

SuperValu TidyTowns Newsletter

Issue 5-2023

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

A Chairde,



Welcome to our fifth issue of the SuperValu TidyTowns newsletter of 2023. Thank you to all of the groups who have submitted their entry for the 2023 SuperValu TidyTowns competition. We have over 870 registered entries, what an impressive amount of villages, towns and large urban centres across the country doing their bit to make their place, a better place.



Excitement is building towards the announcement of the results of this year's competition on Friday the 6th October. This year's event will be held in a new venue in The Croke Park Conference Centre and we are looking forward to meeting you on the day and congratulating our prize winners.



We wish to advise that there is a change to this year's Results Booklet. In our continued efforts to adopt more sustainable practices, there will not be any printed copies available on the day of the Results Ceremony. Results will be available on our website www.tidytowns.ie and will be accessible on the day using a QR code. One copy of the printed booklet will be posted to each TidyTowns group the week after the ceremony.



SuperValu

In this issue we bring you stories from around the country, our 2022 Mid-West and South West Regional Awards Ceremony, Information on Ireland's Sustainable Development Goals Week, information on our stand at the National Ploughing Championships taking place on 19th, 20th and 21st of September, Stories from Dromiskin Tidy Towns, which included a lovely poem from Liam Reilly, Secretary Dromiskin TidyTowns.



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Ireland's SDG Week 2023

SDG Week 2023!

SDG Week is back! Ireland's second Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week will take place from **23 September – 1 October**, in conjunction with European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW), the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications and Libraries Ireland.

SDG Week is part of the wider European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW), which this year, will be held from 18 September - 8 October. Last year, ESDW saw over 7000 events taking place across 24 countries, with over 100 events held across Ireland.

The SDGs work towards ambitions such as an end to poverty, sustainable economic development, protection of the environment, access to health and education services, gender equality, peaceful societies, and decent work.

To take part in SDG week – organise an event (however big or small!), or participate in events in your area, during the annual week of action for the SDGs.

You can register an event and find out what's taking place in Ireland at: www.esdw.eu.

For more information on SDG Week and ideas for taking part, please see below:

- [SDG Week 2023 Flyer](#)
- [SDG Week Information Note](#)
- [SDG Week Event Ideas Note](#)

For more information on sustainable development and the SDGs go to: www.gov.ie/sdgs/

Take Part in SDG Week 2023!



Ireland's second Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Week is taking place this year from **23 September - 1 October**. It forms part of the wider European Sustainable Development Week (ESDW), which runs from 18 September - 8 October 2023. Last year ESDW saw over 7,000 activities taking place across 24 countries, with over 100 events taking place in Ireland.

The SDGs belong to everyone and SDG Week is open to all - individuals, groups, schools and colleges, businesses and institutions.

To take part, organize an event - however big or small - or highlight an activity or project that promotes sustainable development and join the annual week of action for the SDGs.

- 1 START NOW!**
Think about how you could promote sustainable development and plan an activity, project or event to take place during SDG Week
- 2 REGISTER**
Upload your idea on the ESDW website:
www.esdw.eu
- 3 ACT!**
Organize and promote your initiative during ESDW - **18 September - 8 October 2023!**
Explore which events are taking place and participate in activities near you!

@Dept_ECC
@EuropeanSDWeek



DeptECC
EuropeanSustainableDevelopmentWeek



For more information on sustainable development, SDG Week and ideas for taking part please see www.gov.ie/SDGs

Our Values



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

The Department of Rural and Community Development prides itself on delivering excellent customer service. We are committed to our values of Respect, Integrity, Innovation and Connectedness.

Dromiskin Tidy Towns

Community Conversations in Dromiskin for National Heritage Week 2023

Dromiskin Heritage Park, in late summer sunshine, was the setting for an event organised by Dromiskin Tidy Towns (Co. Louth) to celebrate National Heritage Week 2023. The Chairman of the Tidy Towns Committee welcomed guests to the event noting that the Park was developed on Parish lands and only made possible as a result of the support of the Parish Finance Committee in granting the necessary permission for the use of the land. Many of those in attendance were relatives of parishioners being honoured in various interpretations that highlight the varied history of the community.



Colm Markey, MEP officiated at the event which involved the unveiling of three interpretative panels, part funded by a grant from the Heritage Council, on the Famous Daughters of the Parish, Farming Heritage and Traveller Heritage. Also being unveiled at the event were three LEADER funded interpretations including an Ogham Stone highlighting the significant dates in the community's past, a book sign on the Natural Heritage and one of two audio units telling stories, both in English agus as Gaeilge, from the past with voice recordings on an age friendly basis from local residents ranging in age from 11 years to 89 years.



