



*Representing  
librarians and libraries  
in Ireland*

*The* LIBRARY ASSOCIATION *of* IRELAND  
Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann

# Annual Report

# 2015

*A revised version of this report including images will follow*

## **Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The Annual General Meeting of the Association was held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

The following were elected Honorary Officers and Council 2015/2016:

**President:** Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology

**Vice-President:** Mary Stuart, Offaly County Libraries

**Vice-President:** Bernie Fennell, Louth County Libraries

**Honorary Treasurer:** Marian Higgins, Kildare Library and Arts Service

**Honorary Secretary:** Betty Codd, Dublin City Public Libraries

**Honorary Auditor:** Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Council Library Service

### **Council:**

Jane Burns, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Jane Cantwell, Waterford City and County Libraries

Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology

Monica Crump, National University of Ireland, Galway

Bernie Fennell, Louth County Libraries

Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin Libraries

Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Public Libraries

Lai Ma, University College Dublin, School of Information and Library Studies

Cathal McCauley, Maynooth University

Zoë Melling, Legal Aid Board

Eileen Morrissey, Wexford County Libraries

Mary Murphy, Meath County Libraries

Emer O'Brien, Tipperary Libraries

Carmel O'Sullivan, University College Dublin

Kathryn Smith, Trinity College Dublin

Mary Stuart, Offaly County Libraries

Joan Ward, Libraries Development, Local Government Management Agency

Reprinted on the following pages are the Presidential Address and the Citations for Associateship and Fellowship of the Association that were delivered at the AGM.

## **Presidential Address**

I am greatly honoured to be standing here today as your newly-elected President. I thank you for the trust you have placed in me and I hope to deliver on your expectations.

I have worked most closely with the last 3 Presidents: Siobhan Fitzpatrick, who successfully steered the Association through the darkest days of recession; Fionnuala Hanrahan, who instigated a number of significant policy and planning initiatives to move the Association on to the next level; and Jane Cantwell, who took up those initiatives, developed them further and brought many of them to conclusion. But I also recognise the contributions made by earlier Presidents, by other officers and Council members and by Ordinary members who give so freely of their time to support and promote the Association. I salute you all.

The Annual Report is a formal record of the structure and the activities of the Association – our Groups, Sections, Committees and Task Forces. As the 2014 report shows, that collective activity is extensive and increasing. Most of it is due to the hard work of the Groups and Sections. But the Committees and Task Forces are responsible for progressing work that is largely unseen, such as copyright, Right to E-Read and access to information generally. We must not forget the Professional Standards and CPD Committees that accredited the new MSc Information & Library Management course at DBS, awarded Certificates of Attendance and began to promote better the ALAI and FLAI. And there is the Association Communications Strategy and the Action Plan - not ends in themselves, of course, but means to ensuring that Association policies are developed coherently and implemented in a timely fashion. Without fail, I am struck by the energy and enthusiasm of those involved in such activities. Of particular note to me is the increasing engagement of our ordinary members, many of whom are young and at the start of their careers. As an Association, we must ensure we maintain and nurture that. And harness it for the future.

So what of the future?

PKSB: Professional Knowledge and Skills Base is a CILIP product that the Association has licensed on your behalf. It will be free to personal members as an added benefit and an integral part of their membership. It is a powerful tool that underpins our collective professional standards and supports the CPD activity of individual members, thereby facilitating more members to progress their careers and to apply for the ALAI and FLAI awards as they do so.

We already benefit from strong links with international bodies such as CILIP and EBLIDA but there is scope to develop those links more and to initiate new ones.

As we have seen, the Association collectively does a lot but we need to promote ourselves better. So our task now is to formulate a marketing strategy and to progress it. Allied to that is the need to attract, recruit and retain members with a membership drive. One particular way to progress this issue is addressed in the Motions later today: free membership to library school students and new graduates. But that is just a start. We need also to investigate what our members want. And from that, devise more and better ways to recruit new ones and to keep existing ones.

As my own period as President begins, I echo the words of Jane Cantwell, who concluded her Foreword to the Annual Report as follows: “2015 will require courage, leadership and energy. We need to have confidence in the present and belief in a future of ongoing growth and development for the Association and our members.” I am eager to take on that challenge. I do so with a great sense of optimism, knowing that the Association as a whole is ready to seize the opportunities that lie before us. So I look forward to the year ahead with enthusiasm – working with you all, to achieve our goals. I invite you to join me on that journey.

Two candidates were awarded Fellowship of the Association and 9 members were awarded Associateship (a record number for recent times). The citation for each candidate read as follows:

**Fionnuala Hanrahan, BA, MLIS, MCLIP, ALAI, FLAI** was awarded Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Throughout her career Fionnuala has worked tirelessly to develop inclusive library services. Her career demonstrates a progression with increasing responsibilities; including collections and resources management, staff development, ICT planning and development, and culminating in her post as Wexford County Librarian where her role is to lead and shape the public library service.*

*Fionnuala has held numerous roles and responsibilities in the Library Association. She has served as Honorary Secretary, Vice-President, and was President of the Library Association from 2011 to 2015. As a member of various committees of the LAI, she has had a major influence on a wide range of issues including: the development of standards for health information needs and standards for school libraries. She was a founder member of Children's Book Week and the Youth Libraries Group, serving as Treasurer and Chairperson at various stages. She is acutely aware of the need for collaboration across the sector and beyond and has served on local government steering groups and other committees, influencing the development of the library profession nationally.*

**Eva Hornung, PhD, FCLIP, ALAI, FLAI** was awarded Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Eva's continuity of involvement in professional development is highly impressive both on her own account and others. She contributes a great deal to the profession particularly through her Chairmanship of the Academic and Special Libraries Committee and the CILIP mentoring scheme. She has given generously of her time in this regard to ensure excellent networking and training opportunities for members. She enthusiastically supports others in developing their careers and research.*

*She is to be commended for noting the gap in information on Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for OPLs (One Person Libraries) and then filling it through her own research work and subsequent PhD. This and her publications and papers have undoubtedly added to the body of professional knowledge. There is a notable geographic reach in the range of journals to which she has contributed and of conferences at which she has presented. Her strong track record in this regard is beneficial in exposing Irish librarianship widely and in developing contacts internationally.*

*Her professional affiliations extend beyond this country, encompassing a Fellowship of CILIP and a long-standing membership of Germany's Berufsverband Information Bibliothek. The awards outlined in her CV are further testament to the high regard in which she is held and to her consistent level of achievement. Eva is currently Librarian with the CDETB Curriculum Development Unit, TCD.*

**Fintan Bracken, PhD, MLIS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of his application.

*The candidate's Professional Development Report and accompanying CV are notable and he is undoubtedly a candidate of high calibre. Fintan has been actively engaged with the Western Regional Section of the LAI and CONUL. This involvement shows clear evidence of professional growth and development and his record is impressive. Fintan has key strengths in writing, research and bibliometrics and is someone who can make a significant contribution to the LAI and indeed the wider profession. Fintan is currently Librarian with Research Services & Bibliometrics, UL.*

**Laura Connaughton, BA, MLIS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*The candidate displays commitment to her own professional development as well as to the development of skills which will benefit her clients. Furthermore, she demonstrates commitment to the profession in its wider context by her proven contributions to a range of initiatives. As Chair of the Career Development Group in 2013/2014, she organised several CPD events of interest to other young professionals. She has presented at conferences in Ireland and internationally and was a member of the Library Ireland Week 2013 committee. Laura is currently Assistant Librarian with Maynooth University.*

**Laoise Doherty, BA, MScILS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*All of Laoise's positions have been in special libraries where her duties have been wide-ranging. For the past four years, Laoise has developed her professional skills further, beginning with the completion of an MSc in Information and Library Studies at Robert Gordon University. This has been followed by participation in special workshops and seminars aimed at acquiring new knowledge and skills, particularly in the areas of social media and digital content. As a member of the LAI and CILIP, Laoise has demonstrated her commitment by volunteering to serve on the committee of the LAI's*

*Academic & Special Libraries Section. Laoise is currently Assistant Librarian with the Royal Irish Academy of Music.*

**Teresa Igoe, BScEcon(ILS), ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Teresa's Professional Development Report sets out her ongoing commitment to the profession and a clear path of engaged and continuing professional development. She is an active, valued and involved member of the Academic and Special Libraries section and as a solo librarian has strived to be an active and committed networker. An enthusiastic member of the library profession, she has an excellent understanding the importance of service and support to her reader community. Teresa is currently Librarian at the Bray Institute of Further Education.*

**Maeve McCauley, MSc, MSc(ILS), HDipEd, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Maeve is an experienced librarian and is currently Acting Institute Librarian in the Institute of Technology in Letterkenny, with a staff management function. Judging by her Curriculum Vitae and the supporting statement, she is well qualified for the role and has been promoted regularly within her own organisation. Maeve has broadened her range of skills and competencies as her career has progressed and continues to seek professional development opportunities, including attendance and participation in LAI events.*

**Barbara McCormack, BA, MLIS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Barbara has rich and varied Curriculum Vitae as a librarian. Her non-routine activities, such as curating different exhibitions, delivering classes and talks, and her attendance at a variety of professional development courses underline her commitment to the profession of librarianship. Her ongoing contributions will continue to enhance the library profession's commitment to reaching out and providing quality of service to library users. Barbara is currently Assistant Librarian with Maynooth University.*

**Hugh Murphy, MA, HDipLIS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of his application.

*Hugh has the required professional qualifications (Higher Diploma in Library and Information Studies) and practical experience (over 15 years' experience working in libraries in Ireland). In addition, Hugh*



*has shown great commitment to professional development by participation on the Future Leaders Programme, by lecturing in UCD SILS, by active participation in the LAI, by presenting at many seminars and conferences and by many other activities. Hugh is currently Senior Librarian with Maynooth University.*

**Emer O'Brien, BA, LLM, MSc(LIS), ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*With previous experience in academic and corporate libraries, Emer clearly outlines key learning points in her career overall, in particular the informal and network-based learning that forms a significant part of her career with Tipperary Libraries. She lists the core aspects of her professional learning and development. Her committed participation in LAI activities, at Section, Council and Task Force level is noted. Overall, the report demonstrates the candidate's professional experience and engagement with the library and information community. Emer is currently Senior Executive Librarian with Tipperary Libraries.*

**Grace Toland, BA, DipLIS, ALAI** was awarded Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland on assessment of her application.

