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Winter 2024



DÚN LAOGHAIRE CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Congratulations Tidy Towns! Dún Laoghaire Wins Two Awards

Tidy Towns Dún Laoghaire has won two prizes in this years Tidy Districts competition, being awarded the most improved Town and the overall winner of Best Town/Village (9,000 people & above). We thought that it would be a good opportunity to cover our local Tidy Towns group and to show everybody who they are and what they do in the town.

We sat down with Catherine Harris, the current chairperson of Tidy Towns to discuss all of this. We hope you enjoy it.

Hi Catherine. To begin, can you tell me how many volunteers DLTT have and what kind of things they do?

Hi Paul! We have a large group of regular volunteers, by which I mean people who may attend once or twice a month as their schedule allows and those who will be at every single twice weekly meet up. We would have up to forty volunteers over the course of a month. I include in this group the exceptional participation of the International Protection Applicants who came to live in the town 18 months ago and who have continued to work with us every week since. We also have transition year students, many of whom will be with us for the full academic year. Some complete part of their An Gaisce award with us. Others may complete their community service for a few weeks and others will spend a day with us. Currently we have thirty regular students from six different schools, who work with us



Cathaoirleach Jim O'Leary with Catherine Harris, chair of Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns

every week. Their energy and enthusiasm is boundless. They take great pride in finding the most extraordinary things during cleanups! They also delight in the opportunity to work with the green team tending the flower beds and planters.

We try to keep things interesting for our volunteers, so as well as litter picking, which is an ongoing task, we have a recycling team, who sort and recycle a large proportion of what we find, which can, over a six-month period, amount up to two metric tons of recyclable material that will not be going into landfill. That's worth doing! Our green team never stop from season to season. Planting in spring and autumn, maintaining and watering the planters and beds throughout the summer, and weeding and preparing the soil for the next season in the winter. I think one of the

most satisfying things about working in Tidy Towns is that you can see the results of your effort in real time. You can change the way a street looks in just a couple of hours.

Why did you get involved with Tidy Towns?

Like everyone in recent years, I was aware of the effects of climate change on our planet and in particular the pollution of the seas that surround us. I had for some time wanted to do something tangible that could make a difference but was also overwhelmed by the enormity of the problem. I did a couple of beach cleans with Flossie which gave me a sense of what is possible when a group of people get together. When the opportunity of joining the newly resurrected Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns occurred, it seemed to me to be a good fit.

I am happier doing something, rather than waiting for someone else to do it and I found this attitude to be a common bond between all tidy towners across the board. Another big draw for me was the extraordinary knowledge of the DLTT green team. We are so fortunate to have two professional horticulturalists and some very enlightened enthusiasts, who have taught me so much about all things green. It has been like attending a master class in gardening and learning about the wider effects of biodiversity.

I joined the committee after two years and now I find myself as Chairperson! To be brutally honest, I don't remember actually agreeing to take on the role of Chairperson! When I was asked if I would consider the position, I just didn't say no!

What is the typical work that you do as Chair?

A lot more than I expected! I plan from week to week what the group will concentrate on, depending on the time of year. When we meet, I will direct the volunteers to various parts of the town to litter pick. There are over seventy roads and laneways in the centre of the town so there is no shortage of places to go. The green team are autonomous and in fact they tell me what they are going to do! I will often pair up the students with the green team so that they get a taste of working with the soil.

I represent DLTT on various committees in the town which helps get across our different agendas. We often collaborate to help achieve our common goals.

I am chief communicator in a sense, as we do get a lot of queries from interested parties who would like to volunteer.

I collaborate with the county council Parks and Cleansing departments on a weekly basis. They are

Let's put the heart back into Dun Laoghaire town



Congratulations Tidy Towns

very supportive and we co-operate on various projects.

What do you hope to do as chair? Anything you want to achieve?

I was fortunate to have inherited quite a dynamic operation, as my predecessors had already put in train many ambitious projects which have taken time to fully mature. I am fortunate to be in the position to get some of these projects over the line.

The landscape of Dún Laoghaire town is about to change significantly, and I am excited to preside during this transformation. We will be part of the reshaping and enhancing of the town in many ways. It is a very interesting time to be in this position.

We were honoured this year to be awarded two prizes at the Tidy Districts Award Ceremony, one for Best Town of over 10,000 people and one for Most Improved Town. This was such a boost for us and considering that we have only been operational since January

2020, my hope is there are many more awards for us to still achieve. Competition creates a benchmark and a standard to attain. It is important that we continue to reach for higher goals.

