

# National Heritage Week

A Heritage Council programme



17th-25th August 2024

## Offaly Event Guide





# 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. 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

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## **A Message from Offaly Heritage Office**

Heritage Week is a wonderful opportunity to explore your county and get to see many sites and places that are not always open, or to see them with a guide to shed new light. This year there are 57 different events to choose from in Offaly! While the week is coordinated by the heritage team in Offaly County Council, the majority of the events are hosted by communities and owners who are keen to welcome you to explore their place. Over 55 of the events are free to attend. A huge thanks to all our event hosts, who make it all happen.

**SAT 17th AUGUST- SUN 25th AUGUST, 10am-2pm**

## BUILT HERITAGE **Guided tour of Birr Castle**

Enjoy a rare opportunity to visit the magnificent interior of Birr Castle, home to the Parsons family for over 400 years. Visit the five main reception rooms with their exquisite craftsmanship and vast art and artefact collection. Also hear about their incredible legacy including phenomenal achievements in science, astronomy, photography, engineering and botany. Following the guided tour, there will be free time to explore the Great Telescope, ILOFAR, the Science Centre and 120 acres of gardens and parklands.



**Organiser:** Birr Castle Demesne

**Venue:** Birr Castle Demesne,  
Rosse Row, Birr

**Email:** mail@birrcastle.com

**Telephone:** 05791-20336

 Eircode: R42 V027



Booking



**Open throughout Heritage Week, check Tullamore Library hours**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Threading Needles, Telling Stories Exhibition**

This exhibition presents twelve three-dimensional hand-sewn dolls made by the women of the Chatters and Matters Tullamore Traveller's Women's Shed. These dolls were made as part of 'Threading Needles, Telling Stories', a storytelling through doll-making project led by artist and doll-maker Teresa Doyle which was funded by Creative Ireland. The purpose of this project was to explore Traveller heritage and culture in a new way, with each doll serving as a vessel for participants to demonstrate and tell the stories of their Traveller experiences.




**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries

**Venue:** Tullamore Library

**Email:** tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie

**Telephone:** 05793-46832

 Eircode: R35 X226

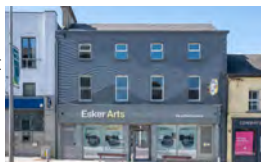


**SAT 17th AUGUST, 11am-12pm & 1pm-2pm**

**TUES 20th-SAT 24th AUGUST, 11am-12pm & 1pm-2pm**

## BUILT HERITAGE **Guided Tours of Esker Arts Centre**

Esker Arts is a state-of-the-art visual, performance and community arts centre in Tullamore Co. Offaly. We host visual art, theatre, film, workshops and much more. Esker Arts was previously the site of Kilroy's, a well-known hardware store in the town.




For National Heritage Week, the public will have access to the old part of the building where the Kilroy family once lived and which we plan to convert into artist studios.

**Organiser:** Esker Arts

**Venue:** Esker Arts

**Email:** marketing@eskerarts.ie

**Telephone:** 05793-83801

 Eircode: R35 NY50

FREE BOOK

**SAT 17th–SUN 18th AUGUST, 9am–6.30pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Open day at Clonmacnoise**



Free access to the remains of the ancient ecclesiastical site of Clonmacnoise founded by St Ciarán in the 6th century. The monastery flourished and became a great seat of learning, a university of its time with students from all over Europe. The ruins include the cathedral, two round towers and three high crosses.

The original high crossed including the Cross of the Scriptures are on display in a purpose-built visitor centre.

**Organiser:** OPW

**Venue:** Clonmacnoise Monastic Site

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

**Telephone:** 046-9422060



**SAT 17th AUGUST, 11am–12pm**

**SUN 18th AUGUST, 11.30am–12.30pm, 2pm–3pm & 5.30pm–6.30pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Carrigeen Farmhouse Tours**



The 2019 Heritage Hero Award winners are delighted to welcome visitors back to this uniquely surviving vernacular family home with a fantastic range of well-preserved fixtures and fittings each with their own story. The tour will feature bread making on the hearth.

**Organiser:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

**Venue:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

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

**Telephone:** 087-6989650



**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 12pm–3pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Open day at Charleville Castle**

Explore the beauty of Charleville Castle, admire its unique architectural detail, discover its ghosts and uncover its role in Peace with Tibet and the Conquest of Everest. The community-owned Charleville Castle Heritage Trust was formed in 1997, its story alone is remarkable and well worth hearing.


**Organiser:** Charleville Castle Heritage Trust

**Venue:** Charleville Castle, Tullamore

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

**Telephone:** 087-7664110

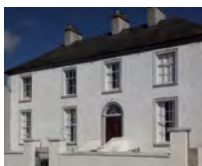


 Eircode: R35 RP77



**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 2-2.45pm, 3-3.45pm & 4-4.45pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Open day at St. Anne's, Kilcormac**




St. Anne's is a detached four-bay two-storey over basement house, built prior to 1809. Set back from the road but appearing to be overlooking the street over its half basement, this house forms a prominent feature in the streetscape of Kilcormac and is a fine example of a heritage property refurbished to new energy standards. Strictly bookings only

**Organiser:** Michael Hanna

**Venue:** St. Anne's, Main Street, Kilcormac

**Email:** michael.hanna4@gmail.com

 Eircode: R42 X316

**INDOOR** **FREE** **BOOK**

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 2pm-4pm**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE Explore the connections, routes, and networks of St. Carthage's Ancient Cemetery Rahan**

Cemeteries are spaces for reflection upon a loved one's life as well as the vanished lives of strangers whose only distinguishable legacies are their names births and death dates and a random inscription. Old cemeteries benefit the thriving environment and are often spaces where wildlife and archaeological features coexist harmoniously. Please join your host, Anna Orman, and quest speaker James Scully as we explore the connections, routes, and networks of an ancient church cemetery. Refreshments will be served after the event.



