Bantry / Sunday 6 – Saturday 12 July 2014 readings / workshops / seminars / children's events

WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL



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Welcome to the 2014 WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 2014 West Cork Literary Festival. We are delighted to present Bantry's annual celebration of great writing and great writers.

This year sees some of the best Irish and international writers coming to town. On a wander up from Bantry Pier, along the Main street and on up to Coláiste Pobail Bheanntraí you could attend any one of sixty-three readings, workshops, seminars and late night shows over the week of the Festival.

Where better than West Cork to celebrate books about the outdoors? With events for the keen walker, gardener, horse enthusiast and sea lover, even a reading on Whiddy Island, there is something for all. As part of the lively Children's Festival, there will be book doctors roaming the streets of Bantry, printing presses whirring, free workshops running and leading children's authors reading.



If there is another overarching theme then perhaps it's how historical events impact on individuals and family life. The humanity that reaches beyond the stark facts (of World Wars 1 and 2 or events in Eastern Europe and Africa) is explored by the memoirists, poets and novelists all joining us. Our writing programme has always been at the heart of WCLF. With a choice of thirteen workshops, run by some of the best writers and writing teachers around, it's no surprise they are fast booking up online. There is still time left though to sign up and spend an enjoyable, stimulating week or three days developing your craft.

WCLF runs on the generosity and support of many people - the writers who travel to be here; the volunteers, interns, introducers and venue staff, especially in the Library and the Maritime; and our principal sponsors, the Arts Council, Cork County Council and Failte Ireland. I would also like to offer our thanks to the Bantry Bay Port Company and O'Keeffe's SuperValu for their continued support of the Festival and to the many organisations and individuals listed on page 52.

Finally, my personal thanks go to my predecessors, in particular Denyse Woods, who leave behind such a reservoir of good will and recognition. And to you, the audience, without whom there would be no Festival. So, if you are at home, half thinking of coming to a reading or signing up for that workshop you've always meant to take... what are you waiting for?

Nell Regan, Artistic Director, West Cork Literary Festival

WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL



A Message from Cork County Library & Arts Service

Cork County Library and Arts Service is very proud of its long-standing participation in the West Cork Literary Festival, which is celebrating its sixteenth birthday in 2014. The festival has, over the years, developed an international reputation, becoming established as one of the key literary festivals in the country and drawing authors, poets and other writers of national and international renown to the beautiful and inspirational setting of Bantry town. The programme for this year's festival both excites and inspires, with a line-up of readings, seminars and workshops featuring names such as Jonathan Miller, Ben Okri, Hugo Hamilton and Carol Drinkwater.

Bantry Library, where the Festival was first developed, will again host a programme of readings and workshops that are free of charge, allowing people from all social backgrounds to participate in high-quality literary events in a welcoming and accessible community space. It is appropriate that Bantry Library, which promotes literacy, literature and a love of reading to the people of Bantry and the surrounding area throughout the year, should be at the heart of this Festival again in 2014. We are particularly proud to host a session of readings by the Bantry Library Writers' Group, showcasing their work which has been supported by the Library and Arts Service over recent years.

I would like to thank our partners, West Cork Music, the local businesses for their sponsorship and the many volunteers who give up their personal time to support the Festival. I'd also like to thank the staff of the Library and Arts Service, particularly the Bantry Library staff, for their hard work in the run-up to and during the Festival. I congratulate Nell Regan, who has put together a superb programme in her first year as Artistic Director. I welcome all who are attending the Festival, be they authors or audience, and wish them enlightenment and inspiration during what promises to be a memorable week for all.

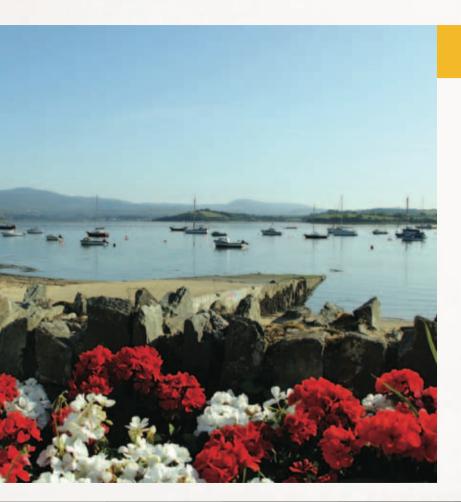
Eileen O'Brien

Acting County Librarian



Cork County Library and Arts Service





SUNDAY 6 JULY

18.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / ALL WELCOME / FREE

OPENING RECEPTION of the 16TH WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Join us for the launch of this, the 16th West Cork Literary Festival. The reception will take place in the fitting setting of Bantry Library where so many of the Festival readings and children's events (all free) will take place over the next six days. It is a great opportunity for us to welcome and meet audience members, workshop participants, Festival sponsors and supporters and of course the writers who will be with us over the course of the week giving readings, workshops and seminars.

The J.G. Farrell Fiction Award, for the best opening chapter of a novel-in-progress by a writer resident in Munster, will be presented during the launch.

Image: Deidre Fitzgerald

SUNDAY 6 JULY

SUNDAY 6 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20 AN EVENING with BEN OKRI

A fascinating and inspiring evening where **Ben Okri** reads from his work and talks about how stories '*Can conquer fear...They can make the heart grow bigger*'.

Ben Okri is a Booker-Prize-winning novelist, acclaimed poet and essayist and considered one of the finest African writers in the post colonial tradition. Born in 1959 in northern Nigeria, he grew up in London before returning to Nigeria with his family in 1968. He left the country when a grant from the Nigerian government enabled him to read Comparative Literature at Essex University in England.

He became a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature in 1987 and in 1991 Okri was awarded the Booker Prize for Fiction for his third novel *The Famished Road*. His work has been translated into more than 20 languages and he has been awarded an OBE as well as numerous international prizes including the Commonwealth Writers Prize for Africa, the Aga Khan Prize for Fiction and the Crystal Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Arts from the World Economic Forum. His latest books include a collection of poetry, *Wild* and essays entitled *A Time for New Dreams*, in which he writes that *'true literature tears up the script'* of how we see ourselves.





Bead romhar i dh shli Má bhiorin tú floin a ghrá Bead romhar i do shla Ach nál angga innar a ghrá Níl romhan ach briseadh cuir an grá ans sholar

SUNDAY 6 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 THE IMRAM BLUES PROJECT: DHÚISÍOS AR MAIDIN: TIONSCADAL NA nGORMACHA / WOKE UP THIS MORNING

Féachfar anocht ar an gormacha sa cheol agus san fhilíocht. Gheobhaimid amhráin chlasaiceacha sa seánra seo ó Bessie Smith, John Lee Hooker, Blind Willie McTell and Billie Holiday; is dánta de chuid Langston Hughes, Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones) agus a thuilleadh nach iad. Liam Ó Muirthile is Gabriel Rosenstock na haistritheoirí agus na hoirfidigh a chuirfidh inár láthair na seoda seo i dteannta an Mary Ryan Blues Group, le Dick Farrelly (giotár); Dave Fleming (dord); Tim Creedon (cnaguirlisí). Teilgfidh Margaret Lonergan físeanna gormacha ar an scáileán. Tonight IMRAM explores both blues poetry and song. Here are classic blues songs by Bessie Smith, John Lee Hooker, Blind Willie McTell and Billie Holiday; and poems by Langston Hughes, Amiri Baraka (LeRoi Jones) and others. Translated by poets Liam Ó Muirthile and Gabriel Rosenstock, they will be performed by the poets themselves and by the Mary Ryan Blues Group, featuring Dick Farrelly on guitar; Dave Fleming on bass; and Tim Creedon on percussion. With screen projections by Margaret Lonergan, the evening is curated by Liam Carson of IMRAM.

AN UNMISSABLE SHOW, WITH LIVE BAND; BLUES POETRY AND SONG IN ENGLISH AND IRISH; PLUS ON-SCREEN PROJECTIONS

MONDAY 7JULY

MONDAY 7 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10 COFFEE & CHAT with LOUISE WELSH

Series presented in association with Bantry House and Garden

Each morning meet West Cork Literary Festival writers in this relaxed and intimate setting, looking out over the Bay. They will speak about their writing and answer your questions.

We are delighted that our first writer in this year's series is Scottish author **Louise Welsh**, who let slip that coffee and chat were in fact, two of her favourite things in life. Join her as she talks about her writing life.

MONDAY 7 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / NEW WRITERS SERIES / FREE EIBHEAR WALSHE with NIAMH PRIOR AND EOGHAN WALSH

To kick off this year's Bantry Bookshop series of readings for new writers, we are pleased to have **Eibhear Walshe**, Senior Lecturer in English at UCC, reading from his new novel *The Diary of Mary Travers*, published by Bantry-based Somerville Press and set during the Oscar Wilde 1895 trials. Eibhear will then introduce readings by **Niamh Prior** and **Eoghan Walsh**, both completing their MA in Creative Writing at UCC.

MONDAY 7 / 12.00 / GAELSCOIL BHEANNTRAÍ / FREE

DERRY O'SULLIVAN

In association with Gaelscoil Bheanntraí and Cleary-Connolly

Derry O'Sullivan will read to mark the launch of *Blip* by Paris-based Irish artists Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly.

