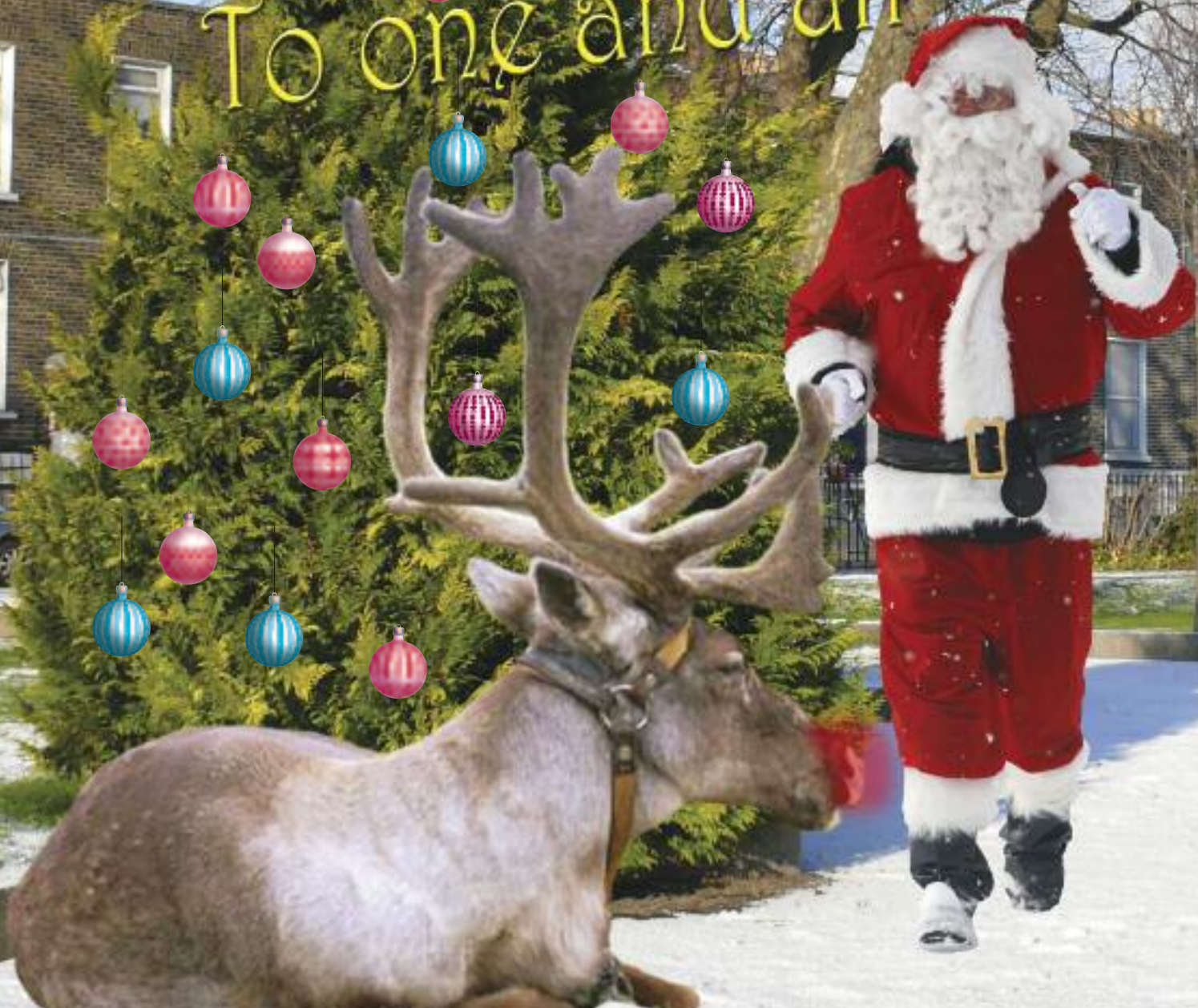


THE NEW
LINKA

Issue 93

Christmas 2011

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Wishing the Community a
Very Happy Christmas
and Peaceful New Year
from Albert, Family and Staff

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The New Link is published by St. Andrews Resource Centre. Extracts from the magazine may be quoted or published on condition that acknowledgement is given to the New Link. Views expressed in this magazine are the contributors' own and do not reflect the views of St. Andrews Resource Centre.

TAKING STOCK AT CHRISTMAS



Christmas is that time of year when after all the fuss and shopping we stand back for a day or two and normal activity is put on hold. For most of us it is a happy time as family gathers together and the old stories are told again and memories brought to mind. For many, however, it is a time of sadness too, when the absence of loved ones is felt more sharply and the celebrations ring hollow.

This year, many people will struggle to afford even a modest Christmas, and for many Christmas shopping will add to the burden of debt in the New Year. Unemployment and the fear of job loss will hang like a shadow over many homes. The vital support of family and friends and for some the assistance of groups like the St. Vincent de Paul Society, will help many to stay afloat.

It is often said that people are at their best at Christmas, feeling more charitable and showing more good will than at other times. If so, it is because underneath all of the hype – and all the pain – there is an awareness that the Christmas message is still to be heard; that we are more than what we have and what we buy; that the brightest light is seen in the midst of darkness; that a new-born child was stronger than any power; and that our world was transformed for ever by the coming of Christ.

If our hope is renewed by that message, we will find the strength to face all of our challenges in 2012 – as individuals, as families, as a community, and, indeed, as a Resource Centre.

We should make a very special effort this Christmas to drop in on our elderly neighbours and friends to say hello and make sure they are keeping well and have enough food, are warm and in good spirits. We would like to take this opportunity to thank sincerely all the volunteers who selflessly give so much of their time and energy all year round to ensure the continuous delivery of vital front-line services to the community. On behalf of everybody at the Centre, The Board of management, all the staff and volunteers we wish our community a Peaceful and Merry Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year.



NOLLAIG SHONA DUIT

EDITOR: PATRICK MCGAULEY PHOTOS: PADDY GIBSON, NOEL WATSON COVER DESIGN: NOEL WATSON.

SECRETARY: BILL RYAN.

THE NEW LINK, ST. ANDREWS RESOURCE CENTRE, 114-116 PEARSE STREET.

Telephone: 677 1930. Fax: 671 5734. Email: thenewlink@standrews.ie

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DEAR EDITOR

Hi, I have a story about a new Electro Punk band called Morph from Ringsend and Pearse street who are working hard at the moment on making a cd and are planning on touring and promoting the cd in the new year. Gary Pullen from Pearse street and his friend Jason McDonnell from Ringsend are two musicians who play keyboards, guitar, bass and both of them sing. I got to hear some of their latest punk music that they have been working on when I listened to them on youtube. They play all types of music but 90% original they play really heavy punk music reminiscent of bands like Stiff Little Fingers and the Misfits and they also do a mix of electronic dance music and the odd folk song this is why they call themselves Morph as their music Morphs into different sounds. You can hear some of Morph's music on youtube and get in contact with them at garyjamespullen@gmail.com at the moment they are hoping to perform more live gigs at venues in and around the Dublin area in the new year and are they are also available for parties. If anyone involved with hiring bands and singers or if you are a band looking for a support act you can contact them via email and keep an eye out for when they are playing gigs on their Facebook page or Myspace.



Gary Pullen

MORPH FAN

I read this very interesting story in the CLONDALKIN GAZETTE. I hope the Community would like to read and remember how lucky we are:

"Forty six years ago I was a very active, high-spirited young man with everything to live for, with a lovely young wife and a school-going son. Then my wife began to complain of stomach pains.

Our G.P. got her into hospital and she was operated on; however, she died four days after the operation due to heart failure.

Feeling full of despair and sorry for myself, with a young son who wondered why his Mum died, I just could not cope and with my own and my wife's relatives living abroad. I tried to find time to look after my son as well as my working hours, but, sadly, I lost my job.

Then my sister came over from London and took my son back with her where she gave him lots of love and care. However, by then I was deep in the throes of manic depression and drinking very heavily.

Then when our joint savings were getting thinner I decided to take my own life.

I blocked up the windows and the doors and turned on the gas. I whispered a prayer for forgiveness and wept as I lay down on the bed, then the gas stopped and I started to cough a great deal.

I got up and opened the windows and decided there must be an easier way. No, I was not going to slash my wrists, it would be too painful. I decided on sleeping tablets, but my G.P. was suspicious and refused to give me a prescription; instead he got in touch with a pal who was a fellow doctor.

I was taken into hospital where I was given electric shock treatment for many weeks.

While I was in hospital my home was burgled so I demanded that I sign myself out.

The demons started again but got no relief from stress to no avail.

Then, one day, I found myself staring into the River

Liffey and telling myself that drowning would be a painless death. I was on the southside dock called City Quay, just down from Tara Street Dart station.

For some strange reason I was drawn to a small steeple Catholic Church. There was a grotto of Saint Bernadette and Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception at the rear of the church. I knelt down at the grotto and prayed. My body started to tremble and I was so sure that a heart attack would follow. Then, what I can only describe as bolts of energy passed through my body, then elation and happiness. Since then I have become so mentally and physically strong and always in good spirits. Some few years later I met my second wife, started a new family, sold the old house where I had planned suicide.

Once a month, I visit the grotto to pray for others and give thanks. I am enjoying my retirement with my family and grandchildren, my son in England is a very wealthy man with his family around him.

Of all the churches that I was in seeking salvation, it was the little church with the grotto who listened to my cry for help. Mr. Editor, this letter will give hope to those contemplating suicide, the saddest and loneliness death of all, I was one of the lucky ones.



THANK YOU

The Residents of Pearse Square would like to thank Alex and Jimmy of Pearse Street Hardware for all their invaluable help in the recent floods. Also special thanks to Alice Bragazzi of St Andrew's Resource Centre for all the kind help she gave.

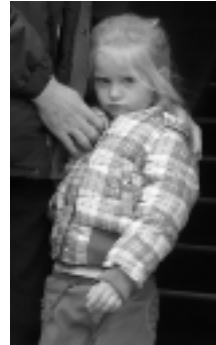
CHRISTMAS PICTURE SPECIAL



Alice, Betty and Angela



Thomas Dowdall and Granddaughter



CDVEC Visit to St. Andrews October 2011
Left to Right: Maria Riordan; Cathie Hogan Pat Morrissey (CDVEC) and Betty Watson – Adult Education Manager St Andrews Resource Centre



Sonny, Gerry and Charlie



Paddy, David and sons



Happy 50th Willie



Lilian with her beloved daughter



Happy 65th to Rosaleen



Kathy, Derek and Master Jamie



Melanie's pride and joy

YOUR LABOUR TEAM WISHES YOU A HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR



Cllr Gerry Ashe
m: 087 295 9571
gerry.ashe@dublincity.ie



Cllr. Maria Parodi
m: 087 682 1420
mariaparodi@votelabour.ie



Ruairi Quinn TD
t: 01 618 3434
minister@education.gov.ie



Kevin Humphreys TD
t: 01 618 3224
kevin.humphreys@oir.ie

The Labour Party wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



GRANNY AND ME by Tony Rooney

I was fortunate in being born into a big family. I had five brothers, three sisters, numerous aunts and uncles, a host of first cousins, second cousins and several people of indeterminate origin. There was, however, one family area in which I

was sadly deficient: grandparents; on my father's side both my grandparents died before I was born; on my mother's, my grandfather also died before I knew him. This left me with one solitary grandparent: the Granny of the above title.

Now a casual observer might assume that since Granny was my sole grandparent she and I would be bosom friends, such, alas, was not the case. To say that Granny and I had a strained relationship would be akin to saying that Winston Churchill and Adolf Hitler did not see eye to eye. She regarded me as a snivelling little whinge bag, I regarded her as a fearsome old witch. She lived alone on the third floor of a gloomy old house on Dublin's Kevin's St. My mother insisted on visiting her almost every day, and my sister and I would be dragged along. Now my sister, who was seven and two years older than me, was on reasonably good terms with Granny, and would sometimes have her head patted and be told she was a good girl, but whenever that grim, black clad figure seated by the fire turned her attention to me I'd take a fit if hysterical weeping. In exasperation Granny would tell my mother to "Take that young fella out of here."

Actually, my fifth year was a bad time all round; nowadays there is much comment on the problems of teenagers, but I doubt if any of them had to endure the agonies I suffered as a five year old. I had just enrolled in the local school, and, to put it bluntly, it was the biggest mistake I'd ever made. I blamed my family for this; as the youngest child in a big family I was constantly being told what a great little man I

was. My mother sang my praises to all she met: "He," she'd say proudly, "can recite Little Jack Horner" and "Mary Had A Little Lamb" word perfect, you wouldn't believe it," she'd tell her bored listeners. She, and the rest of the family, assured me that someone of my intellect needed only a little education and the world was my oyster. Furthermore, they painted school life in such glowing terms that I firmly believed Walt Disney was the school principal and the sole function of the staff was ensure the pleasure and amusement of the pupils. It needed only a week at this same school to expose this talk for what it was: blatant propaganda. The trauma of that first week is seared on my soul. My first discovery was that Jack Horner, and the young wan with the lamb were clearly not on the curriculum.

Following this came more shocks: I had always assumed that a four-legged canine with a tail was a bow-wow; my teacher now informed me it was a "Madra." I could have sworn the fella sharing my desk was a boy, but the same teacher insisted he was a "Buachaill." By the end of the week I didn't know if I was coming or going. With my family having such high hopes I was reluctant to complain; when my uncle Martin asked how I was getting on I struggled to come up with something positive: "My teacher said I was an Amadam," I replied. Uncle Martin's face lit up, "There you are now, didn't we tell ye you'd do well." But my reputation for cleverness was not totally misplaced; I thought the matter out over one weekend and came to a decision: when mother called me for school on Monday morning I told her I'd learned enough, and would not be going to school anymore. Immediately, the entire family surrounded the bed and began

urging me to re-consider my position; an older brother pointed out that if I did not go to school I would not get a job when I grew up.

I replied that I had no intention of getting a job, but wished to stay home and play with my toys. Now when grown-ups are faced with reasonable argument they have a deplorable tendency of falling back on physical force, and so it was on this occasion. I was dragged from my bed, force fed, washed, scrubbed, frog marched up York St. and pushed through the main door of Stalag 17. But my family had not abandoned propaganda entirely; to instil some school pride in me, my mother brought me to a school outfitters in Aungier Street and bought me a school cap. It was red and had a school crest with a Latin inscription on the front; I never found out what the inscription meant, it was probably "Abandon hope all ye who enter here," or some other dire warning. Years later I discovered that the coat of arms was for a secondary college in Monkstown, which tells you something about the type of family I had.

With my academic career in turmoil the chances of improving relations with my Granny were pretty remote. However, a compromise of a sort was reached; it was agreed that if we did not see each other a shaky truce might be observed. So, whenever we visited Kevin St. I would stay hidden behind a stout chest of drawers where I'd while away the time drawing bunny rabbits on the wallpaper. But events beyond my understanding were moving to a close. One evening two of my aunts called on my mother; after a hurried discussion she left with them. She returned two hours later and tearfully told us that Granny had passed away. The next

few days were confused, and all I can remember are jumbled impressions: I remember Granny lying still and white on her bed, rosary beads clasped in her fingers, and, at the side of the bed, a small table with a crucifix flanked by two flickering candles. I looked at Granny's face in wonder, for the cross, angry look had gone from her face and she lay as if in a peaceful sleep.

When the time for the removal came, my sister and I were led down stairs by an aunt; it was then I discovered I'd left my school cap behind. I begged my aunt to fetch my cap, but by then the men folk were struggling to carry the coffin down the dark, winding stairs. Convinced my school cap was gone for ever, I broke down and wept bitterly; I was still weeping when they put me into a horse cab. In vain, my father and sisters tried to quieten me but I was inconsolable. When mother climbed into the cab she wiped away my tears, "Are you crying for your Granny?" she asked. I shook my head, "Granny didn't like me," I sobbed. She stroked my head gently, "No, you mustn't think that. Your granny had much to endure; it was pain and illness she disliked, not you. Someday, when you too are old, you'll understand what I'm saying."

It's almost seventy years since that day, it's a long time and much has happened to me and to the world around me, yet, I still remember my mother's words, and, as she foretold, I know now that the feud between Granny and me was but the imaginings of a spoilt child. If the Good Lord permits me to meet her in the great hereafter, I shall ask her forgiveness for my past behaviour, a request she's unlikely to refuse; in fact, I have I have feeling that she and I will be the best of friends.

Tony wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.





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Denis and Family wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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2012





Ann Curran

The Rise and Fall of Nelson's Pillar

by Ann Curran

A monument dedicated to Lord Nelson. Nelson's Pillar was an icon and landmark for many a couple, it was a meeting place in O'Connell St, which was the main thoroughfare.

It was built before Nelson's Column in London.

It was erected in 1808 and the Duke of Richmond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland laid the first stone.

Of Nelson's Pillar Dublin on February 15th. It was made of granite by an English architect, William Wilkins. An unpopular symbol of British rule, Lord Horatio Nelson 1758 to 1805 Admiral of the British Fleet. It was erected in memory of Irish seamen who fought and died under Nelson's command at Trafalgar. In the year 2005 the interest in Nelson grew as the bicentenary of his victory over the French at Trafalgar was October of that year. It was paid for by subscription by the ordinary people of Dublin. It was to honour the exploits of the British naval hero and notorious Adulterer. It was also to honor Lord Horatio, Nelson's victory over Napoleon.

