

## Ten Years at Athy Community Library

Athy Community Library celebrates its tenth anniversary on Saturday, September 28th 2002. Officially opened in 1992, the restoration of the eighteenth century building transformed the town hall into a modern cultural centre for Co. Kildare. Since then Athy Community Library has developed into a melting pot of activities and services, ranging from writer in residence programmes, arts activities for children to internet facilities and reading support initiatives. Members of the public are invited to visit the library on September 28th from 11am - 3pm where music, refreshments and children's activities will be provided and an exhibition of the work of visual artist **Reiltin Murphy** will be launched, to celebrate a decade of library activity.

Reiltin Murphy uses paint, gold leaf, leather, paper and the written word in the making of her artworks. She recently completed an MA in Visual Communication from the National College of Art and Design. Over the past year, Reiltin has been involved with a Scottish/ Irish project **Leabhar Mór**, a project involving 100 visual artists, 100 poems and 8 calligraphers, which begins its world wide exhibition tour in Glasgow from November 2002.

## Library and Arts Service Development in Rathangan

The acquisition and fitting out of the new premises for library and arts services in Rathangan is now nearing completion. The development will facilitate on-going Library and Arts Programmes including

- \* Enhanced library stock
- \* Artists in residence programmes
- \* A range of reading development and promotion activities
- \* Seasonal children's events such as World Book Day, Children's Summer Festival, Children's Book Festival
- \* Internet access
- \* Art appreciation lectures
- \* Visiting and local exhibitions
- \* Wet and dry workshops

## Dance

The Laban Guild Community Dance Leaders Course facilitated by Kildare County Council continues at Riverbank Arts Centre over the autumn/ winter season. The course, which equips participants with the skills to facilitate workshops through the medium of contemporary dance, will, this term, focus on dance teaching methods.

## Visual Arts

### Celbridge Library

9th Sept. - 27th Sept. Art Exhibition by Sir Philip Blunden  
30th Sept. - 14th Oct. Art Exhibition by Olan Neeson  
8th - 22nd Nov. Abbey Art Group

### Naas Library

3rd Sept. - 7th Sept. Heritage week  
17th Sept. - 21st Sept. Art Exhibition by Rebekah Carroll  
24th Sept. - 27th Sept. Exhibition of Work by the Youth Training and Development Centre, Newbridge

1st Oct. - 5th Oct. Brushwork Exhibition by art students of Gina O'Connor  
12th Nov. - 16th Nov. Art Exhibition by Gillian Byrne Pastels, watercolours, pencil drawings.

20th - 30th Nov. Naas Art Group  
5th - 7th Dec. Himalayan Crafts Exhibition,  
10th Dec - 14th Dec. Woodturners' Exhibition.

## Athy Library

3rd Sept. - 7th Sept. Exhibition entitled " A Snapshot of GAA clubs in the Athy locality" to celebrate National Heritage Week  
25th Sept. - 5th Oct. Reiltin Murphy Works on paper  
11th Oct. - 24th Oct. ESB Environmental Photography Exhibition visits Athy Community Library as part of it's National Tour.  
29th Oct. - 15th Nov. Exhibition of works created from creative writing workshops in libraries countywide.

## Music

### Autumn Choral Evenings

On Thursday 24th October at 8pm, **Celbridge Choir** will host an evening concert in Celbridge Library, under the direction of Sarah Darlington. A collaborative **Concert of Seasonal Music** will take place in Celbridge Library on Thursday December 12th. The concert features the Kildare Local Authority Choir, directed by Margaret O'Brien and Kildare Youth Orchestra ensemble, together with guest soprano Nora King. *Admission is free.*  
*Booking essential. Contact Celbridge Library on 01 - 6272207*

### Herbert Lodge Arts Centre

Herbert Lodge Arts Centre welcomes its music students for the new academic year. Herbert Lodge provides individual tuition in Piano, Kinder music, Choral Music, Strings, Guitar, Woodwind Theory and Ensemble Music. Herbert Lodge invites applications from students for individual lesson and/or to participate in our new musical and choral work. String players are welcome to join our string ensembles. Opportunities for performance in exciting venues.  
Applications to The Director - Berna Hayden Ph/ Fx 045-481598

### County Kildare Orchestra

Applications are now being taken for auditions, which will be held on Sunday 22nd September at N.U.I., Maynooth, Music Department. Application forms available from Arts officer, in libraries or from 045-481598. County Kildare Orchestra will hold it's A.G.M. at Naas Library on Saturday 28th September at 3.00 p.m.

