

650,000 THANK YOUs to

Fáilte Ireland, our principal sponsor, whose financial and marketing support enabled us to make the dream come true.

The **750 volunteers** who, with the support of **NUI Galway**, really showed our visitors a true Galway Welcome. We are very grateful for and proud of their hard work and smiles.

The **people of Galway** who got behind the **Let's Do It** concept with such enthusiasm and pride.

To the hundreds of artists and performers who gave so freely of their skills and talents and kept the event constantly animated.

An **Garda Síochána** who ensured the safety and security of the event. They truly won the respect of all 650,000 people who attended.

To **President Mary MacAleese** and her staff at Áras an Uachtarán for giving the teams a wonderful send-off.

Galway City Council for over two years of solid support to all aspects of the planning of the event, for the affordable park and ride facility, for showcasing the city as it can be, keeping it clean at all times and specifically supporting the opening ceremony and civic reception.

Galway Harbour Company for giving their port to the city for over three weeks and for managing the entire on-the-water side of the event in their usual efficient manner.

The **200 supporting businesses** who bought and proudly displayed their flags and bunting truly ensuring that Galway was 'dressed' to kill.

Galway Chamber of Commerce and **GCBA** and those who through them decorated their business windows and seriously impressed all of our visitors.

Galway County Council who showed by their traffic management on the routes to the city that we can cope with large events and for ensuring a warm welcome to the visiting boats through their support of the Galway Bay Ablaze bonfires.

Edward Holdings for use of Merchant's Hall and for their continuous support and assistance since the inception of the project.

Cold Chon for all of their support in developing the site.

To all of the organisations who provided medical and health and safety support – **Civil Defence** and

Order of Malta, Galway Fire Brigade, HSE West Emergency Planning Unit, HSE West Environmental Health Office, University College Hospital Galway, Galway Sub Aqua Club, Irish Coastguard and RNLI.

Over 16,000 children took part in the **HB Let's Do It Ocean Adventure Schools Programme**. We couldn't have done it without the sponsorship of **HB Ice Cream, the Irish Independent and Volvo Cars Ireland. The Ocean Youth Trust and Bow Waves** also saw to it that 520 kids got the chance to sail during the stopover. **Galway Atlantaquarium** helped us coordinate the school tour bookings and together with the **Marine Institute** put on a great presentation for the kids.

For making the spectacular Red Arrows and the Irish Air Corps displays possible our thanks to **Brian McGrath, Carolyn Sheils, Fáilte Salthill & Seapoint, Galway Airport, The Dept of Foreign Affairs, the RAF, the Waterfront Hotel, Dept of Defense, Irish Air Corps and the Irish Aviation Authority.**

For making **Lá Gaeilge** possible and so successful we thank **Údarás na Gaeltachta** and for their support with translation we also thank **Gaillimh le Gaeilge**. Go raibh mile maith agaibh.

Thanks to **St Mary's College Galway** who gave us use of their facilities for training and sail measurement.

Galway Bay Sailing Club supported us all the way in every practical way possible – congratulations on the success of GB09.

Irish Rail, Bus Éireann and GoBus who got so many people safely here and home again and who met our transport needs during the planning phase.

C&F Wind Energy for powering the event – literally – through the provision of two wind turbines which will continue as part of the legacy of the event to power the Harbour. Also to **Sheridan's on the Dock** who have sponsored the study of the carbon footprint of the event.

Nortel for supplying telecommunications solutions for the Volvo Ocean Race media centre.

Smart Telecom kept the communication lines open throughout and left a legacy of 100 MBit of wifi to the centre of the city.

Calimar installed a VoSKY's Exchange Gateway that helped us slash international calling costs for the international teams and media **Caulfield Industrial** were the official

tool and safety provider to the stopover, making sure that all stopover crew and the teams had all the equipment they needed.

Tobin Engineers for their translation of the vision into the planning requirements.

Passax provided IT solutions to Let's Do It Galway; **Cantec** ensured that we had all the office equipment and support we needed; **Siteserv** met our fencing needs; **GalMac Computers** helped with AV display equipment; **Langan Couriers** got things to where they needed to be and on time; **CPT Construction** helped with site works and **Rynn Engineering** helped to keep the pontoons afloat.

Essential legal, finance and HR support was provided by **KPMG, Eversheds O'Donnell Sweeney, RDJ Glynn, DHKN and CPL.**

The City Bin Company worked tirelessly to keep the race village looking spic and span – how they did it must be the best kept secret in town!

TOPAZ through their sponsorship of the main stage kept the docks a-rocking each day.

The **Western Development Commission** through their support of the Art Trail and the **www.pix.ie** photosharing competition ensured that hundreds of thousands of people are now definitely 'looking west'. Over 15,000 pics have been uploaded and the Irish record has been smashed.

The 27 artists who exhibited as part of the **Creative West Galway Art Trail.**

AIB for their support of the Even Keel Project enabling people with disabilities to experience sailing.

