



Tish Gibbons has worked in the Irish trade union movement for 30 years, now working as a researcher with SIPTU's Strategic Organising Department and leading its innovative *Educate to Organise* programme. Tish holds a BA, MA and PhD. She has published in labour law, industrial relations and labour history journals.

Laurence Fenton is a writer and editor living in Cork. He is the author of *The Young Ireland Rebellion and Limerick* (2010) and *Palmerston and The Times: Foreign Policy, the Press and Public Opinion in Mid-Victorian Britain* (2012).



Dave Hopper is general secretary of the Durham Miners' Association. He is organiser of the annual Durham Gala, which includes the march to Durham Racecourse, the Big Meeting and the blessing of banners every July.

www.durhamminers.org

Pat Egan is a member of Unite the union in Scotland. A former miner, Pat was present and witnessed events in Orgreave in 1984.



Luke Dineen is completing his PhD in UCC on the history of the Labour movement. He is a regular speaker at The Spirit of Mother Jones Festival and he has an inexhaustible interest in union and labour history.



Anne Twomey is a member of the Shandon Area History Group. She will recount the story of the extraordinary Wallace Sisters. During the War of Independence, committed sisters went about their day to day shop keeping business and provided a perfect cover for what was a vast beehive of revolutionary activity.



Frameworks Films is an independent Cork based film production company with emphasis on community participation. Documentaries include *Tadhg Barry Remembered*, *Mother Jones and her Children* and *The Limerick Soviet*. www.frameworksfilms.com



Mother Jones - "I'm a HELLRAISER!"



Mary Harris was born in Cork city in July 1837 and was baptised at the North Cathedral on 1st August. After the Great Famine, the Harris family emigrated to Canada. Mary qualified as a teacher and a seamstress. She married a union man, George Jones, in 1861. She lost her husband and four young children in the 1867 yellow fever epidemic in Memphis.

Mary became a labour and union activist from the 1890s onwards. She was one of the toughest organisers for the United Mine Workers of America. She also organised the March of the Mill Children in 1903 to highlight the exploitation of young children in mines and factories. Then known as Mother Jones, she attended the first meeting of the IWW in 1905 and knew James Connolly.

Best known as a hellraiser for her fiery speeches against the exploitation of miners, she was described as "the most dangerous woman in America". Mary's exploits in the mining wars of West Virginia and Colorado, where she was regularly imprisoned, made her a feared and admired figure.

Her cry of "Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living" still reverberates through history. Her autobiography was published in 1925. She died in 1930 and is buried at Mount Olive Union cemetery in Illinois. Her spirit is alive and well wherever in the world there is a fight for justice. The Cork City Council recognises August 1st as "Mother Jones Day". Mother Jones was inducted into the Irish American Hall of Fame in 2014. A museum has been opened in Mount Olive.



A plaque to commemorate the 175th anniversary of her birth was erected in 2012 in Shandon. This festival celebrates the rebel Spirit of Mother Jones in the streets of her childhood.



As Ombudsman Catherine
The Heritage Council



The Spirit of Mother Jones Festival.

www.motherjonescork.com

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THE SPIRIT OF MOTHER JONES ANNUAL FESTIVAL 2016

SHANDON
CORK

Thursday 28th July to Monday 1st August



A festival and summer school dedicated to the memory of Mary Harris/Mother Jones and to inspirational people everywhere who fight for social justice

Cork Mother Jones Committee and Shandon Street Festival
Full 2016 Festival Listings

TAKING PART

Justine McCarthy is a columnist and reporter with *The Sunday Times*. She has won journalism awards and has written two books. She is a regular broadcaster and an adjunct professor of journalism at UL. She is from Bandon. Her immersion in a political family has stood to her as a commentator on contemporary politics and Irish life.



Dr Seán Pettit, a native of Cork city, was a secondary teacher before he became lecturer at UCC in 1970. He held this position until his retirement 31 years later. Dr. Pettit is the author of several publications, has won many awards and has taken hundreds of people on legendary talks and walks around Cork.

Catherine McGuinness is a retired judge and activist. She is a former barrister, Senator, President of the Law Reform Commission and first female judge of the Circuit Court, Justice of the High Court and Supreme Court of Ireland. She was a member of the Seanad, was on the Council of State and Chair of the NUI Galway Governing Authority. Chairperson of the "Campaign for Children" and patron of the Irish Refugee Council, she has been acknowledged for "her pioneering, courageous and long-standing service to Irish society".



