



# Prospect Manor Residents Association

## June 2012 Newsletter

Dear Neighbour,

We hope that this newsletter keeps you updated regarding the latest developments within our Estate. Should you wish to obtain more information, contribute items for the next newsletter or provide feedback, please contact a Committee Member, email [info@prospectmanor.net](mailto:info@prospectmanor.net) or visit the website [www.prospectmanor.net](http://www.prospectmanor.net)



### 2012 Fun Day

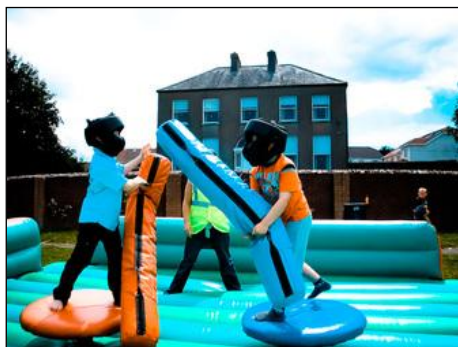
Date: **Sunday 1st July 2pm – 5pm**

Where: Main Green at Estate entrance

What: Face painter/balloon maker, Football Target practice, Bouncy castles & refreshments

Who: Children of Residents within the estate are welcome, although they will need parents to sign in

Supervisors: As part of the insurance cover for the day we require a supervisor for each bouncy castle. We will operate 20-30 minute shifts and failure to obtain sufficient volunteers will force us to close down some of the rides. Please confirm you can assist by submitting your name on the day at the Registration Desk.



### Prospect Manor Website

The Association continue to upgrade the Prospect Manor website. The new site is a totally new design with lots of useful information. Our thanks to Derek who looks after the maintenance of the website. Please visit the site and post your comments. We need your feedback!!

- News (check what is happening)
- Local information & services
- Photos of events within estate
- Map & directions
- Local Councillors contact details
- Submit comments & photos & online polls to get your feedback
- Sign up for SMS Alerts
- Newsletters



We are encouraging Residents to forward details of local services or facilities which you may want to recommend. Additionally maybe you provide a service (ironing, babysitting, gardening, kitchen extensions, attic conversions, other business services ...etc...) which you want to advertise. We will include these on the site free of charge. These will be updated every three months.

### Annual Subscription Draw

Thanks to all Residents that paid their 2011 Annual Subscription of €50. As usual we had an excellent response. This year we held a draw for those paid up early. One lucky householder in the Meadows received the €50 Voucher. This may be you next year!!!

If you are one of the few were out when we called please drop this into any committee member and a receipt will be delivered to you ASAP.

Also we are glad to see an increase in the number of tenants directly paying the subscription, as a result of benefiting from the newsletters, website ..etc... Remember your landlord should gladly reimburse you as his property is benefiting from being in a well maintained estate, plus he can offset the subscription against his tax liability !!

#### **Additional Information:**

##### Noise:

A number of residents have emailed the website regarding Noise issues. If you have a pet please be aware if it is continuously barking all day or late at night. Also if you are having a house party please ask your guests when leaving to be considerate of neighbours, who may have their children in bed.

##### Car Break-ins:

In the last newsletter we highlighted making sure your property was secure. Unfortunately the following week, four incidents of car break-ins were reported within the Estate. Remember not to leave your watch or wallet in your car outside Gyms or Swimming Pools. It is an obvious target as people tend to be reluctant to use lockers at these facilities.

##### House Alarms:

A number of residents have approached us regarding house alarms repeatedly going off and asked that we highlight the problem. We would request that you leave a key with one or two of your neighbours. Also have your alarm serviced to ensure it is operating correctly, as the level of house break-ins has recently increased in the Rathfarnham area. This will also prevent false alarms and ensure your property is properly protected. You don't want to discover in hindsight that your faulty Alarm has invalidated your Insurance Policy !!.

##### Useful Websites:

We would like to take this opportunity to continue to highlight some useful websites. Please email in any suggestions, local businesses or local services to the Prospect Manor website so we can recommend to your neighbours:

#### **1. NCA.ie**

**What it does:** the National Consumer Agency (NCA) website is a one-stop-shop for consumer information on a wide range of topics, including saving, investing, budgets and tackling debts.

**What it says:** "This website is a single resource for information on your consumer rights, financial products and help with managing your money."

**How you save:** a big feature of the NCA's website is its cost comparison service, which lets you compare the cost of a range of products, including current accounts, loans and motor insurance. This makes it easier to see when you are paying over the odds for a financial product.

**Example:** we put in figures for Mary, who wants a €5,000 loan over three years. Her monthly repayments could range from €162.47 with National Irish Bank to €170.82 with Bank of Ireland. Based on 36 repayments over three years, her total cost of credit would range from just under €850 to just under €1,150, so Mary could save about €300 by shopping around for her loan.

#### **5. EnergyCustomers.ie**

**What it does:** it gives you information on understanding your energy bill, handling any problem with your connection to the electricity or natural gas network, and switching to an alternative supplier.

**What it says:** "We aim to provide you with information about your rights as an energy customer and help you understand the charges for electricity and natural gas."

**How you save:** understanding your bill, and how to switch provider, could help you to cut the amount you spend on energy in the long run.

#### **8. Callcosts.ie**

**What it does:** helps cut the cost of communicating.

**What it says:** "... an interactive website that has been developed by the Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) to help consumers to compare the cost of personal/non-business mobile, home phone and broadband price plans."

**How you save:** compare costs easily by inputting estimated figures on your usage, and see how your current operator compares to the market in terms of price.

**Example:** Jane prefers having a bill for her mobile phone, rather than having top-up credit. She makes most of her calls in the evenings and at weekends, and spends about 20 minutes a day on the phone. Roughly half of her calls are to mobiles, and half to landlines. She also sends about ten text messages a day. Based on callcosts.ie figures, mobile plans that would cater to her needs range in price from €40 to €55 per month – a difference of €180 annually.

Thank you for your support throughout the year.

**www.prospectmanor.net**