



Cars, Cyclists & Traffic Lights

DÚN LAOGHAIRE CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

“The traffic is worse in Dún Laoghaire and its all because of the cycle lanes..” I’m sure we have heard this said in the town over the last months. Maybe we have said it ourselves, but is it true?

There have been a lot of changes in Dún Laoghaire town in 2020. During the first lockdown many changes were made to the roads, such as the replacing of a car lane by the new cycle lane on the coast road from Sandycove to Blackrock. While this was a visible example there were other changes that may have had an even larger impact; changes to the traffic lights.

During the first lockdown, the signalling of the traffic lights was changed to reflect the decrease of traffic on the roads and the increase in pedestrians. These changes have not reverted to how they were pre-Covid.

Some traffic lights are part of the SCATS traffic



Image courtesy of DLRCC

management system and are controlled by Dublin City, though DLR can report that they are experiencing problems if they want the SCATS system changed.

Changes to the signalling has given more time to pedestrians and less time to car moving through the junctions, this has created tail backs and delays, which in turn have lead to a reported increase in rat running through streets in the town, the Tivoli Terraces, Corrig Ave, etc..

There is a policy of giving priority to pedestrians,

cyclists, and public transport before private cars. Indeed, all levels of government (local/national) are committed to trying to reduce private car use. Therefore, reducing traffic congestion may not be seen as desirable. Reducing congestion increases driver numbers and no part of the government wants to see that.

The addition of the cycle lanes is seen as a success by many and the data backs that up. DLRCC saw a high of over 20,000 cyclists use the coastal cycle route per week, but this has reduced

slightly in recent months. Numbers for last month show approx. 15,000 per week. The route is currently the most heavily used route in the County for cyclists.

When Covid-19 is finally over and workers start returning to their offices in the city, traffic levels will surely increase, this could be a worry. However, it is reassuring to hear that DLR have engaged TUD to carry out an independent assessment of the route which will include an opportunity for public input.



Is congestion in Dún Laoghaire all the fault of cycle lanes? The simple answer is.. No. The congestion should not solely be put at the foot of Cycle Lanes. If they are removed the traffic will not return to preCOVID-19 levels, the signalling is just as important to congestion. We might just need to adapt to more congestion or less cars.

We need and will hopefully get a more nuanced picture of what is happening in the town and how we want to live in it.

Visit our website for more details

Field on Tivoli Terrace South

Many residents will be aware of the field on Tivoli Terrace South that was used most recently by St Joesphs FC.

It was purchased at the beginning of the year by Kouchin Holdings who plan to develop the site – see indicative scheme. This would require re-zoning from its current status as ‘Open Space, Park.....to preserve

and provide for open space with ancillary active recreational amenities’.

The DLCRA assisted in creating a questionnaire to ascertain the views of local residents – this was distributed door to door and was available online. Over 70 responses were received from 140 questionnaires and the message was clear that the residents favoured retention of the current zoning and its use as a community resource. A



Source: www.kouchin.com possible model could be the park recently developed on Hudson Rd.

Councillors and TD’s have been contacted by the DLCRA and local residents’ associations requesting that the land is not rezoned. So far the response has been encouraging with most saying that they will not support the re-zoning of the field.

It is hoped that the field will be developed as a green space to benefit the whole community, in particular local schools that do not have outdoor facilities.

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

Shopping Centre's Future

Coltard Ltd (the Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre owner) has just recently received the go ahead from DLR Co Co to turn most of the third floor of the centre into the much needed Primary Care Centre for Dún Laoghaire.

The centre would occupy around 4,000sq meters and include both a private GP practice and the HSE centre that would together accommodate up to 115 medical professionals. It is estimated that up to 360



patients per day would be attending the centre during its Monday-Friday operations.

The shopping centre management have confirmed that they hope to begin fit-out in early 2021. It is expected to take 8-12 months to complete the works before an official opening. As part of the development a number

of retailers on the third floor will move within the centre to the second floor and Peter Marks will close their store. A number of changes to the exterior of the shopping centre mainly to provide more windows to the third floor are planned.

Hopefully this is the beginning of some positive developments at the centre.

How do I..?

If you are thinking of setting up a residents association or maybe are a community group and you want some assistance. You can always ask the DLCRA for help & advice.

Please contact us at info@dlcra.ie maybe we can help with. Whether its issues on social media, websites, questionnaires, leaflets, grants, talking to the council, printing or anything really, we are just a group of members of residents associations and we are here to help each other.

