

IRISH | LIBRARY | NEWS

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Write On 4 Work at the library

[NALA](#)'s *Write On 4 Work* programme leads to a free qualification at FETAC Level 3 (equivalence junior cert) for adults. Learners can follow this course from home, **or from the local library**, with tutor support offered over the telephone or on the internet.



Announcing the course, NALA sees the public library playing an important role in facilitating learners to access the course using library Internet PCs.

NALA has distributed information on the course to every library service. An Chomhairle Leabharlanna is represented on the Write On 4 Work Steering Group by Brendan Teeling, Assistant Director, who remarked, *This NALA course complements the FÁS eLearning at the Library programme which is being offered in almost 100 libraries and offers library services another way to support job seekers in their local communities.*

The course offers learners a number of options:

- Filling in job applications
- Writing, updating or improving your CV (Curriculum Vitae)
- Interview skills
- Using computers and the internet
- Starting to learn again and study skills
- Effective communication skills
- General health and safety awareness
- Brushing up any rusty skills- reading / writing / numbers

Unemployed people who gain the qualification will get a €100 success bonus.

See www.writeon.ie for details.

Irish Public Libraries score well in *Frontline*!

The *Frontline* online reading development course is co-funded by library authorities and the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government. All 32 library authorities subscribed to *Frontline* in 2008 for a three year period.

436 public library staff have been taking part in the *Frontline* training programme in the first two years, with 145 trainees having completed the course. Live feedback from staff who have graduated is available at <http://www.openingthebook.ie/feedback/>). It is instructive to note the overall positive nature of all the input.

Two Irish participants, Tommy Fahey (Ardkeen Library, Waterford City) and Veronica Whooley (Clonakilty Library, Cork County), were also voted [Frontline Trainee of the Month](#) chosen from all British and Irish participants this year (May/July), awarded in recognition of their reader centered work they have learned and applied through *Frontline* in their libraries.



An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, in co-operation with [Opening the Book](#) – the *Frontline* training provider - organised in September the third in a series of yearly workshops for the *Frontline* co-ordinators. Groups of 10 participants shared their experience of the roll-out with the support of Anne Downes, Training Director from Opening the Book.

Co-ordinators from 28 library authorities attended the event which took place in three separate venues, two in Dublin - in the offices of An Chomhairle and in Tallaght Library - and one in the new Library HQ of Cork County Council.

Participants confirmed that library authorities are seeing concrete results in terms of increased staff confidence in talking to borrowers about reading, new skills and a wider involvement in display and promotion and a broadening of stock knowledge. Some co-ordinators are using the course very creatively and making the most of it – building new learning and supporting networks amongst their staff.

Overall, the introduction of this online learning course accredited by the UK Learning Skills Council has been a valuable exercise.

Public library staff will be able to avail of the *Frontline* training until the end of June 2011 when the subscription to the course is due to expire.

Children's Book Festival 2010

Cork County Library & Arts Service

Children's Book Festival continues to grow in popularity each year and this year Cork County Library and Arts Service held events in 28 libraries throughout the county during October. The programme featured an exciting mix of author visits, poetry sessions, workshops and storytelling performances.

We were delighted to work with Children's Books Ireland to bring The Wildest Dreams Tour to the Briery Gap Macroom with authors Sarah Webb, Sophia Bennett and Judi Curtin. It was an overwhelming success with the authors reading from their work and discussing their different childhood dreams with their audience. The very lively discussion afterwards was followed by the authors signing autographs and posing for photos. A fantastic treat for the 130 + kids.



Author Jane Mitchell visited Carrigaline, Ballincollig, Mallow and Millstreet libraries. Jane is the author of six books for children including her most recent book [*Chalkline*](#), published in 2009 which has won a number of national and regional awards and has been shortlisted for others. Her talk was very thought provoking dealing with issues of human rights and was enjoyed by teachers and pupils alike.

In association with the Goëthe Institute, Renate Ahrens visited Fermoy Library and Library Headquarters. Renate, born in Germany, now lives in Dublin. She read to a capacity audience from her book *Die Welt steht Kopf*, which has been translated by Laureate na nÓg Siobhán Parkinson as *Over the Wall*. The reading was partly in German, but predominantly in English; a very lively Q & A session ensued afterwards.

