



THE BUTLER SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

March 2012 - No. 36



Hello members,

We are pleased to send all members of the Butler Society our March 2012 Newsletter. Included in this issue are details of the forthcoming Butler Rally in August 2012 and we do hope that many of you will be able to visit us in Kilkenny for the occasion.

Melosina Lenox-Conyngham

Members have been greatly saddened to hear of the death of our esteemed Hon. Secretary, Melosina (Melo) Lenox-Conyngham. Melo had been ill for a number of months, and died peacefully at Waterford hospital on 1 October, 2011.

It is an understatement to say that Melo will be missed. She was without doubt the engine of the Butler Society for many many years. She single-handedly organized the triennial rallies, each one of which was a tremendous success. She was a great friend to all of us and commanded our greatest respect.

She worked tirelessly and selflessly for the Society for which she had a great affection. Participants in the triennial rallies will have experienced her warm welcome and attention, and will appreciate just how hard she worked to make each event so successful.

Such was her dedication, that during her illness she booked Kilkenny Castle for the 2012 Rally scheduled to take place from 21 to 26 August – and had discussed the programme with us. Naturally, we will be proceeding with the plans for the rally.

Melo's untimely passing has left a void – a great chasm that will be difficult to fill. We hope to have an opportunity to reflect on Melo and her work for the Society when we meet at the rally this year.

Paddy Friel

Another sad passing was that of Paddy Friel early this year. Patricia, or Paddy to those who knew her, was from Donegal and was the daughter of one of Ireland's most prolific playwrights, Brian Friel. Since the 1980s Paddy worked as superintendent of Kilkenny Castle for the Office of Public Works and was responsible for much of the restoration works that took place at Kilkenny Castle. Paddy was also Treasurer of the Butler Society until 1990.

Butler Society Journal

Journal No. 5 Vol. 1 was distributed in August, 2011. The editor (Dr. David Butler) continues to call for new material for the next Journal, which should be sent to him at: carrigeencastle@yahoo.co.uk.

Butler Society Web Site

Work has been advancing on upgrading the Butler Society Web site and should be completed soon. Members will be notified when it has been finalized.

Honorary Secretary

Brenda Butler (butlerbcastle571@gmail.com) has been appointed Honorary Secretary of the Butler Society.

Triennial Rally 2012

As mentioned earlier, the next rally is set for August of 2012. The programme is still being worked out, but it will commence on the evening of Tuesday 21 August at Kilkenny Castle. A draft programme is set out below and will be more or less on familiar lines.

The 2012 Rally is the 16th Butler Rally since 1967 and promises to be another great gathering of the Butlers. As is usual, the central focus for this rally is our headquarters at Kilkenny where the Mayor of Kilkenny will greet you and where you will have an opportunity to see the 'ancestral town' and to get advice on tracing family histories.

The 2012 Rally will involve visits to places of Butler interest, such as Carrick Castle in Carrick-on-Suir and Kilcash, among others, and the reception and gala dinner in Kilkenny Castle, the high point of the Rally.

Below is a draft programme for the Rally should you wish to make your travel and accommodation arrangements.

**BUTLER RALLY PROGRAMME
KILKENNY 21-26 AUGUST 2012**

Tuesday 21 August

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 8.00 pm | Registration in Kilkenny Castle followed by a wine reception. |
| 9:45 pm | Tour of the castle. |

Wednesday 22 August

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 10:00 am | Official opening of the Butler Rally by the Mayor of Kilkenny followed by coffee in Kilkenny Castle. |
| 12:30 pm | Visit and lunch at Lisnavagh, Rathvilly, Carlow. |
| 2:30 pm | Sandbrook House, near Ballon, Carlow, home of the Bielenbergs. |

Wednesday night – Visitors are free that evening.

Thursday 23 August

Places of Butler Interest

- 9:30 am** Visits to local places of interest in Kilkenny, e.g., Rothe House etc.
- 11:00 am** Triennial General Meeting of the Butler Society in the Castle.
- 12:30 pm** Lunch at Zuni Restaurant or Hibernian Hotel.
- 2:00 pm** Hubert Butler Memorial Lecture in Kilkenny Castle.
- 3:00 pm** Coach trip to Maidenhall, the home of Dr. and Mrs. Crampton, and the former home of Hubert Butler, founding member of the Butler Society.
- 5:30 pm** Arrive back in Kilkenny.
- 7:00 pm** Event to remember Melosina (Melo) Lenox-Conyngham in Kilkenny Castle (details to be finalised).

