

# YWCA Winter News February 2012



## Which mountain?

*"I tell you the truth, if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you" (Matthew 17 v. 20).*

We all have favourite mountains to gaze on, to climb, to wonder at. In Ireland, of course, what we call 'mountains' are generally described as 'hills' by others, and when we look at the grandeur and gradients of the Alps, Rockies or Himalayas, we understand why! Here at home, my favourite rocky outcrop is the volcanic plug in Co. Antrim more commonly known as Slemish. It's tiny in comparison with Slieve Donard, Lugnaquilla or Carrauntoohil, but it affords beautiful views over the green fields of my home county right down the glens of Antrim to the sea.



Slemish, Co. Antrim.  
Photographer:  
Albert Bridge  
[www.geograph.co.uk](http://www.geograph.co.uk)

This year in YWCA Ireland, we are starting out on a journey to discover which mountains, large and small, we might tackle as an association. We hope that the various strategic planning activities in 2012 will guide us towards areas where we can use our resources well and wisely. The question is, of course, which mountains to tackle? This is where you come in! We want to know which types of activities you believe are vital for the YWCA, and which types of activities might be best left to other, more qualified, organisations. We will be asking individuals and local associations for their ideas, through a questionnaire and through regional meetings.



Demirkazik Crest, Taurus  
Mountains, Turkey.  
Photographer:  
Zeynel Cebeci

Like all journeys at altitude, we are both excited and a little bit daunted by the scale of the challenges in today's society, and the different directions in which we can be pulled. But, we have faith in an all-powerful God, and we look forward to the view along the way. In the words of Paul (who must have been more than familiar with the rugged Taurus mountains just north of his home city):

*"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever" (Ephesians 3 v. 20-21)*

Wishing each of you a year filled with God's power, grace and peace.  
*Lorna Carson, National President, YWCA Ireland*



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## YWCA Family

We know how difficult it is to find people who are ready to share their time, their evenings, and their ideas, and so as an Association, we are particularly grateful to those who have dedicated many years of service to the YWCA. The National Board and Head Office would like to thank in particular **Dot Little** and **Angela Browne**, who have both tendered their resignations. Dot has served the YWCA with energy and dedication for many years, as past President and National Board member, on the Baggot Street Residence committee and in Central Club. Angela Browne served faithfully on the National Board. We thank them for their willingness to share and serve, and we wish them God's wonderful blessing.

We were shocked and saddened to hear of the untimely death in October of Charlie Little, husband of our former President Dot Little. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dot and family.



*If you have news of any YWCA member that you would like to include this newsletter, including local committee members, please do inform Karen in Head Office.*

## YWCA Centres

### YWCA Coolnagreina (Greystones) update

The new residential building at Coolnagreina in Greystones is nearly completed, and the photograph below gives you an idea of the progress that has been made. You can follow YWCA Coolnagreina on Facebook, and via the centre's website, [www.coolnagreina.ie](http://www.coolnagreina.ie).



Please pray for:

- The local committee and Jonathan Ellis as they continue the difficult work of overseeing such a large building project
- Jonathan and his wife Lisa as they continue the everyday running of the busy centre in the midst of the building work
- American undergraduate students from Taylor University (a Christian university near Indianapolis) who stay at Coolnagreina as part of their Irish Studies Programme.

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## YWCA activities

Following our success last year in the **Dublin Flora Women's Mini Marathon** (well, we weren't in the top 100 but we did all finish in reasonably good time!), we've decided to get our pink T-shirts and running shoes out again. The Mini-Marathon is a 10 mile walk, jog or run, and we would like to invite YWCA members and friends to join us this year on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June as we raise funds to be divided between the **YWCA Coolnagreina building project and a local charity of participant's choice** (Head Office runners will be contributing half of their sponsorship to the **Anchorage Project** in Ringsend). Forms for sponsorship are available from Karen in Head Office. It is a wonderful opportunity to get fit, have fellowship and raise funds!

NB if you do want to participate, you must first register online (or by post) with the Flora Mini-Marathon, where you will be allocated an entry number. We recommend you do this promptly, as entry numbers are limited. Registration opens on February 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012: [www.womensminimarathon.ie](http://www.womensminimarathon.ie)

## YWCA Membership 2012

Did you know we are the largest women's membership association in the world? Your membership is vital to our work, and allows us to coordinate the Association across the country, to run events and activities locally and nationally, and to make our voices heard in the World YWCA. Membership is currently on an annual basis, although we are exploring ideas on lifetime membership too.

**Please complete your details below and send to Head Office with your subscription  
(by euro cheque, payable to YWCA of Ireland;  
or by cash paid in person at Head Office or at a YWCA event)**

- €20/£16** Full Annual Membership
- €10/£8** Reduced-Rate Full Annual Membership (Students/OAP/Unemployed)
- €10/£8** Associate Membership (no voting rights or entitlement to hold office)

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Postal Address \_\_\_\_\_  
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Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone number \_\_\_\_\_