

NEW HOMES ON GLASANAON ROAD MEAN LOSS OF PITCH

BY PAUL KELLY

IT WILL BE a blessing for the old folks of Finglas: 80 specially-fitted apartments, wonderful landscaping, and ready access to nearby parks, shops and cafés.

And home-hungry buyers will be glad too, with 18 apartments on offer, ranging from singles to 3-bedroomed. All in Glasanaon Road.

But the losers? The sports-mad schoolchildren of adjacent Gaelscoil Uí Earcáin.

Currently, the school and its large GAA pitch sit on a site of just under 3 hectares (7½ acres) bounded on the south by Glasanaon Road, Finglas. (The perimeter is completed by Glasanaon Park, Ferndale Avenue and then School Road.)

As our aerial view shows, the school building, "A", sits to the east, adjacent to the tiny through-way, Glasanaon Park.

But more than two thirds of the site is currently occupied by a giant green playing area.

It is used largely for GAA football but the pitch proper occupies less than a hectare; the school also offers the same again in green space, shared by all of the Gaelscoil's 250-plus pupils, ranging in age from 5 or 6 to about 11.



Lord Mayor of Dublin Brendan Carr was on hand to turn on the Christmas Tree lights in Ballymun recently at the civic offices. The local choir group; The Northside Sensations provided some fine seasonal music and the fire brigade arrived with Santa who had been stranded further up the road. A huge number of local children gathered round to chat to Santa and see if he could arrange something for their Christmas. We hear he will be back again on Christmas Eve with gifts for local children.

This open space — a relative rarity for anywhere in Dublin City these days — is shown as "B" and "C" in our aerial photo, and comes to a total of over 2 hectares (5½ acres).

But as and from the next academic year (2017/18), pupils and teachers may have to say goodbye to all of "B", leaving them with just "C".

The developers are moving in.

Currently, the owners of the site are looking for planning permission. This will see them taking back a massive portion of the current play area — about two thirds of it.

And what can Principal Leah Ní Mhaoláin do about it? Nothing much.

The entire site — school, school grounds and playing pitch — is owned by the De La Salle Brothers, and the new gaelscoil — Uí Earcáin

was founded just a decade ago — merely lease the building and the land.

Furthermore, the zoning, "Z15", means simply that it must "protected for institutional and community use". So the OAP care centre — if not, perhaps, the adjacent luxury dwellings — would seem to qualify.

The letter of the law says that, under Z15 rules, the old folks' building would be

continued on page 2

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from page 1

“permitted in principle”, while the apartments would be “open to consideration”.

So much will depend, over the next few months, on who exactly is doing the considering — and who, if anyone, decides to do the objecting.

If permission is granted, not all is lost for the local schoolchildren. A pickup game of GAA or soccer is by no means impossible, not even on a much-reduced pitch.

The real problem arises with wear and tear.

Even the best efforts of nearly three hundred lively children cannot do too much damage to a 5-acre pitch — certainly not during casual play.

But near the end of 2017, teachers, parents and pupils will begin to realise that confining all that youthful energy into less than a third of the current green space has implications far beyond the code of Gaelic Football.

Whether it's a serious GAA match or ringa-ring o' rosies, the school's tiny bit of remaining turf, post-build, just won't withstand the punishment.

Soon, those treasured after-school pickup games will be gone, and it will be “official matches only”. The younger ones will be corralled onto paths and patches of green for their skipping ropes and their games.

And the landscape of green

will be replaced by the shadow of a high-rise.

Yet in truth the children of Gaelscoil Uí Earcáin are the lucky ones.

Over and over, our North and South editions have had to hail it as a political triumph when an inner-city school gets a tiny grant for a patch-of-concrete pitch.

Basin Lane's St James's Primary, for example, had to bow and scrape for a decade to get a small, synthetic soccer pitch. Residents of nearby Bridgefoot Street are still fighting like tigers for a patch of scrub land. At least those in relatively leafy Finglas have Johnstown Valley Park and Tolka Valley Park within walking distance.

But we all have



HIGH RISE: how the site will be divided

to make sacrifices.

“It's a good development,” says local TD Dessie Ellis (SF, Dublin North-West).

“It's properly landscaped, with plenty of green, so it will be great for the elderly. We just have to see how well it goes down [in Finglas].”

Indeed, in the constant tension between those desperate to be housed, and those who prefer to keep familiar spaces and faces, Deputy Ellis has always (often to his cost) been on the side of the home-hungry.

And he is probably well aware that the Glasanaon Road saga will be just the first of many similar stories. A Dublin city on the up is going to turn over every leaf, every blade of grass, to find more sites.

In all this, the poor are more vulnerable than the rich; the inner city more likely to lose

what green they have than the 'burbs. In the present case, they lose some, not all.

The odds are high that your school-going ones will have to say goodbye to a favourite field or two. And if you're Dublin 1, 2 or 8, forget it: that handkerchief of grass is all your school has, and all it's getting. Count yourself lucky if you bag an all-weather.

At least the pupils of Uí Earcáin know that their precious pitch went the way of homes for the elderly — and not some vulture-fund venture. And at least this suburban school keeps a precious 2-acre pitch: that's 2 acres more green than they have in the primary in Basin Lane.

• To view planning permission documents for the Glasanaon Road development, go to dublin-city.ie

Cearnóg an tSeachtar Laoch

OFFICIAL NAMING OF THE PLAZA IN
BALLYMUN TOWN CENTRE



Dublin City Council announced the official naming of the Plaza in Ballymun Town Centre on Friday, 2nd December. Lord Mayor Brendan Carr unveiled a special plaque to mark the occasion.

“Dublin City Council organised a plaque marking the naming of the Plaza as “Cearnóg an tSeachtar Laoch” which will take pride of place in the Town Centre. I would like to thank Councillor Noeleen Reilly who proposed the naming of the Plaza after the Leaders of the 1916 Rising”, said Lord Mayor Brendan Carr.

Councillor Noeleen Reilly said “I put forward a motion in 2015 to Dublin City Council to name the Plaza after the Leaders of the 1916 Rising. The Leaders were synonymous with Ballymun because of the seven tower blocks named after them. Residents felt that during the regeneration an opportunity had been missed to name some of the new streets and roads after the Leaders. I felt it was important to rectify that especially on the 100th Anniversary of the Rising”.

After the unveiling the Lord Mayor switched on the Ballymun Christmas Tree Lights at the Civic Offices as local choir, The Northside Sensations, rang in the festive season. There was refreshments afterwards for all to enjoy and of course Santa's Grotto kept the youngsters entertained.