The celebrations in the Heritage Park concluded with a poem, composed for the event, read by Aoibheann Lynch Principal of the local primary school with guests told of the superb collaboration between the school and the Tidy Towns committee resulting in many projects of mutual benefit coming to fruition. To celebrate Water Heritage Day those in attendance also paid a quick visit to Ginnety's Pond Nature Park, to see the works carried out to date to restore this wetland and create a community public space on the site, recently donated by a local family for community use. A cuppa and community conversations followed where stories were shared of associations with Dromiskin down through the years!



2022 Regional Awards Ceremonies

Our 2022 South West and Mid-West Regional Awards ceremony took place on Monday 11th September in the Fernhill House Hotel and Gardens in Clonakilty, Cork West. The event was well attended on the night and it was lovely to welcome TidyTowns groups from Cork, Clare, Limerick and Kerry. Minister of State for Housing Kieran O' Donnell, Mayor of the County of Cork Frank O' Flynn, Mayor of Clonakilty Chris Henchy attended with Kevin O' Shea, Regional Manager SuperValu and awards were presented to the worthy winners in the 2022 competition. The event was a great success and we hope those of you who attended enjoyed the ceremony.



Rosscarbery TidyTowns – 2022 Regional Award Winners Irelands Tidiest Village



Clonakilty Tidy Towns – 2022 Regional Award Winners Irelands Tidiest Small Town



Ennis Tidy Towns – 2022 Regional Award Winners Irelands Tidiest Large Urban Centre

We are working on the remaining event which will cover the South East region. This will take place in Blackwater in Wexford.

We appreciate your patience on the holding of these events, more details to follow.

National Ploughing Championships 2023

This year's National Ploughing Championships is set to return to Ratheniska, Co. Laois from September 19th to 21st. We will have a stand in the Government of Ireland tent and look forward to seeing those of you who attend this yearly event.

Finally...

I wish to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself to you all since taking over the reins from John in August of this year. I have very big shoes to fill!

Helen and Anne have been so welcoming and helpful in showing me the ropes. It has been a real eye-opener to fully realise the extent of the innovativeness, hard work and dedication it takes from each of you to ensure our towns and villages continue to flourish.

I look forward to working with the Adjudication Panel, Sponsors and volunteers and to meeting more of you at the 2023 National Awards Ceremony on Friday 6th October 2023.

Niamh

Poets Corner

National Heritage Week 2023 Dromiskin Tidy Towns (Co. Louth)

To celebrate National Heritage Week
Into our history we're taking a peek
To create awareness we've used many channels
From Audio Units to Interpretative Panels

One panel tells the story of farming
In bygone times when life was simple and charming
If we've left any out please don't blame us
As we celebrate many daughters so famous

We also pay tribute to travellers who with horse and cart
In our community's past played a big part
And while all three in the park certainly enchant
They couldn't happen without a Heritage Council Grant

Our new Ogham Stone also awaits
Highlighting our community's historical dates
And because everyone loved our book sign on trees
We've added another on birds, butterflies and bees

Our Audio Unit is another new addition
So to plenty of heritage stories you can now listen
To provide these new items we have to report
We needed LEADER and LCDC support

On this special day we're delighted to see
Joining our celebration is Colm Markey MEP
Confident of our future and proud of our past
We honour Dromiskin's heritage so very vast

Thank you to Liam and Dromiskin TidyTowns for this editions poem.

Social Media

Communication is key, so they say and that is very true. It's good to talk, they say, but in this modern age, we communicate in many different ways. Social media is one such way in which we can share information on what we are doing and on useful hints and topics that may be of interest to other groups.

We always ask you to "Keep in Touch" and to follow our social media channels and posts so you can keep informed on what is happening the SuperValu TidyTowns world.



<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSuperValuTidyTowns>



<https://twitter.com/TidyTownsIre>



<https://www.tidytowns.ie>



SuperValu who have been sponsoring the SuperValu TidyTowns competition for over thirty years would also encourage you to follow them and to include them on your posts so that the message can continue to travel.

SuperValu have a social media presence on Facebook and Instagram and their links are included here;

<https://www.facebook.com/SuperValuIreland/>

https://www.instagram.com/supervalu_irl/

Keep in Touch

Well that brings us to the end of another issue of the SuperValu TidyTowns newsletter. We hope you find the articles of interest and that you continue to share your stories with us, it is your newsletter after all.

Anne, Helen & Niamh

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Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

