

IRISH | LIBRARY | NEWS

January/February 2011 #309

Like a Phoenix, Cork City Library rises from the Ashes . . . again

December 11 1920 fell on a Saturday, and fittingly it did so again in 2010. Fittingly, because on Saturday December 11 last, Cork City Libraries remembered the destruction of the city's Carnegie Free Library on that date in 1920. The emphasis, however, was on the subsequent rebuilding of the library collections.

Firstly, in a procession led by Lord Mayor Cllr. Michael O'Connell, more than one hundred library users of all ages each carried a book from the site of the old to the site of the new library, in a symbolic re-enactment of the rebuilding of the library collections. The books were from those donated from around the world following the destruction of the Carnegie Library.



Lord Mayor Cllr. Michael O'Connell leads the procession off from City Hall

The procession left the Civic Offices on Anglesea Street and made its way to the City Library, Grand Parade (the Civic Offices are built on the site of the old Carnegie Library). The Band of the First Southern Brigade marched before the procession, and serving and retired members of the Fire Service also took part, in recognition of their predecessors' role in fighting the fires on that night of the 11th and morning of December 12 1920.

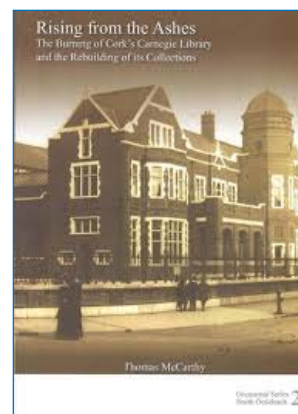


Marchers arrive at the City Library, with Lord Mayor Cllr Michael O'Connell centre

The second part of the remembrance began when the participants reached the City Library. The Lord Mayor read from the historic pamphlet *Who burnt Cork city*, published immediately after the fire (in

January 1921), followed by Ms. Patricia Bogan, a great granddaughter of Alfred J. Hutson, chief fire officer in 1920, who read from her great grandfather's own testimony. Other readers included Thomas McCarthy, Salim Bachi, Director of Alliance Française de Cork, who read from a book donated by the French Government at the time, and Kevin O'Sullivan, President of the Cork Historical & Archaeological Society, who read from a book donated by a founder member and first Hon. Secretary of that Society, James Coleman.

This was the concluding act in the programme of events organized to bring this tragic event back into the public domain, which began with the opening of an exhibition and launch of a book, both entitled *Rising from the Ashes: the burning of Cork's Carnegie Library and the rebuilding of its collections*, on November 17 2010. Speakers on that evening included the Lord Mayor of Cork, Norma McDermott, Director of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, and Thomas McCarthy, author of the book. The book and exhibition describe the



destruction of the library, the various efforts to rebuild the city and its library, set against the evolving political struggles, the generosity and public spirit of the many donors, and the single-mindedness of the then City Librarian James Wilkinson in pursuing his goal of a new library.

Both book and exhibition have been very well received. Thomas McCarthy's love and understanding of books, and of the spirit that animates the public library movement, comes through in his narrative. Copies of the book are available from Cork City Libraries as well as bookshops.

Rising from the Ashes: The Burning of Cork's Carnegie Library and the Rebuilding of its Collections by Thomas McCarthy. – Cork City Libraries, 2010. ISBN: 978-0-9549847-7-9
Price: €7

Cork County Libraries receive certificates of recognition from Co-Action

At a ceremony in Skibbereen recently, Cork County Libraries was among a number of employers who received certificates of recognition from Co-Action for providing employment opportunities for people with additional needs. Co-Action provides a wide range of supports and services for children and adults across all ranges of ability. The ceremony was a recognition of the role Cork County Libraries, among other employers, has played in extending opportunities for an inclusive approach to employment and work experience.



Employer representatives & Co-Action workers at the ceremony, including William Swanton (Skibbereen Co-Action) extreme left and Ken McNamara (Skibbereen Library) second left.

Knitwits @ Mallow Library

While 2011 is the designated Year Of Craft, visitors have been known to comment that every day is Craft Day in Mallow Library. The library hosts meetings of a variety of craft groups each week, from knitting to quilting, from lacemaking to patchwork. One of the most popular and most fun groups is



Tracy and Samantha at a knitwits meeting

Knitwits –a junior knitting group. This group was started by staff member Margaret O Callaghan in the old library premises over five years ago and in recent years Mary McNamara has taken up the baton, or knitting needle in this case, as the group goes from strength to strength. Adult volunteers also give generously of their time to assist the staff.

The children are taught to knit or improve their knitting and have contributed to charity knitting projects such as Cork University Hospital's neo-natal hat project and the Innocent Big Knit project. Up to 25 children and up to 8 adults

regularly attend the group. The popularity of Knitwits is a measure how much the children and indeed their parents and grandparents enjoy participating in the group.

Bright future for DLR Libraries

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Libraries has embarked on an extensive programme to improve the quality of the service; plans include building a new central library and redesigning and extending older library buildings to create more welcoming and revitalised civic spaces for the people of the county.



