

15th Annual

Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival

SEPTEMBER 25 – OCTOBER 4

Féile an Fhómhair 2015



FREE PROGRAMME

Presented by Donegal County Council Cultural Services

BA MHAITH LINN BUÍOCHAS A GHABHÁIL CHUIG

Ailis McIntyre, Michael Daly, **Andrea Kennedy** Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon. **Conor Malone**, Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey. **Paul Diver**, Sandhouse Hotel, Rossnowlagh. **Johnny & Christine Boyle**, Highlands Hotel, Glenties. **Mary Thompson**, **Margaret Sweeney**, Glenties Community Centre. **Gerry Gillespie**, Halla Muire, Gleann Choilm Cille.

Maura Logue, Dark Daughter Productions. **Denise Blake**, Literary Programme Curator. **Mandy Blinco**, **Mark Hill**, LUXe. **Emer Keon**, **Barry Sweeney**, Erne Enterprise Development Company Ltd. **Hannah McGuinness**, Donegal Designer Makers. **Aoife Nic Cormaic**, RTÉ, Sunday Miscellany. **Derek Vial**, **Kieran Quinn**, **Andrew McNulty**, Balor Rep Theatre Company. **Seán Ó Ghallochóir**, **Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair**. **Mark McCollum**, **Kathleen McCreery**, Bread and Roses Theatre. **Christian Carbin**, **Art Kavanagh**, Donegal Drama Circle. **Deborah J. Stockdale**, Meitheal Ealaíne, Gleann Cholm Cille. **Caoimhín MacAoidh**, **Rab Cherry**, **Cairdeas na bhFidléirí**. **Aidan O'Donnell**, Coiste Cultúrtha Dhún Cheann Fhaola. **Michael Harnett**. **Pat McGill**, Johnny Doherty Music and Dancing Festival. **Marc Geagan**, Modal Citizens, Bundoran. **Patsy O'Kane**. **Daniel Brown**, Ocean FM. **Deborah J. Stockdale**, Meitheal Ealaíne. **Patricia McBride**, **Niall Cranny**, **Nicola Burns**, An Grianán Theatre. **Guy Barriscale**, Theatre Artist in Residence. **Margaret Cunningham**, The Folk Village (& Fr. James McDyer Archive), Gleann Cholm Cille. **Liam Ó Chuinneagáin**, Oideas Gael, Gleann Cholm Cille.

Iga Lawne, Donegal Tourism Ltd. **Anne Marie Conlon**, **Connie Duffy**, Donegal County Council. **Rory Gallagher**, **Rita Chapman**, **Jill Doherty**, Bundoran Community Library. **Shane Smyth**, Discover Bundoran. **Paul Brown**, **Dana Smith**, Earagail Arts Festival. **Shaun Hannigan**, **Jeremy Howard**, Regional Cultural Centre, Letterkenny.

www.donegalcoco.ie • www.donegaldiaspora.ie • www.govisitdonegal.com

Cover: *Bread and Roses Theatre, Can't Pay? Won't Pay!* Photo: **Rik Walton**

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This is the 15th. year of the Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival, a Donegal County Council Cultural Services initiative, supported by An Comhairle Ealaíon and Donegal County Council.

Theatre Programme

The Festival theatre programme will see five local companies produce two brand new plays, one Irish premier, an Irish language version of a John B. Keane classic and a Donegal treatment of a much-loved classic Italian comic farce.

I Would Walk These Fields Again is a new play on the life and times of the great Fr. James McDyer of Gleann Cholm Cille,

while *The Lad from Laghey* is a memory play set in South Donegal during World War II. Dario Fo's *Can't Pay? Won't Pay!* struck a hilarious chord with Earagail Arts Festival audiences this summer while David Haig's *My Boy Jack* will receive its Irish premier in Donegal Town, courtesy of Donegal Drama Circle. Is beidh lucht drámaíochta na Gaeltachta ag tnúth go mór le cuairt Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair go Gleann Cholm Cille, lena leagan Gaeilge de grinn dráma John B. Keane, Moll.

Music Programme

The Festival is delighted to host the Donegal launch of Castlefin fiddle player Bríd Harper's

hugely anticipated, debut solo CD, and to be collaborating again with two of the county's top traditional music events, the Johnny Doherty Music and Dancing Festival and Cairdeas na bhFidiléirí's annual Donegal Fiddlers Gathering in Glenties.

Visual Arts

To celebrate Irish Design 2015, the Festival is very happy this year to partner the Donegal Designer Makers in a major exhibition of new work at their Gallery Shop in Ardara, while the annual Meitheal Ealaíne artist group's exhibition in Gleann Cholm Cille will include new and recent works by eight local artists.

Acknowledgements

The Festival programme is created in partnership with a number of prominent Donegal arts initiatives including the The Abbey Arts Centre and Erne Enterprise Development Company Ltd., Dark Daughter Productions, The Balor Arts Centre and The Balor Rep Theatre Company, An Grianán Theatre, Cairdeas na bhFidiléirí, Johnny Doherty Music and Dancing Festival, Derek Vial, Coiste Chultúrtha Dhún Cheann Fhaola, LUXe landscape theatre company, Donegal Designer Makers, Modal Citizen Records, Donegal Drama Circle and the Meitheal Ealaíne artists group.

BREAD AND ROSES THEATRE COMPANY

Can't Pay? Won't Pay!

*By Dario Fo • Translated by Lino Pertile • Adapted by Bill Colvill
and Robert Walker • Directed by Kathleen McCreery.*

SATURDAY • September 26 • Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon • 8.00pm • €12/€10

A hugely popular hit at this year's Earagail Arts Festival, the new Bread and Roses Theatre Company present a Donegal treatment of Dario Fo's classic Italian political comedy farce, *Can't Pay? Won't Pay!* Directed by **Kathleen McCreery**, the excellent cast features **Margaret Hannon**, **Valerie Bryce** and **Eoghan Mac Ghiolla Bhríde** from last summer's hugely successful *An Grianan Theatre* show, *Fiesta*, along with **Michael Leddy** and **Martin McGinley**, best known as one of Donegal and Ireland's finest fiddle players.

