



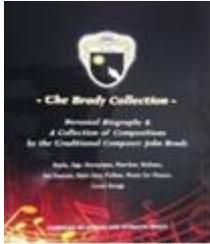
# **PUBLICATIONS**

## **ESKER PRESS**

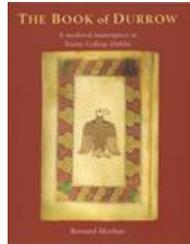
Tullamore, Ireland  
info@offalyhistory.com

# 2015

# New Additions



The Brady Collection



The Book of Durrow



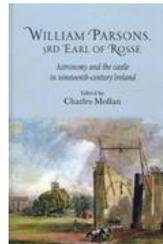
Rex Ingram  
Visionary Director  
Of the Silent Screen



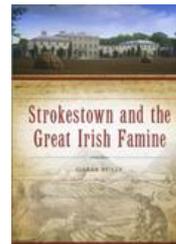
Casting  
Shadows



The Decline and Fall  
of the  
Dukes of Leinster  
1872 – 1948



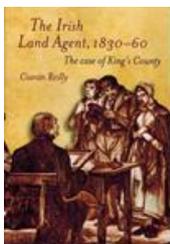
William Parsons  
3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Rosse



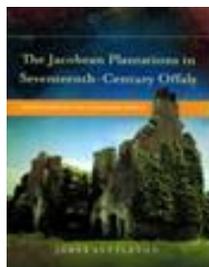
Strokestown  
and the  
Great Irish Famine



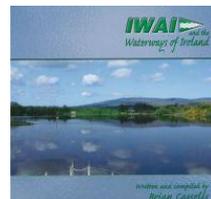
A Nightingale  
Falling



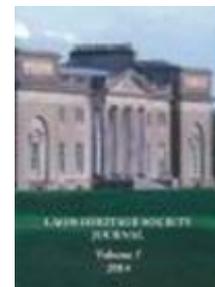
The Irish Land  
Agent  
1830-60



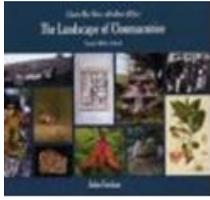
The Jacobean  
Plantations in  
Seventeenth-Century  
Offaly



IWAI and the  
Waterways of Ireland



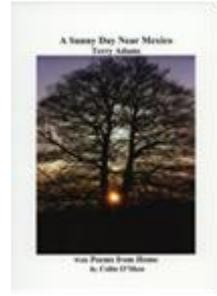
Laois Heritage  
Society Journal  
Vol 7 2014



The Landscape  
Of Clonmacnoise



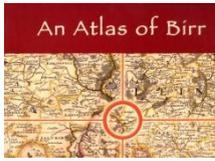
Tullamore Annual  
2014-2015



A Sunny Day  
Near Mexico

**An Atlas of Birr** (Roscrea, 2005), 62 pp, HB, A3 format, €45.

*John Feehan and Alison Rosse* **Out of stock**



This book will be of immense interest to lovers of maps and town history. The ingenious concept of viewing the history of the town of Birr and its environs through the use of a wide range of cartographic material has been developed and expanded by the authors into a fascinating study that allows one to view the changing geography of a classic Irish town in a wide variety of contexts: from the geological to the archaeological and the topographical to the political.

**An Introduction to the Architectural Heritage of County Offaly** (2006), 132 pp, SB, €12.

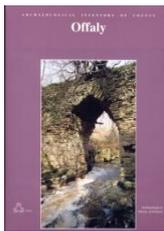
*Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government*



The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage was established to identify, record and evaluate the architectural heritage of the country in a systematic and uniform manner. Each county inventory is published in a full-colour, attractively illustrated booklet introducing the architectural highlights of the area, with descriptive text and photographs, and relevant mapping.

**Archaeological Inventory of County Offaly** (Dublin 1997), 232 pp, HB, €28. **Out of stock**

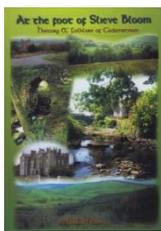
*Caimin O'Brien, & David P Sweetman.*



The Archaeological Inventory of County Offaly is one in an ongoing series of county inventories compiled and published by the Archaeological Survey of Ireland, Office of Public Works (OPW). Following the completion of the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) for Offaly, issued in 1988, the preliminary archaeological field survey of the county commenced.

**At the Foot of Slieve Bloom** (Kilcormac, 2006), 369 pp, HB, €23.

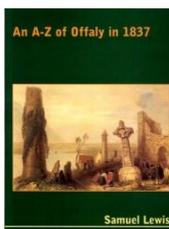
*Paddy Heaney,*



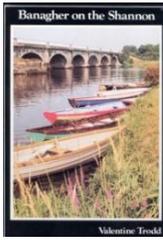
This is a story of the people who lived in a small rural parish in the foothills of the Slieve Bloom Mountains and whose feet were firmly planted in the soil for hundreds of years. It is also the story of Celt, Dane, Norman and English who passed through the area and left their mark on the landscape. The book examines a place in Irish history which has been overlooked by historians until now.

**A-Z of Offaly in 1837** (Tullamore, 1999), 103 pp, SB, €10.

*Samuel Lewis,*



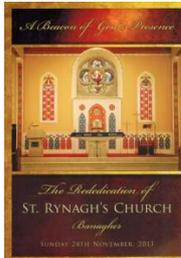
An A-Z of Offaly in 1837 is a most useful work for local studies in Offaly. Consisting as it does of the King's County entries from Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*. It is a great source book for nineteenth-century topography. The original text reproduced here in a newly prepared typescript is greatly enhanced by the addition of useful maps and photographs, many of which have not been published before.



**Banagher on the Shannon** (Banagher 1985), 68 pp, SB, €13.

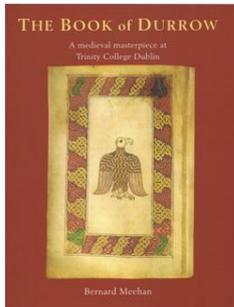
*Valentine Trodd,*

The town of Banagher, Co. Offaly, has undergone significant changes over time. This book by Valentine Trodd is an historical guide to a town famous for its fairs, forts and writers.



**Banagher – The rededication of St. Rynagh's Church** (Ferbane, 2013), Jim Madden (ed) 64 pp €5

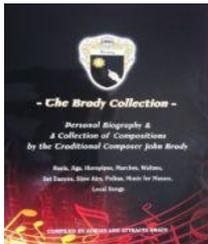
Attractive colour publication of the Catholic Church in Banagher with lots of photographs. Includes the visit of Cardinal Heenan to Banagher in 1965.



**The Book of Durrow by Bernard Meehan** Town House 1996

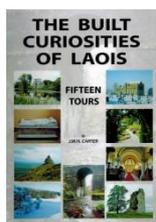
pp 94, SB, €10 **New**

The Book of Durrow is an early medieval Gospel book decorated with carpet pages and framed symbols of the Evangelists. Housed in the Library of Trinity College Dublin, it is regarded as a second only to the book of Kells. The opening words of the four Gospels are given great prominence, and popular interest has focused on the high artistic quality of these pages and their relationship to the art of the Book of Kells.



**The Brady Collection** 2013 Adrian & Attracta Brady pp134, HB, €30

Personal biography & a collection of compositions by the traditional composer John Brady. John Brady's compositions are known for their intricacies and interesting turns. The wide variety of his compositions reflects the diversity of his knowledge and insight. **NEW**



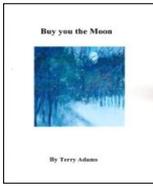
**The Built Curiosities of Laois – Fifteen Tours** (Laois, 2012), A4 Format 176 pp, SB, €17.99 **3 left in stock**

*J.W.H. Carter*

15 tours of Laois's built heritage, starting in the north-west of the county and concluding in the south east by Carlow: each should take about a day, allowing for strolling and breaks: and parts of each may be cobbled together depending on interests.

**Buy you the Moon** (Luxembourg 2013), 180 pp, SB, €8

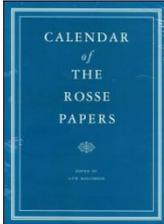
*Terry Adams* **6 left in stock**



Poems and stories recount growing up as a small part of a large Irish family. From the early sixties up to the present, poems and prose tell the story of the most influential people in the author's life: parents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, cousins, friends, neighbours all feature. Often in life the earliest influences are the most poignant and permanent.

**Calendar of the Rosse Papers** (Dublin, 2008), 591pp, HB, €75.

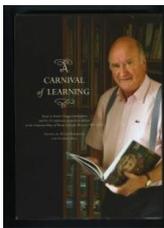
*A P W Malcomson* **SCARCE Out of stock**



The Rosse papers are one of the most important collections of manuscripts in private ownership in Ireland. This calendar is essential reading for anyone interested in the history of seventeenth and eighteenth-century Ireland; science in the nineteenth century; the British navy in the eighteenth century; the evolving story of the surviving families of the Irish landed elite in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and in the influence of a particular family that contrived over a number of centuries not only to transform Birr into one of the country's most elegant small towns, but also to construct and sustain one of the finest country houses and its gardens.

**A Carnival of Learning, Essays to Honour George Cunningham and His 50 Conferences on Medieval Ireland in the Cistercian Abbey of Mount St Joseph's, Roscrea, 1987-2012** (Roscrea 2012), 264 pp, HB, €30.

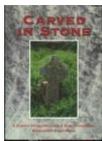
Edited by *Peter Harbison and Valerie Hall*



To have organised fifty conferences is a feat few will ever achieve, but George Cunningham has managed brilliantly to mount two conferences on various aspects of medieval Ireland every year for a quarter of a century. This book honours George's outstanding contribution to Irish scholarship with contributions from Ireland's leading medievalists and essays of Roscrea and Offaly interest among others.

**Carved in Stone, A Survey of Graveyards and Burial Grounds: Edenderry & Environs** (Edenderry 2010), 287 pp, SB, €15.

*Edenderry Historical Society*



This book will provide the reader with information on some of the old and present-day burial grounds in Edenderry and the surrounding area and the recorded headstones in each. Graveyards remain an important and integral part of our heritage and landscape. The headstones and memorials provide an essential part of the written heritage and history of the locality which are 'Carved in Stone'.

**Casting Shadows by Fergal MacCabe €5.00(Dublin, 2014)SB, 12PP**

Fergal MacCabe. **New**



Fergal MacCabe studied at the School of Architecture U.C.D. from 1957 to 1963 and continues to practise his sciagraphic skills and draughtsmanship and watercolour technique to depict buildings of the Classical style particularly those of his native Offaly. He is the winner of the Georgian Society's award for his original drawing of Dublin Castle. In the past few years he has begun to explore the concept of the architectural capriccio which is a composition of imaginary or real architecture in a picturesque or dramatic setting.

Sometimes familiar buildings are relocated to unfamiliar settings to allow a reappraisal of their qualities. He has won the Sullivan Graphics prize for his "Dublin Capriccio". In the early Renaissance the capriccio was a device used to promote or explore the concept of the ideal or Utopian city. Later, in the hands of Panini and Canaletto it became a common theme for the production of attractive compositions in the Classical manner. **NEW**

**Church of Assumption Tullamore (Tullamore, 2006), 24 pp, SB, €3.**  
*Michael Byrne and Brid Broderick.*



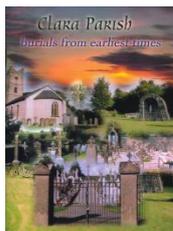
In this historical survey of Tullamore parish the authors document what is known of the development of the Tullamore Catholic church from the earliest times to the present day. This item was produced for the centenary in 2006 and is a brief overview with valuable pictures from the opening in 1906.

**1958 Clara ICA 50 Years On 2008, €15, SB, 104PP**



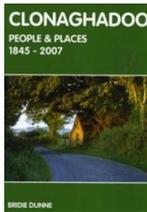
This History book was compiled to commemorate 50 golden years of the Clara ICA guild from 1958 to 2008.

