

# National Heritage Week

A Heritage Council programme

17th-25th August 2024

## Laois Event Guide



Photo: Pat Guilfoyle

Information on all events nationwide at [www.heritageweek.ie](http://www.heritageweek.ie)



National  
Heritage Week

A Heritage Council programme

Heritage  
Officer  
Programme



An Chomhairle Oldhreachta  
The Heritage Council





# Welcome to National Heritage Week 2024

Welcome to this guide for events taking place during National Heritage Week 2024! It is exciting to see the events taking place exploring the theme of Connections, Routes and Networks which takes a deeper look into many different things that connect us – roads, rivers, lineage, shared interests and much more.

I want to acknowledge the work of local authority heritage and biodiversity officers but also the dedicated volunteers from a variety of communities working in heritage who have created the events listed in this guide. Their efforts ensure not only that our heritage is preserved, but that new generations can explore and learn about our heritage.

Remember, events will still be added up until the start of National Heritage Week on [heritageweek.ie](https://heritageweek.ie), so make sure to visit the website to view all events and online projects for your area. You can also create your own events trail from the website with a personalised calendar of events.

**Virginia Teehan**

CEO, Heritage Council

# Wild Child Day

Discover the Natural World Around You

Saturday 24th August 2024



Wild Child Day encourages children and young people all over Ireland to get outside and explore our natural heritage.

The Heritage Council is encouraging children to look at the world around them differently, to open their eyes to the diverse beauty of the landscape in their area and to get out and explore their locality or even farther afield.

This Wild Child Day, explore your local natural landscapes, learn about how we interact with nature and how we can create a sustainable environment for all flora and fauna.

Find all events for Wild Child Day 2024 at [heritageweek.ie](https://www.heritageweek.ie)



Cultural  
Heritage



Free  
Entry



Suitable  
for Families



Specifically for  
Children



Natural  
Heritage



Built  
Heritage



Accessible by  
Public Transport



Wheelchair  
Accessible



Car  
Parking



Includes an  
admission fee



Indoor



Outdoor



Autism  
Friendly



As Gaeilge





A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Tours of Stradbally Hall



Tours of Stradbally Hall - In Association with Historic Houses of Ireland. Approached by a long drive that sweeps dramatically through ancient parkland studded with chestnuts and oaks, Stradbally Hall lies at the heart of an old-world demesne that has been home to the Cosby family since 1620. The present house was built in 1772 but extensively renovated and enlarged in 1868 by Charles Lanyon, the architect behind Queen's University, Belfast, and Castle Leslie. However, a large finely-decorated suite from the original Georgian house, comprising the dining room, saloon and drawing room, also remains and overlooks the formal gardens.

Tours every day during Heritage Week from 9 am to 1 pm. Important: last tour is at 12 pm. Please come to front gate at least 10 minutes before tour starts. Adults: 10 euro Children: 5 euro

**Organiser:** Stradbally Hall  
**Venue:** Stradbally Hall  
**Address:** Stradbally  
**Eircode:** R32 YC5X  
**Email:** thomascosby1974@gmail.com  
**Telephone:** 0868519272



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 17th	09:00	13:00
Sun 18th	09:00	13:00
Mon 19th	09:00	13:00
Tue 20th	09:00	13:00
Wed 21st	09:00	13:00
Thu 22nd	09:00	13:00
Fri 23rd	09:00	13:00
Sat 24th	09:00	13:00
Sun 25th	09:00	13:00



AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY

# Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory



A collection of documents, photographs & stories from the Mountmellick Malt Factory. Also photos & documents from the life of Dr Werner Schwarz who fled Nazi Germany and found love in the Malt Factory. On display for month of August at Mountmellick Public Library during normal opening hours

Researched & prepared by Sean

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 17th	10:00	14:00
Tue 20th	10:00	13:00
Tue 20th	14:00	19:30
Wed 21st	10:00	13:00
Wed 21st	14:00	17:30
Thu 22nd	10:00	13:00
Thu 22nd	14:00	17:30
Fri 23rd	10:00	13:00
Fri 23rd	14:00	17:00
Sat 24th	10:00	14:00

**Organiser:**  
Mountmellick Heritage Society

**Venue:**  
Mountmellick Public Library

**Address:**  
O'Moore Street, Mountmellick,  
Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 PX61

**Email:**  
mary.e.obrien2@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 0867914933





OPW RUN EVENT

# Emo Court & Parklands: Family Treasure Hunt



This treasure hunt is a great way for families to have lots of fun while exploring our gardens. Pick up a Treasure Hunt Sheet at our visitor hub and see if you can find all 12 letters around the parklands. Once completed, return to the visitor hub to enter into a draw (held on the final day) for a FREE annual OPW Heritage Card for the whole family! This is an outdoor trail, across paths and grass tracks around the parklands, so please dress appropriately for the weather. Suitable for all ages. Have fun!

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands  
**Venue:** Emo Court  
**Address:** Emo, Co Laois  
**Eircode:** R32 C44V  
**Email:** emocourt@opw.ie  
**Telephone:**  
 +353 57 8626573

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 17th	10:30	17:00
Sun 18th	10:30	17:00
Mon 19th	10:30	17:00
Tue 20th	10:30	17:00
Wed 21st	10:30	17:00
Thu 22nd	10:30	17:00
Fri 23rd	10:30	17:00
Sat 24th	10:30	17:00
Sun 25th	10:30	16:30







A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Emo Court & Parklands: Guided Tours of the Ground Floor



Join us for daily guided tours as the ground floor re-opens. Hear the stories of the people connected with Emo Court, past and present.

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 17th	10:30	16:30
Sun 18th	10:30	16:30
Mon 19th	10:30	16:30
Tue 20th	10:30	16:30
Wed 21st	10:30	16:30
Thu 22nd	10:30	16:30
Fri 23rd	10:30	16:30
Sat 24th	10:30	16:30
Sun 25th	10:30	16:30

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** [martina.lewis@opw.ie](mailto:martina.lewis@opw.ie)

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573







OPW RUN EVENT

# Emo Court & Parklands: Gramophone Sunday



In the early 1900's, music parties at Emo Court extended on to the lawn from the Rotunda. Join us on the lawn to recreate this atmosphere, where the distinctive crackle of a gramophone needle will transport you back in time, while you spend a leisurely hour listening to a variety of music that was popular at the time. Bring your own picnic blanket or seating.

