

Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann

The Library Association of Ireland

Annual Report 2005

*Professional Register
and Membership List 2005*

Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann
The Library Association of Ireland, 53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2
Annual Report 2005
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President: Ruth Flanagan,
County Librarian, Cork County
Library & Arts Service

Vice-Presidents: Teresa Walsh,
County Librarian, South
Dublin Libraries
Ann Cleary, Librarian, Dundalk
Institute of Technology

Hon. Secretary: Denis Murphy,
Assistant Librarian, Cork
County Library & Arts Service

Hon. Treasurer: Catherine Watters,
Senior Manager, Information
and Research Centre,
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Hon. Auditor: Gerard Maher,
County Librarian, Laois
County Library

Development Manager

Antoinette Robinson
(until 1 September 2005)

Betty Boardman
(from 3 January 2006)

*The Development Manager
attends meetings of the Executive
Board.*

Bernard Barrett, Health Service
Executive
Kathleen Browne, Kerry County
Library *
Mary Burke, University College Dublin
Ann Cleary, Dundalk Institute of
Technology
Joseph Donnelly, Judges' Library
Deirdre Ellis-King, Dublin City Public
Libraries
Ruth Flanagan, (Chair), Cork County
Library & Arts Service
Pat Lonergan, Kildare County Library
Máire McClarnon, Queen's University
Belfast
Denis Murphy, Cork County Library &
Arts Service
Áine Ó'Connor, Arup Consulting
Engineers
Micheál Ó hAodha, University of
Limerick
Gobnait O'Riordan, University of
Limerick
Hazel Percival, Wexford County
Library
Liam Ronayne, Cork City Libraries
Marjory Sliney, Fingal County Libraries
Brendan Teeling, An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna
Teresa Walsh, South Dublin Libraries;
Catherine Watters,
PricewaterhouseCoopers

** Kathleen Browne retired as Kerry
County Librarian in October 2005
and resigned from the Executive
Board.*

The Executive Board met 7 times
during the year.

5 May (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna),
16 June (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna),
22 September (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna),
20 October (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna),
1 December (Dublin City Library &
Archive, Pearse St),
19 January (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna),
16 February (An Chomhairle
Leabharlanna).

Attendance Record

Bernard Barrett (4)
Mary Burke (5)
Ann Cleary (6)
Joseph Donnelly (5)
Deirdre Ellis-King (6)
Ruth Flanagan (7)
Pat Lonergan (4)
Máire McClarnon (2)
Denis Murphy (7)
Áine O'Connor (6)
Micheál Ó hAodha (2)
Gobnait O'Riordan (4)
Hazel Percival (5)
Liam Ronayne (7)
Marjory Sliney (6)
Brendan Teeling (6)
Teresa Walsh (4)
Catherine Watters (6)

Foreword from the President

Dear Member,

It gives me great pleasure to present to you the Annual Report of the Library Association of Ireland, which documents the work of the Association throughout 2005.

Cuireann sé áthas mór orm tuarascáil bhliantúil Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann a chur ós bhur gcomhair agus na cláracha éagsula oibre a chur an Cumann i grích i mbliana a léiriú.

The past year was distinguished by the 150th anniversary of the first Public Libraries Act and the celebration of the work of librarians and libraries through the seminal Library Ireland Week, (7-12 March). At present, we are finalizing preparations for this year's event, and while it is still at an embryonic stage of development, we can, through all our efforts, entwine the first week of March in the public mind as Library Ireland Week.

The groups and sections are to be applauded for producing a wide and varied programme of events, seminars and conferences. The past year also witnessed the collaboration of both the County & City Librarians' Section and the Public Libraries Section in a joint conference to commemorate the 1855 Public Libraries Act. Following the emergence of three new groups in 2004, we welcome the reforming of both the Academic and Special Libraries Section and the Western Regional Section. We also look forward to the reorganization of the Munster Regional Section in the spring of 2006.

A meeting was held in Dublin City Library and Archive in December, and, as a consequence, an action plan was agreed, which will forge closer cooperation and enhanced communication between the Executive Board and the Groups and Sections. There will be increased emphasis this year on developing a programme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD). With this in mind, we are delighted to present, at this year's AGM, the award of Associateship to three more members of the Association: Suzanne McKeon, Denis O'Kelly, Niamh Walker-Headon. We would also encourage other suitably qualified personal members to apply for this award – this provides evidence of continuing professional development.

The Association continues to be an advocate for libraries and information services throughout Ireland. Two delegations from the LAI met Ministers and officials at government buildings to discuss issues relating to the Information Society, Public Lending Right and Copyright.

The Annual Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland and CILIP Ireland was held in April, in the City Hotel, Derry. Once again, an excellent programme on varied topics appealed to delegates from diverse library and information backgrounds. It included the 1st Annual COLICO lecture, delivered by Ombudsman and Information Commissioner, Emily O'Reilly. Delegates were also delighted that Nobel Peace Prize winner, John Hume, was present as the Conference Guest Speaker. Congratulations to the organizing committee and especially to Conference Secretary, Elga Logue and Programme Secretary, Brendan Teeling.

I would also like to thank you, the members, for your loyalty and dedication to the Association over many years. I would encourage as many of you as possible to become actively involved and further advance the vibrancy and development of our organization and profession.

I wish to thank the officers and Executive Board members for their dedication and hard work over the past year. We are also grateful for the contributions made by members who served on committees, panels, groups and sections.

We also acknowledge with gratitude the contribution of former Development Manager, Antoinette Robinson. We are delighted to welcome Betty Boardman to the post and we look forward to working with her in planning an ambitious programme for 2006.

As President of the Library Association of Ireland, I would like to extend my best wishes to you all for the coming year.

Ruth Flanagan, President

Annual General Meeting 2005

The Annual General Meeting took place on 10 March, in the Clarion Hotel, Lapps Quay, Cork. Ruth Flanagan, Cork County Librarian, was elected to succeed Gobnait O'Riordan as LAI President. Teresa Walsh, County Librarian, South Dublin Libraries and Ann Cleary, Librarian, Dundalk Institute of Technology, were both elected as Vice-Presidents. Denis Murphy, Assistant Librarian, Cork County

Library & Arts Service and Catherine Watters, Senior Manager, Information and Research Centre, PWC, were returned as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer respectively. Gerard Maher, County Librarian, Laois County Library, was elected Honorary Auditor.



Handing over the chain of office:

**I-r, Gobnait
O'Riordan,
Outgoing
President, LAI,
Ruth Flanagan,
President-elect,
LAI.**

Resolutions passed at the meeting for action by the Executive Board

1. That the Library Association of Ireland urges UCD to recognise the contribution of libraries and librarians to Irish Society by ensuring that the distinct identity of the current School of Librarianship is maintained in the new administrative structures in UCD. The Association calls on UCD to provide sufficient funding for the only centre which provides professional education for librarianship on the island of Ireland, to enable the expansion of academic and first professional courses, continuing professional development programmes and research.

Proposed by the Executive Board

2. That the Library Association of Ireland calls upon the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government to consult with the LAI regarding changes in qualifications for library grades.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section

3. That the Library Association of Ireland calls upon local Authorities to question the validity of membership and borrowing charges, and in so doing abolish same.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section

4. That the Library Association of Ireland calls upon local authorities to take on board the recommendations of the Department of Environment, Heritage and local Government that Internet service at public libraries, be provided free of charge to the public.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section

5. That the Library Association of Ireland calls upon the Minister for Finance to apply a zero rate of VAT to electronic language learning materials and audio books.

Proposed by the County and City Librarians' Section

6. That the Library Association of Ireland welcomes the recent decision of the Minister for Education and Science to target funding for books to schools in disadvantaged areas and to ask the public authority schools library services to manage this fund.

Proposed by the Executive Board

7. That the Library Association of Ireland calls on the Minister for Education and Science, and the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to implement, as a matter of urgency, the report of the interdepartmental review of the funding of the service to primary schools, provided by School Library Services.

Proposed by the Executive Board

8. That this Annual General Meeting calls on the incoming Executive Board to work with other agencies to adopt a standard for Information Skills; lobby to ensure government is made aware of the need for, and value of Information Skills; lobby government to recognise and affirm the role of Libraries in the delivery and maintenance of Information Skills.

Proposed by the Executive Board

9. That this Annual General Meeting calls on the incoming Executive Board to investigate the options available to Government in implementing the Public Lending Right Directive, including the use of the cultural derogation, and to recommend to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment whichever option or options seem to be in the common good.

Proposed by the Executive Board

10. That this Annual General Meeting commits the Library Association of Ireland to initiate a dialogue with the Health Service Executive, to discuss the future role of Libraries and Information Specialists within the newly emerging Irish health service.

Proposed by the Health Sciences Libraries Group

11. That this Annual General Meeting approves the second edition of Standards for Irish Healthcare Libraries and Information Services, and adopts them as an official policy document of the Library Association of Ireland.

Proposed by the Health Sciences Libraries Group

This document is available at http://www.libraryassociation.ie/sections/healthlibs/healthcarelibraries_standard_2ed.doc

12. That this Annual General Meeting calls on the incoming Executive Board to investigate the need for publicly funded bodies to develop a copyright policy, including ownership of copyright, public access to publicly-funded research and the issue of retention of copyright when licensing publication of research.

Proposed by the Government Libraries Section

Motions rejected

13. That Article 24. (i) of the Articles of Association of Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann be amended to read: "The Executive Board shall be the governing body of the Association and shall consist of an Honorary Treasurer, Honorary Secretary, and twelve other members elected by annual ballot of all members. All members of the Executive Board must be personal members of the Association, engaged in the profession of librarianship".

And that the Explanatory Note to Article 24. (i) remain unchanged.

Proposed by Pat McMahon

14. That a new Article be added to the Articles of Association of Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann under the Special Sections heading to read: No Member of the Association may hold an Officer position in a particular Special Section of the Library Association of Ireland for longer than four years.

Proposed by Pat McMahon



Attending the AGM in Cork: l-r, Alex Byrne, President-elect, IFLA, Gobnait O'Riordan, Outgoing President, LAI, Ruth Flanagan, President-elect, LAI, Liam Ronayne, LAI Executive Board.

LAI President, Ruth Flanagan, following her election at the 2005 AGM.

National Activities

Advocacy

The Library Association of Ireland continues to be an advocate for libraries in all sectors. We are grateful to the Association's Seanad nominee, Senator Paschal Mooney, who has made representations on our behalf at Government level.

A delegation from the LAI attended a meeting with Minister of State at the Dept of the Taoiseach, Mr. Tom Kitt, T.D., in Government Buildings, on 19 May 2005. Topics covered included:

- Ireland and the Knowledge Society
- The importance of the Library Services in Ireland as a familiar, trusted and established geographic network of freely available Internet access points.
- The LAI briefed the minister and officials on Library access policies, Library content and quality of information, information handling skills training.
- And the library system as centre for resources and support e.g. of Health Information, e-health strategy, e-Government.

Minister Kitt welcomed the opportunity to initiate a formal dialogue process around Information Society Policy and objectives, especially e-Government and e-Inclusion related issues. The Minister identified the following topics that need to be addressed quickly in an Information Society context:

- disadvantage at primary school level.
- access to information and services for people living in remote areas.

e-Democracy was also discussed by the Minister particularly in the area of utilising public libraries to access the process of e-democracy, e.g. e-Polling and the upcoming Broadcasting Bill.

Some examples of best practice in library services were discussed such as, Internet residency programmes, Mobhaile Project, Research & Development at 3rd Level.

Lastly, the LAI delegation requested that the Public Library Service be included in the roll out of Broadband Scheme to Primary Schools and that some provision be made with regards to the upgrading of Public Internet Access Hardware.

The LAI was represented by President, Ruth Flanagan, and Executive Board members, Teresa Walsh, Deirdre Ellis-King and Gbnait O'Riordan.

Concern was also expressed to the Minister for Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Micheál Martin, TD, over issues relating to the World Trade Organisation Ministerial Meeting, in Hong Kong, on 13 December last. The Association felt that the introduction of 'Quantitative Benchmarks' and a 'Plurilateral Approach' would negatively impact on libraries and their users.

On 9 February 2006, a delegation comprising Ruth Flanagan, Jennefer Aston, Joseph Donnelly, Teresa Hackett and Mary Reynolds will meet with officials from the Dept of Enterprise, Trade & Employment to discuss issues relating to Public Lending Right and Copyright.

Development Manager's Report 2005

Work continued during 2005 on the key actions outlined in the Library Association of Ireland Development Plan. Achievements included:

- LAI Membership Cards circulated to members during 2005.
- Enhanced Membership benefits for 2005 including membership discount card; BUPA Insurance and VHI Health Insurance Schemes; Car, House and Travel Insurance Schemes and Bookshop Discount Schemes.
- The LAI Electronic newsletter *Leabharlann-e* was published and circulated electronically to members. 3 issues were produced in 2005.
- The drive on Institutional Membership and lapsed personal members continued in 2005.
- LAI Institutional Members now receive 2 Membership Cards for nominated persons.

- The Association has successfully registered the trademark Library Ireland in the name of the LAI with the Patents Office. Any use of Library Ireland must be authorised by the LAI.

In 2005, The Library Association of Ireland signed onto The Campaign for World Libraries. Co-sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) and International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), The Campaign for World Libraries is designed to showcase the unique and vital roles of public, school, academic, government and special libraries around the globe. It is based on the The Campaign for America's Libraries @ your Library® brand. The @ your library brand has been translated into Irish - @ an leabharlann and logos available for download from the LAI website with guidelines for use of the trademark by libraries which are members of the LAI. For more information on the Campaign for the World's Libraries, go to www.ifla.org/@yourlibrary/index.htm

Library Ireland Week 2005

The inaugural Library Ireland Week was held between 7 – 12 March. The idea for a week celebrating the work of Librarians and Libraries arose with the 75th Anniversary of LAI Working Group and this became Library Ireland Week. 43 Organisations from all sectors including Public Libraries, Academic Libraries, Special Libraries, Medical Libraries, Government Libraries and the LAI took part. Library Ireland Week 2005 was launched in the Mansion House, Dublin on Monday 7 March. The launch included a performance by the Drama Group Bare from Dundalk Institute of Technology "Building a Bridge of Books". LAI President, Gobnait O'Riordan spoke of the historic significance of the Mansion House and thanked the Lord Mayor, Councillor Michael Conaghan, for hosting the launch. The Library Association of Ireland was founded in the Round Room of the Mansion House in 1928. She also spoke of the importance of Library Ireland Week for the LAI as an event "which will see great emphasis on the role of libraries and librarians in Irish cultural, educational and economic life". All sites were issued with postcards. Over 500 events took place at 140 venues in 24 counties in Ireland, Northern Ireland and Paris, France. Events included normal Library activities such as Book Club meetings and special events such as author visits. Other events included:

- The Diary Room in Sligo IT: Some students share thoughts on the Library with a video camera and then shares them with the rest of us all week.
- The Celtic Tenors in South Dublin Libraries.
- Library Quiz in St Vincent's Hospital Library.
- A Celebration of Limerick Libraries and Librarians: Our role in the "City of Learning".

To assist Libraries, a press pack with sample Press Releases for use was made available; Posters and Postcards and a website invited Libraries to input their events.



Attending the launch of Library Ireland Week: l-r, Geraldine McHugh, LAI Executive Board, Catherine Watters, Hon Treasurer, LAI, Marjory Sliney, LAI Executive Board, Áine O'Connor, LAI Executive Board, Gobnait O'Riordan, President, LAI, Teresa Walsh, Vice-President, LAI, Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Public Libraries.

The LAI aimed to introduce a number of key messages during Library Ireland Week. These included the following themes:

- Libraries are changing and dynamic places.
- Libraries are places of opportunity.
- Libraries bridge the World.

In August 2005, the Association was awarded a grant from the Arts Council under the Title-by-Title Scheme for the proposed LAI book project on Library Memories.

