



Dublin Writers Festival 23rd - 29th May



Sinead Connolly, Acting Art's Officer, at the launch of the Dublin Writers Festival.

The annual Dublin Writers Festival runs from 23rd – 29th May. It will feature the best of Irish and International writers, including the BAFTA-winning comedian, actor, writer and television presenter Michael Palin. The festival celebrates Dublin's designation as a UNESCO City of Literature with the other UNESCO sister cities, and offers master-classes with a Pulitzer Prize winner, conversations with Booker Prize and Costa Prize winners – and much more.

Highlights

On 23rd May Edinburgh is the focus, with a mix of reading and song to explore the Jekyll and Hyde in all of us. Best selling

crime novelist Louise Welsh, award winning poet and novelist John Burnside and former Bishop of Edinburgh Richard Holloway will take part in this event in the Samuel Beckett Theatre, Trinity College.

On 24th May in Liberty Hall, you can be part of a studio audience for the Sky Arts Book Show. There will be interviews with Roddy Doyle, Anne Enright and John Boyne at 12.30pm and Colm Tóibín, Liz Lochead and Rebecca Miller at 6pm.

New York poet August Kleinzahler who recently won the National Book Critics Circle Award will be joining Scottish poet laureate Liz Lochhead on Wednesday 25th May at the Samuel Beckett Theatre. Both are compelling performers of their own work.

Also on the 25th May in the National Concert Hall, Michael Palin will look back over his career from the earliest days of Python mania to his more recent globetrotting adventures.

The festival concludes on Sunday 29th May in The Gate Theatre, Parnell Square, with a celebration of the work of Paul Durcan.

To book tickets for any of these events or see the full festival programme, visit www.dublinwritersfestival.com.

If you would like to join our team as a volunteer, email Lisa Marie Griffith at info@dublinwritersfestival.com.



Anti-social behaviour strategy 2010 - 2015

Dublin City Council has adopted a new anti-social behaviour strategy for all its housing estates and complexes.

The four objectives of the strategy are:

- To prevent and reduce anti-social behaviour
- To co-ordinate services within Dublin City Council
- To promote co-operation with other bodies
- To promote good estate management

A booklet called 'Anti-Social Behaviour and your area' is now available. This booklet summarises the Council's policy and procedures for combating anti-social behaviour and is currently being distributed to all City Council tenants.

Copies of the strategy and the booklet are available to download (in English and Irish) on www.dublincity.ie. Hard copies are also available from the Anti-Social Behaviour Unit, Block 1, Floor 3, Civic Offices. T. 222 2604.



Council hosts traffic and safety seminar



Pictured: Michael Phillips, Director of Traffic and City Engineer, speaking at the seminar.

On the 11th April, Dublin City Council hosted a very successful traffic and safety working group seminar for the European Network Cities for Children. The seminar focused on how to make our cities safer so that children and young people can move freely around their communities. It also looked at media education and its influence on children's lives. Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr Edie Wynne hosted an evening reception for the visiting cities in the Mansion House.

Learning from the seminar will be fed back to the Cities for Children in Stuttgart to influence the future development of policy. Dublin City Council also aims to support the integration of the learning into its policies.

All presentations are available at www.dublincity.ie/community/childrenservicesunit/
For more information, contact Máire Igoe, Children's Services Unit, Community and Enterprise Section, T. 222 2738.

Starting a Course in 2011/2012?

Under the Corporate Educational Support Scheme, the Training and Development Unit provides financial support to a number of employees every year to undertake relevant part time courses. Courses must be at least one-year in duration. All applications received are examined on a case-by-case basis. The factors determining the level of funding will be the cost, duration and relevance of the course. Previous assistance under the scheme will also be a factor in the decision.

Should applicants be successful, a maximum of 50 per cent of the course fees can be granted.

The closing date for receipt of applications for inclusion under the Corporate Scheme 2011/2012 is **Friday 5th August 2011**. All completed application forms must be sent to the Training and Development Unit, Human Resources, Block 4, Floor 4, Civic Offices. Late applications will not be accepted.

Application forms are available on DubNet under HR Info/Training and Development. They are also available directly from the Training and Development Unit.

For further information contact the Training and Development Unit T. 222 2359 or e-mail training@dublincity.ie.

First Midlands Viking Symposium in Ireland a great success



Pictured (l-r) are Dr Christina Lee (University of Nottingham), Lord Mayor Gerry Breen, Dr Ruth Johnson, City Archaeologist, Professor Sean Duffy (Friends of Medieval Dublin) and Professor Howard Clarke.

