

IRISH LIBRARY news

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A RESEARCH STUDY INTO PUBLIC LIBRARY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN IRELAND

The Children's Research Centre, Trinity College has been commissioned by the Office of the Minister for Children to undertake a study into public library provision for young people aged 13-17 years and young people's views and opinions on public library services. The study commenced in January 2007 and will be concluded in December 2007.

The aim of the research is to "investigate young peoples' (13-17 years of age) opinions and perceptions of current library services, as well as to obtain their ideas for creating a public library that would appeal to their age group".

The study will involve a review of national and international literature; a questionnaire / interview survey of existing library provision; identification of examples of good practice, nationally and internationally, including site visits; focus group discussion with groups of young people reflecting the diversity of young people in Ireland today; focus group discussions with Library personnel and with children and young people's service providers; a school based sample survey of young peoples views.

Over the next few weeks a questionnaire will be sent to a selection of county, city and branch libraries and mobile services, followed up by telephone interviews with library staff. In addition selected libraries will be contacted with a view to hosting focus groups for young people on library premises.

It is envisaged that the study findings identify examples of best practice in library provision for young people, highlight the views and experiences of young people, both library users and non-users, and produce informed recommendations for the future development of public library provision for young people in Ireland.

The research team of Prof. Robbie Gilligan, Dr. Bríd McGrath and Margaret Rogers would welcome the views of any library staff or users concerning library services for teenagers to bridmcgrath@eircom.net

DEMONSTRATION LIBRARY PROJECT EXTENDED

Minister for Education and Science, Mary Hanafin, T.D., recently announced the extension of the Junior Certificate Support Programme (JCSP) Demonstration Library Project for ten more post primary schools as part of the DEIS Action Plan.

The Demonstration Library Project began in 2001 as part of the Department of Education and Science Early Literacy Initiative to provide literacy and numeracy support for students up to Junior Certificate level. Introduced in 1996, the JCSP is aimed at providing support for Junior Certificate students who are experiencing difficulty or who may be at risk of leaving school early.

Ten extra schools will now benefit from quality school libraries staffed by professionally qualified librarians who will have professional research support. Last year almost 3,700 students benefited from these enhanced supports. In order to further support numeracy and literacy initiatives, funding will increase from €2.5million to €4million next year.

Launched last year, the DEIS Action Plan is a comprehensive programme involving over €40million extra each year, aimed at providing all of the supports that children from socially and economically disadvantaged areas need to make the most of the educational opportunities available to them.

Under DEIS the Demonstration Library Project will be extended on a phased basis to an additional 50 Post-primary schools.

These schools, catering for disadvantaged students, will be encouraged to reinforce the concept of the whole-school approach and will be supported to:

- set up and equip high quality school libraries
- develop structured library based strategies with ICT support for JCSP students with literacy difficulties
- employ professionally qualified school librarians who will work with the teaching staff to develop and implement the JCSP Literacy Strategy and who will be supported by the Project Librarian and the JCSP Support Service
- participate in an ongoing monitoring and evaluation process which is a major part of the project

The Department of Education and Science has announced the availability of a series of small capital grants for the improvement of schools under the dormant accounts educational disadvantage and rapid leverage fund. This includes grant aid for enhancing school library facilities either through the upgrading of existing library facilities or the development of new school library facilities. Eligible activities include the provision of library stock, ICT equipment, fixtures and fittings and the construction and fit out of a new school library. Given the limited funding available priority will be given to projects that enhance existing facilities rather than the construction of new facilities.

A school applying for a new library building can also apply for fixtures and fittings, stock and other ICT equipment, however, approval for these items will be contingent on first receiving approval for the new build element.

An indicative amount of €5.0 million will be made available to fund this measure.

For further information see:
http://www.education.ie/servlet/blobServlet?ci0004_2007.doc

DEIS (delivering equality of opportunity in schools): an action plan for educational inclusion. – Dublin: Department of Education & Science, 2005.

publications

IFLA and UNESCO have published the **IFLA UNESCO Internet Manifesto Guidelines**. These have been prepared by IFLA/FAIFE (the IFLA Committee on Free Access to Information and Freedom of Expression); and generously sponsored by UNESCO's Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme (IFAP); and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida).

