



# Annual Report

Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail

Report and Financial Statements

for the year ended 31 August 2018

# 2017/2018

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## Executive Summary



Another successful year has come and gone! Driven by sheer passion and a love for Irish Traditional Music Song and Dance Youghal Comhaltas has kept the traditions going strong in the Youghal area for many decades, but passion alone isn't enough. Without the support and hard work of all our volunteers, the donations from sponsors and grant giving organisations and local people's continued interest in and support for what we do, none of it could happen.

Comhaltas has many strengths and competitive advantages mainly stemming from our national structure. This structure works best when people join together to pool their resources and ideas to benefit the entire membership rather than just individuals alone. By involving themselves directly with the Comhaltas movement community branches such as ours in Youghal, bring a unique motivation which is not frequently observed in other business structures. In order to maximise the energy and enthusiasm involved in promoting our traditional arts and culture as part of our National Network organisation, the full co-operation of all branches of Comhaltas needs to be harnessed and brought to full fruition.

In 2002 Youghal Comhaltas built its own home Brú na Sí to help sustain its laudable promotional work. Community fundraising was required back in 2002 and Comhaltas is the

first to admit that people and local businesses were more than generous at that time. A second fundraising campaign was required to build a public road to access to Bru na Si following traffic congestion and safety issues.

Originally Founded in 1982 Youghal Comhaltas has just embarked on only its third ever major fundraising initiative. This ambitious campaign by the ever active Branch of Comhaltas needs to raise €160000 to complete a much needed extension to its headquarters at Barracks Field. Not wishing to hang around with the project Comhaltas has already added 28 square meters incorporating two ante rooms at a cost of €1000 per square meter. This phase has upgraded and future proofed Bru na Si in accordance with modern fire evacuation and safe access.

Our Festival application with Cork County Arts Officer enabled Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Éireann Craobh Eochaille to launch the inaugural Tóstal an tSean Thóir Festival in 2017 to create a series of events whereby traditional music would be promoted in East Cork. Taking place in venues in Youghal the festival included top quality live gigs, exclusive workshops and master classes.

Having run a Summer Seisiun weekly show over 27 consecutive seasons Craobh Eochaille extended its activities providing over 8 weeks of action packed traditional music events throughout the summer. The planned Festival events in 2019 are being designed to complement the IronMan event at the request of the organizing committee. In tandem with the above events Craobh Eochaille intends a music pageant based on the story of the McGrath Family of Clock Gate fame. A clan gathering is planned agus Beidh Pop-Up Gaeltacht Ann

Once funding is in place booking offers will be circulated to high profile bands with a price tag which will be suitably proportionate to the available grant.

Given the learn by doing approach of Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille and the advanced vision of the proposed project it is felt that a Community grant of €16000 is required.

Finally Seisiun Ceolta Si will stage its 28th connective season covering 21 nights throughout the months of July and August.

As acting Chairman of Craobh Eochaille it will come as no surprise to you that I have set a number of goals for the advancement and long term sustainability of Brú na Sí. These goals are as a result of researching best practice. When I say this, I do feel that everyone should have an awareness but more importantly have an input and seek ownership of the bigger picture if they so wish.

It is my intention as Chairman that the Branch remains in a state of readiness to engage with our whole community and deliver on all our goals should additional resources become available. I am more

than happy to continue discussing and pursuing these issues at length with support agencies and all likeminded people who see the value we offer to our communities.

While our Flagship project requires constant nurturing, right now, I believe we have the makings of a very strong team at Brú na Sí. If you agree with our objectives please don't remain silent. If you disagree please start SHOUTING!!! Silence speaks a language that no one knows. I have been around long enough to know that my ideas are not always right and as such I also know that my leadership as Chairman will be stronger if you challenge me, and I look forward to this and working with you all in the coming year.

Figure 2 Good start to Pobal Scoil Trad Band

Micheal de Buitléir

Acting chairman



Figure 1 Dr Daithe Kearney's article on Traditional Music in the East Cork Visitor Guide recognised the contribution of Youghal Comhaltas to the promotion of our unique Irish



## Our objectives



Figure 3 Visit by Vince Jordan President of CCE opening the new road

Comhaltas, which was founded in 1951, has today over 400 branches of the movement at home and abroad. The movement is governed, with volunteer members on each level organising themselves into committees which then elect representatives to the next level of the organisation. Through Comhaltas, traditional musicians, singers and dancers are organised and presented in various events promoted by the movement. Each year over forty-four Fleadhanna Ceoil, competitive festivals of traditional music, are organised by Comhaltas plus other competitive events and festivals of an exhibition nature.

Educational facilities have a high priority in the movement's programme, and it is through its numerous classes and courses that exponents of the native arts are given the opportunity of developing their artistic abilities in this sphere of our native culture. The evolution of a full and representative archive of native music and song has reached an advanced stage and this will continue to form a major part of Comhaltas policy.

Comhaltas concerns itself with the development of an environment conducive to the Aims and Objectives of the movement. This is reflected in its work in the field of radio, television, films and other areas of the communications media. Through publications, recordings, sessions, concerts, céilithe and other educational recreational projects, the movement continues to mould our music, song, dance and language as integral and potent components of community life.

Irish, the native language of Ireland, is afforded a special status in Comhaltas and the movement is unreservedly committed to its promotion.

The Branch is the fundamental and most important unit of the Comhaltas movement. It is the Branch which makes it possible for our native cultural characteristics to be propagated and strengthened in the community.

Craobh Eochaille is a branch unit of Comhaltas Ceoltoirí Éireann. The branch is a registered member of Cork County PPN, and the groups Charitable Status no is CHY 8762. Our branch of Comhaltas meets the stated aims and objectives in a variety of ways through performance and music education including:

- Community bands (such as Ceolta Si. Lar na Cruinne, Draocht an Oileain. 3 Underage dance groups
- Community music groups (such as Bru



Figure 4 Youghal Comhaltas at Cruinniú na NÓg

na Si Singers Club, Adult Music Group and Adult Ceili and Set-dancing

- Mainstream outreach to primary and post-primary schools
- Online tuition and various digital technology initiatives
- East Cork Trad Orchestras
- Peer learning or student 'self-taught' initiative
- Strong musical traditions within the family groups

At Bru na Si we also seek to embrace Clár Éire Ildánach the national culture based programme which is designed to promote individual, community and national wellbeing.

## Our achievements



Figure 5 Pictured is the green area near Dermot Hurley Est, Youghal where you can see the outline of the old barracks in the scorched grass. The outline will disappear in the next growth of grass and we may not see this again for a long time.

### Pipe Band still in existence today.

This find reinforces the importance of Youghal as a heritage centre of significant regional and national interest.

While it is important to acknowledge that the Centre did assist Craobh Eochaille in establishing a vibrant 'pocket' of music provision from Bru na Si, such as the internationally acclaimed Ceolta Si Group -it remains variable and uneven in the town at large – access is inconsistent and it tends to be a "lottery" due to restrictions of space at the Centre and the unavailability of a national infrastructure for music and cultural education.

Since its inception Bru na Si has continued to operate at capacity and in 2017 Craobh Eochaille was obliged to build a public access road to the Centre to cater for increased demand. This signalled the end of a very stressful period for the Management of Bru na Si. Our development strategy had been seriously stalled and we had to curtail our plans to expand and widen our educational delivery from Bru na Si due to traffic congestion

Despite the mental fatigue associated around compliance with increasing Health & Safety and other regulation Craobh Eochaille remained active throughout in promoting traditional arts and Culture.

