



**Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. purchase of own shares  
29th May 2003**

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") [NYSE:AIB] announces that on 28 May 2003, it purchased 1,470,000 of its ordinary shares, at an average price of €13.0729, to be held as treasury shares.

The share buyback programme announced and undertaken in connection with the merger of M&T Bank Corporation and Allfirst Financial, Inc. has now been completed. To maximise shareholder value, AIB continues to keep the management of its capital under review.

**-ENDS-**

***For further information please contact:***

Catherine Burke

Head of Corporate Relations

AIB Group

Bankcentre

Ballsbridge

Dublin 4

Tel: +353-1-641 3894

or

Alan Kelly

Head of Group Investor Relations

AIB Group

Bankcentre

Ballsbridge

Dublin 4

Tel: +353-1-6600311 Ext 12162