

## Minister announces additional €2.5 million in grant aid for libraries

In addition to the €5.8 million funding provided for in the new Library Capital Programme announced in July this year, The Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Phil Hogan T.D, has announced further funding for 6 library projects in 6 library authorities. €6.8 million will be invested by the six Local Authorities on improvements to the library services for which the Minister is providing €2.5 million in grant aid.

Below is the list of projects to be funded:

| LOCAL AUTHORITY                         | PROJECT                                                                                                                                                                                        | GRANT             |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Cavan County Council                    | ICT grant                                                                                                                                                                                      | €42,000           |
| Clare County Council                    | Kilkee Library                                                                                                                                                                                 | €365,000          |
| Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee     | Carrick on Suir Library                                                                                                                                                                        | €155,000          |
| Dublin City Council                     | Improved access facilities for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ballyfermot Library</li> <li>• Drumcondra Library</li> <li>• Pembroke Library</li> <li>• Rathmines Library</li> </ul> | €200,000          |
| Dún Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council | Central Library                                                                                                                                                                                | €1,000,000        |
| Kilkenny County Council                 | Ferrybank Library                                                                                                                                                                              | €780,000          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                | <b>€2,542,000</b> |

An Chomhairle welcomes the increased investment in the library service at a time when users are making more demands on library resources. See the recently published outturns for public library expenditure in 2010 which shows that notwithstanding access restrictions, usage, as indicated by the number of registered members, number of visits by the public to libraries, items borrowed and internet use showed a marked increase over the previous year. The number of public access Internet terminals in 2010 for public use also rose to **2,088**. In 2010 we saw an increase in visits from **16.1 million** to **16.3 million**.

An Chomhairle commends the authorities on these improvements, notwithstanding the challenging budgetary constraints, and acknowledges the support of the Minister in providing financial assistance for new developments.

## Science Week 2011

### Science Week at Carlow County Library

Carlow County Library has been taking part in Science Week for a number of years now and the event goes from strength to strength. The library authority is fortunate that the Carlow Institute of Technology is a near neighbour on the adjoining Kilkenny Road and both bodies have also forged important links with Forfás and with N.U.I. Maynooth. This year the events were targeted at 10 – 12 year olds in 4th – 6th classes in Primary Schools. These events were booked up well in advance and this has been their experience right from the beginning.

The Forfás event was the *Show Me Learning* roadshow facilitated by Steve Allman and he gave two sessions on Tuesday November 15. The children were amazed by his range of science tricks, which included changing the colour of liquids and making objects disappear. Steve was in no short supply of young volunteers when it came to turning a glass of water upside down over somebody's head without spilling a drop or how to sit on a seat made entirely of nails! Steve showed also how to balance three colourful bowling balls on top of each other. These experiments obviously delighted and entertained the children who took part in a lively question and answer session at the conclusion.

On Thursday November 17 the guest speaker was Dr. Rosemary O'Hara from Carlow Institute of Technology. Her topic was entitled *Living Science* and was delivered as an illustrated presentation with a quiz and plenty of interaction on home technologies. This event lasted for one hour and twenty minutes and the children never seemed to tire of finding out more and more about technology in everyday life.

Dr. O'Hara returned on Friday November 18 to conduct another session with children from another Carlow school.

Carlow County Library hosted four very successful events and over 170 children took part.



*Steve Allman balancing three bowling balls on top of each other*

## Bowling alley, library or Science Week in Kilkenny?

Science Week came to Kilkenny Library Service in the form of bowling balls balancing on top of each other with the help of 10 grains of salt also!

Some of the contents of a baby's clean nappy, half a can of coke and a non fireproof €10 note were also used to impart science to the audience.



*Chair of nails as part of experiment - one of the teachers, Simon Reddy, was encouraged by his students to carry out the experiment and sit on this chair. He survived!*



*Model Balancing bowling balls with salt in between them. Adds flavour to the experiment.*

The *Science Tricks and Stunts* Show was a great success in Loughboy branch. All the tricks were carried out while scientific information about them was flowing from the facilitator, Steve Allman.

The children saw how science is part of our everyday lives in an informative and fun way. Teachers and students were willing guinea pigs for some of the experiments and no harm came to anyone. Homework for the children was to stand on 10 balloons without bursting them. Steve said it is possible. The show came to the Library courtesy of *Discover Science and Engineering*.

## Children's Book Festival 2011

### Witches, Foreign Travel and Wild Imagination feature in Children's Book Festival at Carlow County Library

Carlow County Library staff were as usual, enthusiastic participants in the Annual Children's Book Festival during the month of October. A number of author visits generated interest in library use and reading among children county wide.

David Donohue local author whose books *Walter Speazlebud* and *Moon Man* always capture young imaginations was Carlow's first guest this year. David conducted animated readings from his works in Carlow Central Library and in Tullow Library. He attracted a great response from his young audiences and held their attention throughout.

