



Lainey Coyne with face-painter Rosie Whelan at the Made in Darndale Festival.

Working  
together for  
change for  
the better

### This is the second year of activity of the Darndale Implementation Oversight Group.

This group, established in February 2021 meets on a monthly basis and addresses many of the problems identified in the area. It is composed of senior representatives of many of the agencies and groups providing services in Darndale, Belcamp and Moatview.

While improvements in the area are discernible, and the Darndale Implementation Oversight Group is heartened by green shoots of progress, it is also acutely conscious of how much more needs to be achieved to make the area safe and an attractive place to live, work and attain a quality education.

The Darndale Together Community Representative Forum has been formed to influence improvements in the safety, health,

happiness and wellbeing of each member of the Darndale community and give local people a say.

**The forum meets regularly to influence a Darndale Together Action Plan which is dedicated to the needs of local people. Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm in the Darndale Belcamp Village Centre Conference Room. All are welcome.**

The website, [darndalettogether.ie](https://darndalettogether.ie) and the **#darndalettogether** social media platforms are at the heart of positive happenings in Darndale, Belcamp and Moatview.

These platforms offer the chance for you to have your say, talk about what is important to you and suggest what can change in the area.

Your views are important, so please contact Darndale Together through our online channels to help shape the future of the area.

## Looking forward to a future with expectation, rather than hope

We need the continued support, commitment and participation of local people and government departments and agencies to build on the progress achieved and to create a community which can look forward to a future with expectation, rather than hope.

### Despite considerable ongoing challenges, achievements in the past year include:

- Community safety has improved, and crime reduced with focused policing operations and days of action.
- The Community Policing Unit has been strengthened and the Garda Clinic opens each Monday between 12 noon and 2.00pm at the Bell Building.
- The Darndale Together Community Representative Forum has been formed to influence improvements in the safety, health, happiness and wellbeing of each member of the Darndale community.
- Meetings take place on the first Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm in the Darndale Belcamp Village Centre Conference Room - all are welcome.
- Community festivals in Summer and Halloween have contributed significantly to a rise in community esteem.
- Engagement with individuals suffering problems and issues has been enhanced through the HSE Drug Outreach Programme and the City of Dublin Youth Service Board Sphere 17 youth outreach projects in the area.
- Problematic childhood issues are being addressed through the ACE (Adverse Childhood Experience) Programme in primary schools and several teachers have been trained through the University College Cork Trauma Programme.

- Community leadership is being progressed through Northside Partnership's Place Based Leadership Programme, which has been positively evaluated.
- Community health remains a high priority with significant quit smoking campaigns and healthy food made easy initiatives delivered by Northside Partnership and the HSE.
- Third-level educational opportunities for school-going children from the area are being further developed through the Trinity College Dublin student access programme (TAP).
- Sporting and recreational opportunities continue to be available through thriving local clubs such as Darndale FC, Darndale Boxing Club, O'Tooles GAA Club and others.
- Dublin City Council is addressing the long-standing illegal dumping problem with a direct solution in progress.
- Environmental and public realm progress continues with Dublin City Council clean-ups, pocket gardens, planting, painting, waste removal, etc.
- Community engagement continues to develop through dedicated social media platforms, the Darndaletogether Website, Facebook and community information leaflet drops.



**Dr Jack Nolan**  
Chairman of the Darndale Implementation Oversight Group

### Late night soccer buzz returns

The buzz of late night soccer will return to the Belcamp Building in October.

Running in Darndale since 2018, the FAI late night soccer leagues programme acts as a positive diversion away from the traditional anti-social behaviour window of Friday evenings and is open to young people aged 11-18.

Run by local Gardaí, the late night leagues allow local youth engage with local Gardaí on a personal level while developing their soccer skills.

It attracts up to 70 youngsters on a Friday evening who learn that local Gardaí are regular people doing a job helping the community in whatever way they can whilst always being approachable.

### Community Garda Clinic at Bell Building

The Bell Building hosts a Community Garda Clinic each Monday afternoon.

