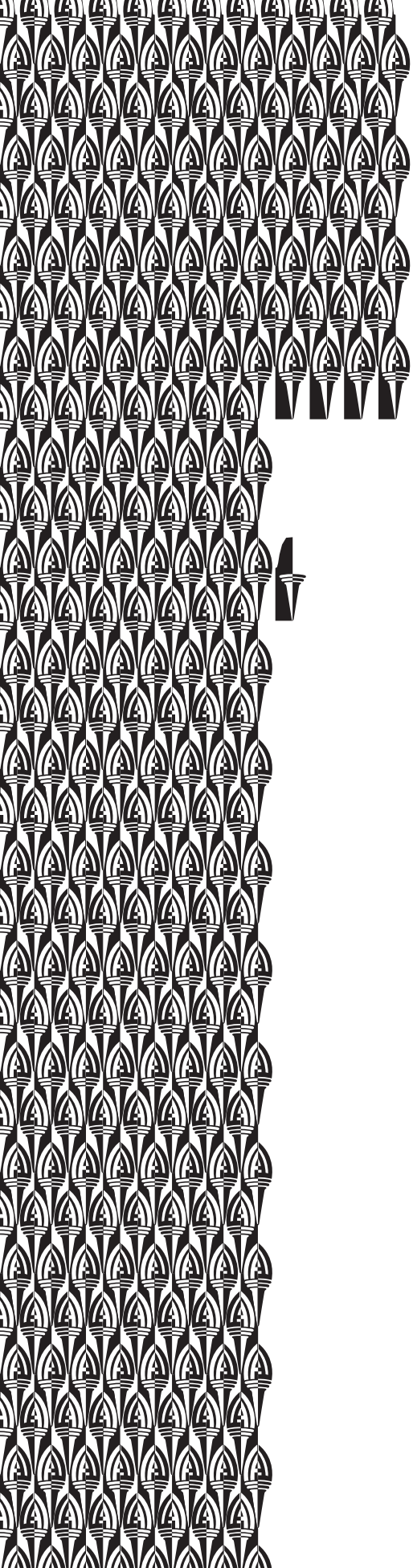


**Library Association of Ireland**

*Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann*







**The Library Association of Ireland**  
CUMANN LEABHARLANN NA HÉIREANN

53 Upper Mount Street  
Dublin 2

Annual Report 2009

©The Library Association of Ireland 2010

ISSN: 0791-6248

[www.libraryassociation.ie](http://www.libraryassociation.ie)

Design by David Cooke

Printed by Dual Print

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## Honorary Officers and Executive Board 2009/2010

### Honorary Officers 2009/2010

- President: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Librarian, Royal Irish Academy*  
 Vice-Presidents: *Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, Wexford County Library* *Jane Cantwell, City Librarian, Waterford City Council Library Service*  
 Hon. Secretary: *Kieran Swords, Acting Senior Executive Librarian, South Dublin County Libraries*  
 Hon. Treasurer: *Hazel Percival, Executive Librarian, Wexford County Library*  
 Hon. Auditor: *Gerard Maher, County Librarian, Laois County Library Service*

### Executive Board 2009/2010

- Mary Burke, School of Information and Library Studies, University College Dublin*  
*Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Council Library Service*  
*Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology*  
*Carmel Daly, Clare County Library Service*  
*Deirdre Ellis-King, Dublin City Public Libraries*  
*Joseph Donnelly, Judges' Library*  
*Louise Farragher, Health Research Board*  
*Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Royal Irish Academy (Chair)*  
*Ruth Flanagan, Cork County Council Library and Arts Services*  
*Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin County Libraries*  
*Fionnuala Hanrahan, Wexford County Library*  
*Pat Lonergan, Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services*  
*Mary Murphy, Meath County Library*  
*Áine O'Connor, School of Information and Library Studies, University College Dublin*  
*Willie O'Dowd, Longford County Library*  
*Gobnait O'Riordan, University of Limerick*  
*Michael Plaice, Cork County Council Library and Arts Services*  
*Liam Ronayne, Cork City Council Library Service*  
*Marjory Sliney, Senior Librarian, Fingal County Libraries*  
*Kathryn Smith, University College Dublin*  
*Brendan Teeling, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna*

The Executive Board met six times during their term.

11 June	Royal Irish Academy
10 September	An Chomhairle Leabharlanna
15 October	Royal Irish Academy
26 November	Royal Irish Academy
14 January	Royal Irish Academy
11 February	Royal Irish Academy

#### ATTENDANCE RECORD

Mary Burke (3)	Ruth Flanagan (3)	Hazel Percival (4)
Jane Cantwell (3)	Catherine Gallagher (4)	Michael Plaice (4)
Philip Cohen (4)	Fionnuala Hanrahan (3)	Liam Ronayne (1)
Carmel Daly (3)	Pat Lonergan (1)	Marjory Sliney (5)
Deirdre Ellis-King (6)	Mary Murphy (3)	Kathryn Smith (1)
Joseph Donnelly (3)	Áine O'Connor (0)	Kieran Swords (6)
Louise Farragher (4)	Willie O'Dowd (1)	Brendan Teeling (2)
Siobhán Fitzpatrick (6)	Gobnait O'Riordan (3)	

#### DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

Jane Clavin

The Development Manager attends meetings of the Executive Board.

# Foreword



2009 has witnessed many upheavals at national level which have impacted on libraries across the spectrum – we have experienced reductions in opening hours, cuts in funding, a recruitment embargo, redundancies, pay cuts, travel restrictions. Yet, as our Annual Report demonstrates, the Library Association of Ireland continues to fly the flag for library and information service provision across the country. The Association via its Groups and Sections continued to provide opportunities for networking as well as valuable CPD courses, seminars and conferences. The vibrancy and pertinence of our Groups and Sections are elaborated in this report. It is heartening that so many of the Groups are cross-sectoral in composition, viz. the Genealogy and Local History Group, the Rare Books Group, the Western and Munster Regional Sections *inter alia*. This reflects the national thrust towards more cross-sectoral access (the Pathways to Learning initiatives etc.) and bodes well for the future.

Some Groups and Sections are more financially secure than others by virtue of their composition, size and geographical catchment areas. Others are less well-funded, hence they appear to be less well positioned to offer courses and conferences to their members. The fact that the Association has a membership base of over 600 means that there are many opportunities for creative and imaginative approaches in organising activities: it would be cost-effective and advantageous in many ways for Groups to occasionally explore and engage in collaborative exercises which would have the effect of enhancing the range of activities they can offer whilst encouraging greater communication between sectors.

The Meitheal Oibre na Gaeilge has made an appeal to refresh its membership. This is an opportunity for those of you who may not yet have participated in a Group to offer your services now. The Meitheal is another example of a Group which invites cross-sectoral participation.

Library Ireland Week in March, to which all Groups and Sections of the Association contributed, continues to focus on all types of library services, showcasing the tremendous range of activities, services and expertise offered by Irish libraries. The professional work of Irish librarians, library initiatives and analysis are showcased in our bi-annual journal, *An Leabharlann*, which goes from strength to strength.

Throughout this year the Executive Board has laid great emphasis on fostering clear lines of communication between the Groups and Sections and the Board, and on encouraging greater communication between the Groups. The Joint Annual Conference provides opportunities for members to engage in networking and learning activities as well as to volunteer speakers for Members Day sessions. We would like to see even greater participation in the coming year.

Three task forces are currently engaged in:

- Reviewing the website with a view to improving it as a working and communications tool
- Taking forward the report of the Working Group on Information Literacy
- Conducting a radical review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association

Finally, the Association maintains a watching brief on matters of relevance to the various sectors, for example the provision of funding for school library services, the need to maintain adequate funding for electronic research resources in the academic sector, the need to maintain professional posts in specialist, governmental and health services in order to guarantee cost-effective and timely information provision. In relation to CPD accreditation, the Education Committee has held initial discussions with the Academic and National Libraries Training Consortium and looks forward to progressing these during the coming year. European Union initiatives relating to copyright law and the Google Book Search Settlement Agreement are just some of the issues which have been addressed by the European and International Panel.

There is still much to be done: I am confident that the commitment of the membership will remain firm and that 2010 will be as successful and productive as the year's work recorded herein.

Siobhán Fitzpatrick  
*President*

# Annual General Meeting 2009

The Annual General Meeting took place on Thursday 5 March 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy, Dawson Street, Dublin. Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Librarian, Royal Irish Academy was returned as President. Fionnuala Hanrahan, Wexford County Librarian was returned as Vice-President (Senior), and Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Librarian was elected as Vice-President (Junior). Kieran Swords, Acting Senior Executive Librarian, South Dublin County Libraries was elected Honorary Secretary and Hazel Percival, Executive Librarian, Wexford County Library, was returned as Honorary Treasurer. Gerard Maher, County Librarian, Laois County Library Service, was returned as Honorary Auditor.

## Resolutions Passed at the meeting for action by the Executive Board

1. That this Annual General Meeting requests that the Executive Board organises, manages and promotes the following annual meetings:
  - a. Sections and Groups Chairs with the President or Vice-President of the LAI;
  - b. Sections and Groups Secretaries with the Hon. Secretary of the LAI;
  - c. Sections and Groups Treasurers with the Hon. Treasurer of the LAI.