In keeping with the library's tradition of highlighting writers past and present, students in Bandon Library were given an insight into the fascinating work of Scottish poet Robert Burns by Dr. Fred Freeman while Kathleen O'Sullivan and Billy Teare entertained the children of Glanmire and Carrigaline libraries with their comedy, music, magic, songs, juggling and a variety of theatre skills..

Some other highlights of the programme were Adam Wyeth and Tony Curtis showing children just how much fun poetry can be and John W.Sexton and Malachy Doyle reading to pupils and discussing the craft of writing.

Children on Cape Clear Island, with the help of artist Marie O'Neill, enjoyed a workshop making some of their favourite scariest book characters for Hallowe'en!

Rhyme and Rhythm at South Dublin County Libraries

Children's Book Festival 2010 got off to a flying start at Ballyroan and the County Library Tallaght with The Armagh Rhymers, one of Northern Ireland's most celebrated folk theatre ensembles.

The Armagh Rhymers kept youngsters enthralled with their mix of storytelling, music and drama. Audience participation was a must as children played "bones", "dancing men" and the "drum" – a bucket that also conveniently doubled as a seat for its player! The enthusiastic children were only too happy to rise to Steve's challenge to "raise the roof off the library" as they shouted the responses to his stories with all their might. This energetic threesome brought

the age-old tradition of “mumming” to life with intricate masks and fun costumes. Teachers, adults and children alike were clapping hands and stamping feet during the lively and engaging shows.

Following hot on their heels, we were delighted to welcome the dynamic Ré Ó Laighléis to the County Library, poet Stephen James Smith to Ballyroan Library and illustrator Niamh Sharkey to Castletymon Library.



Ré, as always, was a welcome return visitor whose energy and dynamism means an excellent rapport with his audience. Niamh Sharkey also never fails to impress with her beautiful illustrations. However it was our first time to host a workshop with poet Stephen James Smith and we weren't disappointed. Transition Year students attended his two hour poetry workshop and both teachers and participants were really impressed. His easy style, enthusiasm and encouragement ensured that all were engaged and involved. Definitely one we'd recommend. All in all, a great couple of days to start the packed CBF programme which included authors Maddie Stewart, Garrett Carr, and Oisín McGann, puppet shows, the Imagination Gym, Mobile Music Workshops, storyteller Niall de Burca – something for everyone!

Family literacy / reading promotion initiatives

One Book, One Kilkenny encourages over 400 pupils to read *The Secret of Kells*.

Pupils from John's School and Kilkenny City Vocational School are involved in a community/family literacy project between Kilkenny County Library Service and the home school liaison teachers.

The idea behind the *One Book-One Kilkenny* project is to encourage the children to read the same book at the same time. The chosen book *The Secret of Kells* has been distributed to all the pupils and a programme of events based in the schools and the City Library will include Irish History Live workshops by Michael Moylan, animation workshops by Cartoon Saloon, a visit by the book's author Eithne Massey, art workshops and radio reviews by the children and a film screening of *The Secret of Kells*.

Acting County Librarian, Josephine Coyne explains that the aim of this project is to promote the joy of reading in schools and at home and encourage reluctant readers to read with their peers.



"The book will be used in school but children will be asked to read some of the book at home too, so parental involvement in the project is encouraged. It is hoped that this project can be replicated by schools and groups across Kilkenny".

Cartoon Saloon's involvement means that children will have an opportunity to learn from the very best in the world of animation and the grand finale of the project will be a film screening of *The Secret of Kells* for which Cartoon Saloon received an Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature Film.

Deirdre Cullen, Home School Liaison for Kilkenny City Vocational School comments that "by promoting a positive attitude to reading, we can show children that books are not only a source of information and knowledge but a source of entertainment also".

