

IRISH LIBRARY NEWS

Issued by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna (The Library Council)

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NEW CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER PUBLIC LIBRARY RESEARCH PROGRAMME

An Chomhairle Leabharlanna is pleased to announce the launching of a new call for proposals under the terms of the Public Library Research Programme.

Co-funded by local authorities and the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government, the Public Library Research Programme has promoted several research projects since its launch in 2002. The Programme to date has resulted in initiatives being undertaken in the following areas:

- The provision of library services to isolated communities (Taobh Tíre)
- The development of library services to foreign nationals (Libraries & Cultural Diversity)
- Marketing for public libraries
- Delivery of eGovernment services through public libraries

For more detail on these projects see

www.librarycouncil.ie/policies/research/shtml.

Applications for project proposals for 2005 are now being accepted from interested local authorities.

The three themes for research under this year's programme are:

- Reader development
- Lifelong learning
- Social inclusion.

The projects when completed are intended to improve the delivery and quality of public library services throughout Ireland.

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is the **31st May 2005**.

For further information please contact Annette Kelly (e-mail: akelly@librarycouncil.ie) and/or Domitilla Fagan (e-mail: dfagan@librarycouncil.ie) [Tel: 01-6761963/6761167] at An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW €1.1m eINCLUSION FUND--

Tom Kitt, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach, has announced a new fund of €1.1 million to drive e-inclusion which will have a particular focus on the elderly and people with disabilities. Mr. Kitt also indicated that he is currently overseeing a major review of the government's ICT priorities which will be informed by the direction set out in the Information Society Commission's final report, *Learning to Innovate*¹ which contained the following key recommendations:

- Establishment of a Broadband Delivery Group
- Production of a new eGovernment strategy
- Renewal of eBusiness strategy
- Stronger resource commitment to community-based ICT programmes
- Focus on eAccessibility
- Increased collaborative engagement on ICT security
- Development of a comprehensive approach to monitoring engagement with ICT
- Development of a knowledge society foresight initiative.

¹*Learning to Innovate* can be downloaded from www.isc.ie

IRISH SCHOOL LIBRARIAN RECEIVES HONOURS CERTIFICATE FROM SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The School Library Association launched its School Librarian of the Year Award with the announcement of the Honours List Librarians at the London Book Fair. Announcing the award launch President of the SLA, Aidan Chambers said, "There is a great need for an award that will celebrate the achievements of those working in school libraries, helping to create readers and the information culture for young people"

Included on this list of five was Irish school librarian Jane O'Loughlin. Jane is librarian in Coláiste Chathail Naofa, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. The library in Coláiste Chathail Naofa is one of the eleven school libraries participating in the Junior Certificate Demonstration Library Project. She was nominated for the award by one of her pupils, Jamie Mills. Following the nomination delegates from the SLA visited the school library to meet Jane, the students and the staff. The SLA members were suitably impressed by the work being carried out in the library and by the attitude of the pupils to their librarian and the library. In appreciation of Jane's work she was awarded an Honours Certificate, presented by the President of the SLA, Aidan Chambers.



▲ Jane O'Loughlin receiving her Honour Certificate from SLA President Mr. Aidan Chambers

The recipient of the overall award of School Librarian of the Year was Anne Robinson, librarian of Nicholas Chamberlaine School, Bedworth, Warwickshire. Anne has worked in school libraries for over twenty years and is the creator of the school librarian site www.strongest-links.org.uk. Anne was presented with her award on the 2nd of May by her namesake Anne Robinson, the television personality.

Nomination forms for the School Librarian of the Year Award 2006 are available now from the School Library Association, www.SLA.org.uk. For more information email info@SLA.org.uk or the School Library Association in the Republic of Ireland, slari@ireland.com. Closing date for nominations is 31st July 2005. Nominations can be received from students, teachers, principals, parents, anyone in fact!