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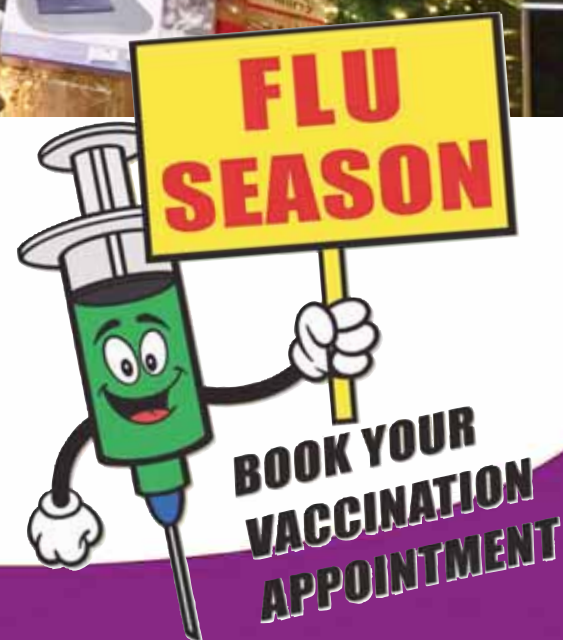
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Lack of social criticised in new Priory

CLLR MICHAEL O'BRIEN (AAA, Beaumont/Donaghmede) has blasted Sinn Féin for allowing the private sale of most of the 187 units in the newly-refurbished Priory Hall.

Dublin City Council took ownership of 162 of the 187 units in return for undertaking their refurbishment.

That move followed a devastating 2011 report by fire officers which rendered the entire complex uninhabitable. Buyers had to leave. Their mortgages were eventually forgiven — but not before the crisis had caused at least one suicide, that of dad-of-two Fiachra Daly, 37.

Now apartments in the complex, re-named "New Priory", are currently being offered by estate agents Hooke & MacDonald. There are 127 available, with more to come. The 1-bedroomed apartments start at



CLLR O'BRIEN: incensed

€145,000; with 2-bedroomed at from €165,000. Two-bedroomed duplexes are available from €195,000.

New Priory is in Hole-in-the-Wall Street just south of Donaghmede, and about 1½ miles (2.4 km) northeast of Raheny.

"My own preference would be to have all, or nearly all, of the apartments go for social and affordable housing," Cllr O'Brien told Local News.

His own plan for full public ownership

has been rejected by a substantial majority of councillors. But O'Brien was devastated when a compromise plan, put forward by Labour in September, was also rejected. It was a close call, with the motion ironically defeated by the casting vote of another Labour representative, Lord Mayor Brendan Carr (Cabra/Finglas).

"That compromise would at least have allowed for 30 per cent social, 30 per cent affordable and the balance, 40 per cent, to be sold privately," Cllr O'Brien noted.

While unhappy with that compromise, he says he "could have lived with it" as preferable to near-total privatisation.

As it is, he said, even the "10-10" norm — 10 per cent going to social and the same to affordable — will be halved, with the affordable quotient being eliminated.

(Social housing is the jargon for what has, for years, been called "council housing".)

Affordable housing is treated for legal and commercial purposes like private housing, but the rents, or sale prices, are lowered — sometimes by as much as 20 or 30 per cent of market value.)

Now, Cllr O'Brien is blaming the defeat of his own motions — which call for nearly all the complex to revert to social and affordable housing — squarely on the shoulders of Sinn Féin.

"Sinn Féin dominates the Council by numbers alone," Cllr O'Brien said.

"As far as I can make out, they have started to follow the establishment line. They are going along with what is expedient, rather than with a radical step that would greatly help to shorten the housing waiting list all over the northside."

Cllr O'Brien says

NEW PRIORY: sold by Council



that in his local electoral area of Beaumont/Donaghmede, he knows of people who have remained on the Housing Waiting List for fully fourteen years:

"And I know of hundreds more who are facing Christmas in emergency accommodation," he said.

"They are living in places like the Hilton Hotel [on the Malahide Road] and the Clayton Hotel [on Clonsaugh Road]."

So what's behind Sinn Féin opposition to more social housing in New Priory?

"Well, they say 35 families are moving in under the deal that's been agreed," said Cllr O'Brien.

"Their rationalisation is, if we change the original agreement, that could prevent those families having a home for Christmas. At least, that's what Sinn Féin are saying."

He says that the original DCC agreement was made in 2013/14, before Dublin housing became "the disaster which it is now".

"We have to change our policies accordingly. It's a

completely false economy for the Council to be taking money from private buyers, and at the same time paying out fortunes for emergency accommodation in hotels."

He said he is particularly incensed that six of the just-sold apartments are to go to private investment firms Harley Holdings, Gaughran Homes Ireland and Woodview Trading Ltd.

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Green "caution" on 30,000 airport jobs

GREEN PARTY Transport Spokesperson Cllr Ciarán Cuffe (North Inner City) has

told Local News that "we should think very carefully" about plans for a second runway

for Dublin Airport. "There are far more pressing investments that you could



BIG LEAP: (1), present runway. (2), new runway a mile north

prioritise other, more pressing cases for transport investment."

Meanwhile the Dublin Airport Authority has promised spinoff jobs totalling over 30,000 if the project goes ahead:

"Dublin Airport's North Runway development has the potential to open up to fast growing economies in Asia, Africa and South America," the DAA told Local News.

"The delivery of a new runway could support a further 31,000 new jobs over the next two decades, contributing €2.2 billion to GDP."

However Cllr Cuffe, who chairs the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee of Dublin City Council, was not sold on the benefits — economic or otherwise — of a massive expansion.

"We should think very carefully about the expansion of any airport. We should look at the economics, the environmental impact and the social impact," he told Local News.

In an earlier conversation with Cllr Cuffe, Local News had the impression that he believed that a shortage of carbon-based fuels would make the Airport expansion re-

dundant, as aviation worldwide would seriously contract rather than expand.

We put these views, as we understood he had expressed them, to the Green Party.

Both the party Press Officer Gavin Nugent and Cllr Cuffe called back to clarify:

"I cannot fathom why anyone would express such a view," Mr Nugent stated.

"It would be off the wall to suggest that air transport will finish, or that Dublin Airport should be run down," Cllr Cuffe added. However, he continued to express scepticism about the

wisdom of adding a second runway, questioning the economics as well as the environmental impact of a much-expanded Airport. Ciarán Cuffe has qualifications in architecture and urban planning, and lectures in the latter in the College of Technology in Bolton Street.

The 3,110 metre runway is planned for 1.6 km (about a mile) north of the existing main runway and is expected to be delivered in 2020.

It will cost €320

million for the runway and massive associated buildings. It was first mooted in 2007 but long-fingered following the 2008 financial crash and falling passenger numbers.

Now, it appears possible that with soaraway growth of 15 per cent annually, Dublin could soon come close to Heathrow's traffic, jumping from the current 25 million to 60-70 million passengers in less than a decade.

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Walsh Road residents call a halt to rat-runners

DRIVERS in the Griffith Park, Walsh Road and Richmond Road areas are facing daily danger with "rat-run" drivers mounting footpaths, ignoring traffic signs, blocking local parking and driving at unsafe speeds.

