

# OFFALY LIBRARIES



**16<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup>  
August  
2025**

**HERITAGE  
WEEK**

## OFFALY LIBRARIES Heritage Week Events

National Heritage Week, an initiative by the Heritage Council, celebrates all things heritage.



It brings together communities, families, organisations, cultural institutions, academics and enthusiasts, to build awareness about the value of heritage and support its conservation.

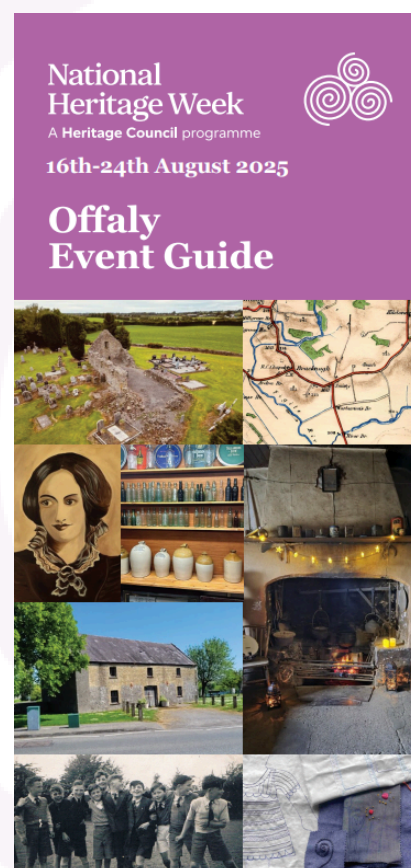
Listed here are the wide variety of events, for all ages, that are being held in Offaly Libraries. For more details on each event please contact the library.

For details on all events happening across the county, **Offaly County Council Heritage Office** has produced a wonderful Event Guide.

This can be picked up at your local library or viewed online [here](https://www.offaly.ie/heritage-week-2025/)

( <https://www.offaly.ie/heritage-week-2025/> )

For more information on Heritage Week visit <https://www.heritageweek.ie/>



# Heritage Week Events

## Finding Your Roots

Join Genealogist Martin Curley and find out the best route to tracing your family tree.

**Wednesday August 20th**

Tullamore Library 13:00 pm

Clara Library 15:30 pm

Banagher Library 18:30 pm



## Leinster Regiment Memorabilia Exhibition

Birr Library will host this exhibition commemorating the colourful history of the Leinster Regiment housed at Crinkill Barracks from 1881 and covers many aspects from this time.

Come and view a piece of Birr's history.



## Our Musical Heritage: Folksongs with Ruairí O'Sé.

Reflecting the themes of landscape, nature, and climate, join Irish folk artist Ruairí O' Sé for a performance that will entertain, soothe and refract thoughts and conversations through the prism of live music.

**Tuesday August 19th**

Tullamore Library 18:30 pm - 19:30 pm





# Heritage Week Events

## Storytelling Homes Exhibition

For the month of August including National Heritage Week, Tullamore Chatters and Matters Group are proud to present their exhibition, 'Storytelling Homes' this August in Tullamore Library.

The exhibition comprises of a series of miniature wooden models created by the group over the past few months that serve as visual representations of their culture, their homes, their childhood memories, and of their ancestors.

Oein De Bhairduin, writer and Traveller Culture Collection Development Officer at the National Museum of Ireland, **will launch the exhibition in Tullamore Library on Thursday, August 14th at 6pm.**

The exhibition will remain **on display in Tullamore Library for the duration of August.**

This collection is the culmination of a project led by visual artist Teresa Doyle, assisted by Tullamore Travellers Men's Shed, and kindly funded by Offaly County Council's Creative Ireland Community Grant programme, 2025 - 2027.





## OFFALY LIBRARIES

# Heritage Week Events

## Seen and Heard: Exhibition and Talk Exploring Children's Rights in Ireland



This Heritage Week, discover how **Birr**, Co Offaly became the birthplace of one of the world's earliest child protection laws the Cáo Adomnáin, written in 679AD. The **Museum of Childhood Ireland** has worked with artist Fergal McCarthy to create a thought-provoking exhibition in **Birr Library** exploring the history of children's rights in Ireland.

