



# Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association Newsletter

November 2011

[info@sandycoveandglasthule.ie](mailto:info@sandycoveandglasthule.ie)

Circulation 2,500

Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association is thriving and active and exists to promote the best interests of the residents of the area. We regularly publish this newsletter, which is distributed to 2,500 households. Members' subscriptions pay for the cost of printing this newsletter.

If you are a member, thank you. If you are not already a member, please consider joining. An application form can be downloaded at [www.sandycoveandglasthule.ie](http://www.sandycoveandglasthule.ie).

## Sandycove Garden!

Local resident artist and sculptor, Imogen Stuart (RHA) has "fought the good fight" to preserve and regenerate our local Sandycove Garden (directly in front of the sadly neglected Sandycove Baths).

Imogen wrote some time ago to our local ward councillors. In spite of promises nothing has happened as yet. However we understand plans are in hand for "something" to happen in 2012. What that will be we are so far in the dark. Please keep us informed Imogen.

Well done on offering a piece of your inspiring sculpture for when the "New Garden" is complete.



New sign at Otranta Place with information on "Sandycove Heritage Trail" and local wildlife (on reverse side).

## RESIDENTS MEETING

**Date Monday 14th November 2011**

**Time 8 pm**

**Venue St Joseph's Pastoral Centre**

St Joseph's modern community hall is located to the left of St Joseph's Church, Glasthule, entrance through the main church gates.

There is no admission charge for this meeting. We will however gratefully accept membership subscriptions for 2012.

This will 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 GLASTHULE ARE WELCOME

If there are any topics you wish to be discussed at the meeting please tell us by emailing [info@sandycoveandglasthule.ie](mailto:info@sandycoveandglasthule.ie) or writing to  
The Secretary,  
Sandycove and Glasthule  
Residents Association,  
c/o Eamonn's Bookshop, 50  
Sandycove Road, Sandycove

# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MONDAY 23RD MAY 2011

Attending: Cllr. Patricia Stewart, Cllr. John Bailey, Cllr. Melissa Halpin and Richard Boyd Barrett T.D.

With the words of President Obama still ringing in our ears from his earlier speech in College Green, our residents gathered for our AGM on Monday 23rd May last.

In her opening address Chairperson, Kay Gleeson, reflected on an uplifting week with the visits of Queen Elizabeth and Barack Obama to the country and the sad demise of Garrett Fitzgerald.

In her initial remarks Kay specially thanked all our **Newsletter distributors** who willingly fan out over the area to distribute the Newsletter to all the households. In a plea for more volunteers she pointed out that, with extra helpers, there would be a lot less for everyone to deliver.

While the Committee is happy and willing to receive **complaints** and issues from residents, Kay remarked that County Council officials are usually happy to hear from householders directly and, quite often, move quickly on issues.

She thanked everyone for their **annual subscriptions**. These are in the main used to pay for the two issues of the Newsletter each year. We have also made contributions to the Glasthule Traders Christmas decorations and the race night programme in aid of the Church Restoration fund. Other money is held over for any planning submissions and an emergency Newsletter should one be needed.

After three years in office the constitution of the Association requires that the **Chairperson and Secretary** have to stand down. Bob Waddell nominated Paul O'Callaghan to be the new Chairperson. This was seconded and agreed by all. Eamonn Buckley is to leave the Committee and three new members were elected: Sean Coakley, Patsy Ashe and Mary Roche. Treasurer, Caitriona McCarthy presented her financial report. Copies were available to all attending. There were no queries. With all our housekeeping done the meeting was then opened up to the floor.

Bob Waddell talked entertainingly of his musings on what the **Queen and Prince Philip** would have thought had they arrived for their state visit on the HSS into Dun Laoghaire. Their first impressions would have been of closed shops, one way streets, pay and display parking rigidly enforced and of course our derelict baths. Just as well she flew in!

