

# IRISH | LIBRARY | NEWS

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## Let the Great World Spin

Colum McCann defied the volcanic ash to visit County Library Tallaght as part of Bord Gáis Energy's READISCOVER Your Local Library week 19<sup>th</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> April.



*L-r: Caroline Higgins, Georgina Byrne, Colum McCann, Una Phelan, Rosena Hand, Emma McDonald & Patricia Fitzgerald*

The County Library Tallaght was delighted and honoured to welcome author Colum McCann, in conversation with John Kelly of RTÉ's The View, as part of their READISCOVER celebrations.

It was a long and nail-biting week for South Dublin Library staff as they waited to see whether Eyjafjallajökull would prevent Colum from making his transatlantic journey. Thankfully the ash shifted just in time for Colum to fly into Shannon Airport that morning, where Patricia Fitzgerald, Development Librarian at SDL, was ready to whisk him to Dublin just in time for the event to start.

At the County Library there was a packed room of avid readers and budding writers from all over the Dublin region waiting to meet John Kelly and Colum McCann, and they weren't disappointed. The rapport between John and Colum was clearly evident, as they chatted on

stage about the trials and joys of being a writer and a Dad, about life in New York, and the pressures (very welcome according to Colum!) of being an award winning author. Colum was witty and personable and answered the many questions posed by the eager audience, who obviously enjoyed this opportunity to learn more about the National Book Award winner.

Colum's visit attracted much media attention, with *Newstalk's* George Hook broadcasting his show live from the County Library Tallaght the day before, where he spoke with County Librarian Georgina Byrne. Asking her about READISCOVER your local library, Georgina was happy to point out the major changes in the library service over the past 20 years, particularly in the area of digital books.

If you would like to hear a podcast of the interview between John Kelly and Colum McCann, please visit [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie).

## 2010 Edible Book Festival

As 9.30 approached, so did various members of staff of An Chomhairle, each gingerly carrying their precious cargo of cake with them. Yes, the 2010 Edible Book Festival had made a welcome return to 53 Mount Street. Entries this year included:

- an *Alice in Wonderland* themed extravaganza
- John Cowell's *Biscuit Crumble*
- *The Grapes of Wrath*
- A far from Grimm *Hansel and Gretel*
- One Dublin: One Cake: *Portrait of Dorian Grey*
- *Windows 7 for Dummies*

## 2010 Edible Book Festival



*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*



*Biscuit Crumble*



*The Grapes of Wrath*



*Hansel and Gretel*



*One Dublin: One Cake: Portrait of Dorian Grey*



*Windows 7 for Dummies*



## Academic and National Library Training Cooperative Awards Ceremony

The Academic and National Library Training Cooperative (ANLTC) honoured recipients of awards at a ceremony on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI).

The ANLTC/Swets Award 2009, which encourages practitioner-based research among librarians in ANLTC member libraries was awarded to Caleb Derven, University College Dublin, for his proposal *Evaluating Services and Specifications for Reading List Systems*.



*Jessie Kurtz, Trinity College Dublin, Caleb Derven, University College Dublin winner of the 2009 ANLTC/Swets Research Award, Carmel O'Sullivan, University College Dublin and Seamus McMahon, Chairperson ANLTC*

Presenting the award Jessie Kurtz, co-ordinator of the award remarked that the outlined methodology demonstrated the feasibility of the proposal, which was well presented, structured and deliverable. The breadth of focus bringing systems into the public service area was especially laudable. The ANLTC looks forward to the results which will have broad applicability across the CONUL libraries and beyond.

Commenting on winning the award Caleb said "I'm delighted to win this award and am looking forward to embarking on my research. I hope my findings will prove useful to a variety of academic libraries."

In addition, the Judging panel for the ANLTC/Swets Award 2009 was impressed by the proposal from Marie Cullen, National University of Ireland, Maynooth, *Staff Development: a case study of the ANLTC Library Assistant Bursary*. Marie has been commissioned and funded by ANLTC, with an extended criteria brief, for this piece of research which will be of interest and potential impact for the ANLTC.

