

# Annual Report 2012

The Library Association of Ireland  
C/O 138-144 Pearse Street  
Dublin 2

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## Foreword



**LAI President**  
**Fionnuala Hanrahan**

During 2012, the Association achieved in the areas of management and support for members. This focus was necessary but was at the expense of advocacy and liaison with external bodies. However the investment will bring a healthy return as the new structures and supports facilitate more and improved contributions by members at every level.

Sixteen actions in the Association's Action Plan for 2013 – 2016 set out our agenda for the next few years. In promotion of the profession we will be clear about our competencies and their potential contributions. We will be rigorous in relation to professional standards and continuing competence throughout every librarian's career. We will increase the scale and nature of advocacy. The Association will state the professional position of matters affecting free flow of information and it will actively seek opportunities for collaboration at national and international levels, as well as celebrating examples of good practice. It is ambitious and challenging but if all the actions are achieved then it will have served well the Association, its members and the profession generally.

Membership improved at institutional level. The number of personal members reduced a little. The rise in institutional membership arose from deliberate action by the Administration Committee. It is heartening that chief librarians recognise the important role of the Association in supporting their work at corporate level and in offering a capacity to voice positions on matters of service development or deterioration that may not be possible locally. The value of institutional membership in including all staff including non-professional grades is significant also. Equally for the Association, breadth of involvement is important if it is to be credible as a reliable

voice for the profession in its advocacy role.

The excellent work on the Association's website became more visible towards the end of the year and redesigned elements were made available for review as well as the testing of interactive elements. These developments will improve the offer to members and facilitate more and richer engagement. The new website is a foundation stone for progress and our debt to the hardworking committee that is making it happen cannot be over stated.

The two new education related committees have become well established and the workload for both is considerable. Specifically as a support for new entrants into the profession and those returning to employment, members set up a Careers Development Group. As its first report indicates this group is pro-active and engaging. It can be expected to contribute energetically to the work of the profession in the future.

With regret, 2012 was the year in which COLICO and An Chomhairle Leabharlanna were dissolved. As the report states, CONUL has picked up some of the practical workload which had been within the brief of COLICO but the creation of an all-Ireland, all-sector, structure that supports networking and planning for collaboration is required.

Legislation dissolving An Chomhairle Leabharlanna was passed in the summer. Its Board held its final meeting in October. Functions, described as residual but in reality almost all the functions of the original body, were transferred to Library Development, a unit within the Local Government Management Agency. The Association does not accept that this government

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*Cumann Leabharlann Na hÉireann*  
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*Design by David Cooke*





action will result in significant savings and does not accept that it will be to the benefit of Irish citizens in the short or long term. Staffing in the Library Development unit is a reduction by 2/3 on numbers provided in An Chomhairle Leabharlanna. Maintenance of established standards of facilities and service will be impossible. The unit's lack of public representation, loss of independence, much smaller scale and reduced visibility must result in weakened support for public libraries, less cooperation with other library & information sectors, and a consequential loss of influence and diminished penetration for library & public information services across many areas of society. The abolition of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna is a bad decision that will result in reduced opportunities for Irish citizens and residents. However, we must be pragmatic and professional in this as in all other matters.

This Association is now the only all-Ireland, all-sector representative organization for library and information services in the country. It can be an exciting time in Ireland, a time for courage and energy and a period of opportunity for those who are skilled, focused and deliberate. The library and information profession has an important role to play in underpinning economic and social renewal. We are readying ourselves. Bring it on!

Fionnuala Hanrahan  
President

## Honorary Officers and Council 2012/2013

### HONORARY OFFICERS 2012/2013

- **President:** Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, Wexford County Council Library Service
- **Vice-Presidents:** Jane Cantwell, City Librarian, Waterford City Council Library Service  
Philip Cohen, Head of Library Services, Dublin Institute of Technology
- **Hon. Secretary:** Yvonne Quigley, Assistant Librarian, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Public Library Service [from March 2012]  
Kieran Swords, Acting Senior Executive Librarian, South Dublin County Libraries [to March 2012]
- **Hon. Treasurer:** Catherine Gallagher, Acting Executive Librarian, South Dublin County Libraries
- **Hon. Auditor:** Brendan Martin, County Librarian, Wicklow County Library Service

### COUNCIL 2012/2013

[previously named Executive Board, until EGM, 15th March 2012]  
Robin Adams, Trinity College Dublin [co-opted April 2012]  
Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Council Library Service (Deputy Chairman)

Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology  
Madelaine Dennison, Houses of the Oireachtas  
Aisling Donnelly, Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service  
Bernadette Fennell, Louth County Libraries  
Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Royal Irish Academy  
Fionnuala Hanrahan, Wexford County Council Library Service (Chairman)  
Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Public Libraries  
Kate Kelly, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland  
Gillian Kerins, Institute of Technology Tallaght  
Pat Lonergan, Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service  
Pat McMahon, Galway County Council Library Service  
Zöe Melling, Legal Aid Board/Refugee Documentation Centre  
Mary Murphy, Meath County Council Library Service  
Emer O'Brien, Tipperary Libraries  
Terry O'Brien, Waterford Institute of Technology Libraries  
Hazel Percival, Wexford County Council Library Service  
Marjory Sliney, Fingal County Libraries  
Mary Stuart, Offaly County Library  
Kieran Swords, South Dublin County Libraries



The 2012/13 Council met six times during its term of office to the end of December – 5th April, 7th June, 13th September, 11th October, 8th November and 6th December. The previous Executive Board met once in 2012 on 12th January.

### ATTENDANCE RECORD

(to December 2012 meeting inclusive)		Zöe Melling	4
Robin Adams	4	Mary Murphy	5
Jane Cantwell	6	Emer O'Brien	1
Philip Cohen	7	Terry O'Brien	1
Madelaine Dennison	2	Hazel Percival	4
Aisling Donnelly	5	Yvonne Quigley	5
Bernadette Fennell	5	Marjory Sliney	7
Siobhán Fitzpatrick	6	Mary Stuart	3
Catherine Gallagher	7	Kieran Swords	6
Fionnuala Hanrahan	7		
Margaret Hayes	5		
Kate Kelly	2		
Gillian Kerins	5		
Pat Lonergan	5		
Pat McMahon	0		







## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations are used within the text of the report:

CILIP	<i>Chartered Institute for Library &amp; Information Professionals</i>
COLICO	<i>Committee for Library Co-operation in Ireland</i>
DCU	<i>Dublin City University</i>
HRB	<i>Health Research Board</i>
HSE	<i>Health Services Executive</i>
LISC	<i>Library and Information Services Council</i>
LGMA	<i>Local Government Management Agency</i>
NUIG	<i>National University of Ireland Galway</i>
NUIM	<i>National University of Ireland, Maynooth</i>
NLI	<i>National Library of Ireland</i>
TCD	<i>Trinity College Dublin</i>
UCC	<i>University College Cork</i>
UCD	<i>University College Dublin</i>
UCD SILS	<i>University College Dublin, School of Information &amp; Library Studies</i>
UL	<i>University of Limerick</i>

## LIST OF USEFUL WEBSITES

[www.libraryassociation.ie](http://www.libraryassociation.ie)  
Library Association of Ireland  
[www.cilip.org.uk/get-involved/regional-branches/ireland/pages/default.aspx](http://www.cilip.org.uk/get-involved/regional-branches/ireland/pages/default.aspx)  
CILIP Ireland  
[www.eblida.org](http://www.eblida.org) European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations: E.B.L.I.D.A.  
[www.ifla.org](http://www.ifla.org) International Federation of Library Associations

# Developing the Profession

## Professional Standards Committee

The Professional Standards committee met five times. The committee signed off on guidance documents for those considering taking up an internship in a library or information environment and a set of guidelines for employers operating library internships, as well as a set of FAQs for those considering librarianship as a career. These were posted to the website in spring 2012.

Further work during the year included the completion of a set of Standards and Guidelines, organised by topic and library type, which provide best practice advice on library service provision, management and operations. <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/Standards%20and%20Guidelines.doc> This document consists of IFLA, ALA, MLA and other current standards and guidelines in operation, including the recent Irish national policy statement on Open Access: <http://www.iua.ie/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/National-Principles-on-Open-Access-Policy-Statement-FINAL-23-Oct-2012-v1-3.pdf>, digitisation policy documents etc.

Other documents prepared by the committee deal with the regulatory environment in which the higher education libraries on the one hand, and the public library service on the other, function. The higher education section has been posted to the website and the public library document was signed off in December.

Dr Lee Komito, School of Library and Information Studies, UCD made a presentation in December, focusing on the range of courses and modules provided by the school.

The committee is also addressing the issue of a competency framework and hopes to have this work completed by mid-2013. The issue of volunteering in the library environment is also actively on the work agenda.

## International Recognition of Qualifications

The LAI has been approached by the Australian Library and Information Association with a view to reciprocal recognition of qualifications. This will be progressed during 2013

## Continuing Professional Development

2012 was a busy year for this new Committee. By creating a separate Committee in 2011 to deal with continuing professional development, the Association acknowledged the need to prioritise ongoing support to members in this area. The Committee met 6 times and outlined an ambitious work plan for 2012/2013. The Committee is responsible for promoting and managing accreditation of LAI recognised courses and it certified 6 courses during 2012:

1. 'Printed Treasures: Unique collections in Irish Libraries', LAI Rare Books Group – 1 day Seminar on 24th November 2011, at Royal Irish Academy.
2. 'E-Library Management', HSLG CPD Working Group – 1 day workshop on 10th May 2012 at TCD.
3. 'Developing your professional portfolio: Publishing your practice and research', ANLTC, 1 day course on 15th May 2012 at NUIM.
4. 'e-Library – Outreach and





Communication', WRS LAI Annual Seminar, 1 day on 11th June 2012, Marine Institute, Rinvile, Oranmore, Galway.

