

# IRISH | LIBRARY | NEWS

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## Frontline: an on-line reading development programme for public library staff

An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, in consultation with the Standing Committee on Public Library Staff Training and Development, has introduced a new training course: *Frontline: an on-line reading development programme for public library staff*.

*Frontline* is an interactive online course for library staff developed in the U.K. by *Opening the Book*, which has extensive experience of designing and delivering reading development training courses. *Frontline* can be taken anywhere, at any time, in variable timeslots of five minutes to two hours. It takes 28 hours to complete the course, and participants require internet access and an email address.

*Frontline* is delivered in two phases: in Phase 1, which started on July 1 2008, one coordinator from each library authority commenced the process of working through each module while receiving dedicated training on how to guide colleagues through them. In Phase 2, when the coordinators are fully trained, each library authority will be able to offer the course to its own library staff, with the coordinator acting as supervisor.

*Frontline* is structured in 7 modules. Modules 1-4 can be taken as a coherent short course for those who cannot be released to do



Watch House Cross Library, Limerick City

the whole course. These modules explore the needs of different readers, the difference between personal attitudes to reading and the job-related skills of working with books, the power of reader-to-reader promotion and stock awareness. Modules 5-7 cover displaying books and delivering and monitoring a small-scale promotion to an identified audience.

*Frontline* has been extensively tested and developed in close co-operation with English library authorities and was piloted by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna with South Dublin County Council and Mayo County Council. It has been reviewed and approved by the Standing Committee on Public Library Staff Training and Development.

For further information on *Frontline* contact Marie Flynn  
E: [mflynn@librarycouncil.ie](mailto:mflynn@librarycouncil.ie); T: (01) 676 1167. ILN

# Minister Gormley announces grant offers totalling €3.5m under the Civic Structures Conservation Grants Scheme 2008

Mr. John Gormley, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, announced, on April 23 2008, grant offers totalling €3.5m to 138 Conservation projects around the country under the Civic Structures Conservation Grants Scheme, 2008.



Pembroke library

The Minister said 'I am very excited about the diverse projects funded up to €50,000 under this scheme. Due to its annual nature, the scheme has added impact as it allows many projects to phase their works over a number of years.'

The Minister added that: 'The high level of community enthusiasm for heritage is evidenced by the number and variety of the buildings assisted'. These include Dublin City Public Libraries' Pembroke library and Meath County's Balivor library. The Minister also said that: 'I am confident that these projects will act as demonstration projects for other heritage projects in their area. They also reflect the growing body of experience of local communities in saving their heritage buildings which I sincerely welcome'.

All applications are rated by an independent panel of conservation experts from the 190 applications received in the Department. The panel noted the high quality of the applications which is testament to the increased expertise of applicants.

In conclusion the Minister wished to encourage communities to identify and promote conservation of heritage projects locally with a view to applying under next year's scheme. [ILN](#)

↑ MINISTER GORMLEY ANNOUNCES GRANT OFFER

↓ AGHADOE 850

## Aghadoe 850: A collaborative Learning Journey

This year is the 850th Anniversary of the completion of the church at Aghadoe, near Killarney. To mark this, **Kerry Library**, the Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society and The Education Centre, Tralee, came together in a pilot outreach programme for primary school children. Two primary schools in the Killarney area agreed to participate: Fossa N.S. under the direction of Principal, Kieran Coffey and Lissivigeen N.S., under the direction of Principal, Michael McAuliffe.

A series of structured initiatives were undertaken, including a field trip to Aghadoe with archaeologist, Marie O'Sullivan, interactive lectures delivered by an t-Athair Tomás Ó Luanaigh and engagement with local artist Dermot McCarthy, who worked with the children on the project. Kerry Library provided professional expertise in the local studies area. The project was filmed, and a DVD was made showcasing the events and featuring the children singing some of the songs relating to the historical concepts of the project.

