

# IRISH LIBRARY NEWS

Issued by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna (The Library Council)

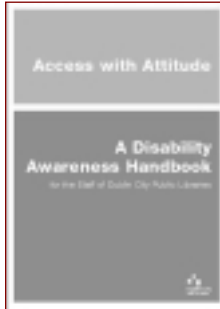
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## MAKING LIBRARY ACCESS HAPPEN

Mr. Dick Roche, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government has announced funding for 2005 totalling €15 million to local authorities under the National Disability Strategy. The extra funding has been introduced to kick start a multi annual programme of initiatives by local authorities under the National Disability Strategy. The funding will be used for the provision of authority wide disability awareness training and initiation of the preparation of accessibility audits, adaptation of information systems and equipment for people with special needs, providing and improving, where needed, accessibility to public buildings, roads and pavements, parks, amenities, heritage sites and other public areas, including libraries, for which local authorities have responsibility. Included in this sum is an allocation of €25,000 to An Chomhairle Leabharlanna to enable it to expand its programme of initiatives contained in the report *Making access happen* to improve access for people with disabilities to local libraries. An Chomhairle will be extending its *Library access / Making access happen* initiative to nine authorities (Clare, Donegal, Limerick City, Longford, Meath, Roscommon, South Dublin, Tipperary and Wicklow), following on from the success of Phase 1 which was based on Cavan, Kildare and Mayo County Libraries and Dublin City Libraries and Archives.

Dublin City Public Libraries (DCPL) have produced *Access with attitude: a disability awareness handbook for the staff of Dublin City Public Libraries* as an outcome of the Reasonable Accommodation Project. It was further informed by the experiences and feedback from over 300 attendees at Disability Awareness Training sessions delivered by the DCPL RAG (Reasonable Accommodation Group) during 2004. This group continues and has become embedded in the DCPL working group structure, its status having transferred from pilot project to mainstream service status. Its present action plan ranges from the production of a plain language, illustrated guide, *How to Use the Library*, to progressing the formulation of inclusive focus groups for people with disabilities. Further details of An Chomhairle's project are available from Brendan Teeling (01-676 1167).



Copies of Library access and Making access happen area available from An Chomhairle Leabharlanna or may be downloaded from our website at: [www.librarycouncil.ie/publications](http://www.librarycouncil.ie/publications)

*Access with attitude* is available from Dublin City Library & Archive, 138 - 144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2.

## ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP AND LITERACY

The week beginning September 26th sees the start of National Adult Literacy Awareness Week (NALAW) 2005 with its theme of Active citizenship and literacy.

NALAW 2005 will focus on people working in the public, political and NGO sectors involved with activity citizenship. The intention is to assist them to deal more effectively and sensitively with 500,000 (OECD 1997) members of the public who have low literacy levels. NALAW will be raising the issue of literacy as a barrier to involvement in / and or understanding of:

- the political system - from voting to membership of a political party;
- major government funded organisations such health authorities and county councils;
- the role of statutory and regulatory organisations;
- voluntary sector - from volunteering to how they are funded and use their resources; and
- local communities - from residents associations to the role of community development organisations.

NALAW 2005 will specifically involve:

- a half-day national conference on the 30th September at the National College of Ireland.
  - the launch of 'Simply Put' - an interactive tool on how to use plain English;
  - the launch of 'Know your EU' - a guide to the EU for adult learners;
  - the production of printed promotional material (postcard and A4 poster) about the campaign; and
  - various media related announcements.
- Further information is available from Tommy Byrne, PRO, National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA), 76 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin 1. t:01 809 9195 (direct).

## PLR AND OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LEGISLATION FLAGGED

The Government has announced its intention to bring forward legislation to provide several new schemes covering intellectual property issues, including a Public Lending Right payments scheme for authors whose works are lent by Irish public libraries. The Government's exemption of public libraries from the implementation of earlier EU legislation on PLR brought it into conflict with the Commission. Following a full review of the situation, the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has now concluded that the early provision of a system of payments to authors is necessary to resolve the situation.

Other proposals included an artists' resale right payment scheme and measures aimed at tackling counterfeiting and piracy by enforcing intellectual property rights.

