

PRESS RELEASE

UP TO 10,000 RUNNERS COULD BE THE FIRST PEOPLE TO USE THE DUBLIN PORT TUNNEL – LORD MAYOR ANNOUNCES UNIQUE 10KM CHARITY RUN

Monday 13th November 2006: The Lord Mayor of Dublin, Cllr Vincent Jackson, today announced that a once-off 10km Charity Run (under IAAF/ AAI rules) will be held inside the new Dublin Port Tunnel on Sunday 10th December, before the Tunnel opens to traffic. The Dublin Port Tunnel 10km Charity Run will be held at 11am on Sunday 10th December. 10,000 runners can be accommodated in the Run and Dublin City Council is confident that there will be a full turnout. The Run is being organised by Dublin City Council, in conjunction with Clonliffe Harriers and additional sponsorship is being provided by Dublin Crystal and Kellogg Ireland.

“The Tunnel is an ideal location for a winter run and will help to raise much needed funds for charity,” said Cllr Vincent Jackson, Lord Mayor of Dublin. “I am delighted that Clonliffe Harriers is running to raise money for The Lord Mayor’s Fund, to benefit people who are especially vulnerable during the winter, including older people and the homeless.”

Anyone interested in participating in the Dublin Port Tunnel 10km Run must register at www.activeeurope.com before 5pm on Wednesday 29th November and pay a €25 registration fee. Entrance to the race will be for official race numbers only.

“We are absolutely thrilled to be involved in such a unique and historic event. The Dublin Port Tunnel is an ideal location for a winter run as it is entirely indoors,” says Maurice Ahern, Clonliffe Harriers. “There will be recorded times for the first 750 runners and anyone interested in participating should be confident that they can complete the full 10km.”

MD of Kellogg’s Ireland, Stephen Twaddell congratulated the organisers saying “we are delighted to support this exciting event. As with all Kellogg’s partnerships it exemplifies our commitment to the promotion of active, balanced lifestyles in Ireland and I look forward to joining fellow runners on 10 December to raise lots of money for some very worthy causes.”

Each person who finishes the Run will be presented with an engraved souvenir medallion and a commemorative t-shirt. There will be prizes for the first six men and women in the Seniors category and for the first six men and women in the Masters category.

The Dublin Port Tunnel is the longest urban road tunnel in Europe. When it opens later this year it will remove up to 9,000 Heavy Goods Vehicles from Dublin city streets.

For further information on the Tunnel visit www.DublinPortTunnel.ie; for more information on the Charity Run, visit www.activeeurope.com.

Ends

For further information contact;
Siobhan Maher 086 8150598 (Dublin Port Tunnel Press Officer)

Mary Murphy 087 2336415 / Neasa Kane 087 2320038

Notes:

The nominated Charity for the run is the **Lord Mayor's Charity**, which benefits:

ALONE, Abbey Presbyterian Church Hamper Fund, Saint Mary's Pro-Cathedral, Rialto Social Centre, SIMON Community, Dublin Parochial Society, Tallaght Community, Little Sisters of the Assumption, Finglas, SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL, Crumlin Social Centre, St Agatha's Parish (Daughters of Charity, North William Street

In addition a number of Charities are asking for volunteers who will run for sponsorship to help them fundraise see attached list:

Charity	Web/Email	Contact
Amnesty International	troche@amnesty.ie	1850882400
ASPIRE	development@aspire-irl.org	878 0029
Arrupe Society (homeless boys)	info@cra.iol.ie	
Bubblegum Charity	anne@bubblegum.ie	
Barnardos	info@barnardos.ie	7080490
Cari	carolineoconnell@cari.ie	8308529
Concern www.concern.net	sarah.maddock@concern.net	4177758
DEBRA Ireland	Niamh.h@debraireland.org	6785044
Dublin Samaritans	runthetunnel@dublinsamaritans.ie	
Dublin Simon Community		6715551
Dublin Society Prevention Cruelty Animals	jcc@dspca.ie	4935502
Friends in Ireland Portmarnock Comm School	fwhelan@whcs.ie;	0872627466
Enable Ireland	eastfr@enableireland.ie	2615917
Irish Kidney Association	info@ika.ie	
Multiple Sclerosis Society of Ireland	sarahs@ms-society.ie	6781622
Share a Dream	dreams@iol.ie	061 214100
Irish Kidney Association		01 6689788
Trocaire	ESaul@trocaire.ie	01 8743875
National council for the Blind		018307033
Spinal Injuries Ireland	philip@spinalinjuries.ie	2355317