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 18th	15:00	16:00

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** [martina.lewis@opw.ie](mailto:martina.lewis@opw.ie)

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573





AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY

# Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise



Built in the late-eighteenth century to the design of James Gandon, architect. Renowned stained glass makers, Mayer & Company & Alfred Ernest Child work completed in 1880 & 1938. One window dedicated to the memory of Horace Turpin founder of Maryborough Gas Company in 1854. Beautifully carved eagle lectern was given in memory of the Revd E L Eves (1903). Organ installed by Bevington & sons, London and has a relatively rare Vox Humana stop. Church also holds World War 1 memorial volumes which contain the names and details of soldiers killed. There were only 100 such volumes printed. Plaque on the south wall of the upper level commemorates Revd Thomas Mosse. Revd Mosse married Mary Boyle, granddaughter of Richard Boyle, Earl of Limerick. Revd Thomas Mosse's son, Bartholomew Mosse was the founder of the Rotunda Hospital in Dublin. It was the first maternity hospital in Britain or Ireland and has been providing care for expectant mothers since 1745. The Jacob family whom were renowned in the medical field rest here. Dr John Jacob founded the County Infirmary, while Dr Arthur Jacob discovered the membrane of the eye, afterwards called 'Mebrana Jacobi'. Henry William Talbot also rests in St Peter's. He established the first newspaper in this part of the country. There is also a memorial to his son Marcus Talbot who was a member of the Canadian parliament who drowned when the steamship 'Hungaria' sank off Cape Sable Nova Scotia in 1860.

**Organiser:** St Peter's Church, Portlaoise  
**Venue:** St. Peter's Church  
**Address:** 1 Coote Street, Portlaoise, Co Laois  
**Eircode:** R32A7PK  
**Email:** hazelaeconroy@gmail.com  
**Telephone:** 0872493722



Date	Start Time	End Time
Mon 19th	12:30	14:30
Tue 20th	12:30	14:30
Wed 21st	12:30	14:30
Thu 22nd	12:30	14:30
Fri 23rd	12:30	14:30
Sat 24th	12:30	14:30



A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Hands-on History - Making Medieval Ring Brooches



Children have the opportunity to get hands-on with the medieval past, as they join Donna Gilligan from Scéal Heritage to create medieval ring brooches, a common piece of jewellery worn by men, women, and children in the Middle Ages. Children are introduced to information on jewellery and fashion in medieval times, and are guided to make their own gold or silver ring brooch, which they then personalise with colourful gemstones and metallic messages. The brooches provide a unique visual souvenir of what they learned about their medieval past.;

Suitable for children between the ages of 7 - 13.  
Spaces are limited so prior booking is required.



**Date** Wed 21st

**Stradbally Library**

**Venue:** Stradbally Library  
**Address:** Court Square, Stradbally  
**Eircode:** R32 DT28  
**Email:** stradballylibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 057 8641673

**Durrow Library**

**Venue:** Durrow Library  
**Address:** Chapel Street, Durrow  
**Eircode:** R32 EP94  
**Email:** durrowlibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 057 8736090

**Rathdowney Library**

**Venue:** Rathdowney Library  
**Address:** Mill Street, Rathdowney  
**Eircode:** R32 DXP5  
**Email:** rathdowneylibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 0505 46852

Start Time	End Time
10:30	11:15

Start Time	End Time
12:45	13:30

Start Time	End Time
15:00	15:45





A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Irish Culture - Past & Present: LEGO Brick Workshop



Join internationally known LEGO Brick Artist Jessica Farrell for a workshop that explores Irish heritage in a unique way through creative expression. In small groups, families build custom models which represent aspects of Irish culture whilst learning the importance and value of the topics through open discussion. This is followed by an activity where local cultural heritage that is meaningful to the children is suggested and that meaning is then creatively expressed using the assorted LEGO bricks provided.

This is a family workshop with participants booking spaces as groups. Spaces are limited so prior booking is required.



**Date** Wed 21st

## Mountmellick Library

**Venue:** Mountmellick Library  
**Address:** O'Moore Street, Mountmellick  
**Eircode:** R32 PX61  
**Email:** mountmellicklibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 057 8689382

## Portlaois Library

**Venue:** Portlaoise Library  
**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise  
**Eircode:** R32 N7EP  
**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 057 8622333

**Start Time**

10:30

**End Time**

12:30

**Start Time**

14:00

**End Time**

16:00





A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Emo Court & Parklands:

# Gardens Free Guided Tour



Join our guided tour of the gardens with craft gardener John Duffy and hear the stories of life on the estate through the years.

Date	Start Time	End Time
Wed 21st	15:00	16:00

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** emocourt@opw.ie

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573





## A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Farm walk at Ballykilcavan

Fully guided tour of Ballykilcavan Farm, including a walk around the 18th century farmyard and stable yard, the champion Black Walnut tree of Ireland, the hop garden and the Back Lawn barley field. Ballykilcavan has won six national sustainability awards over the last three years and this event focuses on the sustainability measures being taken on the farm and in the brewery and visitor centre. The tour includes a 700m walk around the farm on generally level ground, but not suitable for buggies. The tour is completely outdoors, so appropriate clothing and footwear for the weather are required. Ballykilcavan is a Gold status member of Origin Green and a member of the Irish Historic Houses Association.

**Organiser:** Ballykilcavan Farm and Brewery

**Venue:** Ballykilcavan Farm

**Address:** Ballykilcavan, Stradbally, Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 YOPK

**Email:** david@ballykilcavan.com

**Telephone:** 0863484128



Date	Start Time	End Time
Wed 21st	19:00	20:00

# Dereliction, Decay and Conservation - Saving Portarlinton's Historic Buildings



Guest speakers will talk about the recent restoration of the Victorian buildings at Portarlinton Railway Station and the ongoing work of conservation and restoration of the Market House or Tholsel in Portarlinton. They will also talk of the challenges in trying to save some of the town's historic houses which are now derelict and in danger of demolition. Arlington House will be used as a case study to illustrate what measures are required to save similar historic buildings.



In 2020 the former refreshment rooms and waiting area at Portarlinton Railway Station, built in the 1840's, were derelict and in a dangerous condition. In 2021 Irish Rail commenced a major restoration of the building using traditional materials but adapting the building for future use as an office for Irish Rail staff. The work has just been completed and the project manager, Mr. Liam Murphy, will give a presentation on the work undertaken and describe how the finished building will be utilized by Irish Rail. The former Market House or Tholsel in Portarlinton dates back to the foundation of the town in the 1670's and in addition to being used as a market house was the home of the town corporation. Until recently it was being used as a motor repair business and motor fuel filling station. In 2021 Laois County Council took out a long lease on the building and commenced a major restoration of the building using traditional methods and materials. Work is due to be completed later this year and the conservation architects will present a report on the work undertaken and the challenges faced during the restoration process. Arlington House is a building of national architectural and historic importance and dates back to the foundation of Portarlinton. Over the past 40 years it has gone from being a house in pristine condition to the derelict ruin it now is. A former resident will explain just what happened and how the same fate still faces local houses.

