

# Uisce Álainn

May 2nd Sligo



An inspiring event celebrating life, well-being and our environment.

Paddlers from Sligo and beyond will be gathering to participate in a paddle on the Garavogue River and Lough Gill.

This unique event will open with “Awakening the Dragon and Dotting of the Eye” Ceremony followed by the commemorative Flower Ceremony.

The Dotting of the Eye, Awakening of the Dragon Ceremony, an ancient Chinese custom, will open the dragon’s eyes, ward off evil spirits and prepare the river for voyage. The ceremony not only blesses and cleanses the area for the event, but also the spectators and participants.

The Flower Ceremony is a beautiful commemorative ceremony that involves both spectators and participants in a moment of reflection for lives lost to cancer, those lives being represented by petals. People will be invited to take a handful of petals during a moments reflection after which they place the petals in the river which gently absorbs them into its environment. The petals have been chosen carefully to reflect our respect for both those we remember and our respect for the environment. There will also be a Memory Tree where you can hang a memory of your loved ones.

As event participants head off on their watery voyage, the public will be invited to participate in the Biodiversity Workshops.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Medb’s Dragon Warriors

