

Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association Newsletter

November 2021



ISSN 2565-6333



9 772565 633009

www.sagra.ie

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
CONTINUED SUPPORT
OVER THE PAST 18 YEARS



01- 2300 600 www.rasam.ie info@rasam.ie

Fitzgerald's
OF SANDYCOVE



SERVING THE LOCAL COMMUNITY FOR 61 YEARS

(01) 280 4469

TOM, BETTY AND STAFF LOOK
FORWARD TO SERVING YOU OVER
THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

**YOUR SUPPORT MEANS
EVERYTHING TO US**

*We're so happy to be able to welcome customers
inside for Grab & Go in Glashule!*

*visit hatchcoffee.ie for beans and brew gear
if you can't get to us, otherwise
we'll see ya soon.*

**BRADY
&
McCARTHY**
Estate Agents & Auctioneers



**Selling or Letting your Property?
Call Darragh or Olwen today**

(01) 5640032

www.brmc.ie

PSRA License 003850

Beauty at Eden
www.beautyateden.ie

01 2808880



FACIAL TREATMENTS



Skincare, Massage, Manicure,
Pedicure, Lashes & Brows
Book Online or Call



Dear Resident,

Welcome to this November's edition of our newsletter. We very much hope you enjoy reading it.

The last 18 months have been challenging for many of our residents. At the time of writing, most of the Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted. 91.30% of adults 18+ in Ireland have been doubly vaccinated however the number of cases are rising.

Given this backdrop the distribution of the printed edition of the newsletters will continue to be made available at Eamonn's Bookshop in Sandy Cove and at the Spar in Glashule. Our thanks go to these two local shops for their continued support in making available copies of the newsletter to residents.

We were happy to provide free advertising to our local businesses during the pandemic. We are delighted to see once again the local businesses advertising with us on a commercial basis, thus providing valuable support for our newsletter. The residents' association has highlighted in the past the great strengths of relationships that exist between the local businesses and our residents. Therefore, we would ask residents to continue their support of our local businesses whenever they can.

The area has witnessed incredible change in a short time period, some of which is now being undone. The Cowshed carpark egress flow has been reinstated in line with popular demand. At the time of writing we are expecting the temporary toilets on the Newtownsmith Green to be removed; with the permanent public toilets to be opened up near the old baths site. The toilets introduced on Sandy Cove Ave East to facilitate the higher number of swimmers are looking to be a more permanent fixture. The Council are in talks with local residents about this.

The new coast road cycle path is popular and gets great use. A number of local organisations (both from business and residents) are working together to make recommendations to the Council to see how we can improve the public realm, to make the village more attractive to visitors and locals alike. Two expert representatives have kindly agreed to sit on this single-issue panel, to represent the SAGRA residents' view point.

The association is very much looking forward to the unveiling of the Imogen Stuart Standing Stone Sculpture project in Otranto Park. It is wonderful for residents to have such a notable work of Imogen's in our area for residents and visitors to enjoy. We are choosing to hold our November meeting and AGM online again, due to Covid-19. The details of how to attend this event are listed on page 18 in this newsletter. We would encourage as many residents as possible to join this meeting to share your thoughts and views. Our Facebook Group is now up to 2.6k members and traffic to our website continues to grow. Wishing you all the very best for the Christmas season and the following year.

John Conroy

Chairperson

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM will take place over Zoom on Monday **November 29th at 8pm.**

Registration at www.sagra.ie/agm/

See page 18 for more details.

Subscriptions

At the AGM is when we request payment of annual membership subscriptions.

We now have a secure online system for paying subscriptions. The system is run through myEasyPay based in Sandyford. There is a direct link on our website under membership.



The rates are unchanged: €15 for individual and €22 for household membership.

Advertising

If you are interested in advertising in our May 2022 edition please email

editor@sandycoveandglashule.ie or phone Liam on **086 804 6938.**

This is a local magazine so we have a policy of only accepting advertising from those based locally.

Contact Us

Email: info@sandycoveandglashule.ie

**c/o Eamonn's Bookshop,
50 Sandy Cove Road,
Sandy Cove,
Co Dublin.**

SAGRA Committee

Chairperson: John Conroy

Secretary: Trevor King

Treasurer: Liam Madden

Other committee members (in alphabetical order):

John Elliot

Giles Kerr

Kay Gleeson

Maeve Lynch

James Howley

Mary Roche

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.

County Development Plan 2022-2028 - SAGRA Submission

The Sandycove and Glasthule Residents Association was pleased to be given the opportunity to comment on the Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Development Plan 2022 – 2028. We made two detailed and comprehensive submissions. These can be found in the May 2020 and May 2021 SAGRA newsletters.

Our submission is in four sections specifically concerning:

1. Glasthule Village Centre
2. Sandycove Architectural Conservation Area
3. Seafront and Coastal Defences
4. General Sandycove and Glasthule Issues:

The consultation process is coming to a close and the Council executive replies to our latest submission are summarised below.

1. Glasthule Village Centre

The roll out of specific public realm improvement projects or studies is not a County Development Plan matter, rather this is an operational matter. The Council is currently progressing a number of public realm improvements schemes across the County.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

2. Sandycove Architectural Conservation Area

Car parking, Overhead wires, Public Toilets, Signage
Policy Objective HER16: Public Realm and Public Utility works within an ACA and HER15: Shopfronts within an ACA are designed to manage the issues raised. Furthermore, Section 12.6.8 provides guidance in relation to shopfronts, signage, advertising and public art. The provision of public toilets, lack of bins and poor signage are not County Development Plan issues.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Lower Sea Walk

DLR also carry out day to day maintenance at the County's beaches and bathing areas. This is an operational issue and not a County Development Plan issue.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

3. Seafront and Coastal Defences

This submission

As part of the County Development Plan process SuDS (Sustainable Drainage Systems) policies have been reviewed and updated.

