



ITIA BULLETIN

March 2009

In This Issue

■ Editorial.....	2
■ Interpreters must be employees	2
■ Translating Pain into Action: A Study of Gender-Based Violence	2
■ Joining the ITIA.....	3
■ European Commission concerned about lack of up-and- coming translators/interpreters.....	4
■ European Commission organises conferences on T/I	4
■ Minister's Questions in the Dáil.....	5
■ Legal documents still not available in Irish.....	6
■ Scottish Police Accused of Rights Abuse over Interpretation	7
■ Alice in Cornish.....	8
■ Polish driving licence causes embarrassment.....	9
■ Conferences, Calls & Courses.....	10
■ Contacting The ITIA.....	12

Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
Cumann Aistritheoirí agus Teangairí na hÉireann

19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland

Tel.: +353-1-872 1302 Fax: +353-1-872 6282

Email: [itiasecretary\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:itiasecretary(a)eircom.net) Web: www.translatorsassociation.ie

■ Editorial

Dear Readers,

The European Commission has been drawing attention to the language problems it will be facing in the next few years as qualified and experienced translators/interpreters start to retire in their droves. The decisive measures and forward thinking are commendable and should be used as an example in Ireland. We celebrated when Irish became an official language of the EU but the practicalities of the move have shown up some gaping holes. The dearth of qualified translators (and to a lesser extent interpreters) at European level and at national level (see article below on translation into Irish of Statutory Instruments) is severely hampering progress. Recognition of Irish at the highest level in the land has certainly been a boost but this must be met by a bottom-up movement where Irish is re-sewn into the fabric of our lives. The impetus for this cannot come from Europe, nor can it come from our national government although they have a role to play. Pride in our national language will have to come from the ground up and will have to be supported by the majority if we ever want to justify the practice and theory of Irish as an official language - of the Irish State and of the EU.

Elizabeth Hayes
Editor ITIA Bulletin
theitiabulletin@gmail.com

■ Interpreters must be employees

Last year, officials from Revenue visited Word Perfect Translations and examined the situation of interpreters. As interpreters are given directions about where to go, at what time, what to wear and so on, Revenue decided that they are in fact employees and should be given a contract of employment. It is possible that Revenue was concerned that some interpreters were not paying taxes on their earnings from interpreting. The changes meant that the agency would have to deduct tax and PRSI at source, involving extra staff and costs for the company.

We understand that at least one other agency, Interling, has also been instructed to deduct tax and PRSI at source. We expect that it is only a matter of time until all translation agencies will have to fulfil this requirement.

The ITIA expects that over the coming months officials from Revenue will contact all agencies requesting that interpreters be classed as employees. This will entail extra costs which may well affect profit margins,

particularly for companies which have contracted to provide interpreters to government bodies.

Interpreters should keep all payslips and in particular the P60 form which they will receive at the end of the tax year. Many interpreters will have a combination of taxed and taxable income but obviously Revenue will have to take that into account for the final tax bill. Depending on how much they work, interpreters may be entitled to holiday pay from the translation agencies.

Translators will continue to be treated as freelancers. For more information see the National Employment Rights Agency website:
<http://tinyurl.com/cmytvn>

Mary Phelan

■ Translating Pain into Action: A Study of Gender-Based Violence

The Women's Health Council has just published a report on Gender-based violence (GBV) which includes domestic violence, sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation. The study involved interviews with 26 women from ethnic minorities by 9 other women who were trained as peer interviewers. Interviews in foreign languages were transcribed and translated by the peer interviewers. It is unclear if the interviewers had a background in translation.

In addition, there was a three pronged quantitative element to the study. The first involved a postal survey of all GPs registered in the Irish Medical Directory were contacted. Of these 498 or 25% responded. Of this number 169 or 34% had treated at least one minority ethnic patient who had experienced gender-based violence. The second group was social work departments in hospitals and the community, directors of public health nursing, directors of Sexual Assault Treatment Units. Responses were received from 42% of these bodies. The third group was minority ethnic organisations and GBV organisations which had a 31% response rate.

