

### A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR RACHEL DEVLIN

We are coming to the end of the summer and I hope that everybody had a good break. There has been a lot going on in the station including celebrating Féile in June, the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in July and adding to our programmes in August. More about all these events later. The Board and staff have both each held several planning days in July and August. These meetings were to review the current position of the Station, as well as looking to its future. Programme expansion and volunteer recruitment were identified as two areas to focus on. There will be further consultation days with volunteers, Board and staff as well as a revised three-five year Strategic Plan, which will be published by the end of this year. We are currently broadcasting 69 hours per week and aim to increase broadcasting hours to 100 hours per-week by December 2015.

There are a number of volunteers working on new programmes so we look forward to new angles and some totally new subjects going on-air. This is in conjunction with the old favourites. We hope that the new programmes will give an opportunity to new volunteers to get involved. Please see the 'contact' section of this newsletter if you would like to get involved or re-involved with any new programme idea. I wish to take this opportunity to thank the staff, who represented the Station at Craol Féile and provided training workshops for the delegates.

Change is a constant feature of life and not least so here at the Station. We are currently experiencing a number of comings and goings with regards to both staff and the Board. On behalf of all here at 92.5 Phoenix FM, I wish to thank each of the individuals who have now moved on for their contribution to the Station and wish them every success in the future. We look forward to recruiting a new station manager in September and continuing the programme expansion and focusing on volunteering!

Sincerely in Broadcasting,  
*Rachel Devlin*



Chairperson, Rachel Devlin

## 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY

### STATION CO-HOSTS FAMILY FUN DAY WITH FINGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

2015 is a monumental year for us here at 92.5 Phoenix FM, as it sees the Station celebrate its 25th anniversary. Those 25 years have seen the Station grow from first obtaining its license and broadcasting from a small premise next to Ryan's Garage on Main Street Blanchardstown, to their current studio and offices in the Blanchardstown Centre.

To mark the occasion, 92.5 Phoenix FM partnered with Fingal County Council to host the Blanchardstown Family Fun Day in the Millennium Park on Sunday, July 5. The free family event saw children and

parents alike enjoy a great day out which featured face-painting, mini-golf and bouncy castles. 92.5 Phoenix FM ran a live stage on which local acts and groups were given the chance to show their talents to the audience, as well as being broadcast live on air.



The crowd enjoys the performances on the 92.5 Phoenix FM Stage at the Blanchardstown Family Fun Day

During an address to the crowd, Rachel Devlin, Chairperson of 92.5 Phoenix FM summed up the importance of Community Radio, saying: "Community Radio has the capacity to reinforce what is good about Irish Society and to help find solutions to its failings. Volunteers, young and old, with all abilities, backgrounds, and interests, can come together to make a difference to their community".

## FÉILE 2015

### EPIC FÉILE



Jeff Murphy and Iain O'Connor wind down after a hectic opening day at Féile

The Annual 2015 CRAOL Community Féile was hosted by Dublin South FM in the Royal Marine Hotel in Dun Laoghaire on the weekend of June 5-7. 92.5 Phoenix FM was represented by staff members Denis McEvoy, Iain O'Connor and Shane O'Neill, as well as volunteer delegates Rachel Devlin, Jeff Murphy, Rebecca Omokaro and Irene Martin.

The event saw the Station representatives attend workshops and network with fellow Community Radio Stations from around the country. Some of the workshops attended were 'Volunteer Recruitment', 'Sound and Vision' and 'Women in Broadcasting', among others. Denis and Shane gave a presentation on 'How to Run a Successful Radiothon', which was very well received.



## **CRAOL AWARDS**

### **HIGHLY COMMENDED BROADCAST**

The Annual CRAOL Awards took place during Féile. The Station's 'St.Patrick's Day Parade' broadcast was certified as 'Highly Commended' under the 'Special Programming (Non-commissioned, once-off)' category. Well done to the staff and volunteer team (Iain O'Connor, Shane O'Neill, Alan Maxwell, Suzanne Martin, Jeff Murphy, Colman Duggan, Ian McWilliams and Jordan Crowther) who made this broadcast possible and to Fingal County Council for facilitating the outside broadcast.

