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COMMUNITY TIMES

COMUNIDADE LIWES



Supporting Safer Communities Campaign 2012



An Garda Síochána | Working with Communities to Protect and Serve

COMMUNITY TIMES

eNEWSLETTER

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About this eNewsletter

We would like to thank everyone for comments and good practice material sent in.

THIS NEWSLETTER HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO BE READ ONLINE. PLEASE DO NOT PRINT.

Editorial

Welcome to the Summer 2012 edition of the Community Times eNewsletter.

As part of our service at Community Relations and Community Policing Division we are publishing a quarterly eNewsletter for the information of our partners representing such crime prevention initiatives as Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch, Joint Policing Committees and Local Policing Fora.

It will keep you up to date with important developments, news and events happening in the area of Community Policing.

This edition features articles on holiday security and the Garda Age Card as well as a variety of community events and crime prevention initiatives being held nationwide.

We continue to celebrate our engagement with the communities in which we serve, through information and articles of interest as well as examples of good practice from around the country.

These innovative examples of good practice in crime prevention initiatives, submitted by Garda members involved in Community Relations duties and activities, will be added to a permanent database of 'Good practice Initiatives' to be utilised by Community Policing Units nationwide.

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On the Cover...

**Community Gardaí
raising awareness of
the Supporting Safer
Communities Campaign**



C.A. Crime Prevention Night



The recent Clonbur & Corr na Móna Community Alert Crime Prevention Night held in Áras Pobail Chorr na Móna proved a fine success with the huge crowd taking Liz Carney, Door Person by surprise.

The event which was chaired by Patsy Carney, Chairperson - featured presentations by Margaret Kineavy, Secretary, on Community Alert and the work undertaken by the scheme. She also praised the co-ordinators for all their work during the year.

Sergeant Patrick Flanagan, Crime Prevention Officer, An Garda Síochána spoke with particular emphasis on Crime Prevention and asked everyone to be vigilant and to report suspicious activity, Sergeant Tom Butler, District Community Alert Sergeant spoke on local issues and Bernard Kearney, Community Alert Development Officer, Muintir na Tíre commended the scheme as being one of the best in the country and Launched "Community Alert Awareness Month".

A mini quiz was run by the youth - Fearghal Kineavy, John Gerard Kyne, Eoin O'Sullivan & Lorraine Mannion.

The prizes were presented by

Éamon Ó Cuiv TD.

Free Hi-visibility Vests were given out for walking for a healthy heart. Brighten up – Be seen – Be safe – Be healthy.

Then it was opened to the floor for the public to have their say. Refreshments which were enjoyed by all were prepared by the three Mary Walsh's and Maureen Kineavy ended a very enjoyable community event.

The committee would like to thank everyone who attended and the local businesses for their support. Míle buíochas.

Article submitted by Margaret Kineavy, Secretary of Clonbur Community Alert, Co. Galway

Pictured: Above L-R Superintendent Tony Ó'Domhnaill, Eoghan Colton, Daragh Carter, Liam Murphy and Eoin Egan

Middle L-R Tomás Kyne with Éamon Ó Cuiv TD

Below L-R Fearghal Kineavy, Margaret Kineavy, Éamon Ó Cuiv TD, Sergeant Tom Butler, Eoin O'Sullivan & Lorraine Mannion





Supporting Safer Communities Campaign

The "Supporting Safer Communities Campaign" May 3rd-7th 2012 was launched by Garda Commissioner Martin Callinan on 2nd May at Community Relations and Community Policing Division

The main objective of this campaign is to engage with and raise awareness within our communities of initiatives aimed at:

- Crime Prevention/Reduction of Burglary
- Road Safety
- Supporting Victims of Crime

The campaign offers An Garda Síochána the opportunity to remind the public of the small and simple crime prevention steps they can take to help us to reduce crime for everyone. By working in partnership Gardaí and the community can help to build and maintain a safer environment.

An Garda Síochána are conscious that our communities are sometimes as likely to be impacted by fear of crime as they are by a direct experience of crime. Reducing that fear is of fundamental importance to An Garda Síochána and that is why we place a significant emphasis on working with communities and community groups

so that our combined efforts can find better solutions to local problems and identify how we can best meet community needs.

Representatives from Community Alert, Neighbourhood Watch and the Crime Victims Helpline attended the launch event and were thanked by the Garda Commissioner, who assured them that we in An Garda Síochána are fully appreciative of their efforts.

We have many partners that help us everyday in preventing crime. 'Partnerships' are fostered between An Garda Síochána and the community in order to find local solutions to local problems and increase safety and security in our society. A safer community can be achieved by visible, accessible Garda involvement, in the various community partnerships operating locally.

In essence, this campaign offers an opportunity to actively engage and work with, all sections of the community, to achieve a

common purpose of improved public safety, through the provision of effective crime prevention and road safety advice.

