



CITYNEWS



Cork City Council
Comhairle Cathrach Chorcaí

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Lord Mayors Christmas Message

Cork City Council has invested heavily in the public realm in recent years making the city an attractive place to live, visit, and shop in. It boasts a most impressive array of international and local retailers to provide for every need. With the award-winning



Pictured above is Cork's Lord Mayor Cllr. Terry Shannon with Lady Mayoress Ursula Shannon and family

Christmas on the Grand Parade it has recaptured the magic of Christmas and made the city centre more accessible and family-focussed than ever before. In wishing the people of Cork a happy and peaceful Christmas I also urge them to continue to support the Cork business community and to shop local for all their needs this Christmas. Nollaig Shona agus Ath-bhliain faoi mhaise

Cllr Terry Shannon
Lord Mayor of Cork

City Managers Christmas Message

The organisation continues to face significant challenges in delivering an adequate level of service to the citizens of Cork City, having faced further drops in staff levels and financial resources in 2011. Despite this, we continue to work, in conjunction with the Lord Mayor and Elected Members of Council, with a high level of commitment to ensure that Cork city's vibrancy, attractiveness, and capacity to grow economically and socially is maintained.

While there has been a drop in economic activity in some business areas in the city, this does place additional pressures and demands on many of our services. In this regard, it may sometimes be forgotten that services such as community supports to more socially disadvantaged sectors of society, library services, parks, housing services and the arts and cultural services we provide, very often become more important to the citizens of Cork, with increased demand, during times of economic downturn.

The City Council has had a very successful year in terms of continuously improving our profile as THE city of choice in which to invest in and to visit in this country.

This was aided in particular through the visit of HM QUEEN ELIZABETH II which gave Cork a significant global media presence, and one that will endure for many years to come. This could not of course have been achieved without your participation in showing the world what a wonderful, welcoming city and people we are. The phrase "Small City, Big Heart", says it all in this regard.

To all the staff of Cork City Council, I wish to record my sincere thanks to each and every one of you for your service to Cork City over the past year. Your service becomes most visible and relevant in the eyes of the public at times of crisis and economic downturn when demand for many of our services increases, and you again responded magnificently over the winter period and throughout the year during very difficult times. To you, and the wider Cork citizenship, may I wish you a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year which will hopefully have something positive for us all, whatever shape or form that might take.

Tim Lucey
City Manager



Triskel—Christchurch



Christchurch, a beautiful 18th Century building, was restored by Cork City Council over the last two years. On 15th April 2011, the new complex, Triskel-Christchurch was officially launched. Triskel now acts as a true Centre for the Arts. It houses the Theatre Development Centre run by Corcadorca, a gallery, PLUGD records and Café GULP'D. Christchurch has been a remarkable development, and has transformed Triskel Arts Centre into one of the key venues for the arts in Ireland. For more details you can check out the Triskel website on <http://www.triskelartscentre.ie>

Cork City ends H.M. Queen Elizabeth II Visit On A Celebratory High

It's estimated that more than 30,000 people crowded into Cork City Centre from early morning to catch a glimpse of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on the final leg of their historic visit to Ireland. The Queen spent over 20 minutes in Cork's English Market where she took time to chat with several market traders, enquiring as to the history and provenance of the food produce on many of the stalls. HRH Prince Philip was presented with two books at the Fountain in Cork's English Market, 'the Coast of Cork' and 'Serving a City' - a history of the English Market by historians Donal and Diarmuid O'Driscóil.

Later Queen Elizabeth visited Tyndall Institute, where she enjoyed a tour of the state of the art research facility that is at the forefront of Ireland's 'smart economy'. The Queen viewed four main technology demonstrations.

The atmosphere was electric in Cork City and the party continued long into the night with a stunning line up of entertainment turning Cork City Centre into a veritable street party.

Lord Mayor Cllr Michael O'Connell said after the visit; "It's a very proud day for Cork City and our people and I would like to thank everyone for making the Queen's final stop in Cork one of the most fun, relaxed and celebratory on her trips."



HM Queen Elizabeth II enjoying her trip to Cork.



HRH Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh and HM Queen Elizabeth II in conversation with Tom Durcan, Chairperson Market Traders Association.

