

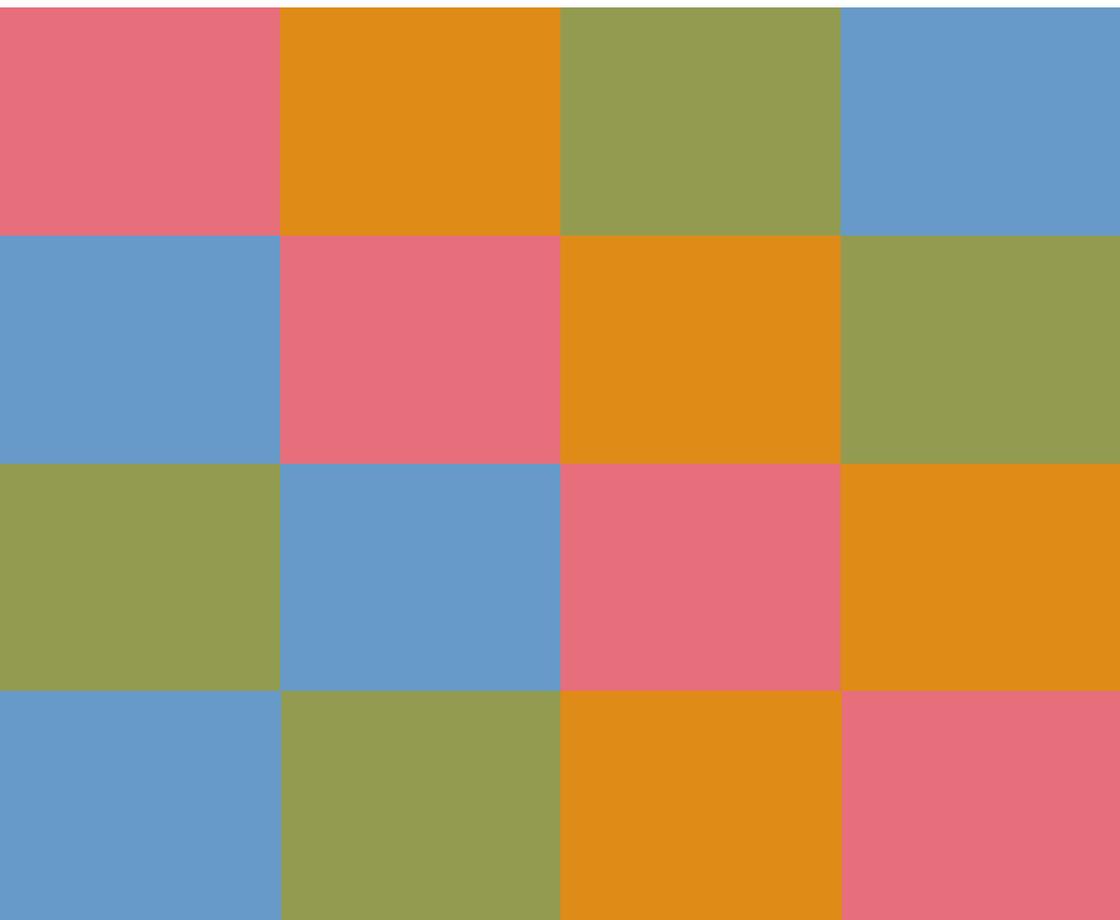
museum

National Museum of Ireland

Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann

Education Department
National Museum of Ireland

Programme Highlights 2020



The National Museum of Ireland has four locations. Three sites are in Dublin and one is in Mayo. Each Museum site specialises in a particular area of culture and science.

For more information on all of our exhibitions, events, activities and for information about our schools' programmes, visit museum.ie.

Museums Open:

Sunday and Monday, 1pm–5pm
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm

Admission Free at all four Museums

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information contact bookings@museum.ie or educationarch@museum.ie

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Booking Office Open:
Tuesday–Friday; 9am–5pm;
Call: +353 (01) 648 6396
To book events for families and adults: educationarch@museum.ie
To book for schools' programmes: bookings@museum.ie

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History

Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7

Booking Office Open:
Monday–Friday; 9am–5pm;
Call: +353 (01) 648 6453
All bookings contact: bookings@museum.ie

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co Mayo

Booking Office Open:
Tuesday–Friday; 10am–1pm;
Call: +353 (094) 903 1751
All bookings contact: educationtph@museum.ie

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History

Merrion Street, Dublin 2

Booking Office Open:
Tuesday–Friday; 9am–5pm;
Call: +353 (01) 648 6396
To book events for families and adults: educationnh@museum.ie
To book for schools' programmes: bookings@museum.ie

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IN 2019

173,473 people participated in and engaged with learning programmes and services organised by the Education Department

IN 2019

104,016 young people from the formal education sector participated in and engaged with learning programmes and services organised by the Education Department

IN 2019

450–500 enquiries received per week into the Education Department's Information and Booking Offices in Dublin and Mayo

IN 2019

1,256 events and activities were organised by the Education Department

The Education Department at the National Museum of Ireland has responsibility for developing learning programmes and services that are inclusive, responsive, relevant and stimulate people's imagination and curiosity. Our learning programmes include tours, workshops, conferences and seminars, talks and lectures, resources, special long-term projects and community exhibitions. We engage the widest range of people, both within and outside of the Museum, and online, in meaningful and innovative learning experiences, using the collections and exhibitions as inspiration. The collections at our Museums in Dublin and Mayo span a variety of disciplines, covering archaeology, decorative arts, history, ethnography, folklife and natural history.

Most of our events and activities are free. Some events do not require booking while others do. Please contact us if you would like to book an event or check whether an event is drop-in or not.

Tá turasanna dhá-theangacha nó trí Ghaeilge ar fáil ach iad a lorg, agus bí ag faire amach d'imeachtaí dhátheangacha l rith na bliana. Tours are available in Irish or bilingually on request, and look out for bilingual events throughout the year.

Irish Sign Language is provided for some events in 2020; see museum.ie or contact us.

This booklet is only a snapshot of our learning programmes for 2020. More detailed information is available at museum.ie. All quotes in this publication are drawn from audience feedback and evaluation forms. Stay in touch with us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

We look forward to seeing you in 2020.

The last 5 officers to leave Gallipoli - Taken on board HMS Letitia
11-1-1916



Lieut. Horne
Capt. Angus
Lieut. Allister
Capt. Rees Thomas
Lieut. Leeson

Irish
Scott
Canadian
Welsh
Canadian

photocopy -
original photograph 3 pages
both



Decade of Commemorations Programme

In 2020 the Education Department is developing events and projects focused on themes related to the Decade of Commemorations. Some of these events are listed in this booklet and explore new perspectives on this significant period in Irish history, enabling participants to look with fresh eyes at familiar histories and allowing time for debate and discussion. Such events are targeted not just at the specialist but at a wider audience interested in Irish history and aim to be inclusive of many and divergent voices. As part of the Decade of Commemorations programme, we are also creating a publication with support from the Commemorations Unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. This publication is due to be launched in 2020 and reflects the diversity of learning programmes organised by the National Museum of Ireland to commemorate significant events in Irish history between 1913 and 1919. The publication will record participants' and partners' responses to their engagement in the Museum's commemorative programmes and will be a valuable resource for a wide range of people and organisations.

Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

The National Museum of Ireland has a key role to play in valuing and protecting our natural and cultural environment and in contributing to the social, cultural and environmental life of local areas and the wider world. We respond to changing political, social, environmental and economic developments and aim to build and sustain relationships with individuals and communities. In 2020 the Education Department has designed a programme that reflects the themes of sustainability, biodiversity and the environment. This is part of our efforts to contribute to sustainable development by equipping individuals and communities with relevant knowledge and skills that will motivate and enable them to become more informed citizens and activists for a more sustainable future. This programme reflects the principles of 'The National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development in Ireland, 2014-2020'.

A visit to the Museum can be an inspiring, transformative and meaningful learning experience for primary and post-primary school students and teachers alike. Our learning programmes offer a wide range of curriculum-based activities designed to encourage participation, collaboration and exploration. We can help you to plan your tour or workshop or to visit as a self-guided group, or we can direct you to our online learning resources on key curricular themes. In this section you'll find some of the highlights of our Schools' Programmes for 2020. For more information about the Schools' Programme contact museum.ie.

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information, please contact bookings@museum.ie or educationtph@museum.ie.

Schools and Teachers

WORKSHOP LIFE IN A MEDIEVAL TOWER HOUSE

Discover how archaeological evidence can help us understand life, death and power in Medieval Ireland. How did Ireland change after the arrival of the Anglo-Normans in the 1170s? Why was feasting so important in medieval times? How did people defend their homes 500 years ago? Learn how archaeologists use evidence to answer these questions, then put your new knowledge to the test and create your own mini medieval Tower House!

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Post-primary | 1st to 2nd Years |
Term time from March 2020

WORKSHOP SCIENCE WEEK, BONE STORIES!

During the month of November and to celebrate Science Week, we will be running a special workshop examining how archaeologists, through the study of bones and human remains, can tell us how people lived in the past and how they were buried. Through experiments, the workshop will take a closer look at a Bronze Age burial, a Bog Body and a Viking skeleton and explore how bones are preserved in different environments.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Primary | 3rd to 6th class |
Month of November 2020

WORKSHOP KNOT AGAIN! CELTIC KNOTWORK ON THE ARDAGH CHALICE

To celebrate Math's Week 2020, come join us in a special workshop to discover more about one of Ireland's most iconic objects, the Ardagh Chalice. Learn about Early Medieval Ireland and how the chalice was made. Take a closer look at the shapes and lines used to make its interlacing knot designs and enamel boss. As a class, make your own filigree pieces and enamel bosses and help make the Museum's giant Ardagh Chalice!

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Primary | 3rd to 6th class |
Maths week during October 2020

FESTIVAL MIDLANDS SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The Education Team at the National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology will be in Athlone during Science Week 2020! Organised in collaboration with Midlands Science, in association with the Heritage Office of Westmeath County Council, the workshops offer an opportunity to explore the archaeological evidence of the Vikings in the Midlands, with a special focus on Westmeath. This is part of a three year partnership with Midlands Science, extending the Museum's reach to Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath. See museum.ie and midlandsscience.ie this Autumn for more details.