The research found that minority ethnic women had an increased risk of being victims of GBV. Language and interpreting services are also highlighted:

'Language posed another serious barrier, identified as such by a high percentage of GPs and other MHS services. For GBV organisations, one of the needs frequently identified was availability of professional interpreters, who are trained in the subject of GBV. This need was identified both in relation to provision of their own services, and in linking women to relevant external services (page 31, summary).

It appears from the report that GPs included in the survey did not call on interpreters (page 84). This is extremely worrying – how are these GPs managing? Are partners, friends or children being asked to interpret? It would be very interesting to know more about this. The HSE has commissioned research into the reasons why there was such poor uptake of the 2005 initiative in the then Eastern Regional Health Authority to provide a free interpreting service to GPs.

The report recommends that information leaflets on GBV should be made available in different languages. Surprisingly, even though language is mentioned many times, there is no recommendation around the provision of interpreters.

In my opinion, in order to provide a meaningful service to women who have limited proficiency in English, the first step is to translate information about GBV and where women can access help. The next step is to provide interpreters for emergency calls and for help lines. Qualified interpreters (not just speakers of other languages) should be called on.

The full report is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/dy45jc> and a summary of the report is available at: <http://tinyurl.com/cldo6a>

Mary Phelan

■ Joining the ITIA

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* is always delighted to welcome new members to the Association. There are five categories of membership:

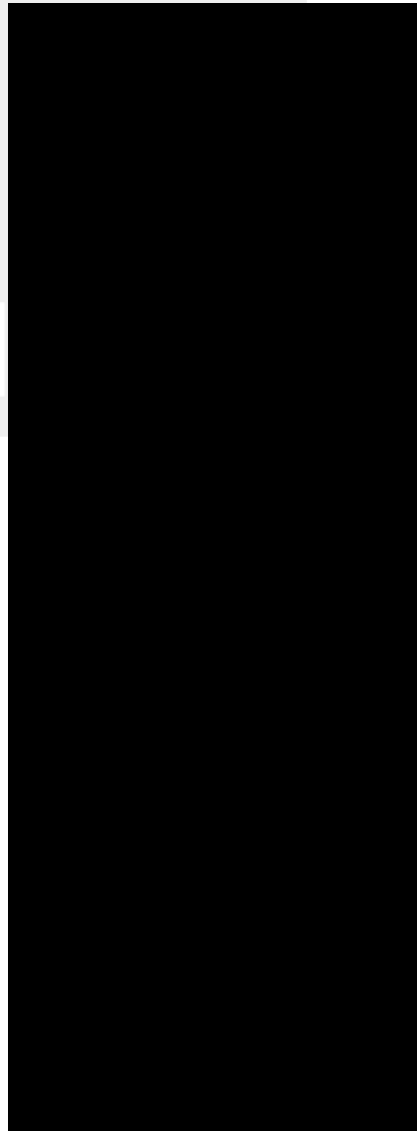
- ◆ Associate
- ◆ Professional
- ◆ Corporate
- ◆ Concession (undergraduate & senior citizen)
- ◆ Honorary

Associate membership is open to anyone with an interest in translating or interpreting. *Professional*

membership is for those who meet strict criteria set by the professional membership committee of the ITIA and which is part of the drive to raise the status of the profession in the European market.

Corporate membership is for firms and agencies associated with the profession while *concession* membership is for undergraduate students engaged in third level language and/or translation studies and senior citizens. Finally, *honorary* membership is intended for national and international persons who have distinguished themselves in our professional field. For more information on how to join as well as for the relevant application forms, visit the ITIA website at: www.translatorsassociation.ie

New Associate Members



New Corporate Member



■ European Commission concerned about lack of up-and-coming translators/interpreters

The Irish Times' Eoin Burke-Kennedy recently reported on the growing concern within the European Commission for the future of its translation and interpreting services. The following article appeared on February 19, 2009:

The Commission is set to lose one third of its English language interpreters by 2015 due to retirement and a shortage of new recruits which means there will soon be more French, German and even Italian interpreters working within its institutions.

A large number of native-speaker English linguists were recruited to work at various posts within the European Union from the mid-1970s to the mid-1980s after Ireland's and the United Kingdom's accession to the then EC in 1973. But as they reach retirement age, they are not being replaced at the same rate.

