



NEWS UPDATE December 2010

Welcome to the December edition of our monthly updates, which is an opportunity for volunteers and staff to catch up on what's happening in Near. This year the Committee of Management gave a commitment to produce a monthly newsletter for the Co Op and have it distributed to all staff and volunteers. I am happy to report that with the efforts of many people, this commitment was realised. Communication in any large organisation will always be an issue. Communication in this organisation is important given the diverse range and number of volunteers and staff who are part of the Co Op. Communication is a two-way process and I would encourage you to contact me with contributions for the newsletter during 2011. Thanks to everyone for their dedication and commitment to community media during this year. It was a challenging year in many ways, and no doubt more challenges are ahead in 2011, but together as a co operative, the project can grow further. Happy Christmas to you and your family, and looking forward to working with you next year. As ever if you want to give feedback, or contribute to any edition, email me and I'll gladly include your item.

Dave O Connor (Dave@near.ie)
Editor

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Social News

Christmas Party

Don't forget this year's Christmas Party will take place at **The Grand Hotel, Malahide** on **Saturday 18th December** from **7pm**.

In order to facilitate travel after the party, a bus will leave the party at 11.30pm and again at 1.30am and will drop revellers at Raheny Village and Coolock Village.

The Co-op endeavours to keep all our records up to date however if you are a regular volunteer and you didn't get an invite please contact Alan on 01 8671190 or on alan@near.ie as it is merely an admin oversight.

Welcome to Ray Burke and Michaela D'Andrea who have joined the staff of Near 90fm and Near TV respectively.

Farewell to Adrian Brett who has recently left the co-op's employ.

Near90fm Update

Programming

On Thursday 16th December at 4pm there will be a special programme on the credit union movement.

Keep an eye open on the notice boards and on www.near.ie for information on the Near 90fm schedule over Christmas.

A new youth programme "Plan C" is now on air, alternating with "The Beat Factory" every Saturday morning at 11.30am.

Those of you who catch "Off the Shelf" every Saturday morning may also have heard a new voice. Gerry Maguire has recently joined the team and will be broadcasting every other week alternating with Philip McGibney (9.30am)

Snow news like....

A big thank you to all staff and Volunteers who braved the icy conditions over the last few weeks to ensure that the conditions which brought so many companys and state institutions to a halt had a much reduced impact on the co-op and allowed us to continue providing our services to the people of Northeast Dublin.

Dates to Remember in January

10th - 235th anniversary of the publication of Common Sense by Thomas Paine

11th - Coming of Age Day - Japan

27th - International Holocaust Remembrance Day

Near90fm Radio Archives

Did you know that all programmes are archived on a daily basis ?

Did you know that any Near90fm programme can be access up to three months quite easily and copied to either CD or USB flash disk ?

Studio duty persons will be more than happy to show presenters how to access these files as long as they have the dates and times of their programmes

And, we do have archives for longer than three months but you will need to contact gay@near.ie to access these

USB in the Studio

Don't forget that there is a USB port in both Studio 1 (playback computer) and Studio 3 main computer. This can help you to playback recorded material from a USB flash stick in either MP3, WMA, WAV formats using Windows Media Player

Ask studio duty person's for help if needed.

Studio 1 Music Library

We have an extensive MP3 music collection on the playback computer in studio 1

Minimise Wavecart and you will see a shortcut to this collection

All music will play back in windows media player on the playback channel

Work Experience

We have been very busy this year with work experience. Students came to us from many schools and proved themselves to be very enthusiastic about getting an insight into the various aspects of the media. Among the schools represented were Coláiste Dhúlaigh, Mercy College, Holy Faith, Mount Temple, Manor House, Ard Scoil Rís, and Larkin Community College.

We were especially happy to welcome Ciara Wynne, daughter of our beloved Geraldine to the station. Her aim is to become a radio presenter just like her mother.

Such is the popularity of the station that we are already booked out until March '11.

Northside Today

Northside Today is broadcast Monday to Friday from 11am to 1pm. It is a magazine-style programme comprised of music and interviews. The interviews include current affairs, local and community issues, and wide-ranging items that we hope are of interest to our listeners. If you have a story or item of interest we would love to hear from you. Notices about local events are also read out during the programme and we encourage everyone to let us know what's happening on the northside of Dublin so that we can spread the word. You can contact Northside Today by email at northsidetoday@nearfm.ie (marked "Contributor to NST" in the subject line) or phone 8671190 and ask for Michael FitzGerald, Ronnie O'Brien, Zandra Ball or Pat Guerin.