The guidelines are based on the principles stated in the IFLA Internet Manifesto (<http://www.ifla.org/ill/misc/internetmanifesto.htm>) that was prepared by IFLA/FAIFE and adopted unanimously by the Council of IFLA in August 2002. The *Manifesto* was created out of a perceived need for a policy document that brought the traditional library values of freedom of expression and freedom of access to information into the age of the Internet. Following the adoption, the manifesto has been translated into 19 languages, and adopted by national library associations in 30 countries. IFLA is following the implementation of the *Manifesto* through the bi-annual *IFLA/FAIFE World Report*. To achieve the aims of the Internet *Manifesto*, IFLA decided to prepare a set of guidelines that are specific to Internet access programmes in libraries, and concern service policies and procedures that will lead to the implementation of the Internet *Manifesto*'s values in everyday library work.

The *Guidelines* offer guidance to library and information professionals, policymakers, and politicians in drawing up policies concerning public access to networked information in libraries. They provide a framework for implementation of policies guaranteeing freedom of access to information and freedom of expression on the Internet, as well as access to information held by cultural institutions such as libraries, and will hopefully be of practical help when objectives, priorities and services in relation to national and local community needs be defined. For the guidelines to be relevant to all members of the international library community, efforts have made to ensure that the specific needs and challenges of the developing world are addressed.

exhibitions for loan

Little Things Mean a Lot: a photographic exhibition organised by the Environment Committee of South County Dublin An Taisce, featuring water pumps, post-boxes, gates, milestones, plaques and many other heritage features. The exhibition contains beautifully photographed reminders of the art and craftsmanship of another age. The exhibition is available on loan from February 2007 and consists of up to 70 photographic panels (440mm x 350mm). Contact Veronica Rowe at 295 6502 or email drowe@esatc.ie

Forty Years Behind the Lens at RTÉ: *Behind the Lens* is a fascinating account of the life, times and memories of Godfrey Graham, a cameraman with RTE since the early days of the national broadcasting service in the 1960s, right up to the present day. He saw, at first hand, the changes in Ireland, Europe, Africa and America, as well as meeting some of the world's most famous (and infamous) politicians, entertainers and authors. His work on documentary, current affairs and drama, won him a Jacobs Award - and shooting films on Louis Le Brocqy, Patrick Kavanagh, Brendan Behan and Edna O'Brien brought Graham close to major artists of the day.

This exhibition is based on his book of the same name and showcases his vivid and unique memoir. Please contact Mairead Owens at 764 0405 or mowens@eircom.ie if you would like to host this exhibition, which consists of 30 panels, dimensions 841mm x 594mm.

Take 5 – of the 'best modern civic buildings in Europe'

Cork City Libraries



Bishopscroft Library

Bishopscroft Library, located in the western suburbs of Cork City, opened to the public on 6 November 2003, and was formally opened on 6 December 2003 by the Irish Taoiseach, T.D. Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, in the presence of the local Mayor, Cllr Michael Aherin. Other speakers at the official opening were: City Manager, Joe Gahan; Director of Services, Joe Kennedy; City Librarian, Liam Reavyne, President of the Library Association of Ireland, Ruth Farrington and Tony Verdine, MD of Trócaire Ireland, who donated the library site to Cork City Council.



Liam Reavyne, Cork City Librarian speaking at the opening of Bishopscroft Library

Bishopscroft Library, with an area of 1,000 m² is a state of the art building – a 21st century design, with 21st century materials and fittings. There are two public floors and a smaller top floor containing book club and plant room. The library occupies a strong site and community presence, with a location between a large modern shopping centre, a local parish church and community centre, and across from the large, modern Cork University Hospital. The ceiling heights of more than 3 metres on both public floors are generous and, together with the glass curtain frontage on two sides, provide for a bright, airy feeling. The glass is on the north and east elevations, including to a minimum any problems with glare or heat retention, as the east frontage is shaded by the adjacent shopping centre. The library is planned open plan on two levels, but with some internal spaces defined either by partitions, or solid walls. Internal divisions on the first floor are kept to a minimum and most are of glass, to create a wide area. The library has three multipurpose spaces, which can be used when the rest of the building is closed to the public. These comprise a multi-purpose space opening off the children's library, a glass enclosed multi-purpose space on the first floor, and – an innovation for Cork City Libraries – a glass study room.

