

IRISH LIBRARY NEWS

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ASHBOURNE CIVIC OFFICES AND LIBRARY OPENED

Meath County Council launched its flagship development in Ashbourne when Mr. Noel Dempsey, local T.D. and Minister for Education and Science, officially opened the one stop shop for all local authority services and the new 9,500 square feet library. The library is the largest in the county and will be open for 45 hours per week, including late nights and Saturdays. Part of an overall investment of €6 million, the library also provides meeting rooms for use by the local community.

Minister Dempsey, of course, is no stranger to public libraries, as he was keen to point out:

I mentioned earlier my previous existence as Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and now, in my current existence as Minister for Education and Science, I cannot over-emphasise the importance of libraries in education and opening possibilities to people of all ages. The public library continues to be one of the most popular of public services according to a recent market survey of library users and non-users.¹ Over two thirds of the country's adults are members of a



▲ Ashbourne's one-stop shop and library.

public library and despite fears to the contrary, people continue to have a huge appetite for reading. What is perhaps not widely known by non-users is the range of services provided by the public library in addition to the traditional service of lending books. Today's public library offers Internet access, talking books, CDs and DVDs. It offers opportunities for information and learning, for culture and imagination, for young and old. The dedicated and enthusiastic librarians organise reading groups and reading promotions. Public libraries truly strive to provide "a space for all" and they attract a broad cross section of society.

County Manager, Tom Dowling paid tribute to all involved and said: *A modern, well equipped library is the most important resource that could be provided in a community as it provides facilities for all ages. It is a place where people can come to spend their leisure time investing in their knowledge, intelligence and imagination.*

¹A public space for all: use and non-use of public libraries. An Chomhairle Leabharlanna 2004.

CORK'S NO. 1 BUILDING OF CULTURE



Cork City Library's headquarters in the Grand Parade is the first building in the forthcoming European City of Culture to be adorned by the banner featuring the *Cork 2005* logo. The choice of the City Library by the *Cork 2005* office as the first building to feature the banner is a recognition of the central role of the library in the cultural life of the city and its people. Between now and late Summer a further 3 or 4 structures in the city will also be fitted with the massive [6.5m x 1.9m i.e. 70' x 20'] banner. Staff of the library are developing a number of events and programmes which will form part of the year-long celebration of European, Irish, and Cork culture. More information will appear in future issues of *Irish Library News*.

conferences – call for papers

A study day on archival sources in Ireland relating to the long 18th century (circa 1680-1840) will be held at The School of Music, Queen's University of Belfast on Tuesday 14 September, 2004. This conference will form part of a larger bibliographical project which is being developed by The Centre of Eighteenth-Century Studies at Queen's in consultation with libraries, museums and archives across Northern Ireland and the Republic.

Proposals for papers (30 minutes, including questions) or shorter reports (15 minutes, including questions) are sought on any aspect of archival sources in Irish repositories (either from a researcher's or an archivist's perspective). Papers which highlight unknown or uncatalogued sources are particularly welcome, as are institutional overviews of their holdings. Proposals for roundtables or themed sessions/paired papers are also welcome. Graduate students are particularly encouraged to participate.

Please submit proposals to Sarah McCleave at the postal or email address given below by **30 June 2004**. Dr Sarah McCleave School of Music, The Queen's University of Belfast, Belfast BT7 1NN s.mccleave@qub.ac.uk (028) 9097 5207).

DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICE

launched its multilingual information leaflet on Wednesday 26th May at Deansgrange Library.



The leaflet was produced by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries' Fusion Committee. This committee was set up to promote multiculturalism in Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown through its library service. The leaflet is aimed at library customers whose first language is not English. It has a dual purpose: firstly, to make the library services more easily understood by existing customers and, secondly, to make potential customers aware of the services available to them. The leaflet outlines the essentials in relation to joining the library, using the library, and availing of the free Public Internet Access. The wording has been translated into eight languages: French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese and Arabic.

Speakers at the launch of the leaflet were County Librarian Muirís Ó Raghail, Cllr. Kealin Ireland, Mary McCaughan (Chair, Fusion Committee) and special guest speaker Shalini Sinha, journalist and television presenter.



▲ Cllr. Kealin Ireland, Mary McCaughan (Chair of the Fusion Group), Muirís Ó Raghail (County Librarian) and Shalini Sinha at the launch of the multi-lingual guide to library services in Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Libraries.