### Music Outreach Programme

The plains of Kildare were certainly alive with the sound of music on Saturday 25th May 2002 with the Kildare Children Tzipora Music Festival at Goffs. The festival featured two concerts, showcasing the work of Kildare County Council's Music Outreach Programme in primary schools over the last year. The festival programme was diverse, ranging from African drumming from Scoil Phádraig Naofa, Athy and chamber groups from Clocha Rince, Moyvalley to choral performances by Broadford. Four hundred and fifty children from thirteen schools participated in the festival. Photographs documenting the event can be viewed at [www.kildare.ie/arts/index.asp](http://www.kildare.ie/arts/index.asp)

Schools who are interested in participating in the Music Outreach programme commencing January 2003 should register interest with the Arts Service.

## Riverbank Arts Centre

Visual Arts highlights in the coming months include a retrospective exhibition of the work of the late James McKenna in September, while the Association of Kildare Artists (A.K.A.) will hold their annual exhibition in November. Theatre performances include The Complete Works of Shakespeare (abridged) by The Reduced Shakespeare Co (USA)

For further details of the programme contact:  
Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.  
Tel: Booking office: 045- 448333 E - Mail: [boxoffice@riverbank.ie](mailto:boxoffice@riverbank.ie)  
Tel: Arts Centre Manager: 045-448319 Visual Arts: 045- 448314  
Artsquad: 045-448312 Website: [www.riverbank.ie](http://www.riverbank.ie)

## Drama

### Crooked House Theatre Company Outreach and Community

Crooked House Theatre Company provides the following workshops and services from its base in Riverbank:

### Kildare Youth Theatre @ Crooked House

KYT, in operation since 1995, aims to provide quality drama training for young Kildare adults, aged between 14 and 22. Two performances are created for the public each year, one of which is a classical play usually by Shakespeare. Members have the chance to gain a certificate in Theatre Performance. Support is given with professional development including CV advice, finding agents and training in audition techniques.

Those wishing to join KYT should register on Tuesday 10th September at 7pm in Riverbank. KYT will then meet every Tuesday (for new members) from 7-9pm. Existing members begin on Monday 9th September 6- 9pm. Fees are €5 per session payable per term or an annual fee of €100 (saving €35).

### Crooked Mice: Children's Drama Workshops

Crooked House has been providing quality children's drama and art workshops since 1998. From September 2002 Crooked House will offer monthly sessions in creative movement with Liz Adams as part of the programme, culminating in two public performances.

Children from all over Kildare are welcome. The workshops accommodate children from the age of 6 (basic reading skills required) up to the age of 12. Registration takes place on Saturday 7th September from 10.30am to 12 noon (for drama/movement) and from 12 noon to 1.00pm (for art/craft). The annual fee is €250 for drama and movement, and €250 for art/craft.

### Crooked Sixpence: Drama for the over 50's

For the past three years Kate Connaughton has provided fun drama sessions for the older members of our community every Wednesday morning in Riverbank. These sessions are free and sponsored by Kildare VEC. Contact Kate at 045 879703 for details.

### Workshops for Schools and Community Groups

A wide range of workshops from Storytelling for Theatre to Shakespeare Masterclasses are available for both primary and secondary schools. In addition, there are Personal Development through Drama and Community Drama workshops available for community groups. Crooked House currently works with twelve different groups (ranging from special needs groups to industry and corporate clients) on both short-term and long-term projects.

