Welcome to the April edition of our monthly updates, which is an opportunity for volunteers and staff to catch up on what’s happening in Near. The newsletter is distributed monthly via email, online and good old fashioned hard copy. As you can see there is plenty of activity right across our Co-Op. Thanks also this month to Joe Behan from Ska Patrol for details about their upcoming gigs and to Aoife Smith from the Domestic Workers Action Group for news about Domestic Workers Action Week 26 April – 1 May 2010.

Don’t forget you can contact me (dave@near.ie) if you want to contribute to the newsletter.

Dave O Connor
Editor

Near Media Co-Op
Committee of Management

Vincent Teeling (Chair)       Heidi Bedell (Vice-Chair)
Dave O’Connor (Secretary)    Peter Cunningham (Treasurer)
Tommy Crampton               Declan Cahill
Nina Knezevic                Nell Fitzpatrick
Ger Dorgan                   Deborah Gaffney

Committee members are elected from the volunteer shareholders of the Co Operative and are re-elected each year at the Annual General Meeting.

To become a shareholder contact Dave@near.ie or Alan@near.ie
Social & Staff News

We wish our best to Jimmy Field, who hasn't been well recently. On the first anniversary of her death we all remember our colleague Geraldine Wynne.

Fun Pub Quiz, for all volunteers and staff and friends, Thursday May 13th, watch notice board and email for detail, contact Debbie McMahon in Near office. proceeds go to local charity"

Near90fm Update

Panel Discussion and Q&A - EASCA Green Building and Energy Clinic which ran from 3.45-5.00pm on Saturday 10th April at the Eco Fair in the Greenhouse. Pictured: Devyn Olson-Sawyer, Seamus O'Loughlin, Joseph Little and Brian Rochford)

A few new programmes and presenters have joined our schedule in the last few weeks. We would like to welcome Alex Araujo, who is presenting bilingual Brazilian/English programme Samba Boys every Wednesday from 7.30 to 8.30pm. Tony Kumbu's AfroIrish is on Saturday from 5.30pm.

The Workers Solidarity Movement is now producing a programme called Radio Solidarity, who will be broadcast the First Tuesday of the month, at 3.30pm.
Chloé Saint-Ville is also hosting a panel discussion show the second Tuesday of the month at the same time, 3.30pm.

Stephen Blayds is now presenting The Culture Programme every second Thursday, sharing the same time-slot with Cover to Cover at 8pm.

Please, do not miss the repeat of Raised on Songs and Stories: Mon 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st May and June 7th, 14th @ 2pm.

Near90fm Radio Co-Ordinator, Sally Galliana was invited to attend the 4th Celebrating Diversity in Athy/3rd Anniversary of Women Integrating Network's public launch? She spoke on the role of media in promoting positive integration.

Near Media Co Op will be holding a pub-quiz on 13th May. We'll keep you informed of the details.

Near 90fm’s Ska Patrol upcoming gigs.

Ska & Reggae night in Howth on Sunday 2nd May
Donaghmede Inn on Saturday 1st May

Thanks to Joe Behan from Ska Patrol (Monday nights from 8.00pm)

Near Drama Update

NEAR Drama Company grieves at the loss of one of its leading members, Kay Farrell. Kay passed away on 3 April after a long illness.
Kay was from the 'old school', which meant she did her best in everything she did both in her private life and her beloved theatre and radio life. No half measures for her!
She exited in true theatre fashion - she had a full house at her funeral and she received a rousing round of applause. A fitting tribute to a wonderful drama woman.
She will be missed. But her legacy will remain through the myriad of her drama friends whom she touched in so many ways. And although the stage seems bare at present, she will want, no indeed, insist that we will fill that void because, as she would say 'the show must go on'!!!
The members of the radio drama company must now accept this challenge and ensure that the show does indeed go on.
May she rest in peace.
Amy Flood, a member of NEAR Drama Company (remember, she played the part of the daughter in Episode 3 of ‘Dante’s Domain’, which was broadcast late last year?) received some good news recently.

Amy, a young drama student, was one of three Irish people, and the only girl, to be selected by the US based Win Tours in recent auditions to work in a project in Northern Italy near Lake Garda this summer.

This 3-month contract is a wonderful opportunity for her and it will provide great experience to her.