The proposed Central Library and Cultural Centre (above) at Moran Park, Dún Laoghaire recently went to tender.

Carr Cotter Naessens Architects have designed a stunning four-storey building overlooking Dún Laoghaire Harbour. This will be a flagship facility for the county, and will comprise a central library, cultural centre, café, exhibition gallery and arts office, and will be set in landscaped parkland with pedestrian walkways.

The central library will provide library users with enhanced services such as self-service, automated book returns, an out-of-hours returns facility and 24 hour access to the virtual library.

The aim is to commence building this summer.

Construction began last September on a new public library and senior college in Blackrock. Dún Laoghaire VEC is building an expanded new library as part of the educational complex on the site of the old Blackrock Town Hall and Library.

McCullagh Mulvin Architects have been appointed to design the refurbished complex, and it is envisaged that construction will be completed towards the end of the year. The original buildings are protected structures and every effort is being made to retain the original features, including the mosaic tiled entrance-way.

Stillorgan Library is currently closed for extensive renovation and will reopen in March as an attractive new space for the public, and will introduce customer self-service.

Self-service kiosks were also recently installed in Deansgrange Library. This is the first step in a planned programme to extend and improve facilities in Deansgrange, which includes improved access, a modernised information desk and expanded exhibition space.

A programme of conservation and refurbishment of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown's protected Carnegie library buildings is underway. The aim is to preserve the unique facades and features of the buildings, while at the same time modernising interiors, improving access and creating a reader-friendly, stock-centred environment.

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown has a rich architectural and literary heritage, and DLR Libraries is committed to preserving that heritage by maintaining the integrity of its building stock, while at the same time continuing to deliver a library service that is current and relevant to the community.

Marketing Strategies for the Busy Librarian

The Ennis Book Club Festival, in association with Clare County Library, invites library staff nationwide to a professional development workshop on Friday March 4 2011 at 2.30 p.m. in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis. The workshop 'Marketing Strategies for the Busy Librarian' will be delivered by Nancy Dowd, author of American Library Association's best-selling book *Bite-Sized Marketing: Realistic Solutions for Over-worked Librarians*.

Nancy is the Director of Marketing for the New Jersey State Library where she incorporates her career experiences as an editor, writer, presenter and marketer to produce effective and replicable marketing strategies for libraries. A popular speaker, Nancy has spoken around the world helping libraries improve their marketing and advocacy efforts. Her statewide marketing campaign, Tell Us Your Story, was one of six U.S. campaigns awarded the 2010 John Cotton Dana Award.



Nancy Dowd, Director of Marketing for the New Jersey State Library

This workshop is **FREE** to library staff nationwide.

Hope you can join us!

To book a place email frances.ogorman@clarelibrary.ie

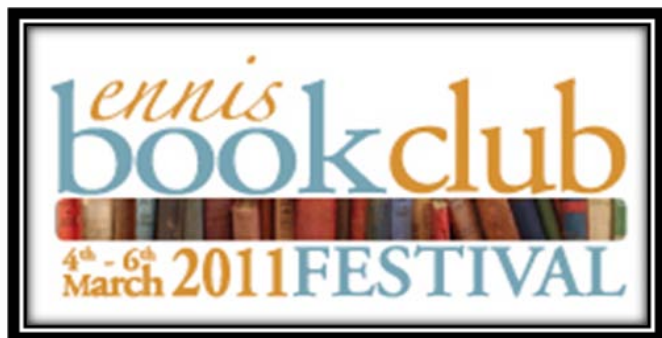
or phone **087 226 2259**.

Festival information at www.ennisbookclubfestival.com Festival programme available by end of January.

Top Names for Ennis Book Club Festival

High profile Irish and international literary figures will participate in the 2011 Ennis Book Club Festival, details of which were announced on January 12 2011.

In association with Clare County Library, the three-day programme of events is expected to attract hundreds of Book Club members and book lovers from all over Ireland and the UK to the Clare County capital from March 4-6 2011.



The Festival programme features author visits, readings, lectures and workshops in various venues around Ennis. It also includes the 'Irish Book Club of the Year Award' and a professional development workshop for library staff.

Among the Irish contributors to the festival will be **Anne Enright**, Booker Prize-winning author; **Pauline McLynn**, stage and screen actor and author of eight bestselling novels; **Peter Sheridan**, playwright, film and theatre director, and recipient of the Rooney Prize for Literature; **Paul Murray**, Irish author of *Skippy Dies* which has been selected as the third best fiction book of the year by *Time*

magazine; **Eamonn Sweeney**, journalist and author of *Down Down Deeper and Down: Ireland in the 70s and 80s*, and the bestselling *Road to Croker*; **David Norris**, Senator and Joycean scholar; **Dr Eibhear Walshe**, author of *Cissie's Abattoir* and senior lecturer in the Department of Modern English at University College Cork; and **John Curran**, author of *Agatha Christie's Secret Notebooks*.

