



Sharpening Wheel

Limavady has been a thriving market town since the 17th century. Over the years a range of businesses have served the local community. Another glimpse into the commercial life of Limavady can be seen in the sharpening wheel once owned by Thomas O'Brien. It was used between 1935 and 1975 in his flesher's business on Main Street to keep knives sharp. The wheel was originally turned by hand but was later modified so that it turned via an electric motor, reflecting the changes in technology that transformed everyday life.

Aircraft Wing & Tail

Limavady and the surrounding area played an important role during the Second World War. Its coastal position made Ballykelly an ideal base for the Royal Air Force's Coastal Command, whose aircraft patrolled the Atlantic in the hunt for German U-boats. The aircraft wing and tail now on display in the museum were recovered from Lough Foyle in the mid-1990s. They are believed to come from either a Firefly or Corsair aircraft, a number of which crashed into the lough during the war.



Doll's House

A recent donation to the museum is the beautiful doll's house kindly donated by the the Irwin family. The attention to detail on this lovingly crafted display is astounding.

**Green Lane Museum is open seasonally from Easter to 30th September
Weekends and Bank Holidays from 11am—3pm**

**Group bookings can be arranged by appointment by emailing
museums@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk**



Green Lane Museum

Nestled in the beautiful surroundings of the Roe Valley Country Park, just outside Limavady, Green Lane Museum offers visitors a unique insight into rural life in the Roe Valley during the 19th and 20th centuries.

The museum was opened in the 1980s by the Environment and Heritage Service (now known as NIEA) with about 200 objects donated by local people. In 1997, responsibility for the museum's collection passed to Limavady Borough Council, and today it is cared for by Causeway Coast & Glens Museum Services.

The Roe Valley is steeped in history and legend. Neolithic monuments are scattered across the landscape, the historic Convention of Drumceatt (c.575 AD) took place nearby, and the stunning Iron Age Broighter gold hoard was found just outside Limavady.

Since Ireland's first farmers worked the rich fertile lands of the area 6,000 years ago, agriculture has been central in the lives of local communities.

Inside Green Lane Museum, the collection highlights the importance of agriculture and the linen industry in the Roe Valley.

Objects on display tell the story of how people lived and worked in years gone by, bringing the history of the area to life for visitors.

From the 18th century onwards, this area was alive with the sights and sounds of the linen industry. The beetling mills, bleaching greens and weaving mills that dotted the landscape played a vital role in turning flax into linen. The building that now houses Green Lane Museum was once a weaving mill, where skilled workers transformed thread into woven cloth.



Flax Breaker

Preparing flax for spinning by hand was hard, time-consuming work. As technology advanced, machines such as the flax breaker revolutionised the process of breaking the tough flax stems to release the fibres inside. When the fibres were freed, they could be spun into thread and then woven into linen.

This flax breaker was manufactured in 1930 by Kennedy's Foundry in Coleraine for Ross's Mill in Dungiven.



Seed Fiddle

The seed fiddle on display was once a familiar tool in fields. It made sowing easier and quicker than hand sowing. It was used to sow grass and clover up until the late 1940s. It used a disc, spun with the 'bow,' to hurl seed outward from the feeder bag the operator carried on his back.

The rate of flow of the seed could be adjusted to help an even distribution of seed, but the secret of success was in synchronising the hand movement with the walking pace.

Mobilette Milking Machine

Life on local farms was hard work and the job of milking cows often fell to a dairymaid or the farmer's wife or daughter. That changed with the invention of electric milking machines. The Mobilette Milking Machine displayed in the museum was launched onto the market in 1949 and was used by Billy and Jim Kane of Myroe.



Hunter's Cart

In years gone by, hand-pulled or horse-drawn carts travelled from house to house offering bread, milk and other provisions for sale.

Johnny Hunter opened Hunter's Bakery in Limavady in 1924, and was well-known in the area. More than a century later, the bakery is still serving customers with bread, cakes and pastries. The horse-drawn cart displayed in the museum once belonged to Hunter's Bakery and was used in the early 20th century to deliver bread and other provisions to local homes.

