

## **Kieran's Completed Community Projects 2018:**

### **Our City, Town, Cork Independent:**

The column for 2018 highlighted everyday events and local history nuggets from this period of centenary commemorations. The year 1918 brought continuing challenges and opportunities to Cork and Ireland – elements such as rationing, war fatigue, renewed Sinn Féin vigour, the war ending – all offer lenses in telling the story of life in Cork one hundred years ago. The full index is here: [http://corkheritage.ie/?page\\_id=4835](http://corkheritage.ie/?page_id=4835)

### **Spring Historical Walking Tours:**

**Saturday, 24 March 2018**, *The Friar's Walk*, with Cllr Kieran McCarthy; discover Red Abbey, Elizabeth Fort, Callanan's Tower and Greenmount area; meet at Red Abbey tower, off Douglas Street, 12noon (free, duration: two hours) in association with Cork Lifelong Learning Festival 2018.

### **McCarthy's Community Talent Competition 2018:**

Cork's young people are invited to participate in the tenth year of Cllr Kieran McCarthy's Community Talent Competition. The auditions will take place on Sunday 22 April 2018 between 10am-4pm in the Lifetime Lab at the Old Cork Waterworks Lee Road, Cork City. There are no entry fees and all talents are valid for consideration. The final will be held on Sunday 6 May. There are two categories, one for primary school children and one for secondary school students. Individuals or groups can enter. Winners will be awarded a perpetual trophy and prize money of €150 (two by €150). The project is being organised and funded by Cllr Kieran McCarthy in association with Red Sandstone Varied Productions (RSVP). <http://kieranmccarthy.ie/?p=14084>

### **Kieran's April 2018-May Historical Walking Tours:**

**Saturday 21 April**, *Stories from Blackrock*, tour of Blackrock Village, from Blackrock Castle to Nineteenth Century Houses and Fishing; meet at Blackrock Castle, 12noon (free, 2 hours, finishes near railway line walk, Blackrock Road)

**Saturday 28 April**, *The Victorian Quarter*; tour of the area around St Patrick's Hill – Wellington Road and MacCurtain Street; meet on the Green at Audley Place, top of St Patrick's Hill, 12noon (free, duration: two hours, finishes by St Patrick's Church, Lower Road)

**Sunday 6 May 2018**, *The City Workhouse*; learn about the workhouse created for 2,000 impoverished people in 1841; meet at the gates of St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, 2.30pm

(free, duration: two hours, on site tour), in association with the National Famine Commemoration, 2018, Cork.

### **Cork City Musical Society, Musical Project:**

RSVP Ireland in association with the Cork City Musical Society and in aid of the Cork Samaritans presents: "A Night on the Town" on Thursday 19 October, 8pm.

We are calling all singers, musicians, duos/groups, and any special entertainers! To book an audition time and for more information, email [rsvpireland@gmail.com](mailto:rsvpireland@gmail.com). Auditions. 9 May 2018. 3.30-10pm.

### **McCarthy's Make a Model Boat Project 2018:**

Douglas Road and Independent Cllr Kieran McCarthy invites all Cork young people to participate in the ninth year of *McCarthy's Make a Model Boat Project*. All interested must make a model boat at home from recycled materials and bring it along for judging to The Lough on Thursday 24 May 2018, 6.30pm. The event is being run in association with Meitheal Mara's Cork Harbour Festival. There are three categories, two for primary and one for secondary students. The theme is 'Cork's Future Boats', which is open to interpretation. There are prizes for best models and the event is free to enter. For further information and to take part, please sign up at [www.corkharbourfestival.com](http://www.corkharbourfestival.com).

Cllr McCarthy, who is heading up the event, noted "I am encouraging creation, innovation and imagination amongst our young people, which are important traits for all of us to develop. The Make a Model Boat Project is part of a suite of community projects I have organised and invested in – the others include the Discover Cork: Schools' Heritage Project with Cork City Council, the Community local history walks, local history publications, McCarthy's Community Talent Competition and Cork City Musical Society.

Meitheal Mara's Cork Harbour Festival will bring together the City, County and Harbour agencies and authorities. It connects our city and coastal communities. Combining the Ocean to City Race and Cork Harbour Open Day, there are over 50 different events in the festival for people to enjoy - both on land and on water. The festival begins on Saturday, 2 June with the flagship race Ocean to City – **An Rás Mór** and then runs till Sunday 10 June. Join thousands of other visitors and watch the hundreds of participants race from Crosshaven past Douglas Estuary to Blackrock to Cork City in a spectacular flotilla. Cllr McCarthy noted: "During the festival week embark on a journey to explore the beautiful Cork Harbour – from Mahon Estuary to Roches Point – and enjoy free harbour tours, sailing tasters, open days at heritage sites, and lots more; we need to link the city and areas like Douglas and the Marina and the harbour more through branding and tourism. The geography and history of the second largest natural harbour in the world creates an enormous treasure trove, which we need to harness, celebrate and mind. On 9 June I am hosting a new historical walking tour on the bridges of Cork. More details can be found on my walking tour section at [www.kieranmccarthy.ie](http://www.kieranmccarthy.ie)".