Free children's workshops with **Gabriel Rosenstock** run earlier in the morning, see the Children's Festival programme, page 40.



Eibhear Walshe (left). From *Blip* by Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly (right)

MONDAY 7 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE LOUISE WELSH will read from A Lovely Way to Burn

Acclaimed Scottish novelist **Louise Welsh** will read from her sixth book which has been garnering rave reviews and featured on the BBC Radio 4 *Book at Bedtime* programme this year. Kirsty Wark stated, 'I was with Louise Welsh's gutsy, gripping heroine ... every step of the way', while The Independent on Sunday has called it 'superb popular fiction – a box set waiting to happen'.

Louise Welsh is the author of six award-winning novels including *The Cutting Room*, short listed for the Orange Prize. Among her other awards are the Saltire First Book Award, Spirit of Scotland Writing Award and the City of Glasgow Lord Provost's Award and international fellowships such as the Villa Hellebosch and Hawthornden. She has also produced many short stories, and written for the radio and the stage. Louise has been writer in residence at The University of Glasgow and Glasgow School of Art.





MONDAY 7 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 The Gift of a Garden with ALICE TAYLOR

In this inspirational event, **Alice Taylor**, one of Ireland's most popular authors, will speak about gardening and 'the unbelievable pleasure that I have discovered in simply digging the earth. ... Maybe buried deep in each of us is the secret need to cultivate the soil. Digging the earth breathes life back into us.'



Alice Taylor's books include To School Through the Fields, An Irish Country Diary, Close to the Earth, Quench the Lamp and many more. To School Through the Fields, first published in 1988, was an immediate success, becoming the biggest selling book ever published in Ireland. And Time Stood Still, published in 2012, was also a bestseller. She became a public personality, appearing regularly on The Late Late Show and Woman's Hour. Alice lives in the Innishannon, Co Cork in a house attached to the local supermarket and post office. Since her son has taken over the shop, she has been able to devote more time to her writing ... and her garden.

Above: Alice Taylor

MONDAY 7 JULY

MONDAY 7 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / €5 STORYTELLING with NIALL DE BÚRCA A FAMILY EVENT FOR ALL AGES

Niall de Búrca takes his audience on a roller coaster ride of exuberance. Using both traditional and original tales plus ideas the children provide, the goal of any performance is to give a fantastic experience and imbue the audience with the knowledge that they too are storytellers!

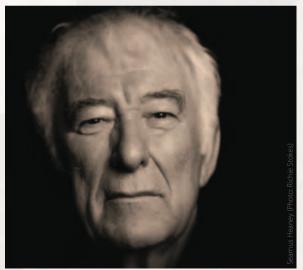
'Níór bhris focal maith fiacai riamh ... A good word never broke a tooth'.

Niall de Búrca was voted Ireland's best children's entertainer by the Association of Irish Festival Events in 2011. He was the featured International Storyteller at the US National Storytelling Festival and has performed in Hawaii, Norway, South Africa, Argentina and Iran.



MONDAY 7 / 17.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 SEAMUS HEANEY: A CELEBRATION

Writers including **BEN OKRI, MAURICE RIORDAN, NICK LAIRD, CARMEN BUGAN** and others gather to read from **Seamus Heaney's** works as well as their own and to talk about his life, influence and the collective sense of loss which is still palpable nearly a year on from his passing. Among the (many) West Cork stories is that of Heaney honouring his longstanding commitment to the Festival, despite having just won the Nobel Prize for Literature. This event follows on from the Poet's Life concert, in honour of Seamus Heaney, held at the West Cork Chamber Music Festival on Monday 30 June.



MONDAY 7 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20 AN EVENING With JONATHAN MILLER Introduced by JOHN FRAHER, Chairman of West Cork Music

Join **Jonathan Miller** for a very special evening to mark the publication of his collected writings *On Further Reflection*, on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

'A fully accredited physician and neuropsychologist, a prolific author, director, broadcaster and lecturer and knight of the realm ... Jonathan Miller knows more than a little about everything. He combines qualities that shouldn't be contained in one person; he is a unique performer and thinker'

- The New York Times

Jonathan Miller first came to public prominence in the early 1960s with his role in the legendary comedy revue *Beyond the Fringe* with Peter Cook, Dudley Moore and Alan Bennett. He is one of the world's leading opera directors. His best-known production is probably his 1982 Mafia-styled *Rigoletto*. In his early days he was an associate director at the Royal National Theatre and later ran the Old Vic Theatre. He has directed plays for the BBC, curated art exhibitions and produced his own artworks in painting, sculpture and photography. Underlying all his cultural work has been an interest in human behaviour, how the brain works and the philosophy of the mind.

22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL/ OPEN MIKE / FREE



TUESDAY 8 JULY

TUESDAY 8 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10 COFFEE & CHAT with CARMEN BUGAN

Join the author of *Burying the Typewriter* as she talks about her writing life, her new collection of poetry and raising a pet lamb in Donegal.

TUESDAY 8 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / NEW WRITERS SERIES / FREE

EMMA MCEVOY

Set amongst the white chalk Galilee Mountains and the hostile terrain of the Negev Desert, *The Inbetween People* is a story of longing that deals with hatred, forgiveness and the search for redemption. *An impressive debut. This is a stunning novel.* – Kirkus. Born in Dublin, **Emma McEvoy** was educated at UCD and later settled in Israel, living on a Kibbutz on the border between Israel and Lebanon. She now lives in West Cork with her family.



mma McEv

TUESDAY 8 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE CARMEN BUGAN

To mark the 25th Anniversary of the 1989 Revolutions in Eastern Europe, award-winning Romanian author **Carmen Bugan** reads from *Burying the Typewriter: Childhood Under the Eye of the Secret Police* which featured on BBC Radio 4 *Book at Bedtime*, has been shortlisted for the Orwell Prize and hailed as, *'a modern classic'* by the Sunday Times.

At 2 am on 10 March 1983, Carmen Bugan's father left the family home, alone. That afternoon, Carmen returned from school to find secret police in her living room. Her father's protest against the regime had changed her life for ever.

Carmen Bugan fled Romania as a teenager. As well as her memoir she has published the study *Seamus Heaney and East European Poetry in Translation: Poetics of Exile* and two collections of poetry *Crossing the Carpathians* and *The Straw House*. She now lives near Geneva with her husband and two young children.



TUESDAY 8 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 ALBERTO MANGUEL: POWER TO THE READER

'Reading, almost as much as breathing, is our essential function.'

The acclaimed **Alberto Manguel** will talk about the reader, the history of reading and libraries, '*those numinous memory palaces*', which, he writes, should be our essential symbol, not banks. This is a rare opportunity to hear him speak in Ireland.

At one magical instant in your early childhood, the page of a book – that string of confused, alien ciphers – shivered into meaning. Words spoke to you, gave up their secrets; at that moment, whole universes opened. You became, irrevocably, a reader.'

from A History of Reading

Alberto Manguel is internationally acclaimed as a writer, translator and editor whose bestselling books, include *A History of Reading, A Reader on Reading, A Dictionary of Imaginary Places* and *News From a Foreign Country Came.* He is a Guggenheim Fellow and an Officier de l'Ordre des Artes et des Lettres. The Argentine-born Canadian writer now lives in France.



Alberto Manguel (photo: C. Stephenson

TUESDAY 8 JULY





TUESDAY 8 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / BANTRY BAY SERIES / AGES: 6+ / All Welcome / €5 MONSTER SEA DOODLE in association with CHILDRENS BOOKS IRELAND

Come along and get involved with our interactive Monster Sea Doodle! Travel 50 leagues under the sea with Captain **Olivia Golden**, illustrator extraordinaire, and learn how to draw some of the creatures that tickle, wriggle and swim in the salt water off the Bantry coast! You'll then have time to show off your drawing and colouring skills in a huge group drawing session on one massive colouring sheet with your family and friends!

Olivia Golden is a Cork-based illustrator who has illustrated 19 books for children and young adults. Recently her work on *An Dragan Feasa* and *Éalú san Oíche* was included in *Pictiúr*, a travelling collection of the work of 21 Irish children's book illustrators, curated by Laureate na nÓg Niamh Sharkey.



TUESDAY 8 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE NICK LAIRD and **RICHARD SKINNER** Join these two acclaimed authors, both published by Faber and Faber, as they read from their latest books, *Go Giants* and *The Mirror*, in a prose and poetry event.

Nick Laird is a multi award-winning poet, novelist and critic and one of the 'new generation' of Northern Irish writers. He has lived in London, Warsaw and Rome and worked as an international litigator, but left to write full time. He is Adjunct Professor at Columbia University and has published two novels, *Utterly Monkey* and *Glovers Mistake* and three collections of poetry including *Go Giants*. His awards include the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature.

Richard Skinner is the author of three acclaimed novels and his poetry has been widely published. 'His novel *The Red Dancer* has been translated into seven languages while his latest, *The Mirror*, consists of two short novels including *The Velvet Gentleman*, a translation of which was shortlisted in France for the Prix Livres & Musiques.

TUESDAY 8 / 18.30 / THE MARINER / €10 FILM CLUB

A selection of short films about writers, writing and books. Programme available during the Festival.



