

ST.PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATIONS IN SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA, CAPITAL OF THE CANARY ISLAND OF LA PALMA.

Neil O'Mahony, La Palma

2017 sees the 6th consecutive celebration of St. Patrick's Day in our island capital, the Bar Rapadura once more hosting a Street Party with live rock and folk music on Saturday 18th. This will also be the second year that the City Hall of Santa Cruz de La Palma has joined in the festivities, turning it into a celebration of Irishman Dennis O'Daly who gave the town its place in history when in 1773, he was elected as a local government official, the first appointed by popular vote in all of Spain.

The involvement of the city council has given a great boost to the programme of festivities, with this year including a "greening" of the houses of city government, with green floodlights on the 16th and 17th of March. The former will mark the anniversary of O'Daly's death in this town 1796, the latter St. Patrick's Day itself. At 19.00 on the 17th, a town council representative will read a public act recognizing the contribution of the historical Irish community in La Palma. Following this, a municipal official will offer a guided tour of historical sites related to this period of local history. There will also be a small exhibit set up in the historical portico of the City Hall and food tasting in the local market.

The programme was released to the press today, 15th March. An article in the local digital press is linked, along with photos of Calle O'Daly and the Ayuntamiento of Santa Cruz de La Palma, showing Irish tricolor and shamrock flags on prominent display.

<http://elapuron.com/noticias/municipios/101221/ayuntamiento-santa-cruz-la-palma-celebra-dia-san-patricio-acto-homenaje-la-colonia-historica-irlandesa/>

and

http://www.eldiario.es/lapalmaahora/municipios/santa_cruz_de_la_palma/Santa-Cruz-Palma-San-Patricio_0_622588183.html

Instagram entry by a friend and local photographer, Jose Arocena

<https://www.instagram.com/p/BRovWvej8zg/?r=wa1>

My own photos overleaf



1. THE AUTHOR PICTURED UNDER THE STREET SIGN AT THE BEGINNING OF CALLE O'DALY, NEXT TO THE CASAS DEL AYUNTAMIENTO OF SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA.



1. THE O'DALY BUILDING, AT CALLE O'DALY 21, IS A MODERN CONSTRUCTION REPLACING THE HISTORICAL HOUSE WHERE O'DALY LIVED AFTER MARRYING INTO THE MCGEE FAMILY, MERCHANT DRAPERS ESTABLISHED IN SANTA CRUZ DE LA PALMA IN THE 18TH CENTURY.

