

The Local Authority Public Library Service

Association of Irish Local
Government

Letterkenny

14 May 2016

Public Libraries

- The ethos of the public library is to serve the people and the community, through its civic presence and provision of information, learning and culture.
- The library provides a safe, democratic space, integrated into the local community and accessible to all.

Wider national & local policies & plans



Public Libraries Overview

Public libraries provide a wide range of services both physical and virtual, including:

- print and digital lending material,
- reader development advice,
- internet access and support,
- information and reference resources
- guidance, learning and e-learning activities
- literacy support
- cultural promotion
- community development.

Public Libraries Overview

- 30 library authorities.
- 336 branch libraries and 30 mobile libraries.
- Local Authorities spent €129.3 million on library services in 2013.
- There were 17.6 million visits made to public libraries in 2015, an increase of 4% from 2013.
- There were 902,245 members of the public library service in 2015, an increase of 6.8% on 2013. This amounts to 19.46% of the population.

Public Libraries Overview

- Local Authorities spent €7.7 million on stock in 2013, an average of €1.68 per capita. The national standards and benchmarks per capita stock fund target is €3.77.
- There were 18.4 million books, audio books, CDs and DVDs borrowed from public libraries in 2015, a decrease of 5.13% from 2013.
- 40% of the books borrowed by adults in 2013 were non-fiction books.
- There were 2.3 million Internet sessions provided on 2,000 Internet access PCs and via free Wi-Fi in 2013.

www.libraries.ie

Ask about Ireland

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Reading Room

Explore the exciting content of Ireland's past and present



Libraries

Discover your local library and lots of local information about your area



Learning Zone

Enter the Learning Zone for Primary and Secondary students. Learn through discovery, interaction and fun



Your national site for environmental information, sustainable living, growing your own and much more

Search



Thousands of articles, images, maps, audio tracks, ebooks, videos...



100%

International surveys

- Carnegie UK Trust 2012 survey on public perception of the value of the public library in England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland.
- Republic of Ireland scored highest, with 79% of those polled saying the public library was “very important” or “essential” to communities.

International surveys

- In the Citizen's Survey entitled "Ireland's Vital Signs 2013" libraries and reading were placed 5th out of 119 options, regarded by the public as being most important to them.
- Getting around, education, and older people were of greatest importance in the 2015 survey - libraries have a role to play in these areas too.

Key Stakeholders

- Local Authorities
 - Public Representatives/ The Council/ SPC
 - Council Management/ Library Management and Staff
- The Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government
- Libraries Development, LGMA
- Library Users

Reserved Functions

Under the Local Government Act, 2001:

- A library authority shall from time to time, or if requested by the Minister, prepare and adopt a programme for the operation and development of its library service.
- Every library development programme prepared by a library authority is based on Department guidelines.
- The adoption of a library development programme is a reserved function.

Reserved Functions

- Each local authority prepares an annual budget, including for the library service
- The adoption of the annual budget is a reserved function

Public Library Strategy

- Opportunities for All 2013-2017
- Ambitious strategy for library service development and innovation
- Positioning the library service in the broader local authority strategy



1. Physical Space & Service Provision

Aim:

To provide a high quality public library network, delivering universal free access to a consistent service nationally, and leadership in local authority community engagement by 2017

Actions:

- The Department has announced a new Capital Programme for libraries – 22 million for 16 new libraries
 - Books are central to a library service. The Department has set a per capita stock fund target of €3.77
 - Free library membership is now available across Ireland.
- Registration mechanism for universal membership for children born in Ireland is being investigated

Capital Investment Programme

- €22m announced January 2016, for 2016 – 2021

- 16 projects, including:

Cavan	Virginia	€0.85m
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Monaghan	Monaghan Town	€1m
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Mayo	Westport	€1.1m
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- €2.3m announced towards mainstreaming Open Libraries initiative
- Other upcoming projects include Ireland's first Presidential Library (Mary Robinson Library, Ballina)



Westside Library, Co. Galway

Clones Library



Library Management System(LMS)

- National tender
- By 2017 all library authorities using Sierra
- Single catalogue
- Borrow from any library in the country
- Access online resources



eResources

National tender

- eMagazines/Journals
- eBooks
- eAudio
- eNewspapers
- eReference material
- eLanguages