The situation has prompted an urgent recruitment drive on the part of the Commission to attract young English-speaking graduates to the interpreting profession. The Commission said there is "a tangible deficit" in the number of English booth interpreters available to interpretation at peak times.

"Although the universities are beginning to produce a steady flow of good candidates for our accreditation tests, as yet the numbers coming on stream are not sufficient to meet present or projected demand, particularly in view of the age pyramid in the English interpreting unit," it said.

Director of the European Commission Representation in Ireland Martin Territt said: "DG Translation, the Commission's service responsible for translating documentation, is facing a major generational change.

It is expected to lose at least 20 per cent of its staff by 2015."

"At the same time, demand for translation into English has increased 45 per cent over the last five years as 11 new official languages have been adopted by the EU. "We need the best translators with English as a first language. Irish people are in a unique position to work in a stimulating and rewarding career in a core European Institution," he said.

The Commission believes the growth in the use of English as a means of communication worldwide has been accompanied by a corresponding belief that being able to speak English is enough for international contacts, both for one's work and for one's personal or social life. Young people, especially in English-speaking countries, are increasingly seeing no advantage to themselves in learning another language, it said.

The Commission is set to lose one third of its English language interpreters by 2015...

Over the next 10 years, the numbers of French, German, Italian and Dutch interpreters retiring are also substantial but the rate of decline is not as marked as those who translate into English.

■ European Commission organises conferences on T/I

The European Commission demonstrated its commitment to ensuring quality T/I in the future by organising two conferences – one on interpreting and one on translating.

The first was the 13th annual conference with Universities active in the field of conference interpreter training. It provided a platform where the Directorate General for Interpretation and the Universities can discuss and exchange ideas on trends and developments, future needs and training in interpretation. Presentations focused on how to ensure continuity of multilingual communication in the EU Institutions and how to avoid a generation gap now that

a considerable number of interpreters of certain languages are approaching retirement.

The second was an international conference devoted to the training of professional. Representatives from universities of all EU Member States, as well as of Candidate and Third Countries, discuss with potential employers and international institutions the core skills that the next generation of translators should have. As the translation needs of our society evolve, the means for meeting them are in constant development.

The agreement of a common curriculum and the establishment of a network are two important steps for promoting the exchanges of lecturers and students between participating universities and, in so doing, enhancing the teaching standards, the professionalism of future translators and a truly European market of high-flying translators.

■ Minister's Questions in the Dáil

A search of the Dáil website www.oireachtas.ie shows that Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin of Sinn Féin has been asking questions about training for interpreters who work for ORAC and the Garda. Unfortunately, the ministers don't exactly answer the questions apart from allocating all responsibility to the translation agencies. See the details below.

Mary Phelan

17th June 2008

Asylum Support Services.

796. Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin asked the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform the method by which interpreters involved in interviews for the Office of the Refugee Applications Commissioner are chosen particularly in terms of the skills required and the training provided. [22742/08]

Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform (Deputy Dermot Ahern): In relation to the provision of interpretation services in the asylum determination process, the sole purpose of the use of an interpreter at asylum interviews is to enable efficient and effective communication between the asylum applicant and the interviewing officer and to ensure that the asylum applicant has a full opportunity to put forward his or her case. Interpreters are obliged to provide true and accurate translations of the questions asked and the

answers given. They must observe absolute impartiality, advise of any conflict of interest arising and observe a comprehensive duty of confidence in relation to any information obtained in the course of their duties.

As the translation needs of our society evolve, the means for meeting them are in constant development.

The sourcing of interpreters for asylum interviews is arranged through an interpretation service provider as needs arise. This service is provided under the terms of a contract for interpretation services between the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform and the company concerned, following an EU wide tender competition.

Under the provisions of the contract, the service provider is responsible for the selection of the interpreters and for ensuring the competency and proficiency in both English and the language / dialect required of the interpreters. The interpreters are required to have undergone training on the asylum process, arranged by the interpretation company.

