



# **PUBLICATIONS**

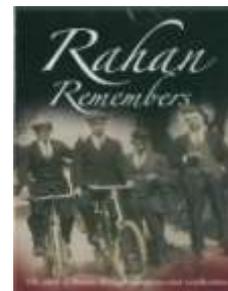
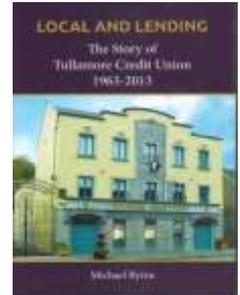
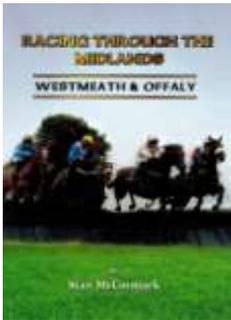
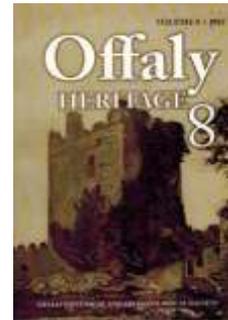
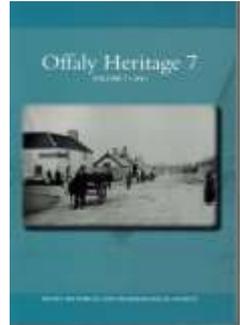
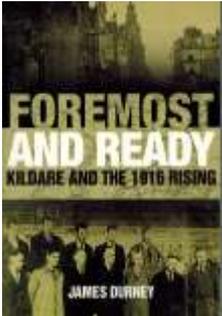
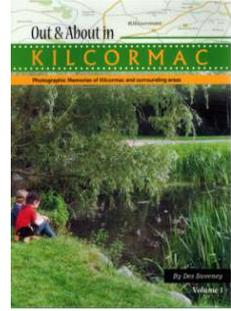
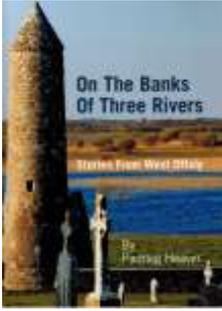
## **ESKER PRESS**

Tullamore, Ireland

[info@offalyhistory.com](mailto:info@offalyhistory.com)

# **2016**

# New Additions !!



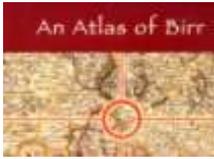
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Founded in 1938; Offaly  
History is about collecting  
and sharing memories of our  
built, cultural and natural  
history.



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

*John Feehan and Alison Rosse 2 left in 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*

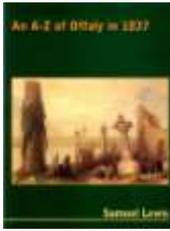
The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage was established to identify, record and evaluate the architectural heritage of the country in a systematic and uniform manner. Each county inventory is published in a full-colour, attractively illustrated booklet introducing the architectural highlights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



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

*Paddy Heaney*

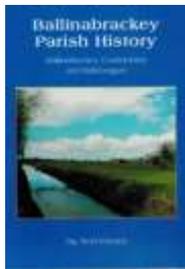
This is a story of the people who lived in a small rural parish in the foothills of the Slieve Bloom Mountains and whose feet were firmly planted in the soil for hundreds of years. It is also the story of Celt, Dane, Norman and English who passed through the area and left their mark on the landscape. 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*

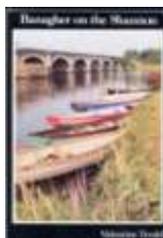
An A-Z of Offaly in 1837 is a most useful work for local studies in Offaly. Consisting as it does of the King's County entries from Lewis, *A Topographical Dictionary of Ireland*. It is a great source book for nineteenth-century topography. The original text reproduced here in a newly prepared typescript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



**Ballinabrackey Parish History Ballinabrackey, Castlejordan and Ballyboggan** (Trim 2013), 60 pp SB, €10

*Noel French*

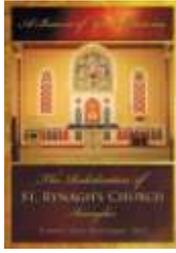
The Parish of Ballinabrackey is located between Kinnegad and Edenderry. The modern parish is made up of almost equal parts of counties Meath and Offaly. Within its borders is the meeting place of the three small rivers which make up the early course of the river Boyne. There are a number of significant historic sites within the parish: Ballyboggan Abbey, Castlejordan, Kilkieran and Ballinabrackey. This booklet describes the area and records its story from pre-historic times. The history of a number of the important people connected to the area is recalled including J.L. Carew, friend of Parnell, Thomas Hussey, first President of Maynooth College and Fr. Robert Callary, founder of the Meath Archaeological and Historical Society.



