



# Library Newsletter



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Winter.

January 2008

Happy 2008 to all and welcome back to the second term. As you probably know by now opening hours have extended until 8pm, Mon-Thurs. You will also find the book drop facility open all day now instead of only when the library is closed. We hope this is more convenient.

The library carried out two small surveys last term, one aimed at ITS students and the other at all first year students. Some feedback in this newsletter and complete findings will be available soon. A new feature this term is 'A life well read'. Each term the library will ask someone from Castlebar campus to answer questions about his/her experience of books and reading. We hope to develop this theme with lots of participants, staff and students.

In this Issue	Page
Survey results	2
Training – electronic resources.	2
Some statistics	2
New DVDs	3
Newspapers, online and print	4
<i>A life well read</i>	4

Please remember that library staff are here to help, so ask if you need assistance in any area. Lorraine Grimes, has joined the library on a part time basis. You will meet Lorraine on Monday mornings and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Term Opening Hours

From Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>

**Mon –Thurs: 9.30am-8.00pm**  
**Fri: 10.00am – 5.00pm**

## See the *Top Ten* most borrowed items in 2007

1. The factors that affect the motivation of experienced kayakers in Ireland / Aidan Doran.
2. A handbook of Irish folklore / by Sean O Suilleabhain.
3. Services marketing : people, technology, strategy / Christopher Lovelock, Jochen Wirtz.
4. Understanding Earth / John Grotzinger et al.
5. The endless summer II [videorecording] / a New Line Productions in association with Ron Moler and Roger Riddell.
6. A broke down melody [videorecording]/ Chris Malloy
7. A framework for marketing management / Philip Kotler, Kevin Lane Keller
8. Health promotion : foundations for practice / Jennie Naidoo, Jane Wills.
9. Management and cost accounting / Colin Drury
10. Physical geology : earth revealed / David McGeary.

## End of term Surveys

### **Use of the Safari E-book database.**

30 surveys were emailed to ITS students and staff only. There were 15 responses of which 4 came from staff and 11 from students.

- Most respondents had heard of Safari Technical Books online from a lecturer.
- Safari is mostly used on a monthly basis and mostly used in college (64.3% of respondents).
- 66.7% of respondents have consulted between 0 and 5 books and 93 % find Safari easy or very easy to use.
- 93.3% of respondents use print books as well as Safari, and 71.4% think a combination of print and electronic resources are important.
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### **End of term Survey- First Year students only.**

350 surveys were distributed of which 109 were returned completed. Some interesting feedback:

- 78% of respondents found the library induction tour very useful or useful.
- The most popular uses of the library are:
  1. Borrowing books (78%)
  2. Using the computers(61%), interesting to note that 81% of respondents have laptops or computers at home).
  3. Using the photocopiers (51%).
    - 47 % have set up library PIN numbers.
    - 38% of respondents use the catalogue and 58% do not.
    - 70% feel mobile phones should not be allowed in the library and of the 21% who thought they should, many specified that it be for 'silent'texting only.
    - 36% use the library as a place to study once or between once and twice a week. 29% use the library less than once a week and 32% never use the library to study.
    - When asked to name one positive and one negative thing about the library, comments included:
      - Quiet atmosphere.
      - Not enough computers.
      - Good atmosphere, good study environment.
      - Lack of books.
      - Difficult to get into databases.
      - Noisy.
      - Able to access from home.
      - Everything is there - don't know how to access the information I need.
      - Closes too early.

## Training in the use of library resources.

In Sept 2007 the library began a new programme of training in electronic resources targeting all 1st year students. We wanted to follow up on the initial induction tour by providing a session on the use of electronic resources. In previous years we found that many students did not start using databases and such like until their third or possibly fourth year at college. It seemed like a good idea if all students became familiar with the library web site and were at least introduced to electronic databases in first year.

In the first term students from Business, Tourism General nursing and Psychiatric nursing courses received a 40/50 minute training session in the library's electronic resources. We hope to offer this to students from Construction/Architectural technology, Outdoor Education and Heritage during the second term.

Each year students from 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year programs come to the library for training in the use of databases relevant to their courses. Last term we had 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year class groups from Outdoor Education, Tourism , Business and Nursing students.

Some students prefer to come in twos or threes or indeed individually. Students can ask staff for help as needed or set up a training session. Just contact Majella or Olive and we will organise it for you.

### **Circulation activities:**

*A total of 23,255 activities on the circulation system, i.e. items either borrowed, returned, renewed, or requested.*

*13,513 books, videos and DVDs were borrowed in 2007.*

## **2007 Statistics**

**Requests**  
*379 items borrowed from other GMIT campus libraries.*

*235 items loaned to other GMIT campus libraries.*

*67 items borrowed from other Irish and UK university libraries.*

*21 items borrowed from other Institutes of Technology.*



*The library purchased another DVD player combo in Dec. 2007. More facilities for you to view DVDs on site.*