**Organiser:** Anna Orman

**Venue:** St. Carthage's Church, Rahan

**Email:** annaorman@yahoo.com

**Telephone:** 087-7095937

**PARKING** **INDOOR** **OUT DOOR** **FREE**

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 2pm-2.45pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Tour of Carrigeen Farmhouse in Irish**



Turas Treoraithe den theach trí Ghaeilge

**Organiser:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

**Venue:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

**Email:** annemaria.egan@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 087-6989650

**PARKING** **As Gaeilge** **As Gaeilge** **INDOOR** **FREE**

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 5.30pm-7.00pm**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE Carrigeen Farmhouse Traditional Music Evening**

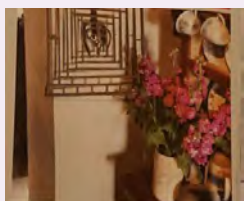
The 2019 Heritage Hero Award winners are delighted to welcome visitors back to this uniquely surviving vernacular family home. Everyone welcome to bring an instrument or song and join the craic agus ceol.

**Organiser:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

**Venue:** Carrigeen Farmhouse

**Email:** annemaria.egan@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 087-6989650



**PARKING** **As Gaeilge** **As Gaeilge** **INDOOR** **FREE**

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 5pm-6.30pm**

## BUILT HERITAGE **Industrial Heritage Walk Along Clara's Dickensian Mile**



A guided industrial heritage architectural tour of Clara's Dickensian Mile, an industrial heritage stretch along the Brosna River, once a hive of industry. The area between two industrial chimneys is awash with old mills, hydro engineering, mill races and dwellings that tell of the busiest industrial towns in Ireland. Clara is well served by train and the River Park is but a few minutes' walk from the station.


Accessible by train, five minutes walking distance from the station.

**Organiser:** Clara Heritage Society

**Venue:** River Park, Clara

**Email:** [claraheritagesociety@email.com](mailto:claraheritagesociety@email.com)

**Telephone:** 085-2534711

 Eircode: R35 F6K8



AUTISM FRIENDLY



OUT DOOR

FREE

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 7.15pm-8pm**

## BUILT HERITAGE **Lemanaghan Stories: Tales of Tradition, Routes and Connections**

Join us for a captivating evening at the historic old schoolhouse in Lemanaghan following the annual blessing of the graves in Lemanaghan Cemetery. This event will feature exclusive screenings of videos produced by Crannog Media, showcasing interviews with locals about the rich heritage and ongoing conservation efforts in Lemanaghan. The highlight of the screening will be the engaging conversations with renowned metal smith Kevin O'Dwyer and archaeologist Dr. Griffin Murray, authors of the acclaimed book "St. Manchan's Shrine - Art and Devotion in 12th Century Ireland." The screenings will be enriched with performances of local poetry and song, highlighting the deep routes and connections within our community. Light refreshments will be served. Don't miss this unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the vibrant history and culture of Lemanaghan. Event takes place in the Old School House Lemanaghan at 7.15pm. Mass at 6.30pm in the adjacent Lemanaghan Graveyard & Monastic Site.




**Organiser:** Lemanaghan Bog Heritage & Conservation Group

**Venue:** Lemanaghan Old School House, Lemanaghan, Ballycumber, Tullamore, Co. Offaly

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

**Telephone:** 086-3320269

 Eircode: R35 HR61



INDOOR

FREE

**SATURDAY 17th AUGUST, 7.30pm-9pm**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE Film '100 Years of Change' - Mabel Wallace**



As Mabel Wallace marked 100 years in 2023, local filmmaker Nicholas Ryan Purcell produced a feature-length documentary dedicated to her in '100 Years of Change.' As we approach Mabel's 101 celebration, Shinrone Heritage Group are delighted to host the documentary in Shinrone Community Centre, with Mabel attending on the evening, The evening


will provide us with a living link to an Ireland which is often now written about in modern history. As Mabel explains: ' I am excited to have the film showing in the village I was born, raised and lived my whole life in' Mabel was born in September 1923 and she was raised in Shinrone and has lived there all her married life. Her late husband Hume passed away in 2000. The documentary details many of Mabel's life experiences such as her memories of the first family car in 1930, cycling to Thurles races, travelling by horse and trap to Punchestown Races, when rural electrification first arrived in 1950s and the rationing of food during WWII. We invite you to this special evening which is free to all. Light refreshments afterwards.

**Organiser:** Shinrone Heritage Group

**Venue:** Shinrone Community Centre

**Email:** clareenhouse@hotmail.com

**Telephone:** 087-1015991

 Eircode: R42 Y620



**SUNDAY 18th AUGUST, 2pm-4pm**

**CULTURAL HERITAGE In the Footsteps of St. Brochan**

Bracknagh Heritage Society invites you to join us at the site of St Brochan's Monastery in Clonsannon. At the site of the monastery ruins we will hear of St Brochan's daily life and the work he undertook during his time here. We will learn about the Bullaun Stone, which is said to hold the cure for headaches. From here we will walk in his footsteps to the nearby site of St Brochan's Well, where this year the Bracknagh Heritage Society will be unveiling a new heritage information sign and poem dedicated to the life of St Brochan. Following in the steps of St Brochan, will be a day of information sharing and coming together as a community to celebrate our local saint and the rich heritage he has brought to the area.



Car parking will be available on the day.

**Organiser:** Bracknagh Heritage Society

**Venue:** Site of St Brochan's monastery ruins, Clonsast Upper, Bracknagh

**Email:** bracknaghheritagesociety@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 086-3750521



**SUNDAY 18th AUGUST, 3pm-6pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Visit to Durrow**

Site visit to Roman Catholic Cemetery, Church of Ireland Cemetery and former Protestant Church at Durrow built in 1880 and now a private residence. The visit is courtesy of the owner. This will be a conducted tour of the cemeteries and house. Meeting Durrow Roman Catholic Park.



