

Crawley Irish Festival Sunday 24th August 2008



This year's Festival with funding support from Díon will showcase some great Irish entertainment, music, sport and dance. Now in its thirteenth year, the festival is a great family day out over the August Bank Holiday and features music, song and dance on three stages together with sport and various demonstrations of our culture with food and craft stalls and the added attraction of a licensed beer tent. So keep Sunday 24th August free in your diary for Crawley's biggest Irish Festival ever! Visit us from 12 noon at Southgate Playing Fields, Crawley, West Sussex - just a short while from Gatwick Airport.

WHAT'S ON OFFER?



Live Music: The Main Dome Stage sponsored by FOUNDATION DEVELOPMENTS LIMITED features the best in Country and Irish with sprinklings of Contemporary and Modern. The COINFORD sponsored

Traditional Stage offers the loyal followers the best there is in traditional and folk entertainment from the UK and Ireland. Kathy Durkin, Martin Ruddy, Patrick Feeney, Siansa, Solid Gold Country, Gary Connolly, Dun The Vale, The Celtic Colleens, Brogue, and Reel Strings are but a few of the many acts making their way to Crawley.

Live Dance: Irish Dance displays have always been popular at the festivals and the Open Dance Competition attracts competitors from all over the world at the Irish Dance Stage. Lots of live dance demonstrations from local dance schools and Set Dancing with Tomas O'Dea doing the calling in the Ceili Marquee for the rest of us. Enjoy!



Live Sport: GAA Sport also has an important role to play with Gaelic Football and Hurling matches being played out at the GAA Arena as teams from across the southeast fight it out for the London Carlow Association Cup. In addition to the live matches on site, we will also be televising the GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship.

All-Round Family Fun: Families and children will be well catered for with stalls, an amusement area

that includes slides, rides and all-round family fun. This year we are featuring heavily on the younger element of the community with a special children's entertainment marquee involving games, circus skills, workshops, song and story with particular emphasis on Irish traditions and folklore.

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

All proceeds from the Crawley Irish Festival are invested in community projects to assist in the promotion of Celtic and Irish cultural activities in and around Crawley.



ADMISSION PRICES

Admission is the best value family day out in the southeast. Entry costs just £5 for Adults and £2

for concessions including senior citizens and NUS card holders. Children under 16 are £Free.

More info from John Nolan

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Crawley Irish Festival Awarded National Lottery Funding



The Celtic and Irish Cultural Society has received funding from the National Lottery's community fund that will allow additional entertainment and progress on the professionalisation of our events. The sum awarded amounted to £8000 and was granted to increase the number of activities in the children's area to provide opportunities for young people to engage with skilled and good quality creative practitioners. Also to provide a wider range of Gaelic sports than our current funding allows and to provide better technical equipment and facilities and a broader range of quality programming on both music stages.

AWARDS FOR ALL now joins a number of other funding partners that began funding the event this year including Díon, Crawley Town Centre Partnership, the Gatwick Airport Community Trust, West Sussex County Council and Crawley Borough Council.