## **NATIONAL COMMUNITY RADIO DAY**

### **A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNITY RADIO**

Friday, June 19 saw 92.5 Phoenix FM join fellow community stations around the country in celebrating the first annual 'National Community Radio Day'. The Station extended its schedule for the day and broadcasted from 9am through to 11pm. This included a host of extra programming and gave the Station a great opportunity to showcase the huge range in diversity of shows that it has.

The Day kicked off at 9am with Chris Hitchcock on 'Phoenix Rising' followed at 10am by a special 'D15 Today' with Asiya Saleem and Jeff Murphy. Following that was the brilliant 'History Matters' with Brian Hughes and a chance to kick back and relax with some tunes on 'Blanch Trax' with Tony Robinson. Next up 'as Gaeilge' was 'Ag Caint le Gráinne' from 1pm to 2pm.

The great shows didn't stop there and at 2pm, one of the latest additions to the 92.5 Phoenix FM schedule, 'Health Zone', was at hand to help with healthy living advice. At 2:30pm we handed over our airwaves to the students from Coolmine Community School for a half hour of the best and most eclectic music out there. At 3pm we jumped at the chance to play a classic episode of the 'Coolmine Therapeutic Community Show' which was followed by the latest news from the Blanchardstown Library with Ronan O'Malley on 'The Library Show'. Next up was Irene Martin at 4pm with some jigs and reels for all our Irish music fans with 'Idir Eatartha'.

At 5pm 92.5 Phoenix FM were proud to repeat the documentary 'My Name is Jenny'. This is the story of local woman Jenny Powell as interviewed by Chris Hitchcock. There was then a second chance for anyone who missed Jeff and Asiya at 10am, followed by 'Access All Areas' at 7:30pm. This show is made with the help of the Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living about disability matters.

At 8pm, our Urdu speaking community programme 'Ghar Se Ghar Tak' took over for an hour before 'Wrestleview' talked all things professional wrestling with Darragh O'Connor. To finish off 'National Community Radio Day', Ian Mc Williams brought us the best in Metal and Hard rock with 'Rebel Radio'!

The Day showcased the variety that 92.5 Phoenix FM brings to the community and included many of the Station's specialised programming. Shows like these, and more, can be heard week in and week out here at 92.5 Phoenix FM.



# **#NationalCRDay**

## NEW SHOWS

### ADDING TO THE DIVERSITY OF OUR PROGRAMMING

New shows to the 92.5 Phoenix FM schedule since the last newsletter are: 'Getting to Know You' which features music and chat with notable locals, 'Living With' which is a documentary series surrounding living with serious illness, 'Health Zone' which is our brand new healthy living show and 'Phoenix Blues' which plays the best in Blues music from around the world.

Coming soon to the on-air schedule is 'The Art Show'. Currently in production we have 'A Day in the Shed', which is a look into the goings on in the Blanchardstown Men's Shed.

## PROGRAMMES IN DEVELOPMENT

### KEEP AN EAR OUT FOR THE FOLLOWING FUTURE PROJECTS

*Mná na hÉireann:* This is a series being developed by Rachel Devlin which looks at prominent women in Irish Society, past and present who have or are making a major contribution to Irish life.

*Hospitals Requests:* This idea from Eddie McGinley is looking at the feasibility of broadcasting from Connolly hospital.

*Places of Interest in Fingal:* The focus of this programme will be on places of interest such as; Dunsink Observatory, Shackleton Mills, Ashtown Castle, Phoenix Park Visitor Centre and Áras an Uachtaráin.