**Organiser:** Portarlinton Arts & Heritage Group

**Venue:** Portarlinton Library

**Address:** Main street, Portarlinton, Co. Laois.

**Email:** davidorford55@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 0861508046

Date	Start Time	End Time
Wed 21st	20:00	22:00





A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Weaving Workshop



Join Beth Murphy from Willow Wonder for a workshop on the ancient art of weaving, using willow and other natural materials. Beth will guide each child through the process of creating their very own craft piece to take home with them on the day.

Suitable for children aged 8 - 12 years. Spaces are limited so prior booking is required.



**Date**    Thus 22nd

## Mountrath Library

**Venue:** Mountrath Library  
**Address:** Shannon Street, Mountrath  
**Eircode:** R32 D576  
**Email:** mountrathlibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 057 8756378

**Start Time**    **End Time**

10:30            11:15

## Abbeyleix Library

**Venue:** Abbeyleix Library  
**Address:** Market Square, Abbeyleix  
**Eircode:** R32 CY65  
**Email:** abbeyleixlibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 0578730020

**Start Time**    **End Time**

12:30            13:15

## Portarlington Library

**Venue:** Portarlington Library  
**Address:** Main Street, Portarlington  
**Eircode:** R32 PY59  
**Email:** portarlingtonlibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 0578643751

**Start Time**    **End Time**

15:00            15:45



## A Painting of The Poet

# Patrick Ryan

*An original painting of the Slieve Bloom Poet Patrick Ryan by Camross artist Peter Dooley will be unveiled*

*Friday 23rd August at 7.30pm  
at a reception in the Poet's Cottage Camross.*

*Some of his original poetry will be recited and there will be refreshments and a bit of craic on the night.*

*All are welcome*



Clár Éire Ildánach  
Creative Ireland  
Programme



AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY, A LIVE PERFORMANCE,  
RE-ENACTMENT OR DEMONSTRATION

# The life and Times of the Camross Poet “Patrick Ryan”



The Poets Cottage is our local landmark, it lies at the centre of Camross village and features in all our village photos. The cottage was designed to replicate a traditional Laois thatched cottage and represent the home of the Poet- Patrick Ryan who lived in Camross from 1750 - 1825. We used a Creative Ireland Community Project to celebrate the life and times of the Poet - “Patrick Ryan”. We have commissioned Peter Dooley, a Camross artist renowned for his portraits to create a portrait of the Poet which will be hung in the Poets Cottage and seen by all its visitors. During Heritage Week 2024 we will host a reception to launch the portrait, recite his poetry, and celebrate with music and conversation. The Poets Cottage is currently a community building and there are plans in place to renovate and develop its tourism potential. It was originally built as a Millenium Heritage Project by the local Fas team.

**Organiser:** Camross Tidy Town group  
**Venue:** Poets Cottage  
**Address:** Camross Village, Co Laois  
**Eircode:** Eircode R32 TX8Y  
**Email:** camrosstidytown@privaterelay.eu  
**Telephone:** 0866012153



**Booking Link:** [facebook.com/  
camrosscommunity](https://facebook.com/camrosscommunity)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Fri 23rd	20:00	21:30



A LIVE PERFORMANCE, RE-ENACTMENT OR DEMONSTRATION

# Emo Court & Parklands: The People's College Choir Performance



Join us on the lawn for a wonderful afternoon of song with the People's College Choir conducted by musical director, Paul Walsh. The Choir will perform from the rotunda using the acoustics from the coffered dome. Bring a picnic blanket or your own seating for this uplifting free event on the formal lawn. Performance begins at 12.30pm until 1.00pm

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands  
**Venue:** Emo Court Lawn  
**Address:** Emo, Co Laois  
**Eircode:** R32 C44V  
**Email:** emocourt@opw.ie  
**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 24th	12:30	13:00



A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

## Emo Court & Parklands: Parklands Walking Tour



Have you ever wondered what that cottage peeking through the trees was? Or, the story behind the servants tunnel? On this tour, those curiosities and many others will be satisfied. As you meander along the well-trodden paths, your guide will share fascinating insights about some of the parkland's features and history. This tour is perfect for those looking to deepen their appreciation for the parklands while enjoying a pleasant walk in the fresh air. You are sure to learn something new! This is an outdoor event, so please dress appropriately for the weather. Meeting point at visitor hub. For more information contact us at [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie) or 057 8626573

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie)

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	11:00	12:30



A LIVE PERFORMANCE, RE-ENACTMENT OR DEMONSTRATION

# Heritage Trains at the Stradbally Woodland Railway



Experience rail travel from a bygone age at the Stradbally Woodland Railway, the oldest volunteer-run heritage line in Ireland. Operated by Irish Steam Preservation Society members, the railway has been running for over 50 years using engines and carriages with deep connections to Ireland's rich railway history. Our steam engine Róisín worked for Bord na Móna on the bogs of Co Laois in the 1950s and has called the county her home ever since. She passed into society ownership in the late 1960s and has pulled thousands of visitors through the woods of the Cosby Estate since then on carriages dating as far back as 1887. Our vintage diesel loco, originally ESB No 4 but today called Rusty, was also based in Co Laois, working at Portarlinton power station until arriving on the railway in the late 1980's. She's a popular choice for pulling trains and has more than a few fans among our regular visitors. Both engines are part of a long history of the bog railways that once crisscrossed the midlands, a unique and often overlooked part of Irish industrial heritage. Experience these wonderful machines up close and in person in a setting where our friendly volunteers will answer all your questions while keeping steam and industrial history alive in the 21st century. Tickets can be bought through the society's website at [irishsteam.net](http://irishsteam.net). We will always do our best to make sure those with autism or other special needs enjoy their day as much as possible.

Tickets are valid all day for unlimited train trips. Each trip lasts approximately 10 minutes. Prices: €4 child, €8 adult, €20 family of four. Cash and card accepted on the day or book online in advance. Shop open selling snacks, hot and cold drinks and secondhand books and magazines. Free parking and toilets with baby changing facilities on-site. Our train is wheelchair accessible.

**Organiser:** Irish Steam Preservation Society

**Venue:** Stradbally Woodland Railway

**Address:** Main Street, Cosby Estate, Stradbally, Co Laois

**Email:** [irishsteampreservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:irishsteampreservationsociety@gmail.com)

**Telephone:** 086 605 3414



**Booking Link:** [irishsteam.net/?page\\_id=144](http://irishsteam.net/?page_id=144)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	11:00	16:00





A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Emo Court & Parklands: Mezzo-Soprano Heather Fogarty & pianist Gillian Daly



In the 1800's music recitals at Emo Court extended on to the lawn from the rotunda in view of the lake. Join us on the lawn to re-create this atmosphere with Mezzo-Soprano Heather Fogarty and accompanist Gillian Daly for a magical afternoon. Heather has toured all over Germany, America, South America with companies including Clombia Artists, Luebeck Academy, and CMI Productions. Gillian's previous positions include: Accompanist at The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland Junior Department and Chorus Academy Pianist with The Royal Scottish National Orchestra. Bring a picnic blanket or seating and dress appropriately for the weather.