That's the verdict of local campaigners in the Walsh Road Traffic Action Group. And now, local councillor Cllr Andrew Keegan (PBPA, Ballymun) has raised the issue with City traffic bosses:

"There is supposed to be a 'No Left

Turn' AT Millmount Avenue," Cllr Keegan told Local News.

"That rule is being flouted on a daily basis. And people are using Walsh Road as a rat-run to and from St Mobhi Road and Upper Drumcondra Road."

Walsh Road is part of a tight network of narrow residential roads bound by Griffith Park on one side and Ferguson Road on the other.

But the problem extends further south and east, in the direction of nearby Richmond Road and Tolka Park. Many of the narrower roads are residential. But these roads attract traffic from Drumcondra Road, Griffith Avenue and St Mobhi Road. All these are prime commuter routes, feeding to and from the city centre, and also handling much of the traffic going to Dublin Airport.

Richmond Road residents are alarmed and angry:

"This is madness," fumed local Daragh Connolly, following a recent spate of pavement-mounting inci-

dents in which pedestrians had to flee oncoming traffic.

"Is someone going to get run over before this stops?"

Clips of pavement-mounting and other rat-run behaviour can be seen on the Walsh Road Traffic Action Group Facebook page.

Meanwhile Cllr Keegan promises to bring the issue up at the next Area Committee Meeting. He has already asked City engineers and the Gardaí to intervene to alleviate the hazard.

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Around the world bellow
With tiny lights like Heaven's stairs,
reflecting in the snow.

The sight is so spectacular.
Please wipe away the tear
For I am spending Christmas with
Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs
That people hold so dear
But the sounds of music can't compare
With the Christmas choir up here.

I have no words to tell you,
the joy their voices bring.
For it is beyond description,
To hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me,
I see the pain inside your heart.
But I am not so far away,
We really aren't apart.

So be happy for me, dear ones,
You know I hold you dear.
And be glad I'm spending Christmas
with Jesus Christ this year.

I sent you each a special gift,
From my heavenly home above,
I sent you each a memory
of my undying love.

After all love is a gift more precious
Than pure gold.
It was always most important
in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other,
As my father said to do.
For I can't count the blessing or love
he has for each of you.

So have a Merry Christmas and
Wipe away that tear.
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The first phase of the development is due for completion in early January 2017 at which stage the existing PH Ross business will transfer to the new Heating and Plumbing Centre. The existing business will trade in its current site until then.

The second phase is due for completion in early June 2017 and will see the opening of the new Bathroom and Tile showroom at the same time as the opening of the impressive new Lidl store. The Bathroom and Tile showroom will showcase all the very latest trends in tiles and bathrooms from Milan, Paris and beyond and will bring a new vibrancy and style to Cabra and the Dublin market.

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Commenting on the new development HPC's Group Operations Director, Dennis O'Connor said "we are incredibly excited about this development. It marks a new chapter in the long and successful history of the PH Ross business in Cabra. The investment demonstrates our commitment and confidence in our Heating and Plumbing business and our dedicated staff in Cabra. The team in PH Ross wanted to ensure that the key elements which have underpinned our success over the past 40 years were maintained when planning the new Plumb Centre and showroom. Providing the very best in customer service is top of our list and the very latest warehouse designs, computer software and operating systems will ensure that the customer will always get what they want when they want it."

Once the development is complete there will be dual access to the new PH

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Fingal's 1916 story now on film

THE STORY of Fingal's involvement in the 1916 Easter Rising is now on film and Fingal County

Council hosted a successful premiere of the docudrama Fingal's Finest on Thursday, December

1, in the Draiocht Arts Centre, Blanchardstown. The film was created and produced



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by Tile Media and was co-sponsored by Fingal County Council as part of its 1916 Commemoration Programme.

The Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Darragh Butler, and the Chief Executive of Fingal County Council, Paul Reid, were joined by elected representatives, relatives and friends of the men and women of Fingal who took part in the events of 1916 gathered in Draiocht's theatre for the first public viewing of the film which was shot in various locations around the county during the year.

Fingal's Finest is the story of the Fifth Battalion, Dublin Brigade of Irish Volunteers, and their role in the 1916 Rising.

The narrative for the film is largely driven by the witness statements of those involved, including Irish Volunteers Joseph Lawless (Cal Kenealy) and Richard Mulcahy (Andrew Macklin), Cumann na mBan scout Molly Adrien (Natasha Duffy), and officers William O'Connell (Eoin O'Sullivan) and Eugene Bratton (Tim Casey) of the Royal Irish Constabulary, who act as 'avatars' as the events of Easter Week, 1916, unfold.

It is hoped that the film will be seen by as many people as possible across the country. It will form part of Fingal County

Council's 1916 Centenary Legacy Collection, which will be available through our Libraries, Local Studies and Archives collections

Mr Reid said that Council was delighted to have been involved in the project. "It was important to us in Fingal that we find a fresh way to tell this unique story to a new audience of younger people. I think that Fingal's Finest will enable us to do just that, keeping the memory of the achievements of the Fifth Battalion and the Fingal Brigade alive for future generations," said Mr Reid.

The Mayor added that the film was an excellent way to ensure that those from Fingal who were involved in the Easter Rising are not forgotten.

"I think this film is a great way of acknowledging the men and women of Fingal who made a huge and lasting contribution to who we are and what we have become as a result of their efforts in the events of 1916. Is Cuimhin Linn, We Remember," said Cllr Butler.

Colin Farrell of Tile Media, who wrote and directed the film said it was a great opportunity to tell a story that is not known by people outside of Fingal.

"We were delighted to be asked by Fingal County

Council to work with them in telling the story of the Fifth Fingal Battalion of the Irish Volunteers.

Filmmakers are always on the lookout for powerful, un-

told stories and this was one of them.

It may be well known to many of the people of Fingal, and by historians, but is largely unknown by most of

the rest of the population," said Mr Farrell.

Details regarding future screenings of Fingal's Finest will be announced at a later date.

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"Phenomenal" warmth as 200 join Ballymun cosy queue

CLLR NOELEEN REILLY (SF, Ballymun) has praised the "phenomenal difference" made by a programme of careful insulation, already provided to hundreds of houses in Ballymun.

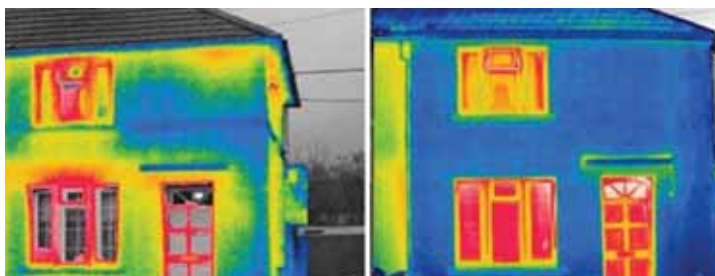
"There are just short of 200 houses remaining to be insulated," Cllr Reilly told Local News.

"It is something that comes up every year, and it needs to be addressed."