<http://www.nearpodcast.org>

Claiming our Future

Interviews done by Near personnel Mick Fitzgerald, Declan Cahill and Paul Loughran on behalf of Near90fm and Craol have now been uploaded to the Claiming our Future website. http://www.claimingourfuture.ie/?page_id=484

CLAIMING OUR FUTURE

C/O 9 CAVENDISH ROW

DUBLIN 1

26TH NOVEMBER 2010

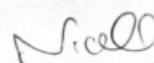
Dear Sally

We are writing to thank you and all the team there in NEAR FM for your involvement in and contribution to the Claiming our Future event in the RDS on October 30th. Your guidance and help with the community media was much appreciated. Your coverage of the event and the generous way you made this coverage more widely available was extremely helpful.

The event was a great success with a strong agenda decided on and a powerful mandate given to continue this work at national and local level. All concerned are now working on reviewing the event and identifying how best to move forward and build on this new unity for an equal, environmentally sustainable and thriving Ireland.

We hope that you will stay involved as we seek to develop this new civil society force. Recent developments have further underscored the need for and importance of this initiative.

Many thanks.



Niall Crowley

On Behalf of Claiming our Future

Cutbacks

In these dark economic times of IMF and EBU cutbacks it is important for us to be as prudent as possible and one area where we can always make savings is in our phone bills. Our phone/data costs run to €15,000 per year. So please try to use landlines where available and try to keep mobile calls as short as possible.

FETAC training

FETAC is a nationally recognised qualification. We will be running a FETAC course in Community Radio starting early in the new year. This will be a pilot course to test a new approach to accreditation at level 4. There will be a charge for this course, as it takes a lot of work to put a FETAC course together. There will be a limited number of places so if we can't fit you in on this course don't worry we will run the course again later in 2011. If you are interested talk to Sally. (sally@near.ie)

Mass on-air

During the very bad weather it is important for near90fm to maintain the service it provides to the community. This is particularly true of our First Friday Mass service, which is primarily aimed at older or infirm mass goers. Mass on Friday December 3rd live from St Brendan's went ahead as normal. The parish priest very was generous in his praise, as with the roads and footpaths covered in snow and ice it was impossible for people to get to mass. Thanks to Gay and the team.

NORTHSIDE BLUES

The success of near90fm's NORTHSIDE BLUES series was recently reaffirmed with a review in HOT PRESS by Jackie Hayden of the live CD, *The Bells Have Tolloed* by The Mary Stokes Band. The piece reads "Recorded live in Clontarf Yatch Club as part of the excellent Near FM live blues sessions, this CD represents fifty minutes of Mary Stokes and her band at the peak of their powers". It goes on to state " *The Bells Have Tolloed* is also an example of what a creative radio station can do to support live music. If Near FM can help get such a dynamic performance to the wider world, why can't stations with greater resources?". A second piece in the same edition of HOT PRESS covers the release of the album to coincide with the annual visit of The Mary Stokes Band to the Cork Jazz Festival and states " Recorded live last year as part of a Near FM community initiative". Near90fm would like to thank the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland for their support in making the NORTHSIDE BLUES series through the Sound & Vision scheme.

Near Drama Update

There will be a one-off Christmas broadcast of 'Curtain Up' on Thursday, 23 December on Near90fm
The live hour long programme will go out at 8.00pm.

If you have any content suggestions [poetry, reflections, short stories, music] for inclusion in this programme, please let Declan Cahill know asap. Email, drama@near.ie

Community Radio Around the Country (more at craol.ie)

Castlebar Community Radio goes 24 hour Congratulations to Castlebar Community Radio broadcasting 24 hours daily since November 1st

Athlone Community Radio are close to signing their full community radio licence with a provisional signing date on November 26th

Erris FM completed their last day on air for 2010 on Nov7th

120 New Community Radio Volunteers trained by **@wiredfm** in September. More in training. New Schedule kicked off 4th Oct - <http://bit.ly/aBbqy2>

@cry104fm build twitter following through interesting mix of station and local tweets

Senator David Norris delivering the inaugural Kate O Sullivan Memorial Lecture was podcast by **Liffey Sound** on <http://fb.me/zHhLh2b1>

NEAR Media Coop ran an advert in the Sunday Tribune thanking their volunteers and staff for commitment to community media

Dublin South FM broadcast 'Steps Forward' a series to celebrate social inclusion week 2010.