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

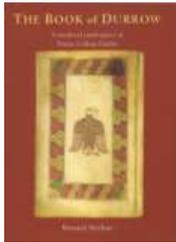
*Valentine Trodd,*

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.



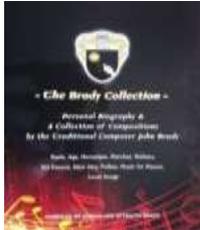
**Banagher – The rededication of St. Rynagh's Church** (Ferbane, 2013), 64 pp, €5  
*Jim Madden (ed)* *1 left in stock*

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



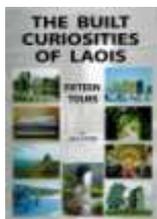
**The Book of Durrow** (Town House 1996) 94 pp, SB, €10  
*Bernard Meehan*

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.



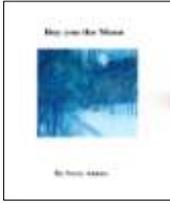
**The Brady Collection Personal biography & a collection of compositions by the traditional composer John Brady** (Killeigh 2013), 134 pp, SB €20, HB, €30  
*Adrian & Attracta Brady*

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.



**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 1 left in stock*

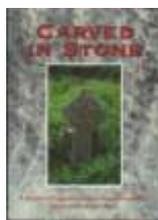
Poems and stories recount growing up as a small part of a large Irish family. From the early sixties up to the present, poems and prose tell the story of the most influential people in the author's life: parents, aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters, cousins, friends, neighbours all feature. Often in life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



**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. *2 left in stock*

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 3 left in stock*

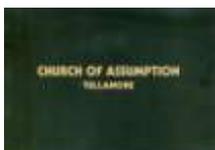
This book will provide the reader with information on some of the old and present-day burial grounds in Edenderry and the surrounding area and the recorded headstones in each. Graveyards remain an important and integral part of our heritage and landscape. The headstones and memorials provide an essential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



**Casting Shadows** (Dublin, 2014), 12pp, SB €5  
*Fergal MacCabe.*

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.



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



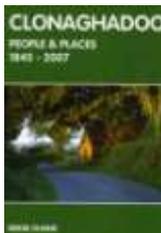
**1958 Clara ICA 50 Years On** (Clara, 2008) 104 pp,  
SB €15  
*4 left in Stock*

This history book was compiled to commemorate fifty years of the Clara ICA guild from 1958 to 2008.



**Clara Parish Burials from Earliest Times** (Tullamore 2003), 58pp,  
SB €8. *2 left in stock*  
*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. *1 left in stock*  
*Bridie Dunne*

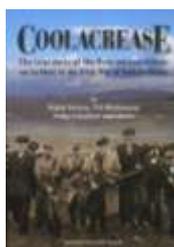
The author traces the rich history of the area of Clonaghadoo in this comprehensive study which will be treasured by the present generation and recognised as a historical record and source for future generations



**Clonmacnois – the Church and Lands of St Ciarán**  
(1997), 347 pp, SB, €25.00  
*Annette Kehnel*

Change & Continuity in an Irish Monastic Foundation  
(6<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> Century)

Clonmacnois was one of the main ecclesiastical centres in early Christian Ireland. Yet no comprehensive work has hitherto been published which examines its history as an institution of religious, social and economic life. 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.



**Coolacreease, The True Story of the Pearson Executions – An Incident in the Irish War of Independence** (Cork 2008), 472 pp, SB, €20. *3 left in stock*

*Abase Historical Society*

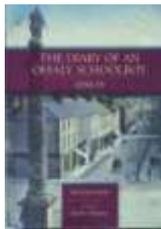
At the end of the Irish War of Independence two

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



**Diary of an Offaly Schoolboy, 1858-59**, *William avis* (Tullamore, 2011), 206 pp, HB €25, SB, 15. *3 left in stock*  
*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.



**Did You Know...?** (Offaly 2013), 207 pp, SB €10  
*Amanda Pedlow, Heritage Officer*

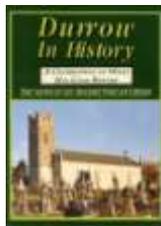
Did you know that Offaly has two pyramids, the first all-Ireland final took place in Birr, and that Croghan Hill was a volcano?