We wish her every success and we hope that she will seize this gig with both hands and squeeze every drop of learning from it.

So, from all your pals in NEAR ‘Break a leg, Amy’!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Declan Cahill
Co-ordinator
NEAR Drama Company

Africa Day, Sunday May 16th needs you. Contact sally@near.ie or dorothee@near.ie if you can help out.
Promotion

Don’t forget to promote your programme.

Think about:

✓ Recording a promo for on-air
✓ Asking other presenters to mention your programme on theirs.
✓ Return the favour, and promote their programme
✓ Put a piece in the newsletter
✓ Put up a notice in the studio/office
✓ Put up posters around the community

(The office can help with posters)

http://www.near.ie/livestream

Near Outreach Update

Around 20 new volunteers have just finished the media training and are getting involved with existing programmes through shadowing presenters at near. You are most welcome and we hope you will get further involved with your own programme or in any other way you like to play a part.

We are currently updating the programme profiles on the near website: www.near.ie Get in touch with Pat Quinn, our PR and outreach assistant (pr@near.ie) if you would like the profile of your programme updated as well– this is a great way to promote your programme and to let listeners know a little bit more about yourself.
We have printed some new schedules and have a stack over in the old studios at neartv. If you’d like to take some for your friends and family or even to do a flier run in your neighbourhood please call over to the Coolock Development Centre and pick some up 😊

Some events we will be covering over the next couple of weeks:

**Near90fm** will be doing a live OB from Darndale Monday 26th from 11.00am to 1.00pm. Noel McGuinness will be presenting from the Belcamp square as part of ‘Celebrate Life’ week– a weeklong event with different activities to highlight suicide prevention and healthy living organised by Sphere 17 (one of the local youth services in D17).

Coverage of the Launch of the Coolock Traveller Education Week on Monday, 26 April, 11.00 am in the Coolock Library.

A panel discussion on suicide prevention live during Northside Today on Thursday 29th as part of ‘Celebrate Life week’

Our neighbouring college Colaiste Dhulaigh will be awarded the green flag on April 30th (Colaiste Dhulaigh also broadcasts a programme live once a week through its digital link to near90fm)

Early notice for your diary:

**Sunday May 16th– Celebration of Africa Day**

In the beautiful surroundings of the Iveagh Gardens in Dublin 2. We had a great time last year interviewing visitors, stall holders from different African countries and people of different organisations involved with Africa Day. The weather, atmosphere, food and range of activities were amazing. **This year near90fm will have their own stall in the Iveagh Gardens from 12.00–6.00pm** and we will be present to let visitors know about near90fm, hand out schedules and other promotional material, play music and to doing some recordings. While we have been putting a rota for the day together, we could still do with a couple of extra hands. Please email dorothee@near.ie if you’d like to get involved. It will be fun and there will be some refreshments and a near90fm t-shirt for you as well 😊

Newsletter Update – April 2010
There is always a great atmosphere with live music, arts and crafts, games for kid, food and drink stalls galore. In previous years bands such as Kila, Republic of Loose, Jape, Cathy Davey and Liam O'Maonlai have played at the event.

Check out some of last’s years pictures and recordings:
http://www.nearfm.ie/podcast

Training & Production Update

S&V funded enviromental drama **Dantes Domain** will broadcast this Tue, Wed and Thurs @ 3.30pm.

**Sphere 17** youth group will 'go live' on **near90fm** for the first time on wed 28th April @ 4.30pm.

Anybody with a S&V idea for radio is now asked to get in touch with Paul Loughran or Ciaran Murray

**paul@near.ie** 8485211  **ciaran@near.ie** 8671190

A trip down memory lane is in store this May and June when near90fm re-broadcasts the very popular **Raised on Songs and Stories** series.

Broadcast times are Mon 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st, June 7th and 14th @ 2pm
Near TV Update

Green Schools
NearTV have been filming in St Francis School in Priorswood with Fiona Moore from Dublin City Council to produce a video on the importance of looking after the environment. Young people from the school took part in the video and they did a wonderful job acting and highlighting the things they do in their school to look after the environment. Michael Carruth also went along to encourage the young people in their fight against waste.

The video ‘War on Waste’ is currently in post production and will be online in June.

