



Monaghan County Libraries

Memory Box Collection

Borrow a box of activities to stimulate memories & conversation



Image from 'Old Ireland In Colour'

Our Memory Boxes

We know spending time together, doing things you love, smiling, chatting and discovering, improves wellbeing. That's why we have put together a range of Memory Boxes containing products and activities that bring joy and connection to people with dementia and their care-givers.

In our boxes you'll find a range of items which have been specifically developed by 'Relish', a company who are committed to improving the wellbeing of people with dementia. Every one of their products is designed to affect the different levers that lead to overall wellbeing. We've also included a beautiful selection of photography books to use as a starting point for reminiscence and conversation.



How to borrow

The Memory Boxes can be requested through any of the branch libraries in Co. Monaghan. The boxes will then be dispatched to your local branch for collection from our Library Headquarters in Clones Please allow up to 1 week for delivery.

You will need to have a valid Library Card to borrow a Memory Box. Library Cards are free and can be picked up from a Library on presentation of Photo ID & Proof of address.

Contact Us

Phone : 047 74700

Email : libraryactivities@monaghancoco.ie



What's in the boxes?

We have a range of Memory Boxes which contain a selection of items rated for Early, Mid or Late stage Dementia.

Jigsaws



Jigsaw puzzles are a favourite pastime for young and old, and for people with dementia or Alzheimer's, they can be especially beneficial. Apart from being a fun and engaging activity to enjoy with family and friends, completing puzzles can gently exercise the brain, benefit visual perception and provide a sense of satisfaction and pride upon completion. (Early)

Reminiscence Cards



Reminiscence Cards provide the perfect cue to sit and relax together, and tell the stories of your life. The evocative series of pictures and conversation prompts help you reminisce and smile about joys and memories. (Early)

Colouring Book



A therapeutic activity for people in the early-mid stages of dementia, Relish colouring books aim to engage, stimulate, and relax minds. Everyday Joys features age-appropriate images reminiscent of the simple delights of daily life, which may stir up memories and inspire conversations. Designed alongside people with dementia, this activity features strong outlines and sample imagery to nudge artists along. (Early/Mid)

What's in the boxes?

Snap Card Games



Designed for people with early to mid-stage dementia, these cards feature easily recognisable images in bold contrasting colours, so that players can enjoy a lively game with friends and family with little to no assistance. (Early/Mid)

Aqua Paint



Aquapaints give a lovely balance of creative touch, sense of achievement and pure joy for people with dementia. Simply brush the 'white' sheets of card with water and watch as the beautiful pictures magically appear. Once finished, leave the sheets to dry to use them time and time again. With 5 different canvases in each pack, there is plenty to pique interest and spark smiles. (Mid/Late)

Magnetic Picture Boards



The Relish Magnetic Picture Boards have been designed to delight people with mid-late stage dementia. Retro illustrated pieces are specially designed to elicit fond memories, create scenes worthy of conversation or can stimulate conversations on their own. There is no right or wrong way to engage with this activity.

Bold colours aid visibility and large, easy-to-handle pieces and are held in place with powerful magnets onto a high quality picture board that is designed to open like a book. An ideal activity for those who struggle to complete puzzles, providing a sense of satisfaction and accomplishment. (Mid/Late)

What's in the boxes?

Sensory Sprays



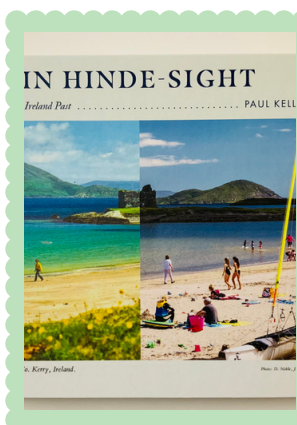
Sensory Sprays bring the perfect balance of delight, reassurance and calm to someone living with dementia. Spritz the room and unwind or explore memories of days in the forest, the garden, at the seaside or evotive rain

Scents & Sounds



Put your feet up and delight in a journey down memory lane through a powerful combination of sound and scent. Simply play the CD and enjoy a matching scent for each of the three themes. (Mid/Late)

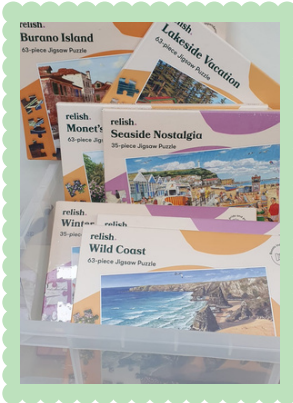
Photography Books



We have chosen a beautiful selection of Photographic books which can be used to stimulate memories & conversations. These Full Colour books are sure to delight all ages & stages. We have included books in the boxes but you can also request additional books from the suggested titles listed.

