



NEWS UPDATE January 2010

Welcome to the first of our monthly updates, which is in response to a volunteer and staff request for more regular updates on what's happening in Near. So that you can catch up quicker, this shorter monthly news update will be distributed throughout the year.

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

Dave O Connor

Near Secretary, Editor, presenter, volunteer, father, husband, chief bottle washer....

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Staff Contact List

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Radio Coordinator - sally@near.ie 8671190

Technical & Studio Issues - gay@near.ie 8671190

Technology & Website - gavin@near.ie 8671190

Outreach & OBs - dorothee@near.ie 8485211

Administration & Introductory Training - alan@near.ie 8671190

Productions and Specialist Training - paul@near.ie 8485211

Overall Project Coordinator - ciaran@near.ie

Promotions - pr@near.ie (Pat Quinn)

Social/Staff News:

Welcome to three new members of staff: Derek Siggins (technical), Orla Cullen (Irish language researcher) and Patrick Quinn (outreach assistant). We will miss Patricia Greenhough, who is leaving us after nearly three years.

Thanks to all volunteers and staff who helped during the Xmas period to keep Near90fm on air

New Near 90fm Station IDs

The Production Department has been busy re imaging some of the station IDs. Many thanks to Catriona and Zandra for their voices. You'll also have noticed a number of new programme promos. If you would like a promo for your programme, contact Liam in the office (adminsupport@near.ie)

Near 90fm Skype

A new Skype account has been set-up, mainly to reduce the cost of international calls, If you would like to know how to use the Skype machine in Studio1, ask Gay Graham (gay@near.ie)

Pat Lynch, the presenter of **Cover to Cover**, our literature and book review programme, has decided to take a extended break from the programme. We are looking for volunteers who like reading, talking to likeminded people (book-clubs, etc), interviewing writers, etc and who would like to get engaged in presenting this programme every Thursday evening 8-9pm. They will be assisted by a researcher and a technical person if required. If you are interested, please, contact alan or sally. alan@near.ie sally@near.ie

Snow Way!!

Many thanks to all who did extra cover during the recent snowy weather. Special mention to Fergus Carroll who did two sports programmes from home via the old reportaphone, with the help of able techie John Doyle. That's using the initiative. ☺

National Community Radio News (more at www.craol.ie)

The last few months have seen a slew of new station managers appointed around the country. Many are the stations first full -time staff. Congratulations to Tina Heffernan(Dublin South), Declan Gibbons (Youghal), Irina Belova (Phoenix), Pat Stanton (Castlebar). Two Aspirant groups have also appointment paid managers Miriam Kivlehan (Western Waves), Dee Collins

(Ballyhoura). Pdraig McGarrigle has been appointed Voluntary Station Manager in Liffey Sound. Many of these appointments have been accompanied by additional recruitment as the community radio movement goes from strength to strength. Congratulations to all.

Production and Training

Sound and Vision Update January 2010

Near90fm submitted six applications to Radio Round 9 of the Sound and Vision Scheme. We expect a decision to be made on these applications by February 2010.

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

The **Northside Blues** series was broadcast over the Christmas period. There has been some very positive feedback to the series from many music forum websites and hotpress online with listeners tuning in all over America and as far away as Botswana. This series will not be podcast but will be re-broadcast in the coming months. If you would like copies in the mean-time please get in touch with paul@near.ie or 8485211.

Upcoming Sound and Vision Series include **Europe for Beginners, OWN Series 2, Raised on Songs and Stories, Mol an Oige Series 2 and Tir na nOg**. All projects have now begun pre-production.

Stay tuned to near90fm and keep watching the website for an announcement of when these series will be broadcast.

Digital Editing / Desk/ Marantz/ Podcast Training

If any staff or volunteers would like to avail of one to one training please get in touch with paul@near.ie or 8485211.

FETAC accredited training course, Introduction to Community Radio, contact alan@near.ie

Come to the movies....

The **Older Womens Network** is hosting a movie morning, with coffee and biccies on **Thursday 18th February 2010** in Conference Room 1 (downstairs) in the Northside Civic Centre. Cost is €5 and **all are welcome**...young and older.....male and female..

