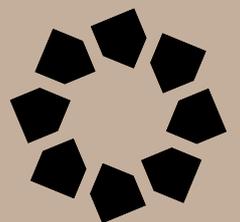


August 2024

# Oaklee

## Summer Newsletter



Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to introduce the Summer version of the Oaklee Resident Newsletter. My name is Enda Higgins and I am the Marketing and Communications Manager for Oaklee. I recently took over from Siobhain Bunni and look forward to helping Oaklee deliver on it's stakeholder engagement strategies including keeping all our residents up to date on activities.



I'm proud to share that since the end of last year we have been working on creating a new Oaklee brand and website that represents our corporate values in a more powerful and modern way that's easier for residents to engage with Oaklee. We recently went live with this new website and are extremely pleased with the outcome. Thank you to all residents who contributed time and effort into helping us deliver this project.

I also work alongside the Oaklee Editorial Panel and the Tenant Engagement officer to deliver relevant content to all our residents and improve our communication strategy as per the recently published Resident Engagement Strategy. We look forward to improving our processes going forward and welcome any feedback you may have on our marketing and communications can be improved. I'm contactable at the email address [communications@oaklee.ie](mailto:communications@oaklee.ie) and would love to hear from you.

I'd encourage you all to follow up on the available Oaklee social media channels; Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn to keep up with all the latest Oaklee community and resident news.

We hope you enjoy this summer edition of the Oaklee Newsletter and I look forward to meeting you soon.

*Enda Higgins*



## *Getting Involved In Your Community*



We at Oaklee are always looking at ways to engage more effectively with our residents and to provide opportunities for residents to become more involved with us and helping us deliver the best possible services to our neighbourhoods. These are the various options open for you;

**Join the Oaklee Tenant Forum** – the Forum meets via Zoom every 2 months and is Chaired by an Oaklee resident. Meetings usually last about an hour, and are attended a member of Oaklee management. The Forum is a fantastic tenant engagement model and provides a great opportunity to find out more on key issues and challenges are impacting on Oaklee.

**Editorial Panel** – the editorial panel consists of Oaklee residents, the Oaklee Comms Manager and the Tenant Engagement Officer. The panel works together to produce the Oaklee tenant newsletters and gives input into other publications throughout the year. If you are interested in writing articles, photography, design or editing then this is the opportunity for you. The panel meets about 6 times per year either in person or virtually to discuss content.

**Focus Groups** – If you are not keen on joining the Forum or editorial panel but would still like to get involved then we also have opportunities for you to participate in our tenant focus groups. These are informal virtual meetings to discuss specific themes with Oaklee members of staff. These are a great way to get the tenants perspective and views heard.

**Community Groups** – You may just want to get involved in making your neighbourhood a great place to live, and a good place to start is by getting involved in a community group. The Oaklee Tenant Engagement Officer can help support you in this either by linking you in with an existing group or helping you and others from your community start one up. The community voice is always stronger when we have a group to work with. There are so many benefits for your neighbourhood including better engagement with Oaklee staff, assistance to organise community events, reducing ASB, area clean ups and so much more.

Would you like to be more involved in any of these opportunities? If so contact the Oaklee Tenant Engagement Officer [richard.mealey@oaklee.ie](mailto:richard.mealey@oaklee.ie) to find out more.

## *Oaklee Photography Competition*

The annual Oaklee Photography Competition has become an important part of our resident engagement. All competition winners will feature in the 2025 Oaklee calendar which will be distributed to all residents at the end of November 2024, ahead of the new year.



To encourage additional entries for this year's calendar, we will be running 2 separate competitions for residents.

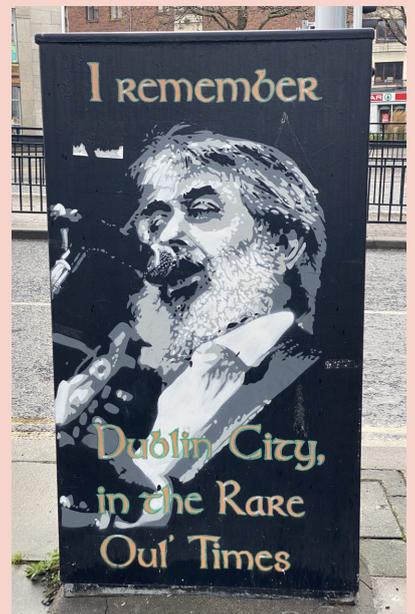
**Competition One - Oaklee's Summer Giveaway:** This competition is specific to Oaklee developments. The winning entries will be the best top 5 summer related pictures of featuring the development you currently live in (these can be of your communal areas, your family, fellow residents, landscaping or simply your back back garden!) Winners will be announced on September 1st and the winning entries will be included in the calendar. All winners will receive a €50 One4all Gift Card each. The winners will be chosen by Oaklee Senior Management.

