

libraries  ni

# Heritage Week

10 - 14 March 2025

**Programme of Events**



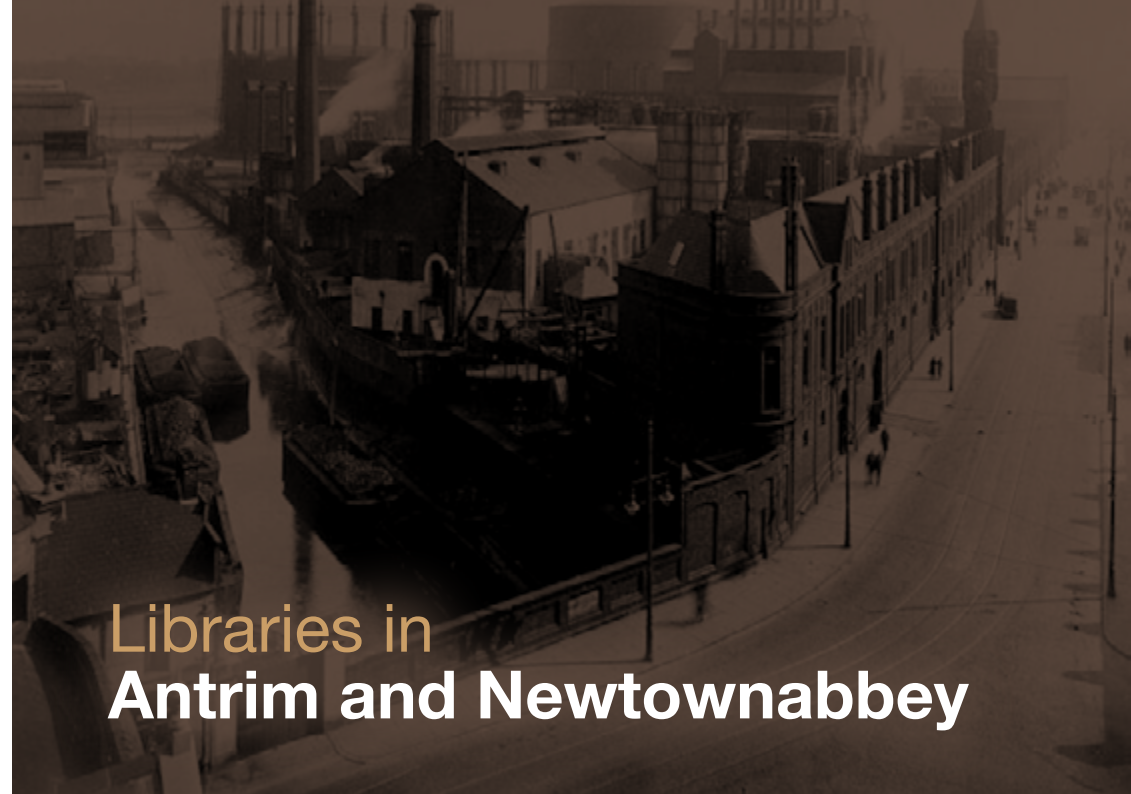
# Welcome to Heritage Week

Step into the past and experience the rich history and cultural heritage of Northern Ireland with Heritage Week, brought to you by Libraries NI.

From 10 to 14 March, this exciting initiative invites you to explore the fascinating stories, memories, and moments that have shaped our communities through a variety of engaging events. Across select libraries, we're offering an exciting line-up of exhibitions, film archives, author talks, and historical displays.

From special exhibitions showcasing the lives of those who lived in Northern Ireland between 1927 and 1947, to unique access to archival film footage and expert-led talks, Heritage Week promises to take you on a journey through history.

Events are free to attend, with some requiring booking - make sure to check event details to plan your visit.



## Libraries in Antrim and Newtownabbey

### Antrim Library

**Northern Ireland Screen  
- Digital Film Archive  
Wednesday 19 March  
11:00am – 12 noon**

Booking essential.  
Call 028 9446 1942 or email  
[antrim.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:antrim.library@librariesni.org.uk)

Discover Northern Ireland's history like never before with new footage from Northern Ireland Screen's Digital Film Archive. This fascinating session delves into a treasure trove of moving images, capturing cultural, historical, and social moments that shaped our past. Don't miss this chance to see rare footage that brings history to life.

