

Step into *The Murmur of Bees*, a temporary exhibition where we embark on a journey into the fascinating world of Irish bees.

Did you know there are more than 100 different bee species in Ireland, but only one that makes honey? Or that bees were so important throughout Irish history, they even have their own patron saint? Join us in celebrating the magic of Ireland's bees, their vital role in nature, and the special bond they share with us.

Visit www.museum.ie to plan your visit and for further details on this engaging programme of events in association with the exhibition.



**National Museum of Ireland
- Country Life**

Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo,
F23 HY31.

Opening Hours

Sunday - Monday 1pm - 5pm

Tuesday - Saturday 10am - 5pm

Closed: Good Friday, Christmas Day
and St Stephen's Day.

Bookings Office

T: 094 90 31751

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CRÓNÁN na mBEACH

The MURMIUR of BEES



**Public
Programme**

museum

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Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

museum

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TALK: The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan

3pm to 4pm, Saturday, 2 March 2024

The All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is a framework bringing together different sectors across the island of Ireland to create a landscape where pollinators can survive and thrive. It is implemented by the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Find out more about their important work and how you can become involved in pollinator monitoring schemes with Dr Michelle Larkin, National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme Officer, with the National Biodiversity Data Centre. Suitable for adults and children aged 14 years plus. Booking required.



ONLINE TALK: St Gobnait and *The Murmur of Bees*

Available from Monday, 20 May 2024

Celebrate World Bee Day on 20 May with this series of online talks exploring the fascinating world of Irish bees. See how bees influence the world around us from natural history and the environment to folklore and artworks.

BIODIVERSITY DAY: All About Bees

1pm to 4pm, Sunday, 26 May 2024

Join us this National Biodiversity Week for a special day of discovery and fun as we find out all about Ireland's wild bees. Learn about gardening for wild bees, join a pollinator walk and engage in some bee-inspired crafts. Suitable for all ages. No booking required.

BEALTAINE WORKSHOP: Botanical Art for Beginners

11am to 4pm, Friday and Saturday, 31 May and 1 June 2024

Join botanical illustrator Shevaun Doherty for a workshop on botanical and natural history art. Learn about watercolour techniques, drawing bees, and embracing nature through art in this fun and friendly workshop. Suitable for adults. Booking required.

DROP-IN WORKSHOPS: Busy Bees Knitting and Crochet

11am to 1pm, 5 and 19 July, 2 and 16 August and 6 and 20 September 2024

Create your own buzz with the Museum Knitting and Crochet Circle. Make knitted and crochet bees that will form part of a textile murmur installation later in the year. Suitable for adults and children aged 8 years plus. No booking required.

WORKSHOP: Environmental Art

2pm to 4pm, Saturday, 8 June, Saturday, 17 August and Saturday, 21 September 2024

Have fun and learn about biodiversity through art in this workshop which combines an exhibition tour of *The Murmur of Bees*, a nature walk with ecologist Freya Bartels and an art workshop in the courtyard studio with Cas McCarthy.

Nature Craft Station: Make your own paper bee and wildflower

Saturdays, July and August

Have a go at making your own paper bee and wildflower to take home, on Saturdays throughout the month of July and August. Visit *The Murmur of Bees* exhibition to learn all about bees in Ireland and then go to our nature craft station in the activity rooms where you will find the materials you need to create some nature and bee inspired crafts. This is a self-guided activity suitable for all ages. No booking required.

CRAFTERNOON: Textile Bees

11.30am to 3pm, Saturday 27 July and 28 September 2024

Get creative with some bee inspired textiles, with the Connacht Textile Crafters. Make felted, crochet, lace and other types of textile bees. These will form part of a textile murmur installation later in the year. Suitable for adults. No booking required.

HERITAGE WEEK: Beekeeping in Ireland

11am to 3pm, Saturday, 24 August 2024

The Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Association (FIBKA) is the largest beekeeping organisation in the country, working in the interests of beekeepers in Ireland for more than 75 years. Join members of FIBKA for a day long programme of talks and demonstrations on beekeeping in Ireland today. Suitable for adults. Booking required.

WORKSHOP: Build a Bee Skep

10am to 4pm, Saturday, 7 September 2024

Bee skeps have been used for keeping bees for over 2,000 years. Join Pat Broderick to learn the processes of making a skep from coiled straw and briar bark. Suitable for adults. Booking required.

CULTURE NIGHT: Celebrating *The Murmur of Bees*

Friday, 20 September 2024

Join us for an evening celebrating bee-inspired artworks, in association with *The Murmur of Bees* temporary exhibition. Culture Night is an annual, all-island initiative celebrating the richness and diversity of culture in Ireland today and connecting people to cultural activities. Find out more at culturenight.ie.

COMING WINTER 2024: Bee There Conference

Join us later this year for a special conference with a panel of expert speakers, exploring what we can learn from Ireland's wild bees. Keep an eye on our website and social media platforms for full details and how to book.



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