

feile na 3cloch

INIS OÍRR



Stone Wall Building Workshop

Stone Carving Workshop

Letter Carving Workshop

On Location Sketch Outs

Lime Mortar Demonstrations

2026

CELEBRATING

20
YEARS



ECHOES in Stone

September 2026

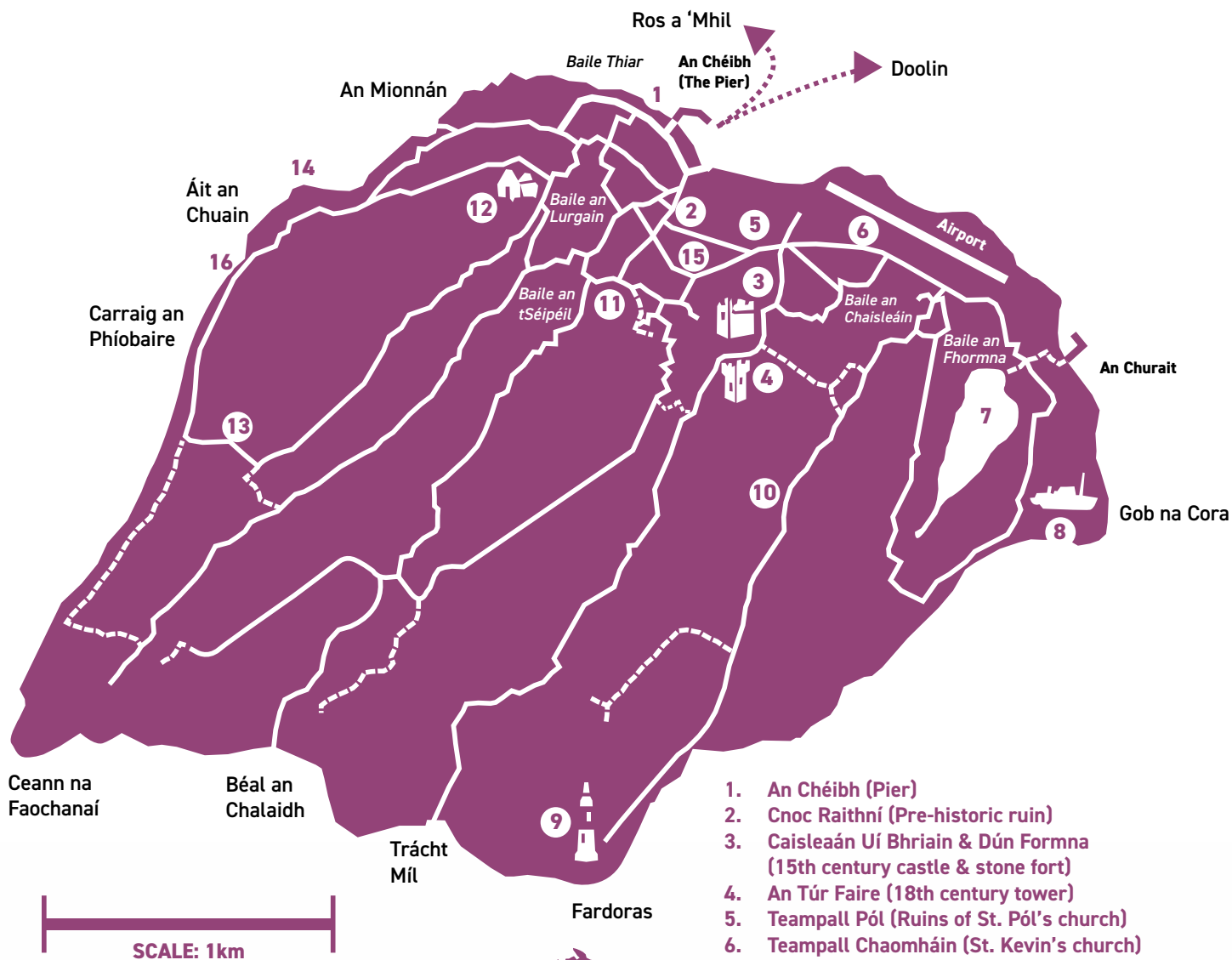
Thursday 10th - Sunday 13th

Inis Oírr, Aran Islands, County Galway

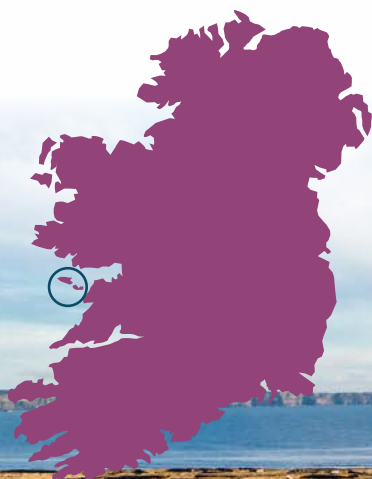
Comhar Caomhán Teo



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council



1. An Chéibh (Pier)
2. Cnoc Raithní (Pre-historic ruin)
3. Caisleán Uí Bhriain & Dún Formna (15th century castle & stone fort)
4. An Túr Faire (18th century tower)
5. Teampall Pól (Ruins of St. Pól's church)
6. Teampall Chaomháin (St. Kevin's church)
7. An Loch Mór (Lake)
8. An Plassy (Shipwreck)
9. Teach Solais (Lighthouse)
10. Cill na Seacht níníon
11. Séipéal (Church)
12. Cill Ghobnait (11th century church)
13. Tobar Éanna (Holy well)
14. Róna (Seal colony)
15. Páirc Peile & Spraoi (Playground & pitch)
16. Cloch Chuimhneachtáin (Memorial stone)



Comhar Caomhán Teo



Inis Oírr

Aran Island's Inis Oírr is our wonderful island home and a long-lived Atlantic community in constant celebration of its unique culture and modern ways. Recognised for a warm and outgoing spirit, and graced with a welcome that extends beyond our island waves, we delight in the company of all who visit.

Island Life

Beautiful island of big skies and shimmering seas. A dynamic mix of new and old, forever enriched by those who visit.

Family-Friendly Breaks

Our wonderful sun-bleached white strand is very popular for swimming, walking, watersports or just hanging about on long island summer days.

Wonderful Sights and Scenery

Cycle or walk the quiet and charming boreens to take in the many sites and artifacts of this karst limestone island. The island has a Blue Flag beach, An Trá, and Green Flag beach, Pól na gCaorach.

Relax and Unwind on Inis Oírr

Inis Oírr is an ideal spot for visiting, with excellent accommodation options: bed & breakfast, hotels, hostels, charming tearooms, restaurants and bars.

Traditional Music, Arts & Crafts

The island hosts the best in traditional music, art and craft courses. Regular music sessions and lively dances continue to lure legions of visitors to Inis Oírr.

Getting Here is Easy

Daily ferry services from Doolin and Ros a Mhil. Aer Arann, based at Connemara Airport, Inverin, County Galway, do daily flights. Close to the Burren, the Cliffs of Moher are clearly visible from the island.





Starograsko polje, Hvar, Croatia. Restoration of a dry stone shelter, 2023.



Restoration of a dry stone pond, Zlarin, Croatia.



Mount Dalton NBHS workshop.



Takala Vineyards, Bakar, Croatia.

Dry stone heritage endures through the people who build, conserve, and share it.

ECHOES: Enhancing Cultural Heritage Skills Across Europe (2024-2027) brings together 4 GRADA DRAGODID (Croatia), the Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland, and Boulouki - Itinerant Workshop on Traditional Building Crafts (Greece) to exchange knowledge, strengthen traditional stone-building skills, and foster international collaboration.

Through a series of hands-on learning experiences and knowledge-sharing initiatives, ECHOES connects people, places, and traditions through the co-creation of international activities, including:

Petrebisća Summer School, Croatia

Participants worked together to conserve and restore a historic dry stone village while learning traditional construction techniques directly from experienced practitioners.

Tzoumerka Summer School, Greece

Focused on the restoration of a former village school and its surroundings, this programme supports the building's new role as a centre for research, education, and sustainable traditional building practices.

Féile na gCloch, Inis Oírr, Co Galway, Ireland

Project partners have contributed to the festival programme for 2026 by sharing expertise, practical skills, and experiences of dry-stone heritage from across Europe, creating opportunities for learning, exchange, and collaboration.

