





Take a bow!

The arts really matter to us in Ireland; they are a big part of people's lives, the country's single most popular pursuit. Our artists interpret our past, define who we are today, and imagine our future. We can all take pride in the enormous reputation our artists have earned around the world.

The arts play a vital role in our economy, and smart investment of taxpayers' money in the arts is repaid many times over. The dividends come in the form of a high value, creative economy driven by a flexible, educated, innovative work force, and in a cultural tourism industry worth €2.4 billion directly a year.

The Arts Council is the Irish Government agency for funding and developing the arts. Arts Council funding from the taxpayer, through the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism, for 2010 is €69.15 million, that's less than €1 a week for every household.

So, at the end of your next inspirational encounter with the arts, don't forget the role you played and take a bow yourself!

Find out what's on at

www.events.artscouncil.ie

You can find out more about the arts here:

www.artscouncil.ie

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Left: National Grandparents' Day in School (photo: Aidan Crawley)

Middle: Macushla Dance Club (photo: Bryan O'Brien, courtesy of The Irish Times)

Right: Blanchardstown Library painting (photo: Clare Brophy)



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Support and Acknowledgements



A message from Áine Brady

“Bealtaine is unique in the range of partners it involves in towns and cities, villages and townlands all over the country. It is my great pleasure to wish continued success to the Bealtaine festival and to all those who participate in it.”

Áine Brady TD, Minister of State with responsibility for older people

Minister Brady with Treasa O’Kelly and Miriam Devine from Knocknacarra ARA
(photo: Rory McAllorum)

Acknowledgements

Age & Opportunity would like to thank Bealtaine organisers around the country and, in particular, people who provided suggestions, information, pictures and quotes for the Programme. The support of each and every event organiser, whatever the scale of their event, is of value beyond measure. We salute you and thank you.

Thank you to the Bealtaine Steering Committee for their support and guidance. Thanks also to the Age & Opportunity team members and volunteers who are working on Bealtaine: Sabine Baumann, Danielle Byrne, Crona Connolly, Eamonn Fox, Terry Lehane, Aoibheann Ní Chaoimh, Sue Russell, Edel Ryan, June Welsh and others, and all of the organisations that promote the festival or that have distributed programmes and posters. Special thanks are due to Dublin Bus and Iarnród Éireann, and to Anthony S Abbott, Siobhan Farrell and Camille Souter.

Age & Opportunity wishes to acknowledge the generosity and foresight of its funders, including the Health Service Executive, and of Bealtaine investors: The Arts Council and Dublin City Council.

Last year, over 57,000 of you took part in over 2,000 Bealtaine events all across Ireland: concerts, dancing, singing, art classes, plays, tours, lectures and literary events. Bealtaine is a chance to socialise, to be entertained, to debate and connect across the generations, as well as to express yourself. Bealtaine is the world’s leading festival celebrating creativity in older age; you have helped to create it. We’d like you to help us keep this going by writing to your local TDs, Councillors and MEPs, telling them about your experience of Bealtaine. Let them know what the arts does for you.



Detail from 'Storm at Shannon' by Camille Souter (photo: artist's own)

Have dreams and speak them without fear

The theme for this year's Bealtaine comes from the award-winning US poet and novelist Anthony S Abbott. He is the author of five books of poetry, including the Pulitzer-nominated 'The Girl in the Yellow Raincoat'. His most recent book is 'New & Selected Poems: 1989 - 2009'.

What do men want? I don't know.
 The right to grieve and not be mocked,
 to touch and be touched, to walk
 beyond the porch steps of the soul,
 to have dreams and speak them without fear.
 To lie under the willow tree of love.
 To seek truth in whispers not in shouts.

Extract from Anthony S Abbott, "What Do Men Want?" The Search for Wonder in the Cradle of the World. St Andrews College Press, 2001.

Cover Image

This year's cover image is 'Storm at Shannon' by Camille Souter. Having learned to fly in the late 1970s, she began painting a series at Shannon Airport, from which this image is taken. Her experiences in the air also inform an element of her landscape paintings.

Born in Northampton, England in 1929, Camille Souter was raised in Ireland and studied nursing before she took up painting. Having travelled, she returned to Ireland in 1956. Over the years, she has built an impressive international reputation as an artist and continues to produce new work. She lives in Achill.



Left: Nuala Hayes, who will be appearing in 'A Personal Choice'
Right: Magpie's Nest at the National Library (photo: John Ohle)



ICA at the National Library

The Irish Countrywomen's Association are celebrating their centenary this year with an exhibition at the National Library of Ireland and a panel discussion on 21st May. President Anne Maria Dennison talks about the role that creative arts have played in the organisation.

The ICA has had direct involvement in creative activities from its beginnings. The crafts involved have adapted and changed over the years. Our cultural scope now ranges widely: beaded jewellery, silverwork, cross-stitching, ceramics, digital photography, weaving, book clubs, decoupage, creative writing, and of course the more traditional dressmaking, embroidery, lace work and cookery.

Of late, we feel that people are revisiting many of the older craft forms. Now, perhaps partly due to the recession, we are experiencing a new attitude; people are increasingly seeking involvement in creative work, in making things. A survey we did on this confirmed for us the importance of ensuring that we apply resources to this. It is akin to the recovery in 'grow your own' and the use of allotments; people want to be involved.

We are just celebrating the 100th anniversary of our foundation. Contributing to society is central and it is very important to hold on to the crafts and arts. We feel we have a duty to hand on the skills and art to the next generation. That is as vital as are the basic supports we provide for women in times of great need: back up, fundraising, personal support in time of personal difficulty. That is an important part of our tradition.

The National Library is also hosting other exhibitions and talks during Bealtaine. They celebrate Delia Murphy on the 18th May in 'I'll Live 'til I Die' with music and recollections of her life, and the stories of Mary Lavin on the 20th May in 'A Personal Choice'. Their 'Library Late' event will be playwright Mark O'Rowe in conversation with arts editor Sophie Gorman on the 26th May.

You can also enjoy their award-winning Yeats exhibition, the new 'Discover your National Library' and a celebration of 25 years of the 'Lifelines' poetry project.



Left and centre: Dawn Chorus choir (photos: Simon Houston)
Right: Enjoying the music on Culdaff Beach (photo: Bauke van der Meijden)

Dawn Chorus

Donegal's Bealtaine organiser Sally Murphy describes one unforgettable morning as the first Bealtaine Dawn Chorus came to life.

There were four or five hundred people on the beach that morning: there were families with dogs, kids in pyjamas with wellies and coats, people who had gotten up at two, three and four in the morning, a huge troop of cub-scouts who had camped out on the next beach, a family of five who had driven up from Dublin, a couple who had travelled from Longford and waited in their car overnight for the event to begin, pulling down deck chairs and some blankets. The sense of enthusiasm and good will was overwhelming; here were a myriad of different types of people, all ages and sizes and backgrounds, coming together to sing out and celebrate life.

And at 6 am, the Inishowen Gospel Choir, all 30 of them dressed in white, came out from behind the rocks, singing and clapping. For the next sixty minutes, we shared an experience that I will never forget. The music was lifted up and carried across the beach and, everywhere I looked, I saw people from every age-group smiling and clapping and singing. Lying on the sand, sitting on the rocks, holding hands, they circled the choir.

The Dawn Chorus was the closing ceremony of the festival, run in Donegal by the County Council's Cultural Services for thirteen years now, presented by the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny in partnership with a wide range of partners.

All over the country, Active Retirement Associations are partnering with choirs from the Association of Irish Choirs to create more Dawn Chorus magic.

To find out how you can be part of it, contact the Bealtaine Office in Age & Opportunity on 01 805 7709 or the Association of Irish Choirs on 061 234 823 or Active Retirement Ireland on 01 873 3836.





Opposite and left: 'Blow the Dust' orchestra members (photo: Photocall Ireland)
Right: 'Blow The Dust' rehearsal (photo: Jeff Harvey)

Blow the Dust off Your Trumpet

'Blow the Dust...' encourages older musicians to pick up their instruments again. Richard Martin tells us why he got involved.

I got involved in 'Blow the Dust off Your Trumpet' because I wanted to meet other musicians. I wanted to measure myself against other musicians. I wanted to fit in with other musicians and make music together. The piano is a solo instrument and playing solo can lead to a lot of indiscipline. Your tempo can become too relaxed for instance; all over the place, to put it more bluntly!

I think that I did have some hesitation initially about going to the National Concert Hall. When I arrived there, I found the place full of kettle drums and harps and all sorts of instruments, so I felt I had to tell Joe, the organiser, straight away to lower his expectations of me; I don't read any form of music, and I play all my tunes in the key of C! But Joe listened to my playing for long enough to realise that maybe he could fit me in somewhere.

The real challenge for people joining in a project like this is, I suppose, being able to swallow one's fear of failure. To enjoy anything, there must be some risk to make it truly interesting. And it's a real achievement then to say that you had actually played in the National Concert Hall. It was very satisfying later when people phoned you up to tell you that it really was good. We didn't have any pretensions; we're not the Berlin Philharmonic and never will be. But we had a lot of fun, and that fun was shared with the audience.

'Blow the Dust...' will take place this year in both Dublin and Cork.

To take part in the Cork 'Blow the Dust...', call the Cork Arts Office on 021 434 6210. To get involved in Dublin, call the National Concert Hall on 01 417 0063.



Left: Oxfam Volunteers (photo: Oxfam Ireland)



Right: Bags of craft (photo: Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries)

In Stitches

As older people, we contribute to society all of the time; here's another opportunity. Whether you are a seasoned knitter or new to the needles, Age & Opportunity and Oxfam Ireland invite you to be 'In Stitches'!

Knitting is a huge part of our craft tradition. Now, knitting seems to be enjoying a renaissance, with hundreds of knitters taking up the needles again, knitting circles forming and people passing on the craft to family and friends.

If you knit, either on your own or as part of a group, you can be part of a global project that will make a real difference.

Knit a scarf, hat or blanket and drop it into your local Oxfam shop. Each item sold will help Oxfam's work in fighting poverty, suffering and injustice around the world. Need some inspiration? Bealtaine is commissioning a special scarf pattern for Bealtaine knitters. You could also choose a pattern from the Oxfam range.

The sale of your knitted scarf for €15 could buy an innovative clay cooking stove that uses less wood than conventional cooking methods, meaning that women living in high-risk places - like Darfur - spend less time searching in remote areas for firewood where they are vulnerable to attack.

For more details about 'In Stitches', call Sheila Powers at Oxfam Ireland on 087 288 6894 or email her at sheila.powers@oxfamireland.org or call Rebecca McLaughlin at Age & Opportunity on 01 805 7709. The Bealtaine pattern will be on www.bealtaine.com or call Rebecca to get a copy sent to you.



Seán Millar and John McNeill discuss Silver Stars in New York (photo: Aidan Kelly)

Ink

“My body is a journal in a way. It’s like what sailors used to do, where every tattoo meant something, a specific time in your life when you make a mark on yourself.”

So says the actor Johnny Depp about his tattoos. Tattoos are, for most people who have them, the only marks that they choose to make on their bodies. Scars, burn marks, liver spots may appear unwanted or unbidden but a tattoo is written on the body by choice, to remind, to adorn, to entertain.

Tattoos can be a sign of belonging or rebellion; they can commemorate someone dear or be an expression of oneself; they can be a sign of service, of servitude or even imprisonment. They are a permanent mark that lives with and on the person forever, at once something introduced as well as something that is part of their identity.

This year, Age & Opportunity has commissioned photographer Aidan Kelly to photograph and exhibit his images of the tattoos of older people. If, as novelist Jack London said, tattoos are a sign of ‘an interesting past’, then this exhibition attempts to capture the history that has been absorbed into a body.

‘Ink’ runs in the Original Print Gallery, Temple Bar, Dublin from 16th May to the end of the month. If you can’t make it to the gallery, the exhibition will also be on www.bealtaine.com



From the 'Swans' project at the Abbey Theatre (photo: Ros Kavanagh)

Re-live

Alison O'Connor, from Welsh theatre company Re-live, talks about the origins of an extraordinary piece of theatre about ordinary lives.

Karin Diamond and I were drama practitioners with lots of experience doing theatre in community settings. But we'd never worked on a memory project with older people before. We were nervous. Was this a crazy idea?

So we took a leap of faith...and, in the rehearsal room, nine strangers met and something magical happened. Through a month-long process of reminiscence, theatre games and storytelling, deep truths were shared, real connections made. All nine people went on a journey, both together and as individuals. This first experience is what drives our work now, and on into the future.

The result of that first venture with older people is 'Re-live' which we are bringing to Bealtaine this year. A mixture of stories, video, photography and music, it re-tells significant moments from the extraordinary lives of seven 'ordinary' people.

