

# KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE



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Seirbhís Leabharlainne  
Chomhairle Contae Chill Chainnigh

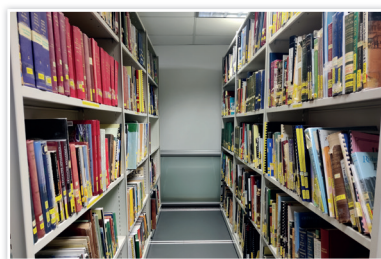


# LOCAL STUDIES

**The Local Studies Department of Kilkenny County Council Library Service is a research and reference section that is home to many Kilkenny-related collections. We offer access to items relating to Kilkenny's rich history, heritage, folklore and traditions.**



Located in Library Headquarters, John's Green House, our Local Studies Department is open from 9:00am -1:00pm & 2:00 - 5:00pm from Monday to Friday. Appointments can be made by phone at 056-779 4160, or email [lstudies@kilkennylibrary.ie](mailto:lstudies@kilkennylibrary.ie). Local Studies staff can assist you in the use of our resources, can offer advice and point you in the right direction on your research journey.



Originally located on John's Quay, then Rose Inn Street, and today situated in John's Green House, the Local Studies Department has grown considerably over the last 40 years in terms of size and resources. Of course, in those days there was no internet or Library Computer System, with access only to books, maps, newspapers files and our microfilm machines.



Our Kilkenny Collection includes books by Kilkenny born authors, and authors who wrote about Kilkenny, personages and subjects with Kilkenny connections. We offer online access to local and national newspapers through the Irish Newspaper Archives. As well as this, we have a collection of local newspapers from the 18th century to the present day on microfilm.

We have Census Records from 1901 and 1911 on microfilm. We also have surviving fragments of the census for Kilkenny for 1821, 1841 and 1851. Census records can often prove to be quite helpful in your family history search as they can often provide a starting point for your research. We hold Roman Catholic records, i.e. Baptisms and Marriage records for the Diocese of Ossory on microfilm.

We have an extensive archive collection located off-site which is for reference only. The list of what is available can be found on our website: [www.kilkennylibrary.ie](http://www.kilkennylibrary.ie) and requests for viewing these items can be placed with the Local Studies staff.



Since then we have expanded our collections considerably to include a digital archive, newspapers on microfilm and online, collections of photographs, trade directories, postcards, digitised journals, a website, a social media presence, dedicated staff and so much more. But regardless of our online presence, we still have many collections that are only available to view in person here in John's Green House.



We also have a digital archive available online: [digital-archive.kilkenny.ie/](http://digital-archive.kilkenny.ie/). This archive gives an insight into the collections of images and recordings held by the library such as the Decade of Centenaries resources, Kilkenny Shopfronts Through the Ages collection which is a collection of photographs of the shopfronts in each street in central Kilkenny City covering the period between the late 20th century and the present. The material provides photographic evidence of Kilkenny's ever-changing streetscape and shopfronts through the year

We also have a rich oral history collection as we have been involved in many oral history projects both in Kilkenny and nationwide to capture the stories of peo-

ple's lives and experiences in Kilkenny. Our collections include the Irish Life & Lore collection which focuses on interviews with Kilkenny craftspeople and forgotten skills, and the roles of Kilkenny women in society; the Clara parish collection, focusing on the lives and experiences from the Clara community;

and the UCD Folklore collection which dates from the 1930s and is made up of family histories, ghost stories, food preparation and agricultural practises detailed by primary school students from across the county (a list of the schools involved can be found on our website).



The Graiguenamanagh Memories collection is a project where Kilkenny Library has worked with the local community in partnership with Kilkenny Leader to collect and make images accessible to all. This archive aims to gather information and safeguard photos and preserve images. Digitising collections like these is particularly important as it ensures that they are freely available for future generations.



Our Local Studies Department is actively working with people, groups, communities and organisations to collect, preserve, digitise and share collections of local and national interest, because this is important to make our unique, rich & colourful history accessible for future generations.