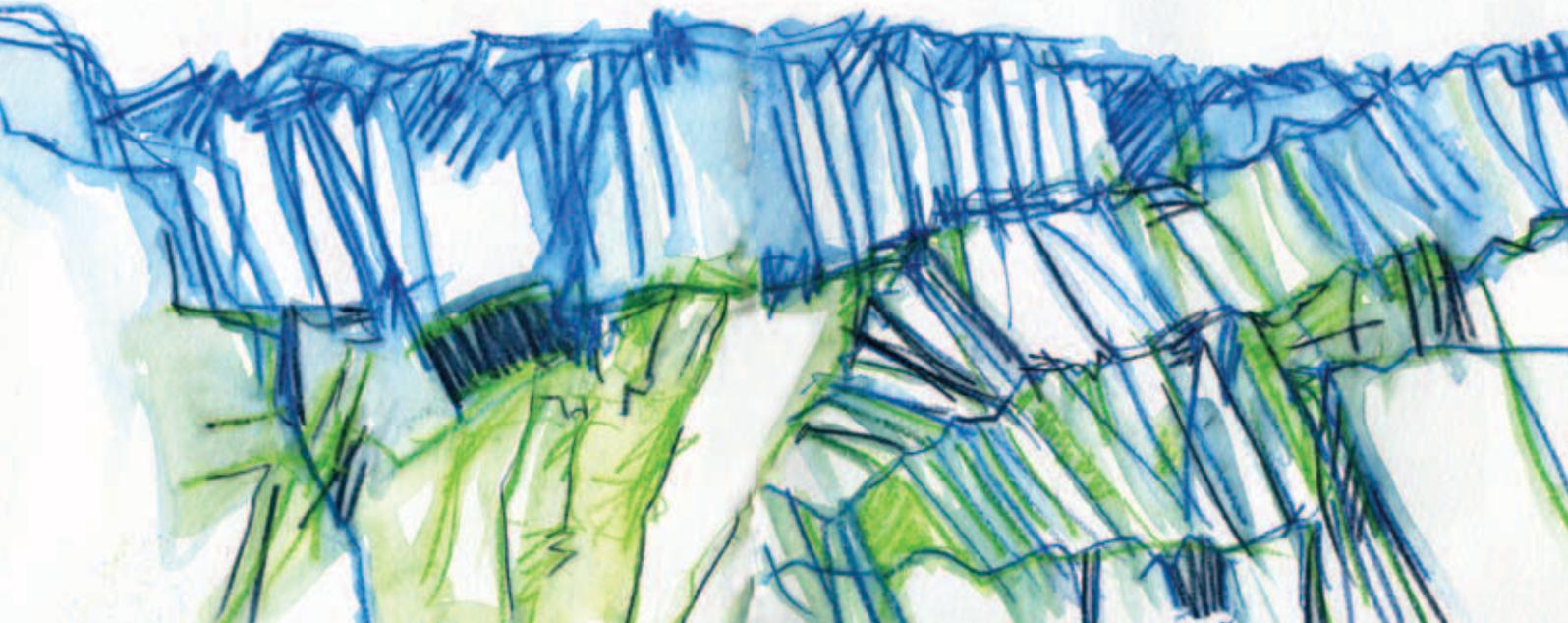




# WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Bantry / Sunday 12 – Saturday 18 July 2015

readings / workshops / seminars / children's events





# NEVER MISS OUT



CULTUREFOX

The Arts Council's new, upgraded CULTUREFOX events guide is now live. Free, faster, easy to use – and personalised for you. Never miss out again.

# Welcome to the 2015 WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Welcome to the 2015 West Cork Literary Festival, our annual celebration of the most exciting names in Irish and international writing. Over the past six months I have had the extreme pleasure of reading the work of so many incredible writers across all genres, from poetry to literary fiction, memoir to children's literature, young adult to nature writing, travel and place-based writing to short stories. Well, somebody has to do it! I discovered wonderful new writers and rediscovered old favourites and now I invite you to do the same.

I am delighted that we are bringing you so many writers who have just published their first novel or collection as well as brand new work from more established writers. For many writers this year will be their first visit to Bantry whilst others are festival favourites. There are too many to mention here - and I'm afraid of leaving someone out - but you may read about all of them in the pages of this brochure and, in more detail, on our website.

This is my first year working with West Cork Literary Festival but I have attended as an audience member for the past seven years and I think it is a wonderful festival. The reputation and success of the festival is thanks in great part to the programming talents of my predecessors, in particular Nell Regan and Denyse Woods, and I hope that this year's festival will build on their hard work. I would like to thank the board and all of the staff for making me feel so welcome and I continue to be amazed by their ability to present three world-class festivals in Bantry every summer.

Thank you to the people of Bantry for their support of the festival and in particular the venues, accommodation providers, restaurants and bars who do so much to make our writers and our audiences feel welcome and to make sure that everyone has an unforgettable West Cork experience. Special thanks must go to our principal funders without whom the festival would not be possible, the Arts Council, Cork County Council and Failte Ireland as well as the Bantry Bay Port Company and O'Keeffe's SuperValu.

Whilst this is a festival of writing, it would be nothing without readers and therefore I salute all of you who understand the joy of a good book and who keep alive the passion for books and for reading. Please do support the festival and writers by buying tickets and books. We really cannot do it without you.

I would like to extend a huge welcome to all of the writers who will be reading in Bantry this year, to all of the industry professionals who will be sharing their expertise and to everyone who comes along to hear our writers read from and speak about their work. I hope you have a wonderful time and that you are inspired and engaged by one another.

Eimear O'Herlihy  
Festival Director  
West Cork Literary Festival

## A Message from Cork County Library & Arts Service

The West Cork Literary Festival is one of Ireland's longest running literary festivals, having its genesis in a series of lunchtime readings in Bantry Library during the Chamber Music Festival in 1996 and 1997. Drawing authors of the highest calibre from all over the world, as well as the best of home-grown talent, this Festival manages to maintain an international reputation while remaining firmly rooted in the community. Whether directly involved or not, everyone in Bantry takes huge pride in the Literary Festival.

Eimear O'Herlihy, Festival Director, has put together a superb programme that celebrates the written word in all its formats. The development of the actual craft of writing is supported through a strong programme of workshops, with writers such as Carlo Gébler, John Boyne and Nick Davies.

Bantry Library will host a number of children's workshops, as well as readings and conversations with authors in a range of genres, including poetry, fiction, biography and political satire.

All events at the library are free of charge, and where better to be inspired than at one of the town's foremost centres of culture, where the promotion of reading and literature is a year-round activity.

Thanks to our partners, West Cork Music and the Festival volunteers. Thanks to the local business sponsors, with whose support West Cork continues to be a vibrant and attractive place to live and visit, particularly during the summer months. Thanks to the library staff, who work hard to make the Festival a success, year after year, providing information on events and facilities around the town as well as providing a welcoming community venue. And a special thanks to Eimear O'Herlihy, Festival Director, who has been a pleasure to deal with from the start, and whose hard work has ensured that this year's programme more than meets the high standards that have been set over the years.

**Eileen O'Brien**

*Acting County Librarian*

Cork County Library and Arts Service





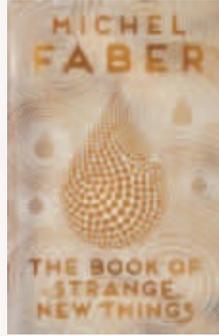
ALL WEEK / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE /  
ARTIST AND AUTHOR EXHIBITION

## WILLIAM CROZIER & EDWARD DELANEY

A week-long exhibition of prints inspired by the writing of **Seamus Heaney** and **Wolf Mankowitz**. **William Crozier's** *Peninsula* series is a set of six intaglio prints made in response to Seamus Heaney's poem *Peninsula*. **Edward Delaney's** set of 12 screenprints *The Samson Riddle* were created as illustrations for the play of the same name by the London-born author and friend of the artist, Wolf Mankowitz, not long after the writer moved to Ireland. All works in this exhibition are part of the Cork County Council collection.

Left: Bantry Bay from the gardens of Bantry House [Photo Deirdre Fitzgerald]  
Top: One of the six prints in William Crozier's Peninsula series. [Photo Con Kelleher]

Michel Faber [Photo Eva Youren]



SUNDAY 12 / 15.00 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

## MICHEL FABER: *THE BOOK OF STRANGE NEW THINGS*

Peter Leigh is a missionary called to go on the journey of a lifetime. Leaving behind his beloved wife, Bea, he boards a flight for a remote and unfamiliar land, a place where the locals are hungry for the teachings of the Bible - his 'book of strange new things'. It is a quest that will challenge Peter's beliefs, his love and his understanding of the limits of the human body. *The Book of Strange New Things* is a wildly original tale of adventure, faith and the ties that might hold two people together when they are worlds apart.

*'It is maniacally gripping. I didn't so much read The Book of Strange New Things as inhabit it.'* – David Mitchell

**Michel Faber** is the author of eight books including *Under the Skin*, *The Crimson Petal and the White*, two novellas and several award-winning short stories. His latest book *The Book of Strange New Things* was published in 2014. Michel was born in Holland, brought up in Australia and now lives in the Scottish Highlands.



[Photo Deirdre Fitzgerald]

## 18.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / ALL WELCOME / FREE OPENING RECEPTION of the 17<sup>TH</sup> WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

Join us for the launch of this, the 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

SUNDAY 12 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## AN EVENING with **SJ WATSON: *SECOND LIFE***

*Second Life* is the thrilling second novel from **SJ Watson**, author of the best-selling *Before I Go To Sleep*. In this new novel he explores identity, lies and secrets in a nail-biting psychological thriller.

*How well do we know our family, our closest friends? How well do we really know ourselves?* Julia has great friends, close family, a secure and happy life. But then her sister is brutally murdered and the police investigation leads nowhere. Her husband appears distracted. Her son shuts himself off in his bedroom. Everyone has a secret. When Julia's online investigations reveal a seductive stranger who might provide some answers, she can't resist a meeting.

*'A Fatal Attraction for the digital age, but with a crucial twist... Watson is a master at turning the screw.'* – **Evening Standard**

*'After basking in the glory of Before I Go to Sleep, Watson must have wondered how he could top it. But top it he has with Second Life.'* – **The Australian**

**SJ Watson** was born in the Midlands and lives in London. His first novel *Before I Go To Sleep* was a phenomenal international success. It sold over 4 million copies in 40 languages around the world and was made into a hit film starring Colin Firth and Nicole Kidman. A *New York Times* and *Sunday Times* bestseller, it won both the Crime Writers' Association Award for Best Debut Novel and the Galaxy National Book Award for Crime Thriller of the Year. *Second Life* was published in 2015.



SJ Watson [Photo Annabelle Staff]

MONDAY 13 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **NUALA O'CONNOR**

Series in association with Bantry House and Garden  
Join **Nuala O'Connor**, author of the upcoming novel *Miss Emily* (August 2015) as she talks about writing a historical novel with a very real person – poet Emily Dickinson – as one of the main characters.

FIRST  
BOOK  
SERIES

FIRST BOOK SERIES

MONDAY 13 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

Each year we host a series of morning readings in Bantry Bookshop by new writers. This year we introduce writers who are not necessarily 'new' but each of them has recently published their first book.

**LISA MCINERNEY –**

**THE GLORIOUS HERESIES** (April 2015)

Biting, moving and darkly funny, the story of how a messy murder affects the lives of five misfits on the fringes of Ireland's post-crash society.

*'Every page pulses with vim and vitality and mad twisty insights.'* – **Kevin Barry**

**Lisa McInerney** was born in 1981. *The Glorious Heresies* is her first novel. Her story 'Saturday, Boring' was published in Faber's *Town and Country* anthology (2013). Her blog 'Arse End of Ireland' won Best Humour at the Irish Blog Awards 2009. Lisa lives in Galway with her family.



MONDAY 13 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

**NUALA O'CONNOR – MISS EMILY**



**Nuala O'Connor's** new novel *Miss Emily* brings to life one of the world's most beloved and reclusive poets. Eighteen-year-old Ada is the new maid for the Dickinson family of Amherst, Massachusetts.

Despite a difference in age and background, Ada, newly arrived from Ireland, strikes up a friendship with thirty-six-year-old Emily Dickinson, the gifted middle child. Emily's passion for words dominates her life,

she wears only white and avoids the outside world. When Ada's safety is threatened, Emily faces down her demons to help her friend, with shocking consequences.

*'A powerful literary talent'* – **Evening Echo**

**Nuala O'Connor** was born in Dublin and lives in East Galway. Under the name Nuala Ní Chonchúir, she has published four short story collections, three poetry collections and two novels including the critically acclaimed *The Closet of Savage Mementos*. In August 2015 Nuala publishes her third novel, *Miss Emily*, about the poet Emily Dickinson and her Irish maid.