Pictured: Above L-R Vanessa Clarke, Community Alert, Assistant Commissioner Jack Nolan, Gillian Hussey, John Hogan, Maeve Ryan, Commissioner Martin Callinan, Chief Superintendent Anne-Marie McMahon

Below L-R Pat Walsh, Neighbourhood Watch, Commissioner Martin Callinan





Mayfield Gardaí Charity Concert

Gardaí attached to the Community Policing Unit in Mayfield District recently organised a Music Concert in Aid of The Cope Foundation. The Concert was themed "An Evening of Music and Song"

The concert featured Cara O'Sullivan the well known Cork Soprano and the Garda Síochána Band. The Cork Garda Choir and the local award winning Choir the Willcollane Singers also preformed on the night.

The event was held in Our Lady Crowned Church in Mayfield. The church is celebrating it's Golden Jubilee this year. The concert was a sell out, attended by over 900 local residents.

A cheque for €10,000 was presented to Cope Foundation before the end of next week.

The following day the Garda Band held a concert at Neptune Stadium which was attended by over 450 children from 5th classes from the 17 schools in Mayfield District .

The Garda Mounted Unit , the local Garda Dog Unit , the RSU and Traffic Units were in attendance out side the Neptune Stadium before the event.

All the children got an opportunity to meet and interact with the Gardaí from these sections.

The Mounted Unit accompanied by Garda Mick O'Connell, Community Garda in Watercourse Road, went to the Blackpool Shopping Centre and met with local residents and shoppers.

In the afternoon the Garda Units visited The Cope Foundation in Montenotte and met with children with physical and intellectual special needs.

A Garda photographer was on hand to take a wide range of photographs over the two day period.

These are photographs of the presentation of a cheque for €10,000 to Cope Foundation following the fundraiser.

The photo on the right shows on the left , Garda Mick O'Connell, Watercourse Road, Garda

Helen Courtney, Mayfield.

The presentation is being made to Colette Kelleher, the CEO of Cope Foundation.

The main photo above shows Garda Mick O'Connell, Eibhlin Payne, Blizzard Entertainment, Cork, (The main sponsors of the event) Colette Kelleher, the CEO of Cope Foundation, and John Clifford of Cope Foundation, Montenotte.

Article submitted by: John O'Connor Sergeant, Community Policing, Mayfield District.





Suicide Training - Blarney

Following a number of recent suicides and attempted suicide incidents involving young people in the Blarney Area, Garda O'Dwyer (Community Garda in Blarney) has collaborated with representatives from Cork Foyer, Health Service Executive, Matt Talbot Service, Youth Services, St Nicholas Trust, Foróige, The Mill youth café and Blarney United FC to establish a Suicide Awareness / Action Group in Blarney.

The inaugural meeting Blarney Action for Youth took place on the 24th June 2011 at 10.30 am at the Blarney Woollen Mills Hotel, Blarney, County Cork. The meeting was well attended by people representing a cross-section of groups in the Blarney area. Blarney Action for Youth group will be a sub-committee of Blarney Community Council. Various initiatives have been undertaken by the Blarney Action for Youth group over the last number of months to highlight and bring Suicide awareness to people residing in the Blarney Area.

Safe Talk suicide awareness training was initiated by Blarney Action for Youth. This 3 hour training program was provided and presented by the Health Promotion Unit of the Health Service Executive. So far, in excess

of sixty people living in Blarney have been trained in Safe Talk Suicide awareness by the H.S.E.

In January 2012, at the Blarney Policing Forum, a pocket sized support card which was produced by Blarney Action for Youth Group was launched. This Support Card contains various Helpline & Emergency telephone numbers in addition to online help and support. This has been distributed to various clubs, groups, shops, schools, etc in the Blarney area. If the support card saves one life - it will be well worth the effort.

It is hoped that a LinkZ Project (Suicide Prevention Program) which will be run in conjunction with The Health Service Executive will be implemented in the Blarney Area in the near future.

Pictured: Above L-R Blarney Community Garda Sean O'Dwyer & Denis Murphy, Chairperson of Blarney Action for Youth





Garda Age Card

Have you ever been asked to prove your age? Well, if you have, chances are that you have had to go looking for a passport or a driving licence (if you have one). But, there is another way – you can go to www.agecard.ie and order an Age Card.

The Age Card is issued under the Intoxicating Liquor Act of 1988 and is a “proof of age” card to prove that the holder is legally old enough to purchase alcohol.

The card is widely accepted as the preferred Proof of Age ID and costs just €10.

The card shows:

- Name
- Date of Birth
- Photograph
- Numerous security features to ensure its validity

To Apply for a card the Applicant needs the following:

- A Birth Certificate or a Passport or a GNIB card
- One other form of ID
- One colour passport photograph
- €10 payment from a credit/debit card or an Age Card Voucher (Voucher can be purchased in any Post Office)

The following steps will guide you through getting your card so go online today at www.agecard.ie for all information and make your application.

