



Irish Countrywomen's Association
Bantracht na Tuaithe

Comórtaisí Náisiúnta Bantracht na Tuaithe

National ICA Competitions

Clár 2023
2023 PROGRAMME





Contacts

**National
Contests
Chairperson**



Anne Smithers



086 6037094

**National Contests
Secretary**



Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin



0866077200

Address for Entries



**5 Parkview,
Carrickhill,
Portmarnock,
Co. Dublin. D13PF97**



Points of note to all competitors in National ICA Competitions:

- Please adhere strictly to the criteria of each specific competition.
- There must be at least two entries in any competition for it to be held.
- The judge's decision is final in all competitions.
- No late entries will be accepted.
- From 2020 onwards, 1st Prize in any competition will only be awarded to the same entrant/team for two consecutive years. Having enjoyed 1st Prize for two consecutive years, the winning entrant/team will not be allowed to participate in this competition again for a period of one year.
- All cups, plaques, shields and trophies must be returned to the ICA National Competitions Committee one month prior to that competition being run again or at the Spring Conference 2023.
- Names and photographs of competition entrants/winners/audiences may be posted on our web site www.ica.ie and on our Facebook page "ICA National Competitions". If you do not want your name/photograph posted to those sites, please indicate this clearly to the Competitions Committee on your entry or at competition events.
- Please note that competitions numbers 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 13 are open Guild competitions



The National Contests Committee wish to thank all ICA members who took part in the 2021- 2022 competitions, and we also look forward to great participation in our 2022-2023 Programme.

We would also like to thank Niamh Donegan and all the staff in An-Grianán for their absolute cooperation in running Contests Weekend.

We hope that this year's competitions will see a return to the pre Covid agenda. Thanks to the tireless work of our CEO Eufemia Solinas, we have secured sponsorship for our Creative Writing Competition for this year.

Without the interest and cooperation of all the above mentioned we, the committee, would be in big trouble!!

**Míle Buíochas as ucht bhur dtacaíocht
Thanks for your support.
Cathaoirleach/Rúnaí
Chairperson/Secretary**

National Contests Weekend 2023



Date

Saturday April 1st 2023
to Sunday April 2nd 2023



Location

An-Grianán

Over the course of this weekend, we will hold the competitions for the Patsy Lawlor Cup and Shield for Set Dancing, the Eleanora Gibbon Cup and Shield for Drama & Music, the Baumann Shield for Music, the National Table Quiz Final and the National Final for the Solo Singing competition.



1. Gempack Baking Competition



Date

Monday, April 3rd, 2023



Location

An-Grianán

- The competition is for a Simnel Cake.
- Baked in a 20 cm round tin.
- One cake per Federation.
- Proof of Gempack purchases is required at both Federation and National Competitions.
- The Federation Winners will be invited to come to An-Grianán on Monday April 3rd.
- Registration of the entries will take place at 10.30am.
- All meals, accommodation on the Sunday or Monday night and breakfast on the following day will be sponsored by GEMPACK.
- The names of Federations winners must be submitted to the National Contest Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin , 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co.Dublin. D13PF97 by Thursday March 16th 2023.



**Closing
date**

Friday, 10th February, 2023

- A short story titled “A friend in need”.
- (Maximum 2,000 words, word count must be stated).
- Please send entry marked “Creative Writing Competition” to the National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97.
- On a separate sheet of paper, please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry.
- Entries must be typed on one side of paper only, using double line spacing and font - Times Roman, size 12.
- Send a hard copy to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin not later than Friday February 10th 2023 and email a copy to homuineachain@gmail.com.
- The Creative Writing Booklet sponsored by Task Community Care Ltd will be available containing all entries.
- Your story will be included unless you opt out at the time of submitting your entry.
- If you would like us to return the original story, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope.
- Six stories will be shortlisted to go forward to the National Final in An-Grianán on 3rd April 2023 and will be read by the writer or a person of their choosing on Monday afternoon. The shortlisted writers will be invited to dinner on Sunday evening and B&B.
- For more information about Task Community Care Ltd and their services, please visit <https://www.taskltd.com/> or contact: 01 843 5889 / 01 843 5901.