### Seen and Heard Drop-in Workshops, Birr Library 10:30 am-12:30 pm

Take part in drop-in workshops with artist Fergal McCarthy that delve into the history of children's rights in Ireland. A specially-created suitcase with interactive games and activities about children's rights will stay with the exhibition in Birr Library until Saturday 23 August. Open to all ages.

### Seen and Heard Panel Discussion, 1:30-3:00 pm

The Museum of Childhood Ireland will host a Seen and Heard Talk: From Cáo Adomnáin to Today - Exploring the Evolution of Children's Rights in Ireland. A panel of historians and children's rights advocates will trace the development of children's rights from early Irish law to present day protections and future ambitions.

A copy Cáo Adomnáin, illustrated by artist Caroline Conway, is on permanent display in Birr Library.

Tickets for the Seen and Heard Panel Discussion from 1.30-3.00pm are free but booking is required via [www.museumofchildhood.ie](http://www.museumofchildhood.ie)

No booking is required for the Seen and Heard Drop-In Workshops from 10:30 am-12:30 pm and these are open to children of all ages.



This event is thanks to funding from the Ireland Funds.

# Heritage Week Events

## Unstitching the Shinrone Gown

The Shinrone Gown, a remarkably well preserved early 17th Century Irish dress was discovered in Cangort Bog, Shinrone in 1843.

Commissioned by the Shinrone Heritage group and painstakingly recreated by local craftswomen Rosalind Fanning and Bernie Stapleton, with the goal of engaging the community and exploring Irish history, the replica will be on display in **Edenderry Library from 16th August**. It will be accompanied by a short documentary exploring the history and making of the gown.

Unstitching the Shinrone Gown is a celebration of craft, heritage, and imagination. It proves that history doesn't need to remain behind glass—it can be lived, touched, recreated, and shared.

To coincide with this exhibition, Fashion Historian, Laura Fitzachery will discuss the history of the Irish dress in Edenderry Library on Wednesday 27th August, 18:30 pm.



## OFFALY LIBRARIES

# Heritage Week Events

## En vogue: Fashionable Irish women from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> century

The Late Medieval period and Middle Ages saw a distinct form of dress emerge among aristocratic women of Europe. From elaborate headdresses to intricate outerwear, such fashions also reached Ireland.

This talk will aim to look at Irish dress through the lens of European fashion history with particular focus on the Shinrone gown.

Laura Fitzachary is a historian and historical consultant based in Dublin, Ireland. She is known online as @seekthehistoric where she delves into the history of art, beauty, fashion and archaeology.



**August 27th**

Edenderry Library 18:30 pm

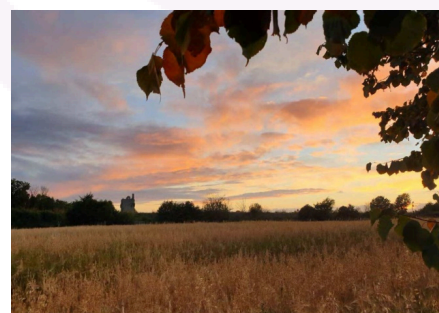
## To and Fro, from Chicago to Offaly

Join us at Tullamore Library where Midland Strings, amateur string ensemble based in Tullamore will play music from Irish fiddler, composer and recording artist, Liz Carroll. Liz was born in Chicago, Illinois, of Irish parents originating from Mucklagh, Co. Offaly.

Liz is the first Irish-American musician to be nominated for a Grammy and the first American-born composer honoured with the Cumadoir TG4, Ireland's most significant traditional music prize.

**August 21st**

Tullamore Library 6:30pm - 7:30pm





# Heritage Week Events

## Pollinator Workshops with Edel Heeran

To celebrate Heritage Week, Offaly Libraries will be hosting Pollinator Workshops in Clara, Ferbane and Kilcormac Libraries. This workshop is aimed for children, eight years old and above.

