

IRISH LIBRARY news

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TORY TOP SAYS IT WITH TREES

You will find something more in woods than in books. Trees and stones will teach you that which you can never learn from masters.

Saint Bernard

A debatable point, but Cork City's Tory Top Library is hedging its bets by providing both books and woods. On March 10th Cork's Lord Mayor, Cllr. Deirdre Clune, planted six indigenous Irish trees in Tory Top Park, across the road from the new library to spell the word 'LEABHAR' or book. This event was one of the highlights of a week of celebration in Tory Top Library, marking six months of service since it opened in its new building in September 2005.



In Old Irish the names of trees were used to designate individual letters instead of the alphabet we have now, as follows:

A was 'Ailm' or elm; B was 'Beith' or birch; C was 'Coll' or hazel, and so on.

The six trees planted were a Rowan tree ('Luis' in Irish), an Aspen ('Eabhadh'), an Elm ('Ailm'), a Birch ('Beith'), another Elm ('Ailm') and finally an Elder ('Ruis'). There was no need to represent the 'H' as this is an aspirant on the B. The Lord Mayor planted these trees to spell 'LEABHAR' in Tory Top Park for a number of reasons: it honours Ireland's literary heritage, which is nourished in Tory Top Library and every other library; it symbolises the library's strong roots in the community; it chimes well with the extensive use of natural wood in the new library.

After the planting Matt Cranitch, well known traditional fiddler, played a traditional air, Amhrán na Leabhar a poet's lament for his books, and the Lord Mayor thanked the huge range of local community organizations who have helped Tory Top Library get back on its feet.

[Continued over]

Earlier in the week Michael D. Higgins, TD, gave a reading of his poetry to a full house in the multi-purpose room of the library, and local soccer historian Plunkett Carter gave a talk, Cork soccer: scrapbook memories. A tree was planted in memory of the late Pat Egan by the members of the Tory Top book club; Pat was a former Executive Librarian and founder of the book club. An exhibition of new art by local arts groups was opened by Liam Ronayne, Cork City Librarian and Maeve Dineen, Community Arts Officer, on 7th March. There were a number of other events run in partnership with community organizations during the week: COPE, which works with people with physical and learning disabilities, donated artwork to the library and planted flowers in the library's internal garden, African children took part in a musical morning, following a presentation on the traditions and culture of India by artist Mary Timmons.

BUILDING TRUST IN THE COMMUNITY PROJECT

On 20th April Actor Gerard Byrne, better known as 'Malachy' from *Fair City*, launched an initiative by TRUST and the public library service, with the support of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, to help promote better understanding of the needs of the outsiders in our midst, especially those who are homeless. The initiative aims to make a special DVD entitled *Building Trust in the Community* available to the public and in which Gerard also features, through all of the country's public libraries. Alice Leahy, Director and Co-Founder of TRUST said "we have been very heartened by the encouragement and support we have received for this initiative from librarians and library staff in all parts of the county, especially as they represent as a very unique network that reaches into every community, town and village."



▲ Alice Leahy, Gerard Byrne and Norma McDermott at the launch of the campaign.

Pointing out that this is not just about looking at a DVD Alice Leahy said that the aim was to encourage people to borrow it from the library and watch it with others – family, friends, work colleagues or in a voluntary/community group – and to discuss the issues raised so that everyone would have the opportunity to challenge perceptions and enhance understanding of what it means to be an outsider. "Changing attitudes is as important as getting the government to make resources available if we are serious about creating really inclusive communities where no one is excluded," Alice Leahy said.

Building Trust in the Community is a national project created by TRUST, in association with The Irish Times and is co-sponsored by ESB Electric Aid, and was described by Alice Leahy as a very ambitious national project to give people the chance to help "to change attitudes towards those who are homeless, and to make those who are excluded and outsiders in Irish society feel wanted". The aim of the project she said was also to build on the considerable work already going on in many communities across Ireland by people who make time for those who are excluded.

