

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council named 'Local Authority of the Year'

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has recently been named Local Authority of the year at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards that were held on Thursday 8 November 2012.

At the Awards Ceremony in the Burlington Hotel, the Council also collected one of the individual awards having been shortlisted in 10 separate award categories. The winning individual project 'Higher Education Grants' A Portal to a Brighter Future', resulted in improved service levels and efficiencies in the processing of Higher Educations Grants within 13 different Local Authorities. It was awarded the 'Innovation in Technology' award.

Speaking at the awards ceremony, An Cathaoirleach Councillor Tom Joyce said: "I am honoured to collect this award on behalf of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council and would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the staff for their continued hard work during what has been a very tough time for the Public Service. This Award is all the more merited in view of the severe reduction in staff numbers and also because of the difficult financial constraints that currently prevail in this County Council. I would also like to acknowledge the tireless efforts of the Council's management team & my fellow Councillors as well as the residents of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown, who take such an active interest in the running of their County.



Pictured from left to right: Ian Talbot, Chambers Ireland Chief Executive, An Cathaoirleach Cllr Tom Joyce, Jan O'Sullivan, T.D., Minister for State at the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government and Kathleen Holohan, Deputy Manager.

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Dún Laoghaire
CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL
1st December - 1st January

Fireworks Displays
1st, 16th, 22nd & 31st Dec
Santa's Grotto
Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre
Christmas Market
Ice Slide - Live Crib
Shackleton Exhibition

For further information on events please see
www.dunlaoghaire.ie

Here comes Santa Claus!

Following the success of last years Christmas festival in Dún Laoghaire, Santa Claus himself has decided to get involved in this years festivities. His elves have already been spotted in town and have exclusively revealed to the *dlr times* that they have decided to locate Santa's grotto on the top floor of the Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre.

In addition to the man himself, this year's 'Christmas Ice Kingdom' extravaganza will include:

- A 60-metre ice slide in Dún Laoghaire Harbour which is sure to prove entertaining for adults and children alike
- The live creation (by chainsaw!!) of Antarctic Ice Sculptures in the town centre
- Over 40 arts, food and craft market stalls in charming chalets
- A lifesize crib with live animals outside St. Michael's Church
- Many special Christmas offers from our existing retailers that are sure to provide

excellent value to shoppers over the festive season

Four fabulous firework displays are planned for Saturday 1 (Santa's arrival!!), Sunday 16, Saturday 22 and Monday 31 December to ensure non-stop celebration throughout the festive season.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, Dún Laoghaire Business Association, Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company and ALA Events have all teamed up to ensure the Dún Laoghaire 'Christmas Ice Kingdom' will be the town's most successful Christmas festival ever.

The full detailed programme of Events is available on www.dunlaoghaire.ie

Recycling Arrangements for Christmas 2012 and New Year 2013

Ballyogan Recycling Park opening times will be as follows:

24 – 26 December 2012	Closed
27 & 28 December 2012	Open 8.30am - 5.30pm
29 December 2012	Open 9.30am - 5.30pm
30 December 2012	Open 10.30am - 5.30pm
31 December 2012	Open 8.30am - 5.30pm
New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours apply from Wednesday 2 January 2013 onwards.

Eden Park and Shanganagh Recycling Centres opening times will be as follows:

24 - 26 December 2012	Closed
27 December 2012	Open 8.30am - 4pm
28 & 29 December 2012	Open 8.30am - 3.30pm
30 December 2012	Closed
31 December 2012	Open 8.30am - 4pm
New Year's Day	Closed

Normal opening hours apply from Wednesday 2 January 2013 onwards.

Credit/Debit Card Parking Meters

The Council is in the process of introducing parking meters with credit/debit card facilities to provide a cashless payment option for its customers. The facility is currently available at Blackrock Dart Station & Sandyford Road car parks and will be introduced at a number of other locations in Dún Laoghaire & Blackrock by the end of 2012, and to various locations throughout the County after that.

Arrangements For Christmas 2012 and New Year 2013

County Hall, Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire, Dundrum Sub-Office & Transportation Department, Block 1, Harbour Square, Dún Laoghaire:

- Closed Monday 24 December to Wednesday 26 December, 2012 inclusive.
- Public counters will re-open on Thursday 27 December 2012 at 10.00 a.m.

- Closed from Monday 31 December 2012 to Tuesday 1 January 2013 inclusive.
- Re-opening Wednesday 2 January 2013 at 9.00am.
- Public Counter, Dundrum, will re-open at 9.30am
- The after hours emergency number (including Water & Drainage) 6778844 will be in operation for the duration of the holiday period.

Outlook for 2013 – Owen P Keegan

With the Council currently engaged in preparing its Budget for 2013 against the background of a continuing unfavourable economic climate, we spoke to the County Manager, Owen P. Keegan, to get his views on the challenges facing DLR Co Co. Here is what he had to say:

Can you tell us who makes the final decision on the Council's annual Budget?

While I prepare the draft Budget, final decisions on the annual Budget are made exclusively by the Elected Members.

What issues have to be considered in the preparation of next years Budget?

