



# BALLYMUN

## REGENERATION NEWS

December 2005/January 2006 Issue 49

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*Open Day in the Civic Centre, Ballymun*

## RESIDENTS ATTEND INFORMATION SESSION ON NEW HOUSING

**B**allymun Regeneration Ltd was delighted that so many people came to the Open Day on Tuesday 22nd November 2005 in the Atrium of the Civic Centre, Ballymun. 160 adults attended the information session on new housing and met staff from BRL, Dublin City Council and BRL funded projects such as GAP, Breaking Ground, axis and CAFTA. Lisney Property Consultants who are selling homes and managing the sale and letting of shops, offices and other commercial developments in Ballymun, were in attendance, too.

Most people who attended are still living in the flats and were interested in finding out about when they will be allocated new housing. There were also a lot of queries from people interested in buying new private homes and in joining some of the various clubs and organisations funded by BRL.

*Happy New Year*

*from all at*

*Ballymun Regeneration Ltd*

#### HEALTH & SAFETY

If you see anything that you are concerned about on the building sites outside of working hours please contact Ballymun Gardaí at 01 666 4400



Dublin City  
Baile Átha Cliath

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The Active Living Ballymun for older people stand at the Open Day

Michael McDonagh, Chief Architect with BRL gave a presentation on new housing in the Council Chamber at

4pm and 7pm. The presentations were followed by an open forum with Eamon Farrelly and Michael McDonagh who answered questions from residents about all aspects of the project.

Tea and coffee was served throughout the afternoon and there was a supervised Activities Area for children.

All those who attended the Information Session were asked to provide feedback on the event in the form of a 4-page questionnaire. We are very grateful to all those who took the time to fill in the questionnaire and we will use the information provided to inform future events for residents, such as Open Days.

Completed questionnaires were put into a free draw for a weekend away for two to any Lynch Hotel in Ireland. We wish the winner, Liam Coughlan from Sillogue Gardens, a lovely weekend break in one of the many Lynch Hotels throughout Ireland.

## Emerald Housing wins annual energy awards 2005

Ballymun's new flagship ecological housing scheme, the Emerald Project, has just won a national award for its design and specification, even before it begins construction!

The Emerald Project, a joint initiative of Ballymun Regeneration Ltd, CLUID housing Association and The Emerald Housing Co-operative, will be Ireland's most environmentally friendly and healthy housing. Features include:

- a (CO<sub>2</sub> neutral) central wood fired heating system
- using the sun to help heat hot water and provide electricity
- water-conserving sanitary ware in bathrooms
- capturing rainwater for use in toilets
- in-wall and under-floor heating and good daylighting
- insulation levels - generally 50% better than building regulations - making for very comfortable and cheap-to-run living
- extensive recycling facilities
- courtyard areas for play, food growing, social events and composting.

Most homes have their own doors and access to an enclosed shared courtyard through their own gardens, while apartments have their own large terraces.

The building also features green roofs for habitat and water attenuation. There will be a community/visitor area, where real time results of the buildings

environmental performance will be demonstrated.

Emerald is designed as a mix of social and affordable housing and is supported by a generous research and demonstration grant from Sustainable Energy Ireland (SEI)'s House of Tomorrow programme. This award for 'excellence in design and specification' is a welcome recognition of the efforts the clients, supporters and design team have invested so far and is welcome encouragement for the project as it goes to tender.



Noel Dempsey T.D., Minister for Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and David Taylor, Chief Executive of SEI presenting the award to Brian O'Brien, Solearth and Paraic Davis, Davis Associates

Construction of the Emerald Project will commence in April 2006 and should be completed at the end of 2007.

**Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Emerald Housing co-operative and living in the project should contact Roger or Simon at 01 862 5846.**

## Breaking Ground - launch of important new artworks

**O**n Wednesday 9th November, Breaking Ground, the Ballymun Regeneration Limited art commissioning programme launched an important series of new art works.

Outstanding sculptural works by three of Ireland's most accomplished young sculptors Andrew Clancy, Cathy Delaney, and Corban Walker, and a compelling new film by Graham Parker and Grace Weir, were officially inaugurated by the Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, Mr John O'Donoghue. The phenomenally talented Fuzzy Logic jazz ensemble, who have also been commissioned by Breaking Ground to work with the young musicians in the Ballymun Wind Band, performed at the launch.

"This is a hugely significant moment for the arts in Ireland. Each of these art works has taken the artists several years to research, develop and produce, and are an important contribution to our contemporary visual arts heritage", says Aisling Prior, Breaking Ground Artistic Director.

