

2020 Report of Activities, Historian In Residence Project

Cathy Scuffil, Historian in Residence (HIR) Dublin City Council (DCC) South Central Area and South East Area

The year commenced with Historian in Residence supporting the Community Development Team and local history, heritage and cultural groups together with history students in secondary and third level. **Love Dublin 8 Community Fair** in St Catherine's Thomas St was supported with a local history information stand and presentation *Whiskey in The Liberties*. HIR was storyteller at the two **Lost Ceili 1916** events with the Liberties Cultural Association, with Donore Community Centre hosting pupils of Scoil Treasa and St. Catherine's NS and St. James's Parish Centre the venue for pupils of Francis St NS.

'Women's Liberties' The Liberties first International Women's Day celebration was organised by HIR and local historian, Liz Gillis. A four-talk conference was held in the Little Flower Hall, an Artistic Liberties event supported in Newmarket and Woman of the Year presentation to Liz O'Connor, Community Worker.

Due to Covid-19, many planned events were cancelled. It was, however, possible to keep the HIR programme 'live' with radio interviews (Dublin City FM) and through WhatsApp groups for **Drimnagh History Group** and **#Weaving In The Liberties** with fun history facts. Five Facebook Live presentations on Dublin Placenames were delivered during lockdown: #1 *Placenames in Landscape*, #2 *Celts, Christianity & Vikings* #3 *Normans, Conquest & Empire* #4 *Union, Emancipation & Townships* #5 *Revolution, Free State & Republic*. A May Day online commemoration was also arranged through Dublin Public Libraries. An on-topic blog-post was published '*She Died of a Fever*'. HIR was also engaged to remotely judge a schools essay competition via Irish Embassy, Poznan, Poland and also undertook research for the HSE at Bru Caoimhin to re-name new socially-distanced patient rooms at their Cork St. premises (Dublin river theme). A considerable number of individual historical, genealogy and research queries were received from the general public by various social media platforms, including Zoom.

Research continued on the Chapelizod History group archive to compile for future events '*Murder and Mayhem in Chapelizod*' (on-going). CDET are currently organising socially-distanced classes for the new term for **#Weaving in the Liberties** groups together with a follow-on QQI level 5 pre-college course in weaving and textiles. HIR also took part in filming for RTE documentary **The 50 Francis St Photographer**

Liberties Heritage Riddles and quiz questions (self directed) were trialled with four Summer Projects, Bridgefoot St, Michael Mallin House, Kevin St and Grifters group, The Tenters, with the support of community development officer, Lois Salmon.

Upcoming events include several talks at the online Dublin Festival of History, publication of History on Your Doorstep volume 3 which will focus on Bloody Sunday and a programme of online talks for GAA clubs to commemorate Bloody Sunday.

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