

ANNE-MARIE O'BRIEN

A Drama & Music teacher/performer from Butlerstown. She has helped to develop the talents of young people throughout West Cork. Her name is synonymous with Butlerstown Variety Group as director and producer of their many shows. She has qualified from MTU, Cork School of Music with a 1st class honours degree in Musical Theatre.

MICHAEL O'BRIEN

Talented local musician, songwriter and historian, Michael has recorded six CDs of original songs and monologues, many of which have been aired on local radio. His latest CD reflects the situation in Ireland since the onset of Covid.

ANGELA RYAN

A professional singer from Bandon, Co. Cork. Following on from her Bmus degree at CSM, she spent almost 10 years working at sea for Princess Cruises. Returning to Ireland in 2012 she took the role of vocal coach at Voiceworks Studio, Cork. Her particular interest was working with professional singers and vocal health & rehabilitation. She has been a prominent vocalist for wedding ceremonies in the Munster region for 20 years, has performed in and managed wedding band RubyJude since 2014. In 2018 she released an EP of her own original music (available on Spotify and YouTube). She very much looks forward to sharing some songs and stories in Courtmacsherry during the festival this year.

CAROL & DENIS O'REGAN

Carol and Denis met through a shared interest in Music Therapy in London at the Guildhall School of Music and after marrying worked as therapists in the NHS. Carol hails from Wicklow, and studied music at UCD and Cello at RIAM, playing for a few seasons in the RTE Symphony Orchestra. Denis is a pianist and composer, originally from Yorkshire, and has penned the current sung Mass at Barryroe Church. He is also known for his knowledge and enthusiasm for the natural world, in particular cetaceans and birds. They have been playing as a duo for events for many years in UK and Ireland, and will bring you a "soothing of the soul" and soft mindfulness within their own arrangements of classical, traditional, and popular music. They moved to Donaghmore, Lislevane in 2015 and are here to stay!

To help defray costs, various Raffles will be held throughout the weekend.

Your support will be very much appreciated.

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SONGS & STORIES BY THE SEA**



COURTMACSHERRY

Songs & Stories by the Sea

13th, 14th, 15th September 2024



Featuring:

Colin Urwin, Con "Fada" O'Drisceoil, Maria Gillen, Angela Ryan, Carol & Denis O'Regan, Anne-Marie O'Brien, Michael O'Brien and many more

Sponsors:

Cork County Council, Barryroe Co-op, Carbery Group, Blue Broe Ltd., Tide Construction, Avenue House Health & Safety Solutions, Bandon, James and Dolores Hegarty, Ballincurrag House

www.courtmacsherry.ie



A WORD OF WELCOME

Welcome everyone to this year's "Songs and Stories", made possible as always by the generous sponsorship of our main sponsor Cork County Council Art's Grant and all the other sponsors listed.

We are also grateful to others who helped in any way to make this annual event such a success. I must thank especially our hard-working committee to whom I owe everything.

Have a wonderful weekend and enjoy the company of some of the finest storytellers and entertainers in the unique atmosphere of this lovely friendly seaside village.

Marian O' Brien
Chairperson

FRIDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

9.30pm – Open Mic Night in the *Pier House Bar*.
(Inviting Poets, Storytellers and Singers to join us for an impromptu evening's entertainment.
M.C.: **Anne-Marie O'Brien**).



Carol & Denis O'Regan



Maria Gillen



Anne-Marie O'Brien



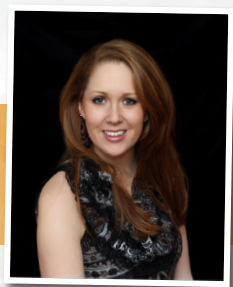
Con "Fada" O'Drisceoil



Michael O'Brien



Colin Urwin



Angela Ryan

SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

11.00am – Time for hilarity with Tall Tales and Folk Songs with **Colin Urwin** and **Con "Fada" O'Drisceoil** in *Courtmacsherry Hotel*.

2.30pm – Songs & Stories with **Maria Gillen**, and **Carol & Denis O' Regan** in the *Anchor Bar*

8.00pm SHARP **SATURDAY EVENING CONCERT**

in *Courtmacsherry Hotel*

Featuring:

Colin Urwin

Con "Fada" O' Drisceoil

Maria Gillen

Michael O' Brien

Carol & Denis O' Regan

M.C. Anne-Marie O' Brien

Advanced booking essential

Tickets €20 each from Marian O'Brien
023/8840100 or 086/3458764.

SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER

12noon – Stories through Song with **Angela Ryan**
1.00pm in the *Lifeboat Inn*.

2.30pm – Hilarious Ballads with **Michael O'Brien** featuring
4.00pm special guests **Noel King and Louis Mulcahy**
in the *Pier House Bar*. Active audience participation is welcome.

PERFORMERS' PROFILES

COLIN URWIN

Colin from Co. Antrim is a modern-day Seanchaí. He is a folk singer, songwriter, storyteller, recording artist and author. As well as telling beautifully crafted traditional tales, he weaves original songs, stories, and monologues into his live performances. He has worked in museums, schools, with children and adults with additional needs, people living with dementia and many other community groups. He has also appeared on stages all over Ireland, the UK and much further afield.

CON "FADA" Ó DRISCEOIL

Newcomer, Con "Fada" is a songwriter and accordion player from West Cork. He has written comic songs on a wide range of subjects which includes canine castration, Shakespearean tragedy, unwelcome percussionists and the wildlife of County Clare. In 2006 he published *The Spoons Murder and Other Mysteries*, a book and CD of his songs. In 2009 he was awarded Gradam Ceoil TG4 for his songs. His latest songbook/CD is called *Hunting the Hair and Other Pursuits* (2018), and tells of savage cats, anti-baldness quests, hypochondria, drunken deer and many such heroic topics.

MARIA GILLEN

Award winning storyteller, Maria, joins our line-up for 2024. She has created original stories based on the traditional storytelling skills of Ireland and also co-creates stories with live audiences. She was the Irish Storyteller in Residence for Kerry Writers Museum from 2019 to 2022 and was the Artistic Director for the Listowel International Storytelling Festival 2020 to 2022. Maria works intergenerationally in the community with stories and is a well-known Bean an Tí.