The fruits of the work were showcased at a multimedia exhibition which was launched at Killarney Library on Friday June 13 and which was on view at the library during the rest of the month. In addition Kerry Library through its primary schools library service will be giving additional library resources to both participating schools in advance of the new school year. [ILN](#)



# The Change Campaign

The Government is currently undertaking a major communications and public awareness campaign on climate change – the *Change* campaign [www.change.ie](http://www.change.ie).

The campaign aims to raise general public awareness of climate change, its causes, impacts and implications for Ireland and to promote behaviour change to reduce/avoid greenhouse gas emissions. This is being done through working with stakeholder groups, through TV, radio and outdoor advertising, the use of web-based tools, public events and intensive media engagement.

The campaign is led by the **Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government**. A Steering Committee, comprising members of relevant Government Departments and agencies, oversees the delivery of the campaign. Actions being taken by the campaign team include:

- partnering with stakeholders from business, large industry, agriculture, tourism, construction and education to develop appropriate, relevant and useful tools/techniques to lower greenhouse gas emissions. For example, working with Fáilte Ireland with a view to developing its own carbon footprint/management strategy as well as that of the tourism industry, which comprises some 18,000 businesses.
- climate change conferences for local authorities and elected representatives (October 2008) and the public sector (February

2009) addressing the key issues of energy, transport, biodiversity, procurement and planning.

- various Ministers turned on projections of images from the TV ads onto public buildings in Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway and Dublin during May and June. This is a very sustainable way of advertising and helped capture attention and localise the issue to people around the country.
- public information events in Tesco stores/shopping centres throughout Ireland are taking place during the summer. This is the first in a series of promotions in public spaces.
- participation in public events, conferences/seminars, holding competitions etc.

The latest phase of TV ads are designed to drive the public to the *Change*.ie website which includes an online calculator which calculates your personal carbon count. To date, some 40,000 people have visited the website and almost 26,000 have calculated their carbon number. A number of other initiatives to drive people to the website are also under consideration. The Department would appreciate any support that the public library service could give to this campaign.

For further details contact Evelyn Downes in the Environment and Heritage Awareness Section Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, Custom House, Dublin 1, T 353 (0) 1 888 2488. **ILN**

↓ INTERNATIONAL READING CHALLENGE

↑ THE CHANGE CAMPAIGN

## International Reading Challenge – Over One Million Books Read

April 2008 saw the completion of the second Transatlantic Reading Challenge for national school children, a partnership project between Clare County Library and Pictou Antigonish Regional Library, Nova Scotia, Canada. From November 2007 to April 2008, children in Clare's primary schools read 211,967 books, which means that the 2,391 pupils who signed up for the challenge read an average of 89 books each in the six months of the project. The first *Transatlantic Reading Challenge* began in 2006 and proved to be very successful in the promotion of reading among children in Clare.

Thirty schools in Clare joined the challenge this year, a 50% increase on last year's numbers. National school children were encouraged to read as much as they could for six months, choosing books at school, at home and from the public library.

The reading challenge forms part of a crime prevention programme in Canadian libraries called the *Adopt-a-Library Literacy Program* and is a partnership of police and public libraries. The programme advocates literacy as a means of ensuring children and young people have high self esteem and feel in control of their lives. By taking part in the reading challenge, children can improve their reading skills and learn to work together towards a common goal by competing against other schools in a friendly and positive way.



Lahinch school children with Garda Inspector Michael Gallagher, Mayor of Clare, Cllr. Patricia McCarthy and Cllr. Martin Conway pictured at the prize giving ceremony in at Courthouse Studios and Gallery, Ennistymon.

One of the highlights of the challenge to date was the visit, in full 'Mounty' uniform, by Constable Kennedy to six Clare schools. Constable Kennedy also met with members of the Clare Garda Division to impress upon them the value of linking the reading challenge with community policing.

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## SOUTH DUBLIN LIBRARIES

The annual *Fused Festival 2008* took place over three weekends in May and June. The *Fused Festival*, organised in conjunction with South Dublin County Arts Office, celebrates the diversity of local, national and international artists and places an emphasis on the use of public spaces across the county.

