

# ***Flight of the Earls / Imeacht na nIarlaí 1607 – 2007***

**JANUARY 2007**

## **Regional Cultural Centre**

2007 will be the first year of the new Regional Cultural Centre in Letterkenny. The Flight of the Earls will provide the central motif for the annual programme in 2007, addressing issues such as migration, emigration, Irish/European relationships etc. It is also intended to organise a major conference on local arts/local government in the Autumn of 2007. Here there will be a number of specific papers / keynote speeches related to the themes arising from the FOE.

Contact:

Sean Hannigan, Manager  
Letterkenny Public Services Centre, Tel: 91 94200

## **Donegal County Council Public Art Programme**

Donegal County Council Public Art Program plan to commission two works utilising the Per cent for Art Scheme - a permanent visual work and a community based music/sound project. Both commissions, which are still in their infancy could be described as innovative, challenging and artistically ambitious. Donegal County Council's Public Art Program Manager is currently in discussion with a Belfast Based Company called Moving on Music and are looking at commissioning a Music/Sound/Literary project with professional musicians, composers and poets which will include a significant and intensive outreach aspect, public performance and other cultural tourism aspects.

Contact

Ms. Terre Duffy, Public Art Manager, Donegal County Council.  
Tel: 074 91 21968 / [www.publicartdonegal.ie](http://www.publicartdonegal.ie)

## **Donegal County Council Library Service**

For the Flight of the Earls celebrations, Donegal County Library plan to organise a countywide schools project aimed at 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes at primary school level. The project, which is still at an initial planning stage will further aim to develop structured links between Donegal County Library and primary schools. Schools will be encouraged to use the resources available at their local library for research into their Flight of the Earls project.

It is envisaged that the project will be structured as follows:

- A Flight of the Earls school pack will be commissioned for teachers and librarians to assist both them and the pupils in the project.

- Facilitators will provide information sessions to schools at their local library
- Local libraries will assist schools in finding appropriate information in the library
- Announcement of winning entries and display of all projects to the public

*The project aims to engage and enthuse primary schools on the importance and significance of The Flight of the Earls and also expand upon the already existing links between schools and their local libraries.*

Contact:

Tel:91-21968

**Central Library, Letterkenny** (Tel: 074 91 24950)

The annual library tours for schools will include Flight of the Earls based activities, eg, quizzes based on the event.

**Bundoran Library:** Host an exhibition on Flight of the Earls throughout 2007

**Buncrana Community Library, Carndonagh Community Library and Merville Branch Library** will host public lectures on "Flight of the Earls" throughout 2007

**An Post**

An Post have confirmed the issue of two specially designed commemorative stamps for the 4<sup>th</sup> Centenary of the Flight of the Earls. These will be available in post offices nationwide throughout the year. It is hoped to launch these stamps in Donegal in 2007.

**Rathmullan 21**

*Rathmullan 21 is a body representative of all existing organisations in the Rathmullan area, established to co-ordinate the commemorative events associated with the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flight of the Earls and to maximise the social, cultural, and economic benefits to the community throughout 2007. There are a number of events planned and proposed for the Rathmullan throughout 2007. They include:*

- There will be a rich and varied programme of events programmed at the Flight of the Earls Heritage Centre
- A series of informal historical talks at monthly / bi-monthly interval have already begun in Rathmullan. The purpose is to acquaint ourselves and local people with the life and times surrounding the Flight of the Earls. Speakers will be sourced from local Donegal historians, from Ulster and National Societies and Institutions.
- There will be organised walking tours of the historic sites in Rathmullan during summer 2007. Guided tours may also be extended to bus outings to associated sites.
- R&DLHS will explore the other Ulster territories over the coming year.

**The Tirhugh Resource Centre,**

On the Mall, Ballyshannon the centre overlooks the River Erne. It is a beautiful old building and has a number of meeting rooms and large IT Suite. It provides an ideal location for meetings, seminars and exhibitions.

In 2007, we hope to schedule a number of workshops to commemorate The Flight of the Earls. We look forward to commemorating this historical event and we invite anyone who would like to provide any suggestions on what they would like covered to contact us.

