

**The Chairperson and Members
South Central Area Office**

**2018 Report by Cathy Scuffil,
South Central Historian in Residence (HIR)**

Dublin City Council's Historians in Residence (HIR) have a broad remit to bring history to community-based audiences, particularly in the context of the Decade of Commemorations. History events and activities in 2018 included presentations and talks, quizzes, guided walks and tours, classes, a ceili, school and jail visits and wide range of other history related projects with approximately 5,600 people from South Central Area reached during the year.

Throughout the year I worked with local librarians in Walkinstown, Ballyfermot, Inchicore and Dolphin's Barn as well as Community Development teams in Ballyfermot and Eblana House to meet groups and deliver history events. This provided a direct link to community groups/projects in South Central Area as well as venues to deliver talks and events. The following are some community groups with whom presentations, talks and history discussions were arranged in 2018:

- Ballyfermot Youth Project,
- Walkinstown Community Group Men on the Move (Fatima men's group),
- Rialto Youth Project,
- Dolphin House Men's Shed,
- St Patrick's Athletic,
- Mount Argus Chat Club,
- Warrenmount Community Education and Development,
- Back of the Pipes group,
- Kilmainham/Inchicore Heritage,
- Walkinstown Linkage,
- WALK,
- Residents of community rooms at Stannaway Court Kimmage, Claddagh Court Ballyfermot, Rossaveal Court, Ballyfermot and Timber Yard, The Liberties.
- Hollybrook Lodge Nursing Home, Inchicore and Belvilla Care Centre (patients, family members and staff),
- NCAD (guided walks for students),
- Warrenmount Genealogy Group,
- University of the 3rd Age (Ballyfermot and Rathmines)
- DCC and DIT Staff retirement groups,

- Little Flower Centre, Meath Street

Schools: Canalway Educate Together, Francis Street CBS and Warrenmount NS (for “Missing Ceili of 1916”), Caritas College, Ballyfermot (TYs), St. Dominic’s Ballyfermot (TYs) and Loreto College Crumlin (TYs).

Local History Groups

- Chapelizod History and Heritage Society
- Liberties Cultural Association (I helped establish this group in 2017)
- Walkinstown/Crumlin History group (I helped establish this group in 2018)
- Ballyfermot History/Heritage group especially on 70th anniversary Festival and Pride of Place Competition (Ballyfermot won first place in the 2,000 population category)

History documents

- Contributed to *History on Your Doorstep/An Stair ar Leac an Dorais* outdoor panels in Chapelizod and Dolphin’s Barn
- Chapter on the William Spence Ironworks, Cork St included in the HIR free book “History on Your Doorstep: six stories of Dublin History”
- Blog posts for Dublin City Public Libraries website, all featuring some aspect of the history of Dublin South Central and “History Document of the Month” display in libraries

Selection of talk topics for 2018

Irish Civil War

Four-part lecture series celebrating the 70th anniversary of Ballyfermot (in total 11 talks delivered in Ballyfermot Library)

Draw a Heritage Trail (Cruinniu na nOg)

Sharing Stories of our Ancestors

Dublin place names

First World War and Canon Gleeson of Meath Street Church

Camac River

Suffragette 100 Hats project in Richmond Barracks (featured on 6-1 News)

1918 – events and social history

South Circular Road on the eve of World War 1

Theatre Royal Remembered/Thanksgiving dinner in Meath Street for students of Champlain College, USA and University of Wisconsin, USA.

Weaving in the Liberties

Centenary of the Spitalfields Housing estate

Workshops on using history documents/primary sources

Talks at Festivals/Conferences:

Dublin Festival of History, Heritage Week, Bloomsday, Culture Night, Cruinniu na nOg, Bealtaine, Dublin Learner’s Festival, International Women’s Day, Local History Group Day, Burning of the Custom House conference, Lá na mBán conference, UCC -Women’s Suffrage conference, Poznan - Towards Independence conference - Polish and Irish ways to Sovereignty

Walking tours: Blackpitts, Crumlin, Ballyfermot, Drimnagh (Brickfields Festival), ‘Three Rebel Churches’ (The Liberties) Ardee St to Meath Street, The Tenters, St. Audoen’s, Celebrating

Historic Meath St (reception after in the Little Flower Centre), Cle Club and musical heritage of the Liberties, Irish National War Memorial Gardens, Islandbridge

Trips/Outings with groups: Russborough House, Dublin City Library and Archive, roof of St Patrick's Cathedral, TCD Archives, (old) Kevin Street Garda Station, Architectural Archive, Rathfarnham Castle, St Enda's Rathfarnham, St James's Hospital/MISA centre, Mansion House, Powerscourt Townhouse, Military Archives and Cathal Brugha Barracks.

I also worked with DCC staff providing historical background on St. Luke's Church, the Camac River Remembered, and walking tours in The Liberties/Dubline.

Publicity

Interviews with Together FM, Near FM and participated in two broadcasts of RTE Radio 1's The History Show. Filmed with Griffith College, Ballyfermot Heritage Group (four podcasts), Chapelizod, Dublin Camino Society and Walkinstown Film Club.

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