



Litriocht.com 10 mbliana ar an bhfód

Tá a 10ú bliain ar an bhfód á cheiliúradh ag Litriocht.com, an siopa leabhar Gaeilge ar líne is mó ar domhan, ag soláthar an domhan le rochtain ar líne láithreach ar na mílte leabhar

Gaeilge. Téann fréamhacha Litriocht siar chomh fada leis an mbliain 1999 nuair a thosaigh an comhlacht agus gan ach 100 leabhar aige ar shuíomh gréasáin seifte. 10 mbliana síos an bóthar agus is é Litriocht an siopa leabhar Gaeilge ar líne is mó ar domhan, a ainmníodh le déanaí mar an r-ghnó is fearr in Éirinn.

Tá 10 mbliana caite ag Tomás Mac Gearailt, úinéir Litriocht, ag cur dúshlán faoin status quo i leith gnó na Gaeilge. I 1999, ba anaithnid a bhí suímh ghréasáin r-thráchtála i bhformhór na hÉireann, gan trácht fiú ar ghnó na Gaeilge.

Ní raibh Amazon.com ach ina óige fiú agus é i mbun gnó le 4 bliana. Chonaic Tomás an r-thráchtáil mar dheis fadtéarmach. "Bhí a fhios agam go raibh an margadh ann. Bhíos ag iarraidh leabhair Ghaeilge a cheannach i gCalifornia chomh fada siar leis an mbliain 1980 agus níorbh éasca an tasc é. Bhí a fhios agam chomh maith go raibh an margadh sa Diaspóra, agus nuair a chuaghas i mbun cainte le Bord na Gaeilge i 1999, bhíodar gan fhios go hiomlán faoi margadh an diaspóra nó r-thráchtáil mar shlí chun teacht air."

De réir mar a mhéadaigh Amazon go mór i gcaitheamh na cúig bliana a lean, tosaíodh ag trácht ar Litriocht.com mar "Amazon.com na Gaeilge". Mar sin féin, gnó i bhfad níos cairdiúla ba ea Litriocht.com, i bhfoirm bainisteoir Litriocht, Caitlín Uí Ghearrailt, i gCill Chúile, Corca Dhuibhne.

Beartaire Bliana 2009 – 2010

Tá beartaire dhátheangach álainn snasta curtha le chéile ag Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall agus seolta amach chuig scoileanna uilig an cheantair.

Tá beartaire dhátheangach álainn snasta curtha le chéile ag Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall agus seolta amach chuig scoileanna uilig an cheantair. An aidhm a bhaineann leis an mbeartaire ná sonraí a chuir ar fáil maidir le Teagmhálacha i Rannóga éagsúla sa Chomhairle agus baill don fhoireann a bhíonn ag obair i gcomhar le scoileanna, maidir le daltaí i Spórt, sábháilteacht bóthar, cúrsaí comhshaoil agus araile.

Seo é an chéad bhliain againn tabhairt faoi bheartaire a chuir le chéile agus má táthar sásta leis, tá sé i gceist againn leannacht ar



cogar.ie

Tá forbairt suntasach tagtha ar Cogar, an tseirbhís eolais dátheangach do chraoltóirí raidió le tamall anuas agus í ag claochlú ó nuachtlitir leictreonach mhíosúil, a foilsíodh ar dtús i 2007 go seirbhís eolais cuimsitheach atá mar áis líonraithe do chraoltóirí raidió.

Tá Cogar dírithe ar chraoltóirí atá ag iarraidh an Ghaeilge a labhairt ar an raidió, bíodh cúpla focal in úsáid acu nó comhrá casta ar siúl ar an gclár. Is é atá mar sprioc ag Cogar ná tacaíocht a thabhairt do chraoltóirí trí scéalta nuachta ó shaol na Gaeilge a chur ar fáil dóibh chomh maith le sonraí teagmhála na ndaoine atá i lár an aonaigh.

Bíonn an líonrú sin ar siúl idir na craoltóirí iad féin, Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, eagraíochtaí Gaeilge agus Coimisiún Craolacháin na hÉireann agus aithnítear mar bhunchloch an tionscnaimh é. Is tríd an meitheal oibre agus an comhrá sin a bhfuiltear ag súil go dtiocfadh forbairt ar an earnáil trí chéile, plé a dhéanamh ar cheisteanna tábhachtacha bainteach le craoltóireacht na Gaeilge agus crann taca a chur ar fáil do smaointí nua.

