

8th ~ 10th
September 2006



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Oyster
2006 Festival
Oyster

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www.clarenbridge.com Email: info@clarenbridge.com

Ticket Enquiries: 091 - 796766





Welcome to the 2006 Clarenbridge Oyster Festival

It gives me great pleasure to introduce you to the **Clarenbridge Oyster Festival 2006**. Since 1954, the picturesque village of Clarenbridge has hosted the annual Clarenbridge Oyster Festival and is now one of the country's longest running festivals. Built on the strength of this tradition we have a fantastic line up of gourmet food and superb entertainment to celebrate this year's event. We are delighted to open the festival with The Big Band Night on Friday in association with our partners Scoil Mhuire, Clarenbridge. On Saturday we follow on with the successful formula for the Gala event and the Barbecue in the Marquee. Sunday is family day with our traditional Sunday Jamboree. Details on these and other events are included in this brochure. We are indebted once again to our main sponsor Guinness and to our key support sponsors namely HC Financial Services, Oyster Manor Hotel, Fitzgerald Building Contractors, Paddy Burkes, Oyster Homes and the Clarinbridge Court Hotel. We would also like to thank our many other supporters who take ads in our brochure and support us in many different ways. A special word of thanks to our many guests, friends and visitors and the local community for their loyal support through the years. Thanks to the committee who give up their own time and work tirelessly throughout the year to ensure the success of the festival. If this is your first visit or you are a regular visitor to the Clarenbridge Oyster Festival I wish you a very enjoyable weekend.

Bain taitneamh as

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dermot Comerford".

Dermot Comerford
Chairperson



Ticket Enquiries: 091 - 796766

WEEKEND EVENTS

Friday 8th September 2006 (9.30pm)

Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's

Welcome to the 2006 Oyster Festival with MacTeo Spectacular. In association with Scoil Mhuire National School, Clarenbridge. Music and entertainment by Deja Vu followed by Motown Legends starring Roy Hemmings of The Original Drifters. Introduction of Guests and Oyster Festival Queen. Food available for purchase until 11.00pm

Saturday 9th September 2006 (1.00pm)

Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's

2006 Oyster Gala Celebration. Official opening ceremony with MacTeo Introduction of Queen and Special Guest. Entertainment includes Jazz in the City, Pyramid and Boogie Nights. Admission by pre-purchased ticket only which includes the following; Seafood Chowder, Oysters or Smoked Salmon, Seafood Platter, Guinness, Lager, Wine, Liqueur, Tea/Coffee, Entertainment.

(persons under 18 years not admitted - food served up to 4.00pm)

Festival Barbecue at 9.30pm in Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's Great Barbecue food, great craic and great entertainment by Calle Latina and The Glitter Bugs.

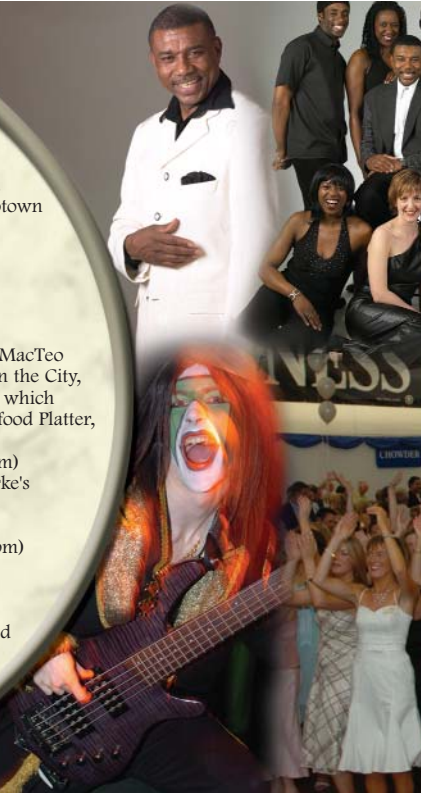
(persons under 18 years not admitted - food served up to 11.00pm)

Sunday 10th September 2006 (12.30pm)

Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's

Sunday Jamboree Ticket includes a glass of Guinness, Seafood Chowder, Family entertainment. Oysters and a variety of food available for purchase. Music by The Oyster Boys and The Conquerors.

