

DELIVERED FREE TO MORE THAN 30,000 HOMES IN DUBLIN 15

COMMUNITY VOICE

EVERY FORTNIGHT

13th JUNE - 26th JUNE 2008

ISSUE NO. 117

DUBLIN 15'S ONLY **FREE!** NEWSPAPER

Connolly Hospital scanner postponed by HSE

COMMUNITY VOICE EXCLUSIVE

Dublin 15 patients may be forced to wait for at least three years for vital diagnostic equipment including an MRI scanner because of a decision by the HSE to wait

until after the proposed new private hospital has been built and opened on the grounds of Connolly Hospital. This shocking news was

broken by a senior HSE official at a recent briefing meeting for local TDs representing the north and north west areas of Dublin. At this meeting it was stated that the HSE has dropped proposals to provide MRI scanner in Connolly Hospital and are now proposing instead to allow the operators of the new private hospital to provide the service instead.

Community Voice understands that this hospital will be built and operated by Mount Carmel Medical who already operate a number of other private hospitals in Ireland.

Speaking to *Community Voice*, Labour Party deputy leader Joan Burton who attended the recent meeting said "I was shocked at what the HSE management had to tell me about their plans. This will mean that people in Blanchardstown will have to wait up to another three years for these basic modern diagnostic facilities."

It would now appear that the funding plans for the new private hospital include a guaranteed income from the use of its diagnostic facilities by the

public hospital. Any proposal to put an MRI scanner into the public hospital would obviously damage this projected cash flow and as a result the HSE has decided not to proceed with its plans for such a unit in the public hospital.

In a statement to *Community Voice*, a spokesperson for the HSE said "when Connolly Hospital identified its capital requirements for 2008/2009 an MRI scanner was not among the hospitals immediate capital priorities on the basis of the current numbers of patients presenting at the hospital for this service and the clinical requirement for hospitals to treat large volumes of patients to ensure consistent quality service provision."

However *Community Voice* understands that the demand for MRI scans has increased consistently over the past number of years. Bearing in mind that the number of patient events in Connolly has increased over the past three years in by 21.77%, it is reasonable to assume that the level of diagnostic activity has also increased by a similar amount.

Cont'd. on page 2

Dave McCann
TYRES

TYRES AND SERVICING @ LOWEST PRICES

Unit 12 Coolmine Industrial Park,
Tel. 8202 221 / 8202 219 Fax: 8202 223



Anna Andrei, Marius Timoce and Karina Alimanescu pictured at the recent Scoil Cboilm Intercultural Day. (See page 10)

JENNINGS FUNERAL HOME

Main Street
Blanchardstown

Jennings Funeral Home

TEL. 821 8000
(24 HOURS)

RE/MAX Results

THE NO. 1 RE/MAX OFFICE IN DUBLIN 2007
THINKING OF SELLING OR LETTING?
Professional advice from an experienced and dedicated agent.

For a free valuation or advice on all your property needs call:

SUZANNE KAVANAGH
087 996 4305 OR 01 659 0000

By Design
Your Life Our Design

Kitchens & Bedrooms

SALE NOW ON
MASSIVE DISCOUNTS

KITCHENS ● BEDROOMS
HOME OFFICE ● STUDIES ● APPLIANCES

Open: Mon to Fri: 9am - 5pm Thurs late 'til 7pm
Saturday: 10am - 4pm

Free Oven Hob/Extractor
Free consultation & design service available
Extensive range of doors to choose from

2 Abbey House, Main Street,
Clonee. Tel: 801 5441