With the summer starting and the hope of good

weather to come, Br. Raymond warned of the possibility of more **anti-social behaviour** at the beach. It was agreed we should request a more permanent Garda presence during good weather.

John Plant lamented the fact that the council no longer supplies "**pooper scoopers**". Surely there could be more substantial savings on the more useless aspects of Council spending.

Ursula Maguire brought up the issue of **potholes** on many of the roads in the area. Cllr. Stewart said they were due for repair over the next six weeks although some may take longer due to ongoing waterworks.

**New editor** Liam Madden was congratulated on the latest Newsletter which was up to its usual high standard.

New T.D. Richard Boyd Barrett thanked all residents who may have voted for him. He lamented the fact that so little had been done on the **Baths** and yet the Council seemed determined on ploughing ahead with a new "super library" at Moran Park. A difference of opinion broke out between him and Cllr. Stewart as to what the library was to cost: 31.5 million or 34.9 million euro. A small amount of this to improve our Baths would have been greatly appreciated!

Tom Cleary brought up the issue of the **Harbour Board**, which seems to be a very secretive organisation. Paul O'Callaghan pointed out that the new plans for the harbour go on public display on June 11th and 12th. Residents should make their views known.

Deirdre McGrath reminded us that there is still no way of getting a **bus** from Sandycove to St. Vincent's hospital. The issue of the No. 8 bus will just not go away.

As usual, the problem with **parking**, yellow lines and pay and display remains a bone of contention with most residents. Solving a parking problem on one road just moves it on to another. An overall traffic plan from the Council is still awaited. Cllr. John Bailey said that he is conducting a survey on parking problems in the area and hopes to come up with a more definite plan when he gets the results of this.

Other subjects raised before the end of a long evening were: dangerous hoardings at Elton Park site, ugly neon signs and graffiti springing up in many areas particularly **the Metals**.

More discussion took place over a glass of wine in the lobby before the evening finished.

# BITS AND PIECES

## Please Support Local Businesses

Here are some good reasons:

1. Local businesses recycle a much larger share of their revenue back into the local economy.
2. Local businesses create more jobs locally.
3. Local business help create local culture and community.
4. Local stores help to sustain a vibrant, compact, walkable village attracting visitors.

[www.glasthuleandsandycovevillage.com](http://www.glasthuleandsandycovevillage.com)

## Welcome to:

- Harpers Salon, Adelaide Road - [harperssalon.ie](http://harperssalon.ie)
- Rocco's Tile & Shower Centre, Adelaide Road
- Weafer & Cooper, Glasthule Road - [weaferandcooper.com](http://weaferandcooper.com)
- Audrey Taylor Boutique - moved to Albert Road (At the bridge beside veterinary clinic)

Hope all goes well

## Bloomsday Prize

Congratulations to Choice of Glasthule on their well deserved winning of the Sandycove and Glasthule Bloomsday best window prize.



## World Youth Day in Madrid

Gareth Mitchell and Jenny Harkin from St. Joseph's, Glasthule Youth Choir attended World Youth Day in Madrid in mid August. They camped out overnight with one and a half million young people.



## SGRA Website Poll

We asked the question "What's the main issue you would like to see addressed by SGRA?"

The current results are:

Parking	31%
The Baths	25%
Litter	13%
The Seafront	13%
Antisocial Behaviour	9%
Flooding	6%
Planning	3%

As parking has emerged as a burning issue, we'll have a discussion on this at our next meeting. All comments are welcome.

## A Date for Your Diary

Saturday May 12th 2012

'Neighbours Day'

Watch out in our next Newsletter for further details!

## 'Nifty Fifties' Raise 1200 Euro

A coffee morning in aid of The Hospice Movement was organized by the 'Nifty Fifties' exercise class in The Pastoral Centre in September.

It was a great success and raised 1200 euros for the HOSPICE. The organizers Joan Farrelly, Finola Earley and Mary Roche hope to organize another one next year. Nifty Fifties exercise class is every Monday at 10 o'clock in The Pastoral Centre. The class is given by Joan Farrelly, callanetics teacher'.