**Clara Parish Burials from Earliest Times (Tullamore 2003), 58pp, SB €8.**



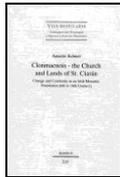
*Raphael Kinahan*

A small group of people decided to record the list of earlier burials in the parish, in book form. These recordings show the names and dates of death on the headstones. Other lists were supplied by Offaly County Council and by the local cemetery caretaker.



**Clonaghadoo People and Places, 1845 – 2007** (1997), 204 pp, SB, €15. *Bridie Dunne* **2 left in stock**

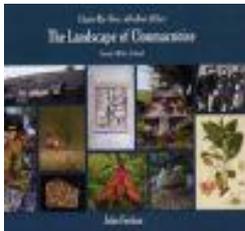
The author traces the rich history of the area of Clonaghadoo in this comprehensive study which will be treasured by the present generation and recognised as a historical record and source for future generations



**Clonmacnois - the Church and Lands of St. Ciaran**, (New Jersey, USA 1997)347 pp. €25.

*Annette Kehnel*,

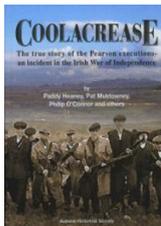
This book undertakes a detailed analysis of Clonmacnois before and during the age of reform and assesses possible reasons for its subsequent decline as an ecclesiastical centre. It traces the history of the former lay-ecclesiastical aristocracy down to the later Middle Ages, and, using previously neglected evidence surviving in seventeenth-century transcripts, sets out to reconstruct the extent of the former monastic lands.



**The Landscape of Clonmacnois 2014 €45**

*John Feehan* 123pp, **New**, Large Format (Roscrea 2014)

The book is full colour, A3, 136 pages at €45.00 (twice the length of The Atlas of Birr and the same price!). It looks at the whole evolution of the landscape of the Parish of Clonmacnois. As with so many of John's books, it is packed with many illustrations and John has chosen the A3 format to give proper space to the many maps used from a wide variety of sources.



**Coolacrease, The True Story of the Pearson Executions – An Incident in the Irish War of Independence** (Cork 2008), 472 pp, SB, €20.

*Abase Historical Society*

At the end of the Irish War of Independence two brothers were shot at Coolacrease, Co Offaly and their house was burned. The people who carried out the shootings were not Black and Tans, but IRA and the victims were not Irish rebels or uninvolved civilians. They were loyalist Protestants who had chosen to take up arms against the forces of the democratically elected Irish government. The IRA command ordered their execution. This book tells the true story of these controversial and tragic events.



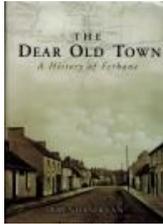
**Croghan, County Offaly, Ireland** (Roscrea, 2011), 69pp, HB, large landscape format, €30.

*John Feehan*

This is a publication which centres on the most outstanding landmark in north County Offaly, Croghan Hill, an extinct volcano. The book is superbly illustrated with drawings, maps and photographs. The print run was small and remaining stocks are low

**The Dear Old Town – A History of Ferbane (2002) 342pp, SB €20**

*Brendan Ryan*



“*The DEAR OLD TOWN*” is the story of Ferbane, a small town in West Offaly, whose economy was dependent for years on turf production and on a nearby Electricity Power Station, recently closes. The author traces its origins from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century after the forfeiture of the MacCoughlan castles and the subsequent demographic changes. The lives of its people during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries is recaptured: the various law-enforcement agencies; the workings of the petty sessions; the religious practices of the people; their poverty; relief works during the Great Famine; the rise and decline of the landed gentry and the part played by the inhabitants in the struggle for national identity.

**The Decline and Fall of the Dukes of Leinster 1872 – 1948**

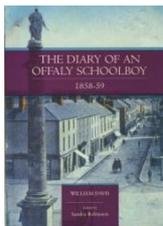
Four Courts Press 2014, Terence Dooley, 277pp, SB, €24.95



This book tells the story of the decline and fall of Ireland’s premier aristocratic family – the dukes of Leinster – who, for almost 300 years, lived amidst glorious splendour in their grand Palladian mansion, Carton House, Co. Kildare. Terence Dooley is associate professor and director of the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates, National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He is the author of several books on country houses and the land question in nineteenth and twentieth century Ireland. **New**

**Diary of an Offaly Schoolboy, 1858-59, William Davis (Tullamore, 2011), 206 pp, HB €25, SB, 15.**

*Edited by Sandra Robinson*



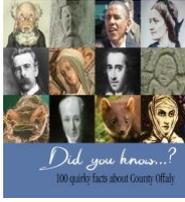
In this diary of rural life we glimpse the lives of the Davis family and their neighbours near Birr in the mid 1880s. The diary details family and local rivalries, chaotic schooling, the scourge of TB and ill health, local and family scandals, violence and intimidation at election time, a few narrow escapes, friendship and loyalty, tales of army life and endless money worries. All seen through the eyes of a candid seventeen-year old boy.



**Dunne People and Places, (Ballinakill Press, 1996), 119 pp, SB, €10.50**

*Joe Dunne*

A native of Killeigh, Co. Offaly Joe Dunne focuses on the Dunne family clan. It is written to promote interest in this family line and to assist those who are interested in the study of genealogy.

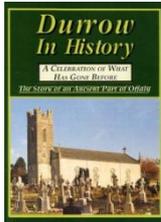


**Did You Know...?** (Offaly 2013), €10

*Amanda Pedlow, Heritage Officer*

Did you know that Offaly has two pyramids, the first all-Ireland final took place in Birr, and that Croghan Hill was a volcano?

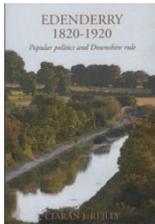
Filled from cover to cover with 100 quirky facts about County Offaly. Compiled by the Heritage office in Offaly County Council.



**Durrow in History** (Tullamore, 1994), 299 pp, SB €19, HB €30.

Edited by *Michael Byrne*

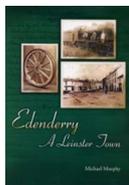
*Durrow in History: A Celebration of What Has Gone Before* is the story of an ancient part of Offaly. Durrow, north of Tullamore, is the site of a monastery founded by Colum Cille, home for many years to the celebrated Book of Durrow and to a High Cross. Close to the old graveyard is Durrow Abbey associated with the Norbury family since 1815. This book was published to coincide with the re-dedication of Saint Colum Cille's Church after renovation and is a history of the church and parish.



**Edenderry 1820-1920, Popular Politics and Downshire Rule** (Edenderry 2007) 157 pp, SB, €16.

*Ciaran J. Reilly*

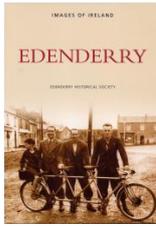
The Offaly market town of Edenderry belonging in the nineteenth-century to the Hill family, Marquess of Downshire, is examined in this comprehensive study by Edenderry native Ciarán Reilly. Drawing on numerous primary sources the author reconstructs one hundred years of the town's history, from before the Famine, through to the Home Rule crisis and the emergence of nationalism, to the break-up of the Downshire estate after the Civil War. The role played by the Edenderry Home Rule Club, the best-organised in King's County, is recalled, as is the memorable occasion in 1881 of the bringing home of George Patterson's turf; Edenderry's involvement in WW1, the role of Michael Foley in the 1916 Rebellion and the War of Independence are also recorded for the first time in one volume. Emigrants from the area who travelled the world over are also remembered in a work that will both dispel many long-held myths and provide a comprehensive and long-overdue record of the people of Edenderry.



**Edenderry a Leinster Town** (Tullamore, 2004), 96 pp, SB, €15.

*Michael Murphy*

This book celebrates the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Edenderry Town Commissioners in 1903. It is the first study undertaken on the town commissioners and gives a unique insight into their commitment and dedication in the 20th century. It puts into context the history and evolution of local government in Edenderry and brings together a wealth of information on this subject and on the town generally. The quality of the work reflects the author's experience and knowledge. For almost five decades Michael Murphy served as a local government official, retiring in 1990 as County Secretary to Offaly County Council.



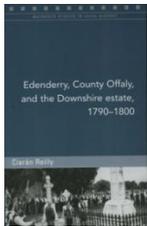
**Edenderry, (Images of Ireland)** (Dublin, 2009), 144 pp, SB, €16.

*Edenderry Historical Society* **1 left in stock**

Images of Edenderry is a unique compilation of photographs that documents Edenderry and its people over the last century. It also records some of the significant events that have marked the town's history over the years. This captivating collection was compiled by the Edenderry Historical Society members who have combined their expert historical knowledge of the town with a large number of images gleaned from the community to create this engaging and nostalgic publication. The Images of Ireland series contains a number of articles relating to the town that appeared in national newspapers over the years. This book is a celebration of Edenderry which will delight and engage all those familiar with the town.

**Edenderry, Co Offaly and the Downshire Estate 1790 – 1800** (Dublin, 2007), 62 pp, SB, €10.

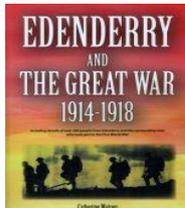
*Ciaran J. Reilly*



In the history of the 1798 rising in Ireland Offaly is regarded as the forgotten county. It was not the scene of major military activity, but that does not mean that it was unaffected by the disturbances that afflicted the Irish midlands in that year. This study shows that in one part of the county around the old Quaker settlement of Edenderry, the agrarian secret societies that underlay the rising were as active as in many other parts of Ireland. In particular, problems between the landlord the marquis of Downshire and his tenants, fed social tensions produced by more general economic conditions to ensure that Edenderry would be as disturbed as many other parts of the country during the years 1795-7. Why then did these problems not translate into more open violence during 1798 itself? This study answers these crucial questions, central to understanding the history of the 1798 rising at a local level.

**Edenderry and The Great War 1914 – 1918** Catherine Watson 2014

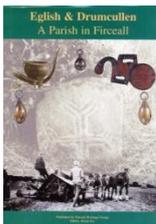
327 pp, SB, €20



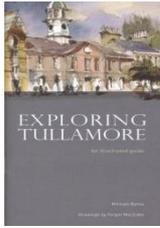
Including details of over 300 people from Edenderry and the surrounding area who took part in the First World War. **New**

**Eglishe & Drumcullen – A Parish in Firceall** (Fivealley, 2003) 435 pp HB, €30.

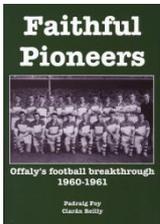
*Edited by Brian Pey*



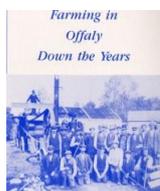
This is a comprehensive history of the barony of Eglishe in County Offaly compiled by members of the Eglishe History Group and edited and prepared for publication by Brian Pey.



**Exploring Tullamore – An Illustrated Guide** (2013) 40pp, SB, €2.99  
*Michael Byrne, drawings by Fergal MacCabe*  
Pocket size guide to exploring Tullamore for the walking enthusiastic



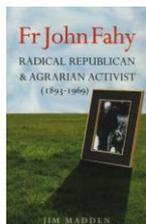
**Faithful Pioneers, Offaly's football breakthrough 1960-1961** (Kildare, 2011), 143 pp, SB, €12.  
*Padraig Foy & Ciarán Reilly*  
This book is packed with incident and controversy, happy and sad memories, up and 'Downs', humour, nostalgia and a mixture of pride and disappointment, further emphasising the need to recall these events.



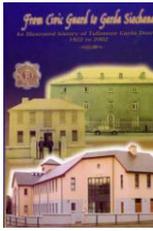
**Farming in Offaly Down the Years** (Tullamore 1987), 48 pp, SB, €4.  
*Offaly Historical Society*  
This book was undertaken by Offaly History members as a result of the National Ploughing Championships being held in Tullamore in October 1987 and what is presented here is a miscellany of stories and pictures from a variety of historical sources over the past 200 years.