*Social History: Older People:* The idea for this programme came from Chris Hitchcock. It will look at the stories and life experiences of older people in Dublin 15. It aims to capture these stories before they are forgotten.

*Local Talent:* This programme idea aims to showcase local new and established talent in the arts, sport, social and historical areas among others.

*Female Artistes and Musicians:* This programme aims to highlight the female contribution to the art and music.

*Story Time with Parents and Grandparents:* Nuala Smith is developing this idea for smaller children.

*Youth & LGBT:* Some local young people are interested in developing a programme about LGBT. If you are interested, contact Nuala Smith.

*Training for Older Persons in Broadcasting Project:* There is an opportunity for 10 new participants, over the ages of 55, to take part in a broadcasting skills training scheme.

If you would like to contribute to any of these projects or if you have an idea for a programme of your own, please don't hesitate to get in touch with [iainoconnor@phoenixfm.ie](mailto:iainoconnor@phoenixfm.ie) or call the office on 01 822 7222.

## BACK ISSUES AVAILABLE

### DOWNLOAD PREVIOUS NEWSLETTERS

This is the ninth issue of the 92.5 Phoenix FM Newsletter. Previous issues are available online at [www.phoenixfm.ie/newsletters](http://www.phoenixfm.ie/newsletters). To subscribe to future newsletters, please email [shaneoneill@phoenixfm.ie](mailto:shaneoneill@phoenixfm.ie)



Oisín McNamee presents  
Phoenix Blues, Thursdays at  
9pm

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

LET US KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING IN YOUR AREA



The team broadcast live from the Fingal County Council offices for Spring Break D15

Here at 92.5 Phoenix FM, we are always on the look-out for local events that we can cover or promote on the air. As Dublin 15's only community radio station, we are an invaluable resource to anyone in the community looking to get the word out about the goings on in their locality. We are in a unique position to give you the coverage that mainstream radio simply will not. With the use of our mobile broadcasting equipment, we can even broadcast live from your event.

If there are any events taking place in your area that you would like us to cover or promote on the air, please get in touch with [iainoconnor@phoenixfm.ie](mailto:iainoconnor@phoenixfm.ie)

## PUB QUIZ

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING QUIZ FOR THE STATION

Thursday, May 28 saw Quizmaster Dave Hughes once again test the mental mettle of D15 as we held our first pub quiz of the year. Teams assembled in the Clonsilla Inn, each eager to show that they have what it takes to top the table. A fun night was had by all, despite the usual contention or two over the accuracy of some the answers. Remember – the Quizmaster's word is final! €450 was raised for the Station which went towards Broadcasting form the 25th Anniversary Family Fun Day Event. A big thanks to all who participated and congratulations to the 'Quizzlings' for taking home first prize.



Quizmaster Dave Hughes

## CONGRATULATIONS TO TRANSITION YEAR STUDENTS

GREAT RESULTS ACHIEVED IN QQI TRAINING COURSE

In March students from both Coolmine Community School and Luttrellstown Community College began Craol QQI (formerly FETAC) Training with 92.5 Phoenix FM. Young people in Transition Year were introduced to the ethos of Community Radio, interview skills and how to produce their own show over the course of several weeks which culminated in the production of a portfolio to be submitted for assessment.

Having recently had their results returned we are delighted to say that everyone who submitted their portfolio this time round has succeeded in achieving their results with 5 students achieving Distinctions and 2 Merits at a Level 4 in Community Radio, and at Level 3 in Media Expression 2 students succeeded in producing an excellent portfolio which saw them awarded their certificate from the QQI (Quality and Qualifications Ireland).

Well done to all and a big thank you to the Institute of Technology Blanchardstown for supporting this programme.





Jordan Crowther with Robo-Glo at  
Spring Break D15

For this edition of the 92.5 Phoenix FM Newsletter, we thought it would be fun to put the spotlight on one of our volunteers 'Q & A' style. Here's what Jordan Crowther had to say about himself and his experience with the Station to date:

- When did you start volunteering at the station and why did you first approach us?