MUSICAL LIBRARIES

Limerick County Library opened what was probably the first gramophone lending library in Ireland in January 1943 with a stock of 150 records. The service survived until 1953 when advances in technology led to its demise - the old 78's were rapidly being replaced by the 'new slow playing records' [33^{1/3} rpm] which required a different type of machine to play them. During the ten years the lending service was in existence, it was supplemented by a series of recitals and talks on musical interpretation which, in turn, led to the establishment of four local gramophone societies during the years 1946-49.

'Gramophones' may be hard to find these days but gramophone circles, recitals and talks continue in many public libraries, and access to music has been widened to incorporate music with other library-based activities and to include live performances.

In 2000, Eileen O'Brien surveyed public library provision of music services. 73% indicated that they did provide such a service; and half of the 27% who stated that they did not, did actually provide access to a limited stock and/or listening points.

The following musical miscellany provides a snapshot of the use and provision of music in Irish public libraries.

¹Daniel Doyle, *The gramophone in the library. An Leabharlann* 14 (2) June 1956, p.69-72

²Eileen O'Brien, *Music services in Irish public libraries: an outline of current trends. Brio* 39 (2) 2001, p.40-46.

Cork City Library has renamed its music library, *The Rory Gallagher Music Library*. Recent events there include an exhibition about Cork balladeers and songwriters, a talk on Cork's urban ballads by Jimmy Crowley and a series of record recitals. As part of the Cork International Choral Festival two performances by the Choir of the Medical University of Bialystok, Poland and the Ivan pl Zajc' Choir from Croatia were held in the Central Library. A gramophone circle was launched in Hollyhill library in January 2000 and entertains audiences with programmes featuring a variety of music, mainly classical and operatic. Each programme is unique, reflecting the choice of the host.

Donegal County Library. In order to bring music and fun to the children the central library in Letterkenny has been host to two events, *Paint to Music* and the *Creative Music Circle*. These events proved so successful that they have been extended to libraries throughout the county

In *Paint to Music*, each child is given an A1 size sheet of paper and some paint. Different varieties of music are played i.e. classical, rock, traditional and so on. The children paint to the rhythm of the music. They then take a section of overall product 1 inch x 1 inch and enlarge it to A3 size. The rationale behind this project is to make children really look at what they painting rather than what they think they see.

The *Creative Music Circle* session includes playful exercises, which develop rhythm and singing skills. The programme is based on the seasons.

The children learn songs from all over the world and get a chance to try out the many different instruments provided in the workshop.



▲ *Creative Music Circle in action*

Music plays an important role in the life of **Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries**. No matter what the festival, music is always a feature on the programme. Whether it is a musical recital by local singers and instrumentalists such as Bel Canto during Bealtaine or a workshop on salsa or hip-hop dancing for young people during Children's Book Festival, these events always attract large audiences.

The Festival of World Cultures, which is organised by the Council's Arts Office, has brought international music of the highest calibre to the county since its inception in 2001. Libraries work with the festival team by hosting many dynamic events leading in to the festival during the month of August and in particular by having a full day of events on the Friday in Deansgrange library, the first day of the festival each year. Recent highlights included Ana Castellanos and members of Flamenco y Más, Toby Kinsella's World Music and Stories,

Spud & Yam's unique blend of Irish/Afro-Caribbean rhythms and stories and drumming workshops with Brian Fleming of De Jimbé.

The Féile Filíochta/International Poetry Competition organised by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries has always had a musical dimension to the celebration of its core competition. Over the years, featured artists have included Force Five Wind Quintet, the Dublin County Choir, Festive Ensemble, Meascán, Ceoltóirí na hAislinge and Melanie O'Reilly.

Finally, since Dalkey Library was opened in 1989, two dedicated music practice rooms for piano and harp have been available for those who may wish to study music but may not have the facilities at home.

The piano room is particularly well used, especially coming up to exam times, when the strains of arpeggios and melodies can be heard wafting gently through the reference library on a quiet afternoon!