We hope that our shared Celtic roots will mean that stories of life in Wales will resonate with Irish audiences! And that this will be the first step in an ongoing relationship with Bealtaine. We want to see some other events while we are over. Bealtaine has a fantastic reputation and we feel there is so much we can learn from Irish companies doing similar work to ourselves.

The project was funded by The Arts Council of Wales, in partnership with Age Concern Cardiff.

Re-live was developed as part of the Gwanwyn festival, which celebrates creativity in older age in Wales and is based on the Bealtaine model. It will be part of Dublin's Mill Theatre programme of Bealtaine events. They will also be hosting 'Dawn Chorus' workshops and Joe Devlin will give a theatre appreciation workshop, covering areas like set design, casting and directing.

Contact the Mill Theatre on 01 296 9340 or email sandra@milltheatre.com



Bealtaine Ambassador Eamon Morrissey (photos: John Ohle)

Ambassadors

Busier than ever, Eamon Morrissey talks about the satisfaction of being a Bealtaine Ambassador.

I know I'm getting older of course. I got the free travel pass – I'm delighted with it! I thought I would slow down a bit and take it easy, but suddenly it all started up again. I'm involved with 'The Brother', involved in 'Fair City'; I'm busier than I've been for a long time and I'm actually enjoying every bit of it. You may find that you get tired quicker, but you adapt to that and deal with it. There is as much excitement now as there was when I started out.

As an Ambassador for Bealtaine for three years now, I realise just how important this festival of creativity is. Initially, when asked, I said to myself 'Why not! It seems a good and worthy thing'. But the more involved I am, the more important I realise it is. It is so good for older people to get out and do something creative. The brain is just waiting to be stimulated. It is a fact that whatever effort you put into whatever medium you work in, creativity will reward you and give you back so much more than you put in. From my experience of meeting groups involved in Bealtaine activities, it's amazing to see the excitement generated and the energy and the outlook on life people involved have. It is so important for people not to think, 'Ah sure, it's too late for me to start doing anything like that.' No, it's not too late; it is never too late.

We thank all of our Bealtaine Ambassadors for their continued support and encouragement: Robert Ballagh, Joanna Banks, Paddy Cole, Veronica Dunne, Jennifer Johnston, Mick Lally, Tomás MacAnna, Eugene McCabe, Paddy Moloney, Eamon Morrissey, Dervla Murphy, Geraldine Plunkett and John Quinn.

And don't be surprised if Bealtaine turns up on Fair City this May!



Left: Still from Dean Spanley

Right: A Bealtaine audience in Donegal (photo: Simon Houston)

Film Tour



Alicia McGivern, of the Irish Film Institute, on her love of film and this year's film tour of 'Dean Spanley'.

I was initially a teacher, working overseas, and I taught film a lot because I have a commitment and a passion for film. I love the idea that all kinds of audiences would come in here to us at IFI. I hate any lingering notions of elitism or exclusivity. We are very open here now; open, welcoming and eager to share this great entertainment medium. Anyone in the city can have access to IFI and would discover that this is a place where they can enjoy a film. And it has numerous benefits; it adds to a person's life – somebody stepped out of here the other day, and said as she walked out the door, 'You know, I forgot where I was for the last two hours!'

For Bealtaine 2010, we're doing the countrywide film tour with access>CINEMA, a separate organisation which runs the film societies around the country. They organise the screenings throughout the year at film clubs in all sorts of venues, including art centres. This year's film is 'Dean Spanley'. We try to find a film which didn't have a wide release. It would defeat the purpose if everyone has seen it already! 'Dean Spanley' is a wonderful small film from the UK and stars Peter O'Toole. He is always a hit! Of course, it is also based on a 1930s short novel by the great Irish writer of fantasy, Lord Dunsany. Thanks to Eclipse Pictures for supplying the film.

The Bealtaine film tour is an access>CINEMA / IFI initiative sponsored by Seven Seas. For tour dates and times, call access>CINEMA on 01 679 4420.

The film will tour to the following venues: Achill Film Club, Axis Ballymun, Belltable Arts Centre, Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Bunclody Library, The Caha Centre, Clones Film Club, Cloughjordan Cineclub, Conary Film Club, Clonmel County Museum, Courthouse Arts Centre, Crosshaven Film Club, Desmond Ability Resource Complex, Droichead Arts Centre, Excel Arts And Cultural Centre, Galway Film Society, The George Bernard Shaw Theatre, Glór Irish Music Centre, Gort Vibes Film Club, Irish Film Institute, Kenmare Film Society, Linenhall Arts Centre, Mermaid Arts Centre, The Model, Newry Film Club, Ramor Theatre, Ranelagh Film Club, Riverbank Arts Centre, Roscommon Arts Centre, Samhlaíocht, The Seamus Ennis Cultural Centre, SGC Dungarvan, St John's Arts Centre, Tuar Ard Arts Centre and more.



Left: A worksheet from EnvisAge (photo: Dominic Campbell)

Right: Bealtaine workshop in Nazareth House, Sligo (photo: Catherine Fanning)

EnvisAge

EnvisAge was a Bealtaine '09 project organised by Age & Opportunity with Inspiration Station and Mayo County Arts Office. It brought together people to imagine new possibilities for care settings in Ireland. Margharita Solon of Nás na Ríogh Housing Association talks about how it has influenced what she does.

I'm a nurse but I've given up nursing to take up working full-time (voluntarily) on a project that I am absolutely consumed with. We, Nás na Ríogh Housing Association Ltd., are developing sheltered housing in Naas with intergenerational facilities and providing a range of opportunities for older people to integrate with the wider community.

At EnvisAge, art was the medium we used to bring out our ideas. It was the art approach that actually enabled us to go into the reservoir we had inside of us and maybe pull out thoughts that words wouldn't have done. By putting these down as a picture, the image held the idea in front of us, and we could engage with it for longer.

Before attending EnvisAge, I would have expected some art involvement to be part of what we were doing. But, because of EnvisAge and an arts facilitator there, I got the notion that, really, art should be a right, woven all through the fabric of everything that we are doing.

I would not have believed the power of the arts to enable people, firstly to communicate, but also to sustain and follow through on connections. I now know the huge potential in what we're going to do for older persons by utilising the arts to help integrate the complete project.

Nás na Ríogh Housing Association will be hosting EnvisAge 2 in Kildare. Also, as part of Bealtaine, they will create 'Luisne – Dawn Light', a garden project that is a participatory arts performance/sonic installation, with artists, Naas Active Retirement Group, schoolchildren and older members of the local community. This project is sponsored by Kildare Arts in Health, HSE Health Promotion and Woodie's DIY.



Left: Jessica and Florence McDonnell during National Grandparents' Day in School (photo: Aidan Crawley) Right: Bealtaine talk at the Crawford Gallery, Cork (photo: Julie Forrester)

National Grandparents' Day in School

'National Grandparents' Day in School' proved a great success last year. Even RTE's Six One News couldn't keep away from this interesting and enjoyable event. Well, it's happening again this year all over the country on 30th April. Participating schools are inviting grandparents to accompany their grandchildren to school for a day of sharing skills across the generations. There are intergenerational class plans that schools can download from www.grandparentsdayinschool.ie or by contacting **Mayo Education Centre** on **094 902 0700**.

In a flash

The 'Blow the Dust' orchestra will serenade commuters at Dublin's Heuston Station but they aren't the only ones 'going public'. That's right - during May, without warning, the Macushla dancers will turn up and dance in public places. Taking dance out of the studio and onto the streets, they plan to surprise and delight the passers-by who become their accidental audience. Keep an eye out for this and all of the other dance events during Bealtaine from Zumba dancing in Louth County Library to movement in Newtowncunningham Day Centre in Donegal, and exploring Celtic dance with West Kerry Care of the Aged.

Can you feel it?

Longford County Library want you to 'Dream it, do it, feel it!' this May. With Mick Flavin opening the festival, you can take part in creative writing classes, try some sean nós dancing, stretch your legs on the bog walk in Ballinamuck and enjoy one of the many intergenerational events planned. Round it all off with a tea dance in Edgeworthstown to the sounds of Declan Nerney and guests. These Bealtaine events are in association with the LCRL, the VEC and Longford Older Person's Network, and supported by Longford Community Gardaí and St Joseph's Day Care Centre.

Tuning into Bealtaine

Wexford Town Library is organising a special treat that will bring many Bealtaine participants down memory lane. 'Wexford Remembered' will be broadcast on South East Radio every Monday night during May after 8.00pm. This is only part of the programme planned by the Library including a visit by author Peter Murphy, a poetry workshop with Paul Perry and an oral history programme.

A model citizen

Think that critical debate is dead? Think that people are too complacent about the arts? Well Danish artist Thierry Geoffroy / Colonel wants to make you sweat for your art. Join him on a 'Critical Run' for older people during the May Bank Holiday where you can run and debate with this artist at the same time. Critical runs have already happened in Siberia, in New York, in Athens, in Paris, in Istanbul and in Copenhagen. Now it's Sligo's turn. Curious? Contact **The Model** on **071 914 1405** to find out about this and their other Bealtaine events.

Getting Bealtaine on the road

Transport to and from events can be an issue for some groups. To help with this, Wicklow County Council are creating a 'Go See Fund' for Bealtaine this year. Groups can apply for assistance to get to arts events in the Courthouse Arts Centre in Tinahely or the Mermaid Arts Centre. The fund will also cover travel to cultural institutions in Dublin or funding an arts practitioner to run a Bealtaine event. For **Wicklow**, call **0404 20 155** to find out more.



From the Macushla Dance Club/Ciotóg performance, 'Tipping Point' (photo: Ebony and Pearl Photography)

Immortalised in print

So many things spring from Bealtaine. For poet Eileen Casey, a poem came forth: 'Peacock Presenting at the Bealtaine Clay Modelling Workshop', which will now be part of her book 'The Jane Austen Sewing Kit: An anthology of poetry and prose', supported by both South Dublin County Libraries and Offaly County Libraries. This year, Bealtaine is giving rise to books from the Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny, Airfield, Abbeyknockmoy Social Club, St Asicus Day Centre in Boyle, Tubbercurry Active Retirement Association, and DVDs from Cuan Ros Day Centre, St Patrick's Community Hospital in Carrick-on-Shannon, Sligo Arts Service and more.



Left: Cumann Cairdeas members on a Singing Picnic to Gola Island (photo: Manus McClafferty)
Right: Silver Stars Rehearsal (Photo: Colm Hogan)



Sing out

The Dawn Chorus will have thousands of Bealtaine voices singing this year, but that's not the only singing. Among the other events are: St Patrick's Community Hospital in Carrick-on-Shannon are capturing their songs on a DVD; The National Library of Ireland and the Courthouse in Tinahely will be celebrating the songs of Delia Murphy; also in Wicklow, the Arts Office has a major choral project called 'Get Vocal'; Tipperary Active Retirement Association will be enjoying 'The Pre-Madonnas', a performance with extracts from popular opera by the Drawing Room Opera Company; and if you fancy writing your own song, Axis in Ballymun is promising a song-writing workshop with Colm Quearney.

Temple Bar becomes a Bealtaine village!

Temple Bar Cultural Trust is celebrating Bealtaine with a variety of events such as: a drama workshop for Bealtaine participants at The Gaiety School of Acting; a talk by filmmaker John T. Davis with a screening of 'The Uncle Jack' in Filmbase; an open group exhibition entitled 'Dreams that Speak' - entry forms at the information office; Europe Day celebrations; the Prix Pictet 2009 Earth exhibition in the Gallery of Photography; a drawing workshop with Felicity Clear; a book club meeting in the Gutter Bookshop; and 'The War of Independence & Civil War through the lens of W.D. Hogan' exhibition in The National Photographic Archive.

Without a hitch

Carnation Theatre Company will be bringing their 'Getting Hitched' show to nursing homes and day care settings in Carlow, Dublin, Kildare, Kilkenny, Laois, Limerick, Louth, Meath, Offaly, Waterford, Westmeath, Wexford and Wicklow. Described as an interactive drama, this comedy, about a wedding that's going off the rails, gets the audience actively involved, sharing jokes, stories and suggestions. Also, this year, Serendipity Theatre group have an exciting project that will partner EngAge Writers Group from California with the Bealtaine Writers Group. And Cavan Co. Co. will tour Alice Barry's 'Ingredients of Life' and present 'Our Journey' a play by IWA service users.

Bringing it all back home

'Hearth - Art for Older People at Home' is a new initiative that brings experienced artists to work with people in their own homes. 'Hearth' artists bring materials, encouragement and mentoring to each home, shaping the experience to suit the person they're working with. Some of the artwork already created will be displayed at the launch in the Ballina Arts Centre.