Announcing the plans on Monday 1st August, Minister for Trade and Commerce, Mr. Michael Ahern, T.D., said, 'The new schemes involve the responsibilities of several Ministers. Therefore, active inter-Departmental co-operation will be needed...' The Minister hoped to be in a position to bring the intended bill to the Oireachtas before the end of the year.

Representatives of the Irish Writers' Union are seeking to meet Enterprise Minister Micheal Martin T.D., to ensure that writers' interests are taken fully into account when PLR regulations are drawn up.

## THE SEPTEMBER PROJECT

This is a grassroots effort to encourage public events on freedom, democracy, and citizenship in libraries on or around September 11. *September Project* events are activities of reflection, discussion, and dialogue about the meaning of freedom, the role of information in promoting active citizenship, and the importance of literacy in making sense of the world around us. Events take place on September 11, on the weekend of September 11, or throughout the month of September. In other words, whenever it works best for your library and community. Libraries around the world are collaborating with organisations to host public and campus events, such as: displays about human rights and historical documents; talks and performances about freedom and cultural difference; and film screenings about issues that matter. Over 100 examples of events can be found at: <http://www.theseptemberproject.org/pastevents.htm>

For events tailored to a more academic audience, please visit: <http://www.lib.washington.edu/about/events/theseptemberproject> Currently, over 160 public, academic, school, and institute libraries in 13 countries are participating. You can view a map of all participating venues here:

<http://www.drizzle.com/%7Eklockner/cgi-bin/tsp/2005/map.cgi>  
If you plan to offer programs that explore these ideas, please sign up - it only takes a moment and places your library on the map of participants.  
Please visit:  
<http://www.drizzle.com/~klockner/cgi-bin/tsp/2005/venue.cgi>  
[www.theseptemberproject.org](http://www.theseptemberproject.org)  
English: <http://www.theseptemberproject.org/tsp.pdf>

## SURVEY OF ATTITUDES TOWARDS LIBRARIES IN GALWAY CITY

In a survey of attitudes toward libraries in Galway carried out by students of Lehigh University, Pennsylvania, a majority (87%) of respondents agreed that *My library is a community space for educational and cultural activities*. A slightly larger percentage of users (95%) versus non-users (80%) agreed with the statement. This figure, according to the researchers, suggests that the library's initiative to establish itself as a prominent community space has been successful even in the minds of those who do not use its resources.

To the statement *My library provides a comfortable setting and I enjoy spending time there*, 79% of all respondents agreed. 91% of library users supported this view, with 71% of non-users agreeing. In a question on non-users' attitudes toward reading and libraries, 81% of people who do not use a library regularly suggested that they feel comfortable in a public library, with 88% suggesting that they had previously been to a library and found that the library resources did meet their needs.

The findings are in line with the national public library-user survey conducted in 2002, which found that that over 80% of library users in Galway city and county consider the local library service to be good or very good, and 84% of users rated 'staff helpfulness' as very good.

The surveying team from Lehigh University were enrolled in the Irish Studies summer program at NUI Galway. They were working under the direction of Vincent G. Munley, Iacocca Professor of Business and Economics at Leigh University. It was one of three surveys which they carried out in cooperation with Galway City Council.

## SERVICE INDICATORS PUBLISHED

The first national set of service indicators for local authority services<sup>1</sup> have been presented to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government by the Local Government Management Services Board. This survey contains 42 checks against which local authority services are measured. Five of these relate to public libraries:

- Opening hours
  - Average number per week for full-time libraries
  - Average number per week for part-time libraries
- Number of registered members as a percentage of the local population
- Issues
  - Number of books issued per head of population
  - Other items issued per head of population
- Percentage of libraries that offer Internet access to the public
- Number of Internet sessions provided per 1,000 population.

The purpose of service indicators is to inform local management of levels of performance and to identify areas that may require review and / or additional resources. Their value increases over time as trends become apparent.

As authorities build up a databank over the years these indicators should be seen as providing vital management information at local level.