Kildare: the new library in Leixlip which is due to open next spring will have a digital music suite, three music rooms and an instrument bank. The library will feature a musician in residence programme.

Meath County Council Library Service has been successfully running a musical appreciation club in the new Ashbourne library. The club has been running every Wednesday morning between 11am and 12.30pm since October 2004.

The club explores aspects of classical music, traditional Irish music and popular musicals in an informal setting and also draws on a wide range of audio visual material including video, DVDs, cassettes and CDs. Live music from local musicians is also arranged on special occasions. To facilitate this club it was decided to relocate the county's main music collection to Ashbourne library.

The club is facilitated by staff member Teresa Carley, who is also a local classical singer and has a degree in music. She also is an associate of the Trim Musical Society and has directed several musicals, therefore has a wide berth of knowledge to keep the sessions interesting and interactive. Membership of the club is free and the club has a regular number of fifteen to twenty enthusiastic participants each week. Members are invited to share musical experiences and bring in their own material to share with other members. In December the group organised a trip to see *The Messiah* in Dublin and members of Ashbourne staff were also invited to attend. The event was a complete success resulting in the decision to incorporate at least one such event each year as part of the club.

The County Librarian, Ciaran Mangan said 'The music appreciation club has been a great success, mainly due to the dedication of our staff, we have had great feedback from the members of the club'.

Music for Life was a twelve part lecture series which was given in some **South Dublin** branches in 2004. The lecture series was delivered by the well known and ever-popular Ted Courtney,

musician in residence with Dublin City Council, resident guest on R.T.É. and lecturer at the College of Music, Dublin. Ted's enthusiasm and love of music was completely infectious and he gathered a large and devoted audience and attendances increased right through the series. Individual lectures were devoted to the music greats - Vivaldi, Bach, O'Carolan and Mozart as well as covering pagan, pop music, opera and Christian influences on music through the ages.

Carol singing takes place in all of the branches at Christmas time. The Firhouse Singers, for example, incorporating The Blue Heaven Barbershop Chorus, have become an annual and extremely popular event each December at Ballyroan Library. The Singers deliver a repertoire of well known and loved Christmas carols and traditional songs in an event that is intended to be a family event and which is attracting larger attendances each year. South Dublin Libraries regularly incorporate music events and workshops into its programmes for children and teenagers. Among the many events staged were rap writing and a drumming workshops for teenagers during "Teen Week" in February, a céili during Seachtain na Gaeilge, the Instant Orchestra with Nico Brown and Musical Theatre with Grainne Anderson and 'Musical Gymboree' - interactive music and storytelling for two and a half to 5 yr. olds during the "Summer Activities" programme in July. Very young children were also catered for with music and drama by *The Sillybilly Learning* and *The Little Singers*.

There were also performances by 'The World of Music' in some branch libraries.

publications

IBBY Ireland announces the publication this autumn of *Cross-Currents*, an IBBY Ireland guide to multicultural books for young people edited by Liz Morris and Susanna Coghlan ISBN 0-9541352-1-0 EUR15/£10

- Over 170 reviews by Ireland's leading experts in the field of children's literature, covering Irish language and dual-language books, fiction and non-fiction books for all ages, as well as folktales and myths from around the world
- Articles on the use of books in schools in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, on books that are culturally appropriate - and inappropriate - for children in ethnic minorities in Ireland
- Articles by practitioners in the field working with (and without) books in France, Thailand, Nicaragua, Alaska and other places

A companion volume to the highly-acclaimed Changing Faces, Changing Places which was very successful in raising the profile of books for children relevant to a multicultural Ireland, CBI members can pre-order Cross-Currents by contacting IBBY Ireland, c/o Ireland Literature Exchange/ Idirmháirtán Litríocht Éireann, 25 Denzille Lane, Baile Átha Cliath 2. info@irelandliterature.com For further information, see www.ibbyireland.ie

The *Irish Book Review* is a new journal which, it says, 'will focus on high quality reviews of some of the best books published in Ireland and abroad'. Reviewers will include leading journalists, academics, authors and others who will provide their own lively interpretation and expert opinion on some of the key titles recently released.