TUESDAY 8 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 AN EVENING with ANNE MICHAELS & PAULA MEEHAN In association with POETRY IRELAND. Hosted by NELL REGAN

'In what promises to be a memorable and fascinating evening **Anne Michaels** and **Paula Meehan** will read from their work and talk about their writing lives, collaboration with other artists and writing in different genres.

'Fugitive Pieces *is the most important book I have read for forty years*' - John Berger

Anne Michaels' debut novel *Fugitive Pieces* garnered instant international attention and was awarded the Orange Prize, The Guardian Fiction Prize and the Lannan Fiction Award. She was already an acclaimed poet with the publication of *The Weight of Oranges* (Commonwealth Prize for the Americas), and is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto. Her new book length poem *Correspondences* has just been published in the UK and Ireland.

'Paula Meehan is that rare and precious thing – a vocational poet of courage and integrity.' – Carol Ann Duffy

Paula Meehan is Ireland's Professor of Poetry and her awards include the Marten Toonder Award for Literature, The Butler Literary Award for Poetry, the Denis Devlin Memorial Award and the PPI Award for Radio Drama. She has published five collections of poetry, the most recent being *Painting Rain* (Carcanet, 2009). Her writing for stage includes the plays *Mrs Sweeney* and *Cell.* She is a member of Aosdána.

22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIKE / FREE



From top: Anne Michaels (photo: Marzena Pogorzaly) Paula Meehan (photo: Stephanie Joy)



WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

WEDNESDAY 9 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10 COFFEE & CHAT with ANNE MICHAELS

Anne Michaels talks about her work, a writing life and working nights to get books finished when her kids are asleep.

WEDNESDAY 9 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / NEW WRITERS SERIES / FREE MADELEINED'ARCY and ALAN MCMONAGLE

Two short story writers making a stir. Hennessy Award winner, **Madeleine D'Arcy's** debut collection *Waiting for the Bullet* is out with Doire Press and she's a former member of the Bantry Writers group. **Alan McMonagle** is a poet, playwright and short fiction writer and the title story from his collection, *Psychotic Episodes* (Arlen House), was nominated for a 2011 Pushcart Prize.

WEDNESDAY 9 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE MORE THAN ONE GHOSTWRITING and CO-WRITING

Ghostwriting has hit the news recently with Roy Keane and Roddy Doyle joining forces. Join **Sue Leonard**, **Paul Perry** and **Karen Gillece** for an intriguing exploration of what happens when there is more than one person involved in writing a book.

Sue Leonard recently co-wrote the number one bestseller, *An Act of Love* with Marie Fleming (Hachette Ireland, 2014), about Marie's extraordinary life, and her fight for the right to die with dignity. She has worked on three other books as a ghost writer, and is a freelance journalist.

Karen Perry, author of *The Boy That Never Was*, is actually a writing partnership composed of **Paul Perry**, award winning poet and Hennessy New Writer of the Year and **Karen Gillece**, winner of the 2009 European Union Prize for Literature (Ireland).



From left: Madeleine D'Arcy, Alan McMonagle, Sue Leonard, Karen Gillece & Paul Perry



WEDNESDAY 9 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / BANTRY BAY SERIES AGES: 4 – 8 years / €5 MAIRI HEDDERWICK - CREATOR OF KATIE MORAG

The award-winning *Katie Morag* series of books, featuring a small girl's adventures on the fictional Scottish Isle of Struay, are on the school curriculum for six and seven-year -olds in Britain, and the television series is on BBC's *CBeebies*.

Mairi Hedderwick lived on the Isle of Coll with her young family with no electricity or running water. The *Katie Morag* books are loosely based on her life there. She has received awards for her outstanding contribution to children's literature. She may turn up today with Katie Morag's teddy which travels everywhere with her.

WEDNESDAY 9 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 WALKING IRELAND with CHRISTOPHER SOMERVILLE

Christopher Somerville, renowned travel writer and walker, will talk about his 800 mile walk from Malin Head to Cape Clear Island which was published in *The Road to Roaring Water: A Walk down the West of Ireland.* He'll talk about how, as the walking columnist for the *Irish Independent*, he was obliged (and delighted) to visit every corner of Ireland, north and south, to seek out those walks. He may even take us on a dodgy path across the mountains of Crete and further afield.

Christopher Somerville is the Walking Correspondent of *The Times*. He has written some 40 books including *The Road To Roaringwater*; the books for BBC2's *Coast* series; *Walking In Ireland*; as well as the *National Geographic Traveller Series on Ireland* and *Britain and Ireland's Best Wild Places*. At present he is writing a novel set in 6th century Ireland.





WEDNESDAY 9 JULY

WEDNESDAY 9 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE MARY MORRISSY & JOHN MACKENNA

will read from their latest novels *The Rising of Bella Casey* and *Clare* and talk about fictionalising the lives of real people.

Mary Morrissy spins the reader backwards through the life of Bella Casey, sister of the playwright, Sean O'Casey in *The Rising of Bella Casey* (2013). Colum McCann has called it, *'a wonderful book from one of our finest writers*'. Mary Morrissy is the author of three historical novels and awards include the Lannan Literary Award. For full biog see page 33.

John MacKenna's novel *Clare* has been republished to mark the 150th anniversary of the death of the English poet, John Clare, and is a fictionalised account of Clare's life and was RTÉ's Book on One. John MacKenna is the award winning author of sixteen books and his new novel *Joseph* will be published this September. For full biog see page 39.



From left: John MacKenna, Glenn Patterson

WEDNESDAY 9 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE LAUNCH OF THE 2014 FISH ANTHOLOGY

Writers and poets from around the globe gather to celebrate their success in the recent Fish writing competitions. Each of the writers will read from their winning work in this free event, which gives snapshots of the state of creative writing and of life in many countries. The successful works were chosen by **Claire Kilroy**, **Dermot Healy**, **Ruth Padel** and **Glenn Patterson**. The launch of the Fish Anthology has been a popular Festival event since the inception of the West Cork Literary Festival.



WEDNESDAY 9 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 AN EVENING with JENNIFER JOHNSTON In conversation with John MacKenna

Jennifer Johnston will read from her new novel, *A Sixpenny Song* and talk about her writing life. She will talk about her award-winning debut novel *The Captains and the Kings* which remains one of the classic (and earliest) Irish First World War novels. Amidst the commemorative events this year, we hear about what inspired the novel and what it was like writing about World War 1 in very different times.

Jennifer Johnston was awarded a Lifetime Achievement from the Irish Book Awards in 2012 in recognition of an outstanding body of work. Roddy Doyle has called her 'the best writer in Ireland.' Her first novel, The Captains and the Kings (1972), was published to great acclaim and won the Evening Standard Best First Novel Award and Robert Pitman Award. Since then, Jennifer Johnston has written over 13 novels, many of which have been adapted for TV. Shadows on our Skin (1977) was shortlisted for the Booker Prize and The Old Jest won the Whitbread Award for the best novel of 1979. Born in Dublin, to the Irish actor/director Shelah Richards and the playwright Denis Johnston, she was educated at Trinity College Dublin.



nnifer Johnston

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY



Andy Kershaw

WEDNESDAY 9 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 THE ADVENTURES OF ANDY KERSHAW

'The finest British broadcaster bar none.' - Stephen Fry

Andy Kershaw brings his popular and hilarious one man show to Bantry after sell-out performances at Literary Festivals all over Britain including Hay and Way with Words.

Based on his autobiography *No Off Switch, The Adventures* of Andy Kershaw is a one and a half hour audio-visual presentation about his life, career, adventures and experiences so far, in radio and television, live music, travels to extreme countries and foreign correspondence. Michael Palin said that 'Andy Kershaw made me travel a little further than I usually do'. Andy once went on holiday to North Korea with Christopher Hitchens and Francis Wheen; has visited 97 of the world's 194 countries; was a reporter during the first Gulf War and turned down £50,000 to appear on I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here.



WEDNESDAY 9 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIKE / FREE

THURSDAY 10 JULY

THURSDAY 10 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with

CHRISTOPHER SOMERVILLE

Join Christopher as he talks about his thirty years of writing about walking for UK and Irish papers as well as answering your questions about the best walking places in Ireland.

THURSDAY 10 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / NEW WRITERS SERIES / FREE LOUISE O'NEILL

Louise O'Neill, a new voice in teenage fiction, reads from her debut *Only Ever Yours*, billed as *The Handmaid's Tale* meets *Heat Magazine*. In a world in which baby girls are no longer born naturally, women are bred in schools, trained in the arts of pleasing men until they are ready for the outside world. Louise O'Neill is twenty eight and from Clonakilty in West Cork.



From left: Christopher Somerville, Louise O'Neill, Audrey Magee

THURSDAY 10 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE AUDREY MAGEE

Come and hear Audrey Magee read from her bestselling debut novel, *The Undertaking*, which has been short listed for The Bailey's Women's Prize for Fiction (formerly the Orange Prize). The story, set in wartime Berlin and Russia, had its genesis in Ahakista, West Cork.