The play is set in 1970s Italy where rampant inflation and rising prices leave lead character Antonia – played brilliantly by Margaret Hannon – and her neighbours desperate as they struggle to feed their hard-pressed families. When the local supermarket puts its prices up yet again, the women finally snap and refuse to pay, clearing the shelves instead and making off with the contents in a joyous protest against the market forces that up to this, they had felt powerless to confront.



Her super-honest husband Giovanni, however, would be horrified if he knew of Antonia's involvement, so she enlists the help of her best friend Margherita as the pair move the liberated groceries from one hiding place to the next, spinning ever more surreal yarns and explanations as they struggle to keep one step ahead of their incredulous husbands, family members, the police and other, more sinister, prying eyes.

This Donegal production of *Can't Pay? Won't Pay!* is fast moving, hilariously funny and topical too for the times we live in. A hugely entertaining night of theatre is guaranteed.

• *Contains Strong Language.*
Suitable for 14+.

DONEGAL BAY AND BLUE STACKS FESTIVAL & AN GRIANÁN THEATRE

I Would Walk These Fields Again

The Life and Times of Canon James McDyer of Gleann Cholm Cille

Written by Guy Le Jeune • With John D. Ruddy and Louise Conaghan

DOMHNACH-LUAN • 27ú -28ú Meán Fomhair

SUNDAY- MONDAY • September 27-28 • Halla Muire, **Gleann Cholm Cille**

8.30pm • €10/€8 • **T: 071 9851375** & at Door

WEDNESDAY • September 30 • Market Hall, **Glenties** • 8.30pm • €10/€8

T: 071 9851375 & at Door

THURSDAY • October 1 • Abbey Arts Centre, **Ballyshannon** • 8.30pm • €10/€8

T: 071 9851375 & at Door

Drawing from interviews, archive material and Fr. James McDyer's own writings, *I Would Walk These Fields Again* is a celebration of his life, his work and his legacy.

Father McDyer took up duties in Gleann Cholm Cille in 1951. From then until his death in 1987, he worked tirelessly against what he termed 'the curse of emigration'. He encouraged new enterprises, set up a co-operative, persuaded government ministers to support his ideas and inspired his community to work together to shape their own destiny. A man of great energy, humour and conviction, he remains an inspiration to communities everywhere, working to maintain their relevance and secure their futures.

Guy le Jeune is currently Theatre Artist in Residence for An Grianán Theatre and Donegal County Council, in

a project part-funded by The Arts Council. His hugely successful play, *Fiesta*, was the centerpiece of the 2014 Earagail Arts Festival.

John D. Ruddy is an award-winning actor from Letterkenny. Earlier this year, he won five Best Supporting Actor awards for his multiple roles in Letterkenny Music and Drama Group's festival production of *The 39 Steps*

Louise Conaghan hails from Ballybofey and is now based in Derry. She is a hugely experienced actress, having appeared in the *Bloody Sunday Inquiry* play, *Heroes with their Hands in the Air*, and the *Tillie and Henderson* shirt factory drama, *Tillies*, both for the Derry Playhouse.



BIGGER PICTURE PROJECTS

Charolais

Written and Performed by Noni Stapleton • Directed by Bairbre Ni Chaoimh

THURSDAY • October 1 • Balor Arts Centre, Main Street, **Ballybofey • 8.00pm**
 €15/€12 • **T: 074 9131840**

Charolais is an age old tale of female rivalry with a fresh twist: the other woman is a cow, a literal one, a purebred Charolais heifer! Siobhan's boyfriend is a farmer who devotes considerable attention to his prize heifer at the expense of his very pregnant girlfriend. Siobhan has developed a homicidal jealousy for this Charolais and is feeling equally murderous towards her snobbish, soon-to-be mother in law.

Winner of the Bewley's Little Gem Award at last year's Tiger Dublin Fringe Festival, Noni Stapleton's brilliant new

one-woman-show, Charolais, has been touring and selling out venues all over Ireland since early this year. International success now beckons following a hugely popular run on the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in August.

• *Noni Stapleton's hilarious take on rural life and love is a paradox: superficially crude, it's full of wisdom and tenderness, and manages to throw in a fair sprinkling of compassion and forgiveness along the way.*

Sunday Independent

• *Often hilarious, spectacularly humane, while still keeping the bizarre elements in the mix. Noni Stapleton is rising star.*

Cork Evening Echo

• *A delicious and witty piece of theatre that bowls along at a rate of knots and will have you laughing and thoughtful.*

Edfringe Review



BALOR REP THEATRE COMPANY

The Lad from Laghey

Written by Michael Harnett • Performed by Jean Curran • Directed by Kieran Quinn

TUESDAY • September 29 • Community Library, **Bundoran** • 8.30pm • €10/€6

FRIDAY • October 2 • McIntyre's, **Dunkineely** • 8.30pm • €10/€6

SUNDAY • October 4 • Balor Arts Centre, **Ballybofey** • 8.00pm • €10

The Lad from Laghey is a new play, set in South Donegal during World War II, by Dublin-based playwright Michael Harnett, himself a regular visitor to the county.

At a time when German U Boats are sighted off the Donegal coast and RAF seaplanes thunder through the Donegal Corridor over Dunkineely and St. John's Point, a local girl complains that 'everything is rationed, including decent young men'. Things begin to look up however when she meets a visiting young British airman at a dance in Bundoran. For a while, life is a heady mix of young love, chocolates and dances under glittering lights in a seaside town. But the War and Border politics are never too far away and sooner or later big decisions will have to be made.

Jean Curran is well known actress and singer from Letterkenny who has appeared in many plays and musicals, both at An Grianan Theatre and at



the Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey. Recently she played roles in a number of Brian Friel plays for An Grianán Theatre including Grace in Faith Healer, Sonya in Afterplay and Molly in Molly Sweeney. A familiar voice also to

fans of local radio, she is regular broadcaster on Highland Radio, one of Donegal's most popular stations.