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



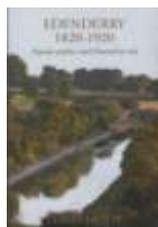
**Dunne People and Places**, (Ballinakill Press, 1996), 119 pp, SB, €10.50 *7 left in stock*  
*Joe Dunne*

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.



**Durrow in History** (Tullamore, 1994), 299 pp, SB €19, HB €30.  
Edited by *Michael Byrne* *2 left in stock*

*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.

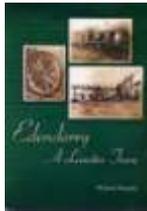


**Edenderry 1820-1920, Popular Politics and Downshire Rule** (Edenderry 2007) 157 pp, SB, €16.  
*Ciaran J. Reilly* *3 left in stock*

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 1 left in stock*

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

*Ciaran J. Reilly 2 left in stock*

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.

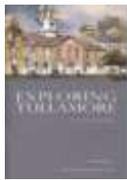
In particular, problems between the landlord the marquis of Downshire and his tenants, fed social tensions produced by more general economic conditions to ensure that Edenderry would be as disturbed as many other parts of the country during the years 1795-7. Why then did these problems not translate 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.



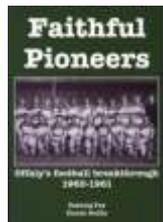
**Eglis & Drumcullen A Parish in Firceall** (Firceall, 2003), 433pp, HB, €30 *Edited by Brian Pey*

The ancient sub kingdom of Firceall was the southern most principality of the Kingdom of Meath and is part of the Catholic Diocese of Meath. We have traditions and folk memories of ancient days, monastic remains, holy wells, mass rocks and ring forts and a rich tradition of people and practices going back for many centuries. It would be a pity if all those relics and mementoes of the olden days should be forgotten. And so the Firceall Heritage Society was formed with the aim of preserving the written and unwritten Heritage of Eglis & Drumcullen and neighbouring parishes in Firceall. This book is the result of its endeavours.



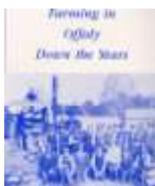
**Exploring Tullamore – An Illustrated Guide** (2013) 40pp, SB, €2.99  
*Michael Byrne, drawings by Fergal MacCabe*

Pocket size guide to exploring Tullamore for the walking enthusiastic



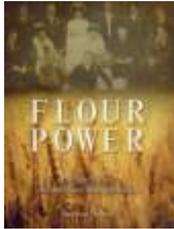
**Faithful Pioneers, Offaly's football breakthrough 1960-1961** (Kildare, 2011), 143 pp, SB, €12. *20 in stock*  
*Padraig Foy & Ciarán Reilly*

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.



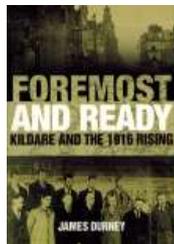
**Farming in Offaly Down the Years** (Tullamore 1987), 48 pp, SB, €4. *4 in stock*  
*Offaly Historical Society*

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.



**Flour Power** The Story of the Odlum Flour Milling Families (2015) 116pp, SB, €14 *8 in stock*  
*Stephen Odlum*

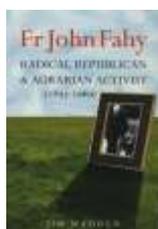
This book traces the history of five generations of the Odlum family involved in flour milling in Ireland from the 1820s to the 1990s. It examines the social, political and economic environment in which they lived and worked. Once an important part of the industrial and farming framework of Ireland, flour milling has all but disappeared. This book looks at the highs and lows of that industry that came to be dominated by the Odlums brand whose distinctive owl logo is still a familiar sight today.



**Foremost And Ready** Kildare and the 1916 Rising (2015), 201 pp, SB, €16 *In stock*  
*James Durney*

On Easter Monday 1916, 1,600 men, women and children went out to fight for an independent Ireland. They faced the most powerful empire in the world. The battle raged in Dublin for six days and resulted in 485 deaths and the destruction of the many parts of the city. While mainly a Dublin affair many of the Volunteers were from outside the city; two dozen Kildare men and women took part in the Rising, including fifteen men who walked from Maynooth to the GPO. Nine Kildare natives were killed in the Rising, while dozens more were wounded or imprisoned in the aftermath.

The subsequent execution of the leaders of the Rising awakened a generation to the cause of the Irish Freedom and the Kildare men of 1916 – Domhnall ua Buachalla, Tom Harris, Pat Colgan, Michael Smyth and Éamonn Ó Modhráin – would play their part.