Audrey Magee is one of the most exciting new talents to arrive on the literary scene.' – Fergal Keane

Audrey Magee worked for twelve years as a journalist and has written for, among others, *The Times*, *The Irish Times*, and *The Guardian*. She has a Masters degree in Journalism from Dublin City University and an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in German and French from University College Dublin. She lives in Wicklow with her husband and three daughters. *The Undertaking* is her first novel.



THURSDAY 10 JULY



THURSDAY 10 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL AGES: 7 – 12 years / 30 children max / €5 NATIONAL PRINT MUSEUM HAND COMPOSING & POSTER PRINTING

Come along to this fun workshop and be a printer for an hour! Set your name in metal type, ink up an old fashioned printing press and appear in a WANTED poster!

The National Print Museum travels around the country with a Farley Proofing Press, a key piece of the Museum's collection. This is a fun opportunity to work with artefacts such as composing sticks, metal type, inking up and the proofing press as well as learning about Johannes Gutenberg and his invention of moveable type. Images, from left: Alexandra Pringle, Sarah Bannan, Richard Skinner and Vona Groarke



THURSDAY 10 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 THE BUSINESS OF PUBLISHING

This practical and informative seminar will be given by top names in the world of Irish and British publishing and will cover everything from how to get your Arts Council application in and applying for residencies, to tips on editing, approaching agents and submitting to poetry journals and small magazines.

Alexandra Pringle is Group Editor-in-Chief of Bloomsbury and this year's Festival Editor in Residence. Her list of authors include Khaled Hosseini, Richard Ford, Margaret Atwood and Colum McCann.

Sarah Bannan is Head of Literature with the Arts Council/An Chomhairle Ealaíon. Her first novel, *Weightless*, will be published in 2015.

Richard Skinner is Director of the Fiction Programme at the Faber Academy, author of the handbook *Fiction Writing* and tutor on this year's West Cork Literary Festival Novel workshop.

Vona Groarke is Editor of *Poetry Ireland Review*, teaches at the Centre for New Writing at the University of Manchester, and is an award winning poet.



THURSDAY 10 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / BANTRY BAY SERIES / FREE PHILIP HOARE reads from *The Sea Inside*

Delightful ... This is not a book following the geography of the sea; nor is it a history of sailing. It is an attempt to establish and examine the oneness that the Maori have understood for years: There is no difference between life on land and life in the sea ...' - Kirkus

Philip Hoare, winner of the 2009 Samuel Johnson Prize for non-fiction, is the broadcaster and author of *Leviathan or*, *The Whale*. He was born in Southampton in 1958. He is the author of five other works of non-fiction including *Spike Island: The Memory of a Military Hospital* (2000), and *England's Lost Eden: Adventures in a Victorian Utopia* (2005). Hoare wrote and presented the BBC Arena film, *The Hunt for Moby-Dick*, and directed three films for BBC's Whale Night. He is co-curator, with Angela Cockayne, of the Moby-Dick Big Read.

Images, clockwise from top: Philip Hoare (photo: Andrew Sutton) Vona Groarke, David Wheatley and Seán Lysaght (photo: Jan von Holleben)

THURSDAY 10/18.30/MARITIME HOTEL/€15 GALLERY GOES

As part of its ongoing series, **The Gallery Press**, Ireland's pre-eminent literary publisher, presents three of its longstanding poets. Hear them read and avail of the opportunity to talk with them afterwards.

Vona Groarke was born in the Irish midlands. She is author of six award-winning collections. Her recently published *X* is a Poetry Book Society Recommendation. *Poetry Ireland Review* has hailed her as *'among the best Irish poets writing today'*.

Limerick-born **Seán Lysaght's** publications include *Robert Lloyd Praeger: The Life of a Naturalist* as well as six collections of poems. His is '*a poetry of observation, but also of meditation; a poetry where the everyday verges on the visionary*' - Stand.

David Wheatley has published four collections of poems and has edited *Poems* of James Clarence Mangan as well as Samuel Beckett's *Selected Poems* 1930-1989. Poetry Review praises his 'wilfully impressive form and rampaging vocabulary'.



GALLERY GOES ...



THURSDAY 10 JULY



THURSDAY 10 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 BLAKE MORRISON & HUGO HAMILTON: MEMOIR & MEMORY, FACT & FICTION

Join **Blake Morrison** and **Hugo Hamilton** for an intriguing evening event as they read from their work and discuss memoir and memory, fact and fiction with **Paula Shields** of RTÉ's *The Works*.

Blake Morrison is best known for his multi-award winning memoir, And When Did You Last See Your Father? which was made into a feature film. Formerly Literary Editor of The Guardian and Independent on Sunday, he is now Professor of Creative Writing at Goldsmiths College. He has also written poetry, fiction (novels include South of the River and The Last Weekend, adapted for television), literary criticism and libretti. His latest collection of poems is A Discoverie of Witches.

Hugo Hamilton's new novel *Every Single Minute* is a moving, fictional account of the final journey to Berlin which the author made with fellow Irish writer Nuala O Faolain. He is the author of two memoirs, eight novels and a collection of short stories. His book, *The Speckled People*, a unique, German-Irish memoir of growing up in Dublin in a 'language war', with an Irish-speaking father and German-speaking mother, was hailed an '*instant classic*' by Colum McCann. It won the prestigious Prix Femina Etranger and Berto Prize.

22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIKE / FREE



FRIDAY 11 JULY

FRIDAY 11 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **BLAKE MORRISON** Blake Morrison talks about his writing, about the teaching of writing and answers your questions.

FRIDAY 11 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / NEW WRITERS SERIES/ FREE SIMON WEST

A new voice in Australian poetry comes to Bantry - **Simon West** is from Melbourne, has won numerous awards and is represented in anthologies including *Thirty Australian Poets*, and *Young Poets: An Australian Anthology*. His most recent collection is *The Yellow Gum's Conversion*.





FRIDAY 11 JULY

Rose George (photo: Karen Robinson)





FRIDAY 11 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / BANTRY BAY SERIES / FREE ROSE GEORGE reads from *Deep Sea and Foreign Going*



Rose George, the winner of the 2013 Mountbatten Maritime Award for Best Literary Contribution, will talk about her fascinating journey into the hidden world of shipping. Her pursuit of the shadowy truths behind the industry that brings us almost everything we eat, wear and work with took her across the globe. She follows the routes travelled by mercantile and naval fleets, pirate gangs and illegal floating factories. *Deep Sea and Foreign Going: Inside Shipping, the Invisible Industry that Brings You 90% of Everything* is essential reading for anyone curious about the complex systems behind our convenient modern world.

Rose George is also the author of *A Life Removed: Hunting for Refuge in the Modern World* (longlisted for the Ulysses Reportage Prize) and *The Big Necessity: Adventures in the World of Human Waste* (shortlisted for the BMA Book Prize and an *Economist* Top Ten Book of the Year).

FRIDAY 11 / 14.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / AGES: 8 –12 years / €5 JUDI CURTIN

Join Judi Curtin best-selling author of the *Alice and Megan* series. She is also the author of the smash-hit *Eva* series. *Eva and the Hidden Diary* was shortlisted for an Irish Book Award last year. With Roisin Meaney she has also written *See If I Care* and three novels for adults. She tells her young fans, '*I was born in London, but my family moved to Cork when I was eight. After school, I went to UCC and I taught for many years, and loved it, but I couldn't forget my childhood dream of becoming a writer...'*

FRIDAY 11 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18 RUPERT ISAACSON

Rupert Isaacson will talk about his new book, *The Long Ride Home*, followup to the bestselling *The Horse Boy*, as well the Horse Boy Foundation which works with autism families using horses, nature and the environment. *The Long Ride Home* tells of how father and son journey from the Bushmen of Namibia to the rainforests of Queensland to the Navajo reservations of the American Southwest. In 2009, *The Horse Boy* – the story of a horseback journey across Mongolia in a quest to find healing for Rupert's autistic son – became an international bestseller. The accompanying documentary premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

Rupert Isaacson is British but lives with his family in Texas. He is an exprofessional horse trainer and founder of The Horse Boy Foundation, which helps to make horses and nature available to other children, autistic or not, all over the world.



FRIDAY 11 / 16.00 / THE MARINER / €5 WORDS ALLOWED WORKSHOP TEEN READING with DAVE LORDAN

Our teen reading will showcase new work by the writers taking part in the **Words Allowed Workshop for Teenage Writers**, written during the week of the Festival. Expect to be surprised, provoked and moved, but most of all to be inspired by the writers of tomorrow. All are welcome.



Rupert Isaacson and his son Rowan (top), Dave Lordan







FRIDAY 11 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE BANTRY WRITERS

The Bantry Writers have been meeting for over twelve years in Bantry Library to read and discuss their work. The group has been facilitated by a series of experienced writers, and they include published and unpublished writers from a wide range of backgrounds, who come together to shape their skills and share their love of words. The writing is compelling, sometimes moving, sometimes hilarious, and always stimulating.

Previous readings have been highly successful, and this year members of the group return to read from short stories, memoirs, poems, novels and plays, and give festival-goers an opportunity to enjoy their varied and vibrant voices.