## Knitting and Crochet Group

Knitting and crochet has started again on Tuesday mornings from 10am -12 pm making hats and gloves for children in colder climates. All welcome. Help available for beginners. Donations of unwanted needles, wool or patterns will be met with gratitude.

Please leave wool etc in the Parish Centre.  
Ph: Mary Pat 087 2798885. Thanks.



## Fun Fair at Newtownsmith Green



In mid-June this year the Sandycove and Glashule Residents Association received a call from a County Council official who told us that a fun fair was returning to Newtownsmith Green from 24th June to 3rd July. We acknowledge that something was done to notify us, although we would have appreciated receiving much more notice. We wrote to the County Manager regarding specific issues which we asked him to address.

We have a difficulty with the damage previously caused to the grass by the fun fair. Following representations by the Association regarding damage caused by the fun fair at Newtownsmith in summer 2008, we were informed that the County Council had decided not to stage fun fairs at Newtownsmith for the foreseeable future.

We had mentioned the grass damage to the County Council official (pointing out that the effects of the damage are still apparent some years on) and said that we had expected that the fun fair would not be allowed back due to the grass damage. The official said that circumstances had changed and that the Council was now stretched for revenue.

The idea that the County Council should require the fun fair operators to provide a bond for restoration of the green was discussed, but the Council official said that this had not been done and it was too late now as the contract had been signed. We pointed out that, even if the contract had been signed, it might still be possible to persuade the fun fair operators to provide a bond on the basis that to do so would assist obtaining the agreement of the Council to the fun fair in future years. In response to our written enquiry to the County Manager we were told that in fact a damage bond had been secured from the operator and that the Parks Section would be on site immediately after the event finished and would effect any necessary repairs.

We asked: what arrangements have been made for adequate toilet facilities? We were told approximately 6 portable toilets would be on-site.

We asked: what is the closure time for the fun fair? We said, preferably, it should be no later than 9.30 pm. We were told the fun fair would cease operation no later than 10 pm daily.

## Outdoor Gym Equipment at Newtownsmith

It has come to our attention that the Council plan to install outdoor gym equipment in Newtownsmith.

SGRA is understandably concerned to maintain Newtownsmith as a green, hence it will be seeking clarification on this and we will keep the residents up to date.

## Consideration for users of Public Footpaths

Please have care for people using the footpath

- Ensure overhanging bushes/branches in your property are clipped back. Overhanging bushes and branches pose a hazard especially for those that are visually impaired, tall or moving quickly.
- Do not park up on the footpath. It can cause an obstruction or make the gap too narrow for wheelchairs or buggies and it's illegal.



## Think Local this Christmas

Think of your local businesses when shopping this Christmas and look out for events organised by Glashule and Sandycove traders.

# Submission to Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company



31st August 2011

Re Proposals for the future development of Dun Laoghaire Harbour:  
Comments on the Draft Development Plan

Dear Sirs

This submission is made on behalf of the Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association.

We have commented previously on the 18th July in respect of the Public Exhibition at the Ferry Terminal Building of the ideas for the future development of Dun Laoghaire Harbour.

We appreciated that the proposals as presented have grown out of an extensive consultative process, and were therefore an amalgamation of diverse and conflicting ideas and aspirations. We understood and were assured that this was to be a meaningful consultative process, and not as has happened in the past, where the public comments were totally disregarded and ignored. We noted the timescale for the conclusion of the Masterplan following completion of this consultation process by 18th July, with the publication of the Draft Masterplan on August 3rd, and the publication of the completed Masterplan on 12th September.

This all appeared very quick, and we wondered if adequate time was being allocated to consider in meaningful way the submissions being made by 3rd Parties.

We have to reiterate these concerns again, in light of the documentation available.

We would like to make the following observations on the proposals

There is still no information on the costings for the proposals. We have to assume therefore that the only portion of this plan which will become reality will be the residential development, since this is the only aspect which has the potential to generate income which the Harbour Company needs. This is of course dependant on the return of the property market to some kind of health, which will happen in time.

