

Meath Archaeological and Historical Society

Cumann Seandálaíochta agus Staire na Mí

NEXT MAHS EVENT

Wednesday, September 16th

Séamus MacGabhann Lecture

“Tuning the Radio - A Century of the Connection between
Irish Broadcasting and Traditional Music”

Peter Browne

(RTE radio producer - retired)

Comharchumann, Ráth Chairn - 7.30pm

2026 is the year of celebrating 100 years of Irish radio broadcasting; the original state broadcaster, 2RN, the parent of today's RTE radio and TV, commenced service in January 1926.

To mark this centenary, the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society is hosting an event in Rath Chairn at which the well-known veteran broadcaster and musicologist Peter Browne will reflect on the century-long association of the national broadcasting service and traditional Irish music.

Peter Browne is one of the best-known voices in Ireland from his decades-long presentation of programmes on Irish traditional music and song. In recent years he has presented the programme 'Tuning the Radio' and for four decades before that he was involved with the radio programmes 'The Rolling Wave' and 'Both Sides Now' as well as several TV programmes, notably 'The Long Note' and 'Bringing It All Back Home'.

Born in Dublin, he started playing music with the tin whistle and flute at the age of six and later took up the uilleann pipes, twice winning the Oireachtas piping competition.. He performed with the world-famous Bothy Band and in recordings of 'The Brendan Voyage, with Shaun Davey. He has taken over the mantle of the late Ciaran Mac Mathuna as RTE's great collector of Irish traditional songs and tunes. Slow airs are the main focus of his work as a collector. He has presented and taught the history of Irish traditional music at festival and events throughout Ireland and in many

places abroad.

Contact: Tom French, Hon. Sec. – 087 4119633

Voluntary contributions are accepted at lectures and outings

Other Events

Dunshaughlin & District Historical Society are delighted to host a public presentation by Stephen Mc Glade project manager for the Excavations at Dun Rioga, Reads land in 2018 -2019. The talk will take place in Dunshaughlin Pastoral Centre on Monday 7th September at 8pm

St Finnian Community Pathway Committee is hosting a talk by Dr Hannah Mac Auliffe on the Thursday 17th of September entitled 'Clonard in hagiography: the good, the bad and the saintly'.



The poster for St. Finnian's Pathway features a blue and yellow border. At the top, the title "St. Finnian's Pathway" is written in a large, blue, stylized font. Below the title are two photographs: "St Finnian's Church" on the left and "Ballyboggan Abbey" on the right, with a curved arrow pointing from the church to the abbey. The text below the photos reads: "ST FINNIAN'S PATHWAY COMMUNITY TEAM would like to invite everyone to join us on our second Pilgrimage Walk on 20th September 2026. We had such a great day last year and we are looking forward to the walk together with accompanying events this year. The walk will be from Clonard village to Ballyboggan Abbey and is approximately six kilometres. There will be transport back to Clonard from Ballyboggan Abbey." Below this is a section titled "PROGRAMME OF EVENTS" in a blue box. It lists events for Thursday 17th September 2026 (at 7.30pm in St. Finnian's Parish Centre) and Friday 18th September 2026 (at 7.30pm in St. Finnian's Church). The Thursday event includes a talk by Dr. Hannah MacAuliffe and registration. The Friday event is a candlelight concert. A final event, "Pilgrim Mass" on 20th September 2026 at 12pm in St. Finnian's Church, is also listed. At the bottom, a blue box contains the text: "Please come join us and support our community project."