International contributors include **Doug Stanton**, US author of *Horse Soldiers* and New York Times bestseller *In Harm's Way: The Sinking of the USS Indianapolis and the Extraordinary Story of Its Survivors*; **Blake Morrison**, former literary editor of The Observer and the Independent on Sunday, Professor of Creative and Life Writing at Goldsmiths College, and author of *The Last Weekend* and *Things My Mother Never Told Me*; and **David J. Lynch**, senior writer with Bloomberg News, former war correspondent, and author of *When The Luck Of The Irish Ran Out: The World's Most Resilient Country and Its Struggle to Rise Again*.

There will also be poetry readings by **Vona Groarke** and **Tom Conaty**, while well known broadcaster **Marie Louise O'Donnell** will be choosing '10 Books You Should Read'.

Elsewhere, the Festival will feature a Clare Youth Theatre performance of 'Ex Libris', and the launch by the Clare Three-legged Stool Poets of the late Brendan O'Byrne's poetry collection, *Reality; the Graveyard of Dreams*. The young winners of the *Clare Champion's* short story writing competition will also be reading their work.

Clare County Librarian Helen Walsh said that this year's three-day programme of events promises to be as exciting and wide-ranging as the previous four festivals. 'The numbers attending the Festival has grown year-on-year and we expect hundreds of readers from all around the country to travel to Ennis this March', she explained.

Hope you can join us!

Tickets for all events will be on sale in early February.

Further festival information is available from...

- web: www.ennisbookclubfestival.com
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/ebcf
- Email: info@ennisbookclubfestival.com
- Tel: 087 226 2259 and 087 9723647

Fingal Libraries announce an exciting range of new free services.

Fingal Libraries are implementing changes to bring a wider, more efficient and accessible range of services to Library members. Members of Fingal Libraries will shortly be able to avail of the following services:

- **SMS – TEXT messaging and Email alerts**
This free service will allow borrowers to receive texts or emails reminding them of overdue loans and reserves to be collected.
- **Free WIFI will be available** in Blanchardstown, Balbriggan, Malahide and Rush Libraries from February 2011.
- **Gaming Resources.** Xbox, DS Lite, Playstation, Wii games are now available for loan in most branches.
- **New Self Service System** allows borrowers to borrow, return and renew their loans. This timesaving system is already available in Rush and Blanchardstown and will be available in Malahide and Balbriggan by the end of January.
- **Digital versions of audio books** will be downloadable to borrowers' PC, Laptop, iphone, ipad, Smartphone etc via the Internet. 10 Audiobooks will be borrowable for 21 days, renewable within this time. www.fingalcoco.ie/Library

Rush Library Officially Opened

Fingal County Council officially opened Rush Library, now housed in the magnificently restored St. Maurs Church, Rush on Monday November 29 2010. The restoration of St. Maurs was the winner in the Best Restoration / Conservation category at the RIAI Irish Architecture Awards 2010.

Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Ken Farrell officially offered the library to the community in Rush. The Mayor accentuated the emotional attachment the community has with this historic space by highlighting how new and established generations of the community can build on past meaning and perpetuate the linkage between past and present by claiming ownership of the building and using the library services and space to its fullest potential.

Fingal County Council manager David O'Connor addressed the attendees, which included local TDs, and councillors and praised residents who played a part in ensuring St. Maurs Church was retained as a public building and the library staff for the great work achieved on this project. The



L-R Mayor Cllr Ken Farrell; Manager David O'Connor; Exec. Librarian Yvonne Reilly; Snr Librarian Geraldine Bollard.

manager congratulated McCullough Mulvin Architects and Fingal Council architects for their achievement in the restoration and redesign of the church for library use.

Fingal County Libraries recently extended the opening hours for this wonderful new facility, which is fast becoming the lynchpin at the heart of the Rush community, to six days or 50 hours per week.

An Exhibition space is available on what was previously the altar of the church. Rush Library has already enjoyed a varied programme of activities and events for adults and children alike. To date approximately 200 school children use the facility during school hours each week and have so far been treated to circus acts, puppet shows and author visits by the renowned local children's author Derek Landy, while children visiting the library outside of school hours enjoyed Hip Hop dance classes, DJ skills workshops and ongoing instruction in chess.






Adults recently enjoyed the screening of IFI film 'Eclipse' as part of Writing 3.0; Fingal's Annual Writers' Festival and a talk by Fingal Architect Fionnuala May on the restoration of St. Maurs Church to its current use.

Fingal Libraries sponsored the publication of a beautifully illustrated and timely book entitled *St Maur's Chapel Rush*. Mayor of Fingal, Councillor Ken Farrell launched the book in St Maur's on 15th December 2010.

In this beautifully illustrated book, local author Margaret McCann examines the ecclesiastical history of Rush, the effects of the penal laws on the village and the successful struggle to prevent the demolition of the chapel and its later preservation. The book is filled with many superb illustrations and photographs of St Maur's and its environs from the 18th century until its current usage as Fingal County Council's branch library in Rush. This publication is an important addition to the local history archive for the local community.