Michael Harnett has written four radio plays for RTÉ as well as a novel, The Boys, which he has adapted for stage and which will be seen at the Smock Alley Theatre, Dublin in November.

Kieran Quinn is a vastly experienced director who, in recent years, has produced a number of very successful theatre shows for the Balor Rep Company including, Johnathan Burdges's World War 1 drama 'Remembrances', Michael J. Murphy's 'The Country Coy' and Conor Malone's 'The Patsy Cline Story'.

DONEGAL DRAMA CIRCLE

My Boy Jack

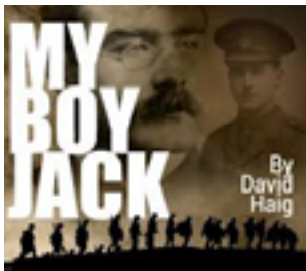
By David Haig • Directed by Christian Carbin

FRIDAY – SUNDAY • October 2-4

St. John Bosco Centre, **Donegal Town** • 8.30pm • €12/€10 • Tickets at Door

Donegal Drama Circle present the Irish premiere of *My Boy Jack*, a gripping and evocative World War 1 drama by Olivier Award winning British actor, David Haig. The play is the story of Jack Kipling, only and beloved son of the famous English poet and patriot, Rudyard Kipling. The year is 1913 and war with Germany is imminent. Kipling is determined that his son can make a stand for king and country. At 17 years old, Jack is no less enthusiastic but his chronic short-sightedness renders him ineligible to enlist. Through his father's connections, however, at the highest levels of the British army, Jack is accepted into the Irish Guards and is set upon a glorious adventure in 'the greatest battle in the history of the world'. Neither Kipling however, has any idea of what is in store and when Jack goes missing on the second day of the Battle of Loos, his family fear the worst.

My Boy Jack opened with a sell-out run at the Hampstead Theatre, London in 1997. A film version of the stage



play, with Daniel Radcliffe playing the role of Jack, was shown by the BBC on Remembrance Day, 2007, to an audience of almost 6m viewers.

For this very special Irish premier production, Donegal Drama Circle are delighted to bring to the stage an enviable mix of experience and enthusiastic youth. *My Boy Jack* is directed by **Christian Carbin** and produced by **Art Kavanagh**. The cast includes **Conor Friery, Suzanne Thomas, Karen McCrudden, Conor Breslin, Ultan Pringle, Evan Gorrell, Kevin Lilly, Richard Hirst** and **Seamus McHugh**. The play is stage managed by **Catherina Davis**.

ERNE ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LTD.
& DARK DAUGHTER PRODUCTIONS

Rince Rince Linn!

A Carnival Celebration of W.B. Yeats and Irish Music and Dance

SATURDAY • October 3 • College Street, Castle Street, The Port, **Ballyshannon • 7.30pm**

Carnival Ballyshannon 2015 will celebrate the 150th. anniversary of the birth of WB Yeats, and the rich traditions of Irish Dancing and Music that so inspired him. Carnival organizers Erne Enterprise and Dark Daughter Productions have been working with local Irish dancing schools - among them the Dominican School of Irish Dancing - to create this year's spectacular event.

The Parade will be led by W. B. Yeats – as played by Cillian Rogers of Workhouse Studios in a stunning new creation specially commissioned for Yeats 2015. The streets will be brought to life by Dark Daughter Productions, LUXe landscape theatre company, Réalta, Bundoran's Unstoppable Samba Band, Stars of the West, Stagecraft Youth and many more. They will be joined by up to 200 performers including young people from Magh Éne College, Coláiste Colmcille, Donegal's Abbey Vocational School and many



Photo: Steve Rogers

local primary schools.

A special Finalé will feature the Amanda Mahon Dance School, the visiting Wessex Morris Men and innovative Irish dancing ensemble, The Donegal Weavers.

Please Note.

Parking Restrictions

and Traffic Diversions will be in place along the Parade Route from 6.00pm – 9.00pm. Please co-operate with Carnival Stewards, An Garda Síochána and Civil Defence at all times. Warm Clothing is advisable.

Carnival Ballyshannon Fringe Events.

The Erne Enterprise Carnival Arts Volunteer Group has been busy enhancing the Carnival mood on the streets of Ballyshannon, so look out for Irish dancing-themed window dressing, displays of Irish dancing and an inaugural **Carnival Night** and **Lovely Ladies Irish Dancing Competition** at **Dorrian's Hotel** from 10.30pm.

CUIREANN AISTEOIRÍ GHAOTH DOBHAIR I LÁTHAIR

Moll

*Le John B. Keane • Aistrithe go Gaeilge ag Sean Ó Carra***SATHARN • 3ú Deireadh Fómhair •** Halla Muire, Caiseal, **Gleann Choilm Cille**
8.30pm • €10/€8

Seo ceann de dhrámaí grinn mhóra an dramadóir iomráiteach as Lios Tuathail, John B Keane. Tá an script aistrithe go Gaeilge ag Sean Ó Carra agus cóirithe don cheantar seo agus do chanúint Thír Chonaill, ag Seán Ó Maolagáin agus Bernie Ní Dhuibhir. .

Tá an Canónach agus a bheirt shagart cúnta fágtha go tobann gan bean tí. Téann said ar thóir bean tí úr a cheapadh agus faigheann said ceann. Ach faigheann said níos mó ná gnáth bhean tí– faigheann said Moll!

