Carlow Town Council

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHEATHARLOCHA

Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society

Carlow County Museum

BOARD OF
CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

Iarsmalann Chontae Cheatharlocha

8th ANNUAL REPORT
2014

December 2015

Carlow County Museum

Excellence in Business Awards 2014
Carlow County Council
Local Authority Museum

Members of the Board of Carlow County Museum

Carlow Town Council Members (until May 2014)**:**
Cllr. John Cassin; Cllr. Rody Kelly & Cllr. Walter Lacey

Carlow County Council Members (from June 2014)**:**
Cllr Anne Ahern, Chairperson, Cllr Fergal Browne,
Cllr Walter Lacey

County Manager's Nominee (until May 2014)**:**
Mr. Michael Brennan, Town Clerk

County Manager's Nominee (from June 2014)**:**
Eoin Lyng, Head of Information Systems

Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society Members:
Ms Deirdre Kearney, Mr. Martin Nevin &
Mrs Noreen Whelan, Chairperson

Secretary to the Board:
Mr. Dermot Mulligan, Museum Curator

LOCAL AUTHORITY MUSEUMS' NETWORK

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

Museum Board:

This is the eighth Annual Report of the Board of Carlow County Museum. Until May 2014 the Museum was operated by Carlow Town Council. In June 2014 after the abolishment of the Town Council the Museum is now operated by Carlow County Council. The Board consists of seven members, until May 2014 there were three Members of Carlow Town Council along with three representatives of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society (CHAS) and a County Manager's nominee. From June 2014 onwards the three Members of Carlow Town Council have been replaced by three Members of Carlow County Council. The Curator of Carlow County Museum acts as Secretary to the Board.

The Chairperson is chosen from the three Members of the Local Authority 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. Following the reformation of the Board by Carlow County Council in 2014 Cllr. Anne Ahern was elected Chairperson at the 2014 AGM.

Carlow County Museum,
College Street,
Carlow Town,
Co. Carlow,
Ireland

Tel: 059 – 9131554
Email: museum@carlowcoco.ie

Web: www.carlowcountymuseum.ie
Youtube: www.youtube.com/carlowcountymuseum
Facebook: facebook.com/carlowcountymuseum
Twitter: twitter.com/carlowcountymus

Museum Opening Hours:
Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 4.30pm September to May
Monday - Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm June - August
Sundays & Banks Holidays 2.00pm - 4.30pm June – August

Front Cover: Pictured at the unveiling of the plaque in Carlow County Museum were: (L to R) Mrs Vicky Nolan (widow of Brendan Nolan), Mrs Annette Dooley (daughter of Alec Burns), Kevin Kennedy, Pat O'Neill, President of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society; Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of the Board of the Museum; Cllr. Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council; Eddie McDonald, Padraig Dooley (nephew of Michael Dooley) and Kevin Murphy (son of Seamus Murphy)

Carlow County Museum's 40th Anniversary:

On Wednesday 28th of May the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society unveiled a plaque commemorating 40 years since the foundation of Carlow County Museum by nine of its members. In the early 1970s the Society, then called Old Carlow Society held a public meeting in the Fosters Hall, College Street to make the establishment of the Museum 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. Part of the old Christian Brother's building (next to the now Cathedral Parish Centre) 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 was opened to the public on Sunday 2nd December in 1973 by John Moriarty, Chairman of Carlow County Council who was also an active member of the Society.

In 1979 the Museum moved to the former theatre room of the Town Hall, a space provided by Carlow Town Council. In 2002 Carlow Town Council took over the operations of the Museum and working in partnership with Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society it undertook the re-development of the Museum. The Carlow County Museum has its new permanent home in the former Presentation Convent on College Street, it is open all year round with free admission.

Pat O'Neill, President of the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society speaking before he unveiled the plaque stated that nine members of the Society who founded the Museum created a community museum, one which remembered the lives of ordinary people of generations past. He thanked the nine members: Alec Burns, Michael Dooley, Bill Kelly, Kevin Kennedy, Eddie Mc Donald, Jim Moran, Seamus Murphy, Brendan Nolan, and Pat Nolan. Four of the founder members are alive today and he hopped that they would consider this present museum a fitting realisation of their ambitions.

Pictured at the unveiling of the plaque in Carlow County Museum were two of the founding members: (L to R) Eddie McDonald and Kevin Kennedy

Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of the Board of the Museum spoke about the progressive attitude of the Museum in particular through joining the Heritage Council's 'Museum Standards Programme for Ireland'. This programme, the first of its kind in the Republic of Ireland, which sets out to improve all aspects of Ireland's museum practice. Carlow County Museum is the first Museum from the county to join the scheme. Also the Museum works closely with the National Museum of Ireland, particularly in the area of Archaeological Finds.

Cllr. Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council stated that when the Council took over the operations of the Museum it was decided that the Museum required a larger and dedicated premises. The Museum building is now located in the Cultural Quarter of the town.

