

## **Press Release**

### **Heritage Week in Fingal 20th to 28th August 2011**

Heritage Week runs from Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August this year. "It's a great opportunity to get out around the county and explore your local heritage" says Gerry Clabby, Fingal County Council's Heritage Officer. "There are many events taking place in Fingal during the week suitable for all the family such as art classes, talks and walks. So why not find out what there is to enjoy in Fingal during Heritage Week?"

Events include an exhibition of old photographs and prints of the Blanchardstown and Castleknock areas, running all week in Blanchardstown Library organized by the Fingal Southwest Heritage Society; and a talk in Newbridge House, Donabate entitled "The Big House in Fingal: Past, Present and Future" on 20<sup>th</sup> August, by the Council's Archivist, Colm McQuinn. The Council's Biodiversity Officer, Hans Visser will be leading a guided walk in the Turvey Nature Reserve on 28<sup>th</sup> August. There will also be guided walks at the Deerpark Hotel in Howth on 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> August on the red squirrel conservation project in Howth. The Howth peninsula is the last place in Dublin where red squirrels are still to be found, and the conservation project aims to ensure into the future the presence in Howth of this beautiful native Irish animal. Local historical groups will lead walking tours of the historic sites of Rush on 27<sup>th</sup> August and Swords on 28<sup>th</sup> August. Skerries will see a variety of historical and fun events all week throughout the town to celebrate the 1911 Census going on line; and Balbriggan Chamber of Commerce will host the Bridgestone Balbriggan Food Fest on 20<sup>th</sup> August.

And there's much, much more. With over 1300 events nationally there's something for everyone to enjoy during Heritage Week. Full details of all events in Fingal are listed on the heritage week website [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) or on the Council's own website [www.fingalcoco.ie](http://www.fingalcoco.ie)

**ENDS 12.08.11**

#### **Notes to Editors:**

*The Heritage Council is the statutory body charged with identifying, protecting, preserving and enhancing Ireland's national heritage. National heritage includes Monuments,*

*Archaeological objects, Heritage objects, Architectural heritage, Flora, Fauna, Wildlife habitats, Landscapes, Seascapes, Wrecks, Geology, Heritage gardens and parks, and Inland waterways.*

*Established under the Heritage Act 1995, and operating under the aegis of the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, the Heritage Council provides advice to the Minister, and partners and networks with Local Authorities and a wide range of other organisations and individuals to promote Ireland's heritage.*

*Heritage Week is co-ordinated in Ireland by the Heritage Council in conjunction with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, and is part of European Heritage Days, which is celebrated in over 40 countries across Europe.*

Full information on Heritage Week events throughout the country is available on

[www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) or from CallSave 1850 200 878