The Development Manager can be contacted at: E-mail: bboardman@libraryassociation.ie
Phone: (+353) 087 776 8054

Joint Conference 2005

The Annual Joint Conference of the Library Association of Ireland (LAI) and the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals – Ireland Branch (CILIP – Ireland) was held in April, in the City Hotel, Derry. The conference hosts were the Western Education and Library Board. Gerdette Doyle, Chairperson of CILIP – Ireland branch, and Ruth Flanagan, President of the Library Association of Ireland, officially opened the conference and the trade exhibition.

The conference theme 'Informing the Present' was very pertinent to all of the talks, and enabled them to appeal across all sectors of the library world.

The conference opened with a discussion panel, including Bob McKee, Chief Executive CILIP, Tom



Attending the Joint Conference Banquet: I-r, Teresa Walsh, Vice-President, LAI, Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Public Libraries, Kathleen Browne, Kerry County Librarian, (now retired), John Hume, Elga Logue, Conference Secretary, Ruth Flanagan, President, LAI, Gerdette Doyle, Chair, CILIP (Ireland). This photograph is supplied by kind permission of the Derry News.

Frawley, Northern Ireland Ombudsman, and Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Librarian. Topics discussed included: Changing Practices in Librarianship, Leadership, Advocacy, Libraries Bridging Divides and Political Championing.

The first talk on Wednesday was delivered by Martin Molloy, Director of Cultural and Community Services, Derby County Council. He informed delegates that the key focus in Derbyshire is on planning, performance, and partnership. An example he gave was the forging of links between libraries and learning centres. He called on librarians to link up with political agendas. We should convince politicians that their survival is linked to libraries. To be neutral in this context is to be marginalized. He also spoke of how Derbyshire County Council engage in Best Value Reviews as an ongoing process to improve services.

Stuart Hamilton, Royal School of Library and Information Sciences, Copenhagen, alerted delegates to the dangers associated with 'The War on Terror and Libraries', especially the control of the information flow. Technical reports from scientists working for the government of the United States, are again not being made available because the information contained within, might be of value to terrorist organisations. He spoke at some length about record retention and brought our attention to the Irish legislation in this regard, which is the strictest in the EU.

Diantha Dow Schull, President of Americans for Libraries Council, spoke about 'Libraries for the Future' - A US national organization dedicated to information equity, literacy and the preservation and renewal of libraries. It offers research and advocacy programs. Much of its time and resources are spent raising the profile of libraries on a national level and trying to empower local libraries. The aim of the organisation is advocacy, of libraries and librarianship. She exhorted us all as librarians to advocate for the profession; no one else is going to do it for us. She left us with the thought that we should be more proactive about what librarianship is, and what librarians do, so that through this type of advocacy in our home organisations and localities, we can begin to build a profile for the profession and the library services that we are trying to deliver.

The 1st annual COLICO lecture was delivered by Ombudsman & Information Commissioner, Emily O'Reilly, entitled "FOI: The Hallmark of Democracy".

Ms O'Reilly traced the origins of the FOI Act in the Republic to the Public Service Management Programme, launched by the Irish Government in 1994. The purpose of the legislation, as quoted from the Act, is to "enable the public to obtain access to the greatest extent possible, consistent with the public interest and the right to privacy, to information in the possession of public bodies". The Act also provides for the correction of personal information where it is incomplete or incorrect, and for the provision by public bodies, of statements of reasons for decisions which affect particular persons. She noted the concern expressed in some of the more established FOI regimes about a growing tendency to row back on FOI provisions.

Ms O'Reilly then explained the Irish Act with its intricacies and exemptions, while emphasising the important public interest in increasing access to records held by public bodies. An Amendment Act was introduced in April 2003, which brought a range of changes to the 1997 Act. The changes limited the potential for public access to records relating to the thought process in and around Government actions. A range of fees were introduced in July 2003, and one year after their introduction, the Office of the Information Commissioner carried out a review, which revealed that overall usage of the Act declined by 50%.

The importance of professional co-operation in the area of FOI was noted, while acknowledging that through the Joint Conference and the activities of COLICO, such co-operation is firmly embedded in the policy-making of Irish libraries.

In conclusion, the IC emphasised that in this internet age of immediate information, where it is tempting to seek instant answers on the internet, it is important that journalists and others interested in civic issues, continue to engage with the Freedom of Information legislation to access the real information behind the stories.

"The flow of information is our business, in your case published information, and, in the case of Freedom of Information, the unpublished. Constructive participation and the development of democracy depend on satisfactory education as well as on free and unlimited access to knowledge, thought, culture and information. The work of my organisation sits well with the work of libraries towards that end."

Brandon McMaster (Northern Ireland Office) gave an outline of the ELFNI Project (to deliver ICT) experience of library involvement in Public Private Partnerships. His was a cautionary tale about contracts and

bonuses. He suggested that for future projects that particular attention should be paid to ensuring that the library benefits financially as much as the private partner, and that the responsibility for implementation and delivery is shared equally, rather than the private company getting a bonus and the library getting nothing. This was felt to be a more responsible approach to the use of public monies in the area of PPP's.

Lee Komito (DepLIS) spoke about the delivery of e-government, and what the different sectors of Irish society interpreted as being e-government. It was pointed out that there has been a sea change in what is considered social capital by Irish people: we now accept and expect a lower level of community support and participation in our lives.

The keynote address was given by Edgar Jardine, Deputy Secretary, Dept of Culture, Arts and Leisure (Northern Ireland). He documented the work of DECAL, the areas under its remit and the services it provides, which include libraries, public records, inland waterways, fisheries and museums. He detailed existing projects: computerizing the catalogues of the Public Records Office; the completion of Lisburn library - a first example of a public private partnership. He called on all librarians to agree a vision for a 21st century library.

The parallel sessions provided delegates with an opportunity to engage the themes of Reader Development, Specialised Services and Cooperation. Ciara McCaffrey, University of Limerick, gave an insightful outline of the new platform for the Cochrane Collaboration. These reviews of medical literature are available free of charge to any one accessing them from within Ireland, and are a great resource for those needing an overview of current medical thought on most topics. The Ordnance Survey map digitisation project was introduced to attendees by Richard Kirwan, CEO, Ordnance Survey Ireland, with a preview of how the search interface will work and a brief look at some of the historical maps that have been digitised. Roger Dixon (PRONI), completed the programme on Specialised Services with a talk on 'NEWSPLAN: A Good News Story'.

The future requirements for bibliographic records (FRBR) workshop on both Wednesday and Thursday gave a great opportunity to the cataloguing community to find out first hand from Patrick Le Boeuf who is himself involved in the FRBR project about its theory, impact and implications. Patrick outlined that FRBR is not a new method of cataloguing, rather it is a return to the basics of cataloguing – to provide access to materials. The principle behind it is that each unique piece of intellectual property should have one master record. This record would have all the different versions, editions, formats and translations attached to it through the use of a hierarchical tree. This tree would sit on top of the normal MARC 21 through the use of the FRBR algorithm (available from OCLC).

Gillian Kerins, Librarian at the Institute of Technology Tallaght, gave an interesting account of co-operation in action with 'The IoT Partners Initiative and Tall24', while Elaine Urquhart, University of Ulster, delivered a talk on the 'Foyle INSPIRE Project'. The theme of Reader Development was explored through 'The Liverpool Reads Initiative', by Tricia Lee, Liverpool City Libraries; 'Fulfilling their Potential': A 'Development Programme for Young People's Library Services', by Nicky Parker, Assistant Director, Manchester City Libraries, and 'Reading at the Library: a National Campaign to mark the 150th Anniversary of the Public Libraries Act' by Brendan Teeling, Assistant Director, The Library Council.

To complement the series of talks, a most enjoyable visit was arranged to Strabane Library, where delegates were treated to five presentations on cross-community initiatives.

A Pre-Conference Banquet Reception was hosted by Derry City Council and Lord Mayor, Gearóid Ó Heara, at the Guild Hall. Nobel Peace Prize Winner, John Hume, was the Guest Speaker at the Banquet. He outlined the importance of the library as a place beyond politics and division where he could go as a child and a college student to engage in the time honoured tradition of learning without the local political situation intruding. This he believes is a very important role for libraries: librarians should be more forthcoming about providing this type of support to all sectors of the community, so that the value of the library as a place and librarianship as a profession can be brought to the forefront of people minds, and thus hopefully be rewarded with more resources and acknowledgement of its very important role for everyone in society.

International Activities

EBLIDA

Cork, European Capital of Culture in 2005, hosted the EBLIDA Annual Council meeting and spring Executive meeting in May, at the joint invitation of the Library Association of Ireland, Cork City Libraries and University College Cork. EBLIDA is the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. The Council and Executive meetings were regarded by participants as being very successful.

The Annual Council meeting is the organization's main forum, bringing delegates from the 25 member states of the EU plus some associate members from other European countries. The five main policy issues for EBLIDA - Copyright, WTO & GATS, cultural policy, professional education, and EBLIDA institutional & membership matters - were discussed in 5 workshops, and then at the plenary Council sessions. Elections were held on the final day: Jan-Ewout van der Putten was re-elected as President for the next two years, his second term, and a new 10-member Executive was also elected. The election of President was closely contested, resulting in a one-vote win by the outgoing President.

The Council had its enjoyable social side as well: the LAI held a reception for delegates on the eve of the Council in the Glucksman Gallery, UCC. This was hosted by the President, Ruth Flanagan; the Hon. Secretary, Denis Murphy, and Hon. Treasurer, Catherine Watters were also present. Cork City Council hosted a reception in Cork City Hall on the following evening. Delegates also visited the 'Queenstown Story' at Cobh Heritage Centre and the Old Midleton Distillery.

The Word Endures

The Association, in partnership with Cork City Libraries and with the support of Cork 2005 European Capital of Culture, organized a 2-day conference in Cork in March 2005, entitled 'The Word Endures'. This conference looked at a number of aspects of freedom of expression and cultural expression:

- The role of libraries in providing a 'safe haven for the word', and the work of IFLA and FAIFE in sustaining freedom of expression.
- The role of libraries in cultural expression in developing countries, and in particular the Arab world
- The work of EBLIDA in integrating former Soviet bloc countries.
- How libraries have suffered in conflicts in the past, in Cork [1920s], in Coventry and Cologne [WWII], in Sarajevo [1990s], in Iraq [2003]; why books and libraries have been and continue to be targeted by dictatorships.
- How the 'word' will continue to be central to libraries in the 21st century.

Speakers included Alex Byrne, President (then President-elect) of IFLA, Dr. Taghreed Al-Qudsi of the University of Kuwait, Senator Brendan Ryan, Jan-Ewout van der Putten, President of EBLIDA, Sue Cole of Blue Shield, the organization which defends cultural institutions in time of conflict, and Judith Vidal-Hal of Index on Censorship.

Immediately after the seminar, a related event began: the 24 hour-long session of readings of banned texts and texts by writers who have been banned in various parts of the world. The readings began in the Central Library, on Grand Parade, led by Tom McCarthy, Desmond O'Grady and Liz O'Donoghue, and other participants included John Waters, Trevor Joyce, Gerry Murphy, and Mary Leland. The readings continued without a break throughout the night and on through Saturday morning, concluding 24 hours after they began, at 2.00pm. The venues included the steps of the recently refurbished Courthouse, the Triskel Arts Centre, and Central Library again (from 11.00pm until 2.00am), and finished with readings by some of the City's Cultural Officers - Liam Ronayne, City Librarian, Brian McGee, Archivist, and Maeve Dineen, Community Arts Officer - on the steps of City Hall. Interestingly, many of the texts chosen were Russian, including Akhmatova, Pasternak, and Mandelstam, while Pat Cotter chose sonnets by Ovid which led to the latter's banishment from Rome.

Cork City Libraries organized an exhibition on the theme of libraries and freedom of expression and cultural expression: this was held in the Central Library, Grand Parade, Cork, during March.

North-South Liaison Committee

The North-South Liaison Committee is comprised of representatives from both the Library Association of Ireland and CILIP in Ireland. The business of the committee includes the organisation of the Annual Joint Conference, the publication of the journal *An Leabharlann/The Irish Library and the Directory of Irish Libraries*, all of which are joint projects between both associations.

The Committee met twice in 2005. Among other issues, they dealt with the completion of the organisation of the 2005 conference, which took place in Derry in April 2005. As there will be no joint conference in 2006, the Committee agreed to use 2006 to review all aspects of the conference. The LAI Review identified the need for such a review and it is listed as action 23 in the Draft Final Implementation Plan. The Committee has drawn up a proposal to move forward with this key action in 2006.

Planning for the next Celtic Connections conference is proceeding, with the venue and dates now selected. The conference will take place between 16-19 May, 2006, at the Thistle Hotel, Cardiff. Brendan Teeling attended the advance planning meetings in Wales on behalf of the committee during the year.

International Committee of the Blue Shield

The Blue Shield aims to protect cultural and heritage sites from attack in times of armed conflict or natural disaster, and to promote awareness of the importance of preserving these sites and their contents in peacetime and during war.

The Irish committee of the Blue Shield is comprised of four organisations ICOM, ICOMOS, ICA and IFLA/LAI represented respectively by Pat Cooke, Pearse Museum, Pat Cox, Frances McGee, National Archives and Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Royal Irish Academy.

Two meetings were held in 2005, working towards the objective of achieving Irish ratification of the Hague Protocol.

Visits from International Colleagues

- President, Ruth Flanagan, on behalf of the Association, hosted a reception for retired members of CILIP, (CILIP-RMG), on the evening of 13 April, at Kildare Street and University Club, Dublin. It was part of a programme that included visits to Dublin City Library & Archive, Trinity College Library and the Book of Kells, The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, Marsh's Library, The National Library and National Gallery.
- A group (15) from BIBLIS/Friends of the Royal Library, Stockholm visited in October.



Penny Woods, Russell Library, Maynooth, speaking to members of BIBLIS/Friends of the Royal Library, Stockholm, during their visit in October (courtesy of BIBLIS).

Led by Gustaf Holgerson, they followed a very full schedule of library visits, but also managed to include some sight-seeing. Libraries visited in Dublin included those at Chester Beatty Library, Marsh's, National Library of Ireland, Royal Irish Academy and Trinity College Dublin. En route to Galway, the group visited the Russell Library at NUI, Maynooth. Kenny's of Galway was the focus for the visit to the west. Other places visited were the National Printing Museum (Dublin) and Locke's Distillery (Kilbeggan).

The Library Association of Ireland hosted a reception for the group in the Dublin City Library and Archive, Pearse St. Following the reception, members of the group visited the specials collections there. A detailed account of this visit is available at www.kb.se/biblis

The Association is grateful to all our colleagues who facilitated visits by the Swedish group.

IFLA 2005

The World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council took place in Oslo, (14-18 August). The Conference theme was "Libraries – A Voyage of Discovery". The LAI was represented by Ruth Flanagan and Ann Cleary.

Outgoing President, Kay Raseroka, delivered a report of her term in office which stressed the core values of IFLA:

- Freedom of access to information, and freedom of expression.
- Universal and equitable access to information, ideas and works of imagination for the social, cultural, democratic and economic well being of all people.

Following consultations, a number of areas were prioritized for action: Advocacy; Partnerships and Alliances; Continuing Professional Development. She also elaborated on the recent achievements of IFLA, concentrating on the introduction of the 'Three Pillars Model': The Society Pillar; The Profession Pillar; The Members Pillar. Looking ahead, Ms Raseroka recommended that IFLA work towards a strategic plan, consolidate the expertise within the association, and involve more IFLA members in advocacy and professional development.

The programme itself encompassed a wide range of interesting subject areas which appealed across the spectrum of the library and information world: Freedom of expression; Libraries as defenders of free access to information; Copyright and Intellectual Property; Knowledge Management; Government Information and Official Publications; Libraries for Children and Young Adults; Education and Training with Library Theory and Research; Mobile Libraries; Reference and Information Services.