Local Authority Museum Award:

Carlow County Museum was selected as outright winner for Best Local Authority Museum in the 'Excellence in Business' awards organised by the Public Sector Magazine. The local authority is being recognised by the Public Sector Magazine for their outstanding achievement in developing Ireland's newest county museum.

According to the Public Sector Magazine 'Carlow County Museum is a fine example of a community coming together in partnership with their local authority. Together they have brought the past into the present and they have created something very special for the future.'

On Monday October 6th 2014 Cllr. Fergal Browne, Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council, members of Carlow County Council and the Museum Board along with Mr. Tom Barry, Chief Executive of Carlow County Council and staff of Carlow County Museum & Tourist Office accepted the award in the Museum.

'Scéal na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach 1899 – 2014' Exhibition:
On Thursday 5th June the launch of the Museum's new temporary exhibition 'Scéal na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach 1899 – 2014' took place. The exhibition has been developed in association with Glór Ceatharlach and will feature a range of topics from Conradh na Gaeilge, education, Eigse, Glor Cheartharlach and the Pan Celtic festival.

Legendary GAA commentator Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh launched the exhibition which traces the history of the Irish language in Carlow Town for over 100 years. A large crowd including many from a host of Irish language enthusiasts of all ages and various sporting circles turned out to welcome Mícheál and view the exhibition.

Mícheál was quick to point out that the exhibition in fact spans three centuries tracing as it does the remarkable story of Irish in Carlow from the establishment of the first branch of the Gaelic League in the Workman's Club by Mícheál Ó hAnracháin at the end of the nineteenth century in 1899, followed by various milestones throughout the entire twentieth century and right up to date celebrating the language's most glorious period in Carlow in this the twenty first century.

Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh preparing to launch the exhibition.

Also in attendance at the launch was Nora Welby, national manager of Glór na nGael, who recalled Carlow's great strides and huge success in the promotion of Irish in the community and thus making the language more popular and more accessible to all regardless of competency or fluency. She also presented a Certificate of Recognition to staff photographer Karl McDonough on behalf of the Carlow Nationalist marking the newspaper's continued support and use of Irish in the print media.

Visit by the Canadian Ambassador

On Friday 21st February the Honourable Loyola Hearn, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland visited the Museum for the second time. This visit was organised through Carlow County Council in advance of the visit in late August to south county Carlow from the Ireland Newfoundland Partnership. Ambassador Hearn asked specifically to visit the Museum as it's the Museum that has most inspired him. He was educated by the Presentation Sisters, whose former convent the Museum is now housed. One of the first songs he learned was Kevin Barry and he was delighted to see the Museum display on Kevin. He has an interest in military history and in particular for Myles Keogh from Orchard, Leighlinbridge, Co. Carlow. He presented the Museum with an original copy of Johnny Horton's Greatest Hits record which features the song 'Comanche the Brave Horse'. This was Myles's horse and Comanche survived the Battle of Little Big Horn. Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of the Museum Board presented Ambassador Hearn with a copy of 'Captain Myles Walter Keogh United State Army 1840 – 1876' by G A Hayes McCoy, published by the National University of Ireland.

Noreen Whelan, Chairperson of the Museum Board making a presentation to the Honourable Loyola Hearn, Canadian Ambassador to Ireland

Carlow Castle Brochure:

As part of the continuing Carlow 800 celebration the Museum coordinated 'Carlow Castle – Medieval Stronghold on the Barrow' a six page brochure written by Dr. Margaret Murphy of Carlow College. It was launched at the Carlow Town Council February meeting by Cllr. Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council. The brochure details how the castle looked in the late 14th century when Carlow was for a period of approximately thirty three years the administrative capital of Ireland.

The Museum is coordinating a tour of the town of the framed illustration of the Castle and the 3D model. During 2014 they were both on display in the new IT Carlow Dargan Centre which is home to Design Core, the department which made the 3D model. For Heritage Week they were displayed in St Mary's Church of Ireland Church. An earlier church on the site of St Mary's is featured in the illustration.

Pictured at the launch of the 'Carlow Castle – Medieval Stronghold on the Barrow' by Dr. Margaret Murphy is (L to R) Michael Brennan, Town Clerk, Dr. Margaret Murphy, Carlow College, Cllr Eileen Brophy, Cathaoirleach of Carlow Town Council and Martin Nevin, Board of Carlow County Museum

Heritage Week:
Heritage Week 2014 ran from Saturday 23rd to Sunday 31st of August inclusive and for the tenth year the Museum on behalf of Carlow County Council coordinated the countywide publicity on the various events for Heritage Week.

The Museum organised a number of events during the week. From the Wednesday to the Saturday there was a daily Archaeology Digs for Kids which took place in the Museum and its adjoining green area.