Glacann **Máire Uí Rabhartaigh** páirt Moll agus is iad **Seán Ó Maolagáin**, **Colm Mac Ghiolla Easpaig** agus **Seán Ó Ghallchóir** an tríúr sagart a thagann fána cúram, agus fána smacht fiú, sul i bhfad. Glachann **Bernie Ní Dhuibhir**, **Suzanne Uí Ghallchóir**, **Eoghan Mac Ghiolla Bhríde** agus **Pól Mac Cumhail** páirteanna an tEaspag agus na comharsain a thagann isteach is amach sa Teach Pharóiste. Is compántas iontach cleachta iad Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair, a bhfuil mórchuid drámaí



stáitse, maraon le obair teilifíse do TG4, déanta acu uilig go dtí seo

Ba i dtigh Neidí an Gabha Rua i tSraith na Corcra a chuir Eoghan Mac Giolla Bhríde agus Chathal Mac Giolla Easpuig **Cumann Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair** ar bun, i 1931. Rinne an compántas úr a chéad dráma a léiriú i Halla Dhoire Beaga i 1932.

Bhain Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair clú agus cáil amach don pharóiste agus don chontae ar fud na hÉireann agus san Alban. Ó shin i leith, tá toradh a gcuid oibre le feiceáil go forleathan. Mar shampla, ba de bhunú Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair na daoine a rinne cláracha teilifíse mar CU Burn, FFC, Gleann Ceo agus cláracha eile.

Brid Harper and Friends

**Dermot Byrne • Steve Cooney • Trevor Hutchinson
Bronagh Graham • PJ McDonald**

FRIDAY • September 25 • Balor Arts Centre, Main Street, **Ballybofey**
8.30pm • €15/€12

Tonight is a very special occasion for acclaimed Castlefin fiddle player Bríd Harper, as it marks the Donegal launch of Bríd's debut solo CD, 'Bríd Harper & Friends'.

Bríd has been playing Irish Traditional Music on the fiddle since she was nine years old. She has won many All Ireland under-age fiddle competitions at Fleadhanna Ceoil and in 1988 was awarded three major titles - Senior All Ireland, Oireachtas na Gaeilge and The Fiddler of Dooney.

Many traditional musicians cite Bríd Harper as a major influence on their playing and she has been described as one



of the finest exponents of traditional fiddle playing of our time. She has appeared on numerous occasions on TG4, RTÉ and BBC. She tours extensively, collaborating with some of the finest traditional musicians on the scene and is also in much demand as a tutor.

Although she has guested on many recordings over the years, 'Bríd Harper &

Friends' is her debut solo CD. It features guest appearances from some of traditional Irish music's finest including

Dermot Byrne (accordion), John Doyle (guitar), Seán Óg Graham (accordion), Trevor Hutchinson (double bass), Bronagh Graham (banjo), PJ

McDonald (tin whistle) and John Joe Kelly (bodhrán).

*Following on last year's tremendous success, the Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival is delighted to link up once again with the **Johnny Doherty Music and Dancing Festival** in Ardara, where the legacy of the great Donegal Fiddler John Doherty is celebrated. The Festival is presented by the Ardara branch of Comhaltas Cheoltóirí Éireann and is part-funded by Donegal County Council*

www.johnnydohertyfestival.com • www.ardara.ie

Mischa Macpherson James Ross

FRIDAY • September 25 • The Beehive Bar, Ardara • 8.00pm • €10

Booking 087 6900714



Mischa Macpherson won the Gaelic Singer of the Year Award at the 2014 Scots Trad Music Awards. Her Mishca Macpherson Trio also won the Danny Kyle Celtic Connections Award and the BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award in the same year! A traditional singer and clarsach player, steeped in the Gaelic culture of the Outer Hebrides, Mischa came to public prominence on foot of a recent live session with Mark Radcliffe on

BBC Radio 2 and a stunning Main Stage performance at Fairport's Cropedy Convention, which was the subject of glowing reviews.

James Ross is a graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, Glasgow and of the Irish World Music Centre at the University of Limerick where

he studied piano under Prof. Mícheál Ó Súilleabháin. He has performed extensively throughout Britain, Ireland and America

and currently teaches traditional piano at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama.



Cherish The Ladies

SATURDAY • September 26 • The Nesbitt Arms Hotel, **Ardara • 8.00pm • €18**
 Booking **087 6900714** (€20 at Door)

The Grammy-nominated, Irish-American super group are always hugely welcome visitors to Donegal. Under the leadership of All-Ireland flute and whistle champion **Joanie Madden**, along with **Mary Coogan** (guitar), **Mirella Murray** (accordion), **Kathleen Boyle** (piano), **Nollaig Casey** (fiddle), **Heidi Talbot** (vocals and bodhrán) and dancers, fourtime

World champion **Declan McHale** and **Nathan Pilatzke** (Ottawa Valley step dancer with the Chieftans), an evening with Cherish The Ladies is a spectacular blend of virtuoso instrumental talents, beautiful vocals and stunning step dancing.

• *It is simply impossible to imagine an audience that wouldn't enjoy what they do.* **The Boston Globe**

The Friel Sisters

SUNDAY • September 27 • The Beehive Bar, **Ardara • 8.00pm**
 €10 • Booking **087.6900714**

Born and raised in Scotland, but with their roots firmly in the



Donegal Gaeltacht, Anna, Sheila and Clare Friel launched their debut CD at Scoil Gheimhridh Frankie Kennedy in Gaoth Dobhair in 2014. Immensely accomplished singers and instrumentalists, they perform a vibrant blend of traditional music and song from their rich family repertoire, on uilleann pipes, fiddle and flute.

• *These three siblings from the Donegal-Glasgow community offer honest-to-goodness and utterly rooted traditional singing and playing.* **The Scotsman**

Scullion

Sonny Condell • Philip King • Robbie Overson

FRIDAY • October 2 • Balor Arts Centre,
Main Street, **Ballybofey • 8.30pm • €15**

Three decades on from their formative gigs together, Scullion's signature sound is as strong as ever as they revisit their impressive catalogue of songwriting landmarks - Eyelids Into Snow, Down In The City, White Side of The Night, Driving, John The Baptist, and much more.

They return to Donegal on a tour to mark the release of a brand new live set of songs, Under the Moon, which was recorded in the beautiful Triskel Christchurch venue in Cork City.

