

Dún Laoghaire Harbour News

Dún Laoghaire, Dublin - Ireland

2017

Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company

BICENTENARY LAUNCH

The 31st May 2017 marks the laying of the first stone of the Harbour 200 years ago.

The laying of the first stone of Dún Laoghaire Harbour on May 31st 1817 will be commemorated at an official event, 200 years later on 31st May 2017.

This special occasion officially launches a schedule of celebratory events.

At this event a time capsule will be placed at the King George IV monument. This capsule will contain letters from local school children, photos of Dún Laoghaire Harbour in 2017, a newspaper of the day and notes from Harbour users.



VIKING INVASION



On Sunday 20th August, Irish National Sailing School in conjunction with Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company will feature a Viking invasion. The event will include Viking Longboats as seen in the hit Historical Drama TV show 'Vikings' on the East Pier. The event is free & open to the public that day.

KINGSTOWN 200 TEAM RACE & CLASSIC BOAT PARADE

The 'Kingstown 200' on July 8th is a unique classic team race and will be a key event in the Biennial Dún Laoghaire Volvo Regatta. The race will feature a variety of Classic Boats and crew, in a unique Anglo-Irish Team Event.

The event will attract the international sailing community to Dún Laoghaire as part of the overall Regatta celebrations. It will be viewed from the East Pier.

As part of the 'Kingstown 200' a Parade of Sail will take place on Saturday July 8th to commemorate the Bicentenary, with the Classic Boats parading into the Harbour.



THE LEGACY



- Commissioning of a 'History of the Harbour' Bicentenary book.
- The Website (www.dlharbour200.ie) - This site will allow the diaspora and local people to share their images, stories and videos of the Harbour over the last 200 years. The site will act as a focal point for the celebrations and legacy in the future.
- Time Capsule - Will be placed in the ground during the Opening Commemorative Ceremony on May 31st. It will contain letters from local school children, photos of the Harbour in 2017, notes from Harbour users and newspaper of the day.
- An Exhibition of Memorabilia and Artefacts on display in the East Pier Battery.

RNLI VINTAGE LIFEBOATS

The RNLI Dún Laoghaire play a key role in the history of the Harbour. To commemorate the Harbour Bicentenary they will exhibit two vintage lifeboats on 8th & 9th July. The event is free and open to members of the public.



EVENTS & TOURS



- Summer Musical Performances on the East Pier
- International Themed Harbour Swim, East Pier. 13th August 2017
- Hobbler's Race. Autumn 2017
- 10 Week Summer Walking Heritage Programme. Starting Mid June – Duration - 10 weeks.
- DLR Guided School Tours of the Harbour. June 2017.
- Harbour Rally – Vintage Car Rally – October Bank Holiday Weekend 2017.

EXHIBITIONS



- Diaspora Exhibition (Ferry Terminal Building) Autumn 2017
- Construction of the Harbour, Nautical Maps & Charts Exhibition – National Maritime Museum of Ireland. May - Dec 17
- Dublin Painting & Sketch Club Exhibition of works – DLR - County Hall - May 2017
- Exhibition of artefacts & paintings from the Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society – LexIcon Library. May - June 2017
- The Exhibition of local contemporary maritime art - Terminal Building. May – June 2017
- Irish Lights 1911-1923 exhibition, as created by the Commissioners of Irish Lights. Autumn 2017

LECTURES & WORKSHOPS



- RMS Essex Lecture - Donal O Sullivan. Sept 2017
- Grainne Shaffrey - Historical lecture. Autumn 2017
- Children's Maritime Art & Creative writing workshops – LexIcon Library. June 2017

INTERNATIONAL HARBOUR FOOD FESTIVAL



The International Harbour Food Festival will take place on the 4th & 5th June (Bank Holiday weekend). A unique event featuring over 24 international food concessions and featuring 4 historical re-enactments (public theatre).

The event will be free and open to the public.

The Festival will also feature an exhibition of 16 local Marine Artists with unique interpretations of the Harbour they see around them.

THANKS

The Bicentenary Programme is a collaboration involving key stakeholders in Dún Laoghaire.

On behalf of the Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company, I would like to thank the following people and the organisations they represent for making such a special contribution to this historic initiative.

- Minister Mary Mitchell O'Connor for her patronage of the programme
- Donal Marren as Convenor of the Steering Group
- An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Cormac Devlin, Tim Carey and the team at Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Council

- Richard Mc Cormack and his colleagues at the National Maritime Museum of Ireland
- Hugh Murray from the Pavilion Theatre
- Mairead Owens and The LexIcon library
- Dún Laoghaire BID, Anthony Quigley & Don Mc Manus
- The combined Yacht Clubs represented by Peter Pearson
- The team at the RNLI Dún Laoghaire led by Stephen Wynne
- Noel Brien representing the Coal Harbours Users Group
- Margaret Dunne from the Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre
- Alistair Rumball and the Irish National Sailing School

We now look forward to the official launch of the programme of commemoration and celebration, commencing on May 31st.

Gerry Dunne
CEO, Dún Laoghaire Harbour Company