The 72nd General Conference and Council will take place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, (20-24 August).



Attending The World Library and Information Congress: 71st IFLA General Conference and Council in Oslo: I-r, Ann Cleary, Vice-President, LAI, Kay Raseroka, Outgoing President, IFLA, Ruth Flanagan, President, LAI.

Committees and Panels of the Executive Board

Children and School Libraries Panel

Micheal O'hAodha, Marjory Slíney (Convenor).

The Children's and School Libraries Panel welcomes the recent strategy for promoting educational equality announced by the Minister for Education and Science, Ms. Mary Hanafin, T.D. *Delivering Equality of Opportunity in Schools: an Action Plan for Educational Inclusion* includes two measures for which this Association has long campaigned.

The increased emphasis on developing children's literacy and numeric skills is particularly welcomed. Research has shown that access to books is a key element in developing literacy skills. Therefore, libraries can play a fundamental role in early education.

The Library Association of Ireland has long argued that a school library is essential to any long-term strategy for literacy and education in addition to economic, social and cultural development. The school library provides a range of learning services, books and other resources that enable all children to become critical thinkers, effective users of information and allows them to participate as citizens.

We welcome the expansion of the Junior Certificate School Programme (JCSP) Demonstration Library project to second-level schools in areas of high disadvantage around the country. The success of the existing school libraries, which are staffed by professional librarians, serves to support the Minister's aim of ensuring that all children reach their potential.

Education Committee

Deirdre Ellis-King (Convenor), Mary Burke, Joe Donnelly, Beatrice Doran, Áine O'Connor, Marjory Slíney (Secretary), Teresa Walsh.

The Committee met five times during the year. In addition to meetings, much work was done by e-mail.

The Committee has been promoting the Associateship through personal contacts and through the website. During 2006, the Committee will target individual members of the Association. Guidelines have been prepared which will assist prospective Associateship candidates in the preparation of the Professional Development Report and this will be published to the LAI website.

The Executive Board, following the recommendation of this committee, has awarded the ALAI to the following members of the Association: Suzanne McKeon (National Museum of Ireland), Denis O'Kelly (Murray O'Laoire Architects) and Niamh Walker-Headon (Institute of Technology, Tallaght). The new Associates will be presented with their awards at the Annual General Meeting in March 2006 (Dublin).

In addition, the Committee devoted much of its attention to the Fellowship of the Association (FLAI). While the award of FLAI by thesis is still available to interested candidates, alternative pathways to Fellowship are being explored. During 2006, the Education Committee will bring a proposal regarding Fellowship to the Executive Board and to members of the Association.

The Committee's brief is to maintain standards of professional education and to review existing curriculum content within currently recognized academic courses in Ireland. There are on-going consultations with the UCD Dublin School of Information and Library Studies. The Committee has welcomed current plans at the School to expand the range of modules on offer.

European & International Affairs Panel

Liam Ronayne (Convenor), Marjory Slíney, Brendan Teeling, Denis Murphy.

The main work of the Panel concerned the EBLIDA Annual Council. Other issues considered by the Panel included a code of ethics, software patents, the World Summit on the Information Society, and the LAI's involvement in IFLA.

Draft Code of Ethics

A draft Code of Ethics was prepared by Marjory Sliney on behalf of the Executive Board. The draft is currently being amended with a view to being presented to the Executive Board in 2006.

Meeting foreign delegations

The number of visits by groups of librarians from other countries is increasing. The Panel was asked by the Executive Board to advise on how best to respond to this. At the suggestion of the Panel, the Executive Board agreed that the Hon. Secretary will gauge interest in greeting groups of librarians when they come to visit Ireland. It is expected that a protocol will be in place in the near future to govern such visits.

Software patents

The Convener is in liaison with the EBLIDA Secretariat regarding action at local and national levels on the issue of software patents.

World Summit on the Information Society

The Panel monitored preparations for the Summit during 2005, with a view to preparing a position paper reflecting librarians' interests from an Irish perspective.

World Trade Organisation / General Agreement on Trade in Services

The Panel viewed with concern the emergence of a number of issues with the potential to impact negatively on libraries and their users. These matters were due to be discussed at the WTO / GATS talks in Hong Kong in December 2005. At the suggestion of the Panel the Association made these concerns known to the Minister.

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Ruth Flanagan (Convener), Bernard Barrett, Ann Cleary, Geraldine McHugh, Denis Murphy, Áine O'Connor, Gobnait O'Riordan, Liam Ronayne, Marjory Sliney, Brendan Teeling, Catherine Watters.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee is the administrative Committee dealing with finance, membership and publications. The Committee met six times during the year.

The financial situation of the Association continues to be healthy. The Committee considers all the activities of the Association to ensure the best possible use of its financial resources. Continuing financial stability is vital for the development of the Association.

Continuing the work of previous years, the business of the Committee was dominated by the LAI Review and the implementation of the Development Plan. This is reported in detail in another section of the Annual Report.

Towards the latter part of 2005, the Committee undertook the recruitment of a new Development Manager. The Committee is delighted to welcome Betty Boardman to this post. The Committee worked with the Association's Anniversary Working Group, supporting their activities and assisting with the organisation of Library Ireland Week.

Healthcare Libraries Panel

Bernard Barrett (Convener).

The Health Care Libraries and Information sector seeks to work in as inclusive and collaborative way as possible, and does so principally through the elected committee of the Health Sciences Libraries Group.

The sector has once more had an extremely busy and varied year, with the

- Launch of the second edition of the *Standards for Irish Health Care Libraries and Information Services* in September 2005.
- Launch of its new website and e-mail discussion list.
- Planning for the fourth annual conference to be held in February 2006.

The sector is a very optimistic one and continues to look forward to the future. In the coming year it has committed itself to an ambitious work programme which includes:

- The continued roll-out of its Strategic Plan.
- Putting forward a proposal to host the next international EAHIL Workshop in Dublin in 2009.
- Participation in the UK Health Libraries Group Conference in July 2006.
- Building capacity in the areas of marketing, promotion and advocacy, which will enable us to have more influence and dialogue with decision makers over our professional destiny.

Information Society Panel

Joseph Donnelly, Gobnait O'Riordan, Denis Murphy.

A delegation from the LAI, comprising Gobnait O'Riordan, Teresa Walsh, Ruth Flanagan and Deirdre Ellis-King, met with the Minister of State, at the Dept of the Taoiseach, Mr Tom Kitt, TD, to discuss issues relating to the Information Society. This is reported in detail under 'Advocacy'.

The past year was elsewhere dominated by preparations for the second phase of The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), which took place in Tunis, (16-18 November, 2005).

Alex Byrne, President of IFLA, in his address to the Plenary of the Summit, encouraged full commitment to the goals agreed in Geneva and Tunis. He reiterated IFLA's commitment to the creation of the Information Society. The Federation held a pre Summit meeting in Egypt, where it produced *The Alexandria Manifesto on Libraries, the Information Society in Action*. It declared that libraries and information services are essential to the creation of an inclusive Information Society. Their impartial operation helps to safeguard universal civil rights and intellectual freedom.

On behalf of IFLA, he urged national, regional and local governments and international organizations to "invest in library and information services as vital elements of Information Society strategies, policies and budgets; to promote open access to information and recognize the importance of information literacy and vigorously support strategies to create a literate and skilled populace which can advance and benefit from the global Information Society". <http://www.ifla.org/III/wsis/Byrne-Plenary-Address.html>

Entering the summit, much debate took place over the governance of the internet. What transpired was agreement that the US government, through Ican, (Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers), will retain control of the technology which runs the internet – domain name system and root servers – while a new multinational 'Internet Governance Forum' will be created early in 2006, to discuss a broad range of issues related to the internet.

The commitments and goals of WSIS 2005 were encapsulated in two documents: *The Tunis Commitment* and *The Tunis Agenda*.

However, the initiative which garnered most publicity from the summit, was the announcement by Kofi Annan of the intention to make available to poor regions of the world, the \$100 laptop. The brainchild of Professor Nicholas Negroponte of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, it is hoped this project will contribute to bridging the digital divide.

The Panel awaits with interest, the implementation of the commitments and goals agreed at Tunis.

Representing the Association

Nominees and Members of External Committees

Branching Out Steering Committee: Liam Ronayne, Teresa Walsh
Celtic Connections Conference Committee 2006: Brendan Teeling
An Chomhairle Leabharlanna: Deirdre Ellis-King, Ruth Flanagan
COLICO: Leslie Bryan
EBLIDA: Liam Ronayne
EBLIDA Expert Group on Copyright: Jennifer Aston
Euro-Focus on the Cultural Heritage: Ruth Flanagan
International Committee of the Blue Shield: Siobhán Fitzpatrick
An Leabharlann Editorial Board: Mary Burke, Brendan Teeling, Micheál Ó'hAodha, Pat McMahon, Beatrice Doran.
Local Government Anti-Poverty Learning Network: Brendan Martin, Austin Vaughan
Newsplan: Marjory Slaney
North-South Liaison Committee: Ann Cleary, Ruth Flanagan, Brendan Teeling, Catherine Watters, Marjory Slaney, Antoinette Robinson.
Schools Libraries Working Group: Fionnuala Hanrahan, Mary Reynolds
Standing Committee on Public Library Staff Training and Development: Pat Lonergan, Austin Vaughan
WTO/GATS: Liam Ronayne

Conferences

EBLIDA Annual Council, Cork, 13–14 May: Liam Ronayne, Ruth Flanagan
Word Endures Conference, Cork, 10–11 March: Liam Ronayne, Ruth Flanagan, Teresa Walsh, Ann Cleary, Denis Murphy.
CILIP Scotland Conference, Peebles, 23–26 May: Ruth Flanagan.
World Library and Information Congress, 71th IFLA General Conference and Council, Oslo, 14–18 August: Ruth Flanagan, Ann Cleary.

Functions at which the LAI was represented

Reception for retired members of CILIP, Kildare Street and University Club, 13 April 2005: Ruth Flanagan, Deirdre Ellis-King.
Reception for EBLIDA delegates to Annual Council, Glucksman Gallery, UCC, 12 May 2005: Ruth Flanagan, Liam Ronayne, Catherine Watters, Denis Murphy.
Reception for BIBLIS/Friends of the Royal Library, Stockholm, Dublin City Library & Archive, 13 October 2005: Marjory Slaney
Graduation for HDipLIS and MLIS students of 2004–2005, School of Library and Information Studies, UCD, 20 January 2006: Ruth Flanagan, Betty Boardman, Marjory Slaney.

Delegations

Meeting with Minister Tom Kitt, TD, Minister of State, the Dept of the Taoiseach, Dublin, 19 May: Ruth Flanagan, Teresa Walsh, Deirdre Ellis-King, Gobnait O'Riordan.
Meeting with officials from the Department of Enterprise, Trade & Employment, Dublin, 9 February 2006: Ruth Flanagan, Joseph Donnelly, Jennefer Aston, Teresa Hackett, Mary Reynolds.

Publications

Annual Report 2004. Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2004. ISSN 0791-6248
Standards for Irish Healthcare Library and Information Services. Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2005 ISBN 0-9548967-0-X
That woman: studies in Irish bibliography: a Festschrift for Mary 'Paul' Pollard, edited by Charles Benson and Siobhan Fitzpatrick. Dublin: Lilliput Press in association with Library Association of Ireland, 2005 ISBN 1-8435106-0-X.
An Leabharlann-e: 3 issues published in 2005.

Sections and Groups

Academic and Special Libraries Section

Chair: Áine O'Connor, Arup Consulting Engineers. **Secretary:** Ann O'Sullivan, Diageo Ireland. **Treasurer:** Erin O'Mahony, Diageo Ireland. **Committee:** Caitriona Sharkey, Ernst & Young, Eva Hornung, Curriculum Development Unit, CDVEC, Olivia Fitzpatrick, UCC.

The Academic & Special Libraries Section was re-formed in June 2005, when it held its AGM in the Library of the Royal Irish Academy. The above committee was elected. The guest speaker was Anne Murray from Cambridge University. She spoke about 'Preserving the Past and building for the Future'.

A Copyright Seminar held on 15 September focused in particular on copyright issues for corporate libraries. The main speaker was Katrina Crooks from McCann Fitzgerald Solicitors.

The Section is currently organising a one-day seminar to be held in the RDS on 27 April 2006. The theme of the day relates to professional practice and skills development.

A new logo and website is also being developed for the Section. Further plans for 2006 include hosting informal presentations by our members on interesting aspects of their work or career developments – it is hoped that such events will provide useful networking opportunities as well as social outings.

Further information on all events can be obtained by contacting any committee member or e-mailing aineoconnor@arup.com



Committee Members, I-r, Áine O'Connor, Caitriona Sharkey, Ann O'Sullivan and Erin O'Mahony, at the Academic and Special Libraries Section AGM.

Cataloguing and Indexing Group

Chair: Gráinne MacLochlainn, National Library of Ireland. **Secretary:** Jane Gribbon, University of Limerick. **Treasurer:** Grace Toland, School of Celtic Studies. **Committee:** Justin Furlong, National College of Ireland, Breda Long, University College Cork, Nicole Seabrook, Trinity College Dublin, Niamh Walker-Headon, Institute of Technology, Tallaght, Brian Widdis, Dublin Institute of Technology.

The Cataloguing and Indexing Group AGM was held in the National Library in May 2005, when a new committee was elected. In conjunction with the AGM there was a talk by Joanne Finegan, Assistant Keeper, Prints and Drawings (NLI) on cataloguing visual material. The talk concluded with a visit to the Prints and Drawings section. Prior to the AGM, members enjoyed a conducted tour of the James Joyce Exhibition.

The committee are currently at work on compiling a database of members' areas of specialization, for example, languages, software, classification scheme and library management systems to enable better information exchange between members.

County and City Librarians' Section

Chair: Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Library. **Vice-Chair:** Mary Reynolds, Longford County Library. **Secretary:** Ciarán Mangan, Meath County Library. The AGM of the section was held in Ennis, County Clare in November, 2005.

A variety of issues was discussed by the members of the Section during the year: Staff training, Schools library service, Cultural Heritage Programme, Prison library service, Library access and the Intersearch project.

Members attended the Joint Conference in Derry in April 2005.

In June, members were joined by colleagues from ACL, DOEHLG and Directors of Service in a study tour of public libraries in the Netherlands. There were visits to eight public libraries. Issues covered included library buildings, processing and automated systems and services to multicultural communities.

The section facilitated the DOEHLG and the Library Council in the delivery of www.borrowbooks.ie and additional content for www.askaboutireland.ie. The section acknowledged the tight deadline associated with both projects.

Members of the section participated in the special conference on Library Architecture, 13-14 October, in Cork, organised to celebrate one hundred and fifty years of public libraries.

The section welcomed the opportunity to combine their autumn seminar with the Public Libraries Section at the conference in Ennis.

To mark her retirement and to honour her contribution to the public library service in Ireland, a presentation was made to Kathleen Browne, Kerry County Librarian.



Presentation to Kathleen Browne, on her retirement as Kerry County Librarian, at the joint Conference of the County and City Librarians' Section and the Public Libraries Section in Ennis: l-r, Jane Cantwell, Chair, County and City Librarians' Section, Teresa Walsh, Vice-President, LAI, Kathleen Browne, Josephine Vahey, Chair, Public Libraries Section.

Genealogy and Local Studies Group

Chair: Kieran Swords, South Dublin Libraries. **Vice-Chair:** Colette O'Flaherty, National Library of Ireland. **Secretary:** Síle Coleman, South Dublin Libraries. **Treasurer:** Monica Cullinan, UCD Library. **Committee:** Katherine Collins (Waterford City Libraries), Matthew Gannon (Roscommon Libraries), Evelyn Flanagan (NUI Galway).