• *The band never stopped, we just have some periods of intense rest! Philip is*

a successful film maker and broadcaster, and I have my own band and recording career, Robbie plays music the world over, so we come together when the time is right for us.

Sonny Condell

• *Three decades equals a remarkable repertoire in Scullion's world, most of it drawn from the creative genius of Sonny Condell, whose subtle lyricism and matchless melody lines bear scant kinship to anyone else on the planet.*

The Irish Times



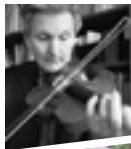
CUIREANN CAIRDEAS NA BHFIDLEIRÍ I LÁTHAIR

The 33rd Annual Glenties Fiddlers Gathering

FRIDAY – SUNDAY • October 2-4 • The Highlands Hotel, **Glenties**
www.donegalfiddle.com

This popular event is for anyone interested in fiddle music and the formal programme includes classes, a concert with special guest fiddle players, talks and occasional

recitals. Fiddle players from the Scottish tradition are commonly featured as are both young and established players from the Donegal tradition.



Fiddle Masterclasses

SATURDAY and SUNDAY 11.30am to 1.00pm • The Highlands Hotel. There is no charge but Booking on **071 9852144** or **rabcherry1@gmail.com** is advisable.

Mickey Doherty and his Music – The Collected Recordings

SATURDAY • 1.00pm to 2.00pm • The Highlands Hotel.

Rab Cherry, a founder member of Cairdeas na bhFidiléirí / The Donegal Fiddlers Association, will give an illustrated talk on the recordings of the great Donegal fiddle player, Mickey Doherty.



GALA Concert

SATURDAY • October 3

The Highlands Hotel • 9.00pm • €12

Dermot McLaughlin • Dermot Byrne • Aonghas Grant • Iarla O'Donnell • Dominic Gallagher

Dermot McLaughlin is a highly renowned and respected fiddle player in the Donegal tradition. He is also very well known as a broadcaster and has produced a number of very significant traditional music recordings including *The Road to Glen Lough* by the late, great James Byrne, as well as *The Brass Fiddle* and *Con Cassidy* –

Traditional Fiddle Music from Donegal, for *Cairdeas na bhFidiléirí*.

Dermot Byrne is a virtuoso accordion player from Buncrana. Winner of the TG4 Traditional Musician of the Year Award in 2013, his style has been much influenced by the playing of John Doherty, Con Cassidy and Tommy Peoples. A longtime member of Donegal traditional band Altan, he performs in a wonderful duo with French harpist Floriane Blancke.

Aonghas Grant's fiddle career spans more than six decades. At 83 years of age, he is still very active as a soloist, teacher and session participant. His family hails from the Highlands of Glen Moriston. He plays a wide range of fiddle tunes, from ancient Gaelic airs to classic Niel Gow sets, to Irish reels, to Highland pipe tunes.

Iarla O'Donnell is a young fiddle player, very much rooted in the fiddle music of South west Donegal. He has a very strong fiddle playing lineage - his great grandfather being Paddy Huidí Byrne of Meenacross, Gleann Cholm Cille. Iarla has been to the fore for several years as an excellent duet player with his brother Breffni.

Dominic Gallagher is a fine young fiddle player from Carrick, playing in the local style of his area, with a fine and large repertoire of local tunes.



art at 100 exhibition

SATURDAY – SATURDAY • September 19 – October 10

Donegal Designer Makers Gallery, Main Street, **Ardara • FREE**

Open Daily (incl. Sun) • 10.30am - 6.00pm

www.donegaldesignermakers.com • [facebook/donegaldesignermakers](https://facebook.com/donegaldesignermakers)

E: info@donegaldesignermakers.com • T: 00 353 (0)87 1023100

Exhibition Opening • SATURDAY • September 19 • 2.00pm

Music & Refreshments. All are welcome.

To celebrate Irish Design 2015, and as part of this year's Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival, the Donegal Designer Makers are holding an innovative exhibition in their Gallery Shop in Ardara. Twelve members of the group have risen to a challenging brief to make four pieces of art, each selling at just €100.

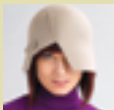
The Donegal Designer Makers Gallery Shop has had a very successful year with a much praised earlier summer exhibition, Select, and a re-invigorated shop now with all year round opening which has seen many hundreds of overseas and Irish visitors through the doors.

Fiona Higgins works in the medium of silk, using the process of batik where hot wax is applied and acts as a resistant to the dye, creating the image.
W: www.fionahiggins.com

Isobel Sanghas the creator and proprietor of the Donegal Natural Soap Company. She finds inspiration for her range of products through foraging in the natural environs of her homeplace.
W: www.donegalnaturalsoap.ie

Brian McGee is a ceramicist whose work is both functional and sculptural. All his creations are entirely handmade.
W: www.brianmcgee.ie





Naomi Fleury, from Yokohama, is the creator and proprietor of Japanese Papercraft. She produces delicate mobiles, jewellery and cards on handmade and hand printed paper.
W: www.japanesepapercraft.com

Hannah McGuinness is a jewellery designer who creates one-off and limited edition pieces. Her work focuses on the interplay between form, texture and colour.

E: hannahmcguinness@gmail.com

Anastasia Caples is a designer and craftsperson who has worked in textile design and art education, in Ireland and abroad. She specialises in the creation of hand-blocked, felt hats.
E: annacples@yahoo.co.uk

Shaun Egan is a photographer from Kerrykeel on the Fanad Peninsula. He produces unique and collectable imagery, taking inspiration from the rich and varied landscape that surrounds him.
W: www.shاونegan.com

Michael Parkinson is a furniture designer and maker from Letterkenny.

He also leads creative workshops for the HSE at the Green Leaf Sheltered Training Centre.

W: www.madewithwood.net

Rathlin Knitwear is a handloom-based business in Cill Chartha. In its sweaters, hats and scarves, traditional stitches and patterns are used to create contemporary styles.

