



# BALLYMUN

## REGENERATION NEWS

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Participants and the figures they made during the Summer Sculpture Workshop

## HUNDREDS OF BALLYMUN CHILDREN ENJOY SUMMER OF FUN

**B**RL organised summer activities during the last two weeks in July and the first two weeks in August. Between 60 - 80 children per day took part and their ages ranged from 6 to 15 years. They came from Ballymun and the surrounding area. The children worked with a wide variety of materials and equipment.

The programme was implemented and co-ordinated by BRL staff. Activities included soccer, Gaelic games, tag rugby, swimming, drama and dance, juggling, drumming and arts and crafts. Friday was entitled "Freaky Friday" when a production or show took place catering for 100 - 150 children. The summer activities finished with a celebration disco and a performance by a band called "Westlike".

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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 01 666 4400



Dublin City  
Baile Átha Cliath

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Breaking Ground and BRL also ran a series of hugely popular Art Workshops for 6 - 10 year-olds and 11 - 15 year-olds during August.

Printmaker Michael Timmons led the first week of workshops and the groups used the printing press in Axis to explore a series of printmaking techniques including monoprinting and carborundum. During the second week, the participants worked with Sculptor Orla Kelly. The younger group used nature as their starting point and transformed the art room with fantastical bugs and butterflies, fruit, kites and even a big cow and a huge tree were made. The older group made large sculptural portraits. For week three the children worked with artist Gillian Field to create mythological creatures with acrylic paints on canvas.

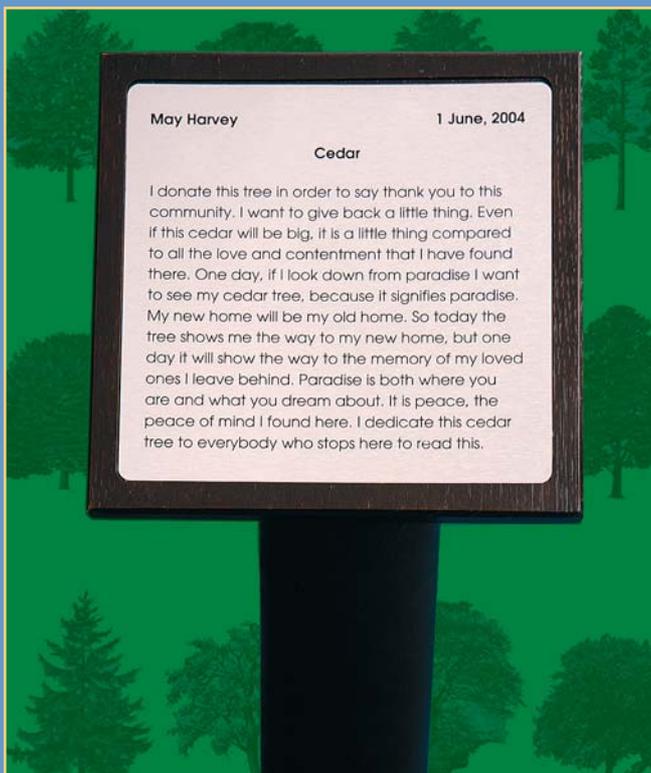


Children working together painting a large dragon on canvas during the Summer Painting Project in AXIS

## If this tree could speak...

Jochen Gerz has started to meet the more than 430 people who have donated a tree to Ballymun as part of “amaptocare”.

amaptocare is promoted by Breaking Ground which, on behalf of BRL, is administering the Department of the Environments’ Percent For Art programme in Ballymun. Jochen is discussing what they would like on the plaque beside their tree in response to the question, “If this tree could speak, what would it say for me?”



May Harvey's plaque

Noreen Lynch saw donating a tree as an opportunity to do something for her grandson, Dhani Joseph who doesn't live in Ballymun. Noreen's plaque is a message to Dhani, “Dhani boy, I may not see you grow bigger every day, but I will see your tree grow every day, and think of you”.

Many people have donated trees in memory of friends or family who have passed away. Fiona Cormican remembers Ciara Nic an tSionnaig and beside the Wild Cherry she has donated in her memory, the plaque will remind passers-by that Ciara was “a beautiful, very intelligent, gutsy, hilarious woman with a great love of nature and everything Irish”.

May Harvey, whose plaque is shown here, says “I donate this tree in order to say thank you to this community. I want to give back a little thing. Even if this cedar will be big, it is a little thing compared to all the love and contentment that I have found here. One day, if I look down from paradise I want to see my cedar tree, because it signifies paradise.”

Togail have donated a number of trees and their story is spread across their plaques, starting with “a group of women who lived and worked in Ballymun... having a drink in the Autobahn” who decided to form a housing co-operative in 1998. The story takes readers through the stages from initial ideas to planning permission and eventually moving into their new homes on 26th July 2002. Alongside the hundreds of trees, there will be hundreds of stories.