I would like to develop a greater collaboration with the residents in the town. We started a pilot project this year, inviting residents to join us cleaning, weeding and planting the various streets. This was such a success that I hope we have started a bit of a movement, empowering people to take on the responsibility of the paths and streets outside their front door and in front of their boundary wall. If this became the norm it would be transformational. Equally I would like to get the creative juices flowing from the shops and restaurants in the centre of the town to see how the shopfronts can be improved with better design, cleansing and planting. With a large section of our main street becoming pedestrianised, the possibilities are endless.

What is happening now? Is there anything you want to talk about?



Tidy Towners celebrating their awards in the Elbana Club

To get back to where I started, my motivation for wanting to actively participate in Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns comes from the ever-present threat of climate change. I firmly believe that the town of Dún Laoghaire will become a blueprint for many other towns in the country. By controlling the traffic in central Dún Laoghaire and lowering carbon emissions, we will slow down and perhaps stop the damage that has been done heretofore. That is the legacy

I would like to leave my children and grandchildren.

Whats the best thing about being in DLTT?

The people, without a doubt. I have the privilege of meeting so many amazing people, all who have that common thread of simply wanting to make a difference.

Worst thing about being in DLTT?

My brain waking me up at 3am, working out a to do list for the next day!

News ★ Updates ★ News ★ Updates ★ News ★ Updates

The **Living Streets** project has been divided into two phases with Phase 1 comprising traffic calming on York Rd & Lwr Glenageary Rd, Smart Parking Signage, Cumberland St paving and planting. Phase 2 will include the modal filters at Clarinda, Cross Ave, and Tivoli Rd, works on Clarinda Park and pedestrianization of Georges St.

Tendering has begun on Phase 1 and DLR expect work to start early next year. Phase 2 will go to tender in the new year with work

starting shortly after that. There will be meetings with local groups during construction to provide updates and to deal with any issues as they arise.

Preparation for **St Patricks Day parade** has already started, it will be on the same route as last year, starting at 11am. They are looking for participants, so any groups that might be interested get in touch. See this link for updates.

dunlaoghairetown.ie/stpatricksparade

We have enquired about plans for the **Boylan Centre**

which the council recently purchased from St Michaels Church. There was an expectation that the building would be developed for social and affordable housing. DLCRA wrote to the council requesting that they could consider keeping some of the apartments for essential workers in the town such as nurses and teachers.

New Years Eve Fireworks display starting at 8pm will be visible from Dún Laoghaire Harbour to Sandycove and is set to music, a spectacular event.

Santa Claus is in the Maritime Museum beside the Lexicon Library every weekend before Christmas. Tickets must be booked online.

Ice Skating is back in the harbour until mid January, open from 4pm until 9pm with 50min skating costing €20 with discounts available for students and families.

There is a **Christmas Market in Myrtle Square** selling lots of seasonal gifts and where you can pick up the fabulous **Tidy Towns Calendar**.

Let's put the heart back into Dun Laoghaire town

Craft Beer in Dún Laoghaire

Dublin's Coastal Craft Haven

Local resident Nick McDonnell contacted us to ask us if we knew that our town had become a centre of activity for craft beer. We hadn't so we asked him to write about it for us, lucky for you, he said yes...

In case you hadn't heard, Dún Laoghaire has quietly become a hub for craft beer enthusiasts! Our vibrant neighbourhood offers a delightful blend of seaside views, historical charm, and an ever-growing selection of pubs stocking craft beer. Whether you're a seasoned craft beer aficionado or someone simply looking to enjoy a pint in a cozy atmosphere, Dún Laoghaire's pubs have something for everyone.

The Craft Beer Scene

Once known mainly for its maritime heritage and beautiful promenades, Dún Laoghaire has transformed into a lively spot where the traditional Irish pub meets contemporary craft beer culture, and where locals and visitors alike have plenty to explore.

Top Craft Beer Pubs in Dún Laoghaire

Dunphy's, Georges St

Comfortable lounge area toward the front and showing various sports in the back area. Has recently celebrated Oktoberfest by serving several well regarded German lagers and weiss beers on draught. Rotating beers often include choice offerings from Kinnegar and The White Hag Breweries. Selection of drinks available:

- Kinnegar's Jackrabbit Ginger Beer, draught.
- The White Hag's Phantom Hazy IPA, draught.



