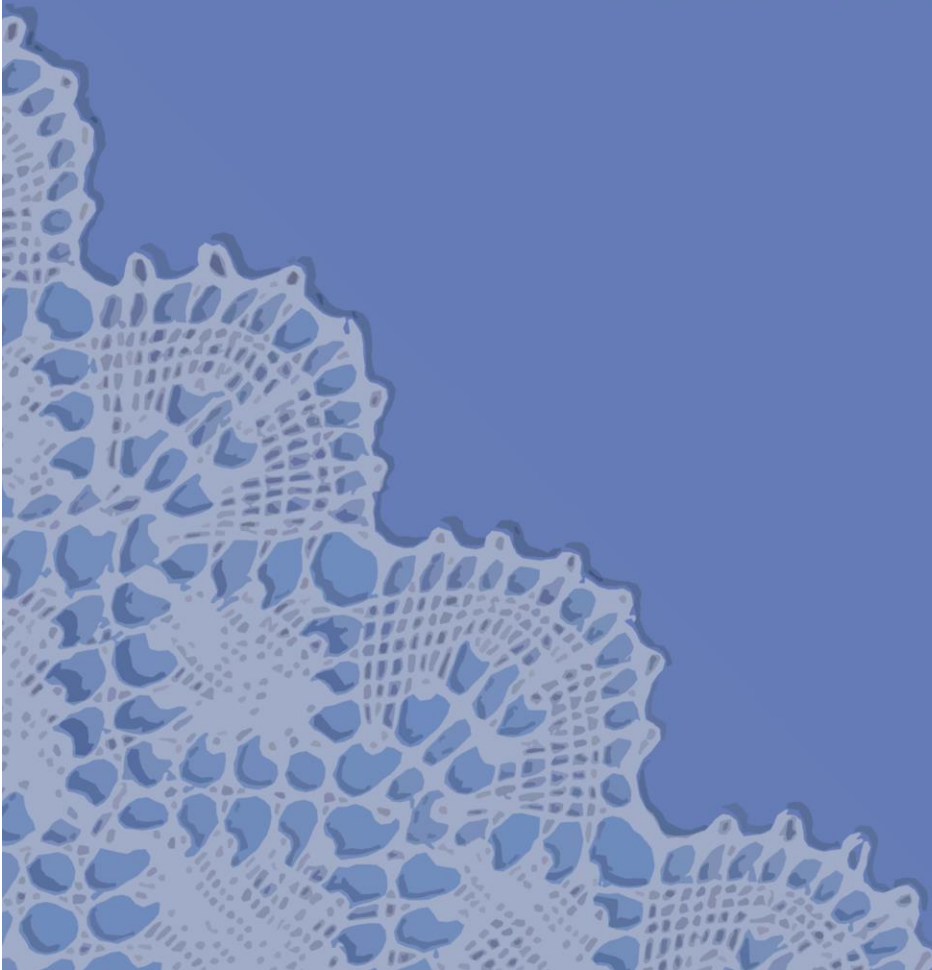


# HEADFORD LACE Project

Annual Report  
2021



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## Chairperson's Welcome

2021 was another strange year for Headford Lace Project (HLP) and for the World. We started the year a bit burnt out after the excitement of *The Space Between* exhibition in 2020 and the long-term stress of living through a pandemic with all its far-reaching effects on our home, work and social lives. We are a small committee so, early in the year, when several committee members felt they wished to step down, it led to some very frank and open discussions that were ultimately very beneficial. The scale of the burnout was such that we could see that the issue was bigger than HLP. We each realised that we didn't want to leave the project but needed some breathing space. We stripped back what we were working on, streamlined our communications, prioritised particular projects and were very open about how much we could each carry individually. Those who were in a position to take on extra workload did so to let others rest. The cooperation, understanding and mutual support shown through that time has, I feel, strengthened the committee immeasurably and left us in a better place for the coming years.

Coming out of that phase, we worked on collaborative projects that involved a more focused input from the committee. Our first act of the year was to work with Connor Murray of Kilkee Forge on installation of a second lace bench outside Headford Library. As well as serving a practical need, to sit while waiting for the library or the post office, it also draws attention to the well spring garden which we planted in 2019 with Green Edge all while celebrating the rich cultural heritage of lace making in the town. The previously overlooked area turns out to be a lovely suntrap! We were delighted when, just a few weeks later, the committee of St Fursa's Hall worked with Paint the Town to give the whole hall an exciting new facelift, making this a delightful spot to while away some time. The project fitted perfectly into the Design and Crafts Council Ireland's (DCCI) Keep Well Campaign and we were very grateful for their support. You can read more about it [here](#).

Staying with the themes of the Keep Well programme, we did our best to switch off, be creative, keep active and stay connected by teaming up with Headford Tidy Towns and getting out in our gardens to grow flax. We each worked in our own patch growing seeds and connecting with participants all around Co. Galway and Ireland. A real highlight was a sunny day in the community garden when growers and crafters came together to process the flax - you can learn more about this project [here](#).

In September, we were delighted to link up with colleagues in Portumna for their Shorelines Festival, you can read more about this special collaboration [here](#). We are grateful to Sharon O'Grady, Galway County Arts Officer, whose visionary Agents of Change programme led to this collaboration. We see so many parallels between the experiences and challenges faced by towns around the county that we are keenly interested in further collaborations of this kind.

2021 also saw the culmination of our involvement with Galway 2020 European Capital of Culture – Lace Matrix, you can read the full story [here](#). The history of HLP has been tied up with Galway 2020 from the beginning given that we grew from a single image of a piece of lace in an exhibition that was part of the bid process back in 2016. Lace Matrix has been a long time in the making. We first met Róisín de Buitléar when HLP was just newly formed and hoped to inspire lacemakers to work in new and exciting ways. We hit it off straight away and were delighted when she won the open call process to create a piece of permanent sculpture for St George's Square in Headford. The intervening years have involved lots of community engagement, discussion, planning and many delays and challenges. Through it all Róisín has remained positive and practical. Our working relationship has developed and she continues to support us with advice, ideas and networking opportunities.

We were delighted to finally install Lace Matrix in Headford in November. The installation process began with Pat Monaghan and Simon Harte of Forge Metal Works in Caherlistrane installing the heart shape. We then made lace just a couple of hundred yards from where it would have been made right back to 1760. During the ten-day process, over 30 people made lace ranging from a couple of crosses and twists to hours and hours of work. We are grateful for the support of the lacemakers and the many passers by who supported us with kind words, coffee, soup and stories. So many people learned about the project and gained a new appreciation for the skill and work involved in creating a piece of Headford Lace. Lace Matrix is already becoming a landmark, a focus and a symbol of our town's creativity and heritage – our new unofficial motto is Headford, the small town with a big heart!

This year saw the broadcast of *The Headford Lace Story* with Ed Coulson of Claremorris Community Radio, which was very well-received, you can read more about this [here](#). HLP were also nominated for a Galway County Cathaoirleach's Award and a National Pride of Place Award. Finally, and very significantly, this year Headford Lace itself achieved an important cultural status. In August, Headford Lacemaking was added to the Irish National Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage, which is detailed [here](#). Attaining this prestigious status, which is a huge achievement for a project so young, feels to us like honouring our ancestors who toiled in very difficult circumstances making top quality crafts that were renowned internationally, while themselves living modest or difficult lives. We can only imagine how they would feel about finally being recognised all these years later.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the members of the committee for their exceptionally hard work this year. With strong cooperation and teamwork we have pulled through and successfully completed several world-class projects. We have also managed to remain great friends through it all, which is no mean feat either!

Go mbeirimid beo ag an am seo aríst!

**Eilís Nic Dhonncha**

Chairperson



## **HLP Committee 2021**

Eilís Nic Dhonncha – Chairperson

Ester Kiely - Treasurer

Anne O'Hara Quinn - Education Officer

Ger Henry Hassett – Librarian, Archivist & Recording Secretary

Ella Hassett - Research & Communications

Kathleen MacMahon – Committee Member

Norma Owens - Research & Communications

Giulliana Victor Harte - Social Media Officer

Jackie Magnin – Bobbin Lace Tutor (non-committee member)

## Highlights

### Lace Matrix

*Ella Hassett*

2021 was the year that the Lace Matrix project with Róisín de Buitléar was finally installed in St. George's Square, Headford. It was a long journey but we are really pleased that the finished piece is now safely in its forever home. It was fascinating to see the project progress from an idea on paper to a completed physical work that showcases the best of Headford.

