

KCT Summer Schedule for 2018

Kilkee Civic Trust, (KCT), is a non-profit organisation working to enhance the quality of life in Kilkee, and its hinterland, by preserving and promoting its cultural heritage, and so making it a more attractive place to live, work and invest.

Talks - Arts in Focus - Music

Talks: Page No.'s 1 to 8

Arts in Focus: Page No. 8

Music: Page No.'s 9 to 12

**KCT Talks 2018 - All Talks will be hosted at
Cultúrlann Sweeney, O'Connell St., Kilkee.**

Entry to all KCT Talks is Free of Charge.

All of our speakers give of their time and energy on a pro-bono basis.

The appreciation of the audience & KCT is expressed by way of presenting each speaker with a Book Token, or similar, at the end of each Talk.

A Donations Box is provided at all Talks to assist us in defraying necessary expenses.

Date: Wednesday, 4th July 2018 at 8pm

No. 1 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Séamus Ruane

Talk Title: Lord Charlemont and his “Darlin’ Girl from Clare”

Talk Description:

There was a time in Ireland when marriages were arranged and a dowry was usually an essential ingredient. So, without a dowry, a girl’s prospects of marriage were much reduced. One such girl was Mary Hickman, daughter of Thomas Hickman of Brickhill House, Brickhill, (Cratloe), County Clare. Fortunately, her luck changed when arguably Ireland’s most eligible bachelor came along. He was just 40 years of age, had a title, and much, much, more besides. Hear their story in this illustrated talk.

About the Speaker:

Séamus Ruane, originally from Dublin, is a long-time resident of Cratloe, Co. Clare. He is a retired Civil Servant and, since retirement, a Docent at The Hunt Museum, Limerick. He has previously delivered this Talk on Lord Charlemont and his “Darlin’ Girl from Clare”, together with a series of other Talks for “The Friends of The Hunt Museum”, in Limerick, on subjects ranging from 1) Edmund Sexton Pery, and his wider family. (Pery Square in Limerick is named after him); 2) Fr. Jack P. Hanlon, Priest and Painter. A renowned artist, with five of his paintings displayed at The Holy Rosary Church, Ennis Road, Limerick; and, finally, 3) The elopement, love story and lives of Richard Brinsley Sheridan and his Nightingale (Elizabeth Linley).

Date: Wednesday, 11th July 2018 at 8pm

No. 2 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Grace Cantillon

Talk Title: From Charleville to Caravaggio and Beyond

Talk Description:

Grace Cantillon will explore and reveal to the audience, “The Life of Dr. Monica Lea-Wilson”. Hers is not a household name; but ought to be because, thanks to her, the National Gallery of Ireland now has a painting by Caravaggio. Grace will reveal how the intertwined lives of Marie Monica Ryan of Charleville, later becoming Dr. Monica Lea-Wilson, and her husband, Capt. Percival Lea-Wilson, led to their painting being revealed, to an astounded art world, to be the “lost” Caravaggio entitled *The Taking of Christ*. This promises to be a fascinating Talk with references to the renowned Harry Clarke, the stained-glass artist; Michael Collins, Irish Revolutionary, Soldier & Politician; Fr. Thomas Finlay SJ; and others of that era.

About the Speaker:

Also known as Grace O'Malley Cantillon, she was born in Limerick in 1934. After boarding schools, and a Degree in Languages, Grace worked in the Archives Department in U.C.D. In 1958, Grace married George Cantillon, a Surgeon in Limerick. She lectured in Moylish College, now Limerick Institute of Technology. Later; Grace joined The Hunt Museum as a Docent in 1990. An M.A in Art History at University of Limerick followed in 2004, and her book about the Round House O'Malleys in 2014. It is fair to say that Grace believes in Lifelong Learning.

Date: Wednesday, 18th July 2018 at 8pm

No. 3 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Louise McGuane

Talk Title: Whiskey Bonding

Talk Description:

The lost art of Whiskey Bonding, once an integral part of business in rural Ireland, brought back to life for The Modern Age in Cooraclare. This Talk will tell the story and history of Whiskey and Bonding both legal and illegal. Later; Louise McGuane's personal journey leading to the establishment of Chapel Gate Irish Whiskey Co. on her family farm in Cooraclare.

About the Speaker:

Louise McGuane operated in a senior executive role for a multinational drinks company; her successful career spanning locations such as New York, Paris, London & Singapore. Her industry experience and entrepreneurial spirit decided her to return home and start her own Whiskey Bonding business; courageously re-imagining her family farm's future in the process.

