

Heritage Ireland

Issue 5 SPRING 2017



in this issue...



IONAD CULTÚRTHA AN PHIARSAIGH
A NEW VISITOR CENTRE IN CONNEMARA

TUNNEL VISION AT CASINO MARINO
GOING UNDERGROUND AT CASINO MARINO

CAHIR CASTLE 1916 EXHIBITION

NATIONAL BOTANIC GARDENS EVENTS

Contents



National Botanic Gardens



1916 Exhibition at Cahir Castle

in this issue...

NEWS

- 3 **Welcome**
- 4 **Restoration of Kilmainham Courthouse**
Wins Irish Building Project of the Year
- 4 **Contributors**
- 5 **Irish Sign Language Interpreted**
Tours Series, April to September

FEATURES

- 12 **Going Underground at Casino Marino**
- 10 **New Arrival to OPW Heads up the National Historic Properties Service**
Rosemary Collier
- 11 **Cahir Castle 1916 Exhibition**
- 14 **Equinox Sunrise at Loughcrew**
- 16 **Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh**
A New Visitor Centre in Connemara

EVENTS GUIDE

- 20 **National Botanic Gardens**
Exhibitions & Events, April - May 2017
- 23 **Cruinniú na Cásca Festival**
- 24 **'A Taste of Cahir' Festival**
- 26 **OPW 185 Exhibition**
Portumna Castle
- 28 **West Waterford Festival of Food 2017**
- 30 **The Art of Friendship**
Exhibition of Japanese Surimono Prints





Welcome

Welcome to the Spring 2017 issue of Heritage Ireland, a collaboration between the Office of Public Works and the Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht, bringing you news and features on Ireland's wonderful heritage sites and cultural institutions.

Spring is in the air and preparations are underway across all of our attractions as we ready ourselves for another exciting season. We hope you enjoy learning about our past through the wonderful historic sites all over the country and the many events hosted at those sites. We are waiting to welcome you!

Please visit our websites at **www.heritageireland.ie** and **www.ahg.gov.ie** for more information about our heritage sites and cultural institutions. Don't forget that you can keep abreast of your favourite properties on Facebook.

► *Main image:* Emo Court, located near the village of Emo in County Laois, is a large neo-classical mansion, formal and symmetrical in its design. It was designed by the architect James Gandon in 1790 for John Dawson, the first Earl of Portarlington.
© Fáilte Ireland

► *Cover image:* Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Conamara – Pearse Cultural Centre, Rosmuc, Connemara, County Galway.
© Seán Ó Mainnín

Restoration and Conservation of Kilmainham Courthouse

Irish Building Project of the Year



OPW Architects Seán Moylan and Gretta Doyle accepting the Irish Building and Design Award 2017 for 'Irish Building Project of the Year' for the Restoration and Conservation of Kilmainham Courthouse, with Noel Farrelly of Kingspan Insulated Panels, sponsors of the award, and broadcaster Marty Whelan MC.



KILMAINHAM HOUSE AND JAIL, KILMAINHAM.



Heritage Ireland Ezine Contributors



CLARE TUFFY

Clare has over thirty years experience of working at National Monuments sites in the Boyne Valley. She works for The Office of Public Works as manager of Brú na Bóinne Visitor Centre.



JAMES CONCANNON

James has worked as a Caretaker with the OPW since 2007 and is based at Cahir Castle and the Main Guard in Clonmel. He has a big interest in Irish history, especially the 1916 and war of independence period. James was instrumental in mounting the 1916 exhibition at Cahir Castle.



PAULINE KENNEDY, Supervisor

Pauline manages the guiding service, visitor experience, education and outreach at both Castletown House in Celbridge and at Casino Marino in Dublin.



CILLIAN DE GRÁS, is the Supervisor Guide at Dún Aonghasa and Ionad Cultúrtha an Phiarsaigh, Ros Muc. He studied History and Medieval & Celtic Studies at Maynooth University and Trinity College, Dublin. He previously worked at the National Museum of Ireland, The Hunt Museum and Castletown House, and has published articles on medieval history and literature.

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heritage card



HERITAGE IRELAND

Irish Sign Language Interpreted Tours Series



Irish Sign Language



ISL Tours:

- **Pearse Museum**, 30th April at 12 noon
- **Rathfarnham Castle**, 13th May at 11.30am
- **The Casino at Marino**, 3rd June 11am
- **Dublin Castle**, 9th July at 4pm
- **St. Audoen's Church**, August
- **Kilmainham Gaol**, September

Tours run from April to September



Entrance & Tour is free of charge
but places are limited so please book
soon by emailing info@heritageireland.ie

OPW
Óifis na nAitheantas Poblaithe
The Office of Public Works

TUNNEL VISION: Going Underground at Casino Marino

TEXT BY PAULINE KENNEDY

► Above: Visitors in The Long Tunnel, part of the series of tunnels and chambers which will open to the Public on the 22nd August 2016 as part of hourly tours at the Casino at Marino. The long tunnel was used during the War of Independence for target practice.

Photograph: Alan Betson / The Irish Times.

► Right: The Casino at Marino, Dublin. Illuminated Green by the OPW as part of the "Greening" initiative for St. Patrick's Day.

Photograph: Peter Moloney.



The Casino Marino, one of OPW's most iconic historic properties and Ireland's miniature architectural masterpiece, has just added another secret to its already full repertoire of secret plans and clever tricks. Over the years there has been much speculation about the uses and extent of the various vaults and tunnels that lead off from the basement of this remarkable building.

Going Underground at Casino Marino...

The truth is even more fascinating as recent research has revealed that the long tunnel at the Casino was used around May of 1921 to practice firing the first two Thompson machine guns that arrived into Ireland from fund raising efforts by Harry Boland in America. Witness statements confirm that shortly after the arrival of the Thompson machine guns, Michael Collins, Oscar Traynor, Dick Mulcahy, Ginger O'Connell and other members of 'The Squad' used the long tunnel at the Casino for firing practice and were delighted with the results!

It was decided to take the Thompsons to the Casino at Fairview, in which there were a number of tunnels, and one afternoon some of the squad and myself and I believe Mick Collins and Oscar Traynor, tried the guns out at the Casino. We fired live ammunition from the small vertical and large round magazines. The tunnels were well below ground and some members of the squad went outside watching and listening but very little sound could be heard. '

– William Stapleton BMH Witness Statement 822.

It was about this time we got our first Thompson gun. Michael Collins was very keen on this gun. We afterwards went out to the Casino in Marino. The Casino was a walled-up building which was very isolated at this time and we were confident that if we fired a few rounds we could do so in safety. We were very surprised when one of the Brothers out of the O'Brien Institute came and told us that we could be heard all over the place.'

– Patrick Daly BMH Witness Statement 387 .

During the revolutionary period, the area around Marino/Fairview was a hotbed of Volunteer activity. A photograph of 83 members of F Company, 2nd Battalion, Dublin



Brigade of the Irish Volunteers who were based in the Fairview area, was taken on the south lawn of the Casino probably at a 25th reunion around 1941. Last year the Casino put out a call to all relatives of F Company to get in touch if they would like to be included in a memorial of this photograph. Over 80 relatives responded and with their help a wonderful memorial photo has been reproduced as part of our commemorations in 2016.

