



The Malahide Guardian

Newsletter of the Malahide Community Forum

November 2013

Issue 39

Shuttle Now Running

The Malahide Shuttle is now providing a reliable service from the western and eastern outlying areas to the station meeting most DART trains in the morning and evening peak.

Following the experience of the first few weeks, some changes have been made to the schedule and some little-used services are being dropped. These changes will be reviewed again in a few weeks. In addition there will be Introductory Offer of 10 trips for €10 available up to Christmas. Up-to-date details of timetables are on the Shuttle website www.malahideshuttle.ie



At the launch of the Shuttle: Mark Hely Hutchinson (Community Forum), Kieran Dennison (Mayor of Fingal), Vivienne Keavey (Malahide Credit Union) and Michael Giblin (Community Forum).

The launch of the Shuttle is one of four initiatives suggested by residents of Malahide during a community survey conducted in 2008. Other suggestions were for a medical centre (several are now under consideration) and for non-sporting activities for young people. (Foróige now meets weekly in the Tennis Club on Thursdays from 8.00 to 9.30 pm. Contact Bryan Gavin on 086 851 9639 or Email bryan.gavin@foroige.ie). However a fourth suggestion for an assisted living facility for elderly people has not taken off. Despite a great deal of research and hard work by a sub-committee, neither a suitable site nor a developer could be found. The need for such a facility remains.

Tidy Towns

We Could do Better

The Tidy Towns competition results were announced in early October. Malahide was awarded a silver medal and a total of 293 marks, unchanged on 2012. Compared to last year, one mark was gained for sustainable waste and resource management, but one mark was dropped for tidiness.

There was praise for many areas in and around Malahide but there were some critical remarks as follows:

- *Litter was observed in the grounds of the Tennis Club, with railings also needing attention and old refuse bags needed removing.

- *Hanging baskets flanking the entrance to the Garda station needed replacing and attention.

- *There was an ongoing issue of litter around the Ammonite statue on the village green.

- *Some residential areas had light litter.

- *The bottle bank at Seabank car-park was surrounded by rubbish such as boxes and beer bottles.

- *There were significant problems with weeds and thistles on the path along the Coast Road, especially in beds and planted areas.

The full adjudication report for Malahide can be found at www.tidytowns.ie under The History and then Adjudication Reports 2013 for Fingal.

The Forum is considering adopting an area or a project for 2014 and all clubs and other voluntary organisations are encouraged to consider something similar.

***Please complete the Reader Survey;
see other side of page.***

The Pipes are Calling

The Malahide Pipe Band is seeking new members to join and learn to play the Bagpipes & Drums. If you or anyone you know has thought of playing the pipes or snare drums, now is your opportunity to try. If you have seen the Pipe Band parading in Malahide before, you could join them next time!

The local band was established almost 60 years ago in 1954 with the objective of promoting and teaching piping and drumming. The band plays at local events and represents Malahide at competitions around the country and abroad. Classes are run for beginners by a small group of dedicated volunteers. Young people from ten upwards as well as adults are welcome and evening classes are organised in Malahide. For further information Email malahidepipeband@dublin.ie or see the website at www.dublin.ie/websites/malahidepipeband

Village Trees

A full audit of all trees in the Malahide village area is virtually complete. From that audit three types of trees will be identified by Council experts; "survivable" trees which are in good condition and need little attention; "treatable" trees which have the potential to cause trouble but can be managed to ensure their survival and finally "terminal" trees which are beyond saving. The latter will be removed over the next eighteen months and replaced with mature trees more suited to their environment. The "treatable" trees are those whose roots are damaging pavements.

The Council has been experimenting with different solutions to the root problem but a full six months of winter is needed to decide finally which is the best option.

The Public Realm

Fingal County Council is continuing to work on its Public Realm strategy for Malahide and it is hoped that details may be available before the year end. The project is being driven by senior managers at the Council and it is expected that there will be definite action plans announced rather than vague and woolly aspirations.

A Future for the Malahide Guardian?

We now want to research if there is a viable future for the *Malahide Guardian* and, if so, what it is to be.

Since its first publication more than ten years ago the newsletter of Malahide Community Forum has been distributed widely to homes throughout Malahide. It has also been available in the library and in many shops and other outlets. For the past ten years it has also been online at our website www.malahideforum.ie

There are now many sources of information about Malahide both online and offline. The Forum's own website provides up to date information on matters such as water or traffic restrictions and also carries reports from the monthly meetings of the Forum committee and other items of immediate interest to residents.

Distribution to homes of the print edition of the *Malahide Guardian* is carried out by volunteers from the various Residents' Associations. However some areas do not have associations and others have difficulty finding volunteers. There is a particular difficulty in distributing to apartment blocks and other 'gated' communities.

So the question arises, should we cease publication of the *Malahide Guardian* in printed form and issue an online edition only? Or should we cease distribution to individual homes and make printed copies available in selected outlets only? Or should we cease publication entirely?

We want to consult widely before reaching any decision. Accordingly we have designed an online reader survey on www.surveymonkey.com/s/98MS5D5 or you can link to it via the Forum website shown above.

We are aware that some of our readers don't use the internet so, for those who would like to participate, a printed version of the survey is available by contacting our Hon. Secretary, Margaret Cure, on 8452142.

We have also introduced a dedicated Email address malahideguardian@gmail.com at which readers can leave comments relating to the *Malahide Guardian*, its relevance to them, whether or not they would wish to see its publication continued and in what form.

May we ask you, please, to take a couple of minutes to let us have your views? Thank you!

How to contact Malahide Community Forum

By Post: Hon Sec., Malahide Community Forum, 1A Biscayne, Malahide, Co. Dublin. **Phone** 845 2142

Email: curegmw@gmail.com

Website: www.malahideforum.ie

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

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

Nuala Burke (Townyard Lane), David Cashill (Castleheath), Kevin Daly (Seapark), 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), Marian Keane (Chalfont), John Moclair (Gaybrook), Paul Nevin (Milford), Desmond O'Neill (Seamount), Harry O'Neill (Auburn Grove), Toddy Radford (Millview), Mary Ryan (Bissett's Strand), Brian Walshe (Seabury)