Community broadcasting and the Arts in the latest CBX (**Australia**) - Download your copy now at www.cbaa.org.au/cbx

Check out **@Near90FM's** new audio & video podcast homepage. Lots of interesting material & a snazzy new website <http://bit.ly/c0ll65>

Well done to **@corkcampusradio** CCR 98.3FM who have just gone 24/7 - hours of relevant talk, docs and music progs

@DundalkFM FM have just celebrated the awarding of their new 10 yr licence

@ICRFMradio Documentary Dalits: the Forgotten Victims of India's Caste System was rebroadcast by **@Near90fm** and **@raidioch**

<http://www.near.ie/livestream>

Dublin Community Television (DCTV)

"New children's storytellers series on DCTV"



DCTV launched The Storyteller, a unique 10 part childrens series capturing the talents and creativity of the new multi-cultural Dublin.

Produced in partnership with Spirasi this series was shot in the DCTV studio in the Digital Hub and combines music, crafts, live storytelling and comedy to capture the children who were in the studio for the shoots and the audience at home.

You can get a sneak preview on www.dctv.ie or catch the series at 8.30am each weekday morning in December on the tele on **UPC 802**.

AMARC 10 Report (The World Association of Community Broadcasters – www.amarc.org)

The AMARC 10 General Assembly took place in La Plata, Argentina, on 8-13 November. There were 700 participants for over 198 countries. During the General Assembly there were a few conferences dealing with issues relevant to the work of community radios around the world in areas of conflict prevention, natural disaster awareness, indigenous peoples rights, etc.

I was invited to participate in two panel discussions dealing with new technologies and community radios and Community Radios in Conflict Resolution (I was able to tell them everything about CRAOL's work to reinforce the relationship with northern stations but also about my observations during the time I was engaged by CRAOL to attend the CMC meetings in Belfasts). I was also the Rapporteur in two panel discussions (this reports then fed into the final declaration), and took part on two meetings of the Women International Network, participating and also helping with translation.

Part of the meeting was the election to the board and the design of the strategic plan for the next four years. So, my participation in the conference really started on Sunday 12th November, when a group of about 30 people from around the world got together to discuss and design the priorities and actions of AMARC International for the next four years.

This was a good opportunity to meet other community radio activists from around the world, but also to get to know better some members of the board, such as Maria Pia Mata (new AMARC International President); Aleida Calleja (working on the

legislation committee), Emmanuel Boutterin (Vicepresident); Marcelo Solervicens, Secretary General; Maria Eugenia Chávez, Vicepresident for the Women International Network, Mexico;

Ashish Sen, Vicepresident for Asia-Pacific Region, India.; Carlos Aparicio, Vicepresident for Latin America & Caribbean, Mexico; Mariano Sanchez Vicepresident for Europe; Sawsan Zaida, Vicepresident, Jordan; and Steve Buckley, Outgoing President (ex-officio, member of the Board of Directors, without voting rights for one year).

There were also parallel meetings of AMARC Europe Council and of the European delegates attending the AMARC Conference.

All on all, it was a very intense and interesting experience, very energising.

AMARC Europe

The election of the new board maintains the representation of AMARC Europe with two members, Emmanuel Bouttering from the French Federation SNRL and Mariano Sanchez, president of AMARC Europe.

Some more stations, members of AMARC but so far not active with AMARC Europe, were approach during the conference and invited to meetings.

How will this benefit CRAOL?

The SNRL is signing a convention of cooperation with CRAOL and there are in position of decision making in the AMARC board.

The president of AMARC International will attend the AMARC Europe Dublin General Assembly, which will offer a possibility for CRAOL to impress and propose AMARC policies or actions that would be of interest to CRAOL.

Also, CRAOL will benefit from the input from other European/worldwide stations, that might become partners with CRAOI/CRAOL members in future projects.