TRUST has also made available on its web site additional resources as part of the project and can be accessed on: www.trust-ireland.ie Commenting on behalf of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, Director Norma McDermott said: "Public Libraries have always had a mission to provide a space for all, and library management and staff are committed to providing a welcoming and quality service to everyone in the community. We are delighted to join with TRUST in this project and thank library staff around the country for their support."

publications

Godot Go Deo: waiting in Beckett's Dublin is the latest book by Seán Lennon to be published by Fingal County Libraries. It is a book of illustrations based on the Dublin of Beckett's early life. Follow Sam's zany perambulations around the city, from his Clare Street garret to that envy of the Veneto which is known locally as Leeson Street Bridge. If John Minihan is known as the man who shot Beckett, then Seán surely is the man who drew Beckett out of himself and then coloured bits of him in. The book features a supporting cast of thespians who have portrayed Beckett's characters over the years. Buster Keaton, Laurel and Hardy and Charlie Chaplin make brief appearances, cricket and the effect of the weather on Sam's moods are discussed. In his foreword, Barry McGovern writes that 'there are so many far-too-serious and gloomy articles and tomes written about Beckett it's a relief to welcome a book that is light and humorous. *Godot Go Deo* gets right to the spirit of Sam Beckett'.



▲ L-R: actor Barry McGovern, author Sean Lennon, actor Johnny Murphy and Fingal County Council Cathaoirleach Cllr. Robbie Kelly.

RTÉ is to donate a copy of *Samuel Beckett - 100 years* & the MP3 version of Barry McGovern's *Samuel Beckett: Three Novels* to each public library in the Republic of Ireland. The announcement was made at the launch of *Samuel Beckett – 100 years* in Dublin Public Library, Pearse Street on April 26th. Speaking on behalf of the Library Council, Brendan Teeling said 'that it was an important occasion and would help bring Beckett to every county in Ireland'. The book is published by New Island in conjunction with RTÉ's Thomas Davis Lectures to mark the centenary of his birth, and consists of thirteen essays by many of the foremost academics studying Beckett today. The MP3 contains the audio of Beckett's novels: *Molloy*, *Malone Dies* and *The Unnameable*.

A new drug awareness initiative called **Empower** will be launched in Ireland in June 2006. Copies of the new Empower DVD and poster will be distributed through the 32 public library authorities to reach each of the 380 public library service points around Ireland in May 2006, in readiness for the national launch of the Empower Campaign. Run by the HSE and Mid-Tipperary Initiative, and supported by Schering-Plough Pharmaceuticals (Ireland), the campaign will encourage parents, teenagers and the community at large to educate themselves about drug addiction in Ireland, and to empower themselves in a positive way in the struggle against drug abuse in Ireland.

ONE BOOK PROJECTS

Since the Washington Centre for the Book launched the concept of people coming together through the reading and discussion of a common book, the *One Book* idea has been taken up in a number of countries. It can have differing objectives, depending on the aims of the organisers – for some it is for the promotion of literature per se, others use it as a springboard for confronting current social issues. Some examples organised in Ireland are described below. The American Library Association has published a guide for libraries wishing to organise such an event – *One Book, One Community: Planning Your Community-wide Read* is available to download from: <http://www.ala.org/ala/ppo/onebookguide.pdf>.

What does how you hang your washing up, say about you? Well, you really need to get involved in the cross border One book project, a partnership between the **Western Education and Library Board (WELB)** and **Donegal County Council's Library Services** to find out. Librarians from the WELB and Donegal areas are hoping to get over 1,000 people reading Theresa Devlin's, *Divided City*, between March and June 2006.

As Eileen Burgess, County Librarian Donegal Library Services, explained: "We wanted to choose a book that would challenge people's perceptions and bring communities together to discuss issues around peace and reconciliation. We also wanted a good read and this book has it all."

The project is part of the Inspiring Readers programme, an EU funded project through the programme for Peace and Reconciliation (Peace II). One of the project's objectives is to demonstrate that a book can act as a catalyst for change.

Mickey Harte, one of Ireland's most prestigious singer songwriters has lent his support to *The One Book* project which is also featured on his website:

<http://www.mickeyharte.com/gallery.html>.

Mickey said: "If we can get politicians, community groups and teenagers to read the book, this may be a project which actually makes a difference."



▲ Mickey Harte with, L-R, Frances Crampsie, Donegal County Library Services, Kate Devine, WELB Librarian and Jean Fitzpatrick, WELB's Inspiring Readers Project Officer.

As the reviews for the novel demonstrate, Theresa Breslin is not afraid to challenge prejudices. The book tackles the issues of religious and social bigotry in present day Glasgow and examines the added elements of attitudes towards asylum seekers in a story of football rivalry and friendship. However, passages like the story of how you can tell a Catholic from a Protestant by how they hang their washing up capture the humour which is often missing from novels dealing with these issues.