5. 'Advanced searching for systematic reviews', HSLG CPD Working Group, 1 day on 25th October 2012.
6. 'Recommending with Confidence', YLG Annual Conference, 1 day on 27th November 2012.

Many more seminars and events took place during 2012 and it is planned to expand accreditation to include the joint conference and other conferences in 2013. Updated course accreditation guidelines and application forms were prepared and were made available on the website. <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/LAI-CPD-Certificates-of-Course-Attendance-Guidelines-for-Course-Organisers-17.7.12.doc>

The Committee has developed an application form and guidelines to allow those involved in Jobbridge internships in libraries to be accredited. <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/Internships%20for%20applicants%20Feb.%202012.docx> One intern has received accreditation in 2012. It is expected that this will increase dramatically in 2013 once the documentation is available online and promoted to interns and employers. <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/sites/default/files/Internships%20-%20for%20employers%20-%20Feb%202012.docx>

The Committee is working on a new Mentoring Programme particularly aimed at those who would like to pursue the Associateship or Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland. Guidelines for mentors and applicants are available on the website.

The Committee engaged with the students from the SILS MILS Capstone project who carried out a survey "Where are you Now?" to identify where library and information professional graduates are employed and what skills they utilise to support their work. The survey received responses from 311 people and results, provided in November will be brought to Council in early 2013. The information will be used to inform curricula developments in the UCD School of Library and Information Studies and the LAI Continuing Professional Development Programme. The project team members were Susan Dennehy, Karen Corocran, Marianne Hennessy, Aoife

O'Neill Gormly, Christopher Ramsay and Kathryn Smith and the Project Supervisor, Dr Maria Souden.

## Fellowship Awards

Fellowship of the Association was awarded to Jane Burns and Helen Fallon at the AGM in March.

The citation for Jane Burns, BA, MBA, DLIS, MLIS, ALAI, read as follows: *Jane Burns' professional career to date has shown a continuing commitment to personal development and a commendable record of achievement in a number of areas. She has exercised flexibility in moving between different sectors and in taking on a variety of roles, such as research officer, librarian & image vocabulary editor. She has participated in a variety of professional development opportunities and has contributed widely to the profession of librarianship including within this Association as business manager of the journal, and guest lecturer in the School of Library and Information Studies, UCD. Her extra-curricular activities, such as volunteer-tutor in the "Fighting Words" literacy programme and her creative writing, enhance her suitability for the award of FLAI further.*

At the AGM Jane Burns is presented with her FLAI certificate, with l to r Siobhán Fitzpatrick and Fionnuala Hanrahan





The citation for Helen Fallon, MA, DLIS, MLIS, read as follows:

*Helen Fallon submitted an impressive body of evidence which showed her commitment to professional development and to supporting staff and students at the various institutions at which she has worked over a long and successful career. She contributed significantly to the development of library staff she managed and others through her work with the Academic and National Library Training Cooperatives and other bodies. She is generous with her knowledge and expertise. During her career she has demonstrated ability to work at a strategic level; Helen's work in leading a major Library Quality Review is to be commended. Helen's contribution to the wider profession, through her teaching, her publications and her presentations, is a further indication for her suitability for the award of FLAI.*



**L to R: Helen Fallon is presented with her FLAI certificate by President Fionnuala Hanrahan at the AGM.**

## Career Development Support

A Career Development Group was established at an inaugural meeting of Association members in the National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin, on 23rd October, 2012. The new group aims to address issues of career development and employment in the sector.

In late May, the initiative was promoted by five personal members in good standing – Jane Burns, Giada Gelli, Eva Hornung, John McManus and Ann O' Sullivan – as per Article 80 (1). Following Council approval in June, the Group's establishment was supported by the Administration Committee which worked with the members and other supporters over the summer.

The core group developed from a membership-based initiative, previously known as LIS Career Development Group and set up by Giada Gelli in 2011. It originated from a perceived need to address employment and career development issues for new professionals, interns, volunteers and professionals out of work. Due to the growing interest into these issues, the LIS Career Development Group proposed the establishment of such a group incorporated within the Association.

Following election of a committee at the inaugural meeting, Terms of Reference were approved at the December meeting of the Council. The Group's first contribution to the Association's annual report can be read further on in this document. (See Pg 20)







# Annual General Meeting 2012

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held in Dublin City Libraries, Pearse St., Dublin on 15th March 2012. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, Wexford County Libraries was returned as President. Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Librarian and Philip Cohen, Head of Library Services, DIT were returned as Vice-Presidents. Yvonne Quigley, Assistant Librarian, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Public Libraries, was returned as Honorary Secretary. Catherine Gallagher, Acting Executive Librarian, South Dublin Public Libraries, was returned as Honorary Treasurer. Brendan Martin, County Librarian, Wicklow Public Libraries was elected as Honorary Auditor.

The minutes of the 2011 AGM were adopted and the Honorary Treasurer explained the Accounts for 2011 which had been distributed and answered questions from the floor. The 2011 Annual Report was considered and adopted.

Following election of the Officers and Council members, President Fionnuala Hanrahan addressed the meeting, expressing thanks for the nomination and for the support of the Council and members over the previous twelve months. Her comments focused on the challenges facing the profession arising from the proposed abolition of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna. She also emphasised the importance of positioning for the profession and for library & information services, regardless of sector.

Referring to the revision of the Memorandum and Articles of Association which had been approved at an EGM that morning, she considered the need to build management capacity and to offer a framework for individuals to develop their professional practice by contributing to the development of the Association.



Yvonne Quigley incoming Hon. Secretary with Kieran Swords, Outgoing Hon. Secretary



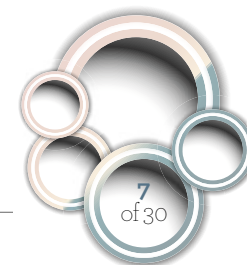
L to R: Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Libraries, Bernadette Fennell, Louth County Libraries



L to R: Emer O'Brien, Tipperary Libraries, Catherine Gallagher, Hon. Treasurer



Eileen Burgess, Donegal County Libraries





## Resolutions passed at the meeting for action by the Council

The following motions were passed at the AGM and addressed by Council during the year.

*Motion: Since its foundation in 1947, the advice and assistance which An Chomhairle Leabharlanna has provided to the wider public library world in maintaining standards and in providing leadership at a national level continues to be an essential requirement for the service. The Library Association of Ireland, gathered at this Annual General Meeting, calls on the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government to ensure the continuity in important functions exercised to date by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna.*

*Motion: This meeting calls upon the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to acknowledge the role of public libraries in economic recovery by increasing the capital funding available for new and renovation building projects. This investment will ensure the sustainability of an essential infrastructure that supports local education, social and cultural initiatives for individual and community gain.*

*Motion: This meeting calls upon the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to initiate a formal review of Branching out: future directions, the national development plan for public libraries, in consultation with all public library authorities, with a view to informing the next plan, due from 2013.*

*Motion: In view of the reduction in funding for books and other stock in many public library authorities, this meeting urges the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government to recognise the relevance of libraries in improving literacy levels and to encourage local authorities to continue to support public library services so they can continue to be vibrant agents of community development at local level.*

*Motion: Recognising the role of the school library in education and (1) its*

*role and place in teaching and learning and (2) its continuing potential in the development of a positive attitude towards reading, this Annual General Meeting instructs the Executive Board on behalf of the Library Association of Ireland to initiate a series of contacts and meetings with the Department of Education and Skills with the purpose of identifying a joint deliverable project with public library services that would progress restoring the school library grant.*



Marjory Sliney  
Fingal County  
Libraries



LAI President  
Fionnuala  
Hanrahan



L to R: Deirdre Ellis King,  
Dr Philip Cohen Dublin  
Institute of Technology





# Communications

## Communications Committee (Policy & Procedures)

The Communications Committee (Policy & Procedures) had a busy year as the members worked together on a new strategy for the association.

The committee met twice during 2012 and the Communications Strategy 2012 – 2016 was adopted on by the Council on 20th September 2012.

The agreed objectives of the strategy are to:

1. Communicate the functions and work of the LAI to its stakeholders and to the wider community;
2. Provide timely, accurate and appropriate information to its stakeholders.

The actions needed to deliver this communications strategy were categorised into 6 broad areas – Consultation and collaboration, Web and social media, Publishing, Members' events, Public events, Media

Following adoption, the Strategy was made available to download on the website in November <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/library-association-ireland/committees-panels-task-forces/communications-%E2%80%93-policy-and-procedure> Actions & actors were circulated in December, for agreement in early 2013 positioned within the Framework of the Business Development Plan.

## Website Development

The Website Development Task Force met on four occasions during the year and also conducted business electronically.

While the initial recommendation of the Task Force had been to continue to use WordPress as the content management system, it proved difficult to integrate all the desired business process modules with one another. It was decided to move to Drupal for sustainability. Thus, initial development work which had centred on using WordPress delayed the delivery of the

website. The newly designed website went live with limited functionality in November, in time for Library Ireland Week 2012.