She explained that Dublin City Council had already applied to the Department of Housing for cash to make these remaining houses a pilot scheme.

She reports that other residents, Council and private, who have had proper, professional insulation installed have described the results as "phenomenal".

"They have also had a huge reduction



HOT STUFF: one house heats the street (left); another holds warmth (right)

in their electricity bills. So it would be great to get the programme completed once and for all."

She said she was making a personal appeal to Minister

Simon Coveney to give the go ahead to the City's application for the relevant budget.

Complete interior and exterior insulation — the latter

being by far the most expensive — could cost as much as €20,000 per house, requiring a total budget of €4 million.

However, economies of scale

could bring that figure down to €3 million.

Furthermore, experts say that wear and tear on houses is greatly reduced, and value increased, particularly by external insulation. So the value of City housing stock would rise by far more than the money expended. Most contractors would carry out work both inside and outside, as experts recommend.

Shamrock Lodge sheisiún to support Mellows sculpture

LOCAL history buffs in Finglas have banded together for an ambitious memorial to be erected near the bridge in Casement Road.

Diarmuid Mac Dubhghlais and The Liam Mellows Memorial Committee propose a large statue, carved from a granite block 6½ feet



MELLOWS: monument

(2 metres) tall.

The main figure represented will be Liam Mellows himself. Other republican figures associated with the area, including Joseph Mary Plunkett, Rodger Casement and Kevin Barry, will be remembered in an accompanying plaque.

An existing street lamp will be incorporated, and the monument will be finished with railings and flower beds.

And the fundraisers propose to sing for their sculpture:

"We've called our sessions The Piper's Chair," Mr Mac Dubhghlais explained to Local News. "They are evenings of traditional music and ballads, started back in mid-October 2016 in the Séamus Ennis lounge, upstairs in the Shamrock Lodge Finglas." The session is held every Thursday, starting at 8:45pm.

To date Mac Dubhghlais's mates have hosted poetry, song, Irish dance and traditional music. They have welcomed harpists and uilleann pipers — and of course An Gaeilge is encouraged.

Admission to the Piper's Chair is only €5, all of which goes first to the Mellows memorial and then to other historically-related works the committee hope to carry out in Finglas.

Shamrock Lounge management kindly gave the premises free of charge for the Thursday get-togethers.

Another stream of income will come from local schools, with children paying a small fee to have their names included in a "time capsule" to be buried under the foundations of the monument.

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Community kitchen for Ballymun

FABULOUS fresh-cooked meals — and the chance to socialise — are the latest benefits to hit Ballymun as fortunes in the Dublin 11 district take a distinct turn for the better.

Kare Services has just started operating one of their "Community Kitchens" in the Marewood Complex in Ballymun.

In the last two months alone Local News has reported a

Ballymun renaissance including:

- the go-ahead for a new shopping centre
- advance plans for an adjacent Village Centre
- regrouping of Tus

Nua clients, with regular get-togethers in the Civic Centre

- the underwriting of Ballymun Regeneration Project plans, with a massive €15 million cash injection.

The Community Kitchen offers freshly-cooked fare every day, with an emphasis on healthy eating. The venture is subsidised, allowing Kare Services to offer a three-course meal every day at lunchtime for just €5.

Local councillor Noeleen Reilly (SF, Ballymun) welcomed the Kare Services initiative:

"This is a great way for people to enjoy a meal in the company of others who might otherwise be on their own at meal times," she told Local News.

"The centre was

full of laughter and noise today as everyone sat down!"

Community Kitchens, apart from meeting the need for physical and social sustenance, are also in the business of reducing food waste, Cllr Reilly said. In some cases, as here, Kare Services also provides Meals on Wheels. Through the scheme 350 elderly people in Ballymun are provided with meals every week.

Kare has a track record of employing people locally, Cllr Reilly said, particularly in Community Employment Schemes. She hopes that this will continue with the Marewood operation.



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The growth in community spirit and activity in Mulhuddart and surrounds continues. Last week the traders and the local people came together to instal a large Christmas Tree in the centre of the village. Children from the local Ladyswell National School participated in the event and many of them used the opportunity to put baubles with names of people that they missed in their young lives. The lights were turned on by Father Eoin and the children took part in carol singing and Christmas songs, and enjoyed the fun event with their parents.

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Secret garden now open

ONE OF Dublin's hidden gems became a Christmas wonderland this week as Dublin City Council lit up the little-known but much-loved Blessington Street Basin.

And the magical park, often referred to as Dublin's Secret Garden, is set to become the keystone in a long-term plan by the council to introduce a walking route from Glasnevin Cemetery all the way down to O'Connell Street.

The park, which is 80 per cent water and lies at the end of Blessington Street, is a ten-minute walk

from O'Connell Street and is also accessed on the other side through the filled in former Royal Canal Bank park just off the North Circular Road.

And it is this connectivity which will see it become an important part of a walking route from the cemetery, down by Cross Guns Bridge and through the Royal Canal Bank park and the Basin to the top of O'Connell Street, according to Niall Byrnes of Dublin City Council.

A series of trees and the former park keeper's lodge have been strategically lit



Pictured were Niall Byrnes of Dublin City Council, Gabriel Byrne of Fantasy Lights and Ciara Dowling of Dublin City Parks Department at the lighting up of one of Dublin's hidden gems, the Blessington Basin, by Dublin City Council and Fantasy Lights.

put together by Dublin City Council craft gardener Ciara Dowling, who works at the Basin.

"I had no knowledge of the Basin until I started working here, but it really is an amazing place," said Ciara.

Blessington Street and its surrounding districts originate from the Georgian era, but, much of the neighbouring district was built to Victorian design such as Berkeley Street, Primrose Street, Wellington Street and Goldsmith Street. The area was very much influenced by Lord Gardiner and Lord Mountjoy and over the years many well-known people have lived here such as James Joyce, Sean T O Ceallaigh and Michael Collins.

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by Dublin City Council and Fantasy Lights around the former city reservoir which was last used over 100 years ago to supply the Irish Whiskey Distillery.

"I didn't know about The Basin until I was told where it was and then I couldn't believe it," said Gabriel Byrne of Fantasy Lights.

"This has been a fantastic collaborative effort between the City Council and the local community and it has resulted in

a beautiful, atmospheric showpiece park for Christmas, right in the heart of our city."

A voluntary committee was formed by 20 local people to promote a Pride of Place initiative and, as a result, Dublin City Council's Central Area agreed to financially support a Christmas lighting showpiece.

The lighting was officially switched on this week by Cllr Ciaran Cuffe, Chairman, Central Area Com-

mittee, who described the park as a little wonderland.