Date: Wednesday, 25th July 2018 at 8pm

No. 4 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Margot Slattery

Talk Title: Recipe for Evolution: Chef to Country President

Talk Description:

As humans, on our journey so far, and on the way forward, we all share one key experience: - no one truly knows what tomorrow will bring. In this KCT Talk, Margot Slattery will share her thoughts and perspective on the ever-changing world of work, its integration with family life, the implications and challenges of continuously developing information technology systems, her vision for leading the response to ever faster computers & the dominance of the internet in how we all live, work and play. Workplaces

are changing, some might say undergoing a revolution, and Margot will speak about diversity, inclusion, equality & evolving work practices; so as to transform the quality of life lived, both at work and at home.

About the Speaker:

Margot Slattery is Country President for Sodexo Ireland & Northern Ireland. A Limerick Girl, from Dromin - Athlacca, (near Bruff), Margot comes from a dairy farming background. Her early experiences of Farm Fresh Food, and a family heritage of good cooks, inspired her to train as a Chef. Margot's career has evolved constantly since those early days at Cathal Brugha Street. Later; an application for a job as Trainee Manager, at a predecessor of Sodexo, led her to develop her skills in Food Management Services. Today, Margot is responsible for Sodexo across Ireland, with over 2,100 employees across 200 plus client locations, serving 90,000 people daily. Sodexo's original core business was in the area of what many would know as Contract Catering. Time has moved on, and with food & catering services remaining a core sector, Sodexo has enhanced its offering, delivering services that improve quality of life in the business and industry, education, financial, and healthcare sectors. This is achieved by providing clients with an integrated offering, from reception, concierge, safety, maintenance and cleaning, to foodservices, facilities and equipment management.

Date: Wednesday, 1st August 2018 at 8pm

No. 5 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Joe Donnellan

Talk Title: The Tragic Story of Ellen Hanley – An Cailín Bán

Talk Description:

The story of “An Cailín Bán” is well known. In this Talk; Joe Donnellan examines the story afresh and explores a number of interesting and intriguing connections pertinent to the era and its aftermath.

About the Speaker:

Joe Donnellan returns to speak for KCT; having previously delivered his first KCT Talk during our 2017 series, entitled: Three International Musicians from Limerick. Joe is a Limerick man, a past pupil of Crescent College, a sports enthusiast and former President of Old Crescent RFC, a well-known business-man and insurance broker; having run his own firm for many years. Theatre lovers will know him well from his many appearances for The Cecilian Musical Society.

Date: Wednesday, 8th August 2018 at 8pm

No. 6 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Dr. Joe Power

Talk Title: Clare and the Great War

Talk Description:

An exploration of how the Great War impacted upon Ireland; particularly County Clare; together with the consequences politically, economically and socially for the people of that era, and the echo down the years since this complex time.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Joe Power was born in Clarecastle in 1951. He is a passionate historian specialising in local history. He greatly enjoyed his 43-year career teaching history and geography at Kilrush CBS / Community School. Dr. Power has published several books about his native parish, namely; A history of Clare Abbey and Killone, 1987; The GAA in Clarecastle, 1987; A history of Clarecastle and its environs, 2004; The latter is largely based on his Doctoral Thesis. Dr. Power also edited An Ennis Miscellany, 1990. His most recent book is titled Clare and the Great War, 2015. Apart from his above-mentioned published books, Dr. Power has written many articles, concerning the history of County Clare, for local publications such as The Other Clare. Such is Dr. Power's enthusiasm for his subject; he has a proud tradition of delivering many talks to societies such as Shannon Archaeological and Historical Society & Clare Archaeological and Historical Society. He also lectured at the Merriman Summer School in Lisdoonvarna.

Date: Wednesday, 15th August 2008 at 8pm

No. 7 of 9 Talks

Speaker: John Burke

Talk Title: From the Edge of Clare to the Top of the World

Talk Description:

On the 16th May 2017, for the very first time, the Clare flag was raised on the top of Mount Everest. John Burke, who hails from the flat lands of Spanish Point, achieved his 10-year personal goal of standing on Top of the World. While the task of climbing Everest is a feat of unique physical endurance; John attributes his survival and success to the mental strengths which he prepared and honed well in advance. Overcoming many challenges along the way; John stared death in the face on a mountain that has claimed the lives of 1 in 10 who summit. His story of preparation, planning, and mental training, will touch many; whatever their own Everest may be. In this KCT Talk; John Burke will provide some reflections and insights from the lessons he learnt along his 10-year epic journey. He promises to bring along photographs, and some videos, from one of the most hostile yet

spectacular places on our Planet Earth; a place we can now say was home to a Clare person; if only for a short period of time.