■ Graham Parker and Grace Weirs' 'sight unseen' 36 minute film will be screened at Departure Area B at Dublin Airport and in the Ballymun Shopping Centre

until the end of the year. Shot from the windows of six flats in the 14 storey Thomas Clarke tower in Ballymun, due for demolition in 2006, the film is subtitled with interviews with the residents, describing both the 'views' that they can see, and the 'views' that they hold, just as these sight-lines are about to disappear.

- Andrew Clancy's 'Cathode/Anode' reflects on the civic and physical energy, which has been powering the regeneration of Ballymun. A walk through the internally-lit passage which divides the sculpture in two, gives the impression of moving through a 'dynamically charged environment'.
- At the new Poppintree Neighbourhood Centre, Catherine Delaney's dazzlingly beautiful ground-based sculpture looks as though molten aluminium has been splashed across 100 square metres of the paving of a new public seating area.
- Corban Walker's 'Zip', is a virtuoso work in light. Its playful op-art qualities delicately animate and illuminate the vast atrium space of the busy Civic Centre in Ballymun.



## Looking after your garden this winter

**T**he weather may be getting colder and the evenings shorter but there is still plenty to be getting on with in the garden. Now is also a time to relax and think back over the gardening year, the successes and lessons learned, and to plan for next Spring!

- Get some bird boxes into the garden and put out some nuts and fat-balls to help the birds beat the chill at this time of year. Remember they will be feeling the cold too and the more places they have to get food from, the easier they can get through the winter.
- Reduce watering of plants in pots because at this time

of year, all their growth nearly stops completely.

- Collect fallen leaves from the ground and pile them up in a bag or wire container and in a year they will have rotted down to form leaf mould... great for mixing with your soil!
- Now is the time to prune any trees in your garden.
- Hardy trees and shrubs can still be planted out if the soil is in good condition and not frozen.
- Time is running out, so if you've any tulip bulbs left plant now for a colourful display next Spring, planting them together will give an even greater impact!

## Community projects and facility development

### Poppintree Neighbourhood Centre

Building work on Poppintree Neighbourhood Centre is nearly completed and we hope that some of the shops will be trading before Christmas. The Poppintree Neighbourhood Centre is a mixed-use development consisting of 37 housing units (27 apartments, 10 houses), 6 retail units and 4 workshops. Two of the shop units have already been fitted out by Centra convenience store, while three others have been rented to a pharmacy, a barber shop and a beauty salon.

### Coultry Neighbourhood Centre



The realignment of Coultry Road is completed and the new link road to Santry Avenue and the construction of offices are due to be completed later this year. The Coultry Neighbourhood Centre consists of three separate developments:

- A three-storey building comprising 4 retail units at ground floor with 14 two-bed and 2 one-bed apartments, with associated car-parking and loading area.
- A three-storey building comprising offices and meeting rooms at ground level, with apartments over and associated car-parking facilities.
- A single storey crèche with car parking to accommodate the existing Glór na Gael crèche.

The apartments are completed and are currently on sale. One bedroom duplex units are available from €190,000 while two bedroom apartments start at €220,000.

**Details of shop lettings and further information is available from Lisney 01 884 0700**

### Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre

Sillogue Neighbourhood Centre incorporates a sheltered housing scheme for older adults (CLUID Housing Association) along with retail facilities and community meeting rooms/offices. Tenders for the development have been received by CLUID Housing Association and work is expected to start early next year. The retail facilities will be owned by DCC/BRL. The community/day centre is designed to be large enough to cater for the adjoining DCC senior citizen residents. BRL is part-funding the day centre and non-residential elements.

### Shangan Neighbourhood Centre

The Shangan Neighbourhood Centre is due to be completed next year. The Centre contains three retail units, one office suite, 19 two-bed apartments and 12 one-bed apartments.

### Ballymun East Community Facilities

Work has begun on updating the Shangan & Coultry Neighbourhood Plans to identify the groups to be accommodated and what facilities will be developed in the vicinity of the Virgin Mary Church, Schools and the Ballymun East Community Centre. Already new childcare and community meeting rooms are being developed as part of the Neighbourhood Centre.

### The Youth Facilities Building

The Youth Facilities Building, completed in September 2005, allowed BRYR to relocate from their existing accommodation so that it can grow and develop its services. BRYR provide facilities and after school activities for the 12–21 year age group - the age group most vulnerable to drug usage.