W: www.rathlinknitwear.ie

Peggy Mulqueen produces a range of contemporary and bespoke accessories, using carefully sourced fabrics and often vintage materials.
E: mulqueendesigns@gmail.com

Karen O'Kane, Koko Designs, works in silk to make a unique range of home furnishings, fashion garments and accessories. Her designs are bold and vibrant. W: www.kokodesigns.ie

Marina Hamilton's studio and gallery is located on the family farm in St. Johnston. In her sculpture and paintings, she reflects the unique character of the animals she sees at close quarters.
W: www.marinahamilton.net

Meitheal Ealaíne

Deborah J. Stockdale • Rik Walton • Ana Stromberg • Adam McIntyre
 Pamela Manson • Bernard McLaughlin • Liosa Ní Chiaráin • Michael Doherty

AOINE – DOMHNACH • 25ú Meán Fómhair – 4ú Deireadh Fómhar

FRIDAY – SUNDAY • September 25 – October 4

Open Daily (incl. Sun) • 1.00pm – 6.00pm

Saor in Aisce/FREE • Eolas ar • T: 074 9730173

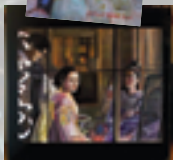
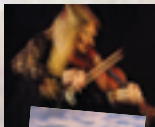
Glen Gallery, Caiseal, **Gleann Choilm Cille**

Oíche Láinseála ar An Aoine • 25ú Meán Fómhair • 8.00pm • Fíor Fáilte roimh Cách

Opening Night Friday • September 25th • 8.00pm • Everybody Welcome.

Grúpa ochtar ealaíontóir is iad Meitheal Ealaíne, atáid ag cur futhu thart fá cheannntar Ghleann Choilm Cille, is a thógann ionspioráid ón nádúr is ón gcomhshaol drámatúil fán dtaobh sin tíre.

Bíonn Deborah J. Stockdale ag plé le fíodóireacht, cuilteanna is le táipéisí. Is griangrafadóir é Rik Walton agus is péintéirí iad Ana Stromberg, Bernard McLaughlin, Adam McIntyre, Adam McIntyre, Pamela Manson agus Michael Doherty, a oibríonn in uiscedathanna agus ollaí. Is iad portacha Dhún na nGall a thugann ionspioráid do Pamela Manson agus is ealaíontóirí portráidí í Liosa Ní Chiaráin atá ag taispeáint a cuid ealaíon leis an grúpa seo don chéad uair.



The Meitheal Ealaíne artists group from Ghleann Cholm Cille, hosts its annual group art exhibition as part of the Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival.

There will be new watercolour works from Ana Stromberg, Michael Doherty, Adam McIntyre and Benny McLaughlin. Rik Walton will be showing his dynamic photos of musicians. Pamela Manson will show her recent work which celebrates the Irish bogland. New member, Liosa Ní Chiaráin, creates portraiture and still life scenes, with watercolours and oils. Deborah Stockdale will show her new textile work, which explores textures and forms through painting and stitching.

A Night for Noelle Vial

Patricia Doherty Roe • Eunan McIntyre & Friends • Hosted by Derek Vial

FRIDAY • September 25 • The Bayview Hotel, Killybegs • 8.30pm



The 2013 Festival saw the launch of the inaugural Noelle Vial Tyrone Guthrie Centre Poetry Bursary, designed to assist an emerging poet by providing an opportunity for them to work on a debut or second collection of work. The winner of the current Bursary is Buncrana poet, Patricia Doherty Roe. She will be the special guest at this year's Night for Noelle Vial.

Patricia Doherty Roe is the second writer from Inishowen to have won the Noelle Vial Bursary. She has

extensive training and experience in drama, performance and education. In recent years, she has written a series of poems for her own voice, many of which she has performed live and on radio. She used her stay at the Tyrone Guthrie Centre in Annamakerrig to work on her debut collection of poetry.

Eunan McIntyre is a singer songwriter from Gleann Cholm Cille. To-date he has released five CDs of his own songs, many of which – like Rathlin Sky, The Carraig Una and The Killybegs Song – are reflective of his deep connection to South West Donegal. Eunan tours regularly in the US, Canada and Europe.

Noelle Vial

Killybegs poet Noelle Vial, who sadly passed away 12 years ago this year, won the Hennessy Literary Award for Best Poetry by an Emerging Writer in 1994 and produced a highly acclaimed debut collection, *Promiscuous Winds* (Storyline Press, USA) in 1995. A founder member of the Killybegs Writers Group, she excelled at public readings of her work and was a passionate advocate for the art of poetry in the community.

DONEGAL FESTIVAL OF STORYTELLING 2015

Wait till I tell You a Good One – Donegal Festival of Storytelling Launch Night

Chris Cassidy • John McMenamin • Keith Corcoran • Patsy McNulty

Hosted by Maura Logue

THURSDAY • October 1 • The Reel Inn, Donegal Town • 8.30pm • FREE

‘Calling all ceilidh goers and rambles. There’s to be a night of stories, yarns and music in the Reel Inn. Pull up a seat and make yourself at home for the evenings are getting longer.’

The inaugural Donegal Festival of Storytelling will take place in various venues in Donegal Town over the weekend of October 23rd. – 25th. The festival organisers extend an invitation to all to come along to tonight’s launch event and enjoy a preview of what’s in store.

Keith Corcoran is steadily making a name for himself through his successful storytelling summer residencies in the Olde Castle Bar in Donegal Town, now in its third season. Keith will tell stories from his new collection, Celtic Tales and Donegal Yarns .

Chris Cassidy is a well known and highly accomplished Donegal based musician and singer. He will perform his



original comedic ballads and spin a few yarns.

John McMenamin is a master accordion player and storyteller from the traditional mountain district of Ahayaran, on the West Tyrone-Donegal border.

John and his wife, Denise, have tirelessly promoted the Reel Inn which is now one of the most popular old-style singing lounges in the Northwest of Ireland.

