

Explore Ireland and Irish America at the Patrick J. Dowling Library

Library Hours: Thursday, Friday and Saturday 1:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Website: www.icccsf.org and www.irishcentersf.org (Click "Library" tab)

Phone: (415) 661-2798 E-mail: library@irishcentersf.org

It is advised to e-mail or call before coming as the library is sometimes staffed by volunteers

Wendy King, *Librarian*

Halloween

Halloween's origins have roots in Samhain (pronounced SOW-in in Irish), the ancient Celtic Feast of the Dead, which signaled the end of the harvest and the beginning of winter and the New Year. The Celts believed that on the night of October 31 the dead returned and that they could communicate with their departed ancestors, who possessed great wisdom and knowledge. Food was put out for the spirits. To drive off evil spirits, the Celts used bonfires and jack-o'-lanterns. To learn more about the Celts and get in the Halloween mood, the library recommends the following books in its collection:

The World of the Druids by Miranda J. Green

A fascinating insight into the Celtic religion, including ceremonies and sacred places.

The Lively Ghosts of Ireland by Hans Holzer

Renowned ghost hunter Holzer investigates spirits haunting Dublin, Tara, Mayo and Skerne Castle.

Celtic Tales of the Strange by Joanne Asala

Banshees, water beasts, phantoms, half-dog half-fish creatures, and demonic formorians.

Irish Tales of Terror, edited by Peter Haining. Includes Irish authors James Joyce, W.B. Yeats, Oscar Wilde and George Moore.

Witchcraft in Ireland by Patrick F. Byrne

True stories of Irish women accused of sorcery.

New Books

Learning Irish: An Introductory Self-Tutor by Michael O'Siadhail

Nor Meekly Serve My Time: H Block Struggle 1976-1981 by Brian Campbell,
Laurence McKeown & Felim O'Hagan

The Irish in the United States by John B. Duff

Cultural Traditions in Northern Ireland edited by Maurna Crozier

Botany Bay: The Story of the Convicts Transported from Ireland to Australia, 1791-1853
by Con Costello

Rare Book

Eamon de Valera by the Earl of Longford and Thomas P. O'Neill. Signed by de Valera shortly before his death in 1974 and given to the library by Jack Lynch, Prime Minister of Ireland. De Valera, born in New York City, was a significant leader in Ireland's struggle for independence from the U.K. He was Ireland's first Taoiseach (Prime Minister) and third president. The book can be viewed in the wall display case.

DVDs Wanted

The library has a DVD player and we're building a collection of DVDs. We are interested in Irish and Irish American history, music, literature, and culture as well as feature films. Contact the librarian for more info.