The work of the Fusion Committee complements other Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council initiatives such as *The Festival of World Cultures* and the *Féile Filíochta International Poetry Competition*.

The 16th annual *Féile Filíochta/International Poetry Competition* organised by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries has been launched. For the first time ever, the prizewinners' celebration evening for 2003 was held during *Poetry Now* (PN04), Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's other major poetry festival, held at the end of March every year. *Poetry Now* is run by the Council's Arts Office and it attracts international poets from all over the world for

a three-day festival of readings, workshops and talks. It was mutually beneficial for the libraries and the Arts Office to join forces in this way. Prizewinners and judges from the *Féile Filíochta* could be found attending many of the *Poetry Now* events, particularly exciting for those who had travelled long distances to join in the festivities.

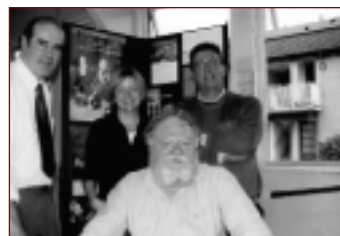


▲ L-r: Dr. Bruno Hosp, President of the Cultural Committee of the Assemblée des Régions d'Europe presenting the *Féile Filíochta Poem of Europe Award* for 2003 to Miriam Santopolo from Italy with An Cathaoirleach Trevor Matthews and Dr. Franz Stummman at the prize-winning ceremony held in March 2004.

The prize fund for the *Féile Filíochta* this year is €15,400 and the closing date this year is Saturday 28th August 2004. Entry forms and details are available on www.dlrcoco.ie/library in all 9 languages of the competition or Telephone: 278 1788; fax 278 1792; or email nboyce@dlrcoco.ie or mkeyes@dlrcoco.ie

The library service celebrated *abbeyonehundred* as part of its programme of events for the festival of *Bealtaine*. It was a major highlight of the programme with excellent audiences at each venue. Actress Kathleen Barrington spoke at Deansgrange Library on May 6th about the acting tradition at the Abbey, the process undertaken in the rehearsal room along with the stories of opening nights and nerves! During subsequent weeks, renowned playwrights Frank McGuinness spoke at Stillorgan Library on May 13th and Bernard Farrell at Dundrum Library on May 20th. They both gave fascinating and entertaining talks about how they had managed to become playwrights in the first place, what it means to be a playwright today, and of course their relationship with the Abbey Theatre.

In addition to these talks Deansgrange Library hosted the Archives Resource Box for a school group from the local area. The feedback from the children and teacher was tremendous and it is hoped to have further sessions later in the year.



Frank McGuinness with Don Griffin, Ciara Jones and Gerard Reinhardt, staff in Stillorgan Library.



Bernard Farrell in Dundrum Library.

FOYLE: the Northern Ireland North West Regional Group of Libraries: FOYLE is a consortium of libraries in the Derry area that have been working together to improve access to the wealth of books and journals in the FOYLE area. It is part of the UK wide initiative called INSPIRE (Information Sharing Partners in Resources for Education) established to improve access and

referral between higher education, public and national library services. Participating libraries include Altnagelvin Trust library, the North West Institute of Further and Higher Education, the University of Ulster Magee Campus and the Western Education and Libraries Board libraries in the Derry area. Together these libraries have in excess of 150,000 books as well as a wide range of journals. Through this scheme people in the Derry area may consult or borrow books held in these libraries.

The borrowing scheme was launched in March and is subject to a review after six months. A journal launch of the scheme is being planned for September when it will be widely publicised.

Borrowing is limited to two items and each library sets its own rules on what can be borrowed.

The participating libraries are also sharing such things as training programmes, knowledge of new initiatives and collection development policies. Particular areas where there is close co-operation are

- improving knowledge of special collections held by participating libraries
- examining how to better support library staff to handle the wide range of health related enquiries they encounter and
- identifying the local history resources held in the University of Ulster Magee library and Derry City libraries, so that queries are handled more effectively.