Hoegaarden is unfiltered making it cloudy

- Weiherstephaner Weisse beer, draught.
- Dunphy's Lager (made by Rascals Brewing Company), draught. Very smooth German Helles style lager, lightly carbonated. Pump clip shows the family's grandmother.

Has outdoor seating overlooking the recently refurbished Myrtle Square. Very convenient to combine with an evening at the cinema.

The Lighthouse, Georges St
Multifunctional bar and café space with a large selection of beers. Pool and board games available.

Selection of drinks available:

- Sierra Nevada Pale Ale, draught.
- Five Lamps Lager, draught.
- Hoegaarden Wit beer, draught.
- Weiherstephaner Helles lager, draught.
- Kinnegar's Scraggy Bay ale, draught.

Serves food. Seasonal food menu had several German style dishes to celebrate Oktoberfest.

Buck Mulligans, Georges St

Dog friendly pub with regular live music sessions. Outdoor seating catches late evening sunshine sinking down Cumberland Street.

Selection of drinks available:

- Franciscan Well's Rebel Red ale, draught.
- Franciscan Well's Chieftain IPA, draught.
- Franciscan Well's Hazy IPA, draught.

Darts and board games available. Doesn't do food but patrons are allowed to bring food in from neighbouring eateries of which there are many and of high quality.

McLoughlins, Georges St

Cosy pub with several screens for sports. Live music nights.

Selection of drinks available:

- Rye River's Big Banging IPA, draught.
- Rye River's Upstream pale ale, draught.

Serves food and has some outdoor seating. Very convenient to People's Park.

Purty Kitchen, Old Dunleary Road

Very clever indoor/outdoor area, comes with blankets for the chillier evenings. Bar stools available to enjoy a number of drinks on draught and in bottle:

- Galway Bay Brewery's Lush, draught.
- Wicklow Wolf's Elevation, draught.
- Kinnegar's Rustbucket, bottled.
- Kinnegar's Scraggy Bay, bottled.
- Stonewell's medium and dry ciders, truly excellent Irish bottled cider.

Serves food and is a nice option after a walk along the West Pier.

The Forty Foot, Marine Road

Large indoor and outdoor pub offering a range of draught, cask, and bottled beers. Stunning sea views from tiered terraces. One of the

few pubs in Ireland serving cask ales using traditional beer engines.

Selection of drinks available:

- Thornbridge's Jaipur IPA, cask.
- Greene Kings Abbot Ale, cask.
- Dungarvan's Copper Coast Irish Red ale, cask.
- BrewDog's Elvis Juice, bottled.
- BrewDog's Hazy Jane, bottled.
- Brooklyn Brewery's Lager, bottled.

Serves food and has a large screen for bigger sports events.

Dún Laoghaire is quickly becoming a destination for those seeking more than just the traditional pub experience. With its mix of seaside views, a lively pub culture, and a passion for craft beer, our town offers a unique setting to explore Ireland's growing craft beer movement. Whether you're enjoying a pint at The Forty Foot as the sun sets over the harbour or savouring a beer and smashburger combo at The Lighthouse, Dún Laoghaire has plenty to offer for beer enthusiasts of all tastes.

So next time you fancy a nice pint head out into Dún Laoghaire... you might just discover your new favourite pub, or your new favourite pint. Sláinte!



Nick McDonnell—Craft Beer Enthusiast

Let's put the heart back into Dun Laoghaire town

Wind Farms

One of the main aims of this newsletter is to give residents information about things that are happening in and around the town that will impact them. The wind farms that are planned for Dublin Bay stretch 100km down to Arklow as part of the state's strategy in achieving net zero.

In the last few months some have said that we should be covering this in the newsletter considering other residents associations such as in Dalkey have had public meetings on it. We thought that we should give residents an overview of the topic and point them in the right direction to find more information.

Many residents will want to make sure that the wind farms get the support that they need while others, like the Irish Wildlife Trust feel there might be questions to be raised before we start building the wind farms. In an effort to be balanced here are the benefits and concerns.

These are a summary of answers given in a debate in the Dáil in 2018.



Benefits:

- Energy without greenhouse gas emissions. Electricity production is currently the largest sector emitting CO₂.
- Economic benefits of new jobs in the sector, stable income for Local Authorities from land rental.
- Energy independence by producing the electricity that we need ourselves.
- Potentially growing the energy sector to start exporting surplus energy abroad.

