

31st May 2017

**Communities across Ireland planning OVER 1000 STREET FEAST celebrations on 11th June. 130,000 neighbours expected to take part in this year's festivities**

**Deadline to register for FREE party packs is this Friday, 2nd June 2017.**

**National Day of Street Parties and Community Celebrations**

**10 DAYS until**  
**Street Feast 2017**

To register and receive your Free Party Pack\* for Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> June 2017  
log onto [www.streetfeast.ie](http://www.streetfeast.ie)

**Wednesday, 31st May 2017** - Street Feast are delighted to confirm that over 1000 Street Feast parties around the country have been registered to date. The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Street Feast day, which is to be held on Sunday, 11th June 2017 is attracting greater numbers than ever before. 130,000 neighbours are expected to take part in this year's festivities.

There is still time to register and include your community in the 2017 celebrations. Please visit [www.streetfeast.ie](http://www.streetfeast.ie).

Street Feast are calling on people nationwide to come together at 12.00 noon on Sunday, 11th June to enjoy a bite to eat with their neighbours for a simple and fun way of reconnecting with those that live near them.

With over 460 Street Feasts in Dublin alone, the capital promises to be buzzing with community spirit come June 11th. But bunting and balloons won't just cover the streets of the capital. In Cork it is expected a record 112 Street Feasts will take place, while in Galway 71 communities will be sitting down to lunch. There'll be feasts in every county of Ireland, taking place in parks, cul-de-sacs, pavements, laneways, carparks, fields and front gardens.

Street Feast is also delighted to announce that FoodCloud, the award-winning Irish social enterprise that helps businesses redistribute surplus food, has offered to help provide food for Street Feasts.

Street Feast is an Irish local community initiative and is an all-for-fun, do-it-yourself, not-for-profit celebration. The initiative invites individuals, groups or clubs to host a lunch on their street, in a local park or in their front gardens – inviting other neighbours to come along and join them. The all-inclusive, age-friendly initiative aims to encourage active participation, bring communities together and reduce isolation. Everyone is encouraged to bring something along to share, whether it be a dish, a chair or a tune.

Patron of Street Feast, President Michael D Higgins congratulated the initiative, “We must all by now realise the importance of community, inclusion, creativity and togetherness - all values that require support and a conscious effort of care, protection and solidarity. Initiatives such as Street Feast provide exactly that type of opportunity.”

Barbara Schmidt one of the hosts of a Street Feast in Wicklow, said “It was fabulous last year so we’re having it again. Last year, Street Feast allowed us to reconnect - young and old. The oldest party girl was 92; Kitty Noble! The youngest was 3 1/2. We have Italians, Irish, Venezuelans, Polish. There are loads of different foods because of the different nationalities.”

Hannah Quinn, another host in 2016 said “It was a lot of fun last year. Lots of good vibes. We're really looking forward to this year. I've ordered in nice weather as the wind messes everyone’s hair up! ”

Speaking today, Sam Bishop, one of the founders and co-ordinator of Street Feast said:

“We are very excited for Street Feast 2017! We want it to help rejuvenate communities, introduce new faces, bridge the gap between generations, share culture, stories and skills, and make our streets safer places to be.

We’re delighted to have the wonderful support of so many Counties this year.

“The registrations are coming in fast and the feedback has been exceptional, with some theming their celebrations or running them to coincide with other community projects. Over 1000 Street Feast parties are confirmed to date. With just 10 days to go, we encourage as many individuals, friends, neighbours, clubs, community groups, faith groups, resident associations, etc. to get involved in this special all-inclusive

community initiative. It can be as simple as laying out a few picnic blankets in your nearest green area! Go for it!”

Street Feast will support these individuals and community groups to host their own celebration, which is repeated on streets, parks, car parks and gardens all across Ireland. Everyone who registers can claim a free Street Feast party pack which includes balloons, bunting, invites, posters and a DIY guide, everything you need to kick start your celebrations. To register or for more information, visit the Street Feast website – [www.streetfeast.ie](http://www.streetfeast.ie)

ENDS

### **How to register to receive your Free Party Pack\* and what is involved?**

People who register their Street Feast online at [www.streetfeast.ie](http://www.streetfeast.ie) have the option to claim their free Party Pack (while stocks last) which will be posted direct to your home.

Registration for free mailed-out packs **ends** – Friday, 2nd June 2017

Registrations for Street Feast 2017 (inc. downloadable packs) **ends** – Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

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