**Organiser:** Offaly Heritage Centre

**Email:** [info@offalyhistory.com](mailto:info@offalyhistory.com)

**Telephone:** 057-9321421

 Eircode: R35 E924



INDOOR

OUT DOOR

FREE

**MONDAY 19th AUGUST, 10-10.45am, 11-11.45am & 12-12.45pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Visit No. 6 High Street, Tullamore**



No. 6 High Street, Tullamore, is one of the oldest continuously occupied period homes in Tullamore. The building's numerous occupants, including Saddlers, Judges, Lawyers, Doctors, Bankers and Shopkeepers represent in themselves a tapestry of the history of Tullamore's development throughout the ages.

**Venue:** No. 6 High Street House

**Email:** [No6HighStreet@gmail.com](mailto:No6HighStreet@gmail.com)

INDOOR

FREE

**MON 19th-WED 21st AUGUST, 11am-12pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Guided Historical Tour of Tullamore Courthouse**



Take a guided tour of Tullamore Courthouse and marvel at its architecture and history. As one of the most important public buildings within the town, this courthouse is a structure of merit, not simply for its impressive architectural design, but because it upholds historical and social significance to the people of Tullamore. The tour will take you around the building, pointing out its architectural features and you will hear about history over the years relating to the courthouse and some of its well-known trials.

**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** Tullamore Courthouse

**Email:** [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 086-0828313



FREE

BOOK



**MONDAY 19th AUGUST, 11am-12pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **Tour of Clonoghil Castle Excavations**

Birr Historical Society will host a visit to a research excavation at Clonoghil Castle, on the outskirts of Birr Town. This is being undertaken by the Irish Heritage School throughout July and August. Tour participants will get both a tour of the castle structure and surrounding earthwork. The site itself is on uneven ground, with no shelter or facilities, so participants should wear sturdy footwear (and possibly waterproofs).

**Organiser:** Birr Historical Society

**Venue:** Meet at the entrance gates to Syngefield. Park on the main road.

**Email:** secretary.birrhistoricalsociety@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 089-4276912



 Eircode: R42 AE79

*200m before house (the closest structure to the site). Note attendees have to strictly walk to the site. No parking is available on Syngefield Lane*

**OUT DOOR** **FREE**

**MON 19th-TUES 20th AUGUST, 3pm-4pm**

BUILT HERITAGE **Guided Tour of Tullynisk House**

Tullynisk House was built in about 1810 to the designs of Bernard Mullens for two younger sons of the Parsons family, of Birr Castle. Set in a demesne of magnificent oak trees, it is remarkable both for its architectural ingenuity and regularity. The tour will last




about an hour and will include a visit to the much earlier yard that was built as part of the original Woodfield House. Places limited, booking recommended. Cost €5 per person Please email clements888@gmail.com to book This tour is not suitable for those who find stairs difficult to manage or young children.

**Organiser:** Alicia Clements

**Venue:** Tullynisk House

**Email:** clements888@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 086-8167233

 Eircode: R42 KR89

 **PARKING**  **INDOOR**

**MONDAY 19th AUGUST, 7pm-8pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **American Dreams**



Join us for an illustrated introduction to the amazing story of Matthew (Ted) Guinan who as a nineteen-year-old left Geashill and emigrated to America in 1929. He would rise from the position of trolley operator on the New York transport system to

International President of the Transport Workers Union. He shared the political stage with American Presidents and Civil Rights leaders of the 1960s and 70s. Funded by Creative Ireland Community Grant Scheme 2024.

**Organiser:** Geashill Tidy Towns

**Venue:** The Old School (by The Green), Geashill

**Email:** pvmfoley@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 086-4664566

 **PARKING**  **INDOOR** **FREE**

**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 11am–12pm & 2pm–3pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Tour of Offaly Archives**



This is a guided tour of the Offaly Archives facilities, the home to collections of local history spanning over 400 years. It contains photographs, landed estate deeds, maps and ledgers. Two guided tours will take place at 11am and 2pm, booking is essential.


Please email [archivist@offalyhistory.com](mailto:archivist@offalyhistory.com) to secure your place.

**Organiser:** Offaly Archives

**Venue:** Offaly Archives,  
Unit 1F Axis Business Park, Tullamore

**Email:** [archivist@offalyhistory.com](mailto:archivist@offalyhistory.com)

**Telephone:** 057-9339013

 Eircode: R35 KF58



INDOOR

FREE

BOOK

**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 6pm–8pm**

## BUILT HERITAGE **Tour of Gloster House & Gardens**




Nestling at the foot of the Slieve Bloom Mountains is the stunningly beautiful and unique 300-year-old Gloster House. It is surrounded by extensive gardens incorporating terraces, water features, woodland and lakes. Gloster House is a magical place. Gloster House is referred to in many architectural and historical publications. The house has been extensively and sensitively restored in recent years, and has now retained its former glory. This tour will provide a unique insight. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL!**

**Organiser:** Tom Alexander

**Venue:** Gloster House, Brosna, Birr

**Email:** [alexander@glosterhouse.com](mailto:alexander@glosterhouse.com)

**Telephone:** 087-2342135

 Eircode: R42 CHO2



INDOOR

FREE

BOOK

**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 6.30pm–7.30pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Midland Tunes in Harmony**



Midlands Tunes in Harmony “Midland Strings”, an adult amateur string ensemble based in Tullamore are playing a few traditional tunes linked to the Midlands and especially Offaly in the Tullamore Library during Heritage week. For more information, please write to [majahurley@gmail.com](mailto:majahurley@gmail.com)

**Organiser:** Midland Strings

**Venue:** Tullamore Library

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

**Telephone:** 087-6288115



AUTISM FRIENDLY



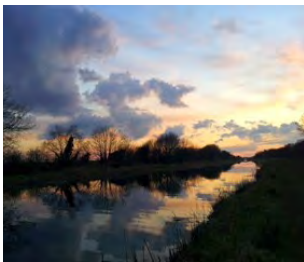
FREE

INDOOR

**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 6pm–7.15pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **All Along the Banks Talk**

This presentation celebrates the many cultural associations that the Grand Canal in Offaly has, be they literary, musical or artistic. The talk will be in the form of a miscellany with readings from the writings of Jim Brennan of Daingean, Brian O’Nolan aka Flann O’Brien, Michael Hensey, late of Tullamore, John Doyle of Ferbane and many others, and music composed by Paddy O’ Brien of Daingean, Frank Kelly, James Lynam Molloy and others. James Scully of Offaly History will narrate the presentation and will be joined by talented musicians Siobhán Godley, (flute), Aidan Barry, (guitar) and Frank Kelly (accordion). Booking is required, please contact Tullamore Library.





