



Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society

# BOARD OF CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

*Iarsmalann Chontae Cheatharlocha*

## 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL REPORT 2013



December 2013



## **Members of the Board of Carlow County Museum**

### **Carlow Town Council Members:**

Cllr. John Cassin; Cllr. Rody Kelly & Cllr. Walter Lacey

### **Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society Members:**

Ms Deirdre Kearney, Mr. Martin Nevin &  
Mrs Noreen Whelan, Chairperson

### **County Manager's Nominee:**

Mr. Michael Brennan, Town Clerk

### **Secretary to the Board:**

Mr. Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator



Member of the Local Authority Museums' Network (L.A.M.N)

Front Cover: Rico Rogers, Australia of the Azerbaijan Synergy Baku Cycling Team on his way to win Stage 6 of the An Post Rás on Barrack Street, Carlow town on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> 2013. Stage End was coordinated by Carlow County Museum to mark the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Carlow man Mike O'Donaghue winning the race in 1973.

**Museum Board:**

This is the seventh Annual Report of the Board of Carlow County Museum. The Board consists of seven members, three Members of Carlow Town Council, three representatives of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society (CHAS) and a County Manager's nominee. The Curator of Carlow County Museum acts as Secretary to the Board.

The Chairperson is chosen from the three Members of the Town Council and the three CHAS representatives. As agreed the position of Chairperson alternates on an annual basis between the Members of the Town Council and the CHAS representatives. At the 2013 AGM Ms Noreen Whelan was elected Chairperson.

### **Gael Chultúr Award for Best Bilingual Tourism Attraction:**

Carlow County Museum was awarded the Gaelchultúr Award for the Best New Bilingual Tourist Attraction 2012 - 2013. Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of the Board of Carlow County Museum accepted the Gaelchultúr Award 2012 - 13 from Emma Uí Bhroin, Glór Cheatharlach, on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June to recognise Carlow County Museum being the best new bilingual tourist attraction 2012 – 13 in Ireland.

Emma made the presentation on behalf of Darren Ó Rodaigh, Director Gaelchultúr, the company which provides Irish language courses and learning resources of the highest quality to the public and private sector in Ireland and aimed at those with an interest in Irish worldwide.

Ghlac Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord Mhúsaem Chontae Cheatharlach, le Duais Gaelchultúr 2012 - 13 ó Emma Uí Bhroin, Glór Cheatharlach, don Tarraingt Turasóireachta Nua Dhátheangach is fearr. Bhronn Emma an duais thar cheann Darren Ó Rodaigh, Stiúrthóir Ghaelchultúr Teo - an comhlacht a chuireann cúrsaí agus acmhainní foghlama Gaeilge ar an gcaighdeán is airde ar fáil don earnáil poiblí agus priobháideach in Éirinn, agus atá dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar fud na cruinne a bhfuil spéis acu sa teanga.



Sa phictiúr tá (l to r): Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, Coiméadaí an Mhúsaem; Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Bhaile Cheatharlach; Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord Mhúsaem Chontae Cheatharlach; Emma Uí Bhroin, Oifigeach Forbartha Glór Cheatharlach agus Seán Mac Diarmada, Oifigeach Foirne, Músaem Chontae Cheatharlach.

Pictured are (l to r): Dermot Mulligan, Curator Carlow County Museum; Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach Carlow Town Council; Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of Board Carlow County Museum; Emma Whitmore, Oifigeach Forbatha Glór Cheatharlach and John McDarby, Staff Officer, Carlow County Museum.

### **Irish Times – ‘A History of Ireland in 100 objects’**

This was a weekly series published in the Saturday edition of the Irish Times during 2012 and the early parts of 2013. The project was developed by the Irish Times in partnership with the National Museum of Ireland and the Royal Irish Academy. The series picked out a variety of objects that gave a sense of Irish history, were important parts of events or belonged to particular influential persons. The objects are all from collections publically accessible from around the country and abroad. One of the objects chosen for inclusion in the list is the magnificent nineteenth century hand carved pulpit from Carlow Cathedral now on display in the Museum’s first floor gallery. The pulpit was featured in the Irish Times edition September 29<sup>th</sup> 2012 as object number 85. It is by far the largest object in the Museum and it is indeed one of our most popular pieces, especially among local visitors.

Both the Irish Times and the Royal Irish Academy (RIA) developed a number of initiatives around the series. A book of the 100 objects with their images alongside Fintan O’Toole’s text, which has been peer reviewed, was produced by the RIA. The book was launched in the National Museum of Ireland on Wednesday March 20<sup>th</sup>. Cllr. Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council and Cllr. John Cassin, Chairman of the Board of Carlow County Museum were in attendance. The book won the Best Irish published book at 2013 Bord Gáis Irish Book Awards.



(L to R) Fintan O’Toole, Irish Times, Cllr. John Cassin and Cllr. Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council at the launch of ‘A History of Ireland in 100 Objects’.

In order to encourage the public to visit the 100 objects, the RIA produced a Trail. This Trail takes the form of a large brochure and was an insert in an edition of The Irish Times as well as each location being issued stocks of the Trail map. A website for the project, [www.100objects.ie](http://www.100objects.ie), and a smart phone app were developed. To mark Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union. Eamon Gilmore, T.D, Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade announced that an electronic edition of the book was a gift from the people of Ireland to the people of the world for St Patrick's Day. In the Tánaiste's words: 'This unique project will give people across the world the chance to download their own virtual treasury of Irish history and culture. It demonstrates how our history is shared worldwide, particularly on St Patrick's Day'.

As the pulpit is a large object and with plenty of detail there will be several pictures in the book, website and app. Fr. Liam Lawton agreed to provide background music for the app section dealing with the pulpit.

### **'Mike the man of the Rás '73' and the An Post Ras 2013:**

On Tuesday January 29<sup>th</sup> it was announced in the GPO, Dublin that the An Post Rás 2013, Ireland's national bike race, would have a stage finish and start in Carlow Town on Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> and Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> respectively. 2013 marked the fortieth anniversary of Mike O'Donaghue of Carlow winning the An Post Rás in 1973. In its sixty one race history Mike is the only Carlow man to win the Rás and to commemorate this sporting achievement Carlow County Museum suggested to the An Post Rás committee in 2012 that they pay a visit to the county in 2013. The founder of the Ras was Joe Christle whose mother, Johanna O'Keeffe was from near Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow and during the early decades of the Ras a cycling camp in the Old Leighlin area.

On Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> a temporary exhibition 'Mike the man of the Rás '73' was officially launched in Carlow County Museum by Mel Christle, son of Joe Christle. He along with his brother Terry both travelled to be in Carlow that night. Mel spoke about his father and the close Carlow family connections.

With his distinctive Carlow tri-colour jersey Mike was one of the most recognisable cyclists of his era. Mike was also the first Irish cyclist to have a sponsor, Carlow's famous mineral water company Corcoran & Co. Ltd. In 1964 aged just 19 Mike took on the challenge of the Ras Tailteann for the first time. The first stage of that Rás was from Dublin to Carlow. Mike finished an impressive sixth that day and eventually sixth overall. Most of the Rás Tailteann races were then over ten days and many stages near or over 200kms in length. During his time competing in the Rás he won it in 1973, was second in 1972, was twice fourth and he won a total of nine stages. He won his first stage in 1965, in 1969 he won three stages, a stage in 1971 and in both 1972 & 1973 he won two stages. In both 1965 and 1969 he won stages into his home town of Carlow.

On Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> the riders cycled just over 154kms from Mitchelstown, Co Cork to the finish line on Barrack Street in Carlow Town. This was the second longest stage of 2013 An Post Rás with the cyclists passing through counties Cork, Tipperary, Kilkenny and Laois.

The cyclists descended from Killeshin onto the northern relief road then onto Dr. Cullen Park Road, turned right onto Green Lane and then onto the finish line on Barrack Street. The lead riders that afternoon reached speeds of over 50kms per hour on the final sprint along Barrack Street. The Stage Winner in Carlow was Rico Rogers of the Azerbaijan Synergy Baku Cycling Team while the General Classification (Yellow Jersey) was retained by Marcin Bialoblocki of the UK Youth Pro Cycling Team. There were approximately five hundred personnel involved with the An Post Ras and they all stayed in and around Carlow Town with the main hotels booked out along with many of the Guesthouses & B&Bs.



Pictured in the Museum is Mike O'Donoghue, winner of the Rás Tailteann 1973 with his winning yellow jersey and photograph of himself in the Phoenix Park, Dublin en route to winning the race.

On Saturday May 25<sup>th</sup> after a parade from the Greenbank car park, around by Courtplace and down Dublin Street the cyclists departed from the Post Office on Burin Street passing along Kennedy Avenue, Barrack Street, Staplestown Road and onto the Tullow Road. The peleton travelled across the county and into Tullow and then headed towards Shillelagh. The stage end was in Naas after they had eight serious climbs in the Wicklow Mountains.

The Museum in association with An Post Ras and John McDarby, Carlow Road Safety Officer a primary schools art competition was held. There were ten winners, the four overall winners were presented with a An Post Rás Green Points Leader jerseys at the stage finish in Carlow. The theme of the Art Competition was Safe Cycling to School.

Thanks to Carlow Town Council, Carlow County Council and the Carlow Sports Partnership who assisted the Museum in securing this event for Carlow town. Thanks to Carlow Town Council, in particular Brian O'Donovan and the out door crew who had the town looking magnificent and assisted greatly with stewarding the event; to Brendan Walker and all at the Carlow Town Amenity Trust who assisted with the preparations and stewarding the event, to the Museum volunteers stewarding the event; to Pádraig Cahill and all at the Carlow Civil Defence stewarding the event; to Ger Guerin, Alan O'Neill and colleagues from the Fire Service for stage end assistance; to William Barry & Paul Gilmore for website & mapalserter notices; to Sergeants John Foley & David Murphy and all at Carlow Gardaí; Carlow Road Cycling Club, Carpenter's Bar, Reddy's Bar, Cora Brennan, Carlow's Miss An Post Rás, all the traders & business along Barrack Street. A big thank you to the people of Carlow Town, who turned out in big numbers along the route and in particular at the finish line.

In assisting the Museum in developing the exhibition thanks most sincerely to Mike & Jeanne O'Donoghue & family, An Post Rás, Eddie Dawson, Billy Archibold, Steve Abbot, Tullow Museum, Philip Morrissey of Dan Morrissey Ireland Ltd. and the Carlow Road Cycling Club.



A view of the 'Mike the man of the Rás '73' exhibition.

**Exhibitions:**

‘Journeys in time – the archaeology of the Carlow by-pass’

The Museum’s first temporary exhibition features objects found as part of the archaeological excavations undertaken prior to the construction of the Carlow By-pass. It is proving very popular with visitors as it is the first time objects from the excavations have been displayed anywhere. The objects are on loan from the National Museum of Ireland and the exhibition will be in place for several years.

Eigse, Carlow Arts Festival:

This year the Museum hosted its first Eigse, Carlow Arts Festival exhibition. This has been organised through the Carlow Local Authorities Arts Office. The exhibition was titled ‘Sojourn’ and the artist was Saidhbhín Gibson. The objects and arts works that she has chosen were displayed alongside Museum artefacts so visitors encountered the exhibits as they undertake their own visit to the Museum. In essence she has taken natural objects and in some way humanised them or taken everyday objects and added a natural twist to them. Both the artist Saidhbhín Gibson and Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator provided a guided tour of the exhibition. Saidhbhín spoke about the objects and the inspiration behind them while Dermot spoke about the area of the Museum in which the objects were located.



One of Saidhbhín Gibson’s pieces on display in the Museum’s Carlow Boot Factory display.

### **Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI):**

Carlow County Museum has been accepted into the Heritage Council's 'Museum Standards Programme for Ireland' (MSPI).

Over the past decade the Heritage Council has developed and is implementing the Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI). This important initiative, with participants from a wide range of Irish collecting institutions, sets out to raise standards of collection care across Irish museums and galleries. This programme, the first of its kind in the Republic of Ireland, sets out to improve all aspects of Ireland's museum practice. National institutions, county/city museums, community run museums, private museums and voluntary museums are all encouraged to join and participate.

It was the intention of Carlow County Museum to join this scheme after the new Museum building was opened. In September 2012 an application to join the scheme was submitted and the Museum's entry was accepted in February 2013. Carlow County Museum is the first museum from County Carlow to participate.

There are thirty-four agreed minimum standards for the Museum Standards Programme. Twenty-five of these are required to meet interim accreditation, and the remaining nine standards are full accreditation standards. Eligible Participants will normally apply for assessment of the interim standards within three years of starting the Programme. Participants normally have up to five years to achieve all the standards. The Heritage Council provides ongoing training and support throughout the process. There are over fifty museums from around the country participating, including most of the County/ City Museums.

Over the course of the summer of 2013 the Museum completed and submitted for its MSPI initial assessment. This document deals with all the areas of the standards programme. This document and the thirty accompanying appendixes were reviewed by three external Museum professions. In October the assessors, Ron Inglis, Service Manager Museums & Galleries of the Nottingham City Council and Helen Lanigan Wood, retired Curator of Fermanagh County Museum visited the Museum. Their 'Summary Comments' states 'the museum has a sense of energy. It is manifestly well run and has the active and visible support of the Town and County Councils, the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society and especially of the Museum Board Members.' 'Overall, there should be no difficulty for the museum in progressing rapidly through the Accreditation process'. Under 'Achievements' they state 'a major achievement has been the restoration and transformation of the former convent to form an attractive museum building advantageously situated beside the library and within the tourism infrastructure of the region. The Museum has very good standards of collection care and has a very active programme with an ambitious range of events and community activities ...'. 'Having the Cathedral's pulpit included in the 100 Objects trail was an excellent achievement, giving the museum a nation-wide exposure and encouraging visitors from far afield'.