In relation to coastal defences and rising sea-levels, the SFRA (Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) has been updated to note the establishment of the Inter-Departmental Group on Coastal Change Management and to make provision for consideration, during the lifetime of the County Development Plan 2022 -2028, of any options, recommendations or policies following a Government decision. The lead authority on provision of flood defences is the OPW and not the Council.

A Coastal risk and wave overtopping Study has been carried out in response to the issues raised in submissions. As set out in detail above, it is recommended that the Coastal Flooding section of Appendix 16 be updated accordingly, which includes a reappraisal of still water sea levels, building upon work undertaken in the Irish Coastal Protection Strategy Study (ICPSS), and an assessment of wave overtopping potential.

Previous submission

The Executive notes the issues raised in relation to flood defences in coastal areas and specifically and Sandycove/Glasthule area. The SFRA has been updated to note the establishment of the Inter-Departmental Group on Coastal Change Management and to make

provision for consideration, during the lifetime of the County Development Plan 2022 -2028, of any options, recommendations or policies following a Government decision.

The purpose of identifying non-specific address locations is to alert potential applicants of the necessity to consult with the Local Authority as to the nature, source, and possible location(s) that may be impacted and following such consultations to factor in and mitigate against flood risk identified, if any, in a site specific flood risk assessment. As all of the locations shown on the flood maps are known to have experienced localised flooding following severe rainfall events it would be remiss of the Planning Authority to remove one or all locations.

4. General Sandycove and Glasthule Issues:

Roads surfaces

This is an operational issue and not a matter for the County Development Plan.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Litter

This is an operational issue and not a County Development Plan issue.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Hudson Park

The Parks and Landscape Services Department have advised that there are challenges in providing community gardens at Hudson Park due to the size and its use as a multi-use facility.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Traffic Management solutions

The issues raised are not County Development Plan issues but relate to operational issues across a range of Sections, the main ones being Parking and Traffic Management. The Council is in consultation with the residents in Sandycove with regard to these issues. With regard to the Coastal Mobility Route, the Council is reviewing this route with input from an independent assessment of the route.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Broadband

The provision of broadband and telecommunications infrastructure is addressed in Section 10.6.1, which states as follows: Policy Objective EI21: Telecommunications Infrastructure. It is a Policy Objective to promote and facilitate the provision of an appropriate telecommunications infrastructure, including broadband connectivity and other technologies, within the County. It is noted that the Council is not a provider of telecommunications infrastructure, but instead is a facilitator of such provision.

Recommendation: **No change to Draft Plan.**

Joyce Tower Update



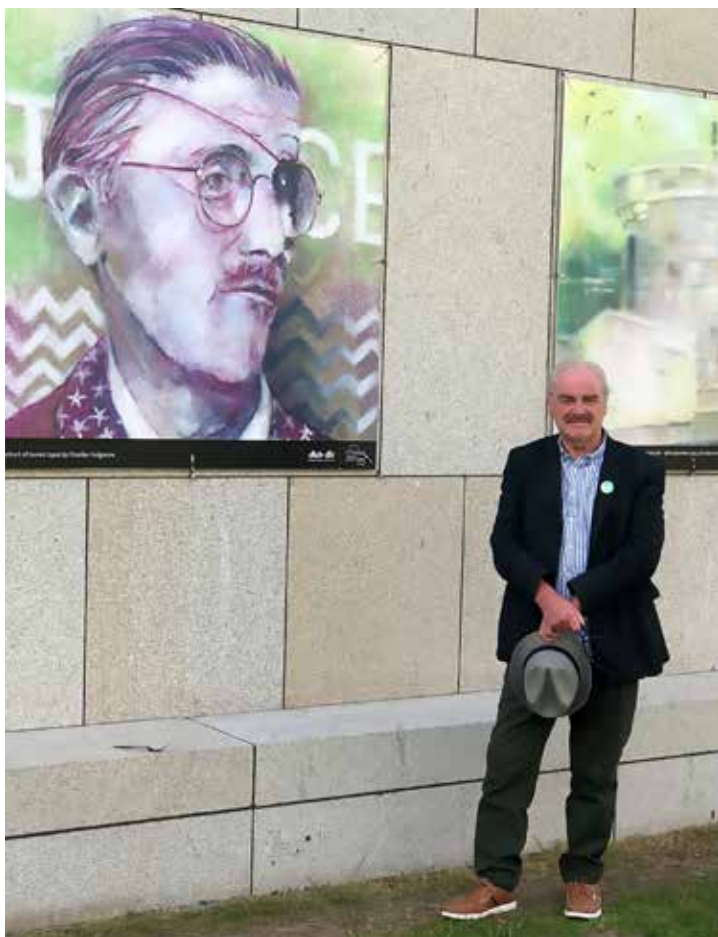
It was hoped that the Tower would re-open on the 28th October. The number of visitors was to be limited and a booking system was added to our website www.joycetower.ie to allow visits to be prebooked. Systems were put in place to facilitate

us to work to the highest standards of safety for visitors and volunteers. Fáilte would be attending to daily cleaning, sanitizing supplies, screens and posters while all volunteers are engaged in online training for working safely. Re-opening was predicated on a continuing reduction of infections and a full removal of restrictions on August 22nd and of course that didn't happen. The unexpected rise in infections in the community and the absence of a proper ventilation system in the Tower meant that it simply wasn't a safe working environment for volunteers, so regrettably we had to defer opening for the time being.