One of the amaz-

ing willow trees lit for the festive season is arranged around a magical fairy village,



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St Brigids GAA Nursery is taking a break for Christmas and will resume on Saturday 14th January in Russell Park. A huge thank you to all the parents, players and coaches who helped out with Nursery during the year. New members and families are most welcome in 2017. For further information and queries contact David: 0858340169

Our Lotto Jackpot remains at €15,000 with the reserve now also at €15,000. There was no Jackpot winner in last week's draw. This week's draw will take place in Russell Park on Thursday 15th December and will be the last draw before the New Year. Many thanks to everyone who supports our Club Lotto and to our great Lotto Committee.

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When you've a pain in your foot, it's written all over your face!

SO SAYS Stephen Ryan one half of the new foot clinic set up in Finglas Village who works to relief people of their foot pain. Stephen and his brother Mark are both fully qualified and HSE approved podiatrist who specialise in chiropody problems and muscular / joint pains (heel pain) in the foot.

The foot clinic is located in the Well Being section of the popular D Eleven hair studio which incorporates Hair, Beauty and Well Being under one roof.

The pair are no strangers to Finglas with their grand mother one of the original residents of



McKee road. Initially the brothers began working in the area by providing a chiropody house call service through the chiropody card scheme for medical card holders. They soon realised that there were no other chiropodists providing the service in the locality, and set about opening a clinic.

Since opening the foot clinic last

December the brothers have been encouraged by the positive response the from the community "The clinic has been up and running a couple of months now and we've really been delighted with the support we've received from the locals" beams Mark as we chat in their professional clinical room. Word of mouth is helping the business grow slowly but surely. It seems these brothers a definitely helping to put a spring in the step of the people of Finglas!

Location - D Eleven Studio . Opposite Power City . Main Street Finglas . Phone - 0871930849

BRILLIANT TREES at the Grand Social

AFTER the success of their two recent sold out shows in the Grand Social, Brilliant Trees return to the same venue on the 27th of December for what will be a Christmas Gift to many who could not get tickets to their last shows.

Celebrating 20 years of their debut album Friday Night the band did not disappoint, after their "time off" It was like nothing had changed only the crowd seemed louder with their almost football chant like singing throughout the sell-out shows. The band are back in the studio and busy recording songs for their third studio album which set to be released in



2017. Their latest single and first release in over 16 years "I Know I Know" reached number 5 in the iTunes music

charts. The band will showcase new tracks along with all the favourites on the night, a night that is sure to be a sell-out

event, and as there will be no extra show this time around we advise to get your tickets now. Tickets are on sale now

from www.Tickets.ie Brilliant Trees back catalogue and latest track "I Know I Know" are now available on iTunes.



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PEARSE SURRENDER LEAVES DUBLIN FOR FLORIDA

LOCAL NEWS can reveal that the final surrender letter of the 1916 Rising, signed by leader Padraig Pearse, will be granted a government export licence — and that it is headed to a private library in Florida. There was uproar amongst conservationists and historians when Stuart Cole of Adams Auctioneers revealed the government had refused to buy the historic document. At auction earlier this month, the letter failed to reach its reserve (rumoured to be €1 million) and was withdrawn when the bid of €700,000 was deemed too low. Throughout the autumn, and during an Adams auction in 2007 (when the present, Florida-based owner first bought it), multiple attempts were made to keep the document in Ireland. Both the seller and Adams tried, then as now, to interest successive governments in buying. At one stage, nearly a decade ago, the then-Haughey led government were offered the chance to secure it for €50,000. They countered with an offer of €10,000, which was refused. "The owner, based overseas, has requested that Adam's apply for an export licence tomorrow to formally notify the Government that the document will be leaving Ireland," said Stuart Cole of Adams. He added that the owner had requested that the licensing process be "expedited". "The owner was saddened that the Government refused to bid for the document but now feels relieved of his obligations to keep the document in Ireland."



LETTER: lost

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Season Greetings to all our clients and friends

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Over 130 young players from Finglas United were lucky to have a surprise visit from Santa last week just as their training was coming to the end. Santa found time to have a chat with all of them and they joined in song and story telling for quite a while.

Widespread worry about job security and pay cuts

THE long-term impact of the recession on the Irish population is evident in new research from Aviva which shows that nearly half of the workforce is worried about job security and many fear their pay may be cut. The first edition of Aviva Ireland's new Family Finances Report, which was carried out by RED C, provides a snapshot of the financial well-being of Irish households and gives an insight into the financial concerns of the Irish families.

Despite projections of continued growth in GDP and the sustained downward trend in the unemployment rate, the Aviva survey found considerable uncertainty and a lack of confidence about the economy among families. In particular, confidence in job security was fragile:

- 45% said they still worried about losing their jobs while 39% said they felt more secure about work.
- On pay expectations, 40% ex-

pected a bonus or salary increase while the same percentage said they expected pay cuts.

- Half of respondents said their work-life balance was worse now than a few years ago
- 55% reported feeling more stressed in their jobs than in the past.

The survey of a representative sample of 1,280 adults was carried out in the second week of October against a backdrop of threatened public sector strike action in pursuit of pay restoration and increases.

Commenting on the Report, Ann O'Keeffe, Actuary at Aviva Life and Pensions, said: "Given that unemployment has fallen steadily over the last four years and is now at its lowest level since late 2008, it is surprising that our survey found that more workers were worried about losing their jobs than felt secure in them. It is also remarkable that respondents had such

a pessimistic view of their job and pay prospects at a time when other workers were pointing to our economic recovery as justification for their pay demands."

The uncertainty and insecurity emerging from the Report about attitudes to work is reflected in the findings about how families perceive the economic recovery. Even though headline macroeconomic indicators point to a strengthening recovery, there is considerable scepticism among households. The 55 to 64 year old age group emerged as the most unconvinced about the recovery:

- Overall, 44% agreed that a recovery was underway with 18 to 24 year olds (57%) expressing the highest level of optimism.
- But asked if they had benefitted personally from the upturn, a majority (55%) disagreed while just 19% agreed.
- Belief in the recovery

was strongest in Dublin and Leinster and, by social demographic grouping, stronger among the more affluent ABC1s (23%) than among their counterparts in C2DEs category (16%).

- Only 9% of 55 to 64 year olds said they were experiencing the recovery compared to 26% of 18 to 44 year olds.

The survey also confirmed recent data on increased household savings. Delving into the reasons for this increased propensity to save:

- 58% agreed that fear about an uncertain future had made them more likely to save, with the younger age groups expressing the strongest level of agreement.
- Nine out of ten had at least one form of savings or investment with most putting money aside every month.
- Excluding pensions, the survey found households were saving on av-

erage €4,800 per annum.

- Over half said they were in control of their finances.
- 78% said they would usually save rather than borrow for an expensive purchase.
- Over half (54%) said they were already saving for events will into the future.

Taken together, these findings suggest one positive legacy of the boom and bust has been a more rational and precautionary approach by families to their personal finances. "Our Family Finances Report paints a picture of families taking more control of their finances and making prudent preparations to protect themselves from unexpected events in the future and Brexit, in particular, must have been on respondents' minds. But it may be that in the aftermath of our crisis, there is a heightened awareness of the susceptibility of our economy to external economic shocks and families

have decided to take measures to build their own buffers," said Ms O'Keeffe. She added that the introduction of a specific module on personal finance at second level education would help empower families of the future to manage their financial positions more effectively for their own protection.