Left: Lisa McInerney. Above: Nuala O'Connor [Photo Emilla Krzystofiak]

MONDAY 13 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20  
LITERARY AGENT FOR CHILDREN'S BOOKS:  
JULIA CHURCHILL



Julia Churchill

Are you writing a children's book, and looking to get published? **Julia Churchill** from A.M.Heath Literary Agents will share everything you need to know about taking your book on to the next step, from what an agent does and the qualities that make a submission stand out from the pile, to what drives a publisher's decisions. It is a 360-degree look at writing, pitching and publishing from picture books right through to young adult fiction. The two-hour session includes a half hour for questions from the audience.

**Julia Churchill** joined A.M.Heath Literary Agents in 2013 where she runs the children's book department, after four years building up the UK side of the Greenhouse Literary Agency, and six years at the Darley Anderson Agency where she started the children's book list. She represents some fabulous writers and has a diverse client list of prize-winners and bestsellers. She's always on the hunt for a new writing talent and considers the slushpile to be the greatest place on earth. She's looking for debut and established authors with storytelling magic, from picture books right up to YA fiction. Julia also runs the A.M.Heath Irish Children's Prize.

MONDAY 13 / 15.30 / ORGANICO CAFE / FREE  
COFFEE & CHAT with

UCC SCHOOL OF ENGLISH / MARY MORRISSY

Have you ever thought about doing an MA in Creative Writing? Did you know that you may do one in Cork? Join **Mary Morrissey** from UCC's School of English for a coffee and chat to learn more about their MA in Creative Writing. Mary is a novelist and she leads the fiction component on UCC's MA in Creative Writing.



Mary Morrissey



Yasmeen Ismail  
[Photo Olivia Hemingway]

MONDAY 13 / 16.30 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / €10  
ILLUSTRATING CHILDREN'S BOOKS:  
YASMEEN ISMAIL

**Yasmeen Ismail** will spill the beans on how she came to illustrate books for kids. This talk will focus on creativity, positivity and productivity! She is prepared to answer all your questions about illustrating children's books so don't hold back! Yasmeen Ismail is an award-winning writer and illustrator whose magical books include *Specs For Rex* and *Time For Bed, Fred!* She's from Dublin originally but has just moved from London to Bristol with her husband. They miss their cat very much.



MONDAY 13 / 17.00 / ORGANICO CAFE / FREE

## LAUNCH OF THE WCLF LETTER CAFÉ

The ping of an email will never sound as sweet as the sight of a handwritten letter so come along to the Letter Café and take the time to write to your loved ones. We provide complimentary stationery and pens and are open all week. All you have to do is provide the words. **Richard Farrell** will launch this year's Letter Café and will read some of the wonderful letters his brother, writer J.G. Farrell, wrote when he lived in West Cork.

MONDAY 13 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / BANTRY BAY SERIES / €16

## EMMA HOOPER & KIRSTY LOGAN: THE MAGIC OF LAND AND SEA

**Emma Hooper** will read from her magnificent debut novel *Etta and Otto and Russell and James*, the story of Etta, an 82-year-old woman who one day decides to walk the 2,000 miles from her home in rural Canada to the sea, which she has never seen.

*'An inspirational, captivating read, deserving of its place on all those must-read lists.'* – **Irish Independent**

*'One of the hot authors to watch...'* – **The Sunday Times**

**Emma Hooper** has been described as *'Amelie Poulain with an old suitcase full of futuristic gadgets, a viola and an accordion'* (Hoxton Underbelly). She is a musician and a writer of short stories, non-fiction pieces, poetry and libretti as well as academic papers on a range of things from retro-futurism to gender studies in pop music. Emma is a research-lecturer at Bath Spa University but goes home to cross-country ski in Canada as much as she can.

**Kirsty Logan's** debut novel *The Gracekeepers* is the magical and bewitching story of a floating circus and two young women in search of a home. The sea has flooded the earth. North lives on a circus boat, floating between the scattered islands that remain. Callanish lives alone in her house in the middle of the ocean, with only the birds and the fish for company. As penance for a terrible mistake, she works as a gracekeeper, tending the graves of those who die at sea. When a storm creates a chance meeting between the two girls, their worlds change.

*'A bold, fresh new talent...'* – **Independent on Sunday**

**Kirsty Logan's** debut novel *The Gracekeepers* is published in May 2015. Her short story collection, *The Rental Heart & Other Fairytales*, won the Scott Prize and was longlisted for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. She lives in Glasgow with her fiancée Annie and their rescue puppy.

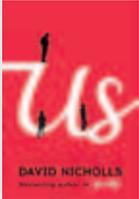
From top; Emma Hooper, Kirsty Logan [Photo Monkeytwizzle]



MONDAY 13 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## AN EVENING with DAVID NICHOLLS: *US*

**David Nicholls** joins us to read from his new novel *Us* and to talk about his work. *Us* was longlisted for The Man Booker Prize and David won UK Author of the Year 2014 at the National Book Awards.



*Us* tells the story of Douglas Petersen, whose marriage of twenty-one years to Connie is almost over. When autumn comes around, their son will leave for university. Connie has decided to leave soon after. But there's still the summer holidays to get through - a Grand Tour of Europe's major cities by train - and over the course of the journey, Douglas devises a plan to win back his wife and repair his troubled relationship with his son. *Us* is a comedy about the demands of living together, about parenthood, about the relationship between reason and emotion, art and science, parents and children, middle-age and youth.

*'Us is a perfect book.'* – **Independent**

*'I honestly can't imagine loving a novel much more.'* – **The Sunday Times**

*'Compulsively readable, extremely funny yet achingly melancholy'* – **The Times**

**David Nicholls** is a highly acclaimed novelist and screenwriter. His third novel *One Day* (2009) sold 5 million copies worldwide, was published in over forty languages, spent years on bestseller lists worldwide and was made into a film starring Anne Hathaway and Jim Sturgess. David wrote the screenplays for *One Day* and his first novel *Starter For Ten* as well as adapting *Much Ado About Nothing* starring Billie Piper, and *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*, both for BBC, and a dramatisation of Blake Morrison's *And When Did You Last See Your Father?*, which starred Colin Firth and Jim Broadbent. David's eagerly awaited fourth novel, *Us*, received universal praise and outstanding reviews. David lives in London.

MONDAY 13 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIC / FREE

Come along to perform your own work or simply listen to other writers.



David Nicholls [Photo Hal Shinnie]

## TUESDAY 14 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with **MARC ALLUM**

**Marc Allum** is an art and antiques journalist and a regular on BBC's Antiques Roadshow since 1998. Join Marc for a coffee and a chat about his work and his books *Allum's Antiques Almanac 2015* and *The Antiques Magpie*. Perhaps he'll even tell you about the Canadian dentist prepared to pay £23,000 for one of John Lennon's teeth or the garden gnome insured for £1 million.

FIRST  
BOOK  
SERIES

## TUESDAY 14 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

**JESSICA TRAYNOR: LIFFEY SWIM** (September 2014)

Family portraits and local history combine with mythological musings to create a strikingly assured and engaging suite of poems. *'Her finely lyrical work is informed by wide travel, a meditative intelligence and an acute sense of history, in which Dublin and its three rivers become a living metaphor for the truths and felicities of one woman's life.'* – Harry Clifton.

**Jessica Traynor** is from Dublin. Her first collection, *Liffey Swim*, was published by Dedalus Press in 2014 and is shortlisted for the Strong/Shine Award. She is the 2014 recipient of the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary and was named Hennessy New Irish Writer of the Year in 2013. Jessica works as Literary Manager of the Abbey Theatre.



Left: Jessica Traynor [Photo Steve Gallagher]

## TUESDAY 14 / 13.00/ BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

**JOHN FITZGERALD & THOMAS McCARTHY**



**John Fitzgerald** started to write poetry five years ago and has published his work in journals and newspapers. He was awarded the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Prize 2014 and was shortlisted for the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award 2015. He served as a jury member for the recent RTÉ Poem for Ireland Campaign. John lives with his family on a farm in Lissarda, County Cork, and works at UCC as University Librarian.

**Thomas McCarthy** will read from *Pandemonium*, his new collection of poetry, as well as from earlier collections *Merchant Prince* and *The Last Geraldine Officer*. *'The Last Geraldine Officer is a poetic achievement of the first order.'* – Poetry Ireland Review.

Thomas was born in Co. Waterford, in 1954 and educated at UCC. He worked for many years at Cork City Library before leaving to write full-time. He has published eight collections of poetry, two novels and a book of essays and memoirs. A new book, *Pandemonium*, is due from Anvil Poetry in 2015.

Left: John Fitzgerald Right: Thomas McCarthy



TUESDAY 14 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

## LITERARY AGENT: LUCY LUCK

**Lucy Luck** shares her expertise in the publishing industry and how it works, and what an agent offers an author, what their role is. Find out how to submit to an agent – how to know the work is ready, what you need to send, how best to present your work with practical examples. This session will also include a Q&A.

**Lucy Luck** is an agent at Aitken Alexander Associates. She worked for over 8 years at Rogers, Coleridge & White before setting up her own agency, Lucy Luck Associates, in 2006. In 2008 she joined with Aitken Alexander as an associate agency and as an agent in 2014. Her authors include Catherine O'Flynn, Kevin Barry, Colin Barrett, John Hooper, Adam Thorpe, Sara Taylor, Richard Beard, Sara Baume and Greg Baxter.



Lucy Luck

TUESDAY 14 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

## TESSA HADLEY: *THE PAST*

Don't miss this opportunity to hear a sneak preview of **Tessa Hadley's** new novel *The Past* which will be published in September. It's a mesmerizing story about family and what happens when three adult sisters and a brother gather in their grandparents' old house for three long, hot summer weeks. It's a tale of lust and envy, memory and affection and the beauty of the natural world.

**Tessa Hadley** has written five novels including *The London Train* and *Clever Girl*, and two collections of short stories - *Sunstroke*, and *Married Love*. Her new novel, *The Past*, will come out in September. She publishes stories regularly in the *New Yorker*, reviews for the *London Review of Books* and the *Guardian*, and is Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University.



Tessa Hadley

TUESDAY 14 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

### ROB DOYLE and OONA FRAWLEY

Four teenage boys spend their first summer of post-school freedom roaming aimlessly through Dublin, fuelled by drugs and dark fantasies and spiralling into self-destruction. A fierce, blackly comic wild ride of a novel, *Here Are the Young Men* is an Irish *Trainspotting* – a powerful literary statement about the lives of disaffected and disillusioned young people. *‘A new literary star is born’* – **Sunday Times**.

**Rob Doyle’s** highly acclaimed first novel, *Here Are the Young Men*, was published in 2014. His second book, *This Is the Ritual*, will be published in January 2016. Rob’s work has appeared in *The Dublin Review*, *Irish Times*, *The Stinging Fly*, *Sunday Times*, *Sunday Business Post* and *Gorse*. Rob lives in Dublin.

*Flight* is set in Ireland in 2004 as a referendum on citizenship approaches. It’s a story of friendship between a Zimbabwean woman who has left her family behind and the world-weary daughter of the elderly Irish couple that she cares for. It is a story of the global nature of the modern Irish experience.

**Oona Frawley** was born in New York City to Irish actor parents and she settled in Ireland in 1999. Oona has taught at UCD, Queens and Trinity, and has lectured English at Maynooth since 2008. She is married, has two children, and runs daily – slowly but compulsively. *Flight* is her first novel.

Oona Frawley’s participation is supported by the Arts Council’s Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme.

TUESDAY 14 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / FREE

### LAUNCH OF THE 2015 FISH ANTHOLOGY

*The Fish Anthology* is the culmination of a year’s work, trawling through the thousands of submissions to the Fish Short Story, Short Memoir, Flash Fiction and Poetry Prizes. **Jennifer Johnston, Carmen Bugan, Bret Anthony Johnston** and **Nick Laird** chose the final pieces, and the forty writers represented are from many countries. The launch is a celebration of these writers and an opportunity to hear some of them reading from their winning work. Poet **Leanne O’Sullivan** will launch the 2015 Fish Anthology. Fish Publishing was established in 1994 by Clem Cairns and Jula Walton to promote, encourage and publish new and emerging writers of quality. Fish has published over 500 writers from all over the world, and has been the stepping stone into successful writing careers.



Images, from top: Rob Doyle [Photo AI Higgins], Oona Frawley [Photo Graham Keogh]



TUESDAY 14 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## AN EVENING WITH COLIN BARRETT, KEVIN BARRY AND SARA BAUME

JOIN THREE OF IRELAND'S MOST EXCITING WRITERS AS THEY READ FROM AND DISCUSS THEIR WORK.

*Young Skins* is Colin Barrett's magnificent and multi-award-winning first book. The stories are set in rural Ireland where boy racers speed down the back lanes, couples haunt the midnight woods and young skins huddle in the cold. '[An] extraordinary debut.' – **The Guardian**.