Athlone, Co Westmeath
Science Week November 2020





ACTIVITY SCHOOL TOUR AND WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Throughout term time, come to the Museum with your class for a specially designed tour or workshop with your class. Our tours and workshops are developed for Primary and Post Primary students and link to the Irish curricula and to the Museum's collection. Learn about different time periods, from Stone Age people to the impact of Christianity and the arrival of the Vikings and later the Anglo-Normans. Available during term time, contact bookings@museum.ie for all bookings and enquiries.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Primary | All classes | Post-primary |
All years | Term time

TOUR EARLY MEDIEVAL IRELAND AND THE COMING OF CHRISTIANITY

Explore what the Museum's collection can tell us about the coming of Christianity to Ireland in the 5th century and the impact it had on Early Medieval people. Learn about the cultural changes brought about by Christianity's arrival and how these changes are reflected on artefacts from the time period. Discover the newly developed art styles that were used on artefacts such as the Ardagh Chalice and the Tara Brooch.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Post-primary | 1st to 3rd Years |
Term time from March 2020



PROGRAMMES HOME EDUCATED CHILDREN

In 2020 there will be a number of tours and workshops planned for children who are home educated. These programmes will cover themes inspired by the archaeological collections at the Museum. Parents interested in attending a programme with their children, please register interest by emailing us at bookings@museum.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Registration required

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS ACTIVITY SHEETS

There are a range of Activity Sheets available to use by your class when exploring the Museum. You can choose from 'Stone Age Ireland', 'The Treasury Trail', 'The Viking Challenge', 'Ancient Egypt' and 'My Favourite Object'. Contact the Bookings Office to reserve Activity Sheets for your class and don't forget to bring your pencils! Our activity booklets are also available in Irish. Contact bookings@museum.ie to have booklets reserved for your class.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Primary | 1st to 6th class | Post-primary |
1st year | During term time

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS SEACHTAIN NA GAELIGE 2020

Mar chuid de Sheachtain na Gaeilge 2020, beimid ag seoladh ‘Naeimh, Scéalta agus Scríobhaithe na hÉireann,’ an bhileog ghníomhaíochta is nuai dár gcuid, aistrithe go Gaeilge. Faigh amach faoi Naeimh na hÉireann, Naomh Pádraig agus Naomh Bríd ina measc, agus faoi na rudaí sa Mhúsaem a bhaineann leo.

For Seachtain na Gaeilge 2020, we will be launching our new Irish language activity sheet ‘Irish Saints, Stories and Scribes’ translated into Irish. Discover the Saints of Ireland including St. Patrick and St. Brigid and the objects in the Museum connected to them.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Primary | 1st to 6th class | Post-primary |
From Seachtain na Gaeilge onwards

COMPETITION ARTICULATION IRELAND

For the 2020–2021 academic year, the Museum will be hosting ‘ARTiculation’, a public speaking competition for students aged 16–18. Students will develop and deliver a ten minute presentation, inspired by art, architecture and artefacts, and will present to their peers and a wider audience.

The Museum will be one of the locations of ‘Discovery Days’ where students can develop their public speaking skills and learn more about Museum artefacts, using this knowledge to inform their presentations.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Post-primary | TY to 6th year |
Academic Year 2020–2021

RESOURCES LEAVING CERTIFICATE ART RESOURCES

When visiting the Museum with your class, engage with interactive displays and resources in the galleries. In the Treasury Ante-Room, check out the ‘Timeline of Irish Art’ and use the interactive screen to look at some of the collection up close and explore the techniques and skills used to create the objects. Encourage your students to use the interactives where you can make and take home brass rubbings of the three major art styles.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology

Post-primary | Senior cycle |
Leaving Certificate

“The children really enjoyed their visit to the Museum — our guide’s tour of the exhibits really brought the work we had done in the classroom to life!”

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

WORKSHOP ‘WOOL IN SCHOOL’ COMES TO THE MUSEUM Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Did you know that wool is a sustainable material? Come to the Museum and meet with Museum Educators and ‘Wool in School’ educators and learn all about the properties, uses and manufacturing of wool. See how people used wool in the past in Viking Dublin and Medieval Ireland and explore how wool is used today and will continue to be used in the future as a sustainable material.

National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology
Primary | 3rd to 6th class | May 2020



WORKSHOP BIODIVERSITY WORKSHOPS

Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

This interactive, hands-on STEM workshop will explore the diversity and abundance of life inhabiting our rivers, show how the quality of their habitats are assessed, discover the threats to their habitats and talk about ways to protect them. Samples of life in the river will be collected and you will have an opportunity to see everything up close with the Mayo County Council Catchments Team.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Primary | All classes | Post-primary |
All classes | Wednesday | 25th March,
22nd April and 27th May 2020

WORKSHOP REFUSE, REDUCE, REPAIR, RE-USE AND RECYCLE: GREEN DESIGN IN ACTION

Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

As part of the 'Kitchen Power' exhibition, 'Make Create Innovate' is providing a series of hands-on STEAM workshops. Take some inspiration from our 1950's kitchen to prototype 'smart homeware' by combining creative technology with re-usable materials. Come up with your green design solutions for everything that endangers our environment, from coffee capsule machines to tinfoil baking trays.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

16th Jan Jnr & Snr Infants | 17th Jan 1st
to 4th class | 14th Feb Junior Cycle & TY |
13th Mar Junior Cycle & TY



COUNTRY LIFE PROGRAMME SCHOOL TOUR AND WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

Throughout term time, come to the Museum with your class for a specially designed tour or workshop. Journey back in time and marvel at the innovation and endurance of our rural ancestors; discover a man trap, ghost turnips, boys in skirts, harpoons and faeries. Spark the imagination of children of all ages in an 'out of classroom' experience with a difference.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Primary | All classes | Post-primary |
All years | Term time

WORKBOOKS AND NOTES STUDENT WORKBOOK 1 AND TEACHERS NOTES

The Museum of Country Life is home to the Irish Folklife Collection, a collection of objects representing Irish rural life from 1850–1950. 'Student Workbook 1' is a learning resource that can be completed during your visit. We recommend that you go through the content back at the classroom to further explore and discuss the topics. We also have Teachers' notes that give additional background information, perfect for projecting onto your whiteboard, also available in Irish at museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Primary | 3rd to 6th class | Post-primary |
Junior Cycle | Term time

EVENT SPECIAL SCHOOLS PROGRAMMING

Free special events are available, curriculum linked, covering a wide range of topics to all schools. Events may include storytelling, biodiversity themes, science week events, activities that change with the seasons and so much more.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Primary | All classes |
Post-primary | All classes

WORKSHOP FIGHTING WORDS MAYO

Develop creative writing skills and explore the love of language in a friendly and informal storytelling workshop. Roddy Doyle and Sean Love founded 'Fighting Words' in 2009, and Mayo was the first branch to open outside of Dublin. Sessions support the aims of the Department of Education and Skills Literacy and Numeracy Strategy, and are Dublin City University approved. For booking enquiries contact mayo@fightingwords.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Primary | Post-primary | 2hr sessions
Twice a month during term time

WORKSHOP
**CLEANING UP OUR ACT:
 GENDER IN THE KITCHEN**

As part of the ‘Kitchen Power’ exhibition, ‘Make Create Innovate’ is providing a series of hands-on STEAM workshops. These creative technology workshops invite you to look at how products and appliances could be better designed and marketed for a modern world where gender equality is the best recipe.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Country Life**

Primary | 1st to 4th class 29th April | 5th & 6th class 30th April | Post-primary | Junior Cycle & TY 15th May

TOUR
RECOVERED VOICES
Decade of Commemorations Programme

This tour focuses on Irishmen and women involved in World War I. Museum Guides demonstrate the all-encompassing nature of the War through the stories of nurses, doctors, prisoners of war and ordinary soldiers. Hands on resources include a replica gas mask and uniform jacket. Students are encouraged to make connections to local history relating to the First World War and to learn about the changing role of women during this critical period of Irish history.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Primary | 5th & 6th class | Post-primary | History at Junior & Senior cycle and TY | Tuesday–Friday

TOUR
**BONNETS, BANDOLIERS
 AND BALLOT PAPERS**
Decade of Commemorations Programme

Students explore how women’s roles changed in the first decades of the 20th century in this guided tour taking in the exhibitions ‘The Way We Wore: 250 Years of Irish Clothing and Jewellery’, ‘The Irish Wars’ and ‘Proclaiming a Republic: The 1916 Rising’. Museum Guides encourage students’ discussion and promote critical thinking and learning by discovery amongst students.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Primary | 5th & 6th class | Post-primary | History at Junior & Senior cycle and TY | Tuesday–Friday

TOUR
**PROCLAIMING A
 REPUBLIC — THE 1916 RISING**
Decade of Commemorations Programme

An opportunity for schools to book a guided tour before this exhibition, ‘Proclaiming a Republic’ closes on 19th April 2020. Students get an overview of the key political, social and cultural events which led to the Rising, the events of Easter Week in Dublin and the aftermath of the Rising, through exploring a range of original artefacts, from the 1916 Proclamation of the Irish Republic to the Irish Republican Flag.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Primary | 5th & 6th class | Post-primary | History at Junior & Senior cycle and TY | Tuesday–Friday up to 19th April 2020

WORKSHOP
ART AND PROPAGANDA
Decade of Commemorations Programme

This workshop focuses on how people have used art in times of conflict to communicate or persuade, or to record key events. In this cross-curricular workshop students are encouraged to explore how political ideas and propaganda can be expressed through art and design. The workshop stimulates critical thinking, discussion and debate, and provides opportunities for students to develop their observational and drawing skills. Students are introduced to art in exhibitions, including ‘Proclaiming a Republic: The 1916 Rising’, ‘Soldiers & Chiefs’ and ‘Recovered Voices’, and to then respond by creating their own piece of art or record of conflict.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Thursdays | Junior and Senior Cycle and TY

TOUR
EILEEN GRAY

Wexford-born Eileen Gray (1879–1976) is now regarded as one of the most influential designers and architects of the 20th century. Students are introduced to her life and work through observation of her furniture, drawings and other artefacts.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Post-primary | Art, Craft, Design at Junior & Senior Cycle and TY | Tuesday–Friday

TOUR
**FROM BARRACKS TO MUSEUM —
 EXHIBITION LAYOUT AND DESIGN**

This tour aims to give students the tools with which to evaluate an exhibition effectively. Students are introduced to the transformation of Collins Barracks from the oldest Barracks in Europe to the National Museum’s Museum of Decorative Arts & History. Students are then encouraged to think critically about exhibition layout and design, examining aspects such as lighting, labelling and display in a number of exhibitions, including the Eileen Gray exhibition.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Post-primary | Art, Craft, Design at Junior & Senior Cycle and TY | Tuesday–Friday

WORKSHOP
**ILLUMINATIONS — STORIES
 OF COLOUR AND LIGHT**

This creative workshop introduces students to concepts such as colour, form and composition through exploration of glass and ceramic artefacts on display in the ‘What’s in Store?’ exhibition.

