

Kieran's Completed Community Project, 2012:

McCarthy's 'Design a Public Park, Art Competition', 3 March 2012:

Full details: McCarthy's Design a Public Park Art Competition, click on this link,

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8097>

Winners, McCarthy's Design a Public Park Art Competition,

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8223>

Runners Up, McCarthy's Design a Public Park Art Competition:

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8277>

Cllr. Kieran McCarthy invites all young budding engineers and architects to participate in McCarthy's 'Design a Public Park, Art Competition'. Interested students are invited to draw a plan for the proposed c.160 acre public park on the old landfill site or 'Cork City Dump' on the Kinsale Road. The majority of the former landfill has been 'capped or layered with topsoil' to allow a new park to be constructed as a recreation amenity. "Design a Public Park" offer students an opportunity to present ideas of how public spaces may look from a user point of view and will be viewed by the engineer responsible for drafting the new design. The competition is run in association with Lifetime Lab 'Meet the Engineer's Free Family Fun Day' at the Lifetime Lab, Saturday 3 March 2012 to celebrate Engineer's Week 2012.

Entry to the design competition is free of charge with prizes awarded for best design, best drawing and best concept. There are several age groups, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12 and Junior Certificate and Leaving Certificate for secondary school students. All entries should be forwarded to Lifetime Lab before Thursday 1 March 2012. Drawings can be made on A4 or A3 sheets. They can be mounted if the student wishes. It is the intention to display all drawings on 'Meet the Engineer's Day' and have the winners marked. Prizes will be awarded to drawings that are of a high standard and in particular, which demonstrate colour, creativity and imagination. On the back of the drawing, the name, age, teacher and school of the student should be clearly marked. Winners will be announced on 'Meet the Engineer's Day' at the Lifetime Lab, Cork on Saturday 3 March 2012. A map of the site and further information can be viewed at Kieran McCarthy's community programme section of his blog at www.kieranmccarthy.ie

Local History Walk of Douglas, Saturday, 24 March 2012:

Cllr Kieran McCarthy continues his exploration of the heritage and local history of the south east corner of Cork City by organising a historical walking tour on Douglas Village and its environs. The event, in association with Young at Heart and the Lifelong Learning Festival, takes place on Saturday, 24 March 2012, start 2 pm leaving from the carpark of St. Columba's Church. Cllr McCarthy noted that: *"The story of Douglas and its environs seems to be in part a story of experimentation, of industry and of people and social improvement; the story of one of Ireland's largest sailcloth factories is a worthwhile topic to explore in terms of its aspirations in the eighteenth century; that coupled with the creation of 40 or so seats or mansions and demesnes made it a place where the city's merchants made their home it and also these suburban spaces make for an interesting place to study in terms of ambition. Those landscapes that were created still linger in the environs of Douglas Village."*

The District of Douglas takes its names from the river or rivulet bearing the Gaelic word Dubhghlas or dark stream. As early as the late thirteenth century King John of England made a grant of parcels of land, near the city of Cork to Philip de Prendergast. On 1 June 1726, Douglas Factory was begun to be built. Samuel Perry & Francis Carleton, became the first proprietors. The Douglas Sailcloth Factory is said to have been founded by a colony of weavers from Fermanagh. The eighteenth century was a golden age for wooden sailing ships, before the 1800s made steam and iron prerequisites for modern navies and trading fleets. The era was also a golden age too for maritime exploration, with the voyages of James Cook amongst others opening up the Pacific and the South Seas. Douglas in its own way added in part to this world of exploration.

Wednesday 28 March 2012, 10am Lecture by Kieran, *Creating an Irish Free State City,*

Cork in the 1920s and 1930s, Curaheen Family Centre next to the Church of the Real

Presence, Curaheen, as part of the Cork Lifelong Learning Festival

McCarthy's Make a Model Boat Project, June 2012:

Application Form, <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8585>

Pictures of the day and models: <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8737>

Cllr. Kieran McCarthy has launched the annual McCarthy's 'Make a Model Boat Project'. Aimed at Cork students in primary and secondary schools, it is about making a model boat at home from recycled materials and bring it along for judging to the Atlantic Pond on Sunday afternoon, 10 June 2012, 2pm. The event is being run in association with Meitheal Mara's upcoming Ocean to City Maritime Festival and the Lifetime Lab. There are two categories, one for primary and one for secondary students. There are prizes for best models and the event is free to enter. Cllr. McCarthy, who is heading up the event, noted *"I am*

encouraging creation, innovation and imagination amongst our young people, which are important traits for all of us to develop". See www.kieranmccarthy.ie under community programme for application form details.

