

# IRISH LIBRARY NEWS

Issued by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna (The Library Council)

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## GMIT LEARNING CENTRE LANDS



The new Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology Learning Centre was officially opened on 17th November by the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. The opening was attended by many politicians, staff past and present and members of the Governing Body and invited guests. Mr. Ó Cuív admitted he had been 'a bit of a sceptic' about the building but now acknowledged that it had become a marvellous addition to the architecture of Galway and a wonderful facility for students and staff of GMIT. The building includes a new library, IT centre, lecture theatres, classrooms, directorate and administration offices. The building was designed by Murray Ó Laoire Architects. Facilities in the library include a Research Room, IT Training Room, Independent Learning Unit, Multimedia Room, Archive Room and 15 Group Study Rooms.



◀ Minister Ó Cuív and GMIT Director Ms Marion Coy at the official opening of the Centre.

## LIBRARY ACCESS MATTERS

An alliance of UK organisations concerned with services to the visually impaired and those with reading impairments have formed themselves into the **Right to Read Campaign**. Citing the untenable position that 95% of printed publications never become available in alternative formats, the Campaign has launched the Right to Read Charter which calls on the UK Government to:

- o establish an Access to Reading Fund to support production of more material in large print, audio, Braille and electronic format
- o abolish VAT on audio books, bringing them into line with printed books
- o ensure that no student is ever denied the opportunity to learn because they can't read standard print study materials

The Charter also calls on publishers, booksellers and libraries to greatly expand the number of books, magazines and newspapers available in large print, audio and Braille.

The Charter can be seen, and signed, at [www.mib.org.uk/righttoread](http://www.mib.org.uk/righttoread)

## SURFERS' PARADISE



▲ Bundoran Library

Bundoran Community Library opened to the public on Tuesday 4th November 2003. The library is part of Bundoran Civic Centre which also houses Bundoran Town Council, and is located alongside the local health centre and a six screen cinema. The library is open from Tuesday to Friday at present and the opening hours will be extended following the official opening which will be early in 2004. All schools in the area have been contacted to inform them of the opening of the library and of the services that it provides. The *Donegal Democrat* carried a large spread on the library and the assistant librarian in charge was interviewed on North West Radio. As a result of this feedback has been positive and an average of 250 people have joined the library each week since it opened. The population of Bundoran is ca. 2,500.

## JOINT FORUM FOR COLLABORATION AND COOPERATION ON MUSEUMS, ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES ISSUES

A landmark agreement has been signed by the administration, in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales to create a Joint Forum for collaboration and cooperation on museums archives and libraries issues. The new agreement, while recognising that culture remains a matter for each administration, means that museums, archives and libraries in each of the home nations will benefit from the collective know how of all the U.K.'s expert bodies. By sharing information and planning together at an early stage, the sectors' executive bodies can ensure that they collaborate where appropriate so that museums, archives and libraries can benefit from a joined up approach at an early stage. UK Arts Minister, Estelle Morris said: "It is great news that this joint forum has been established. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport, its equivalents in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland and all of the relevant executive agencies are fully signed up to the approach"

As part of the new arrangements, the Joint Forum of executive bodies in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland will meet at least twice per year to discuss potential joint working and ensure improved communication and planning.

As part of **An Chomhairle Leabharlanna's** training programme for 2003, Limerick County Library hosted *The Reader Friendly-Library* course in Dooradoyle Library on 20th of October last year.



It was the first of the training days to be held outside of Dublin this year, in response to requests from some authorities to make these courses more readily accessible to all. The course was very well attended and proved a great success for all concerned. An Chomhairle would like to express its gratitude to Limerick County Library and in particular to Noreen O'Neill and Helen Walsh for all their efforts in helping to make this event the success it undoubtedly was.