**The Splendid Press Exhibition  
Monday 10 March -  
Saturday 15 March  
On display during library  
opening hours**

Step into the elegance of Victorian publishing at Antrim Library's Splendid Press Exhibition. Featuring beautifully illustrated books, cards, calendars, and illuminated manuscripts from The Marcus Ward Collection, this exhibit celebrates one of the most influential publishers of the era. On loan from Belfast Central Library, this is a must-see for art and literary history lovers.

## Ballyclare Library

### BFI Replay Archive

**Monday 24 March**

**11:00am - 12 noon**

Drop in during library opening hours

Uncover the magic of film and television history with the BFI Replay Archive at Ballyclare Library. This free streaming service gives you access to thousands of digitised videos and programmes from the BFI National Archive. Visit to learn how to explore this extraordinary collection of screen stories from the past.

## Crumlin Library

### Your Past in Print Exhibition

**Monday 10 March -**

**Saturday 15 March**

**On display during library opening hours**

Travel back in time with Your Past in Print at Crumlin Library. Featuring historical images and newspaper articles, this exhibition reveals fascinating stories from the past and showcases how local events were reported through the years. An engaging look at history for all ages.

## Glengormley Library

### Plantations in Ulster

**1600 - 1641 Exhibition**

**Monday 10 March -**

**Saturday 15 March**

**On display during library opening hours**

Explore a pivotal chapter in history with the Plantations in Ulster 1600 - 1641 Exhibition. Marking the 400th anniversary of the Derry Walls, this exhibition features documents and images from PRONI, uncovering the impact of the Ulster Plantations on Northern Ireland's landscape and history. A compelling look at the past for history enthusiasts.

## Greystone Library

### Stormont Remembered Exhibition

**Monday 10 March -**

**Saturday 15 March**

**On display during library opening hours**

Unveil the story of one of Northern Ireland's most iconic landmarks at the Stormont Remembered Exhibition. Featuring materials from Belfast Central Library's collections, this display traces the architectural and political evolution of Parliament Buildings, Stormont. A captivating journey through history and heritage.

## Crumlin Library

### BFI Replay Archive

**Tuesday 18 March**

**11:00am - 12 noon**

Drop-in – No booking required

Journey through cinematic history with the BFI Replay Archive at Crumlin Library. Explore thousands of digitised videos and TV programmes from the BFI National Archive. It's a fantastic opportunity to rediscover screen stories from decades gone by.

## Glengormley Library

### Beyond the Bassline Exhibition

**Monday 3 March -**

**Saturday 15 March**

**On display during library opening hours**

Celebrate 500 years of Black British Music with the Beyond the Bassline Exhibition at Glengormley Library. This immersive experience highlights the powerful influence of Black music on British culture, showcasing iconic artists and revolutionary sounds that transformed the musical landscape. A vibrant journey through music history.

## Rathcoole Library

### The Library Men of World War One Exhibition

**Monday 10 March -**

**Saturday 15 March**

**On display during library opening hours**

Discover the heroic tales of The Library Men of World War One. This exhibition honours 11 Belfast Public Library staff who served during WWI, featuring over 200 heartfelt letters exchanged with the Chief Librarian. An inspiring tribute to courage and service.

### Reminiscence Session

**Tuesday 11 March**

**11:00am - 12 noon**

No booking required

Relive cherished memories at Rathcoole Library's Reminiscence Session. Explore vintage toys and share nostalgic childhood stories in a warm, friendly atmosphere. Whether you come alone or bring a friend, it's a wonderful way to reconnect with the past.





## Libraries in Armagh, Banbridge and Craigavon

### Lurgan Library

**ThERoNI (Historic Environment  
Record NI) Pop-Up Exhibition**  
**Throughout March**  
**On display during library  
opening hours**

Discover Northern Ireland's rich industrial, architectural, archaeological, and maritime heritage at the ThERoNI Pop-Up Exhibition. Featuring fascinating drawings, surveys and photographs from the Historic Environment Record NI, this display offers a unique glimpse into the past. A must-see for history enthusiasts and curious minds alike.