A group of 'Junior Diggers' in the Museum with Deirdre Hennessey, Museum Archaeology Intern

On Monday, Tuesday and Thursday the Museum organised three lectures. On Monday there was a book launch & lecture 'Inscribing the Landscape, the Rock Art of South Leinster' by Christiaan Corlett in Boris Town Hall. Rock art is the oldest form of art known in Ireland and dates to over 5000 years ago with many examples are found in

south county Carlow. This new book looks at rock art from south Leinster and is written by Christiaan Corlett, archaeologist with the National Monuments Service. Carlow provides one of the largest amounts of rock art in the south east and the country. Dr. Michael Conry, well known cultural heritage writer launched the book. The Book launch was in association with Wordwell Books, Carlow County Museum & Borris Tidy Towns.

On Tuesday in the County Council offices archaeologists Judith Carroll and Ken Wiggins presented an illustrated lecture ' Past Encounters - the archaeology of the Carlow Main Drainage Scheme 2010-2012'. They discussed in detail the archaeological surveys under taken in Carlow town as part of the Carlow Main Drainage and Flood Relief Scheme completed in 2013. They highlighted that they found no trace of the old medieval wall that surrounded the town but feel they have potentially narrowed down the area of search.

On Thursday in St. Mary's Church Dr. Margaret Murphy, Lecturer in History in Carlow College presented an illustrated Lecture 'Carlow Town and Castle in the medieval period'. She had earlier that afternoon led a walk of medieval Carlow town including a visit to Carlow Castle. She spoke on the development of Carlow during the medieval period and Carlow becoming the administrative Capital of Ireland 650 years ago.

Dr. Margaret Murphy presenting her lecture in St. Mary's Church

Traveller Pride Week:
St. Catherine's Community Services Centre hosted a special 'Traveller Pride Day' on 17th June last at their centre on St. Joseph's Road. The Museum loaned them some items for display from the relatively recently closed Carlow Traveller Training Centre. The Museum recorded two short videos in association with St. Catherine's and the Traveller Network. One with a group of traveller women speaking the Traveller language called Cant or Gammon.

The other was with two local traveller men shoeing a horse. Through the Museum a video was made of the Traveller Pride Day and all three are available to watch on the Museum's Youtube channel.

Pupils from St. Joseph's National School visiting the Traveller Pride Day display at St. Catherine's Community Services Centre

National Bike Week - Heritage Cycle Tour:
On Thursday June 19th the Museum in association with Carlow Sports Partnership led a Heritage Cycle of Carlow Town as part of National Bike Week. The tour started and finished at the Carlow Shopping Centre. The participants cycled to the following locations: Railway Station; St. Dympna's Hospital, River Barrow, Old Graveyard and Barrow Track; Castle and the Liberty Tree. At each location Museum staff spoke about the history of each location and also asked members of the tour to impart any knowledge or stories they had.

Ownership of Collection:
At the Carlow Town Council meeting in April a resolution was passed accepting the transfer of ownership & management (items before 2002) of the Carlow County Museum collection from the Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society (C.H.A.S). A further resolution was passed by Council requesting that Carlow County Council accept responsibility for the ownership & management of the Museum post the Town Council's abolition in June 2014. At the Carlow County Council meeting in April they passed a resolution to accept the ownership & management of the Museum and to reestablish the Museum Board after the 2014 Local Elections.

Museum Constitution & Draft Museum Standing Orders Update
The Constitution & Standing Orders of Carlow County Museum were approved at the November meeting of Carlow County Council.

Carlow Town Council

CARLOW COUNTY COUNCIL
COMHAIRLE CHONTAE CHEATHARLOCHA

Carlow Historical & Archaeological Society

Carlow County Museum

BORD
IARSMALANN CONTAE CHEATHARLACH

Iarsmalann Contae Cheatharlach

An 8ú TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL
2014

Nollaig 2015

Carlow County Museum

THE PUBLIC SECTOR MAGAZINE

Excellence in Business Awards 2014

Carlow County Council

Local Authority Museum

Comhaltaí Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach

Comhaltaí Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach (go dtí Bealtaine 2014):
An Clr. John Cassin, An Clr. Rody Kelly agus An Clr. Walter Lacey

Comhaltaí Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach (ó Mheitheamh 2014):
An Clr. Anne Ahern, Cathaoirleach, An Clr. Fergal Browne,
An Clr. Walter Lacey

Ainmnithe ag an mBainisteoir Contae (go dtí Bealtaine 2014):
Michael Brennan, Uas., Cléireach an Bhaile

Ainmnithe ag an mBainisteoir Contae (ó Mheitheamh 2014):
Eoin Lyng, Ceann na gCóras Faisnéise

Comhaltaí Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach:
Deirdre Kearney, Uas., Martin Nevin Uas., agus
Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach

Rúnaí an Bhoird:
Diarmuid Ó Maologáin, Uas., Coimeádaí Músaeim

LOCAL AUTHORITY MUSEUMS' NETWORK

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

Bord an Mhúsaeim:
Is í seo an t-ochtú Tuarascáil Bhliantúil de chuid Bhord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach. Ba í Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach a bhí ag feidhmiú an Mhúsaeim go dtí Bealtaine 2014. Is í Comhairle Contae Cheatharlach atá ag feidhmiú an Mhúsaeim anois ó rinneadh an Chomhairle Baile a dhíothú i Meitheamh 2014. Seachtar comhaltaí atá ar an mBord. Ba thriúr a bhíodh ina gComhaltaí ar Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach chomh maith le triúr ionadaithe thar ceann Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach (CSSC) agus duine amháin a bhíodh ainmnithe ag an mBainisteoir Contae a bhíodh air go dtí Bealtaine 2014. Ó Mheitheamh 2014 ar aghaidh tá triúr atá ina gComhaltaí ar Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach tagtha in ionad an triúir a bhíodh ina gComhaltaí ar Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach. Is é Coimeádaí Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach atá ag gníomhú mar Rúnaí ar an mBord.

Roghnaítear an Cathaoirleach as triúr Comhaltaí an Údaráis Áitiúil 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. Tar éis don athchóiriú ar an mBord ag Comhairle Contae Cheatharlach sa bhliain 2014 toghadh Anne Ahern ina Cathaoirleach ag CCB 2014.

Músaem Contae Cheatharlach,
Sráid an Choláiste,
Ceatharlach,
Co. Cheatharlach.
Éire

Teil: 059 – 9131554
Ríomhphost: museum@carlowcoco.ie

Suíomh Gréasáin: www.carlowcountymuseum.ie
Youtube:www.youtube.com/carlowcountymuseum
Facebook:facebook.com/carlowcountymuseum
Twitter:twitter.com/carlowcountymus

Uaireanta Oscailte an Mhúsaeim
Luan - Satharn 10.00am - 4.30pm Meán Fómhair go Bealtaine
Luan - Satharn 10.00am - 5.00pm Meitheamh - Lúnasa
Domhnach & Laethanta Saoire Bainc 2.00pm - 4.30pm Meitheamh - Lúnasa

Clúdach Tosaigh: I láthair ag nochtadh na plaice do Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach bhí: (C go D) Vicky Nolan Uas., (Baintreach Brendan Nolan), Annette Dooley, Uas., (iníon Alec Burns), Kevin Kennedy, Pat O'Neill, Uachtarán Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach; Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Mhúsaeim; an Clr. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach; Eddie McDonald, Padraig Dooley (nia Michael Dooley) agus Kevin Murphy (mac Sheamus Murphy)

Comhaireamh 40ú Bliain Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach:
Dé Céadaoin, an 28ú Bealtaine, nocht Cumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach plaic i gcomhaireamh an 40ú bliain ó bhunaigh naonúr dá chomhaltaí Músaem Contae Cheatharlach. Thionóil an Cumann, ar a dtugtaí Old Carlow Society, cruinniú poiblí i Halla na bhForaoiseoirí ar Shráid an Choláiste go luath sna 1970idí agus é d'aidhm leis Músaem a bhunú. Chuir an tAth. Scallion agus Tom O'Neill, ó Mhúsaem Inis Córthaidh ₤100.00 isteach sa tionscadal chun an Múseum a bhunú. Fuarthas cuid de sheanfhoirgneamh na mBráithre Críostaí (atá in aice le hIonad Pharóiste na hArd-Eaglaise mar atá anois) ar Shráid an Choláiste ar léas ar ₤120.00 sa bhliain agus níorbh fhada go raibh coiste an Mhúsaeim go dúthrachtach díograiseach ag bailiú déantán agus ábhar. D'oscail John Moriarty, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach agus comhalta gníomhach den Chumann Músaem Contae Cheatharlach don phobal Dé Domhnaigh an 2ú lá de mhí na Nollag sa bhliain 1973.

Sa bhliain 1979 aistríodh an Músaem isteach go dtí an Seomra Amharclainne i Halla an Bhaile, seomra a chuir Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach ar fáil. Ghlac Comhairle Baile Cheatharlach feidhmiú an Mhúsaeim faoina cúram sa bhliain 2002 agus chuir sí roimpi athfhorbairt a dhéanamh ar an Músaem i gcomhpháirtíocht le Cumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach. Tá Músaem Contae Cheatharlach suite go buan anois ar Shráid an Choláiste i gClochar na Toirbhearta mar a bhíodh. Bíonn sé oscailte ar feadh na bliana go léir agus tá cead isteach saor in aisce ag cách.

