



The LIBRARY ASSOCIATION of IRELAND

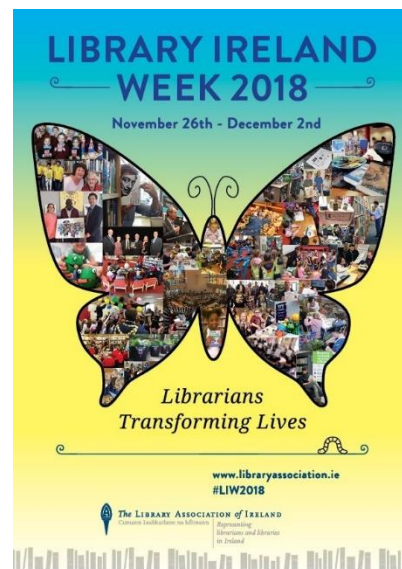
Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann

Representing
librarians and libraries
in Ireland

Annual Report 2018

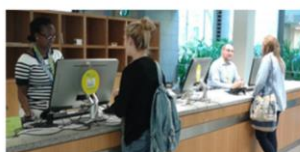
Welcome to the website of the Library Association of Ireland

We are the professional body representing libraries and librarianship in Ireland. The objectives of the association are to promote and develop high standards of librarianship and of library and information services in Ireland, and to secure greater co-operation between libraries.



Our Story

The Library Association of Ireland was founded on 28th October 1928, at an Irish Library Conference held under the auspices of the Library Service Branch of the Irish Local Government Officials' Union. At the Conference an Executive Board of twelve members was elected, and this Board met for the first time on 16th November 1928.



Individual Membership
for One Year



Institutional Membership
for One Year



Student Membership
for Two Years

Library Association of Ireland Annual Report 2018

Edited by Philip Cohen on behalf of the Association.
With thanks to the Officers and other members of
Committees, Taskforces, Groups and Sections for
their original contributions. And special thanks to
Gerardine Blee for use of her report of the Annual
Joint Conference.

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Introduction

The Library Association of Ireland relies solely on the work of volunteers. Grateful thanks, therefore, to all its members and others who gave so generously of their time to support the activities of the Association throughout the year. The pages that follow bear testimony to such commitment, enthusiasm and sheer hard work - from individuals working behind the scenes as much as those in the public eye.

I offer my own personal thanks to members of Council and the Management Committee who supported me so well during 2018. In particular, the Association owes much this year to colleagues from Kildare Library and Arts Service and from Maynooth University. The Association would have achieved far less without their contribution.

Achievements

Further details of individual events and activities can be found elsewhere in this report. The Council and Management Committee were responsible for some and individual Committees, Taskforces, Groups and Sections for others. As usual, the Groups and Sections also maintained their own full calendar of activities.

- Engaged a web developer, designed and launched a new website
- Welcomed large numbers of new members
- Devised a Data Protection Policy for the Association and received returns from Committees, Groups and Sections
- Published two issues of *An Leabharlann*
- Planned the 2019 Annual Joint Conference: Engaged professional conference organisers, secured strong keynote speakers, issued a public call for papers for the first time and received a good response
- Planned for the re-accreditation of the DBS MSc in Library and Information Management
- Reviewed the ALAI award, consulted members widely, recommended changes and planned their implementation
- Received a CPD Needs Analysis report and considered its implications
- Established a new Marketing Committee
- Established a new Open Science/Open Research Group
- Proposed a new Library Publishing Group
- Produced a briefing document on the successful recruitment and retention of Committee members for Groups and Sections
- Promoted closer ties between Council, Committees, Groups and Sections
- Considered the future maintenance and development of the Association archives
- Revived *Library Ireland Week*, as both a promotional tool and a CPD opportunity: Ran a public competition, organised library staff shadowing and the inaugural Library Staff Champion Award
- Sponsored SLIP, IPN and ILI, again as both a promotional tool and a CPD opportunity
- Addressed concerns to the appropriate Government Department regarding long-term vacancies at County Librarian level and witnessed the subsequent recruitment for many such posts
- Confirmed the inclusion of the Association on the Seanad Register of Nominating Bodies for the Cultural and Educational Panel

- Maintained the North-South Liaison Committee with CILIP Ireland
- Contributed to the IFLA Library Map of the World
- Nominated a new representative to the Irish National Committee of the Blue Shield
- Investigated the possibility of hosting a future IFLA WLIC Conference in Dublin

The Library Association of Ireland was founded 90 years ago, on 28th October 1928. Building on the strong foundations of the past, and evidence from this report, I am confident that we can look forward with optimism to new opportunities and new achievements for the Association long into the future.

Dr Philip Cohen
President, 2018-19
Library Association of Ireland

Library Association of Ireland Annual General Meeting 2018

The Annual General Meeting of the Library Association of Ireland took place on Thursday 22nd March 2018 in Cork City Library, Grand Parade, Cork City. The meeting was held in Cork to mark 125 years since the establishment of the public library service in the city.

Officers and Council Elected at the Meeting

The following were elected as Officers and Council Members:

Officers

President: Dr Philip Cohen (Dublin Institute of Technology)

Vice-president: Marian Higgins (Kildare Library and Arts Service)

Vice-president: Cathal McCauley (Maynooth University Library)

Honorary Secretary: Eimear McGinn (Kildare Library and Arts Service)

Honorary Treasurer: Lorna Dodd (Maynooth University Library)



Left to right: Vice-Presidents Cathal McCauley and Marian Higgins, President Philip Cohen, Honorary Secretary Eimear McGinn, Honorary Treasurer Lorna Dodd

Council Members

Fintan Bracken (IT Carlow)

Jane Burns (Irish Hospice Foundation/Athlone Institute of Technology)

Dr. Philip Cohen (Dublin Institute of Technology)

Melanie Cunningham (Waterford City and County Libraries)

Margaret Hayes (Dublin City Libraries)

Marian Higgins (Kildare Library and Arts Service)
Lai Ma (University College Dublin)
Lorraine Marrey (Blackrock College)
Eoin McCarney (National Library of Ireland)
Cathal McCauley (Maynooth University Library)
Mary Murphy (Meath County Libraries)
Emer O'Brien (Tipperary Library Service)
Yvonne O'Brien (Louth County Library Service)
Marie O'Neill (Dublin Business School)
Hazel Percival (Wexford Public Library Services)
Christoph Schmidt-Supprian (Trinity College Dublin)
John Shortall (Carlow County Library Service)
Kathryn Smyth (Royal College of Surgeons)
Sandra Turner (Kildare Library and Arts Service)
Joan Ward (Libraries Development Unit, Local Government Management Agency)

Motion Considered by Members at the Meeting

The following motion was proposed by the City and County Librarians' Section of the Association and carried by the meeting:

The Government's new Public Library Strategy 2018-2022 will underpin the continued development of the public library system over the next five years and will affirm the public library as a critical service at the centre of the community, meeting the information, learning and cultural needs of individuals and communities. The new Strategy was developed by the Department of Rural and Community Development, the Local Government Management Agency and Local Authorities.

In keeping with the objectives of the LAI to promote the career development of persons engaged in library services and information provision, this Association calls on the Department of Rural and Community Development and Local Authorities to ensure that library teams are led locally by suitably qualified County and City Librarians appointed to long standing vacancies at 9 local authorities, representing more than 30% of posts at this grade.

Associateships Awarded at the Meeting

Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland (ALAI) was awarded to the following members:

Michelle Breen, BA, DLIS, ALAI
Celine Campbell, BA, MLIS, ALAI
Yvette Campbell, BA, MLIS, ALAI
Helen McGonagle, MA, MSc, ALAI
Noreen McHugh, BA, HDipED, MLIS, ALAI
Ciarán Quinn, MA, MLIS, ALAI
Shona Thoma, BA, MLIS, ALAI

Four of the new Associates were present at the meeting to receive their awards from the President in person.



Left to right: Michelle Breen, Helen McGonagle, President Philip Cohen, Shona Thoma, Yvette Campbell

Citations for ALAI

Michelle Breen, BA, DLIS, ALAI

The candidate demonstrates a strong career focus since 2000 as a practising information professional in the private sector and in the Glucksman Library, University of Limerick. In addition to pursuing CPD courses, she has written and contributed to the profession through articles and conference presentations. Michelle serves on the CONUL Communication and Outreach Sub-Committee and was the recipient of the CONUL/ANTLC 2016 Research award with colleague Johanna Archbold (RCSI). This research is the subject of a forthcoming presentation at CONUL 2018. Her commitment to the profession is further exemplified through her role as Treasurer of the LAI Western Section and as Moderator and Facilitator of *Rudai 23*. In addition to representing parents at a local nursery school, Michelle served for two years as a member of the Governing Authority of the University of Limerick.

Celine Campbell, BA, MLIS, ALAI

Celine has worked in Schools Libraries and more extensively in Academic Libraries. She has been an active practitioner since qualification and maintains a reflective diary – as a sign of her commitment to and means of continuous professional development. This is supported by her perceptive self-awareness and understanding of the key competencies she has gained since achieving her MLIS qualification in 2012. Her practical work

experience has led her to acquire the following professional skills: collection development; cataloguing; budgetary and event management; delivery of training sessions to students and to fellow library staff; communication through individual consultation, public speaking, publications and social media. In addition, Celine records an impressive list of formal CPD activities: attendance at 9 conferences, seminars or workshops, on a wide variety of topics; delivered a presentation and a poster at an ANLTC seminar; published a conference report in *An Leabharlann* and book reviews for *The School Librarian*.

Yvette Campbell, BA, MLIS, ALAI

Having assessed the application of Ms. Yvette Campbell, in the light of the Regulations governing Associateship, it is recommended that the candidate be elected to the Register of Associate of the LAI. Ms. Campbell holds an approved qualification i.e. Master of Library and Information Studies (MLIS), awarded by the NUI in 2010, and is a member of the LAI in good standing. Yvette has 24 months appropriate post-qualification experience in a university library, plus some 26 months previous experience in a range of professional posts as Assistant Librarian and Cataloguer, a total of more than four years in professional posts. She is currently an Assistant Librarian in Maynooth University. Her record of involvement with professional activities is satisfactory and she has an impressive list of publications to date, compiled over the last three years.

Helen McGonagle, MA, MSc, ALAI

With an academic background in European Studies and Women's Studies, Helen's application has demonstrated a highly commendable sense of personal, professional motivation and initiative. She read for a distance-learning MSc in Library and Information Studies in Aberystwyth and has used her LIS skills to write *A Room of their Own: Cork Carnegie Free Library and its Ladies Reading Room, 1905-1915*. This title was published by Cork City Council. In addition to her work with Cork City Libraries, Helen had more than eight years' experience with Gramophone Publications (UK) as Circulations Manager. The candidate's contribution to the profession is evidenced in the revival of the LAI Munster Section of which she is currently Secretary. Helen has also served as a member of the Board of Management of a local primary school.

Noreen McHugh, BA, HDipED, MLIS, ALAI

With a background in education, Noreen already brings valuable skills to the library world. Since qualification as a librarian, she has gained valuable experience mainly through working at Library Assistant level in a range of libraries including DBS, RCSI and the Rotunda Hospital. This has given her exposure to, and practice in, various library management systems and other e-research resources. The candidate has a keen interest in e-resource discovery, Open Access and social media and works in the RCSI Library in that area. Research support and customer care has been a consistent feature

of her career to date. Noreen's CPD statement indicates a focus on customer services employing her interpersonal skills. She has demonstrated her interest in developing her professional skills by attending a number of workshops and seminars in recent years, networking and reporting back to colleagues. While working in DBS, she helped to organise two of the DBS annual seminars, thereby gaining experience in event management.

Ciarán Quinn, MA, MLIS, ALAI

Since his first professional appointment in 2001, Ciarán has developed his career in a number of posts, contributing to the objectives of each. His ALAI application clearly shows a commitment to CPD through conference attendance, publication in journals, membership of working groups and committees and completion of a wide range of relevant and topical training. Through his work experience and CPD, Ciarán is a librarian who demonstrates that he is concerned with staying on top of new trends and changing environments to make the most of his knowledge and skills for his work and his students. In his current post at Maynooth University, he is an active participant in the teams delivering services and preparing future service plans.

Shona Thoma, BA, MLIS, ALAI

Shona's career path is impressive and varied with a central theme of teacher/trainer. She has worked as IReL Officer with the Irish Research eLibrary and prior to this in Maynooth University and Trocaire. Shona has provided evidence of much CPD, continued engagement with and contribution to the profession. The assessors were taken with her social conscience through her involvement with the New Professionals Group, and the practical ways she uses her skill-set to help others achieve their goals. She has been very active in promoting LAI through social media. In addition to availing of traditional CPD or training sessions, she has also explored online training via webinars. She mentions on-the-job training and she has correctly viewed practical experience as a core part of the learning process. She has presented at conferences, blogs and writes for publication. In 2016, Shona was the recipient of the John Merriman Joint UKSG/NASIG award. She works currently with Kildare Library and Arts Service.

Discussion

Immediately following the formal business of the meeting, a moderated discussion was held entitled '*Designing Libraries: A Job for Architects and Librarians*'.



Left to right: John Fitzgerald, Mairead Owens, Philip Cohen, Louise Cotter

Incoming President Philip Cohen welcomed Mairead Owens, County Librarian for Dún Laoghaire Rathdown. Having recently gone through the process of taking the Dún Laoghaire Lexicon from concept to a functioning library, Mairead was the ideal moderator for a discussion focusing on the following areas:

- What librarians want from new buildings and how what they get compares with what they wanted
- What architects expect from librarians in designing library buildings and how they approach a building such as a library

The guest speakers were Louise Cotter of Cork practice Carr Cotter Naessens and John Fitzgerald, University Librarian and Head of Information Services in University College Cork. Louise was appointed to design the Lexicon following an international competition in 2007. She managed the design and construction stages of the building to completion. In recent years, John had planned, fund-raised and managed a €25 million extension to the Boole Library on the main university campus. He spoke about this and about other international design projects in academic libraries. The event included a stimulating Q&A session and was very well-received.