Meantime, three major projects are underway in the background. The committee has been busily organising a programme of events to mark the centenary of Ulysses on February 2nd 2022 in collaboration with DLR. A highlight will be a performance in the Pavilion of Joyce's poems in Chamber Music, set to music by Geoffrey Molyneux Palmer. You may be aware that there is a letter in the Tower in which Joyce, writing to Gogarty expresses a desire to get a singing engagement in the Kingstown Pavilion. Well, we're going to organize his gig in the Pavilion for him. By a great coincidence, Molyneux Palmer lived on the seafront in Sandycove within a short distance from the Tower. His musical settings were Joyce's favourites. There will be more



Michael Portillo (centre) at the Tower on October 18th with Seamus Cannon and Andrew Basquille.



Charles Hulgraine, artist at the opening of his exhibition of James Joyce's Dublin houses in the LexIcon on Bloomsday.

details at a later date.

The second major project is the negotiation with DLRCoCo regarding management of the Tower. DLR are taking over responsibility for the Tower from Fáilte and from the OPW. The intention is, as before, to manage the Tower through a management company set up for the purpose with the full participation of FJT. This is much the same as was proposed previously, but which foundered when DLR withdrew because it was suddenly given responsibility for the harbour with its attendant debt! We want to have everything in place for the centenary! We're confident of a successful outcome on this occasion.

We will also be working on a new publication for 2022, written by Vivien Igoe and Robert Nicholson on the history of the Joyce museum as experienced by its two curators. Vivien preceded Robert in the role and both are celebrated authors of Joyce related publications. We hope to have this published in time for Bloomsday 2022.

We'll also be appearing on television with Michael Portillo on the Great Train Journeys series in Spring. On October 18th the crew filmed a piece at Sandycove taking in the beach, the 40 Foot and the Tower. The Tower sequence featured a re-enactment of the opening scene of Ulysses on the roof. We hope we don't end up on the cutting room floor!

Dr. Seamus Cannon, Chairperson FJT

GLASTHULE BUILDINGS

Almost thirty years ago, and before I moved to Sandycove, when I had never even heard of Glasthule, I came across a set of original architects drawings in the catalogue of an English book dealer. They were original ink drawings with beautiful water colour renderings and were entitled “Kingstown UDC – Housing of the Poor.” I purchased them out of curiosity and partly because my friend Peter Pearson had published a book on Kingstown Dun Laoghaire a few years previously.



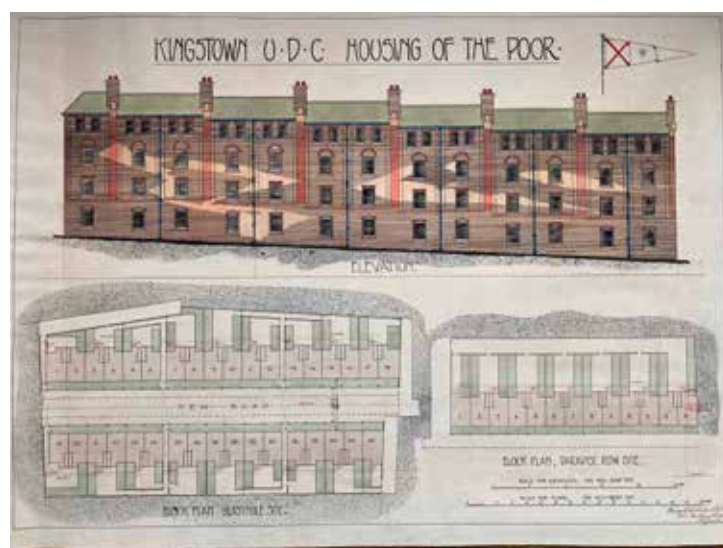
One of the three drawings includes an elevation showing a four-storey, deck-access housing block, together with two block plans, one entitled “Glasthule Site” and the other “Paradise Row.” Paradise Row does not

appear in Brian Smith’s excellent guide book entitled “The Streets of Glasthule”, but it is certain that these drawings, by a Sheffield based architect called Frank Wilson, were an unsuccessful competition entry for what was to become the Glasthule Buildings.

In his book Brian Smith tells us that the development, consisting of seventy five dwellings, was completed for occupation in 1903, in the heart of Glasthule Village. While the Glasthule Buildings, as constructed, are lower in height by one storey than the Wilson design and are rendered rather than faced in brick, they represent a fine example of high-density, early twentieth-century social housing.

Beautifully kept by the current residents, with most of the original doors and windows surviving, this quiet haven is a visual delight with an abundance of carefully tended and colourful planting, all of which is a credit to those who live there. And of course a credit to the Kingstown Urban District councillors who commissioned the buildings – notwithstanding the rather condescending title they gave to the project.

James Howley



SCORE

Dublin has been chosen as a ‘Coastal City Living Lab’ for ‘Smart Control Of the Climate Resilience in European Coastal Cities’ (SCORE), an EU funded project which will address the major challenges faced by extreme weather events, coastal erosion and rising sea levels in European Coastal Cities.

Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, through the Smart Sandycove research programme, will act as a test bed where new resilience measures can be developed and tested. Dublin was selected as a pilot site because of the local expertise in testing innovative technologies and potential for digital twin technology. The SCORE project will tackle specific challenges related to rising sea levels, coastal erosion and extreme weather events. The project goal is to design, develop, monitor and validate robust adaptation measures in coastal and low-lying areas, protecting them from increasing climate and sea level risks, i.e. coastal flooding and erosion, to enhance their overall long-term resilience.