A Christmas Message from the Churches of Dún Laoghaire

Catholic Church

Hello from St Michael's church. To all of you reading this newsletter we extend our warmest greetings. It is our wish that you and all your loved ones are safe and well. To all of you who are finding the going difficult in these strange times be assured that you are remembered in the masses and prayers of the priests of this parish.

Although closed for public worship much has been going on. Since March the internal space inside St Michael's had been tastefully enhanced. The internal walls have been cleaned and stained glass windows restored to their intended effectiveness. The church is a safe and protected space for private prayer and can be an oasis of comfort between 10 and 4 each day.

We hope to reopen for services at Christmas time.

Please keep an eye out for appropriate notices. Keep well and a happy Christmas to all people in our community.

Evangelical

Christmas greetings from all of us here at Dún Laoghaire Evangelical Church. With a momentous, life defining year now behind us we would like to wish you a peaceful Christmas. We pray for comfort for the bereaved, courage and support for those who have lost their livelihoods and health for all those suffering from Covid and we thank God for all of you frontline workers who have been there for the rest of us in such challenging times. Most of all, we pray for strength, hope and love in 2021 for everybody reading this. Happy Christmas Dún Laoghaire.

Methodist

The Methodists have a long history in Dún Laoghaire,



dating back to 1836. Our Sunday morning worship service is normally at 11am with Sunday Club and creche available.

In 2015, as part of the outreach into the community from our Church 'The Open Door' project started. Each Tuesday morning from 10am to 11.30am the Church opens its doors to anyone who wishes to drop in, for a cup of tea or coffee, have a chat, or just sit and meditate, read or pray.

It is hoped to re-open this project in 2021

Please check our website for up to date details of our services and feel free to join our online Sunday service at www.dlmc.org

We wish you all a very peaceful, if very different, Christmas as we celebrate Jesus' love for us by coming to live among us.

Anglican

The Magic of Advent and Christmas

Advent is that very special time which we should use to prepare for the coming of Messiah in the form of an innocent and helpless infant. It is also a time to re-evaluate and re-prioritise in our lives. We bring joy to those around us as well as those far away and we miss.

Christ Church is open, now both for in-person-worship as well as through the live-streaming. Our Services are on Sundays at 10:30 and Thursday Eucharist at 11:30. We wish you all peace and joy this Advent and Christmas

Christmas will come <3

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

Updates on the Bins of Dún Laoghaire

DLR will be trialing some new bins in the new year. They will be trying out new eco-bins and cigarette bins in various locations around the town. The Eco-bins will be a new type of bin that is designed to accept single types of materials, for example a bin that is just for aluminium drinks cans, and another which would only accept plastic bottles. Any news bins are a welcome to the town especially ones that will help people to recycle and reduce our communities carbon footprint.

The council will also be trialling new cigarette bins in the town. The current cigarette bin attachments to the Big Belly Bins have not worked out as well as they hoped with many of them catching fire. The new bins



will be sand based and should appear in the town in the spring.

The council will also be working with community groups in the new year to help address issues around the town such as littering, street cleaning, fly tipping and the disposal of domestic waste in public bins.

The DLCRA recently found out that Dún Laoghaire town is the worst offender in the whole country for abusing public bins with domestic waste. Shocking!

What are the Sharks Teeth?



There is an opportunity to increase safety for pedestrians on Marine Road. I don't know if the speed bumps on either side of Marine Walk/Eblana Ave are meant to be pedestrian crossings, but I have observed that cars rarely stop for people waiting to cross. That junction is hard to overlook as cars are going in many directions (Marine Rd, Marine Walk, Shopping Centre Parking & Eblana Ave).

The recent move of the school to Eblana Ave has led to more kids walking to/from school, but even without that many people are walking in the area. I

reached out to the Council at the beginning of October suggesting that those speed bumps could be turned into properly marked pedestrian crossings where it is clear that cars need to stop for people waiting to cross. It's been 10 weeks and I have not yet received a response despite multiple follow-ups. Meanwhile the construction site on Eblana Ave has made the situation even less safe for the school kids and others. The school may be temporary but people are generally walking more these days. I believe it is worth looking into.

A local resident

Dublin Array Wind Farm wants public engagement

A proposed project for wind turbines to be located on the Kish Bank, approximately 10km's from Dún Laoghaire has recently closed its public consultation. However the

company is calling for people to stay engaged and you can still give comments at their website

www.dublinarray.com

If constructed, it is estimated that the wind farm being proposed by Dublin Array/RWE could provide clean, renewable energy equivalent to the domestic needs of up to approximately 800,000 Irish households, depending on the final layout. It will help Ireland reduce our carbon emissions and enhance our energy security and reduce the need for imported fossil

fuels.