St. Finnian's Pathway

St Finnian's Church Ballyboggan Abbey

ST FINNIAN'S PATHWAY COMMUNITY TEAM would like to invite everyone to join us on our second Pilgrimage Walk on 20th September 2026. We had such a great day last year and we are looking forward to the walk together with accompanying events this year. The walk will be from Clonard village to Ballyboggan Abbey and is approximately six kilometres. There will be transport back to Clonard from Ballyboggan Abbey.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Thursday 17th September 2026
at 7.30pm St. Finnian's Parish Centre
Talk: 'Clonard in hagiography: the good, the bad and the saintly'
Speaker: Dr. Hannah MacAuliffe, Department of Early Irish, Maynooth University.
Registration – Day of walk
20th September 2026
St. Finnian's Parish Centre 10.30am to 2.30pm

Friday 18th September 2026
at 7.30pm
Candlelight Concert in St. Finnian's Church

Pilgrim Mass
20th September 2026 at 12pm
St. Finnian's Church - Eircode A83 AP26

Please come join us and support our community project.

Moynagh Lough

Studies 1

Michael Potterton, editor

Moynagh Lough is one of the most important archaeological sites ever excavated in Ireland. Situated in the rolling terrain of north Co. Meath, it preserves an extraordinary record of human activity extending from prehistory to the early medieval period. Excavated between 1980 and 1998 under the direction of John Bradley (d. 2014), the site yielded a remarkable range of artefacts and environmental evidence from Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and medieval contexts. The waterlogged conditions ensured the survival of materials rarely preserved elsewhere, offering exceptional insights into everyday life, craft production, trade, diet and the environment across thousands of years.

Although Bradley published a series of interim reports and pioneering studies, the full significance of the excavation has only become clearer through renewed research undertaken since the re-establishment of the Moynagh Lough Project in 2018. This volume represents the first book-length study devoted to the site and brings together eighteen essays by leading specialists from Ireland and abroad.

The contributors examine subjects as diverse as metalworking, textiles, leather, lithics and artefacts of bone and antler, alongside specialist analyses of charcoal and wood, archaeobotanical remains, coprolites, dendrochronology and isotopic evidence. Among the many remarkable discoveries discussed is a rare ogam-inscribed antler, offering a fascinating glimpse into literacy and communication in early medieval Ireland. Other chapters explore Moynagh Lough's wider landscape, its place among Ireland's early medieval high-status sites, its international connections, and its enduring legacy for the local community through the development of the Nobber Cultural and Heritage Centre.

Richly illustrated and drawing on the latest archaeological and scientific research,

Moynagh Lough Studies 1 marks an important milestone in the publication of one of Ireland's most remarkable archaeological discoveries.

Michael Potterton is an associate professor in the Department of History at Maynooth University. Since 2018 he has been the Director and Principal Investigator of the Moynagh Lough Project (Phase 3). He has published more than fifty books as author or editor, most of them relating to the archaeology and history of medieval Ireland.

Contributors: Maximilien Agnes, Laura Basell, Lydia Beckett, Edel Bhreathnach, Niall Brady, Anne Crone, Henry Cruise, Darcie Eastham, George Fogarty, Eleanor Joan Green, Samantha Greeves, Richard Hagan, Jessica Hendy, Thomas Herron, Dolores Kearney, Mikołaj Lisowski, Janet Montgomery, Deborah Nagle, John Nicholl, G.M. Nowell, Lorna O'Donnell, Brendan O'Neill, Kirsty Penkman, Michael Potterton, P.J. Reimer, Billy Sines, Jonathan Small, Camilla Speller, David Stifter, David Stone, Nathan Wales, Graeme Warren, Lucy Wheeler and Averil White.

Hardback. 320 pages. Large Format. Full-Colour Illustrations. €50.00

Available Now

<https://www.fourcourtspress.ie/books/2024/moynagh-lough-studies-1>

NEXT MAHS EVENTS

Sunday, October 11th

George Eogan Memorial Lecture

"Tara by Name, Tara by Nature?"

- Exploring the Archaeology of 'Other'

Tara Places on the Island of Ireland"

Dr Susan Curran

(Discovery Programme)

George Eogan Cultural & Heritage Centre

Nobber - 3.00pm

Sunday, November 29th

"Medieval Irish Kings and the English Invasion"

Seán Ó Hoireabhárd

St Columban's College, Dalgan Park, Navan - 3.00pm