In addition to critiques of important new books, *The Irish Book Review* will include literary essays, interviews with prominent writers, extracts from new and forthcoming titles, new poems by some of Ireland's leading poets, a lively Letters to the Editor page and a column where well known people recommend particularly significant or possibly overlooked titles to readers.

For more information, contact David Givens, Publisher, or Brian Langan, Managing Editor, at The Irish Book Review, Ashbrook House, 10 Main Street, Raheny, Dublin 5.

Telephone: +353-1-8511459. Email: info@irishbookreview.com.

The Fused Festival is a collaboration between the Libraries and the Arts Office and included performances by Agustin Maruri, the renowned Spanish guitarist, the *Fake Orchestra* from Slovenia, *Pipschips & Videoclips* from Slovenia, and local bands *The Brand* and *Conga Musica*. Themed cultural nights in some branches, such as the Vietnamese night in Clondalkin Library included music played by the local Vietnamese community.

From July music classes were organised by AltEnts in Whitechurch Library on Saturday mornings.

The Seachtain na Gaeilge was launched by a musical performance by The Celtic Tenors in Ballyroan Library, a céili mór in collaboration with Corporate Services was held in aid of the Tsunami and other natural disasters in the county hall in Tallaght. Music was by the well-known céili band *Brian Ború*. Several other music events were held during this week.

Waterford City Council central library tested the acoustics in the refurbished Lady Lane library with a jazz ensemble.

As part of the annual Sean Dunne Festival, the internationally renowned Swansea Jazz Ensemble gave a performance of the Dylan Thomas Jazz Suite in the Central Library on Tuesday 30 March 2004. The suite, commissioned for the 50th anniversary of Dylan's death by the Dylan Thomas Centre, Swansea, was composed by Jen Wilson and featured settings of a dozen Thomas poems, including *Fern Hill* and *Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night*.

vacancies

Job sharing / Half-time position

MOUNT ANVILLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

Dublin 14

is seeking a half-time librarian for the library for the school year 2005/2006 starting in September 2005. For further information please contact Joan Foley at 01-2885313 or email library@mountanville.net.

Mount Anville Secondary School is an equal opportunities employer.

Irish Studies Librarian

at the

University of Notre Dame.

South Bend, Indiana. USA

Responsibilities: The Irish Studies Librarian is responsible for the development of a collection poised to become a distinguished collection of primary, secondary, and creative works in Irish Studies including, but not limited to history, political science, and Irish language and literature. Reflecting University and Libraries priorities, this encompasses selection, cataloging, and especially communication with the faculty. The Irish Studies Librarian is responsible for the support of scholarly collections initiatives, cooperative inter institutional programs and services, and cultivation of effective working relationships with relevant publishers, vendors and antiquarian book dealers. Significant financial resources are available to carry out these responsibilities. **SALARY AND BENEFITS:** Librarians are non-tenure track members of the Library faculty and earn 20 days vacation annually. The University offers an excellent benefits package. Minimum starting salary US\$37,000. Appointment salary and rank are competitive, commensurate with experience and qualifications.

APPLICATIONS: To apply, send a letter of application, professional vita, and names, addresses, and phone numbers and email addresses of four references to: Michelle Stenberg, 221 Hesburgh Library, Notre Dame, IN 46556, USA or email: Stenberg.2@nd.edu To view the full text of this job posting, please visit our website at: http://www.library.nd.edu/about/employment/irish_librarian.shtml

The University of Notre Dame is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action Employer strongly committed to diversity. We value qualified candidates who can bring to our community a variety of backgrounds.

news and events

Irish Carnegie Libraries: An Chomhairle Leabharlanna has acquired the photographic archive of Irish Carnegie library buildings from the South County Dublin branch of An Taisce. The archive includes over 300 prints. Of these, 86 have been enlarged and mounted to form a travelling exhibition. Over 28 libraries across the country have already hosted the exhibition. If you are interested in booking the exhibition [all or part] for your library, please contact Alun Bevan / Marie Flynn at An Chomhairle Leabharlanna. A full list of the libraries featured in the exhibition is available on request.

