



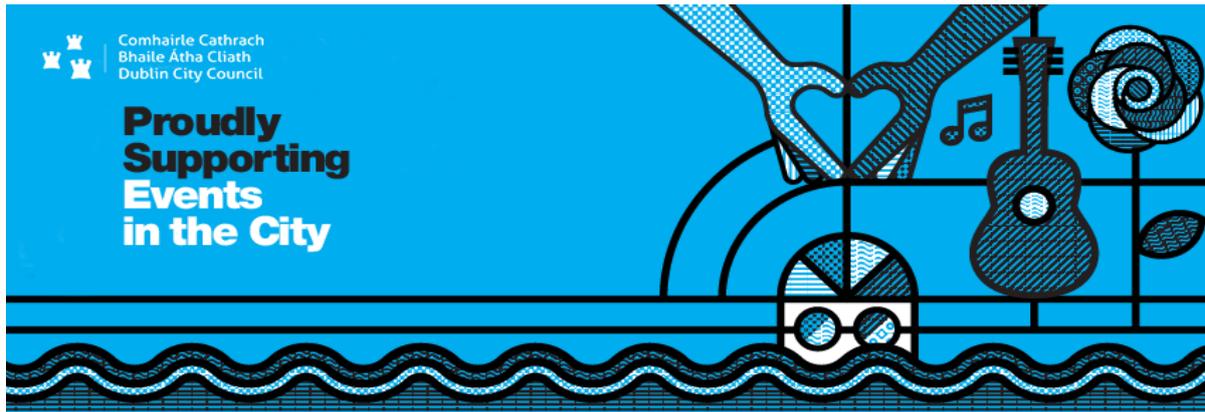
Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Report to Arts, Culture and Recreation SPC

13TH MAY 2019

Item No. 9

MANAGEMENT UPDATE REPORT



Gannon Cup – 9th March

The colours race was a great spectacle in the city this year. The weather was much more favourable for this year's Colours Boat race between Trinity College Dublin and University College Dublin, with a bright sunny day replacing the snow of last year, which meant the cancellation of the event. The event was amongst the best of recent years with both colleges recording two wins. The event was an attraction for visitors, tourists and the loyal supporters of this event.



St. Patrick's Festival – 14th March to 18th March

St. Patrick's Festival kicked off this year on 14th March running over five great days and nights in Dublin, celebrating Ireland's great heritage of storytelling. The parade again attracted huge numbers into the city from at home and all over the world. The Festival brought to life ancient tales and contemporary narratives, telling the stories of Ireland and the Irish, past, present and future. The programme of events included live music, dance, song and story, walk talks, visual arts family fun and lots more. Merrion Square was transformed into a bustling festival village from 16th – 18th March hosting three days of fantastic events.



Off Set/Offsite Dublin 2019 – 5th to 7th April

The Offset/Offsite conference returned this year with another jam-packed week of workshops, masterclasses, exhibitions, panel discussion, music. The Offsite Fringe Festival provided opportunities for creatives to get together, explore ideas and to learn from each other meeting creating and sharing ideas with their peers.

MusicTown – 5th to 22nd April

This year Music Town returned with a programme covering an array of musical styles and genres. MusicTown explores and celebrates a diverse range of music styles and cultures existing in Dublin. It's main aim is to unify the city and make its music relatable and accessible promoting Dublin's musical heritage and welcoming to all. The programme this year included a specially curated programme of event for children, MusicTown Jr., encourage music lovers of all ages to participate.

Handel's Messiah – 13th April - part of the MusicTown event

The annual performance of Handel's Messiah took place on Saturday 13th April marking the date of the first time Handel's Messiah was performed in public in 1742 on Fishamble Street. The event attracts large numbers each year.



Night Run – 28th April

The Dublin Night Right was back again for 2019, with up to 6,000 approx. participants running through the streets of Dublin once again. This year monies raised went towards the Sean Cox Foundation. Runners of all abilities took part on the night making it another enjoyable run for all who took part.

Dublin Dance Festival – 1st May to 19th May

Dublin Dance Festival presents the best Irish and International dance performance in venues throughout the city to a growing audience. The event provides an important platform for artists and to create and perform new works. The event encourages artistic collaboration experimentation and innovation in dance.



International Dublin Gay Theatre – 6th May to 19th May

The Dublin Gay Theatre Festival is an annual event, celebrating the contribution of gay people to theatre, past and present. The Festival, has grown since it began in 2004 with an emphasis on new or recent international and Irish works with a broadly gay theme or relevance, has grown to become the largest event of its type in the world.

