

...as a Fruitcake

Large audiences in both Carrigaline and Macroom libraries enjoyed a wonderful performance by Mary McEvoy, in her role as Della in the play *Fruitcake*. The play was shown as part of the Cork County Library and Arts Service Bealtaine Festival which was held during the month of May in 24 libraries in the county.

Filled with lots of laughs and a few poignant moments too, *Fruitcake* has something for everyone. It is a one woman show which begins innocently enough about how to create the perfect fruitcake but quickly unfolds as an honest account of a woman's life from early childhood to adulthood. Playwright Alice Barry perfectly captures how, with each ingredient, Della is reminded of past memories and how decisions she made ultimately changed the course of her life.



Pictured in Macroom Library, with Mary, is author of the play Alice Barry, Staff of Macroom Library and, of course, The Fruitcake!

Mary McEvoy is one of Ireland's most recognisable and best loved actresses. People were delighted to meet, chat and be photographed after the performance with Mary who, for years, was a household name in her role as Biddy McDermott in *Glenroe*.

Kerry Library Writing Master Classes

During the 2010 / 2011 school year, Kerry Library collaborated with the Kerry Education Service (KES) and Poetry Ireland in the JCSP *Regional Writer in Residence* initiative for second-level schools. It provided opportunities for junior cycle students in the eight KES schools to participate in a series of creative writing workshops where, working alongside a professional writer, they learned how to plan, draft, compose and edit a piece of their own writing. The focus in phase one of the initiative was to provide opportunities for students to work with one author in the students' own classroom over a period of several weeks.



At the Launch of the Writing Master class at Tralee Library: (tosaigh): Margaret Godley (KES), Cllr. Jim Finucane (Chairman of Kerry VEC), Kathleen Moran (Senior Project Manager, JCSP Programme). (cúl): Tommy O'Connor (Kerry County Librarian, John W. Sexton (Writer), Eileen Sheehan (Writer), Jane O'Hanlon (Poetry Ireland), T.F. O'Connor (Writer), Terry McDonagh (Writer).

In phase two, the students were given the opportunity to progress to Master Classes held in Tralee and Killarney Libraries on 7th and 8th April to work directly with authors John Sexton, T.F. O'Connor, Eileen Sheehan and Terry McDonagh. The Master Classes afforded the students the opportunity to meet with participating students from other KES schools and to get an introduction to the services of Kerry Library through library tours and interaction with library staff. Each was given a library information pack together with copies of some Kerry Library publications.

At the conclusion of the initiative, each participating student had successfully produced some creative written work and was awarded with a JCSP Achievement Certificate and a KES Achievement Certificate. Some of the students' creative writing has been selected for publication by the KES in a publication entitled *Ó mo pheann Féin* which will be launched at Listowel Writers' Week 2011.

Kilkenny Writers' Weekend: Claire Hennessy and Neil O' Shea

As part of the Kilkenny Writers' Weekend, Kilkenny Library Service arranged for author and creative writing teacher Claire Hennessy to facilitate a Creative Writing for Teenagers workshop on Saturday May 14th in Loughboy Library. Participants tried out a range of exercises – with a dash of improvisation for good measure – designed to get them writing about the topics they're most interested in, and to let them channel their own experiences into their fiction-writing (transforming annoying neighbours into super-villains, for example!). The day finished with questions from participants about writing and publishing, and a flurry of group-authored stories about tomatoes (who knew they had such rich inner lives?).

Neil O'Shea performed his one man show *An Evening with Great Irish Writers* in the City Library at 8pm on Sat. 14th. It was a stand up performance of extracts from the works of Oliver Goldsmith, Jonathan Swift, Percy French, Oscar Wilde James Joyce and many more. Neil recited poetry, sang a song and acted as two characters in scenes from plays. It was a very enjoyable and relaxing evening much appreciated by the audience.



Neil O'Shea in the City Library.



Claire Hennessy at Loughboy library

Grow Together 2011

The *Grow Together* program, offered by Kilkenny County Library Service and *Gardenia* was run over six weeks, finishing recently with a presentation of certificates to all participants. This is the second year that the programme has been run.

This exciting programme was developed by Kilkenny County Library Service to bring children together through a fun activity, learn new skills and develop a shared interest in gardening and the library. *Grow Together* was held in conjunction with *Gardenia*, Kilkenny's city centre garden centre. Over the six weeks, participants enjoyed practical gardening work, library visits, puzzles, games and most importantly lots of fun!

Some of the quotes from participating children include "I like when we made cabbage". "We made hanging baskets with lupins and a few weeks ago we all did a quiz in the library. I had so much fun". Pupils from St. Johns Junior School took part in the classes with a little help from Vocational Secondary School students.



Photo shows 4 of the children getting to grips with the compost with their tutor Eddie from Kilkenny Vocation School.

Stradbally Library and Arthouse, Co. Laois

Laois County Council was delighted to host the official opening of Stradbally Library and Arthouse by Mr. Jimmy Deenihan, Minister of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht on Friday 13th May 2011.