Leitrim County Library: A new library was officially opened in Manorhamilton by the Chairman of Leitrim County Council, Sean McGowan on March 7th, 2005. It is located on the Main Street and it has approximately 16,000 stock items. There is also a special collection of art books provided through the percentage for art scheme. There are computers for public internet access, photocopying facilities, an optical scanner to assist those who have impaired vision. There is also a facility for accessing Encyclopaedia Britannica on-line either in the library, or at home for members of the library. The building was constructed by GKT Construction, headed by Brendan Keon and was purchased by Leitrim County Council with grant assistance from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government with approval from An Chomhairle Leabharlanna. Colin Bell, Architect designed the building. Manorhamilton library cost in the region of €700,000. It is open to the public 46 hours per week.



▲ *Seán Ó Suilleabhain, Leabharlannaí Chontae, Senator Paschal Mooney, Chairman Library Committee, Danny McLoughlin, County Manager, Sean McGowan, Chairman Leitrim County Council, Joseph Gilhooly, Director of Services, Community & Enterprise, Leitrim County Council and John Ellis T.D.*

Library Association of Ireland: the following appointments were made at the 2005 agm of the Association:

Officers of the Association 2005-2006

President: Ruth Flanagan, Cork County Library; *Vice-Presidents:* Teresa Walsh, South Dublin Libraries, Ann Cleary, Dundalk Institute of Technology. *Development Manager:* Antoinette Robinson; *Honorary Secretary:* Denis Murphy, Cork County Library; *Honorary Treasurer:* Catherine Watters; *Honorary Auditor:* Gerry Maher, Laois County Libraries

Executive Board 2005-2006

Bernard Barrett, Mid-Western Health Board; Kathleen Browne, Kerry County Library; Mary Burke, University College Dublin; Ann Cleary, Dundalk Institute of Technology; Joseph Donnelly, Judges' Library; Deirdre Ellis-King, Dublin City Public Libraries; Ruth Flanagan, (Chair), Cork County Libraries; Pat Lonergan, Kildare County Library; Maire McClarnon, HFC-HFSC; Denis Murphy, Cork County Libraries; Áine O'Connor, Arup Consulting Engineers; Micheál Ó hAodha, University of Limerick; Gobnait O'Riordan, University of Limerick; Hazel Percival, Wexford County Library; Liam Ronayne, Cork City Library; Marjory Sliney, Fingal County Libraries; Brendan Teeling, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna; Teresa Walsh, South Dublin Libraries; Catherine Watters, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

The **National Library of Ireland** is set to become an autonomous body later this month, as is the National Museum. The Minister for Arts, John O'Donoghue, T.D. recently appointed senior counsel Gerry Danaher as the first chairman of the independent library. While the department will still have overall responsibility for both institutions, the respective boards will deal with policy, promotion and staffing decisions.

The library's new board is: Gerard Danaher, s.c. (Chair); Patrick F. Clyne, judge; Bob Collins, former director general of RTÉ; Ida Delamer, former trustee of the NLI; Breda Kelly, company consultant; Máire MacConghail, professional genealogist; Susan McGrath, civil servant; Niáll McMonagle, teacher and broadcaster; Brendan O'Donoghue, former director of the NLI; Jim O'Shea, former trustee of the NLI; Margaret Toomey, executive officer; Noreen Whelan, teacher and former trustee of the NLI.