Of particular concern is that economic forecasts are predicting only modest growth in the Irish economy in 2013. At the same time the Council can expect a further reduction in its Local Government Grant allocation in 2013- a direct consequence of the programme of fiscal adjustment being pursued by Central Government. These represent huge challenges for us in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and all other local authorities.

How have these issues affected the Council's budget over the past few years?

As a result of reduced income, total Council expenditure has declined by 18% or €40m between 2008 and 2012 with a further decline of up to 4% expected in 2013. This is a significant reduction over a five year period for any public sector organisation.

How has the Council adapted to cope with such a drastic reduction in it's expenditure?

We have responded to this challenge by achieving greater efficiencies. We have reduced our costs significantly via significant reductions in Council employment, pay, allowances and overtime. The Council's workforce in December 2012 is expected to be 18% lower than it was in December 2008 or 29% below its peak level in

December 2003. We have remodelled many of our services with an increased focus on external contractors and have made significant savings through smarter procurement and increased reliance on I.T. The continuing support and flexibility of our staff and their unions have also played a big role in our ability to maintain services despite the very significant reduction in our workforce.

What would you say to those who feel the Council has not done enough to help the Business Community in the County?

I believe the Council has been sensitive to the difficulties faced by the business sector. Following a 2.8% increase in 2009, rates were reduced by 2% in both 2010 and 2011, they remained unchanged in 2012 and I am recommending that they be reduced again in 2013. It is worth noting that the Council's performance in relation to rates compares very favourably with above inflation cost increases, which appear to be the norm for regulated public utilities and services such as gas, electricity and public transport fares over recent years. The Council will continue to work closely with the business community to respond to their concerns.

Do you feel the quality of the services provided by the Council have deteriorated as a result of the pressure to reduce costs?

Despite the significant decline in Council expenditure over recent years, I believe we have succeeded in maintaining, to a very large degree, the broad range of services we provide while also reducing the burden of commercial rates on the business sector. We are committed to continuing on this path in 2013 which I feel is only fair given the sterling performance of households in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown in paying the new household charge.

Christmas Tree Recycling

Christmas Tree Recycling will take place from Wednesday 2 to Sunday 13 January 2013 inclusive between 9.30am and 3.30pm at the following locations:

- Blackrock Park, Main Entrance
- Cabinteely Park, Car Park
- Killiney Hill, Car Park
- Marlay Park, Grange Road Car Park
- Mount Anville Parks Depot, Goatstown
- Shanganagh Recycling Centre, Car Park
- West Pier Car Park, Dún Laoghaire

Please do not leave trees before or after these dates or outside the designated areas.

The provisions of the Litter Pollution Acts, 1997-2003 will apply.



Welcome to Dún Laoghaire!

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council would like to highlight the recent opening



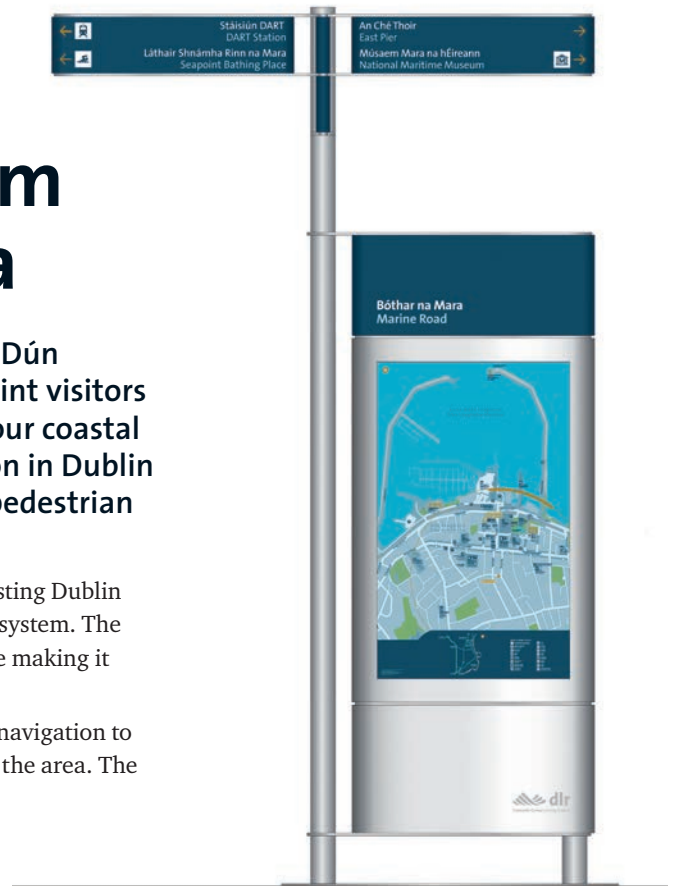
of the Georgian Embassy to Ireland on Marine Road, Dún Laoghaire and formally welcome the Georgian Charge d'Affaires Irakli Koplatadze and his staff to the County. When asked why the Georgian Government chose to open their Embassy to Ireland in Dún Laoghaire Mr. Koplatadze said they "...viewed it as a growing urban area in terms of business while also being a relatively quiet and safe area."