In the Report's Spotlight section on home ownership, the survey found nine out of ten would prefer to own their own home rather than rent and 40% of those who do not currently own a home said they were planning to buy in the next five years. From these findings, Aviva estimates that indicative demand for houses among first time buyers could be as high as 220,000 or up to 44,000 per annum for the next five years.

Only 20% of existing home owners said they planned to move house over the next five years with slightly more planning to trade up than want to downsize. Given the

Government's target of 25,000 new home completions per annum by 2020, the

housing problem looks set to endure well into the next decade.



Sonia McLoughlin, Finglas, who was conferred as a Member of Accounting Technicians Ireland at a ceremony at the Talbot Hotel in Dublin as well as receiving her Diploma for Accounting Technicians. Picture: Kenneth O'Halloran.

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HELPING YOURSELF AND OTHERS TO ENJOY CHRISTMAS

CHRISTMAS is fast approaching now, the hour has changed and the days are getting even shorter. Our Christian festival of Christmas replaced old pagan festivals held to mark mid-winter, a celebration to mark the beginning of days becoming longer. Now our festival is coming with all the bright colours and twinkling lights to brighten up the last few dark days.

But it is at Christmas time that some people feel most hopeless, sad, helpless and lonely. Tragically, we know that these are feelings that can lead to suicide. The Samaritans is a wonderful organisation who have someone at the end of the phone 24/7. Their number is 116-123 and is free to call, for anyone who needs someone to talk to. And they find that this is a time of year that people seem to need them most and is why I give their number here.

Now I can hear you saying something like, "Well that's not very Christmassy!" But, unfortunately it is just as much a reality of Christmas as the tree, the crib, the tinsel and Santa. Even one of the greatest Christmas songs ever, "A Fairytale of New York" is about this side of Christmas. So, I'm asking you to please remember these people at this time of year.

There are ads in the media now advising people with emotional problems to talk to friends. One campaign in Australia advertises how saying "Are you okay?" to someone who is depressed or lonely, could be a life saving question.

I am not trying to spoil the Christmas Spirit here. In fact, I am looking at making Christmas better, for you and for those around you. And, is it not more "Christian" to include this aspect of "Christ"-mas? Plus, doing something good for someone else is now a proven way of making ourselves feel better! (Did you know that GIVING presents actually makes us happier than receiving them?)

If you are not looking forward to another Christmas this year,

look at why previous Christmases made you unhappy. And have a look at not repeating the same mistakes this year. Did you drink too much? Have a family row that could be avoided this year? Is there someone that you could be-have differently towards or even avoid this year? Did you drink and drive?!

Did you yourself end up feeling depressed and lonely? If you did, can you change your own behaviour, actions and events this year? Plan early, now. Do something different! If you do, you WILL get different results!

If you are feeling lonely and depressed at the thoughts of Christmas, firstly realise that if you started a club or an association, you would find it hard to keep up with applications for membership! You are not alone, or in any way unusual. Reach out! Many people are so busy with their own lives that they forget other people's situations. But they mean no harm by this, it's not personal.

So, if you think that you will be left alone, or left out of things, make a call! Take the first move. Call friends and family. Go to that party or function. Don't be put off. Accept that invitation or invite yourself along! People will be delighted that you did.

Look forward to the New Year.

Kieran Fitzpatrick ADHP is a fully qualified Clinical Hypnotherapist and Personal Coach. His practices are in Perrystown, Dublin 12 and the City Centre, Dublin 2. For more details call 087-1227361, e-mail: kieran@kieranfitzpatrick.com or see www.kieranfitzpatrick.com

A LOOK AT A BOOK • A LOOK AT A BOOK • A LOOK AT A BOOK • A LOOK AT A BOOK

Pre-eminent local historian has another hit with Dublin 7

by Frances Whelan

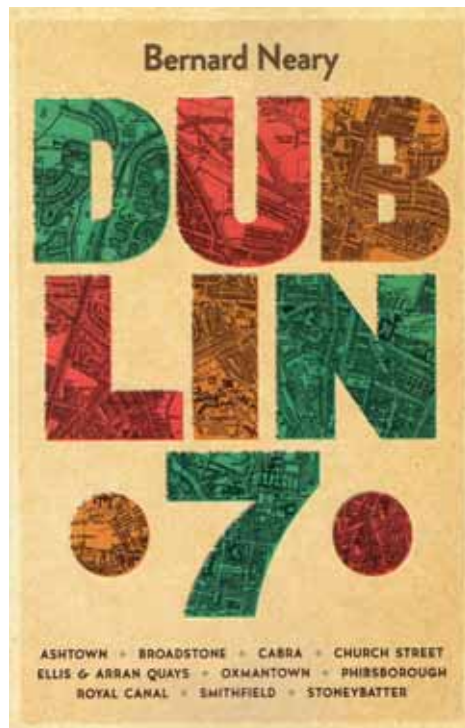
Dublin 7
Bernard Neary. *The Lilliput Press, Dublin.*
€20

BERNARD NEARY'S latest book, as you would expect from the author of Lugs, a biography of the legendary Lugs Brannigan, is authoritative but also affectionate.

His subject, that part of Dublin just north of the river but well to the west of what is normally called "the inner city", is one of the oldest inhabited regions of the capital.

It is essential reading for anyone who lives in the areas he covers: Ashtown, Broadstone, Cabra, Church Street, Ellis Quay, Arran Quay, Oxmanstown, Phibsborough, Smithfield and Stoneybatter. But it is likely to find a wider audience amongst those who have an affection for, or an interest in, the evolution of Dublin City.

He examines the area through several different prisms: periods, trades, scandals, battles and politics. But the most fertile and vivid sources of Dublin lore are uncovered when Neary looks at the lives of Dublin 7's most famous — and



infamous — inhabitants.

Here there are surprises, even for those who imagined they knew the turf.

How many knew, for example, that the Mater Hospital (more properly, the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital) began life in the early 1800s as a 15-acre site bought by Catherine McAuley (1778-1841), foundress of the Sisters of Mercy?

Or that the world-renowned uilleann piper Matt Kieran (1898-1986) made dozens of those instruments in

his own back garden in Cabra?

The stories of famous men and women are interwoven with accounts (and excellent pictures) of the streets, shops and public buildings where they lived and worked: Arbour Hill, St Peter's Church, Dalymount Park, Mountjoy Jail.

Throughout, the tone is conversational, a clever ruse by Neary that recalls Hilton Edwards' description of mac Liammóir's great talks: "Scholarship wearing the mask of comedy".

Here, however,

the humour is more quiet-spoken, and the reader can easily imagine themselves learning of Dublin 7 over a pint in a classic pub like Kavanagh's of Prussia Street.