Tá ról le himirt ag an líonrú sóisialta chomh maith agus cuirtear fearadh na fáilte roimh chraoltóirí agus a dtuairimí ar an leathanach Facebook.

Beidh an líonrú sin ar siúl sna seimineáir a bheidh á reáchtáil ag Comhdháil Náisiúnta na Gaeilge agus Coimisiún Craolacháin na hÉireann mar chuid den togra Cogar i bhfómhar na bliana seo agus san Earrach, 2010 agus beidh fáil ar na sonraí sin go léir ar an láithreán gréasáin seo agus sa nuachtlitir go luath.

Láithreán gréasáin dátheangach atá i gceist le Cogar ina bhfuil an t-eolas cuí ar chúrsaí oiliúna ar fáil ann chomh maith le fógraí fostaíochta do chraoltóirí lánaimseartha agus páirtaimseartha.

aghaidh leis sna blianta romhain. Má tá spéis agat níos mó eolais d'fháil faoi seo is féidir dul i dteagmháil le Ann Murphy ag 01 870 4453 nó ar r-phost ann.murphy@fingalcoco.ie



FingalNews

The Newsletter of
Fingal County Council

Winter 2009

Champions Sporting Fingal will play in Europe



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- Measuring Flood Risk in Fingal
- Get Your FREE Guide to Enterprise for Business
- Helping you to Have a Green Christmas
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- Photographic Exhibition at Swords Castle
- Christmas at Seamus Ennis Centre and Draíocht



Comhairle Contae Fhine Gall
Fingal County Council

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Fingal News is published by Fingal County Council. If you have suggestions about articles you would like to see in the publication please email fingalnews@fingalcoco.ie or call 01 890 5453/01 870 4453. Fingal News is printed on environmentally-friendly paper. Designed by fabrice@encoredesign.eu



Fingal Leading the Way in Health and Safety

Fingal County Council recently won 2 Awards for Excellence in Occupational Health and Safety. Organised by the National Irish Safety Organisation (NISO) and the Northern Ireland Safety Group (NISG) the Awards are now in their 18th year of operation. Winning an Award is a prestigious occasion and leads to an increased profile for the organisation, its employees, clients and the general public. Winning a NISO/NISG award required a lot of effort and judging is undertaken by an independent panel of experts.

Measuring Flood Risk in Fingal and East Meath

Fingal and East Meath are highly susceptible to extreme flood events. Major flood events in Fingal are often preceded by very wet periods resulting in exceptional runoff. Information from Dublin Airport also suggests that some extreme storms can stall in the region resulting in intense prolonged rainfall. Flood risk can also be increased by low bridges and culverts restricting high flows, debris causing blockages and land use changes. In response to this, over the past 2 years, Fingal County Council, Meath County Council and the OPW have been working on a study that will put together a long term Flood Risk Management Plan for the region.

The final Flood Risk Management Plan for Fingal will identify and prioritise the studies, actions and works that are needed to manage existing and potential flood risks in these areas. Log on to www.fingaleastmeathframs.ie to check full details and make a submission on the final plan.



FREE Guide to Enterprise for Businesses

Fingal County Enterprise Board is now providing a free "Guide to Enterprise" to all businesses in the county and anyone thinking of starting a new business. Launched at the recent Fingal Day of Enterprise, this guide is available in printed and electronic format and includes contact details and websites for over seventy organisations and programmes that provide support services to businesses.

Most organisations featured are not-for-profit and many provide services free of charge or at low cost. Anyone establishing a new business in Fingal will find the guide particularly useful in identifying the services they can avail of to help them along the way. This practical and easy-to-use guide also explains where to go to avail of advice, how to find workspace in Fingal, accessing grants for businesses, raising finance, training and management development, and finding networking opportunities.

Visit www.fingalenterprise.ie or call Fingal County Enterprise Board on 01 8900 800 to request a free copy.