New Wayfinding system for Dún Laoghaire Area

A new pedestrian signage system is being developed for Dún Laoghaire and the surrounding coastal areas that will point visitors to the key places of interest. The system will help make our coastal area the premier leisure & cultural waterfront destination in Dublin and will enhance the area's reputation as a world-class pedestrian friendly area.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council plan to recycle and utilise the existing Dublin Docklands wayfinding system, which is being replaced with the Dublin City system. The reworked signage will be placed in Blackrock, Dún Laoghaire and Sandycove making it easier for visitors to navigate the coastal area.

The map system and fingerpost signs proposed will support effective visitor navigation to places of interest while helping to build upon the identity and aspirations of the area. The signage will be ready to install by spring next year.



Shanganagh Bray Main Drainage Scheme Nears Completion

After four long years, work on the Shanganagh Bray Main Drainage Scheme is almost complete. The existing plant has been upgraded to provide full secondary treatment for wastewater from one third of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and Bray. A 6km pipeline has been built to carry wastewater from Bray to the treatment works.

Once complete, the scheme will:

- Comply with EU and Irish Legislation in relation to the protection of the Environment
- Provide for cleaner water in the Bay
- Facilitate new development in the area



High-Tech Leisure Facility Opening Soon

Loughlinstown Leisure Centre has been given a facelift and the new look, modern facility including a 25 metre pool is almost ready to go. The contractor for the project is on target to handover the facility, which includes 3 new artificial playing pitches, changing facilities, staff rooms, a new reception and upgraded parking facilities in November 2012.

The swimming pool includes a state of the art filtration system which will reduce energy and maintenance costs. All the lighting is on movement sensors and the Heat and Power unit will provide electricity for the running of the leisure centre and make it more environmentally-friendly.

Other features include 'Air Handling Units' that ensure the circulating air is automatically set to certain levels of humidity, temperature & oxygen and floor tiling that is extra slip resistant, especially around the swimming pool and shower areas.

The facility will be managed by DLR Leisure Services which currently employs 170 staff across all its award-winning centres, including Glenalbryn, Meadowbrook and Monkstown.



New Council Operations Facility Ballyogan Road

The Council's new 'state of the art' Operations Facility, which is located just off the Ballyogan Road, opened for business in July, 2012. Just under 200 staff from the former Council Depots at Mount Anville, Sandyford Industrial Estate, George's Place (Dún Laoghaire) and Lambs Cross (Sandyford Road), who work in water and drainage, street cleansing and road maintenance have now relocated to the new facility. Staff from the Rochestown Avenue Transportation depot will relocate there early in 2013.

The recently vacated depots will be sold, when the property market recovers, to fund the Council's on-going Capital Works Programme.

The Ballyogan location provides easy access to the M50 and other road networks. The Council will thus be better placed to respond to emergency situations throughout the county from the new facility.

Key features of the new facility include the following;

- a purpose built energy efficient building which has solar panels, a sedum roof, a wood burning boiler and glass walls - all of which will contribute to low energy costs,
- covered storage space for approx. 600 tonnes of salt in readiness for Winter gritting, if required,
- facilities to manage and maintain a fleet of 150 vehicles,
- a Telemetry Control Centre which facilitates for the monitoring and early detection of water leaks across the water distribution network and
- a central stores for materials, equipment, plant, personal protective equipment and other items.



The opening of the new facility with a single stores and management regime has generated significant efficiencies & cost savings for the Council.

The Council would like to acknowledge the assistance and co-operation of the staff during the move and to thank the local residents for their patience during the construction works.



dlr times subscription service

We are pleased to announce the launch of a new, free, electronic subscription service for the DLR Times. If you would like to receive future editions of the DLR Times electronically then please email us at dlrtimes@dlrcoco.ie.

Cherrywood Strategic Development Zone

The four week public display period for the Proposed Material Alterations to the Cherrywood Draft Planning Scheme finished on the 25 October with a total of 23 submissions were received during that period. The next stage of this process involves assessing the submissions received, and compiling a Manager's Report on same. The Elected Members will receive this report in November, and a decision should be made on the Planning Scheme at the December Council meeting.

This Planning Scheme can be appealed to An Bord Pleanála. There is a four week appeal period from the date of the decision of the Elected Members within which an appeal can be lodged by any person or body who lodged a submission on the Scheme.

More information on the Cherrywood SDZ is available on www.dlrcoco.ie.

People's Park given a new view

The People's Park in Dún Laoghaire is to be given a facelift in the New Year with plans in place to build a new raised promenade over the railway line and to renovate the Gate Lodge and Pavilion tea rooms. The planned works will give visitors clear views over Dublin Bay and will complement the historical integrity of the Park.

Additional works are currently being undertaken in the Park to improve facilities for the Market. The Council is also preparing a masterplan for the enhancement and restoration of the Park in keeping with its original historic layout.

The Shackleton Endurance Expedition 1914-1917

Aiming to complete the first sea-to-sea land crossing of Antarctica by foot via the South Pole, in August 1914 Ernest Shackleton and his team of 27 scientists & seamen set sail from Plymouth aboard their ship, *Endurance*, just after the outbreak of World War I. They wouldn't be heard from again for nearly two years.