The Festival returned to the Capital this year, with 21 world class performances from the four corners of the world, across 5 stages for two weeks in May.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Event	Location
18/05/19	Bealtaine at Temple Bar	Temple Bar
18/05/19 to 26/05/19	International Literature Festival	City Wide – St Patrick’s Park
19/05/19	Pets in the City	Smithfield
25/05/19 to 26/05/19	Battle for the Bay	Dollymount Beach
28/05/19	Docklands 5k	Docklands area
30/05/19 to 31/05/19	Inaugural National Famine Way – Famine Quarter Custom House Quay Festival	CHQ building + Custom House Quay area
02/06/19	Women’s Mini Marathon	City Centre
09/06/19	Street Feast Smithfield	Smithfield
09/06/19	Dublin Kite Festival	Dollymount Beach
11/06/19 to 16/06/19	Blooms Day Festival	Citywide
20/06/19	Docklands 5k	Docklands area
26/06/19	Velo City Cycle	Convention Centre to St. Anne’s Park
29/06/19	Dublin Pride	City Centre
04/07/19 to 25/07/19	Wood Quay Summer Session	Amphitheatre, Wood Quay
12/07/19 to 14/07/19	City Spectacular	Merrion Square South / East and within Park
12/07/19 to 14/07/19	City Spectacular	Merrion Square South / East and within Park

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HUGH LANE GALLERY

Gallery Refurbishment 1930's wing:

Part VIII planning will be lodged on 6th June 2019. Shaffrey Associates Architects (project Design Team), are compiling a revised project schedule to reflect his milestone.

Visitor Numbers:

The visitor numbers to gallery for 2019 to the end of March were 40,347. This figure reflects over 3,000 more visitors to the gallery compared to the same time last year.

Learning and Participation:

The Hugh Lane continues to deliver a full programme of workshops, events, tours, coffee conversations (each Wednesday@11am), lectures and screenings.

For a full list of all activities in the Hugh Lane Gallery, please visit www.hughlane.ie

Education and Learning:

Zoom@Hugh Lane Gallery:

1,000 students are expected to participate in this schools outreach programme in 2019. Already, to the end of April, seventeen schools from across Dublin have come on board, with 340 students engaging with the project.

Arts and Disability Ireland

Staff from the Hugh Lane attended a training session, delivered by Arts and Disability Ireland, on the subject of audio descriptions of artworks for people with a visual impairment. Aimed at cultural organisations, the training also offered the opportunity for being part of an informal network of cultural practitioners seeking to offer audio description experiences as part of our programmes. Each organisation is committed to providing an audio description experience which will be tested and form part of a follow up workshop in September 2019.

Comhairle na nÓg – Hugh Lane Youth Advisory Group

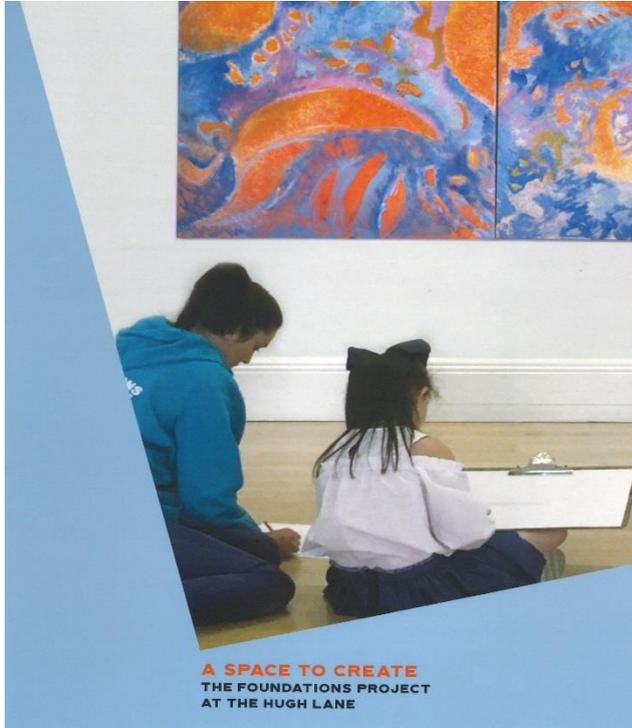
In an exciting development, and stemming from an information sharing session at the Wood Quay venue with members of Comhairle na nÓg, fifteen young people have expressed an interest in being part of a Hugh Lane Youth Advisory Group to assist in the formation of programmes aimed at youth aged 11-17 years of age.

Curious Creatures- youth engagement

As part of our Fulbright collaboration at the Hugh Lane Gallery, this year's Fulbright scholar Kimberly Griffith has developed a programme aimed youth called *Curious Creatures*. We aim to work with youth participating CDET B Sphere 17 in Darndale as well as pupils from St Beneavin's Secondary School in Finglas to explore themes arising from Mark Dion's exhibition, *Our Plundered Planet*.