The Library Assistant Bursary 2009 was awarded to Maud Conry, National University of Ireland Galway for the proposal *E-book Update in Irish Academic Libraries – an Overview*.



*Philip Cohen, chairperson of Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) congratulates Maud Conry, NUI Galway, on winning the ANLTC 2009 Library Assistant Bursary.*

Presenting the award, Philip Cohen, Chairperson of Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) remarked "This is an exemplary proposal, in terms of presentation, project aims, scope and workplan. It is well structured and the author demonstrates the ability to define clear achievable objectives while maintaining an awareness of potential project constraints. The topic is timely with cataloguing, service and user education implications. The project has personal development benefits and wider transferability to both the home institution and the ANLTC community."

Second prize in the Library Assistant 2009 Bursary was awarded to Elaine Bean, National University of Ireland Maynooth for her proposal *The Development of shared library orientation and information sharing training programmes*. Commenting on the proposal Philip Cohen said "This is an excellent idea and will contribute to further the student experience. It fits nicely with the current emphasis on information literacy. The proposal builds on "real world" work already being done and seeks to do this collaboratively across ANLTC libraries."

Seamus McMahon, chairperson ANLTC was master of ceremonies for the event. Siobhan Fitzpatrick, President of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) briefly addressed the gathering. Marjory Sliney, editor of *An Leabharlann* was among the guests, who included representatives from the CONUL committee, the ANLTC committee and staff from member libraries. The presentations were followed by a buffet lunch.

## Cork County Library

Leabharlann Bhaile Bhuirne and Ionad Cultúrtha: Seachtain na Gaeilge in Leabharlann Bhaile Bhuirne had an added dimension this year as the library was presented with a number of significant local collections reflecting the rich literary heritage of the Muscraí Gaeltacht. Originally housed in the Ionad Cultúrtha in Ballyvourney the collections have been relocated to the library at the suggestion of local librarian, Eibhlín Ní Laoghaire, as she felt that the library would provide readily accessible access to the material for the public at large. In addition to the material relating to an t-Athair Peadar, there are documents, manuscripts and photographs of local poets and writers such as Pádraig Ó Cruadhlaoidh (Gaedheal na nGaedheal) and Dónal O Ceocháin.

Ballyvourney Library previously acquired the works of another local poet, Séamus Ó Céilleachair, from his family, who were seeking a suitable space to store and display them. Among his works are several books of poetry for young and old, the poetry series Nua-Philí 1, 11, & 111 and a collection of unpublished poems.



*Family members view the works of poet Séamus Ó Céilleachair*

The presentation of both collections took place in the Library on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 as the culmination of the weeklong Seachtain na Gaeilge festival. Local historians and family members attended what was a lively celebration of the community's heritage with poetry reading, singing and shared memories of the authors of the collection. Fíona Ní Chéileachair sang some settings of the poetry of Séamus Ó Céilleachair which she previously composed. So successful was the night that the local librarian has been asked to consider a monthly meeting next winter to read from and discuss local authors. The event was featured on the news on T.G. 4 on that evening. These collections will now be added to the



already impressive number of books by local authors in the library's reference section, mainly from first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and out of print for many years - it should be of further assistance to students and researchers.

Mallow Library Easter Festival: The Racing Home for Easter Festival, was the first of what will hopefully become an annual event in Mallow. The festival incorporated a food fair, parade, musical and cultural events, and of course horse racing events. The aim of the festival was to encourage people to come back "home" to Mallow for Easter and enjoy the facilities Mallow offers. Mallow Library worked in partnership with the Festival committee by hosting Easter bonnet decorating workshops on Holy Thursday morning.



*A busy group at bonnet workshop in Mallow Library*



*Roisin and bonnet*

The library's vast window space showed heritage exhibitions and an exhibition of photographs taken at events in the library over the past twenty years. Working with the festival committee has proved to be a very positive experience for the library service and staff were happy to contribute to the overall success of the festival.

