# KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE

#### Kilkenny County Council Library Service Seirbhís Leabharlainne Chomhairle Contae Chill Chainnigh



# Listen up

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ecently a borrower returned a cassette tape of Roald Dahl's 'Fantastic Mister Fox' to City Library. We always appreciate returns, no matter the due date, but it is so long since users borrowed cassette tapes that this had been removed from the library catalogue some years ago!



While libraries used to provide mostly print books and titles on CD or cassette tape, the advent of digital technology has produced a huge range of different types of books: physical books, CD and MP3 audiobooks, and digital or electronic books (e-Books, e-Audiobooks).

Do you know how many different ways you can listen to library books? If you are at home, in the car, using WiFi, or away from Internet connection you can listen to fiction and non-fiction books, and even local history podcasts. You don't always need a smartphone or tablet to listen.

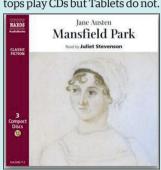


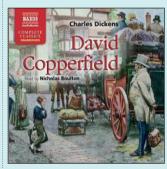
#### **Audiobooks on CD**

When CDs became popular, the cassette tape slowly phased out. Remember the Boombox from the

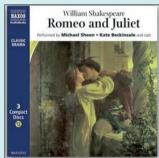


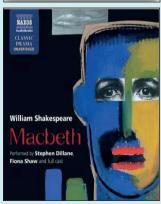
1980s and 1990s? If you have one of those in the spare room, dust it off it and use it to play CD audiobooks. Some computers and laptops play CDs but Tablets do not.



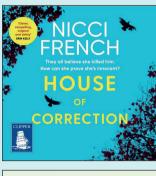


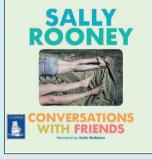
Did you plan to read the classics, like Jane Austen and Charles Dickens, during lockdowns and never got around to it? Borrow the CD audiobook on CD instead. Try David Copperfield, Mansfield Park or Agatha Christie's Murder series.





There is a wide selection of Shakespeare's dramas available to borrow, including BBC dramatisations of the plays - this is a great way to revise quotes for school curriculum plays. Some audiobooks of the plays are abridged (shortened) so make sure you get the full version, if borrowing for a school exam.

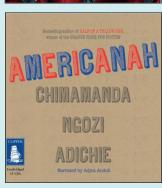




#### **Adult Fiction**

From classics to contemporary Irish authors like Sally Rooney and Jane Casey, the range of audiobooks on CD is broad. Some readers prefer authors reading their own audiobooks, others prefer professional narrators, who are often well-known actors such as Fiona Shaw narrating Anne Enright's The Gathering and Judi Dench narrating her autobiography And Furthermore.



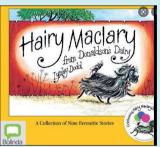


Enquire at your local library about CD audiobooks, or reserve through your library account on www.kilkennylibrary.ie or on the Kilkenny Library App (available from PlayStore on your smartphone or tablet). When searching and reserving on the library catalogue, refine your search by Format to select Spoken Recording.



#### **Children's Fiction:**

Children's CD audiobooks take the pressure off reading for everyone. Set aside some story listening time for parent/ carer and child. What a lovely way to spend a January afternoon. The Hairy McLary collections by Lynsey Dodd are perfect collections of stories for listening with younger children.



One parent said that their child was not quite able for the more challenging Harry Potter books, so he ordered the CD audiobook and the physical book. His child was happy to read along to the CD and enjoyed not having to ask his dad to read difficult words for him.

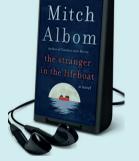
#### **PlayAways**



This is a pre-loaded audiobook which is supplied with on a AAA battery. The only technology you need for this is a pair of headphones or earbuds. The Playaway is designed with simple Stop/ Play/ Pause/ Forward and Rewind buttons. It is small and light; perfect for taking with you on a walk, or on a bus or train journey. Just pack a spare AAA

battery in case it runs out while you are engrossed in your book.

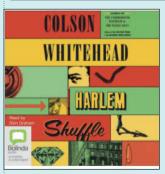






## Borrowbox eAudiobooks:





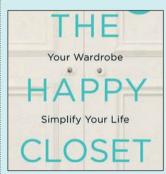
Listen to Borrowbox audiobooks by downloading MP3 digital files to your smartphone, tablet or computer. You must be a library member, and then sign up to Borrowbox through the Borrowbox App, or through an Internet browser on your device: www.kilkennylibrary.ie / Online Library / eAudiobooks.

Library staff can help you to set

this up, and support you by email or phone if you have problems getting started.

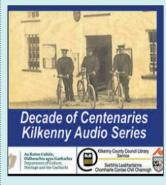
One of our borrowers regularly ordered CD audiobooks, and collected them weekly at City Library. After months of gentle reminding about how easy it is to use Borrowbox, and after getting support from library staff on how to download the App to her phone, she decided to give it a go, and hasn't looked back since: "I have so much choice with new titles, and when I finish one I can get another one straight away, without leaving the house. I can't believe I didn't try it sooner."

## Non-Fiction on Borrowbox



Have you still not gotten around to reading that self-help book yet? Perhaps it might be easier to listen to it as you declutter that wardrobe or start the first couch to 5km run?

#### Kilkenny Library Podcast Series



Keen on history? Explore our Decade of Centenaries podcast series, researched and recorded by author and historian Eoin Swithin Walsh (Kilkenny: In Times of Revolution 1900-1923) on our website.

Topics covered include Cumann na mBan in County Kilkenny, Everyday Kilkenny Life in 1921, the Friary Street Ambush, Dáil Courts in Kilkenny and more.

Listen to these podcasts on: www.kilkennylibrary.ie / Decade of Centenaries Kilkenny Audio Series

Click on the mp3 title link to listen through the website.