### **Kieran's June 2018 Historical Walking Tours:**

**Saturday 9 June 2018**, Cork City & its Bridges, historical walking tour (new) with Kieran, learn about the early history of the city's most historic bridges, learn about their construction and their relationship with the river and surrounding areas; meet at the National Monument, Grand Parade, 2.30pm (free, duration: two hours, finishes in City Centre) in association with Meitheal Mara's Cork Harbour Festival.

**Saturday 23 June 2018**, *The Cork City Workhouse*; historical walking tour with Kieran, learn about the workhouse created for 2,000 impoverished people in 1841; meet at the gates of St Finbarr's Hospital, Douglas Road, 12noon (free, duration: two hours, on site tour), in association with the Friends of St Finbarr's Hospital Garden Fete.

**Saturday 30 June 2018**, *The Lough & its Curiosities*; historical walking tour with Kieran, explore the local history from the Legend of the Lough to suburban development; meet at green area at northern end of The Lough, entrance of Lough Road to The Lough; 12noon (free, duration: two hours, on site tour)

### **Discover Cork: Schools' Heritage Project 2018/19 Launch:**

The Discover Cork: Schools' Heritage Project is entering its sixteenth year. It encourages students to compile a project on any aspect of Cork history. It is about exploring and investigating local heritage in a constructive, active and fun way. Interested students can pick any topic on Cork's local history to research and can participate as individuals, groups or as a class. Students produce a project using primary material such as fieldwork, interviews, making models and short films of their area.

Co-ordinator and founder of the Schools' Heritage Project, Cllr Kieran McCarthy noted that "The project is about thinking through, understanding, appreciating and making relevant in today's society the role of our local heritage – our local history, our oral histories, our landmarks in our modern world for upcoming citizens. The annual workshops involve visiting circa 20 schools in Cork City with 25 hours of workshops given overall to classes. The workshops comprise showing students projects from previous years and providing a framework to work to and to encourage colour and creativity".

The City Edition of the Project is funded by Cork City Council. It is also sponsored by the Old Waterworks Experience, Lee Road, Learnit Lego Education, Sean Kelly of Lucky Meadows Equestrian Centre, Watergrasshill and Cllr Kieran McCarthy. Application forms to express interest and participation have been sent to all principals and history teachers in Cork. Unfortunately due to recent back surgery for Kieran, the County Cork edition of the project will not run this coming school year. Contact Kieran at [kieran\\_mccarthy@corkcity.ie](mailto:kieran_mccarthy@corkcity.ie) for details or log onto Kieran's heritage.

## **Winter Historical Walking Tours:**

**Saturday 6 October 2018**, *Douglas and its history*, historical walking tour with Kieran; Discover the history of industry and the development of this historic village, meet in the carpark of Douglas Community Centre, 11am (free, duration: two hours)

**Saturday, 13 October 2018**, *The Friar's Walk*, historical walking tour with Kieran, from Red Abbey to Greenmount, meet at Red Abbey tower, Mary Street, off Douglas Street, 11am (free, duration: two hours)

**Sunday 14 October 2018**, *The Lough & its Curiosities*; historical walking tour with Kieran, explore the local history from the Legend of the Lough to suburban development; meet at green area at northern end of The Lough, entrance of Lough Road to The Lough; 2pm, note change of time (free, duration: two hours)

**Thursday, 18 October 2018**, *Cork: A Hundred Years Ago*, a sit-down talk with Kieran exploring pictures and postcards, in association with Cork Age Friendly City, Firkin Crane, Shandon, 11am (free, duration, 90 minutes)

**Saturday 20 October 2018**, *Our Lady's Hospital*, historical walking tour with Kieran; learn about the former Victorian asylum; meet at the gates of Our Lady's Hospital, Lee Road, 11am (free, duration: two hours)

**Sunday 21 October 2018**, *The Marina and Blackrock*, historical walking tour with Kieran, learn about the development of the Marina walk, meet at grotto on Blackrock Pier, 12noon (free, one hour, as part of the Marina Play Sunday and Urban October)

## ***Cork in 50 Buildings* (Kieran's Publication, 2018, Amberley Publishing)**

My new book 'Cork in 50 Buildings' explores the history of this venerable old city through a selection of its greatest architectural treasures, from the St Anne's Church, Shandon, regarded as a symbol of the city, to more recent additions such as the tower of the County Hall, once the tallest building in Ireland.

This book offers a glimpse to explore behind fifty of Cork's historic buildings.

The city of Cork is a place of tradition, continuity, change and legacy.

It is a place of direction and experiment by people of ambition and determination, experiences and learning, of ingenuity and innovation, and of nostalgia and memory. Its extraordinary history is embodied in the buildings that have shaped Ireland's southern capital.

The biggest challenge for me was to pick a mixture of buildings that should be in this book but also ones which I do not often get to write about or show on my historical walking tours. Whether or which, this book builds on my previous publications, and takes strands of articles from this ongoing local history column, Our City, Our Town.