Laoise Ní Chomhraí, the well-known Galway based author returned to Carlow this year and once again enthralled the children with her travel experiences from other lands. Laoise conducts her readings in the Irish language but it is not only



*Maeve Friel reads from her Witch in Training series*

pupils from Gaelscoileanna who take part. Laoise enthuses her audience by bringing along many souvenir and typical items from the countries she has visited especially Poland and Japan and these make for very colourful sessions indeed.

Maeve Friel was another visitor to Carlow County Library during the Festival and she chose to read from her *Witch in Training* series. Children in the 7-8 age group were her audience and a very lively question and answer forum followed the readings. Maeve's new series called *Tigerlily* was the object of their curiosity and over 80 children attended her sessions.

### Children's Book Festival at Cork County Libraries

Cork County Libraries have come to the end of a wonderful and very successful Children's Book Festival 2011. This year the library service continued with its' policy of programming, predominantly, Irish authors. Despite budgetary constraints, were able to programme over 40 events in 26 libraries with 14 authors visiting. This year the library staff introduced some new names as well as having repeat visits from authors around the country.



Claire Hennessy meets and chats with her fans at Midleton Library

The library service was delighted to welcome back Mary Arrigan, Don

Conroy, Sarah Rees Brennan, Tony Curtis, Judi Curtin, Jane Mitchell, Michael Smith and Sarah Webb and in addition there were some new names on the programme. Making her first visit to Cork County libraries was Claire Hennessy whose first book was published when she was 13! Now 25, she is the author of nine books for young adults. Celine Kiernan, author of the *Moorehawke* Trilogy for teenagers, was also new to the programme. Larry O'Loughlin, storyteller, author and playwright enthralled children in Kanturk and Millstreet libraries and Cork-based poet Celine Spengeman visited Blarney and Ballincollig libraries.

This year Cork County Libraries worked with the Goethe Institute to bring the German author Tamara Bach to Bandon, Midleton and Library Headquarters. Students from the local secondary schools who were studying German were brought in to the library. Both students and teachers alike were delighted with the sessions.

All of the authors were very well received, gave excellent presentations and Cork County Libraries look forward to working with them all again.

## Children's Book Festival 2011 / Féile Leabhar Na bPáisti

The Children's Book Festival is a nationwide celebration of children's books. It aims to promote reading as a fun activity by making it an enjoyable experience for all children.

To celebrate this special event, Leitrim County Libraries hosted an extensive programme in its branch libraries. These events included:

Oisín McGann entertained children from the local schools in Ballinamore. His stories were vibrant and energetic and much enjoyed by the children. Oisín also entertained the parents and



Oisín McGann with local school children in Ballinamore Library.

teachers with a talk on *Eat your vegetables: How not to encourage your child to read* in which he put forward ideas on how to make reading more attractive for children.

Maura Williamson entertained the children in Carrigallen library with creative playwriting for 9 to 12 year olds. Now we have a number of young budding playwrights in Carrigallen.

Gerry Wynne hosted the Kids Party Club and amused children from schools in Carrick on Shannon Drumshanbo and the Bo Peep Kids. The puppet shows were very enjoyable and emphasised a strong message encouraging children to read and enjoy books.

Kiltyclogher library made lots of noise this Children's Book Festival with rhythmic sound. Barry and Leslie from Slí na Croi led a drumming workshop with children from Glenfarne and Rossinver National schools. Gerry from the Kids Party Club entertained the younger children from Kiltyclogher National School with a puppet show.

Kinlough Library was the children's paradise book festival. Activities included Lacing cards & poldy's colour, shape games, number games, colour and shape counting games.

Children's Book Festival in Manorhamilton library included a feast of events such as puppet shows, poetry workshops, creative writing and activities. Ann Joyce presented a creative workshop where the children had fun with words using rhyme and colours. Heather Brett hosted a workshop on haiku and open verse/concrete poetry where the children produced their own Halloween poem during the activity.

All these events were well attended and enjoyed by all. A valuable lesson has been learned emphasising that reading is so important in children's lives. The library provides an opportunity for children to experience the enjoyment of books and the excitement of discovering knowledge and works of imagination.

## Girls' Night Out at De Valera Public Library to celebrate Ennis Fashion Week

Clare County Library celebrated Ennis Fashion Week (October 24<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2011) in style. A special Girls' Night Out was held at the De Valera Public Library, Ennis on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> October at 7pm where attendees enjoyed an evening of glamour, style and, above all, fun! Experts were on hand to give all the hints and tips needed to prepare for any night out.



Attendees at the Girls' Night Out in De Valera Public Library, Ennis

Sarah Mulvihill from *Visage Hair Studio* gave advice on hair care and explained how to get the salon look for any night out, Linda Carey from *Radiance Beauty Clinic* demonstrated what is needed to create that flawless finish from cleansing & toning to the complete made-up look while Niamh O'Brien from *Forty Coats Fifty Pockets* had some amazing tips to share on how to revamp one's existing wardrobe to make it look like you've just been shopping on the High Street. Every girl loves a good night out and wants to look her best when going out and these ladies certainly showed how to save on time and money getting ready so that there can be more of both left to spend when you leave the house!