Space Hop - Galway County Libraries Summer Reading Challenge 2010

Galway County Libraries ran a very successful Summer Reading Challenge this year. We have been involved in promoting reading during the summer for the last twenty years and with the Reading Agency for the last five. This year's theme "Space Hop" was very popular and provided scope for related activities. Many libraries built their very own space rocket. A group of space hoppers from Galway City Library visited the space centre in NUIG.

-  3,265 children participated in the Summer Reading Challenge.
-  2,039 Reading Certificates were presented to children who completed the Challenge by reading at least 6 books and visiting the library.
-  This was an increase of 25% on the number who completed the challenge last year.
-  24 Branch Libraries participated
-  70,426 children's books were issued during July and August, making them the busiest months of the year.

An OECD Report in 2002 concluded that children who read for pleasure do better in school. The Summer Reading Challenge is all about reading for pleasure. We encourage children to explore books, helping them to choose and discover books that appeal to them.

Each branch library held a Presentation Party at the end of the summer. The Mayor Cllr. Jimmy McClearn presented Reading Certificates in seven branch libraries. The parties are a great celebration for the children, their parents and also the library staff.



Nintendo Wii games for over 55s at Kilkenny Library Service

2010 saw the introduction of Nintendo Wii games for over 55s into Kilkenny libraries. Feedback from Age Action Ireland told us that older people were not clear what was involved in using a Wii and that they would appreciate an introductory session. With this in mind relevant local groups were contacted and free training sessions held in Loughboy library. An expert in Wii games tutored a small group of over 55s only. Whiz kids were banned. The groups learned and enjoyed how to play in a relaxed atmosphere with plenty of space to spread their arms and no knocking into furniture and light fittings as happens when playing at home.



Participants were boxing, bowling, playing tennis, racing around the track and dancing. It was an easy way to introduce older people to new technology while they were getting some light exercise and having fun with new Wii friends. It turned into a great social occasion. One participant said that he was enjoying himself so much that it was over too soon!

Apart from the therapeutic value of the Wii games in improving balance, coordination, range of motion, muscle tone and manual dexterity, a new group of people were introduced to the library. Over half of the 30 participants joined the library after their first Wii sessions.

Nintendo Wii is usually associated with the younger generation and older people can be excluded from this new technology due to lack of confidence. The library provides the ideal neutral ground where older people can meet and share their curiosity about this new activity. It is keeping older people connected to society in the fast paced 21st century.

For more information on free Wii training for over 55s please ring Loughboy library at 056 7794176.

Kilkenny Library Service and Arts Office Mentoring Scheme 2010.

In response to Kilkenny County Councils very successful 2009 Writer in Residence Programme, the Arts Office and Libraries designed a scheme, which enabled sixteen Kilkenny writers to engage with one-to-one mentoring sessions throughout 2010. Sessions were facilitated by writer Grace Wells and were aimed at emerging and established writers who would benefit from feedback and professional engagement with their work.

Grace Wells won the Eilis Dillon Best Newcomer Bisto Award for her first book, the children's novel, *Gyrfalcon*, which was also an International White Ravens' Choice. Subsequent childrens' books *One World*, *Our World* and *Ice-Dreams* have been published within the last two years. Her first collection of poetry, *When God has been Called Away to Greater Things*, is forthcoming from Dedalus Press.



Author, Grace Wells.

The mentoring sessions focused primarily on developing writing and self-editing skills, providing analytical feedback and advice which aimed toward manuscript development. Sessions aimed to assist participants with a better understanding of the publishing industry, and, where appropriate, offered help with journal, editor and agent submissions, grant applications and other opportunities, which helped raise the mentee's professional profile.

The benefits of this scheme were many and it was obvious that the ongoing engagement of Kilkenny Arts Office and the Kilkenny Library Service made a very real impact on Kilkenny writers development and progress.

It is hoped to continue this scheme into 2011 in an effort to reflect the ongoing commitment to Kilkenny Writers and the commitment to providing literary developments through partnership between the Arts Office and Library Service.

Kilkenny Library Service receives Oscar!

OSCAR is the new self-service system at Kilkenny County Library Service. It has been installed at the City Library, John's Quay and Loughboy Library. It allows members to borrow and return items by themselves and to monitor their account and renew items with ease. It is a touch screen device and easy to operate even for technophobes.

This service runs in conjunction with the usual services provided by library staff at the check-in desk. It will be very useful for borrowers who want to drop and run and borrowers who like to help themselves. Library staff will demonstrate use of the service at any time.



The better known "Oscars" were named after Bette Davis's first husband Harmon Oscar Nelson or after the uncle Oscar of Margaret Herrick who was the Academy's Executive Secretary in 1931, depending on who you believe. The library services' Oscar stands for Open System Checkout and Return. Luckily you don't have to put on your glad rags and walk the red carpet to use it. OSCAR was supplied by Interleaf Technology Ltd, Bray. Funding for this new technology came from the Public Libraries Access and Services Support Grant through the Library Council.

