

NEWS

THE CORK FOLKLORE PROJECT

Newsletter of The Cork Folklore Project

Issue 03
Winter
2016



❄️ Welcome to our Winter Edition ❄️

Nollaig Shona Ó Bhéaloideas Chorcháí

Over 2016, the Cork Folklore Project celebrated its 20th anniversary and continues to work hard on behalf of the people of Cork to record, archive and share their wonderful stories, memories and experiences. This year saw a significant increase in our profile, with features in the *Evening Echo*, the *Holly Bough* as well as a national TV features on the *Today Show with Maura and Daithí* and TG4's *Guth an Phobail*. As we approach Christmas, we can look back with pride and forward with confidence as we enter our third decade.



CORK FOLKLORE PROJECT ON TG4



In November 2016, TG4 visited the project at St. Finbarr's College in order to film a feature for the popular series *Guth an Phobail* (Voice of the Community). The feature shows the workings of the project and highlights its central role for over two decades within Cork City and County. Cork Folklore Project on TG4. See it here [CLICK](#)



WESTGATE FOUNDATION PROJECT UNDERWAY

In November, a team from the Cork Folklore Project visited the Westgate Foundation in Ballincollig to begin an exciting new project that sees our team visit clients at their day care facility to document their stories. The team were delighted with the enthusiasm shown by the clients at Westgate and will conduct a Memory Morning before Christmas, in a project that will run through 2017.

www.westgatefoundation.ie



BREDA REMEMBERS WAITING FOR SANTA BACK IN THE 1950S. IT SEEMS SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE...

“ Oh God, Christmas night, I remember going to bed and I'd lie awake. If I woke in the morning I wouldn't open my eyes, because we were told that if we saw Santy he'd leave us nothing. So, I'd lie in that bed with my eyes closed tight shut until I'd hear someone moving around. And no way would I open my eyes until I heard somebody up, because I was afraid that if I did, and I opened them and he hadn't come, or he was there, I'd get nothing. So there was that sense of wonder about it, you know, it was magical. ”

CFP Archive, Interview with Breda Sheehan, Blackpool, Cork, 22 July, 2010

The Archive *STILL AVAILABLE!*

Issue 20 of our popular journal *The Archive*, once again presents insightful and intriguing explorations of Cork Folklore. From stories of a wake, to a unique reflection on the life of Mick Lynch, *The Archive* once again underlines the deep folkloric heritage in Cork and demonstrates the value of our project in documenting and sharing that heritage. Issue 20 also explores Cork Horse Trams, The Choktav Donation to Ireland during the Irish Famine, the stonemason tradition, architectural conservation, Cork City Hall, Amhránnaíocht Dúchas na nGaeil and the history of gardens in Cork city. Familiar *Archive* authors like Geraldine Healy and Pat Walsh are joined this year by well-known composer and musician Peadar Ó Riada and Dr. Jenny Butler of UCC.

▶ Play Video Of our Archive Launch Online featuring John Spillane!

@ http://landmark.bbvms.com/view/ee_default_ads/2685756.html

CORK FOLKLORE PROJECT IN THE *Holly Bough*

PAGE 44!



The Cork Folklore Project is featured in the 2016 edition of *The Holly Bough* (p. 44). In the article, Declan Kelly's original article remembers the shared Christmas traditions and customs on Shandon Street in 1948.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016



CLICK ON LINKS BELOW

- 1** **If the Stones Could Speak**
- 2** **Cork Folklore E-Newsletter Summer 2016**
- 3** **Cork Folklore E-Newsletter Autumn 2016**
- 4** **Our exciting new series in The Echo.**
- 5** **Cork Folklore Project on TG4**



BALLYPHEHANE ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

As was mentioned in the autumn newsletter, we have begun our collaboration with the *Baile Féithean* Centenary Committee 1916-2016. The Ballyphehane Oral History project is still in its infancy, but the early signs are this will be a worthwhile and valuable addition to our archive. So far, we have conducted four interviews. The themes that are becoming prevalent are pride and belonging in the community, family, music and the people of the area. All these stories are being delivered with a humour and humility that seems to be common place amongst the residents of Ballyphehane. It is our hope to replicate this project in other areas of the city in the coming years.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBER OF STAFF!



Name: Kieran Murphy

Age: 21 again!

From: Douglas

Main Interests in Folklore: Learning about & from other people, their lives, thoughts & memories.

Aims: Provide people of the future with the opportunity to discover our past & present.

Interests & Hobbies: Folklore of course!

Favourite thing about Cork: It's not Dublin.

Least favourite thing about Cork: The wicked smell from Patrick's Bridge.

Favourite Cork slang: 'Lapsy pa'

LOCAL NEWS PICK!

FOKLORE ALUMNI TOM DOIG'S UPCOMING PUBLIC ART PROJECT



A public art project celebrating the role of butter in Cork's history is set to be erected at the bottom of Shandon Street. The striking artwork is being produced by former Cork Folklore Project staff member, and artist Tom Doig. [FULL STORY HERE](#)



2016 NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

The Cork Folklore Project was represented at the 2016 National and International Sustainable Development Workshop at University of Massachusetts in Lowell (02-06 Nov), where exciting collaborative opportunities were explored. Tomás Mac Conmara attended the event as part of a delegation from UCC and spoke about the importance of foregrounding cultural heritage in the context of sustainability. It is hoped to develop a partnership approach to oral history and folklore between UMass Lowell and the Cork Folklore Project over the years to come.

NORWEGIAN VISIT!

CFP Research Director Dr. Cliona O'Carroll showing members of the Norwegian Group around UCC



In late November the project was visited by three Norwegian folklorists, Audun Kjus, folklorist/archivist at the Norwegian Museum of Cultural History, Bjørn Enes, oral history collector from Bergen and Line Esborg, folklorist/archivist at the Norwegian Folklore Archives. The group came to meet with the team and to explore CFP as a model for developing a similar project in the Norwegian towns of Bergen and Moss. The visit is recognition of the international standing of CFP and will form the basis for future partnerships with the Norwegian project.



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