

NATIONAL TIDY TOWNS CONFERENCE 2017

WESTPORT CO. MAYO



*With Architect
Dermot Bannon*



SuperValu 
Tidy Towns
THE KAVANAGH GROUP



An Roinn Ealáin, Oidhreacht,
Gnóthaí Réigiúnacha, Tuaithe agus Gaeltachta
—
Department of Arts, Heritage,
Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs

WESTPORT
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2017
CELEBRATING TWO HUNDRED
& FIFTY YEARS

The National Tidy Towns conference is a unique opportunity for Tidy Towns groups around the country to learn from and share their experiences with other Tidy Towns communities nationwide.

- Guidance on Spring preparation for 2017 submission
- Expert Speakers – 3 national Tidy Towns adjudicators
- Shared experiences from present and past National Winners including 2016 National Winner, Skerries



CONFERENCE VENUE: WESTPORT TOWN HALL THEATRE, THE OCTAGON
- A community investment company project

Conference cost: €30 (includes light lunch). Early booking essential.

Bookings: **Web** www.westporttheatre.com; **Telephone** +353 98 28459; **Email** info@westporttheatre.com

FRIDAY EVENING, 24th MARCH

8:00pm **Conference Opening**

Cllr. Brendan Mulroy, Cathaoirleach, West Mayo Municipal District

8:10pm **Exhibition Opening: “Westport Tidy Towns - Sweeping Through the Years”**

by **Dermot Bannon**, Architect

SATURDAY, 25th MARCH

9:15am	Coffee & Registration	Westport Town Hall Theatre, The Octagon
9:45am	Conference Opening	Dermot Bannon , Master of Ceremonies
9:50am	Welcome Address	Noel Kavanagh , SuperValu
10.00am	<i>“Catching the Eye of the Adjudicator”</i>	Sharon Eastwood , National Tidy Towns Adjudicator
10.40am	<i>“Practical Projects & Invasive Species”</i>	Peter Gill , Parks Superintendent, Mayo County Council
11.20am	Tea & Coffee Break	
11.40am	<i>“Working With Communities”</i>	Sharon Cameron , Environmental Awareness Officer, Mayo Co. Co.
12:00pm	<i>“Our Story - Sharing the Skerries Success”</i>	Maeve McGann & Anne Doyle , Skerries - National Winners 2016
12.20pm	<i>“What Makes for a Good Biodiversity Project”</i>	Billy Flynn , National Tidy Towns Adjudicator
1:00pm	Lunch	At the Wyatt Hotel across the Octagon
2:00pm	<i>“Waste & Resource Management - Getting Results!”</i>	Lorraine Power , National Tidy Towns Adjudicator
2.50pm	<i>“The Westport Experience”</i>	Eithne Larkin , Chairperson, Westport Tidy Towns & Simon Wall , Westport Town Architect, Mayo County Council
3.50pm	Adjudicators Q&A	
4:50pm	Speakers Closure	Michael Ring TD, Minister of State for Regional Economic Development
5.00pm	Conference Group Photograph	Led by Dermot Bannon and Tidy Towns Adjudicators

SPEAKERS

Sharon Eastwood is a biologist by training. Her appointment as a national Tidy Towns adjudicator in 2009 reflected the newer categories of the competition. Since then she has assisted in shaping a new direction for the national Tidy Towns competition. Sharon has delivered numerous workshops and presentations for Tidy Towns communities and Local Authorities across Ireland. Sharon has worked with the RSPB and The Wildfowl and Wetland Trust, and is co director of Woodrow Environmental Consultants.

Lorraine Power is an Environmental Scientist and Tidy Towns adjudicator since 2009, and has been involved in developing national guidelines for Tidy Towns. Lorraine has served as Environmental Awareness Officer with four separate Local Authorities. She has a wide range of experience in delivering environmental awareness workshops and plans to community groups, schools and businesses and specialises in Sustainable Waste & Resource Management. Lorraine has adjudicated Fáilte Ireland's Tourism Towns competition in 2012 and 2013.

Billy Flynn has over 20 years' experience in environmental consultancy. He was manager of the

National Environmental Education Centre from 1999 until 2006 and lecturer in ecology and biology at DIT. He regularly leads events on grasslands and woodland ecology. He is a Director of Rivus, a Director of the Irish Wildlife Trust, a former Director of Voluntary Service International and has been a Tidy Towns adjudicator for 10 years. He is co director of Flynn-Furney Environmental Consultants.

Maeve McGann and **Anne Doyle** are members of the 2016 national winners, Skerries Tidy Towns. They are keen to share the key to their success with us.

Sharon Cameron is the Environment Awareness Officer with Mayo County Council for over 16 years. In this role Sharon has worked closely with communities, schools and businesses throughout Mayo in leading campaigns to promote greater care for our environment particularly in the areas of waste and litter management.

Peter Gill is a horticulturalist and Parks Superintendent with Mayo County Council, and has worked successfully on hundreds of projects with Tidy Towns and Community Groups in counties Sligo and Mayo.

Eithne Larkin is Chairperson of Westport Tidy Towns, which has three national wins under its belt. It is her second time as chairperson, and she has been strategic in delivering Tidy Towns success for Westport over the past two decades having chaired the 2008 national win.

Simon Wall has been Town Architect to Westport for the past two decades, where he has managed the built environment as part of the town's management team. He has worked as Mayo County Council's representative within Westport Tidy Towns throughout this time.

Noel Kavanagh is Managing Director of the Kavanagh Group, Westport, where he has developed Ireland's largest independent supermarket retail company. With 11 SuperValu stores nationally and additional stores in the UK, the Kavanagh Group employs 900 people. Noel is an ardent advocate of Tidy Towns, and has voluntarily headed the community investment company that has delivered the Westport Town Hall Theatre (conference venue) as a civic facility for the town.



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Mayo County Council, West Mayo Municipal District. Telephone (098) 50400.