3. Inter Federation Cup for Art - Photography



**Closing
date**

Friday 24th February, 2023

- **Titles: Colour Photograph: Nature “ Scenic View”.**
- **Black and White Photograph “Architectural - featuring a bridge”.**
- **Size of Photographs - 5x7 inches, 13 x 18 cm - unmounted.**
- **Photographs entered must have been taken by the entrant.**
- **Please send entry marked “Photography” to National Contests Committee Secretary Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 Friday 24th February 2023.**
- **On a separate sheet of paper, please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry.**
- **Please enclose an appropriately sized stamped self-addressed envelope for return. No details of entrant on photograph.**
- **Entry Fee: €5.00 per photograph or 3 photographs for €10 – Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.**



4. Baumann Cup for Art – Painting



**Closing
date**

Friday, 24th March, 2023

- **Art: Painting "Afternoon Tea".**
- **Unsigned, unmounted and unframed (Acrylics only – mixed medium will be disqualified) on canvas-not larger than 14 "X 18" (35.5 cms x 46cms).**
- **Please send entry marked "Baumann Art" to National Contests Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 by Friday 24th March 2023.**
- **On a separate sheet of paper, please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry.**
- **Please include stamped self-addressed envelope for return. No details of entrant on painting.**
- **Entry Fee: €5.00 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.**



5. National Table Quiz Final

| | | |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
|  | Teams submission date | Friday, 3rd March, 2023 |
| | Table quiz date | Saturday, April 1st, 2023 |

- **Team of three participants which can be made up from the same Guild as before or from different Guild members in a Federation but only one team from each Federation can go forward for the National Final.**
- **Entry fee €30 at Federation round.**
- **There will be ten rounds with ten questions in each round at the National Final. One ICA round and one Picture round.**
- **Out of the entry fees for the table quiz, we are asking Federations to pay for dinner B&B for their winning team to attend the National Final at An-Grianán on Saturday April 1st.**
- **Lunch on 1st April is not included. Teams must make their own arrangements for lunch by contacting An-Grianán.**
- **Total cost €240 payable to National Contest Secretary before 4th March 2023.**
- **Please send names of winning team (printed in Block Capitals) and cheque for €240 made payable to ICA Contests to National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 marked “National Table Quiz” before 3rd March 2023.**
- **Please include contact numbers and email addresses.**
- **Accommodation at An-Grianán may only be reserved through Competitions Secretary. Priority will be given to team members.**

6. Patsy Lawlor Cup for Set Dancing Full Set



| | |
|--|--------------------------|
|  Entries closing date | Friday, 10th March, 2023 |
| Finals Date | Sunday, April 2nd, 2023 |

- Teams will be required to dance two figures of their chosen set.
- Marching on and off floor is not permitted.
- Dancing shoes (jig, hornpipe, batter) are not permitted.
- Uniforms will not gain extra marks / team members need not all be from the same Guild.
- Bring your own music on CD or tape and player for the National Final.
- Entry fee €5 pp on the door at the Final.
- Please send entry details marked “Patsy Lawlor Cup – Full Set” which should include the names of the sets being danced, names of the competitors and their Guilds, contact name, address, telephone number and email address National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 no later than 10th March 2023.
- National Final will be held on Sunday 2nd April 2023.

7. Patsy Lawlor Cup for Set Dancing Half Set



Entries closing
date

Friday, 10th March, 2023



Finals
Date

Sunday, April 2nd, 2023

- Teams will be required to dance two figures of their chosen set.
- Marching on and off floor is not permitted.
- Dancing shoes (jig, hornpipe, batter) are not permitted.
- Uniforms will not gain extra marks / team members need not all be from the same Guild.
- Bring your own music on CD or tape and player for the National Final.
- Entry fee €5 pp on the door at the Final.
- Please send entry details marked “Patsy Lawlor Cup – Half Set” which should include the names of the sets being danced, names of the competitors and their Guilds, contact name, address, telephone number and email address National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 no later than 10th March 2023.
- National Final will be held on Sunday 2nd April 2023.



