

# THE LIBERTIES COMMUNITY PROJECT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



## The Liberties Community Project Gifts Community Archive to Dublin City Libraries and Archive

The Liberties Community Project is proud to announce the gifting of its Community Archive to Dublin City Libraries and Archive (DCLA). This collection, which covers community developments in the South West Inner City Dublin from the 1970's until the present day, captures the rich social, cultural, and political history of The Liberties and surrounding areas.

The archive includes photographs, oral histories, documents, and records that reflect the stories, struggles, and triumphs of local residents and community groups. It serves as an invaluable resource for researchers, historians, and future generations who seek to understand the dynamic history of this part of Dublin.

By donating the archive, The Liberties Community Project ensures that the voices of the community are preserved in a public, accessible space. We extend our gratitude to all who contributed to the archive and look forward to seeing its legacy live on.

The Liberties Community Project will seek to add to the archive over coming years and to ensure that the archive is fully accessible and can be enjoyed by as many people as possible.

For more information on how to access the collection contact [cityarchives@dublincity.ie](mailto:cityarchives@dublincity.ie)

## Afternoon Tea With The President

We're lucky to have a humble, intelligent and highly respected President who listens with empathy, makes thoughtful decisions and represents the people of Ireland with both heart and wisdom.

The Liberties Community Project are particularly aware of this after having the privilege of attending a tea reception in the Aras and talking with Dublin 8's no.1 resident directly.

The President opened our 3 Usher Street community centre in 2015 so it was an honour to update him on developments during the interim and present him with some gifts as a small token of our gratitude for his selfless service over the last fourteen years

## Welcome from the CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we move further into 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress that The Liberties Community Project has made in the six months since the voluntary legal amalgamation of RECDP & SICCD and launch as The Liberties Community Project in November 2024.

This limited amount of time has seen cross border collaborations with a number of groups from Shankill, Belfast, collaborations with lead Smart D8 Forum members leading to an arrangement that The Liberties Community Project host a Community Health Coordinator position and the ongoing growth of our core charitable programmes. 2025 has also seen further engagement in strategic research, advocacy and fundraising projects that are expected to bear fruit later in 2025.

None, or certainly not all, of these things would have been possible for either smaller forbearer of The Liberties Community Project and I hope that my colleagues, our supporters and the community we serve share the view that we are truly 'Better Together' as a merged entity. I look forward to the publication of an academic paper on the subject of mergers in the Irish Charity sector by our Chairperson Denis Murphy later in 2025 and hope that this will be of use to other small community development organisations considering merger processes.

Thank you for being part of this journey and I look forward to working together throughout 2025 and beyond.

Best,

Austin Campbell CEO, The Liberties Community Project

## Stay Updated

The Liberties Community Project will publish quarterly newsletters designed to keep attendees, friends and supporters up to date on what's happening.

Please sign up to our mailing list and receive newsletters by email through the news tab on our website- [www.thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](http://www.thelibertiescommunityproject.ie) or by emailing [info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](mailto:info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie) and requesting to be added.

Physical copies will be available from our centres as well as from a selection of local Liberties businesses and services.



## Coming This Summer – Liberties Brickworks!

1 of 10 sets. Horse and Cart

Building Resilient and Empowered Communities in South West Inner City Dublin one brick at a time. By purchasing this product, you are supporting the work of The Liberties Community Project. All profits raised will contribute towards the increased rent on our 3 Usher Street Community Centre.

Are you a local business or someone interested in collaborating or getting involved? Contact [info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](mailto:info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie)  
Support The Liberties Community Project and be part of something special



# COMING THIS SUMMER

## LIBERTIES BRICKWORKS

A Project by The Liberties Community Project



### HORSE AND CART

Building Resilient and Empowered Communities in South West Inner City Dublin one brick at a time. By purchasing this product you are supporting the work of The Liberties Community Project. To learn more, visit [www.thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](http://www.thelibertiescommunityproject.ie)

12+ | 0004 | 119 pcs

## CORN

The CORN Network is an umbrella group of 48 Dublin 8 community organisations and residents groups that meets monthly and aims to inform its members and the community by sharing information. We strive to build trust and relationships among different groups. The network also aims to ensure that the community's experience and voice are heard and included in local plans and developments. Additionally, we organise events and activities that encourage cooperation and collaboration.

Contact [info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](mailto:info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie) for more information on how to join or get involved.

## The Liberties Festival

The Liberties Festival is one of Ireland's oldest festivals. From modest beginnings in 1970 it has grown to become a highlight of the summer in Dublin with a series of family-friendly, sporting and community events, and an exciting multi-cultural and arts programme

We are honoured to announce the members of our 2025 Festival Advisory Committee. They will help steer our ambition development and growth plans as we set about turning the Festival into Europe's best city centre community festival.

Welcome on board Con Kennedy, Sarah Byrne, Laura Gibbons and Michael Quinn!



## Meet the Team: Olena Ponomarenko

My name is Olena, and I'm the Integration Manager at The Liberties Community Project. I work with migrants and refugees, helping them integrate into the local community and find employment. This includes organising English classes, job readiness workshops, and self-employment sessions. I also oversee the Open Kitchen programme, which gives people without access to a kitchen the chance to cook, share their culture, and connect with others.

The most rewarding part of my work is seeing people grow in confidence and independence. One story that stands out is of a refugee who struggled with English and job hunting. After attending our workshops, he found a job and later returned as a volunteer, eager to give back. Moments like these remind me of the power of community support.

I've learned that even small acts of kindness can change someone's life. The Liberties Community Project is a place where people uplift and support each other, and I feel lucky to be part of it. If we had a theme song, it would be Lean on Me by Bill Withers—because here, no one has to stand alone.



## Advocacy Training

The Liberties Community Project in conjunction with Community Law and mediation (CLM) will deliver a series of training sessions designed for community organisations, residents associations and individual engaged in advocacy projects around environmental and housing justice in Q2 2025.

The series will have two main focus areas 'Housing Law' and 'Environmental Justice and The Law' with three training sessions to be delivered on each topic.

For more information or to register interest please contact [info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie](mailto:info@thelibertiescommunityproject.ie)