



# DMR NORTH CENTRAL DIVISION

## Community Engagement Update

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## STORE STREET DISTRICT NEWS



### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

#### Little Blue Heroes

Little Blue Heroes Foundation is a not-for-profit charity operated entirely by volunteers (no paid staff) made up of Garda members/staff, retired Garda members, their families, friends and civic minded people from communities. It aims to help families in need from local communities in Ireland who have children undergoing long-term medical treatment for serious illness.



On the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Dublin Town hosted the Little Blue Heroes at the new Elf in the City Hub. The Dublin Town Shop & Drop is a free minding bag service located at 19 Henry Street, Dublin 1. In addition to being a Drop Shop service, it will be a place for the family to enjoy the magic of Christmas. The hub also features two card-tap devices to encourage donations to the Little Blue Heroes Foundation.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## Community Boxing Events

On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022 Community Gardaí attended The Dublin Boxing Leagues which is a tournament for youths. A number of boxers from Docklands Boxing Club and Corinthians Boxing Club were competing and Gardaí were judging at the event. Subsequently on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> October Gardaí were again judging at the Esker Box Cup. This is an all-female boxing event which holds an international prestige. It is to commemorate the late Olive Keogh, mother of Philip Keogh of Docklands Boxing Club.



## Senior Citizens Fancy Dress Party

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 Community Gardaí attended a Senior Citizens Halloween fancy dress party at St Lawrence O'Toole Court. The event was attended by residents of St Lawrence O'Toole Court and senior citizens from the local area along with volunteers from several local groups. There was music, food and drink organised on the night.



## Station Tours

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2022 the Community Policing Unit facilitated two tours of Store Street Garda Station for a number of local youth clubs including Swan youth Project, LYCS Service, Sheriff Street Youth Club, and ASP Service. Both tours began in the conference room where Gardaí gave a Halloween Safety presentation to the youths. The groups were then brought on a tour of the station which included visiting the Planning & Tasking Office, interview rooms and the custody area. The Divisional Roads Policing Unit then provided a demonstration of Roads Policing devices including the Dräger devices and the speed gun. Gardaí answered several questions from the groups in relation to roads policing and their daily duties.



## Belvedere Youth Club

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2022 Gardaí Costello & Marron attended a family fun day held in the Belvedere Youth Club. The event was organised for families and children within the community. The event was attended by a large number of adults and children from the locality. Several activities were organized for the day including music, a magic show, bouncy castles and face painting.

**COMMUNITY POLICING** aims to provide people in an area with their own dedicated Garda. Community Policing is a proactive, solution-based and community-driven form of policing.



## NIC Side by Side Fun Day

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of August 2022 Gardaí Costello and Quinlan attended a fun day held in the East Wall Youth Club by NIC Side by Side. The event was organised for Neurodiverse children within the community. This was the inaugural event for the group in East wall and was attended by a large number of adults and children within the community. Several activities were organised for the day including a sensory bus, ball pit, food and drink. The day was a great success and NIC Side by Side hope to make it an annual event.



## H.O.P.E Recovery Half marathon

On the 24<sup>th</sup> September 2022 Garda Fay participated in the H.O.P.E recovery half marathon run. September is recovery month and to celebrate this the H.O.P.E centre ran an event with a 21K, 10K and 5k run on the day. The half marathon run started at the HOPE centre on Buckingham Street and ran out to Clontarf and back finishing outside the HOPE centre. The H.O.P.E centre's mission is to help those with addiction and to create an opportunity for them to become addiction free. They offer many services including Advocacy services, Family support and counselling.



## SportsFest 2022

Store Street Community Gardaí took part in Sportsfest 2022 organised by Sport Against Racism Ireland (SARI) on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The aim of the competition is to bring various community groups in the North East Inner City together. Gardaí played several games as part of the event and this provided a great opportunity for Community Gardaí to engage with members of the community.



## Libertyvibe Concert

Community Gardaí attended the Libertyvibe concert in Liberty Park on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2022. This was a community event organised by Dublin City Council featuring some local artists and was free to members of the public. It was well attended and provided a family friendly day for the community. It also provided an excellent opportunity for the Community Policing Unit to engage with the local community.