The purposes of these meetings being:

- a. To foster and develop improved working relationships, communication and understanding between the nominated officers of the LAI Sections and Groups and the Executive Board.
- b. To ensure governance exists across all areas of the LAI
- c. To introduce standardised procedures, documents and templates to assist with the organisational management of the Sections and Groups. That these meetings be held ideally in the second quarter of the year, following the AGM and prior to the November meeting of the Executive Board with the Sections and Groups.

*Proposed by Ann O'Sullivan and seconded by Louise Farragher. Carried by the meeting.*

2. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to lobby the Government to ensure that library services in all public and private sectors will continue to be supported and resourced adequately.

*Proposed by Deirdre Ellis-King, seconded by Pat Lonergan. Carried by the meeting.*

3. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to review the structure and content of the current LAI website and produce a development report with recommendations for adoption at the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

*Proposed by Áine O'Connor, seconded by Ann O'Sullivan. Carried by the meeting.*

4. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to call on the Minister for Education and Science to provide continued funding for the Irish Research Electronic Library (IREL).

*Proposed Kathryn Smith, seconded by Eva Hornung. Carried by the meeting.*



**Deirdre Ellis-King, outgoing President presenting the President's Chain of Office to Siobhán Fitzpatrick**



5. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to call on the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Education and Science to apply a rate of zero tax on electronic educational resources, to include: online databases, electronic books and electronic journals.  
*Proposed by Eva Hornung, seconded by Ann O'Sullivan. Carried by the meeting.*
6. That this Annual General Meeting requests that the Executive Board on behalf of the Library Association of Ireland, as the main representative body of library and information professionals in Ireland, undertake a campaign to raise awareness among employers in all



**Members of the  
2009/2010  
Executive Board:  
Front Row L to R:  
Áine O'Connor,  
Deirdre Ellis-King,  
Siobhán  
Fitzpatrick.**

**Middle Row:  
Catherine  
Gallagher,  
Pat Lonergan,  
Kathryn Smith,  
Louise Farragher,  
Mary Burke,  
Mary Murphy,  
Ruth Flanagan**

**Back Row:  
Kieran Swords,  
Joseph Donnelly,  
Marjory Slaney,  
Jane Clavin,  
Liam Ronayne,  
Brendan Teeling,  
Hazel Percival,  
Michael Plaiice.**

**Missing from  
photograph:  
Philip Cohen,  
Carmel Daly,  
Fionnuala  
Hanrahan,  
Willie O'Dowd  
and Gonnait  
O'Riordan**

sectors, of the roles and skills of library and information professionals, and the necessity to employ qualified library staff for professional posts. Specifically, that the incoming Executive Board is requested to engage with all potential employers to employ qualified librarians for professional posts and to advertise such posts appropriately.

*Proposed by Ann O'Sullivan, seconded by Louise Farragher. Carried by the meeting.*

7. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to call on the Minister for Education and Science to restore support to local authorities to provide primary school library services.  
*Proposed by Fionnuala Hanrahan, seconded by Thomas O'Connor. Carried by the meeting.*
8. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to call on the Minister of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government to continue to improve the capital programme grant for public libraries as communities need libraries even more in a time of recession.  
*Proposed by Jane Cantwell, seconded by Deirdre Ellis-King. Carried by the meeting.*
9. That this Annual General Meeting requests the Executive Board to conduct a review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Library Association of Ireland. Proposed by the Executive Board.  
*Proposed by Deirdre Ellis-King, seconded by Ruth Flanagan. Carried by the meeting.*

### **Associateship**

Bernard Barrett (Health Service Executive-West) was presented with his Certificate of Associateship at the meeting.

**Siobhán  
Fitzpatrick,  
President,  
presenting ALAI  
Certificate to  
Bernard Barrett,  
HSE Mid-West,  
Limerick**



# Joint Conference

Deirdre Ellis-King (Dublin City Public Libraries), Siobhán Fitzpatrick (Royal Irish Academy), Elga Logue (CILIP Ireland – Conference Secretary), Katherine McCloskey (Chair, CILIP Ireland), Mary Murphy (Meath County Libraries – Programme Secretary) formed the Joint Conference Organising Committee.

The CILIP Ireland/LAI Annual Joint Conference 2009 took place in the Hilton Hotel, Lanyon Place, Belfast from Wednesday 29 April to 1 May. The conference, entitled ‘Managing Change in the Information Age’ attracted more than 100 delegates from all sectors and from across the island – as well as representatives from England, Wales and Scotland plus some 20 exhibitors, from a wide range of library suppliers.

The very timely Opening Address was given by Paul Sweeney (Permanent Secretary, Northern Ireland Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure) in which he referred to the digital revolution that is radically changing both work and leisure. Libraries are often at the forefront of such change – not only as a vital information resource but also as a source of spiritual well-being. During difficult times, conferences like this help to lay foundations for the future. That future brings new challenges, of course, but new opportunities as well.

Irene Knox (Chief Executive of the new Northern Ireland Library Authority – Libraries NI  $\frac{1}{4}$  (<http://www.librariesni.org.uk>)), further developed the theme of change when she spoke of the exciting time ahead for public libraries in the North. Key principles include regional planning, equitable provision, sharing best practice, community engagement and service delivery tailored to local need, in partnership with other local agencies wherever possible. Performance indicators and impact factors to show the contribution of libraries to priority government agendas are essential, as are substantial staff training and development to promote a shared common vision. Knox concluded that major change cannot be imposed: “you have to bring people along with you”.

Madelaine Dennison (Head of the Oireachtas Library and Research Services), picked up where Irene Knox left off by describing in detail the process whereby a reactive “members’ reading room” changed rapidly to become a pro-active information service. Library and research functions are now integrated to provide a seamless centralised service to users, with all staff having a client-facing role. Again, Dennison emphasised the need for impact factors to demonstrate added value and for staff training in core values and competencies.

The second day of conference began with Siobhán Fitzpatrick’s LAI Presidential Address which again referred to the current rapid rate of change. That has greatly facilitated the finding of information but it has also increased the need for interpretation and evaluation skills. Lifelong learning is recognised as a core activity by both LAI and CILIP. Co-operatively driven initiatives and easy access to e-resources are also key activities and Fitzpatrick cited several current projects which represent best practice e.g. Inspire Foyle, PAL and RASCAL. All library sectors – public, academic and special – on both sides of the border are contributing to such ventures. Indeed, co-operation and collaboration are essential to ensure our users can access the information they need, particularly in a time of reducing budgets: ‘let us continue to work together, to address change and to face the challenges of the future’.

Biddy Fisher (CILIP Vice-President) gave a wide-ranging paper on professionalism, ethical standards, codes of conduct and the public good. The CILIP Body of Professional Knowledge (<http://www.CILIP.org.uk/qualificationschartership/bpk>) distinguishes librarians from other professionals and helps us to identify the unique added value that we provide. Finally, Fisher predicted that compulsory CPD will be introduced by CILIP in order to ensure its members maintain the essential skills required by the ever-evolving work of the future.

Jane Ohlmeyer (Professor of Modern History at Trinity College, Dublin), described a number of current initiatives to digitise historical resources from European libraries, archives and museums. Funding is available but Irish involvement is limited. Consequently, Ohlmeyer argued persuasively for a more co-ordinated strategy, sustainable national infrastructure and greater effort to supply content to Europeana (<http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>).



**Professor  
Alastair  
McCleery,  
COLICO Annual  
Lecture**



The COLICO Annual Lecture was given by Alistair McCleery (Director of the Scottish Centre for the Book) on the theme of ‘Small nation publishing’. In today’s global economy, in which it is hard for small enterprises to survive it is increasingly difficult to sustain the production of books by local authors on local topics. But public sector support for Scottish writers and publishers has successfully increased consumer choice there, whilst Canada – especially Quebec – has a thriving publishing industry due to intervention at both national and provincial level. McCleery concluded by suggesting that libraries have a crucial role in supporting such work.

Workshops on the second day were many and varied. They covered professional competencies and CPD; library and information research; strategic planning, service evaluation and government support; building refurbishment, digitisation and One Book projects; partnerships between libraries and the BBC; provision of business information.

The conference dinner was hosted by Belfast City Council in the sumptuous surroundings of the Harbour Commissioners Office where the Honourable, the Lord Mayor of Belfast, Tom Hartley and his fellow councillors welcomed the delegates warmly and Councillor Harley spoke with the utmost conviction on the value of libraries to the citizen. Gifts from Belfast City Council to the Library Association were accepted by the President, who presented the Lord Mayor with a copy of the Royal Irish Academy’s recent library publication.

The final day saw visits to Bangor Carnegie Library and Belfast Central Library, both impressive and instructive in equal measure.

Sincere thanks are recorded to our CILIP Ireland colleagues, Ms Katherine McCloskey (Chair) and Ms Elga Logue, conference secretary, Ms Mary Murphy, programme secretary, and to the staff of Belfast Libraries, the N.I. Tourist Board, Belfast City Council and the staff of the Lord Mayor’s Office, as well as the staffs of the Bangor Carnegie Library and Belfast Central Library for ensuring the success of the conference.

Overall, the Conference was extremely well-organised, interesting and informative. All the speakers showed real passion for libraries and librarianship, in their numerous guises. There was something for everyone, with a lot packed into just a short time. And it was very enjoyable too.



