attended demonstration took place on 14th July, Bastille Day, and many Sandycove and Glashule residents took part. The march was supported by the Save Our Hospital Group, People Before Profit, Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association and many other community groups. No doubt this march went some way to discouraging this unpopular proposed high-rise private development. Residents must continue to be vigilant since the application is under appeal. You will recall in our last pre-election newsletter candidates were asked where they stood on the St Michael's Hospital issue and, **without exception, they were to a man and a woman very supportive of the reten-**



PROPOSED ANGLING BAN

Not everyone is aware that the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council is proposing to ban angling from all of its shoreline with the exception of Bullock and Coliemore harbours. We feel this is utterly unnecessary and are unaware of any real conflict between swimmers and anglers. Anglers tend to use beaches where there is little or no swimming. This is an issue of personal freedom and the proposed bylaw is an unnecessary restriction of our freedom. Most residents are appalled. Any anglers we have talked to are furious and perplexed. We will keep you informed.

GARDEN CENTRES NO MORE

Best wishes to Breda Rosengrave of Mackeys and all the staff and likewise to Harry and Bernie Byrne and David of Harry Byrnes. Residents wish them well in their retirement.

PRESENTATION FIELD

In the County Manager's report of 11 June 2007 on the proposed variation of the County Development Plan to insert a specific local objective to preserve the playing pitches/sports use of the former Presentation College Sports Field, Hudson Road, Glashule, it was stated that the reason for the variation would be "to retain the use of the site as playing pitch/sports field in the interest of the proper planning and sustainable development of the area". Rumours are still going around that developers are keenly interested in this site and we would urge residents to be ever vigilant and call upon our ward councillors and their fellow councillors to ensure that this facility remains as an open space and sports and recreational amenity for the young people of Glashule and Sandycove.

114 submissions (including one from the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association) were received by the County Council in favour of the proposal and only 2 submissions were made against the proposal – both of them on behalf of the owners of the land raising numerous objections including a large number of procedural and technical points which were comprehensively refuted by the County Manager.

The Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association are delighted that the variation to retain the sports use of the ground was voted for by the majority of the 28 councillors. Surprisingly 6 councillors were not in favour. We wonder why?

LONG AWAITED TRAFFIC PLAN

We understand the Gardai have been ticketing cars on Albert Road whose wheels are on the pavement. Of course we are all aware that it is illegal to park on pavements. By taking such action, residents must now park their cars fully on the road, thus in effect turning Albert Road into a one way main road. Surely a proper overall traffic plan from Killiney to Blackrock is long long overdue rather than the tinkering that is going on.

SANDYCOVE NO LONGER EXISTS!

We have noticed that in the recent edition of the *Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Tourist Map*, put out by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Tourism, the Sandycove area has been totally overlooked. We brought this to the attention of the Tourist Office and they have apologised and promised this regrettable oversight will be rectified in the next edition of the map. They have not advised when this will be. We found this omission to be very annoying particularly in light of the fact that the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Tourism bring out such excellent brochures on walks and points of interest. Since Sandycove received an amount of publicity in respect of its success in the Tidy Towns competition (we were on RTE's Nationwide) tourists might have used this map to visit the area. In addition the Sandycove main street is, after all, **600 metres long and has up to 20 businesses**, including a public house, a supermarket, a restaurant etc. We hope that this will be rectified ASAP.

RENOVATION OF KILLINEY HILL OBELISK



We are pleased to congratulate the Dun Laoghaire heritage division of the County Council, the Parks Department and, in particular, architect, renowned expert on follies in Ireland, local resident and a former Secretary of our Association, James Howley, for the conservation works to the Killiney Obelisk. This is one of the prominent and best loved follies in Ireland. Built in 1742 by John Mapas, it provides a dominant landmark from land and sea. We urge residents and visitors to visit the site at the top of Killiney Hill. We eagerly await the return of the bandstand on the East Pier which is currently in the process of being renovated. Pictured here at the unveiling ceremony at the obelisk held to mark the completion of the conservation works are James Howley, Leslie Moore, Senior Parks Superintendent, Councillor Denis O'Callaghan, An Cathaoirleach, and Owen Keegan, County Manager.

IS THE LITTER ACT BEING ENFORCED?