ECHOES Online workshops and capacity-building programmes

In addition, ECHOES delivers online workshops and capacity-building programmes on traditional crafts, heritage documentation, community engagement, and innovative approaches to interpreting and sharing cultural heritage. Long after the work is completed, its echoes remain, in the landscape, in communities, and in the people who carry this knowledge forward for future generations!

Féile na gCloch 2026

ECHOES Partners Information

Boulouki



Boulouki is a collective that studies and transmits traditional building crafts as an active and sustainable knowledge, through educational and participatory projects. Encompassing historical preservation, sustainable architecture, and community engagement, we have been

operating as a non-profit organisation based in Athens, Greece, since 2018, with a branch in Frasta Tzoumerka, located in the restored, by the team, School building, which serves as the School for Research and Education in Traditional and Sustainable Building. We engage in hands-on training and work, constructing meaningful projects for communities in need. Each project becomes an opportunity to revive traditional knowledge by bringing together craftspeople, residents, and a global network of researchers and practitioners from diverse backgrounds. Website: <https://boulouki.org/>

4 Grada Dragodid



4 Grada Dragodid (est. 2007) is a Croatian civil society organization that connects enthusiasts and professionals dedicated to safeguarding dry stone construction, a traditional building practice without binding materials. The association focuses on education, interpretation, and

preservation of dry stone heritage through hands-on restoration workshops, expert gatherings, and documentation of tangible and intangible heritage. During its educational workshops in 2025, Dragodid's 33 volunteers contributed 1,772 hours, restoring dry stone objects at 23 locations in Croatia and abroad. The association promotes international cooperation and knowledge exchange, supports restoration initiatives, and maps dry stone sites, activities and actors via Suhozid.hr, an open dry stone heritage geoportal. Website: <https://www.dragodid.org/>

The Dry-Stone Wall Association of Ireland (DSWAI)



The Dry-Stone Wall Association of Ireland (DSWAI) was founded in 2009 and is a non-profit volunteer led organisation

which aims to create and promote awareness of the craft of dry-stone construction in Ireland.

The association creates opportunity for education and engagement in dry-stone construction among both the public and professionals.

The DSWAI is building a community of members, both amateur and professional, who involve themselves in dry stone projects and training which supports the mission of conservation.

To promote the craft, the DSWAI runs lectures, discussions, exhibitions, workshops and training programmes. The DSWAI has ensured the recognition of dry-stone construction by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity Asset and is an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Ireland representative organisation.

Website: <https://www.dswai.ie/>

Stein und Wein



Stein und Wein (Stone and Wine), Langenlois, Austria

The Stein und Wein (Stone and Wine) Festival in Langenlois, Austria, celebrates the unique relationship between traditional dry stone walling and wine-growing landscapes. Held in

the heart of the Kamptal wine region, the festival brings together craftspeople, students and experts from across Europe and other parts of the world to share skills, build dry stone structures and promote the conservation of this important heritage craft. Combining hands-on stonework with local wine culture, Stein und Wein highlights how stone, landscape and community are closely connected.

This festival has fostered strong links with Féile na gCloch since 2013 and has provided opportunities for the exchange of dry stone walling knowledge and traditions between European communities.

Website: www.trockenmauerkurs.de/community/veranstaltungen/stein-und-wein-festival-langenlois-oesterreich



Comhar Caomhán Teo



OTHER EVENTS

Taking Place on Inis Oírr



Old Aran in Colour

May - October 2026

After the success of this exhibition over the last two summers we are delighted to show this wonderful colourised photographic exhibition of old photos of the Aran islands in the Comhlacht Forbartha Inis Meáin courtyard. Based on the book 'Old Ireland in Colour' by Galway University academics John Buckley and Sarah-Anne Buckle.



Comhar Caomhán Teo



OTHER EVENTS

Taking Place on Inis Oírr



Tory Island Painters

The rugged scenic Tory Island is an island situated 11km of the North-West coast of Co. Donegal. The Gaeltacht (Irish speaking) island is steeped in history and mythology and is the home to the Tory school of painters.

The renowned English artist Derek Hill (b.1916- d.2000) became a frequent visitor to the island in the 1950's where he worked from a small hut studio (formally a Lloyds of London shipping signal hut) painting the wild landscapes and portraits of the islanders. On one such occasion while out painting an islander by the name of James Dixon came upon him while he worked. Derek asked him what he thought of his painting and James simply answered 'I think I could do better myself'... this amused Derek and it sparked a lasting friendship between them. Derek encouraged James to paint and would send him materials from time to time but not brushes as James preferred to make his own brushes from his donkeys tail. This was the beginning of the Tory school of painters.

These artists through their painting captured a unique record of island life. The school of painters that developed included Patsy Dan Rodgers (King of Tory), Ruairí Rodgers, John Dixon and James Rodgers with a second generation including the very talented Anton Meenan. Áras Éanna is delighted to present this exhibition, showcasing a new generation of artists who continue the legacy of the Tory Island painters, a movement born from the chance encounter between Derek Hill and James Dixon in the 1950s.



Comhar Caomhán Teo



OTHER EVENTS

Taking Place on Inis Oírr



The Quiet Island

A short film by Cormac Coyne

Music composed and performed by
Máirtín O'Connor

On loop every 30 mins

Venue: An Dánlann, Áras Éanna

As a longtime resident on Inis Oírr the photographer and videographer Cormac Coyne has a passion for documenting the island life of Inis Oírr in all its forms.

Áras Éanna commissioned Cormac to make a short film documenting the the quieter side of island life outside of the tourist season.

In September 2025, the renowned accordion player Máirtín O Connor spent a month on the island as an artist in residence, the planets aligned and there began these two wonderful artists working together on this project. This has resulted in this beautiful short work that showcases the beauty of the living island that is Inis Oírr with the evocative sounds of Máirtín's brilliant accordion compositions.



Comhar Caomhán Teo



OTHER EVENTS

Taking Place on Inis Oírr



Dry Stone Construction - Engaging Young People

Education in the art, craft and science of dry stone construction techniques

Saturday 12th September 10am - 4pm

Location: Marquee, beside Campsite

Step in to our drop-in dry stone walling workshop for all! This free, family-friendly event invites budding builders to discover one of Ireland's oldest and most remarkable crafts — using nothing but stone, skill, and gravity.

Dry stone walls cross the Irish landscape, stretching back thousands of years to the Neolithic farmers. Long before cement and mortar, our ancestors shaped the countryside stone by stone, creating boundaries still standing today.

At this hands-on workshop, young people will learn the history of Irish dry stone construction and explore the regional styles from across the country — from the tightly packed walls of the Aran Islands to the distinctive patterns of the west. Ever wondered what a feidín or a bearna wall is, or how they're built? Come along and find out!

Using miniature stones, learn how to select, place, and balance for walls and arches and discover the value of the key stone.

This is a fun, informal, drop-in session — no booking required, and no experience necessary. Suitable for families, young people and anyone interested in dry stone construction.



Comhar Caomhán Teo



OTHER EVENTS

Taking Place on Inis Oírr



Inis Oírr Schools Heritage Programme

As part of Féile na gCloch, pupils from Scoil Náisiúnta Caomhain and students from the Transition Year class of Coláiste Ghobnait will take part in a special heritage programme exploring the unique stone landscape and cultural traditions of Inis Oírr.



Led by Cáite Fealty, the programme will provide opportunities for young people to engage creatively with the island's rich stone-building heritage through storytelling, art, discussion, and hands-on activities. By learning about the role of stone in shaping the island's history, environment, and identity, participants will gain a deeper appreciation of the traditions that have been passed down through generations.

The initiative hopes to foster a sense of pride in local heritage and community. Their participation in Féile na gCloch highlights the importance of involving young people in celebrating, preserving, and sharing the cultural legacy of Inis Oírr for the future.



