

92.5 PHOENIX FM NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2013



Welcome to our August 2013 newsletter where we feature news on new programmes, wider community group involvement and loads of other exciting developments. Comments to info@phoenixfm.ie

VOTING FOR THE DIVERSITY FESTIVAL ENTERS NEXT ROUND!

The chance for the public to vote on Phoenix FM's Diversity Festival has now come to an end. If the project managed to get enough votes the Dublin 15 could be hosting a music and street art festival based around the theme of 'Diversity'. More details on the festival page here;

<https://www.arthurguinnessprojects.com/music/diversity-festival-1>

The next stage of voting sees the qualifying projects go forward to be scrutinised by a panel of expert judges.

If we get the funding and with the cooperation of Fingal County Council we will host the large scale 1-day music and street art festival in the very heart of Dublin 15. The festival aims to highlight that diversity is a positive thing while giving voice to the various communities, ethnicities and projects that exist in the area. The event will also be broadcast live and will showcase bands, electronic acts, MCs and DJs from Ireland and abroad including an outdoor gallery of street art with artists painting throughout the day.

Migrants Rights Training Course & 5-Part Programme Series

92.5 Phoenix FM is currently running an exciting training course thanks to the Community Foundation of Ireland's Caring Community grant scheme. A QQI Level 4 course, it includes modules on Media Literacy and Media for Social Justice. A five part series of half hour programmes will be broadcast on 92.5 Phoenix FM outlining the work of the projects and groups that the participants are involved with. Participants range from groups including; Fingal Ethnic Network, Intercultural Liaison Volunteer Programme, Irish Refugee Council, Mauritanian Community of Ireland, Anti-Racism Network and Residents Against Racism. This course is a unique project facilitating social justice, intercultural awareness and integration through training and direct involvement in gathering, preparing and presenting informative programmes. The project aims to equip members of migrant groups and/or ethnic minorities operating within Dublin 15 with the necessary skills and training to actively engage with mainstream, community and independent media.

Phoenix FM Out & About in the Community

Over the summer the station has been out and about across Dublin 15 every week. This has all been thanks to the Outside Broadcast equipment which the station purchased two years ago.

This has involved training up existing staff and volunteers to use the Teleporter and outside broadcast desk. Broadcasting from various community events around Dublin 15 has been a great opportunity for us to meet new volunteers and to learn more about the work of the various groups and projects in the area. Recently we have broadcast live from the community centres in

Blakestown, Huntstown, Castleknock, Cor

duff, Mulhuddart and Mountview. The broadcasts were great fun and it was amazing to see the wide variety of community groups using the facilities! We also broadcast from St Mochta's Parish Picnic in Luttrellstown Castle and the Strawberry Fair in The Strawberry Beds.



Jeff Murphy, Eithne Moran, Pawel Kowalski and Alan Connolly at the Strawberry Fair Outside Broadcast



Station Manager, Denis McEvoy, Athlone Community Radio's Irena Cvetkovic (left) & Radio Graffiti Luxembourg's Sandra Laborier (right)

EU Project Funding for Station

The Station has been awarded a grant by Léargas and the European Commission to take part in a 2-year project with Community Radio stations in Austria, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden. The project will focus on adult education through Community Radio and will see each of the 11 partner stations train adults in their area to research and produce programmes on local forgotten history. Meetings and training sessions will be held throughout Europe between now and June 2015.

This is an exciting project for the Station and will involve volunteers and staff in bilateral meetings with other partner stations. The first planning meeting is being held in the Slovenian capital, Ljubljana at the end of November.

Phoenix FM Volunteer Speaks at International Media Conference

OURMedia the International Association for Media and Communication Research, the Community Radio Forum of Ireland (CRAOL) and Global Media and Social Change, organised a two day conference in June where Phoenix FM volunteer James Nugent was one of the key speakers at the session on Community Media and Working with Disadvantaged Groups. The session featured various community groups discussing the advantages they gained from working with community media. James spoke about how Phoenix FM works with Coolmine Therapeutic Community by giving unbiased and fair representation of recovering addicts and helping the community understand not just the problem, but the solutions.

