



The Baths Project NCAC Update

A Brief History of the Baths

The Baths date back to the mid-nineteenth century when seawater bathing was extremely popular. Due to the tidal nature of the bay, the baths were built to facilitate swimmers at low tide. As the high tide filled the Baths, the supply valve was shut off and the Baths retained the water which would then be changed regularly.

The Cullen family bought the Baths in 1996 and although they were operational they were in a dilapidated condition. The Baths became unsafe and closed in 1998. Several attempts to gain planning to redevelop were made over time until planning permission was granted in June 2012.

Due to the sensitive nature of the site and the harsh conditions of building in a marine environment, the reconstruction of the Baths has gone vastly over budget.

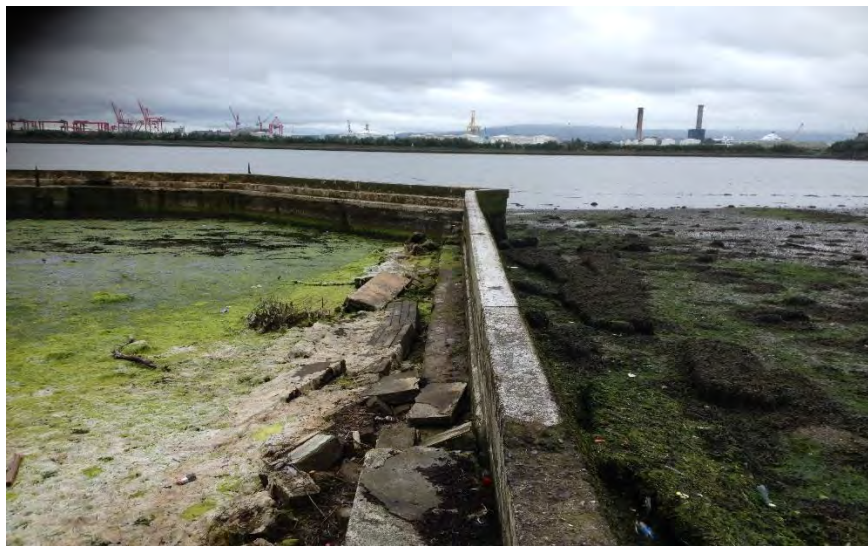
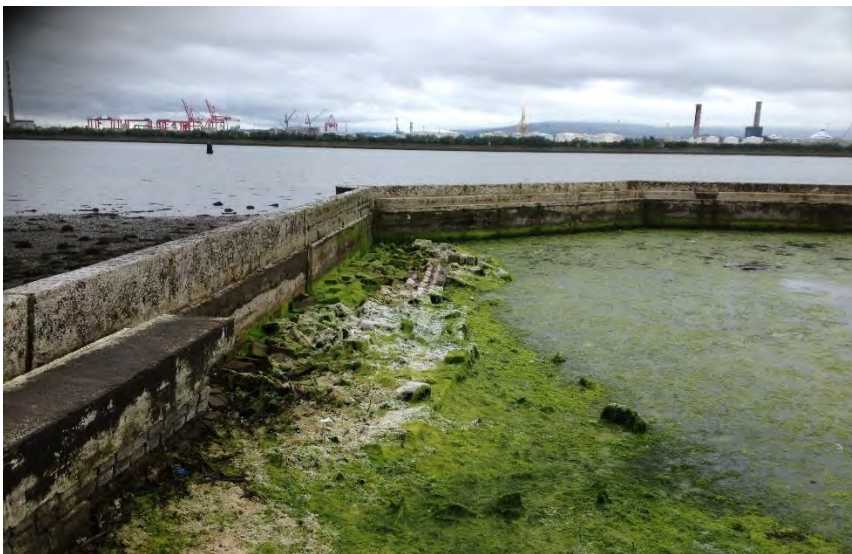
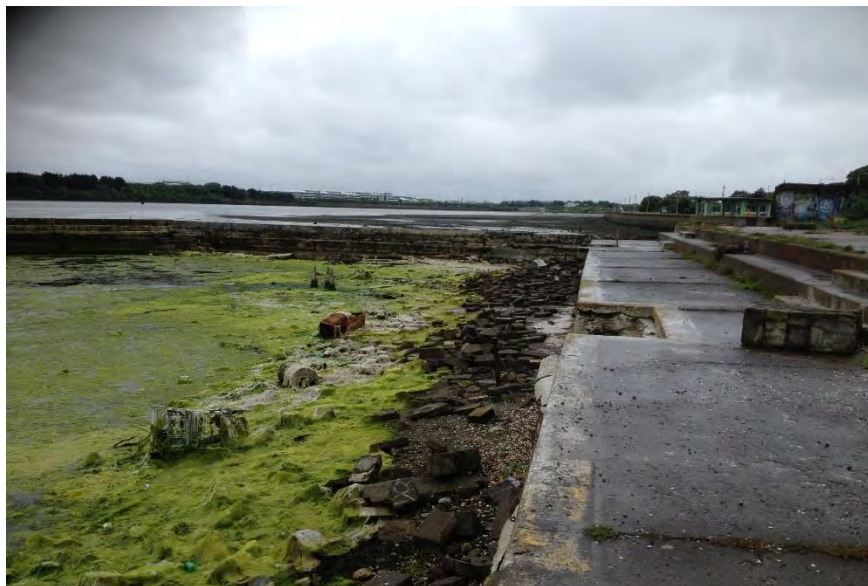
Objective