### **Heritage Week 2013:**

Heritage Week 2013 ran from Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August inclusively. For the ninth year Carlow County Museum, on behalf of Carlow Local Authorities coordinated the countywide publicity on the various events for Heritage Week. This included the publication of a brochure containing a list of the various events. Electronic versions of the brochure were also posted onto the Carlow Local Authorities and Carlow Tourism websites as well as being circulated through social media outlets. The Heritage Council undertook a review of Heritage Week 2012 publicity from non Heritage Council sources. Together Carlow and Kilkenny came out at number one in the country for radio broadcasts. This is as a result of an annual joint campaign between Carlow and Kilkenny Local Authorities.

Approximately forty events took place throughout the county organised by a variety of groups and organisations. This year with the Carlow 800 Festival the town provided the largest concentration of events. The Museum was directly involved in a number of events, in particular as part of the Carlow 800 Festival. Carlow County Museum was part of the overall Carlow 800 committee and was involved directly in organising the Carlow 800 Conference, Walking Tours of Carlow Town and Re-dedication of the Old Burial Ground.

The Carlow Conference was held over two days, Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> August in Carlow College. The line up of speakers was impressive and they covered the period from when the castle was built right up to the 20<sup>th</sup> century.



Pictured at the Carlow 800 conference receiving their Carlow Castle illustration from Pat O'Neill, President of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society are (L to R) Elaine Callinan, Prof. Donal McCartney and Dr. Emmett O'Byrne.

The Walking Tours of Carlow Town were held from Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August inclusively. There were two tours each day, each of the morning tours were general walking tours of the town, covering a mix of locations, periods, personalities and events. The morning tours were led by Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator along with CHAS members Pat O'Neill and Joe Brennan. The afternoon tours were specifically themed tours looking at a particular period, personality or event. These included tours on George Bernard Shaw led by Dermot Mulligan and Seamus O'Rourke, Carlow Little Theatre; Medieval Carlow led by Dr. Margaret Murphy, Carlow College; Revolutionary Carlow led by Gary Heary, historical author; Lucinda Sly Walking Tour led by Dermot Mulligan and Seamus O'Rourke, Carlow Little Theatre. The tours were very well received and the mix between general and specific tours proved popular as a number of people attended more than one tour.

The care of the Old Burial Ground is a long term project by Carlow Town Council. During August works began on maintaining the graveyard on a regular basis. As part of the Carlow 800 Festival a re-dedication of the Old Burial Ground was led by Bishop Denis Nulty on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> August.

In the Nationalist newspapers a special supplement '800 Years of an Irish Castle' by Turtle Bunbury was distributed. The supplement was also distributed to the schools and colleges in the county. The supplement along with the graphic illustration and 3D model of the Castle, commissioned by Carlow Town Council, are part of the Carlow 800 Festival legacy.

#### **Carlow County Museum's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:**

Monday December 2<sup>nd</sup> marked the fortieth anniversary to the day that Carlow County Museum first opened to the public in 1973. In 1946 one of the founding aims of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society (formerly the Old Carlow Society) was the establishment of a museum. Following a public meeting in the early 1970s in the Fosters Hall, College Street the establishment of the Museum became a reality. Fr Scallion and Tom O'Neill from the Enniscorthy Museum assisted with the establishment of the Museum with a £100.00 donation towards the project. The old Christian Brother's building on College Street was leased for £120.00 a year which then began an earnest collection of artefacts and materials by the Museum committee. Carlow County Museum opened to the public on afternoon of Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December in 1973, this was performed by John Moriarty, Chairman of Carlow County Council who was also an active member of the Society.

#### **Museum Staff & Volunteers:**

The Museum has two full time staff, Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator and John McDarby, Staff Officer along with Martin O'Rourke, Building Maintenance Superintendent who is shared with the County Library Service. This is supplemented by participants from a number of social welfare schemes such as FAS Internships (Jobbridge) and TUS Programme participants. Carlow Tourism operates the Tourist Office on behalf of Fáilte Ireland.

Under Jobbridge, the national intern scheme we have had a number of participants during 2013, Damien Cronin, cataloguer; Peter Heary, museum assistant while Barbara Campbell and Geraldine O'Boyle were appointed as the Marketing & PR interns during the course of the year. We have availed of a number of participants on the TUS scheme. During 2013 we had Sarah-Jane Myler and Patrick Halpin engaged through this scheme. The TUS scheme is operated by the County Carlow Development partnership Ltd.

As the Museum opens six days all year round and seven days during the summer a volunteer programme was established for interested members of the public to assist in invigilating purposes and customer service duties. There are approximately sixty to seventy volunteers assisting with the above duties on a rota basis. Without their commitment and availability the Museum wouldn't be able to provide the service it is. The volunteers come from a variety of backgrounds, age groups and nationalities. Many are locals with an interest in their locality, some are students from next door in Carlow College and many just have an interest in history and heritage.

At the start of the 2012 school year the Museum has agreed to join the Carlow Volunteer Centre coordinated programme 'St. Leo's Transition Year Volunteer' programme. The Carlow Volunteer Centre works with a number of organisations and groups in the town and county. As part of the St. Leo's Transition Year programme the students are offered a variety of work experience places throughout the school year. As part of their work experience they undertake to research about an object or period of history. At the end of the programme the piece they have researched is published through the Museum's social media outlets.

**Local Authority Museums' Network (LAMN):**

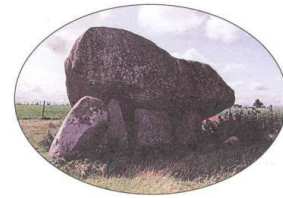
In February both the Local Authority Museum's Network (LAMN) and the Designated Museum Committee held their first meeting of 2013 in the Museum. Curators of nine of the County/ City Museums travelled to Carlow for the meetings. They were also joined by representatives from the Department of Arts, Sports & Tourism and the National Museum of Ireland.

**Irish Museums Association (IMA):**

On Saturday June 1<sup>st</sup> the Irish Museums Association (IMA) hosted their main annual outing to Carlow and in particular to Carlow's Cultural Quarter. Approximately thirty people were on the tour and participants were from a variety of Museums and Galleries. They visited Visual, centre for contemporary art & the George Bernard Shaw Theatre; Carlow College & the Carlow Art Collection; Cathedral of the Assumption; Carlow County Museum & Duckett's Grove House & Gardens. Thanks to Sinead Dowling, Carlow Arts Officer; Fr. John McEvoy, Vice – President Carlow College; Fr. John Cummins, Cathedral Administrator & Jimmy O'Toole, historical author who were our guides at the different locations.



IMA visit to Carlow town. Sinead Dowling, Arts Officer speaking outside Visual.



Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society

# **BORD IARSMALANN CONTAE CHEATHARLACH**

*Iarsmalann Contae Cheatharlach*

**An 7<sup>ú</sup> TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL  
2013**



**Nollaig 2013**



## **Comhaltaí Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach**

### **Comhaltaí Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach:**

An Clr. John Cassin, An Clr. Rody Kelly agus  
An Clr. Walter Lacey

### **Comhaltaí Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach:**

Deirdre Kearney, Uas., Martin Nevin Uas. agus  
Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach

### **Ainmnithe ag an mBainisteoir Contae:**

Michael Brennan, Uas., Cléireach an Bhaile

### **Rúnaí an Bhoird:**

Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, Uas., Coimeádaí Músaeim



Comhalta de Líonra Mhúsaeim na nÚdarás Áitiúil (L.M.Ú.Á.)