*Grace's Professional Development Report shows a clear progression. The candidate's spread of professional experience, responsibilities and activities are impressive. Her involvement in the LAI, IAML and other professional bodies at Committee and Board level makes her a very suitable candidate. Through her current position and involvement in Music PAL, she demonstrates a commitment to a high standard of service to library users. Grace is currently Librarian with the Irish Traditional Music Archive.*

## **Professional Standards**

The objective of the Education Committee: Professional Standards is to provide advice and guidance to Council in relation to professional ethics, core competencies for professional librarians and other matters relating to standards, as appropriate. The Committee is responsible for articulating the regulations in relation to accreditation of library courses (levels 8 and 9) in the Republic of Ireland and manages accreditation processes, as well as the Association's ALAI and FLAI awards.

The Committee members are as follows:

Philip Cohen, Dublin Institute of Technology

Madelaine Dennison, Houses of the Oireachtas

Deirdre Ellis King

Siobhán Fitzpatrick (Convenor), Royal Irish Academy

Kate Kelly, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Gillian Kerins, Institute of Technology Tallaght

Cathal McCauley, Maynooth University

Marjory Sliney

The Committee met quarterly during 2015 (14<sup>th</sup> January, 12<sup>th</sup> June, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 12<sup>th</sup> October), with a year-end meeting planned for 9<sup>th</sup> December.

The Committee met with representatives of the UCD School of Information and Communications Studies (formerly School of Library and Information Studies) in both January and October to prepare for the School's quality review and related LAI accreditation.

During the year, the Committee considered two major issues:

**Fellowship(FLAI):** The Professional Standards Committee reviewed best practice in relation to the award of fellowships across a range of library associations internationally and of professional associations in Britain and Ireland. The outcome of this review led to a recommendation to Council that FLAI by mode A be discontinued. This was ratified by Council on 19<sup>th</sup> November.

**Certification of internships:** Having reviewed the Association's internship guideline documents, the Professional Standards Committee recommended to Council that the LAI should provide certification

to candidates who have completed internship programmes rather than certifying the programmes *per se*. This proposal was ratified by Council on 19<sup>th</sup> November. Certification itself is the remit of the Education Committee: CPD.

Throughout the year, the Professional Standards Committee worked closely with the Education Committee: CPD and will strengthen this collaboration during 2016.

The Committee managed the assessment of five candidates for ALAI and two FLAI applications during the calendar year.

We acknowledge the continued commitment of Marjory Sliney to the management of award applications and thank Gillian Kerins for keeping the Professional Standards documents updated on the website.

## **Continuing Professional Development (CPD)**

**Members:** Philip Cohen (Convenor), Dublin Institute of Technology; Jane Burns, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland; Sarah Connolly, Irish Management Institute; Eva Hornung, CDETB Curriculum Development Unit/TCD; Sheila Kelly, Dublin City Public Libraries; Gillian Kerins, Institute of Technology Tallaght; Deirdre Ellis King; Jessie Kurtz, Trinity College Library; Lai Ma, School of Information and Communication Studies, UCD; Ann Mitchell, NUI Galway; Mary Murphy, Meath County Libraries

This year, the Education Committee: CPD conducted most of its business online. During the year, it approved 15 CPD events for certification:

Using LibGuides, ANLTC, 25<sup>th</sup> March

Information Skills for the Future, Career Development Group, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Open Access and Research Data Management Course, University College Cork, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> April

Workshop on Social Media, Rare Books group, 11<sup>th</sup> May

HSLG Annual Conference, Health Sciences Library Group, 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May

Library Camp, Career Development Group, 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Annual Seminar, Dublin Business School Library, 12<sup>th</sup> June

Annual Conference, CONUL, 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> June

Writing for Academic Publication, Maynooth University Library, 19<sup>th</sup> June

Annual Seminar, Western Regional Section, 22<sup>nd</sup> June

Rudaí 23: A 23 Things Collaboration, Western Regional Section, 1<sup>st</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> July (23 weeks duration)

Librarians and Online Privacy Seminar, Academic and Special Libraries Section, 6<sup>th</sup> August

Abstract to Audience: A guide to conference presentations, Career Development Group, 2<sup>nd</sup> October

PLS Annual Conference, Public Libraries Section, 13<sup>th</sup> November

Knowledge Exchange and Dissemination: Librarian as researcher, HSLG, 17<sup>th</sup> December

In addition, the Committee approved certificates for 3 Internships completed at Mater Dei Institute during the previous two years.

## **Communications Policy and Procedures Committee**

### **Members**

Mary Stuart, Convenor   Offaly County Council

Bernadette Fennell      Louth County Council

Joan Ward                Libraries Development, LGMA

Shona Thoma            IReL

Pat Lonergan

The Communications Committee workplan is guided by the *Communications Strategy 2012 – 2016*.

The objectives of the strategy are to:

- Communicate the functions and work of the LAI to its stakeholders and to the wider community
- Provide timely, accurate and appropriate information to its stakeholders

The following actions were prioritised for 2015:

- Appointment of a Social Media Officer
- Development of Social Media Guidelines
- Merging of the Communications Committee and Website Taskforce
- Development of Terms of Reference for the Communications and Website Committee

The appointment of Shona Thoma as Social Media Officer was approved at the Council Meeting of the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015. In line with the LAI Communication Strategy, the Social Media Officer will be responsible for the management of the LAI's social media platforms and leading social media campaigns. The role of the Social Media Officer will involve working with the Communications and Website Committees to develop the LAI's online presence.

The merging of the Communications Committee and Website Task Force was also approved at the June meeting. A review of membership and the development of revised Terms of reference for the merged committee will be progressed in 2016.

## **Website Development**

### **Task Force**

Mary Stuart (Convenor)	Offaly County Council
Bernadette Fennell	Louth County Council
Gillian Kerins	Institute of Technology Tallaght
Zoë Melling	Legal Aid Board
Shona Thoma	Irish Research eLibrary
Joan Ward	Libraries Development, Local Government Management Agency

Development work on the website continued in 2015, including preparation of draft content for a FAQ section and help menu and exploration of a centralised online registration system for CPD events.

The Committee is grateful to Luis Rodriguez Castromil of Iterate for his assistance throughout the year and to all the editors and administrators who updated content and helped maintain the site.

The Website Task Force merged with the Communications Committee in June 2015.

## **Publications**

<https://libraryassociation.ie/publications/leabharlann>

*An Leabharlann: The Irish Library*, volume 24, numbers 1 and 2

<http://www.ahg.gov.ie/arts/culture/culture-2025-2/>

Submission to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht re its *Culture 2025* discussion paper



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## *The LIBRARY ASSOCIATION of IRELAND*

Cumann Leabharlann na hÉireann

<https://libraryassociation.ie/>

c/o 138-144 Pearse Street, Dublin 2

### **Submission on Culture 2015**

#### ***Preamble***

The Library Association of Ireland represents libraries and librarians across all sectors throughout the State. The Association welcomes this opportunity to contribute to the creation of a National Cultural Policy by responding to the recent Discussion Document.

#### ***Definition (p.5)***

The Association applauds the recognition in the opening definition that libraries have a significant role in contributing to the cultural heritage of the country.

#### ***Institutional Architecture (p.8)***

The Association recognises the existing Departmental responsibilities and their reporting structures. We would welcome, however, an inter-departmental co-ordinating body representing all elements of cultural heritage and/or a cross-sectoral body representing all types of library (national, public, academic, health, special etc.).

#### ***Funding and Resources (p.9)***

There are benefits to be gained from the provision of collaborative, shared, multi-use space (physical and virtual), staff and services. When planned and implemented properly, they can enhance services to users – as well as deliver value for money gains in economy, efficiency and effectiveness.

#### ***Infrastructural Provision (p.10)***

Wherever possible, the priority should be multi-use and co-location of space – both multiple functions and cross-sectoral. A national or all-island store for lesser-used library material would benefit all sectors greatly (possibly housing material from galleries, archives and museums as well?). See also the proposal for “a national treasury of collaborative collection management and storage [with] shared access facilities” at <https://www.tcd.ie/Library/assets/pdf/strategy/library-strategy-2015-2020.pdf> (p.17)

The construction of some new facilities will be necessary to recognise geographic, demographic and technological changes but this must not be at the expense of necessary maintenance and reinvestment in existing infrastructure.