Roscommon County Library celebrated the 150th anniversary of the birth of Percy French with exhibition of books, paintings, photographs and historical information taken from the library's holdings. The 'French Miscellany' exhibition was launched by the Mayor of Roscommon County Council, Cllr. Sean Beirne. Welcoming everyone to the exhibition, Richie Farrell, County Librarian, said that he hoped that the exhibition, which was organised in conjunction with the Percy French Society, would help promote the library as an acceptable repository for further donations of memorabilia.

Westmeath County Library celebrated National Childminding week (April 4th –10th) with a series of storytelling activities for local playgroups in both Athlone and Mullingar libraries and a colouring competition for the under fives.

The Westmeath Childcare Information Initiative was also launched in both libraries during the week. This initiative involves the purchase of specialist resource material in the childcare field through joint funding from Westmeath County Childcare Committee and Westmeath County Library, with the aim of supporting adult learners, childcare providers, parents and anyone who has an interest in the field of childcare.



▲ *Mary Farrell, County Librarian (centre) with members of the Westmeath Childcare Committee at launch in Mullingar Library*

Wicklow County Council Library Service in conjunction with Coillte hosted the "Sculpture in Woodlands" Exhibition in Ballywaltrim and Blessington Libraries celebrating the unique outdoor sculptures situated in The Devil's Glen, Ashford, Co. Wicklow.

Internet mentoring courses are being run by staff in Bray and Ballywaltrim Libraries with participants sourced from *Women's Equality in Bray* project. Two courses have been run so far with another planned for June.

To celebrate World Book Day, *Irish History Live* presented interactive workshops on the Vikings and their legacy in Baltinglass, Dunlavin and Tinahely Libraries to local schoolchildren. Author Glenys O'Connell visited Arklow and Wicklow Libraries and *Delig Inis* Theatre Company performed "The Music of Words" in Bray Library to an audience of teenagers and adults.



▲ Pictures taken at the launch of the **Cork City libraries** celebration of child summer events brochure which is full of events to celebrate childhood and spans from April to August. The Celtic drama depicted is *The Only Jealousy of Eimear*.



Cork County Library: As part of the *Living Landscape* symposium and exhibition, taking place in West Cork in April 2005 and in Barcelona in 2006, Ignacio Uriarte held workshops with staff in Skibbereen public library, leading to conceptual art installations on site. Ignacio is a German-born artist working in Barcelona and is very interested in what he describes as Office Art. He pays attention to "the little creative moments of administrative routines" (for instance, doodling or knitting paper clips together), and turns them into an art form.

The living landscape project is "an exploration of contemporary artists' relationship with and investigation of landscape, place, environment and space" and Ignacio's work with library staff was an enlightening study of their relationship with some of their everyday practices and the tools of their trade. The three pieces created are integrated into the landscape of the library using materials that already form part of the landscape of libraries.

For staff who are used to organizing events and workshops for other groups in the community, working on the three pieces, entitled *Snowcakes*, *Silver Rain* and *Flight*, proved to be great fun and an opportunity to stretch their imaginations and look in a new way at the details of their work. The creative process was as important for those involved as the finished works, with common acts of everyday library life being turned into a ritual in the creation of the art pieces.

Throughout May, **Dublin City Public Libraries** will be showing a series of diverse yet themed films on the subject of racism and cultural conflict. The films to be shown include *East is East*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *La Haine*, *The Pianist*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, *Rabbitproof Fence* and *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. The screenings will take place in a number of Dublin City libraries. All films are free of charge to members of the Dublin City Public Libraries Film Club. Membership is automatic to library members or holders of reference tickets aged 18 or over. For details of the screenings, information on how to join the film club and to book seats in advance, telephone 01-674 4806 / 4873.

Fingal County Council recently launched *Finscéal 2005 - A Writer's Trail of Fingal*. This programme of readers and writers

events has been organised and co-ordinated by Fingal County Libraries and Fingal Arts Office as part of Fingal's commitment to provide equal access to arts activities and to encourage and foster creative writing. This is the fourth year of *Finscéal* and its format and content have been influenced by feedback received from the various readers and writers groups in Fingal. This year's programme features events on *Writing Local History*, *Writing for Children*, *Crime Writing* and *Getting Your Work Published*.

