

92.5 PHOENIX FM CHRISTMAS NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2013



Hear Local kids' messages to Santa as part of our Christmas Programming (Dec 23 & 24, 12-1pm)

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

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM ALL AT 92.5 PHOENIX FM!

A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at 92.5 Phoenix FM!

It comes around so quickly every year and here we are at another Christmas season. 92.5 Phoenix FM is again rolling out very festive programming and in addition we're covering carol services from the Church of Ireland, Castleknock, Christmas fairs and Mass from St Brigid's Church in Blanchardstown on Christmas Eve

and Christmas Day itself. We hope you'll enjoy the programmes with your family and have a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Future of Community Radio in Dublin 15 Secured with 92.5 Phoenix FM Staff Funding

The future of Community Radio for the people of Dublin 15 has been secured with the announcement that 92.5 Phoenix FM will continue to receive funding for staff from the Pobal Community Services Programme grant for a further three years; 2014 to 2016.

Minister for Social Protection Joan Burton TD said: "I admire the work of 92.5 Phoenix FM. The Station has managed to build a forum and platform which gives a voice to all the important work of Dublin 15 community organisations. I welcome the further three years of funding and look forward to working with 92.5 Phoenix FM and its listeners in the future."

92.5 Phoenix FM broadcasts for 54 hours every week with programmes which are focused on the Dublin 15 area and made and presented by a team of over 90 local volunteers. A team of six core staff members and three ancillary staff support administration and programme production. Station Chairman Alan Connolly said: "Our Board is very pleased with this news. It's a great vote of confidence in our work! It means that we can continue to employ staff to support volunteers to give voice to D15 citizens and develop knowledge amongst residents and community groups in D15 on how to use media."

Outside Broadcasts around Dublin 15!

In the last few months, 92.5 Phoenix FM has had a tremendously successful run of outside broadcasts in community centres around Dublin 15. And we got a fantastic reception everywhere!

We broadcast from community centres in Huntstown, Laurel Lodge, Mulhuddart, Corduff, Tyrrellstown, Mountview & Fortlawn, Phibblestown and Blakestown and most recently, Ongar Community Centre. Want us to visit your Centre or organisation? Email stephen@phoenixfm.ie.

Photographs of all our Outside Broadcasts can be found on our website gallery here:

http://phoenixfm.ie/?page_id=30 or by liking our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/PhoenixFM.Dublin.

Training Our Volunteers

Since our last Newsletter, we had experts give training sessions on Programme Planning and BAI Codes, Social Media and Outside Broadcasts. Phoenix FM's next training & social session for volunteers will take place in January. The session will be held in the portacabin and will cover Interviewing Skills. You can confirm your attendance by emailing info@phoenixfm.ie.

The training evening is a great opportunity for the volunteer to practice and learn new skills as well as getting together for a chat and a cup of tea afterwards.

EU Adult Education Project Meeting in Slovenia



Representatives from the 11 Partners Stations at the Meeting in the offices of Radio Student, Ljubljana

Station Manager Denis McEvoy and Promotions and Development Officer Freda Hughes attended a planning meeting of our EU partnership project in Ljubljana, Slovenia on November 28 and 29. The project, which is titled 'Memory under Construction: Giving Voice to Forgotten Memory' is being worked on by 11 different Community Radio stations from eight countries across the EU. The Station has been awarded a grant by Léargas and the European Commission to take part in the 2-year project with 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. More news to come soon.

92.5 Phoenix FM's Coverage of the 2014 Local & European Election

Next year's local and European Elections will see big changes for Dublin 15 with a large increase in the number of council seats for the Mulhuddart and Castleknock Wards. 92.5 Phoenix FM will be the main media outlet for coverage of the elections. We will interview all the candidates in the run up to polling day and we will be holding large town hall debates for the candidates in both Wards. Our coverage will be fully interactive with audiences at the live debates which will be held in community centres in the area. There will also be an open forum on Facebook and a hashtag set up on Twitter so the electorate can pose the important questions to the candidates.

92.5 Phoenix FM will also be the first for news once the ballot boxes are opened and the count has begun. You will be able to follow us live on air and online at our website and social media pages.

If you would like to be involved in the production of these programmes, get in contact with the Station for more details.

Heard on Phoenix FM!

Recently covered: the proposed sewage plant at Connolly Hospital, Mental Health issues amongst young people in Dublin 15 with Jigsaw, Luttrellstown Community College Fashion Show, a series on the parks of Dublin 15 in association with Fingal County Council, the Voices Writers Group, Michael Hanratty on the local production of the Beauty Queen of Leenane, crime and safety with local Garda Inspector John Kelly, Arts Events in Draíocht, Castleknock Parish Fair, Moneylenders with the Citizens' Information Centre.