**Margaret  
Forrest,  
Katherine  
McCloskey,  
Siobhán  
Fitzpatrick,  
Biddy Fisher**

# Library Ireland Week

## Libraries for Life, 2 -8 March

As a platform to acknowledge the work of libraries every day, in every sector throughout the island, Library Ireland Week was a resounding success. 204 events were organised island-wide, as listed on the Library Ireland website ([www.libraryirelandweek.ie](http://www.libraryirelandweek.ie)) with representation from 18 counties. The range of facilities, resources and services identified was diverse, but no more than the norm for any modern, developed library community. In terms of numbers of activities, the public library sector dominated with events ranging across literature, life-long learning, leisure, the environment, the Irish language e-resources and other aspects of local culture. These appealed to the general public or to targeted sectors such as second chance learners, entrepreneurs,

**Deirdre Ellis-King addressing the attendance at the launch of Library Ireland Week in the Royal Irish Academy**



**Ryan Tubridy launching Library Ireland Week 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy**



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**Left to right: Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Ryan Tubridy and Deirdre Ellis-King at the launch of Library Ireland Week 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy**

**At the launch of Library Ireland Week 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy: Left to right: Linda Bennett (Institute of Technology Tallaght), Nora White (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies), Margaret Kelly (Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies), Noreen Barrett (Institute of Technology Tallaght)**

families, etc. Less extensive perhaps but equally significant was the contribution of the academic, government and special sectors. One of the many examples of provision was the workshop on 'Research Services to Parliamentarians' provided by the Oireachtas Library & Research Service. While this type of provision is routine in many libraries discretely serving institutionalised communities, the Week gave such work important profile to the wider public that benefits from the application of complex library and research services to aspects of economic and cultural development.

Mentoring and networking within the profession was an important aspect of the programme with the Academic and Special Libraries Section taking the lead. Its Careers Breakfast in University College Dublin, School of Library & Information Studies, provided a forum for experienced professional librarians to share their career paths and advise with students and to offer guidance on job-seeking to upcoming graduates. On a lighter note and on another day, the Section's Committee organised a Quiz Night in The Vaults: a great turn-out ensured a fun night.

Bibliophile and Irish media personality, Ryan Tubridy, launched the Week in the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin on 26 February.

The Management Team for Library Ireland Week was led by Kathryn Smyth, University College Dublin. Louise Farragher, Health Research Board, developed the website. Publicity materials extended the 2008 Silent/Listen theme. Administrative support was provided by the Association's Development Officer, Jane Clavin.

Plans for Library Ireland Week 2010 are underway: it is scheduled for 8-13 March.



**Marjory Sliney, Áine O'Connor, Anne O'Sullivan and Aoife Connolly at the launch of Library Ireland Week 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy**



**Margaret Hayes, Philip Cohen, Deirdre Ellis-King and Brendan Teeling at the launch of Library Ireland week in the Royal Irish Academy**



**Gerry Hoban editor of the Irish genealogy series *Who do you think you are?* visits the Institute of Technology, Tallaght. Left to right: Philip Russell Deputy Librarian, Niamh Walker-Headon, Gerry Hoban, Brian Mullen and Linda Bennett**

# Committees and Panels of the Executive Board

## Education Committee

*Mary Burke, Philip Cohen, Joseph Donnelly, Deirdre Ellis-King (Chair), Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Mary Murphy, Áine O'Connor and Marjory Sliney (Secretary).*

During the year, the Committee met four times. At the 2009 AGM, Bernard Barrett (HSE-West) was presented with the certificate of Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland.

Four CPD courses were approved. These included three organized by Sections/Groups and one organized by the Acquisitions Group of Ireland (AGI).

- Introduction to Acquisitions (Acquisitions Group of Ireland)
- Effective Coaching & Mentoring Techniques for Managers and Team Leaders (HSLG)
- Critical Appraisal Skills (HSLG)
- Web 2.0 tools to promote you and your information service (HSLG)

A list of currently approved CPD courses is available on the website. The Committee welcomes enquiries from any Group or Section or any LIS body outside the Association structure which wishes to have CPD courses approved. At the time of writing, the Association has had discussions with the Academic and National Library Cooperative Training (ANLTC) and it is hoped that progress can be made on giving accreditation to CPD courses in the context of SILS accreditation.

## European and International Panel

*Jenny Aston, Jane Cantwell, Joseph Donnelly, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Liam Ronayne, Marjory Sliney (Convenor) and Brendan Teeling.*

The Panel conducts all of its business electronically.

At European level, all LIS associations have been monitoring the Google Book Search Settlement Agreement. The Association endorsed the EBLIDA Position Statement on the Settlement especially in relation to monopoly, control, privacy and censorship. <http://www.eblida.org/uploads/eblida/10/1252227760.pdf>

The Association's concern on the impact of the settlement on European authors and publishers and the possible effects of the latter on libraries was noted.

## The Vienna Declaration ...

([http://www.conference.bvoe.at/docs/Vienna\\_Declaration.pdf](http://www.conference.bvoe.at/docs/Vienna_Declaration.pdf)) was agreed at the joint EBLIDA/NAPLE conference in Vienna. EBLIDA suggested that all European LIS associations should lobby their MEP candidates on this declaration. Several candidates replied assuring the Association of support on the issues raised in the Vienna Declaration: White Paper on public libraries in the knowledge society; knowledge centres; copyright issues and European projects.

## International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA)

The World Library and Information Congress: the 75th IFLA General Conference and Assembly was held in Milan from 23-27 August. The theme of this year's conference was 'Libraries create futures: building on cultural heritage'.

LAI members Monica Cullinan (University College Dublin) and Marjory Sliney (Fingal County Libraries) attended the main conference. Some LAI members also attended pre-conference satellite meetings. Madelaine Dennison (Oireachtas) attended the Library and Research Services for Parliaments Section conference in Rome. Eva Hornung (Curriculum Development Unit, CDVEC) spoke in Bologna at a joint meeting of the CPD and Workplace Learning Section and the New Professionals Discussion Group.



## **Finances and General Purposes Committee**

*Deirdre Ellis-King, Louise Farragher, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Ruth Flanagan, Fionnuala Hanrahan, Áine O'Connor, Hazel Percival, Michael Plaice, Liam Ronayne, Marjory Sliney, Kathryn Smith, Brendan Teeling. Jane Clavin, Development Manager attends meetings of the Finances and General Purposes Committee.*

The Finances and General Purposes Committee (FGP) has a wide-ranging remit which includes administrative matters such as finance, governance, membership and publications. The committee met six times in the period April 2009 to January 2010, in advance of Executive Board meetings.

The FGP, in conjunction with the Honorary Treasurer of the Association, monitors the finances of the Association, which remain in a healthy state. This year's financial commitments included the publication of two issues of *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library*, payment of the Development Manager's salary and general administration of the association.

The committee also provided support for the committees, Groups and Sections involved in running Library Ireland Week. The FGP was involved in progressing motions carried at the AGM and in setting up and monitoring the work of the task forces related to the Executive Board's mandate.

The President held discussions with JSTOR with a view to having *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library* digitised.

On the recommendation of the FGP the Executive Board approved a once-off contribution of €250 towards an Irish *Information Literacy Practitioner of the Year Award* in conjunction with CONUL for the Librarians Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC) taking place at Limerick in March 2010.

The FGP oversaw the development of disability-proofed headed notepaper and compliment slips for the Association. Following requests from Groups and Sections, matching templates were prepared, thus ensuring consistent branding across the Association's Groups and Sections.

The AGM requested that Executive Board organise, manage and promote annual meetings of chairs of Groups and Sections with the President or Vice-President of the LAI, meetings of secretaries of Groups and Sections with the Hon. Secretary of the LAI and meetings of treasurers of Groups and Sections with the Hon. Treasurer of the association. The FGP facilitated and organised a number of meetings which proved to be very useful.

To honour Professor Mary Burke's contribution to the work of the Association on her retirement from University College Dublin School of Information and Library Studies, the committee recommended to the Executive Board that a contribution be made to the scholarship fund for postgraduates initiated by Prof. Burke.

## **North - South Liaison Committee**

This committee was convened to organise the joint conference which took place in Belfast, the report of which appears earlier in this publication. The committee comprising Deirdre Ellis-King, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Elga Logue, Katherine McCloskey and Mary Murphy, met on a number of occasions in 2008-9, in Dublin and Belfast.

## **Task Force on Information Literacy**

*To advance recommendations of the LAI WGIL report in seeking a national Information Literacy strategy for Ireland*

WGIL: Working Group on Information Literacy was established on foot of a resolution at the Association AGM in 2005. The Group met regularly from 2006 onwards and submitted a comprehensive report to the Executive Board in 2009. The report reviewed current IL activity in Ireland – across all sectors – and made recommendations for further action.

Philip Cohen, member of Executive Board, agreed to refine the WGIL report by updating the research data, prioritising the key recommendations and developing suggested actions to deliver those recommendations.

That work is almost complete. Members of the original Working Group and members of the Executive Board will then meet to form *TFIL: Task Force on Information Literacy* to review findings



of the WGIL report, prioritise its recommendations, progress those that appear easily achievable, propose an action plan for others, identify resource requirements for future work.

TFIL is to report to the Executive Board by early 2010.

