

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2011



## News Update

Welcome to the final edition of our regular news updates for 2011. This is an opportunity for volunteers and staff to catch up on what's happening in Near. The newsletter is distributed every two months via email, online and good old fashioned hard copy. It's been another exceptionally busy year for Near Media Co Op across all our platforms. We have gained new volunteers, and thankfully we have managed to retain our compliment of staff. Our last training course in fact, which finished last week attracted almost 30 applicants, which is a sign of the popularity of our training and our community media project as a whole. The Committee of Management met monthly throughout the year to ensure that our project was kept on an even keel, while the Chair and other officers were in regular, sometimes daily, contact with coordinating staff. We are still in uncertain times, but our project is something to be proud of and we hope that all volunteers and staff will work with us in the coming year to ensure the continued existence and development of Near Media Co Op. On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish you and your families a very Happy Christmas for 2011 and good fortune in 2012. Don't forget you can contact me ([dave@near.ie](mailto:dave@near.ie)) if you want to contribute to the next edition of the newsletter.

Dave O Connor  
Editor/Secretary Near Media Co Op

## Near Media Committee of Management

- Vincent Teeling (Chair)
- Heidi Bedell (Vice Chair)
- Dave O'Connor (Secretary)
- Peter Cunningham (Treasurer)
- Declan Cahill
- Deborah Gaffney
- Nell Fitzpatrick
- Bronwen Maher
- Stephen Blayds



## Staff Contact List

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Technical & Studio Issues – [gay@near.ie](mailto:gay@near.ie) 8671190

Technology & Website – [gavin@near.ie](mailto:gavin@near.ie) 8671190

Outreach & OBs – [dorothee@near.ie](mailto:dorothee@near.ie) 8485211

Administration & Introductory Training – [alan@near.ie](mailto:alan@near.ie) 8671190

Productions and Specialist Training – [paul@near.ie](mailto:paul@near.ie) 8485211

Overall Project Coordinator – [ciaran@near.ie](mailto:ciaran@near.ie) 8671190

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Intercultural Coordinator – [grace@near.ie](mailto:grace@near.ie) 8485211

Promotions – [promotions@near.ie](mailto:promotions@near.ie) (Niall Mc Guinness) 8485211

IT Admin/Training – [itadmin@near.ie](mailto:itadmin@near.ie) 8485211



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# Update



Stephen Blayds, long time volunteer recently joined the Committee of Management.



Clontarf Castle will be the venue for this year's Christmas Party on the 17th

**“CONGRATULATIONS TO GERRY CONNOLLY AND DECLAN CAHILL WHO HAVE BOTH RETIRED FROM WORK THIS MONTH”**

## Stephen Blayds joins the Near Committee of Management

A warm welcome to Stephen Blayds who was co opted to the Committee of Management meeting at the November meeting. Stephen has been volunteering with the co-operative for 4 years, having presented on Nearfm regularly. He is currently a Youth Arts Worker for Sphere 17, Dublin 17's Regional Youth Service and also maintains his own artists studio practice being a member of the Market Studios.

## Social News

Congratulations to Gerry Connolly and Declan Cahill who have both retired from work this month. Ed note...We expect to see them very active in Near, far from retired they are ☺

Gerry was Colaiste Dhulaigh's Community Radio teacher for many years during which the relationship between the college and the co-op developed significantly including a weekly programme produced by his students.

Declan Cahill will be well known to all for his work with Near Drama Company and shortly (see New Programme in the New Year) a brand new radio series.

Welcome to Jillian O' Dwyer, Eilis Abbott, Colette Chambers, Ebele Chikwendu, Edd Kealy, Kieran Quigley and Yvette Reid who have recently started working at the Co-op.

Congratulations to Inaki Irigoien who is currently teaching Journalism at Colaiste Dhulaigh. This same class produces a weekly radio programme on Nearfm, every Tuesday at 6.30pm.

## Christmas Party

The 2011 Christmas Party will be held this year at Clontarf Castle Hotel on 17<sup>th</sup> December. If you have not received an invite please contact Alan at 8671190 or on [alan@near.ie](mailto:alan@near.ie). If you have received one but have not RSVP'd please do so as soon as possible by leaving your name in the box at reception or by contacting Alan as above.

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## New programme in the New Year

Join Martin Lennon for **Soulerette** on Fridays at 9pm (starting 13<sup>th</sup> January) with soul and funk music to lift, inspire and communicate upbeat feelings to the local community, including interviews with bands and local Soul/funk fans.