### New Lunctime Theatre Series

Crooked House (in conjunction with Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service) is planning to programme a series of new lunchtime theatre pieces in Riverbank. Therefore, if you have written a play which:

- \* between five and forty-five minutes in length
- \* suitable for a small cast
- \* can be performed in a small studio space, or in a naturally-lit space
- ..... then the company would like to hear from you.

Detailed brochures outlining Crooked House programmes are available in Riverbank or contact:

**Crooked House Theatre Co. Ltd., Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge**  
Tel: 045 448309. Fax: 045 432490. Email: [crookedhouse@eircom.net](mailto:crookedhouse@eircom.net)  
Web: [www.crookedhouse.ie](http://www.crookedhouse.ie)

### Kildare County Council Arts Service Contact Details

For details, information or queries about Kildare County Council's Arts Service contact:  
Lucina Russell, Kildare County Arts Officer, Kildare Library and Arts Services,  
Riverbank, Main Street, Newbridge, Co. Kildare

Phone: 045-448318 Fax: 045-432490  
Email: [lruessel@kildarecoco.ie](mailto:lruessel@kildarecoco.ie)  
Web: [www.kildare.ie/arts/index.asp](http://www.kildare.ie/arts/index.asp)

All information is correct at the time of going to press.

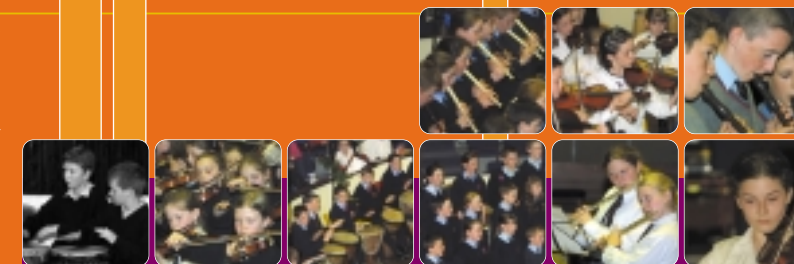


Childrens Book Festival

Crooked House Theatre Company

Creative Writing Workshops

Ernest Shackleton Autumn School; Creative writing workshops; Cecil Day Lewis Literary Competition; Arts in Libraries; Children's Book Festival; Ten years at Athy Community Library; Laban Guild Community Dance Leaders Course; Music Outreach Programme; Crooked House Theatre Company.



Kildare County Council



Front Cover Photographs: The Kildare Children Tzipora Music Festival, courtesy of Michael O'Rourke Photography. Printed on recycled paper. Design: [www.wizarddesign.ie](http://www.wizarddesign.ie)

## Welcome

Welcome to the Autumn/ Winter edition of Artyfacts. This edition features details of forthcoming literary events including writer's workshops in libraries and activities for the annual Children's Book Festival. The aim of this festival is to promote, foster, and stimulate reading amongst children, while capturing their imagination through a variety of arts experiences. Other initiatives include creative writing workshops in libraries to coincide with the Ernest Shackleton Autumn School.

## Literature

### Creative Writing Workshops

**Sir Ernest Shackleton** the great polar explorer was born at Kilkea House, Athy, Co. Kildare in 1874. Shackleton was renowned for his courage, extraordinary leadership skills and his contribution to geographical discovery during the era of Antarctic exploration in the early years of the 20th century.

Writer **Mary Russell's** approach to travel and exploration reflects the philosophy of Shackleton. Like Shackleton, her courage and interpersonal skills have seen her through many difficult situations. Mary Russell is a serious traveller. She has cycled through Syria, dog sledged through the Finnish Arctic and scrambled on her hands and knees across the Sahara. Like Shackleton, Russell's physical journeys have been immense, but fundamentally, the inner journey interests her most.

