



Carrickmacross Toy Library Annual Report, 2025

Background

Carrickmacross Toy Library exists to tackle waste in the toy industry, the most plastic-intensive industry on the planet.

We promote play and work to level the playing field by improving equitable access to quality play opportunities and resources. Play is a fundamental right of every child, as recognised by the United Nations, and is essential to healthy development and positive life outcomes.

Our core target market is families with children age from birth to around age 8. Our membership base includes families, schools and community groups.



Our Services

Our services include:

- Affordable toy, baby equipment and party item rental;
- ‘Stay & Play’ and themed play sessions;
- A programme of environmentally focused events, including Family litter-pick and cloth nappy meet-up;
- In addition, we oversee a 1,300-member strong Freecycle community;
- A schools’ outreach programme, which introduced primary-aged children (4-12) to the basic principles of the circular economy, whilst teaching about the importance of play;
- Consultancy for community groups elsewhere wishing to establish a toy library service,



Our Story So Far

Carrickmacross Toy Library opened in September 2020, initially as a 'click and collect' service on Friday mornings based in Carrickmacross Workhouse.

We now have dedicated premises in the Shopping Centre on Main Street, with over 1,000 toys in the collection, including party rentals and baby equipment, over 300 registered members, 'stay and play' and extended opening hours.

We serve as Ireland's model community toy library facility, and hub of Toy Libraries Ireland, a newly formed national association.



2025 in Retrospect



Local and national **launches of Toy Libraries Ireland** attended by Minister Alan Dillon and David Maxwell TD. The TLI 'playbook' has been requested by 50 individuals and community groups to date.



5th Birthday celebrations at Magheracloone Community Centre.



Launch of **Cubs Conscious**, a curated collection of gently worn children's cloths and toys; available in Crafty in Castleblayney and on Vinted.



Launch of schools' outreach pilot, sponsored by Kingspan. The first of 20 primary school workshops was delivered in December 2025.

Our Impact in 2025



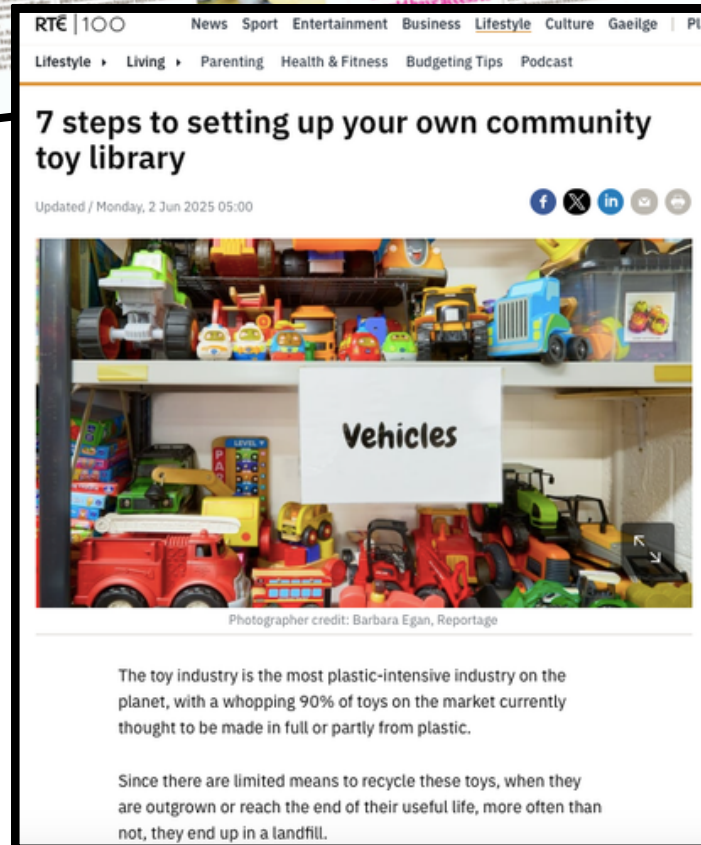
**TOY
LIBRARY**
CARRICKMACROSS

Over 300 families
supported through play

1,936 toys borrowed,
saving 1 tonne
plastic from landfill

1,400+ members
sharing and reusing
children's items
through our
freecycle community

In The National Press



Profit & Loss, 2025



TOY LIBRARY
CARRICKMACROSS

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
Corporate Sponsorship	€13,900.00	Salaries	€20,738.07
Grant Income	€36,204.25	Professional Services & Consultancy	€13,012.87
Philanthropic	€20,000.00	Rent	€5,196.00
Traded Income	€4,985.99	Marketing	€2,082.89
Fundraising	€886.24	Insurance	€1,050.38
		Operating Costs	€706.81
		Storage & Stock	€686.58
		Miscellaneous	€1,707.95
	€75,976.48		€45,181.55
		NET EARNINGS	€30,794.93

2026 and Beyond...

Appointment of new manager.

Access the Community Services Programme - reduced reliance on short-term scheme workers and move manager position from part-time to full-time

Outreach programme and expansion - including continuation of schools' workshops, as well as collaboration with Monaghan County Libraries Service and Family Resource Centres in North Monaghan to pilot a second location and/or toy delivery.

Expanded opening hours; more play sessions.

Grow party and baby equipment rental offerings.

Launch of 'Little Lions' parent & toddler group in Carrickmacross.

Grow revenue from Cubs Conscious, with regular uploads to Vinted and a possible standalone location in Carrickmacross.

Strategic Plan 2026-2028 finalised.



Our Supporters



**An Roinn Comhshaoil,
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide**
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications



THE IRELAND FUNDS



**Carrickmacross
Credit Union**



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government supporting communities