8. Baumann Shield for Music



Entries closing
date

Friday, 24th February,
2023

- **Two Songs:** a) Abba Song, b) Song associated with your County.
- **Group:** minimum of 4 singers (need not all be from same Guild).
- **Accompanist** need not be an ICA member, but all singers must be paid up members.
- **No backing tracks allowed.**
- **Costumes will not gain marks.**
- **Entry fee €5 pp on the door at the Final.**
- **Please send entry marked “Baumann Music”, which should include the names of the two songs, Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97, not later than February 24th, 2023.**
- **National Final will be held on Sunday April 2nd 2023.**



9. Eleanora Gibbon Shield for Music



Entries closing
date

Friday, 24th February,
2023

Finals date

Sunday, April 2nd,
2023

- Dhá amhrán as Gaeilge (two songs in Irish): a) Amhrán faoin Mhuir (Song about the Sea), b) Amhrán ó do laethanta scoile (Song from your school days).
- Group: minimum of 4 singers (need not all be from the same Guild).
- Accompanist need not be an ICA member, but all singers must be paid up members.
- No backing tracks allowed. Costumes will not gain marks.
- Entry fee €5pp at the door at the Final.
- Please send entry marked "Eleanora Gibbon Shield" which should include the names of the two songs, Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 not later than 24th February 2023.



10. Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama



**Entries closing
Date**

**Friday, 10th February,
2023**

Theme: The Wedding.

- **Twenty minutes empty stage to empty stage.**
- **Tables/chairs/hand-held props/musical instruments/electronic devices only.**
- **Please send entry marked “Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama”, which should include the names of the performers and their Guild, Federation, contact name, address, telephone number and email address to National Contest Committee Member, Anne Smithers, 10 Windward Way, Lusk Village, Lusk, Co. Dublin, no later than 10th February 2023.**
- **National Final will be in An-Grianán on Sunday April 2nd at 10.30 am.**
- **Entry Fee €5pp at the door.**



11. Comórtas Gael Linn



**Entries closing
date**

**Friday, 24th February,
2023**

- **Scéal (Story) – Is ar scáth a chéile a mhairimid.**
- **Suas go dtí 700 focal (up to 700 words).**
- **Closing date: Friday 24th February 2023.**
- **Entry Fee €5. Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.**
- **Please send entry marked “Gael Linn Scéal” with your entry fee to the National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 no later than 24th February 2023, with a stamped addressed envelope for return if required.**

12. Guild Year Book for the Betty Manning Trophy



Entries closing
date

Friday, 31st March,
2023

- The competition for 2022-2023 is to produce a Guild Yearbook, which will give details of all Guild activities for the year. The Yearbook will be from April 2022 to March 2023. It will be a record of all the things the Guild does during the above ICA year with and for its members. It should include photographs, reports or anything of relevance to a particular Guild event. The Yearbook should promote the Guild by including information on Guild meetings, outings, classes, workshops and activities such as crafts, drama, sports etc. The Yearbook should tell of the fun and friendship enjoyed by Guild members. The Yearbook should tell of charitable work and community involvement. It should celebrate the successes of members and of the Guild. It should speak of Guild involvement at Federation and National level. It may be handwritten and/or computer generated. Presentation will be important. The yearbook must be A4 size.
- The Guild Yearbook must be the work of at least three Guild members, but we would envisage it being a real Guild effort with various people being involved throughout the ICA year, recording events as they happen.
- Entry Fee is €10 with cheques payable to ICA Contests. Entries to be sent marked "Guild of the Year" to the National Contest Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97.
- On a separate sheet of paper, please include contact name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry fee of €10.
- Alternative delivery arrangements can be made by contacting Helen at 0866077200.



13. Solo Singing Voice of ICA



**Entries closing
date**

**Friday, 24th March,
2023**

- Time allotted for each performance is 2-3 minutes.
- Participants will not be allowed to refer to the lyrics while singing.
- The participants will be judged on the song selection, voice quality, clarity, rhythm, and their appeal to the audience.
- The participants are allowed to use their own musical instruments, or accompanist, if required in the performance,
- The accompanist need not be an ICA member.
- Choice of song is open to the participants.
- Entrance Fee €5.
- Accommodation, if needed, to be funded by Guild.
- The name entrant, Guild represented, and the song entry should be submitted to National Contests Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 or email homuineachain@gmail.com, no later than Friday 24th March 2023.
- The National Final will be held on Saturday April 1st 2023, at An-Grianán, at 7p.m.



