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**CULTURE
NIGHT**

**CULTURE NIGHT IN
FINGAL LIBRARIES**
FRIDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER

Meán Fómhair / September 2022

Am Scríbhneoireachta

Ceiliúradh ar Chruthaitheacht & Scríbhneoireacht i bhFine Gall

The Write Time

A Celebration of Creativity & Writing in Fingal





Introduction

Welcome to The Write Time 2022, an exciting programme of events celebrating creativity and writing in Fingal. Now in its seventh year, the Fingal Libraries creative writing festival is not only designed for aspiring writers but for anybody interested in the craft of writing. We would like to extend our gratitude to Festival Curator Anne McDonald who has produced an engaging programme of online and in-person workshops spread over the month of September. If you would like to make a start on a short story, personal reflections or even a novel, this is a great place to begin.

Culture night also returns on Friday, 23 September. We invite you to discover and celebrate the wealth of culture that Fingal has to offer—full details from page 8.

County Librarian, Betty Boardman

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A note from Festival Curator Anne McDonald

This year's Write Time Festival embraces all aspects of Fingal with inclusion being a cornerstone on which the month-long series of workshops are built. Flish McCarthy will facilitate classes for over 60's to explore different forms of writing and share knowledge and aspirations that may have, until now, not found space in what can be very busy working lives.

Fiona O'Rourke will explore the short story form on zoom and encourage discussion on the elements of crafting a story as well as guided writing sessions to generate ideas. For those with an interest in art and writing, Judi Sutherland will facilitate poetry workshops exploring our response to art and how it can inspire creative writing in many forms. Judi will also facilitate workshops around metaphor and the power of imagery.

Climate change is something we are all now acutely aware of, and Flish McCarthy will guide you through nature writing using the senses, helping you understand how you can care about the earth and how writing can explore and articulate our relationship to nature. I will facilitate workshops on identity, and how we can look to the past and our heritage, both local and from far-away places to craft memoir or stories. I will also facilitate a session on memoir and the five senses.

For people who want to explore having their writing published, the Festival will finish with an interactive panel discussion with myself and Fiona O'Rourke. This will be an opportunity for you to find out how to get your work ready for publication, how to go about getting published and where the best places to send your work will be.

Anne McDonald, Festival Curator



About the Writers

Flish McCarthy, BA & MA Honours English, MA Women's Studies (UCD)

Flish is a writer, a poet, essayist, editor, and short story writer. Her work is in print and online in Ireland, UK, Mexico, and the USA. She has worked as an editor for *The Blue Nib* (North American section) and has many years' experience teaching and facilitating creative writing workshops. Salmon Publishing, Co. Clare, contracted to publish her first collection, due out in August 2022.



Fiona O'Rourke, M.Phil. Creative Writing (Trinity College Dublin)

Fiona is an author and facilitator whose short stories have been broadcast for radio and published and translated in journals and anthologies. She was a winner in the Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair and runs a writing collective, *eXpress Writing Community*. She facilitates writing courses and mentorships with the Irish Writers Centre, libraries, and festivals.



Judi Sutherland, M.A. Creative Writing (University of London)

Judi is a poet, aspiring novelist, and non-fiction writer. She has two books of poetry published: *The Ship Owner's House* (Vane Women Press, Darlington, 2018) and *Following Teisa*, (The Book Mill Press, Penrith, 2021). Judi taught beginners' poetry classes at Newbury Corn Exchange Theatre and Witham Arts Centre. She organised and led a workshop at the Bowes Museum based on an exhibition of couture by Yves St Laurent.



Anne McDonald, M.Phil. Creative Writing (Trinity College Dublin)

Anne is an award-winning writer, spoken word poet and creative writing teacher who has had poetry, short stories and non-fiction published. She is a regular reader on open mic nights and worked as a librettist for the Performance Arts Labs summer school. She works as a facilitator with the Irish Writers Centre, libraries, arts festivals and not-forprofit organisations. Her first collection of poetry, *Crows' Books*, was published in March 2021.

<https://creativelythinkingweb.wordpress.com/>



Crafting Short Stories with Fiona O'Rourke

4 week online course

Want to explore the short story form? Get reading, get talking, get writing! This practical 4-week course explores one published short story per session. The story will be circulated beforehand for in-class discussion on elements of the craft. Each session will include guided writing exercises inspired by the featured story to help writers generate new prose in the short form.