The genesis of the section was a discussion which took place at the IFLA Conference in Berlin in 2004 when Gbnait O'Riordan, then LAI President, asked Colette O'Flaherty and Monica Cullinan – the former a member of the Standing Committee of IFLA's Genealogy and Local History Section (GENLOC) and the latter an invited observer at GENLOC Committee meetings – if they would undertake the task of forming a Genealogy and Local Studies Section for the Association.

Following a preliminary meeting on 28 October 2004 an Interim Committee was established: Jeremy Black (Fingal Libraries), Síle Coleman (South Dublin Libraries), Mario Corrigan (Kildare Libraries), Monica Cullinan (UCD), Dr. Crystal Fulton (DepLIS, UCD), Miriam Lambe, (Marino Institute of Education), Dr. Janet McKee, Colette O'Flaherty (NLI), Celestine Rafferty (Wexford Libraries) and Kieran Swords (South Dublin Libraries). The Committee met a further six times during the course of 2004-05.

Notices of the proposed establishment of the Group were circulated via the LAInet and An Leabharlann, and arrangements were put in place for an Inaugural Seminar on 24 February 2005.

The inaugural seminar, entitled Taking Stock, attracted an attendance of over 50 from all parts of the country. The meeting was opened by President of the LAI, Gbnait O'Riordan, and was also addressed by the Director of the National Library of Ireland, Aongus Ó hAonghusa. The keynote speakers were John Grenham (Irish Genealogy: Where Next?) and Dr. Willie Nolan (Local Studies in Ireland – Inventory and Prospect). Gerard Long of the National Library spoke on the Library's new Bibliographic Notice Network. The meeting was chaired by Kieran Swords. We are grateful to our speakers and to the National Library for generously hosting the meeting and the reception which followed. We would like to record our gratitude to South Dublin Libraries for covering the speakers' fees.

During the February meeting the Committee asked those in attendance to give us details of particular interests which they would like to have the Group address. One of these was ephemera – and this was the theme of our second seminar which was held in the Gilbert Library on 9 June. We had an attendance of thirty at this afternoon event – again with a welcome number of members from outside the metropolitan area. The speakers were Dr Máire Kennedy of the Gilbert Library (Blowin' in the wind: collecting ephemera in the Public Libraries) and Sandra McDermott of the NLI (The Permanent Transient: ephemera in the National Library of Ireland). The session was chaired by Carmel Flahavan of Carlow County Library.



Committee of the the Genealogy and Local Studies Group at their Annual General Meeting:
Front row, l-r, Monica Cullinan – Treasurer (UCD), Celestine Rafferty (Wexford Libraries), Mario Corrigan (Kildare County Libraries), Miriam Lambe (Marino Institute of Education),
Back Row, l-r, Colette O’Flaherty - Vice Chair, Jeremy Black (Fingal County Libraries), Kieran Swords - Chair (South Dublin Libraries), Sile Coleman - Secretary (South Dublin Libraries).
Missing from photograph: Dr Crystal Fulton (UCD, SILS), Katherine Collins (Waterford City Libraries), Matthew Gannon (Roscommon Libraries) and Evelyn Flanagan (NUI Galway) have been co-opted to the committee.

Again, the Committee would like to formally record our gratitude to the speakers, to our Chair and to Dublin City Libraries for providing a lovely venue. We would also like to record our gratitude to Kildare County Library for providing refreshments.

Other work during 2005 focused on the development of the web presence for the Group on the LAI site; this is still a work in progress, but we hope to see it go live in the New Year. The Group also formed an e-discussion group or mailing list, which we see as a key element in meeting one of our stated purposes: to ‘provide a focus Group /forum for members on issues relating to genealogy and local studies’. People can subscribe to the list by sending a message to genlocireland-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie

The third and final event of the year was the AGM, followed by a tour of the Irish Architectural Archive. We are most grateful to Simon Lincoln, the IAA’s Research Officer, for his introductory talk on the Archive, its history and holdings, and to Colum O’Riordan, Archive Administrator, for the tour of the building. We are also most grateful to Fingal County Libraries who provided refreshments.

There were two key matters of business addressed at the AGM:

- the adoption of the draft rules of the Section – for formal submission to the LAI Executive Board.
- to ask for formal election for the coming year of the current members of the Interim Committee (with one exception – Janet McKee – who indicated her wish to stand down).

Subject to an agreed amendment, the draft rules of the Section were unanimously adopted and the Interim Committee was re-elected. The Committee placed on record their gratitude to Janet McKee for her valuable contribution to their work in its first year.

Government Libraries Section

Chair and Webmaster: Donal McSweeney (Central Bank and Financial Services Authority of Ireland).
Treasurer: Valerie Ingram (Office of Public Works Library). **Secretary and PRO:** Joseph Donnelly (Judges’ Library). **Committee:** Mary Doyle (Dept. of Agriculture and Food), Niamh O’Sullivan (Irish Blood Transfusion Service), Madelaine Dennison (Office of the Attorney General), Helen Farrell (National Disability Authority), Orla Fitzpatrick (National Museum), Noeleen Murtagh (Food Safety Authority of Ireland), Michelle Touhey (Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions).

The Government Libraries Section (GLS) of the Library Association of Ireland represents the interests of staff working in government libraries and aims to promote and develop the role of libraries in the Civil Service and promote co-operation between government libraries. In addition to special events, three regular meetings were held during 2005, and the GLS AGM took place in May.

The issue of membership of the GLS and attendance at GLS meetings was discussed at the AGM, and it was agreed by a large majority that attendance at regular meetings should continue to be open to “government libraries” broadly defined (i.e., to include government departments, agencies, semi-states etc). GLS members who do not work in government bodies may attend special meetings and training sessions, and receive the newsletter GLINT.

The Group continues to keep abreast of developments in copyright law, and other areas of Intellectual Property Law.

Three special meetings were also held during the year. In February, representatives of the GLS met with Joanna O'Riordan of the IPA, who was coordinating research into Knowledge Management in government for the Committee for Public Management Research, to provide input from government librarians into the research. In May, GLS members met with Prof. Mary Burke of UCD's Department of Library & Information Studies, to discuss all aspects of professional education. In June, a half-day training session on Copyright for Librarians was held for GLS members, attended by over 30 people. As part of the same event, GLS members were given an hour-long tour of Leinster House. In addition, the GLS was represented at the meeting between the Executive Board and the Sections and Groups on 1 December.

A Pre-IFLA conference on Government Librarianship was held in Stockholm in August and three members of the GLS attended. Among the topics discussed was the issue of centralizing library services or maintenance of separate units. The networking was also useful.

A GLS motion was passed at the LAI AGM in March 2005, calling on the incoming Executive Board of the LAI to investigate the need for publicly funded bodies to develop a copyright policy, including ownership of copyright, public access to publicly-funded research and the issue of retention of copyright when licensing publication of research. The GLS had been working with the Executive Board to give effect to this resolution and to an earlier one calling on the government to support library and information services in government bodies, and will be cooperating with the Executive Board on these matters again.

The GLS may rerun the Copyright for Librarians training session in the future for those who could not attend (or could not free staff to attend) in June. There may also be a meeting to discuss aspects of licensing issues.

Health Sciences Libraries Group

Chair: Bernard Barrett, Mental Health Directorate. **Vice-Chair & ILO:** Maire McClarnon, Queen's University Belfast. **Secretary:** David Mockler, Trinity College Dublin. **Communications Officer:** Louise Farragher, National Documentation Centre on Drug Use. **Treasurer until June 2005:** Rosarii Buttimer, University College Cork. **Interim Treasurer June 2005:** Sue Faulkner, Sisters of Charity of Jesus and Mary Services. **Cochrane Library Liaison Officer:** Ciara McCaffrey, University of Limerick. **Committee:** Pat Doherty, Institute of Technology, Tralee, Brian Galvin, National Documentation Centre on Drug Use, Muriel Haire, Irish Nurses Organisation, Jean Harrison, HSE North Eastern Area, Aoife Lawton, HSE Shared Services Eastern Region, Fiona McCarthy, Connolly Memorial Hospital, Ann M O'Byrne, Dublin Dental School and Hospital, Donal O'Sullivan, Institute of Technology, Tralee, Dymrna Sheils, HSE North Eastern Area, Penny Wiggle, National Children's Hospital, Tallaght.

The committee met five times in venues hosted by committee members: Dublin (2), Limerick (1), Kilkenny (1) and Cork (1). The Committee also attended one workshop facilitated by Shane Godbolt in Kilkenny. Many thanks to the Library staff of TCD, HRB, UCC, HSE Mid Western Area, HSE South Eastern Area for the use of their facilities for Committee meetings.

Under Niamh Lucey and the Standards Working Group, *Standards for Irish Health Care Libraries and Information Services*, 2nd edition, was published and launched in September 2005 in the Dublin Dental Hospital. The report provides a blueprint for how a modern health care library should be designed and what services it should provide to all its users. This document will benefit librarians, clinicians, administrators, managers and accrediting bodies.

Aoife Lawton and the Continuing Professional Development Working Group hosted 5 training courses in 2005:

- Finding the Evidence
- Project Management
- The Cochrane Library for Health Science Librarians
- Introduction to HTML
- Financial Management

In 2006, the CPDWG plans to hold the following courses:

- Writing for the Web
- Knowledge Management

- Marketing the Library & Information Service
- Copyright for Health Science Libraries
- Advanced HTML
- The Cochrane Library
- Supporting Systematic Reviews
- Managing Electronic Resources

In a break from tradition, HSLG did not hold its annual conference in Autumn 2005 and has instead postponed the conference until February 2006. The theme of the upcoming conference is 'Open Access' and is of interest not only to health information professionals, but also to the wider library and information community.

In 2005, Brian Galvin and the Website Working Group developed and launched its first website www.hslg.ie. The website is intended for HSLG members and the wider library and information community. HSLG, under the Communications Officer also relaunched the HSLG mailing list and developed a promotional logo for the group. One issue of *HINT: Health Information, News and Thinking* was published in 2005.

Maire McLarnon, International Liaison Officer, developed links and contact persons with international bodies such as, American Library Association, Canadian Library Association, European Association for Health Information and Libraries Association, and the International Congress on Medical Librarianship. This work is ongoing.

The Cochrane Library Liaison officer, Ciara McCaffrey represented the HSLG on the All Ireland Cochrane Training Group, and provided training/promotion of the Cochrane Library, on behalf of the HSLG:

Full day training for librarians:

- 26 Nov 2004, St. James's Hospital, Dublin.
- 29 April 2005, St. James's Hospital, Dublin.

Cochrane Collaboration in Ireland:

- 3rd Feb 2005, DCU LAI/CILIP Northern Ireland Annual Conference.
- 21 April 2005, Derry Programme for Action for Children (PAC).
- 16 June 2005, Dublin Introduction to Cochrane.
- 26 Aug 2005, National College of Ireland, Dublin.

Publications: *Standards for Irish Health Care Libraries and Information Services*, 2nd edition. Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2005. ISBN 0-9548967-0-X

An Mheitheal Oibre / Irish Language Group

Cathaoirleach/Chair: Cathal Ó Cuinn, Fingal County Libraries. *Leas-Chathaoirleach/Vice-Chair:* Nicole Seabrook. *Cisteoir/Treasurer:* Etaín Ó Síochain, NUI, Maynooth.

The activities of Meitheal Oibre na Gaeilge / Irish Language Group for 2005 can be described under the following headings:

- Irish Language WebOPAC button project.
- Promotion of Seachtain na Gaeilge/Irish Language Week.
- Guest Speakers.
- Support resource for language use and services within libraries.
- Partnership with cultural bodies.

The main project of the group for 2005 is the WebOPAC button project which is nearing completion and which we intend to publish and launch in 2006 under the aegis of the LAI. The aim of the project is to generate a list of Irish language terms that are a true reflection of the English meaning and are short enough to fit on a button for use on any library's WebOPAC. Most of the terms in use are generic across most WebOPACs and we have sought advice and recommendations from An Coiste Téarmaíochta / Terminology Committee. We look forward to publication in the new year.

For Seachtain na Gaeilge in March 2005, we circulated all libraries nationally with a bi-lingual information sheet on the purpose and activities of the week and the aims and activities of our group. The aim was to publicise the existence of the week and of our group, with a view to future development.

Following on from Seachtain na Gaeilge, we invited Julian de Spáinn of Conradh na Gaeilge, who has managed and promoted the Week over a number of years, to talk to our group. He described the phenomenal growth and development that has taken place in the range of activities happening during the Week and in the level of institutional involvement. The role of libraries was emphasised and partnership for the future established. We have responded to a number of queries nationally in relation to service provision through the Irish language and continue to invite queries and suggestions. Our Group is interested in extending contact and working in partnership with other cultural bodies of like interest. To this purpose, joint activity with Radio na Life is to be explored as part of our continuing plans for development.

Prison Libraries Group

Chair: Gerard Maher, Laois County Library. **Vice-Chair:** Liam Ronayne, Cork City Libraries. **Secretary:** Richard Farrell, Roscommon County Library.

The Irish Prison Service announced during the year that the staffing of prison libraries is to be funded by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform, which would recoup the cost of salaries from relevant local authorities in which prisons are situated. Initially, Portlaoise, Castlerea and Shelton Abbey prisons have been identified by the Department of Justice for funding of the necessary staff. However, as the local authorities are the recruiting agencies, any increase in staffing numbers must be approved by the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. To date, no such approval has been given.

A meeting of the group took place at the joint Conference in Ennis on 2 November, 2005, and elected the above officers for the coming year.

Public Libraries Section

Chair: Josephine Vahey, Galway County Library. **Vice-Chair:** Carmel Daly, Clare County Library. **Secretary:** Brenda Frawley, Limerick County Library. **Treasurer:** Emer O'Brien, Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee. **Committee:** Áine Beausang, Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee, Tony Cox, Westmeath County Library, Melanie Cunningham, Waterford City Library, Gabrielle Flynn, Leitrim County Library, Breeda Gilligan, Roscommon County Library, Cora Gunter, Galway County Library, Tom Murtagh, Mayo County Library, Edel Scally, Westmeath County Library

The officers and committee were elected at the AGM of the Section, which took place in the Aidan Heavey Public Library, Athlone, Co. Westmeath, on 15 February. The meeting was preceded by a tour of this new library and its facilities. The committee then met a further four times during the year – 26 April, at the Central Library, ILAC Centre, Dublin; 2 August and 10 October at the Aidan Heavey Public Library, Athlone; 14 December again at the Central Library, Dublin.

The annual conference of the Section was held at the Old Ground Hotel, Ennis, Co Clare, 2-4 November. The conference was titled Public Libraries and Innovation, and for the first time the Public Libraries' Section joined forces with the County and City Librarians' Section in hosting this event. The theme and location were chosen to mark the 150th anniversary of the signing of the first public libraries legislation in Ennis.

A subcommittee of representatives from both sections was formed to deal exclusively with planning for the conference. Josephine Vahey and Brenda Frawley represented the Public Libraries' Section on this subcommittee, and were heavily involved in the organisation of speakers, facilities and accommodations for the conference.

Following a Welcome Address from the Mayor of Clare, Mr Pat Keane, the conference was officially opened by Teresa Walsh, County Librarian, South Dublin Libraries and Vice-President of the Library Association of Ireland, deputising for Ruth Flanagan, President of the Library Association of Ireland, who sent her apologies.

The keynote speech was delivered by Eric Stackhouse of Pictou-Antigonish Library Service, Nova-Scotia, Canada. He outlined the many innovative ideas and projects which characterise their service to

users throughout this vast province. Following this, Noel Crowley, Clare County Librarian, took the opportunity to demonstrate Clare County Libraries new online mapping project.

The main presentations of the conference were scheduled for Thursday, 3 November, and began with Hazel Percival, Wexford County Libraries, speaking on The Role of Public Libraries in supporting Silver Learners (50+ years). This was followed by talks from Austin Vaughan, Mayo County Librarian, about A Mayo Moment & The Story of Mayo: the involvement of Mayo Public Library in the production of 2 exciting publications; Julie Dalton & Fiona Ismail, Limerick City Library, with Chase the Country, Catch the City, Collect the Facts & Local/Local/Local – Cast the Net: Netd@ys & E-Twinning projects; Noelle Murray, Wicklow County Libraries, speaking about The Handbook for Ethnic Minorities: a publication in partnership with other agencies in County Wicklow.