The Baths will reopen in 2018 and will be made available for public use. The extent of this availability is yet to be determined and will rely heavily on the level of community support.

Goals

We want to engage with the local community and the wider communities; individuals, swimming clubs, sports clubs, triathletes and schools. We wish to provide a safe environment with full disabled access, quality sea water, and a space for activities such as swimming lessons, polo matches, charity events, seawater competitions at International level, rehabilitation therapy and more.

The Clontarf Baths Before



The Clontarf Baths During Construction



The Clontarf Baths During Construction

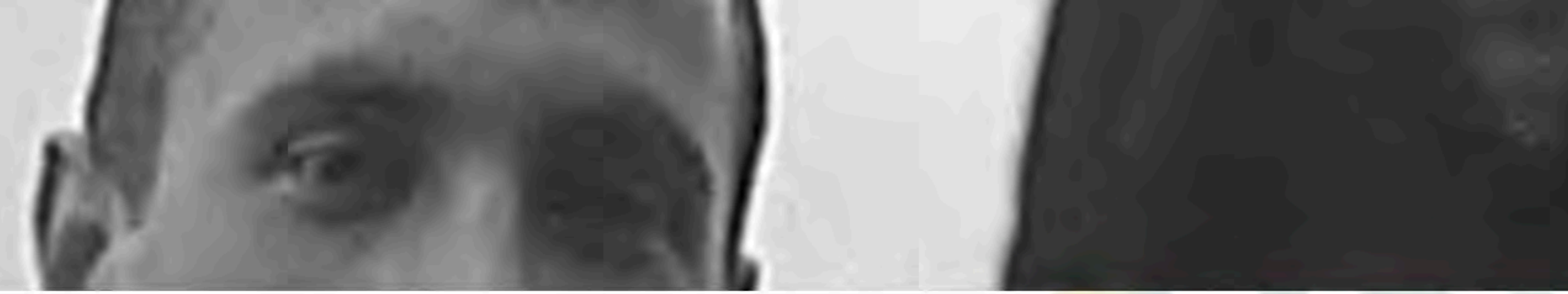


A black and white historical photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, several people are visible, including a man in a long coat and hat, a woman, and a child. There are also several dogs. In the background, there are buildings and a fence. The sky is bright and cloudy. The text "SINCE 1884" is overlaid in the upper center, "THE BATHS" is overlaid in large orange letters in the center, and "AT CLONTARF" is overlaid in white letters below it.

SINCE 1884

THE BATHS

AT CLONTARF



The Baths: Nearly there.

No, we're not coddin'.