About the Speaker:

John Burke, a native of Spanish Point, achieved his 10-year personal goal of standing on Top of the World in May 2017. He climbed Mount Everest, returned home safely, and will tell us about his great adventure. In everyday life, as well as being an accomplished sportsman, John is the Managing Director of the well-known and renowned Armada Hotel at Spanish Point; a business established by his late father, (also named John), and built up from the original Public House to be one of Clare’s best hotels and an ever-popular Wedding & Conference Venue. Last year; John founded “Elevate”, a youth wellness organisation and, over the past 12 months, “Elevate” has delivered Wellness Programmes to young people throughout Co. Clare; in areas such as Resilience Building, Mindfulness, Inspiration and Individuality. In its first year; “Elevate” has worked with approx. 9,000 young people. John says that plans are in active formation to grow the “Elevate” Programme further in the year ahead. Finally; John Burke was recently awarded the title “Clare Person of the Year 2018”.



John Burke on Mount Everest in 2017, (Photograph courtesy of John Burke).

Date: Wednesday, 22nd August 2018 at 8pm

No. 8 of 9 Talks

Speaker: John Williams

Talk Title: Guarding Loop Head

Talk Description:

Ireland was neutral during the Second World War but the war still had an impact on life in Ireland. The little-known story of the coast watchers' contribution to the safety of the country and the story behind their lookout buildings is very interesting.

About the Speaker:

John Williams, a Pharmacist by profession, with the support of his wife Elizabeth, ran the successful Kilkee based Williams' Pharmacy & Williams' Hardware for many years. Now retired; John Williams is actively involved and contributes enthusiastically to many social activities, commercial and development initiatives in and around Kilkee. He is a champion supporter for all things positive for Kilkee, the Loop Head Peninsula, and the wider West Clare area. John is a founder member of Loop Head Tourism, Kilkee Chamber of Commerce, Kilkee Tourism, Kilkee Social Housing Association and Kilkee Civic Trust. It is entirely fitting that John's Kilkee Civic Trust talk is our Heritage Week event this year.

Date: Wednesday, 29th August 2018 at 8pm

No. 9 of 9 Talks

Speaker: Dr. Críostóir Mac Cárthaigh

Talk Title: West Clare and the Royal Commission on Congestion in Ireland

Talk Description:

Under the 1891 Act establishing the Congested Districts Board any district electoral division with an average annual rateable valuation per household of less than 30 shillings was eligible for 'congested' status, meaning it was entitled to receive substantial State investment in grants, training, infrastructural improvements and other supports. The Board had a second condition: a minimum of one-fifth of the total population of the county must not exceed the rateable valuation of 30 shillings per household. Unfortunately, Clare, with its mix of small holdings and large 'ranches' did not satisfy the Board's strict criteria. So, although the west of the county had particularly large numbers of landless households living in difficult, congested circumstances, they failed to qualify for the reliefs applied to other counties in the west.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Críostóir Mac Cárthaigh makes a welcome return as a KCT Speaker to our 2018 Talks series. For family and other reasons, West Clare is very familiar to Críostóir. He is

currently Director of the National Folklore Collection at University College Dublin. With a background in folklore and archaeology, he has written widely on different aspects of Irish oral literature, vernacular architecture, traditional boats and fishing, especially so in relation to County Clare.

Our Annual KCT - Arts in Focus 2018

Venue


Cultúrlann Sweeney, O'Connell St., Kilkee.


<p>Friday 6th July 2018</p> <p>Exhibition Opens Upstairs from 7pm</p> <p>Main Theatre at 8pm</p> <p>Venue: Cultúrlann Sweeney, Kilkee</p> <p>Entry is Free of Charge</p>	<p><i>Arts in Focus</i></p> <p>The Annual & Popular "Arts in Focus"</p> <p>Fionnuala Murnane KCT Coordinator & MC for Arts in Focus</p>	<p>An exhibition from 7pm of Arts & Crafts by local Artists; followed by a concert of music, song & dance from Award Winning local talent at 8pm.</p> <p>All participants and performers provide their services on a pro-bono basis.</p>
---	--	--

There are more KCT Music Events are on the next four pages!