The next phase of website development will include:

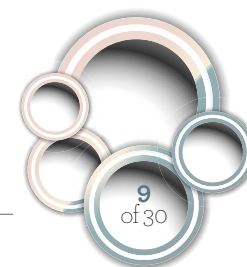
- membership – joining online, online renewal, online payment of fees
- member access to the Association's journal, *An Leabharlann: The Irish Library*, in full
- a sub-page for each group and section (accessible by members of that group/section only)
- e-mail lists based on membership and chosen groups/sections

The Task Force is very grateful to all who provided feedback on the site and updated content; to Noel Smyth of Silverbark Creative for his work on the design of the site and to Gary Hammond and Luis Rodriguez Castromil of Iterate for their work and to South Dublin Public Libraries for its support at corporate level in developing the site.

## Publications

*An Leabharlann: the Irish Library*, 2 issues: Vol 21(1) and (2). ISSN: 0023-9542. Because of increased pressure on limited resources and responding to feedback from the membership survey 2010, the Council decided to change the publication format to electronic from the end of 2012. The next issue – Vol. 22(1), due March 2013 will be published in electronic format only.

- *HINT*: [electronic newsletter of the Health Sciences Libraries Section]
- *Leabharlann-e*: [electronic newsletter of the Council]
- *Annual Report 2011*. Dublin: Library Association of Ireland, 2012, ISSN 0791-6248.
- *Library Ireland Week*: promotional materials.





# Management and Administration

## Administration Committee

The function of the Administration Committee is to manage the finances and administrative procedures of the Association. In 2012, the committee met seven times. During 2012 the work achieved included

- Marketing drive for institutional members
- Support for set up of Career Development Group
- Resolution of procedures for electronic payment of fees

On 7th June, a meeting was held with the Officers of Groups and Sections. A meeting with Treasurers of Groups and Sections scheduled for December was deferred to January 10th, 2013. The Audit Committee did not meet.

## Memorandum and Articles of Association, revision 2012

An Extraordinary General Meeting was held on 15th March 2012 in Dublin Public Libraries, Pearse St., Dublin 2 in advance at the AGM. Revised Memorandum and Articles of Association were adopted by the meeting, and were submitted to the Companies Registration Office. The revised Memorandum and Articles were applied to Association business with immediate effect.

## Action Plan, 2013 – 2016

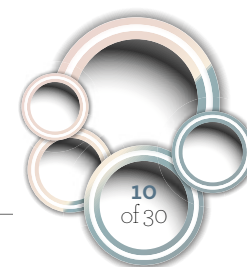
Consideration of the Association Action Plan resumed following adoption of the revised Memorandum and Articles of Association at the EGM. The draft Plan was submitted to Council in December for the January 2013 meeting. It outlined priorities to be incorporated into the Council's work and the work of taskforces and committees over the coming 3 years. The plan lists 16 actions ranging from "maintaining a register of qualified LIS

professionals" to "developing and leading a relevant comprehensive CPD programme". Actions are identified within two programme streams [1] promotion and [2] support. Nine actions under promotion address the roles of the Association, advocacy, collaborations and access issues. Continuing professional development, membership and management are collected within the support area.

## Participants on Council Task Forces, Working Groups, Panels and Committees

*[Note only the places of employment of members who are not on the Council are listed here. Information about Council members is listed at the front of the report.]*

- **Administration Committee** [previously the Finance and General Purposes Committee]: Jane Cantwell, Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Catherine Gallagher, Fionnuala Hanrahan (Convenor), Hazel Percival, Yvonne Quigley and Kieran Swords.
- **Audit Committee**: Fionnuala Hanrahan, Catherine Gallagher, Brendan Martin (Wicklow County Libraries)
- **Business Development Plan Committee**: Fionnuala Hanrahan, Jane Cantwell, Philip Cohen, Catherine Gallagher, Madelaine Dennison
- **Communications Committee** (Policy & Procedures): Mary Stuart (Convenor), Bernadette Fennell, Pat Lonergan, Fionnuala Hanrahan, Madelaine Dennison
- **Continuing Professional Development Committee**: Jane Cantwell (Convenor) Deirdre Ellis King, Margaret Hayes, Marjory Sliney, Gillian Kerins, Jessie Shearer Kurtz (Trinity College Dublin), Aine Carey (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland – involved from autumn 2012), Helen Fallon (NUI – Maynooth), Kate Kelly (resigned autumn 2012), Mary Murphy, Terry O'Brien
- **Editorial Board of An Leabharlann: the Irish Library**: Helen Fallon (National University of Ireland Maynooth), Kate Kelly, Nigel Macartney





(Libraries NI), Terry O'Brien, Micheal O'hAodha (University of Limerick), Brendan Teeling (Dublin City Public Libraries), Marjory Sliney (Editor), Jane Burns – Business Manager (Temple Street University Hospital)

- **European and International Panel:** Marjory Sliney (Convenor), Jennefer Aston, Jane Cantwell, Joseph Donnelly (Judges' Library), Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Gillian Kerins, Terry O'Brien, Liam Ronayne (Cork City Library) Brendan Teeling (Dublin City Libraries)
- **Joint-Conference Organising Committee 2012:** Jane Cantwell, Philip Cohen, Catherine Gallagher, Fionnuala Hanrahan, Nigel McCartney and Adrienne Adair (Convenor) for CILIP Ireland, Yvonne Quigley
- **Library Ireland Week Taskforce for 2012:** Jane Cantwell (Convenor), Georgina Byrne (South Dublin Public Libraries), Catherine Gallagher, Emer O'Brien, Mary Stuart, Bernie Fennell
- **North-South Liaison Committee:** Jane Cantwell, Philip Cohen, Catherine Gallagher, Fionnuala Hanrahan (Convenor), Marjory Sliney, Nigel McCartney and Adrienne Adair for CILIP Ireland, Yvonne Quigley
- **Professional Standards Committee:** Philip Cohen; Deirdre Ellis-King; Siobhán Fitzpatrick (Convenor), Kate Kelly, Gillian Kerins, Terry O'Brien, Marjory Sliney, Diane Sonnenwald (School of Library and Information Studies, UCD to June)
- **Taskforce on Information Literacy:** Philip Cohen (Convenor); Kate Kelly; Sinead O'Gorman (Wexford County Library Service); Muireann Tóibín, (Revenue Commissioners)
- **Task Force on Library Association of Ireland Website:** Jessica Eustace-Cook (TCD); Louise Farragher (Health Research Board); Gillian Kerins; Zoë Melling; Emer O'Brien; Mary Stuart; Kieran Swords [Convenor]; Brendan Teeling (Dublin City Libraries)
- **Taskforce on Literacy and Numeracy for Life** (Library contribution to Government Strategy, 2011 – 2020): Emer O'Brien (Convenor); Catherine Gallagher; Karyn Deegan (Wexford Public Libraries); Orla NicAodha (St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin); Mary Carleton Reynolds (Longford Public Libraries); Laura Joyce (South Dublin Public Libraries)

# Advocacy for the Development and Promotion of High Standards in Library & Information Services

## Copyright

The Association continued to engage with the Copyright Review Committee established last year by the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. The Copyright Review Committee held a public meeting (24 March, TCD) to consider its Consultation Paper. Members of the European and International Panel (Jennefer Aston, Marjory Sliney and others) together with other LIS colleagues, attended. The LAI response to the Consultation paper is available at:

[http://www.djei.ie/science/ipr/Library\\_Association\\_of\\_Ireland.pdf](http://www.djei.ie/science/ipr/Library_Association_of_Ireland.pdf)

## Public Sector Information Directive

Together with our colleagues in EBLIDA, the Association lobbied politicians recommending some amendments which would ensure that public/private partnerships in archives, libraries and museums would not be affected.







## Universal Membership of public libraries extended throughout Ireland

From April 2012 Universal Membership was made available across the island of Ireland. This was a major development as previously library authorities, in most cases, restricted membership to those who 'lived, worked or studied in the authority's area' and required official proof of identity to establish this.

UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP was launched at a reception in Stormont, Northern Ireland, within the CILIP Ireland / LAI Joint Conference in Belfast on 19th April 2012.

From April 2012, a library member anywhere on the island can use his/her local library card as ID to join another library service. Furthermore, library members in Republic of Ireland may also use their local library card as ID to join public libraries in England and Wales. This extended a 2009 scheme involving Library Authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland which had proved successful. Work on this project on behalf of the County and City Librarians Section was undertaken by County Librarian, Mary Reynolds. The County & City Librarians Section undertook the management of procedures around provision of the service.

## Literacy and Numeracy for Life: Library contribution to Government Strategy 2011 – 2020

The Taskforce was set up in 2011 to contribute to the Department of Education and Skills decade-long Strategy on Literacy and Numeracy. The national organisations employed to help research or to move proposals forward are Barnardos, Department of Education and Skills (hereafter DES), The Early Years Education Policy Unit, Childcare Committee regional forums, Library Development Unit (formerly An Chomhairle Leabharlanna), & NALA. The Taskforce liaised with these throughout the year.

Communications directly with the Department of Education and Skills continued with meetings in April and June and written updates and

communications in the autumn. The Department's Strategy implementation team was helpful in organizing a photo opportunity with Minister Ruairi Quinn TD, to help promote the Summer Reading at Public Libraries programme. The Taskforce restated the limited finance resources available to public libraries at the moment despite increase demand across the range of services, with the schools services (where still in existence) being no exception. However, the Department of Education and Skills maintained that there is no extra funding for the implementation of its strategy. The Taskforce presented a number of cost-effective proposals that can help support the objectives of the strategy but refused to take the need for financial assistance from the Department of Education and Skills off the table.