## Library Users Averse to Fines

Fingal County Library's fines amnesty kicked off in Library Ireland Week and ran until Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. It was a great success. A competition entitled *What's Your Excuse* attracted lots of entries and a prize was awarded to the winner in each branch.



*The Bolger Family, Baldoye*

The overall winner submitted the following 'excuse' in Baldoye Library.

**Sorry our books are always late,  
It's not us; it's just their fate,  
We try our best, really we do,  
But things happen, honest-it's true.**

**Bedtime stories get lost in the sheets,  
Adventure books-try under your seat,  
DVDs in the player get stuck,  
Can't ever find that overdue book.**

**Big books, picture books,  
They could be anywhere,  
We think the dogs read them,**

**When we're not there.**

**Now it's time to change our way,  
To finish our books and put them  
away,  
Not under the couch or beside the loo,  
Up in the attic-just won't do.**

**Our Mum is pleased and says to say,  
Cancelling her fines made her day.  
From now on we'll remember to  
Return our books before they're due.**



## IAML (UK & Irl) Excellence Award for Music Libraries 2010



Two Irish libraries were among twelve recipients of the inaugural Excellence Award for Music Libraries, presented by the International Association of Music Libraries, UK & Ireland branch, meeting in Nottingham on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Cork City Libraries (Rory Gallagher Music Library) and Trinity College Library Dublin (Music Collections) were honoured alongside ten UK libraries, including Birmingham Music Library, British Library Document Supply Centre Music Service, ExploreMusic at Gateshead Libraries, Royal College of Music Library, and Vaughan Williams Memorial Library (EFDSS).



*Kitty Buckley (Cork City Libraries) and Roy Stanley (TCD) receiving their awards from Prof. John Tyrrell*

This new biennial Award aims to acknowledge ‘outstanding music services to the library’s user community’, and to ‘highlight and celebrate activity in music libraries showing sustained good work and good practice which has the potential to be adopted and adapted by others’. The Award is presented every two years and is open to all music libraries no matter what their sector, size or type. This year’s nominations were assessed by an international panel of experts chaired by the distinguished musicologist John Tyrrell. The panel included music librarians from various sectors, professional musicians, and leading figures from the wider library profession.

The panel felt that Cork City Libraries (Rory Gallagher Music Library) was a good example of a service at the centre of its community, building on local connections and taking a full part in local festivals. Attention was drawn to the library’s broad spectrum of users including those with physical and learning disabilities, the development of the Cork Music Archive, its participation in a number of partnerships within Ireland, its programme of musical events – recitals, lectures exhibitions and launches – and to its role as an important meeting place for the musical community of Cork.

The citation for Trinity College Library Dublin (Music Collections) emphasized the breadth and depth of its music resources, spread across open access collections, early printed

materials, special collections, manuscripts and archives. The panel paid tribute to the library's role in developing co-operative programmes with other institutions, mentioning in particular its participation in the Music PAL and ALCID schemes. Both libraries are participants in the Pathways to Learning/Music PAL co-operative scheme – further details at [www.library.ie/pal](http://www.library.ie/pal).

## Official opening of Castleisland Library

Kerry's newest public library at Castleisland was officially opened on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> April by Cllr. Bobby O'Connell, Mayor of Kerry. Built as part of a Kerry County Council Area Services Centre for the Castleisland area, the Library has seen a 6 fold increase in library usage figures since it first opened to the public in August 2008.

The library holds over 20,000 items, has a staff of 3 and has 7 free public internet access points.



Speaking at the opening, Kerry County Manager, Tom Curran acknowledged the role of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna in the development of the library and noted the active co-operation of Kerry Library in national initiatives such as Readiscover and the FÁS e-learning project.



## Gardening Together with Kilkenny County Library Service and Gardenia

On Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> April, Mayor Malcolm Noonan joined *Ear to The Ground's* Helen Carroll at Gardenia on John's Street to launch the first *Gardening Together* program, offered by Kilkenny County Library Service.