Clúdach Tosaigh: Rico Rogers, An Astráil ar Fhoireann Rothaíochta Azerbaijan Synergy Baku agus é ag déanamh ar Chéim 6 de An Post Rás a bhuanach ar Shráid na Bearice, Baile Cheatharlach, Dé hAoine an 24ú Bealtaine, 2013. Chomhordaigh Músaem Contae Cheatharlach Deireadh na Céime mar chomóradh ar an 40ú bliain ó bhuaigh Maidhc Ó Donnchú an rás sa bhliain 1973.

**Bord an Mhúsaem:**

Is í seo an seachtú Tuarascáil Bhliantúil de chuid Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach. Seachtar comhaltaí atá ar an mBord, triúr atá ina gComhaltaí ar Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach, triúr ionadaithe thar ceann Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach (CSSC) agus duine amháin atá ainmnithe ag an mBainisteoir Contae. Is é Coimeádaí Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach atá ag gníomhú mar Rúnaí ar an mBord.

Roghnaítear an Cathaoirleach as triúr Comhaltaí na Comhairle Baile agus triúr ionadaithe an CSSC. Mar atá socraithe, déantar uainíocht go bliantúil ar phost an Chathaoirligh is é sin idir Chomhaltaí na Comhairle Baile agus ionadaithe CSSC. Toghadh Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin ina Cathaoirleach ag CCB 2013.

**Duais Ghaelchultúr don Tarraingt Turasóireachta Dháttheangach is fearr:**

Bronnadh Duais Ghaelchultúr ar Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach don Tarraingt Turasóireachta Nua Dháttheangach ab fhearr 2012 - 2013. Ghlac Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach, le Duais Ghaelchultúr 2012 - 13 ó Emma Uí Bhroin, Glór Cheatharlach, Dé Máirt 11ú Meitheamh mar gurbh é Músaem Contae Cheatharlach an tarraingt turasóireachta nua dháttheangach ab fhearr in Éirinn in 2012 - 2013.

Bhronn Emma an duais thar ceann Darren Ó Rodaigh, Stiúrthóir Ghaelchultúr Teo - an comhlacht a chuireann cúrsaí agus acmhainní foghlama Gaeilge ar an gcaighdeán is airde ar fáil don earnáil phoiblí agus phríobháideach in Éirinn, agus atá dírithe ar dhaoine fásta ar fud na cruinne a bhfuil spéis acu sa teanga.



Sa phictiúr tá (c go d): Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, Coiméadaí an Mhúsaem; Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach; Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach; Emma Uí Bhroin, Oifigeach Forbartha Ghlór Cheatharlach agus Seán Mac Diarmada, Oifigeach Foirne, Músaem Contae Cheatharlach.

### **The Irish Times - ‘A History of Ireland in 100 objects’**

Sraith sheachtainiúil ba ea í seo a bhíodh á foilsiú in The Irish Times sa bhliain 2012 agus sa chéad chuid den bhliain 2013. Ba é an nuachtán, The Irish Times, i gcomhpháirtíocht le hArd-Mhúsaem na hÉireann agus le hAcadamh Ríoga na hÉireann, a bhí i mbun oibre ar an tionscadal. Sa tsraith roghnadh nithe éagsúla a thug léargas ar stair na hÉireann, a bhí tábhachtach in imeachtaí áirithe nó a bhain le lucht tionchair áirithe. Baineann na nithe go léir le bailiúcháin a bhfuil teacht ag an bpobal orthu sa tír seo agus thar lear. Roghnaíodh an phuilpid lámhshnoite fhíorbhreá a rinneadh sa naoú céad déag a bhíodh in Ard-Eaglais Cheatharlach le bheith ar an liosta. Tá an phuilpid ar taispeáint sa ghailearaí ar an gcéad urlár den Mhúsaem anois. In eagrán an 29ú Meán Fómhair 2012 de The Irish Times a foilsíodh an t-eolas faoin bpuilpid faoi uimhir 85. Is é go mór fada an ní is mó atá sa Mhúsaem agus go deimhin féin is é an ní is mó a mbíonn aghaidh na gcuariteoirí air - cuairteoirí áitiúla go speisialta.

Bhain The Irish Times agus Acadamh Ríoga na hÉireann (ARÉ) araon leas as an tsraith chun líon áirithe tionscnamh a bhunú uirthi. D'fhoilsigh ARÉ leabhar piarmheasúnaithe faoin gcéad ní. Tá na pictiúir sa leabhar agus tá an téacs a scríobh Fintan O'Toole lena dtaobh. Seoladh an leabhar in Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann, Dé Céadaoin 20ú Márta. Bhí an Comh. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach agus an Clr. John Cassin, Cathaoirleach Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach i láthair. Ag Searmanas Bronnta Gradam na Leabhar Éireannach 2013 de chuid Bhord Gáis, thug an leabhar leis an duais don Leabhar Éireannach ab fhearr a bhí foilsithe.



(C go D) Fintan O'Toole, The Irish Times, An Clr. John Cassin agus an Clr. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach tráth ar seoladh ‘A History of Ireland in 100 Objects’.

D'fhoilsigh ARÉ an bróisiúr, Trail, chun an pobal a spreagadh le cuairt a thabhairt ar an gcéad ní. Bróisiúr mór é an Trail seo agus bhí sé ina fhorlónadh in eagrán de The Irish

Times agus chomh maith leis sin scaipeadh stoc léarscáileanna den Trail ar gach láthair. Réitíodh an suíomh gréasáin [www.100objects.ie](http://www.100objects.ie) agus aip don fhón cliste le haghaidh an tionscadail. D'fhógair Eamon Gilmore, T.D., An Tánaiste agus Aire Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála gur bhronntanas ó mhuintir na hÉireann don domhan mór a bhí san eagrán leictreonach den leabhar le haghaidh Lá Fhéile Pádraig chun Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh a cheiliúradh. Dar leis an Tánaiste, thabharfadh an tionscadal uathúil sin deis do dhaoine ar fud an domhain a dtaisce fhíorúil féin de stair agus de chultúr na hÉireann a íoslódáil agus thaispeánfadh sé an chaoi a ndéanann daoine ar fud an domhain a gcuid féin dár stair, go háirithe ar Lá Fhéile Pádraig.

Beidh pictiúir go leor sa leabhar, ar an suíomh gréasáin agus ar an aip mar go bhfuil an phuilpid mór agus go bhfuil neart mionsonraí ag baint léi. Bhí an tAth. Liam Lawton sásta an ceol cúlra a chur ar fáil le haghaidh na coda sin den aip ina gcuirtear síos ar an bpuilpid.