### ➤ Bru na Si site

Throughout its nomadic history since its inception in 1983 Craobh Eochaille did what it could to address this gap in educational provision in the Town of Youghal. In 2003 Craobh Eochaille with the assistance of Youghal Town Council and a Rural Development grant from SECAD built and established the Bru na Si Cultural Centre. ***We now know thanks to what was revealed as a result of the dry summer this year, Bru na Si has been built on a site adjacent to the old army barracks, and perhaps the greatest legacy of this barracks is the Youghal***



Figure 6 Opening of the new road

The centre is built on Council owned land and Comhaltas operates a Community Contract to maintain the access to Bru na Si as well as the adjoining Community Park covering almost 3 Acres of Green space. <https://www.google.ie/maps/place/Br%C3%BA+Na+S%C3%AD,+Blackwater+Heights,+Springfield,+Youghal,+Co.+Cork/@51.9539324,-7.8629187,676m/data=!3m2!1e3!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x48436d0a6a327ad9:0x21c9ffe27463b750>

### ➤ Brú na Sí three year Artistic Plan

**2018 Bliain na Gaeilge**  
125 ATHBHEOCHAN  
Gaeilge bheo  
Irish belongs to us all  
Seachtain na Gaeilge  
mar chuid de  
Bhliain na Gaeilge

*Lathair Gaeilge le limn na seachtaine agus bhí baidil astu!*  
*Is leor cupla focal!*

DATA	AM	BREACHT	IONAD
Luan 13ú	10.00	Fáilte / Welcome	Seomra na Gaeilge
Luan 13ú	10.00	Ionad na Gaeilge: Inneachair Gaeilge agus Eolais	Laurence Shopping Centre
Luan 13ú	10.00	Chlu Comháb / Conversation Class	Seomra na Gaeilge
Luan 13ú	13.00	Taispeántas ag ollscoil 125 bliain den athbheochar curra le chéile ag Conradh na Gaeilge	Drinchard Arts Centre - Barlow House
Luan 13ú	11.05	Ceol, Comra agus Cupán / Cúpa, Music and Chat	Esquerra Coffee Shop
Luan 13ú	12.00	Seoirta do Sheanú Egn / Stories for Young People	Seomra na Gaeilge
Luan 13ú	14.00	Seoirta na Gaeilge do Theaghtágh / Family Fun	Laurence Shopping Centre
Luan 13ú	16.00	Damhsa Hip Hop / Hip Hop Dancing	Laurence Shopping Centre
Luan 13ú	18.00	Gig Ríg na Gaeilge	Gig Ríg
Máirt 14ú	11.05	Ceol, Comra agus Cupán / Cúpa, Music and Chat	Esquerra Coffee Shop
Máirt 14ú & Chadaon 16ú	12.05	Turas Seúlaidé Stairiú / Historical Walking Tour of Droghda	Seomra na Gaeilge
Máirt 14ú	16.00	Damhsa Liriciúil / Lyrical Dancing	Laurence Shopping Centre
Máirt 14ú	17.00	Seoirta Oifigiúil / Official Launch	Highnam Gallery
Chadaon 15ú	11.05	Ceol, Comra agus Cupán / Cúpa, Music and Chat	Café Neri Coffee Shop
Chadaon 15ú	14.00	Lúthcheag / Luthcheag Lecture Series / The Seven Ages of Music / Droghda Alha le Seán Ó Corcorán (Gaeilge)	Drinchard Arts Centre - Barlow House
Chadaon 15ú	16.00	Damhsa Trádaisiúil / Irish Dancing	Laurence Shopping Centre
Chadaon 15ú	20.15	Ceol Mór Stáid / Street Célí	Gig Ríg

Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann 2018 Droghda Alha  
Lúthcheag  
Conradh na Gaeilge  
Glor na nGaeil  
Foras na Gaeilge

Only Comhaltas passes on the tradition of Irish culture outside of formal education programmes offered in colleges and higher education. Comhaltas is a global movement involving tens of thousands of people. Youghal is a Heritage Town, where past meets present, and is both a modern seaside resort and one of the best examples of a Norman walled port in Ireland today; from Viking founders down through the various eras that formed Youghal. Youghal's history has bestowed this unique heritage including its arts and culture on which Craobh Eochaille adds so much value providing musical and folklore traditions.

Cork County Council Arts Officer, Ian McDonagh explained that **"it should be remembered that the arts festival sector, in addition to its cultural and social benefits is important to the local economy and to tourism by helping to form the positive image of Cork as a culturally vibrant visitor destination"** Key objectives included in the Brú na Sí three year Artistic Plan are:

- Raise standards (across all groups)
- Identify resourcing needs
- Plan for Workshops
- Repertoire – new and old
- Link with history, stories, other local groups

The key to the Artistic Plan is that it brings life to history and traditions in a way that is meaningful and sustainable for the local community. Material in archives becomes part of a living tradition and new material helps celebrate a local heritage. All of this material should be shared by the whole community and across all performing groups at Brú na Sí (i.e. Moll Goggins) to an increasingly high standard. The uniqueness of Brú na Sí and the community connected to it is reflected in the performances by group members and this material is disseminated through local performances and trips around Ireland and internationally. Achievements to date include:

- Phase 1 workshops
- ✓ Ellie and Joanne introduced to Brú na Sí
- Grúpa Ceoil routine developed
- ✓ Ensure everybody knows routine
- New tunes learned
- ✓ Including new compositions about Youghal in different and challenging keys and time signatures
- ✓ New polkas performed at Christmas concert
- New song learned
- ✓ Moll Goggins, shared by teenagers and adults



## ➤ Our events



Cork County's first Creative Ireland Conference was held on November 16th and 17th 2017. Over the course of the two days, the event saw close to 20 speakers and a wonderful cultural evening on the first night, featuring Cathal Roche on Saxophone performing Ian Wilson's 'Thresholds'; the local Youghal Comhaltas Group, and an outstanding inspiring performance by Peadar Ó Riada. The Conference delved into so many different aspects of culture with the wonderful variety of speakers who partook, giving all in attendance a great overview of cultural activity within the County of Cork. The Conference also allowed ample time to explore and discuss Creative Ireland as a whole. The ensuing talks were most worthwhile, and identified areas requiring greater attention and focus within the County from a community and cultural perspective, but also identified many positive aspects. Certainly, what was taken from the conference was a real recognition of the importance of Creative Ireland and a real sense of ambition as to what can be achieved both at the individual level, but also at the community and even national level, for anyone and everyone willing to embrace the Creative Ireland Programme.

Yet again Craobh Eochaille has delivered a full year of activities and events meeting our charitable aims and objectives. These events have engaged with young people and adults of all ages and abilities, individuals and families. Events have been both educational and recreational for participants and visitors promoting both our musical and cultural heritage alongside the preservation and use of our native Irish language.

As in all years in keeping with its traditions Bru na Si held its regular classes and workshops throughout the year.

**Monday**  
**Tuesday**  
**Friday**

Irish Dancing  
Adult Set Dancing and Music Group  
Music Classes and Groups



16 November – Inaugural Creative Ireland Cork Conference at The Mall Arts

02-04 December – Lar na Cruinne Visit to Dundalk. Thanks as always to Daithi and Adele for hosting the group.



16 December – Christmas Party in Aid of Mercy Hospital Foundation. It's four years since Youghal Comhaltas first played at Pat and Margaret Carey's Christmas Lights Extravaganza at Blackwater Heights. Since then the event has been transferred to Bru na Si and through the evening we were able to hand over €1500 to the Mercy Hospital Foundation. It was great to see Pat Lynch make a return



performance after a long illness. What about the New Singers Club under the Baton of Teresa O'Brien. All the Beginners in music and dancing the fabulous Lar na Cruinne Group and the usual Ceolta Si helpers. A very enjoyable and worthy occasion. Well done all and thanks again to Pat and Margaret and their many volunteer helpers



19 December Youghal Comhaltas perform at the CETB presentation of Christmas Hampers to Vincent de Paul



28 December 2017 – Christmas Kids Party at Perks Entertainment. Great day out at Perks Fun Fair followed by Seisiun Nollaig na n-Óg.

17 March 2018 – We didn't brave the elements this year opting instead to host a session and ceili mor in the Youghal community Centre.

**POP UP TRAD FESTIVAL**  
YOUGHAL

TRADITIONAL MUSICIANS FROM BRANAGH, LOUTH, MEATH, MONAGHAN, CLARE, CO. CITY, WEST WATERFORD AND EAST CO. CO.

