

ARTYFACTS

October
2004



the arts
council
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KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS SERVICE

This edition of **Artyfacts** presents schedules for the upcoming **Creative Writing Autumn School** for adults as well as the **Hallowe'en Artsfest in Libraries** for children.

Recent **Per Cent for Art** projects are unveiled and details of training programmes for artists are outlined. Details of all our programmes are also available on www.kildare.ie/arts



Front cover: "Siren" outside Naas Fire Station, by Alex Pentek.

Arts Service

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Library Services

Library Headquarters Tel: 045 448322

Celbridge Library Tel: 01 6272207

Maynooth Library Tel: 01 6285530

Naas Library Tel: 045879111

Newbridge Library Tel: 045 436453

Rathangan Library Tel: 045 528078

Athy Library Tel: 059 8631144

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All information is correct at the time of going to press

PUBLIC ART COLLECTION

The county Public Art collection has been enhanced with the edition of two sculptures and a stained glass work. The three pieces were commissioned by Kildare County Council Fire Service to compliment the new buildings in Naas and Athy and the refurbishment project in Monasterevin.

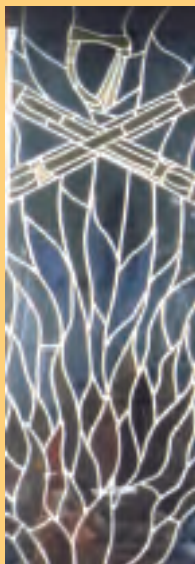


SIREN is a three dimensional piece in brass located in the green adjacent to Naas Fire Station. According to the artist, ALEX PENTEK, 'SIREN' illustrates 'how I think the sound of the fire alarm would look if it were not a sound but an object'.



Artist JOHN O'CONNOR created a wall mounted two dimensional art work for Athy Fire Station. A number of young people, living locally participated in a series of

workshops, their drawings were etched into the final design. The artist got further inspiration for the piece from ancient symbols for fire and water.



The façade of Monasterevin Station is embellished by a series of stained glass panels by artist MARGARET BECKER. The panels depict abstract and representational themes associated with the Fire Service. The Department of the Environment Per Cent for Art scheme funded these works.

A commissioning process is currently underway for two further Per Cent for Art projects in Heath/ Mayfield and MEKM4 projects.

CERTIFICATE IN COMMUNITY ARTS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The recently advertised course Certificate in Community Arts for Community Development attracted over 40 artists, community workers and facilitators from Kildare and across Ireland. The course, which is due to commence at the end of October, takes place in the Education Centre, Kildare Town and Riverbank Arts Centre.

Due to the demand, Kildare County Arts Service hope to work with the Adult and Community Education Department, NUI MAYNOOTH to devise a follow on Diploma course. It is expected that a further Certificate course will take place in 2005.

To register interest for the course, contact the Arts Service.

TRAINING



ATHY LIBRARY

Friday 1st &
Saturday 2nd
October
Meeting Lane
Theatre

company present "IAM" a play based on aspects of John Clare's life and poetry.

September 30th - October 12th

Book Detective Club

Register to join our reading club from now until October 12th. The club is for library members aged 13 and under and runs from 19th October to December 7th. All successful participants will receive a certificate of achievement and a goody bag. Contact the library for more details.

30th Nov - 18th December

Athy design group exhibition

The display will include woodturning, knitwear, pewter, hats, ceramics, glassware and fine art.

CELBRIDGE LIBRARY

Monday 4th October
Celbridge Local History Group
Talk given by Tony Doohan - the author of "The History of Celbridge", at 8pm.
All are welcome.

Friday 8th October - 15th October

Exhibition of Sculpture by artist Mick O'Shea
Mick is a self made man, a native of Kerry. He is a football coach, a writer and a sculptor. This exhibition contains his work over the last ten years. Mick works with the ball, the pen and stone. He leaves the ball on the field and takes the pen and the stone home.

Mental Health Lectures

Monday 11th October, Thursday 14th October,
Monday 18th October.
Please contact the library for details.

Friday 22nd October - 29th October

Joint Art Exhibition by Jane and Paddy Doyle.

Monday 1st November
Celbridge Local History Group

Talk given by Rita Edwards entitled "Images of Erin – different faces of Ireland over the Centuries". Talk at 8pm and all are welcome.

Friday 5th November - 12th November
Exhibition of watercolours by artist Ronan Argutinski.

Monday 15th November - 19th November
Straffan Art Group Exhibition of paintings.

