

Visiting Writers to Edgeworthstown throughout the years

Vona Groarke	Brian Leyden	John F Deane
Neil Donnelly	Siobhan Parkinson	Prof. Laurence Foster
Pat Boran	Prof. Tom Dunne	Nora Connolly
Michael Harding	Noel Monahan	Michael Mullen
Vivian Abbott	Tom McCaughran	Denis Sexton
Dr. Patrick Coughlan	J.P. Donleavy	Dr. Philip Brady
Eugene McGee	Pat McCabe	Prof Terence Patrick Dolan
Anne Haverty	Deirdre Purcell	Vincent McDonnell
June Murphy	Breda Sullivan	Margaret Nohilly
Mary M. Geoghegan	Kathy Rodgers	Joe Woods
Dermot Bolger	Mark Grainer	Kate & Joan Newmann
Frank Galligan	Ferdia McAnna	Ann Enright
Carmen Cullen	Mary Murphy Byrne	Geraldine Mills
Vincent Woods	Belinda McKeon	Marita Conlon McKenna
Gerry Eager	Dr. Margaret Kelleher	Dr. P. Murray
Tony Maud	Grace Brennan	Dr. Ciaran Reilly
Nuala O'Connor	Paul McVeigh	Prof. Claire Connolly
Sarah Webb	Prof. Susan Manly	Prof. Iggy McGovern
John Beddoes	Derek Hand	Alan McMonagle



EDGEWORTH LITERARY SOCIETY

Angela Tuite, Mary Melvin Geoghegan, Goretti Hannon, Mary Kelly, Matt Farrell,
John McGerr, Camilla Kelly, James Kelly, Bridget Duffy

The Society would like to thank the management and staff of Our Lady's Manor and
St. John's Select Vestry for their continued support.
Contact/booking details: Tel: 043 6671801 email: edgelocdev@eircom.net
Website: www.edgeworthstown.net

The 25th Maria Edgeworth Literary Festival

4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th & 10th

May 2020



THE 25th Anniversary

Maria Edgeworth

Literary Festival

Programme

Edgeworthstown

Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

Monday 4th May - Wednesday 6th May 2020

Maria Edgeworth Centre Tours (Old Schoolhouse,
Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford)

Wednesday 6th May 2020

2.00 p.m. Historical Trail - Assemble at St. Mary's Church, Edgeworthstown

Admission: €7.00. Family €20.00 (2 Adults 2 Children)

8.00 p.m. Art Exhibition and Spoken Word with Artist and Writer, Ciara Tuite

Venue: Backstage Theatre, Longford

Thursday 7th May 2020

10.00 a.m. 2nd Level Students. Workshops with Glen Boyne
Historical Trail

Venue: The Green, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

Friday 8th May 2020

4.00 p.m. Children's Section

Primary School Poetry Competition results. Adjudicators comments and presentation of prizes and the Deirdre Purcell Perpetual Cup by Annemarie Ní Churraín

Music with Children's Choir

Venue: The Green., Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

Free Event

Refreshments served

8.00 p.m. Venue: Backstage Theatre, Longford

Live literature and drama -

"In the company of Maria Edgeworth"

Part I - Meet the author Maria Edgeworth (Vanessa Flood)

in conversation with interviewer (Charlie McGettigan)

A one hour performance of conversation, music & song.

Part II - One hour drama, *"The Life and Times of Maria Edgeworth"* telling the story of the creative life of Maria Edgeworth, her life and place in history.

Performed by **Mostrim Players**, written by Pauline Flood and co-directed by Vanessa Flood. Music & Dance performers will include: Erin Ross, Aisling O'Reilly, Maeve Donnelly, Niamh Columb, Noel Carberry and members of the Mostrim Players. This event booked through Backstage Theatre at www.backstage.ie Tel: (043) 334 7888



My name is Glen Boyne aka Outzane, I've written and produced over 6 Albums and have worked on various other projects with various bands in the past i.e. 'Real Indisposable Poetry' (London), 'The Elements' (Dublin) and 'Kassius' (Sligo) at the moment I'm writing, recording and producing my next solo album. For the past few years I've been running Rap writing workshops nationwide around Ireland in Schools, Libraries, Youth Clubs and Community Centres. There has been tremendous positive feedback from participants of the workshops due to the fact that rap has become musical phenomenon Internationally and kids can really relate to it as it provides a platform to discover , and promote individual self identity, self esteem , self expression which builds self confidence and creative using the powerful mixture of words and music combined. The workshop is presented in a positive and more importantly a fun atmosphere.



