



children's books ireland

annual report and audited financial statements

2016



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every child a reader



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every child a reader

Children's Books Ireland/Leabhair Pháistí Éireann

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Children's Books Ireland
Leabhair Pháistí Éireann

Children's Books Ireland

Annual Report 2016

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Introduction

Children's Books Ireland (CBI) is the national children's books organisation of Ireland. This report records the development and activities of CBI between January and December 2016.

Governance and structures

CBI is led by a Board of directors which guides the organisation in policy development and implementation.

Members of the Board in 2016 were:

Jane Alger (appointed November 2016) (Company Secretary)
Valerie Coghlan (Chairperson)
Patricia Forde (Vice-Chairperson)
Irene Barber
David Field
Katy Fitzpatrick (appointed November 2016)
Conor Hackett
Eileen Jackson
David Murphy (Retired November 2016)
Eddie Murtagh (appointed November 2016)
John O'Donnell (appointed November 2016)
Steve Simpson (Retired June 2016)

The Board met five times in total during 2016.

At the CBI AGM on 18 September, the Board presented the required reports for 2015 as well as audited accounts. An EGM was held immediately following the AGM in order to update the Memorandum and Articles of Children's Books Ireland Limited to the Constitution of Children's Books Ireland CLG as per the requirements of the Companies Act 2014. Questions were raised regarding the definition of 'members' by attendees at the meeting and the resolution was not passed. After consultation with CBI's solicitor, clarity was obtained regarding these definitions, and a new Constitution was adopted at a second EGM on 23 November 2016.

Staffing

The programmes and activities of the organisation were carried out by CBI's core staff members along with CBI volunteers, interns and part-time staff. Jenny Murray was Acting Director for the first half of the year. In August 2016, CBI Director Elaina Ryan returned from maternity leave and Ciara Houlihan was retained as Administrative Assistant, bringing the core CBI team to four staff members.

Core Staff

Director – Elaina Ryan
Publications and Communications Manager / Acting Director (November 2015 – August 2016) – Jenny Murray
Programme and Events Manager – Aoife Murray
Administrative Assistant – Ciara Houlihan

Regular review and training was made available to all core staff.

Additional team members

Inis Reviews Editor – Juliette Saumande

Inis Irish language editor – Siobhán McNamara

Laureate na nÓg Project Manager – Nessa O'Mahony (to December 2016)

Interns and Volunteers

CBI is very fortunate to secure the support of a large range of interns and volunteers who work with the core team to deliver specific projects and assist with general duties. The input of CBI's volunteers and interns is equivalent to one full-time staff member and is invaluable to the organisation.

Children's Books Ireland's strategic plan

Throughout 2015, CBI undertook a process to develop a new strategic plan for the organisation. This plan was launched in 2016 and will govern the direction of the organisation through 2019. The process included a series of consultations within the organisation as well as feedback from stakeholders and members. The process was facilitated externally by Jane Daly. The Board and executive set out three strategic priorities, each of which has its own strategic objectives. The strategy is supported by an implementation plan which includes a timeline and details of who is responsible for bringing each of the actions to fruition. The plan will be reflected in the organisation's annual budget and will be frequently monitored by the Executive Director and the Board.

VISION

Our vision is an Ireland in which books are central to every child's life and where meaningful engagement with books is supported by passionate and informed adults in families, schools, libraries and communities all across the island.

MISSION

We strive to make books central to every child's life on the island of Ireland through developing audiences for children's books, supporting and celebrating excellent authors, illustrators and publishers and working in partnership with people and organisations who influence children's reading.

STRATEGIC AIMS

1. To develop audiences and advocate for access to children's books island-wide

- Embed knowledge of and passion for children's books within the education sector
- Provide valuable resources to inform and enthuse adult readers of children's literature
- Strive for island-wide access to and participation in CBI's events and projects, with a particular emphasis on less advantaged groups
- Advocate for the importance of Government support for well-stocked libraries and designated staff in all schools in Ireland
- Promote excellent Irish children's books and publishing to an international audience
- Ensure that the cultural life of the child is valued as much as physical health and mental wellbeing

2. To support, create opportunities for and improve the professional lives of children's book writers and illustrators

- Provide professional development for authors and illustrators at all stages in their careers across the areas of practice, performance and practical matters
- Demonstrate and call for best practice in the planning and management of live literature events, including appropriate remuneration for artists
- Recognise, celebrate and promote excellent Irish writing, illustration and publishing through CBI's activities and publications

3. To apply best practice and ambition in organisational and sectoral development

- Grow the capacity and resources of the organisation
- Build CBI's public profile
- Influence national and local policy in relation to children and young people's right to culture
- Ensure parity of esteem for children's books within the literature sector

CBI membership

CBI membership levels increased significantly in 2016, rising by 122% compared with 2015. This increase is largely due to the addition of an extra staff member who implemented systems to manage and track membership and increase retention, as well as encouraging membership sign-ups and renewals during sales of CBI International Conference tickets and during the event itself.



Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Membership income in EUR	10476	12272	11386	9747	6646	2425	3907	5423	12057

Activities and programme 2016

Inis Reading Guide

The *Inis Reading Guide* is an invaluable resource and our flagship publication which is produced annually to highlight the best books published in any given year. An expert editor for each section is appointed (all age groups from 0 to young adult, plus poetry, non-fiction and Irish language), and each editor selects their books from a huge number of submissions and sends them to a wider team of reviewers which they are responsible for choosing. This year's editors are mainly chosen from our team of Book Doctors, giving them direct input into the guides they will be using throughout the next year at CBI Book Clinics.

The guide gives special attention to Irish titles: all Irish-published books and books by an Irish author or illustrator are marked with a shamrock, and there is a comprehensive listing of all Irish-published books for the year. Artwork commissioned from an Irish illustrator for the Reading Campaign materials is also used as the cover image for the guide. This year's materials were illustrated by Chris Judge.

Each year the guide features a special spread on a particular topic which is pertinent during the year in question. This year, in response to Ireland's diversifying population and increased awareness of our immediate surrounds and environment, we developed the Citizens of the World section. We hope that the books featured in it will give young readers an insight into the lives of other children around the world, allowing them to experience the realities of life in another country and building empathy for people who may at first seem very different to them.

The *Inis Reading Guide* is sold in bulk packs of 100 as well as in large and small packs with posters, bookmarks and stickers, and individually online. The guides are bought by librarians, teachers and booksellers and are distributed free of charge to their customers and members. These guides are kept over years by our members and are used by teachers, librarians, booksellers and parents as a source of expertise. The guide will be used throughout the year at CBI Book Clinics and other events as a valuable way to promote CBI's activities, which are featured within the pages, and to encourage new memberships. In 2015-16 the guides had further reach through the Laureate na nÓg Once upon a Place and Seanacháí projects, where all participants received a copy.

In 2016 we met our goal (as per our strategic planning) to work with the Department of Education and Skills to distribute 4,050 copies of the guide: one to every primary and secondary school in the country, with the support of the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency. The guide was also included in every delegate bag at *The Bookseller* Children's Conference and distributed to gaelscoileanna through an Chomhairle um Oideachas Gaeltachta agus Gaelscolaíochta's conferences and mobile library. The guide boasts four extra pages compared to the extent of last year's publication, with a total print run of 18,000 copies.

Inis, the Children's Books Ireland magazine

Inis magazine, in print and online, is the most important record of the development of Irish children's literature. It is the only source of regular review for Irish authors, illustrators and publishers and Irish-language texts and, as such, it provides an important contribution to the promotion of Irish works for young audiences for both national and international readers. It has documented the growth and status of children's literature studies as an academic discipline. With its diverse audience of writers, illustrators, publishers, teachers, librarians, academics, students and

parents both in Ireland and abroad, *Inis* is a completely unique resource. It therefore serves as an invaluable platform for the advocacy of children's books as well as a valuable forum for the children's literature community.



Inis is published three times a year (January, April, July) as part of CBI's suite of quarterly publications for members (completed by a fourth, the *Inis Reading Guide*, in October). *Inis* magazine online (as part of the main childrensbooksireland.ie site) is updated regularly with original reviews and in-depth features and has benefitted from a website redesign in 2016.

Inis is supported by a team of reviewers, writers and interviewers who generously give of their time to contribute to the magazine. Reviews Editor Juliette Saumande is responsible for the selection of books and reviewers and the editing and uploading of content for print and online. Irish-language editor Siobhán McNamara is responsible for selection of books and reviewers for all titles in Irish, for editing and uploading content, and for procuring features for print and online. The CBI executive manages the overall editing of the magazine and the commissioning of features. High editorial standards are upheld both in print and online and copy-editors and proofreaders are used for both Irish and English language content.