**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries

**Venue:** Tullamore Library

**Email:** [tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie](mailto:tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 05793-46832

 Eircode: R35 X226

	 PARKING	AUTISM FRIENDLY	
INDOOR	FREE	BOOK	

**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 7.30pm–9pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **A Celebration of Traditional Craft in Offaly - Past and Present**

This evening will feature films from the National Museum of Ireland collection and two new films from 2024 featuring the tradition of basket making and ‘God in a Bottle’. There will be an exhibition of panels highlighting aspects of Traditional Architecture in Offaly by Rachel McKenna, architect with Offaly County Council. In partnership with the National Museum of Ireland 3 short films will be shown from Offaly which are cared for in the archives of the



Irish Film Institute. They include - Building a load of hay on a cart - featuring Bill Egan, Clonfinlough, County Offaly, October 1968; Making a Straw rope featuring the Folklore Collector, Jim Delaney and Bill Egan circa 1968; making a wooden bird crib featuring Bill Egan Clonfinlough, 1969 and making a clothes basket featuring Ciaran D’Arcy Clonascra, 1980.

The two new films feature basket maker Pdraig Larkin of Cloghan and the story of God in a Bottle in Offaly - both filmed by Mixed Bag Media and funded by OLDC and the Heritage Council respectively.

Please book your seat with Esker Arts Centre.

**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** Esker Arts Centre

**Email:** [heritage@offalycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 057-9383801

 Eircode: R35 NY50

	 PARKING		INDOOR	FREE	BOOK
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Booking



**TUESDAY 20th AUGUST, 6pm-8pm**

## NATURAL HERITAGE **Doorey Wood Guided Walk**



Join us for a guided walk of Clara Esker Ballinough Doorey Loop. Discover how to identify different species, understand their ecology, and the importance of trees in myths and culture today. Led by Clara Bog Nature Reserve NPWS Education staff. Booking essential.

**Organiser:** Clara Bog Nature Reserve and Visitor Centre

**Venue:** Clara Esker Ballinough Doorey Loop

**Email:** [claraguides@npws.gov.ie](mailto:claraguides@npws.gov.ie)

**Telephone:** 05793-68878

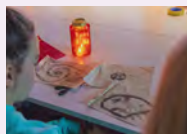


**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 11.30am-12.30pm & 1pm-2pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Whirlpool Workshop at Birr Castle Demesne**

On the 21 August, the Astronomical Observatories of Ireland welcome you to Birr Castle Demesne for workshops linking our astronomical heritage. Whirlpool Workshops are suitable for children aged 8 to 13 years. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

This is a FREE workshop and both children and adults must have tickets to attend. A maximum of 2 adults can attend with a child. Each workshop will combine information on our astronomical heritage and modern research with arts activities linking to the research conducted with the Great Telescope, still located on site. Participants will be welcome to take their artwork home after the workshop. Supported by Offaly County Council's Creative Ireland programme."



**Organiser:** Birr Castle Demesne

**Address:** Rosse Row, Birr, Co. Offaly

**Email:** [mail@birrcastle.com](mailto:mail@birrcastle.com)

**Telephone:** 0579120336

Booking



**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 2pm-4pm**

## NATURAL HERITAGE **Tour of RHSI Bellefield House and Gardens**



Join us for a guided tour of Bellefield House with head gardener, Paul Smyth. We will start with a walk through the house, which includes an extensive gardening library, followed by a tour outside to explore the 2-acre walled garden and outbuildings which was created by the late Angela Jupe. Angela bequeathed the house and gardens to the RHSI with the hope it would become a training garden where students and the public will learn the practical skills of horticulture. Spaces are limited and booking is essential for the complete tour. Plant sales will be available on the day. Please book on our website or email [bellefield@rhsi.ie](mailto:bellefield@rhsi.ie) to book a space. Entry is €10 per person

**Organiser:** RHSI Bellefield

**Address:** Shinrone, Birr, Co Offaly

**Email:** [bellefield@rhsi.ie](mailto:bellefield@rhsi.ie)

**Telephone:** 083-8250647



**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 3pm-4pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Tour of Birr Masonic Lodge**

St Brendan's Masonic Lodge is one of the oldest Lodges in Ireland. St Brendan's Lodge No 163 received its warrant on the 17th July 1747. The present Masonic Hall was formerly a Quaker Meeting House which had been built in 1858 on the corner of Green Street and Rosse Row, but following a decline in congregation numbers it was put up for sale in 1911. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL!!**



**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** St. Brendan's Masonic Lodge, Rosse Row, Birr

**Email:** [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 086-0828313



**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 5pm-6.30pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Conservation Tour of Birr**



This walking tour will visit two important sites in Birr, which Birr 20|20 Vision and Offaly County Council are currently striving to conserve or restore. The tour begins at the site of 'Old' St Brendan's Church, one of only three extant medieval monuments in the town. Following the 1620 Plantation of Ely O'Carroll the Parsons family became patrons of St. Brendan's parish church, and their family mausoleum remains attached to the southern wall of the medieval ruins. Birr 20|20 recently received grant support from the Heritage Council to conserve the roof of this important mausoleum.

The tour will then move to Birr Courthouse, taking in St Brendan's early nineteenth century Church or Ireland on route, as it contains original features from the older medieval church. Since 2015 Birr 20|20 Vision has been actively looking for possible future uses of this fine early nineteenth century courthouse, where the last court was held in 2013. Working with Offaly County Council and others there have been many successes in this project, including the recent award of €80,000 funding from the Heritage Council to take a 'Creative Court' project through planning.