In 2018, we were fortunate to be chosen by Galway 2020 Capital of Culture to be the recipients of funding under the Small Towns, Big Ideas Programme. Our proposal was to engage an artist to create a piece of permanent artwork for Headford, based on our almost forgotten lacemaking heritage. We undertook a selection process and Róisín de Buitléar was chosen to design the artwork. One of the reasons we chose Róisín was that she did not come to us with a finished design but with a strong desire to engage with our community to collaborate on an idea. Róisín was keen to develop a project that was interactive, community led, and impactful on the town and its identity. She wanted to work with different groups and members of the community to develop design ideas for contemporary responses to the Headford Lace pattern. This process began with three workshops, snowpLACE, commonpLACE and pLACEmaking, which took place in 2019.

snowpLACE was an investigative project examining how Headford can be a source of inspiration for new lace patterns. Róisín got the participants to experiment with a paper cutting activity to create snowflakes. This developed into making giant lace-like shapes, each unique, but viewed together the effect was quite powerful. Participants in commonpLACE had the opportunity to get out and about in Headford and use chalk to add designs to areas that we see every day, to change them and make them less 'common'. This sparked much discussion about different areas of the town and which areas were overlooked and undervalued. The resulting chalk drawings formed a mini pop-up exhibition, which the public enjoyed for a few days afterwards as an added bonus. In the final workshop, titled pLACEmaking, participants got down to finding a place for this future piece of public art in Headford. Róisín and the group considered different spaces in the town and how they could be changed by the inclusion of an artwork. They filled spaces with their bodies and with props such as balloons and ribbons to see how the spaces could change.

As well as the three workshops we, on St Patrick's Day, we organised a stall at the Cottage Market in Headford. The idea of this event was for Róisín de Buitléar to engage with a wider demographic from the local area and learn more about how they perceive Headford town in order to further inform the design of the artwork. At the stall, people were given the opportunity to write down their thoughts about Headford on bunting and these were hung up for others to browse. St. Patrick's Day was the perfect day to do this kind of engagement, as the event attracts people from all over the wider area into Headford, despite the rain! All the while Róisín was gathering information, talking to people and igniting the creative process for what would eventually become Lace Matrix.

Of course, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, installation of Lace Matrix was delayed slightly, but after consulting with local residents and engaging the services of a local engineer, we were granted planning permission. Róisín was enthusiastic to use a local fabricator to collaborate on making the frame. Drawing on ideas from vernacular farm ironmongery she worked with local blacksmith Pat Monaghan from the Forge Metalworks to create the framework. The Forge creates exceptional hand made gates and metal items in the traditional method, working within a forge building dating from 1820. The skills and ability of Pat and his colleague Simon Harte to collaborate and problem solve creatively were crucial to the production of the finished piece.





Simon Harte (L) and Pat Monaghan (R) from Forge Metalworks working on the frame

The piece is composed of 2 symmetrical forms, which together create a large heart shape. The shape is derived from the original Headford Lace design. The two halves of the heart shape rotate *in situ*. This idea is based on a system of hanging farm gates, and draws on the tradition of farming related metalwork in the area. The loops of metal surrounding the frame, echo picot edging found on the border of lace. Using knowledge from lace making techniques of crossing and twisting threads, the heart frame was strung with cord to make different patterns. For the first lacing, Róisín collaborated with our bobbin lace tutor Jackie Magnin. Jackie leans towards traditional geometric bobbin lace patterns, while Róisín approached the design with a more contemporary idea of a field of flax flowers, tying in the rich heritage of flax growing in the area. The resulting pattern exemplifies the best of both, windblown flowers on a traditional Dieppe torchon ground with repeating linen stitch diamonds throughout. Lace Matrix can change and become a public symbol of creativity in the town, and acts as an invitation to national or international artists and lacemakers to propose a project for it.

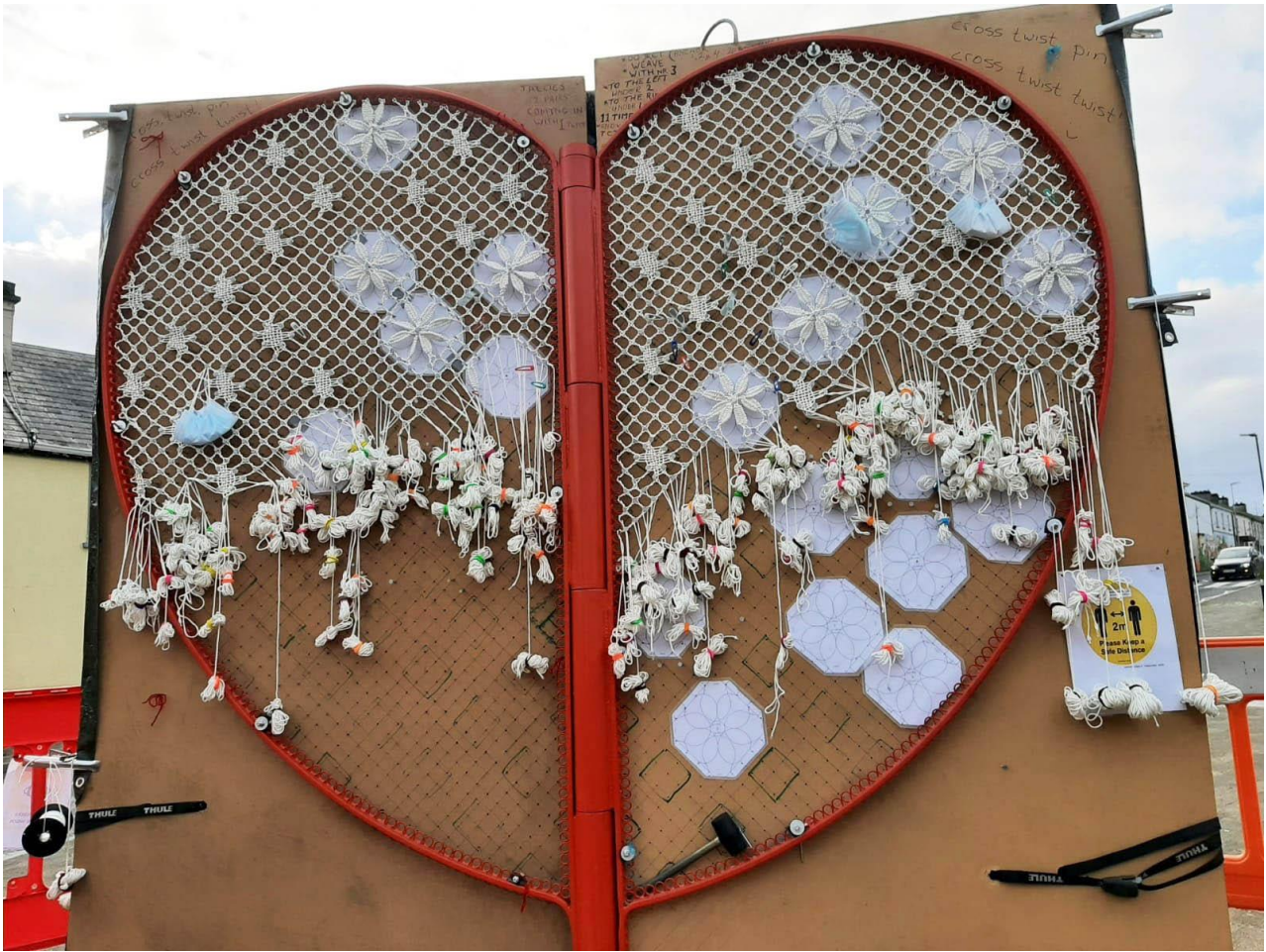
The installation of Lace Matrix began on 12 November, with the frame being put in place by Pat and Simon of the Forge Metalworks and cemented in the ground. Then a team of lacemakers began the task of adding the lace, while standing upright on a podium, arms extended above their heads to weave the intricate twists and crosses. The pattern itself was detailed on two boards attached to the frame, so the lacemakers could see what they needed to do next. This work continued every day and even into the night on some occasions over the next week, with teams of three to four lacemakers taking turns to work on the piece and inviting members of the public to join in and add stitches too. We were delighted that Sr. Madeleine Cleverly could join us all the way from the United States and Jackie Magnin from the wilds of Co. Cork! It was a wonderfully collaborative affair and we endeavoured to take photos of each person who came to visit, these formed the basis of the #HeadfordFaceProject campaign on our social media channels, you can read more about this below.





Jackie (top L), Róisín de Buitléar (top R) and Giulliana (bottom) work on Lace Matrix.





