

# Podcrawl Podchroal

## Episode 1: Welcome to the Castle

Hello and welcome to Podcrawl Podchroal from the McClelland Irish Library in Phoenix, Arizona.

Built in 2012 The McClelland Library was designed by the architect, Paul Ahern, after a 12th century Norman castle. The three-story building is part of the Irish Cultural Center and houses 8,000 books from Irish authors, poets, and genealogical sources. The library houses a permanent exhibit on The Book of Kells, several reading rooms, and computer access to various disciplines of Irish and Celtic studies including genealogy. The library is the largest of its kind in the Western United States.

The first 5,000 books were donated by Burns Library at Boston College. Every book is either by an Irish author or of Irish subject. The McClelland Library is home to rare books, research materials, a Genealogy Centre, maps, a children's collection, literature, poetry, and popular fiction. Our evolving holdings are updated constantly, so please check back often. To checkout materials you need to be a member of the Irish Cultural Center and McClelland Library. All materials are available for use by the general public within the library building.

We have several exhibits to explore in addition to The Book of Kells including, the Irish Immigration to the United States timeline, "Two Nations, One Island...The Ever-Evolving Landscape of Irish Independence" which displays the history of Ireland before, during and after the 1916 Rising up to present day, "The Irish in Arizona and the Southwest," and the San Patricios display.

We have more than exhibits and books to share with the community, we also have programs.

Our Family Story Hour program introduces parents and children to Irish authors, stories and traditions in a fun and interactive way. Two stories are read as well as crafting. Story Hour is on the second Saturday of each month, suitable for all ages, and will last approximately one hour. The next Family Story Hour will be on October 8 at 10:30 am in the Library Keep.

The Book Discussion Group seeks to engage members of our community with the tradition and excellence of all forms of Irish literature. The next meeting will be Saturday, October 29 at 10:30 am in the Norton Room where the play "The Rivals" by Thomas Sheridan will be discussed.

The McClelland Library offers Genealogy Workshops which provide information about genealogy research techniques and resources to assist with tracing Irish ancestry. The first workshop of the fall is Getting Started with Irish Genealogy Research on October 22 at 11 am virtually through Zoom. Membership pricing is \$15, and non-members' fee is \$20. Register on our website: [azirish.org](http://azirish.org)

Did you know?

Irish is a language!

You have already learned your first word: podchroal, which means podcast!

Here's a common phrase: go raibh maith agat, and that translates to thank you!

Thank you for listening and hope to see you at the McClelland Irish Library!