

# Beaumont News

Distributed Free to All Members of the Beaumont Residents' Association

Volume 6 Issue 3

SEPT/OCT/NOV. 2002

## A "NICE" MERRY-GO-ROUND

HERE we go again with another Referendum or as we know it a re-run of the "Nice Treaty" issue.

The Irish people have already spoken on this matter and that should be the end of it. It appears this is not so when you don't give the answer that suits our political masters.

Question? Would we now be getting a second Referendum if the previous decision had been a yes vote. Answer! Certainly not as it would be deemed to be undemocratic.

Shouldn't the politicians from all parties have defended the vote of the Irish people instead of visiting the capitals of Europe making excuses, that we didn't understand "Nice", or what it meant, and without doubt created the impression in the rest of the E.U. that we Irish were all "obdurate".

They promised our European counterparts a re-run and now the time has come.

The low turn-out at the previous Referendum was also trotted out as an excuse, but I have never heard an elected politician to Dail Eireann complain of a low turn out or the fact that some of them are elected without reaching the quota.

This "Nice" issue is no more than an ego trip for the majority of our politicians and this can be well gauged by the fact that it was worth their while coming back to Dail Eireann for four days for no other reason than to issue bellicose statements of a threatening nature.

The purpose is to frighten the electorate, but a much more frightening aspect arises when we see the three major parties closeted together and singing from the same song book.

**PORT TUNNEL**—Transport Minister Seamus Brennan has insisted that only 2% of heavy trucks will be unable to use the €527m Dublin Port Tunnel. He said a new survey showed that 98% of trucks using Dublin Port are currently below the 4.65m tunnel height restriction.

**BIN CHARGES**—Legal action against three householders refusing to pay charges as part of the anti-bin tax campaign were put on hold recently after a judge agreed to refer a test case to the High Court. City officials went through all the administrative proofs to show the court the charge has been legally levied. Counsel for the residents argued that the charge contravened the 1996 Waste Management Act which set down the "polluter pays" principle. Judge William Early said he disagreed with the submissions made by the defence counsel but was prepared to state a case on these two points to the High Court. In another case heard recently a householder was ordered to pay the bin charge.

The four days in Dail Eireann could have been much better spent dealing with what is happening on the daily economic front.

Some few months ago we were being flooded with all kinds of decorative literature telling us that everything was going to improve. We would have a health service that we could be proud of.

I don't have to spell out what has and is happening in that Department, except to say that the Health Service is in a shambles and all we have on the agenda is "Nice".

After what has happened since the general election, with rising prices, cutbacks in services, and job losses it is hard to trust any politician or political party.

I always thought that the removal of election literature from lamp posts was a legal requirement but now I am convinced that politicians have them removed so that they are not embarrassed a few months later by what they contained.

I fully understand now what "A lot done—more to do" means.—Tom Darby

**XMAS  
PARTY  
TIME**



**OUR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY** for Senior members of our Association will be held on Saturday, November 30th, 2002 from 7.30 o'clock in a venue to be announced. Free transport will be available from designated pick-up points. If you are interested in attending this function contact any of our Committee or post your name and address in one of our postboxes before Nov. 10th. The party is limited to the first 150 members so please hurry.

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If you have not paid your membership fee yet, a double subscription is required to cover you for next year.  
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(Please Tick) YES [ ] OR NO [ ]

### DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

On Wednesday, October 16, 2002,  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
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**WHAT'S ON . . . WHAT'S ON . . .**

**IRISH DANCING** — Beginners' adult Irish step/ceili dancing classes have started in Lorcan Community Hall, Lorcan Villas, Santry. Beginners, musicians or ex-dancers who would like to take up dancing again are welcome. For more information, phone Geraldine Tonge on 087-9803881 or 849 0980.

**VARIETY GROUP** — Can you sing or dance? If so, put your artistic talents to use by joining Maryfield Ladies' Variety Group. You are invited to call in and see them in the Artane Beaumont Recreation Centre on Kilmore Road on Monday nights from 8-10 p.m.

**BADMINTON PLAYERS** — Thorndale Badminton Club is looking for new members for their club which opened in September. They meet at Whitehall Colmcille GAA Club, Collins Avenue on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 9-11.30 p.m. For more details phone Mary Flynn on 087-2981644 or Ann Shannon on 8369131 / 086-3513677.