McCarthy's Make a Model Boat Project is part of a series of events for the Ocean to City Maritime Festival at the heart of which is the annual rowing race from the mouth of Cork Harbour to the City. The race is open to all types of traditional & fixed seat rowing boats. The organising team is part of Meitheal Mara based at Crosses Green House, Cork. Meitheal Mara is a registered charity working in the areas of boatbuilding, rowing and woodwork training with various groups including youth & the long-term unemployed. More information can be found at www.oceantocity.com.

Blackrock Historical Walking Tour, Sunday 13 May 2012:

As part of ongoing research project into the local history of the south-east ward, Cllr Kieran McCarthy will conduct a historical walking tour of Blackrock Village on Sunday 13 May 2012, 6.30pm, leaving from Blackrock Castle (approx 1 ½ hours, free event).

The earliest and official evidence for settlement in Blackrock dates to c.1564 when the Galway family created what was to become known as Dundanion Castle. Over 20 years later, Blackrock Castle was built circa 1582 by the citizens of Cork with artillery to resist pirates and other invaders. In the early 1700s, the prominent Tuckey family, of which Tuckey Street in the city centre is named, became part of the new social elite in Cork after the Williamite wars and built part of what became known in time at the Ursuline Convent. The building of the Navigation Wall or Dock in the 1760s turned focus to reclamation projects in the area and the eventual creation of public amenity land such as the Marina Walk during the time of the Great Famine. The early 1800s coincided with an enormous investment into creating new late Georgian mansions by many other key Cork families, such as the Chattertons, the Friends, the McMullers, Deanes and the Nash families, amongst others. Soon Blackrock was to have its own bathing houses, schools, hurling club, suburban railway line, and Protestant and Catholic Church. The pier that was developed at the heart of the space led to a number of other developments such as fisherman cottages and a fishing industry. This community is reflected in the 1911 census with 64 fisherman listed in Blackrock.

Cllr Kieran McCarthy noted: *"A stroll in Blackrock is popular by many people, local and Cork people. The area is particularly characterised by beautiful architecture, historic landscapes and imposing late Georgian and early twentieth century country cottages; every structure points to a key era in Cork's development. Blackrock is also lucky that many of its former residents have left archives, census records, diaries, old maps and insights into how the area developed, giving an insight into ways of life, ideas and ambitions in the past, some of which can help us in the present day in understanding Blackrock's identity going forward."*

Cllr Kieran's McCarthy's Community Talent Competition 2012:

Announcement: <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8624>

Results: <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=6448>

Cork's young people are invited to participate in the fourth year of Cllr Kieran's McCarthy's Community Talent Competition'. The auditions will take place on Sunday 29 April 2012 between 11-5pm in the Lifetime Lab, Lee Road. There are no entry fees and all talents are valid for consideration. The final will be held over one week later. There are two categories, one for primary school children and one for secondary school students. Winners will be awarded a perpetual trophy and prize money of €150 (two by €150). The project is being organised and funded by Cllr Kieran McCarthy in association with Red Sandstone Varied Productions (RSVP).

Cllr. McCarthy noted: *"The talent competition is a community initiative. It encourages all young people to develop their talents and creative skills, to push forward with their lives and to embrace their community positively"*. Further details can be got from Kieran at 087 6553389 or from the talent show producer (RSVP), Yvonne Coughlan, 085 1798695.

Workhouse Tour, 23 June 2012:

Pictures from the day:

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8799>

On next Saturday, 23 June 2012, 12noon , Cllr Kieran McCarthy, in association with the Friends of St Finbarr's Hospital, will give a public historical walking tour of the hospital grounds (meet at gate). The walk is free and takes place to support the summer bazaar of the Friends. Cllr McCarthy noted: *"St Finbarr's Hospital, the city's former nineteenth century workhouse, serves as a vast repository of narratives, memories, symbolism, iconography and cultural debate"*. When the Irish Poor Relief Act was passed on 31 July 1838, the assistant Poor Law commissioner, William J. Voules came to Cork in September 1838 to implement the new laws. Meetings were held in towns throughout the country. By 1845, 123 workhouses had been built, formed into a series of districts or Poor Law Unions, each Poor Law Union containing at least one workhouse. The cost of poor relief was met by the payment of rates by owners of land and property in that district.