Housed in Stradbally Courthouse, the Library and Arthouse was originally built as a petty sessions' court in 1830. It became the property of the Irish Free State in 1922 and the first sitting of Stradbally District Court was held in the building in 1924. The last case was held in the courthouse in March 1961; thereafter it was used by Laois County Council as a branch library, council office and machinery yard.



Stradbally Library and Arthouse, Co. Laois

In December 2009 contracts were signed for the refurbishment and extension of the Courthouse to incorporate a library, an exhibition area and five artist studios one of which will be fitted out as a recording studio. The project will invite local, national and international artists to work in their studios for a period of up to 12 months while exhibiting and promoting the arts at county level.

The ground floor of the building is devoted to the library, with a complete refurbishment of the existing area and an extension of 19m² to form a new area devoted to the children's library. It is situated in an ideally accessible and very

central location within walking distance from schools, main residential areas and work places.

With an area of 1,500 square feet, the library will function as a meeting area for artists and the local community to interact. Opening hours have been extended to twenty-five per week and facilities include five public PCs, a study area, Children’s Library and a book and multi-media collection. The library will also be able to utilise some of the facilities in the Arthouse such as the Digital Suite and Rehearsal Studio for recording of Oral History and attracting other sections of the community such as teenagers.

It is envisaged that the Library will also host activities and events in partnership with the resident artists for example art workshops, art exhibitions and also literature events, in particular to coincide with community and national events. Weekly events such as book clubs can be held in the exhibition area and the outdoor area would be suitable for children’s activities and storytelling in fine weather.



Library Staff: Cllr. Mary Sweeney, Marguerite Gibson, Aideen McDonald, Bernie Foran, Patricia Norton & Terri Fahey



Aideen McDonald, Marguerite Gibson, Gerry Maher (Co. Librarian) & Cllr. Mary Sweeney

County Manager Peter Carey was delighted to add the Arthouse to the growing list of new libraries and art services in the county; he thanked all involved in the project stating that he hoped it would be *“an inspiration for the county and of significant economic benefit”* and added that *“it is the likes of this project and the courage and vision of this project that will bring Ireland back to what it should be”*. Minister Deenihan praised the county for not only maintaining historic buildings but reinvigorating them with new purpose stating that Laois County Council *“have provided an important centre but also preserved an important part of our heritage”*.

Limerick turns LILAC.... Again! LILAC Conference returns to Limerick in 2013.



Lilac 2010 delegates

Hosted in 2010, for the first time outside of the UK, by the Shannon Consortium Library Network Support Services (LNSS) comprising of Limerick Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology Tralee, Mary Immaculate College and the University of Limerick, Limerick city has recently received the great

news that Limerick Institute of Technology will again host the 2013 **LILAC** Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference. **LILAC** is aimed at Librarians and Information Professionals, who teach information literacy skills, are interested in digital literacy and want to improve the information seeking and evaluation skills of all library users.

LILAC 2010, held in Limerick city was a great success and attracted over 300 delegates with an unprecedented number of international delegates. Countries represented were United States, Norway, Canada, Australia, Finland, Qatar, Brazil, Lithuania, Switzerland, Denmark, Egypt, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, and United Arab Emirates.

This year's conference, held in the British Library London and London School of Economics, was a great success with another high delegate turnout. Keynote speakers included information behaviour specialist David Nicholas, school librarian Nikki Heath, who is well known in the library world for her passion and commitment in encouraging reading for pleasure, and information literacy expert Jesus Lau who is the author of many influential publications in the field of information literacy, most notably International Guidelines on Information Literacy for Life-Long Learning now available in seven languages.

We look forward to **LILAC 2013** - Limerick, which no doubt will be another successful **LILAC** conference with inspiring keynote speakers, an interesting and varied conference programme and an enjoyable array of social events with the finest in Irish hospitality.

Mayo libraries turn up the heat

Bord Gáis Energy Rediscover your Library Campaign was back in Mayo for its second year and it was even bigger than 2010. As part of this, on Tuesday 15th March, Brent Pope, rugby commentator and children's author visited Ballina Library. He's more used to keeping Hooky in line during RTE's rugby coverage but Brent coped wonderfully with the large crowd who came to hear him read from his children's books and to listen to how he became involved in children's writing and his life in sport.



Brent Pope with the library staff. From the left:- Margaret Molloy, Barbara Varley, Siobhan King, Majella Varley, Paula Ryan, Deirdre Butler.

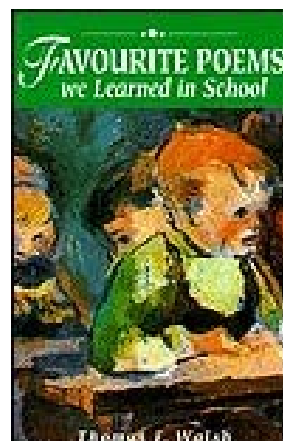


Brent with fellow New Zealander Tracy Rees and her family who now live in Ballina.

