



OPW

The Office of Public Works
Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí

Obair

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WELCOME TO ISSUE 17 OF OBAIR MAGAZINE

Following the general election in late May of this year we saw the arrival of a new Minister to OPW and we welcome Mr. Noel Ahern T.D. to his new portfolio and wish him every success in his new role.

In this edition of Obair we feature some more of the projects that the Office has been working on during the first half of 2007.

You will find details of the contract award for the new National Conference Centre at Spencer Dock, the opening by An Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern T.D. of the new Elephant House and the Kaziranga Forest Trail in Dublin Zoo, Dr. Ian Paisley's visit to the Battle of the Boyne site, the restoration and conservation of Cobh Custom House in County Cork and the provision of new state of the art facilities for a Regional Inspectorate of the Environmental Protection Agency in Kilkenny.

Decentralisation continues to be rolled out across the country and in this edition we bring you details of the Department of Social and Family Affairs' newly constructed landmark office in Carrick on Shannon, County Leitrim. We also feature articles on the hugely successful "Bloom" event in the Phoenix Park over the June Bank Holiday weekend in addition to some more social items such as how Phoenix Park Chief Superintendent John McCullen has become "Doctor John", an invasion of Vikings, the workings of the South West partnership and the OPW Golf Society's outings.

You will notice that, for the first time, we have some contributions "as Gaeilge" in this edition and for this we thank both Míchéal de Mórdha and Pádraic ó' Tuairisg. Of course we also thank everyone else who took time out from their busy schedules to contribute to this magazine. Contributions are always welcome so if you feel that you have anything you would like to tell your colleagues about then please feel free to contact any of the editorial team listed below.

We hope you enjoy this edition of your Obair magazine.

George Moir, Kevin Kennedy, Raé Kearns

Obair Editorial Team

NEW ELEPHANT EXHIBIT AT DUBLIN ZOO



Elephants on the Kaziranga Forest Trail

The rejuvenation of the historic core of Dublin Zoo has been a longstanding priority for the Zoo and the creation of a new elephant exhibit is one of the most ambitious projects to date. OPW has been at the heart of all major capital development works at Dublin Zoo since the Government approved a series of Capital Development Programmes. The highlight of the initial Programme was the opening of the African Plains exhibit in 2000. Among other significant capital works since then have been the Meerkat Restaurant, Staff Facilities Complex and Ibis Cliff exhibit. OPW is again centrally involved with the elephant development which forms part of the current Capital Development Programme (2006 – 2010).



A new elephant house was the first phase of the project. The development of a new enlarged external natural landscape will complete the development.

The new Elephant House at Dublin Zoo is a state of the art facility that encompasses animal well-being with visitor enjoyment and keeper safety. The 730m² steel framed structure provides 3 individual stalls and a 'Protective Contact' wall to facilitate safe one on one keeper/elephant interaction, a 2m deep internal sand pit and an external corral to provide care and interaction based on the latest animal enrichment policies. Complete with state of the art CCTV monitoring equipment and keeper facilities OPW have designed a user specific building to Dublin Zoo's exacting brief of requirements.

Prior to construction of the new House, Kirsty & Judy, the previous elephant house incumbents, retired to a Zoo in Germany. Dublin Zoo has fostered 3 female elephants: Bernadine, Anak and Yasmine from Rotterdam Zoo in the Netherlands. Bernadine gave birth on 7th May 2007.

The Elephant House forms part of an overall habitat that spans almost 3 acres and will contain 2 animal pools, a babbling stream, a viewing amphitheatre and an authentically planted Asian forest-clearing exhibit. The entire completed exhibit opened to the Public 28th June 2007.



Elephant Exhibit: Architect's account:

OPW Architectural Services commenced design work on the Elephant exhibit when the acquisition of three elephants from Rotterdam Zoo was announced. Considering the urgency of their planned arrival in October 2006, it was decided to phase the project into three separate contracts, namely the Elephant House and external corral first, the Elephant Habitat/landscape next, and finally the Houghton House.

The elephant house plan was developed between OPW and Dublin Zoo, and its overall design reflects the adjacent Houghton House, and Asian rainforest architecture. The building provides a comfortable and efficient environment for both elephants and keepers, and has set the example for other Zoos overseas for safe care of the animals.

The Habitat, which is adjacent to the house, was executed in collaboration with Jones and Jones Landscape Architects, and was designed on an Indian flood plain theme (named by Dublin Zoo as the Kaziranga Forest trail project). This incorporates

OPW Project Management Team

Principal Officer
John McMahon

Assistant Principal Officer
Brid Snow

Higher Executive Officer
Catherine Kennedy

Executive Officer
Catherine Gentleman

Senior Architect
Kevin Wolahan

Project Architect (Elephant House)
Charles Moore

Project Architect (Elephant Landscape)
Bianca O'Neill



simulated earth-banks (some planted), sand mounds, two oxbow lakes, waterfall, stream, pathways, dry riverbed and occasional viewing shelters. The exhibit will also provide for and share a herd of Asian Antelope. The earth banks, which are formed with specialist-applied concrete, give the appearance of flood-eroded riverbanks have the triple function of security, controlling lines of vision and use as planting containers. Dublin Zoo landscaping staff completed the habitat with extensive planting to complement the visitor's experience of a lush Asian rainforest.

OPW Architectural Services are about to commence re-construction of the Haughton House to its former 1898 glory as an Asian pavilion overlooking the Elephant habitat. The building will house the Learning and Discovery centre, which will be themed on elephants and the Asian rainforest. This will be completed in June 2008, and will be the icing on the cake for the Elephant Exhibit.

Bianca O'Neill and Charles Moore

Architectural Services

BANC CEANNAIS NA h-ÉIREANN IN ARAINN



Radharc as Dún Aonghasa

Am éigin faoi Shamhain 2006 dúradh liom go mbeadh an Banc Ceannais ag seoladh na mboinn nua don bhlian 2007 ag Dún Aonghasa in Arainn agus lá breá an mhí sin tháinig beirt ón mBanc Ceannais agus beirt ó Oifig na nOibreacha Poiblí go Dún Aonghasa. Bhí said sásta lena bhfaca said agus socraíodh go mbeadh an seoladh ag Dún Aonghasa ar an 10ú Eanáir 2007.



Dún Aonghasa

Tháinig an lá, agus bhí sé go h-álainn. Ar maidin thainig roinnt iriseóirí agus grúpa gasúir scoile leo ó scoil áitiúil agus chuaigh said ar fad suas Dún Aonghasa agus chaith said uaireanta an chloig ansin ag tógáil pictiúirí de na gasúir agus an t-airgead nua acu agus an fharraige mhór agus na h-aillte mar chúlra acu. Foilsíodh na pictiúir seo sna nuachtáin deireannaí.

Thart ar mheán lae thosaigh maithe agus móruaisle an Bhainc agus an OPW ag teacht ar eitleáin. Ina measc bhí an t-Aire Stáit Tom Parlon, an

Cathaoirleach Seán Benton agus Brian Murphy. Chuaigh said go dtí an tóstán.

Ag 5.00 tráthnóna bhí gach duine-daoine ionadacha ó eagrais éagsúla sa bpobal agus éinne eile a mbeadh baint acu leis an ócáid, - bailithe san ionad cuairteoirí ag Dún Aonghasa nuair a thainig an tAire agus na "réalta" eile leis. Cuireadh tús leis an ócáid nuair a cuireadh fáilte roimh gach duine agus seoladh na boinn nua agus ansin bhronn Brian Murphy na chéad bhoinn ar an Aire agus go deimhin bhí said go slachtmhar, neadaithe i gcárta ar a raibh



Ag seoladh na mBoinn

pictiúirí de Dhún Aonghasa agus na dúnta eile ar an oileán agus na bláthanna freisin. Bronntanas an-álainn ar fad!