Historical address to Bishop Patrick Finegan to be displayed in Ballinamore Library after 100 years

Leitrim County Library have put on display a historic illuminated address presented by the people of Ballinamore to their Parish Priest Reverend Patrick Finegan, as he was about to become Bishop of Kilmore in 1910.

Fr. Finegan served as parish priest of Ballinamore and was held in high esteem by the people of Ballinamore, so much so that he was presented with an elaborate and eloquent address on his departure from the parish to take up his appointment as Bishop of Kilmore. In the address he was praised for his 'piety, scholarship and patriotism' and described a 'Father, Guide and Friend'. He was also applauded for his 'promotion of temperance, the education of youth and the renovation of our dear old Sanctuary'.



Dessie Kiernan; Fr Duffy; Fr Heerey, Parish Priest Ballinamore; Sr Kathleen, Maua Mulvey; Mary Conefrey, Assistant Library, Local Studies; Martin Nellis, Peter Galligan; Thomas Galligan; Catherine Galligan; Seán Ó Suilleabháin, Leitrim County Librarian.

A number of years ago Bishop McKiernan presented the address to Leitrim County Librarian, Seán Ó Suilleabháin. Fr. Charles Heerey, the current Parish Priest of Ballinamore officially unveiled the address in Leitrim County Library, exactly 100 years after it was presented to Bishop Finegan and relations of his, the Galligan family from County Cavan were in attendance at the event.

LIT Library in pursuit of FAME: developing multicultural library services in Europe.

Limerick Institute of Technology are pleased to announce an exciting collaboration with Department of Information Management Hacettepe University, Ankara Turkey and also libraries in Norway, Denmark, Germany, Sweden and Scotland (UK) to develop a Framework Approach to provision of Multicultural Educational Resources (FAME) in EU countries.

The collaboration was made possible by funding secured by LIT Library from LEARGAS, the National Agency in Ireland for the management of national and international exchange and cooperation programmes in education, youth and community work, and vocational education and training.

The main aim of the project is to develop guidelines/frameworks for web based information literacy instruction for adults in multicultural/multilingual communities to eliminate social exclusion and to strengthen integration into society. FAME aims to help learners to know how to access, use and communicate information effectively so as to enable social inclusion. The project aims to develop information literacy instruction services to equip such groups with information literacy skills and will pay special attention to adults who are out of the formal education system and who suffer from linguistic barriers.



L-R: Pádraig Kirby, Limerick Institute of Technology, Prof. Dr. Serap Kurbanoğlu, Deputy Head of the Department of Information Management Hacettepe University and Jerald Cavanagh Institute Librarian Limerick Institute of Technology.

As the key for life-long learning and success, not only in school and the work place but also in daily life, information literacy skills must be developed by any individual of information societies, especially by immigrants, refugees and foreign residents in order for them to integrate into their adopted country. The partnership are currently working together to develop new proposals and initiatives to develop multicultural library services so as to identify specific needs and linguistic diversity of adults in multicultural communities in the EU.

Oldcastle in the First World War

On Monday November 29 2010, despite freezing conditions and the promise of more snow, Meath County Library hosted an evening which focused a spotlight on Oldcastle's role in the First World War. An audience of close to one hundred heard John Smith, historian and author of the *Oldcastle*



Ciarán Mangan, County Librarian, with, Ruth Fleischmann and Carlo Gebler.

Centenary Book (2004), present a worm's eye view of life in the Camp, based on his paper *The Oldcastle Prisoner of War Camp 1914-1918* which was published in *Ríocht na Midhe* 2010.

Ruth Fleischmann, granddaughter of Aloys Fleischmann and co-author of *Aloys Fleischmann (1880-1964): Immigrant Musician in Ireland*, (Cork University Press 2010), focused on her family's origins in Dachau and their love of music, then on her grandfather's settling in Ireland, his experience of

internment in Oldcastle and on the hardships he and his family endured during those difficult years.

One of the most distinguished figures in Irish musical life in the first half of the 20th century, the Bavarian organist, Aloys Fleischmann senior, was interned in Oldcastle Prisoner of War Camp and in 1916 was moved to the internment camp on the Isle of Man (his son would later become Professor of Music in UCC).

The evening concluded with a talk by Carlo Gebler, author of, among other publications, *Father & I: a memoir* (Abacus 2001), which touches briefly on the story of his paternal grandfather, Adolf Gebler, a musician who was also interned in Oldcastle and who played in the camp orchestra, and Adlof's brother Hermann. Carlo Gebler's talk included his own experience of teaching creative writing in prisons in Northern Ireland and of individuals who are thrown back on their own resources during periods of incarceration.

A number of Oldcastle people brought along paintings and artefacts produced by German inmates for display on the evening, and Ciarán Mangan, Meath County Librarian, while thanking the speakers for their presentations, suggested the idea of establishing a permanent exhibition in the Oldcastle Library of original artefacts and images of the Camp to provide a focus for locals and visitors whose ancestors spent their war years in Oldcastle.



Northern Ireland Publications Resource Celebrates 10th Anniversary

On November 18 2010, Northern Ireland Publications Resource (NIPR) celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a book launch at the Linen Hall Library.