Private funding should be maximised where feasible but not at the expense of free public access to resources and full participation by all.



### ***International Promotion and Context (p.12)***

Local history, archives and special collections (physical and digital) in libraries attract much interest from the Irish diaspora. For example the Chester Beatty, Marsh's and Trinity libraries all attract significant numbers of overseas tourists to Dublin. More focussed promotion internationally would contribute positively to both our economy and our image abroad. Perhaps the remit of Culture Ireland could be expanded to include the promotion of Irish culture at home to potential foreign visitors?

### ***The Digital Age and Creativity (p.13)***

Libraries across all sectors have experience over many years of acquiring, creating, curating and delivering information in digital formats – both in-house and remotely. They have particular expertise in digitising print material to make it more accessible and to reach larger audiences. All libraries are well-placed, therefore, to develop these roles further into the future.

Such developments would be facilitated by increased funding, enhanced broadband availability and the upskilling of staff. On the policy front, a national/all-island digitisation strategy, promulgation of best practice protocols and enactment of legislation following the DJEI copyright review report at <https://www.djei.ie/en/Publications/Publication-files/CRC-Report.pdf> would all help as well.

### ***Social Integration (p.14)***

Public libraries are recognised as welcoming and safe 'third spaces', open to all free of charge, places of inclusion embedded in the democratic life of their communities. They do much already to combat social exclusion and to support cultural diversity e.g. literacy and the Right to Read initiative. They are the logical places to host further efforts.

### ***Young and Old and People with Disabilities (p.15)***

[http://www.lgma.ie/sites/default/files/public\\_libraries\\_strategy\\_2013\\_2017.pdf](http://www.lgma.ie/sites/default/files/public_libraries_strategy_2013_2017.pdf)

Not for nothing is the current strategy for public libraries entitled 'Opportunities for all: The public library as a catalyst for economic, social and cultural development'. Cultural development lies at the heart of library activities, with plentiful evidence given in the strategy document itself. The strategy also includes detailed action plans to progress specific aims in this area.

### ***Culture and Commemoration (p.16)***

In many counties, the local authority programmes are being led by staff from the public libraries. This is replicated in academic and special libraries too. Such leadership stems from libraries and their staff being long-established champions of culture within their own organisations.

### ***North/South Co-operation (p.16)***

Collaboration and co-operation have always been intrinsic to library activities and North/South co-operation follows naturally from this <http://borderireland.info/info/adetail.php?aref=3530> North/South library co-operation began in 1977 and from 1994 the Committee on Library Co-operation in Ireland (COLICO) was the formal advisory body on library cooperation to both An Chomhairle Leabharlanna and the Library and Information Services Council, Northern Ireland. COLICO comprised members from all library sectors but ceased operations in 2012, following the transfer of responsibilities from An Chomhairle Leabharlanna to Libraries Development within the LGMA.

Undoubtedly, the revival of COLICO or a similar body would help strengthen North/South cultural ties – building upon existing areas of co-operation that include various border county initiatives and the recently-announced 'Two cities one book' project between Dublin and Belfast.

### ***Conclusion***

In addition to the responses given above to specific questions posed in the Discussion Document, the Association wishes to emphasise the role that libraries and library staff (particularly professionally-qualified library staff) in all sectors play in cultural provision generally and in cultural education specifically. This role is well-established and widely recognised, leading to users regarding libraries as natural homes for cultural activities, which they cherish and desire to see nurtured.

*Dr Philip Cohen*

*President*

*Library Association of Ireland*

*30<sup>th</sup> October 2015*

## **Library Ireland Week 2015: *A Library Holds a World of Ideas***

### **Committee**

Bernadette Fennell (Convenor), Louth County Council Library Service

Betty Codd, Dublin City Library and Archive

Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin County Libraries

Eileen Morrissey, Wexford County Council Library Service

Ruth Montague, Libraries Development, LGMA

Samantha Morrissey, Clare County Council Library Service

Mary Murphy, Meath County Council Library Service

Lai Ma, University College Dublin

Kathryn Smith, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Library Ireland Week took place from 16<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> November 2015 in libraries across Ireland. The theme of this year's week was *A Library Holds a World of Ideas*, focusing on libraries as a portal into a world of ideas and opportunities; a world of imagination and creativity; a world of study and travel and new opportunities in all areas of life. The week provided an opportunity to highlight the role of libraries and librarians as an invaluable and positive source for change in the lives of individuals and communities.

In conjunction with Wilson Hartnell (WH) communication consultants, two print posters were created - one each in English and Irish - on the chosen theme and four visuals were created exclusively for social media. Each visual featured a well known passage of text with a relevant, engaging image overlaid. A social media content calendar was created for Facebook and Twitter to help drive engagement. A press release was drafted and issued to support social media activity. There was a Facebook reach of 1,362 during Library Ireland Week and a Twitter following of 747.

Library Ireland Week also received support through the RTÉ Supporting the Arts scheme for 2015. The committee acknowledge this support and the publicity received on RTÉ Radio 1 and RTÉ Lyric FM, as well as a short television promotion which aired on RTÉ 1 and RTÉ 2 channels. The support of RTÉ helped to ensure that a wider audience was introduced to the benefits of libraries and the work of librarians during the campaign.

## **Task Force on Information Literacy (TFIL) / Task Force on Literacy and Numeracy**

### **Task Force on Information Literacy**

**Members:** Philip Russell (Convenor), Institute of Technology Tallaght; Claire McGuinness, UCD; Jane Burns, RCSI; Katherine Ryan, St. Andrew's College Dublin; Muireann Tóibín, Revenue Commissioners; Brenda Carey, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown Libraries; Ann O'Sullivan, Oireachtas Library and Research Service.

The Task Force met twice during the year, in March and November. In January, members met with Dr Terry Maguire, Director for the National Forum for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning with a view to progressing a National Framework for information / digital literacy. The Task Force also provided input to the work of the All Aboard Project <http://allaboardhe.org/> being led by Dr Iain McLaren of NUIG. The objective of All Aboard is to set up a digital literacy framework for higher education.

In March, the Task Force had an article published in An Leabharlann, 'The Library Association of Ireland Taskforce on Information Literacy: an Overview of Objectives and Progress' which outlined the work of the group. The Taskforce has also been proactive in setting up a web presence, with an MLIS graduate taking on a role to update the content on the LAI website.

### **Taskforce on Literacy and Numeracy**

**Members:** Emer O'Brien (Convenor), Tipperary County Council; Laura Joyce and Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin Libraries; Joan Ward, Libraries Development Unit of the LGMA.

The Task Force did not meet in 2015, as it had been agreed to follow the progress of the literacy development programmes and initiatives being rolled out by the Libraries Development Unit of the LGMA as part of the objectives of 'Opportunities for All', the National Strategy for Public Libraries. As it became clear that the objectives of the Task Force were substantially complete or being developed by the Libraries Development Unit, the Task Force agreed by email to reconsider its position. In June the convenor of this Task Force, Emer O'Brien met with members of TFIL to discuss a possible merger.

The two Task Forces met in June 2015. At the meeting, it was agreed that a merging of both groups would be in the best interest in terms of progressing these interlinked competencies at national level. This was approved by the LAI Council in September 2015. At a specially-convened meeting in

November, members of the two Task Forces discussed the creation of a new group with the key objective being to establish a new name for itself and to decide upon the terms of reference. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for January 2016 when these details will be finalised.

It is envisaged that the merged group will continue the work of both Task Forces and will review best practice initiatives in relation to literacy, information literacy and digital literacy across library and information sectors in Ireland. The new Task Force will be committed to pursuing a practical and cross-sectoral approach to further the goal of an integrated national strategy for these key competencies. The Task Force will engage in ongoing advocacy, promotion and dissemination activities helping to raise national awareness of the strategic value of these skills and promote their integration into education, the work place and wider society.

## **International Report**

### **1. Copyright**

#### **EU Copyright Reform**

The European and International Panel monitored developments relating to the reform of EU copyright law in 2015. The JURI Committee report on the implementation of Directive 2001/29/EC on the harmonisation of copyright and related rights was passed by the European Parliament on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2015 with some amendments. The report includes provision for new exceptions to allow libraries and archives to digitise their collections effectively, to enable the lending of e-books over the Internet and to allow text and data mining. There was no agreement on proposals in the original report to make all exceptions mandatory across the EU, to reduce copyright terms or for a flexible open norm. The European Commission published a roadmap for implementing measures to modernise EU copyright law in November 2015, which is available at [http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2015\\_cnect\\_001\\_cwp\\_communication\\_copyright\\_rules\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2015_cnect_001_cwp_communication_copyright_rules_en.pdf)

#### **Transposition of Collective Rights Management Directive**

The Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation invited submissions on the transposition of the Collective Rights Management Directive (2014/26/EU) with a deadline of 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015. The Directive provides for a legal framework for the collective management of rights that are administered by collecting societies on behalf of rights holders. The deadline for the transposition of the Directive into Irish law is 10<sup>th</sup> April 2016. The LAI responded to the initial consultation launched by the Department when the Directive was first proposed in August 2012.