(Bottom L) Róisín de Buitléar, Sr. Madeleine Cleverly, Ger and Anne. Gráinne Ní Bhroin (Bottom R)







On the night of the 17 November, in a dark St. George's Square, the final twists were completed by Gráinne Ní Bhroin (10), the boards were removed from the back of the frame and the lacemakers pin added by Niamh Monaghan to the top to hold the wings in place. It was a very poignant moment for everyone involved to see it almost complete and casting a beautiful shadow, as planned by Róisín from the start. From the 18 November, the long ends of the stitches had to be woven in using a darning needle, so nothing can come loose. Some of our most adept needlewomen took on this task, including some members of the Headford Yarnbombers. Then, finally, on 21 November, accompanied by an energetic drumroll from local drumming group Drumadore, the final thread was woven in and Lace Matrix was complete.



Members of HLP Committee putting the finishing touches to Lace Matrix.

To say blood, sweat and tears went into Lace Matrix would be an understatement, the team involved worked hard to bring this project to fruition, but it could not have been done without the support of Headford people, who participated in the workshops, engaged online, dropped by with words of encouragement, coffee (and even soup!) and have subsequently stopped committee members in the street to sing the praises of Lace Matrix. It could not have happened without Róisín's vision, drive, encouragement and enthusiasm. It has been a privilege to work with her. The beauty of this project is that it has a future, it can be shaped and moulded by different artists or groups in collaboration with HLP and we are so excited to see what the future holds for it and for future generations of Headford residents and lacemakers. Lace Matrix embeds the unique cultural heritage of lacemaking in a visual way into our town, it elevates it to an artistic form and honours the memory of all the women who made lace in this area from the mid-1700s.

What follows is some feedback from people involved in the Lace Matrix and their experience.

*"My proudest moment? Stepping back on Sunday afternoon and looking at 4 people working together independently, helping each other when necessary, without any further need for their tutor." - Jackie Magnin, HLP Bobbin Lace tutor*



*“Lace Matrix is a heart shaped design, it’s the heart of the town physically and it’s the warmth of the heart emotionally. For me a granddaughter of an Irish immigrant who moved to America not long after the Famine, the idea of being included and warmly welcomed into the hearts of Headford town and HLP is actually quite overwhelming. Personally I love lace, I loved standing on the platform, I loved working with my hands, standing next to everyone from 7 to 75 years old, watching wellwishers of the town come by to encourage us. The heart is a perfect design and all who come to see it will be welcomed and remembered.” - Sister Madeleine Cleverly, Lacemaker*

*“The love and dedication poured into the historical craft of bobbin lace by HLP is infectious and directly in line with my personal values and goals. The opportunity to work on a large-scale piece like this is like playing a known tune in a different key. Working with HLP and the venerable Róisín de Buitléar has been an honour.” - Rusty Weise, Lacemaker*

*“With over 100 hands involved in the fabrication of the Lace Matrix, this project has been one of the most rewarding community based projects I have undertaken. What evolved during the execution of the work was a model of community action at it’s best. Teams of volunteers came, learnt new techniques and made lace together, while others fed us, shared stories, brought warm drinks, ferried volunteers and gave encouragement. While the ongoing transfer of skills and history were unfolding daily, community involvement was being materially integrated into each successive stitch. As we tossed the bobbins, each new nugget of oral history gathered from passers by was shared and celebrated. Different generations of women and men worked side by side in a marathon of lacemaking not seen in the village for hundreds of years. As we unveiled the finished sculpture late in the evening and the white open work lace pattern stood out against the night sky, it felt like the spirits of the young women who had made lace in the town many decades earlier were present amongst us. A new beacon to remember and celebrate the unique history of Headford’s craft history had been created, by the community for the community. It was my privilege to have been part of those transformative moments.” - Róisín de Buitléar, Visual Artist*



Lace Matrix in situ in St. George’s Square, Headford

## Highlights

### **National Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage**

*Ella Hassett*

On 4 August 2021, Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media Catherine Martin announced that Headford Lacemaking had been accepted to the [National Inventory for Intangible Cultural Heritage](#). The establishment and maintenance of this National Inventory is one of Ireland's obligations under the 2003 Convention UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. It protects, promotes and celebrates Irish living cultural heritage practices, customs, crafts and tradition. The National Inventory is broken up into six categories: oral traditions and expressions (including language); social practices, rituals, and festive events; performing arts; knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe; and, traditional craftsmanship. It is in this final category that Headford Lacemaking was placed and we were thrilled that Clones Crochet Lace Making was also accepted at the same time – what a day for Irish lace! Existing Irish Laces on the list include Limerick Lacemaking, Irish Crochet Lace and Carrickmacross Lacemaking, as well as other needlework such as Mountmellick Embroidery. We are absolutely ecstatic that our beautiful craft tradition has been recognised for its intrinsic value to Irish culture and that it will be safeguarded and celebrated for generations to come.

## Community Engagement

### **Flax Growing Project**

*Kathleen MacMahon*

Following on from the success with the local flax growing scheme in 2020, we decided to broaden participation in the project. With a grant from Pobal through Tidy Towns, Ester suggested that we put out a call both locally and nationally for volunteers to grow flax. The response was encouraging, with interest from Dublin to Mayo to Headford. We made up flax packs, which included enough seed for 1 square metre, sowing, growing and harvesting information sheets and a journal for growers to keep track of their experience. These were posted out to the participants. A WhatsApp group was started to keep in touch with all the growers and to answer any questions that might arise. The culmination of our project happened on 9 October in The Headford Community Garden. The Men's Shed built 3 flax breaks and heckles for the event. Sandra Coote from Crafts of Ireland joined us on the day. She brought along her antique flax processing equipment, spinning wheels and scutching boards. It was a hive of activity. Growers came along to process their hand grown, dried and retted flax and turned it into raw linen. We know through extensive research that flax was grown in and around Headford to supply the lace industry and to bring that part of our agricultural and cultural heritage back to life has been a privilege to be a part of. The understanding of how much time and hard work went into making a single spool of linen has put the fast fashion of today into stark perspective. We would like to thank all of the participants, Pobal, The Men's Shed, The Headford Community Garden, Tidy Towns and Sandra Coote Crafts of Ireland for making this endeavour a success.

### **MarPlas - Closing the Loop Collaboration**

*Anne O'Hara Quinn*

Led by the Sea Synergy research team, MarPlas is an innovative project funded by the Environmental Protection Agency. The project is working on the fishing net re-use process, from collection and cleaning to reprocessing and new product creation. HLP has been engaged with the MarPlas team since November 2019 with our plans put on hold initially in March 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we have kept in touch with ambitions to work together as soon as restrictions and our timetable allowed. Initially, we are beginning with an exploration of filament from upcycled fishing nets to be used to make of lace in public places, and considering the potential for



the replication of bobbins from this filament. After a very busy 2021, we decided to take a well-deserved break until a few months into 2022. Now that the restrictions are lifted, we are in the process of organising a visit to Headford with Sea Synergy's MarPlas Design Team Leader, Dr. Anita McKeown FRSA and her team - proposed for March/April – with dates to be confirmed. Getting to meet the design team in person will enable us to explore some of the ideas we have had on hold since 2020. We are excited to see what this collaboration will bring.

### **DCCI Keep Well Campaign New Lace bench at Headford Library** *Ger Henry Hassett and Ester Kiely*

As part of the Irish Government's *Keep Well* campaign *Switching Off and Being Creative* strand, an innovative Sláintecare funded collaboration between Design & Crafts Council Ireland (DCCI) and Healthy Ireland provided funding to HLP to create a new lace bench for the town of Headford. This was part of the Government plan for living with Covid-19 to promote individual and community resilience and ran until March 2021 with its delivery through libraries nationwide. HLP was selected as one of nine projects nationally. HLP commissioned Conor Murray of Kilkee Forge, a professional member of DCCI, to create the lace bench. HLP had previously worked with Conor to create another bench for the Community Orchard. Conor decided to keep the intricate lace pattern the same to provide continuity but altered the shape of the bench. The blending of two heritage crafts lacemaking and blacksmithing resulted in a second beautiful lace bench. As the bench is 2m long it provided a safe place for people to sit outdoors during the pandemic. The lace bench embeds the rich history of bobbin lacemaking, going back to the mid-1700s, into the fabric of the town. Another point of interest has been created for the Lace Maker's Shoes walking tour linking it to the bench at the other end of the town. HLP are grateful to St. Fursa's Hall Committee for permission to site the bench there, CE scheme for the ground works and the painting of the hall. We wish to acknowledge the support of DCCI and Mary Whelan, Client Liaison Officer for this project.



New DCCI-funded lace bench in front of Headford Library in St. Fursa's Hall, Headford

## **Bobbins and Pens Collaboration with Portumna Pen Pushers**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

In 2020, the *Agents of Change* workshops were facilitated by Sharon O’Grady, Arts Officer, Galway County Council and at these workshops Ester met Noelle Lynskey, Director of the Shorelines Festival in Portumna. Noelle visited Headford in 2020 to see *The Space Between* exhibition and the seeds for a future collaboration were sown.