The exciting six week programme has been developed by Kilkenny County Library Service to bring parents and children together in a fun activity where they can learn a new skill, and develop a shared interest in gardening. Over the next six weeks, participants will get stuck in with lots of practical work, library visits, puzzles, games and most importantly, lots and lots of fun!

Held in conjunction with Gardenia, Kilkenny's city centre garden centre, this is the first family gardening project to be run by the Kilkenny County Library Service and project co-coordinator Trish Nolan says "this innovative project is an example of Kilkenny County Library's commitment to working with other organisations to provide new and exciting services to the public".

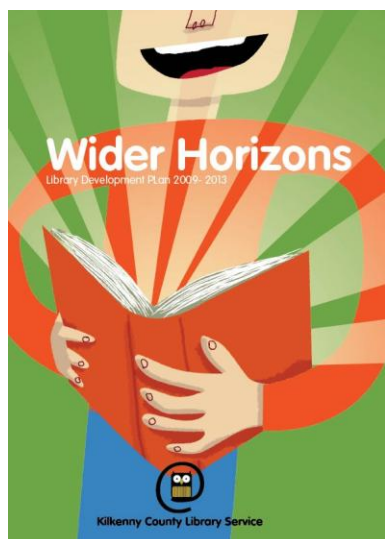




Located on John's Street, Gardenia is a haven for experienced and new gardeners alike. Marketing Manager Emily Miller says that "this is a project that we have been planning with the library service for a while now and we are delighted to finally launch it. We want novice gardeners to realise that gardening can be great fun and is perfect for all ages and budgets – we just want people to enjoy their gardens".

Gardeners of all ages are invited to the newly extended Gardenia at 16 John Street, Kilkenny for expert advice and friendly service seven days a week.

For more information about the project please contact Trish at 056-7794173 or see [www.kilkennylibrary.ie](http://www.kilkennylibrary.ie)



Kilkenny County Library Service's 5 Year Development Plan is now available. This plan is as a result of an intensive, year-long consultation process with all key stakeholders. A core set of issues and agreed actions have emerged as a result of this process and from a review of various policy documents. These include:-

- Access and Participation
- Infrastructure
- Information Technology
- Library Collections and Information
- Management and staffing
- Marketing and Promotion.

"The consultation process proved very useful" says Josephine Coyne, Acting County Librarian." It allowed us to take stock of where we are at, where we wish to go in the future and identified what resources are required to get there.

Furthermore this plan represents a public statement on how Kilkenny Library Service intends to deliver library services over the next 5 years".

Copies of the plan are available in downloadable text version (English and Irish) and in audio format at:

[http://kilkennylibrary.kilkenny.ie/eng/Development\\_Plan/](http://kilkennylibrary.kilkenny.ie/eng/Development_Plan/)

## LENUS Irish Health Repository



The HSE Regional Library & Information Service, Dr. Steevens Hospital, has been developing LENUS Ireland's most comprehensive online repository of health-related material since its launch in 2009. Spanning a period from the 1960s to the present day, LENUS makes available a wealth of material from former Irish health boards, the Health Service Executive, the Department of Health and Children and many other organisations active in the field of Irish health. LENUS is also a repository for new original research carried out by Irish researchers.

From the beginning of the project, the decision was made that LENUS should not be an institutional repository alone, but should seek to include all key health research published in Ireland. As a result a regular stream of research publications are being added to LENUS. To date there are over 5,000 documents stored on the repository.

Obviously volume of content is no measurement of success; however a more accurate gauge of LENUS's value has been revealed through usage statistics. For the month of March 2010, there were over 6,000 visitors to LENUS, who performed 31,000 searches and downloaded 12,000 documents.

Lenus is part of the international Open Access initiative, which aims to make research from different institutions in different countries freely available electronically. Lenus has been recently accepted as part of the WorldWideScience Alliance, the internet-based global science gateway. This is a considerable achievement and represents an important step in Lenus' innovative programme to increase the profile and effectiveness of research in the Irish health services.