**Colin Barrett** grew up in Mayo. His first book, *Young Skins*, was first published in 2013 by the Stinging Fly Press. It won the 2014 Frank O'Connor International Short Story Prize, The Rooney Prize for Literature and the Guardian First Book Award. Colin's stories have appeared in *A Public Space*, *Five Dials*, *The Guardian* and *The New Yorker*.

**Kevin Barry** is the author of the IMPAC Award-winning novel *City of Bohane* and the story collections *Dark Lies*, *The Island* and *There Are Little Kingdoms*. His new novel, *Beatlebone*, will be published in October and it imagines a trip by John Lennon to Ireland's west coast in 1978. His stories have appeared in the *New Yorker*, the *Granta Book of the Irish Story* and many other journals. He also writes screenplays, plays and radio plays. Originally from Limerick city, Kevin lives in Co. Sligo.

Images, from left: Colin Barrett, Kevin Barry, Sara Baume [Photo Sarah Davis-Goff]

*'By the end of a story, Barry has me in full sympathy with someone I might edge away from on the train.'* – **New York Times**.

*Spill Simmer Falter Wither* is the story of two misfits – one an eccentric loner and the other a one-eyed dog – who forge an unlikely relationship in a tired seaside town. Sara's debut novel captures the incremental destructive essence of loneliness and confirms her incredible talent. ‘

*'The most powerful debut novel I have read in years'* – **Joseph O'Connor**.

**Sara Baume** was born in Lancashire and grew up in Co. Cork. She studied Fine Art before completing a Masters in Creative Writing at Trinity College. Her short fiction has been published in the *Dublin Review*, *The Moth*, *The Penny Dreadful*, *The Stinging Fly* and the *Irish Independent*. In 2014 she won the Davy Byrnes Award, and in 2015 the Hennessy Award. She lives in Cork with her two dogs. Sara Baume's participation is supported by the Arts Council's Touring and Dissemination of Work Scheme.

TUESDAY 14 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIC / FREE

WEDNESDAY 15 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with

## SARA BAUME & TRAMP PRESS: THE MYTH OF OVERNIGHT SUCCESS

Last year **Lisa Coen** and **Sarah Davis-Goff** established **Tramp Press**, a new independent publishing company in Dublin. In February they published **Sara Baume's** critically acclaimed debut novel *Spill Simmer Falter Wither*. Join Sara, Sarah and Lisa for a chat about their remarkable start to 2015 and how it didn't all just happen overnight.

FIRST  
BOOK  
SERIES

WEDNESDAY 15 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

## JANE CLARKE: *THE RIVER* (June 2015)

Jane's poems contemplate shadow and sorrow, creativity and connection. Rivers evoke the inevitability of change and our need to find again and again how to go on.

*'There's a visionary at work here, a shaper and shifter, moving us in language that is plain, exact, and true. There is heartbreak and heart's ease in this auspicious debut.'*

– Paula Meehan, Ireland Professor of Poetry

Roscommon-born, Wicklow poet **Jane Clarke** holds an MPhil in Writing from the University of South Wales. She has won many awards and been published in journals, newspapers and anthologies including the *Irish Times* Hennessy New Irish Writing page in January 2015. Her first collection *The River* is published by Bloodaxe Books in June.

WEDNESDAY 15 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

## YOUNG IRELANDERS: COLIN BARRETT, CLAIRE-LOUISE BENNETT & ROB DOYLE

*Young Irelanders* is an exciting new anthology of short stories – a mix-tape that will open your eyes and soul to a new and continually evolving Irish literary scene. Edited by Dave Lordan and published by New Island in May 2015, it features the work of twelve of Ireland's most gifted and daring contemporary short-fiction writers and three of those will read their work for you today.



Clockwise From Top Left: Colin Barrett, Claire-Louise Bennett, Rob Doyle [Photo Al Higgins], Jane Clarke [Photo Isobel O'Duffy].

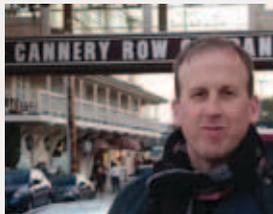


WEDNESDAY 15 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

## WRITING & PUBLISHING IN IRELAND TODAY: DECLAN MEADE

**Declan Meade** will talk about his experiences working as an editor and publisher. There will be a focus on the editorial process. He will answer questions about what writers need to consider before submitting work for publication and what happens during the move from manuscript to published story or book. He will discuss, more generally, the opportunities that exist for emerging writers in Ireland and look at ways new writers might hope to sustain a writing life.

*Declan Meade* is publisher of *The Stinging Fly* magazine, which he established in 1997 and edited until 2014. He is currently editor & publisher with Stinging Fly Press. Since 2005 he has published debut short story collections by Kevin Barry, Michael J. Farrell, Mary Costello, Colin Barrett and Claire-Louise Bennett and has edited a number of anthologies, including *These Are Our Lives*, *Let's Be Alone Together* and *Davy Byrnes Stories 2014*. In 2013 and 2014 he taught a module on the business of writing and publishing to the MFA Writing Class at the American College Dublin and is a regular guest speaker at colleges around the country.



Declan Meade



WEDNESDAY 15 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

## MICHAEL SMITH: SHACKLETON – BY ENDURANCE WE CONQUER

**Sir Ernest Shackleton**, one of history's outstanding explorers, became a legend on four epic voyages to the Antarctic a century ago. Shackleton marched to within 100 miles of the South Pole and led the dramatic battle to survive against the odds when his ship, *Endurance*, was crushed by ice. This is the compelling story of a complex man from Kildare who touched greatness on the ice but struggled with home life.

*'A rich volume, written in a passionate engaging style that makes it a compelling read.'* – **Irish Times**

**Michael Smith** is an authority on Polar exploration. He has written nine books and lectured at The Queen's Gallery Buckingham Palace, Royal Geographical Society, National Museum of Ireland, Queen's University Belfast and Scott Polar Research Institute Cambridge. *An Unsung Hero*, his biography of Tom Crean, was a No 1 bestseller in Ireland and shortlisted for the Banff Mountain Book Festival. His work highlights the importance of Irishmen in the history of Polar exploration. *Shackleton – By Endurance We Conquer* was published in 2014.



Michael Smith



WEDNESDAY 15 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

## STINGING FLY DEBUTS: CLAIRE-LOUISE BENNETT & DANIELLE McLAUGHLIN

Feverish and forthright, *Pond* chronicles the pitfalls and pleasures of the solitudinous life of an unnamed woman living on the cusp of a coastal town. This startlingly original first collection is both darkly funny and deeply moving.

‘A major writer to be discovered and treasured.’ – Deborah Levy.

**Claire-Louise Bennett** was born in Wiltshire, studied literature and drama in London, then moved to Galway. Her short fiction and essays have been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *The Penny Dreadful*, *The Moth*, *Irish Times* and *gorse*. In 2013 she won the inaugural *White Review* Short Story Prize. *Pond* is her debut collection and it is published by the Stinging Fly Press in April 2015.

**Danielle McLaughlin** will read from her debut collection of short stories *Dinosaurs on Other Planets* which will be published in Ireland this autumn by The Stinging Fly Press. Her stories have appeared in *The Stinging Fly*, *Irish Times*, *Southword*, *The Penny Dreadful* and *The New Yorker* and her awards include the William Trevor/Elizabeth Bowen International Short Story 2012, The Merriman Short Story 2013. She is Editor for Short Stories in English for *Southword* Journal.

WEDNESDAY 15 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## MARY COSTELLO AND CHRISTINE DWYER HICKEY

**Christine Dwyer Hickey** will read from her new novel *The Lives of Women*. Elaine returns to her childhood home after a long exile in New York to live with her invalid father. She is taken back in time to a 1970s summer and to a tragic event that would mark the rest of her life. Insightful and full of suspense, this is an uncompromising portrayal of the suburbs.

‘[The Cold Eye of Heaven] is the most profound novel I have read for years.’ – **The Guardian**

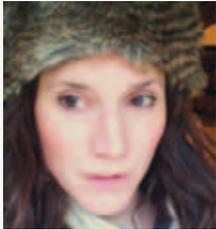
**Christine Dwyer Hickey** is an award-winning novelist and short story writer. *The Cold Eye of Heaven* won Irish Novel of the Year 2012, *Last Train from Liguria* was shortlisted for the Prix L’Européen de Littérature and *Tatty* for The Orange Prize.

**Mary Costello** will read from her novel *Academy Street*. Joyous and heart-breaking, restrained but sweeping, it is a profoundly moving story of one woman’s quest for belonging amid the dazzle and tumult of New York City.

‘Costello proves herself an absolute master in Academy Street.’ – **The Independent, London**

**Mary Costello** lives in Dublin. In 2012 her collection of stories, *The China Factory*, was nominated for the Guardian First Book Award. Her first novel, *Academy Street*, won the Eason’s Novel of the Year Prize at the Bord Gais Awards and was named overall Irish Book of the Year 2014, and featured on BBC Radio 4’s Book at Bedtime.

From top: Claire-Louise Bennett, Danielle McLaughlin [Photo Claire O'Rourke], Christine Dwyer Hickey, Mary Costello [Photo Martina Jenji]



WEDNESDAY 15 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

AN EVENING WITH **NICK DAVIES: HACK ATTACK** in conversation with **ALISON O'CONNOR**



Join award-winning investigative journalist **Nick Davies** as he reads from *Hack Attack* and discusses his work with **Alison O'Connor**. At first, it seemed like a small story. The royal editor of the *News of the World* was caught listening to voicemail messages of staff at Buckingham Palace. In 2007 he was sentenced to prison and the case was closed. But Nick Davies felt sure there was more to it and his investigation ultimately exposed a world of crime, cover-up, fear and favour – reaching all the way to the top.

*Hack Attack* is the stand-out, definitive book about one of the biggest scandals of our age, told by Nick Davies, the man who broke the story. It's a nail-biting account of a journalist's quest, and is the story of what happened when truth caught up with power.

*'Nick Davies is Britain's greatest investigative journalist... This book is as exciting as a thriller but far more important.'*  
– **Daily Telegraph**

*'This has all the elements – lying, corruption, blackmail – at the highest levels of government by the biggest newspaper in London.'* – **George Clooney** (who will direct a film adaptation of *Hack Attack*)

**Nick Davies** is a freelance journalist, working regularly as special correspondent for the *Guardian*. He was involved in the publication of secret US logs and cables obtained by Wikileaks and in exposing the phone-hacking scandal in Rupert Murdoch's newspaper empire. *Hack Attack: How the Truth Caught up with Rupert Murdoch* was published in 2014. In thirty-five years as a reporter, he has specialised in long-term projects, investigating crime, failing schools, poverty, drugs laws and news media. He has been named journalist of the year, feature writer of the year and reporter of the year in British press awards and has won numerous special awards for investigative reporting.

**Alison O'Connor** is a columnist with *The Irish Examiner*. Her work as a journalist and broadcaster involves regular commentary on politics and current affairs on radio and television. She is a guest presenter on the Tonight with Vincent Browne programme on TV3. She is a feminist. Alison is a native of Bantry, Co Cork.

WEDNESDAY 15 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL  
/ OPEN MIC / FREE



From top: Nick Davies, Alison O'Connor

THURSDAY 16 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10

COFFEE & CHAT with

## MARY COSTELLO: ACADEMY STREET

Join **Mary Costello** to hear her speak about her award-winning novel *Academy Street*. Mary's debut novel takes us from Ireland in the 1940s through to New York at this beginning of this century and it was awarded Irish Book of the Year 2014.



Left to right: Mary Costello [Photo Martina Jenji], Matt Padwick.

THURSDAY 16 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE

## MATT PADWICK:

## RUNNING CONTRA DICTION (February 2015)

Ed is an adrenalin junkie who spent years travelling the world in search of the next rush. Spurred on by the notion that peace of mind is just around the corner, he heads to Ireland and, on a beach as far west as he can go, he meets a stranger who hints at the truth Ed has been searching for.

**Matt Padwick** lives and writes on the Beara Peninsula. His novel is inspired by his own experience of travelling the world before arriving at a Tibetan Buddhist retreat centre in West Cork where he entered a two-year closed retreat. He then joined the staff and managed the centre for ten years until 2013.



FIRST  
BOOK  
SERIES

THURSDAY 16 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

## DAVE LORDAN & LEANNE O'SULLIVAN

**Dave Lordan** will read from his latest poetry collection *Lost Tribe of the Wicklow Mountains* (Salmon Poetry 2014). Dave is the first writer to have won all three of Ireland's national prizes for young poets. *Southword* called him 'a master of the sound and rhythm of language' while the *Irish Times* found his work to be 'as brilliant on the page as it must surely be in performance'. His most recent publications are the 'preposterously original' short fiction collection *First Book of Frags* and *Lost Tribe of the Wicklow Mountains*. He is editor of the *Young Irelanders* anthology (2015) for New Island press.