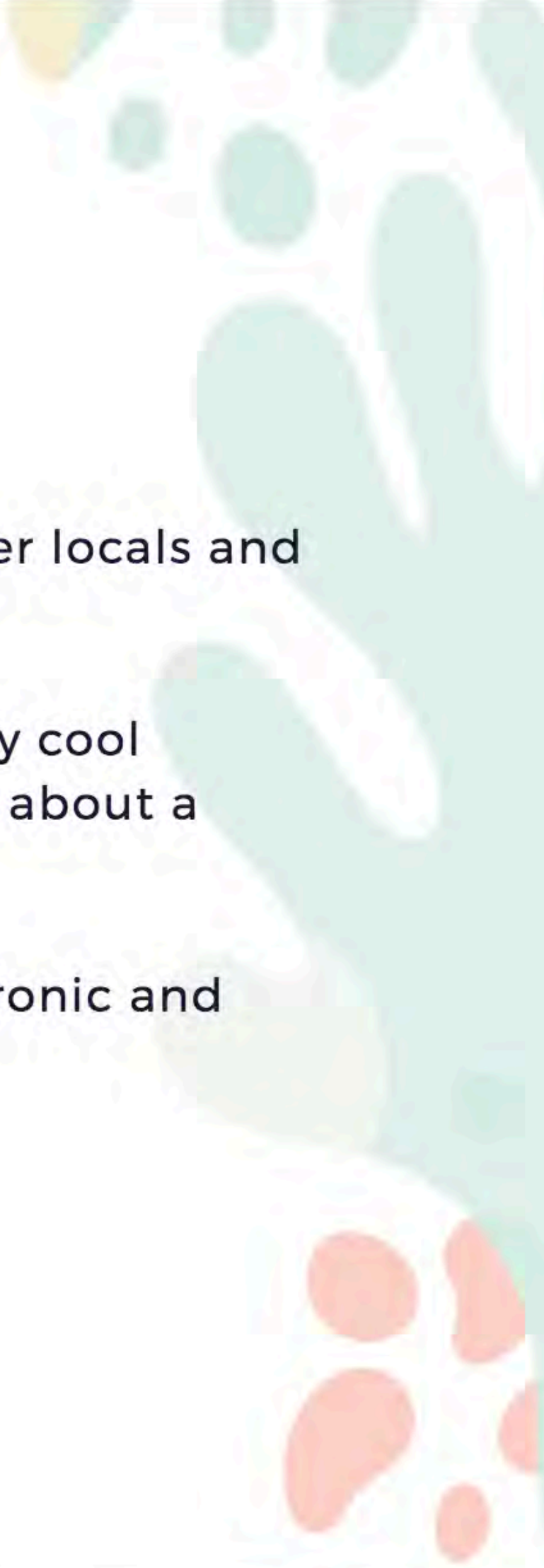
The iconic Clontarf Baths is being reimagined and restored after a long, long wait for the proud owners, eager locals and curious Dubliners.

Yes, the pool will be open again so you can grab your togs and towel and jump in. There will be a really, really cool restaurant and bar with a glass wall overlooking the pool and the bay beyond. If you don't fancy a swim how about a whole roast chicken to feed the family? Again, we're not coddin'.

Then flop back into an oversized deckchair while your pot of tea is wetting and smile as you recognise that ironic and familiar ultimatum from an exasperated mum outside:

"FERGUS! WALK! If you fall and break both of your legs don't come running to me."

Ah yes, it'll be good to be back.



WHAT WE WERE

What's the story?

You could be forgiven for not even knowing the Clontarf Baths existed, even though it's right by the main road and it's somewhat famous. That's because it's hidden by trees and set back a little off the road. Still, everyone in Clontarf knows about it and they're dying to see what we've done with the place.

Clontarf Baths and Assembly Rooms, as it was known, opened in 1884 and featured a large, tidal, seawater swimming pool that juts out from the promenade wall into the bay. It was a huge hit with locals and even with people from the wider Dublin area who would take an omnibus out to Clontarf for the day.

It closed in 1996, 112 years after it opened, and has been a bit of a mess since then.

But not for much longer, you'll be happy to hear.



WHAT WE'LL BE

Yeah, no it's not like that anymore.

We're back. The Baths is owned by a Dublin family who is lovingly refurbishing the baths and is creating a new and, to be honest, utterly unique restaurant and bar out front.

The Baths, as it will officially be known, will be open to the public for swimming and will have its own entrance.

While the seawater baths will be a nostalgic and sentimental reminder for a lot of people who grew up in the area, this is also a restaurant and bar that will be open for breakfast, brunch, lunch and dinner. Imagine that view.

It's all taken a long time to get right and we've been up to our oxters, but it will be worth the wait. Promise.

Oh and yes, we'll keep you updated on our progress.