Comhar Caomhán Teo



Instructors & Advisors

Aileen Anne Brannigan ~ Sculptor and craftswoman

David Curtin ~ Stonecutter, stonecarver and drystone waller

Cáite Fealty ~ Director of Stone Activities for Children and Youth

Eddie Farrelly ~ Festival Advisor, stonemason and traditional lime practitioner

Eoin Madigan ~ Stone mason and lime practitioner

Michael McGroarty ~ Stone mason and monumental sculptor

James Moore ~ Visual Arts Practitioner and Drawing Instructor

Alexandra Morosco ~ Sculptor of stone and bronze

Jason Morris ~ Stonecutter and stonecarver

Fergus Packman ~ Drystone waller

Jessica Peel-Yates ~ Visual Arts Practitioner and Word Smith

Tom Little ~ Festival advisor, lettercarver and stonecarver

THE ECHOES TEAM at Féile na gCloch

Julia Bakota Švencbir ~ Dragodid

Cvjetko Buratović ~ Dragodid

Ken Chambers ~ DSWAI

Shane Clear ~ DSWAI

Ken Curran ~ DSWAI

Barbara Delost ~ Dragodid

Ross Gavigan ~ DSWAI

Eva Georgouli ~ Boulouki

Ana Jadrijević ~ Dragodid

John Kardum ~ Dragodid

Duje Mikelić ~ Dragodid

Tori McMorran ~ DSWAI

Ioanna Ntoutsis ~ Boulouki

Ira Tomić ~ Dragodid

Sunny Wieler ~ DSWAI

Sincere thanks to the following for all their help and assistance:

Martina Creaven, Senior Staff Officer, Galway County Council

Oisín Ó Cualáin, Riarthóir Ealaíon, Áras Éanna

Bernie Doherty, Galway Community Archaeologist

Peadar O'Donncha, Comhar Caomhán Teo

James Duane, Caretaker, Galway County Council

Celine Fitzmaurice, Assistant Staff Officer, Galway County Council

Ita Gordon, Clerical Officer, Galway County Council

Dara McGee, Artistic Director, Áras Éanna

Tommy Murray, Caretaker, Galway County Council

Siobhán Ní Dhonncha, Comhar Caomhán Teo

Sarah Uí Dhomhnaill, Riarthóir Oifige, Comhar Caomhán Teo

Anne Power, Senior Staff Officer, Galway County Council

Davis Sandefur, Oifigeach Pleanála Teanga

Rónán Ó Gríofa, Comhar Caomhán Teo

Staff of Lasta Mara Teo

Staff of Cleas Teo

Who Should Attend?

Stone Wallers, Farmers, Property Owners, Architects, Builders, Artists, Craftspeople, Archaeologists, Local Authority Staff, Rural Social Scheme Participants, ITB Employees, Local History Enthusiasts, REPS / AEOS Planners and anybody with an interest in building dry stone walls, carving, lettering and sketching.

Richard Gough of Gough Tools will be present all weekend selling a selection of masons and carving tools. www.goughtools.com

Comhar Caomhán Teo



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Thursday 10th

5.30^{pm} - 7.00^{pm} | An Halla, Inis Oírr

Shared Stones, Shared Stories: Féile na gCloch Welcome Gathering

An informal gathering for festival participants, tutors and guests to meet, exchange ideas, and celebrate a shared passion for dry stone heritage and traditional building skills this will include a talk, short films and exhibitions.

Short Films 5.30^{pm} - 6.00^{pm}

Boulouki Itinerant Workshop on Traditional Building Techniques

Boulouki is among the 26 outstanding winners in the category 'Education, Training & Skills' European Heritage Awards / Europa Nostra Award 2024.

The Fountain at Pigadoulia

Restoration of a traditional infrastructure for fresh drinking water. This video was produced in the framework of the project "Connectivity Conservation Initiative for Fresh Drinking Water," wherein Boulouki is the main implementing organisation.

Inis Oírr - A History Written in Stone

In this short film Inis Oírr native Cathleen Ní Chonghaile will bring us on journey of discovery.

Thursday Talk

6.00^{pm} - 6.30^{pm}

Twenty Years A-Growing. Revealing Féile na gCloch one drawing at a time

By James Moore - Visual Arts Practitioner and Drawing Instructor Jessica Peel-Yates - Visual Arts Practitioner and Word Smith.

Thursday Music

6.30^{pm} - 7.00^{pm}

Music Session

Featuring Dimitris Kourtikakis and rebecca lynn sprague.

Exhibition | An Halla, Inis Oírr

'Hands Across Europe ~ Lámha Trasna na hEorpa'

Music Throughout Féile na gCloch 2026

Thursday 10 September

6.00pm | An Halla, Inis Oírr

Shared Stones, Shared Stories: Féile na gCloch Welcome Gathering
An informal evening of welcome, conversation and music featuring Dimitris Kourtikakis and rebecca lynn Sprague.

Friday 11 September

6.00pm | An Halla, Inis Oírr

Official Reception and Festival Opening
Musical performances by Dimitris Kourtikakis and rebecca lynn sprague and celebrating international friendship, creativity and cultural exchange.

Saturday 12 September

9.00pm - 10.00pm
Áras Éanna, Inis Oírr

Featuring Dimitris Kourtikakis, rebecca lynn Sprague and musicians from Inis Oírr.
Enjoy an evening of traditional and contemporary music in the unique setting of Áras Éanna.

Admission Free.

Comhar Caomhán Teo



Friday 11th

6.00^{pm} - 7.30^{pm} | An Halla, Inis Oírr

6:00^{pm}

Reception hosted by Galway County Council and Comhar Caomhán Teo

Official welcome by Cathaoirleach Councillor Andrew Reddington.

6.15^{pm} - 6.45^{pm}

Talk: Echoes of Stone: Co-creating Dry Stone Heritage Across Europe

by Julia Bakota Švencbir

4 GRADA Dragodid, Croatia

This talk explores the growing landscape of international cooperation in dry stone heritage, showcasing projects, networks, and funding opportunities that support the safeguarding of traditional building knowledge. Using “ECHOES - Enhancing Cultural Heritage Skills Across Europe” project as a central example, it examines how international partnerships can move beyond the individual efforts towards the co-creation of educational and community-based activities. By jointly designing and adapting hands-on workshops, festivals, summer schools, volunteer actions, and other participatory formats, partners combine different skills, traditions, and local practices to create more meaningful heritage programmes.

6.45^{pm} - 7.15^{pm}

Talk: Work in Progress - Stories About Low Waste and the Impact-Compensation Balance

by Helmut Schieder

The Wandelgarten (Garden of Change) at the Langenlois Horticultural School is a model project for sustainable greening in the face of climate change. This presentation explores how low-waste design, biodiversity-focused planting, and resource-conscious management can create resilient and attractive landscapes. As an evolving educational space, the garden demonstrates the ongoing challenge of balancing environmental impact with ecological benefits, offering practical insights into sustainable horticulture and climate adaptation.

7.15^{pm} - 7.30^{pm}

Music Session

Featuring Dimitris Kourtikakis and rebecca lynn sprague. Celebrating international friendship, creativity and cultural exchange.



Saturday 12th

12.30^{pm} - 10.00^{pm}

An Halla, Inis Oírr

12.30^{pm} - 1.30^{pm}

Talk: Gobnait and Beekeeping in Ancient Ireland

by Shane Lehane, Folklorist and Beekeeper
Dedicated to embracing Ireland's vernacular traditions, Shane took up beekeeping some twenty years ago, apprenticing himself to his mentor, the celebrated beekeeper Noel Power. While amassing practical knowledge and skill in this ancient craft – although he claims to be a very bad beekeeper! – he has combined this with his research into the mythology, folklore and history of honeybees in Ireland. His recent publication 'Beekeeping and Honey in Ancient Ireland' in Irish Food History: A Companion (2024, Royal Irish Academy) captures the great wonder and sensuality of this complicated craft. Central to the mythology of beekeeping is the female figure of Gobnait, who according to her popular hagiography spent her early years on Inis Oírr before she went on a walkabout and settled at Gortnatubrid in Baile Bhúirne, Co. Cork. Gobnait's feast day is the 11th February, placing her, along with her fellow female deity Brigid, at the very beginning of rebirth in the annual cycle of fertility. Shane's lavishly illustrated lecture on beekeeping, honey and its wondrous female champion, Gobnait, promises to bring new insights to all who are interested in the natural world and the way we perceive and interact with it.

2.30^{pm} - 3.00^{pm}

Talk: Handcrafted Landscapes & Collective Memory: Shared Stories from Past to Present for a Regenerative Future

by Ioanna Ntoutsis
The talk will present the multifaceted approach of the Boulouki collective from Greece to the study and revaluation of traditional building knowledge and will demonstrate how this knowledge can be applied to the design of a sustainable future for the built environment and beyond. Drawing on experience gained in mountainous and insular communities, the talk will explore the deep interconnection between people and landscape, the tacit knowledge and community memories archived in vernacular architecture and landscape features. It will also present the collective's hands-on training and other educational activities with craftspeople, volunteers, and local communities.

