

Kildare Readers Festival 2018



Welcome to Kildare Readers' Festival 2018

Kildare County Council Library and Arts Service are very proud to welcome you to the ninth annual Kildare Readers' Festival, an entirely free literary festival connecting our readers with authors and artists, to bring the very best from the world of literature to Kildare. The festival schedule offers something for everyone, with regular favourites such as *Ten Books You Should Read* and our *Sunday Morning Session*, hosted this year by Deirdre Purcell. Our programme has been extended to our full-time libraries around the county. We look forward to bringing the Readers' Festival into your community and welcoming you during September and October to enjoy the literary and artistic delights on offer.

BOOKINGS

We are committed to ensuring that our festival remains accessible to all, and so **all events are FREE of charge**, though bookings are essential through the Box Office at Riverbank Arts Centre. Some events must be booked directly through participating libraries. See event details for more information.

T: 045 448327 **W:** www.riverbank.ie

* Please note there is a €1 charge for online bookings

Stay connected and we will keep you posted!

WEBSITE: <http://www.kildarereadersfestival.ie/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/KildareReadersFestival>

TWITTER: @KildareReaders

INSTAGRAM: @kildarereadersfestival

FARRELL
&
NEPHEW

**Our festival bookshop is provided courtesy of
Farrell & Nephew Bookstore, Newbridge
Please note there are no card payment facilities available**



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council



Emer McLysaght and Sarah Breen in conversation with Eithne Shortall

Friday 12th Oct | 8pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

Local to Kildare and Carlow, book chart topping authors Emer McLysaght and Sarah Breen join fellow journalist and bestselling author Eithne Shortall for a conversation about the transition from journalism to fiction and the process of writing second and third novels and much, much more.

Emer McLysaght and **Sarah Breen** are former flatmates who co-wrote 2017's breakout fiction hit, *Oh My God, What A Complete Aisling*. With extensive careers in journalism under their belts, they now write full-time. They are currently working with Element Pictures to bring their first novel to the silver screen and have already started plotting about what might happen to Aisling in book number three. Book number two *The Importance of Being Aisling: Country Roads, Take Her Home* will be released in September 2018.

Eithne Shortall is the author of bestselling novels *Love in Row 27* and *Grace After Henry*. *Love in Row 27* was published in June 2017 and has sold into 11 territories and been translated into nine languages. Her second novel, *Grace After Henry*, was published in May and will be released in the United States in March 2019. *Grace After Henry* is nominated for Best Page Turner in Britain's Big Book Awards. Eithne is also the chief arts writer with the Irish edition of the *Sunday Times* newspaper and a regular contributor to RTE Radio. She has lived in London, France and America, and currently resides in Dublin.



Ten Books You Should Read

with Rachael English and Gary Granville

Saturday 13th Oct | 10:30am - 12pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

Rachael English and Gary Granville will each discuss five of their favourite books and why they think you should read them!

Rachael English is the author of four novels, including *The Night of the Party* and the number one bestseller, *The American Girl*. Her first book, *Going Back*, was shortlisted for the most promising newcomer award at the Irish Book Awards. She is also the co-author of one work of non-fiction, a guide to the 2007 General Election.

Originally from Shannon in County Clare, she studied Communications at DCU before starting work as a journalist with Clare FM in Ennis. Over the past twenty-five years, she has covered a huge range of national and international stories. The days that stand out most for her are - being in Stormont for the signing of the Good Friday Agreement, being in Washington for the election of Donald Trump and interviewing the then head of the Central Bank, Patrick Honohan, on the morning he announced that Ireland would have to accept a bailout from the IMF. Since 2010, she has presented 'Morning Ireland' on RTE Radio 1. Always an enthusiastic reader, she regrets leaving it so long to start writing. She tries to read widely and hates book snobbery. Rachael lives in Dublin with her husband, Eamon Quinn.



Gary Granville is Emeritus Professor of Education in the National College of Art and Design (NCAD) and a former Interim Director of the College. He has been a teacher in Dublin schools and a project leader in the CDVEC Curriculum Development Unit in TCD. He has also been a lecturer in Maynooth University and was Assistant Chief Executive of the National Council for Curriculum and Assessment for the first decade of that agency's existence. He has worked on projects in Europe and in Africa and has engaged in many international programmes.



