

Comeragh District Report September 2023

Report summarising Activities in Portlaw & Kilmacthomas Libraries and the Comeragh area.

Kilmacthomas and Portlaw Libraries are important hubs for their local communities. They are regularly used by schools and families. Both Libraries provide an important social outlet in their areas.

Kilmacthomas	June	July	August
Issues	525	789	805
Visitors	368	585	553

Portlaw	June	July	August
Issues	633	633	593
Visitors	815	599	571

Events & Programmes:

- Over the months of June, July & August 81 events were held in Portlaw and Kilmacthomas Libraries.
- Kilmacthomas Library hosts weekly Story times, Board Game Club, Lego Club and Crafternoons, 6 DEIS school summer camps visited this branch over the school holidays.
- Portlaw Library hosts weekly knitting and crochet groups. All classes of the Local Primary school and the local preschool visit for reading time.
- Portlaw Library supports our annual pop branch at the All Together Now festival which takes place in the Curraghmore estate. Over 3,000 people visited the Library tent at the festival.
- As part of the Comeragh Wilds festival, a 'Wearable Wings' event with Firefly parties was held on the 11th of July attended by 12 children.
- On Friday 14 June for Cruinniu na nÓg, a Mindfulness for kids workshop with 23 attendees took place in Portlaw Library
- On Friday June 28th Portlaw Women's Group held a coffee morning to show off a beautiful mosaic they created by working with tutors from WWETB, this was presented to the Library.

Library Development

- New modern shelving was installed in the Portlaw Library.
- A Smart Meter has been installed in Kilmacthomas Library.
- Portlaw and Kilmacthomas Libraries both offer Home Energy Kits for loan, these kits help people to measure the energy efficiency of their homes and provide useful tips on energy conservation.

Upcoming events.

- Portlaw and Kilmacthomas will run events for our Sustainable Development Goals week in September, and Art workshop in Kilmacthomas and a knit and natter with the Portlaw Knitters.

Photos:



Children participating in the Wearable wings workshop in Kilmacthomas Library as part of the Comeragh Wilds Festival.



Members of the Portlaw Women's Group with tutors from WWETB and Helena Lawlor of Waterford Libraries in Portlaw Library at the unveiling of the beautiful mosaic they have donated.



Knitting and nattering at Waterford library's pop-up branch at All Together Now

Creative Waterford

Creative Waterford co-funds the Talamh festival which takes place along the Copper Coast from Sept 16th to 24th 2024. Talamh is organised by Seán and Miranda Corcoran of The Art Hand in Bunmahon.

TALAMH is an international land art festival whereby environmental artists create art in the outdoors using natural materials all the way along the Copper Coast and engage with the local community and festival participants through a series of workshops. All art making and events are free throughout the festival including a film night, a spoken word night, fire ceremonies, a music night and plenty of other public daytime and evening gatherings. All are welcome.

The mission of the Talamh festival is;

- To create breathtaking land art that showcases the beauty of The Copper Coast.
- To share an insight into the simple and mindful process of land art so that it can inspire creativity, wellness and environmental awareness.
- To give members of the public opportunities to meet the artists and participate in art making.
- To host a series of public gatherings, talks and a film night.
- To offer a relaxed environment for artists and festival goers.
- To encourage collaboration.



Installation at Talamh 2023