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ENTERTAINMENT

***A weekend of Electrifying Music,
Celebrity Guests & Spectacular Mac
Teo Performances awaits you!***

Friday 8th September, Festival Opening

Time to blast off this weekend of truly amazing oysters, music, hospitality and entertainment. To get you all warmed up it's Déjà Vu on stage at 9.30pm. And then in another remarkable coup we are delighted to welcome Motown Legends, starring lead vocalist Roy Hemmings of The Original Drifters. A night not to be missed as they pump out the great Motown and Sixties classics right up to the hits of today. Watch out for the sensational female trio with their tremendous vocals.

Saturday 9th September, Oyster Gala Celebration

Rise and shine ye party people, the event of the weekend commences with the highly acclaimed Jazz In The City Band and there's no rest for the wicked as we then bring you a sumptuous musical feast by one of Galway's favourite bands – Pyramid. The Saturday Gala reaches a crescendo with the energy and passion of Boogie Nights- voted Ireland's No. 1 party band by VIP magazine. It's sure to get you on your feet and rockin' to the beat.

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ENTERTAINMENT

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Saturday 9th September, Barbecue Night

To complement our delectable barbecue, we have back by frenetic demand the sizzling salsa sounds of Calle Latina. As you lick your lips and the plate, the night will ignite into a musical inferno with a phenomenal show from The Glitter Bugs.

Sunday 10th September, Festival Jamboree

It's all about family fun and entertainment, featuring the ever popular Oyster Boys. To complete this perfect afternoon and get you all hoppin' and boppin' we welcome The Conquerors with their great mix of chart hits spanning four decades.

Monday morning, off to work I go but
Oh – mark my diary for 2007.

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CLARENBRIDGE OYSTERS

The beautiful village of Clarenbridge is situated in South Galway on the main route from Galway to Limerick, at the mouth of the Claren River. West of the village is Dunbulcan Bay from where we harvest the world famous Clarenbridge oysters, the best in the world. Here exists the perfect combination of natural elements required to produce the perfect oyster. Protected in the bay from the full force of the Atlantic storms, the 700 acres of beds also have the ideal mixture of fresh and seawater, so vital for oyster development. Native Irish oysters, *ostrea edulis*, also known as the European Flat Oyster are reputed to be the best-flavoured oysters in the world. Oysters have always been linked with love. When Aphrodite, the Greek goddess of love, sprang forth from the sea on an oyster shell and promptly gave birth to Eros, the word "aphrodisiac" was born. The dashing lover Casanova also used to start a meal by eating 12 dozen oysters. Romance aside, oysters are a pretty healthy option for everyone - they're a valuable source of minerals, such as zinc, calcium and copper, and are also rich in iodine and low in cholesterol. Good news also is that each oyster has only 7 calories!! So join us at the 2006 Clarenbridge Oyster Festival and perhaps after you've sampled our Oysters you'll love longer, live longer and look younger!

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CLARENBRIDGE MARKET DAY

The Village of Clarenbridge grew up around a market and the market itself grows around the bridge that spans the River Clarin that runs through the village.

When the market developed, the Reddings (the local landlords) donated to the village a triangular portion of land in the heart of the village. They built a cut stone wall around it and planted beech and chestnut trees along the wall. These trees now provide shelter and shade to this lovely piece of ground.

It is in this setting that the annual Clarenbridge Market is held. This market is a journey back into the past and a glimpse into the future; a day when time does not matter and people gather to remember and to celebrate with music and song.

We have discovered a lot of hidden talents in many varied fields such as crafts, cookery, music and song. But above all it's a day when we have time to meet and greet our neighbours and to remember our past. The 2006 Clarenbridge Market Day takes place on Saturday 2nd September.

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CLARENBRIDGE VILLAGE

Clarenbridge Village is a little piece of heaven – just 10 minutes drive south of Galway City. Tranquil, leafy with a little river bridge sandwiched between the Oyster Manor Hotel and the legendary Paddy Burke's Pub and Restaurant.