All the other items are loss making. As has happened so many times before, these will not happen, and the exercise will end up as an apartment development and nothing more, because there is no commitment whatsoever in this Plan to facilitate the public functions. The income derived from the apartment development will be hidden, as it is now.

There is now an indication of 6 storeys for the apartment development, but we are certain that this will continue to increase, leading to an overscaled commercial development. This is opposite to the wishes of our members, and will generate opposition.

As we commented before, the focus on public access to the harbour is to be commended. However we do not agree that the public need access across the entire shoreline. From a commercial viewpoint, it is best to control access and circulation of the public to reinforce the footfall at the commercial and cultural facilities proposed.

Also as we commented before, the proposal includes building commercial/residential on the existing plaza which is currently the termination of the views from Marine road. The proposal now has a rejigged cramped new public space behind the Royal St George Yacht Club, with less urban connectivity to the town. The proposed reinstatement of the access route to the Carlisle Pier across the Royal St George Boat Forecourt is completed impractical, and regressive.

The Draft Development Plan still provides very little concrete information on the design, size, and accommodation proposed for the Diaspora Centre.

What is to prevent this being a di'aspiration'al centre?

In conclusion, despite the involvement of Financial Consultants in the Design Team, there is no disclosure of how this is to fund itself. There would have to be an analysis of any masterplan, so it does exist. The Development will no doubt be carried out in phases, but each Phase of development will have to contain a 'money maker' as well as a 'loss leader'. It will not be acceptable to embark on a commercial apartment development as a self contained project, and to adopt an attitude of 'when funds allow' on the other elements. The Plan as presented contains no indications (let alone guarantees) that this will not happen.

Yours faithfully

Paul O'Callaghan  
Chairman  
Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association

7th October 2011

Dear Paul,

As you know, the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan team has engaged in an extensive consultation process with all our stakeholders since December 2010, holding more than 75 different meetings with individuals and organisations. These meetings augmented the findings of the e-survey and Pier surveys held in January 2011, which gave many people the opportunity to share and discuss their ideas and concerns with the Masterplan team.

The Public Exhibition, which took place over 6 days in June, attracted more than 1500 attendees to view the Consultation Masterplan. It also gave the Masterplan team the benefit of feedback from the very large attendance. This feedback was very important in allowing the process to move on to the production of a Draft Masterplan.

In late June, we wrote to all stakeholders to communicate the next steps in the process, notably the 4 week statutory period for consideration of the Draft Masterplan, the SEA and the Draft Heritage Plan, all of which were put on the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company website and made available for public inspection from 4th August until 31st August.

The 15 submissions received during this time were fully considered in September by the Masterplan team and some changes were made to the Draft Masterplan to reflect the issues raised in this phase of the consultation process. The review of these submissions led to the production of the final Masterplan.

The Board of Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company Ltd formally adopted the Masterplan at its Board meeting on Tuesday 4th October.

The Masterplan will be uploaded on the Dun Laoghaire Harbour website [www.dlharbour.ie](http://www.dlharbour.ie) in the coming weeks. The website will also include the Masterplan team's assessment of the various issues raised in the submissions. A notice will be published under Article 16 of SI 435/2004 indicating that a copy of the Masterplan will be available for inspection, as well as an SEA Statement indicating how environmental considerations have been integrated into the Masterplan.

The Masterplan has been prepared as a non-statutory policy document for Dun Laoghaire Harbour Company Ltd., taking into account SL013 of the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Plan, which promotes the preparation of a masterplan. It is our planning advice that the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan will not form part of the Development Plan. Ultimately however, this is a question for the planning authority.

The day-to-day function (marine and waterspace management) of running the harbour is not within the remit of the Dun Laoghaire Harbour Masterplan. Accordingly, issues such as swing moorings, ferry operations etc are the responsibility of the management of the Harbour Company.