Each issue of *Inis* features a picturebook illustration by an Irish illustrator on the front cover. Issues 46, 47 and 48 in 2016 featured Fatti Burke, Sarah Bowie and Peter Donnelly.

CBI Annual Conference

2016 was the 26th year of the CBI International Conference, the leading event in Ireland for adults with a personal or professional interest in books and reading for children and young people. The conference celebrates the best in Irish and international children's books and provides an opportunity for delegates to reflect on the impact, importance and imagination of children's books, as well as to network with like-minded professionals in the community of practice.



The 2016 conference, entitled 'Better Together? Collaboration and Teamwork in Children's Books' was held on September 17 and 18 and featured a line-up of Irish and international speakers whose experience covered all age ranges within the sphere of children's books, and all genres, including spoken word performances and Irish language writers. The line-up included Irish picturebook maker Oliver Jeffers with co-illustrator of his latest book, Sam Winston; Laureate na nÓg PJ Lynch in conversation with Ryan Tubridy (ahead of the release of their new book); a panel of new Irish writers, showcasing up and coming talent; and a delegation of Canadian authors in partnership with Ottawa International Writers Festival and supported by the Canada Council, including Alan Cumyn, poet and Governor General award-winner Katharena Vermette, illustrator Sydney Smith and another award-winning poet, JonArno Lawson. There was also a session showcasing JCSP students who presented performance poetry at the conference.

The conference also included the presentation of the annual CBI award. This award is made to an individual or organisation in recognition of an outstanding contribution to children's books. CBI members nominate for this award and the selection is made by the Board. The 2016 winner was Amanda Piesse in respect of her dedication to the advancement of children's literature studies over a number of decades.

Sponsorship for the conference (including delegate bags, drinks reception and coffee breaks) was secured from Walker Books, Bloomsbury Publishing and Gill Books. Further sponsorship and in-kind benefits were secured from publishers, the Ottawa International Book Festival, the Canada Council, Poetry Ireland and *The Bookseller*. CBI gave support in kind to a number of partner organisations: Books Ireland included a copy of their magazine (with a PJ Lynch-illustrated cover: Eoin Colfer's *Once upon a Place* Laureate anthology) in each delegate bag and iBbY Ireland presented their newly reorganised national section at the conference.

We succeeded in securing social media and digital support from RTÉ Supporting the Arts. Our event was promoted via RTÉ's anchor Twitter account @rte using mechanisms such as @ mentions, re-tweets and competitions. The @rte twitter account currently has 330,000 followers.

CBI Book of the Year Awards

The CBI Book of the Year Awards celebrate excellence in Irish authors and illustrators and are the leading awards for children's books in Ireland. CBI assembles an expert panel of judges with particular capabilities in areas such as Irish language, fiction and picturebooks, with an independent chair. A young judge also sits on the judging panel; this year's young judge was a TY student from Wesley College. The panel reads and debates the eligible books and follows a scoring system to select the shortlisted titles and winners. The awards are as follows:

- CBI Book of the Year Award
- Honour Award for Fiction

- Honour Award for Illustration
- Judges Special Award
- Eilís Dillon Award for a first book
- Children's Choice Award

Unique to the CBI Awards is the shadowing scheme. Each year, young readers in schools, libraries and communities across Ireland meet in their class or book club groups and discuss the shortlisted titles. They follow the same scoring process as the judges and their votes decide the winner of the Children's Choice Award. CBI produces extremely comprehensive shadowing packs containing quality resources for use by teachers, librarians or book club leaders to help their groups engage with the texts through drama, artwork, quizzes and imaginative exercises.



The shadowing scheme developed and grew exponentially in 2016 as a result of an active recruitment drive in Northern Ireland in order to make the scheme truly all-island. Approximately 126 shadowing groups took part, a 60% increase on 2015 which can be attributed almost entirely to our focused attention on increasing groups in Northern Ireland, showing as 58% of all groups registered. CBI's aim in 2016 was to engage a minimum of ten new groups North and South; we succeeded in engaging 50 new groups in Northern Ireland and 24 in the Republic of Ireland. This was due to support from Arts Council of Northern Ireland Lottery funding and partnerships with the Education Authority Northern Ireland, Libraries NI and Young at Art. In the Republic of Ireland we formed a partnership with the Local Government Management Agency (Libraries Development) which also gives us further reach to reading groups.

In 2015-16 two groups of teachers took part in the shadowing as their book club for March to May, and our first nursery group also took part, with the staff reading all the books and later lining all the babies up to point at their favourites! For the first time, a special shortlist announcement event in Belfast was held in partnership with Young at Art as part of the Belfast Children's Festival in March 2016. The event was for invitees including a limited number of local shadowing groups, media, teachers, librarians and other interested stakeholders, and was an exclusive first look at the shortlisted titles.

The awards ceremony for the winners was held in Dublin in May during the International Literature Festival Dublin (ILFD), giving increased visibility to the ceremony and recognising the importance of the awards in the landscape of children's literature in Ireland. Embedding the awards within these two festivals is indicative of Young at Art, ILFD and Children's Books Ireland's shared desire to work together towards increasing children's literature- and book-related events in festival programmes.

The shortlist was composed of nine titles, listed below, with the winners flagged:



- *Imaginary Fred* written by Eoin Colfer, illustrated by Oliver Jeffers
- *The Day the Crayons Came Home* illustrated by Oliver Jeffers
- *The Boy at the Top of the Mountain* by John Boyne
- *Gulliver* illustrated by Lauren O'Neill (**WINNER** Honour Award for Illustration)
- *Asking for It* written by Louise O'Neill (**WINNER** Honour Award for Fiction)
- *Ná Gabh ar Scoil!* written by Máire Zepf, illustrated by Tarsila Krüse
- *Irelandopedia* written by John Burke, illustrated by Fatti Burke (**WINNER** Judges' Special Award and Eilís Dillon Award)
- *The Wordsmith* by Patricia Forde
- *One* by Sarah Crossan (**WINNER** CBI Book of the Year Award and Children's Choice Award)

Through further partnership and funding from Dublin UNESCO City of Literature, CBI programmed a large proportion of the ILFD schools programme, giving ten schools the opportunity to attend events with the shortlisted authors and illustrators. This brought shadowing groups who were new to the CBI Awards together with the shortlistees, ensuring that their experience of shadowing is a memorable and positive one.

A short film was made with a number of shadowing groups (also supported by Dublin UNESCO City of Literature) discussing their experiences of the shadowing scheme and their opinions on the shortlist, and this was screened at the ceremony; it can be viewed on the CBI YouTube channel. A number of groups attended the ceremony, met the shortlistees and guest speaker, RTÉ broadcaster Rick O'Shea, in person as well as announcing and presenting the Children's Choice Award, giving them an active and important role in the celebrations.

The awards were supported by lively print materials including posters and bookmarks which were distributed to schools, libraries and bookshops, and by a full media campaign.

We maintained our relationship with the Irish Arts Center (IAC) in Manhattan, New York, to produce the second Rí Rá Children's Festival of Literature on 2 October 2016, celebrating the winners of the 2015–16 awards – John and Kathi (Fatti) Burke, Lauren O'Neill and Sarah Crossan – and Laureate na nÓg PJ Lynch. This one-day festival represents the best in contemporary Irish children's books. CBI's Programme and Events Manager co-programmed the festival and attended alongside the festival

guests. A CBI Book Doctor was also in attendance, recommending books by Irish authors and illustrators that are currently available through the New York Public Library system.

CBI Book Clinics



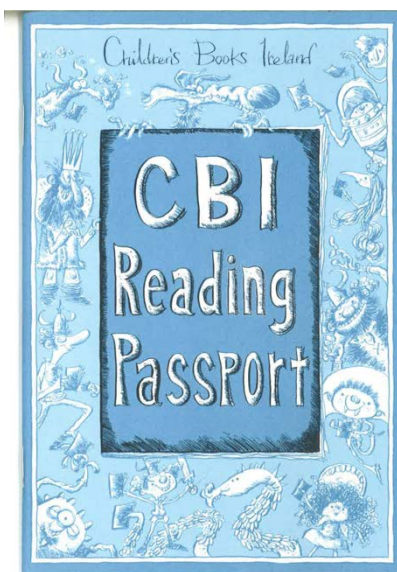
Children's Books Ireland's (CBI) Book Clinics are pop-up events for providing guidance about books to children and families, developing young audiences for contemporary literature and illustration. Children's book experts are presented as Book Doctors with lab coats and an official stamp. Based on an informal chat with patients who need guidance, Book Doctors recommend excellent books, comics or graphic novels, often using CBI's *Inis Reading Guide* to the best books of the year as a tool which is given to each family to take home.