Negatives:

- Visual Impact, reducing uninterrupted views and potentially damaging tourism.
- Primary environmental concerns associated with wind energy relate to impacts on species, primarily birds.
- Intermittent power and the energy storage problem as commercially viable solution for wind energy storage is not yet available.

The wind farm that will be built closest to Dún Laoghaire is on the Kish Bank running down to Greystones, the farm closest to the town is called the Dublin Array. Currently there are seven relatively small turbines operating 10 kilometres off the Arklow coast. The Dublin Array turbines would be about two and a half times taller. A total

of between 39 -50 turbines will be built. To help visualise their size, each turbine, at around 300 meters, would be 50% taller than the Poolbeg chimneys. Another comparison is the Eiffel Tower in Paris, which is 330 meters in height. The increase in size and energy production through innovation of wind turbine technology has allowed the project to reduce the total number of proposed turbines by 66% (from approx. 150). Amongst the biggest in the world, their proposed location is from about 10 kilometres off the coast.

Their concrete foundations will have a significant impact on the ecology of the Kish sandbank which is important for biodiversity and the environment of Dublin Bay. Whether it will ever recover is highly debatable and to what extent, only time will tell.

There are recommendations from some international organisations that the farms should be 44km from shore or should be floating to have less impact on environments.

It begs the question are we following international best practice or are we accepting far lower standards than our neighbours? Are there more proportionate options that could be taken, which would

have far less significant negative impacts on the environment but would help reduce carbon emissions nevertheless? For example could a floating wind farm be located further offshore, or could smaller turbines of a size appropriate to the proposed sites be used. Perhaps the growth of Data Centres should be curtailed? Many more of these are planned in Ireland.

The above are critical issues to be considered by those assessing the proposed wind farms, as their decisions will have a permanent and lasting impact that will be felt by generations to come.

Everything has an impact. The question is if the visual impact and the effect on the marine ecology are worth the benefit in helping to fight climate change. If you want to know more there are links to resources below

Planning will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála within the next 6 weeks, residents will then have 8 weeks to make submissions.

To find more information about this important issue see

DublinArray.com

Secpa.ie

Windenergyireland.com

WindEurope.org

Blueireland.org



Dublin Array is a proposed wind farm on the Kish and Bray Banks, approximately 10km from the coastline. The delivery of this key project is essential in supporting Ireland's Climate Action Plan to deliver 80% of electricity demand from renewable sources by 2030.

Based on environmental and technical studies undertaken, the latest expected configuration of the wind farm is

Between 39 to 50 turbines depending on the model of turbine selected.

Total project capacity of up to 824 MW generating power for 770,000 homes

Turbine heights of between 270m & 330m.

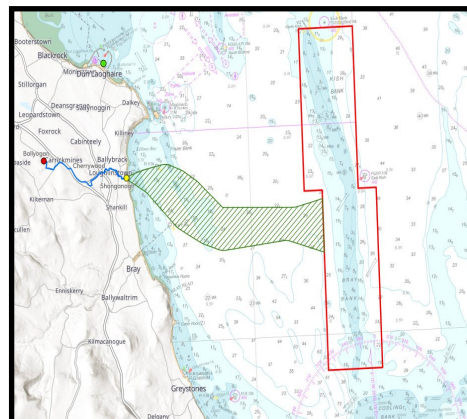
Two submarine cables will bring electricity

onshore to a landfall at Shanganagh Cliffs. From there it will be transferred to a new electric substation in Carrickmines where it is connected to the national grid.

Subject to planning permission they plan to build an Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Base in Dún Laoghaire Harbour, adjacent to the ferry terminal building. Acting as a main base for the wind farm support team, no construction would be taking place in the harbour. It will support 80 full time jobs and 100 indirect jobs and it will be occupied and utilised to support the operational needs of the farm for its full life.

Studies have shown that O&M bases supporting offshore wind farms have benefits to the local communities they're in including jobs, additional spending in the local economy and even increased investment into local infrastructure through the Community Benefit Fund..

Approx €6.5 million to support local communities, starting during the construction phase and lasting the duration of the project. It is independent and will give grants/funding aligning with the UN's 17 sustainable development goals, with a focus on education, energy efficiency sustainable energy and climate action.



