

23rd October at 8.00pm

## *“Growing up with Children’s books”*

This will be a talk for adults about books for children and teenagers. Robert Dunbar will speak about the pleasures of books and the enrichment they bring. He believes that reading should be fun and should be encouraged from the earliest possible age. Come along and get some tips on giving your children and teenagers the opportunity to discover the world of books.



*Robert Dunbar*

*Robert Dunbar* was formerly Head of English at the Church of Ireland College of Education, Rathmines, Dublin. He has edited, or co-edited, five children’s anthologies of poetry and prose and has given numerous lectures and papers on children’s literature both at home and abroad. He is a regular reviewer of children’s and young adult books for a range of publications, including The Irish Times, Books for Keeps and The School Librarian, and on various RTE radio programmes such as The Gay Byrne Show, Rattlebag and The Eleventh Hour. He is also the author of a large number of widely published academic essays on children’s literature, several of which have been translated into French, German and Italian, and has contributed articles to various academic reference works, including the Oxford Encyclopaedia of Children’s Literature and the Oxford Companion to Fairy Tales.

For further details

contact Clare County Library:

Tel 065 6846350 / 065 6842461

Email: [mailbox@clarelibrary.ie](mailto:mailbox@clarelibrary.ie)

CLARE COUNTY LIBRARY

## *Autumn Lecture Series 2007*

*“No entertainment is  
as cheap as reading,  
nor any pleasure so lasting”  
(Mary Wortley Montagu)*

De Valera Library,  
Harmony Row,  
Ennis,  
County Clare.

# Autumn Lecture Series 2007

October has been designated "Reading Month" at Clare County Library.

As Winter draws in what could be better than curling up and settling down with a good book? Before you do, maybe your experience could be enhanced by learning a little more about the whole subject of reading and books. How do you choose a good read? How do you pass on a love of books to your children? What is the magic of a good book? These questions, and more, will be discussed at the **De Valera Library, Ennis** during the month of October when a series of lectures by specialist speakers will take place.

The programme kicks off on 9th October and will run each Tuesday night for a three week period. Each talk will begin at 8.00 pm. and admission is free. If you are already a believer in the value of reading these talks will explore new angles and ideas for you. If you are not already a reader, then a whole new world awaits. Make sure you're there!

9th October at 8.00pm

## "Literature versus popular fiction"

This lecture, by Dr. Paula Murphy, will examine how decisions are made about what is termed literature and what is discarded as popular or lesser writing. It will discuss some more liberal ideas about what makes certain writing 'literary', and see how these differ from the more conservative ones. The second half of the lecture will explore how these ideas apply in practice, looking at two genres of Irish writing which are not usually regarded as literature: crime fiction and chick lit, and question whether this assessment is justified.



*Dr. Paula Murphy*

*Dr. Paula Murphy* has been lecturing in Mary Immaculate College for the last few years and is currently working in Mater Dei Institute, Dublin. She has an MA and PhD in literature and has published widely in the area of contemporary Irish fiction, drama and film. Her edited book, *New Voices in Irish Literary Criticism* is available from Edwin Mellen Press and the single-author book *The Shattered Mirror: Irish Literary and Film 1990-2005* will be published soon by Cambridge Scholars Press.

16th October at 8.00pm

## "Why reading is good for your health"

*Shalini Sinha*



Shalini Sinha will talk on developing personal strength, fulfillment and excellence and creating a world in which human beings can think well about themselves and others, and be fulfilled in their needs. She sees her job as creating the means for individuals to transform their own lives. In understanding that the mind and body are connected, she will examine the benefits of reading in our lives.

*Shalini Sinha* is fast emerging as one of Ireland's most insightful commentators. Well known for her weekly Irish Times column, 'The Bigger Picture', Shalini has also been the life coach for RTÉ's programme, The Health Squad. She is also a columnist for Ireland's only multicultural newspaper, Metro Eireann, and presented Ireland's first intercultural television programme, Mono. Born and raised in Canada, Shalini's Indian background gives her a distinct, grounded perspective on life and relationships. She has a B.A. in Comparative Religion and Anthropology (Indian Philosophies), an M.A. in Women's Studies and lectured in University College Dublin for 5 years. Currently, Shalini is studying for a B.Sc. (Hons.) in Nutritional Medicine.