The long tunnel is a complex series of connected chambers leading off from the basement of the building. The chambers beneath are lit by grills or vents above ground which cast light and air down into the long tunnel and illuminate the wells or bathing pools beneath. While there are still puzzles as to why the long tunnel was designed as it is, it may well be that the Charlemont was indulging in the ritual of 'taking the plunge' - bathing in cold water underground baths was a health craze in the 18th century! Private bathing facilities became quite common on country estates in the 18th century and Lord Charlemont who built the Casino in the 1760s, was well acquainted with this custom from his nine year long Grand Tour through Italy, Greece, Turkey and Egypt.

As well as a visit to the long tunnel, part of the experience of this new exhibition at the Casino Marino are the

interpretative panels on the gates to the cellars in the outside basement of the building. These tell the story of Lord Charlemont's building of the Casino and the intriguing possible uses of the cellars and the long tunnel. From 16th March this year when Casino opens for the 2017 season, visitors can explore the long tunnel and see how the Thompson machine guns were fired there in 1921. As part of the experience, Entry restrictions can apply due to weather/operational conditions.

The Casino is situated 3 miles north of Dublin, just off the Malahide Road, Dublin 3, with the entrance on Cherrymount Crescent. It is open daily from 16th March to 31st October with tours of the building on the hour from 10am, last admission 5pm. Booked groups on the half hour. Admission charges: Adults €7: Group/Senior €5: Child/Student €3: Family €12 OPW Heritage Cards and Dublin Pass accepted.

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▲ Above: Part of the series of tunnels and chambers open to the public at Casino Marino.

◀ Far left: Side view of Casino Marino, Malahide Road, Marino, Dublin 3.
© Government of Ireland National Monuments Service Photographic Unit

◀ Centre left: Black and white photograph of Óglaigh na Éireann (Irish Volunteers), F Company, 2nd Battalion, Dublin Brigade (1913-1921). © The Allen Library. Image thought to be taken around 1941 at a 25th Reunion of Irish Volunteers who were based in the Fairview area.

The Tunnel Vision exhibition won an award in the Reaching Out section of the Heritage Council awards. It was presented at a ceremony in the Royal college of Physicians, 6 Kildare Street, Dublin 2 on 22nd February 2017. The Awards ceremony was attended by Chairman Maurice Buckley, Commissioner John Mc Mahon and PO Rosemary Collier and Pauline Kennedy.

◀ Left: At the Heritage Council Awards ceremony: Michael Parsons, Acting Chairman Heritage Council; Heather Humphreys, Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs; Pauline Kennedy, Supervisor; and John McMahon, Commissioner OPW.

New Arrival to OPW Heads up the National Historic Properties Service



Images: Dublin Castle (left) and (inset) Rosemary Collier

The National Historic Properties Service, responsible for the management and operation of 30 of the State's most prestigious Heritage locations, has a new Director; Rosemary Collier has taken over the running of the Service in December 2016 and brings her previous extensive experience particularly in the Arts sector to bear on her new role.

Rosemary's career has included work as an Arts Officer with Louth County Council and subsequently, for more than four years, as Head of Music and Opera with the Arts Council. She also served as Director of the Kilkenny Arts Festival, a role where she in fact worked extensively with the OPW management team at Kilkenny Castle. Prior to arriving in the OPW, Rosemary has worked most recently as the Executive Director of the Opera Theatre Company, a position that she must have had a particular affinity for given her own past experience as a Choral Conductor and performer with the National Chamber Choir of Ireland.

Rosemary joins the OPW Heritage Services team at a key time; the strategic Partnership between the OPW, Fáilte Ireland and the Department of Arts Heritage Rural Regional and Gaeltacht Affairs is poised over the next 5 years to deliver significant new capital investment in the Heritage estate managed by the OPW and many of the properties within the NHP will benefit significantly. ***"There is a huge potential right now for some very positive things to happen under the Tourism Capital Investment Programme,"*** said Rosemary following the first meeting in 2017 of the formal Joint Programme Steering Group with Fáilte Ireland and the Department. ***"There are some very exciting projects on the drawing board and we are very clear that we want to deliver significant improvements for the OPW Heritage estate in the years immediately ahead."***

With her experience in the Arts sector, Rosemary is particularly focused also on the event management potential

in National Historic Properties. The portfolio has a very strong profile already for many cultural events such as exhibitions, concerts, lectures etc and the new Director is anxious to ensure that this work continues and expands throughout the properties within the estate, saying ***"I think it is important that our capacity within NHP for event management is***

recognised and used proactively to ensure a very positive public profile for the OPW. I look forward to using my experience in the arts to build relationships across the creative sectors and to grow the cultural offering throughout our portfolio of historic properties."

While the Tourism Capital Investment Programme is already starting to deliver much needed funding for OPW projects, it is also clear that the Creative Ireland Initiative may also hold potential in the years ahead for new funding streams for Heritage properties to be identified. The new Director will, with her contacts in the Arts sector, be well placed to engage with the initiative and will be particularly alive to the many artistic and creative possibilities that lie within places such as Castletown House, the Farmleigh Gallery and Dublin Castle. OPW Heritage Commissioner John Mc Mahon said ***"I am happy to welcome Rosemary to the Heritage Services team and feel sure that she will add greatly to our efforts to promote and develop the Historic Properties Service, working with colleagues to make sure that we engage fully with stakeholders in relevant sectors like the Arts, Local Authorities and other agencies with an interest in or a remit for our Cultural Heritage in all its forms."***

Rosemary will join her Historic Property colleagues in their base at Dublin Castle and can be contacted at rosemary.collier@opw.ie



Cahir Castle 1916 Exhibition

TEXT BY JAMES CONCANNON

The Easter Rising was such a defining time in Irish History, and this did not go uncelebrated at Cahir Castle.

Starting out with the idea of raising and flying the tri colour developed into the mounting of a full exhibition. This project captured the interest of my colleagues, Eleanor Morrissey, Lorraine Egan and Hazel Kinahan and they joined Eoin Dowling and me to form the Cahir Commemoration Committee.

The committee were aware that memorabilia existed in the local community and we contacted these people with a view to exhibiting their items in the display cabinets. We also placed advertisements in the local newspapers seeking donations of mementos and we were overwhelmed with the variety of objects that people offered to us, such as guns, medals and original documents.

Different committee members attended various talks and exhibitions to gather ideas and form the direction that our project would take. We decided to focus our exhibition on local Tipperary events that occurred during the 1916 Rising and the subsequent War of Independence. The committee spoke to local historians and researched the important local and national figures and happenings.



All the information gathered was translated into Irish to comply with OPW policy. All our text and pictures were then printed and we displayed it on 16 triangular display boards that we constructed ourselves. The Kinsale OPW Depot kindly lent us display cabinets for our memorabilia. We have been very lucky that we were allowed to place our exhibition in the Great Hall in Cahir Castle, which provided a fabulous and atmospheric background for the visitors. As part of our presentation, we had 3 replica uniforms which the Irish Volunteers wore during the Easter Rising. For a period of 4 weeks we had an eye-catching montage of Eamon De Valera and Thomas McDonagh who both had local connections with Rockwell College – De Valera as a teacher and McDonagh as a student. This was created by the Transitional Year students and was very popular with the visitors.