**BOOK SALE** — Catherine's book sale runs each Saturday and Sunday from 10-6.30 p.m. in the Old Courthouse on Harbour Road, Howth. A varied selection of books will be available.

## AN EVERYDAY RIDDLE — JUST FOR FUN

"Think of words ending in -GRY. Angry and hungry are two of them. There are only three words in the English language. What is the third word? The word is something that everyone uses every day. If you have listened carefully, I have already told you what it is."?

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## Community Garda Barry McCann writes



OUR so-called Summer is now well and truly behind us. Some of us are now on the countdown to Christmas. But if you ask any youngster the countdown is only to do with one thing, and that is Hallowe'en. The Bonfires, the fancy dress and the fireworks. It's great to see the younger ones out and about making the best of this festive time.

However, this time of the year brings suffering to many. Through negligence and total disregard for other people's property accidents happen. Elderly people are vulnerable and are at times targeted by mindless individuals.

One of the major causes of accidental house fires at this time of the year is caused through abuse and misuse of fireworks. Fireworks are exciting and fantastic when we see them explode, especially against the sky at night. But in actual fact, it is illegal in this country for almost everyone to have fireworks in their possession. It is an offence under the Explosive Substances Act for any person to have fireworks in their possession or to sell them without a permit.

That permit is only given to registered dealers who import them for specified companies or people who are skilled in using fireworks, in order to organise events such as festivals and celebrations. They also need a special authorisation to have those fireworks in their possession and to use them.

If a person:

- has fireworks in their possession, he/she is committing an offence under the Explosive Substances Act;
- sells fireworks illegally on the street, the fireworks will be seized and destroyed;

If a person has fireworks or is selling them illegally, that person would be arrested and brought to court;

A juvenile (i.e. someone under 18 years of age) may be dealt with under the Juvenile Diversion Scheme. This will depend on issues such as:

- whether he/she has been cautioned by the Gardai before this incident;
- whether another offence is involved - for example:
  - (i) Criminal Damage (intentional damage to property)
  - (ii) Public Order (in a public place e.g. throwing fireworks in the street, putting them into litter bins)

When fireworks are used in the proper conditions and organised by a professional, then the occasion is wonderful, for everyone!

Again, I would like to reiterate the responsibility of each parent to know where their children are and what they are getting up to on Hallowe'en night. A combination of organisation and safety can enhance everybody's enjoyment for the night. If problems are encountered or you just have an enquiry please do not hesitate to contact Santry Garda Station at 666-4000 or the Neighbour Policing Unit at 666-4020.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

WE attended our bi-monthly meeting for the H District on Monday 23rd Sept. Every area in the H District was well represented by their various Committees. A lot of concern was raised about bonfires, fireworks at Hallowe'en. The Gardai informed us that a video on all of these concerns is to be shown to all Primary School children in their schools. As regards bonfires they should be supervised by the parents of the children involved with them. The danger of a bonfire getting out of control is a very serious concern for all of us. —Please phone the Gardai or Fire Brigade if it poses a danger to anyone or to anybody's property.

## A SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY

THE Gardai expressed great concern about reports of a number of scams operating through leaflets being delivered around doors, advertising the following: Garage clean out, Trees and Hedges cut and trimmed, new gutters etc. These have mobile phone numbers as the contact. Don't entertain this. Ensure that if you are dealing with someone that they have a landline in case of problems. Even at that get a neighbour to check to see if a number is genuine or not. Be wary of hiring anyone who has not been recommended. A lot of reports have come to the attention of the Gardai about the elderly being grossly overcharged and then the work is never done or maybe never completed properly. Be careful when people ask for the money up-front. When a job is completed to your satisfaction, then and only then should you pay. —Noreen Maher, Deirdre Higgins, Phyllis Redmond, Neighbourhood Watch Committee.



