

## **Public library members across Northern Ireland now have free access to the Oxford English Dictionary Online and other reference resources from Oxford University Press**

Everyone in Northern Ireland who is a member of a public library can now enjoy free access 24x7 to the very best online reference information for all the family as a result of a major new national agreement between Oxford University Press (OUP) and the public library service in Northern Ireland.

This agreement means that anyone joining a public library in NI can explore the following resources, free of charge, until 31 March 2008:

- Oxford Dictionary of National Biography
- Oxford English Dictionary Online
- Oxford Reference Online
- Grove Music Online
- Grove Art Online

As well as access at their local library, members can log on to the resources from *any* computer – at home or at work – and at *any time* simply by going to the library web portal at [www.ni-libraries.net](http://www.ni-libraries.net), clicking on Online Library, and entering their library ticket number and PIN.

Henry Reece, OUP's Chief Executive, says:

“I am pleased that Oxford has been able to support the public libraries of Northern Ireland.

The **Oxford English Dictionary** and the **Oxford Dictionary of National Biography** are works of great national interest and standing which OUP has developed over many decades, and which exemplify our mission to disseminate excellent and authoritative scholarship as widely as possible.

This important new agreement means that these works, alongside a selection of other online reference resources from Oxford, can be consulted and enjoyed by all library members in Northern Ireland both in their local libraries and from home.”

The agreement in Northern Ireland follows the recent news of the landmark national licence deal between OUP and the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) which has meant that over 48 million English residents can now access Oxford Online free of charge through their local library.

**For further information please contact Juliet Evans at Oxford University Press on 01865 353911 or email [juliet.evans@oup.com](mailto:juliet.evans@oup.com).**

### **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**Oxford University Press (OUP)** is a department of the University of Oxford, and the world's largest university press. It furthers the University's objective of excellence in

research, scholarship, and education in its worldwide publishing. In addition to publishing over 4,600 new books each year and over 180 journals, Oxford is a major provider of online information to libraries and individuals worldwide.

**The Public Libraries of Northern Ireland** are committed to ensuring that a high quality, equitable, responsive and flexible library service is delivered to everyone in the community.

**OUP/Museums, Libraries and Archives Council agreement for public libraries in England**

Under this recent landmark agreement, 143 public library authorities in England agreed to share the cost of a 2-year national licence for a range of Oxford Online resources. Access is available to many millions of library members both in the library and from home. Full information is available at [www.oxfordonline.com/englishpubliclibraries/](http://www.oxfordonline.com/englishpubliclibraries/)

**Oxford Online resources**

Information about all OUP's online resources is available at [www.oxfordonline.com](http://www.oxfordonline.com)