Presentations continued with Noel Crowley, Clare County Librarian, telling us about Sixmilebridge Branch Library and other alternative funding models for library buildings. There followed presentations from Cara Carmody and Sinead O'Higgins, Waterford City Library, on Ardkeen Online: Your Community Website (www.ardkeen.ie), Mary McPhillips, Cork County Library & Arts Service, on the Dan Joe Kelleher Video Archive, and Caroline Farrell, Kildare County Library and Lucina Russell, Kildare County Arts Office, on their joint project Threading Tales: an arts-based initiative to promote literacy and culture of reading.

After lunch, the talks continued with Teresa Carley, Meath County Libraries, speaking about The Music Appreciation Club in Ashbourne Library, Cora Gunter, Galway County Libraries, then spoke about The Westside Library: Creating a sense of Equity and Entitlement and the presentations finished with Teresa Walsh, County Librarian, South Dublin Libraries, outlining the Putting the Reader First: Developing a Reader Centred Library Service project.

The Public Libraries' Section members then convened for a general meeting where topics discussed included next year's Section AGM and possible locations and themes for the 2006 Conference.

The banquet dinner saw the presentation of prizes in the first annual George Harding Parody Prize. Twenty eight entries for this writing competition were received from all over the country and the 4 worthy winners were presented with their prizes by guest of honour, award-winning crime writer Ken Bruen (substituting at the last minute for Val McDermid who sent her apologies with a promise to attend next year's event). Our sponsor, George Harding, has promised to support this competition again next year and we hope it will become a regular feature of future conferences. The winning entries are available to read on the Public Libraries' Section webpage of the LAI website (www.libraryassociation.ie).

Also at the banquet dinner, a special presentation was made to Kathleen Browne, Kerry County Librarian, on the occasion of her retirement. Gifts were presented by Jane Cantwell, Chair of the County & City Librarians' Section, and Josephine Vahey, Chair of the Public Libraries' Section. Tributes were also paid to Kathleen for her important contributions to both the County & City Librarians' Section and the former Assistant Librarians' Section.

On Friday morning our Canadian guests, Mr. Stackhouse and his colleagues Fern McDonald and Peggy Hiscock, hosted a series of workshops on innovation in public libraries. These concluded with a plenary session, before lunch signalled the close of Conference 2005.

On reflection, the joint Conference can be considered a great success. Feedback has been universally positive and all have singled out the different speakers and talks on 3 November for particular praise. Over one hundred delegates attended all or part of the conference, representing library authorities and library supply trades.

The Public Libraries Section would like to thank all who contributed to the annual conference, in particular all the speakers who performed so impressively and all the sponsors who contributed so generously.

Rare Books Group

Chair: Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Royal Irish Academy. **Secretary:** Celine Ward, Chester Beatty Library. **Treasurer:** Charles Benson, Trinity College Dublin. **Assistant Secretary:** Helen Davis, University College Cork. **Committee:** Joanna Finegan, National Library of Ireland, Julia Cummins, Farmleigh, Marie Boran, NUI Galway, Penny Woods, NUI Maynooth, Ken Bergin, University of Limerick, Teresa Whittington, Central Catholic Library

The AGM meeting was held on 22 February 2005 in Marsh's Library. Siobhán Fitzpatrick and Charles

Benson were re-elected as chairperson and treasurer respectively. Teresa Whittington stood down as secretary to the committee. The chairperson thanked Teresa for her work during the past year. Celine Ward was elected secretary.

Pollard Festschrift

On 9 June 2005 Robin Adams, Librarian of Trinity College Dublin, hosted a reception in the Long Room to launch *That woman: studies in Irish bibliography: a Festschrift for Mary 'Paul' Pollard*, edited by Charles Benson and Siobhán Fitzpatrick. Published by Lilliput Press in association with the LAI Rare Books Group, this work features contributions on various aspects of the book trade in Ireland and abroad over four centuries. The volume was much appreciated by Dr Pollard who enjoyed meeting the contributors and the many former colleagues and friends who gathered to honour 'the most distinguished Irish bibliographer of the past half-century'. * The group is sincerely grateful to the Executive Board for supporting this publication. It was with regret that we later learned of the death of Mary "Paul" Pollard.

*Maurice Craig, 'Foreword' in Charles Benson & Siobhán Fitzpatrick, eds., *That woman: studies in Irish bibliography: a Festschrift for Mary 'Paul' Pollard*, p. VI.

Outings

A visit was organised to the Department of Prints and Drawings, National Library of Ireland, on 19 October, where Assistant Keeper Joanna Finegan spoke to group members, and displayed some items from the collections. The group hoped to organise a trip to the University Of Limerick Special Collections and Glenstal Abbey in June, but this had to be postponed for a variety of reasons. It is intended to re-schedule the trip at a future date.

Cataloguing Workshop

On 25 November, a workshop/seminar entitled Cataloguing the Nineteenth Century was held in the National Library of Ireland. Iain Beavan gave a paper entitled Between publisher and reader: marketing books in the 19th century; Andrew Megaw spoke on Book papers in the nineteenth century: problems and preservation; Charles Benson discussed Changes in bookbinding techniques. In the afternoon, Dr. Martin Andrews presented Changes in illustrative techniques in the 19th century; followed by Barry McKay on Aspects of chapbooks: production and distribution.

We acknowledge with thanks, the assistance of Marsh's Library and the National Library of Ireland in facilitating meetings and events.

Western Regional Section

Chair: Siobhán Arkins, Galway Community College. **Secretary:** Kathryn Briggs, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology. **Treasurer:** Emer Donaghue, Galway City Library.

The WRS of the LAI held a local studies seminar in NUIG on 23 June 2005. Attendance at the seminar was very high, with participants from Galway, Leitrim and Roscommon.

Marie Boran, Assistant Librarian in special collections, at the James Hardiman Library (JHL), NUIG, began the seminar with a detailed talk on developing a local studies collection. Kieran Hoare, archivist at JHL, then spoke of local studies material in archival collections. Dr. Caitriona Clear of the History Dept, NUIG, gave a captivating lecture on oral history as a source for local studies. The day concluded with a visit to the James Hardiman Library special collections reading room.

The Annual Seminar and AGM of the section were held in Westside Library, Seamus Quirke Road, Galway on Friday 26 August 2005. The annual seminar included a tour of the new library. Speakers included: Mike McCormack, Mary O'Malley and Tom Kenny.

Mike McCormack, Irish author & NUIG lecturer, spoke of his writings to date including his latest novel "Notes from a Coma", which tells the story of a child named J. J. O'Malley who is rescued from the squalor of a Romanian orphanage, and adopted by a rural community in West Mayo. Mike read extracts from his wonderfully imagined book.

Galway-based poet and writer Mary O'Malley, gave a talk on her writings and her relationship with

public libraries. Mary has written for both radio and television and is a frequent broadcaster. In 1990 she received a Hennessey Award for her poetry.

Tom Kenny from Kenny's Bookshop Galway discussed the history of the renowned institution and its relationship with libraries. Since 1941, Kenny's Bookshop has been to the forefront in providing books of Irish interest to both the general and the discerning reader. They are now the largest exporter of Irish books, providing over one hundred American Universities with books of Irish interest.

The AGM concluded the day's event with a variety of topics being discussed, the elections of new officers taking place, along with suggestions for next year's activities.

Youth Libraries Group

Chair: Ciara Cunnane and Frances Crampsie (joint) (Donegal County Libraries). **Secretary:** Deirdriu McQuaid and Karen McKenna (joint) (Monaghan County Libraries). **Treasurer:** Helen O'Donnell (Dublin City Public Libraries). **Committee:** Lynda Beasley, Fingal County Libraries, Mary McLaughlin, Dublin City Libraries, Eleanor O'Toole, Mayo County Libraries, Mary Bohan, Leitrim County Libraries, Aileen Ivory, Alexandra College, Caroline Hughes, South Dublin County Libraries, Maedhbh Rogan, Meath County Libraries, Carolyn Tunney, Roscommon County Libraries, Eileen O'Sullivan, Cork City Libraries, Sinead Cummins, Waterford

The committee met twice this year, with a number of other meetings held by the sub-committee involved in the Children's Book Festival. The two main priorities for the YLG in 2005 was the Children's Book Festival – which is expanding and becoming ever more ambitious in its vision each year - and a recruitment drive for new members.

The Annual General Meeting of the Youth Libraries Group was held on 24 November in the Central Library, Ilac Centre, Dublin, when the committee for 2006 was elected. Prior to the AGM, a meeting was held to discuss issues including the annual Children's Books Festival, with which the YLG is heavily involved.

Due to the geographical spread and the difficulty in being released from work commitments, many members were not able to attend meetings on a regular basis or be actively involved with the group in 2005. This has resulted in a small number of people assuming the officer roles from year to year and having too much of a workload within the committee. The YLG has over 100 members in its section but has numerous contacts in libraries throughout the country that are not members. One of the goals of the meeting on the 24th was to emphasise the need for library staff to join the section and take an active part in the group. For those unable to attend the meeting, new members were recruited via e-mail and phone. (The YLG maintains an e-mail contact list of people throughout the country. This list allows us to communicate relevant information efficiently and effectively and anyone interested in join our e-mailing list should contact youthlibrariesgroup@hotmail.com. For e-mail communication with the secretary of the YLG, please use ylg@libraryassociation.ie.)

Happily, the meeting on 24 November to discuss these and other issues was very positive, with the election of new YLG officers and a new sub-committee for the Children's Book Festival. There was a renewed sense of enthusiasm for the group and a recognition of the invaluable contribution it makes to events, such as the Children's Book Festival, and the important role it plays as an information network for all those involved in the promoting of children's activities in libraries throughout the country.

Children's Book Festival 2005

As previously mentioned, the Children's Book Festival is becoming more ambitious in its vision, and this year was no exception, with a series of "Author Tours" taking place throughout the country. This involved authors from home and the UK, which required a tremendous amount of coordination on the part of the festival committee, particularly James Curtain, Festival coordinator, and all of the library authorities throughout the country. The Design a Bookmark Competition - held before the festival with the winner being announced at the launch - is becoming a hugely popular part of the festival. This year, there were two age categories, with the YLG sponsoring prizes to the amount of €1,600. John Treacy, of International Education Services, very generously matched this amount in sponsorship for prizes. Acclaimed illustrator P.J Lynch, presented the overall winners with their certificates and book tokens. The winning pictures will be printed onto bookmarks and distributed throughout the libraries this year.

As usual, YLG members from around the country reviewed books for the Children's Book Festival "Bookfest" list of recommended books with YLG member, Mary McLaughlin (Dublin City Public Libraries) as overall editor; Helen O'Donnell and Anne Gannon, also YLG members were sub-editors. Each year, two YLG members form a sub-committee to meet with Children's Books Ireland and organise the Children's Book Festival. Mary McLaughlin and Lynda Beasley served on this committee in 2005 and attended four meetings throughout the year. The overall committee comprised of the Festival Co-ordinator, two YLG members, the Director of Children's Books Ireland and a board member of Children's Books Ireland.

The YLG managed the content of its own section on the LAI website. This allows any information relating to the group to be updated on the website in real time and provides useful links to other websites, such as the Children's Book Festival site.

The YLG would like to thank all its members and contacts throughout the country for their participation within the group in 2005, and it is hoped that 2006 will bring both inspiration and innovation.

Obituaries

The Executive Board noted with regret the death of past member of the Association, Mr Christy Townley, late of NUIG.

Retirement of Kathleen Browne

In October 2005, Kathleen Browne retired as Kerry County Librarian. Her contribution to the Library Association of Ireland has been immense. She was a member of the Executive Board for over twenty years and served as President of the Association between 1990–91. At events at home and abroad Kathleen represented the LAI with distinction. The LAI wishes Kathleen a very happy retirement.

Acknowledgements

- The Association would like to thank An Chomhairle Leabharlanna for making facilities for meetings available to the Association, and for providing an office and correspondence address at 53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2.
- We thank Eddie Byrne for maintaining the Association's website (www.libraryassociation.ie).
- Thanks to Dublin City Library & Archive Headquarters for the use of their conference room for our December meetings and interviews and also for facilitating meetings of the Education Committee.
- We would also like to thank the Dublin Dental School & Hospital for providing facilities for the launch of the HSLG's second edition of Standards for Irish Healthcare Library & Information Services and the Royal College of Surgeons which hosted meetings of the Education Committee.
- We thank Fingal County Libraries and the Royal Irish Academy for storage facilities.
- We also extend our thanks to all those who provided sponsorship, facilities and support for the many meetings, seminars and activities of the Groups and Sections of the Association throughout the year.
- The LAI especially appreciates all sponsorship received for Library Ireland Week. We are also grateful to the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Michael Conaghan, for providing the Mansion House for the launch of Library Ireland Week.
- We congratulate CILIP Ireland for hosting the Joint Conference 2005 in Derry.
- We also congratulate Liam Ronayne and the staff of Cork City Libraries for the successful organizing, in partnership with the LAI, of the Word Endures Conference in March.
- Finally, we express our gratitude to Antoinette Robinson who did invaluable work as development manager until her resignation in September 2005. We welcome her successor Betty Boardman who assumed the post in January 2006.

Membership

In 2005 personal and institutional membership increased respectively to 595 and 77.

Professional Register & Membership List 2005

Please note that any individual who is named in the Fellows or Associates lists is also a member of the Library Association of Ireland.

