



Dromiskin Tidy Towns

Welcome to issue seven of our Tidy Towns Newsletter with updates of our recent activities since November of last year.

 tidytownsdromiskin@gmail.com

Christmas Decoration Competition

The pupils in St. Peter's NS showcased their creative skills by recycling and upcycling materials to create bespoke Christmas decorations that decorated homes in the community over the festive season. Wooden clothes pegs, an old paintbrush and some clothes hangers were but some of the waste materials transformed into eye-catching decorations. Congratulations to the winners and well done to every single pupil who took part.



New Tidy Towns Plan

As part of the process of preparing a Tidy Towns Plan to inform our work programme for the next three years we held a very successful Think Tank for committee members in the Fairways Hotel in December to generate ideas for projects that could be delivered. This was followed by a visit to and walkabout around the village with Jennifer from Flynn Furney Consultants who will produce the plan. A further meeting with the consultants was held to advance ideas and the Draft Plan is currently being finalised.



Siúl na Manach



Work progressed very well in the first quarter to the year on the greenway project with contractor Breen Plant Hire delivering the project in an efficient manner.

An official opening will take place shortly – we are awaiting delivery of one feature which, when installed, will allow the contractor to leave the site with the handover to our committee allowing the greenway to open and become accessible for public use.

Community Orchard

We are extremely grateful to the 35 families/individuals who sponsored a variety of trees that were planted along the greenway, which will add to its sustainability and biodiversity value. We had a lovely community event in March, which provided sponsors with the opportunity to have a sneak preview of the greenway and walk the route to see where their own tree is located along the route.



Responsible Dog Ownership!

While most dog owners are responsible and keep their pets on leads in public places as well as scooping the poop we, unfortunately, continue to have a significant problem with dog fouling in the community. We look forward to co-operating with Louth County Council on the six month Awareness Campaign recently launched and hope that it will change attitudes. In the meantime, we have produced some temporary signage to leave dog walkers in no doubt about their responsibilities.



Pump Repairs!

Speeding traffic through our village continues to be a problem with one recent incident causing what we thought was irreparable damage to our heritage pump on the Dromeenagh Road approach. However nothing is impossible for our master craftsman Seamus who repaired and reinstalled it – an important part of our heritage and a great job by Seamus.



Entrance Feature to Greenway!



It certainly makes a statement in the Heritage Park and is another example of Seamus's superb craftsmanship. We will, when finances allow, provide a feature at the entrance from Ginnety's Pond Nature Park!

Table Quiz!

With the amount of work ongoing and planned we always need to fundraise and our recent Table Quiz was a great success socially and financially. Thanks to all who supported the Quiz and congratulations to the winning and runner up teams.



Clothes Collection Day!



The weather certainly wasn't kind but the response was still excellent so a huge thank you to those who helped us collect 145 bags of pre loved clothes and accessories. Primarily a sustainable project but also raising some much-needed funds for our work programme!

National Spring Clean

The fact that 76 bags of litter were collected by 35 volunteers from roadside verges in the community is an indication of just how serious the litter problem is. Thank you to those who gave up their Sunday morning to clean up after the litter louts – unfortunately the litter problem appears to defy solution but we must keep trying to Stop the Drop!



Litter Attitudes and Behaviours Survey!

In an effort to gather baseline data on attitudes to litter in our community we organised an online Litter Attitudes & Behaviours survey – thank you to the 118 local residents who completed the survey and congratulations to Derek Mc Donnell and Garrett O'Reilly who were winners of the raffle held for participants in the survey.



Regional Awards



There wasn't a Hi-Vis in sight when a number of our members travelled to Athlone on 10th March to accept the Gold Medal and Highly Commended Awards won in the 2024 National Tidy Towns Competition. The Awards were presented by Minister Kevin "Boxer" Moran and Yvonne O'Brien representing Sponsor, SuperValu.

Volunteer Appreciation Night!

A lovely event was held in The Joes Clubrooms on 28th February to say thank you to the many volunteers whose efforts resulted in our success in both the National Tidy Towns and Louth Looking Good competitions. Now it is back to work getting ready for the 2025 competitions and fingers crossed for another good result.



Coming Soon – New Projects



Biblical Garden – after 25 years the Biblical Garden is looking a little jaded with box blight having impacted on the key plants. With support from Louth County Council's Tidy Towns Project Fund we will be undertaking a significant refurbishment this month.



SuDs – a key project that will be undertaken in the next few weeks is another Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDs) similar to the one already on Chapel Road so three new trees, tree pits and paving will be installed at Centra – thanks James for the co-operation.



Outdoor Libraries – this area will receive a facelift with the installation of a sculpture and new signage thanks to a grant under Louth County Council's Tidy Towns Project Scheme and our own local fundraising.