



Ennis Book Club Festival

4th - 6th March 2022



www.ennisbookclubfestival.com



Thar ceann an choiste, tá an-áthas orm fáilte a chur romhat go hInis an Márta seo chugainn.

On behalf of the committee, I am delighted to welcome you to Ennis this March.

EBCF was online in March 2021 and we had a day of events in September 2021, so it is extra special for us to get back to our usual weekend of events in 2022. And what a weekend we have in store for you! We have a great range of events, including some old favourites, such as Ten Books You Should Read, and some new events in unusual locations.

So pick an event or two, chat to fellow audience members, give us feedback and most importantly enjoy being part of the book club community that is Ennis Book Club Festival.

Cora Gunter
CHAIRPERSON



As we emerge into 2022 our immediate future remains uncertain, however, we know more than ever the value of community, togetherness, and the importance of a vibrant social space. Ennis Book Club Festival is a dynamic event that brings readers and writers together in Ennis to celebrate ideas, stories and place. I am grateful this year particularly to our venue partners who have helped us put together an ambitious programme of events that includes main stage auditoriums, halls, radio, gardens, and a goat farm!

Thank you to our supporters and audiences for remaining with us and helping us to sustain this effort of positivity, discussion, and joy. Thank you!

Dani Gill
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

At a Glance

Booking with glór box office on
(065) 68 43103 and at www.glor.ie

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Events denoted with an * are free but ticketed. Pre-booking advised.

Look! It's A Woman Writer! Irish Literary Feminisms, 1970-2020



Friday 4th March | 2.00pm | glór | Free

Why have women been treated differently, and discriminated against, in the literary world? Why has gender been a 'problem' in the writing, publishing, funding and reviewing scene? And why does it matter?

Éilís Ni Dhuibhne asked 21 writers who were born in mid-twentieth-century Ireland, north and south, to write about their literary lives. Collectively, these vivid, original essays provide us with a fascinating picture of Ireland's literary landscape from multiple female points of view. Poets, fiction writers, playwrights, impresarios have written accounts which are funny, tragic, philosophical, angry, but all are lively, stunningly honest testimonies of the writing life during a pivotal period in the history of Irish literature. They were activists and voices when it really mattered. They are literary survivors.

Panellists:

Lia Mills writes novels, short stories, literary essays and memoir. Her most recent novel, *Fallen*, was the Dublin/Belfast Two Cities One Book selection in 2016. Her first novel, *Another Alice*, is reissued by Arlen House in 2022.

Catherine Dunne is the author of eleven novels, including *The Things We Know Now*, which won the Giovanni Boccaccio International Prize for Fiction in 2013 and was shortlisted for Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards. She was the recipient of the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature (2018).

Evelyn Conlon, described as 'one of Ireland's major truly creative writers' is a novelist, short story writer, radio essayist and compiler of anthologies. She is a member of Aosdána and lives in Dublin.

Hosted by Arlen House publisher **Alan Hayes**.

Marking International
Women's Day, March 8th

This event is
sponsored by:



Joe Queally - Echoes From a Civil War

Friday 4th March | 4.30pm | Temple Gate Hotel | Free



Echoes from a Civil War tells two stories of violent death in rural Clare. In this riveting book, Joe Queally analyses the 1925 death in Fanore of Guard Thomas Dowling and the 1929 death in Tullycrine of CID detective, Tadhg O'Sullivan, placing them firmly in historical context. He identifies the main protagonists in each case, describes in detail the progression of events, the reaction of the authorities to each killing and their frustrated attempts to bring those responsible to justice.

Joe Queally, a native of North Clare, comes from a farming background and has a keen interest in local history.

Salmon Poetry Book Launch, Frank Golden

Friday 4th March | 6.30pm | Old Ground Hotel | Free

Frank Golden's *If You Tolerate This* is a wide-ranging work which nails its geo-political colours to the mast. Failure and the blighted realities of both entitled and marginalised lives suffuse sections of the book. This is a book with a large cast of characters who are as riven and corruptive as the age we live in.

Praise for Golden's last book of poems *Gotta Get A Message To You* (Salmon Poetry):

"Golden has an uncanny ability to touch on the things that move us most deeply."

Phil Hanrahan/Bookish Review



Jan Carson in Conversation with Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan



Friday 4th March | 6.00pm | St. Columba's | €12/€10

When Hannah Adger's classmate succumbs to a violent and mysterious illness, it marks the beginning of a summer like no other. Bursting with Carson's trademark wit, profound empathy and soaring imagination, *The Raptures* explores how tragedy can unite a small community - and tear it apart.

"Heart-rending, hilarious . . . it's a belter" **Louise Kennedy**

Jan Carson is a writer and community arts facilitator. Her second novel, *The Fire Starters* (2019), won the EU Prize for Literature and was shortlisted for the Dalkey Novel of the Year Award.

Chandrika Narayanan-Mohan is a Dublin-based writer, performer, and cultural consultant, whose work has been published in the Irish Chair of Poetry's *Hold Open the Door* anthology, and *Queering the Green*, amongst others.