The SCORE project was launched in July 2021, for a duration of four years.

In summary the main objectives of the SCORE project in Dublin are to challenge resilience regarding:

- Coastal flooding: one of the two main public transport train lines, the ‘DART’, operates along the coast and is regularly flooded during storm events, putting the transportation system at great risk.
- Flooding of the coastal water pumping stations and water treatment plant exposes poor water quality in the area which is a danger to local swimmers and to the natural environment.
- The Dublin based Coastal City Living Lab will monitor coastal climate change and develop early warning systems at a local level via a network of low-cost smart sensors deployed through citizen science activities with local coastal communities.



Pip the Barber

Phil “Pip” Connolly is from “The Holla”, more precisely Coldwell Street.

His father started cutting hair in his current premises in November 1937. Pip joined him at aged 16. He took over the business in 1981.

Although he no longer lives locally, working in Glashule has kept him connected to the area and the local characters.

The following local landmarks give clues to his favourite pastime: “The Armchair”, “Bug Rock”, “St Kevin’s Rock” - fishing.

Can you spot Pip in the photo below?



St Brendan's Boys Club in the 60's. Where's Pip?

Traders Updates



Hank's (pictured left) opened recently serving coffee/tea and a variety of snacks.

Fitzgerald's Pub has reopened as has Odells Bistro across the road.

Caviston's new restaurant is yet to open - maybe some time in the new year. They have however opened a takeaway - "Cavistons Seabar". It's open Thursday to Sunday.

The Eagle House is up for sale again.

Harpers Salon celebrate their 10th birthday.

Since November 2020 the Parks Department of DLR County Council has undertaken a programme of upgrading of the park opposite the Harold Primary School on Lower Eden Road. This has included much needed resurfacing of the tarmac area and footpaths within the park. Gates have also been installed, including one to coincide with the pedestrian crossing. Most recently two benches have been fitted and some lavender plots have been planted.

A schedule of dates for Community Clean-up of the

park is displayed next to the gates on each side of the park. The next and last Clean-up date for this year is Saturday 20th November and a new schedule for 2022 will be displayed by the end of the year. These Clean-up Days have proved very successful and are a great opportunity for neighbours to get to know one another with refreshments provided after the work is done.

One or two small community musical occasions have also taken place in the park over the past year, with more planned for the future. The park, of course, continues to be a great amenity for the school for physical education classes and also for parents to gather when dropping off and collecting the children at the school. The upgrading work by the Parks Department is almost complete, with planting of a small number of trees still to be undertaken before the end of the year.



One of the few silver linings of Covid was the explosion of interest in gardening. According to Bord Bia, Irish consumers spent more than €1.2 billion on their gardens in 2020, an increase of more than 50% on 2018 and 14% higher than the previous record year.

Spending on outdoor plants was up by 51% while the spend on seeds and plants for the growing of fruit, vegetables and herbs was at its highest level since measurements began 20 years ago.

With a lot more time on their hands people felt bored and craved a bit of therapeutic exercise right outside their door. Anecdotal research suggests that about 60% of people are interested in gardening but only about 20% have engaged in it so hopefully a decent chunk of that group will stick with it now that they've discovered their green fingers!

Another factor was the uncertainty surrounding supply, particularly of imported fruit and veg; the quality of our own home grown (hopefully organic) fruit and veg is so much better than the chemically treated stuff we get in the supermarkets with all the air miles involved. There's nothing as satisfying as popping out to the garden and digging a few spuds, picking a few of your own strawberries and clipping some of your thyme for your dinner. And the beautiful aroma off those freshly cut roses!

There are particular challenges to coastal gardening and certain plants that thrive and others that do not.

We'd love to hear about your lockdown gardening experience and what you've grown this season.

Please send your photos to
editor@sandycoveandglashule.ie and hopefully
 we'll be able to publish them in the next issue of the
 newsletter in May.

SAGRA Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sagra.ie/>

Our Facebook group now has over 2,600 members.

Thank you to all who have so far been contributing.

If you would like to join the group, the web address is above or you can find a link on our website.

Please: keep it kind, keep it relevant, keep it local.

Bill Gleeson
26 September · 🌐

Set of keys found on Sandycove Avenue West, they've been handed in to Butler's Pantry.



Helen Warinton shared a post.
15 October at 23:47 · 🌐



Caitriona Begely

15 October at 18:42 · 🌐

Hi there, my cat benny has gone missing from upper Albert Road, Very friendly elderly cat if you spot him could you let me know

Olivier Bievre shared a link.
3 September · 🌐



THETIMES.CO.UK

Lise Hand reviews Rasam Restaurant

It was a wintry Monday night in November 2010 and snow and ice ...

Hilary Long shared a post.
12 October at 22:39 · 🌐



Move your mouse to view the photo in 3D

Hilary Long

12 October at 22:38 · 🌐

Down the steps then up the ladder! Way to go 🐟 😊

James O'Connor
1 September · 🌐

Fabulous new sculpture at the end of Sandycove Ave East- who knew the Council had such great taste in public art?

