SuperValu TidyTowns

Caring for our environment

SuperValu TidyTowns Newsletter Issue 3 – 2026

The SuperValu TidyTowns Competition, administered by the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht and sponsored by SuperValu, supports the Sustainable Development Goals.

A Chairde,

Cuirimid fáilte chroíúil roimh léitheoirí uile an tríú heagrán de Nuachtlitir na mBailte Slachtmhara SuperValu do 2026.

We extend a warm welcome to all readers of the third issue of the SuperValu TidyTowns Newsletter for 2026.

Tá súil againn go bhfuil an t-eagrán seo ag teacht chugaibh féin, bhur theaghlach, chuig d'oibrithe deonacha agus chuig an bpobal go maith.

We hope this issue finds you and your families, volunteers and wider community well.

Arís, ba mhaith linn buíochas a ghabháil le gach grúpa a ghlac páirt sa chomórtas i mbliana agus leis na mílte oibrithe deonacha atá taobh thiar de gach ceann de na hiarratais sin. Tá an obair a dhéanann sibh chun bhur mbailte agus bhur sráidbhailte a dhéanamh mar atá siad inniu gan phraghas; ba chóir go mbeadh sibh go léir chomh bródúil as bhur gcuid iarrachtaí.

We want to once again say a sincere thank you to all our groups that entered the competition this year and to the thousands of volunteers behind each of those entries. The work you do in making your towns and villages what they are today is priceless, you should all be so proud of your efforts.

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Celebration Day, Carrick-on-Shannon Friday, 31st July 2026

President Connolly visited Carrick-on-Shannon to celebrate the town's remarkable success in the 2025 SuperValu TidyTowns competition by unveiling the commemorative Winner's Plaque at the Market Yard on Friday, 31st July 2026.

The plaque highlights the group's outstanding 2025 win and honours the town's dedication to maintaining a clean, beautiful and welcoming environment. During the visit, President Connolly met with the TidyTowns volunteers and local representatives.





Entente Florale 2026, Awards Ceremony

Entente Florale Europe was established in 1975, and their aim is to promote a greener and more pleasant environment in European cities, towns and villages, enhancing quality of life.

This year, six countries entered Entente Florale Europe with a total of 9 cities, towns and villages taking part. These were all assessed on site by an international jury during the summer, from June 20th to July 12th.

This year's Entente Florale Europe Awards Ceremony was held in Carlow, Ireland. There were numerous events held for the attending participants which showcased what Carlow has to offer.

On Saturday, 19th September a European Market was held in St. Patricks College where the participants had the opportunity to showcase their traditions, produce and culture of their communities. This was a free event and open to the public.



Blackrock Hut



Riverstown Hut



Matt & Pat from Carlow TidyTowns – Previous Gold medal Entente Florale Europe Winners



Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht

The Irish entrants for this year's Entente Florale Europe competition were Blackrock, Co. Louth and Riverstown, Co. Sligo. Both entrants worked very hard on their preparations for the competition with their dedication and commitment clearly reflected in the recognition they received at the awards ceremony.

Blackrock participated in the town category and was awarded a Gold Medal as well as receiving the School's Award 2026 for the school activities and projects in the community park. The jury panel commended the group's enhancement works at the former swimming pool with artistic wall murals, and the protection of biodiversity at Hamilton's Marsh.

Riverstown participated in the village category and was also awarded a Gold Medal. The jury panel was impressed by the group's enhancement and protection of village biodiversity at the elevated fort site and along the river landscapes.



Blackrock receiving their Gold Medal



Blackrock receiving their School Award



Riverstown receiving their Gold Medal

Congratulations to Blackrock and Riverstown on your wonderful achievements.



Coilín O'Reilly, Chief Executive of Carlow County Council handing the Entente Florale Europe Flag over to next year's host town Pomaretto, Italy.

Rush Tidy Towns Announce the winners of the Best Presented Estates and Businesses

On Saturday the 15th of August, Mayor Tony Murphy presented the awards for the Best Presented Estates and Businesses in Rush. The competition which has been running for several year was kindly sponsored by Rush Community Council this year.