## Christmas Schedule

It will be assumed that programmes running before 24<sup>th</sup> December and after 2<sup>nd</sup> January will be broadcasting as usual. Christmas Day, St Stephen's Day, 27<sup>th</sup> December, New Year's Day and 2<sup>nd</sup> January will be treated as other Bank Holidays. All regular programmes will be cancelled on these days and replaced with special programmes. We will be in contact with all Volunteers to see if anyone would like to present one of these special programmes.

Anyone who wishes to present their regular programme on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> – 31st may do so and the office will be in contact to confirm this. If you wish to and you have not already been contacted please speak to Sally or Alan immediately as from the 12<sup>th</sup> onwards we will be contacting stand-in presenters for that period.

"A Sense of Humanism" is taking a break for the month of December but will return (Wednesdays 3pm) in the New Year.

## Dates to Remember in 2012

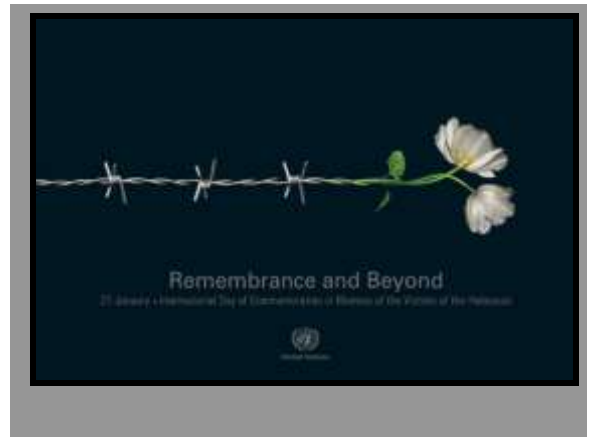
**January 27<sup>th</sup>** – International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

**February 20<sup>th</sup>** – World Day of Social Justice

[www.Near.ie](http://www.Near.ie)

[www.twitter.com/nearfm](http://www.twitter.com/nearfm)

[nearpodcast.org](http://nearpodcast.org)



**January 27<sup>th</sup>** – International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

**"A SENSE OF HUMANISM" IS  
TAKING A BREAK FOR THE  
MONTH OF DECEMBER BUT  
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YEAR."**

# near 90.3 fm Update



The ideal meter level on the studio mixer is 6.



**“LEVELS FROM BOTH THE  
LEFT AND RIGHT CHANNELS  
SHOULD BE PEAKING  
AROUND 6”**

## Studio Output Levels

Next time you are in the studio have a look at the levels when you talk and playback music and then look at the levels when the promo's start...this will give you some idea of the output. Use your headphones to monitor the levels. Otherwise you risk being very loud, or indeed very quiet, and listeners will tune out.

All levels have been preset to the 12 o'clock position on the trims (volume knobs)...and if really need to adjust anything it should be adjusted from here (but you shouldn't need to adjust any levels!!)

Under no circumstances should any presenter adjust output levels from any of the studio computers. If you notice a problem tell Sally or Gay. Levels are set for a reason, and incorrect adjustments can lead to transmitter over modulation, which can be costly.

Rule of thumb ...levels from both the left and right channels should be peaking around 6.

And don't forget that we are now announcing the station as Nearfm. And the frequency? 90.3!!

## Studio Rules

The **Red Light** on means "Don't enter"!! Studio duty personnel may need to enter in certain circumstances.

**Headphones** – Use them. ! You can't monitor your voice and other output levels without them. Maybe, you're not being heard? You'll never know, without headphones.

**Guest Microphones** – Monitor their levels. Are you using the right fader. Remember to use prefade listen beforehand.

**Drinks** – Liquids are a no no anywhere near radio equipment.

**Papers** – Bring them in for your programme. Take them away afterwards!! Messy studios lead to messy programme.

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## Smartphone and Online Listening

Have a Smartphone?

Watch and listen to Nearfm live at [www.livestream.com/nearfm](http://www.livestream.com/nearfm)

Have a laptop or PC?

You can still watch and listen to Nearfm live at [www.livestream.com/nearfm](http://www.livestream.com/nearfm)

Or you can download apps such as Tuneinradio or Wunderradio



You can listen to Near Fm on your Smartphone!

## Pride Time launches a website!

Sinead from Pride Time is delighted to announce that she has just launched a website for the Pride Time show which airs every Sunday from 5.30pm-6.30pm on 90.3 Nearfm.

