



UL ENGAGE

Community Briefing

2017 No. 18

Kilmurry Arts & Heritage Centre

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Paula Rieser**



UNIVERSITY of LIMERICK
OLLSCOIL LUIMNIGH

UL Engage

share

enable

grow

Promoting University Community Collaboration

The Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre has existed and operated in the heart of Castletroy for over twenty years. The centre is a community organization that strives to create a place of community for the surrounding area. The church is available to rent for community activities, and all of the proceeds from the rentals go to the upkeep of the church.

Project Aim

Our aim this semester was to broaden the awareness of the centre in the surrounding community as well as improve the overall organization of the centre. We did this with the intention of laying the ground work for future UL Engage participants.

Project Objectives

Our objectives for this project included designing a survey to collect data about awareness of the centre in the community. We then analysed the results of the survey and reported them to our community partners. Furthermore, we created a weekly schedule template to improve the overall transparency of the centre's events. We also worked on improving the distribution of information through starting a website and posting frequently on social media.

Project Rationale

The purpose of the Killmurry Arts and Heritage Centre, is to create a safe space within the community of Castletroy. The idea is that the space can be used by anyone for anything the community wants. Through our project we wanted to help raise awareness of this opportunity among community members.

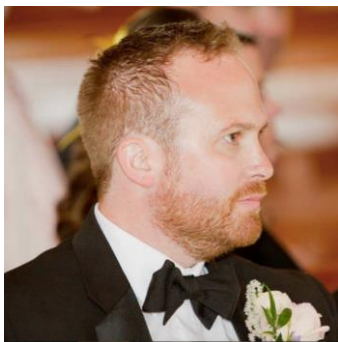
COMMUNITY

Overview of Community Organisation

The Kilmurry Arts & Heritage Centre’s mission is to provide a safe space for the diverse community that is located in Castletroy, Limerick. Their target population is anyone and everyone living in the surrounding area. They offer a versatile, intimate space for community gatherings, small concerts, and some day civil unions.



Community Partners



Colm Breen, a native of Castletroy, has been a member of the committee of Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre since May of this year. His responsibilities with the committee includes building awareness of the Centre and advising on financial matters



Marian Hurley is a chairperson of Kilmurry Arts & Cultural Centre; Local Councillor and Deputy of Limerick City & County.

STUDENTS



Marguerite Gallagher – University of Minnesota Twin Cities

In third year of undergraduate studies in the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Major: American Studies

Interests: Theater Arts, Culture, and Communications



Paula Rieser – Leuphana Universität Lüneburg

Studies Culture, Arts & Media in Lüneburg, Germany.

Major: Media Culture; Minor: Arts Organisation

Interests: music, culture, sociology and environment

OUTCOMES

One of our specific aims included increasing awareness of the centre among the community, we did this by conducting an in person and online survey in the community. This helped us get an idea of what the current awareness of the centre looked like and how we could improve it. Secondly, we wanted to improve the transparency and organization of the centre, we did this by organizing a weekly schedule containing the events and bookings at the centre. Thirdly, we worked on creating a platform for communication between the centre and the community by implementing weekly Facebook posts into the routine of the committee. Lastly, we wanted to increase overall community engagement with the centre. For this aim, we took responsibility of advertising the centre's Rambling House event on Facebook.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Finalize a clear and organized website
- Continue to collect data within the community through a social event
- Create and run a successful community event using survey results from both semesters as a guide
- Work on a corporate identity by creating an official logo for the centre

GALLERY



Photos from the Rambling House event at the Kilmurry Arts & Heritage Centre on the 3rd of November. This is currently the only event that the centre puts on independently. At the Rambling House, community members are encouraged to share a song, poem, or story with the group.



Photo from the survey taken in person at the Castletroy shopping centre on the 14th of October. We interviewed 20 people and gained knowledge explained in the third portion of the appendices (page 11).



Photo taken at the final committee meeting on the 30th of November. At this meeting we discussed and wrapped up our progress with the centre over the course of the semester. In total, we attended two of the committee's monthly meetings.



Over the course of the semester, we were able to get involved the community surrounding us by helping this centre gain awareness. Overall both sides of the project benefitted from exchange.