Soledad Galiana
Radio Coordinator
Near90fm

<http://www.nearpodcast.org>

Near Outreach Update (Dorothee@near.ie)

Near90fm undertook a full live OB from Bonnybrook Youthreach in Coolock to celebrate their 20th anniversary last Thursday 9th December.

Near90fm is getting bigger- new Induction course for new volunteers starting December 11th.

To mark Travellers Pride week from December 2nd to 10th Bridged Neville, the Primary Health Co-ordinator from Travact was interviewed on the Health Study “The

All Ireland Traveller Health Study” and Traveller Pride Week in general on Tuesday 7th December by Leslie Murphy during ‘Lifeline’.

St Doulagh’s Church, Malahide Road in Balgriffin celebrated their annual service of carols and old and new readings by candlelight on Sunday 12th December. Music by boy’s Brigade Brass. As with previous years, Near90fm recorded the event for broadcast over the Christmas period.

A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who made their way to the studios despite the icy roads and lack of full bus service.

Contact dorothee@near.ie

Near TV Update (Elaine@near.ie)

Youthreach

As Dorothee mentioned, Youthreach in Bonnybrook Coolock celebrated their 20 year anniversary on the 9th of December and David Knox in Neartv has been working with Jane, one of the students from youthreach, to make a short video showing what Youthreach is all about. This was shown at the Youthreach open day and will be on the website shortly.

The Dynamo Effect

A Short video which was made on the Dynamo effect fair will be online at www.near.ie shortly. The Dynamo Effect is the international radio series Near90FM has been involved in on the following topics: climate change, food and agriculture, green home, heating and cooling, green electricity, electricity end-use, recycle and re-use, smart mobility, smart vehicles, green company.

The aim of Dynamo Effect is to reduce the gap between European countries in intelligent energy use and sustainable mobility and exchange of best practices between countries.

The launch of ‘CRC TV’

The CRC R.T. media group successfully produced four TV programmes with NEAR TV funded by the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) in 2010. ‘This is a great achievement for all involved and I would like to thank the support given by NEAR TV, Near90fm, the CRC and the BAI in the production of these programmes’ Said Tommy Crampton from the Programme Coordinator & P/T Trainer at Central Remedial Clinic (CRC).

The series will be launched on December 16th at 11am in the Irish Film Institute, Temple Bar, Dublin 2 and the 4 programmes will be screened on DCTV (UPC 802) in Jan 2011. **RSVP:** Tommy Crampton – tcrampton@crc.ie

Production and Training Update (paul@near.ie)

Production

Near90fm were successful with **11 out of 13** projects submitted into the Sound and Vision Round 10 radio fund. Congratulations to all staff and volunteers involved and we look forward to working on your projects in 2011.

Anyone with events or ideas they think would make a viable Sound and Vision project in 2011 are encouraged to get in touch with paul@near.ie or 8485211.



Mol an Oige 2 was launched by Minister Pat Carey in the Civic Centre on Monday 15th November. The launch was a great success with lots of schoolchildren, parents and teachers present. Many thanks to Ken Tuohy and Sue O'Neill for all their hard work organising this launch.

Upcoming Sound and Vision series include **Europe for Beginners** and **OWN series 2** Keep an eye on the website for more details on broadcast dates.

