

# CARLOW WWW.CULTURENIGHT.IE/CARLOW









An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

# ONE NIGHT FOR ALL

- CULTURE NIGHT
- EXPLORE
- FEEL
- CREATE







# FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Culture Night / Oíche Chultúir is brought to you by the Arts Council in partnership with and led by Carlow County Council Arts Service.

It is a national moment, celebrating culture, creativity and the arts and seeks to actively promote the belief that this rich and varied culture is alive, treasured and nurtured in people's lives, today and every day. It is delivered nationwide in cities, towns, villages, and rural locations as well as online and through our media partners.

In County Carlow on Friday September 19th, 2025, doors will open across the county with special and unique events from the afternoon and late into the evening.



Come and join us in celebrating everyone's

individuality through art and entertainment. We have an exciting programme of events organised for connecting people, recognising Carlow's diverse culture and celebrating our local history.



# **O** ROYAL OAK, BAGENALSTOWN

# 3:30pm

# Music le Chéile

# @ Doyle's Ice-Cream Parlour, Royal Oak, Co. Carlow, Bagenalstown, R21 VN36

Music le Chéile is an opportunity to participate in a community music gathering with the Ceoltóirí Bianconi. It is open to people of all ages and abilities. Music le Cheile will be facilitated by Angela Keogh and a guest, who will lead participatory musical activities as well as facilitate those who would like to play or sing. Doyle's Ice Cream Parlour offers an accessible family friendly venue. The Ceoltóirí Bianconi Collective values inclusivity, a light- hearted approach and is intergenerational.



# **O** MYSHALL

# 4:00pm

# **Launch of Mass Path Project**

# @ Myshall GAA Pavillion and Myshall **Community Centre**

The event will start with refreshments at Myshall Community Centre with a display of Maps and information about the Mass Paths in the area followed by a short walk to the 'bridge at the G.A.A. complex' where an entrance/exit to a Mass Path is marked by a bridge to unveil a Mass Path Information Board.



# 8:00pm

# **A Living Tapestry**

@ Spellman Hall, Kildavin, Y21 YD43

Clonegal Kildavin Veteran Players present an evening of Irish music, song, words, and dance with performances by musicians, storytellers, dancers performing both new and old pieces. Commissioned new writings in both prose and poetry in the traditional Irish genre will feature on the night. Refreshments served.





5:30pm

# **The Ceol Connection**

@ The Old Post Office, Bagenalstown, R21 X628

We invite musicians, singers, dancers, and storytellers of all ages to join PDLS trad group to share their tunes and tales in a rambling session of traditional Irish music. A night where generations meet in song and story. Bring an instrument, a memory, or simply your listening ear. All are welcome.



8:00pm

# The Meath Connection – Ciarán Somers and Friends

@ The Old Post Office, Bagenalstown, R21 X628

Joining Ciarán on the night is his long-time collaborator, fiddler Dave Sheridan. This fiddle and flute duet is well known for their acclaimed recording 'Faoi Bhláth' with Breton guitarist Nicolas Quemener. Brothers Mícheál and Macdara O Raghallaigh from Co. Meath will then perform in what promises to be a top class and unforgettable showcase of traditional music. All 4 musicians will join forces at the end for a high energy and exciting finale – NOT TO BE MISSED!





# **O** BAGENALSTOWN

6:00pm

# Exhibition Launch "Where the Field Fails to Hold" – by Cian Lawler, presented by Muine Bheag Arts

@ Bagenalstown Community Garden, Stationhouse Road, R21 TD61

Muine Bheag Arts is delighted to present Where the Field Fails to Hold, an exhibition by Cian Lawler at the Bagenalstown Community Garden. The exhibition launches on 19th September as part of Culture Night and continues until 28th September.

Where the Field Fails to Hold is a series of photographic interventions which reflect on the rhythms of everyday life in a small town. The photographs document casual encounters with friends, familiar places and often overlooked details of Muine Bheag. Lawler began photographing his daily life in 2019 as a way to explore the emotional tether to his hometown.

Cian Lawler is a visual artist based in Muine Bheag, County Carlow. Rooted in exploration and introspection, his practice navigates the intersections of identity, community, and space. He investigates the spatial politics of queer existence, focusing on how environments are imbued with meaning through the presence and actions of bodies. Working primarily with photography and video, his work seeks to uncover hidden narratives within spaces both public and private and examine the dynamics of belonging, intimacy, and cultural memory. His projects often reflect on personal experiences and broader sociopolitical contexts, with particular attention to queer histories and rural landscapes.