I would appreciate if you could circulate this notice to all your members.

Yours Sincerely,  
Aibhlin McCrann  
on behalf of Masterplan team Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company

Board: Mr Sean Costello (Chairman), Cllr Victor Boyhan, Cllr Jane Dillon Byrne, Ms Elizabeth Coffey, Mr Patrick Cowhey, Mr Gerry Dunne (Chief Executive), Ms Eithne Scott Lennon, Mr Seighin Lennon, Mr Don McManus, Mr Gerry Nagle, Cllr Carrie Smyth.



## Local Completes 700km Cycle

Congratulations to Dennis O'Reilly of Albert Road and the 23 cyclists who set out from central Paris on 24 September arriving in Nice 700Km later on 29 September, raising so far €225,744 for Special Olympics, and Cerebral Palsy Sport Ireland. They are nearly at their target of €250,000!! See [www.paris2nice.com](http://www.paris2nice.com), to



share the feeling and make a contribution.

Dennis (pictured right in the photo above), of Wild Wicklow Tours, is also behind Difference Days, "Corporate socially responsible events that can really make a difference!" [www.differencedays.ie](http://www.differencedays.ie)

## St Kevin's Boxing Club, Glashule

David Mitchell (Chairman) and a small band of enthusiastic supporters established St. Kevin's Boxing Club at Glashule Buildings.

Currently, the Club records shows some 80 names including Junior boys/girls, Intermediate, Senior and those using boxing as part of an athletic keep-fit/cross-training regime.

The Club held a gathering at the Club House on Father's Day 2010, and members and friends were joined by local residents of Glashule Buildings. In July 2011, the Club held a successful evening of White Collar Boxing in the Sally Noggin Inn, Sallynoggin, hosting visiting Junior boys/girls, Intermediate and Senior athletes from Bray, Crumlin and Monkstown Boxing Clubs in competition with Club members. The evening was magnificently supported by a sparring exhibition between two former World Champions, Jim Rock and our visitor from Belfast, Eamonn Magee. The Club looks forward to hosting similar events in the future.

Traditionally on Christmas Day each year Club members and friends are sponsored in a Charity swim at the 40 Foot Sandycove in aid of St. Luke's Hospital and Friends, and in 2010 approximately 6000 euro was raised for distribution.

The Club is actively involved in Intercultural Social Inclusion and currently has athletes from all over Europe.

St. Kevin's Boxing Club seeks private and corporate funding to progress its development to include Junior Boys and Girls in all aspects of the Clubs activities.

The Club has currently two sections, namely boxing and kickboxing and is looking forward to establishing keep-fit sessions in the near future, and is open daily for various activities.

Visitors are welcome at the Club House by prior appointment by ringing Warren Fisher PRO & Caretaker on 086 8755253.



L to R: Vincent Kelly (Vice Chairman), David Mitchell (Founder Member & Chairman), Marcus Shorthall (Junior Section), Warren Fisher (PRO & Caretaker), Bob Waddell (SGRA Committee) and Steven Roberson (Founder Member & Head Coach)

## Iron Man Derek

You may have seen a local resident regularly running, cycling and swimming around the Sandycove area . It could be our former SGRA treasurer "Ironman" triathlete Derek Leahy (46).



For those of you unfamiliar with Ironman triathlon it involves a 3.8 km swim, followed by 180 km on the bike, followed by a full marathon.

In July this year he competed in Ironman Switzerland just missing out on a coveted slot to the Ironman World Championships in Hawaii.

Undeterred by the Swiss disappointment Derek raced recently in the inaugural Half Ironman in Galway. Finishing in 4 hours 45 minutes he secured an age group slot for the half Ironman world championships in Las Vegas for 2012 . This sets him competing against the best Ironman triathletes in the world across all age categories.

We wish Derek every success in Vegas.

