



CREATIVE IRELAND

**LONGFORD**

**AN LONGFORT**

ÉIRE ILDÁNACH

Culture and Creativity Plan 2017  
Plean Cultúir agus Cruthaitheachta 2017

[creative.ireland.ie](http://creative.ireland.ie)

Clár Éire Ildánach  
*Creative Ireland*  
Programme  
2017–2022



# Creative Ireland Longford

## Éire Ildánach an Longfort

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## Foreword RÉAMHRÁ

Longford County Council is delighted to lead in the engagement of our community with our rich cultural heritage and creativity. The Creative Ireland Programme is a legacy project from the Ireland 2016 programme to mark the centenary of the Easter Rising. Here in County Longford, the success of the year was largely due to the overwhelming level of community participation from all ages and parts of the county. The commemorative programme reflected the pride and passion that people have for their history and culture and the events showcased the wealth of talent, imagination and creativity that is present in Longford.

This year has gotten off to a great start with our initial public participation workshop, which brought together members of our creative, cultural, historical, environmental and social communities in a spirit of lively engagement and collaboration. Many exciting ideas and initiatives were developed at this meeting, and these form the basis for the 2017 Creative Ireland Longford Programme of events.

Tá lúcháir ar Chomhairle Chontae an Longfoirt rannpháirtíocht ár bpobail a stiúradh a mhéid a bhaineann lenár n-oidhreacht agus lenár gcruthaitheacht shaibhir chultúir. Is é atá i gClár Éire Ildánach ná tionscadal a eascraíonn le hoidhreacht ó Éire 2016 a bhí ann chun comóradh a dhéanamh ar Éirí Amach na Cásca. I gContae an Longfoirt, ba é ba mhó ba chúis le rath na bliana ná leibhéal ollmhór na rannpháirtíochta pobail ar thaobh daoine i ngach aoisghrúpa agus ó gach cearn den chontae. Léirigh an clár comórtha mórtas agus páisean an phobail i leith a staire agus a gcultúir agus thaispeáin na himeachtaí an saibhreas atá ann sa Longfort i dtaca le tallann, samhlaíocht agus cruthaitheacht de.

Cuireadh tús an-mhaith leis an mbliain seo nuair a bhí ár gcéad cheardlann rannpháirtíochta poiblí ann, tráth ar tarraingíodh le chéile daoine dár bpobail chruthaitheachta, chultúir, staire, chomhshaoil agus shóisialta de mheon bríomhar rannpháirteachais agus comhoibrithe. Forbraíodh cuid mhór smaointe agus tionscnamh de chineál spreagúil ag an gcruinniú sin agus is iad sin atá ann mar bhonn le haghaidh imeachtaí Chlár Éire Ildánach an Longfoirt.

We have just celebrated Ireland's first Cruinniú na Cásca. County Longford hosted three diverse events which engaged with hundreds of people throughout the day. Our Mystery Cultural Tour helped reveal our hidden cultural gems to an audience of tourism professionals, community activists and overseas visitors who enjoyed our rich history, heritage, dance, music and art. Creative Ardagh hosted a creative family day where Alice from Wonderland visited the historic village of Ardagh, home of the legend of Midir and Étain. The evening culminated in a wonderful Ceremony of Light, where the monks returned to Abbeyshrule to celebrate the community illuminating the Cistercian abbey ruins for the first time.

Our overall ambition for the year is to put culture and creativity front-and-centre in the lives of our community and to highlight the vitality of County Longford as a great place to live, work and do business in.

**Cllr. Mick Cahill**  
Chairperson

**Paddy Mahon,**  
Chief Executive

Níl muid ach i ndiaidh an chéad Chruinniú na Cásca de chuid na hÉireann a cheiliúradh. D'fheidhmigh Contae an Longfoirt mar óstach do thrí imeacht ilghnéitheacha a tharraing na céadta daoine le chéile ar fud an lae. Chuidigh ár dTuras Mistéire Cultúir le heolas faoinár gcuid seod cultúir folaithe a nochtadh do ghairmithe turasoíreachta, do ghníomhaithe pobail agus do chuairoteoirí coigríche a bhain taitneamh as na réimsí saibhre staire, oidhreachta, damhsa, ceoil agus ealaíne atá ar fáil. D'fheidhmigh Ardach Ildánach mar óstach do lá teaghligh nuair a thug Ailís as Tír na nOntas cuairt ar shráidbhaile stairiúil Ardach ina bhfuil finscéal Midir agus Étain suite. Cuireadh bailchríoch ar an tráthnóna le Searmanas Solais iontach ar lena linn a tháinig na manaigh ar ais go Mainistir Shruithla chun ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar shoilsiú fhothrach na mainistreach Cistéirsí ag an bpobal den chéad uair.

Is é atá san uaimhian fhoriomlán atá againn don bhliain ná cultúr agus cruthaitheacht a chur chun tosaigh i saol ár bpobail agus suntas a thabhairt do bheocht Chontae an Longfoirt mar ionad iontach chun cónaí ann, chun obair agus chun gnó a dhéanamh ann.

**Cllr. Mick Cahill**  
An Cathaoirleach

**Paddy Mahon,**  
Príomhfheidhmeannach

# The Creative Ireland Programme

## CLÁR ÉIRE ILDÁNACH

The Creative Ireland Programme is the Government's Legacy Programme for Ireland 2016 – a five-year initiative, from 2017 to 2022, which places creativity at the centre of public policy. It is a high-level, high-ambition, all-of-government initiative to mainstream creativity in the life of the nation so that individually and collectively, in our personal lives and in our institutions, we can realise our full creative potential.

The Creative Ireland Programme is a culture-based programme designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing. The core proposition is that participation in cultural activity drives personal and collective creativity, with significant implications for individual and societal wellbeing and achievement.

The Creative Ireland Programme is also the main implementation vehicle for the priorities identified in the Government's policy document, Culture 2025.

The programme is built around the themes of identity, culture and citizenship. The core operating principles are Collaboration and Communication, Community Empowerment, and Internationalisation.

Is é Clár Éire Ildánach an tionscnamh de chuid an Rialtais a eascraíonn le hoidhreacht ó Éire 2016. Tionscnamh cúig bliana atá ann, ó 2017-2022, trína gcuirtear an chruthaitheacht i gcroílár an bheartais phoiblí. Tionscnamh ardleibhéil, ardaidhme uile-rialtais atá ann d'fhonn an chruthaitheacht a chur ina gnáthchuid de shaol an náisiúin ionas gur féidir linn ar fad, asainn féin agus i gcomhar lena chéile, an acmhainn chruthaitheachta atá ionainn a thabhairt in inmhe agus chun foirfeachta sa saol pearsanta agus i bhforais éagsúla na tíre.

Tionscnamh atá i gClár Éire Ildánach atá bunaithe ar an gcultúr agus atá leagtha amach le folláine an duine aonair, an phobail agus an náisiúin a chur chun cinn. Is é an bunsmoineamh go mbíonn rannpháirtíocht i ngníomhaíochtaí cultúir ina shiocair leis an gcruthaitheacht phearsanta agus le cruthaitheacht an chomhair agus go dtagann torthaí suntasacha dá bharr sin maidir le folláine an duine agus an phobail agus lena gcuireann an duine agus an pobal i gcrích.

Ina theannta sin, is é Clár Éire Ildánach an príomhchóras trína gcuirfead i bhfeidhm na tosaíochtaí a leagtar amach i gcáipéis pholasaí an Rialtais dar teideal Cultúr 2025.

Tá an clár bunaithe ar théamaí an aitheantais, an chultúir agus na saoránachta. Is iad na príonsabail lárnacha oibriúcháin atá ann ná an Comhar agus an Chumarsáid, Cumasú an Phobail, agus Idirnáisiúin.

Local authorities have a crucial role in the overall local delivery of the entire Creative Ireland Programme and are exclusively mandated, through their culture teams, to deliver Pillar 2 of the programme – Enabling Creativity in Every Community. This devolution of responsibility for Creative Ireland to local authorities is inspired by the extraordinary impact of collaborative local authority co-ordinated projects for the centenary of 1916. This Plan sets out the beginning of Longford's part in this five-year journey, a truly important national policy initiative centred on culture and wellbeing.

In developing the County Longford Culture and Creativity Plan 2017, our Culture Team has prioritised the themes of identity, culture, collaboration and citizenship across the county, interconnecting these with the five pillars of Creative Ireland.

