'Hedges are invaluable now as shelter against the winds when out walking or cycling. They also now provide similar shelter for animals, birds and insects, as well as some food.'

Source: http://www.thehedge.org/

Friday, 23 January 2009 - **Five Clare villages** are today celebrating the commencement of work on a wastewater treatment project that has been in the pipeline for over 40 years.

Clare County Council has signed a EUR4.3M contract with Treatment System Services Ltd (TSSL) to construct treatment facilities for the villages of Scarriff, Tuamgraney and Feakle in East Clare, as well as Quilty and Mullagh in the west of the County.

Source: http://www.clareherald.com/

**Lá Fhéile Bhríde, 1 Feabhra**

Tugtar cuireadh do theaghlaigh teacht le chéile le ceiliúradh agus comóradh a dhéanamh ar oidhreacht Bhríde i mBaile Locha Riach an Domhnach seo chugainn.

Tiocfaidh daoine le chéile ag Reilig Bhríde i nGarraí Bhríde ag 2.00 p.m. agus cuireadh fáilte roimh Ghaeil an cheantair a bheith leo agus iad le turas a dhéanamh chuig tobar Bhríde sa chomharsanacht.

Tuilleadh eolais: Gaeilge Locha Riach 091 870718

**The Galway Mountain Rescue Team** was founded in 1980 and is responsible for providing a search and rescue service in upland and remote areas of Counties Galway and Clare. In addition the team also responds to requests for assistance in lowland missing person's searches. This service is provided 24 hours a day 365 days a year. The service is entirely voluntary and free of charge. Although some state funding is provided there is an annual shortfall which must be made up by fundraising. The team undertake an annual street collection and rely heavily on donations from the public. Beyond this team members are required to cover their expenses incurred while on a callout and some of the cost of their own equipment.

**Safety Talks** - *If you are part of a group that may be interested in a Mountain Safety Talk delivered by experienced team members please contact us.*

Source: http://www.gmrt.ie/home/index.php

**Coole Park**

Dance / Music / Traditional Arts Series

*Thursday 5th February 2009, 8:00pm - 9.00pm*

**The Cunningham Family Sean-nós Dancers**

Sean-nós dancing has enjoyed a revival these last few years and The Cunningham Family, a young family of Sean-nós dancers from Cashel in Connemara, contributed to its revival and are amongst the very best of young Sean-nós dancers in Ireland. The Cunningham's are in great demand up and down the country. In recent years they have been asked to accompany President Mary McAleese on state visits. The vibrant style of sean nós dancing that these siblings perform goes down a treat with their audiences.
The Sullane Sessions – concert, masterclass and teenage trad session
(Presented by Music Network and An Comhairle Ealaion)
Cork musicians Fiona Kelleher (vocal), Jim Murray (guitar), Richard Lucey (accordion) and Ciaran Coughlan (piano) are well known highly regarded performers. Expect inventive new interpretation of traditional tunes.

The show will feature exciting new arrangements of traditional songs from Fiona's debut album "My Love Lies" and also fresh energetic arrangements of well known tunes.

All musicians are well known highly regarded performers and have toured extensively and collaborated with various other groups such as North Cregg, Altan and Sharon Shannon to name but a few. The dynamic combination of Ciaran's jazz influenced piano playing and Jim's sublime guitar playing with Richard's mastery of the accordion give an exciting and inventive new interpretation of the traditional tunes while these supreme musicians provide the perfect backdrop to Fiona's pure crystal like vocals. Not to be missed!!

In tandem with this event, don't forget the guitar masterclass with Jim Murray taking place on Saturday February 7th from 12pm to 1.30pm. Prior competence in the instrument is expected. The class must be pre-booked. Students are advised to arrive at glór 15mins prior to the start time of the class. €15 per student.

Teenage Trad, the free glór trad session for young people will also take place in the glór café on Saturday February 7th from 12pm to 2pm, and will be joined by Richard Lucey.

Source: Clare Arts Service - http://www.clarelibrary.ie/arts.htm

‘Hearts of Oak’ - The rise to Glory of Portumna GAA Club - John Joe Conwell
This 624-page publication gives an outline of the geographical territory represented by the Portumna GAA Club and briefly traces the origins of the game of hurling from prehistoric times to the setting up of the GAA in 1884.

A Galway Landlord during the Great Famine - John Joe Conwell
The purpose of this work is to examine the role Clanricarde, as a cabinet minister and major Galway landowner, with emphasis on his contribution to, and attitude towards, government policies on Ireland in the years prior to, and during, the Great Famine.