BRYR is located in the existing Ballymun Recreation Centre beside the Holy Spirit church. The existing building was refurbished and redeveloped and an extension was built to provide an Arts room, internet facilities, public café, conference rooms and youth workers offices.

### Horizons Building

The Horizons Centre is developed by Ballymun local Drugs Task Force alongside Ballymun Regeneration Ltd in the hope of providing quality community facilities.

Initial service work for Horizons started in April. Building work is due to be completed in Spring 2006.

The Horizons Centre will accommodate a number of services that many people in Ballymun rely on for

support when confronted with their own or a loved one's addiction, including the Ballymun Youth Action Project (BYAP), the Urrús Community Addition Training project, the STAR Women's project, the Aftercare Service

which provides ongoing support for those who are moving on and away from their drug misusing past and the Springboard-Contact Service which supports those in the early stages of addressing their addiction problems.

## GAP review

When someone mentions the environment it often makes us think of the many bad things happening in the world; poverty, famine, drought, flooding, desertification, global warming and so on. In the most recent studies carried out, Ireland recycles the least in Europe and creates the most waste per head. However, there are also a lot of very positive things happening in Ballymun. Local people have demonstrated that thinking global and acting local is more than just a slogan. The following stories and photographs show there are a lot of people in Ballymun who care about the environment and who are doing something about it. A large number of environmental projects based in Ballymun have even won national awards in the past 5 years. If you would like to try and get something started in your area or to learn more about any of the projects described below please contact GAP Ballymun.

### GAP Environmental Action Teams

What does it involve?

- Joining an environmental course - with free gifts including a compost bin, low energy light bulbs and eco friendly washing up liquid.

- Learning more about how to consume less water and energy and create less waste
- Shopping - how to help the environment and your own health
- How to travel in more eco-friendly ways and save money on petrol bills
- Learning about simple actions you can take to make a difference



The GAP team

The meetings are easy going and fun, and we'll provide a Fair Trade cuppa - maybe even a biscuit. Over 300 people have already completed the Action Team programme in Ballymun!

### GAP Schools Programme to be featured on RTE

In its fourth year the GAP schools programme was profiled on RTE's 'Eco Eye'. Two Ballymun schools were featured; Scoil an tSeachtar Laoch and St Joseph's SNS. The piece illustrates actions they have taken to help the environment including the Green Flag award. **Check out Eco Eye on RTE in the coming months.**

The GAP schools programme supports and encourages staff, teachers and pupils to take small actions to make their local environment better. The programme is available to any class in Ballymun, to find out more contact Lynn or Simon at GAP.

**WELCOME**  
..to your new area

**Global Action Plan**  
Global Action Plan (GAP) in Ballymun aims to provide people with practical tools to build and strengthen sustainable communities by caring, providing information and taking action.

**How can we help?**  
We will be visiting homes in your new area to provide advice & assist with:

- RECYCLING: What to put in your green wheeie bin?. How to compost?
- GARDENING: What's in your garden now? Need some garden advice?
- SAVING ENERGY: How can you reduce your electricity & heating bills?

**Any ideas?**  
How would you like to maintain & improve your new area?

Contact us at the GAP office, 27 Shangan Road, Ballymun, Dublin 9.  
Phone: 01 8625846

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### **Sillogue Aisling project wins Vodafone Nature Award for community garden project**

This autumn the Sillogue Aisling project became the 5th youth group in Ballymun to win this coveted national award in the past three years. All of these groups received funding from these awards to carry out community initiatives. In all cases GAP helped these organisations to draft their plan of action and help them apply for funding. If you would like help starting an environmental youth project in your area please feel free to contact us.

### **Shangan & Sillogue Community Recycling Centres go from strength to strength**

2005 is already the best year for recycling in Ballymun. This year the two community recycling centres have collected more recycling than ever before. There is a weekly eco club with games, art workshops and other fun activities for young people who bring recycling to the centres. Trips and excursions take place each Summer with an annual Fairtrade football tournament too. Also into it's second year is the 'Future Leaders' mentoring programme; helping younger people to become leaders at the recycling centres.

### **Even More Garden Action Teams!!!**

The GAP Garden Action Teams are still going strong in Ballymun. They are now available to anyone in Ballymun with a garden! If you would like to get some gardening advice or do more in your garden, then the Garden Action Team could be right up your street! You'll be joining a group of over 60 people who have already completed a Garden Action team!

For those of you who haven't heard, the Garden Action Teams are a group of four residents who meet up for 2 hours (whenever suits!) over 6-7 weeks. The team learn

some gardening tips and help each other do some work in their gardens, and its all done in your own home! We are taking names now for teams to begin in Spring 2006.