As part of its celebrations for Library Ireland Week, **Mayo County Library** initiated a rather unusual reading programme called *Reading in Mayo in March*. Numerous author events, readings, and interactive workshops were held in various library venues but undoubtedly, one of the most successful aspects of the programme was the One County, One Book initiative. Through this community-wide reading project, Mayo Library hoped to promote a love of reading; cultivate the enjoyment of reading within families and across generations; and also sought to develop a greater sense of

community with people coming together through a shared interest in a common book.

One of Mayo Library's main aims was to try and encourage family shared reading. It was therefore essential to choose a novel which could be enjoyed, discussed and shared by readers from nine to ninety. It was also considered highly desirable that, if possible, a work by an Irish author be selected. John Boyne's *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* was judged the ideal crossover title for the programme and its publication in January 2006 was fortuitous timing indeed. Although initially published for the 9-12yrs market, the advent of an adult edition of the book due later this year has vindicated its selection as a crossover title.

As part of the promotion Mayo County Library, in conjunction with a local newspaper, offered 200 free copies of *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* which were kindly sponsored by I.E.S. Ltd., Leixlip, Co. Kildare. On presenting a completed Book Token from the local paper, readers collected a free copy from their local library provided they, or a member of their family, were library members. Copies of the book were also made available at a discount in Mayo book stores. From the outset, demand for the book, either the free or lending copies, was extremely high with a number of libraries running out of stock within 24hrs.

John Boyne, author of the selected title visited Mayo County Library during the One County, One Book project and conducted some lively and insightful discussions about his No 1 bestseller with both adults and young readers. As a result of this promotion and John's visit a number of Mayo schools have selected *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* as their class novel.



▲ John Boyne in Castlebar Library

Initial results indicate that this unusual reading project succeeded in exciting the imagination of young and old alike. Due to its undoubted success, expectations are high for the continued development and expansion of Mayo County Library's *One County, One Book* reading promotion for *Library Ireland Week* in 2007.

Dublin City's *One City, One Book* project runs from 15th May to 18th June and features Flann O'Brien's masterpiece, *At Swim Two Birds*. An initiative of Dublin City Council, the project is being led by **Dublin City Libraries** in association with Penguin Books. *The Sunday Tribune* and Easons are major sponsors of the event which also has the support of Dublin Tourism and the Docklands Development Authority. This level of support will allow for 100,000 programme leaflets to be made available in the Dublin edition of the *Sunday Tribune* on 14th May, in all Dublin City Libraries and City Council offices, tourist offices, hotels and tour buses. 400 free copies of the book will be available from the City Council's public offices and 650 copies have been purchased for distribution to reading groups. A City-wide advertising campaign with posters and banners is planned and all Dublin bookshops will feature special window displays and promotions. Film screenings and facilitated discussion sessions will form part of the other planned activities. *One City, One Book* will coincide with the Dublin Writers Festival, 2006 [<http://www.dublinwritersfestival.com/>]

Children's Books Ireland proudly announces the 16th annual Summer School (19-21st May, Belvedere College, Dublin 6), the biggest single event in Ireland for adults interested in children's literature. The Summer School provides a unique opportunity to meet some of the most exciting writers and illustrators from Ireland and abroad and hear them discuss their work.

This year's Summer School participants are of particularly high quality and diversity. Central to this year's event is John Boyne, author of the daring *Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, a novel which raises the challenging and engaging concepts of the Holocaust and World War II for young readers. Also significant are Meg Rosoff, who also focuses on the struggles of war, love, and redemption, and Kanako Usui, a young Japanese illustrator who is making her first appearance in Ireland. Add into the mix mother daughter writing partnership and publishing phenomenon Zizou Corder and acclaimed screen writer and author Frank Cottrell Boyce to make this year's Summer School the leading children's book event in Ireland.

Places for the Summer School should be booked in advance by contacting CBI on 01 8727475, or emailing info@childrensbooksireland.com.

For further information please contact: Mags Walsh, Director of Children's Books Ireland

17 North Great George's Street, Dublin 1. t: 01 8727475 / 086 6053888; e: mags@childrensbooksireland.com; w: www.childrensbooksireland.com

Clare County Library and Ennis Book Club Festival Committee are delighted to announce a new Literary Festival. It will take place in Ennis from March 2nd to March 4th, 2007. The Ennis Book Club Festival will be a social and literary gathering to bring together the many Book Clubs that exist nationwide. The programme will include author visits, readings, lectures, music, workshops, exhibitions and more. Book Clubs from all round the country are invited to get together in Ennis to share their joy of reading, to meet authors, to discuss books, and to have a weekend break with friends.