His professional interests lie in the areas of curriculum design and arts education in particular. His personal interests include contemporary fiction, sports (especially football and hurling), travel, and music of various forms. A native Irish speaker from Ballyferriter, Co. Kerry, he has a particular interest in history and politics. He is author of *Dublin 1913: Lockout and Legacy* and *Art Education and Contemporary Culture* as well as many academic articles and papers. His choice of reading is eclectic, ranging from biography to history, from comic writing to literary fiction.

Denis O'Driscoll Literary Bursary Award

Saturday 13th Oct | 1:30pm - 3pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

KRF are delighted to include the presentation of the inaugural Denis O'Driscoll Literary Awards as part of our programme this year. O'Driscoll was a poet, essayist, critic and editor. Regarded as one of the best European poets of his time, his book on Seamus Heaney is regarded as the definitive biography of the Nobel laureate. Known for his mentoring skills, it is fitting that the awards (intended to support a writer's development) be established. Awards will be made to a professional and emerging writer from Co. Kildare, with readings from the awardees. O'Driscoll's impressive body of work will also be remembered.

Followed by:

"Luisne an Chleite - a Kildare Collective"
by **Wordsmiths Writers Group**

Wordsmiths Writers Group is delighted to announce the launch of their first anthology, *Luisne an Chleite - a Kildare Collective*. This is a diverse mix of stories, poetry and prose with original illustrations of paintings and drawings by some of the group. This beautiful keepsake book could not have emerged without the support of Kildare Library & Arts Service. Ár mbuíochas dóibh go deo as an deontas a fuairamar uaibh agus as na ceardlanna a bhí eagraithe dúinn sa leabharlann le scríbhneoirí eirimiúla mar Niamh Boyce, Emily Gilmore-Murphy, Mae Leonard, John MacKenna, Eoghan McNamee, Martin Malone, Ré Ólaighléis agus le Siobhán Conway, Ealaíontóir. The group has been meeting in Kildare Town Library since 2013 and there are currently sixteen members, all of whom enjoy living in County Kildare. Bígí linn chun an ócáid a cheiliúradh!

Motherfoclóir Podcast Live

Saturday 13th Oct | 3.30pm-4.30pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

Join us for a live recording of the popular Headstuff podcast Motherfoclóir.
<https://www.headstuff.org/motherfoclóir/>

Darach Ó Séaghdha is an Irish language activist and author of *Motherfoclóir: Dispatches from a Not So Dead Language*, which won Ireland AM Popular Non-Fiction Book of the Year in the 2017 Irish Book Awards. Darach is also author of the popular Twitter account @theirishfor. He is the main host of the podcast Motherfoclóir, part of the Headstuff Podcast Network. He lives just outside Dublin, where he works as a civil servant during the day and explores language at night and in the early morning. His second book *Craic Baby: Dispatches from a Changing Language* will be released in September 2018.



Book Launch:

Becoming a Mother: Reflections on Adoptive Parenthood by Mari Gallagher

Saturday 13th Oct | 5pm | Riverbank Cafe

Becoming a Mother: Reflections on Adoptive Parenthood is the first book published in Ireland by an adoptive parent and is an exploration of the complexity of adoption, drawing on seminal and modern texts and personal memoir to present a unique view of what it means to be an adoptive parent. *Becoming a Mother* has a particular focus on inter-country adoptive parenting as well as looking at adoption from the other viewpoints: adopted person and birth parent.



In the shadow of Queen Maeve

Saturday 13th Oct | 6.30pm - 7.30pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

2018 is the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Election and Women's Suffrage - Constance Markievicz was the first woman to be elected to the parliament at Westminster and consequently the 1st Dáil in 1919. In discussion will be Professor Marian Lyons (Maynooth University), Fiona O'Loughlin TD, Catherine Murphy TD, Maureen Bergin (President of County Kildare Chamber and of Kildare Village) and Ciara Plunkett (KFM Radio Presenter).

Marian (Mary Ann) Lyons is a Professor of History at Maynooth University and has published extensively on Franco-Irish relations and on Irish migration to continental Europe in the early modern period. She is particularly interested in Jacobite migrants in Paris, c.1690 - c.1730 but has also published on various aspects of Irish history including the Kildare dynasty, religion in late medieval and early modern Ireland, women, and the emergence of professional medicine from the early 1600s onwards. She has co-edited several essay collections on Irish migration to Europe in the early modern period.

