

**FREE**

# MAYO NORTH EAST COMMUNITY JOURNAL

Supporting Community Development, Enterprise and Access to Training and Employment Vol. 2 • Issue 3 • Summer 2019



## Bug hotel attract beneficial insects at Rehins N.S.

MAYO North East Tus participants completed their first bug hotel at St. Joseph's NS, Rehins, Ballina, to coincide with National Biodiversity Week 2019. The hotel will attract beneficial insects and bees. At any given time a garden might contain over 2,000 species of insects. Some are pests (they destroy your flowers and vegetables), but many others are beneficial, the kind you want to attract because they work with you to control pests and pollinate flowers.

Beneficial insects support biodiversity, the foundation for the world's ecological balance. An insect hotel offers them a space where they can propagate and hunker down for the winter. Encouraging biodiversity in the garden helps to increase ecosystem productivity.

Thanks to the TUS guys for all the help.  
#TUS #biodiversity #Ballina

## BCRfm goes live on FM!

BALLINA Community Radio, BCRfm, returns to the airwaves on Saturday June 15th, broadcasting on 101.9FM in the greater Ballina area every weekend. Programmes will also be broadcast simultaneously online.

BCRfm will be on air from 9am to 11pm every Saturday and Sunday, and will offer a wide variety of programmes. There will be local news and current affairs, as well as national and global news, sports news, arts and entertainment news and details of what's happening around the town. There is music for all tastes, from country to classical, for example The Country Session with Pdraig Moran, Rock On with Joe Hennigan and Sunday Soul with Áine Collins - all presented by true aficionados. There are topical

discussion programmes featuring members of the community, such as Conversations across the Table with Christina Forde and Rosann McDonnell, Fox on Food, a food and cookery programme with chef Ronan Fox, lively and informative morning shows to start off each day – and much, much more.



Riádas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland







# Success story of Ballina Costume Company

By Susan McCabe

BALLINA Costume Company (formerly known as Ballina Heritage Costume Company) was set up in the late 1900's to provide costumes for Ballina Salmon Festival's Heritage Day. In 1998 it was supported by a Fás Employment Scheme and became a limited company in 2000. Original directors came from a range of community and business backgrounds.

In 2000 the company made the decision to take advantage of the Social Economy Programme (now known as the Community Services Programme) and were successful in their application for the same. The programme is managed nationally by Popal on behalf of the Department of Rural and Community Development. Under this programme, the company receives a grant in the form of a contribution towards salaries and the company currently employes a manger and seven staff.

## LOCATION

The Costume Company is based in the historical building known locally as the Old Parochial Hall on the corner of Kevin Barry Street, Ballina. The building dates back to 1906, and was originally a Church of Ireland National School and parish hall. The school relocated in 1977.

The Costume Company's mascot, Frankie who's clad in the Mayo colours, stands on guard outside their premises

## BUSINESS MODEL

Their business model is based on a service subsidisation model where social programmes are funded by selling products or services in the market place. Ballina Costume company work from a 3-year-strategic business plan that clearly sets out their aims, objectives and targets in relation to commercial activity and social programmes.



## COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY

Ballina Costume Company are renowned locally and nationally for their high quality costumes, the fabric and material costs are very high. Costumes are made to measure, the sizing is very accurate and the company cater for all sizes and clothes alterations are customised. Storage areas are kept to a particular temperature to avoid damage to fabric.

The Costume Company is one of the few companies in Ireland that design and make their own costumes, which are hired by festival groups as well as those hosting musicals, plays and school productions throughout the county and country. Their range of costumes includes heritage, medieval and international traditional dresses. They also have fancy dress costumes including rock-'n-roll and disco outfits from the '50s, '60s, '70s and '80s, plus a large range of fun costumes for Halloween, Christmas and Easter. A large part of their business is providing costumes for musicals, plays and school productions.

Ballina Costume Company have a lot of return customers, and members of the public requiring everyday clothes alterations. Word of mouth is the most common form of advertising.

As an additional source of income to ensure the continued viability of the business they make and sell flags and bunting for groups including sports organizations. They provide an alteration service, and design and manufacture confirmation and choir gowns for hire.

## SOCIAL PROGRAMMES

Their social programmes have continued to develop since 2000 and they continue to work with underlying principles of inclusion and equality. Ballina Costume Company work in partnership with other local groups and voluntary organisations that are focused on improving circumstances for people living in Ballina. The company work closely with the Ballina Festival committee the Ballina Lions Club, Ballina Mens' Shed, Jackie Clarke Collection and Ballina Chamber of Commerce to name but a few. They have been actively involved in the Ballina Heritage Day since its inception as well as other community based events such as Food Fleadh, Samhain Abhainn, the Mistletoe Market and Santa Grotto, St Patrick's Day parades and Mayo Day.