In keeping with the collaborative ethos of the Culture Team, the first major event of the programme was a public consultation workshop held on the 22 February 2017 in Backstage Theatre to a full house. The participation in the workshop by a cross-section of Longford's creative, cultural, community organisations and individuals demonstrated the diversity of this sector and their desire to engage and develop our creative and cultural infrastructure. Our overall objective in developing the programme was to be as inclusive and democratic as possible, and to harness all the ideas generated on the evening.

Tá ról thar a bheith tábhachtach ag údaráis áitiúla i dtaca le Clár Éire Ildánach, ina iomláine, a chur i gcrích agus tá sainordú eisiach acu, trína gcuid meithleacha cultúir, Colún 2 den chlár a chur i gcrích - Bonn a chur faoin gCruthaitheacht i ngach Pobal. Tá cineachadh na freagrachta i leith Éire Ildánach chuig na húdaráis áitiúla bunaithe ar thionchar urghnách na dtionscadal comhoibríoch a chomhordaigh údaráis áitiúla do chothrom céad bliain 1916. Sa Phlean seo, leagtar amach tús ról an Longfoirt sa turas cúig bliana seo, ar tionscnamh fíorthábhachtach polasaí náisiúnta é atá dírithe ar chultúr agus ar fholláine.

Le linn Plean Cultúir agus Cruthaitheachta Chontae an Longfoirt 2017 a fhorbairt, tá tús áite tugtha ag ár Meitheal Cultúir do théamaí na féiniúlachta, an chultúir, an chomhoibríochta agus na saoránachta ar fud an chontae, agus na téamaí sin á n-idirnascadh leis na cúig Cholún de chuid Éire Ildánach.

I gcomhréir le héiteas comhoibríoch na Meithle Cultúir, ba é a bhí sa chéad mhóriméacht de chuid an chláir ná ceardlann chomhairliúcháin phoiblí a seoladh ar an 22 Feabhra 2017 in Amharclann Backstage a bhí lán go doras don imeacht sin. Léirigh rannpháirtíocht sa cheardlann ag eagraíochtaí agus daoine aonair as réimsí cruthaitheachta, cultúir agus pobail an Longfoirt an éagsúlacht a bhaineann leis an earnáil seo agus an fonn atá ar na daoine sin a bheith páirteach inár n-infreastruchtúr cruthaitheachta agus cultúir agus i bhforbairt an infreastruchtúir sin. Ba é an cuspóir foriomlán a bhí againn le linn an clár a fhorbairt a bheith chomh huilechuimsitheach agus chomh daonlathach agus ab fhéidir, agus leas a bhaint as na smaointe go léir a tháinig chun cinn ar an oíche.

Following on from the workshop, a small grant scheme was announced. From this, over fifty applications have received Creative Ireland Programme funding in the county for 2017.

Cruinniú na Cásca was the first major national event in the Creative Ireland programme. In County Longford, three successful events took place which had a strong community engagement across the county. The events were a Mystery Tour of the hidden cultural gems within Longford, 'Midir and Etain in Wonderland' family day at Creative Ardagh and culminating in the stunning Ceremony of Light at Abbeyshrule Abbey, which saw the 12th century Cistercian monastery being illuminated for the first time, using wholly renewable energy.

Some exciting initiatives that will be developed and enhanced in 2017 include:

- The Edgeworth Science Festival where the exciting world of science will be opened up to young and old alike;
- A Day of the Imagination with our primary schools, in partnership with the Pushkin Trust,
- Longford Trad Sessions where experienced musicians will guide younger musicians in the art of traditional music;
- CAM Fest (Culture, Arts and Music) Longford – a youth festival that will celebrate the diverse cultures living in County Longford, developed by Comhairle na nÓg.

Mar thoradh ar an gceardlann, fógraíodh scéim deontas beag. Tá maoiniúchán Chlár Éire Ildánach faighte ag níos mó ná caoga iarratas sa chontae don bhliain 2017.

Ba é Cruinniú na Casca an chéad mhóimeacht naisiúnta i gclár Éire Ildánach. I gContae an Longfoirt, bhí trí imeacht rathúla ann ar imeachtaí iad a raibh rannpháirtíocht leathan phobail i gceist leo. Ba iad na himeachtaí sin Turas Mistéire chuig na seoda folaithe cultúir atá ann sa Longfort, 'Midir and Etain in Wonderland', is é sin, lá teaghligh de chuid Ardach Ildánach ar cuireadh bailchríoch air le Searmanas Solais fíorálainn i Mainistir Mhainistir Shruithla ar lena linn a soilsiú an mhainistir Chistéirseach de chuid an 12ú haois de chéad uair, agus fuinneamh lán-inathnuaite á úsáid.

I measc na dtionscnamh spreagúil a bheidh á bhforbairt agus á bhfeabhsú sa bhliain 2017, áirítear an méid seo a leanas:

- Féile Eolaíochta Edgeworth ar lena linn a osclófar domhan spreagúil na heolaíochta do gach uile dhuine, idir óg agus aosta;
- Lá na Samhlaíochta a eagrófar inár gcuid bunscoileanna i gcomhpháirtíocht le hÍontaobhas Pushkin;
- Seisiúin Cheoil Traidisiúnta an Longfoirt ar lena linn a thabharfaidh ceoltóirí a bhfuil a lán taithí acu treoir do cheoltóirí óga i dtaca le healaín an cheoil thraidisiúnta;
- CAM Fest (Cultúir, Ealaíona agus Ceol) an Longfoirt - féile óige ina ndéanfar ceiliúradh ar na cultúir ilghnéitheacha atá beo i gContae an Longfoirt, ar féile í atá forbartha ag Comhairle na nÓg.

- Introduction to Digital Storytelling with Outtake Community Media
- Longford Schools Photography Programme, developed by photographer Shelly Corcoran and Longford-Westmeath Education Training Board (ETB)
- Longford School of Rock which aims to encourage young musicians to collaborate and develop towards live music performance.
- Masterclasses in Aspects of Writing with the Longford Writers Group.
- Shawbrook Dance Company will develop projects under this initiative. One of is the production of HOME, a piece of dance theatre that looks at homelessness. They will also host a series of dance residencies at their centre of excellence for dance and performance.
- Other interesting projects include the online digitisation of cemetery records in the county and a coding project with our youth.

Through our 2017 programme of events, Creative Longford aims to nurture the creative imagination of our community, and showcase the quality and diversity of our cultural creators.

- Buneolas ar Scéalaíocht Dhigiteach le Outtake Community Media;
- Clár Ghrianghrafadóireachta Scoileanna an Longfoirt atá forbartha ag an ngrianghrafadóir, Shelly Corcoran agus ag Bord Oideachais agus Oilíuna (BOO) an Longfoirt-na hIarmhí;
- Scoil Rac-Cheoil an Longfoirt arb é is aidhm di spreagadh a thabhairt do cheoltóirí óga comhoibriú le chéile agus forbairt a dhéanamh le go mbeidh siad in ann dul i mbun taibhiú beo ceoil;
- Máistir-ranganna faoi Ghnéithe Áirithe den Scríbhneoireacht le Grúpa Scríbhneoirí an Longfoirt;
- Forbróidh Complacht Damhsa Shawbrook tionscadail faoin tionscnamh seo. Ceann amháin díobh sin is ea léiriú a dhéanamh ar HOME, ar mír dhamhsa amharclainne í a bhfuil daoine gan dídean mar théama aici. Ina theannta sin, feidhmeoidh siad mar óstach le haghaidh sraith cónaitheachtaí ina n-ionad sármhaitheasa damhsa agus taibhiúcháin.
- I measc na dtionscadal spéisiúil eile, áirítear digitíú ar líne thaifid reilige an chontae agus tionscadal códúcháin do dhaoine óga.

Trínár gclár imeachtaí don bhliain 2017, tá sé mar aidhm ag Longfort Ildánach samhlaíocht chruthaitheach ár bpobail a chothú agus ardchaighdeán agus éagsúlacht ár gcruthaitheoirí cultúir a chur ar taispeánt.

# The Creative Ireland Team in Longford

## FOIREANN ÉIRE ILDÁNACH SA LONGFORT

The team leading the Creative Ireland Programme in Longford (the Culture Team) will be coordinated in 2017 by Mary Carleton Reynolds, one of 31 national coordinators who work as a national team to deliver the Creative Ireland Programme.