A Space to Create – The Foundations Project at the Hugh Lane Gallery

Hugh Lane's connectivity with Dublin's communities is one of its priorities. In our learning programmes children are offered opportunities for understanding and contributing to the artistic life that surrounds them by engaging with artworks in the collection as well as exploring their own creative potential.



The Gallery's collaboration with the Foundations Project offers children caught up in the uncertainty of living in temporary accommodation opportunities for enjoying the creative space and immersion in the cultural life of their city Dublin. Commencing in 2017 with summer workshops and culminating in a series of artist led after school workshops, this project was a great learning experience for all parties.

Following on this yearlong collaboration the gallery put together a book on the project illustrating the artworks made by the children inspired by their interaction with the gallery's collection and visual art practice.

Collection/Conservation:

Following the opening of new collection displays in February, the de-installation of the 83 works in the 1930s wing was completed to allow for the refurbishment works. The conservation studio, art handling and packing areas were relocated to galleries 19-22. A location audit of 674 Bacon's Books was completed. Work has begun to reorganise the storage of the Harry Clarke Archive and to update accordingly on TMS. Conservation treatments have been completed on: *Regal Dusk* by Kenneth Noland, *Lady Gregory* and *Mrs Shine* by Antonio Mancini, and *Madonna Irlanda* by Michael Farrell. Recent acquisitions by Rachel Maclean and Willie Doherty have been received into the gallery.

Exhibitions: Mark Dion: Our Plundered Planet

4th of April to 4th of September

The exhibition was launched by The Lord Mayor, Nial Ring in the gallery on 3rd April.

This exhibition addresses the serious and topical issue of global warming and the resulting consequences for our planet. A longer lead in time for installation



made it possible to produce a beautiful catalogue documenting the exhibition at Hugh Lane available for the opening reception and the partnership of galleries increased our international distribution this furthering our network reach.

The exhibition has attracted a large amount of media and press coverage including the front page of *The Irish Times* on 4th April 2019.

Image: Mark Dion's *The Salmon of Knowledge Returns*, 2019

Barbara Dawson, Director. 01 222 5551

Tara Robertson, Administrative Officer 01 2225559

DUBLIN CITY ARTS OFFICE

International Literature Festival Dublin



Stimulating, engaging and challenging, on the stages and streets of Dublin, ILFDublin proudly celebrates the most exciting voices in writing today. **Paul Mason** mounts a radical defence of the human being; **Naomi Wolf** explores the hot topic of censorship; **Fintan O'Toole** dissects nationalism and identity in the age of Brexit. Renowned Italian author **Roberto Calasso's** discusses tribalism and societal transformation with **John Banville**.

The exciting programme for children and young people, Tall Tales, includes world renowned **R J Palacio** (*Wonder*), **Flossie Donnelly**, who at 12 years old, is the youngest ever ILFDublin speaker, takes part in the Authors 4 Oceans event. **Francesca Simon**, and **Kate DiCamillo** as well as two days of family fun in **St. Patricks Park**.

New partnerships, commissions and an ever-wider array of international writers coming to the festival are also at the heart of the programme. In 'Building Stories', cross art forms in the company of architects and artists, and in conversation with writers ranging from Writer in Residence **Tomoka Shibasaki** to **Alice Rawsthorn**. Artist Colin Priest and sound poet **Caroline Bergvall** present new commissions, and we welcome, as the 2019 focus country, Norwegian authors **Åsne Seierstad**. Children's illustrator **Ella Okstad** and explorer **Erling Kagge**.

ILFDublin welcomes three authors all featured on the long list for the Man Booker International Prize - **Samanta Schweblin**, **Juan Gabriel Vásquez** and **Tommy Wieringa**.

Added to that are workshops for writers to explore their craft, literary trails through Dublin, advice from industry insiders and a chance for people living / working in the capital to tell their own stories inspired by the DNA of Dublin. Our *Off the Page* series, acclaimed author and screenwriter **Bret Easton Ellis** warms us up with a pre-festival event April 26th.

Urban Regional Development Fund - Further to the success of the URDF Category B Application for Artists Workspaces. The Arts Office and Development Department is engaging in a procurement process for the next phase which a Feasibility Study of two sites. Tender documents are completed and tender will be published shortly.

Arts Office Awards Public advertisement of the annual Bursaries, Incubation space, Tyrone Guthrie and Artists workshop space Closing date for receipt of applications end of May 2019

Residential Artists' Studio Open Call 2019 Assessment of applications for this award now finalised by City Arts Office for the 3 x premises St Patricks Lodge & 6 & 7 Albert Cottages Hampstead Park. Successful applicants are being offered from May 2019 tenancy from 2 months to one year. All premises are fully furnished with 2 x bedrooms, living area, kitchen and a small studio/work space Included also is complimentary TV, phone and Wi-Fi service. Rent is capped at €700 per month.