Liz Lerman Dance Exchange, Portlaoise (photo: Alf Harvey)

Casting a spell

Raimund Hoghe, one of Europe's most influential choreographers, will be returning to Ireland for the Dublin Dance Festival, this time bringing the work 'Young People, Old Voices', in which he and 12 dancers confront elements of their lives with 'old voices' – juxtaposing songs by singers such as Jacques Brel, Billie Holiday and Etta James nearing the end of their careers with the boisterous, everyday activities of the cast members. This will take place in Dublin's Samuel Beckett Theatre on the 18th and 19th May. Other dance events during Bealtaine include CoisCéim Dance Theatre's programme, Jean Butler and Tere O'Connor in conversation at the Abbey Theatre, Macushla Dance Company and more.

It could be you

Competitions are running all over Ireland during Bealtaine this year: Ballybane Active Retirement Association is running a scrapbook competition; Offaly County Libraries are running a county-wide photographic exhibition called 'The place where you live'; Cappawhite Day Care Centre is having a poetry competition for their members; Waterford Library's 'Have Dreams and Speak Them' creative writing competition will be happening; Bridhaven Nursing Home is judging a schools art competition; Edenderry Community Development Project will be asking locals to photograph 'One Day in Our Lives' in Edenderry; and South Dublin County Council has an intergenerational competition across art forms. Best of luck to all.



Rose Henderson during Project Brand New Generation (photo: Viktor Cibulka)

Project Brand New Generation

Project Brand New Generation was an invitation to older and younger artists to work together over a week. Rose Henderson talks about being ‘Brand New’.

Generation was about throwing professional artists from different generations and different art forms together for one intense week of cooperative activity aimed at creating a performable dramatic ten-minute piece to be staged by the end of that week. It was a roller-coaster process!

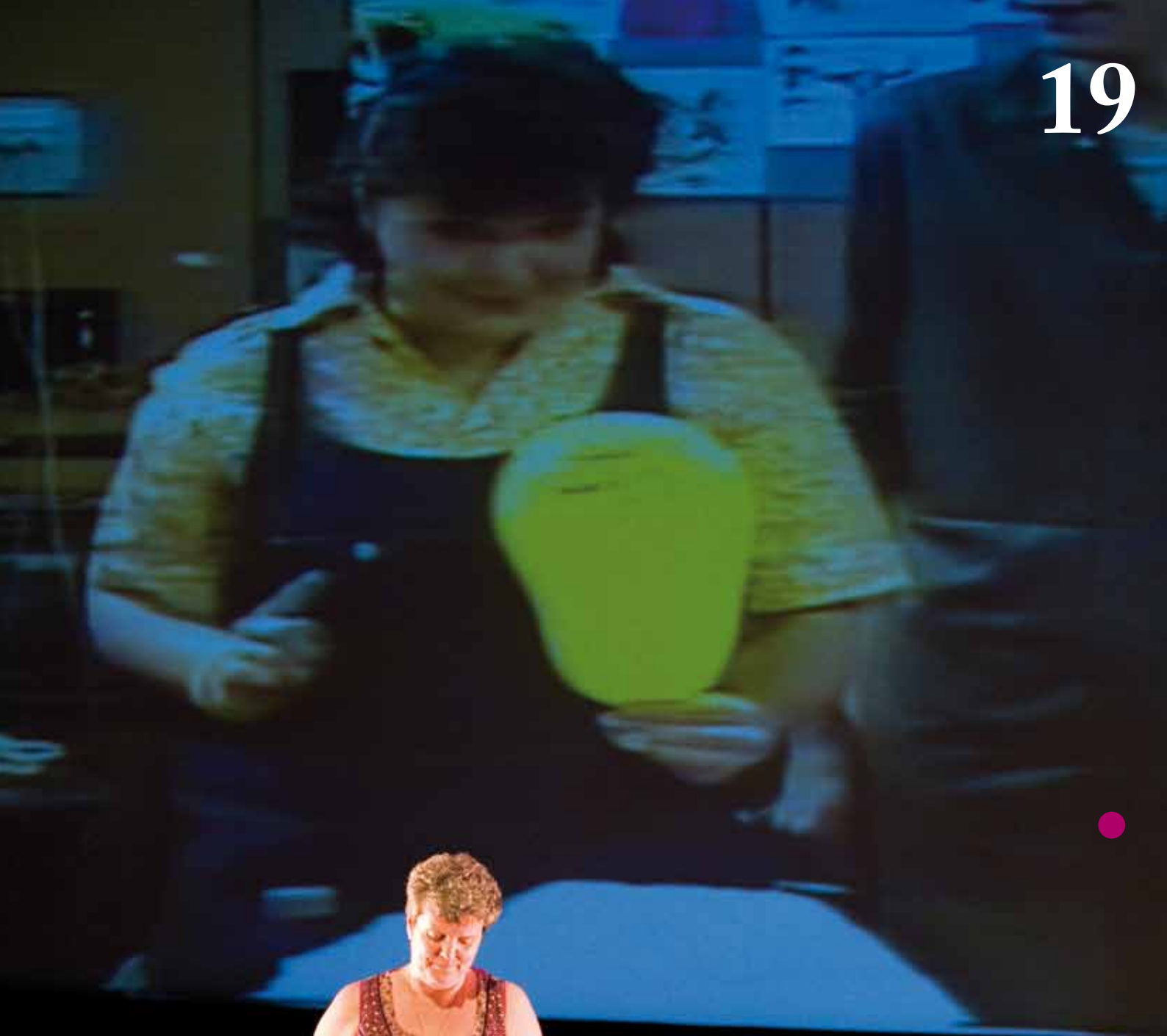
We all met for the very first time on Monday morning in the Project Arts Centre, knowing that our impending performance in front of a live audience would be staged on Saturday. I felt I might gain a lot from the experience of older artists – actors are always engaging in process and working with others - but, to my surprise, and even initial disappointment, I was the ‘older person’, at all of my forty-eight years! I was grouped with Grace Dyas, Jeni Roddy and Poppy Jackson, all barely into their twenties... so, being the sole counterpoint to their youthful generation, the challenge was on!

To describe the week, here’s a quote from my blog at the time:

“The intensity of the process meant that every day huge steps were taken – enormous decisions were being made before we were really ready... but overnight is a long time and while we wobbled and we shook, we steadied and we turned it round to produce something rather beautiful.”

For the audience, it was €5 to watch something new in creation and, while they didn’t know what to expect, they also knew the actors were working on the germ of an idea so there was warmth in the air already.

Age & Opportunity will again be supporting Project Brand New Generation. Artists who wish to participate can contact Lynnette Moran on 086 166 1819 or email projectbrandnew@gmail.com. For tickets to the show, call the Project Arts Centre on 01 881 9613.



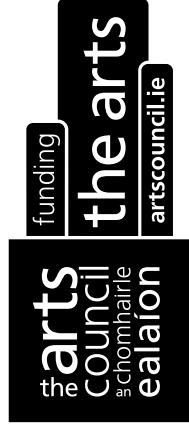
bea(tainefestival

celebrating creativity in older age





“Have Dreams and Speak Them Without Fear”



1 to 31 May 2010



age & opportunity

Promoting greater participation by older people

Using the poster

This year, we've included your own poster for Bealtaine. You can personalise it by writing in details of your local events. Hang up the full programme on your wall or pull out the poster and put it in your kitchen, your local centre, your office or wherever, and spread a little Bealtaine joy this May.

Using the listings

Our listings are organised alphabetically by county. We can only fit so much into each year's Programme so please contact your local organisers for full details of times and dates. We also include listings on our website www.bealtaine.com that were received too late to be included here.

Also on the website, we will have the full version of the interviews for this Programme, plus videos, stories and photos from the festival.

Symbols for the listings

- ▶ events open to the public
 - ▶▶ some events open, some not
- No symbol means the events are invitation only



Opening ceremony Bealtaine 2007, Duncannon Beach. (photo: Dylan Vaughan Photography)

CARLOW

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Forward Steps Resource Centre

Chapel Lane, Tullow. Classes in photography, art and creative writing, producing work on this year's theme; exhibition of completed works.

TEL Leanne Kidd 059 915 2776

Care Centres

Tullow Day Care Centre

The Shroughan, Tullow. Circle dancing; music, song and story night with another centre; visit to Sligo.

TEL Marian Doyle 059 915 1833

CAVAN

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Cavan County Council - Arts Office

Farnham Centre, Cavan. Painting demos by Pádraig Lynch; writing workshop with Noel Monahan; poetry readings; plays by IWA and Alice Barry; installation artist Patricia McKenna talks at Bluewall Gallery.

TEL Catriona O'Reilly 049 437 8548

► Cavan County Museum

Virginia Rd., Ballyjamesduff. In partnership with Social Inclusion Unit, Cavan O50 Network. Drama; photography.

TEL Savina Donohoe 049 854 4070 or 087 262 2419

Public Libraries

► Bailieborough Library

Oil painting classes with Martin Fullen. Booking essential.

TEL Fiona Burke 042 966 5779

► Cootehill Library and Arts Centre

'Art, Movies and Song!' Watercolour classes with Jim Mc Partlin; classic movie; 'Hidden Talents' coffee morning.

TEL Sinead McArdle 049 555 9873

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Cavan O50 Network (with Cavan County Museum)

c/o Breffni Integrated, Unit 6a, Corlurigan Business Park. Drama about elder abuse; 'Celebrating Ageing Positively', photographic exhibition.

TEL Iris O'Callaghan 049 433 1029

► Community Connections Active Age Project

Killycarney, Blacklion. 'Music for Dreamers', sing, dance and share your favourite music, played for you by local musicians. See local press for details.

TEL Brenda Whitley 071 985 3380

► Positive Age Cavan

Centre for Social Gain, Cathedral Rd.

Visual display of arts & crafts; various craft workshops and demonstrations.

TEL Maisie Smith 049 436 0433

CLARE

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Clare County Arts Office

County Library HQ, Mill Rd., Ennis. Poetry readings with Carlos Reyes, exhibitions and music events (tbc).

TEL 065 689 9091

Care Centres

► Ennistymon Community Hospital

'Joyful Encounters', music, dance, and storytelling; 'Travel from Your Roots', genealogy; flower arranging and more.

TEL Mary Lucas 065 707 1622

► Kilmaley Daycare Centre

Kilmaley, Ennis. Art; crafts; gardening.

TEL Mary Ita Griffin 065 683 9768

► Raheen Hospital Daycare Centre

Tuamgraney, Scariff. Intergenerational project with artist Sarah Fuller and children from Tuamgraney NS to create a shadow puppet play and exhibition of artists' books.

TEL Anne O'Driscoll or Nicola Henley 061 923 215

CORK

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Cork Printmakers

Wandesford Qy., Clarke's Bridge, Cork.

Tour of print workshop, introducing print techniques & building's history; demonstration of mono screen-printing. Booking essential.

TEL Frances O'Connor 021 432 2422

► Crawford Art Gallery

Emmet Pl., Cork. Weekly tour & workshop with different themes. Booking essential.

TEL Anne Boddaert or Emma Klemencic 021 490 7857

► Frameworks Films

Faraday Ct., Rockboro Ave., Old Blackrock Rd.

'Set in Stone', a documentary about Cork masons, in The Reel Cinema, Blackpool.

TEL 021 432 2454

► **Ionad Cultúrtha**

Baile Mhúirne, Mághcromtha.
'TACAÓIS', art exhibition.

TEL Bríd Cranitch 026 45 733

► **West Cork Arts Centre**

North St., Skibbereen. Opening tea dance, showcasing the year's performance work; 'Art Trail: Poems in Pictures' exhibition of visual art inspired by poems; 'Arts for an Active Mind' weekly course in drawing, painting & sculpture with focus on creating new work to exhibit during Bealtaine. Also arts programmes in Day Centres and Community Hospitals.

TEL Justine Foster 028 22 090

Public Libraries

► **Cork County Library and Arts Service**

County Hall, Cork. Poetry readings, dance, storytelling, author visits, music events and more in each library in Cork county.

TEL Sinead Collins 021 434 6210

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Active Pulse Drama Group**

Scoil Stiofáin Naofa, Tramore Rd., Cork.
'Those Were The Days', five one-act plays interspersed with musical performances.

TEL Anne Coughlan 085 166 0717

► **BallinasCarthy Social Club for Older People**

BallinasCarthy, Clonakilty. Tea dance.

TEL Betty Hennessy 087 241 4787

► **Ballyphehane/Togher Community Arts Network**

In association with Crawford Art Gallery, we have 8 local arts groups engaged in painting, textile work and arts & crafts. All members invited to a master class in the Crawford.

TEL Siobhan O'Dowd 021 431 9085

► **Snippets Historical and Cultural Drama Group**

90 Blarney St., Cork. 'Snippets of Dreams', the dreams of ordinary people told through story, drama and song, at a concert in aid of Haiti.