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### **Cllr. Paraic Brady**

Granard Municipal District

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### **Cllr. Mark Casey**

Ballymahon Municipal District

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### **Cllr. Peggy Nolan**

Longford Municipal District

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### **Cllr. Mae Sexton**

Longford Municipal District

### **Barbara Heslin,**

Director of Services

### **Mary Carleton Reynolds,**

County Coordinator

### **Dónall Mac An Bheatha,**

Senior Planner

### **Michael Nevin,**

Head of Local Enterprise Office

### **Martin Morris,**

County Archivist

### **Máiréad Ní Chonghaile,**

Heritage Officer

### **Frank Horne,**

Community Development Officer

### **Majella Reid,**

Administrator and Social Media manager

### **Mona Considine,**

Manager, Backstage Theatre

### **Shane Crossan,**

Longford Schools Completion Programme Coordinator

### **Eamonn Brennan,**

Heritage Education and Oifigeach Cultúrtha,

Longford GAA

Beidh an fhoireann i gceannas ar an gClár Ireland Cruthaitheach i Longfort (an Fhoireann Cultúr) a chomhordú i 2017 ag Mary Carleton Reynolds, ar duine de 31 chomhordaitheoir náisiúnta í a oibríonn mar mheitheal náisiúnta chun Clár Éire Ildánach a chur i gcrích.

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### **An Comhairleoir Paraic Brady**

Ceantar Bardasach Ghránaird

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### **An Comhairleoir Mark Casey**

Ceantar Bardasach Bhaile Uí Mhatháin

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### **An Comhairleoir Peggy Nolan**

Ceantar Bardasach an Longfoirt

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### **An Comhairleoir Mae Sexton**

Ceantar Bardasach an Longfoirt

### **Barbara Heslin,**

Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí

### **Mary Carleton Reynolds,**

Comhordaitheoir Contae

### **Dónall Mac An Bheatha,**

Pleanálaí Sinsearach

### **Michael Nevin,**

Ceann na hOifige Fiontair Áitiúil

### **Martin Morris,**

Cartlannaí Contae

### **Máiréad Ní Chonghaile,**

Oifigeach Oidhreacht

### **Frank Horne,**

Oifigeach Forbartha Pobail

### **Majella Reid,**

Riarthóir agus bainisteoir Meán Sóisialta

### **Mona Considine,**

Bainisteoir, Amharclann Backstage

### **Shane Crossan,**

Comhordaitheoir Chlár Críochnaithe Scoile an Longfoirt

### **Eamonn Brennan,**

Oideachas Oidhreacht agus Oifigeach Cultúrtha, CLCG an Longfoirt

# Implementation

## FORFHEIDHMIÚ

Within Creative Longford, we have a strong partnership with our local community and this relationship has been achieved through the development of a number of key communications tools. These tools are:

- We have created a mailing list specific to community organisations and individuals who are engaged with the Creative Ireland Programme in County Longford.
- We have developed a strong social media presence. The core of this is our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/creativelongfordireland](http://www.facebook.com/creativelongfordireland) and Twitter account (@CreativeLongfd), and we are building audiences within both. We are also utilising the Longford Library Vimeo, YouTube and Flickr accounts. We will explore emerging platforms as they come on-stream. Creative Longford is also being cross-promoted through the Longford Council, Longford Library and Longford Tourism social media accounts.
- Creative Longford will have a dedicated online presence on [www.longford.ie](http://www.longford.ie). Creative Longford initiatives are being promoted through this website and Longford Library [www.longfordlibrary.ie](http://www.longfordlibrary.ie), and Longford tourism and business websites.

Mar chuid de Longfort Ildánach, tá comhpháirtíocht láidir ann lenár bpobal áitiúil agus baineadh an caidreamh sin amach trí fhorbairt a dhéanamh ar roinnt uirlisí tábhachtacha cumarsáide. Is iad seo a leanas na huirlisí sin:

- Tá liosta seoltaí cruthaithe againn a bhaineann go sonrach le heagraíochtaí pobail agus le daoine aonair atá rannpháirteach i gClár Éire Ildánach i gContae an Longfoirt.
- Tá láithreach láidir mheán sóisialta forbartha againn. Tá ár leathanach Facebook [www.facebook.com/creativelongfordireland](http://www.facebook.com/creativelongfordireland) agus ár gcuntas Twitter (@CreativeLongfd) ag croílár na láithreachta sin, agus tá lucht leanúna á thiomsú againn ar an dá ardán sin. Ina theannta sin, tá leas á bhaint againn as Vimeo Leabharlann an Longfoirt, as YouTube agus as Flickr. Scrúdóimid ardáin nua de réir mar a thagann siad chun cinn. Tá Longfort Ildánach á chrosphoibliú freisin trí chuntais mheán sóisialta Chomhairle an Longfoirt, Leabharlann an Longfoirt agus Turasóireacht an Longfoirt.
- Beidh sainláithreach ar líne ag Longfort Ildánach ar [www.longford.ie](http://www.longford.ie). Tá tionscnaimh Longfort Ildánach á gcur chun cinn tríd an láithreán gréasáin sin agus trí láithreán gréasáin Leabharlann an Longfoirt [www.longfordlibrary.ie](http://www.longfordlibrary.ie) agus trí laithreáin ghréasáin thurasóireacht agus ghnó an Longfoirt.

- Creative Longford is working closely with the Longford Public Participation Network (PPN), which represents community groups and organisations within the county.
- Regular presentations and updates will be given to Local Authority bodies, including Strategic Policy Committees (SPC), Council Meetings, Heritage Forum, etc.
- Our local media outlets, in particular the Longford Leader (newspaper) and Shannonside FM (radio) have been hugely supportive of the programme. They have given it widespread coverage and promoted it through their social media accounts. We will continue to engage with local and national media to promote the programme.

- Tá Longfort Ildánach ag obair go dlúth le Lónra Rannpháirtíochta Poiblí (LRP) an Longfoirt atá ionadaíoch do ghrúpaí agus d'eagraíochtaí pobail sa chontae.
- Déanfar cur i láthair agus faisnéis cothrom le dáta a thabhairt go rialta do chomhlachtaí Údarás Áitiúil, lena n-áirítear Coistí Beartais Straitéisigh (CBS), Cruinnithe Comhairle, an Fóram Oidhreachta, etc.
- Tá tacaíocht mhór tugtha don chlár ag na meáin áitiúla, go háirithe an Longford Leader (nuachtán) agus Shannonside FM (raidió). Tá clúdach forleathan tugtha acu don chlár, agus tá an clár curtha chun cinn acu, trína gcuid cuntas meán sóisialta. Leanfaimid de bheith ag obair i gcomhpháirt leis na meáin áitiúla agus leis na meáin náisiúnta chun an clár a chur chun cinn.

## Projects TIONSCADAIL

### CREATIVE IRELAND PROGRAMME FUNDED PROJECTS FOR 2017

The following initiatives have been agreed by the Culture Team as part of the Creative Ireland Programme in Longford for 2017.

#### **Pushkin Day of the Imagination**

This exciting new initiative for primary school teachers and pupils supports one of the key pillars of Creative Ireland, which is Enabling the Creative Potential of Every Child. The event will bring together schools from across County Longford with writers, storytellers, artists and environmentalists to engage with creativity as a shared endeavour. Our special guest will be Sasha, the Duchess of Abercorn, who is the founder of The Pushkin Trust [www.pushkintrust.com](http://www.pushkintrust.com). The trust supports creative learning and education across Ireland, opening all of us up to the realm of imagination, inspiration and integration. June 14, Backstage Theatre Longford. For further information, please contact 043-3341124.

### TIONSCADAIL CHISTITHE FAOI CHLÁR ÉIRE ILDÁNACH DON BHLIAIN 2017

Tá na tionscnaimh seo a leanas aontaithe ag an Meitheal Cultúir mar chuid de Chlár Éire Ildánach sa Longfort don bhliain 2017.

#### **Lá Samhlaíochta Pushkin**

Tacaíonn an tionscnamh spreagúil nua do mhúinteoirí agus do dhaltaí bunscoile le ceann de na príomhcholúin de chuid Éire Ildánach, is é sin, Scód a ligean le Cumas na Cruthaitheachta i ngach Leanbh. Tarraingeoidh an t-imeacht scoileanna le chéile ó áiteanna ar fud Chontae an Longfoirt agus beidh scríbhneoirí, scéalaíthe, ealaíontóirí agus gníomhaithe comhshaoil ann chun bheith rannpháirteach i gcruthaitheacht mar chomhshaothar. Beidh Sasha, Bandiúc Abercorn, arb í bunaitheoir Iontaobhas Pushkin í [www.pushkintrust.com](http://www.pushkintrust.com), mar aoi speisialta againn. Tacaíonn an t-iontaobhas le foghlaim chruthaitheach agus le hoideachas cruthaitheach ar fud na hÉireann, rud a osclaíonn saol na samhlaíochta, na hinspioráide agus na lánpháirtíochta do gach uile dhuine. 14 Meitheamh, Amharclann Backstage an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 043-3341124, le do thoil.