St Stephens Church (Pepper Canister) The Arts Office is assisting St. Stephen's Church to access expressions of interest from individuals or organisations interested in exploring the possibility of managing the church as a programmed venue to host cultural events and projects The call out for Expressions of Interest is an exploratory process and has just closed. The Arts Office are currently reviewing the applications received in April. Successful applicants will be notified in May

Cruinniú NA N-ÓG 2019 - Following an open competition a wide range of events are now being planned for the day. Storytelling, music, dance, map-making, problem solving workshops are an example of just some of the events programmed for the day. City Wide Saturday 15th June 2019

Velo City

The artist Michelle Browne is currently working on a commission for Velocity and 7 submissions have been received and are currently being assessed for the open call. Convention Centre Dublin 25th to 28th of June 2019.



Erasmus+

Erasmus+ EU Grant Award 'Permission to Wonder' – Supporting Schools to Implement the Visual Thinking Strategies method to enhance Learning with Visual Arts' Public Engagement across 6 x EU Cities & 30 x schools. The educators are now implementing VTS training method in their respective schools, museums and galleries across Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Netherlands, Slovenia, & Spain

The LAB Gallery



The LAB Gallery is pleased to present the Last Great Album of the Decade in association with Musictown 28th March to 12th May 2019.

The exhibition is co-curated by Pádraic E Moore and Sheena Barrett and features new work by Anne Maree Barry, Declan Clarke, Alan Phelan and Clíodhna Timoney. The title is both suitably brash, claiming greatness, and mournful, in suggesting that it can't be surpassed. This exhibition seeks to celebrate the musical relic and souvenirs of the subculture, taking in gigs in the

90s, a selection of zines from Brand New Retro, the Dublin rave scene in the early 2000s, the demise of rural nightclubs and journeys from early photographic experiments through to the potential backdrop for a new music video.

Stepping into the Music Library at the Central Library in the Ilac Centre visitors can skip through genres via the biographies of musicians, sheet music, vinyl and cds and we've also planted copies of Eoin Devereux's hidden track, along with Audrey Walshe's botanical response to the show.

In partnership with Musictown, we are also running two very special events, a screen-writing workshop for teenagers with Anne Maree Barry in the Music Library and an historical music tour of the city with Donal Fallon. The exhibition has featured in the Irish Times Critic's Picks, on RTE Arena and Totally Dublin.

TMS and Public Art Collection

The installation of the Museum System is in the process of taking place. Due to some technical issues, this has taken longer than originally anticipated but these issues are now being resolved. In the interim, the data on all public artworks in the collection of Dublin City Council is being prepared and in consultation with the Parks Department, all relevant photographic material is being assembled for uploading.

Reclaiming Space- Finglas

Supporting the Finglas area office, in partnership with Bernardos, to reclaim a green space in Finglas West. The Arts office has assisted on the planning of the project and supported both Bernardos and the local area office to develop the project in line with Cruinniú na nÓg, which will take place on June 15th. It has been agreed that as the project is taking place within a primary school that Cruinniú events may take place on the 14th as suggested by Creative Ireland. Bernardos are working with primary aged children using the Lundy model of consultation to design a safe area for the local children. For the Cruinniú event the Arts Office are supporting and advising on suitable artists to work on the project. It has been deemed that following Cruinniú there will continually be development and maintenance of the space for young people. The local area office is also liaising and working with the parks dept. of DCC to ensure this.

Ballymore Properties and Pelletstown

The Arts Office in a similar process to the Pepper Canister Church are supporting Ballymore properties in developing Artists' Studios in unused Office and retail space in Pelletstown. An Open day is being considered for June with an Application process to follow. Considerations of refurbishment, management, affordability of rent and length of tenure are prime considerations in this project.

LBGTQI Commission

The planned meeting of the working group for the LBGTQI+ commission was deferred as members of the Group worked on assembling names of representatives of the LBGTQI+ community for the proposed Consultative Meeting. It is planned to hold the meeting of the working group in the next four weeks to be followed by the larger Consultative Meeting.

An Urgent Enquiry – Arts Council Award for Art and Biodiversity Commissions

This is a collaborative partnership between the Arts Offices and Biodiversity Offices in Wexford, Dublin and Fingal. 36 applications were received for the three residency commissions in Dublin, Fingal and Wexford. Seven proposals were short-listed for interview which took place on the 23rd of March. The selection panel in consultation with the Dublin City Parks Superintendent have selected an artist with qualifications in biochemistry, fine art and digital media for the Dublin Residency and the DCC Parks and Landscape Services are

providing a studio space for the artist for the three months' residency which will take place from May – July this year.

