



Rathfarnham-Templeogue Firhouse-Bohernabreena ACM

Libraries Report | January 2025

December Statistics

- Ballyroan Library had 15,202 visitors in December, with 10,744 items issued, and 239 new members registered.
- Ballyroan Library had over ¼ million visitors in 2024. This represents a 31% increase on 2022. We issued 181,000 items and registered 5220 new members.
- Castletymon Library had 3875 visitors, with 2320 items issued and 66 newly registered patrons.



January Event Highlights Ballyroan

Firstival

Firstival is an exciting new festival designed for adults eager to step out of their comfort zones and dive into fresh experiences! This January, our libraries will transform into spaces of discovery, where you can explore unique activities you may have never tried before.

Monday 13th at 6pm

- **Bollywood Dance Taster Workshop** Join us for a vibrant Bollywood Dance Taster Workshop with Dharmendra Bollywood Dance School Ireland! Immerse yourself in the colourful world of Bollywood as you learn energetic, expressive dance moves inspired by Indian cinema.

Wednesday 15th 10am to 5pm

- **Basketmaking with Wicklow Willow** Join Aoife from Wicklow Willow on a full-day (10-5) Basketmaking course - you will learn traditional weaves and use them to make your very own Irish Sciob (traditional potato basket) to bring home on the day. Learn about how we use environmentally friendly, ethically sourced willow from well-established willow beds.

Thursday 16th 6pm

- **Silk Painting with Yelena Kosikh** Under the guidance of an experienced artist, you'll learn the essentials of silk painting, including blending vibrant colours and mastering simple yet effective techniques.

Tuesday 14th from 6.30pm and Friday 17th from 2pm

- **Sewing Machine Starter** Get into sewing with this hands-on sewing machine demonstration. This is the perfect opportunity to take that machine you bought out of the box at last and get inspired!! You could soon be on the road to making your own clothes or furnishings. All materials are provided.



Discover your new favourite activity at South Dublin Libraries this January



Firstival
13th - 18th January 2025

Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas
South Dublin County Council



January Adult Highlights Ballyroan

Monday 6th at 7pm

Celebrate Nollaig na mBan with the Mná 8 exhibition

At this special event to mark women's little Christmas, you'll get to meet artist Eva Kelly, and learn about the inspiration for the Mná 8 exhibition commissioned by South Dublin County Council.

Thursday 9th at 1.30pm

History Hub

This month we will be watching 'Violet Gibson', the bi-lingual (Irish and English) documentary that recounts the story of Irish woman Violet Gibson who tried to assassinate Benito Mussolini in 1926. Tea/coffee and chat afterwards.

Monday 20th at 5.30pm

Silver Screens at the Library

Welcome to Ballyroan Library's classic movie club! Watch the movie, have a chat! For our first screening we'll be watching Billy Wilder's classic "Sunset Boulevard".

Wednesday 29th at 2pm

Golden Moments - Make Your Own St Brigid's Cross

Join Aoife from Wicklow Willow for a wonderful crafting workshop making traditional St. Brigid's Crosses. In this workshop you will learn how to craft your own cross, using sustainably sourced rushes, and learn of the lore associated with St. Brigid and her famous crosses

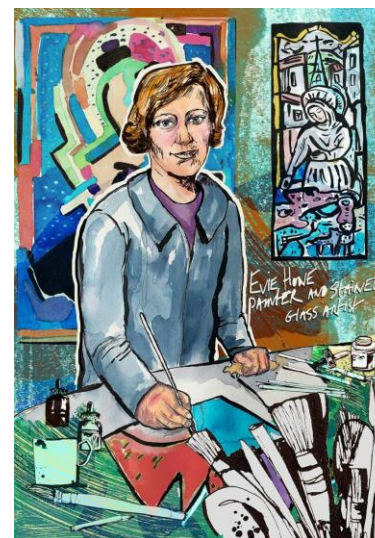
We have two new courses for adults provided by the DDLETB starting in January.

Smart Phone Course for Older Adults – Tuesdays at 2.30pm from 21st January

This will cover protecting yourself online, accessing WIFI, accessing and downloading apps (e.g. bus timetable) accessibility tools (microphone, enlarging font). Each participant will need their own phone.

Chair Yoga Course for Older Adults – Mondays at 2pm from 20th January

This course is a blend of movement, yoga poses, seated pilates, meditation, mindfulness and breathing practices that have been specifically tailored to ensure that everyone can enjoy the benefits that yoga has to offer.



Marking Nollaig na mBan with a tour of Eva Kelly's MNÁ 8 exhibition

Ballyroan Library

Celebrating the contribution of 8 women
to local culture and heritage



Regular events for Adults at Ballyroan Library

Ciorcal Cainte – Wednesday 8th at 11am.