TEL Phil O'Regan 021 430 0100

Care Centres

► **Bantry Hospital**

St Joseph's Ward Care of the Elderly Unit.
Exhibition in Bantry General Hospital of

photographs of Zen beach gardens created by residents; fabric collage workshops leading to an exhibition in Cork County Libraries.

TEL Sarah Cairns 027 52 904

► **Bridhaven Nursing Home**

Spa Glen, Mallow. 'Bygone Days', art competition from local schools, judged by residents; flower arranging with Flower Arranging Society; theatre / music production with local drama groups.

TEL Julie Dwyer 022 22 205

► **Charleville McAuley Day Care Centre**

Main St. 'Taking the Floor à la Charleville', dancing workshop; storytelling; art exhibition; poetry; slide-show events.

TEL 063 81 971

► **Court Writers Group**

O'Connell Ct., Windmill Rd., Cork

'Maurice', an intergenerational play about ageism.

TEL Denise Hall 086 085 1394

► **Deerpark Nursing Home**

Seafield, Bantry. 'Here Comes Summer', sketch, poetry & song by residents for residents and students.

TEL Bernie Cronin 027 52 711

► **Residents of Perrott House**

Perrott House, Hospital Grounds Skibbereen.
'Poetry in Pictures', residents' art exhibition; tour of creative garden, raised beds and animal sculptures.

TEL Eleanór Uí Drisceoil 086 164 0936

► **St Finbarr's Hospital**

Douglas Rd., Cork. 'New beginnings', transition-year students work with residents on different projects; flower arranging.

TEL 021 492 3350

► **St Patrick's Hospital**

Marymount, Wellington Rd., Cork.

'Something for Everyone', events to include drama, music sessions, cookery demos, a day at the races, gardening workshops and more.

TEL Máirín Cronin 021 450 1201

► **St Vincent's Centre**

St Mary's Rd., Cork. 'An Afternoon at the Lough', nature walk for residents & other retirement groups.

TEL Michelle Barry

► **Schull Community Hospital**

Colla Rd. 'Dancing with the Waves', poem recited by poet and visual response to poem; short dance by residents; sing-song and set dancing for young and old.

TEL Marian O'Donovan

DONEGAL

Arts / Culture / Heritage

- **The Caha Centre**
Adrigole, Beara. 'Young at Heart' Bealtaine activities.
TEL Deirdre Nee 027 60 909 or 064 668 3909
- **Douglas Guild, ICA**
Church St., Douglas, Cork. Choir; crafts; flower arranging; jubilee bells.
TEL Eleanor O'Connor 021 436 1797
- **Gateway Friendship Club Bandon**
St Finbarr's Place. Traditional music & singalong; exhibition of art & crafts.
TEL Joy Scanlon 021 477 5270 or 086 384 2966
- **Horgan's Buildings Senior Citizens Centre**
'Around the Old Campfire', reminiscence, poetry & storytelling.
TEL Joan Goggin 086 331 7373
- **Macroom Senior Citizens Club**
Sullane Haven, Lucey's Ln. Arts & crafts; drama & song; gramophone circle at Fr Ryan Hall.
TEL Pat O'Connell 026 41 698
- **Newcestown Friendship Group**
Cladagh Hse., Mossgrove, Newcestown
'All our own work', a display of wall hangings exhibited at our annual tea dance; creative dances, singing & poetry readings.
TEL Betty M Smith 021 733 8177
- **Retired People's Network Cork**
San Remo, 11 Glencoo Pk., Boreenmanna Rd. Seminar and workshops.
- **Sinsir Club**
Castlemagner, Mallow. Drama.
TEL Kathleen Moylan 086 852 1808
- **Artlink Visual Arts Organisation**
Tullyarvan Mill, Buncrana. 'Creative Ageing', programme with Balor DCA to creatively engage through fun and laughter in an arts environment; 'Picture Perfect', an intergenerational project creating a postcard as a memory snapshot through art, drama & stories; 'I will remember...', artists tour Donegal, giving workshops focusing on future happenings through drawing, painting or crafts (for groups of 12).
TEL Cróna Lynch 074 936 3469
- **Dark Daughter Productions in association with The Voice of Older People, Donegal**
The Volt House. 'Spring', a drama by P.C. Murray, staged in a number of venues, and supported by Donegal County Council.
TEL Mark McCollum 074 917 3818
- **Donegal County Council Cultural Services**
Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny.
'Ancient Roots Project' led by Niamh McGinley. Collecting remedies from people in day care centres, with schoolchildren collecting from grandparents, for book publication; 'Landscape and Memory', a painting project with Anne Quinn for day care centres in East Donegal, for publication and exhibition at the Regional Cultural Centre.
TEL Shaun Hannigan or Sally Murphy 074 912 9186
- **Donegal County Museum**
High Rd., Letterkenny. 'Our Lives', reminiscence sessions, using objects and archives from the County Museum & County Archives collections.
TEL Caroline Carr 074 912 4613
- Elderwell / Beaumont Residential Care**
Kilcolta, Church Bay, Crosshaven. 'Speak from the Heart', art, music and reminiscence.
- Elderwell / Douglas Nursing Home**
Moneygourney, Douglas. 'Share my Dream', workshop with drama and music.
- Elderwell / Maryborough Nursing Home**
Kilcolta, Church Bay, Crosshaven. 'Live the Dream', expressing and aiming to fulfil our dreams.
- Elderwell / Mount Carmel Hospital**
Clonakilty. 'Sharing Dreams across Generations', a forum of chat, music, art and fun.
TEL Mary Ahern 087 418 9860
- Glendonagh Residential Home**
Dungourney, Midleton. 'Bringing out the Arts'.
TEL Suzanne O'Keefe 021 466 8327 or 087 052 8128
- **Mallow Day Care Centre**
Court View, New Rd. 'The Gathering and Scattering', music, song, dance & storytelling.
TEL June O'Connell 022 22 398
- McAuley Day Centre**
Hospital Grounds, Midleton. Exhibition of art & crafts.
TEL Maureen Kearney 021 463 1116
- Oaklodge Nursing Home**
Churchtown South, Cloyne. Céilí music & song; tree-planting ceremony; visit to local library; horse-drawn carriage tour; introduction to photography; vintage cars; evening of song & dance and more. All with local community and schools participation.
TEL Theresa Horgan 021 464 6080

Public Libraries

► **Donegal County Library Service**
Rosemount Lane, Letterkenny. 'Who do you think you are?', workshops on family history research; storytelling, circular knitting, traditional besom making, creative writing, flower arranging, gardening, card making, music & song. Booking advised.

TEL Frances Crampsie 074 916 1818

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Care of the Older Person Committee**
263 St Joseph's Ave., Donegal. Social, supper and dance; trip to Bealtaine film.

TEL 074 972 1677

► **Donegal Carers Assoc. Ltd**

Ros Bán Garden, Common, Raphoe. 'Open Garden', a wander through Ros Bán wildlife garden with other carers.

TEL Ann Kavanagh 074 914 5336 or 086 080 5214

► **Donegal Family Resource Centre**

New Row, Donegal. Social dancing; trip.

TEL Kathleen McHugh 074 972 5337

Serenity Active Retirement

Serenity Hse., Moville. Creative writing workshop with cross-border group; dancing & line dancing; hand-made patchwork project; reminiscence; painting.

TEL Maura Cannon 074 938 2945

Care Centres

Aras Ghaoth Dobhair

Meenanillar, Derrybeg. Gweedore. Music by 'An Crann Óg'; poetry speaker, as Gaeilge.

TEL 074 956 0624

DOWN

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Armagh Harpers**

20 Brannock Close, Newry. 'Radiance & Light', a show about the healing quality of the harp, providing a chance to create sounds from strings through improvisation and composing.

TEL Patricia Daly 0044 77 8372 3287

DUBLIN

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **The Abbey Theatre**

26 Lower Abbey St., D1. Join the Matinee Club for low price tickets to matinees and meet writers, directors or cast after the show.

'Meet the Makers', join dancer Jean Butler and choreographer Tere O'Connor for a discussion of their new work, 'DAY' (booking essential). 'Talking Text' voice workshops with Andrea Ainsworth, using text from Macbeth. 'Assisted Performances', we have sign language interpreted, audio described and captioned performances and two dedicated wheelchair spaces in auditorium.

TEL Box Office 01 878 7222

► **access CINEMA / IFI**

The Studio Building, Meeting House Sq., D2. Nationwide film tour of 'Dean Spanley' in association with the IFI, sponsored by Seven Seas.

TEL 01 679 4420

► **CoisCéim Dance Theatre**

14 Sackville Pl., D1. 'Dance Arias', dance classes in 7 centres. Free public performance in the Mansion House. In partnership with Dublin City Council Arts, Sports & Leisure and Community Development.

TEL Philippa Donnellan 01 878 0558

► **Dublin City Council Arts Office**

The Lab, Foley St., D1. Citywide dance project with CoisCéim; workshops in various art forms; exhibitions; free concerts; song-writing project; theatre; artist talks; tea dance; film screenings; National Drawing Day workshops.

TEL Ann Marie Lyons 01 222 7305

► **Dublin City Gallery The Hugh Lane**

Parnell Sq. N, D1. 'Performance, Poetry and Portraits at the Hugh Lane'; Macushla Dance Company perform 'Tipping Point'; Bealtaine Writers Group respond to portrait collection and will read for children; interactive tour; poetry workshop; lunchtime talks; conservation tour; 'Chris Morris – Observing in Silence'.

TEL Katy Fitzpatrick 01 222 5553

► **Dublin Dance Festival**

26 South Frederick St., D2. 'RoS Indexical' and 'Spiraling Down', two works by choreographer Yvonne Rainer; 'Swimming with my Mother' by David Bolger and 'A Corpo Libero' by Silvia Gribaudo; 'Young People, Old Voices' by Raimund Hoghe. Many works explore questions around age and youth. An additional strand takes into account the inclusivity of contemporary dance – body types and abilities as well as chronological age. A symposium will be held to stimulate debate and fresh perspectives (pre-registration required).

TEL Box Office 01 672 8815 For Brochure 01 679 0524

► **Arranmore Day Centre**
'Reminiscences', intergenerational felting tapestry with students from Gairmscoil Mhic Diarmada.
TEL Nora Flanagan 074 952 0136

► **Buncrana Community Hospital**
Maginn Ave., Buncrana. Traditional music sessions; reminiscence; enjoying old photographs.
TEL Fiona Lavery 074 936 1500

► **Carrick Day Care Centre**
Traditional music afternoon with local artists; storytelling & poetry reading.
TEL Eithne McFadden 074 973 9354

► **Killybegs Community Day Hospital**
Music singalong with Dennis McSweeney; storytelling and breadmaking with Breezy Willow.
TEL Margaret or Bertie 074 974 1063

► **Manorcunningham Day Centre**
'Ready for fun', local interest bus trips; tea party & singalong.
TEL Elma McClean 085 754 6607

► **Newtowncunningham Day Centre**
Trinity Court, Monfad Rd. 'Sleep-Talk', art class with local artists, to put our dreams on canvas; dance & movement with young dance group.
TEL Teresa McGee 074 915 6404 or 074 910 8771

► **Residents Group, Ramelton Community Hospital**
Letterkenny. Poetry afternoon; school music group; flower arranging; art.
TEL Breda Hewitt 074 915 1049

► **Airfield**
Upper Kilmacud Rd., Dundrum. 'Airfield's Big Book of Wise Ways', contribute your special tips, recipes, natural remedies and old sayings; a special day to celebrate grandparents, featuring heavy-horse ploughing and the time-honoured tradition of decorating our Fairy Tree; garden tour - booking essential; classical music recital.
TEL 01 298 4301

► **axis, Ballymun**
Main St., Ballymun, D9. A variety of events including theatre performances, concerts, film screenings, visual art exhibition, artist talk, workshops (pre-registration required) on song writing with Colm Quearney and printmaking with Elke Thonnes. Events are organised in partnership with Dublin City Council Arts Office. Booking recommended.

TEL Axis 01 883 2100 or Ann Marie Lyons 01 222 7305

► **Carnation Theatre**
16 New Ireland Rd., Rialto, D8. 'Getting Hitched!', an interactive play tailor-made for the residents of nursing homes and day care clients. Songs, poetry, shared memory and storytelling are woven into a plot with contributions by the audience.
TEL 086 836 2820

► **The Chester Beatty Library**
Dublin Castle, D2. Sikh Face of Ireland tour & photographic workshop. Booking essential.
TEL Justyna Chmielewska 01 407 0772

► **CINE-CAFÉ**
8 Mountain View Road, Ranelagh, D6. Screening of an older-themed selection of Irish short films.
TEL Howard Linnane 085 135 1822

► **Dusty Flowers Theatre Group with Dalkey Community Unit**
52 Tritonville Rd., D4. Members of Dusty Flowers will interact with residents of Dalkey Community Unit for Older Persons and will devise a performance inspired by their memories and experiences. Public performances at Samuel Beckett Theatre.
TEL Marco Bertozzi 085 285 3622

► **Irish Film Institute**
6 Eustace St., D2. 'Dreams Captured', programme of films, discussions and workshops on age, dreams and the filmmakers who make them; weekend screening of films, including films from Irish Film Archive. Collaborating with access Cinema on Bealtaine nationwide film tour of 'Dean Spanley'.