Week 1	Tuesday 6th September	7:00pm – 8:30pm
Week 2	Tuesday 13th September	7:00pm – 8:30pm
Week 3	Tuesday 20th September	7:00pm – 8:30pm
Week 4	Tuesday 27th September	7:00pm – 8:30pm

Places are limited to 12 participants.

To book your place, register using the following

Eventbrite link:

<https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/391076017897> or scan here



The Last Call, Why Not Write Now? with Flish McCarthy

This class is for retirees—the over 60s, but there is room as well for those still in paid work who want to test drive their writing skills out of curiosity or even a desire for a career change. Experiment with different types of writing, poetry, flash fiction, and short stories. What are you passionate about? It's time to have your say. Come along and share your knowledge in your poetry, short stories, and essays.

Blanchardstown Library	Monday 5th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Malahide Library	Monday 12th September	6:30pm – 7:45pm
Balbriggan Library	Monday 19th September	11:00am – 1:00pm

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



Every Picture Tells a Story with Judi Sutherland

This workshop will look at 'ekphrastic' poetry i.e. written as a response to visual art. We will go beyond describing the artwork, instead writing about the way the art makes us feel; how we can imagine what might be happening in a painting; how we can use a static image as a jumping-off point into a story of our own. Participants will discover ways to stretch their powers of imagination.

Blanchardstown Library	Wednesday 7th September	5:00pm – 7:00pm
Malahide Library	Wednesday 14th September	11:00am – 1:00pm
Balbriggan Library	Wednesday 21st September	11:00am – 1:00pm

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.

Who doesn't Love the Planet? with Flish McCarthy

Nature writing in all its forms. Be creative about the earth you love, be passionate about its beauty and shape that love into poetry, story, and fiction. Using all your senses, help us to feel why you care about the earth, and why we should too. Prompts, free writes and reading of work done in between times.

Blanchardstown Library	Thursday 8th September	10:00am – 12:00pm
Malahide Library	Thursday 15th September	10:00am – 12:00pm

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.

Writing Identity with Anne McDonald

This workshop will examine how we can use our identity and heritage to empower our writing and ways to harvest our own unique experience to craft memoir, stories, and poems. It will help you discover how you can access powerful positive aspects of where you came from and what it is that makes you the writer you are now and can be in the future.

Blanchardstown Library	Friday 9th September	11:00am – 1:00pm
Malahide Library	Friday 16th September	11:00am – 1:00pm
Balbriggan Library	Friday 23rd September	11:00am – 1:00pm

To reserve a place, please contact the library hosting the event.



Pen-Portraits with Judi Sutherland

This workshop will study the capacity of metaphor to describe people's personalities, creating pieces of writing about other people, finishing the session with a self-portrait. Participants will gain an appreciation of the power of imagery to communicate complex ideas and to create interesting, believable characters.

Blanchardstown Library	Saturday 10th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Malahide Library	Saturday 17th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm
Balbriggan Library	Saturday 24th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm

Writing Memoir with the Five Senses with Anne McDonald

Do you remember the smell of Lifebuoy Soap and Lavender floor polish? When RTE had only two stations? When Ireland won the Eurovision? Your first pair of new shoes? Your first day at school? This interactive workshop will help you delve into your precious unique memories using the five senses to discover ideas for stories, poems, and prose.

Malahide Library	Monday 26th September	6:30pm – 7:45pm
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'Repair Shop' Writing with Judi Sutherland

Participants will start from an object they have been given as a gift (which they can bring with them if they wish) and craft a piece of writing which distills down their feelings about the object and perhaps the person who gave it to them. Participants will get some practice at moving from the specific to making more general observations about life and meaning in their writing.

Balbriggan Library	Wednesday 28th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm
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From the page to being published

with Fiona O'Rourke & Anne McDonald

Interactive panel discussion on all aspects of crafting your stories/poems/prose to submitting for publication.

Balbriggan Library	Friday 30th September	2:00pm – 4:00pm
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CULTURE NIGHT / OÍCHE CHULTÚIR AT FINGAL LIBRARIES FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2022

Culture Night celebrates culture and creativity in Ireland by connecting people to cultural activities locally and nationally. Audiences of all ages can enjoy a variety of cultural events including story-telling, music, dance and a tour of Fingal Local Studies and Archives.