3.00^{pm} - 3.30^{pm}

Talk: Dry Stone Heritage in Croatia: Linking Islands & Rural Communities

by ANA JADRIJEVIĆ
Croatia's dry stone landscapes reflect a history of knowledge, cooperation, and adaptation to place. This presentation introduces the work of 4 GRADA DRAGODID, a civil society organisation dedicated to safeguarding dry stone heritage through hands-on restoration workshops, education, documentation, and community engagement. By bringing together volunteers, local communities, craftspeople, and heritage professionals, Dragodid strengthens connections between islands and rural regions while ensuring that traditional building skills remain a living part of contemporary cultural life.

4.00^{pm} - 4.30^{pm}

Talk: Crafting Continuity

by Ross Gavigan, The Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland
Focusing on the transmission of traditional building skills such as dry-stone walling, stone carving, and lime work, this talk explores the vital role of learning by doing in safeguarding our built heritage. Through hands-on workshops, practical demonstrations, and the sharing of knowledge from experienced craftspeople, these skills continue to be passed from one generation to the next. Drawing on the work of the Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland (DSWAI), Ross will highlight how the organisation promotes the conservation of traditional craft skills. The talk will examine how practical, skills-based learning supports the maintenance of our dry stone heritage and strengthens connections between people, place, and cultural heritage. Ross will also explore the importance of documenting heritage practices—from recording traditional construction techniques and capturing local knowledge to mapping historic landscapes and developing accessible archives. This process of documentation complements hands-on training, creating a lasting record that supports intergenerational knowledge transfer, informs conservation practice, and helps ensure these invaluable traditions are preserved for the future.

9.00^{pm} - 10.00^{pm}

Music Session | Áras Éanna, Inis Oírr

Featuring Dimitris Kourtikakis, Rebecca Lynn Sprague and musicians from Inis Oírr. Enjoy an evening of traditional and contemporary music in the unique setting of Áras Éanna.

Admission Free.

Comhar Caomhán Teo



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Dry Stone Wall Building

Friday 11th September (9.00am - 4pm)

Saturday 12th September (9.00am - 4pm)

Sunday 13th September (9.00am - 12.30pm)

Friday 11th September

9.00am ~ 9:30am | Onsite

Brief Pre-workshop Walling Instruction and Demonstration followed by Toolbox Talk

The workshop will include the building of a unique Aran Islands dry stone wall.

The range and intensity of dry stone wall types and styles on the Aran Islands is probably unparalleled with anywhere else in the world.

This workshop will suit both experienced dry stone wallers and learners.

Important notice: Steel toe cap footwear and protective gloves are mandatory.

Please bring suitable outdoor clothing as the weather can be unpredictable.

It is recommended that attendees bring their own walling hammer or a 1.5kg or 2kg lump hammer.



Stone Carving & Letter Carving Workshops

‘Celebrating Life’s Journey’

Stone has long been used to tell stories, mark moments, and express creativity. In this workshop, participants are invited to slow down, look closely at their surroundings, and explore ideas inspired by the unique landscape of Inis Oírr.

Guided by experienced tutors and working alongside fellow participants, you will have the opportunity to reflect on your own journey and create a personal piece to take home. Drawing on the materials, stories, and atmosphere of this special place, the workshop offers a space for reflection, discovery, and making.

Celebrate the journey. Let your story take shape in stone.

Which Workshop Should I Choose?

Choosing between the workshops can be difficult, and that’s perfectly okay. If you’re unsure which direction to take, we encourage you to decide on the day. Once you’ve seen the demonstrations, handled the tools, and carved your first line in stone, the right choice often becomes clear.

Bring along ideas that inspire you, or simply allow the landscape, atmosphere, and experience of Inis Oírr to spark your creativity.

Both workshops are suitable for beginners as well as those with some carving experience. Whether you’re trying stone carving for the first time or looking to develop existing skills, you’ll find expert guidance, encouragement, and a welcoming atmosphere of creativity, camaraderie, and fun.



Preparing for Your Workshop

Arrive early to choose your stone in consultation with your instructor, sketch your ideas, and settle into your carving space. Limestone and slate in a variety of shapes and sizes will be available, from larger pieces for 3D carving to flat slabs suitable for letter cutting and relief work.

To make the most of your weekend, come prepared with ideas, sketches, reference images, or small models. Printed references are strongly recommended, as workshop conditions can make using phones impractical.

If you plan to take your finished stone home, please consider transport arrangements in advance, particularly if travelling by ferry. Bringing a handcart, trolley, or wheeled stone sled will make departure much easier.

Stone Carving

Friday 11th September (9.00am - 4.00pm)

Saturday 12th September (9.00am - 4.00pm)

Sunday 13th September (9.00am - 1.00pm)

Relief carving: This will be fun and is the easiest carving technique to master. Low relief carving with textured backgrounds. Designs can be carved on a panel or a small block of stone. Inspiration will be taken from being on the island, sea or nature. Create a beautiful carved object as a lasting memento.

Carving in the round: A stone bowl scooped out and rounded and if time allows it can be decorated with relief carving or lettering. Or a simple abstract animal form should be possible to make over the weekend and if not completed it will be well on the way and can be finished at home later.

The above are suggestions but if you have an idea in mind do bring it along for consideration. The most important thing to learn will be the techniques, these skills will last a lifetime.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS TO BRING

Tools can also be purchased from R J GOUGH'S onsite shop.

Essential PPE: Safety boots/shoes. Comfortable work clothes. Pencils, sharpener, ruler . Dummy hammer 600grm, lump hammer 1000grm, steel or tungsten carbide point ½" or 5/8" Guillet Fort tungsten carbide carving chisels 4mm, 8mm, 12mm, claw chisel 20mm, tungsten carbide scriber.

Estimated cost of tools: 175 euo. A limited number of tools will be available on loan for the workshop.

Stone for your project is included in your course fee. A selection of stone types and sizes will be available to choose from.

Note: Participants are responsible for the transport of their personal project after the workshop. There are weight limits to luggage and parcels on flights with Aer Arann.



Letter Carving

Friday 11th September (9.00am - 4.00pm)

Saturday 12th September (9.00am - 4.00pm)

Sunday 13th September (9.00am - 1.00pm)

This workshop invites you to make your mark by exploring the medium of the carved letterform. You will be guided through the basics of drawing letterforms, layout design, lettercutting techniques, and the use and care of chisels. It is suggested, though by no means necessary, that you have a small project in mind before coming on workshop. Often best results are achieved with a specific goal in mind.

RECOMMENDED TOOLS TO BRING

Tools can also be purchased from R J GOUGH'S onsite shop.

Essential PPE: Safety boots/shoes. Comfortable work clothes. Pencils, sharpener, ruler . Lettercarving: Dummy hammer 600grm, Guillet Europ lettering chisels 4mm, 6mm & 8mm.

Estimated cost of tools: 110 euro. A limited number of tools will be available on loan for the workshop.

Stone for your project is included in your course fee. A selection of stone types and sizes will be available to choose from.

Note: Participants are responsible for the transport of their personal project after the workshop. There are weight limits to luggage and parcels on flights with Aer Arann.



Workshop

On Location Sketch Outs Drawing Together

Thursday 10th | 3pm - 5pm

Sketching at Cnoc Raithní the bronze age monument. (Meet at monument).

Friday 11th | 9am

An Halla - orientation workshop with tips & techniques.

Friday 11th | 9.30am

Minibus to location.

Friday 11th | 10am - 1pm

Sketching at The *Plassey* shipwreck.

Friday 11th | 1.30pm - 4pm

Sketching at harbour and beach
(Meet outside Una's café).

Saturday 12th | 9am

An Halla - orientation workshop with tips & techniques.

Saturday 12th | 9.30am

9.30am walk to O'Brien's Castle.

Saturday 12th | 10am - 1pm

Sketching at O'Brien's Castle.

Saturday 12th | 2pm - 4pm

Join a sketch out to capture the creation of a drystone wall.

Sunday 13th | 9.30am

An Halla - orientation workshop with tips & techniques.

Sunday 13th | 10am - 1pm

Sketching at Teampall Caomhán.

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Spend three days exploring Inis Oírr through sketching. Capture the magic scenery and culture of the smallest of the Aran Islands in your artists's notebook. Experience this intimate island through drawing her castles, shipwrecks, churches, seascapes and iconic drystone walls.