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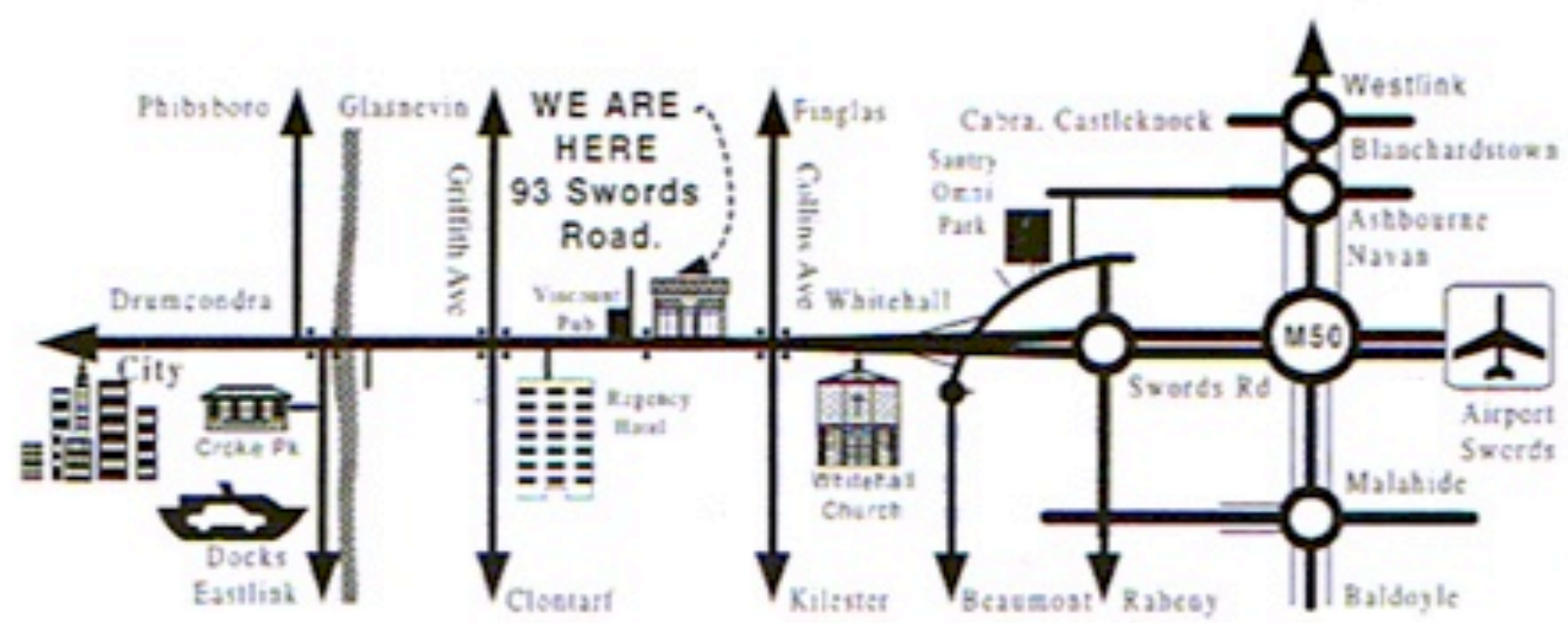
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LAST ISSUE'S WINNER - Marie O'Dooley, 57 Coolrua Drive, Beaumont, Dublin 9.

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## NOTICEBOARD

**THANK YOU** —The Curran family from Cooloon Avenue would like to thank the many friends and neighbours who came to their aid after their recent house fire. It happened at 11 o'clock in the morning on Aug. 7th and with only my son asleep in an attic bedroom. The bedroom directly under him had caught fire due to an electrical fault with a hair dryer and an extension lead, which in turn set a bed on fire. There is no doubt about it that my son's life was saved by the persistent shouting from a neighbour at our rear on Coolrua Drive, Kevin Delaney. He noticed the smoke coming from the window and kept shouting until he finally woke my son who escaped through the attic window and onto the kitchen extension. The words "Thank You" will never express how we feel for your persistence in calling until you finally woke our son, and enabled him to escape and afterwards in early September celebrate his 21st birthday. Also a word of thanks to Niall Church. While Kevin Delaney was shouting, Niall made calls to the Fire Services and to my job to tell me the bad news. Once again to all who came to our aid with all kinds of offers and assistance, many, many thanks, your spirit has carried us through this traumatic ordeal. **-Jimmy & Irene Curran and family.**

**ST. PAUL'S SPECIAL SCHOOL**, Beaumont Woods, Dublin 9 opened its new 'Playground' on Thursday 26th September 2002 at 10 a.m. The school has been very fortunate to have been chosen by Masterfoods/Mars who are providing and installing the playground as a Company Challenge. St. Paul's Special School would like to say 'Thank You' to their local Sponsor - The Lions Club, Clontarf who have generously provided them with some of the vital equipment for this playground.