The library also had book displays on the evening for recommended reading for those who wanted to learn even more about style and beauty. Surprise opportunities were given to win a spot prize at the end of the evening when random members of the unsuspecting audience found more than they bargained for under their seat! Prizes given on the night included bottles of wine, book vouchers for Ennis Book Shop, a Pantene Hair gift set kindly donated by Clarecastle Pharmacy and a delicious box of Wilde's Irish Chocolates sent especially from their factory in Tuamgraney. Tea, coffee and delicious refreshments were provided by *The Tea Rooms*, Quin who also provided the tea cups and crockery with a style all of their own. All in attendance thoroughly enjoyed the night and said it was the ideal opportunity to indulge in the perfect Girls' Night Out.

## 2012 Book Club of the Year Award Launched in Ennis

Details of the annual *Book Club of the Year Award* have been announced by Ennis Book Club Festival in association with Clare County Library. The Award will be presented at the 2012 Festival in the County Clare town on 2-4<sup>th</sup> March. To enter the competition you are invited to submit 300 words or less on what makes your book club special. The winning book club will receive a weekend break for up to 6 people at The Temple Gate Hotel in Ennis for the 2012 Festival. The winner will also receive 6 weekend Festival Tickets, allowing the holders admission to all events. The closing date is 13<sup>th</sup> January 2012 and the prize is worth €1,000. Full details and entry forms are available at [www.ennisbookclubfestival.com](http://www.ennisbookclubfestival.com)

Helen Walsh, Clare County Librarian, said *'it's a great opportunity to have a fantastic weekend break in Ennis to enjoy all that the festival, and all that our friendly town, has to offer.'*

Full details of the 2102 programme will be available in the New Year. In addition to author readings, discussions and workshops, there are sessions on running book clubs, walking tours, wine tastings, events as Gaeilge and especially an opportunity to compare notes and to meet with other readers.



## Launch of Online Poetry Journal

Cork County Library & Arts Service was delighted to host reading by 11 Munster based poets in [Midleton](#) and [Skibbereen](#) libraries in early December. These readings which were very popular with poetry-loving library users were held to launch the online poetry journal [Southward](#), which is published by the Munster Literature Centre. The centre's director, Pat Cotter introduced the sessions in conjunction with poet James Harpur. Pat outlined the history of the print version of *Southward* and the economic and cultural changes which have led to the very successful transfer to an online presence for poetry in the Munster area. The enthusiastic audiences were then treated to readings by poets, Joe Horgan, Marie Coveney, Adam Wyeth, Afric McGlinchey, Eugene O'Connell, Ian Wild and John Wakeman.



*Pat Cotter Director of the Munster Literature Centre launches the online Southward poetry magazine at a poetry reading by Munster poets in Skibbereen Library*

## “Your Good Self “, the North Cork Positive Self Help Programme

*Your Good Self* programme is an exciting joint initiative between Cork County Library and Arts Service and the HSE. The programme, which is the first of its kind in North Cork, was officially launched on Thursday October 27<sup>th</sup> in Mallow library.

Library Staff and HSE Clinical Psychologists had identified a need to provide quality information to the people of North Cork on how to look after their emotional well-being as part

of their overall health. Meetings began in February 2011 around partnering the setting up of a community based positive self help programme. The main component of the *Your Good Self* programme is the bibliotherapy scheme.



*Organisers of Your Good Self programme at the official launch in Mallow Library*

A wide range of resources on emotional well-being which have been reviewed by local HSE Clinical Psychologists and other Health Professionals are now available at Mallow library. These include books, CDs, DVDs and lists of websites. The resources are practical and helpful and cover a variety of topics including parenting, stress management and self-esteem. Lists of these materials are available in the library and can also be accessed through local GPs, health professionals, teachers and other individuals working in the community. The lists are also available on the HSE and Cork County Library websites. To date the project has proved very popular. Customers are reading from the list and are invited to take ownership of the project by filling out feedback forms and recommending new books for the list. Cork County Library hopes to develop this programme further into other areas of the County over the next year.

## Walkinstown Library: 50 years serving the community

Opened in 1961 and ideally situated on Percy French Road in the heart of a residential area, Walkinstown Public Library has been a focal point in the local community for the past 50 years. At the time it was opened the library was run by Dublin County Council. It was designed by architect John O’Neill and cost €18,500 to build. The stock at the time was 7,500 books. It was the first library to have been opened by the council in 25 years and also the first to have central heating, but for the first year it had no phone.