Our photo shows plastic ties on a lamppost on Adelaide Road. This is typical of hundreds of ties which were left by political parties following the June General Election. These ties are all over the county, and Sandycove and Glasthule in particular have been inflicted. We wrote to the County Manager asking that he consider bringing in some bylaw that would ensure that political parties removed these ties along with the posters. We put forward the idea that each political party be assigned their own colour for the ties so that miscreants could be identified afterwards. Let's hope and, indeed, insist some action is taken prior to the County Council elections in 2009.



FESTIVAL OF WORLD CULTURES

Congratulations to the County Manager and all those in the County Council who were involved in the annual world culture event which took place in August throughout Dun Laoghaire and the green in Newtownsmith. We offer our thanks to all the volunteers, the waste clearing staff and particularly our local Garda Siochana who ensured that this wonderful event took place without anti-social behaviour. We have received some complaints from residents that the arrangements made by the County Council for picking up litter in streets neighbouring festival events were less than satisfactory. While the festival may present relatively few problems for residents at present we must be vigilant for the future and to this end we will request that the County Council establish specific arrangements for liaison with residents directly affected by the festival.

Derelict Sites

In July we wrote to the County Manager, Owen Keegan, about Ardagh, Newtownsmith to draw the County Manager's attention to the ongoing deteriorating situation with the property which is a visual scar on the environment of the Glasthule and Sandycove seafront and, in particular, is highly visible from the Newtownsmith seafront green. The park, as the County Manager is well aware, is a major amenity for the entire hinterland and was used in August for the Festival of World Cultures. The owners continue to flout the notice of derelict buildings which was issued by the Council over two years ago in October 2005. We called on the Council to initiate proceedings as set out in the notice. The owners have not taken any significant action to remedy the situation and have had more than enough time to act on the notice. At the time of going to print the situation has not been remedied. The neglect of this site certainly does not help in the Sandycove and Glasthule's objective to continue to improve its mark in the tidy towns competition. These photographs show an immaculate house occupied by a local resident beside the site in question and another local site in Glasthule Village of unexplained slow building works.



Tidy Towns

The Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association Committee take this opportunity to congratulate residents and commercial outlets in Sandycove and Glasthule for their cooperation in maintaining attractive gardens and ensuring that their residences and business outlets were of a high standard. We are happy that our "Gardens and Shop Window" competitions go a long way towards satisfying the Tidy Town inspectors when they award their marks in the month of June. Well done to all. The awards Sandycove won are reported in Ursula's Bits & Pieces.

CONFERENCE ON ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Last month three members of your committee, Ursula Maguire, Kay Gleeson and Bob Waddell, attended a two-day conference on Active Citizenship organised by the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and also attended by the Cathaoirleach and the County Manager. The conference took as its theme the recently published report and recommendations of the Task Force on Active Citizenship and the implementation of these recommendations in local communities.

Your committee members found the conference to be very well organised and informative. It presented an excellent opportunity to meet with key County Council officials and staff which we trust will generally improve relationships between our Association and the Council.



The photograph shows committee member Bob Waddell, Association Secretary Kay Gleeson, County Manager Owen Keegan, Association Chairperson Ursula Maguire and An Cathaoirleach Councillor Denis O'Callaghan.

A-Z OF COUNCIL SERVICES

We would draw your attention to a very handy guide to the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council services. This A-Z directory is a guide to all the Council's services. It is available at County Hall at the bottom of Marine Road in Dun Laoghaire. It provides answers to many questions one might have as a citizen of the county and we highly recommend it.

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to our local TD, Eamon Gilmore, who has been elected as leader of the Labour Party. Likewise for the return of Minister Mary Hanafin, Deputy Barry Andrews and Deputy Ciaran Cuffe and the election of Deputy Sean Barrett. We also acknowledge Eugene Regan and Fiona O'Malley becoming Senators. Tom O'Higgins and Gene Feighrey have been co-opted to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council for our local ward. Kealin Ireland, who was very supportive to residents in connection with the Dun Laoghaire Baths campaign, has retired from the County Council and we wish her well for the future.