Choose your box

Early Stage Puzzle Box



- 1 x Lakeside Vacation 63 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Burano Island 63 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Monet's Garden 63 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Wild Coast 63 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Seaside Nostalgia 35 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Steam Train 35 Piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Winter Snow 35 piece Jigsaw

Early Stage Activity Box



- 1 x Golf Target Game
- 1 x Animal Album (Reminiscence)
- 1 x Lakeside Vacation 64 piece Jigsaw
- 1 x City Dusk 64 piece Jigsaw
- 1 x Animal Snap Card Game
- 1 x 'Lost Ireland' Photographic book
- 1 x 'The Little Roads of Ireland' book

Early/Mid Activity Box



- 1 x Steam Train (35 piece Jigsaw)
- 1 x Spring Picnic (35 piece Jigsaw)
- 1 x Musical Bingo (Game)
- 1 x Home Album (Reminiscence Cards)
- 1 x Everyday Joys Colouring Book,
- 1 x Snap Card Game
- 1 x Old Ireland In Colour photographic book
- 1 x In Hinde Sight Photographic book.

Choose your box

Mid Stage Activity Box



- 1 x Road Trip (35 piece jigsaw),
- 1 x Cat's Whiskers (35 jigsaw)
- 1 x Animal Bingo (Game)
- 1 x Wonderful Animals Aquapaint
- 1 x Animal Snap (Game)
- 1 x The Sewing Box Magnetic Puzzle
- 1 x The Golden Book of Ireland
- 1 x Fair Faces Photography Book

Mid/Late Stage Activity Box



- 1 x Handyman Activity Board
- 1 x Farm Memories Aquapaint
- 1 x Spiral Maze (Dexterity activity)
- 1 x Fidget Tools (Dexterity activity)
- 1 x Home Sweet Home Scents
- 1 x Rainy Days Scents & Sounds
- 1 x Ireland a Luminous Beauty Photography Book

Late Stage Activity Box



- 1 x Baking Cupboard Activity Board
- 1 x Garden Wonders Aquapaint
- 1 x Spiral Maze (Dexterity activity)
- 1 x Tactile Match (Sensory activity)
- 1 x Life of a Kitten (13 piece Jigsaw)
- 1 x Rainy Days Scents & Sounds
- 1 x Looking Back Photography Book

Book Collection

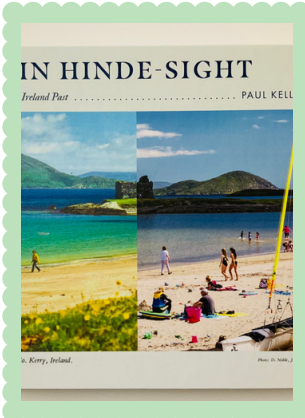
Additional Photography books to stimulate memories and conversation

Old Ireland In Colour (Vol 1 & 2)



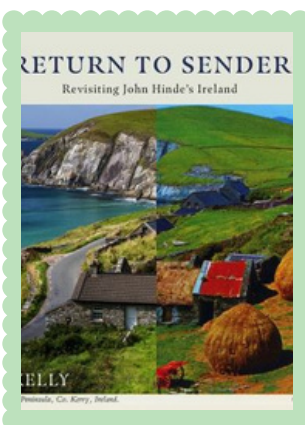
Old Ireland in Colour brings to life the rich history of Ireland and the Irish through the colour restoration of these stunning images of all walks of Irish life throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

In Hinde-Sight



In these postcards, the world is a sunnier, less complicated and more colourful place. Join Paul Kelly as he returns to John Hinde's Ireland on a photographic pilgrimage, capturing some places that have changed forever, and some that are just the same. An uplifting, nostalgic look at Ireland through the eyes of an icon of Irish photography.

Return to Sender



Return to Sender pairs Hinde's iconic, instantly recognisable postcards from the 1950s, '60s and '70s with corresponding contemporary photographs. The side-by-side contrast of these then-and-now photographs, wonderfully captured by photographer Paul Kelly, illustrates the ways Ireland's rural and urban landscapes have changed over the decades or, in some places, not changed at all.

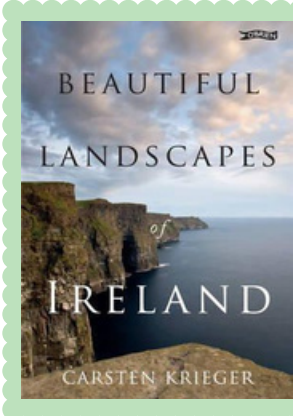
Book Collection

Ireland: Discover its Beauty



A photographic tour covering the whole of Ireland. Carsten Krieger's evocative landscape photography is complimented by more intimate shots of craftspeople going about their daily work. Coastlines, rivers, mountains, towns: from scenes unchanged for thousands of years to a vibrant, modern Ireland

Beautiful Landscapes Of Ireland



A full photographic tour covering the whole of Ireland. Carsten Krieger's renowned evocative landscape photography is complimented by more intimate shots of craftspeople going about their daily work. Coastlines, rivers, mountains, towns, from scenes that have remained largely unchanged for thousands of years to a vibrant, modern Ireland are captured through his lens.

Ireland's Ancient East



Take a photographic journey along Ireland's Ancient East, the official Bord Failte route, with this sumptuous book of 200 photographs, maps and quotations. The pictures will draw you into the history of Ireland from the stone age wonders of Newgrange, through viking conquests up to now.