### **Task Force on Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Library Association of Ireland**

Members: *Jane Cantwell, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Fionnuala Hanrahan, Joseph Donnelly, Hazel Percival, Liam Ronayne, Marjory Sliney, Kieran Swords.*

The Task Force on the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Library Association was formed following a motion at the 2009 AGM which requested the Executive Board to conduct a review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Library Association of Ireland.

The following terms of reference were drawn up by the Task Force and approved by the Executive Board.

The Task Force met 5 times during 2009 but will not be in a position to bring a final report to the 2010 AGM.

### **Terms of Reference of the Task Force on the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Library Association of Ireland**

1. To review the current Memorandum and Articles of Association in terms of: the role, functions and procedures of the Association, including reviewing the following:
  - membership, including categories of membership;
  - accreditation and education;
  - finance;
  - activities;
  - structure (panels, committees and task forces);
  - officerships;
  - formalisation of FLAI and ALAI;
  - relationship to fraternal and to sister organizations.
2. To seek expert advice, which may include legal advice, as may be required.
3. To compile a report with suggested amendments/additions/deletions as may be deemed necessary and to present this to the AGM for ratification.

In order to complete the task research was allocated to the members of the committee:

- study the rules and regulations of sister associations;
- study the Rules and Regulations of Irish professional associations;
- review specialist areas;
- an appeal for suggestions via Leabharlann-e.

### **Task force on the Development of the LAI Website**

Members: *Mary Burke, Aine O'Connor, Jane Clavin, Louise Farragher, Brendan Teeling (Website Administrator)*

The Task Force on the LAI Website comprises members of the LAI Executive Board along with the Development Manager and reports directly to the LAI Executive Board. The goals of the Task Force are:

- To review existing LAI website and make long term and short term recommendations for the ongoing management and development of the site;
- Consult with LAI members and other relevant stakeholders on the future development and use of the website.
- Underpinning the work of the taskforce is the commitment to propose solutions which should emphasise the use of low cost, open access solutions that minimize the cost to the association.

The Group has met twice and conducts the majority of its work via email and through an online project management system.



## **Representing the Association**

### **Nominees and Members of External Committees**

Advisory panel to SILS University College Dublin: *Ruth Flanagan, Deirdre Ellis-King.*

Age and Opportunity, Bealtaine Festival Organising Committee: *Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, Wexford County Library until June 2009, Helen Walsh, County Librarian, Clare County Library Service from July 2009.*

An Chomhairle Leabharlanna: *Deirdre Ellis-King, Ruth Flanagan.*

Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO): *Philip Cohen.*

European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA): *Marjory Sliney.*

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: the Irish Library Editorial Board: *Helen Fallon, Kate Kelly, Micheál Ó hAodha, Marjory Sliney (editor), Brendan Teeling.*

Local Government Anti-Poverty Learning Network: *Brendan Martin, Austin Vaughan.*

Newsplan: *Marjory Sliney.*

North-South Liaison Committee (to May 2009): *Deirdre Ellis-King, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Mary Murphy, Brendan Teeling.*

Standing Committee on Public Library Staff Training and Development: *Pat Lonergan, Austin Vaughan.*

EBLIDA World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services (WTO/GATS): *Liam Ronayne.*

### **Conferences**

EBLIDA Council, 7-8 May, Vienna, Austria: *Marjory Sliney.*

Welsh Libraries, Archives and Museums Conference, Llandridod Wells, 21-22 May: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick.*

CILIP Scotland Annual Conference, Peebles, 1-3 June: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick.*

International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) General Assembly, 26-27 August, Milan, Italy: *Marjory Sliney.*

Public Libraries Section Conference, Ashbourne, 5-6 November: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick.*

### **Functions at which the LAI was represented**

Opening of the European Association for Health Information and Libraries conference in Dublin Castle: *Fionnuala Hanrahan.*

Civic Reception to mark the European Association for Health Information and Libraries Conference: *Deirdre Ellis-King.*

University College Dublin event to mark the retirement of Professor Mary Burke: *Marjory Sliney.*

Meeting with Professor Diane Sonnenwald re CPD Courses at School of Information and Library Studies, University College Dublin: *Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Deirdre Ellis-King.*

### **Publications**

*Annual Report 2008.* Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2009, ISSN 0791-6248.

Leabharlann-e: 11 issues published in 2009. Library Ireland Week, Posters and Postcards.

*An Leabharlann: the Irish Library* – 2 issues: Vol. 18 (1) and (2).

# Groups and Sections

## **The Academic and Special Libraries Section (A&SL)**

- Chair: *Ann O'Sullivan (Houses of the Oireachtas)*  
Secretary: *Margaret Kelly (School of Celtic Studies, DIAS)*  
Treasurer: *Aoife Connolly (PricewaterhouseCoopers)*  
Committee: *Jane Burns (Irish Taxation Institute), Marie Cullen (National University of Ireland, Maynooth), Eva Hornung (Curriculum Development Unit, City of Dublin VEC), Seán Hughes (Trinity College, Dublin), Áine O'Connor (University College Dublin, SILS), Erin O'Mahony (Houses of the Oireachtas), Caitriona Sharkey (Ernst & Young), Kathryn Smith (University College Dublin), Grace Toland (Irish Traditional Music Archive). At the AGM, the following committee members stepped down: Olivia Fitzpatrick (University College Cork), Patrick Hughes (Setanta Sports), Graham Long (Citizens Information Board)*  
Membership: 315

### **AGM 2009**

The Annual General Meeting of the A&SL Section took place on Wednesday, 17th June 2009 in the Royal Irish Academy. The guest speaker, Cathal McCauley (University Librarian, NUI, Maynooth) delivered an interesting and insightful presentation on 'The present state and future of libraries and librarians'. This was followed by a Reception hosted by the A&SL Committee.

### **Annual Seminar 2009**

The 2009 Annual Seminar, 'Book to Button: Transitions in Library Service Delivery' was held on 12 February in the Radisson SAS Royal Hotel, Dublin.

The keynote speakers were Jenny Craven (Manchester Metropolitan University) and Adrian Arthur (Head of Web Services, British Library). There were also four case studies presented by: James Molloy (University College Dublin), John Duffy (Law Library), Georgina Byrne (South County Dublin Library Service) and Jane Burns (Irish Taxation Institute).

The speakers explored the theme of current trends in technologies and the impact of this on the changing roles of information professionals.

Copies of the presentations are available on the A&SL page of the LAI website. A Conference report by Áine O'Connor was published in *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library*, vol 18(2): 46-47.

The Section's contribution to Library Ireland Week is listed in the Library Ireland Week report.

### **Informal Network Evenings**

A visit to the Irish Traditional Music Archive was held on 20 August 2009. An entertaining and insightful tour of the Archive was given by staff. This was followed by refreshments in the Pembroke Bar on Pembroke Street.

The Joint Christmas networking evening, organised with the Health Sciences Library Group (HSLG) was held on 2 December 2009 in the RIA. Guest speaker, was Madelaine Dennison, Head of Library and Research Services, Houses of the Oireachtas.

### **LAI and CILIP Ireland Joint Conference**

Caitriona Sharkey and Áine O'Connor, from the A&SL Committee attended the Joint Conference on 30 April (Member's Day). They used the outputs from the workshops at our 2007 Annual Seminar on change management, *Shifting Sands: Experiencing Change in the Library*



**Siobhán Fitzpatrick  
and Brid McGrath  
at the A&SL  
networking  
evening in the  
Royal Irish  
Academy**

and Information Environment, as a basis for devising a presentation plus an interactive group session. Caitríona led a workshop on 'Competencies for information professionals in challenging times'; Áine helped to facilitate the discussion.

### Meetings and Representations

The Committee met on 11 occasions since the last meeting of the Committee of the Groups and Sections with the Executive Board in November 2008.

The committee also held a strategic planning meeting on 7 July 2009.

A&SL sent representatives to the following meetings:

1. Meeting with Executive Board of the LAI, 26 November 2009. The officers and two committee members attended the annual meeting of the Committees of the Groups and Sections with the Executive Board.
2. LAI AGM, March 2009. Ann O'Sullivan, Kathryn Smith, Áine O'Connor and Eva Hornung attended the AGM in the Royal Irish Academy. The committee proposed 5 motions, all of which were passed.
3. Meeting of the Sections and Groups Officers with the Executive Board Officers. The Officers attended the meetings of chairs, secretaries and treasurers respectively and agreed that these meetings were beneficial to the workings of the committees and look forward to the continuation of these meetings in the future.

### Discussion List

The A&SL maintained its mailing list which is open to members of the A&SL Section. To subscribe send an email to [asl-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie](mailto:asl-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie)



**A&SL and HSLG Committee members pictured with Siobhán Fitzpatrick, President at the joint networking evening held in the Royal Irish Academy in December.**

**Back left to right: Eva Hornung, Ann O'Sullivan, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Bríd McGrath, Louise Farragher, Aoife Lawton. Front: Erin O'Mahony and Margaret Kelly**



**Delegates at the A&SL and HSLG joint networking evening held in the Royal Irish Academy in December**

## **Cataloguing and Indexing Group (CIG)**

- Chair: *Hugh Murphy (University College Dublin)*  
Secretary: *John McManus (Trinity College, Dublin)*  
Treasurer: *Christoph Schmidt-Supprian (Trinity College, Dublin)*  
Committee: *Marie Jennings (Mater Dei Institute), Jennifer McGrath (Houses of the Oireachtas), Mary Broderick (National Library of Ireland), Dot Porter (Digital Humanities Observatory), Justin Furlong (National Library of Ireland), Eoghan Ó Carragáin ((National Library of Ireland), Caleb Derven (University College Dublin)*  
Membership: 118

2009 marked a busy year for the Cataloguing and Indexing Group (CIG). It began on 23 March with an informal event at the RIA where Dot Porter of the Digital Humanities Observatory gave a lecture on the topic of 'DHO, metadata, and possibilities for digital collaboration in Ireland'. The talk attracted some 50 attendees and gave those present an opportunity to network with colleagues from other institutions.

