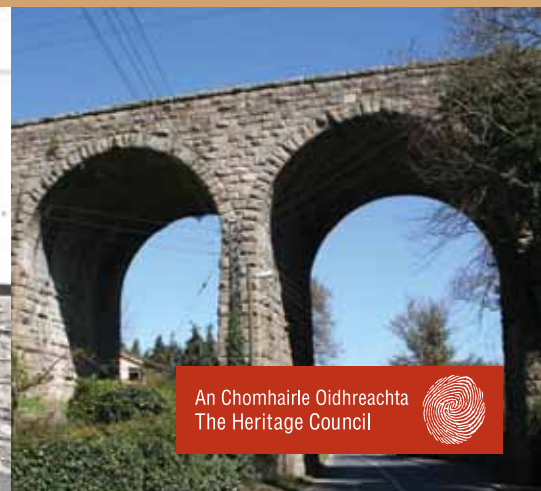




dlr HERITAGE PLAN 2013-2019

# CONTRIBUTING TOWARDS QUALITY OF LIFE





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# HERITAGE AND QUALITY OF LIFE

The overarching theme of the second dlr Heritage Plan is *'Contributing towards quality of life'*. Our heritage makes a significant contribution to our quality of life and is an important part of the social and cultural infrastructure of the county. Put simply heritage is one reason that Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is a very desirable places to live in, do business in and visit.

Just imagine waking up one morning in a County that is very different from the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown of today. Where the great architects like John McCurdy, J.L. Robinson, J.S. Mulvany, Sir Richard Morrison, Sir Edward Lovett Pearce and Michael Scott did not ply their profession and give us some of the most beautiful architecture in the country; where there are not over 2,000 buildings deemed to be of significant architectural importance; where 'stately plump Buck Mulligan' had no Sandycove Martello tower to ascend at the beginning of one of the most important books in the English language, James Joyce's *Ulysses* or where Nobel Laureate Samuel Beckett did not walk country roads which would provide inspiration for his writings; where Sister Concepta Lynch did not spend countless painstaking hours painting the inside of the Oratory of the Sacred Heart; where engineer John Rennie did not plumb the depths off Dún Laoghaire, source the stone and lay out the Metals to build one of the largest man made harbours in the world; where megalithic man did not try to make sense of the great imponderables of life and

death by erecting a wedge tomb at Ballyedmonduff, or lift a granite slab 6.5m long and 5.3m wide to finish off the Kiltarnan portal tomb; where there were no massive forces of compression and volcanic activity to create the uplands of the Dublin mountains; a county where the coast was a banal zone of transition between wet and dry; where the graceful arctic tern did not stop to breed at Dalkey Islands, where the red squirrel did not live or where Canadian Brent Geese do not visit each year; where there was no evidence of human striving and endeavor like the first railway in the country, the scarred quarry at Dalkey, the Lead Mines chimney at Carrickgollogan; where there were no majestic trees; where there were no parks to contrast with urban and suburban life; where there were no Dún Laoghaire Piers to walk.

## *Would such a place be worth living in, working in or visiting?*

In a time of straightened finances, of trying to do more with less, there is much discussion about what is and what is not important, what is worth investing in and what is unnecessary. In the context of competing agendas it is easy to undervalue heritage. But it was, and continues to be, vital.



High Cross at Tully with the foothills of the Dublin Mountains in the background.

While heritage does not necessarily have to produce a direct monetary return in the current climate it is important that the economic importance of heritage be understood. The link between a high quality environment and economic development is well documented. Heritage is an essential part of that picture and as such it undoubtedly contributes to our economic well-being.

While this second dlr Heritage Plan might be produced at a time of considerable economic difficulty it is also a time when heritage is accorded a high degree of regulatory

protection. Since the first dlr Heritage Plan was produced there has been the expansion of the Natura 2000 Network of natural heritage sites, the introduction of Appropriate Assessment for those sites, the designation of Architectural Conservation Areas and significantly expanded heritage sections of the County Development Plan 2010-2016. That this benefits heritage is of course undoubted. But the general approach of the Heritage Plan is not through the regulatory framework but is rather an engagement between people and heritage that is positive and based on mutual interests.

It is also recognised that the success of the Plan depends on 'buy-in' from the County's heritage sector in general. This includes the educational institutions in the County, the government bodies with responsibilities for heritage, the various heritage sites of the County and the many local and community groups who are interested in heritage. Partners will be sought on a project by project basis to help implement this plan.



