

October

23rd- **Savour Kilkenny Festival of Food**
28th Kilkenny City

www.savourkilkenny.com/

Come seek 50 Shades of Flavour at Savour! Kilkenny Castle will form a magical backdrop for the 7th annual Savour Kilkenny Food Festival which will be held in the medieval city from October 23rd to 28th 2013.



26th- **Thrillkenny Zombiefest**
27th Kilkenny

www.thrillkenny.com

Thrillkenny Zombiefest is a 2 night street festival taking place over Halloween Weekend in the 'medi-evil' city of Kilkenny.



30th **Shankill Castle Halloween Scarefest**
Paulstown

www.shankillcastle.com

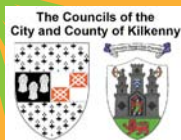
Shankill Castle offers seriously spooky candle-lit Ghost and Paranormal Tours of a haunted Queen Anne Castle and ancient graveyard, with daytime tours for children. A Ghostly Gathering of Ghouls!

November

1st- **Kilkenny Design Workshops**
30th celebrating 50 years, Kilkenny City

www.nationalcraftgallery.ie

The Crafts Council of Ireland is marking 50 years since the initiation of the Kilkenny Design Workshops by celebrating Kilkenny City as a destination for overseas visitors in 2013. This Gathering event, hosted over three months, will include 'Paradigm: Contemporary Norwegian Arts & Crafts' in April and a Mass Creation event in July, culminating with a flagship exhibition during the month of November celebrating the legacy of the Kilkenny Design Workshops.



November

1st- **Santa Clauses of the World Unite**
2nd Kilkenny City

A Gathering of Santas from around the world... and yes, they're all real!

7th- **Kilkenomics**
10th Kilkenny City

www.kilkenomics.com

Moderated by some of our brightest and funniest stand-up comedians, Kilkenomics - Europe's first economics festival - puts economists, comedians, financial analysts, journalists and other specialists on the stage and under the spotlight.



22nd- **Kilkenny International Chess Tournament**
24th Kilkenny City

Featuring players from around the world competing for generous prizes.

25th Nov- **Subtitle Film Festival**
1st Dec Kilkenny City

www.subtitlefest.com

Subtitle, Ireland's newest film festival, is a unique opportunity to catch some of the most popular European films that can't be found at the multiplex, and a chance to meet the makers and stars.



December

8th- **Kilkenny Christmas Market**
24th Kilkenny

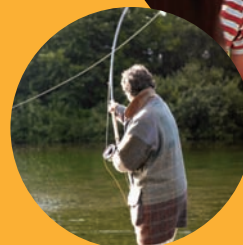
www.kilkennychristmasmarket.com

The perfect place to purchase handmade local Christmas gifts, organic and seasonal produce and to enjoy the festivities, sights and aromas of a traditional Christmas market.



Kilkenny Programme

The Gathering Ireland 2013



"This project was part funded by Kilkenny LEADER Partnership through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in Rural Areas"

thegatheringireland.com

be part of it.

January

1st Wellie Race
Castlecomer

www.wellierace.com

Thousands of people flocked to Castlecomer for this prestigious event to witness the 33rd Wellie Race and the first ever World Race Championship as part of Kilkenny's Gathering celebrations for 2013. A glorious colourful annual spectacle!

March

16th- Trad Fest
17th Kilkenny City

www.thegathering.kilkenny.ie/tradfest/

Follow the trad trail in the local pubs and see those feet tapping all weekend long in Ireland's medieval capital. This fantastic festival based around St. Patrick's Day celebrations includes a performance from 220 US musicians from the Colorado State University Marching Band, who will perform on Saturday in the grounds of Kilkenny Castle, followed by the Hall Royd Youth Concert Band from West Yorkshire, and Kilkenny's own St. Patrick's Brass & Reed Band. World class concerts, master classes and on-street sessions, this is the tradfest of the year!



17th Law Enforcement Torch Run
Kilkenny City

The Law Enforcement Torch Run in aid of the Special Olympics will be coming to Ireland to celebrate the ten year anniversary of the Special Olympics World Summer Games held in 2003. Participating in the St Patrick's Day parade, this Gathering will be led by Special Olympics Team Ireland athletes who competed in the World Winter Games in South Korea in January 2013 and will be carrying the Special Olympics Torch.

28th Mar- Inistioge Easter Gathering
1st Apr Inistioge

www.inistioge.ie

A weekend Gathering of sporting, musical and social events in the stunning film location of Inistioge! Events will include family fun, a 10k River Run, Gaelic games and music.

March

31st Pat Walsh Commemoration
Dunnamaggin

The annual commemoration of Captain Pat Walsh, who was killed during the War of Independence, will this year make a special effort to attract overseas visitors by hosting their first commemorative Gathering.