**Donegal County Library:** Cllr. Albert Doherty, Chairperson of the Inishowen Electoral Area Committee, Donegal County Council, launched "Inishowen Careers and Business Information Service" (ICBIS) on 30th October 2003. ICBIS is located in both Buncrana Community Library and Carndonagh Community Library, thus ensuring that everyone in the Inishowen Peninsula has easy access to the service. ICBIS is designed to help people of all ages including students, people who have suffered redundancy or those who want to start their own business. A lot of assistance is already provided to job-seekers and those seeking self employment by organisations in the community. The idea behind the new service is to bring all the information under one roof. ICBIS is a first stop shop for information on: starting a business; self employment; training; return to work; careers. The launch of ICBIS heralds an expanded role for public libraries in Inishowen in the provision of careers and business information. Future developments include: user education programme; current awareness bulletin; business and careers seminar.



▲ L-R (Standing): Trevor Topping (Inishowen Partnership Company Ltd.); Liam Ronayne (County Librarian and Divisional Manager for Cultural Services); Gillian McColgan (Inishowen Rural Development Ltd.); Michael McLoone (County Manager); (Seated): Cllr. Albert Doherty (Chair, ICBIS) and Geraldine McHugh (Inishowen Community Librarian).

**Galway City Library** came *Alive* with an interesting cross section of events for Children's Book Festival. Michael Moylan fought his way through the centuries with a *History Alive* session which focused on the Vikings and Normans. ▶

In *Science Alive* two scientists demonstrated, using films and art work, various projects which had been undertaken by national school children across Ireland. These ranged from a study of bats living in a school attic, to the carving of a canoe from a tree trunk and making it water worthy.

Local author Pete Mullineaux's *Book Alive* session involved a bear hunt. *Sports Alive* was a runaway success with local hero Richard Donovan's slide show about his record breaking seven marathons completed in one year from the Arctic, through the Sahara Desert, to Australia. *Art Alive* sent many happy children home clutching the masks and mobiles.

*Geography Alive* was presented by Alana Lennon. The children shed their shoes to enter Alana's yurt (Mongolian tent) which is decorated with felt pictures made by children from Alaska to Turkmenistan. ▶

The annual chess championship and a fancy dress party rounded off the Festival.



Students from primary schools around Galway gathered in the **Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology library** for the opening of Galway Science and Technology Week by the Minister for Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Mr. Éamon Ó Cuív, T.D. Students brought their science projects with them and explained the ideas behind the projects. The projects ranged from the workings of the human heart, using cow and sheep hearts to demonstrate how it works, to an examination of natural habitats of the Ballindooly area of County Galway. Also present was the Big Bug Show, giving students an opportunity to handle amazing invertebrates literally at first hand.



▲ Students with their science exhibits at the opening of Galway Science Week in the library.





▲ *Steady as he goes! Minister Ó Cuív getting some hands on experience of exhibits at the opening in November of Galway Science Week in the Library.*

**Kerry County Libraries** hosted an exhibition on library buildings in Ireland financed by Andrew Carnegie.

The *Public Libraries Act* was adopted by Kerry County Council in 1925. With the abolition of the Rural District Councils, under the *Local Government Act 1925*, the County Council became the Local Authority for all Libraries in the county, except Listowel (which operated under a Trust until 1953). Prior to this, grants had been received from the Carnegie Trust for the erection of Carnegie Library Buildings at Caherciveen, Castleisland, Dingle, Kenmare, Killorglin, Listowel and Tralee. The Killorglin building was never used as a library and still functions as a school. Castleisland, Kenmare and Listowel buildings were destroyed in the 1920s but later re-built.



*Front Row, L to R: Kit Ahern, Kathleen Browne, County Librarian, Catherine McMullin, Back Row, L to R. John Doody, Town Clerk, Listowel, Cllr. Tim O'Leary, Mayor of Listowel, Cllr. Ned O'Sullivan, Danny Hannon, Emmett Kennelly at the opening of the Carnegie Library Buildings exhibition.*

The library service in Castleisland, Dingle and Kenmare still operates from the original or reconstructed Carnegie buildings. The Carnegie buildings formed the pattern for the Library Service in Kerry as it is today.

A commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the evacuation of the Blasket Islands was launched by Mr. John O'Donoghue, T.D. on 17th November 2003. The Blasket Centre Library/Research Room is the primary source for research on the Great Blasket Island and its people. It contains genealogical records, photographs, articles, films about the Island and a series of filmed interviews of Blasket residents which were recorded in 1993.



▲ *At the launch of the Library Trail to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the evacuation of the Great Blasket were – seated from left: Mayor of Kerry, Brendan MacGearraill, County Librarian, Kathleen Browne, Minister John O'Donoghue and Niamh Uí Laoithe; Standing Fionán Ó hÓgain, Eamon de Brún, Kathleen Carroll, Pat Walsh, Dingle Librarian, Kathleen Uí Mhurchú, Pádraig Ó Siocrú, Pádraig Firtéir, Cllr. Seamus Cosá MacGearraill, Majorie Long, Gearóid Brosnacháin, Isabel Bennett and Cáitlín Uí Bheaglaoich.*

An exhibition entitled *The Irish and Labour in America*, from the Irish American Heritage Museum, Albany New York, U.S.A. opened at the county library, Tralee on Wednesday 1st October 2003. The exhibition was opened by Michael Carmody, Director, Institute of Technology, Tralee.

The exhibition celebrates Ireland's contribution to every aspect of labour, work and development in America. The Irish were involved in many endeavours, accomplishments and projects. The exhibition chronicles the work of great labour leaders such as Mike Quill, James Connolly and Jim Larkin.



*L to R: Flann Garvey, Chairman, Governing Body, I.T. Tralee, Mary O'Halloran, Kathleen Browne, County Librarian, Noel O'Connor, Mary O'Connor (niece of Mike Quill), Joseph Dolan, Chairman, Irish American Heritage Museum, New York, Michael Carmody, Director, Institute of Technology, Tralee.*

Photographs, historical and archival documents from many sources are reproduced. The exhibition ran in Tralee Library from 1 October to 13 November 2003.

The Irish American Heritage Museum is dedicated to recording and presenting the history and heritage of the Irish in America. The Museum has a programme of changing exhibits, research library, family programmes and lectures.

Other recent events included:



▲ Mr. Martin Nolan, County Manager launched a brochure on 2nd December outlining the additional facilities available at Killarney Library.



▲ Marie Louise Fitzpatrick, Joint Winner of the Bisto Book of the Year Award 2003, celebrating Children's Book Festival



▲ Toddlers "I Love Books" storytime in Tralee Library



▲ Cllr. Norma Foley presents a plaque on December 1st 2003 to County Librarian, Kathleen Browne to commemorate the Special Olympics.

Eighteen local people from County Longford who had completed a Local History Course offered by NUI Maynooth, received their certificates at a ceremony in **Longford Library** recently. The aim of the Certificate in the Local History Studies course is to increase the level of local history research and to raise public awareness in the community.

Following on from the success of this initiative, Longford County Library, Arts and Archive Service plans to offer a further course entitled *An introduction to local history* which is aimed at those people who have a general interest in the subject and may wish to enroll for the NUI Certificate course (which the library hopes to facilitate again in the autumn). The course will comprise five ninety minute sessions covering topics such as the variety of sources available and where to find them, how to conduct research and on overview of local history in Longford. The course facilitator is County Archivist, Martin Morris.

Sources: Longford Leader and Longford News.

**Louth County Library:** an adult learning centre has been opened in Dundalk Library. Situated upstairs in the County Library, the centre provides a learning facility which is free of charge and open to all. It comprises 10 PC workstations with headphones, a network printer LCD projector, screen and tutorial space. The Learning Centre is aimed at people who have experienced a disadvantage in accessing education and training. The Centre's co-ordinator, Alison Boland, said: "Sometimes classrooms and schools can seem like daunting places for persons returning to education, so it is hoped that the library will provide a more friendly and relaxed environment conducive to learning".