Contact:

The Tirhugh Resource Centre, The Mall, Ballyshannon, Co. Donegal.

Tel: 0719852476, Email: [info@tirhugh.org](mailto:info@tirhugh.org)

### **Louvain 2007**

Louvain 2007 is a celebration of the foundation by the Irish Franciscans of St Anthony's College in Louvain, Belgium in 1607. The Irish College was founded under the patronage of the King of Spain and the Papacy and became the focus of an energetic cultural and political project that had a significant influence on Ireland's relations with Europe, the writing of Irish history and the preservation of Ireland's rich cultural heritage. To mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the foundation a series of conferences, exhibitions and arts events will take place 2007 both in Louvain and throughout Ireland. An important element of the celebrations will revolve around the strong connection between the Irish Franciscans in Louvain and Donegal. The first guardian of St Anthony's College was Donagh Mooney, an eminent Franciscan friar from Donegal. The grand project of compiling the *Annals of the Four Masters* and other important historical texts was launched from Louvain and executed by Mícheál Ó Cléirigh, a member of a leading Donegal learned family. Ó Cléirigh co-ordinated his project at the Franciscan friary of refuge at Bundrowes near Ballyshannon in south Donegal.

Contact:

The calendar of events is being co-ordinated on behalf of the Irish Franciscans and the Mícheál Ó Cléirigh Institute, University College Dublin by Dr Edel Bhreathnach, a Research Fellow at the Institute ([edelof@eircom.net](mailto:edelof@eircom.net)).

### **Artists in Creative Enterprise (ACE)**

ACE will mark the 4<sup>th</sup> Centenary of the Flight of the Earls by running a series of ten-week Creative Writing Workshops and four-day Creative Writing Residentials at a number of locations throughout Donegal during 2006 and 2007. ACE will also run a Short Story & Poetry Writing Competition for Young People aged 8 to 10; 11 to 13; and 14 to 16 years.

For full details about the programmes of Creative Writing in Donegal, 2006 & 2007, please contact Artists in Creative Enterprise:

t: + 353 (0)74 9158836 / (0)8615 99068, e: [projectace@eircom.net](mailto:projectace@eircom.net) web.

[www.irishpulp.com](http://www.irishpulp.com)

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## **FEBRUARY 07**

### **RTE/Raidio na Gaeltachta**

RTE/Raidio na Gaeltachta are finalising plans for a series of special programmes on "Imeacht na nIarlaí" for 2007. In a series of documentaries we will discuss the social and political climate in Ireland and Ulster in particular at the time of leaving. We will also look at the effects of their leaving on the people of Ireland, their influence on their adopted lands and the folklore and music associated with "Imeacht na nIarlaí"

"Barrscealta", our daily magazine programme broadcast from our Derrybeg studio daily from 11.00 - 12.00 pm will give extensive coverage on a regular basis to all events planned for 2007.

Contact:

[Seamus.MacGeidigh@rte.ie](mailto:Seamus.MacGeidigh@rte.ie) / Tel: 07495 31244

### **RTÉ Radio 1**

RTÉ Radio 1 have confirmed that the commemorations surrounding the Flight of the Earls will form part of the regional programming output of RTÉ Radio 1 in 2007.

### **Artlink:**

Artlink intends to mark the historical significance and cultural relevance of the commemorations by curating an exhibition, site-specific event and related education and outreach programme on the theme of the Donegal Diaspora and the 'Return'. This will involve contemporary visual artists who have a connection to the area, and have established international reputations in their field, contributing to the exhibition and creating new work in a site-specific location. The 'Return' will programme the visual arts in innovative and dynamic spaces exploring the rich associations of the Flight of The Earls through the use of interesting spaces in rural and coastal locations. The education and outreach programmes will ensure that young people and wider community groups become involved as active participants throughout the project. In addition to the audience for the exhibition and site specific project Artlink hopes to promote the 'Return' project via the use of web based and digital technology, and to link with a wide number of artists and organisations as a means of promoting the cultural life of the county and the Artlink programme. Artlink is supported by The Arts Council.

