



# North Fingal Community Voice

Co-operation  
Fingal

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This newsletter is for the use of community groups wishing to advertise their services locally as well as for the provision of information for groups on issues such as funding, community sector news, important dates and upcoming events. We welcome submissions from any community based group in the North Fingal Area as well as any agencies who wish to provide information to the groups in this area. Please contact Helen on 01 802 0484 or email [hduffy@co-operationfingal.ie](mailto:hduffy@co-operationfingal.ie) with details including photos if desired and we will do our best to accommodate everyone.

## Foróige Youth Club Volunteers

Foróige National Youth Development Organisation have a number of Foróige Youth Clubs throughout the North County Dublin area. These clubs cater for young people aged 12-18 years and are run by adult volunteers from the local area. The clubs provide a safe environment for young people to get involved in fun activities. Without support from local communities, these clubs would not exist. If you or somebody you know, would be interested in volunteering in one of the clubs, or feel that your area would benefit from having a youth club, feel free to contact Bryan Gavin, Regional Youth Officer @ 086 8519639 or email [bryan.gavin@foroige.ie](mailto:bryan.gavin@foroige.ie)

## Fingal Volunteer Centre

There are lots of opportunities to fill your spare time, meet new people, learn new skills and give something back to your community all at the same time. Fingal Volunteer Centre have many groups registered on their system looking for assistance for various activities or tasks. Have a look at [www.volunteerfingal.ie](http://www.volunteerfingal.ie) and see if any interest you.

Staff from Fingal Volunteer Centre are available in Co-operation Fingal office each Tuesday. For an appointment call 01- 802 0484.

## Friends - Charity Shop

Friends of ADHD /ASD are a new group formed to support the North Fingal ADD /ADHD parent and adult support group and North Fingal Autism and Aspergers support group. They have recently opened a new Charity Shop on 1 Clonard Street, Balbriggan in order to raise much needed funds. Donations are essential for the success of the shop. Please come along and support this very worthwhile and valuable community project.

## Balbriggan Citizen Information Centre reach out to the people.

The Balbriggan Citizen's Information Centre (CIC) has called on members of the community to avail of its services. Information services offered by the centre include; social welfare, employment, money and tax, health, education and training, housing, travel and recreation amongst others. The CIC is also inviting community groups that require talks on specific issues to make contact.

The CIC is open Monday to Friday 9.30am to 4.30pm. Find us at The Balbriggan Library, St Georges Square.

Phone: 01-8412508 Fax: 01-6903362  
Email: [balbriggan@citinfo.ie](mailto:balbriggan@citinfo.ie)

## Featured Article—Guide Dogs

The Balbriggan/North County Dublin Branch of Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind was founded in 1985, after the first Guide Dog, "Frank" a Black Labrador came to live with his owner in the town of Balbriggan. This fundraising-awareness building branch of Irish Guide Dogs, is run entirely by volunteers, as are all the branches of the organisation. Founded in 1976, Irish Guide Dogs for the Blind (IGDB) is a registered Charity dedicated to providing high-quality mobility training and after-care services to blind and visually impaired people. Offering both residential Guide Dog and Long Cane Training at its state-of-the-art residential training center on Model Farm Road in Cork, IGDB is the only service provider of its kind in the country. It costs over €35,000 to maintain a Guide Dog partnership throughout its lifetime. Services are provided free of charge to the client. The cost of providing services in 2008 is expected to exceed €4.5 million.

Income is generated through a network of fundraising branches nationwide. IGDB is a member of the International Guide Dog Federation. The ways you can help our branch as a volunteer are very varied for instance: On the second Sunday in September our branch need volunteers to take up a church gate collection at all churches in North County Dublin. Shortly after that we would like people to take Christmas cards and 2009 calendars from us to sell in their own work place or just to buy for themselves or their family. Throughout the year we need volunteers to empty, sort our charity boxes that we have in many outlets in the North County. Also you might know a new place for us to place one. Some free time if you have your own car, as a volunteer driver is another way to help. If you would like to become a volunteer with the local branch give a ring to Tom O'Neill on (01) 8412076 Chairman and Guide Dog owner or send an e-mail to [kola@iol.ie](mailto:kola@iol.ie). [www.guidedogs.ie](http://www.guidedogs.ie). Company number 55616,



I was the first person in 1985 to receive Frank the guide dog and since that I have had Bruce, Kola who is now retired to family friends in Drogheda and currently Sarge who is pictured with me. My wife Breege has had guide dogs Gypsie, Abby retired to family friends in Balrothery Balbriggan and currently Unice. Without the current wonderful group of volunteers that we have and which I am very proud to work alongside as the local chairman and a guide dog owner our branch would not be in existence. Thank you volunteers and thanks to all who support our charity year in year out.