This event is sponsored by:



Michael Houlihan & Partners LLP

An Evening with Michael Harding



Friday 4th March | 8.30pm | glór | €15/€13

Join celebrated author and playwright **Michael Harding** as he discusses his most recent title *A Cloud Where the Birds Rise* with Ennis Book Club Festival's Artistic Director **Dani Gill**.

In this stunning collaboration, stories and words written by Michael Harding throughout the years are brought to life by illustrator **Jacob Stack** in an exploration of ordinary moments of Irish life, moments of belonging, solitude, love, loss and healing. From the beauty of falling snow, to the pain and love in goodbyes, to the shared lives and deaths of neighbours, and the sweeping landscape of Ireland, *A Cloud Where the Birds Rise* is a celebration of what it means to love, and live in the beauty of the ordinary, everyday.

Michael Harding is one of Ireland's favourite memoirists, known for his creative chronicles of ordinary life in the Irish midlands. He publishes a weekly column in *The Irish Times*, has written for the stage and has published several novels. His memoirs include *Staring at Lakes*, *Hanging with the Elephant*, *Talking to Strangers*, *On Tuesdays I'm a Buddhist* and *Chest Pain*.

Michael will be interviewed by **Dani Gill**, writer and Artistic Director of Ennis Book Club Festival.

This event is sponsored by:



Books and Buns

Saturday 5th March | 10.00am | Temple Gate Hotel | €10



Enjoy a Saturday morning book club gathering and test your knowledge of all things literary in our beloved Books and Buns session. Refreshments included, setting you up for a busy day!

Beyond Borders Bookclub

Saturday 5th March | 11.00am
Clare Museum | Free

The Beyond Borders Bookclub is a celebration of great literature from countries beyond Ireland, recommended by guests who have connections to the places discussed in these writings.

Guest panellists will take part in a discussion focusing on two books.



Poetry Book Club Session



Saturday 5th March | 11.00am | glór | €10

Love poetry, but don't know where to start when it comes to finding new poets to read?

Join poet Jessica Traynor to explore some of the best recent Irish poetry collections in a fun and informal environment.

All you need to do in advance is to read the books:

Mercy by Róisín Kelly (Bloodaxe Books)

How We Arrive in Winter by Liz Quirke (Salmon)

Jessica Traynor is a poet, essayist and librettist. Her debut poetry collection, *Liffey Swim*, was shortlisted for the Strong/Shine Award and in 2016 was named one of the best poetry debuts of the past five years on *Bustle.com*. *The Quick* was a 2019 Irish Times poetry choice. Awards include the Ireland Chair of Poetry Bursary and Hennessy New Writer of the Year. *Paper Boat*, a new opera commission from Irish National Opera, will premiere in 2022. *Slapped Actor*, a book of essays, has been longlisted for the Fitzcarraldo Editions Essay Prize and the Deborah Rogers Foundation Award in 2021. Residencies in 2021-22 include the Yeats Society Sligo, The Seamus Heaney Home Place and the DLR LexIcon. She is a Creative Fellow of UCD. Her third collection, *Pit Lullabies*, will be published by Bloodaxe Books in March 2022, and is a Poetry Book Society Spring Recommendation.

Ten Books You Should Read



Saturday 5th March | 11.30am | glór | €12/10

Festival favourite Ten Books You Should Read returns to glór! Join two guests for a chat through a list of their most recommended books. Designed for readers and book clubs looking for new titles to explore, Ten Books You Should Read is a Saturday highlight of the festival and a great chance to add good suggestions to your reading list.

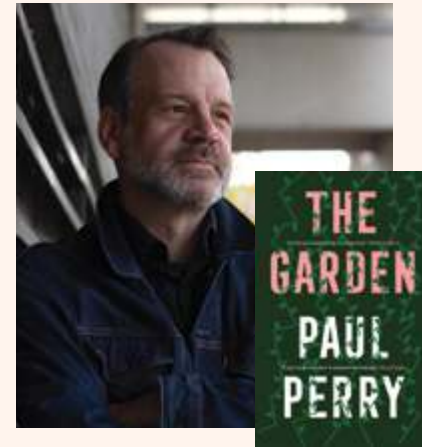
Our guests this year are prize winning author **Mike McCormack** (*Solar Bones*, *Getting it in the Head*, *Crowe's Requiem*, *Notes from a Coma*) and book seller **Vincent Browne** from the acclaimed Charlie Byrne's Bookshop, Galway.

The discussion will be hosted by the recently retired Galway City Arts Officer **James C. Harrold**.

This event is
sponsored by:



Paul Perry and Audrey Magee



Saturday 5th March | 12.00pm | St. Columba's | €12/10

The Garden has been decimated by the worst hurricane in Florida's living memory. When Romeo, an expert breeder of the endangered ghost orchid, arrives, Blanchard and Swallow believe their fortunes are on the rise. Romeo may not be all he seems though, and Swallow can sense the newcomer shaking the Garden's creaking hierarchy.

"Intense and riveting.....a savage beauty that haunts." **Danielle McLaughlin**

Paul Perry is an award-winning poet and novelist. He has published several collections of poetry, and also co-authored four international bestselling novels as Karen Perry. He directs the Creative Writing Programme at University College Dublin. *The Garden* is his debut novel as Paul Perry.