APPENDICES

Weekly schedule:

Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre

Weekly Schedule - Like us on Facebook for more information (<https://www.facebook.com/KilmurryCastletroy/>)

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
9 am :15 :30 :45				Weight Watchers			Maths Grinds
10 am :15 :30 :45							
11 am :15 :30 :45							
12 pm :15 :30 :45							
1 pm :15 :30 :45		St Vincent's Lisnagry					
2 pm :15 :30 :45							
3 pm :15 :30 :45	Drama Classes						
4 pm :15 :30 :45				Weight Watchers			
5 pm :30							
6 pm :30					Irish Dancing		
7 pm :30		Community Choir				Rambling House 03.11.17	
8 pm :30					Irish Grinds & Music		
9 pm :30							

Facebook post for promoting the Rambling House:

Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre
Published by Maggie Gallagher [?] · 2 November at 16:45 · 🌐

Hello everyone! A reminder that the second Rambling House will take place tomorrow night at 8 in the church. It will be a night of community as well as a chance to showcase or witness some artistic talent. Looking forward to seeing you all there! 🎤🎵☕🏛️

👤 365 people reached Boost Post

👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share

👍 Sinead O'Dwyer, Tadh Casey and 2 others

1 share

Write a comment...
Press Enter to post.

Wordpress Website:

My Site Reader Write

Kilmurry Arts And Heritage Centre
kilmurrycentre.com

Desktop kilmurrycentre.com/whats-on/

KILMURRY ARTS AND HERITAGE CENTRE

Private: Whats on

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Results from the in-person survey. Conducted at the Castletroy Shopping Centre:

General:

Age:	Live in Castletroy?	Know of the Centre?
Total: 21	Total: 15/21	Total: 5/21
(<20 years)		
Total: 6	3/4	0/4
(20-35 years)		
Total: 6	4/6	3/6
(35-50 years)		
Total: 7	7/7	1/7
(50+ years)		
Total: 4	1/4	1/4

Ways of getting information:

Age:	Twitter?	Facebook?	Limerick Leader?	Limerick Chronicle?	Limerick Post?	Google?
<20 years	3	4		0	2	
20-35 years	0	4	1	1	2	
35-50 years	1	5	2	1	4	2
50+ years	0	1	2	1	2	2

Interest in certain events (had mentions of all of the following):

Singing/ Dancing* Family Activities* Concerts Sports
 Informational General Social Stand-up Comedy Lessons for Children*
 Lectures Activities

*Suggestions that were mentioned more than twice.

Conclusions:

Only 5 people had heard of the centre by its name “Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre”. Once we pointed out that it is located in the old church behind Hurlers, most people knew what we were talking about. Maybe the name “Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre” is just not recognized yet, and the road sign that was discussed at the last meeting would possibly help with this.

The 5 people that had heard of the Centre heard of it through UL, and one person had attended a toddler's class in the past. The rest seemed to have an understanding of the location based on other landmarks. The woman who had attended a class at the church didn't know it by the name "Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre".

Overwhelmingly, a lot of the people we surveyed that seemed to have a genuine interest in the centre were parents of young children. They seemed inclined to ask about whether or not there were family events that the Centre hosted.

Almost all of the people surveyed said that they found out about local events through Facebook, and that if they liked the page, they would see it in their newsfeed. Getting the Facebook page out there could be helpful to alert people of the centre. Furthermore, a couple of people stated that they found out about local events online in general—this is where a website homepage could come in handy.

COMMUNITY VIDEO

Video link: <https://media.heanet.ie/page/534d1e2af286ec09a39e3db549f9afef>

Project Details:

This semester, we worked with the Kilmurry Arts and Heritage Centre. The centre has existed and operated in the heart of Castletroy for over twenty years. The centre is a community organization that strives to create a place of community for the surrounding area. The church is available to rent for community activities, and all of the proceeds from the rentals go to the upkeep of the church. The problem that the centre has is that a lot of the people in the surrounding area are not aware of its existence or that the space is rentable.

Specific Project Aims:

One of our specific aims included increasing awareness of the centre among the community, we did this by conducting an in person and online survey in the community. This helped us get an idea of what the current awareness of the centre looked like and how we could improve it. Secondly, we wanted to improve the transparency and organization of the centre, we did this by organizing a weekly schedule containing the events and bookings at the centre. Thirdly, we worked on creating a platform for communication between the centre and the community by implementing weekly Facebook posts into the routine of the committee. Lastly, we wanted to increase overall community engagement with the centre. For this aim, we took responsibility of advertising the centre's Rambling House event on Facebook.

Group Responsibilities:

Both group members worked on communication between our community partner, and ourselves as well as conducted the survey. We also both attending weekly meetings with Colm Breen, committee member, and attending monthly meetings with the rest of the centre committee. Maggie individually created a summary of the findings from the survey to show to the community partners. Paula individually created an organized schedule of the weekly events and bookings taking place at the centre.

Importance of Project:

The reason for the existence of the Kilmurry Arts and Heritage centre is simply to create a stronger and more involved community in the Castletroy area. Our work was important to this goal because we worked to create a base for the centre. We organized and simplified the schedule, as well as identified valid ways of communicating with the community through our survey.

Going Forward:

In the future, the centre should have a clear and organized website, a larger social media presence, and more frequent community events.



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