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie)

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	14:00	15:00



A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Genealogy Clinic



A series of family history clinics facilitated by local genealogists, to introduce and aid members of the public to research their family history using Laois Local Studies and online resources. Hour long sessions will provide one-to-one assistance for family history beginners who would like to start their family tree or more advanced family historians who have encountered an obstacle in their research. Places are limited. Booking is essential.

A 5 generation ancestry chart is available to download and print when you register on our booking system. To make the most of your appointment please print the chart, fill in where possible, and bring to your clinic appointment. If you do not have access to a printer please collect a chart from the desk in Portlaoise Library.

**Organiser:** Portlaoise Library

**Venue:** Portlaoise Library

**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 N7EP

**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie

**Telephone:** 0578622333



**Booking Link:** [Genealogy Clinic](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Mon 19th	10:00	13:00
Tue 20th	10:00	13:00
Wed 21st	10:00	13:00
Thu 22nd	10:00	13:00
Fri 23rd	10:00	13:00

# Talking About Trees: Abbeyleix



ABBEYLEIX  
Tidy Towns



An Chomhairle Oidhreactha  
The Heritage Council

A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

## Talking About Trees: Abbeyleix



Join us in celebrating Abbeyleix, a town renowned for its remarkable trees, from the ancient oak woodlands to the tree-lined main street and leafy parks. As part of Heritage Week, we're thrilled to invite you to a special event at Heritage House. Discover the unique Tree Plan being developed for Abbeyleix with a talk by Landscape Architect Sophia Meeres from UCD. Learn about the ongoing efforts to preserve and enhance our town's natural beauty, ensuring that our rich tree heritage is protected and developed for future generations. But that's not all! Put your knowledge to the test with a tree identification challenge, and get hands-on with the new Citizen Science tree app. This innovative tool is being rolled out across Abbeyleix, allowing residents and visitors alike to engage with our local environment in a meaningful way. Whether you're a nature enthusiast, a curious learner, or just looking to find out more about what our tree plan, this event is for you. Don't miss this opportunity to connect with our community and the trees that make Abbeyleix special.

**Organiser:** Abbeyleix TidyTowns/  
Abbeyleix Heritage House

**Venue:** Heritage House

**Address:** Ballyroan Rd, Tonduff, Abbeyleix, Co. Laois,

**Eircode:** R32 H244

**Email:** [info@abbeyleixtidytowns.net](mailto:info@abbeyleixtidytowns.net)

**Telephone:** (057) 871 4944



Date	Start Time	End Time
Mon 19th	19:00	21:00

We are serious about trees in Abbeyleix and are looking to plant for the future as well as protect what we have. Since 2019, we have planted a significant number of trees, hedges and orchards. Have a look through our innovative StoryMaps Series below to see our progress: Native Tree Storymap - <https://arcg.is/1zn9jq0> - Orchard StoryMap - <https://arcg.is/1DuWDM>





AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY, A TALK, CONFERENCE OR READING

## Launch of Laois Cumann na mBan Exhibition



The exhibition highlighting Laois women of the revolutionary period was curated by Bernadette Dunne with the support of Laois County Library and Decade of Centenaries funding. The stories of Laois women featured in the exhibition are compiled from official records housed in the Military Archives and the oral histories gathered by Bernadette Dunne. The Cumann na mBan Exhibition and related events are part of a long-term and on-going engagement by Laois Local Studies in projects capturing women's experience of the revolutionary era.

The exhibition is designed to share the stories of women recorded so far and gather additional information from the community on women not recorded to date. Speakers on the night of the launch will include historian Regina Dunne, who has researched Cumann na mBan in Laois; Sinead Holland (Laois Local Studies) who is compiling an archive and membership roll of Laois Cumann na mBan; Bernadette Dunne, who will outline her ongoing project to gather oral histories of Laois Cumann na mBan members. The exhibition will remain in the Portlaoise Library until the end of August.

**Organiser:** Portlaoise Library

**Venue:** Portlaoise Library

**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 N7EP

**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie

**Telephone:** 0578622333



**Booking Link:** [Laois Cumann na mBan Exhibition](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Mon 19th	18:00	20:00

If you have information on Laois members of Cumann na mBan that you would like recorded, you can email Bernadette Dunne at [bernadettenidhuinn@gmail.com](mailto:bernadettenidhuinn@gmail.com) and Laois Local Studies on [localstudies@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:localstudies@laoiscoco.ie)



AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY

## Michael Collins Ireland's Rebel Son Exhibition



An artist showcase - free to visit during Dunamaisé Arts Centre Opening Hours. Illustrations from the Graphic Novel by David Butler and Mario Corrigan at The O'Brien Press. Additional Collectible pieces by Irish Timeless Treasures. The Illustrations by David Butler are from his graphic novel telling a thrilling tale of passion, courage and determination. Michael Collins was a hero in life, and in death, his legend continues to grow. Artist Showcase at Dunamaisé Café, Dunamaisé Arts Centre. Officially opening on 22nd August, 7.30pm. Free to attend.

**Organiser:** Dunamaisé Arts Centre

**Venue:** Dunamaisé Arts Centre

**Address:** Church Street

**Eircode:** R32 W93P

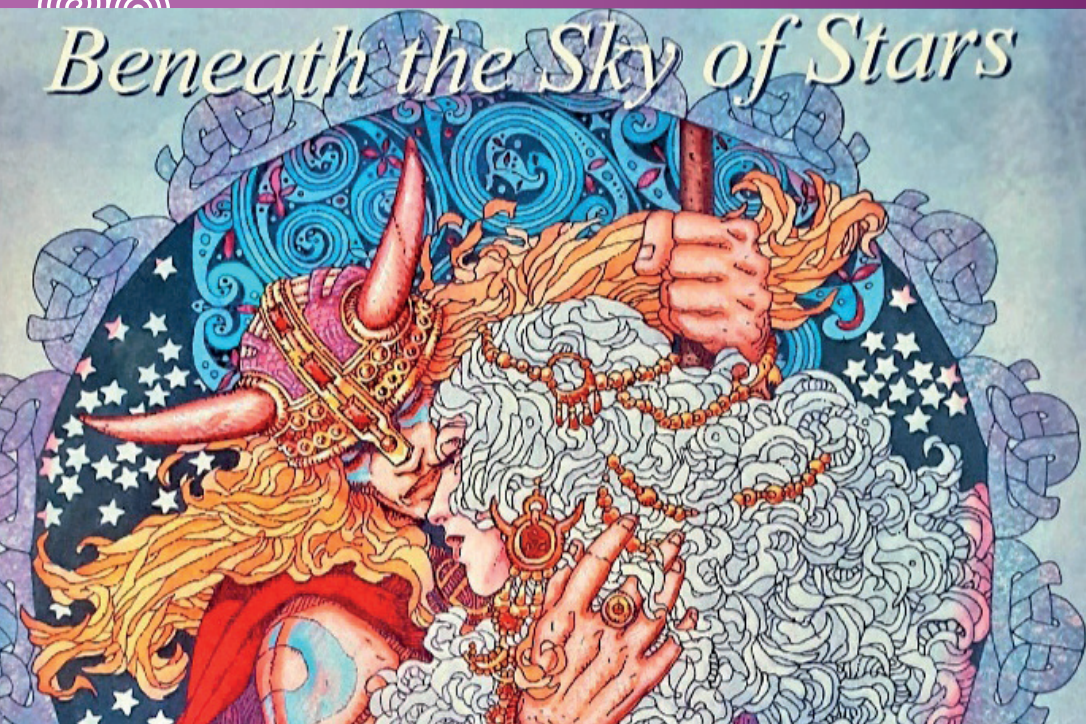
**Email:** [info@dunamaisé.ie](mailto:info@dunamaisé.ie)