Map of the Dublin Array Wind Farm

Let's put the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

DLCRA Activities

Here is a summary of some of the issues that we have been working on over the last few months

Making Calendars for Tidy Towns, we worked with Cheryl and Catherine in Tidy Towns collating and selecting images and contacting the photographers to make sure that we have their permission to use them. We also contacted businesses around the town to sponsor a month in the calendar and would like to thank all the businesses who supported us, particularly Brian S Nolan, JJ Darboven, and Thom Burke Kennedy Estate Agents.

We are always looking for images of beautiful Dún Laoghaire, if anyone has any photos that they would like to share please get in touch at info@dlcra.ie

Residents living in the town centre contacted us about

bar responded positively to our overtures.

As reported previously there appears to be a rise in anti-social activity in the town including shop lifting. We are working with the Business Association and the guards to try and tackle this before Dún Laoghaire gets a bad reputation. As we said before it is vitally important all instances of anti-social behaviour are reported to An Garda Síochána. The more reports they have the better able they are to get resources to address issues.

The DL Shopping Centre is a constant cause of complaint in the town. The condition of the three entrances are particularly poor, with broken derelict signage, broken tiles and filthy unwashed entrances. Lately there has also been increased detritus and litter alongside the building. We wrote to the



Filthy entrance way to The Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre

they do regular power-washing of their entrances which stretches credulity. We are working with Tidy Towns and the Business Association to increase the fines in the bye-laws.

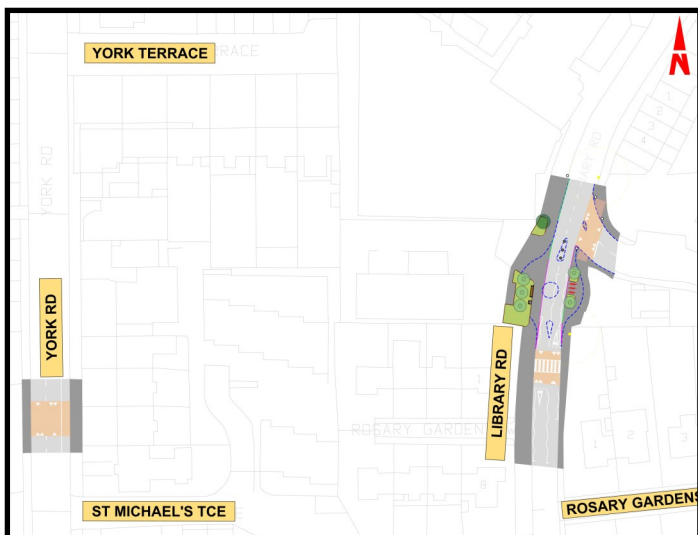
If anyone knows of other businesses that are not looking after their frontage please let us know.

And we have been working on this newsletter, which included meetings concerning the Dublin Array wind farms. We will be having more meetings in the new year during the period when submissions to the planning application are active. If anyone would like to join these meetings to know more, please contact us.

The Dún Laoghaire Harbour Master Plan consultation took place over the last months as did a consultation on the future of the historic Wash House and Kelly's Hotel on Kelly's Ave. We took part in meetings with DLRCC and made submissions on both. We are supportive of the sustainable development of the harbour and it is vital that its unique heritage is preserved, you can see our submissions on our website.

If anyone would like to attend/join our meetings please email info@dlcra.ie

If you like what we are doing please donate as we don't get any funding.



Living Streets changes to Library Rd and one of the York Rd changes

noise issues coming from a late bar in the town centre. We engaged with the establishment and gave the resident information on the local bye-laws, their rights on noise pollution and the vital importance of recording incidents. Thankfully the late

centre manager, the property agents and the owner, Joseph Higgins in Galway to inform them that they are contravening litter bye-laws and have an obligation to keep their premises clean or would be fined. The centre manager responded that the signage is temporary and

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DÚN LAOGHAIRE CENTRAL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Dear Residents,

Welcome to our Christmas Newsletter.

As we head towards the Winter Solstice and the return of the light this is a time for reflection, sharing, joy and for too many people sadness and suffering.

Dún Laoghaire like everywhere in the country dons the festive cloak and there is palpable excitement in the air with the start of the Christmas Festival. The town is bedecked with decorative baubles, lighting and Christmas Trees.