While it is not possible to comment on the internal training provided by the interpretation service provider to their staff, I am advised that UNHCR has provided training to interpreters in the past in relation to interpreting with regard to the asylum process. ORAC also regularly monitors the standard and quality of service provided by its interpretation suppliers through its internal quality assurance systems and by having regular meetings with the manager of the relevant company to ensure that the interpreters are professional in the course of their duty. The ORAC has developed guidelines relating to the use of interpretation in the ORAC in consultation with UNHCR.

18th December 2008

Dáil Translation Services.

34. Deputy Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin asked the Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform his views on whether it is safe to rely on guarantees of a private company alone in relation to the standard and quality of interpreters it may provide to An Garda Síochána; and if he will introduce a register or accredited public

service interpreters for use by the Gardaí, the courts and tribunals. [46621/08]

Minister for Justice, Equality and Law Reform (Deputy Dermot Ahern): Since the mid 1990s Ireland had significant rates of net inward migration. The immigrant population comprises United Kingdom nationals who have been coming here for many years, nationals of European Economic Area countries who have in large part free movement entitlements, and persons from other countries. Obviously the language needs of such persons vary greatly depending on their individual circumstances. Because the provision of public services to immigrants is generally handled as part of the mainstream provision of service this poses challenges for all public service agencies — not just the Garda Síochána.

To that end, the Office of the Minister for Integration recently commissioned research in relation to interpreting and translating services. The research was published as a Report entitled “Developing Quality, Cost Effective Interpreting and Translation Services in Ireland” on 6 October 2008 and is available on The National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism website, www.nccri.ie

The recommendations made include a recommendation that a register of accredited practitioners be developed which Government service providers would use. This recommendation and the other recommendations in the report will be considered by a sub-group of the Cross Departmental Group on Integration which was recently established by the Minister for Integration, Mr. Conor Lenihan. The Cross Departmental Group comprises senior civil servants from relevant Departments.

For its part, and to enable it to meet its current requirements, the Garda Síochána is currently undertaking an EU based procurement to put in place contracts for the provision of interpretation and

translation services for the Force. As part of this process, emphasis has been placed on ensuring that appropriate quality assurance mechanisms are in place both in the initial selection of the service providers and in the ongoing monitoring of standards over the duration of the contracts. It is expected, subject to the finalisation of contracts, that the new services will be in place in the first quarter of next year.

■ Legal documents still not available in Irish

MARK TIGHE OF THE LONDON TIMES (22 FEBRUARY 2009) HAS WRITTEN ABOUT THE POOR PERFORMANCE OF THE IRISH STATE WHEN IT COMES TO TRANSLATING LEGAL DOCUMENTS INTO IRISH. IT WOULD SEEM THAT THE IRISH LANGUAGE IS CERTAINLY IMPORTANT WHEN THE COSTS FOR INCLUSION ARE BORNE BY THE EU BUT COMMITMENT WANES WHEN THE IRISH GOVERNMENT HAS TO FOOT THE BILL. HERE IS THE UNABRIDGED TEXT:

It may have fought to secure official recognition for Irish as an EU language, but now the state is challenging a court ruling that would compel it to translate thousands of regulations into the country's first official language.

Last week the Supreme Court heard an appeal against a High Court ruling in 2004 which found there is a constitutional duty for government departments to publish Statutory Instruments (SIs) simultaneously in English and Irish. The state has cited a shortage of translators as one reason why it shouldn't have to comply.

The original case was taken by Pol O Murchú, a solicitor, who said he needed Irish versions of regulations to effectively represent clients who want their cases to be heard through Irish. “As a child I grew up in the Gaeltacht and I'd be very keen about the language,” O Murchú said. “I try and facilitate any of my clients who want me to act for them in Irish. Some judges are very amenable, but it's difficult if documentation isn't available in Irish.”

Article 8 of the constitution states that Irish is the first official language of the state with English second. Since 2003 all acts of the Oireachtas are immediately translated into Irish by *Rannóg an Aistriúcháin*, the house's translation section. Secondary legislation, however, which gives effect to new laws and consists of

The next issue of the ITIA Bulletin will be out next month. If you have any contributions, suggestions or scandals that you would like to share with over 1,000 subscribers worldwide, send them to Elizabeth Hayes at [theitiabulletin\(a\)gmail.com](mailto:theitiabulletin(a)gmail.com).