The following proposals of the Taskforce were approved by Council in June

- LAI to continue to support educational and literacy development services as part of the strategic vision for Library Services in Ireland.
- Promotion of 10 core services (Universal Library Services) during LIW 2012 and beyond.
- LAI to provide support, training and guidance to all library authorities in the development of their library services to schools / pre-schools and their engagement with schools / pre-schools at local level.
- LAI to seek permanent representation at the regional and national childcare committee meetings/conferences and to feedback suggestions and issues to Library Authorities
- LAI and Library Development, LGMA, to work collaboratively on relevant training, teacher awareness sessions via TECs, National Library and Literacy campaign, Summer Reading Pack, Literacy and Libraries section on [askaboutireland.ie](http://askaboutireland.ie)

The Early Years Education Policy Unit in the Department of Education and Skills, co-located with the Department of Children and Youth Affairs said it would respond with a wish list for public libraries and pre-schools, which the taskforce can then respond to once discussed at Council level.

- LAI to work with School Library Association,





Republic of Ireland to maintain communications between second school libraries and public libraries services.

The Taskforce has continued to endeavor to get access to the list of literacy coordinators in each Education Centre, which are charged with the implementation of the DES Strategy locally. Discussion with Library Development, LGMA, was begun in relation to the collaborative actions. Work is ongoing on necessary actions for completion of other proposals during 2013.



Minister of Education and Skills, Rurui Quinn, T.D., launches the Summer Reading Programme at Stillorgan Library

## Improving the Lives of Children – Submission

In early July, the Association submitted a contribution to the public consultation on improving the lives of children which was organized by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs. The Association's submission focused on the role of literacy.

## Dissolution of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

The dissolution of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna was included within the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill 2012, passed by both

Houses of the Oireachtas, between 23rd May and 6th June, and signed by the President on June 8th. A Library Development unit was established within the Local Government Management Agency [LGMA] during the year.

The Association continued to express its concern that Library Development lacks capacity. The Association remained convinced that the abolition of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna has been a bad decision that will result in reduced opportunities for Irish citizens and residents.

However, to support the unit, the Association sought representation on the Board of the LGMA but was refused. In correspondence with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government during the year, the Department indicated that functions such as PLR, management of the public library capital programme, national planning and representation at national and international level would transfer to Library Development. The legislation transferred all the functions of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna to the Library Development unit.

The Association also sought from the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government the establishment of an inclusive structure, to maintain visibility for the national library network and to nurture cross-sectoral cooperation for cost-effective service development.

## Libraries for Literacy: Every Day, Every Way – Library Ireland Week 2012

This year the Association celebrated the 7th year of Library Ireland Week from the 12th – 18th November, 2012.

The taskforce on Library Ireland Week met four times between September 2011 and November 2012. Most communication was by email and phone.

The theme, “*Libraries for Literacy: Every Day, Every Way*”, created an opportunity to showcase the work that all libraries are doing to promote literacy as well as linking into the DES Strategy.





Thanks to the team in South Dublin Public Libraries, a new website was created for Library Ireland Week which included:

1. A map of Best Practice in Literacy showing examples of programmes from libraries nationally
2. A list of testimonials from library users and champions acknowledging the value of libraries.
3. Videos and audio examples of literacy projects taking place in libraries

Staff from Trinity College Library organised access to the Long Room in Trinity College for a photo call to promote Library Ireland Week on Monday 12th November, 2012. TV personality, Mary Kennedy met pupils from St Laurence O'Toole primary school and their teacher for what proved to be a very special occasion which was covered by three photographers and an Irish Times reporter. A large spread on the 3rd page of the Irish Independent and the mobile version of the Irish Times gave the week a national profile.



Mary Kennedy, the boys from St Laurence O'Toole Primary School and Anna Swords examine the Book of Kells in hard copy and online in the Long Room, Trinity College for the Launch of Library Ireland Week 2012

All members of the taskforce were involved in promoting the week, ranging from the design and preparation of posters, collation of testimonials, organising sponsorship and preparing details of the Library Staff Job Exchange Day. Samantha Morrissey from Clare County Council Library

Service volunteered to establish and maintain a social media presence on facebook and twitter. Both received a good following before and during the week. Betty Maguire worked with the staff of South Dublin Library Service to produce the literacy map.

- 186 events were listed on the website
- 1260 people liked our Facebook page
- 44 institutions listed 92 individual literacy projects
- 41 testimonials showing the value of libraries were submitted to the website



Library Ireland Week Poster 2012

## Information Literacy

During the year, a group of postgraduate students from the School of Information and Library Studies at UCD carried out extensive research to update the report of the original Working Group on Information Literacy.

The new report *BILI: Building IL in Ireland* provides an invaluable snapshot of current activity – both in Ireland and internationally – as well as some challenging recommendations. Thanks to Aoife Callinan, Amy Connolly, Lucy Cunningham, Lorraine Curran, Aine Lynch and Sile O'Shea for their excellent work and to the many practicing librarians who responded so willingly to their research requests.

The Task Force on Information Literacy [TFIL] members received the report in November 2012. They have reviewed its findings, considered how best to combine those with the existing task list and are devising a new action plan. It is hoped that some modest gains can be made quickly, whilst work continues on longer term goals. Meanwhile, TFIL has been loading material on the new Association website, thereby providing access to a range of reports, case studies and Internet links to the library community at large.







## Nominees and Members of Committees of External Bodies with which the Association is engaged

- **Age and Opportunity, Bealtaine Festival Organising Committee:** This committee was disbanded by Age and Opportunity in 2011.
- **Children's Book Festival:** Deirdriu McQuaid [for Youth Library Group]
- **Child Protection Committee, LGMA:** Mary Stuart [for County and City Librarians Section]
- **An Chomhairle Leabharlanna** (to October 2012): Fionnuala Hanrahan, Pat McMahon.
- **Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO):** Philip Cohen. This committee was dissolved in February.
- **European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA):** Marjory Sliney.
- **EBLIDA Expert Group on Copyright:** Jennefer Aston
- **EBLIDA World Trade Organisation General Agreement on Trade in Services (WTO/GATS):** Liam Ronayne.
- **IFLA Health and Biosciences Section Standing Committee:** Brian Galvin.
- **Irish Committee of the Blue Shield:** Siobhán Fitzpatrick, Colette O'Flaherty.
- **Newsplan:** Marjory Sliney.



*Laureate na nÓg* Niamh Sharkey in Tallaght Library at the launch of Children's Book Festival 2012



Celebrating Bealtaine in Waterford City Library



# Supporting Co-operation between Library & Information Services

## European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations (EBLIDA)

The Association is a founding member of the European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations. The 2012 EBLIDA Council meeting was held in Copenhagen (10 May 2012), with Marjory Sliney attending for the LAI. A Conference Report covering the 2011 and 2012 Council meetings was published in *An Leabharlann: the Irish Library*, vol 21(2): 25.

The EBLIDA survey on E-books was circulated to Officers of Groups and Sections in June. The Council of EBLIDA was invited to meet in Dublin and with Council members on 7th & 8th March 2013.

## Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO)

COLICO held its final meeting in February. A North-South body whose function had been to optimise the collective value of the combined resources of Irish libraries for their clients, its secretariat had been provided by An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, dissolved in June. Since 1994 COLICO had been the formal advisory body on library co-operation to An Chomhairle Leabharlanna for the Republic of Ireland and the Library and Information Services Council, Northern Ireland (LISC). The abolition of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna coincided with the withdrawal of funding to LISC [NI].

University libraries in Northern Ireland were invited to join CONUL, the

consortium of national and university libraries in the Republic of Ireland. [www.conul.ie](http://www.conul.ie)

From the spring, CONUL took over responsibility for the COLICO Pathways to Learning programme (PAL) which facilitates referred access for users from one library to another <http://pathwaystolearning.ie/> A cross-sector Cork PAL and a cross-sector, cross-border Music PAL were in existence already. A new cross-sector Midlands PAL was established during the year. Participating libraries are Athlone Institute of Technology, HSE Midlands, Longford, Westmeath, Roscommon, Laois and Offaly County Libraries, all sharing their information resources, knowledge and expertise among the community.

## North – South Liaison with CILIP Ireland

This committee draws membership from two professional associations, this Association and CILIP Ireland. Planning for the 2013 joint conference, which will be held in the Croke Park Conference Centre, Dublin on 10th & 11th April, was begun with a meeting planned for early February 2013.

## ANNUAL JOINT CONFERENCE 2012

The Merchant Hotel, Belfast, on 19th & 20th April, was the venue for the 2012 joint conference which was hosted the Northern Ireland Library Authority, organised by the North – South Liaison Committee. 124 delegates attended.

The conference theme was ‘Transforming Libraries and Information Services: radical ideas and innovative programming to transform libraries, recharge librarians and change lives’.

The conference included presentations on the role of social media in library services, the library brand, change management, and workshops on a diverse range of subjects including reading and literacy programmes, the changing roles of libraries and librarians and professional development.