NEW SHOWS

History Matters is our new local history programme which is being presented by Dr Brian Hughes from Huntstown. Some of the subjects Harry Sloan - the largely forgotten Castleknock footballer who played for Bohemians and died near the Somme in the First World War-, Clonsilla during the 1798 Rebellion and digitalising letters from 1916. Listen in Tuesdays at 11.30am.

Ghar se Ghar Tuk, which will be presented by Aasiya

Saleem, will be for members of the Urdu-speaking community who've settled in Dublin 15. It will feature interviews with local Urdu speakers about their lives and there will also be cooking recipes and local news.

The Achieve Group from the Daughters of Charity have begun recording a programme which features music and interviews with local musicians. The group is for adults with special needs.

Phoenix FM's Jeff Murphy Elected to National Community Radio Board!

Volunteer, Jeff Murphy, who presents D15 Today Wednesday's 10am, has been elected on behalf of 92.5 Phoenix FM, to the board of Craol, the Community Radio Forum of Ireland. Craol is the representative, coordinating, lobbying, training, and support group for Irish Community Radio. Jeff was elected after Alan Connolly stepped down at the AGM following his 3-year stint on the Craol Coordinating Committee. See www.craol.ie.



Volunteer, Jeff Murphy

Fingal County Council Donate PC

Following fundraising for a new PC in August Fingal County Council got in touch with the Station to offer a PC free of charge. The PC has been delivered to the Station and we would like to thank the Council and Florence White especially.

NEW WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA

Our new Station website has now been live since the end of September and has been well received. Visitor figures re up by 87 per cent and page view have seen an increase of 58 per cent. The better usability for visitors and the increased number of news items have been the main reasons for the increased traffic. The Station social media account on Facebook and Twitter have also seen increased usage and engagement with listeners over the past few months. Our new staff member, Emma Baily (profiled below) is now running our social media accounts. The other change has been that volunteer teams are now being given direct access to our social media platforms, making it easier for them to engage directly with listeners. This has also meant an increase in the activity on Facebook and Twitter throughout the day. You can like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PhoenixFM.Dublin or follow us on Twitter @925PhoenixFM.

First Community Radio station to have Irish Language programme every day!

In January, 92.5 Phoenix FM will become the first Community Radio station in the country to have Irish language programmes on the schedule every day of the week! The Station currently airs two hours of Irish language programming, but the expansion will see an hour of programmes each weekday evening and at weekends being aired. The new set of programmes will cover news, sport, Irish music and popular culture as well as history. Station Volunteer, Fergus Lynch who produces Anseo is Ansúid (Wednesday at 8pm), has been working to organise the programmes from a number of sources.

Cleaning the Studio

With the number of people coming in and out of the studio every week the tidiness of the space can become an issue. Two dedicated volunteers have decided to give the Station staff a hand to keep the place spick and span for everyone. **Rachel Devlin** and **Colman Duggan** from the D15 Today show on Thursday (10-11.30am) have kindly helped out and we would like to take this opportunity to pass on our thanks.

New Policies at the Station

92.5 Phoenix FM is very strong in the area of Governance and in the past year we have been working on a suite of new policies which will lay out the rules and procedures for Station, staff, Board members and volunteers. The Board has now adopted policies on: Respect & Dignity, Grievance, Disciplinary, Board Code of Conduct, Conflict of Interest, Volunteers, Health & Safety, Child Protection, Garda Vetting, Data Protection, Equality, Social Media and Computer & Technology Usage.

FOCUS ON VOLUNTEERS: Irene Martin - 14 Years later!



Volunteer, Irene Martin

Irene is part of the popular local Martin family who hailed from the Strawberry Beds adjacent to the Wren's Nest Pub. Active in promoting the preservation of the Liffey Valley and the Strawberry Beds natural environment, she spent many years as a community activist with the Dublin 15 Community Council and is a former board member of 92.5 Phoenix FM.

In 2000 she was nominated to represent the Community Council on the board of Phoenix FM. "Because of my deep interest in Irish Traditional music, I was asked if I would present a programme for a short period until someone more permanent could be found. Fourteen years later, I am still presenting Idir Eatartha on Wednesday nights at 9 O'Clock."

"My own interest in Irish music goes back as far as the Clancy Brothers who brought our music to a wide audience back in the sixties. The Dubliners followed this trend as did the other great groups of the sixties, the Johnstons, Sweeneys Men, Press Gang, Emmet Spiceland, Chieftains, and seventies, Planxty, Scara Brae, Bothy Band Moving Hearts and many more. There were also some great solo musicians and singers to be heard, Leo Rowsome, Willie Clancy, Mary Bergin, Nollaig Casey, Paul Brady Christy Moore, Dolores Keane and more. Many of these are still doing live gigs around the world."