The Estate Winners are –

- Best Large Estate – St. Catherine's
- Best Small Estate – Ravenswell
- Best Newcomer – Brookfield

Vice Chairperson Sarah Lowndes said, "the bar is continually raised due to the relentless work carried out by volunteers in the winning estates, where pride of place is very evident. Congratulations to all



St Cahterine's



Ravensewell



Brookfield

The Business Winners were -

- 1st - The Strand Bar
- 2nd - Rush Community Centre
- Best Flower Display - Hackett's Butchers
- Best Shop Front - The Harbour Bar

Chairperson Brendan O Reilly said, "Each year we are seeing more and more colourful real flowers adorning the shop fronts in the town, which play a huge role in the perception of the town. Well done and thank you for making such an effort to make our town look great"



The Strand Bar



Rush Community Centre



St Cahterine's



Ravensewell

National Ploughing Championships in Screggan, Co. Offaly

The 2026 National Ploughing Championships took place in Screggan, Tullamore, Co. Offaly from the 15th – 17th September. The Department's 2026 exhibition brought together information and guidance on a broad range of supports available to communities across Ireland.

We were delighted to have two TidyTowns groups attend the stand over the three days. This provided an excellent opportunity for the visitors at the ploughing to speak directly with the volunteers, receive a real insight into the work carried out by TidyTowns groups and understand the benefits of getting involved with your local group.

We would like to sincerely thank Clara TidyTowns and Trim TidyTowns for their time, support & bringing plenty community spirit to the Department's stand!



Clara TidyTowns committee members attended the National Ploughing Championships on Tuesday 15th September



Patricia attended the Ploughing on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht on Tuesday 15th and Wednesday the 16th September.



Trim TidyTowns committee members attended the National Ploughing Championships on Thursday 17th September, Minister Buttimer stopped by to say hello.

Exploring Nature & Biodiversity in Our Community

The Nature & Biodiversity category of the Tidy Towns competition continues to grow in importance, and many groups wonder how they can make progress without the resources to commission a professional biodiversity plan. There are plenty of achievable, impactful steps you can take right now to strengthen your entry and increase your community's connection with nature.

The official Nature & Biodiversity Handbook on the Tidy Towns website is an excellent starting point, but here are some practical ideas, some taken directly from the handbook

Understanding Your Local Biodiversity

It is important to understand nature that already exists around your community. One of the most effective ways to do this is by creating a habitat map of your area.

This map can highlight features such as:

- Native hedgerows
- Riverbanks and riparian zones
- Mature trees and small woodland pockets
- Areas left to grow wild
- Old stone walls, graveyards, and other "unexpected" biodiversity hotspots

A habitat map helps you see the ecological value already present in your community and identify how these habitats connect to form wildlife corridors.

Protecting What You Already Have

It's not always necessary to start new habitat creation projects. In fact, protecting and enhancing existing habitats is often just as valuable. You could focus on small achievable projects such as planting native trees that will in the gaps and improve habitat connectivity and increase the number of wildlife corridors in your community.

Discovering Nature in Unexpected Places

Exploring your community with fresh eyes can reveal surprising pockets of biodiversity. Lichen on gravestones, mosses and ferns on old walls, and wild corners of gardens all contribute to a more biodiverse environment. Taking time to notice these details helps build appreciation and informs future projects.

Creating a habitat map or surveying local wildlife is a wonderful opportunity to involve your nearest school.

Raising Awareness Locally

Awareness raising is a key part of the Tidy Towns mission. There are many creative ways to help people connect with nature:

- Guided nature walks with local experts
- Craft workshops using natural materials
- Well being activities such as forest bathing
- Biodiversity themed signage
- Social media posts highlighting local species and habitats (don't forget to tag your posts to make them more searchable)

These activities help build pride and understanding across the community.

In larger towns and housing estates, gardens can be a major resource for biodiversity. Encouraging residents to make small changes can have a big collective impact.