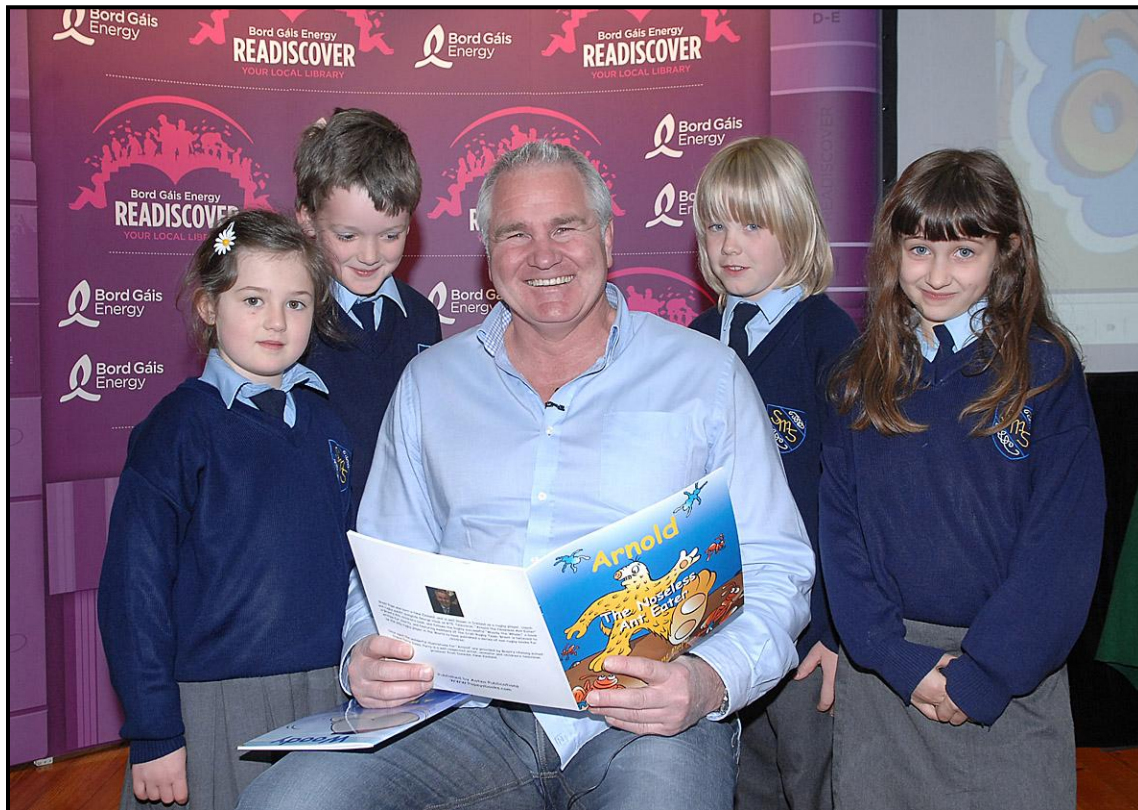
LENUS is both an invaluable window on the past and an authoritative source for the latest health-related publications. Its simple, user-friendly interface allows visitors to search or browse across a number of categories, and even to submit their own publications and research for inclusion. LENUS is an indispensable online resource for health professionals, administrators, students and librarians.

For Further Information please contact Aoife Lawton, Systems Librarian or 01-6352558 or email; [aoife.lawton@hse.ie](mailto:aoife.lawton@hse.ie)

## Bord Gáis Energy “READISCOVER your Local Library” at Dundalk Library

Dundalk Library held a very successful day of events to celebrate *Bord Gáis Energy READISCOVER Your Local Library Week 2010* recently.

Rugby personality & children’s author, Brent Pope, gave two workshops throughout the morning of April 20<sup>th</sup>. During the 1<sup>st</sup> workshop, aimed at 5-7 year olds, he read excerpts from his children’s books and explained where he gets ideas for the characters from. The 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop was aimed at older children.



*Brent Pope at Dundalk Library*

Brent gave an insight into what it takes to write a book, what inspired him to get involved in writing and answered plenty of audience questions regarding his rugby career, his T.V. life and, of course, George Hook!