Noreen is a native of Edgeworthstown. She has a Degree and Masters in Science from Trinity College, Dublin, where she specialised in zoology and freshwater ecology. Noreen now works as a professional ecologist on projects throughout Ireland. She also has a keen interest in sustainability, environmental protection and wildlife and what can be done at a local community level to protect and enhance natural heritage and biodiversity

Saturday 9th May 2020



NÍ CHURREÁIN is a poet from northwest Donegal. Her debut collection *Bloodroot* (Doire Press, 2017) was shortlisted for the Shine Strong Award for best first collection in Ireland and for the 2018 Julie Suk Award in the U.S.A. She is the author of a suite of letterpress poems about Dublin titled *Tomn* (The Salvage Press, 2018). Ní Churreáin has been awarded literary fellowships from Akademie Schloss Solitude Germany, Jack Kerouac House Orlando and Hawthornden Castle Scotland. She is the 2019 Commissioned Writer at Templebar Gallery and Studios Dublin and the 2019-20 Writer In Residence at Maynooth University Information from www.studiotwentyfive.com



John Connell is a multi award winning author, film producer and former investigative journalist. At 33 he is a United Nations (Australia) Media peace prize winner and 2 time Walkley winner for his human rights documentaries. He worked for several years as an investigative journalist covering the Sri Lankan Civil War and indigenous human rights cases and his work led to the freeing and resettlement of 17 Tamil Refugees from wrongful imprisonment by Australian authorities. An award winning filmmaker his documentary programs have won over a dozen international awards including 4 webbys for Africa to Australia (SBS) the first online documentary made in Australia. His No 1 bestselling memoir *The Cow Book* was published to international acclaim spending 37 weeks in the Irish bestseller list and is currently being adapted to a documentary produced by Connell and Fired Up Films. His next book *42.2* will be released in Autumn 2020.

11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Poetry Workshop with Annemarie Ní Churreáin
Venue: The Green, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. Short Story Workshop with John Connell
Venue: The Old Schoolhouse, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford
Workshops: €20.00 - To Book Workshops email edgelocdev@eircom.net or Tel: 043 6671801 (Places limited)

2.00 p.m. Glen Lake Walk
“Family nature walk” with Noreen McLoughlin, Ecologist
Under 16’s must be accompanied by an adult
Places Limited. Free Event.
Assemble at Scoil Bhride, National School, Glen,
Co. Longford N39 TD42

8.00 p.m. Anniversary Celebration
Venue: The Manor Church, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford
Poetry and Short Story Readings, featuring Annemarie Ní Churreáin and John Connell. Musical interlude with Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann and singers Sarah Lee Greene and Denise Fulham. Presentation of prizes to competition winners.
Admission: €5
Refreshments served

Mostrim Players - Backstage Theatre

2020 is the 25th Anniversary of The Maria Edgeworth Literary Festival and The Backstage Theatre. To celebrate this special Anniversary, The Mostrim Players will present a special evening of conversation, music, song & drama. Including special guest, Charlie McGettigan. An evening not to be missed.

Sunday 10th May 2020

The 18th Century Costume Tea Party

2.00 p.m. - 5.00 p.m.

Venue: The Rectory, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

Visitors in period costume optional

Rectory Tour, Edgeworthstown, Co. Longford

Historical Review including readings from Goldsmith, Wilde and

Edgeworth including music and song with Erin & Grace Ross,

Sarah Haughey, and Edgeworthstown Scor Group

Booking required. Adults: €8.00. Family €20.00 (2 adults 2 children)

Bookings: www.18cteaparty.eventbrite.ie

Edgeworth Exhibition with kind permission of the RDS curated by Gerard Whelan and Sharon Burrell, RDS Library.

On display all weekend



Tea Party, Edgeworthstown House

The Edgeworth Family

Meathas Troim/Edgeworthstown 1619-2020

Sixteen nineteen was a troubled time in Ireland, in Meathas Troim James 1 of England granted 600 acres of confiscated lands to a Francis Edgeworth, whose family originated from Edgeware, in Middlesex. Francis Edgeworth was married three times, his third wife was Jane Tuite a catholic, from Sonnagh, in Co Westmeath. The family lived in a Castle in Cranley before moving to the house now known as The Manor. It would be fair to say that the family were mainly absentee landlords who cared little for their tenants, this situation remained until Richard his great grandson inherited.

Maria's father Richard Lovell Edgeworth inherited the estate from his brother Thomas, who died at a young age. He resided in Edgeworthstown and was considered to be a fair and reforming landlord. This was an exciting time in history, it was a time of enlightenment and the Edgeworth family were at the centre of this period. Richard Lovell Edgeworth was a member of the Lunar Society of Birmingham, an informal gathering of prominent figures who were credited with being at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution. Alongside Edgeworth were household names such as Erasmus Darwin, James Watt, Matthew Boulton and Josiah Wedgwood.

Maria Edgeworth grew up in rural Edgeworthstown and was influenced by the landscape and the people of the area. These influences were evident in the portrayal of her character Thady Quirk in her famous novel Castle Rackrent a satirical commentary of her ancestors. The Edgeworth Society are building on this legacy with the hope that a wider awareness will bring benefits to the local community.



Portrait of the Edgeworth family by Adam Buck

Photograph - National Gallery of Ireland