This is a walking tour, with no parking available at the meeting location. All attendees are encouraged to arrive 'on foot'.

**Organiser:** Birr 20|20 Vision

**Venue:** Old St Brendan's Church (beside Spinners Restaurant)

**Email:** [info@birr](mailto:info@birr)

**Telephone:** 089-4276912



**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 6.30pm–7.30pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **The Great Famine in the Edenderry Area**



Using the theme of Heritage Week, “Connections, Routes and Networks”, this talk will explore how we can use archives to connect with stories from the past. In this talk Ciaran Reilly will explain how recently discovered archives shed light on the impact of the Great Famine in the Edenderry and Rhode area.


Dr Ciarán Reilly is an historian of 19th & 20th Century Irish History based at the Department of History, Maynooth University. Booking is required, please contact Edenderry Library directly on 046 9731028 or edenderrylibrary@offalycoco.ie

**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries

**Venue:** Edenderry Library

**Email:** edenderrylibrary@offalycoco.ie

**Telephone:** 04697-31028

 Eircode: R45 RX48



**WEDNESDAY 21st AUGUST, 6m–7pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Photography Workshop**

Jeff Harvey, a local professional photographer, will lead an interactive presentation, which aims to demonstrate how to preserve and archive your photographs – both digital, and the old-fashioned printed version.

Book with Clara Library on 05793 31389 or claralibrary@offalycoco.ie


**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries

**Venue:** Clara Library, Ballycumber Road, Clara

**Email:** claralibrary@offalycoco.ie

**Telephone:** 05793-31389



 Eircode: R35 NW63



**WED 21st AUGUST, 7pm–9pm • SAT 24th AUGUST, 3pm–4.30pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Daingean's Heritage Trail**




Daingean goes Live! QR codes videos bring Daingean's history to life. Join us at Daingean Town Hall on Wednesday 21st August at 7.00pm or Saturday 24th August at 3.00pm. From here we will take a leisurely walk around the town and visit many of our noted historical sites. You will be treated to a short video of each site while you are at the location. This is possible through the installation of QR codes that can be read by your phone and will allow the video to play on your phone. There are 12 sites that have QR code and videos with information. These QR codes are permanently installed and can be viewed at any time. The Heritage Week event offers a unique opportunity for you to share this historical stroll around Daingean with others on our Heritage Trail.

**Organiser:** Daingean Development Association

**Venue:** Daingean Town Hall

**Email:** daingean tidy towns@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 086-2620680

 Eircode: R35 W027



**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 10am-11am**

**BUILT HERITAGE The Crotty Schism - A Brief History**



A look back at the Ireland of 1820 to 1850, when the people of Birr took part in the largest ever Schism in the Catholic Church and 99% of Birr Catholics changed their religion. Advance registration by email required.

**Organiser:** Aoife Crotty

**Venue:** Crotty's Church and Malt Store

**Email:** crottyscoownership@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 086-3286277



**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 10.30am-12.30pm**

**NATURAL HERITAGE Step Into Nature**

Explore the site which has been the inspiration for Rachel McKenna's forthcoming book 'Step Into Nature' for a slow meander through the cutover bog. This bog known locally as 'The Cranberry Bog' has a rich biodiversity which has been the source of so many observations for insects, butterflies and moths which feature in Rachel's publication. Booking Essential. Book with heritage@offalycoco.ie.



**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** Noggus (Cranberry) Bog on the R437 (Ferbane to Lumcloon Road) 1.6km south of the Grand Canal bridge at Gallen)

**Email:** heritage@offalycoco.ie

**Telephone:** 086-8530350



**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 11am-12pm & 2pm-3pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Tour of Loughton House**



Welcome to one of Ireland's finest historic Georgian residences and gardens. Loughton House was built in 1777. Impressive structural additions were completed in 1853 by the renowned architects, James & George Pain. The house is set in one hundred acres of park and woodland.

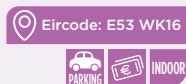
Booking essential. Adults €5 | Concessions: OAP/School-goers €4 | Family Group €10.

**Organiser:** Dr. Michael Lyons

**Venue:** Loughton House, Moneygall

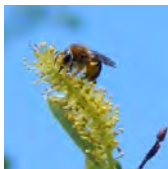
**Email:** loughtonhouseireland@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 089-4319150



**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 11am–12pm**

**NATURAL HERITAGE Pollinator Workshop for Children**



A pollinator workshop aimed for children, eight years old and above. Workshop consists of an interactive presentation where children become beekeepers with an educational honeybee. Exploring elements including hive pollen, handling beekeeping equipment and the opportunity to taste local honey.

**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries  
**Venue:** Tullamore Library  
**Email:** tullamorelibrary@offalycoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 05793-46832

 Eircode: R35 X226

	 PARKING		AUTISM FRIENDLY
		INDOOR	FREE

**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 1pm–2pm**

**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries  
**Venue:** Daingean Library  
**Email:** daingeanlibrary@offalycoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 05793-53005

 Eircode: R35 V6P5

	 PARKING		AUTISM FRIENDLY
		INDOOR	FREE

**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 3pm–4pm**

**Organiser:** Offaly Libraries  
**Venue:** Edenderry Library  
**Email:** edenderrylibrary@offalycoco.ie  
**Telephone:** 04697-31028

 Eircode: R45 RX48

	 PARKING		AUTISM FRIENDLY
		INDOOR	FREE

**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 6pm–7.30pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE 'Offaly's Vernacular Heritage and how the State is Helping' by Dr Barry O'Reilly**



'Offaly's Vernacular Heritage and how the State is Helping' by Dr Barry O'Reilly, Architectural Conservation Advisor, National Inventory of Architectural Heritage, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Offaly has a rich heritage of vernacular buildings, in country and in town. The county displays a pleasant variety in the materials, techniques and forms that make up these traditionally-inspired buildings. Caring for this heritage involves cooperation between owners, craftspeople, the local authority and the State. This talk will provide a picture of Offaly's vernacular heritage and an update on what the State is doing to help. Dr Barry O'Reilly studied archaeology and folklore/folklife in UCD and has been enthusing about our built vernacular heritage and allied topics ever since.