Statue of Countess Markievicz for O'Connell Street

The only available location on O'Connell Street for the proposed statue of Countess Markievicz is fraught with technical challenges as there is an ESB underground substation for the Luas tram system. The Public Art Officer met in March with DCC Engineers and Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to discuss this matter and TII are to provide a technical report in May on the issues relating to the load-bearing, ventilation for the electricity sub-station and to also define the possible 'footprint' for the statue.

Monument to the Women of the Foundation of the State

This commission has been delayed due to the proposal to offer O'Connell Street as one of the locations which is now being considered for the statue of Countess Markievicz. The other site to be explored with the OPW is opposite the Hugh Lane Gallery. on Parnell Square at the lift entrance into the Garden of Remembrance.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF PUBLIC ARTWORKS

***A Fallen Bouquet* by Thomas Duffy**

This pavement based artwork commissioned to remember the victims of the Dublin Bombings on Sackville Place was temporarily removed to facilitate the new hotel beside the site. The Public Art Officer has been liaising with the artist, DCC architects and engineers to have the work cleaned and restored by the artist before its re-instatement.

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DUBLIN CITY SPORTS & WELLBEING PARTNERSHIP

Champions 2019

The Champions Programme is a core Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership programme delivered between April and May and targeted at adults with intellectual, physical and sensory disabilities.

Champions Day takes place on Tuesday 14 May in Ballyfermot Sports and Fitness Centre from 10.30am – 3pm and Thursday 16 May in Cabra Parkside. The aim of the event is to showcase the variety of sports and physical activities offered by Dublin City Council for people with a disability. The event will be co-ordinated by DCSWP Sport Officers and the two newly appointed Sport Inclusion and Integration Officers.

Go For Life

The Go For Life Games is a core Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership programme targeted at older adults and delivered in partnership with Age & Opportunity and the HSE. The aim of the programme is to engage and involve older people in recreational sport. The emphasis is on participation and fun; the games are played in a non-competitive environment with all participants encouraged to umpire their own game.

The 2019 Go For Life North and Southside regional finals take place in Ballyfermot Sports & Fitness Centres (Southside) on 21 May and in Cabra Parkside Community and Sports Centre (Northside) on 23 May. Successful teams will then progress to the National Go For Life Games in Dublin City University on 8 June.

Bike Week

Bike Week is a week long National event celebrating and promoting cycling. In 2019 Bike Week will take place from 9th – 17th June. Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership has sourced funding via the Environment & Transportation Department and will use this to deliver a number of bike related activities across the city during this week.

A 'Bike Skills Training Day' is also scheduled for Tuesday 25 June in Sundrive Velodrome, Eamonn Ceannt Park. This is a partnership programme with local Primary Schools and the Irish Cycling Centre.

Small Grants Scheme

Sports Clubs operating within the administrative area of Dublin City Council and affiliated to a National Governing Body are invited to apply for financial assistance from the Sport For Young People Small Grants Scheme (10-21 years of age). The Grant Scheme is funded and administered by Sport Ireland and the Dublin Sport & Wellbeing Partnership. The scheme supports clubs in some of the following;

- Purchase of Equipment
- Administrative costs
- Training and coaching courses

Applications for the small grants scheme will be advertised in the next few weeks via email, national and local newspapers, social media and the Dublin City Council website.

Shauna Mc Intyre, General Manager, Dublin City Sport & Wellbeing Partnership

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RECREATION SERVICES

St Laurence O`Toole Recreation Centre

On Thursday 18th April, the Recreation Centre staff and management were delighted to be given the opportunity to host the first showing of the programme “The two Luke’s”, telling the story of the 2 statues of Luke Kelly being erected in Dublin City. The programme was then shown on RTE on Easter Monday. Over 70 people attended and included 20 members of the Kelly family.



The centre also continues to work with the FAIs introduction to football for ladies and with the NEIC for the very successful Ma’s For GAA culminating in a match between Ballybough and Sheriff Street. Great fun was had for all.

Period Poverty Programme

This project has been ongoing for the last number of months. After some discussion, the project was given a soft introduction into 4 selected Recreation Centres;

- Darndale Recreation Centre
- St. Laurence O`Toole Recreation Centre
- Donore Youth and Community Centre
- Bluebell Youth and Community Centre.

At the start of the project, based on information from Scotland, there was an expectation that there would or could be a substantial loss of the sanitary products due to “messing round”. This, however, has not been the case and the loss of product has been more of an inquisitive nature with some packs having being opened and then having to be disposed of. There has been very positive supportive feedback from the user of the centres.