Funding model based on population



Europe Direct Information Centres

To promote an active and informed European citizenship

- Donegal & Gaeltacht
- Sligo (Tubbercurry)
- Galway (Carraroe & Ballinasloe)
- Information on living, working and travelling in the EU
- Forum for discussion and debate
- Event programme includes soapbox competitions, public meetings on European issues





- Pilots in Tullamore, Banagher & Tubbercurry
- 8am – 10pm, 7 days per week
- Self-service, study, internet, wifi, community meetings
- Open Libraries membership (over 16s)



- Very successful abroad, particularly in Scandinavian countries
- Broader range of customers
- Access available when it suits customer
- Very few incidents



- **08.00** Timer lock released making library accessible. Equipment & lighting powered up, alarm powered off.
- **09.00** Staff arrive on duty
- **17.00/20.00** Staff lock up private areas, lock windows & exit. Public leave & re-enter. Monitoring cameras & door opening mechanisms turn on automatically
- **21.40** Loudspeaker alerts users, lights fade slightly
- **21.50** Loudspeaker alert again, equipment powers off
- **22.00** Lights go off, doors lock, security activated



Findings:

- Up to 25% visits during Open Libraries hours
- 20% items borrowed during these hours
- Positive reaction from staff who were initially apprehensive
- Opportunity to release staff from routine tasks to deliver more user-focussed services



Recommendations:

- Extend on incremental basis
- Minimum of 1 model per local authority
- New projects to have Open Libraries integrated into plans – condition of grant aid
- Complement existing services to make more meaningful for users and for staff

2. Learning, Skills & Enterprise

Aim:

To provide opportunities for individuals to develop as literate, informed, articulate and confident citizens, and to support local economic initiatives and developments

Actions:

- High quality collections to foster reading as basic life skill
- Online resources in place across Ireland to support literacy, numeracy and digital skills, and lifelong learning
- Support children's literacy, numeracy & communication skills through a new initiative called Right to Read
- New educational support & leisure reading materials service in place between schools, pre-schools and public libraries
- Working with Local Enterprise Offices, jobs and self-employment organisations and business services to support job-seekers, entrepreneurs and the self-employed

Right to Read Campaign

- Local Authorities supporting literacy
- National framework
- Local programme
- Right to Read champion award





National offer Summer Reading Programme



www.librariesireland.ie/summer-stars/

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Summer Stars at Your Library

Summer Stars:

- [Supporting Children's Reading](#)
- [Our Favourite People Supporting Children's Reading](#)
- [Recommended Reads for Children](#)
- [Talking eBooks](#)
- [Activity Ideas](#)
- [My Local Library](#)
- [Games Room](#)
- [Right to Read](#)

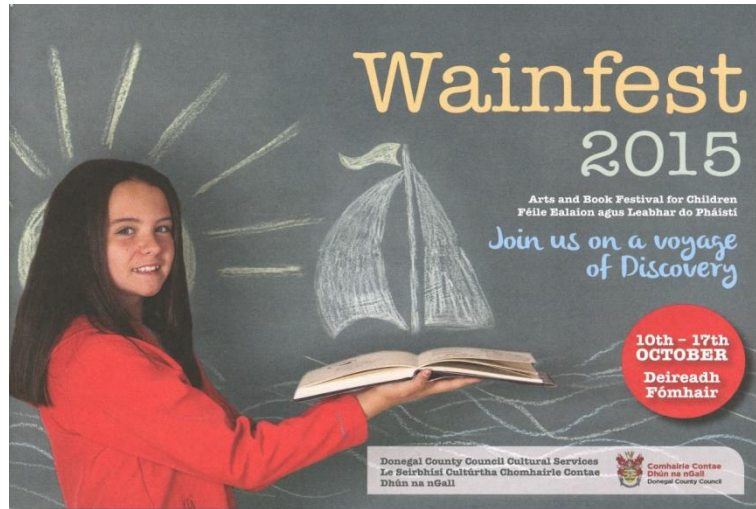
Summer Stars in Public Libraries

The **Summer Stars** reading programme is running in public libraries throughout the country this summer. Summer Stars is a free programme, open to all children.