Authors of the ten books shortlisted for the **INTERNATIONAL IMPAC DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD 2004** have until June 17th to find out who has won this prestigious prize. The shortlist consists of:

- o Paul Auster – *The book of illusions*
- o William Boyd – *Any human heart*
- o Sandra Cisneros – *Caramelo*
- o Maggie Gee – *The White family*
- o Tahar Ben Jelloun – *This blinding absence of light*
- o Amin Maalouf – *Balthasar's odyssey*
- o Jeffrey Eugenides – *Middlesex*
- o Rohinton Mistry – *Family matters*
- o Olga Tokarczuk – *House of day, house of night*
- o Atiq Rahimi – *Earth and ashes*

The Annual Joint Conference of the **LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND and CILIP (Ireland)** was held in the Marriott Druid's Glen Hotel and Country Club, Newtownmountkennedy, County Wicklow from Tuesday 20th April to Friday 23rd April, hosted by Wicklow County Council Library Service. The conference was last held in County Wicklow in 1954 when it was held in the Royal Hotel in Bray. The theme of this year's conference was *Libraries beyond the digital* and included three days of lectures, meetings, discussion groups and seminars.

After the official opening by LAI President, Gbnait O'Riordan, the proceedings were launched with a lively discussion forum chaired by Sean Quirke, Director of Community and Enterprise, Wicklow County Council, on the theme of the conference, with contributions by Thomas McCarthy, Deborah Shorley, David Mockler and Cearbhall Ó Meadhra. This was followed by the opening of the trade exhibition, chaired by John Graham of CILIP (Ireland).

On the following day, delegates attended lectures such as *The E-citizen: how requirements for information have changed as a result of electronic information* and *Libraries beyond the digital: staff skills*. A trip to Powerscourt House and gardens was arranged for the afternoon and was much enjoyed by the delegates. Wicklow County Council's new mobile library was on display at Powerscourt.

Members' Day on Thursday was marked by talks on *EUROPA* given by Filips Crucke, *World Summit on the Information Society* by Russell Drury and *Building Design for the Digital Age* by Aidin O'Sullivan and Jens Thorhauge. The afternoon parallel sessions proved very popular, covering among others topics such as digitisation, e-health services' and the Library Access project.

To mark Ireland's presidency of the EU the Joint Conference was delighted to welcome European colleagues, in particular those from NAPLE (National Authorities on Public Libraries in Europe) who held their meeting at the conference venue.

At the end of Member's Day a pre-banquet reception was hosted by Wicklow County Council. The delegates were addressed by Dr. Bill O'Connell, Chairman, Wicklow County Council and Mr. Eddie Sheehy, Wicklow County Manager. This was followed by an address by the Minister of State at the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Pat 'the Cope' Gallagher.

The response from delegates, both professional and commercial, was very positive. All are looking forward to the 2005 Conference in Derry.

LIMERICK CITY LIBRARY: A new schools library van has been launched by Limerick's Mayor, Cllr. Dick Sadlier. This service will bring books to children in all primary schools in Limerick City. The response from teachers has been very positive as they welcomed this new initiative. The schools van will carry approximately 5,000 books thus giving children a wide range of authors and topics. The cost of the van, which included purchase, graphics, shelving, fit out and technology was €89,000. Limerick City Council funded initial book stock, which cost €40,000. The objective of the service is to foster reading development in children.



◀ L-R: Dolores Doyle, City Librarian; Mr. Pat Dowling, Director of Services; Mr. Tom Mackey, City Manager and Cllr. Dick Sadlier, Mayor of Limerick.

MEATH COUNTY LIBRARY: It was a colourful event on Monday 22nd March in Navan Public Library with the official launch of "**Meath – A Place For All**" campaign.

The campaign is the initiative of Meath County Council Library Service in partnership with Meath VEC, Meath Citizens Information Centre and the Meath GAA County Board.

The campaign, promoting cultural awareness in the county consisted of a series of posters, bookmarks and postcards. Volunteers from countries including Poland, Nigeria, Germany, Sierra Leone and the USA posed in the football jerseys of the Meath GAA team for the poster, bookmark and postcard pictures.

The event was launched by the Cathaoirleach of Meath County Council, Councillor Oliver Brooks and was attended by the chairperson of Meath CIC, Councillor Tommy Reilly and Mayor of Navan, Alison Boyle.

A class of mixed nationalities and their teacher, Mary Casey from the nearby St. Joseph's School also attended the launch.



Back row (l to r): Mayor of Navan, Alison Boyle, Meath Cathaoirleach Cllr. Oliver Brooks, Cllr. Tommy Reilly, and Assistant Chairperson of Meath Citizens Info. Service, Ms. Christine Gleeson.

Front row (l to r): Pupils from St. Joseph's Primary School, Navan. Joannabelle Gernandizo (Philipino), Mohammed Eltaljeb (Sudanese), Marcin Kamrowski (Polish) and Timi Bolarinwa (Nigerian).