A number of readers' days have also been planned – *Authors in the Parlour* is a celebration of the best of Irish writing and *Books - The Great Escape* will feature some of Ireland's favourite authors. In addition to this, workshops will be held throughout the county, to help writers develop their work further.

These events are free and open to all. Tickets for each event can be booked by telephone or email. Tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis with a maximum of two tickets per person.

Fingal County Council's new website was officially launched on Monday 18th April. It is located at www.fingalcoco.ie. Previously Fingal County Libraries had a separate web site at www.iol.ie/~fincolib/ Users will now be redirected to the main council site where Fingal County Libraries are incorporated into www.fingalcoco.ie under various headings such as 'Living in Fingal', 'Your Local Council', 'Education' and 'Leisure and Tourism'. The site was designed to be more citizen centered, as opposed to departmental. One new feature is the 'Events' page which allows library staff to maintain and display a calendar of library events.

The site adheres to W3C accessibility standards and provides user friendly navigation and advanced site search facilities.

Fingal County Council's Cathaoirleach Councillor Peter Coyle officially launched the partnership of the Fingal Library Housebound Service with the Fingal Volunteer Service on Thursday 24th February at 3.00pm in Blanchardstown Library.

In a major initiative Fingal Libraries Housebound Service has now been enhanced by the partnership with the Fingal Volunteer Service, whereby 14 dedicated volunteers have been recruited to assist in the delivery of the Housebound Library service.

Fingal Housebound Library Service was formally established in 2001 as part of a commitment to equality of access for all, with Ms Josephine Knight, Librarian, appointed to administer the service. The service aims to serve those in hospitals, residential care, isolated at home and the disabled who do not have access to their local branch library or mobile library.

The Fingal Volunteer Centre works with community organisations in their voluntary endeavours by means of support through training, policy development and management of volunteers.

The challenges thrown up by the success of the housebound library service led to this initiative, whereby Valerie Mc Allorum of the Fingal Volunteer Service together with Josephine Knight from Fingal Libraries Housebound Service worked together to bring this initiative to fruition.

This additional partnership within Fingal County Council seeks to overcome physical and social barriers to library use and plays a pivotal role in social inclusion.

In practise this means that the housebound library service will now be in a position to reach and serve a wider clientele base. Volunteer drivers take on the responsibility of driving the dedicated housebound van to new and existing users, while library assistants will be on hand to service the book stock and advise the user on reading or listening material.

Local Councillors Michael O'Donovan, Margaret Richardson, and Peggy Hamill were in attendance as well as representatives from voluntary organisations such as C.I.L. (Centre for Independent Living), and F.A.D.E.

[Please note that the article which appeared in ILN 249 under the heading 'Libraries and people with disabilities: Fingal County Library's housebound service was officially launched...' appeared erroneously instead of the above. The article in 249 also omitted the name of Caroline Cahill who is the Ulverscroft representative in Ireland].



may 2005

19th *EU information: finding your way through the maze:* a beginner's guide to the work, publications and websites of the main EU institutions. If you're new to EU information or have only a grasp of the basics, this is the course for you. At the end of the day, you'll have a good understanding of what the EU institutions do, how law and policy are made, the key information sources available and what other information networks exist to help you. A one day course to be held at University College, Dublin. Organised by The European Information Agency. Price: EIA members €240 (£165) + VAT; Non-members €355 (£245) + VAT. (€30 (£20) discount if you book both this and our course on 20 May)
Contact: EIA office on +44 (0)161 228 3691 or contact via e-mail at: eia@libraries.manchester.gov.uk