The ground floor, with its entrance via a glass screen from the entrance to the Wilson Shopping Centre, houses the children and young people's area, and the adult fiction and multimedia area. The children's area (including the multi-purpose space) takes up some 45% of the open space on the ground floor; the adult fiction and multimedia also take up approximately 45%; while the concourse, desk etc. account for the remainder. The main lounge desk is located in full view of the entrance, with a staff work room located immediately behind it. The multi-purpose space located next to the children's area, can be used for exhibitions, reading, music and other events and, while primarily for children, it can be used for events for both adults and children.



The first floor houses the Information & Learning area – the open space is designed to encourage, research, information, and non-fiction, pre-recorded stock and linking learning resources. There is an information enquiry desk on this floor. The first floor also accommodates the multi-purpose space (600 m²), furniture store, the smaller group study room, staff facilities and public toilets. The multi-purpose space on this floor will be mainly used for exhibitions and meetings organized by library staff, but will also be available to other agencies and community bodies. The group study room will be used by youth groups, linking learning groups, adult literacy, etc., and reflects both the changing school curriculum and the increasing importance of linking learning to the community at large.

There are 40 public access PCs between the two floors. These may be used for internet access, computer self-learning, CDCL practice, as well as searching the library's own online resources. Bishopscroft Library also has provision for the public to use their own laptops in-house.

The library is open to the public 56 hours per week, including Saturdays and two late evenings.

Fingal County Libraries



The new Rathbrigg Library was officially opened by Mr. Daniel Aherin T.D., Minister for Foreign Affairs on Saturday 20th January.



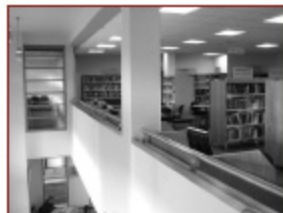
Minister Aherin with County Librarian Paul Harris

As a result of a public-private partnership, the existing Rathbrigg Library building has been renovated and extended as part of the re-development of George's Quay, and the end result is a state of the art library for the growing population of Rathbrigg. Minister Aherin paid tribute to the role of libraries in community life, and said that the new building, opening all over Ireland, are among the best modern civic buildings in Europe.



Rathbrigg Library

The library will be open 56 hours a week including lunchtimes – which, along with Blanchardstown and Fildeside libraries, are the longest opening hours in the country. The total available space of the new library, including shared facilities, is now 1,201 m².



Rathbrigg Library

Facilities include a large adult library, reference library, junior library, young adult section, study area, and a new local history section. Nineteen new public PCs with the internet access have been installed, three of which are exclusively for children's use. Over 40,000 items are available for Rathbrigg library users to borrow, including books, CDs, DVDs, foreign language books, adult literacy material, language-learning aids, magazines, newspapers, local history material and a new print collection. It is projected that the current stock level will rise to over 70,000 items.

The library will also provide a line programme of events and activities for both adults and children. Over 1,200 free events took place in Fingal County Libraries in 2005. Events planned for the new Rathbrigg library include local history and genealogy courses, adult art classes, author visits and site and crafts for children.

Kerry County Libraries



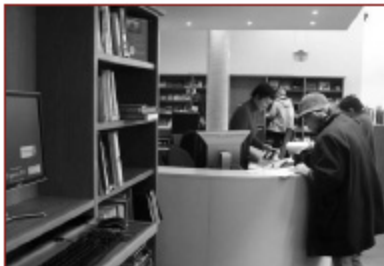
The new library opened at Kilmartin on 28th November, 2008. Situated at the newly and aptly named Library Place, it is ideally situated in a central location within Kilmartin town. It replaces a stone-clad building which was originally opened in 1976.

Take 5

The library is included within a Kerry County Council Area Service building, part of a €34million town centre project. This is a partnership project, developed by Kerry County Council and Laune Properties. The Library and Area Service Centre is a quality public building with a sense of space - utilising natural light, sun and, by means of a geothermal heating system, the natural warmth of Kerry. The overall development, which is being completed on a phased basis, covers three acres, and when completed will include retail units, apartments, advance offices, 250 underground car park spaces, a tourist office, public toilets, plaza, town park/playground and the Area Service Centre which forms a landmark building with four focal facades.



The internal divider has been extended into the internal courtyard to provide an enlarged exhibition/concourse area. The extension consists of a frameless glazed roof which is supported by a masonry wall, within which the three existing stained glass windows have been restored and relocated. This newly created atrium leads to a landscaped courtyard. These newly created spaces provide ideal venues for the library's outreach and cultural programmes. The conference room has been designed as a multi-functional space to accommodate lectures, talks, and meetings.