Navan Public Library played host to a seven week workshop on quitting smoking in the run up to the workplace smoking ban on March 29th 2004. Author and health journalist, Joe Armstrong from Kells, Co. Meath initiated the workshop and based it on his recently published book "Write Way To Stop Smoking". The workshops held once a week provided support and encouragement to would be quitters. Coverage of the workshop was shown on the RTE special reports section of the six one news prior to the smoking ban.

ROSCOMMON COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICES, in association with the Sacred Heart Hospital co-ordinated the *Art from Home* exhibition as part of the nationwide Bealtaine Festival. The exhibition showcases the artwork of patients from the hospital, who have been working the pieces for the last eighteen months.



▲ Pictured at the launch of the "Art from Home" exhibition for the Bealtaine Festival at Roscommon Library were: Richie Farrell: County Librarian, Cora Mugan, Recreation Therapist, Sacred Heart Hospital; Ann Lohan, Fr Eugene McLoughlin and Sarah McMicken, Director of Nursing, Sacred Heart Hospital.

According to Cora Mugan, recreation therapist and art instructor "this exhibition is an opportunity for the wider community to appreciate the contribution of the elderly, who are still a vital and imaginative group and this is an occasion to bridge the gap" Cora also pointed out that the perceived loss of independence and individuality often associated with individuals placed in nursing homes needed to be readdressed.

The County Librarian, Richie Farrell stressed the continued important role of the public library as a venue and support service for the broad range of community activities. This particular event creates further interaction through specific projects and reminds us of the need for the library service to be as participative and cooperative as possible in delivering services. It is hoped that this exhibition together with the nursing home "reminiscences" resource sharing venture, will help develop and promote the service as a vital contributor to all sections of society.

SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY LIBRARY: the 23rd April was chosen by UNESCO as World Book Day as it is the anniversary of the death of Shakespeare and Cervantes, South Dublin Libraries invited readers to join them in this celebration of books, authors and the joys of reading.

As part of this celebration, eight new collections for adults and five collections for children were designed to highlight a different kind of reading experience. The *Get a Life* collection for adults featured the genre of memoir, which has been a boom area in publishing over the past few years. Somehow we always feel that other people's lives are much more interesting than our own. The *Get Lost* Collection offered fantasy and science fiction, mixed with books set in specific professional worlds and in past worlds too. Readers of this collection were asked to forget Middle Earth and try new worlds for size!



For younger readers South Dublin Libraries presented quirky and unusual collections with titles such as *The Book Made Me Do It*, *Just Chill* and *Altered Image*. The *Book Made Me Do It* has been hugely popular, designed as it is to lead 7 to 9 year olds to read more books. Titles in this collection include *Frankly Frank* and the *Unidentified Flying Blob*, *Poems to Make Your Friends Scream* and *Pizza on Saturday*.

Issue statistics for adult and junior fiction increased significantly during April and several of the collections proved so successful that books had to be reordered in order to keep pace with demand.

WEXFORD COUNTY LIBRARY, in association with the Workplace Partnership, has opened a Staff Library for Council employees. Resources include books on a wide range of subjects, government and EU reports, journals and newspapers, electronic databases and multimedia training packs. Staff can also use the library's Webcat to request books .

vacancies

Over the next couple of years the **National Trust** is hoping to catalogue its libraries in Northern Ireland. Because many of the libraries are quite small, the Trust makes considerable use of freelance cataloguers in England, and the National Trust Libraries Curator would be interested to hear of similar people in Ireland. The cataloguer(s) would need to be familiar with rare book cataloguing in MARC format, to have the ability to work efficiently with a minimum of back-up, their own transport — and above all a willingness to work on an occasional basis for a good hourly rate, with travel expenses and accommodation paid by the Trust as necessary. According to circumstances and location, the cataloguer might either work full-time for several months, join a larger team for several weeks, or work as a solo cataloguer a couple of days of week over a longer period of time.

The two principal libraries in the North are in Co. Down and in mid-Ulster. Both have their origins in the mid-seventeenth century. There are also libraries in Co. Fermanagh and Co. Armagh.

Please reply to: Mark Purcell, Libraries Curator, The National Trust, 36 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AS. mark.purcell@nationaltrust.org.uk

DEMONSTRATION LIBRARY PROJECT AT ST. KILLIAN'S

The Minister for Education and Science, Mr. Noel Dempsey T.D., officially opened the library in St Killian's Community School, Ballywaltrim, Bray, Co Wicklow on 24th May. Established as part of the Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) Demonstration Library Project, and one of eleven such libraries in the country, this initiative is an aspect of the JCSP Early Literacy Initiative and is funded by the Department of Education and Science.