The official opening took place on October 2, 1961 and the ceremony was conducted by Joe Connolly, the chairman of the Library Committee and blessed by Fr Joseph Callan of St Agnes’ Parish, Crumlin. The library still has some borrowers who registered with them on that day. Staff recently discovered that one of their current borrowers who lives across the road from the library is in fact an altar boy who appeared in the photo of the opening ceremony.





*Senior Librarian Helen Moloney (right) pictured with Helene Ward at the 50th anniversary celebrations in Walkinstown Library.*

The library celebrated 50 years of community service with a reception for members of the public along with current and past staff members. There was a selection of wine, juice, tea and coffee along with cheese, crackers, brown bread and smoked salmon, cocktail sausages, and strawberries dipped in chocolate.

There was an exhibition of information and photos from the opening night and of events through the years. The

*Walkinstown: The Musical Roads* exhibition was also on display and the event was very well attended with over 130 present including councillors Ruairi McGinley and Henry Upton, Mary Healy who was the very first cleaner and stayed for 33 years, Kathleen Guinan and Jimmy Grehan, who was the library attendant for 30 years. Claire McGann who worked in Walkinstown in the early years and who just retired last September was also there.

The reception was followed by a music recital by Michael Reade, tenor, accompanied by Davnat O'Reilly on keyboard. Michael sang a selection of songs from the likes of Thomas Moore, Percy French and John McCormack to the delight of the guests.

## Fingal County Libraries get back to nature!

During autumn 2011, Fingal County Libraries developed two programmes for primary and secondary school students on the topics of nature, gardening and biodiversity with gardener and horticulturist Peter Donegan and on climate change and sustainability with ECO-UNESCO.

### Adventures in Green Gardening for Budding Gardeners

Fingal Libraries in conjunction with gardener and horticulturist Peter Donegan hosted a series of classes with 5<sup>th</sup> class pupils from Balbriggan Educate Together National School to teach them the real facts of nature. The sessions covered topics such as gardening, water, the great outdoors, how plants make their own food and how we grow ours, fruit and vegetables, trees and flowers, making a living edible garden and staying green at home.



*Students James Davis and Gráinne Mongey from Balbriggan Educate Together National School making their presentation on Adventures in Green Gardening for Budding Gardeners*

The classes gave the children the opportunity to get their hands dirty and do some planting themselves and at the same time have fun while exploring the natural world and biodiversity. Both Peter and class teacher Dan McGee used their blogs to post updates and photographs of the classes.

At the end of the series a ceremony was held in Balbriggan Library where Fingal County Council's Mayor Councillor Gerry McGuire presented certificates to all the pupils and they in turn made a digital presentation to the Mayor on what they had learned.

<http://dans5thclass.wordpress.com/2011/11/23/our-garden-project/>

### **Global Responsibilities programme: Climate Change & Sustainability**

ECO-UNESCO in cooperation with Fingal County Libraries delivered a programme of workshops on *Global Responsibilities: Climate Change & Sustainability* to primary and secondary school students throughout Fingal. The aim of this innovative series of workshops was to heighten awareness of local and national sustainability issues through environmental education and to introduce the libraries as information hubs where young people can research climate change and sustainability issues.



The workshops encouraged the students to engage with the topic of Climate Change and each person's individual responsibility to minimise the impact each of us makes on the planet and its resources.

The group activities included interactive exercises, role plays, creative arts, open discussion and debate. Mountview Environmental Group from Mountview National School, Dublin 15 produced a *Top Ten Tips* poster on how to reduce energy consumption in their school and homes. Transition year students in Loreto Secondary School in Balbriggan took part in a role play as board members of a company that was trying to turn their business around so that it would be environmentally friendly.

One pupil said *"I found out a lot about climate change and how to talk to people about it"*. A teacher commented *"They really loved the workshop. It will definitely help them with their class projects."*

### **Historic Graiguenamanagh**

The town of Graiguenamanagh is built on the Barrow and much of its old prosperity came from the use of the river for transporting goods. Working on the boats was a major employment outlet and there are a small number of original boatmen still living in the area. A member of the library, Edward Moran, who is also a local historian, has put his knowledge into a unique exhibition which is on display in the library at present. It consists of a large detailed model of Ballyellen Lock on the Barrow. The model is accompanied by old photographs of boats on the river and an essay on the history of boatmen in Graiguenamanagh in book format.



*Model of Ballyellen Lock*

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup>, Graiguenamanagh Historical Society unveiled an exhibition of artefacts which belonged to the Graiguenamanagh Division of the Ancient Order of Hibernia. Local historian John Joyce gave a talk on this exhibition. Of special interest are the ceremonial sashes, certificate of membership and the minute book which recorded the regular meetings held during that period. Over 200 names of members are also on display.

The Historical Society came into possession of these artefacts and regalia in recent times which brought back memories of a society long forgotten that existed in Graiguenamanagh during the early turbulent years of the last century. This exhibition is on permanent display in the library.