Management and Administration

The Library Association of Ireland (LAI) is the professional body representing libraries and librarians in Ireland. The objectives of the Association are to promote and develop high standards of librarianship and of library and information services in Ireland and to secure greater co-operation between libraries.

Council

Council sets strategy for the Association, determines policy and is responsible for the correct and effective running of Association activities as a whole.

Council Meetings Schedule and Attendance Record 2018-19

The 2018-19 Council met on six occasions during its term of office: 19th April, 21st June, 6th September, 25th October and 6th December 2018, plus 24th January 2019. Members attended meetings as follows:

Name	Number of Meetings Attended (Maximum 6)
Fintan Bracken	5
Jane Burns	3
Philip Cohen	6
Melanie Cunningham	4
Lorna Dodd	6
Margaret Hayes	6
Marian Higgins	4
Lai Ma	2
Lorraine Marrey	2
Eoin McCarney	1
Cathal McCauley	5
Eimear McGinn	6
Mary Murphy	2
Emer O'Brien	2
*Niall O'Brien	5
Yvonne O'Brien	1
Marie O'Neill	5
Hazel Percival	5
Christophe Schmidt-Supprian	6
John Shortall	6
Kathryn Smith	1
Sandra Turner	5
Joan Ward	3

*Niall O'Brien joined Council as the Association Meeting Secretary

In addition, the 2017-18 Council met on 25th January 2018 when 11 members attended: Philip Cohen, Sandra Collins, Melanie Cunningham, Lorna Dodd, Margaret Hayes, Marian Higgins, Cathal McCauley, Eimear McGinn, Niall O'Brien, Kathryn Smith and Sandra Turner.



Council Meeting, 6th December 2018

Left to right: Marian Higgins, Eimear McGinn, Philip Cohen, Niall O'Brien, Kathryn Smith, Sandra Turner, Lorraine Marrey, Jane Burns, Marie O'Neill, John Shortall, Fintan Bracken, Lorna Dodd, Christophe Schmidt Supprian, Margaret Hayes

Management Committee

The Management Committee manages the finances and administration of the Association. Members comprised Philip Cohen, Marian Higgins, Cathal McCauley, Eimear McGinn, Lorna Dodd, Sandra Turner, Niall O'Brien. Committee members communicated informally throughout the year and met formally on the following dates: 25th January, 20th June, 17th August, 2nd October and 6th December 2018, plus 29th January and 14th February 2019.

Developing the Profession

Education Committee: Professional Standards

Officers

Convenor: Kate Kelly (RCSI)

Secretary: Gillian Kerins (IT Tallaght)

Committee Members

Philip Cohen (DIT)

Madelaine Dennison (Houses of the Oireachtas)

Siobhán Fitzpatrick (RIA)

Deirdre Ellis King

Cathal McCauley (Maynooth University)

Marjory Sliney

The Committee:

- Manages applications, sets standards and provides assessment boards for LAI accreditation of postgraduate programmes in library and information sciences in Ireland. Currently, such programmes are offered by the UCD School of Information and Communication Studies and Dublin Business School.
- Manages applications, sets standards and provides guidelines for LAI professional awards, currently Associateship (ALAI) and Fellowship (FLAI) of the Association.
- Monitors and makes recommendations to LAI Council on matters related to professional standards and practice including core competencies for professional librarians and information scientists, the Association's Code of Ethics, the regulatory framework in which libraries operate and guidelines for new entrants to the profession.

The Committee met seven times during the year: 7th and 21st February, 1st and 8th May, 4th September, 3rd October and 27th November. In February, it agreed its work programme for the year and key elements of that programme are recorded below.

Accreditation Reviews of Course Providers

Programme review meetings were held with UCD School of Information and Communication Studies and Dublin Business School on 3rd October and 27th November respectively. Both schools reported on developments in their postgraduate programmes since accreditation. The regular review meetings provide a forum for the Committee to discuss ongoing work and proposed developments in detail with the programme providers before and after full accreditation reviews.

Review of the Associateship Award (ALAI) and a New LAI Award

An independent review of the Associateship award (ALAI) undertaken by Dr John Cullen of Maynooth University School of Business was completed in May with the following four recommendations:

- 1.** Maintain the current ALAI award as it is while also being open to changing the award name.
- 2.** Introduce a new award positioned between the ALAI and Fellowship (FLAI) awards. This award will be designed to promote a culture of Continuing Professional Development activity amongst LAI members and to encourage active engagement with the Association. The process of applying for and receiving this new award could act as a de facto re-validation of the ALAI, the achievement of which will be a pre-requisite for the new award, as well as recognising progression in a member's professional development and achievements since their ALAI award. It is proposed to consult with members to name the new award.
- 3.** Develop clear criteria for achieving all three awards and support these by communicating to members transparent guidelines on the application and assessment processes.
- 4.** Actively promote the awards amongst members and more widely, emphasising their value and benefits to individuals and employers alike.

The Cullen report was considered formally by LAI Council on 21st June, when it directed the Professional Standards Committee to do the following:

- A.** Consider the feasibility of implementing the recommendations of the report.
- B.** Develop a work programme to implement, or adapt, the recommendations, subject to resources, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Accordingly, the Committee consulted widely as follows:

The report was launched and discussed in depth at the joint networking event of the Academic and Special Libraries Group and the Health Sciences Libraries Group on 27th June. Consultations were held with the Continuing Professional Development Committee on 23rd October and with the Career Development Group on 5th November. Updates were provided at the Public Libraries Section Conference on 7th November and at the annual Groups and Sections Meeting on 25th October. Feedback was also invited from the Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) and the Librarians Group of the Technological Higher Education Association (THEA).

Five areas of focus emerged as a result of this consultation:

- 1.** Articulating the value of engaging with the LAI awards for applicants and employers or 'what's in it for me?'
- 2.** Connectivity with CPD activities, including articulating what constitutes CPD
- 3.** The need to promote the awards
- 4.** Support for applicants
- 5.** Explain how the awards relate to each other in the new structure

Based on feedback from LAI members and other stakeholders, the Committee will propose the following motion to the Association AGM in March 2019:

‘This meeting calls on Council (1) to accept the recommendation of the Professional Standards Committee to establish a new award, positioned between ALAI and FLAI; (2) to mandate the Professional Standards Committee to establish the mechanisms for implementing the new award; and (3) to commit resources for active promotion of all LAI awards.’

If the motion is approved at the AGM, the Committee will develop detailed criteria and guidelines for the ALAI and the new award. It anticipates accepting applications for both awards from October 2019 onwards.

Awards

No applications were received for the Fellowship award (FLAI). One application for the Associateship award (ALAI), in progress prior to the review, was completed and was recommended for approval by Council. No new applications for ALAI were accepted during the review period and will not be accepted until October 2019 at the earliest.

Other work

In addition to the above, the Committee provided content for the new LAI website, updated guidance on internships, reviewed its procedures and submitted information on data protection practices to inform LAI GDPR compliance. The Secretary responded to nine correspondents seeking information or advice on topics such as online courses, internships, volunteering, accreditation of specific programmes and queries about the ALAI.

Finally, the Committee acknowledges the continued commitment of Marjory Sliney to the management of award applications and also thanks Gillian Kerins for acting as Secretary to the Committee and for maintaining the Professional Standards area of the LAI website.

Education Committee: Continuing Professional Development

Officers

Convenor: Eva Hornung (CDETB Curriculum Development Unit/TCD)

Secretary: Sheila Kelly (DCPL)

Committee Members

Philip Cohen (DIT)

Sarah Connolly (IMI)

Deirdre Ellis King (UCD SICS)

Gillian Kerins (ITT/TU Dublin)

Jessie Kurtz (TCD)

Lai Ma (UCD SICS)

Ann Mitchell (NUI Galway)

Eileen Morrissey (Wexford County Library Service)

Mary Murphy (Meath County Council Library Service)

Kathryn Smith (RCSI)

The Committee met on five occasions in February, April, June, August and October. A new action plan was created during the year to map out the work ahead.

Training Needs Analysis Report from Dr Lai Ma

Ongoing discussions were held on the implementation of its key findings:

1. A CPD framework designed to target specific needs in different types of library and information organisation, taking into account the locations of organisations and availability of resources and support for staff. Strategies should include developing online courses and resources, with event planning more sensitive to those who have restrictions on leave requirements and with little or no funding from employers.
2. A register of accredited CPD courses developed to engage practitioners, particularly those who are not able to attend conferences and meetings due to limitations of budget and leave. The online platform should provide links to resources made available publicly e.g. via SlideShare, figshare.
3. Promotion of CPD events, workshops, and seminars via email, LAI website, Twitter, and other social media platforms.
4. CPD requirements to be aligned with professional development, such as promotion guidelines in member institutions, ALAI and FLAI.
5. The PKSB (Professional Knowledge and Skills Base) should be promoted broadly in the profession. The audience should include para-professionals who seek qualifications and upskilling in their positions. Training and demonstration of the PKSB are needed, as well as support and recognition by management in organisations and institutions.
6. CPD should be highlighted as a core activity in the profession that requires sufficient funding and staffing to provide up-to-date and professional services in all kinds of library and information organisations.

Meeting the Professional Standards Committee

The Committee met the Professional Standards Committee on 24th October as part of its consultation process regarding the revision of the Associateship award and the introduction of a new professional award.

Information Professionals' Network - Expo 2018 at Dublin Business School

Deirdre Ellis King received many queries from current members and students attending this one-day event. Questions centred mainly on membership issues and job opportunities.

GDPR

The committee considered procedures necessary to comply with GDPR.

List of Training Events Approved for CPD Certification in 2018

- Irish Copyright Seminar (LAI HSLG)
- Copyright Licences and Open Access (LAI A&SL and HSLG)
- Information Professional as Teacher (UCD SICS)
- Creative Content Marketing for Libraries (CDG AGM)
- Deciphering Data: Informing Decision-making, Transforming User Experience (LIR)
- LAI Public Libraries Section Conference: Leading the way to Literacy (LAI Public Libraries Section)
- Best Practice for Communicating Library Initiatives and Research: How to Get Noticed (L2L)
- Children and Youth Information Services (UCD SICS)
- Curating Special Collections Exhibitions (LAI Rare Books Group)
- Student Experience in Higher Education Libraries (L2L)
- Professional Development Needs of Library Staff in Higher Education: Emerging Themes from L2L (L2L)
- Library Carpentry: Introduction to Data and the UNIX Shell (LIR)
- Coding for Librarians Workshop (LAI Career Development Group)
- DBS Annual Library Seminar (DBS)
- Challenging Times: WRS LAI Annual Seminar (WRS LAI)
- Transformative Experiences: CONUL Annual Conference (CONUL)
- LAI A&SL Annual Conference & Exhibition, 2018 (LAI A&SL)

Library Ireland Week

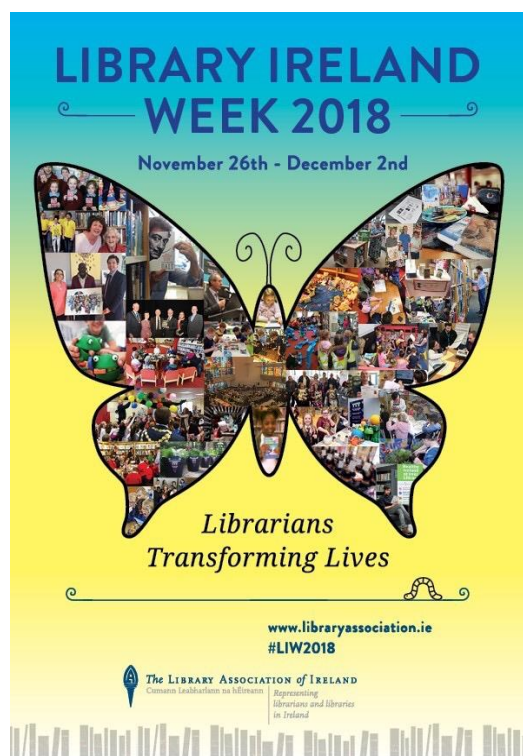
Taskforce Members

Johanna Archbold (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland)
Melanie Cunningham (Waterford County Library Service)
Marie O'Neill (Dublin Business School)
Hazel Percival (Wexford County Library Service)
John Shortall (Carlow County Library Service)

The Taskforce met multiple times as a group and via email in order to organise Library Ireland Week (LIW). A temporary email address LALibraryIrelandWeek@gmail.com was established as a central contact point and Google Drive used as a shared platform for documentation creation and campaign monitoring.

Library Ireland Week took place Monday 26th November - Sunday 2nd December. The theme was *Librarians Transforming Lives*, acknowledging the work of all library staff to create communities with their users, whether they have direct contact with them or are working behind the scenes.

The theme was deliberately inclusive in terms of library staff (all grades), types of libraries (public, academic, special etc.) and diverse library users. This was emphasised by promotional material featuring a butterfly, nature's ultimate transformer, enclosing a variety of images submitted by libraries all over Ireland to represent their own transformative engagements with their communities.



The LIW Campaign comprised a number of different elements in order to achieve engagement from library staff and library users but also to make the general public aware of the wide range of activities and services available at their local libraries:

- Call to library staff for images to showcase the transformative work they do with library users
- Creation of a *Staff Information Pack* to support engagement from staff
- Provision of a new website as a central point of contact for LIW events throughout the week, to host promotional materials and news <http://libraryirelandweek.ie/>
- Creation of a promotional visual identity supported by posters and bookmarks
- Official launch of the campaign with promotional photograph and press release - carried in multiple national and local papers and picked up by local radio stations
- Public competition run through social media to promote the sharing of stories about the transformational impact of libraries
- Establishment of the inaugural *Library Staff Champion Award* to acknowledge the work of library staff in support of users
- Inclusion of staff CPD opportunities with the *Library Job Shadowing Initiative*
- Ongoing social media activity via LIW channels supported by other LAI channels

Events

LIW events took place across the country with more than 50 listed on the LIW website but many others not listed: <http://libraryirelandweek.ie/events/>

Public Competition

The public competition asked library users to share their transformative library experiences by posting on social media (Twitter and Facebook) and using the #LIW2018 hashtag. Hundreds of entries were received with users sharing a very wide range of experiences, all of which highlighted the impact of libraries and their staff on everyday lives. Molly O'Harte from Monaghan won an iPad for her entry.

