



# BALLYMUN

## REGENERATION NEWS

JULY 2004 ISSUE 38

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#### HEALTH & SAFETY

If you see anything outside of working hours that you are concerned about on the building sites please contact Ballymun Gardaí at 01-6664400



Dublin City  
Baile Átha Cliath



12 noon, Saturday 10th July: Demolition of Pearse Tower, viewing area behind Civic Offices  
6 - 9 pm, Friday 9th July: Wake for Ballymun, Mc Donagh Tower  
All are Welcome

## DEMOLITION DAY DRAWS NEAR

**P**earse Tower will be the first block in the regeneration of Ballymun to be demolished. The demolition of Pearse Tower will take place on Saturday 10th July, 2004 at 12 o'clock noon.

"The demolition of Pearse Tower will be hugely symbolic for everyone in Ballymun as well as for the whole country," said Ciaran Murray, Managing Director, Ballymun Regeneration Ltd (BRL). "The towers are the first landmark that most people see when they fly into Dublin. The start of demolitions will show the world that Ballymun is changing and that the new town is fast becoming a very desirable place to live, work, visit and invest in."

## “Wake” for the old Ballymun

On the eve of the demolition of the flat blocks, it is fitting that Ballymun gathers to mark and share in this moment. It is a time to commemorate, to remember, and to celebrate the many lives that have lived here. "The Wake" offers a place for old friends to meet and stories to be told. The evening will include performances of music, drama, poetry and song, and will be remembered, like the towers, long afterwards.

Around McDonagh Tower on Friday July 9th from 6pm to 11pm, local and national artists will come together with the people of Ballymun and the city to say goodbye to the blocks before demolition begins officially on July 10th.

There will be

- a stage for music and one for the spoken word
- an art project being made all day long
- books to record your hopes, memories and wishes
- light refreshments
- and above all a space and time to talk, meet old friends, remember and look forward.

The event is being curated by the new Axis Arts team under Arts Centre Director Ray Yeates. If you are a local artist/performer wishing to take part call Mark O'Brien on (01) 883 2148. All local residents are invited so come along to the wake and share your memories on Friday 9th July from 6 pm - 9 pm.

### DEMOLITION UPDATE

Pearse Tower will be the first of 8 blocks to be demolished this year, all by mechanical means. Specialist long-reach machinery will be brought in from the UK by the contractor, Controlled

Demolition Group (CDG). As always, parents are asked to please explain the dangers of building sites to their children and to ensure that children do not play anywhere near the hoardings or on the sites.

### PHASE 1 DEMOLITIONS 2004

PEARSE TOWER  
MCDONAGH TOWER  
CEANNT TOWER

TWO 4-STOREY BLOCKS AT SILLOGUE  
TWO 4-STOREY BLOCKS AT SHANGAN  
8-STOREY BLOCK AT COULTRY

## GAP Bounty Hunters Spring Clean

GAP's bounty hunters have been extremely active in helping to clean up Ballymun recently, so much so, that they have collected and recycled 133,323 pieces of paper, plastic, glass, tetra paks, cans and tins in only five months!

"We thought it only fair to reward them for their remarkable efforts and so 20 bounty hunters set off for a trip to Sonairte National Ecology Centre in Meath, on the last Saturday of May," said Simon Cocking, GAP. "There the children learned how the sun, wind, waves and human energy can make electricity. They also tasted some of the delicious labours of organic farming and helped de-caterpillar a strawberry bush and made art from the natural surroundings."

Bounty Hunters help to care for the environment whilst learning and having lots of fun. If you want to join contact Alison in GAP on 01-862 5846.



Children enjoying the activities at Sonairte National Ecology Centre

## Amaptocare

**A**maptocare is inviting people who care to donate trees to Ballymun as part of an artwork by Jochen Gerz. Gerz and his team are also asking businesses to show they care by sponsoring the project.

Coillte, the Irish Forestry Board, are sponsoring the project by reducing the cost of the trees to the donor and providing advice on the selection of trees. "Coillte are pleased to be able to offer our experience and expertise in the selection of trees for the project," says Gerry Egan, Coillte. "We work with many rural communities around the country as part of our commitment to corporate social responsibility and we are delighted to

extend this into an urban setting and to be associated with such an exciting project."

Many companies such as McInerney, O'Connor Sutton Cronin, Healy Kelly & GEM Construction, chose to sponsor the project by donating trees on behalf of local organisations. DBFL Engineers have teamed up with Youthreach while Bruce Shaw are sponsoring Ballymun Senior Comprehensive. If you are interested in donating a tree or in sponsoring others to do so, please contact amaptocare on 01 8832110 or by email [amaptocare@hotmail.com](mailto:amaptocare@hotmail.com)

## Bigger and Better Facilities for Ballymun Youth

**Y**oung people in Ballymun have enjoyed many years of excellent activities at Ballymun Central Youth Facility, on Sillogue Road across from Ballymun Shopping Centre. Currently housing an activities hall and small internet room run by Ballymun Regional Youth Resource (BRYP), these facilities are now due to get a total makeover and an impressive extension which will mean bigger and better facilities for local young people by next summer (2005), including a café and a small gym.