CRC-TV

CRC-TV started filming this week. The group have been trained in television production over the last few months and are now in production on the video inserts for their studio programmes. Tony & Susan are the presenters and at the Launch of the Five Lamps Susan did her first interview with someone external to the group, with Roisin Lonergan one of the organisers of the Five Lamps Arts Festival. Susan did an amazing job, as did Peter on Camera and Louise who filled in for Luke on Sound.

Earlier that day Tony also interviewed Amanda O'Connell about art in the CRC which also went really well. Peter was on camera, Luke and James on Sound and Colma as production assistant. The CRC Television Crew are doing a fantastic job so far but there's still a lot to do before they go into studio in May. Watch this space!! :)

Production Facilitator through the CRC is Tommy Crampton and through NearTV are Adrian, Niall & Elaine.

Funding for this programme is through the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland Sound & Vision Scheme.

Newsletter Update – April 2010
Volunteers Work
Dave Donnellan has another video on the Neartv Website: As Pat O'Donnell continues his prison sentence in Castlerea prison for his opposition to the Shell Corrib gas project a group of supporters held a solidarity protest outside the prison on Saturday.

New Neartv Volunteers
Training for new volunteers has been completed this month and Neartv are delighted to welcome Lydia Daly, Dean Scurry, Philip McGibney, Simmon Minnock, Amal Kearns, Fiona Moore, Fiona Gillian, and Bernice Paolozzi as new volunteers. We look forward to seeing the work they will be producing in the future.

Near Online Update
We just made a new update to the Programme Profiles section of the website. As usual if you'd like to have your programme featured on this part of the site then contact Gavin at gavin@near.ie

You can view the current batch of Programme Profiles here: http://www.near.ie/profiles

Also remember to get all the latest updates about what is currently happening at the station be sure to find us on facebook at http://www.facebook.com/near90fm and on Twitter at http://www.twitter.com/near90fm

We currently have over 850 people on our Facebook page and we have over 120 followers on Twitter.

Livestreaming is of course up and running again with an audio stream along with the webcam. You can let people listen in by directing them to www.near.ie/livestream

Another handy web address you can direct people towards is www.near.ie/schedule which will have the latest programme listings for near 90 fm.

Computer Training:
Over the next week we are currently recruiting for our latest batch of IT training courses. So if you or anyone you know is interested in a place in our basic or intermediate IT training courses then call Naomi at 8485211. Places do fill up fast.
Update from Craol.ie (Community Radio Forum of Ireland)

Western Waves FM Community Radio will broadcast to Bundoran, Ballyshannon, Kinlough and Tullaghan from June for a ten-week period. The station has been in the pipeline for the last three years and a team of five staff are working with 36 volunteers to begin the three-day a week broadcasting. The station has been given a temporary licence by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland but the team behind hope to make the station a permanent part of life in south Donegal.

West Limerick 102 has just received notification of the granting of a 10-year community radio licence following an oral hearing earlier this year. Congratulations to all involved!

The Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (“BAI”) has announced the following radio licensing decisions of the BAI Contracts Awards Committee. It has been decided that community sound broadcasting service contracts should be awarded, in principle, to each of the following groups:
- Boherroe Broadcasting Limited – A service for East County Limerick
- Athlone Community Radio Limited – A service for Athlone Town and environs
- South West Donegal Community Radio Limited – A service for South West Donegal (Killybegs – Milltown)

Congratulations to all three stations from CRAOL

More at www.craol.ie

International Community Radio News

CMFE (Community Media Forum Europe) is a network of policy experts, organisations and federations, which aim to support the role of Community Media in Europe.

Breaking News Bangladesh:
12 Community Radio have Clearance first time in Bangladesh

Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication (BNNRC), since its inception, has been advocating with the government and with other organizations for the promotion of Community Radio to address critical social issues at community level, such as poverty and social exclusion, empowerment of marginalized rural groups and catalyze democratic process in decision making and ongoing development efforts.

Yesterday afternoon (3:15 pm ) Initially Ministry of Information, Government of People’s Republic of Bangladesh has approved 12 Community Radio Initiators for installation and operation of community radio in Bangladesh first time. To ensure free flow of information and people's right to
information government enacted Right to Information Act 2009. Community radio approval is a strong step to empower people in this regards.

The main objective of community radio is to provide livelihood related information to the rural communities in an understandable way. Agriculture, education, health, disaster, women and child issues, market price, services, etc. will be cover in the community radio for the community people.