In these lists, members' names, professional and other qualifications and places of employment are given as they appear in the Association's membership records. If any error appears in the lists, please notify the Hon. Treasurer by e-mail at hontreasurer@libraryassociation.ie

For information on the Fellowship and Associateship schemes of the Library Association of Ireland, please contact the Hon. Secretary by e-mail at honsec@libraryassociation.ie

PROFESSIONAL REGISTER

Fellows of the Library Association of Ireland (including Hon FLAI)

Armitage, Thomas, BA, DLT, FLAI, Retired
Arnould, Nicole, MA, HDipEd, DLIS, FLAI, Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland
Browne, Kathleen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Kerry County Library
Carson, W.H.R., FCLIP, (Hon) FLAI, Retired
Coghlan, Valerie, MSc (Econ), FLAI, FCLIP, Church of Ireland College of Education
Corrigan, Pauline, BA, DLT, FLAI, University College Dublin
Crowley, Noel, FLAI, Clare County Library
Daly, Marie, FLAI, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
Doyle, Dolores, BA, DLIS, FLAI, ALAI, Limerick City Library
Hardiman, Nodlaig, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Hughes, Noel, MCLIP, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Joyce Walsh, Ann, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
Kavanagh, Mary, BA, LLB, FLAI, ALAI,
Keaney, Marian, FLAI, LFIBA,
Kilcline, Helen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Lonergan, P., ALAI, FLAI, Kildare County Library
McGlinchey, Margaret, FLAI, Retired
Millett, Rev. Benignus, OFM, (Hon) FLAI, BA, PhD, DLS, Franciscan Library, Dublin
Morgan, Caroline, FLAI, Sligo County Library
Murphy, Mary B., FLAI, BA, MA, St Patrick's College, Thurles
Nash, Roisin, FLAI, Retired
O'Brien, Gearoid, DLIS, FLAI, Aidan Heavey Public Library, Athlone
O'Byrne, Maureen, FLAI, (Hon) FLAI,
O'Neill, Catherine, FLAI, Trinity College Dublin
O'Suilleabhain, Seán, DLT, FLAI, ALAI, Leitrim County Library
O'Sullivan, Hanna, FLAI, Retired
Pender, Margaret, FLAI
Quinlan, Finola, FLAI, ALAI, Cork Institute of Technology

Reddan, Marie, FLAI, DLIS, DSA, NUI Galway
Steele, John, BA, MLIS, DipLib, FLAI, CDipAF, LLB, University College Dublin
Ui hAodha, Cáit Bean, BA, HDipEd, DipLib, FLAI, Retired
Walsh, James, FLAI, Fingal County Libraries

Associates of the Library Association of Ireland

Altzinger, Marie, MA, DLIS, DipArchSt, ALCM, ALAI,
Armstrong, Jonathan N., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Honourable Society of King's Inns
Bateman, Dilys, BA, MLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Retired
Boardman, Betty, BA (Mod), DipLib, ALAI, An Chomhairle Leabharanna
Brady, Donald, BA, DLT, ALAI, Waterford County Library
Brady, Damien, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Limerick County Library
Breaden, Dara, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, St. Catherine's College of Education, Dublin
Browne, Kathleen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Kerry County Library
Browne, Nora, MA, HDipEd, DipLib, ALAI, Retired
Bryan, Leslie, MA, Dip Lib, MLIS, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
Burke, Mary A., BSc, MSc, PhD, MCLIP, ALAI, UCD Dublin School of Information & Library Studies
Burns, Jane, BA, MBA, DLIS, MLIS, ALAI, Irish Taxation Institute
Butler, Mary, DLIS, ALAI, Roscommon County Library
Cahalane, Peter, BA, DLT, ALAI, DIT Bolton Street
Coleman, Anne, BA, DLT, ALAI, Cork City Libraries
Conneely, Mary, DLT, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
Coughlan, Anne, ALAI, Offaly County Library
Cunningham, Bernadette, BA, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Royal Irish Academy
Dean, John E., MA, MCLIP, ALAA, ALAI, Retired
Delany, Carol Anne, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI
Doran, Beatrice, BA, MBA, DipLib, ALAI, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Downes, Isabella, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
Doyle, Dolores, BA, DLIS, FLAI, ALAI, Limerick City Library
Ellis-King, Deirdre, BA, DipLib, MPhil, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
Fallon, Helen, MA, DLIS, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
Farrell, Mary M., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Westmeath County Library
Fitzpatrick, Hugh M., BCL, MA, MLIS, M Phil, MSc, DLIS, ALAI, Solr, Self-employed
Flanagan, Anne, ALAI, Sligo County Council
Flanagan, Ruth, BA, DipLib, ALAI, Cork County Library & Arts Service

Flynn, Mary E., BA, DLT, ALAI, University College Dublin
Foran, James, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Institute of Technology Sligo
Gilligan, Breeda, DLIS, ALAI, Roscommon County Library
Gleeson, Breda, DLIS, ALAI, Kildare County Library
Glynn, Michael Jarlath, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Wexford County Library
Goodwillie, John, BA, DLS, MCLIP, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
Hanrahan, Fionnuala, BA, DipLib, MLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Wexford County Library
Hardiman, Nodlaig, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Hayes, Margaret, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
Hetherington, Rosemary, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Libraries
Heuston, Maureen, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Retired
Hornung, Eva, DipBibl, MLIS, ALAI, Curriculum Development Unit, Dublin VEC
Hughes, Noel, MCLIP, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Ingram, Valerie M., MA, HDipEd, DLT, ALAI, Office of Public Works
Jacob, Lucinda, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Self-employed Children's writer/Illustrator
Joyce Walsh, Ann, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
Judge, Aisling, BAgSc, DLIS, ALAI, University of Glamorgan
Kavanagh, Mary, BA, LLB, FLAI, ALAI,
Kehoe, Anne Mary, MCLIP, ALAI,
Kerrigan, Cathal, BA, DipLib, ALAI, University College Cork
Kilcline, Helen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Kirwan, Eamonn, BA, MCLIP, ALAI, Cork City Libraries
Lennon, Richard B., BA, DLIS, ALAI, Institute of Technology Carlow
Linton, William D., BSc, BLS, MIBiol, CBiol, FCLIP, ALAI, HonFCLIP, Retired
Lonergan, P., ALAI, FLAI, Kildare County Library
Mawe, Shane, BSc (Econ) Lib & Info Studies, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
McCarthy, James P., MA, DLIS, ALAI, University College Cork
McDonald, Barbara, BA, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
McGarry-Sweeney, Patricia, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Radio Telefis Eireann
McHugh, Geraldine, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Libraries
McKeon, Suzanne, BA, HDipLib, Grad.Cert. Envir.Sc. ALAI, National Museum of Ireland
Morrow, Andrew, OBE, MCLIP, DLIS, ALAI, Retired
Morrow, Veronica, MA, DipLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Retired
Mullaney, Mairead S., BA, DLIS, MLIS, ALAI, Self-employed
Mullett, Catherine M., BA, MCLIP, ALAI, Fingal County Libraries

Neligan, Agnes, BA, HDipEd, MCLIP, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
 Ó Siocháin, Etaín, MA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
 O'Connell, Deirdre, BA, MLIS, ALAI, Retired
 O'Connell, Angela, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
 O'Connor, Thomas, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Leabharlann Chontae Chiarraí
 O'Daly, Colette, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, National Library of Ireland
 O'Kelly, Denis, BA, HDipEd, DipLib, MBA, ALAI, Murray O'Laoire Architects
 O'Reilly, Dorothy, DLIS, ALAI, Kilkenny County Library
 O'Suilleabhain, Sean, DLT, FLAI, ALAI, Leitrim County Library
 Paterson, Alasdair, MA, MLIS, ALAI, University of Exeter
 Payne, Valerie, BA, DipLib, MCLIP, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
 Peare, J.D. Trevor, BA, MSc, ALAI, FCLIP, Trinity College Dublin
 Percival, Hazel, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Wexford County Libraries
 Phillips, Sean, BA, ALAI, MCLIP, University College Dublin
 Prendergast, Mary, BA, DLIS, Dip Legal St, ALAI, Retired
 Purcell, Margaret, BA, DLIS, ALAI, MSc Educ & Training Management, HETAC
 Quigley, Patricia, BA, DLIS, ALAI, HDipAdEd, Jesuit Library, Dublin
 Quinlan, Finola, FLAI, ALAI, Cork Institute of Technology
 Rabbitt, Peter, BA, LLB, DLIS, ALAI, Galway County Library
 Riordan, Mary, BA, DLIS, ALAI, University College Dublin
 Ronayne, Liam, BCL, DipLib, ALAI, Cork City Libraries
 Shortall, Deirdre, BA, DLT, ALAI, Loreto College, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2
 Sliney, Marjory, MSocSc, DipLib, ALAI, MCLIP, Fingal County Libraries
 Tinney, Donal, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Sligo County Council
 Tipple, Lasairiona, MA, DipLib, ALAI, University College Dublin
 Turley, Elizabeth, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
 Walker-Headon, Niamh, BA, HDipLIS, ALAI, Institute of technology, Tallaght
 Walsh, Anne, BA, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
 Warner, Rosemary, MA, ALAI, DipLib, LLM

MEMBERSHIP LIST

Adams, Robin, BA, DLS, Trinity College Dublin
 Agar, Michelle, University College Dublin
 Agnew, Conor, BA, HDipLIS, Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland
 Aherne, Deirdre, Limerick County Council
 Altzinger, Marie, MA, DLIS, DipArchSt, ALCM, ALAI
 Armitage, Thomas, BA, DLT, FLAI, Retired
 Armstrong, Jonathan N., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Honourable Society of King's Inns
 Arnauld, Nicole, MA, HDipEd, DLIS, FLAI, Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland

Aston, Jennefer, BA, MSc, MCLIP
 Austen, Linda, MLIS, Project Management Ltd
 Ball, Jennifer, BA NatSc, DipLIS, Institute of Technology Tallaght
 Barrett, Bernard, BTh, DipLib, MCLIP, HSE-Mid Western Area
 Barrett, Julia, BMus, DLIS, MBA, University College Dublin
 Barry, Caroline, BA, MLIS, HSE-South Eastern Area
 Bateman, Dilys, BA, MLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Retired
 Bates, Jessica, BSocSc, MA (Info Studies), UCD Dublin School of Information & Library Studies
 Baxter, Ursula, BBS, DLIS, CDipAF, DCU Business School
 Beasley, Lynda, BA, HDipLIS, Fingal County Libraries
 Beaudry, Richard, Ecole Jules Quesnel
 Beausang, Áine, BSocSc, Roscrea Library
 Beirne, Sheila Boyd, BA, DLIS, Rathdown School, Glengearry
 Bennett, Breda, MA, DipLib, DipInfSt, St Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire
 Bergin, Angela, BSocEcon (Info & Lib Studies), Garda College, Templemore
 Bergin, Ken, DLIS, University of Limerick
 Bissett, Fran, BSc, DipAppSocSt, DipLIS, DipSupMgt, National Youth Federation
 Black, Jeremy, BA (Mod), DLIS, Fingal County Libraries
 Boardman, Betty, BA (Mod), DLIS, ALAI, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna
 Boland, Eithne M. BA, HDipEd, HDipLIS, Law Reform Commission
 Bolger, Jennifer, BA, Waterford Institute of Technology
 Bond, Vivien, MCLIP, The King's Hospital, Dublin
 Boran, Marie J., BA, MA, DLIS, NUI Galway, James Hardiman Library
 Bourke, Áine, UCD Medical Library
 Boyle, Lorraine, NatDipArt, Waterford City Council
 Boyle, Susan, BA
 Bracken, Diarmaid, BA, DLIS, Offaly County Library
 Bracken, Patrick, BA, Tipperary Libraries
 Brady, Ailish, BATH, HDipLIS, NUI Maynooth
 Brady, Damien, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Limerick County Library
 Brady, Donald, BA, DLT, ALAI, Waterford County Library
 Brady-Lennon, Josephine, DLIS, BA, Cavan County Library
 Breaden, Dara, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, St. Catherine's College of Education, Dublin
 Breathnach, Micheál, BLib MCLIP, M Equality Studies, Dublin City Public Libraries
 Breen, Michelle, BA, DLIS, Analog Devices
 Briggs, Kathryn, BSocSc, HDipLIS, Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
 Broderick, Mary B,
 Brophy, Ann Marie, BA, HDipLIS, Carlow County Libraries
 Browne, Kathleen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Kerry County Library
 Browne, Nora, MA, HDipEd, Dip. Lib., ALAI, Retired

Bryan, Leslie, MA, DipLib, MLIS, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
 Buck, Stephen, MLIS
 Buckley, Mary, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, National College of Ireland
 Buckley, Nicola, BA Info Studies, Wexford County Libraries
 Buggle, Jane, BA, DipLIS, MLIS, Portobello College, Dublin
 Burgess, Eileen, BLib, Donegal County Council
 Burke, Eimear, BA, MA, DLIS, St. Vincent's Hospital, Fairview
 Burke-Meegan, Marie A., MA, DLIS, University College Dublin
 Burke, Mary A., BSc, MSc, PhD, MCLIP, ALAI, UCD Dublin School of Information & Library Studies
 Burns, Jane, BA, MBA, DLIS, MLIS, ALAI, Irish Taxation Institute
 Burns, Sarah, BSocSc, Economic and Social Research Institute
 Butler, Mary, DLIS, ALAI, Roscommon County Library
 Buttimer, Rosarii, BA, HDipEd, HDCS, MLIS, University College Cork
 Cahalane, Peter, BA, DLT, ALAI, DIT Bolton Street
 Cahill, Caroline, Ulverscroft Large Print Books Ltd
 Cahill, Hugh, BA, MA, MA (LIS), Kings College, London
 Callanan, Anne Marie, BA, MA, Galway County Libraries
 Callanan, Michelle, MA, DLIS, Ernst & Young
 Callinan, Joanne, BSc, MLIS, St Vincent's Centre
 Campbell, Berni, BA, Donegal County Library
 Canny, Nuala, MLIS, Office of Public Works
 Cantwell, Jane, BA, DLIS, Waterford City Council
 Carbery, Alan, BA, MLIS, Bord Bia
 Carey, Brigid, BA, HDipEd, HDipLIS, Carlow Institute of Technology
 Carey, Margaret, BA, DipLib, FAS – Training and Employment Authority
 Carson, W.H.R., FCLIP, (Hon) FLAI
 Casey, David, BA, HDipEd, DipComp in Ed, DipISM, DIT Kevin Street
 Casey, Dolores, BA Public Admin, Cork County Library & Arts Service
 Casey, Hester, Davy
 Cashman, James Martin, BA, DLIS, MCLIP, Fexco
 Cashman, Michele, BSocSc, MLIS, Royal Irish Academy
 Cassidy, Jean, BA, DipLIS, Combat Poverty Agency
 Cassidy, Mairéad, BA, HDipLIS, Bord Bia
 Cassidy, Peadar, HDipLIS, Centre for Early Childhood Development and Education
 Cavanagh, Jerald, BSc Econ, MSc, Limerick Institute of Technology
 Clarke, Noreen, BA, MA, Meath County Libraries
 Cleary, Ann, BA, MLIS, Dundalk Institute of Technology
 Cleary, Kathleen, Westmeath County Libraries
 Coakley, Marian, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Fingal County Libraries