**CONNIE BUTLER** wishes to thank everyone who supported her coffee morning recently—her friends, neighbours and the Beaumont Residents' Association. She particularly wishes to express her sincere thanks to all her very kind neighbours who made the teas, coffees etc. and sold the tickets etc. The total sum raised was €4,160.

WE would like to officially welcome our new Chemist to Beaumont now that the old McLaughlins sign is gone and the new sign for Doherty's Pharmacy is up. Jason and Niamh are lovely to deal with and ever so helpful and friendly. The fact that they are now open until 8 p.m. Mon.-Fri. and all day Sat is a sign they wish to be there for us in our hour of need. With sound advice on anything that we are concerned about and a well stocked Pharmacy why not come along and pay them a visit and we are sure you will not be disappointed. **-Noreen Maher.**

WHO is responsible for all the litter thrown around Coolgreena Close and Park? It's an absolute disgrace that some school girls from a local school and some young teenagers hanging around at night time throw their chip papers, bags and wrappers from crisps, chocolate, cans of all description on the ground. Everyone is talking about the dirt and filth that is left here. We are aware that some very good neighbours do clean up outside their houses etc. and for this we are grateful. We have brought this situation to the attention of the Litter Warden so we hope he will be paying this area a visit quite soon. Littering carries a hefty fine, do you want to be the one caught to pay this fine. **BIN YOUR RUBBISH.**



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# A.I.B. QUIZ

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## DUBLIN LOCATIONS

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- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Long Blades.                    | 27. Plenty of employment in this area.   |
| 2. The Missing Lord.               | 28. Criticized Leo.                      |
| 3. Fast Moving Colour.             | 29. This place is in a hurry.            |
| 4. Beautiful Harbor.               | 30. Wild Spring Flower.                  |
| 5. A sea mammals unlikely home.    | 31. Lies are told in this district.      |
| 6. Sick Leg.                       | 32. A Breed of Sheep.                    |
| 7. A Pretty Stream.                | 33. Resting place for summer fruits.     |
| 8. A residence of Evergreens.      | 34. 1014 Battle of?                      |
| 9. Young place of worship.         | 35. A motionless church instrument.      |
| 10. Repair a sock here.            | 36. A burnt out place.                   |
| 11. Swifts country abode.          | 37. Scroungers Scrub.                    |
| 12. A just opinion.                | 38. Church Reptile.                      |
| 13. A Gaelic priestly place.       | 39. Where the cheap black stuff is drunk |
| 14. Imperial Measurement Centre.   | 40. Miss Partons Hill.                   |
| 15. Circles finish here.           | 41. Vermin Pts.                          |
| 16. Taxi support.                  | 42. This area won't change its spots     |
| 17. Cunning animal and Water foul. | 43. Chilly explosives.                   |
| 18. Bovine Shelter.                | 44. The Diddy men might a friend here    |
| 19. Murder this woman.             | 45. Cut down cut shorter.                |
| 20. A gravely paste.               | 46. A blustery blower.                   |
| 21. Move out of the way            | 47. Sounds like the clock but its Y      |
| 22. Running is not permitted here. | 48. Our Nations Vision                   |
| 23. Butch Cassidy's Gang.          |  |
| 24. Mr. Seacombe is angry.         |  |
| 25. A large biblical garden.       |  |
| 26. Could be in a hospital.        |  |

TO ENTER THIS QUIZ 30 CORRECT ANSWERS AT LEAST ARE REQUIRED

ANSWERS PLEASE TO ONE OF OUR POST BOXES:

SuperValu, Lorcán Avenue or Shell Petrol Station, Beaumont Road, before Nov. 10th, 2002.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNER — Victor Murray, 50 Shanalla Drive, Beaumont, Dublin 9.

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 Marino, Phibsboro, Rialto, Portobello, Pimlico.

### Here are some facts about the 1500s:

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odour.

Baths consisted of a big tub filled with hot water. The man of the house had the privilege of the nice clean water, then all the other sons and men, then the women and finally the children — last of all the babies. By then the water was so dirty you could actually lose someone in it—hence the saying, "Don't throw the baby out with the bath water."