TEL Alicia McGivern 01 679 3477

► **Irish Museum of Modern Art (IMMA)**
Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, D8. Events including guided tours and public talks in conjunction with the following exhibitions: 'Vertical Thoughts: Morton Feldman and the Visual Arts'; 'Francis Alys: Le Temps du Sommeil'; 'Altered images', an accessible, interactive and inclusive exhibit which aims to stimulate engagement with visual arts.
www.imma.ie

► **Macushla Dance Club**
Dancehouse, Foley St., D1. 'Tipping Point', a performance in Hugh Lane Gallery; 'Dance Cultures of Ireland' classes; a Ball in The Mansion House, hosted by the Lord Mayor; screenings of Dance Club performances; flash mobs around Dublin!
TEL Ríonach Ní Néill 01 855 8802



- **The Mill Theatre**
Dundrum Town Centre, Sandyford Rd. D16.
'Theatre Appreciation Workshop', led by Joe Devlin, on set design, costumes, script selection, directing and casting; theatre workshop leading to a lunchtime show; 'Dawn Chorus Workshops'; Re-live theatre performance.
TEL 01 296 9340
- **National Concert Hall**
Earlsfort Tce., D2. 'Blow the Dust off your Trumpet', fun sessions, rehearsals and a performance. Orchestra places limited.
TEL 01 417 0066
- **National Gallery of Ireland**
Merrion Sq. W, D2. National Drawing Day. Tour of the 'New Acquisitions' with Valerie Moffat; lectures & guided tours.
TEL Joanne Drum 01 663 3505
- **National Library of Ireland**
Kildare St., D2. 'I'll Live 'til I Die', talk, story and song to celebrate Delia Murphy; 'A Personal Choice', the stories of Mary Lavin read by Nuala Hayes, Doireann Ní Bhriain and Elizabeth Peavoy; playwright & filmmaker Mark O'Rowe in conversation with Sophie Gorman, Irish Independent; Irish Countrywomen's Association's papers; various ongoing exhibitions.
TEL Exhibition staff 01 603 0277
- **National Museum of Ireland, Archaeology**
Kildare St., D2. 'The Irish Gold Collection' tour; 'What a Relief!' ceramics art workshop with Caomhán Man Con Iomaire; 'Bronze Age Ireland', tour and handling session to investigate the weapons, burial techniques and jewellery of Ireland's Bronze Age. Booking essential for workshops.
TEL Education & Outreach Dept. 01 648 6332
- **Seamus Ennis Centre**
Naul. Participative informal traditional house party with local and visiting musicians.
TEL Seán Mac Philbín 087 787 0138
- **SilverFish Productions**
150 South Circular Rd., D8. 'CATALYST!', a new theatre piece for a cast from Clareville Day Care Centre, Glasnevin, and professional actors. In the Carmelite Centre in Aungier St.
TEL Annie Clery or Jen Meade 086 871 8303
- **South Dublin County Council**
County Hall, Tallaght. Sports & Recreation Office, Community Services Dept. 'A Generation of Dance', intergenerational dance event with active retirement group and transition year students learning a range of dances and showcasing their work. Arts Office: Intergenerational poetry / writing workshop based on the Bealtaine theme. Social Inclusion Unit: Intergenerational poetry / writing / art competition based on the Bealtaine theme.
TEL Alison Silke or Paula Swayne 01 414 9000
- **Tallaght Community Arts**
Gallery 1, Rua Red, Civic Sq. 'Drawing on the Body', an exhibition by Bernie Masterson on the ageing human body; workshops for older women during exhibition.
TEL Tony Fegan 01 452 8180
- **Temple Bar Cultural Trust**
12 East Essex St., D2. 'Dreams That Speak', a group exhibition by older people using a variety of media to encapsulate dreams; drama workshop; film screening & talk; celebrating Europe Day with activities for all ages; drawing workshop; book club.
TEL Eimear Chaomhánach 01 677 2255
- **Ballyfermot / Chapelizod Partnership**
4 Drumfinn Pk., Ballyfermot, D10. 'Bealtaine Tea Dance', with Dublin City Council Arts Office.
TEL Catherine Lane 01 898 9165
- **Bealtaine Writers' Group**
Poetry readings at Irish Writers Centre and at Hugh Lane Gallery.
TEL Rosy Wilson 01 286 4728
- **Castleknock Community College**
Carpenterstown Rd., D15. 'Grandparents' Day in School', intergenerational project.
TEL Mary Ryan 087 743 0663
- **Coolock Library Art Group**
Barrycourt Rd., D17. 'Dream Art', exhibition in library, for cancer research.
TEL Gwen O'Byrne 087 696 7031 or Agnes Pierce 086 167 5048
- **ECAP**
28b The Rise, Malahide. 'New Art Pieces', art work produced during the year by centres: Talbot Lodge, Howth Hill, Brymore House, TLC, Nazareth House, Ratoath Manor and Kilbrew Demesnes. Exhibition at Raheny, Malahide & Ashbourne libraries and at TLC Centre.
TEL Sheelagh McShane 086 255 5928
- **Howth Guild, ICA Dublin Federation**
Alcantra, 84 Balkill Pk., Howth, D13. Exhibition and competition of arts & crafts in St Mary's Church of Ireland, Howth.
TEL Kath Roberts 01 832 4426
- **Lios na nÓg Gaelscoil**
Oakley Rd., Ranelagh, D6. Floral design workshop as Gaeilge with Lailí and Róisín de Buitéar.
TEL 087 775 1938

► **National Museum of Ireland, Decorative Arts & History**
Collins Barracks, D7. Visit the museum's archives, library collections and conservation studios; members of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers Assoc. will show you how to trace records of relatives who served in WW1; talks on balloonist Richard Crosbie and on the later work of Eileen Gray; Drawing Day. Booking essential for some events.
TEL 01 648 6453

► **National Museum of Ireland, Natural History**
Merrion St., D2. 'Open the Door to Nature', afternoon talks on Irish Wildlife. Places limited.
TEL Education & Outreach Dept. 01 648 6307

► **Office of Public Works, Historic Properties**
Dublin Castle, Dame St., D2. 'Gossip and Intrigue', an alternative tour of the State apartments and mediaeval ruins; 'Dublin Castle: The Classical Perspective'. Book in advance.
TEL Jenny 01 645 8813

► **Pearse Museum and St Enda's Park**
Grange Rd., Rathfarnham, D16. Bealtaine Céilí in the Pearse Museum; 'Potty about Plants' in St Enda's Park, a practical demonstration, horticultural questions welcome.
TEL Brian Crowley 01 493 4208

► **Project Arts Centre**
39 East Essex St., Temple Bar, D2. Project Brand New Generation.
TEL 01 881 9613

► **RADE**
OLV Building, Cathedral View Ct., D8. 'Coming of Age', paintings, portraying a vision of age.
TEL Eoghan O'Neill 01 454 8733

► **Dublin City Public Libraries**
Cabra Biblio. Cntr., Navan Rd., D7. Events across the city libraries include music recitals, film screenings, art appreciation, digital photography; workshops in storytelling, creative writing and calligraphy. All free.
TEL Development Office 01 674 4858

► **Fingal County Libraries**
County Hall, Main St., Swords. In various branch libraries: art & crafts, poetry readings, music sessions, flower arranging; generation crafts with transition year students; authors and poets read. Book at your local library.
TEL Yvonne O'Brien 01 890 5531

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Active Senior IT Society**
17 Rathfarnham Rd., Terenure, D6W. 'Framed! My Life in Pictures', an exhibition of memoir and accompanying photos for display at Terenure Library; programme to encourage older people to use creative writing and IT skills to capture memories and anecdotes on various themes. Limited places.
TEL Michelle Hannon 01 490 3237

► **Alone**
1 Willie Bermingham Pl., Kilmainham, D8. An evening of storytelling, traditional music & craic at The Red Cow Moran Hotel.
TEL Booking 01 679 1032

► **AONTAS Senior Learner Network Meeting**
2nd Floor, 83-87 Main St., Ranelagh, D6. Workshop: creative marketing of courses to senior learners.
TEL Niamh O'Reilly 01 406 8220

► **Rathmines Active Retired**
St Mary's Centre, Richmond Hill. Painting, tapestry & crochet with Day Centre participants.
TEL Maureen McNally 01 452 2724

► **Rialto Community Network**
568 Sth. Circular Rd., D8. Heritage trip to Kilkenny Castle and St Canice's Cathedral.
TEL Debbie Lynch 01 473 2003

► **Ringsend Active Retirement**
St Patrick's Villas, Ringsend, D4. Crafts display in Ringsend Library; performance by Riverside Choir.

► **Swords Senior Citizens**
Arts & crafts, decoupage, paintings exhibition in Rathbeale Library.
TEL Doreen McKittrick 087 287 1033

► **U.3.A.**
c/o Sheila Cullen, 16 Rosbeg Ct., Sutton, D13. Visit to Howth, focusing on early history of Howth and St Mary's Abbey.
TEL 01 839 3868 or 01 832 3573 or 01 831 3470

Care Centres

► **Bloomfield Care Centre**
Stocking Ln., Rathfarnham. Photography workshop.
TEL Peter 086 890 2898

► **Cairdeas Day Care Centre**
Brú Chaoimhín, Cork St., D8. Art & crafts exhibition; music & dance sessions.
TEL Mary Cullen, Siobhán McLoughlin, Ann Quinn 01 415 6561



► **Cherry Orchard Hospital**
Ballyfermot, D10. 'Rolling in the Years', costumed parties with relevant music & reminiscence.
TEL Colleen Redmond 01 620 6161

► **Cuan Ros Day Centre**
Off Kempton Ext., Navan Rd., D7. Exhibition of clients' art with Elaine Shaw; drama with Johannah Watters; music therapy with own DVD & CD; 'Strawberries & Cream Garden Party'.

TEL Mary Birmingham, Marie Brogan, Marie Russell 01 868 6012.

Dalkey Community Unit for Older Persons
Deilginis Theatre Group perform 'Nostalgia'; traditional Irish sing-song.
TEL Triona McMorrow 01 235 3207

HSE – Odin's Wood Day Care Centre
Kildonan Rd., Finglas W, D11. Poetry reading; flower arranging; calendar making; fashion of old; karaoke competition; letter writing; cooking; craft display; tea dance and more.
TEL Paula Bermingham 01 814 2505

► **Killiney Grove Nursing Home**
Killiney Hill Rd. 'From Tablets of Stone to Tweeting and Text Messages', letter writing through the ages; short story reading and performance by young children.
TEL Veronica Lacey 01 285 2855

Mater Misericordiae University Hospital
Eccles St., D7. Live music session.
TEL Ruth Buckley 01 803 4509

New Mount Street Club, Irish Wheelchair Assoc.
1-9 Heytesbury St., D8. Exhibition of art & craft project with 'Art Squad'; flower arranging.
TEL Rose McCoy 01 400 2849

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Abbeyknockmoy Social Club for Retired People**

Abbeyknockmoy, Tuam. Launch of book of local history, folklore, recipes, cures and customs, compiled by group members.
TEL 087 676 9156 after 5pm

► **Ballinasloe Active Retirement Assoc.**
Choral recital.
TEL Una Reilly 090 964 5481 or 087 282 2916

► **BARA Ballybane Active Retirement Assoc.**
Ballybane Resource Cntr., Galway. 'Scrap Book Competition', open to Active Retirement Clubs.
TEL Lilly Mooney 087 906 0386

Forum Connemara Ltd.
Ellis Hall, Letterfrack. 'Hands across the generations', sharing old-time skills such as butter-making, brown bread-making and knitting with children in local schools.
TEL Geraldine Kelly 087 963 3253

► **Kilconnell Art Group**
Ballinderry Cottage, Kilconnell, Ballinasloe. Art exhibition at Ballinasloe Library with traditional music by Fáinne an Chladaigh and singalong by Ballinasloe Active Retirement.
TEL Maura Warde 086 165 7491

► **Knocknacarra Active Retired Assoc.**
49 Glybaun Hgts., Knocknacarra, Galway. 'Ageing Creatively', display of artwork & decoupage; readings of stories & poems by writers group; talks on customs & traditions; workshops & demonstrations of craftwork, knitting, tapestry, crochet, embroidery; drama.
TEL Pat Lally 091 524 782