The first Oyster Festival was in 1954 and since then Clarenbridge has hosted many National and International celebrities and has contributed enormously to the development of the tourist trade in the region.

September 1st ends the oysters honeymoon and the eating season opens with the Gala Oyster Celebration in the festival marquee. That's when oyster lovers head for Clarenbridge to sample what are recognised as "probably the most succulent Oysters in the World!"

So why not come along and join us for a celebration never to be forgotten at the 52nd Clarenbridge Oyster Festival from 8th to 10th September 2006 and see why we justifiably claim that "the world is your Oyster and Clarenbridge is its home."

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BLAST FROM THE PAST

Johnny - World Oyster Champion

Johnny Cummins of Clarenbridge is the new World Oyster-opening Champion. He won the title yesterday at the 1970 International Oyster Festival in Clarenbridge defeating competitors from three other nations. Johnny opened his 50 oysters in 3 minutes 50 seconds. Claud Gaudin, Hotel St. Gotthard, Zurich, Switzerland was second in 4 minutes 34.9 seconds while last years winner Albert Duret of Lyon France was third with a time of 4 minutes 50 seconds.

The International Championship, highlight of the Oyster Festival, took place in the garden of Paddy Burke's famous Oyster House at Clarenbridge. It was a happy, colourful scene with music supplied by the Bunratty Singers and the Patrician Brothers School Band, Galway. Earlier the Pearl of the Festival, Joan Brennan, presented the first oyster of the season to the Mayor of Galway, Mr. M Divilly.

By the time the Festival ended over 24,000 oysters will have been tasted and toasted. A French TV unit made a film of the Festival for inclusion in a feature about Ireland.

(Extract from Sunday Independent, September 27, 1970)

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Saturday 2nd Sept.

12 noon Clarenbridge Village
Market Day & Culture of the Period.
Presented by Clarenbridge Market Day Committee.
Venue - Village Green. Adm. Free

Monday 4th Sept. 7.30pm

The Claren Fine Wine and Gourmet Festival Dinner with
pre-dinner fizz reception on the Deck. Entertainment by Ice & Jazz.
Venue - Paddy Burkes. Adm. €55

Tuesday 5th Sept. 8.00pm

The Tuesday Lecture, "Ways of Knowing." - Writer and Broadcaster
John Quinn explores the many and varied ways in which we come
to know our community and our world.
Venue - Clarenbridge National School. Adm. Free

Weds 6th Sept.

7.00pm Oyster Festival Hurling League (depending on club fixtures)
Venue - Clarenbridge GAA Club. Adm. Free
9.00pm Traditional Music Night
Venue - Raftery's Rest, Kilcolgan. Adm. Free

Thursday 7th Sept.

8.00pm Oyster Festival Art and Photographic Exhibition.
Venue - Clarenbridge National School. Adm. Free
9.30pm Card Game 9's (nines) Generous Prizes
Venue - O'Donoghue's Bar, Kilcolgan.



Friday 8th Sept.

Guinness Oyster Country Classic in Gort Golf Club. Singles stableford, men & women **Time Sheet 087 6813364**

Friday 8th Sept. 9.30pm

**Welcome to the 2006 Oyster Festival
Big Band Night**

In the Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's with Deja Vu, Motown Legends Staring Roy Hemmings and MacTeo. **Adm. €20**

Saturday 9th Sept. 1.00pm

2006 Oyster Gala Celebration

In the Festival Marquee at Paddy Burke's with Jazz In The City, Pyramid and Boogie Nights. Also MacTeo show. Booking Required. **Adm. €100**

Saturday 9th Sept. 9.30pm

Festival Barbecue

In the Festival Marquee at Paddy Burke's with Calle Latina and The Glitter Bugs. Also MacTeo spectacular. Booking required. **Adm. €45**

Sunday 10th Sept. 12.30pm

Sunday Jamboree

In the Festival Marquee, Paddy Burke's with The Oyster Boys and The Conquerors. **Adm €15**

1.30pm The Festival Field Trip.