At the Annual Joint Conference: Adrienne Adair, Fionnuala Hanrahan and Minister O'Dowd



Guy Daines, CILIP, Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Libraries and Jane Cantwell, Waterford City Libraries



Dr Patricia Canning, The Reader Organisation



L to R: Aisling Donnelly, Kildare Library & Arts Service, and Damien O'Shaughnessy, Dublin City Libraries



L to R: Fergus O'Dowd, T.D., Minister of State at the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Minister Carál Ní Chuilín, MLA, Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure



Jessica Bates introduces Professor Philip Read, President, CILIP Scotland



L to R: Ian Montgomery, former Chief Librarian, Belfast Education and Library Board, Norma McDermott, former Director, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, David Welch, former Chief Librarian, South Eastern Education and Library Board, Beth Porter, former Chief Librarian, South Eastern Education and Library Board [after David Welch]

The Universal Membership [public] library card project was launched at a reception in Stormont Castle by Northern Ireland Minister Carál Ni Chuilin, MLA, DCAL, and Republic of Ireland Minister of State, Minister Fergus O'Dowd, TD, Department of







Linda Houston, formerly LISC [NI], Norma McDermott, former Director, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna, Annette Kelly, Assistant Director, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna

Communications, Energy & Natural Resources.

On behalf of the two associations and the County & City Librarians in the Republic of Ireland, COLICO and CONUL, the conference hosted a lunch to celebrate the career and achievements of recently retired Director of an Chomhairle Leabharlanna, Norma McDermott.

### Attendance at Conferences

- **EBLIDA Council meeting, 10th May 2012, Copenhagen:** Marjory Sliney
- **EBLIDA/NAPLE Conference, 11th May 2012, Copenhagen:** Marjory Sliney
- **Welsh Libraries, Archives and Museums Conference, May 2012:** Catherine Gallagher



Adrienne Adair CILIP Ireland, Anne Peoples, University of Ulster Programme

## Groups and Sections

### Academic & Special Libraries Section

- **Chair:** Eva Hornung (Curriculum Development Unit, City of Dublin VEC)
- **Secretary:** Marie Cullen (National University of Ireland, Maynooth)
- **Treasurer:** Seán Hughes (Trinity College Dublin)
- **Members:** Jennifer Collery (University College Dublin); Aoife Connolly (PricewaterhouseCoopers); Jessica Eustace-Cook (Trinity College Dublin); Margaret Irons (School of Celtic Studies, DIAS); Áine Carey (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland); Erin O'Mahony (Houses of the Oireachtas); Ann O'Sullivan (Houses of the Oireachtas); Laura Rooney Ferris (Irish Hospice Foundation); Caitríona Sharkey (Ernst & Young)

The committee met on 12 occasions. This included 10 committee meetings, the AGM in June and a strategic planning meeting in July to plan the year ahead.

Laura Rooney Ferris was co-opted on to the committee in July and attended her first meeting in October, bringing committee membership up to its maximum of twelve.

In September 2012, Jennifer Collery resigned from her position as Treasurer; Seán Hughes took over the role with immediate effect. Jennifer had become Treasurer in June 2011; the Committee would like to thank her for her commitment to the role of Treasurer and wish Seán well in the position. Jennifer continued as a member of the Committee.

The AGM was held on the 21st July at the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin. The guest speaker, Dr. Jason McElligott, Keeper, Marsh's Library, gave an interesting overview of his role, the history of Marsh's Library and some of its collections.





**Above:** Delegates at the Annual Seminar 'Unlocking your potential'. **Right:** Ken Chad, of Chad Consulting, keynote speaker at the Annual Seminar.

The annual seminar 2012 took place on the 24th February at the Radisson Blu Hotel, Golden Lane, Dublin 8. It was entitled "Unlocking your potential: innovative approaches in library service delivery". The keynote speaker was Ken Chad of Ken Chad Consulting Ltd., a leading library and information strategy consultant. The day featured six case studies with speakers from Houses of the Oireachtas Library & Research Service (John McDonough), University College Dublin (James Molloy and Michelle Latimer), the Institute of Technology Carlow (Simon Perry), Trinity College Dublin (Arlene Healy), National University of Ireland Galway (Ronán Kennedy) and Leeds Metropolitan University (Julie Cleverly). A blog was set up in advance of the seminar. As this was easy to update, it offered the committee a means of providing attendees with the most current information as it came to hand.



The annual Library Careers Breakfast took place on Tuesday 27th March 2012 at the School of Information and Library Studies (SILS), University College Dublin. The breakfast had three speakers:

- Sinéad English a career management consultant who spoke about ways in which information professionals can structure, manage and promote their career, with practical guidance & opportunities to ask questions.
- Marie G. Cullen, NUI Maynooth and Secretary A&SL Section Committee gave a brief overview of the report of the LAI Taskforce on Employment Support.
- Jane Burns, Business Manager, An Leabharlann and former A&SL committee member, presented a review of the Irish LIS jobs market from January 2010 – June 2011 based on research she had conducted.

The programme of informal networking evenings continued in 2012.

- The annual Christmas/New Year Networking Event Thursday, 26th January 2012, organised by the Joint Committees of the Academic & Special Libraries Section and the Health Sciences Libraries Group was held in the Royal Irish Academy. The guest speaker was Carol Maddock, National Library of Ireland who gave a witty and informative presentation entitled 'The National Library of Ireland's social media story'. The Joint Committees hosted a drinks reception for all attendees. There was a small collection on the night for the Dublin Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.
- Trinity Inclusive Library – a project on making the Library of Trinity College, Dublin and its services more inclusive, Thursday, 13th September 2012. This event was organised in association with Trinity College Library and the Trinity College Disability Service. Jessie Kurtz, Deputy Librarian welcomed everybody and Michelle Garvey of TCD's Disability Services Office gave an overview of the project. A short tour of Trinity College Library highlighted changes and improvements implemented as a result of the project. Following the visit, refreshments were served at The Long Stone Pub.





## Career Development Group (CDG)

- **Chair:** Giada Gelli (National Gallery of Ireland)
- **Secretary:** Daniel Murray (Royal Dublin Society)
- **Treasurer:** Ciara Boylan (PricewaterhouseCoopers)
- **Committee:** Sarah Connolly (All Hallows College), Catherine Ryan (National Library of Ireland), Cecilia West, Bryan Whelan (Royal Dublin Society).

The Career Development Group is a new group which aims to address issues of career development and employment in the sector. The main objective of the CDG is to provide a forum (online and offline) for discussion and participation of new and recent graduates, professionals out of work and all professionals interested in career development issues. This group stems from a membership-based initiative which was previously known as LIS Career Development Group. Set up by Giada Gelli (MLIS) in December 2011, it originated from a perceived need to address employment and career development issues for new professionals, interns, volunteers and professionals out of work. Due to the growing interest in these issues, the LIS Career Development Group proposed the establishment of such a group within the LAI. The Council was very receptive to the proposal and on 23rd October 2012 the LAI held a general meeting to inaugurate the new Career Development Group.

Since its establishment in October, the CDG has been busy with the set up and administration of the group. Thanks to the formation of monthly committee meetings, a number of developments have been planned:

- Organising a series of formal and informal events for 2013.
- Promoting upcoming events through social media tools, such as Facebook (Laicdg page), Twitter (@LAICDGroup), LinkedIn and the group's blog ([www.laicdg.wordpress.com](http://www.laicdg.wordpress.com))
- Collaborating with the LAI Website Task Force in creating a functional and comprehensive online resource tool for job seeking and career development.

- Liaising with the *An Leabharlann* editorial board with the aim of encouraging contributions from CDG members.
- Researching into the issue of insurance for interns, as this issue can often deter institutions from taking on interns.
- Liaising with the LAI Education Committees (Professional Standards and CPD) in all common matters of concern, particularly regarding internship and mentorship guidance, CPD, associateship and fellowship of the LAI.

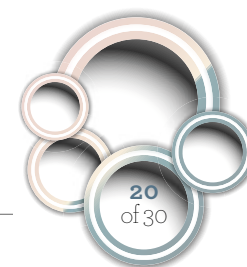
The CDG held an informal networking event on 4 December 2012 in Kennedy's Bar, Dublin 2, and also ran a logo competition online. The group's new logo, designed by a Turkish graphic designer, has been unveiled on the CDG blog.

In addition, a draft events schedule for 2013 has been put forward:

- winter event (Jan-Feb) – presentations on alternative LIS careers with networking reception.
- spring libcamp (Apr-May) – organised following example of UK libcamps.
- summer networking event – with presentations on topics to be decided.
- autumn AGM and networking event (Oct-Nov) – including a presentation element.

## Cataloguing and Metadata Group (CMG)

- **Chair:** John McManus (Trinity College Dublin)
- **Secretary:** Caroline Philpott (Arcline)
- **Treasurer:** Christoph Schmidt-Supprian (Trinity College Dublin)
- **Committee:** John Bates (RTÉ Sound Archive), Senan Healy (RDS), Marie Jennings (Eversheds), Eoin Loughlin (School of Celtic Studies, DIAS), Jennifer McGrath (Oireachtas Library), Patricia Moloney (UCD Folklore), Hugh Murphy (NUI Maynooth), Orna Roche (UCD), Clare Thornley (University of London), Michelle Williams (Trinity College Dublin)







2012 represented another busy year for the Cataloguing and Metadata Group during which the committee met four times and a number of events and activities took place. The year officially began on the 3rd February when two new officers were elected: John Mc Manus as Chair and Patricia Maloney as Secretary. Three new committee members were also welcomed to the Committee: Eoin Loughlin, Caroline Philpott and Clare Thornley.