### **2. EBLIDA**

#### **Council/Conference**

Zoë Melling represented the Association at the annual joint EBLIDA/NAPLE conference and EBLIDA Council meeting held in Riga, Latvia in May 2015. A new Executive Committee was elected at the Council meeting and Jukka Relander from the Finnish Library Association was elected President. The conference theme was 'Building a Europe of Readers' and focused on the link between libraries and literacy. The conference was part of the programme of the EU Presidency and tied into its key

priorities of involvement, growth and sustainability. A conference report was published in the October 2015 issue of *An Leabharlann* at <http://www.libraryassociation.ie/publications/leabharlann>

### **EBLIDA Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL)**

Joe Donnelly represented the Association on the Expert Group on Information Law (EGIL) in 2015.

## **3. IFLA**

### **World Library and Information Congress**

LAI President Philip Cohen and 3 other members attended the World Library and Information Congress which was held in Cape Town in August. For the first time, the Association held an Irish National Caucus meeting at the Congress.

### **London Manifesto**

The Association signed the London Manifesto in June. This calls for copyright reform for libraries and archives in Europe and advocates for harmonised exceptions, open norms, the right to lend, the right to acquire, the right to mine, rights for disabled people, the right to enjoy statutory exceptions, the right to cross-border uses, mass digitisation, and standardised terms of protection for copyright. The full text of the manifesto is at:

[http://www.cilip.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/The\\_London\\_Manifesto.pdf](http://www.cilip.org.uk/sites/default/files/documents/The_London_Manifesto.pdf)

### **Lyon Declaration**

The UN post-2015 Development Agenda was launched at a summit in New York on 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> September and was renamed the *2030 Agenda*. The new agenda includes access to information, universal literacy and safeguarding of cultural and natural heritage. The LAI signed the Lyon Declaration on Access to Information and Development in December 2014. This called on UN Member States to highlight access to information as an essential component of the agenda. The 2030 Agenda is at [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E)

## **CILIP Ireland/ LAI Annual Joint Conference 2015**

In keeping with the three year cycle between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland, the Annual Joint Conference returned to Belfast on the 8th, 9th and 10th of April 2015. Hosted in the state-of-the-art venue Titanic Belfast and entitled *Collaborate, Evaluate, Evolve*, it attracted a range of high profile speakers from a variety of library and information fields from near and far.

Events began with a welcome reception on the evening of the 8th of April when Adrienne Adair (Chair of CILIP Ireland) and Philip Cohen (President of the LAI) formally opened the Exhibition. Delegates were given a flavour of Titanic Belfast through a short talk on its features and history and were encouraged to network, explore the exhibitions and meet the exhibitors.

Keynote speakers were Irene Knox, Chief Executive of Libraries NI (The Northern Ireland Library Authority) who delivered an inspiring presentation on making effective strategic partnerships; and Roly Keating of the British Library who spoke passionately about the future vision of the British Library.

Plenary speakers included Donna Scheeder, President Elect of IFLA; Liz McGettigan, Director of Digital Library Experiences at SOLUS UK; Rolf Hapel, Director of Citizens' Services and Libraries in the City of Aarhus in Denmark; and Dawn Finch, Vice President of CILIP, children's author and school library consultant.

To update the format of the conference, it included some interesting new sessions such as the Poster Session (innovative library and information projects and services North and South), Libraries of the Future (highlighting three big budget library projects in the Republic of Ireland), Library Soapbox (library and information pitches and discussion groups) and of course the Belfast City Bus Tour (with a library flavour).

The conference dinner was followed by an entertaining speech by well-known local Belfast author Glenn Patterson.

*Adapted from the report on the CILIP Ireland website, accessed on 17<sup>th</sup> February 2016:*

<http://www.cilip.org.uk/cilip-ireland/cilip-ireland-lai-annual-joint-conference-2015-review>



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

Chairperson      Dr. Eva Hornung, CDETB Curriculum Development Unit/TCD

Hon. Secretary   Caitríona Honohan, Contemporary Music Centre

Hon. Treasurer   Laoise Doherty, Royal Irish Academy of Music

Membership Officer      Marie G. Cullen, Maynooth University/RCSI

Communications Officer   Laura Rooney-Ferris, Irish Hospice Foundation

Committee      Lorraine Curran (June 2013 - January 2015)

Seán Hughes, Trinity College Dublin

Deirdre McGuinness, William Fry (June 2015 - )

Mick O'Dwyer (June 2014 - December 2015)

Erin O'Mahony, Houses of the Oireachtas

Sile O'Shea, King's Inns (June 2013 - June 2015)

Ann O'Sullivan, Houses of the Oireachtas (June 2005 - June 2015)

Niamh O'Sullivan, Irish Blood Transfusion Service

Maria Rogers, Barnardos Ireland (June 2015 - )

## **Overview**

2015 has been a very busy year for the A&SL. We organised a range of events which were very successful in attracting high attendances and interest. The Annual Conference and Exhibition held in February 2015 attracted an almost capacity attendance from delegates and an exceptionally high level of interest from companies and organisations looking to sponsor and/or exhibit at the event.

The entire Committee worked very hard on the organisation of the conference. Particular appreciation goes to the 2015 Conference Project Manager, Marie Cullen.

We enjoyed collaborating on events with the Health Science Libraries Group (HSLG) and the Career Development Group (CDG) during the year and we introduced a new *Librarians Aloud* podcast, a monthly podcast presented by A&SL featuring librarians talking about their career paths. Special thanks goes to Laura Rooney-Ferris for this.

### **Committee meetings and membership**

The Committee met on 12 occasions during the year. This included 10 Committee meetings, the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in June and a strategic planning meeting in July to plan the year ahead.

Four people stepped down from the Committee in 2015: Lorraine Curran in January, Ann O'Sullivan and Sile O'Shea at the AGM in June 2015 and Mick O'Dwyer in November 2015. Lorraine Curran and Sile O'Shea joined the Committee in 2013 and Mick O'Dwyer joined in 2014. Ann O'Sullivan joined in 2005 and celebrated ten years on the Committee at the 2015 AGM. All four members contributed greatly to the success and growth of the Committee over the past number of years and will be greatly missed.

Deirdre McGuinness and Maria Rogers joined the Committee at the AGM in June 2015.

### **Events**

In a year of many very successful events, the following stand out as highlights: the Conference and Exhibition, the Joint A&SL and HSLG Christmas/New Year Networking Evening in January, the AGM in June and the *Librarians and Privacy* talk at the Royal Irish Academy in August.

The A&SL Annual Conference and Exhibition took place 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at the Gibson Hotel, Dublin. The theme of the conference was *The Inside Out Library: Collaboration, Inspiration, Transformation*. The Keynote Speakers were Malachy Browne, Managing Editor Reported.ly/former

News Editor Storyful, and Helen Shenton, former Executive Director of Harvard Library and now Librarian and Archivist at Trinity College Dublin.

The Committee once again awarded bursaries for full delegate attendance to the Annual Conference and Exhibition. Shona Thoma and Niamh Walker-Headon were the winners of the sponsored places. The bursaries cover the cost of the conference delegate fee (including meals) plus travel costs up to a maximum of €100. The two bursary winners published a conference review in *An Leabharlann* in October.

The Annual (post) Christmas Networking Evening was held on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2015 in the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin and was co-hosted by the HSLG. The demand for attendee places was very high from both members and non-members, it reached the maximum possible amount in advance and there was a very good attendance on the night. The speaker on the night was David Clarke of the *Man on the Bridge* project. The presentation was followed by drinks and canapés and it was a very enjoyable night for all in attendance.

The AGM took place on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2015 in the Royal Irish Academy. Our guest speaker for this event was Marian Keyes, Senior Executive Librarian at Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, speaking about the new Dlr Lexlcon, the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Central Library and Cultural Centre.

The *Librarians and Privacy* talk with Alison Macrina, Library Freedom Project, and Dr. Eoin O'Dell, Trinity College Law Lecturer, took place at the Royal Irish Academy on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2015. The subject was the role of librarians in raising public awareness (and their own awareness) of security online. The Library Freedom Project runs training in the US to teach librarians about online privacy rights. The event was very well-attended and feedback was very positive.

## **Events**

A&SL and HSLG Christmas/New Year Joint Networking Evening, January 2015

2015 Conference and Exhibition, February 2015

Library Camp 2015 with the CDG, May 2015

AGM, June 2015

*Librarians and Privacy* talk, August 2015

A&SL Networking Event: 1916 Rebellion Walking Tour, October 2015

For further details about these events go to <http://www.aslibraries.com/>

### **Other highlights of the year**

2015 saw the introduction of the *Librarians Aloud* podcast, a monthly podcast presented by A&SL featuring librarians talking about their career paths, what they love about the profession and where the information profession is going. This exciting initiative was the brainchild of our Communications Officer, Laura Rooney-Ferris. The first two podcasts in the series can be accessed at <http://www.aslibraries.com/#!/librarians-aloud-podcast/cj6y>

The Committee continues to operate an international library conference bursary scheme, giving members the opportunity to attend major international library conferences as part of their CPD. The 2014 Bursary Winners were Kate McCarthy, Digital Repository of Ireland, who attended the International Data Curation Conference in London, 9-10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 and Padraic Stack, Maynooth University, who attended Open Repositories 2015 in Indianapolis, 8-11<sup>th</sup> June 2015. The bursaries covered the costs of conference attendance, including conference fees and reasonable travel and accommodation expenses. Both winners wrote reviews of their experiences for the October issue of *An Leabharlann*.

Eva Hornung and Laoise Doherty attended the 2015 Meeting of the LAI Council with officers of all Groups and Sections.