In the evening, Dundalk Library was thrilled to welcome renowned Irish authors Dermot Bolger and Deirdre Purcell. This reading event was very well received by the large audience. The atmosphere was very relaxed and informal allowing the two writers to interview each other, while also answering questions from the audience and reading excerpts from their work.



## Limerick turns LILAC!



*L-r: Jane Secker, London School of Economics; Lisa Jeskins, University of Manchester; Debbi Boden, Glasgow Caledonian University; Rosie Jones, Manchester Metropolitan University; Sean Haughey T.D. Minister of State for Lifelong Learning; Jerald Cavanagh- Institute Librarian, Limerick Institute of Technology; Maria Kilroy, Liverpool John Moores University; Gill Downham, University of Surrey; Nigel Morgan, Cardiff University.*

Over 300 delegates from 19 countries attended the LILAC Librarian's Information Literacy Conference this year held from the 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of March in the Strand Hotel Limerick. The Conference was officially opened by Mr. Sean Haughey T.D. Minister with responsibility for Lifelong Learning and was hosted by the Shannon Consortium Library Network Support Services (LNSS) comprising of Limerick Institute of Technology, Institute of Technology, Tralee, Mary Immaculate College and the University of Limerick. LILAC is aimed at librarians and information professionals, who teach information literacy skills, are interested in digital literacies and want to improve the information seeking and evaluation skills of all library users.

Previously held in cities such as Manchester, Leeds, Cardiff and Liverpool, this is the first time that this major international library conference has been held outside of the UK. This year's Conference was made even more special due to the unprecedented amount of international delegates attending the event. Countries represented were United States, Norway, Canada, Australia, Finland, Qatar, Brazil, Lithuania, Switzerland, Denmark, Egypt, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, and United Arab Emirates.

As well as the Conference papers in the Strand Hotel during the day there were various social evening events held at venues in and around the city such as the LILAC Networking event held in Limerick School of Art and Design (LIT) and the conference dinner in Dromoland Castle where the prestigious CILIP CSG Information Literacy Practitioner of the year (UK) and the LAI/CONUL Information Literacy Practitioner of the year (Ireland) award were presented.

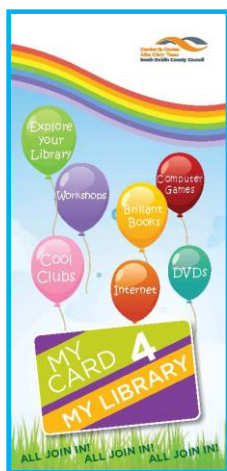
In recognition of, and to celebrate the holding of the 2010 LILAC conference at Limerick, the LAI and CONUL (Consortium of National & University Libraries) agreed to sponsor the Irish Information Literacy award. Nominations were invited from individuals or teams who had engaged in IL initiatives in the Republic. Sixteen nominations were received from a range of academic, special and public libraries. These were assessed on the following criteria:

- Raising the profile of information literacy within the organisation
- Developing a system/course/programme/service, or product which develops information literacy skills
- Evidence of impact
- Clear demonstration of innovation, initiative and originality

The standard of the nominated programmes was extremely high and showed considerable imagination, skill and expertise on the part of the teams involved. The winning nomination was the only entry from a public library service — the Library Skills Course provided by the Development and Teaching Team at Wexford County Library Service. This 12-week, 30-hours contact course is a Leaving Certificate level course, provided by the library team and externally assessed via FETAC which has also accredited it. The course satisfied all of the assessment criteria and benefits from being transferable to other services, second-level schools etc. On behalf of her colleagues Anne Griffin, Celestine Rafferty and Yvonne Smith, Susan Kelly accepted the €500 award and an inscribed certificate at the LILAC conference dinner.

Library Network Support Services (LNSS) is a Shannon Consortium initiative focussing on the development and delivery of dynamic web based information literacy services and associated training as well as library staff development initiatives across the Shannon Consortium.