Kerry County Library

The area of the new library is 324 m² and is open 36 hours per week, including Saturday and lunchtime opening. It has a book stock of 15,500 volumes, covering adult, children's and reference requirements. Among the services available are 6 public access internet computers (including 1 express & 1 children's), a PC reservation system, wireless internet and a laptop for public use. The foyer of the building hosts paintings from the very prestigious Pauline Bewick Seven Ages collection.

The project is a tribute to the various community groups who took an interest - residents, traders, the owners and occupiers of the space on which it is constructed, the developers (Laune Properties), the main contractors (ECK) and sub-contractors (including KMS and D. Sugrue), architects (Murray O'Leary), the elected Members of Kerry County Council, the management, staff of and advisors to the Council.

The library opened for business on 28 November 2006 and has been very well received and used by the community since that time.

Offaly County Library

The former St. John's Convent of Mercy, Birr, was built between 1846 and 1856 and is considered one of the gems of Birr's architectural heritage. Designed by A.W.N. Pugin and completed by his son Edward Pugin and George Ashlin, its architecture is of national significance and international interest. Offaly County Council acquired the property in 1996 to accommodate the town library, area offices and the town council. A new entrance was provided to the south-eastern side of the building, creating an internal paved roadway to car parking near the front entrance and rear of the building.



Birr Library

The library is located on two floors. The first floor space, the original Pugin Chapel, accommodates the adult library. This magnificent space features gothic style, stone mullioned stained glass windows, all of which have been restored and storm glazed. A mezzanine floor has been introduced and the existing balcony rail has been retained. The timber trusses have been exposed to create a space of high quality.



The children's library is situated on the ground floor, with designated spaces for children's activities. One such space has been named in memory of Violet Dodgin, Birr's first librarian, who took up duty in 1942.



Take 5

Computers are provided on each floor. In addition to the traditional services, the library provides optical scanning facilities, online Ordnance Survey maps, microfilm reader/printer providing access to over 150 years of Birr's newspapers. It also holds the facsimile of the Macregol Gospels (The Book of Birr), the original of which is held in the Bodleian Library, at the University of Oxford, and other treasures of local interest.

Wicklow County Library



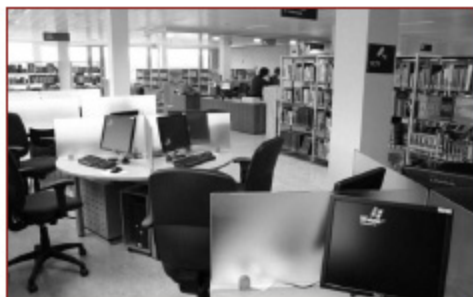
Blessington Library was officially launched by Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Dick Roche T.D. on 21st November 2006. Minister Roche praised Wicklow County Council for this state-of-the-art library in west Wicklow. He said surveys show that the public library is the local authority service that is most appreciated by the public.



Minister Roche at the opening of Blessington Library.

Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council, Cllr. Joe Behan, said he was pleased to note the contribution made by Wicklow County Council to the library budget in recent times, is substantially above the national average across all local authorities. He stressed the need to ensure that the public library would remain a free service to all, it being a place in each community where all people can feel welcome.

County Manager, Eddie Sheehy, thanked the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, for enabling the project to be carried out. The County Manager thanked all involved in the project and presented



Blessington Library.

a bouquet each to Mrs. Alice Farrington and Margaret Flynn who had managed the former Blessington library from 1972-1976 and 1976-2006 respectively.

The library is 385 m² in size and cost €2,354,000 in total. More than 70% of this was funded by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, with Wicklow County Council providing the remaining funding required.

Located over Dunnes Stores, in the new Town Centre development, the library is ideally situated. The location lends itself to stunning views of the surrounding countryside viewed through the large windows which wrap around two sides of the library.

