



A Boyle View

ARDCARNE GARDEN CENTRE



Near Boyle just off N4
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Lanesboro Road, Roscommon town.
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SPONSOR OF 'A BOYLE VIEW'

OPENING TIMES:
Monday to Saturday
9.00 am to 6.00 pm
Sunday and
Bank Holidays
1.00 pm to 6.00 pm



Boyle theatre enthusiasts are in for another treat when the highly regarded Splódor Theatre Company, from Manorhamilton, Leitrim, performs the Brian Friel classic 'Dancing at Lughnasa' in the Town Hall, Boyle on Saturday March the 13th at 8.30 pm. This production has been receiving great reviews and full houses in its tour and if you have been unable to see a performance to date this is a real opportunity, in the spacious environs of Boyle's fine venue. Dancing at Lughnasa is widely regarded as one of Friel's finest plays.

UFO alert

A documentary on UFOs by a GMIT Film and TV graduate Pete Higgins from Boyle is to be shown on RTE Two on Monday 15th March at 11.30 pm as part of its "New Directors" series.

UFO was shot in Pete's hometown of Boyle, the location of an alleged UFO crash in 1996. Since then the small town has become a UFO hotspot with local woman Betty Myler setting up a group called the UFO Society of Ireland.

The documentary was first shown at the GMIT Graduate Film Screenings in Galway's Town Hall Theatre last summer, hosted by students on the BA in Film and Television programme. Pete graduated with a distinction from the programme in November.

Pete Higgins describes the documentary as "a personal journey that explores the much publicised UFO activity in the town where I grew up. It is an open-minded glimpse into the notion of belief and scepticism in a small community."

Documentary filmmaker, Donal Haughey, a lecturer on the GMIT Film & Television programme, says he always believed this documentary had broadcast potential. "I was delighted for Pete and the GMIT Film & TV department when RTE agreed to come on board. It's a clear reflection of the professional attitude of the students to their work. I wish Pete and his crew all the best for the future."

Local author to lead five-day walk

Local author and avid Rambler John Mulligan will lead a five-day walk along the Grand Canal from Ringsend in Dublin to Shannon Harbour in Co. Offaly on the May Bank Holiday weekend in aid of Simon Community.

John is looking for people to join him as he sets out from Dublin city centre to the wide open spaces of the Midlands and leads walkers through picturesque countryside while recounting some history of the Grand Canal. Not only will you improve your fitness but you will be able to join the small and exclusive club of those who have walked the en-

tire Grand Canal.

Participants are of all ages, all levels of fitness, and come from all walks of life. The Grand Canal walk is guaranteed to create a unique team spirit, camaraderie and a huge sense of achievement while working together to fight homelessness.

Constructed in bogland along a good proportion of its length, the Grand Canal is one of Ireland's greatest engineering achievements and today is a unique example of its kind in the world. The first boat travelled the entire length of the canal in 1804. The canal stretches for 82 miles from

Dublin in the east to Shannon Harbour in the west, with 43 locks. Nowadays both privately owned and hire boats move freely along its length, gliding serenely under bridges, through locks and past glorious old buildings, open bogland and rural landscapes.

Funds raised from this walk will go directly into the vital services provided by the Dublin Simon Community. Dublin Simon Community help the most vulnerable in society to break the vicious cycle of homelessness by empowering them to take control of their lives and find and maintain a place they can call home.



Boyle travel writer John Mulligan pictured with Elaine Crowley of TV3 at the launch of the Grand Canal Walk, which takes place on the May Bank Holiday weekend in aid of Simon Community.

boyle notes

■ Plunkett protest

A public meeting organised by Boyle Town Council, on the subject of the closing of the day care service and reduction in bed numbers at Plunkett Home, took place last night (Wednesday).

The meeting discussed possible courses of action following the HSE decision to suspend Day Care services at the Plunkett Home for a temporary three-month period due to the staffing recruitment embargo, alongside the reduction of Plunkett Home bed numbers from 60 to 51. On Monday a group from the Council will meet with Minister Michael Finneran TD. The meeting was arranged so that the Boyle Town Council could express its concerns and those of the people of the area regarding cessation of the Day Care Centre services, the reduction in Plunkett Home bed places and the issue of the vacant cancer care unit at the Plunkett Home.

■ Good Food

Lovers of good cooking will gather at The Saddlers Inn on Tuesday 30th March at 8 pm to watch author, broadcaster and chef instructor Frank Moynihan ply his trade. This is an evening not to be missed. Proceeds will go to The Boyle Branch of Friends of Children of Chernobyl. Admission €10.

■ NIB closure

Four branches of the National Irish Bank in the region will close this year. The announcement that the branches in Lanesboro, Boyle, Ballinasloe and Ballinamore were to close was made late last year, taking up to 18 months to complete. However, the bank now plans to complete the move six months ahead of schedule.

■ Parade please

More than any year, the Boyle St. Patrick's Day Parade needs your input. It will be an opportunity to express your solidarity with our town. Clubs, organisations, businesses and individuals are asked to have a presence on the day. This year's parade will take place on Wednesday, March 17th starting at 3.30 pm. Overall prize €500 and cup; runner-up, €300; 3rd, €200; funniest, €200; junior (U-16), €200; junior runner-up, €100; Best Shop Window Display, €150 + Cup; Best Heritage/Traditional Float, €200. Entry is free and entry forms can be had from Dodd's (071) 96 62108, Creighton's (086) 8127712,

Clarke's (071) 96 62064, Matimoes (071) 96 62320 or Sean O'Dowd, (086) 193 5452.

■ Them for Boston

Boyle Drama Group received a spontaneous and well-deserved standing ovation in St. Joseph's Hall on Saturday night for their performance of the Tom Coffey play 'Them'. The group will head to Boston over the Easter period. Their 7.30 pm nightly performances will surely bring laughter and tears to audiences in An Tua Nua, Beacon Street. If you are reading this article and resident in the Boston area, go along, the cast will love to meet, greet and chat with you.

■ Scouts' success

Boyle Scouts did themselves proud at the annual County Challenge Day held on Saturday, 6th March in Lough Keel Campsite. In the Scout Section, the Boyle Team finished in first place with a great effort put in by the team throughout the day. In the Cub Section the local Monday Cubs also took first place with the younger Tuesday Cubs putting in a brilliant team effort to scoop second place.

■ Gilmore visits

Labour Party leader Eamon Gilmore visited Boyle on Friday. He is greatly concerned with the drain on resources for the Plunkett Home and pledged to address the issue at government level.

■ Table Quiz

Table Quiz, Thursday 11th March at 9 pm in Daly's Bar, a fundraising event for Boyle Summer Show. Table of 4 €20, please support

■ Grow your own

Ardcarne Plantsplus Garden Centre Growing your own classes. Saturdays March 6th to 27th, 11 am -12.30. A-Z of Growing your own vegetables, four weeks €50. Saturdays March 13th to 27th, 2 pm to 3.30 pm. A-Z of Growing Crops undercover, three weeks €50. Saturday April 10th, 11 am to 12.30 pm. A-Z of Growing your own Herbs, one morning €20 Saturdays April 24th to May 8th, 11 am to 12.30 pm. A-Z of Growing your own Fruit three weeks €50. Courses include practical demonstrations by our expert team. Booking is essential and fee must be paid when booking. Limited places. Further details email ardcarne@ardcarneplantsplus.ie