To give the reader an insight of what is on view in our display cabinets let me give a brief description of the artefacts that were loaned to us. One volunteer who had an OPW connection was Joseph Byrne a carpenter with The Board of Works, Joseph was involved in the fighting in Dublin during Easter week and he also took part in the War of Independence. We are very lucky to have his original membership cards for the Irish Volunteers and later the IRA (Irish Republican Army). We also have notes Joseph wrote detailing attacks that were carried out during his involvement with the volunteers. Letters which he wrote to a young lady called Annie whom Joseph later married give us a personal account of what life was like. In recognition of his services Joseph was invited to the twentieth commemoration in Merrion Square and the fiftieth commemoration in Dublin Castle and both invites are on display. Another cabinet has memorabilia belonging to a Poulmucka native, Andrew Maloney who was an active member of the

Third Tipperary Brigade. We have Andy's personal revolver and medals which he received, as well as an original picture of Andy and a group of volunteers traveling on an open back lorry.

The response to the exhibition in Cahir Castle has been very positive from the visitors and our comment books and social media reflect this. We are delighted to be able to move it on to the Main Guard in Clonmel. We will be moving the display during February and will open to the public in April. Thankfully, all the people who donated items for the exhibition are happy to allow us to continue using them and we are pleased to announce that we will be adding some new items such as a list of names of the Third Tipperary Brigade and details of attacks that they carried out during the War of Independence around Tipperary. These notes were compiled by Maurice Slattery from Clonoulty, who is a grand-uncle of Elaine Moriarty, supervisor at the Rock of Cashel.

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our OPW colleagues who helped to make this exhibition possible.

1916 Clár Comórtha
Céad Bliain
Centenary
Programme

► Images from the Cahir Castle Exhibition featuring artefacts and memorabilia from the 1916 Rising and subsequent War of Independence. The Exhibition will be re-located to the Main Guard in Clonmel, Co. Tipperary from April 2017 onwards.

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Equinox Sunrise at LOUGHCREW

TEXT BY CLARE TUFFY, BRÚ NA BÓINNE

At the top of County Meath's highest hills are some of the country's oldest monuments. The Loughcrew cairns are a complex of 5,000 year old passage tombs, contemporary with the great monuments of Newgrange, Knowth and Dowth at *Brú na Bóinne*, though on a smaller scale. There are about 30 tombs at Loughcrew, sited on four different hills shown on maps as *Sliabh na Caillí*, or The Hills of the Witch.

Constructed during the Neolithic (New Stone Age), the monuments were used as burial places but, like those at *Brú na Bóinne*, they surely had a wider role. They would have been a focal point for the community, a place to honour the ancestors, a lasting symbol to their wealth and a territorial marker. The cairns probably had further functions in seasonal rituals and festivals.

Legend has it that the Hag or Witch formed the cairns when she jumped from one hill to the next dropping stones from her apron. After she had jumped onto three hills, she still had to get to the fourth and final hill in order to attain great power. In the attempt to get to the last hill, she fell and died. The story says that she is buried where she fell, on the slopes of Patrickstown Hill.

The tombs have dominated the landscape south of Oldcastle for thousands of years and they can be seen from a great distance. Cairn T, on Carnbane East, is the best known and the most visited. The Office of Public Works provides a free guide service there in the summer months and for over twenty five years has given free access to the public at dawn on the days of the Equinox sunrise, ie, around March 21st and September 21st. This is the time of year when day and night are



equal. The early farmers who constructed these impressive monuments would have gathered there to mark the beginning of spring and autumn and to celebrate the ever-continuing cycles of the year.

The Winter Solstice phenomenon at Newgrange on December 21st occurs on the year's shortest day and is the best known and best documented of the Neolithic alignments. The Equinox sunrise effect at Loughcrew is less spectacular. For modern archaeo-astronomers the alignment at Loughcrew is considered less significant because the passage is shorter and wider. However, the sunlight enters the chamber at Cairn T and highlights the wonderful art on the back stone of the end recess for nearly an hour. By comparison, the Winter Solstice dawn light show at Newgrange lasts only 17 minutes.

Happily, because it lasts so long, it means that almost everybody who gathers at Cairn T gets the opportunity of seeing the effect at some stage. Small groups of five or six people go inside the chamber at a time, everyone cheerfully taking turns and letting others take theirs.

Attending Equinox dawn at Loughcrew is not for the faint-hearted. In March, sunrise is shortly after 6:15am in the morning and in September shortly after 7:15am. The difference between the two events is simply that on March 21st the clocks have not yet gone forward to summertime, while in September, the clocks have not gone back to wintertime.

Having arrived in the car park in the darkness, there is still a very steep hill to climb. For those who make the effort the reward is great. Climbing up in the



darkness, there is a sense of pilgrimage. On top of the hill, the surrounding countryside quickly disappears into the darkness and from the hill gazing eastwards only the outline of Patrickstown Hill is clear. The wind is often bitter as dawn watchers wait in good-humoured anticipation.

The sky brightens before dawn and at first, the sun only lights up the hilltop where the people are gathered and then it gradually lights the rest of the world below. If lucky, those gathered will be treated to the same wonder that our ancestors witnessed on the same hill so long ago.

► Facing page: Cairn T at Dawn, September.

► Above: Loughcrew Equinox Dawn, Spring 2017

Images © OPW National Monuments Photographic Service



IONAD CULTÚRTHA AN PHIARSAIGH

A New Visitor Centre in Connemara

Ionad Cuairteoirí Nua i gConamara



Ros Muc is a small peninsula, nestled amongst the rocky islands and bays of Connemara's spectacular southern coast. It is one of Ireland's strongest Gaeltacht regions, that is, an area in which Ireland's ancient Celtic language is still the everyday language of the community. This hidden corner of Connemara is an area of spectacular beauty and cultural wealth. This is what attracted Patrick Pearse, the writer, educator, and leader of the 1916 Rising to build himself a traditional 3-bedroom cottage here, on the shores of Loch Oiriúlach, in 1909.

Patrick Pearse first visited Ros Muc in 1903. He immediately fell in love with the area and returned regularly in the following years. He purchased a plot of land and began to build a cottage for himself, which was completed in 1909. Here in the cottage he spent his summers between 1909 and 1915, writing, thinking,





TEXT BY CILLIAN DE GRÁS
PHOTOS © SEÁN Ó MAINÍN



- **Left:**
Teach an Phiarsaigh,
Pearse's Cottage
- **Main image:**
New Visitor's Centre
opened Nov. 2016.
- **Below:**
Some of the
exhibits at the
Visitor's Centre.



planning. He set many of his short stories in the area, using the local placeneames to firmly root the stories on Ros Muc's rocky soil. These stories are the foundation stones of modern Irish-language literature. It was here that he composed his iconic oration for O'Donovan Rossa in which he declared his desire for an Ireland 'not free merely, but Gaelic as well; not Gaelic merely, but free as well.'

