

SOCIETY DIARY

January 18th, Weds at 8pm: **St. Michael's Centre, Green St:** 'Some Wexford Sea Farers', Jack O'Leary.

February 15th, Weds at 8pm: **St. Michael's Centre, Green St:** AGM, followed by 'Historic Pubs of Wexford Town', by Celestine Rafferty.

March 21st, Weds at 8pm: **St. Michael's Centre, Green St:** 'When the shopping was Good: Woolworths and the Irish Main St.' by Dr. Barbara Walsh.

April 18th at 8pm: **St. Michael's Centre, Green St:** The Life and Times of PJ McCall, by Liam Gaul

April 27th to 29th: Society field trip to Roscommom, details attached.

June : Society one day field trip to West Waterford, details to follow on website or available at future lectures.

September: Society one day local field trip to Tintern and Hook area, details to follow on website or available at future lectures.

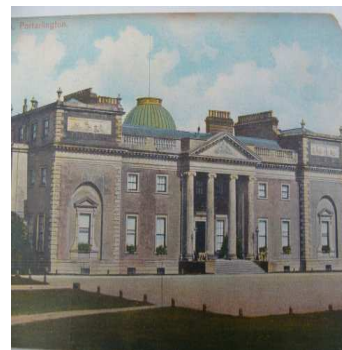
September 19th : at 8pm **St. Michael's Centre, Green St:** The Excavations at Enniscorthy Castle.

Lecture topics and titles may be subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances . Please check website and local press near to time of event.

Information regarding further lectures and events available through our website. The Society can also be contacted via our website

www.wexfordhistoricalsociety.com

The site is well worth a visit and includes updates, information and booking and membership forms.



(Photo of Emo Court courtesy of Laois Education Centre)

ROSCOMMON TOUR

In April, 27th to 29th the Society is heading to Roscommon for a weekend trip among other places we will be taking a boat trip on the Shannon and visitin Emo Court and Stroketown Museum. Details attached. There has already been great interest in this tour so please book early!

LECTURES

We are pleased to have presented some excellent lectures during the last year. Louis Cullen opened the lecture season in January with his informative talk on Thomas Sutton.

In February we had a very successful series of lectures on the Wexford Lockout given by Conor McCabe, Ian Hearn and Kieran Roche on Saturday the 12th. Wexford Library Service as part of its Oral History Project recorded these lectures.

After a good AGM Grainne Doran, the County Archivist gave us an excellent lecture bringing us up to date on the Wexford Archives. Rob Goodbody spoke to us about Roadside Milestones in March and following a visit to 2 of Wexford towns Medieval Graveyards hosted by The Naturalist's Field Club we had a lecture on the 20th of April given by Billy Colfer on Medieval Churches in the county.

The Society Tour last Spring will took place on the 13th, 14th and 15th of May to Cork and Kinsale. A great trip was had by all.

We followed this with an afternoon trip to Enniscorthy Castle and Castleboro on June 12th.



Society members on trip to Castleboro, June 2011

The weather did not smile on us but an enjoyable day was had nevertheless! We headed to Dublin to Drimnagh Castle and Dublin Castle for a very enjoyable and informative trip in September. Special thanks to Peter Pearson for sharing his knowledge with us on the day. Here too is a good place to thank Dr. John Gibbon who has organized several tours over the last number of years. Our tours tend to run well and successfully and this is not a coincidence but down to the meticulous planning and hard work that John puts into every aspect of every trip.

Also in September we had a talk on 'The 1641 Depositions in County Wexford', by Dr. Eamon Darcy. In October we had an excellent lecture, the Dr. George Hadden Memorial Lecture: 'Tintern Abbey; Cistercians, Colcloughs and Conservation' by Dr. Ann Lynch of the OPW. In November we had the launch of the Society's Journal, No. 23, in Greenacres. And to round off the year, in December we had the Society Christmas lunch, attended by 85 people and followed by a most excellent lecture full of personal reflections with Peter Scallan on Dr. Tom Walsh. Also congratulations to Nicky Furlong and everybody involved in The Festival Tours this year for such a varied and interesting programme of tours over the festival period.

EVENT BOOKING

As the Society, thankfully, goes from strength to strength and times have changed we have to inform you that we must now change some practices that had become acceptable over the years in the booking of Society events. In the present climate hotels, bus companies and heritage sites demand an idea of numbers well before a tour or event is due to take place. Also, the Society is run by a voluntary group of committee members who put a lot of hard work into organizing events. We, therefore, now ask you to please respect the guidelines

on booking forms regarding the deadlines for deposits and the manner in which payment and booking is to be made.

Last Christmas lunch is a good example of how bad practices have crept in. The Society had to inform the Talbot Hotel of numbers well before the event. Members were asked to fill in the booking form, post it to our Treasurer and pay by cheque or postal order by November the 22nd. In the event 32 people did not pay in advance but paid on the day, which results in huge delays and the need for Committee members to man a pay desk at the event. 52 people who attended gave less than 2 week's notice, 5 people booked but did not turn up and 5 more arrived that had not booked at all! Members phoned Committee members by the dozen in the days approaching the event and others gave verbal bookings to Committee members they may have met out and about.

The phone numbers of Committee members willing to organize an event have been included on forms in recent times but this was intended only as an emergency point of contact, (one Committee member received 20 phone calls on one day a few days before the lunch). Please fill in the forms, post with payment by cheque or postal order to Wexford Historical Society to the relevant person whose address is on the form before the cut off date to ensure a place at events in the future. Cut off dates will be enforced in the future and no payments will be accepted on the bus on the morning of trips from now on. Only paid up members of the Society can go on trips for insurance purposes.

The Committee would also like to apologise as there has been some discrepancies on the membership lists in the last few years. We are now updating and completely overhauling the membership data in the hope of getting it completely right for 2012. We need your co-operation in filling in the membership form and sending it with cheque or postal order to the relevant Committee member in order to ensure this. We sincerely apologise to any members who were left out of the membership list in the recent Journal. Membership accompanied by appropriate form to please be paid by 15th February. Membership can be paid at the AGM. The cost this year is €20.00 for a single membership of €30.00 for two members of the one family living at one address and is not interchangeable between different family members please!