**PROGRAMME**

**THURSDAY 05th:**  
Visit of CCE Kilrush Co. Clare group session at Bru na Si & Ceolta Si with Daithi and Adele as facilitators.  
- 2:30 pm Kilrush Arrive at Perks Funfair.  
- Tourist and Shopping in Town.  
- Seisiun 7-8pm at Bru na Si.  
- Kilrush 10 min Seisiun.  
- And Ceolta 10 min followed by big session.

**FRIDAY 06th:**  
- 10 am 12-30. 2 separate Easter Camp workshop with Daithi and Adele at Quality Hotel.  
- 12-30 Brunch  
- 3pm workshop with the Oriel Orchestra.  
- 4pm Tourist Sightseeing / walking Tour / Perks etc.

**FRIDAY 06th EVENING:**  
- 6-30 pm Red Store for meal  
- "Pop Up Gaitheacht" Performance by Orlaith and Rathara and Fleadh Group followed by an evening of traditional music.  
- Meal available - pre book only  
- Musicians from Douglas Youghal and Dundalk.

**SATURDAY 07th:**  
- 10 am Workshops continued  
- 3pm Tourist activities in Town and free time.  
- Mall Arts Centre at 7pm  
Welcome the Visit of the 4-string Oriel Trad Orchestra from Counties Armagh, Louth, Meath and Monaghan as create a regional cross-border orchestra to perform arrangements of Irish traditional music. They will be joined in the evening by Youghal's very own Ceolta Si. Witness over 50 musicians in union. Free Concert Full of 200 seats.

**SUNDAY 08th:**  
- One for the Road

05-08 April – Pop Trad Festival – Visiting Groups from Killrush and Louth. The Oriel Orchestra who visited from Louth combined with Lar na Cruinne to close the Festival with a wonderful at the Mall arts centre. Our Pop Up Trad Festival started with the visit of 16 members of CCÉ Kilrush to Youghal. They were joined by 25 members of Ceolta Si. The event continued on Friday when we welcomed our friends Daithi Kearney and Adele Commings together with 50 members of the Oriel Traditional Orchestra OTO, from Dundalk, Co Louth, for a busy programme of workshops and session at the Quality Hotel. Later an evening of fine food and merriment at the Red Store where were joined by the 12 members



Figure 7 Early start for Over 70 musicians from Co Louth Meath and Youghal join forces for one big orchestra

of Douglas CCE Adult Group and 16 members of our own Adult group. Throughout the weekend over 40 members representing Ceolta Sí and our under age section were involved. We continued with a wonderful concert in the Mall Arts Centre, Youghal on Saturday at 7-30 pm. On Sunday the Festival slowly wound down by which time we had said farewell to over 150 musicians Singers and Dancers. Beir Bua

15 April – **Over 60s** Talent Show hosted at Bru na Si

13 May – Lar na Cruinne and members of Youghal Comhaltas Branch competed at the County Fleadh Ceoil in Macroom

26 May – BOI Business and Community Expo at Walter Raleigh hotel – Lovely performances by our various groups.

31 May – Wonderful performance by Cordeen at Bru na Si






23 June - Cruinniú na nÓg is dedicated as National Culture day for the young people. Youghal Comhaltas organized a series of Workshops and Celebrations at the Mall Arts Centre.



04 July – Ceolta Si Summer Season starts at Bru na Si

14 July – Queen of Sea festival and visit by Vince Jordan and Key Note Ceili Band

	<p>17 July – We at Brú na Sí enjoy sharing our love of Irish music with new groups, promoting Irish culture and making new friends. We welcomed the Loughborough Endowed Schools (LES) Music from the UK to Youghal. After teaching them some tunes at Brú na Sí we headed down to St Mary's Collegiate church Yew Wood Venues for a fantastic concert. Before the concert the groups came together to pass on some Irish Traditional Tunes and Dances.</p>	
<p>19<sup>th</sup> July - Concertina Workshop at Bru na Si with Martina O'Regan</p>		
<p>Artistic Development – Daithi Kearney hosts a specially prepared seminar, 24<sup>th</sup> August.</p>		
	<p>24 August - Congratulations to Ceolta Si on a wonderful final Summer Show performance. Performances at St Mary's Church, the community Centre, Red Store, Kays Flowers, An Naoinra</p>	

## Impact and the difference we have made

### ➤ In our community for the community

The Youghal Forum chaired by **Micheal de Buitleir Bru na Sí**. was set up for the specific purpose of engaging with funding schemes. In the context of community development the Forum concept is relatively new in Youghal and the consultation process that were led by members of the forum identified a number of initiatives that local people said they would like to see developed. These included:

- Establish a Local Traditional Music Educational Scheme in East Cork
- Establish a strategic Pop up Shop System.
- Establish an East Cork Tradfest and Summer school.
- Establish a cohesive Age Action Programme.
- promote Arts using empty shop windows as a blank Canvas
- Seek to proclaim the Folklore story of Moll Goggin. (Health and Safety is an issue but the corner could be rendered safe while erecting a statue or small monument).
- Establish a system for enhancing, coordinating and marketing festivals and activities,
- Establish a Folk Orchestra.
- Establish an Annual Arts Expo and Seminar to promote Arts at the beginning of each tourist season,
- Develop a Volunteers reserves list.

The evidence above and to follow not only shows that Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Éireann Croabh Eochaille has met its charitable objectives, but has also succeeded in meeting some of the wish list identified by local people in Youghal.





**Figure 8** May 2017 Mayor of the County of Cork Cllr Seamus McGrath makes the presentation to the Youghal Comhaltas group of Pat Carey, Trudy Casey and Micheal and Helen De Buitler, at the Cork County Mayor's community awards ceremony for 2017 hosted by Cork County Council, at County Hall, Cork.

**JUNE:**

Friday 9th June, 8pm  
**CORDEEN IN CONCERT**  
see below for booking info.  
CD Launch  
Cordeen to launch their Irish Tour from Brú na Si.  
A musical bridge connecting Ireland and Newfoundland.

Saturday 17th June  
Unveiling of the Choctaw Indians sculpture in Midleton.

Bothánasacht na Scoile  
Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille have revived the traditional pastime of Bothánasacht by travelling to local schools as part of Clár Idirnuch throughout the month of June.

Wednesday 21st - Sunday 25th June  
**WORKSHOPS/PERFORMANCES/CONCERTS**  
with Dáithí Kearney & Ailéa Connolly.  
Dáithí Kearney CD Launch 'A Louth Lull'

Friday 23rd June  
Ceolraí Si at Ballynatray Stately Home - Cultural Event.  
Traditional music, song & dance for international audiences.

Saturday 24th June  
10am: Bop - Clár Idirnuch | 2pm: Seminar - Abair Trad  
Clár Éire Idirnuch, The Creative Ireland Programme is an Irish government initiative that seeks to encourage participation in creative activities. The Traditional Arts symbolises and embody the creativeness of Irish people for generations and Abair Trad seeks to explore the potential for the traditional arts within the Creative Ireland Programme. All are welcome to contribute their ideas and find out what Creative Ireland means for them, their children and their communities.

BOOKING: (087) 7934504 and [www.brunas.ie](http://www.brunas.ie)  
find us on facebook!

**JULY:**

Saturday 1st July  
Ceolraí Si at Ballynatray Stately Home  
Traditional music, song & dance for international audiences

Monday 3rd July - Friday 7th July  
Music Summer Camp at Brú na Si

Monday 10th July - Wednesday 12th July  
**MID-WEEK WORKSHOP** with Dáithí and Ailéa

Friday 14th July, 8pm  
**SHARON SHANNON** at the Clig Ríg in collaboration with the Queen of Sea Festival  
see below for booking info.

Saturday 15th July: Mall Arts Centre  
10am: Feis Ceil again Riverca | 12pm: Feis Continued  
8.30pm: CÉILÍ - DONIE NOLAN & TAYLOR'S CROSS  
Donie Nolan CD Launch | 11pm: Fireworks display

Friday 21st - 22nd July  
Munster Fleadh in Cork City  
Slide & Polka workshop

**AUGUST:**

Saturday August 12th, 10AM  
**CHERISH THE LADIES IN CONCERT**  
see below for booking info.