**Organiser:** Irish Georgian Society & the IGS Birr Chapter & Offaly County Council  
**Venue:** John's Hall, John's Mall, Birr.  
**Email:** emmeline.henderson@igs.ie  
**Telephone:** 01-6798675

 Eircode: R42 Y927

		INDOOR	FREE
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Booking



Register





**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 8pm-10pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **Recalling the IRA attack on Clara Barracks on 2 June 1920**

A unique event exploring this incident, its aftermath, and the impact on the town of Clara and surrounding area. Talk will take place in the actual building attacked on that night 104 years ago. Please join Clara Heritage Society and local historians Tara McGrath, Aidan Doyle, Larry Fleming and Pat McLoughlin who will use a mix of documented history and local oral history to bring to you the story of that night and parties involved.



**Organiser:** Clara Heritage Society  
**Venue:** The Mill House, (Former RIC Barracks)  
River Street, Clara, Co. Offaly  
**Email:** claraheritagesociety@email.com  
**Telephone:** 085-2534711

Booking



**THURSDAY 22nd AUGUST, 8.30pm-10.30pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Bat Walk - Syngefield, Birr**



Join bat experts at Syngefield Demesne, Birr to discover the wonder of these amazing nocturnal creatures. Learn how to use a bat detector, observe bats and listen to their echolocation calls whilst taking a short walk around the beautiful Syngefield Demesne managed by Offaly County Council for biodiversity.

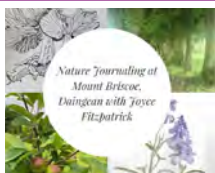
**Organiser:** Offaly County Council  
**Venue:** Park and meet outside  
Atkins Farm Machinery  
Syngefield Industrial Estate  
**Email:** biodiversity@offalycoco.ie



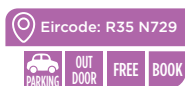
**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST, 10am-1pm & 2pm-5pm**  
**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 10am-1pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Nature Journaling at Mount Briscoe**

Explore the enriching world of nature journaling at Mount Briscoe, Daingean with Joyce Fitzpatrick, nature therapist, trainer and botanical journalist on a nature journaling workshop. Discover fresh and interesting ways to increase your curiosity and develop a calm and compassionate awareness of the natural world where you will be guided through note taking, sketching and photography to develop your creativity and experience joy in the everyday. For further information, see Joyce's website, [www.inspiredbynature.ie](http://www.inspiredbynature.ie) Places are limited. To secure your place, please contact Karen Gray, [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie) or 086-0828313



**Organiser:** Offaly County Council  
**Venue:** Mount Briscoe, Mullalough, Daingean  
**Email:** [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie)  
**Telephone:** 086-0828313



**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST, 10am–4pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Eskers of Birr Revisited**



Booking Required with [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie). Places are limited. John Feehan will give an introductory talk and a guided tour of a number of sites around Birr examining eskers.

Recent research and new techniques are helping us to understand the formation of eskers in more detail and get a clearer understanding of the formation of the landscape.

Book directly with [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie). Places are limited. Bring robust clothing and footwear, snacks, lunch, suncream and coats! The tour will be on a bus to three sites so you need to sign up for the day.

**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** Bus collection point in Tullamore and Birr. John's Place

**Email:** [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 086-8530350



**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST, 2.30pm–4.30pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Explore the sculptures of Lough Boora Discovery Park**

It is over 20 years since the first sculptures were commissioned at Lough Boora. In 2024 a programme of works has commenced to care for this significant collection. Sculptor Michael Burke is guiding this process and will lead a walk to key sculptures to give an insight into what is taking place. The walk will be around two hours at a reasonable pace –



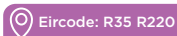
do wear comfortable footwear and appropriate clothing for the weather and bring light refreshments. This project is part funded by Creative Ireland, Bord na Móna and Offaly County Council. Meet at the Visitor Centre adjacent to the free car park.

**Organiser:** Lough Boora Discovery Park

**Venue:** Lough Boora Discovery Park Visitor Centre

**Email:** [info@loughboora.com](mailto:info@loughboora.com)

**Telephone:** 05793-40010 or 087-9904234



**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST, 6pm–8.30pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Photography Walk at Killaun Bog with Tina Claffey**



Tina Claffey, author of photography book 'Portal', has gained much inspiration at Killaun Bog near Birr. She will lead a walk for a small number of photographers who would like to explore this site through Tina's macro lens perspective. This event is supported by Creative Ireland.

**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** To be emailed once you are booked

**Email:** [kgray@offalycoco.ie](mailto:kgray@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 086-0828313



**FRIDAY 23rd AUGUST, 7.30pm–9.30pm**

## CULTURAL HERITAGE **Unstitching the 17th Century Shinrone Gown**



It is the Spring of 1843 and workmen outside Shinrone Village happen upon a dark woollen dress buried in peat. By May of that year, the Gown's importance was realised. Today, the dress is recognised as an early 17th C example and a unique survivor. Some four hundred years later, 'Unstitching the 17th Century Shinrone Gown' is a celebration of this unique part of our social and material culture here in South Offaly. SHG has commissioned a historically correct replica of the Shinrone Gown based on a technical examination of the original in the National Museum of Ireland. Working with artist Rosalind Fanning, seamstress Bernie Stapleton, and Irish medieval costume


historian Kass McGann; the finished Gown will be placed in the village's school museum. Join us as Kass, Rosalind and Bernie explore the story of the Shinrone Gown, its historical context, and the journey of creating this replica. And to add to the evening, Janet White-Spinner and friends will be demonstrating traditional spinning and weaving and are keen for the public to have a go themselves.