At its height it was the largest empire in history. It was forty meters tall and you had to climb 166 steps to get to the top and then you had a bird's eye view of Dublin and beyond. Although I was never on the top the story goes if you met a large person coming down you would find it difficult to get past so I never ventured.

The one armed and one eyed victor of the battle of Trafalgar dominated O'Connell St., Dublin. He kept a watchful half eye over Ireland's capital for 157 years. It was known generally in Dublin as the Pillar. The English dictator and one of the most hated men in Irish history. In 1955 a group of U C D students occupied the Pillar they tried to melt Nelson's statue with home made flame throwers.

The 45th anniversary was this year on the 8th of March 2011 of the bombing of Nelson's Pillar. It was bombed during the civil unrest that accrued in Ireland during the 1960s to the 1990s. The bombing permanently changed the city for the worst as the IRA bombing Campaign in the North intensified when Casement's remains were returned to Ireland.

Nelson's Pillar was blown up by Saor Eire in 1966 at 2am in the early hours of the morning as their way in commemorating the 50th

anniversary of the 1916 Easter Rising. O'Connell St looked like a war zone with glass and rubble every where. It was a timed explosion capsule a.k. 1808 vintage Dublin. Some were arrested but nobody was ever charged. Saor Eire only demolished the top of the Pillar. What remained was known as the stump until it was blown up by the army Bomb squad for safety reasons. Ironically this controlled explosion actually caused more damage than the original bombing.

In a matter of days a group of Belfast school teachers known as the Go Lucky Four reached the top of the music charts: *With Up went Nelson and the Pillar* too. Other songs were *Good Lord Nelson* by Tommy Macken of the Clancy Brothers. Also *Nelson's Goodbye* by Joe Dolan released as a track by the Dubliners on their album *Finnegan's Wake* in 1966.

A few years after Nelson's Pillar was removed a half ton chunk of granite masonry fell off the cornice at the corner of Princes St, O'Connell St and smashed to the pavement below from the G P O in the early hours of the morning had anyone been near it. They would have been killed. To this day it is better to avoid walking near or under the cornice of the G P O because nobody really knows what damage was actually done to that building by the blasting vibrations.

The rubble from the monument was taken to the east wall dump and the lettering from the plinth moved to the gardens of Butler House Killkenny The area was then simply paved over. The Nelson's Pillar bill was passed in 1967 transferring responsibility for the site of the monument from the Nelson's Pillar trustees to Dublin Corporation.

The head has been kept at several venues, it is now on display in Dublin Pearse St. Library not that far from its original location in O'Connell St.

The Pillar was replaced in 2003 with the Spire. The Spire is 123 meters. Ian Ritchie designed the Spire. Not all were in favor of it.

Ann wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



President Michael D. Higgins visits Arts Project for Recovering Drug Users

Date: Friday 25th November
Time: 11am
Venue: OLV Building, Cathedral View Court, Off New St, D8



RADE were delighted to host President Higgins particularly given his long history as a powerful voice supporting the two significant areas that affect our programme: the Arts and the underclass.

RADE participants will perform a short 10 minute theatre piece for the President and exhibit their artwork. Artists and community leaders will be in attendance on the day.

For the past seven years our project has struggled to participate and make a cultural impact within the community and wider Irish society. We have discovered that by working with professional artists, our participants have had the courage and commitment to deliver film, theatre, art and creative writing. We have engaged a new audience made up of homeless people, drug users

and outsiders who have connected with our work and know they too can have a cultural sense of belonging as citizens of Ireland.

RADE (recovery through art, drama and education) engage recovering drug users with the arts and therapeutic supports and provide a platform for their artistic expression.

www.rade.ie



All in RADE wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

The Street Singer by George P. Kearns



*Marta, rambling rose of the
wildwood,
Marta, with your fragrance
divine,
Rosebud, of the days of my
childhood,
Watched you, bloom in the
wildwood
And I hoped you'd be mine.*

The Street Singer, real name Arthur Tracy, was an American Vaudeville singer and following a 15 minute slot on a

CBS radio program in 1931, he became world famous and Marta which was one of his most popular songs, more or less became his signature tune. He also put his heart into some other most popular ballads such as; "The Whistling Waltz" "Red Sails in the Sunset" "Everything I Have is Yours" "Danny Boy" "I'll See You Again" "When I Grow Too Old to Dream" and "Harbour Lights".

In 1937 Arthur recorded "Pennies from Heaven" and in 1981 a film of that name used the voice of Arthur Tracy which was lip-synched by actor Vernal Bagneris. This film, which starred Steve Martin, Bernadette Peters and Christopher Walken, brought Arthur, then 82 years of age, out of retirement and saw him take up the position of cabaret singer in the "Cookery" in Greenwich Village in 1982.

The Cookery Jazz Club was owned by Barney Josephson and he was also responsible for the comeback of Alberta Hunter the celebrated jazz singer and retired nurse. Having been retired from the hospital she worked in, in 1977, at 82 years of age she was offered an engagement by Barney Josephson in his Cookery Club in 1978 where she was reborn as a star and within a short space of time she became a fixture of New York's nightlife. She was also signed up to Columbia Records by John Hammond and all this at 83 years of age. Alberta died on October 17, 1984 aged 89 years. Sadly, like Alberta and Arthur, the Cookery is no longer with us.

As a child my late mother used to play records on her old wind-up gramophone and one of her favourites was of course "The Street Singer" and she would tell my sister and me the story that Arthur Tracy used to sing on the streets and for a long time he refused all offers from theatre owners etc to sing on the stage, hence the name "The Street Singer" however, this was all a myth as Arthur never sang on the streets.

Yiddish Theatres; were to be found in Eastern and East Central Europe, Paris, London, Berlin and New York and it was at these venues that plays, revues, musical comedies etc were performed primarily by Jews in the Yiddish language. Israil Bercovici, a Jewish poet, playwright, literary historian and journalist once wrote that it was through Yiddish theatre that the Jewish culture entered in dialogue with the outside world.

Vaudeville was an American type theatrical venue that came about in the 1880s and lasted well into the 1930s. Each performance consisted of a number of unrelated acts that were put together under a common bill. These acts consisted of dancers, singers, musicians, animal acts, magicians, jugglers and any act that might provide a few minutes of entertainment, but nobody knew the origin of the name or where it came from and it was these Yiddish Theatres and Vaudeville Halls that gave Arthur his break in the world of music..

Having graduated from Philadelphia's Central High School (The equivalent of an Irish secondary school) he dropped out of the educational system and became a professional singer, first of all singing in some small Yiddish theatres and vaudeville halls, while at the same time holding on to his day job as a furniture salesman. Eventually in 1924 he moved to New York and regularly appeared in Vaudeville, he also became a member of the "Blossom Time" touring company and appeared in a number of New York amateur revues and it was at one of these revues that he was noticed by William S. Paley who offered him the aforementioned 15 minute slot on his Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS) radio program, so singing in the streets was never an option and well you might ask "why was he called the Street Singer?" and the answer is really quite simple.

Excited with the CBS offer, but scared of failure, Arthur decided that it would be prudent to do the show under a pseudonym and a name with a mystery and so he chose the name "The Street Singer" from the title of Frederick Lonsdale's play "The Street Singer" but following his very successful debut on CBS in 1931 the public demanded to know the real name of the singer and as the pressure mounted his real name was eventually released some five months after his debut on CBS. An alternative reason for using a "non de plume" was to prevent himself being blackballed from future vaudeville bookings for having appeared on radio. However, with fame and fortune now in the offing, this threat of being blackballed no longer had any bearing on his career as the following year he was called to Hollywood to appear in "The Big Broadcast" of 1932 with other radio stars including Bing Crosby, Kate Smith and the Boswell Sisters. (In the early days he had himself billed as the "Street Singer on the Radio, but quite quickly he dropped the last three words)

On the CBS radio show named "the Street Singer" the announcer, David Ross would introduce the show with the following comment: "Round the corner and down your way comes the Street Singer" and this was immediately followed by Tracy's theme song "Marta, Rambling Rose of the Wildwood"

It may also come as a surprise to find that the original "Street Singer" was a lady, by the name of the Duchess of Versailles who was a fictional character in a 3 part musical play by Frederick Lonsdale called "The Street Singer". The Duchess was an extremely rich young lady who fell madly in love with a very poor but untalented artist named Bonni and in order to make contact with her beloved, she disguises herself as a street singer and by the end of the first act becomes his lover.

Through an art dealer named Levy, she then proceeds to purchase some of Bonni's works making him believe that fame had come at last and that his genius had been recognised. During a carnival where his works were on display, he received a summons to come and meet with his unknown patron and in so doing he leaves his little street singer and goes to where fame and fortune beckon.

In the final act he regrets his actions and tears up the Duchess's cheque for his last painting and slashes the picture-a portrait of his lost - Yvette- only to find that the Duchess and the street singer are one and the same, and all then ends happily.

(This musical by Frederick Lonsdale, "The Street Singer" had its opening night in the Lyric Theatre, London, on June 27, 1924 and ran for 360 performances) On



The Street Singer by George P. Kearns (continued from page 10)

one occasion when Arthur was asked why he was called the Street Singer, he quipped that he had sung on the streets of Philadelphia for pennies, just as he did when at age 82 he made a comeback at the Cookery Club and a reporter from the New York Times reviewing his performance, wrote, that his voice had a delightful patina and a period charm and that Tracy was a "spellbinder" and Tracy quickly added that he always put as much schmaltz as he could into his songs, thereby putting an end to any doubters in the audience.

Arthur, though an American citizen, was born in the U.S.S.R town of Kahenetz, Podolsk, Russia, now Moldova on June 25, 1899 as Abba Avrom Tracovutsky. (Some would argue Moldavia) At the age of six years, he and his family left Podolsk in 1906 and immigrated to America. Having arrived in Ellis Island they joined a long queue of fellow immigrants to endure health and various other checks in order to prove themselves fit to enter the United States. Abba, his father, mother, brother and sisters all passed the immigration tests and were allowed entry into America. They then made their way to and settled in Philadelphia as the Tracy family, which name they had somehow been tagged with in Ellis Island and they quite willingly adopted this new Americanised name. Abba then became known as Arthur, and his brother Bert. His father and mother however, retained their original Christian names of Morris and Fannie. No information is available as to the new names of his sisters.

Ellis Island a designated site for a Federal Immigration

Station where immigrants from all across the world were checked by immigration officers to see if they were fit for entry into the United States. It opened in 1892 and closed in 1954 and in that time 12 million people had passed through its portals

Prior to Ellis Island Castle Clinton or Fort Clinton aka Castle Garden was America's first immigration station which processed some 8 million people into the United States during the years 1855-1890 until the Federal Government took over in 1890.

While he had married three times, there was no issue from any of these marriages, which all ended in divorce. His first marriage was to Beatrice Weinfield in 1932, his second was to Valerie Rowell in 1940 and his third was to Blossom Stern in 1958 and he divorced her in 1957.

Arthur died in Mount Sinai Hospital on Sunday, October 5, 1997 and according to the information available to me he was survived by his brother, Bert Tracy of Washington.

*Marta, now your eyes beam at twilight,
Sparkling like dewdrops at dawn,
Marta, when I look for your love light,
I awake with a sigh and find that you are gone.*

George wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

DUBLIN IN THE RARE OLD TIMES

I was born on Macken Street in 1929 in a big Tenement House that used to stand on the corner of Macken Street and Grand Canal Street. Across the street from where I lived was Burke's Pub, which is now Becky Morgan's (as I have learned from reading The New Link). I went to school in St. Andrew's, where I had Mrs. Riordan as my teacher downstairs and Mr. Sharkey upstairs. I made my communion and confirmation in Westland Row church. My father and grandfather, better known as Skpper Sr. and Skipper Jr., worked in Morgan Mooney's on the quay. I remember my grandmother making Christmas pudding in the cloth, all the neighbours had to come and give the mix and a stir.

Each had their night to make their pudding with their Sandyman port and a sing song. In my days over here in the U.S.A. I have also been called Skipper for a number of years. I enjoy reading the Link. My good friend obby Byrne of Albert

Place sends me each monthly issue which I pass on to my family, so that they can learn a bit about where I come from. During the years between 1952 and 1958 I served in the Irish Army. I was married to my wife, now of 57 years in Saint Catherine's Church on Meath Street. Of our six children, three were born in Dublin in the Coombe, the

other three over here in America. In my day, the Donoghue's, the Lacey's, the Armstrong's, the Flynn's, the Bowden's Tracey's, Dolan's, McLoughlin's Horan's, Fullem's and Donne's Shoemakers were all of Macken Street.

I especially love reading Sonny Kinsella's articles about Dublin in the old days.

Wishing you all a very Merry and Holy Christmas, from Sonny Boy Hamilton.



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SIZE DOES MATTER FOR MALE SLIMMERS

A Slimming Club might be thought of as a woman's world but one local man is celebrating after losing 3 1/2 stone and achieving his target weight at his local Slimming World Group.

Best of all he's done it without giving up any of his favourite foods and still tucks into Curries, Steaks, Roast Dinners, Fryups and Fish n Chips and still enjoys an odd beer or two.

Michael Ryan (Babser) says "Like most men I thought slimming clubs were for women and expected to be eating salads but the minute I walked through the door I realised nothing could be further from the truth. There's a great mix of

people, young and old and we have a great time plus with Slimming Worlds Food optimising Plan no foods are banned".

Michael joined his local group after seeing the success of his Niece Lorna Harrison who in turn is Michael's Slimming World Consultant, Lorna herself has lost 4 stone following Slimming Worlds Food Optimising Plan.

Lorna says "It was so great to see Michael come through the doors on my opening night to support me and my new venture but also to begin a whole new journey himself. I am so proud that Michael has achieved his target with our group and continues to come each week for support from myself and his fellow members who in turn love him, Our Group would not be the same without him".

Lorna has recently opened a Slimming World Group in Holles Row Dublin 2.

**Slimming World Holles Row
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**Consultant :
Lorna - 085 8070440.**



BEFORE



AFTER

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Bingo until 4.45pm, also assisted shower facilities
and hairdressing.

Our Bus collects people near their homes. Some return
home after their meal by bus, others remain until
evening time.

We now have vacancies for those who would like to join
us for dinner. Either by bus or you may prefer to walk,
you would be very welcome. Just think of the
long winter days coming.

Wouldn't it be nice to meet some old or new friends to
pass a few hours.

Come on give it a try. You will love the friendly
atmosphere, you might even bring along a friend,
why not?

Alice and Team wish the Community a
very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

For further information contact: **Alice Bregazzi,
St. Andrew's Resource Centre, Pearse Street,
Dublin 2. Tel: 677 1930.**

Councillor Jim O'Callaghan



*Jim would
like to wish
the
Community
a very
Happy
Christmas
and a
Peaceful
New Year.*

37 SOUTH RICHMOND STREET, DUBLIN 2.

TEL: 475 89 43

Email: jim@jimocallaghan.com

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FIANNA FÁIL

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of every month**

**ST. ANDREW'S
RESOURCE
CENTRE
2 – 3 p.m.**

**RINGSEND
COMMUNITY
CENTRE
3 – 4 p.m.**

CBS NEWS

The English Department has had a very busy and productive first term. In September, following their study of *Under the Hawthorn Tree*, Ms. Riddick's 2nd year English class visited the 'The Jeanie Johnson', arguably the most famous famine ship in the world. Students gained a valuable insight into one of the most painful periods in Irish History as they were given a guided tour around the ship. The class were able to see the horrendously cramped conditions which the traveller endured while also learning about the risks and dangers involved in embarking on such an arduous journey.

In October, LCVP 1 students went to the Irish Film Institute with Mr. Flynn and Ms. Riddick to see acclaimed Italian film 'I'm not Scared'. The film is being studied as part of the Leaving Certificate English comparative study. Students were enthralled throughout by the gripping tale of friendship and survival.



I'M NOT SCARED Review

by Rebecca Keogh

I'm not Scared is an Italian film directed by Gabriele Salvatores. The film is set in the fictional town of Aqua Traverse in Southern Italy. The story is loosely based on the true story of a young boy who was kidnapped in Italy in the 1970s. This coming to age drama is brimming with conflict, suspense and tension. It deals with the universal themes of this film is friendship and growing up.

The film follows the adventures of a ten year old boy Michele who, while spending his summer playing in the local fields with friends, come across a horrific secret that will change his life forever. Michele discovers the existence of a young kidnapped boy named Filippo in one of the fields and begins to form a friendship with the frightened child. However, when Michele is caught bringing food and water to Filippo things begin to get

complicated..... Determined to continue to look after his new friend, Michele ignores the danger and tries to help the boy....eventually putting both of their lives in peril!!!



This film is completely gripping and extremely interesting. I enjoyed it thoroughly despite the fact the whole film was acted in Italian. The film's plot is full of tension and suspense, keeping the reader on the edge of their seat throughout. I really connected with the story that was being told. It was so touching how a friendship could form over something so disturbing as kidnapping. I felt that the actors were ideally cast. In particular, I thought that the actor who played Michele was phenomenal. I was shocked to learn that had no previous acting experience.

