**11 October 2017**

**Press release**

**A week of laughing, learning and fun with Wainfest**

There has been lots of laughing, learning and fun this week as Wainfest takes hold off the children of Donegal.

With more than 100 events in 34 different venues, very young children right up to ‘very old’ children have been enjoying all types of fun filled events and activities.

On Saturday last highly skilled Sgt O’Brien of the 28th Infantry Battalion put more than 20 children from across Donegal through their paces at Donegal County Museum when they took part in an army survival skills course.  Children learned about survival techniques as well as evasion, resistance and escape skills.

For those of a younger age there were story parties in libraries around the county while Irish language children’s author Máire Zepf enthralled her young audience on Monday in Leabharlann Phobail Ghaoth Dobhair and in Leabharlann Phobail na Rosann.

And the week is not over yet, there are many more special family fun filled events to enjoy including Little John Nee & the Caledonia Highly Strung Orchestra in the Regional Cultural Centre, Donegal Youth Chamber Orchestra in Glebe House, jam-packed hour of art, stories and science with Donegal renouned doll company Lottie & Friends, a family Cook Out brunch with local celebrity chef Kieran Duey of Nancy’s Barn, a magical afternoon in the stunning surroundings of Glenveagh National Park and a wonderful piece of theatre with Clann Lír in Amharclann Ghaoth Dobhair.

“This has been a very busy week for all our staff in the Council’s Library Service and Cultural Services Division but it is also the highlight of the year for us” says Donna Cavanagh from Donegal Library Service

“To be able to bring a whole week of exciting and magical performances to the children of Donegal is just wonderful.   This is all about enabling the children in our county to realise their fullest creative potential.  The quality of the arts that we introduce through Wainfest is of the highest standard and we are proud that Wainfest is a testament of Donegal County Council’s dedication in bringing a strong sense of identity into the lives of local children, through active engagement with arts and culture”.

Wainfest takes place until Sunday 15 October and while most of the events are free booking in advance is essential to avoid disappointment.  For more on Wainfest visit [www.wainfest.ie](http://www.wainfest.ie)

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