This compelling exhibition is the story of the men's 22-month ordeal: the eerie beauty of Antarctica, the sinking of their doomed ship after it became locked in pack ice and was slowly crushed, the extreme hardships the men endured as they set up camp after camp on the drifting ice, their transfer to the relative safety of Elephant Island, and the expedition's miraculous conclusion. That all 28 men survived their terrible adventure was a triumph of hope in the bleakest circumstances, and of faith in their leader—"The Boss"—an Irish-born doctor's son whose achievements in polar exploration earned him a knighthood and, much later, cult status as an unparalleled role

model for leadership in extreme circumstances: optimistic, tenacious and brave.

The exhibition (running for two years) is located in the Ferry Terminal building in Dún Laoghaire, beside the DART and Bus terminus.

For more information go to www.shackletonexhibition.com



Plaque honours ace Irish statistician

The Council, in association with the Irish Statistical Association, recently erected a plaque to the statistician William Sealy Gosset at St. Patrick's Boys National School, Hollypark, Blackrock.

Gosset, who died in 1937, is regarded as one of the world's greatest statisticians, best known for his Student t-distribution, one of the most commonly used statistical formulas.

As Gosset worked at the Guinness Brewery in Dublin his name is not associated with his work because Guinness staff were prohibited from publishing academic papers and he had to write under the pseudonym 'Student'.

Unveiling the plaque, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Tom Joyce said: 'We hope that by erecting this plaque to William Sealy Gosset at Hollypark Boys School we will help raise awareness of his contribution to statistics'.



Clockwise from left, Philip Boland, Emeritus Professor of Statistics, UCD, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Tom Joyce and boys from St. Patrick's Boys National School

10 Lucky Winners announced in Martello Towers of Dublin Book Competition

Thank you to all those (almost 100 entries!) who responded to the competition we featured in the last edition of the dlr times, to win a copy of the newly published 'Martello Towers of Dublin'. Readers were asked to submit the answer to the following question: Why are Martello Towers called 'Martello Towers'. The answer, as provided by co-author and the Council Heritage Officer Tim Carey, is: "They were named after a tower at Mortella Point in northern Corsica that the British navy had encountered much difficulty in capturing".

Many congratulations to the 10 lucky winners who were:

Anne Marie Greenan, Laura Lynn, Padraig Tiernan, Séamus Ó Conalláin, Dr. Adrian Somerfield, Dara Duggan, Brian Durney, Eamon McDonagh, Annie Murphy & Ann Fleeton.

The book, which was described by Pat Kenny on his radio show as 'excellent', charts the history of these iconic structures in words and stunning illustrations. It is on sale in all good book shops and would make an ideal Christmas present!!

Young Animators win Blackrock Film Festival Award

A short animation 'Rubbish Express' won the 12-18 year old short film category at the Blackrock Film Festival which this year attracted 146 entries from Australia, Canada, China, Sweden, Malaysia, Portugal, the Netherlands, Germany, the USA and the UK.

Over the Easter period, 24 young people participated in Animation Workshops and involved a collaborative partnership between the Council and PURE (Protecting Uplands and Rural Environments).

During the course of the two workshops the students aged between 11 and 16 completed four short animations.

'Rubbish Express' and the other PURE animations 'A Bob from the Past' 'Re-Boot' and 'Nuclear Winter' can be viewed on YouTube or at

<http://eimhinssecretblog.blogspot.ie>

The Mill Theatre, Dundrum – Workshops for Local Actors

As part of her residency in the Mill Theatre Dundrum, which is funded by the Council and supported by the Arts Council, Actor & Theatre Maker Niamh McCann has facilitated a series of workshops for non-professional performers from the local community. From these workshops, a group of 25 actors were selected to work towards a showcase in The Mill Theatre on Saturday 19 January 2013, for which they will devise their own work, using the skills they have acquired from the programme.

The group includes members of Balally Players, Taney Drama Society, Sandyford Little Theatre, Rathfarnham Theatre Group and Glencullen Musical & Dramatic Society.

For further info contact:

Aisling Sullivan, Creative Director, Mill Theatre Dundrum
aisling@milltheatre.ie | 087 2022266
www.milltheatre.ie



Above: Actor Niamh McCann

Kevin O'Higgins Plaque

On 9 July 2012 Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Memorials Committee erected its first civic memorial. It was erected at the junction of Booterstown Avenue and Cross Avenue to mark the spot where Kevin O'Higgins, then TD and Minister for Justice, was assassinated on 10 July 1927. Kevin O'Higgins lived at Dunamase on Cross Avenue and was returning from Mass when he was shot.

Community Award Winners



Pictured at the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council Community Awards Ceremony for 2012 were the overall winners 'Suicide Aware' with Mr Tom McHugh Director of Services, Housing & Community Dept and An Leas Chathaoirleach Cllr Stephen Fitzpatrick. The group was set up earlier this year to highlight the need for awareness around suicide within their community.