The centre will be used by groups attending courses with FAS, the VEC, DKIT, NDTI, the Dundalk Partnership and others.

Source: Argus, 19/12/2003

**Meath County Library:** this year Navan Library celebrates 30 years of service from its headquarters in Railway Street.

The library was officially opened on 19th March 1974, by Mr. J. Tully T.D, Minister for Local Government, who said at the time 'we have reached a most important milestone in the further development of the public library service in the county'.

Navan Library was the first purpose built county library headquarters erected since the founding of the Free State. The building cost a total of IR£130,000 to build and Messrs. Louis J. Brennan and Associates, Dublin were the appointed architects.

The contractors for the building were Cormac Murray (Building) limited. Work began on the site in June 1972.

Interesting added facilities reported at the time listed a room for microfilm and microfiche readers and photocopying facilities. Another interesting feature was a pram room for the large Silver Cross type prams of the day. No mention of the free internet services offered today.

At the time of opening the new headquarters, the issue figures for Navan alone amounted to 52,000, by 2003 this figure had increased by 50%.

Meath County Council library service are further celebrating this anniversary by appointing a new Assistant Librarian, Eve Morrisson and increasing the opening hours to full days Monday – Saturday and late nights Tuesday and Thursday until 8.30pm. Allocation of loans is also increasing, now both children and adults can borrow up to four items each. Ciarán Mangan, the County Librarian, said "we are delighted to be in the position to facilitate the growing population of Navan and offer our services to much wider parts of the community. Our new hours and our new Assistant Librarian for Navan will ensure better access for everyone and enable more library activities to take place".

The new library hours came into effect on Monday 12th January.



**South Dublin County Libraries:** during the month of November, South Dublin County Library in Tallaght hosted an exhibition *World War I and Irish Regiments*. The exhibition, which attracted a great deal of attention, was prepared by Joe Geoghegan who works at the County Library. It told the story of Irish regiments, individual stories of members of the regiments, campaigns and battles in which they fought as well as including many of the propaganda posters of the period. The exhibition also featured many items and publications from Joe's personal collection along with an extensive display of relevant material from the Local Studies Collection at the County Library.

On Wednesday 26th November, the exhibition was launched at a very pleasant function by Deputy Mayor Stanley Laing who spoke of the importance of remembering those who died in all wars. He stated that remembering those who fought and died in First World War was especially poignant for Irish families as most had at least

## TAKING A PEEK AT EEBO

ProQuest Information and Learning and IRIS (the Consortium of Irish University and Research Libraries) recently announced a major licencing agreement in the Republic of Ireland which will provide access to the Chadwyck-Healey electronic publication *Early English Books Online* (EEBO) for the University of Limerick, NUI Galway, NUI Maynooth, Trinity College Dublin, University College Cork, University College Dublin and the National Library of Ireland. EEBO provides instant access to rare English books from 1473-1700; containing over 125,000 titles, comprising 22.5 million page images, and a wealth of rare, difficult to access works. The breadth and depth of material contained within the collection provides endless opportunities for research across a vast range of subject areas – from history, English literature, religion, music and the arts to physical science and women's studies. In 2003 EEBO customers viewed over 10 million images and have downloaded 2 million works.

Commenting on the agreement, Professor Jane Ohlmeyer, (Erasmus Smith Professor of Modern History; Head of Department, Trinity College Dublin) said, "EEBO is an indispensable research tool for early modern scholars and their postgraduate students. It is also invaluable as a teaching resource since EEBO introduces undergraduate students to texts, both canonical and lesser known, as they appeared to their first readers in the early modern period. Whether providing historical background from a variety of perspectives, illustrating the growth in parts of the book industry, or simply furnishing facsimiles of works as they originally appeared in print, EEBO has offered students and scholars an innovative way of studying the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries."

Since last November users have been utilising an upgraded interface providing improved browsability, navigation, searching, and additional features for optimising use of these rare texts – as well as almost 500,000 pages of new content.