Fiona O'Loughlin TD holds the distinction of being the first woman ever elected to the Dáil from Kildare South. Former Kildare County Mayor and Councillor, Fiona is Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Equality, Immigration & Integration. She also serves as Chair of the Oireachtas Education and Skills Committee, and is a member of the Future of Mental Health Committee, Seanad Reform Committee, Votáil 100 Committee and the Inaugural Women's Caucus. Vice-President of the Fianna Fáil Party, Fiona is a native of Rathangan and lives in Newbridge.

Catherine Murphy is the Social Democrat TD for Kildare North and co-founder and co-leader of the Social Democrats. Catherine is a member of the Public Account Committee, the Transport, Tourism and Sport Committee and also served on the Committee on the Eighth Amendment of the Constitution. She is also a member of the Oireachtas Commission.

Maureen Bergin is Community and Business Relations Director with Kildare Village and was elected as President of County Kildare Chamber in 2017.

Ciara Plunkett is the News Editor at Kfm. In addition, she hosts two programmes; daily current affairs and magazine programme 'Kildare Focus' and rural affairs programme 'Country Matters'.



Writers-In-Residence: Paul Lynch and Christodoulos Makris

Saturday 13th Oct | 8pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

Kildare Library & Arts Service and Maynooth University Writers-in-Residence in conversation.

Christodoulos Makris is "one of Ireland's leading contemporary explorers of experimental poetics" (The RTÉ Poetry Programme). He has published several books, pamphlets, artist's books and other poetry objects, most recently *The Architecture of Chance* (Wurm Press, 2015) - selected as a poetry book of the year by RTÉ Arena and 3:AM Magazine - *If we Keep Drawing Cartoons* (If a Leaf Falls Press, 2016) and *Browsing History* (zimZalla avant objects, 2018). His next book *This is no Longer Entertainment: A Documentary Poem* will be published by Dostoyevsky Wannabe in 2019. One of Poetry Ireland's 'Rising Generation' poets, he works at the intersection of writing and other disciplines, and his practice concerns itself with public-private language and multiple/shifting personas enabled by digital communication. He has performed or otherwise presented his work widely across media and borders, with recent commissions and residencies including the Irish Museum of Modern Art and StAnza International Poetry Festival in St Andrews, Scotland. He is co-director of Dublin's multidisciplinary performance series Phonica, and the poetry editor of Gorse journal and associated imprint *Gorse Editions*.



Paul Lynch is the prize-winning author of *Grace*, *The Black Snow* and *Red Sky in Morning*. His third novel *Grace* won the 2017 Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year, and he has won the French booksellers' prize Prix Libr'à Nous for Best Foreign Novel. His novels have been shortlisted for the Walter Scott Prize in the UK, the William Saroyan International Prize in the US, France's Prix du Meilleur Livre Étranger (Best Foreign Book Prize), as well as being nominated for France's Prix Femina, the Prix du Premier Roman (First Novel Prize) and the Prix du Roman Fnac (Fnac Novel Prize). *Grace* was published in 2017 to massive acclaim. The *Washington Post* called the book, "a moving work of lyrical and at times hallucinatory beauty... that reads like a hybrid of John Steinbeck's *The Grapes of Wrath* and Cormac McCarthy's *The Road*". It was a book of the year in the *Guardian*, the *Irish Independent*, *Kirkus* and *Esquire*, a Staff Pick at *The Paris Review* and an Editors' Choice in the *New York Times* Book Review. The American writer Ron Rash has called Lynch "one of his generation's very finest novelists". He lives in Dublin with his wife and daughter.



Sunday Morning Session

Turtle Bunbury in Conversation with Deirdre Purcell

Sunday 14th Oct | 11am-12.30pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

Deirdre Purcell takes the reins for this year's Sunday morning session for a relaxed and intimate conversation with Turtle Bunbury discussing his work and life experiences which have helped to shape him as an author, historian and much more.

Turtle Bunbury is a best-selling author, historian and lecturer who lives near Tobinstown, County Carlow. His books include the award-winning *Vanishing Ireland* series, *Easter Dawn – The 1916 Rising*, *The Glorious Madness – Tales of the Irish in World War One, 1847 - A Chronicle of Genius, Generosity & Savagery* and *The Landed Gentry & Aristocracy of County Kildare*. Turtle was founder and curator of the History Festival of Ireland, as well as 'A City By the Sea' and 'Cork 1918,' two ongoing exhibitions in Cork City. A co-presenter of the *Genealogy Roadshow* TV series for RTÉ, he will appear on the US series of *Who Do You Think You Are?* in November 2018 and is a contributor to *Nationwide*. His work frequently appears in print and online media, including *National Geographic Traveler*, *Vogue Living*, *The World of Interiors*, *Playboy*, *The Australian* and *The Irish Times*. He also runs the popular *Wistorical* and *Vanishing Ireland* Facebook pages.