**Heritage at Risk in the  
Craigavon Area**  
**Tuesday 18 March**  
**6:30pm - 7:30pm**

Booking advisable.  
Call 028 3832 3912 or email  
[lurgan.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:lurgan.library@librariesni.org.uk)  
Join Sebastian Graham from the HARNI Project (Ulster Architectural Heritage) as he explores the challenges of preserving our built heritage. Discover local case studies and learn about the innovative conservation efforts being made to protect historical sites in the Craigavon area. A thought-provoking talk for heritage lovers.

### Portadown Library

**Reminiscence Session**  
**Monday 10 March**  
**10:00am - 12 noon**

No booking required

Take a heartwarming journey back in time with Portadown Library's Reminiscence Session. Delve into old photographs and newspapers that capture the history of the local area. It's a wonderful opportunity to share memories and stories with fellow history buffs.

### Rathfriland Library

**Meet the Author -  
Martina Devlin**  
**Tuesday 11 March**  
**6:00pm - 7:00pm**

Booking essential.  
Call 028 4063 0661 or email  
[rathfriland.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:rathfriland.library@librariesni.org.uk)

Don't miss an evening with acclaimed novelist Martina Devlin as she discusses her latest book, *Charlotte*, inspired by the life of Charlotte Brontë. Learn about the Brontë connection to this area and gain insights into Martina's creative process. A must-attend event for literature lovers.

### Banbridge Library

**Brian Friel Exhibition**  
**Throughout March**  
**On display during library  
opening hours**

Celebrate the legacy of one of Ireland's greatest playwrights at the Friel Reimagined: A Playwright's Works in Progress exhibition. Showcasing archival papers from the legendary Brian Friel, this display offers a behind-the-scenes look at his creative journey. A literary treat for theatre enthusiasts and culture fans.

### Armagh City Library

**Posters from the Past  
Exhibition**  
**Throughout March**  
**On display during library  
opening hours**

Step back in time with Posters from the Past, showcasing historical posters dating back to the 1840s. Discovered during renovation works in Armagh City Centre, these restored pieces reveal fascinating stories from a bygone era. Perfect for history lovers and the curious-minded.



# Libraries in Belfast

## Chichester Library

**Meet the Author -  
Carol Ann Creagh  
Thursday 13 March  
6:30pm - 7:30pm**

Booking advisable.  
Call 028 9050 9210 or email  
chichester.library@librariesni.org.uk

Join local author Carol Ann Creagh as she discusses her new novel, *Angel City*. Gain unique insights into her writing process and discover the inspiration behind her latest story. This is a fantastic opportunity to meet the author and ask your burning questions. Perfect for book lovers and aspiring writers alike.

## Colin Glen Library

**Regional Heritage Quiz  
Monday 10 March -  
Saturday 15 March  
Daily at 3:00pm**

No booking required

How well do you know your local history? Put your knowledge to the test at our Regional Heritage Quiz! Drop in any day at 3:00pm for a fun and interactive quiz that celebrates local culture and history. Compete with friends or challenge yourself – bragging rights are up for grabs!

## Ballyhackamore Library

**Storytime As Gaeilge  
Saturday 15 March  
10:00am - 10:30am**

Booking advisable.  
Call 028 9050 9204 or email  
ballyhackamore.library@librariesni.org.uk

Immerse your little ones in the magic of storytelling with Storytime As Gaeilge. Celebrate the Irish language with enchanting tales told in a fun and engaging way. Perfect for young listeners and families looking to enjoy a cultural experience together.

## Falls Road Library

**Our History Exhibition  
Monday 10 March -  
Friday 14 March  
On display during library  
opening hours**

Step into the past with the Our History Exhibition at Falls Road Library. Discover the rich heritage of this iconic building and its connection to the visionary philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Learn about the history of the local area and the library's role in the community over the decades. A must-see for history enthusiasts and locals alike.