## Roscommon opens a new chapter

Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D. performed the opening of the newly refurbished Roscommon Library on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

The Minister noted that the Old Infirmary that houses the refurbished Roscommon Library has a rich history going back to the 1780s and remarked that the opening of the enhanced facility marks a new chapter in the history of that historic building.



*Environment Minister Phil Hogan unveils a plaque at the official reopening of Roscommon Library. Also in picture are councillors Ernie Keenan, Michael McGreal, Eugene Murphy with Oireachtas members Denis Naughten, Frank Feighan, Terry Leyden; County Librarian Richie Farrell and Roscommon County Manager Frank Dawson.*

The purpose of the project was to:

- Develop, protect, conserve, and safeguard this iconic landmark building in the town for the continued future community and public use.
- Provide modern and accessible facilities for all of the public to a range of services now being offered by the Library Services.

- Improve the delivery of archival and local studies collections and reading room facilities.
- Provide modern compact storage facilities and conditions for stock, archives and records management.
- Improve and modernise the information communication technologies delivery of services to the public to include enhanced Internet access provision, online resources and technology suite services to cater for eLearning projects and training.
- Relocate and expand the children’s and junior services of the headquarters and branch library space.
- Facilitate the introduction of stock management, security and self service options.
- Provide a dedicated seminar room space for a range of specific events, activities, promotions and community engagement space.
- Improve external access, car parking and traffic control of the building.

The Minister stated that his Department was happy to provide funding from the Public Library Capital Programme of €260,000 towards the project.

According to the Minister, the refurbished library facility is a welcome modern civic amenity for Roscommon and its surrounding area, providing a wide range of services. The Minister congratulated all involved in this project, especially the County Librarian, Richie Farrell, the branch staff and all those who work to support the library service in County Roscommon. In conclusion, the Minister wished that that all members of the local community would enjoy the fine facilities on offer at the new library for many years to come.

## Books Mean Business in South Dublin Libraries

During November South Dublin Libraries, working in partnership with South Dublin Chamber and South Dublin County Council, celebrated the wide range of free library resources on offer to businesses across the County.

The programme began with the launch of *Books Mean Business* - a new, up to the minute Business Collection of books, magazines and online resources at the County Library, Tallaght.



*L-R: Siobhán Bermingham, senior librarian at County Library Tallaght, Justin Keatinge, co-founder and MD of Version 1 and Jim Nolan, Innovation Enterprise Network.*

Guest of honour Justin Keatinge, co-founder and managing director of *Version 1* who was recently shortlisted for the Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award, spoke inspiring words about starting and growing a successful business in Ireland. Justin complimented the new book collection, saying how impressed he was at the mix of classic business books and exciting new titles. He expressed his appreciation of the value of the new business section at the County Library Tallaght, and what an important resource it is. He admitted that he hadn't visited a library for some years but was very impressed at what a modern library building has to offer.

The official launch was followed by a special Business Mentoring event – *Check out a Champion at the County Library: Your Business, Their Knowledge*. Over the course of the evening, aspiring business owners “borrowed” mentors in such areas as Tax / Finance, Social Media, Web Design, Market Research, Business Planning or many others for an opportunity to gain free advice and insight and a helping hand on the road to starting their own business. The event was a great success with both mentors and business start-ups expressing a request for another similar event.

Business Month continued with a variety of events at all South Dublin Library branches, including:

- *A Seminar for Start Ups* – at County Library Tallaght.
- *Uncover Your Hidden Potential* – a Life Coaching session at County Library Tallaght.
- *Business Idea Generation* – a seminar given by South Dublin Enterprise Board at Lucan Library.
- *Sustainable Business* – Opportunities in a New Economy, a talk at County Library by Andrea Carroll, Sustainable Business Executive with South Dublin Chamber.
- *Nicola Byrne*, one of Ireland's most successful entrepreneurs and founder of 11890 Directory Enquiries, gave a talk at Tallaght Stadium.
- *Social Media for Business* – a talk by entrepreneur and blogger Ivan Stojanovic at Lucan Library & County Library Tallaght.
- Castletymon Library hosted a CV Clinic.
- Clondalkin Library looked at recruitment with sessions on how to apply for jobs online and improving interview skills.

During November, South Dublin Libraries also held their second TEDxTallaght at the Victory Centre, Firhouse Road. This year's theme was *Thinking Made Visual* and speakers included Architect Roisin Heneghan of Heneghan and Peng, Lecturer at Institute of Art, Design and Technology Hilary Kenna and Magician and Mentalist Shane Gillen. TEDxTallaght was again a huge success with over 150 attendees and a place in the top 10 trends on Twitter. If you would like to watch these speakers you can view their talks at [www.tedxtallaght.com](http://www.tedxtallaght.com).