# CONSULTATION

This Plan has been produced following a period of public consultation that included a questionnaire responded to by over 80 individuals and groups and two public consultation evenings in County Hall and Marlay House. The overall Plan has been greatly assisted by a Heritage Forum consisting of County Councillors, SPC Members, representatives from heritage sites and organisations (Airfield Turst, the National Maritime Museum), national organisations (National Monuments and the National Parks and Wildlife Service of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaelteacht and the Heritage Council of Ireland), educational bodies (Blackrock Education Centre and University College Dublin), and council staff. A full list is shown in Appendix 2.

The beginning of the Metals truckway that brought stone from the quarries at Dalkey to the harbour works at Dún Laoghaire. A unique piece of industrial heritage.

# FIRST dlr HERITAGE PLAN 2004-2008

This second plan has been very much informed by the successes and shortcomings of the first. The first plan originally covered the period 2004-2008, but was extended beyond its original timeframe for a number of reasons; the Heritage Officer directed the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival 2009-2011, a new County Development Plan was not completed until 2010, an assessment of the impacts of the recession on budgets was required and the future of our main partner, the Heritage Council, seemed to have been in doubt for some time. That plan identified 68 actions of which 55 were completed, or partially completed, with one or more actions. Over €450,000 was spent on these actions, most of which have been undertaken directly by dlr County Council. The Council's main partner in terms of financial and professional support has been the Heritage Council of Ireland. The recent Government announcement

that the Heritage Council is to be retained, with a special emphasis on supporting local authorities, is most welcome and Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council looks forward to a continued working relationship.

Some of the 'highlights' of the first plan include Historic Landscape Character Assessments of five areas, an Inventory of Coastal Heritage, a Paper and Field Survey of the County's Industrial Heritage, Habitat and Hedgerow Surveys, Appraisals of Dalkey and Foxrock for Architectural Conservation Area status, two international conferences on Planning and Design for Heritage and Development, an Architectural Survey of George's Street, Dún Laoghaire and a number of exhibitions - these included the Geology of dlr in association with the Geological Survey of Ireland, two exhibitions called Did You Know- celebrating forgotten as-

pects of our local heritage - in association with South Dublin An Taisce, Quarries and Quarrymen, Blooming Lit - celebrating the literary landscape of dlr, The Beckett Country and the War Memorials of DLR. Publications have included The Metals: From Dalkey to Dún Laoghaire, the Martello Towers of Dublin, Did You Know?, In Honour and Memory - the Memorials of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and the Architectural and Archaeological Sources for dlr.

In addition to the completion of specific projects listed in the first Heritage Plan there have been knock on effects of the Heritage Plan programme.

The actions of the first Heritage Plan led to the adoption of a number of policies in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Plan 2010-2016. These include ones pertaining to historic landscape character assessments,



the Council's Biodiversity Plan, non-designated areas of biodiversity, hedgerows, information plaques, the Metals, historic burial grounds, historic street furniture, coastal heritage and industrial heritage.

The Heritage Plan led to the employment of a Biodiversity Officer to produce and implement a Biodiversity Plan for the County. Coming under the umbrella of the Heritage Plan it has its own series of actions that are currently being implemented.

The Blooming Lit exhibition celebrated the unique literary landscape of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and led to the establishment of the Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival. Under the direction of the Heritage Officer for its first three years it has attracted some of the world's leading writers and over 20,000 visitors.

For each of the last five years the Council has opened many of its heritage sites to the public during the Summer of Heritage programme. To date this has attracted over 15,000 visitors. In addition the Council has committed significant funds to conserving its heritage sites and making them accessible to the public. Projects have included the Seapoint Martello Tower, the Stillorgan Obelisk, the Killiney

Obelisk, Marlay House, Cabinteely House, Dalkey Castle, Kill Abbey and Carrickbrennan closed burial grounds and the Oratory of the Sacred Heart.

In the current economic climate accurately predicting heritage budgets over the course of the Plan is not possible. Therefore the approach in this Plan has been more strategic than the first, in order to allow a greater degree of flexibility over the Plan's timeframe. However, a number of key actions have been identified under each heading, though there will be scope to carry out other suitable projects.