The workshop consists of an interactive presentation where children become beekeepers with an educational honeybee. Exploring elements including hive pollen and handling beekeeping equipment.

### August 21st

Clara Library 11:30 am

Ferbane Library 14:00 pm

Kilcormac Library 15:45 pm



---

## Poetry and Storytelling Evening

Bring your creative spirit and join us for an evening of poetry and storytelling.

### August 20<sup>th</sup>

Edenderry Library 18:00 pm



## OFFALY LIBRARIES

# Heritage Week Events

## Back in my day.... Coffee mornings

Enjoy coffee and conversation evoking positive memories and stories from the past.



### August 15th

Tullamore Library 11 am

### August 16th

Ferbane Library 11 am

### August 19th

Birr Library 11 am

Clara Library 10.30 am

### August 20th

Banagher Library 11 am

### August 21st

Daingean Library 11 am

Kilcormac Library 11 am

### August 22nd

Edenderry Library 11 am

## Heritage Week Stories and Craft

### August 19th

Clara Library 14:30 pm  
(Stories and Crafts) (3-5 years old)

### August 20th

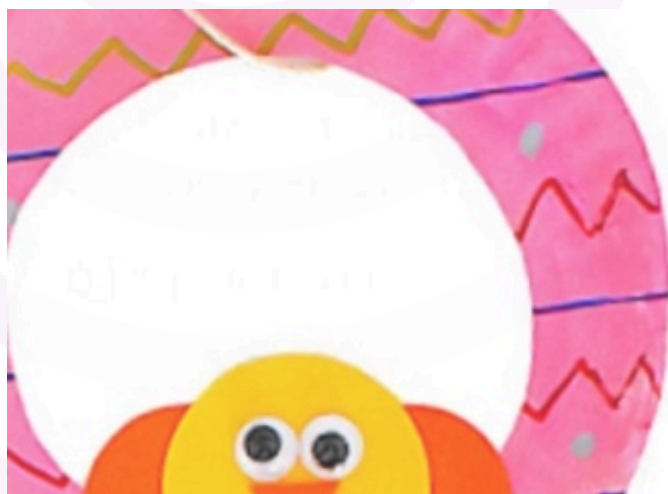
Tullamore Library 11:00 am  
(Storytime)  
Tullamore Library 15:30 pm  
(Crafts) (6-10 years old)

### August 20th

Birr Library 11:30 am  
(Crafts) (6-10 years old)

### August 22nd

Edenderry Library 15:30 pm  
(Crafts) (6-10 years old)



## OFFALY LIBRARIES

# Heritage Week Events

### **Banagher Library**

Moore's Corner,  
Banagher,  
Co. Offaly,  
R42 XY40

+353 (57) 9151471  
banagherlibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Clara Library**

Ballycumber Road,  
Clara,  
Co. Offaly,  
R35 NW63

+353 (57) 9331389  
claralibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Edenderry Library**

43 JKL Street,  
Edenderry,  
Co. Offaly,  
R45 RX48

+353 (46) 9731028  
edenderrylibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Kilcormac Library**

Birr Street,  
Kilcormac,  
Co. Offaly,  
R42 EH24

+353 (57) 9135086  
kilcormaclibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Birr Library**

Birr Civic Offices,  
Wilmer Road,  
Birr,  
Co. Offaly,  
R42 KD37

+353 (57) 9124950  
birrlibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Daingean Library**

Main Street,  
Daingean,  
Co. Offaly,  
R35 V6P5

+353 (57) 9353005  
daingeanlibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Ferbane Library**

Lower Main Street,  
Ferbane,  
Co. Offaly,  
R42 WF59

+353 (90) 6454259  
ferbanelibrary@offalycoco.ie

### **Tullamore Library**

O'Connor Square,  
Tullamore,  
Co. Offaly,  
R35 X226

+353 (57) 9346832  
tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie

[www.offaly.ie/libraries/](http://www.offaly.ie/libraries/)