**To donate a tree contact amaptocare on 01 883 2110, email [amaptocare@hotmail.com](mailto:amaptocare@hotmail.com) or call into Axis for more information.**

## National College of Ireland in Ballymun

**N**ational College of Ireland (NCI) is a third level institution dedicated to providing access to educational opportunities and to helping people achieve their potential through lifelong learning. NCI has recognised education as vital to the creation of vibrant communities and to this end has worked in partnership within programmes of local development in Dublin since 1997.

One of its biggest commitments to local development has been to the regeneration programme in Ballymun. Ballymun Regeneration Ltd engaged NCI to develop avenues for learning, personal development and community sustainability through the provision of educational opportunities linked to the regeneration programme.

“Our approach has been to create opportunities for people to develop the skills and knowledge they need in a way that suits them and to design learning opportunities that help people and organisations develop their community for the better,” says Michèle Ryan, NCI.

“The courses we run in Ballymun reflect this and have focussed on valuable skills such as project management,

community engagement and partnership working, together with skills of renewal, leadership and active citizenship, all so vital for the success of regeneration,” continues Michèle. “So far we have worked with nearly 800 participants on these programmes and we will continue to work hard to ensure that NCI makes a positive contribution to Ballymun.”



**A list of NCI programmes and courses including those run by CAFTA available in Ballymun for 2004/05 will appear in forthcoming newsletters.**

### ONGOING POPPINTREE PARK CONSULTATION

Design workshops have been organised to determine what should be included in the new Poppintree Park will take place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2004, in the Ballymun Civic Centre. If you would like to attend the workshops or have any questions about the process, please contact Helena, telephone 01 675 5651 or Aine, telephone 01 675 5662

## Solve your dispute through mediation

**M**ediation Ballymun is an independent community based organisation, set up in 2003 with the support of Ballymun Community Law Centre. Some common problems dealt with through community mediation include disputes over noise, housing, debts, harassment, property damage, invasion of privacy, dogs, litter, parking, etc.

The aim of Mediation Ballymun is to provide a quality mediation service to people and develop alternative methods of conflict and dispute resolution within the local community.

The organisation is managed by a steering group and supported by a part-time Development Manager and Co-ordinator. Volunteer mediators are trained in community mediation and come from a variety of backgrounds with many living or working in Ballymun.

Community Mediation is based on two ideas, the best people to resolve a dispute are the people who are actually involved and sometimes it can be useful to have the help of an impartial outsider to find a way forward, where feelings are running high or communication has broken down.

Mediators ensure that everyone involved in a dispute gets a chance to tell their story and to listen to the other party. The mediators help the parties to clarify their differences, identify what they have in common and try to find a mutually acceptable solution.

### Getting in touch:

If you would like to become a mediator or if you are involved in a conflict, please contact Mediation Ballymun at 087 689 4680.

## Moving into a New Home?

**The Housing Transition Programme will give you a great start.**

70% of households have taken part in the Housing Transition programme and the feedback is very positive: “It was very interesting and very informative, and they told me everything I wanted to know about my house”, said one resident from Marewood.

The Housing Transition programme provides support to people who are moving from their flats to their new homes. People on the programme have an opportunity to ask questions, to get up to date information and to meet their neighbours. They discuss topics like gardening, home decorating and how to create a safe neighbourhood. It all happens in a relaxed atmosphere with a cup of tea.

The programme is organised by CAFTA (Community and Family Training Agency) in partnership with the National College of Ireland, BRL and Dublin City Council.

“Residents who participate in the transition programme find it most helpful and supportive and we are constantly

hearing from people who want to do the course having heard about it from their friends and neighbours,” says Colm O Muiri, from CAFTA.

CAFTA's ‘Post Transition’ team works alongside Dublin City Council to provide support to people after they move into their new areas.

CAFTA is a community development project which was founded in 1987 to provide education, training and support to people in Ballymun. It provides training in community development, community leadership, group work and facilitation. Its Home and Self Management course is a first step training which includes personal development and practical skills. CAFTA works with FAS in providing Return to Work and Updating Business Skills courses. It has strong links with the National University of Ireland, Maynooth, who accredit some of their Certificate and Diploma courses. Its creche “Little Rascals” provides a home away from home for the children of participants on its courses.

**For more information contact CAFTA at 01 883 2134**

## Demolition



**Pearse Tower has now been successfully demolished.**

Ballymun Regeneration Ltd (BRL) Civic Centre, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 9  
ph: 01 675 5660 fax: 01 842 1443 Web: [www.brl.ie](http://www.brl.ie)