Lickmolassy By the Shannon - John Joe Conwell
Lickmolassy is the name given to the medieval parish situated at the north-westerly end of Lough Derg. The book traces the origins of the parish landscape from the Ice Age right through to modern times.

These books are on sale in local stores and shops in Portumna, Loughrea, Ballinasloe and Galway or can also be obtained by contacting the author at 09097 41342, Mobile: 087 2963803, Email: jjconwell@hotmail.com.

Source: http://www.portumna.net/home/

Gort Poor Law Union archive collection
Galway County Council is pleased to announce that the Gort Poor Law Union archive collection is now available on microfilm. Access is available at the Archives Section in the County Library Headquarters, Island House, Cathedral Square, Galway.
The collection contains the minute books of the Board of Guardians of Gort Poor Law Union throughout the famine period, and subsequent minutes which chart the history of the Union right up to 1921. The Poor Law Union collection was microfilmed as part of the ongoing program to preserve our County's documentary heritage, to ensure the protection of original records, and to facilitate access for interested readers. Access to the records is by prior appointment with the Archivist at County Library Headquarters, Island House, Cathedral Square, Galway. (Tel. 091 562471). Source: http://galwaylibrary.blogspot.com/

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Athenry Environmental Network

Spring 2009 Workshop
We are a network of individuals living in and around Athenry Co. Galway, promoting environmental awareness and better living practices for individuals and communities everywhere.

Next weekend workshop : February 21st/22nd 2009
Community Hall Clarke Street Athenry

For more information see:
http://www.athenryenvironmentalnetwork.com
or email : athenryenvnet@gmail.com
or telephone : 0861678503.

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Clare Biodiversity
"Working together to Conserve Clare's Biodiversity for future generations"
County Clare is rich in biodiversity and although there is legislation in place on an international and national level, we hold a responsibility as individuals to conserve biodiversity in our local environments, from our gardens and farmlands to our villages and roads.

Our new website is aimed at providing information on the variety of plants and animals that can be found in County Clare, and to promote, through the work of the Clare Biodiversity Group, the conservation of them.

The Clare Biodiversity Action Plan sets out to protect local biodiversity by putting in place the measures needed to conserve and protect rare and endangered animals, plants and their habitats which occur in the county.
Source : http://clarebiodiversity.ie/

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Shannon River Basin District
Are you concerned about the quality of the water in your local river or lake? If yes and you live in the Shannon region then there is now a way for you to participate and help us plan to improve the water quality in your area. The draft River Basin Management Plan for the Shannon IRBD, called "Water Matters - Help us plan" has been published jointly by all the local authorities along the River Shannon and the Department of Environment, Northern Ireland, and sets out the measures necessary to maintain or improve the water quality in the region in an easy-to-read manner. For too long it has been somebody else's responsibility but now this is an opportunity for you to get involved and help plan the future management of water in the region.
The Cabragh Wetlands Trust was registered in 1993 in an effort to save a vast area of wetland habitats from destruction after the filling-in of the settling ponds by the Thurles Sugar Factory during its closure. These lagoons used to be an oasis of wildlife, particularly birds. The Trust was formed and acquired the land adjacent to the filled-in lagoons to ensure the continuation of this resting place for migratory birds.

Source: http://www.cabraghwetlands.ie/

Limerick E-inclusion Action Project
The aim of this project is to deliver innovative responses to digital exclusion in Limerick City. This project has three parts each focused around the area of education, training and knowledge sharing.

Our first focus will be developing the skills and confidence in the use of technology among late adopters and particularly among target groups identified through national and local research (the unemployed, those over 55 years of ages and those engaged in home duties).

We will also be running training courses for Community Tutors to develop their digital capacity and skills to be used in learning environments.

The final part of the project will use mentoring initiatives to (a) introduce new technologies to community groups and (b) create opportunities for cooperation and sharing of knowledge and experience between third level/further education students and community groups in Limerick City.

Source: http://einclusionactionproject.blogspot.com/

Opening the Space
...don't wait until you think you know what you're doing. You'll never take the plunge. The best way to learn is to do, to teach what you do to others, and to collaborate...

This combined Toolkit and Guide provides inspiration, skills and support for writers working online with new media. It was devised as a result of an extensive survey into the way writers work with computers and the internet and offers useful information for everyone, whether new or experienced.