**National Museum of Ireland —
 Decorative Arts & History**

Primary | Visual Arts and SESE at 4th, 5th & 6th class | Thursdays in 2020

ONLINE RESOURCE**ONLINE: 1916 OBJECT STORIES****Decade of Commemorations Programme**

This online resource is a key learning resource for teachers and students. Students can explore 10 key objects, with links to additional, related objects in the National Museum's Easter Week and Historical collections and downloadable teachers' notes for primary and post primary schools. You can see most of the objects on display in the 'Proclaiming a Republic: The 1916 Rising' and in the 'Soldiers & Chiefs' exhibitions.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
Online | Junior and Senior Cycle and TY

ACTIVITY**NATURAL HISTORY
SCHOOL TOUR AND
WORKSHOP PROGRAMME**

Book a free curriculum-linked tour or workshop! Get students exploring the unique collection of zoological and geological specimens, debating science, sustainability, and their relationship to the natural world. During workshops, pupils handle different predator and prey skulls and bones at the new 'Wonder Cabinet' learning space. Topics include current science and the stories of zoological and geological specimens. Available during term time, contact bookings@museum.ie for all bookings and enquiries.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary and Post-primary | Term time

RESOURCE**ACTIVITY BOOKS**

There are 12 activity books to encourage students to learn through a self-directed enquiry approach and explore themes within the exhibition 'Soldiers & Chiefs'. Also available is a Teachers' Guide to using the books with your class, providing practical advice, curriculum links and follow-up activities back in school. You can arrange to have your choice of children's activity books ready for you when you arrive at the Museum by contacting the bookings office two weeks in advance of your visit at bookings@museum.ie. The activity books are also available to download from museum.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

ACTIVITY**NATURAL HISTORY TRAIL**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

See the 10,000 animals and Irish wildlife on display, learn about endangerment, extinction and biodiversity and discover the conservation successes and challenges of animals and their habitats.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary and Post-primary | Term time

TOUR**EXTINCTION, WHO'S TO BLAME?**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Get your students thinking about and debating the issues surrounding climate change, sustainability and stewardship. Students investigate case studies of endangered and extinct species within the Museum's collection and increase their awareness of human impacts on the natural world.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Post-primary | 5th & 6th year | Term time

TOUR**THE TEDDY BEAR TOUR**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

This specially designed introductory tour encourages children to learn more about an animal's diet, anatomy and where they live in the wild. Each child can borrow a toy animal to help them on their adventure.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary | Junior Infants to 2nd class |
Term time

WORKSHOP**SKULLDUGGERY!**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

A hands-on, interactive experience investigating how scientists analyse skulls, and what teeth, eyes and skull shape can tell us about an animal and their diet. Event held at the new 'Wonder Cabinet'.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary | 3rd to 6th class | Term time

WORKSHOP**EXTINCTION: OUT OF THIS WORLD!**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

A new hands-on workshop where students will learn about incredible Irish animals that are extinct or endangered or that have been saved by conservation. Students will then explore the galleries during a group activity, followed by an opportunity to touch real furs, fossils and bones.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary | 3rd to 6th class | Term time

“The boys had such a brilliant time and went home beaming — staff were so skilled at pitching to their level.”

SCHOOL TEACHER

**OPEN DAY
EARTH DAY AT 50**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

In 2020, Earth Day reaches its 50th year and the Museum is inviting schools to visit and celebrate during a special open day. Students will explore the collections, and discuss topics including extinction, environmental awareness and care for all species and the planet! Curators, Conservators, Scientists, Educators and Artists will be on hand to answer curious questions and explain important facts behind Earth Day. Booking is essential as slots are limited.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary and Post-primary |
Wednesday 22nd April 2020 | 10am–3pm



COURTESY OF PAUL SHERWOOD

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP
SOUTH AMERICAN
WILDLIFE EXPLORERS**
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Developed to coincide with a ‘Dora and the Lost City of Gold’ screening at the Irish Film Institute, pupils embark on their own adventure to the new ‘Wonder Cabinet’ learning space. Pupils discuss the film, learn the importance of stopping illegal wildlife trade, and afterwards see rare animal specimens from South America. Places limited, booking essential. This event was developed in partnership with the Irish Film Institute.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Primary | 3rd to 6th class |
Tuesday 3rd March 2020

**ACTIVITY
SKETCHING AT THE
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY**

Artist or art student? Visit and be inspired by our animal exhibits. Our collections provide a rich source for sketching and research. As some can be easily damaged, we ask visitors to minimise the possibility of damage by following these guidelines: animals and cases must not be touched, or used to lean against. The use of wet materials, spray paints, adhesives and fixatives is prohibited in all galleries. Stools available, please ask at Reception. Pre-booking is an essential requirement for all groups of more than 10 people.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Third Level and PLC

**TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS
ACTIVITY BOOKS**

Find out more about natural history collections using activity sheets tailored for children and school groups. Pick up a trail and track down the animals to answer questions—just don’t forget to bring a pencil! Choose from ‘My Favourite Animal’ or seasonal trails, ‘Spring into Action’, ‘Summer Sun’, ‘Busy Bees’, and ‘Do Not Disturb!’. For those interested in learning more about biodiversity, take a copy of the ‘Zoo in My Garden’ or ‘Everything Counts’.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Term time

**ACTIVITY
DRAWING WEEK AT THE DEAD ZOO!**

Calling art teachers and artists! Due to increasing demand for sketching and drawing of our zoological and geological collections, the Dead Zoo will host a special week of prolonged visits for artists and students. Groups will be allocated longer periods in the galleries to observe and draw real skeletons, fossils and dioramas of taxidermy. Booking is required, as gallery space is quite limited. Please email bookings@museum.ie from August 2020 for more details or check online at www.museum.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Schools, Third Level & PLC | October 2020

A Museum visit for families can be many things, from an inspectorium at Natural History to storytelling at Country Life; from trying on uniforms at Collins Barracks to exploring a Viking Chest at Archaeology. The opportunities are endless. Our family programme is packed with events and includes drop-in events and activities you need to book. We also have resources you can pick up at our Museums or download before you arrive. We hope to meet you there.

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information, please contact bookings@museum.ie or educationtph@museum.ie.

Families

“Brilliant workshop.
Very creative.
Learning about the
Vikings while being
creative — Amazing!”

CHILD AND WORKSHOP
PARTICIPANT

OPEN DAY
**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
IRELAND — ARCHAEOLOGY**

The Museum at Kildare Street will be 130 this summer! Drop into the Museum to help us celebrate! Explore this beautiful Victorian building, and look at some of the amazing archaeological objects. Learn more about the work of the Museum and uncover the secrets of how archaeologists study the past. Take part in fun activities for families of all ages and make a craft to take home! See museum.ie for more details in Summer 2020.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
All ages | Saturday 15th August 2020 |
No booking required



OPEN CALL
MY MUSEUM MEMORIES

As we celebrate the Museum's 130th birthday, we would love to hear from you! What does the Museum mean to you? Do you have a favourite artefact or exhibition? How has the Museum changed since your first visit? This year, please feel free to send us a poem, short story, sketch or painting about a time when you visited the Museum – we would love to hear from visitors of all ages! Email educationarch@museum.ie or post to Education Department, National Museum of Archaeology, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, D02 FH48.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Until August 2020

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS
**DROP-IN: SEACHTAIN NA
GAELIGE ACTIVITY SHEETS**

Tar chugainn le trial a bhaint as Conair Gníomhaíochta trí Ghaeilge sa Mhúsaem, oirlúnach do pháistí idir 8–12 bhliain d'aois, ar fail linn Seachtain na Gaeilge. I mí an Mhárta 2020 beimid ag seoladh 'Naeimh, Scéalta agus Scríobhathie na hÉireann,' an bhileog ghníomhaíochta is nuaf dár gcuid, aistrithe go Gaeilge. Ná déan dearmad do pheann luaidhe a thabhairt leat! Drop into the Museum during Seachtain na Gaeilge to pick up our trails in Irish, suitable for children aged 8–12. In March 2020 we will be launching our new Irish language activity sheet 'Irish Saints, Stories and Scribes'. Don't forget to bring your pencil!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
1st–17th March 2020 | No booking required

EVENT
DROP-IN: EVENTS

Our free drop-in events are educational and created with family fun in mind. Developed by our Museum Educators, these workshops use replica handling objects, crafts or games to explore the Museum's artefacts and exhibitions. Your family can drop in and may spend as much time as you like at these events.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Weekends and school holidays |
No booking required

ACTIVITY
DROP-IN: MEGALITHIC DRAW!

To celebrate the Spring Equinox, join in our 'Super Megalithic Big Draw'. Come decorate our GIANT megalithic stone with designs and patterns seen on the megalithic tombs of Ireland. Learn how to create wonderful designs and patterns and create your own cave hand print. Visit museum.ie for more information.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Saturday 21st March 2020 | 1.30pm–3.30pm |
No booking required

EVENT**VIKING OPEN DAY**

Come to the Museum and meet our Vikings! Speak to our re-enactors and discover how the Vikings lived in Ireland, from how they made their clothes, to what types of foods they ate and which weapons they used going into battle. Learn more about the Irish monks and other Irish people they encountered when they first came to Ireland in the 8th century. Visit museum.ie for more information.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

Saturday 18th April 2020 | 11am–4pm |
No booking required

OPEN NIGHT**CULTURE NIGHT: ‘EXPERIMENTING WITH THE PAST’**

This September, the National Museum is partnering with UCD School of Archaeology, Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture for a unique Culture Night experience! Drop in and meet with archaeologists who are researching in the field of experimental archaeology. Examine replica artefacts, take part in hands-on activities and see demonstrations from flint knapping to prehistoric pottery production. For more information see museum.ie and culturenight.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

Friday 18th September 2020 | 5pm–8pm |
No booking required | All ages

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS**DROP-IN: TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS**

Explore the exhibitions with children and school groups using our specially designed activity sheets. You can choose from ‘The Treasury Trail’, ‘The Viking Challenge’, ‘Ancient Egypt’, ‘Winter Trail’, or ‘My Favourite Object’. We develop new trails to reflect seasonal and festival themes such as St. Patrick’s Festival and Heritage Week. You can pick up a free activity sheet at the Museum entrance area – don’t forget to bring your pencil! Visit museum.ie for more information.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

During opening hours | No booking required

ACTIVITY**DROP-IN: MARVELLOUS MUSEUM MID-TERMS**

We will have a range of family activities during Spring and Autumn mid-terms in 2020. Crafts and hands-on activities explore new ways in which you and your family can learn about the objects in the National Museum. Events will take place in the Kildare Room, or our Learning Resource Room. Speak with our enthusiastic Museum educators about the collections, or take a closer look at some of our Museum grade replicas.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

February and October 2020 |
No booking required

OUTREACH**DROP-IN: OUTREACH TO GALWAY CITY MUSEUM: PREHISTORY MYSTERIES — THE BRONZE AGE**

The Education Team are at Galway City Museum as part of Galway 2020 and the new Galway City Museum exhibition, ‘MONUMENT’. This exhibition explores the Bronze Age communities who created the stone forts of the Aran Islands, such as Dún Aonghasa. Families can drop in to the Museum to discover some of the secrets of surviving in the past in Ireland and get hands-on with some replicas of the National Museum of Ireland’s artefacts. Please see museum.ie or galwaycitymuseum.ie in March for further information and information on wheelchair accessibility.