14. Inter Federation Trophy for Crafts



**Entries closing
date**

**Monday, 20th March,
2023**

Craft: "Carrickmacross Lace"

- **Minimum size 100 square inches (i.e.10x10 oval, square, circular, or oblong).**
- **Points to note: Can be mounted ready for framing but please leave unframed. Piece must show pops, minimum of four filling stitches and a picot edge. Neatness of stitches and evenness of picots will be taken into consideration.**
- **On a separate sheet of paper, please send entry marked "Craft" with your entry fee on or before 20th March 2023 to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97. Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry. Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for return. No details of entrant on the entry.**
- **Alternatively, members attending Handcraft Week can bring their entries together with their entry fee to An-Grianán.**
- **All entries will be judged during Handcraft Week March 27th – March 31st 2023.**
- **Entry Fee: €5.00 – Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.**

15. Muriel Gahan Rosebowl



Entries closing
date

Friday, 24th March,
2023

Item: Three Greeting Cards, each a different technique.

- Maximum size A5.
- On a separate sheet of paper, please send entry marked “Muriel Gahan” with your entry fee on or before 24th March 2023 to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97.
- Please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry. Please include a large stamped self-addressed padded envelope for return of entry. No details of entrant on item.
- Entry Fee: €5.00 – Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

16. MEMORIAL HANDCRAFT TROPHY



Entries closing
date

Monday, 20th March,
2023

The craft chosen for the Award in 2023 is as follows:

Italian Quilting

- Design/stitching must cover an area at least 12” x 12” or 144 square inches.
- Finished article must be at least 14” x 14”.
- Only running stitch or backstitch is acceptable. Tramlines need to be well filled but not puckered.
- This competition is not open to Handcraft Teachers.
- Entry Fee: €10.00– Please make cheques payable to ICA Competitions
- Please include a large stamped addressed padded envelope for return of entry.
- Closing date for Entries will be 20th March 2023 and all entries to be sent to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97.
- Alternatively, members attending Handcraft Week can bring their entries together with their entry fee to An-Grianán.
- All entries will be judged during Handcraft Week March 27th – March 31st 2023.

17. Breda McDonald Trophy/Hobby section for beginners



Entries closing
date

Monday, 20th March,
2023

Three of any of the following items:

- Pressed Flower Picture.
 - Knitting (small items minimum size 6 inches/15 cm).
 - Glass Etching.
 - Glass Painting.
 - Needle Felting.
 - Pin Flair.
 - 3D Decoupage.
 - Deco Patch.
 - Cane Edge Tray.
 - Ribbon Work.
 - Wool Crochet (Pin Cushion, Pothead, ToiletRoll Cover).
 - Cross Stitch (Bookmark, Card or another small item).
 - The competition is not open to Handcraft Teachers.
-
- The three items must be the work of one person.
 - Points to be judged.
 - 1. Shape.
 - 2. Design.
 - Points 1 – 10 awarded for each item submitted. (Each to be a different craft). Trophy awarded to person gaining most points in this section.
 - Entry Fee €10 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contest.
 - Closing Date 20th March 2023.
 - Entry form at end of this booklet and online from www.ica.ie (competitions section).
 - Please forward completed entry form and cheque with items to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97.
 - Judging will take place at Handcraft Week.
 - Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of items if so wished.
 - Items may also be brought to Handcraft Week in An Grianán - March 27th – March 31st 2023.
 - Trophy will be presented at the National AGM in 2023.
 - Alternatively call Helen on 0866077200 to make other arrangements.

18. ICA Trophy for Reporting



Entries closing
date

Friday, 31st March,
2023

- Write a report on How my Guild coped during the Pandemic.
- The report should be maximum 1000 words.
- Please send entry marked “Reporting” to National Contest Secretary, Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co Dublin. D13PF97 by March 31st 2022.
- On a separate sheet of paper, please include your name, address, telephone number, email address, Guild and Federation and submit with your entry.
- If you would like us to return the original report, please include a stamped self- addressed envelope.
- Entry Fee: €5.00 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests.