Agus an seoladh déanta, tugadh cuireadh chun béile do gach duine agus bhí "nua gach bídh agus sean gach dí"-méarbhia agus fion-ann agus ceol croíúil traidisiúnta. Is dócha go raibh suas le seachtú duine ann ar fad.

Chuir an t-Aire Parlon dinnéar ar fáil, san óstán, níos deireanaí san oíche do na daoine a tháinig "thar lear" agus ina dhiaidh sin bhí oíche go maidin san óstán.

Bhí na cuairteoirí le nimeacht ag 10.00 maidin lá arna mhárach ach nuair a tháinig an mhaidin bhí sé soiléir nach mbeadh aon duine ag imeacht. Bhí stoirm láidir ann agus ní raibh eitleán ná bád in ann taisteal.

Cuireadh in iúil é seo do na cuairteoirí agus sílim gur thug mé faoi deara meangadh gáire ar go leor béal!

Bhí orainn socruithe eile a dhéanamh ansin. Fuair gach duine lón agus ina dhiaidh sin chugaidh said siar go dtí na Seacht dTeampaill, áit álainn lá ar bith ach leis na tonnta ollmhóra a bhí ag pléascadh ar an gcadach in aice leis, baineadh sásamh agus taithneamh nach beag as. Ansin fuair muid scéala go mbeadh bád ag dul amach go Ros a' Mhíl ag 5:00 ar tráthnóna sin. Chuala mé osna nó dhó! Mar sin féin d'imigh siad ag 5.00. Bhí an gníomh déanta agus gach duine sásta.

Pádraic ó' Tuairisg

Seirbhís Oidhreacht

RESTORATION AND EXTENSION OF COBH CUSTOM HOUSE



*Cobh Custom House,
East Beach Road Entrance*

The town of Cobh is synonymous with maritime activities and is noted for its Victorian waterfront architecture. The original Custom House was designed by Robert Cochrane, Surveyor, Board of Works in the mid 1890s. The red bricked building located on the waterfront had lain derelict for a number of years before it was decided to utilise the space for accommodation for the Department of Social Welfare.

Lynchs Quay Entrance



East Beach Road Entrance



East Beach Road Entrance



Internal Building



Public Offices

The project consisted of restoring the existing Custom House on the quayside while linking through to the extension, which provides its new public face to East Wall Road. The full restoration and conservation of the existing Custom House was undertaken with due recognition of its historical significance and architectural heritage within the area.

Every effort was made to salvage material and reuse on site if possible. The original doors in the existing building were revarnished and the original counter was restored and retained. Materials used in construction were intended to contrast as well as complement the existing building and the surrounding streetscapes.

The existing Custom House becomes the office area and entry point for staff, while the new extension becomes the public entry point and circulation area. The link at ground and first floor level is extremely important in providing universal access for the two buildings. The installation of a small lift accessed off the main hallway provides disabled access to the existing building.

Several factors influenced the structure and design of the new extension. For example the circulation routes from the existing building into the new extension and routes from the top level of the site at

East Wall to the lower level on Lynch's Quay creates a new elevation and public face to East Wall for the Custom's House.

Construction work began in July 2005 and was completed in August 2006. The restored Custom House and new extension provides the people of Cobh with an alternative and functional building of historical importance. The building was highly commended in the OPUS Awards 2006.

Katie Gentleman

Project Management Services

GLENCREE CENTRE FOR RECONCILIATION

ARMOURY BUILDING PROJECT



*Glencrec Centre for Reconciliation
Armoury Building*

Property Maintenance Services some time back commenced the rehabilitation of the grounds and buildings on the State Owned site of the Glencrec Peace and Reconciliation Centre at Glencrec, County Wicklow, having recognised the value of the work that the Centre is involved in and the importance of the buildings as a valuable State Asset. Glencrec is nestled in the Wicklow Mountains in the Glencrec Valley just 12 miles from the centre of Dublin. The Glencrec Centre for Reconciliation which was founded in 1974 is devoted to peace building and reconciliation in Ireland, North and South, Britain, and beyond.



Property Maintenance Services has now completed the major alteration and refurbishment of the Old Armoury Building Store under the direction of Des Thorpe, Head of Maintenance Services. The Building has been converted into a new Restaurant with catering facilities for the Glenree Centre to include a new mezzanine floor. The existing small coffee shop situated in the Bridge Block had become inadequate to meet current demands and will be converted into much needed exhibition space now that the Armoury is completed.

The restoration of the Armoury Building included the repair of existing slated roof and construction of café with fully fitted out modern kitchen, toilets and associated facilities. The Armoury Building will provide not just a major facility for the operations of the Centre but also for the general public as a gateway to the Wicklow National Park. A Conservatory type extension to the Armoury was also constructed to cater for excess traffic and allow users to take advantage of the beautiful south-facing view.

Property Maintenance Section engaged Anthony Moore, Consulting Engineer to run the Project. The OPW Senior Architect, John Cahill provided advice on the conservation issues of the Project. The Main Contractor was O'Farrell Kennedy Builders Ltd. The installation of the Electrical and Mechanical Services under the direction of our Senior Clerk of Works, Jack Brady was carried out by J Vaughan Electrical Contractors Ltd and H A Barrett and Company respectively. The new Armoury Kitchen Equipment was provided by Masser Hammond. Security works to include alarms etc. were carried out by Security Technology Ireland Ltd. while Fire Technology Ltd installed the Fire Alarm System. Brendan Shortt of the OPW Building Maintenance Service provided valuable on site support to all concerned throughout the Project. The Board, Management and staff of Glenree Centre have to be complimented for their input and co operation in getting the Project up and running and for their ongoing assistance to completion.



Tea Rooms and Visitor Facilities



Furniture Branch supplied all the new furniture for the Armoury and it is of the same high standard and specification as the furniture used in Emo Court, County Laois.

OPW Mechanical and Electrical Services has also rationalised the ESB wiring network and metering system within the Centre such that the overall electrical installation can serve all existing buildings to be refurbished and new buildings coming on stream in the future. A new switchboard was manufactured by Davenam and installed by J Vaughan Electrical Contractors Ltd.

A standby generator was purchased from F G Wilson Ltd. and is now installed and commissioned to ensure continued power supply to the Centre when supply is disrupted.

At a later stage in the development of the site and depending on the availability of funds OPW would like to secure and develop the very large back building (Back Range) with a view to restoring the building in the future.

The siting of a Visitor Centre on the Glenree lands as a gateway to the Wicklow National Park is also the subject of discussions between the National Parks and Wildlife, OPW and Glenree Centre. Discussions are centering around agreeing an exact location for the Visitor Centre, creation of local walks through Glenree and Coillte lands that would join up with the nearby Wicklow Way. The new facility at the Armoury Building should complement any plan for the Visitor Centre.

Minister of State, Tom Parlon who opened the new facility acknowledged the continuing important work undertaken by the Glenree Centre for Reconciliation and acknowledged the support given by the Glenree Board, Management and staff to this Project. He wished them every success with their own Project coming on stream involving the construction of a New Administration Block and provision of further accommodation at the Centre.

Dermot O'Brien

Property Maintenance Section

OLDBRIDGE

11 MAY 2007



First Minister Dr Paisley presents the Taoiseach with an original musket at Oldbridge

An Taoiseach Bertie Ahern TD welcomed newly-appointed First Minister of Northern Ireland, Dr Ian Paisley, MP, MLA – paying his first official visit to the State in his new capacity – to the site of the historic Battle of the Boyne (1690) at Oldbridge, Co Meath on the 11th of May. Also in attendance to mark the historic occasion were many Ministers and other dignitaries from both North and South.