Ag labhairt dó sular nocht sé an phlaic dúirt Pat O'Neill, Uachtarán Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach gur mhúsaem pobail a bhí tugtha ar an bhfód ag an naonúr comhalta den Chumann a bhunaigh an Músaem agus gur mhúsaem é a thug saol na ngnáthdhaoine san am a caitheadh chun cuimhne. Ghlac sé buíochas leis an naonúr comhalta: Alec Burns, Michael Dooley, Bill Kelly, Kevin Kennedy, Eddie Mc Donald, Jim Moran, Seamus Murphy, Brendan Nolan, agus Pat Nolan. Tá ceathrar de na comhaltaí bunaidh ina mbeatha fós agus ba é a dhóchas gur léiriú é an músaem nua seo go raibh a n-aidhmeanna curtha i gcrích go cuí acu.

Sa phictiúr tá beirt de na comhaltaí bunaidh a bhí i láthair ag nochtadh na plaice do Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach: (C go D) Eddie McDonald agus Kevin Kennedy

Labhair Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Mhúsaeim faoin meon forásach a bhain leis an Músaem, go háirithe ó chláraíodh é leis an gclár de chuid na Comhairle Oidhreachta, ‘An Clár um Chaighdeáin Músaem in Éirinn. Tá sé i gceist leis an gclár seo, arb é an chéad cheann dá leithéid sa Phoblacht é, gach gné den chleachtas músaeim in Éirinn a fheabhsú. Is é Músaem Contae Cheatharlach an chéad cheann de na músaeim sa chontae le páirt a ghlacadh sa scéim. Lena chois sin, oibríonn an Músaem go dlúth le hArd-Mhúsaem na hÉireann, go háirithe chomh fada is a bhaineann sé le Fríotha Seandálaíochta de.

Dúirt an Clr. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach gur cinneadh tráth ar ghlac an Chomhairle feidhmiú an Mhúsaeim uirthi féin go raibh foirgneamh níos mó agus níos oiriúnaí ag teastáil le haghaidh an Mhúsaeim. Is i gCeathrú an Chultúir sa bhaile atá foirgneamh an Mhúsaeim suite anois.

Gradam na nÚdarás Áitiúil do Mhúsaeim:

Ba é Músaem Contae Cheatharlach a roghnaíodh mar bhuaiteoir glan ag bronnadh gradam na nÚdarás Áitiúil don Mhúsaem ab Fhearr faoin teideal 'Feabhas i nGnó' a bhí eagraithe ag Iris na hEarnála Poiblí. Is aitheantas é don údarás áitiúil ó Iris na hEarnála Poiblí go ndearna sé éacht thar na bearta as an músaem a fhorbairt, ceann arb é an músaem contae is nuaí sa tír é.

Thug Iris na hEarnála Poiblí le fios gur léiriú maith é Músaem Contae Cheatharlach gur oibrigh an pobal trí chéile i gcomhpháirtíocht lena n-údarás áitiúil. Dúradh gur éirigh leo as lámha a chéile ceangal a dhéanamh idir an saol fadó agus saol an lae inniu agus go bhfuil rud éigin fíorspeisialta tugtha ar an bhfód acu don am atá le teacht.

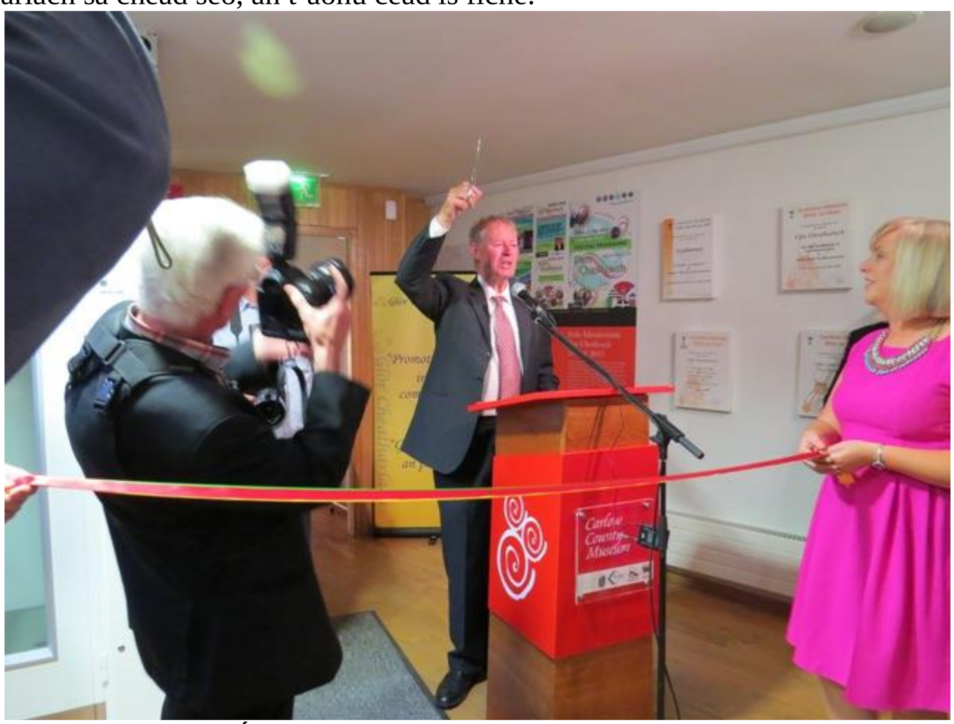
Dé Luain seo caite, an 6ú Deireadh Fómhair ghlac an Clr. Fergal Browne, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach, comhaltaí Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach agus Bord an Mhúsaeim i dteannta Tom Barry, Uas., Príomhfheidhmeannach Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach agus baill foirne de chuid Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach agus na hOifige Turasóireachta leis an ngradam sa Músaem.