I first volunteered back in the summer of 2011 on the 'D15 Today' show to get more experience because I did radio and media in college. I had to leave the show to finish my course but then came back in 2013. I went back to working on the 'D15 Today' show, along with Asiya Saleem, before I took on my own show in September 2014, 'Phoenix Mix' which airs Saturday nights at 10pm.

- What did you study in college?

I did two diplomas in media, one in general media and other in radio production. I then did my degree in media management and I am currently about to begin my masters in digital marketing this September.

- What is the benefit to you of community radio?

The biggest benefit of community radio for me personally, is that it has allowed me to cut my teeth in the media industry and learn the practical ins and outs of presenting, producing and developing content for radio. If anyone has a general interest and wants to gain experience, be it technical or personal, get involved with community radio. Plus, you can swear the odd time and it can go unnoticed.

- Seeing as you present 'Phoenix Mix', I was going to ask 'what is your all-time favourite dance anthem' but we both know it's obviously going to be Darude - Sandstorm...

You are right Darude-Sandstorm is the ONLY dance song anyone can ever choose. Well, that and Maniac 2000. But the other option could be 'what would be my funeral song', which obviously would be Sisqo - Thong Song....

- What is your most memorable on-air moment to date?

It would have to be interviewing the Michael Jackson impersonator from 'Man in the Mirror' for 'D15 Today'.

- What are your hobbies?

Long walks on the beach... I also enjoy the odd film and video game too.

- Anything else you'd like to add?

Yeah, can Phoenix start paying us? That would be great...

Tune in on Saturdays at 10pm for all the best in dance music, from deep house to techno on 'Phoenix Mix'.

## 92.5 PHOENIX FM STATION DEVELOPMENT DAY 2015

### STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS DEVELOP THEIR BROADCASTING SKILLS



Facilitator Diarmuid McIntyre of CRAOL

Our annual Station development day took place this April in the Blanchardstown Area Partnership office to provide a platform for both staff and volunteers to look at developing their skills in the planning, presenting and production of a show. The day included a challenge to volunteers to take on a new role which they had previously not experienced within the station with 3 groups, working to produce a live show at the end of the day.

The event went very well with people having the opportunity to present, research and produce a show which went out live to our Saturday listeners. Well done to all involved, who proved

that pushing yourself out of your comfort zone and taking on new roles and challenges leads to positive results.

## CHANGES TO STAFF

### STATION SAYS GOODBYE TO DENIS, SUZANNE AND EMMA

After three years at the helm of 92.5 Phoenix FM, we bid farewell to Station Manager, Denis McEvoy. Denis took over in 2012 and since then has overseen the dynamic growth of the Station. During his tenure, Denis has worked along with the Board, staff and volunteers on the moving of premises to our current studio and office, updating the policies and governance of the organisation, the re-branding of the Station and the increased community presence and continuing expansion of the Station. His inexplicable knowledge of all things Eurovision will be missed. We wish him well in his new job.



Suzanne Martin has been working as Broadcast Supervisor at the Station for the last year. She has been a constant presence on the evening shift at the Station, ensuring that all programming was broadcast as planned. She also kept both staff and volunteers up-to-date with opportunities to broadcast interviews or with notices of events. She has now moved on but luckily for us, has elected to stay involved with 92.5 Phoenix FM as a volunteer member.

We also say goodbye to our Project and Promotion Assistant Emma Bailey. Emma has been with the Station for the past two years, primarily working on maintaining and growing the Station's Social Media

and online presence. Her upbeat and welcoming personality will be sorely missed by all involved at the Station. We also wish her well in her new job.