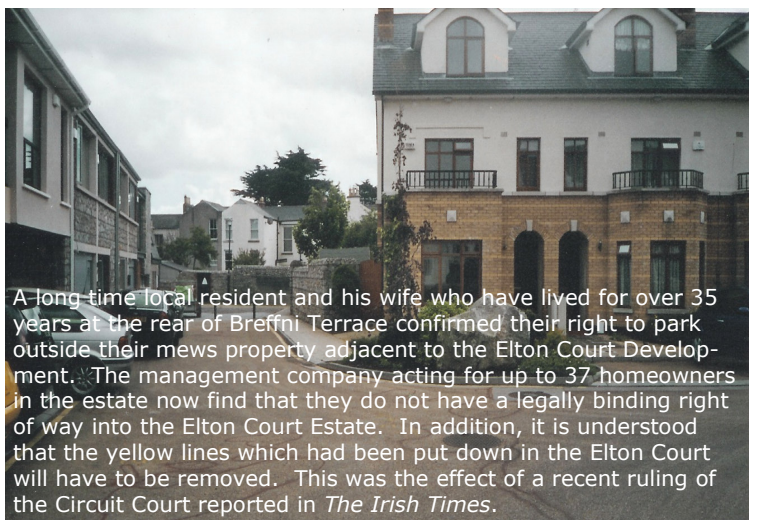
CHARITY WALK FOR BREAST CANCER



Pictured here are a group of Sandycove residents celebrating their charity walk sponsored by Remax in aid of the Marie Keating Foundation for breast cancer.

Dogs are still performing on our roads. Please owners, CLEAN UP after them and keep our area a place we can be proud of.

ELTON COURT DEVELOPMENT



A long time local resident and his wife who have lived for over 35 years at the rear of Breffni Terrace confirmed their right to park outside their mews property adjacent to the Elton Court Development. The management company acting for up to 37 homeowners in the estate now find that they do not have a legally binding right of way into the Elton Court Estate. In addition, it is understood that the yellow lines which had been put down in the Elton Court will have to be removed. This was the effect of a recent ruling of the Circuit Court reported in *The Irish Times*.

YOUR COMMITTEE

Your current committee consists of Chairperson Ursula Maguire, Secretary Kay Gleeson, Treasurer Paul O'Callaghan and committee members Eamonn Buckley, Maurice Coleman, Catherine Comerford, Ted Courtney, John Elliot, David O'Neill and Bob Waddell. The committee meets monthly and the members are involved in many activities including producing and (along with volunteer distributors) distributing the newsletter, liaising with TDs, councillors, Council officials and Gardai, attending the monthly County Council meeting, Community and Voluntary Forum and other meetings organised by the County Council, monitoring and (when appropriate) objecting to planning applications, monitoring graffiti, litter, blocked drains, dangerous footpaths and traffic problems, encouraging new members and maintaining the membership list, and maintaining our website.

OBJECTS OF THE SANDYCOVE AND GLASTHULE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

The objects of the Association are to promote the best interests of the residents of the area to be served by the Association and:

(a)	to promote a sense of community and neighbourliness among residents of the area
(b)	to promote the preservation and improvement of the area as a suburban residential area
(c)	to monitor issues and problems affecting the area
(d)	to promote public interest and participation in issues affecting the area
(e)	to provide a forum for open discussion of issues affecting the area
(f)	to make representations in the interests of the members of the Association as a whole to all levels of government, other public authorities, organisations and persons whose decisions and actions may affect the area
(g)	the publication from time to time of a newsletter for purpose of informing members and residents generally of matters of common interest
(h)	to co-ordinate the activities of the Association with organisations having similar objectives
(i)	to promote cultural, educational and recreational activities for the residents of the area

RESIDENTS GATHERING IN NEW ST PAUL'S COMMUNITY HALL

This month on Thursday 22nd November for the first time we will be holding a residents' gathering in the new St Paul's Community Hall which was opened earlier this year. Why not come along and enjoy the ambience and facilities of this exciting new amenity? Pictured here attending the opening ceremony are committee member Bob Waddell, President Mary McAleese, and our Association Chairperson Ursula Maguire.

**"ASK NOT WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY CAN DO FOR YOU
ASK WHAT YOU CAN DO FOR YOUR COMMUNITY"**

Well done to the residents of Breffni Terrace on their renovations and excellent landscaping and parking facilities. All totally financed by the residents.

**We wish all our readers a
peaceful and healthy
Christmas and New Year.**