Due to the great interest in gardening in Ballymun, GAP has a new gardener, Brenda Palmer. She will be assisting on garden action teams and is especially interested in organic gardening.



### **Eco Lovliness and peace of mind**

Many all-purpose cleaners contain individual chemicals, or combinations of chemicals that are harmful to humans, wildlife and the environment. Lilly's, an Irish company based in West Cork offers an alternative. Her products use natural ingredients such as essential oils, baking soda and vinegar. Lilly's Eco Cleaning products and the Ecover product range are now stocked by GAP if you would like to try them.

**If you would like to find out more about any of these projects you can contact GAP at; tel 01 862 5846, fax 01 862 0989 or [info@globalactionplan.ie](mailto:info@globalactionplan.ie)**



# COULTRY PARK & PLAYGROUND

Coultry Park is a neighbourhood park for the residents of Ballymun. This fantastic park has lots of play and sports facilities. The playground has play areas for three age groups: 2-8, 6-12 and 10-15. It is made mainly from natural materials and has an organic design, which makes it welcoming to children of all ages.



1 Hexagonal swing with tyres



2 Giant revolving disc



3 25 metre cable run



4 Wobbly timber bridge



5 Jumping discs



6 Big slide



7 Bell climbing poles



8 Rope bridge



9 Car tyre swing



WHERE IS COULTRY PARK?



COULTRY PARK

WHERE IS THE PLAYGROUND?



WHAT IS IN THE PLAYGROUND?



21 Whirligig



20 Platform house



19 Toddler's swing



18 Small see-saw



17 Rocking horses



16 Dance chimes



15 Large digger



14 Sailing boat



10 Bouncing flower



11 Tractor and trailer



12 Climbing wall



13 Rope nest

The park will open on the **22nd December 2005**  
and there will be an official opening on the **28th January 2006**  
*Please help the park wardens to take care of your park*

## BRL mid-term madness

**B**allymun Regeneration Ltd provided a two-day activity programme for the November mid-term break 2005 for 6–15 year olds. Almost 60 local children enjoyed a range of organised activities for only €5 each.

One day the children were brought to “ENRG” Adventure Centre where they enjoyed rock climbing, a rainforest adventure and much more. “This is the best day of my life!” was the comment from one little boy. On another day a Fun Swim was organised for the children to practice their swimming skills and to splash about with floats, etc.

For further information please contact **Debby Clarke, BRL Play Development Officer** at 01 222 5609 or **Emma Byrne, BRL Sports Development Officer** at 01 222 5617.



*Liam Boyle (Elvis), Carla Fox, Holly Power and Paige Mason from the Whiteacre Youth Club, Ballymun*

## Sports Life International - where sports and life come together.

### Friday night leagues

Coach **Dan Tabb** is calling on boys and girls aged 13–17 years to join his basketball and football leagues from now until next February on Friday nights in the Trinity Comprehensive Sports Hall and it only costs €2 per person each evening.

■ Basketball in November and December on Friday evenings from 8–10 pm

■ Football in January and February 2006 on Friday evenings from 8–10 pm

From January to March 2006 Coach Dan Tabb will also be running a Basketball League for 6–17 year olds in the Trinity Comprehensive Football Pitch and the cost is €25 per player for the course.

Contact **Coach Dan Tabb** at axis, Main Street, Ballymun.

## Who Cares? 624 people do!

**T**he planting of the first amaptocare trees began in November. Since the beginning of the work in Oct 2002, 624 people have donated trees at a minimum of €50 each - investing in Ballymun's future. Almost half of these trees will be planted between now and April 2006 throughout Coultry, Poppintree, Shangan, Sillogue, Balcurriss and Balbutcher. The trees will be distinctive because beside each one will stand a red enamel plaque with the donor's name and their response to the question: “If this tree could speak, what would it say for me?”

Noel Martin, recently retired Communications Officer of the Neighbourhood Council is an amaptocare tree donor. His plaque reads, “I offer you our fine Beech tree as a testament to the strength of character and determination of the folk of Ballymun, who fought long and hard for the regeneration of the area”.

Thank you to all the tree donors for their commitment to the project. It's great to see the trees being planted in Ballymun. We hope they stay here for a long time to come!

Ballymun Regeneration Ltd (BRL) Civic Centre, Main Street, Ballymun, Dublin 9

Tel: 01 222 5660 Fax: 01 842 1443 Web: [www.brl.ie](http://www.brl.ie)