22 members enjoyed a visit to the Chester Beatty Library in July and were given a fascinating tour of the collection by Charles Horton, Curator of the Western Collections.

In response to feedback from members a Library of Congress Subject Headings training course, delivered by Keith Trickey (Liverpool John Moores University), was held on 8 September in the NLI. The course was fully subscribed and well received, with 23 attendees from around the country.

The National Library of Ireland also hosted the Group's annual seminar in November. Entitled 'The Future of Cataloguing', the 36 attendees were treated to a series of stimulating talks from the following speakers: Gordon Dunsire (Centre for Digital Library Research, University of Strathclyde), Claire Dupont (Library, Université Catholique de Louvain), Dot Porter (DHO), Katherine McSharry (Sources Project, National Library of Ireland), Orna Roche (University College Dublin) and Grace Toland (Irish Traditional Music Archive). A lively panel discussion was held at the end of each session.

## **County and City Librarians' Section**

- Chair: *Austin Vaughan, Mayo County Library.*  
Vice-Chair: *Donal Tinney, Sligo County Library.*  
Secretary: *Georgina Byrne, South Dublin County Libraries.*  
Treasurer: *Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Library.*  
Membership: 30

The Annual General Meeting of the County and City Librarians Section (CCLS) was held in Tullamore, Co. Offaly, in October 2009, with the above officers elected.

Significant issues discussed by the members during the year, included: Public Library Research Fund application, School Library Services, Training, Borrowbooks, the Irish Joint Fiction Reserve Scheme, and Cross-border co-operation.

Many CCLS members attended the CILIP Ireland/LAI Annual Joint Conference 2009 'Managing change in the information age' in Belfast from 29 April to 1 May. During the conference, Laurence Kelly, Principal Officer at the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, lead a workshop on *Branching Out: Future Directions*.

Issues addressed included the Library building capital programme and the revision of departmental procedures for grant applications. Both of these are subject to constraints, the former due to funding and the latter by law and practice. However, the Department is committed to maximising resources around the country and supporting achievable projects, where possible.

Assurance was given of support from Ministers and the Department for the essential role of libraries in society with particular recognition of the contribution of libraries to social inclusion,

lifelong learning, service delivery through ICT, the dissemination of environmental information and the promotion of active citizenship.

This workshop provided an excellent opportunity to discuss the implementation of the new policy and identify priorities. Support was also assured for the proposal to set up a working committee with representatives of the Department, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, and members of this Section.

An introductory meeting with Irene Knox, Chief Executive of Libraries Northern Ireland, and Helen Osborn, Director of Service Delivery Libraries NI was scheduled alongside the conference. An update on the implementation of the new public library structure in Northern Ireland was given and areas of potential Cross-Border co-operation identified. A sub-group of the CCLS meets with Northern Ireland colleagues to develop areas of common interest in the public library sector, and a number of CCLS members are also on COLICO (Committee on Library Co-Operation) where wider library and information issues are progressed.

The title of the Autumn Seminar, held in Tullamore in October, was 'Leadership in this challenging environment'. The programme was lead by Dr Pauline Connolly and Siobhán Bradley of the Institute of Public Administration and sessions included 'Perspectives and insights into effective leadership', 'Adaptive leadership', 'Reflection on current challenges and innovative practices', and 'Case consultation'. The keynote address was given by Joe Horan, South Dublin County Manager – 'Innovation and change in local government'.

The Section welcomed Georgina Byrne, Bernadette Fennell, Mary Stuart and Helen Walsh appointed as South Dublin, Louth, Offaly and Clare County Librarians respectively.

To mark their retirement and to honour their contributions to the development of the public library service, presentations were made to Ann Coughlan, retired Offaly County Librarian and Jim Fogarty, retired Kilkenny County Librarian.

To celebrate 50 years in the library supply business, upon his retirement, a presentation was made to Celsus Brennan, Eblana Library Supply Ltd., in recognition of the company's role supporting the development of the Association in its early years.

### **Genealogy and Local Studies Group (GenLoc)**

- Chair: *Monica Cullinan (University College Dublin)*  
 Vice-Chair: *Jeremy Black (Fingal County Libraries)*  
 Secretary: *Síle Coleman (South Dublin County Libraries)*  
 Treasurer: *Crystal Fulton (University College Dublin)*  
 Committee: *Marie Boran (NUI Galway), Mary Conefrey (Leitrim County Library Service), Mario Corrigan (Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services), Carmel Flahavan (Carlow County Library Service), Evelyn Flanagan (University College Dublin), Inez Fletcher (National Library of Ireland), Miriam Lambe (Marino Institute of Education), Gearóid O'Brien (Westmeath County Library Service), Colette O'Flaherty (National Library of Ireland) and Kieran Swords (South Dublin County Libraries).*  
 Membership: 89

The committee met 5 times.

### **Publishing Seminar**

On 26 March 2009, the Group, in association with the National Library of Ireland, presented a day-long seminar entitled 'Local History Publishing in Ireland'. Dr Marian Lyons (History Department, St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra) opened the seminar by giving delegates an overview of local history publishing in Ireland. She was followed by Willie Nolan (University College Dublin and local history publisher) who spoke about 'Academic local history publishing'. Kieran Hoare (Galway Archaeological and Historical Society) then gave a very practical presentation on 'Local history journals: publication economics, methods and formats'. Three case studies in local studies and local history publishing were presented by Joseph Forde of the Loughrea History Project, Kieran Swords of South Dublin County Libraries and Bernadette

Marks from Swords Historical Society. The final talk was given by Noeleen Dowling who is a journalist and book reviewer, on what she considers to be a good local history publication. The seminar was followed by the national launch of the *Annals of Ballitore*, written by the Irish Quaker, Mary Leadbetter, which was published by Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services.



**Pictured at the AGM of the Genealogy and Local Studies Group in Marsh's Library. Front Row: L to R Inez Fletcher (National Library of Ireland), Deirdre Shortall, Sile Coleman (South Dublin County Libraries), Monica Cullinan (University College Dublin), Siobhán Fitzpatrick (President, Library Association of Ireland), Gearoid O'Brien (Westmeath County Library Service), Evelyn Flanagan (University College Dublin). Back Row: Jeremy Black (Fingal County Libraries), Tony Storan (Limerick County Council Library Services)**

### Visit to Aidan Heavey Library, Athlone

In June 2009, the committee travelled to Athlone. A committee meeting was held, followed by lunch and the committee was then given a guided tour of the Aidan Heavey Collection by Gearóid O'Brien. The collection contains about 18,000 items, representing the fruits of over 40 years of collecting by businessman Aidan Heavey, and is regarded as one of the finest private libraries in Ireland. The committee is grateful to Gearóid and his staff for the warm welcome and instructive tour.

### Group contact with LAI Executive Board

The officers of the Group met with their respective counterparts on the LAI Executive Board in a series of meetings organised by the Executive Board. GenLoc officers reported on these meetings to the GenLoc committee and they were considered to be helpful and worthwhile meetings.

### Thanks

Thanks to the committee members for their work throughout the year, particularly those from outside Dublin who travel to attend meetings and events.

Especial thanks are due to the National Library of Ireland for their generosity in facilitating our events and committee meetings throughout the year.

### Forthcoming events and activities

A seminar on transport entitled 'From Here to There: Irish Transport History and Sources' which was planned for October 2009 will now be held during Library Ireland Week in March 2010. The Group plans to introduce a Local Studies Publication Award. This is being researched at present.



## **Government Libraries Section (GLS)**

- Chair: *Zoe Melling (Legal Aid Board)*  
 Hon. Sec and PRO: *Conor McCabe (Office of the DPP)*  
 Treasurer: *Laura O’Broin (Houses of the Oireachtas)*  
 Committee: *Maire Caffrey (Teagasc), Nuala Canny (OPW), Jean Cassidy (Department of Social and Family Affairs), Joseph Donnelly (Judges’ Library), Mary Doyle (Department of Agriculture and Food), Valerie Ingram (OPW), Frances Keaney (Judges’ Library), Donal McSweeney (Central Bank), Noeleen Murtagh (FSAI), Anne Wilkinson (Marine Institute).*  
 Membership: 76

### **AGM**

The GLS held its AGM in June in the OPW and was well attended by members.

### **Officers**

Zoe Melling, Legal Aid Board, Conor McCabe, Office of the DPP and Laura O’Broin, Houses of the Oireachtas, began the second year of their terms as Chair, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer respectively. Joe Donnelly, Judges’ Library was re-nominated to the Executive Board.

The Section’s contribution to Library Ireland Week is noted in the Library Ireland Week report.

Major issues of interest to the GLS this year included copyright, professional standards for librarians within government organisations (including qualifications, continuing professional development, salaries) and creation of a union catalogue.