For further information about EEBO visit <http://eebo.chadwyck.com/marketing>.

IRIS provides a 'virtual' union catalogue to enable simultaneous cross-searching of its members' and other major research library catalogues. IRIS was originally established in 1993 as a project under the EU Télématicque Programme. In addition to the resource discovery function of the virtual catalogue, further development will enable the management of interlibrary loans and document supply among its members and other libraries.

More recently, IRIS has assumed a role in the negotiation of consortial purchase deals for electronic resources. EEBO is the first of these to be finalised on behalf of all but one of the universities and the National Library. A major saving of funds was achieved through this consortial approach to purchase, and IRIS hopes to facilitate the consortial procurement of other valuable research material in the future.

one member who had fought and died in the conflict. He noted that despite the involvement and sacrifice of so many Irishmen their memory had often been denied or forgotten. He praised the exhibition for helping to undo the injustice that had been done to the memory of these Irishmen.

The launch was followed by a talk, *Dublin Irish in the World Wars* given by Richard Doherty, broadcaster and author of *Irish Men and Women in the Second World War* (Dublin, 1999); *The Williamite War in Ireland* (Dublin, 1998) and *Clear the Way! A History of the 38th (Irish) Brigade, 1941 – 47* (Dublin, 1993) and co-author of *Irish Winners of the Victoria Cross*. The talk was attended by a capacity audience. The exhibition will be hosted in Ballyroan Library next January and in Clondalkin Library and Blessington later in the year. Joe Geoghegan is to be complemented on an informative, engaging and professionally presented exhibition. His interest in the topic stems from the involvement of his grandfather and three grand uncles in the war. The relevance and quality of the exhibition is borne out by the interest shown in it and the volume of queries it generated and answered.



▲ Photograph shows (l-r): Catherine Geoghegan, Sile Coleman, County Library Tallaght, Deputy Mayor Stanley Laing, Joe Geoghegan, Richard Doherty, and Kieran Swords, Local Studies Librarian, at the launch of Joe's exhibition *The Great War and Irish Regiments* at the County Library Tallaght.

## DE BLACAM AND MEAGHER WIN RIAI GOLD MEDAL FOR CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY EXTENSION

The President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, presented the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland's (RIAI) Gold Medal to the architectural practice de Blacam and Meagher, in association with Boyd Barrett, Murphy O'Connor. The project for which the Medal was presented was the extension to the Cork Institute of Technology, the last phase of which was completed in 1997.

The RIAI Gold Medal is the highest honour in Irish architecture and is awarded every three years for the design of a building of exceptional merit completed within a three-year period (the period in question for this year's Gold Medal is 1995-97).

According to the judging panel that selected the Cork Institute of Technology extension:

*The extension comprises two building phases, the Library wing, completed in 1994 and the Information Technology wing completed in 1997. The jury was impressed by the powerful architectural expression of the completed facility, its dramatic fusion of spatial and structural form and the rational organisation of its planning concept. The architectural language employed in the new building is highly impressive with an imaginative use of detail and subtle references to local masonry traditions. Although some finishes used in the early constructional phase appeared to have suffered from hard use, the jury felt that the architects had achieved remarkable results within the constraints of a tight Department of Education building budget.*



**Office of the Civil Service and  
Local Appointments Commissioners**

**LIBRARIAN (\*Worksharing)  
An Chomhairle Leabharlanna**

Candidates must (on the latest date for receipt of application forms):

- hold the Diploma in Library and Information Studies of the National University of Ireland or have satisfied the examination and thesis requirements leading to the Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland, or possess an equivalent qualification (this requirement will not apply in the case of an existing holder of an office of a post of librarian in a local authority of the State);
- have at least five years satisfactory experience of library work; including satisfactory experience in a responsible position in a public, university, specialist or other appropriate Library,
- have satisfactory knowledge of source libraries and collections, sources of bibliographical information and current developments affecting inter-lending and inter-library co-operation,
- possess sufficient knowledge of Irish and English to enable him/her to perform the duties of the office in both languages.