The diversity of approaches to how performance music education is currently provided presents a range of areas for Craobh Eochaille to build upon. The differences we want to make include:

- Enabling access to vocal and instrumental tuition for children and young people. **In 2017 we supported 143 Young people: Dancing 40 pupils aged 6 years to 16, but only one boy; 103 in Irish music of the same age group with 70% being girls.**
- Creating opportunities for musicians who wish to develop their skills in performance music education and provide support for them within a local and national framework
- Encouraging performance across the full

range of traditional musical instruments voice and dance cultures and traditions of the region.

- Enabling musicians to live and work locally and thereby enrich the life of local communities in many different ways, for example through performance, collaboration with other music/arts practitioners and community music projects. **In 2017 we worked with 7 professional musicians expert with Traditional instruments such as the Concertina, Accordion, Banjo, Fiddle, Flute,**
- Contributing to, enabling and energising broader music development within the South East region. **In 2017 we worked with 7 schools (Inc, Killeagh, Clonpriest, Killcreddan, Kyle, Pobal Scoil, Scoil Chorrain) Engaging with young people in 5th and 6th classes and introducing them to Trad music**
- Energising community development and empowering communities to create innovative ways to nurture 'musical communities' and so develop sustainable approaches
- **Enriching the social dimension and enhance the overall quality of life of a community**





Figure 9 We had a great time recording with Sarah, Aoibh, Erin and Aoife at CRY Youth Radio

- Establishing a national framework and supporting high artistic and educational standards.

The variety of ways in which performance music education is currently delivered by Bru na Si includes:

- Community bands (such as Ceolta Si. Lar na Cruinne, Draocht an Oileain. 3 Underage dance groups
- Community music groups (such as Bru na Si Singers Club, Adult Music Group and Adult Ceili and Set-dancing
- Mainstream outreach to primary and post-primary schools
- Online tuition and various digital technology initiatives
- East Cork Trad Orchestras
- Peer learning or student 'self-taught' initiative

- Strong musical traditions within the family group

Bru na Si is delighted to have had two placements under the Tús Scheme organised locally by SECAD. Tús is a community work placement initiative announced in Budget 2011, which became operational during mid-2011. The initiative is one of a number of activation measures designed to provide work placement opportunities for people who are unemployed. The processes underpinning the operation of Tús support the management of the Live Register. Up to 5,000 work placements opportunities were initially announced, with an additional 2,500 Tús placements announced as part of the 2013 Budget package, in line with the commitments set out in the Action Plan for Jobs and Pathways to Work.

Youghal Baptist's Church provides a Sunday Morning Religious Service at Bru na Si and have done since it the centre opened in 2004.

Deric Conway Dance Teacher provides classes for couples preparing for their first dance on their wedding day.

The Center is used in a Community context by many other groups such as Youghal Musical Society, SECAD training days. Murlyn Health and Safety Training. Birthday Parties etc.

## Case study: working together to promote Youghal



### Youghal 4 All "Youghaloween Spooktacular"

This festival is focused around Ireland's Ancient Past and incorporates local myths, beliefs and customs" Youghal East Cork

### Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille "Pop Up Shop:

**A Collaborative Pop-up project in conjunction with Youghal Community Forum and Youghal Tidy Towns was undertaken in Youghal to promote cultural activities in derelict windows of disused buildings which will also result in visual enhancement" Youghal East Cork**

### Greywood Arts "Creative Killeagh:

A performance event and series of family orientated workshops as part of a two-week artist residency with visual/performance artist Léann Herlihy will take place at Greywood Arts Centre in Killeagh. The focus will be on the traditional craft of carpentry. " Killeagh East Cork

### Midleton Arts Festival "Halloween Kindred Spirits Drumming Event:

A Community Drumming Workshop will take place around

the Kindred Spirits 'Chocktaw' monument in Bailick Park, Midleton" Midleton East Cork

**Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille "A Focus on Traditional Irish Music Dance and Songs: An emphasis will be placed on teaching the old Irish traditional music in workshops to young musicians to promote identity and a pride of place. A list of relevant local tunes will be compiled." Youghal East Cork**



**Figure 10 Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille "Pop Up Shop: We are delighted that Craobh Eochaille CCÉ chose a song by Daithí and a tune composed by Adèle as part of their shop window display in Youghal celebrating local music and cultural heritage.**

Although Youghal has a thriving and growing food culture with excellent restaurants and cafes the town street's battle against three decades of decline has left challenges to be addressed. Along with the loss of fishing rights the town's major industries have disappeared with the closure of the three textile factories and half a dozen light engineering plants resulting in a loss of 2500 jobs in town. The loss of both Merrick's department store has left town centre retail weakened. High bills including rentals, water, electricity plus on street charging for parking and the growth of internet shopping has resulted in up to 40 shops and former business are now closed along the main streets.

Craobh Eochaille led on the formation of and now chairs the new Youghal Forum, which was set up for the specific purpose of engaging with

funding schemes such as the Creative Ireland programme and with the Action Plan for Realising our Rural Potential. The Forum has been meeting regularly since January 2017 with a view to becoming

business ready to embrace these and other National Initiatives. In the context of community development the Forum concept is relatively new in Youghal.

The extensive consultation process led by the Youghal Forum included focus group meetings, field trips and calls for ideas in the local press. This process yielded 33 projects and with the assistance of Cork County Council the Forum is happy to prioritise the projects in order of weighting and practicality while also acknowledging that projects need to be ready for submission to a range of schemes. The Regeneration Process in Youghal will be a slow burner over several years and it requires sustained investment to encourage confidence to achieve Economic Social and Cultural Regeneration. The wish list identified as a result of the consultation included the ideas below of which those highlighted are embedded into the Bru na Sí



Figure 11 Youghal Expo



Figure 12 Queen of the Sea Festival

A key component of Youghal's Cultural Heritage, other than its history and buildings, is the vibrancy of its musical and folklore traditions, both new and old, and its many festivals and public celebrations. Much of this heritage is supported and presented by the many voluntary groups of the town, which seek to promote the enjoyment and participation of locals and visitors alike. The Youghal 4 All group promote festivals, such as the annual Food & Mackerel Festival, the Moby Dick Festival and the Halloween Festival. The Queen of the Sea Festival and the annual Medieval Day are other events, run in conjunction with Cork County Council and the Youghal Socio-Economic Development Group. Youghal Comhaltas preserves and promotes Irish traditional music by actively supporting and participating in events such as these.





Figure 13 Music out your ears at Red Store Youghal.

Our Festival application with Cork County Arts Officer. Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Éireann Croabh Eochaille launched the inaugural Tóstal an tSean Thóir Festival in 2017 which created a series of events whereby traditional music could be promoted in East Cork. Taking place in venues in Youghal the festival included top quality live gigs, exclusive workshops and master classes. Live music venues and festivals play a vital role in the promotion of traditional music giving home grown and national artists a platform to engage with communities and build new audiences. They also play a central role in urban and rural communities across the country, providing a social gathering space for varied audiences, and contributing hugely to Tourism in the region as well as supporting the domestic economy. In the short term it is intended to establish venues, and develop local and visitor audiences.

Our long term plan is to promote the Festival on the International Stage. In tangent with the Festival a new

annual awards system will be rolled out to celebrate the dedication and passion of those who work in East Cork's

live Traditional music venues. This aspect of the festival is intended to have an all year round presence providing the public with an exceptional live music experience on a regular basis. Venues will be judged on their commitment to providing the core elements that make for a great live traditional music venue – atmosphere, sound and lighting, staging, diversity of programming and importantly, the staff and management of each venue

### ➤ Reflecting diversity

Non- Irish Nationals accounted for 16% of the population of Youghal compared with a national average of 12%. UK nationals (515 persons) were the largest group, followed by Polish (353 persons). 2,840 persons could speak the Irish language and of these 1038 spoke the language daily. 822 persons spoke a language other than Irish or English at home and of these 174 could not speak English well or at all. Polish was the most common foreign language spoken at home with 367 speakers.