Muine Bheag Arts is an artist-run organisation that engages with the local context to present projects in the public realm. Guided by values of collaboration and experimentation, Muine Bheag Arts invites dialogue between artists, audiences, community and place. The programme includes exhibitions, workshops, events, residencies, publishing and radio broadcasts. These platforms provide opportunities for artists to research, test and make through close collaboration with the organisation and members of the local community.

www.muinebheagarts.com



# **Local Threads - The Borris Lace Story** @ O'Shea's Pub, Main St. Borris

A presentation by Samantha Morris on her PhD research with Borris Lacemakers in Borris, Co. Carlow. Her research aims to collect various memories, meanings, traditions, stories, values and future aspirations around the theme of Borris Lace. She will also discuss the potential for the future development of a Borris Lace Craft Trail which will help generate tourism to the area. Samantha is a PhD student at the Technological University of Dublin and her research is funded by Research Ireland. The presentation will be followed by refreshments and a lively traditional music session by local musicians.



# 8:30pm

# Me and You and Us and Them @ Kilcumney Cross, R705/R702 junction

# (Borris to Bagenalstown Road)

Produced by Artist Marie Phelan, Me and You and Us and Them is a short film screened outdoors at Kilcumnev Cross, South Carlow, along the Borris to Bagenalstown road. Projected at the edge of a field, the work engages a landscape marked both by the nearby site of the 1798 Battle of Kilcumney and by the ongoing encounters with traffic. Looped at dusk, the film employs assemblage through layered media, stirring memories in the land and inviting reflection on the connections between local histories and global happenings. Its non-linear structure allows audiences to engage at any point in the cycle, inviting passers by to slow down and consider what lingers after events have faded.



# PRESENTATION COLLEGE, ASKEA, CARLOW

# 4:00pm

# **Forest Whispers**

# @ Presentation College, Askea, O'Brien Road, Carlow, R93F298

"Forest Whispers" is an inspiring art event designed to help children and young people explore their emotions through creative expression. Organised by Equal Chances Polish School, the event is family friendly. Through hands-on workshops, participants will create unique "forest in a jar" artworks that reflect their personal experiences and connection with nature. These pieces will be displayed during the event, promoting creativity, environmental awareness, and a deeper appreciation for sustainability.



# CARLOW TOWN PARK AN GAIRDÍN BEO

# 4:30pm

# Sing & Stroll

# @ Carlow Town Park (Millenium Bridge R93 E030) to An Gairdín Beo (R93 E1HF)

A multi-sensory ramble with the natural voice in the natural world! Experience the therapeutic effect of two distinctive pastimes, connecting artfully and mindfully to the healing voice and the beauty of Carlow's waterways, woodlands and gardens - a powerful combo to nurture mental and physical wellbeing, ease our stress and worry, restore our mood, and give us back some energy and vitality.

Be reconnected to nature, your voice and others as you sing and stroll along a nature-way trail (distance 1.16 Km.), stopping periodically to immerse ourselves in the harmonies of nature-themed songs and chants from various cultures and traditions and awaken our senses to the sights, sounds and smells of nature environs. Sing & Stroll will culminate with a singing circle and refreshments at An Gairdín Beo R93 E1HF.

**NUMBERS WILL BE LIMITED** so pre booking is essential. Reserve your FREE place at eventbrite.ie and be part of this exciting Culture Night experience. More detailed information available from Carlow Voices facebook and instagram page.



# **Q** CARLOW LIBRARY, TULLOW ST.

# 5:00pm

# **AHA Storytellers**

AHA Storytellers bring African culture to life through dynamic performances of singing, dancing, poetry, and a showcase of traditional artefacts. This immersive experience celebrates the richness of African heritage, inviting audiences to connect with its stories and rhythms.



# 6:00pm

# **Evening of Songs with Natalija Ruda**

You are warmly invited to a magical evening of culture, music, and inspiration as part of Culture Night 2025! Enjoy live performances and a vibrant creative atmosphere at Carlow Library where Nataliia will perform a selection of songs in traditional Ukrainian style

# 7:00pm

# **The Carlow Storytellers**

Join the Carlow Storytellers in Carlow library for their 2025 Culture Night special. In addition to performances from a variety of special guests, enjoy the Storytellers unique mix of songs, stories, poetry, drama, dance and lots of craic! Not to be missed. All are welcome.



