



The Russell Library and Community Outreach: Examples of Collaboration

'Offering a unique and collaborative contribution to the social and cultural life of the region, the nation and the world'

Maynooth University Strategic Plan 2012-2017

The Russell Library houses the historical collections of St Patrick's College, Maynooth. The College was founded in 1795 as a seminary for the education of Irish priests. The reading room was designed by British architect and designer A. W. N. Pugin (1812-1852) and is open to researchers, scholars and the public by appointment. The rich and diverse collection of material and unique setting offers many opportunities for regional, national and international collaborative projects.



Heritage Week and Culture Night tours



National Heritage Week & Culture Night

The Russell Library participates annually in the nationwide programme for National Heritage Week and Culture Night. Guided tours of the Library reading room and running exhibitions are offered with extended opening hours, allowing visitors opportunities to explore a unique and diverse cultural history on their doorstep.



Collection display

Exhibitions, Talks & Seminars

The Russell Library offers a programme of exhibitions, talks, seminars and workshops in collaboration with the University community and other relevant groups. Maynooth community groups and individuals are invited to attend these events.



World War I exhibition

Workshops such as calligraphy classes, which offers an insight into manuscript writing in a distinguished setting, are enthusiastically attended.



Calligraphy class

Societies, Festivals & Pilgrimages

The Russell Library forms a major part of the annual Gerard Manley Hopkins Society festival programme. The festival, organised by the Kildare based, international society includes a guided Russell Library tour which incorporates a specially selected display from our collections. This visit is a major highlight of their week long programme.



Exhibition display

The Russell Library contributes to the annual Maynooth Town Festival by providing guided tours of the reading room and collections. Delegates from Maynooth's twinned town of Canet-en-Rousillon attend each year.



Delegates from Canet-en-Rousillon



St John of God Healthcare, Australia

As part of their annual pilgrimage to Ireland, St John of God Healthcare, Australia visits the Russell Library to view the Furlong Collection. This association dates back to 1895 when members of the Congregation of the Sisters of St John of God, founded by Bishop Furlong, immigrated to Perth to help the destitute. The collection and visit form a particular significance to their trip.



Susan Durack: Susan.Durack@nuim.ie Mary Robinson: Mary.Robinson@nuim.ie

Russell Library: Library.Russell@nuim.ie