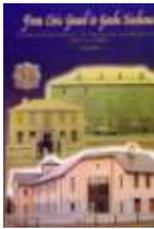


**Fr John Fahy, Radical Republican & Agrarian Activist (1893-1969)** (Dublin, 2012), 272pp, SB, €20.

*Jim Madden. 2 in 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 Síochana** (Tullamore 2002), 275 pp, HB, €20. *4 in stock*  
*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 1 in stock*

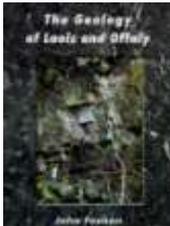
Memories of a man living near Daingean



**Geashill – The Evolution of its Architecture** (Offaly County Council, 2012), 108 pp, HB, €15.  
*Rachel McKenna 20 in stock*

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 Digby 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 *20 in stock*  
*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 Goodbodies** (Dublin, 2011), 532pp, HB, €40  
*Michael Goodbody 19 in stock*

As well as detailing the history of the Goodbodies this book also looks at the impact the Quakers had on the Irish economy. It and 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 Glens, 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. *19 in stock*  
*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.



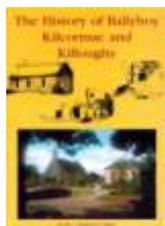
**Heritage Landscapes of the Irish Midlands and Selected Itineraries** (Dublin 2007), 252 pp, SB, €25  
*P J Gibson. 19 in stock*

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.



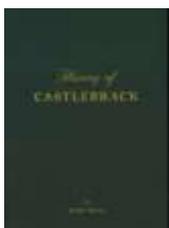
**Heritage of Our Land Ballykilmurray/Ballinamere** (Tullamore, 2015) 208 pp, SB, €10. *19 in stock*  
*Michael Dalton*

The book starts with the Esker Riada – a product of the ice age, which was formed in Ireland approx 10 thousand years ago. It also researches the Heritage of the area together with information on Ballycowen Castle, Tahilly Church and High Cross, the De Burgo Chalice, Ballykilmurray Castle, the Mass Rock in Ballinough taking us back to Penal times. The book also provides valuable information on areas like Ballinamere and Doory.



**The History of Ballyboy, Kilcormac and Killoughey** (1999), 173 pp, SB, €10 *19 in stock*  
*Rev. Andrew L. Shaw*

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

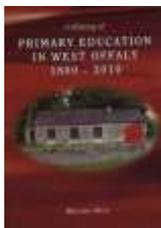


**History of Castlebrack** (Tullamore 2011), 144pp, SB, €15.  
*Bridie Dunne 19 in stock*

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.

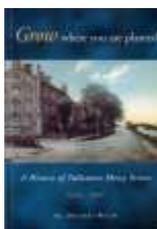
The main text begins with stories of early families, some who had emigrated, others that have long since gone from Castlebrack. An effort has been made to put together primarily factual material some of which has not previously been published.



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

*Brendan Ryan 19 in stock*

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*

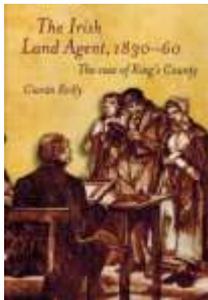
This book is principally a record of the experience of Sisters in Mercy Convent, Tullamore during the first 160 years. The fact that the Annals of the Convent were kept regularly, meant that materials for the story were readily available.



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

*David H Davison, 3 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.



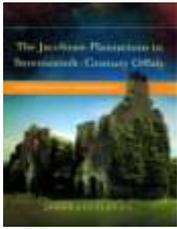
### **The Irish Land Agent, 1830–60 The case of King's County**

Four Courts Press 2014 €35.00, 212 pp, SB

*Ciarán Reilly* *1 left in stock*

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).

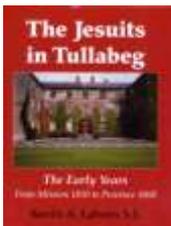


### **The Jacobean Plantations in Seventeenth – Century Offaly**

**An Archaeology of a Changing World**, (Dublin 2013) 344pp, SB, €29.95, HB, €55

*James Lyttleton* **7 in stock**

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.

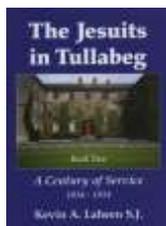


### **The Jesuits in Tullabeg, the Early Years, Book One** (Limerick, 2007), 118 pp, HB, €20.

*Kevin A Laheen, S.J.* **In stock**

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



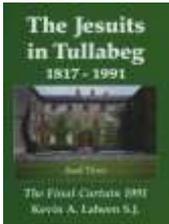
### **The Jesuits in Tullabeg, A Century of Service 1814-1914, Book Two** (Limerick, 2009), 117 pp, HB, €20.

*Kevin A Laheen, S.J.* **In stock**

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, *Sollicitudo 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 In stock*

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, *In stock*

*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 *In stock*

*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 Jaspur

Robert Joly, while another famous cousin was the astronomer Charles Jaspar 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.



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



**Kilcruttin Cemetery Tullamore** (Tullamore, 1993), 47 pp, SB, €12.  
*County Offaly Archaeological Survey In stock*

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.



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

*John Wright* **1 left in stock**

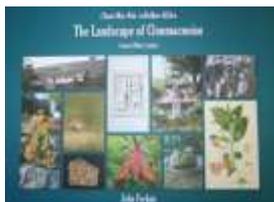
Since its first publication in 1890 this work has been constantly sought for its historical value for all interested in County Offaly, its towns, villages, industries and people. Long out of print and almost impossible to obtain. This CD edition is fully searchable. See also below *Offaly One Hundred 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. **5 in stock**

*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.



**The Landscape of Clonmacnoise County Offaly, Ireland** (Co. Tipperary, 2014), 130pp, NB. €45. **In stock**

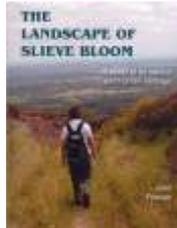
*John Feehan*

This book tells an extraordinary and detailed story of the changing landscape of Clonmacnoise in west Offaly, ranging across a broad spectrum from geology to biodiversity and the interaction with communities. For so many centuries now the monastic site at Clonmacnoise has been centre stage in west Offaly. However, the whole rise and decline of this monastic site is inherently connected to the landscape around it and the changing settlement patterns. This book puts the site into a geographical context which has so many stories to tell itself.

John Feehan has done tremendous work over the past number of years for Offaly. Offaly County Council has

been pleased to publish his books producing unique insights into our wildflowers, geology and also with his book on Croghan.

This book will be valued by those living close to Clonmacnoise who know the landscape John is talking about but also to many others from a wider community who are interested in Offaly's heritage and those who have studied the monastic site of Clonmacnoise.



**The Landscape of Slieve Bloom** (Dublin, 1979, reprinted Roscrea, 2009), 284 pp, €30. *In stock*  
*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. 4, 181 pp, SB, €20.

*In stock*

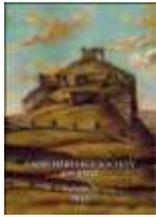
Laois Heritage Society is involved in raising awareness of the importance of protecting buildings, sites and artefacts of historical and archaeological importance in and around County Laois. The Journal features articles and photographs submitted by its members



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

*In stock*

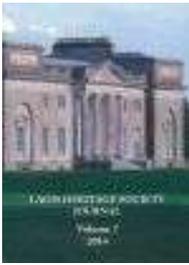
Laois Heritage Society was founded in the early 1970. Among the Society's aims is to create awareness of the rich and unique heritage in the county. It publishes its own Journal every two years.



**Laois Heritage Society Journal, Vol. 6, (2012) 139 pp, SB, €15**

*In stock*

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**

*In stock*

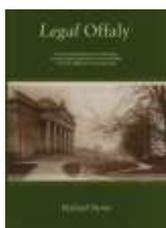
Laois Heritage Society has been flying the banner for heritage interests in the county for over half a century. Back in the early days of the Society and even up to relatively recent years the events, the people, buildings, archaeology, artefacts and way of life of past times was very much a minority 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.



**La Sainte Union des Sacrés Coeurs Educating in Banagher, 1863-2007 (2007) 218 pp, SB, €20. *In 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. *In stock***

*Michael Byrne*

This is the first such overview of the development of legal institutions and the expansion of legal personnel

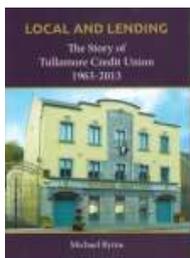
at county level in Ireland. Over a series of eight chapters the author seeks to show how the law developed at local level in County Offaly (formerly King's County) over the past two hundred years. The building of a new courthouse at Tullamore in 1835 and the transfer of the assizes was seen at the time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



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



**Local & Lending The Story of the Tullamore Credit Union 1963 -2013** (Tullamore 2015), 291pp, HB, €16.99 *In stock*  
*Michael Byrne*

The founding of Tullamore Credit Union is perhaps one of the best things that ever happened to Tullamore. The same can be said of the credit union movement founded in Ireland in the late 1950's. This publication looks at the progress of Tullamore Credit Union over fifty years from 1963. How did it come about? How was it sustained? Who were the leaders, managers and staff at the front line?

The success of community – based, people – centred, voluntary effort is all the more relevant today when people often have only machines to turn to in the provision of services and some feel disenfranchised both at local and central government level.

‘We ourselves’ will be much spoken of in this ‘Decade of centenaries’. It was also the cry of the credit union founders in the Lemass – led early 1960’s when practical steps were taken to stem the flow of emigration and provide employment opportunities at home through provision of credit where it could be useful.



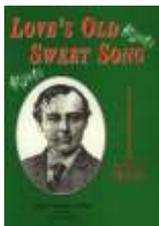
**The Long Ridge** [Killeigh parish] (Tullamore, 1992), 174pp, SB, €10. *In stock*  
*John Kearney*

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.



**The Lost Village (A Slieve Bloom Story)** (Privately pub 2015) 24pp, SB, €5 *In stock*  
*Sean Flanagan*

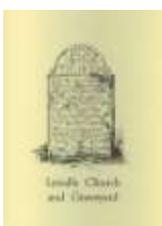
The deserted Village of “The Cones” a rough mountain area of the Slieve Bloom mountains containing 1293 acres of land. The Cones is situated between the townlands of Tinnahinch and Capard.



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

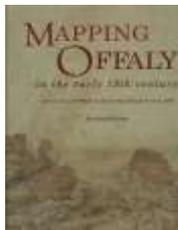
Considerable time and effort went into the search for information regarding James Lynam Molloy and his family with little success.

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. *In stock*  
*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.



**Medieval Fore, County Westmeath.** Rory Masterson  
Four Courts Press 2014 68pp, SB, €10. *30 in stock*

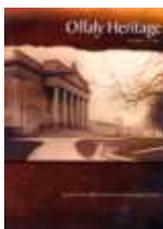
In the history of Norman monasteries founded in Ireland, the Benedictine priory of Fore stands apart. While many foundations were independent entities and others were cells or priories of English foundations, Fore was a cell of the French monastery of St. Taurin in Evreux, Normandy. Rory Masterson holds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

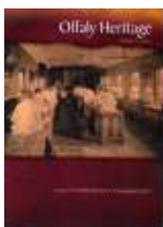
The photographs in this book are influenced by time spent by the artist in Kyoto, Japan and the Japanese aesthetic of ‘wabisabisuki’ which can be loosely translated as ‘the patina of old age’ and it is evident in the heritage town of Birr. They are not the usual images which celebrate the buildings that 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.



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

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

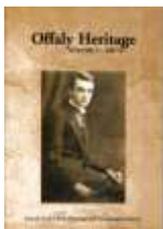
The third volume of the society’s journal was published in 2005. The Journal gives members and contributors an opportunity to have their research published.



**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, €30.

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

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

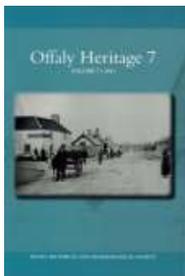
it and their last letters home.



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

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

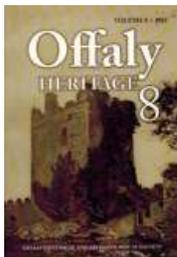
Offaly Heritage 6 reflects the continued commitment of Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society to the publication of works of historical interest relating to County Offaly and its surrounding areas. The contributions included reflect the diverse range of topics, both in time and interest examined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



**Offaly Heritage, Vol. 7** (2013) 284pp. SB €15 HB €25

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

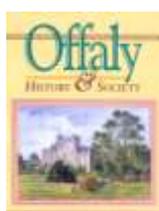
This is the seventh volume of essays published by the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society on the history of county Offaly, formerly King's County. The essays include an Excavation and conjecture of a late Bronze Age farmstead at Tober, County Offaly and Tihilly High Cross: An exploration of the background, dating, interpretation and commentary on the Tihilly monastic site and high cross and Tullamore and surrounding parishes in A Dictionary of Irish Saints.



**Offaly Heritage, Vol. 8** (2015) 284pp. SB €15 HB €25

*Journal of the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society*

This is the eighth volume of essays by the Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society on the history of county Offaly. The majority of essays in this volume are focussed on aspects of the county's nineteenth – century history, they include “Good fences make good neighbours”; Fabricated crime and religious tensions in pre-Famine King's County: The volume also contains information on Offaly Historical and Archaeological Society and the county heritage office.



