# Museum of Newport Irish History

## 49th Annual Newport Irish Heritage Month ~ March 2026 Events

The Museum's **Interpretive Center** will be open several days during March in celebration of Newport Irish Heritage Month. Located at 648 Lower Thames Street, just south of Narragansett Avenue, the Center operates seasonally from May to October and offers private and group tours.

The special **March 2026** public hours are **12:00– 5:00 pm** on the following days:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **- Friday, March 13** | **- Saturday, March 14** *(Parade Day)* | **- Sunday, March 15** |
| **- Friday, March 20** | **- Saturday, March 21** | **- Sunday, March 22** |
| **- Friday, March 27** | **- Saturday, March 28** | **- Sunday, March 29** |

Admission to the Center is FREE for Museum members and by donation for non-members. For more information about the Interpretive Center, please visit **www.NewportIrishHistory.org**, write NewportIrishHistory@gmail.com, or contact Center Manager Steve Marino at (860) 995-7367.

---

A tour of the circa 1828 **Barney Street Cemetery** (Barney & Mt. Vernon Streets) and a tour of the circa 1852 **St. Mary's Cemetery** (Kingston Ave. near Warner St.) will be given on the dates below by local researcher and guide Steve Marino (weather permitting). No fee, but reservations are requested.

**-Barney Street: Saturday, Mar. 21, 1:00 pm** **-St. Mary's: Saturday, Mar. 28, 1:00 pm**

**To reserve**: Visit the "Events" page at www.NewportIrishHistory.org ("Historic Cemetery Tours" tab).
**Questions/Assistance with Reservations:** Please contact Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493 or tpm1@earthlink.net

---

The Museum will host its annual **Trolley Tour of "Irish Newport"** on **Sunday, March 22**. One tour will be offered, departing Ancient Order of Hibernian Hall, 2 Wellington Ave., Newport, at **1:00 p.m.** sharp (*please arrive no later than 12:45 p.m. to check in*). The 2-hour tour, narrated by Mike Slein, includes brief stops at various sites connected to the history of the Irish in Newport, including the Forty Steps on Cliff Walk and the Barney Street Cemetery. Trolley generously donated by Viking Tours of Newport, in memory of Ann Oakley and Karen Oakley. No fee to the Museum, but gratuities for the trolley driver are gratefully accepted. Reservations are a must, and space is limited (35 riders).

**To reserve**, please visit the "Events" page at NewportIrishHistory.org ("Trolley Tour" tab)
*Note: If you've taken the Trolley Tour in past years, especially more than once, we'd ask that you allow our newest members, friends in the community, and visitors to experience the tour, as space is limited. Thank you!*
**Questions/Assistance** with Reservations: Contact Kathy Papp at (401) 236-2624 or KathleenPapp@cox.net

---

The 5th and final talk of our 2025-2026 **Annual Lecture Series** will be on Mon **March 23** at **6:00 pm** at the Wyndham Newport Hotel and via Zoom. **Dr. Sean O'Callaghan** will present:

*"Echoing Ancient Voices: The Literary and Cultural Legacy of Ireland's Blasket Island"*

*** Flyer with details enclosed. Details & links to reserve on our "Lectures" webpage ***

The 3 "Luck of the Irish" **raffle winners will be drawn following the lecture**. $6,000 in cash prizes! **Thank you** to all those who have supported the "Luck of the Irish" fundraiser thus far, via raffle ticket purchase or an outright, tax-deductible donation. List of supporters as of February 18 on reverse →

---

**Dancing at the Forty Steps,"** an annual highlight of Newport Irish Heritage Month, will take place **Sunday, March 29 at 3:00 p.m.** at Forty Steps on the Cliff Walk (east end of Narragansett Ave.). Outdoor event commemorates the informal dances held here by the Irish in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Live traditional music, Irish set dancing led by Donal & Mary Lehane, songs by the Ancient Order of Hibernian Men Singers. ***Held, weather permitting*** (updates on "Events" webpage and Facebook pg.).

---

Newport Irish Heritage Month

Check out the complete listing of **49th Annual Newport Irish Heritage Month** events on the "Events" page of our website **www.NewportIrishHistory.org** Events will also be announced by participating organizations in local media. Don't have Internet access? Phone Ann Arnold at (401) 841-5493 for information.