**Telephone:** 0578663355



Date	Start Time	End Time
Tue 20th	13:00	17:00
Wed 21st	13:00	17:00
Thu 22nd	13:00	20:30
Fri 23rd	13:00	17:00

# Beneath the Sky of Stars



A TALK, CONFERENCE OR READING

## Book Launch: Beneath the Sky of Stars



Laois writers, in collaboration with Laois County Council and Creative Ireland, have the pleasure in inviting you to the launch of *Beneath the Sky of Stars*. Through the lens of mythology and fairy tale, this collection of short stories re-imagines the landscape of County Laois, offering new and imaginative insights. *Beneath the Sky of Stars* also features art work by Harry Clarke and Jim Fitzpatrick.

Prior booking is advised. Light refreshments will be available on the evening.

**Organiser:** Laois County Library Service

**Venue:** Stradbally Library

**Address:** Court Square, Stradbally, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 DT28

**Email:** [stradballylibrary@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:stradballylibrary@laoiscoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 0578641673



**Booking Link:** [Laois Cumann na mBan Exhibition](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Tue 20th	7:00pm	8:00pm





A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Guided Tour of the Rock of Dunamase



This is a rare opportunity for a guided tour of the Rock of Dunamase by the previous Director of Excavations at the site - Brian Hodkinson. There have been fortifications at Dunamase since the ninth century. Plundered by Viking raiders in 843AD, it became the dowry of Aoife, the bartered daughter of Diarmait Mac Murchada, when she married Richard De Clare, Strongbow, as the price for the Anglo-Norman invader restoring Diarmait as king of Leinster. The fortress continued to play a significant role in subsequent power struggles between Gaelic Irish and invading forces - it was fought over, occupied, fortified, reinforced, seized, abandoned, and blown up! However the ruins remain to tell the story of this site, which can still captivate the imagination.

**Organiser:** Laois County Council  
**Venue:** Car park at the Rock of Dunamase  
**Address:** Rock of Dunamase  
**Eircode:** R32 E170  
**Email:** [bjhodkinson@gmail.com](mailto:bjhodkinson@gmail.com)  
**Telephone:** 087-2561226

Date	Start Time	End Time
Thu 22nd	13:00	14:15



AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY

## Turas Treoraithe trí Ghaeilge ar Chúirt Emo. Irish language guided tour of Emo Court.



Bíig linn agus ceiliúrfaimid Seachtain Náisiúnta na hOidhreachta le turas ar an teach trí Ghaeilge. Blaisfimid giota beag den saol a bhí ann fadó. Join us to celebrate National Heritage Week with a tour of the house as Gaeilge. We'll get a small taste of how life was years ago. Saor in aisce ach cuir d'áit in áirithe trí ríomhphost a sheol chuig [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie) Free of charge but reserve your place by emailing [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie)

**Organiser:** Emo Court & Parklands

**Venue:** Emo Court

**Address:** Emo, Co Laois

**Eircode:** R32 C44V

**Email:** [emocourt@opw.ie](mailto:emocourt@opw.ie)

**Telephone:** +353 57 8626573



Date	Start Time
Thu 22nd	15:00



A TALK, CONFERENCE OR READING

# Hidden Portlaoise: A Talk by John Dunne



Join local writer and Portlaoise enthusiast John Dunne for a talk as he reveals lesser-known aspects of the town's history including many old photographs and interesting facts which may surprise you.

Date	Start Time	End Time
Thu 22nd	19:00	20:15

**Organiser:** Portlaoise Library

**Venue:** Portlaoise Library

**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise,  
Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 N7EP

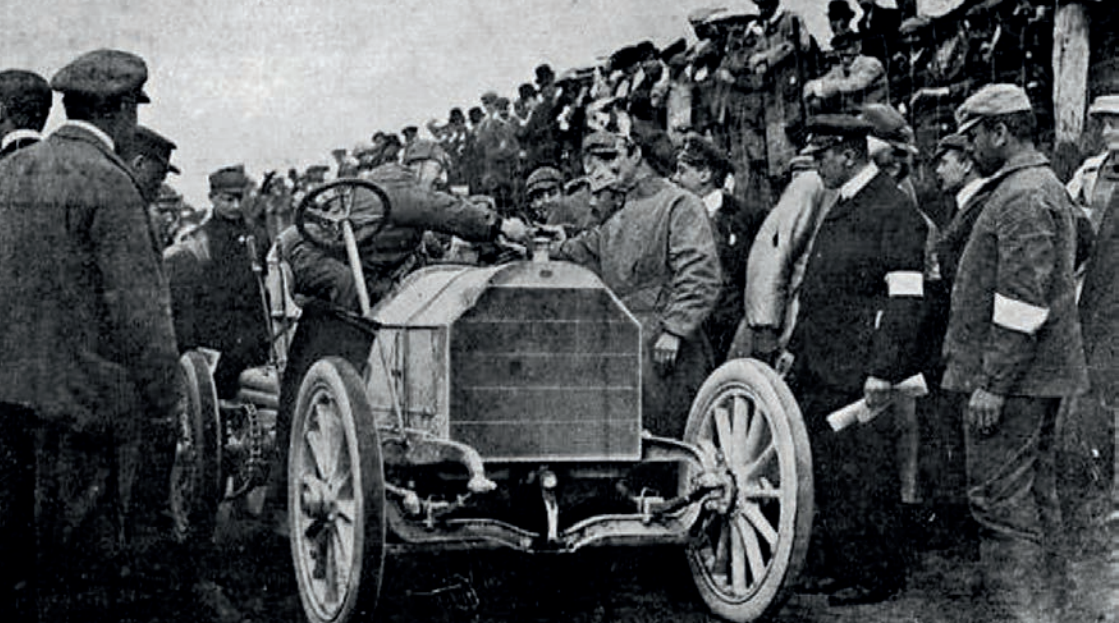
**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie

**Telephone:** 0578622333



**Booking Link:** [Hidden Portlaoise](#)





AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY, A LIVE PERFORMANCE,  
RE-ENACTMENT OR DEMONSTRATION

## How Ireland Saved Motorsport



For one day in 1903, a sporting event took place in Ireland which not only profoundly altered the future of that sport worldwide, but also had a lasting impact on both Irish sport and society. The race was the International Gordon Bennett Cup race, carried out on newly repaired, and sometimes rolled, roads of Carlow, Laois and Kildare. A film was commissioned by the Heritage Offices of these three counties to showcase the story of this amazing event, which is still commemorated annually with a vintage car rally bringing enthusiasts from all over the world. Join us at the Dunamaise Arts Centre, Portlaoise at 7pm on Thursday 22nd August for a FREE viewing (Booking essential). On the night there will be a number of vintage cars on show and a small exhibit of original Gordon Bennett race paraphernalia. Refreshments available after the show. Film running time: approx. 40 minutes.