- Coghlan, Valerie, MSc (Econ), FLAI, FCLIP, Church of Ireland College of Education
- Cohen, Philip, BA, MSc, PhD, DipLib, MCLIP, Dublin Institute of Technology
- Coleman, Anne, BA, DLT, ALAI, Cork City Libraries
- Coleman, Síle, BA, South Dublin County Libraries
- Collins, Caroline, DipLIS, Daughters of Charity, Limerick
- Collins, Katherine, BA, HDipEd, DipLIS, Waterford City Libraries
- Collins, Sinéad, Cork County Library & Arts Service
- Collins, Timothy, BSc, HDipEd, DipLib, Dip Systems Analysis, FCLIP, NUI Galway
- Colton, Gillian, BA, MA
- Conefery, Mary, Leitrim County Library
- Connaughton, Paula, BA, DLIS, Longford County Council
- Conneely, Brid, BA, DLT, DipLib, Trinity College Dublin
- Conneely, Mary, DLT, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Connelly, Elizabeth, BA, MLIS
- Connolly, Aoife, DiplInfo Studies, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Conway, Mary, BSocSc, MA, Waterford City Council
- Corbett, Eileen, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Educational Research Centre, Drumcondra
- Corcoran, Mary, BA, DLIS, Cork City Libraries
- Corcoran, Neil, BCL, HDipLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Corridan, Anne, Retired
- Corrigan, Pauline, BA, DLT, FLAI, University College Dublin
- Cotter, Kate, BA, MPhil, HDipLIS, University of Limerick
- Coughlan, Anne, ALAI, Offaly County Library
- Cowley, Pat, BA, MLIS, St Michael's College, Dublin
- Cowman, Etta, Waterford City Library
- Cox, John, BA, MA, DLIS, MCLIP, NUI Galway
- Coyle, Betty, Cert. Lib & Info Studies, Louth County Library
- Coyle, Madeleine, MCLIP, Strabane District Council Area
- Craig, Anna, BA, MLIB, Kildare Library and Arts Service
- Creamer, Pat, BA, DipLIS, Trinity College Dublin
- Crichton, Rebecca, BA, HDipEd, Cork County Library & Arts Service
- Cronin, Breeda, BSc, HDipLIS, National Maritime College of Ireland
- Cronin, Christine, Cork County Library & Arts Service
- Cronin, Kieran
- Cronin, Niamh, Cork County Library & Arts Service
- Crowley, Noel, FLAI, Clare County Library
- Cuffe, Susan, BA, DLIS, Dublin City University
- Cullinan, Monica, MA, DipLib, University College Dublin
- Cummins, Julia, BA, DLIS, Farnleigh Library
- Cummins, Sinéad, Waterford City library
- Cunnane, Ciara, MScEcon (LIS), Donegal County Library
- Cunningham, Bernadette, BA, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Royal Irish Academy
- Cunningham, Bernadette, MEd, HDipLIS
- Curley, Florence, DipLIS, PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Curran, Lorraine, BA, DLIS, Freelance
- Curtin, Sinead, BCL, DLIS, Law Library
- Dalton, Julie, DLIS, Limerick City Library
- Daly, Carmel, BA, DLIS, Clare County Library
- Daly, Marie, FLAI, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Dean, John E., MA, MCLIP, ALAA, ALAI, Retired
- Deegan, Thomas, MLIS, DLIS, HDipEd, BA, Tipperary Institute
- Deegan, Tom, MLIS, DLIS, HDipEd, BA, Roscrea Bookshop
- Delaney, Mary, MLIS, NUI Maynooth
- Delany, Carol Anne, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI
- Dennison, Madelaine, BSocSc, DLIS, MCLIP, Office of the Attorney General
- Dillon, Margaret, BA (Mod), DLIS, Medical Library, Regional Hospital Limerick
- Dillon, Kevin, BA, DLIS, Economic and Social Research Institute
- Diver, Maeve, MSc (Info. & Lib.Studies), Letterkenny Institute of Technology.
- Doheny, Michael, DipLIS, Athlone Institute of Technology
- Doherty, Aoife, BA, MA, MLIS, Dublin Business School
- Dolan, Lisa, BA, HDipArchStud, Royal Irish Academy
- Donnelly, Joseph E., BA (Mod), MA, DLIS, Judges Library
- Doolan, Mary, BA, HDipEd, HDipLIS, Fingal County Libraries
- Doran, Beatrice, BA, MBA, DipLib, ALAI, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
- Downes, Isabella, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland
- Doyle, Clare, BA, TEFL, Cork City Libraries
- Doyle, Dolores, BA, DLIS, FLAI, ALAI, Limerick City Library
- Doyle, Gabrielle M., BSocSc, DLT, MLIS, St. Luke's Institute for Cancer Research
- Doyle, JW
- Doyle, Stephanie, BA.
- Drake, Marguerite, BA, HDipLIS, Fingal County Libraries
- Duffy, Denise, BA, DipLIS, University College Hospital Galway
- Duffy, John, BA (Mod), MSc, Oireachtas Library
- Duggan, Isabel, BA, DLIS, King's Inns
- Dullaghan, Damien, BA, DLIS, Limerick County Library
- Dundon, Mary, BA, HDipEd, DipLIS, University of Limerick
- Elliott, Catherine, BSocSc, Monaghan County Library
- Ellis, Fiona, BA (Info.Mgt), Barnardos, Dublin
- Ellis-King, Deirdre, BA, DipLib, MPhil, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Fagan, Domitilla, BA, MLIS, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna
- Fahey, Tommy, Waterford City Library
- Fallon, Helen, MA, DLIS, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
- Fanning, Teresa C., BA, DLIS, University College Dublin
- Farragher, Louise, MLIS, Health Research Board
- Farrell, Caroline, BSc.Econ (Info&Lib Stud), Kildare Library and Arts Service
- Farrell, Ciara C, BA, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Farrell, Helen, BA, HDipLIS, National Disability Authority
- Farrell, Lorna, BA, Westmeath County Libraries
- Farrell, Mary M., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Westmeath County Library
- Farrell, Richie, BA, DipLIS, Roscommon County Library
- Farrelly, Jane, MLIS, Portiuncula Hospital
- Faulkner, Susan, DipLIS, MCLIP, Sisters of Charity
- Fay, Nicola, BA, DLIS, Midland Health Board
- Feely, Sinéad, BA, DipLIS, Cork City Libraries
- Feeney, Suzanne, MA, DLIS, Our Lady's Hospital, Crumlin
- Ferguson, Lydia, BA, PhD, DLIS, Trinity College Dublin
- Fernandez, Simon, BA, MA, Trinity College Dublin
- Ffrench, Patricia, BA, DLIS, NUI Galway
- Finegan, Joanna, BDes, MLIS, National Library of Ireland
- Finneran, Tina, BA, Barnardos, Dublin
- Fitzgerald, Ann, BA, MA, MLIS, Kerry County Library
- Fitzgerald, Patrick, BA, DipILM, MA, MCLIP, HSE- Southern Area
- Fitzpatrick, Hilary, Church of Ireland College of Education, Dublin
- Fitzpatrick, Hugh M., BCL, MA, MLIS, MPhil, MSc, DLIS, ALAI, Solr, Self-employed
- Fitzpatrick, Olivia, BA, DLS, MCLIP, University College Cork
- Fitzpatrick, Siobhan, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Royal Irish Academy
- Fitzsimons, Maria, BA, DLIS, Dip Legal Studies, Chief State Solicitor's Office
- Flahavan, Carmel, DLT, BA, Carlow County Library
- Flanagan, Anne, ALAI, Sligo County Council
- Flanagan, Evelyn, BA, MA, HDipLIS, NUI Galway
- Flanagan, Nirvana, HDipLIS, Law Library
- Flanagan, Ruth, BA, DipLib, ALAI, Cork County Library & Arts Service
- Flanagan O'Keefe, Barbara, BA (Mod), DLIS, Galway Hospice Foundation
- Flannery, Gerard, BA, MLIB, Tipperary Libraries HQ
- Flannery, Lorna, BA, MA, HDipLIS, Mount Sackville Secondary School, Dublin
- Fleischmann, Isabel, BSc Econ (Lib & Info Stud), University College Dublin
- Fletcher, Valerie, BA, MCLIP, University College Cork
- Flood, Susan, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
- Flynn, Gabrielle, BA, DLIS, HDip. Computer Services, Leitrim County Library
- Flynn, Mary E., BA, DLT, ALAI, University College Dublin

Flynn, Ruth, Ernest & Young
Folan, Peter, MA, DLT, MLIS, Mater Dei Institute, Dublin
Foley, Joan, BSc, HDipLIS, Mount Anville Secondary School, Dublin
Foran, James, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Institute of Technology Sligo
Forde, Orlagh, BA (Info Studies), Cork County Library & Arts Service
Foster, Brid A, BA, DipLIS, Limerick Institute of Technology
Foster, Hazel, BA, DLIS, Dublin City Libraries
Foubert, Julie de, BA, MA, DLIS, PGC, Dublin Institute of Technology, Kevin Street
Franklin, Margaret M., BA, DipLIS, Limerick County Library
Frawley, Brenda, BA, HDipLIS, Limerick County Library
Fulton, Crystal, BA, MA, MLIS, PhD, UCD Dublin School of Information & Library Studies
Furlong, Justin, BA (Mod), DLIS, National College of Ireland
Gallagher, Bernie, DipLIS
Gallagher, Orla, BSocSc, DLT, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council
Galvin, Brian, MLIS, Health Research Board
Gammon, Matthew, BA, MA, MLIS, Roscommon County Library
Gannon, Anne, BSocSc, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
Garvey, Ann, BA, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
Gavin, Ursula, BA, DLIS, MLIS, Dublin Institute of Technology, Cathal Brugha St.
Gaynor, Mary, MA, DLIS, Law Society of Ireland
Geraghty, Aoife, MA, MLIS, University of Limerick
Gillen, Orla, BA, DLIS, Dept. of Foreign Affairs
Gilligan, Breeda, DLIS, ALAI, Roscommon County Library
Gleeson, Breda, DLIS, ALAI, Kildare County Library
Glennon, Mary, DipLIS, Enterprise Ireland
Glynn, Michael Jarlath, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Wexford County Library
Godkin, Sandra, BA (Mod), DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
Goldsmith, Ann, BSc, Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies
Goodwillie, John, BA, DLS, MCLIP, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
Grace, Mary, BA, DLT, University College Dublin
Gibbon, Jane, BA, DLS, University of Limerick
Griffin, Philip, BA, DLIS, Dip. Cat., Dip.G. Dublin City Public Libraries
Gunther, Cora, Galway Library Service
Hackett, Teresa, BA, DipLIS, DipLegStud, eFil.net Foundation
Haire, Muriel, BSc Econ LIS, Irish Nurses Organisation
Halpin, Amanda, BA, DipLIS, Dublin City University
Hanrahan, Fionnuala, BA, DipLib, MLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Wexford County Library
Hardiman, Nodlaig, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Hartnett, Nuala, DipLib, Kildare Library & Arts Service
Hassett, Brigid, BA, DLIS, Cork City Libraries
Hayes, Margaret, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
Headon, Niamh, BA, HDipLIS, ALAI, Institute of Technology, Tallaght
Healy, James, DLIS, BA, Irish Medicines Board, Dublin
Healy, Tina, BA, DipLib, Dip PA, Cork City Libraries
Hennigan, Irene, HDipLIS, Chief State Solicitor's Office
Hetherington, Rosemary, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Libraries
Heuston, Maureen, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Retired
Hickey, Peter, BA DLIS, University College Dublin
Hickey, Richard, MA, DLT, Mayo County Library
Higgins, Maire, BA, Grad DipTEFL, Dip Quality Management
Hogan, Clare, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries
Holian, Eileen, BA, MA, HDipLIS, Larkin Community College, Dublin
Hornung, Eva, Dip Bibl, MLIS, ALAI, Curriculum Development Unit, CDVEC
Hughes, Noel, MCLIP, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Hughes, Patrick
Hurley, Diarmuid, BA, Cork County Library & Arts Service
Hutton, Elizabeth, DLIS, Institute of Technology Carlow
Inchmore, Catherine R.S., BA, MLIS, Schutz American School, Alexandria, Egypt
Ingram, Valerie M., MA, HDipEd, DLT, ALAI, Office of Public Works
Ismail, Fiona, BA, DipILS, DipHRM, Dip. Archaeol, Limerick City Library
Ivory, Aileen, BA, DipLIS, MSc (ILS), Alexandra College, Dublin
Jacob, Lucinda, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Self-employed Children's writer/illustrator
Johnston, Deborah, BA, MPhil, Waterford City Library
Jones, Ciara, BA, DipMark, Mgmt, HDip LIS, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Public Libraries
Jones, Terri, BA, HDipLIS, Irish College of General Practitioners
Joyce Walsh, Ann, BA, FLAI, ALAI, GMIT
Judge, Aisling, BAgSc, DLIS, ALAI, University of Glamorgan, Wales
Kavanagh, Gillian, Aidan Heavey Public Library, Athlone
Kavanagh, Mary, BA, LLB, FLAI, ALAI
Keane, Elizabeth, NCHS DHHS NCBP, Galway County Libraries
Keaney, Frances, MLIS, Judges Library
Keaney, Marian, FLAI, LFIBA
Keating, Sandra, BA, DLIS, HSE-Midland Area, Tullamore
Keating, Siobhan, City and Guilds Library and Info.Assist.Cert, Teagasc
Keating, Una, BA, DipLIS, Carlow County Library
Kehoe, Anne Mary, MCLIP, ALAI
Kehoe, Ann, MA, DLIS, Coillte Teoranta
Kelleher, Mary, BA, DLT, DBR, Royal Dublin Society
Kelly, Aisling, Kilkenny County Council
Kelly, Anne, BA, DLIS, Allied Irish Banks
Kelly, Bernadette, BA, DLIS, Galway City Library
Kelly, Gráinne, BSc, PhD, HDipLIS, Marine Institute Library
Kelly, Joan, BA, HDipLIS
Kelly, Joan, BSocSc, HDipEd, Dip Teacher of Deaf, MLS, St Brigid's NS, Castlet Knock
Kelly, Kate, BA, DLIS, Work Research Centre, Dublin
Kelly, Margaret, BA, HDipLIS, Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children, Dublin
Kelly, Maria
Kelly, Marian, Tipperary Institute
Kelly, Marie, BA, DLIS, Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland
Kelly, Susan, BA, BS, HDipLIS, Wexford County Library
Kennedy, Brigid, NatCert, Lib & Info Stud, St. John of God Services
Kennedy, Catherine, DLIS, BEd, National Institute of Health Science, Limerick
Kennedy, Conor, BA, HDipLIS, Law Reform Commission
Kennedy, Maire, MLIS, PhD, Dublin City Public Libraries
Keogh, Emma, BA, MLIS, RTE Stills Library
Keogh, Sinéad, BSc, MSc, University College Dublin
Kerins, Gillian, BSocSc, HDipLIS, Institute of Technology Tallaght
Kerr, Maureen, BSc (Info & Lib Studies), Donegal County Library
Kerrigan, Cathal, BA, DipLIS, UCC
Keyes, Joe, DLIS, Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council
Kilcline, Helen, BA, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
Kilcullen, Maire, BSc (ILS), Institute of Public Administration
King, Hilda, BSocSc, DipLIS, Leitrim County Council
King, Rosemary, BA Heritage Studies
King, Sandra, BA, DLIS, Enterprise Ireland
King, Thomas, BA, MA, DLIS, Carlow County Library
King, Valerie, High School, Dublin
Kirby, Padraig, BA, HDipLIS, Limerick Institute of Technology
Kirwan, Eamonn, BA, MCLIP, ALAI, Cork City Libraries
Kirwan, Elizabeth M., BA, MA, MPhil, National Library of Ireland
Knight, Josephine, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Fingal County Libraries
Lambe, Josephine, Tipperary Institute
Lambe, Miriam, DLIS, DAS, BA, MA, Marino Institute of Education
Lantry, Margaret, MA, HDipEd, MLIS, MCLIP, Self employed
Lardner, Olivia, BA, HDipLIS, Chester Beatty Library
Larkin, Lisa, BA, HDipLIS, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Council
Lawler, Fiona, BA, MSocSc, HDipLIS, Our Lady's Hospice, Dublin
Lawler, Walter, BA, HDipLIS, Kilkenny County Libraries
Lawton, Aoife, BA, MLIS, HSE- Shared Services Eastern Region
Leavy-McCarthy, Paula, BBS, MBS, DLIS, Mayo County Council

Leen, Brendan, BEd, MA, MLIS, HSE- South Eastern Area, Kilkenny

Lennon, Richard B., BA, DLIS, ALAI, Institute of Technology Carlow

Letellier, Pascal, Documentalist/Librarian, Teagasc

Linnane, Tony, DipLIS, HSE-Western Area

Linton, William D., BSc, BLS, MIBiol, CBiol, FCLIP, ALAI, HonFCLIP, Retired

Lloyd, Joan Ann, BA, DLT, Retired

Loneragan, P., ALAI, FLAI, Kildare County Library

Long, Breda, BA, DLIS, University College Cork

Long, Graham, HDipLIS, O'Donnell Sweeney Solicitors

Looney, Patricia, BSocSc, DipLIS, Cork City Libraries

Lorente-Resina, Carmen, BL (Madrid) HDipLIS, Rome, Italy

Lucey, Niamh, BA, MLIS, St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin

Lydon, Andrea, MA, DipLIS, National Gallery of Ireland

Lynch, Áine, BA, HDipLIS, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown

Lynch, Lorraine, BA, HDipHeritage, HDipLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

MacLochlainn, Gráinne, BA, DipLIS, National Library of Ireland

MacRory, Catherine, BA, HDipEd, Donegal County Libraries

Madden, Anne, HDipLIS, BA, BSc (Mgmt), AHEAD

Maddock, Carol,

Maher, Gerard, LLB (Hons), DLIS, Laois County Library

Mangan, Ciaran, BA, MLIS, Meath County Library

Marnane, Frances, Tipperary Libraries

Martin, Brendan, BA, DLIS, Wicklow County Library

Matthews, Sam, BSc, MLIS

Mawe, Shane, BSc.Econ (Lib & Info Studies), ALAI, Trinity College Dublin

McCabe, Conor, St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin

McCabe, Gráinne, BA, DLIS, Mercer Library, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