Issue 17 of GLINT, the GLS newsletter, was published in April. See <http://www2.libraryassociation.ie/2009/04/20/glint-17-published/> Contents included articles on official publications on Government Department websites, use of Cardbox Database Software for updating an Intranet, a summary of the GLS seminar on Publishing Government E-Information, an overview of the BIALL Annual Study Conference, and news snippets of interest to GLS members.

## **Health Sciences Libraries Section**

- Acting Chairperson and Treasurer: *Brian Galvin (Health Research Board)*  
 Vice-Chair: *Louise Farragher (Health Research Board)*  
 Secretary: *Michael Doheny (Athlone Institute of Technology)*  
 Communications Officer: *Susan Boyle (University College Dublin)*  
 Continuing Professional Development: *Fiona Mc Carthy (Temple Street Children’s Hospital)*  
 Committee : *Catherine Kennedy (National Institute of Health Sciences, HSE West), Majella King (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology)*

Membership: 86

The committee met 5 times.



**Group shot with the minister: Enda Connolly, Louise Farragher (Health Research Board); Beatrice Doran (RCSI/Beaumont Hospital); Minister for Health and Children, Mary Harney; Suzanne Bakker (President, EAHIL); Paul Murphy (Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland); Dr Stephen Simpson (Science Foundation Ireland)**

The single event which stands out in a very eventful year was Minister Harney's eloquent endorsement of the work of health information professionals during her opening address to the EAHIL Workshop in June.

It was an acknowledgment of the work we do, the importance of our role in the health services, and was a moment of pride and optimism for us in a difficult year.

The EAHIL Workshop was something of a high watermark in the development of the HSLG. While we should take immense pride in this achievement we also need to think carefully about our next stage of development.

We will re-emphasize the importance of our CPD work and it will continue to be a core function of the Group. We will endeavour to find creative and innovate ways to continue our work in this area.

## Reports from Committee Officers and Working Groups

### COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER REPORT

2009 saw the formation of the *Health Information and News and Thinking* (HINT) Working Group to help with the production of the growing newsletter. The working group adopted a style guide for the newsletter in order to streamline content. Two issues of HINT were published in 2009.

The aim for the Communication Officer in 2010 is to focus on a campaign to encourage more members to contribute to and get involved in HINT. The plan is to draw on the expertise and talent of the new working group to make the newsletter even more dynamic, relevant and useful for the members.

In what has become an annual event, HSLG once again joined forces with our colleagues in the Academic and Special Libraries Group to organise the Joint Christmas Network evening at the Royal Irish Academy in December 2009. We are grateful for the support of the Royal Irish Academy for providing access to a great venue.

### HINT WORKING GROUP MEMBERSHIP

- *Susan Boyle*
- *Louise Farragher*
- *Catherine Kennedy*
- *Majella King*

### CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP (CPDWG)

*Fiona McCarthy, Team leader (on leave), Aoife Lawton, Kathryn Smith, David MacNaughton, Acting team leader, David Mockler, Dymphna McGettigan, Anne Madden*

The economic situation in 2009 informed much of the activities of the continuing professional development Working Group (CPDWG). With training budgets in the HSE suspended, it proved difficult for members to obtain funding for training. As a result the CPDWG decided to run only three courses:

- Developing and Delivering Effective Training  
*Trainer: Dr. Jacqueline Potter*
- Critical Appraisal Skills  
*Trainer: Alain Besson.*
- Web 2.0 Tools to promote you and your library  
*Trainer: Louise Farragher*

All courses were fully booked. In 2010 the group will be running three courses, introducing online training and contributing to CPD sessions during the HSLG 2010 conference. Our primary objective is to offer high quality courses, pertinent and relevant to HSLG members.

### EAHIL WORKSHOP 2009 LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

*Paul Murphy (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland), Chairperson, International Programme Committee; Louise Farragher, (Health Research Board), Chairperson, Local Organising Committee; Michael Doheny (Athlone Institute of Technology); Gabrielle Doyle (St. Luke's Institute of Cancer*



*Research and St. Luke's Hospital); Brian Galvin (Health Research Board); Muriel Haire (Irish Nurses Organisation); Niamh Lucey (St. Vincent's Hospital); Anne O'Byrne (Rotunda Hospital), EAHIL Council member; Julie Hayes (South Infirmary-Victoria University Hospital); Caroline Pfeifer (Irish Hospice Foundation); Kathryn Smith (University College Dublin).*

Joined by over 260 delegates from 31 countries, the EAHIL 2009 Workshop, held in Dublin Castle, was the culmination of over 3 years' work by the Organising and Programme Committees. The success of the Workshop could not have been achieved without the tremendous support of EAHIL, the Executive Board, EAHIL President Suzanne Bakker, and LAI past President, Deirdre Ellis-King.

There were two Irish winners of the four Workshop awards:

- Best Paper Presentation was won by Muriel Haire, Irish Nurses Organisation.
- Best Poster Presentation was won by Susan Boyle (UCD).

HSLG was very happy to offer 10 bursaries to support its members: Leona Burgess, Joanne Callinan (Milford Care Centre), Jennifer Collery (University College Dublin), Denise Duffy (HSE West), Jane Farrelly (HSE South), Isabel Fleischmann (Dublin Dental Hospital), Jim Healy (Irish Medicines Board), Grace Hillis (Daughters of Charity Service) Tom Martin (Tallaght Hospital).



**Susan Boyle,  
University  
College Dublin**



**Above: Muriel Haire, Louise Farragher and Susan Boyle**



**Left: Bernard Barrett Bursary winners (left to right) Leona Burgess; Isabel Fleischmann (Dublin Dental Hospital); Jennifer Collery (University College Dublin); Jane Farrelly (HSE South); Denise Duffy (HSE West); Joanne Callinan (Milford Care Centre); Grace Hillis (Daughters of Charity Service)**

## **Meitheal Oibre na Gaeilge**

Baill de Mheitheal Oibre na Gaeilge: 41

Bhí seimineár ag Meitheal Oibre i Leabharlann Sráid an Phiarsaigh, Baile Átha Cliath ar an 26 Feabhra 2009. Seo é an clár a bhí ann:

- Lecture by Seán Ó Súilleabháin, Leitrim County Librarian, entitled ‘The Irish Language in Libraries’
- Discussion on the promotion of the Irish Language within the Library service
- Election of a committee for the Irish Language Group

D’éirigh Eibhlín Ní Dhonncha as oifig mar Chathaoirleach ag an am céanna. Rinne Eibhlín sár-obair mar Chathaoirleach agus mar bhall de Mheitheal Oibre le linn tréimhse de bhlianta. Tá Meitheal Oibre díbheo faoi láthair ach tá go leor daoine ins na leabharlanna go bhfuil spéis faoi leith acu sa Ghaeilge agus tá sé i gceist Coiste nua a bhunú san ath-bhliain.

## **Munster Regional Section**

Chairman:	<i>Paul Cussen (Cork City Libraries)</i>
Vice-Chair:	<i>Ruth Murphy (Cork Institute of Technology)</i>
Secretary:	<i>Matthew Farrell (Cork City Libraries)</i>
Treasurer:	<i>Orlagh Forde (Cork County Library and Arts Service)</i>
Committee:	<i>Dolores Casey (Cork County Library and Arts Service), James Cashman (Fexco), Rebecca Crichton (Cork City Libraries), Elizabeth Desmond (Cork County Library and Arts Service), Sinead Feely (Cork City Libraries), David O’Brien (Cork City Libraries), Bernie Wallace (Cork County Library and Arts Service)</i>
Membership:	52

The Munster Regional Section represents the interests of LAI members working in the South of Ireland. The Section organises 3 activities annually, including a one day seminar, a series of evening lectures, social gatherings, and visits to libraries and other places of interest. The group aims to inform and educate library staff in the Munster region, as well as providing opportunities for social interaction. A committee is elected at the AGM and all LAI members are welcome.

### **Annual General Meeting:**

The Annual General Meeting took place on Wednesday the 13th of May and was hosted with the kind permission of Cork City Council in Tory Top Road Library, Cork City.

After an opening address from the out going Chairman, David O’Brien, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers for the coming year.

The meeting was followed by a tour of the design award winning Library with an open discussion hosted by Mary Corcoran.

The meeting agreed to follow with established patterns and to hold a full meeting of the officers and the committee a month later to discuss plans for the year ahead.

### **Activities and Events**

The committee has formally met twice in 2009 and in the meetings they have discussed the economic difficulties and how that may affect attendance at events and training. The committee examined the activities organised by the group and agreed to organise some free evening events instead of the annual day seminar to allow people attend. The first evening seminar will take place in early 2010 due to availability of speakers. They also agreed to hold the delayed Annual Trip in the summer of 2010.

The group also supported the promotion of other library events such as Confessions of a Mobile Library event in April 2009 as part of World Book Fest events in Cork City Library.

This year’s Charity Table Quiz took place in the Spailín Fánach, Cork City, on Thursday 5 November. The quiz was strongly attended by over 40 people and generated €550.00 between the entrance fee and a ‘spot-prize’ raffle. The proceeds of the Charity Quiz were donated by the Chairperson in person to St. Mary’s Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels, Hollyhill/ Knocknaheeny.

## **Annual Seminar**

It was decided by the Committee and attendants to host the Munster Regional Section Annual Seminar in the spring of 2010.