**Leanne O'Sullivan** will read a selection of poems from her published collections and will share some new poems with us. Leanne comes from the Beara peninsula in West Cork and has published three collections of poetry with Bloodaxe Books – *Waiting for My Clothes* (2004), *Cailleach: The Hag of Beara* (2009) (winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature) and *The Mining Road* (2013). Leanne's awards include the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary Award 2009, the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Irish Poetry 2011 and a UCC Alumni Award in 2012. She is currently Writer-In-Residence at UCC.



Left to right: Dave Lordan and Leanne O'Sullivan

THURSDAY 16 / 14.30 /  
MARITIME HOTEL / €20 / MAX 15

## READING IN PUBLIC - THE WRITER'S VOICE: IRENE O'MARA

Writers often need to read their work in public, voicing the words of the page out loud to an eager audience. Do you find this daunting? Do you find it hard to tell the same story that you've crafted in writing using your voice? Working with professional voice coach **Irene O'Mara**, this workshop is for any writer who finds themselves worried about the prospect of publicly speaking. Through simple exercises and encouraging tips, participants will gain confidence and tools to eradicate vagueness in delivery and learn how to communicate their work more expressively out loud.

**Irene O'Mara** has an MA in Voice Studies from Central School of Speech and Drama, University of London. Her teaching is influenced by the work of Kristin Linklater, Cicely Berry and Barbara Houseman. She works with practical techniques that interrogate how we speak and how to communicate more openly and clearly.



Irene O'Mara [Photos Miki Barlok]

THURSDAY 16 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

## CARLO GÉBLER: *CONFESSIONS OF A CATASTROPHIST*

*Confessions of a Catastrophist* (March 2015) is the story of **Carlo Gébler's** life as a writer. It's part riff, part memoir, part rant. Carlo reflects on three decades in the literary world, the literary trade, the books he's written and why he wrote them, and the difficult business of trying to make a living.

**Carlo Gébler** was born in Dublin in 1954 and brought up in London. He lives outside Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. His work includes novels, a short story collection, several works of non-fiction including the memoirs *Father & I* and *Confessions of a Catastrophist* and the narrative history, *The Siege of Derry*. He has been writer-in-residence in HMP Maghaberry since 1997.



THURSDAY 16 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

## ANTHONY SATTIN: *YOUNG LAWRENCE*

### *A PORTRAIT OF THE LEGEND AS A YOUNG MAN*

*Young Lawrence* is the first book to focus on T.E. Lawrence's life in his twenties, before the First World War, and tells the story he wanted to conceal. Set against the background of corrosive conflicts in Libya and the Balkans, this is the story of an exceptional young man searching for happiness, love and his place in the world until war changed his life forever.

*'Sattin has struck gold... balancing a lively, novelistic approach with genuine biographical inquiry in a very readable book'* – **Condé Nast Traveller**.

**Anthony Sattin** is a journalist, broadcaster and author of history and travel books *The Gates of Africa*, *Lifting the Veil* and *A Winter on the Nile*. He works with *Geographical Magazine* and *Condé Nast Traveller*. He lives in London and the Middle East.



From top: Carlo Gébler [Photo David Barker], Anthony Sattin

THURSDAY 16 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## JOHN BOYNE AND PAUL MURRAY

In *A History of Loneliness*, Odran enters Clonliffe Seminary in 1972 after his mother informs him that he has a vocation to the priesthood. He is full of ambition and hope but forty years later, his devotion has been challenged by the revelations that have shattered the Irish people's faith in the church. It has taken **John Boyne** fifteen years and twelve novels to write about his home country of Ireland but he has done so now in his most powerful novel to date, a novel about blind dogma and moral courage, and about the dark places where the two can meet. *A History of Loneliness* confirms Boyne as one of the most searching chroniclers of his generation.

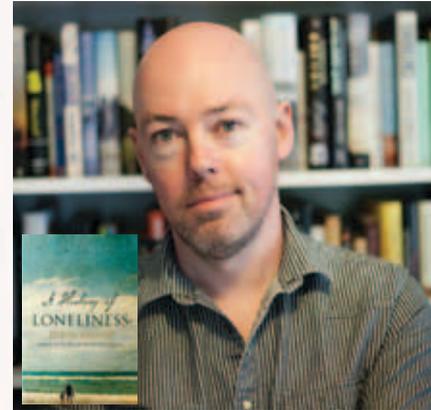
*'An urgently compelling story... Some of us have long wondered what it would be like if a master storyteller turned his powers to this theme. Now we know.'* – **Joseph O'Connor**

**John Boyne** is the author of nine novels for adults and four for younger readers. *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* sold six million copies and was made into an award-winning film. *The House of Special Purpose*, *The Absolutist* and *Stay Where You Are And Then Leave* have all been international bestsellers. *A History of Loneliness* was shortlisted for the Irish Novel of the Year Award. His work is translated into over forty-five languages.

**Paul Murray** gives us a sneak preview of his eagerly-awaited new novel *The Mark and the Void* which will be published in July. It's a stirring examination of the deceptions carried out in the names of art, love and commerce - and is also probably the funniest novel ever written about a financial crisis. What links the Bank of Torabundo, [www.myhotswaitress.com](http://www.myhotswaitress.com) (yes, *hots* with an s, don't ask), an art heist, a novel called *For Love of a Clown*, a four-year-old boy named after TV detective Remington Steele, a lonely French banker, a tiny Pacific island, and a pest control business run by an ex-KGB man? You've guessed it...

*'Funny, moving, utterly brilliant'* – **Irish Times** [on *Skippy Dies*].

**Paul Murray** was born in Dublin in 1975. He is the author of *An Evening of Long Goodbyes* and *Skippy Dies*. *An Evening of Long Goodbyes* was shortlisted for the Whitbread First Novel Award and *Skippy Dies* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize and shortlisted for the Costa Best Novel Award. *The Mark and the Void* will be published by Hamish Hamilton in July 2015.



From top: John Boyne, Paul Murray (Photo MARISFO)

THURSDAY 16 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

## AN EVENING WITH NEEL MUKHERJEE AND NIALL WILLIAMS

*The Lives of Others* is the story of three generations of a Bengali family in Calcutta at the end of the 1960s. The ageing patriarch and matriarch preside over their large household, unaware that beneath their middle-class lives, the sands are shifting. Poisonous rivalries, destructive secrets, illicit relationships, a disintegrating business – the family unravels as the society around it fractures. Then one of the sons becomes dangerously involved in extremist Maoist activism. *The Lives of Others* illuminates the chasm between the generations and between the haves and the have-nots. It catches both the national and the domestic, class and individual, at a crossroads in a nation's history.

*'This world is brought to life with great skill... Mukherjee terrifies and delights.'* – **The Guardian**

**Neel Mukherjee** was born in Calcutta and moved to England when he was 22. His first novel, *Past Continuous*, was published in India in 2008 and in the UK as *A Life Apart* in 2010. It won the Writers' Guild of Great Britain Award for best fiction. *The Lives of Others*, was published last year and was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize, the Costa Novel Award and nominated for the Folio Prize. Neel lives in London.

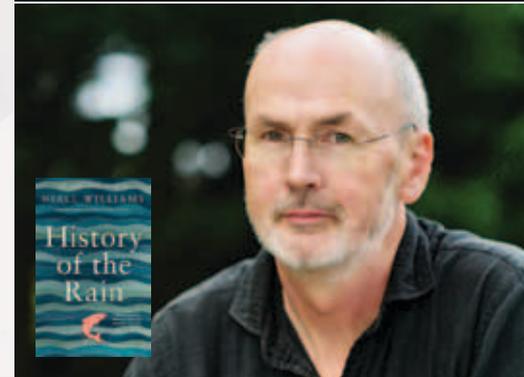
In *History of the Rain*, young Ruth lies bedbound in her attic room beneath the falling rain, in the margin between this world and the next. Searching for her father in the mystery of ancestors, Ruth must trace her family line from the restless Reverend Swain, her great-grandfather, to grandfather Abraham, to her father, Virgil - via pole-vaulting, leaping salmon, poetry and the 3,958 books piled high in her room. A celebration of books, love and the healing power of the imagination, this is an exquisite, funny, moving novel in which every sentence sings.

*'Beautiful and enchanting, a novel that weaves a love of literature into its own moving tale.'*

– **The Guardian**

**Niall Williams** was born in Dublin in 1958. He is the author of eight novels including *John* and *Four Letters of Love* for which he has recently completed the screenplay. *History of the Rain* was longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. He lives in Kiltumper in Co. Clare, with his wife, Christine.

From top: Neel Mukherjee [Photo Nick Tucker], Niall Williams [Photo John Kelly]



THURSDAY 16 / 22.00 / THE MARINER / €15

## MO PHEANN AG RINCE: TIONSCADAL AN RÍORDÁNAIGH MY PEN DANCES: THE SEÁN Ó RÍORDÁIN PROJECT

Bhí **Seán Ó Ríordáin** (1916-77) ina cheannródaí filíochta in Éirinn a linne. Léitear fós le fonn is le fiosracht é. Mealltar sinn ag a mhacántacht, a dhaonnacht, a ghreann, an t-imeartas focal agus na comhfhocail sin ina scilling-smaointe is iad ag clingeadh i gcúl aigne an léitheora. Anocht déanfaidh IMRAM comóradh ar fhoilsiú na ndialann ar na mallaibh, *Anamlón Bliana* (in eagar ag **Tadhg Ó Dúshláine**) agus *Selected Poems* (in eagar ag **Frank Sewell**).

**Seán Ó Ríordáin** (1916-77) was a pioneering presence in twentieth-century Irish language poetry. His work continues to engage today's Irish readers and writers with its honesty, humanity, humour, wordplay and striking juxtapositions of images. Tonight IMRAM celebrates the recent publication of his diaries, *Anamlón Bliana* (edited by **Tadhg Ó Dúshláine**) and *Selected Poems* (edited by **Frank Sewell**). This performance features **Louis de Paor** reading Ó Ríordáin's poems to musical accompaniment from guitarist **Enda Reilly**, whilst **Liam Ó Muirthile** will read selections from the diaries. The show features stunning on-screen projections created by design artist **Margaret Lonergan**.

This event is produced by **IMRAM Irish Language Literature Festival**.



THURSDAY 16 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL/ OPEN MIC / FREE

Image: Louis de Paor reading at a performance of My Pen Dances [Photo Jim Berkley]





**FRIDAY 17 / 10.00 / BANTRY HOUSE TEAROOM / €10**

COFFEE & CHAT with **KATHARINE NORBURY**

Katharine's first book *The Fish Ladder* is part-travelogue, part-memoir, part-nature writing. Join Katharine to hear about her remarkable journey, following a river from the sea to its source and how she discovered herself along the way.

**FRIDAY 17 / 11.15 / BANTRY BOOKSHOP / FREE**

**CELEBRATING HARPER LEE: GO SET A WATCHMAN - DR KATE KIRWAN**

Today we celebrate a long-awaited *second* book. **Harper Lee's** masterpiece *To Kill A Mockingbird* was published by William Heinemann in July 1960. Fifty-five years later they publish Lee's second book *Go Set A Watchman* (published second but written first) on 14 July.

Join **Dr Kate Kirwan** as she talks about *To Kill A Mockingbird* and Harper Lee. Kate's doctoral thesis was on American fiction including the depiction in historical fiction of racial tension in the American South. Fingers crossed that Bantry Bookshop will have received copies of *Go Set A Watchman* in time for this event.



**FRIDAY 17 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE**

**BELINDA McKEON: TENDER**

**Belinda McKeon's** new novel *Tender* is published in June 2015. Catherine and James meet in Dublin in the late 1990s and quickly form a close friendship as they come of age in a city teeming with freedoms and possibilities. But while Catherine's horizons are expanding, James finds that Ireland is still not a place in which he can truly be himself. When crisis hits, Catherine must face difficult truths not just about her closest bond but about herself. *Tender* is a novel about friendship and youth, selfhood and sexuality, and the lies we tell ourselves.

**Belinda McKeon** is an Irish writer living in Brooklyn. Her debut novel *Solace* was published in 2011 and won the Faber Prize and Irish Book of the Year. Her essays and journalism have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Paris Review*, *Irish Times* and the *Guardian*. Belinda teaches at Rutgers University.

From top: Katharine Norbury [Photo Robin Farquhar-Thomson], Belinda McKeon [Photo Hiroki Kobayashi]

Dave Lordan



FRIDAY 17 / 14.00 / THE MARINER / FREE

### WORDS ALLOWED: READING BY TEENAGE WRITERS

Join **Dave Lordan** and the young writers from our five-day *Words Allowed* Workshop for Teenage Writers as they showcase new work that they have written during the week of the festival. Expect to be surprised, provoked and moved but most of all expect to be inspired by the writers of tomorrow. All are welcome!