It is the intention of Dublin Array to lodge a planning application in mid-2021. At that point there will be a further opportunity for people to give their views on the project, this time on the final application.

Ultimately Dublin Array would like to start construction in 2024.



Artist impression of Wind Turbines off the Kish bank over Sandycove

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

A Christmas Message from the Schools

There are currently four primary schools within the town at the moment. We asked them each to write a little message to tell everyone who they are.

Dominican Primary School News

Dominican Primary School on Convent Road is delighted to inform you that we will open a class specifically for children with autism on Tuesday 1st December 2020. We are very lucky to have great pupils and parents/guardians as part of our school and now look forward to welcoming and integrating our new pupils into our friendly school. We already have children throughout the school with autism and this will be another opportunity to



continue the integrating and welcoming ethos of the Dominican Sisters who contribute so much to the town and parish.

Hello from Dún Laoghaire Educate Together National School

You may have seen us in the locality at our temporary accommodation on Eblana Avenue. A small but growing school, with wonderfully committed teaching and support staff, parents and children, we feel this is a very special community. We move back to the rebuilt Red Door School in January,

which we gratefully share with them. We look forward to returning to the heart of Dún Laoghaire in a few years once the old Firestation has been completed as our permanent home.

Seasons Greetings from all at St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas Montessori School is nestled in the heart of Dún Laoghaire catering for children aged 2.8 months to 12 years of age. The school is part of the St. Nicholas Montessori Society of Ireland which is celebrating its 50th

anniversary this year. The College and School have been delivering excellence in Montessori education and this year have opened a second school in Merrion and have added a Psychology degree to their college programme. We are delighted to be part of the Dún Laoghaire Community.

A Fun -Filled Few Weeks at St. Joseph's!

Hello from all in St. Joseph's! We have had a very exciting few weeks in our school. We had our annual dress up day for Halloween which was very scary! We had a wonderful outdoor Halloween parade for all our witches, ghosts and other creepy creatures. Last week we immersed ourselves in all things science for Science Week 2020. We used our STEM skills to make floor mopping robots, 3 gear cars, jumping monsters, birdhouses among lots of other amazing things. Follow us on Twitter @StjosephsNS1 for lots of pictures and updates!

Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society

The Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society founded in 1978, produced its first Journal in 1990, we just published our 30th Edition this year. Our Journals are a collection of built and oral history of Dún Laoghaire. They feature stories of buildings and events, some personal and others of historical interest, i.e. The Building of the Harbour and the coming of the Railway in 1834. You can see from our contents page the articles are varied and cover a number of subjects.

Our Society like many others are not meeting for lectures at the moment, but will resume

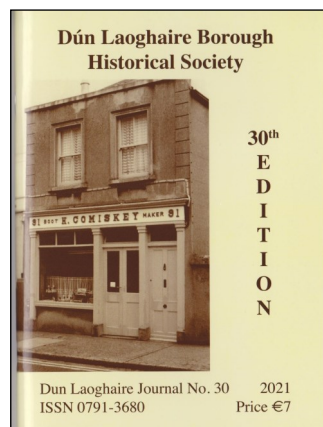
www.DunLaoghaireHistorical.com

our full programme when events allow. Lectures normally take place on the 3rd Wednesday of the month in the Royal Marine Hotel. During the summer we arrange historical walks and outings.

Our journals are available from the following shops;
Eason's – Dún Laoghaire.

Hewitt's – Monkstown.
Dubray Books – Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre.

Cost: €7



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Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town



Dún Laoghaire Central Residents Association

It's really hard to believe that it's Christmas time again. So much has happened since our last Christmas Newsletter. Who would have thought that in March we would be in the middle of a pandemic. But, if we are to believe the scientists, a vaccine is very close to going out into the world which, it is hoped will save many lives. Many of us have lost, or know people who have lost family, friends and work colleagues, to COVID19, we can only hope and pray that such as this does not revisit the earth again.

On a happier note, this Christmas, as last year we will be hosting our Best Dressed Shop Display and the Best Decorated House. Last year the prize for the best decorated house went to Abbie on Clarinda Park East (the pink house) and the best shop window display was won by Bryan S Nolan. Good luck to everyone, so start planning your decorations.