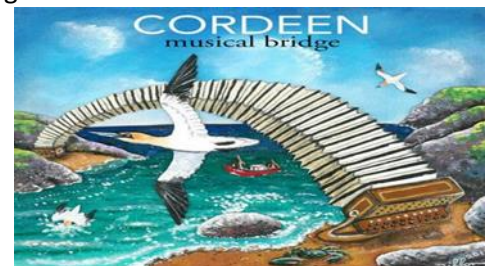


Figure 14 Polish students learn Ceili dancing at Brú na Si with Marie O Sullivan

Comhaltas Craabh Eochaille reflects Youghal's proud international heritage.



Cordeen launched their Irish Tour from Brú na Si in June 2017. Four centuries after the first Irish immigrants set foot on the shores of Newfoundland, a group of talented



musicians came together under the name of their beloved instrument: Cordeen, from Irish cairdín, the native term for the button accordion those pioneering players brought with them from the old world to the new. Local Accordion player Benny McCarthy has re- built a musical bridge by teaming up with 3 musicians from Newfoundland. There is a strong East Cork West Waterford connection with Newfoundland.



**Figure 15** Native American Choctaw and Irish cultures came together on Sunday, June 18 for the official dedication of the Kindred Spirits sculpture in Midleton, Co Cork, which commemorates a donation made by the Choctaw.

Ceolta Si the Youghal Comhaltas performance Group has established an international profile for itself. It has attracted many overseas invitations to places like China, Mexico, Italy, France, Holland, Luxembourg. Wales. Isle of Mann, Sardinia. Prague. Equally the group has provided over 25 years in providing top class seasonal entertainment to tourists and locals in East Cork. The Group called on its International Experience and contacts to extend East Cork's traditional Music Festival making it an International Music Festival.

### ➤ Health and well being



**Figure 16** Youghal was delighted to host, for the first time, a preliminary round of the Cork Over 60's Talent Competition on March 3rd 2018. Paddy O'Brien, 76 who is the driving force behind the hugely popular Over 60s competition, will be assisted by local PP Canon David Herlihy and local Comhaltas Chairman Micheal de Buitléir. The infamous Annual Competition is one of the largest talent shows for the elderly, and it is also a major fundraising engine for the Irish Heart Foundation. Mr. O'Brien said he was thrilled "to bring the Annual event to Youghal for the first time ever."

Project Ireland 2040 emphasises social outcomes and values consistent with prudent economic and budgetary policy. It prioritises the wellbeing of all of our people, wherever they live and whatever their background. Any kind of art, experienced in both active and passive ways, sustains and enriches individual self-awareness, self-expression and communicative skills, promoting both physical and mental well being

The Census 2011 reports that 1,352 persons in Youghal had a disability in 2011, of whom 489, representing 36.2% of the total, were aged 65 years and over. 291 persons (117 males and 174 females) provided regular unpaid personal help for a friend or family member with a long term illness, health problem or disability. 27.8% of these provided care for more than 6 hours per day. In the 2011 CENSUS for Youghal, 6,784 persons stated they were in very good or good health, representing 87% of total persons. This compares to 88.3% of total persons nationally. 153 persons stated they were in bad or very bad health, representing 2% of total persons in this area. Again this compares with 1.5% of total persons nationally. This suggests that the people in Youghal generally feel that they are in good health compared with how people feel nationally.



Our work as a community based organisation reflects these needs. In 2017 we worked with 3 young people with differing abilities, 10 people aged over 65. 16 adults participate in the Adult Music Group and 13 in the Dancing group.



A new Adult Singers Club started at Bru na Si on Tuesday, 7th November. 7-30 pm The Organizers at Bru na Si were delighted with the large turn out and we can look forward to a winter of contentment. Singing in a group is a great social outlet and it has been scientifically proven to lower stress, and relieve anxiety. The Irish always loved singing even when there was little to sing about. All over Ireland

there is a tremendous growth in Singing Clubs and Bru na Si is delighted to offer another great Irish cultural tradition.

## Our partners, volunteers, sponsors and supporters



We have a database of high profile traditional art entertainers, tutors and groups who we are able to call on to help us deliver our annual programme of events and activities. The festival programme included the following groups and performers:

- ✚ Cherish The Ladies from America,
- ✚ The Lyric Players from Dublin,
- ✚ Cork Prison Officers Male Choir,
- ✚ Le Leggera from Italy.
- ✚ Peadar O Riada and Cór Cúil Aodh,



- ✚ Cobh Animation Group,
- ✚ Tom O'Neill Exhibition,
- ✚ Ceolta Si
- ✚ Youghal Little Theatre.

Others partners ,supporters and participants have included Youghal Celebrates History, St Mary's Collegiate Church, Mall Arts Centre, Youghal GAA. Conradh Na Gaeilge and the Youghal Tourist Office,

Comhaltas Youghal would not be successful without the support of our many volunteers listed below and to whom we give our heartfelt thanks, recognising their commitment and the hours of work they have freely given to make 2017/2018 the success it has been. There seems to be no limit to the creativity of our volunteers, and it is the imagination and passion of these local branch members that have made Comhaltas into such a vibrant movement over the years.



Sean Ahern	Sheila FitzPatrick	Ciara Lynch	Rose O' Driscoll
Valeri Barry	James Griffin	Pat Lynch	Janice O' Leary
Aoife Butler	Michelle Griffin	Sinead Mansfield	Marie O' Sullivan
Helen Butler	Paudie Hennessy	Noel McCarthy	Mary O' Sullivan
Eoin Carey	Marie Herwood	Mgs McCarthy	Aisling Pierce
Trudy Casey	Paul Hogan	Sheila McGovern	Maria Power
Pat Carey	Chloe Kennedy	Anne Millerick	Daniel Ryan
Tara Courtney	Ger Kennedy	Orla Morrison	Treasa Ryan
Eamon Coughlan	Cait Keniry	Clair Murphy	
Laura Deady	Jake Kretchmer	Theresa O' Brien	
Yvette Dignam	Sinead Lawless	Anthony O' Driscoll	

We must also thank our sponsors who have provided cash as grants or enabled and supported our many fundraising initiatives throughout 2017/2018, without which the events and activities could not have happened.

Comhaltas	East Cork Municipal District	MuryIn Engineering	Youghal Chamber.
Cork County Council	GSK Dungarvan	Supervalu	Youghal Credit Union
Department of Culture Arts Heritage	Lidl	TESCO	The personal contributions donated by so many individuals

We must not forget giving a special thanks to the hardworking officers in 2017/2018 who have worked relentlessly to plan, deliver and reflect upon the many events and activities this year.

President:	Nick Larkin
Chairman:	Micheal de Buileir
V. Chair:	Noel McCarthy
Secretary:	Ciara Lynch
Treasurer:	Michelle Griffin
PRO:	Sean Ahern
Property Manager:	Pat Carey
DLP:	Micheal de Buileir
Auditor:	Ger Motherway Ltd

The Youghal Forum, which Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille is not only proud to be a member of but also chairs, continues to remain open for new members and it is already made up of proven activists and groups that have a proven track record in working for the betterment of the Youghal Community. Members to date include:

- Micheal de Buileir Bru na Sí.
- Áine Dillon Green schools -school gardens
- Kay Donnelly Ireland Reaching Out
- Kay Curtin Youghal Traders
- Theresa Foley Friends of Youghal Hospital
- John McGrath, Raheen Park residents
- Frank Keane, North Road Residents
- Seamus Lantry. Youghal Celebrates History.
- Liam O Laochdha GAA
- Alexandra Wheeler Links Co op
- Peggy Write. Cumman na Daoine
- Mgt Arundel Cumman na Daoine
- Pat Carey Blackwater Heights Residence
- Aisling Pierce Srutthain na SailiMichael McCarthy Muintir na Tire



Figure 17 Figure 17 Our thanks to Martina O'Regan for running a fantastic concertina workshop and then staying on and playing a few tunes at Seisiún. A real treat for us all. It's always a pleasure to welcome our past members back again.