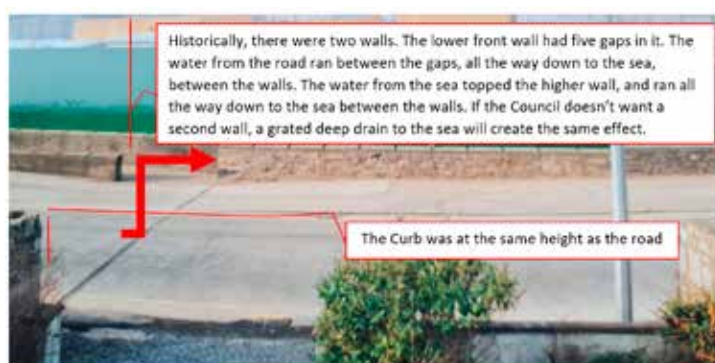


Flooding On The Seafront

During the summer members of the Committee met with an official of the County Council at Marine Parade to discuss drainage and flooding issues.

By way of preparation for the meeting, we wrote to the Council to set out our thinking on the historic context relating to the flooding and coastal defences issue, a topic that ranks highly in importance with our members.

Flooding on Newtownsmith is unfortunately an all too regular occurrence that causes particular consternation, as frankly the problem was caused by an intervention by the Council to 'fill in' a natural run off to the sea that historically protected properties from flooding from (1) the sea, (2) water running down the Link Road and (3) drains overflowing. The photograph below illustrates how the historic flood drainage system worked.



Prior to the Council closing off the natural run off, Marine Parade Road on Newtownsmith Green never flooded to the extent of flooding residents' driveways. In fact, until the early 1970s the sea actually buttressed the seawall. Below is a photograph taken from almost the same place. Whilst the waves topped the wall, the size of the run off back to the sea was more than adequate to prevent flooding. You can also see from the photo, the height difference of the run off, by the man standing on the lower level behind the family.



When Newtownsmith Green was reclaimed, the Council left the lower path which acted as the flood defence run off. It ran as the existing lower path all the way to Belmarino House on Marine Parade where it entered the sea at that point. The next picture illustrates in red where the path ran. The purple at both ends shows where the Council should extend the drainage and our suggestion is that, rather than reinstating the lower path, the Council now provide either a deep



underground drain, or perhaps a deep surface drain with a grid covering it to protect the public.

The most annoying aspect of the flooding for residents on Marine Parade is that, had the Council not closed off the run off, their houses would not have flooded. Unfortunately, flooding for houses on this stretch of the road occurs all too regularly, and frankly it is not fun when your house floods with dirty, smelly water.

We arranged the meeting to see how the Council can reverse a decision taken in 2001 to close up the natural run off. Our belief is that the Council has spent a fortune trying to resolve this issue with very

Previous flooding



sophisticated solutions and, whilst these solutions presumably have helped to solve a broader drainage issue, the decision to close off a simple working solution has had a profoundly negative effect on local residents.

One of the obvious difficulties is the location of the small electric sub-stations. We know from experience that, once the flooding reaches a certain level, there is electric failure and this, we are told, affects the Council's ability to manage flood defences such as pumps. It also results in local houses losing electricity.

We welcomed the opportunity of meeting with the Council official to share local knowledge of what worked in the past, and why we believe a simple historic solution will reverse the difficulties we are encountering. We appreciate the time that the official devoted to listening to the views of local residents. Following the meeting we sent the official photos of the flooding incident that took place shortly before the meeting.

It would be best if the flooding issues discussed could

be split out into two separate policy strategies. It would give local residents a great deal of comfort if we knew that the Council would take ownership and responsibility for solving the sea water and surface rain water issue by constructing a deep cut drain on the Newtownsmith Green side of the wall, running parallel to that wall, all the way to a run off into the sea opposite Belmarino House. We see this as a simple solution that, if agreed to and acted upon, would prevent the properties on this seafront flooding in the future. In terms of prioritisation, this issue for local residents is higher, simply because the consequences of homes flooding is naturally more pressing, especially with more regular flooding occurring.

We recognise that the management of the flooding from the main drains and the directional controls of the pumps is a bigger issue. We understand that this may well require a more complex solution from Irish Water. We have asked the Council to highlight to Irish Water that the location and/or the water proofing of the electricity sub-station on Newtownsmith Green needs to be looked at as experience shows that, once the electrical box is surrounded by water, the system fails.

The Council is positively engaging with the Association and we know we will be hearing more soon.



The most recent flooding



Sandycove Point Update

SANDYCOVE AVENUES & LANES NORTH EAST & WEST - The Loop

The SAL NEW group reconvened last month after a summer break – a summer when the traffic problems on the Loop increased exponentially to the point where it could take up to half an hour to travel by car from the top of Sandycove Ave West to the exit at Sandycove Ave East. Not great if you are an emergency vehicle.

Some progress has been made. First up, the local Gardai got fed up with the number of complaints they received from residents unable to get out of their houses with cars parked across their gateways, and from service vehicles unable to get through due to cars parked on double yellow lines. Garda Harry Cahill took it upon himself to get to the bottom of the problem, and thanks to his personal interest the matter of traffic on this loop has now been scheduled for discussion at the next TAG meeting which will take place in early November. TAG stands for Traffic Action Group and is a regular meeting of Gardai and officials in the council who are tasked with looking after traffic. Thank you Garda Cahill.

Secondly, following a number of zoom meetings with council officials they agreed to do a walkabout with us, so that we could give them local insight into the problems we experience. Remember, the officials are not from the area and they cannot understand what may seem like a small matter that can create huge problems. The walkabout took place with the local traffic engineer Jim Byrne and three administrative colleagues - starting at the top of Sandycove Ave West and stopping at every point where problems occur regularly. We worked our way around to the end of the loop at the top of Sandycove Ave East and highlighted the good the bad and the ugly. (Well no,

we refrained from discussing the ugly, namely the toilets on Sandycove Ave East. Our focus for the moment is the traffic problem.)