Thanks to some very active Residents' Associations, Tidy Towns and DLCOCO the town is looking very clean and well kept in some

areas, but unfortunately not everywhere, it is up to each Residents' Association to meet regularly in order to address any problems which arise. Should you not have an active Residents' Association, form one, it is really simple, should you need any help, DLCRA will be on hand to help.

At the end of November, our friendly florist Ann Joyce, in Costello Flowers will close her shop and will cease to trade in the town. All of the residents and businesses in the town and further afield will miss her

terribly, her good humour and warmth has been a light in the gloom on some occasions for all of us. Good luck in your retirement Ann, enjoy every second, if we learnt one thing this year it is how precious life is.

You can find more about what we are doing and how to get involved in the community by visiting our website or by following us on social media

 info@dlcra.ie

 [@DunLaoghaireCRA](https://twitter.com/DunLaoghaireCRA)

 [/DunLaoghaireCRA](https://www.facebook.com/DunLaoghaireCRA)

On a final note, don't forget to shop local, our support is so important now, more so than ever. Have a wonderful Christmas and keep safe.

Frances Kelly, Chair
DLCRA

Cross Ave & Environs Residents Association are doing great work

The street, redesigned by Bob Hannon of the Council in 2016, now has beautiful trees, flowerbeds and hanging baskets all delivering a wonderfully colourful vista from Cross Avenue.

The residents are now trying to obtain two reasonably sized granite rocks (for street name) for the entrance to the avenue to be set inside the flower beds to deter vehicles from crossing over the flower beds at the junction of Cross Avenue and Desmond Avenue. Some new lavender plants will also be required to replace those damaged at that point.

Normally this type of maintenance work is

undertaken by Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, however, the residents were all too aware of the other vital support work that Council staff were redeployed to do during the severe lockdown where they, along with the Gardaí, assisted many local families and especially, the elderly cocooning from Covid-19. In recognition of the great work undertaken by the Council's Covid-19 task force at this time, the residents decided to help out by undertaking the work themselves and, in doing so, to lift the community spirit during the pandemic.

Under the direction of John Brady, Maggie Byrne and Kathleen Kane, the

residents purchased the paints and equipment and then systematically painted the walls of each house in a uniform colour in keeping with the architectural character of this street which dates from 1904.

During the Covid-19 Lockdown at the start of summer, residents of Desmond Avenue in the centre of Dún Laoghaire undertook a community project to paint the walls, window-ledges, and door surrounds of all the houses on the street.



Desmond Ave looking beautiful



New Christmas Decoration for 2020 replacing the tree outside the Church

*A very big thank you
to all our customers for your
loyalty, support, and custom
over the last 30 years,*

*Ann
Costello Flowers*

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

A Message from the DBLA

(Dún Laoghaire Business Association)

Thank you from the businesses in Dún Laoghaire Business Association for all the support throughout 2020 – a year none of us will forget too easily! It has been heartening to see so many people out and about walking and cycling, and building a wonderful community, along with supporting the businesses.

Never before have we seen such support in the local community and it is wonderful for the town. You will see the collaboration between the DLBA, the DLR Chamber and DLRC Council for the Christmas Campaign – red posters around town saying “SHOP EAT CLICK LOCAL”.

DunLaoghaireTown.ie is a great resource for everything “Dún Laoghaire” It is run on a not-for-profit basis to act as a digital channel to promote the town, it’s businesses and the broader community through a range of free services that are available to all, including Community Groups.

Also be sure to tag Dun Laoghaire Town when tweeting or adding anything to your social media accounts and we will reshare and like it.

On Twitter -
@DunLaoghaireTn

Instagram -
@dunlaoghairerow

Facebook -
@DunLaoghaireTown

#ShopDunLaoghaire
#DunLaoghaireTown
#ShopEatClickLocal

www.DunLaoghaireTown.ie
Dún Laoghaire Business Association

EAT SHOP CLICK LOCAL

#ShopDunLaoghaire #SupportLocal

Dún Laoghaire Business Association

Please support local businesses like these



www.costelloflowers.ie ph: 012841864



Costello Flowers will be in safe hands as Rosemary McKnight will be taking over the shop. Rosemary has many years experience as a florist and is looking forward to bringing the same passion that Ann did.

Welcome to Dún Laoghaire Rosemary!