"On Idir Eatartha I play a mix of traditional music that may not be heard on the national station. You will hear the best of Irish music from young and old. I have interviewed some of our great singers and musicians on Idir Eatartha and will continue to do so when the opportunity arises."

Phoenix Nights #1

On Friday November 15 the Station launched the first in a series of Phoenix Nights gigs. The gig took place in 'Captains Live' and saw six extremely talented acts from the local area take the stage. Thanks to The Actual Mafia, The Generations, The Bonzai Pipeline, Here To Help You Out, Eoin Byrne and Graham Lawlor for their amazing sets on the night, Lee Kelly Photography for his work and Emma and Freda from Phoenix FM for organising the event. Podcasts of the gig can be accessed on our website as can interviews with all of the acts. Phoenix Nights #2 will take place in early February 2014.

RADIOTHON 2014

92.5 Phoenix FM is planning our first ever 48-hour Radiothon. During this time we will broadcast from our studios as well as The Blanchardstown Centre and other locations around the Dublin 15 area. Would You or your group or job like to book an hour or half hour to present your own programme? Yes, this all-hours marathon session means we're opening the station to all-comers! Music, comment, international profiles. Whatever! For details on how to get involved in the Radiothon email info@phoenixfm.ie.

Station Manager Denis McEvoy said, "This event will serve as both a much needed fundraiser and an excellent opportunity for team building and networking amongst new and existing volunteers." The event will take place in Feb/March 2014 so keep an eye on www.phoenixfm.ie as well as our Facebook and @925phoenixfm on Twitter.

Evaluating Our Impact

With assistance from Broadcasting Authority of Ireland (BAI) funding we carried out an evaluation of the impact of our work in 2012. The objective was to undertake a needs analysis in order to: Ensure that we are reflecting the community needs of the wider Dublin 15 area in our existing programming and highlight the parts of our community with whom we need to develop relationships and with whom we need to develop programming. The Report recommended that we establish a working group to ensure delivery of all agreed outcomes. This working group was led by Darah Carroll Noonan and has now been delivered to the Board. More news on this in the New Year.

CALL FOR ARCHIVE MATERIAL!

Calling all volunteers!! We are trying to collate old photos, recording and other relevant material relating to the station and would appreciate it if you could send us in copies of any items you might have. Feel free to pop into the station or email emmabailey@phoenixfm.ie

Pat Gill R.I.P.

We would like to express our deepest condolences to the family of Pat Gill of Porterstown, Clonsilla who passed away on November 13. Pat was a volunteer with the station in its early years and his daughter Rachel later carried out an internship with us.

NEW STAFF



Welcome to Emma Bailey, a D15 native who has Higher National Diploma in Media and Radio Production. Emma joins us as Project & Promotion Assistant. She has previously been a part of a show on 92.5 Phoenix FM called 'Anger

Management' and has joined the crew of Phoenix Film.



Shane O'Neill has been working as Sound Operator at Phoenix FM since August. From Dublin 15 as well, he attended NUI Maynooth where he achieved a Bachelor of Arts degree in Philosophy and Classics. He is an avid musician, sound engineer and producer. Welcome, Shane.

NEW VOLUNTEERS

We are delighted to welcome all of our new presenters at the stations. Phoenix Rising and D15 Today have seen an influx of new voices with the addition of Petra Schoenweiss, Asiya Saleem, Aoife Lawlor, David Spain, David Dunne, Katerina Velohoubkova, Peter Robinson. Craig Karney, Haydn Fennell, Jerome Moran, Joseph Solinas, Stephen Creighton have joined us from the 'Achieve' group at the Daughters of Charity.

We are also delighted to announce the return of David Scott to Phoenix Rising on Tuesday mornings and D15 Today on Friday mornings.

BECOME A SHAREHOLDER!

Become a shareholder and participate in setting policies and making decisions for the station for €13? For more information contact eithnemoran@phoenixfm.ie.

Working Group on Programming

A working group has been set up to look at extending our programming hours. This group is made up of Rachel Devlin, Petra Schoenweiss, James Nugent, Colman Duggan, Caroline Brennan, Valerie Nowak and Paul Whitty. The group will review our programming to a) Establish if requirements are being met i.e. does programming meet our objectives and b) To propose recommendations to extend programming to Saturday mornings and Sunday and weekday afternoons. The group will report back in January 2014.

Studio Tech Tip

All the Station's broadcasts are coordinated on a piece of software called Zara Radio. When you are in the studio you must make sure to leave one instance of Zara Radio running on the PC in the studio at all times. If you find that this is not running when you are in studio or if the playlist looks incomplete please call Alan Maxwell on 085 706 7647.

WE NEED YOU!

We seek committed individuals to volunteer in the following roles:

- Presenters/Researchers for talk programmes, in news, current affairs, arts, sports, specialist subjects
- Recording vox pops around D15
- Sound Editors/technicians

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.

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, Emma Bailey.

