

Forthriver pupils at Waste Week event



Holly Tracey and Rhys Gillfillian from Forthriver Primary School attended an event in Woodvale Park to find out more about Belfast City Council's 'reduce, reuse and recycle' message, as part of the council's Waste Week (June 1-5). Also pictured is Naomi Palmer from the council's Waste Management Service.

Podcast debacle

Tourism Minister Arlene Foster has ruffled the feathers of Sinn Fein representatives in West Belfast by refusing to approve the commentary for a podcast designed to guide tourists on walking tours of Belfast. The Minister said the commentary provided for West Belfast was neither accurate nor balanced but was biased in favour of the nationalist/republican community. One section of the podcast commentary referred to loyalists firing from the Shankill area before the building of the peace walls. Minister Foster said that this gave the impression that everything was coming from one side and she would not be involved in anything which was not balanced.

Claiming that the commentary had been 'approved' by a panel of experts and historians, Sinn Fein's Paul Maskey accused the Minister of risking taxpayer's money by not approving the commentaries.

Apparently the podcasts had been worked on by the Belfast Area partnerships and the Belfast Visitor and Convention Bureau. The Shankill Mirror contacted the Greater Shankill Partnership and the following statement was issued:

This was an initiative which created podcasts for each of the 5 Partnership areas. The Greater Shankill partnership engaged in research in 2007, to write the script for the Shankill area, this was completed in late 2007, the script was approved by the Tourism Committee of the Partnership. No one from the Partnership had any sight of another Area Partnership's script and have not been involved in the approval of any other project.

Bearing in mind the sensitivities of places like Cupar Way that interface with the nationalist community would it not have been appropriate for those involved in this project to have insisted on having access to the material used. There has been concern expressed in the past that some bus tours, taxi tours, walking tours have been economical with the truth. If we are to capitalize on the outside world's curiosity about our Troubles then the least we should ensure is that the information provided is accurate.

Summer is already here at Shankill Leisure Centre

Crash Course Junior Swim Lessons

Daily, Wednesday 1 July to Friday 10 July excluding Saturday and Sunday

- Only £30.40 per child for 8 sessions
- £16 for means-tested benefit (MTB) Boost members

Enrol on Saturday 27 June. Places are limited.

Summer Holiday Schemes

School's out pre-scheme

Monday 6 July - Friday 10 July

Summer scheme

Monday 20 July - Friday 21 August

(New community sports coaching scheme in partnership with Greater Shankill Sports Committee). Only 30 places!

Kidzfit Gym

Our exclusive gym for children aged 8-14 is open all summer.

- Open every weekday from 4.30pm - 5.30pm
- Also Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6pm - 7pm
- Now available for group bookings.

Last chance fun scheme

Monday 24 August - Friday 28 August

Scheme prices per child

£15 per week (£7.50 for MTB Boost members)

£5 per day (£2.50 for MTB Boost members)

Contact us for special family discounts.

For further information contact Shankill Leisure Centre on 9091 8750. Centre terms and conditions apply.



www.belfastcity.gov.uk/leisurecentres

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