Mr. Lloyd and Mr. Masson travel to the island for the summer. Both will strive to encapsulate the truth of this place – one in his paintings, the other with his faithful rendition of its speech. But the people who live there have their own views.

Audrey Magee worked as a journalist and has written for The Times, The Irish Times, the Observer and the Guardian. Her first novel, *The Undertaking*, was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction, Festival du Premier Roman and for Irish Book Awards, and was nominated for the Dublin Literary Award and Water Scott Prize for Historical Fiction.

"Brimming with ideas about identity and soul." **Lisa McInerney**

Event moderated by **Paula Shields**, journalist and RTÉ researcher.

Clare Youth Theatre

Saturday 5th March | 12.30 - 2.30pm | Outside glór | Free



Clare Youth Theatre's performances at the EBCF are an annual treat: they will present selections from literature and dramatise them in their own inimitable way.

Clare Youth Theatre, under the direction of Theatre Artist Eleanor Feely, is an initiative of the Clare County Arts Office. The Theatre has a unique artistic vision that is committed to the artistic, personal and social development of the young person. It is an annual theatre programme for teenagers that seeks to give young people experience in all aspects of theatre from acting, to producing, technical experience etc. CYT is led by the members and responds to their interests and issues affecting them through theatre and drama.

This event will take place weather permitting.

Ennis Poetry Trail

Saturday 5th March | 3.30pm

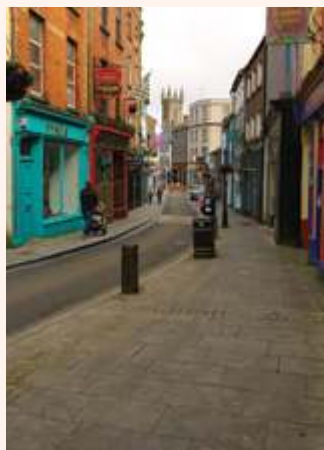
Clare Museum Entrance, Arthur's Row | Free

The trail includes poets Mairéad Ní Ghráda, Máire Ní Dhuibh, Thomas Dermody, Eithne Strong, Tomás Ó Míocháin, Stephen Joseph Meany, Brendan O' Beirne, and finally pays tribute to former, World Heavyweight Champion, Muhammad Ali, by the birthplace of his Great Grandfather, Abe Grady. The Ennis Poet Trail concludes at the Poets' Corner Bar, Old Ground Hotel.

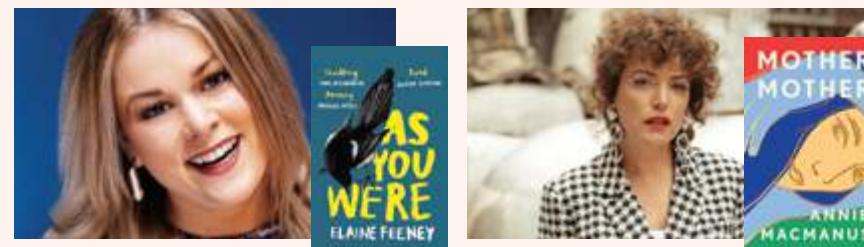
75 minute duration.

Good walking shoes recommended.

Limited numbers.



Fall in Love with Irish Debuts from Elaine Feeney and Annie MacManus



Saturday 5th March | 2.00pm | glór | €12/10

As You Were by Elaine Feeney: Sinéad Hynes is a tough, driven, funny young property developer with a terrifying secret. No-one knows it: not her fellow patients in a failing hospital, and certainly not her family. Discover this unforgettable, darkly funny novel about the power of friendship and the heartbreak of family life.

"Comic, heartfelt and full of characters who walk off the page. A superb, unforgettable debut." **Sinead Gleeson**

Elaine Feeney lectures at The National University of Ireland, Galway. *As You Were*, won the 2021 Kate O'Brien Award and was shortlisted for both the Rathbones Folio Prize and Novel of the Year at the Irish Book Awards. She has published three collections of poetry.

Mother Mother by Annie MacManus: One Saturday morning, TJ McConnell wakes up to find his mother, Mary, gone. *Mother Mother* takes us down the challenging road of Mary's life while following TJ's increasingly desperate search for her, as he begins to discover what has led her to this point.

"Prepare to fall in love with Mary, to want to reach right into the pages and hold her as a child and help her as an adult." **Sara Cox**

Annie MacManus is an internationally renowned DJ and broadcaster. She attended Queen's University Belfast where she studied English Literature. *Mother Mother* is her first book.

This event will be chaired by writer **Jessica Traynor**, award-winning poet, creative writing teacher and dramaturg from Dublin.

This event is sponsored by:



Motherhood, Destiny and Choices: Irish and American Debuts Asking Tough Questions



Saturday 5th March | 4.00pm | Temple Gate Hotel | €12/10

Breaking Point by Edel Coffey: Susannah is pulled in every direction, every day. She leaves her young daughter in the car on a hot day. It is hours before she realises her mistake, but it is too late. Adelaide is a reporter covering the negligence trial. The story stirs up the ghosts of her own long-buried past. Both women are forced to recognise that they are already living out the worst punishment imaginable.