FRIDAY 11 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15

FIONNBAR WALSH the author of Donal's Mountain: The Story of the Son who Inspired a Nation in conversation with SUE LEONARD

"...much as I'd love to go around to every fool on this planet and open their eyes to the mountains that surround them in life, I can't. But maybe if I shout from mine they'll pay attention." – Donal Walsh

Donal Walsh's extraordinary message about living life to the full first came to international attention when, aged sixteen, he wrote a letter, published in the *Irish Independent*, that spoke out against an epidemic of suicide among young Irish people. Donal was dying of cancer but still found time to inspire others. In May 2013, Donal passed away.

Fionnbar Walsh is Donal's father and the busy and welcoming manager of The Maritime Hotel. His account of Donal's life reflects on how Donal came to terms with his illness and how he spent his last weeks making as much of a difference to other people's lives as he could. Fionnbar will read from the book and talk about how he has dealt with the last year while also embarking on a crash course in the publishing world.

Part of the proceeds from this event will go towards DonalWalshLiveLife.org



ME ARE ALL PENDLETELY BESIDE DURSELVES KARN RETRIES

FRIDAY 11 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €15 AN EVENING with KAREN JAY FOWLER Introduced by PAULA SHIELDS

Join **Karen Jay Fowler** as she reads from *We Are Completely Beside Ourselves*, winner of the PEN/Faulkner Prize for best American novel 2014.

'exhilaratingly...(the) achingly funny, deeply serious heart-breaker that is Fowler's 10th novel... This is a moral comedy to shout about from the treetops.' – The Guardian

Karen Jay Fowler was born in Indiana and attended the University of California, Berkeley, majoring in political science. Feeling restless after seven years devoted to child-raising, she took a dance class, and a creative writing class. Realizing that she was never going to make it as a dancer, Fowler began to publish science fiction short stories, making a name for herself with *Artificial Things* (1986), Since then she has gone on to publish ten novels and five more collections of short stories including the best-selling novel *The Jane Austen Book Club* which was made into a film of the same name. Among her many awards are the Nebula Award for Best Short Story, John W. Campbell Award for the Best New Writer, World Fantasy Award for Best Collection, California Book Award Silver Medal for Fiction and she was also an IMPAC nominee.

FRIDAY 11 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIKE / FREE



Karen Jay Fowler (photo: Brett Hall Jones)



SATURDAY 12 JULY

SATURDAY 12 / 11.15 / BANTRY HOUSE / €20 LITERARY BRUNCH with JOHN KELLY In association with West Cork Food and Bantry House

Join John Kelly for brunch as he reads from his new novel From Out of the City and talks about all things literary.

From Out of the City is intricate, outrageous, sophisticated, funny and wonderfully entertaining' - John Banville

Dublin, some years from now, and the President of the United States has just been assassinated. The official account has taken hold but a hawk-eyed octogenarian named Monk, has a version of his own – a dark and twisted tale of both the watcher and the watched.

John Kelly has published several works of fiction including, *Grace Notes & Bad Thoughts* and *The Little Hammer*. His radio play called *The Pipes* was broadcast in 2013. He lives in Dublin, where he works in music and arts broadcasting and presents the RTÉ Arts programme *The Works* and the JK Ensemble on RTÉ Lyric FM.

SATURDAY 12 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

EIMEAR MCBRIDE will read from A Girl is a Half-formed Thing

Eimear McBride wrote her first novel in six months. It took nine years to find a publisher. *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing* won the inaugural Goldsmiths Prize and was short listed for the inaugural Folio Prize and for The Bailey's Women's Prize for Fiction. *A Girl is a Half-formed Thing* is written as a stream of consciousness and is moving, funny, and alarming.

'Who forgot to tell Eimear McBride about the crisis that we are in and about the solution to that crisis: compromise, dumb down, sell your soul?' – Anne Enright

Eimear McBride was born in Liverpool to Northern Irish parents and she grew up in Co. Sligo and Co. Mayo. She moved to London and much of her twenties were spent temping and travelling. She moved to Cork in 2006 and Norwich in 2011 where she currently lives.





ohn Kelly (top) Eimear McBride

Images, from left: Philip Hoare (photo: Andrew Sutton, John Mack, Leanne O'Sullivan, Boat to Whiddy (photo: Clare Hennessy)



BANTRY BAY PORT COMPANY LIMITED SATURDAY 12 / 15.00 / WHIDDY ISLAND / BANTRY BAY SERIES / €18 (INCLUDES FERRY RETURN TRIP) A SPECIAL ISLAND EVENT with PHILIP HOARE, JOHN MACK & LEANNE O'SULLIVAN

Join us on Whiddy Island for this special event where we celebrate Bantry Bay, the sea beyond and the lore and poetry of West Cork.

Philip Hoare will talk about *Leviathan or*, *The Whale* his award winning book and film, which is also the story of our own obsessions. For full biog see page 21.

John Mack, author of *The Sea: A Cultural History* draws on histories, maritime archaeology, art history and great literature to provide an innovative account of the great blue yonder and his own love for Whiddy.

Leanne O'Sullivan from the Beara Peninsula will read from her poetry collections *Cailleach, The Hag of Beara* and *The Mining Road*. She is the recipient of The Rooney, Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary and Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Awards.

The Ferry leaves Bantry Pier for Whiddy Island at 14.30 sharp. It will leave Whiddy at 16.15. There will be a smaller boat returning at 17.30 and 18.30 if anyone wants to stay and explore the island.

WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

AT A GLANCE SUNDAY 6 - SATURDAY 12 JULY 2014



DATE / TIME	EVENT	VENUE					
SUNDAY 6 JULY							
18.00	Opening of the 16th West Cork Literary Festival	Bantry Library					
20.30	An Evening with Ben Okri	Maritime Hotel					
22.30	IMRAM Blues Dhúisíos Ar Maidin	Maritime Hotel					
MONDAY 7 JULY							
10.00	Coffee & Chat – Louise Welsh	Bantry House Tearoom					
11.15	Reading – Eibhear Walshe	Bantry Bookshop					
12.00	Reading – Derry O'Sullivan	Gaelscoil Bheanntraí					
13.00	Reading – Louise Welsh	Bantry Library					
14.30	Seminar – The Gift of a Garden with Alice Taylor	Maritime Hotel					
14.30	Children's Reading – Niall de Búrca	St Brendan's School Hall					
17.00	Seamus Heaney: A Celebration	Maritime Hotel					
20.30	An Evening with Jonathan Miller	Maritime Hotel					
22.30	Open Mike	Maritime Hotel					
TUESDAY 8 JULY							
10.00	Coffee & Chat – Carmen Bugan	Bantry House Tearoom					
11.15	Reading – Emma McEvoy	Bantry Bookshop					
13.00	Reading – Carmen Bugan	Bantry Library					
14.30	Seminar – Power to the Reader – Alberto Manguel	Maritime Hotel					
14.30	Bantry Bay Series: Monster Sea Doodle	St Brendan's School Hall					
17.00	Reading – Nick Laird and Richard Skinner	Bantry Library					
18.30	Film Club	The Mariner					
20.30	An Evening with Anne Michaels & Paula Meehan	Maritime Hotel					
22.30	Open Mike	Maritime Hotel					

DATE / TIM	IE EVENT	VENUE	DATE / TIN	IE EVENT	VENUE
WEDNESD	DAY 9 JULY		FRIDAY 11	JULY	
10.00	Coffee & Chat – Anne Michaels	Bantry House Tearoom	10.00	Coffee & Chat - Blake Morrison	Bantry House Tearoom
11.15	Reading - Madeleine D'Arcy and Alan McMonagle	Bantry Bookshop	11.15	Reading — Simon West	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	More than One with Sue Leonard and Karen Perry	Bantry Library	13.00	Bantry Bay Series: Rose George	Bantry Library
14.30	Seminar – Walking Ireland with Christopher Somerv	ille Maritime Hotel	14.30	Seminar– Rupert Isaacson	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Bantry Bay Series: Mairi Hedderwick	St Brendan's School Hall	14.30	Children's reading — Judi Curtin	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Reading – Mary Morrissy and John MacKenna	Bantry Library	16.00	Teen Writers Reading	The Mariner
18.30	Book Launch - 2014 Fish Anthology	Maritime Hotel	17.00	Reading – Bantry Writer's Group	Bantry Library
20.30	An Evening with Jennifer Johnston	Maritime Hotel	18.30	Fionnbar Walsh	Maritime Hotel
22.30	The Adventures of Andy Kershaw	Maritime Hotel	20.30	An Evening with Karen Jay Fowler	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mike	Maritime Hotel	22.30	Open Mike	Maritime Hotel
THURSDAY 10 JULY		SATURDA	(12 JULY		
10.00	Coffee & Chat – Christopher Somerville	Bantry House Tearoom	11.15	Literary Brunch — John Kelly	Bantry House
11.15	Reading – Louise O'Neill	Bantry Bookshop	13.00	Reading — Eimear MacBride	Bantry Library
13.00	Reading – Audrey Magee	Bantry Library	15.00	Bantry Bay Series: Whiddy Island Reading –	
14.30	Seminar – The Business of Publishing	Maritime Hotel		Philip Hoare, John Mack & Leanne O'Sullivan	Whiddy Island
14.30	Children's Event – Print Museum	St Brendan's School Hall			
17.00	Bantry Bay Series: Philip Hoare	Bantry Library			
18.30	Gallery Goes – Groarke, Lysaght, Wheatley	Maritime Hotel			
20.30	An Evening with Hugo Hamilton and Blake Morrison	Maritime Hotel			
22.30	Open Mike	Maritime Hotel			

THE J.G. FARRELL FICTION AWARD



The J.G. Farrell Fiction Award – for the best **opening chapter of a novel-in-progress** by a writer resident in Munster – will this year be adjudicated by novelist **Richard Skinner**. The prize includes a place on Richard's fiction workshop and accommodation at the Maritime Hotel. Applicants should send **two copies** of the first chapter of their novel (max 3000 words), double-spaced and printed on one side of the page only. Place your name and address on a separate sheet. Entries will not be returned. Please send them to the West Cork Literary Festival office at 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co Cork by Monday 26 May. **Clearly mark the envelope** 'J.G. Farrell Award.' Emailed or late entries will not be accepted.