Contact:

074 9363469 / email [artlink@eircom.net](mailto:artlink@eircom.net)

### **'Dancing at Leuven'**

'Dancing at Leuven' will take place at the Louvain Institute for Ireland in Europe (the former Irish College in Louvain) Friday 23rd, Sat 24th and Sun 25th February 2007. Jim Keenan will give a set -dance workshop, including the opportunity to learn 'The Louvain Set', and good music will be provided by a band (as yet undecided) for the Ceilís. *If you want to commemorate the Flight of the Earls, come dance with the spirits of O' Neill and O' Donnell.*

Contact

Email: [Mary.Fitzgerald@cec.eu.int](mailto:Mary.Fitzgerald@cec.eu.int) / Tel: 00 32 496 78 41 42

### **The South West Donegal Communities Partnership**

The South West Donegal Communities Partnership covers the area from Glencolmcill through to Inver and down to Ardara. Events proposed for 2007 include:

- Historical Trail and Information Booklet
- The local historical groups will merge to produce a booklet with a local history of events and places relevant to the Flight of The Earls.
- This booklet will include a trail of all sites and places of interest, to be produced and launched early 2007.
- A Weekend Workshop of Set-Dancing:

*The aim of this workshop is to bring people from all over Ireland who share in the art of Set- Dancing to South West Donegal. A major part of this will be the local musicians especially fiddle players that this region has in abundance. It is also proposed to invite the group from Belgium who have created a new dance titled The Flight Of The Earls so that Irish troupes may learn it.*

- A Choral Festival:

*It is also proposed to host the first Choral Festival in the South West of Donegal. To tie in with the anniversary of the Flight Of The Earls, choirs or soloists from the countries visited by the Earls will be invited to participate along with groups and societies from around the country and Northern Ireland. A specially commissioned piece will be launched at this festival.*

Contact:

fionamelly@eircom.net

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## **MARCH 07**

### **An Grianán Theatre**

An Grianán Theatre, Letterkenny is planning to celebrate the anniversary of the historic event, the Flight of the Earls with a production of Brian Friel's play "Making History". The play examines the events in a way, which gives us a clear insight into the human aspect of the people involved. The sense of pride and loss, the pain and humiliation suffered in exile are all brought into sharp relief in the play. An Grianán Theatre will be producing the play in association with the award winning company Ouroboros which is led by the leading Irish actor, Denis Conway. In addition to the professional theatre production An Grianán aims to devise an extensive education and outreach programme, which will run in tandem with the play. The plan is to involve schools and community groups in a project, which leaves a legacy in the community, such as an exhibition or installation; long after the play has been completed.

Contact: Patricia Mc Bride

An Grianan Theatre, Port Road, Letterkenny

Tel: 91 20777

### **Donegal Historical Society / Donegal Annual.**

Due in March 2007, The Donegal Annual will be published by the Donegal Historical Society. The Annual will contain a number of articles, which will be dedicated to the theme of the Flight of the Earls and will include an eye-witness account by a 17<sup>th</sup> Century scribe, Tadhg O' Cianáin, with a colourful description of the journey from the hush-hush departure at Rathmullan in September 1607 to the triumphant arrival in Rome in April 1608. The Annual is free to members of the Donegal Historical Society, it can be obtained from bookshops or from the Hon. Sec., Parkhill, Ballyshannon.

The Donegal Historical Societys Annual seminar and School's Project Competition will also include topics associated with this period. The DHS invite contributions from professional historians on the topic.

Contact

Sean Beattie, Editor Donegal Annual

Hillgrove, Culdaff

[seanbeattie@hotmail.com](mailto:seanbeattie@hotmail.com) / [www.donegalhistory.com](http://www.donegalhistory.com)

**Central Library, Letterkenny:**

Library Ireland Week to include a multi-cultural event exploring Spanish, French and Italian connections. Facilitated by an educational drama co-ordinator, the week will include workshop for kids with the Flight of the Earls theme.

**Inishowen Carnival Group Ltd.**

The Inishowen Carnival Group is delighted to take part in the 400<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of the Flight of the Earls and would like to submit a parade piece into the programme to commemorate this event.