This project is funded by Kilkenny County Library Service, Kilkenny County Council's RAPID Co-Coordinator, County Kilkenny VEC and The School Completion programme.
For more information go to www.kilkennylibrary.ie

Tipperary finds itself in the grip of The Big Chill

Tipperary Libraries with funding partners Children's Books Ireland, North Tipperary VEC and EU Direct (Thurles library) are running a family reading/literacy project in Nenagh and Thurles.

Michael Smith's novel about Tom Crean, *The Iceman* is the focus of the project. The aim of the project is to encourage get boys to enjoy reading and to get parents and children interested in reading together.



Michael Smith addresses an appreciative audience

Schools in both towns have been given sufficient copies of the book, along with workbooks kindly supplied to Tipperary Libraries by a similar project in Limerick. Michael will be returning on the 10th, 11th, 12th November for a series of workshops, presentations to the students, children and parents in the schools, library and community house in Nenagh. There will be quizzes and competitions which are intended to encourage family involvement.

There is great interest building up for Michael's visits as over 300 students have read or are reading the book as we write.

Library Outreach Service for St. Joseph's Hospital

Clare County Library recently launched a book delivery service for the elderly at St. Joseph's Hospital in Ennis.

The launch took place during *National Social Inclusion Week 2010*, which aims to create awareness and develop a greater understanding of social inclusion issues.

Under the new book delivery scheme, library staff will make monthly visits to the hospital, bringing print material (including large-print books), audio materials, and any requested titles to residents.

According to Frances O'Gorman, Executive Librarian, Clare County Library: "This vital link to library services means greater enrichment and a better quality of life for those residents who are permanently or temporarily unable to get to the Library".

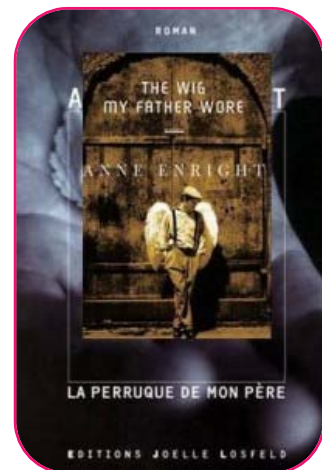


L-R standing – Mary Mc Carthy, Staff Nurse, Anne Griffey A/Assistant Director of Nursing, Tommy Molloy Multitask Attendant St. Joseph's Hospital and Frances O Gorman, Executive Librarian, Clare County Library. L-R Seated Marinius Vankooyk, Helena Browne, Residents of St Joseph's Hospital, Ennis, and Cllr Tommy Brennan Mayor of Clare. Picture by Catherine O'Hara

In Other Words...Irish Literature in Translation in Your Library

[Ireland Literature Exchange](#), in cooperation with [Dublin City Public Libraries](#), presents *In Other Words* . . . a month-long exhibition of more than 100 Irish books which have been translated into 33 different languages with the support of Ireland Literature Exchange. The exhibition will be on display in the Dublin [Central Library](#) in the ILAC Centre, Dublin 1 during the month of November.

To complement the exhibition, ILE and DCPL will present a series of talks and readings. Siobhán Parkinson, Ireland's first Children's Laureate, will open the exhibition. Other speakers will be writers John Boyne and Hugo Hamilton, and Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin, Irish-language publisher of children's picture books.



Many of the books on display are included in the Rosetta Collection, part of the World Books section of the Library. *In Other Words* . . . will include a selection of over 100 Irish books in languages as diverse as Polish, Russian, Chinese, French, Spanish, Italian, German, Dutch, Latvian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Japanese and Brazilian Portuguese from classic and contemporary Irish writers such as John Banville, Seamus Heaney, Anne Enright, Colm Tóibín,

John Boyne, Claire Kilroy, W.B. Yeats, Eavan Boland, Hugo Hamilton, Edna O'Brien, Lady Augusta Gregory, John Boyne, Claire Keegan and Kevin Power.

Readings/Talks:

Siobhán Parkinson – Wednesday, 3 November @ 6:30pm

John Boyne – Wednesday, 10 November @ 11:30am

Hugo Hamilton – Wednesday, 17 November @ 6:30pm

Tadhg Mac Dhonnagáin – Wednesday, 24 November @ 6:30pm

All readings/talks will take place in the Central Library, ILAC Centre, Dublin 1.

