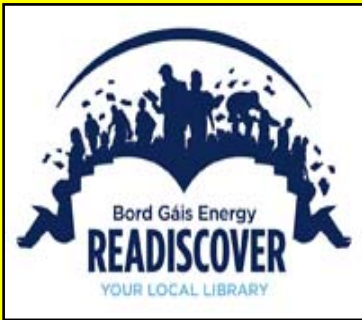


# Read On!

News, events & information from Offaly County Library Service



*Bord Gáis Energy READISCOVER Your Local Library Week* runs nationally from April 19<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> and is all about encouraging people to think about all that their library has to offer and the fun that can be had by adults and children alike through a trip to their local library.

Speaking at the recent launch of the initiative, Senator Mark Dearey, Chairman of the Library Council said, *"The old image of libraries as stuffy, quiet places where people were constantly told to be quiet has gone. Now our libraries are dynamic community facilities which are there to be enjoyed by all – young and old."*

*The Bord Gáis Energy READISCOVER Your Local Library week should remind people just how great their library is and, for people who haven't visited recently, we hope this week will kick start the habit of a lifetime."*

Brent Pope, ambassador for Bord Gáis Energy READISCOVER Your Local Library Week, commented, *"READISCOVER Week promises to bring lots of fun to libraries around the country and it's important that people realise that endless entertainment opportunities are available in their local library every day."*

Events and activities are taking place throughout Offaly Library Service including

- **Book in a Bag:** Rediscover the element of surprise by taking home an extra mystery book (in a bag) from any of our branches during READISCOVER week!
- **Storytelling with Niall de Burca** (Tullamore Library)
- **The start of a regular children's Storytime** (Tullamore Library)
- **The start of a new Book Club** (Clara Library)

For more events and information see our *Calendar of Events* section.

Offaly County Library Service is marking Bealtaine 2010 with events, activities, exhibitions and a photography competition for over 55s.

Highlights include:

- **Launch of a Senior Book Club** (Birr Library)
- **Circle Dance** (Edenderry Library)
- **Timeless Classics Film Festival** (Tullamore Library)
- **Flower Arranging** (Clara Library)

Details of these and many other events and activities are available in our *Calendar of Events* section.

**The place where you live**



**Offaly County Library Service  
Bealtaine Photography Competition**

Details and rules available from  
your local library.

Happy snapping!

What is Bealtaine

- Bealtaine is a national festival that takes place during the month of May.
- It aims to celebrate creativity in older age.
- It does this through a series of events and activities in different locations and settings.

1-31 may  
**bealtainefestival** 2010  
celebrating creativity in older age

**April - June 2010**

# Calendar of Events



Please note: Some events are for class bookings or school invitation only and are marked as such.

## BIRR LIBRARY

Phone: 057 9124950

### READISCOVER

- **Reading Tree in the Library**  
The reading leaves are beginning to grow. There will be several coloured "leaves" in the library. We ask all children to write down their favourite book from the books that they just returned and add to the growing Reading Tree.
- **Readiscover Knitting (School invitation)**  
Knitting classes from Mercy Primary School and Oxmanstown NS are invited to attend the community knitting circle.
- **Talk on the Forest in Birr Castle by Sean McGinnis (School invitation)**  
Talk on the Ecoplan for Birr Castle and the vast botanical gardens on its grounds. Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Table Quiz on the Football World Cup (School invitation)**  
In association with the Modern Language in Primary School Initiative (MLPSI). 8 teams of 4. The quiz will contain questions about the sport and the countries taking part in the 2010 World Cup in South Africa. Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10.00a.m.

### BEALTAINE

- **Games Morning**  
Card games, scrabble and chess. Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 10.30a.m.
- **Launch of Senior Book Club**  
New Senior Book Club to be launched Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 10.30a.m. The group will meet monthly to discuss books over tea and coffee.
- **Thursday Club**  
Tea and coffee will be served. There will be a variety of guest speakers. Thursday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 10.00a.m.
- **Visit by School Choir and Dancers.**  
Visit by Mercy Primary School Choir and Dancers to entertain the Active Retirement Community. Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May. (contact library for details)

### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

- **Display of work from Birr Knitting Circle (During April)**
- **Art Exhibition by Cath Gormley (10<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> April)**

### Birr continued:

- **Art Exhibition by Ana Alves Smyth (4<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May)**
- **Youthreach Group Art Exhibition (1<sup>st</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> June)**

### REGULAR EVENTS

- **Knitting Circle**  
Meets every Wednesday evening 5.30p.m. – 7.30p.m.
- **Irish Dancing with Patricia**  
Wednesday mornings (Class invitation)