20th *Europe on the web: free vs fee.* A one day course to be held at University College, Dublin. Organised by The European Information Agency. Price: EIA members €240 (£165) + VAT; Non-members €355 (£245) + VAT. (€15 (£10) discount if you book both this and our course on 19 May)
Contact: EIA office on +44 (0)161 228 3691 or contact via e-mail at: eia@libraries.manchester.gov.uk

june 2005

15th *eContentplus Information Day* is being held in Luxembourg for the first call for proposals of eContentplus. eContentplus has the overall aim of making digital content in Europe more accessible, usable and exploitable. The 4-year programme (2005-08), will have a budget of €149 million to tackle the fragmentation of the European digital content market and improve the accessibility and usability of geographical information, cultural content and educational material. The Information Day will be dedicated to a detailed presentation of the programme and the call for proposals. Subject to the completion of all the necessary procedures, it is intended to launch a call for proposals in June 2005 with a deadline for proposals in October 2005. Further information and registration forms are available on <http://econtentplus.notlong.com>. If you wish to attend the Information Day and/or receive further information about the eContentplus programme, please register on the website.

23rd-25th European Association for Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) Workshop will take place in Palermo, Sicily on June 23-25 2005. This year's theme is *Implementation of quality systems and certification of biomedical libraries*. For details see: <http://www.eahil.net/conferences.htm>

june 2005

13-15th *ARCLIB 2005: Articulating Architecture.* ARCLIB is the Architecture Librarians Group (Ireland/UK). It will be holding its Annual Conference in University College Dublin on July 13th - 15th. Various themes will be explored including information skills; marketing; digitising and imaging projects; Googling....and MUCH MORE! The full Programme

is available on ARCLIB's Website at: www.arclib.org.uk
Further details are available from Julia Barrett, Architecture/Planning Librarian, UCD. Tel: 01-716 2741; email: julia.barrett@ucd.ie

august 2005

11-12th *The physical library and beyond: library as place and the library in cyberspace* – IFLA 2005 satellite meeting organised by the Library Building and Equipment Section in co-operation with the Reference Work Section. Venue: Järvenpää, Finland. Conference language is English. For information and registration see: www.fla.fi/PHYSICALvsVIRTUAL05/

13-17th *Expectations and Experiences: Children, Childhood and Children's Literature.* The 17th biennial conference of the IRSCL (International Research Society for Children's Literature) will take place in Trinity College, Dublin from 13th to 17th August 2005. Keynote speakers are Declan Kiberd, Anne Higonnet, Michael Rosen and Paul Muldoon. Other speakers include Morag Styles, P.J. Lynch, Niamh Sharkey, Kimberley Reynolds, Gillian Cross, Siobhán Parkinson, Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick and many others from America, Asia, Australia and Europe. Further information is available from www.irscl.ac.uk or from vcoghlan@cice.ie

14-18th *Libraries: a voyage of discovery* – 71st IFLA General Conference and Council, Oslo. Details: e: ifla2005@norskbiotekforening.no w: www.ifla2005oslo.no

21-26th *Digital Libraries à la Carte: Choices for the Future - Modular, International Digital Library Course* Tilburg University, The Netherlands, 21-26 August 2005. The International Ticer School offers this brand new, modular course for librarians and publishers: The course will be held at Tilburg University, the Netherlands. From its 'menu' of five one-day modules, you can pick your choice: · trends and strategic issues · technological developments, relevant to libraries · consortia and licensing · Open Access and institutional repositories · the role of libraries in teaching and learning
The course website can be found at www.ticer.nl/05carte/. On the website you can find the full programme, the complete list of 20 lecturers with short bios, abstracts of most presentations and practical information about course fee and registration.
If you register before 1 June 2005, you will get a €150 discount.

october 2005

11-12th *Library Ireland 2005* - the library, education and cultural resources exhibition will take place at the RDS, Dublin. Organisations interested in exhibiting should contact Key Events Ltd, 24 Terenure Road East, Rathgar, Dublin 6. t: 01-4901790; f: 4901792; e: info@keyevents.ie; w: www.keyevents.ie

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