**Organiser:** Laois County Council  
**Venue:** Dunamaise Arts Centre  
**Address:** Church Street Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
**Eircode:** R32 W93P  
**Email:** tcarolan@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 087-6624865



**Booking Link:** [How Ireland Saved Motorsport](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Thu 22nd	19:00	20:00



AN EXHIBITION OR DISPLAY

## The Little Delour River and Camross Biodiversity Action Plan- “The Connection”



Camross Tidy Towns explore our water-based connections. The Little Delour River, flows through our Community Park, (A Blue Dot) we want to highlight the importance of protecting its pristine waters so that the benefits to biodiversity, our health and well-being, our heritage and the climate can be enjoyed by current and future generations. LAWPRO Heritage Week funding will allow us print our Biodiversity Action Plan to provide guidance, we will also add some new Information Material to our Aquatic Gallery Wall. We are hosting a heritage week event on Friday 23rd and will have our new resources available for inspection. Light refreshments will be served

This is a Water Heritage Event but held on Friday 23rd August.

**Organiser:** Camross Tidy Town group

**Venue:** The Hub

**Address:** Camross Village.

**Eircode:** R32TX8Y

**Email:** [camrosstidytown@privaterelay.eu](mailto:camrosstidytown@privaterelay.eu)

**Telephone:** 0866012153



**Booking Link:** [Camcross Diversity](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Fri 23rd	19:00	19:45





A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Tour of 15th Century Franciscan Abbey, Stradbally, Co. Laois



The Abbey, which dates to 1450, was the Cosby family's first base in Laois before they built Stradbally Hall. Later there was a cotton and flour mill on the site. It is now lovely family-friendly site bustling with nature. Guide Roland will cover the history of the Abbey, including the grisly Battle of Stradbally and mill race. Needless to say, he will also have some tall stories! In association with Historic Houses of Ireland. Free tours: 2 pm and 4 pm on Sunday, August 25th.

**Organiser:** Laois Cricket Club in Association with Historic Houses of Ireland

**Venue:** The Abbey

**Address:** Laois Cricket Club, Main Street, Stradbally

**Eircode:** R32 T0XV

**Email:** r-embradley@hotmail.com

**Telephone:** 087 2941821



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	14:00	15:00
Sun 25th	16:00	17:00



# The Leinster Express;

FRIDAY 14

KILDARE, QUEEN'S AND KING'S COUNTIES,

Established at the Strand, Dublin, as a Newspaper, September 17th 1845.

MEATH, WICKLOW, DUBLIN, AND MIDLAND MERCANTILE AND AGRICULTURAL ADVERTISER.

"THE DUBLIN FARMERS' JOURNAL" INCORPORATED WITH THE "LONDON FARMERS' BAY" & C.

SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1886.

NUMBER 411. Published by FRIDAY 12th 1886.

Printed at the Strand, Dublin, by J. W. GILKINSON, at the "Leinster Express" Office.

**SEEDS.** The quality of LARD OILS, & the quantity of the same, are of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price. **ARAW CARP.** A small quantity of the same is now on hand. **SEEDS.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price.

**S. TERCY.** **SUPREMACY** in the market for **WHEAT, RYE, BARLEY, & OATS.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price. **ALL SORTS OF GRAIN.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price.

**MERRA & S. W. GIBNEY.** **11, K. AND GREAT ST. ST.** **24, WESTMORELAND STREET, DUBLIN.**

**DUBLIN RESTAURANT.** **25, JOSEPH'S PLACE, DUBLIN.** **SEALS.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price.

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**STANLEY'S WOOL MANURE.** **THE CHEAPEST AND MOST EFFECTIVE FOR ALL SOILS, SEASONS, AND CROPS.** **CHARLES STANLEY AND SON, WATER-DEARIE, YORKS.**

**SEED WHEATS, SCOTCH IMPORTED.** **PATRICK EGAN, 66, NORTH KING STREET, DUBLIN.**

**SEEDS.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price.

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**SEED WHEATS, VETCHES, &c.** **FRUIT & FOREST TREES, SHRUBS, &c.** **IMPORTED SEED POTATOES.** **W. DRUMMOND AND SONS, 38, PATRICK STREET, DUBLIN.**

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**SYMOND & CO'S** **ARLEY'S PATENT** **FRENCH** **DANDELION AND PATENT COFFERS.** **W. GILKINSON, 11, K. AND GREAT ST. ST.**

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**CHANCELLOR AND SON'S CELEBRATED WATCHES.** **MANUFACTURED AND SOLD IN GREAT QUANTITIES FOR EXPORT.**

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**DINNEFORD'S MAGNESIA.** **FOR THE CURE OF DYSPEPSIA, INDIGESTION, &c.** **CAUTION.**—See that "DINNEFORD & CO." is on every bottle and label.

**NEW WINTER FASHIONS.** **OGILBY'S, 11, GRAFTON STREET.**

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**F. SANDERSON & SONS, 11, K. AND GREAT ST. ST.** **SEEDS.** The quality of the same is of the highest quality, and are sold at the lowest price.

