Street Feast 2018

Ireland's National Day of Street Parties and Community Celebrations

Sunday, 10th June 2018

Registrations are now OPEN.

Get your free party pack: www.streetfeast.ie

Over 1200 Street Feasts registered to take place around the nation so far with 25 planned in Kilkenny!

Only 56% of us know our neighbours well, only 49% of us have four or more close friends and only 1 in 3 feel a sense of belonging in their local community.

The good news is that hosting a Street Feast in your neighbourhood will make a difference!

Tuesday 22nd May 2018 - Street Feast are delighted to confirm that over 1200 Street Feasts so far, are registered to take place around the country, with 25 taking place in Kilkenny. Including areas such as Thomastown, Piltown, Kells and Callan.

Registrations are OPEN for the 9th Annual Street Feast taking place on Sunday, 10th June 2018.

Street Feast is an Irish initiative that facilitates social inclusion and community building through the simple act of sharing a meal with neighbours. The aim is to strengthen our communities, making them more resilient, safer, healthier and happy places to live. Street Feast calls on people nationwide to come together at 12 noon on Sunday, 10^{th} June, in an act of community and friendship. Founded in 2010, Street Feast was conceived by a small group of volunteers, passionate about bringing people together through food and rediscovering neighbourliness as the launch pad for lasting improvements within communities. Since then, Street Feast has grown year on year with over 130,000 people taking part across the country in 2017. The initiative urges individuals and groups to host a lunch on their street, in their local park, front gardens or driveway – inviting neighbours to join in. It is one of the only events in the country where money is not exchanged, the idea being similar to a pot-luck where everyone contributes something, whether it be a plate of food, chairs, decorations or a tune. Street Feast will support these individuals and community groups to host their respective celebrations, which are held simultaneously in neighbourhoods' right across Ireland.

Those wanting to take part should register at www.streetfeast.ie and will receive a free Street Feast Pack in the mail. The pack includes a DIY Street Feast guide, posters, invitations, and bunting. The

website offers inspiration and guidance on how to organise a feast, removing any obstacles to getting started.

Speaking recently, Sam Bishop, one of the founders of Street Feast said:

"As a nation, we have always had a strong sense of community. Street Feast capitalises on this special quality to create real impact and lasting change.

Street Feast brings neighbours together through the universal language of food and is the conversation starter to more community-lead projects and ideas. We've seen wonderful projects start out of Street Feasts; MensSheds, Grow It Yourself (GIY groups), festivals, babysitting clubs, community gardens, resident associations and support groups have all grown out of Street Feast celebrations. The result is more active, inclusive, healthier communities that are environmentally sustainable and socially cohesive.

It's also important that we reconnect our neighbourhoods after a long and divisive political campaign like the one we have just seen. We need to continue these discussions about our future; about how we can build resilient and healthy communities that meet the needs of all people in Ireland."

Street Feast Kilkenny has been made possible by the support of Kilkenny Public Participation Network (PPN). Katherine Peacock, Kilkenny PPN Officer said:

"The Kilkenny PPN are delighted to support local communities to take part in Street Feast. Capacity building is at the heart of the PPN, build social capital in communities and making them robust and resilient."

To register for Street Feast visit <u>www.streetfeast.ie</u>
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