Excellent Value in Fingal Affordable Homes

More than 200 affordable properties have been sold so far this year by Fingal County Council and sales on a further 178 properties are at 'sale agreed' stage. This market defying statistic shows there is still strong interest in the quality affordable starter homes in Fingal. Right now, the Council has just over 100 homes for sale in Balbriggan, Swords, Donabate, Baldoyle, Finglas and Dublin 15 at extremely competitive prices that remain well below the market value of similar homes in the County. Income limits for affordable housing applicants to Fingal County Council are as follows:

- Single Applicants:** Income up to €60,000.
- Joint applicants:** 2.5 times principal earner's income + second earner's income should be less than €165,000.

Prices range from €149,950 to €200,000. Call us now to see what's available!

For more details see www.fingalcoco.ie/housing/affordablehousing or call 01 890 5591/5995.



Christmas Refuse and Recycling Arrangements 2009

Black & Brown Bins

Only Friday black and brown bin collections will be affected over the Christmas period.

- Brown bin only** collection on **Friday 18th December** will go ahead. These customers will also have a black bin collection on **Saturday 19th December** (instead of the collection scheduled for 25th December)
- All scheduled **Black and Brown bin** collections will go ahead on **Friday 1st January**. Customers scheduled for a **Brown bin only** collection on **Friday 1st** will also have a **Black bin** collection on **Saturday 2nd January**.
- Anyone scheduled for a **Brown bin** collection (Brown bin only or **Black and Brown bin**) on **Friday 25th December** will have just a **Brown bin** collection on **Saturday 19th December** instead.

All other collection days will remain unchanged.

Green Bins

Greyhound green bin collection will continue over the Christmas period as per schedule. All households should now have an updated calendar including the Christmas schedule. Replacement calendars are available on www.greenbin.ie or by phoning 1890 342 342.

Green bin collections due on **Friday 25th December** will be collected on **previous Saturday 19th December**. **Green bin** collections due on **Friday 1st January** will be collected the **following day Saturday 2nd January**.

Recycling Centres

Please check www.fingalcoco.ie for opening hours for Fingal County Council's Recycling Centres at Swords and Coolmine over the Christmas period.

TIPS for a GREENER Christmas



Reduce your impact on the environment (and your pocket!) this Christmas as you **Reduce, Reuse and Recycle**. Check out www.dublinwaste.ie for a list of recycling centres and follow these simple tips to make yours a greener Christmas:

- Avoid unnecessary packaging on food, drinks and gifts.
- Buy food and drink in large containers.
- Make wrapping & decorations from old card or buy recycled cards and paper.
- Send electronic greeting cards to friends and family.
- Slim your bin! Reduce waste by choosing long lasting items over disposable ones.
- Look after your hedgerows. Think before you cut native holly.
- Buy rechargeable batteries and dispose of old batteries responsibly.
- Recycle your glass and don't leave bags or boxes at the bottle bank if it's full.
- You should know that the Council uses CCTV surveillance to prevent illegal dumping!
- Buy a Christmas tree from a sustainable forest. and recycle or compost it in January.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Bin Tags are Changing Colour!

All shops in Fingal selling Fingal County Council bin tags have been restocked with new secure bin tags to be used on Household **Black Bins** from 30th November 2009 onwards. The colour of the **€8 YELLOW** tag has been changed to **PURPLE** and the **€4 euro RED** tag has been changed to **GREEN**.

All **YELLOW** and **RED** bin tags should be used or exchanged for **PURPLE** or **GREEN** bin tags at Council Offices in Swords or Blanchardstown before the 4th January 2010. Bins displaying yellow or red bin tags will not be collected after 4th January 2010.



For details on how to exchange tags see www.fingalcoco.ie or call us on 01 890 6708.



Mulhuddart Boxing Launch is a Knockout

Saturday 26th September 2009 was a big day for boxing as the Mayor of Fingal, Ciaran Byrne and boxing legend and local hero Jim Rock officially opened Mulhuddart Boxing Academy's new gym.

President of the Irish Amateur Boxing Association, Dominic O'Rourke was also there. Previously known as St. Bridget's Boxing Club, the Academy has just moved from the community hall in Blanchardstown and as the only boxing club in Dublin 15, now welcomes members from all areas and backgrounds to a new state-of-the-art facility in Mulhuddart.

Training takes place on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings, for adults, young people, and children from age 9 upwards. All levels are catered for and the club is open to boys and girls. Over the years, Ireland has many notable successes in both Olympic Boxing and professional boxing, and we hope to see many future champions from the Mulhuddart Academy.

Further information please contact Mulhuddart Boxing Academy Head Coach, Gerry McDaid on 087 136 2643.

