



# **An Grianán**

## **Adult Education Centre**

### *Programme*

### *2025*

**Enriching | Relaxing | Learning**

📍 An Grianán, Termonfeckin, Co. Louth, A92 X9TF

☎ 041 982 2119

✉ admin@an-grianan.ie

🌐 www.an-grianan.ie

## About An Grianán

Ideally located, An Grianán is just 10 kilometres from Drogheda town centre and has pedestrian access to the beautiful sandy beaches, some of the longest on the East coast.

With ample opportunity to enjoy a wide range of indoor and outdoor pursuits, why not find a course that is right for you and come and join us learn a new skill, meet up with friends, relax and enjoy our unique experience.



An Grianán is of immense historical significance with its original form dating back over 220 years ago. This college was the first residential adult education centre in Ireland and has its roots in the Irish Countrywomen's Association – the oldest and largest women's association in Ireland.

This beautiful stately home was built in the 18th Century by the McClintock family and called Newtown House. In 1852 it was sold to a Drogheda merchant and shipbuilder called Ralph Smyth and in the early 1920's it was bought by Helen Lentaigne, who allowed the newly constituted Irish Countrywomen's Association to use Newtown House as a venue for one of the first ICA Summer Schools during the 1930's. In July 1945 Mrs Lentaigne sold Newtown House to the Irish Tourist Board, who renovated the premises and opened the house as Tearman Hotel.

The seeds of An Grianán were sown in 1952, when Muriel Gahan of the ICA proposed the idea for a residential college for social and educational purposes to Dr Morris, of the WK Kellogg Foundation of America, through a chance introduction. It was purchased and entrusted for the benefit of the people of Ireland. In October 1954 it was officially opened by the then President of Ireland Seán T O'Kelly. Dr Donal O'Sullivan, Director of Folk Music and Song at UCD and Trinity College conducted the first course.



# Welcome

## From National President Mary D'Arcy

An Grianán in Irish means “a sunny place” and it holds a very special place at the heart of our association.

Join us in the immersive educational opportunities on offer while you relax and enjoy our hundred thousand welcomes.



## Meet the Team

An Grianán Manager Guy Ferreira and the team look forward to welcoming you!

[manager@an-grianan.ie](mailto:manager@an-grianan.ie)



## Important Dates for 2025

### Irish Weekend - Deire Seachtaine Gaeilge

- Friday 28th February – Sunday 2nd March

### National Lace Week - Spring

- Monday 17th – Friday 21st February

### National Competition Weekend

- Saturday 8th March – Monday 10th March

### National Handcraft Week - Spring 2025

- Monday 7th - Friday 11th April

### Celebrate 70 years of An Grianán with us at the An Grianán Annual Garden Party 2025

- Friday 4th - Sunday 6th July

### National Handcraft Week - Autumn

- Monday 1st - Friday 5th September

### National Lace Week - Autumn

- Monday 6th - Friday 10th October

### Christmas Party Weekend

- Friday 28th – Sunday 30th November

# FEES 2025

## Mid – week Courses

*(Single Supplement of €45 will apply for single occupancy  
Double/Twin Rooms)*

- ICA Members and WI Members (Ensuite).....€410 pps
- Non – Members (Ensuite).....€460 pps
- ICA Members & WI Members (Non-Ensuite).....€400 pps
- Non – Members (Non-Ensuite).....€450 pps
- Single Supplement Price.....€45

## Non – Residential prices

- Monday -Thursday.....€200
- Monday – Wednesday.....€185
- Tuesday – Thursday.....€185
- One Day Options.....€85

## Weekend Courses

*(Single Supplement of €45 will apply for single occupancy  
Double/Twin Rooms)*

- ICA Members and WI Members (Ensuite).....€219 sharing
- Non – Members (Ensuite).....€270 sharing
- ICA Members & WI Members (Non-Ensuite)...€209 sharing
- Non – Members (Non-Ensuite).....€260 sharing
- Single Supplement Price.....€45

## Non-Residential Prices

- Friday – Sunday.....€185
- One Day Options.....€85
- Minimum Deposit required.....€50 pp
- **Please Note:** deposits are non-refundable.
- Payments can be made by cash, credit or debit card/cheque or bank transfer.