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Near Online Internet CafeNorthside Civic Centre, only €1 per hour, very good value. Open Daily Monday to Friday.

Useful links. www.bai.ie www.craol.ie

Near TV

NearTV have added a new video to the programming section of the website on the local skipathon event which was held in aid of Dom Savio Boxing club - please visit the website to watch more of the programmes made by NearTV.

NearTV are looking for volunteers

NearTV gives people access to the skills and facilities needed to make TV programmes.

Programmes made by NearTV volunteers are broadcast on DCTV (NTL 802)

If you would like to become a NearTV Volunteer the next Volunteer training starts on Tuesday the 23rd February at 7pm in Coolock. It runs for 9 weeks including two Saturdays.

Fee €50 for waged and €25 for unwaged

for more info or to book a place get in touch with Elaine elaine@near.ie

Tel: 8485211

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Outreach and OBs

Near90fm offered media training to the Domestic Workers Action Group on January 17th and 24th.

Dynamo Effect, a radio campaign on sustainable living and energy started has started to being broadcasted, tune in every Wednesday from 6.30-7.00pm.

The launch for Dynamo Effect was held on January 19th in the Greenhouse in Dublin 2 with the opening speech by Minister Trevor Sargent and a great mixed audience.

Northside Today broadcasted live from the Education Fair in Doneycarney Thursday 21st.

Near Media Co-op was providing information to students and adults at the Education Fair in Donnycarney Thursday 21st in how to get involved with community media.

Near90fm is looking for new volunteers who would like to get involved in community media, next course starting Tuesday 23rd February from 7.00-9.00pm, running for 8 weeks. Please contact dorothee@near.ie for further details.

Dates for your diary:

Launch for 'Raised on Songs and Stories' a 6 part radio series produced and presented by Gerry Cooley will be held on February 19th in the Santry Community Centre. Broadcast will start 22nd February 2.00-2.30pm for 6 weeks. All staff and volunteers from near media co-op are welcome to attend. There will be homemade coddle :)

Launch of Northside Blues, Saturday 6th March, Clontarf Yacht Club with full performance from Pat Farrell and the Business plus special guests. Doors open at 8.00pm. entrance fee E10- free CD.

The Dynamo-Effect- Sustainable Living and Energy Fair will be held on March 27th in the Greenhouse from 10.00am to 5.00pm with Information stalls, workshops and a Panel Discussion led by Duncan Stewart. Fee E10/5. To register please call 01.6745773. More details about individual workshops in next newsletter.

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The **NEARfm Drama Company** has just started working on a six-part comedy series called 'the Brennan Mob' by Denis Byrne. Denis is a local prize-winning writer living in Artane.

The story is a farcical romp through the lives of the slightly unusual Brennan family! John (the father played by Pat Monaghan) is a dreamer married to a long suffering wife, Maura (Fran Keogh). Their two children, Declan (Peter Prior) and Jennifer (Liza Deegan) are always squabbling much to the annoyance of their poor mother. Jennifer is a very successful photographic model, who is very good looking and she wants to snare a rich man to marry. Declan is an aspiring actor going nowhere fast and is always looking for handouts! He also has a very vivid imagination and is very good at improvising stories out of very ordinary experiences. Living in the house is also Maura's one-legged (don't ask!) mother, Carmel (Mary McNamara), who is into drink and porn!!!!!!!!!!

Then comes along Justin (Philip MacFadden), who is Jennifer's boyfriend and who she thinks will be her meal ticket for life. His father, Dick (played by Michael Sharp) is a rich, slightly dodgy businessman and he takes a shine to Jennifer. Declan spins a yarn that The Brennan family is actually a criminal mob!!!

And the rest is glorious confusion!

Other actors taking part are: Karl Flood (a studio photographer), Sean Markey (an over-the-top casting director), Tommy Flood (his very precious assistant! You'd want

to hear him!), Les McShane (a cute Garda sergeant), Hilary Cotter (a caller to an agony aunt on a radio show) and Audrey McCormack (a young Garda). And there's more!

Recording is being done by Deborah Gaffney under the supervision of Gavin Byrne. The whole shindig is directed by Declan Cahill (but he denies all responsibility).

Declan Cahill
Drama Co-ordinator,
NEARfm