One-to-one engagement with every child is crucial: interventions are personalised and completely focused on the child's experience. Each consultation lasts 10-15 minutes; each Clinic 3-4 hours. While we

can't see huge audiences in this time, the experience for the children we do see is very special, and in Dublin venues especially we are beginning to see return visitors, illustrating demand for the Clinic. We have also held Twitter Book Clinics at opportune times – to recommend summer reads, or leading up to Christmas. These are aimed at parents, rather than young readers.

CBI's Reading Passport was specially commissioned for these events and was illustrated by Fintan Taite. This Passport is a beautiful object and a fantastic activity book for doodling, logging favourite reads and completing reading challenges. Each child fills out their personal details and receives their prescription within it, and can track future reading milestones, collect a stamp from the local library etc. In the waiting room, patients can work on 'doodle starters' commissioned from members of Illustrators Ireland: illustrated backgrounds waiting to be filled by each child – e.g. an astronaut in space, an underwater scene, a castle – for various ages and abilities.

The Clinics further CBI's mission of ensuring that books are a part of every child's life. Since 2012, CBI has run over 100 Book Clinics. Our team of seven Book Doctors comprises extremely knowledgeable librarians, booksellers and reviewers who are well equipped to recommend books for every kind of reader, or to introduce those who are not yet readers to a book that will capture their imagination. The Doctors choose excellent, contemporary books to suit each child, never imposing their own 'favourites', focusing on reading for pleasure rather than for learning or literacy. The Clinics have run in museums, galleries, shopping centres and festivals that have a family focus.



Book Clubs

In partnership with Words Ireland, CBI set up two book clubs in Wicklow, for children aged 7–9 and 10–12, to be facilitated by Book Doctor Louise Gallagher. Wicklow Libraries and Wicklow Arts Office identified Blessington as an area of need with a strong catchment area. The book clubs ran over a 6-month period and the children participated in the CBI Book of the Year Award Shadowing Scheme. The clubs proved so popular that the branch librarian, in collaboration with our Book Doctor, set up two more clubs which ran on the same evenings. Training and support was provided by the Book Doctor and the library staff are now equipped to continue the book clubs themselves and to participate in shadowing in future years.

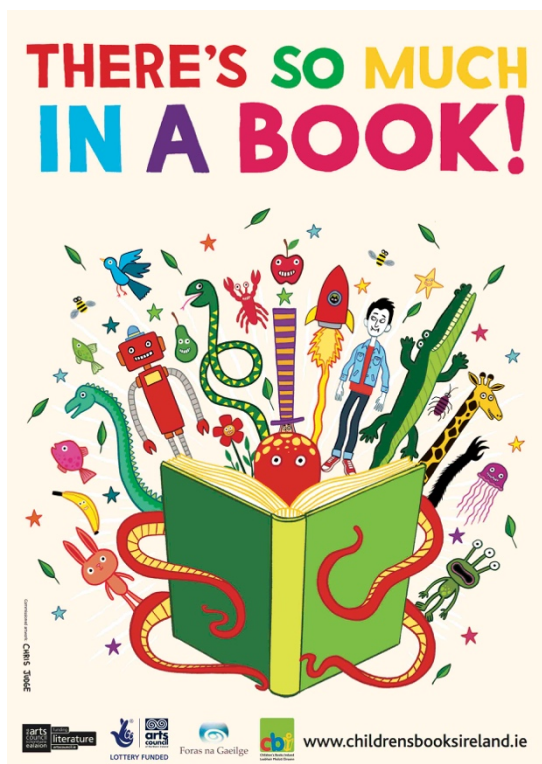
In partnership with RTÉjr and *SwipeTV*, CBI also ran online book clubs through 2016. Drawing on our expertise and that of our Book Doctors, CBI has created content and selected the books for RTÉjr's website and Facebook pages, reaching a broad audience of parents of 0–8-year-olds. This book club is aimed at parents and families who do not have a strong reading culture/ reading environment at home.

The RTÉjr book club has 500 members and the RTÉjr Facebook page has almost 13,000 likes. In February 2016, CBI made recommendations of excellent books in the Irish language in time to celebrate Seachtain na Gaeilge. The *SwipeTV* book club takes place on RTÉ2, on the *SwipeTV* app and online and is for children aged 8–12. This 360-degree programme is designed for maximum interaction with children: content aired on TV is supported by more extensive content on the app. Each month CBI recommends two books for this age group. Viewers can get involved via the *SwipeTV* app, review the books and get a chance to appear on the show. Recommended books from both book clubs are offered as competition prizes monthly alongside *the Inis Reading Guide* and other branded materials. At the end of 2016, RTÉ announced plans to source all programming for children and young people from the independent sector rather than producing programmes in-house, which will have an impact on this partnership. CBI hopes to maintain a relationship through the RTÉjr online book club and to explore other ways of working with RTÉ as part of their new arrangement.

CBI's Annual Reading Campaign

CBI's reading campaign is a call to action for young readers and the adults in their lives. Our aim is to promote books and reading, with a particular emphasis on Irish books (books by an Irish author or illustrator, or Irish-published books). We do this through a comprehensive programme of activities and events and through producing the annual *Inis Reading Guide* (full details below) plus bookmarks, stickers and posters to support the campaign.

With CBI's support, libraries, schools and bookshops across the country will programme events with children's writers, storytellers and illustrators from Ireland and overseas. CBI maintains a database of artists who are available for events, and provides funding to library authorities all over the country (ensuring as much geographical spread as possible) for a number of exciting and innovative live literature events through our programme support fund, made possible by funding from the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency. We also programme free events in partnership with publishers, libraries, festivals and bookshops: in 2016 we worked with Penguin Ireland to bring illustrator Chris Judge and comedian David O'Doherty's *Danger is Everywhere* book tour to children around the country.



Each year we commission artwork from an Irish illustrator to accompany a slogan on our *Inis Reading Guide*, posters, bookmarks and stickers. This year's artist is Chris Judge and the slogan is 'There's So Much in a Book / Tá an Méid Sin i Leabhar'. The materials are deliberately not dated so that they can be used throughout the year by the bookshops, libraries, arts centres and schools that purchase them.

CBI partnered with RTÉ's *SwipeTV* to run a Book Club competition at the end of 2016 with the aim of encouraging children to read and to be creative and imaginative. Viewers of the show were encouraged to think about the books they are reading and to show us how much they love their favourite book. Using the *SwipeTV* app, young people could upload a picture of themselves as their favourite character, a drawing of a scene from their favourite book, a piece of film or anything else that shows us their passion and enthusiasm for reading. The most creative and persuasive demonstrations were shortlisted and put to a public vote. The winner will be announced in early 2017 and will receive a library of books for their school. The campaign was supported by RTÉ's various social media and marketing outlets.

CBI worked with 'Drop Everything and Read' in 2016. The Drop Everything and Read campaign is designed to raise awareness of reading for pleasure for all ages and the value of taking time out every day to read. Everyone was encouraged to 'drop everything and read' at 12 o'clock on the 29 April for 20 minutes. CBI attended two meetings in advance of the campaign, provided professional support and raised awareness across our social media platforms and media partnerships. The campaign is led by JCSP libraries. In 2017 it is planned that the campaign will increase its coverage and produce a website.

officially, unveiling the image for our posters, bookmarks and reading guides which were available on the night. A book signing for the illustrators also took place.