The Coal Quay Saturday Market

On Saturday 13th August, the Saturday Market returned to Cornmarket Street from Emmet Place where it had its temporary home while street improvement works were carried out at the Coal Quay by the Council. These works were undertaken in phases at an overall cost of €4million. The project is part of a broader strategy to regenerate the city centre, following on from the refurbishment of Grand Parade and St. Patrick's Street.

The street revamp provides widened footpaths and an impressive new pedestrian plaza, creating a modern urban setting at this historic city location.



During Construction



After

Cllr. Dave McCarthy

One of the true characters of Cork politics passed away in April of this year.

Independent city councillor for the North West Ward, Cllr David "Dave"

McCarthy passed away after a long illness.

He was first elected as a representative for the Cork North West ward in 1985.

In 1997 Dave received the highest honour the City can bestow on any of its politicians when he became Lord Mayor of Cork. He is survived by his wife Frances and his sons Dave Junior and Arthur.

On his passing, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Michael O'Connell paid tribute to his personal friend and colleague Cllr. Dave McCarthy – "It is with great sadness that I learnt of the passing of Cllr. Dave McCarthy, former Lord Mayor of Cork. Dave was a Man of the People, and an outstanding elected Public Representative and in 2010 celebrated 25 years as a City Councillor."



All Island Pride of Place Awards

Cork City groups won three awards at the recent All Island Pride of Place Awards ceremony held in Gorey.

- Togher Community Association won first place in the category Community Enhancement Project.
- Cork Gay Project and LinC joined forces and were runners up in the cities category (population greater than 1,000)
- The Meelagh community were runners up in the cities category (population less than 1,000).

The Pride of Place Awards are an all Ireland All Island initiative that recognises the work being carried out by community groups throughout the country North and South.

Hints to Minimise the Risk of Frozen Pipes

- Open the attic trap door to allow heat in from the hall or rooms underneath.
 - Remove insulation from the area of the ceiling immediately under your roof tank so that it can get heat from underneath.
 - Leave a light on in the attic if available.
 - Lag all pipes in the attic area.
 - Open the stopcock chamber and remove any water.
 - Place a piece of insulation e.g. carpet/matting over your external stopcock.
 - Wrap a towel around an outside tap.
 - Remember if you have a burst pipe or frozen supply do be careful with the use of heating systems, washing machines and other water-dependent appliances and facilities.
 - If you have a problem or concern we would advise that you contact a qualified plumber for advice.
- For information on water conservation please look at our booklet on our website at www.corkcity.ie/services/environment/waterservices/newscustomerinformation and for other hints and tips regarding your water supply please visit www.taptips.ie

First Civil Marriage Ceremony in Lord Mayor's Chamber

History was made in Cork on Thursday May 26th when the first civil marriage ceremony in the Lord Mayor's Chamber took place between Ann Marie Collins & Eric Meehan, winners of the "Win your wedding" competition organised earlier this year by Lord Mayor Cllr. Michael O'Connell and generously supported by the Cork business community. The ceremony was officiated by Bernadette Caulfield-Waugh, Civil Registrar, Cork City and County with over 70 guests in attendance.

Speaking after the ceremony the Lord Mayor Councillor Michael O'Connell stated:

"I would like to congratulate Ann Marie and Eric on behalf of the office of Lord Mayor and the people of Cork and wish them well. It was a truly historic and unique occasion and one which will live long in the memory"



Lord Mayor Michael O'Connell with the happy couple

The Launch of the Cork Screen Commission

The Irish Film and TV industry received a welcome boost as Cork City Council and County Council announced plans to jointly establish the Cork Screen Commission.

Representing an immediate investment of €100,000 in the region's indigenous film industry, the Commission will be the primary point of contact for companies working or intending to work on location in Cork. The Cork Screen Commission will be managed by Cork Film Centre, on behalf of the City and County Councils. The new Cork Screen Commission will have its headquarters at the old Gunpowder Mills Centre in Ballincollig, Cork.

In 2010, the Irish film and television sector had a record year in terms of production, generating €225 million for the Irish economy, creating jobs and spend on local goods and services.



Pictured (l-r) Martin Riordan, Cork County Manager, Cllr Jim Daly, Mayor of the County of Cork, Chris Hurley, Manager of Cork Film Centre, Cllr Michael O'Connell, Lord Mayor of Cork and Tim Lucey, Cork City Manager.

Cork Christmas Celebration

A Cork Christmas Celebration presented by Cork City Council in association with Bord Gáis Energy, opened on the Grand Parade on November 25th.

