



The Malahide Guardian

Newsletter of the Malahide Community Forum

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CASINO SAVED FRY RAILWAY RETURNS

The news that Casino will be restored and the Fry Model Railway housed there has been greeted with delight throughout Malahide. Both were made possible by the vision and generosity of the late Micheal Gaffney who bequeathed €1.5 million for the purpose.

A small group of local residents lobbied hard to ensure that Mr Gaffney's bequest be honoured. Local politicians and officials of Fingal County Council recognised the unique opportunity and actively supported its approval.

There will be four parts to the development:

First, the construction of a new building to house the railway, other displays, a shop and toilets.

Second, the restoration and conservation of the original Casino building. It will be open to the public and available for use as a tea room.

Third, the conservation of the model railway and upgrading its presentation.

Fourth, the treatment of the entire site as a heritage, educational and recreational amenity for the community of Malahide.

It is hoped that the developments will be completed by mid 2013.

ASSISTED LIVING *An Appeal*

For the past two and a half years a sub-committee of the Forum has been exploring possibilities for the provision of an assisted / independent living facility in Malahide. The need for such a facility was revealed in the community survey completed in 2008.

The committee has done extensive research, visited many facilities elsewhere, carried out surveys with local GPs and other healthcare professionals, met on several occasions with potential service providers, held discussions with a developer, commissioned costings from a quantity surveyor, and met with Kathleen Lynch TD, Minister of State with responsibility for Disability, Older People, Equality and Mental Health.

While there is evident support for such a facility in Malahide, its provision has been hampered by a total lack of funding either from private or state sources. Until such time as development funds can be found, it is impossible to make any further progress.

The Forum remains committed to assisting in the delivery of an appropriate facility to Malahide. The current economic climate is certainly not encouraging but we wonder if there is anyone in Malahide or elsewhere who might provide the necessary financial impetus? If so, the Forum sub-committee would be glad to hear from them at

malahideassistedliving@gmail.com

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For further information contact: Hon. Sec., Malahide Community Forum, 845 2412, e-mail: curegmw@indigo.ie

CASTLE DEVELOPMENT

The new facilities at Malahide Castle & Gardens will open in two phases.

Phase 1 will complete in the first week of July next. This will involve the opening of the redeveloped Castle including the museum, new interpretation centre, an impaired mobility lift to the first floor and access to the west lawn.

Phase 2 will see the opening of the redeveloped courtyard including the visitor centre, retail shop and the AVOCA restaurant and shop and the Walled Botanical Gardens. This phase will complete early in September.

SHUTTLE: NEW APPLICATION

The Malahide Shuttle project group is preparing a new application for a licence. As part of this, two pieces of research have been completed. The first was a survey on the station platform to establish how people travel to the station and whether they would use the Shuttle; 431 interviews were achieved. The second was an on-line survey of travel habits in Malahide. There were over 550 responses and the project group thanks all who participated.

Reports of both surveys can be found on the Shuttle website www.malahideshuttle.ie

A final piece of research is to analyse the fit between the timing of Dublin Bus services and the trains at the station. This cannot be done until the new Network Direct services are in place but the launch of these has been delayed.

TREE PRUNING

Residents may have noticed the significant amount of pruning/lopping of trees and hedgerows around Malahide recently. This is in keeping with Fingal County Council's Tree Strategy for Fingal which can be read on the Council's website www.fingalcoco.ie Due to limited resources the Council cannot prune on an annual basis, so work done now is meant to last for a couple of years.

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED

Care to Drive is a volunteer transport programme run by the Irish Cancer Society. It recruits and trains volunteers to drive patients to and from their hospital appointments. Currently volunteers are being sought to drive patients to and from Connolly Hospital, Blanchardstown, the Mater and/or St. James' Hospital. The service is free to both the hospital and the patient with the Irish Cancer Society incurring all costs. Volunteers are paid for all their fuel expenses. Volunteers commit to driving two days a month (Monday to Friday). For more information call Gail on 01 231 0566 or email gflinter@irishcancer.ie

TIDY TOWNS WORK PARTIES

The Tidy Towns Committee is organising work parties every Saturday morning from now until the end of July. Volunteers are asked to meet at 10.30am in the train station car park and to bring gardening gloves and other tools such as hand trowels and brushes etc.

GOLF CLUB MEMORABILIA

Malahide Golf Club is seeking memorabilia relating to the club since its foundation in 1892. Would anyone who can help please contact the club at (01) 846 1611, Brian Bolger at (086) 2488172 or brianbolger@ireland.com

CARERS' ASSOCIATION

If you are a family carer in Malahide you can avail of the services of the North Dublin Carers' Association, Ireland's national voluntary organisation for and of family carers in the home. There is a drop-in centre in Blanchardstown and the association also offers in-home respite services, support groups and training courses. **For further information please contact North Dublin Carers' Association, telephone 01 8119555, email carersblanchardstown@carersireland.com or visit the website www.carersireland.com**

How to contact Malahide Community Forum

By Post: Hon Sec., Malahide Community Forum, 1A Biscayne, Malahide, Co. Dublin. **Phone** 845 2142
Email: curegmw@indigo.ie **Website:** www.malahideforum.ie

Committee members: **Chairman:** David Greene (The Moorings)
Hon. Secretary: Margaret Cure (Biscayne)

Nuala Burke (Townyard Lane), David Cashill (Castleheath), Michael Dowling (Chamley Park), Deirdre Doyle (St. Margarets Rd), Gerry Duggan (Broomfield), Margaret Farrell (Sonesta), Michael Giblin (Old Golf Links), Michael Gill (Church Rd), Mark Hely Hutchinson (Church Rd), Susan Kelly (Abbott's Hill), Marna Law (Marina), Donal McCarthy (O'Hanlon's Lane), Helen McGivern (Old St/Railway Ave), Robert McKernan (Ard na Mara), Leone Mitchell (Chalfont), John Moclair (Gaybrook), Sandra O'Carolan (Seapark), Breda O'Mahony (Bissett's Strand), Desmond O'Neill (Seamount), Harry O'Neill (Auburn Grove), Toddy Radford (Millview)

Vice-Chairman: Hazel Bolton (Castle Terrace)
Hon. Treasurer: Irene Dehaene (The Haven)