

## **Passage West Dog Show**

On Saturday 19th May, Passage West/Glenbrook Tidy Towns is hosting the first dog show that Passage West will have seen in many years. It will be held at 2.30pm at Toureen Park and promises a great afternoon for both dogs and people.

The focus of this dog show is on a good time, so expect lots of fun classes with a nominal entry fee. Awards will go to first, second and third in every class. A dog agility course will be set up by Fotaview Boarding Kennels and some great prizes have been kindly sponsored by Maxi Zoo. This promises to be a great family event with face-painting, lollipops and balloons.

Nor will pet waste be a problem. One of the reasons for this dog show is to acknowledge Passage West's first pet waste bin, recently installed at Toureen Park. The walk from Rochestown to Passage West along the old railway line is tremendously popular and pet waste management facilities have long been sought to service it.

Generally, pet waste bins are provided and serviced by the local authorities. But the new Passage West bin is a pilot for the provision and servicing of pet waste bins by independent private companies. In the case of Passage West, the pet waste bin was provided by Pet Waste Disposal and Management Ireland, a start-up company based in Carrigaline. It is a complete waste management station, providing dog poo bags that people can take free of charge before their walk and a facility for disposal of the bags on their return.

To date, the pet waste bin has been well used. The improvement in the incidence of dog fouling on the railway line walk is remarkable. Some 5 – 6 kilograms of dog waste is being removed from the bin each week. Passage West Tidy Towns aims to ultimately have a pet waste bin at each of the car parks serving this popular walkway.

So whether to take part or to watch, all are welcome to the Passage West Dog Show on the 19th May – a celebration of the dogs in our lives.