As part of State's official commemoration of the 1916 Rising it was resolved to build a Visitor Centre close to Pearse's old cottage. The centre is one of the eight flagship capital projects which form a core part of the Historical Reflection strand of the Ireland 2016 Centenary Programme, which will leave a permanent legacy from the commemorations. The centre further explores Pearse's time in Ros Muc, and allows visitors to experience some of Connemara's vibrant culture, which drew Pearse to the area in the first place. The centre was officially opened by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny on 20 November 2016, on what would have been Patrick Pearse's 137th birthday.

The centre is located in a strikingly modern building, designed by Dermot McCabe of Simon J. Kelly architects. It takes its inspiration from the silhouette of the West of Ireland's traditional thatched cottage, and from the



corrugated-steel farm buildings which dot the connemara landscape. Despite its size, it sits comfortably in the landscape and will be a great asset for local people.

Visitors to the centre are welcomed by a beautiful airy space, which houses a lively Café, serving fresh local produce. The Café is patronised by locals as well as visitors, so An Ghaeilge, the language of the community, is on everybody's lips.

The 'west wing' of the building is a completely adaptable space, which can be subdivided as we wish. It contains a space for temporary exhibitions, an audio-visual presentation featuring shots of Connemara's famous landscape, and a classroom space, where we conduct our schools programme. On the floor is a large-scale reproduction of Tim Robinson's fantastically detailed map of Connemara, with all its myriad twists and turns. The screens between these sections can be removed making it the perfect space for music recitals or other events.

The 'east wing' of the building contains the permanent exhibition exploring Pearse's cultural legacy as a writer and language activist, and celebrating the landscape, language and culture of southern Connemara. The exhibition makes use of innovative touch screen technology. For instance visitors can explore a group photograph which was taken at a Gaelic League event in Galway in 1913, and hear the stories of those in attendance. They include five people executed for their part in the 1916 Rising, three future presidents of Ireland, two of the first women

professors in Ireland, and a woman who tried (and failed) to assassinate Mussolini!

The exhibition also tries to convey to visitors a sense of contemporary life in Connemara and how the Irish language is part of the fabric of everyday life. A series of short films, shown on a nest of screens of various sizes and shapes, presents a football match in the local GAA club: a race between 'húicéirí', Connemara's traditional boat; and scenes from the local naíonra, or playschool. Another touchscreen offers an interactive timeline of the history of the Irish language, and samples of Sean-nós song and dance, the traditional song and dance styles of Connemara.

Another popular exhibit deals with the placenames of the local area. A map of the Ros Muc area is laid out on a giant touchscreen; visitors can select various local placenames to learn their meaning and the story behind the name. These placenames have often been garbelled into nonsensical versions, which confuse locals and tourists alike. However in their original forms, as used by local people, they record aspects of local history and heritage. For instance did you know that the road you approach the visitor centre on is known as Glinn Catha or 'glen of the battle'? This is because a battle took place here between a group of cattle-thieves and their angry victims!

Having absorbed all of this information visitors will now be anxious to visit Pearse's cottage itself. A short path through the heather and gorse leads

across the bog, up to the cottage. Along the way are benches to pause and admire the views of the surrounding lakes and mountains, and information about the local environment. A wooden shelter close to the cottage itself houses information on people who spent time in Ros Muc at the same time as Pearse, such as Lord Dudley, the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Mícheál Ó Máille, who's efforts led to the revival of the Connemara pony.

At the end of the path Teach an Phiarsaigh, Pearse's cottage, remains just as it did when he left it in 1915. In such a spot it is easy to understand why Connemara was such an inspiration to him.

Is leithinis bheag í Ros Muc, suite li measc oiléain agus cuain creagach chósta aoibhean Chonamara theas. Is ceann de na ceantracha Gaeltachta is láidre sa tír í. Is ceanntar lán le háileacht agus seibhreas cultúrtha í an cúinne ceilte seo do Chonamara. Is é seo a mheall Pádraig Mac Piarais, scríobhnóir oideoir agus ceannaire Éirí Amach 1916, le teach traidisiúnta ttrí-sheomra a thógáil dó fhéin, ar bhrúach Loch Oiriúlach i 1909.

Tháinig Pádraig Mac Piaras go Ros Muc don chéad uair i 1903. Thit sé i ngrá leis an áit láithreach, agus d'fhill sé go rialta i ndiaidh sin. Cheannaigh sé píosa talún agus thosaigh sé ag tógáil teach dó fhéin, a bhí réidh i 1909. Chaith sé a chuid laethanta saoire anseo idir 1909 agus 1915, ag scríobh, ag macnamh, ag pleannáil. Tá a chuid gearrscéalta suite sa ceantair, agus bhain sé ann-úsáid as logainmneacha na háite lena gcuid scéalta a bhuanú i gcré creagach Ros Muc. Is bun-chloch na nua-litríochta Gaeilge iad na scéalta seo. Anseo freisin, chum sé an óráid cáiliúil in ómós do Uí Dhonnabháin Rossa inár leag sé amach an fis a bhí aige do 'Éire saor agus fós í Gaelach; Éire Gaelach gan práinn ar shaoirse.'

Mar chuid de comóradh oifigiúil an Stáit ar Éirí Amach 1916, tugadh faoi Ionad Cuairteoirí a thógáil le hais sean-teach an Phiarsaigh. Tá an t-ionad ar cheann de ocht gcinn de thionscadail chaipitil shuaitheanta atá mar chuid lárnach den tsnáithe Machnamh Stairiúil i gClár Comórtha Céad Bliain Éire 2016, a fhágfaidh oidhreacht bhuan ó na

hócaidí cuimhneacháin. Fiosríonn an tIonad tréimhse an Píarsach i Ros Muc, agus tugann sé deis do cuairteoirí cuid de chultúr bheoga Chonamara a bhlaiseadh. D'oscail an Taoiseach Éanna Ó Cionnaidh an tIonad go hoifigiúil ar 20 Samhain 2016, 137 bliain ó rugadh an Píarsach.

Tá an tIonad suite i foirgneamh súntasach nua-aoiseach, a dhear Dermot McCabe ó ailtirí Simon J. Kelly. Glacann sé ionsparáid ó scáthchruth tithe tradaisiúnta iarthar na hÉireann, agus ó na foirgneamh feirme cruach rocach atá le feiceáil ar fud an ceantar. In ainneoinn a thomhais, suíonn sé go héadrom sa tírdhreach, agus beidh sé ina áis do mhuintir na háite.

Díreach lastaigh den doras, cuireann spás mór geall fáilte roimh cuairteoirí. Tá

taispeántais sealadach, físeán de radharcanna áille Chonamara, agus spás oideachais, áit a mbíonn clár na scoileanna ar bun. Ar an urlár tá léirscáil Tim Robinson de Chonamara le feiceáil ar scála ollmhór. Tá chuile sonra, chuile cuar sna bóithre le feiceáil ann. Is féidir na scáileán idir na 'zónanaí' seo a bhaint amach, rud a chiallaíonn gur spás iontach é le haghaidh coirm ceoil nó ócáid eile.