Eva Hornung and Laoise Doherty presented at the *Developing as a Professional: Attaining a Library Association of Ireland Award* event in November 2015.

Laoise Doherty and Mick O'Dwyer presented papers at the A&SL Annual Conference and Exhibition in February 2015.

Marie Cullen, Ann O'Sullivan and Erin O'Mahony represented the A&SL Committee at the CILIP Ireland/Library Association of Ireland Annual Joint Conference in Belfast in April 2015.

Laura Rooney-Ferris presented a paper and Niamh O'Sullivan presented a poster at the HSLG Conference in May 2015.

Niamh O'Sullivan presented a pitch and Ann O'Sullivan, Erin O'Mahony and Laura Rooney-Ferris represented the Committee at Library Camp 2015.

Marie Cullen presented a paper and Seán Hughes represented the Committee at the CONUL conference in June 2015.

Laoise Doherty obtained her Associateship of the Library Association of Ireland (ALAI) in 2015.

Eva Hornung obtained her Fellowship of the Library Association of Ireland (FLAI) in 2015.

## **Communications**

Members can join our emailing list by sending an e-mail to [asl-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie](mailto:asl-on@lists.libraryassociation.ie)

They can post to the list by sending an e-mail to [asl@lists.libraryassociation.ie](mailto:asl@lists.libraryassociation.ie)

Websites <http://www.aslibraries.com/>

<http://www.libraryassociation.ie/groups-sections/academic-and-special-libraries-section-asl>

Social media Twitter @ASLIBRARIES

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

LinkedIn Academic & Special Libraries Section of the Library Association of Ireland

## **Joining the A&SL**

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

## **The Career Development Group (CDG)**

### **Committee**

Chairperson    Marta Bustillo, TCD/NCAD

Secretary      Genevieve Larkin, Marino Institute of Education

Treasurer      Lara Musto, Legal Aid Board

### **Members**

Louise Galligan, Irish Cancer Society

Andrew Moore, NGI

Amye Quigley, Wicklow County Library Service

Jenny O'Neill, TCD/DRI

Niamh Hanratty, Arthur Cox

Sarah Kennedy, Royal College of Physicians of Ireland

There were several changes to our committee membership during the year with the loss of three members: Jenny O'Neill, Niamh Hanratty and Sarah Kennedy. The CDG would like to thank them for their work on the committee over the past year.

The committee met on 13 occasions between October 2014 and October 2015. This included 12 committee meetings and the Annual General Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2015. Committee members attended LAI Council meetings also.

### **Overview**

The CDG caters for the needs of both existing library and information professionals and new graduates looking for job opportunities. Our goals for the year were as follows:

1. Organise affordable events to develop our members' professional skills and keep them updated on

library trends

2. Offer opportunities for meaningful reflection on the future of our profession
3. Develop our communications strategy
4. Establish a sounder financial foundation for the group

2015 saw the orchestration of three well-received CDG events:

### **Information Skills for the future, 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

Our first event of the year was held in the Trinity Long Room Hub. The emphasis for the day was on the changing information environment and jobs market for librarians and information professionals. The morning session looked at 'Libraries, technology and the information landscape'. We were very grateful to all of our excellent speakers, which included those furrowing new paths for information professionals:

- Keynote by Jessie Kurtz, Trinity College Dublin: "Library trends and the trendy librarian"
- Brid McGrath, McGrath, Barrett & Associates: "Towards an eco-system for development"
- Sarah Lyons, Novartis: "Benefitting business: applying the Librarian's skill-set in a digital world"
- John Howard, UCD: "The expert library: emergent needs in academic and special libraries"

Our afternoon session focused on 'Physical and virtual library spaces' and again examined trends in the library world which are affecting library services and those working in them:

- Orla Nic Aodha, St. Patrick's College: "Grand designs with room to improve"
- David Hughes, Dublin Business School: "I am the virtual librarian (but you don't have to be)"
- Mairead Owens, Dún Laoghaire Rathdown County: "What are the necessary skills for a librarian in 2015?"

This was followed by a Q&A session with our speakers and a lively discussion about desirable skills and job prospects for librarians in 2015. There was a fantastic turnout for the event. Feedback was very positive and the CDG would like to thank all those who attended and participated.

### **LibCamp 2015, 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

Our second event of the year was the third 'Irish Library Camp' which took place in the beautiful new state-of-the-art library in St. Patrick's Campus, DCU. The day started with a speed networking session

and then continued on to the pitches which were all about different aspects of marketing in library contexts. In between pitches, attendees took breaks for cakes and coffee and tours of the new Library.

Pitches included:

- 'The Librarian's elevator' pitch by Jenny O'Neill
- 'Human search engines, formerly known as librarians', by Elaine Fahy
- 'Libguides, Loop and Library videos: marketing library services at Cregan Library' by Genevieve Larkin
- 'Marketing libraries and data analysis' by Andrew Moore
- 'Marketing for the libraryless librarian' by Louise Galligan
- 'How to exploit the zeitgeist: using traditional and social media to market your library' by Carolanne McPartlan
- 'There and back again: borrowing and lending items for an exhibition' by Elaine Harrington
- 'Picture-perfect presentations' by Niamh O'Sullivan

The day was very well-received and a full report is available on our blog at

<https://laicdg.wordpress.com/2015/05/29/library-camp-2015/> and on Storify at

<https://storify.com/LAICDGroup/library-camp-2015-5564a831d0414b8b65065561#publicize>

### **AGM and Seminar, 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

Our final event for the year set out to explain the work and make-up of the CDG over the previous twelve months. We endeavoured to show our progress, our engagement with the needs of our members and our new financial health. We also ran a campaign in the weeks running up to the event calling for applications for membership of the CDG Committee and were very happy with the response. We gained five new members, which should sustain us into the future. Our plans for 2016 include an informal mentoring scheme, work alongside the LAI CPD Committee on showcasing the PKSB toolkit for professional development and more events which respond to the needs of new and mid-career librarians.

Alongside our AGM this year, we decided to run a seminar and workshop on conference presentations, 'Abstract to audience: a guide to conference presentations'. This resulted from feedback obtained at LibCamp which called for help with applying for and presenting at conferences, as well as public



speaking in general for librarians. We were delighted to have Dr. Sandra Collins, the new Director of the National Library of Ireland open this event with her keynote speech 'What sort of librarian are you? And other difficult questions!'. Her talk was a call to action for librarians to value their role in the production and dissemination of research. We then had an array of wonderful speakers from academic and special libraries all talking about how they approached presenting - filled with practical hints, tricks and insights:

- "How to pack a punch with your presentation" by Niamh O'Sullivan, Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- "Poster presentations that get noticed" by Laura Connaughton, Maynooth University
- "Style over substance" by Peter Dudley, Dublin City University
- "Bullet-point proof presentations" – a workshop with Michelle Dalton,UCD

We were also delighted to have the LAI president, Dr. Philip Cohen, attend our AGM and say a few words on behalf of the Association at the end before distributing CPD certificates to our audience.

A full report of the event can be found on our blog at <https://laicdg.wordpress.com/2015/10/21/cdg-joint-seminaragm-2015-abstract-to-audience-a-guide-to-conference-presentations/> and on Storify at <https://storify.com/LAICDGroup/abstract-to-audience>

## **Cataloguing and Metadata Group (CMG)**

**Chair:** Christoph Schmidt-Supprian, TCD

**Treasurer:** Padraic Stack, Maynooth University

**Secretary:** Catherine Ryan, UCD

### **Committee Members:**

John Bates, RTÉ Radio

Marta Bustillo, TCD

Yvette Campbell, Maynooth University

Anne Murphy, Tallaght Hospital

Caroline Philpott, University College Cork

Clare Thornley, Maynooth University

2015 was a relatively quiet year for the CMG as some longstanding members of the committee, Senan Healy, Ailish Brady, Giada Gelli and John McManus (Chair) stood down and new members Yvette Campbell and Anne Murphy were elected. Padraic Stack also took over as Treasurer from Christoph Schmidt-Supprian. Despite the transitional nature of 2015, the Committee did meet on eight occasions and progress was made on a number of fronts.

### **Logo**

In February, having re-run the logo competition at the close of 2014, a winner was finally chosen: Erhan Ay, a graphic designer based in Turkey. He was subsequently contacted and awarded the prize of €100 euro Amazon book voucher. Since then, the Group has begun to update the branding on all stationery and social media sites to incorporate the new logo.



### **Bursary**

The bursary competition was also re-launched but unfortunately the eventual person to whom it was awarded was unable to take it up due to work commitments, so it was not awarded in 2015. We are delighted to be able to offer the bursary for 2016. It should also be noted that the first winner of the bursary, Marie Cullen, presented an RDA update at the first annual CONUL Conference

held in Athlone at the beginning of June. This was a very appropriate and well received airing of the research since it was based on a survey of CONUL members. She was also a guest speaker at our AGM.

### **LAI/CILIP Conference**

In a new departure, the CMG sent one of its committee members, Group Secretary Caroline Philpott, to the LAI/CILIP Conference held 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> April in Belfast. Finances permitting we will commit to sending a committee member on an annual basis and possibly to other events where they coincide with the interests of the Group.

### **RDA**

Responding to feedback from members, the CMG also organised an RDA training event in the Glucksman Library, University of Limerick on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> September. It was organised jointly with the LAI Western Regional Section – another first – and booked out very quickly. The workshop was facilitated by Keith Trickey and feedback as ever was very positive. Since it was such a success, it is hoped that the CMG will look to plan more events outside of Dublin.