Library Staff Champion Award

Five candidates were shortlisted and invited to provide additional material for consideration by the judging panel. The winner is to be announced at the LAI AGM in March 2019.

Library Staff Shadowing Initiative

This initiative facilitated staff to shadow colleagues in other libraries and also enabled students and recent graduates to gain valuable insights into practical library work. Much shadowing took place during LIW and outside the week itself. David Hughes of Dublin Business School hosted Genevieve Larkin of Marino Institute of Education and they made a video of their experience <http://libraryirelandweek.ie/library-ireland-week-national-job-shadowing-initiative/>

LIW Social Media

The LIW Twitter and Facebook accounts were active throughout the campaign and coordinated with the main LAI account, other accounts of LAI Groups and Sections and the accounts of libraries throughout the country. Activity was considerably increased, particularly with the public competition and announcement of the shortlist for the *Library Staff Champion Award*.

Literacies Committee

Convenor

Philip Russell (IT Tallaght/TU Dublin)

Committee Members

Brenda Carey (Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Libraries)

Isabelle Courtney (Dublin Business School)

Lorna Dodd (Maynooth University)

Siobhan Dunne (Trinity College Dublin)

Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education)

Claire McGuinness (University College Dublin)

Mary Mulryan (Athlone Institute of Technology)

Emer O'Brien (Tipperary County Council)

Ann O'Sullivan (AL Goodbody)

Katherine Ryan (St. Andrew's College Dublin)

Joan Ward, Libraries Development Unit of the LGMA)

The Literacies Committee is committed to reviewing best practice initiatives in terms of literacy, information literacy, digital literacy and media literacy across all library and information sectors in Ireland and is working on a revised smart action plan for the development of these competencies at local and national level.

The Committee actively engages in advocacy, promotion and dissemination activities. Members attended a variety of national and international events during 2018, including LILAC (Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference) in Liverpool in April. The Committee has forged strong links with the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and Media Literacy Ireland (MLI) as it seeks to collaborate and further its goals around these core competencies in the years ahead.

Expressions of interest in joining the Committee should be addressed to Philip Russell, the Convenor.

SLIP, IPN and ILI

SLIP

Student Librarians and Information Professionals Ireland (SLIP) was founded in 2015 to provide a platform for students of library and information studies in Ireland to explore their own research interests and to engage with academics and professionals in the field. They do this through the blog <https://slipireland.com/about/> and through an annual conference.

The LAI sponsors the conference each year, in order to support new entrants to the profession and to encourage them to join the Association (free whilst a student and for the first year after graduation). This year, the Conference was held on 24th February in Pearse Street Library. Lorna Dodd contributed to a panel discussion on *What kind of information professional will you be?*

IPN

**INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS
CAREER EXPO #IPNEXP018**

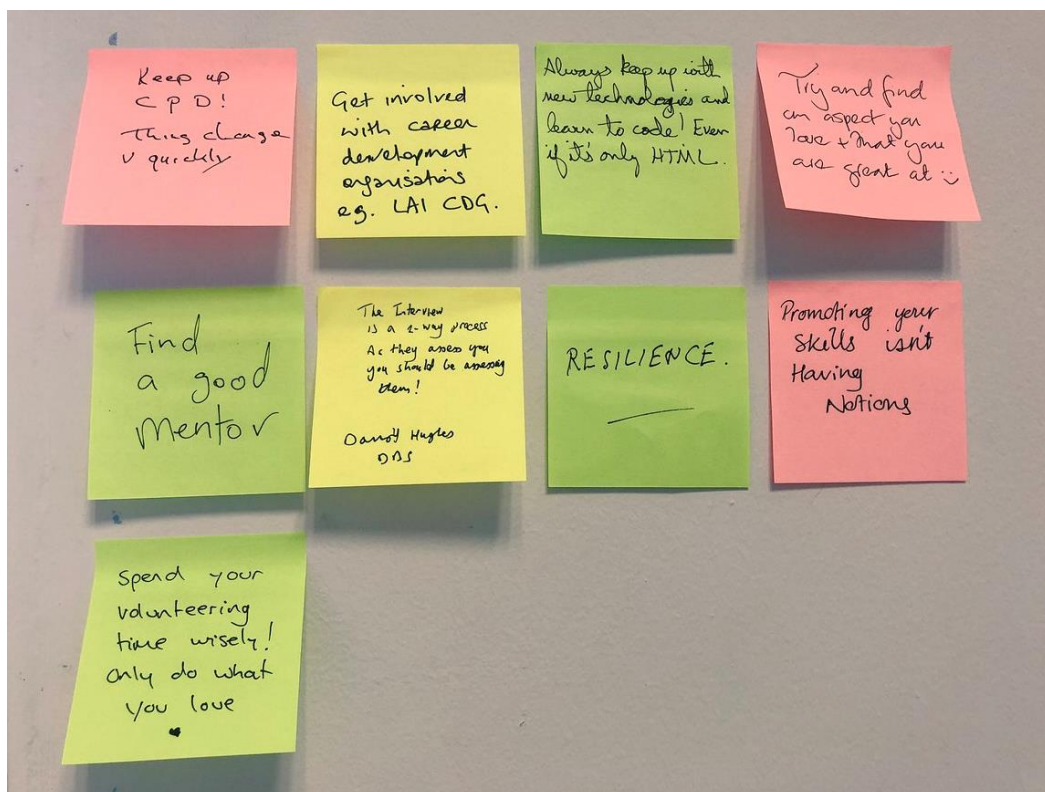
SPEAK TO EMPLOYERS, INFORMATION PROFESSIONALS & ALUMNI •
JOB/RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES • CV & INTERVIEW WORKSHOPS • OVERSEAS
OPPORTUNITIES • GUEST SPEAKERS • NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES
• CONUL/LAI SPONSORED RECEPTION

Date : Friday May 18th 2018
Time: 10:00am - 5:30pm
Location: Dublin Business School, Aungier St. Dublin 2
Eventbrite : <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/information-professionals-network-careers-expo-2018-tickets-4287978433>

Sponsors and Partners: Maynooth University, Microsoft, SLA, SLIP Ireland, tfpl, HF, LAI CDG, WRS LAI, EY, conul, CB Resourcing, amazon, interleaf technology, The Irish Hospice Foundation, AL, DBS, and others.

Poster by: Emma Doran Email: emma.doran@mu.ie

Information Professionals Network (IPN) is a collaboration between providers of LIS programmes, employers, library organisations and individual library staff to stage an annual career expo. As well as opportunities to meet potential employers, the expo offers job seekers advice about CV's, interviews and online profiles. In addition, many LAI Groups and Sections promote their activities and experienced library staff volunteer insights from their own careers. The second expo was held on 18th May in DBS. LAI members were out in force supporting colleagues and the Association sponsored the closing reception.



Some careers advice offered at the IPN Career Expo (image courtesy of SLIP Ireland)

ILI

The *Internet Librarian International* Conference (ILI) is held in London in October each year. This year, the organisers offered two free tickets plus 25% discount on the conference fee for all LAI members in return for permission to cite the Association as a Conference Supporter. At least one member availed of this CPD opportunity.

Communications

Website Developments

Members experienced ongoing problems maintaining and accessing the Association website after the company supporting the site withdrew service unexpectedly. As a consequence, a new supplier was engaged and the opportunity was taken to completely redesign both the functionality and the look of the website.

The new website was launched during Library Ireland Week and it has been steadily populated since then. New modules will be introduced during 2019 to update the Association membership files, online membership renewals and mailing lists.



Left to right: Eimear McGinn, Sandra Turner and Evelyn Cooley (Athy Library) at the launch of the new website at Athy in November

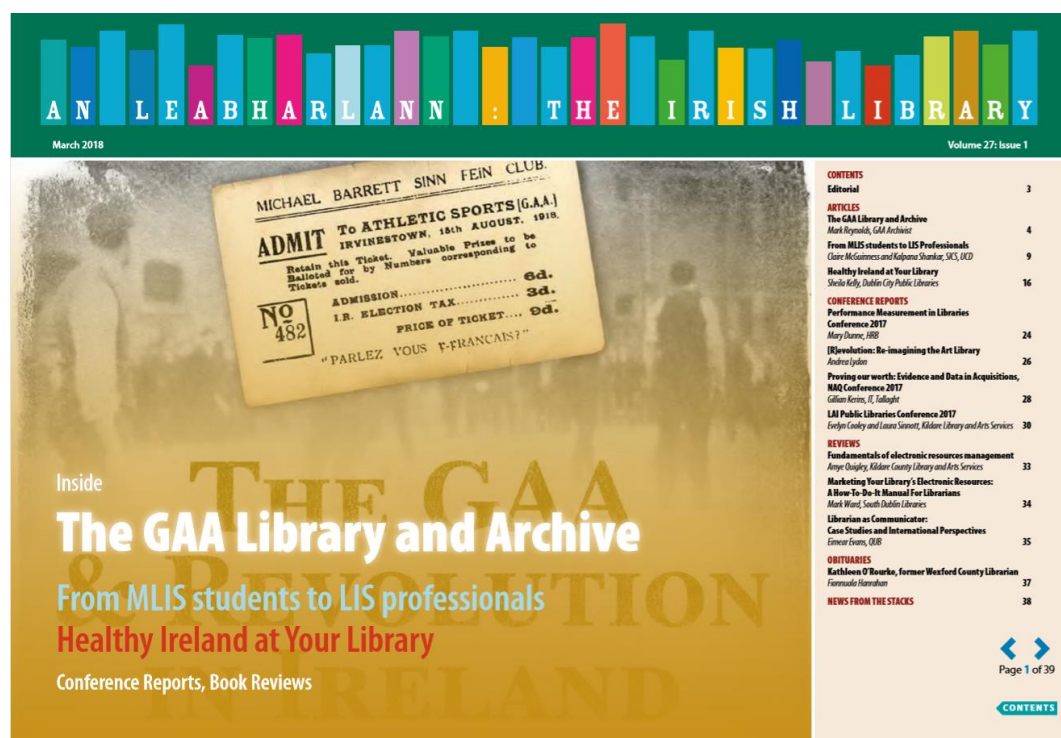
Special thanks are due to the Website Officer Sandra Turner for her commitment and hard work in managing this project, supported by Lorna Dodd, Marian Higgins and Eimear McGinn.

Leabharlann-e and Social Media

Publication of *Leabharlann-e*, the electronic newsletter of the Association, was suspended pending the website developments outlined above but it is hoped to resume publication once these developments are complete. Shona Thoma continued to keep members fully informed by posting regularly to the LAI *Facebook* and *Twitter* accounts.

An Leabharlann: The Irish Library

Two issues of *An Leabharlann* were published during the year, Volume 27 (1) and 27 (2).



ISSN 2009-6062



Current issues and large numbers of back issues are freely available to all on open access at <https://www.libraryassociation.ie/an-leabharlann/> and similarly on *e-Deposit Ireland* at <http://edepositireland.ie/handle/2262/71217>

An Leabharlann is edited by Marjory Sliney, with an Editorial Board comprising: Heather Anderson (Ulster University), Fintan Bracken (IT Carlow), Kate Kelly (Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland), Terry O'Brien (Waterford Institute of Technology) and Brendan Teeling (Dublin City Public Libraries). The Association is greatly indebted to Marjory for editing the journal so ably for so many years.

Supporting Co-operation Between Libraries and Library Organisations

North-South Liaison with CILIP Ireland

North-South Liaison Committee/Annual Joint Conference Committee

Gerardine Blee (CILIP), Philip Cohen, Melanie Cunningham, Lorna Dodd, Eimear Evans (CILIP), Margaret Hayes, Marian Higgins, Cathal McCauley, Samantha McCombe (CILIP), Eimear McGinn, Alex McIlroy (CILIP), Niall O'Brien, John Shortall, Marjory Sliney, Sandra Turner.

The Committee met on 25th January, 6th September and 6th December 2018 plus 24th January 2019. The first of these meetings was held in Belfast, the remainder in Dublin.

Meetings were largely informal, intended as a means to maintain contact and exchange information. Topics discussed included the Annual Joint Conference, An Leabharlann, Library Ireland Week, IFLA and EBLIDA Conferences. Most time and effort was devoted to discussion of the Joint Conferences 2018 and 2019.

CILIP Ireland/Library Association of Ireland Annual Joint Conference and Exhibition 2018

Inspiring People, Inspiring Libraries

19th-20th April 2018 at the Canal Court Hotel, Newry



Conference venue: Canal Court Hotel, Newry

Events began on the morning of the 19th with the official opening of the Exhibition. Seventeen exhibitors were on hand to display and demonstrate a wide variety of library supplies. Delegates were afforded the opportunity to network in a relaxed environment, explore the exhibitions and meet the exhibitors.

The Conference theme was *Inspiring People, Inspiring Libraries* and delegates enjoyed a packed programme with plenary sessions over two full days covering a diverse range of topics, ranging from collaborative communities to library transformation. There were also smaller learning sessions addressing topics including open access advocacy and engaging children through the development and delivery of library services. These learning sessions facilitated exchanges of knowledge and experience between participants and included updates on the decade of commemorations and discussions on effective emergency planning and further education advocacy.

Nick Poole, CILIP CEO delivered the opening keynote address with a thought provoking and inspiring speech where he called on delegates to engage in telling a new story about libraries and the difference they make. He explained that the theme of a new public libraries' publicity campaign involves viewing them as a multi-faceted 'Common Room', able to support a huge range of needs. It is intended to be a reminder that while much of what public libraries are today is familiar to us, it can be very new and surprising to people outside the immediate library sector. While we may be familiar (perhaps even a little jaded) with 'innovations' like Wi-Fi, cafés, exhibitions and events in the library, many are not. 'A Common Room' is an exhortation to all of us to re-tell this story with a fresh enthusiasm.



Left to right: Samantha McCombe, (Chair, CILIP Ireland), Ayub Khan (President, CILIP), Margaret Menzies (President, CILIP Scotland), Philip Cohen (President, LAI), Paul Jeorret (Chair, CILIP Cymru Wales)

A discernible mood of optimism permeated the conference and the theme continued throughout both days. Nick's talk led nicely on to the first plenary of the day delivered by Neil MacInness, Strategic Lead, Libraries, Galleries and Culture at Manchester City Council. Neil's inspirational presentation described how Manchester libraries have been transformed over the past decade. Referring to the library strategy which has underpinned the transformation programme across the city, Neil outlined the key challenges encountered but also the opportunities available and the practical steps undertaken to achieve success.

Day one concluded with a final plenary session delivered by the new Chief Executive of Libraries NI, Jim O'Hagan. His presentation was entitled 'A Newcomer's Perspective' and reflected the challenges and opportunities of leading the public library service in Northern Ireland. Jim shared his first impressions of the library service and described how Libraries NI are responding to the challenges of a changing public library landscape.



A Conference session in progress

The second day of the Conference featured a stirring keynote address where two excellent examples of library innovation were showcased. The first example, 'Healthy Ireland at Your Library', was described as a project to develop public libraries in Ireland as health and wellbeing hubs in local communities. The second example, 'Work Matters at the Library', was explained to be a project designed to provide support for business and employment through access to courses, training events and networking. Both projects highlighted the invaluable role that libraries and their staff are playing in local communities.

Throughout both days, plenary sessions presented a timely opportunity to consider and explore key themes and developments within the profession. The Conference also facilitated numerous networking opportunities where those themes could be discussed at length during the learning sessions or informally during break times and at the Conference dinner.

A stream of tweets from delegates and speakers reflected the overwhelmingly positive buzz which was apparent throughout the Conference. In fact #CILIPireLAI18 charted at a very respectable number 3 on the list of Belfast trends!

We take this opportunity to thank the presenters and all those who attended. We look forward to seeing you again when the conference moves South to County Kildare.

All the presentations from the conference are available to view from the CILIP Ireland SlideShare account at <https://www.slideshare.net/CILIPireland/presentations>

Gerardine Blee
CILIP Ireland Relationship Manager

IFLA

IFLA WLIC in Kuala Lumpur

The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is the umbrella body that represents library associations, including the LAI, and institutions, especially National Libraries, in more than 130 countries. The World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) is the IFLA Annual Conference. The 84th WLIC was held during August in Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia - home to soaring skyscrapers, huge shopping malls and modern transport infrastructure.



Promoting WLIC in Kuala Lumpur

Like most conferences, WLIC is a great opportunity to learn about new developments, exchange experiences and network with others. It does this extremely well with formal lectures, workshops, lightning talks, poster presentations and exhibition stands from library suppliers. In addition, the many IFLA Divisions, Sections and Groups hold business meetings that are open to all. Because there are so many parallel sessions on such diverse topics, WLIC allows attendees to follow a particular theme or to 'pick and mix' individual sessions to experience as much variety as possible.

Many countries hold national 'caucus' meetings at WLIC, so that attendees can meet informally to catch up on the latest news. Irish attendees have held their own caucus since 2015 and this year it attracted its largest attendance yet, including two Scottish 'friends of Ireland'.



Left to right: Cathal McCauley, Stuart Hamilton, Susan Reilly, Karen Latimer, Helen Vincent, Lorcan Dempsey, Teresa Hackett, Philip Cohen, Kirsty Crawford

Irish attendees certainly made their presence felt at the Closing Ceremony where two of the five personal awards went to Karen Latimer, an *IFLA Scroll of Appreciation* for 'her distinguished contribution to IFLA and international librarianship' and to Teresa Hackett, the *IFLA Medal* for 'distinguished service to IFLA and the global library field'.

There is so much to learn from so many people in such a short time that members should start planning now to attend WLIC in the future. Grants are available from various sources and at least one LAI member has availed of these to attend WLIC in the past.

For the majority of people who will never attend WLIC, the IFLA website includes videos of formal meetings and presentations from some of the lectures and workshops. These are well worth a look on their own account. See <https://2018.ifla.org/> for Kuala Lumpur and <https://www.ifla.org/annual-conference/future-congresses> for past and future conferences.

IFLA Library Map of the World



<https://librarymap.ifla.org/map>

The *IFLA Library Map of the World* provides statistical data relating to library provision in each member country, thereby enabling easy national comparisons of such information. The LAI submission was updated during the year.

Blue Shield

The cultural equivalent of the Red Cross, the Blue Shield aims to protect cultural and heritage sites from natural disasters and from attack in times of armed conflict or civil disturbance. It also aims to promote awareness of the importance of preserving heritage sites and their contents <http://www.icomos.ie/index.php/blue-shield>

IFLA is a nominating body to national Blue Shield Committees. For the Irish Committee, this authority is vested in the LAI. Siobhan Fitzpatrick of the Royal Irish Academy has been the Association representative for many years but was succeeded this year by Elizabethanne Boran of the Edward Worth Library.

Groups and Sections

Membership of Groups and Sections is a benefit of LAI membership. In particular, participation at Committee level in a Group or Section can be a valuable learning and networking experience.

Committees are elected at the Annual General Meetings of each Group and Section. 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 of the Association, sometimes with refinements to suit local circumstances. For example, Groups and Sections can create time-specific, focused Sub-Committees or Working Groups in response to their own priorities.

If you wish to join a Group or Section, select it when joining or renewing your Association membership.

If you are interested in joining the Committee of a Group or Section, please contact its Chair or Secretary.



Academic and Special Libraries Section

Officers

Chairperson: Marie G. Cullen (Maynooth University)

Honorary Secretary: David Hughes (Dublin Business School)

Honorary Treasurer: Tom Maher (National College of Art & Design)

Membership Officer: Marie G. Cullen (Maynooth University)

Communications Officer: Laura Rooney-Ferris (HSE National Health Library & Knowledge Service)

Committee Members

Máire Caffrey (Teagasc)

Gerard Connolly (IT Tallaght)

Sarah Connolly (Irish Management Institute)

Jean Earley (McCann FitzGerald)

Dr Eva Hornung (CDET B Curriculum Development Unit/TCD)

Caitríona Honohan (Trinity College Dublin)

Christina McGuckian (C McGuckian IP Consultancy)

Deirdre McGuinness (William Fry)

Niamh O'Sullivan (Irish Blood Transfusion Service)

Three new members joined the Committee in 2018: Máire Caffrey (Teagasc), Gerard Connolly (IT Tallaght) and Christina McGuckian (St. Vincent's Hospital). In 2019, as part of the 2019-2021 membership cycle, Niamh O'Sullivan, Caitríona Honohan and Tom Maher will step down from the Committee. Niamh, Caitríona and Tom have contributed much to the Committee and will all be greatly missed. Replacing them will be Lisa Lambert (CRANN), Genevieve Larkin (Marino Institute of Education) and Marie O'Neill (CCT).

The Committee met on 12 occasions during 2018. This included 10 Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting in January and a strategic planning meeting in June to plan the year ahead. Marie Cullen, Eva Hornung and David Hughes attended the Meeting of LAI Groups, Sections and Committees on 25th October.

2018 was both a busy year and a time of consolidation for the Academic and Special Libraries Section Committee. We organised several events, which were very successful in attracting high attendances and interest. The Annual Conference and Exhibition held in March attracted a very high attendance from delegates and a high level of interest from companies and organisations sponsoring the event. The entire Committee worked very hard on its organisation.

The AGM was held in BOI Workbench, Hamilton Building, Trinity College on 18th January. Our guest speakers for the event were Brian McMahon and Sinead Kenny of *Brand New Retro*, an award-winning library of vintage Irish pop culture and advertising, who gave an informative and entertaining insight into the work involved in curating their site.

Fail Better: Lessons Lived; Lessons Learnt, the A&SL Annual Conference and Exhibition, took place on 9th March at the National Gallery of Ireland, Dublin. The Keynote Speakers were Duncan Chappell, Academic Liaison Librarian Glasgow School of Art, and Andrea Lydon, National Gallery of Ireland.



A sketch by Lee Kirwan of Áine Carey's talk at the Annual Conference

The AGM moving to January has ended the annual New Year joint event with the Health Sciences Libraries Group (HSLG) but has not ended our collaboration with this group. Thus we collaborated with the HSLG on a tour of the new RCSI Library building on York Street, followed by a very informative and useful discussion with Philip Cohen and Kate Kelly of the Professional Standards Committee on proposed changes to the LAI awards scheme.

The two groups again collaborated on the workshop *Life, the Universe, Big Deals, Open Access, Creative Commons and current developments in Copyright* facilitated by Charles Oppenheim and held in the HRB Boardroom, Grattan House, Lower Mount Street, Dublin in November.



The A&SL *Librarians Aloud* podcast series now consists of twenty-four episodes of librarians talking about their career paths, what they love about the profession and where the information profession is going. Five new episodes came online in 2018:

Episode 20 - Margaret Irons (School of Celtic Studies DIAS & LibraryJobs.ie)

Episode 21 - Katherine McSharry (NLI)

Episode 22 - Jane Buggle (Dublin Business School)

Episode 23 - Dr Niall O Mara (HSE) and Rebecca O'Neill (Wikimedia Ireland)

Episode 24 - Helen Fallon (NUI Maynooth)

Special thanks to Laura Rooney-Ferris for this series. All episodes are available at <https://soundcloud.com/librariansaloud/sets/librarians-aloud-episodes>

The Committee once again awarded bursaries for full delegate attendance to the A&SL Section's Annual Conference and Exhibition (sponsored by bibliotheca). Each bursary winner writes a review of the conference. Megan Corrigan and Colleen Ballard were the winners this year. Colleen's review of the conference was published in [LibFocus](#) while Megan's review was published in [An Leabharlann](#). The bursaries cover the cost of the conference delegate fee (including meals) plus travel costs up to a maximum of €100.

The Committee also continues to offer A&SL National and International Library Conference Bursaries, giving members the opportunity to attend major international library conferences as part of their CPD. The 2018 winner was Clare Murnane, who attended the LILAC Conference, jointly hosted by the University of Liverpool and Liverpool John Moores University.

Websites

<https://www.libraryassociation.ie/academic-and-special-libraries-section/>
<http://www.aslibraries.com/>

Social Media

Twitter [@ASLIBRARIES](#)

Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/ASLIBRARIES>

LinkedIn: [Academic & Special Libraries Section of the Library Association of Ireland](#)

To join the A&SL Section, select A&SL when renewing your LAI membership.

Members can join the mailing list by sending an e-mail to aslsectionevents@gmail.com

Career Development Group

Officers

Chairperson: Emma Doran (Maynooth University)

Joint Secretaries: Loretta Rose (Wicklow County Council) and Robert Alfis (Dublin Business School) (Robert from September)

Treasurer: Amye Quigley (Kildare County Library and Arts Services)

Communications Officers: Maeve McCauley (Letterkenny Institute of Technology), Daire O'Driscoll (IBAT) and Aoife Williams (IBAT) (Maeve until August, Daire September-October, Aoife from November)

Committee Members

Isabelle Courtney (Courtney Information Service)

Clair Walton (Dublin City Libraries and Archive)

Clare Murnane (University College Dublin)

Lara Musto (IBAT)

The Committee met on 10 occasions and organised three events that were all well attended, thus helping to contribute to the professional goals of information professionals at all career levels.

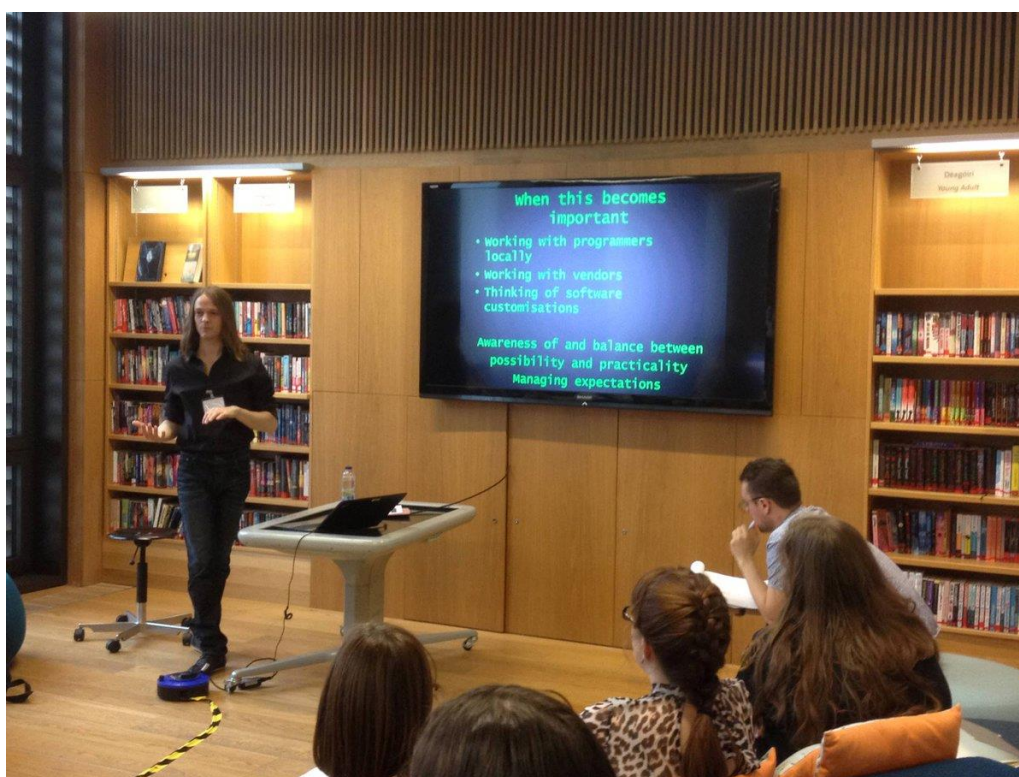


The CV/Interview Workshop, *On the Road to Success*, was held on 14th April in the Training Room of Berkeley Library, Trinity College Dublin. There were five speakers during the day from a range of backgrounds providing insights and advice for early stage librarians, as well as experienced librarians looking to move into more senior roles. At the end of the workshop Deirdre Judge, Shirley Maloney and Maeve McCauley answered questions from the attendees. Attendees networked afterwards, while the speakers informally discussed any issues the delegates raised and provided their contact details

for further queries. The feedback from delegates was very positive, with great ideas for future events.

The annual *Coding Workshop* was held on 12th September in the DLR Lexicon. The event was a basic introduction to coding and was facilitated by Joseph Greene, Systems Librarian at University College Dublin. There were 18 attendees and Mr Greene used practical exercises to demonstrate the use of coding for librarians, helping attendees gain the knowledge and confidence to work with technical services.

The first part of the workshop introduced the context and the particular lexicon and syntax of coding; also explaining what coding is and why it is important, specifically within the context of libraries. The second part concentrated on practical exercises, by creating MARC records using VBA-Excel Visual Basic for Applications and attendees put their knowledge to use by creating a new function in Microsoft Excel.

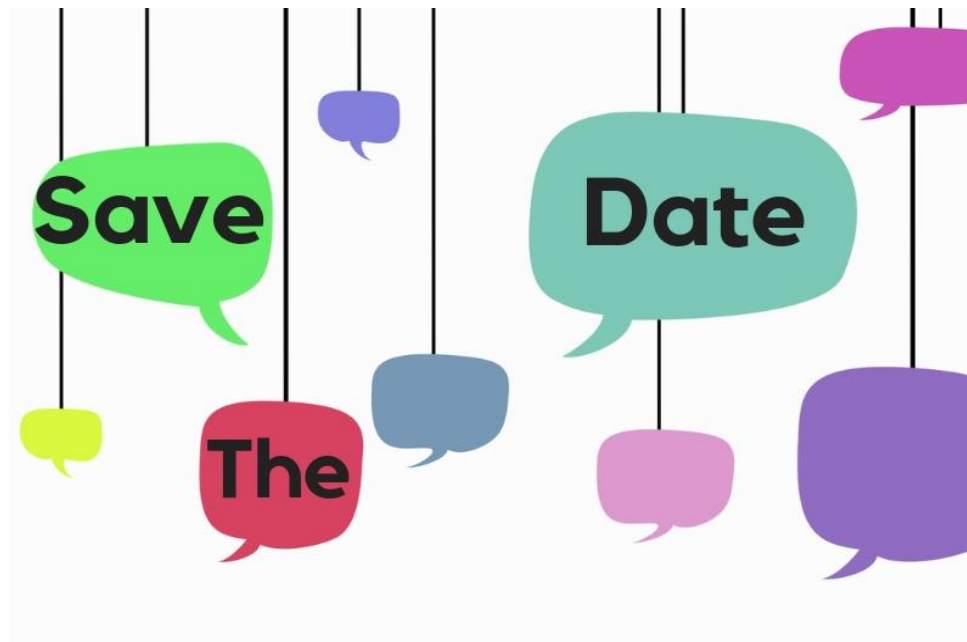


Joseph Greene presenting at the workshop

Feedback on the day included 'excellent presenter' and tutor created a warm and friendly atmosphere, with a relaxed approach'. Respondents also commented on the skills-based nature of the workshop and how relevant it was to libraries. Going forward, results also indicated a need for more events of this type, especially to build on proficiencies gained on the day. The committee would like to Joseph Greene and the staff at the Lexicon for the use of the space and laptops, as well as for all their help and assistance.

The Group held its AGM on 7th December in the Bank of Ireland Trinity Innovation Hub. Preceding the AGM was a day long workshop on 'Creative Content Marketing for Libraries'. Martina Chapman introduced *Media Literacy Ireland*, a network of individuals and groups, including the LAI, working together to promote media literacy. That was

followed by the half-day creative marketing workshop run by content marketing agency *Far From Avocados*. The workshop discussed how to identify a library's core audiences and best market its services. In order to figure out the best ways to reach our audience the attendees were shown how to create personas to define their users. These included information about their goals, their motivation and their challenges. By defining our target audience and thinking of what we would like them to do we can then go on to think of how we can do this. Thank you to all our members and attendees for making the day such a success and a big thank you to our two speakers.



Creative Content Marketing for Libraries

BOI Trinity Innovation Hub, the Hamilton Building Trinity College.

Friday 7th of December 10am-4pm

<https://libraryassociation.ie/groups-sections/career-development-group>

Blog: <https://laicdg.wordpress.com/>

Twitter: [@LAICDGroup](https://twitter.com/LAICDGroup)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Career-Development-Group-CDG-of-the-Library-Association-of-Ireland/>

Join our mailing list by sending an e-mail to laicareerdevelopment@gmail.com

To join the LAI CDG, select LAI CDG when renewing your LAI membership.

Cataloguing and Metadata Group

Officers

Chair [Acting]: Christoph Schmidt-Suprian (TCD)

Treasurer: Padraic Stack (Maynooth University)

Secretary: Patricia Moloney (UCD) – to July 2018

Committee Members

Yvette Campbell (Maynooth University)

Joe Peakin (Tallaght Hospital)

Caroline Philpott (University College Cork)

Kate McCarthy (Oireachtas Library) – to July 2018

Clare Thornley (Maynooth University)

Máire Ní Chonalláin (National Library of Ireland)

Maeve Williams (Student, DBS) – to July 2018

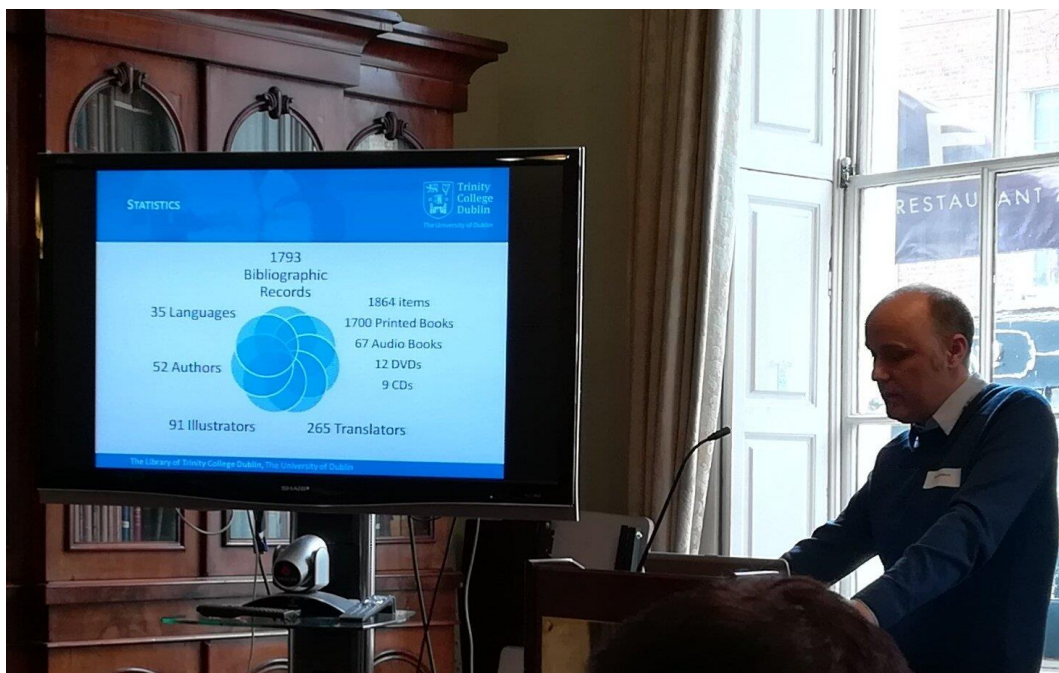
We welcomed one new Committee member, Joe Peakin, who replaced Anne Murphy, both from Tallaght Hospital.

2018 was another relatively quiet year for the Cataloguing and Metadata Group. While membership remained stable around the two hundred mark, the Committee shrank to a 'caretaker' contingent, with an acting Chair and a vacant Secretary post for much of the year. Nonetheless, during its four meetings the Committee:

- Organised one event in March (jointly with the Rare Books Group)
- Prepared a summer outing to Limerick University Library (postponed due to circumstances beyond the Committee's control)
- Conducted a training requirements survey
- Administered the CMG Bursary
- Maintained the Gmail accounts for the CMG Secretary and Treasurer, as well as the CMG Twitter account.

On 23rd March, we held a very successful, booked-out seminar, jointly with the LAI Rare Books Group. Entitled 'Cataloguing and Organisation of Special Collections', it was hosted by the Royal Irish Academy and featured three keynote presentations in the morning, followed by a panel and audience discussion after lunch. The speakers included Josie Caplehorne from the University of Kent, John McManus from Trinity College Dublin, David Meehan from Dublin City University, Amber Cushing from University College Dublin School of Information and Communication, Evelyn Flanagan from University College Dublin, Hugh Murphy from Maynooth University and Marian Keyes from the Dún Laoghaire Lexicon.

The CMG Bursary was promoted at the AGM and via Twitter and email during the year. No submissions were received. Consequently, it was decided to drop the research angle from the Bursary and to concentrate instead on encouraging conference attendance, the only requirement being a publishable report, such as a blog post.



John McManus at the Joint CMG/RBG Seminar in March describing the contents of the Terry Pratchett Collection at Trinity College Library

County and City Librarians' Section

Officers

Chairperson: Margaret Hayes (Dublin City Librarian) - Retired June 2018

Vice-Chairperson: Eileen Morrissey (Wexford County Librarian) - Acting Chairperson from June 2018

Secretary: Damien Dullaghan (Tipperary County Librarian)

Treasurer: Brendan Martin (Wicklow County Librarian)

The Section met on five occasions as follows:

- 8th February, 2018 - Pearse Street Library, Dublin
- 20th April, 2018 - Canal Court Hotel, Newry (CILIP Ireland/LAI Joint Conference)
- 21st June, 2018 - Council Chamber, City Hall, Sligo
- 5th October 2018 - Clayton White's Hotel, Wexford
- 6th December 2018 - Council Chamber, South Dublin County Council, Tallaght

In addition, a meeting was held on the 18th July with David Dalton, Deirdre Maloney and other officials of the Department of Rural and Community Development and attended by Mary Stuart, Libraries Development Unit, LGMA.

County and City Librarians attended the launch of the national public library strategy *Our Public Libraries 2022: Inspiring, Connecting and Empowering Communities* by Minister for Rural and Community Development Michael Ring on 14th June. The launch of this ambitious and groundbreaking strategy followed extensive consultation and input from members of the Section.

OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES 2022 - INSPIRING, CONNECTING AND EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Over the next five years, we will –

- support our library staff to develop their skills and deliver services that enhance the user experience,
- invest in our library infrastructure to realise our ambitions for the public library service,
- develop new funding programmes to support the delivery of library services and resources based on the most up-to-date technology,
- remove fines and lending charges for all library members and users,
- strengthen relationships with key partners, locally and nationally, to deliver more co-ordinated, impactful and sustainable library services,
- invest in promoting the library service at national and local levels to strengthen the library brand, and
- work with local partners to promote the range of services and resources on offer to communities, particularly the most disadvantaged and marginalised.

OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES 2022 - INSPIRING, CONNECTING AND EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Inspiring, Connecting and Empowering Communities – Our Libraries in 2022

The strategy focuses on developing the library service as a modern 21st century public service while building on established library functions and best practice.

At its core are **three Strategic Programmes** identified through an extensive research and consultation process that looked at best practice internationally and took into account the views of the public, elected representatives, library staff, local authority management and stakeholder government departments and organisations. These strategic programmes build on progress under **Opportunities for All**, expanding the role of the library as an essential community service and supporting communities to grow and develop so they can meet the challenges posed by modern society.

The Strategic Programmes are underpinned by **six Strategy Enablers** reflecting the areas to be developed if programme objectives and strategic ambitions are to be realised.

20

21

<https://drcd.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/LGMA-Our-Public-Libraries-2022-v2.pdf>

County and City Librarians were active during the year on Steering Groups and Committees covering a number of areas. These included the following:

- Members were represented on the LGMA Libraries Development Committee, chaired by Tom Enright. This high-level committee oversees all activities of Working Groups engaged in national library development.
- The New Library Strategy Committee included members Mary Stuart, Margaret Hayes, Damien Brady and Mary Reynolds. Reports from the Working Group representatives were discussed at CCLS meetings.
- Chaired by Tom Enright, the LMS Steering Board oversees the implementation of the national Library Management System (LMS). It receives reports from the LMS Project Team, the Working Group on Transport and Distribution, the Acquisitions, Bibliographic and Cataloguing Working Group, the IT Working Group and the Policies and Parameters Working Group.
- The Right to Read Steering Group is a cross-departmental group with representatives from the section. The Right to Read national programme is being rolled out across all local authorities. It is led by a County Librarian and coordinated by a Right to Read Coordinator.
- The Work Matters Steering Group is another cross-departmental group with representatives from the Section. Work Matters Coordinators are appointed in every county.
- A County Librarian chairs the Healthy Ireland Working Group. Again, a Healthy Ireland Coordinator has been appointed in every county.