Tá an taispeántas buan lonnaithe in oirthear an foirgneamh, ina fiosríotar oidhreacht chultúrtha an Phiarsaigh mar scríobhnóir agus gníomhaí teanga, agus déantar ceiliúradh ar tírdhreach, teanga agus cultúr Chonamara. Baintear úsáid as teicneolaíocht scáileán tadhaill nuálach. Mar shampla is féidir le cuairteoirí griangraf grúpa a tógadh ag

amháin a rinne iarracht (agus ar theip uirthi) Mussolini a fheallmharú!

Déantar iarracht freisin sa taispeántas impreisiún a thabhairt do cuairteoirí den saol comhaimsirthe i gConamara, agus an chaoi ina bhfuil an teanga mar chuid lárnach den tsaol. Taispeántar sraith scannáin gairead ina bhfeictear cluiche peile sa club áitiúil; rás báid seoil; agus radharcanna ón naíonra áitiúil. Ar scáileán eile tá am-líne idirghníomhach ar stair na Gaeilge, chomh maith le samplaí d'amhránaíocht agus damhsa ar an tseán nós.

Tá ann-tóir ar taispeántán eile, ina bpléitear logainmneacha an cheantar. Tá léirscáil de Ros Muc leagtha amach ar scáileán ollmhór; is féidir le cuairteoirí logainmneach a roghnú le foghlaim cén brí atá leo agus an scéal taobh thiar den ainm a chloisteáil. Is minic a ndéantar aistriúchán gan brí ar na logainmneacha seo, rud a chuireann mearbhall ar daoine áitiúla agus turasóirí araon. Ach insíonn na bun-leaganacha, mar a úsáideann muintir na háite, insíonn na logainmneacha scéalta dúinn faoi oidhreacht agus an stair shóisialta an cheantar. Mar shampla, an raibh a fhois agat go dtugtar Glinn Chatha ar an bóthar i dtreo Ros Muc mar gur tharla cath súntasach anseo idir gadaithe bó agus a n-íospáirtigh!

Tar éis an t-eolas seo ar fad a ionsuigh, beidh fonn air cuairteoirí Teach an Phiarsaigh é fhéin a fheiceáil. Tá cosán gairead, thríd an fraoch is an aiteann, thar an portach suas ag an Teach. Ar an bealach tá binsí le stopadh an taitneamh a bhaint as radharc na cnoic is na loch, agus tá eolas mar gheall ar an timpeallacht áitiúil. Tá bothán adhmaid gearr don teach ina bhfuil taispeántas beag mar gheall ar comharsanna agus cairde an Phiarsaigh agus é i Ros Muc; lethéidí Lord Dudley a bhí mar Fear Ionad Rí Shasana in Éireann, agus Mícheál Ó Máille, a rinne tréan-iarracht capaillíní Chonamara a choamhnú.

Ag barr an cosán tá Teach an Phiarsaigh díreach mar a bhí sé nuair a d'fhág sé slán leis don uair deirneach i Mí Iúil 1915. Sa spota speisialta seo, is furasta a thuiscint cén fáth gur thug Conamara an iorad ionsparáid dó.

café briamhar ag cuir beatha áitiúil, úr ar fáil. Baineann muintir na háite úsáid as an gcafé chomh maith le cuairteoirí, agus mar sin, sí an Ghaeilge an teanga atá le clois.

In iarthar an foirgneamh tá spás inoirúnaithe, gur féidir a dheighilt mar is míon linn. Tá spás ann le haghaidh

ócáid Chonradh na Gaeilge i nGailleamh i 1913 a fhiosrú, agus scéalta na daoine a bhí ann a chloisteáil. Ina measc bhí ceathrar a cuireadh chun báis de bharr an páirt a ghlac siad in Éirí Amach 1916, triúir a bhain uachtaránacht na hÉirinn amach, beirt a bhí i measc na céad mná le bheith ina ollaimh ollscoile, agus bean



► Exhibits at the new Visitor's Centre in Rosmuc close to Padraig Pearse's cottage
All images © Copyright Seán Ó Mainnín

EVENTS GUIDE

What's on



national botanic gardens of Ireland

exhibitions & events

April 2017 – August 2017

National Botanic Gardens Guided Tours

Sundays at 12.00pm &
2.30pm all year round.
Admission free.

Monday – Saturday
11.30am & 3.00pm.
€5 per person.

Pre-booked groups by
arrangement.
€5 per person.

Opening hours

Summer (March – October)

Monday – Friday
9.00–5.00pm

Saturday/Sunday
10.00–6.00pm

Telephone:
01 857 0909 / 01 804 0319

Website:
www.botanicgardens.ie

Email:
botanicgardens@opw.ie

Follow us on Facebook.
National Botanic Gardens
of Ireland

To receive email updates
please contact:
botanicgardens@opw.ie



OPW

Óifig na nOmbreacha Poblaithe
The Office of Public Works

April

Thursday 20th April

Evening Lecture: The Role of Urban Gardens in Pollinator Conservation

Dr Jane Stout of Trinity College Dublin will explain how bee and hoverfly decline has stimulated widespread concern and actions, public and private, to conserve pollinators. This talk will address the challenges to pollinator conservation in urban areas, discuss current research both in Ireland and elsewhere, and introduce guidelines developed by the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan. Organised with the Alpine Garden Society and Irish Garden Plant Society. Time: 8.00pm, at the Education and Visitor Centre

Saturday 22nd April

Gardening Workshop: Home Grown Herbs

Get some top tips from gardener Ita Patton on developing your herb garden. Learn how to propagate from cuttings and grow from seed some useful culinary herbs. A wide range of plants will be covered, featuring both familiar herbs and some lesser-known varieties.

Time: 11.00am, meet at the Education and Visitor Centre

Booking Essential - €25, proceeds in aid of Irish Museums Trust



Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd April

Dublin Orchid Fair

A wide variety of orchids will be on display during the annual Dublin Orchid Fair, being held in the Teak House. This event is of interest to both beginner and accomplished growers and will provide an opportunity to source orchids, sundries, and books. As part of the fair there will be talks on growing orchids and a tour of the Glasnevin orchid collection.

Daily in the Teak House



Thursday 27th April

Workshop: Bryophytes and their Role as Indicators of Habitat Type

This workshop is aimed at the professional ecologist to meet the needs of Continuing Professional Development programmes. It is led by Dr Joanne Denyer, of Denyer Ecology, and will be of Intermediate/Advanced level.

Time: 10.00 am – 4.00pm

Organised with the National Biodiversity Data Centre

€50 per person, for bookings go to: www.biodiversityireland.ie/events

Sunday 30th April

Family Event: Garden Bird Safari

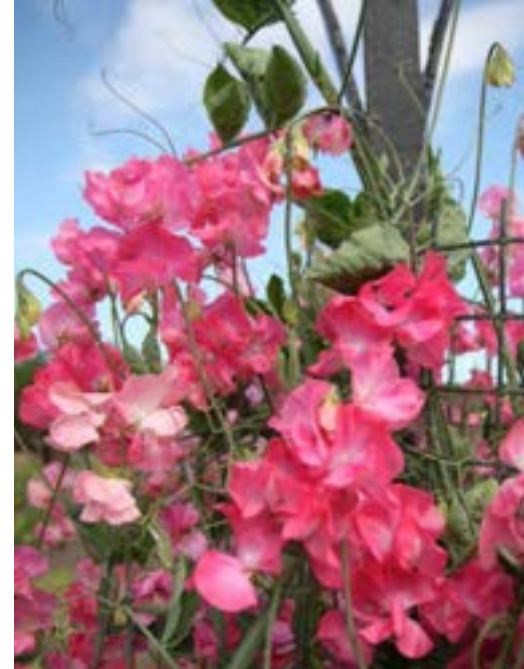
Join Botanic Gardens head guide and author Glynn Anderson for a guided bird walk, uncovering the rich bird life of the Gardens.