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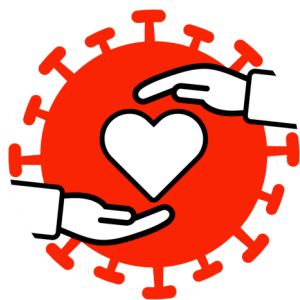
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Find out more at theglasshouses.ie or Call +353 1 525 2915

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

Information to help you through the Coronavirus Christmas Time

We all know and hear everyday about washing our hands, wearing masks and social distancing but here are some other simple suggestions from DLCRA to help you through the Covid Christmas period. If we follow these simple steps it might help us to think more clearly about ourselves and all those we care about not to mention our own mental health and wellbeing.



Tip 1)

Stay connected with other people in your immediate locality and if you can, meet up with friends and family in person, but always make sure you follow current restrictions and guidelines. If you cannot meet up, phone or message them. Sharing your worries or concerns with others you trust, can be very helpful.

Tip 2)

Do things you enjoy first, then make a list of all the tasks and jobs that need to

be done but have been put on the long finger. Also try something new which will give you pleasure and enjoyment.

Tip 3)

Take time to rest and relax which will help you through difficult moments and improve your wellbeing.

Tip 4)

Look after your body as your physical health has a big impact on how you feel. Healthy, well-balanced meals, plenty of water and regular exercise can have a big impact on how you feel. We are very fortunate to

have on our doorsteps the perfect exercise workout – Dún Laoghaire pier where you can walk, run or cycle, while following social distancing guidelines.

Tip 5)

Limit after your sleep as good-quality and regular sleeping patterns can contribute greatly to how you feel mentally and physically.

Tip 6)

Limit the time you spend watching, reading or listening to news coverage of, Coronavirus particularly social media, as it will only help to add to your stress levels.

Tip 7)

Focus on the present and on the things you can control rather than worrying about the future, this can help with difficult emotions and improve your wellbeing.

DLR Community Call

Remember the DLR Community Call helpline **FREEPHONE 1800 804 535** (Monday-Friday 9am-5pm) is up and running and they have received a significant number of calls from elderly, cocooning and vulnerable citizens. Do you, or somebody that you know need assistance? .

The phonedlines are manned by the Community staff. If you need help getting groceries or pharmacy prescriptions we can provide details of which grocery stores are providing telephone or online ordering and which pharmacies are offering prescription delivery.

Many people during the current restrictions feel isolated or alone - pick up the phone and give them a call and they can have a chat and maybe offer some solutions. Find details at dlrcoco.ie

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See DLCRA.ie for more information or email info@dlcra.ie

To celebrate businesses & residents of Dún Laoghaire who add to the town's festive atmosphere in the run up to Christmas the DLCRA are awarding prizes for..



Best Shop Window Display & Best Decorated Residential House

Judging ends on Dec 21, 2020



Any house from Cualanor to the sea and York Rd to Lwr Glenageary Rd can be the winner

This year more than any other, what better way to celebrate our strong local community spirit than through our Christmas decorations and displays.

DLCRA would like to invite all businesses and residents of Dún Laoghaire to add that little extra sparkle to the town's festive atmosphere during the holiday season.

Judging will take place on the 21st of December, so make sure you have your decorations up in time!

For more details please visit www.DLCRA.ie

Thanks to DLR for their help and especially to all who took part last year, in particular to last years winners: — **Brian S. Nolans** and Ms Abbie Walsh of Clarinda Park.

Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns

The DLTT painted Dún Laoghaire Town 'Purple' on October 10th. Over the period of a week, the lavender stems were cut and arranged into 350 bouquets. Shoppers and visitors to Dún Laoghaire on the Saturday morning were given a nice 'purple' surprise, which was much appreciated.

DLTT plan to make this an annual event.

Greening the Town

DLTT 'Green Team' continue their trojan work resurrecting the Carnegie Library Garden. The Garden has been noticed and remarked upon by many, the transformation is quite amazing. So watch this space, there is more to come.....



Since its resurrection in February 2020, the DLTT is actively seeking to widen their activities from the very important litter picking to greener more biodiverse projects.

If you would like to participate in the litter picks, the

Group meet at St. Michael's Church on Saturday mornings at 10:30 am, or should you be interested in involving yourself in any of our activities, please contact us via our website or via email. We have strict social distancing measures in place and respect all COVID19

guidelines and restrictions.

www.DLTidyTowns.com

dltidytowns@gmail.com

Donations

Although DLTT receive financial support in the form of grants from the council for some of our projects, we also need funds for our running costs and other projects such as bee-houses, ant hotels, shrubs and flowers, and cleaning equipment.

We are hoping to raise 2000 euro for our many projects in 2021. To find out how to donate go to our website or find information on DLCRA.ie

All the Tidy Towns Team.

Visit our website for more details

Putting the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town