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**O'NEILL, TELFORD, & CO., 11, LOWER SACKVILLE STREET, DUBLIN.**

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**IMPORTED TO FARMERS.** **WHEAT & OATS.** **M'MASTER, HODGSON, & CO'S.**

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**BUTLERS' MEDICAL HALL, 11, K. AND GREAT ST. ST.**

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A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP, A TALK, CONFERENCE OR READING

## Newspapers as a Resource for Researching Family & Local History



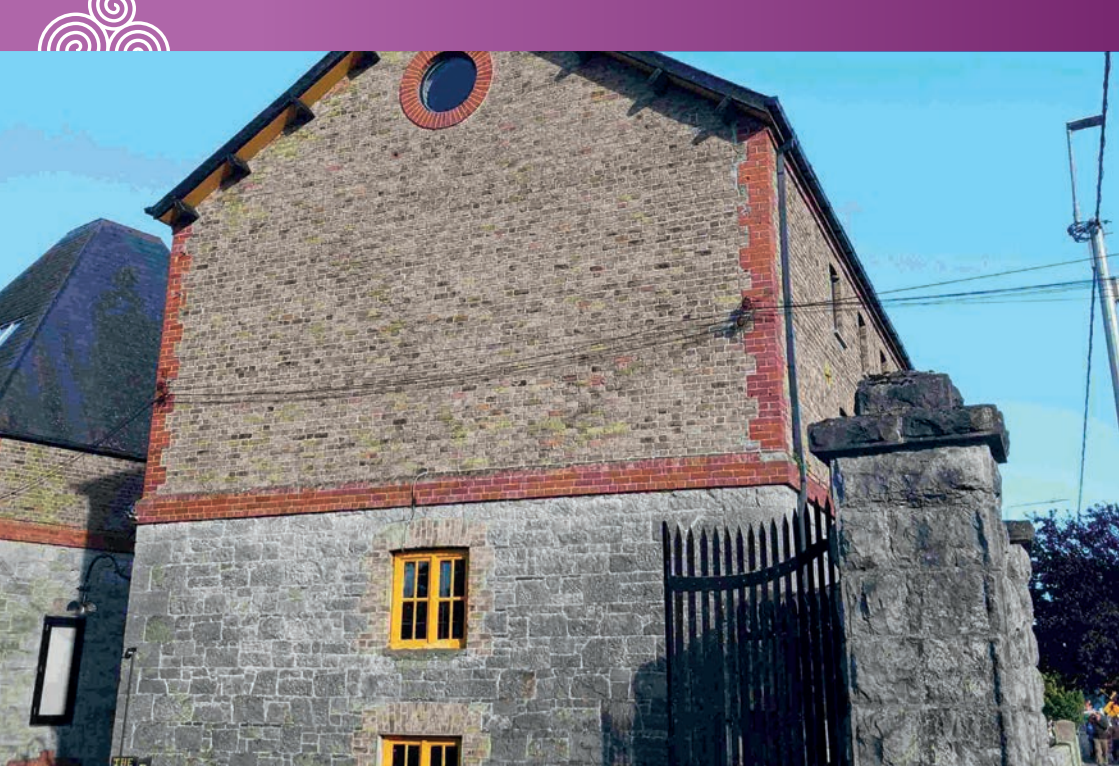
Join Sinead Holland, Laois Local Studies, for a presentation on how to use newspaper archives to research family, local and national history. Participants will be given a demonstration of the newspaper archives available in Laois Local Studies and library branches in Laois, including the Irish Newspaper Archive containing the Leinster Express, Laois Nationalist and many more regional and national Irish newspapers, and the British Newspaper Archive containing over 81 million historic newspaper pages held by the British Library. Places are limited. Booking essential.

**Organiser:** Portlaoise Library  
**Venue:** Portlaoise Library  
**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois  
**Eircode:** R32 N7EP  
**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 0578622333



**Booking Link:** [Newspapers](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 24th	11:00	12:30



A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

## Tour of the Malthouse, Stradbally



The Malt House in Stradbally is on a site where corn milling was first recorded in 1594. The oldest corn mill buildings on the site date from 1732 with the malting kilns and manager's house added around 1890. The latter have since been renovated as residential accommodation. The owner of the Malt House will be giving a free tour of the complex at 3 pm on Saturday, August 24th. The Malt House is a member of Historic Houses of Ireland.

Suitable for families. Gravel paths may be difficult for wheelchair users. Parking on the street.

**Organiser:** The Malt House, Stradbally, Co. Laois

**Venue:** The Malthouse

**Address:** Main Street, Stradbally

**Eircode:** R32 CY81

**Email:** glennbradshaw2004@yahoo.com

**Telephone:** 087 256 4357



**Booking Link:** [Hidden Portlaoise](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 24th	15:00	16:00



AN EXHIBITION EVENT OR DISPLAY

# Open Day at Dunamaise Apiary, Stradbally Hall, Co. Laois



Dunamaise Beekeepers are hosting an open day at their apiary on the Stradbally Hall Estate on Saturday August 24th from 11 am to 4 pm.

There will be an observation hive with glass walls through which visitors will be able to see the Queen and the bees at work. All of the bees in the hives are Native Irish Honey Bees as Dunamaise Beekeepers are working hard to ensure their survival and flourishing. There will also be a virtual hive set-up for demonstration purposes in addition to examples of the different kinds of honey made. This is a fantastic opportunity to learn more about both the ancient craft of beekeeping and the bees themselves from a group of passionate people! Stradbally Hall is proud member of the Historic Houses of Ireland.

**Organiser:** Dunamaise Beekeepers in association with Stradbally Hall

**Venue:** Dunamaise Apiary

**Address:** Timahoe Road, Stradbally, Co. Laois

**Email:** [dunamaisebees@gmail.com](mailto:dunamaisebees@gmail.com)

**Telephone:** 0877919215



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 24th	11:00	16:00

## Directions:

The entry to Dunamaise Apiary is located just outside Stradbally on the Timahoe Road. From Court Square in Stradbally, drive over the narrow bridge and continue straight along the Timahoe Road for approx. 1-1.5 kilometres. Heritage Week flags and signs will mark the entry to the Apiary on the right. Parking is limited.





A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR, A TRAINING EVENT OR WORKSHOP

# Discovering our Hidden Wildlife - Bats and Moths



Join Albert Nolan, Heritage in Schools Bat and Biodiversity specialist, in Portlaoise Library and discover the amazing world of bats and moths. These misunderstood creatures are a vital and fascinating part of our wildlife and play an important role in keeping our environment healthy. The first part of the workshop will take place in the library where we will learn about bats and moths, with some live specimens to be examined, followed by a walk outside to discover how we can help insects and bats in our community.

**Organiser:** Portlaoise Library

**Venue:** Portlaoise Library

**Address:** 23 Main Street, Portlaoise, Co. Laois

**Eircode:** R32 N7EP

**Email:** portlaoiselibrary@laoiscoco.ie

**Telephone:** 0578622333



**Booking Link:** [Discovering our Hidden Wildlife - Bats and Moths](#)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sat 17th	14:00	15:00



A GUIDED OR SPECIALIST TOUR

# Tour Round the Tower 2024



Laois PPN are delighted announce a “Tour Round the Tower 2024” Timahoe Round tower is one of the finest examples of a Round Tower in Ireland. The tour of the early Christian site at Timahoe with its 12th Century Round Tower will be led by local guide Local Guide Roghan Headen. Step back in time to learn how Timahoe Round Tower was a beacon for a once-thriving monastic community, and now proudly overlooks a peaceful village green. Founded by soldier-turned-saint Mo Chua, the Tower’s bells would both summon for prayer and sound the alarm following an era of regular Viking plunder. Following the “Tour Round the Tower 2024” there will be complimentary tea/ coffee and sweet treats for attendees at Timahoe Heritage Centre. To register your interest email [ppn@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:ppn@laoiscoco.ie) Laois PPN will contact successful applicants prior to the event.