"*Breaking Point* is raw, compelling, and ground breaking." **Liz Nugent**

The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano by Donna Freitas: Rose is fighting with her husband. He promised he'd never want children, but now he's changed his mind. Nine lives are imagined, each with its own outcomes. This compelling novel investigates womanhood, identity, love, loss and the ways that fate intercedes when we least expect it.

"*The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano* delves deep into love, motherhood, and the complicated dance that is navigating the world as a woman." **Claire Lombardo, New York Times**

Edel Coffey is a journalist and broadcaster. She has worked as a presenter and reporter with RTÉ Radio, editor of the Irish Independent Weekend magazine and as Books Editor of the Irish Independent. *Breaking Point* is her debut novel.

The Nine Lives of Rose Napolitano is **Donna Freitas'** first adult novel. She is the author of ten novels for children and young adults and has written for The Washington Post, The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal.

Event moderated by Paula Shields, RTÉ journalist.

John Banville and Kevin Power



Saturday 5th March | 6.00pm | glór | €12/€10

Readers of crime writing, comedy and thrillers are in for a treat with John Banville and Kevin Power featuring together to talk about their novels *White City* and *April in Spain*.

From the highly acclaimed author of *Bad Day in Blackrock*, **Kevin Power** brings us *White City*: a darkly funny, gripping and profoundly moving novel about a life spinning out of control.

Abruptly cut off, at the age of 27, from a life of heedless privilege, Ben flounders through a world of drugs and dead-end jobs, his self-esteem at rock bottom. Then Ben runs into an old school friend who wants to cut him in on a scam: a shady property deal in the Balkans. The deal will make Ben rich and, in one fell swoop, will deliver him from all his troubles, but something is amiss. Someone is being taken for a ride. But who?

John Banville's sumptuous, propulsive follow up to the bestselling *Snow*, *April in Spain* follows Dublin pathologist Quirke as he glimpses a familiar face while on holiday with his wife. It's hard, at first, to tell whether his imagination is just running away with him. Unable to ignore his instincts, Quirke makes a call back home and Detective St John Strafford is soon dispatched to Spain. But he's not the only one en route: as a terrifying hitman hunts down his prey, they are all set for a brutal showdown.

This event is
sponsored by:



An Evening with Claire Keegan



Saturday 5th March | 8.30pm | glór | €15/€13

Set in an Irish town in 1985 during the weeks leading up to Christmas, Bill Furlong, a coal and timber merchant, faces into his busiest season. As he does the rounds, he feels the past rising up to meet him - and encounters the complicit silences of a people controlled by the Church. Claire Keegan's long awaited novel *Small Things Like These* has been praised as 'a haunting, hopeful masterpiece' (Sinéad Gleeson) and a 'tale of courage and compassion, of good sons and vulnerable young mothers' (Douglas Stuart). The long-awaited new work from the international bestselling author of *Foster* and *Antarctica*, delivers an unforgettable story of hope, quiet heroism, and tenderness.

"A short, masterful novel . . . Detailed, insightful and written with striking economy of language . . . a timely and powerful book." **Irish Times**

"A sublime, emotive story, the kind you emerge from as if having been away for a very long time: unsure, at first, how to continue with your own life." **The Guardian**

Claire Keegan was born in 1968 and grew up on a farm in Wicklow. Her short stories include *Antarctica* (Winner of the Rooney Prize for Fiction) and *Walk the Blue Fields* and the novella *Foster* (Davy Byrne's Irish Writing Award).

Claire will be interviewed by journalist and author **Edel Coffey**. Edel Coffey is attending the festival with her debut novel *Breaking Point*.

This event is sponsored by:
the ENNIS BOOKSHOP

Sunday Symposium



Sunday 6th March | 11.30am | glór | €15/€13

'Reflections on Ireland' will be the focus of the Sunday Symposium with guests Fintan O'Toole, Declan O'Rourke, Sophie White and Derek Scally.

Fintan O'Toole's An Post Non-Fiction Book of the Year Prize Winning *We Don't Know Ourselves: A Personal History of Ireland Since 1958* is a personal vision of recent Irish history, a brilliant interweaving of memories and engrossing social and historical narrative, but also of those who began to speak out against the ruling consensus.

Declan O'Rourke's literary debut, *The Pawnbroker's Reward* shows us the famine as it happened through the lens of Macroom, Co. Cork. Pawnbroker Cornelius Creed is at the juncture between the classes. Declan creates a kaleidoscopic view of this defining moment in Ireland's history.

Sophie White's powerful collection of essays: *Corpsing: my Body and Other Horror Stories* is an account of personal, lived stories in which the setting is her own body. Her vivid and ambitious literary non-fiction collection asks uncomfortable questions about the lived reality of womanhood in the 21st century.

Derek Scally's *The Best Catholics in the World: The Irish, the Church and the End of a Special Relationship* explores his experience of Christmas Eve Mass on a visit home from Berlin where he finds more memories than congregants in the church. While Germans are engaging earnestly with their past, Scally sees nothing comparable going on in Ireland, so embarks on a quest to unravel the hold the Church had on the Irish.

Discussion with panellists will be followed by an audience Q&A.

This event is sponsored by:



A Visit to the St. Tola Goat Farm with Rory O'Connell hosted by Award-Winning Chef Jess Murphy



Sunday 6th March | 2.00pm

St. Tola Cheese Farm, Gortbofearna, Ennistymon

Tickets €100 for a group of 4. Not available individually.