<sup>1</sup> *Service indicators in local authorities, 2004: report to the Minister for the Environment, Heritage & Local Government by the Local Government Management Services Board. (2004). The report can be downloaded from the Board's website at [www.lgmsb.ie](http://www.lgmsb.ie)*

## news & events

The Marian Finucane radio show's last book club programme for the season was broadcast live from **Monaghan County Library's** headquarters in Clones. Each month on the show, Marian invited members of book clubs/reading groups to be guest book reviewers on the programme. This month it was the Clones Book Club who reviewed *Shadow of the Wind* by Carlos Luis Zafon and *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson.

Deirdriú McQuaid, Assistant Librarian with Monaghan County Library Services describes the background to the day's events:

One does not realise the amount of preparatory work that goes into producing such a show until it is seen at firsthand. Library staff liaised with the programme researchers, producer and the participants on the show. ISDN lines and email facilities were put in place so that Marian could receive comments from the public during the show. The day before the broadcast, RTÉ technicians arrived at library headquarters with reels of cables, sound equipment, telephones, microphones and converted what is normally known as the stock room into a broadcasting studio.

On the day, despite the typical Irish weather, everyone involved, though nervous, was very upbeat and excited and raring to go! While the news headlines were being read, Marian briskly stepped her way up the winding stairs to the library headquarters and greeted everyone involved, as she took her seat and put on her headphones.

Marian began the show by speaking to John and Mary from the Knockatallon Development Company. The subject of conversation centred on the point that parts of the Knockatallon area are more northern than parts of Northern Ireland itself. With the closing of the border roads during the troubles, these areas experienced severe hardship both economically and socially, with businesses shutting down, community halls and centres left in dereliction as a result. So a committee of local people in the Knockatallon area got together to do something about their Old Hall and set about applying for funding to regenerate it and the area. As a result they now have the fabulous Slieve Beagh Tourism Centre, which has ensuite rooms, bar, restaurant and a function room.

In the next part of the show members of the Clones Book Club gave their views on the two selected books. The Clones Book Club was set up one and half years ago, with the help of the

Clones Community Forum Office. The Club meets once a month in a room in the Forum's office's on the Diamond, where the members review their selected books. A member of staff from the Clones library helps to get the selected books, poetry, reviews on selected books/authors and attends the meeting of the club. If you want to hear their views, just go Radio 1 on the RTÉ website [[www.rte.ie](http://www.rte.ie)] and select Marian Finucane.

The show ended with Sr. Celine, from the Castleblayney Arts and Community Centre speaking about the very exciting new Arts Centre in Castleblayney, which will also house the new



▲ *Marian Finucane (6th from left) with library staff*

Castleblayney Library. As time had run out, this conversation was brief and that was the end of show but before signing off, Marian announced the new opening hours for Clones library, which came into effect from the week beginning 30th May 2005.

Afterwards, the library staff in their usual form, put on a beautiful spread of tea/coffee and 'fussies'. Marian joined in with the staff and the participants of the show.

It was a great day for Monaghan County Library Services. So far, reaction to the programme has been positive and we hope that more programmes will follow.

A big go raibh míle maith againh to the Clones Book Club and the staff of library headquarters/Clones Branch Library.

Deirdriú McQuaid



**Clare County Library** recently completed its Tithe Applotment Books Transcription Project. The Tithe Applotment Books (TAB) were compiled between 1823 and 1837 in order to establish the amount landholders were required to pay towards the upkeep of the Church of Ireland. The taxable land in each parish was surveyed, giving the names of the occupiers of land in each townland, the acreage and class of land they held, and the amount of taxes (tithes) they were liable for. The original manuscript books are held in the National Archives in Dublin. The Tithe Applotment Books are an important pre-Famine source for family history and landholding patterns, but do not give information on the landless or those living in settlements. They also document the pre-Ordnance Survey townland names, many of which have now disappeared.