For the second year running, the *Fused Festival* has been held across different areas on different weekends between May and June:

- *Seótúr*, Clondalkin World Culture Festival, took place between Monday May 19 and Saturday May 24. Library events included Hip Hop Dance Workshops with *Just Dance*, an African Rhythm and Song workshop with Niwel Tsumbu and a Latin evening with *Cuba Nica*, the best of Latin Music in Dublin.
- Lucan's Children's Arts Festival took place between Tuesday June 3 and Saturday June 7, featuring Walton's School of Music, a

Mythology Dance and Crafts workshop and Conor Lambert's Punch and Judy puppet show.

- Rathfarnham Arts Trail took place from Monday June 23 to Sunday June 29. Library events included drama workshops with the Gaiety School of Acting, an author visit by Aubrey Flegg and a day-long *Spotlight on Poland* event. The festival culminated with two open air productions from the Chapterhouse Theatre Company – *The Tempest* by William Shakespeare was performed under the stars at Library Square Tallaght while *King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table* was enjoyed in the beautiful grounds of Rathfarnham Castle Park.

The Festival attracted members of the public of all ages and nationalities. **ILN**

## NEWS FROM WATERFORD CITY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE

On Saturday June 21, Waterford City Council Central Library was honoured to host the presentation



At the ceremony Councillor Mary O'Halloran, Mayor of Waterford, presenting the 2006 Ireland Medal to Garda Commissioner Eamonn Doherty Rtd. Also pictured are City Librarian Jane Cantwell, Michael Walsh City Manager and 2007 Ireland Medal recipients Foyle Search and Rescue at Waterford City Council Central Library.

of the 2006 and 2007 Ireland Medals by The Irish Lifesaving Foundation. The Mayor of Waterford City Cllr. Mary O'Halloran made the presentation to the 2006 Ireland Medal recipient, Garda Commissioner Eamonn Doherty Rtd and the 2007 Ireland Medal recipients, Foyle Search and Rescue.

Waterford City Council Library Service and the Waterford Polish Association (WaterPOL) have strengthened links over the past year through different projects. WaterPOL is run by Iwa & Krzysiek Wisniewscy

who, in November 2007, organised celebrations for Polish Independence Day.

More recently the Waterford City Council Library Service made available to borrow a small but very popular selection of Polish fiction and non-fiction books.

The **Bealtaine** festival at Waterford City Council Central, Ardkeen and Brown's Road Libraries this year saw 550 participants take part in 54 events across the three branches. This year the festival included taster sessions in gardening, alternative

## ↓ CHESTER BEATTY

## ↓ DONEGAL ↑ SOUTH DUBLIN

## ↑ WATERFORD CITY

## ↓ GALWAY

## CHESTER BEATTY LIBRARY'S COLLECTIONS

Arts of the Book, a new permanent exhibition of the **Chester Beatty Library's** collections, opened on May 17 2008. On display are books from the ancient world including the world famous Chester Beatty Love Poems (c.1160 BC), Egyptian Books of the Dead, beautifully illuminated medieval European manuscripts and fine European printed books, as well as Old Master prints.

The exhibition also explores the richness of the Islamic manuscript tradition – illustrations and illuminations, calligraphy, and exquisite bindings from across the Middle East and India are exhibited.

Highlights from East Asia include one of the finest collections of Chinese jade books in the world, Japanese picture-scrolls depicting fables and legends, and deluxe woodblock prints. Audio-visual programmes complement the exhibition, helping the visitor to learn more about the arts of the book throughout the world. **ILN**

## DONEGAL COUNTY LIBRARY



Tom Sigafoos (Author) and Rory Gallagher (Senior Library Assistant)

Bundoran Library hosted the launch of a new crime fiction novel by local author Tom Sigafoos. "Code Blue" is a novel in the classic crime fiction style of Raymond Chandler, and introduces the hardboiled detective Frank Chandler. The novel is self-published, through a print-on-demand internet-based company, [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com). During the evening, Tom spoke about his experiences of this new way of approaching publishing and its many advantages over more traditional means. **ILN**

For information on Tom Sigafoos or "Code Blue" contact [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com) or Bundoran Library at 071 982 9665.