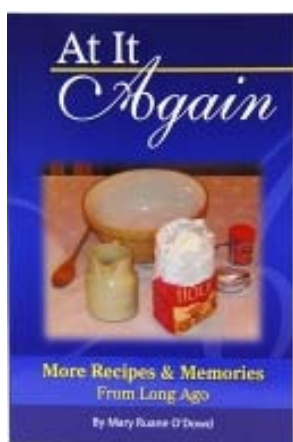
He was charming and entertaining and had the crowd eating out of his hand. Also, as part of the day's festivities Mid West Radio broadcast their afternoon show from the library and interviewed both Brent Pope and executive librarian Barbara Varley which was a great opportunity to showcase Mayo Library Service. A highlight of the day was meeting people who had not visited the library in years and were reacquainting themselves with the great facilities and the valuable services that Ballina Library provides in the community.

Mayo Libraries – a hive of activity for Bealtaine 2011

The month got off to a gentle start with *Down Memory Lane: favourite poems and memories from school* with author Thomas F. Walsh in Castlebar Library. Broadcaster, teacher and writer, Thomas was born near Headford, Co. Galway, and reared with his brothers and sisters on the small farm that he so lovingly describes in *Once in a Green Summer*. In this book, and in his bestselling *Favourite Poems* series, Thomas Walsh has put together a delightful collection of memories of that vanished world. The first title in his poem series, *Favourite Poems we Learned in School* is a collection of the most oft quoted and memorable poems we learned in school. The poems are evocative and the session stirred a nostalgic chord in all hearts.



Ballina Library continued the reminiscing theme with *Pull up to the fire: stories and memories from long ago* with author Mary Ruane O'Dowd. Mary is the



author of two books on life in "the old days". *Pull up to the fire* is a beautiful selection of poems, essays, old songs, proverbs, handy hints and even a prayer or two as Gaeilge. *At it again* is a selection of Mary's favourite traditional recipes from the west of Ireland combined with her memories in her own unique style. Mary spoke on her life and on a lifestyle that is fast disappearing from Ireland to many accompanying sighs of recognition from her audience. This proved to be quite an interactive session with many contributing their own very special memories.

A stroll down memory lane – of a slightly different hue – was on the cards once again in *Chuckles & Wisdom*, a talk by Sr. Hilary Lyons who believes that "stories untold deprive the world of much of what it stands in need". Sr. Hilary, a native of Louisburgh, Co. Mayo and Missionary Sister of the Holy Rosary, worked as a doctor and nun for over 40 years in Sierra Leone. Now retired in Ireland, she has retained a strong link to Celtic spirituality and her two books *Where Memories Gather* and *Old Watering Holes* draw on the three significant landscapes of her life: her early life in rural Mayo, her professional life in Africa and the daunting challenge of retiring to live in 21st century Ireland. Sr. Hilary completely engaged her audience as she recounted the difficulties and challenges she faced during these three different periods of her life and all enjoyed the opportunity to chat and ask about her unique philosophy of life over a convivial cup of tea to finish.

A complete change of pace was provided in *Time to get Smart – take care of your Heart!* in Castlebar Library.

With Cardiovascular Disease being the single largest cause of death for both men and women in Ireland, the 'Heart Smart' Mayo programme and the Mayo Sports Partnership offered advice and support to the local Active Retirement group on how to minimize the risks and make the best lifestyle choices to boost 'Heart Health'. Heart rates were certainly pumping harder as the session drew to a close!

The month of May also saw Mayo Libraries host local history photographic exhibitions, spiritual healing, first aid for the soul sessions, poetry readings with Mayo writer in Residence 2011 and much, much more... It's fair to say Mayo County Library provided something for everyone in the audience!!!

National Library of Ireland events for June 2011

Saturday 4 June at 2.30pm - Tour of the National Library of Ireland: learn about NLI's history and architecture on this guided tour (Free, all welcome).

Summer's Wreath 2011 at the National Library of Ireland, Kildare Street.

The fifth *Summer's Wreath* programme, which will take place in June, will celebrate the creativity and legacy of William Butler Yeats. Many Irish and international guests will grace us with their personal reflections and readings from Yeats's poetry, plays and stories. We look forward to welcoming you to share in this universal love of Yeats's creativity. Be part of our celebration this summer!

Tickets for paid events must be booked in advance. Each event must be booked separately. We look forward to seeing you!

To book - visit www.nli.ie or telephone 01 6030 200.