*It is hoped that over the course of the dlr Heritage Plan 2013-2019 Contributing Towards Quality of Life the achievements of the first Plan will be built upon and the heritage of the County will continue to be appreciated, enjoyed and protected.*



The literary heritage of dlr is unique. Here the American author Paul Auster delivers the Beckett Address at the inaugural Mountains to Sea dlr Book Festival.

# COMMUNICATING THE STORY OF OUR HERITAGE

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has a unique, important and interesting heritage. To date a great deal of work has been carried out to record, research and discover that heritage by individuals, local history societies and organisations as well as the County Council. However, the mere fact of recording and preserving this heritage is not, on its own, a sufficient end result - heritage without understanding or appreciation is, to a certain degree, irrelevant.

*Through communicating the story of our heritage it is intended to make the area more interesting to those who live in, work and visit Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and to help ensure its future long-term protection by increasing appreciation of it.*

## KEY PROJECTS

- The most significant project will be the production and implementation of an Interpretation Programme for the county. During the consultation period there were a large number of suggestions for interpretative projects. These covered a wide range of subjects and geographical areas. To properly deal with these and other potential projects an Interpretation Programme will be produced that will cover the full geographical spread of the County in terms of architectural, archaeological, natural and cultural heritage. The Interpretation Programme will include the internet, social media and smart phone technology while also addressing more traditional media - information boards and signage in the public realm and printed materials – maps, trails, books, leaflets. The audiences that this programme will target will be wide and include the residents of the County, visitors to the county and the schoolchildren of the county. The Interpretation Programme

will include a marketing plan. Partners in this project will include the Blackrock Education Centre, An Taisce, Fáilte Ireland and the Heritage Council.

- Create a central repository for heritage information.
- Continue the Summer of Heritage programme but expand to include new sites as well as workshops, lectures and guest speakers. The Summer of Heritage programme will be used to help celebrate relevant local aspects of 'the decade of centenaries'.
- Support Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre in fulfilling its remit as being the visitor attraction of the County's Heritage Town.
- Support the heritage remit of the various visitor centres in the county including the National Maritime Museum, Airfield Trust and the James Joyce Museum.
- Make the reports, exhibitions and publications of the first Heritage Plan accessible online.

- To produce a heritage guide to the dlr section of the Dublin Mountains Way.
- To produce four major exhibitions – in addition to any others that may be identified in the Interpretation Programme to be displayed in a variety of venues and subsequently made available on-line (copyright issues permitting):
  1. dlr in Images will display some of the wealth of visual material relating to the county that exists in various public and private collections. These images will be used to narrate the development of this part of County Dublin.
  2. dlr and World War I will tell the story of those who died in World War I from Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown through the war memorials that are located in various churches in the county.
  3. There can be fewer better known but lesser understood heritage sites in the county than the site of Carrickmines Castle. With the final archaeological report now complete 'The History of Carrickmines Castle' exhibition will be produced in association with the National Roads Authority and tell the story of the site that came to such notoriety during the construction of the M50 motorway.
  4. An exhibition on the network of Natura 2000 Sites in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.
- Continue support for Heritage Week, co-ordinated by the Heritage Council, as well as the Open House programme.
- Put in place a dynamic programme of annual events for Cabinteely and Marlay houses.
- Provide Grants for exhibitions, publications and other projects with a strong public participation element by historical society's and community groups.
- Assess the current level of access to archaeology and national monuments in the County and, where possible, encourage partnerships to provide appropriate managed access for all to these features.
- The Council's Memorials Committee, established in 2011, will continue its programme of the erection of plaques and other memorials in order to raise awareness and celebrate important individuals and events.
- Continue to promote the unique heritage of the Martello Towers of Dublin.

- Establish an on-line heritage archive where community groups and individuals can upload heritage information for enjoyment by the general public.
- Assist the County's heritage attractions in co-ordinating their marketing activities.
- Promote the joint marketing of the County's Walled Gardens.



Stained window believed to be by Harry Clarke in the Oratory of the Sacred Heart in Dún Laoghaire.



# CARING FOR OUR HERITAGE

(MANAGEMENT OF HERITAGE AND ADDING TO KNOWLEDGE)

A cornerstone of this plan is the proper management and care of the heritage of the County. Conservation is key. It fundamentally underpins the future safeguarding of what we value. This can be achieved through policies, plans and training. While much has been achieved to date in terms of gathering information increasing knowledge is still a priority in terms of future conservation.



A telephone cable marker on Torquay Road, Foxrock. It is one of only two of its type surviving in the county and dates from the period 1911-1921.