Our key request is that the council undertake a Traffic Management Plan for the area. We suspect we will be offered some sticking plasters to help with some local problems and, while sticking plasters are useful short term measures, we know that we need something more substantial. The council has no data on the changes in traffic volumes over the last 18 months – we are asking that they start by undertaking a traffic survey. We are also asking they come up with a strategy that looks at the wider area and limits the volume of traffic that enters the Loop, as it has a small capacity and is frequently in grid lock.

Finally, earlier this year the council proposed the introduction of paid parking on the Loop, and a questionnaire was circulated to all households. The response was a resounding 90% against the proposal, as residents believe that it is not the right solution because it offers only limited hours of operation- 8am to 6pm Monday to Saturday, and it would not cover the busiest times. They also believe that a small charge will not deter drivers. Residents may well be open to paid parking in the future once it is part of a comprehensive traffic management plan, but not as a standalone option.

We are promised another meeting with Jim Byrne the local traffic engineer and council official Martin Allidine to report on the TAG meeting and on what the council thinks should be the next move.

Fionnuala Hayes

Toilets On Sandycove Avenue East

The Sandycove and Glashule Residents have been campaigning for years to have some adequate toilets constructed in the area to cope with the vast crowds that are attracted to the beach, the park and the harbour. This need is all the more pressing as numbers have risen sharply during the covid pandemic.

Despite having spent considerable sums of money on the redesign of Otranto Park, which is a popular, and now much-used public space, the decision was taken to construct two “temporary” toilets at the end of Sandycove Avenue East. Standing on elevated, reinforced concrete bases, these toilets appear to be far from temporary and their siting is puzzling.

The north end of Sandycove Avenue East is in a relatively quiet location, which falls within an Architectural Conservation Area (ACA) and is terminated with a sea view. This decision, even if temporary, makes a mockery of the very notion of an ACA the purpose of which is to preserve the historic character and visual amenities of an area.

In the mid 1990s the county council closed down the toilets in the former Sandycove Baths building, which is

now used by kayakers. The reason given at the time was the risk to children from potential abusers who might follow them into the toilets unnoticed. Footfall in the park was much lower at that time, but was considerably more than at the north end of Sandycove Avenue East today.

With the park now so well used, surely the obvious place to create new permanent toilets is at the west end of the building which is very prominent and would be much safer to use, like the excellent and suitably prominent toilets provided by the council in the People’s Park.



Imogen's Standing Stone – Project Update



Ciaran working on the lettering - figures almost complete.

We are delighted to announce that Imogen's standing stone is almost complete. Carver Ciaran Byrne has been working closely with Imogen throughout the summer and the figures of St Patrick and King Laoghaire are now finished. Work has recently started on the inscription, which Ciaran will carve in both Irish and English.



Imogen making a visit to oversee the work in progress.

Excavations have been carried out to the hill on which the sculpture is to stand and to our surprise we found that it was made-up ground, rather than the rock outcrop we were expecting. Consisting of soil, gravel and large pieces of loose granite, the ground conditions will require a reinforced concrete foundation to support the stone that weighs almost one and a half tons. This has been designed by our structural engineers and we are hoping that the works will start quite soon. The foundation will be below ground to enable the grass to grow back around the base of the sculpture consistent with Imogen's original design. We are hoping the stone might be lifted into place before the end of the year.

JH

Digital Notice Boards



The new digital noticeboards that have appeared in Sandycove and Seapoint are, we expect, intended to provide useful information about water temperature, water quality and life guard services etc. Unfortunately most of the statistics,

including those describing the water quality are not being logged, and did the panels really have to be so big? Most of the information they provide consists of details of tide times and beautiful photographs of the Sandycove and Seapoint coastlines, all of which can be seen by simply turning around. Surely we spend enough time looking at screens in our lives not to have to see them in some of the most beautiful places along our coasts. The signs are particularly glaring at dawn and dusk when they are a visual assault on the eye, even from quite a distance. If these signs are necessary, could we not have had smaller screens, the size of a tablet, mounted discretely on the lifeguard huts to convey this important information and leave the beautiful views to nature?

Drawings of the area by Fergal MacCabe

Two years ago Fergal MacCabe decided to explore, in a series of small watercolours, the architecture and local atmosphere which defines our mental picture of Glashule.

He produced nine drawings in all ranging from the grand scale of St Joseph's to the minor masterpiece of 'The Piano'. Four of these are shown below.

He then embarked on a more ambitious response to the architecture and landscape of Dun Laoghaire in the form of a 'Capriccio' which won the Whytes Award at this year's Irish Watercolour Society exhibition.

If you want to know more about his work, Fergal can be contacted at fergal.maccabe@gmail.com.



'The Buildings' 16.12.19 Fergal MacCabe



'The Village' Fergal MacCabe 19.01.19



'Fitzies' 5.01.19 Fergal MacCabe



'Eden Park' 2.01.19 Fergal MacCabe

Casement Statue Installed at the Dún Laoghaire Baths



On 14th September the Roger Casement Statue was lifted into place at the end of the new jetty at the Dún Laoghaire Baths project. The statue commemorates Casement who was born in Sandycove in 1864, became an early international human rights campaigner and who was executed for his part in the 1916 Rising.

The statue was commissioned by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and created by sculptor Mark Richards following an open competition. It's in bronze and stands over 3m tall.