It takes place from **12.00pm-2.00pm** for general enquiries and the stamping of passport and other forms, including driving licence applications.

For those who cannot attend, arrangements can be made for the Community Garda team to call personally to your home.

Further information is available from the Belcamp Village Centre on **01 8771600** or email [reception@villagecentre.ie](mailto:reception@villagecentre.ie) or Coolock Gardaí at **01 666 4200**.



The Community Garda Clinic at the Bell Building takes place from 12.00pm-2.00pm on Mondays for general enquiries and the stamping of passport and other forms, including driving licence applications.

### 'Out N About' - on your terms and turf

Located at local youth service Sphere 17, 'Out N About' is a programme which engages young people aged 14-24 who are not involved with any other service.

It aims to work with young people on their terms and on their own turf in Darndale.



Ireland's youngest ever World Cup player Abbie Larkin (back-row, centre) had wonderful words of encouragement for the footballers of Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School, Darndale. The school's girls' five-a-side team made history by becoming larger schools divisional winners of the Spar FAI tournament, beating off competition from all over north Dublin.

Out N About is a street-based service which seeks to learn about young people from young people.

Its team is also involved in community events and is spreading awareness of what it does across the community.

Recently, Out N About has hosted push-up and volley competitions as well as Thursday night football and Friday night mock driving theory tests.

Staff have used these programmes to discuss drug and alcohol safety, cross-community violence, gang culture and local identity.

Stop and say hello if you see the Our N About team in their blue jackets or grey hoodies. The programme is currently recruiting new staff members.

### Sphere 17 brings talent to the fore

Sphere 17, the locally based youth service working with people aged 14-24 proactively within the community, is consistently providing new projects and experiences based on need and interest.

The Sphere 17 team has supported young people individually around self-harm, school refusal, confidence, gambling, bereavement and drug use, in some cases providing referral. So far this year it has hosted or been involved with several projects including:



Archways, Darndale, which develops and promotes programmes for children, young people, parents and the professionals that support them, teamed up with the FAI to provide professional developmental level one and two soccer training to thirty-seven coaches and would-be coaches in the area.



So far this year Sphere 17 has hosted or been involved with several projects, including 'Sphere's Got Talent'.



O'Tooles GAA Club nurseries will re-commence at Darndale Park on Saturdays in September.



O'Tooles GAA Club hosted a successful summer camp for young players in area.

'Sphere's Got Talent', 'Hell and Back', 'Darkness into Light', the 'Another Way 5K', and a residential programme in Cavan, as well as summer sports-based events and trips to Emerald Park; Baysports, Athlone and Clara Lara, Wicklow.

The autumn will see it involved in 'The Haunted House', a transforming hate programme as well as a youth mural project with Creative Places, the Arts Council initiative for the area.

### Play your part in local sporting life

Darndale FC, Darndale Boxing Club and O'Tooles GAA Club are always on the lookout for new participants.

For adults, the benefits of joining a sports club can include a coaching education, a fantastic reference opportunity and the satisfaction of contributing to the community.

If you are interested in taking part, or have a child that would like to, you can contact clubs through their Facebook pages.

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### Parkrun is free, fun and friendly

Darndale Parkrun is a free, fun, and friendly weekly 5K community event. Participants can walk, jog, run, volunteer or spectate - it's up to you. It takes place each Saturday at 9.30am from the Football Pavilion, Link Road.

It costs nothing, but please register at [parkrun.ie](http://parkrun.ie) before taking part. You need only register with Parkrun once and bring a scannable copy of your barcode. If you forget it, you won't get a time.

All participants take part for their own enjoyment and events are entirely organised by volunteers - email [darndale@parkrun.com](mailto:darndale@parkrun.com) for more information. Each week participants grab a post Parkrun coffee in the football club adjacent to the start and finish area.

### O'Tooles nurseries return

O'Tooles GAA Club nurseries will re-commence at Darndale Park on Saturdays in September between 11.30am-12.30pm for children between four and seven years of age, starting on September 9. All are welcome.

As well as Gaelic football, it is hoped to introduce hurling to the nurseries this year. The club hosted a successful summer camp for young players in area.