If you have them, be sure to bring your binoculars for a closer look!

Time: 10.00am. Admission Free,

Advance Booking Essential

Call (01) 804 0319/ 857 0909 or email botanicgardens@opw.ie



us all identify ways in which we can all care for these sites. It currently has over 50 programmes in education, information provision, active conservation, research and advocacy. The organisation is a leading advocate for place-based learning and community stewardship in Ireland; it is happy to share its model where applicable. Speaker Brigid Barry has been the Manager of the Burrenbeo Trust since soon after its inception.

Time: 3.00pm at the Education and Visitor Centre

Fridays 5th, 12th and 19th May

Workshop: Beginner's Photography with Eamon O' Daly of the Outdoor Studio

The three-day workshop will cover all the basics of digital photography, how to understand your camera, and take better and more creative photographs.

Time: 10.30am – 3.30pm Cost: €100. Book online at www.skerriesphotography.com or call 01 849 2572

Saturday 6th May

Garden Drop by Demo: Edible Window boxes

Thinking of growing summer salads yet stuck for space? Why not start a miniature kitchen garden in your windowsill? Join gardener Niamh Donohoe at this drop-by demo and find out how to grow and tend to choice salads and herbs that thrive in boxes.

Time: 2.30pm. The Erasmus Garden

Saturday 6th May

Orchid Potting Workshop

All are welcome to join this orchid potting workshop.

Orchid compost will also be available for purchase. Choose either the morning or afternoon time slot. Numbers are limited so book early! Price: €20 per person, mail info@irishorchidsociety.org if you would like to book a place at either time slot. Times: 10.30am and 2pm Organised with the Irish Orchid Society

May

Daily Guided Walks: Bloomin' Summer

Walking through the Gardens in summertime when many flowers are in full bloom is a magnificent experience. Join our special guided tour and hear all about the plants, design and history of the stunning Herbaceous Border, Annual and Bedding Displays, the Rose Garden and much more.

Times: Monday – Saturday 11.30am and 3.00pm, €5 per person

Sundays 12.00pm and 2.30pm, free of charge

Wednesday 3rd May

Lecture: Burren Beo

Burrenbeo Trust is an independent landscape charity which is committed to connecting people and place, and to helping

Sundays 7th and 14th May

Creative Craft Workshop: Paper and book making

Ditte Kummer O'Connor, graphic designer, artist and former lecturer in DIT School of Architecture, will guide a class through the process of producing a beautiful and unique keepsake.

In the first session, you will learn how to make your own hand-made paper from pulp, with inclusions from the Botanic Gardens, and become familiar with the centuries-old art of paper marbling and paste paper making. After the demonstrations there will be time to have a go yourself. Handouts will be provided.

In the second session, you will create your own unique "artist's book" using the papers you produced. The theme is to express the beauty of nature in a simple visual story. Materials are included.

Time: 10.30am – 1.30pm

€60 for both workshops. Booking essential.

Saturdays 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th May

Themed Guided Walk: The Silk Road

The Silk Road was an ancient network of trade routes that wound through China to the Mediterranean Sea. Though silk was the major trade item, many other plant derived goods were exported along this route, such as cotton and wine. Hear the fascinating tales surrounding the uses and folklore of these plants while also catching some of our most beautiful Chinese plants at their best. May is the best time of year to see peonies, the handkerchief tree, wisteria and many other Chinese plants in full bloom. *Time: 2.30pm. Meet in the Education & Visitor Centre.*

€5 per person

Saturday 13th May

Gardening Workshop: Introduction to Organic Vegetable Production

Join Klaus Laitenberger, for presentations and practical demonstrations on seed sowing and soil evaluation, a question and answer session, and a walk through our amazing Organic Vegetable Garden. During this comprehensive workshop, Klaus will outline the basics of soil fertility management, propagation, crop planning and variety selection, as well as how to prevent pests, diseases and weeds organically.

Cost €30 or free to unemployed (limited places). Booking at 0719640688, www.nots.ie or Email info@notes.ie

Organised with The National Organic Training Skillnet.

Saturday 13th May

Children's Workshops: Budding Artists and Hardy Annuals

Art workshops suitable for 4 to 7 year olds and 8 to 12 year olds. For further details and booking information see the Children's Events section.

Thursday 18th May

Evening Lecture: Birds of the Mountaintop

Sinead Cummins of BirdWatch Ireland will showcase many of Ireland's most enigmatic birds which inhabit some of our wildest landscapes. From the spectacular aerial 'skydancing' of hen harriers, to the melodic song of the skylark, to the cry of our breeding curlew, our mountains are home to many resident and migrant birds. Yet many of our upland birds are species of high conservation concern and they are increasingly under threat from changes to this wild and beautiful landscape.

Time: 8.00pm in the Education and Visitor Centre

Organised with BirdWatch Ireland

Saturday 20th May

Children's Event: Pond Dipping

Explore the weird and wonderful diversity of insects and minibeasts living in and around the pond at the National Botanic Gardens. Perfect your technique with guidance from the experts and learn how to identify the amazing creatures you have captured. Once you have discovered the hidden life of ponds you will never look at them the same way again!

This workshop is suitable for children age 8 and upwards. Time: 11.00am.

Admission Free. Booking Essential.

Organised with the Irish Wildlife Trust.

Thursday 25th May

Lecture: Flies, Bees and Helleborines - Irish orchids in the Burren and beyond

Ireland is home to 30 species of orchid, some common, some rare. Due to its varied microhabitats, the Burren has a mix of species difficult to find growing side by side anywhere else on the island. This illustrated talk by renowned author and glasshouse foreman of the National Botanic Gardens, Brendan Sayers, will tell the individual stories of these enigmatic plants. *Time: 3.00pm at the Education and Visitor Centre*

Saturday 27th May

Children's Workshop: Budding Botanist - Collecting and Pressing Flowers

Ever wanted to start your very own dried plant collection?

Get great tips and discover how you can become a plant collector! Join our guides on an expedition through the Botanic Gardens identifying and collecting suitable plants for pressing before constructing your very own flower press. If you like, you can also create some beautiful botanical designs with our pre-dried plants.

Time: 11.00am. Advance Booking Essential.

Admission Free

www.botanicgardens.ie



Cruinniú na Cásca Festival

will include:

1. Flag raising ceremony and reading of the proclamation at 11.30 at the 1916 Commemorative Garden.
2. Screening of 10 short documentaries produced in the centenary year and launch of 1916 Podcasts in the Athenry Community Centre 12.30-3.30pm with an Irish music concert from 3.30pm to 5pm.
3. The main event will be a family creative fun day in the Athenry Community park from 1pm to 4pm. This is where people can see traditional crafts people at work and participate in creative fun e.g. beating a drum, juggling, have a go at Tag Archery, get engaged with dance, face-painting etc

Free entry to Athenry Castle on Easter Monday 17th April as part of the Cruinniú na Cásca festival, organised by Galway County Council.

