

WINTER

2021

A guide to all the Live & Local events in the WINTER PROGRAMME 2021

Merry Christmas



WINTER PROGRAMME 2021

WELCOME

It is with great pleasure and pride that we present to you this programme of live and local events in County Longford this Winter. The variety and amount of events taking place is truly breath-taking. We all need music, the arts and creativity to lift our spirits at this challenging time.

This county has a great community spirit and Longford County Council is delighted to support this jam-packed winter programme of music, art, story, and song. With 100 events listed there is something happening in almost every town and village in the county for citizens of all ages. At this time, we also think of our diaspora spread around the globe, many of whom may not get home this Christmas. we hope they will be able to join us at some of the great online events that are planned as part of the programme.

We are delighted to be able to support communities and individuals to bring some Christmas cheer to their local area this winter. We hope you will enjoy these events while strictly adhering to public health guidelines.

Nollaig Shona Duit,



Paddy Mahon
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL



Councillor Peggy Nolan

CATHAOIRLEACH

LONGFORD COUNTY COUNCIL







An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



COUNTYWIDE PROJECTSThroughout the month of December

Our programme includes a couple of community-enriching events taking place throughout the county at varied locations.



Nursing Home Programme Month of December Countywide.

A highlight of the Summer Live & Local was our nursing home programme. This Winter the programme has been extended to include all nursing homes and day care centres in the county. Over 20 separate music acts will be participating—Shadow Country, Sean Hussey, Noel Carberry, Mick Flavin, Declan Nerney, Seamus Farrell and Strad. Residents only.

Art For All Month of December Countywide.

Art for All, is a free 5x7 postcard with visual art on one side and a poem on the other side, the cards are free of charge and are available all over Longford for anyone to pick up and bring home to enjoy. Artists are Shelley and Angelika. Open to all.







Yuletide in Granard

28 Nov from 4pm Knights & Conquests Heritage Centre, Granard.

T: 086 700 6715 • **F:** facebook.com/KnightsConquests

The Holly King and the Winter Queen present the Winter Fair for the weekend of 27–28 of November at Knights & Conquests Heritage Centre. Open 11.30am till 5pm. 40 indoor stalls and a visit to the Sacred Grove, Coill, to receive the present of an Oak Sapling. Booking required for K&C. Sunday 28 from 4pm, in conjunction with Live & Local in Longford The Great Christmas Light Switch On for Granard takes place with live music outdoors on site, with fireworks by Black Powder Monkeys. Open to all.



Cronin Unplugged

9 Dec at 7:30pm '98 Memorial Hall, Ballinamuck.

E: livetransmissionrecords@gmail.com

Longford band Cronin will be playing a one-off event in the historic town of Ballinamuck. The night will be an acoustic reworking of some of their classic Cronin and The Aftermath songs with some songs of local interest. They will be joined on the night by acclaimed cellist Ann Houston and the Waterboys legend Steve Wickham on violin. The show will be recorded and filmed for future release. **Booking required.**



Granard Butter Market

11 Dec, 10:30am-1:30pm Butter Market, Granard.

Outdoor Christmas market, this is a fantastic opportunity to shop local with a range of artisan food, crafts and featuring Christmas carolling and competitions in this historic spot. Granard Butter Market was established in 1892 and traded until 1924. Butter was made at home and sold in the Butter Market at Market Street, Granard. This great Butter Market is starting to come alive again with great spirit of community cohesion. Open to all.



Maria Edgeworth: A Critical Introduction to Her Work
26 Nov at 7pm Community Library, Edgeworthstown.

Book Launch: Part of the *Key Irish Women Writers* series, this book written by Edgeworth scholar Clíona O'Gallchoir UCC, will be launched by Síona Cahill Public Affairs & Communications Manager with Gaisce—The President's Award. The launch will feature music by Longford native, local harpist Aine McLoughlin. Open to all.





The Jolly Christmas Market

4 & 5 Dec, 1pm-6pm Jolly Boys Restaurant, Main St., Ballymahon.

T: Leo Flanagan: 087 668 8140 • E: leo@jollyboys.ie

Proudly hosting their very first Jolly Christmas Market. The backyard are will be transformed into a truly festive Winter Wonderland, with local businesses selling their products. Jolly Boys are bringing the magic of Christmas to Ballymahon in 2021 while helping to #SupportLocal. Open to all.



