



# BALLINCLEA HEIGHTS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

21 June 2005

Newsletter Summer 2005

## 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fun Day

This popular event is taking place next Sunday afternoon, 26<sup>th</sup> June 2005, from 2pm in our park. There will be bouncing castles and a host of interesting events for all ages. So come along and enjoy the fun, music, games, competitions, picnic etc.

Invitations have been sent to Councillors to attend.

A family donation of €10 will be appreciated and will help to defray expenses.

Many thanks to Moira Hancock no. 178 for coordinating this event again. She will gladly accept offers of assistance on or before Sunday.

## Ballinclea Park Fund

To date 72 contributions have been received, representing a fund total of €1827. We urge the remaining 120+ members to contribute now to this important project, so that we will be in the strongest possible position for our dealings with Parks. As you know we promised to deal with this fund in a clear and transparent way, with income and expenditure reported each year. It is also our policy to list the house no. of each patron on our website, without reference to family name or amount contributed, as a means of showing the extent of support from our community. If you have contributed and your no. does not appear on the list of patrons on our website please inform our Hon. Treasurer Scott Jungmann no.60, telephone 2851341. Any contributions received henceforth will be acknowledged by the house no. being included on the website list of patrons. Needless to say any request to the contrary will be respected.

## Coillte

Coillte have finished their work in the park recently by crowning the remaining deciduous trees. People walking along the path down the long hill should notice that the crowns of these trees have been raised so as not to impede passage. We will meet with Coillte this week (commencing 20<sup>th</sup> June 2005) regarding name tags for our tree species.

## Parks Department

We will meet with them 24<sup>th</sup> June 2005 to discuss

- a planting strategy to enhance the front of the park following the removal of the evergreen trees.
- the installation of a Boules Court (60x12ft) and a Fun Ball game this Summer. The latter is played by 2 to 4 people using one ball which is thrown into the opening mounted on a pole and returned randomly in a N,S,E or Westerly direction
- other planting for the area
- budget requirements for next year
- the drainage problem in the north west corner, which they have been working on for many weeks and at last seems to have been resolved. The problem arose from ground water not being able to drain off due to a section of blocked pipes.
- the current status of the proposed MUGA



## **Ballinaclea Park**

This summer we propose to install a Boules Court and a Fun Ball game with the cooperation of Parks.

- We have written to all Councillors and local TDs seeking their help and guidance to secure a proper budget allocation for our park from September onwards. We will be meeting with our local politicians through the summer in order to secure sufficient funding.
- Composter; This has been a great success with many members using it to advantage in its second season. Regrettably a few people appear to be using it as a convenient way of discarding stems of ivy and hedge as well as Cordyline fronds. This type of organic matter takes years to rot and is best put in a corner of your own garden. Organic matter going into the composter should be soft leafy material or grass and should not include kitchen waste.

The current proposal for upgrading the 150m front of our park is as follows:

- Ground cover plants coloured white and purple to cascade down over the brick wall
- Low shrubs with long lasting flowers/scent
- A line of low growing Rowan trees to give colour and berries for most of the year and to compliment the small number of deciduous trees which now occupy this frontage.

**Footpath:** We have written to DLRCoCo requesting that they connect the two footpaths, which come to a dead end, at the north east and north west corners of our park, by constructing a footpath through the park.

**Killiney, Glenageary National School**  
A written request was received from the principal for the use of our park by their classes. This was approved at our recent AGM. We have responded favourably advising them to seek approval from DLRCoCo. BHRA have written to Parks in support.

## **M.U.G.A.**

In February 2005 DLRCoCo proposed Ballinaclea Heights as one of 9 new locations for such an artificial surface multi games area. It would cater for 5 a side football, basketball, tennis and volleyball and would be Government funded over a three year period from 2006/2009.

Our park sub committee will pursue the bone fides of this offer with DLRCoCo, Councillors and TDs with regard to timescale, local control of operation, lighting, etc. While there is great enthusiasm from our youth and a high degree of support from members, we are well aware of the concern raised by some in relation to: exposure to strangers, lighting and aesthetics. It is premature at this stage to get worked up over a concept which has to be fleshed out in all its aspects. We suggest, therefore, that such members put their judgement on hold until clarification is obtained on the genuineness of this proposal, which as yet has not been formally confirmed.

Please also bear in mind that in establishing a recreational park, which has been our goal since 1993, we must ensure a security of tenure for this usage well into the future, so that it becomes too valuable a community asset ever to be clawed back by greedy hands!

## **Speeding**

We again request residents to observe a limit of 20kph maximum within our community for the safety of all. Please mention this to the young drivers in your family.

## **Neighbourliness**

Now that summer is in full swing and we are enjoying the outdoor life it is timely to remind everyone to have consideration for their neighbours, in terms of music or radio played outdoors.

Now is a good time to cut back any hedges or plants or tree branches which overhang footpaths.