

Family Entertainment at The Bridge Centre

Saturday		Sunday	
11:30am	Chorus Connections	12:00pm	UCC Tradsoc
12:00pm	TradSoc Ollscoil na Gaillimhe	12:45pm	Jiglets & Kinnity Ceol
12:45pm	Mary & Frank Brennan & Friends	1:45pm	Beomhar Siansa Group
1:30pm	Rahan C.C.E	2:30pm	Roisín O Connor & Friends
2:15pm	Offaly County Council Choir	3:15pm	Roisin O Hara & Friends
3:00pm	Jamie McKeogh & Friends	4:00pm	Slate House Sessions
3:15pm	Portarlinton CCE		

Tullamore Library

Time	Saturday 12th April 2025
10:30pm - 12:00pm	'Try an Instrument' Music Generation Offaly Instruments catered for: Harp, uilleann pipes and bouzouki. Booking for this event is essential. 30 min slots for each of the instruments can be booked via our website: https://www.tullamoretradfest.com
3:00pm - 4:00pm	Inclusive Session Tullamore TradFest invites you to come and join us for our inclusive session on Saturday the 13th April from 3 - 4pm in Tullamore Library. This event is running as part of the weekend of festivities but is aimed specifically at children and adults with additional needs and their families. This session will be led by Ciana McGarrigle and friends. Ciana is a clinical music therapist with experience of working with those with additional needs and their families. The aim of the event is to make music and more importantly TradFest accessible to those with additional needs. Come along and join us for a tune or sing a song. Share in our music making and help us make it a weekend of special events.



Weekend Ticketed Gigs

Friday 11th April 2025

Friday Concert

Featuring - Mike McGoldrick, Dezi Donnelly, Tim Edey & Amy Murphy, Clare Ann Kearns, Eimear Buckley, Grace & Katelyn Corrigan, Grace Minnock and Laura Callaghan plus the HUP! Offaly 'Hall of Fame' Presentation to the one and only Paddy Buckley!

The Bridge House Hotel - Time: 8:00pm (Doors open 7:30pm) - Cost: €20

Saturday 12th April 2025

Saturday Family Concert

Featuring - The McKenna Family, Meibh, Naoise & Aoibhe Dooley, Birr Figure Dancers, and performance by the Group Ensemble Workshop participants under the direction of Rebecca McCarthy-Kent

The Bridge House Hotel - Time: 5:00pm - Cost: €20 (family 2+2) - €10 (individual)

Festival Club

Featuring - Pólca 4 (Pádraig Ó Sé, Gary O'Brien, Robbie Harris, Dáire Bracken) & Peter Street (Keelan McGrath, Fionn O'Hanlon, John Paul Reynolds & Simon Crehan)

The Bridge House Hotel - Time: Doors at 10:00pm - Cost: €15

Sunday 13th April 2025

Sunday Céilí

Come join us for our TradFest Céilí with the acclaimed Abbey Trio Céilí Band! The venue for this event is 5 minutes outside of Tullamore.

Ballykilmurray Community Centre Hall (R35 D7P1) - Time: 3:00 to 6:00pm - Cost: €12 (pay on the door)



Workshops & Recitals



Saturday 12th April

Instrument Workshops

Coláiste Choilm - 10:00am - 12:50pm

(Tutors concert 1:00pm - 1:30pm ALL WELCOME)

Accordion - Ryan Sheridan & Conor Moriarty

Banjo - Stephen McKee - Concertina - Greta Curtin & Colm Browne

Fiddle - Sinéad McKenna & John Paul Reynolds

Flute - Orlaith McAuliffe - Polka/Slide - Kealan O'Connor

Tunes - Roisín O'Connor

Group Ensemble Workshop

The Bridge House Hotel (Millennium Room) - 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Rebecca McCarthy Kent

Accordion Recital

Coláiste Choilm - 2:00pm

Fergus Bogue, Ciara Tighe, Kealan McGrath, Máire Brennan, Ryan Sheridan, Gary Curley and many more!

Sunday 13th April

Ashling Murphy Fiddle Recital

Killeigh Teach Cheoil - 1:00pm

Bord na Móna

SPONSORING TULLAMORE TRADFEST 2025

Welcome to Tullamore TradFest 2025!

A chairde!

Here we go again! Festival number 5! We hope you're ready for an action packed weekend!

We are truly excited to bring you this year's festival offering which once again sees a multitude of events on offer, catering for all levels and interests. From intimate concerts featuring legends of the tradition, like Mike, Dezi & Tim or, emerging shining stars like Tyrone's McKenna family, high octane late night revelling with Pólca 4 or battering the floor with the Abbey Trio Céilí Band, we got you covered this weekend!

The same goes for this year's session trail. The variety is mighty! Locals and not so locals, Sligo and Leitrim reels with Ryan Sheridan, Conor McDonagh and gang, the glens of Antrim collide with Clare's Cliff of Moher in Tullamore with the Walls sisters catching up with Ciara Tighe, CHUNKY tunes with Fermanagh's Gary Curley & Stephen McKee and of course a few polkas and slides with Greta Curtin and Jessie Healy!