Source: http://tracearchive.ntu.ac.uk/transition/?ddd

Joseph Browne
Spring School of Traditional Music

Music Classes & Workshops
Thurs, Fri & Sat, Feb 19, 20 & 21:

Masterclasses
Fiddle: Nicky Mc Auliffe, Fionnuala O’Keeffe, Gerry O’Connor, Cora Smith & Tara Breen
Accordion: Martin Quinn
Concertina: Anne McAuliffe & Jack Talty
Concert Flute: Cathal Mc Connell
Tin Whistle: Marian McCarthy
Pipes: Tommy Keane
Piano/keyboard: Marie Quigney & Garry O’Briain
Banjo: Angelina Carberry & Mary Shannon
Guitar: Gilles Le Bigot

Workshops:
Meet the Bearers of the Tradition (Thursday & Friday 2 – 4 pm)
In these workshops the students get a unique opportunity to meet, talk and play with musicians who have a long tradition in Irish music.

Thursday: Dónal O’Connor (Sliabh Luachra)
Friday: Cathal McConnell (Fermanagh: Boys of the Lough)
(Tin Whistle / Flute Player / Singer)

Extending Traditions (Saturday 2 – 3 pm)
On Saturday afternoon a workshop with a difference will take place. Members of The West Ocean String Quartet will work with the pupils from the Spring school. They will focus on arrangements which will combine the traditional and classical genres. The pupils and the Quartet will play these arrangements together, creating what promises to be something very special indeed.

Neil Martin, Seamus McGuire and The West Ocean String Quartet
Venue: Gort Community School. Classes: 10am–1pm  Workshops Thurs. & Fri 2pm–4pm, Sat 2 – 3 pm
Fee: €50 (Includes attendance at both classes and workshops for 3 days)

Other Events at the Joseph Browne Spring School of traditional music
Thurs. Feb 19th  The 3rd Joseph Browne Memorial Lecture by Dr. Liz Doherty.
Title: ‘Island Fiddle Traditions – Ireland, Shetland, Cape Breton and Beyond’
Followed by the Official Opening of the Spring School by Muiris O’Rocháin
Venue: The Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort, Co. Galway. 7pm

The Joseph Browne Memorial Concert:
Venue: The Lady Gregory Hotel, Gort. 9pm (Doors open 8.30)
Artists: Cathal Mc Connell, Gerry O’Connor and Gilles le Bigot,
Liz Doherty, Manus McGuire, Máire O’Keeffe and Garry O’Briain.

Fri. Feb. 20th  Session
Venue: Hennelly’s Pub, Gort 9.30pm

Sat. Feb. 21st  Concert
Artists: The West Ocean String Quartet
This group brings to us a wonderful combination of all that is good in both the traditional and classical genres, to the delight of the listener. Their presentation will include the world premiere of the newly commissioned work: An Indigo Sky. Composed by Neil Martin, the suite comprises 4 movements which reflect the life and music of Joseph Browne.
Venue: Crusheen Church, Crusheen, Co. Clare 8pm
Sun. Feb. 22nd  Festival Mass in Crusheen Church 1pm
With music and song by friends of Joseph Browne,
Followed by musical tribute at graveside.
The Russell Memorial Weekend 2009
Feb 20th - 22nd

To mark the 15th festival commemorating the enormous traditional legacy of the Russell family from Doolin, the Russell Memorial Committee has put together an exciting programme of events for a weekend of music and entertainment from Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd of February 2009.

Friday 20th Feb 2009
7-30pm
"Open House" an evening of music, song and dance, everyone welcome. Russell Cultural Centre. Adm. €10

Saturday - 21st Feb 2009
10-30am - 12-30pm
Music Workshops: (Enquiries to Buddy, Tel 065 7074564)
11am
Russell Music: Recital with Angela Crotty & Friends, McGann’s Pub, Adm. Free
2pm
The Russell Concert with Master of Ceremonies, Pat Costelloe Clare FM, featuring Liadan; The Fiddle Case - Eoin O'Neill, Quentin Cooper, Eimer Howley and Jon O'Connell; Seoda - Ian Keane and Friends; Michael Hynes, Dennis Liddy and Jack Talty; Terry Bingham; Yvonne Casey, Adam and Dave Shapiro; Pat Costello and Friends. Russell Cultural Centre, Adm. €20 (includes wine and food reception) Tickets at the door, doors open at 1.30pm
6pm
Russell Music: Traditional Singing recital, O’Gorman Room, Russell Cultural Centre, Adm. Free

Sunday - 22nd Feb 2009
10-30am - 12-30pm
Music Workshops: (Enquiries to Buddy, Tel 065 7074564)
11am
Russell Music: Recital with Frank Custy and friends, McDermott’s Pub, Adm. Free
1pm
Anniversary Remembrance Mass at Doolin Church followed by a wreath-laying ceremony at the Russell grave
3pm
Set Dancing, music by Four Courts Céilí Band, Function Room, Hotel Doolin. Adm. €10
Monday night - 23rd Feb 2009
Session in O'Connor's pub
Sessions throughout the weekend in Doolin's pubs and hotels

