

KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE



Kilkenny County Council
Library Service



Mayfair celebrates 1 year open!



One year on...

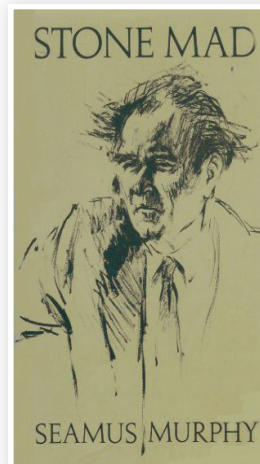
It is hard to believe that the Mayfair Library opened its doors to the public just one year ago this week! Visitors through the doors topped 1,000 on its first Saturday opening. Its history as the Mayfair Ballroom was recalled as library staff often heard "Many's the time I danced here", "I was here the night Jim Reeves played, the place was heaving" and "That's the pillar you hid behind if you didn't want to be asked to dance" (the pillar is in the Adult Fiction section, at Authors B to D for the curious!)



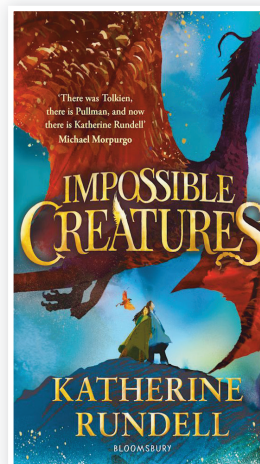
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Exhibition collaborations took place with Cartoon Saloon and the Heritage Council, MADE in Kilkenny, the Arts Office & Bookville Festival, Amber Women's Refuge and the Acorn Project.

Bookclubs



Non-fiction book club choice *Stone Mad* by Seamus Murphy



Junior book club choice *Impossible Creatures* by Katherine Rundell



Short Story book club choice *The Love Object* by Edna O'Brien

Mayfair Library hosts 6 bookclubs that meet monthly. These bookclubs read popular fiction, short stories and non-fiction, and there is a Junior Bookclub. Since opening the bookclubs have had 60 meetings in the library and read over eighty books! Keep an eye out for more bookclubs starting this year.

Top loans in the last 12 months:

Adult Fiction: *Think Twice* by Harlan Coben

Adult Non-Fiction: Katrio-na O' Sullivan's remarkable memoir *Poor*. The 2nd most borrowed was **The Official Driver Theory Test** - congratulations to those who passed their test!

Short-Term-Loan: (Popular new novels limited to a 10-day loan) **The Women** by Kristin Hannah; **Water** by John Boyne and **A Sicilian Affair** by Susan Lewis.

Young Adult Age 15-17: Graphic novels **Heartstopper** series (Alice Oseman) and **Sad Ghost Club** (Lize Meddings). **Novels Six of Crows** (Leigh Bardugo) and **The First to Die at the End** (Adam Silvera).

Children's Fiction: *Bunny Versus Monkey* titles were 3 out of 4 top loans.

Children's Non-fiction: 4 *My First Chess Book* and *My first colours*.

Children's Games: Nintendo Switch New Pokemon Snap & Peppa Pig Party (PEGI 3) and *Minecraft Legends* and *Lego Harry Potter* collection (PEGI 7).

DVDs: *Paw Patrol* (Family) and *Bring Me the Head of Alfredo Garcia* (18s).

Sensory Toy collection: *Popperboard* and *Hilltops* were the most borrowed toys.



A wonderful space for children and families to visit

Over the last year Mayfair library has been busy with numerous events for children and families. It has been wonderful for library staff to witness the enjoyment our books, space and activities have given to so many. We will never tire of the excitement on children's faces as they enter the library, it makes it all

worthwhile.

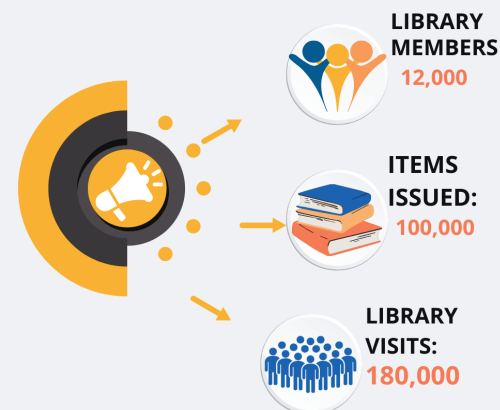
We have held some great events over the last year for children and families including Monster Doodle, Samba Drumming, Storytime with The BFG, Children's Christmas sewing workshop, Helena Byrne storyteller in residence story times, build a bear workshop to mention a few. See below some photos of these great events.



MAYFAIR LIBRARY

1 YEAR OPEN!

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The year in numbers

More than Numbers

In its first year the Mayfair Library issued over 100,000 items and had 180,000 library visits. Membership is almost 12,000 which is an impressive increase from 2,900 members of the Carnegie Library in 2019. The Mayfair Library holds 50,000 items on-site so there is an amount of shelving

ing to do in the morning before opening at 10am!

An astounding total of 862 events took place in the year, attended by 18,552 people. Events included crafts (knitting, sewing, weaving); weekly Storytime and Craft sessions; poetry, music, storytelling and sensory friendly events; a Ciorcal Comhrá, French Conversation and writers' groups; Monthly Repair Cafés; Age Friendly

Ciorcal Comhrá -
Seachtain na Gaeilge 2025



Bealtaine 2024 - Making a Mandala

computer classes; Healthy Ireland workshops; author visits; book launches; 2D game-making club; 337 school class visits; weekly 1-to-1 technology support; a Science Week programme in the Maker Space; 3D Printing and Introduction to AI sessions.