

News in Brief

Overeaters' meetings

There will be a public meeting of Over eaters Anonymous on Saturday, March 23, from 3 - 4pm in the seminar room of the council Library (opposite The Square).

Hellfire Club Exhibition

The Hellfire Club - Myth and History is an exhibition about one of Tallaght's most prominent landmarks. It will outline the mythical aspects of the famous building which overlooks the area.

To coincide with the exhibition, the County Library will present two lectures on the same theme.

Daithi O' hOgain from UCD will give a lecture on Tallaght in International Folklore on April 16, at 8pm.

Mount Pelier Hill and the Hell Fire Clubs: Legend and Reality, is an exhibition to be presented by Dr Leo Swan on April 23.

Tallaght Town video

A video, *Tallaght - A Living Town*, produced by the Tallaght Living Heritage project, will be presented to post-primary teachers at 4.30pm on April 2.

The video was produced for use in secondary schools and the producers feel it is essential that teachers view the film before the final edition is prepared.

14 March 1996 - Echo.

26 March 1996 - Echo.

News-In-Brief

Mock election in Clondalkin

A community school in Clondalkin will stage a mock election this Friday to coincide with the upcoming West Dublin Bye-election.

Some 250 senior students at Collinstown Park Community College will listen to at least three politicians and then vote on them.

Historical sites threat

Vandals and joyriders are threatening newly-acknowledged historical sites at Kiltalawn House, Tallaght, Councillor Mick Billane said this week.

He urged South Dublin Co Council officials to request the OPW to secure access to the grounds of the house while preservation work at the site is being finalised.

Country Library

The County Library in Tallaght is presenting a talk on the artist Gaughan, with guest speaker Jenny Lindsey from the National Gallery on Friday, March 29, at 11 am.

Calling all Sligo people

Sligo people living in Tallaght are asked to support a table quiz in aid of the Corn Hill Action Group. The group are appealing to people not to let the Yeats county and the Lake of Inisfree be destroyed.

The quiz takes place in the Bugler Dunne, Harold's Cross on Tuesday, April 2, at 9pm. Spot prizes include a weekend for two.

NEW PLAN FOR OUR LIBRARY

COMMUNITY COUNCIL WELCOMES FRESH MOVES

A replacement public library for Lucan is getting closer, according to two recent separate statements.

Lucan Community Council (LCC) has welcomed fresh moves on the long-awaited library, and Cllr Peter Brady has announced that the library development programme for South Dublin has been prepared.

LCC spokesperson, Anne Graham said: "As a result of

intense lobbying it now looks ex-

**By
Brendan Nolan**

tremely likely that our library will finally be started.

Subject to the necessary final approval from the Department of the Environment,

building will commence late 1996 and the library will open in 1998." Cllr Peter Brady said: "I am delighted that at last the programme recognises Lucan's need for a library service as a priority. I have always supported the library programme and have lobbied for many years for a library for Lucan."

18 April 1996-Echo.

Myths, legends and the Hell Fire Club

The Hell Fire Club, sitting on top of the Dublin mountains, has long held an interest for all of us. With tales of black cats, Satanism, midnight revelries, a

number of myths and legends abound about this tumbledown old house. The County Library is running an exhibition at present entitled The Hell Fire Club:

Myth and History. A lecture will be given by Dr Leo Swan on April 23 at 8pm in the Library which is entitled "Mount Pelier Hill and the Hell Fire Club."

18 April 1996- Echo.

Area Notes . . .

Women's workshop to close

The Women's Contact Centre in the village is to close at the end of this month. The centre ran a variety of courses including art, personal development and counselling. However, the committee is still intact.

Tram exhibition

Castletymon library is running the Dublin and Blessington Steam Tram Exhibition until the end of the month. Next month the library will be run-

ning an exhibition for the Third World charity Action Age

25 April 1996-Echo.

Exotic holidays on a Budget

Longing for warm, sandy beaches, tropical palms, just getting away from it all?

Anna Keely, Sales Manager with Budget Travel Shop will present a lecture in the County Library, Tallaght on the holiday of your dreams on Friday April 26 at 11am.