**50 Years of Piped Water** (2013) 120 pp, SB, €10  
*Bridie Dunne* **3left in stock**  
This publication celebrates 50 years of the Killeigh, Killurin and Cloneygowan voluntary group water system. The book also presents a brief history of these local areas and the leading personalities involved with the water scheme.



**Fr John Fahy, Radical Republican & Agrarian Activist (1893-1969)** (Dublin, 2012), 272pp, SB, €20.  
*Jim Madden.* **Out of stock**  
Fr John Fahy was ordained a priest of the diocese of Clonfert in St Brendan's Loughrea in 1919. He very quickly earned himself the reputation of being a 'rebel priest'. His close affiliation with Sinn Féin throughout the war of independence stayed with him all his life and led to many a confrontation with the authorities of both church and state. He also took a vigorous and uncompromising interest in the various agrarian disputes of his time. Fr Fahy was included in Denis Carroll's famous book, *Unusual Suspects*, which gave accounts of many of the most radical priests in the history of the Irish church. This volume is the first full-length biography of Fahy and is a labour of love for its author, Jim Madden, who knew and still knows and associates with many of the men and women who are named in the work, both as friends and critics of this fascinating character.



**From Civic Guard to Garda Síochána** (Tullamore 2002), 275 pp, HB, €20.

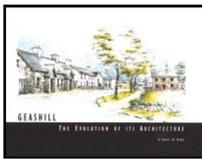
*Michael Dalton*

This publication celebrates and reflects on almost 80 years of Garda service to the state. It concentrates on the Tullamore Garda District which encompasses the sub-districts of Tullamore, Edenderry, Clara, Rhode, Daingean, Clonbullogue and Geashill. It is not so much a historical reference book, as a reflection on times past, with emphasis placed on contributions from members past and present and from individual members of the community.



**From the Cradle to Ninety** (2010), 102 pp, SB, €13

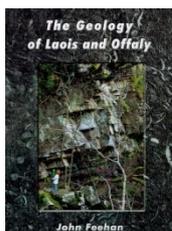
*Mick Harte*



**Geashill – The Evolution of its Architecture** (Offaly County Council, 2012), 108 pp, HB, €15.

*Rachel McKenna*

Geashill is a small, picturesque village established around a verdant triangular green in the heart of County Offaly and in the centre of Ireland. The village has evolved out of its relationship between landlord and tenant, which generated the quality of its architecture. It is the architecture of Geashill, the variety of style and features among the buildings and materials which gives it such character and distinctiveness. This is testament to the Dibgy family and the original residents, the skill of their local craftsmen and the appreciation of the current owners.



**The Geology of Laois and Offaly**, (Offaly County Council in association with Laois County Council and the Geological Survey of Ireland, 2013) 400 pp, HB, €40

*John Feehan*

The last thirty years have seen much new research on the geology of Laois and Offaly, shedding new light on – and providing fascinating new insights into – the landscape heritage of the two counties. John Feehan has remained in close touch with this research since his own work on Slieve Bloom as a post graduate student in the Department of Geology at Trinity College in the late 1970s and early 1980.

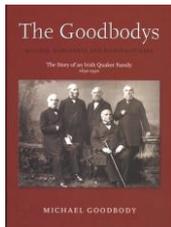
In this magnificent volume John now brings all of his research together for a general readership, and relates it to the broader cultural heritage of Laois and Offaly in a chapter that looks at Geology in our lives. Separate chapters review the story of the two counties through the successive geological epochs that have bearing on their evolution. A special chapter written in collaboration with Donal Daly of Environmental Protection Agency (and like John himself a native of Offaly) looks at the Geology of Water.

A special feature of the book is the six specially commissioned

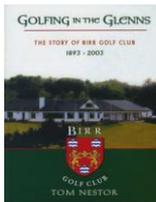
paintings illustrating different periods in the geological evolution of Laois and Offaly by Offaly-based Jock Nicol, reproduced here as two-page full-colour plates. The paintings themselves will be exhibited during the launch of the book. Profusely illustrated throughout in full colour.

**The Goodbodys** (Dublin, 2011), 532pp, HB, €40

*Michael Goodbody*



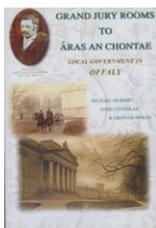
As well as detailing the history of the Goodbodys this book also looks at the impact the Quakers had on the Irish economy. It opens a window on the extraordinary accumulation of commercial power and wealth by a few closely related families who were at the forefront of industrial development of the time. The Goodbody story is not just an account of a successful family; it also follows the fortunes of those who fell on hard times. In some instances these individuals found themselves sharing the fate of the millions of nineteenth-century Irish emigrants who endured enormous hardships in an attempt to find a better life in the textile factories of England or on the other side of the Atlantic. This is an important contribution to Irish economic and family history.



**Golfing in the Glenns, the Story of Birr Golf Club 1893-2003** (Tipperary, 2003), 154 pp, SB, €15.

*Tom Nestor* **3 left in stock**

Tom Nestor has produced an excellent book that is thoroughly enjoyable. He has managed to give an insightful account of the history of the club over the last century and one which is informative, interesting and nostalgic.



**Grand Jury Rooms to Áras on Chontae, Local Government in Offaly** (Tullamore, 2003), 276pp, SB, €25.

*Michael Murphy, Anne Coughlan, Gráinne Doran*

This book records the origins and development of the local government system in County Offaly and acknowledges the great work and dedication of the many councillors and staff of the Offaly local authorities, who contributed so richly to the development of the county over the past one hundred years. The book also contains a valuable guide to local authority records in County Offaly.

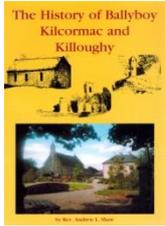


**Heritage Landscapes of the Irish Midlands and Selected Itineraries** (Dublin 2007), 252 pp, SB, €25

*P J Gibson.*

The midland counties of Ireland contain a wealth of natural, archaeological and historical features. Some of these, such as Clonmacnoise, are well-known regionally or nationally, while the location and importance of others, such as St Manchan's Shrine, although known locally and within academic circles, may be more closely guarded secrets, not having received the publicity of tourism promotion. This book aims not only to describe the well-known but also the many hidden jewels within this central area of Ireland. If this

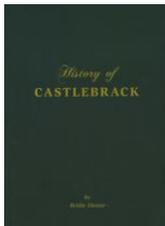
book has one aim, it is that the cultural richness revealed within its pages will enthuse readers to go and explore the Irish Midlands for themselves.



**The History of Ballyboy, Kilcormac and Killoughey** (1999), 173 pp, SB, €10

*Rev. Andrew L. Shaw*

Kilcormac Historical Society published this book combining his works of history covering Ballyboy, Kilcormac and Killoughey.



**History of Castlebrack** (Tullamore 2011), 144pp, SB, €15.

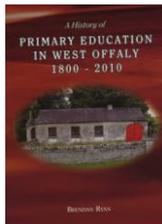
*Bridie Dunne*

Local histories are written so that future generations will have a record of the development of their locality, and an understanding of the changes which have taken place through the years, and primarily to set down particular features of a particular parish which makes it unique in comparison to its neighbours. The first section gives a very brief background of Castlebrack's earliest history. The main text begins with stories of early families, some who had emigrated, others that have long since gone from Castlebrack. An effort has been made to put together primarily factual material some of which has not previously been published.

**A History of Primary Education in West Offaly, 1800 – 2010** (Tullamore 2012), 432pp, SB, €20.

*Brendan Ryan*

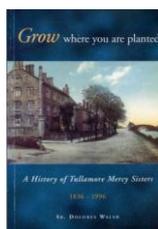
This is the first definitive work on primary education in West Offaly. The author starts with the monastery of Clonmacnois, its scholars, its craftsmen and its effects on the people of the surrounding district. The Bardic Schools and the courts of poetry are dealt with and the legacy which they left in the form of the phenomenon of the hedge schools, which are dealt with in detail. Archival records of all 34 national schools in west Offaly are detailed from their formation. The author has located two hedge schoolmasters' books from the area dating back to 1811 and 1845. The book includes photographs from these rare copies.



**A History of Tullamore Mercy Sisters, Grow where you are planted** (Tullamore 1996), 229 pp, SB, €13.

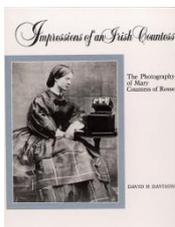
*Sr. Dolores Walsh*

This book is principally a record of the experience of Sisters in Mercy Convent, Tullamore during the first 160 years. The fact that the Annals of the Convent were kept regularly, meant that materials for the story were readily available.



## **Impressions of an Irish Countess — the Photography of Mary Countess of Rosse (Birr 1989), 45 pp, HB, €19.**

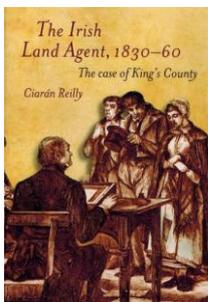
*David H Davison*, 5 left in stock



Since the exhibition of her photographs at Birr in 1985, Mary, Countess of Rosse – the wife of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl – has emerged a person in her own right. Her cleverly organised groups, together with the brilliant portraits of older people – some of whom certainly started their lives in the eighteenth century – show a human and compassionate eye at work, as well as an inventiveness and mastery of technique. Looking at these, and seeing the 1860s through her camera, has made many people wonder about the woman behind the lens. It has been discovered, largely due to David Davison's research, that Mary was indeed a woman of many talents.

## **The Irish Land Agent, 1830–60 The case of King's County**

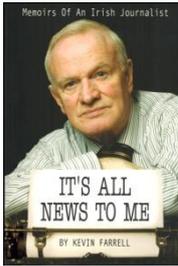
Four Courts Press 2014 Ciaran Reilly €35.00, 212 pp, SB **New**



Land agents have been stereotypically represented in Irish history as alien, capricious and in general the tormentors of the tenantry. However, to date, no definitive examination exists of the social background, education and training of land agents as a group. With the exception of a mere handful of men, such as William Steuart Trench, Charles Boycott and Samuel Hussey, land agents remain both a taboo and unknown within Irish historiography. But how accurate are such representations? How qualified or equipped were agents to deal with the challenges that the mid-19th century, and the Famine in particular, brought? Having identified over 100 men who acted as land agents during the period 1830 to 1860, this study examines the role and function of the agency during a time when their skills and qualifications were truly tested.

**Ciarán Reilly** is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for the Study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates at NUIM. He is the author of *John Plunket Joly and the Great Famine in King's County* (2012).

**It's All News To Me – Memoirs of an Irish Journalist** (Dublin 2012) 181pp, SB, €11.99.

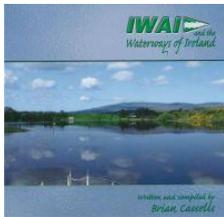


*Kevin Farrell* **Out of stock**

Offaly legend Kevin Farrell tells how he cracked some of the most gripping stories in Ireland's Midlands, including finding kidnapped Moate schoolgirl Mary Maughan and reporting on the horror of Daingean's notorious borstal school. From his wild years in the entertainment industry to his recent battle with cancer, Kevin's is a moving story set to the backdrop of changing life in Midland's Ireland.

**IWAI and the Waterways of Ireland by Brian Cassells**

€15.00 Cottage Publications 2014 pp 179, HB **New**

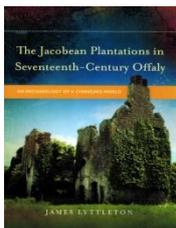


Sixty years old this year, the first meeting of the IWAI in 1954 attracted some 200 like minded people who had the foresight to come together with the shared aims of promoting traffic on the rivers and canals, opposing any obstructions and campaigning for the conservation and preservation of a working navigation.

Today the IWAI boasts a membership in excess of 3,500 who carry on the work of their predecessors. The commitment of each and every member of the Association has seen the achievement of many great feats and overcome many challenges which has ensured that boats can still enjoy, free access on the inland waterways from Belleek to Limerick and further afield

This book is a marvellous insight into the Association and a formal record of its sixty year history and is a must have for anyone with an interest in Ireland's wonderful inland waterways.