McCaffrey, Ciara, MLIS, University of Limerick

McCarthy, Fiona, BA, HDipLIS, James Connolly Memorial Hospital

McCarthy, James P., MA, DLIS, ALAI, University College Cork

McCarthy, Louis, BA

McCarthy, Mary, BA (Mod), HDipLIS, Mason Hayes & Curran

McCartin, Caroline, Leitrim County Library

McClannon, Maire, BA, MPhil, DipLIS, Queen's University Belfast

McCrystal, Siobhan, BA, MSc (Lib & Info Studies), Stewarts Hospital, Dublin

McDermott, Norma, BA, DLIS, DipSocStud, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

McDermott, Sandra, BA, HDipEd, HDipLis, National Library of Ireland

McDonald, Barbara, BA, MA, DipLib, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin

McErlane, Monica, BA, DipLIS, Linen Hall Library, Belfast

McEvoy, Linda, BA, DLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

McGarry-Sweeney, Patricia, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Radio Telefís Éireann

McGennis, Frank, BA, MLIS, Urban Institute, University College Dublin

McGettigan, Ciara, MLIS, Honourable Society of the King's Inns

McGettigan, Natalie, MA, DipLib, MCLIP

McGlinchey, Margaret, FLAI, Retired

McGreevy, Joan, BA (Mod), DLIS, Enterprise Ireland

McGuinness, Anna Olive, Meath County Libraries

McHugh, Ellen G., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, Donegal County Libraries

McHugh, Geraldine, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Libraries

McIntyre, Jacqueline, BA, Offaly County Council

McKee, Janet W., BA, MA, PhD, MLIS, Retired

McKenna, Catherine, BA, MA, DLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries

McKeon, Suzanne, BA, DLIS, Cert in Envir.Sc, ALAI, National Museum of Ireland

McLaughlin, Mary, BA, Dublin City Public Libraries

McMahon, Anne, DLIS, University of Limerick

McMahon, Garret, MA, DLIS

McNamara, Niall, BA (Mod), MA, DLIS

McNutt, Helen, MScEcon (Info&Lib.Studies), Milford Community Library

McPhillips, Mary, DLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

McSweeney, Ann, BA, DLIS, MLIS, Dublin Institute of Technology

McSweeney, Dónal, BCL, DipLIS, Central Bank & Financial Services Authority of Ireland

Melvin, Mary C., MA, DLT, Retired

Mhic Aodhagáin, Áine, Dip Info Studies, St Francis Hospice, Raheny

Miller, Sue, BA (Mod), DipLIS, St. Andrew's College, Dublin

Millett, Rev. Benignus, OFM, (Hon) FLAI, BA, PhD, DLS, Franciscan Library, Dublin

Missteart, Gillian, BA (Mod), MA, LAIS, Wicklow County Council

Mitchell, Ann, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, James Hardiman Library, NUI Galway

Mockler, David, BSc, HDipLIS, Trinity College Dublin

Mooney, Senator Paschal, Seanad Éireann

Moore, Carmel, DLIS, Wicklow County Library

Moran, Kathleen, BA Public Admin, DLIS, Waterford City Library

Moran, Lorraine, MLIS, Dublin Dental School Hospital Library

Moran, Maureen, BA, FLAI, Galway County Library

Moran, Meliosa, DLIS, Roscommon County Library

Morgan, Caroline, FLAI, Sligo County Library

Morgan, Margaret, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, HSE-Midland Area

Morley, Fiona, BA, MA, DLIS, Legal Aid Board

Morrissey, Elizabeth S, BA, MLIS, St Andrew's College, Dublin

Morrissey, Fiona, BA (Lib), HDipLIS, LLB, Athlone Institute of Technology

Morrow, Andrew, OBE, MCLIP, DLIS, ALAI, Retired

Morrow, Veronica, MA, DipLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Retired

Mullan-Byrne, Catherine, BA, MLitt, Fingal County Libraries

Mullaney, Mairead S., BA, DLIS, MLIS, ALAI, Self-employed

Mullett, Catherine M., BA, MCLIP, ALAI, Fingal County Libraries

Mullins, John, BA, MComm, PhD, DLT, Cork City Libraries

Murdiff, Ann, Wicklow County Libraries

Murphy, Anne, BA (Mod), DLIS, Adelaide and Meath Hospital, Dublin

Murphy, Denis, BA, DLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

Murphy, Elizabeth, BA, DLIS, NUI Maynooth

Murphy, Joan, BA, DLIS, RTE Reference library

Murphy, Mary, BA, DLIS, Wicklow County Libraries

Murphy, Mary B., FLAI, BA, MA, St. Patrick's College, Thurles

Murphy, Paul, MLIS, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Murphy, Paula, BA, Dublin Institute of Technology

Murray, Mary C., DAdSc, DLIS, Kerry County Library

Murtagh, Noleen, DipLIS, Food Safety Authority

Murtagh, Thomas, BA, DLIS, MCLIP, Mayo County Library

Nash, Roisin, FLAI, Retired

Neligan, Agnes, BA, HDipEd, MCLIP, ALAI, NUI Maynooth

Ni Bhriain, Mairead, ACIS MBA, Central Bank of Ireland

Ni Chonallain, Máire, BA, DLIS, National Library of Ireland

Ni Thuama, Ide, BA, DLT, Retired

Ní Uigín, Renate, LLB, HDipLIS, Solicitor, William Fry Solicitors

Nic Aodha, Orla, MA, DipLIS, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra

Nic Aogáin, Muireann, BA

Noguchi, Emi, MLIS,

Nolan, Jane, BA, DLIS, University College Dublin

Nolan, Alison, BA, MSocSc, HDipLIS, National College of Ireland

Nolan, Jane, BA, DLIS, University College Dublin

Nolan, Shona, BA, Cert. Info & Lib.Studies, Trinity College Dublin

Norris, Kathryn,

Nugent, Annemarie, BSocSc, St Patrick's Hospital/Marymount Hospice, Cork

O'Brien, David G, BA, MSc (Econ), MLIS, Cork City Libraries

O'Brien, Eileen, MLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

O'Brien, Emer, BA, MSc (Lib), LL.M., Tipperary Joint Libraries Committee

O'Brien, Gearoid, DLIS, FLAI, Aidan Heavey Public Library, Athlone

O'Brien, Terry, BA, MA, DLIS, Waterford Institute of Technology

O'Byrne, Anne M, BSc Econ (Info & Library Studies), Dublin Dental Hospital

O'Byrne, Maureen, FLAI, (Hon) FLAI, Retired

O'Callaghan, Irene, BA, DipInfSt, Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland

O'Connell, Angela, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries

O'Connell, Deirdre, BA, MLIS, ALAI, Retired

O'Connor, Áine, BA, MA, MLIS, ARUP Consulting Engineers

O'Connor, Margaret, University of Limerick

O'Connor, Thomas, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Leabharlann Chontae Chiarraí

O'Daly, Colette, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, National Library of Ireland

O'Deorain, Francis, BSc, DipLib, University of Ulster, Magee Campus

O'Doherty, Margaret, BA, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Public Libraries

O'Doibhlin, Cronan, BA, MLIS, University College Cork

O'Doibhlin, Donna, BA, MBA, DLIS, Dundalk Institute of Technology

O'Donnell, Helen, HDLIS, Dublin City Public Libraries

O'Donnell, Kevin Maurice, BA, DipLIS (Wellington)

O'Donoghue, Emma, BCL, MLIB, Women's Health Council

O'Dornan, Paula, BA, LIS, Westmeath County Libraries

O'Flaherty, Colette, DipArchStud, National Library of Ireland

O'Flaherty, Micheál, BA, MA, Cork County Library & Arts Service

O'Gorman, Frances, BScEcon (Lib & Info Studies), Clare County Libraries

O'Gorman, Michael, DLIS, State Laboratory

O'Gorman, Sinead, BA, MPhil, MLIS, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

O'Grady, Emer, BA, MLIS, Wicklow County Libraries

O'Halloran, Marian, Dip SocStud, Cork County Council

O'hAodh, Micheál, PhD, DipLib, University of Limerick

O'Hara, Sandra, MLIS, Griffith College Dublin

O'Higgins, Sinead, BA, MSc (Econ), Waterford City Library

O'Kelly, Denis, BA, HDE, DipLib, MBA, ALAI, Murray O'Laoire Architects

Olden, Anthony, BA, MLS, PhD, FCLIP, Thames Valley University, London

O'Mahony, Erin, DLIS, Diageo

O'Mahony, Noel, DLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

O'Malley, Justine, Limerick County Libraries

O'Neil, Matthew David, Library Lic, Palm Harbour Library, Florida, USA

O'Neill, Catherine, FLAI, Trinity College Dublin

O'Neill, Eileen, BSc, Student

Ononogbo, Iroko George, MLS

O'Raghail, Muiris, BSc (Econ), MCLIP, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown County Library

O'Regan, Mairéad, DipLIS, Cork County Library & Arts Service

O'Reilly, Dorothy, DLIS, ALAI, Kilkenny County Library

O'Riordan, Gobnait, MA, DLIS, University of Limerick

O'Rourke, Julie, South Infirmary – Victoria Hospital, Cork

Orr, Diane, BA

O'Shea, Síle, BA, HDipLIS, Dublin Institute of Technology

O'Suilleabhain, Sean, DLT, FLAI, ALAI, Leitrim County Library

O'Sullivan, Aidín, BA, M.Litt, DLIS, DipMgt&IR, Institute of Technology Blanchardstown

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O'Sullivan, Eileen, Cork City Libraries

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O'Sullivan, Hanna, FLAI, Retired

O'Sullivan, Niamh, MA, DLIS, Irish Blood Transfusion Service

O'Sullivan, Noreen, BSc, Kerry County Library

O'Toole, Eleanor, BA, DLIS, Mayo County Library

Pan, Rosalind, MLib, University College Dublin

Paterson, Alasdair, MA, MLIS, ALAI, University of Exeter, England

Patton, Patricia, BBS, MLIS, Central Fisheries Board

Payne, Valerie, BA, DipLib, MCLIP, ALAI, NUI Maynooth

Peare, J.D. Trevor, BA, MSc, ALAI, FCLIP, Trinity College Dublin

Pender, Margaret, FLAI

Percival, Hazel, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Wexford County Libraries

Pfeifer, Caroline, DLIS, MLIS, BCL, Irish Hospice Foundation

Phillips, Sean, BA, ALAI, MCLIP, University College Dublin

PirkI, Trudi, BSc ILS, Institute of Public Administration

Prendergast, Mary, BA, DLIS, Dip Legal St, ALAI, Retired

Previs, Nancy, BA (Econ)

Prout, Antoinette, BA, DLIS, Irish Film Institute

Prout, Eithne, BA, Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown Public Libraries

Purcell, Margaret, BA, DLIS, ALAI, MSc Educ & Training Management, HETAC

Quigley, Patricia, BA, DLIS, ALAI, HDipAdEd, Jesuit Library, Dublin

Quinlan, Finola, FLAI, ALAI, Cork Institute of Technology

Quinn, Angela, Tipperary Institute

Quinn, Catherine, BA

Quinn, Charles, MA, MLIS, Fingal County Libraries

Quinn, Deirdre, BA, DLIS, Office of the Revenue Commissioners

Quinn, Donna, BScEcon (Info& Lib Stud), Donegal County Libraries

Quinn, Emma, MA, DLIS, Waterford Regional Hospital

Rabbitt, Peter, BA, LLB, DLIS, ALAI, Galway County Library

Reddan, Marie, FLAI, DLIS, DSA, NUI Galway

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Richardson, Jonathan, BSc, NUI Galway

Rickard, Bennery, BA, DLIS, HSE- Shared Services Eastern Region

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Robinson, Antoinette, BSc, MA, MLIS, Roscommon County Council

Robinson, Mary, MSc

Roche, Órna, BA, MA (Film Studies), Trinity College Dublin

Rogan, Maedbh, BSocSc, MBS, DipLIS, Meath County Libraries

Rogers, Nicola, BA, Dip.Inf.Studies, Dublin Adult Learning Centre

Rohan, Aileen, DLIS, Irish Nurses' Organisation

Ronayne, Liam, BCL, DipLib, ALAI, Cork City Libraries

Russell, Hugh, MCLIP, Retired

Russell, Philip, BA, HDipLIS, Institute of Technology Tallaght

Ryan-Jordan, Aileen., Tipperary Institute

Salholm, Evan, BA, MLIS, MCLIP, St. Patrick's Teacher Training College, Dublin

Sally, Edel, Westmeath County Libraries

Seabrook, Nicole, BA, MLIS, Trinity College Dublin

Sharkey, Caitriona, BA, DLIS, Ernst and Young

Sharkey, Thomas, Retired

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Sheils, Dymphna, BA, DLIS, HSE-North Eastern Area

Sheridan, Catherine, BA, HDipCompSc, MLIS, National Gallery of Ireland

Shields, Philip, BA, DLIS, Royal Irish Academy of Music

Shortall, Deirdre, BA, DLT, ALAI, Loreto College, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin

Shortall, John, BA, MSc (Lib&Info Stud), Carlow County Library

Shortt, Pádraig, BA, MA, HDipLIS, Allen Library, Dublin

Siney, Marjory, MSocSc, DipLib, ALAI, MCLIP, Fingal County Libraries

Smith, Kathryn, BSc, HDipLIS, Trinity College Dublin

Spillane, Samantha, Tipperary Institute

Stack, Pádraig, HDipLIS, Arup Consulting Engineers

Steele, John, BA, MLIS, DipLib, FLAI, CDipAF, LLB, University College Dublin

Stobart, Ian, BA (Lib), South Dublin County Libraries

Stuart, Mary, DipLIS, Westmeath County Library

Swords, Kieran, BSc (Info&Lib Stud), South Dublin Libraries

Teeling, Brendan, MA, DLIS, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

Tierney, Ann, BA, DLIS, HSE-South Eastern Area, Kilkenny
 Tierney, Sheila, BA, DLIS, Louth County Library
 Tinney, Donal, BA, DLIS, ALAI, Sligo County Council
 Tipple, Lasairiona, MA, DipLib, ALAI, University College Dublin
 Toland, Grace, BA, DipLIS, Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies
 Toner, Pamela, BA, Wicklow County Libraries
 Touhy Harrington, Breda, Kenmare Library
 Tracey, Dymna, Loreto Abbey Secondary School, Dalkey
 Traxler Brown, Barbara, PhD, BA, FRSA, UCD Dublin School of Information & Library Studies
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 Tunney, Carolyn, BSc HDipLIS, Roscommon County Libraries
 Turley, Elizabeth, BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Dublin City Public Libraries
 Twomey, Eleanor, BA, Cork City Libraries
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 Vahey, Josephine, BA, DLIS, LLB, Galway City Library
 Wallace, Bernie, BSc Econ (Info & Lib Studies), Cork County Library & Arts Service
 Walsh, Anne, BA, MA, DLIS, ALAI, Trinity College Dublin
 Walsh, James, FLAI, Fingal County Libraries
 Walsh, Niamh, BA, MA, HDipLIS, NUI Galway
 Walsh, Sharon, BDes, MA, HDipLIS, Wicklow County Libraries
 Walsh, Teresa, BA, DLIS, South Dublin Libraries
 Ward, Ann, BA, DLT, Louth County Library
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 Ward, Jamie, BA, MLIS, Dundalk Institute of Technology
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 Whelan Richardson, Regina, MA, DLIS, ALAI, NUI Maynooth
 White, Fiona, BA, HDipLIS, Department of the Taoiseach
 Whittington, Teresa, MA, DipLIS, Dip Trans, Central Catholic Library, Dublin
 Wiggle, Penny, B Nurs.Stud, Lib Studies Cert (NZ), Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Dublin
 Wilcox, Anita, MA, DipLIS, University College Cork
 Woods, Concepta, BScEcon (Lib & Info Stud), Dundalk Institute of Technology
 Woods, Penelope, BA, DEd, DLIS, NUI Maynooth
 Wyrnn, Shirley Evelyn, MSc Econ (Info & Lib Stud), Galway Mayo Institute of Technology

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