Northern Ireland Publications Resource (NIPR) was set up in 2000 with the aim of ensuring that every book, pamphlet, periodical and newsletter published in Northern Ireland is collected and preserved for future generations. The Library and Information Services Council of Northern Ireland (LISCNI) runs the project with funding from the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure.



After ten years of active co-operation with publishers who generously donate copies of their books to NIPR almost 5000 items have been collected creating an unparalleled archive of Northern Ireland's published output.

To mark its first decade NIPR has published *Northern Ireland Publications Resource; the first ten years 2000-2010*, a survey of its achievements and plans for the future.



The book launch and reception was attended by representatives of the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure, The Arts Council, Libraries NI, The Linen Hall Library, Queens University, The University of Ulster, LISC NI, publishers, authors, editors, literary agents and other friends and supporters of NIPR.

Wesley McCann (NIPR chair) welcomed everyone and opened the event, speaking of the work achieved by NIPR in its first ten years, thanking all concerned for their support and hard work and outlining NIPR's plans for the future. Mr McCann also read a statement from Mr Nelson McCausland, the Minister for Culture Arts and Leisure, who although unable to attend the event sent his apologies and congratulations. The minister expressed his gratitude to all who have helped to create Northern Ireland's very own local archive and stated that he considers the NIPR archive to be an excellent resource, of great benefit to those who currently use it and most importantly, to those who will use it in the future. In his statement he recognised that as a voluntary system, it simply could not have achieved this level of success without the generosity and support of our local publishers and expressed his gratitude to them.

Patricia Walker spoke on behalf of Libraries NI and Brian Adgey spoke on behalf of the Linen Hall Library, the two lead partners in the scheme. The guest speaker was Mr Paul Feldstein, one of the directors of the Feldstein Agency, Bangor. The Agency, formed in 2007, is a diverse and dynamic publishing consultancy which offers a range of services to book publishers and authors, including those based in Northern Ireland. Mr Feldstein congratulated NIPR on the work achieved to date and stressed the importance of NIPR to the literature sector in Northern Ireland.

Copies of the anniversary book are now available free at the Linen Hall Library and further information about NIPR can be obtained from the NIPR website at www.nibooks.org

Northern Ireland Publications Resource; the first ten years 2000-2010 – Northern Ireland Publications Resource (NIPR), 2010. ISBN: 978-0-9557419-1-3
Price: Free

Quite a Hullabaloo! in Offaly

The October mid-term break saw children in Birr and Clara taking part in *Hullabaloo! 2010* – Offaly's Children's Arts Festival and Birr and Clara Libraries jumping into the artistic spirit of the week. The festival which is an Offaly County Council initiative, supported by funding from the Arts Council first started in Birr in 2007 with the intention of becoming a county-wide endeavour. In 2010, funding was made available to run *Hullabaloo!* simultaneously in Birr and Clara. A combined total of over 50 events took place in the two towns and between them, Birr and Clara Libraries played host to a significant variety of free events and workshops for young people making them one of the focal venues of the festival.



Hullabaloo! 2010 was officially launched in Clara Library on October 9 2010 by Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Barry Cowen and the sizeable crowd who attended were entertained by street theatre performers and by a musical quartet from a local school. The festival itself began on Wednesday, October 27 and ran until Saturday, October 30 2010.

In Birr Library, the theme of the week was Spooky Books, and seasonally spooky book displays highlighting the horror genre were hugely popular with both children and adults. Colour and Treat was an activity which ran in Birr Library for the entire week, where children received a treat for colouring special Halloween themed colouring pages. This was a simple idea which worked well for the whole week. Birr Library's most popular event was the Halloween Party, where many of our users made book characters come to life – there were a number of vampires, witches and some less scary characters from the Toy Story series. *Hullabaloo!* generated a great buzz around the library and was a great source of enjoyment for all who participated.



Clara Library's festival week began with *Camera Action Movie and Shoot* with Michael Fortune, a workshop which allowed participants to devise, script and shoot their own stop-animation short film using a selection of props. Divided into small groups, children could experiment and become familiar with basic techniques culminating in the production of a short animated film which was subsequently uploaded to Youtube. This workshop was fully booked and very well enjoyed.

Other highlights of the week in Clara Library included *Story-writing* with Jean O'Brien, *Cartoon Saloon* with Tim Quinlan where participants learned how to draw both well known characters and



their own funny inventions. Tullamore Academy of Music gave children the opportunity to be in an Orchestra in a workshop where they could try out a wide variety of instruments including trumpet, tuba, violin or cymbal and then play together as an orchestra. Clara Library's most highly attended event was a showing of the Irish animated movie *The Secret of Kells* which was nominated for an Oscar in 2010.

Hullabaloo! 2010 was co-ordinated by Offaly County Council Arts Office with Offaly County

Library Service, Birr Theatre & Arts Centre, Clara Resource Centre and Tin Jug Studio. There was also huge involvement from local groups, organisations and clubs both as supporters, venues and participants. Local individuals also gave of their time and energy to help make the festival a huge success and truly a community undertaking. Offaly County Library Service was delighted to be a part of this endeavour to promote the arts to younger people in a fun and vibrant way and looks forward to seeing what Hullabaloo! 2011 will have in store!