April

4th Harper Family Reunion
Kilkenny City

Calling all Harpers from family line of Sgt Robert Harper who lived in Coon, Co. Kilkenny during the 1800's to the present day - a Gathering weekend full of events awaits the immediate and extended clan across the globe! This special Harper Gathering will celebrate the theme of creativity within the family.

2nd- Emigration Through The Centuries
4th Kilkenny City

www.rothehouse.com

Hosted in the medieval Rothe House & Garden, Kilkenny Archaeological Society presents a 3 day conference on emigration, featuring lectures from experts in the area, guided tours of local historical sites and more.

7th- Kilkenny Musical Society 40th Anniversary
13th Kilkenny City

www.kilkennymusicalsociety.com

Kilkenny Musical Society celebrates its 40th birthday in style with a production of Gilbert and Sullivan's masterpiece 'The Pirates of Penzance' in the Watergate Theatre. 'Pirates' will be the centrepiece of a yearlong Celebration. This special 40th Anniversary celebration Gathering is calling on current and past members who are now working or studying abroad, to return to Kilkenny for the event.

15th On the Trail of Bishop Pococke
Kilkenny City

www.irishlebanese.com

Dr Richard Pococke, Bishop of Ossory visited the Holy Land, Lebanon and near East in 1738, recording his travels and observations of religious diversity. His testimony triggered the interest of students of Brummana High School who will visit Kilkenny College to work with a team of students on the works of Bishop Pococke in Kilkenny. This event will gather scholars of Politics, History, Religion, Literature and students of Peace and Conflict resolution.

April

19th- Barrow River Arts Festival
21st Graigueamanagh

www.barrowriverartsfestival.com

The Barrow River Arts Festival presents, in one packed weekend, a programme of classical music, jazz, theatre and visual art in two beautiful settings along the River Barrow in Counties Kilkenny and Carlow - Duiske Abbey and Borris House.

www.thegathering.kilkenny.ie



May

3rd- Smithwick's Kilkenny Roots Festival
6th Kilkenny City

www.kilkennyroots.com

Ireland's leading Roots/Americana music festival returns for 2013. Featuring artists from Ireland, USA, Canada, UK, Switzerland and France with 80 shows over 4 days including 60 free events, the Diaspora are gathering from far and wide!



15th- Gathering of Romantics
19th Kilkenny City

www.romanticgathering.com

The Gathering of Romantics will take place in Kilkenny from May 16 - 19th 2013. This is a fun, music filled weekend for romantics, reinventing tourists who visited the city in the past for romantic breaks or to get married.

25th Fáilte go hÉirinn
Newmarket

www.faminegarden.com

A remembrance of the victims of the great famine featuring a contemporary dance show, guided tours of the famine garden and a film screening in the Visitors Centre, Gáirdín an Ghorta.



May

30th May-
3rd Jun **Cat Laughs Comedy Festival**
Kilkenny City

www.thecatlaughs.com

The Cat Laughs Comedy Festival has been running for nearly 20 years, and has grown from a small event comprising of a handful of shows to an internationally acclaimed festival. Showcasing the very best in Irish and international comedy acts, attracting visitors to the charming medieval city of Kilkenny and its surrounding regions, the festival programme blends renowned comic stars as well as newcomers and break-through acts and will feature a special Gathering twist.



June

13th-
16th **Kilkenny International Gospel Choir Festival**
Kilkenny City

www.kilkennygospelchoirfestival.com

The Kilkenny International Gospel Choir Festival will bring choirs from as far afield as Europe, the USA and South Africa to the city of Kilkenny for a series of events over 4 days.



16th-
20th **The Wall Clan Gathering**
Kilkenny City

www.thewallfamilyinireland.com/the-gathering

Over the course of 5 days, participants in the Wall Clan Gathering will have an opportunity to meet the Clan! A packed programme will bring Walls from Ireland and around the world together in the medieval city of Kilkenny to trace their family history and visit historical sites with direct Wall links. There will also be time to explore the Anglo Norman heritage and visit important sites in Kilkenny, Wexford and Tipperary where their Norman ancestors left a very significant mark on the landscape and history of Ireland, wrapping up with a fantastic 'Wall Gala Banquet'!

21st **The Last Rose of Summer Anniversary Concert**
Jenkinson Park

The Last Rose of Summer Gathering will celebrate the bi-centenary of the poem's publication and Thomas Moore, the man behind the famous words. Irish Tenor Anthony Kearns will perform in the idyllic grounds of Jenkinson Park, the location where Moore wrote his famous poem "The Last Rose of Summer".