Galway City Museum

Saturday 7th March | 2.30pm–4pm |
No booking required

EVENT**SEASONAL FAMILY EVENTS**

To celebrate the seasons, we host a wide variety of seasonal events connected to our permanent collections. Whether it’s making St Brigid’s Crosses, decorating Easter Cards or hearing spooky Hallowe’en tales, there is an extensive range of fun and exciting programmes for families all year round.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

All year round | All ages

EVENT**DROP-IN: SCIENCE WEEK 2020**

Each year, the Museum partners with experts in the world of science to offer events that look at the scientific methods used in archaeology and how these help us to understand the lives of people in the past. Following on from a successful series of events in 2019 with archaeologists from Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Queen’s University Belfast and University College Dublin, we are planning more events for Science Week 2020. See museum.ie in November for more details.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

8th–15th November 2020 | Booking required for some events

FESTIVAL**DROP-IN: MIDLANDS SCIENCE FESTIVAL**

The Education Team at the National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology will be out and about this Science Week in Athlone! Organised in collaboration with Midlands Science in association with the Heritage Office of Westmeath County Council, the programme offers families the opportunity to explore the archaeological evidence of Vikings in the Midlands and West of Ireland. This is part of a three-year partnership with Midlands Science, extending the Museum’s reach to Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath. See museum.ie and midlandsscience.ie this Autumn for more details.

Athlone, Co Westmeath

Tuesday 10th November 2020 | Suitable for children 7–12 years of age

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS FAMILY FUN

Our worksheets and trails are a fun way to discover and explore our collections and galleries. Your family can choose from animal or seasonal trails reflecting Hallowe'en and Christmas. Or you can help us find Peadar! All worksheets and resources are available from our activity carts in the galleries.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
All year round | All ages

WORKSHOP MAKE CREATE INNOVATE: GREEN DESIGN Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Families participating in this workshop will take some inspiration from the 1950's kitchen to prototype 'smart homeware' by combining creative technology with re-usable materials. Come up with your green design solutions for everything that endangers our environment, from coffee capsule machines to baking trays.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
Saturday 14th March 2020 | 12noon,
1.30pm & 3pm | Booking required

WORKSHOP GENDER IN THE KITCHEN

'Make Create Innovate' presents a set of creative technology workshops that invite you to look at how products and appliances could be better designed and marketed for a modern world where gender equality is the best recipe.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
Saturday 16th May 2020 | 12noon,
1.30pm & 3pm | Booking Required

EVENT BIRDS, BEES AND TREES: CELEBRATING THE START OF AN IRISH SPRING Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Spring into life in this two-day family event, celebrating the traditional Irish spring season. Explore gardening, growing and nature and learn some simple ways that you can promote biodiversity to help protect our natural world. Hear from a range of gardening and nature experts, join a talk or walk, and see demonstrations and stands in the marquee. There will be a special focus on bees and other pollinators and why they are so important.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
Saturday 8th & Sunday 9th February 2020 |
Saturday 11am-4pm | Sunday
1pm-4pm | No booking required

“Great to see an excellent outdoor event in Collins Barracks for all ages to enjoy”

PARENT AND PARTICIPANT

EVENT HERITAGE WEEK 2020 Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

The National Museum is proud to be part of National Heritage Week, a celebration of Ireland's rich cultural and environmental heritage. Coordinated by the Heritage Council, this year's theme is Heritage and Education. We're planning an exciting and diverse programme of events for all ages for Heritage Week, including tours, talks and hands-on workshops exploring our Decorative Arts & History collections! For up-to-date details, keep a look out for the full programme on the Museum's website.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
15th-23rd August 2020





RESOURCE FAMILY GUIDE

Pick up a 'Family Guide' at the Museum reception and find out what's on for families at Collins Barracks. The Guide highlights what you can see in the galleries, along with objects that other families recommend. Find out where to go if you're looking for something to do like drawing, designing or dressing up in one of our interactive spaces. We have a lot happening throughout the year for intergenerational groups and families so check the Museum website to discover more about our highlights for 2020!

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History

Events all year round | Events for all ages

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS SEACHTAIN NA NGAEILGE 2020

Tar chugainn le trial a bhaint as Conair Gníomhaíochta trí Ghaeilge sa Mhúsaem, oiriúnach do pháistí idir 8–12 bhliain d'aois, ar fáil le linn Seachtain na Gaeilge. Drop in and try out a Museum activity trail in Irish, suitable for children aged 8–12 years old, available during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History

1–17 Márta 2020 | Ní gá aon áirithintí |
1st–17th March 2020 | No booking required



COURTESY OF PAUL SHERWOOD

BILINGUAL TOUR TURAS DEARBHÚ NA POBLACHTA: ÉIRÍ AMACH 1916

Glac páirt linn i Seachtain na Gaeilge, ar an turas dátheangach don taispeántas 'Dearbhú na Poblachta: Éirí Amach 1916', le teoir an Mhúsaem, staraí Déaglán Ó Brádaigh. Déanfimid leithroinnt d'áiteanna cúig nóiméad déag sula dtosaíonn an turas. Take part in Seachtain na Gaeilge, by joining Museum Guide Declan Brady on a bilingual tour of 'Proclaiming a Republic: The 1916 Rising' exhibition. Places allocated 15 minutes before tour starts.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History

Dé Domhnaigh 15 Márta 2020 | 3pm–4pm |
Ní gá aon áirithintí | Sunday 15th March
2020 | 3pm–4pm | No booking required

WORKSHOP NATIONAL DRAWING DAY 2020

Join award-winning animation company 'Paper Panther' at the Museum, to celebrate National Drawing Day. In this family friendly workshop, we will be looking at different ways of approaching drawing through animation, taking direct inspiration from the Museum collections at Collins Barracks.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History

Saturday 16th May 2020 |
No booking required

FESTIVAL
STONEYPATTER FESTIVAL

At Collins Barracks we're joining in this fun-filled festival, now in its fourth year, which unites our local community and showcases everything this great part of Dublin has to offer! Check the Museum website for up-to-date information on our programme for this year's festival, which will include events for all ages!

Stoneybatter, Dublin
20th–21st June 2020 | Events for all ages

WORKSHOP
CHRISTMAS OPEN DAY

This year our theme is 'A Storybook Christmas' with drop-in workshops for families and adults to explore and enjoy some festive stories while crafting up your own Christmas tales!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
Sunday, 6th December 2020 |
All ages | Admission free

FESTIVAL
OPEN HOUSE FESTIVAL

Ireland's largest architecture and design festival invites all citizens to explore their city! We'll be inviting budding designers and architects to take part in a family hands-on activity. Keep an eye out for further details!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
9th–11th October 2020 | Events for all ages

FESTIVAL
**DUBLIN FESTIVAL OF HISTORY —
FÉILE NA STAIRE BAILE
ÁTHA CLIATH**

We're delighted to be a partner in Dublin City Council's Festival of History, so keep a look out for our programme, which will include a range of free events for families and adults!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
October 2020 | Events for all ages

“The Museum staff were really lovely and the artist had an unbelievable energy and a great manner with the kids”

**PARENT AND
WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT**

WORKSHOP
**SMARTPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY
WORKSHOPS WITH BRENDAN Ó SÉ**

As part of our programme for the exhibition 'Ireland in Focus', multi-award winning fine art photographer, Brendan Ó Sé hosts two workshops dedicated to smartphone photography for adults and young people aged 12 and up. With more than 20 years of experience, Brendan will lead a hands-on learning experience, enabling participants to immediately put into practice the tips and tricks covered during the workshop. Remember to please bring along your smartphone and your charger!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
Sunday 16th February & Sunday 26th
April 2020 | 2–4pm | Admission free |
Booking required



COURTESY OF BRENDAN Ó SÉ

“Really lovely event with excellent engaging approach by staff. Really great — my 10 year old and us loved it! Great knowledge.”

PARENT AND WORKSHOP PARTICIPANT

OPEN DAY
FAMILY OPEN DAY: NATURE HEROES
 Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Drop in to the Museum this mid-term and meet some real nature heroes from organisations such as BirdWatch Ireland, Irish Whale & Dolphin Group, Seal Rescue Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland, The Herpetological Society of Ireland and more! Discover and explore Irish nature, sustainability and how to be more environmentally friendly to wildlife. Join different activities and short talks on the day during this free, fun and educational event.

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History
 Saturday 22nd February 2020 | 10am–4pm
 All ages | No booking required | Partially wheelchair accessible



COURTESY OF PAUL SHERWOOD

TRAILS AND ACTIVITY SHEETS
SEASONAL TRAIL
 Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Keep an eye on the website for information about seasonal trails, or pick up an activity sheet in the Museum. When exploring the exhibitions, pick up a trail! Find the creatures on display for answers, just don't forget to bring a pencil! Choose from 'My Favourite Animal', seasonal trails including 'Spring Into Action', 'Summer Sun', 'Busy Bees' and 'Do Not Disturb!'. For biodiversity learning, take the 'Zoo in My Garden' or 'Everything Counts'.

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History
 All year round

LECTURE
KIDS SCIENCE LECTURES

A new series of talks at the 'Wonder Cabinet', designed especially for children and exploring in a deeper way the world of Natural History. Held on Saturday mornings, these half hour talks are for children who wish to learn more about the collections of the Museums and the environment. Kicking off in January there will be one lecture per quarter. Keep an eye on the Museum website for more information.