Ballina Costume Company provide up to eight childrens' activities camps a year, ensuring their skills such as sewing, weaving, clay modelling, design, arts and crafts are passed on to the next generation. The camps are open to all the children in the area and include children with disability and additional needs, many of the children are referred from social services. These camps prove very popular with a waiting list each year for children to join. The activity camps are run when schools and colleges are closed so there is no work placement supports available and the company take high regard for child protection, only long-term staff are used as activity leaders.

The camps include an educational element. The camps are open to all the children in the area. all traveller community children with learning difficulty children with special needs and referrals from social services and non nationals.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2016 Ballina Costume Company was nominated by Mayo County Council for the IPB Pride Awards and were placed as a runner-up in the national selection. This was based on their involvement with local community groups and specifically there work in relation to the 2016 Centenary events held throughout the county.

In 2018 they were part of the local committee that organised the Mayo Forgotten Famine Girls that was led locally by historian and author Terry Reilly. As part of this project they designed and manufactured a patch work quilt. The quilt was designed so that each of the girls names had an individual square. By linking in with Mid West Radio the company advertised the project and got people from Mayo, Ireland and further abroad to get involved in the stitching of the girls names on a patch. Their project won the prestigious Mayo Association Dublin 2019 Meitheal Award.

## THE FUTURE

Ballina Costume Company applied for LEADER funding to replace old equipment and machines in 2018 and are currently in the process of completing this process. They were also successful in an application to develop an E-commerce website which will allow them to target



Community Center, Ardnaree, and the Jackie Clarke Collection to deliver the camps.

Ballina Costume Company have recently been involved in the design and delivery of upcycling classes for adults and have found that there is a market for such training – especially now as people are become more aware and conscious of the need to reduce the amount of items going to the land fill. They currently rent rooms to deliver this training.

Although a unique and vibrant company, there are challenges. To raise income for the company the manager regularly applies for small grants such as RECAP grant, Mayo County Council and Mayo North East SICAP grants.

The company has a lease on their current home but the Old Parochial Hall is a listed building which is in need of repairs. In addition they have outgrown the space that the building provides. They need premises that will allow them to continue to grow with ample space for their catalogue of costumes and allow them to deliver a range of classes from their own premises. Ballina Costume Company expect to be in a position to employ additional staff and to offer work opportunities to students and other jobseekers but at present they don't have the space to accommodate them.

**Manager:** Jane Creane  
**Address:** Kevin Barry Street,  
 Ballina, Co. Mayo  
**Tel:** 096-77863  
**Email:** [costumecompany@eircom.net](mailto:costumecompany@eircom.net)  
<http://www.facebook.com/ballinacostumecompany/>

market

and increase their commercial income streams. They continue to manufacture new costumes and currently hold in excess of 4000 costumes.

The number of children attending their craft camps has increased steadily (from 22 in 2014 to over 180 in 2018). The company currently rent space in Ballina Stephenities Club, Sean Duffy





# COMMUNITY CATERING *provided by* Knockmore Rathduff Resource Centre

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# NEPHIN MAYO WALKING TRAIL

*Nephin is a stand alone mountain in North Mayo  
It is a challenging hike giving walkers a 360°  
view of Mayo and surrounding counties.*

### DIRECTIONS

Travel from Crossmolina to Lahardane on the R315 for 7km. Take the first turn right after the 50km sign. From Castlebar take the R310 towards Pontoon and Crossmolina, on leaving Lahardane look for the green Nephin sign and turn left. Continue for 4km to the car park. Cross the road and continue towards the forest for an enjoyable, challenging climb.

### THE ROUTE

The total distance of the route is approximately six miles (10km) and the walking time is about 4 hours to 6 hours, depending on your ability. The terrain toward the summit is rough ground that consist of loose stone and shale and not suitable for anyone with walking difficulties.

### BE PREPARED

The weather can change quickly so it is important to have suitable clothing and footwear. Bring water and some food.



## Crossmolina Community Council ROOM HIRE

Crossmolina Community Council offer a meeting and training space in the Enterprise Centre situated beside Crossmolina Library. It's available to private individuals, businesses, corporate organisations and voluntary groups. The meeting room accommodates eight people around the board room table or up to 20 seated. The room can be set up to suit your needs.



- Free parking is available close by.
- The room is available for bookings during the day, evenings and weekends.
- Rates available upon request.

## Computer Suite Hire

The Crossmolina Community Council computer suite is equipped with 10 individual stations, wi-fi and an over-head projector. The room is available for bookings during the day, evenings and weekends.