## SGRA Committee

Chairperson: Paul O'Callaghan  
Secretary: Kay Gleeson  
Treasurer: Caitriona McCarthy

Other committee members (in alphabetical order):

Patsy Ashe  
Sean Coakley  
John Conroy  
John Elliot  
Liam Madden  
Mary Roche  
Bob Waddell



L to R: Mary Roche, Bob Waddell, Patsy Ashe, John Elliot, Paul O'Callaghan, Kay Gleeson, Caitriona McCarthy, Sean Coakley, Liam Madden, John Conroy.

## Become a Member of SGRA

1. Download application form from our website
2. Pay at our Gathering on November 14th or post form (address on form)
3. Only 15 euro (or 22 euro for a family)

## Local Representatives

### Councillors

John Bailey (FG)  
Cormac Devlin (FF)  
Jane Dillon Byrne (LAB)  
Stephen Fitzpatrick (LAB)  
Melisa Halpin (PBP)  
Patricia Stewart (FG)

### TDs

Sean Barrett (FG)  
Richard Boyd Barrett (PBP)  
Eamon Gilmore (LAB)  
Mary Mitchell O'Connor (FG)

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

- 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.



## The Harold School Organic Garden

In June 2009 two enthusiastic parents with a mutual respect for the environment and a joint passion for growing approached the principal of the Harold School with the idea of setting up a school garden. One week later the Harold School Garden Project was born.

*“The aim was simple. Lets all work together and grow flowers and vegetables. As we do this let's learn about the importance of growing and eating our own vegetables. Let's learn about how flowers encourage bees and butterflies and wildlife into our school. Let's appreciate the value of having growing plants in our yard for us to see every day. Let's realise that our children are growing up far removed from the soil and let's, in a very simple and small way, all work together to reconnect them (the children) and us (the parents and staff) with nature.”*



## Presentation Brothers Garden

The Presentation Brothers have resided in the Glashule/Sandy Cove area since 1902. Their community house is situated on the Summerhill road opposite St. Joseph's Church. The Brothers over the past few years have been involved in Pastoral work both in Glashule and surrounding areas.

Since the wall around the garden was removed the garden has become the focal point for those passing by. The credit for this wonderful display, year in year out is Br. Eunan who cares for the garden so lovingly. He is assisted by the other Brothers in the community.



In the recent “Tidy Towns Competition” the Presentation Brothers' garden got a mention. The photos on the page are some views of the garden during the summer. (Photos by Br. Majella)

## Barking Dogs – A common source of tension between neighbours.



As a practice we are all too familiar with the tension a barking dog can cause between neighbours. We are usually involved in these disputes when things escalate and there is a threat of legal action. There is no winner in these situations

and best advice is to not let the problem get that far. Dog owners must be aware there is legal recourse for neighbours on the receiving end of a constantly barking dog and we would encourage owners to be proactive in dealing with the problem. Seek professional advice at an early stage from your vet as constant barking can be a behaviour that takes time to alter/eradicate.

### Why do dogs engage in constant barking?

There are many reasons why dogs will engage in this behaviour and identifying the cause can be the first step in finding a solution. Boredom and lack of stimulation would be the main reasons why dogs will engage in constant barking. A dog should ideally not be left alone in either the house or garden for more than 5 hours at any stretch. If family members are out all day then extra canine company or engaging the services of a walker may help. Poor socialisation is another common reason for this behaviour. Dogs not exposed to wide and varied stimuli/situations when young can often have excessive responses to normal stimuli when older. This is something your vet will help you identify and initiate desensitisation programs. Lack of exercise, inappropriate garden size and stimulation from wildlife or other neighbour's pets are other potential causes.

A canine companion is a great addition to any family but should not be at the expense of your neighbour's peace and quiet. If you receive a complaint about a barking dog our advice is to engage constructively with your neighbour and your vet to find a quick resolution to the problem.

Article supplied by Paul McCarthy MVB.

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33 Patrick's St ,Dun Laoghaire. Ph -2802041  
Arkvet.ie

SGRA Website  
QR Code:

