

Expansion Of Services At Local Studies Centre

Ennis, County Clare, 31st October 07

Clare County Library has announced that users of the Clare Local Studies Centre in Ennis will benefit from longer opening hours from Monday 12th November next. Staff restructuring at the Centre has resulted in opening hours being extended every Tuesday and Friday until 8.00 pm.

"The new hours will provide an opportunity for students, researchers, and those working by day to access the resources of the Centre outside of office hours", explained Noel Crowley, Clare County Librarian.

He added, *"Along with the extended opening hours on Tuesday and Friday, the Centre will remain open until 5.30 pm on every other weekday and from 10am to 2pm on Saturdays."*

Clare County Library's Local Studies Centre is a reference library and research centre dedicated to the collection of material on any aspect of County Clare. Located at the Manse, beside the de Valera Library on Harmony Row in Ennis, it is open to the public free of charge. It aims to collect all published books relating to Clare, all books by Clare-born authors and any general publications containing Clare material.

According to Peter Beirne, Executive Librarian at the Local Studies Centre, the Clare Collection contains over 2,000 titles dealing primarily with the history, archaeology and topography of the county.

Mr. Beirne continued, *"Directories, almanacs, topographical dictionaries and unpublished works such as theses and projects are also part of the collection. It contains a comprehensive collection of journal titles including all major Irish historical and geographical publications. Journals of specific relevance to Clare include The North Munster Antiquarian Journal, Dal gCais, The Other Clare, Molua, The Clare Association Yearbook and Sliabh Aughty. Local Parish and sporting magazines are also collected. Newspapers, photographs, maps and census records all add to the value and variety of the collection."*

"In addition to the Clare material, the Centre also houses a collection of Irish interest material comprising approximately 8,000 works on all facets of Irish society", concluded Mr. Beirne.

The new opening Hours are as follows:

Monday	10.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 5.30pm
Tuesday	10.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 8.00pm
Wednesday	10.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 5.30pm
Thursday	10.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 5.30pm
Friday	10.00am - 1.00pm and 2.00pm - 8.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - 2.00pm

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