Kavanagh's, as Neary notes, is stubbornly referred to by the locals as "Cot-

ter's" in memory of the long-vanished Cotter family who founded it. The author drily notes the eccentricity of Cotter's "Rhine-valley type turrets".

His alert eye misses few such details of styles that, more often than not, defy such facile tags

as "Georgian" or "Victorian".

Get this book. When you've read it, you may well find yourself searching libraries or bookshops for the earlier Nearys. If so, we recommend Lugs (1985) and A History of Cabra and Phibsborough (1982).

YOUR GUIDE TO LOCAL COUNCILLORS

Our guide to local Councillors is not necessarily a complete guide to all Councillors in a particular area. Some opted not to be included. We invite all Councillors to include their details in our ongoing guide. You can contact us at 087 913 3614 or localnewspaul@yahoo.ie

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Email: cieran.perry@dublincity.ie



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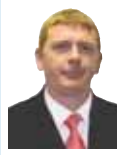
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Plaque in memory of Fianna Sean Healy and the Healy & Kinsella Family

In a ceremony last Saturday afternoon, the Cabra Historical Society, in association with Dublin City Council unveiled a plaque in memory of Fianna Sean Healy and the Healy & Kinsella Family who gave their lives and had worked tirelessly for Irish freedom from the house on Phibsborough Road.

The plaque was unveiled by Paddy Doherty, a nephew of Sean Healy's at the first floor frontage on 188 Phibsborough Road. Among the audience were councillors and also Donal Barron, also a relative, and there was a gun salute enacted by the Cabra Historical Society, who were dressed in the uniform of the volunteers.



Brother Kevin benefits from Tutty tunes

VETERAN Dublin musician Pat Tutty knew he and The New Movement had a hit on their hands when this summer's EP release, *The First EP*, started to generate airplay and sales.

But, come Christmas, he felt it was time to add a seasonal dimension to the venture. So he arranged that proceeds from all December sales would go to the famous Capuchin Day Centre in Bow Street, near the Four Courts in Dublin.

There, Brother Kevin Crowley and his helpers have been feeding the poor of the capital for decades.

The link-up with this particular charity is no accident: Mr Tutty is a longtime supporter of the Capuchin legend. Appropriately enough, the songs on the EP tackle such issues as homelessness, un-



NEW CD: Tutty helps with homeless

employment, inequality and social injustice.

That said, Montague Street, a nostalgic ramble down the hidden corners of the city, finds love and lyricism in even the most unpromising of settings:

It was the summer of 67/We lived our lives in teenage heaven/The sun shone pink on the tenement wall...

And there's a startling musical curiosity hidden away in track 3, *The Hindu Kush*. No, the spirit is not the very British

nuttiness of Eric Newby's comic masterpiece, but the eerily revived genius of George Harrison.

It remains a mystery as to where Tutty — or Kilmainham's Laptar Studios — found the musical talent to recreate the very sound of the late Beatle's eastern/psychodelia period.

As no individual session musicians are credited, it must be assumed that Tutty himself — or possibly the wizardry of producers Paul Farrell and Keith Gamble — conjured

up a cast of thousands, playing everything from sitars to guitars, from Indian percussion to western strings.

The *Hindu Kush* is both tribute and pastiche. In its meticulous faithfulness to the 1960s it offers a reminder that there is only one reason such exercises ever come off; a great deal of time and effort has been expended on them.

Clearly, mod and psychodelia are alive and well. By taking part in their quirky revival, you'll be doing a small but important seasonal mitzvah for those in the ever-lengthening queues outside "Brother Kevin's" in Bow Street.

• *The New Movement/The First EP* is available from Tower Records, Dawson Street; Spindizzy, Georges Street Arcade; and Rebirth of Cool, Temple Bar

FITNESS FOR KIDDIES

Wouldn't it be great to be able to bring your young children to a fitness and sports centre and get them involved early in life in healthy activities? Well, starting in January Leisurepoint Sports Centre are organising sessions for youngsters from 2 to 5 years on a Saturday so that they can have fun and exercise in a fun way, while the parents can do other things. It might suit someone who need to do a bit of shopping or indeed use the adult gym facilities. Little Fitness has been running in Clonrtarf and Malahide for a little while and now it is coming to Finglas. Call into Leisurepoint on Cardiffsbridge Road for details and enjoy

Merry Christmas

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Total Prize Fund €4,500 +4 Extra Games for €3,000

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Byrne

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Tommy Carey

All Proceeds to ARC House

Tickets 10euro

Christmas Carvery at

Bottom of the Hill

Main Street, Finglas

Turkey & Ham / Roast Beef / Bacon
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Homemade Burgers
All with a selection of Veg

Desert Special
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Carvery open every Sunday 12-6pm

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Merry Christmas to all our Customers

Christmas in the Bottom of the Hill



Monday 19th Dec
Customer XMas Party
Billy Hughes & Streetwise
Comp Drink / Finger Food / Prizes

Wednesday 21st
Tommy Carey & Streetwise

Friday 23rd
Keira Dignam Band Xmas Show

St. Stephens Day
Billy / Tommy / Streetwise Doors 7.30

Wednesday 28th
Tommy Carey & Streetwise

New Years Eve
Billy / Antony Walker / Lynn

Brooks & Streetwise
Tickets 5euro. Comp Glass of Bubbly 9-10pm

New Years Day
The Tommy Carey Hangover Party



Warm, Happy Christmas to all our

Dublin City Council wins award for its 1916 Commemorations

Dublin City Council has won the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards for its 1916 commemorations programme Dublin Remembers 1916-2016: Is Cuimhin Linn.

Speaking after the announcement of the Award Lord Mayor Brendan Carr congratulated staff in all parts of the Council who contributed to the programme: 'Dublin City Council made a significant contribution to the 1916 commemorations and I want to congratulate all the staff involved: our libraries & archives; the Events section; the Dublin Fire Brigade; Media Relations & Marketing Environment & Transport; Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane; Parks; the UNESCO City of Literature Office; the Arts Office; Richmond Barracks; Planning, the Heritage Office; City Hall, and the Area Offices and Commu-

nity and Social development. All contributed to this extraordinary and award-winning project and made the centenary year of the 1916 Rising in the capital such a memorable one.'

The Lord Mayor also acknowledged the key role played by City Councillors through the Commemorations Committee, chaired by Cllr Vincent Jackson; the Commemorative Naming Committee, chaired by Cllr Micheál Mac Donncha, and the five area committees.

Reacting to the Award Cllr Jackson highlighted the role of local communities, remarking: 'I am delighted that the Council was able to support over 200 community organisations and schools to celebrate history, awarding c. €200,000 through our community grants scheme. The grants helped people throughout the City remember 1916 in their own areas in their own

way.'