Live literature programming

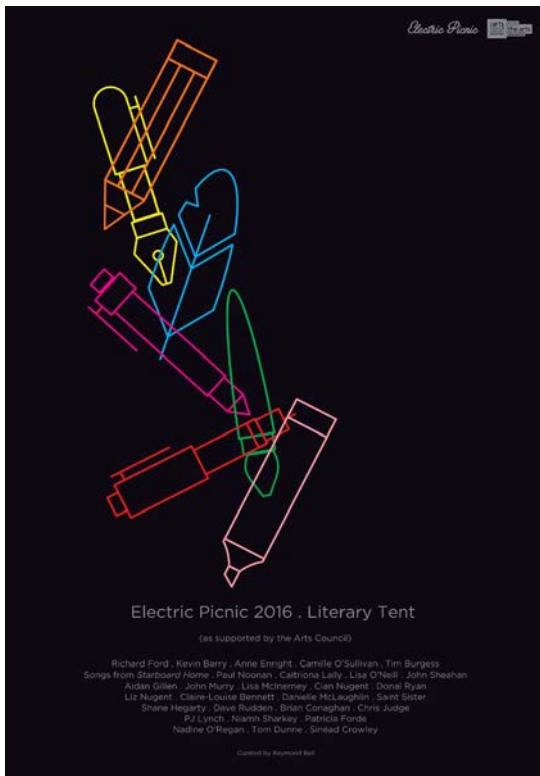
Imaginative, innovative and high quality live literature programming (i.e. events for young people that engage them with books through storytelling, poetry, writing or illustration) is a core part of CBI's activity throughout the year, through our own programming and in partnership with festivals all over the island of Ireland. This serves to achieve many of our aims:

- Providing high quality events for young audiences all over the island of Ireland which will bring books to life through imaginative engagement with authors and illustrators
- Showcasing excellent work by emerging and established Irish artists and providing a platform for them to engage with audiences in Ireland and internationally
- Ensuring that artists are properly remunerated for their work and that best practice guidelines are followed in relation to author care and event programming
- Nurturing partnerships with festivals, venues, libraries and other arts organisations in order to maximise resources, share knowledge and build audiences for children's book-related activity
- Building CBI's public profile and membership base through directly accessing parents, teachers and librarians

CBI continues to deliver events such as CBI Book Clinics which are free, inclusive, suitable for all ages and which attract large audiences because of their drop-in nature. We also programme one-off events with partners e.g. Dave Rudden at the National Gallery for Hallowe'en 2016. We facilitate partnerships between authors and festivals and put together and chair panel discussions about children's literature which are aimed at an adult audience.

In 2016, CBI programmed the children's and families portion of the Dublin Festival of History for the second year running on behalf of Dublin City Libraries. We recognise that many festivals do not have the resources necessary to outsource this portion of their programme, and we continue to work in various ways with festivals around the country, offering advice where appropriate, advocating for fair rates of pay for children's writers and illustrators, encouraging high-quality programming for children and young people and calling for best practice in event management and author care.

Strong relationships continued with the West Cork Literary Festival; Towers and Tales Festival in Lismore, Waterford; Cúirt International Festival of Literature and Baboró in Galway; Listowel Writers Week, Kerry (the National Children's Literary Festival); Dublin Book Festival; Dublin International Literature Festival; Mountains to Sea (Dún Laoghaire) and DeptCon2 (run by Eason's Department 51) where Director Elaina Ryan chaired two panels on young adult literature.



CBI programmed the children's and family events at the Arts Council's Literary Tent at Electric Picnic for the second year running, an important step in giving parity of esteem to excellent children's writers and illustrators alongside their peers in the sphere of adult fiction. Laureate na nÓg PJ Lynch was in conversation with former Laureate Niamh Sharkey, chaired by Patricia Forde, and a panel discussion took place between Shane Hegarty (formerly of *The Irish Times*), Dave Rudden and Brian Conaghan, chaired by CBI Director Elaina Ryan and illustrated live by Chris Judge. The Book Doctors and Doodle Doctors met families each day and the *Inis Reading Guide* and other materials were distributed.

We also maintained a strong presence at the Bloom in the Park Festival in Dublin's Phoenix Park for the third year running, with cash sponsorship and in-kind support secured from Bord Bia. A ready audience of parents and grandparents attend this five-day event each year, and

CBI has built on its initial offering to include Monster Doodles, Book Clinics and a wealth of information for families.

Laureate na nÓg

During 2016, the Laureate na nÓg project continued to be a vital initiative to support the role of children's books in our cultural lives. Laureate na nÓg is an initiative of the Arts Council, administered by Children's Books Ireland with the support of The Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the Department for Children and Youth Affairs, and Poetry Ireland. CBI is the project manager for Laureate na nÓg and all aspects of the day-to-day running of the initiative are handled by CBI.

Eoin Colfer was Laureate na nÓg 2014–2016. He identified three priorities for his term as Ireland's third Laureate na nÓg (succeeding Siobhán Parkinson and Niamh Sharkey).

1. A sixteen-location nationwide tour of story and storytelling in areas that might not otherwise have visiting authors and storytellers, for reasons of geographic remoteness or lack of financial resources, e.g. small schools in the Burren, County Clare; a direct provision centre in Cork City.
2. Special storytelling events in fantastic and unusual places, including a Mass Rock in Kerry, Cnoc na Sidhe in Sligo and Hook Head Lighthouse in Wexford.
3. An anthology for children, entitled *Once upon a Place*, telling stories of (or inspired by) places all over Ireland, with original stories by eleven of Ireland's finest writers, six poets and illustrations by PJ Lynch.

The tour was extraordinarily successful with an estimated reach of 3,650 children over the full duration. Valuable relationships with local partners were built in each location, and a large team of writers, poets and storytellers were involved in delivering the island-wide tour.

Eoin Colfer generously returned his Laureate honorarium, preferring that it be reinvested in the Laureate project. As a result, there was scope for Eoin to have a legacy project, Seanacháí, which took place in 2016 as part of the 1916 commemorations. Class groups worked with a writer facilitator in Dublin, Cork, Galway and Derry to tell the story of where their family was in 1916, and to work on their own stories. Short films of each group are on the Laureate YouTube channel.



Illustrator PJ Lynch was announced as Ireland's fourth Laureate na nÓg in May 2016. His theme as Laureate na nÓg is The Big Picture. One aspect of the theme is that PJ will film, edit and present a regular podcast throughout his term as Laureate, involving live drawing or demonstrating techniques and interviewing Irish and international guests to talk about their passion in relation to children's literature. All episodes are available on the Laureate website and YouTube channel.

The second strand involves large-scale artworks, physical Big Pictures which children and families can get involved in creating.

PJ's first public event took place as part of the International Literature Festival Dublin. Further appearances included Hay Kells, the CBI International Conference, Baboró International Arts Festival for Children in Galway and Culture Night in Belfast. PJ judged the Sightsavers Junior Painter Award. He also appeared as part of the Rí Rá festival in New York's Irish Arts Center, co-programmed by Children's Books Ireland. A further international connection was made with the School of Irish Studies at Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. PJ (along with CBI's Programme and Events Manager, Aoife Murray) addressed students of the school in a talk about his career, and took part in a second, public event, in October 2016.

Laureate na nÓg has become a core part of CBI's activity, with support from a part-time project manager and considerable resources from within the organisation devoted to it. CBI also administers a number of legacy projects, the most significant of which is Bookbag, a book gifting scheme for schools established during Niamh Sharkey's Laureateship and sponsored by Brown Bag Films (see below for more information). CBI is now in possession of a permanent collection of artwork – several artists whose work was produced digitally, printed and framed for the Pictiúr exhibition curated by Niamh Sharkey have donated their pieces to CBI.

Book gifting

Establishing a nationwide book gifting scheme through which every child in Ireland would receive a book within the first year of life is a long-term goal for CBI. Much research into early intervention has been conducted and we believe that a scheme comparable to the UK's Bookstart would have a profound effect on Irish children in the area of literacy as well as making a strong statement about access to arts experiences for all from the beginning of life.

CBI was granted funding from the JP McManus Benevolent Fund to establish Bookseed, a book gifting scheme in areas of deprivation in Limerick City. In 2016 we put in place the structures for research of evaluation of the scheme. The timeline has been delayed for a number of reasons including the large number of partners we hope to coordinate to successfully deliver a scheme that will have a meaningful impact on its recipients.

As well as giving a Bookseed pack (including two board books, information on reading with children, information on the local library and on family learning programmes) to parents within the first year of a child's life, extra supports will be made available e.g. storytime sessions for infants and toddlers. Included in the budget is a line for research, which will allow us to monitor and evaluate the scheme and present that research at the end of the two-year period with a view to encouraging other local areas to engage in similar activity.



In partnership with Brown Bag Films, we continue to run the Bookbag project which was established by Niamh Sharkey as Laureate na nÓg. The project won the Dublin Airport Authority Business to Arts Award bursary in 2014 and was shortlisted a second time for the awards in 2015. As part of this scheme, every student in a chosen school is given a Bookbag containing a book, a letter from Niamh to share with their families, and book-related materials such as *the Inis Reading Guide*, posters, stickers and bookmarks to take home and keep. Through the home school

liaison officer, families are invited to attend and to participate. Each class in the school receives a visit by an author or illustrator as part of the project, and CBI works with the school to identify any special needs that we can meet in terms of promoting a whole-school reading culture.

Bologna Children's Book Fair

CBI organised the national shared stand for Ireland at the 2016 Bologna Children's Book Fair. Funding was secured from Culture Ireland towards stand costs and travel. Participants included The O'Brien Press, Little Island Books, Illustrators Ireland and Futa Fata. CBI managed the reception desk of the Irish stand, supported the organisations in attendance and provided information to drop-in visitors. We also met with publishers and other arts organisations with a view to brokering relationships between Irish artists and international festivals; gathered information about upcoming titles, knowledge of which is crucial to the ongoing success of *Inis* magazine and the *Inis Reading Guide*; and spoke to contacts about potential speakers for the CBI Conference and other events.