**SNIPPETS-** Only 40,000 out of 115,000 Irish farmers paid any income tax at all in 2001. That makes an average payment of €1,173, Ireland's 115,000 farmers contributed a barely visible 1.1 pc of the State's total tax take.

IN 1999, just 17,000 self-employed people admitted to earning more than €44,450. One group of PAYE workers are particularly angry to live in a society where those who can best afford to pay tax are the ones least likely to stump up. Two years ago it emerged that hundreds of taxi drivers were submitting identical tax returns declaring paltry annual earnings of €11,000. GPs and dentists operate cash businesses, so the Revenue have to take their word as to what they earn. GPs and dentists are part of a self-employed, self-assessing sector which includes 12,000 accountants, 1,300 vets, 10,000 publicans and 20,000 big farmers. Others include auctioneers, lawyers, bookies, hoteliers, restaurateurs, electricians, plumbers and builders.

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## Father Joe's Column



IT IS hard to believe that the summer is over and we are at the start of another school year. During the summer, the pre-fabs in St. Fiachra's were demolished. They must have been about twenty years old and they certainly don't owe us anything. They are being replaced by new pre-fabs, which should be ready before Christmas. While the new pre-fabs are being completed some classes are using the Pastoral Centre.

The building work on the Presbytery is finished and we have all moved back home. We are very happy with the refurbishment and find our new accommodation very comfortable and much more convenient for working. Meanwhile work has begun on installing new heaters in the Church. The old heaters kept breaking down and because they are now obsolete, it was very hard to get them repaired. The new heaters will use Natural Gas and we hope will improve the comfort of all who use our Church.

The Parish Pilgrimage to Knock took place at the end of July. We had a very enjoyable day and thank God the weather stayed fine. At the beginning of September, we had a pilgrimage to the Christian Sites of Kildare and Leighlin. It was a very enjoyable and informative day. Congratulations to the Resource Group who organised it. The pilgrimage this year marked the beginning of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of our Church. The Jubilee oc-

curs in December and we plan to have a number of events including a special display in the Pastoral Centre of photographs of the past twenty-five years in the life of the Parish. Please look out for details, which will be advertised nearer the time.

Our Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes takes place at the end of September. Fr. Donal is the Spiritual Director this year. Fr. Donal is making a very good recovery from the heart attack he suffered early in June. He thanks all the many parishioners who enquired about him and wished him well. It is great to see him back around the Church.

During the Summer, we celebrated the Ruby Jubilee of ordination of Fr. Paddy Staunton. A Mass of Thanksgiving was celebrated in the Church followed by a reception in the Pastoral Centre. Fr. Paddy's family also attended. It was a very enjoyable evening. We offer Fr. Paddy our congratulations and wish him *ad multos annos*. For this special event, the Art and Environment Group had a display of beautiful photographs of various events in Fr. Paddy's life as a priest, which were very interesting and gave a real sense of different aspects of priestly ministry and the many lives a priest can touch.

Many people in Beaumont were saddened by the death of Bishop James Kavanagh, a great friend of this Parish. May his good and gentle soul Rest in Peace. He will be really missed. Bishop Jim Moriarty was appointed Bishop of Kildare and Leighlin during the summer. Bishop Jim had special responsibility for this area and was a frequent visitor to our Parish. We thank Bishop Jim for all his kindnesses and care and wish him every blessing for the future.

May God bless you and keep you all safe and well.

*Fr. Joe*

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# MAKE THEM HALLOWE'EN TREATS ONLY



HALLOWE'EN is a good and bad time for many. On the day of Hallowe'en many are rushing around trying to prepare for that night. Young children are rushing around trying to prepare costumes, adults sorting out sweets, teenagers trying to get some more bangers. And some people with pets, especially people with dogs, have to make sure that their animals can't hear the bangers for they can be deafened. Today for many children and teenagers Hallowe'en is a lot of fun. But many also find Hal-