- Through on location sketch outs you will discover the rugged beauty of this jewel in the Atlantic. Enjoy the creative camaraderie over the weekend.
 - This long weekend is for the self-motivated sketcher who wants to enjoy a fun and sociable time drawing on location in an ancient landscape. All levels of experience welcome.
 - Lectures on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings by stone masons, stone carvers, enhance your experience and understanding of the island and the festival.
 - Each day starts with a 30 minutes workshop with tips and inspiration from experienced sketchers.
 - Leave the island with a sketchbook full of memories.
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What to Bring

Definitely sketchbooks, drawing pencils, pens, pencil sharpener, eraser. Perhaps loose leaf pages, watercolours, paint brushes, easel, colour pencils, oil pastels, or whichever medium / mediums you like to draw with.

This is an outdoor event. Irish weather is famous for offering 4 seasons in one day. Make sure to bring warm clothes, sturdy shoes and good rain gear. Inis Oírr has a lovely beach, so pack your bathers if you want to take the plunge. Be prepared to walk around 4km a day between sketch locations and the pubs.



Lime Mortar Demonstrations

with Eoin Madigan

Friday 11th September (9.30am - 1.30pm)

Comhar Caomhán Teo, Inis Oírr, Galway H91 D27X

Come and learn about the full pallet of lime mortars available for the use in conserving our built heritage.

Demonstrations will be delivered by Eóin Madigan who's is a sixth generation Mason and who specialises in the use of historic mortars. Boulouki is a collective dedicated to preserving and sharing traditional building crafts through educational and participatory projects inspired by the historic travelling stone-building teams of Greece.

Spaces are limited to 10 people.



Biographies



Marie Mannion



Marie was Galway County Council's first ever Heritage Officer and took up that position in 2000. Prior to this she lectured in Heritage Studies in Atlantic Technological Institute, Galway and was Manager of Galway West Genealogy Centre. She holds an MA in Geography and H Dip in

Education from the University of Galway as well as other related qualifications.

Marie works extensively with the heritage communities of County Galway in achieving their heritage objectives and delivering actions in Galway County Heritage and Biodiversity Plan.

Marie is a founding member of Féile na gCloch. Marie is also a member of Ireland's National Expert Advisory Committee on Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Paddy Crowe



Paddy Crowe is a former manager of Inis Oírr's Community development Cooperative, Comhar Chaomhán. Paddy is a founding member of Féile na gCloch, which was established in 2005. Prior to his role as manager of Comhar Chaomhán, Paddy was a skipper (ferry captain). Paddy is a pro-active

member of the local community, and continues to serve on community boards. In his spare time, Paddy enjoys photography and has a keen interest in nature and the environment, working closely with agencies such as the IWDG.

Tom Little



Tom Little comes from a family tradition of working stone going back generations. He considers his father, stonecutter Ted Little and sculptor/lettering artist Michael Biggs important early influences. Exploring the possibilities of material and letterform,

he works as a stonecarver, lettering artist, drystone waller, product designer and trainer.

Tom Little has completed commissions for public and private clients and exhibited widely. He has designed and created a successful product range of lettering pieces for Wild Goose Studio. He was a craft judge for the annual RDS Craft Competition 2012-2014.

Since 1992, Tom Little has designed and run courses in stonecutting, stone carving and drystone wall construction, for Kerry Education & Training Board with many of his students going on to make successful careers in stone working.

Currently he is delivering the national Stonecutting and Stonemasonry Apprenticeship training programme.

Antoine Coisdealbha



A native of Inis Oírr, Antoine Coisdealbha concluded his tenure as Bainisteoir of Comhar Caomhán Teo in July 2026. Deeply rooted in island life, Antoine brought a wealth of experience to the role, combining a lifelong connection to Inis Oírr with a distinguished maritime career.

A graduate of Munster Technological University, Cork, with a First-Class Honours Degree in Nautical Science, Antoine served as a marine pilot in both the Port of London and the Port of Galway before returning to contribute to the future of his home island.

Antoine wishes to express his sincere thanks to the people of Inis Oírr, Áras Éanna, CLÉAS, Galway County Council, festival supporters, volunteers and collaborators for their dedication, friendship and support.

Comhar Caomhán Teo



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Biographies



Eddie Farrelly

Eddie Farrelly is a traditional dry stone waller/stone mason from Co Cavan, now based in Dublin. He is a long-serving member of the Dry Stone Wall Association of Ireland. He instructs at dry stone workshops throughout Ireland and abroad.

Eddie has been a constant participant at Féile na gCloch since 2006.

The scenic beauty of the well-maintained dry stone farm walls, stone faced earth ditches and stone buildings which enhanced his childhood landscape instilled in him a passion for the promotion, protection and conservation of Ireland's dry stone heritage. He has a keen interest in the underrated benefits of dry stone wall habitats and the ecological value that they represent.

While respecting the ancestral traditions of the artisans of our dry stone heritage, he takes particular pleasure in sharing knowledge and skills at community workshops so that the craft may be safeguarded into the future. He attributes most of his learned skills to his inspirational mentor, Master Stone Mason and Author, Patrick McAfee.

Eddie was awarded a BSc Degree in Applied Conservation Skills from SETU Waterford, a National Crafts Certificate in Metal Fabrication from TU Dublin and he holds a Stonescaping Certificate.

He has extensive experience in working with traditional lime mortars, earth mortars and cob for the conservation and restoration of historic buildings and structures and he enjoys demonstrating how to cook limestone for the production of traditional quicklime.



Fergus Packman

Fergus is a Dry stone waller from Connemara, Ireland. Trained with the National Trust on the Ysbyty estate in Snowdonia, North Wales. Now based in Connemara working with the local granites and limestone of the area.



Alexandra Morosco

Sculptor of stone and bronze, Alexandra is honored to return to Inis Oírr to mentor in the carving portion of the Féile, a love affair she has had since 2012 when she first came to the event! Alexandra has worked as a sculptor professionally in the U.S. for 35 years,

predominantly as a figurative carver. Her focus in recent years has been on memorials and what she calls legacy sculptures, much inspired by creating the Fishermans Memorial on Inis Oírr in 2013. Creating a Legacy Sculpture together with her clients is a creative process attained through the art of remembering. In a crucible of trust, vision comes through deep listening and applied intuition. Through this model she connects fine art and the healing arts in a most extraordinary fashion, with the outcome of a sculpture that can be placed in the home, garden or cemetery as desired. She additionally creates works for her own portfolio available for sale at her studio or galleries. She lives on a forested island north of Seattle and works at a vibrant studio composed of 12 artists who predominately work in stone, where she finds camaraderie and the shared resources of stone, tools & forklifts to be of utmost value!



David Curtin

David Curtin is a Lahinch based stone cutter, stone carver and dry stone waller. He completed his apprenticeship under the guidance of Tom Little between 2018 and 2022. He was first driven towards stone when living in Australia where he travelled the country

building walking and biking tracks, dry stone bridges, paths and more! As a professional mason, he has explored the world of conservation Masonry and lime mortar practices with a focus on maintaining Irelands ancient and historical buildings. David has also been involved with SPAB Ireland helping to spread awareness on how to maintain and protect Irelands built heritage. He is thrilled to be back again teaching at Féile na gCloch on Inis Oírr.

Biographies



Eoin Madigan

Eóin Madigan is a sixth generation Stone Mason and lime practitioner from the Burren region of Co. Clare. His Family has a long tradition of working with stone that stretches back at least 200 years that they know of. It is said they followed the Church

building from the East to the West Coast of Ireland. They then settled in a small town called Kilfanora where they set up their workshop making headstones and architectural pieces on request. Eoin is passionate about conserving our built heritage and in particular the mortars used to build them. In 2005 he completed a nine-month dry stone walling and stone cutting course run by master craftsman Tom Little in Tralee Co. Kerry. From there he became an active member of The Buildings limes forum Ireland and again, under the guidance of master craftsman Pat McAfee he gained his knowledge and love for historic mortars.



Cáite Fealty

Cáite is from Fanad Peninsula, Co. Donegal. She is a third generation Stonemason. Cáite completed a Dry Stone Wall FETAC course in 2013 and Train the Trainer course in 2024. While she works part-time with stone she also works as a Tour

Guide at Fanad Head Lighthouse. Cáite has a passion for Dry Stone Walling. It's such an ancient craft and she believe its important to keep it alive. Cáite has been running a Dry Stone Wall Workshop in her community over the last three years, teaching and passing-on this tradition to locals, visitors and the next generation.



Jason Morris

Jason Morris is a stonecutter and sculptor based in Curracloe, Co. Wexford. He began working with stone in 2003, learning the craft with a well-known stonecutting family in Wexford. In 2008, he enrolled at University College Dublin, where he

earned an Honours Degree in Archaeology, specialising in medieval Irish and European architecture.