Ballyroan Gardening Group - Friday 10th at 10am.

The Reading Circle – Thursday 16th at 7pm.

James Joyce Reading Group - Saturday 18th at 11am.

Stitched Together - Every Monday from 11am to 12.30pm and every Thursday from 6.30pm to 8pm

Exhibitions

6th – 25th January

Mná 8; Artist Eva Kelly's Mná 8 exhibition celebrates the contribution of 8 Irish women to local culture and heritage. It shines a spotlight on trailblazers and changemakers. Among those honoured are the 3 Pearse women and Katharine Tynan.



Ciorcal Cainte

Ballyroan Library



Events for Children and Teens at Ballyroan Library

Monday 6th at 4.30pm

Sensory Explorers: play session for neurodiverse children and their siblings.

A fun play session in a relaxed environment. Suitable for ages 5+.

Tuesdays 7th and 21st at 5pm

Teen Creative Writing Club

Join the library's creative writing group for teens. For ages 13-17.

Thursday 16th at 10am

Baby Bookclub

Gentle rhymes, songs and stories for little ones and their grown-ups.

Saturday 11th from 10am – 12pm

Mega Doodle Morning

Bring the whole family and help us create a Giant Mega Doodle to exhibit in Ballyroan library. Grab some colours and join in!

Saturday 18th at 2pm

Pokemon Drawalong

Join artist Amy Louise Callaghan as she teaches you to draw some of your favourite Pokemon step by step. Suitable for kids age 8+.

Wednesday 15th at 3.30pm

Ballyroan Book Worms: Junior Book Club

Our book for this month is *The Brilliant World of Tom Gates* by Liz Pichon. For ages 8-10.

Saturday 25th at 2.30pm

Game Zone - Sticker Swap!

Our popular sticker swap event is back for 2025! Pokémon, Match Attax and Premier League

POKEMON DRAWALONG

Join illustrator Amy Louise as she shows you how
to draw some of your favourite Pokémon!
For ages 7-10



Regular events for Children at Ballyroan Library

Toddler Time – Tuesdays 14th, 21st and 28th at 10am

Storytime – Every Monday at 3.30pm

Coderdojo – Every second Wednesday at 6pm

Sensory Evening – 6th and 14th from 6pm



Castletymon Library January Highlights

We have a full range of classes, clubs and groups for adults starting afresh this month: a new series of **Beginners Spanish** (starting 14th Jan) and its more advanced counterpart **Spanish Conversation** (starting 8th Jan). We also have the return of the always popular five-week course **Healthy Food Made Easy** (starting 8th Jan) and a new series of our **Computer Classes** in partnership with the DDLETB (starting 10th Jan). Finally, our **Knitting Group** and **Adult Book Club** continue.

For little ones we have the return of our **Early Years Music Classes** for ages 0-18 months and 18 months to 4 years (both starting 9th Jan). We also have a **St Brigid's Arts and Crafts** for ages 3-8 (30th) and for those with additional needs, we have our monthly **STEAM session**, which this month is Balance Robots (25th). Finally, we are hosting a session on **Podcasting** with Createschool for teens (21st).

Finally, we are taking part in two festivals this month. For **Firstival**, we are hosting a **Tai Chi** session (10th) and a workshop on **Bookbinding** (15th) and for **Tradfest**, we are hosting a talk by historian **Cathy Scuffil on St Maelruain's** (22nd), which this year is a Tradfest venue, and a special edition of our regular trad session, **The Tymon Sessions** (23rd).



Mobile Libraries Highlights

Events booked for Jan 2025

Tuesday 14 January 2025	An Cosan (St Anne's Fettercarin)
Thursday 16 January 2025	Scoil Mochua Special School
Tuesday 21 January 2025	Startbright Greenhills
Thursday 23 January 2025	Stewarts Special School
Tuesday 30 January 2024	Citywest Hotel (Ukrainian Visit)
Tuesday 30 January 2024	Bloomfield Care Centre
Friday 31 January 2025	The Priory (St Brigids Cross Workshop)

There is a rise in requests for visits from special needs services and schools. These visits are unique in that the users are unable to visit libraries due to lack of appropriate transport or the nature of their needs. We are developing a specific service for this cohort using our multisensory toys and assigning staff who are experienced with special needs. It is very important to get this right as the visits are very much valued by the teachers and care workers as access to library resources.

Our visitors to public stops in 2023 totalled 27, 284 . In 2024 we had 35,722. A 31% increase. This is largely due to strategic planning and reaching out to new communities.

Overall footfall to schools, public stops and events increased by 26% ie 55,002 in 2023 to 69, 450 in 2024. We expanded our school outreach from September 2024 by introducing Friday visits.