Workshops
Pre booking advisable but not essential.
All enquiries to Buddy,
Tel : 065 7074564
http://www.michorussellweekend.ie
Source : Clare Arts Service - http://www.clarelibrary.ie/arts.htm

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The World Database of Happiness is an ongoing register of scientific research on the subjective enjoyment of life. It brings together findings that are scattered throughout many studies and provides a basis for synthetic work.
Source : http://www1.eur.nl/fsw/happiness/index.html

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Cicada is a collection of artists who work with landscape - urban, natural, constructed and imagined... a combination of results occur, including site-specific installations, performances and interactive pieces... cicada also make other bits of sound+image works for theatre, dance and performance projects... and occasional urban gifts of unexpected enlightenment...

Cicada projects have included :
• Mob - an installation exploring the crowd as a discrete organism.
• Saltnilk and other wonders - work resulting from a residency in the West Australian wheat town of Kellerberrin.
• Amensal - an interactive street level installation, a purely negative urban symbiosis.
• Re_Squared - an immersive outdoor audio visual performance celebrating moments of discovered beauty in the city.
Source : http://www.cicada.tv

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Community Connections is a Community Development Project (CDP) based in a rural location between Glenfarne and Blacklion near the Cavan Fermanagh border. The geographic area in which the Project works takes in West Cavan, North Leitrim and West Fermanagh, an area with a population of around 21,000. The area experiences all the problems associated with peripheral rural locations including a dispersed rural population, emigration, over dependence on agriculture, inadequate infrastructure and a lack of services.'
Source : http://www.communityconnections.ie/

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The Border Counties History Collective
'The Border Counties History Collective is an association of history groups in the border counties of Fermanagh, Cavan and Leitrim.
The Collective aims to promote co-operation between local history groups on a cross border basis and to support their practical needs through training and the provision of information and advice.'
Source : http://homepage.eircom.net/~historycollective/
Limerick Printmakers Studio and Gallery would like to invite you to the opening of Postscript, an exhibition of mixed media works by Canadian artist Linda Carreiro. Julie Brazil from the University of Limerick will open this show on Thursday the 29th of January at 8pm followed by an artists talk on Friday the 30th of January at 12pm, all are welcome.

Carreiro is based in Calgary, Canada. She has been awarded several travel, research and residency grants from the University of Calgary, and production assistance from the Manitoba Arts Council, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts and the Canada Council for the Arts. She has exhibited widely in Canada and in the United States, including recent solo exhibitions at the Nickle Arts Museum in Calgary and Gallery 101 in Ottawa. Currently, she is an Associate Professor of Drawing and Painting, specialising in Anatomy at the University of Calgary.

**Artist's Statement:**
A long-standing fascination with language has culminated in a several recent works, whereby visual and textual elements are proposed as distinctive, dialogical forms of communication. Walter Benjamin asserted that language is a medium, a set of symbols that carry, and yet are separate from, knowledge. This idea of transportation within visual and written texts is portrayed through one of the main transmitters, and transformers, of knowledge: the book. Gleaning passages from literary, scientific, theoretical and historical sources, the book becomes both physical support and content. **Postscript** proposes writings by Homer, Aristotle, Shakespeare, and Melville as shifting and mutable, their content altered through acts of transcription, revision and interpretation. Within the contemporary context the transplanted versions are necessarily changed from their original meaning, unable to be read in the same way as the context in which they were created.
In both *The Odyssey*, *Moby Dick* and *The Tempest*, stories explored in the exhibition, survivors of the boat journey are forever transformed: this becomes analogous to the journey of texts, altered through each new version, yet continuing their forward propulsion through history. The symbol of the boat appears repeatedly as conveyer of tome, carrying the words to their next destination.

All of the works utilize components of printmaking, albeit unconventional in materials and manner: hand-printed typographical characters, printed with sugar and lemon, then charred; digital prints on rice paper coated in shellac; hole-punched paperbacks that 'emboss' the wall: the seemingly fragile works embody the reference to the printed page that is their source.

Recent solo shows include: 2007 *An appendix to the history of knowledge*, Nickle Arts Museum, Calgary; 2006 *Bind* at SNAP Gallery, Edmonton; 2005 *Dissection* at Gallery 101, Ottawa.


Artist's Talk: Linda Carreiro will give a talk on her work on Friday the 30th of January at 12pm.

The gallery is open Monday to Friday 11am to 5.30pm and Saturday 10am to 4pm.

Limerick Printmakers Studio and Gallery
4 Robert Street
Limerick
061 311806
www.limerickprintmakers.com