21st **KCAT Station**
Callan

www.kcat.ie

A day of artistic sharing as part of the Arts Council Cultural Presidency programme will showcase inclusive arts organisations that have made a big commitment over the years to creating a common European cultural space. KCAT is inviting 80 artists from our European Partners and artists from Irish Studio groups to work collaboratively on a mural installation.

27th **The Jolly Good Motor Tour**
Thomastown

This motor tour will be taking in the beautiful scenery of Ireland in style with a gathering of over 25 classic cars, travelling from Mount Juliet Hotel, just outside of Thomastown to Adare Manor Hotel in the beautiful village of Adare, County Limerick, on to Ashford Castle Hotel in Mayo, and finally back to the Powerscourt Ritz Carlton in County Wicklow.

28th-
30th **Marble City Sevens**
Kilkenny City

www.kilkennyrugby.com

Kilkenny Rugby Football Club is hosting the Marble City Sevens Rugby Festival Gathering which will take place on the 28th, 29th and 30th June 2013. This fun filled weekend will see teams from all over Europe and Ireland compete for the coveted title of Marble City 7's Rugby Champion.

July

9th-
11th **The Hurlers Return**
Kilkenny City

www.kilkennygaa.ie

Over 40 visitors from Indianapolis Hurling Club will travel to Kilkenny, and have the opportunity to attend a training session with some of Kilkenny's top coaches, play in Nowlan Park, and meet some of Kilkenny's hurling stars of the past and present. There will be a number of other hurling related events such as a hurley making exhibition and also a walking tour of historic Kilkenny City visiting places such as Kilkenny Castle, Rothe House and St Canice's Cathedral and Round Tower. Plans include a Civic Reception and a Presentation Dinner with Brian Cody as guest speaker and the McCarthy Cup might even appear!

July

12th **John Lavery Celebration**
Dunnamaggan, Kilkenny

A display of material relating to John Lavery and a lecture on the great Irish artist will explore his connections with Kilmoganny and the local cemetery.

13th **Coogan Ceili**
Coogans Wood, Bailief Upper

The children of Noel Coogan, son of Joseph Coogan who was born at Bailief and emigrated to New Zealand with his parents and family in 1881, will be travelling to Ireland in early July 2013 and the Coogans are issuing an invitation to the extended Clan to join in the Ceili on the old family farm.

20th **Relay for Life**
Kilkenny City

www.relayforlifekk.blogspot.ie

This is Kilkenny's first Relay for Life and if you are coming home over the summer months of 2013, you're invited to gather for a community event! This is a wonderful fun event as well as an opportunity to raise funds and awareness for the Irish Cancer Society.

20th **Coolagh Cultural Evening**
Coolagh

Presenting an evening of music, food and dance on the famous Coolagh flags, a natural sandstone surface. Come home to Coolagh and rediscover your roots, and make it an experience and great holiday to remember. See you on the Coolagh flags!!

25th **Dunnamaggan Gathering**
Dunnamaggan

This celebration of Homecoming and sense of historical place takes place at the historic St Leonard's Well and the Old Mass Bush, in Dunnamaggan for a special spiritual Gathering.

26th Jul-
4th Aug **Castlecomer Dig Deep**
Castlecomer

A community celebration of the unique history of Castlecomer, its coal mining heritage and the many community groups and clubs which make Castlecomer what it is. The event will start with a community barbeque, where former miners and their families from overseas will be guests of honour, a variety of sporting and cultural events are organised to take place over the period of the festival with a gala event to close with a fireworks display.

27th **George Clooney Irish Roots Festival**
Tullahought

A Clooney Clan Gathering, featuring a book launch, genealogy lectures, music, games and sporting events with a village fete. And you never know....

27th &
28th **Bruce Springsteen Wrecking Ball Weekender**, Kilkenny City

www.wreckingballweekender.com/

Bruce Springsteen and The E Street Band will end their European Wrecking Ball Tour with two performances at Nowlan Park on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th July 2013.

27th-
28th **KBK Family Festival**
Ballyhale

Knockmoylan, Ballyhale and Knocktopher are inviting all with club and parish connection, past and present, to take part in the annual KBK family festival in Ballyhale and celebrate the 40th anniversary of the opening of the local primary school.

July

28th Jul-
5th Aug **Come Home to Golf**
Castlecomer

www.castlecomergolf.ie

Castlecomer Golf Club is hosting a special Gathering of golfers, inviting current and former members and friends to return to the Club, reuniting over 18 holes, with daily competitions followed by social events.