## Cancellation Policy for 2025

- **A non-refundable** deposit of €50 is required per booking.
- **We do not** give cash refunds for any cancellations, unless
- course is cancelled by An Grianán. Gift Voucher will be issued.

**Please note:** Fees quoted are inclusive of accommodation, full board and tuition. There may be additional charges payable to tutor on the day for course materials.

**Proof of membership is required for all ICA and WI members.**

## CALENDAR

**Please note all dates are subject to change**

Bookings are open for all

Please call us on 041 982 2119 for enquiries or email [admin@an-grianan.ie](mailto:admin@an-grianan.ie)

### JANUARY 2025

- **Friday 17th to Sunday 19th January**

Termonfeckin Set Dancing Weekend 2025

- **Friday 24th to Sunday 26th January**

Women's Spirit Ireland Weekend 2025

### FEBRUARY 2025

- **Friday 7th – Sunday 9th February**

Private Conference

- **Monday 17th – Friday 21st February**

National Lace Week 2025:

Courses include Carrickmacross Lace , Mountmellick Lace and Limerick Lace with Eleanor Calnan and Bobbin Lace with Ann Keller

- **Friday 21st- 23rd February**

Friends of An Grianán and Members

Courses TBC

- **Friday 28th – Sunday 2nd March**

Lisnagarvey & Members & Mindfulness Wellness Retreat with Bernie & Deire Seachtaine Gaeilge.

Tar chuig An Grianán le h-aghaidh Deireadh Seachtaine de chineál nua - seans chun do chuid Gaeilge a úsáid, cúpla amhrán a chasadh, píosa beag damhsa a dhéanamh agus spórt is craic a bheith agat le do chairde!

A new kind of weekend at An Grianán - a chance to tune up your Irish, learn a few songs, exercise through dance, and lighten your heart with a bit of fun. Bí Linn!

Courses include Oil Painting, Ribbon Embroidery, Rushwork.

Mindfulness through Taichi/Qigong and breath work.

## MARCH 2025

- **Saturday 8th March – Monday 10th March**

National Competition Weekend

- **Saturday 8th March**

Table Quiz Final

- **Sunday 9th March**

Drama Competition

- **Monday 10th March**

Gempack final

Creative Writing Final

## APRIL 2025

- **Friday 4th – Sunday 6th April**

- Widowed In Ireland and Members Weekend
- Courses include DIY & Yoga

- **Saturday 5th April**

- Meath Federation Day
- Courses include Mediation and Spirituality, Needle Craft and Historical Tours

- **Monday 7th to Friday 11th April**

- National Handcraft Week 2025
- Please register for reservations.

- **Friday 11th to Sunday 13th**

- Wicklow and Clare Federations and Members.
- Courses include Goldwork, Shisako, Pyrography, Watercolour Art and Mixed Crafts.

- **Friday 25th to Sunday 27th**

- Private Conference

## MAY 2025

- **Friday 9th – Sunday 11th May**
  - Dublin Chamber of Music
- **Friday 16th – Sunday 18th May**
  - Monaghan, Sligo and Longford Weekend
  - Courses include Cookery, Parchment Craft, Pyrography, Gardening, Rushwork and Jewellery.
- **Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th May**
  - Private Conference: Na Piobairi Uilleann Weekend

## JUNE 2025

- **Friday 6th – Sunday 8th June**
  - Tallaght, Kilnamanagh and Bohernabreena and Members
  - Courses include Upcycling through decoupage, Relax and Recharge with Fiona, Flower arranging, pyrography, and acrylic art.
- **Friday 13th – Sunday 15th June**
  - Donegal and Kildare Federations and Members
  - Courses include Goldwork, Stained Glass Patchwork, Line Dancing, Acrylic Art, Relax and Recharge with Fiona, Cookery Demonstrations.
- **Friday 20th – Sunday 22nd June**
  - Mayo Federation and Members Weekend
  - Courses include Goldwork, Silk Painting, Fun, Fit and Active with Chair Yoga, Relax and Recharge with Fiona, Acrylic Art.
- **Sunday 29th – Friday 4th July**
  - Cairde Na Cruite International Harp Festival 2025