So, Book Clubs everywhere – this is the Festival you've been waiting for – mark your calendar for March 2nd- 4th, 2007 and make the trip to County Clare for an extravaganza of book-related events. You will enjoy poetry in the cosy cafes, readings in the many restaurants and shops, and drama on street corners as you wander through the narrow streets and lanes of Ennis. If you're not a Book Club member come along and find out how to go about setting one up in your area. The festival offers an ideal opportunity for comparing notes and chatting with other Book Club members from all over the country.

Further details will be announced throughout the year. Meanwhile, to register your Book Club for updates on the festival e-mail frances.ogorman@clarelibrary.ie or write to Frances O'Gorman, Clare County Library, Mill Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.

The **XIV World Cochrane Library Colloquium** is coming to Dublin on the 23rd-26th October 2006. The Colloquium is a unique opportunity to celebrate what has been achieved with the Cochrane Library to date and will discuss how the Cochrane Collaboration can continue to grow and evolve to meet its aims.

The Irish Health Science Libraries Group and the UK Cochrane Centre in Oxford have organised a joint initiative to encourage librarians to participate in the Colloquium and the development of the Cochrane Library as a whole. This is in the form of a competition, in which librarians and health information professionals are invited to submit abstracts on the subject of *Librarians and the Cochrane Library*.

The winning abstract will receive free entry to the Colloquium and will be asked to host a 90 minute workshop at the Colloquium, on the abstract that they have submitted. The Training Department in the UK Cochrane Centre will work closely with the winner and will assist them in preparations.

All entries will be jointly adjudicated by Catherine Baldesari and Ann Eisinga of the UK Cochrane Centre.

This is a unique opportunity for librarians and health information professionals who, by taking part in the colloquium, will have a rare opportunity

- To collaborate with fellow health care professionals
- Demonstrate the value of your professional skills
- Showcase and share fresh and innovative ideas
- Become involved in the further development of the Cochrane Library
- Add to your own professional portfolio

Abstracts must be submitted on the standard workshop proposal application form at <http://www.colloquium.info/?pageID=46>. The winning entry will receive notification on the 31st May 2006. Entries should be sent by e-mail, fax, or post on the standard abstract form before the closing date of 12th May 2006 to:

Fiona McCarthy, Head of Library Services, Children's University Hospital, Temple Street,

Dublin 1. t: 01 8784323; f: 01 8784582; e: icol.mccarthy@tsch.ie

For more information on the programme and registration details of the Cochrane Colloquium, please go to: www.colloquium.info

If you want to learn more about the Cochrane Library, please go to: www.thecochranelibrary.com

Cork County Library Service is pleased to announce the introduction of a range of audio-described videos at three of its branch libraries, Skibbereen, Mallow and Model Farm Road, Cork. This service was launched at Model Farm Road on Tuesday 14th March 2006.

Audio described videos enable people with sight difficulties to fully enjoy popular films in the comfort of their own homes. These videos contain the same action and dialogue as any other film but audio description fills in the gaps in films by describing facial expressions, body language, actions and scenery. The audio description is arranged around the main film soundtrack and does not interfere with the original film. The videos play on an ordinary video recorder and special equipment is not required.

The range of titles available includes both adult and family viewing, for example, *The English Patient*, *Ocean's Eleven*, *Pirates of the Caribbean* as well as *Harry Potter*, *Snow White* and *Finding Nemo*.

Lists of all titles are available in each library in Braille and on Audio Tape. The catalogue can also be accessed via the Cork County Council website at www.corkcoco.ie.

For any further information, please contact Orlagh Forde, Cork County Library, Model Business Park, Model Farm Road, Cork. 021-4546499.



▲ Ruth Flanagan, County Librarian, Maura Meaney, VIP, Orlagh Forde, Audio-Visual Librarian, and Angela Brennan, NCBI.

As part of the Beckett Centenary Celebrations, **Dublin City Public Libraries** in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs presents the exhibition *Beckett – a Centenary Celebration* Outlining the life and work of Samuel Beckett, it also details Beckett's origins in Dublin which formed his early experience, the progression of his life and his eventual residence in France. *Beckett – a Centenary Celebration* was developed for the international market by the Department, and is now available to

audiences in Ireland through collaboration with the public library system.

