

RialtoNetworkNEWS

Autumn 2010

Policing Dialogues

What's the Story? Collective bring an innovative exploration of neighbourhood relations of power to a broad audience.

'Policing Dialogues' is a six week residency at The LAB by the Rialto based *What's the Story? Collective*. Opened by Vincent Browne on 14th September, this residency includes a public exhibition of film and installation over 2 floors of the gallery.

The exhibition is based on young people's personal experiences of power and policing in Dublin's South inner city and highlights a range of anonymous stories from young people detailing their experiences with Gardai.

In addition, there has been an extensive programme of workshops, dialogues and meetings exploring the complex issue of policing. This creative and learning residency is aimed at all audiences but has been particularly targeting critical thinkers, policy makers, young people and those who work with them.

An Garda Síochana have also been participating in the programme and are working with the collective to develop new training for Gardai at a local level which will aim to bring about more constructive interactions with young people.

The exhibition continues until 23rd October, Mon-Sat 10-5 at The LAB, Foley St, Dublin 1.

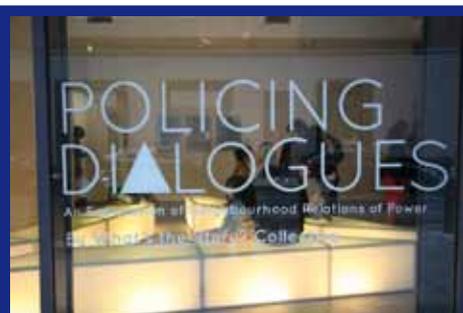
For more information or guided tours, contact Nichola Mooney at Rialto Youth Project on 453 1638 www.section8.ie

"At the end of the day, we still need the Gardai, like if your gaf is after getting broken into or if someone has been murdered,

you still need them. But we never look at them that way. We look at them as being the pricks that come in here, raid gafs and completely intervene in people's lives. But I suppose when they are not here, what are they doing? Are they out there trying to get someone who is after robbing someone's gaf or trying to catch somebody who is after murdering somebody? And in here, I understand why people want them. They want safety for their children. That's understandable.

When they are kicking in my door it's a different story." Anonymous

"I'd say I get stopped about 20 times a month. I'm going to the shop, they stop me. I'm going to get a dvd, they stop me. I'm going home, they stop me. I'm going to me mates, they stop me. I can't win with them." Anonymous



Welcome to the latest edition of **Rialto Network News**

As ever we have loads of interesting local updates for you – from the fantastic exhibition by the **What's The Story Collective**, to the new **Gymtastic** initiative for children with disabilities and local arts and health initiatives.

We also have two inserts in this edition. There is a special edition of **Grey Matters, focussing on issues for the over-55s**. It is packed full of information for seniors such as the new prescription charges for medical card holders, information on upcoming classes and activities and a report on the recent day trip to Wexford.

We also have an insert from **St. Andrews Community Centre** featuring the many activities available in the centre. There are loads of things to get involved in so make sure to check it out!

BIG PUSH

for Canal Communities



Photos: Chris Maguire

The Canal Communities Big Push Campaign, which aims to fight back against the drastic government cuts experienced by the vital community sector over recent years, has been running for some time now.

It has gained a lot of momentum and support across the Rialto, Inchicore, Bluebell and Kilmainham areas and there was a great turn out at its latest initiative - the I Am A Vote protest. This aimed to “welcome” TDs back to the Dáil after their long summer break on 29th September.

Supporters wore special black t-shirts emblazoned

with the logo “I AM A VOTE” on the front and “Defend Community Projects” on the back along with the name of the campaign. Loads of supporters turned out and voiced their frustration with the government’s disgraceful attitude towards the community sector.

It was a loud, colourful and highly visible protest which couldn’t have gone unnoticed by members of the house since those present certainly made their voices heard, loud and proud of our vital sector!! Well done to all involved!

From the heart of the country to the heart of the capital **Communities walking together**

A walk of community activists, volunteers, workers and supporters is being organised from 8th to 11th November. The walk, from Mullingar to Dublin, will be a chance to publicise the devastating cuts which have decimated the vital community sector over recent years and for supporters of the sector to come together to talk as they walk, share ideas and inspire and encourage each other.

It will be four fun, challenging and inspirational

days and a great opportunity for people who support the sector to come together to show the government they cannot dampen our spirit however much they try to stamp out our drive for social change and equality.

Why not come and join us? For further information, please contact Jules at Rialto Network on 01 473 2003 or communitieswalktogether@gmail.com

New Cafe @ The F2 Centre

The F2 Centre is delighted to announce that its new Café Togo @F2 is now open. The Café, which is being operated by the F2 Centre in partnership with the Café Togo chain, will provide a great selection of food, drinks and snacks in a relaxed setting. Parties and private functions catered for. For further information contact Michelle at 087 230 3202 or cafetogo@f2c.ie.

Dolphin Crèche – places available!
Dolphin Crèche currently has places available for children aged 18 months to 5 years. The recently refurbished crèche is bright, airy, well-equipped and a lovely environment where your child will be encouraged and stimulated. Free ECCE places are available and subsidised rates also. For further information contact Anna on 01 473 8079.

ARC-Dance School

Hip Hop & Break dancing in Rialto

ARC-Dance are a local Hip-hop & Break-dance school in Rialto run by Serena Mooney. They have weekly classes in the Rialto Parish Centre which have been running since 2004 and have Hip-hop & Break-dance classes for all ages.

Dance is a great way to keep fit, gain confidence and meet new friends while having fun! It doesn't matter if you're a beginner or experienced dancer, they have it all at ARC-Dance.