Salary: €43,919-€57,100

\*Half-time post, salary will be adjusted accordingly. Specific working days to be agreed between the successful candidate and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

For application forms and further details please contact: David at (01)8587653  
Local Appointments Commission, Chapter House, 26-30 Abbey Street Upper, Dublin 1.

Closing date: Thursday 12th February 2004

To apply online or check current job vacancies  
[www.publicjobs.ie](http://www.publicjobs.ie)

*The Commissioners are committed to a policy of equal opportunity.*



**ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY**

*Ireland's Academy for the sciences and humanities*

**Library - International Access to Academy  
Library Holdings (IAALH) Project**

**Assistant Librarian (Cataloguer) Post  
– 20-months contract**

The Academy Library is currently managing a major retrospective cataloguing, conservation and microfilming project which entails the cataloguing of early imprints including the renowned Haliday Pamphlet and Tract collections. A team of three cataloguers is engaged on the project. Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the post of cataloguer, to catalogue the Haliday pamphlets from 1750 onwards and to continue the cataloguing of the 17th century tract collection.

*Qualifications Summary:*

- Primary degree and approved library studies qualification
- Minimum 3 years' satisfactory cataloguing experience
- Knowledge and experience of I.T.
- Good communications skills

The contract is of 20 months duration. Secondment will be considered. Salary: €33,827

The Academy reserves the right to shortlist candidates on the basis of qualifications and experience.

An application form as well as detailed job descriptions and information relating to the project are available from the Executive Secretary, Royal Irish Academy, 19 Dawson Street, Dublin 2

The closing date for the receipt of applications is Friday, 27 February, 2004.

Telephone: 01-6762570

Email: [d.harte@ria.ie](mailto:d.harte@ria.ie)

Fax: 01-6762346

Web: <http://www.ria.ie>

*The Royal Irish Academy is an equal opportunities employer.*



**CUMANN LEABHARLANN NA hÉIREANN  
THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND**

Arising from a comprehensive review of operations, The Library Association of Ireland seeks an innovative and energetic librarian for the post of:

**Development Manager (Part-Time)  
[Equivalent to Executive Librarian- Grade 6]**

Responsibilities will include:

- o Marketing and promotion of the Association
- o Fundraising
- o Management and administration of the Association

*Qualifications:* Applicants must have a primary degree and a postgraduate qualification in librarianship or equivalent. Also essential are five years post qualification experience.

Comprehensive management and marketing skills and familiarity with current developments in Irish and international librarianship are required.

It is anticipated that the successful candidate will work from home on a telecommuting basis.

Initial contract will be for a twelve-month period.

Salary: €20,400 p.a. (based on twenty hours per week average).

For further details or to discuss this exciting opportunity please contact Gonnait O'Riordan Tel: 061-202193.

Please submit a Curriculum Vitae, to include the names and contact details of three referees, as application on or before 27 February 2004 to: Hon. Secretary, Library Association of Ireland, 53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2.

## publications

*Overdue: the right to read for three million people in the U.K. with sight problems and other reading disabilities.* This title is published by the Royal National Institute of the Blind and highlights the disparity of access to published material between the sighted and people with visual disabilities. It reproduces some of the findings from the research and illustrates how individual lives and aspirations can be affected.