**Offaly History & Society**, (Tullamore 1998) 1100 pp, HB, €150 **SCARCE**

*William Nolan & Timothy P O'Neill*

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.

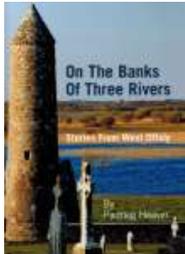


**Offaly War Dead: A History of the Casualties of the First World War** (Dublin, 2010), 302 pp, SB, €20.

*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

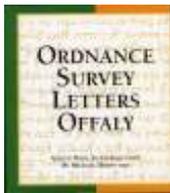
Navy or the British Mercantile Marine. Such a list, combined with intricate data, never-before-seen correspondence, the photographs where available, is the first of its kind, providing an essential addition to any local historian or military enthusiast's bookshelf.



**On the Banks of the Three Rivers, Stories from West Offaly (Galway, 2016), 308 pp, HB, €25**

*Padraig Heavin*

This book features details about three Offaly men who fought in the 1916 Rising in Dublin: Patrick Mc Donnell & Seamus Kenny both from Belmont and Kieran Kenny (Banagher). The unveiling of a plaque in Clonmacnoise cemetery in 1966 commemorating the three men is also covered.

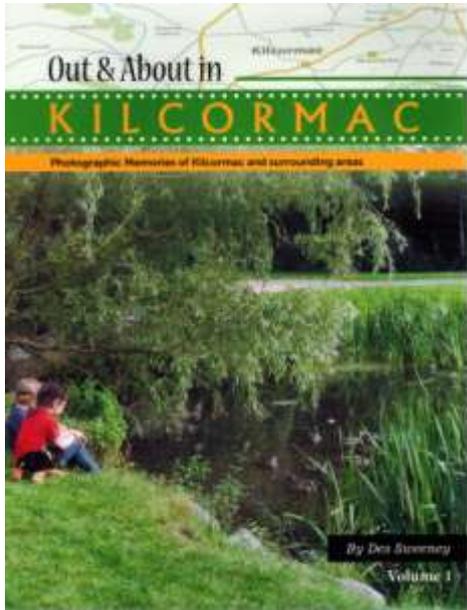


**Ordnance Survey Letters Offaly (Dublin, 2008), 215pp, HB, €40.**

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. SB €5

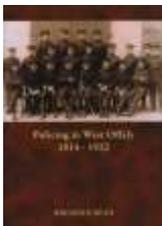
*Michael Byrne*



*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.

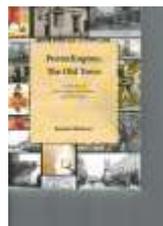
*Brendan Ryan*



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.

**Portarlinton, 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 Portarlinton 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.

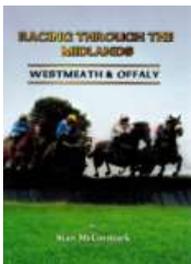
*John Stocks Powell*



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.

**Racing through the Midlands** Westmeath & Offaly (Kilbeggan 2015), 440pp, SB, €20

*Stan McCormack*

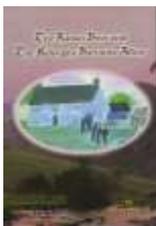


The book includes the story of Pat Smullen, Michael O’Leary’s famous Gigginstown House Stud and Tally Ho’s historic stud. The book covers famous horses like Brown Jack, L’Escargot and Vaguely Noble. It also includes the history of Kilbeggan Racecourse and other Midland racecourses. The racing family the Brabazons and Aubrey Hasting’s trainer of four Grand National winner is mentioned.

**The Rahan Boys and the Killoughy Barracks**

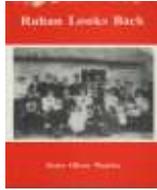
**Affray** (Rahan 2007), 211 pp SB, €15.

