



## County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

E-mail: [ppn@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:ppn@longfordcoco.ie); Web: [www.longfordcoco.ie](http://www.longfordcoco.ie)

fb: @longfordppn

Twitter: @LongfordPPN

Siobhan Cronogue, Co. Longford Public Participation Network, Longford County Council building, Great Water Street, Longford

## PPN Newsletter April 2019

### Ignite Fund

The Ignite Fund is a €550,000 fund created by Social Innovation Fund Ireland in partnership with several private philanthropists and the Department of Rural and Community Development. The Department of Rural and Community Development provides match funding for all philanthropic funds raised by Social Innovation Fund Ireland from the Dormant Accounts Fund.

The objective of the Ignite Fund is to spark meaningful social impact in communities across Ireland by providing support to some of the most innovative charities and social enterprises. We are seeking applications from organisations and projects who are 'igniting' impact in any of the four categories which are listed below:

#### **Empowering Families**

2 x Awards packages available worth €75,000 to innovative projects working with families experiencing disadvantage. The Award is open to projects providing training and support to parents or guardians of children age 6-12 years, in order to develop their parental capacity.

#### **Music To Impact Award:**

2 x Awards Packages available worth €55,000 for innovative projects using music as a means to enhance wellbeing or promote social inclusion for children, young people or adults.

#### **Harnessing Ability Award:**

1 x Awards Package available worth €75,000 for organisations whose mission is to create economic opportunity for adolescents or adults with disabilities through innovative programmes that enhance skills, drive leadership potential and provide job opportunities.

#### **Youth Resilience Award:**

1 x Awards Package available worth €75,000 for innovative projects focused on the mental health of young people in Ireland in the context of increasing social and digital media use. This award calls for projects focused on the safe and positive use of the internet.

If you would like further any information on any of the awards please visit <http://www.socialinnovation.ie/ignite-fund/> or alternatively give Ignite Fund Manager, Amy Power a call on 0896017450 or email at [amy@socialinnovation.ie](mailto:amy@socialinnovation.ie).

## Longford Youth Investors 2019

**LONGFORD  
YOUNG  
INVESTORS  
INVITE  
YOUTH  
GROUPS TO  
APPLY FOR  
FUNDING**

We invite local youth groups to apply for funding under the following themes: positive mental health awareness, autism awareness and children in need. A grant of €1,500 is available to run programmes to/ create awareness for the above themes.

**Application Deadline:  
Wednesday 8th MAY AT 5PM**

For more information and the application, please contact  
Emma (086) 8507371 or Eddie (086)7800197  
Terms & Conditions Apply

PosterMyWall.com

## Information on Community Finance Ireland

We are endeavoring to make all Community Groups, Sports Clubs, Charities and Social Enterprises in the county aware of their potential ability to access Community Finance of approximately €70m, ring-fenced exclusively for use by voluntary led groups in the region.

Community Finance Ireland is a Charity which provides loans exclusively to other third sector organisations such as community groups, charities, sports clubs and social enterprises in the Republic of Ireland. Since 2001, as part of the wider UCIT Group, we've committed in excess of €90 million to over 500 organisations across the island of Ireland.

If having reviewed the following information, you should see merit in discussing the potential use of Community Finance in your community/project just drop an email to discuss further. If nothing else, **join our mailing list** to keep up to date with developments by visiting this link <https://www.communityfinance.ie/contact#contact>, and feel free to forward this notice to others in your area!

A brief explanatory Video on Community Finance (Ireland) is available by clicking on the following link (Ctrl+ Click to follow Link) - [Community Finance \(Ireland\) Animation](#)

### **The Main Points to Note for Now!**

- Volunteer Led, Provider of Social Finance exclusively to the Community Based Sector across the Republic of Ireland
- Part of the Ulster Community Investment Trust Group which has, since 2001, committed some €90 million into Communities across the entire island, North and South.
- Governed by Volunteer Directors elected from our Membership Base. Whilst loan holders are NOT obliged to become members of the group, membership is open to all individuals and organisations interested in purchasing a Share in UCIT – Shares do not pay a dividend and are fully redeemable at any time.
- A registered Charity (CHY NO. 13926), all profits reinvested for onward lending