Patsy McNulty is set to make his long overdue debut at this year’s festival launch. A native of the Lough Eske area, Patsy’s repertoire includes many old time stories he heard around the fireside as a ‘wee coddie.’

Maura Logue is an actress, theatre maker and director. She performed in and directed Soinbhe Lally’s play, The Dark Daughter, the story of one of Donegal Castle’s most famous residents, Fionnuala ‘Iníon Dubh’ Macdonnell, wife of the great Hugh O’Donnell.

An Evening with W.B. Yeats

FRIDAY • October 2 • Community Library, Bundoran • 8.30pm • €5



In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the birth of William Butler Yeats, this event sees an ensemble of local South Donegal musicians and actors joining forces to celebrate the work of the great poet, playwright, romantic, songwriter and Gaelic culture revivalist. The Corbett Brothers will be joined by Jim

Carbon (mandolin) and Marc Geagan (dobro) and Scott McGettigan (percussion) for their interpretation of *The Lake Isle of Innisfree* and *Down by the Sally Gardens*. Actress Maura Logue will portray Countess Markievicz and perform a selection of Yeats' best known poems.

MODAL CITIZEN RECORDS

Erdini

SATURDAY • October 3

Dicey Reilly's, **Ballyshannon**

• 9.00pm

Formed in early 2015, this group of South Donegal musicians are named after the early inhabitants of the River Erne basin. Their repertoire incorporates elements of bluegrass, country, blues, jazz and traditional Irish music. Erdini are brothers Conor and Rory Corbett on guitar and 5-string banjo, Jim Carbin on mandolin, Marc Geagan on dobro, Jaimie Carswell on bass and Scott McGettigan on drums. Erdini are presently working on their debut album, due for release in early 2016.



Transatlantic Session

FRIDAY • October 2 • Marrboro House, Bundoran • 10.00pm • FREE

An evening of Irish, English and American Folk Music with South Donegal group Erdini, and special guests, Dorset folk singer Sarah Whittick and the Wessex Morris Men, a troupe of traditional English dancers from the Cotswolds region.

RTÉ Sunday Miscellany

Mary O'Donnell, The Henry Girls, Little John Nee, Nuala Ní Chonchúir, Frank Galligan, Aidan O'Donnell, Danny Meehan, Denise Blake, Olive Travers, Amy Gillen, Seamie O'Dowd, Martin McGinley, Colette Ní Ghallchóir, Joe Brennan, Dave McHugh.

SUNDAY • October 4 • The Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon • 3.00pm • FREE



Mary O'Donnell is a novelist, short story writer and poet. A member of Aosdána, she has written six works of fiction to-date

including the novels, *Where They Lie* and *The Elysium Testament*, as well as the short story collection, *Storm Over Belfast*.



The Henry Girls are Karen, Lorna and Joleen McLaughlin from Malin.

Their stunning vocal and instrumental virtuosity, and natural stage presence, has captivated audiences throughout Europe and the US.



Little John Nee is a writer, performer and musician based in County Galway. His play, *Sparkplug*, won him an Irish Times

Theatre Award for Sound Design. His new theatre concert show with the Caledonia Highly Strung Orchestra is based on their debut album, *Songs from the Lough Swilly Delta*.



Nuala Ní Chonchúir was born in Dublin and now lives in East Galway. Her critically acclaimed novel, *The Closet of Savage*

Mementos, was shortlisted for the Kerry Irish Novel of the Year Award 2015. Penguin have just published her third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid.



Frank Galligan is a writer and broadcaster with Irish TV and Highland Radio. He is also a published poet and short

story writer and winner of the McCrea and Walter Allen awards for literature. He is a creative writing facilitator with Poetry Ireland and the Pushkin Trust.



Aidan O'Donnell is a hugely admired traditional fiddle player in the Donegal style. A native of Dunkineely and a former

TG4 Young Traditional Musician of the Year, he is a founder member of the traditional trio Fidil.



Danny Meehan is a master Donegal fiddle player from Drimalost, near Mountcharles. In 2012, after his return to

Donegal having spent over 50 years living and working in London, he was awarded the prestigious TG4 Gradam Ceoil/ Lifetime Achievement Award.



Denise Blake is a regular contributor to Sunday Miscellany. Her collections, Take a Deep Breath and How to Spin Without

Getting Dizzy, are published by Summer Palace Press. She is Literary Curator for Donegal Bay and Blue Stacks Festival.



Olive Travers has been a teacher, a psychologist, a trainer and a creative writing facilitator. Her writing has featured

widely in print and broadcast media, including The Irish Times and RTE's Sunday Miscellany.



Amy Gillen is a prodigious young musical talent from Bridgetown, Laghey. A classical flautist, she was invited

this summer to participate in the prestigious annual James Galway Flute Festival and Masterclass event in Switzerland.



Seamie O'Dowd is a guitarist and singer from Sligo. A member of the Mairtín O'Connor Band, Seamie is equally well

respected for his blues and oldtime interpretations, in his own solo work and in his collaborations with Cathy Jordan and Rick Epping in the Sligo band, The Unwanted.



Martin McGinley is a well-known Donegal journalist and fiddle-player. In a varied career, he has worked as a

television and radio reporter with BBC Northern Ireland and has edited both the Derry Journal and the Donegal Democrat newspapers.



Colette Ní Ghallcháoir has published two volumes of Gaelic poetry, Idir Dhá Ghleann and Na Sióga i Lag na hAltóra. A bilingual

collection of her poetry, *The Last Look / An tAmharc Deireannach*, was published by Arlen House in 2014.



Joe Brennan is a storyteller who has travelled throughout the world. He has written a number of successful

plays for children and is the author of *Donegal Folk Tales*. He is also director of Ramelton Storytelling Festival.



Dave McHugh is a recipient of the Patrick Semples Medal for Irish Folklore. An accomplished blues guitarist, he has performed in Ballyshannon on a

number of occasions for the annual Rory Gallagher International Tribute Festival.