Ballymahon Christmas Lights

5 Dec from 4pm Ballymahon Library, Main St., Ballymahon.

Santa Claus will visit Ballymahon. There will be music, entertainment and treats for all the children. You can take a picture with Santa and he will be bringing all the childrens letters to the North Pole at 5.30pm. The Christmas lights will be turned on at 5.15pm with carols by the children of St. Matthews Primary School. An event not to be missed!! Please be covid aware. Open to all.



Castlecor House—A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens

11 Dec at 8pm & 12 Dec at 4pm Castlecor House, Ballymahon.

T: Loretta Ginty: 087 231 2420 • E: info@castlecorhouse.com

This highly theatrical adaptation brings the colour and vivacity of the greatest of all Christmas stories to the fireplaces of Castlecor House. Three outstanding actors will take you on Scrooge's ghostly journey to redemption, accompanied by a richly atmospheric live musical score. A sell-out hit at the Viking Theatre for the past five years, it is the perfect way to experience Dickens' masterpiece. Performed by Michael James Ford, Sinead Murphy and Kyle Hixon. Booking required.



Longford Christmas Lights

27 Nov from 5pm Market Square, Longford Town.

In conjunction with Live & Local in Longford **The Great Christmas Light Switch On.** Come along to the Market Square in Longford Town to start the Christmas season and celebrate in a sing-along with Santa as we help him turn on the Christmas lights. **Open to all.**

WINTER PROGRAMME 2021





Longford Memories—*Reflections During a Pandemic* 6 Dec, All day Longford Library, Longford Town.

Throughout 2021 *Irish Times* Photographer Brian Farrell captured images and stories of 30 Longford residents most impacted by Covid-19. The exhibition consists of six hundred-word interviews and a photographic portrait of each resident. A book of the interviews and photographs will be launched as part of the exhibition. Exhibition continues throughout Dec. **Open to all.**



The Winter Sessions

6 & 7 Dec at 8pm Backstage Theatre, Farneyhoogan, Longford.

T: 043 33 47888 • **W:** www.backstage.ie

The cream of county Longford talent brought together for two intimate sessions of music, chat and craic with compere Charlie McGettigan and music maestro Paul Gurney. Mon 6 Dec—Strad, Eimear Reynolds, Paul Hennessy, The Cronins, Mick Warnock and Josephine Dolan. Tue 7 Dec—Laura-Jo Callaghan, Ril Óg, 4 Degrees West, The Ross Sisters, Noel Carberry and Angelina Carberry. Booking required.



Longford County Choir Christmas Concert 19 Dec at 7:30pm St Mel's Cathedral, Longford Town.

Once again Longford County Choir returns to St Mel's Cathedral, Longford for the ever popular Christmas Celebration Concert. This year the choir will be joined by wonderful local sopranos Emer Barry and Maria Matthews in a medley of old and new Christmas favourites. The musical director will be the amazing Fintan Farrelly. Open to all.



Snow White Panto

20 Dec-2 Jan at 6:30pm St Mel's College, Longford.

E: paul hennessy0702@gmail.com • **W:** gr8events.ie

Traditional Christmas panto starring *X Factor* singer Mary Byrne, June Rodgers as the Virtual Magic Mirror and Damien Dougie Douglas as Billy Doolittle. Also, Colin Flynn as Daisy Doolittle, Jordan Bass as Prince Harry, Valerie Shiels as Evilene, Leia Victory and Niamh O'Brien as Snow White, Davey Flaherty and Iarlaith O'Rourke as Tik & Tok, Conor McLoughlin as Igor. Booking required.

WINTER PROGRAMME 2021





A Longford Virtual Postcard

27-30 December Online.

T: John Connell: 083 482 0679 • E: connelj2@gmail.com

John Connell filmed on locations across the county with readings for friends and family abroad this Christmas. Open to all. Online Event.



Angelina Carberry & Dan Brouder

8 Jan at 8pm Backstage Theatre, Farneyhoogan, Longford.

T: 043 33 47888 • **W:** www.backstage.ie

Join Angelina Carberry and Dan Brouder for the launch of their new album *Back in Time*, recorded by Paul Gurney in Real Worlds Studio, Co. Longford. They are joined on stage by John Blake, Ruairi McGorman and other musicians from the region. A revival of the rich musical heritage of Co. Longford and the Midlands. Angelina Carberry was awarded TG4 Ceoltóir na Bliana 2021. Booking required.



Believe to Achieve Mural

30 Nov, 9:30am-3:30pm Ardscoil Phadraig. Students from the Discovery Building and mainstream will work with artist Phil Atkinson to paint a mural, with inspiration from work by Ardscoil student Obappa Kinadu.