### **More Important Stuff!**

- Currently availing of access to some €70 million for further lending to the sector
- Amounts vary between €30k and €500k - Current Interest Rates being charged vary between 5% and 6%, and include a 3% shelter against future European Rate increases.
- Not affiliated with any Bank or Government Department - Independent Community owned Organisation

### **Bridging Loans are available to facilitate the drawing of retrospective Grants, such as Rural Development Programme, SEAI, and Sports Capital funding.**

### **Get This!**

- Term Loans are available up to a maximum 15 years (20 years for Social Housing).
- Whilst Security (by way of legal charges on property) may be applicable to Term Loans in some instances, repayment capacity is of ultimate importance, and unsecured lending is a feature of lending within our sector.
- Where repayment capacity is determined, Community Finance is available for a range of purposes e.g. Debt Refinancing, Property Acquisition, and Capital Upgrades
- Applicants will have an appointed Executive deal with them from the point of Enquiry/Application to ultimate drawdown of funds.

### **How is this Support Different?**

- Community Finance (Ireland) **DO NOT CHARGE ARRANGEMENT FEES**
- There are **NO PENALTIES** for Lump Sum Repayments or Early Redemption
- There are **NO PERSONAL GUARANTEES** applicable to the loans.
- Interest Rate Changes **WILL NOT AFFECT** the monthly repayment amount.
- For More information visit [www.communityfinance.ie](http://www.communityfinance.ie) / email [donaltraynor@communityfinance.ie](mailto:donaltraynor@communityfinance.ie) or call 041-6858637 for an informal conversation.

## [Public Consultation: National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland](#)

Please see below the link to the publication of a draft National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland for public consultation, seeking the views of stakeholders and the public to inform the policy, for dissemination.

<https://drcd.gov.ie/about/news-centre/press-releases/minister-ring-launches-public-consultation-on-national-policy-on-social-enterprise/>

## [Community Enhancement Programme 2019](#)



### **Community Enhancement Programme 2019**

Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDDC) invites applications from community groups for funding under the above funding Programme.

Grants are for small scale capital works and may range from €1,000 and €10,000. Application forms and guidelines are available from Longford LCDDC, Longford County Council, Aras an Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, telephone (043) 3343472, email [lcdc@longfordcoco.ie](mailto:lcdc@longfordcoco.ie) or on Longford County Council's website: [www.longfordcoco.ie](http://www.longfordcoco.ie)

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is **5pm on Thursday 30th May 2019.**

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**For assistance, please contact the Community Development team on 043 334 3472**

# The Táin March Festival Longford



The 2019 Táin March festivities will take place in Longford Town on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th of May and at Granard on Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th of May. All of the Táin events are free of charge and are open to everyone, male and female, young and old. From crafts workshops, poetry and art exhibitions to traditional music and storytelling, there is something for all the family at this year's Táin March Festival. We hope to see you there.

## Táin March Festival



## Longford

18th - 24th May 2019

A Series of Unique Events to Celebrate the March of Queen Medbh's Army through the County of Longford

### The Táin March 2019

'An Táin Bó Cuailgne' or the 'Cattle Raid of Cooley' is the most famous of Ireland's ancient Irish sagas and is Europe's oldest recorded vernacular tale, said to date back to the 7th Century AD. It tells the story of a great cattle-raid and invasion of Ulster by the armies of Queen Medbh of Connaught, seeking to take by force, the great Brown Bull of Coauligne.

The 2019 Táin March Festival Longford is dedicated to the celebration of Ireland's Warrior Women, Queen Medbh (Maew), as well as other powerful women in myth, legend and contemporary society. It makes up part of the much larger cross country walking and reenactment festival event that is the Táin March Festival.

The Táin March, led by the Longford Queen Medbh will arrive into the town at 2.30pm on Sunday 19th of May. Welcomed by her Longford warriors, Medbh will proceed through the town from Connolly Barracks to the Grosvenor Centre where her army will have a feast, hear music, take part in Celtic costume workshops, storytelling, face painting and discussions on the unique history of the Táin. The procession will be announced by the sound of Connemara Horn Age Trumpets, bringing music archaeology to life and calling all the Warriors of Longford to join Medbh in her quest.