J.G. Farrell was born in Liverpool and died at the age of 44, when he was swept into the sea while fishing from rocks near Kilcrohane, West Cork. His book *Troubles* won the Faber Prize in 1971, and in 2010 it won the Lost Man Booker Prize. *The Siege of Krishnapur*, Farrell's novel about the Indian Mutiny of 1957, carried off the Booker in 1973. In 2008, *The Siege of Krishnapur* was shortlisted for the Best of Booker public vote.

The West Cork Literary Festival would like to thank **Richard Farrell** for his continued sponsorship of this award, now in its fifth year.

WORKSHOPS

Booking: +353 (0)27 52788/9 LoCall: 1850 788 789 Book online: www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

Max 15 participants per workshop €175 for five-day workshop €110 for three-day workshop €125 for Business of Writing (max 25) €100 for Words Allowed.

Workshops run concurrently, from 9.30am – 12.30pm 5-day workshops run Monday to Friday, 7 - 11 July 2014 3-day workshops, see individual listings

Workshop Venues:

Travel Story-telling: Finding your Mojo / Kevin Rushby: Bank House Bar & Restaurant, Whiddy Island. **All other workshops:**

Coláiste Pobail Bheanntraí, Seskin, Bantry, Co. Cork.

The West Cork Literary Festival workshop programme is aimed at both novice and experienced writers. Our 5-day workshops, unique among Irish literary festivals, provide opportunities for development and intensive learning not possible in one sitting. 3-day workshops allow for a shorter but no less intensive learning experience. All our workshops, run by award winning writers (most of whom teach creative writing at third level), are incredibly good value.

CONDITIONS OF SALE: Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised however West Cork Literary Festival accepts no responsibility for any changes made due to circumstances beyond its control. Once purchased tickets cannot be exchanged or refunded. Refund will only be given in case of a cancelled event.

5 DAY WORKSHOPS





LET YOUR POEM OFF THE LEASH / Poetry with MAURICE RIORDAN / €175 max 15

This workshop looks at ways to make your poetry more inventive, musical and memorable. We will look at how the skilful use of voice, flexible syntax and varied register contribute to the overall impact of a poem. The sessions will include writing exercises based on 'example' poems and offer many ideas and possibilities to generate new work. The course will give opportunities as well for group and individual feedback. The week will also offer advice on getting your work published.

Maurice Riordan has published four collections of poetry with Faber, most recently *The Water Stealer* in 2013, shortlisted for the T. S. Eliot Prize. His first collection, *A Word from the Loki* (1995), was also nominated for the Eliot Prize. *Floods* (2000) was a Book of the Year in both *The Sunday Times* and *Irish Times. The Holy Land* won the Michael Hartnett Award in 2007. Born in Lisgoold, Co. Cork, he is currently Professor of Poetry at Sheffield Hallam University. He is the editor of *Poetry Review*.

HISTORICAL FICTION with MARY MORRISSY / €175 max 15

Want to be the new Hilary Mantel or Sarah Waters? Do you have an idea that might become a historical novel, or have you already started? Aimed at intermediate-level writers, the workshop will explore different approaches to historical fiction; how to imagine yourself into another time; research – when and how to do it; the ethics of writing about real people; the melding of fact and fiction. This workshop will be a creative hot-house experience and participants should be prepared to share their ideas, develop their own work during the workshop and, most importantly, to write - lots!

Mary Morrissy is the author of three historical novels and a collection of short stories. She has taught creative writing in Ireland and the US for over a decade; she is currently Writer Fellow at University College Cork where she teaches fiction on the MA in Creative Writing. Her most recent novel is *The Rising of Bella Casey* and her awards include the Hennessy Award for short fiction and a Lannan Literary Award.

From top: Maurice Riordan (photo: Derek Adams), Mary Morrissy

5 DAY WORKSHOPS

THE NOVEL – How to get started... how to keep going with RICHARD SKINNER / €175 max 15

Following its success last year this popular workshop is back. Creating ideas & Planning: Where do ideas for novels come from? What kind of a writer are you? How can you use imitation and improvisation to create stories? Plotting/ Conflict/Pace: Whereas you *follow* a story, it is the plot that *leads* you through it. If drama is the heart of a story, conflict is its heartbeat. 'Kidnap' a character; Research and Exposition / Settings: Research should be channelled *through* character, so that things happen because of, not in spite of, their presence. A good setting is like an extra character – e.g. Joyce's Dublin. Synopses and Pitches: By the end of this session you will have an excellent 1-page synopsis and 25 word pitch for your novel.

Richard Skinner is the author of three novels. *The Red Dancer* has been translated into seven languages, and his latest, *The Mirror*, has just been published by Faber and Faber. A translation of *The Velvet Gentleman* was shortlisted in France for the Prix Livres & Musiques. He has written a writer's handbook entitled *Fiction Writing*. Richard is Director of the Fiction Programme at the Faber Academy and a tutor on its six-month Writing a Novel course.

SHORT STORY AND FLASH FICTION with ZOË STRACHAN / €175 max 15

Short stories: one of the most difficult and most rewarding forms! In this intensive workshop we'll look at finding your voice and developing the fundamentals of characterisation, setting, structure and timing. Regardless of word length or whether you're drawing from life or the purely imagined, emerging and experienced writers will hone their skills. We'll draw from diverse examples including the work of Lydia Davies and James Kelman, Alice Munro and David Bezmosgis. Come prepared for practical writing exercises, close reading and discussion, experimentation and creative play!

Zoë Strachan is a novelist, short story writer and librettist. Her most recent novel, *Ever Fallen in Love*, was shortlisted for the Scottish Mortgage Investment Trust Book Awards and the Green Carnation Prize. Her opera *The Lady from the Sea* – composed by Craig Armstrong – premiered at the Edinburgh International Festival in 2012 where it won a Herald Angel Award. She teaches Creative Writing at the University of Glasgow.









From top: Abbie Spallen, Kevin Rushb

SCRIPT WRITING FOR THEATRE, RADIO AND FILM with ABBIE SPALLEN / €175 max 15

This workshop will deal with the basics of scriptwriting for Theatre, Radio and Screen - from pitches to loglines to inciting incidents to synopses to subplots – just what does any of it mean? Here's where we being the journey to find out. Beginning with a fun workshop on 'Where to get those damned ideas', we'll devote one day each to 'The Big Three'; Radio, Screen and Theatre. We will investigate plot, structure, character and dialogue, tone and subtext. On the last day I will be telling some secrets: where the magic comes from, how to navigate the business and how to retain your artistic integrity. By Friday you'll be better equipped to find the germ of a story and know what to do with it once it's ready for the world.

Abbie Spallen is a multi award-winning playwright and screenwriter. Her awards include the Stewart Parker, Tony Doyle, Peggy Ramsay and HALMA Foundation, The Blackburn Prize and Dublin City Council Bursaries for Literature. She has worked with the Royal National and Royal Court Theatres. Abbie is writer-in-residence at the Lyric Theatre Belfast and received a Major Individual Artist Award 2014 from The Arts Council NI.

TRAVEL STORY-TELLING: FINDING YOUR MOJO with KEVIN RUSHBY / €175 max 15

BANTRY BAY SERIES / This Workshop will take place on Whiddy Island /

Please note that the Monday session of this workshop will start at 1pm and not 9.30am

This course takes you from start to finish: from making the stories happen, to recording and retelling them. Whether you want to produce a blog, a magazine article, a book or a film, this practical course will help you decide which direction to take and then give you the skills to follow through. Over the week the course will cover the following: how to make stories happen; how to research, plan and collect information; people as sources; how to interview and use that information in your story; how to incorporate film, photographs and sound in your story-telling; how to present a story and promote it; and how to locate and access markets for your stories.

Kevin Rushby is a writer, photographer and film maker who has written acclaimed travel books including *Hunting Pirate Heaven* and *Eating the Flowers of Paradise*. His documentary film, *Saving the Leopard*, won Best Foreign Film at the 2013 New York Wildlife Film Festival. As the chief travel correspondent for *The Guardian* he also produces films, slide shows and galleries for the newspaper website.