City Council staff worked closed with the national Ireland 2016 office, whose Director John Concannon also congratulated the Dublin City team:

'I would like to commend all the team at Dublin City Council who have made such a powerful contribution to this year's Centenary Commemorations. The vision and care with which they created and delivered one of the most significant programmes of the year has rightly been hailed as one of the most important and successful initiatives of our centenary programme. Our congratulations to them on winning this very special award.' A short video showing highlights of Dublin Remembers 1916-2016: Is Cuimhin Linn may be seen on the Council's website at dublincity.ie/decadeofcommemorations.

Declan Wallace, City Council Assistant Chief Executive

said the Council will continue to mark the various events cov-

ered by the Decade of Commemorations, remarking:

'Money has been allocated in 2017 to build further on the

success and I look forward to even greater imagination

inspiration and innovation in the coming year.'

Quirky tour highlights arts, crafts and buildings

YOU'VE TRAILED around after chaps in straw hats spouting quotes from Ulysses. You've worshipped at the Shrine of Bono — at wherever pub the man was rumoured to have last shined up his sunglasses. You've joined the chaps and chapesses at "Trinners" as they take a leisurely stroll through TCD's Front Square, or played not-quite-cricket at the crease near Lincoln Place.

You've even subjected yourself to hernias and heart attacks as you've strained to see ghosts and ghoulies from the top of a specially-haunted double-decker bus.

But now, if things of beauty appeal a



MADE FOR WALKING: Dublin's artier streets

little more than bloody vampires — and if in some (designer) perfumes there is, to misquote Shakespeare, more delight than in the words that from a Joycean reeks...

...then it's time you booked yourself in for a Dublin tour with a difference:

The Dublin De-

sign Walking Tour.

Fortunately, enlightened founder Orlaith Ross, and guide Kate McDonagh, don't believe you need a degree in art history to make sense of the city's buildings, windows, workshops and flesh-and-blood designers.

"This tour rein-

vents itself each week and reflects the nature of what any good city should be: continually evolving and creating ideas," Ms McDonagh told Local News.

"We keep the groups small to be able to access spaces that groups don't normally go into."

They visit some of the city's creative hotspots — and even meet the design in-

fluencers who are drawing from our history and traditional crafts to create something new and distinctly Dublin. You'll see the clatter of letters as printers put posters to bed the old-fashioned way — with hot metal, as God intended — and marvel at street art and stained glass.

Most tours last just over an hour, and there are convenient assembly points such as the Chocolate Factory Dublin Creative Community. The fee is usually a modest €15.

• To join a Dublin Design Walking Tour, check with eventbrite.ie, or see the Facebook page MakingSpace

Christmas Music Line up

Saturday Dec 17th **Midnight Blue**
New Year's Eve **DJ Jordan Doody**
New Year's Day **Jess Kavanagh**

Wishing all our cusomters a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



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OUT AND ABOUT



Great night out at Cu Chulainn



Enjoying a great night out at the Village Inn

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EVERY FRIDAY

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EVERY SUNDAY

Sing out the weekend with Sing-a-Long acts

Saturday 17th RAILROAD (HOUSE BAND)

New Year's Eve

**SPECIAL PARTY NIGHT
WITH DJ**

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OUT AND ABOUT



Enjoying a great night out at the Shamrock Lodge



Great night out at St. Finbarrs

ST. FINBARRS GAA CLUB

Christmas Entertainment

Saturday 17th

Sunday 18th

St. Stephen's Night

Tuesday 27th

Friday 30th

JAMES BROWNE

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New Year's Eve NORRIS STEPHENS SHOW

Wishing all our customers & friends a very Merry Christmas



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OUT AND ABOUT



Tom Cole Jnr. with staff from the D11 Salon at their Christmas function.



Great night out at the Sunnybank Hotel

SUNNYBANK HOTEL

ENTERTAINMENT

Saturday 17th CHRISSIE MELVIN BAND

Sunday 18th CLAUDINE

Sunday 20th JOHNNY GRAHAM

New Year's Day REWIND

*Traditional Music Session every Sunday 4.30pm-7.30pm
Monday Ballads from 9pm till late*

*Wishing all our
customers and friends
a very Merry
Christmas!*

NEW YEAR'S EVE



**CHRISSIE
MELVIN
BAND**

FREE CHAMPAGNE
RECEPTION ON ARRIVAL

Thursday 22nd

CUSTOMER APPRECIATION EVENING

*Free Drinks & Finger Food with
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St Stephen's Day – LIVE SPORT all day

JAMES REILLY 7.30pm

JOHNNY PETERS 10pm

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MENU

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Live Entertainment



Christmas Eve **JAMES REILLY**

Saturday 16th **DEM 2**

Sunday 17th **UPTOWN FUNK**

St. Stephen's Day **BEE BOP GOLD**

New Year's Eve **PART DOWN THE BACK**

Wishing all our customers & friends a very Merry Christmas

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OUT AND ABOUT



Enjoying a great night out at McGrath's



Great night out at the Maples House Hotel

JOHN DOYLES

Merry Christmas Phibsboro's Landmark Pub

Christmas Party Nights

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NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

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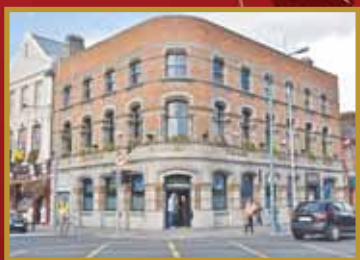
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THE CORONAS TO HEADLINE SEA SESSIONS

Hugely popular Dublin act The Coronas are the latest act to be announced for Sea Sessions 2017. Taking place in Bundoran, recently voted the Coolest Place on the Planet by National Geographic Traveller Magazine, The Coronas will join Primal Scream as the first 2 headliners at the festival from Friday 23 to Sunday 25 June. Fans of The Coronas can look forward to hearing new material as the band are set to release their as yet untitled fifth studio album in 2017, the follow up to the platinum selling 'The Long Way', which was released in 2014.

Tickets are available from all Ticketmaster outlets nationwide, www.ticketmaster.ie and www.seasessions.com. Priced from €99.90 for 3 days and €114.90, including 4 nights camping. There's also limited day tickets available from €49.50 and Surfers' Bar upgrades from €50 extra.

Now heading into its tenth year, Sea Sessions has really grown in popularity over the last few years and now sells out weeks in advance. It's situated right on the beach in Bundoran and has played host to such international acts as Tinie Tempah, Paul Weller, Bastille and Seasick Steve to name but a few. Alongside music, there's Ireland's biggest Surf Event, Skating, BMX, Beach Sports and much more packed into the 3 full days of partying by the beach.

Ray O'Donoghue Festival director says "The Coronas played Sea Sessions about 5 years ago. We caught their set at Electric Picnic recently and it was unreal. They're a great live band with a big back catalogue and are well overdue a trip back up to the Northwest."

OUT AND ABOUT



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Ollie wins €2100 Jackpot



Great night out at The Full Shilling

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MONDAYS TAKE YOUR PICK
with DJ Sean Brodie

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