Some of the main developments in 2018 were:

- *Our Public Libraries 2020*, the new national library strategy, was launched in June.
- A *Work Matters* pilot was completed and rolled out nationally.
- *Right to Read* –Spring into Story Time; Summer Reading Adventure Summer Stars and the Children’s Book Festival were all rolled out nationally. Right to Read Action Plans were produced locally.
- Negotiations with unions were completed regarding *My Open Library* and a rollout of the programme is awaited in 20 locations.
- A new procurement process was undertaken in September for the transport and distribution of materials nationally.
- Phase 1 of the *Healthy Ireland at Your Library* project was completed successfully and Phase 2 was launched in September.
- The *Creative Ireland* programme, including *Cruinniú na nÓg*, was delivered across local authorities with many members of the Section playing a key role as Creative Coordinators.
- An agreement for implementation of an *Alternative Collaborative Approach* in certain local authorities was agreed between management and unions.
- In September, Michael Ring, the Minister for Rural and Community Development, approved a major investment package for digital services and facilities in public libraries. The almost €8 million investment comprised approximately €6 million from the Department and a further €2 million from Local Authorities.

The Sections’ Autumn Seminar was held in Wexford 4th-5th October. The theme was *The Public Library: Advancing Culture, Heritage and Technology*:

- Tom Enright, Chief Executive of Wexford County Council and Chair of the Libraries Development Committee, formally opened the Seminar with an inspiring talk on the opportunities for development of public libraries in Ireland.
- Tania Banotti, Director of Creative Ireland, spoke about Creative Ireland, Creative Communities and Public Libraries.
- Jennifer Doyle, Digitisation Programme Manager, National Library of Ireland, gave a fascinating paper on the Digitisation and the Opening of our National Collections.
- Dr Martin Mansergh, Vice Chair of the Expert Advisory Group on Commemorations, spoke about The Decade of Centenaries and the next phase of commemoration.
- Cathal McCauley, University Librarian, Maynooth University and Information Coordinator of IFLA's Library Building and Equipment Section, gave an intriguing paper on IT and Library Spaces - Trends and Challenges.
- Adrian Weckler, Technology Correspondent Irish and Sunday Independent, shared his knowledge on IT Trends with us and gave advice on implications for future planning in public libraries.
- Peter Murphy, writer, journalist and spoken word performer. gave us a whistle-stop tour through his picks of great Irish literature, interspersed with music and spoken word performance.



Attendees at the Autumn Seminar

A reception was hosted by Councillor Robbie Ireton, Acting Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, in the evening. On 5th October, members toured Wexford County Library and this was followed by the Section's AGM.

During the year, Mary Stuart, Offaly County Librarian, took up a new post as Head of Libraries Development at the LGMA and Margaret Hayes retired as Dublin City Librarian. The Section wishes to formally thank Margaret for her many years of dedicated service to libraries and the library profession in Ireland.



Margaret Hayes and Minister Michael Ring



Government Libraries Section

Government Libraries Section

Officers

Chair: Noeleen Murtagh (Food Safety Authority)

Secretary: Leona Burgess (Revenue Commissioners)

Treasurer: Máire Caffrey (Teagasc)

The Government Libraries Section (GLS) represents the interests of all staff working in Government Libraries. Its aims are to promote and develop the role of libraries in the Civil Service and Government Agencies and to promote co-operation between Government Libraries.

The GLS held two meetings during the year, on 13th March and 17th October. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held on 22nd May at the Food Safety Authority of Ireland offices, The Exchange, George's Dock, IFSC, Dublin 1. The AGM was preceded by a talk given by Barry Lowry, Chief Government Information Officer.

To celebrate Library Ireland Week, the Government Libraries Section designed an infographic to highlight and promote the role of Government Library and Information Services in their organisations.

Health Sciences Libraries Group

Officers

Chair: Louise Farragher

Secretary: Michael Doheny

Treasurer: Noreen McHugh

Research and Evidence and Communication Officer: Mary Dunne

Continuing Professional Development: Niamh Lucey

Communication Officer: Marie Corrigan

There were five Committee meetings in 2018: 20th March, 10th July, 17th September, 24th October and 14th December, and one teleconference on 29th May.

Chair's Report by Louise Farragher

In what was another busy year, HSLG continues to do what we do best - to provide support and foster learning and development for Irish health science librarians and to work for our members and the wider library and health information community.

In 2018 we organised a successful annual conference, held in February in the Ashling Hotel in Dublin, which was well attended by delegates and sponsors. Keynote Speaker Aoife Lawton, HSE National Librarian and colleague Sinead Roche Moore spoke on *Leading Change: The Experience of the Health Service Executive*. It was a timely presentation in light of the subsequent publication of the HSE library strategy *Turning knowledge into action: enabling care, improving health 2018 – 2023*, launched in April by then HSE Director General Tony O' Brien in the Edward Worth Library, Dr Steevens Hospital.

Our AGM in June was organised as part of a joint networking event with our colleagues in the Academic and Special Libraries Group and very kindly hosted by the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland Library. On that occasion, LAI President Dr Philip Cohen and RCSI Director of Library Services and Chair of the LAI Professional Standards Committee Kate Kelly hosted a presentation on recent developments in the Association regarding professional standards and the recently published Cullen Report. Full details are available on the HSLG WordPress site at <https://hslgblog.wordpress.com/> under the 'About us' tab.

In November we undertook another joint venture with our colleagues in the Academic and Special Libraries group by co-hosting a workshop on Copyright, Licences and Open Access by esteemed knowledge consultant Charles Oppenheim and held at the offices of

the Health Research Board in Dublin. In December our LAI colleague Joe Donnelly of the Judges' Library provided a very useful seminar providing an overview of Irish Copyright Law, reminding us all of our legal obligations and responsibilities and how best to understand and implement the regulations.

I must take this opportunity to thank my fellow HSLG Committee members, who continue to work hard on behalf of the entire health information profession. While some Committee members have stepped down in 2018 (and we recognise the tremendous efforts of Louise Bradley, Maura Flynn and Bennery Rickard for their substantial contributions) we also welcome new member Noreen McHugh and returning committee member Niamh Lucey. Our longstanding members Michael Doheny, Mary Dunne and Marie Corrigan also deserve a word of thanks because all the work of HSLG is truly team-based and collaborative, and their contributions and good humour have made for a great working environment these past years.

Continuing Professional Development Report by Niamh Lucey



Left to right: Tom Maher, Niamh Lucey Charles Oppenheim, Christina McGuckian at the CPD event in December

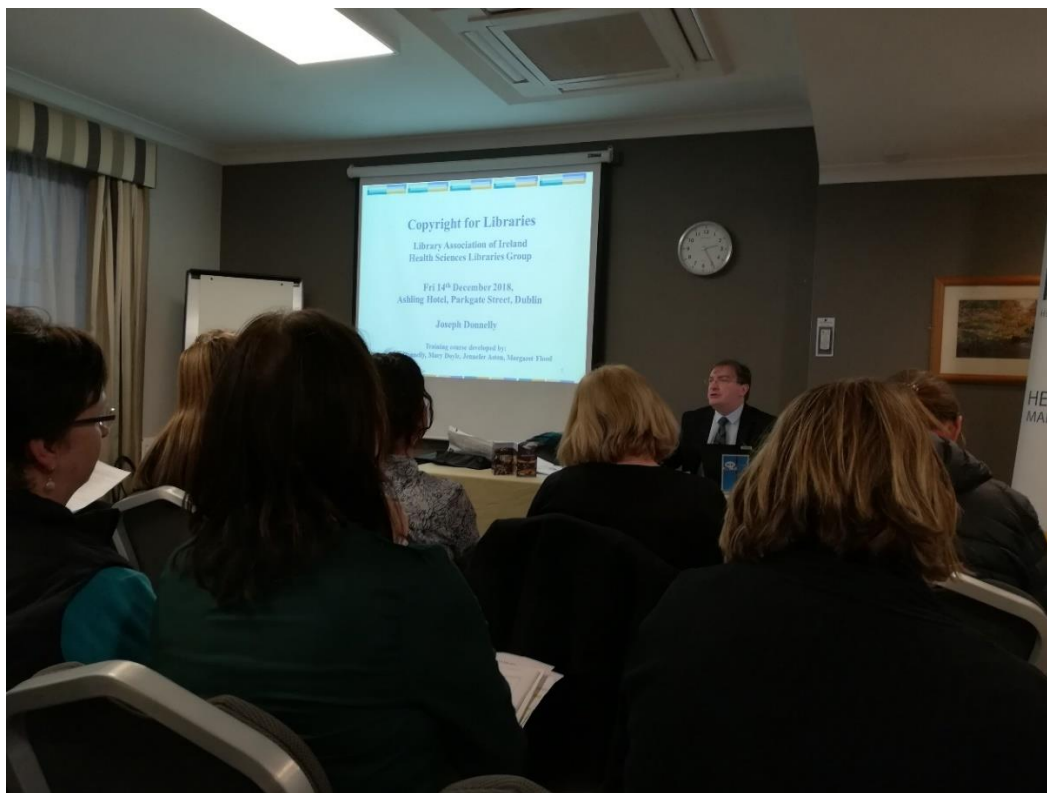
On 20th February the HSLG hosted another very successful Annual Conference in the Ashling Hotel in Dublin. This year the theme was *Change is gonna come: living our core library values*. The excellent speakers were from within our own membership and subjects ranged from the role of the health librarian to podcasts and graphic medicine.

As always it was a great day with plenty of opportunity to learn something new and network with colleagues.

We were delighted to work with our A&SL colleagues in November to bring renowned copyright and licensing expert Professor Charles Oppenheim to these shores for a lively, entertaining and highly informative workshop on Copyright Licensing and Open Access. The workshop took place on 9th November in HRB offices in Dublin and was a sell-out success. Grateful thanks to Tom Maher and Christina McGuckian from the A&SL Committee for inviting us to collaborate on this event.

We finished the year on a high note in the form of another extremely informative event, a seminar on Irish Copyright Law from Joe Donnelly of the Judges' Library, held in the Ashling Hotel on 14th December. All who attended on the day found it to be of great benefit in dealing with a subject many of us find tricky. And the mince pies were much appreciated too.

Communication Officers' Report by Mary Dunne



Copyright CPD event with Joe Donnelly in December

Mary Dunne and Marie Carrigan are Communication Officers for the HSLG committee. In 2018 we produced three issues of the HSLG newsletter HINT. We now have regular sections, such as 'Handy Hints' by Niamh O'Sullivan, upcoming library events, event reports and 'Some LITE reading (Library, Information, Technology and Evidence)' to introduce new evidence.

We helped to organise our Conference, which was held in February, and all other CPD events. We promoted HSLG and LAI events through our email list, blog and twitter account @healthlibraries which has 856 followers.

The HSLG blog <https://hslgblog.wordpress.com/> is regularly updated with issues of HEAR (the final issue was published in December 2018) and HINT, news and events. In the last 12 months the blog had over 1,000 visitors and 2,536 views.

Further Information

To join the HSLG, select HSLG when renewing LAI membership

New members for the HSLG committee or subcommittees are always welcome and needed. To join the committee or the HSLG e mailing list contact a member of the committee or contacthslg@gmail.com

Visit the HSLG website for our latest news <https://hslgblog.files.wordpress.com> and follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/healthlibraries> @healthlibraries

Public Libraries Section

Officers

Chair: Emer Donoghue

Vice Chair: John Shortall

Secretary: Melanie Cunningham

Treasurer: Jackie McIntyre

Vice Treasurer: Pat Loneragan

Committee Members

Mary Murphy

Josephine Vahey

Sandra Turner

The Committee met formally twice during the year. Much work was undertaken at these meetings and elsewhere to prepare for the Public Libraries annual conference.

Conference Report

Leading the Way to Literacy: Public Libraries Empowering their Communities

7th-9th November 2018, Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow, County Carlow



Conference venue: Mount Wolseley Hotel, Tullow

The Public Libraries Conference was opened on the evening of 7th November by Philip Cohen, President of the LAI, when he reported on the review of the ALAI award. The following day began with the official opening of the Trade Exhibition. The exhibition this year featured many new and innovative products and services highlighting how emerging technologies remain drivers for change and enhanced service provision.

Keynote Rachel Van Riel proved a welcome first speaker, challenging and informing a captive audience on 'Making Space for Reading'. A 'critical friend' to libraries, Rachel is founder of *Opening the Book* and followed up her lecture later that morning with a focused workshop on reader-centred book displays.

The second presentation entitled 'Letting Children Take the Lead' brought something very new to listening ears. Engaging speakers Lucy Elvis and Annie McKeown O'Donovan from CURO (formerly Galway PC4) delighted delegates with their talk on philosophy for children in the library. Like Rachel, they also facilitated a workshop before lunch called 'Undercover – big questions in books'.

The morning talks were complemented with presentations from the three shortlisted entries for the LAI Project Prize. Keith McKeag from Kildare Libraries, Sylvia Madyda from Carlow Libraries and Eileen O'Connor from Galway County and City Libraries had ten minutes each to effectively propose their ideas for the €1,000 prize fund, awarded to help progress the project in their own authority. The result of a secret ballot of conference delegates was announced that evening, with Kildare Library Service taking home the prize for a Sensory Garden Project.



*Carlow County Library staff at the Public Libraries Conference, Tullow
Left to right: Clodagh Kinsella, Sylvia Madyda, Patricia Nolan, Margaret Byrne,
Fiona O'Toole, Martin O'Rourke*

The afternoon of the first day was an opportunity for delegates to experience some of the rich cultural offerings in the small and vibrant County of Carlow. Attendees were given the option of a visit and tour of either Carlow County Museum or VISUAL Centre for Contemporary Art and George Bernard Shaw Theatre. Both venues proved popular and showcased much of the local culture, heritage and arts to the enthused visitors. The cultural excursion only came to an end following a tour of Walsh's Whiskey Distillery at Royal Oak, Bagenalstown.