Similarly we see all our favourite workshops back again but also including the addition of a Polka/Slide workshop. Following on from the great success of our Inclusive Session last year, we are very grateful to have our good friend and music therapist, Ciana McGarrigle, back catering for even more of those within our community who might not typically get to enjoy traditional music, song and dance in an easily accessible manner.

And what can we say about this year's HUP! Offaly Hall of Fame recipient. We took an executive decision last November at a committee meeting in Paddy's absence that we all felt it was the right time to celebrate someone that has given so much, so generously, to us all over the years.

A big thank you also to our generous funders and supporters. Bord na Móna, The Ashling Murphy Fund, Arts Council, Credit Union, Tullamore Vintners and Offaly Co Council are all back again and we are delighted to see the ranks grow here with LOETB & Egan's Whiskey coming on board. Special mention also to ARD Software who have supported us with our new website and ticketing platform making www.tullamoretradfest.com a one stop shop for all your TTF online needs.

It is also great to see the huge number of visitors coming to Tullamore, not just from around Ireland but London, Manchester, Portsmouth, Essex, Strasbourg, Magdeburg, Jersey, Boston, New York and British Columbia!

Finally, a big thank you to the TTF Committee who put in countless hours all year round ensuring the festival is the magnificent success that it is. We are actually already well into planning for TTF 2026! So to Ann Marie, Ciara, Claire, Denise, Sinéad, Brian, Damien, James, Paddy and Michael - THANK YOU!

See you all over the weekend!

Tommy

TULLAMORE TRADFEST 2026



27th - 29th March 2026

Have you got the stamina?

Bord na Móna

SPONSORING TULLAMORE TRADFEST 2025



WEEKEND PROGRAMME

Friday 11th April - Sunday 13th April

your town · your tunes
your Tradfest 2025

TULLAMORE TRADFEST 2025

Concerts · Festival Club · HUP Offaly
Instrumental Workshops · Recitals
Céilí · Group Ensemble Workshops
Family Entertainment...

... the SESSION TRAIL all weekend long

Bord na Móna

SPONSORING TULLAMORE TRADFEST 2025

Thursday 10th April		
9.00pm	The Goalpost	The Slieve Bloom Sessions - Reunion Night
Friday 11th April		
7.00pm	The Brewery Tap	Ryan Sheridan, Ciaran Slattery, Conor McDonagh
7.00pm	The Old Harbour Bar	Joseph Mannion, Jack Fitzpatrick, Sarah O'Gorman
8.00pm	Fergies	Keelan McGrath, Fionn O'Hanlon, Shane Lynam
8.00pm	Spollens	Colm Browne, Máire Brennan, Eimear & Aine Gleeson
8.00pm	The Bridge House Hotel (Library Bar)	John Paul Reynolds, Simon Crehan, Sinéad Kinsella, Ian Kinsella
8.30pm	Digans	Greta Curtin, Jessie Healy, Sean Leahy, Kealan O'Connor
9.00pm	John Lee's	Cara Walls, Jane Walls, Ciara Tighe
9.00pm	Old Warehouse	Eugene McKenna, Daniel McKenna, Ciarán McKenna, Caitriona McKenna
9.00pm	Paddy's	Gearoid Curtin, Rachael Masterson, Gary Curley
9.00pm	The Phoenix	Sinéad McKenna, Peter McKenna, James McKenna, Cian McGrory
9.00pm	Tullamore Court Hotel	Tom Morrow, Triona Morrow, Fergus Bogue
Saturday 12th April		
12.00pm	Credit Union	Open Youth Session hosted by Cara Finn & Friends
2.30pm	Flynns Cafe, Bridge Street	Open Teen Session, hosted by Verona Lynch, Elaine Lynch, Orla Kilmartin, Aoife Kilmartin
4.00pm	Digans (Pop-up Session)	Lucy O'Brien, Meadhbh McCarthy, Aishling Walshe and Mikaela Murphy & Friends
5.00pm	Spollens (Pop-up Session)	UUM Trad Society Derry; Caitriona Lagan, Meabh McGlinchey, Lishin O'Hare and Lasairfhiona Nic Ruairi
6.00pm	The Goalpost (Pop-up Session)	TradSoc Ollscoil na Gaillimhe
7.00pm	The Bridge House Hotel (Library Bar)	Open Teen Session led by Beomhar Siansa Group
7.00pm	The Brewery Tap	Joseph Mannion, Jack Fitzpatrick, Colm Browne
8.00pm	The Phoenix	Ryan Sheridan, Ciaran Slattery, Conor McDonagh
8.30pm	Digans	Cara Walls, Jane Walls, Ciara Tighe
9.00pm	John Lee's	Orlaith McAuliffe, Stephen McKee, Gary Curley
9.00pm	Old Warehouse	Sarah O'Gorman, Fergus Bogue, Laura Jo Callaghan
9.00pm	Paddy's	Tom Morrow, Triona Morrow, Joanne O'Connor
9.00pm	Spollens	Rebecca McCarthy Kent, Clara Mannion, Colm Slattery
9.00pm	The Goalpost	Sinéad McKenna, Daniel McKenna, Ciarán McKenna, Caitriona McKenna
9.00pm	Tullamore Court Hotel	Vince Jordan, Anna Jordan, Katie Jordan
9.30pm	The Bridge House Hotel (Library Bar)	Peter McKenna, Eugene McKenna, James McKenna, Cian McGrory
Sunday 13th April		
3.00pm	The Bridge House Hotel (Library Bar)	Open Teen Session, hosted by Hannah O'Connor & Brianna Rice
4.00pm	John Lee's	Colm Slattery, Luke Maher, Seamus Kinsella (County Colours Session)
5.00pm	Paddy's (Singing Session)	Tadhg Maher, Barbara Tynan
6.00pm	The Old Harbour Bar	John Paul Reynolds, Keelan McGrath, Danielle Lonergan
7.00pm	John Lee's	Cara Finn, Luke Finn, Oisín Hannigan, Lorna Forde
8.00pm	The Goalpost	Greta Curtin, Jessie Healy, Sean Leahy, Kealan O'Connor
8.00pm	The Phoenix	Cathal Brady, Sean Brady, Shane Brennan, Hannah O'Connor, Brianna Rice
8.30pm	Digans	Noel Stapleton, Sophie Ryan, Éabha Fulton
9.00pm	Fergies	Ademar O'Connor, Grace Corrigan, Katelyn Corrigan