## Teens Dive in to South Dublin Libraries

***Dive In – South Dublin Libraries' first Totally Teen Festival took place from Friday 18<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> November at County Library Tallaght.***

Everyone knows that teenagers can be a tricky group to reach. With this in mind, a team of South Dublin librarians sat down to work out a programme that would attract teens into the library. A varied programme was organised, starting with a visit to County Library Tallaght by award-winning YA author **Celine Kiernan**, creator of the critically acclaimed *The Moorehawk Trilogy*. Celine was a

huge hit with the secondary school children who attended, as she spoke about her work and life as a writer. Celine also read from her recently-published fourth book, *Into the Grey*, a young adult ghost story set in 1970s Ireland.

The festival continued on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November with lots of different workshops to suit different interests. The ever-popular author **Claire Hennessy** held a creative writing workshop which had been booked out within days. The participants really enjoyed meeting Claire and getting her input into their work – a hugely successful event.

Simultaneously an intensive, one-day Graphic Art workshop was taking place at the Apple Mac Lab at nearby Rua Red, South Dublin County Arts Centre. **Maeve Clancy**, artist and writer who produces the weekly comic *Flatmates*, hosted the workshop. Participants learnt how to create comics from concept to the printed page, taking away their finished product. Again there was a terrific response to the workshop and both teens and Maeve really enjoyed their day.

The afternoon events opened back at County Library Tallaght with a Screenwriting Workshop with **Vinny Murphy**, writer, director, actor and composer for film TV and theatre. Vinny started with an exploration of the definition of a story, including some of the participants telling their own stories, and moved on to what makes a screen story different and the specific demands of writing a screenplay. The feedback was very positive from both the teens and Vinny.



In the midst of all these worthy workshops it was felt a bit of fun was needed and a Wii Tournament also took place at County Library that afternoon. This was a huge hit with a large group of teens coming along to pit their wits at Guitar Hero and Mario Karts. Ryan Phillips, DJ with Spin 103.8 (a radio station popular with young adults) and the Dublin Rose Siobheal Nic Eochaidh also took part and either played against the teens or chatted easily with them, adding to the relaxed atmosphere. A number of the young adults taking part in the Wii Tournament were not regular visitors to the library, and based on the success of the event the County Library staff are planning another games afternoon again in the near future.

The festival closed with a visit from the UK-based Theoretical Zombiologist Doctor Austin, who brought his spoof lecture, *Zombie 1Z – the Science Behind the Undead*. Featuring a multi-media presentation and a live demonstration, Doctor Austin entertained the classes teaching them how a zombie outbreak might occur, its effect on humans and importantly how to stop it... a 5-star mix of education and entertainment to finish off the festival.

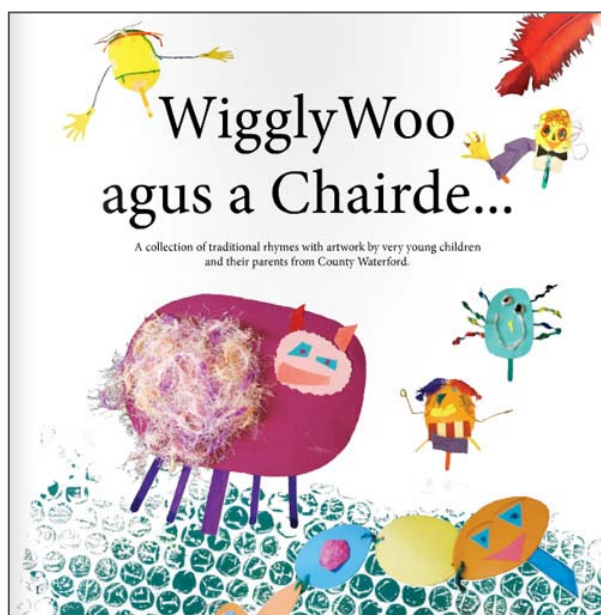
View the programme [here](#) or visit [www.yaps.ie](http://www.yaps.ie), South Dublin Libraries YA blog.

## A NEW BOOK BY 3 AND 4 YEAR-OLDS IN WATERFORD

On Monday 28th November at Tramore Library, Ciara Conway, T.D., launched *Wiggly Woo agus a Cháirde*, a brand new rhyme book made by very young children and their parents through a series of workshops with an artist and a musician.

The book was the culmination of an ongoing project with Waterford County Library involving 3-4 year olds as part of Kids' Own's Travelling Library project.

The workshops which took place in four libraries across Waterford in early 2011, were delivered by [Kids' Own](#) (a national children's arts organisation and publishing house), in partnership with Waterford County Library Service and Waterford County Childcare Committee.