## Statutory requirements

### ➤ Structures

We are pleased to announce that for 2018/2019 the following people have been elected into officer positions;

President:	Nick Larkin
Chairman:	Micheal de Buileir
V. Chair:	Sean Ahern
Secretary:	Ciara Lynch
Treasurer:	Michelle Griffin
PRO:	Janice O Leary
Property Manager:	Pat Carey
Committee:	Noel McCarthy. Maria Power, Treasa Ryan. Catherine Beausang,
DLP:	Micheal de Buileir
Auditor:	Ger Motherway Ltd

The modern Comhaltas “not for profit” structure operates through small local units run entirely by volunteers, while it also incorporates a major global organization with a large turnover and paid staff, interspersed by contracted fringes and supported by a Service Level Agreement with the Department of DCHG. Together the various units of Comhaltas deliver an educational and promotional cultural service, and its support and advocacy work touches almost every facet of Irish life. Following our registration as a long standing Branch of Comhaltas we at Craobh Eochaille understand that we continue to be part of a registered Charity: Charitable Status no: CHY 8762.

### ➤ Changes in the external environment

**Figure 18 Workshop- creating a strategy to build community engagement in the Creative Ireland process in Cork November 2017**



The environment in which charities operate has evolved dramatically in recent years. Now that the Charities Regulator has published its guidelines it is necessary for Comhaltas to synchronise its Bunreacht Rules (governing document) in collaboration with the Charities Guidelines. The evolving climate is already affecting small and medium-sized branches of Comhaltas. They have faced greater challenges adapting to this new environment, particularly in terms of their management, skills delivery and resources.



Uppermost in the restructuring work of Comhaltas is the definition of the Trustees, their relationship with and responsibilities and duties to all units. Charity trustees (although voluntary) are the people who are legally responsible for the management of a charity such as ours. The title of a charity trustee in a particular charity will depend on its legal structure. For this reason the Bunreacht of Comhaltas requires immediate scrutiny and perhaps some



modification. As the Charities Regulator has now issued new guidelines for Codes of Governance we further understand that we will need to comply with these and planning and implementation will take place as follows:

2019 - will be a year of learning and preparation for charities.

2020 - will be the first year that registered charities are expected to comply with the Code.

2021 will be the first year that registered charities are expected to report on their compliance with the Code.

It is acknowledged by the Charities Regulator that there cannot be a 'one-size- fits-all' model of good governance. This is the dilemma facing Comhaltas units like Craobh Eochaille as the organisation requires a multiple of definitions to accommodate the diversity of units within its overall structures. Sound financial management is vital to the success of every organisation including "Not for Profits" As our branch of Comhaltas is primarily a Not for Profit educational service provider we are entitled to be recognised as a charity. Our Branch committee must therefore concern ourselves with the Charities Code of Governance and Craobh Eochaille has started to address these compliance requirements by:

- Ensuring annual accounts are audited
- Producing new strategies and policies to address health and safety and risk assessment
- Updating policies on equality and diversity
- Updating policies on safeguarding young people and vulnerable adults
- Producing our first environmental policy and policy on data protection

All Comhaltas units should adopt best practices which promote efficiencies in financial planning and control. Branches such as ours need to look at and identify collaborative efforts and new methods of recognising and meeting the cultural educational needs of the wider community. ***The next 12 -24 months will be critical for the survival of Branch units like Craobh Eochaille.***

#### ➤ Funding challenges for Craobh Eochaille CCE



Figure 19 Youghal Trad for Trocaire fundraiser launched by Cherish the Ladies

Attracting sufficient funding to maintain and develop existing services is a major challenge for the voluntary management committee at Brú na Sí Cultural Centre in Youghal. As a community cultural group there is a cross sectoral element to the activities of Craobh Eochaille CCE. While its service provision is primarily educational Bru na Si promotes cultural social and economic benefits which become tangible in a community context.

Any positive funding consideration from any one of the Cork County Council sectoral supports schemes to Craobh Eochaille will result in community gain. It is therefore hardly surprising then that Craobh Eochaille CCE continues to apply for a multiple of funding support offered by the various Departments of Cork County Council. Craobh Eochaille has over the years been awarded support under the following schemes. Community Capital Schemes ,Creative Communities, Municipal District Scheme, Arts Grants Scheme, Amenity Grants Scheme, 2016 Fund, Cork Rebel Week 2013,Community Contract Scheme, Local Small Festival Scheme.

Craobh Eochaille has been successful in securing support from most of the above schemes because of its diverse service provision which is acknowledged through state support schemes for volunteering.

***Craobh Eochaille could not deliver its endless volume of activities without this funding support or without the social capital of its volunteers.***

Modern funding support schemes require voluntary groups to carry 100% of the total project costs and proof of completion before draw down of grant aid. This can be a significant deterrent to so many voluntary groups especially where large scale projects require match funding which cannot reflect volunteer time. While Craobh Eochaille has secured funding from various sectoral support programmes, it is not practical or feasible to embrace all of the schemes available at any one time because of obvious cash flow difficulties.

As an active community and voluntary Branch of Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille needs every assistance to eliminate multiple-reporting; reduce the administrative load and ensure that our wonderful volunteers continue to be willing to serve on our committee.



Having evolved this far, the fact still remains, that Craobh Eochaille continues to be challenged and its volunteers' valuable time is never financially rewarded. Other rewards do help to drive volunteers however prudent management of finances remains challenging. Craobh Eochaille requires "outside the box" type of support that allows it to exploit opportunities to create greater sustainable rural regeneration through further cultural development. We are confident that the Social Capital delivery of Craobh Eochaille together with investment of scale by Cork County Council can deliver projects that are outside the scale of existing schemes.

To this end Craobh Eochaille is encouraged that Cork County Council's Cultural Team comprises different Directorates that collaborate to help drive the goals of Creative Ireland. If a Single Line Funding and Single Line Reporting system could be

introduced opportunities might result in greater transparency, eliminate duplication and increase efficiency gains for both the Council and the voluntary management committee of Craobh Eochaille.

Such a Funding approach would support ambitious and strategic projects which contribute to greater sustainability and a more collaborative service delivery with less red tape. We look forward to future conversations that might advance a number of elements or phases as part of a broad strategic plan for cultural promotion in East Cork. Such a project could be tested as a Pilot project in the hope that it could be rolled out across the entire county.

In essence Craobh Eochaille would welcome an opportunity to move up the funding league table and seek to work across various schemes to further embed culture led community planning and regeneration. Craobh Eochaille is committed to working to its strengths and it is prepared to embrace many local assets such as the regions musical and cultural heritage in a coordinated and integrated manner. Cork County Council can assist the volunteers of Craobh Eochaille to pursue a key aim of the L.E.C.P. to develop a programme of actions to assist in the development and maintenance of Cork's Arts, Heritage, and Culture. In time further support from Government Departments, state agencies, other public bodies, the local community and, where appropriate, philanthropic funders and/or Corporate Sponsorship can be targeted.

***In the meantime Craobh Eochaille will remain steadfast to its Community ethos and delivering incredible Community Gain.***

## Looking to the future

Youghal Comhaltas held our annual seminar, bringing together pupils, parents, teachers, committee and our Artistic Director Daithi Kearney. Together we were challenged and comforted as we courageously explored possibilities for future development. A twelve month program is now set out as the first steps of an overall plan bringing us up to the 30th anniversary of Ceolta Si. The two-year programme supports our journey to be the best that we can be.

### ➤ Artistic development Plan



The advancement of The Artistic Plan is a priority as we need to maintain standards while doing our utmost to maintain our community principles as a registered Charity. We currently have a contract with Cork County Council to deliver the Artistic Development Plan.