## Celebrations to mark 50th anniversary of Our Lady Immaculate Parish Darndale-Belcamp



Fr Eduardo Nunez Yopez and Archbishop of Dublin Dermot Farrell.



Marie Salmon, Renee Byrne, Isabelle and Michelle Salmon and Willie Byrne.



James Barker and Kayden Jones.



George and Rosaleen Rigney.



Lorraine Kelleher and Sr Nuala Dolan.



Dean Rock, Denise Clarke and Daniel Brown.



Maggie, Josie and Arizona McDonagh.



Clergy, parishioners and friends.



Carmel Bateson, Esther Delaney and Sile McGowan



Isabelle and Marie Salmon with Gardai Brian and Rory.



Kathleen Fay and Rosalyn Rigney.



Srs Ann, Helen, Denise, Christina, Evelyn and Bernadette.



Sr Margaret Corkery and Hilda McLoughlin.



Fr Willie, Frances Newman and Amy Lennon.



Willie Byrne and Richie Smyth.



Kathleen Russell, Maura Lohan and Barbara McMahon.



Isabelle and Marie Salmon.

### Healthy Communities Programme launched

The launch of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities programme in Kilmore/Priorswood is an opportunity to improve quality of life in the area.

Sláintecare Healthy Communities is a cross-Government initiative to deliver increased health and wellbeing services in 19 areas of greatest need across Ireland.

Kilmore/Priorswood Sláintecare Healthy Community programmes includes practical health interventions such as quit smoking services, parenting programmes, healthy food made easy and social prescribing (a non-medical approach).

It also provides for the appointment of a community food and nutrition worker and the Making Every Contact Count programme, which enables frontline staff to learn about lifestyle behaviours.

The launch is a successful culmination of close collaboration between many partners including the Department of Health, the HSE, Dublin City Council and local community organisations including Northside Partnership and Preparing for Life.

### Want to quit smoking for good?

We Can QUIT is a free, friendly and supportive group programme for men and women who smoke and want support to quit.

The programme offers free stop smoking medications, a weekly stop smoking group and one-to-one support.

It is being offered by the HSE in partnership with local community organisations.

Courses are available locally, and an eight-week course commences on Zoom on Wednesday, September 13, 7.00-8.30pm.

An in-person course will begin on Thursday, September 14 between 11.00am-12.30pm at Kilmore West Recreation Centre, Cromcastle Road, Dublin 5.

Please contact **085 8478 960** or **0858478961** for more details.

### Social prescribing – free service available

Social prescribing is a free service available in Darndale. The aim of social prescribing is to help people's mental, physical and social health by connecting them to non-medical services within their community.

Similar to the way a GP prescribes medicine, social prescribing prescribes non-medical supports such as a walking or knitting group, or a men's shed, to support and improve overall health and wellbeing.

You can self-refer or be referred through your GP or any healthcare professional. Anyone over-18 can avail of the service. If you feel you would benefit, contact Karen O'Neill, Social Prescribing Link Worker at **087 065 0134**, [karen.oneill@nspartnership.ie](mailto:karen.oneill@nspartnership.ie)

Social prescribing is delivered by Northside Partnership and funded via Sláintecare Healthy Communities.

### 'Techno Yoga' all the rage

'Techno Yoga' was all the rage at Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School. It was one of six schools in Dublin 17 which took part in Community Wellbeing Week.

The range of activities included 'Walk a Mile with a Smile' at Darndale Park.



Michael Kenny, Marie Seo, and Breda Howley availed of We Can QUIT, the free, friendly and supportive group programme for men and women who smoke and who want support to quit.



Cole McMahon at the Techno Yoga session in Darndale Hall, part of Community Wellbeing Week.



At the launch of the Sláintecare Healthy Communities programme in Kilmore/Priorswood: Cllr Carolyn Moore (Chair of Local Community Development Committee), Niamh Reilly (Dublin City Council), Derek Farrell (Dublin City Council), Cllr Dearbháil Butler, Cllr Larry O'Toole, Fiona McDonnell (Dublin City Council), Dymna McCann (Dublin City Council).