Deirdre Purcell was born and brought up in Dublin, and educated there and in a County Mayo convent. Before turning to the writing of fiction, she lived through an eclectic set of careers, including acting, as a member of the permanent company of Ireland's National Theatre (The Abbey), and journalism for all media - for which she won Ireland's top awards. She has written numerous fiction and non-fiction bestsellers and regularly presents 'What it Says in the Papers' on RTE's *Morning Ireland*.



Schedule of Events

Saturday 29th September

Kildare Readers' Festival Launch - Athlone suite, New York sweeter?	8pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Sunday 30th September

"And miles to go. And miles to go": A guided walk to celebrate the work of Poet, Essayist and Critic, Dennis O'Driscoll, who lived for many years in Naas, County Kildare	11am-12pm	Naas Racecourse, Dublin Road Entrance
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Monday 1st October

"Gill Berry, Visual Artist" - Book Launch	7pm	Kildare Community Library
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Tuesday, 2nd October

Clinic na Leabhar / The Book Clinic	11am-4pm	Maynooth Community Library
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Wednesday 3rd October

Writing Competitions Prize-Giving Event	7pm	Newbridge Community Library
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Thursday 4th October

Cornflakes for Dinner: An Evening with Aidan Comerford	7pm	Celbridge Community Library
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Saturday 6th October

Exploring the Curragh Wrens in lore and literature with Orla McAlinden, Ann Egan and Martin Malone	11am	Newbridge Community Library
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Buaine Na Gaoithe with Ronan Molloy, Martin Dyar, Liz Pearse, Chelsea Czuchra and Lindsay Buffington	1pm-4:30pm	Athy Community Library
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Tuesday 9th October

Your Middle Years with Paula Mee	7:30pm	Leixlip Community Library
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All events are FREE of charge, but many are ticketed, so booking is essential. Some events must be booked directly through participating libraries. See event details for more information.

*Please note that there is a €1 charge for online bookings

Wednesday 10th October

New Voices in Irish Fiction: Elizabeth Reapy and Ronan Ryan in conversation with Niamh Boyce	7pm	Naas Community Library
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Thursday 11th October

Pilgrim Paths with John G. O'Dwyer	7pm	Newbridge Community Library
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Friday 12th October

Emer McLysaght and Sarah Breen in conversation with Eithne Shortall	8pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Saturday 13th October

Ten Books You Should Read with Rachael English and Gary Granville	10:30am-12pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Dennis O'Driscoll Awards and Launch of "Luisne an Chleite - a Kildare Collective" by Wordsmiths Writers Group	1:30pm-3pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Motherfoclóir Podcast Live	3:30pm-4:30pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Mari Gallagher Book Launch: Becoming a Mother: Reflections on Adoptive Parenthood	5pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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In the shadow of Queen Maeve: a panel discussion	6:30pm-7:30pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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An evening with Kildare Writers-in-Residence: Paul Lynch and Christodoulos Makris	8pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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Sunday 14th October

Sunday Morning Session: Turtle Bunbury in conversation with Deirdre Purcell	11am-12:30pm	Riverbank Arts Centre
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All events are FREE of charge, but many are ticketed, so booking is essential. Some events must be booked directly through participating libraries. See event details for more information.

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Festival Fortnight

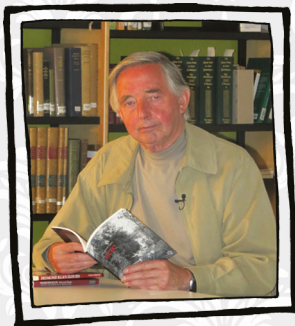
Kildare Readers' Festival Launch – Athlone suite, New York sweeter?

Saturday 29th Sept | 8pm | Riverbank Arts Centre

The ninth annual Kildare Readers' Festival is launched with gusto at this very special event celebrating the work of Desmond Egan.