August

1st-
2nd **Thomas Hunter Inclusion Summer School**
Callan

www.abhainnrifestival.com

The Thomas Hunter Inclusion Summer School will bring together local and international guests to explore the benefits of social inclusion. Hunter, a Northern Presbyterian nationalist teaching in Callan, escaped arrest in Ireland to land in New York, where he founded Hunter College. He became a renowned pioneer of inclusive education. The Summer School is a featured element in the Abhainn Ri Festival of Participation and Inclusion, a premier cultural and community event in the Callan area.

9th-
18th **Kilkenny Arts Festival**
Kilkenny City

www.kilkennyarts.ie

Kilkenny Arts Festival will celebrate 40 years this August with an amazing programme of the very best of Irish and International arts. This 10-day event attracts 28,000 visitors to Kilkenny annually with over 500 artists from 21 different countries participating in what is Ireland's oldest arts festival. A special project for The Gathering 2013 will feature choral singers from across the globe performing Carmina Burana with the festival's renowned chorus and orchestra. An eclectic programme not to be missed of theatre, literature, visual arts, craft, dance, world music, opera, classical music, film, children's events and street theatre at various venues throughout medieval Kilkenny.



To book tickets for events, visit individual event pages. For more information on accommodation, visit kilkennytourism.ie

For information on gatherings in Kilkenny, visit thegathering.kilkenny.ie
For information on events around Ireland see thegatheringireland.com

August

16th Aug-
26th Oct **Morpeth Roll Exhibition Tour**
Kilkenny City

In September 1841 in Ireland, almost 200,000 people did something very unusual. In just a few weeks, they signed the biggest 'Bon Voyage' card in the world; 650 sheets of paper filled with names to say goodbye to the popular Chief Secretary of Ireland, Lord Morpeth, as he returned to England. Now to celebrate The Gathering, the Morpeth Roll will, for the first time, travel to Kilkenny in 2013!

23th-
25th **Kilmacoliver School Reunion**
Tullahought

Kilmacoliver School closed its doors in 1973 and pupils were transferred to Windgap. As part of The Gathering a reunion of all past pupils is being planned for the weekend 23rd to 25th August in conjunction with Heritage week. All past pupils will be invited to attend a weekend of music and entertainment.

24th **The Iverk Show Homecoming**
Piltown

www.iverkshow.ie/homecoming

Ireland's oldest agricultural show, the Iverk show is now in its 187th year. The one day show will be supported by three days of events, activities and visits to places of local interest. Representatives of a number of agricultural shows in the UK have been invited for The Gathering, and a total of around 15,000 visitors are expected to attend.



30th **The Butler Society**
Kilkenny

www.butler-soc.org

An event for anyone interested in the history of the Ormonde Butlers of Kilkenny and Leinster in Ireland. It will consist of visits to places of interest as well as some talks on the Ormonde Butlers.

September

5th-
7th **Hennessy Cup at Mt Juliet**
Mount Juliet

www.mountjuliet.ie

September will see the arrival of Golf enthusiasts from far and near to take part in the Hennessy Cup Classic at Mount Juliet, followed by a Gala evening at Langtons in the heart of Kilkenny. The event will raise funds to benefit the Carlow Kilkenny Home Care Team.

12th **Search Your Family Roots**
Kilkenny City

www.rothehouse.com

An Interactive workshop at Rothe House & Garden Kilkenny where you can discover how to search for your family roots in Kilkenny. Our professional genealogist will show you how to search online, using the rootsireland.ie website, and introduce you to the wide range of other records available to you.

October

9th-
13th **Kilkenny Fashion Week**
Kilkenny City

www.kilkennyfashionweek.com

Enjoy a host of fantastic events - fashion shows, exclusive style workshops, beauty demos and special offers & discounts - in Kilkenny's department stores, independent boutiques, hotels, restaurants and bars.



11th-
13th **St Canice's Cathedral Patronal Weekend**
Kilkenny City

www.stcanicescathedral.com

A weekend of events centred around St Canice's day, inviting all of those with a past involvement with the medieval Cathedral to Kilkenny to return to share and enjoy their memories and experiences.



August

9th-
20th **This is Who We Are**
Coon

This week long celebratory event based in Coon and Croghtenclogh is drawing Diaspora from far and wide to attend events including an operatic recital by Ms Rachel Somers, community events and a series of plays by local drama group, Kilquane Players.

12th **Kilkenny International Hurling Tournament**
Kilkenny City

www.thekilkennyway.com

An International Hurling Competition with the winner pitted against an all star Kilkenny Hurling Team. Hurling clubs from around Europe and the USA will compete in a tournament in Kilkenny, the most successful hurling county in Ireland!

17th **Fáilte go hÉirinn**
Newmarket

www.faminegarden.com

A special mass and Gathering celebration to rededicate and reopen St. Brendan's Church in Newmarket during National Heritage Week.