The workshops aimed to engage early years children and their parents in a unique process of play, song and artwork to explore the benefits of creative play and family learning on early childhood development and learning. Orla Kenny, Creative Director of Kids' Own – who secured the funding for the project through the Arts Council Touring Award, says *“this is a very special project, which has demonstrated the incredible imagination and creative capacity of three-year olds.”*

As part of the project, Kids' Own also conducted preliminary research, which explored the extent to which the workshops supported children's creativity and their acquisition of essential literary skills. Kenny continued by saying *“a unique quality of the workshops was the way in which the children were supported to lead the process, and given the freedom to take charge creatively. This allowed them to work at their own pace, which is very important at this stage of their development.”*

The book launch which took place at Tramore Library was preceded by a seminar for artists and childcare professionals working with early years children. The seminar included presentations by those who were involved in the project, as well as by Catherine Hynes from the Early Years Education Policy Unit, who shared an overview of the National Strategy to Improve Literacy and Numeracy among Children and Young People, 2011-2020.

The County Library Service were delighted to be involved in the project, which fed into the development of their new Reading Strategy, called *Rearing To Go*.

Following the success of this interagency partnership, a second phase of the project will begin in January 2012, this time across Waterford County and City.

*Wiggly Woo agus a Cháirde* is now available in libraries - great for parents and 3-4 year olds!

For more information visit <http://www.kidsown.ie/projects/wiggly-woo/> or contact Kids' Own Publishing Partnership: [info@kidsown.ie](mailto:info@kidsown.ie) or 0719124945.

## Dungarvan Library supports literacy project for primary school children.

The Creative Literacy through Innovation Project's main objective was to raise literacy achievement for primary aged children through using new innovative ways and through the joined up approach & co-operation between the local library, schools and community.

Peterborough City Council Library Service was linked with the school completion project through County Waterford VEC, St. Mary's National School, Scoil Gharbháin and Dungarvan Library. There were many visits from the UK to train teachers and volunteers in various projects which were already underway in Peterborough. Some of the projects included:

- **Reading Buddies** – an initiative based on volunteers reading with the school children.
- **FÍS Book club** – involved an online password protected [website](#) where children create and upload their own videoed book review based on their independent reading.
- **Questers** – an activity workshop held in Dungarvan Library to inspire reluctant readers with a fun approach to literacy.

To find out more about the project you can view a video [here](#).

## NUI Maynooth Library Receives Death Row Correspondence

On Thursday 10th November, the NUI Maynooth Library received a donation of letters and unpublished poems by Nigerian writer and activist Ken Saro-Wiwa. The letters, to missionary Sister Majella McCarron from Co. Fermanagh, give an amazing insight into Saro-Wiwa's peaceful campaign against the destruction of his homeland by oil exploration. They were smuggled out of the Port Harcourt detention centre where he was held during the two years leading up to his execution on 10th November 1995.



Cathal McCauley, Prof. Philip Nolan, Sr. Majella McCarron and Helen Fallon.

*"The donation of the Ken Saro-Wiwa archive by Sister Majella to the Library at NUI Maynooth, is a very significant event", commented University Librarian Cathal McCauley. "I know that generations of students and researchers will derive great benefit from this wonderful gift. It is particularly timely, with our major library extension project, which will include a new special collections and archives area."*



## EU migrant survey on the use of ICT

The EU is sponsoring a new online survey to see how migrants are using new information and communications technologies.

Participants will be asked how they use the Internet and mobile phones to talk with friends, to find information, to get a job, and participate in the local community and wider society. The survey will only take 15 minutes to complete, and one in ten respondents will receive 15 minutes of free phone calls as a reward.

The project is sponsored by the European Commission and the information will be used by the EU to help immigrant communities. The survey is open now and will continue until the end of the year. Anyone who is part of the immigrant community is invited to participate by filling in the questionnaire at <http://www.15minutescloser.com>.



## An insight into Spanish libraries

**Would you like to see what Spanish libraries are like?**

You can watch the [video](#) that was presented in the [4th Leipzig German Congress of Libraries and Information](#) that took place in Leipzig in March 2010, where Spain was the guest country.



[Click to view video](#)

## Fellowship 2012, Old Library and Historical Archives of the Irish College, Paris

The Irish College Paris ([www.centreculturelirlandais.com](http://www.centreculturelirlandais.com)) offers **two Fellowship bursaries** to encourage research on its Old Library and Historical Archives collections. The purpose of the Fellowships is to establish the intellectual and academic value of the holdings.

The Old Library contains 8000 volumes (from the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> century). Once the library of the Irish College when it was a seminary, the collection contains works of theology, history, philosophy...

More than 19 000 items are held in the Historical Archives, covering a period extending from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The main themes are daily life at the Irish College and the buildings which were owned by the Irish Community, the grant foundations, the religious community...

For more details about the collections' content and access to the online catalogues: [www.centreculturelirlandais.com/presentation\\_eng](http://www.centreculturelirlandais.com/presentation_eng)

**The areas of research are open**, depending on the candidate's interests, and could focus on a historical subject, a period of time, an author, the manuscripts or printed items, the provenance of part of the collections, the bindings...

**We are looking for an output which would add to our knowledge of the library or archives** and to the information which we can put into the public domain.

