

## NEWS RELEASE

Éigse Mrs Crotty, Traditional Music Festival, Kilrush.

August 13<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

The 13th Éigse Mrs Crotty Traditional Music Festival will take place in Kilrush, Co. Clare, from 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2008. The festival has grown to incorporate music, singing and dancing workshops, open air céilithe, a Mrs Crotty memorial concert, singing sessions, recitals and a vibrant session trail. The festival is very proud to welcome visitors who return annually to Éigse Mrs. Crotty and those who are new to Kilrush, alike. A unique atmosphere can be experienced in the market town, as the open air céilithe in the Square become a focal point for the five day event.

This year ***At The Racket***, headline at the Mrs. Crotty Memorial Concert, which will also feature Dympna O'Sullivan and friends, Conor McEvoy and Padraic O'Reilly.

The Éigse Session Trail is an exciting new venture for the festival. Our local pubs will welcome sessions lead by Tom Carey, Eamonn Cotter, John McEvoy and John Wynne, Chris Droney and Jacinta McEvoy, Dympna O'Sullivan, Joe Carey and Des O'Halloran, Paddy O'Donoghue, Mark Donnellan and Cyril O'Donoghue. There will be many other sessions ongoing in town throughout the festival.

Singing has grown to take a central part in the Éigse Mrs. Crotty programme. Tim Dennehy teaches a singing workshop and also leads an extremely popular singing session in O'Brien's Bar. This year the festival is delighted to include a Sean Nós singing workshop, with Éamonn Ó Donnchú.

The concertina workshops and master classes have been central to the festival from the beginning, and the festival is very grateful for the dedication and commitment of the teachers, in this regard. The workshops now include concertina, fiddle, flute, traditional and Sean Nós singing, set dancing and Sean Nós dancing.

The open air céilithe, at The Square, are warmly welcomed by the people of Kilrush and visitors to the town. The Wednesday evening céilí, which heralds the beginning of another Éigse Mrs Crotty, is greeted with excitement and anticipation, as a growing crowd gathers to hear the Céilí band, to watch the set dancing or to take to the floor. This year's céilí bands are ***Jerry McCarthy and The Currah, The Five Counties Céilí Band, The Four Courts Céilí Band, The Abbey Céilí Band, Matt Cunningham Céilí Band and The Tulla Céilí Band.***

Further information on the festival is available at [www.eigsemrscrotty.com](http://www.eigsemrscrotty.com) We look forward to welcoming you to Kilrush for this year's Éigse Mrs Crotty Traditional Music Festival.

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