Ideas include:

- Leaving a corner of the garden wild
- Installing mini ponds
- Creating hedgehog highways between gardens
- Planting native shrubs and flowers
- Reducing mowing and pesticide use

When many people take small actions, the results are remarkable.

Moving Forward

You don't need a professional biodiversity plan to make meaningful progress in the Nature & Biodiversity category. By understanding your local habitats, protecting what already exists, involving your community, and raising awareness, you can develop projects that will help you progress in the competition

TidyTowns Adjudicator.

SuperValu Survey Gift Card Winners:

Thank you to all who took the time to complete this year's sustainability impact survey. We were delighted with the response received. The results will help measure the impact of the fantastic work you do on behalf of your communities!

The 26 winners of the €100 SuperValu Gift Cards have received their prizes and are outlined below:
One winner was selected from each county:

SuperValu TidyTowns Sustineo Report Winners 2026			
County	**TidyTowns Group**	**County**	**Tidy Towns Group**
Carlow	Ballymurphy TidyTowns	Longford	Drumlish TidyTowns
Cavan	Kilnaleck TidyTowns	Louth	Dromiskin TidyTowns
Clare	Quin Village TidyTowns Group	Mayo	Mulranny TidyTowns
Cork	Belgooly Tidy Villages	Meath	Oldbridge TidyTowns
Donegal	Ardaghey TidyTowns	Monaghan	Scotstown TidyTowns
Dublin	Phibsborough Village TidyTowns	Offaly	Shannonbridge TidyTowns
Galway	Headford TidyTowns	Roscommon	Lisacul TidyTowns
Kerry	Castlegregory TidyTowns	Sligo	Carney TidyTowns
Kildare	Celbridge TidyTowns	Tipperary	Ballysloe TidyTowns
Kilkenny	Castlecomer TidyTowns	Waterford	Clashmore Tidy Towns Association
Laois	Mountrath TidyTowns	Westmeath	Delvin TidyTowns
Leitrim	Cloone TidyTowns	Wexford	Ferns TidyTowns
Limerick	Newcastle West TidyTowns	Wicklow	Blessington TidyTowns

Let's Play Rush Sports Day

Rush Community Celebrates Another Successful Let's Play Rush Event

Another summer begins to draw to a close a the Let's Play Rush Summer Sports Day takes place at Tayleur's Point. The old-school style sports day filled with fun, laughter, and a wide range of sporting games and activities is open to all families in the area.

Developed as part of the European URBACT Playful Paradigm Project, Let's Play Rush continues to create opportunities for people of all ages to engage in play and community activities. Supported by Fingal County Council and delivered in partnership with Rush Tidy Towns, the 38th Rush Scout Group, local representatives, and community organisations, the initiative highlights the town's many public spaces including Rush's beaches and harbour, Rush Library, the Millbank Theatre, Kenure Woods, and local playgrounds and green spaces.

This year's event brought the community together through a variety of playful activities. Participants enjoyed youth and adult races, tug of war, egg and spoon competitions, and had the opportunity to play Giant Jenga and Connect 4. Families also engaged with local street artists and face painting, adding colour and creativity to the celebration.

Cllr Tony Murphy, Mayor of Fingal, who presented medals on the day, said, "What a wonderful event for the people of Rush and a massive word of thanks must go to Rush Tidy Towns, the 38th Scout Group Rush, members of the Let's Play Rush Initiative and Fingal County Council who have made this a fun day for all. It further highlights what can be achieved with community participation and the positive contribution it makes to all our towns and villages across the county."

Niall Mc Guirk, Healthy Fingal Coordinator with Fingal's Environment, Climate Action, Active Travel and Sport Department, praised the project's impact:

"We're delighted to see the Let's Play Rush Project going from strength to strength with the dedication and support of the local community in organising and running playful events in the town. The project encourages people of all ages to embrace play and enjoy the public spaces in Rush together, promoting a healthy, sustainable lifestyle and an inclusive environment for everyone."