The walnut bowl presented by the Taoiseach to Dr Paisley and his wife at the Multi Party Talks in St Andrews

The dignitaries inspected the works-in-progress which include: the development of Oldbridge House (c1740) as a Visitor Centre with exhibitions of models, maps and graphics, a display of 17th century artillery and associated military equipment, refurbishment of the adjoining stable-block for audio-visual facilities, restoration of the walled gardens, provision of a new tearoom pavilion, toilets and car/bus parking. The initiative arose from an undertaking in the Good Friday Agreement to implement tangible measures to 'demonstrate respect for the different traditions on the island of Ireland':

At the pivotal Multi Party Talks in St Andrews, Scotland on the 13th of October last the Taoiseach had presented Dr Paisley and his wife, Baroness Eileen, with an exquisite walnut bowl to mark the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary (on that same day). The bowl had been carved from a huge walnut tree (*Juglans regia*) certified by the Tree Council of Ireland as an all-Ireland 'champion tree' of its species (largest in terms of its girth, 2nd tallest), approximately 250 years old, which was growing in a

central position on the Battlesite. Unfortunately, the tree blew- down in the storm of January 2005 but the beautiful hollow bowl was carved from a salvaged limb by sculptor Liam O'Neill.

The Taoiseach recalled this event as he and the First Minister planted a tree of the same species at Oldbridge during their visit. Dr Paisley then presented the Taoiseach with a rare Jacobite cavalry officer's musket (1675), said to have been used at both the Siege of Derry (1689) and at the Boyne, for display in the House.

The new facilities are on course for completion in time for next year's tourist season. Visitor numbers in excess of 100,000 are anticipated as the Battle of the Boyne becomes a tourism, heritage and recreational attraction and an iconic symbol of the Peace Process.

Eugene Keane

Heritage Services

NATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTRE



The Contract Award or Financial Close on this unique and prestigious Public Private Partnership (PPP) was achieved on the 5th April 2007. The Contract was awarded to the Spencer Dock Convention Centre Dublin Ltd (SDCCD) Consortium. Under the terms of the Contract, SDCCD are required to Design, Build, Finance, the National Conference Centre (NCC) and Operate and Maintain it for a period of 25 years, after which time the facility will revert to the State. In return, once construction work on the Conference Centre is complete and the Centre is open for business, the State will pay SDCCD by way of annual Unitary Payments over 25 years, a total of just under €380m in present day values. Construction work on the Conference Centre, which will take 40 months to complete, has commenced.

The absence of a National Conference Centre has been recognised for some time as a deficit in Ireland's business tourism infrastructure. The global conference market is worth up to €40 billion per year and 870 international association conferences take place every year, in Europe alone. Ireland, without a dedicated National Conference Centre has lost out on much of the available premium tourist business. Delegates to these conferences are regarded as "high value" business tourists and are estimated to spend €1,250 each (excluding air travel) during their stay. Conference visitors often extend their stay at the end of the conference or return later for private holidays. The NCC when fully operational, is expected to generate additional foreign revenue earnings of between €25m-€50m per annum.

In June 2003, the Government decided that a National Conference Centre, should be sourced/leased, in the Dublin area, on behalf of the State, on the basis that the construction cost, if any, of the NCC would not impact on the General Government Balance. On foot of the Government Decision, a Steering Group was set up, chaired by the Secretary General of the Department of Arts, Sports and Tourism, including the Chairman of OPW, representatives of the Department of Finance, Fáilte Ireland, supported as necessary, by professional expertise including the National Development Finance Agency (NDFA). In line with the Government Decision, OPW was appointed as the Contracting Authority and a Project Team, chaired by Special Projects Unit, was given the task of Project Managing the complex Procurement Process and driving the Project through to Contract Award. Jacobs Engineering were subsequently appointed as Technical Advisors, while McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors were appointed as Legal Advisors with Financial advice being provided by the NDFA and Farrell Grant Sparks. Brady Shipman Martin provided advice on Planning while Commercial Property advice was obtained from Bannon Commercial. In accordance with E.U., Procurement Rules, it was decided that the Negotiated Procedure was the most appropriate

Form of Procurement for the NCC. A further distinctive feature of the Procurement Process was the requirement that prospective participants provide a suitable site.

Following the publication of a Notice in the E.U., Journal, Expressions of Interest were received from 4 Consortia, of which, three satisfied the Financial & Technical criteria and were also deemed to have suitable sites. Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) documentation issued to the three Consortia in December 2004, with two Tenders being, subsequently, received by the closing date in May 2005. Following a detailed evaluation of the Tenders, the Spencer Dock Consortium was deemed to be the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) and following a Government Decision, was appointed as Provisional Preferred Tenderer (PPT) in December 2005. Negotiations with the Consortium commenced on the 8th December 2005, with a view to it being appointed Preferred Tenderer, through a series of Legal/Commercial, Financial and Technical Meetings.

The main objective and indeed rationale for the NCC, was to increase Ireland's share of the International Business Conference market. As part of its bid, SDCCD was required to provide a Marketing Strategy which required it to guarantee that a certain number of foreign delegates would visit the NCC. During the negotiations with SDCCD, OPW obtained increases in the guaranteed number of delegates who would visit the NCC and received all necessary assurances on the Financial Model for financing and operating the NCC for the duration of the 25 year concession. Negotiations on the PPT Phase ended in July 2006 and following a Government Decision, resulted in SDCCD being appointed as Preferred Tenderer (PT) on 31st August 2006. During the PT Phase, negotiations continued with a view to obtaining closure on the Project Agreement and the numerous Schedules attaching to it. Following a further Government Decision, Contract Award or Financial Close (the term used in PPP Projects) was finally achieved on the 5th April 2007.



Project Team
Client
Department of Arts, Sports
and Tourism

Contracting Authority
Commissioners of Public Works

Chairman
Seán Benton (*Steering Group Member*)

Commissioner
Clare Mc Grath (*Steering Group Member*)

Special Projects Unit
Kevin Connolly, Gerry Gleeson,
Willie McIntosh, Bernie Mannion,
John Powell, Sharon Kiernan,
Julie Whyte, Maitane Celadom,

Architectural Services

Assistant Principal Architect
Klaus Unger



The Conference Centre will be located at Spencer Dock on Dublin's North Quays, adjacent to the Royal Canal. The Centre will include a 2,000 seat raked auditorium, numerous multi-purpose meeting rooms and approximately 4,500m² of flexible exhibition and banqueting spaces, along with associated press and delegate support facilities and general utility spaces. The Centre is spread over five levels and has the potential to cater for up to 8,000 delegates in various configurations, making the National Conference Centre one of the most flexible conference centres in Europe. The Conference Centre, when constructed, will be approximately 27,000m² in area, will be clad in stone and will include a dramatic glass fronted entrance atrium running the full height of the building – giving visitors panoramic views of the River Liffey, Dublin City Centre and the Wicklow Mountains. A new five star hotel, facing on to Mayor St, will be provided at the northern end of the NCC (the hotel is not part of the PPP contract).

The building was designed by the Pritzker Prize winner, Kevin Roche, the internationally renowned, Irish Architect, who, after graduating from the UCD School of Architecture in 1945, worked with the

Architect Michael Scott, before moving to America where he is still an active member of the firm, Kevin Roche John Dinkeloo and Associates.