Family Entertainment on the Gig Rig

Time	Sunday 13th April - O'Connor Square
11:00am	Rath C.C.E
11:30am	Noel Stapleton & Friends
12:00pm	Wayne Brereton
12:30pm	Killeigh C.C.E
1:15pm	Lynam, Guinan, Godley
1:45pm	The Underwhelmers
2:30pm	Ballyboy C.C.E
3:15pm	The Brothers
3:45pm	Ceoltóirí Óga Laighean

HUP! Offaly HALL OF FAME

The 2025 Tullamore Tradfest Hall of Fame inductee is **Paddy Buckley**. Well known far and wide, Paddy comes from Ballyboy, outside Kilcormac, Co Offaly. Paddy began his musical studies under Michael Moore, who trained many local musicians in the 60s, 70's and 80's. From the early age of 15, Paddy was performing on stage in the local dance halls and fairs. He played on the folk and trad scene all his life, with numerous bands of high renown. He travelled Ireland, England and Europe with Na Siog, a band he formed with his brother Tom and other local musicians.



Paddy has worked with Comhaltas and encouraged their activities most of his life, being a member of Kilcormac CCE for many years. He was a driving force in the success of four Leinster Fleadhs and two Offaly Fleadhs hosted in Kilcormac. In 2000, he headed the committee that launched a new Comhaltas Branch in Ballyboy, which has grown to from strength to strength.

Paddy was also very influential in the success of the 5 Busking festivals held in Kilcormac in the 90s. Furthermore, he was chief organizer of the 3 "Dancing with Lunasa" Festivals at Kinnitty Castle Hotel. He anchored the Friday night session in Kinnitty Castle for 12 years from 1996 to 2008 with the Kinsella's and Sean Ryan, a session to where most of Ireland's most renowned musicians were regular attendees.

Being a massive lover of festivals, he has travelled the country to folk and trad festivals nationwide, meeting and playing with musicians from all over the world. He attended the first Wille Clancy Festival in Miltown Malbay, County Clare, and still attends to this day. He uses these friendships to encourage bands and musicians to come to the midlands and give local musicians an opportunity to meet and play with them. Paddy has encouraged and developed the tradition of music, song and dance in Offaly all his life and we are hope he will continue to do so for many more years.

Congratulations Paddy!

TRADFEST SESSION TRAIL

1. Brewery Tap - R35 P761
2. The Bridge Centre - R35 XY 73
3. The Bridge House - R35 K219
4. Coláiste Choilm - R35 EF97
5. Digan's - R35 EW26
6. The Old Warehouse - R35 Y5V0
7. Fergie's - R35 XY04
8. Goalpost Pub - R35 YY04 Daingean Road
9. John Lee's - R35 Y161
10. Killeigh Teach Cheoil - R35 NY59
11. Offaly Tourism Office - R35 A9P4
12. Old Harbour Bar - R35 A6R9
13. Phoenix - R35 A2H3
14. Spollen's - R35 PP30
15. Paddy's R35 XR02
16. Tullamore Court Hotel - R35 D406
17. Tullamore Credit Union - R35 YW58
18. Tullamore Library - R35 X226
19. Flynn's Café, Bridge Street - R35 W135
20. The Gig Rig, O'Connor Square