Contact:

Bettina Linke

Bridgetown Business Park, Tul-na-ri, Carndonagh

Tel: 074 9373375

Email: [inishowencarnival@hotmail.com](mailto:inishowencarnival@hotmail.com) / [www.carndonagh.com/carnival](http://www.carndonagh.com/carnival)

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**APRIL****Udarás na Gaeltachta**

Stair, Oidhreacht & Áit / History, Heritage & Place (Working Title):  
Pobal Tír Boghaine (South West Donegal) in partnership with Údarás na Gaeltachta are planning a weekend seminar / workshop on the above theme in April 2007.

Contact:

Cathal Ó Domhnaill, Cill Chártha

074 9738376 / [eolas@aislann.ie](mailto:eolas@aislann.ie)

**IPMAG Conference, Rathmullan, Co. Donegal**

Weekend conference themed around the Flight of the Earls and the archaeology and material culture of both the Gaelic Irish and that of the new colonists

Contact:

Ruairí Ó Baoill

Chair, *Irish Post-Medieval Archaeology Group*

[r.obaoill@ntlworld.com](mailto:r.obaoill@ntlworld.com)

**Rathmullan 21**

A publication on the Four Masters, to be written by Dr. Bernadette Cunningham R.I.A. will be launched in Rathmullan, Easter 2007.

**36ú Féile Idirnaisiúnta Pan Cheilteach**

(10ú – 15ú Aibreán)

Cuireann Leitir Ceanainn Fáilte ar ais roimh ar gcomh-Cheiltigh as Alba, an Bhreatain Bheag, Oileán Mhanainn, An Choirn, An Bhriotáin agus as Éirinn don 36ú Féile Idirnaisiúnta Pan Cheilteach 2007. Déanfar ár gcultúr, tradisiúin agus go hairithe ár dteanga dhúchais a cheiliúradh, a neartú agus a mhalairt tríd ar gceol, amhránaíocht, damhsa, ranganna teangain, turais agus imeachtaí ard-chaighdeánach agus taitneamhach faoi leith eile.

Thig tuilleadh eolais a fháil ó:

Oifig Féile Pan Cheilteach,

Ionad Seirbhísí Pobail,  
Bóthar Niall T Bhléine,  
Leitir Ceanainn,  
Co Dhún na nGall

074-919420 / [www.panceltic.com](http://www.panceltic.com)

Letterkenny welcomes our fellow-Celts back from Scotland, Wales, Isle of Man, Cornwall, Brittany and Ireland to Letterkenny, to celebrate, strengthen and exchange our cultures and traditions, and especially our oldest languages in Europe. This, we celebrate in an extravaganza of performances, displays and competitions of high-quality music, song, dance, sport, tours, language classes and other enjoyable extra fringe events.

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## **MAY**

### **Central Library, Letterkenny: Bealtaine Festival.**

Flight of the Earls theme will be included in programme for Bealtaine 2007. Helen Meehan will give a talk on Bishops O'Boyle and Montgomery and their input into the Nine Years' War, which preceded the flight.

### **Cardinal O'Fiach Library, Armagh. International conference, exhibition and outreach programme.**

The library plans a series of events looking at issues of O'Neills, 1607, Irish Language, relevant religious documents, the Irish in Europe and the Plantation. They plan a major conference, exhibition which will be included as part of their education and outreach programme.

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## **JUNE**

### **Mc Glinchey Summer School: *'Inishowen: Before and After'***

The Mc Glinchey Summer School was set up in 1998 to explore and explain the traditions and folklore of the north-western part of this country, and particularly the Inishowen Peninsula. By this means we hoped to generate a greater awareness of our rich heritage and pass on the spirit of historical discovery to a new generation. It is based in the village of Clonmany.

The Summer School is called after a local weaver and storyteller, Charles Mc Glinchey (1861-1955), whose memoirs were written down by the local schoolteacher, Patrick Kavanagh, and subsequently edited by playwright, Brian Friel, as the Last of the Name (Blackstaff Press 1986). Since the first Summer School in 1998, many different themes of local history and culture have been explored and the Proceedings published in our annual magazine 'It's us they're talking about'. The Summer School 2007 theme will be the **Flight of the Earls** but with an Inishowen angle. Rosa O Doherty, sister of Cahir, sailed out of Rathmullen with her young husband Cafir O Donnell and after his death in Rome in 1608, she returned to Louvain and later married Eoghan Roe O'Neill. ***Inishowen: Before and After*** is our working title, strongly featuring Gaelic Ireland, the O Doherty clan and the O'Doherty Castle at Carrigabrachy in the Isle of Doagh. The 2007 Summer School takes the form of three days of talks by eminent historians, discussions, exhibitions, musical entertainment and field trips. It is hoped to have an international figure with Inishowen connections to perform the opening ceremony on the last weekend of June 2007.