The presence of a coherent, attractive Irish stand at the fair is crucial in order to draw attention to excellent Irish writing and illustration, and CBI's 'Stories are for Everyone' slogan and illustration by Chris Haughton from the 2015 reading campaign was central to the design of the stand which was reused in 2016.

Bologna is a fair attended by decision-makers within publishing houses and influential reading promotion organisations, and there are enormous opportunities for Irish children's books to be celebrated and for valuable international connections to be made. The Irish stand promotes and gives a very visible platform to Irish writing and illustration, giving access directly to an extremely important target audience: publishers within whose powers it is to translate and publish Irish works abroad and reading promotion organisations which run festivals and events and which use the fair to accumulate knowledge of international artists to invite. One of the roles of CBI is to raise the profile of Irish literature and illustration internationally, and this is the ideal platform from which to do so. The potential to disseminate Irish culture at the fair is enormous, and the strength of our illustration alone lends itself to having a dedicated space that will draw people in to the work of our picturebook artists.

As in previous years, the Irish Embassy in Rome supported a reception at the Irish stand, which was well attended by colleagues and supporters from all over the world. Our guest of honour was the Irish Ambassador to Italy, Bobby McDonagh.

Asian Festival of Children's Content

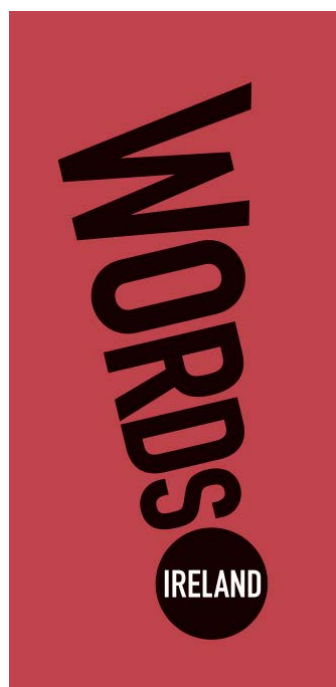
Acting Director of CBI, Jenny Murray, attended the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC), which was held from 25-29 May 2016 at the National Library Building, Singapore. AFCC is a unique event in Asia that brings together writers, illustrators, parents, teachers and librarians to meet, learn and develop their craft and discover business opportunities. A feature of the Festival is to highlight the children's book industries in various countries. The organisers recognised high levels of comparison between Ireland and Singapore in relation to our children's book industries, both being island nations that sit within bigger neighbouring markets (Ireland – UK, Singapore – rest of Asia).

CBI took part in two panel discussions: one on diversity in children's literature alongside the CEO of the African Bureau for Children's Stories, a Japanese poet and fiction author, and the editor of the largest publisher in Asia to discuss how as an organisation we respond to the increased need for this and lack of resources. The second panel discussed supporting the artists, with speakers including the director of the Singapore Writers Festival, the Programmer of the Perth Writers Festival, the founder of the Golden Baobab Book Awards in Ghana and chaired by a member of the Asian Publishers Association. The Writers and Illustrators conference runs alongside a parents forum, masterclasses, a cross-platform summit and a teachers congress.

CBI also gave a presentation on our own activities. Alongside these three talks CBI took meetings with BookStart Japan; the director and Programmer of the AFCC to share knowledge; Sarah Odedina, editor and founder of *The Read Quarterly* and *The Scoop* children's literature magazine. We were also invited to appear on ChannelNewsAsia's FirstLookAsia show which is broadcast twice daily and shown in 25 territories. CBI and AFCC Director Mr Rama were interviewed in a ten-minute segment on the comparisons between the two countries and the differences e.g. Singapore has a very high literacy rate but a very low reading for pleasure rate. CBI also visited Playeum Children's Centre for Creativity and took other unscheduled meetings. We found that the highest levels of interest were in the CBI Book Clinics and the *Inis Reading Guide* – as such, an unscheduled training session was delivered to 17 Asian publishers on how to develop a reading guide. The conference was attended by the Irish Ambassador to Singapore.

Professional development / Words Ireland

Words Ireland is a grouping of literature resource organisations (Children's Books Ireland, Irish Writers Centre, Literature Ireland, Munster Literature Centre, Poetry Ireland, Publishing Ireland and The Stinging Fly) which is working together to provide a coherent literature resource service, addressing current gaps and duplication of services across the programmes of its constituent organisations.



In 2016, Words Ireland presented its first National Literature Conference, 'WordCon: Improving the Festival Experience' at the National Library of Ireland. *Chocolat* author Joanne Harris travelled to Dublin to deliver a keynote speech on 19 May. Focusing on festivals and their relationship with authors and illustrators, industry leaders discussed ways of improving the overall experience that writers enjoy at festivals, and addressed the topic of payment and author care. A short film of the event can be seen on the Words Ireland website.

2016 was the second year of a three-year partnership with Wicklow County Arts Office commenced (with Poetry Ireland and the Irish Writers Centre), and CBI introduced a programme of activity in partnership with Wicklow Libraries (see Book Clubs above). A panel event with contributors to the Laureate na nÓg anthology and a masterclass event with author-illustrator Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick completed the programme.

The second half of 2016 into 2017 was devoted to a series of public meetings for authors and illustrators. The purpose of the event series was to introduce Words Ireland and its work and to find out what issues are most pressing for practising artists. Artists were given an opportunity to influence the future direction and activities of Words Ireland by offering

practical ideas and highlighting shortcomings in current literature resource provision. Each event was chaired by a WI board member with a panel of three writers.

The discussion was opened to the floor after the initial input from the panel and the findings (including any feedback on written forms provided to all attendees) will be collated and analysed by Words Ireland, and eventually used to advocate on behalf of writers and illustrators for fair remuneration, professional development and any other supports or opportunities that are found to be lacking.

Part of CBI's remit is professional development for authors and illustrators and we will continue to work with Words Ireland partners (as well as independently where appropriate) to deliver seminars, masterclasses and other services as needed for the children's book community. We are in regular talks with Illustrators Ireland about the requirements of their members in terms of professional development, and we partner with SCBWI (the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators) on relevant professional development events, for example 'Taking it Further', facilitated by Sheena Wilkinson in Cork in October 2016. This creative writing masterclass focused on exercises which help writers examine their work more objectively. On the same date, in Limerick, CBI was a partner along with Words Ireland on an event as part of the Bualadh Bos Festival. Covering process, publication and sustaining a writing career, the panel included Sarah Webb, Claire Hennessy and Gráinne Clear.

In March 2016 CBI co-programmed an event for professional writers of young adult fiction, both emerging and established, at the Mountains to Sea Festival in Dún Laoghaire. Entitled 'The Business of Children's Books', the event answered such questions as: what makes a manuscript stand out to an editor or agent? How do marketing and publicity departments promote books? What can writers do to help promote their own work? The panel included Charlotte Eyre, Children's Editor of *The Bookseller* magazine and Chair of the YA Book Prize; Annalie Grainger, Fiction Commissioning Editor at Walker Books and YA author; David Maybury, Media Development Director at Scholastic Children's Books and Hilary Delamere, agent. It was chaired by Gráinne Clear, Publishing Manager and Art Director at Little Island Books.

In September CBI delivered a training session to Meath libraries regarding establishing a shadowing group for the CBI awards.