**Organiser:** Shinrone Heritage Group

**Venue:** Shinrone Community Centre

**Email:** [clarehouse@hotmail.com](mailto:clarehouse@hotmail.com)

**Telephone:** 087-1015991

 Eircode: R42 Y620



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 8am–12pm**

## NATURAL HERITAGE **Meet Marvellous Moths in a Heritage Setting**

Experience the marvelous world of moths and discover the wonderful diversity of these beautiful nocturnal creatures. Fancroft Mill hosts a visit from moth expert Philip Strickland and Offaly biodiversity officer Ricky Whelan who will involve visitors in the opening of moth traps (following their operation overnight). Having identified the night's catch, the moths are then carefully released. A complimentary simple breakfast fare will be served followed by a guided tour of the award winning Fancroft Mill complex. There will also be an opportunity to explore the extensive gardens at Fancroft. This event is suitable for those interested in nature and wildlife, who are curious about moths and moth trapping and who value an opportunity to view this uniquely conserved industrial heritage site.

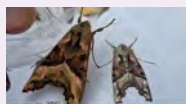
**BOOKING ESSENTIAL.**

**Organiser:** Fancroft Mill

**Venue:** Fancroft Mill, Roscrea

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

**Telephone:** 0505-31484



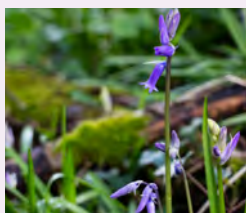
Marvellous Moths at Fancroft!



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 10.30am–1.30pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Native Woodland Wander with Native Woodland Trust at Forelacka Reserve**

A woodland wander to showcase Irish natural heritage. Join the Native Woodland Trust for a visit to their Forelacka-Camcor nature reserve near Kinnitty. An old riparian native woodland that hugs the pristine Camcor river, and which is being assisted to expand for the first time in generations! You'll learn more about our hedgerows, native woodlands, and the plants and animals that make them so special. Bring Hiking / boots, warm and waterproof clothing in layers. Plenty of water, snacks and a packed lunch. Any medications you might require on your person. Tea, coffee and biscuits provided. If you have a reusable coffee cup, please bring this along with you to save on waste. The event is open to families, however, please note there will be a 15 minute walk to and from the site that is on tar road.



**Organiser:** Native Woodland Trust  
**Venue:** Kinnitty Looped Walks Trailhead, Cumber, Co. Offaly  
**Email:** [jeremy.casey@nativewoodlandtrust.ie](mailto:jeremy.casey@nativewoodlandtrust.ie)  
**Telephone:** 087-1953629



Booking



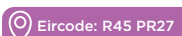
**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 2pm–4pm**

BUILT HERITAGE **Visit Ballybrittan Castle**



Ballybrittan Castle is a cluster of buildings of which the oldest is the now semi-ruined tower or keep from which the property takes its name with an adjacent 18th century house. The earliest records relating to the property date from in or about the Tudor Plantation of Laois and Offaly in the middle of the 16th Century. Book for a guided tour. Booking essential!

**Organiser:** Rosemarie Manning  
**Venue:** Ballybrittan Castle, Edenderry  
**Email:** [rosemariamanning@gmail.com](mailto:rosemariamanning@gmail.com)



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 2pm–3pm**

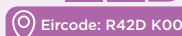
BUILT HERITAGE **Tour of Cangort Park House**



A period property being brought back to life. Designed by Richard Morrison for William Trench and completed c1807, Cangort Park House is an important part of our national built heritage. Currently undergoing an extensive and sympathetic restoration to return it to its former glory. Join us as

we welcome you inside our family home to chat about its features, the extensive restoration processes and work we have encountered to date and our plans for further works!

**Organiser:** Elaine Smyth  
**Venue:** Cangort Park House  
**Address:** Cangort Park, Shinrone, Birr, Co Offaly  
**Email:** [cangortparkhouse@gmail.com](mailto:cangortparkhouse@gmail.com)



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 4.30pm-6.30pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **Brosna River Literary & Music**



Language and the spoken word play a major role in connecting all of us, and The Brosna River Literary & Music Festival focuses greatly on the spoken word through the telling of stories and reciting of poems. Music also has the capacity to draw people together, and our musicians Ros & Fraser with their interesting twist on Irish music, along with local singers, will liven the event. The festival will once again take place in the magnificent tree-lined auditorium, on the banks of the Brosna River, at Clara House Estate. There will be art and music workshops

for children prior to the event. This is an immersive outdoor experience, with cover from the elements provided and seating is available. The event is part of the Cross Community Brosna River Relay Initiative, organized by the Clara Heritage Society in Partnership with Clara Tidy Towns & Chamber of Commerce. The festival is accessible by rail, a 5min walk from the station. If you have extra mobility needs, please contact [claraheritagesociety@email.com](mailto:claraheritagesociety@email.com) or phone 0852534711 to ensure that accommodation is in place.

**Organiser:** Clara Heritage Society  
**Venue:** Clara House Estate, Bridge Street  
**Email:** [claraheritagesociety@email.com](mailto:claraheritagesociety@email.com)  
**Telephone:** 085-2534711



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 5pm-6.30pm**

BUILT HERITAGE **Launch of Geashill Village History & Heritage Centre**



Geashill village located in Co. Offaly has over a thousand years of history and boasts spectacular architectural and natural heritage. The estate style village was recently the winner of the All-Ireland Tidy Towns competition. Over the past year several local historians have contributed articles for the Geashill History and Heritage Centre which is being launched during Heritage Week 2024. The launch will include talks and an audio-visual tour of the history and heritage display recently erected within the old school building.