## GALWAY COUNTY LIBRARY

Over 100 students from Mary Immaculate College, Limerick, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin, Froebel College of Education, Dublin and Marino College of Further Education, Dublin, have completed three weeks of study on Inis Meáin on the Aran Islands. The students were taking Irish language courses in order to improve their spoken Irish. All students are following the Bachelor of Education Degree. During their stay on the island the students made good use of the **Inis Meáin Public Library** service.



Some of the visits by the students to the library turned into informal seminars led by Máirín Uí Chonghaile

During regular visits they consulted the library's local studies collection and the reference library, and they also used the library to research important Aran writers including Máirtín Ó Direáin, Liam O'Flaherty and John Millington Synge. In addition to borrowing books for home use, the students availed of the free internet access which the library provides.

Inis Meáin Librarian, Máirín Uí Chonghaile, assisted the students with their research, and used her own extensive knowledge of the island and the Irish language in helping the students. **ILN**

therapies, creative writing and bridge. There were Internet classes, a four-week art course at Central and Ardkeen Libraries (from which an exhibition has been put together and will tour the libraries during June and July), a Tea Dance in the Large Room at City Hall, Waterford and the annual Cheese and Wine evening.

A comprehensive range of events are planned for Heritage week 2008 at Waterford City Council Library Service branches.

Events include:

- Launch of the *Index of the Decies* – Wednesday 27 August at 6pm ,
- Lunch Time Lecture on the Life and Poetry of Hester Cooke by Edward Reid Power. Thursday 28 August at 1pm
- Book Launch: *Waterford: its History and People* by Jack O'Neill – Friday 29 August at 6pm.

#### Re-vamp of Young Adult Library

Waterford City Council Library Service recently updated the Young Adult Library in the Central Library Branch in an effort to create a welcoming environment for teen users.

Currently the Service houses a separate Young Adult Section with dedicated collections and specialized Children's and Schools Service staff. In the Central Library, a space has been provided to attract young adults to the library and make library visits more enjoyable.

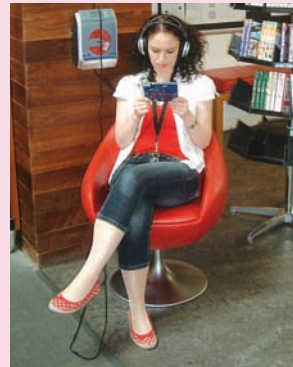
During the revamp, Waterford City Council Library Service updated this space and library facilities were designed and rearranged to make teens more comfortable through new soft furnishings and seating, 'hang out' areas, a tea/coffee machine and music listening corners. This coincided with the introduction of new, specialized collections such as Manga, Anime, Graphic Novels and a dedicated periodical collection.

Membership of the Library is free for everyone under the age of 18.

Young Adult stock is available for lending from the three branch libraries. Each library holds: an extensive Young Adult Fiction & Non-Fiction Collection, Young Adult Multi-Media Collection (containing DVDs, Video's, CDs, CD ROMs and Audio Books), a Young Adult

Literacy Collection and Young Adult Reference Materials.

The Library Service offers a number of additional services to members of the Young Adult Library: free Internet access is available twice daily in Central Library and once in Ardkeen and Brown's Road Branches and there is access to online resources. There are also author visits, class visits, exhibitions and events, library skills courses, Local History Room induction tours which includes an introduction to Waterford City history and the Local Studies' stock, 'how to do' a genealogical search,



New look teenage section at Waterford City Council Central Library

useful links and assisted research modules in support of the Leaving Certificate History curriculum.