Ladies Morning Badminton Club



Fingal Ladies Morning Badminton Club, run in partnership with Badminton Ireland meets every Wednesday from 10am-12pm in Baldoyle Badminton Centre, Baldoyle Industrial Estate.

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player the Club is all about having fun and meeting new people and all are welcome.

For more information contact Caitriona Geraghty, Sports Development Officer, Fingal County Council on 01 890 6247. Email: caitriona.geraghty@fingalcoco.ie or Rachel Ormrod, Regional Development Officer, Badminton Ireland. Email: Rachel.ormrod@badminton.ie

Perfect Pitch for Fingal Evergreens

Over twenty active retired Fingal Citizens took part recently in a six week Pitch & Putt Programme run by Fingal Sports Office and funded through the Go for Life National Grant Scheme for Sport and Physical Activity for Older People.

Many participants had never lifted a putter before and under the expert tutelage of local Ballyboughal Pitch & Putt member, Ronnie Delaney, they have now mastered the game. Ballyboughal Pitch & Putt Club greeted the group every Wednesday morning with a cup of tea and a warm welcome so warm that for many participants this Wednesday morning ritual has become a regular feature of their week as they continue to meet up to play.

For information on sports programmes for the actively retired please contact Caitriona Geraghty, Sports Development Officer on 01 890 6247.



Heineken Cup visits Huntstown

Cheers sounded through Sacred Heart of Jesus N.S. in Huntstown last October as pupils Alannah Kenny and Adam Walsh carried the Heineken Cup trophy aloft into the school atrium flanked by Leinster rugby players Eoin Reddan and Chris Keane.

Everyone was enthralled to hear how Eoin Reddan was proud, excited and yet nervous as he pulled on the Irish rugby jersey for the first time against France in 2006. Chris Keane told the pupils that he always loved rugby and how watching flying Irish winger Simon Geoghegan inspired him to take up the sport. The players made time to chat, shake hands, pose for photographs and sign autographs for the children before they left the school to thunderous applause from all gathered.

For further information on rugby in your area or school please contact Christian Stemmet, Fingal's Rugby Development Officer on 087 911 8642 or email christian.stemmet@leinsterrugby.ie



Winning Season for Sporting Fingal

Sporting Fingal capped an incredible finale to their second season in existence by winning the FAI Ford Cup through defeating Sligo Rovers 2-1 at Tallaght Stadium on Sunday, November 22 last. This is a truly remarkable result for this community based football club set up in 2007 under Fingal County Councils Football Development Plan.

Just six days after clinching promotion to next year's League of Ireland Premier Division, Sporting Fingal staged a late comeback in Tallaght in front of 8,105 fans to claim their first major trophy, thanks to goals by Colm James and Gary O'Neill. James cancelled out Eoin Doyle's 57th minute opener by coolly dispatching a penalty with eight minutes left before striker Gary O'Neill pounced to head home the winner deep into injury time. On Wednesday 25th September the victorious Sporting Fingal Squad brought the Ford Cup on an open top bus to a Civic Reception in the grounds of Swords Castle hosted by Fingal County Council.

As well as looking forward to top-flight football next season in only their third year of existence, the cup victory qualifies Liam Buckley's side for the All-Ireland Setanta Sports Cup along with a place in the 2010 Europa League, the European competition formerly known as the UEFA Cup.



FREE Christmas Tree Collection Points 5th – 13th January 2010



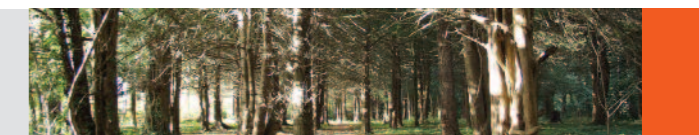
Please bring Christmas trees ONLY to the following locations.