Come and enjoy the craft and food stalls along the Christmas market on the Grand Parade and soak up the spirit of Christmas as local choirs and bands play much loved festive songs. Wander through 'Christmas Wishes', presented by Galway-based global event specialists Arcana in the wonderful Willie Wonka & The Chocolate Factory inspired garden with Gingerbread Men, Chocolate Log Cabins, Snowball shrubbery under a Van Gogh inspired starry night.

The festival will run for 15 days over the four weekends leading into Christmas with the market opening each day from 10 am to 8 pm and Bishop Lucey Park opening from 4 pm to 8pm

The dates of the event are as follows:

Friday 25th to Sunday 27th November

Friday 2nd to Sunday 4th December

Friday 9th to Sunday 11th December

Friday 16th to Wednesday 21st December

We look forward to seeing you there!



Cork City Council wins Chambers Ireland Award for English Market

The success of the business partnership between Cork City Council, the English Market traders and the Aramark Property Management Company has been acknowledged by Chambers Ireland. The English Market was confirmed by Chambers Ireland as the winner of the "Partnership with Business" category at the Annual Excellence in Local Government Awards which took place in Dublin on November 9th.

"The winning of this national award is a fitting testament to the positive and close working partnership between the City Council, the traders and our management company. Long may the success of the English Market continue," said Cllr. Ken O'Flynn, deputising for Cork's Lord Mayor Terry Shannon in accepting the Award.

"There has been a huge amount of work improving the running of the English Market and planning for promotion and branding", said Tom Durcan, a butcher in the English Market and Chairman of the Traders Committee.

The English Market has been operating since 1788 and is one of the oldest municipal food markets of its type in western Europe.

Baile Beag Crèche

Lord Mayor, Cllr Michael O'Connell officially opened Baile Beag Crèche on the 16th June on the same day he officially opened the Glen Preschool. Baile Beag Community Childcare is managed by a committee that includes Cork City Council, Cork City Partnership, Cork City Childcare, FÁS, NYP, Community Garda representation and is supported by Barnardos.



Before



After

The crèche is located in the Community Centre in Ardhaile, Mayfield. The reconstruction of the building provided by Cork City Council was funded by Pobal through the Dormant Accounts Fund (RAPID strand).

The primary service for children is a daily group service for 12 children aged 1-3 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm which addresses each child's holistic developmental needs. The service uses a Quality Early Years Programme that meets the requirements of Aistear, the Early Years Curriculum and Síolta the National Quality Framework for Early Years.

Through funding from FÁS and Cork City Council (Community and Enterprise) a safety fence and a landscaped designed play area at the rear of the building was completed in May 2011.

Cork Walks

The third section of Cork Walks, the City Centre Island, was launched by Lord Mayor, Cllr Terry Shannon on Thursday the 22nd of September as part of European Mobility Week 2011 celebrations.

At the Launch the Lord Mayor Cllr Terry Shannon welcomed this initiative and stated that Cork Walks would greatly add to the attractiveness of the city to both tourists and local people alike as well as giving a fascinating insight into the Heritage and History of the city.

Cork Walks are free self guided walks consisting of interpretive panels with local historic information, colour coded finger posts for guidance between the panels and a brochure with a map and description of sights along the way. These walking trails link places and buildings of heritage interest throughout the city from the steps and steeples of Shandon, the religious, archaeology and arts of the South Parish, the medieval to modern of the City Centre and the academic environs of University College Cork. Each trail takes approximately 1.5 hours each but can be tailored to the interest and fitness level of the individual or group.



Mr Antóin O Callaghan, local historian, who researched and wrote the text, speaking at one of the Cork Walks panels. Photo: Clare Keogh

Freedom Of The City



Pictured L-R: Lord Mayor Cllr Michael O'Connell, Seán Óg Ó hAilpín and City Manager Tim Lucey.

At a meeting of Cork City Council on Tuesday April 26th 2011, the Lord Mayor of Cork, Cllr. Michael O'Connell nominated Seán Óg Ó hAilpín, accomplished Cork footballer and hurler, for the Freedom of the City of Cork and the nomination was unanimously supported by all members of Council. The Freedom of the City was conferred on Seán Óg Ó hAilpín at a special ceremony in City Hall, Cork on Friday, 27th May 2011.