The main aim of the research is to establish whether a high quality library such as the one in St. Killian's, which caters for the needs of particular students will actually impact on their learning experience and help them to address and overcome literacy difficulties.

These libraries are an intensive resource at the heart of the education system. And with them comes recognition that many students are benefiting from a more practical hands on experience of learning, which is reinforced by a growing sense of achievement. Broadening out the curriculum in a way which responds to the varying abilities of students, is resulting in many students experiencing their first real successes in school. It is also helping to raise literacy levels, facilitate retention within the education system, and address inequality in our communities.

Speaking at the launch, the Minister said:

"Books and reading generally are the real gateways to education. Someone who develops a reading habit is at a distinct advantage, both during his or her time in school and in life afterwards. Reading is undoubtedly one of the most mind-broadening and valuable educational activities. Whether your taste is in historical fiction or the latest IT magazine, I urge everyone to continue to read as often as you can."

The Minister was delighted to acknowledge that the library has become a focal point in the life of St Killian's and that it provides dedicated facilities and activities on a daily basis for JCSP students, as well as being available to all students at other times.

The Minister paid tribute to the many people who have been associated with the establishment and success of the library. In particular, the librarian, Carmel Kelly, Nuala Farrell, Head of Resources and JCSP Co-ordinator, and the Principal, Michael Sheridan.

In addition to its stock of books, the library also has significant IT facilities. These include twenty laptops and five desktop computers with internet access for students' use.

There are many who claim that the advent of technology has seriously damaged interest in books and reading generally. However, the Minister noted that students are using programmes such as "Kursweil" which allows them to scan in any book and have the computer read it back to them aloud. He said:

"It is wonderful to see, here in St. Killian's, that books and IT have been harmoniously married. I am told that "Kursweil" and other literacy programmes have been extremely effective and beneficial to the students here."

A copy of the Executive summary of the First Year Interim report was available at the launch. Among the findings there are reports of:

- observation of better attendance
- increased interest and motivation among students
- improved levels of concentration and a pride in the ownership of what to many is the most exciting thing that has happened in their school in a very long time
- students borrowing and reading books for the very first time

and the research is indicating quite clearly that these libraries are making a real difference not just to the education, but also to the school life, of the students involved.

Very many students are enjoying a more positive experience of school, with exciting opportunities to improve their literacy levels, thanks to intensive literacy library-based programmes.

ATHNUACHAN AN MHEITHEAL OIBRE

Tionóladh an chéad chruinniú de choiste nuabhunaithe an *Mheitheal Oibre*, grúpa atá faoi choimirce Chumann Leabharlann na hÉireann, ar an 27 Bealtaine 2004 i Leabharlann Cholaíste na Tríonóide i mBaile Átha Cliath. Ceapadh Cathaoirleach (Cathal Ó Cuinn), leas-Chathaoirleach (Nicole Seabrook), Rúnaí (David McNally) agus Cisteoir (Etaín Ó Síocháin) ag an gcruinniú; beartaíodh príomhaidhmeanna an ghrúpa leis, agus is féidir a rá go bhfuil athbhunú an ghrúpa seo faoi lánseoil anois! Grúpa tras-teoranta atá i gceist, agus is é an cuspóir is mó atá againn ná a bheith inár lárionad le haghaidh cúrsaí Gaeilge na leabharlann uilig. Soláthrófar tacaíocht, comhairle agus cothú maidir le ceisteanna teanga, agus cuirfear túsbhéim ar ábhair éagsúla - dátheangachas na suímh idirlín agus cúrsaí aistriúcháin agus dátheangachais (go háirithe ó thaobh fógraí agus bileoga eolais) ina measc. Beidh moladh á thabhairt freisin faoi chonas is féidir na seirbhísí atá le fáil trí mheán na Gaeilge a threisiú agus a fhairsingiú. Cuirimid lánfáilte roimh éinne a bhfuil moladh nó ceist faoi leith aige/aici maidir leis an ngrúpa, nó maidir le cúrsaí Gaeilge ina leabharlann féin.

Is féidir gach eolas a fháil ón Rúnaí: David McNally, ag dmcnally@dircoco.ie nó ar an nguthán ag (01) 278-1788.