In addition to shelving for 15,000 items, it has a wide range of attractions and services:

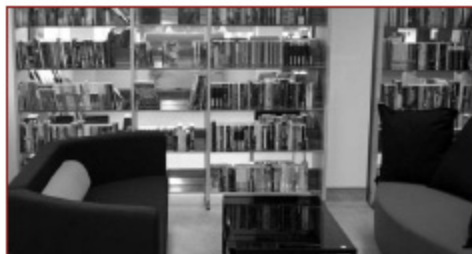
- 8 internet computers for adult use
- 4 computers for children's use,
- 12 individual study spaces
- Separate teenage area, including an audio listening post
- Community room, for use by voluntary groups during library opening hours. This room contains an additional 4 internet computers
- Selection of CDs and DVDs for borrowing
- Free access to online databases from your home pc, via your membership card
- Books for borrowing in a number of European languages
- Newspaper magazine area

The junior area is bright and stimulating, while the adjacent teenage area invites readers to relax on comfortable modern sofas, to browse or listen to music on the audio post.

The speakers' aspirations have certainly come to pass as, in the first three weeks of opening - more than 800 people have become members of the new library. 85% of who had not been members of the former Blessington library. The community room is proving very popular with local voluntary groups and the teenage area is very much appreciated by its target audience. With the library being open for 49 hours per week, including lunchtime, two evenings and Saturday, the Blessington public will have every opportunity to become familiar with the services on offer.

In addition to this project, Wicklow County Council's "Library Development Plan 2002 - 2006" has seen a number of projects come to fruition, including more than 70% of an increase in library opening hours, across all locations and a doubling of the library revenue budget over the period. This service is provided against a background of free membership and free internet access to all.

Take 5



Teenage Section, Blessington Library

news and events (continued)

Another Successful Festival @ Monaghan Libraries – Over 2,500 young people came through the doors of Monaghan libraries during October alone for the various events offered. These ranged from storytelling sessions with Fra Gunn, Joe Brennan, Pat Speight and Pat Ryan, author talks/workshops with Oisín McGann, Marilyn Taylor, Nan Gibbons, Catherine Ann Cullen and drama workshops with Eoin Doyle, Animal Magic roadshow with Rosie Campbell and puppet shows from Pignut productions. The annual Table Quiz was another runaway success again this year, with children from the length and breadth of County Monaghan taking part. Preliminary heats were held in each of the 5 branch libraries, with the top two of each heat moving on to compete in the final. It truly was a battle of the brains, with over 320 children competing. The library received over 1,500 entries to the various competitions: Short Story, Poetry, Design a Bookmark, Colouring and Activities sheets. A prize giving ceremony was held on Thursday 7th December in the theatre of the Iontas Arts & Resource Centre, which houses the Castleblayney Branch Library. A great night was had by over 300 eager winners and their family & friends, with entertainment from well-known storyteller, Niall De Burca.

On 22 January 2007 the Northern Ireland Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure issued draft legislation for the establishment of the Northern Ireland Library Authority. The document is out to consultation until Friday 20 April 2007 and the new authority is to be established by April 2008.

Launching the consultation paper, Libraries Minister Maria Eagle said: "The Northern Ireland Library Authority will provide a good basis for making professional and partnership links with a range of interests and sectors to reflect many functions of public libraries. Such links will include local government, education, adult learning, health, advice services, and community provision."

"The Library Authority will also provide a high quality service, equity of provision across all areas, and efficiency to meet the modern day needs of its customers. Moving to a single body should also through time bring about economies of scale."

Maria Eagle concluded: "I would encourage all those with an interest in the future of our library service to make their views known and all responses to the consultation will be carefully considered. Our aim is to ensure that legislation can be taken forward quickly thereafter in line with the targets in the Review of Public Administration."

Copies of the consultation document can be accessed on www.dca.ni.gov.uk (libraries page). If you require a hard copy or any other format please contact Jonny Curry, Libraries Branch, Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, t: 028 9025 8927, or e: rpalibraries@dca.ni.gov.uk

The closing date for receipt of responses to the consultation is Friday 20 April 2007. Responses should be sent to Carol Morrow, RPA Libraries Team, Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, 3rd Floor, Interpoint, 20-24 York St, Belfast BT15 1AQ or email: rpalibraries@dca.ni.gov.uk

LISC (NI) will be preparing a response to the draft legislation.