FRIDAY 17 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €20

### CREATING AN ENGAGING ONLINE PRESENCE: LOUISE O'NEILL

In an increasingly crowded market place, authors must learn how to effectively promote their own work. Creating and maintaining an authentic, engaging online presence can be instrumental in ensuring success. During this informal workshop, **Louise O'Neill** will help you to determine your personal 'brand' and show you how to best utilise social media to reach a bigger audience. Louise is very active – and authentic and engaging – on [louiseoneillauthor.com](http://louiseoneillauthor.com), [twitter.com/oneilllo](https://twitter.com/oneilllo) and [facebook.com/louiseoneillauthor](https://facebook.com/louiseoneillauthor).

**Louise O'Neill** is a writer from West Cork. Her first novel *Only Ever Yours* was published to huge critical acclaim in 2014. It won the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year at the 2014 Irish Book Awards and the 2015 YA Book Award. Louise will read from her upcoming second novel *Asking For It* at this year's festival.



Louise O'Neill [Photo Miki Barlok]





FRIDAY 17 / 14.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €18

## ROB COWEN AND RUTH PADEL: THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

*Common Ground* blurs the boundaries of memoir, natural history and novel and offers an enthralling new way of writing about nature and our experiences within it. After moving to a new home in Yorkshire, **Rob Cowen** finds himself on unfamiliar territory, disoriented, hemmed in by winter and yearning for open space. So he sets out to find it – a pylon-slung edge-land, a tangle of wood, meadow, field and river on the outskirts of town. He discovers that nature isn't just found in some remote mountain or park. It is all around us, it is in us.

'One of the UK's most exciting nature writers.' – **The Guardian**

**Rob Cowen** is an award-winning journalist and nature and travel writer with the *Independent*, *Independent on Sunday* and the *Telegraph*. He received the Roger Deakin Award for his first book *Skimming Stones and Other Ways of Being in the Wild* (2012). *Common Ground* is published in May 2015. He lives in North Yorkshire.



from top: Rob Cowen.  
Ruth Padel [Photo Adrian Pope]

**Ruth Padel's** new collection *Learning To Make An Oud In Nazareth* turns to the Middle East. Through images of conflict and craftsmanship, the poems trace a quest for harmony in the midst of destruction. An oud is made and broken. An ancient synagogue survives arson, a guide shows us Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity during a siege. Uniting this collection is an insight of human life as vulnerable, as pilgrimage and struggle but also as music whose patternings articulate and renew our experience.

'Wonderful, audacious, minutely crafted.' – **Observer**

**Ruth Padel** has published nine poetry collections. *Learning to Make an Oud in Nazareth* was shortlisted for the T S Eliot Prize. She is Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and Trustee of the Zoological Society of London. She teaches poetry at King's College London. Ruth's prose books include a study of Greek myth on rock music and opera, a book on tiger conservation and a novel on wildlife crime.

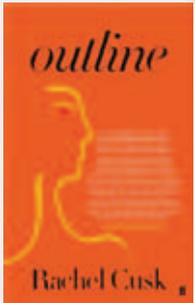


FRIDAY 17 / 17.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

### LOUISE O'NEILL: ASKING FOR IT

Join **Louise O'Neill** for a sneak preview of her new book *Asking For It*, which will be published in September. Does it matter if you can't remember? *Asking For It* is a novel about betrayal and consent, truth and denial, in the age of the smartphone. Louise's first novel *Only Ever Yours* won the *Sunday Independent* Newcomer of the Year at the 2014 Irish Book Awards and the 2015 Bookseller YA Book Prize. It is currently shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize. Louise works as a freelance journalist, covering feminist issues, fashion and pop culture. She grew up in Clonakilty, West Cork.

'Only Ever Yours [is] brilliantly realized... utterly compelling...' – **Irish Times**



FRIDAY 17 / 18.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €16

### RACHEL CUSK: OUTLINE

**Rachel Cusk's** *Outline* is about a female writer who goes to Athens to teach a writing course, and who is told the life stories of the people she meets along the journey.

'Full of wonderful surprises... ★★★★★' – **The Telegraph**

'Every single word is earned, precisely tuned, enthralling. *Outline* is a triumph of attitude and daring, a masterclass in tone.' – **The Guardian**

'One of the smartest writers alive... She writes about adult topics with sagacity and authority. Well-worn subjects; adultery, divorce, ennui, become freshly menacing under her gaze.' – **New York Times**

**Rachel Cusk** is the author of eight novels and three works of autobiography. Her most recent novel, *Outline*, has been shortlisted for the Folio Prize and the Goldsmiths Prize and is currently longlisted for the 2015 Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction. She lives in London.



Images; top left: Louise O'Neill [Photo Miki Barlok] right: Rachel Cusk [Photo Siemon Scamell-Katz]

FRIDAY 17 / 20.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / €25

## AN EVENING WITH GRAHAM NORTON: *THE LIFE AND LOVES OF A HE DEVIL*

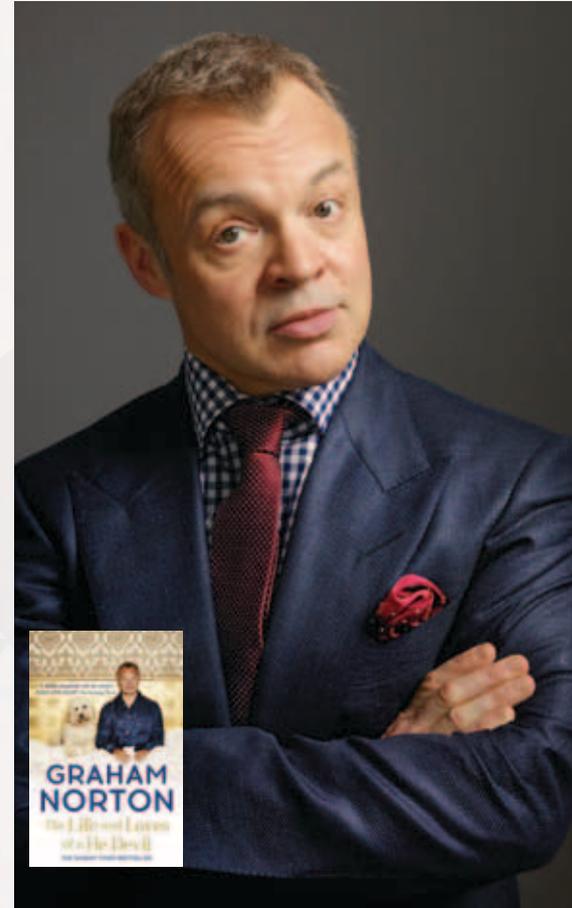
Friday nights just aren't the same without **Graham Norton** so if you're missing him from your TV screen this summer, don't worry! You can spend a Friday night in his company at this year's festival.

Graham has been entertaining audiences and having fun with the world's biggest stars for nearly twenty years. He first made his mark as a stand-up comedy drag act at the Edinburgh Festival before bringing the hilarious enthusiasm and boundless energy of Father Noel Furlong to *Father Ted*. He has hosted some of the most successful shows in television including *So Graham Norton*, *How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria?* and *The Eurovision Song Contest*. As well as his massively popular weekly BBC Radio 2 show, Graham hosts the hugely successful BBC1 chat show *The Graham Norton Show*. Graham's work has earned him seven BAFTAs including the BAFTA for Best Entertainment Programme. Somehow in the middle of all this hard work Graham has found the time to live and to love – and to write a book about it.

*The Life and Loves of a He Devil* is Graham's funny and honest memoir on the theme of love. As he shows, it's really the things you love that define who you are and so Graham tells his story from childhood to present day, describing just what and who he loved – and sometimes lost – as a child, and his new loves and obsessions – big and small – as he's grown older. From Dolly Parton and dogs to wine and Ireland, Graham tells us about his life and loves with characteristic humour and outrageous candour.

*'Full of wicked asides, tart observations and sharp remarks that could only have originated in Graham Norton's witty brain.'* – Terry Wogan

FRIDAY 17 / 22.30 / MARITIME HOTEL / OPEN MIC / FREE



Graham Norton [Photo Dan Burn-Forti]



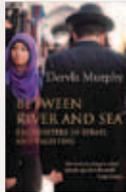
SATURDAY 18 / 11.15 / BANTRY HOUSE / €25  
**LITERARY BRUNCH** WITH

## **DERVLA MURPHY: *BETWEEN RIVER AND SEA***

Join **Dervla Murphy** as she discusses her latest book *Between River and Sea: Encounters in Israel and Palestine* with fellow travel writer **Anthony Sattin**. Dervla describes with passionate honesty the experience of her most recent journeys into Israel and Palestine.

*'A great inspiration ... travel is the medium that has revealed her generosity of spirit.'* – **Paul Theroux, Irish Examiner**

**Dervla Murphy** was born in Lismore, County Waterford in 1931. Her first book *Full Tilt: Ireland to India with a Bicycle* (1965) describes her exuberant bicycle ride from Lismore to India, through Iran and Afghanistan. It has been followed by some twenty further titles, including an acclaimed memoir, *Wheels within Wheels*.



SATURDAY 18 / 13.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE  
**MARTYN TURNER:**

## **IRISH TIMES POLITICAL CARTOONIST**

Join **Marty Turner** as he chats about the life and work of a political cartoonist in today's world. Marty has been contributing political cartoons to *The Irish Times* since 1971. He was born in England but moved to Belfast to study at Queens University. His cartoons are syndicated to newspapers and magazines worldwide and eighteen books of his work have been published, most recently *Turner's Taoisigh* (2014). Marty lives in Kildare.



Images from left:  
Dervla Murphy  
[Photo Paddy Barker, Irish Examiner]  
Marty Turner  
[Photo Brenda Fitzsimons, The Irish Times]



## SATURDAY 18 / 14.30 / WHIDDY ISLAND / €25 (INCLUDES RETURN FERRY TRIP)

A SPECIAL ISLAND EVENT WITH **MICK DELAP, CORMAC JAMES & KATHARINE NORBURY**

All aboard the ferry to Whiddy Island for this special event where we celebrate Bantry Bay, the sea beyond and the beauty and poetry of West Cork.

**Mick Delap** will read a sequence of poems inspired by his previous visits to West Cork Literary Festival and on the events of 1796 on Bantry Bay. These poems will be performed using voices and music, with guest readers **Leanne O'Sullivan** and **Paddy Bushe**.

**Mick Delap** started writing seriously in 2000 when he retired from the BBC World Service. His first collection *River Turning Tidal* was published by Lagan Press. His second collection, *Opening Time*, was published by Arlen House in 2015. Mick lives in London but spends a great deal of time in his grandfather's homeland of Valentia Island in Kerry.

**Cormac James** will read from his novel *The Surfacing*, set in 1850 as an Admiralty ship searches for Franklin's lost expedition in the High Arctic. An entirely male world until a pregnant stowaway is discovered. It's too late to turn back, the ice is closing in, and the child will have to be born in the frozen wilderness. *'A highly original and poetic story of isolation and responsibility upon the sea.'* – **Irish Times**

**Cormac James** was born in Cork and lives in France. A graduate of the UEA Creative Writing MA, his first novel, *Track and Field*, was published in 2000. Cormac's second novel *The Surfacing* was published in 2014.

**Katharine Norbury** will read from her memoir *The Fish Ladder*. Katharine sets out to follow a river from the sea to its source. Combining travelogue, memoir, nature writing, fragments of poetry and Celtic mythology, *The Fish Ladder* is portrait of motherhood, a literary marriage and a hymn to the adoptive family. It's a meditation on the majesty of the natural world.

*'A beguiling amalgam of personal anecdote, travelogue and family history...'* – **Independent**

**Katharine Norbury** trained as a film editor with the BBC. She is a graduate of the Creative Writing MA programme at UEA and teaches writing about place at CAPA International Education. She lives in London with her family. *The Fish Ladder* is her first book.

The ferry leaves Bantry Pier for Whiddy Island at 14.30 sharp. It will leave Whiddy at 16.30 to return to Bantry.



Images, from top: Mick Delap, Cormac James [Photo Christophe Coudouy], Katharine Norbury [Photo Robin Farquhar-Thomson]

SATURDAY 18 / 15.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / FREE

## BANTRY LIBRARY WRITERS GROUP

The **Bantry Library Writers Group** has been meeting in the library for over thirteen years to read and discuss their work. The group includes a wide range of published and unpublished writers united by their love of words. Today is your chance to hear and enjoy the work of these very talented writers living and writing around

SATURDAY 18 / 20.30 / MA MURPHY'S / €10

## THE STRANGE UNDOING OF PRUDENCIA HART

### A REHEARSED READING

One wintry morning Prudencia Hart, a young Scottish academic folklorist, sets off to speak at a conference on her specialist subject of The Borders Ballads. The conference does not go well as she is bested in the plenary debate by her annoying colleague Dr Colin Syme, a specialist in the study of football chants. As the snow begins to fall in the Scottish Borders, Prudencia and Colin are forced to seek shelter in the local pub. They find themselves in the middle of a wild lock-in full of drink, song and debauchery which sparks a journey into the underworld for Prudencia who becomes caught up in a supernatural Border Ballad of her own.