An Taispeántas: 'Scéal na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach 1899 – 2014':

Sheol an Músaem an taispeántas sealadach dá chuid, 'Scéal na Gaeilge i gCeatharlach 1899 – 2014', Déardaoin an 5ú Meitheamh. Cuireadh an taispeántas i dtoll a chéile i gcomhar le Glór Cheatharlach agus bhí réimse ábhar a bhaineann le Conradh na Gaeilge, cúrsaí oideachais, Éigse, Glór Cheatharlach agus an Fhéile Pan-Cheilteach faoi chaibidil ann.

Ba é Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh, an tráchtaire mór le rá ar chluichí CLG, a sheol an taispeántas ina ndearnadh cur síos ar stair na Gaeilge i mBaile Cheatharlach le breis is 100 bliain anuas. Bhí slua mór i láthair agus lear mór de lucht na Gaeilge idir óg agus aosta ina measc gan trácht ar dhaoine atá bainteach le spóirt éagsúla agus a tháinig amach le fáilte a fhearadh roimh Mhícheál agus an taispeántas a fheiceáil.

Níorbh fhada a thóg sé ar Mhícheál a thabhairt le fios go raibh trí chéad bliain i ndáiríre faoi chaibidil sa taispeántas mar go raibh cur síos ann ar an scéal iontach a bhain leis an nGaeilge i gCeatharlach ó bhunaigh Mícheál Ó hAnnracháin an chéad chraobh de Chonradh na Gaeilge i gCumann na bhFear Oibre i ndeireadh an naoú céad déag sa bhliain 1899, go dtí na himeachtaí cinniúnacha a tharla ó thús deireadh an fichiú céad agus fiú go dtí an lá atá inniu ann, mar a bhfuil comóradh á dhéanamh ar an tréimhse is iomráití i gCeatharlach sa chéad seo, an t-aonú céad is fiche.



Mícheál Ó Muircheartaigh ar tí an taispeántas a sheoladh.

Bhí Nóra Welby, bainisteoir náisiúnta Ghlór na nGael i láthair ag an seoladh freisin. Mheabhraigh sise na céimeanna móra atá glactha ag Ceatharlach agus a mhéid is atá an Ghaeilge curtha chun cinn sa phobal rud a fhágann go bhfuil níos mó suime sa teanga agus gur féidir le gach duine tabhairt fúithi beag beann ar inniúlacht nó líofacht. Bhronn sí Teastas Aitheantais freisin ar Karl McDonough thar ceann The Carlow Nationalist. Is grianghrafadóir foirne é Karl agus an bronnadh an teastas mar aitheantas ar an tacaíocht leanúnach a thugann an nuachtán don Ghaeilge agus ar an úsáid a bhaineann an nuachtán as an teanga sna meáin chlóite.

Ambasadóir Cheanada ar cuairt

Dé hAoine, an 21ú Feabhra, thug an tOnórach Loyola Hearn, Ambasadóir Cheanada chun na hÉireann cuairt ar an Músaem an dara huair. Eagraíodh an chuairt seo le cabhair Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach roimh an gcuairt a bhí le tabhairt ag Comhpháirtíocht na hÉireann - Thalamh an Éisc ar dheisceart Chontae Cheatharlach i ndeireadh mhí Lúnasa. D'iarr an tAmbasadóir Hearn go sonrach go dtabharfaí ar cuairt chuig an Músaem é mar gurb é seo an Músaem ba mhó a thug spreagadh dó. Fuair sé a chuid oideachais ó Shiúracha na Toirbhearta, agus is istigh sa chlochar a bhíodh acusan tráth atá an Músaem anois. Bhí 'Kevin Barry' ar cheann de na chéad amhráin a d'fhoghlaim sé agus chuir sé an-áthas air nuair a chonaic sé an taispeántas atá ag an Músaem ar Kevin. Cuireann sé spéis sa stair mhíleata agus go háirithe san ábhar faoi Myles Keogh ón Abhallort, Leithghlinn an Droichid, Co. Cheatharlach. Bhronn sé bunchóip den cheirnín, Johnny Horton's Greatest Hits, ar an Músaem. Tá an t-amhrán 'Comanche the Brave Horse' air an gceirnín sin. Comanche an capall a bhí ag Myles agus tháinig sé slán as Cath an Little Big Horn. Bhronn Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Mhúsaeim cóip den leabhar 'Captain Myles Walter Keogh United States Army 1840 – 1876' ar an Ambasadóir Hearn. G A Hayes McCoy a scríobh é agus Ollscoil na hÉireann a d'fhoilsigh é.