- 1 Apply at www.agecard.ie, paying the €10 fee with Debit Credit card
- 2 An Application Form printed with details you entered will arrive in the post from the Printers, usually within 3 days
- 3 Bring the Application Form to your local Garda Station for authentication - you will need a photo and proof of identity
- 4 The Garda Station will send your authenticated Application Form and photo to the printers
- 5 Your Age Card will arrive in the post from the Printers, usually within 10 working days of authentication

You can print off the Age Card Poster from the website as well if you want to promote the acceptance of the Age Card in your local businesses.



Around The Country...



Over a 5 year period the Naas Garda League has grown to a steady 36 Teams for all the age groups and each year hundreds of games have been held in generally good weather. An event of this size with approx. 380 children to be organised over a 14 day period has been no easy task but is achievable with the loyal help and enthusiastic support from members of the public from the locality. The Garda League has raised money for both local and national endeavours. To date the event has raised approx. €5000. Organisations to benefit from this include: Naas Care of the Aged, Naas Elderly Housing Fund (Sallins Road), St Lukes Hospital (Dublin), and Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children. The 2012 event runs from 18th to 29th June. Details at: www.naasgardaleague.com.



Garda Cathal Walsh, Dunboyne, organised a Crime Prevention evening at the Dunboyne Castle Hotel for representatives from ten local Community Alert groups. Guest speakers were Gemma McDonnell Task Community Care, Vanessa Clarke from Muintir Na Tire and Sgt Dean Kerins, Meath Crime Prevention Officer. Valuable information from all speakers was passed on including the setting up of local web text which all the groups are interested in getting up and running. Sergeant Dave Campbell recently assigned as Community Sergeant for the Dunboyne area was also present and introduced himself to those attending.



Garda Kate Daly Ní Bhroin and Garda David Sheeran worked with Paul Keogh, FAI development officer for the Balbriggan District organising a football tournament, on the 12th of April for youth's aged between 13-21 years within the district. The tournament was held in Glebe North football club between 12pm-3pm with the focus on engaging local young people in a socially inclusive and crime preventative programme during their Easter holidays from school. Approximately 100 young people attended the event. The event was attended by local parents and friends creating a community atmosphere. Such initiatives have been acknowledged by local resident associations and Joint Policing Committee at public meetings.



A Football Tournament took place at Blarney United Football Club on the evening of the 27th April 2012, jointly organized by Blarney Youth Club and The Community Policing Unit based at Blarney Garda Station. Garda medals, supplied by the National Community Policing Office, were presented to all participants on the night, as part of the Justice Cup 2012. This is the second year of the six-a-side football tournament between various Foróige Youth Clubs based in Cork City and county area and a Blarney Garda Team. The tournament was held on the night of 27th April 2012 at Blarney United F.C.



Students from Transition Year in G.C.C. took part in the Young Social Innovators Project. Its Theme was "Helping the Community fight Crime" Community Garda Noel Fitzgerald spoke to the students about "Glanmire Community Text Alert Network". They gathered in excess of 170 mobile numbers from parents of children attending G.C.C. The total number now, on the Glanmire Community Text Alert Network is 750. This Network is effective in assisting in solving crimes as well as crime prevention via Text message.



This photo is of Garda Mirel Basic, Kevin Street Garda Station taken at the Radisson Hotel, Stillorgin on Friday 25th May 2012. The photo is with members of the Bosnian National Football Team who were relaxing in their hotel prior to their game with Ireland at the Aviva Stadium on Saturday 26th May 2012. Garda Mirel Basic is a Bosnian National and as a member of the Community Relations Team in Kevin Street went to meet his National Team to welcome them to Ireland.





Before Going on Holiday... Secure Your Home!

With the clocks going forward and peoples' thoughts turning to 'getting away' for weekend breaks and holidays it may be timely to remind people of the need for vigilance in securing their property when going away. The following are some tips you may find useful in giving you peace of mind and hopefully adding to your enjoyment of your break!

- Inform a trusted neighbour or relative of your travel arrangements, intended destination and contact details. Do not unwittingly advertise your travel arrangements to others.
- Invite neighbours to make use of your driveway for parking.
- Arrange to have your lawn mowed, particularly when absent for long periods in summer.
- Cancel your milk, paper deliveries etc.

- Arrange for a neighbour or relative to collect your mail or use Mailminder from An Post.
- Make full use of light timing devices and do not have curtains drawn during the day time. Your neighbour may oblige with this duty.
- If you have a domestic alarm – inform your monitoring centre of your absence and ensure any nominated key holders will attend promptly to any activation.
- Be aware of any insurance limitations on vacant premises.
- Notify your local Gardaí of your absence from home.
- Invest in a quality safe for any valuables left in your home.
- Carry out a 'housekeeping' exercise around the grounds of your home and remove and secure any unsecured items.



If you have any concerns in relation to home security contact your local Community Garda