Waterford City Council Library Service is also developing a number of new programmes geared towards Young Adults. **ILN**

#### UCD'S SCHOOL OF INFORMATION & LIBRARY STUDIES

UCD's School of Information & Library Studies would like to invite all alumni to join the UCD Library School Alumni group in Facebook. Catch up with former classmates, take a tour of the photographic gallery, and find out what is happening at your *alma mater*.

Joining is simple. Log in or create an account on Facebook.com. Use Facebook's browse or search functions to locate our group, UCD Library School Alumni. Apply to join the group and one of the group administrators will accept you as a member. Come and post your thoughts on our Facebook wall! **ILN**

#### ↓ AN CHOMHAIRLE

#### ↓ NAVAN

#### ↓ MARSH'S

#### ↑ UCD

#### AN CHOMHAIRLE LEABHARLANNA'S

The catalogue of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna's Research Library is now accessible online. The catalogue can be accessed through AN Chomhairle Leabharlanna's website, [www.librarycouncil.ie](http://www.librarycouncil.ie).

Apart from details of the bookstock, the catalogue also indexes articles in serials such as *An Leabharlann* (1905-1909; 1930 to date), *The Irish Library Bulletin* (1941-1951) as well as items held in An Chomhairle's Public Library Archive. Images from the Carnegie libraries photographic collections can also be viewed on the catalogue.

Enquiries and comments should be sent to the Research & Information Officer  
E: [abevan@librarycouncil.ie](mailto:abevan@librarycouncil.ie);  
T: 01-6784905 **ILN**

#### NAVAN LIBRARY

Paddy Meegan, a veteran of Meath's first football All-Ireland success in 1949, entertained a large gathering of sporting and local studies enthusiasts in **Navan library** recently.



Reading at Navan Library Paddy Meegan

Paddy read from his recently published collection of poems *From the Life Around Me*. The audience was delighted with the selection of poems on the people and places of County Meath, the farming seasons, and the many sporting highlights of Paddy's long playing career.

On display at the event was an exhibition of Meath GAA memorabilia, some from Paddy's collection, along with other items from the library's extensive collection of programmes, photographs and souvenirs. **ILN**

Anyone wishing to obtain a copy of Paddy's limited edition should contact Frances Tallon at Meath County Library, Railway Street, Navan, Co. Meath, who will arrange purchase.

#### MARSH'S LIBRARY

The Sceptred Isle: an exhibition of early printed books on England was opened in **Marsh's Library** by Mr. Martin Cullen, T.D., Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism, on Wednesday June 18 2008.

This exhibition opens with some of the earliest Bibles, including the King James Bible which is considered to be the finest translation into English. The exhibition also contains books on witchcraft, music, medicine and law. These early law books have

been extensively annotated by lawyers and students and will be of particular interest to solicitors, barristers and judges.

The literary section of the exhibition includes books by Chaucer, Shakespeare and Milton and a book that belonged to John Donne. The Exhibition is open to the public during the library's normal working hours, which in the summer are: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 9.30-5.00, Saturday: 10.00-1.00. (Closed Tuesday & Sunday) **ILN**



At Marsh's Library, Minister Cullen and Muriel McCarthy, Keeper

## August 2008

10-14

**Libraries without borders: navigating towards global understanding** World Library & Information Congress: 74th IFLA General Conference and Council, Québec. Details: [www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm](http://www.ifla.org/IV/ifla74/index.htm)

## October 2008

6

**International School Library Day** [www.iasl-online.org/advocacy/](http://www.iasl-online.org/advocacy/)

## Reading Challenge

CONTD | →

Joining with the Clare library service, Clare Garda Division assigned fifteen members of the force to the project, who visited schools on a regular basis accompanied by library staff, to promote the challenge and to drive home the message that increased literacy means decreased crime. Teachers and librarians involved in the project all agree that the participating gardai worked far beyond the call of duty in engaging and inspiring the young readers in the schools they visited.