At the official Marketing Launch in Dublin Castle on 20th June 2007, attended by An Taoiseach and representatives of the tourist industry etc., the Executive Chairman of SDCCD Mr., Dermot Dwyer, confirmed that the NCC will be open for business on the 1st September 2010. The NCC will be known as The Convention Centre Dublin and a website, www.theccd.ie, has been set up. SDCCD has already obtained its first booking i.e., The British Orthopaedic Association. The Association has confirmed that it will hold its Annual Congress in the NCC in September 2011, thus attracting over 1,000 members to Dublin. SDCCD has now started marketing the NCC and in doing so, are targeting international associations and corporate bodies all around the world.

Gerry Gleeson

Special Projects Unit

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGIONAL INSPECTORATE AT KILKENNY



The decision to upgrade and extend the existing EPA Regional Office, situated at Butts Green, Kilkenny, was the culmination for the EPA of a long-term presence in Kilkenny. The Office was established in 1978 as the South-East Regional Water Laboratory and was operated by An Foras Forbartha on behalf of the local authorities of Carlow, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford and Wexford. It became part of the EPA on its establishment in 1993.



As OPW had already built the Headquarters of the EPA at Johnstown Castle, Wexford, Laboratories at Monaghan and Richview, Clonskeagh, it was a measure of its satisfaction with these projects that OPW was again called on to build new state of the art facilities in Kilkenny. A greenfield site was acquired at Seville Lodge, Callan Road, with ample space for a 1,342m² laboratory with office accommodation for professional and administrative staff of multi-disciplinary backgrounds. A conference facility is also provided.

The design of the building reflects the role of the EPA as the major environmental management and control institution in the state. The building contains organics laboratories with fume cupboards, metals laboratories, drench showers with eye wash and full decontamination facilities, a microbiology laboratory and a chemical storage facility.

The Inspectorate will serve the Local Authorities from seven counties.

A staff of approximately twenty-five will occupy the building with the conference facilities being used for public seminars on environmental issues, training for local authority and EPA staff and a Public Information Centre.

OPW has been commissioned by the EPA to undertake a major extension and alterations to the existing HQ in Johnstown Castle, Wexford, in 2007.

Gina Brennan

Project Management Services

NA LOCHLANNAIGH – ARÍS!



An Bhlascaoid Mhóir

Céad bliain ó shin, ag deireadh an tsamhraidh, sa bhliain 1907, do tháinig scoláire iomráiteach ón Iorua, darbh ainm Carl John Sverdrup Marstrander (26 Samhain 1883 go 23 Nollaig 1965), go dtí an mBlascaod Mór chun feabhas a chur ar a chuid Gaeilge, teanga a bhí á foghlaim aige trátha an ama seo. “An Lochlannach” a thug Tomás Ó Cíomhthain air, mar ainm cheana. Ní haon ionadh, mar sin, gurb é “Na Lochlannaigh” an téama a bheidh ag Ceiliúradh an Bhlascaoid i mbliana agus go mbeidh saol agus saothar Mharstrander mar phríomh théama ag an gCeiliúradh sin. Tionólfar an Ceiliúradh in Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhóir, Dún Chaoin, ón 12-14 Deireadh Fómhair seo chugainn. Is é seo an 11ú Ceiliúradh bliantúil, ó cuireadh ar bun ar dtús é sa bhliain 1996. Is iad Oifig na n-Oibreacha Poiblí, maille le Fondúireacht an Bhlascaoid agus Oidhreacht Chorca Dhuibhne a eagraíonn Ceiliúradh an Bhlascaoid.



Is é A Shoilse, Ambasadóir na hIorua chun na hÉireann, an tUas. Truls Hanevold, a osclóidh Ceiliúradh an Bhlascoid go hoifigiúil ar 7.30 pm ar an Aoine, 12 Deireadh Fómhair 2007. Orthu seo eile a chuirfidh léachtaí i láthair tá: An Dr. Séamas Ó Catháin (UCD), An tOllamh Donnchadh Ó Corráin (UCC), Dr. Breandán Ó Ciobháin, Dr. Erik Rekdal, Dr. Bo Almqvist (Ollamh Emeritus le Béaloideas, UCD) agus Einar Richter-Hannsen (scríbhneoir, a labharfaidh mar gheall ar stair an Nordkapp agus oileán Magerøy i dtuaisceart na hIorua). Beidh trácht chomh maith ag an gCeiliúradh ar scoláire eile ó Chríoch Lochlainn, Carl Wilhelm Von Sydow, a thug turas ar an mBlascaod in éis Mharstrander agus a thóg roinnt ghrianghraif tábhachta ar an oileán. Ba é siúd athair an aisteora Max Von Sydow.

“Tá sé thar a bheith tábhachtach domsa, mar bhainisteoir anseo, go mbeadh úsáid coitianta á bhaint againn as an Ionad mar láthair pobail agus foghlama. Chomh maith leis an gCeiliúradh bionn an-chuid imeachtaí pobail ar bun againn gach bliain agus is maith liom go bhfuil an earnáil oideachais treas leibhéal ag baint an-earraíocht asainn,” arsa Mícheál de Mórdha, Bainisteoir, Ionad an Bhlascoid.

Ní haon ionadh leis go bhfuil triall ar mhuintir na hIorua ar Ionad an Bhlascoid i nDún Chaoin, lán trí bhus acu, a thagann chugainn ón gcomhlacht Abbey Tours gach maidin Shathairn i rith an bhiaiste turasóireachta i mbliana. Cuireann na hIoruaigh an-spéis i scéal an Bhlascoid agus i gcuairt Mharstrander ar na Blascaodaigh céad bliain ó shin.

Is iomaí scéal béaloidis atá ann mar gheall ar Carl Marstrander. Baineann ceann acu sin lena chéad chuairt ar an oileán. Do bhí fhios ag Rí an Bhlascoid, Peats Mhicí Ó Catháin, go raibh an scoláire Ioruaigh ar tí cuairt a thabhairt agus bhí sé féin agus roinnt eile



Ionad An Bhlascoid Mhóir

de shaoithe an oileáin ag fanacht leis ar Chaladh an Oileáin. Nuair a tháinig Marstrander i dtír do labhairt sé sa Mheán-Ghaeilge leis an Rí.

“Is deas an teanga an Ioruais, a dhuine uasail, ach ambaiste ní thuigim focail dí,” arsa Peats Mhicí.

Lúthchleasaí ab ea Carl Marstrander a rinne ionadaíocht ar a thír dhúchais sa léim cuaille ag na cluichí Oilimpeacha fadó. Rinneadh iontas dó ar an mBlascaod nuair a thosaigh sé ag léim os cionn na dtíthe le maide rámhá mar thaca aige.

Thar aon rud eile is é Carl Marstrander a spreag Tomás Ó Criomhthain chun dul i mbun peannaireachta ina theanga dhúchais, gníomh a spreag rabharta scríbhneoireachta an oileáin sin. Tháinig scoláirí eile chun an oileáin mar gheall ar Mharstrander – Robin Flower nó Bláithín, ach go háirithe.

Beidh litríocht an Bhlascoid faoi chomaoin go deo ag an Ioruaigh uasal seo.

Michéal de Mórdha

Seirbhísi Oidhreachta

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL & FAMILY AFFAIRS

DECENTRALISATION OFFICES,
CARRICK ON SHANNON



Property Management Services have taken a long-term lease on a newly constructed landmark office building in Carrick on Shannon under the Decentralisation Programme.