GALWAY COUNTY COUNCIL
Cruinniú na Cásca
DRAÍOCHT
 MAGIC OF CREATIVITY

ATHENRY
 Easter Monday 17th April 2017
 From 1.00pm

Creativity, Fun & Learning for All the Family

FREE FAMILY FUN FOR ALL

1. North Gate
2. Market Cross
3. Athenry Heritage Centre
4. Hand Ball Alley
5. The Dominican Priory
6. Athenry Castle
7. Athenry Community Park
8. Train Station
9. Athenry Community Centre
10. Athenry Library
11. 1916 Commemorative Garden

For Further Information Contact:
 Marian Donohue, Galway County Council, Ph: 091-809148
 Email: mdonohue@galwaycoco.ie
 www.galway.ie
 http://galwaycommunityheritage.org/

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times
 Programme of events are subject to change

Organised by Galway County Council in co-operation with
 Athenry Community Centre, Athenry City Centre, Athenry
 Heritage Centre, Athenry Castle, Athenry Film Club &
 Athenry Historical Network

Organised by Galway County Council in co-operation with
 Dublin International Festival 2017

Partners: Galway County Council, Athenry Community Centre, Athenry City Centre, Athenry Heritage Centre, Athenry Castle, Athenry Film Club & Athenry Historical Network

FREE entry to Athenry Castle on Easter Monday 17th April as part of the Cruinniú na Cásca Festival, organised by Galway County Council.

ATHENRY 1916 COMMEMORATIVE GARDEN
 11.30am - 12.30pm
 A flag raising ceremony and reading of the Proclamation will take place at the 1916 Commemorative Garden. This is the exact site where Liam Mellows marshalled the Volunteers and organised them in the lead up to the 1916 Rising.

ATHENRY COMMUNITY PARK
 1.00pm - 4.00pm
Official Opening Ceremony 1.00pm
 Opening Ceremony in Athenry Community Park by the Cathaoirleach of the County of Galway, Cllr. Michael Connolly.
Creative Arts & Crafts Workshops
 Discover the skills and techniques of arts & crafts...

Fun Happenings
 • Facepainting
 • Balloon modelling
 • Treasure Hunt
 • The Wheel Barrow & The Accordion
 • Animal Magic
 • Dance with Kibbie
 • Fran's Photobooth
 • The Wonderful World of Beekeeping

ATHENRY CASTLE
 Free admission for all on Easter Monday
 Come and experience a free Athenry Castle Tour
 Last tour admission 5.15pm
 9.30am - 6.00pm

ATHENRY HERITAGE CENTRE
 10.30am - 4.00pm
 Experience creativity in the award winning Athenry Heritage Centre with fun filled Medieval Craft Events for all the boys and girls.

ATHENRY LIBRARY
 1.00pm - 4.00pm
 The library will be open to the public 1-4pm with fun activities.

ATHENRY COMMUNITY CENTRE
 12.30pm - 5.00pm
 Decade of Commemoration Exhibition by Athenry Historical Network
 12.30pm - 2.15pm
 Enjoy film screenings and podcasts that commemorate 1916.

SPRAOL... 3.30pm - 5.00pm
 Sit back... relax and enjoy Irish music, song and dance.

Performances
 • Irish Walkers
 • Juggling Show
 • Tag Archery
 • Punkie Drums Workshop

Basket Making
 • Heritage Straw Craft
 • Wood Spinning
 • Circus Skills Workshop
 • Craft & Woodturning

Wood Carving
 • Stone Carving
 • Art & Painting Workshop
 • Incredible Edibles
 • Bia Láidir
 • Seiliscín Chomraí Geallga





**FREE ENTRY TO
Cahir Castle**
and
Swiss Cottage
on Easter Sunday
to celebrate
A Taste of Cahir!



'A Taste of Cahir' inaugural Festival of Food, Culture, History and Art, takes place in the South Tipperary town of Cahir over the Easter Bank Holiday weekend, Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th April 2017. Cahir Castle and Swiss Cottage will be open free of charge to the public on Easter Sunday.





- Facing page, top: Cahir Castle, Co. Tipperary at night. Image © Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Photographic Unit.
- Facing page, centre left: Small bedroom at Swiss Cottage, Cahir, Co. Tipperary.
- Below left and right: Cahir Castle. © OPW.
- Top of page: Exterior of Swiss Cottage.

EVENTS GUIDE

To mark 185 years since an Act of Parliament in Westminster established the Office of Public Works [OPW], a number of projects have been instigated by the OPW185 Project Team.

The OPW is delighted to announce that the OPW185 exhibition marking 185 years since an Act of Parliament in Westminster established the Office of Public Works [OPW], previously on display at Rathfarnham Castle, Dublin will go on display in Portumna Castle in May 2017. The exhibition attempts to demonstrate the breadth of public works and services carried out by generations of OPW staff over the 185 years. The range and breadth of this work includes the design, construction, maintenance and management of piers, harbours, roads, coast guard stations, schools, barracks, garda stations, housing, asylums, office accommodation, bridges, canals, courthouses, mines, quarries, prisons, railways, drainage, sewerage and water works, and post offices. The work of the organization also includes the provision of furniture and artworks, conserving and interpreting heritage sites, maintaining war graves, providing flood risk management and provision of visitor facilities.

A Timeline has been designed that is 18.5 metres long, which illustrates the Government Acts that have directed the work of the OPW; the main events in each decade; significant projects; the Chairmen of the Office Public Works and world events impacting on Ireland.

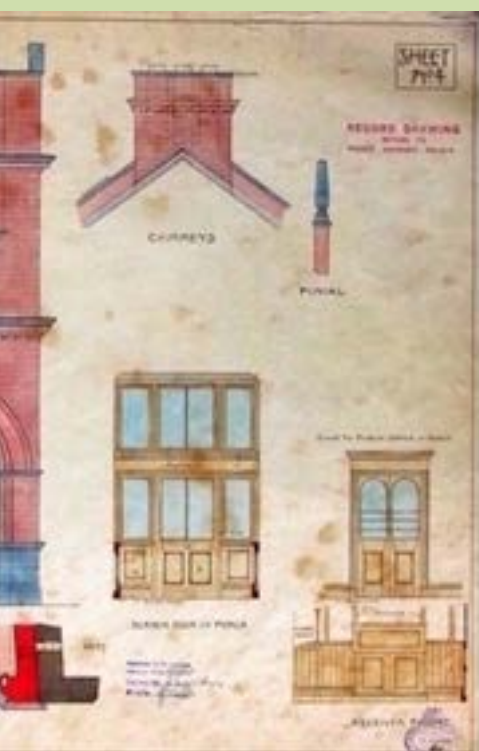
The items and artefacts exhibited were all proposed, submitted or loaned by OPW staff, both current and retired, following a process of staff engagement in June/July 2016. These items/artefacts have been categorized loosely in relation to the tasks involved, such as Drawing, Measuring, Conserving and so forth. Illustrated short stories/reminiscences of OPW staff are also included.