### **AGM**

The CMG AGM took place in the North Wing Seminar Room in Trinity College on November 20<sup>th</sup>. Marie Cullen was guest speaker and presented an RDA update. Having remained on as Chair during 2015, John McManus stood down from the committee. Membership of the CMG stands at a healthy 230 and we have a number of vacancies on the committee - those interested in joining should contact the Secretary.

## **County and City Librarians Section (CCLS)**

### **Officers**

Chairman	Bernadette Fennell, Louth County Council
Vice-Chairman	Helen Walsh, Clare County Council
Hon-Secretary	Mary Stuart, Offaly County Council
Hon Treasurer	Brendan Martin, Wicklow County Council

The Section met on three occasions in 2015: 10<sup>th</sup> February, 10<sup>th</sup> April and 10<sup>th</sup> June.

Implementing *Opportunities for All – Public Library Strategy* has been the main work of the Section, with a number of Working Groups set up to progress the actions in the Strategy:

Opportunities For All

Library Management System (and LMS Steering Group)

Literacy and Reading Development

Procurement

Core Services, Branding & promotion

Business, Enterprise & Employment

Public Library Services to Schools

Workforce Development

### **Two Steering groups were set up at National Level**

- Business, Enterprise and Employment National Steering Group
- Right to Read National Steering Group

### **Members of the section are also active on the following committees**

- National Advisory Forum for Public Libraries
- Library Development Committee
- National Safeguarding and Vulnerable Adults Steering Group

Currently 14/30 Chief Librarian posts are vacant, most posts have been vacant for several years.

Action on this critical inadequacy and on the supports requirement necessary to deliver the Strategy dominated the Section's motions at the Association's AGM in March.

**LMS:** The new National Library Management System - Sierra - went live on 23<sup>rd</sup> June in the phase 1 libraries. Work on Phase 2 libraries is underway and a full roll out to all library authorities will be completed by the end of 2016. A new website [www.librariesireland.com](http://www.librariesireland.com) has been developed, where the new online catalogue can be accessed. Public library users are benefiting from the introduction of the new system which provides for universal membership and an enhanced service delivery.

**Business Enterprise and Employment:** 12 Library pilots are in place. A key component of the pilots will be to develop and strengthen links with the Local Enterprise Officess, Intreo services and other relevant bodies, and to avoid any duplication of services. A comprehensive independent review is underway to investigate local, national and international stakeholder perspectives. The aim of the review is to secure the development of sustainable services that complement existing business and employment, as well as the services and structures that are in place nationally and locally.

**Literacy/Right to Read:** This Working Group is actively progressing reader development and literacy programmes including the Summer Reading Adventure, summer clubs and summer camps. A very successful literacy conference on Right to Read took place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2015 in Dublin Castle. It focused on the importance of literacy as a basic life skill and the requirement for a comprehensive vision and more focused action in offering cohesive and sustainable support for literacy development.

**Open Libraries:** In 2014, a new innovative service was piloted in two library Authorities – Offaly and Sligo. For almost a year, 3 public libraries in Banagher, Tullamore and Tubbercurry have extended their opening hours by providing an unstaffed library service outside normal opening hours. Library members are able to access these libraries using a library card and PIN when staff are not present for WiFi, study, meetings, borrowing of items, photocopying, scanning and research. All three libraries are open 98 hours a week over 7 days. The feedback from both Counties is very positive. In Offaly, over 1000 members have signed up to use the Open Library unstaffed service. Over 15,000 visits have taken place during unstaffed hours.

**Procurement:** The LGMA issued a request for tenders for the provision of On-Line Resources for Public Libraries in October 2015. The aim of this tender is to procure a single national online resource service accessible by the members of all local authority library services. The online offer

will include e-books; e-audio services; magazines and journals; newspapers and learning support materials.

**Autumn Seminar:** Roscommon County Librarian, Richie Farrell, led the design and delivery of the autumn seminar, held in Roscommon on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015 with the theme 'The Public Library and Commemorations'. The theme was very apt given the upcoming centenary of 1916 and the role that City and County Librarians will play in leading on the coordination of events and activities in their local authorities and communities. The content addressed included:

- Decade of Commemorations – beyond set pieces, a talk given by Sinead McCoole, a member of the Expert Group on Commemorations
- Public Libraries and the Centenary of 1916, presented by Michael O'Reilly from Ireland 2016, Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
- An historical perspective on commemorations by Dr. Margaret O'Callaghan from Queens University, Belfast
- The Role of Public Libraries and the Digital War Memorial in the UK, presented by Mark Freeman, Libraries and Heritage Services Manager
- Various programming projects for 2016 were also presented
- Author/writer in residence with Roscommon County Council, Gerry Boland gave an update on new Roscommon writing and the Ireland 2016 local programme

The success of the seminar was a testament to the commitment of the contributors and to the hospitality of Roscommon County Council and its dedicated staff.

Our colleague Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian, Wexford County Council retired in 2015. We would like to thank Fionnuala for her great contribution to the LAI, CCLS and her work over the years in Dublin and Wexford.

Sadly we lost our esteemed colleague Kieran Swords during the year (see the obituary elsewhere in this Annual Report).

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

### **Committee**

Chair                      Síle Coleman, South Dublin County Libraries

Joint Secretary    Jeremy Black, Fingal County Libraries

Joint Secretary    Inez Fletcher, National Library of Ireland

Treasurer            Monica Cullinan, University College Dublin

### **Other Committee members**

Mary Broderick, National Library of Ireland

Justin Furlong, National Library of Ireland

Máire Ní Chonalláin, National Library of Ireland

Gearoid O' Brien, Westmeath County Libraries

Colette O'Flaherty, National Library of Ireland

The Group has 90 members. It was inactive during 2015. An AGM is planned for the first quarter of 2016, notice of which will be posted in January.

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

The Government Libraries Section 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 to promote co-operation between Government Libraries.

The GLS held 3 meetings during 2015 and had their AGM on the 26<sup>th</sup> June in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Topics discussed at the ordinary meetings were related to legal deposit, use of e-books in Government libraries and use of social media in public sector organisations.



## Health Science Libraries Group (HSLG)

Chair	Michael Doheny, Athlone Institute of Technology
Treasurer	Anne Murphy, AMHD library, Tallaght Hospital
Secretary	Louise Bradley, Institute of Public Health, Dublin
Communication Officers	Caroline Rowen, St Michaels Hospital, Dun Laoghaire Diarmuid Stokes, University College Dublin
Committee Members	Brian Galvin, Health Research Board Bennery Rickard, Regional Librarian, Dr. Steevens' Hospital
CPD Officer	Anne Madden, St Vincent's Hospital, Dublin

The committee met six times during 2015.

### Chairperson's Report

There has been as usual a lot of work and events carried out by HSLG members and the HSLG committee over 2015. One example is the new Health Evidence Awareness Report (HEAR). Also there is the continuing success of the Health Information News and Thinking newsletter (HINT) which is now in its 10th year, since the first edition rolled off the presses in May 2005. HINT has become a quarterly publication this year due to the hard work and commitment of the HSLG communication officers Caroline Rowan and Diarmuid Stokes. Anne Madden resigned from the committee in 2015 but continues to do a lot of work organising CPD events for the HSLG. The whole HSLG committee have continued to give a lot of their time and expertise to in 2015 and it is moot to say that nothing could occur without all this volunteer work which is much appreciated.

In 2015, many HSLG members have continued attending library conferences and this added to the expertise and community of learning available to us all. Among many other notable activities by HSLG members which cannot all be mentioned was the publication of a book, *The Invisible Librarian: A Librarian's Guide to Increasing Visibility and Impact* by Aoife Lawton. Aoife, along with Louise Farragher, was also one of the main drivers of securing the ICML conference which is coming to Dublin in 2017 and which is now in planning by the HSLG, together with Louise and Aoife. Louise Farragher has been co-opted onto the HSLG committee in the run up to this conference and we are delight to have access to her expertise again. Brian Galvin attended the IFLA conference from 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> August 2015, in Cape Town, South Africa, in his capacity of Chair of the IFLA Health and Biosciences Libraries Section.

The HSLG annual conference 2015 took place in Athlone in the Sheraton Hotel 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> May and had a unique and interesting format this year. On day one there were two parallel CPD sessions, one on presentation and management skills and the other on critical appraisal, both of these were well received by attendees. Sarah Burke, a journalist, broadcaster and policy analyst, was the keynote speaker on day two and gave a very interesting reporter's view of the current state of the Irish health system. There then followed a number of presentations by HSLG members and the day finished with our first HSLG conference debate which was on the theme of 'Health Librarian - Dodo or Phoenix?' This was a very entertaining, informative and good humoured event and the debate may hopefully become an annual event in the future.

This year there was also valuable research undertaken relating to health information and government strategy. It is always great to see the discussion topics continuing on the HSLG emailing list, which continues to be informative and a fine example of a learning community sharing knowledge freely.

### **CPD Report**

Attending training events presents an ongoing challenge to HSLG members. With this in mind, two alternative events were built into the HSLG Annual Conference this year. Choice was between:

- Des Doyle, Desmond Doyle & Associates: 'Presentation, Communication & Management Skills'
- Mala Mann, Information Specialist/Systematic Reviewer, Cardiff University: 'Critical Appraisal'

This concept proved extremely popular and similar sessions will be built into next year's conference.