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### Still Voices Short-Film Festival 2017

This festival has been conceived as a showcase for local filmmakers, with the aim of encouraging and supporting young filmmaking talent across the midlands and Ireland. Still Voices is on track to become Ireland's next premier short film festival, providing the perfect opportunity for filmmakers and film lovers to come together, share ideas, develop relationships and enjoy the work of some of the best up-and-coming Irish and International talent out there today. 18 – 20 August, various venues, Ballymahon. For information, please contact [stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com)

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### Padraic Colum Literary Festival

This new festival will celebrate Longford's most prolific and influential writer. The programme will feature Colum's plays; international folklore collections; stories for children; poetry and song; and will explore Colum's career as a writer and lecturer. A key part of the event will be a writers' workshop, allowing participants to draw inspiration from Colum's life and work. 8 - 9 September, various venues, Longford. For further information, please contact [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie).

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### Féile Ghearrscannán Still Voices 2017

Ceapadh an fhéile seo mar dheis taispeána do dhéantóirí áitiúla scannán, agus é mar aidhm aici spreagadh agus tacaíocht a thabhairt do dhéantóirí cumasacha óga scannán ar fud an láir tíre agus ar fud na hÉireann. Tá Still Voices ar an mbealach ceart chun ról a ghlacadh mar an chéad phríomhfhéile ghearrscannán eile de chuid na hÉireann trína soláthrófar deis ar fheabhas do dhéantóirí scannán agus do dhaoine a bhfuil spéis acu i scannáin chun teacht le chéile, smaointe a chomhroinnt, caidreamh a fhorbairt agus taitneamh a bhaint as saothar cuid de na déantóirí scannán is cumasaí dá bhfuil ann faoi láthair, agus atá ag teacht chun cinn, in Éirinn agus ar bhonn idirnáisiúnta. 18 20 Lúnasa, ionaid éagsúla, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le [stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com), le do thoil.

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### Féile Litríochta Padraic Colum

Le linn na féile nua seo, déanfar comóradh ar an scríbhneoir is bisiúla agus is mó tionchar de chuid an Longfoirt. Mar chuid de chlár beidh drámaí de chuid Colum ann; beidh bailiúcháin idirnáisiúnta béaloidis ann; beidh scéalta do leanáí ann; beidh filíocht agus amhráin ann; agus scrúdófar gairmréim Colum mar scríbhneoir agus mar léachtóir. Príomhchuid den imeacht is ea ceardlann do scríbhneoirí ar lena linn a bheidh deis ag na rannpháirtithe inspioráid a fháil ó shaol agus ó shaothar Colum. 8 - 9 Meán Fómhair, ionaid éagsúla, an Longfort. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie), le do thoil.

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### Cruthú Arts Festival 2017

The Cruthú Arts festival boasts an exciting and diverse programme of events celebrating the arts in County Longford. This is one of the largest arts and cultural festivals in the midlands. One of the core events in this year's programme is ReActors, a 'response' project designed to encourage collaboration between local creatives from different art mediums, culminating in interactive performance and exhibition pieces. Another key initiative in this year's festival is 'Square Eyes', a celebration of Longford's teenage creative talent. Over 50 students will be mentored in music and street mural skills, to transform the Market Square into a youth performance zone during the course of the festival. 27 -30 July, various venues, Longford town. For further information visit: [www.cruthuartsfestival.com](http://www.cruthuartsfestival.com) or email: [cruthuartsfest@gmail.com](mailto:cruthuartsfest@gmail.com)

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### Féile Ealaíon Cruthú 2017

Maíonn Féile Ealaíon Cruthú as clár spreagúil ilghnéitheach imeachtaí trína ndéantar ceiliúradh ar na healaíona i gContae an Longfoirt. Tá an fhéile seo i measc na bhféilte ealaíon agus cultúir is mó dá bhfuil ann i lár na tíre. Ceann de na príomhimeachtaí a bheidh ann sa chlár i mbliana is ea ReActors, is é sin, tionscadal 'freagartha' atá ceaptha chun comhoibriú a spreagadh idir cruthaitheoirí áitiúla a bhíonn ag plé le meáin éagsúla ealaíne agus cuirfear bailchríoch ar an imeacht le taibhiúchán idirghníomhach agus míreanna taispeántais. Tionscnamh tábhachtach eile de chuid na féile i mbliana is ea 'Square Eyes', ar ceiliúradh é ar chumas cruthaitheachta dhéagóirí an Longfoirt. Gheobhaidh os cionn 50 mac léinn comhairle faoi scileanna ceoil agus múrmhaisithe sráide chun Cearnóg an Mhargaidh a thiontú ina réigiún taibhiúcháin óige nuair a bheidh an fhéile ar siúl. 27 -30 Iúil, ionaid éagsúla, baile an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, tabhair cuairt ar: [www.cruthuartsfestival.com](http://www.cruthuartsfestival.com) nó cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: [cruthuartsfest@gmail.com](mailto:cruthuartsfest@gmail.com)



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## Promotional Events 2017

### IMEACHTAÍ POIBLÍOCHTA 2017

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#### Welcoming the Stranger

Catherine Young, choreographer in residence at Backstage Theatre, will work with our new immigrant communities in Longford, bringing them together with people from the local community to create Welcoming the Stranger, a moving and compelling dance piece inspired by the stories of migrants and refugees who have made Ireland their home. A community performance will take place at the Backstage Theatre on 15 December 2017. In April 2018, this group will join six professional dancers and five musicians to perform Welcoming the Stranger at Kasimba, an exciting new international arts festival, in Shawbrook, Legan. Shawbrook is an innovative dance and creative space, which has produced internationally-acclaimed dancers and performers over many years. From September 2017 Backstage Theatre, Longford.

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#### Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir

Beidh Catherine Young, ar cóiréagrafaí cónaithe í in Amharclann Backstage, ag obair in éineacht lenár gcuid pobal nua inimirceach sa Longfort chun iad a chur i dteagmháil le daoine de chuid an phobal áitiúil chun Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir a chruthú, is é sin, mír chorraitheach láidir damhsa a fhaigheann inspioráid ó scéalta imirceach agus dídeanaíthe atá tagtha go hÉirinn chun cónaí a dhéanamh ann. Beidh léiriú pobail ann in Amharclann Backstage ar an 15 Nollaig 2017. I mí Aibreáin 2018, tiocfaidh an grúpa seo, agus seisear damhsóirí gairmiúla agus cúigear ceoltóirí, le chéile chun Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir a thaibhiú le linn Kasimba, ar féile spreagúil nua idirnáisiúnta í, in Shawbrook, an Liagán. Is é atá in Shawbrook ná spás nuálach damhsa agus cruthaitheachta agus tá damhsóirí agus taibheoirí, ar a bhfuil clú idirnáisiúnta, tagtha chun cinn uaidh thar roinnt mhaith de bhlianta. Ó Mheán Fómhair 2017, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort.

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SELECTIVE LISTING OF PROJECTS  
PROMOTING CREATIVITY IN LONGFORD  
IN 2017.

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#### My Aunt Bee

Written by and starring the award-winning County Leitrim actor Seamus O'Rourke. 21 - 22 April, Backstage Theatre, Longford. To book your ticket, contact Backstage Box Office on 043-3347888

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#### The Flood

Presented by Carpet Theatre. All the sound is generated live by the performers using the props of old fashioned radio drama (wind machines, gravel boxes, false doors, etc.) and moves around the audience, putting you in the centre of the action. 27 April, Backstage Theatre, Longford. Contact Backstage on 043-3347888

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#### International Poetry Day

Create art inspired by poetry and fairies in celebration of Poetry Day. 27 April, Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh. Tickets €5. To book call 086-3027602.

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#### Two Runaways music launch

Katie Gallagher Music celebrates the launch of her single Two Runaways. 28 April, The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. For further information, contact 087-2352459.

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LIOSTA ROGHNAITHEACH TIONSCADAL  
INA NDÉANFAR CRUTHAITHEACHT SA  
LONGFORT A CHUR CHUN CINN SA  
BHLIAIN 2017.