- o from a list of 100 bestsellers in August 2003 it was discovered that only 22 were available in unabridged audio
- o only 5% of all the books and serials published ever become available in another format – only 2% are available in unabridged audio

It makes recommendations for government, publishers, libraries and booksellers which include:

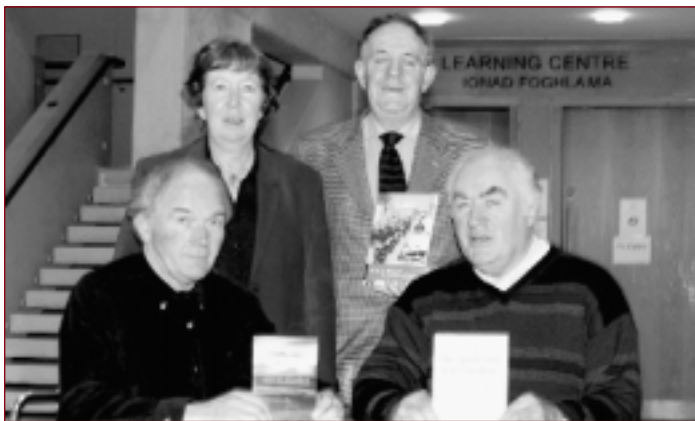
- o establishment of an Access to Reading Fund
- o abolition of VAT on audio books
- o increased availability of e-books
- o a database of alternative format books

The report can be downloaded from [www.rnib.org.uk/righttoread](http://www.rnib.org.uk/righttoread)

Offaly County Librarian, Anne Coughlan, is one of the editors and contributors to *Grand Jury Rooms to Áras an Chontae: local government in Offaly*. The book contains many illustrations from the Local Studies Department of Offaly County Library, a catalogue of the archives relating to local government in the county and an essay by Michael Murphy on the origins and development of local government in Offaly. The book also includes a section on the growth of the county library service.

*Grand Jury Rooms to Áras an Chontae: local government in Offaly* edited by Michael Murphy, Anne Coughlan and Gráinne Doran. – Tullamore: Offaly County Council, 2003. ISBN 0-9535841-1-9

Three books by present and past members of GMIT staff were launched in December. They were *Galway in Old Photographs* by Peadar O'Dowd, *Poets and Poetry of the Great Blasket* - translated and edited by Séamus Ó Scannláin and *The Spirit's too much with us* by Andy Johnson. We wish them every success with their publications.



GMIT Director Ms. Marion Coy with authors Mr. Peadar O'Dowd, Mr. Seamus Ó Scannláin, and Mr. Andy Johnston at the launch of their books.

At the 2004 Merriman Winter School in Bunratty on 31 January, the 8th and final volume of the *Beathaisnéis* series by Máire Ní Mhurchú and Diarmuid Breathnach, a biographical survey of the world of the Irish language 1560-2002, will be launched in a 'Merriman Book of the Year' binding. The public edition will follow later in the Spring. It deals with 200 writers, scholars, actors, singers and activists who died since 1983 but will include supplements to the other volumes. Máire was Reference Librarian in RTÉ and before service in RTÉ, Diarmuid worked in the Irish Central Library for Students (An Chomhairle Leabharlanna), Bray Public Library and Kilkenny County Library. Both are Fellows of the Library Association of Ireland and received the honorary degree of DLitt Celt from NUI in 2002.

From the latest Harry Potter novel to a new reprint of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, every new book in the world can now expect to have a longer shelf life, thanks to a new International Standard.

Published by ISO (International Organization for Standardization), *ISO 14416:2003, Information and documentation - Requirements for binding of books, periodicals, serials and other paper documents for archive and library use - Methods and materials*, offers recommendations to assist libraries and archives to preserve not only books, but any paper publication, from periodicals to serials to archive documents, by means of binding. Libraries and archives receive books and other paper documents which should remain in good physical condition for as long as their content is worth preserving. Based on their judgement of the likely wear and tear of an item and its expected lifetime, libraries and archives can decide on how each publication ought to be protected. For example, a publication which is expected to be heavily used over short periods of time but which might not be retained permanently will require a different quality of binding from a publication which is expected to receive occasional light use but which may need some protection during storage.

ISO 14416:2003 provides a selection of binding methods and materials to assist libraries and archives on how each book and publication is to be protected.

The new standard is applicable to first-time hard-cover binding of published and unpublished materials, and any other documents requiring this type of protection, as well as the rebinding of hard-cover monographs, serials and any other documents.