The Clare Tithe Applotment Books Transcription Project aimed to make the names of landholders and landlords listed in the Tithe Applotment Books for County Clare available online. The Project came about as a result of a discussion on the Clare mailing list of the *Rootsweb* genealogy website, where people interested in Clare genealogy were discussing possible ways of getting more Clare genealogical data online. An approach was made by Paddy Casey, a *Rootsweb* member, to Clare County Library in January 2004, which agreed to co-ordinate the project, under the management of Executive Librarians Maureen Comber and Anthony Edwards, assisted by Jackie Dermody and Ciara Barry. Clare County Library divided the parishes into manageable blocks. Volunteers were sought to transcribe copies of the original documents. They were asked to transcribe data in blocks of townlands and could select which lot of townlands they wished to transcribe. Within four months of the commencement of the project, all lots had been assigned. Guidelines for volunteers were developed by the library, and by feedback from the earliest set of volunteers. Data returned by volunteers (in a variety of electronic formats) was checked, converted to HTML and posted on the library's website by library staff. A record of the progress of the project was maintained on the website, and a chronological guide to posted parishes was also maintained. The final two parishes were uploaded on the 4th July 2005.

The response to the library's call for volunteers was overwhelming, and extremely encouraging. It showed what can be achieved in a short space of time by co-operation between volunteers from all parts of the globe, and a public institution such as Clare County Library. The Tithe Applotment Books for County Clare would not now be available online, free of charge, without this co-operation. It is indeed an achievement to be proud of for all concerned. Clare County Library is extremely grateful to all who volunteered to participate in this project. Go raibh mile maith agaibh go léir.

Amongst its activities the **Irish Hospice Foundation** engages in education and awareness raising about hospice, death, dying and bereavement. As part of the Foundation's current outreach programme it provides a number of recommended booklists for the general public and for professionals who work with bereaved people.

On September 8th there will be a formal launch of the Foundation's reading list and loan service:

- Four reading lists for the general public on *Death and bereavement*, *Bereaved by suicide*, *Talking to children about loss and death*, and *Stories for young children about loss and death*, and
- Three lists of books aimed at professionals on *Death and bereavement for professionals*, *Death, bereavement and suicide for general practitioners and Loss and grief in the workplace*.

The books may also be borrowed from the Thérèse Brady Library from September 8, 05 (administration and postage cost). The service will be available to residents of the Republic of Ireland only. For more information contact Caroline Pfeifer, Irish Hospice Foundation, Morrison Chambers, 32 Nassau St., Dublin 2. t.: 01 6793188, f: 01 6730040. e: caroline@hospice-foundation.ie



Information may also be downloaded from [www.hospice-foundation.ie](http://www.hospice-foundation.ie).

To celebrate the long-awaited publication of the new Harry Potter novel *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* by J. K. Rowling, **Wicklow County Council Library Service**, in association with Bray Summerfest, held a huge late-night party in Bray Library on Friday 15th July for fifty lucky people. To win an invitation to the party hundreds of children from round the county entered a draw in their local library to attend the party and be the first to borrow a copy of the new book. Fifty names were drawn with the help of Councillor John Ryan so that on the fateful night the library was packed with the winners and their families, nearly two hundred party-goers in all.

County Librarian Brendan Martin was interviewed live on Sky News surrounded by excited witches and wizards of every shape and form.



▲ *Pat Speight*

Minister Dick Roche T. D. launched the party with a rousing welcome to all. Excitement mounted as Pat Speight, one of Ireland's best known storytellers, wove tales of magic to create the atmosphere of wizardry in the library which had been transformed into Hogwarts for the night by enthusiastic library staff. Pat was followed by the appropriately named magician, Alex McGonigle who enthralled the audience with his baffling tricks. As midnight neared anticipation grew as the seconds were counted down live on East Coast FM. A huge cheer erupted as Pat Speight took the stage again and read the long-awaited first chapter live on radio. The best part for the winners came as each of their names were called out and they claimed their copy of the new Harry Potter book. Happy readers left the party looking forward to a weekend of discovering Harry's new adventures.



▲ *Alex McGonigle*

**South Dublin County Library:** *Computers for the terrified* is the brainchild of branch librarian Breda Bollard who put together a programme of computer classes for those who had only ever seen a mouse under the table! Breda works alongside the WEB (Whitechurch-Edmondstown-Ballyboden) project in Whitechurch Library and is a very able facilitator of the local history group there. The group meets every Thursday to share their memories of their community in times past and it soon became obvious to Breda that the wealth of local history information available was not being fully tapped into with the time and resources available. Information technology was the only way to go and hence the idea of *Computers for the terrified* was born.