Day one of the conference closed with a Gala Dinner which featured welcoming and informed speeches from the Cathaoirleach of Carlow County Council, Brian O'Donoghue

and Chief Executive, Kathleen Holohon. The meal concluded with a thought-provoking and memorable after dinner speech by talented novelist, spoken word performer, journalist and occasional actor Peter Murphy. In his talk 'Libraries Gave Us Power', Murphy, who was Carlow Writer-in-Residence at the time of the conference, reiterated a theme of value and pride in our public libraries referenced in the pre-dinner speeches.

The final day of the conference began with a presentation on the new national public library strategy 'Our Public Libraries 2022: Inspiring, Connecting and Empowering Communities' given by Mary Stuart, Head of the Libraries Development Unit, LGMA. Mary delivered an engaging and informative talk on the ambitious strategy which will guide public library services over the next five years, detailing the main strategic programmes of 1) Reading and Literacy 2) Learning and Information and 3) Community and Culture. With the moratorium on recruitment lifted and workforce plans being finalised around the country, this presentation proved beneficial for many.

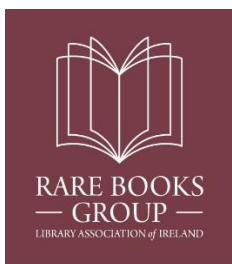
Prolific author Sinéad Moriarty followed with a talk on 'Literacy and the Power of Writing' before Laois County Libraries, winners of the *LAI Project Prize 2017*, entertained the audience with tales of Lego adventures and stock animation videos which they created with local children during the year.

As always, the conference ended with the ever popular 'My Life in Books' panel which featured Eddie O'Sullivan chairing a discussion with Peter Murphy, Catríona Crowe and Manchán Magan.



Eddie O'Sullivan and Peter Murphy

Overall, the 2018 LAI Public Libraries Conference was a tremendous success. Excellent organisation with informative and engaging speakers, relevant exhibitors, a beautiful location and enthusiastic delegates all contributed to a worthwhile experience.



Rare Books Group

Officers

Chair: David Meehan (Dublin City University)

Secretary: Nicola O'Shea (National Gallery of Ireland)

Treasurer: Alexandra Caccamo (National Botanic Gardens)

Committee Members

Barbara McCormack (Maynooth University)

Celine Ward (Chester Beatty Library)

Elaine Harrington (University College Cork)

Elizabethanne Boran (Edward Worth Library)

Evelyn Flanagan (University College Dublin)

Harriet Wheelock (Royal College of Physicians of Ireland)

Máire Ní Chonalláin (National Library of Ireland)

Maria O'Shea (Marsh's Library)

Marie Boran (NUI Galway)

Sophie Evans (Royal Irish Academy)

Stephanie Breen (Trinity College Dublin)

The committee met five times during the year: 5th March, 21st May, 17th July, 9th September and 4th December.

The AGM took place on 5th February at the Royal Irish Academy. Following the AGM, Dr Mark O'Brien (School of Communications, DCU) gave a presentation on 'Newspapers, Journalism, and Special Collections'.

The Rare Books Group and Cataloguing and Metadata Group held a joint workshop on 'Cataloguing and Organisation of Special Collections' on Friday 23rd March in the Royal Irish Academy. The workshop sold out, with all 35 places booked well in advance. In the morning, case studies were presented by Josie Caplehorne (Kent University partnership project with Rochester Cathedral), John McManus (TCD Terry Pratchett collection) and David Meehan (DCU pamphlet collection). The afternoon session was a panel and audience discussion chaired by Amber Cushing (UCD SICS) with additional panelists Evelyn Flanagan (UCD), Marian Keyes (DLR Lexicon) and Hugh Murphy (MU).

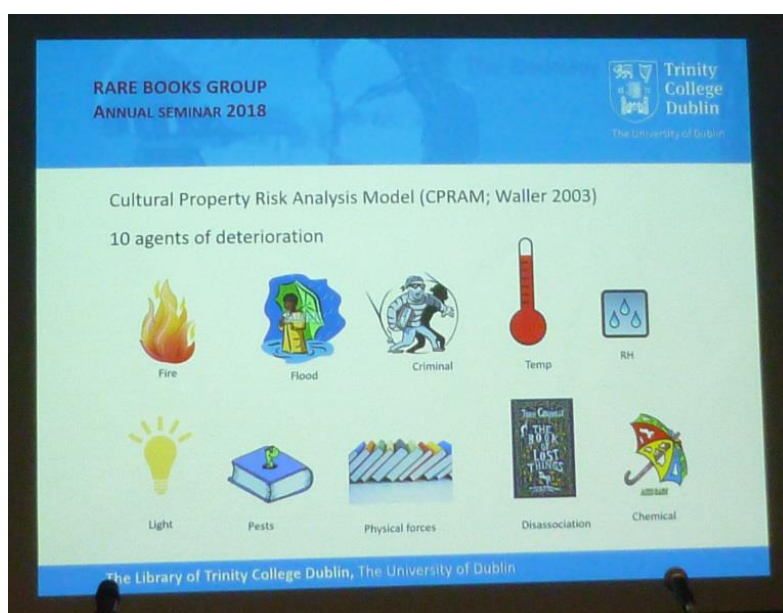
Our annual visit took place on 8th June to Armagh Robinson Library and No 5 Vicars' Hill, Armagh. It was attended by seven members who were welcomed by Carol Conlin (Assistant Keeper) and her colleagues. Some exquisite highlights were on display for us including incunabula, illuminated manuscripts and a copy of Benjamin Motte's first edition of 'Gulliver's Travels' by Dean Jonathan Swift. The group had the chance to discuss the Library's approach to cataloguing, conserving, and exhibiting the collections.

The 2018 Annual Seminar entitled 'Curating Special Collections Exhibitions' was held at the Chester Beatty Library on the 30th November. The seminar was accredited for CPD by the LAI and was attended by 53 people. It included the following long presentations:

- Anne Hodge (Curator of Prints and Drawings, National Gallery of Ireland)
'Pulling it all together' from idea to exhibition
- Lucy Collins (Assistant Professor, School of English, Drama & Film, UCD) and Evelyn Flanagan (Head of Special Collections, UCD Library)
Show and Teach: The Role of Exhibitions in Outreach and Education
- Susie Bioletti (Keeper of Preservation and Conservation, TCD)
Keeping it safe: Exhibiting with preservation in mind

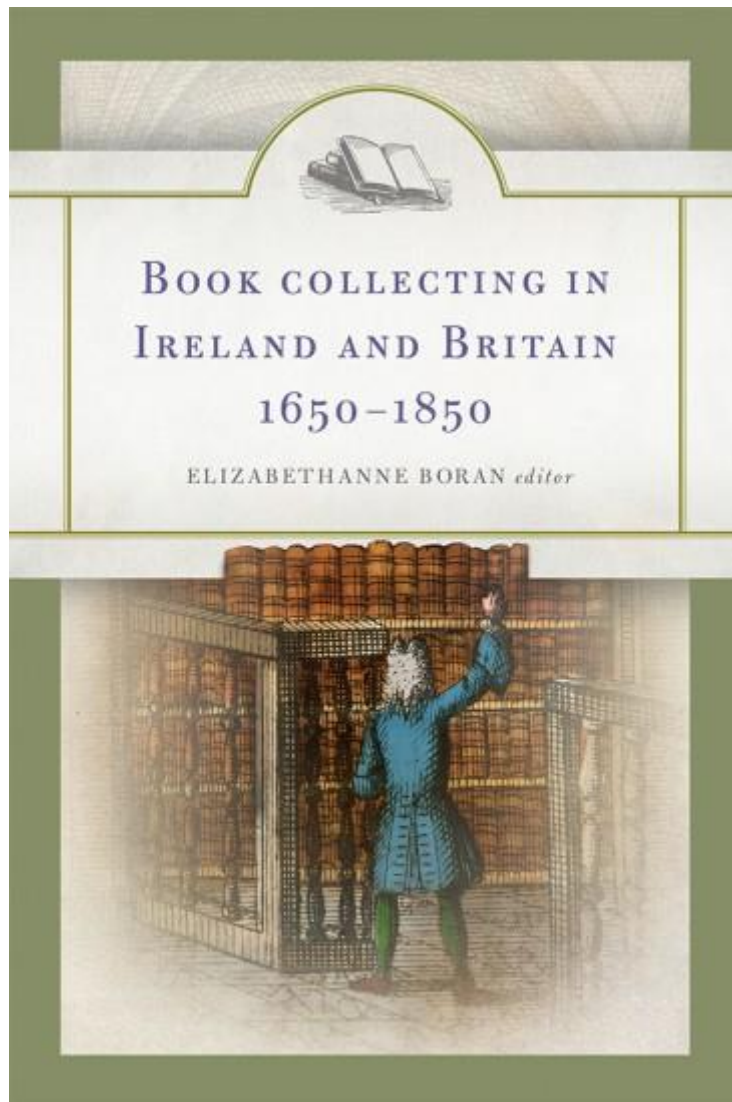
A local experiences session included short presentations on physical and online exhibitions from Sue Hemmens (Marsh's Library), Liam O'Dwyer (DCU), Mary Redfern (Chester Beatty Library), Elizabethanne Boran (Worth Library), Harriet Wheelock (RCPI) and Sophie Evans (RIA).

The seminar offered attendees practical advice on planning, collaboration, and preservation issues that arise when curating a special collections exhibition. Networking opportunities were provided between sessions.



*Susie Bioletti discussed potential risks to cultural property
(Image: Helen McGinley)*

Following the Annual Seminar, the Trinity College Librarian and Archivist Helen Shenton officially launched *Book Collecting in Ireland and Britain 1650-1850*, a volume arising from contributions to our 2016 annual seminar. Edited by Elizabethanne Boran and jointly published by the RBG and Trustees of the Edward Worth Library, the book is dedicated to the memory of Dr Charles Benson.



ISBN 978-1-84682-737-2

Western Regional Section of the Library Association of Ireland

Officers

Chair: Stephanie Ronan (Marine Institute, Oranmore, Galway)

Treasurer: Michelle Breen (University of Limerick)

Secretary: Niamh O'Donovan (Galway Library Service)

Committee

Anne Callanan (Galway Library Service)

Tara Considine (Clare County Libraries)

Emmet Keoghane (Athlone Institute of Technology)

Kris Meen (NUI Galway)

Carolyn Tunney, (Roscommon County Libraries)

The Committee met five times during 2018. They used *Freedcamp*, the online management system, to collaborate and plan the events for the year, and they met virtually via *Google Hangouts* when a meeting in person was not possible.

The Annual General Meeting was held on 29th January in Ballybane Library, Galway. Saoirse Reynolds stepped down from the Committee but all other Committee members were re-elected.

Annual Seminar

The Annual Seminar was held in Ballinasloe Library on 11th June. The theme *Challenging Times* was an exploration of how we tackle challenges in personal and professional spheres and how we learn and grow from them.

There were nine speakers on the day. The programme was as follows:

- Micheline Sheehy Skeffington, NUI Galway (Keynote Speaker)
My grandparents: Hanna and Francis Sheehy Skeffington's Fight for Women's Vote and an Independent Ireland
- Dr John Bosco Conama, TCD & The Irish Deaf Society
Irish Sign Language as an Official Language
- Colleen Ballard, MLIS Student
Not Quite There - Pre-Employment Challenges in the Information Profession
- Rita McCarthy, Clare County Library Service
Setting up a Library Podcast For Clare Library Services,
- Gwen Ryan, Shannon College of Hotel Management, NUI Galway

Ensuring Smooth Operational and Cultural Knowledge Transfer in a Small University Branch Library

- Carolyn Tunney, Roscommon County Library Service
Roscommon County Library's Work Matters,
- Niamh O'Donovan, Galway County Library Service
Galway County Library's Right to Read Campaign,
- Stephanie Ronan, Marine Institute
Libraries Responding to GDPR
- Maura Stephens and Kathryn Briggs, GMIT
The Trials and Tribulations of Going Open-Source



Ballinalsoe Library Church Gallery

The Seminar was opened by Galway City and County Librarian Catherine Gallagher and was attended by 30 people, from academic, special and public libraries. Food was provided by Ballinasloe Library as part of the *Galway Gastronomy 2018 East Galway Food Trail*.

Rudaí 23: 23 Things for Information Skills

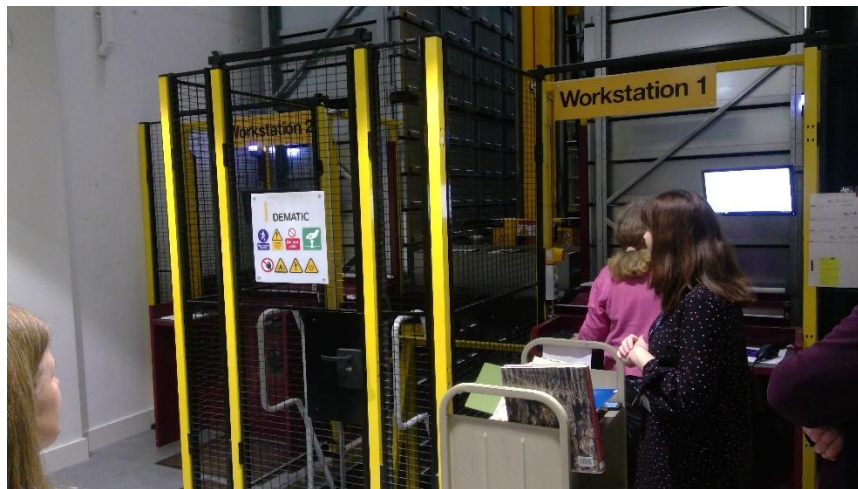
The second iteration of the online course *Rudaí 23* was completed in March. The course was divided into four sections: Visual Communicator, Online Networker, Critical Thinker and Engaged Professional. Course participants opted to complete one or more sections of the course. Participants who completed all four sections were awarded a fifth badge called CPD Champion.