The N25 Bandon/Sarsfield Interchanges Upgrade Scheme

At 12.00 noon on Friday, 29th July 2011, Mr Leo Varadkar, Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport performed the official sod turning of the N25 Bandon/Sarsfield Interchanges Upgrade Scheme accompanied by Cllr. Tim Lombard, County Mayor, Cllr. Terry Shannon Lord Mayor of Cork, County Manager, Martin Riordan and the Deputy City Manager, Dan Buggy.

This Cork City Council Scheme will provide the final link to a high capacity, free flowing route from the Western end of the N22 Ballincollig Bypass to the Northern end of the Jack Lynch Tunnel with a projected reduction in journey time of 75% over the extent of the Scheme during peak periods.

A 24 hour Freephone helpline (1800 932 046) has been established for the duration of the construction phase with regular progress updates issued throughout the construction phase highlighting any milestone events and also advising on any anticipated disruption to traffic. These updates will be carried on the National Road Design Office website www.corkrdo.ie, a link is also available on www.corkcity.ie.

Transfer of Refuse Collection to Country Clean Recycling

Cork City Council has transferred its waste collection service for both domestic and non domestic customers to Country Clean Recycling, The Mill, Castletownroche, Mallow Co. Cork with effect from Monday 15th August 2011. This includes both the collection of wheelbins and dry recyclable bags".

There is no immediate changes to waste collection and you should continue to present your waste as normal. Enquiries concerning any aspect of waste collection services should be made to Country Clean Recycling at 022 46848 or to sales@countryclean.ie.



Government funding for new Library in Hollyhill

The City Architects Dept has started on the detailed design of a purpose-designed library for Hollyhill, following the allocation of €1.5 million by the Department of the Environment, Community, & Local Government in July 2011. The project is costed at €3.3 million in total.



Proposed Design for Hollyhill Library

The new facility will be a community library of 800 sq metres, with a focus on lifelong learning, literacy, and community activities for children and adults. It will be a focus for Hollyhill/Knocknaheeny as a learning community. The site is on Harbour View Road, adjacent to Terence MacSwiney Community College, and facing the new community/town centre facilities.

Bord Gáis Energy Cork City Marathon

A new course record, an inaugural half marathon, high-tech marathon shirts made from recycled plastic bottles, entries from 22 countries, over €1.5 million raised for charity, and a finish-line marriage proposal - the 2011 Bord Gáis Energy Cork City Marathon had it all!

Over 350 volunteers, assisted by the Defence Forces, ensured that everyone stayed on-course and provided water and energy drinks for the runners. The Civil Defence and voluntary medical services operated a peerless medical response plan for the 26.2 miles.

The reigning National Marathon Champion, Sergiu Ciobanu, set a record of 2hrs 25 mins and Angela McCann, from Clonmel, won the women's race in 2hrs 53mins. TJ McHugh, from Mayo, won the half marathon in 1hr 12mins and Leevale's Lizzie Lee won the women's half marathon in 1hr 19mins. The River Gold Road Runners, captained by Alan O'Shea from Bantry, were the first team to cross the line, in 2hrs 19mins, and the first all-female team home were the Leevale Lassies, in 2hrs 51mins.

Cork City Council and its partners are already planning marathon day 4th June 2012 and on-line entries for 2012 will open shortly. If you're interested in taking part, either as a participant or as a volunteer, you'll find further information on our website at www.corkcitymarathon.ie.



After 12 miles of running, at Blackrock Castle, Ronan Wogan from Co. Meath and Tony Kenny from Co. Carlow still had many miles to go. They both finished in the top 20. (Photo: Sport-Cam)

National Day of Commemoration

Cork marked the National Day of Commemoration to honour all Irishmen and Irishwomen who died in past wars or on service with the United Nations with a formal ceremony held on Sunday, 10th July, in Fitzgerald Park, Cork at 11.30 a.m. This is the first year that the ceremony has taken place in Cork.

The ceremony commenced with a multi-faith service of prayer, after which the Lord Mayor laid a wreath on behalf of the people of Ireland.

Representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Church of Ireland, the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches and the Jewish Community conducted a multi-faith commemoration comprising of prayers and readings with responses by those present. The Barrack Street Band lead the musical element joined by soloist Ms. Majella Cullagh.



Photograph of the assembled attendees at National Day of Commemoration Ceremony 2011 at Fitzgerald Park.

The Community and Voluntary Awards

The 8th Community and Voluntary awards held in April attracted the biggest entry yet since the inception of the awards. 141 groups were nominated for the awards which recognise the valuable contribution community and voluntary groups make to the life of the city.