Bringing to Book with CICE

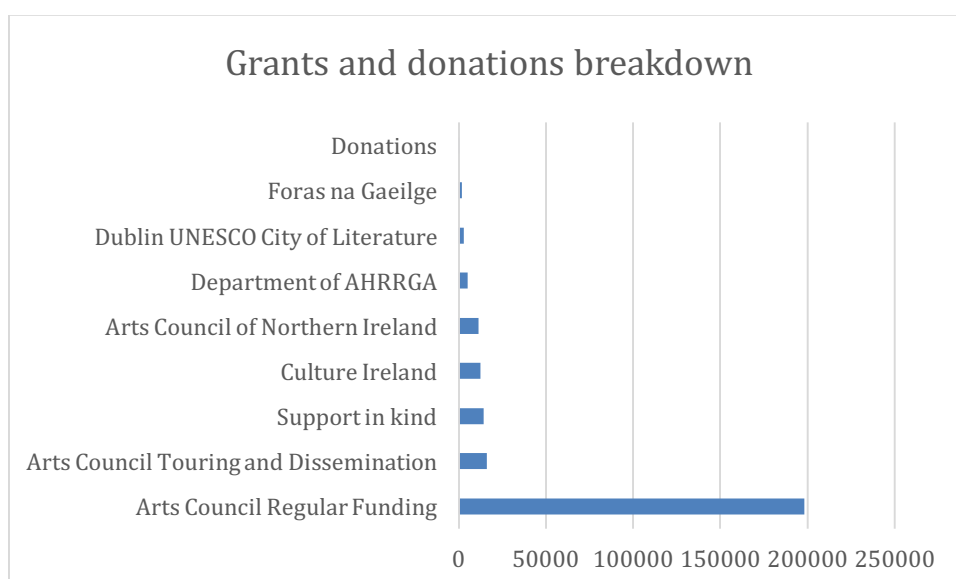
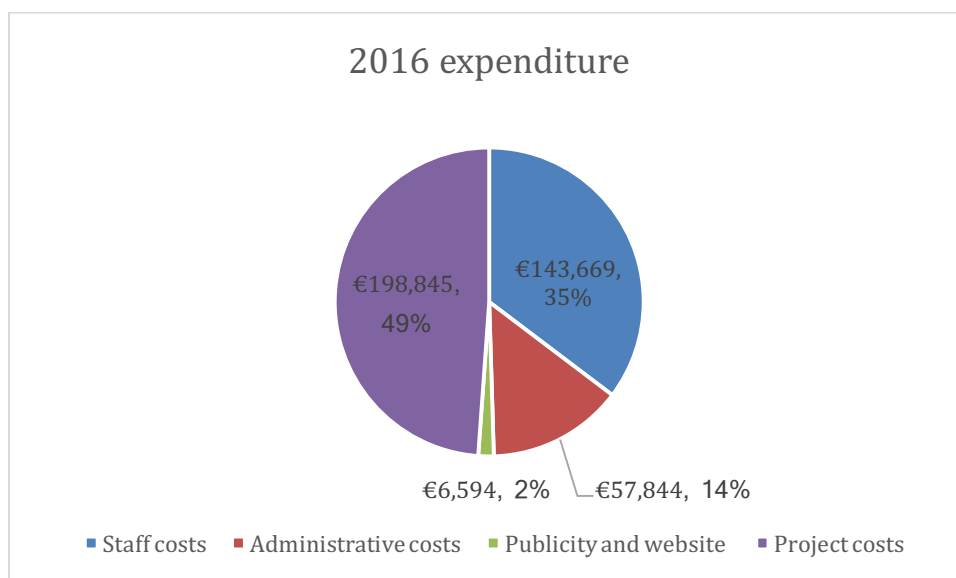
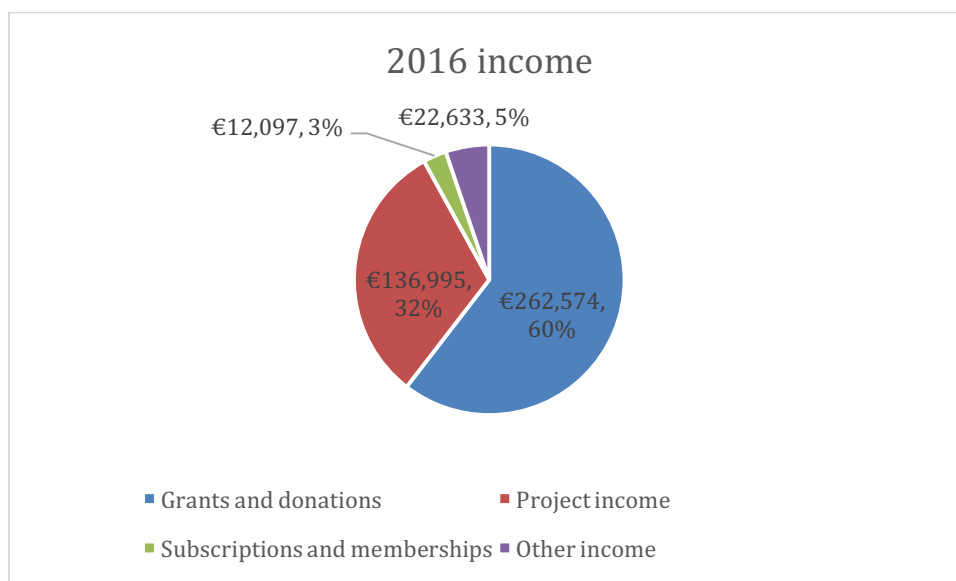
Bringing to Book is a three-year project within Church of Ireland College of Education (CICE) in association with CBI and funded by the Arts Council as part of a series of artist residencies within Higher Education Institutions. The project seeks to embed knowledge of and passion for children's literature within all aspects of teacher education in the College. Bringing to Book believes that classrooms rich in books and book experiences begin with teachers who are informed and enthusiastic about children's literature.

Following on from residencies by Sheena Wilkinson and Alan Nolan, writer Claire Hennessy was appointed Artist-in-Residence for 2015–16. Focusing on creative writing in the classroom, Claire's aims for the residency included public engagement via events, visits to local primary schools, interaction with students across the college and a legacy project of online resources which will encourage teachers to introduce creative writing and an engagement with books in the classroom.

Encountering the Arts Ireland (ETAI)

CBI maintained close links with colleagues within arts-in-education through Encountering the Arts Ireland, an alliance of organisations committed to celebrating and nurturing arts in education practice for all children in Ireland. ETAI continues to play a vital role connecting organisations with similar missions and values and strengthening the arts-in-education sector. The organisation is working towards incorporation as a company, and is developing a year-long continuing professional development programme between paired teachers and artists all over Ireland.

APPENDIX 1: FINANCE 2016



APPENDIX 2: BOOK CLINICS 2016

Date	Venue or Festival
9 th January	DLR LexIcon Family Day
16 th January	Twitter Book Clinic – rainy days/ spend those Christmas book vouchers
6 th February	ISLAND Arts Centre, Lisburn
13 th February	Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge, Kildare
20 th February	Excel Centre, Tipperary
6 th March	Lyric Theatre, Belfast Children's Festival
12 th March	Siamsa Tíre, Tralee
20 th March	St Patrick's Festival Big Day Out, Dublin
22 nd March	Courtyard Shopping Centre, Letterkenny, Donegal
26 th March	Ranfurly House Arts & Visitor Centre, Dungannon, Tyrone
28 th March	Twitter Book Clinic – Easter break
23 rd April	Towers and Tales, The Lismore Story Festival, Waterford
30 th April	Féile na Bealtaine, Dingle
14 th May	Kilmallock, Co Limerick
21 st May	Riverbank Arts Centre, Newbridge, Kildare
22 nd May	International Literature Festival Dublin at The Ark
2 nd June	Bloom – Thursday
3 rd June	Bloom – Friday
4 th June	Bloom – Saturday
3 rd June	Listowel Writer's Week
4 th June	Listowel Writer's Week
5 th June	Bloom – Sunday
6 th June	Bloom – Monday
11 th June	DLR LexIcon Family Day
12 th June	Howth Literary Festival
19 th June	Dalkey Book Festival
25 th June	Hay Festival Kells
18 th July	West Cork Literary Festival
21 st August	Terryglass Arts Festival, Tipperary
16 th September	Culture Night at Hodges Figgis, Dublin
24 th September	Aspects Festival, Bangor (North Down Museum)
24 th September	Dublin Festival of History, Dublin Castle
2 nd October	Rí Rá Festival, Irish Arts Centre, New York City
16 th October	Bualadh Bos, Limetree Theatre, Limerick
30 th October	Spleodar Children's Festival, Nenagh, Tipperary
11 th November	Christmas Book Clinic at Hodges Figgis
12 th November	Dublin Book Festival, Smock Alley Theatre

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016

Company Registration Number: 154905
Charity Registration Number: CHY 12911
Charitable Status Number: 20038922

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

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CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

COMPANY INFORMATION

Directors	Jane Alger (appointed 9 th November 2016) Irene Barber Valerie Coghlan David Field Katy Fitzpatrick (appointed 9 th November 2016) Patricia Forde Conor Hackett Eileen Jackson David Murphy (resigned 17 th January 2017) Edward Murtagh (appointed 9 th November 2016) John O'Donnell (appointed 9 th November 2016) Steve Simpson (resigned 22 nd June 2016) Patrick Thorpe (appointed 7 th March 2017)
Secretary	Jane Alger
Company Number	154905
Charity Number	CHY 12911
Charitable Status Number	20038922
Registered Office	First Floor, 17 North Great Georges Street Dublin 1
Auditors	JPAS Ltd. Ardeen House 10/11 Marine Terrace Dun Laoghaire Co. Dublin
Business Address	First Floor, 17 North Great Georges Street Dublin 1
Bankers	Bank of Ireland O'Connell Street Dublin 1

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors have pleasure in submitting their annual report, together with the financial statements of the company, for the financial year ended 31st December 2016.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

The company is a charity and hence the report and results are presented in a form, which complies both with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014 and also the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102)).