- **Reading & Reflection with Fergal Keane** Thursday, June 9th at 1pm: Free Admission/No Booking Required/30 mins
Fergal Keane is an Irish writer, broadcaster and presenter of the recent groundbreaking series *The Story of Ireland* – a five-part series on the history of Ireland. For many years, he worked as the BBC's Southern Africa Correspondent. He has won numerous awards for his radio and television reports.
- **Reading & Reflection with Tamasin Day-Lewis** Monday, June 13th at 1pm: Free Admission/No Booking Required/30 mins
Daughter of Irish poet Cecil Day-Lewis, Tamasin Day-Lewis has worked as a documentary filmmaker for 15 years, directing and producing over two dozen films for the BBC, ITV and Channel 4. She has written a dozen cookery books, appeared in two television series and gives masterclasses and talks all over the world.
- **Reading & Reflection with Hugo Hamilton** Wednesday, June 15th at 1pm: Free Admission/No Booking Required/30 mins
Hugo Hamilton's acclaimed memoir *The Speckled People* has been called an 'instant classic' and has become an international best-seller. He is the acclaimed author of two memoirs, seven novels and one collection of short stories. His latest novel *Hand in the Fire* is now available in paperback.
- **Reading & Reflection with Kate O'Toole** Thursday, June 23rd at 1pm: Free Admission/No Booking Required/30 mins
Kate O'Toole is an Irish actress whose film roles have included *Dancing at Lughnasa* and *The Dead*. Her TV credits include the role of Lady Salisbury in *The Tudors*. Kate was awarded the British Arts Council/Barclays Theatre Awards for Best Actress 2001 for *Three Tall Women* and was nominated for Irish Times/Irish Theatre Awards, Best Actress 2002, for her role in *Dead Funny*.
- **Frank Delaney in conversation** Wednesday, June 8th at 8pm: Admission €10 To Book: www.nli.ie
In 1979, Frank Delaney's first book, *James Joyce's Odyssey* was published to critical acclaim and best-seller status. Since then, Delaney has written six books of non-fiction, twelve novels, one novella, two anthologies, and a smattering of short stories published in both magazines and collections.
- **Professor Roy Foster & Joseph M. Hassett** Monday, June 13th at 8pm: Admission €10 To Book: www.nli.ie
Yeats Scholars in conversation touching on their recently published books on W.B. Yeats
The distinguished Oxford scholar, Professor Roy Foster's biography of W.B. Yeats is generally recognised as the definitive biography of the poet. Published in two volumes, the combined work runs to more than 1400 pages. His book *Words Alone: Yeats and his Inheritances* was published in April.
Joseph Hassett has lectured widely on Yeats and other Irish writers at venues including the Trieste Joyce School and Oxford University. His book *W.B. Yeats and the Poetics of Hate* was published in 1986 and his book *W.B. Yeats and the Muses* was published last year by Oxford University Press.
- **Yeats in Words and Music - Reading by Andrea Corr and music by Liam O'Flynn, uilleann pipes-** Saturday, June 18th at 8pm: Admission €10 To Book: www.nli.ie
Andrea Corr is an Irish musician, songwriter and actress. For over a decade she was the lead singer of Celtic folk rock and pop group The Corrs. Andrea is now pursuing a solo career and released her second album *Lifelines* in May 2011. Andrea's acting career has also blossomed with critically acclaimed stage and screen roles.
Liam O'Flynn formed the legendary group Planxty with Donal Lunny, Christy Moore and Andy Irvine. He has made over 50 recordings, including, most recently, *Out To Another Side*, *The Given*

Note, *The Piper's Call* and *The Poet and the Piper*, a collaboration with Nobel Laureate Seamus Heaney.

- **Celtic Fever - a lecture by Sir Andrew Motion** Thursday, June 23rd at 8pm: Admission €10 *To Book:* www.nli.ie
Andrew Motion, poet, novelist and biographer, presided as Poet Laureate of the United Kingdom from 1999 to 2009. He has been awarded the Arvon/Observer Prize, the John Llewellyn Rhys Prize and the Dylan Thomas Prize. In this special event, Sir Andrew will look at the influence of Yeats on the poetry of Philip Larkin.
- **One Day Immersion Course with Dr Gerard Dineen: THE POETRY OF W.B. YEATS: MEMORIES & PARAGONS** Friday, June 24th 9.30am - 5.30pm with lunch-break
Places Limited / Booking Essential / Cost €25 *To Book:* www.nli.ie
Designed for the interested amateur as well as for lovers of poetry and literature, this year's immersion course takes a fresh look at Yeats's poetry. The poems to be considered will fall into two categories: those in which Yeats is remembering people and those that feature paragons worthy of emulation. Participants will be given the opportunity to share their interpretations.

EXHIBITIONS

***Discover Your National Library: Explore, Reflect, Connect* FREE**

Celebrate Ireland's rich history and heritage with the free multimedia exhibition *Discover Your National Library at 2/3 Kildare Street*, which brings you some of our most precious treasures, and allows you to hear from the curators who take care of them.

A new selection of treasures is now on display in *Discover*, including 700 year-old manuscripts, 19th century eviction photographs, a letter from war artist William Orpen, illustrations from some of Ireland's best illustrators of children's books, and a special display on our "throw-away treasures". This phase of the exhibition, which runs through 2011, includes a special focus on the history of the Irish Texts Society.

Free public tour: Tuesdays at 2.30pm starting 3 May.

***Tall Tales & Deadly Drawings* FREE**

Kids of all ages will love our colourful display in the Library's main hall, *Tall Tales and Deadly Drawings*, featuring Irish children's books and amazing illustrations from our collection of drawings. Get involved when you visit - leave us a magic leaf telling us about your own favourites, and watch out for characters from the exhibition as you explore the Library! The display will be on view throughout 2011.

***Yeats: the Life and Works of William Butler Yeats* FREE**

This award-winning exhibition is a must see for all Yeats fans.

Free guided tour available on Wednesdays at 1pm.

***Dublin Institute of Technology BA Photography Graduate Exhibition* FREE**

The 2011 BA Photography Graduate Exhibition at the National Photographic Archive in Temple Bar features the diverse photographic projects of 23 final year students. The exhibition showcases the best of emerging talent in Irish contemporary photography

Opening Reception: Tuesday, June 7 at 6:30 pm.