### **'Maidhc, Curadh Rás '73' agus An Post Rás 2013:**

Fógraíodh in Ard-Oifig an Phoist i mBaile Átha Cliath Dé Máirt an 29ú Eanáir go gcríochnódh agus go dtosódh céim de rás mór rothaíochta na hÉireann, An Post Rás 2013, i mBaile Cheatharlach ar an Aoine, an 24ú Bealtaine agus ar an Satharn an 25ú Bealtaine, faoi seach. Ba sa bhliain 2013 a bhí comhaireamh an dá scór bliain ann ó bhuaigh Maidhc Ó Donnchú de bhunadh Cheatharlach An Post Rás sa bhliain 1973. Cé go raibh aon rás is seasca ann ba é Maidhc an t-aon fhear as Ceatharlach a raibh an Rás buaite aige. Mar sin sa bhliain 2012 mhol Músaem Contae Cheatharlach do choiste An Post Rás go dtabharfaí cuairt ar an gcontae sa bhliain 2013 ionas go bhféadfaí an éacht spóirt seo a cheiliúradh. Ba é Joe Christle a bhunaigh an Rás agus ba de bhunadh Leithghlinn an Droichid, Co. Cheatharlach a mháthair, Johanna O'Keeffe, agus chomh maith leis sin bhíodh campa rothaíochta a bhain leis an Rás lonnaithe i gceantar Sheanleithghlinne sa chúpla scór bliain tosaigh den rás.

Sheol Mel Christle, mac Joe Christle, an taispeántas sealadach 'Maidhc, Curadh Rás '73' go hoifigiúil i Músaem Contae Cheatharlach ar an Aoine, an 24ú Bealtaine. Bhí sé féin agus a dheartháir Terry tar éis turas a chur díobh ionas go mbeadh siad i gCeatharlach an oíche sin. Labhair Mel faoina athair agus faoina dhaoine muinteartha i gCeatharlach.

Bhíodh geansaí suaithinseach trídathach Cheatharlach á chaitheamh ag Maidhc rud a d'fhágadh go mbíodh sé ar dhuine de na rothaithe ab éasca le haithint lena linn. Ba é an chéad rothaí Éireannach é a raibh urraitheoir aige – an chuideachta uisce mianraí cháiliúil a bhíodh i gCeatharlach - Corcoran & Co. Ltd. Thug Maidhc Rás Tailteann air féin den chéad uair sa bhliain 1964 agus gan é ach naoi mbliana déag d'aois. Ba í an chéim ó Bhaile Átha Cliath go Ceatharlach an chéad chéim den Rás sin. Chríochnaigh Maidhc go maith an lá sin - bhí sé sa séú háit an lá sin agus bhí an séú háit bainte amach aige sa deireadh nuair a tháinig an Rás féin chun críche. Bhíodh os cionn deich lá de rásaí i bhformhór rásaí Rás Tailteann an uair sin agus isteach is amach nó os cionn 200km achair i gceist leo. As na hamanna go léir a raibh sé san iomaíocht sa Rás thug sé an chraobh leis in 1973, bhí sé sa dara háit in 1972, tháinig sé isteach sa cheathrú háit faoi dhó agus bhuaigh sé naoi gcinn de na céimeanna san iomlán. Bhuaigh sé a

chéad chéim in 1965, bhuaigh sé trí cinn de chéimeanna in 1969, ceann amháin in 1971 agus dhá chéim in 1972 agus arís in 1973. Sa bhliain 1965 agus arís sa bhliain 1969 bhuaigh sé na céimeanna a bhí ag críochnú ina bhaile dúchais Ceatharlach.

Chuir na rothaithe díreach os cionn 154km d'achar rothaíochta díobh ar an Aoine an 24ú Bealtaine - ó Bhaile Mhistéala i gCo. Chorcaí go dtí an líne chríche ar Shráid na Beairice i mBaile Cheatharlach. Ba í seo an dara céim ab fhaide de An Post Rás 2013 agus bhí na rothaithe ag rásaíocht trí chontaetha Chorcaí, Thiobraid Árann, Chill Chainnigh agus Laoise.

Tháinig na rothaithe anuas ó Chill Uisean agus isteach ar bhóthar faoisimh an tuaiscirt agus ansin isteach ar Bhóthar Pháirc an Chuilinnigh. Ansin chas siad ar dheis isteach ar an Lána Glas agus ar aghaidh leo ansin go dtí an líne chríche ar Shráid na Beairice. Bhí luas suas le 50km san uair faoi na rothaithe a bhí chun tosaigh san iarnóin an lá sin agus iad ar an ráib dheiridh feadh Shráid na Beairice. Ba é Rico Rogers a bhí ar Fhoireann Rothaíochta Azerbaijan Synergy Baku a bhuaigh an Chéim i gCeatharlach agus choinnigh Marcin Bialoblocki a bhí ar Fhoireann Rothaíochta UK Youth Pro an tAicmiú Ginearálta (An Geansaí Buí). Bhí baint ag thart ar chúig chéad duine leis An Post Rás agus d'fhan siad go léir ar lóistín i mBaile Cheatharlach nó máguaird. Bhí na hóstáin go léir agus roinnt mhaith de na Tithe Aíochta agus de na Tithe Leaba agus Bricfeasta lán.



Buaiteoir Rás Tailteann 1973, Maidhc Ó Donnchú, sa Mhúsaem. Tá an geansaí buí a fuair sé nuair a bhuaigh sé crochta aige agus pictiúrde i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce i mBaile Átha Cliath agus é ar tí an rás a bhuanachan le feiceáil ar a chúl.

Nuair a bhí an pharáid ó Charrchlós Bhóthar an Bhruaigh Ghlais, timpeall le Plás na Cúirte agus síos Sráid Átha Cliath thart Dé Sathairn an 25ú Bealtaine thosaigh na rothaithe amach ó Oifig an Phoist ar Shráid na Boirne agus lean siad orthu feadh Ascaill Uí Chinnéide, Shráid na Beairice, Bhóthar Bhaile Staplóg agus amach ar Bhóthar na Tulaí. Chuaigh an peleton trasna an chontae agus isteach go dtí An Tulach agus thug sé a aghaidh ar Shíol Éalaigh ansin. Sa Nás a chríochnaigh an chéim ach bhí ocht ndreapadh chrua curtha díobh ag na rothaithe roimhe sin i Sléibhte Chill Mhantáin.

Chuir an Músaem i gcomhar leis An Post Rás agus Seán Mac Diarmada, an tOifigeach um Shábháilteacht ar Bhóithre atá ag Ceatharlach comórtas ealaíne ar siúl do na bunscoileanna. Tarraingíodh deichniúr, agus bronnadh geansaí an rothaí a bhí chun cinn i bPointí Glasa An Post Rás ar gach duine den cheathrar a bhuaigh an comórtas féin nuair a chríochnaigh an chéim i gCeatharlach. Ag Rothaíocht go Sábháilte chun na Scoile an téama a bhí leis an gComórtas Ealaíne.