* Admission to the exhibition is free.

** Events are free but booking is recommended through the Open Learning Centre, Central Library, openlearning@dublincity.ie, Tel: 01 873 4333

Writing 3.0: Fingal's Annual Writers' Festival

Writing 3.0: Fingal's Annual Writers' Festival co-programmed, funded and executed by Fingal Libraries and Arts Office is near an end. *Writing 3.0* was launched by Mayor Councillor Ken Farrell in Malahide Library on Friday 1st October, when Stuart Neville and local author Kevin McCarthy read from and discussed their work.

Writing 3.0 evolved from the well established *Finscéal: A Writer's Trail of Fingal* -an initiative for writers and readers throughout Fingal since 2005.



L-R Mary Wilson, Fergus Finlay, Olivia O'Leary

The rebranding of Fingal's annual writers' festival to *Writing 3.0* recognises and encompasses new opportunities that are available to professional and amateur writers alike, from traditional print media to ever changing technological outlets such as social media, blogs, the Internet, animation and performance both in local venues and on the big screen.

As well as broadening Fingal County Libraries and Fingal Arts Office's reach from traditional book based writing to a more socially inclusive, multi media based creativity, *Writing 3.0* aims to broaden participation both in relation to the facilitators and the audience alike. The programme of events, workshops, readings, performances and film screenings were interactive in nature and were extremely well attended.



Stuart Neville and Kevin McCarthy launching the festival in Malahide Library

One of the highlights of the festival were the Open Mic night, held in the unique setting of Fingal Council Chamber. MC'd by Christopoulos Makris, the night opened with guest poets Colm Keegan and Dave Lordan performing their poetry. The audience was then invited to participate. The uptake was overwhelming and the news in the poetry circle is that it was one of the best Open Mic nights ever held in Dublin.

Another highlight was *The Drivetime Diarists*, presented in association with RTÉ. Farmleigh House ballroom was packed to capacity when Mary Wilson, Fergus Finlay, Olivia O'Leary and Joseph O'Connor entertained the audience with readings from their Diaries.

Readings by Colin Bateman and Nuala Ní Chonchúir were lively affairs, while the workshops on creative writing, screenwriting with the Irish Film Board, performing poetry and animation with Cartoon Saloon were booked to capacity. Frank Snow, Cathaoirleach of Balbriggan Town Council launched *Blogging for Fun and for Work* on Wednesday 20th October to a large audience, when a panel of Journalists/Bloggers spoke about the legal, practical and technical issues relating to blogging for fun and for work in Balbriggan Library.



L-R: Yvonne O'Brien, Fingal Libraries; Mary Wilson; Joseph O'Connor, Fergus Finlay; Olivia O'Leary, Sarah O'Neill

The Irish Film Board kindly permitted a screening of *Eclipse* scripted by Conor McPherson in two venues. All in all *Writing 3.0; Fingal's Annual Writers' Festival* focused on the writing process in the 21st C; how it evolves from the blank page across a range of iterative and ever changing technologies associated with creativity that potentially reaches vast audiences.

We think this Festival is unique and very relevant to all writers today, and we are already planning an even more exciting and wide ranging programme of events for next year.

Yvonne O'Brien, Fingal County Libraries

Culture Night in Kilkenny Library Service given over to a celebration of Traveller culture

This highly successful event was held on Culture Night as a celebration of Traveller Culture. Over 150 people attended on the evening and enjoyed the exhibitions of artwork, photographs and crafts as well as entertainment provided by many singers from around the city and county.

As part of the national initiative this evening of celebration was held in Loughboy Library, Kilkenny City on Friday 24th September. Organised by representatives of Kilkenny Library Service, Kilkenny County Council, CKLP and KTCM, the aim was to provide a welcoming space for members of the Traveller community to exhibit their crafts and celebrate their singing tradition.

The theme of the photographic exhibition was *Visibility – Invisibility* – photographs of and by a group of Traveller women and their families and community.