The Meyrick Hotel with the help of **Barna Foods** kept everybody fed. **Diageo's** sponsorship of the bars and receptions fuelled many toasts and **Good Food Ireland** as always supplied the welcome nourishment for the teams on arrival.

The Harbour Hotel looked after all of our artists and performers and the schools programme so well and **Galway Bay Hotel** looked after our visitors with style.

Our media partners – **Galway Bay FM, TG4, i102-104, The Galway Independent, The Galway Advertiser, The Connacht Tribune, Galway Now Magazine** – all spread the word and helped us to get 650,000 people to come to see Galway at its best! Special

thanks to **Keith Finnegan** for doing MC with style for the arrivals and in-port race prize-giving.

Judy Greene and **Lattitude Kinsale** provided the beautiful presentation pieces for the teams on arrival and as prizes for the in-port race.

Our **patrons** came in early with their support – hats off to them all! **Smyth's Toys, Galway Airport, Roadstone and Irish Cement, Fáilte Salthill, Boston Scientific, McDonoghs, The Latin Quarter, Stewart Group, Medtronic, Supermac's and Evergreen Health Food Stores.**

We couldn't have done it without the support of the following key suppliers who gave so generously of materials, equipment, talents and expertise: **Walsh Crane Hire** who helped us get the Volvo Open 70's safely in and out of the water, **Eventus** who supplied acres of pavilion structures, **Arcana** who designed and presented the spectacular opening ceremony and all of our key events, **Eurotec Signs** for guiding the way throughout the race village through their signage and for many months of support prior to then, **Galway Water** for keeping all of our volunteers hydrated in the glorious sunshine, **Galway Technical Institute** who became home to the Race School, **Pix.ie** for the 15,000 memories, **Design Associates** for keeping the website going when the hackers attacked and for their long hours working on the official programme, **Dubarry** for clothing the team and making us look so professional and for offering the prizes for the traditional sailing races, **Sword Security** for keeping us safe and secure and always courteously, **Brown Thomas** for their welcome to the visiting teams, **Kenny's Bookshop** for the use of their beautiful landmark High St building, **Cullen Sailmakers** for some creative problem solving, **Executive Helicopters** for media flights, **Dublin Port Company** for their help last summer, **Mykidstime.ie** for the wonderful family guide, **Greentouch** plants for the planters in the media centre and **Karma** for the volunteers party. Also thanks to **Ciaran Oliver and family, Euro Car Parks, Intevo, Venture Advancement, Lamination Services, the Western Regional Fisheries Board, McCormack Cleaning and Restoration, Ocean Crest Marine, Owen Cunningham Painters, Pierce and Mark Purcell, Radisson Hotel Galway, Segway Ireland, Snap Printing, GPT, Roadbridge, Artisan, Tom Ryan, Ciaran's B&B Prospect Hill, Susan's Health and Beauty Menlo, Claddagh Jewellers, Martine's Restaurant & Wine Bar, Quay Street and Terryland**

Fruit and Veg. Blacklight and **Litton Lane** for the amazing Lighting and Sound, **Eventserv** for Staging, **Sam Hire, Manlift, Inland & Coastal Marina Systems** and **Ocean Crest Marine** for provision of pontoons, **Event Power** for keeping the lights on, **JPK Fencing** for safety on the quayside. **North & West Coast Links** and **Connemara Golf Club. Advertees** who supplied the Green Dragon Merchandise. **DWS Facilities Services** and **Clódóirí Lurgan Teo.**

Finally we thank the following organisations who worked with us to present the programme of events: **Galway City Museum, Spirit of Africa, Music for Galway, Cumanna hÚicéirí, Circus Gerbola and Galway Community Circus, Galway Civic Trust, An Post, Druid Theatre Company, SDL Exhibitions, Town Hall Theatre & the Galway Sessions Festival, Mayo County Development Board and Fáilte Ireland West, CDs Helping Hands, COPE, Galway Bay Jazz Band, Babóró, Trad on The Prom, Galway Arts Centre, Galway City Council's Beating the Grey Project, Galway Arts Festival, Inmarsat, Galway Greyhound Stadium, Walking tour providers, Western Society for Autism, Aer Arann, NBCRI, Cancer Care West, RNLI, Enable Ireland, Galway Rape Crisis Centre, ARK, Cystic Fibrosis Ireland, The Lions Club and the Galway Volunteer Centre.**

All of these sponsors supported us and made the magic happen – we hope that you in turn will support them!

And lest I forget – the biggest salute of all to the Let's Do It Galway Team of over 50 people who have worked tirelessly for months led by **Maria Moynihan Lee, Neil Carney, Mel Morgan, Fiona Bolger and Richard Duggan.**

John J. Killeen

John Killeen
Chairman Let's Do It Galway

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2008 – 2009

**GALWAY
MAY – JUNE 2009**