Clara Library joins the continuing partnership between public libraries and ENFO.

Anyone who has spent some time surfing the ENFO website (hosted by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna) cannot but be impressed by the amount of environmental information contained therein. Whether you're looking for information about Ireland's environment, general environmental issues, tips on greener living, information about the county you live in or environmental material for a school project, this gateway to online environmental resources is an excellent starting point.

For many years, ENFO has been synonymous with the free dissemination of environmental information in Ireland to young and old, first through its range of Information Leaflets, exhibitions and posters and now through its website. Throughout all of these innovative undertakings, ENFO has worked hand in hand with the public library service and this remains true in its latest endeavour with the *ENFOpoint* pilot programme.

The *ENFOpoint* pilot programme is running in 4 public library branches in Ireland - Clara Library in County Offaly, Midleton Library in County Cork, the County Library, Tallaght in South Dublin and the Central Library in Waterford City. The programme seeks to enhance the role of libraries as a provider of environmental information and also as an access point for ENFO services

including the ENFO website. Key to this is the provision of a dedicated PC in each of the 4 branches giving free public access to the ENFO website and other local and national online environmental resources. This is further enhanced by the allocation of a dedicated notice board and leaflet area for environmental information. Another key element of the *ENFOpoint* pilot programme is the holding of a varied series of events with an environmental theme at each location during its first 6 months.



Éanna Ní Lamhna launching Clara Library's *ENFOpoint*

The official launch of Clara Library's *ENFOpoint* by botanist, ecologist, author and broadcaster Éanna Ní Lamhna took place on Monday, December 13 2010 at 4.00p.m. Éanna entertained and informed those in attendance with a talk on wildlife and biodiversity entitled "*Éanna goes Wild*". While launching the *ENFOpoint* she spoke about the evolution of ENFO as a source of information and about the varied resources now available at the touch of a button on the *ENFO* website accessible for free on the dedicated PC in the library. Speaking at the launch, County Librarian, Mary Stuart said that the development of *ENFOpoints* was a key part of the strategy of the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to make environmental information services available locally throughout the country. Libraries are based in local communities and are well placed to provide enhanced access to environmental information and resources.

Clara Library's *ENFOpoint* pilot programme will continue over the next 6 months and includes a programme of events and exhibitions relating to topics including composting, recycling, energy awareness, spiders and more. To find out when these events and exhibitions are taking place visit

Offaly County Library Service on the Offaly County Council website at www.offaly.ie where the information will be made available in advance of events.

Europe Direct, Waterford hosts German Cultural Day at Central Library

The Waterford Europe Direct Centre at Central Library hosted a very successful German Cultural Day last Wednesday (19 January) with Peter Zingraf, The Deputy Head of Mission with the German Embassy in Dublin and pupils and teachers from Waterpark College.

Katherine Collins, Senior Executive Librarian welcomed Mr. Zingraf, who spoke about German history, the EU and the work of the German Embassy.

He also took questions from the very attentive students from Waterpark, all of whom study German. Three students from Germany, who are currently studying at Waterpark were also present.

German Teacher Charlotte Cronin presented Mr. Zingraf with a piece of Glass made in Waterford on behalf of the Waterpark Students.



Peter Zingraf, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy Dublin with Charlotte Cronin, German Teacher, Waterpark College and Katherine Collins Senior Executive Librarian, Waterford City Library at the German Cultral Day hosted at the Waterford Europe Direct Information Centre.

Mr. Zingraf also referred to the "The Two plus Four Treaty" Exhibition, created by the German Embassy which is currently on display in The Index Gallery, Central Library. This important exhibition, details the events which led to German unity in 1990 with one of the most fast-paced multilateral diplomatic negotiation processes in history. The Treaty was signed on 12 September 1990 by both East and West Germany, along with the United States, Great Britain, France and the Soviet Union. This exhibition will run until Friday 28 January and can be viewed during normal library opening hours.

Germany celebrated 20 years of Unity last year. Ireland and Germany have a tradition of very close relations. In 1990, during its European Council Presidency, Ireland played a crucial role in integrating the united Germany into the European Communities. Ever since, cooperation between the two countries has grown and intensified. Today, both countries are jointly engaged at the core of European affairs as well as in the United Nations. The German Embassy in Ireland is committed to building bridges between two countries with traditionally already very close ties.

Ireland has particularly strong ties with Germany in the economic sphere, within Europe, Germany is the country's second most important trading partner after the United Kingdom. In 2009, Ireland's trade surplus with Germany amounted to 6 billion Euro.



Peter Zingraf, Deputy Head of Mission, German Embassy Dublin with students from Waterpark College at the German Cultral Day hosted at the Waterford Europe Direct Information Centre.