In 2020, DCCI supported HLP to digitise our archive through Network Support Funding. Our archive now comprises 201 lace items, some handmade and some machine made, all generously donated by the public. Much of this collection is a reflection of the social history of craftwork done by women in different eras. These threads of life bind us together and keep the memory of the makers alive. This project was an unexpected and exciting outcome of the digitisation project. Initial contacts with Portumna Pen Pushers (PP) were made through Zoom and email due to Covid restrictions. The writers took a decision to use our digital archive as a source of inspiration for their writing and the project began. The results of this collaboration included an exhibition titled ‘Bobbins and Pens’ comprising a display of both the written pieces and lace items held in the Café Gallery at Portumna Castle and curated by artist Jenny Wood Sullivan. It ran from September to November and was overseen by OPW staff, we are grateful to them for facilitating this. A beautiful accompanying catalogue of the same name was also designed by Abby Dillon of Little Bird Design Studio, Portumna. In 2019, HLP donated three bonnets to Portumna Workhouse to honour the memory of girls, Maria Maher, Catherine and Mary Naughton who left that area under the Earl Grey Scheme. Four sonnets were written around this theme. As part of the Shorelines Festival, HLP did a demonstration of bobbin lacemaking and a talk about the craft and remarkable history of lacemaking in the town of Headford going back to the mid 1700s. This was very well attended and generated a lot of interest. This collaboration could not have happened without funding from Galway County Council Arts Office and Arts Council FIS.

*“Feedback was very positive overall and people enjoyed both the workshop and the exhibition. Portumna Castle were thrilled to host the exhibition and have it’s stay extended until November”* Noelle Lynskey, Portumna Shorelines Festival



Bobbins and Pens Catalogue



## **Bonnet Donation to Johnstown Castle**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

In September 2021, a new exhibition entitled 'Pioneering Wexford Women' opened at the Irish Agricultural Museum, Johnstown Castle Estate and Gardens, Wexford. The exhibition is part of the Great Famine Gallery and it tells the story of the 20 young Wexford girls who left the town's workhouse for Cape Town, South Africa. Their journey began on 8 May 1849, on the ship the Royal Alice under the assisted emigration programme, known as the Earl Grey Scheme. A total of 61 destitute women left the county. Their choice was stark, die in the workhouse or leave all they knew to sail far away. While visiting the gallery I spoke to the curator Myles Miller about HLP and our commemorations of the women who left Headford during this period. HLP decided to honour these Wexford women and created a bonnet to remember Alice Kelly. She gained employment upon arrival in Cape Town as a domestic servant and triumphed over adversity. She married, had a family and died in 1909, aged 75. This bonnet is a gesture of compassion for all of the girls who left Wexford. I chose two colours for the embroidery, the purple echoes the hues of heather and the golden yellow is reminiscent of gorse on Forth Mountain near Wexford town. I added shamrock motifs as a reminder of Ireland and Forget-Me-Nots to show these women are remembered. The bobbin lace heart, made by HLP tutor Jackie Magnin, is a symbol of compassion. May they never be forgotten.

## **Joyce Country and Western Lakes Geopark Project**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

The aim of this project is to develop a Geopark in the area surrounding Joyce Country on the Galway-Mayo border, which includes Loughs Mask, Carra and Corrib. Headford is a gateway town to this region, which has a unique range of geological and landscape features. This 2-year project built over 10 years culminated in an application being made to UNESCO for Geopark status for the region in November 2021. This process will take 18 months to complete. A Geopark will promote sustainable development in local communities in education, heritage, tourism, Gaeltacht culture and agri-food sectors. HLP was approached to contribute to the Traditional Crafts section of the area alongside Joe Hogan of Hogan Baskets, Carina Joyce of Joyce Country Wool and Clemence Guiraut of Coolin Soaps. A virtual conference 'Explore our Whispering Landscape' 'Guth na Talún' was held on 15-16 June 2021. Part of the conference showcased the various ways in which people interact with the landscape. Keeper of Irish Folklife Division based at the National Museum of Ireland Country Life, Clodagh Doyle did a workshop talk on '[Traditional Craft and Modern Art](#)'. She looked at how the environment determined the way people lived, their quality of life and their sustainable approach. Traditional crafts depended on what was available in the locality, rushes, dyes, wool, etc. Items were used and cherished. HLP outlined our aims to research, revive and reimagine our unique history of bobbin lacemaking in the town going back to the mid 1700s. We now have a well-documented history and offer a historical talk and walking tour of the town. Our approach is to engage with artists, musicians and creatives to reimagine lace for a new generation. We aim to embed this heritage into the fabric of the town through artistic installations etc. Skills are key to the craft and we outlined our class structures. The cultural revival of bobbin lacemaking in Headford has connected us with practitioners of this heritage craft worldwide.

## **Headford Lace Story on Claremorris Community Radio**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

2021 brought another first for HLP - a feature length radio documentary! The Headford Lace Story is an hour-long radio piece made by producer Ed Coulson for Claremorris Community Radio (CCR). It was first aired on CCR on 20 June and explored how a tiny fragment of lace became the starting point for countless HLP cultural and regenerative events and projects – and created a sisterhood along the way. Just when we thought we could not be any more proud of it, the documentary went on to win two awards at the 2021 Community Radio Ireland Achievement Awards in October 2021 - a Gold Award and the Standout Award in the Commissioned Programmes category. It was described

by the award judges “an exceptionally powerful community storytelling through the many voices captured, the delicacy of the heartfelt storytelling, and exceptional production quality. A great achievement for the whole team.” Ed’s skill, passion, attention to detail, patience and perception guided us through this process and HLP are delighted with the result and its success at capturing the essence of our project at a moment in time. The documentary features music inspired by the story of Headford Lace from local musicians - Headford Music Works, Drumadore and The Whileaways all resulting from collaborative projects with HLP. The BAI Sound and Vision Scheme supported this documentary. It can be accessed [here](#).

*“It was in early 2019 that I first went along to a HLP lacemaking workshop and what stuck with me was how ready everyone was to talk about why the project mattered, and what lacemaking meant to them personally. As a radio producer, that was what drew me in. I knew that doing a HLP documentary was going to be the biggest and most important audio project I’d ever attempted, but I also knew the people involved in HLP were generous, creative, resourceful and organised. That was what gave me the courage to move forward and try to make the documentary. As a beginning producer, HLP gave me an incredible gift in nurturing and supporting this documentary. Thanks to them, I was able to take on something very difficult, put into practice a lot of learning, and bring a complex idea to life.” Ed Coulson*

### **DCCI Narrative Tools**

Anne O’Hara Quinn

Narrative tools hosted by the National Design and Craft Gallery (NDCG) is an online and postal intergenerational project with visual artist Caroline Schofield. A culture of making is explored through creative connections and the importance of handing down skills through families and communities. Submissions to this exhibition were made by committee members Ger and Anne. Anne submitted her grandmother’s gold thimble, much treasured item that spans five generations and reveals a story of emigration and success. On 8 April, Anne was invited to speak at a webinar and tell the story of her ancestor’s thimble, as part of DCCI/European Crafts Days Event. Ger submitted her curious copy of the *Book of Abel Morralls Needles* found when clearing her father-in-law’s house. This was the trigger to lead her on a journey of discovery about needlemaking and the value of a needle to earning a living. You can read their submissions and many others [here](#).

### **DCCI 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event, including Keep Well Campaign Collars, Ruffs and Cuffs Exhibition**

Anne O’Hara Quinn

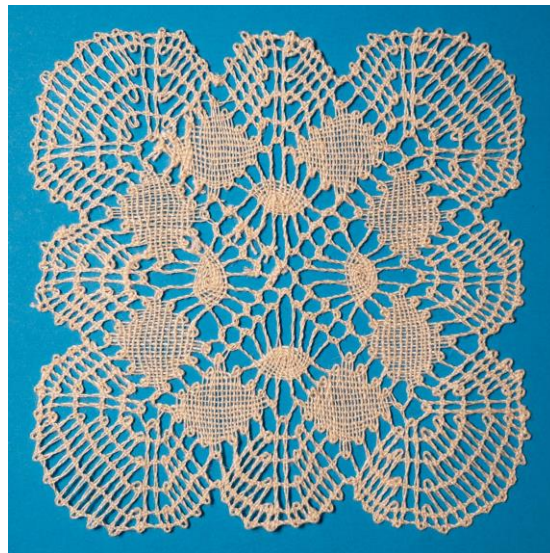
On 14 October 2021, DCCI celebrated 50 years since it’s foundation and a special celebration was held in Dublin Castle. Ger and I were delegates from HLP, which is affiliated to DCCI through its membership of GANS (Guilds, Associations, Networks, Societies). The Annual General Meeting of DCCI took place alongside several exhibitions from events held throughout the year. Highlights were the Irish Craft Heroes exhibition – 50 makers, 50 years, acknowledging the contributions of gifted crafters. Personal highlights for me were collaborative works by the Glass Society of Ireland’s Glass Quilt and the Irish Artists Blacksmith’s Association bench. As part of DCCI’s Keep Well Campaign in 2021, they launched Collars, Cuffs or Ruffs, an invitation to makers to design a collar, ruff or cuff that is wearable, creative, inventive, innovative & contemporary. They could be made from any material i.e. silk, wool, cotton, linen, paper, wire, metal etc. or combined materials and created in any discipline, utilising any techniques. Myself, Ella, Ger, Jackie Magnin and friend of HLP Colette Kelly all submitted collars to this call-out, using a variety of media. DCCI had 230 collars submitted in total and all of them are included in [this video](#). We were all very proud when mine and Ger’s collars were selected to be displayed during the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration evening.



