



PRESS RELEASE

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“Maurice Walsh’s The Quiet Man” returns to Ballyglunin Train Station

Following last year’s sell out success of “Maurice Walsh’s The Quiet Man”, Ballyglunin Railway Restoration Project in association with Abbey Acts Drama Group, are proud to announce the return of this unique stage play to Ballyglunin Train Station on Friday 25th, Saturday 26th and Sunday 27th of July, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

This iconic station featured prominently in the opening scenes of the famous John Ford classic 'The Quiet Man', and it has been an important tourist attraction in the area since then. Currently in a state of disrepair, the old train storehouse at the station will again be transformed into an intimate mini-theatre for the weekend, to host an audience of up to 200 per night. The event is being held as a fundraiser to aid the restoration works at this beautiful, historic site.

In 1951, the cast and crew of the film arrived at Ballyglunin Railway Station (Castletown in the film) to shoot the scenes of what is now a global phenomenon. This year’s event aims to recreate the exciting atmosphere that existed during the original filming.

Frank Mahon’s adaptation of the original story follows the original tales from Maurice Walsh’s novel ‘Green Rushes’. He takes us on a journey right back in time to the 1920s in rural Ireland, where life for many meant striking a balance between overcoming national bullies and appeasing local bullies. This two-act play has something to offer everyone; local/national politics, romance, humour and of course ‘the fight scene’. Most poignant of all are the loyal relationships that run deep throughout, making this a play to transcend any era.

Mark Gibson, spokesperson for the Ballyglunin Restoration project said "Last year’s performances attracted audiences from as far as the United States, Germany, Hungary and the United Kingdom which underlines the importance of the station to people worldwide. We are thrilled to be able to bring this intimate venue alive once again. We are advising that early booking is essential as many people were disappointed last year because they were unable to get tickets."

Chairperson of Abbey Acts, Marian Williams, said “we are delighted to be part of this special event. Our cast fully realise the significance of performing in such a historic location. The play has received considerable international interest.”

The Ballyglunin Railway Restoration Project was established in 2004 to restore the station back to its former splendour, and the project has submitted an application for LEADER funding to establish a high quality visitor centre for the west of Ireland.

Tickets (€15/€12 concession) can be purchased online at www.ballyglunin.com or at the following locations: Ballyglunin Post Office, Quinn’s Shop, Tuam, O’Donohoe’s Spar, Abbeyknockmoy and Gills Pub Ballinastack.

For further details regarding the production, contact Mark Gibson on 087 2866174 or Marian Williams on 087 967 7732. *****ENDS*****