Buíochas le Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach, Comhairle Contae Cheatharlach agus Comhpháirtíocht Spóirt Cheatharlach a chuidigh leis an Músaem ionas go mbeadh an chéim seo den rás ar bun i mbaile Cheatharlach. Buíochas le Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach, agus go háirithe le Brian O'Donovan agus an criú a oibríonn allamuigh a chinntigh gur bhreathnaigh an baile thar barr agus a thug an-chuidiú le maoirseacht an ráis; le Brendan Walker agus le gach duine in Iontaobhas Conláistí Bhaile Cheatharlach a chuidigh linn leis na hullmhúcháin agus le maoirseacht an ráis; leis na daoine a oibríonn go deonach sa Mhúsaem agus a chuidigh linn le maoirseacht an ráis; le Pádraig Cahill agus le gach duine i gCosaint Shibialta Cheatharlach a bhí i mbun maoirseachta ar an rás; le Ger Guerin, Alan O'Neill agus lena gcomhghleacaithe sa tSeirbhís Dóiteáin a thug lámh chúnta ag deireadh na céime; le William Barry agus Paul Gilmore as na fógraí ar an ngréasán agus ar Mapalserter; leis na Sáirsintí John Foley agus David Murphy agus le gach duine de na gardaí sa Gharda Síochána i gCeatharlach; le Club Rothaíocht Bhóthair Cheatharlach, Carpenter's Bar, Reddy's Bar, Cora Brennan, Spéirbhean Cheatharlach in An Post Rás, an lucht trádála agus gnó go léir feadh Shráid na Beairice. Buíochas mór le muintir Bhaile Cheatharlach, a bhailigh ina sluaite feadh an bhealaigh agus go háirithe ag an líne críche.

Buíochas ó chroí leo seo a leanas a thug lámh chúnta don Mhúsaem chun an taispeántas a chur le chéile - Maidhc agus Jeanne Uí Dhonnchú agus a gclann, An Post Rás, Eddie Dawson, Billy Archibold, Steve Abbot, Músaem na Tulaí, Philip Morrissey ó Dan Morrissey Ireland Ltd. agus Club Rothaíocht Bhóthair Cheatharlach.



Amharc ar an taispeántas - 'Maidhc, Curadh Rás '73'.

### **Taispeántais:**

'Turais siar sna blianta- seandálaíocht sheachbhóthar Cheatharlach'

Cuireadh nithe a dtángthas orthu le linn na dtoghailtí seandálaíochta a rinneadh sular tógadh Seachbhóthar Cheatharlach ar taispeáint sa chéad taispeántas sealadach a bhí sa Mhúsaem. Tá an-tóir ag cuairteoirí air mar níor cuireadh nithe a dtángthas orthu sna toghailtí ar taispeáint in aon áit eile riamh roimhe seo. Thug Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann na nithe ar iasacht le haghaidh an taispeántais a bheidh ar siúl ar feadh blianta fada.

Éigse, Féile Ealaíon Cheatharlach:

Bhí an chéad taispeántas dá chuid ar siúl ag an Músaem i mbliana d'Éigse, Féile Ealaíon Cheatharlach. Eagraíodh é trí Oifig Ealaíon Údaráis Áitiúla Cheatharlach. 'Sojourn' a bhí mar theideal ar an taispeántas agus is í Saidhbhín Gibson an t-ealaíontóir. Taispeánadh na nithe agus na saothair ealaíon a bhí roghnaithe aici taobh le taobh déantán atá sa Mhúsaem agus mar sin d'fhéad na cuairteoirí súil a chaitheamh ar na taispeántáin agus iad ar a gcuairt féin ar an Músaem. Go bunúsach, chuir sí cuma dhaonna ar nithe a bhaineann leis an dúlra nó roghnaigh sí nithe a bhíonn in úsáid ó lá go lá agus chuir sí nithe dúlra leo. Bhí an t-ealaíontóir, Saidhbhín Gibson, agus an Coimeádaí Músaem, Diarmuid Ó Maolagáin, i mbun an turais thart ar an taispeántas. Labhair Saidhbhín faoi na nithe agus faoin méid a spreag í agus labhair Diarmuid faoin gcuid sin den Mhúsaem ina bhfuil na nithe.



Ceann de na saothair le Saidhbhín Gibson atá ar taispeántas sa taispeántas sa Mhúsaem faoi Mhonarcha Bróg Cheatharlach.

### **An Clár um Chaighdeáin Músaem in Éirinn (CCMÉ):**

Táthar tar éis glacadh le Músaem Contae Cheatharlach ar an gclár de chuid na Comhairle Oidhreachta, ‘An Clár um Chaighdeáin Músaem in Éirinn.

Tá an Clár um Chaighdeáin Músaem in Éirinn (CCMÉ) á chur i dtoll a chéile agus á chur i bhfeidhm ag an gComhairle Oidhreachta le deich mbliana anuas. Tá sé i gceist leis an tionscnamh tábhachtach seo, ina bhfuil raon leathan institiúidí bailiúcháin páirteach, caighdeáin an chúraim don bhailiúchán a ardú sna músaem agus sna gailearaithe in Éirinn. Tá sé i gceist leis an gclár seo, arb é an chéad cheann dá leithéid sa Phoblacht é, gach gné den chleachtas músaem in Éirinn a fheabhsú. Moltar d’institiúidí náisiúnta, músaem contae/cathrach, músaem á stiúradh ag pobail, músaem á stiúradh go príobháideach agus go deonach clárú agus a bheith páirteach ann.

Bhí sé ar intinn ag Músaem Contae Cheatharlach clárú ar an scéim seo nuair a bheadh foirgneamh an Mhúsaem nua oscailte. Cuireadh isteach iarratas ar an scéim i mí Mheán Fómhair 2012 agus glacadh leis i mí Feabhra 2013. Is é Músaem Contae Cheatharlach an chéad cheann de na músaem i gContae Cheatharlach le bheith páirteach ann.

Tá ceithre cinn is tríocha de bhunchaighdeáin ann atá aontaithe le haghaidh an Chláir um Chaighdeáin Músaem. Is gá cúig cinn is fiche díobh seo chun creidiúnú

eatramhach a bhaint amach, agus is caighdeán do chreidiúnú iomlán atá sna naoi gcaighdeán eile. De ghnáth, déanann Rannpháirtithe Incháilithe iarratas ar mheasúnú ar na caighdeáin eatramhacha taobh istigh de thrí bliana ó thosaigh siad ar an gclár. De ghnáth bíonn suas le cúig bliana ag rannpháirtithe chun na caighdeáin go léir a bhaint amach. Bíonn oiliúint agus tacaíocht ar fáil ón gComhairle Oidhreachta fad is a bhíonn an próiseas ar bun. Tá os cionn caoga músaem in áiteanna éagsúla ar fud na tíre cláraithe ar an gclár, agus áirítear formhór na Músaem Contae/Cathrach leo sin.