**The Jacobean Plantations in Seventeenth – Century Offaly  
An Archaeology of a Changing World,** (Dublin 2013) 344pp, SB, €29.95, HB, €55

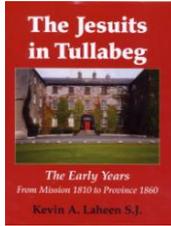


*James Lyttleton*

A number of native Irish lordships in west and south Offaly, namely Éile Uí Chearbhaill, Delbhna Eathra, Fir Cheall and Muintir Thadhgáin, were fundamentally transformed by the imposition schemes there in 1619 – 20. This book highlights the importance of regionality in the archaeological study of early modern Ireland, detailing the impact of colonization on local communities as well as the changes wrought by the great cultural movements of the time, namely the Reformation, the Counter-Reformation and the Renaissance.

**The Jesuits in Tullabeg, the Early Years, Book One** (Limerick, 2007), 118 pp, HB, €20.

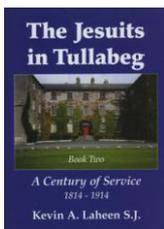
*Kevin A Laheen, S.J.*



Fr Kevin Laheen, a native of Dublin, lived in Tullabeg for many years and his book covers the early period of the work of the Jesuits there. He has collected much about the origin of Tullabeg and the people who have lived and worked there. But all that knowledge was passed to him by word of mouth and he felt it a great pity that in the passing of the years, much of this information would be lost to posterity. That is why, in the autumn of his years he recorded some of the lore in the pages of this book

**The Jesuits in Tullabeg, A Century of Service 1814-1914, Book Two** (Limerick, 2009), 117 pp, HB, €20.

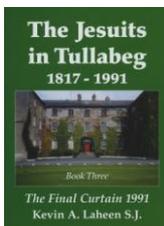
*Kevin A Laheen, S.J.*



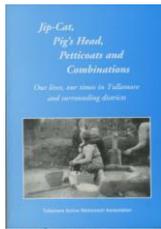
The year 1860 was a significant one for Tullabeg because it was in that year that the Jesuits in Ireland were elevated to the rank of a full independent Jesuit Province. In the years that followed Tullabeg became a leading Irish college both in academic and sporting attainments. This book will also record how these attainments were abruptly ended in 1886. Tullabeg was eventually used as a novitiate, the purpose for which Fr Peter Kenny had originally built it in 1817. As the centenary year was reached in 1914 the Jesuits throughout the world rejoiced, as they had done 100 years previously, when Pope Pius VII, by his Papal Bull, *Solicitude Omnium Ecclesiarum*, ended the forty dark years of the Suppression. This volume brings the reader to the Centenary Year 1914.

**The Jesuits in Tullabeg. The Final Curtain 1817-1991, Book Three** (Rahan 2010), 118 pp, HB, €20.

*Kevin A Laheen, SJ*



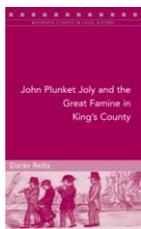
The three books on Tullabeg tell the history of the house for the century and three quarters during which the Jesuits lived and worked there. This third and final book on Tullabeg, brings the reader to the year 1991 when the Jesuits handed over the property to the new owners and vacated the parish of Rahan for good.



**Jip-Cat, Pig's Head, Petticoats and Combinations, Our Lives, Our Times in Tullamore and Surrounding Districts** (Naas 2002), 267 pp, SB, *Tullamore Active Retirement Association*, €15. This is an important book for all interested in Tullamore people and their history. The stories told here of the moments of peace and joy, hardship and sorrow will not be found in any textbook and are seldom recorded. The authors of these accounts of life in Tullamore and district since the 1900s have rendered good service and set a high standard for local history in the Midlands. Perhaps what is contained in these pages is a world we have lost but is not forgotten.

**John Plunket Joly and the Great Famine in King's County** (Dublin, 2012), 56pp, SB, €10

*Ciaran Reilly*



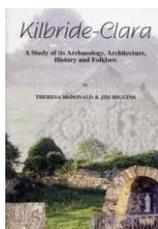
This is a study based on the diary of John Plunket July (1826-58) and examines his world during the years of the Great Famine in County Offaly. The Jolys were the principal landlords in Clonast parish in east Offaly. The diarist brother was the great book collector Jasper Robert Joly, while another famous cousin was the astronomer Charles Jasper Joly, born in Tullamore in 1864. The diarist son was the distinguished geologist, John Joly. For the Joly family it seems life was undisturbed by the failure of the potato and their daily activities of music, dancing and socialising remained features throughout the period. The Joly family is of French origin and their estates were small by comparison with that of Digby and Charleville, also in King's County. The book contains some fascinating illustrations now of immense value as historical evidence.

**Kilcruttin Cemetery Tullamore** (Tullamore, 1993), 47 pp, SB, €12.

*County Offaly Archaeological Survey*



The information contained here was gathered in September 1993 by the County Offaly Archaeological Survey Team which conducted a full ground survey of Kilcruttin cemetery in Tullamore. Initially a scaled plan was drawn and then information was gathered from each gravemarker as far as they were decipherable. The collected data pertaining to the individuals interred is listed in two ways. Firstly, there is a list which contains information in numeric order. Each gravemarker was given a number during the surveying process and these are all marked on the plan. The information from the first list includes the memorial. This is a useful record of Tullamore family history from a cemetery officially closed in 1892.



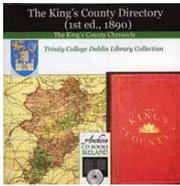
**Kilbride, Clara: A Study of its Archaeology, Architecture, History and Folklore** (Tullamore, 1999), 100 pp, SB, €6.

*Theresa McDonald & Jim Higgins*

Kilbride in the barony of Kilcoursey, County Offaly is dedicated to one of Ireland's national Saints, Brigit of Kildare. It lies today in relative obscurity in the townland of Lissanisky, one kilometre north-east of the town of Clara in County Offaly. This book brings a new

focus to the historical remains in Kilbride Cemetery reminding us of the most ancient Christian site in the Parish of Clara.

**King's County Directory of 1890** on CD, €25.



*John Wright* **2 left in stock**

Since its first publication in 1890 this work has been constantly sought for its historical value for all interested in County Offaly, its towns, villages, industries and people. Long out of print and almost impossible to obtain. This CD edition is fully searchable. See also below *Offaly One Hundred Years Ago* for a printed version of the original volume.

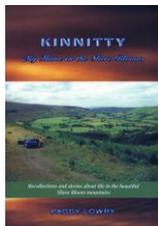
**The King's County, Epitome of its History & Topography** (Tullamore, 1989), 79 pp, SB, €6.



*John St George Joyce*

Not only was John St George Joyce a journalist, he was a historian, poet and playwright. His book *The King's County, epitome of its history, topography* (Birr 1883) is now very rare. The first issue in December 1883 consisted of 41 closely printed pages of history. The second issue soon after carried the same text and some forty pages of local advertisements. It is scarcely surprising that copies are not known to have survived since it was 'published for gratuitous circulation' at Christmas (1883) among readers of the *Midland Tribune*, established in 1881.

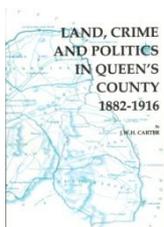
**Kinnitty, My Home in the Slieve Bloom** (Kilcormac 2011), 224 pp, HB, €15.



*Paddy Lowry* **Out of stock**

*Kinnitty my home in the Slieve Bloom* is an account of the history, folklore and heritage of the parish of Kinnitty. There is no better person to record this than Paddy Lowry. He has lived and worked all his life in this area and has a lifelong interest in the history and stories of his locality. Paddy is a noted storyteller and his recording of the lives and times of previous generations makes for a most enjoyable and informative read.

**Land, Crime and Politics in Queen's County 1882 – 1916** (Laois, 2013) 425 pp, SB, €32.99 **3 left in stock**

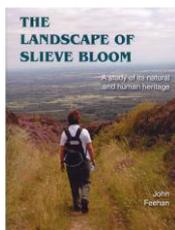


*J.W.H. Carter*

Dr Carter completes the story started in his account of the land war in Queen's County 1879-82. Based on exhaustive research over many years this book will occupy an important place among others reliably telling the history of Laois.

**The Landscape of Slieve Bloom** (Dublin, 1979, reprinted Roscrea, 2009), 284 pp, €30.

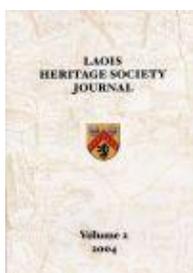
*John Feehan*



This is a unique study of the natural and human history of one of the most fascinating areas in central Ireland. It is the first detailed study of Slieve Bloom, and ranks in its concern for the total environment, from the rocks that constitute its heart to the history of the human communities who have moulded the face of its varied landscapes. It is unique also in the extent to which it is based on the author's original research, for surprisingly little has been written about the region. After the style of the well-known *Mourne Country* this is one of Feehan's most attractive works.

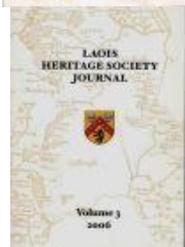
**Laois Heritage Society Journal Vol. 2** 152 pp SB €20

Laois Heritage Society has been very busy in 2004 implementing its programme for the promotion of the county's heritage.



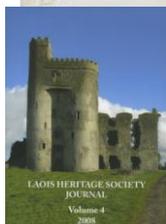
**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol 3, 2006, SB, 131PP,SB**

Members of the Society continue to play an active role on Laois Heritage Forum and have made significant contribution to the new County Heritage Plan.



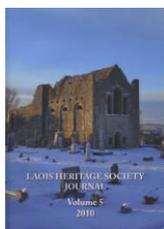
**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol. 4, 181 pp, SB, €20.**

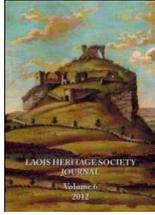
Laois Heritage Society is involved in raising awareness of the importance of protecting buildings, sites and artefacts of historical and archaeological importance in and around County Laois. The Journal features articles and photographs submitted by its members



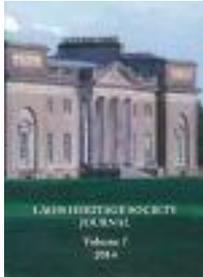
**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol.5, 191 pp, SB, €20. Out of stock**

Laois Heritage Society was founded in the early 1970. Among the Society's aims is to create awareness of the rich and unique heritage in the county. It publishes its own Journal every two years.

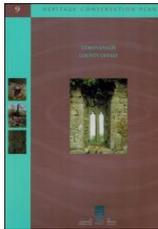




**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol. 6, (2012) 139 pp, SB, €15**  
The Journal features articles and photographs submitted by its members. Including an appreciation the late Frank Meehan by Michael Parsons; Maryborough Sports 1901 by Jackie Hyland; Coal Mining in South East Laois by Jim Fleming; The O'Mores, and Lords of Laois by Dan O'Leary.



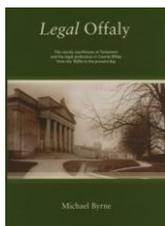
**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol. 7, (2014) 167 pp, SB, €20**  
Laois Heritage Society has been flying the banner for heritage interests in the county for over half a century. Back in the early days of the Society and even up to relatively recent years the events, the people, buildings, archaeology, artefacts and way of life of past times was very much a minority interest. We are now only beginning to realise the true value of what we have inherited. We all have a responsibility to protect our heritage and our environment. **New**



**Lemanaghan County Offaly – Heritage Conservation Plan 72 pp, SB, €15**  
*Margaret Quinlan and Rachel Moss,*  
This plan is a starting point for research on the archaeological remains at Lemnaghan. It is the most comprehensive statement published on Lemnaghan site to date. These include five years of conservation works on St. Managhan's Church and on St. Mella's Cell/Kell. Includes black white and colour photos and drawings of the site.