Interactive Music & Dance

3 Dec 4pm-6pm Drumlish Comm. Centre. Hosted by Drumlish Community Sports Hub and Music Generation. An opportunity for the children to experiment with various types of musical instruments.



Creative Moyne

4 Dec 12pm-4pm Latin School, Moyne.

Create Christmas cards, upcycle envelopes write a poem and create a bauble with local artists. Live music by Peter Masterson. **Booking required—087 369 1997.**



Intercultural Food Festival 5 Dec from 4pm Greville Court, Granard.

A global welcome is extended to our rich and diverse community in Granard to come along, join the food fest and enjoy the seasonal atmosphere!



Christmas Chess Cracker

29 Dec 10am-4pm Drumlish Comm. Centre. An open, one-day tournament for players of all levels and ages. Booking required—pat.collum@gmail.com.



Christmas Variety Show 30 Dec at 6pm Drumlish Comm. Centre.

Seated concert with room for 100 guests socially distanced, 1.5 hours. A showcase of the different cultures which are currently part of our Drumlish community.







Longford Laughs Out Loud 4 Dec at 8:30pm Red Room, PV's Bar.

Mags McKenna hosts 7 national comedians. Tickets are available on eventbrite and limited to 50, in line with Covid guidelines and compliance. **Booking required.**



The Millieir Kid 13 December Online@amamillieir.

A short film about a struggling musician in Longford Town.



Art & Craft Exhibitions 10-12 Dec & 17-19 Dec 12 Main Street & GameStop, Grafton Court.

Longford's professional artists and crafters present a group exhibition of work in two pop-up galleries in Longford Town.



Nine Lessons 19 Dec at 7pm St. John's Church.

Follow the story of Christmas through the tradition of the nine lessons and carols illuminated by candlelight in the historic St. John's church, Longford.



Christmas Art Workshop
13, 20, 27 Nov & 4, 11, 18 Dec at 10:30–
11:30am Lanesborough Library.
19, 26 Nov & 3, 10, 17 Dec at 3:30–4:30pm
Bridgeways Family Centre. Making Xmas
ornaments and gifts. Book–087-344 6088.



Santy Doodles Art Exhibit. 4 Dec 2pm-6pm Creations Gdn. Centre. A display of art from Ballymahon Amateur Art Group with a free visit to Santa for photos and gifts. Booking for Santa essential—09064 32330.



Ballycloughan Concert 11 Dec 7pm-10:30pm Ballychoghan Hall.

Celebrating the opening of the Hall after a 2 year refurbishment. Trad session followed by 2 one-act plays from the Bea Masterson Drama Group and finishing with carols.



Ciara Tuite Solo Art Show 10 Dec, 6pm Edgeworthstown Library.

First solo exhibition in Edgeworthstown by well know artist Ciara Tuite who recently had a successful show in the Luan Gallery In Athlone.



Talk on Maria Edgeworth 15 Dec at 8pm Maria Edgeworth Centre.

A talk on the creative writings of Maria Edgeworth, plus a series of visits and talks with Transition Year students in County Longford by Cliona O'Gallchoir UCC.



Storytime with Mrs. Claus 4 Dec at 11am Longford Library. 10 Dec at 3:30pm Ballymahon Library.

11 Dec at 11am Edgeworthstown Library.
18 Dec at 10.30am Granard Library. Up
to age 8.10 place limit. Book—087-944 5463.



A Taste of Christmas 17 Dec, 11–7pm House of Craft.

Seasonal intro to the recently-opened shop in Ballymahon, stocking amazing local craft gifts and goods and a chance to join our huge christmas charity raffle.



Mostrim Youth Players 18 Dec at 2pm St. Mary's Community Centre, Edgeworthstown.

Christmas Showcase featuring 3 festive performances from our youth theatre members.

