Exhibition and Free Guided Tour of Emo Court

Emo Court is one of the finest stately homes in Ireland. Designed by James Gandon in 1790 for the Earls of Portarlington, it is a magnificent example of neo-classical architecture. "Through the Eyes of Father Browne" - an exhibition on the life and photographs of Father Francis Browne is also on display. On your visit take in a walk around Emo Lake and Gardens developed by the OPW in 2014.

Venue: Emo Court, Emo
Time: Free tours commence at 6pm & 7pm (extended opening hours)

PORTARLINGTON

Puppet Show and Storytime with Julie Rose McCormick

The adventures of Puss & Boots and the Miller's son who's daddy gives him a cat, and the boy gives the cat a pair of boots and a bag. . . .Story Telling - Oisin in Te Na Nog – Oisin son of Finn MacCool Great follows the beautiful Naeive into another world, called ‘Te Na Nog’ - find out what happens? Family show all welcome.

Venue: Portarlington Library, Portarlington
Time: 3.30pm

"Open Studio" at Mount Henry Art Studio

Come and meet the artist Mary Stiils and experience life in an art studio. Make some art, have a look around, catch a chat and a cup of tea. All welcome. No booking required.

Venue: Mount Henry Art Studio, Killenard, Portarlington, R32 XH93
Time: 9am-7pm

MOUNTMELICK

The Ashling Art Group

The Ashling Art Group will exhibit their work at the Gallery in Mountmellick Library.

Venue: Mountmellick Library
Time: Normal opening hrs
Music with the residents and friends of St. Vincent’s

Music with the residents and friends of St. Vincent’s community nursing unit in Mountmellick. Mountmellick Comhaltas, a small voluntary group will perform in the nursing unit to entertain and join with the residents to celebrate culture night.

Venue: St. Vincent’s Hospital, Mountmellick
Time: 6pm-7pm

The Best of the Irish

Devised and directed by Frances Hanney. A night when the great Irish writers of prose, poetry, drama and music come alive. Join us for 90 mins of non-stop entertainment from the best of local talent.

Venue: The Balcony Theatre, Mountmellick Arts Centre
Time: 8pm-9.30pm

SPINK

Traditional Evening with Spink Comhaltas

Enjoy an evening of traditional Irish music, singing, storytelling and dancing in the beautiful Community Hall in Spink, with some of the best musicians in the county performing as part of the evening. Registration for classes will also take place. Contact T: 086 2660768 or E: ccespink@gmail.com.

Venue: Knock, Community Hall, Spink
Time: 6pm-9.30pm

STRADBALLY

The Laois Arthouse

The Laois Arthouse will open for a specially commissioned exhibition in honour of Culture Night by Arthouse resident studio artists from Japan, UK and Ireland. Artists include: Maria O'Brien, Caroline Keane, Ail Donnolly, Eire, Erica Whelan, and David Turk.

Venue: Laois Arthouse, Gallery, Stradbally
Time: 5pm-8pm (extended opening hrs)

Puppet Show and Storytime with Julie Rose McCormick

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CULTURE NIGHT IN LAOIS
Explore | Experience | Enjoy
FREE EVENTS in Laois to celebrate Culture Night on Friday 21st September

Introducing our Laois Culture Night Ambassador Actor Emmet Byrne, a native of County Laois. He most recently starred as Sean Bourke in “Cell Mates” at The Hampstead Theatre, London and in RTÉ’s “Striking Out”. The Theatre Office is delighted to have Emmet as this year’s Laois Culture Night Ambassador.

PORTLAOISE

Circus skills performance and workshops
Circus skills performance and workshops with Maria Corcoran – including stilts walking, juggling, hula hoop, balance, acrobatics and more for all the whole family to enjoy.
Venue: The Plaza, Aras an Chontae, Portlaoise
Time: 4.30pm-5.30pm

Visual Arts, Free Bus Tour
Visual Arts, Free Bus Tour will leave from Portlaoise to visit the rural setting of Roundwood House, Mountrath to view the Pop up Exhibition by artist Jen Donnery. T: 057 8664033/13 to book a place.
Venue: Tour from Portlaoise Library, Lyster Square, Portlaoise
Time: 7.30pm

Laois Youth Dance Ensemble – 3 Events in 1
Laois Youth Dance Ensemble is offering 3 events in 1 for culture night. Heart, a vibrant and unique collection of photographs created by LYDE artistic director Erica Borges and photographer Terry Conroy. The beauty and richness of Laois Heritage sites form the backdrop to the dance forms captured in the photographs.
Venue: Ensemble Dance Studio, 74A Main Street Portlaoise
Time: 7pm-8pm

Mountmellick Embroidery
Portlaoise Group wish to celebrate the completion of a work left unfinished by a former deceased member. The group as a collective have finished this work and will exhibit it at an open evening where the public are invited to take part or view how this age old craft is made and to encourage new members to join.
Venue: Parish Centre, Portlaoise
Time: 7.30pm-9.30pm

James O’Connor Singer-Songwriter
Performance by singer songwriter James O’Connor and his band at the Dunamaise Arts Centre to showcase new and original work from his forthcoming album, ‘A Cluster of Narratives’. Presented by Music Generation Laois.
Venue: The Dunamaise Arts Centre
Time: 8pm

Arles Art Group exhibition of Arts and Crafts
All exhibits will be the work of members who meet every Monday for classes. Entertainment will be provided by local talent and refreshments will be served. Special appearance by a mystery guest. For more info T: 059 8625107/0851308465
Venue: Community Hall, Arles
Time: 8pm-10pm

DONAGHMORE

Tours of Donaghmore Famine Workhouse
Tours of Donaghmore Famine Workhouse led by Trevor Stanley will explore the history of the famine in Laois, and also introduce visitors to the great agricultural and country life collection at the museum, reflecting its importance as a famine centre in the early 1890s.
A short audio-visual presentation tells the story of the famine in Laois, and the site of part of the Laois Heritage Trails app and audioguide. For more see www.laois.ie/heritage
Venue: Heritage House, Abbeyleix
Time: 8pm-8.30pm

DURROW

Fold and Rise
A perspective on the folding and unfolding nature of time. The metaphor and material of the folding and rising of dough is used to have a conversation around women, labour, politics and culture in our time and in the adjacent time of Constance Markievicz. This intimate, multi-disciplinary workshop combines performative action, discussion, and participation. Bring a mixing bowl!
Venue: Castlewood Farm, Durrow
Time: 7.30pm-9.30pm

A Painted Otherworld
A group exhibition at the Dunamaise Arts Centre curated by Pauline O’Connor. It brings together eight artists working with the medium of paint, from Laois and across Ireland, whose work focuses on the surreal.
Venue: Dunamaise Arts Centre, Portlaoise
Time: 7pm

Stories from the Past
Children from primary and secondary schools in Laois will read stories collected during the schools collection initiative in the 1930s and add new stories of their own to this collection. A guide speaker for the National Folklore Collection will give a talk on the importance of the Folklore Collection.
Venue: Heritage House, Abbeyleix
Time: 6pm