### Táin March Festival



Supported by

## Táin March Festival Longford: Events

### Saturday 18th May - Longford Town

#### Celtic Costumes - Family Workshop

Phil Abikson of Mile Street Theatre will deliver two family costume design workshops where participants can create costumes, swords and shields for use in the Táin March and for the various costume competitions on Sunday 19th May. Venue: OBI Centre, Mastered Business Park, Longford Town. Time: 12-3pm (25 places) 3.30-6.30pm (25 places). Booking is essential - all enquiries and bookings to help@phildabikson.ie. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### Monumental Ireland - The Sacred Landscapes

Simon Tate of Monumental Ireland will deliver an informal talk as Ireland's ancient monuments and their associated mythology and folklore. Venue: The Market Bar, Longford Town. Time: 7pm. www.facebook.com/monumentalireland

#### Queen Medbh 2019 - Coronary

The 2019 County Longford Queen Medbh will be selected and presented with our Connemara Shield and Spear created especially for the occasion by Longford Woodturners. This unique work of art is passed year on year to the Queen Medbh for County Longford. Who will be this year's Woman Warrior? Who will lead this year's army? Venue: The Market Bar. Time: 8.30pm.

\*The Queen Medbh 2019 Coronary will take place immediately before the Winner of the Wood's Performance by Conall's Tales.

\*The winners of the Ancient Music Ireland competition will be announced on the evening as well. Too lucky people will join Ancient Music Ireland in leading the Táin March through Longford town.

#### Woman of the Woods - A Performance by Conall's Tales

The Táin March Longford are delighted to present his new performance from Conall's Tales, as Irish Mythological storytelling set to a live musical score. A blend of the ancient and contemporary. A unique, immersive, experience. Gather with us to hear the fascinating ancient tales of Warrior Women, Druidesses, Shape-shifters and bringers of life. Venue: The Market Bar. Time: 9.30pm. www.conallstales.ie

### Sunday 19th May - Longford Town

#### Welcoming the Warriors to County Longford

The Táin March will be welcomed into the village of Clonsilla at 11am by Queen Medbh and her gathering of Warriors, who will then join the Medbh's Army as they make their way to Longford town. Come along to join the march but bring your swords and Shields for protection. There could be a battle! You never know!

#### Celtic Costumes Family Workshop

Phil Abikson of Mile Street Theatre will deliver a Family Workshop to create costumes, swords and shields for use in the Táin March at 2.30pm and for the various costume competitions taking place on the day. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Venue: The Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 12-2pm. Booking is essential - all enquiries and bookings to help@phildabikson.ie. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

#### The Táin March Procession

The Táin March, led by Queen Medbh will arrive into Longford at 2.30pm. Welcomed by her Longford warriors, Medbh will proceed through Longford town from Connolly Barracks to the Grosvenor Centre where her army will have a feast, hear music, take part in Celtic costume workshops, storytelling, face painting and discussions on the unique history of the Táin. The procession will be announced by the sound of Connemara Horn Age Trumpets, bringing music archaeology to life and calling all the Warriors of Longford to join Medbh in her quest. Venue: Connolly Barracks, Longford Town & The Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 2.30-3pm.

#### Welcoming Coronary

The leader of the March will present Queen Medbh to the warriors of Longford town and give a rousing speech on the challenge before Medbh and her armies. Venue: Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 3pm.

#### Poetry and Art Exhibition

Local children will read their newly created poetry or songs, written especially for the day via the Heritage in Schools Scheme Workshops led by Chris Thompson of Story Archaeology. Their art work will also be on display for the duration of the day. Venue: Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 3.10-4.00pm. www.storyarchaeology.com

#### Storytelling and Face painting

Adding to the fun of the costumes will be some warrior face painting and an interactive storytelling circle which will introduce the children of Longford to stories of famous Celtic heroes and powerful women in Irish Legend and Mythology. Venue: Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 4.00-5.00pm.