Works at the Dún Laoghaire Baths site are still ongoing. Completion was expected in December 2021 but, due to Covid and other site factors, the project is likely to be delivered in late Spring 2022.

The current projected cost is €13.5m which includes the refurbishment of the existing Baths Pavilion, constructing a new jetty to give easy access to the water for swimming and the creation of a new route between Newtownsmith and the East Pier.

The former Pavilion building has been substantially refurbished to provide studio space for artists and to provide gallery and café facilities overlooking Scotsman's Bay. The original Baths entrance is being restored to provide access to the building while an outdoor 'café terrace' linked to the new café will provide a seating area. The Pavilion will also provide a new public toilets, a Changing Places facility and will be accessible for wheelchair users.

Cowshed Car Park Restored

Even though it took a year, it's great to see the Council have been flexible enough to reverse a mistake.



Special thanks to Cllr Mary Fayne and Cllr Lorraine Hall for their efforts here.





www.64wine.ie

The 64 wine team would like to thank all the Glasthule and Sandycove retailers for their collective efforts to keep the community safe during Covid 19 and to profoundly thank all our customers for their support and patience shown during this time.

01 - 280 5664

www.64wine.ie

@64_wine



BLOOMINGDALES FLORIST

01 2850100

BLOOMINGDALESFLORIST.IE



Have a safe and peaceful Christmas and thank you for your custom from all of us

UNDER THE TREE AT



Glathule

Valuation Day

Wilton Gallery
with Bonhams
Ireland

Exhibition

HELEN POMPHREY
'Within the Landscape'
15 - 28 Nov 2021

Enquiries

info@wiltongallery.ie
(01) 551 9165
www.wiltongallery.ie

12 Nov 2021
10am - 4pm

WINTER GROUP SHOW
Dec 2021 - Jan 2022

55 Glathule Road
A96 T2 K3



HELEN POMPHREY 'Within the Landscape' Cliff Baths 3 | 2021

WILTON GALLERY

A Dog Called Dog

A Short Story by Breandán Ó Broin

I am a dog. My name is Dog. I am a Cocker Spaniel. I live with Bill who named me Dog. Could have been worse, I suppose. He could have called me 'Cocker'.

I have been with Bill since his wife died. Evelyn, her name was. Bill still calls her 'The Missus' because he misses her very much. That's when his memory isn't playing tricks, when he forgets she is no longer with us.

I take Bill for his daily walk; our usual route through Glasthule. He recites the names of shops he has known since his childhood.

'Caviston's, Noel Family Butchers, The Punnet, The Eagle House – pulled a great pint'.

We are at the Martello Tower, a bulk of grey stone, peering out over the snot-green. Bill reads the sign on the door

'James' 'Joyce' 'Museum' 'Covid' 'Closed'

A museum is where they keep'

Words and memory fail Bill.

'... Dead Things', he concludes, triumphantly.

A woman walks by pushing a baby buggy without a baby.

'Have you lost your little nipper?' asks Bill.

'Ferdia died an hour before he was born' replies the woman. 'I had already bought the buggy'.

She pushes off, tears leaking.

'Fleck it', Bill says, 'I always shoot my stupid mouth off. Take me home, Dog'.

I put my nose to the ground and identify my scent; I had urinated all along the way, like people do with pebbles, to mark the way home. Thank God they hadn't made dogs wear Covid masks. We would have been lost, literally. I tug and Bill follows my lead.

Who needs Google Maps when you've got a nose like mine?

Half-way home, Bill is in a bad way.

'I'm knackered Dog', he gasps.

I slowed down as we pass St Joseph's.

'Let's go in', he says, 'we could both do with a sit-down'.

It was the first time Bill had entered the granite Church since the day they carried out Evelyn in her coffin.

'The Missus never missed Morning Mass; says Bill, 'a fully paid-up member of the Canon Foley Fan Club she was. She told me she's be here; maybe we can have a chat'.

'Hail Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy

Hail our Life, our Sweetness and our Hope'.

Bill collapses into a pew and I squeeze in beside him, hunkering down on the kneeler.

'To thee do we come ...'

Bill dredges the old words from the depths of his shattering memory

'... sinful and sorrowful in this Valley of Tears'.

Suddenly Bill stands up.

'Come on Dog, enough of this palaver, Evelyn's not here, let's get the Hell out'.

In Coldwell Street, Bill finds his way to his own front door. The old dear next door and her daughter are pruning the last of the potted roses before the first of the frosts.

'Hello Bill', says Old Dear.

'Hello Rose', says Bill, hoping for the best.

'Not Rose, it's Rita' says the daughter.

'Come in for a cuppa', says Rita.

I cock my ears to hear the daughter's whisperings:

'If anything ever happens Bill, you've no need to worry. Dog can live with us. We might even get him a proper name'.

And the door shuts silently in my frightened face.

One Wednesday, Bill doesn't go out at all. I hear him shuffling around in the small bedroom, the one he moved into the night Evelyn died and never once moved out of. Around 3 in the morning, Bill's footsteps creak slowly down the stairs. He lies down on the couch; in vest, underpants, socks.

'Come to me Dog' he orders, 'lick my face the way you used to'.

I do as he asked.

'I'm a goner Dog', he says.

Bill closes his eyes and he is gone.

I go out into the back yard.

There are no stars, no urban fox on the prowl, no bright yellow Moon. I sit there for a long silent time. And then from deep inside me, comes a terrible noise. I howl and I howl.