► **Cara Probus**
c/o Meadowlands Hotel, Oakpark Rd., Tralee. Nature walk by the canal; gardener will advise on flowers.
TEL Mary Harty

► **Castleisland Ladies Probus Club**
Cahernard, Killarney Rd., Castleisland. Art & craft exhibition in Castleisland Library.
TEL Helen Pembroke 066 714 1355

► **Fáilte Ladies Probus Club, Tralee**
Probus art exhibition at Kerry County Library.
TEL Phil Hussey

► **Probus Clubs in the Tralee Area**
c/o Donal J O'Sullivan. Art exhibition in Tralee Library; guided forest walk at Ballyseedy Wood.
TEL 066 712 5696

Care Centres

► **Cúil Dúin**
Skahanagh, Tralee. 'Cad as dom – Who am I', creative presentations & exhibitions by residents; talks by in-house and local historians / arts people; schools competition to reflect our theme; drama workshop; link with Probus and Retirement Groups for workshop & exhibition; work with Kerry's Eye newspaper.
TEL Catriona O'Connor 066 711 9090

► **West Kerry Care of the Aged**
Gairdín Mhuire Day Care Centre, Green St., Dingle. Exhibition of clients' art & crafts, with Celtic theme; dance workshop exploring Celtic dance.
TEL Natalie Russell 066 915 1300

Newpark Care Centre

The Ward. 'Wedding Days', to gather stories on residents' wedding days, put them together with photographs. Local groups invited to Open Day.
TEL Rita Gallagher 01 864 3465

► **Orwell House Nursing Home**

112 Orwell Rd., Rathgar, D6. Visual art exhibition from 'Explore Exchange' project; audio-visual art installation created by Dawn Freeborn with work from the project.
TEL Dawn Freeborn 087 902 0133

'Reminiscence Theatre/Life Drama Performance with Responsive Visual Artist', residents will impart and enact stories and experiences through improvisatory style theatre. Visual artist Dawn Freeborn will respond.
TEL Johannah Watters 085 784 5131

Seanchara Community Unit

St Canice's Rd., Glasnevin, D11. 'I am special, I am me', memory boxes, rainbow collage, painting & decorating chairs, drama, music and entertainment. Invite to clients from other Community Units.
TEL Cathy Magrath 01 704 4405

► **Sonas, Irish Wheelchair Assoc.**

Áras Chuchulainn Resource and Outreach Centre, Clontarf. 'Cookbook – Old-Time Family Favourite Recipes', workshop on handcrafted cookbooks and aprons in the art room. Favourite recipes available in the café to members at low cost.
TEL Eoin or Stephan 01 818 6400

GALWAY

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Burning Bright**

Galway Arts Centre, 47 Dominick St. Art workshops run by professional artists in eleven care facilities followed by exhibition in Galway Arts Centre; céilí.
TEL Maeve Mulrennan 091 565 886

► **Portumna and District Active Retirement Assoc.**

'Fashion Show – 60s Glad Rags', the old and new captured in a photo exhibition.
TEL Pauline O'Brien 090 974 1674

► **St Joseph's Court Residents Assoc.**

Clúid Housing, Clifden. Intergenerational activities including art, crafts, music, drama.
TEL Maureen Batley 095 30 951

Care Centres

► **Moycullen Nursing Home**

Ballinahalla, Moycullen. 'Ealaín na Mara', exhibition of artwork by residents, using seashore materials, at the 'Crossroads' in Moycullen; 'Ceol agus Craic' le Comhaltas, an evening of music, song and dance.
TEL Anne Buckley 091 868 686

KERRY

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Kerry Film Festival**

The Old Presbytery, 20 Lwr. Castle St., Tralee. Film screening in Siamsa Tíre.
TEL Jason O'Mahony 066 712 9934

► **St John's Theatre & Arts Centre**

The Square, Listowel. Art exhibition; film; music concert and theatre.
TEL Joe Murphy 068 22 566

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Ballyduff Active Retirement**

'Bealtaine', Upr. Benmore, Ballyduff. Official opening of Family Resource Centre, with Alzheimers fundraiser tea party, music, speeches and invited guests.
TEL May Scott 066 714 8103

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Crooked House Theatre and Crooked Sixpence**

Liffey Studios, 1 Main St., Newbridge. 'Memories through Mask', display & workshops at St Conleth's Day Care Centre, Kildare and Liffey Studios, Newbridge.
TEL Kate Connaughton 086 256 6399

Public Libraries

► **Maynooth Film for All: Film Club**

c/o Maynooth Community Library, Main St., Maynooth. A partnership between Kildare Co. Co. Library & Arts Service and NUJ Maynooth. Screening of 'The Rocky Road to Dublin' in NUJ Maynooth, followed by discussion.
TEL Brenda Brady 045 448 328

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Naas Community Centre**

Sallins Rd. Old-time dancing with Johnny Rafferty; Sunday market & craft fair.
TEL Tom Walsh 045 883 599

► **Nás na Ríogh Housing Assoc. Ltd.**

Ellenborough Hse., Dublin Rd. 'Luisne – Dawn Light', garden project, a participatory arts performance / sonic installation, with artists, Naas Active Retirement Group, children and older members of the local community; hosting 'EnvisAge 2' seminar.
TEL Margharita Solon 045 866 303

► **Older Voices Kildare**

Kildare Leader Partnership, Jigginstown, Naas. Taster workshops of 'Voices through Art' and 'Ageing with Confidence'.
TEL Denise Croke 087 141 1669

► Ré Nua Services

St John of God Kildare Services, Celbridge. Sponsored walk in Celbridge Abbey; photographic exhibition, Celbridge Library; music in Kildrought; drama.

TEL Colette Larkin 01 628 8161 ext 327

Care Centres

► Craddock House Nursing Home

Craddockstown Rd., Naas. Exhibition of paintings, crafts & flower arrangements.

TEL Daphne Wright 087 255 7851 or 045 898 600

► Irish Wheelchair Assoc.

Woodstock Nth., Athy. Drama performed by service users of Teach Emmanuel, Athy.

TEL 059 863 8529

► St Vincent's Hospital Activities Dept.

Athy. 'An Sráid ina gCónaíomar', three-dimensional representation of the street where we lived.

TEL Michelle Wall 059 863 1614

KILKENNY

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Butler Gallery

Kilkenny Castle. Drawing workshop; National Drawing Day.

TEL Jean Tormey 056 776 1106

► Kilkenny County Library Service

Library HQ, John's Green Hse., John's Green. Varied programme includes family history research; card-making workshops; herbs and their benefits. In various libraries.

TEL Brenda Ward 056 779 4977 or 056 779 4160

Care Centres

St Brigid's Hospital

Shaen, Portlaoise. A 'Gala Film Premiere' day as the hospital and residents committee will create a film premiere event with invitations, advertising, red carpet, a welcome committee, decorations, sweet-ladies and popcorn, with a trip to a screening of the residents' film choice, courtesy of Dunamais Theatre; a music & dancing show by Camross Comhaltas Group.

TEL Maura Byrne 057 864 6717

LEITRIM

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► The Dock

St George's Tce., Carrick-on-Shannon. Eamon Morrissey in 'The Brother', based on the work of Myles na gCopaleen.

TEL Siobhán O'Malley 071 965 0828

► Leitrim Design House

The Dock, Carrick-on-Shannon. 'Eco-friendly craft workshops', weave the traditional crios, learn to card raw fleece and spin wool using a drop spindle; 'Focus on Felt', create your own landscape from a photograph; 'Create with Clay', get your hands dirty!

TEL 071 965 0550

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Club Cluainin Active Age Group

c/o The Glens Centre, New Line, Manorhamilton. Open arts & crafts exhibition. Two groups from Enniskillen will be guests at the launch, followed by lunch.

TEL Mary McFadden 071 985 5945

Kilgar Day Care Club, Fri. Group

c/o Bee Park Resource Centre, Manorhamilton. Straw making with Ted Kelly, in partnership with the HSE and North Leitrim Men's Group.

TEL Carmel Loughlin 087 987 9138

St Patrick's Community Hospital

Summerhill, Carrick-on-Shannon. Making and screening of a DVD featuring songs, stories and poems recalled by our clients; visit to the Dock Arts Centre.

TEL Mary Finn or Niamh Flanagan 071 962 0011

LIMERICK

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► The Hunt Museum

Rutland St., Limerick. 'Costume Workshop', on the history of fashion and dress through the ages; 'Guided Tour of the Hunt Collection', from Stone Age Irish artefacts to medieval relics, from ancient Greek coins to 20th Century painting; 'Portrait Workshop', see our portrait collection, then draw one of your own.

TEL 061 490 080

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Killulta ICA Painting Group

Kildimo. 'Bóthairín na Smaointe III', exhibition of members' paintings in De Bucket Pub, Ferrybridge.

TEL Phyllis O'Halloran 087 245 2336

► Limerick Social Services Council

Upper Henry St., Limerick. Art exhibition in Dooradoyle Library.

TEL Gerard Linnane 061 314 111

Care Centres

► Day Care Centre HSE

St Columba's Hospital, Thomastown. 'I dreamed a dream', with workshops, demos, activities with music, song, dance, art, craft, cookery; cinema.
TEL Edwina Muldowney 056 775 4825

LAOIS

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Arts Office, Laois County Council

Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise. Tea dance launch in Dunamais Arts Centre; Carnation Theatre Company in day care centres; concerts in public settings and day care centres by Laois School of Music; Laois ICA Choir and 65 Kitchen Choir; art exhibition in Áras an Chontae; storytelling and reminiscing with Julie Duane; events in libraries.
TEL 057 867 4344

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► 50+ Active Age Group

Block Rd., Portlaoise. Concert in Dunamais featuring group members and local guest artist.
TEL Nancy Bracken 057 862 1754

► Social Services Senior Citizens Bingo Group

St Canice's Hall, Borris-in-Ossory. Music with refreshments; day excursion.
TEL Sr Regina Delaney 086 361 5701

► Drumreilly Active Age Group

c/o Frances O'Reilly, Crickeen, Carrigallen P.O. (via Cavan). Maypole dance & social.
TEL 049 433 3265

► Glenfarne Active Age

Health Centre, Glenfarne. Painting exhibition; library visit.
TEL Joan Kelly 071 985 5840

► The Golden Age Group

Drumsna. 'May Madness Ball' at the Bush Hotel, Carrick-on-Shannon, with sean nós dancing, singing; poetry and drama, inviting Active Age Groups in the area; trip to The Dock Theatre; exhibition showcasing the year's activities.
TEL Colleen Guckian 071 962 4740 or 087 767 0788

Kiltyclogher Active Age Group

History talk of local interest; poetry reading; storytelling.
TEL Ena Domoney 071 985 4008

Care Centres

► Ballinaglera Social Services

Art & crafts display and social evening.
TEL Mary McGourty 071 964 3411

Day Hospital, Our Lady's Hospital

Manorhamilton. 'Old-time music & dance', singalong.
TEL Maura Kennedy, Mary McShane, Eileen Maguire, Josie Feeney 071 982 0421

Kilgar Day Care Club, Tue. & Thur. Groups

c/o Leirim Lakes Hostel, Kiltyclogher. Exploring the Bealtaine theme, with creative conversation, song and poetry, facilitated by Maura Gilligan; traditional music session, dance and recitation by local CCE members.
TEL Carmel Loughlin 087 987 9138

► Monaleen / Milford Active Retirement

Assoc.

c/o Killonan, Castletroy. Sketch portraying the lives of adult women in a family setting.
TEL Kitty O'Keefe 061 333 063

► Our Lady Queen of Peace Ladies Retired Group

Roxboro Rd., Limerick. Exploring nature tour; craft exhibition.
TEL Sr Margaret Quigley 061 416 676

► Pallasgreen Active Retirement

Art exhibition in Chaser Pub & Restaurant.
TEL 061 384 053

► St Munchin's Family Resource Centre

Clonconnane Rd., Ballynanty, Limerick. Cultural outing with the St Munchin's Older Men's Club; film, poetry and other cultural events.
TEL Eleanor Cowan-Hughes 061 326 623

Care Centres

► Milford Care Centre

Castletroy. 'Past Memories of Limerick', ceramic mural project; 'Landscape', painting exhibition.
TEL Sheila Stone 061 485 800

► Pennywell Day Care Centre

12 Good Shepherd Ave., Pennywell Rd., Limerick. 'Young at Heart', arts & crafts exhibition; fun fashion show, variety concert.
TEL Sr Rose O'Doherty 061 414 150

LONGFORD

Public Libraries

- **Longford County Library, L.C.R.L., Longford VEC & Longford Older Persons Network supported by Longford Community Guards and St Joseph's Day Care Centre**

Creative writing classes in Longford Library; arts & crafts exhibition in St Joseph's Day Care Centre with music & song; intergenerational bog walk in Ballinamuck; intergenerational event in Currycahill Hall, Ballinalee; Monaduff local history project; Club '91 mini-concert in Thomond Lodge Retirement Home, Ballymahon; Newtownforbes Senior Citizens Club performance by Benie Connolly & Michael Hughes with sean nós dancing, song & poetry reading: contact Madeleine Bennett 087 946 5119; tea dance & close of festival, Park House Hotel, Edgeworthstown, with Declan Nerney, Jimmy Lennon & Michael Hughes; and lots more.