This was followed by the introduction of the library Traveller Culture collection. "The library service has recently developed this collection of materials in an effort to improve understanding, knowledge and appreciation of this culture" said Trish Nolan, co-ordinator of the event.



Margaret Mary Reilly & her daughter

The highlight of the evening was the entertainment provided by singers of all ages and from all parts of the city and county. Renowned singer Selina O'Leary, who recently performed in Carnegie Hall, New York, also performed on the night to add to the celebrations.

"We would like to thank everyone who helped to make the night such a success and would love to hold a similar event again" says Mary Helen Connors, participation worker.



Michael Carthy

Culture Night is an initiative co-ordinated by Temple Bar Cultural Trust and supported by the Department of Tourism, Culture & Sport in partnership with Kilkenny County Council

Poets on Board - 1st Anniversary Celebrations & National Poetry Day

On National Poetry day, The City Library, Kilkenny celebrated the first year of a poetry initiative entitled, Poets on Board. Well known Kilkenny poet, Mark Roper enchanted the audience with readings from his new collection, *The River Book*, and shared the spotlight with many of the Poets on Board contributors. In a very casual atmosphere, many poets read some of their own work, and explained the meaning behind their work. Participants included

Darren Caffrey, Cathy Power, Kevin Hughes, Mary O'Shea, Anne Murphy, Kathleen Blanchfield, Anthony Tollervey and Alan Butler.



The scheme has been going from strength to strength with many regular contributors from all over the county and beyond. It began in 2009 when the Writer in Residence, Grace Wells, suggested that the library would be the perfect location for allowing poets born or living in Kilkenny to showcase their work. The Library Service was delighted to be in the position to support local writers in gaining a wider audience for their poetry.

"Shining examples of how entrepreneurs can lead us out of the recession."

Dundalk Library Europe Direct Centre in conjunction with Louth County Enterprise Board recently hosted an entrepreneurial business symposium.

Speaking at the symposium in the County Library on October 5: "Is Ireland a truly entrepreneurial nation within a European context?" the founder of smallbusinesscan.com, Ron Immink, said that we can all take heart from the two local businesswomen on the panel. Anne Butterly told the audience, how she had started her business Easydry. Easydry has become the market leader in patented one-use-only environment-friendly towels, and exports now account for 90% of the company's turnover. Lisa Shields described her journey from being made redundant to setting up her virtual office company, LM Virtual Office.

The chairman of the evening, local author and motivational speaker Yanky Fachler, said that Anne and Lisa were shining examples of how entrepreneurs can lead the way out of the recession. Instead of focusing on the doom and gloom being peddled by the media, Yanky told the audience, we should be exploring what we can do to change the attitudes to Business

Startup. The work done by Louth County Enterprise Board was excellent – but more was needed to be done to reduce the bureaucracy and hassle for people who want to start their own business.

On the question of whether a recession was a good, bad or mad time to start a new business, the panel was unanimous that this was a red herring. The timing of starting a new business venture has to do with whether the idea and the business model are viable, and whether the person starting the business has the right spirit and attitude – and not whether we are in the middle of a recession or not.



On the central question of the evening, “Are we as entrepreneurial as we think?” Ron Immink said that Ireland has huge potential to become a truly entrepreneurial nation, but there needs to be a more joined-up-thinking approach by the government to encourage entrepreneurship, starting in the schools. Encouraging creativity from an early age is one of the key motivational drivers for entrepreneurship. Reading and the creative role of libraries in fostering an “imaginative space” helps fosters this creativity.

The event proved to be a challenging and thought-provoking night, and very relevant in today’s uncertain times.

*Dundalk Europe Direct Centre, Louth County Library, Roden Place, Dundalk, Co. Louth
Tel: 042-9353190
Email: libraryhelpdesk@louthcoco.ie
www.louthcoco.ie*

Meath County Library Oral History Workshop

Member of heritage groups and local history societies around county Meath attended an oral history training seminar with Criostóir Mac Carthaigh of Cnuasach Bhéaloideas Éireann/The Irish Folklore Collection at Meath County Library Headquarters in Navan on 2nd October 2010.