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#### My Aunt Bee

Arna scríobh ag aisteoir duaisbhuaiteach de chuid Chontae an Longfoirt, Séamus O'Rourke, agus príomhpháirt aige ann. 21 - 22 Aibreán, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun ticéad a chur in áirithe, déan teagmháil le hOifig Ticéad Backstage ar 043-3347888

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#### The Flood

Arna chur i láthair ag Carpet Theatre. Déanann taibheoirí an fhuaim ar fad a ghiniúint beo, agus iad ag úsáid fearais stáitse de chuid na drámaíochta raidió seanfhaiseanta (meaisíní gaoithe, boscaí gairbhéil, doirse bréagacha, etc.) agus gluaiseann siad tríd an lucht féachana rud a fhágann go bhfuil tú i lár na gníomhaíochta. 27 Aibreán, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Déan teagmháil le Backstage ar 043-3347888

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#### Lá Filíochta Idirnáisiúnta

Ealaín a chruthú agus inspioráid ina leith á fáil ó fhilíocht agus ó shioga mar cheiliúradh ar Lá na Filíochta. 27 Aibreán, Ionad Oidhreacht agus Cruthaitheachta Ardach, Ardach. Ticéid €5. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, glaoigh ar 086-3027602.

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#### Lainseáil cheoil Two Runaways

Déanann Katie Gallagher Music ceiliúradh ar lainseáil a singil dar teideal Two Runaways. 28 Aibreán, The Bog Lane Theatre, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 087-2352459.

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### Flash Harry

Audiences will see Flash Harry present a showcase of Queen's greatest hits and more. 28 April, Backstage Theatre, Longford. Tickets available online at [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) or phone 043-3347888

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### Longford County Fleadh Cheoil 2017

Events include a Junior session of music, storytelling, song and dance. Also a mini Fleadh for children up to 10 years. There will also be traditional singing, banjo, button and piano accordion. 28 - 30 April, Granard. Email: [longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com)

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### Howie the Rookie

29 April, The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. For further information, contact 087-2352459

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### Bealtaine Festival

During May we celebrate creativity in older people with the Bealtaine Festival. Local events are planned to celebrate this year's theme - «All together Now!» Follow Longford Library on Facebook for further information on events. <https://www.facebook.com/longfordlibraries1> - 31 May, various locations throughout County Longford

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### Flash Harry

Beidh na hamhráin de chuid Queen is mó ráchairt, agus rudaí eile, á gcur i láthair ag Flash Harry, le feiceáil ag an lucht féachana. 28 Aibreán, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Tá ticéid ar fáil ar líne ag [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) nó trí ghlaoch teileafóin a chur ar 043-3347888

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### Fleadh Cheoil Chontae an Longfoirt 2017

I measc na n-imeachtaí áirítear seisiún ceoil Sóisearach, scéalaíocht, amhránaíocht agus damhsa. Beidh mion-Fhleadh ann freisin do leanaí suas go 10 bliana d'aois. Ina theannta sin, beidh seisiún amhránaíochta traidisiúnta, bainseó, bosca ceoil cnaipí agus cairdín pianó ann. 28 30 Aibreán, Gránard. Ríomhphost: [longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com](mailto:longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com)

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### Howie the Rookie

29 Aibreán, The Bog Lane Theatre, Baile Uí Mhatháin Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 087-2352459

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### Féile Bhealtaine

I rith mhí Bhealtaine, ceiliúrimid an chruthaitheacht i measc daoine scothaosta trí Fhéile Bhealtaine a réachtáil. Tá sé beartaithe imeachtaí áitiúla a eagrú chun téama na bliana a cheiliúradh - is é sin, "All Together Now/Muid Uilig Le Chéile!" Lean Leabharlann an Longfoirt ar Facebook chun tuilleadh faisnéise faoi imeachtaí a fháil. <https://www.facebook.com/longfordlibraries1> - 31 Bealtaine, ionaid éagsúla ar fud Chontae an Longfoirt

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### Mick Flavin

Join local legend Mick Flavin as he celebrates 30 years in Country Music. 4 May, Backstage Theatre, Longford. To book your place contact Backstage Theatre on 043-3347888 or visit [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie)

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### The Maria Edgeworth Literary Festival

Historical and literary weekend inspired by the life and works of the remarkable Edgeworth family. 5 - 8 May, Edgeworthstown. To book call 043-6671801 or email: [edgelocdev@eircom.net](mailto:edgelocdev@eircom.net)

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### I, Malvolio

Multi-award-winning playwright and performer Tim Crouch reimagines Twelfth Night in this his brilliant one man show. 5 May, Backstage Theatre, Longford. For further information visit [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) or phone 043-3347888.

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### Sean Keane

Sean will be performing songs from his new album and will be joined on stage by Pat Coyne and Fergus Feely. 6 May, Backstage Theatre, Longford. Visit [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) or phone 043-3347888.

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### Mick Flavin

Bí in éineacht leis an gceoltóir mór le rá, Mick Flavin, agus é ag ceiliúradh 30 bliain i saol an Cheoil Tíre. 4 Bealtaine, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun áit a chur in airithe, déan teagmháil le hAmharclann Backstage ar 043-3347888 nó tabhair cuairt ar [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie)

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### Féile Litríochta Maria Edgeworth

Deireadh seachtaine staire agus litríochta a fhaigheann a inspioráid ó shaol agus ó shaothar theaghlach iontach Edgeworth. 5 - 8 Bealtaine, Meathas Troim. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, glaoigh ar 043-6671801 nó cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: [edgelocdev@eircom.net](mailto:edgelocdev@eircom.net)

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### I, Malvolio

Déanann Tim Crouch, drámadóir agus taibheoir a bhfuil cuid mhór gradam gnóthaithe aige, athshamlú ar Twelfth Night ina seó aonair thar barr. 5 Bealtaine, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, tabhair cuairt ar [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) nó cuir glaoch teileafóin ar 043-3347888.

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### Sean Keane

Beidh Seán ag canadh amhrán óna albam nua agus beidh Pat Coyne agus Fergus Feely in éineacht leis. 6 Bealtaine, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Tabhair cuairt ar [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) nó cuir glaoch teileafóin ar 043-3347888.

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### **Ballymahon - Landevant Town Twinning**

This year a group of 25 from Ballymahon's twin town, Landevant will visit Ballymahon and various sites around County Longford from 6 – 13 May. For further information, please email: arthurconlon66@gmail.com.

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### **Longford Trad Sessions**

Music sessions where beginners and experienced musicians share their knowledge. May – December, Various Locations. Email: longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com

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### **Musical memories of Yester year**

Share in the musical delights of yesteryear with music selected by Longford historian, Luke Baxter. 11 May, Granard Library. To book, contact Longford library on 043-3341124.

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### **Together Again - the poems we learned at school**

Intergenerational programme of poetry with poet and storyteller, Frank Galligan. Granard Library (15 May), Lanesboro Library (16 May) and Longford Library (17 May). To book, contact Longford Library (Fiona / Majella) on 043-3341124.

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### **Nascadh Bhaile Bhaile Uí Mhatháin - Landevant**

I mbliana, tabharfaidh grúpa 25 dhuine as nascbhaile Bhaile Uí Mhatháin, is é sin, Landevant, cuairt ar Bhaile Uí Mhatháin agus ar laithreáin éagsúla i gContae an Longfoirt sa tréimhse ó 6 go 13 Bealtaine. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: arthurconlon66@gmail.com, le do thoil.

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### **Seisiúin Cheoil Thraidisiúnta a n Longfoirt**

Seisiúin cheoil ar lena linn a dhéanann tosaitheoirí agus ceoltóirí a bhfuil a lán taithí acu eolas a chomhroinnt. Bealtaine - Nollaig, Ionaid Éagsúla. Ríomhphost: longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com

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### **Cuimhní ceoil ón am atá caite**

Éist le togha an cheoil ón am atá caite, arna roghnú ag staraí de chuid an Longfoirt, Luke Baxter. 14 Bealtaine, Leabharlann Ghránaird. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le leabharlann an Longfoirt ar 043-3341124.

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### **Together Again - na dánta a d'fhoghlaim muid ar scoil**

Clár idirghlúine filíochta in éineacht leis an bhfile agus scéalaí, Frank Galligan. Leabharlann Ghránaird (15 Bealtaine), Leabharlann Bhéal Átha Liag (16 Bealtaine) agus Leabharlann an Longfoirt (17 Bealtaine). Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le Leabharlann an Longfoirt (Fiona / Majella) ar 043-3341124.