## Heritage Week Event with Galway City Museum

*Norma Owens*

On 21 August, I delivered an online lecture for a Heritage Week event organised by Galway City Museum. This followed on from a visit to the museum on 15 September 2020, arranged by Anne, during which members of HLP viewed the recently-acquired collection of historic textiles that had once belonged to Annie Woods of Salthill, Galway. In the collection, I identified a set of four coasters, 10cm each, worked in a natural-coloured thread. Each was tacked to blue tissue and sealed in a cellophane envelope, some of which were secured with Sellotape. Textile conservator, Róisín Miles, dated this packaging to c.1930s, which falls at the latter end of the active period of the Headford Lace industry. Given the style of lace, its provenance, which locates it in County Galway, and the date, these coasters are quite probably samples of Headford Lace - an exciting find given the rarity of known Headford Lace in existence. In summer 2021, Galway City Museum received funding to have the Annie Woods Collection professionally conserved, to celebrate they organised the Heritage Week event, which included my lecture entitled 'Headford Lace in the Annie Woods Collection' as well as a talk by Róisín Miles about her work on the collection. The lecture I gave can be viewed on the HLP website [here](#). A replica of one of the coasters that I handmade was also added to our Lace Archive.



The previous image is one of a set of four coasters in the Annie Woods Collection, which is very likely an example of Headford Lace. Image reproduced courtesy of Galway City Museum.

## Online Lace Archive Video Presentation for August Craft Month

*Ella Hassett*

August Craft Month is an opportunity to celebrate craft and design across the island of Ireland throughout August. It enables makers across the country to list opportunities for people to find and explore during the month of August. Exhibitions, open studios, workshops, pop-up shops, talks and demonstrations are all part of the activities that take place. We decided it would be a good opportunity to promote our Online Lace Archive, which was digitised in 2020 through kind funding from DCCI. All of our lace items up to 2020 were photographed beautifully by Aengus MacMahon and added to our website, allowing the collection to be searched by anyone anywhere. The video, narrated by me, explains this digitization project, the value of the archive and discusses the Portumna Penpushers project. You can watch the video on our website, [here](#).

## HLP agus an Ghaeilge

### Aistí ón Aer ar Raidió na Gaeltachta

*Ella Hassett agus Eilís Nic Dhonncha*

I mí Mheitheamh 2021, fuair mé teachtaireacht ó Mharcus Mac Conghail agus é ag obair ar sraith nua raidió darb ainm [Aistí ón Aer](#) ar Raidió na Gaeltachta. Sa tsraith sin, cloistear aistí atá nuascríofa ag réimse leathan scríbhneoirí ar iliomad ábhar. Bhí suim aige sa scéal HLP agus d'fhiafraigh sé díom píosa a scríobh faoi. Dúshlán mór gan dabht, mar níor scríobh mé rud mar sin don raidió riamh ach thapaigh mé an deis! D'ullmhaigh mé aiste dár teideal *Stair Faoi Cheilt* ina léirigh mé stair na lásadóireachta Áth Cinn agus na mná a bhí páirteach sa tionscal: na mná bochta agus iad ag cruthú lása chun cúpla pingin a thuilleamh agus a dteaghlaigh a chothú; na mná in Éirinn agus thar sáile a bhíodh ag ceannach slata lása le gearradh chun maisiú a dhéanamh; agus na mná saibhre Angla-Éireannach ag déanamh maoirseacht agus brabús ar an tionscal. Cailltear glórtha na mban, na bpáistí agus na mionlach go minic agus bhí sé tábhachtach domsa go mbeadh na mná ar ais sa scéal seo, ina bhfuil mórán fianaisí stairiúla bunaithe ar éachtaí na bhfear. Táim fíor-bhuíoch as an deis a bheith páirteach sa togra raidió álainn seo le daoine sa phobal Ghaelach atá meas mór agam orthu, ar nós Roxanna Nic Liam, Manchán Magan agus Seán Ó Dubhchón.

### Aistí ón Aer on Raidió na Gaeltachta

In May 2021, I received a message from Marcus Mac Conghail about a new radio series he was working on called [Aistí ón Aer](#) on Raidió na Gaeltachta. In this series, you hear newly-written essays by a broad range of writers on a multitude of subjects. He was interested in the HLP story and asked me to write a piece about it. A big challenge undoubtedly, because I had never written anything for radio before, but I took the opportunity! I prepared an essay titled Hidden History where I detailed the history of lacemaking in Headford and the women who were involved in the industry: the poor women creating lace to earn a few pennies to feed their families; the women in Ireland and abroad who were buying lengths of lace to decorate with; and the wealthy Anglo-Irish women who supported and patronised the industry. The voices of women, children and minorities are often lost and it was important to me that the women would be back in this story, where most of the historical evidence is based on the achievements of men. I am very grateful for the chance to be a part of such a beautiful radio project alongside people from the Irish language community whom I admire hugely, such as Roxanna Nic Liam, Manchán Magan agus Sean Ó Dubhchon.

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

*Ella Hassett*

Is féile idirnáisiúnta Ghaeilge í Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia, atá ar an gceiliúradh is mó dár dteanga agus dár gcultúr dúchais a bhíonn ar siúl in Éirinn agus in go leor tíortha eile gach bliain. Thárlaíonn an fhéile idir 1-17 Márta. I 2021, shroicheadar feachtas a dhéanamh ar na meain shóisialta i rith na féile – Facebook, Instagram agus Twitter. Bhunaíomar an feachtas ar fhocail lásadóireachta agus chuireamar focal nua chun cinn gach lá. Bhain ár leantóirí an-sult as an bhfeachtas, is cuma muna bhfuil Gaeilge acu!

### Seachtain na Gaeilge

Seachtain na Gaeilge le Energia is an international festival, that is among the largest celebrations of language and native culture, that happens in Ireland and many other countries every year. It happens between 1-17 March. In 2021, we decided to run a campaign on social media during the festival on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. We based the campaign on lacemaking words and promoted a new word each day. Our





followers enjoyed the campaign, even if they do not have Irish!

### **Iris Aniar**

*Eilís Nic Dhonncha*

Tá an chlár raidió seo ar Raidió na Gaeltachta tar éis an-tacaíocht a thabhairt dúinn le tamall anuas. I mí Lúnasa, rinne siad agallamh lenár Cathaoirleach Eilís maidir leis an Clár Náisiúnta dena hOidhreacht Cultúrtha Doláimhsithe agus ár ríméad faoi lásadóireacht Átha Cinn a bheith cláirithe air. San agallamh céanna bhí muid ar iarraidh grúpaí eile a spreagadh chun dul tríd an phróiseas clárú fresin. Ansin i mí na Samhna rinne siad agallamh eile le Eilís agus Róisín de Buitléar faoin Lace Matrix agus an togra phobail a bhí ar siúl in Áth Cinn chun an lása a cruthú ag an am. Bhí siad beo ar an aer ó croílár an mbaile agus seans mhaith go raibh an trácht le cloisteáil comh maith leis an mbród!

### **Iris Aniar**

This radio show on Raidió na Gaeltachta has given us a lot of support in recent times. In August, our Chair Eilís did an interview about the National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage and our delight that Headford Lacemaking was included in it. In the same interview, we tried to encourage other groups to register for the programme too. Then, in November, they did another interview with Eilís and Róisín de Buitléar about Lace Matrix and the public project that was going on at the time to fill it with lace. They were on air in the heart of the town and there is a good chance that the traffic could be heard, as well as the pride!

