



# Annual Report 2015



**volunteer centre**

Ionad d'Obair Dheonach Dhùn Laoghaire Ráth an Dúin

DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN







## OUR MISSION

We are passionate about volunteering and the continued development of the county of Dun Laoghaire Rathdown as a great place to volunteer. Volunteering enriches communities, gives volunteers an opportunity to develop personally and puts civic participation and communities at the heart of how we all live.

## FOR VOLUNTEERS

We support those interested in volunteering and can help you select a volunteering opportunity that is suitable for you. To get started, all you have to do is register with us, which can be done online, in person or over the phone. Once registered, you can search and apply for the right volunteer opportunity for you. You will also receive our monthly update on the latest volunteering opportunities available.

## FOR ORGANISATIONS

If your organisation wants to involve volunteers, then we can help you advertise your volunteering opportunities, by posting them on our online database for volunteers. We also offer support and training in best practice volunteer management and are here as a source of support to all local volunteer involving organisations.

## OUR PEOPLE

### 2015 Board Members

Niall Sexton  
Dave Lawless  
Cormac Shaw  
Gabriel McWeeney  
Shane McArdle  
Mary O'Donohue  
Orlaith McGourty (to June 2015)  
John Randles (to June 2015)  
Anne Cantrell (from June 2015)  
Thomas Doyle (from June 2015)  
Niall O'Connell (from June 2015)  
Patrica Byrne (from September 2015)

### Staff & Volunteers

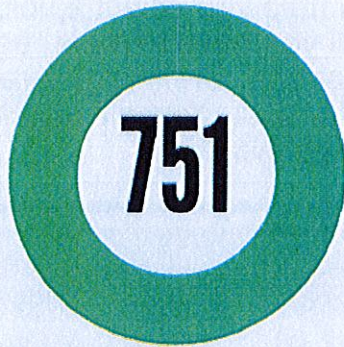
Sarah Burgess (to June 2015)  
Angela Lennon  
Sonia Young (from May 2015)  
Claire Carroll (from July 2015)  
Colin Meagher  
Maria Ramos



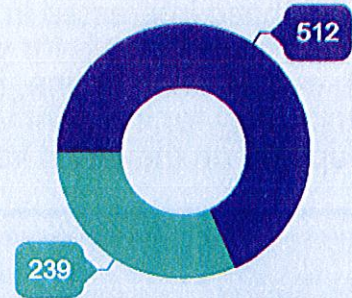


# YEAR IN REVIEW

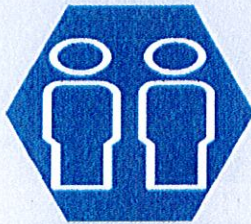
## DLRVC 2015



■ New Volunteers Registered



■ Women (68%) ■ Men (32%)



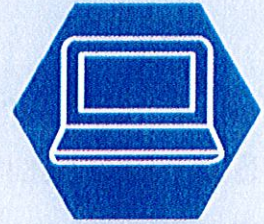
**255**

Placements



**264**

Active Local Organisations



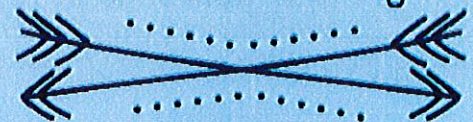
**150**

New Opportunities

257 Volunteers

came back to us for more!

### Top 5 Reasons For Volunteering



2015

1. I want to do my bit to make the world a better place
2. I want to make a difference in my community
3. I want to develop my skills/education
4. I think it will be good for me
5. I want to assist my career/employment prospects



# CHAIR'S REPORT

2015 was a very busy year for the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre. We far exceeded targets for the year with 751 new volunteers registered and 42 new organisations joining our list of organisations providing volunteer opportunities. The team worked hard to expand the reach of the Centre, with outreach throughout the county and efforts to connect with different groups, including women's groups and mental health groups.

Supporting best practice in Volunteering is a key target for the Centre and eleven organisations took part in Volunteer Management training in 2015. The Volunteer Centre also saw increasing interest in our Volunteer Managers Networking Forum, with four networking breakfasts held in 2015, covering various themes, including volunteer recognition, retention and being a volunteer manager.