As part of the Cork County Council Creative Communities 2018/19 project Brû na Si will continue to implement our new Artistic Development Plan. This three year Development Plan encompasses progressive layers and levels of development. The initiative as started in 2018 and the first leg of the journey will culminate in a public performance at the Mall Arts Centre at Easter 2019. Beyond that the suite of musiContinue to improve communication and share ideas, responsibility and success

- Identify group membership (assessments if necessary)
  - Daithí/Adèle can assist (remotely if necessary using Skype technology)
  - Grades provide a structure – 1<sup>st</sup> question: do you know the list of tunes
  - Record of commitment (attendance, participation) critical
  - Facebook group, WhatsApp groups but being involved in activities is best of all
- Share music
  - make everything accessible to everybody and everybody





Figure 20 Figure 20 Full house at Brú na Sí. Seisiún Ceolta Sí. Good spread of photos in Youghal News

to learn everything over time

- Liam documenting workshop material
- Organise material from previous workshops/Seisiún
- Gather stories
  - i.e. John McGrath memories
- Photograph places in Youghal and create AV options for performances
  - i.e. dancers selfie photograph at Clock Gate for mobile phone dance
  - photo of Capel Island
- Record Capel Island (and gradually record other pieces)

Within a the next 5 years it is hoped to establish a headline event capable of attracting TV Programmes such as 'Transatlantic Sessions', which is an all-star line-up of the biggest names in Folk music across the Globe. Based on the hit BBC/RTÉ TV (now attached to Fleadh Cheoil Na hEireann) a series of the same name, it is planned that this concert will be an exclusive Irish date as part of their annual tour. It is our vision that Irish musicians from all over

the country, as well as some international guests, will descend on East Cork for an intense month of musical performances. Expect spontaneous music sessions and off the cuff performances interspersed amongst a diverse programme of top quality musical events throughout the day and night in some East Cork's best venues.

### ➤ Statutory



## COMHALTAS BRÚ NA SÍ EOCHAILL

### WANT TO LEARN TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCING?

**MUSIC CLASSES**  
 Tin whistle • Fiddle • Flute • Button Accordion • Concertina  
 Banjo • Harp • Uilleann Pipes • Guitar • Bodhrán • Piano  
 It is strongly advised that students study Tin Whistle before  
 taking up another instrument.

**DANCING CLASSES**  
 Beginners • Intermediate • Advanced

**ADULT CLASSES AND SESSIONS**  
 Music • Singing • Set Dancing • Figure Dancing  
 Step Dancing and Sean Nós.  
 Details for adults available following enquiries as below.

**CONTACT:**  
**Micheal**  
**087 7934504**  
[youghal@comhaltas.net](mailto:youghal@comhaltas.net)

Remaining in compliance with Charities Regulations is key to accessing further Public, Corporate, and Community support. We have a Suppliers Number with the Council and it is crucial that we maintain the confidence of our Local Authority. These days, they, more than any other public organisation are key to our continued access State Funding for Communities. Funding from the public purse will help to sustain Brú na Sí as a "Centre of Excellence"

The long term strategic aims for Bru na Si are to find the resources to engage a full time professional director and to widen the educational reach of Brú na Sí. Another goal is to extend the existing premises and so improve our facilities. As an organisation we also need to consider a successor for the post of chair-person in the future as this is key to longer term sustainability and continuity.

### ➤ 2018/2019 Plans for Activities, events and sponsorship

#### 🚦 Continuing activities throughout the year 2018/2019

<b>Monday</b>	Irish Dancing
<b>Tuesday</b>	Adult Set Dancing and Music Group
<b>Friday</b>	Music Classes and Groups

**Mid-term Workshops** as part of our Artistic Development Project which is supported by Cork County Council.

Tostalan tSean Thoir

## September 2018

- Extension to Brú na Si centre. The first phase of the new Building Project will start to be finished at Christmas. Confidence is growing for phase 2 with expectation of further funding from the Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, Josepha Madigan TD- €21 million for capital expenditure to be made available for Arts and Cultural Development.
- Culture night **21/09/2018** Culture Night is an annual all-island public event that celebrates culture, creativity and the arts. There are many fantastic #Comhaltas groups in Cork Comhaltas performing in different County Cork towns for #culturenightcorkcounty Cork County Council
- Culture is Catching at St Mary's Collegiate Church, tomorrow Fri 21/09/2018 5.30 pm - 6.30 pm. Comhaltas le Ceol, Caint agus Comhrá with Liam O'Lauchdha and friends.
- Rochus Aust and the 1st GERMAN ELECTROPHONIC ORCHESTRA will visit Youghal on Culture night. Their stop off will be part of their journey around the globe in order to survey humanity or, as Rochus put it, **"to be precise, the people living along the same degree of latitude."** As a native of Cologne Rochus is setting out on his journey and heading west in order to return to the same place approaching it from the East. Systematically they are focusing on the people that they are encountering on this geographic corridor along the 51st degree of latitude. Youghal is on the 51st degree of latitude and if you encounter the group dressed in Yellow boiler suits then you will become part of their survey of humanity. The instruments they will be carrying will record your reaction to the sounds they were making. We will stay in touch with the group to find out what they learned about us.



## October 2018

- Set Dancing classes for adults (subject to a minimum number of 8) to start 09/10/2018
- Awards night

## November 2018

- First ever Christmas Fashion show with mulled wine reception and music on the night
- November Workshops to kick off Bru na Si Artistic Development Plan 2018. As part of the Cork County Council Creative Communities 2018/19 project Brú na Si has set up a new Artistic Development Plan.

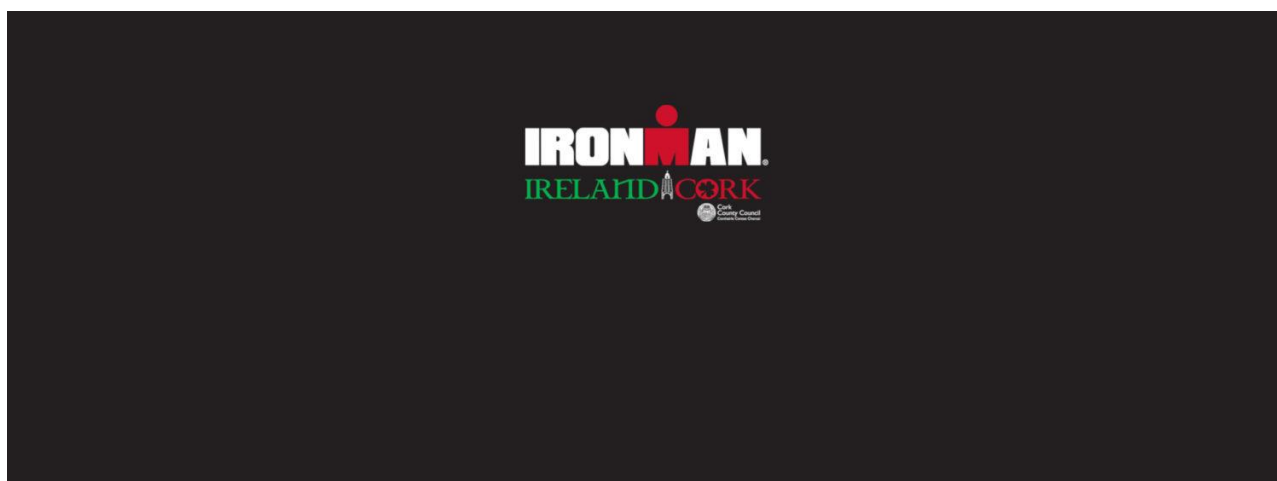
## December 2018

- Rambling House As part of our Artistic Development Project Brú na Sí will welcome members of the community to come and share their memories and stories of Youghal and surrounding areas. The best stories are shared over a bite to eat or beside the fire and the team at Youghal Comhaltas will be putting on the kettle and laying out a supper to encourage people to reflect on times past. As a centre for education in East Cork, Brú na Sí is delighted to pass on traditions including music, song and dance but hopes to also become a repository of other aspects of

history and heritage and will draw upon the stories of the wider community for inspiration for future performances and projects. Members of Youghal's premier Irish traditional music group Ceolta Sí will also be there on the night to add some music and song. Any queries or questions can be sent into Mícheál de Buitléir. 087793594.

