



**Allied Irish Banks p.l.c. purchase of own shares  
19th May 2003**

Allied Irish Banks, p.l.c. ("AIB") [NYSE:AIB] announces that on 16 May 2003, it purchased 5,771,962 of its ordinary shares, at an average price of €13.65725, to be held as treasury shares.

**-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