## **Media Coverage**

HLP had a lot of media coverage this year with features and photos published in local press, such as: Tuam Herald; Connacht Tribune; Galway Advertiser; Western People; and Connacht Telegraph. We also had material published in the national and international press, such as: Irish Times 'Images of the Day' Online; The Irish Examiner, Farmers Journal, Irish Arts Review, Australian Lace Journal, IODFA Bulletin, [making.ie](http://making.ie), [WeAreIrish.ie](http://WeAreIrish.ie) and The Irish Sword. For the full list of publications and interviews, please see [Appendix D](#).

## **Training Update**

### **Doily Free Zone Conference**

*Ella Hassett*

The first Doily Free Zone (DFZ) was held in Italy, in 2013. It was initially created to showcase the work of young lace makers and demonstrate that there are many talented young artists and designers who choose to work in handmade lace techniques. Since then it has evolved into a large event about handmade lace in Art & Design, an inspiring and nurturing forum for the exchange of ideas and technical expertise, open to all generations of lace makers. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, in 2021 DFZ went online and several members of HLP were kindly granted GRETB funding to attend. It was thoroughly enjoyed by the attendees, the online format allowed attendees to watch recordings in their own time if they could not watch live. Anne said of the conference "DFZ gave me a sense of belonging to a worldwide network of lacemakers." The full list of training undertaken by the committee in 2021 can be viewed in [Appendix A](#).

## Research

### Research Update

*Norma Owens and Ger Henry Hassett*

The extended lockdowns this past year made access to archives difficult, but research continued online and we were delighted to see that the historical articles posted on the HLP website are finding a keen audience and are contributing to broader historical research, nationally and internationally. Articles on the HLP website were referenced in an excellent article by Kenneth Ferguson entitled 'The evocative portraits and complicated pedigree of Richard St. George Mansergh St. George' for the *Irish Sword* (vol. XXXIII, No. 131, Summer 2021), the journal of the Military History Society of Ireland, who kindly donated a copy of the journal to the HLP library.

Transatlantic sharing of research into the St. George family of Headford (patrons of Headford Lace) also continued with Matthew Skic, Curator of Exhibitions at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. This collaboration was acknowledged in Matthew's fascinating article entitled 'Loyalty, delirium and grief: the portraits of Richard Mansergh St George' in *Irish Architectural and Decorative Studies* (vol. XXIII), the *Journal of the Irish Georgian Society*. A copy of this journal has been purchased for the HLP library.

Another interesting discovery about Headford fashions came from an account in the National Folklore Collection, Schools' Collection. It was recorded in May 1938 by Patrick Egan of Clydagh, near Headford and gives an account of the clothes worn long ago, "They wore caps of linen or muslin, trimmed with lace and tied under the chin by a broad ribbon lace at ends." It was interesting to hear that lace had both a decorative and functional purpose. This builds on another reference from the Schools' Collection also from the 1930s, written by Chrissie Forde, which describes "The lace that old women wore on their bonnets was made around Headford. It was made special for old women's bonnets. It was brought into Dunmore and Tuam and sold at 4 pence a yard. It was made by women and they called it thread lace."

## Social Media and Website Update

### Social Media Update and Highlights

*Ella Hassett, Giulliana Victor Harte, Norma Owens*

Our social media channels continue to grow and gained many new followers in 2021. We now have 2,208 followers on [Facebook](#) (up from 1,699 in 2020) 1,118 on [Instagram](#) (up from 1,169) and 591 on [Twitter](#) (up from 300). The growth on Instagram primarily occurred during the Lace Matrix, where we gained almost 300 new followers. Our top post on Instagram had 219 likes (see right) and featured the image of Niamh Monaghan putting the pin into the top of the Lace Matrix.

The week of the 17-21 May, HLP did a Twitter takeover of the [Work in Heritage](#) account. Work in Heritage is a Heritage Voice initiative designed to allow a different heritage practitioner, either voluntary or professional, to talk about their experience of working in the heritage sector. We were delighted to be approached by Marion McGarry with this opportunity, as it allowed us to engage with new people and share our story. We hope that it gave a good overview of voluntary heritage work and how we coordinate our project. We





got lots of engagement and many new followers too! It was a great experience, as we got to grips with Tweetdeck to schedule tweets so they would be posted during working hours.

Before Lace Matrix launched, it was decided we would try our best to capture images and quotes from any visitors who stopped by to participate or discuss the project. It was decided these would be grouped using #HeadfordFaceProject and these were posted on our social media. With people's permission, we shared names, images and comments and it stands as a lovely record of who helped out by adding stitches or stopping by with words of encouragement. This was the highlight of the HLP Twitter year, as people enjoyed watching the project develop and hearing from people on the ground.

### **Website Update**

Our website receives a monthly average of 6,310 visits from 1,587 unique visitors. The most popular page is the Lace Archive. The page is viewed not just from Ireland, but also from the USA, Canada, UK, Germany, India, China, Russia, Ukraine, Greece, and Egypt.

## **HLP Library and Lace Archive Update**

### **Library Update**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

Our library has expanded to 398 items including books, booklets, patterns, leaflets etc. Two old publications were among the donations, a copy of *The Art of Embroidery Shading, a Needlecraft Practical Journal*, No.55 from 1904 and *Weldon's Practical Crochet*, Volume 19, from the 1920s.

### **Archive Update**

*Ger Henry Hassett*

A number of lace items were donated to our Lace Archive this year and it now comprises 201 pieces. HLP had a number of interesting additions to our Lace Items Archive this year, most notably a piece of silk Maltese bobbin lace. Among them are two beautiful pillows and a collection of old linen threads donated by the family of a Swedish lacemaker. We are very grateful to all the members of the public who have donated items to our archive.

## Objectives for 2022

- Holding two lace weekends including beginner and intermediate classes, gathering, talk, walking tour and informal socialising.
- Building relations with an appropriate yoga teacher in order to add a mindfulness and gentle movement to all in-person classes.
- Putting a plan in place for relacing of Lace Matrix including engaging with an artist, drawing up a design and expanding our range or experienced lacemakers.
- Working with a Japanese partner group to produce a large-scale lace work in Japan.
- Getting our recorded lace instruction videos edited and available online.
- Expanding our online shop.
- Liaising with Headford Town Team to investigate the possibility of further lace benches being installed in Headford.
- Continuing to grow our online presence and international following.
- Getting historical Honor Malie photograph restored.
- Presenting a talk as part of the *Lace End to End* online seminar series with Nottingham Trent University.
- Continuing our collaboration with MarPlas, exploring the use of filament from upcycled fishing nets for making of lace in public places and exploring the potential for replication of bobbins from this filament.
- Organising our long planned visit to Mountmellick Embroidery Museum to build relations and fact find about establishing a lace centre.
- Growing the project both in terms of helpers and also actual committee members so as to spread the workload and ease pressure.





## Acknowledgements

Aengus McMahon  
Agents of Change  
Andrew Reddington  
Anita McKeown at MARPlas  
Bridge Signs  
Community Radio Ireland  
Diane Gallagher, Bernie Donnellan and Mary Mc Gann.  
Donal Burke and staff of the Irish Workhouse Centre Portumna  
Ed Coulson and Claremorris Community Radio  
Edel Talbot at Headford Library  
Éimhín Craddock and Drumadore  
Frank Heneghan and the staff at The Anglers Rest  
Galway County Public Participation Network  
Headford and District Association  
Headford Environment Group  
Headford Town Team  
Headford Yarnbombers  
Helen Birmingham, Galway City Museum  
Hilary Morley, making.ie  
IPB Pride of Place, Co-operation Ireland  
Jackie Magnin  
John McHugh and committee, of St Fursa's Hall, Headford  
Kenneth Ferguson, Military History Society of Ireland  
Kilkee Forge  
Marcus Mac Conghail, foireann Iris Aniar agus Raidió na Gaeltachta  
Marie Mannion, Sharon O'Grady and everyone at Galway County Arts Office  
Marion McGarry of WorkInHeritage  
Mary Hoade  
Mary Ryan, The Tuam Herald  
Mary Whelan, DCCI  
Matthew Skic, Museum of the American Revolution, Philadelphia  
Melinda Coen Ryan, Galway Rural Development  
Michael Hegarty, Geopark Manager Joyce Country and Western Lakes Geopark Project  
Myles Miller, Johnstown Castle, Estate and Gardens, Wexford  
Noelle Lynskey and the Portumna Penpushers  
Nollaig McGuinness and Galway 2020  
OPW staff Portumna Castle  
Pat Monaghan and Simon Harte, The Forge, Caherlistrane  
Paul Connolly, Stephen Quinn and all at Galway County Engineering  
PJ Newell and all at Patrick J. Newell Consulting Engineers  
Private and business property owners of Headford  
Ralph McMahon  
Róisín De Buitléar  
Rusty Weise  
Sharon O'Grady and Galway County Arts Office  
Sheila Holland Fox and GRETB  
Sinéad O'Hara, Cultúr Éireann/Culture Ireland  
Sr Madeleine Cleverly  
St. Jarlath's Credit Union

## Financial Statements for the Year ended 31 December 2021

### Main address

St. Fursa's Hall  
Church Road  
Headford  
Co. Galway  
H91 YW5F

### Committee members

Eilís Nic Dhonncha  
Ester Kiely  
Anne Quinn  
Ger Henry Hassett  
Giulliana Victor Harte  
Norma Owens  
Ella Hassett  
Kathleen McMahon

Chairperson  
Treasurer  
Education Officer  
Librarian, Archivist & Recording Secretary  
Social Media Coordinator  
Research & Communications  
Research & Communications  
Community Liaison

### Tutor

Jackie Magnin

Bobbin Lace Tutor

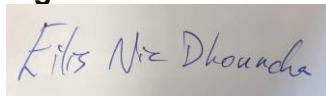
### Bankers

St. Jarlath's Credit Union, Unit 6, Church Road, Headford.