## KEY PROJECTS

- Incorporate heritage into appropriate plans – County Development Plan, Local Area Plans, Park's Masterplans – and carry out Appropriate Assessment scoping for all plans or projects that may potentially affect Natura 2000 heritage sites.
  - To complete the programme of ACAs identified in the County Development Plan 2010-2016 and to identify further areas which may warrant this designation.
  - The Council's Sites and Assets Committee will continue to implement a programme of heritage capital works at the Council's heritage sites and to maintain those sites in accordance with best practice.
  - Complete the main restoration programmes for Marlay House and Cabinteely House.
  - To help find an easily publicly accessible location for the Council's historic archives (mainly consisting of the minute books of the Kingstown, Dalkey, Killiney and Ballybrack and Blackrock Town Commissioners) or failing this, to seek to make the archives available on-line.
  - Continue to implement the Council's current Biodiversity Plan: Treasuring our Wildlife.
- This plan includes 57 actions under four overall objectives relating to the natural heritage of the County. The objectives of the Biodiversity Plan are gathering information on the Biodiversity resource, managing the resource, education and awareness and cooperation to achieve objectives. An annual budget is set aside for the implementation of the Biodiversity Plan, under the overall umbrella of the Heritage Plan.
- Produce a second Biodiversity Plan for 2014 -2019.
  - Carry out a survey of the extant remains of the seventeenth and eighteenth century designed landscapes of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown.
  - Compile an inventory and undertake condition assessment of buildings/structures on the Record of Protected Structures that are in Council's ownership. Establish a methodology for a maintenance programme for each structure.
  - Council to maintain its burial grounds and historic churches in accordance with best practice, to include the training of staff.
  - Carry out survey of built heritage features in open spaces and parks and make inventory available to relevant staff.
- Assist in finding appropriate uses for vacant heritage buildings that are in Council ownership.
  - In 2012 the Archaeological Report for Carrickmines Castle was finalised. A Conservation Plan will now be formulated for the long term conservation and preservation of the site.
  - Dalkey Islands are the county's most complex and interesting heritage site. To assist the Council in its future management of the islands a Conservation Plan will be produced.
  - Carry out a heritage inventory of the County's uplands region and assist in the retention of the heritage of the rural part of the county.
  - Carry out a historical place-names survey of the county.
  - Investigate and promote ways of recognising architectural heritage/ conservation achievements and good practice contemporary design e.g. award schemes.
  - Provide or support the provision of heritage training programmes in the County.



# INCREASING LEVEL OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN HERITAGE

*Building heritage capacity at a local level and collating information from the community is a main aim of the second heritage plan.*

It was a key issue raised during the consultation process and the plan will encourage more engagement by the community with heritage wherever possible.

## KEY PROJECTS

- Create a local heritage portal web site to which local groups and individuals can use to display information on parts of the County's heritage.
- Provide grants for the community of historical society projects that have a strong level of public engagement. This is likely to be for publications, exhibitions, conferences and talks. A panel of experts may be established to assess any applications.
- Support communities and organisations putting on Heritage Week activities.
- Liase with and support Tidy Towns and other community groups to assist them in fulfilling their heritage objectives.
- Heritage Web site to advertise a diary of heritage events in the County.
- Carry out oral history projects in various communities, project to specifically include the rural part of the county. Each project to have a public component outcome.
- Support the establishment of 'Friends' groups for relevant heritage sites.



Earl Nugent of Cabinteely House and his gardener with 4 young visitors during the annual Summer of Heritage programme.



# APPENDIX 1

## TIMETABLE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF 2013-2018 HERITAGE PLAN

- March 7, 2012 SPC Meeting – review of previous Plan and issues for next Plan
- April 2012 Internal consultation.
- March-April 2012 Identify and invite Heritage Forum members – individuals, representatives from various bodies covering the main aspects of heritage and interest groups.
- April 23 Dún Laoghaire Local Area Committee.
- May 8 Dundrum Local Area Committee.
- May 14 – June 24, 2012 Public Consultation - with issues paper – for content of next Heritage Plan.
- May 30 and May 31 public meetings at County Hall, Dún Laoghaire and Marlay House
- June, 2012 Two meetings of Heritage Forum.
- July-August, 2012 Drafting of Heritage Plan.
- July-August 2012 Draft Heritage Plan Actions internal consultation.
- August 2012 Heritage Forum Meeting.
- December 5, 2012 Present Draft to SPC.
- Return to Local Area Committees
- April 8, 2013 - To Council.