Breda, who has an MA in Adult Education, teaches the course herself and has ensured that it receives FETAC accreditation.

An awards ceremony for up to 40 people took place in Whitechurch Library on Thursday 14th July where certificates were presented by Minister Seamus Brennan. The nation's media descended on the library as word went round that the most mature lady who would receive a certificate would turn 99 years old the next day.

Dubbed by the media as 'the country's oldest student' Mrs. White took it all in her stride as she sat giving interviews for two and a half hours. At one stage the whole of Whitechurch Library was filled with reporters, photographers, and cameramen.

Margaret Lennox who was a sprightly 92 as she collected her certificate didn't get a look in, she was far too young. Sheila starred in all the major television and radio news bulletins that evening, she was pictured in the newspapers next day, both broadsheet and tabloid. Radio shows like Joe Duffy's *Liveline* and John Creedon's show ran with the story and Lyric FM made her their 'Woman of the Day'



▲ *Breda Bollard and Margaret Lennox*

The fourth annual week of the FUSED South Dublin County Arts Festival took place from July 18th to July 24th inclusive. Building on the success of former years the programme included a feast of visual arts and new media, literature, music, performance and cinema. The festival celebrates the best from local, national and international artists and performers. It is spread over seven days throughout urban and rural South Dublin County featuring some 25 events.

A mixture of intercultural art, crafts, dance, cultural evenings, games and drama took place in the local branch libraries. A highlight of the festival was 'Magic of India' which kept both children and adults enthralled with juggling, puppetry and magic. (see picture). FUSED is presented by South Dublin Arts Office and Library Service.



**Roscommon County Library** now provides optical scanning facilities in six of its libraries and almost all of the staff in the six libraries have been trained in the use of the scanners. At the launch in Castlerea library County Librarian, Richie Farrell, commented 'The training and upskilling of our staff to deliver these services is an integral part of the process and I want to pay tribute to the staff for the way they have embraced these new initiatives.'

The official launch of *Inspiration*, the art exhibition of the Western Region of FARA (Federation of Active Retired Association) took place in Roscommon County Library on May 30th. The exhibition, which consisted of 180 paintings in total, was shown in Roscommon and Ballaghaderreen libraries where members of the public were invited to vote on their favourite. The winning artist at each site was awarded the People's Prize.

Ballaghaderreen library also hosted the launch of two books, *Under the Shadows of Summerhill* by Máire McDonnell Garvey and a re-issue of a *Collection of Traditional Irish Dance Music* by the late P.J. Giblin. Master of ceremonies at the launch was Richie Farrell who said that such events were an important part of the library calendar of events, and were a contribution to community social life.

## vacancies

### ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the above post.

Applicants must:

- (i) On or before the latest date for the receipt of completed application forms for the office, possess a recognised qualification in librarianship
- (ii) have satisfactory training in, or experience of, library work
- (iii) possess a sufficient knowledge of Irish and English to enable him/her to perform the duties of the office in both languages.

Application forms and particulars are available, on request, from: Martin Maher, County Librarian, Tipperary Libraries, Castle Avenue, Thurles, Co. Tipperary or at [www.tipperarylibraries.ie](http://www.tipperarylibraries.ie) t: (0504) 21555; f: (0504) 23442; e: [jobs@tipperarylibraries.ie](mailto:jobs@tipperarylibraries.ie)

Completed application forms must be lodged with the above not later than 4.00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18th, 2005.

*County Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee is an equal opportunities employer*

## suppliers update

HSE Eastern Region has chosen the **Hyperion Digital Media Archive** sub-system to add to its Unicorn Collection Management System. The Hyperion Digital Media Archive sub-system will be installed under the Windows operating system on the library's Windows Server which currently runs the Unicorn system. Hyperion is already used by a number of special libraries in Europe, however this will be the first time it has been used in the context of Health Publications in Ireland and has the potential of becoming a national resource available on the World Wide Web.