**Organiser:** Clemens von Ow  
**Venue:** Geashill Old School  
**Email:** [clemens@raheenbeg.com](mailto:clemens@raheenbeg.com)  
**Telephone:** 087-8360187



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 5pm-6pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE Tour of Bully's Acre  
Burial Ground in Birr Town**

Historian Stephen Callaghan will lead a tour of Bully's Acre burial ground on Gallows Hill in Birr Town, hosted by Offaly County Council with Birr Historical Society. Bully's Acre or 'new churchyard' as it was first known, was the solution to the overcrowding of the old site of St Brendan's graveyard in Birr. This burial ground opened around the same time that Birr Barracks was completed, circa 1812, with the intention that soldiers would also be buried here. The cemetery eventually went into a state of neglect and by the 1850s it was noted as a haunt for 'undesirables' of the town. This is an old burial ground in the heart of Birr - it is very rough and uneven. Please wear suitable outdoor footwear and be prepared for the terrain. There is no immediate parking but park in Birr town and allow time to walk up (5 minutes from County Arms/Tesco)



**Organiser:** Offaly County Council with Birr Historical Society

**Venue:** Entrance Gates to Bully's Acre, Drumbane

**Email:** [heritage@offalycoco.ie](mailto:heritage@offalycoco.ie)

**Telephone:** 086-8530350



**SATURDAY 24th AUGUST, 7.30am-8.30pm**

**BUILT HERITAGE 'A Grave Story' - The memorials of  
St. Mary's Church of Ireland, Shinrone.**

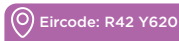
'No matter one's station in life, the Dance of Death unites all.' Join historian Stephen Callaghan for an illustrated talk on St Mary's Church of Ireland memorial recording project. This project has been generously funded by the Heritage Council.

**Organiser:** Shinrone Heritage Group

**Venue:** Shinrone Community Centre

**Email:** [clarehouse@hotmail.com](mailto:clarehouse@hotmail.com)

**Telephone:** 087-1015991



**SUNDAY 25th AUGUST, 2.00pm-7.00pm**

## NATURAL HERITAGE **Folly tales and treasure trails**

The connection between Clara, Ballycumber, Pollagh and Ferbane is the river Brosna which flows through each of the communities. In each community there is a bridge that sees many travellers and locals traverse daily. We will be hosting a few inclusive art workshops with groups of children, children with disabilities (Bellair Unit Boher) and a group from St Hildas in Ferbane (mild, moderate and severe intellectual disabilities). A local artist Tara who runs art therapy workshops will use the workshops to get inspiration to design a flag that will be flown at all the bridges in the above communities to remind us of our connectivity every time that we pass over the bridges.



### **Kids Event Sunday 25th of August 2pm - 4pm approx.**

• Foraging workshop. • Treasure hunt. • Art Exhibition. • Flag presentations – special award presentation. • Refreshments. On the day we have organized a workshop with Siobhan Lavell from Coole Eco Community – Siobhan is a qualified horticulturist and will be hosting a river biodiversity foraging walk and making herbal teas on the way.

### **Adult event Sunday 25th of August 5pm - 7pm approx.**

The evening event will be full of songs, poetry, recitation and music. The event will also feature artists from Clara, Ballycumber, Pollagh and Ferbane to tie in with the theme: “Connections, Routes & Networks” – Links between communities – What brings us together.

**Organiser:** Ballycumber Tidy Towns and Freshwater Ballycumber Brosna

**Venue:** Ballycumber Bridge

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

**Telephone:** 089-4048200



For more information about all events in this brochure please visit [heritageweek.ie](http://heritageweek.ie)

**SUNDAY 25th AUGUST, 3pm–4pm**

CULTURAL HERITAGE **Walking tour and talk  
at Liss cemetery**

Boher-Liss Cemetery Group will lead a walking tour of the burial ground at Liss cemetery (R35 Y306) located just outside Ballycumber, which will include a talk on the history of the burial ground including some of the headstones and background to the conservation of the entrance railings which is being supported by the Heritage Council in 2024. Please wear suitable outdoor footwear and be prepared for the terrain which may be uneven in places. As there is limited parking at the cemetery, parking will be provided across the road. Please allow time to walk back to the cemetery.




Refreshments will be provided in Ballycumber village after the tour ahead of the evening's Heritage Week activities in the village, which start at 5pm.

**Organiser:** Angela Kelly

**Venue:** Liss Cemetery, Ballycumber

**Email:** boherlissgroup@gmail.com

**Telephone:** 087-7788431

 Eircode: R35 Y306



**SUNDAY 25th AUGUST, 8.30pm–10pm**

NATURAL HERITAGE **Bird Ringing (Swallows)  
at Pallas Lake**




Join experienced bird ringer Declan Manley at Pallas Lake to observe bird ringing in practice. The birds roost communally in the reedbed at Pallas Lake before returning to Africa for the winter, this gives an opportunity to safely catch and ring the birds (before safely releasing) allowing for biological data to be collected giving us a further understanding of their ecology and migration. Bird ringing is conducted under license from The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS).

**Organiser:** Offaly County Council

**Venue:** Pallas Lake

**Email:** biodiversity@offalycoco.ie

 Eircode: R35 NT93



**DISCLAIMER**

All events in this guide have been arranged by the individual promoters. Responsibility for all aspects of the events listed lies with the individual promoters. Details of the individual events should be verified in advance of visits by contacting the promoter. For all outdoor events please be mindful of Health and Safety issues, the weather and the ground conditions. Wear appropriate footwear and clothing. Stay with the group at all times. Children are the responsibility of the parent/guardian and must be accompanied at all events unless otherwise indicated. Please be aware that photography and video may be taking place at all events during Heritage Week for media and marketing purposes. We advise checking with the event promoter if the weather is variable.



# 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)**

# 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



**OPW**

Oifig na  
nOibreacha Poiblí  
Office of Public Works



**Comhairle Chontae Uíbh Fhailí**  
Offaly County Council

This brochure was compiled by the Offaly Heritage Office in Offaly County Council with events registered by 14 July 2024.

### **WWW.HERITAGEWEEK.IE**

Please check our website searching under 'What's On - Offaly' for any new postings since going to press.

### **OFFALY HERITAGE FACEBOOK PAGE**

See for updates. **f**

### **HERITAGE@OFFALYCOCO.IE**

Email us with any queries.

For event listings visit  
**heritageweek.ie**



**National  
Heritage Week**

A **Heritage Council** programme