## All Join In Campaign

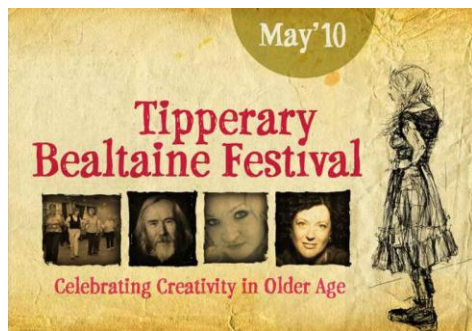


South Dublin County Libraries have extended an invitation to all children in their County to join their library. They have invited all teachers, children and indeed everyone in the school community to join them in the *All Join In* campaign.

The object of the project is to endeavour to get every child attending primary school in South Dublin to become a library member and to use their library card on World Book Day 2010. International World book Day takes place on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. They have designed a leaflet and special card for all children and are distributing these through all the primary schools in the County. The leaflet explains how to join the library and a library card is enclosed in it.

The children can then activate their cards by joining online at their website [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie) or by visiting any the branch/mobile libraries. Library staff are on hand to visit schools and demonstrate to the children how to join online and also all the virtual resources that are available to them on the library website. There are 30,000 children going to school in South Dublin County, and so the aim is to crash the website on World Book Day!!

## Tipperary Libraries Celebrate Bealtaine



The Bealtaine Festival is a National Programme run throughout May each year in association with Age and Opportunity and all over the country older persons groups and individuals are actively involved in Arts events, workshops and activities. For the third year, North Tipperary County Council, South Tipperary County Council and Tipperary Libraries are co-ordinating a festival together to develop a Bealtaine Programme across the whole county. Most events are free and open to the public. Taking its name from the

ancient Celtic festival celebrating springtime, Bealtaine celebrates renewal, creativity and growth in ageing.

Tá fáilte roimh páirt a ghlacadh i ceiliúradh na Féile Bealtaine.

The festival is being launched on the 4th May, 2.30pm at The Source, Library and Arts Centre, Thurles by Catherine Rose CEO of Age and Opportunity. The Launch will include a performance by the Pre- Madonnas ( See below).

For a glimpse at some of the exciting events happening across the county go to [www.tipperarylibraries.ie](http://www.tipperarylibraries.ie) or contact Emer O'Brien, Senior Executive Librarian, Tipperary Libraries ( 0504 21555)



The **Pre Madonnas** -In the days before Madonna and Kylie, there were two girls with Real Voices, who sang Real Music. The years have passed and these two girls are now.....slightly older girls, grown wiser, sexier, more attractive with limitless supplies of talent, known as The Pre-Madonnas, who are mezzo soprano Liz Ryan and soprano Mary Flaherty with Aoife O'Sullivan on piano, and together they present a delectable programme of arias and duets from composers such as Verdi,

Mozart, Bellini, Delibes and Handel, as well as operatta and Victorian songs, and comedy sketches. All presented with Charm! Panache! and no radio mikes.

## Get Creative - Arts and Crafts Workshops

Celebrate your creativity with Tipperary Libraries by joining in one of our many arts and crafts workshops. Workshops are available in several disciplines including painting, lace making and card making. There is something for everyone. These workshops are informal introductory sessions, nothing too serious but enjoyment is guaranteed. Tipperary Libraries' branches across the County of Tipperary have been running these kind of events



for many years with great success. The attraction for many people is that these workshops are free and informal.



**Writing workshops with Vincent McDonnell.** Vincent has published nine novels for adults and children, three works of non-fiction, over fifty short stories and hundreds of articles and other writings. He has won numerous literary prizes, including the GPA Award, The Francis MacManus Award, The Golden Pen Award, Ireland's Own Short Story Award and an RAI Award. He has been writer in residence for Co. Limerick (twice) Co. Cork and the Munster Literature Centre, and has conducted creative writing workshops at literary festivals all over Ireland.



**2010** has been designated the European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. For more information please visit:  
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=637>

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