**Sirsi** is seeking images for its 2006 edition of the annual 12-month SirsiDyNix client calendar. So if you want you to send in a special image or two of your library, Sirsi will consider one or more of your entries for inclusion in the calendar. Past selections have included nighttime exterior shots with dramatic lighting, regal staircases, impressive domes and arches, and striking interior areas awash with sunlight. From contemporary and glass, to quaint and snow-covered - each library has its unique charm. The 2006 SirsiDyNix Client Calendar will be shared with SirsiDyNix users all over the world. \* Photos must be of high-resolution, professional quality and arrive at SirsiDyNix by September 30, 2005.

- Please provide a 50-word or less description of your photo, including the name of your institution, the name of the building (if different from name of institution), city, state/province, and country. Also include any credits for the photos.
- Photos are not returnable and may be either an 8 x 10 glossy or in digital format at 300dpi as in TIFF or JPG format on CD. Please note that lower-resolution images typically used on Web sites lack necessary quality for printing.
- Libraries whose photos are selected for the calendar will need to grant SirsiDyNix full use of the image and agree not to hold SirsiDyNix responsible for any charges incurred by its publication. Send your library's photograph and description to the attention of Phil Green, SirsiDyNix Calendar Photos, 101 Washington Street SE, Huntsville, AL 35801-4827.





## conferences

This year, as a one off to mark 150 years of public libraries in Ireland, the **Public Libraries Section** of the Library Association of Ireland will be joining forces with the County and City Librarians Section to stage a joint training and development conference. The theme is *Innovation in Public Libraries* and we are currently calling on all our public library colleagues to suggest suitable projects which may be highlighted at the joint conference.

The conference will take place in the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare - a location chosen because it was in Ennis that the first public libraries legislation was signed in 1855. Conference dates are Wednesday, November 2nd to Friday November 4th. Further details will be publicised as they become available. If any one has any queries, please contact Brenda Frawley at the addresses and numbers below.

The *George Harding Perfect Parody* competition is being run in conjunction with the conference. This competition is sponsored by Harding Books and has many excellent prizes. It is open to all library staff and winners will be presented with their prizes at the conference banquet by special guest and competition judge, Val McDermid.

So, forget the Booker, ignore the IMPAC, cast all thought of the Richard and Judy *Book of the Year* from your minds and go for the big one!

The rules are simplicity itself:

1. The competition is only open to library staff (past or present)
2. You must write the opening paragraph of a crime novel – working title *Murder at the Library* in the style of your favourite (or least favourite) crime writer
3. As brevity is the soul of wit – the briefer the entry, the better chance of winning
4. All entries must include the following words – *Candelabra; Stack; Dewey; Letters; Benchmark; Remontado*

An award of such distinction needs distinguished judges so the cream of crime fiction have agreed to adjudicate. The judges will include Val McDermid (award-winning author of *Wire in the Blood* and many other critically-lauded crime novels), Colin Dexter (creator of the legendary Inspector Morse), Simon Brett (writer, actor, producer and broadcaster), Mike Ripley (twice winner of the CWA Last Laugh Award, journalist and critic) and, of course, the competition's benevolent benefactor Mr. George Harding himself.

First Prize - €100 with 100 paperback books for the library of the winner's choice

Second Prize - €50 plus 50 paperback books

Third Prize - €25 plus 25 paperback books

Mystery Prize - As befits the genre, there will be a further mystery prize, details for which the world is not yet ready...

Please send you entries to Brenda Frawley, c/o Dooradoyle Library, Dooradoyle Road, Limerick (e-mail [bfrawley@limerickcoco.ie](mailto:bfrawley@limerickcoco.ie)) before Friday, 16th September, 2005.

<sup>1</sup> *Note from the Editor: although Ennis claims the honour of being the first town in the country to adopt the Public Libraries (Ireland) Act of 1855 (the ratepayers of the town offering their unanimous support for it at a public meeting on October 12 of that year), Cork City is generally regarded as being the first city to adopt the Act (although the City's library wasn't opened until 1892).*

*The first library to be actually established after adoption of the Act was Dundalk (1858)*

Sources:

[http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/library/developments/pages\\_of\\_his\\_tory.htm](http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/library/developments/pages_of_his_tory.htm)

<http://www.corkcity.ie/ourservices/rac/library/development.shtml>  
Brendan Grimes, *Irish Carnegie libraries*. (Irish Academic Press, 1998) p.20.

