



Alliance Française Dublin  
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Contact: **Françoise Brung**  
Cultural Coordinator  
01 638 1447  
[cultural@alliance-francaise.ie](mailto:cultural@alliance-francaise.ie)

## PRESS RELEASE

### Book launch

**Wednesday 20 January 6.30pm**

## *The Syllables of Time: Proust and the history of reading*

Presented by the author, **Teresa Whittington.**

The lecture will be in English with questions and answers (in French and English)  
followed by a **book signing**.

**Admission Free.** RSVP: [info@alliance-francaise.ie](mailto:info@alliance-francaise.ie)

This study reveals reading to be one of the main activities to occupy the inhabitants of the world of **Marcel Proust's** novel *A la recherche du temps perdu*. Characters do not only read books, they have access to the journals and newspapers of a rapidly expanding print industry. They receive letters and postcards from family and friends. All human activity is glossed by means of a series of metaphors of reading, extending the reader's domain beyond the written text. Through a series of illuminating analyses, Teresa Whittington shows how this web of references builds into a specifically Proustian account of both the outer, social context of reading and the inner, psychological world of the reader.

Teresa Whittington is librarian of the **Central Catholic Library** in Dublin. A graduate of both the **Faculty of Arts and the Department of Library and Information Studies** at University College Dublin, she has combined a career as a librarian with postgraduate studies in modern French literature, focusing in particular on Baudelaire and Proust.