Project Team

Property Management Services
JP Molloy, Ronan McKeever

Client
Department of Social & Family Affairs

Developer's Architect
John Fleming Architects

Developer
Lis Cara Partnership

OPW Monitoring Architect
Gerard Bourke

OPW Monitoring Services Engineer
Conor Byrne

OPW Monitoring Quantity Surveyor
Burton & O'Connor

Furniture
OPW Furniture Branch



Sean Benton Chairman, former Minister Tom Parlon, John Ellis TD and Minister Séamus Brennan



The Ministers and JP Molloy and Gerard Bourke

The Department of Social & Family Affairs units that have decentralised to the premises are:

Identity Services, Decisions Advisory Office, Freedom of Information, Maintenance Recovery Unit, Employment Support Services and the Labour Market Unit.

Located in the town centre, the new offices form part of a new civic centre / riverside location and are situated adjacent to the new Courthouse and Garda Station.

The Offices have an excellent civic presence being only a 3 minute walk from the Local Authority Headquarters, 10-15 minutes walk from the Railway Station and a convenient 10 minutes walk from the local amenities such as Banks, Cafés, Hotels, Schools and Crèches

The building, which comprises of 3,716m² of office space, together with 130 car-parking spaces, has been taken on a 20 year lease. Work station and cellular office space has been provided for up to 185 staff with an allowance for work sharing and expansion.

A turnkey package was negotiated with the developer to fit out the building to the Department of Social & Family Affairs' requirements, based on agreed layouts prepared by the OPW monitoring Architect and Architects representing the Developer.

The building has been designed sustainably - no mechanical air-conditioning is needed, every worker has their own openable window to control their own local environment. The building is planned in the shape of a St Bridget's Cross so that floors can be narrow enough to cross-ventilate naturally with fresh air, which is why there are four wings with lots of windows. Also, this means that every workspace has a very good view either of the Shannon or of the historic town of Carrick on Shannon.

Loose furniture and mobile file storage was provided by OPW Furniture Branch.

All Artwork on display in the building was sourced locally, and features works by leading local artists Niall Walsh and Melanie O'Rourke. Most pieces are in contemporary idioms reflecting the modern expression of the building itself.

The building was handed over to the client at the beginning of June 07.

Overall, the building provides an excellent working environment for the staff. Moreover, it is an aesthetically pleasing building from a visual perspective, making it one of the finest buildings in the town of Carrick-on-Shannon.

Ronan McLaughlin

Property Management Services

BLOOM IN THE PARK



The OPW Garden

Ireland's largest and most spectacular gardening event took place in the **Ashtown Demesne, Phoenix Park Visitor Centre** over the June Bank holiday weekend. The Office of Public Works was delighted to work in close co-operation with Bord Bia & the Horticultural Sector to facilitate this exciting world-class show which, many have since referred to, as *Ireland's Chelsea Flower Show*. Over 50,000 visitors braved a range of weather conditions over the course of the weekend, from sun cream & stilettos on Ladies Day to rainmacs & wellies on the Sunday.



Commissioner David Byers, John McCullen and the Phoenix Park Staff



The Garden Under Construction

Bloom in the Park showcased the best of Irish landscape gardeners, designers and horticultural producers with thirty stunning show gardens, many with interactive features. Bloom offered daily entertainment, creative workshops, cookery demonstrations and arts, crafts & sculpture displays. There was also an outdoor food market, a variety of speciality garden retail exhibits, a family 'fun learning zone' and Ireland's largest ever nursery and floral display.

From our first meeting on the 31st August 06, with Commissioner Byers and the Bord Bia team, we soon realised the scale of the event & the logistics involved. The Phoenix Park has hosted many large-scale events over the years (in 2006 we had over 250 large scale events & 2300 sporting events) and thus we were able to draw on this experience & knowledge in organising & advising Bloom.

Given that the *Heritage Services* Section of OPW is responsible for *Historic Parks & Gardens* throughout the country, Bord Bia asked us in February 07 to design a garden for the show. We were glad to do so on the basis of demonstrating our landscape design & horticultural skills as well as a marvellous opportunity to publicise our portfolio of historic parks & gardens throughout the country.

The two and a half acre *walled garden* was selected as the location for the show gardens. However, the gardens were in the process of being restored by the historic parks & gardens staff of the Phoenix Park with phase I being completed i.e. the original path

layout re-instated, water and drainage provided and timber edging to the original panels. CEW under the direction of Michael Marshall restored the original gates. The original drawings of the Vineries and back buildings by Jacob Owen in 1854 were unearthed by David Wall and Dr John McCullen and formed part of the plans for the new vineries, fruit stores & pineapple houses. Phase II was just about to commence with the planting up of the original panels in the style of a Victorian kitchen garden appropriate to the period, including soft fruit, vegetables, espaliers & cut flowers etc. when we were approached by Bord Bia and these plans were postponed to facilitate Bloom 2007.

The OPW Bloom show garden

"A historic garden is an architectural and horticultural composition of interest to the public from the historical or artistic point of view."

Florence Charter on Historic Gardens

The *OPW show garden* was in the spirit of the Florence Charter and is based on the *Formal Victorian Kitchen Walled Garden*, where the Bloom Festival was taking place in. The eighteen by eight meter show garden, was a miniature of the two & a half acre walled garden and included a Victorian glasshouse with exotic interior plants, formal box parterre, fruit, vegetable & cut flower displays with fruit trained on the walls.



Dr Martin McAleese, President Mary McAleese, Angela Kennedy, Chairperson of an Bord Bia, Margaret Gormley, OPW Park Superintendent.

The theme of the 'show garden' was to *inspire & educate* the public on the horticultural skill involved in the growing of fruit, vegetables & flowers and was also used as an opportunity to showcase 'Historic Parks & Gardens Countrywide' within the remit of the OPW. To this end 18 display panels were incorporated within the Victorian bedding display along the perimeter wall.

The Historic Parks & Gardens staff of the Phoenix Park under the direction of Landscape Horticultural Foreman, Declan Bermingham, carried out all works for the 'show garden', within the same timeframe as the rest of the show gardens. The Botanic Greenhouse Company in Donabate provided the Victorian Glasshouse for the show. Not only had the garden team to ensure that the Show garden reflected the standards of excellence in horticulture that the OPW strive for, but they also had to present the whole Phoenix Park in the best light. I would like to express my thanks to all the staff of the Phoenix Park who worked long & hard prior to and during the show.

The OPW show garden was manned throughout by a team of qualified horticulturists who answered queries on landscape and horticultural matters and on the show garden itself. More than 30,000 packs of a newly designed leaflet on the Phoenix Park, the

Summer programme of events in the OPW's historic parks and gardens and a plant list of the OPW's show garden and original layout of the walled garden were distributed during the Bloom festival. The OPW garden was featured extensively on TV3's Ireland AM breakfast program and fashion shoot.

The designing, planning and implementing of the show garden was a hugely rewarding experience and the feedback from the public over the four days was overwhelming. The number of people who came up to us at the garden to congratulate the OPW on the range & quality of work they undertake throughout the country was amazing.

Phoenix Park Team

Dr John McCullen, Chief Park Superintendent and Margaret Gormley, Park Superintendent/ project co-ordinator, Laura Farrell & Sarah Murphy, Temp Landscape Horticultural graduates, Declan Bermingham, Landscape Foreman, Declan Donoghue, Head Gardener, Gabriel Gleeson & Hugh Bonar, Heritage Services. The staff of the Phoenix Park.