- Balbriggan/Skerries/Rush/Lusk** – Ardgillan Depot. Tel: 01 849 2324
- Bath Road Carpark, Balbriggan
 - South Strand Lay-By, Skerries
 - Hayestown Depot, Rush
 - Ball Alley Carpark, Lusk

- Swords/Donabate/Portrane** – Turvey Depot. Tel: 01 843 6296
- Outlands Parks Depot, Rathbeale Road, Swords
 - The Square, Donabate
 - The Brook, Portrane
 - Santry Demesne Car Park
 - Charlestown Open Space, Charlestown

- Malahide/Portmarnock/Baldoyle/Howth** – Malahide Depot. Tel: 846 2456
- Public Car Park, Strand Road, Portmarnock
 - Kinsealy Court, Kinsealy
 - The Banks Carpark, Malahide
 - Seagrang Park, Baldoyle
 - Sutton Park, Sutton
 - Harbour Carpark, Howth

- Blanchardstown/Castleknock** – Coolmine Depot. Tel: 01 821 3486
- Auburn Avenue/Castleknock Park open space
 - Carpenterstown Park East, Castleknock
 - Corduff Park, Blanchardstown
 - Hartstown Park car park
 - Millennium Park, Coolmine – car park
 - Blakestown Road/Blakestown Way junction, Whitestown
 - Littlepace Park, Castaheany, Clonee



Win a Free Consultation with Fingal's Head Gardener

Fingal County Council is drawing up a Tree Strategy to help us manage our urban tree stock.

To help us do this any member of the public who completes our 'Tree Survey' will be entered in a draw to win a free 2 hour consultation with our Head Gardener, Dominica McKevitt. Dominica will offer the winner advice on choosing the best garden plants, seasonal planting, and tips on managing garden slugs and birds. Log on NOW to www.fingalcoco.ie or call 01 890 5629 to get a copy of the survey and help to make your garden grow!

Sending Letters to the Sea

Sending Letters to the Sea is a unique collaborative music project by the visual artist and musician Mark Garry that is part of Fingal County Council's series of public art commissions, funded through the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government's Per Cent for Art Scheme.

In 2007 a number of artists were selected to be part of Fingal County Council's Public Art Panel and invited to respond to a brief which reflected, either physically or theoretically, aspects of Fingal's society, culture, heritage, and geography, to expand the notion of public art and strengthen the role of the local authority as a commissioner of new practices.

Attempting to reach both a local and a wider audience Mark examined the technical and philosophical connections



between music and religious celebration. He brought together a broad range of musicians over a 2 year period to produce a vinyl and CD release recorded in Studio East in Berlin and St. Columba's Church in Swords.

Check out the final work on www.myspace.com/sendingletterstothesea or contact Caroline Cowley, Fingal County Council Arts Office, on **01 870 8449** or email caroline.cowley@fingalcoco.ie for more information.

A Feast for Your Eyes

December will see the newly renovated Chapel in Sword's Castle host an exhibition by some of Fingal's most talented young photographers.

Artist and photographer Tim Durham completed workshops with transition year students from Skerries Community College, Malahide Community College, Loreto College Balbriggan, and Pobail Scoil Neasain Baldoyle. Students learned the special features of a digital camera, and the importance of critical thinking and dialogue in photography. Introducing his own portfolio, Tim then provided the students with a digital camera and time to explore and photograph their locality, learning about the value and possibilities of photography as an art form. Each student has now submitted their favourite photograph for the December Exhibition which aims to stimulate the public's interest in photography and encourage visual awareness. The exhibition will be open to the public and all are welcome.

For further information please contact Julie Clark on **01 890 5960** or email julie.clarke@fingalcoco.ie



A Tree of Life

Fingal County Council will officially launch the 'Tree of Life' sculpture by well known artist Vincent Browne at Grove Road, Blanchardstown on **Thursday 17th of December**.

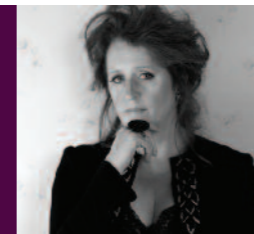
Vincent is one of Ireland's most prolific sculptors and was commissioned in 2005 to create a work which would enhance the pond at the newly built Civic Offices. The 'Tree of Life' is constructed in bronze with hand welded bronze leaves and represents the double helix, a symbol associated with the structure of DNA, the building block of human existence. The finished sculpture reflects in the water and against the glass, quietly interrupting its environment. Vincent has developed this unique work over several years, suffering a significant set back last year with the death at only 31 of his assistant and welder Peadar Murphy in a tragic motorbike accident. Vincent feels the work would not exist without Peadar's expertise and has dedicated his work to the memory of his colleague.