This event is a celebration of the work of acclaimed poet Desmond Egan, long-time resident of Kildare. Desmond is a poet with a wide range of subject matter and many targets; but here we focus on his love of music. The evening will chart his poetic journey from Athlone to New York and back and will include verse tributes to his many heroes, including John McCormack, Franz Schubert and the American Jazz masters, Thelonious Monk, Lee Konitz and Bill Evans.

**Booking required. Booking through the Riverbank Arts Centre
T: 045 448327 W: www.riverbank.ie**



"And miles to go. And miles to go"

Sun 30th Sept | 11am | Naas Racecourse (Dublin Road Entrance)

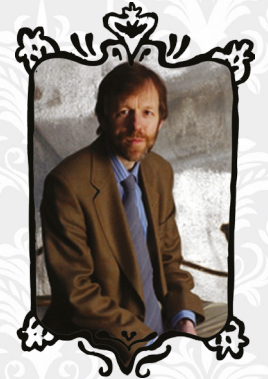
A guided walk to celebrate the work of Poet, Essayist and Critic, Dennis O'Driscoll, who lived for many years in Naas, County Kildare. Dennis O'Driscoll's work includes nine collections of poetry, two of essays, two of literary quotations and *Stepping Stones: Interviews with Seamus Heaney*. Join Martina Clancy, Eibhlín Ní Chearbhaill and friends for readings from selected works of one of the foremost writers of his generation.

Meet at 11am at the Dublin Road entrance to Naas Racecourse. Assemble at the grassy knoll.

(Parking at the hotel or at Monread Park/Monread Centre which is 5 minutes from the grassy knoll).

Approximately one hour long – refreshments at Maudlins Hotel immediately following the walk.

No booking is required for this event. All welcome.



"Gill Berry, Visual Artist" – Book Launch

Monday 1st Oct | 7pm | Kildare Community Library

Kildare Library is delighted to host the launch of "*Gill Berry, Visual Artist*", celebrating the work of this important Kildare artist. An exhibition of the collection will be open to view in Kildare Town Library throughout the month of October

Gill Berry, a native of Kildare until her untimely death in 2011, produced a vast body of work during her lifetime. Her paintings represent a magical realism forged from meticulous research of the human condition and the diversity of cultures both past and present. She presents us with a mysterious and secret world and invites us to share her sense of wonder.

No booking is required for this event. All welcome.



Clinic na Leabhar / The Book Clinic

Tuesday 2nd Oct | 11am | Maynooth Library

An féidir linn cabhrú leat an leabhar ceart a roghnú/a léamh? Ar mhaith leat tuilleadh a fhoghlaim faoi na saghsanna leabhar a d'oirfeadh mar léitheoir duit?

An bhliain seo, mar chuid d'Fhéile Léitheoirí Chill Dara, beidh deis agatsa bualadh isteach ar bheirt dochtúirí speisialta leabhar: na scríbhneoirí cáiliúla Anna Heussaff agus Colmán Ó Raghallaigh. Beidh siad ann chun comhairle a chur ar léitheoirí de gach aois, agus gach cumas teacht ar leabhair nua spleodracha as Gaeilge.

Beidh dhá mhionchaint ghairide dátheangacha á rith i rith an lae:

11am: Scíthléitheoireacht do dhaoine fásta

2:30pm: Tuismitheoirí agus a bpáistí

Tríd an gcuid eile den lá, tá cuireadh ann DUITSE sliotán a chur in áirithe le hAnna nó le Colmán, agus fágfaidh tú le hoideas leabhar pearsantaithe, gur féidir a thabhairt ag an bpoitigéir (an leabharlann áitiúil!). Bígí Linn



Can we help you find the right book to read? Do you want to learn more about the types of book that suit you as a reader?

This year, as part of KRF 2018, you are invited to drop in to either of our very special book doctors, Anna Heussaff and Colmán Ó Raghallaigh, who are ready to offer the best advice to readers of all ages and abilities hoping to find exciting books in Irish.

We will have 2 bilingual presentations during the day:

11 -11.30 Adult Readers

2.30-3.00 Parents and Children

Throughout the rest of the day, you are invited to book slots with the doctors, and each reader will leave with a personalised book prescription, which they can take to their local pharmacy (i.e. library) to have filled! Join us!

No booking is required for this event. All welcome.