(Price includes a cheese board)

Join Rory O'Connell as he talks about his beautifully illustrated and personal book *The Joy of Food*, a celebration of everything Rory is passionate about: first-rate ingredients, simple and respectful cooking techniques and the absolute pleasure that comes from enjoying and sharing the result.

In the setting of St. Tola Goat Cheese Farm, Ennis Book Club Festival hosts an intimate event for foodies and book lovers to enjoy a chat and some demos with Rory and host Kai Restaurant owner, Jess Murphy.

New Zealand native **Jess Murphy** is the executive chef and co-owner of Kai restaurant, Galway, which holds a Bib Gourmand from the Michelin Guide. She has worked with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Beirut and Jordan, as well as furthering food initiatives for those in direct provision.

Rory O'Connell is founder of The Ballymaloe Cookery School with his sister Darina Allen and one of its most-loved teachers. He worked for many years with Myrtle Allen as chef at The Ballymaloe House Hotel in Cork as well as with Alice Waters at Chez Panisse in California.

*"What a gift *The Joy of Food* is. The recipes, the illustrations (which I want to frame), the knowledge are all, indeed, a total joy. Rory is a masterful teacher but it is his love of ingredients that will send you straight into the kitchen."* **Yotam Ottolenghi**

**Please dress warmly and wear appropriate footwear for being on a farm.
The event will take place in the goat shed which is sheltered but is outdoors.**

CHILDREN & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

We're delighted to be teaming up again with Clare County Library to offer readings and workshops with award-winning young adult authors. Events will take place in glór, De Valera Public Library, Ennis and Shannon Library.

Please note all library events are to be booked by ringing De Valera Library on **(065) 684 6353** & Shannon Library on **(061) 364 266**. Places limited so early booking is advised.

The TY Bookclub project will culminate with a special event for all the participating students and teachers in glór on Friday 4th March. The TY Bookclub is an additional project supported by EBCF to foster the love of reading and group interaction in Transition year classes in Clare. The TY Bookclub was facilitated by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald.

Writing for Wellbeing with E.R. Murray



Tuesday 1st March | Free
10.00 - 11.00am: De Valera Library, Ennis
12.00 - 1.00pm: Shannon Library

Join award-winning writer E.R. Murray for a supportive and friendly writing workshop designed to help encourage wellbeing. Through writing exercises and prompts, you will tap into your creativity to explore emotions and ideas, drawing on writing tools and techniques to help boost focus, inspiration, and confidence. The workshop is writing focused, with plenty of time for discussion, reflection, and questions.

Elizabeth Rose Murray writes in multiple genres for children, young adults, and adults. Her books include *Caramel Hearts* and the award-winning *Nine Lives* Trilogy; *The Book of Learning* (Dublin UNESCO Citywide Read 2016), *The Book of Shadows* (shortlisted Irish Literacy Association Award & Irish Book Awards), and *The Book of Revenge*. Recent anthology and journal publications include *Women on Nature* (May 2020), *The Elysian: Creative Responses*, *Reading the Future*, *Autonomy*, *Popshots*, *Banshee*, *Terrain*, *Not Very Quiet*, *Ropes*, and *Channel Magazine*. She lives in West Cork.

Write Where you Come From: Using Folklore in fiction with Dr. Tracy Fahey



Wednesday 2nd March | Free
10.00 - 11.00am: De Valera Library, Ennis
12.00 - 1.00pm: Shannon Library

Writers like Darren Shan, Deirdre Sullivan and Eoin Colfer all use Irish folklore to create stories that are strange and different. Find out in this workshop how you can do the same using stories from your locality!

This workshop is taught by **Tracy Fahey**. Tracy is the author of six books including the folklore inspired Young Adult novel *The Girl In The Fort* (2017) and the folk horror short story collection *New Music For Old Rituals* (2018). Her short stories and poetry have appeared in more than 30 Irish, UK, US and Australian anthologies and her writing has been shortlisted for a British Fantasy Award. She gives workshops on writing in Ireland and the UK and has taught an undergraduate course on folklore and horror. Tracy lives in Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare.

Fighting Words: Story Writing Workshops



Wednesday 2nd March

1.30 - 3.30pm

De Valera Library, Ennis

Free

Thursday 3rd March

10.00 - 12.00am

Shannon Library

Free

Fighting Words is a creative writing centre established by Roddy Doyle and Seán Love in 2009 to help children and young people discover and harness the power of their own imaginations and creative writing skills.

Fighting Words is also about using the creative practice of writing and storytelling to empower children and teenagers to become resilient, creative and successful shapers of their own lives.

Fighting Words Clare was established in 2019 by Clare County Library and regularly facilitates workshops in Secondary Schools throughout the county with a team of library staff and volunteers.

With the focus on enjoyment, teenage participants write together deciding on the content and structure of original stories.

Secondary school classes will spend the first part of the workshop working together as a group, creating a story through role play and improvisation with leadership from Fighting Words team members.

Students will also work independently, developing characters, setting and plot, adding dialogue and editing as they go.

Stories are shared at the close of each workshop with discussion and constructive criticism volunteered by Fighting Words mentors.