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History
 Saturday mornings | Once per quarter

PROGRAMMES
HOME EDUCATED CHILDREN
 Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

In 2020 there will be a number of tours and workshops planned for children who are home educated. These programmes will cover themes inspired by the collections at the Museum. Parents interested in attending a programme with their children, please register interest by emailing us at bookings@museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History
 Registration required

ACTIVITY
INCREDIBLE CROCS AND AMAZING ALLIGATORS

Built-in goggles, an immune system that can kill off the deadliest of diseases, and the strongest bite force in the animal kingdom! Hear from herpetological expert Rob Gandola about the amazing adaptations of crocodiles and alligators that have kept them unchanged for millions of years and at the top of the food chain. Please phone (01) 6486 316 or contact educationnh@museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Natural History
 Saturday 25th January 2020 | 10am–10:30am | Booking required

ACTIVITY
NATIONAL DRAWING DAY:
MY FAVOURITE ANIMAL

Claws, paws, or feathered friends that ‘caw’? On National Drawing Day, we invite visitors of all ages to explore our collections and find their favourite animal. Drop into the ‘Wonder Cabinet’ and take part in our ‘My Favourite Animal’ drawing activity. Submit your artwork to vote for your favourite animal. Those animals drawn most on the day will be included in a larger piece, part of ‘Graffiti in the Garden’, commissioned by the Museum for Heritage Week 2020. For more details and event time check museum.ie from April.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)
 Saturday 16th May 2020 | All ages

ACTIVITY
DROP-IN: WHAT IS
AN INSPECTORIUM?

An Inspectorium is a free, fun and educational drop-in activity. Meet a Museum Educator and learn all about the animals and fossils that live at the Dead Zoo. Get a chance to do some hands-on exploration with bones, fossils or fur from the handling collection, or see them up close under our microscope at special Inspectoriums at the ‘Wonder Cabinet’! You can stay for 15 minutes, or drop by for five, to learn lots of exciting scientific information. Visit museum.ie for more information about upcoming Inspectoriums.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)
 All ages | Admission free

ACTIVITY
HERITAGE WEEK INSPECTORIUM:
GRAFFITI IN THE GARDEN
[Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme](#)

Drop in to the ‘Wonder Cabinet’ and touch and examine real endangered animals from the handling collection, inspiring your inner artist-scientist to create your own piece of nature art! Don’t forget to check out the ‘Graffiti in the Garden’ and see which animals were chosen most by the public for inclusion in the artwork!

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)
 Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th August 2020 | 11am–1pm | Drop in activities

TALK
CELTIC CALENDAR TALK SERIES:
IRISH WILDLIFE AND THE SEASONS
[Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme](#)

The Celtic calendar was linked to changes in nature, movements of the sun and moon, and the seasons. This series, taking place over the Celtic calendar year from 1st November 2019 to 31st October, celebrates native wildlife associated with different seasons in Ireland. Some animals are traditionally associated with certain times of year through myths and legends. Drop in to hear some of the old stories, and discover the real animal behaviours that inspired them!

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)
 1st February | 2nd May | 1st August | 31st October | 12pm & 2pm | Drop in activities
 No booking required



Partnership is at the core of how we work in the Education Department. Here are some of the partners we are working with in 2020.

AP+E Architects
ATECI—Education Centre Network
Arts and Cultural in Education Research Repository
Acrewood
Age and Opportunity
An Síol Community Development Project
Bat Conservation Ireland
BirdWatch Ireland
Bricks 4 Kids
Clare County Council
Commemorations Unit, Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Council of National Cultural Institutions
Creative Ireland Programme
Department of Education and Skills
Detail. Design
Dublin 7 Children & Youth Action Group
Dublin City Arts Office
Dublin City Council Culture Company
Dublin Festival of History
Dublin Port Company
ESB Archives
Education Centre Network
Encountering the Arts Ireland
Fighting Words Mayo
Foxford Riverfest Committee

GMIT Letterfrack
Galway City Museum
Galway County Council
Galway Mayo Institute of Technology
Geological Survey of Ireland
Grangegorman Development Agency
Greening Stoneybatter
Heritage Council
History Teachers' Association of Ireland
Hugh Lane Gallery
Inland Fisheries Ireland
Irish Architectural Foundation
Irish Film Institute
Irish Herpetological Society
Irish Whale and Dolphin Group
Jackie Clarke Library
Kids Own
Kilmainham Gaol
Make Create Innovate
Makermeet
Maths Week Ireland
Mayo County Council
Mayo ICA
Mayo Intercultural Action
Midland's Science Festival
NUI Galway

National College of Art and Design
National Gallery of Ireland
National Parks & Wildlife Service
OUTing the Past
Pavee Point
Phizzfest
Poetry Ireland
Queen's University Belfast
Royal Irish Academy
Royal Irish Academy of Music
Science Foundation Ireland
Seachtain na Gaeilge
Seal Rescue Ireland
Stoneybatter Festival
Stoneybatter Pride of Place
Storytellers of Ireland
TCD Department of Zoology
TU Dublin
Tipperary County Museum
Transport Infrastructure Ireland
UCD Centre for Experimental Archaeology and Material Culture
UCD School of Archaeology
University College Cork
Westmeath Heritage Office
Wicklow County Council
Wool in School

Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN)

County Clare

Clarecastle & Ballyea Heritage Group
Kilkee Heritage Group
Scattery Island Heritage Group
Shannon Historical Society

County Galway

Abbey & District Heritage Group
Claregalway Historical Society
Killereen Heritage Group
Milltown Heritage Group
Moycullen Heritage Group
Moylough Heritage Society
Skehana & District Heritage Group
Woodlawn Heritage Group

County Mayo

Ballinrobe Archaeological & Historical Society
Louisburgh-Killeen Heritage Group

County Wicklow

Delgany Heritage Village
Donard Imaal History
Glendalough Heritage Forum
Glens of Lead
The Medieval Bray Project
Wicklow's ancient hidden heartland

If you are a young adult or young at heart, engage your curiosity and stimulate your creativity by participating in our adult programmes. Inspired by the Museums' exhibitions and collections, they include conferences, seminars, talks, tours and workshops, all designed to be relevant, accessible, sociable and enjoyable. We work with communities and partners across a range of sectors to design and develop programmes, and we value collaborating with people to evaluate impact.

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information, please contact bookings@museum.ie or educationtph@museum.ie.

Adults and Lifelong Learning

TOUR

RECENT FINDS AND NEW DISPLAYS AT THE MUSEUM

Come and see some of the newly displayed artefacts at the Museum, including the Prosperous Crozier from Kildare and four gold Bronze Age Rings found in Donegal, June 2018. Throughout the tour, learn more about some of the more recent research and developments in the field of archaeology. Please see museum.ie for details.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
All year round

WORKSHOP

BEALTAINE WORKSHOP: VIKING NEEDLE BINDING WITH ELLEN HAGEN

As part of the Bealtaine festival celebrating creativity as we age, Ellen Hagen from the Museum of Archaeology at the University of Stavanger, Norway, will explore the skill of 'Nålbinding' or needle binding, which the Vikings used in the fabrication of their clothes. Ellen will give an overview of the history of needle binding, then demonstrate and teach the technique. To book, email educationarch@museum.ie or call (01) 6486 334 from April 2020.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
Friday 8th May 2020 | Places limited | Booking required

TOUR

SOLSTICES AND EQUINOXES

We see how people marked and measured time in Stone Age and Bronze Age Ireland through the monuments they built, and how they aligned to key celestial events. Many objects also feature imagery that reflects solar symbols, especially the Bronze Age gold found in Ireland. Join our special tours at the Solstices and Equinoxes to see how people celebrated these in Prehistoric Ireland. Visit museum.ie for listings. To book, email educationarch@museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
March, June, September and December | Places limited | Booking required

LECTURE

GLENDALOUGH: POWER, PRAYER AND PENANCE

A new exhibition, 'Glendalough: Power, Prayer and Penance', will open later this year at the Museum of Archaeology. The curator of the exhibition, Matthew Seaver, Museum Archaeologist in the Irish Antiquities Division, will deliver a lecture discussing the artefacts, excavations and history of this hugely important archaeological and ecclesiastical site. Places must be booked. Please check the museum.ie for more information later in spring 2020.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
Booking required

LECTURE

IRISH SHEELA NA GIGS WITH EAMONN P KELLY, FORMER KEEPER OF IRISH ANTIQUITIES

Eamonn P Kelly, former Keeper of Irish Antiquities, will discuss the competing theories about the meaning and significance of Sheela na Gigs sculptures. About 100 examples are recorded in Ireland and their main distribution is co-extensive with areas of Anglo-Norman settlement. The figures appear on parish churches and monastic sites associated with continental religious orders, while examples found on medieval castles and tower houses may be later in date. To book, email educationarch@museum.ie from April.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
Wednesday 27th May 2020 | Lunchtime | Booking Required

LECTURE

MIDLANDS SCIENCE FESTIVAL: THE VIKINGS IN THE WEST

This talk by Maeve Sikora, Keeper of Irish Antiquities at the Museum, will discuss finds relating to the Vikings from the Shannon River basin and west of Ireland. Organised in collaboration with Midlands Science in association with the Heritage Office of Westmeath County Council, this is part of a three-year partnership with Midlands Science, extending the Museum's reach to Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath.

Athlone, Co Westmeath
10th November 2020

LECTURE

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

These lunchtime talks will explore how discoveries of archaeological sites and artefacts, and the preservation of Ireland's archaeological landscape and built heritage, will be impacted on by climate change. Speakers will include members of staff of the National Museum of Ireland, National Monuments Service and OPW staff who are part of the Climate Change Advisory Group for Built & Archaeological Heritage. To book, email educationarch@museum.ie from August.

National Museum of Ireland — Archaeology
Autumn | Lunchtime | Booking Required

EXHIBITION

ELECTRIC IRISH HOMES TEXTILE PROJECT

This project is a collaboration between artist Anna Spearman and a group of women exploring and responding to the themes of the 'Kitchen Power' exhibition. The women's artworks are on display at the Museum. Events include a talk with Dr Caitriona Clear on modernisation in Irish Women's magazines, a seminar with international speakers looking at national parallels of modernising the traditional home and a celebration of the textile project for Bealtaine.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life
Until July 2020 | Booking required for talks

EXHIBITION**SÉAMUS MAG UIDHIR MAYO
FOLKLORIST (1902–1969)**

To mark the 50th anniversary of the death of Mayo folklorist and writer, Séamus Mag Uidhir (1902–1969) from Dooooma, Erris, a panel-based exhibition commemorating his life and work will go on display in the Museum of Country Life. As part of this exhibition, Dr Ríonach úí Ógáin will give a talk on the earliest collecting of folklore, with a Mayo focus, on 27th January 2020.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

January to April 2020 | No booking required

WORKSHOP**IMBOLC — A MODERN MYTHOLOGY
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme**

Join internationally renowned designer and textile artist Alison Conneely in a storytelling and textile workshop celebrating cultural diversity and inspired by the first traditional Gaelic festival of the year, St Brigid's Day. The workshop is part of a major design project involving Conneely and the United Nations. All are welcome, near and far, to participate in swapping traditions, rituals and beliefs around springtime and renewal.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Saturday 1st February 2020 | 10am–1.30pm | Booking required | Admission free

EXHIBITION**A MODERN EYE — HELEN
HOOKER O'MALLEY'S IRELAND**

This exhibition of photography by artist Helen Hooker O'Malley will go on display in the Museum's Courtyard Gallery. A programme of mid-week talks will take place based on this exhibition, with speakers: Nicola Ralston from the National Library in February; Orla Fitzpatrick from the National Museum in March; and Cormac Hooker O'Malley in April.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

27th January to 27th April 2020 | Booking required for talks | Courtyard Gallery

LECTURE**AN OUTSIDER'S EYE?
PHOTOGRAPHING 1950S IRELAND**

This seminar brings the curator of the exhibition 'Ireland in Focus', Dr Fidelma Mullane, together with Dr Orla Fitzpatrick, John Minihan, and Dr Dragana Jurisic, to explore the Ireland of the 1950s that was depicted by Henri Cartier Bresson, Dorothea Lange and Robert Cresswell. With curator Valerie Connor as chair, the panel discussion will also look at the photographer as an outsider and explore the relationship between the subject and the photographer and how this has changed since the 1950s.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Saturday 15th February 2020 | 2pm–4pm | Booking required | Admission free

“This was a really interesting, challenging and encouraging seminar.”