Following the conference, a short survey of CPD requirements was carried out. The primary purpose was to identify core activities, skill sets and competencies required for health librarians in different settings and to match these with any self-reported skills gaps. Main topics emerging from the survey results were advanced searching/research skills, use of social media in healthcare, website/Intranet development and maintenance, and finance and budgeting.

In 2017, Dublin will be hosting two major international health library conferences – the 12th International Congress on Medical Librarianship (ICML) and the European Association for Health Information & Librarian (EAHIL). In addition to the survey results, this was one of the drivers for the

2<sup>nd</sup> CPD activity for 2015 – the ‘Librarian as Researcher’ which was scheduled to take place on 17<sup>th</sup> December, presented by Rosarie Coughlan, Queen’s University, Ontario (formerly of NUI Galway). Topics included expertise in bibliometrics and research performance measurement, scholarly publishing and Open Access publishing.

CPD activity in 2016 will feature the HSLG Conference, scheduled to take place in May, with a second event to take place later in the year. It is planned to source presenters from within the HSLG membership as much as possible. Discussions have already taken place with some presenters so that these events can be tied down as soon as possible.

The CPD Survey also revealed that a growing number of members have now completed an online Course. This format was tried in 2014 but had to be cancelled owing to lack of take-up. Signs are that an online offering would receive more support in 2016, so this will be broached again once an appropriate topic has been identified.

### **HSLG Communications Officer Report**

This year, the HSLG published four issues of our newsletter *HINT: Health Information News and Thinking*. The move to a quarterly publication allows for more frequent engagement with members and also gives members additional opportunities to contribute pieces for publication. The HSLG List continues to be a strong communications channel for members who use it to share information regarding health resources, interesting articles, and to seek advice on a variety of topics. This year also saw the development of *HEAR: Health Evidence Awareness Report*, a current awareness publication developed by a collaboration of health librarians. The idea was proposed and led by Anne Madden of the HSLG committee.

In November, the HSLG website was hacked which led to it being taken down. Unfortunately, the external website manager was unable to resolve the exposures. A new website is being built and will be online soon. However the incident has highlighted the need for stronger website protection and the importance of backing up website content in a cloud-based environment.

## **Munster Regional Section**

### **Officers**

Chairman	Paul Cussen, Cork City Libraries
Vice-Chair	Helen McGonagle, Cork City Libraries
Secretary	<i>Vacancy</i>
Treasurer	Orlagh Forde, Cork County Library and Arts Service

### **Committee**

Rebecca Crichton, Cork City Libraries

Sinead Feely, Cork City Libraries

The Munster Regional Section represents the interests of LAI members working throughout the South of Ireland. The group aims to inform and educate library staff in the Munster region, as well as provide opportunities for social interaction. A committee is elected at the AGM and all LAI members are welcome.

### **Activities and Events**

The committee last formally met in 2011 and discussed the economic difficulties and how that may affect attendance at events and training.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The last Annual General Meeting took place in 2010 and was hosted with the kind permission of Cork City Council in Blackpool Library, Cork City. We intend to hold an AGM early in 2016 with a view to attracting new members and reinvigorating the Munster Section.

## **Public Libraries Section (PLS)**

### **Officers**

Chair	Mary Murphy
Vice Chair	Emer Donoghue
Treasurer	Jackie McIntyre
Secretary	Melanie Cunningham

### **Committee**

Josephine Vahey  
John Shortall  
Pat Lonergan

The Committee met five times during the year. These meetings took place in the ILAC Centre Library and the Pearse Street Library in Dublin.

### **Conference**

The Public Libraries Section Annual Conference took place on the 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> of November at the Garryvoe Hotel, at the invitation of Cork County Council. Over 100 delegates attended.

The overall theme of the conference was 'Enlighten, Enrich, Engage: Learning, Culture and Community in Public Libraries' - continuing the exploration of key areas in 'Opportunities for All'. The conference was accredited by the Association CPD Committee.

President of the Association, Dr Philip Cohen, formally opened the conference, welcomed delegates and talked on the benefits of becoming an active LAI member and recognising the value of a vigorous library community.

A conference highlight was the session of presentations by the finalists for the *Public Libraries Section Project Prize*. The prize was a fund of €1,000, awarded by votes from delegates on their favourite shortlisted project. Applications had been invited from all local authorities with the aim of providing an opportunity to develop and implement innovative ideas. The initiative served to stimulate ideas and creativity amongst public library staff and the presentation to conference

delegates allowed for potential project emulation in other libraries. The finalists were Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford library services.

Carlow's winning project was 'Live from the Library', working with local teenagers on a six-month production of Youtube music videos on issues facing teenagers. Kilkenny spoke on their 'Aistear in the Library' project, working with junior and senior infants classes to develop play-related activities around libraries. Wexford presented their 'eSkills for Work and Entrepreneurship' a project focusing on education and employment options for school leavers.

Other highlights included a talk from Richard Bealing, Head of Library Services in Wigan Libraries, looking at ways to promote the work of public library services to reach wider audiences. Wigan produced a generic video promoting the services in a fun, qualitative way, in contrast to the more quantitative, statistical approach that services have used in the past.

The first afternoon continued with a funding panel, where local, national and European funding avenues open to public libraries were explored, generating many questions from the floor. This talk was followed by a presentation from Anastasia Gasia from The European Library, outlining the work of the library and their Europeana Archive.

The afternoon concluded with a visit to the refurbished library in Cobh where County Librarian, Eileen O'Brien, gave a presentation on the County 'Year of Light' project. Cork's larger scientific enterprises were contacted to fund events throughout the county, promoting their collections linked to the project theme. The delegates also had a tour of the Midleton Distillery and then attended the conference dinner with after dinner speaker Colm O'Gorman.

Friday Morning commenced with a panel on literary awards, including the Kate Greenway Prize and the Irish Book Awards. The panel gave information on the selection process and the importance of the awards in today's information society. Offaly Library Service gave an update on their Open Libraries Project stating that to date the project is going well with no major problems encountered by staff or users.

Marjory Sliney gave a short presentation on writing for 'An Leabharlann', followed by a presentation from Fintan Mulligan on the '121 Digital Programme', a one tutor/one learner programme developed with transition year students training the elderly on Internet enabled devices. A lively

talk by Ciaran McKinney, Director of Development in 'Age and Opportunity' followed. He gave an insight into the organisation's work in engaging the elderly in a wide range of creative activities, from the Bealtaine and Samhain festivals to the Azure Project, helping those with dementia-related conditions take part in cultural activities.

The conference concluded with the firm favourite 'My Life in Books' panel, chaired by Eddie O Sullivan, which included actor and comedienne Tara Flynn, Irish Independent sports writer Vincent Hogan and author Padraig O Rourke. The panel discussed a wide range of books that impressed them from a young age, through to their teens and into adulthood.

## **The Rare Books Group (RBG)**

### **Officers**

Chair: Dr Elizabethanne Boran, Edward Worth Library

Secretary: David Meehan, Mater Dei Institute

Treasurer: Celine Ward, Chester Beatty Library

### **Committee Members**

Marie Boran, NUI Galway; Alexandra Caccamo, Botanical Gardens Library; Sophie Evans, RIA; Evelyn Flanagan, UCD; Elaine Harrington, UCC; Barbara McCormack; Maynooth University; Dr Jason McElligott, Marsh's Library; Máire Ní Chonalláin, NLI; Nicola O'Shea, TCD

During the year, Sophie Evans replaced Dr. Bernadette Cunningham as the RIA representative and Nicola O'Shea replaced Kathryn Norris as TCD's representative. The Committee met five times during 2015: 19<sup>th</sup> January, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 8<sup>th</sup> June, 7<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> December.

**AGM:** The AGM took place on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at the Royal Irish Academy. Bernadette Cunningham and Elizabethanne Boran stepped down from their respective roles of Chair and Secretary. They were respectively replaced in these roles by Elizabethanne Boran and David Meehan. Following the formal business of the meeting, Dr Lucy Collins of UCD gave a presentation on 'The Poet as Printer in 20th Century Ireland'.

**Annual Visit:** This year, the group organised a visit to Belfast to see the special collections of the McClay Library at QUB and the Linen Hall Library. Tours and presentations were given to the group by Deirdre Wildy of QUB and Monica Cash of Linen Hall. McClay laid out a display of early printed items, manuscripts and pamphlets. The Linen Hall put on displays of materials and objects accumulated from local communities in recent decades, as well as items from their historic collections. Seven people went on this visit.

**Workshop on Social Media:** On 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015, the group organised a half-day workshop on social media focusing on their practical use by libraries and cultural institutions. The workshop, which was held at the RIA, was led by two leading practitioners with Dr Natalie Harrower of RIA concentrating on 'Using Social Media to Generate Public Profile' and Dr Jason McElligott of Marsh's Library on



'Getting the most out of Twitter: how to increase reach and impact'. The event was accredited for CPD by the LAI. In addition to the two workshop leaders, 16 people participated.