19. Pitch and Putt



Date

Friday, 15th September,
2023



Location

Seapoint
Pitch & Putt Club

- The National Pitch and Putt Competition will take place on Friday 15th September 2023 in Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth with a Fourball Shotgun start at 11:00 am.
- Teams should arrive for 10.30 am to give everyone time to get to their allocated tee box.
- The competition is open to teams of 4.
- The fee for a team of 4 is €110 which includes lunch for 4 at An-Grianán and Green Fees at Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club.
- Entry forms over leaf and can be downloaded from our Web site www.ica.ie
- The closing date for entries is Friday, August 25th 2023.

NATIONAL PITCH AND PUTT COMPETITION 2023



The National Pitch and Putt Competition will take place on Friday September 15th 2023 in Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club with a Fourball Shot Gun start at 11:00 am. Teams should arrive for 10:30 am to give everyone time to get to their allocated tee box.

The competition is open to teams of 4.

The fee for a team of 4 is €110 which includes lunch for 4 at An-Grianán and Green Fees at Seapoint Pitch and Putt Club.

Please complete the form below and send your entry and fee to Helen Uí Mhuíneacháin, National Contests Secretary, 5 Parkview, Carrickhill, Portmarnock, Co. Dublin. D13PF97. All entries must include participants` names and please make all cheques payable to "ICA Contests".

The closing date for entries is Friday August 25th 2023.

Depending on requests for overnight B&B, there may be some availability in An-Grianán at a cost of €50 pp per night. (Single supplement will apply). All enquiries directly to An Grianán on 041 9822119.

Pitch and Putt Entry Form 2023

NAME OF FEDERATION: _____

PARTICIPANTS NAMES:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Team Contact Name: _____

Team Contact Email Address: _____

Team Contact Phone Number: _____



BREDA McDONALD TROPHY - Entry Form

Name: _____

Guild: _____ **Federation:** _____

Address: _____

Contact Number: _____

Please indicate which 3 items are included from the following hobbies:

- **Pressed Flower Picture.**
- **Knitting (small items minimum size 6 inches/15 cm).**
- **Glass Etching.**
- **Glass Painting.**
- **Needle Felting.**
- **Pin Flair.**
- **3D Decoupage.**
- **Deco Patch.**
- **Cane Edge Tray.**
- **Ribbon Work.**
- **Wool Crochet (Pin Cushion, Pot Holder, Toilet Roll Cover).**
- **Cross Stitch (Bookmark, Card or other small item).**

Points 1 – 10 awarded for each item submitted (Each to be a different craft).

Trophy awarded to person gaining most points in this section.

Entry Fee €10 - Please make cheques payable to ICA Contests

Closing Date 20th March 2023.

Alternatively, members attending Handcraft Week can bring their entries together with their entry fee to An-Grianán. Entry form available from Central Office and online from www.ica.ie (Members Area). Please forward completed entry form and cheque with items to Central Office. Judging will take place at Handcraft Week. Items can be collected from Central Office after that week. Please include a stamped self-addressed envelope for return of items if so wished. Trophy will be presented at the National AGM.

TIMELINE FOR ENTRIES 2023



| | |
|-------------------|---|
| 10/02/2023 | Creative Writing. |
| 17/02/2023 | Eleanora Gibbon Cup for Drama. |
| 24/02/2023 | Baumann Shield for Music. |
| 24/02/2023 | Eleanora Gibbon Shield for Music. |
| 24/02/2023 | Inter Federation Cup for Art- Photography. |
| 24/02/2023 | Comórtas Gael Linn. |
| 03/03/2023 | National Table Quiz. |
| 10/03/2023 | Patsy Lalor Cup, Full Set. |
| 10/03/2023 | Patsy Lalor Shield, Half Set. |
| 16/03/2023 | Gempack Baking Competition. |
| 20/03/2023 | Inter Federation Trophy for Crafts. |
| 20/03/2023 | Breda McDonald Trophy. |
| 20/03/2023 | Memorial Handcraft Trophy. |
| 24/03/2023 | Solo Singing. |
| 24/03/2023 | Baumann Cup for Art, Painting. |
| 24/03/2023 | Muriel Gahan Rosebowl. |
| 24/03/2023 | Reporting. |
| 31/03/2023 | Guild Yearbook. |
| 25/08/2023 | Pitch & Putt. |