BOOKING | BOOKÁIL

Bookáil/Booking

For all Festival events, tickets will be available for purchase at the venue on the evening of the performance. To avoid disappointment, however, please plan to arrive at the venue at least 20 minutes before the advertised showtime. Should you wish, you may also book certain performances in advance, at the following venues -

Booking at **The Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon • T: 071 9851375**

Can't Pay? Won't Pay! at Abbey Arts Centre.

I Would Walk These Fields Again at **Halla Muire, Gleann Cholm Cille,**

Glenties Community Centre and **Abbey Arts Centre.**

Sunday Miscellany at **Abbey Arts Centre.**

Moll at **Halla Muire, Gleann Cholm Cille.**

Booking at **The Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey** • T: 074 9131840
Bríd Harper & Friends, Charolais and **Scullion** at **The Balor Arts Centre**.

Booking at **Bundoran Community Library, Bundoran** • T: 071 9829665
The Lad from Laghey and **An Evening with W.B. Yeats** at **Bundoran Community Library**.

Booking at **Johnny Doherty Festival, Ardara** • T: 087.6900714
Mischa Macpherson and **James Ross, Cherish the Ladies, The Friel Sisters**.

Booking at **Halla Muire, Gleann Cholm Cille** • T: 074 9730039
I would Walk These Fields Again and **Moll** at **Halla Muire**.

For General Information on The Festival, please contact:
The Festival Office • Tel. 074 9121968

DIALANN LAE/DAY BY DAY

EVENTS			Page
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25			
Meitheal Ealaíne Exhibition Opening	Glen Gallery, Gleann Cholm Cille	7.30pm	16
Mischa Macpherson and James Ross	Beehive Bar, Ardara	8.00pm	10
Bríd Harper & Friends	Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey	8.30pm	9
Night for Noelle Vial	Bayview Hotel, Killybegs	8.30pm	17
Céilí and Sets, Emerald Céilí Band	Nesbitt Arms Hotel, Ardara	10.00pm	10
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26			
Céilí & Set Dance Workshop	Methodist Hall, Ardara	11.00am & 3.00pm	10
Can't Pay? Won't Pay!	Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon	8.00pm	2
Cherish The Ladies	Nesbitt Arms Hotel, Ardara	8.00pm	11
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27			
Sean Nós Dance Workshop	Heritage Centre, Ardara	11.00am	10
Afternoon Céilí with Céilí Time	Nesbitt Arms, Ardara	3.00pm	10
The Friel Sisters	Beehive Bar, Ardara	8.00pm	11
I Would Walk These Fields Again	Halla Muire, Gleann Cholm Cille	8.30pm	3
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 28			
I Would Walk These Fields Again	Halla Muire, Gleann Cholm Cille	8.30pm	3

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 29

The Lad from Laghey/Balor Rep	Bundoran Community Library	8.30pm	5
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WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

I Would Walk These Fields Again	Community Centre, Glenties	8.30pm	3
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THURSDAY OCTOBER 1

Charolais	Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey	8.00pm	4
I Would Walk These Fields Again	Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon	8.30pm	3
Storytelling Festival Launch	Reel Inn, Donegal Town	8.30pm	18

FRIDAY OCTOBER 2

The Lad from Laghey/Balor Rep	McIntyre's, Dunkineely	8.30pm	5
My Boy Jack/Donegal Drama Circle	John Bosco Centre, Donegal	8.30pm	6
An Evening with W.B. Yeats	Bundoran Community Library	8.00pm	19
Scullion	Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey	8.00pm	12
Donegal Fiddlers Gathering	H'lands Hotel, Glenties (informal)	10.00pm	12
Transatlantic Music	Marlboro House, Bundoran	10.00pm	19

SATURDAY OCTOBER 3

Fiddle Masterclasses	Highlands Hotel, Glenties	11.30am	13
Mickey Doherty and his Music (Talk)	Highlands Hotel, Glenties	1.00pm	13
Festival Carnival Parade	Ballyshannon	7.30pm	7
My Boy Jack/Donegal Drama Circle	John Bosco Centre, Donegal	8.30pm	6
Moll/Aisteoirí Ghaoth Dobhair	Halla Muire Gleann Cholm Cille	8.30pm	8
Donegal Fiddlers Gala Concert	Highlands Hotel, Glenties	9.00pm	13
Erdini	Dacey Reilly's, Ballyshannon	9.00pm	19
Carnival Night	Dorrians Hotel, Ballyshannon	10.30pm	7

SUNDAY OCTOBER 4

Fiddle Masterclasses	Highlands Hotel, Glenties	11.30am	13
Donegal Fiddlers Gathering	H'lands Hotel, Glenties (informal)	2.00pm	13
RTE Radio 1 Sunday Miscellany	Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon	3.00pm	20
The Lad from Laghey/Balor Rep	Balor Arts Centre, Ballybofey	8.00pm	5
My Boy Jack/Donegal Drama Circle	John Bosco Centre, Donegal	8.30pm	6

TAISPEÁNTAISÍ / EXHIBITIONS

DONEGAL DESIGNER MAKERS	'art @100'	14
Donegal Designer Makers Gallery Shop, Main Street, Ardara.		
Monday–Sunday • 10.30am – 6.00pm • FREE to October 10		

MEITHEAL EALAÍNE

Glen Gallery, Cashel, Gleann Cholm Cille.	16
Luan – Domhnach • 1.00pm – 6.00pm • SAOR IN AISCE Go dtí 4ú Deireadh Fómhar	
Monday – Sunday • 1.00pm – 6.00pm • FREE To October 4	

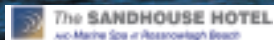


Sponsors of:
RTÉ Radio 1 Sunday Miscellany

Abbey Arts Centre, Ballyshannon
Sunday • October 4 • 3.00pm
Booking: 071 9851375

The Sandhouse Hotel & Marine Spa at Rossnowlagh Beach
Rossnowlagh, Co. Donegal, Ireland

T: 071 9851777 • F: 071 9852100
E: info@sandhouse.ie • W: www.sandhouse.ie





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