Writing Competitions Prize-Giving Event

Wednesday 3rd Oct | 7pm | Newbridge Community Library

The winners of a special writing competition will be selected by Martin Malone, Caroline Farrell and John MacKenna and will be announced at this special event in Newbridge Library. This event, in aid of the Michael Mullan Cancer Fund, will see prizes awarded for Short Story, Flash Fiction and Poetry competitions. All are welcome to come along, to this free event where a selection of the winning entries will be read out. See www.michaelmullancancerfund.com for further details.

No booking is required for this event. All welcome.

Cornflakes for Dinner

An Evening with Aidan Comerford

Thursday Oct 4th | 7pm | Celbridge Community Library

A chance to meet and listen to Aidan Comerford read from his popular book *Cornflakes for Dinner*. Aidan will explore his experience of writing a memoir and much like his book, have a few laughs along the way.

Aidan Comerford's book *Cornflakes for Dinner* - a heartbreaking comedy about family life, was published in 2017, by Gill Books. It is a warm and witty memoir about raising two daughters on the autistic spectrum, with his wife, Martha, who suffers from chronic depression and a sleep disorder. He is a former musical comedian, and will still perform, if provoked. In 2014 he won the coveted "So You Think You're Funny?" award at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. In 2015 he performed at the Montreal "Just for Laughs" festival. He also performed his songs as part of the hit Irish stage show, "Singlehood." He is originally from Carlow town, but now lives in Ashbourne, Co. Meath.



Booking required. Contact Celbridge Library on 01 6272207 or email celbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie

Exploring the Curragh Wrens in lore and literature

Saturday 6th Oct | 11am | Newbridge Community Library

Join us at the Kildare Readers' Festival as three local writers, Orla McAlinden, Ann Egan and Martin Malone meet to read from three very different works which explore the lives of the Curragh Wrens. Driven by destitution and desperation, the Curragh Wrens eked out a precarious existence as camp-followers of the thousands of soldiers who inhabited the Curragh during the reign of Queen Victoria. As the Famine drew to its close, it left tens of thousands of Irish women and children clinging to life. One hundred and seventy years later, the Wrens continue to intrigue our panel of writers. Malone, Egan and McAlinden will read from their works, discuss the Wrens and the writing process, concluding with a brief Q&A.

Martin Malone is a multi-award winning Irish novelist, short story writer and teacher of creative writing. His novel, *The Broken Cedar* (2003), was nominated for the IMPAC award. His first novel, *Us* (2000), won the John B Keane/Sunday Independent Award. As a member of the Irish Army Military Police, Malone served five tours of duty in Lebanon, experiences which greatly influence his writing still. However, many of his books are set in and around his native Kildare and it is no surprise that he also has explored the lives of the Curragh Wrens in his book *The Only Glow of the Day* and a radio play *Rosanna Nightwalker*.



Ann Egan is a multi-award winning poet, playwright, dramatist, novelist and community writing facilitator. She has read at all the national literary festivals and facilitated many creative writing workshops. She is well known as a writer who brings her work out into the community, serving populations who might otherwise not experience creative writing firsthand. She organises and hosts 'Reading Concerts' for schools and young people based on her residencies in counties Kildare, Offaly, Laois, in arts centres, school halls and libraries. Some of the diverse places she has brought her skills to include hospitals, schools, prisons and secure units. Her poetry collection *The Wren Women* brings her unique poetic sensibilities to explore the lives, hopes and dreams of the Curragh Wrens.



Orla McAlinden is a multi-award winning short story writer and novelist. Her debut collection *The Accidental Wife* won the 2014 Eludia Award from Sowilo Press in Philadelphia. The fourth story from the collection 'The Visit' was a Pushcart Prize nominee and winner of the BGEIBA Irish Short Story of the Year 2016 award. Orla won the CD Lewis emerging writer bursary from Kildare County Council to help complete the research and editing of her novel *The Flight of the Wren*, set on the Curragh of Kildare and featuring the infamous Curragh Wrens.



Due to the nature of the subject matter which will be discussed, this event is aimed at an adult audience, aged 16 and above.