5 DAY WORKSHOPS

MEMOIR & LIFE WRITING with CAROL DRINKWATER / €175 max 15

What *is* a memoir? Is it simply writing about one's own past - like a series of diary entries strung together - or is it actually a well-crafted story? During this workshop we will identify the story you want to tell. We will consider how you can hold the reader's attention and will address the nature of honesty. Non-fiction allows authors the opportunity to establish the most intimate of relationships with their readers. You might even have a bestseller on your hands!

Carol Drinkwater is an Anglo-Irish actress, author and film-maker. Best known for her award-winning portrayal of Helen Herriot in the television adaptation of the James Herriot books, *All Creatures Great and Small*, she has acted in numerous television series and films, including *Bouquet of Barbed Wire* and *Another Bouquet*. She won a Critics' Circle Best Screen Actress award for her role in the film *Father*. Drinkwater's children's book, *The Haunted School*, was produced as a mini-series and a Disney film. She has worked on a series of documentary films inspired by her books, *The Olive Route* and *The Olive Tree*.

WORDS ALLOWED – WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGE WRITERS with DAVE LORDAN / €100 max 15

After the huge impact of its young writers on the festival in 2012 and 2013, the **Words Allowed** workshop for teenage writers returns for its revamped third edition. Designed to build the creative confidence and expressive ability of teenagers with an interest in writing, it combines a high-energy workshop approach with talks and Q & A sessions on being a writer in a world where multimedia technologies and performance writing are assuming more importance alongside traditional book publishing. The week will be rounded off with a special reading of the participants' work. This is Ireland's leading workshop for teenage writers and demand is expected to be high.

Dave Lordan renowned writer, teacher, editor and creativity-in education advocate, is the first writer to have won all three of Ireland's national prizes for young poets. Southword, the magazine of the Munster Literature Centre called him 'a master of the sound and rhythm of language'. His most recent publications are the 'preposterously original' short fiction collection First Book of Frags and, as editor, the groundbreaking New Planet Cabaret Anthology in association with RTÉ Arena.





From top: Carol Drinkwater, Dave Lordan

uperValu

O KEEFEE'S SUPERVALU

3 DAY WORKSHOPS





From top: Magi Gibson, Oisín McGann

WILD WOMEN WRITING with MAGI GIBSON / Monday 7 – Wednesday 9 July / €110 max 15

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced writer, these workshops – back in Bantry by popular demand - will help you overcome the barriers stopping you from connecting with your inner wild woman. She's the one you're suppressed to fill all those other roles life demands of you, yet she holds the key to your true creativity. In the course of the workshop we'll use uninhibited discussions to spark fresh, passionate work. Magi will guide you through fun creativity exercises to help you start new pieces of writing. You will receive a wealth of practical advice, to encourage you to continue writing with renewed energy and self-confidence. Done the course before? No worries. Magi will use new materials and set fresh challenges.

Magi Gibson is Reader in Residence with Glasgow Women's Library, as well as the creator of *Wild Women Writing Workshops*. She has held three Scottish Arts Council Creative Writing Fellowships. She has written short stories, novels for children, poetry, radio and TV scripts. Her poetry collection, *Wild Women of a Certain Age*, first published in 2000, is still in demand and in its fourth print run.

WRITING FOR CHILDREN with OISÍN MCGANN / Monday 7 – Wednesday 9 July / €110 max 15

This workshop will cover the basics of storytelling and the specific aspects of writing for children and young adults. Areas that will be looked at include: how to generate ideas; how to use observation; description of both character and setting; using dialogue and ensuring a good pace and plot, as well as how to tailor your writing for different age groups. There will be short practical exercises at each stage of the course. Oisín will also be giving tips on how to get published, and how to market your books once you get published.

Oisín McGann writes in a range of genres for children and teenagers and has illustrated many of his own short story books for younger readers, including the popular *Mad Grandad* series. His books have been translated into several languages and have won and been shortlisted for numerous awards including the Bisto Children's Book of the Year Award, the Waterstone's Children's Book of the Year, Writing for Children Award and le Grand Prix de l'Imaginaire.

3 DAY WORKSHOPS

THE BUSINESS OF WRITING

with Carole Blake, Nuala Ní Chonchúir, Alexandra Pringle, Sarah Bannan,

Richard Skinner and Vona Groarke

Wednesday 9 – Friday 11 July / €125 max 25

Writing for a while and starting to venture into the public world of publishing, readings and creating an online presence? This unique three day course offers advice and guidance from some of the top names in Irish and British publishing, as well as from writers who know just what it is like 'out there' and are ready to help you avoid some pitfalls.

SESSION I – Wednesday 9 July 09.30 – 12.30 SESSION II – Thursday 10 July 09.30 – 10.30

'The image of the writer as a shy, retiring recluse no longer fits our job description.' – Ron Suppa

These sessions with award-winning writer and literary blogger **Nuala Ní Chonchúir** take you through the dos and don'ts of creating a valuable online presence and the effective use of websites, blogs, Twitter and Facebook to promote yourself and your writing. **Nuala Ní Chonchúir's** second novel *The Closet of Savage Mementos* was published this year and a third, *Miss Emily*, appears in 2015. SESSION III - Thursday 10 July 14.30 - 16.00

Publishing seminar with Alexandra Pringle, Richard Skinner, Vona Groarke & Sarah Bannan (See page 20 for details). Entrance included in course fee.

SESSION IV - Friday 11 July 09.30 - 12.30

Carole Blake, leading literary agent and author of the bestselling *From Pitch to Publication: Everything You Need To Know To Get Your Novel Published*, will take you through researching, approaching and working with agents and publishers. Questions welcome throughout as are sample initial letters for in-class comment (send to Festival office). **Carole Blake** is the recipient of the Pandora Award 2013 'for significant and sustained contribution to the publishing industry'. She runs her own literary agency and clients include Joseph O'Connor and Sheila Flanagan. She is President of The Book Trade Charity: BTBS and an advisor on post-graduate publishing courses at City University and UCLA.





From top: Carole Blake (photo: Jack Ladenburg), Nuala Ní Chonchúir



From top: John MacKenna, Alexandra Pringle

CREATIVE WRITING FOR BEGINNERS – Beneath Each Stone a Story

with JOHN MACKENNA / Wednesday 9 – Friday 11 July / €110 max 15

A workshop in which those dipping a tentative toe - or pen - into creative writing will be encouraged to find inspiration in the landscape of west Cork and in the landcape of their memory and imagination. Over the three days we'll be looking at how to begin a story or a poem; at developing character and at finding a voice for your characters. In a supportive and relaxed environment - and by getting out into the landscape - you'll find new ways to tell old stories and unusual ways to find new stories.

John MacKenna is the author of sixteen books. His novel *Clare* was republished in 2014 in the New Island Irish Classics series. His new novel *Joseph* will be published this September, also by New Island, and his next collection of poems is due in 2015. His novel *The Last Fine Summer* is being filmed in 2014. He is a winner of the Irish Times, Hennessey and Cecil Day Lewis Awards and a Jacobs Radio Award for his documentaries on Leonard Cohen.

EDITOR-IN-RESIDENCE with ALEXANDRA PRINGLE / MARITIME HOTEL

Monday - Friday: 14.00, 15.00. 16.00. 17.00 (except Thursday 10.00, 11.00 and 12.00) / €45 per 45 min slot



Take advantage of this rare opportunity to speak with a senior publishing executive by booking a one-to -one session with our editor-in-residence, Alexandra Pringle who will discuss and appraise your work. Send in a sample of your work– no more than 4 pages of A4 double-spaced – and a cover letter (describe briefly the context for the writing sample, your writing background and specifics you might like addressed), by Friday 20 June along with payment to the West Cork Literary Festival office at 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co. Cork. Clearly mark your submission FAO Editor-in-Residence.

Alexandra Pringle is Group Editor-in-Chief of Bloomsbury. She began her career in publishing as an Editorial Assistant and has been Editorial Director of Virago and Hamish Hamilton. She joined Bloomsbury in 1999. Her list of authors includes Khaled Hosseini, David Park, Richard Ford, Margaret Atwood, Colum McCann, Ahdaf Soueif and Elizabeth Gilbert. She is a Patron of Index on Censorship and is organizer of literary events at the Chelsea Arts Club.

CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

BOOKING: +353 (0)27 52788/9 LoCall: 1850 788 789 BOOKING ONLINE: www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie

AFTERNOON READINGS & WORKSHOPS

MONDAY 7 - FRIDAY 11 / 14.30			
/ ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL / €5			
MONDAY 7	NIALL DE BÚRCA	8	
TUESDAY 8	MONSTER SEA DOODLE	12	
WEDNESDAY 9	MAIRI HEDDERWICK	15	
THURSDAY 10	PRINT WORKSHOP	20	
FRIDAY 11	JUDI CURTIN	24	

See main programme (page numbers above) for more details

FREE MORNING WORKSHOPS BELOW

MONDAY 7 JULY / 10.00 – 11.00 & 11.00 – 11.45 / GAELSCOIL BEANNTRAÍ / SAOR IN AISCE/ FREE GABRIEL ROSENSTOCK AGES: 8 – 12 years / 15 Children Max

Tá an cheardlann dírithe orthus siúd ar mhaith leo tuiscint níos fearr a bheith acu ar an ealaín is haiku ann. Beidh an cheardlann ina Máistir-Rang chomh maith a thabharfaidh deis do na daltaí haiku a chumadh. Haiku, an ealaín a ghéaraíonn ár dtuiscint don tírdhreach beo.