You can check it out here:  
<http://pridetimeatnear90fm.wordpress.com/>

You can find out about all the latest happenings on the show such as Icons of the Week, Activity & Event Guides, Gig Guides, Show Recordings and Competitions.

## New Website launching in 2012

Coming in 2012.....[www.nearchoice.ie](http://www.nearchoice.ie)

Nearchoice.ie is a brand new 24 hour community radio station, and will be available online. You can use your pc, laptop, Smartphone and enjoy nearchoice.ie

Watch this space for more details.....



Near's LGBT show Pride Time has launched a brand new website!

[www.livestream.com/nearfm](http://www.livestream.com/nearfm)

**“NEARCHOICE.IE IS A BRAND NEW 24 HOUR COMMUNITY RADIO STATION, AND WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE.”**

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## CRAOL national community radio awards

Nearfm received two merits and one distinction at the 2011 CRAOL national community radio awards. Well done to all involved.

Category	Programme Title	Award Category	Judges Comments
Commissioned Programming	A Lifeline	Merit	A good example of community radio highlighting and archiving the collaboration between 2 community centres and bringing that story to the wider listenership.
Social Benefit	Culture Shots	Merit	Impressive example of community radio using its resources to provide training to diverse cultures who embrace their own identities on air, making a practical impact on integration in their community.
Sports	Nearfm Sport	Distinction	What other station will provide commentary on cricket, gay rugby, archery and kite surfing. This is a demonstration of the flexibility and risk taking of community radio, providing its listeners with informative coverage of minority sports.

## Congratulations to Jazz Profiles!



Vincent Flood celebrated 500 'Jazz Profiles' programmes. Pictured with Cllr Larry O'Toole and techie Kasia Sudak. 'Jazz profiles' is a documentary style programme featuring the greats of jazz, from Stan Getz to Myles Davis, every Wednesday at 2pm. Congratulations to Vincent.

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A still from the new CDVEC open day video now available on Vimeo.

## Are you interested in becoming a volunteer with Neartv?

We will be running volunteer training sessions in January 2012 (over 3 Wednesday evenings 11th, 18th & 25th from 7pm-9pm followed by Saturday the 28th from 10am - 3pm) if you are interested in volunteer training please contact us.

No experience in TV is necessary. Once you have completed the training you can become a volunteer with Neartv. The cost is 50 euro (waged) and 25 euro (unwaged).

Near Media Co-Op has an open access policy.

For more details please contact us on 01-848 5211 or email: [tv@near.ie](mailto:tv@near.ie).

## Videos

**On Vimeo** – we currently have a new video online: A snapshot of the events from City of Dublin Vocational Educational Committee (CDVEC) open day on November 12th 2011.

<http://vimeo.com/32668488>

**On Youtube** – **Nearmobile** is a new YouTube channel with videos that have been filmed of mobile phones or camcorders that people might have at home. This channel shows short videos of current events that are happening around the city. Some examples of this are Today outside the Dail and Spectacle of Defiance. Watch this space for more updates.

<http://www.youtube.com/user/nearmobile?feature=watch>

To watch Nearfm on Tv you can go to the YouTube channel **nearfmontv** at

<http://www.youtube.com/user/nearfmontv?blend=24&ob=5#p/u>

We will be updating this section with more radio shows soon.

And don't forget to follow us on twitter [@nearTV](https://twitter.com/nearTV) for regular updates.



Watch Today outside on the Dail, a video available on Nearmobile, a new YouTube channel

**“WE WILL BE RUNNING VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSIONS IN JANUARY 2012”**

## Intercultural Update



In early December, the second combined FETAC Level 4 in Community Radio and Intercultural Media Literacy course was completed.



Andrew Reid works with the participants in the Community Radio and Intercultural Media Literacy course.

**“LOOK OUT FOR SPECIAL  
CULTURE SHOTS  
PROGRAMMES IN DECEMBER  
TO MARK WORLD AIDS DAY,  
INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS  
DAY, INTERNATIONAL HUMAN  
RIGHTS DAY AND THE  
INTERNATIONAL DAY TO END  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.”**

After completing the first series of 13 **Culture Shots** programmes, Evans, Shannette, Eamonn and Irenia have continued this series exploring intercultural dialogue. Look out for special **Culture Shots** programmes in December to mark World AIDS Day, International Migrants Day, International Human Rights Day and the International Day to End Violence Against Women.