Volunteer Training & Social Sessions

Our hugely successful monthly training sessions continue since April based on the skills that volunteers identified in our Needs Analysis Survey carried out earlier in the year. We have so far had sessions on Audio Recording, Audio Editing, Interview Skills and Sports Coverage. The next training sessions on the list are BAI Codes Compliance and Using Social Media. The Station has been lucky enough to get professionals in the area to cover each of the sessions. We have had people from the likes of East Coast FM, Newstalk, FleishmanHillard in addition to our own in-house experts. The events have also provided a great opportunity for volunteers to get to know each other a little better over a cup of tea and biscuits afterwards. Keep an eye on your email for notification of the next session. Each class takes an hour max.

NEW SHOWS

'Pawilon' - a Polish language arts show airs every Saturday 8.30-9pm with presenters Pawel Kowalski, Krzysztof Socha and Ilona Wisniewska.

Presenter Chris Ledwidge broadcasts a new music show, 'In Context', from 8.30 – 9pm on Fridays. The show focuses on contemporary classical music and electronic composition, including from composers and musicians located in and around Dublin 15.

Aingel McMorow, member of the Fingal South West Heritage Society, presents her new show, 'Talking About Fingal' on Tuesday mornings between 11.30am and 12 noon. The show looks at history in

the area and includes interviews with local historians and people with memories of the areas recent history. We are also happy to welcome a new Blanch Trax presenter Ian McWilliams to our Monday show from 12 noon to 1pm. Ian has already been involved in the production of D15 Today.

In conjunction with The Blanchardstown Traveller Development Group, we recently aired a 5-part series of shows for Traveller Pride Week in May. These shows dealt with issues affecting travellers in Dublin 15 and were podcast nationwide through the Irish Traveller Movement website.

English for Living in *Dublin 15*

An exciting new series of programmes is in production and will be launched in the final quarter of the year. The series is aimed primarily at people who have been living in Ireland and who have learned some basic English and would like to learn more. It deals with situations which people meet every day when they are living in an English speaking country and is set particularly in D15. We are producing the programmes in partnership with the Institute of Technology Blanchardstown and the series is scripted by Dr Ruth Harris of ITB.

Thanks to funding from the BAI's Sound & Vision scheme, each of the 12 programmes will be available on our website and will be accompanied by a workbook and will focus on different everyday tasks, such as going to the bank, renting a house, going to the doctor, shopping, meeting your neighbours and attending school. The lessons aim to help people to build on the language that they already have and give them more vocabulary and expressions for communicating in everyday life.



New Staff Member

Steven Fitzgerald (pictured left) is our new Programming Assistant. Steven has lived in D15 for over seven years and has great knowledge of researching, producing content, networking and forming public relations. Steven works with the teams on D15 Today to produce local content for the shows. He has also been closely involved setting up and running the regular outside broadcasts of the D15 Today shows from community centres around the Dublin 15 area which began recently.

New Equipment for Volunteers

Phoenix FM's last Table Quiz raised around €1,000. This money was used to buy new studio chairs, a projector for use in our training sessions and presentations to volunteers and a new microphone which is being tested with an eye to replacing all microphones in the studio. Our next quiz will be used to raise funds for a replacement for the main studio PC, without which we cannot broadcast – so please do show your support once again.

Phoenix FM Table Quiz

Our next table quiz will take place in Kavanagh's Pub in Laurel Lodge on Thursday, September 19 at 8.30pm. As usual it will be a fun-filled night with a great selection of prizes. We hope to see you all there!

Becoming a Station Shareholder

The 92.5 Phoenix FM licence from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland is held by the Dublin 15 Community Broadcasting Cooperative Society which is not-for-profit, community-owned and democratic. The AGM of the co-op is attended by shareholders only and elects a board and receives reports on activities. Would you like to become a shareholder?

To ensure that the Station is held accountable, you can purchase a share in the coop society and become a shareholder and have the right to attend the AGM and actively participate in setting policies and making decisions. The Board of Directors is elected by and accountable to the membership. Each member/shareholder has equal voting rights.

Becoming a member/shareholder is a simple process and costs only €13. You can purchase your share directly from the Station office by filling out a short form. For more information contact our office Administrator, Eithne Moran. [eithnemoran\(at\)phoenixfm.ie](mailto:eithnemoran(at)phoenixfm.ie)

New logo for the Station

Phoenix FM is currently putting together a design brief which will be given to logo designers to come up with a new logo for the Station. The aim of the project is to design a logo which reflects to work of the station

The logo for 92.5 Phoenix FM Community Radio for Dublin 15. The text '92.5 Phoenix FM' is in a large, bold, red serif font. Below it, 'Community Radio for Dublin 15' is in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a light blue background with a subtle grid pattern.

in the community and the fun and enjoyment of being involved. Volunteers were invited to a consultation where their ideas were collated and added to the design brief document. Staff were also consulted and asked to think of words, phrases and imagery which are closely associated with the Station and its work. The next stage is for the design brief to be disseminated to designers and artistic types in the area. If you know anyone with a flair for this sort of design who would like to work on the project, please let the office know by phone or email.