Legal Status

Children's Books Ireland Limited is a company registered in Ireland and is a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital. The objects of the company are charitable in nature and it has established charitable status (20038922).

Companies Act 2014

On the 1st December 2016 the company changed its name to Children's Books Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee (previously Children's Books Ireland Ltd.) and also adopted a new constitution.

Appointment of Directors

The board of directors of Children's Books Ireland elect a chairperson for their meetings following each annual general meeting. In accordance with the Articles of Association of the company, every year one third of the board of directors shall retire from office. The directors to retire in every year shall be those who have been longest in office since their last election, but as between persons who became directors on the same date, those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree amongst themselves) be determined by lot. A retiring director is eligible for re-election.

Directors

The directors who served on the board during the year are as follows:

Jane Alger (appointed 9 th November 2016)	Eileen Jackson
Irene Barber	David Murphy (resigned 17 th January 2017)
Valerie Coghlan	Edward Murtagh (appointed 9 th November 2016)
David Field	John O'Donnell (appointed 9 th November 2016)
Katy Fitzpatrick (appointed 9 th November 2016)	Steve Simpson (resigned 22 nd June 2016)
Patricia Forde	
Conor Hackett	

On 17th January 2017 David Murphy resigned as director. On 7th March 2017 Patrick Thorpe was appointed as director. There were no other changes in directors between 31st December 2016 and the date of signing the financial statements.

Following recommendations as part of The Wheel's Governance Code Boot Camp, the board of directors took the decision to appoint a director as secretary, rather than a staff member, in accordance with best practice. On 17th January 2017 Elaina Ryan resigned as secretary and Jane Alger was appointed.

Members

Members of the charitable company guarantee to contribute an amount not exceeding €1 to the assets of the charitable company in the event of a winding up.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Strict financial monitoring took place throughout the year in order to ensure the financial health of the organisation. Children's Books Ireland signed up to the Governance Code: A Code of Practice for Good Governance of Community, Voluntary and Charitable Organisations in Ireland. The organisation is on the journey to compliance, and the chair of the board, along with the executive director, has been

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

taking part in a Governance Code Boot Camp with The Wheel, an 18-month programme structured around a series of relevant workshops and dedicated networking events and support systems. Accounts software (QuickBooks) was purchased and a new system implemented in 2016, which has allowed for greater accountability, transparency, checks and reporting in terms of the management and year-end accounts.

Events Since The Year End

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the year-end.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Our vision is an Ireland in which books are central to every child's life and where meaningful engagement with books is supported by passionate and informed adults in families, schools, libraries and communities all across the island. We strive to make books central to every child's life on the island of Ireland through developing audiences for children's books, supporting and celebrating excellent authors, illustrators and publishers and working in partnership with people and organisations who influence children's reading.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Children's Books Ireland (CBI's) ongoing programme consists of the following flagship projects:

- CBI Book of the Year Awards and Shadowing Scheme.
- CBI Annual International Conference.
- *Inis* magazine (published 3 times a year).
- *Inis Reading Guide* (published annually).
- CBI's annual reading campaign throughout the month of October.
- Laureate na nÓg, an initiative of the Arts Council, administered by CBI with the support of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs and Poetry Ireland.
- CBI Book Clinics – These interactions between children's book experts and young people aim to find the right book for every child who visits our clinics nationwide.

In addition to these projects, we have a number of other key areas of activity throughout the year:

- Bookbag – A book gifting scheme which was established by Niamh Sharkey during her term as Laureate na nÓg (2012–2014). Bookbag's aim is to give a book to every child in a chosen school each year, and to have students take part in a Monster Doodle and a class visit from an author or illustrator.
- Festival partnerships – CBI continues to foster excellent relationships with literary festivals all over the island of Ireland.

Results For The Year

The results for the year and the balance sheet are set out on pages 9 and 10.

At the year end the company had assets of €130,964 (2015: €169,792) and liabilities of €(33,183) (2015: €(99,358)). The net funds of the company have increased by €27,347 (2015: €57,015) and the directors are satisfied with the level of retained reserves at the year end. Of the net funds at 31st December 2016 of €97,781, €5,673 of this is attributable to restricted funds.

Investment Powers and Policy

In accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association the company has the power to invest in any way the directors wish.

Reserves Policy

The charity has adequate budgetary controls in place to ensure that the resources of the company are not depleted unnecessarily.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

In 2017 CBI plans to build on its continued programme of excellence in a number of ways:

- We will be celebrating our twentieth birthday year with the announcement of new patrons of the organisation, the awarding of the inaugural Robert Dunbar Memorial Libraries and an augmented programme of international events including Bologna Children's Book Fair, Italy; an Irish showcase in Canada; the Rí-Rá Festival, co-programmed with the Irish Arts Center in New York and talks at the Asian Festival of Children's Content in Singapore.
- We will be developing resources for use in the classroom in order to encourage reading for pleasure in schools, to support teachers in choosing excellent books for young readers and to attract new members of CBI.
- We will be actively seeking a headline sponsor for the CBI Book of the Year Awards and Shadowing Scheme.
- We will strive to maintain an increased level of revenue to sustain a four-person team into the future, allowing us to build on continued successes and to be ambitious in initiating new projects which will help us to achieve our strategic aims.
- We will continue to increase our social media and media presence to raise the profile of CBI.

ACCOUNTING RECORDS

The directors acknowledge their responsibility and compliance with the requirements of sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014 with regard to the keeping of accounting records for the company. The company's accounting records are kept at 17 North Great Georges Street, Dublin 1.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANT AUDIT INFORMATION

In accordance with Section 330 of the Companies Act 2014:

- so far as each person who was a director at the date of approving this report is aware, there is no relevant audit information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing its report, of which the auditor is unaware; and
- each director has taken all steps that he or she ought to have taken as a director in order to make himself or herself aware of the relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The directors are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with Companies Act 2014 and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council, and promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland including FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland) as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective 1st January 2015. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the profit or loss of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

DIRECTORS' REPORT

The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors' report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

AUDITORS

The Auditors, JPAS Ltd., Chartered Accountants, continue in office in accordance with section 383(2) of the Companies Act, 2014.

On behalf of the Directors

Valerie Coghlan
Director



Jane Alger
Director



24th May 2017

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

We have audited the financial statements on pages 9 to 18. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the statement of accounting policies on page 12. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" as modified by the Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective 1st January 2015.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Directors and Auditors

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement set out on page 5 the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements giving a true and fair view and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014. Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with Irish law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors including APB Ethical Standard – Provisions Available for Smaller Entities (Revised), in the circumstances set out in note 20 to the financial statements.

Scope of the Audit of the Financial Statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the company's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the director's report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

Opinion on Financial Statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31st December 2016 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the relevant reporting framework and, in particular, the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

Matters on which we are Required to Report by the Companies Act 2014

- We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.
- In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited.
- The financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.
- In our opinion the information given in the Directors' Report is consistent with the financial statements.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the provisions in the Companies Act 2014 which require us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions specified by law are not made.



**Jill Percival
For and on Behalf of
JPAS Ltd.
Chartered Accountants
and Statutory Audit Firm**

**Ardeen House
10/11 Marine Terrace
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin**

24th May 2017

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

	Note	2016 Unrestricted Funds €	2016 Restricted Funds €	2016 Total Funds €	2015 Total Funds €
Income					
Grants and Donations	2	212,681	49,893	262,574	255,236
Income from Charitable Activities	3				
Project Income		35,208	101,787	136,995	178,802
Subscriptions and Memberships		12,097	-	12,097	5,423
Activities for Generating Funds	4				
Income from Other Trading Activities		21,831	-	21,831	20,441
Other Income	5	802	-	802	5,886
Total Income		282,619	151,680	434,299	465,788
Expenditure					
Cost of Raising Funds	6				
Publicity/Marketing		39,184	-	39,184	28,762
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	7				
Project Costs		219,705	148,063	367,768	380,011
Total Expenditure		258,889	148,063	406,952	408,773
Net Income/(Expenditure) and Net Movement in Funds in the Year		23,730	3,617	27,347	57,015
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds Brought Forward		68,378	2,056	70,434	13,419
Total Funds Carried Forward		92,108	5,673	97,781	70,434

There were no recognised gains or losses other than the incomings/outgoings for the above two financial years.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

	Note	2016 €	2016 €	2015 €	2015 €
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	11		9,294		4,167
Current Assets					
Debtors	12	89,222		30,819	
Cash at Bank and in hand		<u>32,448</u>		<u>134,806</u>	
		121,670		165,625	
Current Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(33,183)</u>		<u>(99,358)</u>	
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)			<u>88,487</u>		<u>66,267</u>
Total Assets less Current Liabilities			97,781		70,434
Total Net Assets			<u>97,781</u>		<u>70,434</u>
Reserves and Funds					
Unrestricted Funds	16		92,108		68,378
Restricted Funds	16		<u>5,673</u>		<u>2,056</u>
			<u>97,781</u>		<u>70,434</u>

The notes set out on pages 12 to 18 form an integral part of these accounts.