Margaret Gormley

Park Superintendent

SOUTHWEST PARTNERSHIP



*Southwest Drainage Staff
attending CPD site visit to New
Limerick Tunnel on river Shannon*

Guide: Martin Gurdet

Company: Direct Route

*Attending from OPW:
Michael Collins, Pat Donovan,
Noel Fitzpatrick, Mark Noonan,
Brian O'Neill, Joe Barry,
Aidan O'Donoghue*

As many of you will be aware, there has been a Partnership Committee operating in Head Office for some years now. The partnership committee is a forum for staff and management to meet and discuss issues relating to how the organisation is being operated or managed, and it is a forum, which allows staff to have some input into the management process. Many issues are discussed and agreed between management and staff in the partnership process. Partnership does not deal with Industrial Relations issues.

The South West Partnership Group

Possibly as a result of looming decentralisation and growing awareness within the organisation of life outside Dublin, it was decided at the main Partnership committee, to establish a regional sub group of Partnership in the South West initially as a pilot. The first meeting of the Partnership Sub-Group for the South West Region took place at the National Monuments Depot, Killarney on 17th November 2005. This sub group reports to the main partnership committee through one of its members. Ann Keegan (previously Pat Donovan) is a member of both partnership committees.

What has been discussed at the South West group?

To date discussions have taken place on issues such as IT systems and support including connectivity to the OPW network for remote staff, Options on the use of Merit pay, Commemoration of long service for staff, Involving and communicating with staff regarding the Partnership process, The use of Defibrillators on large or busy sites in the south west, and of course, Decentralisation and Regionalisation.

Who is represented by the South West group?

The issue of what area the 'South West' is intended to cover was discussed. It was agreed that the 'South West' should be taken to include any member of staff located within Munster, or reporting in to or working to an office located within Munster.

Who is on the South West Partnership Committee?

The group is, like the Main Partnership Committee, made up of Management and Staff representatives.

Pat Donovan (Chair) *Engineering Services*
Neil Ryan *Personnel*
Michael Brennan *Cork District Office*
Ezra Mac Manamon *South West Drainage Maintenance*
John O'Connell *National Monuments – Mallow*
Pat O'Donoghue *Hydrometric – Limerick*
Des O'Brien *District Architects – Limerick*
Cormac Foley *Historic Properties*
Terry Murphy *National Monuments – Killarney*
Anne Keegan (Sec.) *Project Management Services*
Adrian Corcoran *Visitor Services – Killarney*

Where are meetings held?

Initially meetings were held either in Killarney or Mallow. In order to create more awareness of the existence of the Group meetings were taken on tour from mid 2006 and two or three staff local to the venue were invited to attend the meeting and to participate. Meetings have been held at Fota House Cork, Rock of Cashel and at Ionad an Bhlascaoid Mhoir.

How do we communicate with staff?

There is a good geographic and section spread of staff on the committee.

A news letter was distributed to staff outlining the purpose and aims of the Southwest Partnership Group.

A questionnaire was recently issued seeking staff views on Merit Pay, Christmas party and issues of concern.

If Staff in Munster would like to know more about the Partnership Group, or would like to have an issue raised for discussion by the group, they should contact one of the representatives above.

Pat Donovan

Engineering Services

STATSBYGG DELEGATION VISIT OPW



A delegation from the Communications Department of Statsbygg (the Norwegian equivalent of OPW) visited Dublin on May 23 and 24, 2007.

OPW Director of Corporate Services, Mr. Vincent Campbell and staff from the Public Relations Department provided them with a presentation on the role and functions of the OPW and the Statsbygg delegation presented a similar outline of Norwegian methodology and their project portfolio.



Similarities between the two organisations were immediately apparent as indeed were the many similarities between the two countries.

Statsbygg's tasks include:

- Construction
- Property Management
- Property Development
- Buying and Selling

Statsbygg has been in existence since approx 1816 and manage over 1,500 properties throughout Norway and 120 properties abroad, a good example of which being the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Berlin. These properties comprise a floor space of 2.3 million square metres with a value of 20 Billion Norwegian Krone. Revenue is generated primarily through rent from users and leases of properties.

The best-known current construction being undertaken by Statsbygg is the new opera house in Bjorvika. Statsbygg also carries out property development, town and country planning and can remodel State properties for new purposes. A prime example is the redevelopment of Fornebu, (the site of the former main national airport) as a new urban district with residential and commercial buildings.

The Norwegian delegation consisted of Hege Njaa Rygh, Head of Communications, Mirjana Rødningen, Ellen Hansen, Eva Wik, Pål Weiby, Ina Sneis, Mette Nordhus and Eva Kvandal. During their trip they visited the Government Media Centre in

Government Buildings, Dublin Castle and the State Apartments, the Assay Office refurbishment project, Farmleigh and the National Botanic Gardens.

Many thanks to Ray and Oisín in the Government Media Centre, Tommy O'Shaughnessy and Denis McCarthy in Dublin Castle, Mary Cannon in Special Projects Unit and Felicity Gaffney and Matthew Jebb in the National Botanic Gardens for their assistance in setting up the visits to various OPW sites.

Kevin Kennedy

Public Relations Department

ON BECOMING DR. JOHN



The need to research the landscape history and management of the Phoenix Park became apparent when I was preparing the first management plan for the Phoenix Park in 1986. Very little had been written on the landscape history and management of the Phoenix Park and what had been written relied on earlier secondary sources with little new material being added.

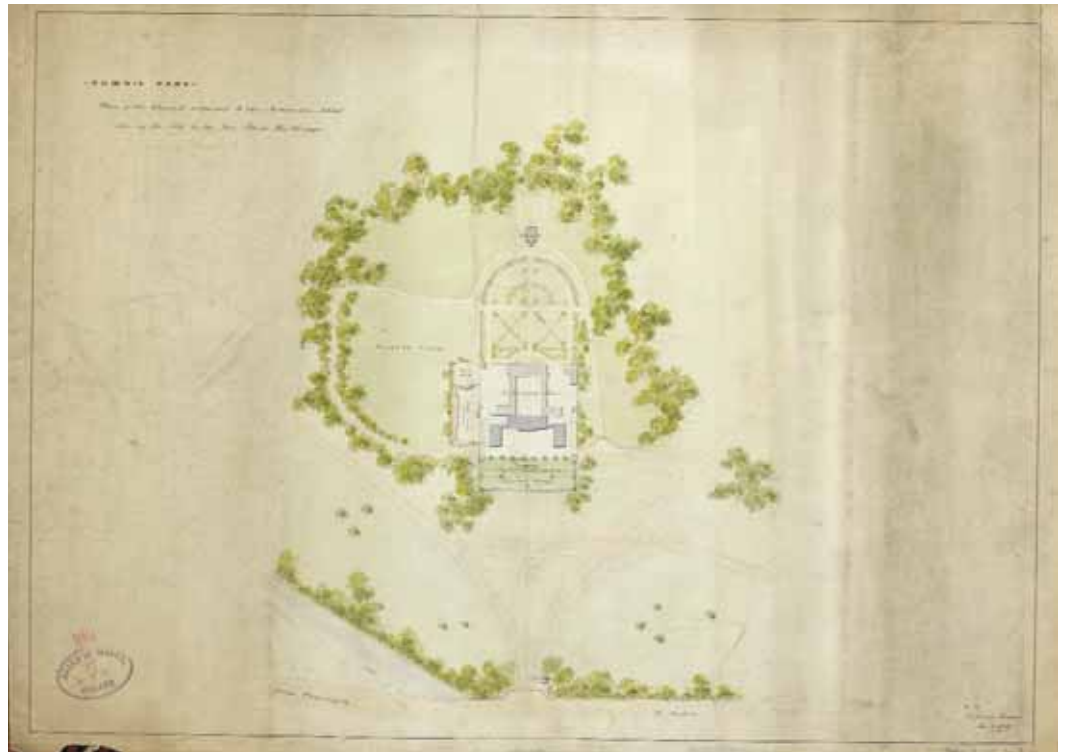
My enthusiasm was excited by the finding of a parliamentary report in the National Library which summarised the works of the famous landscape architect Decimus Burton undertaken in the Phoenix Park between the years 1832 and 1845. I was further enthused on receiving a copy of a letter by Decimus Burton about Park work from the late Brian Hayden, architect with the OPW. Brian's discovery in the basement of no. 10 Hume Street held out the prospect of a cache of material on the formation of the Park's landscape. Shortly afterwards one Saturday morning and with youthful enthusiasm, Liam Stewart of National Parks and Monuments (now in IT) and myself suitably attired with dust masks began a random search of the basement files. Nothing had emerged by lunchtime when we decided to explore the rest of the building. The ground floor had been completely vacated. The first floor was also vacant with the exception of an old tin chest sitting in the middle of the floor catching some shafts of sunlight and yes you have guessed it – it was full of old documents relating to the Park's landscape formation and management.