# APPENDIX 2

## HERITAGE FORUM MEMBERS

An Cathaoirleach, Councillor Tom Joyce  
 Former Cathaoirleach Councillor John Bailey  
 Councillor Denis O'Callaghan  
 Councillor Patricia Stewart  
 Councillor Jim O'Dea  
 Professor Gabriel Cooney, *University College Dublin*  
 Nicola Fitzgerald, *Failte Ireland*  
 Maurice Eakin, *National Parks and Wildlife Service*  
 Mairead Mehigan, *An Taisce*  
 Roger Kirker, *National Maritime Museum*  
 Pat Seaver, *Director, Blackrock Education Centre*  
 Kathy Purcell, *Director, Airfield Trust*  
 Julienne Brown, *Senior Executive Planner, DLR Co. Co.*  
 Mary Toomey, *Biodiversity Officer, DLR Co. Co.*  
 Helena McGorman, *Senior Executive Parks Superintendent, DLR Co. Co.*  
 Julie Craig, *Conservation Officer, DLR Co. Co.*  
 Tim Carey, *Heritage Officer, DLR Co. Co.*

# APPENDIX 3

## CONSULTEES

Arbuthnot, Emma  
 Aylward, David  
 Barry, Noel, (*Enniskerry Village Assoc.*)  
 Batt, Stephanie (*Dún Laoghaire Tidy Towns*)  
 Bolton, Jason  
 Brown, Margaret (*DLR Garda Diversity Committee*)  
 Byrne, Christy  
 Cahill, Peter  
 Carter, Alison  
 Doyle, Noel  
 Duffy, Kate  
 Dunga, Jennifer  
 Dunne, Margaret (*Dalkey Castle & Heritage Centre*)  
 Ferry, Dermot  
 Fitzgerald, Catherine  
 Fletcher, Frances, (*Dún Laoghaire Community Assoc.*)  
 Garland, Roger (*Keep Ireland Open*)  
 Guinness, Selina  
 Hand, Marina  
 Hanna, Susan  
 Harrison, Lonia  
 Heywood, Veronica (*Dún Laoghaire Assoc. of An Taisce*)  
 Hove, Kirsten  
 Jeffares, Rebecca (*An Taisce and Dublin Civic Trust*)  
 Joyce, Ann (*Dún Laoghaire Community Assoc.*)  
 Kavanagh, Aileen  
 Kavanagh, Andrea  
 Kavanagh, Dermot  
 Keegan, Lynn  
 Kelly, Lorie (*Maritime Institute*)  
 Kelly, Shan  
 Keogh, John  
 King, Therese  
 Lennon, John (*Dundrum Historical Society*)  
 Luby, Jennifer  
 Luby, Maureen  
 Lunney, Linde  
 Lynch, Tony  
 MacAonghusa, Caitriona  
 Mason, Joey (*Rathmichael Residents Association*)  
 McCabe, David  
 McCabe, Joan  
 McFadden, Stephen  
 McGann, Clement (*Maritime Institute of Ireland*)