TEL Fiona Cooney 043 334 1124 or Margaret Walsh 043 334 5555

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Club 89

Family Centre, St Mel's Rd., Longford. Arts & crafts, paintings, crochet & knitting; 'The Maternity Ward', a one-act play.

Care Centres

- **St Joseph's Day Care Centre**
Launch of County Bealtaine Festival with arts & crafts exhibition; summer gardening.

TEL Breda Murtagh 043 335 0155

► Knock Museum

Knock Shrine. 'Celebrating Bealtaine', reminiscence workshops and demonstrations; 'May Day traditions and customs', a talk; 'Taking the Boat: The Irish in Leeds', lecture on emigration by Brendan McGowan, with reminiscence workshop; 'Growing your Own', vegetables for the household; butter-making demonstration with Dawn Gawley.

TEL Maria Hunt 094 937 5034

► Linenhall Arts Centre

Castlebar. 'Golden Moments – Be Inspired', a series of events including film, workshops and performance.

TEL Orla Henihan 094 902 3733

► Mayo County Council Arts Office

Áras an Chontae, Castlebar. An eclectic mix of talks, workshops with artists, musicians, dramatists, dancers, theatre performances, recitals.

**TEL Arts Office 094 902 4444
Ext 7558 or 7560**

Public Libraries

Ballina Public Library

Pearse St. Local History Research Sessions', hosted for Age Action, about online resources.

TEL James Reddiough 087 207 3262

Active Retirement / Community Groups

Age Action West

'Reminiscence and the World Wide Web', a workshop on community, local history and folklore websites, in Ballina Library.

TEL James Reddiough 087 207 3262

► Balla Active Age Group

Balla, Castlebar. Drama, sketch.

TEL Mae Francis 094 936 6667

► St Colman's Care Centre

Keel, Achill Island. Afternoon tea dance with music & song in local hotel.

TEL Alice McGinty 098 43 248

► St John's Rest & Day Care Centre

Knock Shrine. Arts & culture, painting, storytelling & music.

TEL Sr Catherine Mac Sweeney 094 938 8100

MEATH

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► Meath County Council Arts Office

Ashbourne Civic Offices, 1-2 Killelland St. Art exhibition at Toradh Gallery; ballroom of romance / céili mór; National Gallery talks.

TEL Cathy Martin 01 835 8014

Public Libraries

► Meath County Council Library Services

Railway St., Navan. Digital photography, allotment gardening, colour me beautiful, antiques in action, art appreciation, music of the movies, knitting circle, reading groups, creative writers and more.

TEL Eve Morrison or Sharon Flanagan 046 902 1134

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Clonard Active Retirement Assoc.

Clonard, Enfield. Outing to theatre / cinema; talks.

TEL 044 937 5142

East Meath Active Retirement Assoc.

St Mary's Hall, Julianstown. Exhibition of arts & crafts.

St Joseph's Care Centre

Longford Day Care Centre, Dublin Rd., Longford. Festival launch with music & crafts; gardening; tea dance in Park House, Edgeworthstown; storytelling & music afternoon; 'Blast from the Past' movie day; clay crafts & collage.

TEL Sigríod O'Meara 043 335 0112 or Josie Rowley 043 335 0102

LOUTH

Public Libraries

► Louth County Library

Roden Pl., Dundalk. 'Let your Dreams take Wings and Fly', zumba dancing, knitting & crochet, colour me beautiful; 'Pick & Mix Pastimes', sculpting, glass painting, card-making, organic gardening, genealogy, digital photography, European cookery and lots more. In Dundalk, Drogheda & Ardee libraries.

TEL 042 935 3190

MAYO

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► 'Hearth' – Art for Older People at Home

Ross, Castlebar. 'Hearth', a new initiative has each participant visited weekly by an experienced artist, receiving encouragement, materials and mentoring, honed to the individual's needs. To be launched in Ballina Art Centre. Art work on display.

TEL Breda Mayock 087 785 0344 or Deirdre Walsh 087 677 7784

► Ballina Active Retirement Assoc.

The Quay. 'Around the World' music & dance show.

TEL 096 70 017 or 096 78 941

► Ballyheane 55 Club

Ballyheane, Castlebar. 'Poetry Reading & Storytelling', listen to poem, discuss, tell your own story.

TEL Ann Bourke 094 903 0913

► Castlebar Active Retirement Assoc.

'Our Very Own Concert at the Linenhall Arts Centre', dance, poetry, storytelling.

TEL Ann Bourke 094 903 0913

► Charlestown Active Retirement Assoc.

Cloonaweema. Social afternoon of music, dance, songs and games in Pastoral Centre.

TEL Kathleen Ryan 094 925 5057

► Fr Peyton Memorial Centre

Attymass, Ballina. Afternoon of music.

TEL Della Ginley 096 45 374

► Foxford Active Retirement Assoc.

Social Services Centre, Chapel Rd. One-act sketch. Six Mayo Active Retirement Groups invited.

TEL Geraldine Brett 094 925 6614

► Westport Active Retirement Assoc.

Historical walk around Westport town; social dancing with old and young.

TEL Maureen Moran 087 654 2445

Care Centres

► Claremount Nursing Home

Claremount, Claremorris. Traditional Irish music and dance.

TEL Ann Marie Hegarty 094 937 3111

► Grúpa Gníomhach Scortha A.R.A.

Halla Baile Ghib, Navan. Arts & crafts; local history; storytelling.

TEL Patricia Meehan 046 924 1272

Care Centres

► Barchester Healthcare

Knightsbridge Village, Longwood Rd., Trim. Poetry & prose performance by Boyne Writers Group; Trim Drama Society play (tbc); garden party with Active Age Groups.

TEL 046 948 2700

► Windfield Nursing Home

Summerhill Rd., Dunboyne. 'Young at Heart Week', X-Factor by staff with residents as judges; patchwork blanket making with ICA; music; local Irish dancing group; garden party.

TEL 01 825 5232

MONAGHAN

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► Positive Age Monaghan

Clones Day Care Centre. Visual arts & crafts display; workshops & demonstrations.

TEL Maisie Smith 049 436 0433

OFFALY

Public Libraries

► Offaly County Libraries

'The Place Where you Live', cross-county photographic competition, submissions to your local Offaly library by 31 May 2010.

► **Birr Library 057 912 4950:**

Launch of Senior Book Club; guest speakers to Thursday Club; visit by local school choir & dancers.

► **Clara Library 057 933 1389:**
Flower arranging.

► **Daingean Library 057 935 3005:**
'Memories of Daingean', photographic exhibition; visit by Daingean and Kildonfert Active Retirement Groups.

► **Edenderry Library 046 973 1028:**

Dance; crafts with Veronica Birmingham; photo exhibition 'Through a Swedish Lens: Ireland 1920-1950', from the UCD National Folklore Collection; ICA photo exhibition.

► **Tullamore Library 057 934 6832:**

'Timeless Classics' movies; 'Books and Biscuits', discussion.

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Birr Active Retirement Group**

Riverside, Birr. Book club; choir networking with younger groups; flower arranging; 'The Place where I Live', photography; display of knitting, crochet & embroidery; visits to shows in Oxmantown Theatre.

TEL Sr Roberta Delaney 057 912 0891

► **Edenderry Community Development Project**

Offaly Local Development, Business Park. 'Edenderry – One Day in Our Life', older persons' groups co-ordinate a day when townspeople photograph 'a moment'. Photos will be judged and exhibited in three locations.

TEL Marye Meehan 046 977 2319

► **Pullough Active Retirement Assoc.**

Pullough, Tullamore. 'Walk the Lough Boora Parklands', historic sites, nature trails & sculpture park.

TEL Sr Margaret Fallon 057 933 6050

► **St Asicus Day Centre**

St Ronan's Hall, Keadue, Boyle. Book, written by ladies from the Centre, about life in their parish and the Arigna Mines, to be launched in the Arigna Mines Heritage Centre.

TEL Olga Grant 086 364 6127

SLIGO

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **The Model**

The Mall, Sligo. Studio talk with artist Seán McSweeney, booking essential; films with the IFI; public talk with artist Barry Cooke (tbc); critical run.

TEL Marie-Louise Blaney 071 914 1405

► **Sligo Arts Service, Sligo County Council**

Development Cntr., Cleveragh Rd. 'Seeing the Hidden', five short films about looking from the inside out, seeing the hidden, valuing creativity; art exhibition; 'The Legacy of Belief', an animation DVD about Constance Markievicz, created by students from St Patrick's NS and the Maugherow Active Age Group; intergenerational exhibition in Nazareth House Nursing Home, showcasing the work of two projects, one with the Community Nursing Unit in Ballymote and Scoil Mhuire gan Smál NS, the other with residents of Nazareth House and children from St John's NS; exhibition at Cos Cos Sean-Nós Festival of a fabric display of music and dance imagery.

TEL Sarah Leavy 071 911 1826

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Ballinafad Active Retirement Assoc.**

Ballinafad, via Boyle. Collage of participants' life stories, with pictures and cuttings depicting life as it was; creative writing workshop; art workshop; turf cutting; cookery.

**TEL Anne Mulhern, Claire Doohan
071 918 3641 or 086 366 1307**

Care Centres

► **Avalon Community Centre**

Sligo. Making a booklet with images, old cures and stories.

TEL Catherine Fanning

► **Community Nursing Unit Ballymote**

Showcase of intergenerational creative activity with local NS.

TEL Linda Hannon or Mary Doddy

071 918 3195

► **Mowlam Nursing Home**

Ballytivnan. Art exhibition.

TEL Helen 086 326 8983

TIPPERARY

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Tipperary County Council Arts Services**

Civic Offices, Nenagh & County Museum, Clonmel. Tipp North & South share Bealtaine arts events and workshops, to celebrate renewal, creativity and growth. All welcome.

TEL Melanie Scott (North) 067 44 852 or

Sally O'Leary (South) 052 613 4565

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Tipperary Active Retirement Assoc.**

Community Services Cntr., St Michael's St., Tipperary Town. 'The Pre-Madonnas', extracts from popular opera; official launch and talk from the National Gallery; film; arts & crafts exhibition; Maypole dancing; social afternoon; memoir readings with music.

TEL Mary Swords 062 33 495

Care Centres

► **Tullamore Active Retirement Assoc.**
Foresters Hall, Church St. Art exhibition in Tullamore Credit Union; fun day of song, dance and sketch in Foresters Hall.
TEL 057 932 2076

ROSCOMMON

Active Retirement / Community Groups

Age Action West

'Reminiscence and the World Wide Web', a workshop on community, local history and folklore websites, in Roscommon Library.
TEL James Reddiough 087 207 3262

Boyle Active Age

Drama, based on interviews or conversations.
TEL 087 209 5219

Elphin Day Care Centre

Chapel St. Clients knit squares to make a 'king-size' bedspread.
TEL Christine Sheehy 071 963 5566

Care Centres

► Oakwood Private Nursing Home

Ballaghaderreen. Music & ballads; reminiscence; local poetry & song.
TEL 094 986 1033

Rosalie Unit, Áras Naomh Chaolain

Knock Rd., Castlereagh. 'Rambling House', céilí music, step dancing, waltzing, set dancing and singing; storytelling with Vincent Pierce, Seanchai.
TEL Dympna McDonnell 086 068 2109

► Carrigans Health Centre

Carrigans, Ballinful. Open day of arts & crafts; short stories & poems from the past.
TEL Angela O'Reilly 071 916 3960 or 087 693 2559

► MCR Active Age Group

Mail Coach Road Community Centre. 'Moving Together', an interactive project with artwork, pottery, flower arranging and creative writing.
TEL 071 914 6512

► Monday Club, Gleann Active Retirement Group

'One Step Forward and Two Steps Back', an afternoon of music, dance and song.

► Sligo & District Active Retirement Assoc.

c/o 10 O'Connell St., Sligo. Exhibition of arts & crafts.
TEL Mervian Crowley 071 914 5763

► 'The Troubadours'

HSE, W 'Moylurg', Knappagh Rd., Sligo. 'The Troubadours' Bealtaine Group, song, dance, stories, music, poetry, prose and communal singing.
TEL Dermot McDermott 071 916 0109 or 087 757 2768

► Tubbercurry Active Retirement Assoc.

