'Fungie' a swimming success for Limerick author

'Fungie' a swimming success for Limerick author

By Rebekah Commane

WITH an artist mother, a jewellery designer sister and an architect brother, it comes as no surprise that Limerick author Annmarie McCarthy, was also blessed with the creative gene.

Annmarie, who grew up in Corbally and attended Laurel Hill, is now living in Dooradoyle, and having studied at the Limerick School of Art and Design, worked as a knitwear designer, and at a creche before turning her talent to the literary world.

She has just launched her bilingual book 'Fungie', targeted at children aged three to seven years, and is already working on a second follow-up publication.

Annmarie told the Limerick Post: "I visited the Giants Causeway with my now 10-year-old daughter and I bought her a book on the giant.

"When we went to Dingle I looked for a similar story on Fungi, and though there were many text heavy books, they were too text heavy and not so appealing to young children.

"I identified three to seven year old children as the market I would target. The story was always in my head and I felt it was the write time to get it down on paper".

Along with writing the story, Annmarie also used her skills as an artist to illustrate the book with bright, attractive images of Fungi the dolphin.

"I sent the draft to eight publishers and the eighth, Moinín, said 'yes'. They were excited by the book, and were particularly taken with the illustrations. They suggested we turn it into a bilingual story in English and Irish. The translation was provided by fluent Gaelgeoir, Ré O'Laighléis.

"The book is 100% Irish made".

'Fungie' was launched in Dingle in August and was included in the Start Reading Project set up by the Cork City Library to encourage young children to read.

"I went down to Cork and did a reading of the book for the children from the city. When they were told they could keep the book and take it home with them, their mouths fell open, they couldn't believe it".

Annmarie's book has already travelled worldwide, with sales in Australia through website Amazon, and a second book is in the pipeline for next spring.

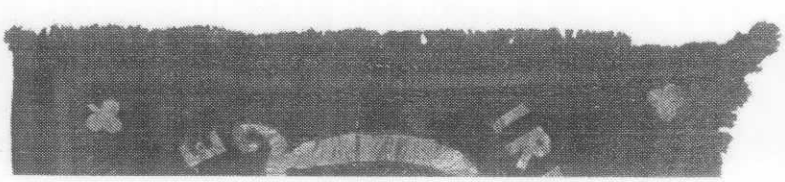
'Fungie' is on sale in most bookshops nationwide and also in outlets such as the Fungi office in Dingle, where tickets are sold for boat trips.

Annmarie will be signing copies of her book in O'Mahony's on Saturday, November 20, at 11.30am.

Fenian Rising flag sells for €52,000 at auction

DESCENDANTS of Willie Condon, a leading figure in the Fenian Brotherhood and Land League at Anglesboro, county Limerick, in the 19th century, were €52,000 richer last weekend after a flag they had inherited was sold at auction in Dublin.

Dave Cleary, aged 64, said afterwards that



or

ccess to the M7
naleen/Castletroy
difficult.

the Limerick Tunnel.
in relation to the tunnel is
nd the southern ring road,
s Road.
n during peak traffic times

Roundabout or the N24

es 10-15 minutes just to
ic, and it takes the same
ue to UL and schools. This
oint of using the tunnel if

24 junction with the M7 is
onstruction traffic wishing
eues of traffic entering the

raffic lights, and upgrading
n.
nk road in Castletroy would

nks road, which is currently
th no footpaths, and where
v parts where only one car
acks in the mornings.
ure and for traffic travelling
city.
, it is difficult as the roads
mised for free flow.

drive-in
ick

be seen at the drive-in

nited States in the 1950s,
Cork this week.
or a similar venture on