DLR Open Submission Exhibition 2013

The dlr Open Submission Exhibition will take place in February 2013 in the Concourse, County Hall, Dún Laoghaire. The Exhibition will be selected by way of an open submission process and will feature work by emerging and established artists who live, work, have studied in or are originally from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.

Further information from Ciara King, Assistant Arts Officer, Arts Programme Development, T: 01-271 9529 / E: cking@dlrcoco.ie

Family Enjoyment at the Pavilion Theatre

The Paula Lambert Puppet Theatre presents Cinderella 5 & 6 December at 10am & 12.00 noon, tickets €8.

Paula Lambert was the 'Bosco' voice on TV for seventeen years and indeed Bosco is still a firm favourite with the younger children and will make a nostalgic appearance in the opening part of the Show. For 3-10 year olds.

The Nutcracker Suite & A Christmas Tale – 14-16 December, tickets from €10.

Christmas is not complete without seeing this truly festive production of *The Nutcracker Suite & A Christmas Tale* by the Irish National Youth Ballet.

37 of Ireland's most talented young dancers will perform this Festive Season. They will delight and dazzle everyone from the youngest to the most seasoned theatre goers. Snowflakes, Flowers, Chinese and the Russian dancers perform to Tchaikovsky's glorious music score.

Bookings to www.paviliontheatre.ie or 01 2312929

Memory Lane

Did you know that Laurel & Hardy stayed in the Royal Marine Hotel for 33 nights in 1953 while awaiting a Visa to get into the UK? During their stay, they held a fundraiser in the Olympia Theatre to help a member of staff from the hotel to raise funds for a sick child.



> environment news

Repak Recycling Award for Ballyogan

Ballyogan Recycling Park beat off tough competition to scoop the Best Recycling Centre of the Year Award at the Repak Recycling Awards, which took place in Croke Park on 4 October 2012. The award, presented by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government Phil Hogan TD, acknowledges and recognises best practice in packaging prevention and recycling, as well as waste electrical and electronic equipment recycling.

The site, which is open 7 days a week and only closes 5 days of the year, is used by almost 15,000 people per month and collected over 9,400 tonnes of waste in 2011. It has been managed by Oxigen Environmental on behalf of the Council since September 2010.

Nutgrove Shopping Centre, Rathfarnham, was a finalist in the category of Best Corporate WEEE Collection Event 2012.



Repak Best Recycling Centre of the year award being presented by on the left Mr Phil Hogan TD, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to Mr Frank Austin, Director of Services, Waste and Water Dept. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

Cabinteely Tidy Towns declared overall winner in Tidy Districts Competition 2012



Pictured with An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Tom Joyce, are Imelda Galvin, Mary Rourke and Deirdre Smith, from Cabinteely Tidy Towns

At the Tidy Districts Awards ceremony held on 13 September, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council announced Cabinteely Tidy Towns as the overall winner of the Tidy Districts Competition 2012.

Cabinteely Tidy Towns are no strangers to the competition winning best smaller urban centre for the last three years. The judging panel said that

the group had shown great teamwork for the upkeep and maintenance of the village and surrounding area by working closely with the County Council, local schools, businesses and fellow residents associations.

This was the 20 Tidy Districts Awards with over 100 people from 42 different groups were represented.

Remember – a Puppy Really is For Life, Not Just For Christmas!

Many “Christmas present” puppies enjoy a happy and healthy life, but unfortunately this is not always the case. Once the excitement is over and the novelty has worn off, many puppies are surrendered to dog pounds, which are often stretched to capacity. Some puppies are abandoned to fend for themselves.

If you are getting a dog, why not think about re-homing a dog from our dog pound? Ashton Dog Pound,

Castleknock, Dublin 15, provides a dog pound service for the Council and always has a number of friendly dogs just waiting for new homes. You can contact the pound on 01 8383236.

You could also contact one of the many animal charity organisations if you want to re-home a dog. These charities include: Dogs in Distress: www.dogsindistress.org, Dublin SPCA: www.dspca.ie, A Dog's Life: www.adogslife.ie, The Cat and Dog Protection Association of Ireland: www.cdpa.ie

Septic Tank Registration Reminder

To date, over 40% of households in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown with Septic tanks & other domestic waste water treatment systems have registered their systems as required.

Anyone who has not yet registered must do so by Friday 1 February 2013 and will now be subject to the increased fee of €50. Failure to register is an offence and may lead to prosecution. Owners can register in person at our offices in Dundrum and Dún Laoghaire or online at www.protectourwater.ie. For Further information telephone: Lo- Call 1890 800 800

New ‘Smoky Coal’ Ban

Members of the public and suppliers of solid fuels should be aware that the new Regulations that came into effect on 1 September 2012, have extended the ‘smoke ban’ area to cover the entire county. Prior to the introduction of the new Regulations an area around Tibbradden and Glencullen was excluded from the ban.

In addition, while the previous regulations prohibited the marketing, sale and distribution of ‘smoky’ (bituminous) coal in the county, the actual burning of ‘smoky coal’ in a private dwelling has also now been made an offence.