This play is written in ballad form, mostly in rhyme and the playwright intends it to be performed by a troupe of actor/musicians in the environment of a pub or village hall. It is inspired by Scottish traditional ceilidhs and storytelling sessions. We've had a full week of storytelling, we have five actors and we have a pub so we have all the ingredients for the telling of Prudencia's undoing (we're planning to skip the snow!).

This event is a rehearsed reading of *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart*, a play written by **David Greig**, a Scottish playwright and theatre maker. It is performed by five Cork-based actors **George Hanover**, **Nicholas Kavanagh**, **Dominic MacHale**, **Frank Prendergast** and **Aideen Wylde** and is directed by **Julie Kelleher**, artistic director of the Everyman Theatre.



David Greig  
The Strange Undoing of  
Prudencia Hart





## WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL

### AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY 12 - SATURDAY 18 JULY 2015



[Photo Deirdre Fitzgerald]

DATE / TIME	EVENT	VENUE
<b>SUNDAY 12 JULY</b>		
15.00	Michel Faber: The Book of Strange New Things	Maritime Hotel
18.00	Opening Reception of the 17th West Cork Literary Festival	Bantry Library
20.30	An Evening with SJ Watson: Second Life	Maritime Hotel
<b>MONDAY 13 JULY</b>		
All Week	Artist and Author Exhibition: William Crozier and Edward Delaney	Bantry Library
10.00	Coffee & Chat with Nuala O'Connor	Bantry House Tearoom
11.15	Lisa McInerney: The Glorious Heresies	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	Nuala O'Connor: Miss Emily	Bantry Library
14.30	Literary Agent for Children's Books: Julia Churchill	Maritime Hotel
15.30	Coffee & Chat with UCC School of English/Mary Morrissey	Organico Cafe
16.30	Yasmeen Ismail: Illustrating Children's Books	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Launch of the Letter Cafe	Organico Cafe
18.30	Emma Hooper & Kirsty Logan: The Magic of Land and Sea	Maritime Hotel
20.30	An Evening with David Nicholls: Us	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel
<b>TUESDAY 14 JULY</b>		
10.00	Coffee & Chat with Marc Allum: Antiques Almanac	Bantry House Tearoom
11.15	Jessica Traynor: Liffey Swim	Bantry Bookshop
13.00	John FitzGerald and Thomas McCarthy	Bantry Library
14.30	Literary Agent: Lucy Luck	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Tessa Hadley: The Past	Maritime Hotel
15.00	The Monster Doodle: Vikings / Mark Wickham	St Brendan's School Hall
17.00	Rob Doyle & Oona Frawley	Bantry Library
18.30	Launch of the 2015 Fish Anthology	Maritime Hotel

DATE / TIME EVENT	VENUE	DATE / TIME EVENT	VENUE		
<b>TUESDAY 14 JULY</b> [continued]		<b>FRIDAY 17 JULY</b>			
20.30	An Evening with Colin Barrett, Kevin Barry and Sara Baume	Maritime Hotel	10.00	Coffee & Chat with Katharine Norbury	Bantry House Tearoom
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel	10.00	Children's Reading: Storytelling Caravan	The Square
<b>WEDNESDAY 15 JULY</b>		11.15	Celebrating Harper Lee: Go Set A Watchman	Bantry Bookshop	
10.00	Coffee & Chat with Sara Baume and Tramp Press	Bantry House Tearoom	13.00	Belinda McKeon: Tender	Bantry Library
11.15	Jane Clarke: The River	Bantry Bookshop	14.00	Words Allowed: Reading by Teenage Writers	The Mariner
13.00	Young Irelanders: Colin Barrett, Claire-Louise Bennett, Rob Doyle	Bantry Library	14.30	Creating an Engaging Online Presence: Louise O'Neill	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Writing and Publishing in Ireland Today: Declan Meade	Maritime Hotel	14.30	Rob Cowen And Ruth Padel: The World We Live In	Maritime Hotel
14.30	Bantry Bay Series: Michael Smith: Shackleton	Maritime Hotel	15.00	Children's Reading: Apple and Rain: Sarah Crossan	St Brendan's School Hall
15.00	Children's Reading: Judi Curtin and Sarah Webb	St Brendan's School Hall	17.00	Louise O'Neill: Asking For It	Bantry Library
17.00	Stinging Fly Debuts: Claire-Louise Bennett and Danielle McLaughlin	Bantry Library	18.30	Rachel Cusk: Outline	Maritime Hotel
18.30	Mary Costello and Christine Dwyer Hickey	Maritime Hotel	20.30	An Evening with Graham Norton	Maritime Hotel
20.30	An Evening with Nick Davies: Hack Attack	Maritime Hotel	22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel	<b>SATURDAY 18 JULY</b>		
<b>THURSDAY 16 JULY</b>		11.15	Literary Brunch with Dervla Murphy: Between River and Sea	Bantry House	
10.00	Coffee & Chat with Mary Costello	Bantry House Tearoom	13.00	Martyn Turner: Irish Times Political Cartoonist	Bantry Library
11.15	Matt Padwick: Running Contra Diction	Bantry Bookshop	13.15	Children's Reading: Tom Crean Iceman: Michael Smith	St Brendan's School Hall
13.00	Dave Lordan and Leanne O'Sullivan	Bantry Library	14.30	Bantry Bay Series: Mick Delap, Cormac James and Katharine Norbury	Whiddy Island
14.30	Reading in Public - The Writer's Voice: Irene O'Mara	Maritime Hotel	15.00	Bantry Library Writers' Group	Bantry Library
14.30	Carlo Gébler: Confessions of a Catastrophist	Maritime Hotel	20.30	The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart	Ma Murphy's
15.00	Children's Reading: Darkmouth: Shane Hegarty	St Brendan's School Hall			
17.00	Anthony Sattin: Young Lawrence	Bantry Library			
18.30	John Boyne and Paul Murray	Maritime Hotel			
20.30	An Evening with Neel Mukherjee and Niall Williams	Maritime Hotel			
22.00	IMRAM Mo Pheann Ag Rince: Tionscadal An Ríordánaigh	The Mariner			
22.30	Open Mic	Maritime Hotel			

# THE J.G. FARRELL FICTION AWARD

The **J. G. Farrell Fiction Award** is for the best opening chapter of a novel-in-progress by a writer resident in Munster. The prize includes a place on the West Cork Literary Festival's *Writing a Novel* with **John Boyne** workshop and accommodation at the Maritime Hotel. Applicants should send two copies of the first chapter of their novel (max 3,000 words), double-spaced and printed on one side of the page only. Place your name and address on a separate sheet.

**Please send your hard copy entries to**

West Cork Literary Festival, 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co. Cork **by Monday 25 May.**

**Clearly mark the envelope *J.G. Farrell Award*.**

**Emailed or late entries will not be accepted. Entries will not be returned.**

This year's **J.G. Farrell Fiction Award** will be adjudicated by **Mary Morrissy**, author of three historical novels and a collection of short stories. Her latest novel *The Rising of Bella Casey* is currently longlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Mary leads the fiction component on the MA in Creative Writing in UCC.

**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 his home in 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 Kirshnapur*, Farrell's novel about the Indian Mutiny of 1957, carried off the Booker Prize 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 sixth year.

Right: John Boyne who gives the Writing a Novel workshop



# WORKSHOPS

**Booking:** +353 (0)27 52788/9

**LoCall:** 1850 788 789

**Book online:** [www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie](http://www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie)

Max 15 participants per workshop

€175 for five-day workshops

€100 for five-day Words Allowed Workshop for Teenage Writers

€110 for three-day Investigative Reporting workshop

**Five-day workshops run concurrently, from**

**9.30am – 12.30pm** Monday 13 to Friday 17 July 2015

Three-day workshop: Wednesday 15 to Friday 17 July 2015

Please note that the first day of the Travel Writing workshop will run from 14.30-17.30.

**Workshop Venues:** Coláiste Pobail Bheantraí, Seskin, Bantry  
**Except;** *Travel Writing* with Anthony Sattin takes place in Bank House Bar & Restaurant, Whiddy Island. Daily ferry transfer to/from Whiddy Island is included in the course.

The WCLF workshop programme is aimed at both novice and experienced writers. Our five-day workshops, unique among Irish literary festivals, provide opportunities for development and intensive learning not possible in one sitting. Our workshops are run by award-winning writers many of whom teach creative writing at third level and offer immense value to participating writers. Several of the writers reading at this year's festival are previous participants on WCLF workshops.

**CONDITIONS OF SALE:** Every effort will be made to ensure that the programme will proceed as advertised however WCLF 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.

## WRITING A NOVEL with JOHN BOYNE

/ €175 MAX 15 / SELLING FAST

Are you currently working on a novel and would you benefit from a workshop environment to draw out its full potential? Over the first four mornings, characterisation, plot, dialogue, point of view, foreshadowing and structure will be considered but most of the class will be a discussion of your work. You should arrive on Monday with a printed copy of up to 6,000 words of your novel and an outline of your project. Students will be expected to read three or four of these a day (between classes) and arrive the next morning ready to discuss and offer constructive criticism. The fifth morning will be a general discussion of the publishing industry, from the moment you complete your manuscript to (hopefully) the moment you publish your first novel.

**John Boyne** is the author of nine novels for adults and four for younger readers. *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas* sold six million copies and *The House of Special Purpose*, *The Absolutist* and *Stay Where You Are And Then Leave* were all international bestsellers. *A History of Loneliness* was shortlisted for the Irish Novel of the Year Award. He is also an award-winning short story writer and the recipient of the 2012 Hennessy Literary 'Hall of Fame' Award. John has taught writing courses at the Irish Writers' Centre and the University of East Anglia. His work is translated into over forty-five languages.

# 5 DAY WORKSHOPS

## THE SHORT STORY with TESSA HADLEY / €175 MAX 15

In the short story workshops we will be looking at the work of published writers, alongside developing new stories of our own. We will explore various aspects of story writing - finding a story to tell, making characters real, making place real, choosing point of view, writing dialogue, knowing where the story ends. There will be plenty of open-ended discussion and writing experiments to help get stories started and get them finished.

**Tessa Hadley** has written five novels including *The London Train* and *Clever Girl*, and two collections of short stories - *Sunstroke*, and *Married Love*. Her new novel, *The Past*, will come out in 2015. She publishes stories regularly in the *New Yorker*, reviews for the *London Review of Books* and the *Guardian*, and is Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University.

## POETRY with LEANNE O'SULLIVAN / €175 MAX 15

This workshop is open to poets at any level of experience, from well-seasoned poets to those just beginning to hear that first, inner voice of poetry. The sessions will encourage and stimulate poems through discussion, exercise-based and free writing, while allowing you to take risks in a supportive environment. Each session will focus on a different topic, such as imagery, perspective, storytelling, rhythm and form. Bring any poems you have been working on, and also feel free to bring poems you admire. And, since we will be writing in the midst of a very inspiring landscape, don't forget your sense of adventure!

**Leanne O'Sullivan** comes from the Beara Peninsula in West Cork and has published three collections of poetry, all from Bloodaxe Books, including *Waiting for My Clothes* (2004), *Cailleach: The Hag of Beara* (2009) (winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature in 2010), and *The Mining Road* (2013). The winner of several of Ireland's poetry competitions (including the Seacat, Davoren Hanna and RTÉ *Rattlebag* Poetry Slam), she received the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary Award 2009, the Lawrence O'Shaughnessy Award for Irish Poetry 2011, and a UCC Alumni Award in 2012. She is currently Writer-In-Residence at UCC.



From top: Tessa Hadley, Leanne O'Sullivan



## MEMOIR with CARLO GÉBLER / €175 MAX 15

This course will help you to start, advance or finish a memoir. On the Monday please arrive with either a plan of what you want to write (a few pages will suffice) or the manuscript you would like to advance or finish. All types or genre of memoir are welcome. Each morning will start with an informal presentation by Carlo based on a text he admires and that he believes has something to teach writers. Then you will read from or, if you are just beginning, talk about, your work. Everyone will be expected to read to the group in the week. Each reading will be followed by a discussion, led by Carlo, on what has just been read aloud. These group discussions will form the heart of the workshop. You will leave with a much clearer idea of how to start, advance or finish a complex piece of work.

**Carlo Gébler** was born in Dublin in 1954 and brought up in London. He now lives outside Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh. His writing career includes novels, a short story collection, several works of non-fiction including the memoirs *Father & I* and *Confessions of a Catastrophist* and the narrative history, *The Siege of Derry*. Carlo has written travel books, novels for children and radio and stage plays. He has been writer-in-residence in HMP Maghaberry since 1997.

## TRAVEL WRITING with ANTHONY SATTIN / €175 MAX 15 / WHIDDY ISLAND (INC. FERRY)

Travel writing is about more than recording what we do on holidays. This course will draw on inspiration from novels, biographies and nature writing. We start at the beginning, considering what travel writing is and can be, and how we might write it. There will be brief writing exercises to put into practice the points we discuss, and to explore the possibilities of the genre. We will consider writing about place, how to build a character, when and how to use dialogue, how to write with humour, how best to capture nature. We will look at ways of structuring the various elements of a story to build a portrait of a place.