Even though there is no moon for Dog to howl at.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Pavilion Theatre

26 & 27 November Alice & The Wolf

29 December First Cow (cinema)

30 November ABBA Forever

1 December Finghin Collins

2 December Eilish O'Carroll's: LIVE, LOVE, LAUGH!

12 & 13 February Jason Byrne: On Your Marks, Get Set...Gig!

18 & 19 February Joanne McNally: The Prosecco Express!

18 March Neil Delamere



For a full listing of events see www.paviliontheatre.ie

LexIcon



29 December Murder in the library at dlr LexIcon: A Narrow Door
Multi genre international bestseller Joanne Harris discusses the inspiration behind A Narrow Door, her writing process and what made her turn to crime, with author, editor and journalist, Declan Burke.

For more information on events in the LexIcon (and other DLR libraries) see:

<https://libraries.dlrcoco.ie/events-and-news>

Christmas in Sandycove and Glashule

19th November Turning on Christmas lights



There are other events planned but not yet finalised. For more information see notices in shop windows in Sandycove and Glashule.

dlr Libraries Online Book Club

Do you like reading and discussing books? If you would like to be involved in a live discussion this is the club for you! Join dlr libraries staff and the excellent book club facilitator Mary Burnham, on the last Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

Contact libraryculture@dlrcoco.ie for more information and to register for the book club.

Winter Group Show

Wilton Gallery

December 2021 - January 2022



SAGRA Annual General Meeting


Our AGM will take place on Monday November 29th at 8pm over Zoom.

As usual this will be an opportunity to meet (virtually) your fellow residents and hear about issues impacting the area. We expect to be joined by several of our elected representatives.

Register to attend here: www.sagra.ie/agm/

Friendly Reminder

You can pay your membership subscription online at www.sagra.ie
€15 for individual or €22 for a household.



Glashule

Society of St Vincent de Paul

The Conference is appealing to your generosity to fund the Society's work and assist local people in need. Contributions can be made as follows :

1. Donate by cheque, made payable to :
"St Joseph's SVP Conference" posted to
SVP Glashule, Parish Centre,
Summerhill Rd, Dublin A96 W6D6
2. Electronic funds transfer to:
St Joseph's Conference of SVP
IBAN IE 16 BOFI 9011 1688 646489
BIC: BOFIE2D

If you need help or advice in any way - or would like us to visit you - perhaps you might be lonely - then please contact us in strict confidence by e-mail (anytime) info.east@svp.ie or call **01- 855 0022** Monday to Friday, 9-5



CAMILE THAI GLASTHULE

Thank you for supporting local

57A Glasthule Rd, Glasthule
(01) 284 1000 | camile.ie



EAMONN'S BOOKSHOP

Serving the people of Sandycove since 1973

We buy and sell all kinds of
books, records, dvds and cds

Large range of greeting cards
and stationery

Photocopying service available

Open Tuesday - Saturday, 10:00 -17:30

(01) 284 2144 eamonnsbookshop@gmail.com

QUINNS

of Glasthule
Funeral Home

Let us take care of you
and your family's needs

CALL US 24 HOURS A DAY!

(01) 2806756

Manager Martin Byrne



28 Glasthule Road,
Glasthule, Co. Dublin.

info@quinnsfuneralhome.ie

www.quinnsfuneralhome.ie

EST. 1947
CAVISTONS
FOOD EMPORIUM

HAPPY CHRISTMAS
FROM ALL IN CAVISTONS

BRIMMING WITH YOUR
SEASONAL FAVOURITES

WE LOOK FORWARD TO
WELCOMING YOU TO OUR
GOURMET PARADISE

WIDEST SELECTION OF SEAFOOD, DELI ITEMS AND
FRESH PRODUCE AVAILABLE UNDER ONE ROOF.



58/59 Glasthule Road,
Sandycove, Co. Dublin



Shop: 01 280 9120
order by email at orders@cavistons.com



info@cavistons.com
www.cavistons.com



MITCHELL'S
WINE, SPIRIT & CRAFT BEER SHOP
GLASTHULE VILLAGE
.....
for all your
CHRISTMAS
WINE & SPIRIT NEEDS
.....
HUGE SELECTION OF WINES
FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD
GIFT SETS
WHISKIES & SPIRITS
RIEDEL GLASSWARE
CRAFT BEERS

Telephone: - - 01 230 2301
Emails : glasthule@mitchellandson.com

SHOP ONLINE 
www.mitchellandson.com

DELIVERY NATIONWIDE
CLICK & COLLECT AVAILABLE

KENDUF MOTORS

- SERVICE ALL MAKES OF CARS
- REPAIRS
- NCT PRE-TEST
- BODY REPAIR & SPRAY PAINTING
- CRASH REPAIRS

We can deal with your **INSURANCE CLAIMS** and provide a **FREE ESTIMATE**

Talk to
Jamie Kennedy
086 2600 224

Talk to
Mark Duffy
086 2600 048



26A Albert Road Lower,
Sandycove, Co. Dublin, A96 X5D8
Tel (01) 236 0608
www.kendufmotors.ie



The most perfect Gifts

Relaxation & wellbeing Day Spa Gift Voucher
NU Aesthetics experts skincare advice Gift Voucher
Skincare products to suit all skincare needs

Happy Christmas!




NUALA WOULFE
P: 230 0255
e: reception@nualawoulfe.ie



ESTATE AGENT

52 Sandycove Road Sandycove Co. Dublin
T+353 1 2845007 E info@tomohiggins.ie
W www.tomohiggins.ie

Happy Christmas

From All at Tom O'Higgins Estate Agent

'Before You Move, Talk To Tom'