Tue 23rd November - Fri 10th December
Abbey Art Group Exhibition of paintings.

Mon 13th December - Mon 20th December
Group exhibition of textile art, fused glass and ceramics by artists Francesca Borzi Powell, Ester Keily, Elisabetta Ravarino-Healy and Elena Buttner.

NAAS LIBRARY

Tue 28th September - Fri
8th October
Elena Mikhailova
Exhibition

Tue 12th October - Sat 23rd October
Andrew Buchanan Exhibition
(Mixed Media)

Fri, 29th October - Sat 6th November
Naas Local History Exhibition
(Photographs, Posters, Maps, Newspapers, Cuttings)

Tue 9th November - Sat 13th November
Sandy Kennedy and Heidi Morrison Exhibition
(Mixed Media)

Wed 17th November - Sat, 27th November
Naas Art Group Exhibition

Wed 1st December - Sat 4th December
Himalayan Handcraft Exhibition
(Sale of local Himalayan craft etc. in aid of Leprosy Trust, Nepal)

Tue 7th December - Sat 11th December
Irish Woodturners - Kildare Guild Exhibition

Tue 14th December - Wed 22nd December
Helen Kelly Art Group Exhibition
(Mixed Media)





The Laban Guild Community Dance Leaders Course, Level 2 course commences in November, with an experiential weekend facilitated by choreographers Cathy O'Kennedy and Anna Carlisle. This accredited course is recognised internationally.

Expressions of interest are currently taken for the introductory course, Level 1 which will take place in late 2005.

DANCE

CREATIVE WRITING AUTUMN SCHOOL

The ever-popular school takes place over the autumn season. The diverse programme offers a range of topics that would be of interest to beginner and continuation level writers. These events will support the development of critical skills for writers, in terms of their analysis of others work and also will be applied to their own writing.

The Creative Writing School will consist of a series of Creative Writing workshops in libraries around the county, focusing on writing techniques in

- Short Story
- Writing for Children
- The Novel
- Writing for The Spoken Word.

Workshop Facilitators

Celebrated professional writers from Kildare - Martin Malone, Mae Leonard and Mary Arrigan will facilitate these workshops.



Martin Malone is an award winning novelist and short story writer. This year he won first prize of €2,500 in the inaugural 2004 Killarney International Short Story Awards. Critics acclaimed his characterisation of Khamll in his novel, The Broken Cedar, as 'Masterful.' His new novel is currently with the publishers and he has just embarked on writing a non-fiction book.



Mae Leonard is a regular contributor to Sunday Miscellany and Lyric's Quiet Quarter and a number of her short stories have been broadcast. She is difficult to track down but presently you will find her between the pages of the new Junior Certificate English text book and Garm Lu the Celtic Studies Collection at Toronto University. She has several literary awards under her belt including gold and silver at Kilkenny and Clonmel for one - act plays. A prizewinner in the C.D.Lewis and Gerard Manley Hopkins competitions for poetry and prose Mae is published in several anthologies.



Mary Arrigan has written and illustrated picture books for younger children; eight books for 7 - 9 year-olds; fourteen books for teenagers and writes a monthly children's book review for The Sunday Tribune.



Her titles have been translated into Dutch, German, Polish, Danish, Swedish, Finnish and Russian. She received a Bisto Merit Award in 2000 and her teenage book, Grimstone's Ghost is now out on audiocassette (BBC Audio Books).

To co-incide with the programme, an exhibition of illustrations by Mary Arrigan takes place in Riverbank Arts Centre

WORKSHOP OPTIONS

Maynooth Library

Mon 1st Nov - Martin Malone (Elements of Fiction) 8 - 10pm

Mon 8th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part 1) 8 - 9.30pm

Mon 15th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part 2) 8 - 9.30pm

Athy Library

Thur 28th Oct - Martin Malone (Elements of Fiction) 8 - 10.00pm

Sat 6th Nov - Mary Arrigan (Writing for Children part 1) 10am - 12.30pm

Sat 13th Nov - Mary Arrigan (Writing for Children part 2) 11am - 12.30pm

Thur 18th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part1) 8 - 9.30pm

Thur 25th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part 2) 8-9.30pm

Naas Library

Thur 4th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part 1) 8 - 9.30pm

Thur 11th Nov - Mae Leonard (Writing for the 'Spoken Word' part 2) 8 - 9.30pm

Sat 6th Nov - Mary Arrigan (Writing for Children) 2.30pm - 5.00pm

Sat 13th Nov - Mary Arrigan (Writing for Children) 2.30pm - 4.00pm

Newbridge Library

Sat 30th Oct - Martin Malone (Nuts & Bolts of Sh. Story & Novel writing part 1) 11am - 1pm

(Nuts & Bolts of Sh. Story & Novel writing part 2) 2pm - 4pm

Variations on workshop selection or attendance at more than one option may be available on request.