Wexford Library Service: 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 which is worth 20 credits at Level 1 Higher Education standard, or a module towards a BA qualification. Successful students can 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 Tel: 053 9124922 Email: libraryhq@wexfordoco.ie

LAI/CILIP (Ireland) Joint Conference

Inspiring progress: good practice and new developments is the title of the annual Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals – Ireland, which takes place from Tuesday 24th to Thursday 26th April 2007, at The Heritage Hotel, Portlaoise. All LAI and CILIP members are welcome to attend the Conference which is also open to non members. This year's conference will provide a timely overview of a range of current strategic developments, recent research reports and case studies from Irish and UK libraries. The topics include:

- Transforming library services for young people: the Fulfilling their Potential programme
- Public library branding: rolling out Love Libraries in Richmond
- Towards a new UK model for library stock procurement: the Somerset perspective
- Radio Frequency Identification in libraries: rolling out RFID in Liverpool
- New formats: rolling out e-books in South Dublin
- Developing an integrated stock management framework for Northern Ireland
- Measuring the use of online information resources: the COUNTER Code of Practice
- School library services: the Junior Certificate School Library Demonstration Project
- Principles of evidence based practice and research: the Health Sciences Libraries Group
- Cultural inclusion and social cohesion in arts and libraries: National Economic and Social Forum research
- Information literacy skills development
- Annual COLICO (Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland) lecture
- Irish libraries and cultural diversity

Further information and a booking form are available at www.libraryassociation.ie

Please note that accommodation at The Heritage Hotel is limited and a very competitive price has been negotiated for delegates, so early booking is advisable.

suppliers update

Jackson Technology has just launched a website dealing specifically with literacy & dyslexia products. www.dyslexia-ireland.com

Information on a range of assistive hardware & software is available including portable spellcheckers, notetakers, mind mapping and assessment software as well as the most popular items like Kurzweil and Dragon Naturally Speaking.

news & events

Carlow County Library: An illustrated manuscript, known as an "address" and created in 1867, has been given to Carlow County Library, by local historian, Michael Purcell.

The document was created as a gift from the people of Carlow to William Browne-Clayton on the occasion of his marriage to Caroline Weston-Barton and is an eight page artwork depicting Carlow town decorated with marching bands and bonfires, to celebrate the wedding.

Carlow County Library staff have now digitised the address, which will be displayed in April 2007.

The Centre for the History of the Media is a new research initiative based within the School of History and Archives at University College Dublin, which seeks to provide a forum in which to explore all aspects of the media from the middle ages to the present day. The Centre is being launched on 15th February and the ceremonies will include a public lecture by Professor Peter Burke (Emeritus Professor of Cultural History, Emmanuel College Cambridge), on *Reflections on the "media" in early modern Europe*. The lecture will be held at 6.00pm in Theatre R in the John Henry Newman Building, University College Dublin, Belfield Campus, Dublin 4. More information can be obtained from Sandy Wilkinson sandy.wilkinson@ucd.ie or from the Centre's website at www.ucd.ie/media/his

Clare County Library: The Ennis Book Club Festival committee are pleased to announce the attendance of Edna O'Brien at an event in Glór Theatre, Ennis on Saturday 3rd March at 8.00 pm. The Clare-born author will read from her latest book *The Light of Evening*. The reading will be followed by a public interview, conducted by Clare County Librarian, Noel Crowley. Bookings for the event can be made by phoning 065 6843103. Further information on all festival events can be found at www.ennisbookclubfestival.com

The County Library is running an *Adopt a library* programme under which the service is working with 21 local primary schools to improve reading skills among children.

Dublin City Council has adopted a plan to put free Wi-Fi in all of its branch libraries.

The 16th Hugh M. Fitzpatrick Lectures in Legal Bibliography will be given by: Professor Fergus Kelly, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. Professor Kelly's paper is entitled: *Evidence in early Irish law: what do the documents tell us?* The venue is The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, Helen Roe Theatre, 63 Merrion Square, Dublin 2 at 7.30 pm on April 26th. Previous booking not required. Enquiries: phone Hugh M. Fitzpatrick: t: 01-269 2202.

The 15th Hugh M. Fitzpatrick Lecture in Legal Bibliography was held in Dublin City Library and Archive on 20th November 2006. The speaker was Professor Douglas Hay, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto and the title of his presentation was *Magistrates, masters and servants: Irish law and its sources in the 18th and 19th centuries*.



Photographed at the 15th lecture in the series are (l-r): Margaret Hayes (Deputy Dublin City Librarian), Professor Colum Kenny (Dublin City University, School of Communications) and Tony Famar (President of CLE - Irish Book Publishers' Association).

Kilkenny County Library is introducing children's book clubs to four of its seven branches. Suitable for 4th-6th class pupils, these will take place once a fortnight, and are based on broadening children's reading choices and skills in an interactive, fun manner. Driver Theory Test CD-ROMs are currently installed in all of Kilkenny's branches, allowing members of the public to have a trial run of the test.