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### **Giselle**

Ballet Ireland's modern retelling of this romantic classic. 19 May, Backstage Theatre, Longford. To book your seat, please visit [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) or phone 043-3347888.

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### **Sex and Curry**

Bog Lane production of Robert Scott's 'Sex and Curry', runs nightly. 19 – 21 May, The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. For further information, please contact 087-2352459.

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### **The Táin March**

The Táin March was established in 2011 as a community walking festival to celebrate and promote the epic tale of Táin Bó Cúalinge (The Cattle Raid of Cooley). 20 – 26 May, Clondra, Longford, Ballinallee & Granard. For further information please email: [info@longfordtourism.ie](mailto:info@longfordtourism.ie)

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### **The Famine Walk**

This year's walk will coincide with the 200th year celebration of the opening of the Clondra section of the Royal Canal. 27 May, Clondra. For further information email [info@longfordtourism.ie](mailto:info@longfordtourism.ie)

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### **Giselle**

Athinsint nua-aoiseach Ballet Ireland i leith na clasaice rómánsaíochta seo. 19 Bealtaine, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun suíochán a chur in áirithe, tabhair cuairt ar [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie), le do thoil, nó cuir glaoch teileafóin ar 043-3347888.

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### **Sex and Curry**

Léiriú Bog Lane ar 'Sex and Curry' le Robert Scott, ar siúl gach oíche. 19 – 21 Bealtaine, The Bog Lane Theatre, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 087-2352459, le do thoil.

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### **Máirseáil na Tána**

Bunaíodh Máirseáil na Tána sa bhliain 2011 mar fhéile shiúil phobail chun ceiliúradh agus cur chun cinn a dhéanamh maidir le scéal éachtach Tháin Bó Cúalinge. 20 - 26 Bealtaine, Cluain Dá Ráth, an Longfort, Béal Átha na Lao & Gránard. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: [info@longfordtourism.ie](mailto:info@longfordtourism.ie), le do thoil.

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### **Siúlóid an Ghorta Mhóir**

I mbliana, beidh an tsiúlóid á réachtáil i gcomhthráth le ceiliúradh 200 bliain oscailt chuid Chluain Dá Ráth den Chanáil Ríoga. 27 Bealtaine, Cluain Dá Ráth. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig [info@longfordtourism.ie](mailto:info@longfordtourism.ie)

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### **Longford County Choir's May Concert.**

This year the choir will perform Missa Criolla. This was composed by the renowned Argentinean composer, Ariel Ramirez. There will also be a piece composed by Gabriel Faure in recognition of the choir's visit to Longford's twin town, Noyal-Chatillon-Sur Seiche later in the year. 28 May, St. Mel's Cathedral, Longford. Email: rogerim@eircom.net.

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### **Longford Town Twinning with Noyal Chatillon Sur Seiche**

Celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Longford Town / Noyal Chatillon Sur Seiche Twinning, with a Breton choral group. 29 May – 4 June, various locations. For further information, please contact Longford Library on 043-3341124.

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### **Goldsmith Literary Festival**

Now entering its 34th year, this festival is a celebration of the life, poetry and literature of Oliver Goldsmith. 2 – 4 June, Ballymahon Library, and the Rustic Inn, Abbeyshrule. Email: goldsmithfestival@gmail.com or visit: www.olivergoldsmithfestival.com

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### **Ceolchoirm Bhealtaine Chór Chontae an Longfoirt**

I mbliana, canfaidh an cór Missa Criolla. An cumadóir ardchlú Airgintíneach, Ariel Ramirez, a chum an saothar sin. Ina theannta sin, beidh mír ann arna cumadh ag Gabriel Faure mar aitheantas do chuairt an chóir ar nasbhaile an Longfoirt, is é sin, Noyal-Chatillon-sur-Seiche, níos déanaí sa bhliain. 28 Bealtaine, Ardeaglais N. Mel, an Longfort. Ríomhphost: rogerim@eircom.net.

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### **Nascadh Bhaile an Longfoirt le Noyal Chatillon Sur Seiche**

Ceiliúradh chothrom 20 bliain Nascadh Bhaile an Longfoirt/Noyal Chatillon Sur Seiche, in éineacht le grúpa córuil as an mBriotáin. 29 Bealtaine - 4 Meitheamh, ionaid éagsúla. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le Leabharlann an Longfoirt ar 043-3341124, le do thoil.

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### **Féile Litríochta Goldsmith**

Tá an fhéile seo ina 34ú bliain agus déanann sí ceiliúradh ar shaol, ar fhilíocht agus ar litríocht Oliver Goldsmith. 2 - 4 Meitheamh, Leabharlann Bhaile Uí Mhatháin, agus an Rustic Inn, Mainistir Shruithla. Ríomhphost: goldsmithfestival@gmail.com nó tabhair cuairt ar: www.olivergoldsmithfestival.com

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### **Pushkin Day of the Imagination**

Primary school teachers and pupils from across County Longford will come together to celebrate a Day of the Imagination with writers, artists and environmentalists. Special guest: Sasha, the Duchess of Abercorn. 14 June, Temperance Hall, Longford For further information, please contact 043-3341124.

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### **Midlands Busking Festival**

Now in its fourth year, the festival has grown from strength to strength and is now attracting acts from all over Ireland, Northern Ireland and the UK. 24 – 25 June, Edgeworthstown. Email: longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com

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### **Mostrim Youth Players**

A wonderful production of the Golden Goose and the Wizard Of Oz for children aged 4 to 14 years. 24 June, Edgeworthstown Community Centre. Email: brigid\_duffy@hotmail.com

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### **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

A unique retelling of this Shakespearean play in the idyllic outdoor setting of Ardagh. The legend of Midir and Etain inspired a bard from Brittany (in the 12th Century) to pen 'Lai d'Orphrey' which then inspired Shakespeare to pen this beautiful play. 1 July, Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh. To book contact: 086-3027602 or 087-2326553.

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### **Lá Samhlaíochta Pushkin**

Tiocfaidh múinteoirí agus daltaí bunscoile as gach cearn de Chontae an Longfoirt le chéile chun Lá Samhlaíochta a cheiliúradh in éineacht le scríbhneoirí, le healaíontóirí agus le gníomhaithe comhshaoil. Aoi speisialta: Sasha, Bandiúc Abercorn. 14 Meitheamh, Temperance Hall, an Longfort, chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil déan teagmháil le 443-3341124, le do thoil.

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### **Féile Bhuscála Lár na Tíre**

Tá an fhéile seo ina ceathrú bliain agus tá sé tar éis dul ó neart go neart agus tarraingíonn sí taibheoirí ó gach áit in Éirinn, ó Thuaisceart Éireann agus ón Ríocht Aontaithe. 24 – 25 Meitheamh, Meathas Troim. Ríomhphost: longfordcomhaltas@gmail.com

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### **Aisteoirí Óga Mheathas Troim**

Léiriú iontach den Golden Goose agus den Wizard of Oz do leanaí san aoisghrúpa 4 go 14 bliana d'aois. 24 Meitheamh, Ionad Pobail Mheathas Troim. Ríomhphost: brigid\_duffy@hotmail.com

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### **A Midsummer Night's Dream**

Athinsint uathúil ar an dráma seo de chuid Shakespeare i suíomh aoibhinn allamuigh Ardach. Thug finscéal Midir agus Etain inspioráid do bh bard de chuid na Briotáine (sa 12ú haois) an 'Lai d'Orphrey' a scríobh, rud a thug inspioráid do Shakespeare, ina dhiaidh sin, an dráma álainn seo a scríobh. 1 Iúil, Ionad Oidhreachta agus Cruthaitheachta Ardach, Ardach. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le: 086-3027602 nó 087-2326553.