And both parents and pupils took part in a Techno Yoga session at Darndale Hall.

Our Lady Immaculate Junior National School, Darndale, St Francis Junior and Senior National Schools Priorswood and St Joseph's National School, Bonnybrook, were among the other schools which also took part in events at venues including Priorswood Park.

### 5K 'Recovery Run and Walk'

The Dales, which works with individuals and families in the area to address issues of problematic substance and alcohol use hosts a 5K 'Recovery Run and Walk' at Darndale Park on Saturday, September 16, commencing 9.30am. Participants are asked to wear purple. For more information please contact The Dales at **01 848 7733**. The run is part of a number of events to mark 'Recovery Month'. Check out social media for more details.

### Stardust Park Walkers Group

The Stardust Walkers Group was established and is supported by, Dublin City Council Community and Social Development Section. It meets every Tuesday at 9.40am at the Stardust Memorial Park. All are welcome.

### Coolock Running Club

The newly formed Coolock Running Club meets twice a week at Priorswood Shops car park – Wednesdays at 7.00pm and Sundays at 9.00am. Runners of all abilities welcome.

### Don't burn rubbish

The HSE has issued a warning regarding the burning of rubbish. As well as being a fire hazard, it causes the release of noxious fumes which are particularly harmful to children.

## 'Made in Darndale' Festival filled area with colour

The second 'Made in Darndale' Festival filled the area with colour, music, song, stories and wonderful events.

The community joined together with local and visiting artists and performers. The festival celebrated Darndale through a diverse array of artistic presentations including music, song, dance, storytelling, circus performances, and more.

Made in Darndale featured an incredible line up of artists and entertainers including the Jerry Fish Electric Sideshow, CoisCéim Dance Theatre and Courtney's Daredevil Circus. Local talent on show included the Voice of Darndale Choir, Sharyn Ward, Mark Flynn, Amber Kidd and the DanceX Youth Academy. All events were free of charge.

The event was a Creative Places Darndale initiative, a three-year Arts Council project supported by Dublin City Council to incorporate arts into the daily life of Darndale.



Mary Fay, Sarah Jane Fay and Michelle Salmon with The Tall Gent, Malachy Kelly, at the Made in Darndale Festival.



Reece Ringwood at the Made in Darndale Festival.



Lilly Doyle at the Made in Darndale Festival.



Ailbhe Ringwood at the Made in Darndale Festival.

## Major local input in to new playground

The new playground at Darndale Park was delivered in consultation with the community.

Dublin City Council's Parks Service and Play Development Officer held consultations with local children and a local crèche before going to tender.

Safety, accessibility and a range of equipment especially for the youngest visitors, but with some more challenging items for adventurous children, were highlighted as the main requirements.

Once a contractor had been appointed, design options were brought to the Darndale Together Community Representative Forum for discussion and feedback was incorporated into the final layout.

The forum meets regularly to influence a Darndale Together action plan dedicated to the needs of local people.

The Darndale Together Community Representative Forum discusses improvements in the safety, health, happiness and wellbeing of each member of the Darndale community.

The playground provides a range of facilities which will encourage and support active play for children.

Features are designed to promote imaginative and constructive play - so important to young children.

There is also equipment to encourage group play and socialisation, in addition to inclusive and accessible play pieces.



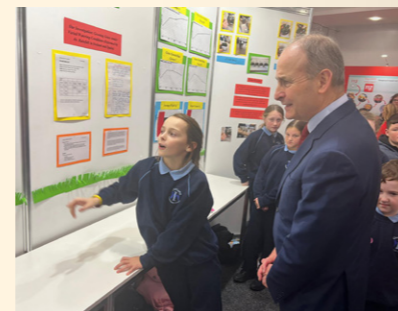
The new playground at Darndale Park was delivered in consultation with the community.

## Our Lady Immaculate wows BT Young Scientist Primary Fair

Fifth Class pupils at Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School wowed the BT Young Scientist Primary Fair, as well as meeting some prominent VIPs.