On 30th April, the 7th Midlands Viking Symposium (MVS) took place in the Wood Quay Venue. The event was organised and hosted by Dr Ruth Johnson, City Archaeologist, with the assistance of Conor Dillon.

This was the first time that the event had been held outside the Midlands, UK, and it was the best attended MVS to date, thanks to the support of a large Irish audience. The MVS originated in the Universities of Nottingham, Birmingham and Leicester, when scholars came together to share their findings of research in Viking Studies to a non-specialist audience.

The proceedings of the conference will be published in a special Viking edition of the Royal Society of Antiquaries in 2012, to be edited by the City Archaeologist and historian Professor Howard Clarke.



Call for events from Council Departments

Innovation Dublin 2011 takes place from **17th October – 18th November 2011**. This year, Innovation Dublin has been extended to run over a month to meet the scale of Dublin's passion to innovate.

Dublin City Council is involved in many amazing innovative projects. Innovation Dublin provides a great opportunity to showcase these pioneering ventures. We would like anyone involved in Dublin City Council projects to contact the Innovation Dublin Team at info@innovationdublin.ie.

Innovation Dublin showcases, celebrates and promotes the innovation and creativity that is happening on a daily basis in Dublin. Your involvement in Innovation Dublin will help to ensure its continuing success.

During Innovation Dublin 2011, Dublin will be a place for "inspiration, interaction and innovation".

Log on to www.innovationdublin.ie for more information or contact Ailish Smyth, T. 222 6054, Maeve White, T. 222 3186 or Alan McDonnell, T. 222 3012.

'Switch Off' campaign nominated for European award



Pictured (l-r) are Codema's Director Gerry Wardell, Codema's Energy Consultant Edel Giltenane, Aidan Maher, Corporate Services, Gunther Oettinger, Commissioner for Energy.

The 'Switch Off' campaign was recently shortlisted for an energy award at a ceremony in Brussels during EU Sustainable Energy Week. The campaign was nominated for the ManagEnergy Local Energy Award 2011.

Our energy partner Codema carried out the 'Switch Off' campaign in the City Council. Codema was one of just six nominees shortlisted at the awards ceremony. While the 'Switch Off' campaign did not win the overall prize, the nomination is a reflection of the positive attitudes of staff towards reducing energy in the Council.

The 'Switch Off' campaign encouraged staff to switch off lights and office appliances when not in use. The campaign was carried out through a series of 'Switch Off' days, promotional material and online activities. To date, Codema calculates that the campaign has achieved energy savings of 23 per cent.

The Switch Off campaign was carried out under the MINUS 3 per cent project, which aims to show that a saving of 3 per cent per year in energy consumption is possible. The MINUS 3 per cent project received funding from the European Commission through the Intelligent Energy Europe programme.

For more information on the MINUS 3 per cent project, visit www.codema.ie/minus3.

Minute's silence at race in St. Anne's Park



The annual Dublin City Council/Business Houses Athletics Association (DCC/BHAA) races took place in St. Anne's Park on 9th April. There was a minute's silence before both races as a mark of respect for the sad loss of Paula Mulvaney (nee Whelan), formerly of the Sports and Leisure Section, Culture, Recreation and Amenity Department, who died in January 2011. 257 runners took part in the races. Councillor Naoise Ó Muiri presented the prizes after the race.

The race was made possible by the volunteer work of both current and retired staff. These included: Neil Cameron (Planning), John Fennell (Housing), Vincent Healy (Housing), Harry Rose (Retired), Noel Immoner (Retired), Jim Kelly (North Central Area), Fred Kiernan (Waste Management), Gerry Mc Cabe (Planning), John McGrane (Retired), Will Morris (Sports), Gay Murray (Retired), Stephen Murtagh (Public Lighting), Kevin O Connell, Colin O Reilly (Sports Section), Donal Sheridan (Waste Management), Audrey Shields (Law), and Greg Slator (Finance). Thanks also to staff from the Parks Section, who helped out at the event, in particular Mick Harford and Mick Molloy of St. Anne's Park. Thanks also to Mick Kenny, Roads Maintenance Section.

The next DCC/BHAA race takes place on the evening 13th July in Irishtown Stadium. If you are available to help out, contact Jim Kelly, T. 816 6720.

A treat for football fans



Lord Mayor Gerry Breen launched 'Red Reminiscences: Shelbourne FC Oral History Project' in the Central Library, Ilac Shopping Centre, on the 11th April. This online project is a social history of Shelbourne and the club's role in Irishtown and the wider community. It provides a unique history of Shelbourne Football Club's 115 year history from both the fans and players' perspectives.

