

Johnstown Castle Estate, Museum & Gardens is cared for and managed by the Irish Heritage Trust, an independent not-for-profit, since mid-2019. The Irish Heritage Trust is responsible for bringing heritage properties to life and ensuring financial sustainability at each property in our care.

'This kind of philanthropic support is a salute to the past, an investment in the work that needs to be done today and an eye to the future, where our shared heritage also belongs.'

Anne O'Donoghue – CEO of the Irish Heritage Trust

If you are interested in becoming a philanthropic supporter of The Irish Agricultural Museum, please contact our Head of Philanthropy and Supporter Engagement, Paul McCarthy, for a confidential discussion: p.mccarthy@irishheritagetrust.ie

Thank you for your support.



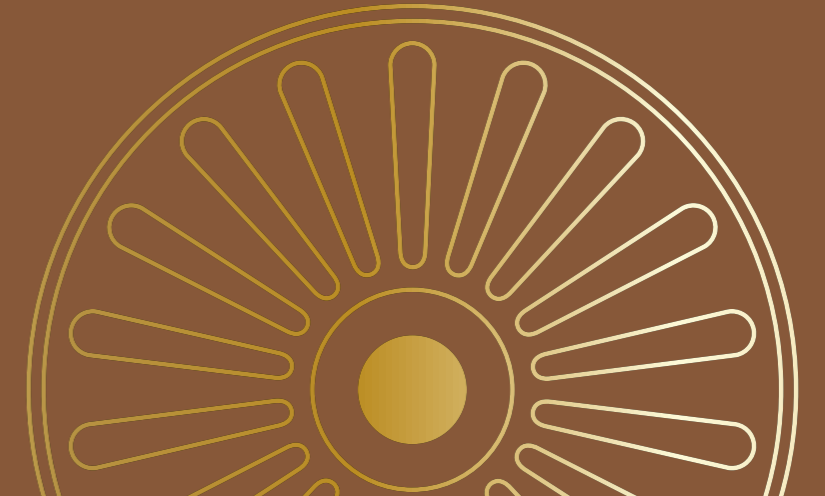
IRISH HERITAGE TRUST
Bringing Places to Life

**Johnstown
Castle**
Estate, Museum & Gardens

The Campaign for The Irish Agricultural Museum

Invitation to become a Philanthropic Leader

Regular Giving is all about sustainability. Predictable and reliable philanthropic support enables the Irish Agricultural Museum to plan and undertake hugely impactful and essential heritage work which would not otherwise happen.



About The Irish Agricultural Museum

Housed in Johnstown Castle Estate's farm courtyard buildings, the Irish Agricultural Museum displays one of the most comprehensive exhibits of farming and rural life in Ireland. The Museum which has been open for over forty years, now consists of 19 different exhibitions – everything from tractors to country kitchens. In July 2022, the Museum was awarded full Museum Standards Accreditation from the Heritage Council of Ireland in recognition of its high standards in museum management, collections care, education and visitor services.

Visitors to the Museum can admire the large collection of beautifully restored farming heritage from tractors, carts, ploughs, threshing machines, stationary engines and dairy equipment. Members of the public can also see recreated workshops of traditional trades including that of the blacksmith, cooper and wheelwright. The Museum also is home to 'The Great Famine' an exhibition which vividly reveals what life was like before, during and after the famine. The Irish Agricultural Museum houses the largest display of Irish country furniture and enables visitors to compare farmhouse kitchens through the ages. The Irish Agricultural Museum houses an unparalleled collection of Irish folklife and agricultural exhibits in the castle courtyard building.



Why We Need Your Support

The Greatest Need Fund

For over forty years the traditions, practices and stories of rural Ireland have been preserved and shared by the Irish Agricultural Museum. Led over the years by committed volunteers from the agricultural community, the Museum now proudly displays one of the most comprehensive exhibits of farming and rural life in Ireland.

To enable the Museum's next stage of development philanthropic support is now needed to help meet our greatest needs:

The Irish Agricultural Museum needs to grow strategically. To continue in our mission to protect the heritage of rural Ireland, the Museum must now be upgraded environmentally – ensuring the appropriate lighting and temperature for exhibitions is in place, thereby protecting all these heritage exhibits for future generations.

As the Museum grows the size and diversity of its collection, we also need to reinterpret the entire Museum by enhancing the impact of technology in order to share these stories and traditions widely, in the most impactful and innovative ways. By extension of which, the Irish Agricultural Museum wishes to undertake an education programme, aimed at primary and secondary pupils, to ensure this generation hear these stories, appreciate their heritage, understand these traditions and develop an appreciation of how our ancestors – working the land farming and contributing to everyday rural life in the past – shaped and created the Ireland we live in today. To achieve this goal, the Irish Agricultural Museum wishes to endow a full-time Education Officer role.

Sadly, there are no funds available for any of these essential next steps. This means the Irish Agricultural Museum must now reach out to our community across Ireland and ask for philanthropic support. To this end, we invite you to become a Philanthropic Leader and join us in securing, protecting, preserving and sharing this unique Irish heritage in perpetuity, for all.

To achieve these essential goals the Irish Agricultural Museum needs to secure at least €2.5M in philanthropic support.

At the Irish Heritage Trust no donation gets lost in the shuffle. Every single donation helps us in our mission to safeguard and to preserve Irish Heritage – not just for today, but for generations to come.

*We all have a role in minding the stories,
the places and the traditions which make us who we are today.*