Comhlánaíodh iarratas an Mhúsaem ar an measúnú tosaigh den Chlár i samhradh na bliana 2013 agus cuireadh isteach é. Clúdaítear gach réimse de chlár na gcaighdeán sa doiciméad. Rinne triúr gairmithe Músaem seachtracha athbhreithniú ar an doiciméad seo agus ar an tríocha aguisín a bhí leis. Thug na measúnoirí, Ron Inglis, an Bainisteoir Seirbhísí Músaem agus Gailearaithe i gComhairle Cathrach Nottingham agus Helen Lanigan Wood, Iarchoimeadaí le Músaem Contae Fhear Manach cuairt ar an Músaem i mí Dheireadh Fómhair. Luaitear sna 'Trachtaí Achomair' uathu go bhfuil beocht ag roinnt leis an músaem, gur léir go ritear go maith é agus go bhfuil tacaíocht ghníomhach, fheiceálach aige ón gComhairle Baile agus ón gComhairle Contae, ó Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach agus go speisialta ó Chomhaltaí Boird an Mhúsaem. Luaitear ann freisin nár chóir go mbeadh sé deacair ar an músaem dul chun cinn go mear tríd an bpróiseas creidiúnaithe. Tá sé luaite acu faoin teideal 'Éachtaí' gur mhór an éacht é an clochar a bhíodh ann a athchóiriú agus a chur i gcaoi is gur foirgneamh músaem é anois atá tarraingteach agus suite go tairbheach le taobh na leabharlainne agus laistigh de bhonneagar turasóireachta an réigiúin. Deir siad go bhfuil caighdeáin an-mhaith maidir leis an gcúram don bhailiúchán i bhfeidhm sa Mhúsaem agus go bhfuil clár an-lán aige lena ngabhann réimse uailmhianach d'imeachtaí agus de ghníomhaíochtaí pobail. Dar leo b'iontach go deo an t-éacht é puilpid na hArd-Eaglaise a bheith san fhorlíonadh, Trail, den 100 Ní mar gur tugadh spleáchadh ar fud na tíre ar an músaem rud a mheall cuairteoirí ó chian is ó chónagar.

### **Seachtain na hOidhreachta 2013:**

Ba í an tseachtain ón Satharn 17ú Lúnasa go dtí an Domhnach an 25ú Lúnasa, agus an dá lá sin san áireamh Seachtain na hOidhreachta 2013. Ba í seo an naoú bliain a ndearna Músaem Contae Cheatharlach an bholscaireacht do na himeachtaí éagsúla a bhí ar siúl i Seachtain na hOidhreachta a chomhordú sa chontae thar ceann Údaráis Áitiúla Cheatharlach. Áiríodh léi sin an bróisiúr ina raibh liosta de na himeachtaí éagsúla a fhoilsiú. Cuireadh leaganacha leictreonacha den bhróisiúr ar shuíomhanna gréasáin Údaráis Áitiúla Cheatharlach agus Thurasóireacht Cheatharlach chomh maith lena scaipeadh trí na meáin shóisialta. Rinne An Chomhairle Oidhreachta athbhreithniú ar an mbolscaireacht do Sheachtain na hOidhreachta 2012 agus is ó fhoinsí nach foinsí na Comhairle Oidhreachta iad a fuair sí an t-eolas. Bhí Ceatharlach agus Cill Chainnigh le chéile ar bharr an liosta sa tír as ucht na gcaoltaí raidió. Ritheann Údaráis Áitiúla Cheatharlach agus Chill Chainnigh an feachtas bliantúil i bpáirt agus ba é sin an toradh a bhí ann dá bharr.

Bhí thart ar dhá scór imeacht ar siúl ar fud an chontae agus bhí siad sin eagraithe ag grúpaí agus ag eagraíochtaí éagsúla. Ó tharla go raibh Féile 800 Cheatharlach ar siúl i mbliana ba sa bhaile mór a bhí an chuid ba mhó de na himeachtaí ar siúl. Bhí baint

dhíreach ag an Músaem le líon áirithe imeachtaí, imeachtaí Fhéile 800 Cheatharlach go háirithe. Bhí ionadaíocht ag Músaem Contae Cheatharlach ar choiste Fhéile 800 Cheatharlach agus bhí baint dhíreach aici le heagrú Chomhdháil 800 Cheatharlach, Spaisteoireacht thart ar Bhaile Cheatharlach agus atiomnú na Seanreilige.

Dhá lá, Dé hAoine agus Dé Sathairn, an 23ú agus an 24ú Lúnasa, a mhair Comhdháil Cheatharlach a bhí ar siúl i gColáiste Cheatharlach. Bhí lear mór cainteoirí i láthair agus rinne siad cur síos ar an tréimhse inar tógadh an caisleán agus uaithi sin suas go dtí an 20ú céad.



Ag Comhdháil 800 Cheatharlach agus léaráid de Chaisleán Cheatharlach á bronnadh orthu ag Pat O'Neill, Uachtarán Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach tá (C go D) Elaine Callinan, An tOll. Donal McCartney agus an Dr. Emmett O'Byrne.

Tugadh faoi na Turais Spaisteoireachta thart ar Bhaile Cheatharlach ón Déardaoin an 22ú Lúnasa go dtí an Domhnach an 25ú agus an dá lá sin san áireamh. Rinneadh dhá thuras gach aon lá. Gnáth-thurais spaisteoireachta thart faoin mbaile a bhí sa dá cheann maidine inar cuireadh síos ar láithreacha, tréimhsí, daoine agus imeachtaí. Is iad Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, an Coimeádaí Músaeim agus beirt de chomhaltaí CSSC, Pat O'Neill agus Joe Brennan a bhí i gceannas ar na turais mhaidine. Bhain téama sonrath le turais an tráthnóna mar a ndearnadh cur síos ar thréimhse, ar dhuine nó ar imeacht faoi leith. Is iad seo a leanas na hábhair a bhí faoi chaibidil - George Bernard Shaw le Diarmuid Ó Maologáin agus Seamus O'Rourke, Amharclann Bheag Cheatharlach; Ceatharlach sna Meánaoiseanna leis an Dr. Margaret Murphy, Coláiste Cheatharlach; Ceatharlach le linn Réabhlóide le Gary Heary, údar ábhar stairiúil; Turas Spaisteoireachta faoi Lucinda Sly le Diarmuid Ó Maologáin agus Seamus O'Rourke,

Amharclann Bheag Cheatharlach. Glacadh go maith leis na turais agus b'fhiú an dá chineál a bheith ann mar d'fhreastail roinnt áirithe daoine ar bhreis is turas amháin.

Tionscadal fadtéarmach de chuid Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach atá i gceist leis an gcúram don tSeanreilig. I mí Lúnasa cuireadh tús leis na hoibreacha cothabhála ar an reilig agus déanfar na hoibreacha seo go rialta. Rinneadh atiomnú ar an tSeanreilig faoi stiúir an Easpag Denis Nulty ar an Domhnach an 25ú Lúnasa. Bhain sé seo le Féile 800 Cheatharlach.

Scaipeadh forlónadh speisialta dar teideal '800 Years of an Irish Castle' le Turtle Bunbury sna nuachtáin de chuid The Nationalist. Scaipeadh an forlónadh ar na scoileanna agus ar na coláistí sa chontae freisin. An forlónadh mar aon le léiriú grafach agus samhail 3D den Chaisleán, a choimisiúnaigh Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach mar chuid den tabhartas d'Fhéile 800 Cheatharlach.