Booking required. Contact Newbridge Library on 045 448353 or email newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie

Buaine Na Gaoithe

with Ronan Molloy, Martin Dyar, Liz Pearse, Chelsea Czuchra and Lindsay Buffington

Saturday 6th Oct | 1pm | Athy Community Library

American soprano Liz Pearse and renowned Swiss performers Lindsay Buffington (harp) and Chelsea Czuchra (flute) present a new song cycle by award-winning poet Martin Dyar and composer Ryan Molloy. Dyar and Molloy have achieved a powerful fusion of the best in contemporary classical sounds with the best of contemporary Irish poetry. This landmark work for soprano, flute and harp will appeal both to lovers of music and the written word. An atmospheric, lyrical and vocally adventurous journey, *Buaine Na Gaoithe* will be performed together with rarely heard works by the Finnish composer Kaja Saariaho and the American composer George Crumb. 'A thrilling new development in Irish poetry ...' - Bernard O'Donoghue

As a composer and performer, **Ryan Molloy's** work has been performed to international audiences on four continents for over fifteen years, including major concert venues in Switzerland, Germany, England and Ireland. In great demand as an accompanist, he has recorded over a dozen albums and his repertoire spans numerous genres from traditional Irish music to contemporary classical music. Currently a lecturer in composition at Maynooth University, Ryan's compositional work has won numerous prizes and has been broadcast both nationally and internationally on BBC Radio 3 and Radio Ulster, RTÉ Lyric FM, Radio 1, BBC 2, UTV and BBC World. Several of Ryan's works have been chosen to represent Ireland by the International Society for Contemporary Music, at the ISCM Musicarama in Hong Kong in 2015 and at the ISCM World New Music Day in Vancouver in 2017.



Martin Dyar's debut poetry collection *Maiden Names* was shortlisted for the Pigott Poetry Prize and the Shine/Strong Award. He won the Patrick Kavanagh Poetry Award in 2009, and the Strokestown International Poetry Award in 2001. He has also written a play, 'Tom Loves a Lord', about the life and work of the Irish poet Thomas Moore. His work is included in the anthology *Windharp: Poems of Ireland Since 1916*, and has also been added to the Leaving Cert prescribed poetry syllabus. He is a graduate of NUI Galway, and Trinity College Dublin, where he did a PhD in English literature. A former fellow of the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa, he currently holds the 2018 Arts Council Writer in Residence Fellowship at the University of Limerick.



Finding joy in variety, **Liz Pearse** is a musician of many pursuits. After a childhood spent playing every instrument she could lay hands upon, Liz began exploring the endless possibilities of the voice. Hers is an instrument possessing an unusual range, colour, and versatility, leading to performances of medieval to modern music on stages around the world. She won both the Dr. Marjorie Conrad Art Song Competition and the BGSU Competitions in Music Concerto Competition while at BGSU.



Passionately dedicated to the flute and new music in particular, **Chelsea Czuchra** is an active performer in Europe and North America. In addition to working as a freelance orchestral player, Chelsea has diverse experience as a collaborative musician in the realms of new music, various world music and improvisation. Chelsea has performed at the Zeiträume Festival Basel, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, soundSCAPE Festival and more. Radio appearances include KXLU in LA, Radio X in Basel, Switzerland and, 'Relevant Tones' at WFMT Chicago. Based in Basel, Switzerland since 2000, Chelsea also maintains an active teaching schedule, working with flutists from 5 to 85 years old in both the Swiss and international community.



Lindsay Buffington hails from Maryland, USA, and she has been based in Switzerland since 2005. Lindsay is a multi-faceted performer who thrives on playing in diverse musical styles and in different kinds of groups. She enjoys an active freelance career in Switzerland and abroad, and plays regularly as a soloist and with groups including orchestras, chamber groups, choirs and big bands. She has performed with the 21st Century Symphony Orchestra, Christoph Walter Orchestra, Sinfonietta Basel, and the Sinfonietta Lausanne among others. Lindsay is proud to have co-founded two chamber music duos: Deux en Harpe in 2008, and Cochlea Duo, with the American flutist Chelsea Czuchra, in 2013. She teaches harp at the Musikschule Horw and Musikschule Hochdorf in Kanton Luzern, in addition to being a private harp teacher at the International School of Basel.

A discussion with the performers will be held from 1pm - 2pm. The recital will begin at 3pm.

Booking required. Contact Athy Library on 045 980555 or email athylib@kildarecoco.ie

Your Middle Years

with Paula Mee

Tuesday 9th Oct | 7.30pm | Leixlip Community Library

Paula will discuss her book *Your Middle Years* and will show how midlife and the menopause years are not a stumbling block but an opportunity. Paula believes that in your midlife years you can embrace maturity, feel energised, refreshed and ready to take on the next phase of your life with gusto. She will give tips on how to anticipate and manage the changes midlife brings, and will give advice on diet, beauty, sleep and emotional health.