I would recommend this film to people over the age of fifteen as I feel that younger people may not understand the concept of the movie and may find the subtitles difficult to read. I feel that people who enjoy suspense and mystery will really enjoy this film.

In October, third year English students braved the Dublin floods to attend a production of Sean O' Casey's legendary play 'Juno and The Paycock' in the Abbey Theatre with Mr. Davis, Ms. Riddick, Ms. Keogh, Mr. Flynn, Mr. Mullane and Ms. Stewart. Students enjoyed the fantastic dialogue and the phenomenal acting from an acclaimed cast.

Third year CSPE classes have been very busy organising trips, arranging to talk to guest speakers and participating in fundraising activities for some worthwhile charities.

In September Mr. Bradley's class met with a representative from Dublin City Council to discuss the cleaning and maintenance of the area surrounding the school. Students delivered a fantastic power point presentation and convinced the Council to clean Cumberland Street more regularly.

In November both classes visited the Criminal Courts of Justice with Mr. Bradley and Ms. Riddick. While there, students got the opportunity to participate in a mock trial and also got to sit in on a real trial. The outing was an overwhelming success. Students felt it was not only interesting and educational but great fun too!

Upcoming activities for the CSPE department include a visit to the Dáil and meeting with guest speakers from Focus Ireland and The Simon Community.

Wishing the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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**The Management and Staff wish the
Community A Very Happy Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year**

LIFFEY WANDERERS F.C. A History – Centenary Year 1885-1985 PART 2

The first fifteen years of its existence, 1885-1900, coincided with a period of extreme hardship on the Dublin docks and with the general mood of disillusionment following on the death of Parnell and the dashed hopes of the Home Rule movement. It was also something of an embryonic period for the various football codes – Association Football, Rugby, the G.A.A. – and thus hardly a time for the niceties of club organisation, when Liffey's players, officials and club members had frequently to carry their own goal-posts to the 'away' venues – indeed, had sometimes to fight off attempts by rival club supporters to make off with such hard-won uprights! – and they were the days when the stewarding at such games was very often carried out by a phalanx of jarvies, fifty or sixty 'hard' men, who kept over-enthusiastic supporters clear of the touch-lines by means of their long, savage horse whips.

By the same token there was a brighter side of those early days. It was also a time when the same jarvies' outside cars – laden with supporters in blue and white, all singing lustily to the accompaniment of banjos, melodeons and mouth organs – made a brilliant and raucous cavalcade to and from the 'foreign' venues of faraway places like Rathfarnham, Drumcondra and Clontarf. The enthusiasm and loyalty of the ever-increasing number of supporters was no less than the commitment of the players and officials. The combined efforts eventually paid off.

In the relatively 'better' days of the brand new twentieth century Liffey Wanderers finally struck 'gold'. In the peak of perfection they won the Junior Combination Cup in the 1904-05 season, and then – a unique achievement – the Empire Cup three years in succession, 1905-06, 1906-07, 1907-08. The Liffey Wanderers team of those great days included many players who were to become quite famous in the soccer world, men like 'Conny' Connell, 'Wesser' Warren, 'Stump' Kelly, 'Gull' Kelly, Big Barney Conway, Kit Fay, Jim Foley, D. Shea, 'Tallaght' Byrne, J. Hume, M. Carrick, T. Lawler, M. Hughes, E. Callaghan, 'Crabby' Gannon and Dan Neary.

'Conny' Connell went on to play for Ireland in Internationals against England, Scotland and Wales in 1912, 1913 and 1914, and with the well-known Billy Lacey, who was a member of of the Irish squad which



gave England its first defeat, the match taking place at Middlesbrough just prior to the outbreak of First World War. 'Conny's' contribution to soccer didn't end there. He was probably the first Irish football star to go 'continental'. With soccer catching the fancy of most European nations in the early years of this century a certain amount of 'missionary' work was undertaken by highly experienced players from what was then known as the British Isles. When one considers the later competition successes of such clubs as Real Madrid, Atletico Madrid and Benfica, it is interesting to note, and to do so with pride, that one of the first such 'missionaries' to the infant Spanish game was a Liffey man, 'Conny' Connell who acted as coach to a number of fledgling Iberian clubs for several years.

Similarly a number of other Liffey Wanderers men assisted clubs in Northern Ireland and across the Channel. Most of the officials subsequently became prominent in soccer administration, notably M. Carrick who went on to Chairman of Shelbourne and who brought with him 'Wesser' Warren, the latter being capped for Ireland in 1913 against England and Scotland, finishing his playing career with Shamrock Rovers.

**Great footballers, Great years, 1904 - 1908!
But why a dearth of trophies after 1908!!!**

To be continued in Easter issue



ST. ANDREW'S CHILDCARE NEWS

Hi everyone, it's that time again – only 9 days to Christmas. The children are practising their Christmas songs. We are having our Christmas concert on Wednesday 21st December at 12pm in the hall. On Thursday the 22nd December at 12pm we are having Christmas dinner and Santa.



As you can see from our photos of Halloween our Halloween party was a great success.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our parent's and children a very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all your support during the year.

Happy Christmas
From

**Martina McKenna and
Staff,
St. Andrews Childcare
Centre**

114-116 Pearse Street,
Dublin 2,
Tel 01 6771930



CHILDCARE MEMORY



Wishing the Pupils, Parents and the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

OUR NEIGHBOURS by Sonny Kinsella



Sonny Kinsella.

Sonny would like to wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Townsend Street in the early years and into the late 50's was highly populated with many large families living in the very old and big tenement houses. The street ran parallel with the South Docks on one side and Pearse Street on the other side. Townsend Street ran from D'Olier Street to Hanover Street and Misery Hill with many streets to the left and right of it. Tara Street divided it at the top end leading from Pearse Street across Butt Bridge to the north side of the city. When it came to having neighbours it didn't

matter what end of the street they came from, there was always someone to give a helping hand in time of need, during sickness, accidents, death, birth or anything else that caused problems such as families evicted from their room onto the street for non payment of rent. The neighbours would take their children in, the furniture would live with their mother till things became better and the problems were solved. No one went hungry, when a neighbour died and there was no money to bury them a committee was formed to make a collection to have the person waked and buried with dignity. The corpse was usually laid out in a habit on the bed and there was always some one to wash and groom them before they were put into the coffin and through the whole wake that usually lasted for two days and nights, neighbours would take turn in staying with the corpse even through the night. The neighbours coming to pay their respects was treated to a pinch of snuff, a bottle of stout and sandwiches, supplied through the goodness of the immediate neighbours. And even after the burial the deceased's family would be looked after for about a week. If someone was short of money and had nothing to pawn so that they would have food to put on the table, anything borrowed, from a neighbour by a neighbour was always paid back. Many times a neighbour became a midwife in the case of emergency and they were very experienced at it as most had big families and had been through it many times before. The house would be cleaned and the meals made for the husband and children. The children would also be taken care of such as being cleaned and dressed and brought to and from school. The mother was usually back on her feet within two or three days and then it was business as usual. The doctor often complimented the woman who had acted as midwife for her efficiency in the delivery of the baby. When the baby was ready for christening, if it had no robe this was never a problem as there was a neighbour who had a lovely christening robe which was kept in a box covered in tissue paper and this same robe was borrowed for many christenings. It was the same with the pram if the mother had no pram there was always a neighbour on hand to lend

one, all these favours were done without anyone being put under a compliment. They also passed on old clothes and boots to the less well off. Even the homeless who often slept in the hall or on the landing of the old tenement's and this happened many times, they would be given an old top coat to throw over them to keep them warm throughout the cold nights and in the morning they would be given a mug of hot tea and bread and butter before they would go back out onto the street again. When Rosie Kelly was knocked down by a Heitons lorry in Luke Street, Mrs. Pepper who lived just a few yards away in Townsend Street was the first to go to Rosie's aid but it was too late as she was already dead. They were great neighbours when it came to a hooley which happened very often as there was always someone that played a piano or an accordion and even the drums who would be invited to play at the hooley. The furniture would be moved to one side to make room on the floor for dancing and while the musicians were quenching their thirst in the room to keep the hooley going. These hooleys often went on till the early hours of the morning, usually at the weekend. But sadly all this faded out in the 1960's, the main reason was progress as the old tenements were being condemned and demolished and their neighbours moved out to different parts of the city. The younger generation coming was born into the world of rock and roll, and the show bands and that's when our neighbours stopped being neighbours.

P.S.: The streets branching off Townsend Street was Luke St., Moss St., Shaw St., Mark St., Princess St., Lombard St., McGuinness Court, Peterson's Lane, Creighton St., and Lime St.

I LOVE TO LIVE by Lily

Today dear Lord I'm 80, and there much I haven't done,
I hoped dear Lord you'll let me live until I'm 81.
But then if I haven't finished, all I want to do,
Would you please let me stay awhile until I'm 82?
So many places I want to go, so very much to see,
Do you think that you could manage to make it 83?
The world is changing very fast, there is so much more in
store,
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.
And if by then I'm still alive, I'd like to stay til 85!
More planes will be up in the air, So i'd like to stick,
And see what happens to the world when I turn 86.
I know dear Lord it's much to ask and it must be nice in
Heaven,
But I'd really like to stay until I'm 87.
I know by then I won't be fast and sometimes will be late,
But it would be so pleasant, to be around at 88!
I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time,
So I'm sure that I'd be willing to leave at age 89.
Maybe, just one more thing I'd like to say dear Lord,
I thank you kindly, but if it's OK with you,
I'd like to live past 90?



The Ringsend National Anthem

by Lyrics Murphy

The Ouzel bound for Tripoli set sail from Ringsend town

and since she was a gallant ship the owners travelled down to Ringsend in the morning, while the sailors slaved and swore, to see her slip old moorings for that rich eastern shore, She sailed and from her going came never a message home, she spoke no deep sea vessel and no port did come. The galleys home from Tunis by Cadiz in the south, brought never any tidings of her grey beards and her youth. "Oh hide us far among the hills," the lonely woman say, "we would not see those homing ships come across the bay." "Or look upon the sailor lads who carry victuals down, as we have carried long ago the men we called our own." Yet somewhere down by Algiers on the coast of Barbary, the Ringsend sailors fought and failed against black piracy. Their days were dark with agonies, with combatings of pride, before the men or Ringsend sailed their ship on plunder's side. "For by our lives," swore the Moors, "this crew is a gallant band and we are less than once we were swift rapier in each hand. So sail your ship to orders and happily you'll survive, but flout us or betray us in chains you'll take the dive!" Up and down the Southern seas for days and months and years, a dark and nameless galley played her part in seaman's

fears and down below was treasure great amassed in many lands, how to free their shackled hands. How they planned and fought and what their master's fate no man of them would ever tell, but whether soon or late they won their day of victory upon that southern main, when desperate and strong handed they took the ship again. They set the course for Ireland, they slacked not sail nor gear until against the western sky they 'the Golden Spear'. Thus returned the Ouzel Galley, bright offerings in her hold, Scarred men and battered ships they came with ballast of pirate's gold.



Eoghan Murphy T.D.

*Wishing you a very
Happy Christmas
and all the best for
the New Year*

Contact info:
Ph: 01 6183324
W: www.eoghanmurphy.ie
E: eoghan.murphy@oic.ie



FINE GAEL 

Where the Mountains of Mourne by Denis Ranaghan



Denis J. Ranaghan

"Where the Mountains of Mourne Sweep Down to the Sea ..."

Those are the immortal words of a well-known song by that great writer of Irish ballads Percy French. Lots of people know the words of the song. I not only know the words but have the honour of being a son of County Down who was born and raised more or less in their shadow. There are few places in County Down where these wonderful mountains cannot be seen and like all mountains have their

seasons of changing colours and moods.

The Mournes are not great mountains in relation to the *Himalayas* or the *Alps*. *Slieve Donard* the highest is only three thousand feet high a tenth the height of *Mount Everest* and dominates the group. They were not formed by violent, volcanic action like *Diamond Head* in Hawaii but by a gentle thrusting up of the earth's surface over millions of years. One, *Slieve Commedagh*, does have the appearance of a typical volcano but it isn't, the mountaintop collapsed inwards aeons ago. *The Mournes* appear to be bigger cousins of the thousands of drumlins that form most of the countryside of this fertile county. Mainly gentle slopes rather than mountainsides, so gentle that one can have walked up a mountain rather than climbed it!

Many of the town lands have their unique names too; *Maggy's Leap* springs to mind. So too the *Giant's Stone*, *McLean's Hill*, *Luke's Mountain*, *Brandy Pad*, *Wreck Port*, *Windy Gap*, *Sheep Hill*, and *Leitrim Hill*.

From whatever angle the *Mournes* are viewed, their beauty is absolutely stunning. When seen from near my old home near Rossglass, the *Mournes* do appear to sweep down to the sea across Dundrum Bay, where water and mountain seem to blend into each other. When dusk is meeting darkness their vast bulk against the darkening sky appears to be girthed by a thick necklace of jewels that are the multi coloured, evening lights of the towns of Newcastle and Dundrum.

The Mournes have beautiful Irish names; among them are *Bignian*, *Binnian*, and *Meelbeg*, all with the prefix *Slieve*. There are many more *Slieves* and a few *Bens*, also a *Butter Mountain*, hundreds of years before the EEC manufactured and thought of one. And like the United States we have a *Rocky Mountain*, I'm not saying we had one first but there is doubt. We have other apt names like *Chimney Rock Mountain* and *Slieve Broc* also known as *Badger Mountain*, and we have those named after birds such as *Eagle Mountain*, *Hen Mountain* and *Pigeon Rock*. Nestling in the *Mournes* are many rivers, lakes and tams with magical names like *White Water*, *Pidgeon Rock Water*, *Bloody Bridge River*, *Aughrim River* and *Kilkeel River*. Three rivers were dammed and are now man made lakes supplying water to the county and Belfast, they are now the placid *Spelga*, *Lough Crom* and the *Silent Valley* dams. The latter is devoid of most man made noises but is alive with birdsong and animal sounds. One can visit these tranquil spots away from all the hustle and bustle of modern life and drift back into a little of our past. Space does not allow for the exciting, sometimes tragic, history behind each and every name in the *Mournes*. A great variety of names, a wonderful heritage left to us by our forefathers.

From morning to night on any given day these spectacular mountains and hills change their colour by the minute and seemingly their shape. Springtime onwards heralds the abundant growth of golden gorse carpeting the mountainsides, a shrub of many uses in the past. Growing in gay abandon this ancient shrub has been used as bedding and fodder for animals, flooring and fuel



in the cottages of old and for drying washing; it would take a gale of wind to wrest the clothes of its spikes. As small boys we would gather the gorse blossoms and boil them with eggs; the result was yellow dyed, Easter eggs. Blue and white heather would follow in summer, as would the multitude of wild flowers, a paradise for birds, bees and beekeepers those sweet aromas and sounds of bees have been imprinted in my mind since childhood.

In wintertime the *Mournes* can be dark, gloomy and morose looking but when a wintry sun appears, they come to life again albeit with toned down colours. Like a chameleon they change again when they are covered with heavy snow, here and there chimney smoke can be seen gyrating in the wind creating streaks and smudges on the virginal gown. There is certain spot on a winding road outside the little village of Hilltown with a series of dangerous bends called the *Seven Sisters*, as one comes around the last bend of the road the snow covered *Mournes* open up into a vast spell bounding vista. They stretch for miles in every direction, the whole picture looking like he icing on a cake gone awry but still beautiful. Whether in winter snows or summer days driving through the mountains, one has to stop periodically to stop and admire the deep valleys. And in different locations different smells of wet Earth, animals, plants and flowers assail the nostrils. Farm buildings and homesteads nestle in the shelter of the valleys of the *Mournes*, the muted sounds of domestic stock drifting up in the still air and perhaps a tractor muttering along its way. The *Mournes* are not always idyllic; there are days and nights when high winds, rain or snow make travel and work either unsafe or virtually impossible. This is the time that those who live and work here pay a high price for their dynamic views and summer tranquillity. And there were the darker times of World War Two when the *Mournes* were used, I say molested, by Allied army personnel for training purposes for the D Day landings in Normandy. Viewed from a ship at sea a metamorphosis occurs. Sailing south from St. John's Point and Dundrum Bay down past the little port of Kilkeel the mountains and hills change by the minute. Here and there can be seen the scars from the granite quarries, moments later to be hidden by a rock outcrop or clothed in greenery. I have sailed past both the *Mournes* and *Diamond Head*, both of which slope to the sea but sailing around the latter in its brash youth loses out to the palette of colour and grandeur of the ancient *Mournes*. My father and I used to go for walks when I was a boy. Now and again at different parts of the roads he would stop and gaze across the countryside towards the Irish Sea and across the *Dundrum Bay* to the *Mournes*. I recall one time in my innocence asking him what he was looking at. He replied "Just looking at the day my son, just looking at the day."

Several decades later I understand what he meant.

Denis would like to wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

ST. ANDREW'S RESOURCE CENTRE EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Inner City Employment Service (ICES) is to provide an access point to the full range of options that are available to enable our local clients to return to work. These include career advice/guidance, training, education and employment supports. The four main components of our service are the following, it is locally operated, it is professionally delivered, it is adaptable to the needs of each individual client. It offers as far as it is now possible a confidential service to protect the clients personal and progression interests.