# THE EXCHANGE - CARLOW

# 5:00pm

# Sounds of Ireland

# @ The Exchange, Potato Market, Carlow

Culture Night at the Exchange Potato Market will feature some of Carlow's finest musicians singers and balladeers, featuring Mad for Trad, Mick Leech and Róisín Dubh all taking to the stage performing the best of Irish Traditional, Folk and Ballad music. Come along and join in with the "Sounds of Ireland" in such a unique and wonderful setting.



# **O** TULLOW ROAD, CARLOW

# 5:00pm

# **Folklore with the Fairies**

# @ The Laurels, Tullow Road

Hosted by Tullow Road Community Development Group, this event is inclusive of all the Tullow Road residents, especially children (accompanied by parents/guardians). The event will consist of an interactive walk from the linear road down to the Fairy Ring in the Laurel's area; Folklore about the history of the Fairy Ring; Traditional Irish Music, and face painting for children. Carlow Men's Shed will kindly be assisting in the making of Fairy Doors for the event and the children will help to paint the doors, bringing the whole community together.

# ST. LAZERIAN'S HOLY WELL

# 5:30pm

# Creative Carlow's Holy Wells - Heritage, **Wellbeing and Poetry**

# @ St. Lazerian's Holy Well, Old Leighlin, Carlow

Come along and learn about the heritage of the St. Lazerian's Holy Well, Old Leighlin. The event springs from an ongoing Creative Carlow's Holy Well Project and includes a recital of poetry about Holy Wells by Clifton Redmond and a discussion of the value of engaging with heritage sites, such as Holy Wells for your wellbeing by Aisling O'Connor.



# **Q** CAFÉ LAMBERTS CARLOW

6:00pm

# Mic Oscailte as Gaeilge

@ Café Lamberts - Sráid Átha Cliath, Ceatharlach R93 X086

Join us in Cafe Lamberts for a Miscellany as Gaeilge to celebrate Oíche Chultúir '25. The hour long open mic session will welcome all participation. Bí linn agus fáilte!



# 7:45pm

# **Lambert's Coffee House Open Mic** @ Lambert's Coffee House (16 & 17 Dublin St)

Poetry readings, storytelling, and musical performances; Lamberts Coffee House Open Mic offers an intimate, lifeaffirming, and beautifully human experience which reflects our need for sincere, grassroots arts events here in Carlow town. This Culture Night, Jacob Ray-Halliday and Shannon O'Doherty invite you to Dublin Street to support and keep alive the powerful play by contributing your own, unique verse. For those looking to share a song, story, or poem, five-minute slots (which are limited) must be booked via the following email: jacobrhwork@gmail.com. The night will conclude with a special guest performance from Irish/US/AT folk rock band The Belgian Blue whose debut EP, Summersweeps, was released this May to critical acclaim and can be found on all major streaming platforms. Tá fáilte roimh gach duine - all are welcome!



# **Q** IMC CINEMA, FAIRGREEN, CARLOW

7:00PM

# The Undertaking - Premiere Screening "He Asked, They Came"

The Undertaking is a poignant short documentary produced by Creative Productions and directed by Georgina Brennan Stynes. It tells the story of Rory Healy, a third-generation undertaker in Carlow, and his quiet role in a moment that deeply moved an entire community. When Mary Regan passed away with no known next of kin, Rory made a gentle appeal on social media for people to attend her funeral—and the people of Carlow responded with warmth and solidarity.

Filmed on location in Carlow, the documentary explores themes of dignity, remembrance, and the power of collective kindness. It is a tribute to the unseen work of funeral directors and the compassion that lies at the heart of Carlow town.

After the screening, attendees will have the opportunity to honour a past loved one on our Remembrance Wall, followed by a short Q&A session—chaired by Marc Grogan—offering a unique behind-the-scenes look at the making of the film. Join us for the premiere at IMC Cinema, Carlow, and experience this heartfelt story on the big screen.



**FRIDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2025** 





# **O** TULLOW ST., CARLOW

# 6:00pm

# **Your Wandering Soundtrack le Hugsie**

An eclectic musical street performance to entertain and excite culture night attendees as they traverse from venue to venue. The streetscape soundtrack for the evening will get your blood pumping to Drums, Folk & Blues on the streets of Carlow.