### **Comóradh 40 Bliain Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach:**

Ba ar an Luan, an 2ú Nollaig, go dtí an lá, a bhí comhaireamh an dá scór bliain ann ó osclaíodh Músaem Contae Cheatharlach an chéad lá riamh don phobal sa bhliain 1973. Bhí bunú músaeim ar cheann de na haidhmeanna a bhí ag Cumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach (Old Carlow Society mar a bhíodh) arna bhunú sa bhliain 1946. Bhí cruinniú poiblí ar siúl i Halla na bhForaoiseoirí ar Shráid an Choláiste go luath sna 1970idí agus nuair a bhí sé thart ba léir go mbunófaí Músaem.

Chuir an tAth. Scallion agus Tom O'Neill, ó Mhúsaem Inis Córthaidh £100.00 isteach sa tionscadal chun an Músaem a bhunú. Fuarthas seanfhoirgneamh na mBráithre Críostaí ar léas ar £120.00 sa bhliain agus níorbh fhada go raibh coiste an Mhúsaeim go dúthrachtach díograiseach ag bailiú déantán agus ábhar. Osclaíodh Músaem Contae Cheatharlach don phobal san iarnóin, Dé Domhnaigh an 2ú lá de mhí na Nollag sa bhliain 1973. Ba é John Moriarty, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach a bhí i mbun na hoscailte. Ba dhuine é freisin a bhí ina chomhalta gníomhach den Chumann.

### **Baill Foirne agus Oibríthe Deonacha an Mhúsaeim:**

Beirt bhall foirne lánaimseartha atá sa Mhúsaem, Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, an Coimeadaí Músaeim, agus Seán Mac Diarmada, Oifigeach Foirne chomh maith le Martin O'Rourke, Maor Cothabhála an Fhoirgnimh a oibríonn i bpostroinnt idir an Músaem agus an tSeirbhís Leabharlainne Contae. Faightear cuidiú breise ó rannpháirtithe ar líon áirithe scéimeanna leasa shóisialaigh amhail intéirneachtaí FÁS (Jobbridge) agus daoine a bhíonn ar an gClár TÚS. Is í Turasóireacht Cheatharlach atá i mbun na hOifige Turasóireachta thar ceann Fáilte Ireland.

Tháinig líon áirithe rannpháirtithe chugainn tríd an scéim Jobbridge, sa bhliain 2013 - Damien Cronin, catalógaí; Peter Heary, cúntóir músaeim agus ceapadh Barbara Campbell agus Geraldine O'Boyle ina n-intéirnich Margaíochta agus CP i rith na bliana. Ghlacamar le líon áirithe rannpháirtithe a bhí ar an scéim TÚS. Bhí Sarah-Jane Myler agus Patrick Halpin fostaithe againn tríd an scéim sa bhliain 2013. Is í Comhpháirtíocht Forbartha Chontae Cheatharlach Teo. a fheidhmíonn an scéim TÚS.

Ó tharla go mbíonn an músaem oscailte sé lá na seachtaine ar feadh na bliana agus ar feadh seacht lá na seachtaine sa samhradh bunaíodh clár oibríthe deonacha do dhaoine den phobal ar spéis leo cuidiú linn ó thaobh feitheoireachta agus dualgais seirbhíse do chustaiméirí de. Tá idir seasca agus seachtó oibrí deonach ann a chuidíonn linn ar bhonn róta leis na dualgais seo thuas. Ní bheadh ar chumas an Mhúsaeim an tseirbhís a thugann sí a thabhairt mura mbeadh siadsan sásta ná ar fáil chun an obair a dhéanamh. Is ó chúlaí, aoisghrúpaí agus náisiúntachtaí éagsúla do na hoibríthe deonacha. Daoine áitiúla ar spéis leo a dtimpeallacht is ea roinnt mhaith díobh, scoláirí i gColáiste Cheatharlach béal dorais is ea roinnt eile agus gan ann ach gur spéis le go leor díobh an stair agus an oidhreacht.

I dtús na scoilbhliana 2012 d'aontaigh an Músaeim clárú ar an gclár comhordaithe atá ag Ionad Oibríthe Deonacha Cheatharlach, an clár d'Oibríthe Deonacha Idirbhliain Naomh Leo. Oibríonn Ionad Oibríthe Deonacha Cheatharlach i gcomhar le líon áirithe eagraíochtaí agus grúpaí sa bhaile agus sa chontae. Bíonn socrúcháin éagsúla taithí oibre ar tairiscint do na scoláirí i rith na scoilbhliana mar chuid den chlár d'Oibríthe Deonacha Idirbhliain Naomh Leo Le linn dóibh a bheith ar an taithí oibre cuireann siad rompu taighde a dhéanamh ar ní nó ar thréimhse sa stair. I ndeireadh an chláir, déantar an t-ábhar a mbíonn an taighde déanta acu air a fhoilsiú trí mheáin shóisialta an Mhúsaeim.

### **Líonra Mhúsaeim na nÚdarás Áitiúil (LMÚÁ)**

Thionóil Líonra Mhúsaeim na nÚdarás Áitiúil (LMÚÁ) agus Coiste an Mhúsaeim Ainmnithe araon a gcéad chruinnithe den bhliain 2013 sa Mhúsaeim i mí Feabhra. Thaistil coimeádaithe músaeim ó naoi gcinn de Mhúsaeim Contae/Cathrach go Ceatharlach le haghaidh na gcrúinnithe. Bhí ionadaithe ón Roinn Ealaíon, Spóirt agus Turasóireachta agus ó Ard-Mhúsaeim na hÉireann ina dteannta ag na cruinnithe freisin.

### **Cumann na Músaeim Éireannach (CMÉ):**

Is go Ceatharlach a tháinig Cumann na Músaeim Éireannach (CMÉ) dá bpríomhthuras agus go Ceathrú Chultúrtha Cheatharlach go háirithe, turas a rinne siad ar an Satharn, 1ú Meitheamh. Tháinig tríocha duine nó mar sin a bhain le Músaeim agus Gailearaithe éagsúla ar an turas. Thug siad cuairt ar na háiteanna seo - Visual, an t-ionad don ealaín chomhaimseartha agus amharclann George Bernard Shaw; Coláiste Cheatharlach agus Bailiúchán Ealaíne Cheatharlach; Ard-Eaglais na Deastógála; Músaeim Contae Cheatharlach agus Teach agus Garraithe Gharrán Duckett. Buíochas le Sinéad Dowling, Oifigeach Ealaíon Cheatharlach; An tAth. John McEvoy, Leas-Uachtarán Choláiste Cheatharlach; An tAth. John Cummins, Riarthóir na hArd-Eaglaise agus Jimmy O'Toole, údar ábhar stairiúil, na treoraithe a bhí againn ar na láithreacha éagsúla.



Baill CMÉ ar a gcuairt ar Bhaile Cheatharlach. Sinéad Dowling, An tOifigeach Ealaíon ag labhairt taobh amuigh de Visual.