*The Editor will only consider letters on this subject for publication which arrive in standard, A4 Post approved envelopes. No Oxo tins, please.*

*Expectations and experiences: children, childhood and children's literature*: the IRSC (International Research Society for Children's Literature) is holding its 17th biennial congress in Trinity College, Dublin from 13 August to 17 August. This is the first time the congress of this leading international society which encourages the study of children's literature has been held in Ireland.

The keynote speakers are Declan Kiberd who will talk about *Childhood and Ireland*, Anne Higonnet who will raise questions about controversial images of childhood, and poets Michael Rosen and Paul Muldoon who will discuss poetry and children, and read from their own work.

The theme, *Expectations and experiences: children, childhood and children's literature* provoked a great deal of interest in its sub-themes which range from childhood and families, aspects of morality in and about children's literature, depictions of children and childhood in books and other media, and theories of child development and play related to writing for young people, to considerations of oral culture and traditional tales.

Delegates will have an opportunity to hear presentations from over 200 speakers from more than 30 countries on topics which include the romantic child in 19th century literature, Japanese picture books, World War II and writing for children, multiculturalism and children's books, Irish publishing for young people in the 19th and 20th centuries, the work of a wide range of authors and illustrators from many countries, and issues concerning writing and publishing poetry for young people today.

In addition, there will be panel presentations which will focus on the work of Irish picture book artists, issues related to translating children's books, the realities of depicting family life in writing for young people in the 21st century, Hans Christian Andersen, and writing and publishing poetry for a young audience.

Attending an IRSC congress provides a unique opportunity to listen to and to meet children's literature experts and enthusiasts from around the world. The Dublin congress promises to be a stimulating and enjoyable experience, and to encourage members of LAI and other local organizations to attend. Day delegates are being offered a special day rate of £95 per day on 14, 15, 16 and 17 August.

This includes opportunities to attend all sessions, tea/coffee, delegate pack and attendance at the receptions on Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th.

CILIP's Public Libraries Group, generously supported by Talis and 2CQR, has three, all expenses paid, sponsored places for the Public Libraries Authorities Conference in the Chesford Grange Hotel, Kenilworth, Warwickshire on 19th-21st October 2005. To win one of these all you have to do is explain, in not more than 300 words, why winning the award would make a difference to your personal development.

The competition is open to members of the PLG who are working as middle managers in a public library. Entries should be sent to: Pamela Tulloch, The Mitchell Library, North Street, Glasgow G3 7DN; fax: 0141 287 2936 or email [pamela.tulloch@cls.glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:pamela.tulloch@cls.glasgow.gov.uk) by **31st August 2005**

The conference will feature:

- David Lammy, Minister for Culture, Sir Sandy Bruce-Lockhart of the LGA, Dan Walters, President of the US Public Libraries Group
- In a cross domain event colleagues will explore library, archive and museum successes and how ILFA can evidence outcomes
- Demos, the National Youth Agency, the National Literacy Association and other agencies on the concept and value of "entitlement". What are people's aspirations? What will libraries deliver?
- Major players in national broadcast media and publishing on the big new partnerships – Joanna Prior [Publicity Director, Penguin], colleagues [tbc] from BBC Learning and BBC Radio 4
- Future library leaders on their vision for the next decade
- A dedicated debate for councillors with lead responsibility for libraries

PLUS plenty of time for discussion, debate and decision AND ... bring a book to give away – for the biggest bookswap in history!

Details:

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/specialinterestgroups/bysubject/pla2005/default.htm>

## offers

The Department of Foreign Affairs has a number of *EUROPA Yearbooks* [misc. volumes: 1972-2000] to offer on donation. The volumes available are: 1972 (vol. 1), 1976 and '77 (vols. 1 and 2), 1978 (vol. 1), 1979-1986 incl. (vols. 1 and 2), 1987 (vol. 1), 1988, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1999 and 2000 (vols. 1 and 2). Anyone interested in any/some/all of same should contact Orla Gillen at the Department of Foreign Affairs on tel: 4082836, fax: 4785937 or email: orla.gillen@dfa.ie

## career opportunities

Librarian for **Architectural** practices. Excellent opportunity to own your own business. Owner retiring. Contact Pam O'Neill on 087 686 4408.