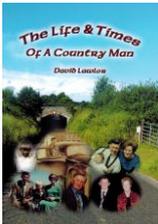
**La Sainte Union des Sacrés Coeurs Educating in Banagher, 1863-2007 (2007) 218 pp, SB, €20. Out of Stock**  
*Editor Kevin Jordan,*  
This book is a celebration of all that is good in education in La Sainte Union Convent in Banagher since 1863.



**Legal Offaly: The County Courthouse at Tullamore and the Legal Profession in County Offaly From the 1820s to the Present Day (Tullamore, 2008), 513 pp, HB, €30. Out of Stock**  
*Michael Byrne*

This is the first such overview of the development of legal institutions and the expansion of legal personnel at county level in Ireland. Over a series of eight chapters the author seeks to show how the law developed at local level in County Offaly (formerly King's County) over the past two hundred years. The building of a new courthouse at Tullamore in 1835 and the transfer of the assizes was seen at the time

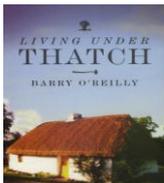
as a leap forward in terms of consolidating the town's position as the county capital. Later chapters deal with the assizes, the barristers on circuit and the development of the county court and petty sessions into the present day circuit and district courts. The final section of the study covers the growth of the solicitors' profession in the county together with a listing of some three hundred solicitors who have worked in County Offaly since the 1800s.



**The Life & Times of a Country Man** (Tullamore, 2012), 88pp, SB, €10.

*David Lawlor* **Sold out**

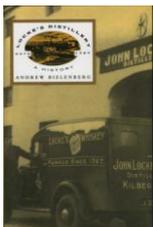
David Lawlor recalls his early years growing up in Clonaslee and the many characters he encountered. Later his story moves to Killeigh where he continues recollecting all the characters he met and incidents that happened down through the years.



**Living under Thatch [Offaly's Thatched Houses]** (Dbin, 2004), 88 pp, SB, €15.

*Barry O'Reilly*

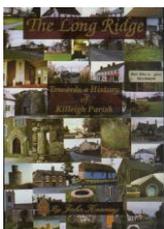
This book is a wonderfully illustrated celebration of traditional thatched buildings in Ireland, with special emphasis on those in Co. Offaly. It explores the history of thatch, together with its future in a modern Ireland and examines the problems and joys of living in one of Ireland's most recognisable and beloved icons, the thatched house.



**Locke's Distillery, a History** (Dublin, 1993), 122 pp, SB, €12.

*Andrew Bielenberg* **4 left in stock**

Locke's Distillery has been manufacturing its famous brand of whiskey on the banks of the Brusna river in Kilbeggan, Co Westmeath since 1757, linking Ireland's industrial past to its future. From business archives and family papers, Andy Bielenberg has written a compelling history of the fluctuating fortunes of the distillery, tracing its origins and transformations in organization through the years to its present-day revival. He surveys the buildings and machinery, the process of distillation and marketing strategies, as well as documenting the Locke family's role within the company and their contribution to the social life of the midlands.

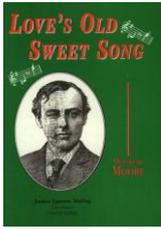


**The Long Ridge** [Killeigh parish] (Tullamore, 1992), 174pp, SB, €10.

*John Kearney*

In this book John Kearney imparts the knowledge he has accumulated over the years of studying the history of his native Killeigh parish and listening to the stories that have been handed down from generation to generation.

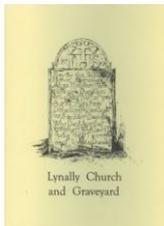
**Love's Old Sweet Song** [Account of James Lynam Molloy] (Tullamore, 1997), 44 pp, SB, €5.



*Desmond Moore*

Considerable time and effort went into the search for information regarding James Lynam Molloy and his family with little success. Facts were strangely elusive. Recourse had to be had, therefore, to a period not noted for its record-keeping efficiency. Into this twilight world Molloy's came and went like flickering shadows, briefly glimpsed and sometimes lost again. Persistence, like patience, earns its own reward, however, and in this case it is hoped that it rescues the composer from undeserved obscurity.

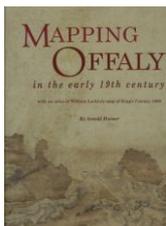
**Lynally Church and Graveyard** (Tullamore, 1994), 72 pp, SB, €12.



*County Offaly Archaeological Survey*

The information contained here was gathered in August 1994 by the County Offaly Archaeological Survey Team which conducted a full ground survey of Lynally church and graveyard. Initially a scaled plan was drawn and then the information was gathered from each grave marker as far as they were decipherable. There are two lists with data pertaining to the individuals interred. A brief analysis of each grave marker as regards physical type, inscription and composition is also included. The listing for this section contains details relating to the symbols, decoration, size and stone type of each marker in the graveyard. A more in-depth description of the symbols including their meanings and origins is also included.

**Mapping Offaly in the Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century with an Atlas of William Larkin's Map of King's County, 1809** (Bray, 2006), 76 pp, HB, €20.



*Arnold Horner*

This book describes the geography and early mapping of Offaly (known as King's County between c. 1560 and 1920) with particular reference to the huge manuscript map of the county made by William Larkin. Larkin's long-neglected map of King's County has fortunately been preserved in the National Archives of Ireland. The version reproduced here in atlas form was made in 1809 at the request of the newly formed Bogs Commissioners, and was used to guide their engineers. This book now tells the story of this map and makes it widely available for the first time. Included also are many other early map images, among them extracts from the near-contemporary surveys of the bogs engineers. The result is an exceptional introduction to the Offaly of 200 years ago, the rural world of the generation before the Great Famine.

**The Marble of Clonmacnoise**, (Offaly, 2013), 39pp, SB, €10

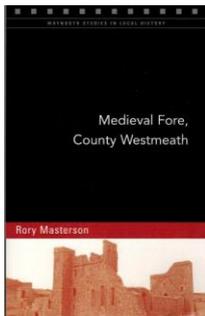
*Declan Ryan*

The book describes Clerhane townland and the surrounding area and tells the story of the quarries, their owners and the craftsmen who worked there from early records, to their heyday, decline and eventual closure. The type of stone, the work of cutting and carving and the resultant output and the many fine buildings to which they contributed are also examined.



‘Of the many quarries that operated in Offaly during the centuries before stonemasonry declined and almost ended with the arrival of modern concrete, few enjoyed greater prestige than Clerhane, whose crinoidal limestone is one of the most beautiful of Irish building stones. In his meticulous study of the stone industry at Clerhane Declan Ryan has painstakingly salvaged all that survives from oral record and tradition and the documentary record, and set this against the physical background of the quarries themselves and their geographical context. In highlighting the achievement of the quarrymen of Clerhane this lovely book will do much to draw appreciative attention to this aspect of the environmental heritage of one of the most remarkable places in Offaly, and stimulate comparable attention to other facets of that heritage. **John Feehan, Syngfield, Birr.**

**Medieval Fore, County Westmeath.** Rory Masterson Four Courts Press 2014 68pp, SB, €10. **New**



In the history of Norman monasteries founded in Ireland, the Benedictine priory of Fore stands apart. While many foundations were independent entities and others were cells or priories of English foundations, Fore was a cell of the French monastery of St. Taurin in Evreux, Normandy

Rory Masterson holds a PhD from NUI Maynooth. He has lectured part-time at NUI Maynooth, is the editor of the Offaly Historical Journal, and contributes to many other historical journals. He teaches full-time at Colaiste Choilm, Tullamore.

**My Hometown – A Photographic Journey Through the Streets of Birr** (Offaly 2011), 90 pp, HB, €20.

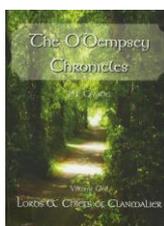
*Jackie Lynch*



The photographs in this book are influenced by time spent by the artist in Kyoto, Japan and the Japanese aesthetic of ‘wabisabisuki’ which can be loosely translated as ‘the patina of old age’ and it is evident in the heritage town of Birr. They are not the usual images which celebrate the buildings that make up the elegant streetscape of Birr. The artist Jackie Lynch, has taken her inspiration from the individual features that contribute to the character or look, of a building or street.

**The O’Dempsey Chronicles, Lords and Chiefs of Clanmaliere.** (Cloneygowan, 2008), 180 pp, SB, €25. **Out of stock**

*P.J. Goode,*



P J Goode's *The O'Dempsey Chronicles* adds greatly to our knowledge of a turbulent period in Irish history focused on the O'Dempsey clan. It is well researched and detailed. It sheds light on a clan of which 'so little is left to mark their passage in place and in time'.

**Offaly & Slieve Bloom Trails, Map, FREE**

*Shannon Development*

Detailed map for lots of great trails, in including walking, cycling mountain biking, driving and more in the Offaly & Slieve Bloom area. Enjoy tracks of wilderness, expanses of bogland, a vast mountain park, esker hills and seep wooded valleys with their streams and rivers.

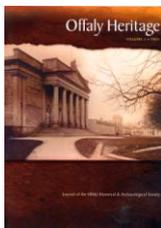
Places include the Offaly Way, Lough Boora Parklands, the Slieve Bloom Way, Kinnity Castle and many more.



**Offaly Heritage, vol. 1** (Tullamore 2003), 168 pp, SB, €20.

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

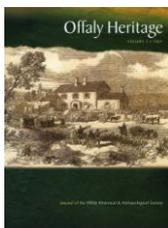
The journal provides a means to bring to print many of the diverse and varied histories of the places, people and events of Offaly's past. Only from such an awareness of our past can we better understand the present and so plan the future.



**Offaly Heritage, vol. 2** (Tullamore, 2004) pp194, SB, €20 **Out of print**

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

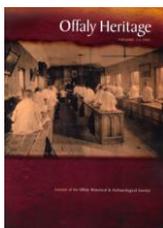
This issue includes articles on Quakerism in the Edenderry area 1673 – 1831 by Therese Abbott; A Case Study of a Midland Settlement in West Offaly: Clonona Village circa 1800 – 1860 by Ger Murphy; Population change at Croghan 1841 – 1911 by Oliver Dunne; The Opening of the Railway to Tullamore – 1854 by Peter Burke; The Clonbrock Murder by Margaret White.



**Offaly Heritage, vol. 3** (Tullamore, 2005) pp 212, SB, €20.

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

The third volume of the society's journal was published in 2005. The Journal gives members and contributors an opportunity to have their research published.



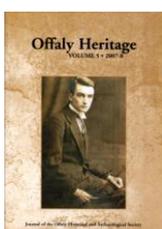
**Offaly Heritage, vol. 4** (Tullamore, 2006), pp 288, SB, €20.

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

This fourth issue of the Journal is larger than its predecessor as has been the case for each succeeding publication to date. In this sixteen articles were published.

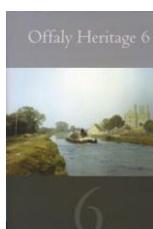


**Offaly Heritage, vol. 5** (2007-8), pp 308, SB €20, HB, *Offaly*



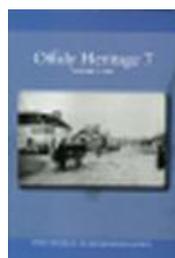
*Heritage*, €30.

This volume covers a wide variety of topics, both chronologically and spatially. Heather King brings us back to the era of our early Christian roots while Eoghan Ó hAnnracháin tells of the fortunes of some of the 'Wild geese' from Offaly in their adopted home in France. Michael Byrne in two articles discusses the events in Tullamore in the early nineteenth century and the life of one local landlord and judge, William O'Connor Morris one of the men who shaped the 1870 Land Act. Ciaran Reilly, Brendan Ryan, John Kearney and Gerard Murphy all discuss aspects of life in nineteenth century Offaly. Michael Goodbody discusses the importance of the Goodbody family in the commercial life of Tullamore while Mary Pilkington examines the 'land war' on the Digby estate. M.P.A. Moran examines the fortunes of Offaly emigrants to Australia while Ciaran Reilly looks at the Offalymen from Edenderry who served in the Great War. John Hume looks at the history of the hospital at Tullamore while Brendan Ryan looks at the Offaly roots of the Queensland Rose of Tralee. Finally Philip McConway examines that most tragic event in Ireland's history our Civil War, detailing the men from Offaly who died in it and their last letters home.