Subscribing to the ITIA Bulletin

To subscribe, simply send an Email to [itia-ezine-subscribe\(a\)yahooogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-subscribe(a)yahooogroups.com)

To unsubscribe, simply send an Email to [itia-ezine-unsubscribe\(a\)yahooogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-unsubscribe(a)yahooogroups.com)

5,000 pages of statutory instruments annually, were not translated during 1993-2004.

The department of community, rural and Gaeltacht affairs says that more than 60,000 pages of SIs are waiting to be translated. It translates all its regulations into Irish, but the “vast majority” of other departments do not. In an affidavit to the court the department estimated that an extra 24 translators would have to be hired to transcribe 5,000 extra pages each year. The salary costs of Rannóg an Aistriúcháin, which employs 21 translators, was €1.36m last year.

Among the secondary legislation not available in Irish are rules of the courts. The department of justice recently completed a translation of the district court rules but there is no Irish version of the circuit and superior court rules.

The hearing last week was in Irish and a simultaneous translation service was used. This service, costing €6,000, involves the use of a translator in a booth in the court room. The English translation of proceedings could be heard through headphones.

“...do you know of any country in the world whose laws are not written in the national language?”

The Courts Service said it was only the third time such a hearing has been held. “I thought Justice Adrian Hardiman asked a very pertinent question, through Irish, of the state’s counsel,” said O Murchú. “He asked, ‘do you know of any country in the world whose laws are not written in the national language?’”

A spokesman for Éamon O Cuív, the minister for community, rural and Gaeltacht affairs, said: “There are important issues at stake, in relation to the correct interpretation of specific constitutional and legislative provisions and in relation to the separation of powers between the executive and the judicial arms of the state.

“However, regardless of the outcome of the appeal, the government has decided as a matter of principle that Statutory Instruments should be made available in Irish. Arrangements to put in place a system for translating SIs are being put in place by the minister.”

In the state’s appeal it said the High Court was wrong “to ascribe specific terms to the constitution”. The High

Court judge had failed to have regard for the “insurmountable difficulties that would result from this decision especially given the lack of professional translators to undertake work on the backlog within any reasonable length of time”.

The state said that “it is not a constitutional requirement that constitutional obligations be fulfilled on a simultaneous basis”.

■ Scottish Police Accused of Rights Abuse over Interpretation

The Glasgow Sunday Herald reported (15 February 2009) on a case where a Czech man accused of drink-driving had his rights read to him by his Czech girlfriend. John Bynorth reports the story.

Scotland’s largest police force has been accused of breaching the human rights of a Czech waiter who was found drunk behind the wheel of a car, by asking his girlfriend - the only defence witness - to translate crucial documents relating to his rights before he provided a blood sample. Strathclyde Police could not find a qualified interpreter for several hours after Michal Mohelnik, 25, was taken to Stewart Street police station in Glasgow for a follow-up sample after he was breathalysed and initially found to be one-and-a-half times the legal alcohol limit for driving.

They asked his Czech girlfriend, Jitka Minkova, who had accompanied him to the station, to interpret and translate forms relating to his rights because they feared his blood alcohol levels would drop below the legal level, making it impossible to bring a case.

Language expert Professor Guillermo Makin claimed Strathclyde Police may have breached Mohelnik's rights under article 6 of the European Convention on Human Rights. It states that anyone who cannot understand or speak the language spoken by the police is entitled to the free assistance of an interpreter. Makin said Minkova was not qualified to interpret.

Chief Superintendent Ewen MacLellan, of Strathclyde Police's community safety and criminal justice unit, said the court had accepted that using Minkova was fair “to all concerned”, although the force does have arrangements for a 24-hour interpreting service.

He added: “There are occasions, extremely rarely I would add, where an interpreter is unable to immediately attend and where there is a time

imperative, as in drink-driving investigations such as this one, when we may have to resort to other means to translate the procedural form to a suspect.

“The overriding considerations are the suspect understanding what is being asked of him or her and ensuring fairness to the person or persons involved.”