- Rates available upon request.







# Mayo Job Club three weeks training courses for 2019

The Mayo Job Club is managed by Mayo North East under contract from the Department of Social Protection and is designed to equip jobseekers with the tools they need to search and apply for jobs.

The Mayo Job Club provides free assistance to job seekers with:-

- **CV Preparation** (individual, professional CV)
- **Cover Letters** (how to write a targeted letter to accompany CV)
- **Application Forms** (help with filling out forms online)
- **Personal Development** (self-esteem, goal setting and affirmation)
- **Job Searching** (using laptops to search and apply for jobs)
- **Networking** (how to access jobs on the open market via networking)

**The Jobs Club (three week training) moves from town to town**

**10am - 1pm Monday to Friday**

**NEXT JOB CLUB IN YOUR AREA**

**Training Centre, Mayo Abbey  
Monday, 1st July - Friday, 19th July, 2019**

**FRC Ballina  
for two weeks only from 19th - 30th August, 2019  
10am - 1pm each week day**

## Three Week Training

The three week training provides essential job seeking skills empowering attendees and improving their employability. All attendees gain a Professional CV.

North East, delivers this very popular short support for job seekers who want to improve their interview skills.

This involves a workshop, a digitally recorded interview with a panel of interviewers followed by a feedback session given by the Job Club Leader.

or not) the opportunity to meet face to face with the Job Club Leader to assist and guide the job seeker through the sometimes challenging, steps to gaining employment.

Appointments can be arranged at a time and place that is convenient to the job seeker. Please note, this is a free and confidential service.

## Interview Workshops

Mayo Job Club, in collaboration with the SICAP programme, run by Mayo

## One to One Appointments

Mayo Job Club also offers job seekers (whether they have attended a Job Club

**Text: 087-6506708  
or email [info@mayonortheast.com](mailto:info@mayonortheast.com)**

## Mayo Job Club dates and venues for 2019

- |                                              |                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| ● <b>January:</b> FRC, Abbey St, Ballina     | ● <b>July:</b> Training centre Mayo Abbey        |
| ● <b>February:</b> Mosaic Centre, Castlebar  | ● <b>August:</b> FRC, Abbey Street, Ballina      |
| ● <b>March:</b> Aras Inis Gluaire, Belmullet | ● <b>September:</b> FRC, The Friary, Ballyhaunis |
| ● <b>April:</b> Town Hall Theatre, Westport  | ● <b>October:</b> Mosaic Centre, Castlebar       |
| ● <b>May:</b> TACU FRC, Ballinrobe           | ● <b>November:</b> FRC, Knockmore                |
| ● <b>June:</b> Cultural Centre, Swinford     | ● <b>December:</b> Town Hall Theatre, Westport   |



**Participants on the three week training course receive €60 expenses on completion**



# Mayo North East Partnership support biodiversity

As part of the SICAP programme Mayo North East Partnership is using apiary development (bee-keeping) as both a process and a demonstration methodology to engage individuals and communities in environmental action.

At present such programmes are being run in Ballina, Knockmore, Erris and Westport. The programmes are proving to be very successful and the feedback from participants is entirely positive.

## Aviary for wild species and game

To engage with the small farmer sector, Mayo North East Partnership, through the SICAP programme, is creating an educational approach to landscape and ecology through the utilisation of an aviary. The function of this aviary is again to show the negative effects of bad farming practice on native fauna and game birds. By creating an awareness of the wildlife needs through this demonstration project Mayo North East Partnership is encouraging farmers to develop a green consciousness and an ecological centred focus on agriculture.



Mayo North East Partnership is working in conjunction with Teagasc and local community groups to lend moral and practical support to this initiative.

## Poly Tunnel

The Mayo North East SICAP programme also supports a horticultural initiative through the growing of organic vegetables in poly tunnels to supply a local social enterprise with fresh produce for its 'meals on wheels' programme.

This programme provides environ-



mental awareness and it also is a consciousness raising process for the whole community. By supplying vegetables to the local 'meals on wheels' programme the participants are receiving positive affirmation from their local community and thus enhancing the probability and possibility of their full participation in community life. The project can also be seen as a tangible, environmental demonstration process to educate and to highlight ecological and climate change issues.

# Halting the decline in our bee population

THIS year's World Bee Day took place on May 20th in the wake of a United Nations report which gave a stark warning that one third of the wild bees are threatened with extinction.

The number of bumblebees have declined by 14% since 2012. The problem stems from a loss of habitat due to the intensification of agriculture, greater urbanisation and pesticides, which are resulting in a lack of food for Ireland's bee population.