Myrtle Square has seen the

opening of a small Christmas Market which adds more merriment to the already enthusiastic atmosphere the children create while playing around the slide. The festival had an exciting start with the arrival of Santa and his helpers who paraded through the town in a colourful train. They joined a Christmas entertainment show at Myrtle Square and he is now available to be visited at the National Maritime Museum throughout December. Supported by Dún Laoghaire County Council and organised by Dún Laoghaire Business Association.



Christmas Market in Myrtle Square

Ireland's largest Skating Rink is running in the harbour and is reportedly 'better than ever'

We would all like to congratulate again Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns and all their volunteers on a hugely successful year which they celebrated in October at the Eblana Club. Two prizes, Most Improved Award and Best Town/Village (9001 people and above). What a successful year. A reminder to purchase the perfect stocking filler, the Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns Calendar, to support them. Contact info@dlcra.ie to order.

There will be changes in January as Living Streets gets going. The Council are currently tendering for the works and hope to start with Stage One in January. There will be traffic calming measures on York Road which will be a great relief to all those who risk their lives trying to cross. They are also going to make changes to Library Road, Cumberland Street, Lower Glenageary Road, and Myrtle Park/Glenageary Woods.

The Council are planning on arranging to meet with residents and locals during construction. Some people

are still sceptical about these innovations but let's keep in mind that in asking questions and engaging in public discussions one's voice can be heard. Use every available channel to make sure your views are listened to. The DLCRA are here to provide a forum for all residents of Dún Laoghaire to work together on areas of common interest to effect change. info@dlcra.ie We would like to thank you all for your support this year.

In Bloomfield the Lion's trolleys have reappeared, a reminder that many families and individuals in our community are not as advantaged as others. If you can please donate some nonperishable food items this is after all the most appropriate time to do so.

Bracing for some cold weeks to come we wish you all a Happy Christmas and a very healthy and peaceful 2025

Mary Kelly Borgatta
DLCRA, Chair




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Let's put the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town

St. Michaels Church Spire

The works are finishing up and hopefully by the time that you read this, the fencing will have been removed around the base of the St Michaels bell tower. As reported in previous issues the works required specialists from the UK to come over. The cost of the works is nearly €80,000 which is being born by the ever decreasing Catholic community of Dún Laoghaire.

form of netting has been put in place in the interim for safety sake but a longer term solution will be required.



Workmen on the bell tower

The St Michaels Bell Tower is a major asset to the whole community and is a historic landmark within Dublin bay, we hope that assistance is given to the maintenance of this beautiful building in the heart of our town. Prior to 2011 over 1 €million was spent by the church on preservation and maintenance on St Michaels including the iconic bell tower.



The spires of Dún Laoghaire

Fr Tyrrell, our local parish priest has tried to obtain public funding towards the repairs but so far has not had any success. A specialised

Halloween Costume Swap Success

This year, Dún Laoghaire residents took a step towards reducing textile waste by participating in a Halloween Costume Swap in Bloomfields Shopping Centre.

Speaking about the event, Dún Laoghaire Councillor Lorraine Hall said, "I held this event to encourage parents to think twice, buy less, and keep costumes in circulation for longer. This is becoming important as we become aware of the

environmental impact of fast fashion."

Cllr Hall continued, "Everybody took a big interest in the Pop-Up Shop. About 100 costumes were donated in advance, with about 80 costumes being passed on to new homes on the day. All remaining costumes were donated to Enable Ireland charity shop in Dún Laoghaire for sale."

"Thanks to everyone who contributed to this initiative and helped out on the day. Your efforts not only helped reduce waste but saved families money in the process", said Cllr Hall.



The Halloween Swap in Bloomfield shopping centre



Brain Teaser

This issue the quiz master has picked some particularly tricky brain teasers. More in the spirit of Scrooge than

Christmas, but even if you only get 1 answer do send them in, you never know how lucky you might be!

— : —

Q.1 Which word will fit in front of the words below to form new words?

William

Tooth
Bread
Heart
Ness

Log
Tie
Peg
Hue
Jaw
Few
Oar
Mat

Q.2 From the menu pricing, what would Oysters cost?

MENU

Soup €10
Salad €14
Roast Beef €24
Ice Cream €20
Coffee €15

Q. Which pair of letters are the odd one out?

EV / LO / KP / BY / DW / HS / JR / GT

— : —

Q.3 What month is next?

January
March
June
October
March
?

This issues winner is Christian Brennan, who helped his father James correctly answer the quiz last time. He won an Art & Hobby gift card for his work.