One government organization to install and operate Rural Radio in Amtali under Barguna district, a rural community radio will be established by Agriculture Information Service of the Agriculture Department of Ministry of Agriculture.

http://www.nearpodcast.org

TAKING ACTION FOR RIGHTS, DIGNITY AND RECOGNITION FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS

Domestic Workers Action Week
26 April – 1 May 2010

The Domestic Workers Action Group celebrates May Day with a week of action to call for improved conditions and protections for workers employed in the private home

Domestic Work is Work - End the Exploitation of Domestic Workers!

Domestic Workers Action Week 26 April – 1 May 2010

Domestic workers, employers and supporters are taking action during a week of events to demand improved protections for workers in the domestic sector and to urge the government to recognise domestic work as real work.

The Domestic Workers Action Group is calling for government action to address the exploitation of domestic workers in Ireland, and to establish better employment rights
and conditions for the carers, childminders and housekeepers who keep the economy functioning by making it possible for others to work outside the home.

**What we want:**

- An immediate campaign of inspections in the domestic sector conducted by the National Employment Rights Authority (NERA)
- A protocol for the protection of domestic workers employed in diplomatic households endorsed by the Department of Foreign Affairs
- Government support for an International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention on Domestic Work in 2011
- The establishment of a Joint Labour Committee (JLC) to set out legal minimum standards for the sector.

**What is DWAG?**
The Domestic Workers Action Group (DWAG), supported by the Migrant Rights Centre Ireland, was established in 2004 to campaign and empower women to take action for improved standards and conditions for workers in the domestic sector. DWAG is a Dublin-based organisation with 200 members across the country, mostly migrant women working in private homes.

**Action Week Programme of Events**

**Photography Exhibitions: Migrant Domestic Workers Speak Through Art**
26 April - 1 May

*Opening Doors* is a photographic collaboration between members of the Domestic Workers Action Group and artist Susan Gogan, first launched in 2007. A selection of images from the project showing the value of domestic work and work in the care sector will be on display at locations in Dublin City Centre to mark the Action Week, and to call for better protections for domestic workers in Ireland.

**Venues:**
SIPTU, Liberty Hall, Eden Quay Dublin 1
Trinity College Dublin, Buttery Cafe, College Green, Dublin 2
Dublin City Council, Wood Quay Civic Offices, Dublin 8

**Launch of Domestic Workers Action Group Short Documentaries**
*‘Hidden Voices: Stories from Behind Closed Doors’*
Thursday, 29 April

*‘Hidden Voices’* is a series of short documentaries produced by members of DWAG, facilitated by Still Film Productions. These are powerful testimonies from empowered women fighting for the rights and recognition of domestic workers. The screening
will be celebrated with guest speakers and accompanied by a wine reception. Watch, listen and be inspired.

**Venue:** My City Wall Space, Wood Quay Venue, DCC Civic Offices, Dublin 8  
**Time:** 6.30 – 8.30pm

**Let’s Talk: 'From Exploitation to Empowerment: Perspectives from the Domestic Workers Action Group'**  
**Friday, 30th April**

This talk is hosted jointly by the Trinity Immigration Initiative and MPhil in Ethnic and Racial Studies at Trinity College Dublin.  
Speaker: Hilda Regaspi from the Domestic Workers Action Group

**Venue:** 3 College Green, TCD, Seminar Room 3  
**Time:** 1-3pm

**Stand Up for your Rights – Domestic Work is Real Work!**  
**May Day Trade Union March**  
**1st May**

DWAG is joining the parade with workers across the country in this year’s May Day Rally to celebrate International Labour Day. DWAG speakers on the podium will be calling for improved protections for domestic workers. Please join us in this celebration. Friends and family all welcome.

**Venue:** Parnell Square to Liberty Hall  
**Time:** 2pm Sharp

**Contact Details**

Domestic Workers Action Group  
c/o Migrant Rights Centre Ireland  
55 Parnell Square West, Dublin 1  
01 8897570 / 085 710 8954  
www.mrci.ie  
Join DWAG Facebook Group - search for ‘Domestic Workers Action Group’

The Migrant Rights Centre Ireland is a national organisation working to promote justice, empowerment and equality for migrant workers and their families