Fergal Keane is a foreign correspondent with BBC News and an author. Born in London, he grew up in Dublin and later in Cork. He has reported on township unrest in South Africa and genocide in Rwanda. His notable works include *Road of Bones: the Siege of Kohima 1944*, his investigation of the Rwandan genocide *Journey Into Darkness* and *Letter to Daniel*. Keane helped to found the UK-based development agency Msaada, which assists survivors of the Rwandan genocide.

Jack O'Connor worked in various areas before taking full-time employment with the Federated Workers' Union of Ireland in 1980. In 1990 the union became part of SIPTU, and Jack O'Connor was appointed as a regional organiser. In 2000 he became Vice President of SIPTU. In 2003 he was elected as General President. He was appointed to the executive of ICTU in 2001, becoming Vice President in 2007 and President in 2009.



THURSDAY 28TH JULY

"I abide where there is a fight against wrong"

- 1 p.m. **M** "Music at the Maldron"
organised by **Richard T Cooke**
- 2:30 p.m. **F** *Mother Jones: America's Most Dangerous Woman*
A film by **Rosemary Feurer**
- 3:30 p.m. **F** **Frameworks Films**
Mother Jones and her Children
- 7:00 p.m. Official festival opening at the plaque
by the **Lord Mayor of Cork**
with **The Butter Exchange Band**
- 8:00 p.m. **L** **Jack O'Connor** General President of SIPTU
Mother Jones Lecture *Firkin Crane*
"Organising to win: What is to be done?"
- 9:30 p.m. **M** **Cork Singers' Club**

FRIDAY 29TH JULY

"I will tell the truth wherever I please"

- 11 a.m. **L** **Laurence Fenton** "The Black O'Connell:
Frederick Douglass in Cork"
- 1 p.m. **M** **Jimmy Crowley**
- 2:30 p.m. **L** **Dr Sean Pettit**
"The Cork City of Mary Harris"
- 4:30 p.m. **L** **Tish Gibbons**
"Freedom of Association - a 'Frozen Waif'?"
- 7:30 p.m. **L** **Catherine McGuinness** *Firkin Crane*
"Direct Provision - Not the Solution!"
- 9:30 p.m. **M** **Greenshine** Concert Tickets €5
- 10:30 p.m. **M** **Mother Jones Ceilí Band**

All speakers and musicians are committed to attending the festival. The Cork Mother Jones Committee reserves the right to vary the schedule. Check on www.motherjonescork.com

SATURDAY 30TH JULY

"What one miner against a powerful corporation could not achieve, can be achieved by the union"

- 11:30 a.m. **L** **Luke Dineen**
"The Post Office Strike of 1922"
- 2:30 p.m. **L** **Anne Twomey** "The Wallace Sisters"
- 4 p.m. **F** *The Battle for Orgreave*
A film by **Yvette Vanson** www.yvettevanson.com
Introduced by **Dave Hopper** General Secretary of the Durham Miners' Association and **Pat Egan** former miner and Unite
- 7 p.m. **F** *The Mine Wars*
produced and directed by **Randall MacLowry**
A production of the Film Possee for American Experience (WGBH-Boston)
- 9 p.m. **M** "Songs of the Mining Tradition"
John Nyhan, Mick Treacy and friends

SUNDAY 31ST JULY

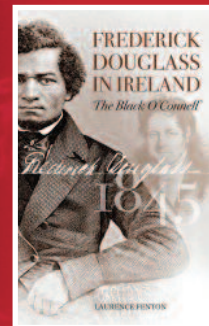
"My address is like my shoes. It travels with me"

- 7:30 p.m. **L** **Fergal Keane**
"Human Rights in a Divided World"

MONDAY 1ST AUGUST

Mother Jones Day

- 4:00 p.m. **F** **Frameworks Films**
Tadhg Barry Remembered
- 6:00 p.m. **F** **Frameworks Films**
The Spirit of Mother Jones Festivals Highlights 2012 – 2015
- 7:30 p.m. **L** **Justine McCarthy**
"Greed is Good for Nothing"



All events in the Maldron except where stated

The Cork Mother Jones Committee members wish to thank SIPTU, Heritage Dept. of Cork City Council, the ASTI, Cork South ASTI Paddy Mulcahy Branch, ASTI Carbery Branch, Cathedral Credit Union, UNISON, INTO, NIPSA, PSEU, Framework Films, The Firkin Crane, The Maldron Hotel and The Butter Exchange Band. Thanks to all the speakers, participants, musicians and singers. Special appreciation to the Shandon Community and to Aidan and Marzena in A-Z Printers.

The 2016 Spirit of Mother Jones Award will be announced at the Festival

F Film
L Lecture/talk/discussion
M Music