

KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE



Kilkenny County Council
Library Service



Kilkenny Libraries Bring Fire, Feast & Folklore to Life This Halloween



Kilkenny is embracing its ancient roots this October with a month-long celebration Home of Halloween, culminating in the festival of Samhain. Under the theme **Fire, Feast, Folklore**, Kilkenny Libraries are hosting a vibrant programme of events that blend Irish mythology, history, and hands-on fun for all ages.

The festivities began on **October 18th** with animation workshops led by **Cartoon Saloon's** Fabian Erlinghäuser, exploring character design inspired by the Kilkenny Witch Trials. These workshops run across multiple libraries until **November 8th**, catering to children aged 7-15.



On **October 22nd**, Ferrybank Library welcomes author **Ellen Ryan** for a storytelling session and interactive mythology quiz based on her books about Ireland's forgotten goddesses and immortals.

History and food combine on **October 28th** at Mayfair Library with **The School of Irish Archaeology's**



ELLEN RYAN
AUTHOR EVENT

22nd October
Ferrybank Library



MEDIEVAL BREAD
MAKING WORKSHOPS

28th October
Mayfair Library



MASK MAKING
WORKSHOP WITH
BLIASE BUTLER

30th October
Mayfair Library



CANDLELIT TALES
FOLKLORE STORYTELLING

4th November
Mayfair Library

Medieval Bread Making Workshop. Families can learn ancient baking techniques using traditional tools and fire pits—no booking required.

a captivating folklore performance for children and adults. Listeners will be transported to 1324 to hear the haunting tale of Dame Alice Kyteler and Ireland's first witchcraft trial.

With events rooted in Irish tradition and designed to spark imagination, Kilkenny Libraries promise a Halloween season filled with magic, myth, and meaningful memories. Booking details for each event are available at kilkennylibrary.ie.

Event Summary:

Oct 18: Animation Workshops – Ferrybank Library

Oct 22: Ellen Ryan Author Event – Ferrybank Library

Oct 28: Medieval Bread Making – Mayfair Library

Oct 30: Samhain Mask Making – Mayfair Library

Nov 1, 8: Animation Workshops – Mayfair & Castlecomer Libraries

Nov 4: Candlelit Tales Storytelling – Mayfair Library

Booking details for each event are available at kilkennylibrary.ie.

Creativity takes centre stage on **October 30th** with **Blaise Butler's Samhain Mask Making Workshop** at Mayfair Library, where children aged 7-12 can craft masks inspired by Irish folklore.

The storytelling continues on **November 4th** with **Candlelit Tales**,

MAYFAIR LIBRARY TO HOST COLLABORATIVE CLIMATE ACTION EVENT ON OCTOBER 24

To mark the **International Day of Climate Action**, Mayfair Library will host a collaborative, information-sharing event on Friday, October 24, bringing together key insights from across Kilkenny County Council and local enterprise to inspire and guide local climate action.

The event, titled **"Let's talk Action"**, will offer attendees the opportunity to engage with representatives from several key areas, including Climate Action Funding, Energy Management, Environment, Waste Management, Biodiversity & Active Travel.

This informal and inclusive session is designed to foster dialogue, share practical insights, and highlight the interconnected efforts being made to address climate challenges. Whether you're a concerned citizen, a curious learner, or an active participant in sustainability initiatives, attendees can explore resources, ask questions, and discover example of practical applications to build a more resilient and sustainable future. From biodiversity protection to active travel initiatives, the event will showcase how local actions contribute to global impact.

Drop-in anytime between 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, energy clinic appointments can be made in advance at the Mayfair reception. 'With winter approaching, heating is switched on, and energy costs are increasing. Book your spot to attend the energy clinic and learn how to read your energy bills, ask for tips on how to reduce your energy consumption and get advice on the energy grants available to you' Johan Muller - Energy Officer Kilkenny County Council.

Join us in celebrating the International Day of Climate Action by connecting with others, learning something new, and discovering how you can be part of the solution.

For more information, please contact: Climate@Kilkennycoco.ie



Little Library at Bedtime Returns!

Kilkenny County Council Library Service is delighted to announce the return of the Little Library at Bedtime initiative, part of Libraries Ireland's First 5 strategy. From now until the end of November, families with children aged 4 and under can collect a free bedtime story book and library card wallet at their local library.

This heartwarming initiative encourages parents to read with their children at bedtime, nurturing a lifelong love of books. Storybooks are available in both English and Irish, helping to build language imagination, and emotional intelligence from an early age.



Signing up for library membership ensures continued access to a world of stories and learning. In a busy digital age, bedtime reading remains a cherished tradition that strengthens bonds and supports child development.

Visit your local library today and start your family's bedtime story journey!