With strong community participation and growing enthusiasm, Let's Play Rush continues to strengthen connections across Rush while showcasing the power of play to bring people together. Brendan O'Reilly, Chairperson of Rush Tidy Towns said, "the Let's Play Rush Committee take great pride and satisfaction from delivering this free annual summer event, and the feedback we get from the community is nothing but positive. We couldn't do this without the support and advice from Fingal County Council, and a massive thanks to them for their involvement".



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Green Guide for the Residents of Letterkenny

Letterkenny Tidy Towns recently launched the Green Guide for the Residents of Letterkenny, a 26-page booklet aimed at helping people find practical information on living more sustainably in their everyday lives.

The project came about through funding received from Donegal County Council, which allowed us to work with Flynn Furney Consultants. Over a six-month period, the consultants and the committee worked closely together to develop a guide that would be useful, relevant and easy to use.

The guide covers topics such as waste and recycling, food waste, energy use in the home, biodiversity, sustainable transport and ways of greening the area around our homes. While it contains general sustainability information, its main focus is on Letterkenny and the many local organisations, groups, services and initiatives that are already making a positive contribution to our community.

One of our main goals was to create something practical rather than preachy. The guide is intended as a resource that residents can pick up whenever they are looking for local information, contacts or ideas relating to sustainability. Around 40 local organisations, projects and services are featured throughout the publication.

A total of 1,000 copies have been printed and are being distributed through homes, schools, local businesses and community organisations. The guide is also available online through a downloadable PDF and supporting web resources.

The booklet was officially launched on 22 September by local environmentalist Aengus Kennedy, with approximately 40 people attending the event. The launch also received coverage through local newspapers, Highland Radio and social media.

We hope the Green Guide will serve as a useful local resource for years to come and help raise awareness of the many sustainability initiatives and opportunities that already exist within the Letterkenny community.











MEET DINNY AND WINNIE

How two community-named scarecrows became Stabannon's friendly guides

What began as a fun attraction at a local community day has grown into a light-hearted way of showcasing the people, places and projects at the heart of Stabannon Tidy Towns.

From nameless newcomers to local characters

Dinny and Winnie first appeared in Stabannon as two small scarecrows at the local Fun Day. Being part of the photo frame props, they helped draw visitors in for photographs, conversation with volunteers and a glimpse of the group's work.



There was just one difficulty:
the new arrivals had no names.



Stabannon Tidy Towns invited visitors to the stand to suggest names by QR code, before putting the shortlist to a public vote on Instagram and Facebook. After several days of close results and friendly debate, Dinny and Winnie were the names chosen by the community.

The scale of the response, however, both online and in person, showed how quickly people had taken Dinny and Winnie to heart. The number of suggestions, votes and conversations around them made it clear that the community was already helping to shape their story, inspiring the committee to give them a continuing role.

Discovering Stabannon, one stop at a time

Dinny and Winnie now feature in 'Dinny and Winnie Discover Stabannon' and 'Winnie's Wisdoms'. These are regular social media series introducing village life, from heritage sites and biodiversity areas to sustainability tips and showcasing the work of our volunteers with a dash of humor.



The characters have distinct personalities. Dinny is curious and enthusiastic; Winnie is observant, practical and ready with a gentle word of wisdom. Their conversations make each location feel like a story rather than a lesson.



Their adventures have already covered litter-picking, nature-friendly long grass and the community compost area, where a sign warning that 'Trespassers will be composted' gave Dinny cause for concern. There has even been the odd mishap along the way, including one memorable moment that left Dinny needing new trousers. With no more orange scarecrow-trousers available for repairs, he returned in a fresh pair of blue ones.

"Dinny and Winnie help us turn everyday TidyTowns work into stories that people want to follow."



A friendly route into bigger themes

Through their visits, Dinny and Winnie introduce themes such as community, heritage, biodiversity, sustainability and care of public spaces.