Versions of this exhibition, consisting of twenty panels (in various sizes), similar to the *Mapping Joyce* exhibition previously circulated, will be available to library authorities throughout Ireland.

This is an excellent exhibition which provides a very good "in" to Beckett's life and work.

For further information contact:

t: 01-67844800/6744844;

e: dublincitypubliclibraries@dublincity.ie;

w: www.dublincitypubliclibraries.ie

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries have just started up a Theatre Club as part of their energetic Bealtaine programme for 2006. The plan is to read and discuss a script, then go along to enjoy the performance at Pavilion Theatre Dún Laoghaire and elsewhere. The first meeting included a short excerpt by actress Mary McEvoy who was rehearsing a lunchtime play called *Waiting* by Jennifer Johnston. The plan for the Club is to include regular sessions with writers, actors and directors.

Actress Helen Norton will be the facilitator for the Theatre Club for the first 6 months or so until the Theatre Club finds its feet. Helen has worked at The Abbey, The Gate, Project, Druid, The Lyric and most theatres in Dublin and around the country. Her film credits include *Angela's Ashes*, *Veronica Guerin* and *A Love Divide* to name but a few. The Theatre Club will study Declan Gorman's *Hades* for their May meeting and Peta Murray's *Wallflowering* for June. It is hoped to create an archive of theatre literature in Dún Laoghaire Library as a result of this initiative.



▲ Mary McEvoy, Caroline Fitzgerald and Helen Norton in Dún Laoghaire Library at the Theatre Club's first meeting on 7th April.

The celebration of the 17th Féile Filíochta International Poetry Competition took place on Friday 24th March in the County Hall, Dún Laoghaire. It was a night for everyone to remember, as half way through the celebration, the fire alarm went off and all the guests had to be evacuated. Other than that, the evening went without a hitch and the organisers were delighted to welcome so many of our prizewinners from various parts of Ireland and other far-flung regions of the globe, especially Christl Greller from Vienna who won the overall *Féile Filíochta Poem of Europe Award* for her poem *im sneesturm*. This trophy is awarded by the Assemblée des Régions d'Europe for the most outstanding Adult Category poem. It was a pleasure to hear all 9 languages of the competition spoken, a fitting event to mark the close of Intercultural Week in Dún Laoghaire Rathdown. Christl's poem in German and in English can be seen on Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County Library's website along with all the other prizewinning poems.

The library service has updated its multi-lingual library information leaflets. They have been produced in order to provide an equitable library service to all residents of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown and to acknowledge and celebrate the County's increasing linguistic diversity. The leaflets contain information of the library service in nine languages; Portuguese, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Polish, Russian, Arabic and Chinese.

To complement this leaflet a display of books in all of these languages is available in Deansgrange Library. This initiative has been coordinated by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries' Fusion committee.

Health Service Executive staff can now access health service libraries from home or from work thanks to a new website. www.hselibrary.ie is the gateway to an electronic library of health information. An initiative of the **HSE Regional Librarians' Group**, the website aims to provide comprehensive high quality knowledge content.

Key resources of the website include:-

- Full text electronic journals
- Databases of journal articles
- Irish Health Publications Archive
- Directory of HSE Libraries

The HSE Regional Librarians Group represents HSE library services nationally and has been actively involved in conjoint working for a number of years.

The mission of the Librarians Group is to provide high quality, value for money, co-ordinated library and information services for all HSE staff, thereby enhancing patient and consumer care.

HSE Libraries Online provides 24/7 access from work or home and also acts as a contact point for a Digital Archive of Irish Health Information.

It is envisaged that the range of resources available will be extended and developed over the coming months and years.

For further information please contact either:

Bennery Rickard,
Regional Librarian
HSE National Shared Services
bennery.rickard@mailk.hse.ie

Nicola Fay,
Regional Librarian,
HSE Mid Leinster
nicola.fay@mailq.hse.ie

The International Edible Book Festival was celebrated in An Chomhairle Leabharlanna on Wednesday 5th April. The skill and inventiveness of the entries eclipsed the disappointing number of cakes entered this year. Niamh's entry – *One flew over the Cuckoo's Nest* – was unanimously acclaimed, then eaten.