This initiative follows on from the launch of the Meath Irish Life & Lore oral history collection which was launched in Meath County Library in April of this year.

The day's training started with a full and interesting account of the history of folklore and oral history collecting in Ireland, looking at Seán Ó Súilleabháin's *Handbook of Irish Folklore* and at the Schools' Folklore Collection. Criostóir moved on to look at the interview itself and played a number of illuminating examples, from the Irish Folklore Collection and from the Meath Oral History Collection, of good interview techniques and external factors – such as barking dogs. In the final session of the day the trainees got to do some recording themselves and took to the roles of interviewer and interviewee with great enthusiasm. The Local History Department of Meath County Library will be providing technical assistance to the interviewers and will be co-ordinating the oral history project, and archiving and cataloguing interviews as they are carried out over the coming months.

The Oral History training day was sponsored by the Meath Heritage Centre, and a number of digital recorders, provided by Meath County Library (Local Studies) and the Meath Heritage Centre are being made available to local history and heritage groups to begin interviewing in their parts of the county.

TEDx is coming to Tallaght!

South Dublin County Libraries are delighted to present *TEDxTallaght* on November 11th at 7pm in RUA RED Arts Centre, Tallaght.

TED (www.ted.com) is a nonprofit organization devoted to 'Ideas Worth Spreading'. TED events bring together inspirational speakers who share new ideas and concepts with audiences across the globe on a myriad of themes. Libraries have always been places where ideas are shared and disseminated and as such South Dublin Libraries have been following TED discussions for some time. TEDx licenses are granted from time to time to local groups and South Dublin Libraries has been successful in getting one of these licenses as part of the *Innovation Dublin 2010* festival.



The theme chosen for TEDxTallaght is *The Alchemy of Ideas* – how passionate people and inspired thinkers take dreams and convert them into the gold of actions and change; how new ideas meld to form new and even more innovative horizons.

New ideas, new associations, new initiatives from very diverse contemporary alchemists will be presented at TEDxTallaght. Speakers from different backgrounds will tell their stories with passion and enthusiasm about how they are working to make the ordinary extraordinary. This alchemy of thinkers and curious people will inspire and challenge listeners.

The Speakers:

Darragh Doyle, an online communications and content editor, entertainment and events blogger and internet enthusiast with extensive experience in online community building and member services. By Darragh's own confession he is one of those internet geeks. He works with Boards.ie as Communications Manager, looking after the education, engagement and involvement of a community of over 200,000 people.

Merritt Bucholz was born in Chicago in 1966 and has been living and working in Dublin since 1995. He opened his architectural practice Bucholz McEvoy Architects with Karen McEvoy and together they have won a myriad of design awards. The ability to think abstractly, in a non-linear way, to assemble things that are seemingly contradictory and give them new meaning — that's the genius of the architect according to Merritt who is currently the inaugural Professor of Architecture at the University of Limerick. He was previously visiting professor at Harvard University, and has lectured at Princeton University, Cornell University, the School of Architecture at University College Dublin and Dublin Institute of Technology. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture from Cornell University.

Katherine Zappone is fired by a commitment to social justice and a belief that all human beings should have the opportunity for meaningful work and a life of well-being. For the past 25 years, she has worked with the people of Tallaght - and at national and international levels - to build capacity for the prosperity of Irish society. She now directs the Centre for Progressive Change.

Aoife McLysaght is a Senior Lecturer in Genetics, Fellow of Trinity College Dublin, Chair of the Science Gallery Leonardo Group, and Principal Investigator of a Comparative Genomics lab. Her research team made the first ever discovery of novel, human-specific protein-coding genes. She is passionate about science communication and public engagement.

Judy May Murphy is an internationally renowned speaker, author and coach. She has seven books published by top publishing companies in 28 countries. These include *Your Life Only A Gazillion Times Better* and the best selling *Sleeping Your Way To Success*. Judy May appears regularly on nationally broadcast television shows around the world (BBC, Sky, CBS, ABC, WB, Time Warner, Fox), and has been featured in many major publications from *Cosmopolitan* to *The Times*. She has enabled thousands of people to reach extraordinary heights in health, fitness, finances, career, adventure, relationships and emotional well being.