■ Alice in Cornish

The Cornish language was recently branded 'dead' by UNESCO sparking outrage from activists. Cornish is actually enjoying something of a revival. There is no category in the UNESCO Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger for languages that have been or are being revived. As if to prove the naysayers wrong, a Cornish translation of Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* has been published. See the press release below (in English and Cornish).

Alys in Pow an Anethow dyllys in Kernowek

Lien an tavas Kernowek a gemeras cam brâs in rag agensow pan veu dyllys trailyans Kernowek a'n lyver *Alys in Pow an Anethow* gans Lewis Carroll. Jowal bian a lien an flehes yw an lyver *Sowsnek*, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, a veu dyllys rag an kensa prës i'n vledhen 1865. Trailyansow in lies tavas dyvers re dhysqwedhas dhia an termyn-na. Trailyer an versyon Kernowek, an Descajor Nicholas Williams, yw scoler a'n tavosow Kelttek usy tregys in Wordhen. Kyns ès ev dhe barusy an lyver-ma, ev a drailyas hag a dhyllas an lyver in Godhalek Wordhen. Y feu y drailyas ev degemerys gans gormola brâs hag lies onen a'n redyoryon a leverys fatell o an trailyans Godhalek gwell ès an versyon *Sowsnek* a veu va fündys warnodho. Uhel dres ehen yw savon an Kernowek ûsys gans an Descajor Williams, dell yw gwyw rag lyver bryntyn kepar ha hebma. Heb dowt y fêdh y drailyas a versyow Carroll consydrys i'n termyn a dheu avell jowals bian in lien agan yêth ny.

Yma an lyver screfys i'n spellyans gelwys Kernowek Standard. Hen yw pòr ogas dhe lytherednans an Furv Savonek Scrifys, an spellyans unverhes rag ûsadow i'n bewnans poblek hag i'n scolyow. Saw nebes fowtys bian i'n Furv Savonek Scrifys re beu emendys in Kernowek Standard, hag yma toknys diacrytek ûsys ino kefrës dhe dhysqwedhes an dyffrans inter geryow spellys in kepar maner, bô dhe verkya vogalednow a vêdh leverys in fordhow dyffrans. Pynag oll a allo redya

an Furv Savonek Scrifys a yllvyth redya an versyon-ma heb ancombrynsy vêth.

Y feu gwelys delinyansow gerys dâ Syr John Tenniel i'n kensa dyllans a'n lyver in *Sownek*. Yma an pycytours-na gwelys in versyon Kernowek kefrës. Dre vrâs yma an trailyans-ma kepar ha kensa dyllans, saw unsel ev dhe vos in Kernowek. Y feu an dyllans-ma olsettys ha dyllys gans Evertime, Cathair na Mart, Wordhen.

Gweler <http://www.evertime.com/books/alys.html>

Alice in Wonderland published in Cornish

Literature in the Cornish language has taken a leap forward with the publication recently of a translation into the language of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll. The book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* is a treasure of English children's literature and was first published in 1865. It

has been translated into many languages. The translator, Professor Nicholas Williams, is a Celtic scholar based in Ireland. Previous to the Cornish edition he translated and published the book in Irish. This received great critical acclaim with many readers of the view that the Irish version was better than the original English. The Cornish used by Professor Williams is of a very high standard as befits a gem of English literature. His translation of Carroll's poetry will be regarded as gem of Cornish literature.

This book is written in the spelling called Kernowek Standard. It is very close to the orthography of the new Standard Written Form, the consensual spelling for use in public life and schools, except that some small errors in the Standard Written Form have been amended in this spelling, and diacritical marks are also used to show the differences between homonyms or to indicate vowels which are pronounced in different ways. Anyone who can read the Standard Written Form will be able to read this version without any difficulty. This new book contains the famous illustrations of Sir John Tenniel, which first appeared in the original English edition.

Overall the appearance of the book is that of a first edition except that it is in Cornish. The book was typeset and published by Evertime, Cathair na Mart, Ireland.