Construction will start later this summer on a new extension between the eastern end of the existing building and the Sillogue Road. Three new blocks will be built around a rectangular courtyard, with the existing building providing the new courtyard's fourth side. The northern section of the existing youth building will be partly demolished and a new two storey wing will be constructed in its place to connect the old and new buildings at ground floor level. A new car park and perimeter railings will be provided at the Holy Spirit Church as part of the development.

The northern and eastern wings of the new building will be two storeys in height with the following facilities:-

### Ground floor:

- a café on to the Sillogue Road open to the public
- a youth information room ■ arts room
- youth workroom ■ a small gym

### First floor:

- large public internet room ■ internet classroom
- conference room ■ staff offices

During the summer café tables will spill out amongst the trees of the courtyard, while the café kitchen will be accessible for cookery classes in the evenings.

The wing, which forms the southern side of the courtyard, will be single storey with a 'green roof', where vegetables and flowers can be grown. A gateway through this block will provide direct access to the courtyard. The new building will be faced in brickwork with the exception of the cantilevered 'cedar box' at first floor level which houses the internet rooms and the conference room.

The client for the project, Ballymun Regional Youth Resource, takes matters such as access for the disabled, and environmental sustainability very seriously, and these features have been carefully incorporated into the new design. It is also intended to commission artistic work which will be appropriate to the character of the new building and - with this in mind - an approach has been made to photographer/ artist Perry Ogden on how best some of his work with local children could be incorporated. All going well and on schedule, Ballymun should have a youth facility building to be proud of by summer 2005.



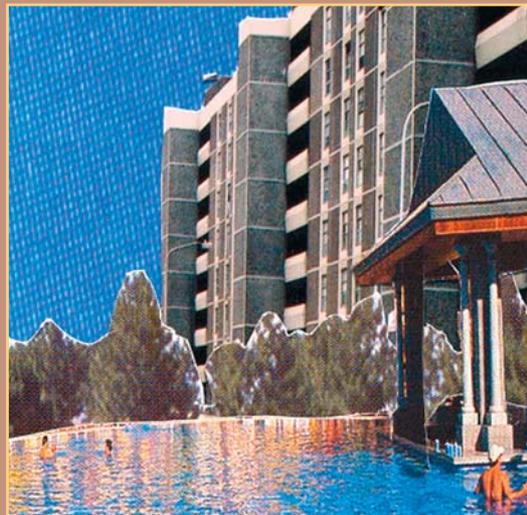
## Looking Out on Sunny Days

Looking out on Sunny Days' is the result of an art collaboration between Balcurris Boy's Home and Michael McLoughlin.

This beautiful new artwork, measuring 36 feet by 8 feet, is being put up on the hoardings along Balbutcher Lane North for the next two years. These dream views of blue skies, swimming pools, tropical gardens and lovely cars were created by the boys with the artist Michael McLoughlin over a two month period.

The art on the hoarding will be unveiled on 1st July. An exhibition of nine stunning images taken from 'Looking out on Sunny Days' will run in Axis from the 2nd to the 27th of July.

The Hoardings Project, a cross-community arts initiative between the Aisling Project, BADIG, Balcurris Boys' Home, Breaking Ground, BRYR, Columban Youth



Project and the Community Arts Factory is sponsored by BRL and Piers Contracting Ltd.

## Monthly Competition Winner May 2004

Congratulations to Noreen Lynch from Coultry Road who wins 2 tickets to see any show at the Axis theatre with 2 complimentary drinks at the theatre bar.

## Jobs Created from Construction Training Programme

Well done to the eleven trainees who completed the FÁS 4-month pilot Construction Operative Training Programme. Ballymun Regeneration Ltd (BRL) worked with Ballymun Local Employment Centre (BLEC) and FÁS Finglas to develop the Work Experience Scheme to support the transition of trainees into jobs on Ballymun sites.

BRL approached the local contractors who were more than happy to support the Scheme. In mid-May, eight trainees started 3-weeks work experience on local sites while three trainees found alternative opportunities outside the area.

At the end of the work experience, the contractors offered five of the trainees work with two trainees being offered work on new sites due to start soon. BRL and FÁS Finglas are delighted with the job progression of trainees.

"BRL is most grateful to the local contractors, the BLEC

and FÁS Finglas for their support and commitment," said Ciaran Murray, Managing Director, BRL. "Due to the success of this pilot training scheme we expect to offer similar courses later this year."

Local contractors participating in the scheme include:

Bowen M.D. & Company Ltd

Christopher Bennett & Son (Construction) Ltd

Gama Construction Ireland Ltd

Glenman Corporation Ltd

McCabes Builders

Rusland Construction Ltd

If you are interested in participating on a Construction Operative Training Programme, contact Mary Woolhead, Ballymun Regeneration Ltd on 01-675 5618.

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