Ireland has 99 different types of bees, the majority of which are wild and live in the landscape. There is the honeybee, 21 different types of bumblebees and 77 different types of solitary bees.

The decline is being noticed by beekeepers around the country. President of the Federation of Irish Beekeepers'

Associations 3,500 members are observing a lack of habitat as the biggest threat for the bees.

"This has occurred because of the removal of hedgerows between fields. Lately with the increase in the dairy industry and the farming tillage area, the grass margins within fields are being removed to make continuously large fields for heavier plant machinery.

Apart from the removal of hedgerows, constant maintenance of gardens and parks are also seen as contributing to the problem.

While maintenance is important and necessary, she says, wild flowers do not have to be cleaned out completely.

Anyone who has any responsibility for any piece of land, from the biggest farm to the smallest window box, can all play

a role in helping bees.

Changing the mowing regime in a garden is the most cost-effective action one can take.

Another option is buying plants that are good sources of pollen and nectar.

An initiative has been launched by the Government to encourage forest owners to introduce beehives to their native woodlands in a bid to preserve and protect bees.







# Ballina Community Radio - feel good radio

## Live on air at 101.9fm

Ballina Community Radio (BCRfm) is a not-for-profit community radio station to serve Ballina and its outskirts. It is a voice for the community, run by the community, and all involved are volunteers.

Its programming includes music, information, news and much, much more. Email [bcrfm101.9@gmail.com](mailto:bcrfm101.9@gmail.com) or call the studio at 096 20050 & 087 717 5175.



Christina and Rosann give two hours of conversation around the table where anything and everything is discussed so stay tuned between 12-2 to hear what they will be talking about



Pat's Country Road Show will keep you up to date with all the best in country and don't miss all the news from Ballina Men's Shed with Seamie Rice on Saturday mornings



Don't miss the Country Session with Padraig Moran Saturday 11am - 1pm



# Community Policing updates in Ballina



Superintendent Joseph Doherty of Ballina Garda Station launched its new **Community Policing Unit** on the 23rd April 2019.



As always, they were lots of **little visitors** to the Garda Station where they were given the full tour and even got to meet detectives and got to hold firearms. Pictured are pupils from Lahardane NS.

**Neighbourhood Watch meeting:** It comprises of one Sergeant – Sean Mc Hale and three Gardaí – Audrey Garvey, Michael Kelly and David Reilly. The community Garda can be contacted at Ballina. [Community@garda.ie](mailto:Community@garda.ie)



As part of **Mental Health Awareness Week** Garda Audrey Garvey took part in the drumming workshop held at Ballina Arts centre. Sergeant Sean McHale and Garda Michael Kelly did the Woodland Walk and Talk your way to wellness in Belleek Woods.



On the 14th May a **School Hurling Blitz** was held at Ballina Stephanie's. It was in honour of Anthony Golden. Garda Audrey Garvey and David Reilly were on hand to present prizes. Eight schools and 14 teams took part in the Blitz.



**Scoil Íosa** also had a tour of the Garda station and got a talk from Micheal Kenny of the Garda Youth Diversion Programme and the Late Garda John Mc Callion The Juvenile Liaison Officer. John who recently passed away is sadly missed by all.



**Little Blue Hero's** welcomed our local girl Aimee O'Loughlin as an Honorary Gardaí at Garda Headquarters on Wednesday 8th May. Community Gardaí at Ballina collected Aimee from her house gave her a VIP escort to school where she showed everyone her new uniform and her Garda Medal for bravery.





By **Susan McCabe**

AINMHITHE is a small independent sanctuary that has been taking care of abandoned and neglected animals in County Mayo since 1998. They pride themselves on their no-kill policy, which means that the animals in their care stay with them for as long as it takes to find them suitable homes.

In 2018 Ainmhithe Animal Rescue rescued 125 unwanted/abandoned dogs, all of which had the following veterinary treatments: kennel cough vaccination, micro-chipped, health check and spay/neuter (adults surrendered) prior to re homing. Once re-homed after a trial period all dogs are transferred to their new owners on the Animark/Fido/Petlog Databases.

Ainmhithe offered a subsidised micro-chipping scheme to individuals on low income to assist them to be compliant with the micro-chipping legislation. (Section 36 of the Animal Health and Welfare Act 2013 (No. 15 of 2013) This is undertaken by a members of their group who are trained and registered with



Animark Micro Chipping Database under the remit of the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine.

Ainmhithe Animal Rescue re-homed a large percentage of the unwanted dogs to the UK and to Sweden. Ainmhithe has two registered transporters which both were compliant as TYPE 2 Authorised Transporters (European Communities (Animal Transport and Control Post) Regulations 2006 (S.I. No. 675 of 2006). All animals transported out of the State are passported and health checked and have trace issued by the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine.