In early December, the second combined FETAC Level 4 in Community Radio and Intercultural Media Literacy course finished up. All 8 Intercultural project participants are completing their assignments and beginning to work towards the next series of 13 **Culture Shots** programmes which will air in early January on Nearfm. Roseline, Vera, Marie, Sudansh, Haluu, Peig, Jim, Mariaam and Eoin have also become full volunteers with Near Media Co-op!

Some of our new volunteers have been shadowing existing volunteers to learn more about live programming and to gain tips on putting together a show. If you or anyone you know would be interested in having a volunteer from the intercultural project shadow your show, please contact Grace Wilentz, Intercultural Dialogue through Community Media Coordinator at [grace@near.ie](mailto:grace@near.ie) or on 01 848 5211. Grace, the intercultural coordinator, is currently working to develop an intercultural policy for community media. She's been chatting to some of you informally, but would like to arrange face-to-face consultations with volunteers, staff, and other co-op stakeholders to incorporate all ideas on what needs to be included in an affective intercultural policy for community media. Please contact her if you'd like to voice your opinion.

You can tune in to **Culture Shots** on 90.3 fm or live stream at [www.near.ie](http://www.near.ie) each week, Mondays from 6.30 to 7. To listen to past episodes, simply search for "Culture Shots" on [www.nearpodcast.org](http://www.nearpodcast.org)

This project is co-financed by the European Commission under the European Integration Fund and is supported by the Office for the Promotion of Migrant Integration in the Department of Justice and Equality and Pobal.





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# near online Update

## Calling all twitter users

Do you have a twitter account that you use to promote your radio programme? If so then be sure to mention @nearfm in your tweets. We'd like to compile a list of all our presenters who are tweeting so we can encourage people to follow them using the main near fm twitter account. So drop Gavin an email at [gavin@near.ie](mailto:gavin@near.ie) or send a tweet in @nearfm's direction if you're on twitter and want to have your programme promoted.

This month we passed 30,000 downloads on the podcast website. Twitter is a particularly great way for us to promote the podcast. If you have any particular programme on the podcast that you would like promoted then please let us now.

## Basic Computer Training Courses

We have new training courses starting in the New Year. If you or anyone you know might be interested in learning the basics of using email, the internet etc. then please get in contact with Collette at 8485211.

Do you have a friend, relative, neighbour who would like to know how to write emails, upload a photo from a digital camera, and use the internet? We're currently taking names for our Autumn IT training courses. So if you or anyone you know is in need of some basic IT training then get in touch with Sue at 8485211 or email [gavin@near.ie](mailto:gavin@near.ie) Courses run 1 morning a week for 10 weeks and have a registration of €20 for the basic courses.

Remember to keep updated on what's happening follow us on twitter @near90fm and find us on facebook at [facebook.com/near90fm](https://www.facebook.com/near90fm).

Contact Sue on 01 8485211 morning times.



Near Online IT trainees with previous Lord Mayor Emer Costello

**“WE HAVE NEW TRAINING COURSES STARTING IN THE NEW YEAR. IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING THE BASICS OF USING EMAIL, THE INTERNET ETC. THEN PLEASE GET IN CONTACT WITH COLLETTE AT 8485211”**

**[www.Near.ie](http://www.Near.ie)**

**[www.twitter.com/nearfm](https://www.twitter.com/nearfm)**

**[nearpodcast.org](http://nearpodcast.org)**

## Production and Training Update



A host of new Sound and Vision programmes will be starting very soon.



The Older Women's Network, just one of many groups featured in the Equal Billing series being broadcast throughout November and December.

### Production – Sound and Vision

Production is almost complete on new S&V series Ladies sing the Blues, Changing Face of Fairview, Tales from the Northside and Dublin's Northside City of Literature. These series will air in spring 2012.

Production is almost complete on Travelers Stories, History of Dance, Helping Hands and Turn at the Pine Trees. These series will be coming to a 90.3 Near fm radio transmission near you in spring 2012.

The S&V funded series Equal Billing & Heritage of Howth are currently broadcasting on the following dates:

Equal Billing will broadcast every Wednesday in December @ 4pm up until and including December 21st. It is an exciting nine part radio series looking at discrimination and issues of representation in the movies.

Each programme has been produced in collaboration with a community group active in combating discrimination, with each of the presenters and their guests having a particular knowledge in the area. The series uses well known movies as its starting point to draw in listeners and help them to engage with the discussion

Groups featured in the series include Northside Community Law Centre, The LGBT community, Central Remedial Clinic, Northside Citizens Information Centre and the Older Women's Network.