Book Collection

Looking Back: The changing Face of Ireland



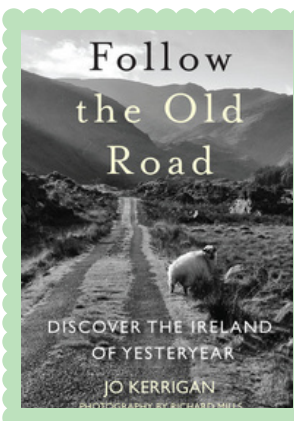
Irish Times photographer Eric Luke has captured the essence of Irish life over the past forty years, with stunning and thought provoking images of the people of Ireland.

Best Loved Irish Ballads



Songs to stir the soul and move the feet, raise a roar or bring a tear to the eye. From Danny Boy to Boulavogue and more, this book celebrates the cream of Irish ballads, explaining the origins of each song, along with words, melodies and chords. Illustrated with evocative photographs and woodcuts..

Follow The Old Road



Discover the Ireland of Yesteryear By turning off the main highway and discovering old routes, some of which have been travelled for thousands of years, you will see Ireland in an entirely different way. Follow the Old Road will take you on a tour of a variety of pathways from great river roads to lost railways.

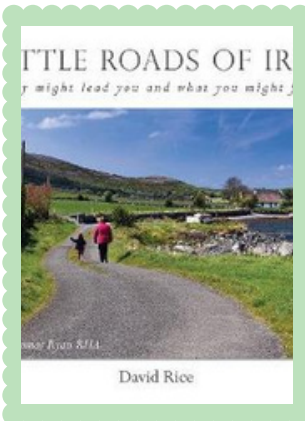
Book Collection

The Great Big Book Of Irish Wildlife



A beautiful picture book tracking nature through the seasons in Ireland. It explores nature in your back garden as well as weird and wonderful natural phenomena, such as the metamorphosis from Tadpole to Frog; the Red Deer rut in autumn; or a starling flock in winter.

The Little Roads of Ireland



This long-awaited book just begs to be opened, as it pictures for the first time the Hidden Ireland—the Ireland where tourists seldom get to, an Ireland really known only to the folks who live a Here we see the little roads in spring, summer, autumn and winter, as well as at morning, evening and night.

Follow The Old Road



Schoolhouse ruins are a common sight in the Irish countryside, wherever the fabric of a once vibrant community is slowly perishing. Within their collapsing walls, friends were made and lessons were learned. These schoolhouses had a significant impact on generations of pupils. Once pivotal to their communities, they now lie abandoned.

Book Collection

Fair Faces: Images from a Disappearing Ireland



Stunning black and white images of uniquely Irish characters taken at a variety of traditional fairs and festivals around the country. This book awakens nostalgia, records what it means to be uniquely Irish and captures our cultures and traditions

Ireland: A Luminous Beauty



Ireland: A Luminous Beauty is a collection of stunning full-colour photographs by some of Ireland's finest landscape photographers with concise text blending history, myth, and a sense of place. Many of the photographs were taken in the early morning light or as the sun set.

The Golden Book of Ireland



Beautiful and informative county by county photographic tour of Ireland, visiting all the major tourist attractions. Over 200 stunning original photographs of Ireland, North and South.

Book Collection

Beautiful Ireland A visual journey around the Counties of Ireland



This Book is packed with over 300 stunning photographs and informative text, covering all of Ireland. The photographs are taken by two of the country's leading landscape photographers, Peter Zoller and Michael Diggin

The Colour of Ireland: County by County



'The colour of Ireland County by County 1860-1960 spans more than a hundred years throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and brings history to life using contemporary photographs as the basis for full-colour digital renditions.

Lost Ireland



Cotton mills and country markets have all disappeared along with branch railways. On a smaller scale, the beloved theaters and cinemas from Dublin and Cork are included, along with emigration agencies, the familiar green double-deckers, the odd racecourse and more. Lost Ireland covers the entirety of the island of Ireland. Losses from all 32 counties are included from County Cork in the south to County Antrim in the north.

Book Collection

From the Pope to a Flat White: Ireland 1979-2019



Martin Parr has been taking photographs in Ireland for 40 years. His work covers many of the most significant moments in Ireland's recent history, encompassing the Pope's visit in 1979, as well as gay weddings and start-up companies in 2019. It is difficult to think of a country that has changed so dramatically in this relatively short space of time.

Dark Ireland: Images of a Lost world



Richard Fitzgerald's beautiful portrayal of a way of life that has almost vanished forever. His camera focuses on the back roads of the countryside and records intimate moments of people in their cottages and farms. Nuns, rosary nights, confessions, coffins, and currachs are captured along with horse-fairs and peat harvesting.

Magnum Ireland



A visual cultural history of Ireland over the last 70 years, as seen by the world's most prominent photographic agency, Magnum, and commented on by leading figures of the Irish literary scene.



Monaghan County Libraries

This is a new initiative from Monaghan County Libraries. If you can see ways to improve or expand this service please do get in touch. You can email libraryactivities@monaghancoco.ie or call us on 047 74700.