Ainmhithe Animal Rescue assists the



public by taking unwanted puppies into the rescue centre. Ainmhithe's policy is that the female (mother) is spayed to stop more unwanted puppies, if the owner is unable to afford the cost of the spay this cost is met by Ainmhithe Animal Rescue.

Ainmhithe volunteers answer calls from local veterinary surgeons, the Garda and the local community to assist with animal welfare issues, these calls included injured animals, stray animal, and abandoned animals.

Ainmhithe Animal Rescue work in conjunction with Mayo County Council by assisting with stray dogs in their local and surrounding parts of the county.



Ainmhithe is registered and compliant with the Dog Breeding Establishment Guidelines (The guidelines have been issued under Section 15 (4) of the Dog Breeding Establishments Act 2010 (the Act)

Ainmhithe volunteers run an effective and efficient website and Facebook page that enables re homing of all the dogs that come into their care, and to assist the public with queries or issues relating to animal welfare, to help re-unite lost or found animals with their owners, to promote good animal care and responsible ownership.

Ainmhithe Animal Rescue continues to implement the objectives of the Rescue, to assist with the rescue of abandoned and neglected animals in their local area. To rehome these animals with new owners, to promote spaying/neutering of animals to reduce the number of unwanted animals. To offer short-term sanctuary to animals that cannot be rehomed until rehabilitated.

Ainmhithe Animal Rescue takes calls from members of the public and assists with varying queries in relation to animal care including assisting and advising on lost pets, liaising with the Council Dog Warden.

Ainmhithe continued the spay/neuter and release programme in 2018 and 20-



### Contact information

Tel: (086) 3741011

[www.ainmhithe@gmail.com](mailto:www.ainmhithe@gmail.com)

<http://www.ainmhithe.com>

[m.me/ainmhitheirishdogrescue](http://m.me/ainmhitheirishdogrescue)

30 colonies of feral/stray cats owners have availed of this program where Ainmhithe offers a voucher scheme to cover 100% of the cost of the treatments. This TNR programme is run entirely by their volunteers where they go to locations required, set traps, bring feral or farm cats to the veterinary surgeon for spay/neuter care for the animal's post op and then return to the owners. For every cat neutered Ainmhithe has reduced by over 300 the number of unwanted cats in three years. Overpopulation leads to colonies being unwell and suffering unnecessary hardship.

### CHARITY SHOP

THE Friends of Ainmhithe Animal Rescue Charity Shop part funds the running of the rescue on a day-to-day bases, the money raised in the shop pays in part for the feed for the animals in their care.

By donating your second-hand clothes and unwanted items to the Friends of Ainmhithe Animal Rescue Charity Shop, not only will you be freeing up space in your home, you will also be making a difference to animal welfare.

The shop is also important from a social point of view in that, apart for helping animals, it facilitates individuals who are willing to give their time as volunteers.

The shop is also supported by the Mayo North East TÚS Programme. TÚS Supervisor Martin Corcoran outlined that: "We at Mayo North East are delighted to support the shop with the help of the TÚS scheme. The rescue shop plays a fundamental part in the running of the Ainmhithe Animal Rescue. Participants on the TÚS programme gain valuable experience also with many going on to work in the retail sector or indeed further education and training."



**Friends of Ainmhithe Charity Shop are looking for pre-loved items to sell in their shop, including household items, bric-a-brac, books, ladies and mens clothes and shoes**

**They cannot accept duvets, underclothing, bed-wear of mechanical children's toys.**

**Collection service available – call 086-3741011**



The Friends of Ainmhithe Animal Rescue Charity Shop is located on John Street, Ballina. The Shop is open 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday. Closed on Sundays.







# Summer festivals 2019

NORTH Mayo boasts many festivals and cultural events, all of which are great tourist attractions, particularly during the summer months. Many of these festivals are excellent opportunities to showcase culture, people and places in urban and rural areas. They include traditional music

and song festivals, street festivals, sea-angling festivals, sailing festivals and poetry/writing festivals, but also food and children's festivals.

Festivals in North Mayo greatly enhance the overall visitor experience and are additional attractions to the normal activities

and beauty on offer in an area.

Every week during the summer months you will find festivals in North Mayo. Practically every town and village holds one so you should be able to find one that interests you. Only a few of the numerous festivals are mentioned here.

## Ballina Street Festival

MON, 8th - SUN, 14th JULY, 2019

Kick starts the summer holidays with the usual stallworth events scheduled to take place including National Heritage Day, Teddy Bears Picnic, an old fashioned 'Beat on the Street' and Saturday night Fireworks extravaganza.