In 2014, Jason commenced a five-year apprenticeship in stonecutting and stonemasonry under the guidance of master craftsman Tom Little, further developing his skills in traditional building and carving techniques. Jason has worked on a number of significant heritage projects in the south-east of Ireland and is employed by the National Monuments Service. In 2022, he took a career break to focus on his young family and to pursue his own stone carving and sculptural practice.

Since then, he has continued to refine his craft, including participating in an intensive stone-carving workshop in Carrara, Italy, renowned worldwide for its marble and sculptural traditions. His work has been exhibited at Sculpture in Context, Bloom, and the Wexford Opera Festival, and can regularly be seen in Wexford galleries, including Green Acres Gallery and Pigyard Gallery.

Biographies



Aileen Anne Brannigan

Aileen Anne Brannigan, Stone Carver and Letter Carver, is a native of Kilkenny city where she lives and has her studio workshop.

Her stone working career began in 1982 with a four-year apprenticeship as a stonecutter after which she went on to study Letter Carving in the UK. Practical experience was gained working in Quarry workshops, Stone Yards and Marble works, and as assistant to sculptors and letter carvers. Her creative work will mostly include abstract animal sculpture and hand carved lettering.

Commissioned work to date includes, Celtic crosses, Per Cent for Art commissions and public and private memorials.

Aileen Anne has been involved in the creation of several high-profile monuments; A Celtic cross for Quebec City to honour the people of Quebec for their care of the Irish Famine Victims, and in Glasnevin Cemetery Dublin, Aileen Anne was involved in the creation of The National Famine Memorial, The France Ireland Memorial and The Civil War Monument which was commissioned by the Department of Defence in 2023.

Aileen Anne teaches stone carving part time in Cuan Mhuire Addiction Recovery Centre Athy, Co. Kildare. This is Aileen Annes fourth time to teach at Féile na gCloch on Inisheer.



James Moore

Through his teaching, James inspires people to draw and express themselves creatively. He is an experienced instructor, having lead drawing and creative workshops in Brazil, Austria, France and across Ireland. An artist's residence at Aras Éanna in 2017 reinforced James's love of the Aran Island landscape, including the stone built environment. James loves to share effective and efficient tips and techniques to help develop more dynamic and thoughtful drawings. James studied fine art at IADT Dun Laoghaire and Limerick School of Art and Design.

Helmut Schieder | Austria



Helmut Schieder is a landscape gardener who lives with his family in Austria.

He loves working with nature. He is fascinated by stones and plants and likes to work with people. He went to the horticultural school 'Gartenbauschule', Langenlois. He works with apprentices in

various horticultural practices.

He has worked with natural stones in garden design for a long number of years and with the actual dry stone walls for the past 10 Years. He has been totally consumed with dry stone walls ever since.

One of his most wonderful discoveries by practicing this ancient craft was to get to know so many wonderful stone wallers.

Biographies

Michael McGroarty



Michael McGroarty is third generation Stone Mason and Monumental Sculptor in his native Mountcharles, Co. Donegal, living there with his wife Mairead and 3 children. Michael is recognised for his quality workmanship and highest standards in all kinds of stone work and is highly regarded in the

industry by Dry Stone Wall enthusiasts. Michael is involved in the production and installation of headstones in County Donegal and all surrounding counties, and is most especially well known for his craftsmanship in producing unique and exceptional headstones from local sandstone and one of only a few nowadays able to undertake the craft of lead lettering.

Other fine examples of Michael's work in Co. Donegal are Donegal County Council Public Art projects including Standing Stones Monument 2001 – 3.2m in height made from Mountcharles Sandstone, the standing stones are a reinterpretation of the idea of an enclosure of stones seen in stone forts, clustered towards the centre and radiating outwards.

Another of note is The Map Wall, Barnesmore Gap, again 2001 and a DCC PA project consisting of 8 panels of Mountcharles Sandstone showing Co. Donegal and all place names of the John O'Donovan County Survey of 1893. Other recent works of note include conservation and restoration work of listed Pier Walls and steps at Ramelton Quay wall, Moville Pier, Mountcharles Pier, and Creevy Pier Ballyshannon. Furthermore and of note is conservation work of Ecclesiastical buildings including Church of Ireland Donegal, and currently consolidation of stone work of Old Kilbarron Church, also Ballyshannon.

Michael has been a member of Tirconail Dry Stone Wall Association and for over a decade a friend to many of the DSW groups throughout the country. With preservation of our Irish landscape at heart Michael is a regular at DSW events helping to promote and preserve our dry stone wall heritage for future generations through facilitation of workshops and stone wall building at the many DSW festivals across Ireland, passing on his experience, learnings and skill-set to DSW enthusiast, Ireland and beyond. This year Michael – being recognised for his excellent craftsmanship – was kindly invited by our DSW colleagues in Austria to show and share his skill set and knowledge there to European, Asian and American students.

Duje Mikelić



Duje Mikelić, Dragodid association

PDuje Mikelić is dry stone waller from Split, Croatia with a specialization in spatial planning and dry stone structure heritage. Passionate about promoting the heritage of dry stone and teaching building techniques throughout

the Mediterranean and broader. An active member of 4 GRADA DRAGODID association, having led more than fifty workshops across Croatia and Europe over the past four years. Runs an independent craft business focused on landscape research and maintenance. Currently dedicated to mastering the skills of building complex dry stone structures such as shepherds' cottages, wells, and ponds.

CVJETKO BURATOVIĆ



Cvjetko Buratović is a master craftsman and stone mason based in Stari Grad on the island of Hvar, Croatia. For more than 25 years, Buratović has dedicated his life to the preservation, construction, and restoration of suhozid – the ancient art of dry stone walling. Operating through his specialized

traditional service craft, Kontin, Buratović stands as one of the very last authentic practitioners of this historic trade. In a landscape increasingly dominated by modern construction materials, he frequently warns that the human knowledge behind these historic structures is on the verge of extinction. Today, it is estimated that only seven to eight active true dry stone masters remain on the entire island of Hvar. To combat this loss of heritage, Buratović collaborates with conservation organizations like association 4 GRADA DRAGODID. Through active building, public advocacy, and documentation on the national Suhozid.hr database, he ensures that the stunning “stone lace” patterns defining the Dalmatian landscape are preserved. His ongoing work honors the immense physical labor of ancestral Mediterranean farmers and keeps a vital, eco-friendly architectural tradition alive for future generations.

Biographies

Shane Lehane



Shane Lehane has been an influential educator and lecturer in Folklore, Archaeology, History and the Arts for over 35 years. He is Course Director of Cultural and Heritage Studies in Cork College of FET, Tramore Road Campus, whilst also teaching in the Department of Folklore & Ethnology, University College, Cork. In addition to working in archaeology, he

taught for many years in the Department of Celtic Civilisation, UCC.

Shane is noted for delivering dynamic, illustrated and entertaining lectures in Irish folklore. He specialises in Irish folk custom, tradition and belief, illuminating how these colour and identify the festivals of the calendar year and the human life cycle. Equally, he is passionate about folklife and celebrates the details of vernacular architecture, furniture, food and the objects of everyday life.

Shane recently published a comprehensive new book, *Old Ways to New Days: The Folklore, Traditions and everyday Objects that Shaped Ireland* (Hachette Ireland) which has sold over 10,000 copies. This entertaining and hugely accessible book deals with the folk traditions and customs associated with the human life cycle including birth, marriage and death. In addition, it explores the major cultural influences such as bicycles, newspapers, radio and television that brought Ireland from an almost medieval past to where it is today. Full of anecdote and personal stories along with in-depth scholarly research, this is a book for everyone.

Shane is a regular guest on many television and radio programmes where he speaks about different aspects of Irish folk tradition and heritage. For over seven years, he has been the resident folklorist and very popular contributor to RTÉ's 'The Today Show' with Maura and Dáithí, drawing attention to forgotten elements of Irish folk custom and social history. Over many years Shane has shared fascinating detail on both the familiar and exotic, regaling the many viewers with what he likes to call his 'wise and otherwise'.

Shane enjoys living in the countryside with his partner Máire and is a keen gardener. When not preoccupied with his studies, he can be found in his glasshouse, growing unusual varieties of tomato plants from seed. Otherwise, he will be found attending to the needs of his beloved bees in his nearby apiary. He enjoys working with his hands and is constantly involved in rewarding projects, making items of vernacular furniture, fermenting cider, or building a traditional currach.