# EIRE ÓG CLUB HOUSE, CARLOW

# 7:00pm

# Launch of "The Accidental Author"

Take A Part Carlow is delighted to present a special event, to celebrate the culmination of our inaugural artist in residence programme. Over two years Take A Part Carlow has worked with Community Writer in Residence, Clifton Redmond. During this time Clifton engaged with many groups, organisation and individuals from every walk of life through poetry, theatre, rap and song writing.

Join us from 7pm at Eire Óg Club House, as we launch a brand new publication entitled "The Accidental Author", telling the story of Clifton's time with Take A Part Carlow, designed by artist Colm Griffen.

Refreshments will be provided.



# MOKA COFFEE AND WINE BAR, CARLOW

# 8:00pm

# **The Slammers – Poetry and Writing Slam**

Culture Night Slam will be a vivacious and exciting event filled with poetry and writing.

An open and welcoming event for your Original Writing. 2 minutes to impress the audience with your words. An event where the crowd are the judges. Woo them to win a prize!



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# **Q** ST. MARY'S CHURCH, CARLOW

# 7.30pm

# Eric de Buitléir in Concert at the Piano

Eric performs pieces by Bach, Beethoven, and Mozart, as well as some contemporary music on a concert grand piano.



# METHODIST CHURCH, CARLOW

# 8:00pm

# **Ukrainian Culture Evening**

@ Methodist Church, Carlow R93 RW31

The sincere Ukrainian community of Carlow offers a concert «Ukrainian Culture Evening» in 2 parts. In the first one, Ukrainian amateur artists and groups will demonstrate their talents. The second part will feature a concert by Maksym Lozovyi - a singer and member of the Irish National Opera (Dublin). In his performance, you will hear Ukrainian classics and folk songs. Two sessions of 45 minutes each with an interval.



# THE THATCH, GRAIGUECULLEN, CARLOW

# 9:00pm

# **Trad at the Thatch**

@ The Thatch, 5 Maryborough St, Graiguecullen, Carlow, R93 H4F8

Experience the raw energy and intricate beauty of traditional Irish music in a gig-style performance at the Thatch Bar, Carlow this Culture Night. Kicking off at 9pm, two masterful fiddlers. Brian Murphy and Laura Doherty, and a dynamic guitarist Shane McCartin, take the stage for an unforgettable evening of rhythm, reels, and rich musical storytelling. Intimate setting, powerful sound - not to be missed.





# **O** TULLOW LIBRARY, TULLOW

# 4:30pm

# **FORM Design Made in Carlow Exhibition**

@ Tullow Library, Tullow, Co. Carlow

A retrospective exhibition showcasing the exceptional talent of 10 craft practitioners from the County Carlow. Come and experience a diverse range of local crafts and meet the makers. The exhibition will feature handmade quality crafts including ceramics, jewellery, feltmaking, quilt making, eco printing, wood work and stone work. Working in a range of material disciplines each member of the collective is committed to making and craftsmanship at the highest level.



# O CHURCH OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY

# 7:00pm

# **Tullow in Harmony**

@ Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Tullow R93 Y0F8

Tullow Together in Harmony celebrates Culture Night with an inclusive evening of music in the local church. Featuring pipe bands, local choirs, talented teens from Bishops House, and members of the Cairdeas Centres, it's a heartfelt showcase of unity, culture, and community spirit.







# **Q** CARLOW COUNTY MUSEUM

10:00am - 6:00pm

# **Ireland & The Birth of Europe Exhibition** @ College St, Carlow, R93 E3T2

Ireland joined the European Economic Community, the forerunner of the European Union (EU), in 1973, but Irish participation in the development of European identities dates back more than a thousand years. After the collapse of the Roman Empire in the West, Europeans built on its foundations to develop their own culture and identity. The Irish played an important role in this great enterprise, including Carlow born, St Columbanus, who was the first to describe us as Europeans. The exhibition features reproductions of important illuminated manuscripts held in historic archives across Europe, including the significant collections at Bobbio, Italy, and St Gallen, Switzerland, - two of the monastic communities founded by early Irish missionaries. The exhibition is presented in partnership with the Department of Irish Foreign Affairs and the Diocese of Kildare and Leighlin.