Our work will impact positively on our clients by enabling them ultimately to progress into the world of work.

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St. Andrews Employment Services Team wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

CYBER LINK CHRISTMAS GREETING



***Lisa and Jay
wish the members
and the Community
a very Happy
Christmas
and a Peaceful
New Year.***



Then and Now by Monica Moffatt



The coal fire glowed bright and cheerful, in the dusk of the early evening, as Jane Burke sat contentedly gazing into space. It was the calm before the storm – that is before the Grandchildren arrived for their weekly visit, this time included a sleepover. Their favourite meal of fish fingers, waffles and beans waited in the fridge. The table was already set, tomato ketchup, taking pride of place.

Sitting there, Jane felt a Christmassy feeling seemed to permeate the air. She had no idea of the present day's date, so she checked on the long linen calendar, hanging by the side of the fireplace. There was three weeks yet to the great day. The Great Day? To Jane it had always been that – really great – everything leading up to it, and finally Midnight Mass – celebrated at Midnight – and the first visit to the Crib. Coming home, meeting and greeting friends and neighbours, on the darkened streets, before entering into the brightness and warmth of home

She was awakened from her reverie by the sound of the car pulling up outside, and the argument as to which one was going to ring the bell. The Eldest settled that by reaching up and giving five strong presses. Jane was nearly deafened on her way to answer the door, where she was greeted by hugs and kisses. Their mother brought up the rear, more hugs, before the two headed for the kitchen, where the grill on the cooker was already heated to the correct temperature.

The meal over, the children ran into the sitting room, where each had a favourite chair for watching television or their own D.V.Ds. The first advertisement they happened to see was a "Santa" one. The excitement amongst them was intense, and started them off as to what presents they were going to ask for.

"Did you write to Santa, Nana". They asked.

"Of course I did. I sent them up the chimney as well" she added for good measure.

"Did you usually get what you wanted" - another query.

"Usually" Jane smiled at the happy memories the question evoked.

"Did you get games for your Nintendo" the youngest piped up. Jane laughed heartily, before spluttering a definite "No" We had none of those things, or Television either".

The young faces looked aghast at this statement "No Television" they cried in unison.

Jane smiling broadly leaned forward to stoke the fire. The children were now sitting on the hearthrug at her feet. This was usually a sign they were ready to hear a story.

"Once upon a time, when I was small like you, I loved to visit Santa in the big stores, in town — One was called Pim's, another Switzers. There is still a Brown Thomas and Clerys. There was a McBirneys and a Winstons. Jane could not recall any more names.

The visit to Santa I remember most was in Switzers, Grafton Street. To get to Santa we had to "travel" in a motor boat. The Captain – in complete uniform welcomed us aboard. As it was small, only six people could board at a time. We started our journey, the boat rocking from side to side. 'Waves' splashed up on the glass front, the Captain telling us not to worry. To me then it seemed hours before we 'landed' on an island, where the man himself greeted us. I think the 'journey' must have been five minutes. Jane glanced at the upturned faces, mouths

open. "Can we go to that one"? Please! Please!. "Sorry, that was a long time ago, even the shop is no longer there, or the name, I mean. She continued.....

"There was a lovely crib in a place called Inchicore. The figures were lifesize, beautifully dressed in silks and satins. The Gold, Frankinsence and Myrrh were

in Golden Caskets, held by the worshippers. as they walked towards the stable. Life size animals surrounded the manger with Mary and Joseph each side."

"Can we go there then" They begged. "Sorry again. I'm afraid the Crib burned down some years ago. It was never replaced." Jane suddenly thought stories are supposed to have happy endings.

"Did you go to Pantomines like we do" the eldest asked.

Jane thought to herself, that's a much better subject.

"Of course I went to those. They were and still are great. We used to have more Theatres like the Queens and the Royal. The people of Dublin were very sad when they closed down. But never mind we are going to see Robinson Crusoe at the Gaiety Theatre soon." A big clap and a cheer greeted that news. Their mother came in, in nice time to take them for supper and bed. Jane stoked the fire again, as her daughter arrived with a tray holding chicken sandwiches and a pot of tea. "Have you ordered your turkey and Ham yet"

"They are in the freezer" her daughter smiled".

I remember when Turkeys hung outside the butcher shops. They looked so scrawny, most unappetising with their lifeless plumage. But of course when 'dressed' and ready for the oven they presented a different picture. Hams are Hams, they never changed.'

"I have the pudding and cake made too of course" the daughter again.

"Very Good" Jane replied" "I suppose you left the shredded suet out, and its made in a bowl, making the muslin cloth redundant".

'Yes Mother", we have to be careful, for our health sake, 'Christmas or no Christmas!'

"Of course, I understand that completely", Jane said

"Cheer up Mam, the mince pies are still the same, also the chocolates".

"Have you got your Christmas Tree yet" Jane enquired, finishing her cup of tea.

"Not yet we are going to the Garden Centre next week. Would you like to come and help us pick one out."

"Yes please. That's a date then".

Jane was very happy at that prospect, as she helped carry the tray back to the kitchen.

Climbing the stairs to bed, she opened the first bedroom door quietly, and stood for a time looking at her Grandchildren, breathing gently, their faces aglow in the lamp's dim light. She went to bed, all things relating to Christmas, flooding her mind, past and present. It was some time before she settled, but with the help of a little prayer she dozed off.

Monica wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

A special thanks to Monica Murphy from Sandymount for being such a great friend and wish her family a very Happy Christmas.



WELL DONE TO:
Paul Kinsella, with his Company Goodrich Landing Gear Corp of Ontario, have just recently won the P.E.M. Award in Canada. The company employes 875 employees manufacturing landing gear for Airbus A380 super jumbo airliner which weighs 170 tons. There are 17 maintenance members which keep 500 pieces of equipment in full working order.

Bank of Ireland



Wishing all our customers a

Happy Christmas

From all at

Bank of Ireland Westland Row



Bank of Ireland is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

NOTICE BOARD

St. Andrew's Bingo!!!

114-116 St. Andrew's Resource Centre
Pearse Street



No Children Allowed

When: Saturday Nights

Time: 8.30pm (sharp) – 10pm

Venue open from 7.30pm

Why not come along and meet
old friends or make new ones.

ALL WELCOME

ST. ANDREW'S RESOURCE CENTRE WELFARE RIGHTS INFORMATION

Tel: 677 1930 Extension 186

TUESDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, THURSDAYS –

9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. & 2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

CLOSED MONDAYS AND FRIDAYS

Contact: **Christine Reynolds** or **Geraldine O'Brien**

**Greenore Ladies Club wish the
Community a Very Happy Christmas and
a Peaceful New Year.**

**Tom Crilly would like to wish the Community a
very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**

P.S. WRITERS GROUP **St. Andrew's Resource Centre.**

Ph: 6771930

For further enquiries call to St. Andrews Friday
Mornings 10.30pm to 12pm
(Well Recommended)

ADULT SET DANCING

In Clanna Gael – Fontenoy GAA Club

Mondays at 8.30pm to 10.00pm

Beginners Welcome!

No partner Needed – Ceol agus Craic

Come On! Join The Fun!

SHELBOURNE PARK RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION LTD.

SWIMMING IN SPORTSCO

ON SUNDAY MORNINGS FROM 11AM TO 1PM

COST: € 40.00 PER PERSON PER 3 MONTH SESSION

OR €5.00 PER SWIM

CHILDREN UNDER 4 ARE FREE!

CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENTS OR GUARDIANS

FOR FURTHER INFO JUST CALL OVER TO SPORTSCO ON

SUNDAY MORNINGS FROM 11AM TO 1PM

**Dr. Cleirigh would like to wish the Community a
very Happy and Healthy Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year.**

**Dr. Gilroy would like to wish the Community a
very Happy and Healthy Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year.**

**St. Andrew's Resource Centre would like to wish
the Community a very Happy Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year.**

LIBRARY TIMES

RINGSEND LIBRARY

Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin 4. TEL: 6880063

OPENING HOURS

Monday 12.45pm - 4pm & 4.45pm - 8pm

Tuesday 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Wednesday 12.45pm - 4pm & 4.45pm - 8pm

Thursday 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Friday 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Saturday 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm

Sunday Closed

The staff of Ringsend Library wish all a very Happy
Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

PEARSE STREET LIBRARY

Opening Hours

Monday-Thursday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Telephone: 6744888

The staff of Pearse Street Library wish all a very
Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

CITY QUAY PARISH NEWS

***Seaman's
Maritime Mass
2011 – Members
of the Maritime
came to celebrate
heroes who
served the Irish
people in City
Quay Parish
recently***



CITY QUAY PARISH NEWS



Doolan's

Bar and Lounge

01 676 2477

DOOLAN'S MEMORY CLARENCE FC circa 1914



- **Bingo Tuesday
and
Sunday nights**
- **Take Your Pick
every Friday**
- **Play Your
Cards Right
!! Great
prizes !!**

Showing all major sporting events

- **EPL** • **SPL** • **Rugby**
- **GAA** • **horse racing**

on our large screen and 2 large plasmas

**Live
Entertainment**

- **Friday**
- **Saturday**
- **Sunday**

**Come celebrate
your Special Day!
30 years - 90 years birthdays**

**Food available
on request**

*Wishing the Community a very Happy
Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.*

"TALK ABOUT YOUTH PROJECT" WISHES YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR

"Talk About Youth" Project



In this edition of the Link we have the following updates and information regarding the various activities and event that are happening in the Project: HALLOWEEN PICTURE SPECIAL, SOUTHSIDERS PUMPKIN DESIGN, DCC/PARC HEINEKEN CUP, ULTIMATE GAMES CLUB, WINTER TIMETABLE and much much more.....

Halloween Picture Special

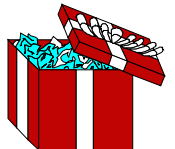


Over the Halloween mid term we had a large number of activities: Including a fancy dress disco where over 130 young people from the area came to St. Andrew's Hall. All the young people made a great effort with their costumes which looked amazing, and

enjoyed the evening. Many thanks to the young women's group for organising the event and the DJ group for supplying the music.



SOUTHSIDERS PUMPKIN DESIGN



The Southsiders youth group decided to do some Pumpkin carving as part of their Halloween break.

The group spent an evening designing their pumpkins and had great fun, there was great teamwork and the finished spooky pumpkins were amazingly scary.



"TALK ABOUT YOUTH PROJECT" WISHES YOU ALL A VERY
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There was a full Halloween programme for the young people organised by DCC/ PARC together with St. Andrews Youth Project and Gloucester Street.

There was coaching in ultimate Frisbee, Cricket, Boxing, Tag Rugby and Football in PARC together with dance coaching and games in Gloucester Street.



The highlight was when the coaches from the IRFU brought the Heineken cup to show all the young people. (PLEASE SEE PHOTOS).

All the sports camps were very well attended and the all young people did very well while learning some new skills.

There was also 3 soccer competitions organised with the FAI, The under 13s did very well reaching the semi finals in the Bradog cup in Hardwicke Street, while the under 15s won their competition in Irish town stadium.

The under 15s, also played SWAN youth service from Sheriff Street and drew 10-10. Congratulations to all who participated.



SILLY SEASON TIMETABLE

Monday 12th Dec	Tuesday 13th Dec	Wednesday 14th Dec	Thursday 15th Dec	Friday 16th Dec
Trip to Santa's House Age: 4-7 yrs old. Meet @ St. Andrews (Evening).	Fashion Show St. Andrews. Ages 10+ 8pm.	Variety Show St. Andrews. Ages 4+ 7pm	Carol Singing.4:30 Xmas Movie.6:30pm. St .Andrews. Ages 4+	Xmas Disco 6-7:30pm/ Age 4-8yrs. 8-9:30pm /Age 9+ Saint Andrews.



Cost which covers ALL events only €2.00. Limited places to all events.

Please note: Under 10s (if not performing) must be accompanied by an adult to both the Fashion and Variety show.

PLEASE REGISTER EARLY!!!!!!

Registration opens Dec 1st. Forms from Saint Andrews youth office, please return all completed forms to Louisa in youth office only by Dec 9th.

We would like to give a big welcome to 2 new members of staff.

CEARA O'NEILL who is covering Orla's maternity leave and CARMEL O'CONNOR who was previously with us as a student and also is covering Orla's maternity cover.

They are all looking forward to meeting and working with all the young people from the Area.

We would like to wish our colleague in the youth office Orla Grimes a **BIG BIG CONGRATULATIONS** on the birth of a beautiful healthy boy – TADHG.

I am sure all the young people will join us in hoping Orla has a really special time with little Tadhg, and look forward to her return.

"TALK ABOUT YOUTH PROJECT" WISHES YOU ALL A VERY
HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR

"Talk About Youth" Project

JUNIOR LEADERSHIP TRAINING PROGRAMME

This programme training is given over a period of two years. Anyone who between the ages of 15 to 17 years can take part in this training, most young people who have expressed an interest in this training came to an introduction meeting on Thursday last; there are still some places available. If you are interested in becoming a junior leader please contact Louisa in the youth office. The next training session will take place on Wednesday 7th December at 6.30 until 9.00 in St Andrews Resource Centre. Training takes place two or three times each year and is arranged to suit the group. Our project junior leaders are an asset to our programme, and I would like on behalf of the project to thank all of our previous, current and new junior leaders for their dedication and passion while working with the core staff.
LOUISA

The Staff in the Project would like to say a
**big thank you to all our volunteers and
leaders for their help over the past year.
You are all a great asset to the young
people, community and the project.
We wish you all a Happy and
Peaceful Christmas.**

**We presently have a number of places with our clubs
and groups-please contact the office as we have
something for all ages.01-6771930.**

**For all you Gamers out there!!!: We have a new
Ultimate Games Club starting on Friday 25th
November for boys/girls 10+ in St. Andrew's
@5:45pm.**

**Cost €2.00 each. Drop on up and show us your skills!!
Contact Scobie/Ceara in the youth office 01-6771930**

Ultimate Games Club

For Boys and Girls
Aged 10 Years plus



This is An Adventure
You Dare Not Miss

Time 5:45 to 6:45
€2.00 Fridays. St. Andrews
Contact scobie/Ceara
Registration Youth Office

LCA ZONE PROGRAMME

Students from the LCA class in Westland Row have recently completed a number of information sessions on young people's rights and responsibilities.



We had a number of sessions around the rights of young people and also the law where local Community Guard Paul Moran spoke to the group. We also visited the Ombudsman's for Children's office for a workshop on young people's rights.



Our final session involved a local young man James Meires speaking to the group about his experience of working with Preda in the Philippines and Human rights.

The group participated very well and actively during the programme, and learnt about young peoples rights from the sessions.



"Talk About Youth" Project

VISIT TO PREDA FOUNDATION, PHILIPPINES

So it took 18 months to prepare for it but finally there we were on our way to the Philippines to visit the PREDA Foundation. It was a long 18 months fundraising, during which we did everything from holding raffles to organizing a night in the dogs. All the young people and leaders involved worked really hard, whether it was selling tickets, spot the balls or turning up for full days of bag packing so you should all give yourselves a pat on the back!!! But we couldn't have raised the €21,000; we needed without the help of our families, friends, and the surrounding community. So thanks to everyone who contributed to the fundraising and who selflessly helped us to achieve our enormous goal!

Here is a diary of events that we did while there.

Tuesday 18th October 2011 We left Pearse Street at about 4pm and headed for the airport where we picked up our flight that took us to Abu Dhabi and then onto Manila, the whole trip took us more than 20 hours. We arrived in Manila on Wednesday night the 19th.

Thursday 20th We spent the entire day going around visiting prisons that hold young people for various crimes from stealing a loaf of bread to aggravated murder. Although these prisons we visited were different to the ones we seen in 2009 unfortunately the conditions were the same if not worse. The cells were really over crowded with about 60 men, women and children cramped into a space smaller than the average living room. There was no proper sanitation so some of the inmates had really bad



skin diseases and poor nutrition. They got one meal a day which was rice and fish. And all the inmates, whether male or female, shared one toilet. It's hard to believe that there are people, especially young people that have to live in these horrendous conditions regardless of the crimes they've committed.

Friday 21st Today we spent the whole day visiting and viewing some of the really bad slum areas. We got to visit



the homes of some of the boys that were in PREDA previously. Again it's really hard to believe that there are people living the way they are. Some people were living right beside an open sewer, can you imagine the smell? We also went onto a huge rubbish dump called 'smokey mountain' that people lived on.

We then began our 3 hour uncomfortable journey to the PREDA centre.

Saturday 22nd Today was the first day we got to interact with the young people of PREDA. Our girls went with the PREDA girls to do their laundry up at the new girl's home, which is still under construction due to be finished in April of 2012. It was a brilliant day, we all really got to know the young girls and learned of some of their stories and reasons they're in PREDA; some of them were really heartbreaking. It was lashing rain but that didn't stop us sitting in the river and having a sing-song. It was a day all the girls won't forget in a hurry. Our boys went to the boy's home and took part in a sports day that was happening to celebrate children's month. Our boys were split up and put onto teams with the boys from PREDA and played games like volleyball, football, basketball and a local game called SEPPA (keepsie uppsie).