The financial statements were approved by the Board on 24th May 2017 and signed on its behalf by

Valerie Coghlan
Director



Jane Alger
Director



CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

	2016	2015
	€	€
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Net Income	27,347	57,015
Depreciation	2,324	621
(Increase)/Decrease in Debtors	(58,403)	(17,722)
Increase/(Decrease) in Creditors	(66,175)	46,932
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	<u>(94,907)</u>	<u>86,846</u>
Cash Flows From Investing Activities		
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities	(94,907)	86,846
Capital Expenditure	(7,451)	-
Net Cash Inflow from Investing Activities	<u>(102,358)</u>	<u>86,846</u>
Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Funds (Note 17)		
Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Financial Year	(102,358)	86,846
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year	<u>134,806</u>	<u>47,960</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	<u>32,448</u>	<u>134,806</u>

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

Children's Books Ireland Company Limited by Guarantee is a public benefit entity incorporated in Ireland with a registered office at 17 North Great George's Street, Dublin 1.

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

1.1 Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1st January 2015) – (Charities SORP (FRS102), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) and with generally accepted accounting principles in Ireland and Irish Statute comprising the Companies Act 2014.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are prepared on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention, and comply with the financial reporting standards of the Financial Reporting Council, as promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland.

The financial statements are prepared in Euro which is the functional currency of the company.

1.2 Income

Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the item(s) of income have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Income from government and other grants, whether 'capital' grants or 'revenue' grants, is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, any performance conditions attached to the grants have been met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably and is not deferred.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are donations which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the company's work or for specific projects being undertaken by the company.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified under the following activity headings:

- Costs of raising funds comprise the costs of publicity and marketing and their associated support costs.
- Expenditure on charitable activities includes the costs of the project costs and their associated support costs.
- Other expenditure represents those items not falling into any other heading.

1.5 Allocation of support costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs are analysed between cost of raising funds and expenditure on charitable activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed, they are allocated in proportion to the

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016

benefits received. Salaries and associated costs which can be attributed to specific projects are charged accordingly.

1.6 Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost, less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets over their useful lives at the following annual rates:

Fixtures & Fittings	20% per annum on the straight-line basis.
Computer Equipment	33.33% per annum on the straight-line basis.

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount may not be recoverable.

1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.8 Cash at Bank and in Hand

Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit of similar account.

1.9 Creditors and Provisions

Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

1.10 Pensions

Retirement benefits are met by payments to a defined contribution pension fund. Contributions payable to the pension scheme are charged to the statement of financial activities as they fall due. The assets are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. Differences between the amount charged in the statement of financial activity and payments made to the pension fund are treated as assets or liabilities.

1.11 Critical Accounting Judgements and Estimates

The preparation of these financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses.

Judgements and estimates are continually evaluated and are based on historical experiences and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

The company makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

(a) Establishing useful economic lives for depreciation purposes of property, plant and equipment

Long lived assets, consisting primarily of, fixtures, fittings and equipment, comprise a significant portion of total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated useful economic lives of each type of asset and estimates of residual value. The directors regularly review these asset useful economic lives and change them as necessary to reflect current thinking on remaining lives in light of prospective economic utilisation and physical condition of the assets concerned. Changes in asset

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

useful lives can have a significant impact on depreciation and amortisation charges for the period. Detail of the useful economic lives is included in the accounting policies.

2. Income From Grants and Donations

	2016	2015
	€	€
Arts Council Revenue Funding	198,000	194,225
Arts Council Touring	16,150	17,310
Arts Council Northern Ireland	11,406	19,001
Foras na Gaeilge	2,000	11,000
Culture Ireland	12,500	9,000
UNESCO City of Literature	2,750	4,700
Donations	220	-
Dept of AHRRGA – Capital Grant	5,087	-
Support in Kind	14,461	-
	<u>262,574</u>	<u>255,236</u>

3. Income From Charitable Activities

	2016	2015
	€	€
Laureate Project	82,934	121,360
Annual Conference	17,971	14,498
Book Clinics	13,107	6,401
Book Gifting	6,015	8,429
Bologna	4,214	4,609
Programming	7,381	8,240
North South Project	-	11,895
Page Turners	-	3,068
Words Ireland	5,373	302
Subscriptions and Membership	12,097	5,423
	<u>149,092</u>	<u>184,225</u>

4. Income From other Trading Activities

	2016	2015
	€	€
Reading Campaign	10,240	6,600
Publications Income	11,091	13,841
Advertising Income	500	-
	<u>21,831</u>	<u>20,441</u>

5. Other Income

	2016	2015
	€	€
Other Income	802	5,886
	<u>802</u>	<u>5,886</u>

6. Cost of Raising Funds

	2016	2015
	€	€
Publicity and Website	6,594	1,456
Support Costs – Payroll Expenses	31,177	21,917
Support Costs – General Office	1,413	5,389
	<u>39,184</u>	<u>28,762</u>

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

7. Analysis of Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	2016	2015
	€	€
Annual Conference	14,989	18,437
Book Clinics	25,244	23,426
Book Gifting	1,004	4,760
Inis Magazine	13,511	16,410
Book Awards	20,286	17,730
Laureate Project	69,310	88,754
Inis Reading Guides/Reading Campaign	22,247	29,809
Bologna	10,487	13,915
Page Turners	-	2,594
North South Project	-	9,833
Programming	3,600	3,367
Words Ireland	3,306	212
Professional Development	400	-
Support in Kind	14,461	-
Support Costs (see note 8)	122,604	90,374
Governance Costs (see note 8)	46,319	60,390
	<u>367,768</u>	<u>380,011</u>

8. Analysis of Governance and Support Costs

The company initially identifies costs of its support functions. It then identifies those costs which relate to the governance function. Having identified the governance costs, the remaining support costs together with governance costs are apportioned between the key charitable activities undertaken (see note 7) in the year. Refer to the table below for the basis of apportionment and the analysis of support and governance costs.

	Support Costs	Governance Costs	Total Costs	Basis of Apportionment
	€	€	€	
General Office	26,638	25,640	52,278	Usage
Finance Costs	-	927	927	Usage
Payroll Expenses	95,966	16,317	112,283	Usage
Legal and Professional	-	867	867	Governance
Audit and Accounts Fees	-	2,568	2,568	Governance
	<u>122,604</u>	<u>46,319</u>	<u>168,923</u>	

9. Net Income/(Expenditure) for the Year

	2016	2015
	€	€
Net Income/(Expenditure) is stated after charging:		
Depreciation on Tangible Assets	2,324	621
Auditors' Remuneration	<u>1,968</u>	<u>1,968</u>

CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

**NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2016**

10. Employees

Number of Employees

The average monthly number of employees (including directors) during the period was as follows:

	2016 Number	2015 Number
Office and Management	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

Analysis of Staff Costs and the Cost of Key Management Personnel

	2016 €	2015 €
Wages and Salaries	125,497	102,786
Employer's PRSI	13,042	10,993
Other Retirement Benefit Costs	<u>4,921</u>	<u>6,819</u>
	<u>143,460</u>	<u>120,598</u>

No employees received employee benefits of more than €70,000.

None of the directors received remuneration or payments for their work in their capacity as director during the year.

11. Tangible Assets

	Fixtures & Fittings € 20%	Computer Equipment 33%	Total €
Cost			
At 1 st January 2016	5,409	-	5,409
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>7,451</u>	<u>7,451</u>
At 31 st December 2016	<u>5,409</u>	<u>7,451</u>	<u>12,860</u>
Depreciation			
At 1 st January 2016	1,242	-	1,242
Charge for Year	<u>1,082</u>	<u>1,242</u>	<u>2,324</u>
At 31 st December 2016	<u>2,324</u>	<u>1,242</u>	<u>3,566</u>
Net Book Value			
At 31 st December 2015	<u>4,167</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,167</u>
At 31 st December 2016	<u>3,085</u>	<u>6,209</u>	<u>9,294</u>

The following pages do not form part of the audited financial statements



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