

TÍR CHONAILL STONE FESTIVAL

2019 PROGRAMME

14 – 16 JUNE

WOODHILL HOUSE, ARDARA,
CO. DONEGAL, IRELAND



WORKSHOPS IN:

- DRY STONE WALLING
- STONE CARVING
- ART DRAWING
- TALKS, MUSIC, HERITAGE TOUR



Woodhill House is a period dwelling which now functions as a guesthouse and restaurant. Historically it belonged to the Nesbitt family who were involved in the whaling business. The Yates family, present day owners, generously open their grounds to festival attendees for workshops.

"The mountain scenery amongst which Ardara is embosomed is extremely romantic, and well worth exploring. Near the town is Woodhill, the residence of Richard Nesbitt, Esq. It is luxuriously clothed with fine vistas disclosing deep bays, mountain glens and sequestered ravines; and those who have visited the place must ever retain a very pleasing recollection of it."

(Lord George Hill 1846)

FOR FURTHER INFO -

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ALEX PANTELYENKO has a passion for relief carving, letter cutting and realistic portrait drawing. Since beginning to work with stone in 2010 he covered many various projects. For 'The Gathering of Stones' project he carved the Red Hand of Ulster crest. He was proud to carve Waterford county for 'Clocha na hÉireann/Stones of Ireland' monument in Glencolmille.

MARTHA QUINN Sligo based Martha was born in Ireland in 1975 and studied at DLIADT from 1992-1995 graduating with a distinction in sculpture and print. Subsequently she has gained a national reputation for her meticulously carved stone sculptures, her paperwork (drawings, prints and cut-paperwork) and most notably her numerous public sculptures. Her practice is informed and inspired by a wide variety of subjects including science, nature, craft, and architecture. The cross over between the realms of organic and geometric is at play throughout her work.



PAULA HARVEY is archaeologist with Donegal GAP History and Heritage Group, who in 2016 gained 'Adopt a Monument' status for Doon Fort, a unique western stone fort set on an inland lake near Portnoo. The group works towards conserving this dry stone masterpiece.

SEAN ADCOCK is a Dry Stone Wall Association UK Master Craftsman certificate holder and six times North Wales professional champion. Author to guides on walling, he has led many workshops, and worked on large projects such as the repair of Opus 40 in New York.

HILARY MARTIN is Co-President of the Dry Stone Walling Association of Canada. (drystonecanada.com) The Association hosts an annual International Dry Stone Festival, this year returning to Amherst Island, Ontario. Please join us! (drystonecanadafestival.com) She started walling in 2004. Based in Toronto, Hilary works at the Ted Rogers Leadership Centre at Ryerson University. She is also an interdisciplinary artist in sound and stone. (www.hdmartincreative.com)

JUSTIN MOFFAT A tour guide on the hill of Uisneach, a sacred site at the centre of Ireland, county Westmeath. With a great passion for ringforts, his talk "The ringforts of royal Uisneach" takes a look at these five fantastic forts using aerial photography. His talk covers his work as a guide on Uisneach & his love for all things "Ringfort".



BOBBY WATT Born on the Isle of Arran, western Scotland, master mason of fifty years' experience from boy apprentice to the present day. Living and working in Canada, his talk 'The Conservation and Repair of Stonework' looks at Ottawa's Parliament Hill West Block rehabilitation.

Thursday 13th June 7pm

Woodhill House, Ardara - Welcome evening

With Joe Mc Gowan

Local historian and folklorist is a native of Mullaghmore, Co. Sligo. Author of several books on history and heritage his short stories have featured on local and national radio, TV documentaries and RTE1's Sunday Miscellany. He was instrumental in the establishment of the famine memorials in Sligo, the Markievicz sculpture in Rathcormack, Co. Sligo and has written extensively on the Sligo famine experience.



STONE CARVING WORKSHOPS:

Suitable for all abilities, relief, sculpture and letter cutting techniques are taught. If you already have an idea for a piece you would like to carve, please feel free to bring a picture, or sketch your idea on the morning of the workshop. Stone and safety wear supplied. Students may bring their own tools; a variety of tools also provided.

Carving Tutors:

Alex Pantelyenko and Martha Quinn

DRAWING WORKSHOP:

Art compliments stonework, and this workshop is aimed at those who wish to discover a new skill, as well as seasoned artists. The beautiful grounds at Woodhill House are an interesting setting for sketching, with the activities of stone craft workshops providing rich subject matter. Learners are requested to bring materials: sketch pad, pencils, pens, and any other medium which they wish to use and which is easily portable to employ outdoors, for example watercolours or inks.

Tutor: Joe Ryder Artist BA (Hons). *Joe has worked as a designer for over 30 years. He has worked extensively across Ireland, the UK, Europe and the UAE. Joe has been a practising fine artist in oil and acrylics for the past 9 years.*

FRIDAY EVENING TALKS: 7pm – 9pm

Paula Harvey, Hilary Martin and Sean Adcock

Saturday 15th June

WORKSHOPS at Woodhill House 9 – 5 pm

Dry Stone Walling – Stone Carving – Art Drawing

EVENING TALKS 7 – 9pm

Justin Moffat and Bobby Watt



Friday 14th June from 9am – 5pm

All workshops take place at Woodhill House, Ardara

DRY STONE WALLING WORKSHOPS:

Involving the restoration of an old market garden wall and suitable for all abilities. There is a tall retaining section and corner for more advanced wallers. Please wear sturdy footwear and bring rain gear. Safety gear and tools and lunch are provided.

Walling Instructors: Patsy McInaw and Jim Fahy

Patsy and Jim have each got long numbers of years experience as stonemasons and dry stone wallers.



'Clocha na hÉireann/Stones of Ireland' monument in Glencolmcille, Co. Donegal. Photo: Fiachra Mangan



Doon Fort



Approaching Doon Fort by boat

Sunday 16th June

SUNDAY TOUR 10am – 3pm

Visit Doon Fort (tickets are limited) and Kilclooney Dolmen

FAREWELL - 3pm

Coffee, Tea, Scones - Barrett's Tavern, Kilclooney