## EDENDERRY LIBRARY

Phone: 046 9731028

### BEALTAINE

- **Circle Dance**  
Circle dance consists of meditative and therapeutic dances both ancient and new from around the world, and is an enjoyable and relaxing experience for participants. The dances are simple and easy to learn. Saturday morning, May 8<sup>th</sup>. (Time TBC)
- **Crafts with Veronica Bermingham**  
Participants will make table mats from reeds. Refreshments provided. Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 10.00a.m.
- **Photographic Exhibition: "Through a Swedish Lens"**  
This is an exhibition presented by the National Folklore Collection, UCD. The exhibition illustrates the work of 4 Swedish ethnologists who visited Ireland 1920-1950. The exhibition will be launched by Criostoir Mac Carthaigh, Archivist, UCD, Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>. It will be on view from Tuesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> to Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Exhibition: 100 Years of the ICA**  
To mark the centenary year of the Irish Country Women's Association the library will hold an exhibition on the countrywide organisation from its inception. The exhibition, which runs 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May, includes photographs from Edenderry branch which was set up in 1954.
- **Jane Austen Sewing Kit**  
Creative Writing with Eileen Casey. Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup> (Time TBC)

### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

- **Impac / Orange Prize Shortlist**  
Information about the award and previous winners. (April)

### Edenderry continued:

### OTHER EVENTS

- **Celebration of Africa Day**  
Music, art, food and a speaker on African culture. All welcome. Tuesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 5.00p.m. – 7.00p.m.

## TULLAMORE LIBRARY

Phone: 057 9346832

### READISCOVER

- **READISCOVER Tullamore Library**  
Call in for our special open morning and see what Tullamore Library has for you. Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 9.30a.m. – 12.30 p.m.  
*Guided tours:* 10.00a.m. & 11.00a.m. (Groups welcome)  
*Tiny tots story-time:* 12.00p.m. (Groups should book in advance)
- **Storytelling with Niall de Burca**  
A special storytelling session with popular storyteller Niall de Burca. Ages: 10-12. Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> 11.00 a.m. (Classes must book in advance)
- **Storytime for 5-8 year olds**  
Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3.30p.m. Launching a regular storytime for 5 – 8 year olds on Friday afternoons in Tullamore Library,
- **READISCOVER Offaly**  
A special open evening for anyone interested in finding out more about the *Offaly Local Studies Department* in Tullamore Library. Tuesday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 6.30p.m. – 8.00p.m.

### BEALTAINE

- **Timeless Classics Film Festival**  
Movies from the golden age of cinema with a timeless appeal. Each film will be preceded by a short introductory talk. Popcorn and other refreshments will be supplied. Tuesdays in May, 11.30a.m. & Thursdays in May, 3.00p.m. Full programme available in late April.
- **Books & Biscuits**  
Informal gathering to discuss favourite books and authors in a relaxed environment over a cuppa. There will also be an optional library tour and a brief talk on using the Internet to find your next read. Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 11.00 a.m. & Wednesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 3.00p.m.

### Tullamore continued:

- **Over 55s Table Quiz & Coffee Morning**  
General knowledge quiz for teams of 4, followed by refreshments. Wednesday, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 11.00 a.m.
- **Poetry Appreciation**  
Bring along your favourite poem (new or classic) and share it. There will also be a display of poetry books available in Tullamore Library and we will play a selection of poetry from our audio collection.  
Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 3.00p.m.

### FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS

- **READISCOVER Tullamore Library**  
To mark READISCOVER Week, there will be an information exhibition detailing the services and facilities available in Tullamore Library which will run during READISCOVER Week.

### REGULAR EVENTS

- **Storytime for 5 – 8 year olds**  
From April 23<sup>rd</sup>: Friday afternoons, 3.30p.m. in Tullamore Library.

## DAINGEAN LIBRARY

Phone: 057 9353005

### BEALTAINE

- **Photographic Exhibition**  
“Memories of Daingean”  
Photographs of Daingean as it was some years ago and as it looks today.

## readiscover TULLAMORE LIBRARY

If you haven't visited us in Tullamore Library recently, you might not be aware of some of our facilities.



- **e learning room**  
with study facilities, Internet access, free WiFi access (for registered library members), newspapers, magazines, local government information.
- **Community Meeting Room**  
which can be booked by local groups, clubs, study groups etc. Knitting circles, book clubs, public talks – your space – your choice.
- **Exhibition Facilities**  
Drop in and see what's on display or contact us about using the space for yourself.
- **Free WIFI access**  
(Registration is also free)
- **DVDs**  
Classic and modern, something for all ages.
- **Offaly Local Studies Department**  
An invaluable resource for historians, researchers, students and individuals interested in Offaly's heritage and culture.  
It includes newspapers, books, maps and photographs.  
The collection is open to the public during library opening hours.

So why not call in and READISCOVER what Tullamore Library has to offer you?

Give your old\* books a new lease of life!

Donate them to the library.

\*Books must be in good, reusable condition.

For further details contact your local library

or

Offaly County Library  
Headquarters  
(057) 9346834



## WiFi access!



Available **free**  
in the following libraries:  
(registration is also free)

- **Birr**
- **Clara**
- **Edenderry**
- **Tullamore**

Ask library staff for details.

## CLARA LIBRARY

Phone: 057 9331389

### READISCOVER

- **Reading Tree**
- **Sewing, Cross Stitch & Knitting Club**  
Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>  
10.00a.m. – 12.00p.m.  
New members always welcome.
- **Storytime for under 6's**  
Wednesday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 11.00a.m.
- **Clara Library Book Club First Meeting**  
Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 11.00a.m.