Follow TEDxTallaght and South Dublin Libraries on Facebook or Twitter (SDCCLibraries) or check out <http://www.tedxtallaght.com/>, www.southdublinlibraries.ie or [Facebook](#)

South Dublin Children are in the Zone 24/7.

South Dublin County Libraries offers a 24/7 service to the children of the County in the form of its' newly launched [Children's Zone](#) on their library website. A click of a mouse leads children to specially designed and written pages with links to other areas of the website.

The Children's Zone allows any one of the almost 35,000 primary children living in South Dublin County the opportunity to join the library, check out the catalogue, download an audio or e-book and much more, and all this from the comfort and safety of their home or school computer.

The [homework help balloon](#) directs the children to safe sites that offer child friendly information that can help with homework and school project work. The download zone balloon brings the children directly to the catalogue of downloadable resources which are suitable for them while the *Tumblebooks* balloon leads them to an online library where they can immediately read an online title from over one hundred books.



The site is built in an open source content management system, Drupal, and is maintained by library staff. The Zone was trialled by focus groups of children from differing locations across the county and adjustments were made based on feedback received from the children.

At all times the group are anxious to ensure that the Zone appeals to the broad spectrum of ages that make up our customer base and are aware of the need to provide quality, safe information in a child friendly format. South Dublin Libraries is committed to ensuring that the website achieves "Double-A" conformance with the [World Wide Web Consortium's \(W3C\) Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG\) 1.0](#). This means that every page will comply with all checkpoints in the top 2 [priorities](#) of WCAG 1.0, to comply with the [National Disability Authority's Code of Practice on Accessibility of Public Services and Information Provided by Public Bodies](#). Tá leagan Gaeilge Láthair na nÓg ar fáil freisin.

The Balloon branding has been used in library brochures and promotional material and is proving popular with the children. A specially designed book mark, using this branding was produced and a follow up, highlighting downloadable resources available for children, will be launched shortly.



This winter, share the magic of story...

StorySpark – a season of tales, literature and imagination presented by The Ark in partnership with Children's Books Ireland and Poetry Ireland.

Each weekend from 27 November – 19 December, The Ark, in partnership with Children's Books Ireland and Poetry Ireland, will present *StorySpark*, a celebration of children's literature and story that will light up even the darkest of winter days. On Saturday and Sunday mornings, families can visit the creative facilities of The Story Lab, a facilitated interactive space open to those wishing to write and record their own stories. Later in the afternoon, The Reading Room will play host to a series of exclusive readings at 2pm and 4pm, featuring some of the most talented children's authors writing today including Derek Landy, Roddy Doyle, John Boyne and Oisín McGann. Don't miss this chance to go behind the scenes of your favourite books and put questions to the people who created them. The latest titles by all participating authors will be available from The Story Store (hosted by The Gutter Bookshop), with signings taking place after each event.



For full programme details, times and all you need to know go to... www.ark.ie

The Ark gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Arts Council in making StorySpark possible. The Ark also acknowledges its other annual supporters: Department of Education and Skills; Temple Bar Cultural Trust; and Dublin City Council. The Ark's media partners for StorySpark are The Irish Times and RTÉ.

Bibliotherapy – Healthy Reading Collection

On the 30th September 2010, over 200 people packed themselves into a community hall in Upperchurch, Co. Tipperary. They attended a Mental Health Seminar entitled 'taking care of your health'. Minister John Moloney, singer and mental health campaigner Frances Black were among the line up of speakers, which also included other experienced and interesting speakers from mental health agencies in Ireland.

A variety of organisations provided stands with handouts, advice and information and all attendees received a pack with information about the support groups available and a fridge magnet with the names and contact numbers of a variety of relevant agencies.



The seminar was organised by the SIM (Social Inclusion Measures) group, rural isolation sub group in North Tipperary. Tipperary Libraries are a very active partner in the rural isolation group and displayed their *Bibliotherapy – Healthy Reading* Collection on the night. There was great interest and much surprise at the range and quality of the books available on all issues from stress to bereavement.