Sunday 23rd Today the group had a complete free day to rest and recuperate after all the traveling. The only thing we attended was Fr Shay's mass which he gives on a



"Talk About Youth" Project

VISIT TO PREDA FOUNDATION, PHILIPPINES



weekly basis. The mass was a complete different experience to the type of one we're familiar to receiving here although his concepts and beliefs remain the exactly the same. After the mass the group spread themselves out around the complex and took time to relax and get their heads around what they had seen the previous couple of days.

Monday 24th Today we attended the morning meeting which PREDA have every morning to discuss day to day and weekly activities. After the morning meeting we had some lunch and then we went off to visit the Fair Trade Producers. Some of the street children, in order to make some money, will collect empty juice cartons and sell them



to the women that work in Fair Trade. The cartons are then cleaned and made into items like bags, pencil cases and even aprons. These items all generate a fair income for both the producers and PREDA.

In the afternoon our group played some games with the girls in PREDA, both the commercially sexually exploited children (CSEC) and the Childhood for children (CFC girls). We played games that our young people over here in clubs and groups love to play and have such a good time playing. Both our group and the PREDA girls had a really great time playing the games and getting to know each other,



Sunday 25th Today our group spent the entire day at the boy's home doing a sports programme with the boys. We did all sorts of games and activities like tag rugby and relay races. Again today was a really good day we all really enjoyed getting to know all the boys and learning about some of their stories.

That night the first half of our group visited the sex bars with the PREDA staff to view and experience where the young girls are used for the sex industry. It was really upsetting for everyone. As the girls waited for their turn to dance they looked sad, nervous, uncomfortable and like they really didn't want to be there. It's hard to believe that some of the girls we had worked with a couple of days before had come from places like these.

Monday 26th We got to go and swim with dolphins today. It was a welcome break from some of the stuff we have learned about and seen in the last few days and a good way to recharge our batteries.

That night the other half of the group went to the sex bars.

Tuesday 27th Today we made the 2 hour very hot, crowded and uncomfortable journey up to the PAPATH village. We got the chance to visit and spend a night in a village with a foster family. Some of the families left their houses or bamboo huts as we'd call them, and let us stay



"Talk About Youth" Project

VISIT TO PREDA FOUNDATION, PHILIPPINES

there for the night. That night we got to ask any questions we had about the lifestyle of the villagers and we answered some questions that the villagers had for us. The people we all really nice especially the village chairperson, who was 63 but was still able to run up the side of a mountain quicker than any of us!



Wednesday 28th We all went and planted mango trees in the morning, we also got to go to see and have a swim in a natural waterfall. It was about a five minute walk from where we were sleeping and was a welcome change from the heat that we still were not used to. Although some of the group were dreading staying in the village by the end we all really enjoyed it and some were even looking forward to returning and possibly staying a bit longer.

Thursday 29th Today we got to go to the beach with the boys. It was a really brilliant day that both our group and the boys enjoyed very much. We played some games and had a laugh in the water in the huge waves. Again it was good to spend time with the boys and learn some more of their stories and reasons they're in PREDA. It was hard for us to get our heads around that some of the boys that were running around on the sand, laughing and just generally being kids were rescued from some of the horrendous prisons we had witnessed.

Friday 30th We went to Zoobic Adventure Park today and got to hold a real life tiger and get a picture taken with it.



We also got a tour of the park and seen some of the other animals there.

That night we went to some of the markets and experienced the lovely people and some of the not so lovely smells and foods. We bought some souvenirs and had a laugh trying to bargain with the people, even though we sometimes ended up giving more money than they were asking for at the beginning.

Saturday 31st Today we met with Fr Shay who evaluated our time spent with PREDA. We spoke about what we liked and didn't like and things we would change if we could. We spent the rest of the day packing, and then later on we went back to the markets and then on to a carnival. Our group got on a couple of rides and were so loud and funny that they attracted a crowd of people who stood, watched, laughed and cheered at us!

Sunday 1st November After we said goodbye to the staff and girls of PREDA we headed back to Manila Airport for our 20 hour journey home.

The trip went really quickly and we loved every minute of it. The work of PREDA, the staff and the young people are in our hearts and we will never forget them. We hope to have a continued and ongoing relationship with PREDA. We are also hoping to do some group presentations to spread the word of PREDA and the great work they do so stay tuned.....





Gloucester Street Sports & Recreation Centre

Gloucester Street Centre Classes 2011

Day	Class	Location	Time	Duration	Price
Monday	Circuit Training	Hall	8.00am	35 mins (B)	
	Circuit Training	Hall	12.40pm	35 mins (B)	€5
	Boxing	Fitness room	12.40pm	45 mins (B)	€5
	Boxing	Fitness room	5.45 pm	1hour (B)	
	Kettle bells	Hall	6.00pm	45 mins (B)	
					€45 for 6 weeks
TEENAGERS		Go Girls Gym			
	(Zumba)Hall	8.00pm	1 Hour (B)	€2	
Tuesday	Spinning Class	Fitness Room	8.00am	30 mins (B)	€5
	Spinning Class	Fitness Room	12.40pm	30 mins (B)	€5
	Zumba Fitness	Hall	7-8PM	1 Hour (B)	€8
Wed.	Boxing	Fitness room	7.45am		
	Body Conditioning	Hall	8.00am	35 mins (B)	€5
	Forever Fit (over 60's)	Fitness Room	11.00am	1 hour (B)	€2
	Body Conditioning	Hall	12.30pm	45 mins (B)	€5
	Spinning class	Fitness Room	12.40pm	45 mins (B)	€5
	Boxing Kids	Fitness Room	4.00pm	1 hour (B)	€5
	Hour of Power	Fitness room	6:00pm	1 hour (B)	€10
Thurs.	Spinning Class	Fitness Room	08:00	30 Mins (B)	€5
	Spinning Class	Fitness Room	12.40	30 mins (B)	€5
	Boxing	Fitness Room	5.45 pm	1hour (B)	
Friday	Boxing	Fitness Room	7.45am	45 Mins (B)	
	Circuit Training	Hall	8.00am	35 mins (B)	€5
	Kettle Bells	Hall	12.40pm	35 mins (B)	
	Boxing	Fitness Room	12.40pm	45 mins (B)	

TO BOOK A PLACE PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRE 01-6779322 OR MAIL info@gloucesterst.com

You can do the Monday/Wednesday/Friday morning or lunch time classes 3 for €10 if you do them in the same week.

The boxing is a six week course training twice weekly and costs €120. Courses are ongoing every 6 weeks. To book phone John on 085 242 4209 or e-mail to thunderbolt1obrien@yahoo.ie

FIND [GLOUCESTER STREET SPORTS CENTRE ON FACEBOOK](#)

PLEASE NOTE THAT PEOPLE UNDER THE AGE OF 18 YEARS OLD WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED



[GLOUCESTER STREET SPORTS CENTRE](#)

Also has a website

<http://gloucesterstreetsportscentre.webs.com/>



WORKING OFF THE CHRISTMAS DINNER.

Gloucester Street Sports Centre has a range of classes to get you into the perfect shape, from Kettlebells to Zumba. You will always be greeted with a smile when entering the centre from our lovely staff. We also have Vibro Plates in the centre. It's a whole body workout in 10 minutes and it burns an average of 350 calories per session. You won't even toss your hair. Don't believe me, just come down to the centre or phone us and book a session, the first session is free (induction) and €4 euro after that or €40 for 12 sessions.



IT'S NOT GOODBYE, IT'S SEE YOU LATER.

On behalf of the management and staff of Gloucester Street Sports and Recreation Centre we would like to say a sad farewell to one of our valued staff members Lorraine Kelleher. Lorraine has been with Gloucester Street since the doors first opened, working efficiently and effectively with the team here, helping to establish and build up the excellent reputation the centre has developed. So with many thanks for her dedication over the past 3 years we wish Lorraine all the best in her future endeavours!



TRIP AWAY

Mark and Lee from the centre went to the Philippines with a group from St Andrew's Resource Centre to visit the Preda foundation. The

Preda foundation helps to stop child trafficking and child imprisonment, rescuing them from a life of incarceration. Preda also helps family with fair trade. In the picture below it shows the St Andrews group in a fair trade factory where they recycle juice cartons and make them into shopping bags, handbags, lunchboxes, aprons etc.



We had a sports day with the boys at the Preda boys' house. Where we played football, basketball, volleyball etc. Mark left equipment over there so the boy's can have hours of fun.

We also play games with the girls at the Preda girl's house. The girls had a blast with us. There were smiles from ear to ear.

FISTS UP FOR THUNDERBOLT FIGHT NIGHT.

The fight night on the 21st October was the best yet. The night was electric with every fighter giving as good as they got. A great night was had by all and also great work done for Temple Street Children's Hospital. Big thank you to all our Fighters & Sponsors & to Georgian Cleaners for the continued support. Our next Show will be on the 4th December for Cystic Fibrosis. If you want to contact the instructor John O'Brien for the Thunderbolt Boxing Bootcamp or the next Fight Night his number is 085 2424209 or email: thunderbolt1obrien@yahoo.ie



Johner is starting a new Boxing Bootcamp on the 28th November and there are still places available for anyone who's interested.

Class times: Mon & Fri Lunchtime 12.40 - 13.30pm - Mon & Thurs Tea Time 5.45 - 6.45pm - Wed & Fri Morning 7.45 - 8.30 am

Wishing the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

We provide computer training for people of all ages and abilities, regardless of experience or means.

Training@St.Andrews is both an Equal Skills and ECDL (European Computer Driving Licence) centre, facilitating the teaching of numerous courses leading to universally recognised certificates. The courses that we provide range from basic computer training, introduction to computers for the young and elderly, literacy through computers and the ECDL.

- ECDL classes are held @ 10am-1pm Mondays and Wednesdays
- Basic Computer classes are held @10am-1pm Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Silver Surfers classes are held @ 1.30pm-3.30pm Tuesdays and Fridays

EQUALSKILLS

Equalskills is a fun and informal introduction to computers and the Internet. It is designed to increase skills in basic computer literacy. It introduces technology to all people, regardless of status, education, age or ability. Equalskills is a flexible learning programme with a proven track record in equipping people with the basic computer skills they need to become part of the information society.

The aim of the programme is to make people feel comfortable using a computer, and to teach them the basic skills necessary to communicate using the internet and email. It is well structured with excellent training resources, and it has the added bonus of providing certification to candidates who complete the programme.

WHO IS EQUALSKILLS FOR?

Equalskills is for anybody who wants to start from the beginning and learn some practical ways of using a computer. It is particularly aimed at people who might not normally come into contact with computers in their everyday lives. People who are accustomed to living in a non-digital world may feel intimidated by technology. By learning some simple computer skills, they can quickly understand how technology can improve their quality of life.

Equalskills is a very good starting point for inexperienced candidates who aspire to ECDL and test centres which offer Equalskills will have a cohort of motivated candidates who may wish to advance to the full ECDL programme.

Equalskills is run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

SILVER SURFERS

Complete introduction to basic computer skills. i.e. e-mail, browsing the internet and general IT skills. Class will be given by other Silver Surfers.

10 week course Friday only 1-2 p.m.

For more information contact Josephine at training@st.Andrews.ie or telephone the Centre on 01-6771930.



St. Andrew's Resource Centre
114-116 Pearse Street
Dublin 2
Tel: 01-6771930



ECDL

The European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) is the world's most successful IT skills certification programme.

To date, more than nine million people have undertaken an ECDL programme in more than 60 countries worldwide. In Ireland, the ECDL is administered by ICS Skills (<http://www.ics-skills.ie>).

The ECDL course covers seven modules which are: Windows Explorer, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Internet, Access and Theory, in that order.

Outside of Europe the programme is known as the International Computer Driving Licence (ICDL), attesting to its phenomenal world-wide recognition and growth.

The ECDL establishes a standard for everyone who uses a computer in either a professional or personal capacity. It is a certificate that verifies competence in computer use, making the holder readily mobile within Ireland and internationally. Employers and job seekers all agree on the importance of this standard definition of practical competence in Information Technology.

The ECDL consists of 3 main components – a syllabus, a skills card and a question of test base, all leading to the European Computer Driving Licence.

St. Andrew's are very flexible with the ECDL course. If you wish to do for example Word but not Excel straight after it you could drop out and come back for PowerPoint. We also accommodate clients that are just interested in one or two of the modules.

ECDL is run on Mondays and Wednesdays 10am to 1pm.

TRAINING@STANDREWS
IT Training

ECDL
Equal Skills
(Introduction to computers)
Silver Surfers

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Training Room available for hire by day or evening or for courses

For further information contact Josephine or Shay on 01 6771930 or email: training@standrews.ie

PRICES:

ECDL

Theory	Module 1	Self Study	€70
Windows Explorer	Module 2	4 classes	€90
Word	Module 3	6 classes	€90
Excel	Module 4	6 classes	€70
Access	Module 5	8 classes	€70
PowerPoint	Module 6	4 classes	€110
Internet	Module 4	4 classes	€70

Discount cost of ECDL is €450 if all 7 modules are booked together. Theory Module is self study. Cost includes exam fees, official ECDL courseware and ECDL Skills Card.

EQUAL SKILLS

Equal Skills is a six and half week course and costs €150. All participants are given a workbook which they will complete during the course. On completion of this they will receive a certificate from the Irish Computer Society.



St. Andrew's Resource Centre
114-116 Pearse Street
Dublin 2
Tel: 01-6771930

Wishing the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

THE OLD MAN'S HAT

Christmas is coming and the geese are getting fat, please put a penny in the old man's hat. Well you know the rest... if you haven't got a Ha'penny you've nothing. I heard a grandmother chant this rhyme to a child the other day and it seems to have gotten stuck in my head and just won't go away. Like one of those silly popular songs you hear on the radio so often a single line repeats over and over again in your head and you just can't get rid of it. But this time the rhyme has me thinking.

I'm not a great fan of Christmas, in fact when it comes to holiday cheer I'm a bit like Scrooge more bah humbug than jingle bells. Over the years I've watched how our society has changed its attitude at this time of the year from a time of reflection on what we have and are grateful for and what others don't have, to one of how much can I spend. It has, in the past, been a time to reflect on matters more spiritual than material. If we are to be honest with ourselves we have fallen for the fallacy that the more we can buy, the more things we have, the bigger decorations, brighter lights, mountains of multicoloured boxes under the largest tree we can fit in the living room the happier our Christmas will be.

As young children it didn't really matter to us if the toy we got was a generic model or some fancy brand name, we were happy with it either way, as we got older socks and underwear were just as good as anything else either as a gift received or a gift given. And of course as adults it's the giving that matters or at least it should be. But something has changed and changed utterly, somewhere around the end of the nineteen eighties a terrible beauty was born. It's been given a name, an innocuous name, a name that at first instilled pride in us as a nation, a name that made us stand up in the world stick out our chest and say I'm Irish, it was of course the Celtic Tiger.

It seemed to drive us mad; we flung caution to the wind and ignored good sensible thinking. We no longer saved for a rainy day, instead we lived on credit. We bought properties in far flung lands we would have been hard pressed to find on an atlas five years previously, we had new cars every year, flat screen TVs and all the other material things that declared us "Tiger Cubs". And of course Christmas became a mad dash to buy the kids the latest Playstation, mobile phone, laptop, designer shoes and sometimes all of the above. Poor auld Santa was out of a job.

Now though the tiger has moved on, gone to some other place to start the whole thing all over again and all we are left with

is debt. It seems to me that everything we do now revolves around the economic crisis that has visited us. Every decision our politicians make, good or bad, every time we need to replace one of those new TVs, or decide to treat ourselves to a night out the thought comes into our heads, "Christmas is coming and the geese are not yet fat". But we were poor before and knew how to live, we can do it again. It's not money and material wealth that makes for a good and happy life no more than it makes for a Merry Christmas.

We need a change of attitude, we need to rethink what we thought we knew and put this behind us. We need to think beyond our meagre selves and look at the bigger picture. We need a revolution. A revolution of thought, were the accumulation of material wealth is viewed as a means to an end, not as an end in its self. Were the benefit of the many outweighs that of the individual. We need to think about the person who doesn't have the Ha'Penny.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

THOMAS MALROY



*Conor Ryan,
Alex Sullivan*



*Mr. & Mrs. Ryan, Joseph &
Leona 9th July 2011*



*Joe Ryan
and Family*



Monica Uzell (Miss May)

FORTY FOOT CALENDAR

"The Forty Foot 11 o'clockers". The Mini Triathlon is now an annual event in the 40 Foot Bathers Calendar every mid November. Not a group to rest on their laurels, this year they have gone all out and brought a touch of glamour to the beautiful natural spot with the help of the talented team of stylists and photographers to bring you this calendar. The models who feature in this calendar are all regular bathers in the Forty Foot. Though unfortunately not all of the Forty Foot bathers are featured in this Calendar, but there's always next year. This Calendar was financed by the 11 o'clock Club, all proceeds from the sale of this calendar will go to Action Breast Cancer, a programme of the Irish Cancer Society. The Calendars sell for €10 each.

For further information contact Monica Uzell on 086 869 6782.

DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL by Bill Jenkins

A cold morning, mid December. It's car-boot sale day. Molly and dad stroll easy in between the rows of cars in the old market square. Her dad had a keen eye for bargains. On lucky days he'd spot something. A thing the seller being unaware of its true value. It might be a piece of junk they'd wish to get rid off and maybe get some cash for it. If dad did a deal, later he would take his prize to another car-boot sale and make a nice profit.