## Belfast Central Library

**Lunchtime Talk - Wendy Erskine  
Monday 10 March  
12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Booking essential.  
Call 028 9050 9150 or email  
belfast.central@librariesni.org.uk

Kick off Heritage Week at Belfast Central Library with an inspiring lunchtime talk by acclaimed author Wendy Erskine, in conversation with Pete Hughes from Libraries NI. Discover the stories behind her writing journey and learn about her latest book. A light lunch will be provided – the perfect midday literary escape.

**Lunchtime Talk - Martina Devlin  
Tuesday 11 March  
12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Booking essential.  
Call 028 9050 9150 or email  
belfast.central@librariesni.org.uk

Martina Devlin shares the fascinating story behind her new book about Charlotte Brontë and her Irish connections. Delve into literary history as part of our Heritage Week celebration of NI Writers. Enjoy a light lunch while gaining unique insights from this celebrated novelist.

## Belfast Central Library

### Lunchtime Talk - Jan Carson

**Thursday 13 March**  
**12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Booking essential.

Call 028 9050 9150 or email  
belfast.central@librariesni.org.uk

Join award-winning author Jan Carson in conversation with Pete Hughes as she discusses her creative journey and acclaimed works. Part of our Heritage Week series celebrating NI Writers, this event offers a unique chance to hear from one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary fiction. Light lunch included.

### NI Screen Archive featuring NI Writers

**Thursday 13 March**  
**3:00pm - 4:00pm**

Booking essential.

Call 028 9050 9150 or email  
belfast.central@librariesni.org.uk

Journey through Northern Ireland's literary heritage with Bronagh McAtasney from NI Screen. This special showcase from the archives celebrates the voices of NI Writers, bringing their stories to life through rare footage and archival gems. A must-see for literature and film enthusiasts.

### Lunchtime Talk - Tony Macauley

**Friday 14 March**  
**12:30pm - 2:00pm**

Booking essential.

Call 028 9050 9150 or email  
belfast.central@librariesni.org.uk

Wrap up Heritage Week at Belfast Central Library with a heartwarming lunchtime talk by Tony Macauley, author of Bread Boy and Paperboy. In conversation with Jillian McFrederick, Tony shares his writing journey and the stories that have touched readers worldwide. Enjoy a light lunch as you listen to the voice behind some of Northern Ireland's most beloved books.



## Libraries in Causeway Coast and Glens

### BFI Replay Archive Awareness Days - Explore a world of cinematic heritage at your local library!

Discover decades of film history with the British Film Institute's Replay Archive, a unique streaming service offering digitised and preserved screen stories from years gone by. Our friendly library staff will be on hand to guide you on how to access this free service using our Library PCs. Perfect for film buffs, history enthusiasts, or anyone curious about cultural heritage. Drop in to the libraries listed below during opening hours.

**Coleraine Library**  
**Monday 10 March**

**Limavady Library**  
**Tuesday 11 March**

**Portrush Library**  
**Tuesday 11 March**

**Ballycastle Library**  
**Wednesday 12 March**





# Libraries in Derry City and Strabane

## **Bigger and McDonald Photograph Archive Exhibitions** **Monday 10 March - Saturday 29 March**

Explore the rich history of the North West through captivating images from the Bigger and McDonald photograph archive, capturing life between 1927 and 1947. Each exhibition provides a unique perspective on the community's past, highlighting the people, places, and events that shaped the region. On display during opening hours in the following libraries.

### **Creggan Library** **Women at Work Exhibition**

Celebrate the strength and resilience of women who balanced work and family life, highlighting their vital roles in the community.

### **Derry Central Library** **Men at Work Exhibition**

Discover the industrious spirit of the past, showcasing the working lives of men and celebrating the craftsmanship of a bygone era.

### **Shantallow Library** **River Foyle Exhibition**

Journey along the iconic River Foyle and explore its significance to the people and industry of the North West.

### **Strathfoyle Library** **Introduction and Selection of Pictures Exhibition**

Discover a fascinating glimpse into life between 1927 and 1947. Perfect for newcomers or anyone wanting an overview of this remarkable collection.

### **Waterside Library** **Emigration Exhibition**

Reflect on the emotional journeys of those who left the North West in search of new beginnings, capturing a defining chapter of local history.