At that first meeting it was agreed that there would be a strong focus on training so a comprehensive survey was distributed to members with regard to their training needs. The feedback was very interesting with a strong demand for Functional Requirement for Bibliographic Resources (FRBR), Resource Description and Access (RDA) and WebDewey closely followed by thesaurus construction and MARC 21 for serials. It was encouraging to note the feedback reflected members' awareness of the major changes about to take place within the cataloguing community. The survey subsequently had a second life when it was circulated by the Academic and National Library Training Co-Operative (ANLTC) amongst its member institutions.

In response to feedback from recent library school graduates and unemployed librarians, a sub-committee was established to explore the possibility of setting up a bursary. The sub-committee met several times over the course of the year and much progress has been made. Subject to approval by Council, the CMG hopes to officially launch the bursary early in 2013.

During the summer the CMG organised a trip to the Linen Hall Library in Belfast on August 24th. It proved a very interesting and successful visit, with the CMG members in attendance treated to a fascinating tour of the library and its archival and special collections by guide, Gerry Healy.

Later in the year and in response to the aforementioned survey the CMG organised a workshop called 'How to create taxonomy'. It was held in the library of Trinity College Dublin on 8th October and was facilitated by David Haynes (author of *Metadata for Information Management and Retrieval*). This proved to be a very useful workshop.

The CMG was very aware that RDA was finally becoming a reality and encouraged members to take advantage of the many free training resources



CMG visit the Linen Hall Library, Belfast. In front, from left to right: Audrey Kinch (NUI Maynooth), Sophie Evans (RIA), Eoin Loughlin (DIAS), John Bates (RTÉ), Marie Cullen (NUI Maynooth). In the back are: Christoph Schmidt Supprian (TCD) and John McManus (TCD).

available online. A blog called 'RDA in six weeks', structured around TCD library's RDA training programme, was created and circulated via the various email lists. The CMG has also been in contact with CILIP Cataloguing and Indexing Group and plans to host one of their 'FRBR for the Terrified' workshops early in the New Year.

The AGM took place at the National Library of Ireland on the 19th of November and was followed by a presentation by Jane Burns on topic of 'Taxonomies in Commercial and Research Environments using the Skill Sets of a Librarian'. This was well received and marked the end of the year's activities.

Finally, a number of personnel changes took place in the committee later in the year. Patricia Maloney stood down as secretary while remaining on the committee and Caroline Philpott was elected secretary. Eoin Loughlin also stood down from committee.





## County & City Librarians Section (CCLS)

- **Chair:** Donal Tinney, Sligo County Libraries
- **Vice Chair:** Ciaran Mangan, Meath County Libraries
- **Secretary:** Catherine Elliott, Monaghan County Libraries
- **Treasurer:** Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Library Service

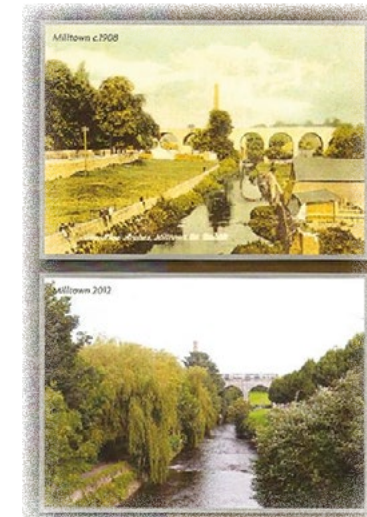
The AGM of the County and City Librarian's Section (CCLS) was held in Wicklow on 5th October 2012 and the above officers were elected.

Issues discussed by the Section throughout the year included the formal dissolution of An Chomhairle Leabharlanna and the establishment of the Libraries Development unit within the LGMA, a National Library Service review, book tendering, eBook purchasing, the amalgamation of Limerick City and County Services, options for shared services, services for children, The Gathering, FÁS eLearning, Bealtaine, and other key areas of service development.

The Section held its autumn Seminar in Wicklow in October 2012. The title of the Seminar was 'Bread and Roses: Public Libraries – Positioning for the Future'. The title was inspired by the quote from poet James Oppenheim, "Hearts starve as well as bodies. Give us bread, but give us roses too". The Seminar concentrated on the need to develop practical strategies to cope with the changing financial circumstances facing library services and to find innovative ways to do "more with less". Michael Malone, Kildare County Manager and Chair of the LGMA, set the context of the current financial constraints faced by all public services. David Feeney, Principal Officer with the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, spoke on the Implementation of the Public Service Reform Plan, highlighting how this reform process will fundamentally change the system of management and administration in all areas of the public service. Paul Dunne, from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, spoke on the plans for Local Government Reform. He detailed the changing role of Local Government, which in future will have an increasing role in the social and economic development of communities.



Back Row L to R: Pat McMahon, Liam Ronayne, Mary Reynolds. Front Row L to R: Dolores Doyle, Seán Ó'Suilleabháin, Mary Farrell



The Gathering 'Then and Now' postcard project From Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Libraries

L to R: Norma McDermott, former Director, An Chomhairle Leabharlanna with many of her colleagues from the County and City Librarians Section

John Dolan, OBE, current Chair of CILIP and consultant in libraries and regeneration, facilitated a series of workshops discussing the future vision of the public library service in Ireland. The findings from these discussions fed into the public library review process currently under way.

During the conference Minister of State Fergus O'Dowd, T.D. launched the Irish Public Libraries/





Gathering Ireland “Then and Now” Post card project. Each Library Authority selected 6 photographic images of their county from around the turn of the century and commissioned 6 modern day photographs of the same locations. The photographs were used to produce c 180 images and 90,000 postcards for distribution abroad throughout the year of The Gathering.

To mark their retirement and to honour their contributions to the development of Irish public libraries, presentations were made to Dolores Doyle, retiring Limerick City Librarian, Seán O’Súilleabháin, retiring Leitrim County Librarian and Mary Farrell, retiring Westmeath County Librarian. The presentation took place in Galway at the County and City Librarians’ June meeting.

## Genealogy and Local Studies Group

- **Chair:** Síle Coleman (South Dublin County Libraries)
- **Joint Secretary:** Jeremy Black (Fingal County Libraries)
- **Joint Secretary:** Inez Fletcher (National Library of Ireland)
- **Treasurer:** Mary Broderick (National Library of Ireland)
- **Committee:** Mary Conefrey (Leitrim County Libraries), Monica Cullinan (University College Dublin), Carmel Flahavan (Carlow County Libraries), Justin Furlong (National Library of Ireland), Miriam Lambe (Marino Institute of Education), Gearoid O’Brien (Westmeath County Libraries), Colette O’Flaherty (National Library of Ireland), Kieran Swords (South Dublin County Libraries).

The committee met 4 times during 2012 to discuss possible topics and plans for future events.

A visit the Registry of Deeds in Henrietta Street took place on Thursday 21st June. Daire Guidera and her staff gave the 26 attendees a guided tour of the building, the collections held therein, and a talk on the services offered by the Registry. The building is of great historic interest and the Registry of Deeds itself is of particular genealogical interest.

The 2011 AGM was held on the 8th of December, at the Irish Traditional Music Archive, Merrion Square, where we were greeted by the Director of the ITMA, Nicholas Carolan. After the AGM we were shown around the library, archive and recording studios by Grace Toland, Librarian, and other staff members.

The 2012 GenLoc AGM is planned for mid January 2013, at the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, and will be followed by a guided tour of the building.

## Government Libraries Section

- **Chair:** Jean Cassidy (Chief State Solicitor’s Office)
- **Hon Sec:** Mairéad Treanor (Met Éireann)
- **Treasurer:** Paula Murphy (Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions)
- **Committee:** Máire Caffrey (Teagasc), Joe Donnelly (Judges’ Library), Conor McCabe (Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions), Donal McSweeney (Central Bank of Ireland), Zoe Melling (Legal Aid Board/Refugee Documentation Centre), Fiona Morley (Legal Aid Board/Refugee Documentation Centre), Noeleen Murtagh (Food Safety Authority of Ireland), Muireann Tóibín (Revenue Commissioners)

The GLs held four ordinary meetings during the year. Areas of concern to members included:

- The role and status of professional librarians in government departments and agencies, in particular the de-professionalisation of library posts and the non-filling of professional librarian vacancies
- Promotional opportunities for librarians in the civil service
- Copyright issues

Fionnuala Hanrahan, LAI President, attended the meeting held on 18 January at which the future of government libraries and information services in central government in the context of public sector reform was discussed.







The AGM was held on 6 June 2012 in the offices of the Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland, at which new Officers were elected.

A new issue of the GLS Newlsetter *GLINT* was published in August 2012.

Work began on compiling a new Directory of Irish Government Libraries and Information Services.

## Health Science Libraries Group

- **Acting Chair:** Brian Galvin (Health Research Board)
- **Treasurer:** Anne Murphy (ANMCH, Dublin)
- **Secretary:** Michael Doheny, (Athlone Institute of Technology)
- **Communications Officer:** Breffni Smith (HSE, Beaumont Hospital)
- **CPD:** Anne Madden (UCD, St Vincent's Hospital)
- **Committee:** Bennery Rickard, (HSE, Dr. Steevens' Hospital), Louise Bradley, (IPH, Irish Health Institute)

The most important event this year was the publication of *Irish Health Libraries: New Directions* (SHeLLi), a report on the status of Health Librarianship and Libraries in Ireland. The launch of the report was the culmination of an extended period of examination of what we do and how we do it and, more importantly, what we need to do to secure the future of our profession. SHeLLi argued that health librarians in Ireland have the capacity to match international best practice and to continue to make a significant contribution to Irish health care. The report made several recommendations under the broad headings of advocacy, gathering evidence and staff and service development. The report will help guide the development of the HSLG and the work of its various subgroups managing our continuing professional development, annual conference, website and other resources.