For entries from across the book eating world, go to www.books2eat.com

The **INULS** [Irish National and University Library Staff] Conference is being held at Queen's University, Belfast, on its city centre campus from Thursday 29th June until Saturday 1st July.

The theme of this year's conference is *New Directions for Service Delivery*, focusing on support for library users. The programme offers a rich mix of experienced speakers and informal discussion sessions, coupled with a varied programme of visits and social events which the organisers hope will appeal to a wide cross-section of library staff.

Registration – before April 30th the cost is € 276.00 [£190.00]. After that it is € 327.00 [£225.00].

<http://www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/InformationServices/TheLibrary/INULS/INULSHomePage/>

Kerry County Library: an exhibition titled *Remembering the Rising: Kerry in 1916 and its aftermath* was officially opened on 18th April at the County Library, Tralee by Toiréasa Ferris, Mayor of Kerry.

The exhibition incorporated local and national newspaper reports of the time, local archive material and artifacts reflecting the level of activity in the county. Included will be the lamp which was to be used to signal the *Aud*, local business archives including a letter book of Austin Stack's employer Dr. John O'Connell, and cuttings from newspapers such as *The Kerryman*, *The Kerry Evening Post*, *The Kerry Press*, *Kerry News*, *Kerry Advocate* and *The Irish Times*.



▲ Mayor of Kerry, Toiréasa Ferris, who opened the 1916 Exhibition with some of the other contributors to the event – Sulaiman Kireeny, Ellen O'Brien and Abigail Mahony.



▲ Kerry Library staff at the launch of the exhibition: Eamon Browne, Patti Ann O'Leary, Tommy O'Connor (Acting County Librarian), Michael Lynch (County Archivist)

The **Oireachtas Library** commenced a significant development programme in late 2005 following the creation of a new management team, comprising of a Head of Library and Research Services (Madelaine Dennison), Head of Library (Maura Corcoran) and Head of Research (Maria Fitzsimons).

This management team has been charged with the establishment of a new parliamentary research service and the significant expansion of existing library and information services. The result will be an integrated Library and Research Service which will deliver high-quality information and research services and resources to support the work of both Houses, Committees and individual Members. There is much evidence from parliamentary library/research service managers internationally that parliamentarians are best served through such an integrated continuum of library, information and research services.

The staff of the Service will increase to thirty by the summer (there were twelve staff in mid-2005) and a number of recruitment competitions for Senior Researchers, Researchers and Research Librarian are underway. Existing and new staff will move into new office accommodation close to Leinster House. A portfolio of innovative research products is being developed and the library's collections are being significantly upgraded particularly in the areas of law, social science, economics and political science.

Roscommon County Library's promotion of the *Lifesteps* and *Borrow Books* initiatives received some positive coverage in the local press, raising the profile of both the service developments and the library service itself. Other recent activities included World Book Day celebrations in Boyle Library and an exhibition relating to the Folklore Manuscripts which was organised as part of Roscommon Multicultural Week.

The World Book Day celebrations included a new children's poetry publication programme, special poetry reading sessions for adults with poets Mary Melvin Geoghegan and Gwen McNamara and the launch of the Boyle Library Book Club.

Forty local yarn spinners have signed up for an accredited course in Storytelling Practice at the Wexford Campus of IT, Carlow. This initiative of the **Wexford Library Service** is in association with the University of Glamorgan Wales. Students will gain a Certificate in Storytelling, that is worth 20 credits at Level 1 Higher Education standard or a module towards a BA qualification. Successful students look forward to work as storytellers in care, education and heritage areas as well as in the county's public libraries and storytelling houses. The resources of the public library service, particularly its Local Studies Collections, its children's literature collections and its information literacy courses, are being made available to students. Students are enrolled also as member of the ITC library service. The programme is part supported by LEADER Plus funding. The course runs throughout 2006. A project report will be available in early 2007. More information from Yvonne Smyth or Fionnuala Hanrahan t: 053 9124922

e: libraryhq@wexfordcoco.ie

Sixty booklovers from Reading Circles throughout the South East and Dublin shared their experiences and favourite books at a Forum within **Wexford's Book Festival** this April. A recommended reading list was developed and is available from www.wexfordbook.com. The forum was organised as part of the library contribution and travellers stayed to enjoy the other elements of the four day Festival. More information from Dearbhla.nilaighin@wexfordcoco.ie. t: 053 91 24922.

vacancies



Part-time Assistant Librarian (Temporary)

The Institute of Public Administration wishes to recruit a suitably qualified assistant librarian, mainly for classifying and cataloguing materials but also to perform other duties which may from time to time be requested by the Librarian. This position is a half-time post (17.5 hours per week), working mornings. It will be for a period of up to ten months (to cover maternity leave) and will commence early-July 2006.