## **Prison Libraries Group**

Chair: *Sandra Godkin (Dublin City Public Libraries)*  
Vice-Chair: *Liam Ronayne (Cork City Council Library Service)*  
Secretary: *Matthew Gammon (Roscommon County Library Service)*  
Membership: 13

## **AGM**

The AGM was held in April 2009 at which the above officers were elected. At the request of the group Sadie Ward-McDermott, the new Coordinator of Education with the Irish Prison Service, attended the meeting. After initial discussions about developing a five-year plan, it was decided to start by setting up a working group to develop a document outlining the objectives of the Group.

## **Meetings and Representations**

The group held a second meeting in June. The working group sent out a questionnaire to members and met to discuss the responses. As a result of the meeting a draft Mission Statement was circulated to members. In May, Matthew Gammon represented the Group at the AGM and Training Day of the Prison Libraries Group of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. In September, Sandra Godkin met with other Chairs and Siobhán Fitzpatrick, President of the LAI. In November the Group was represented at the Executive Board meeting with Groups and Sections.

## **Developments**

As part of the development of library services at Castlerea Prison, an Assistant Librarian was appointed in January and the Library Service was launched in September by the Minister for Justice, Dermot Ahern. Work is ongoing in the development of the new library in Portlaoise Prison.

## **Public Libraries Section**

Chair: *Brendan Teeling (An Chomhairle Leabharlanna)*  
Secretary: *Melanie Cunningham (Waterford City Libraries)*  
Treasurer: *Elizabeth Keane (Galway County Libraries)*  
Committee: *Patricia Cusack, Carmel Daly (Clare County Library Service), Emer Donoghue (Galway County Libraries), Orlagh Forde (Cork County Libraries), Brenda Frawley (Limerick County Libraries), Shauna Henry (Meath County Libraries), Grainne Keane (Limerick City Library), Maureen Kerr (Donegal County Library Service), Hilda King (Leitrim County Library Service), Pat Lonergan (Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services), Jackie McIntyre (Laois County Library), Helen McNutt (Donegal County Library Service), Mary Murphy (Meath Library Service), Edel Olcese, Carolyn Tunney, Jo Vahey (Galway County Library), Barbara Varley (Mayo County Library).*  
Membership: 170

The Section's annual conference took place on 6 and 7 November at the Marriott Hotel, Ashbourne, County Meath, at the invitation of Meath County Council. Some 60 delegates attended the conference, the theme of which was 'Thinking outside the box: collaboration and co-operation in public libraries'.

The conference was formally opened by the President of the LAI, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, The President's address was followed by a presentation on the 'Bealtaine' festival by Ann Leahy (Assistant CEO, Age and Opportunity).

Two colleagues from Biblioteca Gandia, Rachel Ford and Gisela Sendra, outlined how the challenges of serving multi-cultural communities is approached in one part of Spain, while



**At the Public Libraries' Section annual conference were (left to right) Emer O'Donoghue (Galway County Libraries), Miranda McKearney (The Reading Agency), Mary Murphy (Meath County Libraries), Ann Leahy (Age & Opportunity), Rachel Ford (Biblioteca Gandia, Spain), Gisela Sendra (Biblioteca Gandia, Spain), Shauna Henry (Meath County Libraries), Yvonne Morrison (Meath County Libraries)**

Miranda McKearney, OBE (Director of the UK Reading Agency) spoke about 'Twenty-first century reading partnerships'.

The afternoon session took place in Ashbourne library where Jim Cullen, Senior Clinical Psychologist with the HSE, talked about 'The Meath Healthy Reading Scheme'. This was followed by a guided tour of Ashbourne Library.

Local studies was the focus of the first session on Friday, when Frances Tallon (Meath County Library) and Colm McQuinn (Fingal Archives Services) spoke on the theme 'Looking into the past and towards the future: approaches to local studies'.

'A perfect fit: FÁS e-learning at the library' was considered by two speakers, Colm Hughes (Head of Lifelong Learning, FÁS) and Betty Boardman (Senior Librarian, Fingal County Libraries).

The closing 'quickfire round' on partnership featured Bernie Brady (Director of Aontas), Eddie Byrne (Dublin City Public Libraries), and Josephine Vahey and Emer Donoghue (Galway County Libraries).

The Committee thanks Meath County Libraries for their support and in particular the conference organisers Mary Murphy and Shauna Henry.

### **Rare Books Group**

- Chairperson: *Ken Bergin (University of Limerick)*  
 Secretary: *Celine Ward (Chester Beatty Library)*  
 Treasurer: *Charles Benson (Trinity College, Dublin)*  
 Committee: *Marie Boran (NUI Galway), Frances Clarke (National Library of Ireland), Elaine Charwat (University College Cork), Julie Cummins (Farmleigh), Bernadette Cunningham (Royal Irish Academy), Evelyn Flanagan (University College Dublin), Loretto O'Donohoe (NUI Galway), Penny Woods (NUI Maynooth)*  
 Membership: 113

### **AGM**

The AGM was held in February, in the Royal Irish Academy. Ken Bergin was re-elected as Chairperson, and Charles Benson and Celine Ward were re-elected as Treasurer and Secretary respectively. Siobhán Fitzpatrick (RIA), Crónán Ó Doibhlin (UCC), and Teresa Whittington (Central Catholic Library) resigned from the Committee. Elaine Charwat (UCC) and Bernadette Cunningham (RIA) were elected as Committee members.

Following the AGM, Gearóid O'Brien (Senior Executive Librarian, Westmeath County Library Service) gave a talk entitled 'Aidan Heavey: the man, his books and his legacy to Athlone'.

The Committee met four times during the year.

### **Visit to the Worth Library**

In July 2009, the Group visited the Worth Library where Dr Bill McCormack and Dr Elizabeth Ann Boran gave presentations and provided a tour to the Group.

## **Workshop**

The theme of this year's workshop, held in July 2009 in the Henry Jones Room, Trinity College, Dublin was 'Rare books on the rack: the outlook for special collections in the next five years'.

The programme was:

- 'Cultures and confines: do we need old books any more?' (Charles Benson, Trinity College, Dublin)
- 'Will Cinderella go to the ball? Library management and special collections' (Charles Benson, Trinity College, Dublin)
- 'Blowing trumpets: PR and reader expectations' (Crónán Ó Doibhlin, UCC)
- 'Building collections' (Evelyn Flanagan, University College Dublin)
- 'Unite or fall?: co-operation' (Siobhán Fitzpatrick, RIA)

This year's seminar, entitled 'Illuminating the word: the medieval book in Ireland and Western Europe', was held in the National Library of Ireland in November and attracted a large and diverse attendance. The programme consisted of:

- 'Illuminating the word: the rise of the decorated manuscript in the medieval west' (Michelle P. Brown, Professor of Medieval Manuscript Studies, Institute of English Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London)
- 'Gaelic manuscript production in the early modern period (1300-1600)' (Professor Pádraig Ó Macháin, School of Celtic Studies, Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies)
- 'From fax to vellum: creating a manuscript book today' (Tim O'Neill, Calligrapher)
- 'Before the Book of Kells: the origin and evolution of the earliest Irish Gospel-Books' (Professor Dáibhí Ó Cróinín, Department of History, NUI Galway)
- 'Heraldry and the art of record-keeping: the manuscript collections of the Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland' (Katy Lumsden, Chief Herald Painter, Office of the Chief Herald of Ireland, National Library of Ireland).

## **Thanks**

The Rare Books Group would like to thank the institutions which facilitated events during the year: the National Library of Ireland, the Royal Irish Academy, Trinity College, Dublin and the Worth Library.

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## **The Western Regional Section**

- Chairperson: *Emer Donoghue (Galway County Libraries)*  
Secretary: *Eileen O'Connor (Galway County Libraries)*  
Treasurer: *Colette Harlowe (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology)*  
Committee: *Siobhán Arkins (Galway County Libraries), Olive Greaney (Galway Mayo Institute of Technology), Kay McCormack (Galway County Libraries);*  
Membership: 33

## **Committee Activities**

The committee met four times. The Secretary and the Treasurer attended the meetings for Secretaries and Treasurers with their corresponding officers from the Executive Board. The Western Regional Section was represented at the annual meeting of officers of Groups and Sections with the Executive Board.

## **Networking Morning for Library Professionals in the Western Region**

The networking morning took place in the Galway Mayo Institute of Technology Libraries on both the Galway Campus and the Castlebar Campus on 6 April 2009. The two venues were connected by a video conference link.

The event was attended by twenty-eight delegates from academic, specialist and public libraries. Institutions represented were the Galway Mayo Institute of Technology, National

University of Ireland, The Marine Institute, The Health Services Executive, Galway Public Libraries, Mayo Public Libraries, Roscommon Public Libraries and the National Museum of Ireland.

The networking morning discussion section was chaired by Eileen O'Connor (Galway venue) and Olive Greaney (Castlebar venue). Topics for discussion included funding and cross sectoral co-operation between libraries.

Co-operation between Academic Libraries and Public Libraries was also discussed. It was suggested that WRSLAI initiate the implementation of Pathways to Learning in the Western Region. It was suggested that greater co-operation could enhance library service provision and maximise resources. It was agreed that this would be considered for discussion by the committee to see what action could be initiated. It was acknowledged that, while there is inter library co-operation at an informal level in the western region, co-operation on a more formal footing would be advantageous.