Molly loved the game watching dad, especially his eyes. They would, as mother often remarked twinkle a little on spotting a deal. But mother was no longer with them now. Still, they kept up the tradition. Those special Saturdays were the happiest times for Molly.

Things were slow that day, no luck. And with few cars remaining her father reluctantly says. "No good Molly, not our day, let's be for home". Molly protests. "But dad there is some cars left". Never one to disappoint her he gives in saying "OK, we'll have a look". As they progress he repeats the words. "Told you love, it's not our day".

Passing the last car Molly suddenly stops. Dad feels a tug on his coat forcing him to stop. "What is it?" He calls. Ignoring the question she stares transfixed at the goods on display. Puzzled he begins to scan the stall wondering why the fuss. He can see nothing of value displayed there. It's then Molly's gaze rises to the man standing behind the stall. Seeing his face she gasps. He is an old man with a full head of grey hair and a matching beard. "It's you!" She blurts. "Yes, it's me" he replies. "Are they really for sale. please say sir?" "Yes they are, but only to a special person".

Hearing these words her father is more puzzled. He scans the stall again. Nothing. "What is it that has got you worked up, Molly?" "There, there". She replies pointing to a group of figures on the stall. At the center among other junk is a complete set of figures for a Christmas crib, including a smiling baby Jesus complete with manger lying on real straw. His attention sharpens taking note of the figures. They measure a foot in height, hand-carved, the paint finish giving them a life-like appearance. Yes they were old, Austrian or German maybe. Sadly there is no demand for such large figures these days, he feels a pang of regret repeating the words. "Sorry Molly not our day".

He tries to move away, again it's the tight tension on his coat as Molly cries out. "No, no, daddy, please look again, they are good. Do buy them, not for sale again. Please, daddy just for me!" That pleading word, daddy. Unlike da or dad when used in certain tones it can leave most men at a daughter's mercy. The final straw was seeing her tears, the twitching lower lip, he was lost.

Then, making a desperate last plea he tries to explain. "Molly they are big, too big for a house, more for a church. Besides, we have got out own small crib

at home". "Not for the house daddy, for outside. The old hen house. We could put out big crib people there. Kids with moms and dads would come to see. We haven't had much visitors since Hearing her words fade he understands her meaning. Visitors were scarce since his wife's passing.

Turning his attention to the old man he says "How much for the set?" "Whatever sir thnks is fair". Trapped. he begins trying to assess their worth. Opening his wallet he starts with the first fifty euro note. Hesitating he then draws out a second. He is acutely aware of Molly's steely eyes watching him. Then, reluctantly he draws another. At the fourth the old man speaks. "Enough sir you've proven true". Surprised by those words he nods a kind of silent thanks. The whole scene feels eerie. Father and daughter gather the figures. Joining them from behind his stall. The old man leans down to Molly, and pointing to the figure of baby Jesus he says, "You are a wise little girl". Smiling she clutches the old man's hand saying "Thank you mister mister?" "Yes I know, you guessed right it's me".

On the drive home with the large figures stored in the boot, Molly clings tightly to the figure of baby Jesus. Snatching a quick glance her dad notes her tight expression. He knows that look. Molly is making plans, plans involving him in no small way. With no escape, he smiles thinking. Well, she is, daddy's little girl.



Chloe's Happy 4th Birthday.



Heather Downes trip to Lanzarote with her sisters Hilary and Janice, also her daughters Caroline and Alison who lives there.



Halloween Extravaganza by Noel Watson



Vampires and Villains, Ghosts and Ghouls, Werewolves and Witches and even the odd Smurf were all in attendance at Becky Morgan's Halloween Fancy Dress night. The event was held to raise funds for Europa Donna Breast Cancer charity and was a huge success. Thanks to



everyone who made the effort to dress up and to all those who donated prizes for the raffle, your generosity will be remembered.

A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all from Claire, Noel and David.

A & D

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Community a very Happy
Christmas and a
Peaceful New Year.*



*Des Walsh, your local
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WELL DONE JACK



Jack Tuite, son of Lisa Fields (Tuite), Nana Kitty Fields, has recently been selected to play for Ireland (under 15s) in Qatar in December. Jack who plays for Cherry Orchard has been doing trials for some English Football clubs. We wish Jack well and we know he will do us proud. A credit to the Community.





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DRY CUT ALL WEEK

*Many thanks to all my customers for their support in 2011.
Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.*



Glen Reilly

FROM PILLAR TO POST by Glen Reilly

On the 15th of February 1808 the Duke of Richmond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland laid the foundation stone on Sackville Street of what would become Nelson's Pillar. The single Doric column of Wicklow granite; designed by Francis Johnston who also designed the neighbouring GPO, rose 121 feet from its base and was topped by a Portland stone effigy of Lord Horatio Nelson. Thought by some to be a traffic hazard by others an unacceptable symbol of unjust British rule in Ireland. But one thing is certain, the panoramic views from its viewing deck were un-paralleled at the time and it became a popular attraction costing six-pence to climb its 168 steps. Dividing opinion, throughout the nineteenth century there were many calls for it to be removed. In 1923, the poet W.B. Yeats called for it to be removed on aesthetic grounds saying; 'It is not a beautiful object'. The Taoiseach Sean Le Mass said, though much later; '(Nelson) has no place in the centre of our capital city overshadowing our principal national monument which is the GPO'. But still it remained.



Picture provided courtesy of Dublin City Library and Archives

In October 1955 a group of students from University College Dublin barricaded themselves into the pillar and attempted to melt the statue with blow torches, Gardaí eventually broke their way in with sledge hammers and foiled the students attempt to do what so many had wanted for so long, but still He remained. This statue was proving as dogged and resilient as the man for whom it was named.

Horatio Nelson lost an arm in the battle of Santa Cruz de Tenerife but at 2am on the 8th of March 1966 an IRA splinter group finished the job Napoleon had started. A bomb planted in the pillar destroyed the upper half of the column reducing his already dismembered body to rubble, and blowing his head clean off his shoulders. The remaining part of the pillar was deemed too unsafe to rebuild so Irish army engineers blew up the remainder of the pillar, although this 'controlled explosion' caused more damage than the terrorist attack; breaking many windows on O'Connell Street. Thankfully no one was hurt in either explosion and the area was

paved over until 1999 when the Spire, or to give it its proper title, the Monument of Light, was commissioned. Selected through an international competition chaired by the then Lord Mayor of Dublin Joe Doyle, it was designed by the British architectural firm Ian Ritchie Architects. The first section was laid in 18th of December 2002 with five additional sections added until the Spire rose 398 feet from its base to become three times the height of Nelson's Column and the world's tallest sculpture. But despite its greater stature, the Spire is derided and enjoyed in equal measure just as Nelson's Column was two hundred years hence. An eye-sore, a pointless pointer or a beautiful and unique monument? Whatever your opinion, the Spire is a work of engineering excellence.

Constructed of hollow stainless steel tubes with a diameter of 3 metres at the base, narrowing to just 15cm at its pinnacle and features a tuned mass damper to counteract sway. The reflective



properties of the metal make it seem to change colour throughout the day. Though much maligned after it's unveiling, I think that Dubliners have grown to like it or grown apathetic to it, in any case I feel it is a shining symbol for Ireland and Irish people; who have raised themselves up from the soil to reach dizzying heights and to touch the sky despite those who detract them.

The head of the statue of Horatio Nelson is now housed in the Gilbert Library on Pearse Street, though not open to the public; and the lettering from the plinth now resides in the garden of Butler House in Kilkenny. The Spire, which eventually rose from the rubble, can not just be enjoyed on O'Connell Street but for miles around.

Glen wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



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ALL SPORTING EVENTS COVERED

*JOHN AND STAFF WISH THE COMMUNITY A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR.*



YOSEIKAN/SHOSHINDO NEWS

Since our last edition of Yoseikan News our club has been very active in teaching the art of self defence to all our members from 8 years up. We hope that they will learn self discipline from this and it will stand to them in later life, and that they will become responsible adults and contribute positively to their community. The club's motto is "never trouble till trouble troubles you"



We would like to wish Pat Boucher and the Community a Very Happy, Holy and Safe Christmas and a Peaceful New Year!

From the Yoseikan Team – Robbie, Heather and Jerry

Family Support Programmes

POSITIVE PARENTING



We have 12 mums and dads on the Positive parenting of children aged 5-11 years. This is very successful with a brilliant bunch of parents who are sharing and supporting each other through the steps in the positive parenting programme

Parenting your teenager - This will start in early January for bookings please contact Dara Terry at 6771930

We will be running another parenting programme for parents of children aged 0-5 years in March

BABY STEPS PROGRAMME

With thanks to the Activation and family support fund from Social Welfare St Andrews has started a new programme called Baby Steps. This is a support and development programme for young single mums in the area.



We started with Cookery using the fantastic Home Economics facilities in CBS Westland row and have cooked up a storm. We plan to do 6 weeks of cookery and then on to

the baby care and self care programme.



Dara wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



RAPID News

**Carol Finlay SEIC RAPID Co-ordinator,
South East Area Office,
Block 2, Floor 2, Civic Office, Wood Quay, Dublin 8.**

SOUTH EAST AREA HALLOWEEN MULTI- SPORTS PROGRAMME

Dublin City Council South East Area Office Sport ,Community Teams worked together with the FAI Development Officer Jonathan Tormey to deliver hugely successful Multi-Sport Programme over the Halloween period in three venues, The Cabbage Patch, Pearse Area Recreation Centre and Irishtown Stadium. Over 70 children in the South East Area participated in a range of sports which included Football, Boxing, Cricket, Tag Rugby and Ultimate Frizbee. A big thank you should also go to the staff in Pearse Area Recreation Centre for their work is organising and assisting the coaches to deliver the programme.



Local Emergency Numbers

Emergency Number 999 / 112

If you smell **GAS** call our 24hr emergency line
1850 20 50 50

Pearse Street Garda Station	01 666 9000
Dublin City Council South East Area Office	01 222 2243
Dublin City Council (After Hours)	01 679 6186
Pearse Street Primary Care Centre	01 677 7781



COMMUNITY SAFETY DAY

The Pearse Street Local For a held a Community Safety Day in St Andrews Resource Centre on Tuesday 29th November, present was staff from Pearse Street Garda Station with information of personal safety, Dublin City Council, home grants schemes, Age Action, Gloucester Street Sports Centre, classes available for over 50's and Pearse Street Primary Care Centre with information your health.

If you would like some of the information contact: Carol Finlay, RAPID Co-ordinator

Carol wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Pearse Street, Irishtown/Ringsend Primary Care Centres

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year from all the staff in

Irishtown & Ringsend and Pearse Street Primary Care Centres!!

WHAT IS PRIMARY CARE?

Primary Care services mean all of the health or social care services that you can find in your community, outside of the hospital setting.

Primary Care includes GPs, Public Health Nurses and a range of other services provided through your Local Health Office.

A Primary Care Team (PCT) is a team of health professionals who work closely together to

meet the needs of the people living in the community. They provide a single point of contact to the health system for people.



networks, including the Home Help Service, Community Welfare Officers, day care, respite facilities and voluntary agencies.

You can make a GP appointment by dropping into the centre or by telephone.

WHAT IS THE COST OF SERVICES?

HSE services are free, but you may have to pay for any

equipment you require, depending on whether you have a medical card. GP services are free with a medical card or GP visit card (other patients must pay a consultation fee).

WHAT IS THE PRIMARY HEALTH CARE TEAM?

The Primary Care Team is a team of health care professionals responsible for organising and delivering care for the local population.

The aim of the team is to provide primary care services that are accessible, integrated, of a high quality and which meet the needs of the local population.

We aim to provide:

- improved access to services,
- a greater range of health and social care services within the community,
- better links with hospitals,
- increased opportunities for the local community to get involved in planning primary care services.

What services are offered by the Primary Care Team?

The team is made up of participating GPs, community nurses, physiotherapist, occupational therapists, speech and language therapists, administrative staff, practice nurses and practice staff.

There is a network of other services available, including community welfare, counselling psychology, dietician, and chiropody to support the team in delivering health and social services.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO ACCESS THE PRIMARY CARE TEAM?

You are eligible to access Primary Care Team if you live in the geographical street area.

WHO CAN REFER TO SERVICES AND HOW DO I MAKE AN APPOINTMENT?

Clients and families may refer to the primary care team by phoning (01) 2320600 for Irishtown and Ringsend primary care team or you can call into the centres and fill in a self-referral form at reception. If anyone other than a parent/guardian is referring a child, the referral must always be made with a parent or guardian's written consent.

Referrals to HSE services are accepted from GPs, hospitals and all members of the primary care team and

LATEST NEWS:

1. As part of Mental Health Month in October, The Riverside Singers gave an amazing performance in the Irishtown/Ringsend Centre.
2. Women's Health Day is coming up on the 8th March 2012! Keep a look out for posters with information on the event.
3. Chiropodist John Dillon runs a clinic in Pearse Street Primary Care centre each Thursday and in Irishtown and Ringsend Primary Care Centre each Friday phone 01-4100300 for an appointment.
4. Minor surgery clinic is running in Irishtown and Ringsend each Thursday. Dr. Tony O Sullivan removes warts, moles, treats ingrown toenails and more. Call 01-2320600 for an appointment.

OPENING HOURS

Irishtown & Ringsend Primary care Centre

01-2320600 Open: 9.00am – 5.00pm

Pearse St Primary Care Centre

01-6427700. Open: 8.30am – 5.30pm

CHRISTMAS OPENING DAYS:

Closing Friday 23rd December

Re-opening Thursday 29th December

**Dr Niall O'Cleirigh : Out of hours
EMERGENCY contact Eastdoc (01) 2214021**

**Dr Sean Gilroy: Out of hours EMERGENCY
contact Doctor on Duty for House Calls
(01) 4539333**

**Dr John Ryan: Out of Hours EMERGENCY
contact Eastdoc (01) 2214021**

**Dr Tony O'Sullivan: Out of Hours
EMERGENCY contact (01) 8300244**

POETRY CORNER

CHRISTMAS PAST BY TONY ROONEY

It was the week after Christmas, there was gloom in the air,
The entire Murphy family was sunk in despair.
They'd sung all the carols, and they'd used up each greetin'
The beer was all gone and the turkey was eaten.

And father, poor father, on the sofa lay curled,
By the look on his face he was not long for this world.
And upstairs poor Granny lay prostrate on the bed,
Telling all comers she wished she were dead.

She had knocked back the Vodka till she swayed on her feet.
Then got sick in the toilet and flushed her false teeth.
And Granddad sat chastened and looking quite glum,
At the party last evening he had pinched a girls bum.

Mrs. Murphy was furious, as she said in a rage:
"He's disgraced the whole family, a man of his age."
And he felt so embarrassed, he just sat there quite still,
But though stricken by conscience, he remembered the thrill.

And Debbie, the daughter, was a in a poor state,
Though vain and self centred she'd a problem with weight.
She'd abandoned her diet, and really indulged,
Now she looked in the mirror and surveyed where she bulged.

She dreaded the New Year, when she faced her health class,
For she'd put on eight pounds and it was all on her hips.
She had meant to be careful and swore she'd not risk it,

Now she sought consolation in coffee and biscuits.

And old Uncle Henry, who'd been asked to the do,
Had behaved quite disgracefully, but that's nothing new;
He was always a messer but this year he'd been worse,
For he worked on the parrot till he taught it to curse.

While old Aunt Cecelia, who was really a dear,
And lived for the party throughout the whole year;
When she cooed at the parrot it was just her bad luck,
It replied with a word that rhymes well with duck.

Old Henry laughed, and announced with a roar,
That given the time he would teach the bird more,
But Debbie protested and Dad said she was right,
So the poor baffled parrot was removed for the night.

And Flossie the spaniel was also unwell;
She had feasted on scraps till she started to swell.
Now she lay on her back, in the garden, God help her!
Convinced in her mind she had chronic distemper.

But hope springs eternal amid trouble and strife,
For Dad on the sofa was showing faint signs of life,
He focused one eye and he lifted his head,
And in a hoarse croaking voice he manfully said:

"I've been thinking things over, what a great year it's bin'
And tomorrow's the New Year, let's welcome it in.
Let's ask round some friends and we'll have a few beers,
For this time next Christmas we might not be here."

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

by Mary Fleming

What is the meaning of Christmas?
Why this world wide celebration?
Buying presents, dressing trees, singing carols
What is its great fascination.

Ask a small child and they'll tell you
Christmas time means Santa Claus
With a sack full of goodies and toys
To help them to play without pause.

A teenager will say its school holidays
Lots of discos and parties and such
School reports maybe causing anxiety

But not very much.

Young mothers and fathers will say
It means gigantic bills, extra debt
Trying to keep up with the 'Joneses'
So their children's demands can be met

As 'Our Lady' and she'll gladly tell you
Christmas time is when She gave birth
To her Son our blessed saviour
When He started His life here on earth.

Perhaps it's now time to consider
An alternative way of celebration
More suitable as a remembrance
Of the birth of our salvation.