To celebrate County Kildare's association with Shackleton, and to coincide with The Ernest Shackleton Autumn School, Kildare Library and Arts Service will host a series of creative writing workshops in libraries countywide in September/ October. The workshops, facilitated by Mary Russell will examine themes of travel, exploration and endurance. *Journeys of a Lifetime* by Mary Russell was published in June 2002. According to The Irish Times the book is 'vivid, self-deprecating and often hilarious'.

For details contact Maynooth, Celbridge, Naas, Newbridge or Athy Library, or the arts service. Booking essential.

### Ernest Shackleton Autumn School

The Ernest Shackleton Autumn School will run from the 24th to 27th October, 2002, in Athy. It involves both historical and artistic dimensions celebrating the life and work of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton who was born near Athy in 1874. This year the theme is **Travel and Exploration** with a range of lectures, musical and arts events and exhibition at Athy Heritage Centre.

Some of the highlights of the programme are a concert by Liam O'Flynn and the Pipers Call Band, St. Michael's Parish Church, Athy. This concert will feature the premier of a piece of music (10-12minutes in duration) composed by Liam O'Flynn entitled *Endurance* which was specially commissioned by Athy Heritage Centre and supported by the Arts Council of Ireland.

There will be a range of lectures featuring:

**Dr. Jan Piggott**, Archivist, Dulwich College (Shackleton's former school)  
*Shackleton as Reader and Writer*

**Francis Spufford**, Author  
*Shackleton's World and the Passion For the Poles*

**Dr. Bob Headland** Curator at the Scott Polar Research Institute  
*The Irish Role Played in Antarctic Exploration*

**Brendon Grunewald**, Physicist,  
*Life on the Antarctic.*

**Aidan Dooley**, Playwright, will perform his one-man show about Tom Crean. This show is an emotive account of the experiences of Crean who served both Scott and Shackleton in the Antarctic.

For further information contact **Margaret O'Riordan**,  
Manager, Athy Heritage Centre 0507-33075

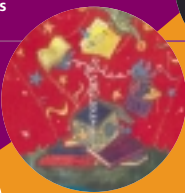
### Cecil Day Lewis Short Story and Poetry Competition

Entries are invited for the annual **Cecil Day Lewis Competition Short Story and Poetry** competition. The competition, organised by Kildare Library and Arts Service and sponsored by Athy Town Council, celebrates the connection between the celebrated poet and the South Kildare area. C.D. Lewis was Professor of Poetry at Oxford from 1951 – 1956. A talented and humorous man, he wrote in **An Italian Visit**, parodies on poets ranging from Hardy to Dylan Thomas. His autobiography was published in 1960 and in 1966, he was created Poet Laureate.

Entries are invited in the following categories:

- \* Junior Primary Short Story
- \* Senior Primary Short Story
- \* Post Primary Short Story
- \* Adult Short Story
- \* Junior Primary Poetry
- \* Senior Primary Poetry
- \* Post Primary Poetry
- \* Adult Poetry

Further information and application forms are available from libraries countywide or from the arts service. Closing date for entries 31st October.



## Arts in Libraries

## Children's Book Festival

### Mask Making

Ghosts, ghouls or scary monsters !!!! Give your imagination free reign - Join Emma Forde or Clodagh Kelly and have some fun while making your very own "Scary Mask".

Emma hails from Kill, and is a graduate of L.S.A.D. where she worked with various mediums i.e. paint, ceramics, textiles. Clodagh lives in Leixlip. She studied printmaking in the Dublin Institute of Technology.

### Music Workshops

Musical Tots workshops, for pre-school children and their parents, will be facilitated by Maynooth based, Karen Donnellan. The workshop aims to show how music can help to develop language co-ordination and social skills.

Older children can go on a Musical Adventure with Edel McDonnell. Come and explore musical elements such as pulse, rhythm, melody and tempo. Edel is a recent graduate of the Royal Irish Academy of Music in Dublin.

### Ghoulish Tales

Well known author Terry Hassett Henry will read *Witches and Wizards Tales* to coincide with the latest Harry Potter film *Chamber of Secrets*. Come dressed as your favourite Harry Potter character!