Speaking at the launch, Lord Mayor Gerry Breen said: "It is to be commended that these wonderful stories, which are part of Dublin's rich sporting heritage, will be preserved at Dublin City Library and Archive, and made accessible to historians and future generations."

The project interviews are now available as audio downloads and transcripts on www.dublinsportsarchive.wordpress.com. The site also includes an online form where other Shelbourne fans and players can log on and add their own stories. It will also be available to listen to and read in the Dublin City Library and Archive Reading Room, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2.

Letter to the Editor Litir chuig an eagarthóir

Email: comms@dublincity.ie
Post: Letter to the Editor, Communications Section,
3 Palace Street, Dublin 2.
Note: Please provide letter, name and address.
Letters may be edited.

The following letter was received by Shay Fogarty, Public Lighting Services.

Dear Shay,

A sincere thank you to both you and your night crew for sorting out my street lighting issue.

I want to acknowledge the efficient and effective manner in which my query was dealt with at the outset, most importantly the polite, helpful and co-operative way I was treated from my initial call to your follow up call outlining what was to be done and when. I wonder if your superiors know what treasures they have in such wonderful staff.

A sincere thank you, Linda Gorman, Finglas

National Drawing Day - 28th May, 11am – 2pm



The LAB, Foley St., Dublin 1

The LAB invites people of all ages to participate in this fun day of drawing. Join local folklorist Terry Fagan and artist Michael McLoughlin in an engaging historic tour and visual art workshop.

The morning will combine a historic exploration of Dublin's Monto area and its people followed by a visual response inspired by the rich past and history of the area. This drop in tour and workshop invites people of all artistic abilities to come along and try something new.

The Red Stables, St. Anne's Park, Dublin 5

The Red Stables invites people of all ages to join professional artists Martina Galvin and Maria Makrai for a drawing experience. No drawing experience necessary.

Admission for both events is free. For more information, contact the Arts Office on T. 222 7843 or see www.theredstables.ie.

Staff Noticeboard / Clár Fógraí

manual handling instructors course

In 2010, the Health and Safety Authority, in conjunction with the Further Education and Training Awards Council (FETAC), announced new Manual Handling Instruction Standards. From the end of March 2012, all Manual Handling Instructors must achieve a new FETAC Level 6 Manual Handling Instructor Award to continue delivering Manual Handling skills courses.

If you are an existing manual handling instructor or are interested in becoming one, this course is for you. You will need departmental approval for this 5-day course before you apply. The next course will begin on **25th May**. The 5 days of the course are spread over three weeks. There are limited spaces available. For further information or to book a place, contact Peter Horgan, Corporate Health and Safety Office, T. 222 5204 or e-mail peter.horgan@dublincity.ie.

north central area on the run...

The North Central Area's second annual cross country event took place in St Anne's Park earlier this year. Congratulations to St Josephs BNS from Fairview who were the best overall boys team and St Vincent De Paul girls school Marino, who were the best overall girls team. 10 schools in all took part, with a total of 390 boys and girls from all over the North Central Area receiving medals for their participation on the day. The race was run by Dublin City Council's Sport and Recreation Officer Paul Donnelly, with the help of local schools, Athletics Ireland, Parks and Landscape Services and volunteers on the day.

931 years of service



On the 30th March, a retirement function took place in the Mansion House for recently retired staff of Dublin City Council. Between the 30 retired staff who attended the Retirement Function, 931 years of service have been given to the City Council.

Pictured here with Councillor Pat Crimmins and Deputy City Manager Philip Maguire are: John Blake, Pascal Byrne, Martin Carey, Kathleen Connell, Michael Dignam, Joseph Flanagan, Seamus Foley, Philip Furlong, Francis Graham, Richard Grey, James Greene, Freda Heron, Michael Hester, Aidan Hoey, Richard Johnson, James Jones, John Kidd, Terry Madden, John Patrick Maguire, James Malone, Brian McConnell, James McManus, George McNamara, Christopher Murray, James O'Keefe, Joseph Phipps, Joyce Rehill, Patrick Rooney, Albert Russell and Clare Tracy.

The closing date for inclusion in the next issue is 12.00 noon on **Tuesday 24th May 2011**.

Please address any correspondence to: firstpost, Communications Section, Corporate Services Department, 3 Palace Street, Dublin 2. Tel: 222 2266.

The editor reserves the right to edit articles submitted, for clarity and length. Alternatively, you can e-mail to comms@dublincity.ie or Fax to 222 3776.

Please make sure that you enclose your name and work location. Firstpost is available in Large Print and Audio Format on request.