Tony Gill

THE END

A long time ago I saw you stand at
the window of our living room
with tears in your eyes.
I asked why Ma are you crying,
and you said, "when I came to the
quays
there were buildings and long
cranes, and
I did not think I would live to see
them pulled down."
This is the end of the docks of my

youth
and life.
Even now when I look back she was right.
For there is nothing on the Liffey now.
No ships, no men waiting for work, for there is no
work.
Only expensive flats.
And the empty winds that ripples the sad
waters of that noble river.
All is lost
Only the stars dance on its sad surface
and the lonely moon keeps it company.



ST. ANDREW'S ADULT EDUCATION



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COMPUTERS:	Wednesday	3.30pm – 5.00pm
IRISH:	Thursday	10.30am – 12.30pm
BASIC ENGLISH (Junior Cert)	Wednesday	10.30am – 12.30pm

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*The Adult Education Team wishes the Community a very
Happy and Peaceful Christmas*



CONTACT US:

Tel: 01 677 1930 Fax: 01 671 5734 Email: info@standrews.ie Website: www.standrews.ie
betty.watson@standrews.ie mary.ward@standrews.ie Jim Bolton

HOW TO GET HERE:

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OTHER AGENCIES WE WORK FOR:



- The CDVEC: Ringsend Technical Institute Literacy • Dept. of Social and Family Affairs
- Trinity College • Maynooth College • Liberties College • DALC (Dublin Adult Literacy Centre)
- AONTAS (National Association of Adult Education) • NALA (National Adult Education Agency)
 - LEC (Local Education Committee) • SCP (School Completion Programme)

TRIBUTES



On 13 October, 2011, in her 92nd year, Marion Smith, of Dublin, late of Pearse House, Peacefully, passed away in the loving care of the Staff of Simpson's Hospital, in Dundrum. Beloved wife of the late Patrick and loving mother of Angela,

Patrick, William and Marie. Sadly missed by her children, sisters Sadie and Marie, son-in-law, daughters-in-law, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, relatives and friends.

She was laid to rest at Deans Grange with her Mother Mary Molloy.



NANCY NOLAN

Although Nancy left Dublin over 60 years ago, she considered Dublin to be her home.

Nancy spent her life dedicated to the care of others, both as a nurse of 50 years and also in the community in which she lived. Nancy was so passionate about patient care that she was one of the first people to fight for nurses aids and tea ladies to work on the ward which freed up nurses sole to care medically

for patients. Thanks to her campaign Birmingham was one of the first hospitals to take on this support.

Outside of work she loved to travel and it was amazing looking back on all the photos of the places she travelled to. She loved the outdoors, walking and swimming, she certainly made the most of her retirement.

Although Nancy lived in Birmingham she remained very close to the family, she would visit a few times a year and in between visits kept up to date on family happenings through phone calls. On Sunday's when I went to visit Kathleen she would always say Nancy was on today I was telling her about this that and the other. We used to joke that after spending Christmas or Easter with the whole family that she couldn't wait to run back to the peace and quiet of Birmingham but I think she was always glad to have been a part of it. During every visit she always had a camera in hand and she would spend the time taking picture upon picture of everybody and a few weeks after her return to Birmingham you were guaranteed to get some pictures posted back that she thought you would like. While we were in Birmingham just before she died we spent lots of time looking through all her albums laughing at how we all looked years ago and remembering happy times. It was comforting for us that even though she lived away from us we were always in her thoughts and that her whole apartment was covered with everybody's picture. Nancy was such a kind and thoughtful person she always remembered birthdays and you could guarantee that the first birthday or celebratory card would be from her. As a kid I remember being really excited when I saw that envelope in her writing as it always meant your birthday was just a few days away. She always gave the most wonderful gifts and you could tell that she put a lot of thought and took care to find something she knew you would like. Even though today we are saying goodbye you will always be remembered with love.

Many thanks to the Doctors and Nurses staff at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, along with the hospice team who helped Nancy throughout her short illness. I would also like to remember today her wide circle of friends in particular her life long friend Elsie for the love and kindness they showed her over the years. Although they can't be with us today they are in our thoughts and prayers. Nancy was buried in Mount Jerome Cemetery.

THOMAS (BOSCO) NALTY who died suddenly on the 7th of April 2011. They say that time heals wounds but the more time that passes the more we miss you. Your gone bosco, but not forgotten. Although we are apart your spirit is in our hearts. Love and miss you terrible
Your heartbroken family xxxx



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE TOMMY ROCHE

**first away from home
47 years - 15th December**

also remembering his beloved son Conor whose 8th anniversary 18th October

*You left this world so suddenly
We still wonder why
The saddest part of all
You never said goodbye*

*A whisper on a June morning
You heard the gentle call
You took the hand of Jesus
And quietly left us all
Remembering you is easy
We do it every day
We love and miss you very much*

Happy Birthday Tommy
Your loving wife Breda and sons, Stephen, Michael, Christopher and Glen.



In Loving Memory RICHARD DOOLIN

Little did we know that day
God was going to call your name

In life we loved you dearly
In death we do the same

Until we meet again

Your Loving Wife Berna, your daughters and all their families.

TRIBUTES



BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE
3rd away from Home 25th
November
PETER (Peadar) WARD

*Please do not be unhappy
just because I'm out of sight,
remember I am with you,
every morning noon and night.*

*The day I had to leave you,
when my life on earth was through,
God picked me up and hugged me,
and said I welcome you.
I will be beside you,
every day, week and year,
and when you're sad I'm standing there
to wipe away the tear.*

*To my very many friends,
trust God knows what is best,
I'm still not far away from you,
I'm just beyond the crest.
And when you are walking down the street
and you've got me on your mind,
I'm walking in your footsteps,
only a half step behind.
There are rocky roads ahead of you,
and many jills to climb,
but together we can do it,
taking one day at a time.*

From your loving family wife Bernie, children Paul, Gillian, Jennifer, grandchildren Leanne, Roslyn, Annika and Peter (Jr.), Eddie and Carmel.



In Loving Memory
LOUIS WARD
Husband, Father, Grandfather and
Brother whose 75th birthday
occurred on 3rd November.

Pictures taken at City Quay where you
were every Sunday and a few pictures I
proudly show off.

3rd birthday away from home.
My gift to you must be a prayer
I took you for granted thinking
you would always be here.

*O Mary conceived without sin,
pray for us who have recourse
to thee.*

From your ever loving family.



JIMMY DOYLE - 1st Birthday away from Home
(15th December)



*A loving spray of Birthday Hugs
Tied in a balloon up to you
With all our love
Past birthday memories treasured
on a man so dearly loved.*

"Happy Birthday Jimmy"
Miss you lots – Bridget, Rita, Louise,
Grandchildren and great grandchildren.



GEORGE HUMPHRIES
19th November 1956 -
12 September 2011

Safely Home

*I am home in Heaven dear ones,
Oh, so happy and so bright,
There is perfect joy and beauty,
In this everlasting light.*

*Did you wonder I so calmly,
Trod the valley of the shade?
Oh, but Jesus' love illuminated,
Every dark and fearful glade.*

*And He came Himself to meet me,
In that way so hard to treat,
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,
Could I have one doubt or dread.*

*Then you must not grieve so sorely,
For I love you dearly still,
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,
Pray to trust Our Father's Will.*

Keep Your Head to the Wind.



**ELLEN
HARRISON
(NELLIE)**

79th Birthday on
25th December
2011 and her 9th
Anniversary.



**PADDY
HARRISON**

Also remembering
our Dad (Paddy)
who died on 2nd
July 2008

*A Mother's love is something that
no one can explain.
It's made of deep devotion of
sacrifice and pain.
It's endless and undying and
enduring came what may.
For nothing can destroy it or take
that love away.*

*A Mother's love is all those things.
It's the greatest treasure known and
the greatest Mother in the world is
the one we call our own.
Of all life's heartaches, big or small
losing your Mam was the greatest
of them all.*

*Never forgotten, love
you always.*

Always remembered,
your Son Patrick,
Sandra and Séan.

**Nellie and Paddy
on their Wedding
Day.**



IN LOVING MEMORY



**ANTHONY
O'BRIEN**



EDDIE KENNY



WILLIAM NOLAN
In Loving Memory
1st Nurse Nolan
Family
1st World War



**JOHN PATRICK
HAWKINS**
35th Anniversary
Canon Mooney
Gardens,
Ringsend



**EMILY (Eileen)
HAWKINS**
15th Anniversary
Canon Mooney
Gardens,
Ringsend



Mr. & Mrs. Shay Fleming.



ANNE KEMPLE
21st Anniversary
Canon Mooney
Gardens,
Ringsend



**KATHLEEN
REYNOLDS**
14th Anniversary
Bremen Avenue,
Ringsend



*Mary Annie Nolan Died 8th
February 1942 – R.I.P*



*Rita Gorman (nee
Nolan)*



**WILLIAM
WEAFER**
Ringsend
8th
Anniversary



**In loving memory of PAUL GLYNN
(Paulo) – (Bertie),
Late of Ringsend**

**Died 2nd of September 2011,
aged 58 years**

*Along the road of Suffering
You found a little lane;
That took you up to heaven,
And ended all your pain.
You may be out of sight,
We may be worlds apart;
But you are always
in our prayers,
And forever in our hearts.*



Kathleen Glynn and family would like to sincerely thank our extended family, neighbours, a wide circle of friends, the nursing staff in Blackrock hospice and the Ringsend community for their kindness and prayers that was shown to us at this sad time.

NICHOLS FUNERAL DIRECTORS

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MEMORIES



Peter Kenny making his Confirmation with the boys from St. Andrew's Boys School.



Mr. & Mrs. Boland a night out in Moroneys.



Pat Mullins with Philly O'Rourke 1959



May Hand, Eilish Rochford (Barry) and Ger 1990.



Ann & Benny Lumsden, Angela Dennis & Peter McMahon in the Magnet.



1938 St. Andrews Confirmation.

MEMORIES



IRISH JERSEYS FRIGHTENED OPPOSITION

Hillview United was a very successfully soccer team and operated in the AUL League around 1952-53. Hillview, under the guidance of Paddy Keenan, Jackie Herbert, Billy McKenna and Tommy Kirwan may have been there at this time also.

Hillview in the 1952-53 season had a very young side and were made up of players from Pearse House, with a few more from the surrounding area.

Around this time, the AUL League introduced a new cup called The Smyth Cup and Home Farm met Hillview United in the final at Dalymount Park, with Hillview causing a big upset by beating the Farm, who would have been made up of players from all over Dublin.

But my story is about the jerseys worn by Hillview, as each one is an Irish International jersey of that time. They were the heavy woollen type with a simple shieldlike crest with the shamrock on it.

At the time, replica jerseys were not produced and unless an Irish player gave you one they were impossible to get. So how come Hillview had a full set of these very treasured Irish jerseys? Well, the jerseys came from Eddie Gannon, who was transferred to Sheffield Wednesday from Shelbourne and was considered the best right side half-back playing in England at the time. Eddie was capped for Ireland many times, probably more than the ten jerseys worn by Hillview.

Opposition teams would look in wonder when Hillview arrived on the pitch to play them and I often thought Hillview had a ten minute start ahead of other teams in their league who were looking in awe at the jerseys.

As I write this story, I hope Eddie's family have a jersey of their famous father, who wore them with distinction as I saw him play many games in Shelbourne Park and Dalymount for Ireland.

On one occasion, a team Hillview played in a league match complained to league officials that the Irish jerseys were being belittled by being worn by Hillview. This was not true as Hillview were proud of their Irish strip.

As I watched the game with my pal Seamus Donnelly at Dalymount, I think the jerseys spurred Hillview on to win their game in the Smyth Cup final against Home Farm. This Hillview team was made up of ex-Brugh Phadraig Boys. The Brugh was in Mount Street and when you reached eighteen you had to leave. The photograph shows clearly the Irish jerseys worn by Hillview United.

The Team was back row: Billy McKenna, Jackie Herbert, Tommy Walsh. Middle row: Jimmy O'Brien, Jimmy Butler, Con Barter, Terry Dillon, Matt Ward, Lar O'Byrne, Paddy Keenan. Front row: Clem Behan, Paddy Donnelly, Paddy Butler, Donal Moroney and Bunny Nealon.

by Jimmy Purdy

BRUGH PHADRAIG C.Y.C. CUP FINALISTS circa 1960



**Back row: J. Purdy, G. McDermott, T. Foran, J. Bonden, M. Synnott.
Front row: T. O'Brien, P. Dunne, J. Pepper (capt.), P. Grainger, P. Ashmore.**



ONLY JOKING !!!! by Mr. Ed

A Cat dies and goes to Heaven. Jesus meets him and asks was there anything he would like. "Well" said the cat, "I've had a terrible life on earth, I've been chased down alleyways, kicked and shouted at all my life." Jesus said to him "How can I fix things to make it better for you." The cat said, 'If you could give me a nice cushion so I could float around Heaven all day.'" Jesus said, "No problem, you can have that." A few weeks later six mice came to Heaven – Jesus asked them what He could do for them. They said "if you could give us six skate boards, so we could skate around Heaven and see the beautiful sites." Jesus said. "that's fine you can have six skate boards."

A few months later Jesus met the cat – and asked him how he was getting on. The cat replied, "I'm having a great time floating around Heaven, seeing all the beautiful sites, but the icing on the cake is the meals on wheels."

An elderly woman had just returned to her home from an evening of religious service when she was startled by an intruder. As she caught the man in the act of robbing her home of its valuables, she yelled "Stop – Acts 2:38!" ... (turn from your sin)... The burglar stopped dead in his tracks. The woman calmly called the Gardai and explained what she had done. As the Garda cuffed the man to take him in, he asked the burglar, "Why did you just stand there." "All the old lady did was yell Scripture at you." "Scripture?" replied the burglar. "She said she had an AXE and two 38's!"

"Doctor, I can't stop singing The Green Green Grass of Home." "That sounds like Tom Jones syndrome." "Is it common?" "It's not unusual."

So I went down to my local ice-cream shop and said "I want to buy an ice cream." He said "Hundreds and Thousands." I said "We'll start with one." He said "Knickerbocker Glory?" I said "I do get a certain amount of freedom in these trousers yes."

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Ann Byrne

I Always Knew it would come back to bite Me by Anne Byrne

I was coming out of the toilet, which is right next to my front door, when I heard somebody whisper through the letter box "Where's my money?"

My heart jumped into my mouth, a shock wave swept through my system as my brain told me that the harsh vocal sounds came from the same voice which had hissed into my face four years ago. I leant against the wall for support, I had been old then and four years hadn't made me any sturdier. Again I heard the whisper and turning, I saw a pair of evil eyes glaring at me through the letter box slit; the sight of them made me shift, I must get out of the line of fire, I made it into the living room and slammed the door shut; slowly silence descended.

After about ten minutes I ventured into the kitchen and cautiously peeped out into the patio area, I only saw pots of flowers, bushes and cars parked in the allocated area. My fingers trembled as I filled up the electric kettle in the dark, I needed strong, hot, tea and a regiment of angels to protect me but – I licked my dry lips as I tried to catch up with my imagination – would any angel volunteer to help me after what I had done? Why, oh, why, hadn't I done something sooner, like shifting to another part of the country or even England? Why had I been so stupid?

Sitting, drinking a cup of tea laced with a good dash of whiskey, I knew it was silly going over the old ground; I had done that years ago. I had not moved from my little flat and the place where I was born because I liked where I lived, it was the place where I grew up, the place that I was used to; oh, why had I given in to temptation, why had I being so greedy? Why, oh, why, hadn't I listened to that still, small voice that had told me years ago that my actions would come back to bite me?

I sighed and poured another generous dash of Jameson's whiskey into the small amount of tea in the bottom of my cup. As the whiskey warmed me up, memory dragged a distant scene into the present, I saw an old woman pushing her trolley ahead of her down a lane, she had chosen the lane in order to avoid the heavy city traffic but when she heard running footsteps she feared for her handbag and tightened her grip on it but the young fellow who grabbed hold of her trolley, pushed a black plastic bag down into the bottom of it and hissed at her "Keep it safe" before belting down the lane, towards the main road, hadn't been interested in her handbag. The old woman stood gaping after the young man as around the corner came two gardai in full chase, they raced past the little old lady and at that stage the old lady decided that she had had enough fresh air for that day and headed home minus what she wanted to buy, her mind tossing and twisting like a bewitched barley stack, what was in the plastic bag?

It took her a long time to count the money, in all €32,635. It was a huge sum and she stared at it, wondering what to do with it, then she got up, went into her bedroom and after pushing the bag of money under

her bed, climbed into bed with all her clothes on and fell fast asleep despite it being the middle of the day.

The newspapers were full of the news of the robbery and of the capture of the robber, she read everything she could find about the court case, it had been a one man job, it was not the young man's first offence and he had used a gun, where had it gone? Thankfully not into her trolley.

A few days after the robbery, she was washing dishes at the sink in the afternoon when through the window she saw two gardai opening her gate, her heart began to race and she took a few deep breaths as she took off her apron and went to answer the knock. She was thankful for the few minutes to prepare herself but what she would say would all depend on how much the gardai knew. The question was did they know anything? Had the young man decided to tell the gardai what he had done with the money? She would have to be careful. She welcomed the gardai into her home and offered them tea but they refused the offer, however, she decided to make a pot of tea in the hope that it might help her hide her feelings but she need not have worried for the gardai only wanted to know if she had seen the young man stopping at any point along the lane way. She told the gardai that the robber had been carrying a black plastic bag and that he had ran down the lane with it, satisfied the gardai got up to leave and as soon as she had closed the front door she leant against her for a few moments. She had seen in their eyes what they thought of her – 'a little, old, harmless, lady'

She was relieved when at last she read that the young man had been sentenced to four years in jail. He had kept his mouth shut.