*Marie Smith*



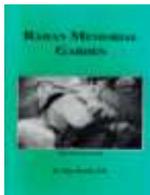
The Killoughy Barrack blockade was an event with tragic consequences that took place in 1849 and has for generations been imprinted in the memories of those living in the area between Rahan in Co Offaly and

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*



**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.

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

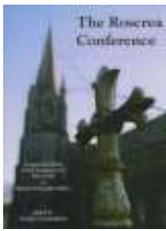
This book is an attempt to record the reflections of some former employees of J & L F Goodbody Ltd., of their years working at the factory. It is hoped that the book brings enjoyment to the reader and may enlighten future generations of the life and times of the employees of J & L F Goodbody Ltd., during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



**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.

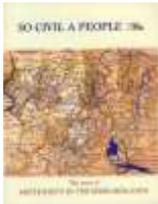


**School Community and Nation – the Papers of R.H. Moore 1899-1956**

(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

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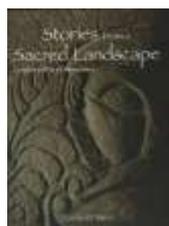
Pictorial history of 24 pages, produced to celebrate 100 years of St. Colmcille's Pipe Band Tullamore. Full colour throughout.

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

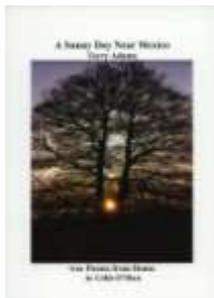
*Scarce*

*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.



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

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.

Tommy Harris 3 to go in here



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

*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. *In stock*

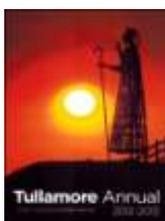
This book charts the history, development and impact of the Grand Canal, Tullamore distillery, Tullamore railway station and the rail service in the development of Offaly over a period spanning two hundred years. The story commences in 1804 when the Grand Canal reached the River Shannon. It looks at 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. *In stock*

*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 In stock*

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

*Michael Byrne* *In stock*

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*, *In stock*

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* *In stock*

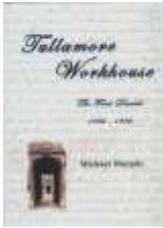
An eclectic mix of memorabilia from Tullamore's past, Frank Thomas an avid collector of Tullamore memorabilia fulfils a dream to put some of his collection into book form with the help of photographer friend Brendan Bracken.



**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. *Check this one*  
*Michael Murphy*



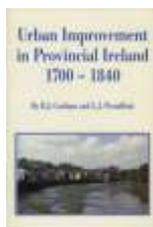
Michael Murphy undertook extensive research to bring this study to a wider audience. It is the first publication solely on the Tullamore workhouse, which brings into sharp relief the poverty of the time, the steps taken by the guardians to provide sustenance and a basic level of education and training 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. In stock



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.

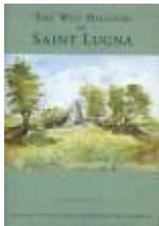
**Urban Improvement in Provincial Ireland, 1700 – 1840** (Westmeath, 1994), 68 pp, SB, €8 *In stock*



*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.

*In stock*

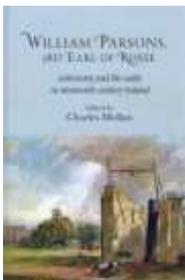
*Elizabeth FitzPatrick, Paddy Heaney and Alison Rosse*  
The whole area of Leitir near Cadamstown, County Offaly has a remarkable and enthralling history and folklore as is evident in this short historical survey.



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

*John Feehan In stock*

‘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

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 Stuart 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 Stuart 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**

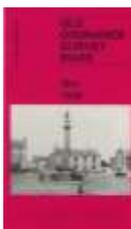
**Offaly History has worked with Alan Godfrey Maps to make available maps and plans of the Offaly towns and villages.**

**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, Mountcareret House, Castle Garden House, Distillery, ruined Garry castle.

**Birr, 1909, €3**



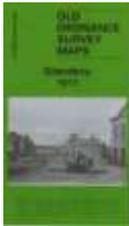
The main map covers most of the town of Birr, with coverage from Pound Street southward to Moor Park and Seefin, and from Mount Palmer eastward to Clonoghil House. Features include the Observatory, town centre with all buildings neatly shown, Scurragh, Syngfield, Oxmantown Bridge, Presentation Brothers 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 1911**

**00, €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, malhouses, 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 DVDs**

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

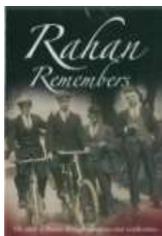
Film made of the 1966 parade in Tullamore, lots of old memories and faces. Please note quality is consistent with the period. *Out of stock*





**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*



**Rahan Remembers - The Story of Rahan through memories and recollections** (Rahan, 2014), €10

This DVD shines a light into a small rural area in the Irish Midlands called Rahan near Tullamore. It gives a voice to the memories and recollections of some of its older citizens as well as a few younger ones.



**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 Westenra 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.

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