ISO 14416:2003 costs 120 Swiss francs and is available from ISO national member institutes.

Waterford County Librarian, Donal Brady, has edited *Memoirs of the lives and characters of the illustrious family of the Boyles*. The book, a reprint of the one first published in 1737, was launched in Lismore Library by the writer, Anthony Sommers.

## people



At the County and City Librarians' Autumn Seminar in Tralee, November 13 – 14, 2003, a presentation was made to Hanna O'Sullivan, who has recently retired as Cork City Librarian. Hanna also worked in Kerry, Galway, Carlow and Cork County Libraries. Colleagues and friends gathered to pay tribute to Hanna for her long and dedicated career in the Library service.

**Mr. R. Ramachandran** has been appointed as the new Secretary General of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA). He will assume the position on 1st April 2004, following the retirement of Ross Shimmion.

Mr. Ramachandran is currently Director of the National Library and Deputy CEO of the National Library Board in Singapore. He is also Secretary General of CONSAL, the Congress of Southeast Asian Librarians.





## March 2004

- 2nd International Poetry Day
- 2nd Hugh M. Fitzpatrick Lectures in Legal Bibliography. Professor John McEldowney, School of Law, University of Warwick, will give the tenth lecture in this series entitled: Challenges in legal bibliography: the role of biography in legal history. The venue is the Honorable Society of King's Inns, Henrietta Street, Dublin 1.  
To request tickets or for further details: Hugh M. Fitzpatrick, Library & Information Consultant, 22-24 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2. t: 01-269 2202; f: 01-661 0644.
- 4th World Book Day – UK & Ireland only see [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)  
See also April 23rd
- 17-19th The Renaissance of the Library: Adaptable Library Buildings – 12th Seminar of the LIBER Architecture Group. Venue: Bozen-Belzano, South Tyrol. Details: <http://www.zhbluzern.ch/LIBER-LAG/lagensb..htm>  
A pre-seminar tour organised by Ca' Foscari University Library, Venice, will take place from 15-16th March in Venice. See detailed programme at: <http://www.biblio.unive.it/sba/novita/040317lagVE.asp>
- 22-26th Migrations in Society: Culture and the Library. Venue: Paris.  
For more details about the programme see: <http://www.library.jhu.edu/rsd/other/wess2004/wess2004.html>  
You may register online from the website. For questions about registration, please contact Margot Sutton at: [msutton@ala.org](mailto:msutton@ala.org)
- 25th AGM of the Library Association of Ireland, 10.30 a.m., The Georgian House, 2 Pery Square, Limerick.

## April 2004

- 2nd International Children's Book Day  
see: [http://www.ibby.org/Seiten/04\\_child.htm](http://www.ibby.org/Seiten/04_child.htm)
- 20-23rd Libraries beyond the digital – Library Association Ireland Cumann Leabharlann na h-Éireann / Cilip Ireland Annual Joint Conference. This theme incorporates the effect of new technologies on the delivery of traditional and non-traditional services while maintaining the place of the user at the centre of provision. Venue: Druid's Glen Hotel Co. Wicklow. Conference secretary Carmel Moore email: [cmoore@wicklowcoco.ie](mailto:cmoore@wicklowcoco.ie)
- 21-22nd Library + Information Show, Excel, London.  
Details: [www.lishow.co.uk](http://www.lishow.co.uk)
- 23rd World Book & Copyright Day

## June 2004

- 11-13th Changing times, new challenges: the role of the legal information professional in times of economic and technological change: British & Irish Association of Law Librarians 35th Annual Study Conference, Edinburgh. Details: [www.biall.org/](http://www.biall.org/)

## August 2004

- 22-27th Libraries: tools for Education and Development: 70th IFLA General Conference & Council, Buenos Aires, Argentina.  
[www.ifla.org/IV/index.htm](http://www.ifla.org/IV/index.htm)

## September 2004

- 8th International Literacy Day / International Adult Learners Week.

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