The successful candidate will have:

- A recognised library / information qualification
- An understanding and experience of computerised information systems and services
- Good IT skills
- An attention to detail
- Good interpersonal skills
- Flexibility, when required, to work as an effective member of a small team.

The salary range for the post is €16,076 to €22,036 per annum (based on working 17.5 hours per week). Qualifications and experience will determine entry point. The appointment may be made on a contract or secondment basis. Please write, stating how you meet the requirements of the role and enclosing a full CV, before Monday 29 May 2006 to: Tom Ward, Head of Human Resources, Institute of Public Administration, 57 – 61 Lansdowne Road, Dublin 4, Telephone +353 1 2403600, fax +353 1 6689135, email Liza.Digan@ipa.ie

COLICO UPDATES



COLICO (Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland) is a North-South body whose function it is to optimise the collective value of the combined resources of Irish libraries for their clientele. The committee was established in 1977 and since 1994 has been the formal advisory body on library co-operation to both An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, and the Library and Information Services Council, Northern Ireland (LISC). An

Chomhairle Leabharlanna provides the Secretariat to the committee.

COLICO monitors and encourages co-operative projects on the island of Ireland and works towards providing and enhancing shared resources for library staff and users. Most Irish libraries co-operate with COLICO by providing data on their document supply and inter-library loans traffic which are included in the statistics published in the COLICO Annual Report.

Rediscover and learn more about it through our new COLICO updates section in *Irish Library News* and www.librarycouncil.ie/colico

COLICO updates will provide you from now on with snapshots on the latest activities and information received from the committee. Full details are available on the COLICO web site at www.librarycouncil.ie/colico.

Pathways to learning: Inspire and the COLICO Conference

COLICO is at present exploring the feasibility of providing a cross-sectoral pathway for learning to users of the public, academic, national and specialised libraries in Ireland to promote wider participation in the knowledge economy.

A precedent has been set by the Inspire programme (www.inspire.gov.uk) in the United Kingdom which has received widespread support. Inspire is a national programme to encourage and to help libraries from all sectors to work together so that they can provide better support for learners and potential learners.

In this context, COLICO is organising the conference *Pathways to learning: exploring the potential for cross-sectoral library service provision*. The event will address the challenges in providing equal access to the rich resources of Irish libraries. Librarians will have the opportunity to hear senior representatives of the profession from all the sectors will consider the issues leading to the development of such a mechanism.

Full details on the event will be available in future issues and the COLICO web site shortly.

British Library news

The British Library is a representative body to COLICO and provides the Committee with regular updates on their activities. Below is a snapshot of their latest news. For full details check <http://www.librarycouncil.ie/colico/BLNews1.shtml>

1. *Collections and Access* – The European Library has a new user survey. You are encouraged to participate at <http://www.theeuropeanlibrary.org/portal/index.htm>
2. *Turning the Pages* – On 12th January, *Mozart's Verzeichnuss aller meiner Werke* was made available to internet users for the first time. This latest edition to the British Library's *Turning the Pages* is a coloured version of the original manuscript. Its pages can be 'virtually' turned and viewed online at <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/ttp/ttpbooks.html> and in the Treasures Gallery of the British Library.
3. *Newspapers* – The next major exhibition to be held at the British Library in London will be *Front Page: Celebrating 100 years of the British Newspaper 1906-2006*, which will take place from 25th May to 8th October.

4. Document Supply – 39% of material is now delivered electronically by the Document Supply Service. Full instructions on the use of Secure Electronic Delivery is available from the British Library at <http://www.bl.uk/>

BorderIreland.info

A new website entitled *Border Ireland* which is funded by the European Union and acts as a one-stop-shop to access cross-border information was launched on 29th March in Dublin by Minister for Finance, Brian Cowen TD. Its principal aim is to centralise the uncoordinated and fragmented information about cross-border co-operation on the island of Ireland through providing an online searchable database of activities, publications, funding and contacts relating to policy development and practical cross-border co-operation since the early 1980s.