Exhibition runs from June 4-26.

NUI Maynooth Library events

Teaching and Learning Showcase

The Library at NUI Maynooth exhibited five posters in the NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase, organised by the Centre for Teaching and Learning, on May 12 2011. The posters showcased library teaching and learning innovations. Library posters covered the following topics:

M.A. in Historical Archives: A Library/Department of History Collaborative Teaching Project

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase May 2011

Title: M.A. in Historical Archives: A Library/Department of History Collaborative Teaching Project

Subject: Archival Studies

Overview of Innovation:

- Direct access to specialists and their facilities
- Multi-disciplinary approach
- Design and implementation of specifically tailored course modules

How it worked:

- Teaching in the Russell Library, John Paul III Library, Conservation Lab, and OPW/NUI Maynooth Archive and Research Centre at Castletown
- Bringing together expertise from Library, Archives and Conservation staff in association with the History Department
- Modules were planned and taught by Library staff on preservation management, the tradition and organisation of print, making information available, and leadership & project management

Lessons learned:

- Importance of good planning and communication
- Effectiveness of small group teaching for specialist subjects
- Recognition of the benefits of collaborative teaching
- Pivotal that teaching is focused on student needs and understanding

Contact: library.information@nui.ie
<http://lib.library.nui.ie>

Second-Level Information Literacy Support (SLILS)

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase May 2011

Title: Second-Level Information Literacy Support (SLILS)

Subject: Information Literacy for Second-Level Students

Overview of Innovation:

In keeping with Objective 4 of the Library Strategic Plan To continue to seek essential and valued development at local, regional, national and international level by providing an inclusive library and information service.

The SLILS developed as a outreach programme with Maynooth Post Primary Schools to enhance Information Literacy Skills.

How it worked:

Hands on information sessions with 2nd year and leaving certificate classes covering:

- > Sourcing relevant information
- > Referencing
- > Search strategies
- > Evaluation of sources and information
- > Avoiding Plagiarism
- > Developing critical thinking skills

Lessons learned:

- > Hands on sessions and group discussions worked well in engaging students and developing critical thinking skills
- > While technical skills were good it allowed us to establish there was a need for information literacy in Second-Level Schools
- > This programme has clear benefits for students progression to third level education and the work place
- > Preparing the programme and working within a school timetable proved challenging
- > Allow more time than you think to develop the programme

Contact: [Clairin Outlet \(Ext. 6151\) & Elaine Bean \(Ext. 5445\)](mailto:Clairin.Outlet@nui.ie)
<http://lib.library.nui.ie>

Designing & delivering an accredited information literacy module

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase May 2011

Title: Designing & delivering an accredited information literacy module

Subject: Using ICT for Research & Learning

Overview of Innovation:

Designed, delivered and assessed by the Library, this is the first accredited information literacy module offered by a Library in the Republic of Ireland

How it worked:

Module = part of the BA in Local & Community Studies – a modular degree for mature students in dual locations: Maynooth & Kilkenny

24 hour module: 18hrs face to face contact + 6 hrs online

Class = Lecture + hands-on practice/exercises

Online activity = Moodle material + quizzes + class forum

Assessments x4: Catalogue, Referencing, Database, Bibliography

Lessons learned:

Recognition that mature students have different levels of IT skills to other students. The need to deliver training appropriate to the skills/experience levels of participants. Richness of collaborating with an academic department. In this case Adult Education, in developing students' knowledge and skills. The increasing role of the Librarian as Lecturer and the need for appropriate skills

Contact: [Malread McQuaid & Rachel Hynes](mailto:Malread.McQuaid@nui.ie)
<http://lib.library.nui.ie/>

MyRI (Measuring your Research Impact)

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase May 2011

Title: MyRI (Measuring your Research Impact)
<http://www.ndi.ie/myri/>

Subject: Understanding Bibliometrics

Overview of Innovation:

MyRI is an open access books to support bibliometric training and awareness. It is a collaborative project between 4 academic libraries – NUI Maynooth, DCU, UCD, UCC & DCU. NUI Maynooth contributors included the Library, the Department of Geography (Briana Foley) and the City Centre Library of Research. It was funded by the NUIR LInCS 2010 Programme.

How it worked:

- Online training developed (3 modules) with introductory overview
- Virtual mentoring
- E-books created to support course and research strategy
- Training and Presentation Materials (workshops, lesson plans, posters)
- Tailored materials for Computer Science and Geography
- Content can be adapted to suit the context - Reusable Learning Objects

Lessons learned:

- Greater understanding of bibliometric tools – Web of Science, Scopus and Publish or Perish
- There is a need for increased awareness of bibliometrics locally and nationally
- The value of sharing expertise
- The need to promote an understanding of the advantages and disadvantages of bibliometrics

Contact: [Clairin Quinn, \(Ext. 6151\)](mailto:Clairin.Outlet@nui.ie)
<http://lib.library.nui.ie/>

Library Information Skills Tutorials (LIST)

NUI Maynooth Teaching and Learning Showcase May 2011

Title: LIST

Subject: Library Information Skills Tutorials (LIST)

Overview of Innovation:

Based on enquiries received from library users, a series of tutorials were put in place. Sessions last 30 minutes and are limited for 15 minutes post the hour to allow students attend between lectures. Initially this was run over the first weeks of term but LIST has now been extended to run through the academic year.