### Governance and management

- The Headford Lace Project is a voluntary, not-for-profit, community-led organisation, managed by a committee that meets regularly and holds an Annual General Meeting (AGM).
- The current committee was elected at the AGM on 18th February 2021. New committee nominations are accepted in advance of the next AGM on 3rd March 2022 and roles are agreed at the first committee meeting following the AGM.
- Our Constitution was written in 2017 and changes are agreed at our AGM.
- The Headford Lace project is registered with:
  - Revenue.ie
  - Galway County Public Participation Network
  - The Wheel
  - Design & Crafts Council of Ireland
  - Galway Rural Development
  - Galway & Roscommon Education Training Board

### Signed on behalf of the committee:



Eilís Nic Dhonncha,  
Chairperson, Headford Lace Project

Date: 16 February 2022



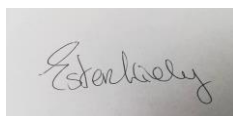
## Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31 December 2021

<b>Bank &amp; Cash on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022</b>	<b>5589.99</b>
 <b>Income</b>	
Grants	8694.88
Sale of Christmas Cards	921.00
Class Fees	716.59
Speaker Fees	142.27
The Space Between Catalogue Sales	107.34
Materials fees	83.00
 <b>Total income</b>	 <b>10665.08</b>
 <b>Expenditure</b>	
Artist Fees	5223.25
Tutor Fees	1916.23
Professional services	1502.40
Printing	400.00
Installation/Fittings	387.65
Class materials	267.50
Post	240.80
Website maintenance	224.20
Refreshments	133.25
Insurance	125.00
DCCI GANS registration fee	100.00
Office supplies	90.81
Archive/library	90.00
Travel	90.00
Craft supplies	50.00
 <b>Total Expenditure</b>	 <b>10841.09</b>
 <b>Balance on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 (Income – Expenditure)</b>	 <b>5413.98</b>
 <b>Bank &amp; cash on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021</b>	 <b>5413.98</b>
<i>With the following budgets ring-fenced:</i>	<i>4174.10</i>
<i>Education Programme 2022</i>	<i>1000.00</i>
<i>Postponed Network Support 2020 Trip to Mountmellick</i>	<i>800.00</i>
<i>SOLAS donation from Christmas Card Sales</i>	<i>696.00</i>
<i>Potential insurance independent of Solas</i>	<i>500.00</i>
<i>Possible relocation of bench</i>	<i>450.00</i>
<i>Planters for St Fursa's Bench</i>	<i>300.00</i>
<i>Website development (shop add-on)</i>	<i>200.00</i>
<i>Flaxgrowers Pobal/HTT videography</i>	<i>128.10</i>
<i>Gans fee 2022</i>	<i>100.00</i>

## Statement of Assets and Liabilities at 31 December 2021

	€
<b>Cash assets</b>	
Current account	3986.11
Paypal Balance	410.53
Treasurer cash	997.34
Shop Float	20.00
Cash held by members for Christmas cards	165.00
<b>Total cash assets</b>	<b>5578.98</b>
<b>Other assets (estimated values)</b>	
GRETB funding approved for 2022	1300.00
DCCI Network Support Grant to drawdown	1000.00
Lace Collection (201 items @ avg. value €6 ea)	1206.00
Library (398 items @ avg. value €5 ea)	1990.00
Display (31 items @ avg. value €12 ea)	372.00
Materials (bobbins, threads, pins, etc.)	200.00
HLP Shop Stock (craft items, photos, etc.)	100.00
Laptop (purchased 2019)	600.00
Visualiser (purchased 2018)	50.00
Projector (purchased 2019)	200.00
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b>7018.00</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>12596.98</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Outstanding invoices:	0.00
Outstanding projects ring-fenced budget	4174.10
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>4174.10</b>
<b>Net Worth</b>	<b>8422.88</b>

These financial statements are accepted on behalf of the organisation and signed by:



Ester Kiely  
Treasurer, Headford Lace Project  
Date: 16th February 2022



## Notes to the accounts for the Year ended 31 December 2021

### 1. Income & Expenditure accounts

Income and Expenditure accounts are statements that summarise the movement of cash into and out of the organisation during the financial year. In this context “cash” includes cash equivalents, for example, bank accounts where cash can be readily withdrawn to pay for debts as they become due.

Headford Lace Project is a not-for-profit, community initiative and all funds are used for project activities managed by the committee.

### 2. Grants & Awards

<b>Funding Body</b>	<b>Drawn Down 2021</b>
1. DCCI Keep Well Fund	3454.88
2. Galway 2020 Small Towns Big Ideas I Lace Matrix	2500.00
3. GRETB (community education programme)	1000.00
4. Headford Tidy Towns/Pobal Collaboration Flaxgrowing	1000.00
5. DCCI External Exhibition Fund (30% balance of 2020 Grant)	540.00
6. St Jarlaths Credit Union Community Fund for Christmas Cards	200.00
<b>Total grants and awards received</b>	<b>8694.88</b>

### 3. Committee members' remuneration

- No committee member is remunerated for their time on the project. However, where a committee member uses their personal credit card, bank transfer or cash on behalf of the group they will be reimbursed.
- Where Headford Lace Project receives a fee to attend, speak or demonstrate at an event, the representative/s attending on behalf of the group may be reimbursed for expenses incurred (eg.travel, food, accommodation) in agreement with the committee.

## Appendix A – Training/Courses Calendar by Month

### January

- 27 Jan: Mental Health Ireland Workshop 5 Ways to Wellbeing Workshop. Attended by Ger and Kathleen.
- 28 Jan: Sartorial Series - Subversions and Traditions. Attended by Ger.

### February

- 11 Feb: Sartorial Society - Reconstructed Lives. Attended by Ger.
- 25 Feb: Sartorial Series, Material Lives – Women’s Material Lives. Attended by Ger.
- 2 Feb: PPN & Galway County Council, Current Funding Opportunities through Galway Co.Co and Leader. Attended by Ger.
- 8 Feb: MyHealthPositiveHealth, RCSI, The Science of Happiness, by Professor Ciaran O’Boyle. 10 lecture series. Attended by Ger.
- 8 Feb: Managing Chronophobia: Stay Present, RCSI, by Dr, Mary Collins. Attended by Ger.
- 9 Feb: Exercise And Nutrition: RCSI, by Professor Suzanne McDonagh and Professor Ciaran O’Boyle. Attended by Ger.
- 10 Feb: Stress Management, Mindfulness & Relaxation: RCSI. Attended by Ger.
- 11 Feb: Paving the Way to Wellness: Dr. Beth Frates, Harvard. Attended by Ger.
- 17 Feb: Gans Meeting DCCI. Attended by Anne and Ger.
- 23 Feb: Using Digital Archives for Historical Research by the Digital Repository of Ireland. Attended by Norma.

### March

- 3 Mar: The Science of Health and Happiness. Attended by Ger.
- 4 Mar: Besieged bodies: Gendered violence, sexualities and motherhood', online conference of the Women's History Association of Ireland. Attended by Norma.
- 8 Mar: 'Excuse me dearest Madam I did not send this sooner': regarding the domestic in the collections of the National Library of Ireland by Dorothy Cashman. Attended by Norma.
- 15 Mar: Irish Country Furniture & Furnishings 1700-2000: Revising, Revisiting and Reprinting by Claudia Kinmonth for Queen’s University, Belfast. Attended by Norma.
- 25 Mar: Sartorial Society - Looking at Women’s Wardrobes. Attended by Ger.