**Competition Two - Oaklee's Best Amateur Photographer:** This competition will consist of the best pictures taken by Oaklee residents this year and can feature anything you wish - your town, your holidays, or simply and interesting monument you come across on your daily commute! Winning examples can be seen on the next page. The top 5 best Oaklee resident pictures will be featured in the calendar and winners will receive a €100 One4all Gift Card each. Winners will be announced on November 1st and will be chosen by Oaklee Senior Management.

Please email your entries to [communications@oaklee.ie](mailto:communications@oaklee.ie) outlining which competition you are entering along with your name and address. All residents are free to enter both. Once you have sent your entry, you will be contacted by Oaklee comms to confirm your submission.

Good luck everyone!

*Previous Winning Entries*



## Local Trivia

Muckanagheferdauhaulia was formerly regarded as the longest place name in English occurring in Ireland.

The 1911 census spelled it Muckanagheferddauhaulia (23 letters) though published it is reported as 22 letters. The town lies on a low, marshy peninsula in Camus Bay, County Galway.

It translates into “ridge shaped like a pig’s back between two expanses of briny water” or, more simply, “pig shaped hill between two seas.” Irish: Muiceanach idir Dhá Sháile.

*Deirdre Fawcett - Editorial Panel Member*



## Stormanstown Fun Day

The Stormanstown Community Group held a local fun day for resident families in July. The committee currently has 7 Stormanstown residents and is a wonderful example of how locals can come together and contribute to the local community.



## *Oaklee Resident Conference 2024*

The Oaklee Resident Engagement Conference, will be held at the end of September at The Hilton Hotel Kilmainham, Dublin. The conference will bring together resident participation experts, board members, management and Oaklee community members from all over Ireland to discuss ways to empower residents and build stronger communities. You can also nominate one of your fellow residents for a Community Spirit Award. More details at <https://www.oaklee.ie/community-spirit-award-2024>

The conference, which is the first of its kind for Oaklee, aims to have all attendees leaving inspired and motivated to make a difference in their own communities. For more details on attending the conference, contact your local Housing Officer.

## *New Oaklee Communities*

We offer a very warm welcome to our new residents that moved into communities in Cill, Co. Kildare, and Rockview, Co. Portlaoise over the summer. We wish them every success and happiness in their new homes.



## *Meet Your Neighbours*

*Name:* Aisling Mc Auley Ryan

*How long have you been a resident with Oaklee and where is your home?*

I live in Stormanstown and have been here since it opened in Christmas 2018.

*What do you enjoy most about living at your community?*

I have no problems with my home I'm very happy wher I am for now . Over the past few months I have enjoyed living here more than I ever have due to the community coming together.

It's brilliant for the children to come out and mix with everyone and just enjoy themselves. I've a brilliant relationship with my neighbours. We all look out for one another. We as a community are going to try build our garden at the front of our complex! I love the location as the kids school is facing our home and a lot of stuff is right on your door step.

*What is your current involvement with Oaklee engagement activities?*

I am the chairperson for Stormanstown Community Group. I am a tenant forum member who is hoping to attend some of these lovely coffee meetings! I have been added into so many groups over the past few months regarding what's is happing in Ballymun on a daily basis and a lot of people want to link in with us here in Stormanstown which is fantastic! From TDs, GAA clubs, axis centre teachers from the local schools here in Ballymun & The DCC (Dublin City Council). I can't express how happy I am that these people meet with us!

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*Why did you get involved in resident engagement and community activities?*

We have been living here in Stormanstown for the past six years and, until now, we have never been recognised by the outside communities until a group of mothers and fathers came together and asked for more collaboration! We have so many different nationalities, different cultures, different disabilities here in the Stormanstown community and we wanted to bring everyone together. We wanted people to get to know their neighbours but most importantly we wanted the kids to come together and Oaklee did just that. We can't thank them enough and in particular Richard Mealey for this opportunity, his guidance and his patience.

*What would you say to other Oaklee tenants that may be considering getting more involved in resident engagement activities?*

Do it!

You feel pride not only in yourself but in your community. We started off with just a simple email back in September and since then we have accomplished three really good fun days for our community. We've had Santa come around to every home and give selection boxes to all the kids (which was brilliant) and we also had residents here in the complex who won prizes from the "Oaklee 12 days of Christmas" draw which was an automatic system who picked random winners from all over the country.

We have built so many new relationships with members of Oaklee, the DCC, Cross Care and so many more establishments around the Ballymun area. They are so impressed by our group and are so happy to help in anyway they can. We have emailed, phoned and gone out to meet these people and build relationships with them. We are a young enough group just starting off and are only learning ourselves but are happy too help any other community get on their feet and point them in the right direction. Plus, not only will your kids thank you for it, but your whole community will thank you.





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