Led by teacher Mr Murphy, their project, 'Why is Ireland Green?' examined why grass in Ireland is greener than in other countries. It also considered if Irish grass is better for animals to eat. The project was helped by animal nutrition, health and feed supplements specialists Alltech.

It was wonderful to see the school represented at such a prestigious event on the Irish educational calendar. And their stand was visited by Tánaiste Micheál Martin and Dublin MEP Barry Andrews.



Fifth Class pupils at Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School with Tánaiste Micheál Martin.



Fifth Class pupils at Our Lady Immaculate Senior National School with Dublin MEP Barry Andrews (r).

## Sue says programme gives insight and hope

The work of a Darndale programme which aims to tackle complex economic and social problems by developing leaders within communities has been praised by a participant and a Government minister who visited the area.

Northside Partnership's Placed-Based Leadership Development Programme in Darndale promotes collaborative working between the community and voluntary and statutory organisations by developing leaders and empowering them with the skills, competencies and behaviours to address various social challenges.

Northside Partnership is a not-for-profit organisation that works to address poverty and social exclusion by working with local people, community groups and statutory organisations such as Dublin City Council, the HSE and An Garda Síochána.

Participant Sue Hanlon said the programme had given her insight and hope for the future of the area.

All participants in the Placed-Based Leadership Development Programme work or live in the community.

"As a resident, working alongside organisations in the community, it has given me insight into issues and recognition that we all want the same outcomes," said Ms Hanlon.

"It gives me great hope to see people from all backgrounds coming together and up-skilling so they can become positive leaders, not only in their community work, but in everyday life."

Minister O'Brien said he was delighted to provide funding and to visit the area to note the programme's progress.

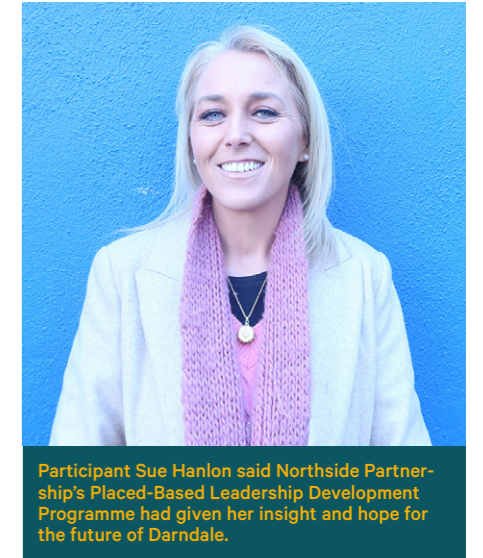
"This programme supports participants working to improve the lives of people in Darndale and creates opportunities to work together to design, implement and review solutions to complex social challenges," said Minister O'Brien.

"I am very happy my Department was able to provide funding and support for this very important and meaningful programme."

"And I am confident the learnings from this great initiative can be built upon and expanded to other communities in Ireland going forward."

Northside Partnership CEO, Paul Rogers, said the Minister had given incredible support to the project.

"Minister O'Brien, and the staff in his department, have given incredible support to this initiative, which aims to build the leadership capacity of those living and working in our community and create a strong coalition of organisations committed to making things better for individuals and families across Darndale," said Mr Rogers.



Participant Sue Hanlon said Northside Partnership's Placed-Based Leadership Development Programme had given her insight and hope for the future of Darndale.

## Newslines

### Trauma Informed Practice in Education

Teachers and Early Start childcare workers from Our Lady Immaculate (OLI) Junior and Senior National Schools completed a professional development course in Trauma Informed Practice in Education.

The course was held in OLI Senior School and facilitated by four staff there who had previously, along with other teaching colleagues, completed a University College Cork level nine course in this field.

The course focused on developing an understanding of adverse childhood experiences which influence child-parent or child-adult attachment and may result in embodied trauma, emotional regulation difficulties and fight, flight, fix or freeze reactions in certain triggering situations.

Understanding these experiences allows teachers develop and implement trauma-informed strategies to better support children with such adverse experiences when learning at school.