The seminar was entitled 'In the beginning was the word: the evolution of the written word and the recording of knowledge' and took place in Castlebar Public Library, Co. Mayo in June. The conference programme opened with a talk by Dr. Mark Stansbury (Classics Department, NUI Galway) entitled 'The history of paleography and the history of Irish manuscripts'. This was followed by a talk by Sinéad McCoolle (Curator of the Jackie Clarke Library and Archives, Co. Mayo) entitled 'Ireland's newest national treasure'. The third speaker was Bernadette Lally, author of 'Print culture in Loughrea 1850-1900' and she was followed by a joint presentation by Mary Ann Bolger and Clare Bell (Dublin Institute of Technology) on Irish typefaces entitled 'Divided by a common language: Irish typefaces'. The seminar ended with a presentation by Richard Hickey (Librarian, Mayo County Library) on the digitization of local newspapers and parish surveys in County Mayo.

### 2009 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Museum of Country Life, Turlough House, Castlebar, Co. Mayo on 15 December. There was no change in the committee except for the replacement of Kay McCormack (Galway County Libraries) by Tom Murtagh (Mayo County Library). The AGM was followed by a presentation and viewing of the Haughey Collection at the Museum of Country Life. This collection contains c. 4,000 books which belonged to the former Taoiseach, Charles J. Haughey and which were donated to the museum by the Haughey family.

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**Viewing the Haughey book collection at Turlough House,  
Michelle Cashman (National Museum of Ireland), Majella King  
(GMIT), Bernie Lally (GMIT) and Olive Greaney (GMIT)**

## **Youth Libraries Group (YLG)**

- Chair: *Helen O'Donnell (Dublin City Public Libraries)*  
Secretary: *Deirdriu McQuaid (Monaghan County Council Library Services)*  
Treasurer: *Karen McCague (Monaghan County Council Library Services)*  
Committee: *Enid Bebbington (Fingal County Libraries), Mary Bohan (Leitrim County Library Service), Deirdre Broderick (Louth County Libraries), Frances Crampsie (Donegal County Library Service), Ciara Cunane (Donegal County Libraries), Aisling Donnelly (Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services), Catherine Gallagher (South Dublin County Libraries), Nuala Hartnett (Kildare County Council Library and Arts Services), AnneMarie Hennessy (Louth County Libraries), Aileen Ivory (Alexandra College Dublin), Mary McLaughlin (Dublin City Public Libraries), Beata Molendowska (Dublin City Public Libraries), AnneMarie Mullins (Tipperary Libraries), Eleanor O Toole (Mayo County Library), Sheila Tierney (Louth County Libraries).*
- Membership: 75

The committee met once, on 20 March in the ILAC Centre Library, Dublin.

### **Seminar 2009**

Due to economic issues in the public library sector, staff who had committed to being members of the Youth Library Group at the AGM in November 2008 were unable to attend meetings of the committee. Therefore at the meeting held on 20 March, it was decided not to schedule the proposed seminar for 2009 as the level of participation would be insecure.

### **Other Activities**

Helen O'Donnell, Chairperson, attended the following meetings in Dublin for the Youth Library Group:

In September, Helen attended the seventh meeting of the Working Group on Library Services to Children and Young People as the YLG representative in place of Maedhbh Rogan who was unable to attend. This meeting was held at Leixlip Public Library, Co. Kildare. The task of the Working Group, having regard to the research commissioned by the Office of the Minister for Children, is to:

- assess the current provision of public library services for children and young people;
- make recommendations for future action, and
- draft guidelines for best practice in the provision by library authorities of services to children and young people

In October, Helen O'Donnell attended a meeting of Secretaries of Groups and Sections of the Library Association with the Hon. Secretary of the LAI in place of Deirdriu McQuaid (Secretary). This meeting was called in order to pool ideas and raise issues for the different Groups and Sections with the Executive Board of the LAI.

### **LAI Treasurers Meeting**

Karen McCague, Treasurer attended a meeting of the LAI Treasurers in the Library Council Office on Mount Street, on 23 September. The main point of the meeting was to discuss the financial terms in the LAI Articles of Association.

### **Children's Book Festival 2009**

It was decided by the Youth Library Group committee at the meeting of 20 March 2009, to let Children's Books Ireland run the national competition, as library staff simply did not have the resource time, particularly this year to run a competition due to cutbacks and staff shortages. Following from the Committee meeting of 20 March, the YLG did not sit on the CBI Bookfest committee this year. The Group made recommendations to CBI about the competition, the Bookfest Recommending Guide and resourcing/using authors. Many counties had little or no monies to provide activities for Children's Book Festival this year. Some counties did get authors or residencies from CBI, which were very helpful. Others developed their own programmes as heretofore.

Due to various constraints, the YLG did not have as productive year as previous years but we hope this may change for 2010.

## **Obituary**

The Executive Board notes with regret the death of Rosemary Walton, Librarian, All Hallows College, formerly Dublin City Public Libraries and former Chair, Youth Libraries Group.

## **Membership**

In 2009 the figures for personal and institutional membership respectively were, 518 and 56. In accordance with the regulations of the Association, those who had not renewed by September were deemed to be lapsed members.

## **Acknowledgements**

The Association would like to thank the Royal Irish Academy and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna for making facilities for meetings available to the Association. Thanks are also due to An Chomhairle Leabharlanna for providing an office and correspondence address at 53 Upper Mount Street.

We thank Brendan Teeling, Niamh O'Donovan, and other LAI volunteers for their work on the LAI website.

We thank South Dublin County Libraries, Dublin City Public Libraries, Fingal County Libraries and the Royal Irish Academy for storage facilities.

We extend grateful thanks to all those who provided sponsorship, support and facilities to Groups and Sections of the Association for their meetings, seminars and activities.

The LAI would like to thank the Director and Council of the Royal Irish Academy for providing facilities for the launch of Library Ireland Week.

The Association would like to thank all County Librarians and other service leaders who permit staff to attend Group and Section events.

# Membership List

## Personal Members

- Abbas, Hyder, HDipLIS, Chester Beatty Library
- Adams, Niamh, Irish Nurses Organisation
- Adams, Robin, BA, DLS, Trinity College, Dublin
- Armitage, Thomas, BA, DLT, FLAI, Retired
- Armstrong, Jonathan N., BA, HDipEd, DLIS, ALAI, Honorable Society of King's Inns
- Arnould -O'Sullivan, Nicole, MA, HDipEd, DLIS, FLAI
- Aston, Jennefer, BA, MSc, MCLIP
- Barrett, Bernard, B Th, DipLib, MCLIP, ALAI, Health Service Executive -West
- Barrett, Julia, BMus, DLIS, MBA, University College Dublin
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- Bates, John, MPhil, MLIS, Trinity College, Dublin
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- Bennett, Breda, MA, DipLib, DipInfSt, St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire
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- Cantwell, Jane, BA, DLIS, Waterford City Council Library Service
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Harlowe, Colette, MA, Galway Mayo Institute of  
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- Hayes, Julie, BA, HDip Stat., MLIS, South Infirmiry Victoria University Hospital
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- Healy, James, BA, DLIS, Irish Medicines Board
- Healy, Senan
- Herlihy, Breeda, BSc, HDipLIS, University College Cork
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- Hickey, Richard, MA, DLT, Mayo County Library
- Higgins, Marie, BA, MLIS, Grad Dip TEFL, Dip Quality Management, Enable Ireland
- Hillis, Grace, St. Vincent's Library
- Hogan, Liam, Limerick City Library
- Hogan, Margaret, BA DLIS, Retired
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- Hughes, Amy, BA, DLIS, Royal Irish Academy
- Hughes, Noel, MCLIP, FLAI, ALAI, Retired
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- Inchmore, Catherine R.S., BA, MLIS, Retired
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- Keaney, Marian, LFIBA, FLAI
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- Kennedy, Catherine, BEd, DLIS, National Institute of Health Science
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- Lantry, Margaret, MA, HDipEd, MLIS, MCLIP, Self-employed
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Bord na Leabhar Gaeilge	Galway County Library	Meath County Libraries
Carlow County Library Service	Galway Mayo Institute of Technology	National Library of Ireland
Cavan County Library Service	Goethe-Institut	NUI Galway
Central Statistics Office	Health Services Executive – Eastern Region (ERSS)	Roscommon County Library Service
Cork City Council Library Service	Health Services Executive – South Eastern Area	Shannon College of Hotel Management
Cork County Library and Arts Service	Houses of the Oireachtas	Sligo General Hospital
Defence Forces Library	Institute of Public Administration	South Dublin County Council
Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Development	Institute of Public Health in Ireland	Tipperary Libraries
Department of Social, Family and Community Affairs	Institute of Technology Tallaght	Trinity College, Dublin
Donegal County Library Service	International Educational Services Ltd	University College Cork
Dublin Business School	Irish National Teachers' Organisation	University College Dublin
Dublin City Public Libraries	Irish Nurses Organisation	University of Limerick
Dublin City University	Irish Traditional Music Archive	University of Wales
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Library Service	Kerry Library	Waterford City Council
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		Wexford County Library Service
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53 Upper Mount Street, Dublin 2  
[www.libraryassociation.ie](http://www.libraryassociation.ie)  
issn: 0791-6248