The Waterford Europe Direct Centre, run from Central Library is a contact point for all queries on the EU for the South East Region. The Centre aims to promote informed debate and active European citizenship by providing EU information tailored to meet the needs of the local community.

For more information you can contact the Waterford Europe Direct Centre on 051 849975 or by email europedirect@waterfordcity.ie

Wexford Ambassador at Work

Colm Toibin is one of four Ambassadors working with Wexford County Council within its Economic Action Plan for the County 2100 - 2014. Also active within the current Enniscorthy 1500 celebrations, Wexford library service and he has been working closely to develop cultural aspects of the Ambassadors Programme. Loth to miss any opportunity, the library service



Celestine Rafferty and Fionnuala Hanrahan, Wexford County Libraries

organised a seminar "Colm Toibin: the writer and his writings explored" in late September and Colm read from his most recent collection of short stories "*The empty family*" [2010] as part of the Wexford Festival Opera fringe programme in October.



Colm Tóibín signs copies of his book

Enniscorthy: a history edited by the town's most famous son, Colm Tóibín, was developed as 18 commissioned essays and includes new research and specially commissioned

contemporary photographs as well as historic material. Senior Library Assistant, Celestine Rafferty, was Assistant Editor.

Art historian Peter Pearson, who has contributed an essay to the book, had been commissioned to a paint contemporary picture of the town which was reproduced as a limited edition, fine art print. The original painting was presented to Colm at the book launch in late November.



Peter Pearson's painting

1. *Enniscorthy: a history*. Edited and introduced by Colm Tóibín. Wexford. Wexford County Council Public Library Service, 2010. ISBN: 9780956057471. €30.00.
2. Peter Pearson, *Enniscorthy* 2010. limited edition of 250 fine-art prints, authenticated. Wexford County Council Public Library Service, July 2010. ISBN: 9780 95605747 1 €65.00



Ryan Tubridy reading from his book "*JFK in Ireland*" in New Ross library recently. Ryan had visited the Kennedy family locally during his research phase.

Will there be one for everyone in the library?

The Forms of Prayer of the Church of Ireland

A project based at the universities of Durham and Reading is examining the occasions of special worship observed at times of crisis and celebration throughout Britain

and Ireland from the sixteenth century. As well as a book considering the significance of these special prayers, fast days and thanksgivings, the project members will produce an authoritative edition of the texts published for these occasions – proclamations, privy council orders, and especially the special Forms of Prayer.



Visit the website, http://www.dur.ac.uk/history/research/research_projects/british_state_prayers/ for more information on the project.

The project has so far been unable to locate copies of a good number of the Forms of Prayer published by the royal printers for the Church of Ireland before disestablishment. It is aware of the Forms in the National Library of Ireland and in the libraries of Trinity College, Dublin and University College, Dublin (and is most grateful to their staff for supplying copies), as well as the few copies in British libraries.

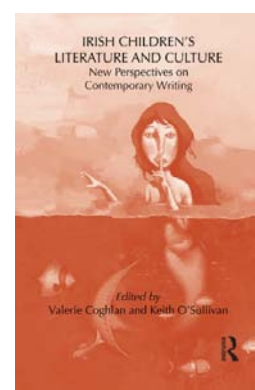
The project members would be very glad of assistance in locating the copies which as yet remain missing. For all these occasions of special worship, the Church officially published several hundred Forms, and it seems possible that some may have survived in other libraries and archives across Ireland.

If you think that you may be able to assist, a list of the missing forms can be obtained by email to p.a.williamson@durham.ac.uk

PUBLICATIONS

Irish children's literature and culture: new perspectives on contemporary writing / edited by Valerie Coghlan and Keith O'Sullivan. –Routledge, 2011. ISBN: 978-0-415-87789-3
Price: €100/Discounted Launch Price: €75

Irish Children's Literature and Culture looks critically at Irish writing for children from the 1980s to the present, examining the work of many writers and illustrators and engaging with major genres, forms, and issues, including the gothic, the speculative, picturebooks, ethnicity, and globalization. It contextualizes contemporary Irish children's literature in relation to Irish



mythology and earlier writings, as well as in relation to Irish writing for adults, thereby demonstrating the complexity of this fascinating area.

The contributors to the volume examine a range of texts in relation to contemporary literary and cultural theory, and children's literature internationally, raising provocative questions about the future of the topic.

Valerie Coghlan, Church of Ireland College of Education, Dublin, is a librarian and lecturer. She is a former co-editor of *Bookbird: An International Journal of Children's Literature*. She has published widely on Irish children's literature and co-edited several books on the topic. She is a former board member of the International Research Society for Children's Literature, and a founder member of the Irish Society for the Study of Children's Literature, Children's Books Ireland, and IBBY Ireland.

Keith O'Sullivan lectures in English at the Church of Ireland College of Education, Dublin. He is a founder member of the Irish Society for the Study of Children's Literature, a former member of the board of directors of Children's Books Ireland, and current chair of the Children's Books Ireland/Bisto Book of the Year Awards. He has published on the works of Philip Pullman and Emily Brontë.

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2011 has been designated European Year of Volunteering.