Each child who registers for the programme at their local library joins in the fun of reading lots of exciting books during the summer. Children will receive their own **Summer Stars Reading Card** to record their progress and the **Summer Stars Reward Stamp** will be added to their card at the library for each book read. Fun rewards will be provided along the way. At the end of the programme, all children who have participated will be invited to attend an awards event.

The **Summer Stars** programme provides the whole family with an opportunity to enjoy the full range of services and facilities which

Festivals and events – all year round



Business and job skills supports

- Working group running pilots with recommendations shortly
- Information for job seekers, entrepreneurs and people growing a business
- PCs, printing, databases, informal meeting areas, formal meeting rooms
- Networking events, business talks, job fairs



3. Culture & Community

Aim: To foster literary appreciation, provide a cultural space for people and communities, and provide economic stimulus through learning, creativity and access to reliable and authoritative information

Actions:

- All libraries will facilitate groups and community activities appropriate to their location, scale and the local community
- Build on the role of the public library service in delivering information
- Continue to make available cultural space for the community and provide high range of cultural programming



Johnston County Library, Co. Cavan

Health & Wellbeing



Local History & Genealogy

- Most complete collection of printed local history material
- Maps
- Schools Folklore Project
- Book launches
- Talks & events
- Digitisation
- Online services



Local Authority Archives service

REGISTER OF MOTOR CARS.						
Index Mark and Number in Subordinate Column	Full Name of Owner	Postal Address his usual Residence	Description or Type of Motor Car	Type and Colour of Body of Car	Weight Unladen	When (at Private)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
H 41	Prof. James O'Connell	Braymore and Talismagh	12 h.p. Runabout	Dark Green	2	Private
H 42	James Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. 1905 (L.H.S.)	Dark Green	2	Private
H 43	James Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. 'Daimler'	Dark Green	2	Private
H 44	Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. Runabout	Dark Green	2	Private
H 45	Henry James Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. Runabout	Dark Green	2	Private
H 46	James Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. Runabout	Dark Green	2	Private
H 47	Henry James Robert O'Connell	Edinburgh Road, London	12 h.p. Runabout	Dark Green	2	Private

WEST HALF BARONY OF ENNISHOWEN.

Spring Assizes, 1849.

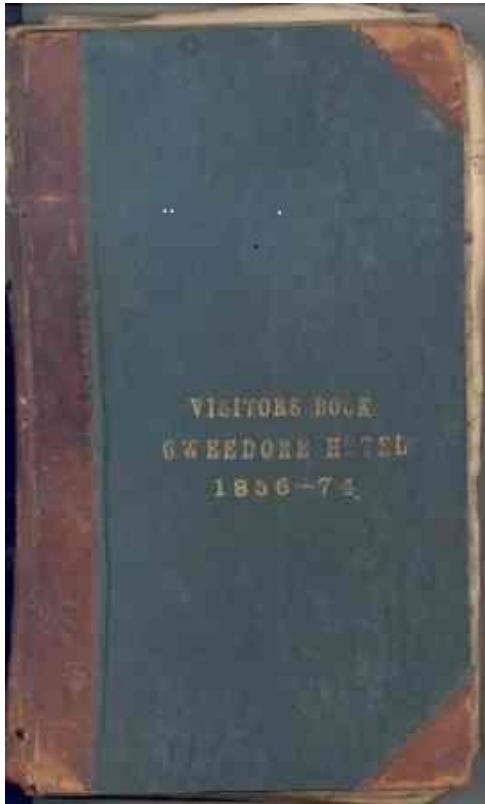
CONTINUING CONTRACTS.

6 and 7 W 4, c 116, s 52

By Michael Barr & Co. Enniskillen, to keep in repair for 3 years, from summer assizes 1849