See <http://www.evertime.com/books/alys.html>

■ Polish driving licence causes embarrassment

The story of the Polish driver, *Prawo Jazdy*, has made the news all around the world. The feckless Jazdy had been driving carelessly around Ireland picking up tickets for speeding and illegal parking. Jazdy was not just feckless but wily too and thus managed to avoid paying any of the fines. The following article by Ruadhán Mac Cormaic of the Irish Times (19 February 2009) details how the law caught up with Jazdy:

He was one of Ireland's most reckless drivers, a serial offender who crossed the country wantonly piling up dozens of speeding fines and parking tickets while somehow managing to elude the law. So effective was his modus operandi of giving a different address each time he was caught that by June 2007 there were more than 50 separate entries under his name, Prawo Jazdy, in the Garda Pulse system. And still not a single conviction.

In the end, the vital clue to his identity lay not with Interpol or the fingerprint database but in the pages of a Polish-English dictionary. Prawo jazdy means driving licence. In a letter dated June 17th, 2007, an officer from the Garda traffic division wrote that it had come to his attention that members inspecting Polish driving licences were noting Prawo Jazdy as the licence holder's name. "Prawo Jazdy is actually the Polish for driving licence and not the first and surname on the licence," he wrote. "Having noticed this I decided to check on Pulse and see how many members have made this mistake. It is quiet [sic] embarrassing to see that the system has created Prawo Jazdy as a person with over 50 identities.

"He can also be found on the Fixed Charge Processing System as well. This mistake needs to be rectified immediately and a memo sent to the members concerned. I also think that Garda Information Service Centre [in] Castlebar should be notified and some kind of alert put on these two words."

In Poland, a booklet-type licence such as the one used in the Republic was phased out in 2004 and replaced with a pink, credit card-sized licence with an EU flag, the words Prawo Jazdy in the top right corner with (in admittedly smaller type) the holder's name and personal details.

A Garda source confirmed that the issue of Polish licences being misread had arisen in 2007, but said the errors were spotted quickly and the problem had now been resolved. It was not clear whether the confusion was due to licences simply being misread or officers being misled by their holders, he added.



To weed out any other inanimate foreign offenders who might be lurking in the digital depths, the Pulse system has since been updated, with a new section advising officers of the layout of foreign driving licences.

Notices were also sent to Garda stations alerting them to the error. Expect the recidivist Mrs Library Card from the Czech Republic to have her cover blown.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/ape9t>

■ Conferences, Calls & Courses

ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY

Establishment Of A New Committee For Modern Language, Literary And Cultural Studies

The Academy wishes to hold elections for a new Modern Languages Committee. You are invited to vote in the elections.

To vote in the elections, you are required first to join the Electoral Register, by entering your details on this website: <http://www.keysurvey.com/survey/242389/1afb/>. If you are working in Ireland or Northern Ireland, have an interest in areas covered by the Committee, and have an email address, then you are invited to join the Electoral Register. Please pass this notice to any persons you feel may be interested.

Members of the Electoral Register are also eligible to stand for election to the Committee by nominating themselves.

Registration for the Electoral Register closes on 3 April, and nominations must be received by 17 April. The election will close on 1 May.

If you have any queries please contact Orfhlaith Flynn at o.flynn@ria.ie.

CALL FOR PAPERS

9th Portsmouth Translation Conference: The Translator as Writer

- ◆ Keynote speakers: Neil Bartlett (author, director and translator)
Jody Byrne (author, Technical Translation)

When we think of translation skills we tend to think first of linguistic expertise, then perhaps of subject expertise (e.g. telecommunications, music, medicine, law). It is too often forgotten that central to the translator's skill set is the ability to write. This conference will explore the interfaces between subject expertise, writing and translation. These might include but are not limited to:

- ◆ Specialised and technical writing and translation
- ◆ Controlled languages; multilingual document production
- ◆ Translation, advertising and copywriting
- ◆ Creative writing and translation
- ◆ Translation as rewriting
- ◆ Editing and revision

We welcome contributions from scholars, professionals and trainers. Proposals for practical writing/translation workshops are also very welcome. Enquiries and/or abstracts of 300 words should be sent to ian.kemble@port.ac.uk by 30 June 2009. A selection of papers from the conference will be published.