Contact:

Marius Harkin (Chairperson: email: ohearcain@eircom.net)

**O'Neill Summer School:**

The 2007 Annual O'Neill Summer School will feature the Flight of the Earls theme and have close connections with the Donegal and Dungannon programme of events.

Contact:

The Director

The O'Neill Summer School

19 Main Street, Randalstown, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, BT41 3AB

Tel: +44 (0)28 9447 2242

**Colgan Hall Development Committee:** Children's poster / story telling display themed to the FOE

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**JULY**

**Earagail Arts Festival 2007:**

The Earagail Arts Festival in 2007 will specifically address the theme of the FOE with community groups, schools and local artists working together on the production and performance of a large-scale outdoor event. This major spectacle will take place at Rathmullen in mid July, on the shore and on the water, featuring Inishowen Carnival Group and international guests.

**Mac Sweeney Doe Clan:**

The Mac Sweeney Doe Clan will commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Flight of the Earls on Sunday, 22nd, 2007, i.e., on the Sunday nearest the anniversaries of the deaths of: (a) Rory O Donnell, died Saturday, July

28, 1608; (b) Hugh O Neill, died Friday, July 20th, 1616. Descendants of Mac Sweeney Doe and friends will gather that afternoon at Doe Castle and Mass will be celebrated in the Capuchin Friary, Ards, Creeslough, for the repose of the souls of the O Donnell, O Neill and Mac Sweeney chiefly families. The Descendants of Mac Sweeney Doe annual dinner will be held later that evening.

Contact

tsweeney@connect.ie

### **Central Library, Letterkenny:**

The Summer Programme / Reading Tree: This summer long programme usually includes storytelling, arts & crafts. In 2007 the Flight of the Earls theme will form part of this programme; as well as books purchased on FOTE for the Reading Tree programme.

### **The South West Donegal Communities Partnership: Killybegs Festival:**

A festival of the port of Killybegs to include naval ships or tall ships from around Europe along with representatives from our own Irish Naval Fleet and TallShips. A Street Carnival, a massive fireworks display, open-air concerts, seafood; B.B.Q'S, art exhibitions, performances by the Gardaí and local bands, a gala dinner to include a pageant, guest speakers . All artists of the South West Donegal Area to participate in an exhibition with Flight of The Earls as a working theme. Exhibition to take place during the festival of Killybegs in July 2007. Schools and youth projects within the South West Donegal Area to work on art, craft, short story, and verse projects.

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## **AUGUST**

### **Letterkenny Institute of Technology, International Conference *The Flight of the Earls/Teitheadh na n-Iarlaí, 1607-2007***

(working title)

The Letterkenny Institute of Technology and the University of Ulster are collaborating on a major International conference to be held in the LYIT (16 – 19 August) This conference will re-assess the political, diplomatic, cultural religious history of the Flight of the Earls from Rathmullan to the Continent in 1607. The historical importance of this exodus would be difficult to overstate. In effect, this event marked the effective collapse of an independent Gaelic Ulster and prepared the way for the subsequent Plantation. Furthermore, the Flight precipitated the emergence of a military, religious and intellectual diaspora on continental Europe which made enormous contributions to the martial, academic, political and diplomatic life of 17th century Ireland, Britain and Europe. This three-day interdisciplinary conference will seek to explore and reappraise these key events and their far-reaching consequences for Ireland.

Key conference themes will be:

- History, Politics and Diplomacy

- Languages, Literature and Visual Culture
- Emigration and Diaspora
- Genealogy and local history

**Colgan Hall, Carndonagh:** Historical Pageant: possibly involving the local schools Local Artist's Art Exhibition. Both themed to the Flight of the Earls

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## **SEPTEMBER**

### **Donegal County Museum and County Archives Service. September – Year End 2007**

The Museum / Archives service are planning a major joint exhibition for 2007. The exhibition will include archives and artefacts on loan from national and international institutions. A series of lectures and events will be run in conjunction with the exhibition. This may tour the province.