Unplugged With Donna Freitas



Friday 4th March | 10.30am

De Valera Library Ennis | Free

"Technology has never been more a part of our lives than now--and it's never been more complicated either. My sci-fi trilogy that begins with Unplugged, takes up our relationship and our addiction to our phones, social media, and the apps that have come to dominate our lives and explores them in the way that only sci-fi can, and I'll be discussing not only the inspiration for Skylar and her story of living between the Real World and the App World, but also how her story and struggles are inspired by our own. If you love (or hate!) your smartphone and social media, this discussion is for you!"

Discussion chaired by **Dani Gill**

Creative Engagement with TY Groups



Friday 4th March | 11.00am | glór | Free

Following the success of the TY Book Club project in 2021, Ennis Book Club Festival has partnered again with award winning novelist, teacher and professor of Creative Writing at the University of Limerick **Sarah Moore Fitzgerald** to engage TY groups across Clare in a creative project.

Sarah and **Ennis Book Club Festival's Artistic Director Dani Gill** have designed a unique project to encourage young people to identify and explore their creative passions. Through workshops held in schools over the past few months, students have worked with Sarah to explore and expanding their creative worlds considering poetry, novels, scripts, non-fiction, songs, theatre, flash fiction and more.

The young people involved in these workshops will design an event of their own choosing that will be hosted in glór by Sarah Moore Fitzgerald on Friday 4th March as part of Ennis Book Club Festival.

Supported by Creative Ireland Clare.



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



A Garden Visit in Kiltumper with Niall Williams and Christine Breen



Saturday 9th April | 11.00am (70 mins) & 1.00pm (70 mins)
Kiltumper | €15

In Celebration of National Gardening Day (April 14 2022) we venture to Kiltumper, for an intimate tour and talk in the beloved garden of writers Niall Williams and Christine Breen.

Thirty-four years ago, Niall Williams and Christine Breen made the impulsive decision to leave their lives in New York City and move to Christine's ancestral home in the town of Kiltumper in rural Ireland. In 2019, with Christine in the final stages of recovery from cancer and the land itself threatened by the arrival of turbines just one farm over, they decided to document a year of living in their garden and in their small corner of a rapidly changing world. This is the story of a garden in all its many splendours, and a couple who have made their life observing its wonders.

"A meditation on life, love and the importance of nature." - **Irish Times**

Christine Breen is an artist, homeopath, gardener, and mother of two children. Her writing includes: *Her Name is Rose*, *The Accident*, and four, bestselling non-fiction books on country living in County Clare.

Niall Williams is the author of nine novels, including the international bestseller, *Four Letters of Love*, as well as the Booker-Longlisted *History of the Rain*, and his most recent novel, nominated for the Irish Book Awards and the Walter Scott prize, *This is Happiness*.

Niall and Chris will give visitors a guided tour of the garden, with readings from the book and a Q&A with the audience.

Capacity Limited

The Climate for Book Clubs



Would you like to join a book club dealing with the climate issue and our response to it? Two online clubs will be set up this year with an in person event taking place during the Festival.

The clubs will have five facilitated online meetings from February to April (evenings every two weeks) with an in-person meeting over the Festival weekend. One book club will read and discuss "Active Hope" by Joanna Macy and Chris Johnstone. The subtitle "How to Face the Mess we're in without Going Crazy" describes the essence of the book. This book club will be led by Anna Swisher, who regularly facilitates workshops based on the Active Hope approach.

The second book club is based on the pope's letter on climate change "Laudato Si" where he appeals for a dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. This book club is supported by Jane Mellet of Trócaire and Liz Price, an experienced facilitator.

Contact info@ennisbookclubfestival.com to sign up or for more information

Photographs are taken at events at the Festival and are available on our website and used for promotional purposes. If you would prefer not to be included in any photographs, please let either the photographer or one of our volunteers know.

Organising Team Ennis Book Club Festival 2022

Cora Gunter, Dani Gill, Bríd Hayes, Angela Connaughton, Ailish Larkin, Fiona de Buitléir, Aidan Courtney, Emily O'Dwyer

The committee can be contacted at:

info@ennisbookclubfestival.com and **(086) 152 2169**

Former Committee Members

The reputation of the Ennis Book Club Festival has been built up over many years by a range of different people who have given freely of their time and dedication to ensure the success of the Festival.