They are not the story themselves, but a friendly way to guide people through it, especially when volunteers prefer not to be in the spotlight. Their humor makes important messages more welcoming, while the real work of residents, volunteers and partners remains at the center.

Where will they go next?

Future visits will bring Dinny and Winnie to yet unexplored sites in Stabannon, such as planters, heritage sites and wildlife areas, but also to volunteer sessions, celebrating the people who care for Stabannon and explaining why their work matters.
What began as a simple naming competition has become a distinctive community storytelling project, opening friendly conversations about place, pride, nature and volunteering.
For Stabannon Tidy Towns, the village remains the real star. Dinny and Winnie simply help everyone discover it.

Follow us on @StabannonTidyTowns for our adventures

Poetry Corner

A new Day

The mist is rising from the bog
The clouds are rolling by
The smell of new mown hay drifts on
The starling fly into the sky

The sun is slowly rising as the day begin anew
More tasks I take on board
And indeed I hope to do
The angelus bell rings loud and clear
From St Ailbe's church nearby
With cap in hand we bow and pray
And wipe the sweat from our brow

The rocks fly high in the sky
As darkness falls apon us
Another day has come and gone
As we ask God's grace fall on us

A fox is howling in the night
I hear a wee dog barking
A tom cat prowls upon the roof
The rain is simply lashing

I settle down into my bed
My body tired and aching
I thank you God for another day
I will speak with you when waking

Denis Heffernan
Emly TidyTowns

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Sustainability & Biodiversity themes in the SuperValu TidyTowns Competition

The SuperValu TidyTowns competition is the envy of Europe with its accolade of Europe's longest running environmental competition. Working as an independent adjudicator in the SuperValu TidyTowns competition for the last 18 years I have had the privilege of reading 100s of entry forms and seeing first-hand the amazing work of TidyTowns volunteers.

One of the most stressful jobs I have been told many times, is completing the entry form. Providing these details allows adjudicators to understand the work completed over the past 12 months, and in particular the aspects that are not so obvious when we visit. I thought I would share examples of projects under the Sustainability and Nature and Biodiversity categories that caught the eye that TidyTowns (TT) communities have advanced, often in association with other community groups and their local authorities.

Litter Picking is one of the easiest and best actions volunteers can advance to protect local wildlife. Work of Sligo Kayak club to remove debris from the Garavogue river is one of the annual actions from Sligo TT's long-term plan that helps protect biodiversity across this busy community. Beach, trail walkers and families (picker pals) now have pickers and bags to encourage their help to lift debris on their travels.

Transport – Carndonagh TT has a wonderful grass-roofed bus/bee stop in the centre of this Donegal Town where pollinators can forage. Road cycling awareness training was notable in a few communities. At the other end of the Country, Rosscarbery TT recently surveyed their small community to identify local barriers to using public transport - different bus stops for different service providers was one confusing issue which they are now addressing. Other communities have shared details of how to buy a bus ticket which confused some (cash, tap, Leap or online). This year on my travels I saw that many bus shelters have been upgraded across the country and include timetables, which is a good collaborative initiative.



Bike Circus Poster, Clonakilty

Water – Every day whilst out adjudicating I had to find a toilet, and it has been wonderful to see so many clean public facilities – often managed by TT volunteers. Are there push-button taps? Are cleaning agents suitable for use in septic tanks? Are lights motion-activated? Is there information on what not to flush? Tralee TT TY students have advanced the Wet-Wipes project to stop them being flushed. The public toilets at Bantry have wonderful marine wildlife mural on the outside walls. South Dublin County Council's worked with TTs on 'The River Starts here' campaign raises awareness of how we may impact on water quality if we throw oils or chemicals down the drain.



Rosscarbery AIPP Flowers Bed in Town Centre

Storm Water – Rainwater planters help slow down rainwater run-off and many communities have advanced rain gardens or urban drainage schemes. Ballinahown TT have drop-kerbs in the village car park directing rainwater into the flower beds. This is part of a wider rain-water management scheme that also includes two large, manufactured wetlands full of wildlife into which storm water flows. When power-washing, many TT communities now only use harvested rainwater, and after this hot Summer the drought-resistant perennials that survived in landscaping schemes are the future focus.