Congratulations Christian!



Christian, on the left, and his Dad.

Q. 4

$M + K + N = 12$
 $N + k + L = 18$
 $L + L + k = 20$
 $N + N + M = 14$

Q.5 Which word is the odd one out?

Please Donate to Support

If you like what we are doing please consider donating

If you wish to support the work of the DLCRA to enable us to continue we would appreciate any small financial support you can provide. Funds enable running costs of insurance, printing and basic services to be covered.



Donations can be made by scanning the QR Code here:

Or by googling **GoFundMe DLCRA**



Let's put the heart back into Duñ Laoghairé town

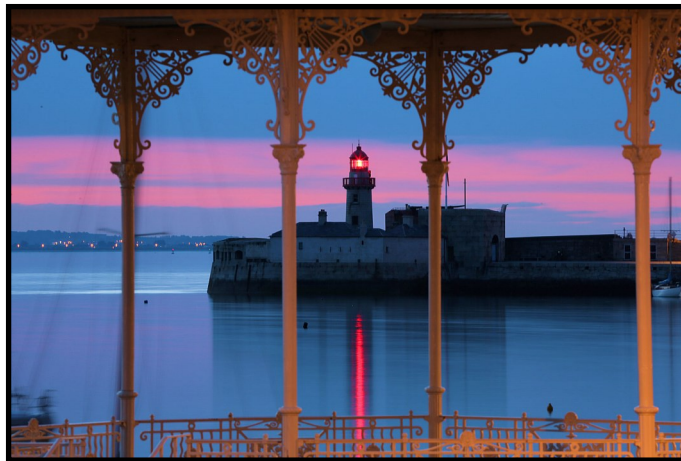
Why I love Dún Laoghaire..

In our last issue we asked an older resident of Dún Laoghaire to write about why they loved Dún Laoghaire, this issue we have something from a younger resident as a bit of a contrast.

Hi! My name is Noa, and I am 12 years old. I am going to tell you my favourite things about living in Dún Laoghaire.

Dún Laoghaire is such a lovely place to live, as there are so many things to do and friendly people and staff in the many shops, cafes, restaurants, etc.

I have spent my whole life living in Dún Laoghaire and still haven't gotten bored. I have been going on little shopping sprees with my cousins and sister since I was 8 in Penneys, Bloomfields Shopping Centre, Dún Laoghaire Shopping Centre, Sostrene Grene and many more



Sunset on the east pier

cool shops. I find it so handy when I need something that I can walk down the road to find exactly what I'm looking for.

I love the People's Park on a Sunday when the market is on. (I personally love the noodles and dumplings.) There is delicious food and all sorts of things there; it's the highlight of my week when I visit the Sunday market!

There are also loads of gorgeous parks and places to sit and enjoy the views; my favourite place (and my dog's favourites!) to walk is the West Pier or East Pier, especially in the evening while the sun is setting.

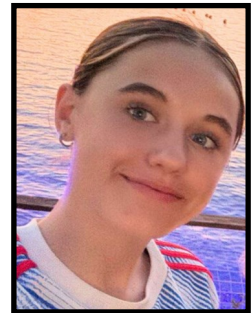
The funfairs and ice skating are a great addition to Dún Laoghaire and while they are on, I spend all my spare time

going to them.

My favourite places to swim are Dún Laoghaire Baths and Sandycove Beach. The baths are a more recent addition to Dún Laoghaire, but I spend my whole summer jumping into the cold Irish Sea during the summer. Sandycove Beach is so pretty, and it's also so fun to jump in, paddle and even play in the sand the entire day!

I think Dún Laoghaire is such a beautiful place to grow up in, and I wouldn't like to live anywhere else.

Noa Beirne, Age 12



Tidy Towns Charity Calendar Available now !



The perfect Christmas stocking filler that also helps Tidy Towns continue to do their amazing work around Dún Laoghaire.

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Support your town this Christmas

Winter Decoration Competition

Each year we give a prize to the household that does something special with its Christmas decorations. We don't give it to the house that has the most lights or has spent the most money, we have given it to houses that included their gardens, a house who's 3 windows on the street each had a beautiful scene for passing children. Last year Tony Tallant of St Michael's Terrace won for looking after all the decorations on his terrace for his neighbours



Judging will take place on the 23rd of December



Let's put the heart back into Dún Laoghaire town