

'RICHES OF CLARE' RETURNS TO MUSIC VENUES THIS WEEK

County Clare, IRELAND, 21st May 2007 - The 'Riches of Clare 2007' series of traditional music lunchtime concerts commences this week with an opening concert by master fiddler Tommy Peoples. Now in its third year, the summer series will be held each Wednesday over eleven weeks in Ennistymon, Kilrush, Ballyvaughan, Ennis and Sixmilebridge. The participating musicians are locally based and include Jerry Lynch, Sinead Heagney, Garry Shannon, Mick Conneely and Marin Glynn.

The first concert will feature the critically acclaimed Donegal fiddle player Tommy Peoples, who will be accompanied by his daughter Siobhan Peoples in Ennistymon Library on Wednesday May 23rd from 1-2pm. The concert will be held in association with Age & Opportunity and the Bealtaine nationwide festival, and will also feature performances from Cyril O'Donoghue and John Maloney.

According to Finola Ryan, Concert Co-ordinator, "We have had such a positive response to the concerts over the past two years, both from audiences and musicians. An important aspect to the series is the fact admission is free, which we hope will encourage people to come along and brighten up their day with a few tunes at lunchtime!"

"The 'Riches of Clare' lunchtime concert series is a Clare Arts Office initiative and is supported by the Arts Council of Ireland. Look out for posters and bookmarks of the series, which have been distributed throughout the County", Ms. Ryan added.

The 'Riches of Clare' schedule of concerts:

May 23rd, Ennistymon Library: *Siobhan Peoples, Tommy Peoples, Cyril O'Donoghue & John Maloney*

May 30th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Jack Talty, Damien O'Reilly, Ronan O'Flaherty & Liam Ryan*

June 6th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Seamus Bugler, Vincent Griffin, Paddy O'Donoghue & Joan Calloo*

June 13th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Tony Linnane, Jim O'Connor, Mick Conneely & Deirdre Scanlan*

June 20th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *John Rynne, Graham Dunne, Liam Lewis & Niamh Parsons*

June 27th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Garry Shannon, Pdraig O'Reilly, Anthony Quigney & Tim Collins*

July 4th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Kevin Ryan, Carmel O'Dea & Martin Darmody*

July 11th, Clare Museum, Ennis: *Tara Breen, Cillian King & Sean McCarthy*

July 18th, Sixmilebridge Library: *Marin Glynn, Mary MacNamara, Pat O'Connor & Geraldine Cotter*

July 25th, Vandaleur Gardens, Kilrush: *Sinead Heagney, Edel Fox, David O'Brien & Mick Willis*

August 1st, Community Centre, Ballyvaughan: *Chris Droney, Jerry Lynch & Michael Kelleher*

For further information contact The Clare Arts Office on shannonarts@clarelibrary.ie/065-6846267 or Finola Ryan on 087 4199293.