Easter in the Recreation Centres

It has been a very busy couple of weeks in most of the centres due to the schools being on Easter break.

Some of the programmes included Easter Egg Hunts, in-house activities and trips out to Bettystown Beach and the Kildare Maze.



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Darndale Recreation Centre

Hosted the Dublin 17 Health and Well Being Cluster



Recreation Centre upgrade programme

St. Laurence O'Tooles

Work across the centres are ongoing with the completion of new men's shower and toilet facilities. Both the showers and toilets were stripped out and upgraded. New shower drains installed as was the ventilation system. The work on the women's toilets and showers will begin shortly.

East Wall Recreation Centre

Painting of the interior of the building has been completed as well as a new floor laid.

Twitter

For up to date information on the Recreation Centres, updates on programmes are regularly updated and can be seen on @DCCrecreation

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PARKS AND LANDSCAPE SERVICES

Parks Administration

Parks Administration carry out a variety of functions daily. These include managing service requests; phone and email queries; licences agreements for new and existing tea-rooms/markets/sports pavilions and concessions and facilitating events and photoshoots in our parks and open spaces.

The table below shows the statistics for Parks Admin for the first quarter of 2019.

Service Requests (Parks Admin)	Totals
No. of emails received	2747
No. of emails received from City Councillors	165
No. of Service Requests on CRM	367
No. of phone calls received	2292
No. of Council Questions and Motions received	247
No. of Park Events Applications processed	71

St Annes Park City Farm and Allotments

St Anne's City Farm and Ecology Centre was opened officially by the Lord Mayor Nial Ring on the 26th April 2019. It is located beside the allotments on the Raheny side of St Annes Park.



The farm which is open to the public five days a week all year round is typical of community led farms in other international cities in that it is entirely run by volunteers from the local community on a non-profit basis. They will manage and care for animals, which include two pigs, nine chickens, three goats, a guinea pig and Moses the pony.

The ethos of St Anne's City Farm is not to be a 'petting farm' but a place where people can learn first-hand about animal husbandry, growing food, cooking food, sustainable living and reconnecting with nature. It is intended that the operations of the farm will be fully sustainable with a zero carbon footprint. The farm will give children and adults an opportunity to learn about growing food and raising animals in a sustainable way in an urban setting.



St. Anne's Farm goat



Pigs and silkies

St Anne's City Farm is a perfect fit with the objective of Dublin City Council's Parks Service to facilitate a greater engagement with the local community and in particular St Anne's Park, where the farm will complement the adjacent allotments. The farm also includes the new Raheny men's shed, which will be a valuable resource to the future of the farm.

There were many submissions to the recent Dublin Climate Change Action Plan public consultation that recommended promoting community initiatives around local food production. The urban farm in St Anne's Park responds to that desire in the community. This project is all about sustainable living and community development and it is hoped that this might be a model for similar projects in other areas of the city."

When Lord Ardilaun died in 1915, the St Annes estate passed on to his nephew, Benjamin Plunkett who built what was known as the "kitchen garden" , a two and a half acres of walled garden to keep the produce safe, as well as to provide heat during the summer and autumn months. At its busiest, there were 18 full time employees working in the garden which was used for vegetable production.

In 2010, Dublin City Council turned the original walled vegetable garden of the Guinness family into a community allotment which today consists of 90 plots which are occupied by either individuals or families who have come together to form a community garden. The allotments are managed by the Council and there is a voluntary committee set up by the growers to coordinate activities. During the summer and autumn months, plots in the allotment flourish with the growth of dozens of fruits and vegetables, including blueberries, strawberries, kale, beetroot and asparagus.

While the allotment is a private gated area accessed only by plot-holders, it is open to the public during the St. Anne's Park Rose Festival in July each year.



Photos courtesy of Niamh Patterson, Secretary of St. Anne's Park Allotment Committee

Capital Projects Update

Project	Progress/Current Status	Next Stage
Peace Garden, Christchurch	Contractor on site to redevelop this garden	Flanders Memorial ceremony was held on the 30 th April 2019. Official park opening scheduled for June 2019
UNESCO Discovery Centre	Design team and Planning team in place	Currently in the Design phase. Environmental Impact Assessment Report and a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken
Le Fanu Skatepark, Ballyfermot	Tender assessment underway	Expected start date June 2019
Fairview Park Tearooms	Two public consultations have been held	To be brought to Area Committee to initiate

Dublin Bay Discovery Centre

The recently appointed design team (led by Howley Hayes Architects) have begun the process for developing designs and storylines for the proposed UNESCO Dublin Bay Discovery Centre. Brady Shipman Martin have also been appointed to begin the process of preparing an Environmental Impact Assessment Report and a Stage Two Appropriate Assessment for the proposed scheme. The Planning team will work closely with the design team to ensure that

any mitigation measures required to avoid impacts on sensitive receptors will be incorporated within the design and construction of the discovery centre.