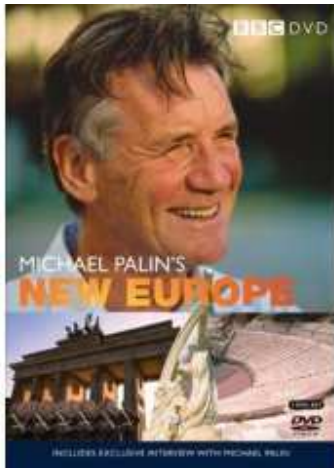
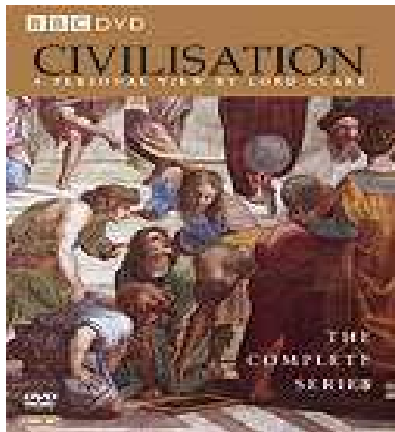
**Additions to DVD stock, 2007**

**Surfing**  
 Wild birds  
 Legends of the falls  
 Freestyle  
 Litmus  
 Singlefin: yellow  
 Beginner to winner  
 Storm chase

**General Interest**  
 The world at war  
 Wall street  
 The insider  
 Civilisation  
 Lost castles of England  
 Helping people at risk of suicide  
 The properties of soil

**Climbing**  
 Climbing in Morocco

**Coming soon.....ordered Dec. 2007**



**An inconvenient truth.**  
*Directed by Davis Guggenheim. With Al Gore. A documentary on Al Gore's campaign to make the issue of global warming a recognized problem worldwide.*

**Planet earth: the future, environment and conservation.**  
*"Rarely does television touch heart and soul as effectively as Planet Earth."*  
 - Tom Shales,  
 Washington Post

**Michael Palin's new Europe.**  
*Michael's travels in New Europe take him to twenty countries and a world that has changed beyond belief since the end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Iron Curtain.. It's a journey that sees hope and unity in the place of fear and war... From <http://www.palinstravels.co.uk/static-206>*

*More DVDs to borrow and view at home.....*

## NEWS.. E-NEWS.. ..

For all you newshounds out there, here is a selection of newspapers available to our students and staff in print, or on the Web whether through subscription or for free.

### National Papers

From “Dig outs” to “No pay increase in the Public Service”:

*Irish Times*- Print and online versions available in the library and at Ireland.com

*Irish Independent* - online at Independent.ie

*Irish Examiner* - online at

IrishExaminer.com

*Sunday Tribune* - online at Tribune.ie

*Sunday Business Post* -online at Sbpost.ie

The last four listed above are also available through Factfinder, the Irish business database.

### International Papers

Still got a few Eircom/Vodafone shares you have hopes for? Track them here:

*Financial Times UK* – online through

General Onefile from 1994- current

Articles are fulltext

Want to brush up on Super Tuesday or corporate ethics?

*New York Times*- online through General

Onefile from 1995-current

*Harvard Business Review* -

([www.hrbweb.org](http://www.hrbweb.org)) logon available from library if necessary. (With the Basic

Subscription, you get the magazine and

online access to the current issue and a year’s worth of back issues).

*The Economist* -([www.economist.com](http://www.economist.com))

logon available from library if required: full online access to all articles published in *The Economist* since 1997.

### Local Papers

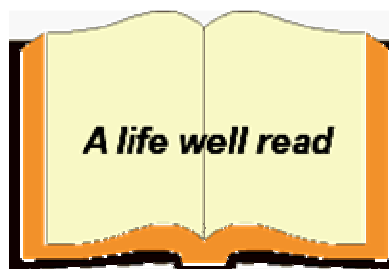
*Connaught Telegraph*,

*The Mayo News*

*Western People*

*Connacht Tribune*

The four above are delivered weekly to the library for your convenience or on the web for your perusal.



● **Mark Garavan**, (well known lecturer about campus), answers ●  
● our questions for the first term of 2008: ●

● Q1. What book or author was your favourite as a child? ●

● **A. I suppose various Enid Blyton books stand out in my ●  
● memory and the great adventure books – Kidnapped, ●  
● Round the World in Eighty days.** ●

● Q2. Were there books in your house growing up? ●

● **A. Yes. I remember, for example, a full set of Charles ●  
● Dickens lying around.** ●

● Q3. Do you tend to read a particular genre? ●

● **A. Not particularly. Apart from academic books which are ●  
● almost part of work I love biographies, history, politics and ●  
● novels. I barely discriminate!** ●

● Q4. How do you choose your reading? Do you check book ●  
● reviews or do you prefer to browse subject areas? ●

● **A. I do read reviews but that wouldn’t really guide me. I go ●  
● more for known authors and topics that I am interested in.** ●

● Q5. Do you buy books and / or use libraries? ●

● **A. Both. I have been a heavy user of the county library in ●  
● Castlebar for as long as I can remember and that is still my ●  
● main access to books. However, I do buy them if I feel I will ●  
● re-read them or need them for reference.** ●

● How do you buy? Do you use online book websites or ●  
● bookshops – which do you prefer? ●

● **I pre-date the PC and Internet so I still buy in real shops! I ●  
● very occasionally have bought on-line if it is something I ●  
● cannot otherwise get such as my present concern to learn ●  
● Norwegian! No big market for that locally!** ●

● Q6. Is reading an integral part of your life? ●

● **A. Absolutely. I am a constant reader with a number of ●  
● books on the go all the time. I can’t imagine life without it.** ●

● Q7. Any other thoughts on reading you would like to share? ●

● **A. I need to say something wise and sage-like here but ●  
● cannot come up to scratch! All I can say is to affirm reading ●  
● as one of the great signs of a life well lived.** ●

IEW!