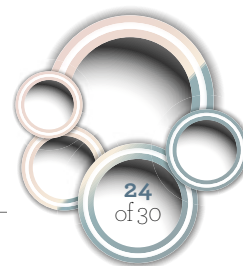
The HSLG established a Working Group which is concentrating on the task of pursuing and implementing the recommendations of the SHeLLi Report. Terms of reference were adopted in summer 2012 and the first meeting was held on 4th September, first under the chairmanship of Brian



**The SHeLLi launch.** L to R: Louise Farragher (HRB), Brian Galvin (HRB), Aoife Lawton (HSE, Dr Steevens), Leo Kearns (RCPI), Fionnuala Hanrahan (LAI President), Kate Kelly (RCSI), Bennery Rickard (HSE, Dr Steevens)

Galvin, and from November, that of Anne Murphy. The SHeLLi Report has 30 recommendations grouped under three strategic aims: identify champions and promote visibility; build a body of evidence; and staff and service development. It identifies 5 responsible bodies: HSLG, Health libraries, Health librarians, HIQA and the DoHC. Tasked with implementing the report, the first stage for the Working Group is to prioritise the recommendations, consider what is achievable, what is not achievable, review timeframes and define desired outcomes. This first stage establishes the framework for the WG's remit. It will be completed in February 2013 and will go before the HSLG Committee for ratification in spring 2013.

The CPD Working Group (Dave McNaughton, David Mockler, Gethin White, Tom Martin, Anne Madden) organised two very different courses in 2012. The first, "eLibrary Workshop", availed of the expertise available within HSLG itself, and consisted of four presentations





covering different facets of running and/or managing an eLibrary. Niamh Lucey provided tips on the subscription agent and licences, Anne Murphy shared her experience in managing the library collection in difficult times, Michelle Dalton demonstrated how she created online learning modules using free software and last but not least, Aoife Lawton covered access, Athens, authentication for the not-too-techy. The second course, “Advanced Search Techniques for Systematic Reviews, Health Technology Assessment and Guideline Development” was presented by Julie Glanville from the York Health Economics Consortium, and Carol Lefebvre – independent information consultant and former Senior Information Specialist at the UK Cochrane Centre. For those lucky enough to attend, this session provided valuable insight into a core health librarian skill. Both courses proved very popular which will be a useful guideline for the future. In 2013, CPD plan to liaise with the SHELLi Working Group on Staff & Service Development to identify a strategic direction for future training and development.

During 2012 the HSLG held a joint networking event in the Royal Irish Academy with the Academic and Special Libraries Section. The HSLG annual conference for health science librarians was held in Athlone. A new ‘LIS’ collection was created in Lenus to enhance the research profile of Health Science librarians within the context of Irish and global health research via the World Wide Science Alliance portal. A number of members attended and presented at international conferences including EAHIL and UKSG, and reports were published in the December issue of HINT, the HSLG newsletter. The HSLG website was re-designed towards the end of 2011 by Niamh Adams, creating greater potential for sharing information in 2012.

## Munster Regional Section

The Munster Regional Section did not meet in 2012

## Prison Libraries Group

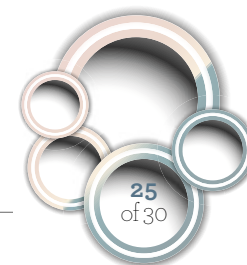
The Prison Libraries Group did not meet in 2012.

## Public Libraries Section

- **Chair:** Brendan Teeling (Dublin City Libraries)
- **Vice Chair:** Mary Murphy (Meath County Council Library Service)
- **Secretary:** Melanie Cunningham (Waterford City Council Library Service)
- **Treasurer:** Pat Lonergan (Kildare County Council Library Service)
- **Committee:** Josephine Vahey (Galway County Libraries), Carmel Daly (Clare County Libraries), Orlagh Forde (Cork County Council Library Service), Shauna Henry (Meath County Council Library Service), Susan Lovett (Fingal County Libraries), Barbara Varley (Mayo County Libraries), Helen McNutt (Donegal County Library Service), Elizabeth Keane (Galway County Libraries), Maureen Kerr (Donegal County Library Service), Jackie McIntyre (Laois County Library), Grainne Keane (Limerick City Library).

The Committee met five times during 2012 which included the AGM. These meetings were held in the ILAC Centre Library, Dublin. Outgoing Chairman Brendan Teeling was re-elected along with Melanie Cunningham as Secretary. Mary Murphy was elected Vice Chair and Pat Lonergan was elected Treasurer. The Chair thanked the committee for its continued support and hard work of the past year.

The Section’s Annual Conference took place from the 7th November to the 9th November at the Seafeld Golf and Spa Hotel, in Gorey, County Wexford, at the invitation from Wexford County Council. Over 100 delegates attended the conference, the theme this year was a continuation of last year’s theme ‘Books are for life’. The conference was formally opened by Vice President of the LAI Jane Cantwell. Some of the highlights of the conference were Kathy Ruddy’s talk on fundraising for Libraries, which looked at ways to enhance the service through independent financial support. Dr Patricia Canning, from The Reader Organisation, gave an interesting talk on ways of engaging different groups in shared reading activities and gave the group a rare insight on





working with difficult groups within the prison service. This was followed by a the County Librarians Panel looking at the challenges libraries face in this current climate of change, the panel included Helen Walsh from Clare County Library, Damien Brady from Limerick County Library, Liam Ronayne from Cork City Library and was chaired by Brendan Martin from Wicklow County Libraries.

The programme included a visit to the new library at Gorey, with a tour from Executive Librarian Hazel Percival and a talk from Gabriel Flynn from Leitrim Libraries about the new sensory room built for children with delayed development and sensory problems. Breda O Sullivan from 'Business in the community' also gave a talk about their work on 'A time to read' programme being carried out in primary schools. A civic reception from Wexford County Council in the attached Council buildings took place after the talks. John Lonergan was the after dinner speaker at the conference dinner, and gave an uplifting speech about his own experiences of humanity and dignity within the prison service.

On the Friday morning session Isolde Roche from Pan Macmillan gave an interesting insight to the development of ebooks and the impact on publishing, followed by Mairi Kidd from Barrington Stoke who focused on ways to engage the reluctant reader. Quick fire rounds included talks from Jane Alger on activities Dublin City Libraries are engaged in for UNESCO City of Literature, Hazel Percival on reading development programmes in Wexford Libraries and Mary Stuart, Chief Librarian from Offaly Libraries, spoke about the installation of RFID at Tullamore library. The conference concluded with a 'My life in books' panel from RTE's Anne Doyle and Evelyn Cusack, crime writer Declan Hughes and the panel was chaired by author and broadcaster John Quinn.

The committee would like to thank Wexford County Libraries for all its help and support and a special thanks to all our sponsors and friends in the trade, and all participants in making this conference a great success.

## Rare Books Group

- **Chair:** Marie Boran (NUI Galway),
- **Secretary:** Evelyn Flanagan, UCD Library
- **Treasurer:** Celine Ward, Chester Beatty Library
- **Committee Members:** Elizabethanne Boran (Worth Library), Alexandra Caccamo (Botanical Gardens Library), Frances Clarke (National Library of Ireland), Bernadette Cunningham (Royal Irish Academy), David Meehan (Mater Dei Institute), Kathryn Norris (TCD Library), Loretto O'Donohoe (NUI Galway), Celine Ward (Chester Beatty Library), Elizabeth Murphy (NUI, Maynooth)

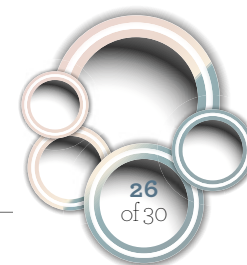
The Committee met four times during the year (9th January 2012, 5th March 2012, 21st May 2012, and 30th August 2012)

Elizabethanne Boran and David Meehan joined the committee this year. Celine Ward took over from Frances Clarke as treasurer.

*Guidelines on the disposal of rare books* were drawn up by the Rare Books Group and sent to the LAI Council for approval.

The continuing professional development events organised by the Committee were

- The AGM took place on 8th February 2012 in the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin. After the AGM Dr. Carla King from St. Patrick's College, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 spoke about the library of Michael Davitt.
- The annual visit this year, to Castletown House, took place on the 6th of June. We were given a tour of the archives of Castletown house by archivist Roisin Berry and a tour of the house itself by the Office of Public Works Mark Purcell, National Trust Librarian and author of *The Big House Library in Ireland* gave a lecture to the group on the libraries of houses such as Castletown. This visit was attended by 16 people.
- On 5th October a half day workshop on Copyright and Special Collections was held in the Chester Beatty library, Dublin. The workshop was delivered by Joe Donnelly from the Judges Library.







