

# Ballymun Concrete News

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Date January 1st 1999

 *Happy New Year* 

## ***Ballymun Concrete News 'Review of Issues in 1998. By Seamus Kelly***

**Issue 1** July 27th 98, Ballymun Estate Forums and housing task force members, asked Environment and local government Minister Noel Dempsey T.D to introduce tax incentives and bring new Industry and employment to the area. **Issue 1** second edition July 27th: Hi-Tech Art Centre for Ballymun. A new arts and civic centre costing £2.2m is expected to be built in the area within eighteen months. **Issue 2.** July 28th: An Taoiseach Mr. Bertie Ahern T.D launched Hi-Tech cameras and a BusinessWatch in the shopping centre to monitor drug abuse. **Issue 3.** July 30th: A special edition and tribute to the late Mrs Pat Mooney R.I.P a tireless community activist in Ballymun. **Issue 4.** August 5th: 'Rock The Blocks Ballymun Style' in the shopping centre. **Issue 5.** August 12th: Chief Superintendent Jim Murphy of Santry Garda station, stated how children could be saved from a life of drugs and crime by Juvenile Liaison Officers. **Issue 6.** August 15th: A new vision for scouting in Ballymun through drug awareness programme. **Issue 7.** August 20th: Brave couple fight tragic illness with faith. **Issue 8.** August 30th. A feature on, 'What Are Estate Forums' **Issue 9.** September 2nd. Army gives Ballymun residents a lift during lift strike. **Issue 10** September 11th. Management of lift companies and army work together to fix lifts. **Issue 11** September 24th. Mission Not Impossible for people with disabilities with Ballymun Active Disability Interest Group). Dublin Corporation Tenants Charter, the first of its kind in Ireland. **Issue 12** October 11th. We have the power to change policy. A one day

seminar at Stormanstown House. Sean O' Cionnaith co-opted on to Dublin City Council. **Issue 13** October 20th. European Minister Mr. Pdraig Flynn's visit to Ballymun Regeneration Ltd.

**Issue 14.** November 2nd. Fireworks display on Halloween night. Organised by FAB, Dublin Corporation, local community and Coultury Estate Forum.

**Issue 15.** November 22nd. European Drug Prevention week in Ballymun. Ballymun Youth Action Project to host drugs conference at Dublin Castle opened by President Mary McAleese.

**Issue 16.** Same week. Torchlight Drug march in Ballymun, ends European Drug Prevention week. **Issue 17.** December 4th. Poppintree man, Aidan Kelly, (Northside People) edits new book on Finglas. **Issue 18.** December 7th. Sparky the paralysed terrier dog, to get new wheels for Christmas. **Issue 19.** December 13th. Penthouse raises £11,000 for Senior Citizens. Men's Network treat homeless people to Christmas party. **Issue 20.** December 18th. Winning entries for Dublin Corporation Newsletter Award.

**Issue 21.** December 21st. Brave dog Sparky, gets his new wheels for Christmas.

### **Gardai Christmas Gift to Community.**

250 Christmas hampers were distributed to members of the Ballymun community by local Gardai over the festive season. Detective Sergeant Matt Murphy, Sergeant Colm Healy and other local guards presented the hampers to the most deserving in the community. Every Christmas for the past ten years, Gardai in Ballymun distributed these gifts. Det: Sergeant Murphy said a lot of credit goes to local traders. "The traders in Ballymun shopping centre supply the goods for the hampers. We enjoy the privilege of giving out the gifts," he said.

### **Editorial.**

A happy new year and my thanks to all the local community groups, organisations and individuals, who supported the *Ballymun Concrete News* in 1998. Photocopying services, A.4 paper and other essential materials were supplied by these groups. Special thanks to Dublin Corporation and City of Dublin Youth Service Board who played a major part in supplying these essential services. I'm sorry there's no room to list all the groups on a one page newsletter, but thank you one and all. However, I am disappointed that one organisation did nothing to help the newsletter: the Ballymun Partnership. In my opinion, they are alone in the crowd. They refused to support this newsletter for the Ballymun community. Perhaps 1999 will see a change for the better?.  
Editor.