The Irish Language Group Re-established

The newly formed committee of the *Irish Language Group* of the Library Association of Ireland held its first meeting on the 27 May 2004 in Trinity College Dublin. A Chairperson (Cathal Ó Cuinn), vice-Chairperson (Nicole Seabrook), Secretary (David McNally) and Treasurer (Etaín Ó Síocháin) were elected, and the fundamental aims and objectives of the group established. An *Mheitheal Oibre* represents a cross-border endeavour whose primary aim will be to act as a central body offering support and advice on the use of Irish in libraries. Initial efforts will be focused on facilitating and standardising the creation and use of dual language signage and/or dual language internet sites, as well as on strengthening the provision of library services offered through the medium of Irish generally. We welcome queries and/or comments from anyone seeking either further information on the group, or advice on matters concerning the use of Irish in their own library.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, David McNally at: dmcnally@dircoco.ie or by phone at (01) 278-1788.



▲ Some of the new committee members. Left to right: Fiona Heffernan (DLIADT); David McNally (Leabharlanna Dhún Laoghaire-Ráth an Dúin); Nicole Seabrook (TCD); Cathal Ó Cuinn (Leabharlann Bhaile Bhláinséir); Máire Delargy (Ollscoil Ulaidh); Seán de Bhulbh (IT Luimnigh); Etaín Ó Síocháin (Má Nuad).



June 2004

- 11th *Rare Books Group Summer Outing 2004.* A visit to the Jesuit Library, Milltown Park at 2.30 pm. For further details contact the Rare Books Group Secretary, Teresa Whittington – tel: 01-676 1264 or e-mail teresawhittington@eircom.net
- 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/
- 15th *The Goings-on at Sandymount.* A talk on the Nausicaa episode in Joyce's *Ulysses* by Prof. Colbert Kearney Department of English, UCC. Free public lecture in Cork City Library, Grand Parade on the eve of Bloomsday, 8.00 p.m., Tuesday, 15 June 2004. All welcome.
- 24-25th The *Irish Innovative Users Conference (IIUG)* will be held at the Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. For further information, contact Gillian Kerins at +353 1 4042201 or email: gillian.kerins@it-tallaght.ie
- 24-26th *Changing Ways of Thinking about Emigration from Ulster:* XV Ulster-American Heritage Symposium at the Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster American Folk Park, Omagh. For programme details and costs access our website on www.qub.ac.uk/cms or contact Christine Johnston at Christine.johnston@ni-libraries.net; Telephone (028) 8225 6315; Fax (028) 8224 2241.
- 17th-20th *From Aesop to e-book: the story goes on ...* School Library Association and International Association of School Librarians Joint International Conference, Trinity College, Dublin. Further information and booking form available at www.SLA.org.uk Tel.: +44 1793 791787 .e-mail: Aesop@SLA.org.uk
- 24th *Disaster planning, prevention, practical disaster recovery and biocare:* a course organized by Harewell Drying and

Restoration Services at The Holiday Inn, Pearse Street Dublin 2. Introduction and refresher course on the key issues involved in disaster planning and salvage after fire, flood etc. with specific reference to the holdings and services of libraries, archives and museums. Cost €165 for Priority Users and €245 for non-priority users. For further details and reservations: www.harwell-drying.co.uk tel: 44 1235 432245.

- 29th *Access all areas: serving the user –* International Digitisation Conference, St Patrick's Hall, Dublin Castle, Dublin. For details please contact Domitilla Fagan at dfagan@librarycouncil.ie

August 2004

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

September 2004

- 6-8th *Variety is the spice of life:* CILIP Health Libraries Group conference, Belfast. Details: www.cilip.org.uk/groups/hlg/
- 8th *International Literacy Day / International Adult Learners Week*

October 2004

- 12-14th Public Library Authorities Conference, Newcastle. Details: www.cilip.org.uk/groups/hlg/conf.html

November 2004

Hugh M. Fitzpatrick Lectures in Legal Bibliography. A.W. Brian Simpson, Charles F. and Edith J. Clyne, Professor of Law, The University of Michigan Law School, will give the eleventh lecture in this series entitled *Bills of human rights: the forgotten proposals of H.G. Wells and the Alexandre Marc Committee.* The venue is Dublin City Library and Archive, 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2. For further information contact: Hugh M. Fitzpatrick, Library and Information Consultant, Newmount House, 22-24 Lower Mount Street, Dublin 2. t: 01 269 2202, f: 01 661 0664.

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