Join us on a nature traipse to Tawin Island with naturalist Gordon D'Arcy. Meet Clarenbridge National School. Free Bus.



BEST DRESSED

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As our guests, especially the ladies, make such an effort with their appearance, fantastic outfits, head pieces, jewellery, shoes and handbags we decided a number of years ago to introduce a prize for the best dressed lady. The winner is chosen during the Saturday Gala Event. This is never an easy task as there are always a great number of stylish ladies in attendance. The lucky winner receives a voucher for €1000 courtesy of Áil Rúin Design Centre, Gallery & Coffee Shop located in the village of Clarenbridge. Last year we introduced a Creative Headpiece Competition with the winner receiving a €250 pamper package from Q Beauty in Kilcolgan. Lest we be accused of neglecting the men, we also have a novelty tie competition with the winner receiving a voucher from Hanley's Menswear. So the message is clear – dress to impress at this year's Clarenbridge Oyster Festival .

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FINE FOOD

The Friday - Opening Big Band Night

Available to purchase on tonight's menu..... A hot bowl of Clarenbridge Oyster Festival famous seafood chowder - a meal in itself, smoked salmon plate served with a light salad and wholesome brown bread, sirloin of beef tucked into a crusty bread roll and of course those famous native Clarenbridge Oysters.

Saturday Afternoon - The Oyster Gala Celebration

In between the music, entertainment & celebrations enjoy the following complimentary seafood feast:- to begin...the perfect aphrodisiac, 12 succulent native Clarenbridge Oysters or simply smoked salmon at its best served with mixed salad leaves & traditional crusty brown bread.

To follow...a generous bowl of festival chowder with perfect brown bread.

To die for...a sumptuous platter of mouth-watering fresh seafood including poached salmon, prawns, roulade of smoked salmon and crab meat, giant crab claws, smoked mackerel & terrine of seafood presented on a crisp salad drizzled with seafood dressing.

A sweet ending...the perfect chocolate mousse, light and fluffy.

In addition, complement your food with our range of refreshments including finest wines, liqueurs, beers, mineral water and our speciality teas & coffee.

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FINE FOOD

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Saturday Evening - The Festival Barbecue

The chefs will be busy on Saturday night cooking up great food on the barbecue. Choose any or all from sirloin steak with peppercorn sauce, darne of salmon with salsa sauce or breast of chicken with a smoky barbecue sauce. All served up with a baked potato and a selection of salads. Food included in ticket price.

Sunday Afternoon - The Festival Jamboree

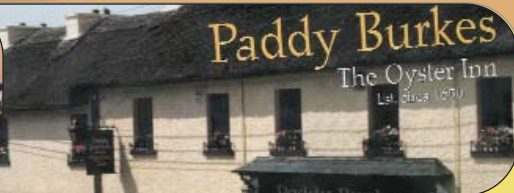
Enjoy complementary chowder and a glass of Guinness. Available to purchase are cajun chicken ciabatta with a salad selection, the Festival seafood platter and the ever popular roast beef sandwich with grilled mushrooms, onions and salad.

Vegetarian options are available on all days.

Children's menu available also.

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The Oyster Inn is open for food Monday to Saturday from 10.30am until 10.00pm and on Sundays from 12.00pm until last orders at 10.00pm