## JULY 2025

### **Celebrate 70 years of An Grianán with us at the An Grianán Annual Garden Party**

- **Garden Party Saturday 5th July at 3pm**
  - Join us in An Grianán for the Annual Garden Party to include BBQ, Fashion Show along with Line Dancing Class. Dance into the night with some Live music in the Kellogg Hall.. We will be holding a small craft market on site.
  - Ticket only Price €85 pp.
  - Make a full weekend of it from Friday 4th to Sunday 6th of July member price including Garden Party ticket €219 pps.
- **Monday 7th – Friday 11th July**
  - Kerry, Laois and Limerick Federations and Members Week.
  - Courses include Goldwork, Mixed Crafts, Line Dancing, Relax and Recharge with Fiona, Acrylic Art
- **Friday 11th July – Sunday 13th July**
  - Cork Federation and Produce Weekend
  - Courses include Cookery Demonstrations, Gardening, Art, Flower Arranging and more!

## AUGUST 2025

- **Saturday 9th – Friday 15th August**
  - Saint Vincent de Paul
- **Saturday 16th – Saturday 23rd August**
  - Irish Recorder and Viol Conference
- **Monday 25th – Thursday 28th August**
  - Kays Tour

## SEPTEMBER 2025

- **Monday 1st to Friday 5th September**
  - National Handcraft Week - Autumn
  - Please Register for reservations.
- **Friday 5th – Sunday 7th September**
  - Offaly, Roscommon and Carlow Federations and Members Weekend.
  - Courses include Line Dancing, Mixed Crafts, Pyrography, Relax and Recharge with Fiona, Acrylic Art, Brazilian Embroidery, Acrylic Art and Cookery.
- **Friday 12th – Sunday 14th September**
  - Wicklow Federation, Pitch and Putt and Members Weekend
  - Courses include Woodland Embroidery, Fun Fit and Active with Chair Yoga, Watercolour Art, and Pebble Art.
- **Friday 19th – Sunday 21st September**
  - Galway Federation and Clare Federation and Members Weekend.
  - Courses include Woodland Embroidery, Art, and Pebble Art, Pyrography, Mindfulness, Tatting and Cookery.
- **Friday 26th – Sunday 28th September 2025**
  - Dublin Federation & Members.
  - & Mindfulness Wellness Retreat with Bernie
  - Courses Include Acrylic Art, Upcycling through Decoupage, Pebble Art and Relax and Recharge with Fiona.
  - Mindfulness through Taichi/Qigong and breath work.

## OCTOBER 2025

- **Friday 3rd – 5th October**
  - Irish Patchwork Society Weekend
- **Monday 5th - Friday 10th October**
  - Lace Week and Waterford Week
  - Courses include Carrickmacross Lace, Mountmellick Lace and Limerick Lace with Eleanor Calnan and Bobbin Lace with Ann Keller.
- **Friday 10th to Sunday 12th October**
  - Kildare and Dublin Federations and Friends Weekend
  - Courses to include Halloween Crafts, Bridge, Machine Sewing, Christmas Cards and Aran Knitting
- **Friday 17th to Sunday 19th October**
  - Dublin Chamber of Music
- **Friday 24th to Sunday 26th October**
  - Arts Weekend
  - Courses to include Watercolours Art, Calligraphy, Drama and Pebble art and Crafts.

## NOVEMBER 2025

- **Friday 14th to Sunday 16th November**
  - Alpine Garden Society Ireland
- **Friday 21st to Sunday 23rd November**
  - Widowed In Ireland
  - Courses to include Christmas Crafts, DIY and Wellness.
- **Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th, Christmas One Day Demonstrations**
  - Arrive for tea, coffee and fresh, homemade scones at 10am. Take part in the Christmas themed demonstration of your choice with classes kicking off at 10.30am. Take a break in the afternoon to enjoy our traditional Christmas 3 course dinner before returning to courses. High-tea is then served from 4.45pm before departure from An Grianán.
  - **€85.00 per person**

## NOVEMBER 2025

- **Wednesday 26th, Thursday 27th, Christmas One Day Demonstrations**
  - Demonstrations include Christmas Crafts, Christmas Wreaths, Christmas cards, Cookery and Upcycling.
- **Friday 28th – Sunday 30th November Christmas Party Weekend**
  - Join us for a weekend of festivities from Christmas carols to mulled wine and mince pies. Take part in one of our Christmas themed courses and learn a new skill! Lunch will then be served in the afternoon around 1pm before returning to classes. A traditional Christmas dinner is served in the evening, before rounding up the night on a high with live entertainment. Departure Sunday morning after a full Irish cooked breakfast.
  - **€229.00 per person Sharing**