Nóirín Uí Fhaoláin, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Mhúsaeim agus bronnadh á dhéanamh aici ar an Onórach Loyola Hearn, Ambasadóir Cheanada chun na hÉireann.

Bróisiúr faoi Chaisleán Cheatharlach:

Rinne an Músaem obair chomhordaithe ar 'Carlow Castle – Medieval Stronghold on the Barrow', bróisiúr sé leathanach a scríobh an Dr. Margaret Murphy ó Choláiste Cheatharlach. Rinneadh an obair chomhordaithe mar chuid den cheiliúradh a bhain le Ceatharlach 800. Sheol an Clr. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach an bróisiúr ag cruinniú mhí Feabhra de Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach. Sa bhróisiúr, taispeántar an chuma a bhí ar an gcaisleán i ndeireadh an 14ú céad, sa tréimhse tríocha is a trí bliain nó mar sin nuair ba é Ceatharlach príomhchathair riaracháin na hÉireann.

Tá turas an bhaile, lena ngabhann léaráid i bhfráma agus samhail 3D, á chomhordú ag an Músaem. Bhí an dá cheann ar taispeáint i rith 2014 san ionad nua, Ionad Uí Dheargáin, in IT Cheatharlach. Is anseo atá Design Core, an roinn a rinne an tsamhail 3D. Cuireadh ar taispeáint i dTeampall Mhuire de chuid Eaglais na hÉireann iad i rith Sheachtain na hOidhreachta. Is féidir teampall a bhí tógtha níos luaithe ná sin ar an láthair ar a bhfuil Teampall Mhuire a fheiceáil ar an léaráid.

Sa phictiúr a tógadh ag seoladh 'Carlow Castle – Medieval Stronghold on the Barrow' leis an Dr. Margaret Murphy tá (C go D): Michael Brennan, Cléireach an Bhaile, An Dr. Margaret Murphy, Coláiste Cheatharlach, An Clr. Eibhlín de Bróithe, Cathaoirleach Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach agus Martin Nevin, Bord Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach.

Seachtain na hOidhreachta:
Ba í an tseachtain ón Satharn 23ú Lúnasa go dtí an Domhnach an 31ú Lúnasa, agus an dá lá sin san áireamh Seachtain na hOidhreachta 2014 agus ba í seo an deichiú bliain a ndearna an Músaem an bholscaireacht do na himeachtaí éagsúla a bhí ar siúl i Seachtain na hOidhreachta a chomhordú sa chontae thar ceann Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach.

D'eagraigh an Músaem líon áirithe imeachtaí i rith na seachtaine. Bhí Tochailtí Seandálaíochta do Pháistí ar siúl gach lá ón gCéadaoin go dtí an Satharn ag an Músaem agus sa phlásóg ghlas atá thart air.

Buíon 'Tochaltóirí Óga' ag an Músaem in éineacht le Deirdre Hennessey, Intéirneach Seandálaíochta sa Mhúsaem

D'eagraigh an Músaem trí léacht, ceann sa lá don Luan, don Mháirt agus don Déardaoin. Dé Luain a bhí an seoladh leabhair agus an léacht 'Inscribing the Landscape, the Rock Art of South Leinster' le Christiaan Corlett ar siúl i Halla an Bhaile sa Bhuiríos. Is é an greanadh carraige an cineál is sine den ealaín a bhfuiltear ar an eolas fúithi in Éirinn. Tá sé ann le breis is 5000 bliain agus is iomaí sampla de atá le fáil i ndeisceart Chontae Cheatharlach. Is é an greanadh carraige atá i ndeisceart Chúige Laighean atá faoi chaibidil sa leabhar nua seo a scríobh Christiaan Corlett, seandálaí le Seirbhís na Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta. Is i gCeatharlach a fhaightear an chuid is mó den ghreanadh carraige atá san oirdheisceart agus sa tír. Ba é An Dr. Michael Conry, an scríbhneoir aitheanta ar an oidhreacht chultúrtha a sheol an leabhar. Rinneadh an Seoladh Leabhair i gcomhar le Wordwell Books, Músaem Contae Cheatharlach agus Coiste Bailte Slachtmhara na Buiríse.