# SEVEN OAKS HOTEL, CARLOW

5:00pm

# **Midlands Ukrainian Association Variety Events @Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Road, Carlow**

Enjoy an unforgettable evening celebrating culture and creativity with events such as Children's Fashion Show, Live Music Performances, Art installations, Face Painting, Entertainers and Animators, Dance and Inspriation. A festive atmosphere, vivid emotions, and culture in all its forms!



# VISUAL Carlow

8:00pm - 1:00am

# **Dance Night at Visual**

@ VISUAL Carlow, Old Dublin Road, Carlow, R93 A3K1

VISUAL in collaboration with resident dance company United Fall present DANCE NIGHT. This is a dance takeover. Notions of dance hierarchy will be disbanded as the building heaves and celebrates a gathering of disparate styles, rhythms and beats.







# **Culture Night Programme**

# **Carlow County Museum, College Street**

10:00am - 6:00pm Ireland & The Birth Of Europe Exhibition

# Doyle's Ice-Cream Parlour, Royal Oak, Bagenalstown

3:30pm Music le Chéile – Community music gathering

# Myshall GAA Pavilion & Myshall Community Centre

4:00pm Launch of Mass Path Project - Maps display, walk, info board unveiling

# **Presentation College, Askea, Carlow**

4:00pm Forest Whispers – Children's art workshops

# Carlow Town Park (Millennium Bridge) to An Gairdín Beo

4:30pm Sing & Stroll - Nature walk with group singing

# **Tullow Library, Tullow**

4:30pm Form Design made in Carlow Exhibition - Local crafts showcase

# Carlow Library, Tullow St., Carlow

5:00pm AHA Storytellers – African culture performance

6:00pm Evening of Songs with Nataliia Ruda - Ukrainian songs

7:00pm - The Carlow Storytellers - Songs, stories, poetry, drama

# Seven Oaks Hotel, Athy Road, Carlow

5:00pm Midlands Ukrainian Association Variety Events

# The Exchange, Potato Market, Carlow

5:00pm Sounds of Ireland - Traditional & folk music

# The Laurels, Tullow Road

5:00pm Folklore with the Fairies – Community walk, stories, music, face painting

# St. Lazerian's Holy Well, Old Leighlin

5:30pm Holy Wells - Heritage, Wellbeing and Poetry

# The Old Post Office, Bagenalstown

5:30pm The Ceol Connection - Traditional music & storytelling

8:00pm The Meath Connection - Ciarán Somers & Friends - Traditional music finale

# **Bagenalstown Community Garden, Stationhouse Road**

6:00pm Exhibition Launch – Cian Lawler – Photography exhibition

## Café Lamberts, Sráid Átha Cliath, Carlow

**6:00pm** Mic Oscailte as Gaeilge – Irish-language open mic

## **Tullow St., Carlow**

6:00pm Your Wandering Soundtrack le Hugsie - Street music performance

# Church of the Most Holy Rosary, Tullow R93 Y0F8

7:00pm Tullow in Harmony – Music from pipe bands, choirs, community groups

## Eire Og Club House, Páirc, O'Brien Rd, Carlow

7:00pm Launch of "The Accidental Author"

# IMC Cinema, Fairgreen, Carlow

7:00pm The Undertaking - Premiere Screening - Documentary & Q&A

# O'Shea's Pub, Main St., Borris

7:00pm Local Threads - The Borris Lace Story - Talk & music session

# Lambert's Coffee House, Dublin St., Carlow

7:45pm Open Mic - Poetry, music, special guest band

# Methodist Church, Carlow R93 RW31

8:00pm Ukrainian Culture Evening – Concert with Ukrainian artists & Maksym Lozovyi

# **MOKA Coffee and Wine Bar**

8:00pm The Slammers – Poetry & writing slam

# Spellman Hall, Kildavin Y21 YD43

8:00pm A Living Tapestry - Irish music, song, words, dance

## St. Marv's Church, Carlow

8:00pm Eric de Buitléir in Concert - Piano works by Bach, Beethoven, Mozart, contemporary

# VISUAL, Old Dublin Road, Carlow

8:00pm - 1:00am Dance Night At Visual

# Kilcumney Cross, R705 / R702 Junction

8:30pm Me and You and Us and Them - Outdoor short film loop

## The Thatch, Graiguecullen, Carlow

9:00pm Trad at the Thatch - Traditional Irish music gig