All bagged, non-bituminous, coal now sold in the county must be labelled ‘Smokeless Fuel’ and the bag must also be sealed.

Further information can be obtained from the Council’s Water and Waste Services Department, Enforcement Unit, on 2047954 or by e-mailing wasteenforcement@dlrcoco.ie.

The link to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government website is <http://www.environ.ie/en/Environment/Atmosphere/AirQuality/SmokyCoalBan>.

Community 5k a great Success

Over 800 people turned out in Autumn sunshine for the 4th Annual Community run. An Cathaoirleach Tom Joyce said "As you know, the Community 5K is a fun, inclusive event for everyone, a great opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to be active, get families together and make new friends." He also said as he sounded the hooter for the start of the race: "Inclusive participation is central to the development of the event, and the organising committee have done all in their power to include people of all ages and abilities in today's event."



Get fit after the Christmas Splurge

Why not take part in a fun social walk in a local park and burn off some of those Christmas calories?

Operation Transformation Walk - This is a free 4km-walking event to be held on the morning of Sunday 19 January in Marlay Park.

This event is being held in conjunction with the Irish Sports Council and RTE's Operation Transformation programme. On this day every County in Ireland will have a

similar walking event to cater for all levels of fitness, but in particular those looking to start exercising again.

The 4km route will be around the picturesque park, based on pathways and suitable for all levels of walker

For further information on this event and to register your interest please contact Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Sports Partnership at 01-271 9502 or sportspartnership@dlrcoco.ie



Skywalking in Cabinteely Park

A public consultation process has begun on a proposal to install a high rope adventure course in Cabinteely Park. The proposed development will consist of:

- Four district overlapping tracks through the trees with 41 games in all.
- Path improvements in the woodland, with bark or dust.
- A modest building for commercial activity.
- Extension of the existing car park to provide additional 65 spaces and cycle parking.

It will be located in the woodland behind Cabinteely House and will be constructed from a combination of wire rope, timber, synthetic fibres and plastic units.

Learn to Box with DLR Leisure

We have to hand it to Katie Taylor but it seems everyone wants to start boxing!

GF Box is a new way of getting fit and it's available on a 10-week course in Monkstown starting again in January or on a pay as you go basis in Loughlinstown. Price 10 weeks €55 or €6.50 per session pay as you go in Loughlinstown.

Interested? Contact 01 230 1458/60/62



Athchóiriú na Leabharlann

Tá obair fheabhsúcháin leanúnach ar siúl sna leabharlanna ar mhaithe len iad a chothabháil, conláistí níos fearr a sholáthar iontu agus áiseanna rochtana ar leabharlanna a bheith ag daoine faoi mhíchumas.

Rinneadh athchóiriú mór le gairid i Leabharlanna Stigh Lorgan, Dheilginse agus Dhún Droma. Áiríodh deasca nua eolais atá inrochtana, leithris inrochtana, agus meaisíní féinseirbhíse leis na feabhsúcháin a rinneadh. Cuireadh isteach rampa agus bealach isteach nua i Leabharlann Stigh Lorgan chomh maith le hurlár nua agus athfhuinneoga, agus rinneadh obair thírdhreachta ag an mbealach isteach agus ar shráid Leabharlann Dhún Droma. Rinneadh athchóiriú ar Leabharlann Sheanchille freisin agus suiteáladh meaisín féinseirbhíse.

Tá gairdín leagtha amach agus cóirithe as an nua ar chúl na leabharlainne i nDeilginis agus é tiomnaithe don sárscríbhneoir Maeve Binchy a bhásaigh le gairid. Theastaigh ón leabharlann ómós a léiriú di ar a hoidhreacht liteartha agus freisin, aitheantas a thabhairt don mheas as cuimse a bhí ag an bpobal náisiúnta agus idirnáisiúnta uirthi. Dúirt an tUachtarán Ó hUiginn agus é ag cásamh a bás lena muintir “gur scríbhneoir í a raibh stíl iontach aici ... stíl a lig di labhairt le daoine ar bhealach díreach agus oscailte”. Tamhnach chiúin agus áit scíthe i gcroílár an bhaile inar tógadh í a bheith sa ghairdín seo. Beidh Leabharlann Ghráinseach an Déin dúnta go dtí lár na bliana 2013 chun í a athchóiriú. Osclaíodh an Leabharlann seo don phobal sa bhliain 1982. Is í an leabharlann is gnóthaí i nDún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin í. Cuirfear méadú c.110

méadar cearnach leis ionas go mbeidh an foirgneamh níos feiceálaí agus níos follasaí. Bainfear anuas codanna d’aghaidh an fhoirgnimh agus scaoilfear amach an bunurlár agus cuirfear aghaidhchló nua gloinithe air. Beidh an spás taobh istigh den bhealach isteach ar airde dhúbailte agus é gloinithe, agus úsáidfear an spás mar áit taispeántais freisin. Tabharfaidh fairsinge an bhealaigh isteach faoi airde dhúbailte le fios go soiléir gurb é sin an bealach isteach go dtí an leabharlann.