## calendar of events



### august 2005

21-26th *Digital libraries à la carte: choices for the culture* - modular, international digital library course. 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/](http://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.

### september 2005

15th *Copyright for corporate libraries and information centres* - seminar organised by the Academic and Special Libraries Section of the LAI, National Museum of Ireland, Collins Barracks, Dublin 7. €50 LAI members (€60 non-members). Further details available from Aine O'Connor at [aine.oconnor@arup.com](mailto:aine.oconnor@arup.com).

16-18th *Pushing the boundaries: cross cultural and cross sectoral working* - CILIP Youth Libraries Group Annual Conference, Loughborough University. See the Youth Libraries Group section of the CILIP website: [www.cilip.org.uk](http://www.cilip.org.uk).

16-20th *Libraries without walls 6: Evaluating the distributed delivery of library services* - an international conference organised by CERLIM - The Centre for Research in Library and Information Management to be held in Lesvos. The total cost is £450 sterling, which includes registration and attendance at the Conference, accommodation for four nights with breakfast, lunches and refreshments during the three conference days, and two evening dinners. For full details of the conference, including the programme, venue details, and FAQs, visit the Conference website at: <http://www.cerlim.ac.uk/conf/lww6/>. All enquiries should be addressed to the organisers: Email: [LWW-6@mmu.ac.uk](mailto:LWW-6@mmu.ac.uk) Tel: ++44 (0)161 247 6142 Fax : ++44 (0) 161 247 6979 For details of previous conferences visit the CERLIM website at <http://www.cerlim.ac.uk/conf/>

26th - National Adult Literacy Awareness Week (NALAW) 2005 *Active citizenship and literacy*. Further information is available from Tommy Byrne, PRO, National Adult Literacy Agency (NALA), 76 Lower Gardiner Street, Dublin 1. t:01 809 9195 (direct).

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Please submit a Curriculum Vitae, to include the names and contact details of three referees, as application on or before 22 September 2005 to : Hon. Secretary, Library Association of Ireland, 53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2.

30th-8th Oct. *Positive Ageing Week*. Details: Age Action Ireland,30/31 Lower Camden Street, Dublin 2. t: 01-4756989; f: 475 6011; e: [business@ageaction.ie](mailto:business@ageaction.ie)

### october 2005

10-11th *Transcending boundaries: information technologies and strategies for the 21st Century* - 7th Internet Librarian International Conference, Copthorne Tara Hotel, London. For further information see: [www.internet-librarian.com](http://www.internet-librarian.com)

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](mailto:info@keyevents.ie) w: [www.keyevents.ie](http://www.keyevents.ie)

15th Sixth Literature of Exile Autumn School, Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh. For further information please contact Christine.Johnston@ni-libraries.net or telephone 028 8225 6315.

19-21st *Knowledge, Innovation, Understanding...the emerging public library* - Public Libraries Authority Conference 2005, Chesford Grange, Kenilworth, Warwickshire. For details see: [www.cilip.org.uk/pla2005](http://www.cilip.org.uk/pla2005)

### november 2005

11-12th *Past and Present: what children and young adults read is* the title of a conference at the Church of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, Dublin organised by The Reading Centre @ CICE. The speakers are Susan Parkes, John Coolahan, Alan Titley and Kimberley Reynolds, and the conference will include a tour of The Plunkett Museum of Irish Education on the College campus. Further details and booking form from [info@cice.ie](mailto:info@cice.ie)

26th *School libraries - a dynamic learning space* - SLARI annual conference, Dublin. Details: Eileen Holian t: 01-874 7701; e: [larkinlibrary@eircom.net](mailto:larkinlibrary@eircom.net)

29-1/12 *Online Information 2005*. Tuesday 29th November - Thursday 1st December 2005 Grand Hall Olympia, London, England. Details: <http://www.online-information.co.uk/>

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