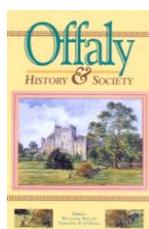
**Offaly Heritage, vol. 6** (2009-10), pp [ ], SB €15, HB *Offaly Heritage* €25.

Offaly Heritage 6 reflects the continued commitment of Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society to the publication of works of historical interest relating to County Offaly and its surrounding areas. The contributions included reflect the diverse range of topics, both in time and interest examined by the authors, starting in the Bronze Age and concluding in the twentieth century.



**Offaly Heritage vol. 7** (2013) HB €25 SB €14 PP [357]

This is the 7<sup>th</sup> volume of essays published by the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society on the history of county Offaly, formerly King's County.



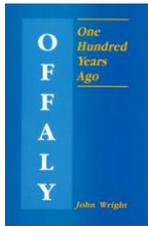
**Offaly History & Society**, (Tullamore 1998) 1100 pp, HB, *O'Neill & Nolan*, €150 **SCARCE**.

Offaly History and Society is the eleventh in the Irish County History series. The series which commenced in 1985 with the publication of Tipperary History & Society has endeavoured to bring a fresh collective perspective to the understanding of the local dimension in Irish history. It blends the expertise of insider and outsider in a

meitheal which draws on a range of disciplines. Volumes such as this can span the centuries with greater authority than any single-authored work and the editors of Offaly have been fortunate in that scholars with varied interests in the history of the county readily agreed to contribute to the making of this book.

**Offaly One Hundred Years Ago** (Tullamore, 1989), a reprint of *King's County Directory* of 1890), 344 pp, HB, €55, Scarce.

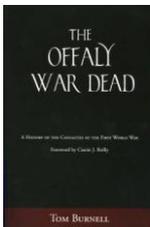
*John Wright*



Since its first publication in 1890 as the King's County Directory this work has been constantly sought for its historical value for all interested in County Offaly, its towns, villages, industries and people. Long out of print and almost impossible to obtain, this facsimile edition with a new introduction and table of contents was made available to make the centenary of its first publication. *Offaly One Hundred Years Ago* has stood the test of time well and no one interested in Offaly history, be he a serious student or a casual observer, can afford to ignore the opportunity this facsimile edition presents to acquire a book that will endure.

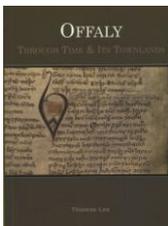
**Offaly War Dead: A History of the Casualties of the First World War** (Dublin, 2010), 302 pp, SB, €20.

*Thomas Burnell*



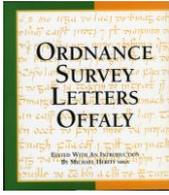
This is a detailed record of those from County Offaly who died during the First World War. The men honoured in *The Offaly War Dead* died during the First World War or following it, while in the service of the British Army, the Australian Army, the New Zealand Army, the American Army, the Indian Army, the Canadian Army, the South African Army, the Royal Navy or the British Mercantile Marine. Such a list, combined with intricate data, never-before-seen correspondence, the photographs where available, is the first of its kind, providing an essential addition to any local historian or military enthusiast's bookshelf.

**Offaly: Through Time and its Townlands** (Dublin, 2009), 263 pp, SB, €11.99. *Thomas Lee*,



Lee's book was prompted by the author's curiosity about Offaly's past and the significant events that led to the final shaping of the county of his ancestors. The first section deals with the history of the county as a whole. Beginning with the geology and landscape, it traces the history of Offaly through the Stone, Bronze and Iron ages and on to the Celtic period. The era of the 'Island of Saints and Scholars' is discussed from the Offaly perspective as is the subsequent Anglo-Norman and Plantation eras. The second part of the book deals with the townlands of Offaly. The origin and meaning of each name is given as well as a list and explanation of the ancient monuments in

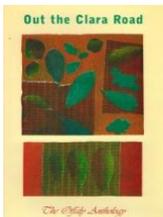
each.



**Ordnance Survey Letters Offaly** (Dublin, 2008), 215pp, HB, €40.  
John O'Donovan and Thomas O'Connor.

*Edited with an Introduction by Michael Herity MRIA*

John O'Donovan and Thomas O'Connor worked in Offaly between December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1837 and February 11<sup>th</sup> 1838. That winter was unusually wet and cold in Ireland. They began by dividing the east of the county between them. O'Connor travelled to Edenderry and O'Donovan to Tullamore. The workers met at Croghan Hill before travelling west to Banagher, Birr and Roscrea. O'Donovan's best contribution in his letters from Offaly was his reconstruction of the ancient territories in and around the county. Particularly interesting are his maps, which use the distribution of castles as one way of defining the ancient territories.



**Out the Clara Road** (1999), 111 pp, SB, €6

*Offaly County Council Edited by Rita Ann Higgins*

Out of Clara Road brings the reader a cross-section of writing from Offaly writers at home and abroad and from authors who have adopted Offaly as their home. This anthology also included some black and white photographs taken by Mary Dunne in Annie Kelly's.



**Peatland Excavations 1999-2000 Lemanaghan Group of Bogs, Co. Offaly** (Dublin 2009), 205 pp, SB, €30. **1 left in stock**

*Jane Whitaker and Ellen O'Carroll*

Bord na Móna owns and manages some 80,000 hectares of lands, the majority of which are peatlands. The excavation, description and preservation by record of these peatland archaeological sites enables us to gain a better understanding of and a deeper insight into the life, customs and immediate environment of our predecessors. The information in this book is being published as part of a monograph series by ADS, and it will provide a valuable record for both future scholars and amateur enthusiasts of what was found in the peatlands.

**The People of Tullamore in the Twentieth Century, An Album of Memories** (Tullamore, 2000), 224 pp, HB, €30.

*Michael Byrne*

*The people of Tullamore in the twentieth century: an album of memories* is a valuable addition to the growing reference collection on Offaly history and, in particular, Offaly photographic history. It

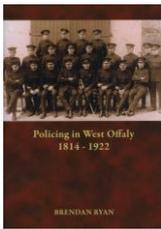


offers a glimpse of the changing scene and personalities that shaped Tullamore over the last one hundred years. The book contains a review of the history of Tullamore from 1700 to the present day followed by a decade by decade chronology of some of the events and personalities that helped to shape community life in this the third largest town in the Midlands. Most of the photographs are brought together here for the first time in a volume that will be treasured by Offaly people at home and abroad and will be a valued keepsake marking the last century of the second millennium.

**Policing in West Offaly, 1814-1922** (Tullamore, 2009), 484 pp, HB, €30, SB €20.

*Brendan Ryan*

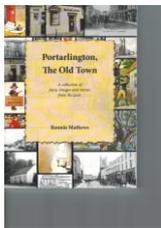
Folk memory has not been kind to the men of the Royal Irish Constabulary. A picture has emerged down the years depicting them as a traitorous native police force ruthlessly enforcing English law on a sullen and hostile population. Popular folklore remembers their conduct at evictions and of their sometimes ruthlessness in carrying out the wishes of heartless landlords. Many stories can be recounted of their wholehearted support for an alien government. This work lists short biographies of as many of those R.I.C. men who served in West Offaly.



**Portarlington, The Old Town (A collection of facts, images and stories from the past)** 2012), 158 pp, SB, €20.

*Ronnie Mathews*

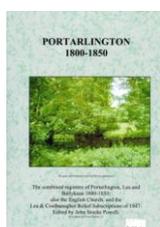
This work provides a detailed account of the development of Portarlington from its founding to the present day. The chronological arrangement of the material allows readers to make clear sense of the evolution of the town and its people, and will provide future historians with a solid foundation upon which to build. It also provides rich and often amusing pen portraits rich and often amusing pen portraits of some of the “characters” of a bygone age. This section of memoir is a fitting conclusion to the book – and a memorable reminder that our communities should not merely be appreciated for the grandeur of their architecture or the distinctive cultures they have preserved, but for the human beings, with all of their oddities and eccentricities, who created them.



**Portarlington 1800-1850** (Killenard and York, 2012), 202 pp, SB, €20.

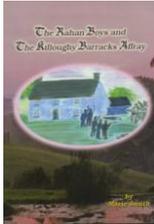
*John Stocks Powell*

The aim of this work is to make more available the biography of Portarlington and its surrounding area in the first half of the nineteenth century, by combining various church registers for the



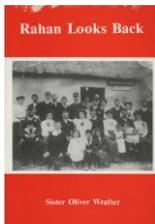
period 1800-1850 inclusive, where they have been made available. Partly this is to extend the historical opening made by the publication of the French church registers 1694-1816 by the Huguenot Society of London. By this combination of registers a more informed understanding of the decline of the Huguenot community may be feasible, and also the size of the Irish and English communities.

**The Rahan Boys and the Killoughy Barracks Affray** (Rahan 2007), 211 pp SB, €15.



*Marie Smith*

The Killoughy Barrack blockade was an event with tragic consequences that took place in 1849 and has for generations been imprinted in the memories of those living in the area between Rahan in Co Offaly and Clonaslee, Co Laois. The author has endeavoured to be accurate in her writings quoting directly from the papers of the time; her research brought her across many thresholds.



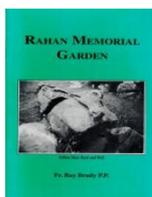
**Rahan Looks Back** (Rahan, 1999), 144 pp, SB, €13.

*Sr. Oliver Wrafter*

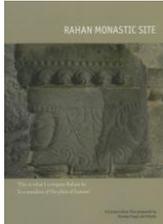
This book is a result of the interest of the past pupils of Presentation Convent, Rahan in old photographs. At the annual re-union, people were very eager to review the many photographs collected in the school over the years. They were happy to see not only themselves and their friends but their parents and sometimes grand-parents as they were in their young days. It was decided to publish a booklet that would contain the school collection. However, as more and more photographs were made available, the need for a more extensive volume became a reality. This is not a history of Rahan but of aspects of life in the parish over the years.

**Rahan Memorial Garden** (1999), 15 pp, SB, €2

*Fr. Ray Brady P.P*

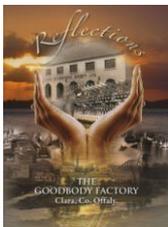


The Killoughy Barrack blockade was an event with tragic consequences that took place in 1849 and has for generations been imprinted in the memories of those living in the area between Rahan in Co Offaly and Clonaslee, Co Laois. The author has endeavoured to be accurate in her writings quoting directly from the papers of the time, her research brought her across many thresholds.



**Rahan Monastic Site**, A conservation plan prepared by Howley Hayes Architects (Sligo, 2008), 90 pp, SB, €15.

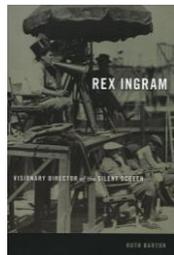
The completion of this conservation plan for the Church of St Carthage and its well-preserved, early monastic setting fulfils one of the aims of the Offaly Heritage Plan 2007-2011. It was commissioned by Offaly County Council and carried out by Howley Hayes Architects in association with Caimin O'Brien, archaeologist with the Archaeological Survey of Ireland.



**Reflections – The Goodbody Factory Clara, Co Offaly** (Clara, 2012), 188 pp, SB, €20. **Out of stock**

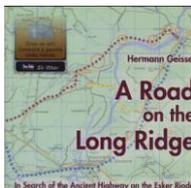
*Prepared for publication by Clara second-level students in association with Clara Credit Union.*

This book is an attempt to record the reflections of some former employees of J & L F Goodbody Ltd., of their years working at the factory. It is hoped that the book brings enjoyment to the reader and may enlighten future generations of the life and times of the employees of J & L F Goodbody Ltd., during the period from the 1930s to the 1960s.