With World Book Day and Library Ireland Week fast approaching, library staff have booked display space in St. Canice's Credit Union, Kilkenny City, to show off a tasteful collection during these celebrations. This is a useful and free method of promoting the library, which reaches people from all walks of life. The City library also uses this facility during Children's Book Festival each year. Branches throughout the county have also begun to use their local Credit Union windows for display.

Leitrim County Library: Optical scanning equipment is available in Ballinamore, Mohill, Drumshanbo, Carrick-on-Shannon and Manohamilton libraries.

This equipment consists of a *ScannarR*, *My Reader* and *Jaws*, *Zoomtext* and *Kurzweil* software.

The *ScannarR* is a machine which translates text to speech. It is available in Ballinamore, Mohill, Manohamilton and Drumshanbo libraries.

My Reader enlarges text and it can also display the text column by column or in line format. It is also available in all of the above mentioned libraries.

Jaws, *Zoomtext* and *Kurzweil* software is available in Manohamilton and Carrick-on-Shannon libraries. The advantage of this software is that it is available on a computer with broadband access and hence, you can save to the computer or access the Internet using *Kurzweil 1000*.

Kurzweil 3000 is also available - this software is designed to help users with learning or reading difficulties. It allows the user to access material from scanned documents, to web pages displaying, highlighting and reading material aloud.

Library Ireland Week takes place this year from 5th to 11th March. Organised by the Library Association of Ireland, *LW* celebrates and highlights the important role of libraries, librarians and information professionals. This event which started out as a day of activities in 2004, has been greeted enthusiastically by librarians and information professionals around the country. A day of activities in 2004 became a week in 2005 and in 2006, with hundreds of events taking place in venues from Cork to Donegal. A working group consisting of members from sections and groups of the Library Association of Ireland is currently co-ordinating *LW* 2007 around the country and among the various library sectors. Posters, bookmarks, a logo and a website www.libraryirelandweek.ie will all feature in this year's campaign to publicise *LW*.

The Library Association of Ireland would like library staff in all sectors to participate in *Library Ireland Week* by organising an event or events. Examples of events held in 2006 include exhibitions, tours, author visits, recitals, competitions and readings. Events coinciding with *Library Ireland Week* or which would normally be held on a weekly/monthly basis can be included in the promotion. Libraries will be able to register their events at www.libraryirelandweek.ie

An Chomhairle Leabharlanna is co-ordinating a national reading promotion campaign as part of *Library Ireland Week 2007*, and details are available from Gillian Colton at gothon@librarycouncil.ie

Library Ireland Week 2007 will be officially launched on Monday 26th February at the National Library of Ireland by renowned Irish writer, Colm Tóibín.

Do you have a "story" to tell about your library that would be of interest to local/national media during *Library Ireland Week*? Are you willing to "champion" *Library Ireland Week* in your area - to encourage participation, to collate information about activities, or to organise a photograph of library staff from different sectors. If so contact boardman@libraryassociation.ie

Further information about *Library Ireland Week* is available at www.libraryirelandweek.ie and from boardman@libraryassociation.ie

"Who wrote Tom Sawyer?", "Who created the Famous Five?" Easy? Well they will not all be that simple at Ireland's Biggest Book Quiz which is being run by Mayo County Library to celebrate National Library Week. Open to librarians, booksellers, book clubs and all book lovers this will be the biggest gathering of bibliophiles ever in this country. Quizmaster Brendan Balfe will ask the questions in the Royal Theatre, Traveller's Friend Hotel, Castlebar on Thursday March 8th. Entry fee is €50 per team of five and all monies raised will go to charity. There will be numerous spot prizes and fun events throughout the evening, such as "The Mystery Voice" and "The Enigmatic Excerpt". The quiz will be followed by a night at the disco. A special bed and breakfast package is available at The Traveller's Friend, so let's finally end the debates. What county/city has the smartest library staff in Ireland? Who knows more about books, the booksellers or the librarians, librarians or library assistants? It is time to stand up and be counted.

This event is sponsored by International Education Services, Lisdip.

Mayo Library also has a varied and diverse schedule of events, organized in its many libraries, to mark Library Ireland/READiscover Reading Week. Of particular note amongst the readings, author events and interactive workshops taking place, is a visit by a thriller writer of international repute, John Conolly.