A drip from the cup fell into my lap and I woke up, feeling none the better for indulging in the whiskey, I shivered, the room had grown cold and after switching on the central heating for another hour, I fetched the black, plastic, bag from under the bed. How much was left? I had gone on a lovely cruise, then there was the three months spent in Spain, another three months spent visiting holy shines on the Continent and I had made my little flat more comfortable, myself too. How much was left? I reckoned about two thousand euro. Perhaps a little more? What was I going to do? I knew he would be waiting for me somewhere out there tomorrow or the next day, some time of his choosing and then what? I would end up in hospital, why had I been so stupid? Thinking I could enjoy the money, then I realised I had, hadn't I? Reluctantly I pulled the telephone towards me and dialled the nearest garda station, wondering would they put me in jail and if so, what would it be like? Still, no use complaining - I had always known that that the robber would come for his money as soon as he got out of jail but little does that fellow know that little old ladies are not always white as snow.

Anne wishes the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

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INFORMATION/SERVICES/CONTACTS

If you need assistance regarding any of the numbers below please contact:
St Andrew's Welfare Rights & Information Service at **01 677 1930**

<p>Health Service Executive Customer Service Freephone: 1800 520 520</p> <p>Health Board Executive Dublin South City Phone: 01-6486500</p> <p>Medical/Chiropody/Dental/ Optical Social Work Services Speech & Language Therapy District Care Unit for the Elderly European Health Insurance Card/E.H.I.C. Other Services available: contact above: Health Service Executive: Out of Hours Emergency Accommodation For Adults: Freephone: 1800 724 724</p> <p>Irishtown Health Centre Phone: 01-6608629 Pearse Street Medical Centre Phone: 01-6777781</p> <p>Dr. Niall O' Cleirigh Pearse Street Primary Care Centre Mark's Lane Off Lombard Street Dublin 2 Phone: 01 - 6427700 Travellers Unit Phone: 01-6770963 Main Reception Phone: 01-6770288</p>	<p>Dublin City Council: Phone: 01-2222222</p> <p>Rent Assessment & Accounts: Freephone: 1800 679 555</p> <p>Housing Maintenance Phone: 01-2227579</p> <p>Estate Management Phone: 01-2222098</p> <p>Bin Charges (Domestic) Phone: 01-2221000</p> <p>Community Development Phone: 01-2222231</p> <p>Housing Welfare Phone: 01-2222233</p> <p>Dublin City Council: Phone: 01-2222233 Block 1 Floor 2 Civic Offices Christchurch Dublin 8</p>
<p>Social Welfare Local Office: Phone: 01-6369300 Apollo House</p>	<p>Threshold: Phone: 01-6786096 Housing Advice, Information on Housing and Homelessness</p>
<p>P.A.Y.E. Enquiries Dublin: Lo-Call: 1890 333 425</p>	<p>A.A. (Alcoholics Anonymous): Phone: 01-8420700 Al - anon / Ala - teen: Phone: 01-8732699</p>
<p>Pearse Street Garda Station: Phone: 01-6669000 Community Garda Juvenile Liaison Officer Irishtown Garda Station: Phone: 01-6669600 Community Garda Juvenile Liaison Officer Crimestoppers: Freephone: 1800 250 025 Garda Confidential Line: Freephone: 1800 666 111 Emergency: Phone: 999 or 112</p>	<p>St. Vincent de Paul: Phone: 01-8550022</p> <p>F.L.A.C. : Phone: 01-8745690 Free Legal Advice Centre/Contact for Referral</p> <p>Office of the Ombudsman: Phone: 01-6395600 Lo-Call: 1890 223 030</p>
<p>Parentline: Phone: 01-8733500 Organisation for Parents Lo-Call: 1890 927 277 Under Stress</p>	<p>The Pathways Project: Phone: 01-8726499 Helping Prisoners & Ex Prisoners Re - educate and re - integrate</p>
<p>Victim Support: Lo-Call: 1850 661 771 Dublin North Central Phone: 01-8603877 Dublin North Phone: 01-8531855</p>	<p>Bereavement Counselling Service: Phone: 01-6768882 St. Ann's Church Phone: 01-8391766 (Mon & Wed evenings from 6pm to 9pm, ring for appointment)</p>
<p>One Family: Phone: 01-6629212 Training Programmes/Counselling Childcare Service etc. Ask One Family Lo-Call: 1890 662 212</p>	<p>CYC Catholic Youth Support Service: Phone: 01-8725055</p> <p>City of Dublin Youth Service Board: Phone: 01-4321100</p>
<p>AMEN: Phone: 046-9023718 (Confidential advice line for male victims of domestic abuse)</p>	<p>Crosscare: Phone: 01-8360011 The Crosscare Programme operated in this area is based in St. Brigid's Food Centre in Holles Row for Homeless people - also Meals on Wheels</p>
<p>Family Mediation Services: Phone: 01-6344320 (Free Service) to couples separating</p>	<p>Citizens' Information Call Centre: Lo-Call: 1890 777 121</p>
<p>AIM Family Service: Phone: 01-6708363</p>	<p>M.A.B.S. Phone: 01-6706555 Money Advice & Budgeting Service</p>
<p>The Equality Authority: Lo-Call: 1890 245 545 Public Information Centre: Phone: 01-4173333 Roscrea Co. Tipperary: Phone: 0505-24126</p>	<p>Women's Aid: Freephone: 1800 341 900</p>
<p>CHILDLINE c/o ISPCC: Freephone: 1800 666 666</p>	<p>St. Andrew's Parish, Westland Row: Phone: 01-6761270 Fax: 01-6763544 City Quay Parish: Phone: 01-6773073</p>
<p>RAPE CRISIS CENTRE Freephone: 1800 778 888 Phone: 01-6614911</p>	<p>HOSPITALS: St. Vincent's Hospital Phone: 01-2214000 Dental School & Hospital Phone: 01-6127391 National Maternity Hospital, Holles St. Phone: 01-6373100 St. James's Hospital Phone: 01-4103000 Children's Hospital, Temple St. Phone: 01-8784200</p>
<p>Focus Ireland: Phone: 01-6712555 Emergency Accommodation advice to homeless People and anybody who needs advice regarding accommodation</p>	<p>Samaritans (Dublin): Phone: 01-8727700 Samaritans Area Helpline: Lo-Call: 1850 609 090</p>
<p>Barnardos: Phone: 01-4549699 National Children's Resource Centre</p>	

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GREENORE / ROSTREVOR NEWS

GREETINGS FROM GREENORE / ROSTREVOR COMPLEX, 2 GREENORE COURT

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On behalf of the Committee we would to thank all our sponsors and supporters for their loyal support over the years.



Members celebrating Carmel Reilly's 90th Birthday recently.



CHRISTMAS TIME ... by Michael McDermott



"My God Almighty" says Maggie, "It's nearly Christmas week already and I haven't a stitch bought and nothing ordered for the dinner or the pudding and cake."

"Don't worry me oul flower," says Jack. "I'll be doing a trip down the country tomorrow and get you a nice fine, fresh, plump bird."

"I hope it's one with feathers on it and not one with a mini skirt," says Maggie, winking and knowing Jack's form.

Well you wouldn't believe it, Jack arrive home the following evening with a live turkey and a rope around its neck, and marched in into the house, like a dog on a lead. "Oh J....." says Maggie, "get that out of here quick or it's not the bird who'll be for the chop."

Maggie told Jack to put it out in the back yard and to send for Tom the butcher who lived down the end of the street. Tom duly arrived at the house and set about doing the business with the bird.

The next minute, there was an awful commotion in the back yard. When Maggie looked out all she could see and hear was the poor oul turkey roaring and screaming and running like the clappers of hell as if his life depended on it and it did!

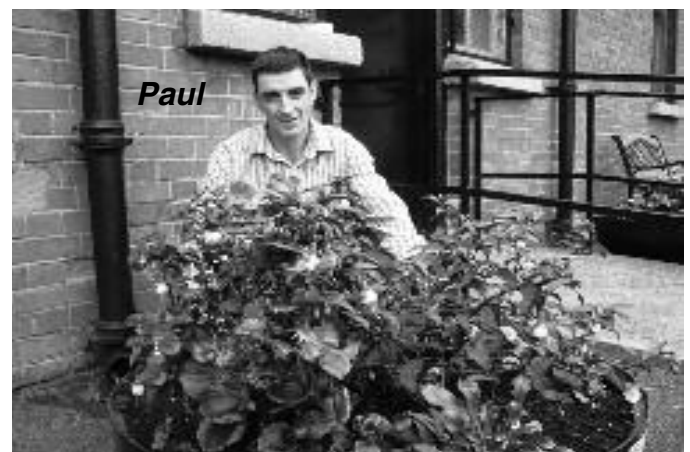
There was Tom chasing the bird, like something you'd see in

a Charlie Chaplin film and shouting out "If I get a hold of ye, I'll ring your neck!" And he meant it too.

Eventually, the poor oul bird was caught and executed, feathers plucked and cleaned out and prepared for the oven.

Having seen the bird alive, Maggie found it hard to enjoy her Christmas dinner.

Michael would like to wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year



A NEW ERA AT RINGSEND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Two new faces have appeared in Ringsend Technical Institute in the shape of **Donnchadh Clancy** and **Aoife Kelly Gibson**, the new Principal and Deputy Principal respectively.

In recent weeks, the Institute has been renamed as Ringsend College, to fit with the ever changing face of education and represent all of the elements the college has to offer the community.

The two are delighted with their new positions, they have great expectations for the school and students. They have been most grateful to the outgoing Principal, Charlie McManus and Deputy Principal, Con Harvey for their support during the handover. Now having been in the school for the first term and beginning to get to know the community they feel very positive about the future.

"We can see so much potential here and look forward to continuing to build on the great tradition of the school. Plans for the future include a greater emphasis on technology in order to equip students with all of the IT skills required in the fast changing world of work. The school is in a process of growth and renewal with an emphasis on meeting the challenges which the economic climate is setting up for our young people. The staff is very committed to providing the best all round education for the students."

Each week in Ringsend College brings many new exciting academic, cultural and sporting activities. Since the beginning of the school year in September the students and staff have been involved in a variety of events some of which are highlighted below:



Charity fund raising – Hospice Coffee Morning (Pic1), Jersey Day for GOAL.

Guitar classes with Walton's school of Music and the Musical Youth Foundation.

Piano classes with Kylemore School of Music.

An Gaisce Awards – overnight outdoor pursuits activity with 5th years.



Open Day. Annual school sports day, held in Irishtown stadium (Pic 2.)

Sports – SCC Cross Country event in Phoenix Park & 5 Aside soccer tournaments with the FAI.

CSPE trip to the Traffic Centre in Dublin City Council. ESS Traffic Survey in Ringsend. (Pic3&4)



Science trip to DIT Kevin Street.

An Taisce tree planting in Ringsend Park-to mark the occasion of the arrival of the two new members of the management team, in recognition of the new school name and also, as part of the Green Schools Initiative 3,500 trees



were planted in West Cork to represent each of the schools involved in the programme. Each of the participating schools was in turn asked to plant a tree in their community. (Pic 5)

Coming up before Christmas we will have two visiting theatre groups. Firstly, 'French Theatre for Schools' who will present a play with the participation of the students. All aimed at increasing their ability to communicate in French.

Secondly, 'Sticks and Stones' theatre group to present a play on Bullying and the effects it can have. This engages students in thinking about the way that they behave towards others.

Our second year CSPE group have just begun collaborating with Joe Donnelly of the Fair Play Café in creating a Good News wall in the café using front pages from newspapers featuring good news stories.

Upcoming Christmas activities will include: LCVP event hosted by 5th yr students for local Primary school students with proceeds going to the Simon Community. The students will represent the school in the inter schools Badminton competition run by the Sports and Cultural Committee of the City of Dublin VEC.

Christmas concert for our school students, with many individual participants and Christmas Term awarding of Certificates.

A NEW ERA AT RINGSEND TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

Underpinning all of this feverish activity is of course the academic progress being made by the students at all times. The curriculum is varied and delivered in a way as to make it accessible to all. Christmas exams are fast approaching and February will see groups of nervous students preparing for and sitting the Mocks at Junior and Leaving Cert levels.

The exposure to all facets of education is important to us. In the new year, 5th year students will go out into the community on work experience and in the run up to this they are especially lucky to have the support of Business in the Community and CISCO whose mentors help with preparation for the world of work, interview skills and CV design.

The Home School Liaison Department and School Completion Programme collaborate to run Personal Development and Team building Programmes from 1st yr upwards. Study skills are introduced from an early stage to enable students to get the best out of their work.

Of course, within the college there are many differing levels of education on offer, from the second level school to FETAC level 5 courses for adults. The ongoing Repeat Leaving Certificate course is growing every year. Full and part time courses for adults continue in the areas of Business, Computers and Technology. The PLC Business course is a good option for school leavers as a first step on the way to a Business Degree. There are also a variety of community based courses

happening and different associations from the community use the building at various times during the week. The Home School Community Liaison has several parent courses on at the moment. The Adult Education centre which is located in the college provides many supports for the people in the locality including Literacy, Computers Maths and Personal Development. The school also plays host to several ESOL courses to FETAC level 5. As always, the night school offers a selection of courses to tempt many wishing to improve their education, skills or fitness.

We are extremely lucky to have the supports of Home School Community Liaison, School Completion Programme and an excellent guidance counsellor who takes care of all our students' needs both academically and in their future career choices.

The second level school is continuing enrolments for September 2012.

If you wish to find out about what is on offer in your local college, check out the website at www.ringtec.ie or contact us at **6684498**.

We look forward to hearing from you and we would like to wish the Community a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.



Ringsend College Coláiste na Rinne *(Formerly Ringsend Technical Institute)*

Second Level School currently enrolling for September 2012.

Drop in or contact us via our website or by phone:

www.ringtec.ie

Phone: 6684498

See what your local college has to offer you:

Second level school	Catering to both Junior and Leaving Certificate.
Repeat Leaving Cert	1 year course.
Business Studies	Fetac level 5 course, 1 year.
FIT/VTOS	IT, Office Administration & Design. (FIT, ECDL, MOS and FETAC qualifications offered) PC Maintenance and servicing. (FIT, ECDL, A+ and FETAC qualifications offered)

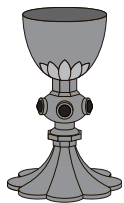
CITY QUAY PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Monday **Penitential Service**
December 19th **at 7.30 p.m.**

Saturday **Christmas Eve:**
December 24th **Vigil with the**
 Celebration of
 Light 7.30 p.m.

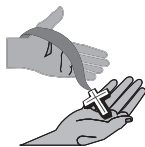
Sunday **Christmas Day:**
December 25th **Mass: 11.30 a.m. ONLY**

Monday to Friday **Mass**
December 26th **10.00 a.m.**
to 30th **ONLY.**



No Going Back, Only Going Forward

The good news is we need each other now more than ever. Maybe this will awaken the need within us, our need for the Lord, for we cannot do it on our own, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Make sure that your next door neighbour is not alone. Just as we would hope they would do the same for us. That's what Christmas is all about as Jesus says "I am with you now, in this time of need."



Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

**Fr. Paul, Fr. John, Sister Goretti,
Members of the Divine Word
Community and the Parish Team.**



WESTLAND ROW PARISH CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Wednesday **Penitential Service**
December 21st **at 12.45 p.m.**

Thursday Dec 22nd **Mass times are**
& Friday 23rd **10 a.m. & 12.45p.m.**
December

Saturday **Christmas Eve:**
December 24th **Mass: 10.00 a.m.**
 Christmas Carols: 8.30pm
 Christmas Mass: 9.00p.m.

Sunday **Christmas Day:**
December 25th **Masses: 10.00 a.m. &**
 11.30 a.m.

Monday **Mass: 10.00 a.m. &**
December 26th **11.30 a.m.**

Tuesday 27th to **Mass: 10.00 a.m.**
Friday 30th

Saturday **Mass: 10.00 a.m. &**
December 31st **6.30 p.m. (Vigil)**

Sunday **Mass: 10.00 a.m. &**
January 1st **11.30 a.m.**

From Monday 2nd December to Thursday 5th January, there will only one weekday Mass at 10.00 a.m.

**NOTE: Friday 6th January – Feast of the Epiphany (Holy Day).
Masses: 8.45 a.m., 10.00 a.m. & 12.45 p.m.**



Normal Weekday Mass Schedule resumes on Monday 9th January 2012.

Just a brief note to wish you every Blessing for Christmas and the New Year. If the services of St. Andrew's Church and its Clergy can help you in any way to prepare for, or celebrate this festive season do please feel most welcome to join us.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas.

*Best Wishes – Fr. John Gilligan Adm.,
Fr. Egidijus Arnasius and Fr. Anthony
Asare, P.C.*

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*John, Maureen and Staff would like to wish the Community
a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.*

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