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COMPETITION TIME

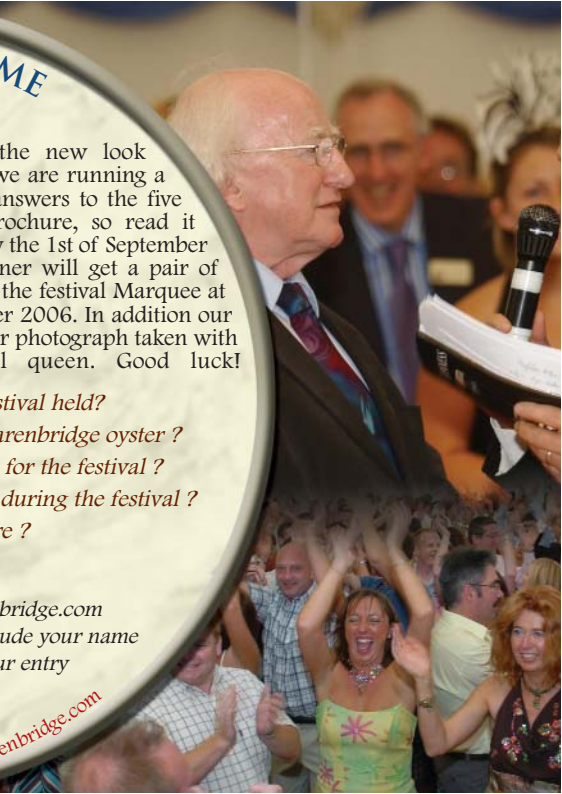
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To coincide with the launch of the new look Clarenbridge Oyster Festival brochure we are running a competition. The good news is that all answers to the five questions below are from within the brochure, so read it carefully! The draw will take place on Friday the 1st of September 2006. The prize is special - one lucky winner will get a pair of tickets to the Gala Oyster Celebration, held in the festival Marquee at Paddy Burke's on Saturday the 9th of September 2006. In addition our winners will get a chance to meet and have their photograph taken with both our special guest and our festival queen. Good luck!

1. *Where and when was the first Oyster Festival held?*
2. *What is the Latin name for the native Clarenbridge oyster ?*
3. *What is the ticket line telephone number for the festival ?*
4. *To which Island will there be a field trip during the festival ?*
5. *How many friends of the festival are there ?*

Email your answers to info@clarenbridge.com
before **1st September** and please include your name
and full contact details with your entry

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Weekend Booking Form

Date	Event	QTY	Admission	TOTAL
Fri 8th Sept.	Welcome to the 2006 Oyster Festival Number of tickets required	<input type="text"/>	@ €20	<input type="text"/>
Sat 9th Sept.	Oyster Gala Celebration Number of tickets required	<input type="text"/>	@ €100	<input type="text"/>
Sat 9th Sept.	Festival Barbecue Number of tickets required	<input type="text"/>	@ €45	<input type="text"/>
Sun 10 Sept.	Sunday Jamboree Number of tickets required	<input type="text"/>	@ €15	<input type="text"/>
	Full Weekend Ticket Number of tickets required	<input type="text"/>	@ €170	<input type="text"/>

Total Value enclosed €

Name/Company

Address

.....

.....

Telephone

Please complete and return this form with your payment immediately. All payments in euro & cheques payable to Clarenbridge Oyster Festival.

Clarenbridge Oyster Festival, Ticket Office, Stradbally, Clarenbridge.
Phone (091) 796766.
Credit Card Booking (091) 796766.

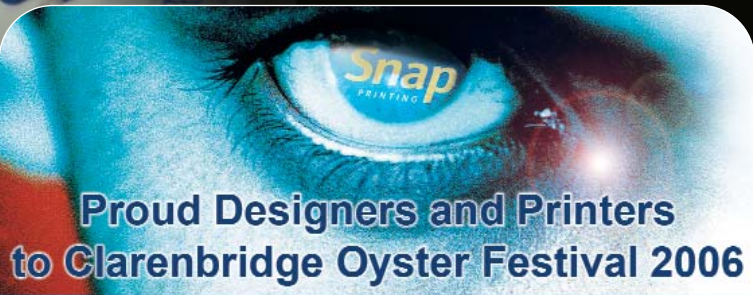
Bookings without payment cannot be accepted.

We regret we cannot refund any payment after 8th August.

All accommodation to be booked directly with B&B or hotels.



Each year the festival is a sell-out, so early purchase is advisable, as tickets are limited. Festival tickets are not to be used for raffles or promotions without prior approval from festival committee. Tickets are non-transferable and sold subject to terms and conditions.



Proud Designers and Printers to Clarenbridge Oyster Festival 2006

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