Athchóireofar go hiomlán na háiteanna atá sa leabharlann faoi láthair, agus áirítear troscán nua, feistí & soilsiú leis an athchóiriú. Beidh leithris phoiblí nua agus inrochtana inti. Cuirfear slacht chun tosaigh ar an leabharlann freisin mar beidh plás ann a bheidh faoi thírdhreachú crua & bog.



Sa phictiúr a tógadh tráth ar athosclaíodh Leabharlann Dheilginise le déanaí tá Gordon Snell fear céile Maeve Binchy, a deirfiúr Joan agus a deartháir William.

Fíbin ar ais leis An Triail 19-23 Samhain 10.30 & 13.30

Tá an-ghean ag an bpobal ar an gcomhlacht puipéadóirí Fíbin agus tá an-áthas ar Amharclann an Pavilion fáilte a chur ar ais rompu le léiriú de An Triail. Tá an léiriú seo dírithe ar scoláirí meánscoile atá ag déanamh staidéir ar dhráma cáiliúil Mhairéad Ní Ghráda.

Sa léiriú seo téann Fíbin i ngleic le deacrachtaí an tsaoil agus leis na ceisteanna móra a bhíodh agus a bhíonn i gcónaí ina gcnámh spáirne idir dhéagóirí agus a dtuismitheoirí agus déanann siad é sin le hard-siamsaíocht agus le spleodar. Bígí ann!



Postcards for The Gathering

According to the official website www.thegatheringireland.com, 'Throughout 2013, Ireland will open its arms to hundreds of thousands of friends and family from all over the world, calling them home to gatherings in villages, towns and cities.'

To prepare for this important initiative, library authorities throughout the country participated in a special project entitled 'Then and Now Postcard Project'. Each authority selected six views from their area, showing a particular scene as it was in earlier times with a current photo of the same view. Local History Librarian Nigel Curtin selected 6 images for DLR from the extensive Local History Collection in Dún Laoghaire Library and Seán Downes from Dalkey Library took the contemporary photos. Photos from Blackrock, Dalkey, Dún Laoghaire, Dundrum are included in this lovely series and postcards are now available in all DLR branch libraries at a cost of 50c each. Postcards can be sent to relatives and friends abroad, inviting them to visit Ireland during 2013.



DLR Writer in Residence for 2012-13

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council's Arts Office & Library Service announced recently that Katy Hayes (pictured) has been appointed as the 2012-2013 Writer in Residence for the County. Her eight month residency, which commenced in October 2012, will comprise of several strands including the provision of a number of courses in the Meadowbrook Leisure Facility in Ballinteer and in Dundrum & Stillorgan Libraries. The Writer in Residence programme is grant-aided by the Arts Council.

Katy's works include novels such as Lindbergh's Legacy, Gossip & Curtains and a book of short stories called Forecourt which won the Mercier Press Golden Jubilee Award in the Francis MacManus Awards. Most recently her radio play 'The Sun Always Rises' was commissioned and produced by RTE Radio Drama (2011) and starred Cathy Belton, Dawn Bradfield and Darragh



Kelly. She also works as a journalist & commentator and wrote a humorous column for The Sunday Times from 2009-2011. (Further information about Katy at www.katyhayes.net)

On Thursday 6 December, Katy will host a major event entitled 'The Sport of Writing' which will be held in Studio 1 in Meadowbrook Leisure Centre from 7.30-9.00pm and all are welcome. John Breen, writer/author of the hit play 'Alone it Stands' (about the Munster victory over the All Blacks in 1978) is already a confirmed speaker - further details nearer the date! This event is free and refreshments will be served. For further details please email dlrwriterkaty@gmail.com

Mounttown Memoir Project

Starting in May 2012, writer Lucinda Jacob has been working with a group of women from the Mounttown area of Dún Laoghaire. The project has several strands including a creative writing/storytelling element in addition to a focus on how



to get the best use out of the local library. The group have attended DLR Library Voices and Mountains to Sea events in addition to starting up a bookclub. They are looking forward to reading their work on Dublin South Community Radio later this year for a slot entitled Mounttown Miscellany of Music and Stories.

The Writers in Libraries Scheme provides funding for imaginative literary events in libraries across the country and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown was one of ten library authorities selected in 2012. The Scheme, originally established by the Arts Council in 1985, and relaunched in 2010, is managed and administered by Poetry Ireland/Éigse Éireann.

New Garden at Dalkey Library dedicated to the memory of Maeve Binchy

As part of the recent refurbishment of Dalkey Library, a new landscaped garden has been developed to the rear of the property. At the libraries official re-launch, this new garden was dedicated to the memory of one of Dalkey's and indeed Ireland's most highly esteemed and best loved citizens, author Maeve Binchy.

The intention of this gesture from Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Library Service was to honour not only Maeve's outstanding literary legacy, but also her wonderful personality by providing a soothing oasis in the heart of the town she loved so much where local people can relax, read, chat to friends and join in future events and readings.