Ballina Street Festival has a seven day packed to capacity programme catering for all tastes and ages, offering classic Treasure Hunt, musical extravaganza, a big old Street Party and bumper Children's Programme. There are two events scheduled for the river; the River Moy Swim and Stand Up Paddle Boarding and Sail.

### SUMMARY OF MAIN EVENTS:

● **Monday, 8th July:** 'Take Me Home Colleen', Ballina Arts Centre, 7.30pm. A Folk & Ballad musical depicting a young couples struggle living in North Mayo during the Famine Years, with original music by local singer song writer Brendan Farrell. Tickets Ballina Arts Centre (096) 73593, €15

● **Tuesday, 9th July:** Conal Gallen Back to Front Show' Ballina Arts Centre 8pm, Tickets Ballina Arts Centre (096) 73593, €25

● **Wednesday, 10th July:** National Heritage Day Ballina Town from 9am - 6pm,

Music and Dance on the Band Stand in the Walled Heritage Garden at the Jackie Clarke Collection (11am-5pm)

● **Thursday, 11th:** 'Spraoi in the Ree', Abbey Street Ballina.

Over 55's Tea Dance, with music by John Gallagher at the Glasgow Kennedy Centre 2pm-4pm €7pp. Refreshments



served.

Bounce Disco: Intellectual disability friendly disco - The Cot & Cobble, 8pm-10.30pm, Admission is €5 (Carers go free)

● **Friday, 12th July:** 'Pearse Street Party' in down town Ballina. Fergal O'Murchu and Big Town Folk featuring guest dancers from local Irish dance schools, and Ballina's own Gorilla Radio, the Party kicks off from 8pm FREE

● **Saturday, 13th July:** Beat on the Street, Ballina Market Square 8pm with 2FM's Keith Walsh and guests - FREE

Street Busking Competition All Day Town Centre, Contact Ballina Tourist Office 096 72800

Fireworks Extravaganza against the backdrop of St Muredachs Cathedral from 11.30pm

● **Sunday, 14th July:** Teddy Bear's Picnic, Tom Ruane Park, from 2pm. €2 per child.

● **BALLINA AGRICULTURAL SHOW** in the Showgrounds at Ballina Stephenites GAA Club from 2pm. Adm. €10 per adult, children free when accompanied by an adult.

## Crossmolina Festival

July 17th - 21st July, 2019

THE Crossmolina festival caters for people of all ages. From sports and games for the children, and comedy and country nights for teenagers and adults, This year's festival promises lots of family fun with workshops, music, dancing including two concerts. Liam Lawton brings his unique show to St. Tiernan's Church and you can experience the magic at the "Real Magic Queen Tribute" show direct from the UK.

## Ruston Hornsby LM 129



## North Mayo Heritage Centre June 5th - July 28th, 2019

All who are passionate about railways and vintage trains have a treat in store. Come admire the Centre's own vintage 1940s Ruston Hornsby locomotive and learn about the role of its fellow trains of the same manufacture in Irish bogs seventy years ago. This event is a celebration of railways. Free Admission



## Belmullet Festival

August 15th - 24th, 2019

THE annual Belmullet Festival is organised around Lá an Logha (day of indulgence) and over the years, has developed into a wonderful week of entertainment and activities for young and old.



Heritage Day is on the 21st of August and has become a very popular day. People walk amongst the street stalls to enjoy the traditional crafts and skills on display, or sample some of the many top quality food stalls offering locally produced artisan foods and drinks. There's also a fancy dress competition with prizes for best dressed individuals and groups.

## The Black Pig Festival

THURS, 25th - Mon, 29th JULY, 2019



THE very popular Black Pig Festival will take place in Enniscrone the seaside resort for much of North Mayo.

This popular and family friendly event caters for all ages, young and old and brings four days of wonderful fun.

## Bonniconlon Show



Pictured are the Bonniconlon Show Committee with Sponsors, including Mayo North East's Tús supervisor Elizabeth Fair.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2019

THE hugely successful Bonniconlon Show is back again for its 70th year. The show welcomes over 30,000 people each year and is the second biggest agricultural show in Ireland.

The show features a lot of events with something for everyone from a dog show to horse and pony lunging, sheepdog trials, the All-Ireland Calf finals and the crowning of the Rose of Bonniconlon

'Queen of the Show' as well as the 'Most Appropriately Dressed Lady' competition, a heritage and vintage display, live music performances, a party and disco for the children and much more going on throughout the day.

Come and dance the day away to Patrick Feeney & his band & John McNichol & his band. The show dance is Friday 10th August in the Grove Hall dancing to Matthew O'Donnell & his band.