## **Castlederg Library**

### **Bygone Days: Castlederg, Killeter & Killen Exhibition** **Monday 10 March - Saturday 15 March** **On display during library opening hours**

Take a nostalgic journey through Castlederg and its surrounding areas with historical photographs capturing community life and familiar places as they once were.

## **Strabane Library**

### **Mapping Monuments Exhibition** **Monday 10 March - Saturday 12 April** **On display during library opening hours**

Explore the achievements of early mapmakers who meticulously recorded the landscape two centuries ago. Learn about the landmarks they mapped and the stories behind these historical sites.



## Libraries in Lisburn and Castlereagh

### Dundonald Library

**Streets of East Belfast**  
**Monday 10 March**  
**11:00am - 12 noon**

Booking is essential.  
Call 028 9048 3994 or email  
[dundonald.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:dundonald.library@librariesni.org.uk)

Discover the fascinating history of East Belfast's streets with insights from the Strand Arts Centre Heritage Officer.

### Lisburn City Library

**Do You Know Your City Display**  
**Monday 10 March -**  
**Friday 14 March**  
**During library opening hours**

Test your local knowledge with a quirky quiz designed by the North of Ireland Family History Society.



## Libraries in Mid and East Antrim

### Ballymena Central Library

**Stormont: A Century of Change**  
**Monday 10 March -**  
**Monday 31 March**  
**On display during library opening hours**

Explore the history of one of Northern Ireland's most iconic buildings through the Stormont: A Century of Change exhibition. Using archival collections from Belfast Central Library, the display traces the architectural, political, and social evolution of Parliament Buildings, Stormont, from its construction in the 1920s to its role in modern governance.

**Heritage Craft - Bobbin Lace**  
**Tuesday 11 March**  
**10:30am - 12:30pm**

Booking advisable  
Call 028 2563 3950 or email  
[ballymena.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:ballymena.library@librariesni.org.uk)

What can you make with some thread, bobbins and a pillow? Lacemakers will demonstrate some bobbin lace, historically used to decorate clothing, denoting wealth and status. Find out a little about the heritage craft and have a go at taking the first steps in learning the cloth/whole stitch. A mindful hobby for all ages!

**NIFHS Roadshow - Delve into Your Family Tree**  
**Friday 14 March**  
**10:00am - 12:00pm**  
**and 2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Interested in researching your family history? Come and meet NIFHS members who can give you advice whether you are a beginner or an expert. Find out how to explore your origins through DNA and extend your family connections. Come and see what NIFHS has to offer.

### Carrickfergus Library

**All Our Saturdays: A Century of NI Sporting Excellence (Exhibition)**  
**Monday 10 March -**  
**Monday 31 March**  
**During library opening hours**

Step into the thrilling world of Northern Irish sport with this fascinating exhibition, celebrating a century of achievements through the pages of Ireland's Saturday Night. From footballing legends and boxing champions to motorsport heroes and record-breaking athletes, relive the triumphs, unforgettable moments, and sporting icons who have shaped our nation's proud sporting legacy.

### Larne Library

**Dickens & Ulster: A Literary Friendship (Exhibition)**  
**Monday 10 March -**  
**Monday 31 March**  
**During library opening hours**

Marking 150 years since the passing of Charles Dickens, this compelling PRONI exhibition explores the celebrated author's deep connections with three influential Ulstermen. Through historical archives and personal correspondence, uncover how Dickens' visits to Ireland and his friendships left a lasting imprint on his work.





# Libraries in Mid Ulster

## Cookstown Library

### PRONI on Tour

**Wednesday 12 March**

**Drop in 10:00am - 4:00pm**

**Workshop from 12:30pm - 1:30pm**

To book a place at the workshop call  
028 8676 3702 or email  
[cookstown.library@librariesni.org.uk](mailto:cookstown.library@librariesni.org.uk)

Discover the rich history of our region at PRONI on Tour in Cookstown Library. This special event gives you the chance to explore original archive documents, offering fascinating insights into local history. PRONI staff will be available to assist with research and guide you through the extensive resources available. Whether you're tracing your family tree or simply curious about the past, this is a must-visit for anyone interested in local heritage.