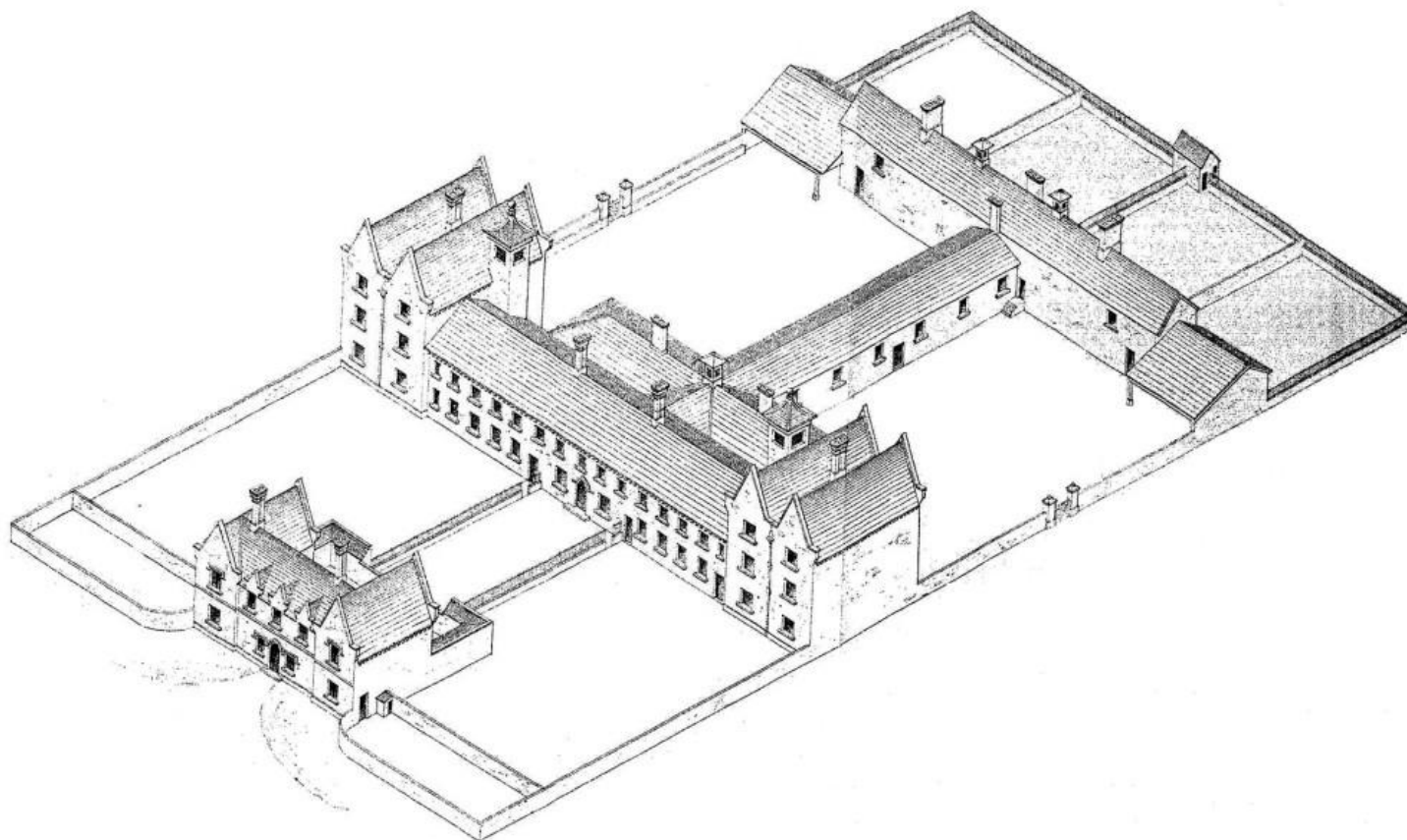
Local Authority Archives service

Conservation programmes



- Collections recently catalogued include the Buncrana Urban District Council collection, .
- Two Gweedore Hotel Visitors' Books are extremely fragile and were digitised for preservation and access purposes.

Local Authority Archives service



Local Authority Archives service

Advice and Support: Family history researchers, genealogists, students, academics, journalists, local historians, writers, TV producers, independent researchers and staff and members of local authority.