Training

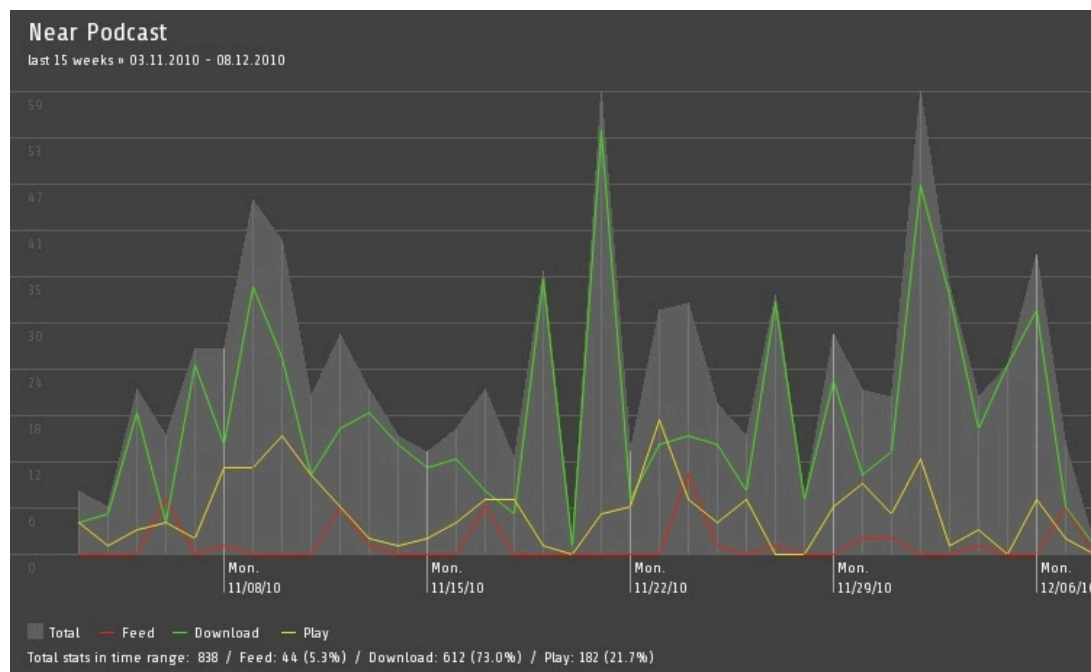


From left to right: Venasio Kabvembe; Tineyi Chasi; Farai Jeyacheya; Pamela Chiriseri; Teddius Sauramba and Charles Radise all participants from the Zimbabwe Heritage Trust who completed the near 90fm Introduction to Community Radio training. This is the second of two courses which was run by near 90fm and which has been funded by the Dublin City Council Integration Initiative in 2010. All the group are now ready to begin volunteering for near 90fm. Congratulations to all and we look forward to seeing and hearing a lot more from this group around the Near Media Coop in the future.

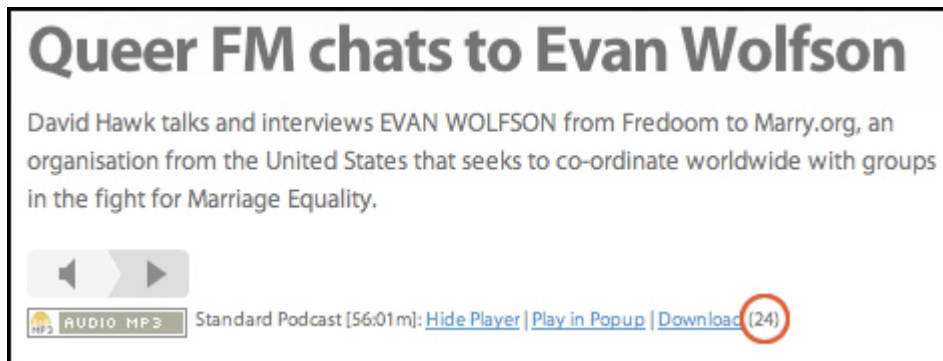
The volunteers from the **Sphere 17 Youth Group** began broadcasting at a new day and time of every second Saturday @ 11.30am.

Near Online Update (gavin@near.ie)

Near Podcast: Since the relaunch of the podcast in September we've had a total of 838 downloads of our programmes. As you can see from our graph, on average we get about 15 listens per podcast and a lot get between 25-60 listens.





You can easily check how many times a particular podcast has been downloaded by checking the download count in the bottom right hand corner of its entry on the site.



Queer FM chats to Evan Wolfson

David Hawk talks and interviews EVAN WOLFSON from Freedom to Marry.org, an organisation from the United States that seeks to co-ordinate worldwide with groups in the fight for Marriage Equality.

  AUDIO MP3 Standard Podcast [56:01m]: [Hide Player](#) | [Play in Popup](#) | [Download](#) (24)

Our new '**Listen Again**' service is continuing to prove popular. This allows us to stream repeats of music programming on the site. We currently have 3 shows running on this with a 4th coming online soon. Reggae Richie's interview with Harry Hawke has gained a huge 172 listens since it was uploaded last month.

Also we have now surpassed the landmark figure of over 1000 likes on **facebook** and are almost at 200 followers on **Twitter**.