Vincent Browne's work is dotted all over the country and includes the bronze cinema usher Mr. Screen outside the Screen Cinema, D'Olier Street, the bronze Palm Tree Seat in Temple Bar and of course the easily recognisable figure of Seamus Ennis which sits outside the Seamus Ennis Centre, Naul.

For further information please contact Caroline Cowley, Public Art Co-ordinator, Arts Office on **01 870 8449** or email caroline.cowley@fingalcoco.ie

Winter Events at Seamus Ennis Centre



- Saturday 5th December (2pm) – **Children's Workshop "Make your own Christmas wreath"**
- Saturday, 5th December (8.30pm) – **Guggenheim Grotto**
- Sunday, 6th December (10am) – **Life Drawing Workshop**
- Sunday 6th December (3pm) – **Sunday Session**
- Saturday 12th December (2.30pm) – **Childrens Straw Making Workshop**
- Saturday 12th December (8.30pm) – **Mairtin O'Connor, Cathal Hayden and Seamie O'Dowd**
- Saturday 13th December (10.30am) – **Craft Fair**
- Sunday 13th December (3pm) – **Piper in the Parlour featuring Mick O'Brien**
- Friday 18th December (8.30pm) – **Mary Coughlan**
- Sunday 20th December (10.30am) – **Food Fair**
- Sunday 20th December – **Clantraí Christmas Session**
- Saturday 26th December (2.30pm) – **Mummers Performances**

For more information visit www.seamusenniscentre.com or call us on **01 802 0898** for a copy of our brochure.

Carols, Peter Pan and Hot Chocolate make Christmas Magic at Draíocht!

Draíocht's team of artists will be on hand for a Free Family Day on Saturday 5 December from 12pm-3pm to decorate the 15 foot Christmas tree in the foyer. What better way to get into the Christmas Spirit! No booking is necessary so come along and have a yummy Hot Chocolate to warm you up in Draíocht's Betelnut Café!

It's not really Christmas without Christmas Carols, so come and join multi-award-winning New Dublin Voices who return to Draíocht on **Saturday 19 December** with a wonderful selection of traditional and modern carols including old favourites, a little jazz, and lots of surprises. This dynamic young chamber choir will win over audiences with its lively performances. Shows are at 3pm & 8pm and tickets start at €12.

If you haven't already booked your Panto tickets, don't delay, as Peter Pan, Tinkerbell and Captain Hook will shortly arrive in Draíocht for a series of exciting adventures for all the family complete with spectacular flying scenes through Draíocht's 286 seater theatre. The show runs for 1 week from 8 January with 2pm matinees at the weekends. Tickets start at €15.

Check out www.draiocht.ie for full details of all events or phone Draíocht's Box Office on **01 885 2622** for a free brochure.



What's on in Fingal Libraries

Christmas Flower Arranging with Connie (Booking essential)
Balbriggan library – Tuesday 15th December at 7.00pm
Malahide library – Thursday 17th December at 7.00pm

Seasonal Lunchtime Musical Interlude – Malahide Library
Concert with string trio on Saturday 12th December at 1.00pm.

Christmas Crafts with Ann for 8-12 years (Booking essential)
Baldoyle library – Thursday 10th December at 6.30pm
Howth library – Monday 14th December at 5.30pm
Swords library – Wednesday 16th December at 6.30pm
Blanchardstown library – Thursday 17th December at 6.00pm

Children's Activities – Blanchardstown library
Make your own Christmas Decorations. Tuesday 15th December, from 2.30pm. Booking essential on **01 890 5563**.

Christmas Decorations with Ciara & Sharon (4-7 years) – Malahide library. Wednesday 16th December at 3.00pm. Booking essential. Call **01 870 4430**.

Christmas Arts & Crafts (4-7 years) – Balbriggan library
For further details call **01 8704401**.

Swords Library
An awareness raising exhibition as part of Traveller Focus Week from 30th November – 11th December. St. Benedict's Photography Group Wall Mural of Belfast and Derry continues for December.



Balbriggan Library	01 870 4401
Baldoyle Library	01 890 6793
Blanchardstown Library	01 890 5563
Garristown Library	01 835 5020
Howth Library	01 832 2130
Malahide Library	01 870 4430
Skerries Library	01 849 1900
Swords Library	01 840 4179

For more information on library events pick up a monthly 'Events Bulletin' in your local library or check the website www.fingalcoco.ie or call us on **01 890 5531**.