Contact

Tel: 074 91 24613

**The Donegal Bay and Blue Stack Festival** will feature a number of themed FOE events in the South and South West of the County, in late September / early October.

**Central Library, Letterkenny:** Central library hope to host an interactive display to include dress, music of the era, etc. They will focus on the O'Donnell clan throughout this period

### **Donegal County Council Public Art Programme.**

For the visual piece, the commissioned work seeks to engage, reach, animate and connect with the local community of Rathmullan and the people who will visit this area for the Flight of the Earls 400 year anniversary celebrations 2007 and beyond. Still to be commissioned, the artwork might reflect the *disputed* social, cultural or historical legacies of The Flight of the Earls.

Donegal County Council are working with curator Declan Sheehan, Artistic Director of the Context Gallery, Derry in securing a shortlist of four artists for this limited competition. The term *public art* embraces a wide range of media and art forms – painting, sculpture, photography, installation, video and new media, crafts and applied arts but consideration will be given to be permanent nature of the artwork or artworks. The commissioners are open to working with the artist and other stakeholders in terms of site selection. It is anticipated that the installation of this artwork will happen before September 2007 and be officially launched between 10<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September

Contact:

Ms. Terre Duffy, Public Art Manager, Donegal County Council

Tel: 074 91 21968 / [www.publicartdonegal.ie](http://www.publicartdonegal.ie)

## **Rathmullan**

The Rathmullan Environmental Improvement Scheme commenced in November 2005 and is currently nearing completion. The scheme includes provision of kerbing, fencing, decorative street lighting, street furniture and footpathing, undergrounding of overhead cables, erection of stone walls, laying of decorative paving, provision of promenade, provision of car park and landscaping.

The Roads and Transportation Directorate of Donegal County Council are currently progressing plans for road resurfacing and the Rathmullan Sewerage Scheme is on the major capital programme for water and sewerage.

The Flight of the Earls Heritage Centre Committee have recently been awarded a grant of €66,500 from the Donegal County Council led Peace II Task Force for improvement works at the Heritage Centre. Donegal County Council, in association with Rathmullan 21 are currently examining options for the development of an amenity area overlooking the departure point of the Earls at Portnamurray, outside Rathmullan.

## **Rathmullan 21. Events planned / proposed**

- The erection of a permanent monument, sited on the green area which is part of Donegal County Council's Village Renewal Scheme. President Mary Mc Aleese has been invited to unveil the monument which would be the highlight in a programme of week-long series of land and water based commemorative events.
- A plaque is to be erected at the site of the Earls' embarkation at Portnamurray
- A seminar is planned in Rathmullan, September 2007 in the Resource and Social Activity Centre
- A banquet / dinner to be hosted in Rathmullan which will be the climax of the week's events around 14<sup>th</sup> September.

Contact:

Rosaleen Mc Collum (Secretary)

Rathmullan, Letterkenny / Email: [mccollumro@eircom.net](mailto:mccollumro@eircom.net)

## **Clann tSuibhne / Sweeney Clan - 8<sup>th</sup> Clan Gathering**

Clan Week (Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 15<sup>th</sup>). It is proposed to organise a Clans week to get as many as possible of Donegal / Ulster Clans to participate. This will include visits to various sites, talks, book launch, one day Geneology seminar and finishing with a Clan Banquet on Saturday evening 15<sup>th</sup> September.

Contact:

Mairín Ní Fhearraigh, Secretary, Tel: 074 95 31422

## **Society of Australian Geneologists**

The Donegal / Australia history group will host the Society of Australian Geneologists (SAG) on their bi-annual visit to Donegal and other Ulster counties in Sept 07. Their research visit will focus on the assisted emigration to New South Wales of the 600 people who left the Cloughaneely / Gweedore area in 1859.