Early booking is essential to secure your place!

To register interest in the autumn school, contact participating libraries or the Arts Service

CECIL DAY LEWIS SHORT STORY AND POETRY AWARDS

Entries are invited for the annual C D Lewis competition. The competition celebrates the connection between the celebrated poet and South Kildare.

Celebrations to mark the bi-centenary of Cecil Day Lewis's birth were held in Ballintubbert Church, near Athy at the end Of September. Guest writers read from a selection of their own and CD Lewis's work.

Entries are invited in the following categories

- Junior Primary Poetry
- Junior Primary Short Story
- Senior Primary Poetry
- Senior Primary Short Story
- Post Primary Poetry
- Post Primary Short Story
- Adult Poetry
- Adult Short Story
- Adult One Act Play

Further information and application forms are available from the Arts Service and from libraries countywide. Details are also available on www.kildare.ie/arts

Closing date for entries Monday 8th November!

LITERATURE



CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL AND ARTFEST IN LIBRARIES

The Children's Book Festival is a nation - wide celebration of reading and books with an emphasis on FUN! The festival will be taking place this year from 14th - 31st October. You will find copies of the festival's brochure in most libraries and bookshops.

All events happening in Ireland will be posted on the website www.childrensbooksireland.com. Most events are free and happening in your local bookshops, libraries, art centres and schools.

To coincide with The Children's Book Festival, Kildare Library and Arts Service is hosting an ARTFEST packed with FREE activities just for children over the Halloween break period. So get to your nearest participating library, create a dance, make a film, listen to spooky tales or just make a mask to scare everyone with!!



Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves

Boys and girls, join the fun of telling a story through funky moves and creative movement. Lucy and Vijaya aim to transform your ideas into a story you won't forget in a hurry. Have deadly fun bending, stretching, sliding, flexing, and jumping around the floor while making a dance as well as new friends. This workshop promises brilliant fun and new ideas while you create your own dance.

ARTSFEST

Gymboree Music for Pre-schoolers

Gymboree Music takes you and your child on a playful journey through the world of music. Using instruments, songs and rhymes along with bubble and parachute activities you get to explore a variety of musical themes. It is a wonderful way to discover the connection between music and learning.



Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood for Halloween

Do you want some fun? Do you want to be entertained? Join Michael from Irish History Live and learn about Halloween past and present. The customs, games, stories and history of one of our most colourful festivals. Guaranteed lots of audience participation and loadsa, loadsa fun! But watch your back ... be afraid... it is the season of ghosts and ghouls.

Science is Magic

Back by popular demand this workshop is the business. A hands - on experience of natural forces including magnetism, electricity, heat and light. Using a mobile lab Michael Moylan demonstrates, using everyday objects found at home, simple experiments that children can repeat themselves. Be amazed, be confounded, and be excited by your discoveries.

ARTSFEST



Spellbound

Spellbound is a play for children specially commissioned by Kildare Library and Arts Service. The production toured to more than 30 primary schools this year. The main themes of the play i.e. books as tools of the imagination, circle time and expressions of feeling and the ineffectiveness of bullying behaviour have been transformed into drama workshops. The 60min workshops are aimed at 5 - 8 year olds and will include integration games, storytelling techniques and journeying through the imagination. Each session will have a maximum of 20 children and will be facilitated by two experienced drama facilitators from Crooked House Theatre Company, Newbridge.

Write!! Lights, Camera, Action

Can you tell tales?, Can you remember stories?, Interested in being caught on camera?

If this sounds like you, join Michael Fortune and Aileen Lambert to make sketches and shoot a short film.

The completed films will be screened at a community cinema event at the Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge later in the year.



Maestro Masks

O.K. this is the workshop for you if you want a zany, witty, magical, bizarre make over for your Halloween disguises. Just bring your ideas, lots of ideas and Sarah Browne will help you make your wildest thoughts a reality. Let your imagination soar - the sky's your only limit.

Musical Tots

Karen Donellan aims to provide a fun structured music class for parents and pre-school children. It's now widely acknowledged that children learn tunes and rhythms before they learn actual words. These relaxed sessions help with language co-ordination and social skills.