The series is also available on [www.nearpodcast.org](http://www.nearpodcast.org)

### Training

If any volunteers require additional sound desk or editing training please contact [paul@near.ie](mailto:paul@near.ie) or phone 8485211

**“PRODUCTION IS ALMOST COMPLETE ON TRAVELERS STORIES, HISTORY OF DANCE, HELPING HANDS AND TURN AT THE PINE TREES.”**



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## Production and Training Update

### Howth: Heritage, History and Maritime Tradition

This series on Howth is broadcasting every Thursday in December @ 3pm.

The series, titled **Howth: Heritage, Community and Maritime Tradition** will follow Near FM's Noel McGuinness as he visits the harbour and some of the community organisations in the area.

We hear from the Howth Sutton Community Council, the Sea Scouts, Howth Lifeboat, the St. Lawrence Pipe Band, the Howth Sea Angling Club and the Howth Parish Transition Year Group. Noel meets some fascinating people and takes an enjoyable ferry trip to Ireland's Eye.

Noel meets some fascinating people and takes an enjoyable ferry trip to Ireland's Eye.

The series features a diverse blend of the people who live and work in Howth, with particular focus on some of the work that is undertaken on a voluntary basis by committed members of the community.

### Communicating Europe

Ignacio Irigoien is currently producing a series of programmes which explains the workings of the EU, how it shapes our everyday lives and Ireland's place in the EU. The programmes will be made with schoolchildren, youth groups and Senior Citizens. With the support of Noel Quigley and Austin McCoy from the Senior Citizens programme and Sphere 17 Youth group in Darndale, this promises to be an innovative, informative and timely series of programmes. Due to broadcast Spring 2012. Keep an eye on the website in 2012.



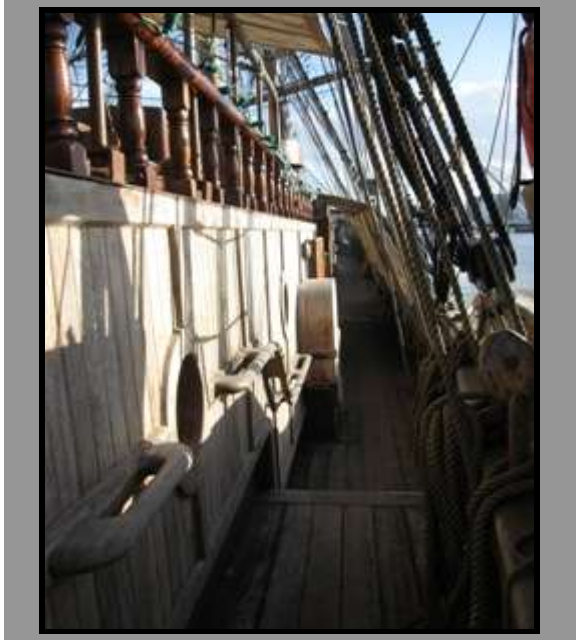
Howth Harbour takes centre stage in the series **Howth: Heritage, Community and Maritime Tradition**



Ignacio Irigoien is currently producing a series of programmes which explains the workings of the EU

**“NOEL MEETS SOME FASCINATING PEOPLE AND TAKES AN ENJOYABLE FERRY TRIP TO IRELAND'S EYE.”**

## Outreach Update



### Outside Broadcast from the Jeanie Johnston

The beautiful Jeanie Johnston is docked at Custom House Quay in Dublin's city centre and is an accurate replica of the original ship which sailed between Tralee in Co. Kerry and North America between 1847 and 1855. The ship is open for visitors with guided tours being conducted daily. Near fm will be going live for the first time from this spectacular ship on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December from 3.30 to 5.00pm. Guests include community organisations situated in the inner city close to the Docklands, people working with the Jeanie Johnston. Minister Jimmie Deenihan, TD Minister for Arts, Heritage & Gaeltacht Affairs will be our special guests launching the first broadcast from the water.

If you ever come across an event you think we should attend with the OB van, feel free to email your thoughts to [dorothee@near.ie](mailto:dorothee@near.ie)

Prize Giving Ceremony with Cllr Larry O'Toole on behalf of the Lord Mayor of Dublin on Monday October 24<sup>th</sup>

### Northside Partnership Education For All Fair

Near fm took part in the Northside Partnership Education For All Fair on 29th November in Donnycarney Youth Centre.

The Education for All is an event of the Northside Partnership's Regional Education Network. This is the 4th Education for All Fair organised by the Partnership and to date 4,500 young people and adults from across the Partnership catchment area have attended. The fair has been organised as a community event where education, training and learning programme providers can meet local people to promote their courses to them.