**Priority will be given to research subjects examining a corpus of references instead of one reference in particular.**

In 2010 and 2011, Fellows pursued the following research:

-Frédéric Manzini: *Robert Boyle chez les philosophes en France et en Europe au XVII<sup>ème</sup> siècle : diffusion et influence*

-Cormac Begadon: *Belief and Devotion in a 19<sup>th</sup> century Irish Seminary: the evidence from the Irish College Paris Collections*

-Justin Dolan Stover: *Student life, curriculum, and college administration: the Irish College, Paris, under le bureau gratuit, 1870-1918*

-Nienke Tjoelker: *Irish Neo-Latin style and identity*

-Linda Kiernan: *Gentlemen Scholars: Minding manners and polite society at the Irish College, Paris*

-Brid McGrath: *Representative assemblies in Ireland and France in the early modern period*

-Rebecca Schwarz: *John Toland's Irish Philo-Semitism: A New Window on Christian-Jewish Relations*

-Emmanuelle Chapron: *Bibliothèques décomposées : les livres des collèges d'Ancien Régime dans le fonds ancien du Centre Culturel Irlandais*



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**Conditions:**

The result should be a **report** in English or in French (approx. 20 000 words + appendix, bibliography...)

Duration: 1 month **between April and November 2012**

Grant: **€1000 per month**; accommodation at the Irish College and travel (from Ireland) will be covered.

**Deadline for receipt of applications (in English or French): 20<sup>th</sup> January 2012**

**Please send:**

- CV
- Summary of your proposed research subject (500-1000 words) + your preferred dates
- Bibliography of the items you plan to consult
- Any additional relevant documentation

**To :** Carole Jacquet, Head of Libraries and Archives - [cjacquet@centreculturelirlandais.com](mailto:cjacquet@centreculturelirlandais.com)

or Centre Culturel Irlandais, 5 rue des Irlandais, 75005 Paris, France

For any queries: 00 33 (0)1 58 52 10 33 or [cjacquet@centreculturelirlandais.com](mailto:cjacquet@centreculturelirlandais.com)

## First Libraries Participating at NAPLE Sister Libraries Programme announced



NAPLE has announced that the list of the first libraries that have submitted their applications to participate in the NAPLE Sister Libraries Programme is already available on their [website](#). View a list of the [libraries](#) or check them out on a [map](#).

Since this project has no deadline, check the list often because more library applications will be published as they are received. You can check the call for participation and all the information [here](#).

## LAI Academic & Special Libraries Section Annual Seminar 2012

Registration is now open for the LAI Academic & Special Libraries Section Annual Seminar 2012:

**“Unlocking your potential: innovative approaches in library service delivery”**

Friday 24th February 2012,

Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8

Registration: <http://www.regonline.co.uk/ASLConf2012>

Invitation code: ASL2012

For details of the preliminary programme check out the new [blog](#) for the Academic & Special Libraries Section Annual Seminar.

### Fee:

€100 A&SL LAI members

€120 LAI members

€150 non-LAI members

€30 unwaged/volunteers

N.B. *Seminar fees are the same as 2011 rates.*

Contact: [jcolleryasl@gmail.com](mailto:jcolleryasl@gmail.com)

## National University of Ireland Irish History Awards 2011

At a ceremony on November 1 in the Royal Hospital Kilmainham, the Chancellor of the University Dr Maurice Manning announced the winners of two major NUI awards for research in Irish History.

Dr Bernadette Cunningham was awarded the **Irish Historical Research Prize** for *The Annals of the Four Masters, Irish History, Kingship and Society in the early Seventeenth Century* published in 2010 by Four Courts Press. This prestigious prize of €5,000 is offered in alternate years for the best work of original Irish historical research by a graduate of the National University of Ireland. The Selection Panel for the prize was drawn from the community of historians in the NUI universities.

Commenting on Dr Cunningham's book, the Selection Panel noted that *'The acclaimed author of the world of Geoffrey Keating has explored the makings of the Annals of the Four Masters in all its rich dimensions. Everywhere, she highlights the larger significance of events and, in its understanding of the sheer central important of the subject, this masterly book is unique'*. Dr Cunningham is Deputy Librarian in the Royal Irish Academy.

The **Publication Prize in Irish History** was awarded to Dr Caitriona Foley for *The Last Irish Plague The Great Flu Epidemic in Ireland 1918-1919* published in 2011 by Irish Academic Press. This prize of

€3,000 was awarded for a first sole author book by an NUI scholar whose doctoral degree was awarded no earlier than 1 January 2005.

Commenting on this book, the panel remarked that *'This is an excellent, multi faceted study of a relatively neglected episode. There is no aspect, however unexpected of the great flu that Dr Foley has not exhaustively researched in this fascinating and graphic historical reconstruction'*.

### COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 20 January 2012

Contributions to *Irish Library News* and / or [www.library.ie](http://www.library.ie) should be sent to,  
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**2011 has been designated European Year of Volunteering.**