How it worked:

- Series of 30 minutes sessions
- Initially pre-arranged booked, now they are walk-in
- Topics cover essential covered library related topics
 - Library Catalogues, Catalogue & Reading Lists, Electronic Resources
 - Avoiding Plagiarism, Referencing
- Expanded to include University Departments including:
 - Computer Centre, Centre for Teaching & Learning, Access Office, Career Development Office

Lessons learned:

- Feedback has been very positive from other departments and University Departments
- Sessions in a single first semester are best attended
- Walk-in sessions work better than pre-booked sessions
- Most topics given by other University Departments are very well attended
- Content needs to be continually reviewed

Contact: [Elaine Bean \(Ext. 6445\)](mailto:Elaine.Bean@nui.ie)
or any member of the Library Training Team
<http://lib.library.nui.ie>

Speaking at the launch of the event, Deputy University President Jim Walsh spoke of the key role the NUI Maynooth library plays as an innovator in the teaching and learning process.

Seachtain na Gaeilge

Bhí Seachtain na Gaeilge á cheiliúradh ag an leabharlann in Ollscoil na hÉireann, Má Nuad le taispeántas oibreacha seamhnacha d'fhoclóirí agus de staraí cáiliúil na hÉireann, Pádraig Ó Duinnín, ón gcúigiú go dtí an seachtú lá déag de mhí an Mhárta i mbliana. Bhí ábhair go raibh páirt lárnáigh acu i bhforbairt agus in oideachas na Gaeilge tríd an chéad seo caite san áireamh sa taispeántas seo, dar teideal, “Pádraig Ó Duinnín (1860-1934) Scoláire agus Foclóirí”.



Thuill Ó Duinnín an teideal “fear an fhoclóra” i gcuid mhór mar gheall ar nádúr sheamhnaigh a fhoclóir Gaeilge-Bearla (Foclóire Gaedhilge agus Béarla) a foilsíodh don chéad uair sa bhliain 1904. Ba iad na mórshaothair a bhí clúdaithe sa taispeántas seo ná na heagráin den Fhoclóire Gaedhilge agus Béarla ó 1904 agus 1927 chomh maith leis an leagan cruinn a bhí foilsithe i gcóir úsáid na scoileanna i 1922. Bhí úrscéal Uí Dhuinnín “Cormac Ua Conaill” (1905) agus “Filidhe Móra Chiarraige” (1929) le feiceáil chomh maith.

Oral History Network of Ireland



A major step forward for oral history in Ireland was heralded recently with the formation of a national organisation dedicated to co-ordinating and strengthening the work of oral history practitioners and groups across the country. The Oral History Network of Ireland is supported by some of the leading oral historians and organisations in the country. It will be formally launched at a major international conference to be held in the Parade Tower of Kilkenny Castle on 16/17 September 2011.

Oral history in Ireland has been practiced by many committed individuals and groups for centuries. Embracing practitioners both at community level and within the Academy, and extending to Ireland, North and South, the Oral History Network of Ireland represents an exciting new departure. For the first time in Ireland, a unified network of practitioners is emerging: this will provide a long overdue opportunity for oral historians to pool resources, share information about best international practice and, more importantly, to identify issues relating to the preservation and promotion of Ireland’s oral heritage.

There has been a major growth over the last number of years in the area of oral history and tradition with community groups and individuals across Ireland making significant efforts to record the oral heritage of their area. Many librarians and heritage officers throughout the country have contributed significantly to this development. The evidence suggests that there is a need for support at all organisational levels for individuals and groups practicing oral history in Ireland. The conference in September aims to seriously and comprehensively discuss these issues and to begin to address them in an inclusive and hopefully decisive way by providing a forum where people can seek and share advice on best practice.

The founding of the Oral History Network of Ireland is a very significant initiative which will facilitate the voluntary interchange of ideas, experience and expertise between people using living memory as a key historical source. One of the main purposes of the September conference is to establish the position of oral history in Ireland and to ascertain how best to advance its cause. Librarians would be particularly welcome to participate in this discussion. The group aim to establish contact with a view to supporting and encouraging anyone interested in the preservation of Ireland’s oral heritage and invite interested parties to email oralhistorynetworkireland@gmail.com.

News from the Royal Irish Academy

Exhibitions: Our new exhibition – Medieval Irish Manuscript Treasures – will run from June-September. The exhibition will support the XIVth International Congress of Celtic Studies which will take place at NUI, Maynooth, 1st-5th August. The library will facilitate group exhibition visits on demand, 2nd-5th August.

During Heritage Week, 22-26 August, the library will facilitate exhibition visits each day at 11.00 a.m. and on Thursday, 25th August, 1.05 pm., renowned calligrapher Tim O'Neill will speak about *Quills, inks and vellums: practical aspects of manuscript production*. (All events are free).