Extensive stakeholder consultation with the elected representatives, residents, businesses etc., in the form of workshops, presentations, meetings etc., began in March, both to explore the story the Discovery Centre will tell and to examine issues around design and construction. Further workshops and engagements will continue over the coming months.



International UNESCO Biosphere Conference (EuroMAB 2019)

April 2nd - 5th, Dublin Bay Biosphere welcomed 240 delegates from 30 countries, representing over 100 UNESCO Biospheres - more than a third of all Biospheres in Europe, United States of America and Canada. The four-day conference kicked off with a welcome reception in City Hall on Monday April 1st where Cllr Ciaran Cuffe, deputising for the Lord Mayor, greeted the delegates and set a very positive tone that continued throughout the week.



Members of the EuroMAB 2019 Steering Committee at the Conference (from left Shane Casey, A/Dublin Bay Biosphere Coordinator/Dublin City Council; Jonathan Baker, UNESCO Montevideo; Toomas Kokovkin, Estonia; Kari E Natland, Norway; Leslie Moore, Dublin Bay Biosphere/Dublin City Council; Meriem Boumrane ,UNESCO Paris, coordinator of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme; Montanaro Oliviero, Italy; Miguel CLÜSENER-GODT, Director UNESCO of Division of Ecological and Earth Sciences; Catherine Cibien UNESCO France.

A video message from former President, UN Commissioner, and Chair of the Elders, Mary Robinson, provided a global context for the EuroMAB conference as part of Tuesday's plenary in the Printworks, Dublin Castle, where best practice from around the world was showcased in our 'Proud to Share' session. Government Chief Whip and Minister of State, Seán Kyne, hosted the delegation at a gala dinner in Christ Church Cathedral on Tuesday evening, where the Christ Church Choir and Affiniti provided a memorable Irish music crossover performance.

Eighteen different workshops were held over the next two days in Dublin Castle and City Hall. These workshops covered topical themes such as climate change, marine plastics, and youth empowerment. The latter was of particular significance, being the first workshop chaired by youth representatives at a EuroMAB Conference. Another workshop of note was that chaired by Micheal O'Bhriain (Deputy Head of DG Environment, European Commission) on strengthening relationships between UNESCO and European Natura 2000 designations.

As the host Biosphere our Partnership also had an opportunity to focus workshops on topics of importance to Dublin Bay. These included four workshops related to business/tourism initiatives, and two related to building partnerships with universities - a reflection of the direction that Dublin Bay Biosphere Partnership is seeking to go.

Fieldtrips to Howth Head, Bull Island, Dublin Port, Dalkey Castle, and aboard the Biosphere Discovery Boat Tours provided delegates with an opportunity to experience Dublin Bay's spectacular natural, cultural and built heritage, in addition to meeting local communities, volunteers, businesses and experts on site.

On Thursday evening, a unique EuroMAB tradition, an 'Ethnic Evening', was held at the Red Stables, St Anne's Park. Biospheres from across the EuroMAB Network brought along and shared samples of their own local foods. Combined with the best local produce that Dublin Bay has to offer, and integrated with our Gaelic games experience, music and dance from comhaltas and demonstrations from local scouts and GAA clubs, this event rounded off what was a hugely successful conference.

Workshop outcomes (practical actions that biospheres can undertake individually, and collectively as part of the wider Network) have been collated and circulated, and progress on these will ensure a lasting legacy from EuroMAB 2019 that extends well beyond Dublin Bay's horizon.



EuroMAB 2019 delegates on the first day of the week long programme in Dublin Castle

Blessington Street Basin

'The Basin', one of the Parks managed by staff from Parks & Landscape Services is tucked away among the streets in Dublin's north inner city, within easy walking distance of O'Connell Street. It provides a secret garden for local residents and visitors alike and measures 0.75 hectares. The park provides a vital green retreat for the local residents and large student population in this vibrant area of the city, where park users can relax, play, exercise and enjoy the picturesque mature trees and flower displays.

The on-going commitment of the Parks Service to maintain the high standard of floral displays and seasonal tree interest together with the addition of new play areas means the park is increasing in popularity among the local community.

The park also provides a pleasant route on the way to and from the adjacent Public Library on The North Circular Road. There has been a welcome addition recently in the form of a wall mural in the park courtesy of Kieran Collins, a painter with Dublin City Council. Kieran has also created a mural at Constitution Hill in association with up-grading works by the Parks service.



Mural by Kieran Collins in Blessington St Basin



Mural by Kieran Collins at Constitution Hill.