And don't worry if you don't speak the language as the library has a range of videos and tapes in 30 different languages which you can borrow. There are also Irish and French conversation sessions. Contact the library for details.

18 April 1996- Echo

VTOS AWARDS

Members of the Vocational Training Opportunities Scheme were presented with their certificates recently.

Forty-two students received their certificates. They have all been on the scheme for one or two years and will be sitting Leaving and Junior Cert exams this week.

The scheme has attracted keen interest and has provided an opportunity for adults to re-

turn to education.

The students say they are delighted with the course and believe it has given them the tools

By Daithi OhAnluain

to face the future with optimism.

"Now I'm not a number on the dole queue but a person with ambition to do whatever I dream of or want to achieve. The VTOS gave me the confidence

to stand up and say, 'this is me - the future,'" explains Fiona Baldwin of Springfield VTOS.

Certificates were presented by Pat Rabbitte, TD, Minister of Commerce, Science and Technology.

To qualify for VTOS you need to be over 21 and signing on for at least six months. Details of the scheme can be obtained through the County Dublin VEC office on Main Road, Tallaght.

Language exchange

Language exchanges for English/French, French/English take place in the county library, Tallaght. Contact Georgina Byrne: Tel: 462000.

27 June 1996 - Echo.



Helen Kiernan, who addressed VTOS students at the award ceremony in the County Library last week; pictured background are, Fred Goulding, VEC Adult Education Officer, and Pat Rabbitte TD who presented the awards.

photograph: Brian MacCormaic

6 June 1996 - Echo.

Witness to a new era

CHANGING FACE OF DUBLIN

Report by Aisling Harmey

The face of South Dublin has altered dramatically over the last few years – for the last four nobody has been closer to the beating heart of change than outgoing County Manager, John Fitzgerald.

Just over four years ago South Dublin Area Committee was formed in Dublin County Council's Headquarters on O'Connell Street, with John Fitzgerald appointed Area Manager.

While the issues have remained similar for the most part, the operation has changed completely under the guiding hand of the County Manager.

Some of those changes were unavoidable, but others came as a direct result of initiatives from what has become South Dublin County Council.

One of the less popular measures adopted by South Dublin County Council while Mr Fitzgerald was County Manager was the adoption of domestic water charges over two years ago.

John Fitzgerald was involved in the reorganisation report in conjunction with the other two Area managers, of the then Dublin County Council, Davy Byrne and Kevin O'Sullivan.

The sod for the construction of South Dublin's Headquarters was turned in March of 1993 – one year and 10 days later South Dublin County Council moved into its new home in Tallaght.

A new identity was completed with the move, coupled with a new logo, name and headquarters.

A brochure launching South Dublin as the ideal business location was issued by the council and a Tourist Office was opened in association with The Square and Dublin Tourism.

New systems of paying rents were introduced, and Tenant Participation projects commenced.

Enterprise centres in Bolbrook and Neilstown were

went ahead with Nangor/Fox and Geese Road and Newlands/Fonthill Road opening up earlier this year.

South Dublin County Council also picked up the coveted Local Authority Environmental Award in 1995, while 1996 saw the launch of South Dublin's strategy 1996 – 2000, which plots the future of the council over the next five years.

Tús Maith, an action plan for the extension of bi-linguism in the County was launched, while an Arts Strategy for the County was also launched during the Fitzgerald era.

It hasn't all been a walk in the park for South Dublin County Council over the last four years: water charges continues to be

'Move for me is an emotional one'

opened, and the County Library in Tallaght, one of the most hi-tech in the country, was opened.

Village initiatives took place in Rathfarnham, Clondalkin and Rathcoole, and plans for a tourist caravan park at Corkagh Park went ahead, as did a public golf course in Kilcarberry.

Road projects also

a contentious issue, wandering horses have become a major problem and the handover of Corporation lands in council areas has yet to be finalised.

There is no doubt, however, that South Dublin's loss will most definitely be the City Council's gain and John Fitzgerald has a lot to offer his new employers next Monday.