## DECEMBER 2025

- **Wednesday 3rd, Thursday 4th, Friday 5th December - Christmas One Day Demonstrations**
  - Arrive for tea, coffee and fresh, homemade scones at 10am. Take part in the Christmas themed demonstration of your choice with classes kicking off at 10.30am. Take a break in the afternoon to enjoy our traditional Christmas 3 course dinner before returning to courses. High-tea is then served from 4.45pm before departure from An Grianán.
  - **€85.00 per person**
  - Demonstrations include Christmas Crafts, Christmas Wreaths, Christmas cards, Cookery and Upcycling.

## Courses Available at An Grianán 2025

- **Bespoke Beaded Jewellery**

Create a bespoke piece for any occasion that is personal to you.

- **Ribbon Embroidery**

Stunning effects can be achieved by using different colours. Learn the skills of contemporary and vintage art of embroidery resulting in beautiful three-dimensional pieces of art.

- **Encaustic Art**

Use heated beeswax, pigment and a hardening resin to create a beautiful ethereal effect. Suitable for Card Making, Bookmarks and Framed Pictures.

- **Historical Homes**

Visit stately homes exclusively opened to An Grianán. This course brings history alive.

- **Wood Turning/Pyrography**

Learn how to craft your favourite poem or quote onto natural wood (can be used as a gift or wall hanging)

- **Relax and Recharge**

A lovely relaxing weekend where we relax, destress, and refocus. We will have Chair Yoga, Facial Yoga, Meditation and Breathwork. Essential Oils for relaxation and de-stressing are introduced, and participants will make room spray and perfume oil. Cost is €35. Limit 12 participants.

- **Parchment Craft**

Parchment Craft is the art of cutting and perforating special parchment paper to create lacework.

- **Wet Felting Flowers**

Create a beautiful piece to add to a special outfit using traditional wet felting technique.

- **Governance/Officer Training**

Learn the good governance principles related to charities and community and voluntary sector including officer roles and responsibilities, educating women to provide leadership in their communities.

- **Goldwork**

Goldwork is the most regal and luxurious of embroidery techniques. Goldwork differs from other surface embroidery techniques especially considering the threads used. Unlike threads from natural or man-made fibres (cotton, wool silk, rayon...) the threads used in Goldwork are made from raw metal.

- **Brazilian Embroidery**

A raised embroidery with floral designs using special threads for the techniques.

- **Louth Land of the Legends Walking Tours**

Explore the history of Louth and its beautiful walkways from visiting historical sites like Monasterboice High Cross & Round Tower, Collon House & Gardens, Listoke House and the green walkway to Oldbridge House.

- **Upcycling with paint & Decoupage Workshop**

Martina is an Artist who is passionate about upcycling. She loves to breath new life and transform something old into a beautiful work of Art. Collecting old pieces of slate we will design a sign for your home or garden. We will also upcycle and paint a picture frame or an old welly, delving into various painting techniques along with the creative skill of Decoupage

- **Bobbin Lace**

A beautiful way to make a lace textile by braiding and twisting lengths of thread, which are wound on bobbins.

- **Silk Painting**

A wonderful opportunity to design your own silk scarf with that very personal touch.

- **Card Making for All Occasions**

Prepare for the year ahead, and the occasions that 2025 offers. From birthdays, weddings, first holy communions, confirmations and new arrivals, this course offers a chance to create cards for all occasions with a personal touch. Learn new techniques to treasure and share.

- **Self Care with Aromatherapy Focusing on Insomnia, Arthritis and Rheumatism or Mood Boosting Oils for anxiety, SAD & the Immune System**

This workshop will have facial yoga, meditation, advice on essential oils and discuss methods to aid with the above.

- **Wreath Making**

Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter, each season and occasion is an opportunity to create and display a wreath. Join us to create your own stunning piece. It makes for a perfect gift for a loved one – or yourself!

- **Taichi/Qigong, Taoist Yoga, Relaxation**

An introductory course to caring for the self through Taoist Yoga. The benefits are endless! Suitable for any age, skill level and even those suffering from ill health. Taoist Yoga combines a variety of styles of yoga and synchronizes your body through breathwork and stretching.