Contact:

Mary Mhic Suibhne 074 91 35300 / [suibhnem@eircom.net](mailto:suibhnem@eircom.net)

Perry McIntyre SAG (Australia) / [perrymcintyre@optushome.com.au](mailto:perrymcintyre@optushome.com.au)

May McClintock 074 91 22121

**Éigse Cill Chartha':**

This year the first Éigse Cill Chartha' will take place from Friday 15 – Sunday 17th September 2006. The theme in 2006 will be "The Battle of Derrylaghan, 14th September 1590 - Its influence of Irish History. Other details such as a concert of traditional music and a banquet are being discussed but have yet to be confirmed. It is hoped the Éigse will become an annual event, covering different themes. It is intended the 2007 event would also be related to the Flight of the Earls.

Contact:

seanobeirne@eircom.net

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**OCTOBER**

**Donegal County Council Library Service: Wainsfest:** Michael Moylan, who does interactive history performances for young people, using costumes, weapons, etc of the time, will be performing in all the libraries. Dates to be announced.

**The Charles Macklin Autumn School**

*'Cultural Traditions and The Flight of the Earls'*. Charles Macklin the playwright and actor was born in Gortinarn, near Culdaff in 1690, the century in which The Flight of the Earls took place. The 17<sup>th</sup> Charles Macklin Autumn School will present a rich programme of Music, Storytelling, Workshops, Drama, Creative Writing, Exhibitions. 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2007

Contact:

Telephone: 074 93 79104 / 79251

Fax 074 93 79235

[info@charlesmacklin.com](mailto:info@charlesmacklin.com) / [www.charlesmacklin.com](http://www.charlesmacklin.com)

**Centre for Migration Studies**

Eighth Literature of Irish Exile Autumn School: Representing the Flight of the Earls (13<sup>th</sup> October 2007). The centre are looking at the possibility of a one-day seminar on the Flight as the beginning of the Modern Irish Diaspora.

Contact:

Dr. Brian Lambkin / Dr. Patrick Fitzgerald.

Centre for Migration Studies

Ulster-American Folk Park

Mellon Road, Castletown,

Omagh, Co. Tyrone

BT78 5QY

Tel. 028 8225 6315 / Fax. 028 8224 2241 / Email [centremigstudies@ni-libraries.net](mailto:centremigstudies@ni-libraries.net)

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**NOVEMBER**

**Colgan Hall Development Committee:** Drama production on the theme of the FOE by the local drama club:

Further queries on all programme details in the Colgan Hall contact:

Teish Doherty / Fiona Fagan (Secretary)

Colgan Hall Development Committee.

Church Road, Carndonagh

[www.colganhall.com](http://www.colganhall.com)

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*2007 will also see a programme of events related to the Flight of the Earls rolled out across Northern Ireland*

### **Dungannon**

Dungannon / South Tyrone Borough Council will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Flight of the Earls and the Plantation of Ulster in 2007 through a year long series of events. The programme will include artistic, historical, civic, musical and sporting events with a mix of festivals, theatre productions and concerts. By enhancing our existing programme of Council events, and encouraging community participation, we aim to ensure that 2007 will be a memorable year for residents and visitors alike.

### **Summer 2007: Gala opening of Castle Hill, Dungannon.**

The original seat of O'Neill in Dungannon will be restored and used as an exhibition / visitor centre. This will allow for the perfect development of both the Flight of the Earls and the Plantation of Ulster exhibitions and an interactive centre for visitors.

### **Proposed Programme of Events 2007:**

Nov.'06: Launch '07 Events at Christmas Lights Switch On.

February Charlie Donnelly Winter School

March Achievement Awards

May Mayor's Pageant

June Major Concert in Dungannon Park

August Picnic in the Park

September Opening of Castle Hill

October Halloween Spooktacular

Nov. Christmas Lights, Craft and Festive Food Events

### **Spring 2007: Newry / Mourne District Council.**

The historic Bagenal Castle will have been fully restored by 2007. A whole series of events, workshops and exhibitions are planned for this major tourist attraction.

### **2007: Fermanagh County Museum, Enniskillen.**

Due to the large amount of castles in the county FCM will host the touring exhibition, and clan gatherings featuring music and poetry. Throughout the county the historical societies will organise events and there will be a database of events and speakers related to the commemorations.