Here is what some of the class members have to say about Arc Dance:



ARC means a lot to me because it's not only dancing it's a family. I have been dancing from a young age and have been in a lot of different dance groups but I never fitted in a group so well till I found ARC, all the dancers and specially the dance teachers were so welcoming and made me fit right in. What ARC brings that all other dance schools lack is the fun part of dance, we train but we have great fun while doing so.

Dawn Slattery (Rialto)

I've met some great mates since I joined ARC, we have become a family. When we do a performance I feel a great sense of achievement and happiness. I have gained so much more confidence from my Hip-hop class and my friends in ARC. Serena and Misty are giving us some cool opportunities to really do something that makes us happy and they are both very talented.

Nerissa Mooney (Drinnagh)

GET HAPPY, GET FUNKY, GET DANCING!

Where: Rialto Parish Centre, 500 South Circular Rd, Rialto. When: Thursday – Hip-hop – 6.30pm–7.30pm.
Break-dance – 7.30pm–8.30pm. Cost: €10 per class OR €50 for a 6 week term.
Check out www.arc-dance.com or call Serena on 087 091 4564.

A Drug and Alcohol Free Social

takes place on Tuesday evenings in St. Andrews Community Centre, 468 South Circular Road from 7.30–10.30pm. A range of activities are on offer including karaoke, games, open mike sessions and a variety of other things. If you would like to socialise in a supportive drug and alcohol free setting why not go along?

How Much Have You Got To Lose?

A 12 week Community Weight Loss Challenge is running on an ongoing basis in St. Andrews Community Centre, Rialto. Each week participants are weighed and measured and a topic on healthy nutrition is covered along with how to maintain a healthy weight.

Cash Prizes for

* **Most centimetres lost** * **Most Body Fat lost**

Time: Wednesdays, 8pm, St. Andrews Community Centre, 468 South Circular Road, Rialto (alternative times for other Dublin classes also available)
Contact: Ann – 085 716 1412

Fantastic Gymtastic!!

Gymtastic @F2 was launched on 29th September by the Fatima Health Project.

It opened its 'club' doors on 2nd October in the F2 centre in Fatima. The club is a weekly physical activity programme which fosters the health and wellbeing of children living with a disability. If you wish to know more or would like to volunteer please contact Ann Malone or Deirdre Farrell at 6716724. The programme is part-funded by Dublin City Council and the Canals Communities Partnership.



Health Projects – updates

A full programme of activities has begun this Autumn in Dolphin and Fatima. If you want to de-stress or just meet new people come along to holistics, yoga, circuit training, parent and baby group, women's group, men's group or pilates. Contact the health workers at the numbers below:

Fatima Health Project:

471 6722

Dolphin Health Project:

454 4682



Community Services Programme celebrated

Rialto Development Association thanks all who came out to support Community Services Celebration Day in St. Andrew's Community Centre on Friday 10th September (see insert for further information on St. Andrew's). There are loads of activities going on in St. Andrews so check out the insert for full details of what is happening!

Human Rights Work in Rialto

At a Human Rights Housing Hearing held on 25th May, the Irish Human Rights Commission (IHRC), leading academics in the field of human rights and housing, public representatives and the media, heard overwhelming evidence from residents of deplorable living conditions in many of the Dolphin House flats.

These included sewerage invasion through toilets, baths, sinks and washing machines, corrosive damp in bedrooms, kitchens and bathrooms and mould containing pathogenic spores. All of these conditions have persisted for decades and pose a risk to residents' health as well as making for a poor quality of life.

The response, to date, from Dublin City Council has been, according to the evidence gathered by RRIAG completely inadequate.

The IHRC president Dr. Maurice Manning, supported by the academics on the panel, said that these conditions clearly contravene the rights of residents under the United Nations Convention on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, to which Ireland is a signatory. They further concluded that it is the responsibility of the Duty Bearer, that is the Minister for the Environment, Minister for Housing and Minister for Health, to vindicate the progressive realisation of these rights. The residents

launched indicators at the hearing, in line with the principle of progressive realisation. This means that there will be a reduction, down to zero, within the next year of the amount of residents reporting dampness, mould, sewerage ingress/smells, concerned about health because of sewerage or damp, dissatisfied with response to issues of sewerage and damp, residents given no information/explanation as to why problems occur, reporting no information given on how issues of dampness and sewerage are to be addressed, residents reporting that they are not included in decisions affecting them regarding dampness and sewerage.

These are timed measures of progress towards the Human Rights Standard, which the residents will monitor over the coming twelve months. These indicators were endorsed by the panel including the IHRC as more than reasonable given the long history of sub-standard conditions in the complex.

The Rialto Rights in Action Project is a collaboration of Rialto Residents, Dolphin House Community Development Association, The Dolphin and Fatima Health Projects, Community Response, Community Action Network and Participation and Practice of Rights Project, Belfast, and is funded by Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.

Arts in the Community!

Rialto Community Drug Team's Men's Health Group have been developing a play over the last few months.

They will be performing the play on 26th October in St. Andrews Community Centre.

Why not go along and enjoy our local acting talent?

Want to learn or teach English?

Failete Isteach is an initiative which brings local volunteers together with people who wish to learn English in a friendly, informal setting. Weekly classes have been running in St. Andrews Community Centre for 18 months and have proven both popular and successful. People from many countries have come together, made friends and learned the language in a fun, friendly environment. Both tutors and students often comment on how much they enjoy the classes. Would you like to get involved? If you would like to become a tutor, join the class, or if you know someone who might benefit from improving their English, contact Atinuke or Debbie at Rialto Community Network on 01 473 2003.

Rialto Community Network

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