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### Wood turning Exhibition

Exhibition of the craft work of one of the county's newest Men's Sheds. 1 July, Killoe Men's Shed, Killoe. Email: [jjmurray1@eircom.net](mailto:jjmurray1@eircom.net)

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### Leinster Fleadh 2017

The Leinster Fleadh 2017 will take place in Ballymahon. It will be a week filled with traditional music and performances from across the province. 10 – 16 July, Ballymahon & locations around the county. Visit: [www.leinsterfleadh.ie](http://www.leinsterfleadh.ie)

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### CAM Fest Longford

Youth Culture, Arts and Music Festival organised by Longford Comhairle na nÓg which promotes the different cultures that live within County Longford. 12 July, Longford Town. Email: [avril.gilchrist@foroige.ie](mailto:avril.gilchrist@foroige.ie)

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### Lough Ree Environmental Summer School

The annual Lough Ree Environmental Summer Festival. 14 – 16 July, Lanesboro. Email: [mcasey@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:mcasey@longfordcoco.ie)

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### Expressions Photography Exhibition

Longford Art Photography International Portrait Exhibition co-ordinated by Longford Arts Office. 23 – 30 July, Longford Town. Visit: [www.longforddigitalarts.ie/longford-art-photography-portrait-competition-exhibition/expressions-2017/](http://www.longforddigitalarts.ie/longford-art-photography-portrait-competition-exhibition/expressions-2017/)

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### Taispeántas Deileadh Adhmaid

Taispeántas de cheardaíocht cheann de na grúpaí is nua de chuid Seidchumann na Bhfear sa chontae. 1 Iúil, Seidchumann na bhFear, Cill Eo. Ríomhphost: [jjmurray1@eircom.net](mailto:jjmurray1@eircom.net)

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### Fleadh Laighean 2017

Beidh Fleadh Laighean 2017 ar siúl i mBaile Uí Mhatháin. Beidh an tseachtain lán de cheol traidisiúnta agus de thaibhiúcháin a chuirfidh ceoltóirí ó áiteanna ar fud na cúige ar fáil. 10 - 16 Iúil, Baile Uí Mhatháin & ionaid ar fud an chontae. Tabhair cuairt ar: [www.leinsterfleadh.ie](http://www.leinsterfleadh.ie)

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### CAM Fest an Longfoirt

Féile Chultúir, Ealaíon agus Cheoil don Aos Óg á heagrú ag Comhairle na nÓg sa Longfort; is eagraíocht í sin a chuireann cultúir bheo éagsúla atá ann i gContae an Longfoirt chun cinn. 12 Iúil, Baile an Longfoirt. Ríomhphost: [avril.gilchrist@foroige.ie](mailto:avril.gilchrist@foroige.ie)

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### Scoil Samhraidh Timpeallachta

#### Loch Rí

Féile bhliantúil Scoil Samhraidh Timpeallachta Loch Rí 14 - 16 Iúil, Béal Átha Liag Ríomhphost: [mcasey@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:mcasey@longfordcoco.ie)

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### Taispeántas Grianghrafadóireachta

#### Expressions

Taispeántas Portráidí Idirnáisiúnta Longford Art Photography arna chomhordú ag Oifig Ealaíon an Longfoirt, 23 – 30 Iúil, Baile an Longfoirt. Tabhair cuairt ar: [www.longforddigitalarts.ie/longford-art-photography-portrait-competition-exhibition/expressions-2017/](http://www.longforddigitalarts.ie/longford-art-photography-portrait-competition-exhibition/expressions-2017/)

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### Cruthú Arts Festival

An exciting and diverse programme of events celebrating the arts in County Longford. 27 – 30 July, Longford. For further information visit: <http://cruthuartsfestival.com/> or email: [cruthuartsfest@gmail.com](mailto:cruthuartsfest@gmail.com)

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### Bilberry Sunday (Domhnach na bhFraochán) & launch of King at the Back of the Hill anthology

A leisurely walk followed by the launch of a wonderful new book. 20 July, Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh. To book contact: 086-3027602 or 087-2326553.

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### Lough Ree Monster Fest

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend at Lanesboro / Ballyleague and take part in the Lough Ree Monster Fest. 4 – 7 August, Lanesboro / Ballyleague. Contact Joe O'Brien on 086-2460840.

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### Still Voices Short-Film Festival

Aiming to become Ireland's next premier short film festival, this unique experience is a must for all with an interest in film making. 18 – 20 August, Ballymahon. Email: [stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com)

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### Féile Ealaíon Cruthú

Clár spreagúil ilghnéitheach imeachtaí trína ndéantar ceiliúradh ar na healaíona i gContae an Longfoirt. 27 – 30 Iúil, Baile an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, tabhair cuairt ar: <http://cruthuartsfestival.com/> or email: [cruthuartsfest@gmail.com](mailto:cruthuartsfest@gmail.com)

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### Domhnach na bhFraochán & lainséil an díolama dar teideal King at the Back of the Hill

Siúlóid fóillíochta agus lainséil leabhair iontaigh nua ina dhiaidh. 20 Iúil, Ionad Oidhreacht agus Cruthaitheacht Ardach, Ardach. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le: 086-3027602 nó 087-2326553.

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### Monster Fest Loch Rí

Bain sult as deireadh seachtaine an lae saoire bainc i mBéal Átha Liag agus glac páirt in Monster Fest Loch Rí 4 - 7 Lúnasa, Béal Átha Liag. Déan teagmháil le Joe O'Brien ar 086-2460840.

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### Féile Ghearrscannán Still Voices

Tá sé mar aidhm ag an bhféile seo ról a ghlacadh mar an chéad phríomhféile ghearrscannán eile de chuid na hÉireann agus ní mór do gach duine a bhfuil spéis acu i scannánaíocht freastal ar an bhféile uathúil seo. 18 - 20 Lúnasa, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Ríomhphost: [stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com](mailto:stillvoicesfilmfestival@gmail.com)

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### Heritage Week 2017 - 'It's in your nature'

A national week that celebrates our heritage and culture. A full programme of events will be published on [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) and [www.longfordlibrary.ie](http://www.longfordlibrary.ie) to include the 6th anniversary of the Ardagh Heritage & Creativity Centre. 19 – 27 August throughout County Longford

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### Mow Pat Murphy's Meadow

This annual event commemorates the song of the same title. The traditions and values expressed in the song (about neighbours and cooperation) are recreated for this day. Music, song, dance and traditional grass cutting. 26 August (to be confirmed), The Haggard & Pat Murphy's Meadow, Moyne. For further information email: [michaelmasterson4@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmasterson4@gmail.com)

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### LD Dance Residencies at Shawbrook, Legan

Shawbrook has been recognised globally as a centre for artistic excellence. Dance residencies enable students to pursue this art form further. September – November, Shawbrook, Legan. Email: [shawbrook@gmail.com](mailto:shawbrook@gmail.com)

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### Seachtain Oidhreachta 2017 - 'Tá sé i do Nádúr'

Seachtain náisiúnta ar lena linn a dhéantar ceiliúradh ar ár n-oidhreacht agus ar ár gcultúr. Foilseofar clár iomlán imeachtaí ar [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie) agus ar [www.longfordlibrary.ie](http://www.longfordlibrary.ie) agus áireofar sna himeachtaí sin cothrom 6 bliana Ionad Oidhreachta & Cruthaitheachta Ardach. 19 - 27 Lúnasa ar fud Chontae an Longfoirt

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### Mow Pat Murphy's Meadow

Le linn an imeachta bhliantúil seo, déantar comóradh ar an amhrán ar a bhfuil an teideal céanna, Déantar na traidisiúin agus na luachanna a léirítear san amhrán (comharsana agus comhoibriú) a athchruthú don lá seo. Ceol, amhránaíocht agus baint féir thraidisiúnta. 26 Lúnasa (le deimhniú), The Haggard & Pat Murphy's Meadow, an Mhaighean. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: [michaelmasterson4@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmasterson4@gmail.com)

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### Cónaitheachtaí Damhsa LD in Shawbrook, an Liagán

Tá aitheantas ag Shawbrook ar fud an domhain mar ionad sármhaitheasa ealaíne. Cumasaíonn cónaitheachtaí damhsa do mhic léinn an fhoirm ealaíne seo a shaothrú tuilleadh. Meán Fómhair - Samhain, Shawbrook, an Liagán. Ríomhphost: [shawbrook@gmail.com](mailto:shawbrook@gmail.com)

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### Welcoming the Stranger - a Backstage Theatre project

The research and production of a community project called 'Welcoming the Stranger' in partnership with the local immigrant community. Programme of workshops and rehearsals from September to December with the presentation of the work on 15 December. September – December, Backstage Theatre, Longford. Further information, contact 043-3347888

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### Padraic Colum Literary Festival

The inaugural Padraic Colum Festival celebrating one of Longford's most prolific writers. 8 – 9 September, Longford town. For further information email: [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie)

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### Humours of Bandon

A coming of age story full of heart, humour and wisdom, for anyone who had a childhood passion that threatened to overwhelm their life. 15 September, Backstage Theatre, Longford. Visit: [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) or phone 043-3347888.

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### Roald Dahl Day at Ardagh

A day to celebrate the life and work of one of the world's favourite children's authors. 16 September, Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh. To book contact: 086-3027602 or 087-2326553.