The exhibition will open in Portumna Castle in May 2017.



Portumna Castle Image © OPW





OPW 185

EXHIBITION

at Portumna Castle, Co. Galway.

Opening May 2017

An exhibition showing the many and varied roles and tasks of OPW staff since the establishment of the Office in 1831, illustrated by artefacts, art, and archives, as well as personal stories and reminiscences.



Dungarvan Castle,
venue for a number of
West Waterford
Festival of Food events

10 Years of Fabulous Food and Famously Fun Times – West Waterford Festival of Food 2017 Celebrates its 10th Birthday

A Michelin-starred OX pops up for lunch in The Tannery, renowned chef Stephen Harris of The Sportsman in Kent cooks dinner, there's Holy Smoke to be had and bespoke gin to create, there's a new Greenway to be cycled and the launch of the exciting new Waterford Food Trail, there are superfoods and super chefs, old hands and emerging talents, tapas and trails, foraging and family fun, dramatic dinners and brilliant BBQs – this year the West Waterford Festival of Food is 10 years old, and it's going to be the best birthday party ever!

Some of Ireland's finest chefs, producers, stall-holders and all round lovers of fine food come to the

beautiful coastal town of Dungarvan from 21st-23rd April to celebrate the birthday of this fantastic Irish food festival. Combining the best of food and drink, engaging events, pop-up restaurants, one of Ireland's largest farmers' markets, trails and tours, kids' cookery, special birthday celebrations and much more, the 10th annual West Waterford Festival of food is a must visit for food lovers everywhere.

There is a reason Dungarvan is called Fungarvan during the West Waterford Festival of Food, as the town and its hinterland come together in a true community spirit to deliver an extraordinary array of events in an exciting, jam-packed programme.

The 10th annual West Waterford Festival of Food celebrations kick off on Friday 21st, with a number of events during the day and the launch party in Dungarvan's Grattan Square at 5 p.m. One of the perennial favourites, the

Restaurant Trails, the ultimate movable feast, start on Friday night too, giving participants the chance to enjoy each course in a different restaurant. Three courses and three hundred per cent more craic, a Restaurant Trail is a delicious, sociable introduction to this most friendly of festivals.

Other Friday night events include the Showcase Waterford Dinner, which sees some of Waterford's best chef talent joining forces to deliver a seven-course tasting menu demonstrating their skills and the bounty of exceptional ingredients available from the county. Chefs Shane McGrath (The Cliff House Hotel), Darren Collins (The Olive Tree) and Paula Hannigan (Waterford Castle) work their magic with local produce they know and love. And Friday night is also fish night in Lawlor's Hotel, a celebration of Dungarvan's maritime heritage with a menu focused on the finest fresh local seafood.



On Saturday night, the Tannery continues the festival tradition of hosting an exceptional cooking talent from elsewhere – this year that role going to chef Stephen Harris of The Sportsman in Whitstable. This informal but brilliant seaside gastropub won Restaurant of the Year 2016 from Restaurant Magazine, and chef Harris' sensational skills with local seafood will be showcased to maximum effect in The Tannery on Saturday night.

There will be more well-known names popping up in The Tannery the following day too, as OX come down from Belfast to cook a very special Sunday lunch. Fresh from their celebrated pop-up in partnership with the World's Best Bar, The Dead Rabbit in New York, this will be a unique opportunity for festival-goers to experience some of the finest cooking to be had anywhere on this island from the Michelin-star Belfast restaurant.

Every day of West Waterford Festival of Food sees a busy schedule of trails and tours, whether it's seaweed foraging, taking one of the interesting Bus Bia tours with their three different itineraries full of fascinating visits to local farmers and producers, or dropping in to the Health Hub, a venue dedicated to the latest health and wellness trends in food, which has talks, panel discussions, films and demos running all weekend.

Once again during this year's West Waterford Festival of Food the Saturday focus is down by the water, with Quayside Saturday, an opportunity to enjoy fun activities, gorgeous seafood as you browse the stalls or simply the beautiful views along the water's edge. Quayside Saturday showcases the waterside aspects of this seaside town, this year with boat trips from the jetty, all the

fun of the RNLI Duck Race and 40 new stalls along the quay.

A key event at every West Waterford Festival of Food is the hugely popular Farmer's Market, this year on Sunday April 23rd. One of the largest artisan food markets on the island, this year is set to be the biggest yet with over 100 stalls showcasing the best producers and artisans of the region. Meet the producers, fill your basket and stroll the square as you take in the sights and scents of the various stalls.

For something a little different, renowned pit-master Holy Smoke's John Relihan will be demoing his mastery of low and slow cooking with fire, and local favourites Mezze will be hosting a plant-based Middle-Eastern pop-up. The Irish Craft in a Glass series of talks offers a series of opportunities to taste and learn about the increasingly popular craft beer, gin, cider and whiskeys of Ireland, and there is a busy lineup of cookery demos in the Town Hall, curated by local legend Eunice Power, as well as a return of last year's inaugural and hugely popular Bake Off.

Always key to the West Waterford Festival of Food, and an integral part of this year's programme are the little cooks. With plenty of events perfect for all from toddlers to teens, West Waterford Festival of Food 2017 will see little chefs shine with events such as Busy with Biscuits, as well as workshops including one for little pizza chefs and some family fun at King John's Castle. Whether it's hands-on cooking or simply picking up your favourite fruit at the Fruity Pick 'n' Play, there's plenty of options for a foodie family day out.

Full details on the 2017 programme will be available on the Festival website by mid-March, with many events already open for booking.

For bookings and enquiries contact 058 21433 or visit the website on:

www.westwaterfordfestivaloffood.com

West Waterford Festival of Food 2017 celebrates ten years of the vibrant food culture of this wonderful part of the world – come join the party!



Aerial view of Dungarvan Castle

The Art of Friendship

Japanese Surimono Prints



The Art of Friendship
Japanese Surimono Prints
3 March to 27 August 2017



EXHIBITION: 3 March 2017 – 27 August 2017

The word *surimono* means simply 'printed thing'. Prepared as gifts for exchange among friends and acquaintances at New Year and on other special occasions, these privately-published prints were products of the flourishing literary culture of Edo Japan.

The *surimono* commissioned by poetry circles from the eighteenth century combine short verses composed at poetry gatherings with designs prepared by leading artists. Taking their subjects from the scholar's desk and the literary canons of Japan and China, *surimono* embody the eloquence and amity of these cultivated salons and offer a glittering glimpse into a world rich in playful allusion.

The most lavish of Japanese prints, the quality and refinement of *surimono* appealed greatly to Sir Alfred Chester

Beatty and he amassed a collection considered one of the finest in the world. This year is the 60th anniversary of formal diplomatic relations between Japan and Ireland. As artistic and poetic sentiments shared to mark the passing of time and friendship's renewal, *surimono* offer the perfect medium to celebrate this important occasion.

With support from the Japan Foundation and the American Friends of the Arts in Ireland.

Visit and enjoy Ireland's Historic buildings and Heritage sites