Friday 24 August

Places of Butler Interest

- 9:30 am** Coach trip to Carrick-on-Suir, Clonmel and Kilcash.
- 10:30 am** Tour of Ormonde Castle in Carrick where coffee will be served.
- 11:00 am** Visit to former Church of Ireland from 1670s, now a Heritage Centre, to be met by Patsy Fitzgerald, the curator.
- 11:45 pm** Depart to Clonmel.
- 1:00 pm** Lunch in Clonmel followed by visit to Main Guard.
- 2:45 pm** Travel to Kilcash Community Centre for tea.
- 3:45 pm** Back on coach for return journey to Kilkenny.

Saturday 25 August

10:00 am

Genealogical forum in Butler House.

Craig Foster genealogist visiting from Salt Lake City, will give a talk.

Lord Dunboyne will give a talk on genealogy.

12:30 pm

Own lunch arrangement for visitors.

2:00 pm

Option of Ben Murtagh tour of Castle,

And/or Tour of Old Bishop's Palace.

8:00 pm

Reception and Dinner in Great Hall of Kilkenny Castle (***Black Tie***).

Sunday 26 August

11:15 am

Service in St Canice's Cathedral, Kilkenny

1:00 pm

Farewell lunch in the Great Gallery in Kilkenny Castle.

**The Sixteenth International Butler Rally In Kilkenny
Tuesday 21st August 2012 Kilkenny**

CHARGES FOR ATTENDANCE AT THE BUTLER RALLY 2012

The following are charges in euro for the Rally in addition to the Registration Fee (non-returnable) of €50.

Inclusive rate €350

A	B	C	D	E	F
Tuesday 21-8-12	Wednesday 22-08-12	Thursday 23-8-12	Friday 24-08-12	Saturday 25-08-12	Sunday 26-08-12
Welcome party	Lisnavagh Lunch etc	Maidenhall Lunch etc	Coach trip etc	Kilkenny and dinner	Lunch
	€60	€60	€60	€95	€25

Members coming only to the dinner: €85.

Participants for one day are not required to pay the registration fee.

We will be offering PayPal facilities to those who wish use that method to pay for the Rally. Of course, cheques to the Secretary are also acceptable!

Trains from Heuston Station, Dublin to Kilkenny, which takes approx. 2 hours.

Tuesday 21st August

Returning to Dublin on Sunday 26th August

7:20

9:10

11:10

13:10

15:10

17:35

18:35

09:48 – 11:25

13:48 – 15:30

15:49 – 17:25

18:48 – 20:30

These are suggestions for accommodation in Kilkenny, which you are requested to arrange directly with the hotels.

Mention that you are attending the Butler Rally when booking and be sure it is within easy walking distance of the Castle or look on the Internet for special deals.

Butler House. Tel: 00-353-56-7765707 Fax: 00-353-567765626
email: Res@butler.ie wwwbutler.ie

The Ormonde Hotel, Tel: 00-353-567723900
email: info@kilkennyormonde.com www.kilkennyormonde.com

Kilkenny Inn (This is about ten minutes walk from the Castle) 056-7772828
email: info@kilkennyinn.com www.kilkennyinn.com

Berkeley House, Tel 0567764848
berkeleyhouse@eircom.net www.berkeleyhousekilkenny.net

Kilkenny River Court Hotel, Tel: 056-7723388
email: reservations @kilrivercourt.com website www.kilrivercourt.com

The Club House, Tel:-00-353-56-7721 994
email: clubhse@iol.ie www.clubhousehotel.com

Kilkenny Tourist Hostel, Parliament St, 00-353-56-63541 kilkenyhostel@eircom.net

The Pembroke Hotel, Patrick Street 056-7783500

There are also lots of B & Bs around.

For information about Kilkenny accommodation <www.southeastireland.com> and click on Kilkenny.

Or call the **Kilkenny Tourist Office**, Tel: 00353 -56-7751500
Fax: 00-353-56-7763955 Ref: Butler Society
info@southeasttourism.ie www.southeastireland.com

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Kilkenny Tourist Hostel, Parliament St, 00-353-56-63541 kilkennyhostel@eircom.net

