

# Ha'penny Bridge

## Glossary

- Cast iron: a type of hard iron that will not bend easily and is made into shapes by being poured into a mould when melted.
- Cast: to make an object by pouring hot liquid, such as melted metal, into a shaped container where it becomes hard.
- Latter: the second of two people, things or groups that have been just talked about.
- Toll: a small amount of money that you have to pay to use a road, cross a bridge, etc.
- Levy: raise or collect, especially a tax.
- Turnstile is a form of gate which allows one person to pass at a time. It can also be made so as to enforce one-way human traffic, and in addition, it can restrict passage only to people who insert a coin, a ticket, a pass, or similar.
- Ore: rock or soil from which metal is mined and worked.
- Rib: a traverse member of a frame.
- Foreman: someone who leads a group of workers.
- Sport: to display or wear usually ostentatiously.
- Cite: to bring forward or call to another's attention especially as an example, proof, or precedent.
- Padlock: a metal lock with a U-shaped part that you use for fastening bicycles, doors, etc.

## Choose the correct option.

The **Ha'penny Bridge** (/ˈheɪpni/ HAYP-nee; Irish: *Droichead na Leathphingine*, or *Droichead na Life*), known later for a time as the *Penny Ha'penny Bridge*, and officially the **Liffey Bridge**, is a pedestrian bridge built in May 1816 over the River Liffey in Dublin, Ireland. Made of \_\_\_\_\_, the bridge was \_\_\_\_\_ in Shropshire, England.



## Name



Dublin's Ha'penny Bridge.

Beyond it, the dome of the eighteenth century Custom House and Liberty Hall.



Ha'penny Bridge at night

Originally called the *Wellington Bridge* (after the Dublin-born Duke of Wellington), the name of the bridge changed to *Liffey Bridge*. The *Liffey Bridge* (Irish: *Droichead na Life*) remains the bridge's official name to this day, although it is most commonly referred to as the Ha'penny Bridge.

## History

Before the Ha'penny Bridge was built there were seven ferries, operated by a William Walsh, across the Liffey. The ferries were in a bad condition and Walsh was informed that he had to either fix them or build a bridge. Walsh chose the \_\_\_\_\_ option and was granted the right to extract a ha'penny \_\_\_\_\_ from anyone crossing it for 100 years.

Initially the toll charge was based not on the cost of construction, but to match the charges \_\_\_\_\_ by the ferries it replaced. A further condition of construction was that, if the citizens of

Dublin found the bridge and toll to be "objectionable" within its first year of operation, it was to be removed at no cost to the city.

The toll was increased for a time to a penny-ha'penny (1½ pence), but was eventually dropped in 1919. While the toll was in operation, there were \_\_\_\_\_ at either end of the bridge.

The manufacture of the bridge was commissioned by the then Lord Mayor of Dublin, John Claudius Beresford with the Coalbrookdale Company of England. Using \_\_\_\_\_ originally mined in County Leitrim's Sliabh an Iarainn, the bridge's cast iron \_\_\_\_\_ were made in 18 sections and then shipped to Dublin. The design and erection was supervised by John Windsor, one of the company's \_\_\_\_\_ and a pattern-maker.

## Renovation and maintenance



In 2001 the number of pedestrians using the bridge on a daily basis was 27,000 and, given these traffic levels, a structural survey indicated that renovation was required. The bridge was closed for repair and renovations were made during 2001, and it was reopened in December 2001, \_\_\_\_\_ its original white colour.

The structure was rebuilt to retain many of its old components, although, controversially, some features were removed. The repair work was carried out by Harland and Wolff.

In 2012, \_\_\_\_\_ a maintenance and damage risk, Dublin City Council removed a number of love locks from the Ha'penny Bridge and nearby Millennium Bridge, and asked people not to add any more. In 2013 the council removed over 300 kg of locks from the bridge, and signage was added asking people not to put \_\_\_\_\_ on the bridge.

On 19 May 2016, the bicentenary of the bridge was celebrated with a symbolic procession over the bridge involving the current Lord Mayor, Críona Ní Dhálaigh, descendants of J.C. Beresford and of John Windsor from England.

### Match the two halves of each sentence.

- |                                            |                                                |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Originally, Ha'penny Bridge was called  | Walsh chose to build a bridge.                 |
| 2. The official name is                    | was closed for repairs and renovations.        |
| 3. Before the Ha'penny Bridge was built    | to charge a toll for 100 years.                |
| 4. Instead of fixing the ferries,          | the <i>Liffey Bridge</i> .                     |
| 5. He was granted the right                | removed a number of love locks from the bridge |
| 6. If the residents objected to the bridge | the <i>Wellington Bridge</i> .                 |
| 7. In 2001 the bridge                      | there were seven ferries across the Liffey.    |
| 8. In 2012 Dublin City Council             | it would be removed.                           |