Booking Information

Contact relevant library to book your place.

Workshops are age specific i.e. the art programme is designed for the maximum participation and enjoyment of the listed age group.



All events are **FREE** but places are **limited**, so book early to avoid **disappointment!**

Please note that children must be collected immediately when workshops end.

Art workshops can be messy, please bring an old tee shirt to protect your clothes.

ARTSFEST

ATHY LIBRARY - T: 059 8631144

Tuesday 26th October

Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood
7 - 12yrs (11.00am - 12.15pm)
Science is Magic 7 - 12yrs (2.30pm - 3.45pm)

Wednesday 27th October

Spellbound 5 - 8 yrs (11.00am - 12.00pm)
Musical Tots pre - schoolers and parents
(2.30 - 3.30pm)

Thursday 28th October

Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves
7 - 9yrs (11am - 1pm)
Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves
10 - 12yrs (2.30pm - 4.30pm)

Friday 29th October

Write! Lights...9 - 14yrs

NEWBRIDGE LIBRARY - T: 045 436453

Tuesday 26th October

Musical Tots pre-schoolers & parents
(2.30 - 3.30pm)

Wednesday 27th October

Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves
7 - 12 yrs (11am - 1pm)

Spellbound 5 - 8yrs (2.30 - 3.30pm)

Thursday 28th October

Maestro Masks 7 - 9yrs (10.30 am - 12.30pm)
Maestro Masks 10 - 12yrs (2.30 - 4.30pm)

Friday 29th October

Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood
7 - 12 yrs (11.00am - 12.15pm)

NAAS LIBRARY - T: 045 879111

Tuesday 26th October

Gymboree Music for Pre-schoolers
(11am - 12.00pm)
Spellbound 5 - 8yrs (2.30 - 3.30pm)

Wednesday 27th October

Science is Magic 7 - 12 yrs
(11.00am - 12.15pm)
Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood
7 - 12 yrs (2.30pm - 3.45pm)

Thursday 28th October

Write! Lights...9 - 14yrs yrs.

Friday 29th October

Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves
7 - 9yrs (11am - 1pm)
Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves
10 - 12 yrs (2.30 - 4.30pm)



CELBRIDGE LIBRARY - T: 01 6272207

Tuesday 26th October

Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves

7 - 9yrs (11am - 1pm)

Funky Fun with your Moves and Grooves

10 - 12 yrs (2.30 - 4.30pm)

Wednesday 27th October

Maestro Masks 7 - 9yrs (10.30am - 12.30pm)

Maestro Masks 10 - 12yrs (2.30 pm 4.30pm)

Thursday 28th October

Spellbound 5 - 8yrs (2.30 - 3.30pm)

Friday 29th October

Musical Tots pre-schoolers and parents

(11am - 12.00pm)

Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood

7 - 12 yrs (2.30pm - 3.45pm)

Thursday 28th October

Vampires, Spooks & Goblins, Spells & Blood

7 - 12 yrs (2.30pm - 3.45pm)

Friday 29th October

Maestro Masks 7 - 9yrs (10.30am - 12.30pm)

Maestro Masks 10 - 12yrs (2.30pm - 4.30pm)

RATHANGAN LIBRARY - T: 045 528078

Tuesday 26th October

Write! Lights...9 - 14yrs

Thursday 28th October

Musical Tots pre - schoolers and parents

(2.30 - 3.30pm)

Friday 29th October

Spellbound 5 - 8yrs (2.30 - 3.30pm)

MAYNOOTH LIBRARY - T: 01 6285530

Tuesday 26th October

Musical Tots (11.00am - 12.00pm)

Wednesday 27th October

Write! Lights...9 - 14yrs (11.00am - 12.15pm)

Write! Lights...9 - 14yrs (2.30pm - 3.45pm)



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL ART COLLECTION

Restoration of Kildare County Council's Art Collection has commenced. The collection dates from the 1970s when the Council availed of the Arts Councils Joint Purchase Scheme.

Key artists' works in the collection are **Norah McGuinness, Evie Hone, Martin Gale, Robert Ballagh and Sean McSweeney**. A catalogue of the collection will be prepared for the opening of the Civic Offices in Naas in 2005.

JAMES MC KENNA SCULPTURE FOR NAAS



James Mc Kenna (1993-2000) enjoys a huge reputation among his contemporaries. Alice Hanratty said of him that he was 'the finest sculptor of the last hundred – and maybe the last thousand years' while artist Michael Kane said that he was 'one of the five or six finest artists in the world'.