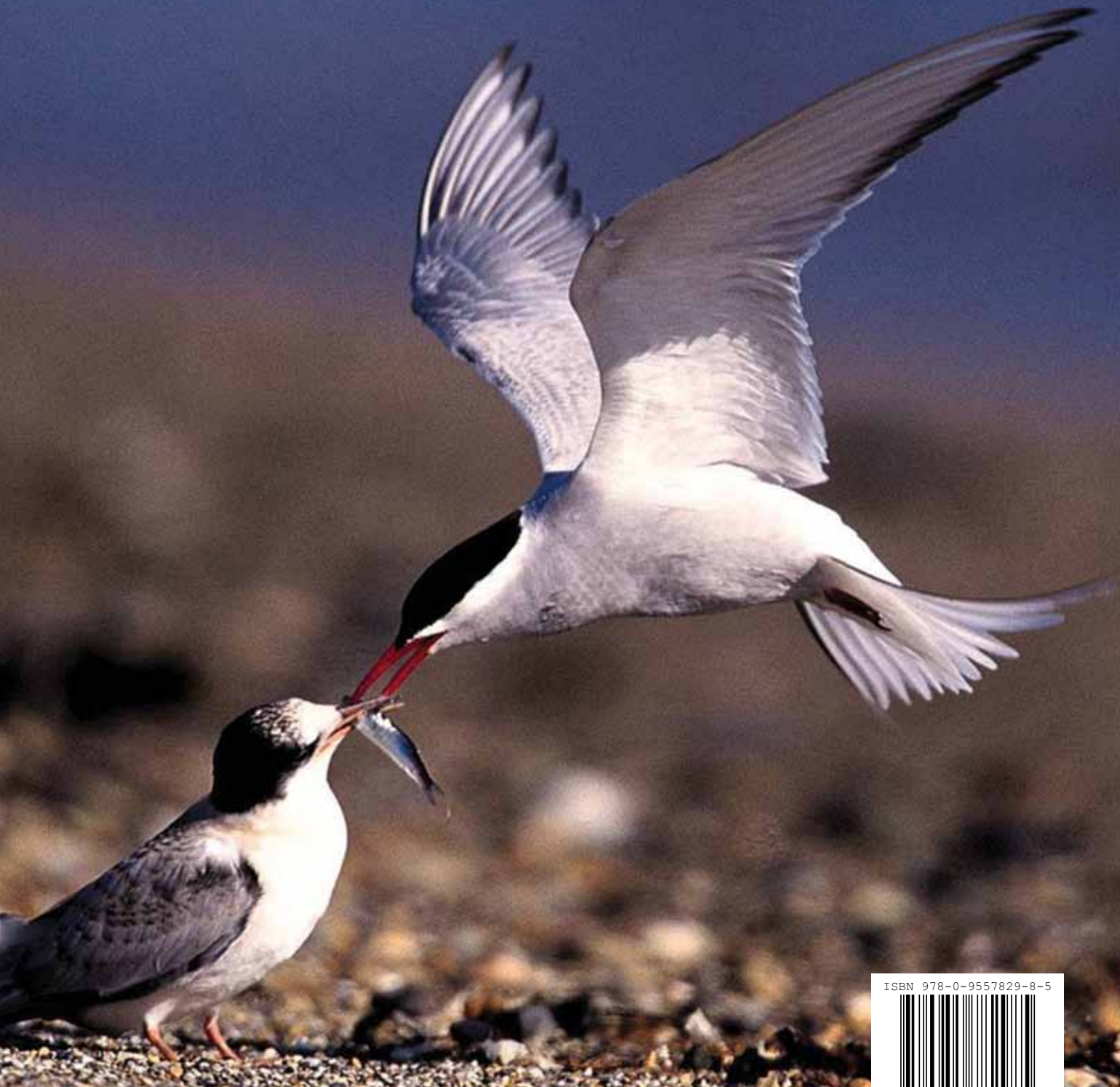
McKenna, Mary  
 McLoughlin, Lorraine  
 Merrigan, Michael (*Genealogical Society of Ireland*)  
 Moloney, Robert  
 Murhpy, Etain  
 Murphy, Etain (*An Taisce*)  
 Murray, Liz (*Dalkey Civic Trust*)  
 Nash, Pat  
 Neenan, Eamonn  
 Ní Neill, Fionnghuala  
 O Carragain, Anne  
 O'Flaherty, Michael (*Dún Laoghaire Borough Historical Society and Maritime Institute*)  
 O'Regan, Damian (*Green Ireland*)  
 O'Brien, Blaithin (*Dalkey Tidy Towns and Dalkey Business Group*)  
 O'Connor, Annalouise  
 O'Hanrahan, Paul  
 Pierce, Brian  
 Pyke, Gerry  
 Rowe, David (*An Taisce*)  
 Ryan, Tom (*Mount Merrion Historical Society*)  
 Sheeran, Hanne  
 Sheppard, Duncan  
 Smaul, Luke  
 Smyth, Conor  
 Swaine, Eddie (*Enniskerry Village Assoc.*)  
 Sweeney, Pat (*National Maritime Museum of Ireland*)  
 Tracey, Ella  
 Trappe, Sandra  
 Walsh, Joe  
 Wiles, John BMAC (*Boosterstown Marsh, Friends of Boosterstown, Dun Laoghaire West Residents Association*)  
 Wright, Gay  
 Yates, Daniel





The end of the East Pier, Dún Laoghaire, one of the most iconic heritage structures in Dublin.





The Dalkey Tern Project is run in conjunction with Birdwatch Ireland and aims to conserve some of the most endangered sea birds in Europe.

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