An exhibition based on the Academy's wonderful *Holiday Pamphlet Collection* will run from October to December, entitled *From Cromwell to Cholera: A history of Ireland from the pamphlet collection of Charles Haliday*. There will be a lecture series and publication to accompany this exhibition. Check www.ria.ie for further details.

Touring exhibitions: The *Mapping Urban Ireland* display panels will shortly go on tour to several county library services. For further information or to book this exhibition, please contact: Dr Bernadette Cunningham, 01-6090620, or b.cunningham@ria.ie.

To book other touring exhibitions, (1) 'My gentle harp': *Thomas Moore's Irish melodies*; (2) *Praeger, Darwin and the Clare Island Surveys*, contact library@ria.ie or phone Petra Schnabel on 01-6090620.

Audio guide: A recently produced audio guide to the Royal Irish Academy is accessible for download from <http://www.ria.ie/library/inside-no--19-dawson-street.aspx>. Our partner, Mary Mulvihill of Ingenious Ireland, has designed a snappy Introduction to the guide which will shortly be available on YouTube and our website.

Acquisitions: H.M. Queen Elizabeth II has donated a set of Richard Robert Madden's papers relating to his biography of Marguerite Gardiner, Lady Blessington (1789-1849). Madden (1798-1886), one-time Colonial Secretary to Western Australia, commissioner for liberated African slaves in Cuba, journalist in Portugal and renowned biographer of the United Irishmen, had a multifaceted life and career. His papers are held by the Academy and we are very pleased to complete them courtesy of the Royal Archives in Windsor.

Recent publication: The Irish Historic Towns Atlas's latest publication, *Reading the maps: a guide to the Irish Historic Towns Atlas* / Jacinta Prunty & H.B. Clarke is based on the first twenty-one published Irish town atlases and is specifically aimed towards teachers and users of the atlases from primary through to post-graduate students. Orders may be placed online via <http://www.ria.ie/Publications/Research-Project-Publications/Irish-Historic-Towns-Atlas/Reading-the-maps--a-guide-to-the-Irish-Historic-To.aspx>.



South Dublin Libraries

Serving the Traveller Community

South Dublin County is home to a very high proportion of Irish Traveller families. As part of its outreach work with marginalised communities, South Dublin Libraries is currently delivering an extensive programme of services to Travellers.

This work includes the delivery of a capsule library, support for homework clubs, literacy support, digital literacy, a major photographic exhibition entitled *Altered Images* by George Gmelch and a book entitled *Once Upon a Time in Tallaght: Tinker Tales and Traveller Stories* by Mervin Ennis.

A capsule library for Traveller families opened at Lynch's Park Community Centre in Clondalkin, in January 2011. This project (developed as part of the



Lynch's Park Capsule Library

Public Library Research fund) is being run as an inter-agency project in association with SDCC Traveller Accommodation Unit, CYC, Clondalkin Travellers' Development Group and Tallaght Travellers' Development Group. A Community Centre, adjacent to the new Traveller housing development at Lynch's Park, had remained unused for over a year. With the opening of the library it has now become a hub of activity with several agencies providing classes and information sessions for adult travellers and a homework club run by the Tallaght Traveller's Development Group. The work of the homework club is centred on the library which offers stock specific to the needs of the community - books, CDs, DVDs, a range of literacy material, and story bags for very young children.

The capsule library also offers high speed internet access via five PCs. A laptop with the library management system ensures that stock transactions are measured and tracked. In partnership with NALA, a literacy group meets each week in the library space.

The mobile library service now also delivers on a monthly basis, collections of books to four additional Traveller Community Centres, providing access to suitable reading material for the children. Support to the homework clubs which are run at each centre is provided by library staff. As part of over fifty regular mobile library stops, the mobile service visits the Traveller estate at Kishogue Park in Clondalkin each week. A reading initiative to improve the reading ability of the children is being delivered here and the Summer 2011 Reading Challenge will be delivered across all Traveller specific services.

The County Library in Tallaght is piloting a parent and toddler session for Traveller families and the public digital services are intensively used by teenage Travellers in particular. Whitechurch Library also offers literacy support to adult Travellers and there has been extensive use of the George Gmelch photographic collection by Travellers from across Ireland who are travelling to the library to research their family history.

Keeping the customers APPy

South Dublin Libraries, working in partnership with SORD Data Systems have introduced a South Dublin Libraries smartphone app for Android and iPhones. The app is available from the Android Market and will shortly be available from the Apple App Store. The app is also being developed for Windows 7 mobile phones which are beginning to be available in Ireland.

This application delivers instant access for customers to South Dublin Libraries at any time wherever they are. They can search the library catalogue, reserve books, CDs, DVDs, etc, and view and renew their loans in a smartphone-friendly app.

The app conveniently remembers borrower number and PIN for future use.

The app also gives access to South Dublin Libraries website 24/7 where customers can see what's on and search the libraries' online resources. The app is continuing to undergo customer testing and will be adapted in keeping with customer feedback.

Smartphone users who arrive at the regular South Dublin Libraries website are automatically presented with the smartphone-friendly website and catalogue.



South Dublin and SORD are currently building on this app with a staff stock purchasing tool which can be used by staff who are out purchasing stock in order to check stock levels, locations and last seen dates

of a title before purchase. The product is based on a smartphone and includes a BlueTooth barcode reader as input device to read ISBN and EAN barcodes.