**Anthony Sattin** is an award-winning writer of travel and history. A graduate of the Creative Writing Masters degree at the University of East Anglia, his travel writing has appeared in the *Sunday Times* and *Condé Nast Traveller*, where he is a contributing editor. He has taught writing in places as diverse as Bishkek and Marrakech, most recently running a *Guardian*/University of East Anglia masterclass. *Condé Nast Traveller* calls Anthony one of the ten key influences on contemporary travel writing.

From top: Carlo Gébler [Photo David Barker], Anthony Sattin

# 5 DAY WORKSHOPS

## PLAYWRITING: PLACING CHARACTER FRONT AND CENTRE with DEIRDRE KINAHAN / €175 MAX 15

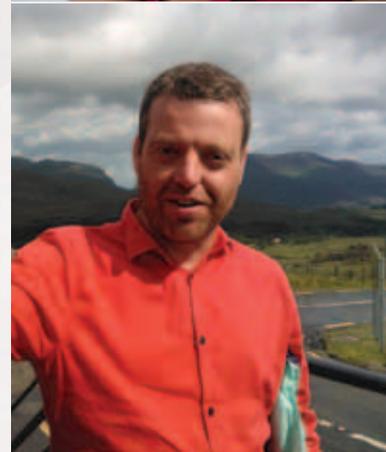
A playwriting workshop for all levels focusing on the creation and development of empathetic character for the stage. This is a hands on workshop where you dream up new characters and new stories for the stage. Deirdre creates complex yet recognisable characters and the workshop will focus on understanding your character, creating their world view, rhythms of speech, the joy of conflicting forces, observational comedy, ambushing your audience. Participants are asked to read Deirdre's plays *Halcyon Days* and *Moment* and *Our New Girl* by Nancy Harris.

**Deirdre Kinahan** is a playwright and producer. She was artistic director of Tall Tales Theatre Co. for 15 years and now sits on the Abbey board and on the Stewart Parker Trust advisory committee whose mission is to encourage new writing for the stage. Deirdre's latest play *Spinning* premiered at Dublin Theatre Festival 2014. She is under commission to Manhattan Theatre Club New York and Fishamble Theatre Company. Deirdre has written for The Royal Court and Bush Theatre London, Fishamble, Abbey Theatre, Project Arts Centre, Tall Tales and *Livin Dred*. Her awards include an Edinburgh Fringe First for *Halcyon Days* in 2013 and a Peggy Ramsay Award 2014.

## WORDS ALLOWED: WORKSHOP FOR TEENAGE WRITERS with DAVE LORDAN / €100 MAX 15 / AGE 14-18

The Words Allowed workshop is 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 the contemporary world where multimedia technologies are assuming more importance. In an atmosphere of encouragement for individual creativity, each participant will be encouraged to generate new work. The week will be rounded off with a public reading of your work. This is Ireland's leading workshop for teenage writers.

**Dave Lordan**, 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. His most recent publications are the short fiction collection *First Book of Frags* and the poetry collection *Lost Tribe of the Wicklow Mountains*. He is editor of the *Young Irelanders* anthology for New Island press. Dave has given workshops for RTÉ, Irish Film Institute, Dublin City Libraries and Children's Books Ireland and he teaches creative writing at the Irish Writers Centre and the Big Smoke Writing Factory and lectures on the MA in Poetry Studies at the Mater Dei Institute.



From top: Deirdre Kinahan, Dave Lordan





From top: Magi Gibson, Sarah Webb

## WILD WOMEN WRITING with MAGI GIBSON / €175 MAX 15

In these workshops Magi will help you find your true voice, the Wild Woman voice you've lost by being caught up in all the other roles life demands of women today. Magi will help you confront and deal with the barriers holding you back from writing the way you want to, from saying the things you need to say. She'll help you make contact with your inner wild woman, that creative part of you that's so often stifled and ignored. There will be lively discussions to inspire fresh, passionate work. By the end of the week you'll be all revved up to continue writing with renewed energy and self-confidence. (Have you done this course before? Don't worry, it's never the same twice!)

**Magi Gibson**, who writes poetry, short stories, novels and plays, is the creator of the Wild Women Writing Workshops and Writer in Residence with Glasgow Women's Library. She has held Scottish Arts Council Creative Writing Fellowships as well as a Royal Literary Fund Fellowship. Her third poetry collection, *Wild Women of a Certain Age*, is in its fourth print run, and her children's novels are published by Puffin. She is known throughout her native Scotland as a first class creative writing tutor.

## START WRITING FOR CHILDREN & TEENAGERS with SARAH WEBB / €175 MAX 15

Do you want to be the next Derek Landy, Eoin Colfer or Judi Curtin? Then this is the course for you. In this practical, hands-on workshop we will discuss popular and award-winning books for different age groups – from picture books to YA novels. We will cover the essentials: characters, plot, setting, dialogue, plus re-writing and editing your work. If you have already started writing a book, we will look at making it even better, preparing your manuscript for submission, and how to impress editors or agents.

**Sarah Webb** writes for both children and adults. Her *Ask Amy Green* series (age 10+) has been shortlisted for the Queen of Teen Awards in the UK and the Irish Book Awards. Other books for young readers include *Emma the Penguin* and *Sally Go Round the Stars*. Her new book *The Songbird Cafe Girls: Mollie Cinnamon is Not a Cupcake* (age 8+), is set in West Cork. Sarah teaches at the Irish Writers Centre and combines writing and teaching with visiting schools, reading at festivals, reviewing, and curating the children's programme at the Mountains to Sea Book Festival in Dun Laoghaire.

## 3 DAY WORKSHOP AND EDITOR-IN-RESIDENCE

### INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING TECHNIQUES with NICK DAVIES / €110 (3 DAYS) MAX 15

Nick Davies will explore the techniques of investigative reporting, starting with first principles and moving on to the most sophisticated tricks of the trade. He will talk about finding stories and about writing them and about research, explaining practical technique of a kind which is rarely touched on by conventional teaching of journalism. His workshop will be based on his one-day masterclasses which have been attended by hundreds of press and broadcast journalists in the UK, South Africa, Canada and China.

**Nick Davies** is a freelance journalist, working regularly as special correspondent for the *Guardian*. He was involved in the publication of secret US logs and cables obtained by Wikileaks and in exposing the phone-hacking scandal in Rupert Murdoch's newspaper empire. *Hack Attack: How the Truth Caught up with Rupert Murdoch* was published in 2014. In thirty-five years as a reporter, he has specialised in long-term projects, investigating crime, failing schools, poverty, drugs laws and news media. He has been named journalist of the year and reporter of the year in British press awards and has won numerous special awards for investigative reporting.

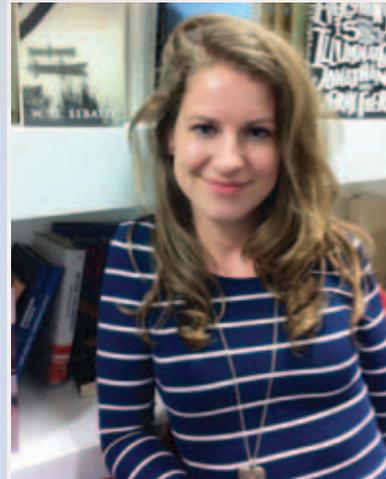


### EDITOR-IN-RESIDENCE with ANNA KELLY / MARITIME HOTEL MONDAY – FRIDAY: 14.00, 15.00, 16.00, 17.00 / €50 PER 45-MINUTE APPOINTMENT

Take advantage of this rare opportunity to speak with an experienced literary editor by booking a one-to-one session with our editor-in-residence **Anna Kelly** who will discuss and appraise your work. Submit a sample of your work - no more than four pages of A4 double-spaced - and a cover letter describing briefly the context for the writing sample, your writing background and specifics you might like addressed in the session.

**Send two copies of your writing sample and letter by Friday 19 June along with payment to West Cork Literary Festival, 13 Glengarriff Road, Bantry, Co. Cork. Clearly mark the envelope FAO Editor-in-Residence.**

**Anna Kelly** is Commissioning Editor at 4th Estate, an imprint of HarperCollins. 4th Estate publishes prize-winning literary fiction and cutting-edge non-fiction and is home to authors Hilary Mantel, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, Jonathan Franzen, Jeffrey Eugenides and Lena Dunham. Before joining 4th Estate in March 2015, Anna was Assistant Editor at Hamish Hamilton, where she worked with Ali Smith, Paul Murray, Mohsin Hamid, Alain de Botton, Robert Macfarlane and Bernardine Evaristo. and commissioned novels by Éric Reinhardt, Eliza Granville and Aislinn Hunter.



ONE-TO-ONE  
SESSION  
WITH OUR  
EDITOR  
-IN-RESIDENCE

From top: Nick Davies, Anna Kelly



# CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

**BOOKING: +353 (0)27 52788/9**

**LoCall: 1850 788 789**

**BOOKING ONLINE: [www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie](http://www.westcorkliteraryfestival.ie)**

*With the exception of pre-booked workshops, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for the duration of all events.*

Images; above: The Book Clinic.

Right: Yasmeen Ismail [Photo Olivia Hemingway] and some of her illustrations

**MONDAY 13 & TUESDAY 14 / 10.00 – 11.00 /  
BANTRY LIBRARY / CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP / FREE**

AGES: 3-7 / 15 CHILDREN MAX / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

## **A One-Day Crafting Workshop with Illustrator & Storyteller YASMEEN ISMAIL**

**Yasmeen Ismail** will read from her illustrated stories *Specs for Rex* and *Time for Bed Fred!* and will also help you to make some arts and crafts.

Parents are encouraged to stay and help with crafting. These are one-day workshops so please book for Monday or Tuesday.



**TUESDAY 14 / 10.00 – 13.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL  
/ CHILDREN'S EVENT / FREE / AGE: ANY**

## **THE BOOK CLINIC COMES TO BANTRY**

in association with **CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND**

Not sure what to read next? Just can't find a book that interests you? Then the Children's Books Ireland Book Clinic is the place to go! Young readers of all ages are invited to drop in and meet the **Book Doctor** – no appointment needed, and no nasty jabs or tablets, we promise. After a chat about your favourite books, comics or things to do, the doctor will make a diagnosis and write a prescription for your next reads. The Book Doctor has lots of ideas and there's a book out there for everyone.



# CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL



BANTRY BAY SERIES



**TUESDAY 14 / 15.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / BANTRY BAY SERIES / CHILDREN'S EVENT / €5**

## THE MONSTER DOODLE: VIKINGS

in association with CHILDREN'S BOOKS IRELAND / AGE: 6+  
Get involved with our interactive *Viking-themed Monster Doodle!* Help illustrator **Mark Wickham** create the scariest, meanest monster you've ever seen! Stretch out and show off your drawing and colouring skills in a huge group drawing session on one massive colouring sheet with your family and friends!

**Mark Wickham** is an award-winning illustrator and designer from Bantry. His work has been published and exhibited internationally. *Brian and the Vikings* is Mark's first picture book, collaborating with author Chris Judge. It was shortlisted for Best Children's Book of the year 2014.

The Book Clinic and Monster Doodle are in partnership with Children's Books Ireland, the national children's book organisation whose mission is to make books a part of every child's life.

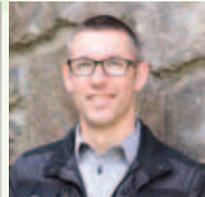
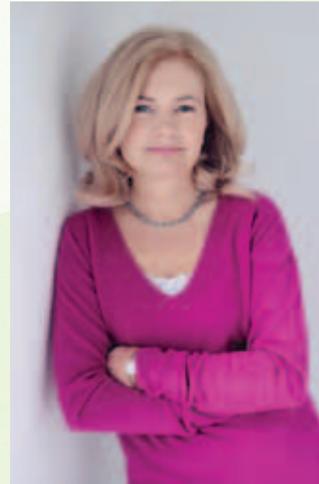
**WEDNESDAY 15 & THURSDAY 16 / 10.00 / BANTRY LIBRARY / CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP / FREE**

## A TWO-DAY WRITING WORKSHOP

WITH **JUDI CURTIN**

AGES: 9-13 / 15 CHILDREN MAX / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

**Judi Curtin** will share what she has learned in the course of writing nineteen (how did that happen?) books for children. Learn about beginnings, middles and endings, dialogue, character development and lots more. Bring along books, pictures, chocolate – anything that inspires you!