Bibliotherapy was launched in 2009 with the HSE and Tipperary Libraries working together on the programme. Since then, there has been great interest in the stock and Tipperary Libraries are committed to expanding the stock and continue to promote the service wherever they can.

Anna Manahan Remembered night at Waterford City Council Central Library

On Wednesday 29 September, the Waterford Europe Direct Information Centre based at Central Library in Waterford City remembered its own Anna Manahan, one of Ireland's best actors. On the night local broadcaster Billy McCarthy interviewed well known actor and director Barry Cassin. Barry, who starred alongside Anna Manahan on many occasions, spoke about his personal memories of Anna, remembering her life and award-winning career to an attentive crowd of over 100 of Anna's family, friends and fans.



WLRfm's Billy McCarthy interviews Actor and Director Barry Cassin. Photo: John Power

In keeping with this important occasion, the Mayor of Waterford Cllr. Mary Roche was also in attendance as well as Dublin City Senior Archivist, Ellen Murphy - who showed a series of images of Anna from the Irish Theatre Archive. Ellen, also a Waterford native is the curator of the Anna Manahan Remembered Exhibition, which was also on display in Central Library's Index Gallery for the month of September. The exhibition, a striking series of photographs, reflected on Anna's stage and screen career which spanned over 60 years.



Jim Nolan (playright); Jane Cantwell (City Librarian); Barry Cassin (actor and director); Mayor of Waterford Cllr. Mary Roche; Ellen McCarthy (Senior Archivist Dublin City Archive) and Billy McCarthy (WLRfm) at The Anna Manahan Remembered Night 29 September 2010 in Waterford City Library. Photograph by John Power.

Throughout the night, Anna Manahan's extraordinary talent and her many achievements, both on and off stage were recalled. These include John B. Keane writing the title role of Big Maggie for Anna in the late sixties, starring in Broadway in Brian Friel's *Lovers* for which she received a Tony Award nomination in 1968 and her triumphant return to Broadway thirty years later in 1998, where she won a Tony Award for her portrayal of Mag Folan in Garry Hynes' production of Martin McDonagh's magnificent play *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. In 2008 Anna was appointed the first patron of Active Retirement Ireland.



Anna's brothers Joe and Val Manahan with playwright Jim Nolan at the opening of the Anna Manahan Remembered Exhibition

The Waterford Europe Direct Information Centre was delighted with the turnout and the positive reaction to the celebration night, which received a lot of local media coverage.

2010 is the *European Year of Combating Social Exclusion* and this event was part of Positive Ageing Week. Through its' Art Partner Project the EU recognises that arts and cultural activities can help to recreate social links. For more information on the Europe Direct Centres check out www.europedirect.ie

Linda Houston awarded Honorary CILIP Fellowship

An Honorary CILIP Fellowship has been awarded to Linda Houston. The awards ceremony took place at the CILIP AGM in London on 14th October. Linda is one of nine new Honorary Fellows. She is currently the Director of LISCNI and was previously Chief Librarian, Belfast Education and Library Board. Linda represents LISC NI on COLICO, The Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland.



The award is made by CILIP Council to recognise distinguished service in promoting the purpose and objects of CILIP. Awards are made annually, after nominations have been submitted by colleagues who are members of CILIP, and assessed by the Honorary Awards Panel. As Chief Librarian in the Belfast Education and Library Board (2000- 2005), she oversaw the strategic development of a major city public library service at a period of great change and, at a regional level, she was instrumental in the development and successful implementation of the public library electronic network, a ground breaking PFI initiative in the library sector. As the first Director of the Libraries and Information Services Council (Northern Ireland), she has taken forward a host of regional and cross-sectoral strategies and innovative programmes. Among the initiatives with which she has been particularly associated are the Northern Ireland Publications Resource, and LISC Inspire.

She is honoured by CILIP for: her advocacy of libraries and information services in Northern Ireland, for her role in initiating and fostering partnerships across sectors and borders, and for her commitment to raising professional standards.

Extract from Linda's Honorary Fellowship Citation. The full document can be seen [here](#).

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