New PTO Committee Member & Working Group

We would like to welcome Paul Whitty to the Programming, Training & Outreach Committee. Paul is one of the team on our own GAA show 'The Throw In' on Mondays 7.30. The PTO committee is responsible for overseeing programming, training and the station's outreach work.

As part of our licence and business plan, Phoenix FM has committed to constantly reviewing programming and extending the number of hours which we broadcast. To this end we have set up a working group to recommend a plan to extending the current schedule. The group will be made up of volunteers and will look at the kind of programming that meets the needs and interests of the wider Dublin 15 community. The working group will report later in the year. If you have views on new or existing programmes, we will welcome hearing from you at [iainoconnor\(at\)phoenixfm.ie](mailto:iainoconnor(at)phoenixfm.ie).

BAI Referenda Coverage Guidelines

The two upcoming referenda to be held on October 4 will deal with abolition of the Seanad and Establishment of a new Court of Appeal. As usual, guidelines from the BAI will dictate how broadcast coverage of the referenda can be conducted. The full guidelines can be found here;

http://www.bai.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/20130801_Rule27_RefGuide_English_vFinal.pdf.

Accredited Training with Phoenix FM

We, currently offer a number of training courses including QQI/FETAC Level 3 Media Expression and Level 4 Community Radio Skills. In a special arrangement with ITB we are delivering training to a number of local DEIS schools. We also offer specifically tailored accredited and non-accredited courses in Community Media, Basic IT Skills and Media Literacy that can be constructed to include curricular content and training to suit specific organisations or interest areas.

We have six qualified Craol registered trainers on our staff and can teach and facilitate courses from our own offices and studio at the Blanchardstown Centre or travel to training centres or schools when necessary. If you are interested in training with us please contact fredahughes@phoenixfm.ie.



PHOENIX FM EVALUATION TO BE ISSUED TO ALL STATIONS!

With assistance from the Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) funding and a consultant, we carried out an evaluation* of the impact of our work in 2012. In recent months, the BAI commissioned consultants to conduct an analysis of our evaluation and that of another Dublin Community Radio station, WDAR, based in Ballyfermot. That analysis has resulted in the BAI requesting CRAOL to make the BAI comparative analysis report available to all other stations as it identified initiatives that Community Radio stations should implement to maintain and support community development and proposes useful recommendations which other stations could adopt. Well done to the volunteers and community groups who participated in our evaluation.

*Community Broadcasting Support Scheme (CBSS) evaluation 2012



Studio Tech Tip

In each newsletter we will aim to bring a little bit of advice on how to work the equipment in the studio. This issue's tip is about the PC fader on the sound desk in the studio. Because a number of Phoenix FM's programmes are pre-recorded we have to play them through the PC. This means that the last volunteer to leave the studio should always check to make sure that the PC fader is up before they leave. The fader should be in the position shown in the picture as should the buttons. If unsure something relating to the sound desk settings please contact a member of the Station staff for help – don't just guess!

WE NEED YOU!

We seek committed individuals to volunteer in the following roles:

- Presenters/Researchers for talk programmes
- Recording vox pops around D15
- Sound Editors/Engineers

Experience is not required. Training will be provided. If you are interested in getting involved email us the following at volunteer@phoenixfm.ie. If you would like to get to be involved with the production of the newsletter, please email fredahughes@phoenixfm.ie. Thanks to Freda Hughes, Denis McEvoy and Alan Connolly for their input to this edition.

CONTACT US

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Board of Directors: Alan Connolly (Chairman), Mairead Murphy (Vice Chair), Chris Hitchcock (Treasurer), Sarah Devitt (Secretary), Garvan Browne, Jim Connell (Dublin 15 Community Council Rep), David Hughes, Darah Carroll Noonan (Volunteer Rep), Daniel Pitcher.

Station Manager: Denis McEvoy **Staff Members:** Susan King, Iain O'Connor, Freda Hughes, Eithne Moran, Alan Maxwell, Steven Fitzgerald, Shane O'Neill.