Exciting and inspiring haiku workshop for children with master haikuist and leading Irish language author Gabriel Rosenstock – come along and learn how to write your own poems by looking all around you and find out all about these Japanese poems.

Gabriel Rosenstock, is an award-winning poet, haikuist, children's author, playwright and short story writer. His latest book is *Haiku, Más é do Thoil É!* He is a member of Aosdana.

12.00 / GAELSCOIL BEANNTRAÍ / SAOR IN AISCE/ FREE BLIP - THE LAUNCH

The Percent for Art Scheme **Blip**, based on one of Derry O'Sullivan's poems, was made with the participation and contribution of the children of the Gaelscoil.

CBI Book Clinic





From Blip by Anne Cleary and Denis Connolly

TUESDAY 8 JULY / 10.00 – 13.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL / FREE / ALL WELCOME THE BOOK CLINIC COMES TO BANTRY Brought to you by CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND

Looking for a new series to delve into? Do you need a prescription for an exciting new read? Then pop along to the Book Clinic! Families are invited to drop in to the Book Doctor Surgery for a consultation with one of CBI's friendly panel of Book Doctors, who are ready to offer the best advice for the young readers in your family. You'll leave with a book prescription for your next read which you can take to you local bookshop or library. There'll also be impromptu readings, games, plus plenty of arts and crafts along the way!

CBI is the national children's books organisation of Ireland. Their mission is to make books a part of every child's life.



TUESDAY 8 & WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 10.00 – 12.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE POETRY AND COLLAGE A 2 DAY WORKSHOP with ALAN MURPHY AGES: 7 – 12 years / 15 Children Max Booking is required

Alan Murphy invites you to write and illustrate your own poem. The subject matter is simple: whatever is going on in your own head! Swim in a sea of silliness, climb a mountain of metaphor. Whether rooted in everyday things or fantasy, funny or serious, it's all valid.

Alan Murphy is the writer and illustrator of two previous collections of poetry for young readers, the most recent of which, *Psychosilly*, was on an *Irish Times* book list. Alan lives in Lismore, County Waterford, where he writes, makes art, photographs cows, and occasionally reviews books. His forthcoming collection, *Prometheus Unplugged*, is a breathless extravaganza which combines rock music and Greek mythology.





THURSDAY 10 JULY / 10.00 – 11.00 /BANTRY LIBRARY HAND COMPOSING & POSTER PRINTING with the NATIONAL PRINT MUSEUM

AGES: 7 – 12 years / 15 Children Max / Booking is required / FREE

Come along to this fun workshop and be a printer for an hour! You'll set your own name in metal type, learn how to ink up an old fashioned printing press and see your name appear, hot off the presses, in a WANTED poster!

The National Print Museum travels around the country with a Farley Proofing Press, a key piece of the Museum's collection. It gives children a unique opportunity to work with artefacts from the Museum's collection such as composing sticks, metal type, ink, the proofing press etc as well as learning about Johannes Gutenberg and his invention of moveable type.



FRIDAY 11 JULY / 10.00 – 12.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY YOUNG WRITERS WORKSHOP with OISÍN MC GANN

AGES: 10 – 14 years / 15 Children Max / Booking is required / FREE

Join the award-winning children's author for a one off workshop for young writers. He will look at storytelling, how to get going with more of your own ideas; how to use observation; description of both character and setting; using dialogue and ensuring a good pace and plot, as well as practical exercises. There will also be an illustration demonstration and a question and answer session.

Oisín McGann has been writing for over ten years and illustrating for over twenty and nobody has stopped him yet. He is the creator of the *Mad Grandad* books, the *Forbidden Files* and a whole bunch of novels, such as *Rat Runners* and *The Gods and Their Machines*. See full biog page 37.

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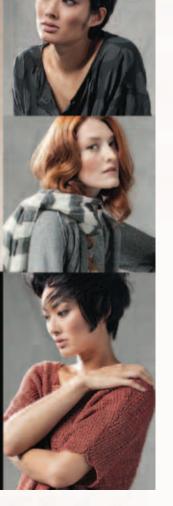
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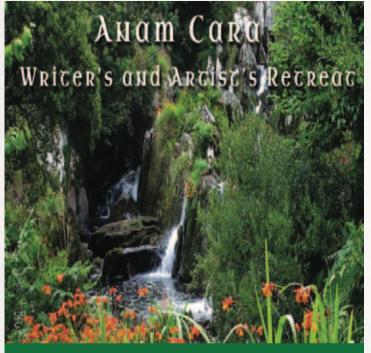
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Cork County Council Arts Officer: Regional Librarian, West Cork Libraries: Bantry Librarian: Bantry Library staff:

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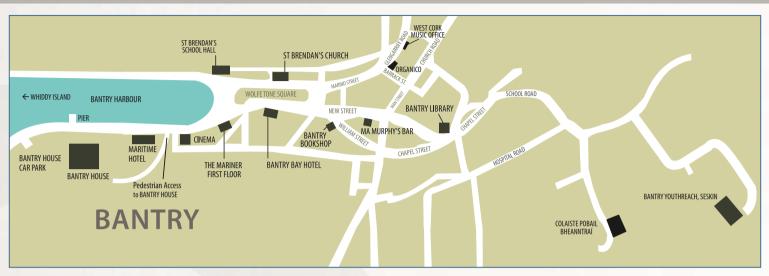
West Cork Music gratefully acknowledges the support of Maureen Kennelly and Poetry Ireland who provided invaluable office space and astute advice in Dublin.

West Cork Music is most grateful for generous contributions from Paule Cotter, David & Verney Naylor and Chuck & Nell Kruger.

The West Cork Literary Festival would like to thank the following for their support and encouragement: Cllr. Mary Hegarty; Noel Harrington TD; The management and staff, Maritime Hotel; Noel O'Mahony and staff, Bantry Library; Joan O'Shea and Margaret O'Neill, Bantry Bookshop; Kevin Healy, Principal, Aidan Cullinane, James McGann, and staff, Colaiste Pobail Bheanntrai; Yvonne Beamish, Principal of St Brendan's School; Sophie Shelswell-White, Bantry House; Stephen and Gillian O'Donovan, The Brick Oven and The Mariner; Hannah and Rachel Dare, Organico; Tim O'Leary, Whiddy Island Ferry; Ma Murphy's Pub; Jean Kearney and Ivor Melia, Sally Barnes of West Cork Food and Woodcock Smokery, Gubbeen Farmhouse products, Durrus cheese, Lettercollum Kitchen Project; Kearney Melia Communications; Sodexo; Phillips 66; The Irish Examiner; RTÉ Lyric fm; Nora Hickey M'Sichili, Sheila Pratschke, Paula Shields, Belinda McKeon, Brian Moore, Cormac Kinsella, Siobhán Burke of Living the Sheeps Head Way; Eibhear Washe and John Fitzgerald of UCC; Denyse Woods, Clem Cairns, Sinead Donnelly, Ian McDonagh, Maggie Regan and very especially Ronan Foley.

A special thank you to the Festival volunteers who give their time and energy to the Festival every year.

THE VENUES





Cover Art

The cover image for our programme this year is Oak by Wendy Dison.

'Much of the work reflects the experience of living in West Cork and my response to the people, history and traditions of the rural west of Ireland.'

Born in Liverpool in 1948 Wendy has lived and worked in West Cork, since 1999. You can find out more about Wendy and her work at www.wendydison.com.

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CREATIVE WRITING FOR BEGINNERS - JOHN MACKENNA			
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MON 7	NIALL DE BÚRCA	€5			
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WED 9	ANNE MICHAELS	€10			
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MON 7	ALICE TAYLOR	€18			
MON 7	SEAMUS HEANEY: A CELEBRATION	€18			
TUE 8	ALBERTO MANGUEL	€18			
WED 9	CHRISTOPHER SOMERVILLE	€18			
THURS 10	THE BUSINESS OF WRITING	€18			
FRI 11	RUPERT ISAACSON	€18			
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JULY		PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
AFTERNOON EVENTS (CONTINUED)				
SAT 12	WHIDDY ISLAND READING (INCL. FERRY)	€18		
LITERARY BRUNCH / 11.15 / BANTRY HOUSE				
SAT 12	LITERARY BRUNCH : JOHN KELLY	€20		
LATE NIGH	T EVENT / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL			
SUN 6	IMRAM BLUES	€15		
WED 9	THE ADVENTURES OF ANDY KERSHAW	€15		
EVENING EVENTS / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL				
TUES 8	FILM CLUB	€10		
THURS 10	GROARKE, LYSAGHT & WHEATLEY	€15		
FRI 11	FIONNBAR WALSH	€15		
EVENING E	VENTS / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL			
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'Bantry was a supreme joy, the West Cork festival, the people, the place...' Michael Morpurgo

'I loved coming to the West Cork Literary Festival and enjoyed it all enormously ... it is certainly one of the very best.' Michael Holroyd

Cover image: Oak by Wendy Dison

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