

Welcome to our third news brief in May.

Dublin Bus Community Spirit Awards

The Dublin Bus Community Spirit Awards is now open to applications.

The Community Spirit Awards help to support the development of new projects, grow services and help raise community spirit in the local community. The programme was initiated to recognise and support the invaluable work undertaken each day by local groups located within the Dublin Bus network. Ex-international footballer, Niall Quinn has been patron of the initiative since its inception.

To apply, entrants must complete an application form, which includes a proposal with details about their organisation and the project which they wish to have funded. Each application is judged independently and successful groups will be awarded grants of €5,000, €2,000 or €1,000.

Any group that is located within the Dublin Bus network can apply for funding. Voluntary groups who work in the following areas can apply to the Community Spirit Awards:

1. Children and Youth
2. Sport
3. People with Disabilities
4. Older People
5. Environment and Local Community
6. Education e.g. alcohol, drugs, literacy or health

In order to apply you must complete an application form.

You can apply online at <http://csa.dublinbus.ie/>

Forms are also available from:
Dublin Bus Community Spirit Initiative,
Media and Communications Department,
59 Upper O'Connell Street,
Dublin 1.

Phone: (01) 703 3143
Email: community@dublinbus.ie

The closing date for applications is **5pm Friday 23 June 2017**.

For more information log on to: <https://www.dublinbus.ie/About-Us/Community-Spirit-Initiative/Community-Spirit-Awards1/#sthash.GDfgw8LA.dpuf>

Let's Walk and Talk

A great way to stay healthy, meet people and learn about our Fair City

Let's Walk & Talk is a fun programme of city walking activities suitable for young and old which runs throughout the year. The programme is made up of a number of social walking groups which meet every week, and a series of specially themed historical walking tours led by local experts.

The social walking groups are led by a dedicated team of volunteers from the community and they are always delighted to make new walkers feel welcome. Ten weekly walks currently take place in the city including ones conducted in French, Spanish and Irish. All tours and weekly social walks last about 90 minutes, they are all free and no advance booking is necessary. Please see the weekly Let's Walk and Talk schedule attached.

The summer programme of themed walking tours are:

Bull Island:

As part of Dublin's designated Unesco Biosphere Eanna Ní Lamhna, wildlife expert on TV3's *Six O' Clock Show* and RTE 1's *Mooney Goes Wild*, will bring you on a walk through Bull Island sand dunes with the song of the lark, butterflies galore and colourful wildflowers.

Meet at the built causeway at the Howth end of St. Anne's Park (not the wooden bridge) on **Wednesday 31st May at 11.30am**.

St. Stephen's Green:

While Dublin is filled with strollers in Edwardian dress as we approach Bloomsday, come walking through St. Stephens Green with Eanna Ní Lamhna and experience the unexpected riches of wildlife and beautiful flowerbeds that attract a host of nectar seeking insects in the very centre of our capital City.

Meet at the Triumphal Arch, St. Stephen's Green on **Thursday 15th June at 11am**.

The North Docklands:

In preparation for the Dublin Port River Festival (3rd-5th June) Pat Liddy, Historian, Writer and Artist will lead you on an intriguing walk around the secluded docks to discover a rich and unexpected history.

Meet at Connolly Station Luas stop on **Friday 2nd June at 1pm.**

Phoenix Park:

Pat Liddy will lead you on a tour to unravel some of the great stories of the park and will take in the people's gardens, the former army headquarters, Garda headquarters, the zoo, the Wellington testimonial, the cricket clubs and Chesterfield Road.

Meet at Conyngham Road entrance to Phoenix Park on **Thursday 22nd June at 11am.**

If you wish to be added to the Walk and Talk mailing list or if you require further details, please contact 01-2225084 or 01-2222148 or email letswalkandtalk@dublincity.ie

Access to Apprenticeship Programme

DIT is delivering a new educational programme which provides a stepping stone for young people who are interested in apprenticeships. The 12 week, full time course, is aimed at young men and women aged between 16-24 years living in Dublin's Inner City who experience social and economic barriers to work and/or education. Topics covered will include:

- Sampling a range of apprenticeships in; Construction, Engineering, Electrical and Motor and Aviation Industries
- New apprenticeships
- Preparing your CV and Interview Skills
- Two weeks work experience
- Health & Safety and Safe Pass Certificates

Applications for September 2017 are now open.

For further information or to complete the form log onto <http://www.dit.ie/colleges/collegeofengineeringbuiltinenvironment/accesstoapprenticeship/>

Waters and Communities Award

TidyTowns Competition 2017

The new Water and Communities Award is open to any community group and aims to recognise communities who are taking positive steps towards raising awareness and showing appreciation of their local rivers, lakes, streams, canals, coast and ground water.

This new category is sponsored by Inland Fisheries Ireland, Waterways Ireland and the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office. There is a €7,000 prize fund for this award, with €1,000 awarded to each of the four regional winners, €500 for each of the four regional runners- up, as well as an additional €1,000 for the overall national winner.

Please find attached the details and entry form. The completed form can be emailed to tidytowns@ahq.gov.ie with "Tidy Towns Waters and Community Awards" in the subject line or posted to:

TidyTowns Waters and Communities Award
TidyTowns Unit

Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs
Government Offices

Ballina
Co. Mayo
F26 E8N6

Closing date: **Thursday 25th May 2017**