The Lord Mayor Cllr Michael O'Connell, who presented the awards lauded the value that community groups add to the city stating "in these recessionary times your efforts become more relevant than ever. There is less money to provide services than there was. Your services will need to provide more with less. I have no doubt that you will not be found wanting". The awards are run by the Community & Enterprise Directorate and sponsorship comes from the Evening Echo and Express Kitchens & Floors.

The winners and runners up in each category were announced at the Lord Mayor's Civic Awards night.

The winners and runners are listed below: **Arts & Culture** Winner: Cork Butter Exchange Band. Runners up: Cork International Choral Festival. **Children & Youth** Winner: Good Shepherd Services; Runners up: Childline Cork **Community & Neighbourhood Services:** Winner: Cork-Penny Dinners; Runners up: Shandon Therapy Centre & Post Natal Depression

Equality & Social Inclusion: Winner: Cork Mental Health Foundation. Gurrabraher Development Group "We Made This-South Pres"

Lifelong Learning: Winner: Mahon Men's Art Group

Sport: Winners: St. Vincent's Under Age H&F Club
Runners Up: Fr. Mathew's Basketball Club



Bike Week 2011 had a great variety of events ranging from family fun cycles to a Wednesday lunchtime cycle, a rickshaw history tour to a children's art competition. The charity event of Bike Week 2011 was the Big Bike Ride, a charity cycle in aid of Down Syndrome Ireland on Friday 24th June. Despite wet weather a number of Cork County and City Council employees participated in order to raise awareness of Down Syndrome and to encourage staff to get out and about on their bikes. The group were greeted at City Hall by Deputy Lord Mayor Cllr John Kelleher, who wished them well as they headed off on the East Cork leg of the cycle.



Participants of the Big Bike Ride with Deputy Lord Mayor John Kelleher and Anita Lenihan (Traffic Division).

Cork Heritage Day

Cork Heritage Open Day is a unique event, which was held on Saturday, 27th August 2011, celebrating the amazing architecture and history of the Built Heritage in Cork City. Organised by Cork City Council, Cork Heritage Open Day celebrates Ireland's architecture and heritage by enabling free access to properties of interest to the public that are either not usually open to the public, or would normally charge an entrance fee.

This year there were 38 buildings opening their doors to the public free of charge and there were also 34 free themed events happening throughout the day all over the city! These included a Medieval Re-enactment, a Children's Treasure Trail with prizes sponsored by the Everyman Palace Theatre and the Clarion Hotel, walking tours, venue tours, photographic & memorabilia exhibitions, talks, demonstrations, and much, much more! There was something of interest for everyone and a fun and entertaining day was had by all!



Joan Goggin, Active Pulse telling stories in the Cork Central Library on Cork Heritage Open Day

A Little Gem Is Restored in Fitzgerald's Park

The Lord Mayor's Pavilion in Fitzgerald's Park has been carefully restored by Cork City Council and was officially re-opened on 14th June by the Lord Mayor and the British Ambassador.

The building, which was built in 1902 in the arts and crafts tradition, to welcome visiting dignitaries to the Cork International Exhibition, has had its roof, walls and windows sensitively repaired as part of an essential works contract, overseen by the City Architect's Department on behalf of the Recreation Amenity & Emergency Services Directorate.

Project architect Neil Purkiss praised the contractors, Murphy & O'Sullivan, for their dedication to the works through a particularly harsh winter. He added "This contract involved a limited scope of badly needed external works, necessary to stabilise and future-proof this very significant and unique architectural gem. Although timber-framed and modestly conceived, it reminds us all of the extraordinarily successful development of the Mardyke area in 1901, in which a large number of temporary buildings were constructed to accommodate the Cork International Exhibition."



Street Sweeping and Litter Management

Cork City Council is responsible for maintaining a high standard of cleanliness in Cork City. The street cleaning and litter management section is responsible for road sweeping, litter picking, removal of fly tipping and the provision and emptying of litter bins. The section is also involved in a number of proactive projects such as Community Cleanups, Bulky Goods Collection and Graffiti removal.

City Council employs four Litter Wardens whose duties include:

- enforcement of the Litter Pollution Acts 1997 to 2009.
- liaison with businesses, schools and community and residents associations.
- examining dumped material for evidence.
- surveillance and investigation of dumping sites.

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