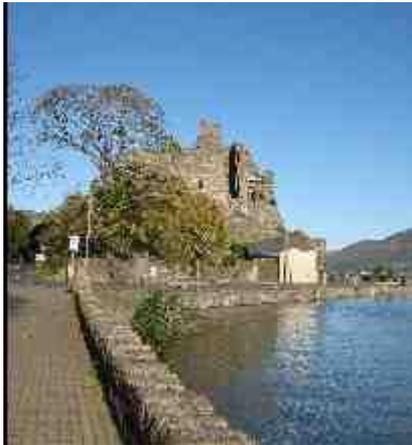


CARLINGFORD COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

MARCH EDITION



This newsletter is jointly produced by the four bodies representing the Carlingford community, namely:

Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust CLHT

Carlingford & Cooley Tourism Assoc. CCTA

Carlingford Tidy Towns CTT

Carlingford Community Development CCD
(The Foy Centre)

Heritage News

Thomas D'Arcy McGee Summer School

Carlingford, 17th - 19th August 2015

McGee and Mitchel: Revolution and Reconciliation

The issue of physical violence as a means for resolving political differences is at the heart of the 4th annual, Thomas D'Arcy McGee Summer School in Carlingford on the 17th to 19th August. This year's theme, McGee and Mitchel: Revolution and Reconciliation provides the basis for a lively debate on the issue of physical force in politics, a subject which divided the former Young Ireland comrades in the 19th century, and continues to influence politics in the 21st century.



David Wilson, Toronto, author of a two-volume biography on D'Arcy McGee, heads up a star-studded panel of historians, politicians and political commentators in Carlingford. Local historian Anthony Russell, author of the forthcoming IAP book on the lives and politics of John Mitchel and Jenny Vernier, will present Mitchel's perspective.

Politically, we were a pack of fools, but we were honest in our folly; and no man need blush at forty for the faults of one-and-twenty, (Thomas D'Arcy McGee, May 1865, reflecting on his Young Ireland activities, and the 1848 Rebellion).

Social events include a dramatisation of the issue, specially commissioned for the Summer School and written by Carlingford local, Larry McArdle, which will see McGee prosecuted by Mitchel for treason against the Irish nation.

Details of programme, fees and accommodation will be issued shortly on <https://www.dkit.ie/thomas-darcy-mcgee>

Dundalk Institute of Technology, in partnership with Altnaveigh House (Newry), Carlingford Lough Heritage Trust, Carlingford and Cooley Tourism Association and Omeath District Development Company Ltd. anticipates a lively, informative and entertaining programme of political debate and social events in the picturesque town this August.

For further information, contact tommyfegan@gmail.com

Carlingford & Cooley Tourism Association News

The Carlingford & Cooley Tourism Association AGM took place on 26th February in McKeivitts Village Hotel at 7.30pm. The meeting was well attended and a new committee was elected with plenty of enthusiasm and new ideas.

We would like to thank the Foy Centre for housing us while the Station House renovations took place. The lease was signed for our new office in the Station House and we have now moved in.

Martin Irvine has finished in his role as secretary and we would like to thank him for his dedication during his time with us. Martin did a wonderful job and we wish him every success in the future.

The first monthly meeting of the new committee was held on Monday 2nd of March and a subcommittee was formed to look after marketing and promotion.

The CCTA played its part in the visit of Tourism Minister, Michael Ring on Thursday 26th March. Many of our members contributed to the wonderful hospitality provided on the day.

We are currently working on our festival schedule for the coming seasons and are in negotiations regarding the delivery of services in the future.

The Foy Centre

The Foy Centre hosted another 'Cycle against suicide' run which was organised by Sosad.

It was a very successful event and we would like to thank everybody who provided sandwiches, soup, and scones and to the volunteers who helped serve tea and sandwiches to the cyclists upon their return from Crossmaglen.

Thanks to The Baytree Restaurant, Carlingford Arms, PJ's, Dan's Café, Mc Kevitt's Hotel, Valentine's Supermarket, Orchard Bakery and all the volunteers for such wonderful support.

The hostel at the Foy Centre was recently closed by the Fire Officer. We had problems with our fire alarm so a new one has had to be installed at a cost of 4500 euro. The Committee is endeavouring to keep the Centre open for as long as possible.

The Carlingford Players are currently very busy rehearsing for their play 'Philadelphia Here I Come'. The play will be performed in early April with Teresa Mc Kevitt directing.

Carlingford Tidy Towns

Spring has well and truly arrived and it is time to come out and work for Carlingford once more. If everyone would devote just one hour a month to improving the area outside your home the town would become an even better place to live!



CTT would like to thank all those of you who have contributed in this way over the past year, particularly those of you who have 'Adopted a Corner'. You are unsung heroes and we applaud you.

We require a volunteer to look after the D'Arcy Magee memorial garden. This is not a particularly onerous task as the area is already graveled over and so would only require weeding twice or possibly three times during the summer.

If you would like to adopt this or another area, please contact Gerry McGaritty on 0872422157.

The TUS workers have been busy on a number of projects around the town this month. These include trimming the box hedge and weeding the beds around the Tennis Courts, weeding all the tree bases along the promenade and weed spraying along the front and around the main car park areas. They have also done more clearing of brambles along the roadside on the way to Omeath and around the castle. This is in addition to their litter picking and grass cutting duties which will be stepped up as the summer progresses.

CTT has commenced the planting of alpine plants around the Tennis Courts. These are in the main white flowering arabis and blue aubretia planted in blocks for maximum colour impact. Once the plants have bulked up a little we will no longer have to weed these beds as often as in the past and they should become largely maintenance free.

Hopefully you will have noticed that following the granting of planning permission last year, we have at last installed black posts around the grass verges surrounding the Thosel car park to prevent cars from mounting the kerb. Another 18 posts need to be made to complete the verge backing on to the green and these will be installed in coming weeks.



The post making factory at Trinity Cottage

Green barrels have been installed along Back Lane to augment the window boxes placed there last year. These will be planted up with trailing petunias as soon as they become available.



The Wildlife Sanctuary has been tidied up for the summer season with the central meadow dug over and cornflower, achillea and callendula seeds sown to generate a colourful display.

The Scouts will be maintaining the flowerbed alongside the children's playground once again after Easter and CTT have had a plaque made in recognition of their efforts which will be installed at a small ceremony thereafter.



CTT had four sets of people participating in a table quiz this month which generated donations on behalf of Louth Tidy Towns Together. Another quiz is to be held in Omeath soon.



CTT have had a Pop-up banner made so that we can take it to the various events we attend to advertise our organization.

When not being employed for this purpose, the banner will be on display in the Station House foyer.

CTT would like to thank CLHT for their sponsorship in procuring this item.

Thank you for supporting your community

If you have any ideas or comments please send them to

Email: patkins520@btinternet.com and I will ensure they are brought to the attention of the appropriate committee.