### BEALTAINE

- **Table Quiz & Coffee Morning**  
*(for Active Retirement Group)*  
General knowledge quiz for teams of 4, followed by refreshments. Contact Clara Library for further details.  
Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Flower Arranging with Maura Digam**  
*(for Active Retirement Group)*  
Contact Clara library for further details.  
Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### REGULAR EVENTS

- **Sewing, Cross Stitch & Knitting Club**  
Tuesdays, 10.00a.m. – 12.00p.m.  
New members always welcome.



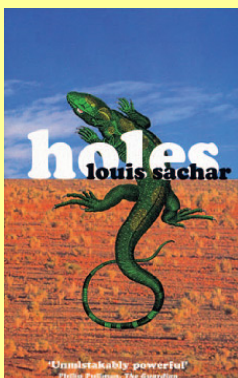
A good book is the best of friends  
- English proverb

# One Book, One Clara

## a Community Reading Together

Clara Library in County Offaly was involved in a very successful community reading initiative in February and March 2010. The reading initiative called *One Book, One Clara* started off with an idea developed by the local Home School Community Liaison officer and the Clara Librarian. The recently refurbished Library had just re-opened to the public so involvement in a large community project was very welcome.

The objective of the reading initiative was to get as many people as possible in Clara reading the same book at the same time. A local Committee was formed to progress the project and after months of intensive planning, *"Holes"* by *Louis Sachar* was selected as the book for the project and a start date of February 2<sup>nd</sup> was set.



The project was officially launched in Clara Library by the Cathaoirleach of Offaly County Council Cllr. Noel Burke. Storyteller Niall de Burca entertained over 150 people on launch day. 500 copies of the book were made available to the community with sponsorship provided by the Offaly Local Development Company. Children in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> class in the Scoil Phrionsias Naofa and Scoil Bhríde, children in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and Transition year in Ard Scoil Chiaráin Naofa and Clara Youthreach trainees all received a copy of the book. Members from groups in the Clara Family Resource centre including the Active Retirement group and the Women's group also received copies of the book. Additional copies were made available to the public through Clara Library. Audio copies of the book were also made available with one going to a local resident, Annie Graham on her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday and another to the Visiting Teacher for Traveller Education. The book was read by people of all ages with at least 2 families having 3 generations reading the book at the same time.



In addition to reading the book, various events were held each week of the project to keep people interested and to get more people reading. Guest speakers Offaly football legend Joe Quinn and Community Garda Adrian Hanley visited the schools and Dr. Arthur Broomfield, a local VEC tutor visited the library during the first week to talk about the book.

Other activities included Art, Creative Writing and Drama Workshops funded by Offaly VEC. A weekly coffee morning was held in the Library to discuss the book and has progressed to the formation of the very first Clara Library Book Club.

One of these coffee mornings was attended by Irish Open Champion golfer Shane Lowry who is from Clara and was also reading the book. One of the big events of the project was the reopening of the Star Cinema in Clara after many decades for one night only to show the film of *"Holes"*. This event was attended by over 300 people in the community during the last week of One Book One Clara and was made possible with thanks to Clara Credit Union and Clara GAA.



RTE Radio One's morning Ireland programme visited Clara to record a piece about One Book One Clara which aired on 22<sup>nd</sup> February.

One Book One Clara was a community funded project and wouldn't have been possible without its community of supporters: the Offaly Local Development Company, St. Vincent de Paul Education Fund, Steri Pack, School Completion Programme Clara, Clara Family Resource Centre, Clara Credit Union, Clara GAA, Midlands 103, Offaly VEC, Offaly County Council and the Home School Community Liaison Scheme.

# WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 4th March 2010

To mark World Book Day 2010 which took place on Thursday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, Offaly County Library Service conducted a poll to discover our readers' favourite children's book of all time.

Visitors to our libraries and our website as well as local schools were invited to cast their votes. In all, almost 1,000 votes were received. The top 10 were as follows:

- Joint 9<sup>th</sup> **Cinderella**  
Under the Hawthorn Tree  
by Marita Conlon-McKenna
- 8<sup>th</sup> **Diary of a Wimpy Kid**  
by Jeff Kinney
- 7<sup>th</sup> **The Twits**  
by Roald Dahl
- 6<sup>th</sup> **Fantastic Mr. Fox**  
by Roald Dahl
- 5<sup>th</sup> **Matilda**  
by Roald Dahl
- 4<sup>th</sup> **The BFG**  
by Roald Dahl
- 3<sup>rd</sup> **Twilight**  
by Stephenie Meyer
- 2<sup>nd</sup> **The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas**  
by John Boyne
- 1<sup>st</sup> **Horrid Henry**  
by Francesca Simon

Thanks to all who took part and we hope that your favourite did well!



Visit us on the Offaly County Council Website

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

for

- News
- Service Information
- Online Catalogue