Information gathered to date highlights that €1.47 billion has been invested in cross-border co-operation and further details are available at <http://www.borderireland.info/>

If you require more information on COLICO and its activities please contact Domitilla Fagan or Rónán Mac Lochlainn at colico@librarycouncil.ie

people

Dr Philip Cohen became Head of Library Services at Dublin Institute of Technology at the end of 2004, replacing Warwick Price who retired.

Philip has 25 years experience in all areas of library work in Third Level institutions. These include University of Northumbria at Newcastle, Bournemouth University, Manchester Metropolitan University and (most recently) Liverpool University.

He is a Chartered Member of CILIP in the UK and is desperately trying to complete his Professional Development Report to gain Associateship of the LAI.



Although this is his first post in Ireland, Philip is thoroughly enjoying the experience:

"I'm very pleased to be at DIT at such an exciting time.

The future is full of challenges and – particularly with developments at our new Grangegorman campus – I'd like to make Library Services even more central to the learning and teaching process.

Libraries of all sectors have always co-operated and I hope to enhance the good links we have already in order to make the most of the many opportunities available".

There have been a number of appointments in the Library and Research Service, Office of the Houses of the Oireachtas.

Madelaine Dennison has been appointed Head of Library and Research Services. Madelaine was previously the Information Manager in the Office of the Attorney General. Maura Corcoran has been appointed Head of Library. Maura previously held the post of Librarian in the Oireachtas Library. **Maria Fitzsimons** has been appointed Head of Research. Maria was previously the Law Librarian in the Chief State Solicitor's Office.

may 2006

- 10th *Advanced internet searching for information workers* - a one-day course presented by McGrath Barrett & Associates in the Urban Institute, U.C.D.. To register, or for further details, please contact: Brid McGrath, McGrath Barrett & Associates, 2 Richmond Hill, Rathmines, Dublin 6. Phone/fax: 01-4977043; mobile: 087-2476424; email: mcgrathbarrett@eircom.net
- 16-19th *3rd Celtic Connections Conference*, Thistle Hotel, Cardiff. Programme and booking form available on the Library Association of Ireland's website: www.celticconnections.info
- 18th *Customer care for libraries* – a one-day course presented by McGrath Barrett & Associates. To register, or for further details, please contact: Dr. Brid McGrath, McGrath Barrett & Associates, 2 Richmond Hill, Rathmines, Dublin 6. Phone/fax: 01-4977043; mobile: 087-2476424; email: mcgrathbarrett@eircom.net
- 19-21st Children's Books Ireland Summer School, Belvedere College, 6 Great Denmark Street, Dublin 1. [see News & Events in this issue]. For further details contact: Children's Books Ireland, 17 North Great George's Street, Dublin 1; t: 01-8727475; e: info@childrensbooksireland.com; w: www.childrensbooksireland.com.

june 2006

- 9-11th *Quickstep or Salsa? New partners and new steps for public libraries*. CILIP's Public Libraries Group conference, Wyboston Lakes, Bedfordshire. Details: www.cilip.org/plg2006
- 29th-1st July New Directions for Service Delivery - INULS Irish National and University Library Staff Conference, Queen's University, Belfast
www.qub.ac.uk/directorates/InformationServices/TheLibrary/INULS/INULSHomePage/

july 2006

- 3-7th *The multiple faces of literacy: reading, knowing, doing* – International Association of School Librarianship conference, Lisbon. Details: www.iasl-slo.org/
- 4-7th *Turning the library inside out* – LIBER 35th annual general conference, Uppsala, Sweden. Further details: www.conference.slu.se/LIBER/index.htm or www.kb.dk/liber/

august 2006

- 20-24th 72nd IFLA General Conference and Council: *Libraries: dynamic engines for the knowledge and information society*. Venue: Seoul, Korea. Details: www.ifla2006seoul.org
- 26th-3rd Heritage Week – libraries are asked to register planned events with www.heritageweek.ie.

October 2006

- 11-13th Public Library Authorities conference, De Vere Grand Harbour Hotel, Southampton [further details to follow].
- 23-26th *XIV World Cochrane Library Colloquium* [see News & Events in this issue]. For more information on the programme and registration details of the Cochrane Colloquium, please check out www.colloquium.info

March 2007

- 2-4th The Ennis Book Club Festival [see News & Events in this issue]. Details: frances.ogorman@clarelibrary.ie

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