**Rex Ingram, Visionary Director of the Silent Screen** 2014 University Press of Kentucky, 262pp, HB, €42 Ruth Barton

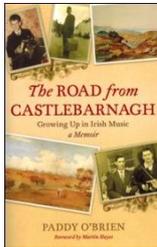
Ruth Barton's talents as a film historian, celebrity biographer, and Irish studies scholar are wonderfully displayed in this illuminating, engaging study of one of the silent era's great practitioners. Ruth Barton is a lecturer in film studies at Trinity College, Dublin. She has written several books on Irish cinema, including Hedy Lamarr, The Most Beautiful Woman in Film, Irish National Cinema, and Acting Irish in Hollywood.



**A Road on the Long Ridge – in search of the ancient highway on the Esker Riada** (Naas, 2006) 143 pp, HB, €25, SB, €18.

*Hermann Geissel, Out of stock*

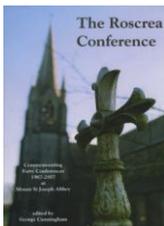
Hermann Geissel gives an absorbing account of his attempt trace and map out the Síl Mhór on the Esker Riada. This ancient routeway, extending from the Áth Claithe to Cualann hurdle ford, which gave Dublin its Irish name, to the Áth Claithe Maree at the mouth of the Clarin River on Galway Bay, formerly linked East and West while dividing the island into two similar halves.



**The ROAD from CASTLEBARNAGH – Growing Up in Irish Music a memoir** (Dublin 2012) 300 pp, SB, €16.99 **2 left in stock**

*Paddy O'Brien Foreword by Martin Hayes*

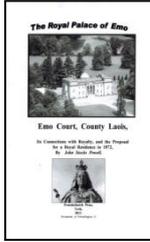
The Road from Castlebarnagh covers the many adventures of Paddy O'Brien, Irish traditional musician, composer and collector, as a boy growing up more than half a century ago in the midlands of Ireland. Paddy grew up in a small thatched house without running water or electricity, near the town of Daingean in County Offaly. It was a time when the social life of the Irish countryside often took place around the fireplace, where stories were told and music was played. In his book he writes of the many colourful characters who shaped his perception of Irish life and culture. Showing Paddy's flair for storytelling, The Road from Castlebarnagh is the story of how a young musician absorbed his surroundings while developing his own distinctive musical style.



**The Roscrea Conference – Commemorating Forty Conferences 1987-2007 at Mount St Joseph Abbey** (Tipperary 2007), 158 pp, HB, €40.

*George Cunningham*

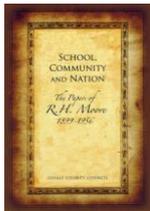
Two historical/archaeological conferences are organised each year at Mount St Joseph Cistercian Abbey, Roscrea: one on early Christian Ireland on the weekend after Easter, the second held around Hallowe'en concentrates on medieval Ireland. This commemorative volume, with essays from some of Ireland's leading scholars, celebrates the forty consecutive conference to be held at Mt St Joseph. Part one includes essays on diverse aspects of Ireland's heritage; part two focuses on Roscrea, both from a local and national perspective; a lengthy essay on pre-Cistercian families of Mount Heaton with other aspects of the monastery form part three; part four provides details of the forty conferences, the lecturers and their topics, and ancillary activities.



**The Royal Palace of Emo** (2012), 112 pp, SB, €40

*John Stocks Powell*

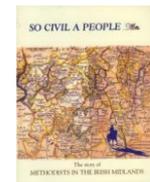
Emo Court, County Laois. It's connections with Royalty, and the Proposal for a Royal Residence in 1872.



**School Community and Nation – the Papers of R.H. Moore 1899-1956** (Tullamore 2005), 59 pp, SB, €15.

*Offaly County Council and Mary Fitzpatrick*

The archive of Roderick H. Moore provides a unique insight into the social, economic and cultural life of Banagher at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The collection paints a broad canvas, illuminating elements of local life and the efforts made by local community groups to improve their lot. Roderick H. Moore played a pivotal role in the development of community and harnessed the energy of committed individuals.



**So Civil a People – The Story of Methodists in the Irish midlands** (Tullamore, 2004), 176 pp, SB, €15.00.

*Dudley Levistone Cooney,*

John Wesley began his work in England in 1739, seeking to develop societies of deeply religious people within the established church. In 1747 his first preacher came to Ireland and commenced work in Dublin. Wesley himself followed later in the year, spending just a few weeks in that city. He did not venture into the Irish provinces, knowing of no base from which to develop his work there. His brother Charles arrived in Dublin not long after John's departure and continued the work. *So Civil a People* is the story of Methodists in the Irish Midlands.



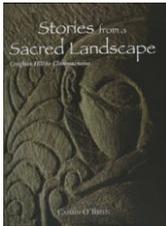
**St. Colmcille's Pipe Band, Tullamore, 1911 – 2011, - Centenary Year** (Tullamore 2011) 24 pp, SB, €10 **Out of stock**

Pictorial history of 24 pages, produced to celebrate 100 years of St. Colmcille's Pipe Band Tullamore. Full colour throughout.



**Story of Clonmacnoise and St. Ciarán, History, Stories and Legends of Clonmacnoise**, (Ely House 2013) 80 pp, SB, €9.99

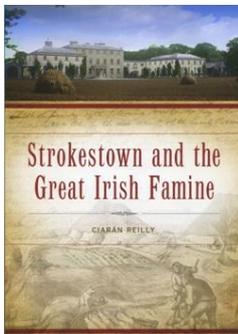
*Brian O'Carroll & Bill Fenton*



**Stories from a Sacred Landscape Croghan Hill to Clonmacnoise**  
(Tullamore, 2006) pp 229, HB, €80 **scarce**

*Caimin O'Brien*

With the flair of a storyteller and the keen eye of a practising archaeologist, Caimin O'Brien looks beneath the monastic ruins of County Offaly to uncover stories from a sacred landscape: Croghan Hill to Clonmacnoise. O'Brien draws on archaeology, history, poetry, folklore and legend to create vivid portraits of twenty-three sacred places within Offaly. *Stories from a Sacred Landscape* is essential reading for anyone with an interest in religion, politics and Irish history. O'Brien's unique and comprehensive approach to his native county will change forever the way that people see Offaly's sacred landscape.



**Strokestown and the Great Irish Famine** Ciaran Reilly €17.50

Four Courts Press 2014, pp 212, SB **New**

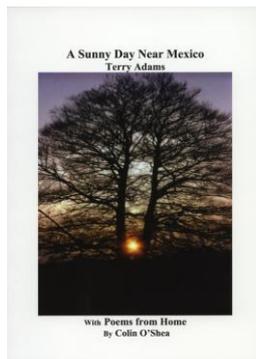
The Strokestown Park House Archive is one of the largest Irish estate collections in existence, with more than 50,000 documents comprising rentals, leases, accounts, correspondence, maps, drawings, architectural plans and photographs. Of particular importance are the papers that relate to the Great Irish Famine.

This book aims to introduce the reader to the archive and to provide a fascinating and detailed insight into the many and varied experiences of the Famine for those who inhabited the estate in the 1840s.

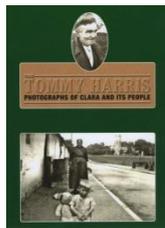
Ciaran Reilly is a postdoctoral research fellow at the Centre for the study of Historic Irish Houses and Estates at Maynooth University.

**A Sunny Day Near Mexico, Terry Adams with Poems from Home by Colin O'Shea** (Terry Adams 2014) 108pp, SB, €12 **NEW**

This is a collection of poetry produced by an Irish Uncle and Nephew combination. **Book 1** – “**A Sunny Day Near Mexico**”, was written by the Uncle part of the duo, Terry Adams. Born in Tullamore, Co.

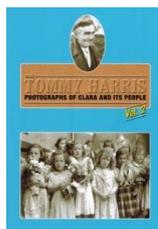


Offaly, Ireland, Terry has lived for the past twenty-four years in Luxembourg city. He has written books of poetry, short stories and novels. **Book 2 – “Poems from Home”** was written by the Nephew part of this dynamic duo, Colin O’Shea. Colin was born and raised in Tahilla, Co. Kerry, Ireland. He presently lives and works in Kenmare. This is Colin’s first appearance in print. It will not be his last.



**The Tommy Harris Photographs of Clara and its People** (Clara, 2010), 176 pp, €20. *Tommy Harris*

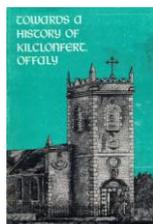
When Tommy Harris passed away in 1979 he left approximately 20,000 negatives. Offaly History over a period of time had some 17,000 negatives digitised. Out of those photographs 470 were selected and go to make up the contents of this book. As far as possible the vast majority of these photographs have been identified and named.



**The Tommy Harris Photographs of Clara and its People Volume 2** (Clara 2012) 176 pp, SB, €20 *3 left in stock*

*Tommy Harris*

In 2010 the first volume of Tommy Harris’ photos was published. In many ways Volume 2 follows the layout of Volume 1 with the exception of the written content. This book includes many historical extracts relating to Clara, some of which were compiled by the late Rev Brother Raphael Kinahan. There are a large number of photos in this book, some over seventy years old.

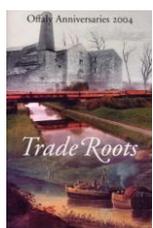


**Towards a History of Kilclonfert** (Tullamore, 1983), 141 pp, SB, €9.

*Michael Byrne*

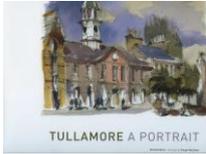
Within the covers of this book is a wonderful and exciting history of Kilclonfert, County Offaly. It also contains an index of the parish registers from the earliest date in the 1790s to the beginning of this century

**Trade Roots, Offaly Anniversaries 2004** (Tullamore 2004), 38 pp, SB €7.00.



This book charts the history, development and impact of the Grand Canal, Tullamore distillery, Tullamore railway station and the rail service in the development of Offaly over a period spanning two hundred years. The story commences in 1804 when the Grand Canal reached the River Shannon. It looks at the foundation of Tullamore distillery in 1829 and the major role it played in the economic development of the Offaly capital. *Trade Roots* also focuses on the

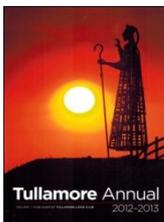
coming of the railways with particular attention being paid to the opening of Tullamore railway station in 1854 and the extension to Athlone in 1859.



**Tullamore, a Portrait** (Tullamore, 2010), 280pp, HB, large format landscape, €30.

*Michael Byrne with drawings by Fergal MacCabe*

Historian Michael Byrne provides a witty and informative text which architect and watercolourist Fergal MacCabe illuminates with eighty sketches and paintings. This affectionate portrait of their home town will be a revelation to those who are unfamiliar with Tullamore, whilst those who feel they do know it, will be prompted to look afresh and find new insights and hitherto hidden treasures.



**Tullamore Annual 2012/2013**, 180 pp, €15, SB

*Tullamore Lions Club*

The first issue of the new series covering life in Tullamore. This issue deals with 2012 – 2013 including the following articles; Genny from the Block, What is Tullamore, Barrel of Laughs, Katie Taylor visits Tullamore, Cherishing the Great Outdoors, Keeper of Faith. This magazine is published in A4 format and full colour throughout.



**Tullamore Annual 2014-2015** 180 pp 15 euro

*Tullamore Lions Club*

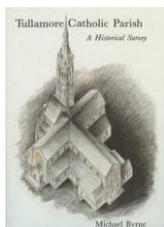
Stories of events during the past year in the town and surrounding areas

Photos of people, places and events

Sports highlights throughout the past year

Wedding Gallery, plus the winners from our competition

...and lots more!



**Tullamore Catholic Parish** (Tullamore, 1987), 187 pp, HB, €25, SB.

*Michael Byrne*

The idea for this book came in the wake of a disastrous fire in 1983 and was intended to give parishioners a commemorative volume. Latterly it was felt that publication should be delayed so as to include an account of the building and dedication of the new church in 1986. In this historical survey of Tullamore the author tries to document what is known of the development of the Catholic parish from the earliest times to the present day.