- €5000 first prize Fundraising Draw.
- Bru na Si to be nominated for the Lidl three day Bag Pack
- Carol Service
- Annual Blackwater Heights Gig for Mercy Hospital
- Youghal's Ceolta Sí Christmas show

## 2019



The planned Festival events in 2019 are being designed to complement the IronMan event at the request of the organizing committee. In tandem with the above events Craobh intends a music pageant based on the story of the McGrath Family of Clock Gate fame. A clan gathering is planned agus Beidh Pop-Up Gaeltacht Ann. Once funding is in places booking offers will be circulated to high profiled bands with a price tag which will be proportionate to the available grant. Given the learning by doing approach of Comhaltas Craobh Eochaille and the advanced vision of the proposed project it is felt that a Community grant of €16000 is required.

### January 2019

- Bru na Si to be nominated for TESCO Community Fund to support Brù na Si Comhaltas Centre
- Adult Celebration night at Brù na Si
- Joint concert with Middleton Comhaltas
- Recording at CRY Radio Station. Followed by a Mystery Tour incorporating a music Workshop and Session for Lar na Cruinne Teenagers group
- 11th Registration of underage music and dance classes.
- Meal out followed by session for Adults Committee and Teachers.
- Meeting with Cork County Council to discuss Youghal Comhaltas involvement with the International IronMan event to be Hosted in Youghal June 21,22, 23,24,



## February /March 2019

- Continue Stagecraft Workshop for young performers, and dancers
- Over 60's talent Competition
- Concert
- St Patrick's Day Celebration

## April 2019

- Easter: series of concerts featuring Ceolta Si

## July/August 2019

- 28th Annual Summer Seisiun weekly show (21 nights) during July and August
- collaboration with Queen of the Sea festival

## How can you help?



Figure 21 A stitched tune would make a lovely gift for any musician. Any tune can be stitched and personalised at

We have a number of exciting sponsorship opportunities available for this year's festival and with places for programme adverts for local businesses, individuals, music instruments suppliers, Tourism Product providers etc. to place adverts. Our programme will be printed in full colour, A5 in size, will be available online in PDF format and will distributed widely across Youghal, our region and wider.

The Centre is available at affordable rates and users are asked to make a contribution towards light and heat.



"Youghal Comhaltas is a statutory , voluntary and community organisations working with and in direct contact with children. We are required to have procedures and guidelines derived from and consistent with the current Children First: tusla.ie

If you would like to help out with our many activities we need to have you Garda Vetted. This is a simple online process Contact Ciara at 087 6490648.

For more information on any of our sponsorship or volunteering opportunities please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. If you or anybody that you know is interested please get in contact ASAP via emailing [youghal@comhtas.net](mailto:youghal@comhtas.net) or text 0877934504.

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2018**

## Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail

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## **Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**

### **PROPRIETOR AND OTHER INFORMATION**

**Proprietor** Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail

**Accountants** C.G. Motherway & Co.  
9 Tallow Street  
Youghal  
Co. Cork

**Bankers** Allied Irish Bank  
141 North Main Street  
Youghal  
Co. Cork

Youghal Credit Union  
Grattan Street  
Youghal  
Co. Cork

## **Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**

### **ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN ECHAILL ON THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF COMHALTAS CEOLTÓIRÍ ÉIREANN ECHAILL**

We have prepared for your approval the financial statements of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail for the year which comprise the Trading, Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and related notes from the accounting records and information and explanations you have given to us.

This report is made solely to you, in accordance with the terms of our engagement. Our work has been undertaken solely to prepare for your approval the financial statements of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail and state those matters that we have agreed to state to you in this report in accordance with the guidance of Chartered Accountants Ireland. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail for our work or for this report.

We have carried out this engagement in accordance with technical guidance issued by Chartered Accountants Ireland and have complied with the ethical guidance laid down by Chartered Accountants Ireland.

You have approved the Trading, Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and related notes for the year ended 31 August 2018 and have acknowledged your responsibility for them, for the appropriateness of the financial reporting framework adopted and for providing all information and explanations necessary for their compilation.

We have not been instructed to carry out an audit or a review of the financial statements of Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail. For this reason, we have not verified the accuracy or completeness of the accounting records or information and explanations you have given to us and we do not, therefore, express any opinion on the financial information.

**C.G. MOTHERWAY & CO.**

9 Tallow Street  
Youghal  
Co. Cork

**Date: 19 November 2018**

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**TRADING, PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**  
for the year ended 31 August 2018

	2018	2017
<b>Income</b>		
Concerts and workshops	4,787	6,522
Teaching instrument rental and books	3,756	301
DAHRRGA GRANTS	5,750	8,290
National raffle	3,508	4,505
	<u>17,801</u>	<u>19,618</u>
<b>Cost of sales</b>		
Purchase of hoodies	-	2,620
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,620</u>
<b>Gross profit</b>	<u>17,801</u>	<u>16,998</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Overhead expenses	Sch 1 31,200	34,591
	<u>31,200</u>	<u>34,591</u>
<b>Other income</b>		
Fees receivable	6,512	3,959
Rent receivable	4,080	4,022
Interest received	65	339
Grant	11,784	23,500
Birmingham trip	-	6,015
Dundalk Trip	2,448	-
Sale of hoodies	-	915
Other income	13	425
	<u>24,902</u>	<u>39,175</u>
<b>Net profit</b>	<u>11,503</u>	<u>21,582</u>



**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**SCHEDULE 1 : OVERHEAD EXPENSES**  
for the year ended 31 August 2018

	2018	2017
<b>Administration Expenses</b>		
Music teachers	4,822	2,078
National draw	837	900
Purchase of Musical Instruments	1,870	-
Purchase of Equipment	227	-
Costs Dundalk Trip	5,159	-
Wokshop expenses	260	2,050
Use of premises	350	-
Rates	217	-
Service charges	-	729
Insurance	400	400
Light and heat	2,090	2,088
Repairs and maintenance	2,383	1,203
Car park	-	7,448
Printing, postage and stationery	2,087	510
Advertising/Sponsorship	500	1,580
Telephone and fax	708	673
Hire of equipment	280	1,280
Motor running expenses	-	70
Travel Costs	710	10,240
Entertaining	3,013	500
Legal and professional fees	3,850	2,056
Accountancy	584	-
Bank charges	36	24
General expenses	370	(1)
Charitable donations - other	-	150
Subscriptions	447	613
<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>31,200</b>	<b>34,591</b>

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**BALANCE SHEET**  
as at 31 August 2018

	Notes	2018	2017
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible assets	1	<u>314,348</u>	<u>305,000</u>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>128,719</u>	<u>126,564</u>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<u>128,719</u>	<u>126,564</u>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities</b>		<u><u>443,067</u></u>	<u><u>431,564</u></u>
<b>Capital Account</b>	2	<u><u>443,067</u></u>	<u><u>431,564</u></u>

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 31 August 2018

**1. TANGIBLE ASSETS**

	Land and buildings freehold	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Total
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 September 2017	240,000	65,000	305,000
Additions	-	9,348	9,348
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2018	240,000	74,348	314,348
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 August 2018	<b>240,000</b>	<b>74,348</b>	<b>314,348</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2017	240,000	65,000	305,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**2. CAPITAL ACCOUNT**

	2018	2017
Balance at 1 September 2017	<b>431,564</b>	-
Balance at 01 September 2016	-	409,982
Profit for the year	<b>11,503</b>	21,582
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at 31 August 2018	<b>443,067</b>	431,564
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**3. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS**

The accounts were approved by Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail on 19 November 2018.

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
for the year ended 31 August 2018

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**Report and Financial Statements**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2018**

I approve the financial information which comprises the Trading, Profit and Loss Account, the Balance Sheet and related notes. I acknowledge my responsibility for the financial information, including the appropriateness of the accounting basis and for providing C.G. Motherway & Co. with all information and explanations necessary for its compilation.

**Comhaltas Ceoltóirí Éireann Eochail**  
**Proprietor**  
**Date: 19 November 2018**