

Laois County Library, Archives and Local Studies Service

Name of Library:

Laois County Library

Address of Principal Library

Portlaoise Library

Lyster Square,

Portlaoise

Co. Laois

Website:

<http://www.laois.ie/LeisureandCulture/Libraries/>

Opening hours:

Laois County Library Service HQ

Mon-Thurs 9.30-1.30; 2-5

Portlaoise Branch Library

Tuesday 10.00am – 5.00pm

Wed & Thurs 10 -7.30

Friday 10-5.00

Saturday 10.00-4.00

Please check our website for details of opening hours for our other 9 library branches at

<http://www.laois.ie/LeisureandCulture/Libraries/YourLocalLibrary/>

Laois PAL Co-ordinators

Bernie Foran Acting County Librarian, Library HQ, County Hall, Portlaoise, Co. Laois 0578664041
bforan@laoiscoco.ie

Jackie McIntyre, Executive Librarian, Library HQ, county Hall, Portlaoise, Co. Laois 0578664142,
jmcintyre@laoiscoco.ie

Requirements for referral:

Referral from another participating library is required. Telephone call or email in advance to one of the Laois Co-ordinating Team.

Statement of Access to Resources in your Library:

Library visitors may access Libraries Reference Collections in library branches and access Local Studies and Archives Collections in our Local Studies Room at Laois Library HQ.

Library Collection

Laois County Library have in excess of **200,000** titles across our 10 library branches available for loan and access by adults and children. Membership is required to borrow items. Laois also has an extensive archive and local studies section which is accessible at Laois Library HQ.

This collection includes:

- **Newspapers**
 - Leinster Independent. (microfilm) c.1835 –c. 1840, 1869-1875
 - Leinster Independent. Kildare, Kings, Queens & Midland Counties Advertiser. Port Laoighise (microfilm) c. 1871–c. 1874
 - Leinster Express (microfilm) 24 Sept 1831-19 Dec 2007
 - Leinster Express (hardcopy) 2008-to date
 - The Nationalist (microfilm) 22 Sept 1883–05 November 2004
 - The Nationalist (hardcopy) 2004-to date
- **Maps collection** including Duke of Bedford Grand Jury Map, 1815; Ordnance Survey maps including Townlands Survey of Queens County, 6" bound volume, various estate maps .
- **Postcard and Photographic collection** including Lawrence, Eason, Redmond, Scully and Harvey collections
- **Oral history collection** including Irish Life and Lore Series (50 CDs) and the Laois Oral Archive (CD)
- **Trade Directories including**
 - Thoms Directory
 - Slaters Royal National Commercial Directory of Ireland: 1846, 1856, 1870, 1881
 - Pigots Commercial Directory of Ireland: 1824
- **National Schools Folklore Collection** (microfilm)

- **RIC records**, Copies of County Inspectors Confidential Reports, Queen's County, 1898-1913
- **Local authority records including**
 - Grand Jury Presentments, 1816-1840, c. 1845-c.1897
 - Board of Guardian Minute Books for Donaghmore, Abbeyleix and Mountmellick.
 - Rural District Council collection, 1898-1921
 - Laois County Council archive, including Council Minutes
- **Private papers collection**
 - Helen Roe Collection, 1923-1932
 - Archives of Perry's Brewery, Rathdowney, 1835-1923
 - Lough Letters, 1877-1931
 - Joe O'Neill Diaries, 1960-1982
 - Bannon Collection, 1930-1950
 - Milltown Estate Papers, 1828-1870
 - A selection of Cosby Papers available on microfilm
- **Borough of Maryborough**
 - Bye-Laws and Agreements of the of Maryborough Queens County, 1731-1831 (microfilm)
- **Cemetery records** - Cemeteries maintained by Laois County Council – registers of interments and register of purchasers of grave spaces.
- **Genealogy resources include**
 - Thomas Philip Le Fanu, Registers of French Church Portarlinton [1694-1816](CD-Rom)
 - Tithe Applotment Books 1823 – 1838 and also available online at <http://titheapplotmentbooks.nationalarchives.ie/>
 - The Primary Valuation of Tenements completed in the 1850s (Griffith's Valuation) and also available online <http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie/>
 - Census Reports - 1851/1861/1871/1891/1911 [CD-Rom]
- **Journals** including Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, Irish Historical Studies and The Irish Sword, Béaloideas, Laois Heritage Society Journal, Irish Ancestor and Irish Family History, Ossory, Laois and Leinster Journal
- **Local authors collection** and a wide variety of publications including reference works of interest to social, cultural and political history of Laois

Laois County Library catalogue is available online at <http://193.178.1.105/ipac20/ipac.jsp?profile=#focus>