Paula Mee is a current member and a past president of the Irish Nutrition and Dietetic Institute, the professional body for dieticians in Ireland. Through her consultancy work Paula provides an extensive range of nutrition and dietetic services to individuals, corporations, educational institutions and the food industry. She is a regular contributor to the Irish media and was a consultant dietician on the TV3 series *Doctor In The House*, and the RTÉ series *The Health Squad*.



Booking required. Contact Leixlip Library on 01 6060050 or email leixlip@kildarecoco.ie



New Voices in Irish Fiction:

Elizabeth Reapy and Ronan Ryan in conversation with Niamh Boyce

Wednesday 10th Oct | 7pm | Naas Community Library

Join us for an evening showcasing two bold and contemporary new voices in Irish fiction. Elizabeth Reapy, author of *Red Dirt*, and Ronan Ryan, author of *The Fractured Lives of Jimmy Dice*, will be discussing their debut novels in conversation with fellow writer Niamh Boyce.

Elizabeth (EM) Reapy is from County Mayo. She has an MA in Creative Writing from Queen's University, Belfast. In 2016 her debut novel *Red Dirt* was published by Head of Zeus. It won Newcomer of the Year at the 2016 Irish Book Awards and the 2017 Rooney Prize for Irish Literature. She is currently a UNESCO Dublin City of Literature Writer-in-Residence.

Ronan Ryan is an Irish writer, based in Dublin but originally from Clonmel, and he has also lived in France, Japan, America, Singapore, Australia, England, Scotland, and New Zealand. He has an MSc in Creative Writing from the University of Edinburgh and a PhD in English Literature from Victoria University of Wellington. He has won an Arts Bursary Award in Literature from Dublin City Council and written memoir articles for the Irish Times. His debut novel, *The Fractured Life of Jimmy Dice*, was named by the *Irish Independent Review* as one of their 'Books of the Year' and it was a finalist for The Lascaux Prize in Fiction.

Niamh Boyce won the Hennessy XO New Irish Writer of the Year 2012 award. Her debut *The Herbalist* won Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards 2013 and was long listed for the IMPAC Award. A poet and short story writer, her work has been adapted for stage, broadcast, published in literary magazines and anthologised, most recently in *The Long Gaze Back - Irish Women Writers and The Hennessy Book of Irish Fiction*. Her second novel, *Her Kind*, is based on a medieval witchcraft trial, and will be published by Penguin in April 2019. Her poetry collection *Inside the Wolf* was published in June of this year.

Booking required. Contact Naas Library on 045 879111 or email naaslib@kildarecoco.ie



Pilgrim Paths

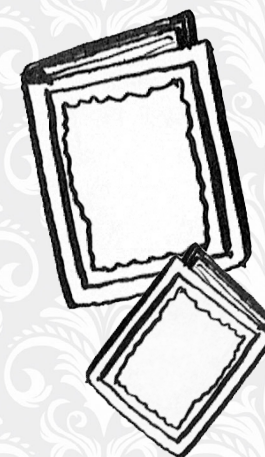
with John G. O'Dwyer

Thursday 11th Oct | 7pm | Newbridge Community Library

Join John G. O'Dwyer and Newbridge Library for a special talk on the benefits both spiritual and physical of hill walking in Ireland.

John G. O'Dwyer is a keen hillwalker, rock-climber, Gaeilgeoir and supporter of maintaining vibrant communities in rural Ireland. He holds an MA in Economics from Trinity College, Dublin and a Masters in International Tourism from the University of Limerick. He works as a tourism consultant and college teacher in the areas of sport, tourism and heritage. For almost 20 years he has been a regular contributor to the Irish Times on the subjects of hillwalking, tourism and rural development. In 2012, his introductory book was a walking guide to counties Tipperary and Waterford. *Pilgrim Paths in Ireland - A guide* was his second volume and the first comprehensive guidebook to the Irish penitential trails. It is now in its fourth reprint and has done much to build awareness of, and return footfall to, the ancient spiritual trails of Ireland. His latest book *The Comeragh, Galtee, Knockmealdown and Slieve Bloom Mountains - A Walking Guide*, has just been published. At present, he is National Chairman of Pilgrim Paths Ireland.

Booking required. Contact Newbridge Library on 045 448353 or email newbridgelib@kildarecoco.ie



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