DLR Events Calendar Nov 2012 - January 2013

Date	Event Name	Venue	Telephone	E-Mail	Website
Through out the year Saturdays and Sundays	CoCo Markets	Marlay Park	087 957 3647	market@dlrcoco.ie	www.dlrcoco.ie
Through out the year Sundays	CoCo Markets	Peoples Park	087 283 7633	market@dlrcoco.ie	www.dlrcoco.ie
Ongoing	The Shackleton Endurance Exhibition.	Ferry Terminal Building, Dún Laoghaire	01 236 0544	info@shackletonexhibition.com	www.shackletonexhibition.com
Ongoing	Actovation –Family fitness pilot project	Monkstown, Loughlinstown, Meadowbrook	M'town 01 230 1458 L'town 01 282 3344 M'brook 01 299 5610	bquinn@dlreasureservices.ie eoconnor@dlreasureservices.ie g Moran@dlreasureservices.ie	www.dlreasureservices.ie
November					
22nd November- 18th December	Germany for beginners exhibition-Goethe Institute	Concourse, County Hall	Dr Georgia Herlt 01 680 1110	RezeptionFSq@goethe.dublin.org	www.goethe.de/irland
23rd - 25th November	Marlay Craft Fair	Marlay Park House	Sonja Ewen or Des Keaney 087 675 3358	marlaycraftfair@hotmail.com	www.marlaycraftfair.com
28th November	Switching On of Christmas Lights 1pm	Dún Laoghaire Town			www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
30th of November	Deadline for Receipt of Applications for The Gathering funding	See below for further information.	01 204 7942	wmorton@dlrcoco.ie	www.thegathering.ie
December					
1st & 2nd December	Santa's Grotto in Antarctic Kingdom from 12 noon	Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre		eccadmin@dlrcoco.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
1st December	Monkstown Choir 5pm	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
1st December	Official Blessing of life-size crib 5pm	St Michael's Church		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
1st December	Official opening of Christmas Festival - Garda Escort of Santa to Harbour Plaza.	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
1st December	Fireworks Display	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
6th of December	Writers in Conversation on The Sport of Writing 7.15-9pm	Meadowbrook Leisure Centre	01 271 9529	mkeys@dlrcoco.ie	www.dlrcoco.ie/libraries
7th December	Opening of 60m Ice Slide. Carousels, Climbing Wall, Inflatable Village, Wooden Cabins serving delicious goodies	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
8th December	Live Ice Sculpting 1-6pm	Bloomfield Shopping Centre		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
8th December	Irish Youth Ballet - exhibition	Bloomfield Shopping Centre		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
8th - 9th December	Santa's Grotto in Antarctic Kingdom from 12 noon	Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre		eccadmin@dlrcoco.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
9th December	Natural Carving	Killiney Hill	087-329 9936	info@owls.ie	www.owls.ie
13th December - 01st January	Opening of Christmas Market 11am-7pm. Over 40 stalls at St Michael's Church and The Metals	Dún Laoghaire Town & The Metals		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
14th - 16th December	Santa's Grotto in Antarctic Kingdom from 3pm Fri and 12pm Sat & Sun	Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre		eccadmin@dlrcoco.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
16th December	Ski Club of Ireland performances on Ice Slide. From 12 noon.	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
16th December	Fireworks Display	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
21st - 23rd December	Santa's Grotto in Antarctic Kingdom from 3pm Fri and 12pm Sat & Sun	Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre		eccadmin@dlrcoco.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
22nd December	Fireworks Display	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
22nd December	Make a Christmas Wreath	Fitzsimons Wood	087-329 9936	info@owls.ie	www.owls.ie
25th December	Merry Christmas from DLR County Council !!				
31st December	Fireworks Display midnight	Harbour Plaza		info@alaevents.ie	www.dunlaoghaire.ie for further details.
January and beyond					
Jan-Feb	Keep clicking on www.dlrevents.ie for future updates				
19th January	Operation Transformation- Public Walk-see page 9	Marlay Park 11am	01-271 9502	info@sportpartnership.ie	www.dlrsportpartnership.ie.
19th January	Theatre Workshop Showcase	Mill Theatre	01-296 9340	aisling@milltheatre.ie	www.milltheatre.ie
Date to be confirmed	Kickstart 2013	People's Park		info@dlrevents.ie	www.dlrevents.ie
Jan-Feb	dlr Open submissions	County Hall	01-271 9529	mdavey@dlrcoco.ie	www.dlrcoco.ie/arts

The Gathering - Be Part of It

The Gathering Ireland 2013 aims to deliver an additional 325,000 overseas visitors to Ireland which will generate an extra €170 million in revenue and create up to 3000 new jobs across every county in Ireland.

An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny is urging everyone to get involved. "Even if you don't qualify for funding I would still urge everyone to get involved and start organising. Even if it as simple as inviting

one or two or more people to visit Ireland next year."

How do you apply for funding?

Only completed submissions received via the approved application form will be considered. The completed form must be sent to: **William Morton, Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, County Hall, Marine Road, County Dublin.** or email wmorton@dlrcoco.ie. In advance of

submitting your application your Gathering event / activity needs to be uploaded on the website

www.thegatheringireland.com

Applications must be received in County Hall or Dundrum office by Friday 30 November 2012 at 5pm.