2015 also saw a renewed effort to promote the centre and engage with the local voluntary and community sector resulting in a growing online presence and an increased involvement in local groups. The DLRVC continues as a member of the Public Participation Network secretariat which will influence local and community development in the County for years to come. The centre was also involved in the Age Friendly Strategy Service Providers Forum and engaged at a national level in promoting National Volunteer Week.

None of this work could have happened without the highly dedicated staff of the Centre. 2015 saw significant change with our Manager Sarah Burgess moving on to Glasgow. We were very pleased to welcome Claire Carroll as Manager. Claire brings a deep commitment to volunteering and great experience in managing volunteers. She has worked tirelessly to help develop a new strategic plan to ensure the continued growth and development of the Centre for years to come. In addition to our paid staff, the centre also benefited enormously from the volunteer commitment of Colin Meagher who willingly shares his expertise with accounts and Maria Ramos, who ably shared her IT and Communication skills with us.

I would like to thank the members of the Board of Directors who give freely of their time to ensure the good governance and operation of the Volunteer Centre: Shane McArdle, Dave Lawless, Cormac Shaw, Mary O'Donohoe and Gabriel McWeeney, Anne Cantrell, Tom Doyle and Niall O'Connell. I particularly wish to pay tribute to Orlaith McGourty and John Randles who stepped down during the year. We are very grateful for their time, expertise and energy.

It is a pleasure to be part of the process that unleashes such powerful voluntary activity in the County and I look forward to working with you all to continue the work in 2016

**Niall Sexton**  
**Chairperson**





# MANAGER'S REPORT

I started with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre in July 2015. It was a year filled with change and new developments and was an exciting time for the volunteer centre. 2015 was a very busy year for us and building on our 2014 registrations of new volunteers, we have continued to rise and exceed our targets.

We also saw a sustained interest from repeat callers with 257 of our volunteers coming back for more during the year. Many of whom have volunteered with numerous local organisations and regularly assist with local events.

A big focus of the latter half of 2015 was to build relationships with the many local organisations we work with, to continue the long tradition DLRVC has, with its registered groups. One of the things I have been so struck with, since starting, is the immense good will and support for our work. The ongoing and genuine commitment in the county to volunteering and the enthusiasm that organisations have for their volunteers and the contributions they make.

I am hugely grateful to the Board of DLRVC who so warmly welcomed me into the fold and the staff of Southside Partnership, who have been so helpful since I first started. Large thanks is also due to Angela and Sonia, who made such a meaningful contribution to the work of the centre, to the volunteers and the organisations they worked with, during their time with us. I speak for all at Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre, when I say we are genuinely excited for the future of volunteering in our County.

**Claire Carroll**  
**Manager**





## OUR FUNDERS & SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the organisations who funded and supported our work this year:

- Department of Environment, Community and Local Government
- Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council
- Southside Partnership
- Volunteer Ireland

## OTHER SUPPORT

Thank you also to these organisations for providing us with a place to run our outreach service:

- Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Citizens Information Service
- Rosemount Resource Centre

## COMPANY DETAILS

Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Volunteer Centre is a company limited by guarantee with a Board of Directors

**Charlty Number: CHY 17883**

**01 2090630**

**Company Registration Number: 443866** [www.volunteerdlr.ie](http://www.volunteerdlr.ie)

**The Old Post Office  
7 Rock Hill, Main Street  
Blackrock  
Co. Dublin**

| <b>Audited Account Summary</b>       | <b>2015</b>   | <b>2014</b>   |
|--------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Income</b>                        |               |               |
| Dept. Of ECLG                        | 86,901        | 79,290        |
| Southside Partnership                | -             | 7,610         |
| Garda Vetting                        | 1,180         | 1,040         |
| DLR County Council                   | 1,295         | 500           |
| Southside Partnership Training Grant | -             | 1,000         |
| Other Income                         | 1,190         | 255           |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>90,566</b> | <b>89,695</b> |
| <b>Expenditure</b>                   |               |               |
| Employment Costs                     | 66,577        | 62,782        |
| Rent                                 | 8,000         | 8,000         |
| Administration & Programme Costs     | 11,089        | 15,880        |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>85,666</b> | <b>86,662</b> |





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