Jessica Peel-Yates



Jessica has been nurturing and exploring creative community through visual story telling and drawing for nearly 20 years. She loves joining the dots between

people, processes, words and images. And if some wit can be found along the way, so much the better. Influenced by the street jazz culture of 1920's New York, with its atmosphere of improvisation, rule breaking and respect, Jessica seeks life's rhythmic syncopations.

Ross Gavigan



Ross Gavigan is a hobbyist stone carver with a background in the social sciences and anthropology. These interests have led him to his interest all things crafted, and those

communities that form around making, creativity, and traditional skills.

This is his fourth year attending Féile na gCloch and volunteering with the DSWAI. Ross combines his passion for handcraft and creativity with his love of communities and how they perpetuate and make meaning through preserving traditions of craft and continuance.

Biographies



Ioanna Ntoutsis

Ioanna Ntoutsis is a chemical engineer, specialised in architectural heritage materials characterisation and conservation, at the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA). She has research experience in various NTUA projects on architectural heritage as well as professional experience in industries of minerals processing and lime production. She is a core member of 'Boulouki Itinerant Workshop on traditional building crafts' since 2021 and specialises in the design and implementation of various research and educational projects.

Ioanna's particular interest regards the heritage of lime-based building materials and the design of new ones for restoration works or new construction projects. Ioanna will participate in the lime mortars workshop and drystone wall activities of the Festival.

PRESENTERS



Ana Jadrijević

Ana Jadrijević leads educational programmes and community projects on dry stone heritage at the Croatian 4 GRADA DRAGODID association. She has led numerous dry stone workshops across Croatia and internationally, working with volunteers, local communities, and diverse participant groups. She runs her own business creating sustainable tourism experiences inspired by dry stone landscapes and traditional building practices. In 2023, she contributed to an inclusive dry stone education project involving people with intellectual disabilities. She holds a degree in Croatian Language and Literature and Phonetics from the University of Zagreb and completed both the Croatian Training for Educational Workshop Leaders in Dry Stone Construction and the international Heritage Volunteer Leaders Training (2024).



Julia Bakota Švencbir

Julia Bakota Švencbir, M.Sc. in Agricultural Engineering, is the coordinator of 4 GRADA DRAGODID, a Croatian civil society organisation dedicated to dry stone heritage.

For the past nine years, she has been developing and coordinating educational programmes, volunteer activities and international cooperation projects related to dry stone heritage. Her work focuses on bringing together practitioners, researchers, heritage professionals, volunteers and local communities to exchange knowledge and practices.

Julia co-authored the curriculum for the Croatian Training for leaders of educational dry stone workshops and coordinates DRAGODID's volunteer programme for the conservation and restoration of dry stone heritage in Croatia. Julia is a member of the editorial boards of dragodid.org and the suhozid.hr heritage geoportal. Alongside program coordination, she regularly takes part in practical dry stone workshops and restoration activities.

Biographies

VIDEOGRAPHERS



Ira Tomić

Ira Tomić (b. 1990, Rijeka, Croatia) grew up in Upper Austria and graduated in Photography and Video Art in Vienna in 2012.

John Kardum

John Kardum (b. 1986, Rijeka, Croatia) moved to Vienna in 2010, where he graduated in Photography and Video Art in 2014.

Since 2010, the duo has been based between Rijeka, Zagreb, and Vienna, while collaborating on artistic and commercial projects internationally. Their multidisciplinary practice spans photography, moving image, installation, experimental cinema, and commercial production. Their work has been presented through solo and group exhibitions, including at Kunsthalle Wien, Wiener Video- und Filmtage, and KIC Zagreb.

Their films include 'Balkanizacija', 'Everyday Toon About Golden Bird and Abnormal Goon', 'Helium Boy', and the experimental film 'Spiritual Market', which has screened more than forty times across Croatia, Austria, and Slovenia. They also served as Directors of Photography on the feature film 'Ovdje to ne želim, tamo to ne mogu' (BAKA/Film Aktiv Production, ongoing project).

Alongside their artistic practice, Ira & John have directed more than 100 music videos for established and emerging artists across Croatia and the wider region, as well as commercial campaigns for international brands. Their work has also included collaborations with clients and productions across Europe and has been featured at the Croatian Days of Film and Sarajevo Photography Festival (among others).

Comhar Caomhán Teo



Biographies



Dimitris Kourtikakis

Dimitris Kourtikakis is a musician from Heraklion, Crete, who now lives on the island of Tinos in the Aegean Sea. His musical journey began at a young age with the study of piano and music theory before moving on to the electric guitar. He was a founding member, singer and guitarist of the neo-psychedelic rock band Circassian, performing with the group for 11 years. During that time, the band released two albums and several EPs, and toured extensively throughout Greece and the Balkans.

In recent years, Dimitris has reconnected with his Cretan roots, embracing the traditional Cretan lute and developing a distinctive solo career. Over the past two years, he has released two singles and an EP, culminating in his debut solo album, *Agiuto* (2026). Meaning “help” in the Tinian dialect, the album marks a new musical direction, blending traditional influences with contemporary composition. Featuring polyphonic vocals, clarinet, piano, Cretan lyra and lute, *Agiuto* reflects Dimitris’s deep connection to the musical traditions of Crete and the Aegean while bringing them to new audiences.



rebecca lynn sprague

rebecca lynn sprague is an emerging indie-folk inspired musician based in Vienna, Austria and born in Rhode Island, U.S.A. Her music is tenderly dominated by a crystal-clear head voice, textured by an impassioned vibrato. Sprague grew up scampering across stones in Karin Sprague’s stone cutting memorial shop in Rhode Island where music, poetry and stone were staples of young life.

On Inis Oírr rebecca will be reconnecting to stone, stoney souls and the graphic Aran landscape by day and bringing joy to our evening programmes accompanied by her signature western guitar.

#swampgenie_infokanal

Photo credit: Jakob Sohm.