## Funding Information

Simon Cumbers Media Challenge Fund	<a href="http://www.connect-world.net">www.connect-world.net</a>	Closing Date 30th September.
Ireland Wales Programme 2007 - 2013	<a href="http://www.irelandwales.ie">www.irelandwales.ie</a>	Closing Date: 19th September
Alcan Prize for Sustainability	<a href="http://www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com">www.alcanprizeforsustainability.com</a>	Closing date: 12th September.
The Community Foundation for Ireland's Small Grants Scheme	<a href="http://www.foundation.ie">www.foundation.ie</a>	Closing Date: 31st October.
Financial Supports for Community & Voluntary Groups 2008	<a href="http://www.pobal.ie/live/smallgrants">www.pobal.ie/live/smallgrants</a> No Closing Date at present	Scheme of Refurbishment Grants /Equipment Grants Scheme of Training Grants
Artist in Youth Work Residency 2008	<a href="http://www.youtharts.ie">http://www.youtharts.ie</a>	Closing Date 3rd October.
Stephens Green Trust Small Grants Scheme	<a href="http://www.ssgt.ie/site/xhtml/index.htm">http://www.ssgt.ie/site/xhtml/index.htm</a>	Various closing dates throughout year
Katherine Howard Awards Small Grants Scheme	<a href="http://www.khf.ie">www.khf.ie</a>	Closing Date 19th September
Dormant Accounts Suicide Prevention Funding	<a href="http://www.pobal.ie/live/DAF/1055.html">http://www.pobal.ie/live/DAF/1055.html</a> .	Closing Date 26th September.
National Irish Bank Community Grants Programme	<a href="http://www.nationalirishbank.ie/AboutCommunityInvolvement">http://www.nationalirishbank.ie/AboutCommunityInvolvement</a>	Closing Date 30 <sup>th</sup> September

Further information on all grants listed here is available through our website [www.co-operationfingal.ie](http://www.co-operationfingal.ie) under the Funding Section. This section will be updated continuously as new grants scheme become available. Co-operation Fingal would encourage groups to make best use of grants as they are there for community benefit. Assistance with funding applications, accessing resources, partnership working, or promotion of your services locally is available through Co-operation Fingal. Please contact Helen on 01 802 0484 or email [hduffy@co-operationfingal.ie](mailto:hduffy@co-operationfingal.ie).



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

### Friendly Call Service FREE TELEPHONE SUPPORT SERVICE For people who feel alone or vulnerable.



\*The service offers a telephone call Monday to Friday from 9am - 4pm to have a friendly chat and to check on your wellbeing. We can also remind you of any doctor or hospital appointments if necessary.

\*We can offer guidance on where to go for advice on any issue or services that are available in your area.

\*We will also advise a contact person should there be no answer and, if necessary, contact the Emergency Services.

To receive this free support service, Contact Natasha or Donna on 01- 8247342 or Email: [info@friendlycallservice.com](mailto:info@friendlycallservice.com).





**JUSTIN TOWNES EARL**  
 Saturday  
 23rd August



**ALBERT LEE & HOGANS HEROES**  
 (Legendary Rock Guitarist)  
 Thursday  
 28th August



**EMER MAYOOCK  
 JEAN MICHEL VEILLON &  
 DONAL SIGGINS**  
 (Traditional)  
 Saturday  
 30th August

Visit our website  
 for more details  
 or contact us by  
 phone for a copy  
 of our programme



Traditional  
 Music  
 Sessions  
 Every Sunday  
 3.00 p.m.

## Balbriggan Library

All of our clubs will start back in September.  
 New members are always welcome

### Adult Bookclubs

The Library has two book clubs, each meet once a month: Our *General* bookclub meets on a Wednesday evening at 7pm in the middle of the month and the *Crime* bookclub meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 7pm.

### Creative Writing for Adults

The Creative Writing group meets on alternate Thursdays at 7pm.

### Creative Writing for Children

The Junior Creative Writing Group (for 8-12 year olds) meets every Wednesday at 6pm.

### Irish Conversation Group

Whether you are a beginner or fluent all are welcome to come along on Tuesday evenings at 7pm.

### Chess Club

A chess club meets on alternate Thursdays at 7pm, both adults and children welcome.

### Exhibitions

An exhibition of art by Elizabeth Black will be on display in the library from 8<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> September.

### An Irishman Abroad

A play by author and playwright Larry O'Loughlin will be staged in Balbriggan library on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm. This event is free and all are welcome.

Balbriggan Library, St. George's Square  
 Tel. 01 8704401

## Fingal Healthy Reading Scheme

Fingal County Libraries in association with the Daughters of Charity and the HSE have just launched the 'Fingal Healthy Reading Scheme' in Balbriggan Library. The scheme was officially launched by John Sharry, respected author of many parenting books. The aim of the Scheme is to promote the mental health and well being of individuals and families through recommending and making available quality self-help books to enable people to help themselves.

The books on the scheme have all been selected, read and recommended by psychologists and therapists in the Balbriggan Adult Mental Health Team and Balbriggan Family Centre. Two booklists have been compiled, one for adults and one for families and they deal with a range of issues such as depression, self esteem, anorexia, parent separation, bereavement and parenting. "Bibliotherapy" is the term used to describe therapy through books. The effectiveness of bibliotherapy has been well established in many clinical trials.

The books can all be borrowed free of charge from any of the libraries in Fingal, all you have to do is join the library! The booklists have been distributed through libraries, GP surgeries, Family Support Centres, hospitals, schools and medical centres throughout Fingal. More details can be found at [www.fingalcoco.ie/library/fingalhealthyreading](http://www.fingalcoco.ie/library/fingalhealthyreading)