Qigong is the ancient Chinese Practice that takes a holistic approach to healing. It uses a combination of gentle movements and controlled breathing to help us improve the flow of energy within our bodies. Qigong offers a number of mental, physical, and emotional benefits.

- **Calligraphy**

Calligraphy is a visual art related to writing. It is the design and execution of lettering with a pen, ink brush or other writing instrument. Contemporary calligraphic practice can be defined as “the art of giving form to signs in an expressive, harmonious and skilful manner.

- **Pebble Art**

Pebble art makes a lovely keepsake or gift for any occasion. It is the art of making and then framing small scenes or landscapes made with pebbles and natural elements. It is a wonderful activity with immense decorative power.

### ● **Beaded Embroidery**

Learn a new skill with us this year. Beaded Embroidery is the application of a variety of sizes and colours of beads to achieve an embroidered piece suitable for framing. The techniques learned in this course can be transferred, the stitches learned in the course can even be used to embellish clothing at home.

### ● **Retreat Weekend**

Focus on de-stressing, re-focusing and setting intentions. Let meditation, the creation of vision boards and ultimate relaxation set you up for the year still to come. Setting your intentions in the New Year is only the beginning!

### ● **Folk Art**

Specifically Roses and Castles. This is also known as Canal Art, traditionally found on barges and Canal boats.

### ● **Needle Felting**

Discover the magic of Needle Felting. Using Wool & Fibres instead of paint, I will guide you through the essential techniques required to create a stunning felted picture. Together we will experiment with colour, texture, layering and blending. Needle felting is not only incredibly fun but also remarkably forgiving, ensuring beautiful results every time. Be warned needle felting is very addictive!



*Needle Felting*



*Lace Making*

# The Tradition of Heritage Crafts

Tradition of crafting, preserving and promoting native Irish handcrafts is core to the educational offering at An Grianán.

Lacework is highly skilled craft and there are many levels of expertise. **National Lace Week** is an opportunity for all crafters to practice their skill and engage with other lace workers and skilled practitioners.

Bobbin Lace, Carrickmacross Lace, Limerick Lace, Knitted Lace and Tatting are all taught and practiced during Lace Week. This year we are celebrating Lace Week twice in February and October.

By practicing lace work skills, the learner continues to highlight, teach and pass on these important heritage crafts.

**National Handcraft Week** is another example of the commitment to supporting, promoting and teaching heritage crafts in Ireland. Crafters, and enthusiasts alike join together to complete proficiency tests, pursue skill competencies and learn new crafts. Working with others, learners pass on the important skills and knowledge and keep the tradition of heritage crafts alive in our country.



## The Cookery School at An Grianán

Here at An Grianán Cookery School we hope to provide culinary employable skills to learners in a relaxed and conducive manner.

We offer both hands-on and demonstration classes for groups and students.

Our tutors offer excellent cookery classes, information, for those with an interest in the culinary arts.

All levels catered for from the budding beginner to the closet MasterChef, with a wide range of courses on offer. Please keep an eye on our website [www.an-grianan.ie](http://www.an-grianan.ie) for an updated list of courses.

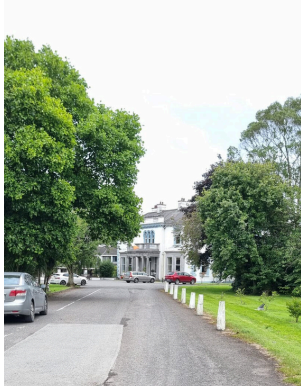




*National Lace Week 2024*



*Pitch and Putt Competition 2024*



*An Grianán 2024*



*An Grianán Garden 2024*



*An Grianán Garden Party 2024*



*An Grianán Garden Blitz 2024*

Boyne Valley is the birthplace of Ireland's Ancient East and has some of the world's most mythical landscapes. The rich valley is home to a range of heritage sites and monuments including Europe's largest Anglo-Norman Castle. Nearby Drogheda is one of the oldest towns in Ireland, known for its tourism and as a centre of industry and medical care. It is located on the Dublin-Belfast corridor on the east coast of Ireland, 49 km north of Dublin, 58 km south of Newry. Make Co Louth your destination with an impressive coastline – stretching over 90 km from Carlingford Lough to the beaches of Baltray.





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