Clare Schools performed well this year, with Lahinch National School coming second and Furglan National School coming third in the overall International Challenge among schools in Nova Scotia, London and the US. Lahinch national school were the winners of this year's *Clare Reading Challenge*.

The reading challenge project is headed by Clare County Library's Children's Librarian, Executive Librarian Patricia Fitzgerald, who hopes that other library services throughout the country will join in the Reading Challenge in coming years. ILN

## Publications

In 2007, the National Economic and Social Forum published a report on The Arts, Cultural Inclusion and Social Cohesion.

A supplement to that report, *In the Frame or Out of the Picture?: A Statistical Analysis of Public Involvement in the Arts*, was launched at a special NESF seminar in February 2008 where an invited audience of stakeholders heard addresses by Minister for the Arts, Sport and Tourism, Mr. Seamus Brennan T.D., Dr. Pete Lunn, Dr. Eilish Kelly, Ms Orlaith McBride, Mrs Norma McDermott and Mr. Martin Drury.

A report of the seminar has now been published as *In the Frame or Out of the Picture? Seminar Report*. While the Statistical Analysis of Public Involvement in the Arts did not address the role of public libraries, the report of discussions at the seminar recognised the public library service as forming the 'biggest cultural and information infrastructure in the country'.

Copies of the seminar report are available from the NESF (16 Parnell Square, Dublin 1) or the Government Sales Office (Sun Alliance House, Molesworth Street, Dublin 1) priced €3.00. ILN



NESF Summary Report

↑ CALENDER OF EVENTS

↑ READING/PUBLICATIONS

↓ PLRP MEDAL/TEENSPACE

↓ CONTACT DETAILS

## The Public Libraries Research (PLRP) Medal

The Public Library Research Committee is delighted to announce the inaugural PLRP Medal for the academic year 2008/2009. The medal is funded by the Public Libraries Research Programme, (PLRP), which is co-funded by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and public library authorities, and is managed by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.

The medal is intended to promote research of relevance to public libraries and to recognise the research achievements of students undertaking Master's programmes (including full-time and half-time programmes where applicable - the degrees of M.Litt., M.A. and Master of Library and Information Studies) at the School of Information and Library Studies, UCD.

To be eligible for consideration for the award of a PLRP medal a student must satisfy the following criteria:

1. Achieve a minimum of an overall Second Class Honours in the Master's degree.

2. Achieve a minimum of Second Class Honours for his/her major or minor thesis, submitted in complete or partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree.
3. Complete the Master's programme in full by the due dates in the relevant academic year.
4. The topic of the thesis must be relevant to public libraries.

The medal will be awarded annually, subject to the discretion of the School Examination Board. ILN

## Teenspace



Teenspace.ie is a new national website set up by the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs to provide information on events, activities and recreation services for children and young people.

Libraries can now add any services they offer to children and young people to [Teenspace.ie](http://Teenspace.ie), launched in June by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Barry Andrews. [Teenspace.ie](http://Teenspace.ie) promises up-to-date information

on gigs, youth cafes, sports, arts and outdoor recreation activities for 10-18 year olds. The site forms part of the National Recreation Strategy for Young People.

Libraries are invited to register as service providers on the site. Registered service providers can upload information on an ongoing basis about any of the activities they offer. A special section for libraries has been added to the site, but it is also possible to add information to other activity categories, for example in the arts, language learning or social areas.

[Teenspace.ie](http://Teenspace.ie) was established following a recommendation from the national youth parliament, Dáil na nÓg last year. It has been developed by the National Youth Council of Ireland and the Office of the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. Content is approved for publication by the [Teenspace](http://Teenspace.ie) webmaster, based in the National Youth Council of Ireland.

Contact Daniel or Emma on T: 01 478 4122, or [editor@teenspace.ie](mailto:editor@teenspace.ie) Further information at [www.teenspace.ie](http://www.teenspace.ie) Registration form: <http://url.ie/ima> ILN

## Next Issue

### Copy date for next issue is August 20th 2008

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