This event is supported by the National Network for Translation, an initiative of Routes into Languages.

National Conference On Language & Translation Industry Of India

Globalisation, Localisation, Technology Integration, Quality Standards, Terminology Management and Professional Practices. New Delhi, April 17-18, 2009

OBJECTIVES

This Conference aims to provide a platform to translators, translation service providers, technology partners, quality control auditors, terminologists, project managers, communication managers, academicians, publishers, content writers, government officials and diplomats to engage in a dialogue and get benefited by networking with each other and share information and knowledge in areas related to globalisation, localisation, CAT Tools, quality standards, terminology management and professional practices in the context of translation and translation services in India.

CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ Two days main conference with keynote speakers and concurrent tracks
- ◆ Pre and Post-conference day with workshops, roundtables and job fairs for smaller groups
- ◆ Exhibit area with leading tool and service providers
- ◆ Showcase of leading national and international language and cultural institutions

FOCUS AREAS

- ◆ Globalisation & Localisation in context of translation
- ◆ Technology Integration and CAT Tools in translation
- ◆ Quality Standards in translation
- ◆ Terminology Management & Project Management in translation
- ◆ Professionalisation and Professional Practices in translation
- ◆ Techniques and Teaching Methodologies in translation and interpretation
- ◆ Theoretical approaches to Translation
- ◆ Interpretation as profession
- ◆ Cross- Cultural Communication
- ◆ Publication and Content Management
- ◆ Copyrights in translation: theories and practices
- ◆ Private and Public initiatives for promotion of translation activities in India

International Terminology Summer School 2009

This is to inform you that the International Terminology Summer School 2009 (TSS2009) will take place from 6-10 July at the Cologne University of Applied Sciences.

TSS is a practice-oriented one week training course for terminology management. The course is aimed at language professionals (translators, terminologists, etc.), students and scientists who look for a comprehensive, state-of-the-art introduction to terminology theory and practice. Students receive ECTS for participation.

You can find more information about the program, the instructors, the planned activities and side events in our website: http://www.termnet.org/english/events/tss_2009/index.php

You may register until early June. However, places are limited, we advise you wait not too long.

http://www.termnet.org/english/events/tss_2009/registration.php

You are welcome to contact us for questions: [events\(a\)termnet.org](mailto:events(a)termnet.org)

■ Contacting The ITIA

Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association
Cumann Aistriitheoirí agus Teangairí na hÉireann

Address: 19 Parnell Square, Dublin 1, Ireland
Telephone: +353-1-872 1302
Fax: +353-1-872 6282
Email: [itiasecretary\(a\)eircom.net](mailto:itiasecretary(a)eircom.net)
Web: www.translatorsassociation.ie

ITIA BULLETIN

Editor: Elizabeth Hayes
theitiabulletin@gmail.com
Layout: Jody Byrne

To subscribe to the *ITIA Bulletin*, send an Email to [itia-ezine-subscribe\(a\)yahogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-subscribe(a)yahogroups.com)
To unsubscribe, send an Email to [itia-ezine-unsubscribe\(a\)yahogroups.com](mailto:itia-ezine-unsubscribe(a)yahogroups.com)

ITIA COMMITTEE - 2008/2009

CHAIRPERSON & PMSC	Annette Schiller
HONORARY SECRETARY	Alison Boardman
HONORARY TREASURER	Graziano Ciulli
EDITOR TRANSLATION IRELAND	John Kearns
EDITOR ITIA BULLETIN	Elizabeth Hayes
PRESS OFFICER & INTERPRETING SC	Mary Phelan
Certification SC	Vacant
CPD SC	Miriam Watchorn
	Máire Nic Mhaoláin
	Michael Friel
	Krisztina Zimanyi
	Ilaria Furlan
	Giuliana Zeuli
	Ivana Milivojevic
	Adam Brozynski
CO-OPTED (ITD)	Cormac Ó Cuilleanáin

■ ITIA Resources for Translators

The *Irish Translators' & Interpreters' Association* has compiled a series of useful information leaflets for translators and interpreters - both members and non-members alike. These leaflets are available from the ITIA website at www.translatorsassociation.ie.