#### Celtic Costumes Family Workshop

Phil Abikson of Mile Street Theatre will facilitate a family workshop in the creative of swords and shields for use in the Táin March at 2.30pm and for the various costume competitions taking place on the day. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Venue: The Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 4.00-5.00pm. Booking is essential as spaces are limited.

#### Characters of the Táin - Podagadonn

Paul Gooling, archaeologist and lecturer at SHB, alongside Míol Ó'Leary, Creative Director of the Táin March Festival, will present a short interactive discussion on the characters of the Táin. Venue: The Temperance Hall. Time: 4.00pm-5.00pm.

#### Celtic Costumes Competition Winners Announcement

The winners of the best family costumes and best sword and shield will be announced and prizes awarded. This is an annual competition sponsored by Phil Abikson of Mile Street Theatre. Venue: Temperance Hall, Longford Town. Time: 5.00pm-5.30pm.

#### Traditional Music & Storytelling Session

Poets, storytellers and musicians from across the county are called to join Queen Medbh and her warriors in a traditional celebration around the fire. Come in costume with an appropriate story, song or poem and journey ever with a guest! Venue: Tally Ho Pub. Time: 7.00pm. www.facebook.com/tallyhojaughran

### Thursday 23rd May - Granard

#### Celtic Costumes Family Workshop

Phil Abikson of Mile Street Theatre will facilitate a family workshop to create costumes, swords and shields for use in this year's Táin March and for the various costume competitions taking place on the day. Venue: Granard Family Resource Centre. Time: 12.00pm-2.00pm. Booking is essential as spaces are limited. (25-30 places). All enquiries to Lisa na Góine at 043 666 0977. lisa@granardfamily.ie

#### Storytelling and Face painting

Adding to the fun of the costumes will be some warrior face painting and an interactive storytelling circle introducing the children of Longford to the legend of Queen Medbh of the Táin as well as famous Celtic heroes and powerful women in Irish Legend and Mythology. Venue: Granard Family Resource Centre. Time: 12-2pm.

#### Granard Knights & Conquests Heritage Centre

Management and staff at the new, state of the art Knights & Conquests Visitor Centre will host a visit and tour of this interesting Norman Ireland Experience. The centre provides an educational and interactive journey through time via innovative audio visual displays. A fun and unique experience for all the family giving an insight to the fascinating history of Granard. Venue: Knights & Conquests Visitor Centre, Granard. Time: 2.30-3.30pm. www.knightandconquests.ie

#### Arrival of The Táin March in to Granard

Queen Medbh and her army will be greeted by children from the National Schools at Granard Knights & Conquests Visitor Centre. After touring the site they will march through the town to Lisa na Góine - Granard Family Resource Centre. Venue: Knights & Conquests Visitor Centre. Time: 3.45pm.

#### Celtic Costumes & Storytelling

The team at Lisa na Góine PRS will facilitate a family workshop to create wonderful decorative Celtic swords and shields. There will also be storytelling, storytelling and an opportunity to meet with Queen Medbh herself in the beautiful community garden at the centre. Venue: Lisa na Góine Granard Family Resource Centre. Time: 4.00pm-5.30pm. Booking is essential as spaces are limited. (25 places). All enquiries to Lisa na Góine at 043 666 0977. lisa@granardfamily.ie

#### Traditional Music Session

Honouring Queen Medbh and the long tradition of welcome and celebration in Granard, a gathering of local musicians will provide an evening of music, song and possibly a jig or two, in one of the town's most famous public houses - the spectacularly quiet John V Donohoes. Come along in costume and you may even win a prize! Venue: John V Donohoes. Time: 8.30pm.

### Friday 24th May - Granard

#### Departing Coronary

Queen Medbh and her army will depart Granard on route to the Cooley Mountains where they will endeavour to steal the famous Brown Bull of Cooley. The community of Granard are encouraged to bid Medbh and her warriors farewell as their epic quest or end of era journey begins in the march to Cooley! Starting Point: Knights & Conquests Visitor Centre. Time: 9.30am.