Comhar Caomhán Teo



Inis Oírr Beo



Inis Oírr
Beo

Visiting Inis Oírr, download our app
for the latest island information

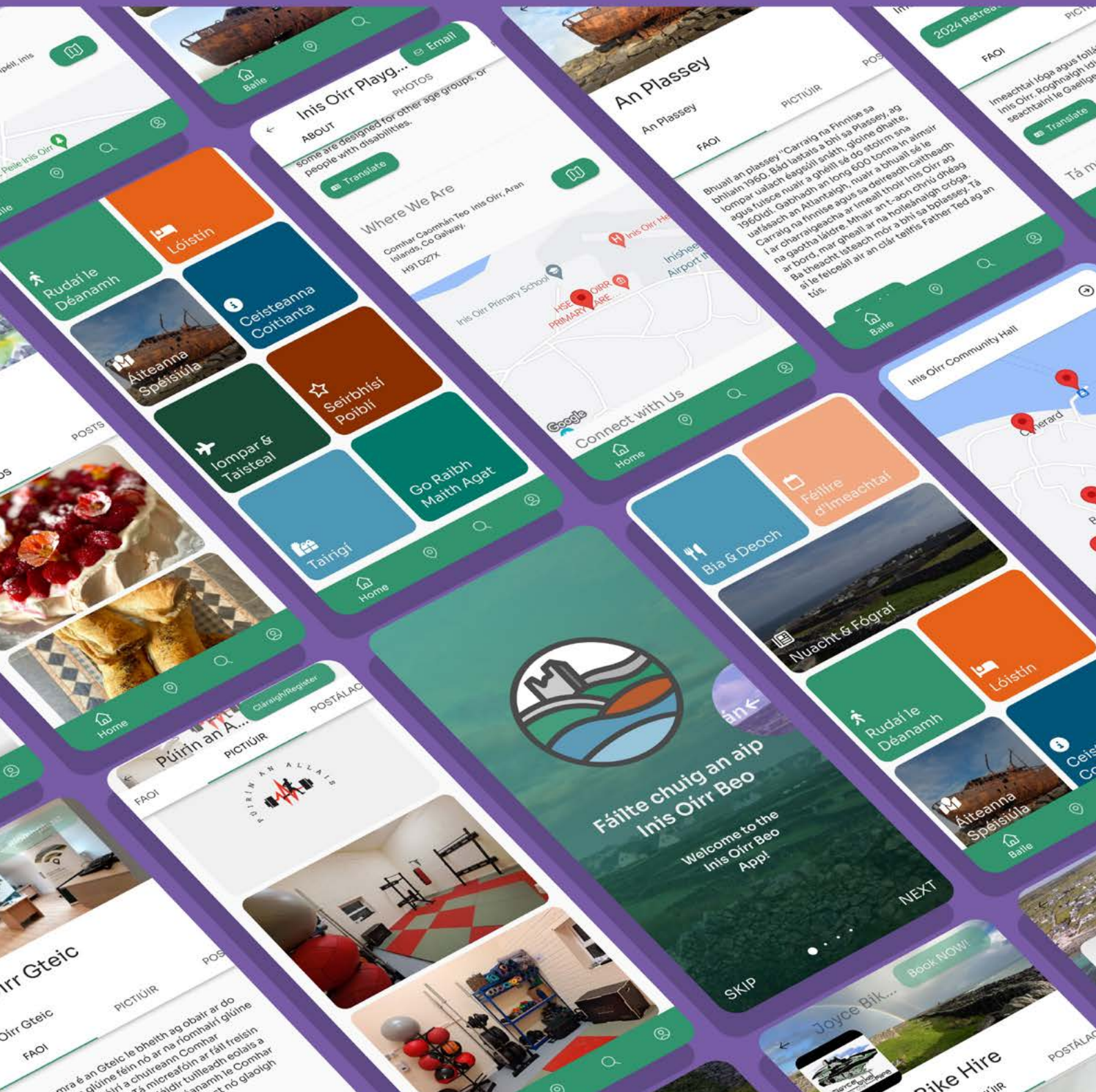


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App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

inisoirrbeo.com



Recommendations & Advice for All Participants

It is recommended that Course Participants are suitably dressed for the workshop and wear steel toe-capped boots, sturdy shoes or walking boots, work gloves and dress for the weather. Sketchers should bring walking boots or shoes, warm clothes and rain gear.

Transport to Inis Oírr

Workshop participants must book their own travel to Inis Oírr. There are ferry services operating from Rossaveel, Co Galway and Doolin in Co Clare.

Ferries

There is a bus from galway city to ros a mhíl leaves at 4:45pm for 6:30pm ferry. The following are the ferry contact details:

Aran Island Ferries, Rossaveel

Phone: +353(0)91 568903
www.aranislandferries.com

Doolin Ferry

Phone: +353(0) 65 707 5555
+353 (0)65 707 1710
www.doolinferry.com
Email: info@doolinferry.com
After Hours: Liam @ 087 958 1465

Air Travel

Flights are available to Inis Oírr, from Inverin, Connemara, Co. Galway.

Aer Arann Islands

Phone: +353(0)91 593034
www.aerarannislands.ie

Accommodation

Accommodation can be arranged by calling this number **(083) 085 1695**. Please make your own arrangements for evening meals.

Cafes

Cafe Úna

Tea, coffee and home baking
Phone: (086) 381 3300
Open 9.30am - 4.30pm

Evening Meals

Advance booking is essential. Evening Meals can be booked at the following:

Tigh Ruairí

Phone: +353 (0)99 75002
www.tighruairi.com

Ostán Inis Oírr

Phone: +353 (0)99 75020
www.hotelinisoirr.com

Island Tours

Wanderly Wagon Tours

Phone: Brid Seoighe +353 87 238 2394

Horse and Cart Tours

Trevor McHale
Phone: +353 87 753 1593

Bicycle Hire

Rothai Inis Oírr

Phone: +353 (0)99 75049
or (0)99 75033
rothaiinisoirr@gmail.com | www.rothai-inisoirr.com

Joyce Bike Hire

Joycebikehire.ie
Joycebikehire@gmail.com
Phone: (086) 352 3462

Health

Aran Seaweed Baths and Spa

Phone: +353 (087) 760 0684

Health Centre and Doctor

Phone: +353 (099) 75976
or +353 (087) 098 9998

Aran Acupuncture

Phone: (087) 778 7730

Taxi

Private taxi

7 days a week
Phone +353 (086) 067 8215

Shops & ATM

Siopa XL O' Conghaile

Phone: (099) 75115, only island ATM. Most businesses accept card, but please bring cash as it cannot be guaranteed ATM will always be available with weekend demand.

Shop opening hours:

Monday to Saturday:

9:30am - 5:30pm

Sunday: 9:30am - 2:00pm



Inis Oírr
Beo

Information of Inis Oírr and its services

Contact: Comhar Caomhán Teo, Inis Oírr, Árann, Co. na Gaillimhe.
Phone: +353 (0)99 75008
Mobile: (083) 085 1695
Web: www.discoverinisoirr.com

Comhar Caomhán Teo



Payment & booking your place at Féile na gCloch

Places are limited and must be paid for and booked using the following links...



Stone Wall building Workshop

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/dry-stone-wall-building-workshop-26-tickets-1996974849532?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>



Stone Lettering Workshop

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/letter-carving-workshop-26-tickets-1996973795379?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>



Stone Carving Workshop

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/stone-carving-workshop-26-tickets-1996973460377?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>



On Location Sketch Outs

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/on-location-sketch-outs-26-tickets-1996974906703?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>



Lime Mortar Demonstrations

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/lime-mortar-demonstrations-with-eoin-madigan-and-boulouki-26-tickets-1996975003994?aff=ebdsshcopyurl&utm-campaign=social&utm-content=attendeeshare&utm-medium=discovery&utm-source=cp&utm-term=listing>



Comhar Caomhán Teo



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Festival Photographer
Cormac Coyne



Graphic Design
Damien Goodfellow

Photograph Credits:

Cormac Coyne
Siobhán Ní Dhonncha <https://www.facebook.com/Siobhano5/>
Jessica Peel-Yates
Antoinette Lydon
Emma Laffey
Marie Mannion
ECHOES
DSWAI



Photograph: Cormac Coyne

Enquiries...

Marie Mannion

Heritage Officer
Forward Planning, Áras an Chontae,
Galway County Council, Prospect Hill, Galway
Tel: 00353 91 509198 | 087 908 8387
Email: mmannion@galwaycoco.ie

Comhar Caomhán Teo

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www.discoverinisoirr.com
Facebook / Instagram Comhar Caomhán Inis

Comhar Caomhán Teo



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Galway County Council

Galway County Council is responsible for the administrative area of County Galway, excluding Galway City. The Council is responsible for the planning, design and construction of roads, water supply schemes, drainage facilities, housing, fire stations, libraries and burial grounds. It is the custodian of the environment and through its planning and environment policies seeks to enhance the county while protecting its unique character and atmosphere. It also plays an active role in the development of the county's industrial, business, social, arts, heritage and cultural affairs.

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe

Tá Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe freagrach as ceantar riaracháin Chontae na Gaillimhe, seachas ceantar Chathair na Gaillimhe. Tá an Chomhairle freagrach as pleanáil, dearadh agus tógáil bóithre, scéimeanna soláthar uisce, saoráidí draenála, tithíocht, stáisiúin dóiteáin, leabharlanna agus reiligi. Is caomhnóir an chomhshaoil í an Chomhairle agus déanann sí iarracht, trína polasaithe pleanála agus comhshaoil, feabhas a chur ar an gcontae chomh maith lena thréithe agus a atmaisféar uathúil a chosaint. Tá ról gníomhach aici chomh maith maidir le forbairt gnóthaí tionscail, gnó, sóisialacha, ealaíon, oidhreacht agus cultúir an chontae.

Comhar Caomhán Teo

Is comharchumann forbartha pobail é Comhar Caomhán Teo atá ag feidhmiú ar Inis Oírr ó 1971. Tá ról lárnach ag an gComharchumann i bhforbairt an oileáin ~ idir forbairtí eacnamaíocha, sóisialta agus cultúrtha. Tá ról ceannasaíoch ag Comhar Chaomhán Teo. i gcur chun cinn agus i mbainistiú áiseanna éagsúla ar an oileán. Tá ról láidir stocaireachta ag an gcomharchumann ag plé leis na ranna stáit éagsúla agus feidhmíonn an comharchumann mar bhrúghrúpa agus mar ghuth láidir do mhuintir an oileáin.

Tuilleadh eolais le fáil ar discoverinisoirr.com

Comhar Caomhán Teo

Comhar Caomhán Teo is a community development cooperative operating in Inis Oírr since 1971. It has a central role in the economic, social and cultural development of the island. Comhar Caomhán Teo has a leading role in developing and managing various facilities on the island. It has a vibrant role in dealing with various state departments and the cooperative acts as a voice and lobby group on behalf of the island community.

Further information at discoverinisoirr.com

Comhar Caomhán Teo



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