Near fm took part in the Northside Partnership Education For All Fair on 29th November in Donnycarney Youth Centre.

There were over 30 different education providers displaying at the fair with providers offering education programmes ranging from second level schooling to university.

**"IF YOU EVER COME ACROSS  
AN EVENT YOU THINK WE  
SHOULD ATTEND WITH THE  
OB VAN, FEEL FREE TO EMAIL  
YOUR THOUGHTS TO  
[DOROTHEE@NEAR.IE](mailto:DOROTHEE@NEAR.IE)"**



## Outreach Update

### Aontas

AONTAS, the Irish national adult learning organisation held a very exciting one day conference in The Radisson Blu Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8 on November 17th which focused on the key role of community education in responding to the current challenges, and demonstrating why it is vital that this sector of the education system should be supported and strengthened.

Nearfm and other community radio stations took part in the conference by promoting community media as well as by reporting on this important topic.

The conference entitled ***Making a Living; Making a Life*** will also provide practical workshops for community education practitioners as well as a forum for adult learners.



Aontas held a conference which focused on the key role of community education in responding to the current challenges.

### New volunteers

We just finished our last training for community activists who would like to get involved with nearfm. Over twenty people attended the course and we are excited to hear new voices and programmes soon.

### Christmas - St Doulagh's Annual Service of Carols and Readings by Candlelight

We will be recording the annual Service of Carols and Readings by Candlelight on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> December in St Doulagh's Church to be played on Christmas Day.



St Doulagh's Church where we will be recording the annual Service of Carols and Readings.

**“WE ARE EXCITED TO HEAR  
NEW VOICES AND  
PROGRAMMES FROM OUR  
NEW VOLUNTEERS SOON”**

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## Community Radio Around Ireland

West Dublin Access Radio ([www.wdar.ie](http://www.wdar.ie)) have been successful in the most recent round of Grassroots Grants (Round 28) from the Community Foundation for Ireland which awarded grants totalling almost €150,000 to groups all over Ireland. Grants were made to almost 100 groups for a wide variety of projects supporting vulnerable communities. Areas supported were respite for family carers, supports for older people, interventions promoting integration for ethnic minorities, community based mental health projects and those working with families at risk.

The West Dublin Access Radio project is to train a group of 15 Migrants in the West Dublin community in the making of their own radio programme on West Dublin Access Radio on issues that affect the ethnic and migrant community in Dublin West on a weekly basis. The training is a Fetac Level 4 component accredited course "Introduction to Community Radio" which takes in the understanding of community radio, Interviewing community groups and production and presentation skills.

The long awaited results of the 2011 Craol Achievement Awards were announced at a special ceremony in the Shamrock Lodge Hotel in Athlone on Saturday 19th November. A record entry made the judges particularly hard this year. In all 16 Distinctions were awarded.

Nearfm came away with two merits and one distinction.

The Craol AGM Took Place on Friday, 30th September in Dublin. Stepping down from the coordinating committee were Martina O'Brien (Wired FM), Ciarán Murray (Near FM) and Grainne O'Malley (Connemara Community Radio). Returning to the committee are Mary Lennon (Athlone Community Radio), Alan Connolly (Phoenix FM), Jim Doherty (Inishowen Community Radio), Paula Healy (Flirt FM), Brian Daly (Life FM) and Tina Heffernan (Dublin South FM).

Liam Flanagan (West Dublin Access Radio), Sally Galiana (Near FM) and Aidan Long (Claremorris Community Radio) were elected to the coordinating committee. The officers on the committee for the coming year are as follows:

Chairperson: Tina Heffernan, Vice-Chairpersons: Brian Daly & Liam Flanagan, Secretary: Paula Healy, Treasurer: Sally Galiana

Craol will be rolling out station based training in Media Literacy next year. This initiative will facilitate training in all aspects of media literacy, but most importantly the skills of critical thinking and self-expression, which are key aspects of the mission of community radio. In advance of this roll-out Craol hosted a review session on the 12th November to examine the structure of the proposed course and give feedback on its implementation.

Early November saw the first ever nationwide research into the community radio audience taking place. A joint application from 21 stations (led by Flirt FM) has been funded by the BAI under the Community Broadcasting Support Scheme. The research was carried out by Red C. The results will be available this month.

**The next edition of this Newsletter will issue in February. If you are reading a hard copy and want to receive your newsletter by email, send an email to [gavin@near.ie](mailto:gavin@near.ie) and he'll put you the mailing list.**