Teeling St., Tubbercurry. 'The Way That it Was', book launch of memories of the 1930s to 1950s with photographs.
TEL Phil Flannery 071 918 5059

► Young at Heart Active Retirement Assoc.

Cliffoney. Exhibition of arts & crafts and tea dance.
TEL Mary Gillespie 071 916 6172

► Cappawhite Day Care Centre

Display of artwork; members' poetry competition.
TEL Mary Buckley 087 205 9888 or 062 75 071

► Community Hospital of the Assumption

Castlemeadows, Thurles. Intergenerational poster painting with transition year students; intergenerational musical afternoon.
TEL Mary Shortt or Jennifer Manning 0504 27 700

► Padre Pio Nursing Home

Holycross, Thurles. 'Have we got the X Factor', talent show between residents and staff.
TEL Siobhán Kennedy 0504 43 110

► Sacré Coeur Private Nursing Home

Station Rd., Tipperary. 'An Afternoon of Poetry and Song', with the Tipperary Singers and Mrs Betty Lynch.
TEL Selma Kelly 062 51 157

► St Vincent's Day Care Centre

Health Centre, Tipperary Town. 'A Walk Down Memory Lane', memories, sketches; recitation, music, songs, storytelling, cures & remedies; demos of card-making & decoupage and flower arranging.
TEL Peggy Kennedy 062 82 105



WATERFORD

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Waterford Healing Arts Trust**
Waterford Regional Hospital, Dunmore Rd.
Tea dance at the WHAT Centre for Arts and Health for older people and their carers with live band 'Sure Sound' and dancer Libby Seward; 'Healing Sounds' programme, with jazz musicians Dylan Bible and Amanda Fardy, in St Patrick's Hospital for Older People and Waterford Regional Hospital.
TEL 051 842 664

► **Waterford Museum of Treasures**
The Granary, Merchants Qy., Waterford. National Drawing Day, European Night of Museums tours.
TEL Rosemary Ryan 051 304 500

Public Libraries

► **Waterford City Council Library Service**
Lady Lane; Arkkeen Stores; Paddy Brown's Rd.
Explore new hobbies and interests with our art, gardening and digital photography workshops; 'Have Dreams and Speak Them', creative writing competition; research your family history and lots more.
TEL Debbie Johnston or Mary Foley 051 849 975 or 051 849 755

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Dolmen ARA**
Carrig Rue, Ballinaneesagh, Waterford. Exhibition of art & crafts; singing; readings and poetry.
TEL 051 373 428

Care Centres

► **Castle Writers Group**
Elmwood, Creaghduff, Coosan, Athlone. Sketch; readings of members' work.

► **An Grianán Active Age Group**
Mount Temple, Moate. Social evening and art exhibition.
TEL Vera Hynes 090 648 2142

► **Killucan Raharney Golden Years**
Rathwire Hall, Killucan. 'May Bush Celebration', members hang memorabilia on the tree and tell stories, ending with song & dance around the tree.
TEL Mary Thorp 044 937 4725

► **Multyfarnham Active Retirement Assoc.**
3 Derravaragh Abbey, Multyfarnham. 'Dreaming the Dream in Multy', art exhibition; photography; poetry workshop.
TEL 044 937 1246

Care Centres

► **Mowlam Nursing Home**
Moate. Music by local musician; reading by a member from local library; music & dance by local group.
TEL 090 648 2855

► **Mullingar Resource Centre (Sonas)**
Delvin Rd., Mullingar. 'Pastimes', remembering hobbies and interests of our youth; discussing how we use gifts and talents to enhance community; art and drama session.
TEL Teresa Reilly 044 938 4353

WEXFORD

Public Libraries

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **Co Wexford Age Equality Network**
c/o Wexford Local Development, Mill Park Rd., Enniscorthy. 'The Right to Dream & Hope', seminar on age equality, including workshops, arts exhibits, music and keynote speakers.
TEL Marie Louise Byrne 053 915 5868

► **Crossabeg 55+ Club**
Ballyharron. Exhibition of art & crafts, storytelling, Irish music and singing. All welcome.
TEL Mary Quinn 053 912 8892 or 087 273 7233

► **Gorey Active Retirement Assoc.**
Talent competition; art exhibition; arts, crafts, needlework, gardening, flower arranging & drama.
TEL George Harmon 053 938 3918

► **Ramsgrange Active Retirement Assoc.**
'5 Days at the Hook', exhibition of work; storytelling, singing and monologues at St Louis Day Care Centre; tour of Tintern Abbey with a poetry reading.

► **St Fintan's Day Centre**
Taghmon. Art & crafts exhibition; old-time dancing; book reviewing.
TEL May Buttimer 053 913 9198

► **St Louis Stitchers, South West Wexford CDP**
Ramsgrange, New Ross. 'Keep the Dream Alive', lace-making & stitching weekend with classes in lace-making, crochet & beading; also display. Booking essential.
TEL Jane McWilliams 051 389 418

► **Silver Tones Choir**
Villa Nova, The Moyne, Enniscorthy. Variety concert in St Aidan's Cathedral.
TEL Liam O'Leary 087 207 7482

Dungarvan Community Hospital
Performances by local choir and musicians and a local poet; patchwork; art workshop.
TEL Anne Fraher 058 20 900

► **Padre Pio Rest House**
Cappoquin. Tea dance with invited associations from Lismore, Dungarvan, Modelligo, and Cappoquin Day Care Centre.
TEL Mary Flynn 058 54 117

WESTMEATH

Arts / Culture / Heritage

► **Arts Office, Westmeath County Council**
County Bldgs., Mullingar. Various arts events around the county.

TEL Catherine Kelly 044 933 2140

Active Retirement / Community Groups

► **1428 Active Retirement Club**
46 Dominick St., Mullingar. Art exhibition by members; craft demonstration; storytelling & poetry event; intergenerational event; dream board collage and more.

TEL Debbie Daly 044 938 4290

► **Cáirde Active Retirement Group**
Rathwire Hall, Killucan. Display of art & crafts at cheese & wine evening.

TEL Mary Thorp 044 937 4725

► **Cara Phort Family Resource Centre**
Harbour St., Ballynacargy. 'Living our Dreams', activities including arts & crafts, music & dance, cinema and reading workshop.

TEL Maria Quinn 044 937 3060

Bunclody Public Library

Millwood, Carrigduff. Storytelling, folktales of legend with songs, with Deirdre Wadding and Fran Greene; reading circle and more.

TEL Patricia Keenan 053 937 5466

► **County Wexford Storytelling Network**
Library HQ, Unit 6A, Ardcahan Business Pk., Wexford. Storytelling in our eight storytelling houses. Details listed at www.storiesfromthehearth.ie

TEL Yvonne Smith 053 917 6565

Enniscorthy Public Library

Lymington Rd. Reading circle; poet Philip Quirke will discuss poems, old and new; storytelling, folktales and folk songs, with Deirdre Wadding and Fran Greene.

TEL Jarlath Glynn 053 923 6055

New Ross Library

Barrack Ln. Reading circle; introduction to family history search, with Celestine Rafferty (booking essential) and more.

TEL Nicola Buckley 051 421 877

Wexford Town Library

McCauley's Car Park. 'Wexford remembered' radio programme, South East Radio on Monday nights; reading circle; oral history event, aims to collect, record, conserve and use the memory and life experiences of Wexford people; Club Leabhair Gaeilge; creative arts & crafts; author visit and reading with Peter Murphy; poetry workshop, with Paul Perry at Wexford Campus, ITC (places limited) and more.

TEL Hazel Percival 053 912 1637

Care Centres

► **St John's Enniscorthy Community Co. Ltd.**
St John's Community Hospital. 'Living the Dream without Fear', festival of arts & crafts, song & dance with an exhibition of our work.

TEL Margot Hogan 087 410 0275 or 053 923 6549

► **St Mary's Day Care Centre**

Tagoat. Art & crafts Open Day.

TEL Siobhán Murphy 053 913 2624

WICKLOW

Arts / Culture / Heritage

Courthouse Arts Centre

Tinahely. 'I'll Live 'til I Die', a celebration in talk, story and song of Delia Murphy, with Cearbhall O'Meara, Maureen O'Donovan and Carmen Cullen; choral performance by Cappella Choir; film; 'Get Vocal' in assoc. with Wicklow Arts Office.
TEL 0402 38 529

Shekina Sculpture Garden

Glenmalure. Open Day.

TEL Catherine McCann 01 283 8711

Wicklow County Arts Office

Wicklow Co. Co., County Buildings. 'Get Vocal', a choral project with Co. Wicklow Older Persons' Network, Mermaid Arts Centre, Wicklow VEC Community Education, Wicklow Access Office and the Courthouse Arts Centre; 'Go See Fund', available for May to assist travel to arts and cultural events locally and nationally, or to get a specialist workshop delivered as a Bealtaine event.

TEL 0404 20 155

Public Libraries

- ▶ **Arklow Library**
St Mary's Rd. Exhibition of reminiscences, memories, photographs & letters of Arklow.
TEL 0402 39 977

Active Retirement / Community Groups

- ▶ **Baltinglass and District Active Retirement**
Exhibition of photographs includes 'A Day in the Life of Baltinglass', in the local library; drama sketch by our members performed for the local District Hospital.
- ▶ **County Wicklow Network for Older People**
28 Lower Main St., Arklow. Exhibition & workshops in Árus Lorcaín with Arklow Active Retirement Group and Carnew Community Craft Group; visual arts exhibition; photography exhibition; 'Get Vocal Choral Project': contact Ann Nolan 087 972 3059; tea dance with Brockagh Resource Centre, with Richie Halpin: contact Bernadette Tyrell 0404 45 600.
TEL Anne Kavanagh 087 150 0234

Wicklow Active Retirement Assoc.

Variety show with sketches, singing, seanachai, poetry reading, choir. Local Active Retirement Associations invited. Performed in local Hospitals and Care Centres.

TEL Peggy O'Sullivan 086 874 1812

Care Centres

- ▶ **Baltinglass Hospital & Day Care Centre**
'Living the Dream through Drama & Music', drama based in a London Hospital during the Second World War with all the old war songs (fundraiser for Calcutta); song & dance events.
TEL Josie Dooley 059 648 1125

- ▶ **Carnew Community Care**
Gorey Rd. Creative writing project with Wicklow VEC; music, song & story night.
TEL Sheila Kirwan 053 942 6510

Greystones Nursing Home

Church Rd., 'Ceol agus Craic', to celebrate the recordings of singing and storytelling of residents; production of calendar of photos; intergenerational celebration.

TEL Zephra Johnson or Eve Byrne 01 287 4603

HSE - Wicklow Local Health Office

Older Persons Services, Glenside Rd., Wicklow. Artist in Residence programme aiming to produce a calendar.

TEL Chyrstal Dowd 0404 60 824

▶▶ Serendipity Theatre Group

Glen Cottage, Thornhill Rd., Bray. Music, story and poetry with EngAge Writers Group from the Senior Artist Colony in Burbank, California and the Bealtaine Writers Group. Will be performed in nursing homes and senior centres around Ireland.

TEL Hedda Kaphengst 086 354 7001

Stay Involved : Get Connected : Think Creatively



Promoting greater participation by older people

Age & Opportunity is the national not-for-profit organisation that promotes opportunities for greater participation by older people in society through partnerships and collaborative programmes.

Our national programmes include:



Left: Eily McCreá, Coordinator with Creative Exchanges (photo: Tommy Clancy)
Right: Cycling with Go for Life (photo: Billy Stickland / INPHO)



Bealtaine - The national festival celebrating creativity in older age



Creative Exchanges - Using the arts to transform the experience of residents and staff in care centres for older people



Go for Life - Promoting greater participation by older people in sport and physical activity



AgeWise - Workshops to raise awareness of ageism among policy-makers and service providers whose work affects the lives of older people



Ageing with Confidence - Helping people to explore their own ageing in a positive way to maintain health and well-being



Get Vocal - Strengthening the voices of older people in Irish society

To find out more about us, contact us:

Address: Age & Opportunity, Marino Institute of Education,
Griffith Avenue, Dublin 9

Tel: 01 805 7709

Email: info@ageandopportunity.ie

Website: www.ageandopportunity.ie



“Have Dreams and Speak Them Without Fear”



Mamo McDonald (photo: John Cogill)

“ The Bealtaine festival celebrates creativity in older age. Coordinated by Age & Opportunity, Bealtaine involves hundreds of organisers and thousands of participants all over Ireland and includes all aspects of the arts.

When people get involved in something creative, their energy becomes obvious. If they get involved in a Bealtaine event with others, it is as if they shed light on the community around them. I think of Bealtaine as a series of lights coming on all around the country.”

Mamo McDonald, Honorary President, Age & Opportunity

age &
opportunity

Promoting greater participation by older people



HE Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive


Dublin City
Baile Átha Cliath