In the early 1990s I began to explore the possibility of undertaking a PhD on the landscape history and management of the Phoenix Park. With much encouragement from former Board Chairmen Pascal Scanlan and John O'Mahony and the director of National Parks and Monuments, Noel Lynch I arranged to meet Dr. Eddie Mc Parland from the History of Art Dept. at Trinity College. Since UCD was my alma mater for my primary degree in horticulture I felt it would be exciting to study at another university. This I would advise in the light of having enjoyed doing a M.Sc. in Landscape Design, Ecology and Management at London University in 1970.

In 1992 I registered for an M.Phil. at Trinity College with Eddie Mc Parland as my tutor but before doing so I purchased a copy of *How To Get A PhD* by Estelle M. Phillips and D. S. Pugh for the princely sum of £13-40 (punts). This is an invaluable text and evaluates all the reasons for undertaking or not undertaking a PhD. There were compelling reasons for undertaking the thesis – the research work was needed for the Phoenix Park, it was also my place of work for the previous eight years, my youngest child, Marianne,



Early Maps



Early Maps

was ten years old, my active football playing days were over, I lived in the Bailiff's lodge in the Park and had the luxury of devoting a room for my files, computer and had sufficient table space to spread out maps without having to remove them regularly. Most importantly the OPW generously supported the venture.

My test piece for the PhD was a twenty-five thousand word dissertation on the Park's drainage which, although seemingly dull as a topic, turned out to be a fascinating journey of discovery.

Perhaps one of my best decisions (when my writing and grammar was letting me down) was to undertake a twenty-week evening course on Effective Writing at UCD (Earlsfort Terrace).

Although only seven years are allowed to complete a PhD on a part-time basis and three to four years fulltime I was unable to stay within the time allowed and came off books (a term used to regroup or if additional time is required to complete the thesis) in 2000 for personal and work reasons and resumed a few years later. I completed the thesis in the Summer of 2006 and my viva (defence of thesis) took place in November 2006 followed by the graduation in February 2007.

A frequently asked question is how is it possible to undertake a PhD thesis while working fulltime? The key for me was working with a topic which was part of my work but more importantly I was able to copy

and photograph (using high speed black and white film and natural light) numerous documents in the National Archives and have material copied at other national institutions (both here and abroad) thus minimising the time and number of visits to these institutions. OPW was one of the first to comply with Dr. Garret Fitzgerald's National Archives Act (1986). At the time the OPW archive was stored at the former Independent Newspapers warehouse on Dominick Street and were being sorted and boxed for their destination on the National Archives shelves at Bishop Street. At the above location I was fortunate to be able to copy the relevant documents relating to the Phoenix Park over a two-year period (during the Winter evenings and at weekends).

The next step is to publish the thesis to make the information as widely available as possible and as I write the OPW are actively pursuing this course of action...

In conclusion I would like to thank all my colleagues in the OPW who have encouraged and helped me to achieve my doctorate.

John McCullen

Chief Park Supt. (Historic Parks & Gardens) OPW.

OFFICE OF PUBLIC WORKS GOLF SOCIETIES

HOW IT ALL BEGAN



Winners of the Chairmans Cup

Before addressing the origins of The OPW Golf Society it may be interesting to explore the evolution of Golf itself. Throughout recorded history, practically every civilisation in the world has played a game using some sort of a club and ball. The Celts had shinty, the Chinese played Ch'ui wan (beating a ball) the Roman scribe Catullas describes the game "pangea" which would appear to be the forerunner of hockey and hurling. Some would also have you believed that Kolven from Holland and Chole from Belgium influenced the game of golf.

However these games, while played with a stick and ball, are missing the one vital ingredient that is unique to golf "the Hole". The Scots are generally credited with inventing the hole as they played a game not dissimilar to golf today on the eastern coast of Scotland in the Kingdom of Fife during the 15th. Century. Players hit a pebble around a natural course of sand dunes, rabbit runs and tracks using a stick or primitive club and eventually down a rabbit hole.

The earliest recorded reference to golf is made in 1457 by the parliament of King James 2 of Scotland, when it bans the playing of golf on Sundays because it is distracting the population from it's archery practice, a skill more useful in defending itself against an English invasion. The ban, however was largely ignored despite being reaffirmed twice in 1470 and 1491, but was eventually lifted following the Treaty of Glasgow with James 4 (James 1 of England) himself taking up the sport.

However there is no doubt as to the origins of the OPW Golf Society as the current committee still hold the original documentation relating to the formation of the Society. It all began on Tuesday 17th October 1911 at a meeting of a group of officers of the Board of Works interested in golf. In the chair was: Mr. G.E. Shanahan, also present were Messrs. T.F.Foley, C.S. Herbert, T. M. Batcher, W. Charlton, G. Price, F. Taylor, J.J. Rafter, and T. S. Cassidy.

There were five motions put to the meeting that day, all were carried unanimously as follows:

Proposed C. S. Herbert, seconded by T.M. Batcher:

"That the golfing society of the Board of Works be instituted"

Proposed T.F.Foley, seconded by G. Price:

"That the society be open to Officers of the Board of Works who are members of a recognised Golf Club and that the yearly subscription be two shillings and sixpence"

Proposed G. Price, seconded by J.J. Rafter:

"That the officers of the society be a President, Captain, Secretary/Treasurer and a committee of six of these the President Captain and Secretary be the officer members of the Committee, and that the Chairman of the Board be asked to become a Patron of the Society"

Proposed T.F.Foley, seconded by C.S. Herbert:

"That Mr. Commissioner Stevenson be invited to become President of the Society"

Proposed C. S. Herbert seconded by T. F. Foley:

"That the officers for the incoming year be as follows:

Captain T. M. Batcher

Secretary/Treasurer G. Price

Committee T.F.Foley W. Charlton, C. S. Herbert, T. Cassidy, J. J. Rafter

That the framing of the rules of the Society be left to the committee"

Ninety-six years later I am glad to report that the Society is enjoying another successful season having played it's Captains Outing at Donabate Golf Club with former Chairman John Mahony taking the Captains prize.