## CRIME DETECTIONS AND UPDATES

- Operational Tombola patrols - Operation Tombola is a nationwide policing plan focused on the prevention and detection of the sale of fireworks and associated public order and anti-social behaviour issues during the Halloween period. On the 16/10/2022 Gardaí observed a number of youths leaving the laneway situated between the church on Sean McDermott Street and the swimming pool. Gardaí entered the laneway and observed that a door at the bottom of the laneway was ajar. On further inspection Gardaí discovered in excess of 30 pallets and a number of large tyres. Gardaí contacted DCC to arrange for the pallets & tyres to be collected. While carrying out further patrols of the area later that evening Gardaí observed a youth at the door to the laneway and it appeared he was locking a padlock onto the door. This youth was stopped by Gardaí and handed over the key for the padlock. It had been discovered that three small padlocks had been placed onto the door and a number of pallets and tyres had been stacked up against the door preventing it from being opened from the outside. DCC were contacted and removed all materials.
- There is currently an ongoing policing plan in place to tackle anti-social behavior in the environs of Sean O'Casey Bridge. Gardaí attended the bridge on the 18/10/2022 after reports were received of youths gathering in the centre of same. On arrival, the youths dispersed however two of them were apprehended and arrested for public order offences. Gardaí later found an axe on the ground where the group of youths had been congregated. This situation is being closely monitored with other initiatives also in place to deal with same.
- On the 22/10/2022 Gardaí responded to a Public Order call at Connolly Station. On arrival a male was found to be armed with a hammer and was subsequently arrested, charged and brought to court.
- On the 23/10/2022 whilst on Operation Canter patrol of The Greenway, Gardaí observed a youth entering the Greenway on a high powered scooter and then attempting to flee on sight of Gardaí. He discarded an item into the canal which was recovered and found to be approximately €250 worth of cannabis. The youth was subsequently arrested.
- On the 24/10/2022 Gardaí responded to a Public Order call on Amiens Street. Gardaí on Operation Canter duty attended the scene and youths fled upon arrival. CCTV has been examined and the Operation Canter team has identified a number of suspects involved. Investigations are ongoing.
- Gardaí on high visibility proactive patrols conducting routine drug searches on the streets have had a number of detections for offences under the Firearms and Offensive Weapons act. Gardaí have discovered knives in the possession of some persons searched. All persons found in possession of such articles has been processed accordingly and the matters are currently before the courts.
- Gardaí attached to the DMR North Central Drugs Unit and Operation Canter have been tasked with focusing on and giving priority to tackling the ongoing drugs issues in the area, among the areas targeted recently which yielded positive detections include: Talbot Street lwr. Sheriff Street, Gardiner Lane, Harbourmaster Place, Royal Canal Greenway, Store Street, Buckingham Street, Custom House Quay, Seville Place and Eastwall.

# CRIME PREVENTION ADVICE

## Seasonal Safety Advice

For most people the Christmas Period is an enjoyable and festive season. Unfortunately for some, the month of December sees assaults rise by almost a third more than in January or February.

The peak time for assaults are weekend nights and research shows you are more likely to be assaulted if you have consumed alcohol. There is a clear correlation between assaults and incidents of drunkenness.

Most reported assaults tend to happen around pubs, clubs or town centres.

### STAYING SAFE ON NIGHTS OUT



- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to be home
- Carry your mobile phone (Charged!)
- Drinking - if one of the group has too much to drink - ensure they get home safely!
- If out with a group - watch out for one another. Remember there is safety in numbers
- Plan your trip home or arrange a lift, If you have to walk home use well lit routes
- Remember never drink and drive
- If you're the designated driver, park your car in a well-lit area and don't leave property visible.
- If you see someone in trouble call 999, 112 or the local Garda Station.

### SHOPPING AT CHRISTMAS

When you're out spending money, be aware that thieves are out too, looking for opportunities to commit crime.

#### To stay safe while you're out Shopping;

- Take extra care when using cash point or chip and pin
- Don't let anyone see your pin number, never write down your pin number
- If you carry a handbag, keep your purse at the bottom
- Never keep your wallet in your back pocket
- Keep your handbag zipped at all times – crowded shopping areas are very popular with pickpockets
- Don't leave your handbag in the shopping trolley while you shop
- Stay alert when using your mobile phone It's very easy for someone to snatch it out of your hand
- Don't return to your car to leave purchases in the boot before continuing with your shopping, as thieves may watch car parks
- Don't leave valuables on the seat of your car - they attract thieves
- Keep the car door locked, even when travelling
- Don't leave your house keys in your car.
- In December most of these incidents occur between 2pm and 9pm – Christmas Shopping time!