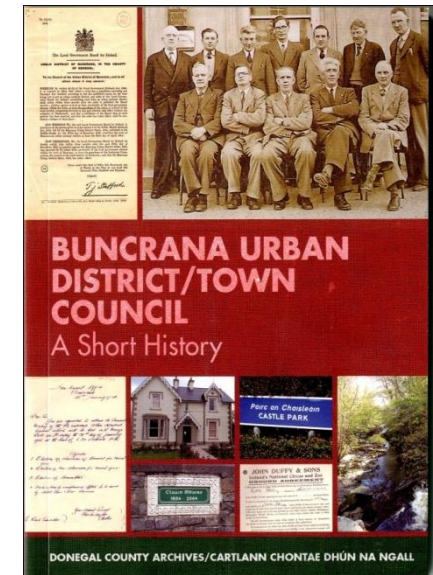
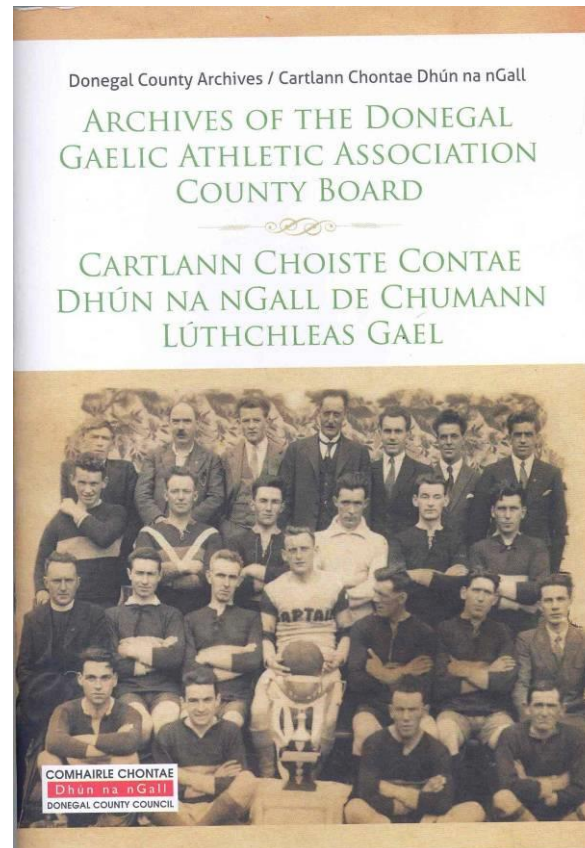
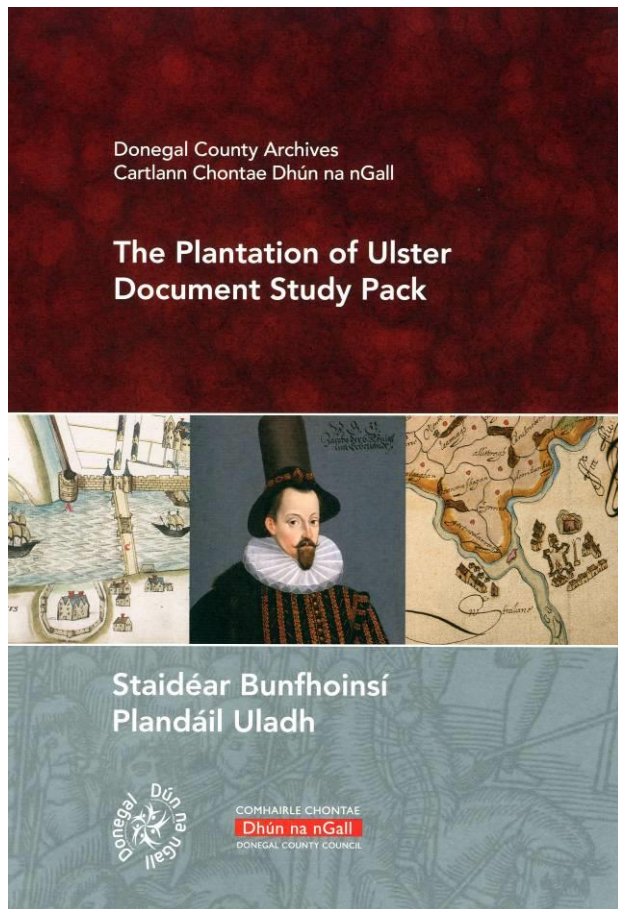
Events/Exhibitions