## **A HISTORY OF 92.5 PHOENIX FM**

BY CHAIRPERSON RACHEL DEVLIN

In August 1988, residents of Dublin 15 (population 5,000) turned on their radios to hear the area's first ever local radio station. Phoenix FM, with a team of over 150 volunteers, broadcast from premises next door to Ryan's Garage on Main Street, Blanchardstown. Alan Connolly, Fergus Lynch, Dave Hughes, Sean O'Beachain and Irene Martin among many others kept the Station on the airwaves with news, views and music choices of residents in this area.

Following many subsequent years, these same members and other volunteers of this community came together as a working group and created a vision for the station, planned programming and developed facilities. After several years of organisation and negotiation, the station was awarded a licence by the then (Broadcasting Corporation of Ireland, and now Broadcasting Authority of Ireland). To operate a full licence, this group had to constitute itself as a Co-operative with no share capital, and a Board was elected from the community to manage the station transparently and with accountability.

In January 2000 Phoenix FM moved to new studios in the Blanchardstown Centre from where it still operates today. Volunteers, young and old, with all abilities, backgrounds, and interests, can come together to make a difference to their community. In making that difference, those involved developed not just confidence and competence in broadcasting skills, but skills for the new economy (communications, IT), skills for active citizenship and skills for social inclusion. The communities which they serve and the groups and individuals within those communities gained a voice with which to be heard.

92.5 Phoenix FM is one of 20 national community radio stations. It broadcasts on 92.5FM from 8.30am to 2pm and again from 6.00pm to 11pm every weekday, from 2pm to 11pm on Saturday and Sunday mornings and evenings. Since 2009 we were awarded an annual grant from Pobal to employ a Manager and a small staff group. Craol, the representative body of community radio stations is lobbying the government for a portion of the proposed Public Service Broadcasting Charge. We would ask you to support us in that lobby by talking to your TD's in advance of next year's General Election. Community Radio needs to be set on a secure financial footing so that it can develop further.

In 2015, its 25th Anniversary, the schedule has been expanded to 69 hours per week and it is planned to get to 100 hours broadcasting per week by December 2015. The population of the Dublin 15 Area is now over 100,000; the size of Galway city. We have 24% migrant population and this is reflected in the programming. We have music, current affairs and magazine programmes in English, Irish, Lithuanian, Urdu, Polish and Romanian, as well as programming for the African community.

Community Radio has the capacity to reinforce what is good about Irish Society and to help find solutions to its failings. Community Radio facilitates individuals, groups, and communities to tell their own diverse stories, to share experiences and in a media rich world to become active creators and contributors, rather than passive consumers.



## **CHANGES AT BOARD LEVEL**

BEST OF LUCK TO FORMER BOARD MEMBERS

Along with the changes to staff, there have also been changes to the Board of Management. Daniel Pitcher has stepped down to take up a PR position with St Mochta's Football Club. Dave Hughes has stepped down after a commendable run as a founding Board member. He is still volunteering and is continuing on the HR Sub-committee. Jim Connell has stepped down and is also remaining as a volunteering broadcaster. Gary Keogh, Treasurer has stepped down after a short term with us. 92.5 Phoenix FM wishes to extend a big 'thank you' to all of the above for their contributions to the Station.



## TECH TIP

### CONDUCTING A PHONE INTERVIEW

With each Newsletter, we aim to bring you a tech tip to help expand your studio knowledge

1. Pick up the 'line 1' studio phone and press '9' to get a dial tone. You can then dial the number of the person who is to be interviewed.
2. Greet the person, tell them who you are and why you are calling. Then tell them that you will put them on hold briefly before the interview begins.
3. Press down the 'Hold' switch on the 'Line 1' box and hang up the phone.
4. Turn up the 'Line 1' fader on the desk as well as the mic fader for the presenter, if this is not already turned up. The interviewee can now be heard in the presenter's headphones and they can hear the presenter on their phone.
5. As soon as the interview ends, immediately turn down the 'Line 1' fader on the desk and release the 'Hold' switch on the 'Line 1' box.