### The Basher Bacon Roadshow

TV puppeteer Dominic Moore brings his show *The Basher Bacon Roadshow* to Kildare for Children's Book Festival. Join Basher in his wonderfully wacky world, where with his own unique style of banter, Basher introduces us to beautiful damsels, obnoxious sisters, indescribably evil villains and horrifying monsters. The Basher Bacon Roadshow, while incorporating comic sketches, frightening adventures, ludicrous predicaments and quick fire snappy dialogue throughout, retains a strong story-line with a robust moral tone.

### Maynooth Library

**Tuesday 29th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Edel McDonnell Music Workshop 7-12 years

**Wednesday 30th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Clodagh Kelly Scary Mask Workshop 4-6 yrs  
2.30-4.00pm Clodagh Kelly Scary Mask Workshop 7-12yrs

**Thursday 31st October**  
2.30-4.00pm Terry Hassett Henry Witches and Wizards 7-12yrs

**Friday 1st November**  
11.00-12.30pm Karen Donnellan Musical Tots pre schoolers  
2.30-4.00pm The Basher Bacon Roadshow over 5's

### Celbridge Library

**Tuesday 29th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Clodagh Kelly Scary Masks 4- 6 yrs  
2.30-4.00pm Clodagh Kelly Scary Masks 7-12yrs

**Wednesday 30th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Karen Donnellan Musical Tots pre schoolers  
2.30-4.00pm Terry Hassett Henry Witches and Wizards 7-12yrs

**Thursday 31st October**  
2.30-4.00pm Edel McDonnell Music Workshop 7-12yrs

**Friday 1st November**  
11-12.30pm The Basher Bacon Roadshow over 5's

### Naas Library

**Tuesday 29th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 4 - 6 yrs  
2.30-4.00pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 7-12yrs

### Naas Library (continued)

**Wednesday 30th October**  
11.00-12.30pm The Basher Bacon Roadshow over 5's  
2.30- 4.00pm Karen Donnellan Musical Tots pre schoolers

**Thursday 31st October**  
11.00-12.30pm Terry Hassett Henry Witches and Wizards 7-12yrs

**Friday 1st November**  
2.30-4.00pm Edel McDonnell Music Workshop 7-12 yrs

### Newbridge Library

**Tuesday 29th October**  
2.30-4.00pm Terry Hassett Henry Witches and Wizards 7-12yrs

**Wednesday 30th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 4-7 yrs  
2.30- 4.00pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 7-12yrs

**Thursday 31st October**  
11.00-12.30pm Karen Donnellan Musical Tots pre schoolers  
11.00-12.30pm The Basher Bacon Roadshow over 5's

**Friday 1st November**  
11.00-12.30pm Edel McDonnell Music Workshop 7-12yrs

### Athy Library

**Tuesday 29th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Karen Donnellan Musical Tots pre schoolers  
2.30-4.00pm Edel McDonnell Music Workshop 7-12 yrs

**Wednesday 30th October**  
11.00-12.30pm Terry Hassett Henry Witches and Wizards 7-12yrs  
2.30-4.00pm The Basher Bacon Roadshow over 5's

**Thursday 31st October**  
11.00-12.30pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 4- 6 yrs  
2.30- 4.00pm Emma Forde Scary Masks 7- 12 yrs.

Athy Library will host the *Annual Inter Schools Table Quiz* on Thursday, October 31st from 8pm. This event is sponsored by Pettits.

Athy Library will also run a *story reading season* from Sept 7th - October 19th for children under 8 years of age, each Saturday morning from 11am.

All arts activities in libraries are free of charge. Early booking for all activities is essential.

### Contact details for libraries:

Maynooth 01 - 6285530  
Celbridge 01 - 6272207  
Athy 0507- 31144  
Droichead Nua 045 - 436453  
Naas 045 - 879111  
or Kildare County Arts Service 045- 448318