The current committee comprise:

Captain:	Joe McGrath
Secretary:	Donal Wickham
Treasurer:	Terry Beagon

Terry Beagon

Hon. Secretary

Clock Tower Golf Society

Farmleigh opened to the public in 2001 and soon after that the Clocktower Golf Society was formed. The name was taken from the large Clocktower which stands in the grounds of Farmleigh. Our first President was Tommy O'Shaughnessy and our first Captain was Hugh O'Neill. In the earlier years we played such courses as Elm Green and Hollystown, but as our players became better golfers we have progressed to courses such as Slieve Russell, Glasson and the Castleknock Golf and Country Club. In 2002 we lost Frank Story who died while working at Farmleigh. In honour of his memory we named a cup after him and it is played for in a match play format every year. The society organise weekends away and we have travelled to the Slieve Russell Golf Club in 2005 and the Glasson Golf and Country Club in 2006. Both these weekends were very successful, both socially and golfing. 2006 was our most successful year as we won the Chairmans cup in a hard fought battle with the OPW Society and the BMS Society at Kilcock. The trophy stands proudly in our display cabinet in Farmleigh. The Clocktower Golf Society will be trying its best to retain the trophy in 2007 at Beech Park Golf Club. I would like to thank all the committee and members for their support through the years.

Brendan Hickey
David Levins

The B.M.S. Golf Society

The BMS Golf Society season for 2007 teed off with our first major event which was held at Malahide Golf Club on Tuesday 10th April. The outing was well supported by members on a fine day weatherwise on a good course, we also welcomed a number of visitors on the day.

The event was won by Philip Maher (comments were that it was about time). The visitors prize was won by Willie O'Brien O.P.W. Golf Society.

Thanks to our outgoing Captain Jimmy Kennedy who presented the prizes. The members extended their thanks to the Sports Committee for the continued sponsorship of our golf society.

The BMS Golf Society are looking forward to our challenge in the Chairmans Cup on the 28th June at Beech Park. The next major event on the BMS calendar will be held on Monday 29th October. Looking forward to the continued support of our members.

Philip Maher
Hon. Secretary

STAFF MOVEMENT JAN – JUN 2007

<i>Name</i>	<i>Grade</i>		<i>Date</i>
Sharon Slattery	SO	Career Break	03/01/2007
Rita Finucane	EO	Career Break	15/01/2007
Howard Fox	Botanist Grade 3	Career Break	20/04/2007
Darragh Langan	EO	Career Break	30/04/2007
Maura Gear	CO	Career Break	01/05/2007
Eileen Scanlan	APO	Career Break	16/05/2007
Saskia O'Connor	Architect	Commenced	08/01/2007
Hugh Rochford	CO	Commenced	08/01/2007
Aoife Hurley	Architect	Commenced	22/01/2007
Paul Kiernan	Engineer Gr III	Commenced	22/01/2007
Dervla Rose	Engineer Gr III	Commenced	12/02/2007
Caroline Byrne	CO	Commenced	02/04/2007
Niamh Ryan	CO	Commenced	11/04/2007
Alice Dooley	CO	Commenced	11/04/2007
Malgorzata Kudyba	Architect	Commenced	09/05/2007
Padraig Guilfoyle	CO	Commenced	21/05/2007
Noelle McManus	Architect	Commenced	28/05/2007
Lennart Sobiecki	Architect	Commenced	28/05/2007
Paul Beastie	Technical Assistant	Commenced	29/06/2007
Mark Noonan	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	04/04/2007
Paul Costello	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	04/04/2007
Peter Lowe	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	04/04/2007
Shane Flaherty	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	04/04/2007
Amanda Bloxham	EO	Promoted to HEO	04/04/2007
Heather Connolly	EO	Promoted to HEO	04/04/2007
Ann Rooney	EO	Promoted to HEO	04/04/2007
Brendan Cormican	Architect	Promoted to Senior Architect	31/05/2007
Pat Boyle	Architect	Promoted to Senior Architect	08/06/2007
Edel Collins	Architect	Promoted to Senior Architect	08/06/2007
Gerard Harvey	Architect	Promoted to Senior Architect	08/06/2007
James Hayde	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	19/06/2007
Aidan McGovern	Engineer Gr III	Promoted to Engineer Grade II	19/06/2007
Susan Fahy	EO	Retired	05/01/2007
Bernadette Shine	Botanical Assistant	Retired	19/01/2007
Veronica O'Meara	Telephonist	Retired	14/02/2007
Brendan M Cooney	Architect	Retired	22/02/2007
Stephen Hughes	SO	Retired	22/02/2007
John Byrne	District Inspector	Retired	26/02/2007
Norman Roe	Architectural Assistant	Retired	08/03/2007
Jack Brady	Senior Clerk of Works	Retired	17/05/2007
Donal Healy	District Inspector	Retired	25/05/2007

STAFF MOVEMENT JAN – JUN 2007 (CONT.)

Name	Grade		Date	
Brian Ronayne	Architectural Assistant	Retired	08/06/2007	
Anthony McAuley	District Inspector	Retired	12/06/2007	
Patrick O'Kane	Architectural Assistant	Retired	12/06/2007	
Ronan Clerkin	Quantity Surveyor	Return from CB	26/02/2007	
Catherine Banville	EO	Return from CB	15/03/2007	
Marie Fitzpatrick	EO	Return from CB	17/04/2007	
Patrick McKenna	EO	Transfer In	22/01/2007	Decentralisation
Teresa Collins	EO	Transfer In	12/02/2007	Decentralisation
Nora Carey	SO	Transfer In	12/03/2007	Decentralisation
Niall Murphy	HEO	Transfer In	12/03/2007	Decentralisation
Julie Fitzgerald	EO	Transfer In	16/04/2007	Decentralisation
Declan Murray	EO	Transfer In	16/04/2007	Decentralisation
Jack Whitty	HEO	Transfer In	16/04/2007	Decentralisation
Sheila Foy	SO	Transfer In	30/04/2007	Decentralisation
Christine Brennan	HEO	Transfer In	28/05/2007	Decentralisation
Daniel Hegarty	HEO	Transfer In	28/05/2007	Decentralisation
Denis Marke	Nightwatchman	Transfer In	04/06/2007	
Anthony Murray	Nightwatchman	Transfer In	04/06/2007	
Finbarr Kelleher	EO	Transfer In	11/06/2007	Decentralisation
Vincent Breen	HEO	Transfer In	18/06/2007	Decentralisation
David McAuliffe	APO	Transfer In	25/06/2007	Decentralisation
Louise Gorman	CO	Transfer Out	19/01/2007	
Josephine Curley	EO	Transfer Out	02/02/2007	Decentralisation
Sharon Kiernan	CO	Transfer Out	09/02/2007	Decentralisation
Deirdre Behan	CO	Transfer Out	20/04/2007	Decentralisation
Eileen Dunne	CO	Transfer Out	20/04/2007	Decentralisation
Josephine O'Sullivan	CO	Transfer Out	20/04/2007	Decentralisation
Conor O'Leary	HEO	Transfer Out	27/04/2007	Decentralisation
Reamonn McDunphy	EO	Transfer Out	11/05/2007	Decentralisation
Gerry Doyle	APO	Transfer Out	18/05/2007	Decentralisation
John Foley	HEO	Transfer Out	18/05/2007	Decentralisation
Sean O'Colman	HEO	Transfer Out	28/05/2007	Decentralisation
Anthony Collins	HEO	Transfer Out	01/06/2007	Decentralisation
Maura Flanagan	SO	Transfer Out	05/06/2007	Decentralisation
Martin Luby	APO	Transfer Out	05/06/2007	Decentralisation
Bronagh Kelly	CO	Transfer Out	25/06/2007	
Denise Duffy	HEO	Transfer Out	29/06/2007	Decentralisation
Lisa Kenny	CO	Transfer Out	29/06/2007	Decentralisation



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Office of Public Works
51 St. Stephen's Green
Dublin 2, Ireland
Tel: 353 1 647 6000
Email: info@opw.ie
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