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### Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir - tionscadal de chuid Amharclann Backstage

Taighde faoi thionscadal pobail dar teideal 'Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir', i gcomhpháirtíocht leis an bpobal imirceach áitiúil, agus é a léiriú. Clár ceardlann agus cleachtaí ó Mheán Fómhair go Nollaig, agus léiriú an tsaothair le bheith ann ar an 15 Nollaig. Meán Fómhair - Nollaig, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 043-3347888

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### Féile Litríochta Padraic Colum

Féile tionscnaimh Padraic Colum ar lena linn a dhéanfar ceiliúradh ar dhuine de na scríbhneoirí is bisiúla de chuid an Longfoirt. 8 – 9 Meán Fómhair, Baile an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil cuir teachtaireacht ríomhphoist chuig: [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie)

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### Humours of Bandon

Scéal faoi theacht in aois, agus é lán croíúlacht, grinn agus críonnachta; tá sé dírithe ar aon duine ag a raibh paisean le linn a óige nó a hóige i leith rud éigin a d'fhéadfadh a shaol nó a saol a chur as a riocht. 15 Meán Fómhair, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort Tabhair cuairt ar: [www.backstage.ie](http://www.backstage.ie) nó cuir glaach teileafóin ar 043-3347888.

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### Lá Roald Dahl in Ardagh

Lá chun ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar shaol agus ar shaothar duine de na húdair is mó a bhfuil dúil ag leanaí iontu ar fud an domhain. 16 Meán Fómhair, Ionad Oidhreachta agus Cruthaitheachta Ardach, Ardagh. Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le: 086-3027602 nó 087-2326553.

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### **Culture Night Longford 2017**

Culture Night is a night of cultural events throughout Longford that allows people to engage with all aspects of our culture, music, poetry, dance and history. 22 September, various locations. Email [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie)

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### **National Children's Book Festival**

A month dedicated to the celebration of children's literature. 1 – 31 October, libraries throughout County Longford. For further information contact Longford Library on 043-3341124

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### **Taste of the Lakelands – food festival**

A weekend showcasing the best of local produce from this region. 7 – 9 October, Lanesborough. Contact [ahorohoe@gmail.com](mailto:ahorohoe@gmail.com)

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### **Aisling Children's Arts Festival**

An arts festival packed with workshops and theatre performances. 22 – 28 October, various Locations. Visit: [www.aislingfestival.ie](http://www.aislingfestival.ie)

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### **Ardagh Fright Fest**

A week of mythical magic and spooky happenings at the Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre. 28 October – 4 November, Ardagh Heritage and Creativity Centre, Ardagh To book contact: 086-3027602 or 087-2326553.

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### **Oíche Chultúir sa Longford 2017**

Is é atá in Oíche Chultúir ná oíche imeachtaí cultúir ar fud an Longfoirt chun ligean do dhaoine blaiseadh a fháil ar gach gné dár gcultúr, dár gceol, dár bhfilíocht, dár ndamhsa agus dár stair. 22 Meán Fómhair, ionaid éagsúla. Ríomhphost [creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:creativeireland@longfordcoco.ie)

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### **Féile Náisiúnta Leabhar do Leanáí**

Mí atá tiomnaithe do cheiliúradh na litríochta do leanáí. 1 - 31 Deireadh Fómhair ar fud Chontae an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le Leabharlann an Longfoirt ar 043-3341124

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### **Taste of the Lakelands – féile bhia**

Deireadh seachtaine ar lena linn a chuirtear togha na dtáirgí áitiúla ón réigiún seo ar taispeáint. 7 - 9 Deireadh Fómhair, Béal Átha Liag .Déan teagmháil le [ahorohoe@gmail.com](mailto:ahorohoe@gmail.com)

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### **Féile Ealaíon Aisling do Leanáí**

Féile ealaíon atá lán de cheardlanna agus de thaibhiúcháin amharclainne. 22 - 28 Deireadh Fómhair, ionaid éagsúla. Tabhair cuairt ar: [www.aislingfestival.ie](http://www.aislingfestival.ie)

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### **Fright Fest Ardach**

Seachtain teagmhas miotasach, draíochta agus taibhsiúil in Ionad Oidhreacht agus Cruthaitheachta Ardach. 28 Deireadh Fómhair – 4 Samhain, Ionad Oidhreacht agus Cruthaitheachta Ardach, Ardach Chun áirithint a dhéanamh, déan teagmháil le: 086-3027602 nó 087-2326553.

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### **Dead of Night Festival, Longford**

The Dead of Night Festival brings together families and friends for a colourful and creative Halloween parade. 31 October, Longford Town. Email: [fhorne-ltc@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:fhorne-ltc@longfordcoco.ie)

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### **Faith Healer**

Bog Lane production of Brian Friel's 'Faith Healer'. November (To Be Confirmed), The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. Further information, please contact 087-2352459.

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### **Edgeworth Science Festival**

This festival will feature an Exploration Dome, interactive Reptile Zoo, I Connect (an Apple coding programme) etc.. This festival is new to Longford and all are welcome. 17 – 18 November, Edgeworthstown. Email: [edgelocdev@eircom.net](mailto:edgelocdev@eircom.net)

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### **One Act Plays Festival 2017**

One Act Plays Festival (Amateur) takes place at the Bog Lane. 17 – 19 November, The Bog Lane Theatre, Ballymahon. For further information, please contact 087-2352459.

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### **Reflections Art Group Exhibition**

The annual Christmas show of this amateur art group. December (To Be Confirmed), Longford Library. For further information contact Longford Library on 043-3341124

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### **Féile Dead of Night, an Longfort**

Tarraingíonn Féile Dead of Night teaghlaigh agus cairde le chéile le haghaidh pharáid dhathannach chruthaitheach Oíche Shamhna. 31 Deireadh Fómhair, Baile an Longfoirt. Ríomhphost: [fhorne-ltc@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:fhorne-ltc@longfordcoco.ie)

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### **Faith Healer**

Léiriú Bog Lane ar 'Faith Healer' le Brian Friel. Samhain (le deimhniú), The Bog Lane Theatre, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 087-2352459, le do thoil.

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### **Féile Eolaíochta Edgeworth**

Mar chuid den fhéile seo beidh Cruinneachán Taiscéalaíochta, Zú Reiptílí idirghníomhach, I Connect (clár códúcháin Apple) etc. ann. Is Féile nua é seo sa Longfort agus beidh fáilte roimh chách. 17 – 18 Samhain, Meathas Troim. Ríomhphost: [edgelocdev@eircom.net](mailto:edgelocdev@eircom.net)

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### **Féile Drámaí Aonghnímh 2017**

Bíonn Féile na nDrámaí Aonghnímh (Amaitéarach) ann sa Bog Lane. 17 – 19 Samhain, The Bog Lane Theatre, Baile Uí Mhatháin. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 087-2352459, le do thoil.

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### **Taispeántas Ghrúpa**

#### **Ealaíne Reflections**

Seó bliantúil Nollag an ghrúpa amaitéaraigh ealaíne seo. Nollaig (le deimhniú), Leabharlann an Longfoirt. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le Leabharlann an Longfoirt ar 043-3341124

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**St. Christopher's Services  
Christmas Show**

This year's programme will include Strictly Come Dancing, drummers, choral music and scenes from Jungle Book - and much much more! 8 December, Backstage Theatre. Contact Backstage Box Office 043-3347888

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**Welcoming the Stranger**

The research and production of a community project called 'Welcoming the Stranger' in partnership with immigrants in the community. Presentation of the completed work takes place on this night. 15 December, Backstage Theatre, Longford. For further information, contact 043-3347888

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**Seó Nollag Sheirbhí N. Críostóir**

I mbliana, áireoidh an clár Strictly Come Dancing, drumadóirí, ceol córuil agus radhairc as Jungle Book - agus cuid mhór nithe eile! 8 Nollaig, Amharclann Backstage. Déan teagmháil le hOifig Ticéad Backstage ar 043-3347888

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**Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir**

Taighde faoi thionscadal pobail dar teideal 'Fáilte a chur roimh an Strainséir', i gcomhpháirtíocht le inimircigh sa phobal, agus é a léiriú. Déanfar léiriú an tsaothair ina iomláine ar an oíche seo. 15 Nollaig, Amharclann Backstage, an Longfort. Chun tuilleadh faisnéise a fháil, déan teagmháil le 043-3347888



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Clár Éire Ildánach  
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