**Organiser:** Laois PPN

**Venue:** Timahoe Road Tower

**Address:** Timahoe Village, Co. Laois

**Email:** [danbergin@laoiscoco.ie](mailto:danbergin@laoiscoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 0860352107



Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	12:00	13:15



A TALK, CONFERENCE, OR READING

# Talk on the History of Abbeyleix Stream



Abbeyleix Stream was once a vital part of trade in Abbeyleix up to the 1940s. The open stream (which ran down the main street) provided water for cattle on Fair days. Little or no information was available about the history of the stream. This talk will present recent research into the history of the stream that was undertaken to provide information to a new generation.

Followed by light refreshments.

Date	Start Time	End Time
Sun 25th	15:00	16:00

**Organiser:** Abbeyleix Tidy Towns  
**Venue:** Abbeyleix Stream  
**Address:** Abbeyleix, Co. Laois.

**Eircode:** R32AW62  
**Email:** marycwhite00@gmail.com  
**Telephone:** 087-9805378





A TALK, CONFERENCE OR READING

## Brigid in Bloom



'Brigid in Bloom' is a brand new one-day festival brought to you by former students of the class of 1990, Brigidine Convent to commemorate this Brigidine year and the 1500th anniversary of St. Bridget.

### Events include:

- 12 Noon – 2pm** Arts & Crafts Workshop
- 2pm – 4pm** Brigid in Bloom Gardening Clinic
- 4pm – 6pm** Creative Writing Workshop
- 6pm – 8pm** Brigid in Bloom Concert by Candlelight

All Events are FREE. However, places are strictly Limited. Advance booking essential.

**Organiser:** Students of the Class of 1990, Brigidine Convent

**Venue:** Bloom HQ

**Address:** Brigidine Convent, Unit 1, Patrick St, Mountrath, Co. Laois'

**Eircode:** R32 DT9F

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**FULLY BOOKED!**

For enquiries contact:

[1990restproject@gmail.com](mailto:1990restproject@gmail.com)

Date	Start Time	End Time
Fri 23rd	12:00	20:00

	<b>Saturday, 17 August 2024</b>	<b>Sunday, 18 August 2024</b>	<b>Monday, 19 August 2024</b>	<b>Tuesday, 20 August 2024</b>	<b>Wednesday, 21 August 2024</b>	
<b>Morning</b>	Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory			Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory	Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory  Irish Culture - Past & Present: LEGO Brick Workshop  Hands-on History - Making Medieval Ring Brooches Stradbally Library & Durrow Library  The life and Times of the Camross Poet "Patrick Ryan"	
<b>Afternoon</b>	Discovering our Hidden Wildlife - Bats and Moths	Emo Court - Gramophone Sunday	Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise  Genealogy Clinic	Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise  Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory  Genealogy Clinic	Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise  Emo Gardens - Free guided Tour  Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory  Irish Culture - Past & Present: LEGO Brick Workshop  Hands-on History - Making Medieval Ring Brooches Rathdowney Library  Genealogy Clinic	
<b>Evening</b>			Launch of Laois Cumann na mBan Exhibition  Talking About Trees: Abbeyleix	Michael Collins Ireland's Rebel Son Exhibition  Book Launch: Beneath the Sky of Stars	Farm walk at Ballykilcavan  Dereliction, Decay and Conservation - Saving Portarlinton's Historic Buildings  Michael Collins Ireland's Rebel Son Exhibition	
<b>All week</b>	Emo Court - Family Treasure Hunt (Daily; afternoons)  Emo Court - Guided Tours of the Ground Floor (Daily; mornings, afternoons)  Tours of Stradbally Hall (Daily; mornings)					



	Thursday, 22 August 2024	Friday, 23 August 2024	Saturday, 24 August 2024	Sunday, 25 August 2024
	<p>Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory</p> <p>Weaving Workshop Mountrath Library &amp; Abbeyleix Library</p>	<p>Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory</p> <p>Brigid in Bloom</p>	<p>Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory</p>	<p>Emo Court - Parklands Walking Tour</p>
	<p>Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise</p> <p>Emo Court - The People's College Choir Performance</p> <p>Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory</p> <p>Weaving Workshop Portarlinton Library</p> <p>Genealogy Clinic</p> <p>Guided Tour of the Rock of Dunamase</p> <p>Turas Treoraithe trí Ghaeilge ar Chúirt Emo. Irish language guided tour of Emo Court.</p>	<p>Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise</p> <p>Life in the Mountmellick Malt Factory</p> <p>Genealogy Clinic</p> <p>Brigid in Bloom</p>	<p>Tour of St. Peter's Church Portlaoise</p> <p>Emo Court - The People's College Choir Performance</p> <p>Newspapers as a Resource for Researching Family &amp; Local History</p> <p>Open Day at Dunamase Apiary, Stradbally Hall</p> <p>Tour of the Malthouse, Stradbally</p>	<p>Emo Court - Mezzo-Soprano Heather Fogarty &amp; pianist Gillian Daly</p> <p>Heritage Trains at the Stradbally Woodland Railway</p> <p>Tour of 15th Century Franciscan Abbey, Stradbally</p> <p>Tour Round the Tower 2024</p> <p>Talk on the History of Abbeyleix Stream</p>
	<p>Michael Collins Ireland's Rebel Son Exhibition</p> <p>Hidden Portlaoise: A Talk by John Dunne</p> <p>How Ireland Saved Motorsport</p>	<p>The life and Times of the Camross Poet "Patrick Ryan"</p> <p>Michael Collins Ireland's Rebel Son Exhibition</p> <p>The Little Delour River and Camross Biodiversity Action Plan- "The Connection"</p> <p>Brigid in Bloom</p>		



# Water Heritage Day

## Explore the Waterways of Ireland

### Sunday 25th August 2024



Our landscape is full of waterways and features. Many are obvious to us while some waterways are hidden from plain sight. Water Heritage Day on 25th August will celebrate the heritage and history connected to our magnificent rivers, lakes, and coastline and more. This water-themed day is organised through collaboration between the Heritage Council and the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO).

This National Heritage Week, you can get involved and explore your local water body. Discover its biodiversity, participate in events or in citizen science projects that record and monitor waterways in your locality.

Celebrate the theme of Living Heritage by exploring our interaction with water and the traditions associated with it.

Find Water Heritage Day events  
or projects in your community at  
[heritageweek.ie](https://heritageweek.ie)

Local Authority  
**waters** Programme 

vibrant communities | catchment assessment | healthy waters



# Thank you to all the National Heritage Week partners



## THE IRISH TIMES