PARTICIPANT AT A SEMINAR
HELD IN OCTOBER 2019

FESTIVAL**OUTING THE PAST**

OUTing the Past: The International Festival of Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Trans History is an international celebration of events, taking place throughout the year, bringing together academics and activists. The Museum joins the National Gallery of Ireland and Kilmainham Gaol, in hosting this three-day celebration of LGBT+ History, with events happening at Collins Barracks on Sunday, 22nd March. Check the Museum website for a full programme across all three cultural institutions.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Sunday 22nd March 2020 | 1pm–5pm | Booking required | Admission free



SYMPOSIUM**REIMAGINING THE DECADE:
NEW RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM****Decade of Commemorations Programme**

This symposium will present new research in the areas of Public History, Design History and Heritage Studies, reflecting artefacts and collections from the Museum of Decorative Arts & History around the themes of War of Independence, Partition, Civil War and the founding of the Free State. See Eventbrite for details.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Saturday 29th February 2020 | Booking required | Admission free

FESTIVAL**DUBLIN FESTIVAL OF HISTORY**

We are delighted to partner with Dublin City Council to celebrate the Dublin Festival of History. Our programme includes a range of free events for adults.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

October 2020 | Booking required | Admission free

TOUR**CONSERVATION STUDIO TOURS**

Every quarter we open up the doors of our Conservation Studios and invite the public in to take a behind-the-scenes tour and meet our conservators. Join us on one of the 2020 tours to discover more about the important work they do for the conservation of objects in our collections.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Thursday 13th February | Thursday 14th May | Thursday 20th August | Thursday 12th November | All tours at 2.30pm–4pm | Booking required | Admission free

TOUR**PUBLIC TOURS****Decade of Commemorations Programme**

Join us for a free public tour on the last Sunday of the month. It's a great opportunity to explore the Museum with one of our knowledgeable and friendly tour guides. Check museum.ie for up-to-date information on tour topics and times.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Last Sunday of the month | Admission free

“The conference was first class... informative and thought-provoking, addressing important topics rarely discussed”

CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT**CONFERENCE****MEMORY AND THE MUSEUM****Decade of Commemorations Programme**

This conference aims to explore how Museums exist as spaces that embody both memory and history. Bringing together a broad range of academics, curators, artists and writers, we aim to examine how museums, their objects and collections reflect personal and collective memory in the context of the current decade of centenaries, including the War of Independence, Partition and the Civil War, as well as more recent Irish history. The conference will also address the wider European and global context.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

7th November 2020 | Booking required | Admission €20/€15



LECTURE
WONDER CABINET LUNCHTIME TALKS: AOIBHEANN GAUGHRAN

What do badgers get up to in the dark? Badgers are elusive animals, living in underground setts and only coming out at night. Discover more about this iconic native species, their biology and behaviour, and what signs to look out for if you think you might have badgers in your area. Please email educationnh@museum.ie or phone (01) 6486316.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)

Thursday 30th January 2020 | 1.15pm–1.45pm | Booking required | Wheelchair accessible

LECTURE
WONDER CABINET LUNCHTIME TALKS: ROB GANDOLA

Crocodiles, Chameleons and Forest Spirits: A Herpetologist's Dream! Madagascar has an incredible diversity of reptile species with an equally colourful array of associated superstitions. With herpetological expert Rob Gandola find out about some of the more unusual Malagasy reptiles, the folklore associated with them and how they could aid conservation efforts on this enigmatic island. For more details phone (01) 6486316 or email educationnh@museum.ie.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)

Thursday 12th March | 1.15pm–1.45pm | Booking required | Wheelchair accessible

LECTURE
WONDER CABINET LUNCHTIME TALKS: JAMIE DURRANT

Watch the Skies! Ireland is a haven and hub for key migratory bird species. In this talk learn about the everyday miracle of bird migration and the enormous distances birds travel to spend summer on the Island. Discover how to identify birds and help them when they arrive, with bird expert Jamie Durrant. For more details phone (01) 6486316 or email educationnh@museum.ie.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)

Thursday 27th February | 1.15pm–1.45pm | Booking required | Wheelchair accessible

LECTURE
AUTUMN LECTURE SERIES: PRESERVING AND PROTECTING DUBLIN PORT AND BAY

From its historic construction, to the accidental creation of the globally important wildlife habitat of Bull Island, Dublin Port is home to important built and natural heritage. This series explores how this heritage is protected, and discusses Customs' role in preventing illegal wildlife trade. Organised in partnership with Dublin Port Company. For more details check online from August 2020 at museum.ie or email educationnh@museum.ie.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)

Autumn | Booking required

DEBATE
SCIENCE WEEK 2020: THE EXTINCTION DEBATE

What does Ireland's extinction record look like? Are Irish extinctions preventable, or even reversible? At 'The Extinction Debate', the topical subject will be discussed in an Irish context, with reference to historic extinction events and the current sixth mass extinction. The panel of guest speakers will include experts from the fields of zoology, environmental science and geology. For more details check online at museum.ie or email educationnh@museum.ie from August 2020.

[National Museum of Ireland — Natural History](#)

Saturday 16th May 2020 | All ages | Booking required | Wheelchair accessible



Building sustainable relationships with our local communities is important to us. We want our learning programmes to reflect the diversity within our local communities. We want people living and working close to each of our four Museum sites to see us as their 'local museum'. Our aim is to open up the Museum as a space where people can share their stories and interpretations of the objects they see on display, with each other and with Museum staff.

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information, please contact bookings@museum.ie or educationtph@museum.ie.

Local Communities

TALKS AND TOUR CULTURE CLUB

Join our Culture Club talks and tours for residents of the wider Dublin area in Spring and Autumn 2020. Get to know your National Museum, speak with curators and Museum educators and explore the collections of the Museum from prehistoric to medieval times. Talks and tours will be 30–45 minutes in duration, followed by informal tea and chats. Organised in cooperation with Dublin City Council Culture Company. For more details email educationarch@museum.ie or call (01) 6486 334.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
2nd Friday of each month | 11.30am |
Booking required

FESTIVAL MIDLANDS SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The Education Department of the National Museum of Ireland – Archaeology is out and about this Science Week in Athlone. Join workshops and events exploring the impact of the Vikings on the River Shannon area. Organised in collaboration with Midlands Science, in association with the Heritage Office of Westmeath County Council, these events are part of a three year partnership with Midlands Science, extending the Museum's reach to Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath. See museum.ie and midlandsscience.ie this Autumn for more details.

Athlone, Co Westmeath
10th November 2020

TOUR IRISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED TOURS

Irish Sign Language interpretation will be provided for a number of our public tours in 2020. These tours will examine some of the beautiful and fascinating artefacts in the Museum of Archaeology's collection, ranging from Stone Age to Medieval times. Uncover the stories of how the artefacts were discovered and explore how they can help us understand life in Ireland in the past. Email educationarch@museum.ie for more details.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**
Each quarter throughout 2020 |
Booking required | Partially Wheelchair
Accessible

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY

The Museum will be reaching out to and working with local groups and organisations in the coming years, in recognition of the histories and knowledge held by communities about archaeological sites and artefacts.

GLENDALOUGH COMMUNITIES PROJECT

As part of the development of a new archaeology exhibition during 2020, 'Glendalough: Power, Prayer and Penance', the Museum will be working with Glendalough Heritage Forum and other communities living in the area on a number of projects and events to reflect exhibition themes.

OUTREACH MUSEUM OF COUNTRY LIFE ON TOUR

The Education team love to bring the Museum of Country Life on tour. We visit schools, community groups, adult education sessions, festivals, nursing homes and national events, including the National Ploughing Championships. Check museum.ie for dates and times.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

CULTURE CLUB CULTURE CLUB AT COLLINS BARRACKS

Produced in collaboration with Dublin City Council's Culture Connects, the National Museum of Ireland's Culture Club series includes guided tours of our exhibitions, followed by a relaxing and friendly tea and chat session. Tours span a range of themes and enable communities to dig deep and discover more about the Museum's collections with our Museum educators, curators and visiting artists. Tours are approximately 45–50 minutes long. Advance booking required at bookings@museum.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
Last Friday of every month | 11.30am |
Booking required

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT DROP-IN: MUSEUM GROUPS

The Museum of Country Life is a fantastic place to meet likeminded people with similar interests. The Connacht Textile Crafters, Mayo Genealogy Group, Knitting & Crochet Circle, Museum Writers Group and Music Circle meet regularly to pursue their own interests as well as engage with Museum staff and the public. These groups are core to our public engagement programme and we really value them as participants, content creators, disseminators, consumers and collaborators.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
All year round | Drop-in | No booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK ST. BRIGID'S DAY WITH JONNY DILLON

The first Culture Club of 2020 is a talk with Jonny Dillon, archivist with the National Folklore Collection, who will be discussing St Brigid's Day in folk tradition. There will be an opportunity to have a go at making your own St. Brigid's cross during the tea and chat session.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
31st January 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

“This partnership allows us to assist family historians and create diverse programming”

CHAIRPERSON OF THE
MAYO GENEALOGY GROUP

PARTNERSHIP
MAYO GENEALOGY GROUP
Decade of Commemorations Programme

The Mayo Genealogy Group meet regularly to undertake research. The Museum and the group will organise a series of talks, workshops and other events reflecting themes in the Decade of Commemorations, in particular how the War of Independence, Partition and the Civil War impacted on people's lives. Check museum.ie for more details.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**
Second Saturday of the month | 11.30am–1pm