The course was certificated by the LAI and participants could receive one or more Open Digital Badges. This was the first online CPD event to be run by a Section of the LAI and the first use of Digital Badges for CPD. 178 participants registered for the course, from both Ireland and internationally, and a total of 208 badges were issued, with 23 participants completing all four sections.

The course was delivered via a blog at www.rudai23.blogspot.com. The blog continues to act as an education tool for information professionals and has had over 165,000 page views.

Winter Networking Morning

Our *Winter Networking Morning* coincided with Library Ireland Week in November. The Section partnered with the Glucksman Library, University of Limerick to jointly host a tour of the new library and a talk about the implementation of the Library's new ARC storage and retrieval system. The event was well attended with Western Region members from Limerick, Galway and Clare County Libraries as well as those from Limerick Institute of Technology and Mary Immaculate College.



Glucksman Library: ARC Automated Storage and Retrieval System

Communications

All communications with our members are delivered via our Twitter account [@wrslai](https://twitter.com/wrslai), our blog www.wrslai.wordpress.com and via the LAI mailing list. Our email address is westernlibraries@gmail.com

Award

Our Treasurer Michelle Breen was awarded the Associateship of the LAI in March.

Youth Libraries Group

Officers

Chair: Aisling Donnelly (DLR Libraries)

Vice Chair: Maedhbh Rogan-McGann (Meath Libraries)

Secretary: Catherine Duffy (Dublin City Public Libraries)

Treasurer: Helen O' Donnell (Fingal Libraries)

Committee Members

Mary Bohan (Leitrim Libraries)

Frances Crampsie (Donegal Libraries)

Louise Curran (DLR Libraries)

Katie Dickson (St Dominic's Library)

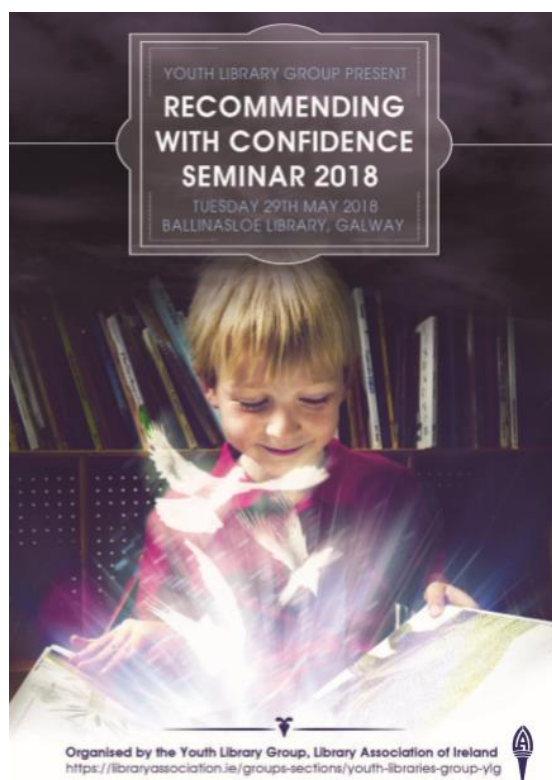
Catherine Gallagher (Galway City and County Libraries)

Sinead McArdle (Cavan Libraries)

Eimear McGinn (Kildare Library and Arts Service)

Deirdriu McQuaid (Monaghan County Libraries)

The Youth Libraries Group AGM took place on 21st February in Navan library. The meeting was followed by a 'think in' to discuss and plan the Annual Seminar to be held in May.



For the first time, the Group decided to head west and held its Annual Seminar 'Recommending with Confidence' in Ballinasloe Library on 29th May. The popular day-long event comprised the following contributions:

- Recommending books for children, Ruth Concannon
- Beyond words, Debbie Thomas
- JCSP Library Project, Kathleen Moran
- Successful Reading Projects in public libraries
 - Inspiring a love of reading, Cork County Libraries
 - Fantasy Premier League Club, Monaghan Libraries
 - Peter Rabbit STEAM event, Meath Libraries
 - Baby Book Club, DLR Libraries

About the Seminar

The More that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.

As Librarians, we couldn't agree more with Dr. Seuss. Every day we are looking for new ways to inspire young people to read more, to put down that mobile phone or turn off the playstation and pick up a book and read for pleasure. It is an on-going challenge we now find ourselves in, competing with technology and the busyness of life in general. The decline of young people's reading skills and general interest in reading is a worrying concern globally.

If you are looking for some new ideas to inspire children and young people to read, how to get them engaged – this is the seminar for you! Our unmissable seminar will give you an opportunity to hear practical tips from a number of inspirational speakers, to network with fellow colleagues, and take back some exciting ideas to share with your colleagues.

About the Speakers/Projects:

Recommending books for children: How to help children find the right books for them
This session will cover the following topics:

- Resources and where to find good book recommendations
- How to match a child with a book
- Dealing with parents/teachers
- Give some book recommendations for common questions she gets in her Book Clinics

Ruth Concannon currently works as a Reader in Residence for Dublin City Libraries. She is also a Book Doctor for Children's Books Ireland and a regular reviewer for Inis. She previously managed the children's section in Charlie Byrne's Bookshop in Galway and is doing a part-time MA on Children's Literature in St. Pats.

Beyond Words

Before scripts there were stories; before words came pictures. The Silent Books are a collection of more than a hundred wordless picture books gathered from six continents by IBBY (the International Board on Books for Young People). Join children's writer Debbie Thomas to discover how these books beyond words are used around the world to entertain, educate and encourage children and families of all nationalities and backgrounds, from refugees on the island of Lampedusa to schoolchildren in Dublin.

As a committee member of the Irish branch of IBBY, Debbie will explain how IBBY was founded to foster intercultural understanding through children's books, and explore ways of using the books to promote empathy and create a kinder, more tolerant world.

JCSP Library Project

Kathleen Moran is Senior Librarian with the JCSP Demonstration Library Project. The Project establishes and runs school libraries in 2nd level DEIS schools across Ireland. Prior to joining JCSP, Kathleen worked at all levels of the public library service in Waterford City, including a 2-year period as Acting City Librarian. Her talk will include an overview of the work of the JCSP Library Project together with a discussion around the range of reading, literacy and arts in education initiatives that are implemented through the school libraries.

Library Success stories include:

Cork County Libraries - Inspiring a love of reading Literacy Seminar

The aim was to deliver a literacy seminar for teachers in a library setting to maximise the potential for meaningful engagement. Focus on supporting teachers in encouraging children to read for pleasure. The seminar covered key areas such as the classroom, school and local library; Recommended reads; Practical classroom ideas; Creating a dialogue around books; and Teachers as readers.

Monaghan Libraries – Fantasy Premier League Club

A fun and interactive numeracy and literacy programme where football mad teenagers are encouraged to engage with the library service through their love of the game. At the start of the premier league season in August, the would-be managers joined the library, picked out their teams and joined our league through the unique code. We use technology, apps, newspapers, magazines and of course reading books about their favourite teams.

Meath Libraries – Peter Rabbit STEAM event

As part of Meath Libraries STEAM programme, Trim Library developed a Peter Rabbit event for pre-schoolers. The children listened to some stories, planted up some delicious lettuces, dined on healthy snacks and generally had a "Hoppy" time!

DLR – Baby Book Club:

DLR Baby Book Club is an interactive storytime experience for children under 3 and their caregivers. It is designed and facilitated to impart early literacy skills, provide opportunities for connection, support wellbeing and develop creativity.

Genealogy and Local Studies Group and Munster Regional Section

Genealogy and Local Studies Group

The Genealogy and Local Studies Group will relaunch in 2019. If you are interested in getting involved with the group or learning more about its work, please contact Síle Coleman at scoleman@sdublincoco.ie

Munster Regional Section

Interest in reviving the Munster Regional Section has been increasing and it is hoped to relaunch the Section in the near future. We would be delighted if anyone interested in joining would make contact with Helen McGonagle or Paul Cussen in Cork City Libraries: Helen_mcgonagle@corkcity.ie or Paul_Cussen@corkcity.ie



<https://www.irishnewsarchive.com/wp/tag/waterford-newspapers/>

Acknowledgements

The LAI acknowledges with thanks the support of the many organisations, institutions and individuals without whose cooperation and support the Association could not have functioned this year and every year. Particular thanks are due to the following:

- Dublin City Public Libraries for providing a correspondence address and for making available facilities for meetings on numerous occasions
- The very many other library organisations that accommodated committee meetings, CPD events and visits throughout the year
- The Heads of Library Services and other leaders who have facilitated staff to act as Officers of the Association, its Council and its Committees, Groups and Sections
- The Royal Irish Academy, Dublin City Public Libraries, Fingal County Libraries, South Dublin County Libraries and Waterford City and County Council Libraries for providing storage for Association records
- The library business sector and other friends of the Association that support its work through sponsorship of meetings, seminars and other activities

Appendix 1

Organisation of the Association

The Library Association of Ireland (LAI) is a company limited by guarantee. Every member of the Association is a shareholder. The Council acts as the company 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.

Membership of the Association is open to individuals and institutions. Participative membership is encouraged in order to benefit both the profession and the individual.

The 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, training, further education, advocacy or contributing a specialist expertise. Group work can include all of the above in community with others.

Membership of Groups and Sections is a benefit of LAI membership. In particular, participation at Committee level in a Group or Section can be a valuable learning and networking experience.

Committees are elected at the Annual General Meetings of each Group and Section. 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 of the Association, sometimes with refinements to suit local circumstances. For example, Groups and Sections can create time-specific, focused Sub-Committees or Working Groups in response to their own priorities.

If you wish to join a Group or Section, select it when joining or renewing your Association membership.

If you are interested in joining the Committee of a Group or Section, please contact its Chair or Secretary.

Membership of the LAI Council and election to the Offices of President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer is open to all personal members in good standing. The procedures are outlined in the Memorandum and Articles.

The Council has a range of Committees and may form Panels or Taskforces to address topical issues. In general, Panels and Taskforces are of a temporary nature and their membership may include individuals who are not members of Council.

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

Appendix 2

Committees

Management and Administration

- Council
- Management Committee

Developing the Profession

- Education Committee: Professional Standards
- Education Committee: Continuing Professional Development
- Library Ireland Week Taskforce
- Literacies Committee

Communications

- Website Developments
- Editorial Board of *An Leabharlann: The Irish Library*

Supporting Co-operation Between Libraries and Library Organisations

- North/South Liaison [with CILIP Ireland]
- Annual Joint Conference Committee [with CILIP Ireland]

Groups and Sections

Sectoral

- Academic and Special Libraries Section
- County and City Librarians Section
- Government Libraries Section
- Public Libraries Section

Regional

- Western Regional Section
- Munster Regional Section

Special Interest [Cross-Sectoral]

- Career Development Group
- Cataloguing and Metadata Group
- Genealogy and Local Studies Group
- Health Services Libraries Group
- Rare Books Group
- Youth Libraries Group

LAI Council is responsible for the correct and effective running of the Association. Consequently, all Committees, Groups and Sections submit regular reports to the Honorary Secretary for consideration at Council meetings.

Appendix 3

List of Abbreviations

The following abbreviations may be found within the text of the report.

General

AGM - Annual General Meeting
ALAI - Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland
CPD - Continuing Professional Development
FLAI - Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland
G&S - Groups and Sections
GDPR - General Data Protection Regulations
ILI - Internet Librarian International Conference
LIS - Library and Information Studies
MLIS - Master of Library and Information Studies
SIG - Special Interest Group

Library Association of Ireland Groups and Sections

A&SL - Academic and Special Libraries Section
CCLS - County and City Librarians' Section
CDG - Career Development Group
CMG - Cataloguing and Metadata Group
GenLoc - Genealogy and Local Studies Group
GLS - Government Libraries Section
HSLG - Health Sciences Libraries Group
MRS - Munster Regional Section
PLS - Public Libraries Section
RBG - Rare Books Group
WRSLAI - Western Regional Section
YLG - Youth Libraries Group

Organisations

AMNCH - Adelaide, Meath, and National Children's Hospital
ANLTC - Academic and National Library Training Co-operative
ARLIS - Art Libraries Society
Athlone IT - Athlone Institute of Technology
BIALL - The British and Irish Association of Law Librarians
CCT - CCT College, Dublin
CDETB - City of Dublin Education and Training Board
CILIP - Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
CONUL - Consortium of National and University Libraries
CSSO - Chief State Solicitor's Office
CUAL - Connacht Ulster Alliance Libraries
DBS - Dublin Business School
DCPL - Dublin City Public Libraries
DCU - Dublin City University

DIAS - Dublin Institute of Advanced Studies
DIT - Dublin Institute of Technology
DLR - Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
DPP - Director of Public Prosecutions
EBLIDA - European Bureau of Library Information and Documentation Associations
GMIT - Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology
HRB - Health Research Board
HSE - Health Services Executive
IBAT - IBAT College, Dublin
IFLA - International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
IMI - Irish Management Institute
IT Carlow - Institute of Technology Carlow
ITT - Institute of Technology Tallaght
L2L - Library Staff Learning to Support Learners Learning (NF Project)
LAI - Library Association of Ireland
LISC - Library and Information Services Council
LGMA - Local Government Management Agency
LIR - HEANet User Group for Libraries
LYIT - Letterkenny Institute of Technology
MLI - Media Literacy Ireland
MU - Maynooth University
NCAD - National College of Art and Design
NCEC - National Clinical Effectiveness Committee
NCI - National College of Ireland
NF - National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning in Higher Education
NLI - National Library of Ireland
NUI - National University of Ireland
PKSB - Professional Knowledge and Skills Base (CILIP UK)
QQI - Quality and Qualifications Ireland
RCSI - Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
RDS - Royal Dublin Society
RIA - Royal Irish Academy
TCD - Trinity College Dublin
TU Dublin - Technological University Dublin
UCC - University College Cork
UCD - University College Dublin
UCD SICS - University College Dublin, School of Information & Communication Studies
UL - University of Limerick
WIT - Waterford Institute of Technology
WLIC - World Library and Information Congress