## Síamsa Sráide Street Festival

THURS., 1st - WED. 7th AUGUST, 2019

SÍAMSA Sráide means "Fun on the Street" (in Irish, or Gaeilge) and Siamsa Sráide is also the name of Swinford's own summer street festival. This year's festival is a week-long celebration of music and fun in Swinford. It is an ideal fun family festival, with 90% of the events being provided for FREE.

The programme forms part of the extensive Swinford 250 & More programme.

This year's programme features: Phil Coulter, Cliona Hagan (country singer and contestant on this year's Dancing with the

Stars), Michael English, The Conquerors, Lee Matthews, The Hamilton Pipe Band

Also over the course of the weekend Siamsa Sráide will feature

- Open-Air Music & Dancing on the Streets
- Cross Border Culture Exchange
- Market Street Music Marquee
- Historical & Heritage Events
- Pageants & Comedy Drama
- Children's Workshops & Entertainment
- Crossroads Céilí
- Duathlon Events
- Heritage Day
- Old Harvest Fair Day
- Youth Busking Competition.

For further information about Siamsa Sráide see [www.siamsasraide.ie](http://www.siamsasraide.ie)







## Geesala Festival

SUNDAY, 11TH - 18TH AUGUST, 2019



THIS year's festival will include heritage events, cultural events, Là Gaeilge (Irish Day), a vintage show, horse show-jumping & classes, a dog show, a sheep show, boat racing, a deep sea angling competition, a clay pigeon shoot and a popular 10k road race.

The main event of the festival is the annual horse racing on the beach at Doolough, which it is said to have inspired John Millington Synge's masterpiece, 'The Playboy of the Western World'.

## Seosamh MacGabhann Summer School

June 30th - July 5th, 2019

THE 9th Seosamh MacGabhann Summer School will run from Sunday, 30th June to Friday, 5th July in the village of Kilmovee. It takes place in the Community Centre with classes and tuition provided in traditional Irish music, sean nós dancing, conversational Irish and traditional singing. Some of the best tutors in the country give classes in tin whistle, concertina, fiddle, flute, banjo, bodhrán, harp, accordion and traditional guitar.

This Summer School offers pupils to attend a class in their favourite instrument in the morning and then an afternoon class in Singing, Sean Nós Dancing, Gaeilge or a 2nd instrument.

Sessions are held each evening where pupils get a chance to practise tunes learned during the day; tutors join the full sessions offering a great night of music and dance.



BAND on the Strand was the brainchild of Lacken Foróige leader's, Nonie McGee and Anne-Marie Thompson. Ten years ago these visionary leaders decided to hold the first gig on the strand in Lacken, but little could they have imagined how popular the event would become.

Who would not want to be on a

beautiful beach amongst 3000 plus friends on a balmy July evening being entertained by some of Ireland's most talented up-and-coming artists? Of course there is also all the extra attractions which are developed and added to each year. This is truly a festival-goers paradise.

## Erris Agricultural Show

SUNDAY, JULY 21

THE 9th Annual Erris Agricultural Show promises fun, entertainment and lots of criac. The line up for the show grounds has been announced and includes acts Declan Nerney, Tony & Jason and much more taking place at The Carne Air Strip. The Show dance will be held in The Broadhaven Bay Hotel and entertainment on the night will be The Duets and Michael English. One of the events that promises to entertain all is the sheep



sheep shearing competition taking place on Carne Air Strip Belmullet.



## Seisiún – Fr. Peyton Centre, Attymass

EVERY THURS FROM 18TH JULY – 29TH AUGUST

SEISIÚN is a Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann initiative, run throughout Ireland by local comhaltas groups during summer. It is a celebration of our rich cultural tradition and an invitation to all, both visitors and locals, to follow a music trail including evenings of song, dance and storytelling. Seisiún takes place every Thursday from 18th July to 29th August in the Fr Peyton Centre, Attymass starting at 9pm. Admission is €10 and children attend free of charge. Refreshments are served on the evening.



Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme

## Feile na Mara, Achill

JULY 2019

THE 2019 Feile na Mara celebrates the maritime culture and it takes place throughout Achill Island from Monday 1st to Wednesday 31st July, 2019.

The programme is fully packed with exciting events such as boat trips to neighbouring islands (weather permitting), nightly traditional music sessions, guided nature walks, family fun party nights, family quizzes, sports days, summer camps for kids, painting

workshops and more.

Also visitors will enjoy many adventure sports activities available on the island throughout the festival.