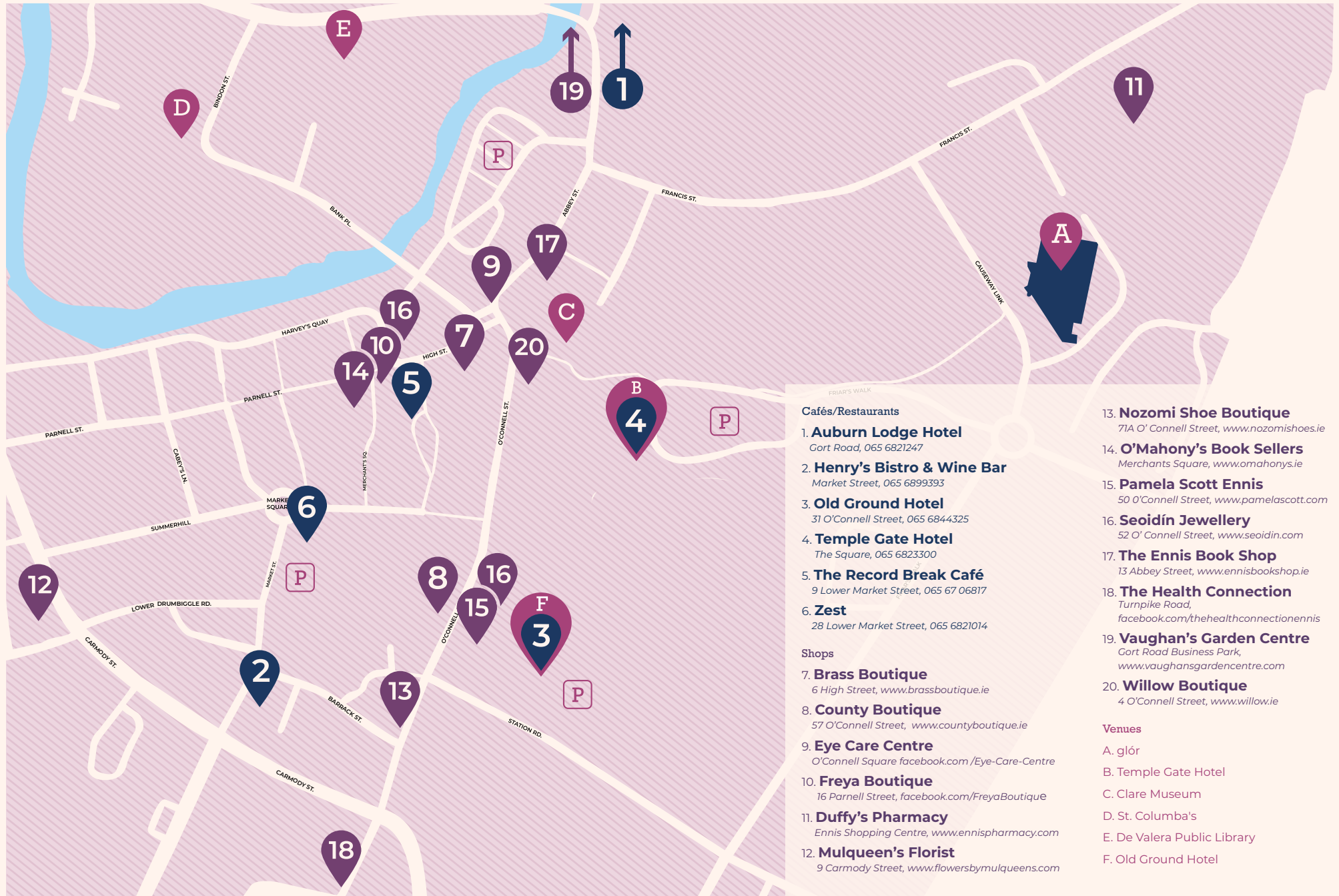
Former Organising Committee members include:

Patricia Callaly, Ciana Campbell, Michael Conneely, Mary Donnelly, Bridget Ginnity, Mary Henchy, Mary Kenneally, Ann Knox, Ita Lawton, Nollag MacNamara, Cathy McDermott, Ruth McDonnell, Catherine O'Brien, Emer O'Connell, Frances O'Gorman, Catherine O'Hara, Paula Sheils, & Helen Walsh.

We would like to thank them for their continued support.

In producing EBCF 2022, we have been significantly helped by:

Clare Arts Office, Ian Malone Design, Sinéad Cahill, Mulqueen's Florist, Vaughan's Garden Centre, Paul Corey, Purcell Audio, Clare County Library, Ennis Bookshop & our team of volunteers over the weekend.



Cafés/Restaurants

1. **Auburn Lodge Hotel**
Gort Road, 065 6821247
2. **Henry's Bistro & Wine Bar**
Market Street, 065 6899393
3. **Old Ground Hotel**
31 O'Connell Street, 065 6844325
4. **Temple Gate Hotel**
The Square, 065 6823300
5. **The Record Break Café**
9 Lower Market Street, 065 67 06817
6. **Zest**
28 Lower Market Street, 065 6821014

Shops

7. **Brass Boutique**
6 High Street, www.brassboutique.ie
8. **County Boutique**
57 O'Connell Street, www.countyboutique.ie
9. **Eye Care Centre**
O'Connell Square [facebook.com /Eye-Care-Centre](https://www.facebook.com/Eye-Care-Centre)
10. **Freya Boutique**
16 Parnell Street, [facebook.com/FreyaBoutique](https://www.facebook.com/FreyaBoutique)
11. **Duffy's Pharmacy**
Ennis Shopping Centre, www.ennispharmacy.com
12. **Mulqueen's Florist**
9 Carmody Street, www.flowersbymulqueens.com

13. Nozomi Shoe Boutique

71A O'Connell Street, www.nozomishoes.ie

14. O'Mahony's Book Sellers

Merchants Square, www.omahonys.ie

15. Pamela Scott Ennis

50 O'Connell Street, www.pamelascott.com

16. Seoidín Jewellery

52 O'Connell Street, www.seoidin.com

17. The Ennis Book Shop

13 Abbey Street, www.ennisbookshop.ie

18. The Health Connection

Turnpike Road,
[facebook.com/thehealthconnectionennis](https://www.facebook.com/thehealthconnectionennis)