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Caroline Maher, Administrative Officer

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DUBLIN CITY PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVE

UNESCO City of Literature:

Words on the Street, a European Literature Trail is a celebration of European Literature in translation. The evening of celebrity readings of translated work by contemporary European authors across a range of beautiful cultural venues will take place on Thursday 9th May 6.30-9.00 in venues around Merrion Square. More information at www.dublincityofliterature.ie

International Dublin Literary Award

The 24th winner will be announced on 12th June 2019. More information at <http://www.dublinliteraryaward.ie/>

Poetry Day Ireland Thursday 2 May

Beneath the Clock – Celebrate Poetry Day Ireland with Rathmines Writers Workshop as they host poetry and prose readings from their newly published collection, titled *Beneath the Clock*.

Rathmines Library, Thursday 2 May at 6pm

Comic Verse workshop – Creative poetry writing workshop for children facilitated by poet and writer Kevin Kiely.

Raheny Library, Thursday 2 May at 10.30am

Bealtaine Festival

Its Bealtaine in the Libraries!, the national festival that celebrates creativity as we age. The programme encompasses crafts, creative writing, literature, music, performance and a varied series of talks in libraries throughout May.

Commemorations

The Irish War of Independence of 1919-21 is the subject of an upcoming two-part lecture series by Dublin City Council's Historians in Residence. These lectures are free and will take place in 16 branch libraries across the city during May and June.

Musician in Residence – Central Library

Listening Party – choose an album from The Music Library collections or bring along your own and discuss what makes them great, Thursday 2nd & 23rd May at 1pm. **Young Adult Band in Residence** – every Thursday 4.30-6.00pm

Showcase event

Featuring the Pop Up Choir, Young Adult Band, Songwriters, Ukuleles Groups who have worked with Musician in Residence, Riona Sally Hartman.

Conference Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, Saturday 25 May 2-5pm

Lunchtime Concert with singer/songwriter Martin Hansard. Wednesday 1 May at 1pm

Lunchtime Concert: Jazz Guitar Event with Julien Colarossi & John Keogh: (aka The Acoustic Guitar Duo), Thursday 9 May at 1pm

Work Matters at your library

Start and/Grow Your Own Business, a programme of 6 free talks continues through May at the **Business Information Centre, Central Library**

Exhibitions:

Evil Literature: Banned Books in the collections of Dublin City Library and Archive The Evil Literature exhibition is focused on a selection of banned books in the collections of Dublin City Reading Room and Dublin City Archives, including the work of Edna O'Brien. Accompanying the exhibition is an artistic response by Dan Eames, a graduate from NCAD, to the banning of *The Country Girls*, which was awarded by the International Society for Typographic Design and The Design and Crafts Council of Ireland. It includes a printed book, a mobile app and a retrofitted prie-dieu display

The exhibition is on display in the Dublin Room, Dublin City Library & Archive, Pearse St, Dublin 2 until the end of May.

Bliain na Gaeilge - An Ghaeilge sa Chathair .

Basic Irish Language Course – hosted in partnership with Gaelchultúr. Participants will learn useful phrases and vocabulary with an emphasis on spoken Irish and aural comprehension. The course will be offered at elementary level/lower intermediate level.

Pearse Street Library, Monday 13, 20, 27 May & 17 June at 6pm

Séan Ó Meara – Fear Ráth Eanaigh, scríbhneoir próis, filíochta, dramaí, agus amhrán. Faoi agallamh ag caint ar a shaol agus a shaothar. Fáilte roimh chách.

Leabharlann Ráth Eanaigh, Dé Céadaoin 8 Bealtaine ag 6.30pm

Dánta agus Duanta – Filíocht agus amhráin á gcur I láthair ag Buíon an Talaimh Ghlais, Fionnradharc. Eagraithe mar ocaíd den Éigse Chluain Tarbh 2019.

Leabharlannn Marino, Dé Luain 20 May ag 6.15pm

Aon Dó Trí Scéal agus Ceol do Naíonán. Bi-lingual Stories and Songs for Little Ones. Fáilte roimh chách. All welcome. Le tuilleadh eolais, cur glaoch leis an leabharlann. In partnership with City of Dublin Education and Training Board. **Leabharlann Bhaile Formaid/ Ballyfermot Library** Gach Aoine/ Every Friday 11.30am - 12.15pm

Dates/Events for your Diary

There are lots of events taking place in libraries & archives in May. Councillors can see all events in their area on the libraries' section of the Council website at these links:

<http://bit.ly/DCC-Central-Area> , <http://bit.ly/DCC-North-Central> , <http://bit.ly/DCC-North-West>

<http://bit.ly/DCC-South-Central>, <http://bit.ly/DCC-South-East>

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