The Pembroke Hotel, Patrick Street 056-7783500

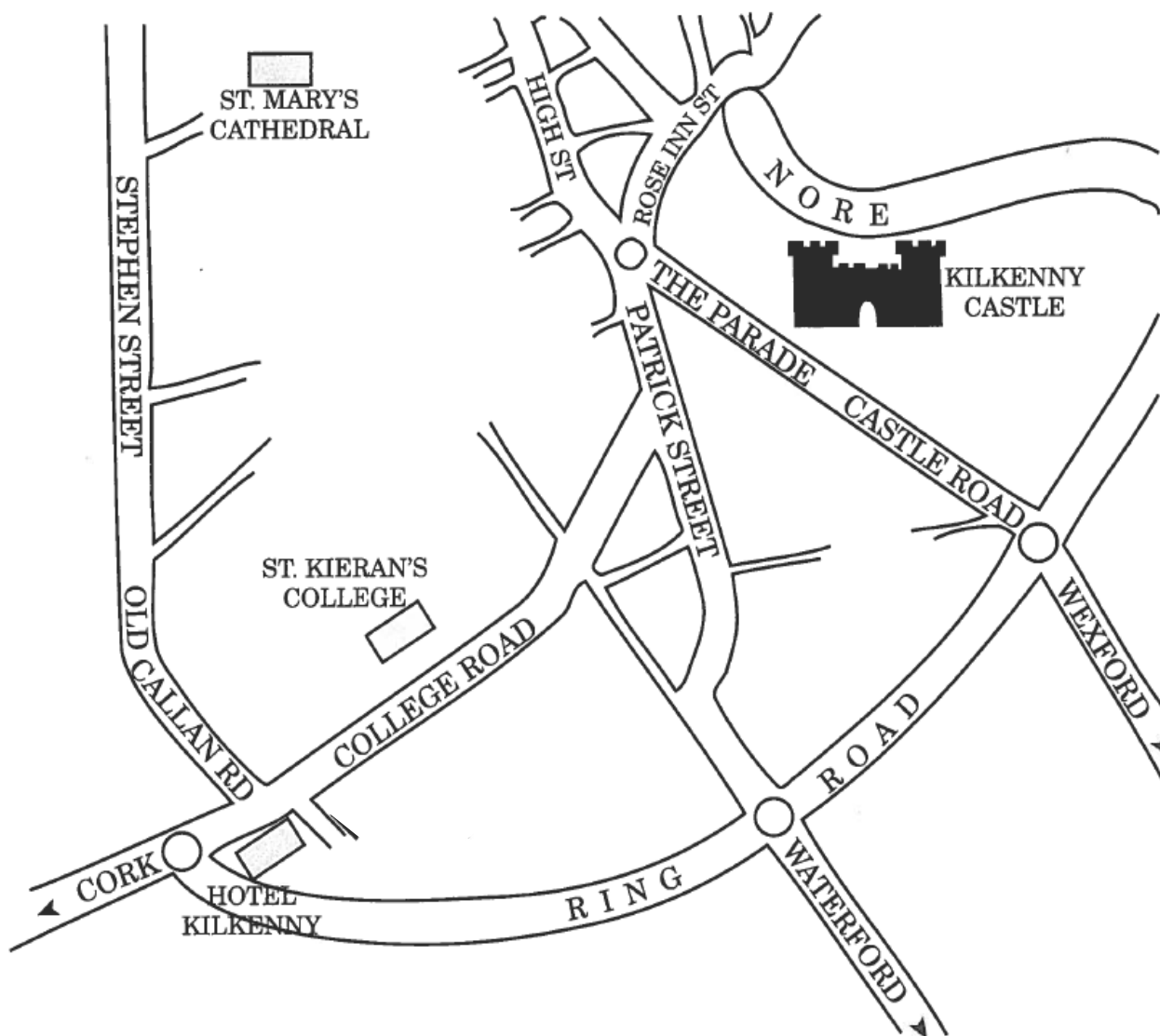
There are also lots of B & Bs around.

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Or call the **Kilkenny Tourist Office**, Tel: 00353 -56-7751500

Fax: 00-353-56-7763955 Ref: Butler Society

info@southeasttourism.ie www.southeastireland.com



PLEASE REGISTER NOW FOR THE AUGUST 2012 BUTLER RALLY

If paying by cheque, it should be made out to the Butler Society and sent to:
The Butler Society, Kilkenny Castle. At today's rate of exchange the amount is:

STG £295; US \$460; AUS \$430; NZ \$550; CAN \$460

Please detach and return the form below with a cheque made out to the Butler Society Rally for the relevant costs to:



Brenda Butler
Hon. Secretary
THE BUTLER SOCIETY
Kilkenny Castle
Kilkenny
IRELAND
Email: butlerbcastle571@gmail.com

Name

Address

Functions at which I/we will attend (A, B, C, etc)

Amount enclosed (Cheque in euro, dollars, sterling)



Information from:

Brenda Butler, Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny Ireland
email: butlerbcastle571@gmail.com

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If you have not already paid your Annual Subscription (January to December 2012) it is now due:

€15/ STG£10 / AUS\$25 / NZ\$25 / CAN\$25 / US\$20 to:
The Butler Society, Kilkenny Castle, Kilkenny, IRELAND.

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

THERE ARE SOME SUBSCRIPTIONS OUTSTANDING FOR 2011, WHICH WE WOULD BE VERY PLEASED TO RECEIVE — They are for the same amount as above.