KCT Music 2018

<p>Thursday 17th May</p>	<p>Katherine Hunka and the Irish Chamber Orchestra bring us their DEATH AND THE MAIDEN TOUR BAROQUE AND ROMANTIC MASTERWORKS.</p> <p>Revel with the ICO in the opulence of the baroque court. Vivaldi's rhythmic vivacity and harmonic clarity inspired Bach. In Vivaldi's Concerto for 4 Violins and Cello in D-major, ICO soloists interact to great effect with the themes moving seamlessly between the instruments. It is exhilarating, with a vitality that will delight audiences. Bach's Concerto for 2 Violins in D minor or Double Violin Concerto, is one of his most famous and best-loved works performed by Katherine Hunka and Nicola Sweeney.</p> <p>Schubert's Death and the Maiden is one of his finest works and a cornerstone of the repertoire. It is an expressive, romantic and dramatic work written in death's shadow.</p> <p>ICO's double bass player Malachy Robinson demonstrates his compositional skills with his cinematic new work <i>Dream of the Green Men</i>, inspired by Purcell's The Fairy Queen</p>	<p>Venue: Cultúrlann Sweeney O'Connell St., Kilkee</p> <p>All Tickets: €25</p> <p>Book your tickets at:</p> <p>Cultúrlann Sweeney, Kilkee</p> <p>Telephone: (065) 906 0769</p> <p>Website: www.culturlannsweeney.ie</p> <p>E-mail: kilkeeboxoffice@clarelibrary.ie</p>
---	--	---

<p>Saturday 14st July</p> <p>Time: 8pm</p>	<p>Martin Bourke Presents: The first of two nights in the 2018 series</p> <p><i>The “Jeanette MacDonald” profile</i></p>  <p>American Singer and Actress; best remembered for her musical films of the 1930s. MacDonald was a movie superstar recognised and acclaimed throughout the world. She has a place amongst the influential Sopranos of the 20th Century, introducing Opera to film-going audiences and inspiring a generation of singers.</p> <p>Fundraising Cause undertaken by Martin Bourke for Kilkee Civic Trust’s Preservation & Restoration of Historical Structures Fund</p>	<p>Venue: Cultúrlann Sweeney O’Connell St., Kilkee</p> <p>All Tickets: €10</p> <p>Book your tickets at:</p> <p>Cultúrlann Sweeney, Kilkee</p> <p>Telephone: (065) 906 0769</p> <p>Website: www.culturlannsweeney.ie</p> <p>E-mail: kilkeeboxoffice@clarelibrary.ie</p>
---	---	---

<p>Friday 10th August</p> <p>Time: 8pm</p>	<p>Martin Bourke</p> <p>Presents: The second of two nights in the 2018 series</p> <p><i>The “Nelson Eddy” profile</i></p>  <p>American Singer and Actor who appeared in many musical films in the 1930s & 1940s, as well as Opera, Radio & TV. A classically trained Baritone; he is best remembered for the musical films when he co-starred with Jeanette MacDonald. In his heyday; Nelson Eddy was a superstar and the highest paid singer worldwide.</p> <p>Fundraising Cause undertaken by Martin Bourke for Kilkee Civic Trust’s Preservation & Restoration of Historical Structures Fund</p>	<p>Venue: Cultúrlann Sweeney O’Connell St., Kilkee</p> <p>All Tickets: €10</p> <p>Book your tickets at: Cultúrlann Sweeney, Kilkee</p> <p>Telephone: (065) 906 0769</p> <p>Website: www.culturlannsweeney.ie</p> <p>E-mail: kilkeeboxoffice@clarelibrary.ie</p>
---	---	--

<p>Saturday 11th August</p>	<p>Boherbuoy Brass & Reed Band</p> <p>Kilkee Bay Swim 2018 & Kilkee Civic Trust</p> <p>have joined forces to invite</p> <p>Boherbuoy Brass & Reed Band</p> <p>to enhance the occasion of the Small Bay & Big Bay Swims</p> <p>This is a Fundraising Event All proceeds donated to Kilkee Playground and Astroturf</p>	<p>Saturday, 11th August 2018, for two performances; to coincide with the timing of the</p> <p>Small Bay & Big Bay Swims at Kilkee Bandstand.</p> <p>Exact Band performance times will be posted nearer the event as they are tide and weather dependant.</p>
<p>Sunday In July or August (Date TBC)</p>	<p>Ennis Brass Band</p> <p>Kilkee Chamber of Commerce & Kilkee Civic Trust</p> <p>have joined forces to invite</p> <p>Ennis Brass Band</p> <p>This event is jointly sponsored by Kilkee Chamber of Commerce & Kilkee Civic Trust and the essential and necessary costs are shared equally.</p> <p>As always; Kilkee Chamber of Commerce and Kilkee Civic Trust wishes to acknowledge the cooperation of our Parish Priest Fr. Kenny and the Church Choir with this annual event.</p>	<p>Venue: Kilkee Church & Bandstand</p> <p>The Band will participate by joining the Church Choir and playing during the 11am Sunday Mass.</p> <p>Then; from Kilkee Church, (after 11am Mass), the Band will Play & March, via O'Curry St. to the Bandstand where the music will continue.</p>