lowe'en the worst day of the year. Many old people hate all the noise and when they try to go to sleep some older teenagers set off bangers in their gardens. Many children have no idea where Hallowe'en came from, all they think about nowadays is sweets and dressing-up in a costume. Hallowe'en is mostly connected to the Celts and Druids. The Druids believed that Saman the Lord of the dead called forth hosts of evil spirits. So the Druids automatically lit large fires. (That is how we have bonfires) on Hallowe'en apparently for the purpose of warding off all these spirits. Among the ancient Celts Hallowe'en was their last evening of the year and was regarded as a propitious time for examining portents of the future. The Celtic tradition of lighting fires on Hallowe'en survived until modern times in Scotland and Wales, and the concept of ghosts and witches is still common to all Hallowe'en observances. Traces of the Roman harvest festival survive in the custom, prevalent in both the United States and Great Britain, of playing games involving fruit, such as ducking for apples in a tub of water. Other games and activities are carving pumpkins into scary and using the insides of the pumpkin to make pumpkin pie. Sometimes people peel the skin off grapes put them in a bowl and blindfold a person and make them put their hands into it and say its their eyeballs. But Hallowe'en is not all fun and games, it is a very dangerous time of year. Once boys were jumping over a bonfire and one wouldn't jump so another boy pushed him into the bonfire and he got many burns and still

has the scars and burns to prove it. Many teenagers try to buy bangers cheap. The bangers can blow up in your hands and in your face. A girl lost three fingers last year. That is how Hallowe'en is good and bad.—By Niamh Brunton, R.I. (Mr. Carberry) 6th class.

## SCARY GUEST HOUSE

It was Hallowe'en night. We went trick or treating and I went to a guest house for some sweets. There was a spooky noise inside. I said to my friends "Is this house haunted? They whispered "no I don't think so". I was about to run away, so was David. Adam mumbled, "Look the door is open". I think it was the wind. So we went in and there was somebody there. It sounded like the voice of a woman. It was the TV. The door slammed and David said "this is getting spooky". Adam said "Let's go and jump out the window". "Are you mad", I said. Then as we took two steps up the stairs there was a bang. "What is that?" It was a ghost haunting the house. I was beginning to hate that house. Then the front door started to open-close, open and close. It kept doing it non-stop. I ran and then I got out so I was happy. God only knows what happened to David and Adam!! —By Matthew Callaghan Age 9, R9, 4th class.



## SMASHIN' PUMPKINS HEADS

One Halloween night I was in my lab making a chemical to make things come back to life. At 12.10 p.m. I was finished it. I was going up to try it and I tripped up over the step and spilt it. I got up and tidied it up and went to bed. I could hear people screaming and I looked out of the window and there was a least twenty pumpkin headed people running around smashing windows and robbing the TV's. I heard the window smashing downstairs so I got dressed and went downstairs and they were in my house. They had smashed everything so I got a leg of a chair and hit them over the head. Goo and seeds started to come out of their heads. I ran out of the house and all the neighbours were out on the road. We had weapons so we attacked the pumpkin headed people. My weapon was taken off me and just about to hit me. I opened my eyes and realised it was just a Halloween dream.—By Ian Lawlor, R5, 5th class.

WE wish to thank the three teachers Mr. Gerry Carberry, Ms. Bracken and Ms. Keogh who were involved with the Hallowe'en Competition for our Newsletter and all the students who took part. 1st Prize, 2nd Prize and 3rd Prize in the order they appear above. Congratulations to you all. Prizes on the way shortly.

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*PARENTS might soon be outliving their children because of the rising level of obesity among youngsters. Young people are eating high-calories diets yet taking little or no exercise. A specialist in nutrition has said. Obesity can lead to problems like osteoarthritis and high blood pressure and fatal conditions such as diabetes, stroke and coronary heart disease, said Prof. Andrew Prentice, professor of international nutrition at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.*

*NEARLY one in three young people are risking their health by skipping breakfast, a new survey revealed. Some 30pc of Irish people aged between 18 and 24 skip breakfast despite warnings that it's the most important meal of the day.*

## A SAFER CITY

By becoming better acquainted with our neighbours we can help create a safer city. Dublin (51% of all crime in Ireland occurs in Dublin) has a very good record regarding safety. We must not, however, become complacent in the future. By taking an interest in our own area, by looking out for each other and by developing a real community spirit we can help create a safe atmosphere in which to live, work and play. Our vision is that by reducing all crime (Dublin has a crime detection rate of 40%) we will genuinely improve the quality of our lives.