In the pipeline also is a touch screen with RFID tag reader which can be located on the end of a stack or other convenient place where customers can bring a tagged stock item to find out more information about the title and read reviews before deciding to borrow the item.

Transition Year projects

Graphic novel project launches at the County Library Tallaght:

Drawn Together is a book consisting of two graphic novels created by Transition Year students from Firhouse Community College, Tallaght and Colaiste Bride Presentation Secondary School, Clondalkin between 2010-2011.

The project arose as a result of a partnership between South Dublin Public Library Service, Rua Red, NOISE South Dublin and South Dublin County Council's Art Office.

From October 2011-April 2011 students were given the opportunity to work with storyteller and writer Larry O' Loughlin, drama practitioner Stephen Jones and animator /graphic artist Maeve Clancy.

From a library viewpoint the goals of the project were to promote verbal and visual literacy among teenagers in South Dublin and introduce them to the art of storytelling and creative writing.

The students worked on the various aspects of their stories from October 2010-April 2011 and got the opportunity to work in a variety of venues (County Library Tallaght, Rua Red and their schools)

The finished product *Drawn Together* was launched by Mayor Cllr Marie Corr in County Library Tallaght on Monday 9th May.



Mayor Cllr. Marie Corr with the students

The event was a great success –all of the participating students enjoyed the experience and received a copy of the Graphic Novel to keep.

Drawn Together will be made available on South Dublin Public Library download zone @ www.southdublinlibraries.ie

Transition Year project, Clonmel Library

Encouraging teenagers to read has always been a challenging task and we have tried many different approaches with varying degrees of success. Last year we decided to involve a Secondary school targeting Transition Year students. The co-operation of the English teachers was essential to motivate and support the students. After an initial meeting with the teachers the thirty-six girls were invited to the library to become members and to take out their books.

The titles selected were *Red Sky in the Morning* by Elizabeth Laird and *Once* by Morris Gleitzman. Both books had themes of love, loss and hope in common, which gave the students plenty of scope when reviewing the novels. All the students were asked to read both and to present their responses in the library to conclude the project. The class and their teachers came to the library three times during the course of the project. At these visits the girls were also given library orientation, shown how to use reference sources and encouraged to use the PCs for research. The teachers liaised frequently with library staff letting them know how the girls were getting on.



Transition Year students at Clonmel Library

Finally, in April the students came to the library to present their reactions to the novels. They presented book reviews, art work, poetry, sculptures and one group told the story of *Once* through music. All this work was displayed for a month. The class was very enthusiastic about the project and said how much they enjoyed it. They went so far as to ask if this would be done again in the school

with 1st and 2nd Years. The teachers too were delighted with its success. They mentioned that the project was discussed at Parent/Teacher meetings; some of the parents had read the novels too!!

Due to the enormous success of this venture the library intends involving Transition Year students from three of the Second Level Schools in Clonmel from Oct 2011 to April 2012 and 1st and 2nd years in Presentation Convent as suggested by the teachers themselves.

Letter from school to Ms. Anne Marie Mullins, Clonmel Library.

We are very grateful to you for organising the reading initiative with our Transition Year students. Students are delighted that their work is currently on display in the library and I'm happy to report that many of our students are now frequent visitors to, and users of, Clonmel library. This project has resulted in reluctant readers being drawn into the world of reading. I enclose some of the comments of our students.

- *"After the school-library reading programme, I am happy to say I am now more inclined to pick up a book instead of watching some telly. Sometimes I even go to bed a few minutes earlier to read my book."*
- *"I think that the reading initiative between the library and the school is fantastic."*
- *"I think this was a very successful project and that it should definitely be introduced to the Junior Cycle in our school, i.e. First and Second Years as well as continued with Transition Year students"*

Book now for IAML Conference at Trinity College Dublin, 24–29 July 2011

The booking deadlines for the IAML conference at TCD are now approaching: standard rates are available until **Monday 13th June** (extended from 30th May); and the final date for booking (at higher rates) is **Monday 27th June**.



Full details are available at www.iamldublin2011.info. The conference is open to all: non-members of IAML will be very welcome. A range of attendance options is available. Delegates may register for the full conference, for a half week (Sunday to Tuesday or Wednesday to Friday), or for a single day or selected days. Bookings can be made through the secure online system linked from the Registration page of the conference website. Alternatively, a printed booking form can be obtained from the Bookings Secretary: Catherine Ferris, DIT Music & Drama Library, Rathmines, Dublin 6; phone (01) 402 3461; email catherine.ferris@dit.ie.

The preliminary programme (available for download) outlines a wide variety of presentations scheduled throughout the week, and there is plenty to interest delegates from all library sectors. In addition to the conference sessions there will be an exciting social and cultural programme, including receptions, concerts and excursions.

For further information please contact Roy Stanley, Trinity College Library, College Street, Dublin 2; phone (01) 896 1156; email rstanley@tcd.ie

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Alun Bevan, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, 53-54 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2.

abevan@librarycouncil.ie; +353 (0)1-678 4905; +353 (0)1-676 6721

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2011 has been designated European Year of Volunteering.