Dé Máirt thug na seandálaithe Judith Carroll agus Ken Wiggins léacht ar ghabh léaráidí léi in oifigí na Comhairle Contae. *'Past Encounters - the archaeology of the Carlow Main Drainage Scheme 2010-2012'* ba theideal don léacht. Phléigh siad go mion na suirbhéanna seandálaíochta a rinneadh i mBaile Cheatharlach mar chuid de Scéim Cheatharlach um Príomhdhraenáil agus um Fhóirithint ó Thuilte a tugadh chun críche sa bhliain 2013. Dúirt siad amach nár tháinig siad ar aon lorg den seanbhalla meánaoiseach a bhíodh thart timpeall ar an mbaile ach gur bhraith siad gur dóigh gur bheag an limistéar a bhí fágtha le cuardach.

Déardaoin thug An Dr. Margaret Murphy, Léachtóir le Stair i gColáiste Cheatharlach, léacht ar ghabh léaráidí léi i dTeampall Mhuire. *'Carlow Town and Castle in the medieval period'* ba theideal don léacht. Níos túisce san iarnóin bhí sí i mbun siúlóide thart ar bhaile meánaoiseach Cheatharlach agus tugadh cuairt ar Chaisleán Cheatharlach freisin. Labhair sí faoin bhfás a bhí faoi Cheatharlach sna meánaoiseanna agus faoi gurbh é Ceatharlach Príomhchathair riaracháin na hÉireann 650 bliain ó shin.

An Dr. Margaret Murphy ag tabhairt a léachta i dTeampall Mhuire.

Seachtain Mhórtais an Lucht Siúil:

Bhí lá speisialta, 'Lá Mórtais an Lucht Siúil', ag Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail Chaitríona, an 17ú Meitheamh seo caite ina n-ionad ar Bhóthar Iósaf. Thug an Músaem roinnt nithe ar iasacht dóibh le cur ar taispeáint; nithe iad seo a fuarthas ó Ionad Oiliúna an Lucht Siúil, Ceatharlach a dúnadh go gairid roimhe sin. Thaifead an Músaem dhá fhíseán ghearra i gcomhar le hIonad Chaitríona agus Líonra an Lucht Siúil - ceann amháin de bhuíon ban den lucht siúil agus iad ag labhairt teanga an Lucht Siúil ar a dtugtar Caintis nó Gaimis; - ceann eile de bheirt fhear den lucht siúil agus iad ag cur crúite faoi chapall. Rinneadh físeán le cabhair an Mhúsaeim de Lá Mórtais an Lucht Siúil agus is féidir na trí cinn d'fhíseáin a fheiceáil ar chainéal Youtube an Mhúsaeim.

Daltaí scoile ó Scoil Náisiúnta Iósaf Naofa agus iad ar cuairt ar an taispeántas do Lá Mórtais an Lucht Siúil in Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail Chaitríona

Seachtain Náisiúnta na Rothar - Turas Oidhreachta ar Rothar:
Déardaoin, an 19ú Meitheamh, bhí baill foirne ón Músaem, i gcomhar le Comhpháirtíocht Spórt Cheatharlach i mbun stiúrtha ar Thuras Oidhreachta ar Rothar thart ar Bhaile Cheatharlach mar chuid de Sheachtain Náisiúnta na Rothar. Cuireadh tús agus deireadh leis an turas ag Ionad Siopadóireachta Cheatharlach. Chuaigh na rothaithe chomh fada leis na láithreacha seo a leanas ar a rothair: An Stáisiún Traenach; Ospidéal Dhamhnait, An Bhearú, An tSeanreilig agus Cosán na Bearú; An Caisleán agus Crann na Saoirse. Nuair a stop siad ag láthair áirithe labhair baill d'fhoireann an Mhúsaeim faoi stair na láithreach agus d'iarr siad freisin ar na daoine a bhí ar an turas aon eolas nó aon scéalta a bhí acu féin a roinnt leo.

Úinéireacht an Bhailiúcháin:
Ritheadh rún ag cruinniú Chomhairle Baile Cheatharlach san Aibreán ag glacadh le húinéireacht agus bainistíocht (nithe roimh 2002) bhailiúchán Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach a aistriú ó Chumann Staire agus Seandálaíochta Cheatharlach (CSSC). Rith an Chomhairle rún eile ag iarraidh go nglacfadh Comhairle Contae Cheatharlach freagracht as úinéireacht agus bainistíocht an Mhúsaeim tar éis díothú na Comhairle Baile i Meitheamh 2014. Ritheadh rún ag cruinniú Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach san Aibreán glacadh le húinéireacht agus bainistíocht an Mhúsaeim agus Bord an Mhúsaeim a athbhunú tar éis na dToghchán Áitiúil in 2014.

An tEolas is Déanaí faoi Bhunreacht an Mhúsaeim agus Dréacht-Bhuan-Orduithe an Mhúsaeim
Rinneadh Bunreacht agus Buan-Orduithe Mhúsaem Contae Cheatharlach a cheadú ag cruinniú mhí na Samhna de Chomhairle Contae Cheatharlach.