**Tullamore, County Offaly Birthplace of Tullamore Dew Irish whiskey and Irish Mist liqueur** (Tullamore, 2000), 40 pp, SB, €4.

*Nigel Brennan,*

A short introduction and trails of the town - this guide provides the next step to exploring Tullamore by bringing you out to the streets to

walk around and discover its urban history. A brief introduction to the development of the town is included in the guide as is also a short history of Tullamore Dew Irish Whiskey and Irish Mist Liqueur.



**Tullamore – Have a Look Back** (Ferbane, 2012), 76 pp, SB, €20

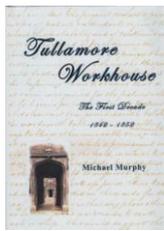
Compiled by Frank Thomas

An eclectic mix of memorabilia from Tullamore’s past, Frank Thomas an avid collector of Tullamore memorabilia fulfils a dream to put some of his collection into book form with the help of photographer friend Brendan Bracken.



**Tullamore Old Postcard View**, 6 postcards, €2

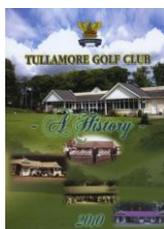
Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Tullamore;  
Charleville Castle, William Street,  
The Grand Canal and Whitehall Bridge,  
Skating in the Grand Canal,  
Charleville (O’Connor) Square,  
Lower High Street



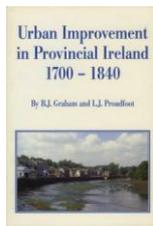
**Tullamore Workhouse, the First Decade 1842-1852**, (Offaly, 2007), 148 pp, SB, €15.

*Michael Murphy*

Michael Murphy undertook extensive research to bring this study to a wider audience. It is the first publication solely on the Tullamore workhouse, which brings into sharp relief the poverty of the time, the steps taken by the guardians to provide sustenance and a basic level of education and training for the poor. More importantly, it provides a unique insight into the work of the poor law guardians and the standards employed in the administration of the workhouse. This study brings together a wealth of information from the minute books and the *King’s County Chronicle*, providing insights into the difficulties experienced by the guardians in providing food and shelter for the destitute in a period of severe want.



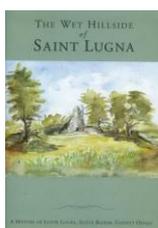
**Tullamore Golf Club, A History 2010** (Tullamore 2010), 280 pp, HB, €25. Golf has been played in Tullamore since 1886. This book is a history of Tullamore Golf Club from its formation in 1896 when the course was located at the racetrack in Ballykilmurray. An earlier 9-hole course was located at Tinnycross in 1894/95. A move to the Briscoe lands at Screggan took place in 1906 where it was based until 1926 when the Club relocated to its present home at Brookfield, part of the Charleville Estate. Although ladies/women were members of the club from the beginning, a Ladies Branch was not formed until 1912 and this centenary will be celebrated in 2012. The foresight of the founding members and the officers and committees down through the years, who continued to develop the club to its present high standard, should be gratefully acknowledged by all. This history chronicles the events of the club over the years and includes a valuable photographic record of familiar names over a century.



**Urban Improvement in Provincial Ireland, 1700 – 1840** (Westmeath, 1994), 68 pp, SB, €8

*B J Graham and L J Proudfoot*

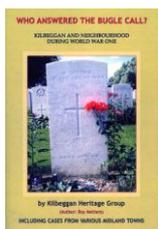
This monograph seeks to establish economic, social and cultural contexts for urban improvement in eighteenth – and early nineteenth-century Ireland, and also to determine the scale and scope of the process.



**The Wet Hillside of Saint Lugna** (1995), 39 pp, SB, €4.

*Elizabeth FitzPatrick, Paddy Heaney and Alison Rosse*

The whole area of Leitir near Cadamstown, County Offaly has a remarkable and enthralling history and folklore as is evident in this short historical survey.



**Who Answered the Bugle Call** (2011), 183 pp, SB, €15.

*Ray Metters* *Out of stock*

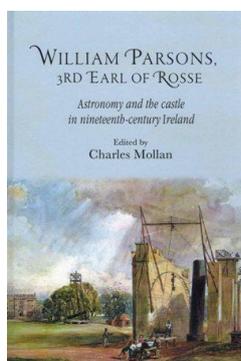
Metters' book brings to life the poignant stories of young men and women who grew up in familiar, green, safe Irish countryside, but who wound up far from home, in the grimmest of situations, fighting for "the defence of small nations", and praying that they'd live long enough to see that ideal achieved. It's an excellent read, and homage to people whose stories would otherwise be forgotten.



**The Wildflowers of Offaly** (Roscrea, 2009), 210pp, HB, €40.

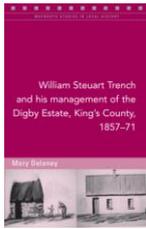
*John Feehan*

'A revelation of Offaly's wildflower beauty and diversity by one of Ireland's top ecologists and communicators of nature. His up-close-and-personal portraits give each plant a vivid and distinctive presence, aided by superlative illustration – another landmark in books about our countryside.'



**William Parsons, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl Of Rosse** Edited by Charles Mollan  
Manchester University Press 2014 pp 368, HB, €60 **New**

This book provides the first comprehensive biographical account of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Rosse. A remarkable man, he was a resident landlord and a key member of the Protestant ascendancy in nineteenth-century Ireland before, during and after the devastating Irish famine of the 1840's. He has received lasting fame as the builder, at Birr Castle in County Offaly, of enormous reflecting telescopes which allowed the recognition for the first time of the spiral shape of some galaxies. Charles Mollan is a retired science administrator, editor and publisher, and a historian of Irish science.



**William Steuart Trench and His Management of the Digby Estate, King's County (Dublin, 2012), 56pp, SB, €9.99.**

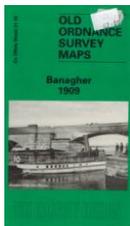
*Mary Delaney*

This book sets out to establish what the 'true realities' were on the Digby estate in Geashill during the tenure of the notorious and reforming land agent William Steuart Trench over the period from his arrival in 1857 to his departure in 1871. These were critical years in the development of Geashill as we know it today.

**Maps of County Offaly**

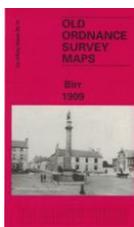
**Offaly History has worked with Alan Godfrey Maps to make available maps and plans of the Offaly towns and villages.**

**Banagher Town 1909, €2**



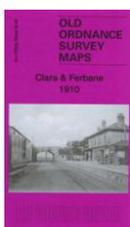
This very detailed map covers most of the little town of Banagher, which has connections with both Anthony Trollope and Charlotte Brontë. Features include the Main Street with all buildings neatly shown, railway terminus, Bridge Malt House, River Shannon, Banagher Bridge, Cuba Court, Fair Green, Fort Eliza, Crank Malt House, harbour, Birds Island, Curraghavarna and Portavolla township, Mullaghakaraun township. On the reverse is included part of adjacent sheet 29.04 extending coverage south to include St Rynagh's RC church, St Paul's church, Mountcarerret House, Castle Garden House, Distillery, ruined Garry castle.

**Birr, 1909, €3**



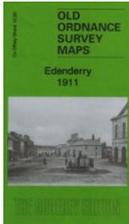
The main map covers most of the town of Birr, with coverage from Pound Street southward to Moor Park and Seefin, and from Mount Palmer eastward to Clonoghil House. Features include the Observatory, town centre with all buildings neatly shown, Scurragh, Syngfield, Oxmantown Bridge, Presentation Brothers School, Birr Castle, Cumberland Square, John's Place, Manor Saw Mill, Fair Green, St Brendan's RC church, Industrial School, St Brendan's church, Court House, Monastery, Union Workhouse, Elm Grove etc. The reverse side includes about half of adjacent sheet 35.14 extending coverage southward to include Crinkill, Whiteford.

**Clara & Ferbane 1910, €3**



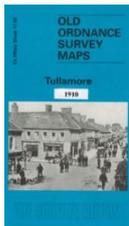
This map gives good coverage of Clara, including the town centre and extending westward to the Clashawaun Works and eastward to

Kilcoursey House. Principal features include railway with both stations, engine shed, Charlestown area, St. Brigid's Convent, Clara House, Castle Hill, Inchmore, Fair Green, St Brigid's church, Clashawaun jute works, Flour Mill etc. On the reverse is included part of sheet 14.12 covering the small town of Ferbane, with coverage extending from the Main Street southward to Gallen Priory. Features include station, Convent, St Mary's RC church.



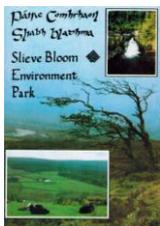
### **Edenderry 1910, €3**

This map covers the centre and west of the town, including Main Street, Workhouse, St Mary's RC Church, Grand Canal and harbour, Castropetre Church, Market Square, Blundell House, castle ruins. The reverse side includes part of adjacent sheet 12.06 covering the east end of the town, including railway terminus



### **Tullamore Town 1910, €2**

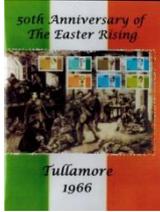
This very detailed map covers the northern part of the town with coverage extending NW to Ballyduff House. Features include Grand Canal, Canal Harbour, St Mary's RC church, Market Square, Constabulary Barracks, Union Workhouse, maltings, Ballydrohid House, quarries etc. On the reverse is included part of adjacent sheet 17.09 extending coverage southward to include railway with station, Court House, Elmfield, O'Connor Square, High Street, corn mill, Kilcruttin township, St Joseph's Cemetery.



### **Slieve Bloom Environment Park 1990, €5**

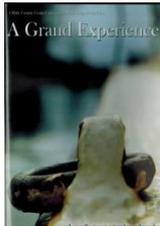
The Slieve Bloom Mountains are among the most unspoilt and least explored areas in Ireland. They are surrounded by a necklace of villages, each one a gem. This map/brochure has been prepared by An Foras Forbartha on behalf of Laois and Offaly County Councils as contribution to European Year of the Environment.

**Available DVD's**



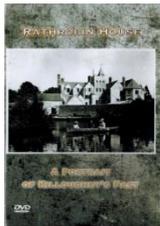
### **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The Easter Rising – Tullamore 1966 €5**

Film made of the 1966 parade in Tullamore, lots of old memories and faces. Please note quality is consistent with the period. **Out of stock**



### **A Grand Experience – A visually stunning travelogue through Offaly in the midlands of Ireland (Offaly 2012), €15**

‘A Grand Experience’ charts a journey by three artists – writer Eugene O’Brien, musician Wayne Brennan and photographer Veronica Nicholson, on board the historic 68m boat along the Grand Canal in Offaly. As they travel through the midlands, they rediscover a lost Ireland, an unspoilt enduring landscape and a deep sense of heritage. Their challenge – to create an artistic response to the people and places they encounter. **Out of Stock**



### **Rathrobin House – A Portrait of Killoughey’s Past, (Offaly 2013), €10**

The parish of Killoughey, nestled in the foothills of the Slieve Bloom Mountains in County Offaly, is home to a warm and vibrant community. The Magan Collection, c1890 – 1910, containing over 1,5000 photographs taken by Lt. Colonel Middleton Westenan Biddulph of Rathrobin House provides a glimpse into the lives of the aristocracy and local people of Killoughey at the time. We experience what life was like inside and outside the ‘big house’, as its history is traced through to the end of the Civil War. The parish of Killoughey is still home to many of the proud descendants of the people preserved forever in these unique photographs.



### **A Nightingale Falling- (Offaly 2014) €12.99**

Ireland 1920. On discovering a wounded British Officer during the Irish War of independence, two sisters must outwit British and IRA forces in an attempt to save his life as well as confront their own personal rivalry. A powerful drama of deep dark secrets based on the acclaimed novel by PJ Curtis.