AIPP Mowing at Knock

Community Woodlands and Gardens and Trails – Community polytunnels are a common sight in most TT villages free from slug pellets and using their own home-made compost. "Help yourself" trays of produce are located nearby and clever use of solar panels in allotments pump water around areas such as Skerries and Abbeyleix. You can follow the ogham woodland tree-trail in Birdhill's community garden and check out the wildlife in the pond they created. 'Moon gardens' are being planted now to attract night-time pollinators. Knockatallon, a TT community within one of Monaghan's only Natura 2000 sites has a wooden sculpture of a Hen Harrier to celebrate this designation. The volunteers in Knockatallon have grown native trees from acorns and plan to give them to local children on special occasions. Camross TT have planted 100s of pollinator-friendly bulbs and walkers can read all about actions to enhance biodiversity at home throughout the four seasons.

When peat-cutting stopped in the Midlands, Kilteevan TT decided to discover and celebrate the wildlife living on their doorstep. Over a decade on, they have community walks including the wonderful "Lilliput Way" – a popular child-centred interactive trail through their wetlands. Malahide



Debs dresses Castleblayney

TT gave away leaf composting cages for local residential estates as well as running training on this.

The repurposing of an old BBQ into a herb garden is one of the many actions advanced by in Riverstown TT in Co. Sligo. They have followed the actions in their Biodiversity Action

Plan (BAP) such as getting up close with their insect community and being whoa-ed by the pink colours of elephant hawk-moths. Sligo TT organised workshops with school children making their own bird and bat boxes. Then the Sligo TT volunteers erected them in nearby public parks for all to enjoy. Check out many more TT community BAPs at https://actionforbiodiversity.ie/



Most sports clubs across the country now organise gear-swaps, have water bottle refill stations and leave wildlife-friendly corners on their grounds – all of which is appreciated.

Churches – At the recent 'Returning to Nature' conference at Knock Shrine I met TidyTowns volunteers who are linking with their Church communities to provide "Havens for Nature" on their landholdings. This included All Ireland Pollinator-Plan (AIPP) mowing regimes to create special Celtic symbols, planting native trees and hedging to provide cover and safe passage between biodiversity-rich areas, and the Muddy Church Sunday School initiative of the Church of Ireland in North Mayo.

Circular Economy – Last year Castleblayney TT's organised a Debs Dress Pop Up where over 100 pre-loved dressed where available for resale. At the Atlantic Technological University (ATU) Letterkenny, students operate The Green Pantry, an on-campus food pantry and sustainability initiative.

Energy – some communities have solar panels on buildings/sheds and power their tools with solar energy. This means that any strimming or mowing is emission free. Fingal County Council in North Dublin helped some of their TidyTowns Groups providing EV Cargo Bikes to move brooms and buckets around. Likewise, Mulranny TT rents out EV bikes powered from their own roof-top EV panels. Many TidyTowns are also involved with Sustainable Energy Communities (SEC). Fivealley SEC formed a Solar Meitheal working together they had 700+ solar panels installed across 56–57 homes within a 10km area



Bees on Flowers at Ennis Roundabout

Green-Guides This week sees the launch of the Letterkenny TT's Green Guide – a practical local sustainability resource designed to help residents make eco-friendly choices in their everyday lives highlighting local ways to make a difference through their #Power of One campaign

Some of the most compelling effort is where communities are working on Citizen Science projects to monitor and submit data centrally to the National Biodiversity Data Centre through initiatives such as Flower Insect Counts and BSBI's 100 plants Challenge and a lot of Malahide TT volunteers help out annually with the Coast Watch survey.

The provision of many more staff to support communities such as Heritage & Biodiversity Officers, NPWS wardens, and River Basin Community staff (formerly LawPro) mean that our TidyTowns communities have great supports and appropriate guidance. The TidyTowns community movement showcases the very best of community spirit and environmental stewardship across Ireland. I am very proud to be involved with it.