### **Annual Seminar,**

This year's seminar, held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at the Chester Beatty Library, was entitled 'Digitisation of Special Collections'. It was attended by 49 people and comprised the following presentations:

Aisling Keane, NUI Galway: 'Digitising the Abbey Theatre Archive: a 110 year journey through Ireland's National Theatre'

Dr Micheál Ó Siochrú, TCD: 'Down Survey Project'

Julia Barrett and Eugene Roche, UCD: 'UCD Digital Library: selection/niche collections'

Joanna Finegan, NLI: 'The NLI Web Archive'

Padraic Stack and Barbara McCormack, Maynooth University: 'Teresa Deevy Archive'

This full-day seminar covered practice and policy on digitisation across a wide range of print and born digital resources and from library and academic perspectives. The seminar delivered some lively Q&A sessions, as well as opportunities to network during the coffee and lunch breaks.

## **Western Regional Section (WRS LAI)**

Chair	Anne Callanan, Galway County Libraries
Secretary	Stephanie Ronan, Marine Institute, Galway
Treasurer	Niamh O'Donovan, Galway County Libraries
Committee	Carolyn Tunney, Roscommon County Libraries Elizabeth Keane Kelly, Galway County Libraries Emmet Keoghan, Department of the Taoiseach Mary Murray, GMIT, Galway

### **Overview**

The WRS LAI had a very busy and successful year in 2015. Following up on feedback from the 2014 annual seminar, it was decided that WRS LAI would research, develop and implement an international '23 Things' course for information professionals: Rudaí 23. This was launched during our full capacity annual seminar in June. WRS LAI also jointly hosted an RDA training event with the Cataloguing and Metadata group in September.

### **Committee Activities:**

The committee will have met in person on three occasions in 2015. However, the committee are very progressive and have used social media extensively, meeting on multiple occasions using Google Hangouts. The group use Wiggio as a project management tool, which saw an intensive exchange of communications throughout the year. The Rudaí 23 moderators also held two live conferences online via Google Hangouts-on-Air in August and November, as well as a Twitter chat.

### **Annual Seminar**

The 2015 annual seminar entitled 'The Information Professional: Embracing New Roles and Technologies with Confidence', took place in Gort Public Library, County Galway on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. The hashtag #libwest15 was used to follow the conference by those unable to attend. 38 delegates attended from Galway County Libraries, Clare County Libraries, University of Limerick, Limerick Institute of Technology, GMIT Galway and GMIT Mayo campuses, Roscommon County Library, Sligo Libraries, St. Michael's Hospital, NUI Maynooth and NUI Galway.

Speakers from the day:

- Introduction and welcome - Anne Callanan, Chair
- Launch of Rudaí 23: A 23 Things Collaboration - Niamh O'Donovan, Galway County Libraries
- Digitisation and Creation: Developing a World War 1 Digital Exhibition - Sinéad Keogh, Librarian, University of Limerick
- Quality Blogging from Maynooth - Bernadette Gardiner and Emma Boyce, Maynooth University Library
- Exhibition of hand-painted silk scarves - Renata Hochmanova, inspired by the imagery of Yeats' poetry
- Cilip Chartership Programme - Elizabeth Keane, Senior Library Assistant, Westside Library
- Going Solo: Irish Tendering Process and Becoming a Freelance Librarian - Stephanie Ronan, Librarian, Marine Institute
- Celebrating Yeats 2015: the South Galway Connection - Sr. de Lourdes Fahy, Mercy Order, Gort
- Google Chromebooks for Professional Development - Paul McEvory, Baker Security & Networks
- Toastmasters: On Becoming a Confident Public Speaker - Cora Gunter, Executive Librarian, Westside Library
- Professional Progression of a Subject Librarian - Suzanne Rushe, Limerick Institute of Technology
- Role of a Pharmaceutical Librarian - Sarah Lyons, Pharmaceutical Librarian

The runaway success of the day was the launch of and introduction to the Rudaí 23 programme by Niamh O'Donovan. The presentation slides from the seminar are available on our WRSLAI blog as well as a summary report of the day: <https://wrslai.wordpress.com/2015/07/02/seminar-2015-embracing-new-roles-and-technologies-with-confidence/>

### **Rudaí 23: A 23 Things Collaboration**

The latter half of 2015 was dedicated to Rudaí 23. This is an online course for information professionals based on the 23 Things format. The course was designed and implemented by our Treasurer Niamh O'Donovan. Five members from WRSLAI and six further volunteers made up the Rudaí 23 team. The team collaborated, writing the course content, developing the Rudaí 23 community and acting as mentors to the course participants.

The course comprised 23 introductory modules aimed at providing instruction on free web tools, advocacy and on legal, technical and professional topics for the information professional.

Each participant created an online blog. This provided a platform for documenting a personal reflection on their career path and their learning experiences during the course. These blogs were moderated by Rudaí 23 and proved evidence of course work completed to achieve certification. Participants interacted with Rudaí 23 and each other through networks such as Twitter, Google hangouts and LinkedIn. Having completed the course, participants can use Web 2.0 technologies for personal and work interaction, for professional CPD, for administrative tasks, student engagement, promotion and advocacy. Certification is being awarded by the Library Association of Ireland through WRSLAI, to anyone who has completed all 23 modules.

185 participants registered for the course, primarily from Ireland and the UK but also from Malaysia, Guatemala, India, Australia, Germany, Denmark and the US. Participants were from all sectors of the Information Profession: Schools, Academic, Public, Government and Health as well as new graduates. Several participants completed the course as part of their Chartership programme with CILIP.

The module completion and closing date for certificate was the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2015. An extension has been granted in some instances until February 1<sup>st</sup>, with moderation continuing until this date. 79 participants applied for completion certificates. As well as active participants, Rudaí 23 had over 300 readers subscribed to the blog and a substantial following through networks such as Twitter and Google+. Between June 2015 and November 2015 there were 28,480 visits to the Rudaí 23 blog.

Rudaí 23 has received several requests to run the course again. We are considering this as well as an advanced course for the future. The WRSLAI Committee would like to thank the Library Association of Ireland, the Career Development Group, the Academic and Special Libraries Section and New Professionals Day Ireland for their support throughout project. We would also like to thank everyone on the Rudaí 23 team for their hard work and dedication during the project.

WRSLAI recommends that LAI members use their Rudaí 23 course work and LAI certificate as supporting documentation when applying for their LAI Associateship.

Niamh O'Donovan and Stephanie Ronan, along with Caroline Rowan from HSLG, will present 'Rudaí 23: an online course to upskill the 21st century librarian' at ASL 2016. Niamh and Stephanie were also interviewed in episode 3 of the A&SL Librarians Aloud podcast

<https://soundcloud.com/librariansaloud/librarians-aloud-episode-3-rudai23>

### **Resource Description and Access (RDA) Training**

In September, the WRSLAI jointly held a RDA training event with the Cataloguing and Metadata Group in the University of Limerick. This workshop provided a brief introduction to RDA. It focused on RDA type 1 Entities (Work, Expression, Manifestation, Item) and MARC 21 Bibliographic format. The aim for participants was to:

- Be aware of the principles underpinning RDA
- Have explored the use of RDA to describe items
- Understand the continuing development of RDA
- Be able to assess the potential impact of RDA on their information service
- Recognise the RDA changes in downloaded MARC 21 records
- Implement appropriate RDA areas in MARC 21

The WRSLAI and CMG would like to thank Justine Bennet from the University of Limerick and the library staff there for their help with this training event.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The AGM and networking morning is scheduled to take place in the Marine Institute, Renville on 14th December. For the first time, WRSLAI will host two remote meeting venues in Dublin and Limerick, allowing members to attend the meeting through video conferencing. Caroline Rowan will host one venue in St. Michael's Hospital, Dun Laoghaire and Michelle Breen will host a second venue in the University of Limerick. We are trying to facilitate any Rudaí 23 participants who would like to attend the AGM and networking morning. WRSLAI business will be discussed; committee members elected and Niamh O'Donovan will present an update and synopsis on Rudaí 23.

### **Communications**

Email [westernlibraries@gmail.com](mailto:westernlibraries@gmail.com)

Websites [www.wrslai.wordpress.com](http://www.wrslai.wordpress.com)

<http://www.rudai23.blogspot.ie/>

Social media    Twitter: @WRSLAI, @Rudai23

LinkedIn: Western Regional Section of the Library Association, Rudaí 23

### **Joining the WRSLAI Section of the LAI**

To join the WRSLAI Section, select WRSLAI when renewing your LAI membership.

## **YOUTH LIBRARIES GROUP (YLG)**

Chair                    Aisling Donnelly, Kildare Libraries

Secretary            Deirdriu McQuaid, Monaghan County Libraries

Treasurer            Helen O'Donnell, Dublin City Public Libraries

Committee members   Catherine Gallagher, South Dublin Libraries

Catherine Duffy, Dublin City Public Libraries

Anne Marie Kelly, Dublin City Public Libraries

Frances Crampsie, Donegal Libraries

Maedhbh Rogan, Meath Libraries

Mary Bohan, Leitrim Libraries

Eimear McGinn, Kildare Libraries

The committee met three times during 2015.

The group hosted a very successful 'Recommending with Confidence' seminar in May in The Lexlcon, Dun Laoghaire. Presentations on the day included:

Better Basics with Eimear McGinn, Kildare Libraries; 5 Minute Favourites; Seven Stories workshops with Debbie Beeks, Seven Stories, Newcastle; An Mala Mór; a tour of the new Lexlcon.

The group will continue in 2016 to promote literacy and reading for young people and hope to organise another event.