### April

- 6 Apr: European Artistic Craft Days, DCCI webinar - How Tradition Informs Contemporary Design. AOHQ, GHH, EK.

### June

- 17 Jun: Preparing for a Post Covid Workplace, The Wheel. Attended by Ger.
- 25 Jun: Lessons in sustainable Development for Non-Profits, The Wheel. Attended by Anne and Ger.

### July

- 15 Jul: Pride of Place webinar. Attended by Eilís and Ger.

### August

- 19 Aug: Intangible Heritage Webinar with Manchán Magan. Attended by Eilís and Ger.
- 23 Aug: Norma graduated with a First Class Honours Certificate in Local History at the University of Limerick!

### October

- 19 Oct: Write for Results, by Dream Copywriting. Attended by Ella.



## November

- 26 Nov: PGR/ECR Day (Post-Graduate Research/Early Career Research) by the Women's History Association of Ireland. Attended by Norma.

## Appendix B – List of HLP Events and Visits by Month (excluding cancelled events/visits)

### February

- 17 Feb: DCCI/GANS AOHQ
- 18 Feb: AGM of HLP on Zoom.
- 19 Feb: HLP featured in Hilary Morley's article, Blanchardiere Lace Bursary 2021
- 25 Feb: Headford Lace article published in Australian Lace Magazine.

### March

- 1 Mar: Ed Coulson begins interviews for radio documentary.
- 1 Mar: Photoshoot by Aengus McMahon for DCCI, Keep Well Campaign in Lace Garden. Attended by Ester, Ger and Kathleen.
- 1-17 Mar: Ella runs Seachtain na Gaeilge vocabulary campaign on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram.
- 12 Mar: Meeting with Paul Connolly and Róisín de Builéar In St. George's Square about the Lace Heart. Attended by Ester, Ger and Kathleen.

### April

- 22 Apr: Visit to Forge by Ger, Eilís, Ester and Giu to meet Róisín, Pat and Simon and review the Lace Matrix. First attempt at lacing.
- 23 Apr: Visit to the library garden to review groundwork for new lace bench, Ger, Ester, Anne and Kevin Lee.

### May

- 8 May: Lace Bench installed. Installation by Conor and Paddy Murray with assistance from Eilís, Grainne Ní Bhroin, Ger and Fergus Hassett, Kevin Lee and Cllr. Andrew Reddington.
- Early May: Preparation work on the Lace Matrix begins coordinated by Eilís and Kathleen.

### June

- 24 Jun: Lee and Professor Eric Sandweiss Architectural historian and Fulbright Scholar from Indiana University, Bloomington and Lee Sandweiss visit to Headford to meet Anne and Ger.
- 29 Jun: Portumna Workhouse tour and meeting with Noelle Lynskey about the upcoming Portumna Penpushers collaboration in September. Attended by Anne and Ger.

### July

- 11 Jul: Small gathering at the new lace bench outside Headford library.
- 10 Jul: Marja from Liberty Spinners visit to Headford to meet Ester and Ger.

### August

- 4 Aug: Headford Lacemaking inscribed onto the National Inventory Of Intangible Cultural Heritage.
- 5 Aug: Eilís interview about Intangible Cultural Heritage on Radio na Gaeltachta
- 12 Aug: DCCI/GANS meeting. Attended by Anne.
- 16 Aug: Eilís interview on Connemara Community Radio
- 12 Aug: Visit to Irish Agricultural Museum, Johnstown Castle to see Pioneering Wexford Women- Orphan Girls and 1845- Momento Mori by Paula Stokes. Attended by Ger.
- 20 Aug: Visit to Portumna to coordinate Bobbins and Pens exhibition. Attended by Ger.

### September

- ... The Irish Sword article - The vocative portraits and complicated pedigree of Richard St. George Mansergh St. George , Reference to Headford Lace. Norma
- 7 Sept: Ella and Ger travel to Portumna to drop items for exhibition. Visited Portumna Workhouse to take a tour and see our bonnets on display.

- 24 Sept: Visit to Headford by Kim Varner, BadAss Women Tours and Dave Yeates, Ireland Tours. Meeting with Ger and Kathleen.
- 16 Sept: HLP celebrates 5th Birthday!

#### **October**

- 9 Oct: Flax Event in Community Garden

#### **November**

- 12-21 Nov: Lacing of the Lace Matrix in St. George's Square in Headford. Filming and photography by Aengus McMahon. Attended by HLP Committee and Ella remotely from London.
- 15 Nov: Eilís and Róisín interview for Radio na Gaeltachta's programme Iris Aniar about Lace Matrix.



## Appendix C – List of External Events and Visits by Month (excluding cancelled events/visits)

### March

- 4 Mar: Ester interview on Galway Bay FM with Keith Finnegan about Headford's new bench and Keep Well Campaign with DCCI.
- 4 Mar: Eilís interview on Connemara Community Radio about Headford's new bench and Keep Well Campaign with DCCI.
- 11 Mar: International Women's Day Event hosted by The Wheel.
- 30 Mar: MarPlas Meeting with Anita, Ger, Anne, Kathleen, Ester and Eilís.

### April

- 8 Apr: Tools of the Trade, Narrative Tools event by DCCI for European Artistic Crafts Days. Anne O'Hara Quinn spoke at this. Both Anne and Ger submitted pieces for this event.
- 8 Apr: GANS Meeting. Attended by Anne and Ger.
- 9 Apr: Irish Woollen Mills DCCI meeting. Attended by Anne.
- 27 Apr: Ger, Anne, Colette, Ella and Jackie submitted collars to DCCI exhibition of Cuffs, Ruffs and Collars.

### August

- 24 Aug: Ger met Anita from MarPlas in Caherciveen, Co. Kerry.

### October

- 14 Oct: Collars and Cuffs exhibition in Dublin Castle, DCCI. Anne and Ger attended.
- Oct 14: DCCI Annual General Meeting and election of officers to the board, with DCCI/GANS 50th Anniversary Celebrations at Dublin Castle. Attended by Anne and Ger.
- 18 Oct: Meeting with Geopark Project In St. Fursa's Hall Headford.
- 21 Oct: Telling Stories and Documenting a life in Lace, by Maggie Hansel Brown, hosted by Centre for Design and Material Culture, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Attended by Ger.
- 22 Oct: Ed Coulson won Gold Award in Community Radio Awards and Stand Out Award. Announced at function in Kilkenny. Attended by Ed and Eilís.

## Appendix D – Articles

### Local Media Coverage

- 9 Mar: 'Headford project inspired by town's Lace-making heritage', *Western People*  
11 Mar: 'Headford community project draws inspiration from town's lace-making heritage', *Galway Advertiser*  
2 Jun: 'The nun and the spider', *Tuam Herald*  
4 Aug: 'Lace and Iron make a thing of beauty in Headford', *Tuam Herald*  
11 Aug: 'Headford Lace is put on cultural map', *Tuam Herald*  
22 Sept: 'Headford Lace Project and Portumna writers work together', *Tuam Herald*  
20 Oct: 'Headford's lace project in new radio documentary', *Tuam Herald*  
27 Oct: 'Award for Headford Lace Project radio documentary', *Tuam Herald*  
10 Nov: 'Turning flax to linen in Headford', *Tuam Herald*  
12 Nov: 'Headford sculpture of metal and lace', *Connacht Tribune*  
26 Nov: 'Threading Carefully. Connacht Tribune', *Tuam Herald*  
24 Nov: 'Lace and steel put the heart back into Headford Square', *Tuam Herald*  
25 Nov: 'Lace Matrix - Headford lace sculpture causes 'surprise and delight'', *Connacht Tribune*

### National Media Coverage

- 7 Jul: 'Irish heritage lace: a delicate subject', *Farmer's Journal*  
19 Nov: 'History Lace up photo of Lace Matrix', *Irish Examiner*, Irish Times 'Images of the Day'

### Radio Interviews

- 4 Mar: Ester did an interview on Galway Bay FM with Keith Finnegan and outlined the work of HLP, including our involvement in the 'Keep Well' campaign with DCCI and the lace bench collaboration with Conor Murray at Kilkee Forge. Eilís did a similar interview on Connemara Community Radio.  
5 Aug: Eilís was interviewed about Intangible Cultural Heritage on Radio na Gaeltachta.  
16 Aug: Eilís was interviewed about Intangible Cultural Heritage on Connemara Community Radio.  
15 Nov: Eilís and Róisín did interviews on Radio na Gaeltachta about Lace Matrix during the lacing of Lace Matrix to explain about the project and work in hand.

This annual report was written by the HLP committee and compiled and designed by Ella Hassett. Cover design by Ella Hassett.