In 1841 eight acres, 1 rood and 23 perches were leased to the Poor Law Guardians from Daniel B. Foley, Evergreen House, Cork. Mr. Foley retained an acre, on which was Evergreen House with its surrounding gardens, which fronted South Douglas Road (now a vacant concrete space). The subsequent workhouse that was built on the leased lands was opened in December 1841. It was an isolated place, built beyond the City's toll house and toll gates. The Douglas Road workhouse was also one of the first of over 130 workhouses to be designed by the Poor Law Commissioners' architect George Wilkinson.

National Heritage Week & Kieran's Historical Walking Tours, August 2012:

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8982>

Saturday 18 August 2012, Historical walking tour of City Hall with Kieran as part of Cork Heritage Open Day, 10.30am, free, meet in foyer of old building, Learn about the early history of Cork City Council, Discover the development of the building and visit the Lord Mayor's Room (duration: 1 ¼ hours); booking applies, please see www.corkheritageopenday.ie.

Saturday 18 August 2012, *Memories of the Lee Valley*; historical exhibition by Kieran Discover some of the rich histories and memories of the River Lee valley. All day, as part of Water Heritage Open Day, Lifetime Lab, Lee Road, free event.

Tuesday 21 August 2012, Historical walking tour of Cork City with Kieran, meet at St Finbarre's Cathedral, 11am, free, discover the early origins of the City, learn about Cork's former Viking age core and the Anglo-Norman Walled town (duration: two hours).

Wednesday 22 August 2012, Historical walking tour of Blackpool with Kieran, meet at North Mon gates, Gerald Griffin Avenue, 11am, free; Explore the rich history of the area from Fair Hill to the heart of Blackpool, learn about nineteenth century shambles, schools, convents and industries (duration: 2 hours).

Thursday 23 August 2012, Douglas historical walking tour with Kieran, meet at St. Columba's Church Car Park, Douglas, 11am, free; Discover Douglas and its industrial heritage (duration: 2 hours).

Friday 24 August 2012, St Finbarr's Hospital and the workhouse tour with Kieran, meet at entrance to the hospital, 11am, free; learn about the life and times of the former nineteenth century workhouse on Douglas Road (duration: 2 hours).

Saturday 25 August 2012, Views from a Park, Historical walking tour with Kieran through the site of the new regional park, formerly the Kinsale Road Landfill, 11am, free event, Carparking on site, meet at central marquee (duration: 1 ½ hours; (part of an open day with Cork City Council) <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=8969>

Second call, launch of Discover Cork: Schools' Heritage Project 2013, in its tenth year, open to Cork primary and secondary schools, further info here.

http://corkheritage.ie/?page_id=1329

Blackrock Historical Walking Tours:

Earlier this year, I ran a walking tour of Blackrock village. On Saturday 22 September 2012, I will run this venture again (meet 2pm, Blackrock Castle, approx two hours)

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=9044>

Historical Walking tour of Old Cork Blackrock and Passage Railway line, Friday 28 September, 6.30pm with Kieran from Pier Head carpark, Blackrock, in aid of Irish Heart Foundation, E.15 to register, refreshments and ballad session at the Pier Head pub afterwards.

McCarthy's Cork Docklands Walking Tour, 6 October 2012:

<http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=9077>

Cllr Kieran McCarthy's new historical walking tour of Cork Docklands takes place on Saturday 6 October leaving at 2pm from Shalom Park, in front of Bord Gáis opposite Monarea Terrace (free, two hours). Some of the themes covered in the talk will be the development of such sites as the Marina and the Atlantic Pond and how they came into being, and the historic structures that still exist in the area. Much of the story of Cork's modern development is represented in their environs. The origin of the current Docklands is a product of centuries of reclamation and neogotiation of swampland.

Cllr McCarthy noted: *"Ever since Viking age time over 1,000 years ago, boats of all different shapes and sizes have been coming in and out of Cork's riverine and harbour region continuing a very long legacy of trade. Port trade was and still is the engine in Cork's development. To complement the growth of the port, extensive reclamation of swampland took place as well as physical infrastructure quays, wharfs and warehouses. I'm a big fan of the different shapes of these wharfs, especially the timber ones that have survived since the 1870s. Perhaps the theme that runs through the new walking tour is connections. The tour explores very interesting sites such as Jewtown, Hibernian Buildings, the old electricity power station, the Gas Works, the Docks, the old City Park Racecourse, the early story of Fords, the former site of the Munster Agricultural Society, Pairc Ui Chaoimh, and Kennedy Park. All these topics are all about connecting the city to wider themes of exportation and importation of goods, people and ideas into the city through the ages"*.