19. Vaughan's Garden Centre

Gort Road Business Park,
www.vaughansgardencentre.com

20. Willow Boutique

4 O'Connell Street, www.willow.ie

Venues

- A. glór
- B. Temple Gate Hotel
- C. Clare Museum
- D. St. Columba's
- E. De Valera Public Library
- F. Old Ground Hotel

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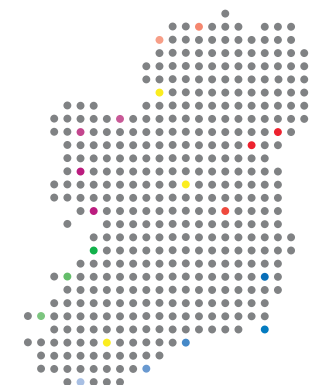
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The Clare Champion

Best wishes to
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TUNE IN TODAY  sounds like you

6AM	The Colum McGrath Breakfast Show
9AM	Morning Focus with Alan Morrissey
12PM	The Time Tunnel with Padraic Flaherty
2PM	Drivetime with Rory Hall
6PM	Le Chéile with Pat Flynn
7PM	The West Wind
9PM	The Night Shift with Shay Seanson

CHECK OUT OUR WEEKEND HIGHLIGHTS

- Saturdays & Sundays at 10am
Country Corner with Mike Gardiner
- Sundays at 8
Atlantic Tales with Pat Flynn
- Sundays at 7pm
The Francis Street Sessions with Dermot Shoddy

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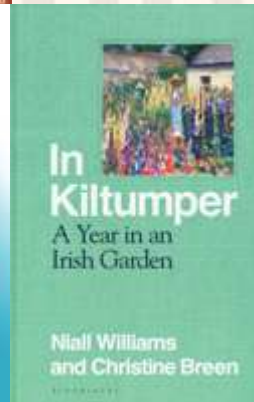
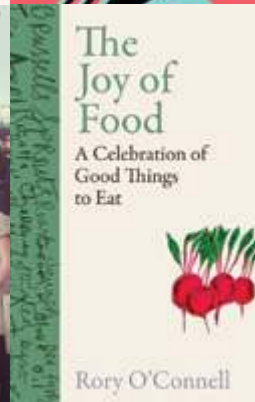
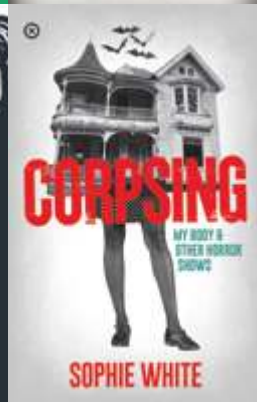
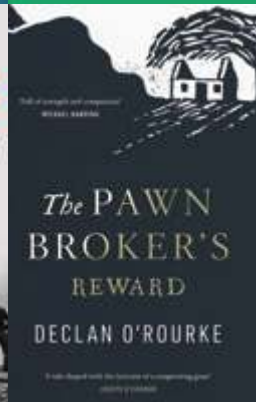
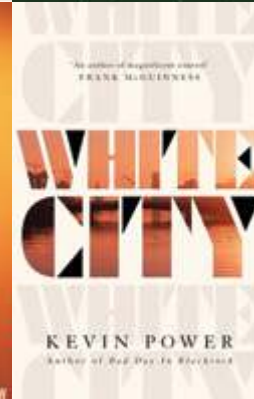
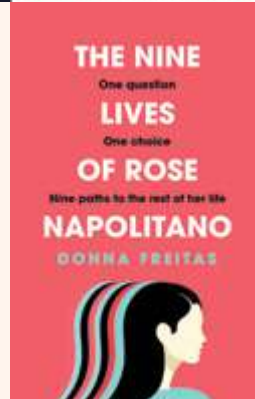
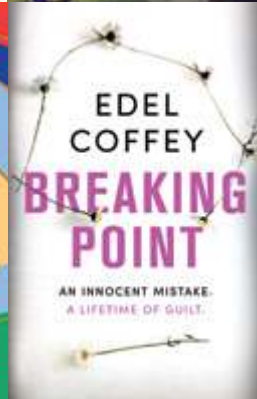
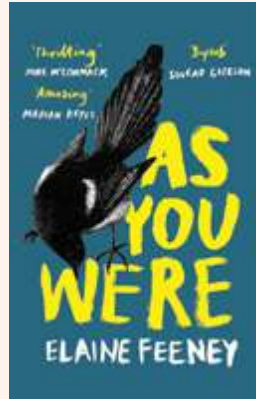
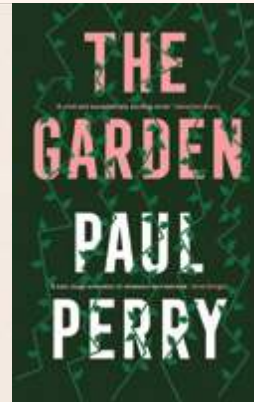
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