Switches for 'Line 1' and 'Line 2'

Some general practices: Remember to be polite on the phone as you are representing 92.5 Phoenix FM. If the interview is taking place during a live show, for example 'D15 Today', then it can be a good idea to play a song just before the interview is due to start. This gives the sound tech time during which to call the interviewee and set up the interview. The interview can then commence as soon as the song ends. If you need any additional volume on the telephone line you can turn up the 'trim' knob on the 'line 1' channel on the desk.

## NEW T-SHIRTS

### GIVING THE STATION A FRESH LOOK AT EVENTS



Special thanks to new local t-shirt printing company, 'Sludgeface', for making our brand new 92.5 Phoenix FM t-shirts. Keep an eye out for the team wearing them out and about at future events.

Check out <http://www.sludgeface.com/> for more details.

Shane O'Neill, Iain O'Connor and Jordan Crowther wear the new t-shirts at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Family Fun Day

## **25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION NIGHT**

### **A NIGHT FOR ALL INVOLVED WITH 92.5 PHOENIX FM**

Seeing as this year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 92.5 Phoenix FM, we thought it a most appropriate time to celebrate all our cherished volunteer members. This is a night to thank everybody for the work and sacrifices that they make in order to broadcast to their community. Come along to The 12<sup>th</sup> Lock, The Royal Canal, Castleknock on Thursday, October 8 from 8pm to join in the celebrations!

Please RSVP to [nualasmith@phoenixfm.ie](mailto:nualasmith@phoenixfm.ie) to confirm attendance.

## **GREAT NEW RESOURCE AVAILABLE**

### **HAVING TROUBLE FINDING A SPACE TO PREPARE YOUR SHOW?**

With the constant growth and ever expanding schedule here at 92.5 Phoenix FM, we have recognised the need for a space that all volunteers, staff and Board members alike can avail of for a multitude of functions. With that in mind, we are pleased to introduce the 92.5 Phoenix FM 'Newsroom' and 'Studio 2'. You may have known these spaces before under a previous guise but we are now working to refurbish and repurpose these spaces into a more welcoming and functional environment.



The 92.5 Phoenix FM 'Newsroom'

The 'Newsroom' now has a PC with internet access. WiFi is also available. This makes it the perfect spot to research and prepare for your show. There is also a phone with an extension list, should you need to contact any desk in the main office or studio. The Newsroom can also be used as a meeting room. Basic tea and coffee making facilities are available but we do ask that you keep the area tidy and use the bins provided. This is a space which the Station will continue to upgrade and expand upon into the future.

## **JOINING THE 92.5 PHOENIX FM TEAM**

### **WANTED: INQUISITIVE, QUESTIONING AND EAGER TO LEARN RECRUITS**

We are currently recruiting volunteer Community Broadcasters available during the hours of 9am-6pm to take on various roles in the station including, Presenter, Researcher, Producer, Roving Reporter and Sound Technician. Applicants should have an interest in their local community in Dublin 15 and be curious as to how national and global news affects us here in the Greater Blanchardstown Area. Training and mentoring is provided for all roles, as is support to help you become an active member of our current affairs and magazine shows.

To apply please contact [nualasmith@phoenixfm.ie](mailto:nualasmith@phoenixfm.ie)

## CONTACT US

92.5 Phoenix FM

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[www.facebook.com/PhoenixFM.Dublin](https://www.facebook.com/PhoenixFM.Dublin)

[www.twitter.com/925\\_PhoenixFM](https://www.twitter.com/925_PhoenixFM)

**Board of Directors:** Rachel Devlin (Chairperson), Mairead Murphy (Vice Chair), Sarah Devitt (Secretary), Cecilia Durnin (Community Representative), Daiga Ancikovska, Colman Duggan, Paul Hosford (Volunteer Rep), Jeff Murphy.

**Staff Members:** Iain O'Connor, Eithne Moran, Nuala Smith, Alan Maxwell, Shane O'Neill.