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Holly King & Winter Queen turn on Christmas lights and fireworks.	Mural in recreational space for school's autistic students.	Children's music and dance celebrating World Disability Day.	Christmas lighting ceremony.	Free art workshops with local artists and live music. Book-087 369 1997	Christmas lighting ceremony.	With Ann Houston & Steve Wickham. Book-livetransmissionrecords@gmail.com	Artisan food, crafts, caroling and competitions.	Diverse community, seasonal food festival.	Limited to 10 children as per Covid-19 guidelines. Book-087 944 5463	Santa arriving by sleigh, with songs and stories.	Songs and stories for the students with Santa.	Open, 1-day tourmament for all ages and evels. Book—pat.collum@gmail.com	Multicultural variety show from the Drumlish Community.
Knights & Conquests	Ardscoil Phadraig	Drumlish Community Centre	Parish Church, Drumlish	Latin School, Moyne	Crossroads, Ballinalee	98' Memorial Hall, Ballinamuck	Granard Butter Market	Greville Court, Granard	Granard Library	Killasona National School	Bunlahy National School	Drumlish Community Centre	Drumlish Community Centre
Yuletide in Granard	Believe to Achieve Mural	Interactive Music & Dance	Drumlish Christmas Lights	Creative Christmas Moyne	Ballinalee Christmas Lights	Cronin Unplugged	Christmas Fair	Intercultural Food Festival	Storytime with Mrs. Claus	Santa & Mrs. Claus Visit	Singalong/Story Santa	Christmas Chess Cracker	Christmas Variety Show
28 Nov, 4pm	30 Nov, 9:30am-3:30pm	3 Dec, 4pm-6pm	4 Dec, 8.30pm	4 Dec, 12noon-4pm	4 Dec, 8pm	9 Dec, 7:30pm	11 Dec, 10:30am-1:30pm	14 Dec, 12noon–2pm	18 Dec, 10:30am	23 Dec, 11am	23 Dec, 12:30pm	29 Dec, 10am–4pm	30 Dec, 6pm

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Date

13, 20, 27 Nov & 4, 11, 18 Dec 10:30am—11:30am	Christmas Art Workshop	Lanesborough Library	Making handmade Christmas ornaments and gifts. Learn through having fun. Book-hanlonartworks@gmail.com
26 Nov, 7pm	Maria Edgeworth Book Launch	Edgeworthstown Library	The book launch of <i>The Creative writings</i> of Maria Edgeworth.
TBC	BeezNeez Theatre Company	Ballymahon Vocational School	Christmas performance for the students of Ballymahon Vocational School.
19, 26 Nov & 3, 10, 17 Dec 3:30pm-4:30pm	Christmas Art Workshop	Bridgeways Centre, Ballymahon	Making handmade Christmas ornaments and gifts. Learn through having fun. Book-hanlonartworks@gmail.com
2 Dec, 7pm	Bridgeways Art Exhibition	Ballymahon Library	Work by Bridgways Art Group, running until end of year.
Month of December	Family Remembrance Tree	Ballymahon	Opportunity to commemorate a loved one.
4 Dec, 2–6pm	Santy Doodles Art Exhibit	Creations Garden Centre	Work by Ballymahon Art Group and Santa visit. Book for Santa—09064 32 330
4 Dec, 3–8pm	Ethnic Minority Hub Party	Granard Rd, Edgeworthstown	Showcase of art and cultural activities with a magic show and Santa visit.
4 & 5 Dec, 1–6pm	The Jolly Christmas Market	Jolly Boys, Ballymahon	Winter Wonderland Market hosting locally sourced products.
5 Dec, 4pm	Ballymahon Christmas Lights	Ballymahon Library	Christmas lights ceremony and Santa visit!
5 Dec, 4pm	Santa & Children's Disco	Ballycloughan Hall	Children's Christmas celebration.
10 Dec, 6pm	Ciara Tuite Solo Art Show	Edgeworthstown Library	Solo exhibition by well-known local artist Ciara Tuite.
11 Dec, 7pm-10:30pm	Ballycloughan Concert	Ballycloughan Hall	A Christmas celebration of local talent.
9–11 Dec, 10am–4pm	Brushstrokes Art Exhibition	St. Mary's Hall, Lanesborough	Work by Brushstrokes Art Group. Closing at 6pm on Saturday 11th.

at a glance	Description
	Venue
BALLYMAHUN	Event

Date

10 Dec, 3:30pm	Storytime with Mrs. Claus	Ballymahon Library	Limited to 10 children as per Covid-19 guidelines. Book-087 944 5463
II Dec, 11am	Storytime with Mrs. Claus	Edgeworthstown Library	Limited to 10 children as per Covid-19 guidelines. Book-087 944 5463
II Dec, 8pm, 12 Dec, 4pm	A Christmas Carol	Castlecor House	A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens, staged by Antelope Productions.
16 Dec, 6:30pm	Candlelight Stories & Carols	Ballycloughan Community Hall	Ardagh Girl Guides celebrate Christmas with songs, stories and poems.
15 Dec, 8pm	Talk on Maria Edgeworth	Maria Edgeworth Centre	With Cliona O'Gallichoir and historian Matt Farrell.
17 Dec, 11am—7pm	A Taste of Christmas	House of Craft, Ballymahon	Craft exhibition—meet the crafters and enjoy some Christmas refreshment.
18 Dec, 1pm	MYP Christmas Showcase	St. Mary's CC, Edgeworthstown	Mostrim Youth Players Christmas showcase.
20 Dec, 6pm	Ardagh Music Room Concert	Ballycloughan Hall	Christmas Concert for Ardagh Music Room piano students.
26 Dec-31 Dec, 8pm	John B. Keane's <i>The Field</i>	Aurora Community Hall, Legan	The Bea Masterson Drama Group stage John B. Keane's <i>The Field.</i>

LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT at a glance

Venue

Event

Date

Description

25 Nov, 6–10pm	Lakelands	The Spiral Tree, EJ. Valentines	Local feature film shooting.
26 Nov, 5:15pm	Park Villa Drive by Santa	Park Villa Estate	Santa makes a special visit to the estate.
27 Nov, 5pm	Longford Christmas Lights	Market Square	Sing-along with Santa and help him turn on Longford's Christmas Lights.
3–5 Dec, All Day	Caoimhe Hennessy Exhibition	Coffee House 45	An Exhibition of illustration by local children's book illustrator.
4 Dec, 11am	Storytime with Mrs. Claus	Longford Library	Limited to 10 children as per Covid-19 guidelines. Book-087 944 5463
4 Dec, 8:30pm	Longford Laughs Out Loud	Red Room, PV's	Maximum 50 tickets in line with current guidelines. Book-087 944 5463
4 Dec, 4pm	Afrodance with Favour Odusola	Temperance Hall	Covin 19 certificate needed.
5 Dec, 5pm	Christmas Light Up	Main Street, Newtownforbes	Christmas lights, carol singing, Santa visit and goodies for children.
5 December	Annual Midlands Toy Run	Longford to Mullingar	In aid of Children's Ward & Teach Failte Women & Children's Refuge
From 6 December	Ennybegs Christmas Lights	Ennybegs, Killoe	Christmas lighting and fun light statues to bring festive joy.
6 December	St. Nicholas Day Czech Tradition	Longford	I
6 December	Longford Memories Exhibition	Longford Library	Reflections During a Pandemic— Photographic exhibition by Brian Farrell.
6 & 7 Dec, 8pm	Live & Local Winter Sessions	Backstage Theatre	Music and chat with compere Charlie McGettigan and maestro Paul Gurney.
6–16 Dec, 6pm–9pm	Photographic Projection	Former GameStop, Grafton Court	One Day I Will Be Gone From This Place— Projection by Michael Croghan.

LONGFORD MUNICIPAL DISTRICT at a glance

Venue

Event

Date

Description

10–12 Dec, 11am–6pm	Art Exhibition	12 Main St. Longford	Exhibition of work for sale by professional Longford artists.
10–12 Dec, 11am–6pm	Craft Exhibition	Former GameStop, Grafton Court	Exhibition of work for sale by professional Longford crafters.
11 Dec, 11am	Candle Making Workshop	Online via Zoom	Create handpoured beeswax candles. Book-longgardenbees@gmail.com
13 December	The Millieir Kid	Online@amamillieir	A short film about a struggling musician in Longford Town.
17 Dec, 7:30pm	Blue Christmas Service	St. Paul's, Newtownforbes	A gentle and contemplative service for those carrying pain or loss.
17–19 Dec, 11am–6pm	Art Exhibition	12 Main St. Longford	Exhibition of work for sale by professional Longford artists.
17–19 Dec, 11am–6pm	Craft Exhibition	Former GameStop, Grafton Court	Exhibition of work for sale by professional Longford crafters.
19 Dec, 7pm	Nine Lessons & Carols	St. John's Church	A Christmas celebration with an evening of lessons and carols.
19 Dec, 7:30pm	County Choir Concert	St. Mel's Cathedral	Longford County Choir with Emer Barry, Maria Matthews and Fintan Farrelly.
20 Dec–2 Jan, 6:30pm	Snow White Panto	St. Mel's College	Starring X Factor star Mary Byrne & June Rodgers. Book—gr8events.ie
27–30 December	A Longford Virtual Postcard	Online	Countywide films of John Connell with readings for friends and family abroad.
8 Jan, 8pm	Angelina Carberry & Dan Brouder Album Launch	Backstage Theatre	Angelina Carberry & Dan Brouder launch their album <i>Back in Time</i> .



A programme by Longford County Council and funded by Creative Ireland and the Dept. of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media







An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



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