This workshop was attended by 19 people

- This year's seminar, on 13th November, in the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin was entitled Religious Heritage in Irish Libraries. Contributors included Dr. Raymond Refaussy, Representative Church Body Library, Dr. John McCafferty, School of History and Archives, UCD, Elaine Wright, Curator of the Islamic Collections, The Chester Beatty Library, Dublin, David Meehan, Librarian, Mater Dei Institute of Education, Joe McLaughlin, Archivist and Rare Books Curator, University of Ulster (Emeritus), Barbara McCormack, Librarian, Russell Library, NUI Maynooth and Christopher Moriarty, Curator of the Society of Friends Library, Dublin. This seminar was attended by 39 people.

## Western Regional Section

- **Chair:** Eileen O'Connor, Galway County Libraries
- **Secretary:** Anne Wilkinson, Marine Institute
- **Treasurer:** Olive Greaney, Galway Mayo Institute of Technology-Castlebar
- **Webmaster:** Colette Harlowe, GMIT-Galway (Webmaster)
- **Committee:** Emer Donoghue (Galway County Libraries), Patricia Ffrench (NUIG-James Hardiman Library), Fintan Bracken (Marine Institute), Ruairí OhAodha (Galway County Libraries).

The committee met on three occasions. The focus of the meetings was on developing a programme of activities aimed at providing a networking forum for those involved in libraries in the West of Ireland and on promoting continuing professional development of library staff. In addition the committee reviewed and drafted a Constitution and Rules of the Western Regional Section of the Library Association of Ireland, in accordance with Article 82 of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the LAI.

The theme for the first networking event was "The Relevance of current trends in Social Media to Library Services". GMIT hosted this event and provided the facilities for a 2-way video conferencing link between GMIT

Galway campus and Castlebar. This 2-hour event took place on Monday 26th March 2012, there were 18 attendees – 14 in GMIT Galway and 4 in GMIT Castlebar. Topics discussed included: The use of Facebook and Twitter in libraries; keeping information on Facebook and Twitter up to date; the importance of and need for a Social Networking Policy before engaging in social media activity; the need to allocate responsibility for maintaining social media sites; using social media as a tool to promote library activities and events; use of social media (Facebook) to reach non-library users; the time spent on tweeting and the impacts this may have; merging Facebook and Twitter feeds so as to save time; and, the fact that library staff and the public may not be wholly comfortable with social media. Suggestions put forward for further WRS LAI networking topics for discussion and/or seminars included: the progression of the e-book; libraries and I-pads and the use of YouTube.

The annual seminar was entitled 'e-Library Outreach and Communication', and took place on 11th June at the Marine Institute, Oranmore, Galway. The seminar programme focused on three related topics: (1) The Online Learning Environment; (2) the Teaching Librarian; and (3) Social Networking in your Library. The format for the event was a 30-minute presentation followed by a 1-hour workshop for each topic. There was consensus that Dr. Sharon Flynn, Assistant Director, Centre for Excellence in Learning and Teaching (CELT), NUIG; Maria Rogers, Information Skills Librarian & Lecturer, DBS; and Edward Byrne, Senior Librarian Web Services, Dublin City Libraries excelled in their presentations and the workshop element was very successfully received. We are most grateful to the speakers for so generously sharing their experiences and expertise with us on the day. Attendees at this event were issued with an LAI Continuing Professional Development Certificate of Attendance. The Committee proposes to submit a review of the Seminar to the 2013 spring edition of An Leabharlann and establish online links to the presentations on the WRS LAI section of the LAI website.





## Youth Library Group

- **Chair:** Frances Crampsie (Donegal Public Libraries)
- **Secretary:** Deirdriu McQuaid (Monaghan Public Libraries)
- **Treasurer:** Helen O'Donnell (Dublin City Public Libraries)
- **Committee:** Catherine Gallagher (South Dublin Public Libraries), Maedhbh Rogan (Meath Public Libraries), Aisling Donnelly (Kildare Public Libraries), Emma Hutchinson (DunLaoghaire-Rathdown Public Libraries), Dympna Reilly (DunLaoghaire-Rathdown Public Libraries), Domitilla Fagan (South Dublin Public Libraries), Beata Molendowska (Dublin City Public Libraries), Mary Bohan (Leitrim Public Libraries)

The group organized and hosted its annual seminar, Recommending with Confidence, which took place on Tuesday 27th November in Rathmines Library, Dublin. Workshops and presentations included

Genealogy for Primary school children by Donegal Libraries, Maths Eye programme by South Dublin Libraries, One book one city/town/area by Dublin City Libraries, South Dublin Libraries and Meath Libraries; Library programming for teenagers by Coolock Library. There was a short 'Five Minute Favourites' by librarians, demonstrating some recent successful programmes/projects in their respective libraries. A demonstration from Bealach na nGael, an Irish reenactment and historical group was provided also. The seminar was fully booked up and another waiting list taken – 53 librarians participated in the Seminar, which was certified by the LAI CPD committee and all attendees received a CPD certificate.

The Youth Library Group works with other organizations and agencies throughout the year on several national festivals and initiatives. It works with groups such as CBI for Children's Book Festival, Discover Science for national Science Week, World Book Day, Library Ireland Week to name but a few. A member of the YLG sits on the Literacy & Numeracy for Life Task Force, 2 members are on the LAI Council.



Members of the  
Teenage Book Club  
in Clare County  
Libraries



# Membership

In 2012 the figures for personal and institutional membership respectively were 389 and 58. In accordance with the regulations of the Association, those who had not renewed by September were deemed to be lapsed members.

# Acknowledgements

The Association acknowledges with thanks the support of many library and other institutions and businesses without whose cooperation and support it could not have operated so effectively throughout the year. Particular thanks is due to:

- Dublin City Library for providing a correspondence address,
- Dublin City Library, the Dublin Dental Hospital, Trinity College Dublin for making facilities for meetings available to the Council.
- The very many library organisations that accommodated committee meetings, seminars, launches, workshops and visits throughout the year;
- The chief librarians and leaders of service organisations who facilitated staff to participate at meetings, promotions, CPD and other events;
- The Royal Irish Academy, Dublin City Public Libraries, Fingal County Libraries, South Dublin County Libraries and Waterford City Council Library Service for providing storage for Association records,
- The management of Northern Ireland Library Authority for hosting the annual joint Library Association of Ireland / CILIP Ireland conference in April;
- The library business sector and other friends of the Association that support its work through sponsorship of meetings, seminars and other activities.

## Appendix: Organisation of the Association

The Library Association of Ireland is a company limited by guarantee. Every member is a shareholder. The Council is the company's Board of Directors.

The Memorandum and Articles of Association establish the methods and capacity of the Association to manage its business. These are the foundation documents for all action by the Association and they outline procedures in place.

Currently membership is open to individuals and institutions. Participative membership is encouraged to benefit the profession and the person.

This annual report illustrates the range of opportunities for active participation that are open to members currently. The Articles of Association describe the procedure to initiate other relevant activity. Activities can be at individual and group levels. Activity at individual level can include research, writing, mentoring, lecturing / training, further education, advocacy, contributing a specialist or secondary expertise. Group work can include all of the above in community – and contribution to panels, task-forces and working groups. A list of panels and other structures are listed below, and current membership of those structures is listed throughout the report, should you be interested in learning more about an area of activity.

Membership of Groups and Sections forms part of membership. Participation at committee level of Groups and Sections can be a valuable learning and networking experience. Committees are elected at Annual General Meetings. The election process is advertised to members in advance. Groups and Sections have documented procedures which operate within the parameters of the overarching Memorandum and Articles, possibly with refinements to suit local circumstances. Groups and Sections can create time-specific, focused sub-committees in response to priorities and workloads.







Groups and Sections are

#### SECTORAL

- Academic and Special Libraries Section
- County and City Librarians' Section
- Government Libraries Section
- Health Sciences Libraries Section
- Prison Libraries Group
- Public Libraries' Section

#### REGIONAL

- Western Regional Section
- Munster Regional Section

#### INTEREST SPECIFIC [CROSS-SECTORAL]

- Cataloguing and Metadata Group
- Career Development Group [established 2012]
- Genealogy and Local Studies Group
- Rare Books Group
- Youth Libraries Group

Membership of the Council is open to all personal members in good standing. The procedure for election to membership of the Council is outlined in the Articles and the nomination / election process is advertised to all members in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

Election to the Offices of President, Vice-President, Hon Secretary and Hon Treasurer is also open to all personal members in good standing. Similar to the Council, the procedure is outlined in the Articles and the nomination / election process is advertised to all members in advance of the Annual General Meeting.

The Council has a range of sub-committees, taskforces and panels. In general membership of these is not exclusive to Board members. Some structures are of a temporary nature, responsive to the work involved.

Areas covered by committees currently are in

#### PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- Professional Standards
- Continuing Professional Development

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Communications policy & procedure
- Website development
- Editorial Board of an Leabharlann: the Irish Library
- Leabharlann-e

#### SERVICES DEVELOPMENT

- Library Ireland Week
- Information Literacy

- Literacy & Numeracy: contribution to Government strategy
- North / South Liaison committee [with CILIP Ireland]
- International & European Affairs Panel

#### MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION

- Administration
- Action Planning
- Audit Committee

Initially, each committee develops its Terms of Reference which is approved by the Council. Guidelines on the development of Terms of Reference are provided on the Association's website.

The Association also provides nominees to a range of external organisations. These are listed in the annual report. The election of nominees varies depending upon the organisation involved.

Since the Council is responsible for the correct and effective running of the Association, all committees and nominees report regularly through its Honorary Secretary.