Some events taking place along the festival include:

- **Saturday, 6th July:** Achill Half Marathon & 10K
- **Sunday, 7th July:** Keel Currach Races
- **Friday, 12th – Sunday, 14th July:**



Dooagh Day

- **Sunday, 21st July:** Mayo Kite Fest
- **Sunday, 28th July:** Lighting of the Towers – Lighting of the Napoleonic Tower, Slievemore.

## Foxford RiverFest



FRIDAY 23rd, & SATURDAY 24th, July

The fantastic annual family-oriented Foxford RiverFest offers a wide range of activities and entertainment for adults and children alike, and is a wonderful, warm celebration of the River Moy and the beautiful surrounding countryside of Foxford.

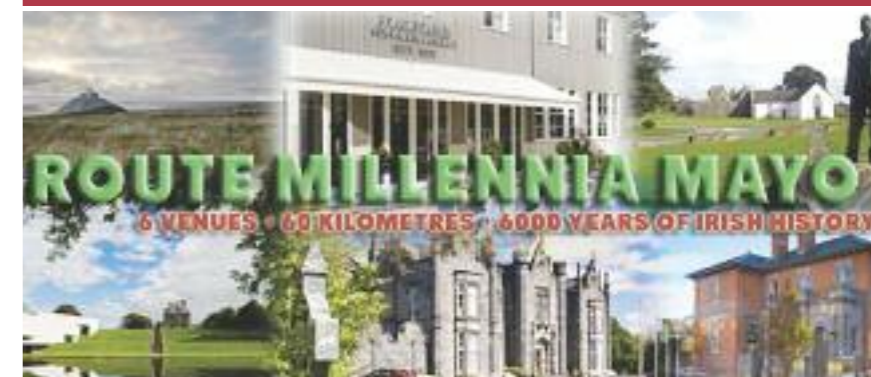
2019 as usual sees a jam-packed programme of free events on offer for all the family, including the return of some very popular activities and competitions from previous years, as well as many new events that have been added for 2019.

The Festival opens on Friday 23rd August. Locals and visitors alike will have the chance to experience angling activities with GAIA and the Moy Trust, cookery demonstrations, falconry, Irish artisan crafts and demonstrations, talks and walks about nature and biodiversity and much more.

Each evening on the RiverFest Stage there will be live music. After the day's festivities.

## Explore the Route Millenia Mayo

6 VENUES ● 60 KILOMETRES ● 6000 YEARS OF IRISH HISTORY



The Route Millenia Mayo Trail is a tourism trail that links six of the county's premier cultural sites along a 60km trail of history, culture, exploration and learning, which is suitable for self-driving, school tours and coach tours.

The route links:

- The National Museum of Ireland – Country Life at Turlough Park, Castlebar
- The Michael Davitt Museum, Straide,
- Foxford Woollen Mills
- Belleek Castle, Ballina,
- The Jackie Clarke Collection, Ballina
- The Céide Fields, Ballycastle.

Taken together, the six Route Millenia Mayo destinations explore Mayo's unique culture and heritage,

from the Neolithic field systems of the first farmers six thousand years ago, to medieval armoury in the Marshall Doran Collection at Belleek Castle, to the events of 1916 leading to the foundation of the state in the Jackie Clarke Collection, to the working woollen mill in Foxford, created by one of Ireland's most determined, most forward thinking women, to Ireland's National Folklife Collection in Turlough's National Museum of Ireland – Country Life, to the story of one of the country's greatest patriots in the beautiful Michael Davitt Museum.

This wonderful initiative links some of most interesting and fascinating sites in Mayo and gives visitors to the county – and locals – the freedom to explore these treasures in their own time and at their own place.



# Be part of your

# MAYO NORTH EAST COMMUNITY JOURNAL

**W**ELCOME to the third edition of your 2019 Community Journal newsletter. The newsletter will be published every second month, both in print and digitally. The Community Journal aims to promote action and participation and to foster the sharing of ideas, experience and information in the Mayo North East catchment area for a better community.

The newsletter also aims to strengthen the relationships between employees and employers of Mayo North East Partnership Company, as well as creating and building relationships within the community.

In the following editions of the Community Journal we will publish a community noticeboard, which will include a diary of community news, events, education and training courses,



In addition to providing a forum to advertise your upcoming events, the Community Journal is looking for good story ideas, articles, photographs, poems, graphic artwork, etc. and welcomes outside contributions.

**You can contact the  
Community Journal  
by emailing:**

**[info@mayocommunityjournal.com](mailto:info@mayocommunityjournal.com)**

**See our new webpage  
[www.mayocommunityjournal.com](http://www.mayocommunityjournal.com)**

Find us on facebook



***Your contribution will enrich the newsletter and make it more attractive***