COURTESY OF BRIAN CREGAN

CULTURE CLUB TALK
BACHELOR'S DAY
WITH ORLA FITZPATRICK

On the day before the 29th February, traditionally a time when women would propose marriage, National Museum librarian and design historian, Dr Orla Fitzpatrick will talk about an Irish wedding dress dating from 1880s, brought out of storage especially for Culture Club.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
28th February 2020 | 11.30am |
Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TOUR
IRELAND IN FOCUS:
PHOTOGRAPHING THE 1950S
WITH FIDELMA MULLANE

Join Dr Fidelma Mullane, curator of the 'Ireland in Focus: Photographing the 1950s' exhibition, for a tour focusing on the photography of Henri Cartier-Bresson, Robert Cresswell, and Dorothea Lange, who all visited Ireland in the 1950s, capturing images of daily life around the country.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
27th March 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK
IEPER AND THE IRISH IN
WWI WITH DIARMUID BOLGER
Decade of Commemorations Programme

For the 105th anniversary of the Second Battle of Ieper, Diarmuid Bolger, Education Assistant at the National Museum, will discuss the experiences of Irishmen and Irishwomen in Belgium during the First World War. Diarmuid will also talk about the current efforts being made in Ieper to identify the Irish who died there.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
24th April 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TOUR
IB JORGENSEN WITH ALEX WARD

Join Alex Ward, Keeper of the Museum's Art & Industrial Collections, for a tour of the exhibition 'Ib Jorgensen – A Fashion Retrospective', exploring the works of the Danish designer, who was one of Ireland's leading fashion designers from the 1950s to 1990s.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
29th May 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK
50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST PRIDE PARADE WITH TONIE WALSH

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Pride march, join Tonie Walsh, writer, archivist and activist, who will be discussing his work in creating the Irish Queer archive, as well as his experiences as an activist in Ireland over the last half-century.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 26th June 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK
SILVER IN GEORGIAN DUBLIN WITH ALISON FITZGERALD

Join Dr Alison FitzGerald from Maynooth University, for a talk considering the importance of silver goods in Georgian Ireland. Focusing on the practical and symbolic use of silverware, and using artefacts from the Museum's collection, along with evidence from contemporary accounts, Dr FitzGerald explores what these objects meant to those who bought, sold and converted them during the period.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 28th August 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK
THE BIODIVERSITY OF COLLINS BARRACKS WITH LORRAINE BULL
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Celebrate the summer by joining a walking tour of Collins Barracks with Lorraine Bull, Biodiversity Officer with the Dublin City Council, who will be discussing the biodiversity in the area, as well as other important environmental topics.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 31st July 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TALK
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF IRELAND WITH MATTHEW PARKES
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

This month, visit the National Museum of Ireland's new 'Exploring the Earth' exhibition, which celebrates the 175th anniversary of the Geological Survey of Ireland. Join co-curator Dr Matthew Parkes from the Museum's Natural History Division, who will be discussing the various environmental themes explored in the exhibition, as well as the history of the Geological Survey of Ireland.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 25th September 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TOUR
THE IRISH WARS WITH DECLAN BRADY
Decade of Commemorations Programme

To mark the centenary of the War of Independence, join Historian and Museum Guide Declan Brady for a tour of the Museum's 'Soldiers and Chiefs' exhibition, which covers the period 1913–1923 in Ireland, with a particular focus on the War of Independence and the events of late-1920.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 30th October 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

ACTIVITY
SEACHTAIN NA NGAELIGE
Decade of Commemorations Programme

Tar chugainn le trial a bhaint as Conair Gníomhaíochta trí Ghaeilge sa Mhúsaem, oiriúnach do pháistí idir 8–12 bhliain d'aois, ar fáil le linn Seachtain na Gaeilge. Drop in and try out a Museum activity trail in Irish, suitable for children aged 8–12 years old, available during Seachtain na Gaeilge.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 1–17 Márta 2020 | Ní gá aon áirithintí | 1st–17th March 2020 | Booking required

CULTURE CLUB TOUR
INFORM WITH EDITH ANDREES

Join Dr Edith Andrees of the National Museum of Ireland's Art & Industry Department for a tour of the 'InForm' exhibition, a contemporary metalwork and ceramics exhibition, in collaboration with the Design & Crafts Council of Ireland, featuring the work of graduates from the Skills and Design Courses in Kilkenny alongside historic objects from the Museum's collections that inspired their work.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 27th November 2020 | 11.30am | Booking required

TOUR
IRISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED TOURS AND EVENTS

Each quarter throughout 2020, we will provide Irish Sign Language (ISL) interpretation for one of our guided tours, starting with our guided tour on Sunday, 29th March. Visit the Museum website for more ISL tour information. All tours start at 3pm and take approximately 45 minutes.

National Museum of Ireland — Decorative Arts & History
 Sunday 29th March | Sunday 28th June
 Sunday 27th September | Sunday 6th December 2020 | 3pm

FESTIVAL STONEYPATTER FESTIVAL

At Collins Barracks we're joining in this fun-filled festival, now in its fourth year, which unites our local community and showcases everything this great part of Dublin has to offer! Check the Museum website for up-to-date information on our programme for this year's festival, which will include events for all ages!

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
20th–21st June 2020

ACTIVITY DROP-IN: GRAFFITI IN THE GARDEN Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Watch the garden of Dublin's 'Dead Zoo' come to life with the creation of a graffiti mural. A graffiti artist will create a living artwork in the garden of the Museum, drawing inspiration from the natural history collections and visitors' own artwork of their favourite animals! Themes of endangerment, extinction and sustainability will be under the spotlight. Visit museum.ie in April for details of event time.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
No booking required | All ages
Wheelchair accessible

FESTIVAL PHIZZFEST: GENERATION GAMES

We are delighted to be bringing our 'Generation Games' workshop to Phizzfest 2020. Phizzfest is an annual community arts festival celebrating artistic life around Phibsborough, highlighting the rich diversity of culture within the community and providing a showcase for local talent. This May Bank Holiday, make a date with your child, nan, great-auntie, or grandchild, and explore games, toys and other objects relating to childhood, from the Museum's handling collection. Join Museum educators in an immersive workshop, where you can find out about the games we played in the past! An intergeneration workshop, for families with children aged 7+. Check museum.ie for more.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
2nd May 2020 | 11am–12.30pm



While our learning programmes can be one-off events organised on a small or large scale, we also engage with people on longer-term projects. The duration of the project can vary according to the project aims and purpose, with some lasting six months, while others may last a number of years. Such projects facilitate communities to get to know new people, generate new ideas and connect on a deeper level with the Museum's collections. Working with people over a long time gives Museum staff and communities space and time to know each other, to create work and to learn together.

Accessibility varies according to each Museum site. For more information, please contact bookings@museum.ie or educationtph@museum.ie.

Special Projects

“Everyone is great in supporting each other. We are all learning and work on helping each other out, anywhere and in any way we can.”

MEMBERS OF ICAN

COMMUNITY ARCHIVING
THE IRISH COMMUNITY ARCHIVE NETWORK: SHARING OUR LOCAL HISTORY AND HERITAGE ONLINE

The Irish Community Archive Network (iCAN) draws on the knowledge, skills and expertise of heritage professionals and experienced volunteers to guide and support heritage groups in the development of digital archives. Over 2020, we will continue to expand and grow this project through a partnership between the National Museum of Ireland, the Creative Ireland Programme of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, and the Heritage Council. This partnership aims to encourage and facilitate more communities to reflect on and record their history, heritage and culture online. To find out more, visit ourheritage.org or contact lelms@museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland

COURTESY OF OCEAN MEDIA



FESTIVAL
MIDLANDS SCIENCE FESTIVAL

The Education Team at the National Museum of Ireland - Archaeology is out and about this Science Week in Athlone. Join workshops and events exploring the impact of the Vikings on the River Shannon area. Organised in collaboration with Midlands Science, in association with the Heritage Office of Westmeath County Council, these events are part of a three year partnership with Midlands Science, extending the Museum's reach to Laois, Offaly, Longford and Westmeath. See museum.ie and midlandsscience.ie this Autumn for more details.

Athlone, Co Westmeath

Tuesday 10th November 2020 | Suitable for children 7–12 years of age

EVENT
FINDING VOICE: CREATING CHOICE

Celebrate International Women's Day where women of all nationalities are invited to come together to share stories that transformed their lives. There will be poetry, music, dance, fashion and discussion about skills needed for health and wellbeing. The event will be interspersed with plenty of tea, coffee and cakes.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

Saturday 7th March 2020 | 12noon–4pm
 Booking required

TOUR
NEW INTERACTIVE TOUR
Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

We are responding to key environmental issues within society by developing a range of learning programmes for diverse audiences linked to the National Biodiversity Action Plan. This interactive tour will explore the diversity and abundance of life inhabiting our rivers and woodlands, create awareness of these habitats, discover the threats and explore ways in which everybody can help to protect them.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

From May 2020 | Booking required

PROJECT
INTERGENERATIONAL LIFE STORY PROJECT
Decade of Commemorations Programme

This collaborative project intends to connect and build bridges between generations by exploring themes such as identity, conflict, creating borders and the concept of nation against a background of the War of Independence, Partition, the Civil War and the establishment of the Free State. Objects will form a critical part of this project through a series of carefully planned and facilitated conversations using the collections in the Museum of Country Life as inspiration. To find out more, visit museum.ie or contact educationtph@museum.ie.

National Museum of Ireland — Country Life

“My granddaughters loved opening one of the small doors to see the little rabbit family, and stroking the soft rabbit fur.”

GRANDPARENT AND VISITOR

ACTIVITY CARTS
THE WONDER CABINET
AND THE DISCOVERY ZONE
 Sustainability and Biodiversity Programme

Hundreds of years ago, cabinets of curiosities were collections of remarkable objects used to tell stories of the natural world. Inspired by these, the exciting ‘Wonder Cabinet’ interactive exhibit opened in 2019. We are working with architects AP+E and master cabinetmakers Acrewood to add three interactive display activity carts with taxidermy and skeletons that will be unveiled this Spring. Drop in and explore hands-on this revamped and expanded Discovery Zone!

National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History
 All ages



COURTESY OF PAUL SHERWOOD

EXHIBITION
INFORM

InForm, a contemporary metal and ceramic exhibition, will go on display at the National Museum of Ireland at Collins Barracks from September 2020. The exhibition is the culmination of a 2 year long collaborative project between NMI and the Design & Crafts Council Ireland (DCCI). InForm displays the work of 24 graduates from the Kilkenny based Skills & Design Courses in Jewellery and Goldsmithing and Ceramics, next to historic objects from the NMI collections that inspired the contemporary designs. This exhibition aims to showcase new and upcoming designers’ work, and encourage fresh perspectives into artefacts from the Museum’s collections.