### 'Handy Helpers'

Managed by Darndale Belcamp Village Centre, 'Handy Helpers' offers professional home maintenance and cleaning services at affordable rates for older people. Their priority is the safety and comfort of service users and to ensure all work carried out is completed to the highest

standard, providing peace of mind. Call them on **01 877 1600**, or check out their Facebook page or [www.handyhelpers.ie](http://www.handyhelpers.ie) to book a job.

### Seniors Alert Scheme

The Seniors Alert Scheme enables older persons of limited means to continue to live securely in their homes with confidence, independence and peace of mind by providing them with a free, personal, monitored alarm. It is administered by Handy Helpers.

### Walking Programme

The Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Partnership Walking Programme takes place at Belcamp Park on Wednesdays at 10.00am. It is a great opportunity get in some steps at your own pace. All are welcome. Contact Olivia on 086 384 5020 for more information.

### Christmas Choir

Darndale singers wowed the Lord Mayor at Christmas. Joe Brougham, Desiree Catubig, Marie and Paul O'Toole, Jovie Bautista, Sr Lumay Thomas, Collette Darling and conductor and choir mistress Maeve Brereton Hurley were among those invited to the Mansion House by then Lord Mayor Caroline Conroy to perform at Christmas.

### Older Peoples' Council

Dublin City Council launched its Age Friendly Strategy in 2014. It aims to make Dublin a more age friendly city.

It invites seniors to join its North Central Area, Older People's Council to ensure their voices are heard and represented.

If you are interested in becoming involved in North Central Areas Older People's Council, an open day will be held at Northside Civic Centre, Bunratty Road, Coolock, Dublin 17 on Thursday, September 28 between 12 noon and 2.00pm.

More information is available from [niamhp.reilly@dublincity.ie](mailto:niamhp.reilly@dublincity.ie) or **01-2228870**.



Darndale Christmas Choir at the Mansion House.

## Creative Places visit National Gallery

### The Darndale Citizen Commissioners project is led by the Dublin City Arts Office.

The initiative aims to commission a series of artworks in Darndale, informed by local residents, and involving members from various groups such as The Voice of Darndale Choir, Sphere 17 Regional Youth Service, Pace, Women of Worth (WOW) and others.

The pilot project aims to generate artistic commissions which reflect the perspectives of the local community. It includes introducing community members to various

art forms to spark creativity and foster discussion about the kind of artwork they would like to see in their area. Several experiences have been planned over the coming months to achieve this goal.

As part of this project, Creative Places Darndale had the opportunity to visit the National Gallery of Ireland for a guided tour of both the permanent collections and temporary art exhibitions. The tour featured works by renowned artists such as Jack B Yeats, Daniel Maclise, John Lavery, Francesco Granacci, William Leech, and Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio.



Creative Places Darndale had the opportunity to visit the National Gallery of Ireland.

## Huge turnout for second 'Another Way 5K'

### Hundreds of runners of all abilities, and their families and friends, descended on Darndale Park for the second annual 'Get the Message Out Darndale Another Way 5K'.

Darndale's famous community spirit was again to the fore at the free event, which forms part of the Get The Message Out (GTMO) campaign to steer young people

away from addiction and crime and support those determined to exit that lifestyle.

There was a 1K fun run for children under-13.

Last year's inaugural event was also an outstanding success, attracting hundreds of runners of all ages, whilst at the same time promoting alternatives to addiction and crime.



There was a huge turnout for the 'Get the Message Out Darndale Another Way 5K'.



Runners at the 'Get the Message Out Darndale Another Way 5K'.

## Community Employment opportunities

### Community Employment Programmes, with a wide range of roles and opportunities are available in Darndale.

If you are interested in taking part a Community Employment Scheme, call Darndale Belcamp Village Centre at 01 877 1600 to register your interest and get more information.



Residents assisted with a clean-up in Moatview, while Dublin City Council has replanted at Snowdrop Walk.



Comhairle Cathrach  
Bhaile Átha Cliath  
Dublin City Council

**DARNDALE**  
Together