John will officially launch Mayo Library's READiscover Reading week in Castlebar Library March 8th at 8.00pm.

The Festival continues with the "Blow it or Bank it" evening, facilitated by business journalist, writer and broadcaster, Cdm Rapple, in Balina Library on Tues. 8th March. Cdm, an independent financial expert, writes extensively on a wide range of financial, economic and business matters and is well known for his bestselling title "Family Finance". Cdm will speak on such timely topics as making the best use of your SISA savings, tax credits, savings/investment options and mortgages. With the SSIAs now on stream, this evening should prove the ideal opportunity to help decide whether to blow it or bank it!

The week continues with various reading promotions throughout the county, including talks to parents, children's storytelling and drama skills workshops.

Contact Mayo County Library for more details: (094) 9047573 or email eatode@mayoco.co.ie

Louth County Library: Drogheda Library hosted a number of popular exhibitions and events during 2008. In March, for National Library Week 2008, there was an exhibition entitled Drogheda Library Through the Years, which consisted of photographs depicting Drogheda Library, people and events, and proved very popular. In August the library was the venue for The Ryder Cup Rewind Exhibition, an interactive exhibition which again drew crowds. Heritage Week was marked by a special Drogheda in Photographs exhibition with scenery and landmarks of the locality on display. This was followed in September by the RTE Weather Photo Exhibition, an eye-catching array of vibrant and colourful images reflecting the various seasons and weather conditions. At the end of September, in association with the Droichead Arts Centre, the library had a children's workshop with author and illustrator Orlan McGarr, and also hosted the Beckett exhibition. Highlights of the Children's Book Festival included Musical Stories with Toby Kneelia and A Magical Afternoon, with Gemini the Magician, attended by children of all ages. In October, in association with Drogheda Partnership, the library was the venue for free internet training for the public – the instructor was provided by Drogheda Partnership. This venture continued in November and December. Science Weeksaw the Animates Roadshow in the library – sponsored and organised by Forás. Local children were amazed and enthralled by this special event. Drogheda Photographic Club launched its annual exhibition, Photo 2008 in

mid-November which continued for the month of December. Also running concurrently is a wonderful display – Camerons Old and New. Drogheda Library also held storylines for children throughout the year including special Parent and Toddler sessions and regular competitions and art displays.

Mayo County Library: Mayo library's first book promotion event, Behind the Typewriter, was held in the new Balina library on November 18th, and attracted over 100 people. Writers, publishers and agents were in attendance to advise on all aspects of the publishing world.



*Balina Library Staff with Claudia Camol
Front row left to right: Margaret Molloy Co. Librarian Austin
Vaughan, Author & Actress Claudia Camol, Barbara Varley
Back row left to right: Paula Ryan, Deirdre Butler, Angela
Keegan, Majella Varley, Sr. Executive Librarian Mary Gannon,
& Mary Mulhern.*

Meath County Council Library Service and Meath County Council Arts Office hosted their first foreign film festival in November 2008. This event took place as part of their multicultural library and arts events programme. Polish, French and Russian films were shown, all of which had English subtitles and therefore viewing was open to both foreign national borrowers and Irish borrowers. The films were shown across the county in Navan, Ashbourne, Trim, Durbayne and Oldcastle libraries.

Navan, being home to a large number of foreign nationals, had a very good turnout with a total of over 45 persons attending two of the movies shown. A quick poll of nationalities present for the films included Swedish, French, Polish, Australian, Russian and Irish. Yvonne Morrison, Executive Librarian for Navan and co-ordinator of the festival said "It was wonderful to see so many nationalities coming to view the films in our libraries, it is hoped to make this an annual event."



Happy Bingers – Bingers Feliz – Bingers heureux ...

March 8, 2013

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 Phyllanthus Polypetalus (Swartz.) Walp. (*Phyllanthaceae*)
 This plant is a small tree or shrub, 1-2 m. tall, with a thick, woody stem. The leaves are alternate, elliptical, 5-10 cm. long, 2-4 cm. wide, with a smooth margin and a prominent midrib. The flowers are small, white, and arranged in dense, terminal clusters. The fruit is a small, round, red berry.

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- 100 In International Life Sciences Class

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- Site:** Children's Park, Portland, Oregon



2007 — European Year of Equal Opportunities for All

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