Publications

Records Management

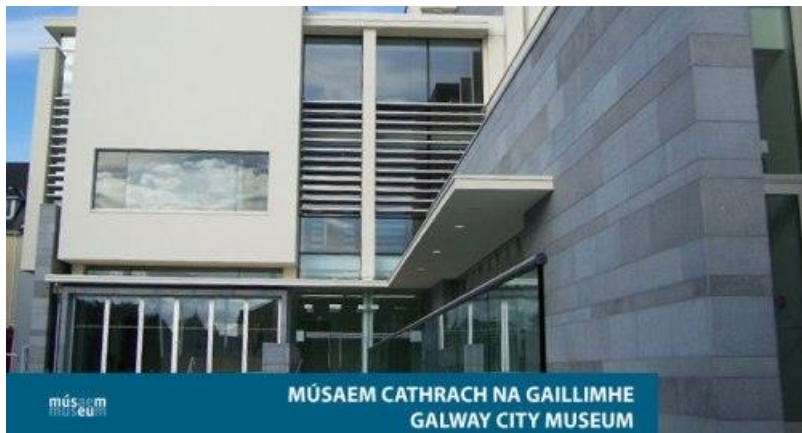
Suitable accommodation. Staffing.

Local Authority Archives



Local Authority Museums

Collect, record, preserve, communicate, display



Local Authority Museums

Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (Heritage Council)

Donegal County Museum

Cavan County Museum

Monaghan County Museum

Galway City Museum

Full Accreditation

National Museum designation



Local Authority Museums

- St. Conall's Bell and Shrine
- 6th century iron hand bell
- British Museum
- Iniskeel Island origin
- Feast Day
- Well
- Dolmen Centre, Portnoo



Local Authority Museum Service

Events Programme

The Museum organises a variety of events to coincide with its exhibition programme.



- Workshops
- School tours
- Lectures

Local Authority Museum Service



Countywide Festivals and Events Programmes

The Museum organises events in conjunction with a variety of Festivals and Events Programmes each year for example:

- Bealtaine
- Heritage Week



Local Authority Museum Service



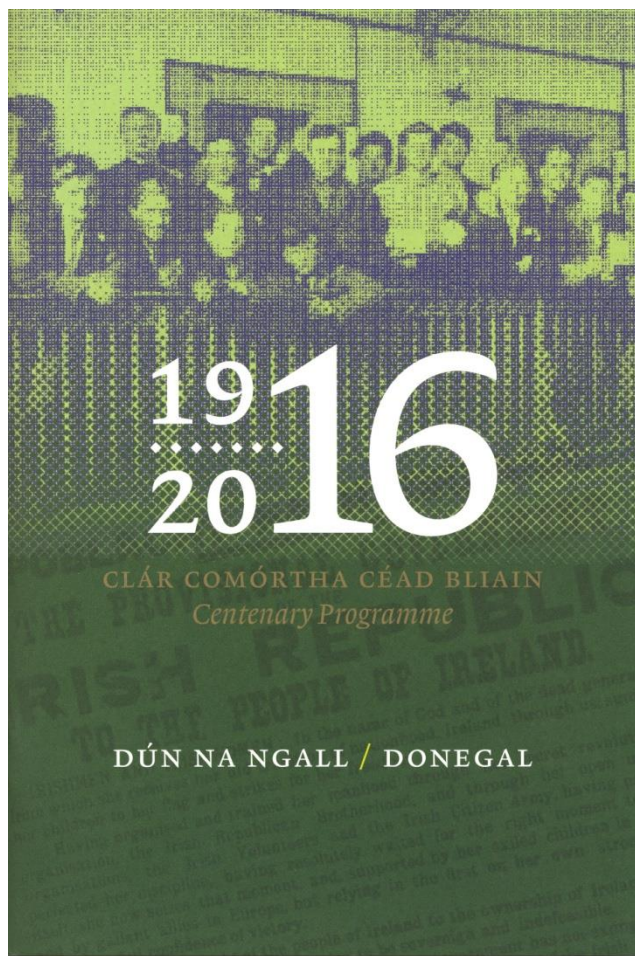
- Archaeology
- Sites and Monuments
- Museums and Heritage Centres
- Community Groups and Organisations

Advice and support

Museum staff provide advice and support on a variety of subjects to agencies, groups, organisations and individuals.



1916:2016 Programme



12 County/City Librarians
are Co-Ordinators
Year long programme
Community participation



Further information

Eileen Burgess

County Librarian/Divisional Manager Cultural Services

Rosemount Lane, Letterkenny

074 91 21968

Or your local County Librarian