Birdhill Ogham Trees and Pond



Dropped Kerb in Park to let water into Flowerbeds- Ballinahown



Grass Roof Bus Stop – Carndonagh



New Hedgerows at Knock Shrine



Pocket Orchard in Co. Kildare



Sligo TT Bird and Bat Boxes

Sharon Eastwood, independent TT adjudicator.

Inaugural Rush Memory Lane Tea Dance Takes Place

If you were in Rush sailing Club on Sunday September 20th you may have thought that you had just stepped back in time to the golden age of vintage glamour. Rush Tidy Towns were hosting their inaugural Rush Memory Lane Tea Dance thanks to generous funding from Creative Ireland. Guests were welcomed to the venue by the magnificent sounds of award-winning local piper Cillian Bisset who provided a wonderful musical introduction to a memorable afternoon. Tables were thoughtfully decorated with displays of vintage crockery and floral arrangements.

A display of timeless artifacts at the entry way which included items such as a typewriter, gramophone and a singer sewing machine helped to set the scene. The guests were served a delicious selection of freshly prepared hand cut sandwiches along with a stunning array of tea cakes and sweet treats all accompanied by a never-ending supply of tea and coffee. The waitresses, all Rush Tidy Towns volunteers, added to the vintage atmosphere in their charming black outfits complete with frilly white aprons. Fabian Pollard, local guitarist and singer, provided the first hours musical entertainment including the firm favourite" Sweet Caroline" which certainly got the party atmosphere going. Then it was time for the highlight of the afternoon, the Essential Big Band, a nine-piece swing band and their incredibly talented singer James.

The combination of saxophones, trumpets, drums, bass guitar, a trombone and keyboards produced a stunning sound which blew the audience away. Classic songs such as "Fly me to the Moon", " I've got you under my Skin" and "Mack the Knife" ensured that the dance floor was well occupied for the next two hours. During the short interval, some lucky guests won raffle prizes of boxes of chocolates and soon it was time for the music to start again. The smiling faces of guests and volunteers alike were testament to the remarkable success of this much needed event. Chairperson, Brendan O' Reilly concluded by thanking all of the volunteers who contributed to ensure the smooth organisation and running of this event. Hopefully it will be the first of many!

Siobhan O'Reilly – Rush Tidy Towns Committee











Get Involved and Make a Difference with Hector Ó hEochagáin

This summer, Hector Ó hEochagáin joined SuperValu TidyTowns to launch the '**Get Involved and Make a Difference**' campaign, encouraging people across Ireland to get involved with their local TidyTowns group and experience the impact that volunteering can have on their community.

Following the campaign launch in Dalkey, Hector hit the road, visiting **Ballymun, Clara, Belmullet, Killarney and Tramore**, where he had the opportunity to meet the people behind the committees, hear their stories and get involved in the work happening within their communities.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to each of the SuperValu TidyTowns committees who welcomed Hector so warmly into their community and generously gave their time to be part of the campaign. Your enthusiasm, dedication and community spirit helped bring '**Get Involved and Make A Difference**' to life and, most importantly, helped shine a light on the people at the heart of TidyTowns.

Watch Hector's visit to Ballymun, Co. Dublin

Watch Hector's visit to Clara, Co. Offaly

Watch Hector's visit to Belmullet, Co. Mayo

Watch Hector's visit to Killarney, Co. Kerry

Watch Hector's visit to Tramore, Co. Waterford

2026 SuperValu TidyTowns Results

The SuperValu TidyTowns Awards Ceremony 2026 was held on Friday, 23rd October in Croke Park. Coverage from the day will be included in the next edition of the newsletter.

The results booklet and reports are available on the TidyTowns Website - https://www.tidytowns.ie/

Well done to all entrants!

Keep in Touch

As always, please continue to send us in your photos, articles and updates for inclusion.

Niamh, Claire, Shauna & Siobhán

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