National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History
 September 2020

EVENT
MUSIC AND THE COLLECTIONS:
NMOI MUSICAL INSTRUMENT
COLLECTION

Musicians from the RIAM’s Historical Performance Department celebrate the rich musical instrument collection at Collins Barracks. Under the directorship of Claire Duff, with the RIAM’s Head of Historical Performance, David Adams, the vibrant musicians will present a number of short pop-up performances in the Museum, ahead of an hour-long concert featuring lively vocal and instrumental music performed on period instruments. Visit RIAM Eventbrite for details.

National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History
 Sunday 19th April 2020 | 3pm |
 Booking required | Admission €8/€5

EVENT
MUSIC AND THE COLLECTIONS:
THE ALBERT BENDER COLLECTION

Taking place during the Dublin Chinese New Year Festival, this concert in the series, ‘Music and the Collections’, takes its inspiration from Albert Bender, the Irish American donor of the Museum’s Asian art collection. Presented in partnership with the Royal Irish Academy of Music (RIAM) and in association with the Dublin Chinese New Year Festival. Visit RIAM Eventbrite for details.

National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History
 Sunday January 26th 2020 | 3pm |
 Booking required | Admission €8/€5

PROGRAMME
INTERGENERATIONAL
LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Following the success of the ‘Stories Between Us’ intergenerational public art project and exhibition, which featured tours and workshops through our schools and public programmes, we’re delighted to announce we’ll have more opportunities for intergenerational learning in 2020. We’re planning workshops through the Culture Club programme, and other events throughout the year in our public engagement programme. For up to date information check the Museum’s website.

National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History
 All ages

Handling objects has the power to stimulate memory, foster historical empathy and encourage interactivity using all our senses. Handling objects also stimulates people's curiosity and interest in the past and provides the opportunity to place history in your hands. At our four Museum sites, the Education Department has curated collections of 'handling objects' for use in tours, workshops and other programmes.

Handling Collections



RESOURCE
THE BRONZE AGE
HANDLING BOXES

Based on the Museum of Archaeology's Bronze Age collections, handling boxes are filled with replica artefacts and raw materials, making learning fun, active and thought provoking. This handling resource tells the story of the Bronze Age in Ireland. A variety of learning materials accompany each box, including a Resource Book providing teachers with a range of pedagogical strategies to enhance the teaching of archaeology. There are 42 handling boxes located in Education Centres throughout Ireland, available on loan to primary and post-primary schools.

National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology

RESOURCE
MUSEUM QUALITY REPLICAS
IN THE HANDLING COLLECTION

Our handling collection consists of handcrafted museum-quality replicas, created using the same raw materials and dimensions as the original artefacts. Recently, the Museum Education Team has worked with experimental archaeologists to create new replica objects. These objects, along with raw materials, are used as teaching aids as part of family workshops, drop-in activities, school workshops and tours, highlighting the depth and range of information we can gather about the past from artefact analysis.

National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology

EVENT
GALWAY 2020: PREHISTORY
MYSTERIES – THE BRONZE AGE

We are working with our Education colleagues at Galway City Museum on the development of workshops about the Bronze Age for spring 2020. High quality replicas from the Museum archaeology handling collection will be loaned to Galway City Museum for use during workshops and events, including a family event in March with staff from the National Museum of Ireland. Initiative is part of Galway 2020, linking with the new Galway City Museum exhibition, 'MONUMENT'.

Galway City Museum
 All Ages | Saturday 7th March 2020

RESOURCE
GLENDALOUGH
AND EARLY CHRISTIAN

As part of the development of a new exhibition at the Museum of Archaeology, 'Glendalough; Power, Prayer and Penance', the Museum will be expanding their replica collection relating to the Early Christian period in 2020.

National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology

RESOURCE HANDLING TABLE

The handling table is full of interesting objects to touch and interact with, including a hen's nest, butter prints, strawboy hats and a new heather lobster pot made by Joe Hogan. This bespoke resource holds fact sheets to help you discover fascinating stories behind these objects and can be downloaded from museum.ie.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

RESOURCE CLOTHING COLLECTIONS

Experience what clothing in 19th century rural Ireland was really like. Investigate authentic materials and traditional styles by trying on our collection of Irish clothing based on the Museum's collections. Some examples include pampooties, tweed trousers, shawls and much more. In 2020 we plan to develop and expand our clothing collection.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**



EVENTS DROP-IN: EVENTS

Throughout the year you can drop in to participate in free events suitable for all ages such as our 'Hands on History' sessions, where you can explore objects from our collection of objects for handling, or explore the exhibitions with Museum Guides in a range of family tours. You can also engage with handling objects in the 'Asgard' and 'Soldiers & Chiefs' exhibitions, the 'Barracks Life Room' and other exhibitions across the Museum.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**
All ages | Year round | Admission free

RESOURCE DISCOVERY BOX OF OBJECTS FOR HANDLING

Explore costumes, raw materials and accessories in the exhibition 'The Way We Wore: 250 Years of Irish Clothing and Jewellery' through handling objects. The box is an engaging and thought provoking way for students to explore the exhibition through hands-on learning. Referencing both old and new, the handling box contains raw fibres, samples of textiles, small frame loom with yarns for weaving, gloves, shoes and materials used to make jewellery which students can handle and investigate. To find out more, contact the bookings office at bookings@museum.ie or (01) 6486543.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

RESOURCE HANDLING COLLECTION

The handling collection consists of specimens that reflect the breadth of the Museum's collection. The collection includes taxidermy and skeletal material, bio-facts that are key tools in Museum learning programmes. Also included are Museum casts of specimens, and replicas, that enable continuous hands-on learning for the 300,000 plus visitors to the Museum. This extensive collection is used in drop-in Inspectoriums for families, school workshops and tours. In 2020 one of the largest items, the Brown Bear, will return in a new display close to the 'Wonder Cabinet'.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**

EVENT PLOUGHING CHAMPIONSHIPS

In 2020, Museum of Natural History Educators will be at the Ploughing Championships with unique specimens from the handling collection. Come visit them at the 'Cultural Institutions' stand and learn more about Ireland's wonderful animals and biodiversity.

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**
Tuesday 15th September –
Thursday 17th September 2020

We are always looking at ways that we can become more efficient and deliver a better service to the public. The National Museum of Ireland's Education team has expertise in developing learning programmes, resources and services for families, schools and teachers, adults, young people and diverse community groups. We plan on improving our public offer and service across our four Museum sites in 2020 by undertaking special initiatives that are listed in this section.

Improving our Service



Your Museum Team

The Education Department collaborates with our colleagues across all Museum departments: Commercial, Corporate Affairs, Conservation, Curatorial, Design, Facilities, Finance, IT, Marketing, Photography, Registration, Retail. All of us are working together to make a difference to your Museum experience!

Your Education Department Team at the Museum includes: Aisling Dunne, Annie Birney, Brendan McDonnell, Caragh May O'Mahony, Diarmuid Bolger, Emma Murphy, Geraldine Breen, Helen Beaumont, Lorna Elms, Lorraine Comer, Patricia Ryan, Sheila Stenson, Siobhan Pierce, Suzannah Vaughan and Tom Doyle. Grace O'Sullivan is contracted to work on the Information, Advice and Bookings at the Dublin sites.

Audience Research Schools

Understanding the needs of primary and post-primary schools who visit us, and who don't visit us, is important to us. We carried out audience research over a number of months to identify ways in which we could improve our offer and service to schools. The knowledge gained from this research project serves as a building block to understanding the learning needs and interests of schools and helps us to foster a closer relationship with this key audience. We are rolling out a number of recommendations from this study in 2020 across our four Museum sites.

Freelance Tour Guide Panel

Guided tours of our exhibitions are a core part of our education service. They enable as many diverse audiences as possible to discover and enjoy the Museum. Owing to demand from schools and families, we established a Freelance Tour Guide Panel at the Museum of Decorative Arts & History in 2016. We are establishing three more Freelance Tour Guide Panels at the Museums of Archaeology, Country Life and Natural History in 2020. This will enable us to provide more tours to the many different communities we serve.

Museums Standards Programme of Ireland (MSPI)

The Education Department continues to work closely with colleagues across all Museum departments to meet the standards of the Heritage Council's MSPI.

New Booking System

Our new online booking system is in development and is due to go live in 2020. This new system will allow users to book events in a more effective and streamlined way.

Policies

In 2020, the Education Department will develop a Community Engagement Policy. This will form a useful tool in helping us to provide a more cohesive and strategic approach to how we work with communities. We will also develop implementation plans for our recently developed Learning Policy and Handling Collections Policy.

Arts and Culture in Education Research Repository

In collaboration with the Department of Education and Skills and other partners in the cultural education sector, we are working towards creating an open access research repository. This repository will bring many benefits to the cultural sector.



COURTESY OF MICHAEL MCLOUGHLIN



PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER

“Just want to thank you for such an excellent and enjoyable tour. The children loved it and the guides were all so helpful and informative.”



PARTICIPANTS IN 'HANDS ON HISTORY'

“It’s really interesting in the Museum, a sign saying please touch, that was wonderful”



COURTESY OF PAUL SHERWOOD

GROUP MUSEUM VISITOR

“The group thoroughly enjoyed their visit, our Guide was very professional and passionate and gave an excellent tour despite being bombarded by questions from the group!”

INDIVIDUAL MUSEUM VISITOR

“I’ve enjoyed the chat as well as the chance to handle the artefacts, it really brings the history to life”

**National Museum of Ireland —
Archaeology**

Kildare Street, Dublin 2

Sunday and Monday, 1pm–5pm
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm

**National Museum of Ireland —
Country Life**

Turlough Park, Castlebar, Co. Mayo

Sunday and Monday, 1pm–5pm
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm

**National Museum of Ireland —
Decorative Arts & History**

Collins Barracks, Benburb Street, Dublin 7

Sunday and Monday, 1pm–5pm
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm

**National Museum of Ireland —
Natural History**

Merrion Street, Dublin 2

Sunday and Monday, 1pm–5pm
Tuesday–Saturday, 10am–5pm



All information correct at time of printing. However, events and programmes can change at short notice, so please do phone ahead or check museum.ie. All images courtesy of National Museum of Ireland unless otherwise indicated. Produced by the Education Department. With thanks to AAD design. Special thanks to the Photography and Marketing Departments for all their support with this publication.