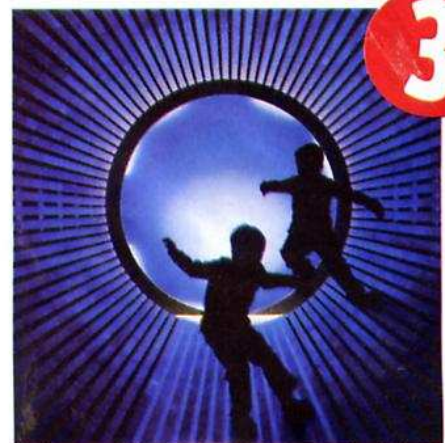


**1**



## MOBILE PHONE MUSEUM

**T**HIS VENTURE got a great reception (wheey...) when it opened in January of this year. From 1980s bricks to the iPhone, the Mobile Phone Museum is committed to the preservation of iconic mobiles. Curator Alan Donohue worked in the industry for years before combining private collections for public exhibit – with a little help from eBay. “The most we’ve paid is £600 on the Motorola Dynatac, the world’s first mobile. It’s a big collector’s item.” Donohue’s favourite phone of all time is the Nokia 6310i – “the sturdiest phone ever made, there’s nothing else like it.” The world’s smallest phone, the first Bluetooth, the first phone watch and the first to vibrate are all behind glass. Plus, you can meet The Big Phone Man (pictured), a much-loved personality in D1. 6-7 Upper Abbey Street, Dublin 1. 872 8722, [mobilephonemuseum.ie](http://mobilephonemuseum.ie)



**3**

## NATIONAL LEPRECHAUN MUSEUM

CONCENTRATING more on folklore than paddywhackery, this Abbey Street venture combines interactive experience – such as making visitors feel a third of their size in a room of giant furniture – with a more traditional exhibition showing representations of leprechauns in pop culture. Be careful not to drop your souvenir leprechaun coin in the fare box on Dublin Bus on the way home – a sympathetic but resigned shrug from the bus driver won’t bring it back. *Jervis Street, Dublin 1. [leprechaunmuseum.ie](http://leprechaunmuseum.ie)*

The **DUBLINER** TOP 10

**ODD DAYS OUT**

# ODD MUSEUMS

**2**



## YE OLDE HURDY GURDY MUSEUM OF VINTAGE RADIO

TAKING AS ITS MONIKER the nickname given to Radio Éireann by Seán Lemass, this museum has been operating from Howth’s Martello Tower since 2003. With walls lined with posters and advertising signs, and floor space and cabinets crammed with radios and gramophones, curator Pat Herbert has built up quite a collection since he started in 1954. The tower itself has historic ties with the development of the hurdy gurdy, as radio pioneers Lee DeForest and Guglielmo Marconi both experimented from there in 1903 and 1905 respectively. Last Saturday (24th April) saw visitors trek here for International Marconi Day, where the team operated Morse code to other enthusiasts. Herbert tells us, “We’ve received messages from all over – Newfoundland, Russia and European countries.” *Martello Tower, Howth. [ei5em.110mb.com/museum.html](http://ei5em.110mb.com/museum.html)*



## THE REVENUE MUSEUM

**4**

EVERYONE HAS BEEN interested in the state’s revenue since, well, we ran out, but it’s still pretty hard to get excited about this one. The Revenue Museum sells itself as “a graphic and interactive exhibition of Tax and Customs collection, protection and accounting from the distant past to the present.” That makes it sound quite epic. With a lengthy breakdown of the role of revenue in the foundation of the State and pretty much everything since, it’s kind of like *Reeling in the Years*, but without the emotive music. *Lower Yard, Dublin Castle, Dublin 2. 863 5601, [dublincastle.ie](http://dublincastle.ie)*