Clockwise from top left: Monster Doodle, Mark Wickham, Shane Hegarty [Photo Róisín Macken-Price], The Storytelling Caravan, Judi Curtin [Photo Eva Birdthistle], Sarah Webb

WEDNESDAY 15 / 15.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / CHILDREN'S READING / €5

## FRIENDS FOREVER: JUDI CURTIN AND SARAH WEBB / AGE: 8+

**Judi Curtin** and **Sarah Webb** both write books about friendship. But they are also friends in real life. Join them for a fascinating glimpse into their books and their lives. Come with lots of questions to ask Judi and Sarah about their work and being friends! **Judi Curtin** is the bestselling author of the *Alice and Megan* series which includes *Alice to the Rescue* and *Viva Alice!* She is also the author of the *Eva* series, including her latest book, *Only Eva*, and the *Friends Forever* series. Judi lives in Limerick with her family. **Sarah Webb** writes for both children and adults. The first book in her new children's series, *The Songbird Café Girls: Mollie Cinnamon is Not a Cupcake* - has recently been published. She is also the author of the *Ask Amy Green* series and many other children's books.

THURSDAY 16 / 15.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / CHILDREN'S READING / €5

## DARKMOUTH & DARKMOUTH 2: SHANE HEGARTY AGE: 8-12 (well, anyone really!)

*Darkmouth* is a monstrously funny tale of the Legends (also known as terrifying, human-eating monsters) that have invaded the town of Darkmouth. But don't panic! Legend Hunter, Finn, will protect us. Finn: twelve-years-old, loves animals, not a natural fighter, but tries really, really hard, and we all know good intentions are the best weapons against a hungry Minotaur, right? On second thoughts, panic!

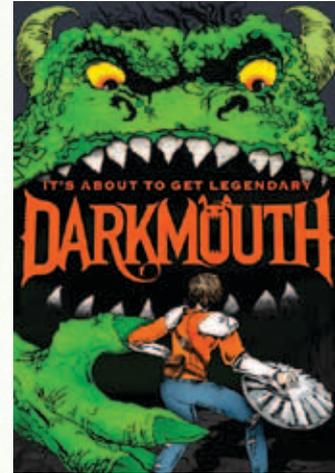
'Totally awesome.' – **Charlotte**, age 9. 'A brilliant read!' – **Sam**, age 11.

**Shane Hegarty** was born and raised in Skerries where he lives with his wife, four children and the latest in a series of unfortunate goldfish. He was a journalist and editor with *The Irish Times* for 14 years. *Darkmouth* is his first novel and it is the first in a series, with the second *Darkmouth* novel being published in August.

FRIDAY 17 / 10.00-12.00 & 12.45-14.15 / THE SQUARE / CHILDREN'S STORYTIME / FREE

## STORYTELLING CARAVAN AGE: 4-10

Twisted yarns and tall tales! Old and new fuse as this storyteller spins you from legend to leaping heart, through the keyhole of your front door into strange lands and day-glow dreams, riding the hiccups of laughter like bronco bulls! An odyssey of imagination, she brings her own wide travels like twigs to the fire, igniting her stories with tales from far parts of the globe. The storytelling caravan will be pulling into Bantry on Friday morning for a very special visit. Come along to The Main Square from 10.00 to 12.00 and 12.45 to 14.15 for storytelling magic.



# CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

BANTRY  
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FRIDAY 17 / 14.30 / BANTRY LIBRARY / CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP / FREE

## A ONE-DAY COLLAGE & WRITING WORKSHOP WITH SARAH WEBB

AGES: 9+ / 15 CHILDREN MAX / BOOKING IS REQUIRED

Create a Fantasy Island: this workshop is perfect for creative youngsters who love making up stories and who also like drawing and collage. Sarah will share her research and writing secrets and will help children create their very own island paradise. During the workshop the children will learn about how a story is created, from initial idea to final book. Sarah's new series for children (age 8+), *The Songbird Café Girls*, is set on a fictional West Cork island, inspired by Cape Clear and Sherkin Island. **Sarah Webb** writes for both children and adults. The first book in her new children's series, *The Songbird Café Girls – Mollie Cinnamon is Not a Cupcake* was published in March. She is also the author of the *Ask Amy Green* series and many other children's books. Sarah writes many of her books in Castletownshend, West Cork.



FRIDAY 17 / 15.00 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / CHILDREN'S READING / €5

## APPLE AND RAIN: SARAH CROSSAN AGES: 11+

When Apple's mother returns after eleven years of absence, Apple feels whole again. But her mother's homecoming is bitter sweet, and Apple wonders who is really looking after whom. *Apple and Rain* explores the bond between mothers and daughters, and the power of forgiveness. It is shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards and the CBI Book of Year Award. **Sarah Crossan** is from Dublin but lives in London. She is an award-winning writer for Young Adults and is passionate about creative writing in schools. Sarah's next book *One*, will be published in August.



BANTRY  
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SATURDAY 18 / 13.15 / ST BRENDAN'S SCHOOL HALL / CHILDREN'S READING / €5 / AGES: 9+

## TOM CREAN – ICEMAN: MICHAEL SMITH

Come along to hear **Michael Smith** tell the incredible true story of Tom Crean's amazing adventures in the Antarctic. Temperatures plunged way below zero, winds roared to 200 mph and it was a struggle to survive. But Tom was the iron man who travelled on three Polar expeditions. This is a tale of danger, heroism and survival at the bottom of the world. Michael Smith is the author of the bestselling *Tom Crean: An Unsung Hero* and his latest book is a biography of Ernest Shackleton.





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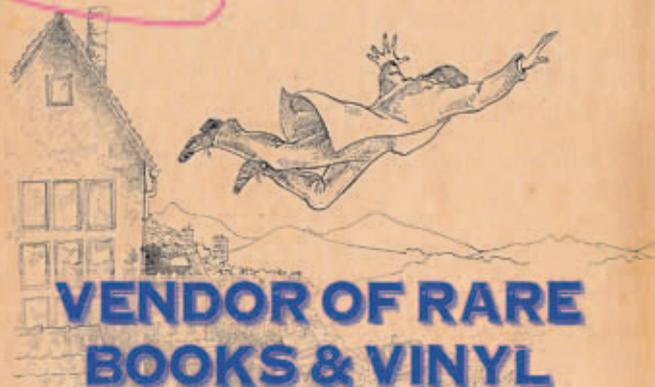
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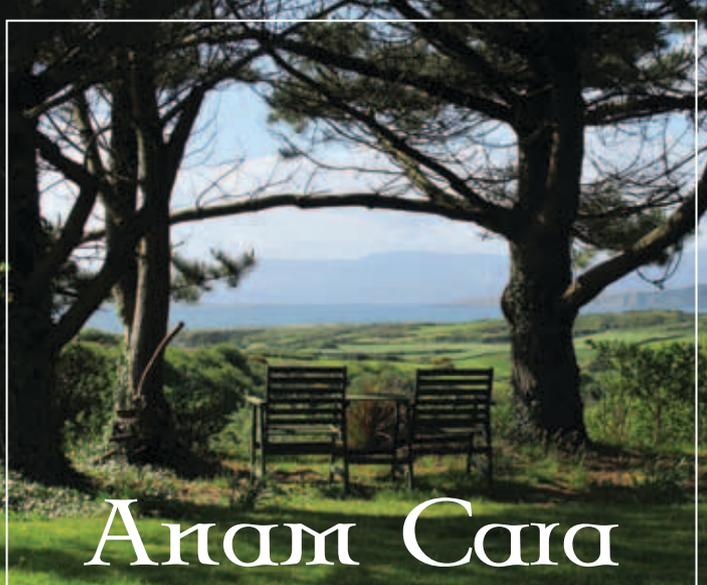
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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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West Cork Music gratefully acknowledges the generous sponsorship of the Bantry Bay Series by the Bantry Bay Port Company; Words Allowed by O’Keeffe’s Supervalu; J G Farrell Award by Richard Farrell; Children’s Books Ireland; IMRAM and Poetry Ireland.

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

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; Margaret O’Neill, Bantry Bookshop; Kevin Healy, Principal, Bob Bennett and staff, Colaiste Pobail Bheantraí; 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, Kearney Melia Communications; Sodexo; Phillips 66; The Irish Examiner; RTÉ lyric fm; Siobhán Burke of Living the Sheeps Head Way; Clem Cairns; Eleanor O’Keeffe of 5x15; Denyse Woods; Nell Regan; Claire Connolly, Eibhear Walshe and John FitzGerald of UCC; Tina Pisco; Marie Guillot; Paul O’Donoghue; George Plant; Billy O’Flaherty; Elaina Ryan and all at Children’s Books Ireland; Eileen O’Brien; Ian McDonagh; Sarah Bannan; Sarah Webb; Sarah Holden; Becky Nicholass; Dylan Hearn; Deirdre Fitzgerald for her photographs, Soren Mayes for the cover image and all of the publicists, agents and personal assistants who assisted us in putting together the programme.

We would like to thank all of the writers and introducers who will join us this year and all of the writers who weren’t able to make it (we’ll ask you again!)

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

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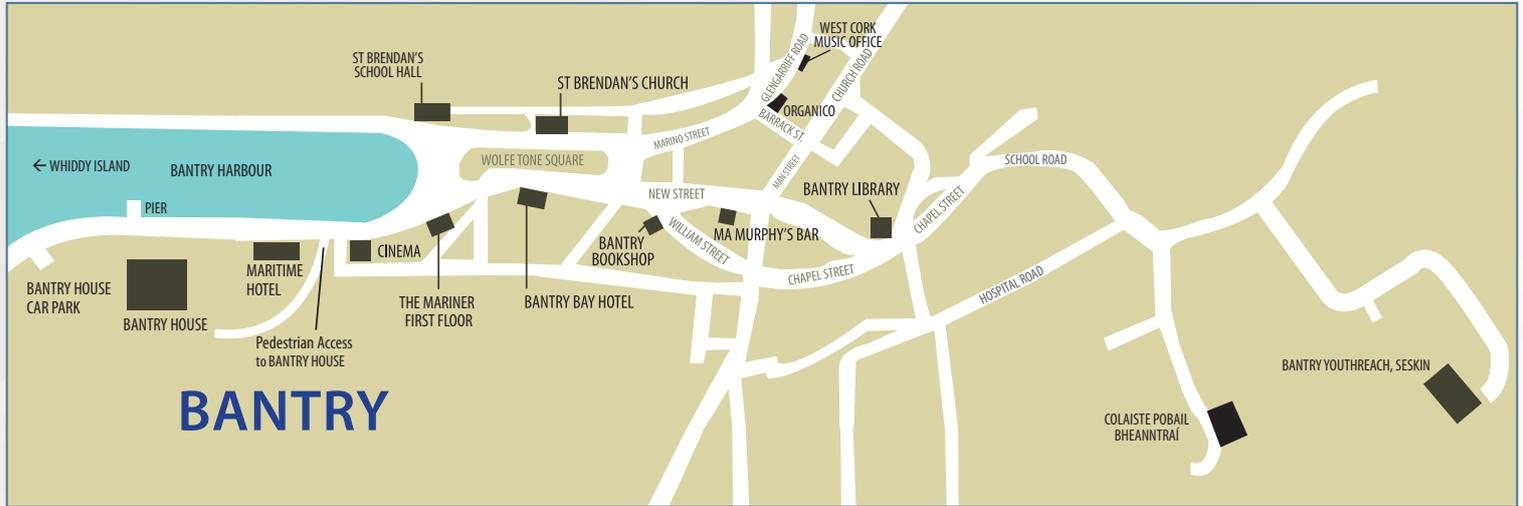
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# THE VENUES



Beara 22.06.2010 by Soren Mayes, watercolour sketch © 2014

## Cover Art by Soren Mayes

*'Approaching Castletownbere I see pillars of rock stretching at angles perpendicular to the road. Layers nudging, creating folds. Then cold stone alternates through channels of grass. So earthy and still. So blue and green.'*

Soren Mayes graduated from Crawford College of Art & Design in 1992. Based in an East London studio, her most recent adventures have involved painting-on-location in France, Italy and Ireland.

You can contact Soren or find out more about her work at [www.sorenmayes.com](http://www.sorenmayes.com)


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SAT 18	LITERARY BRUNCH: DERVLA MURPHY	€25		
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<b>IRISH LANGUAGE EVENT / 22.00 / THE MARINER</b>				
THURS 16	IMRAM – IRISH LANGUAGE EVENT	€15		
<b>EVENING EVENTS / 20.30 / (CHECK BROCHURE FOR VENUES)</b>				
SUN 12	SJ WATSON	€16		
MON 13	DAVID NICHOLLS	€16		
TUE 14	COLIN BARRETT, KEVIN BARRY & SARA BAUME	€16		
WED 15	NICK DAVIES	€18		
THURS 16	NEEL MUKHERJEE & NIALL WILLIAMS	€16		
FRI 17	GRAHAM NORTON	€25		
SAT 18	THE STRANGE UNDOING OF PRUDENCIA HART	€10		
<b>DONATION TO THE WEST CORK LITERARY FESTIVAL</b>				
<b>BOOK 5 + SEPARATE EVENTS &amp; GET A 10% DISCOUNT</b> (excludes workshops)				
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>		<b>+ €4 BOOKING FEE</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>				



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