He lived in Co Kildare for the last year of his life. Examples of his work can be seen in Monasterevin, Kildare Town and Athy – and shortly in Naas, when his masterly Oisín Caught in a Time Warp will be unveiled in the new Co Council building at Jigginstown.

Though he made many small pieces, James tended to opt for monumentality. Oisín stands sixteen feet high and weighs approximately four tons. He worked on the giant project for five years, finishing in 1996, four years before he died. It deals with the myth of Oisín, warrior of The Fianna, on his return to Ireland and to Allen, site of Fionn Mac Cumhail's encampment. It was only when he came back to Ireland from Tir na nOg that Oisín realised he had been away for three hundred years – hence Mc Kenna's title.

It is very fitting that – thanks to local support and to the ministrations of the redoubtable Dr Adrian McGoldrick this masterpiece should now find a place in the heart of the Thoroughbred County.

ERNEST SHACKLETON AUTUMN SCHOOL (22 - 25 OCTOBER 2004)

Athy Heritage Centre
presents
**The 4th
ERNEST
SHACKLETON
AUTUMN SCHOOL**

22nd - 25th October, 2004

- » Lectures
- » Exhibitions
- » Drama
- » Film
- » 2004 Limited Edition Posters

“By Endurance we Conquer”

The 4th Ernest Shackleton Autumn School celebrates the life and work of Ernest Shackleton, the South Pole Explorer who was born near Athy in 1847.

The Ernest Shackleton Autumn School is unique in Ireland and is located in Athy on account of Shackleton's connection with the area. The programme will feature a variety of challenging lectures or themes relating to Ernest Shackleton and Exploration in general. It will involve both historic and arctic dimension.

Sat 23rd & Sun 24th October

There will be a range of lecturers on Saturday and Sunday including Seamus McCann on “Antarctic Wildlife” Dr. J.Mc Adam on “Shackleton's Link with the Falklands”; Dr. Aidan O'Sullivan on “Inuit, Irish & Norse”; Kevin Kenny on “What it said in the Papers”; and Brendan Mc Williams Irish Times Columnist on “Antarctic Weather”; Dr. Bob Headland curator at the Scott Polar Research Institute on “Shackletoniana”;

On Saturday and Sunday evening at 9 O'clock the drama “A Horse's Breath on a Winters Road” will be performed, it portrays the history of emigration from Ireland as recorded in song and words.

Sunday 24th October

On Sunday at 2.30pm the screening of 90' South, a spellbinding chronicle of Captain R. Scott heroic and tragic race for the South Pole.

Monday 24th October

On Monday there is a field trip to 'Shackleton Country' including Castledermot, Ballitore, and Kilkea lead by John Mac Kenna and in the afternoon take a Boat Trip on 'Saoirse ar an Uisce' down the River Barrow.

On going events for each day will be:
Exhibition of unseen photography from the Museum's collection recently acquired by the Athy Heritage Centre from Christie's Auction House
Appearance of the "Antarctic Adventurers " recreating the classic period of Antarctic exploration complete with sledge, tent sleeping bags and all the necessary equipment.
Daily boat trip down the canal.
Children's Workshop and Street Theatre on the Polar theme.

The school will highlight the fact that Athy Heritage Centre has the only permanent exhibition devoted to Sir Ernest Shackleton. It includes an original sledge and harness from his Antarctic expedition, a 15ft model Shackleton's ship 'Endurance' and an exhibition of unique photographs and correspondence, also an audiovisual display featuring Frank Hurley's original film footage of the Endurance expedition.

ON SALE:

Limited edition Posters, Post Cards and the Video 90' South

Weekend tickets €50.00, €40.00 student, unwaged or elderly. Individual tickets can be purchased for event of your choice these range from €6.00 to €8.00.

For details contact

Athy Heritage Centre

Tel: 059-8633075

Email: athyheritage@eircom.net

Website: www.kildare.ie/athyheritage

A STITCH IN TIME...

Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service mark 350 years of Quaker culture in Ireland, with an innovative community project, in Ballitore, South Kildare.

Textile artist, Bernie Leahy will create an installation of stitched and embroidered drawings, which will engage 350 people in its making. The Quaker culture and the community of Ballitore will inspire the work. The completed tapestry will be permanently housed in the Quaker Museum and Library in Ballitore.

The project commenced in September and will be unveiled in December

For further information on the Quaker culture see
<http://www.kildare.ie/library/kildareheritage/quakbk-1.htm>

CULTURE