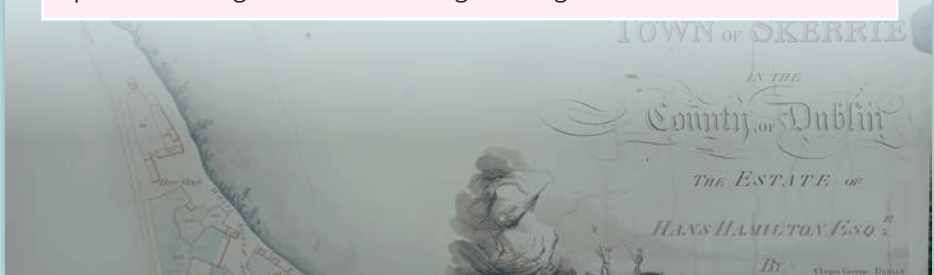
Fingal Local Studies & Archives

6:00pm – 8:00pm

46 North Street, Swords, County Dublin

Visitors will receive an overview of the history of the branch, along with an account of services they can access. The tour will include a look at some of our most popular collections, including the Minute Books of Dublin County Council from 1898, RDC Minute Books, Howth Urban District Council and Balbriggan Town Commissioners; private papers such as the Hely-Hutchinson Collection; historic maps and a comprehensive local history collection.

This is a rare opportunity for the public to go behind the scenes of Fingal Local Studies and Archives. Our staff will be onsite to answer questions and guide visitors through the night.





Malahide Library

Main Street, Malahide, County Dublin

Storytime Before Bed with Sarah Sparkles

6:00pm – 7:00pm

Children are sure to enjoy a special Culture Night Storytime before bed with Sarah Sparkles. Help Sarah create a relaxing bedtime story and perform some magic to help you have the sweetest of dreams. With puppets, songs and fun, what a wonderful way to get ready for bed!

Face-painting with Romina Roe

6:00pm – 8:00pm

As a special Culture Night treat, there will be face-painting with Romina at Malahide Library.

Harp Music by Patricia Daly

7:00pm – 8:00pm

Listen to the beautiful sounds of the harp, played by Patricia Daly. Patricia is a former All Ireland harpist, professional musician, music teacher and confidence coach who helps musicians unlock creative potential and build confidence playing their instrument before others.





Blanchardstown Library

The Civic Centre, Blanchardstown Centre, Dublin 15

Deadly Dublin! with Alan Nolan

5:45pm – 6:45pm

How well do you know Dublin? Join author and illustrator Alan Nolan as he brings you on a trip around Dublin's lost landmarks and creepiest crypts – as featured in his new children's historical novel, *Molly Malone and Bram Stoker in The Sackville Street Caper* – and learn how to draw the deadliest Dubliner of all ... Dracula!

Tura Aratura

7:00pm – 8:00pm

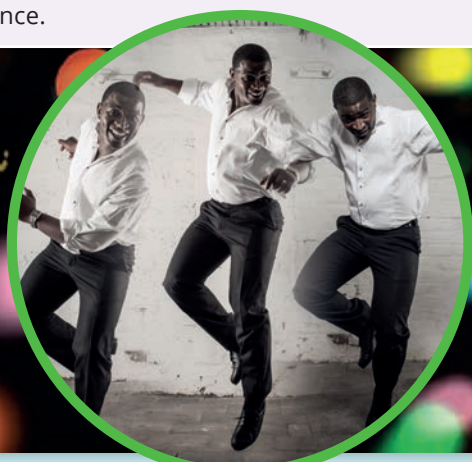
Join Dancer, choreographer, singer-songwriter and poet, Tura Aratura for a multi-arts experiential session made up of fun natural organic Animal movement, Black Street Dance, African traditional and urban dance alongside Sean Nós Dance, new Gaelic Interactive Poetry and spoken word.

The workshop will be open to all the family and is interactive and engaging. This spell-bidding, energetic and inspiring experience is not to be missed!

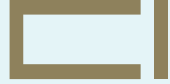
Blanchardstown Brass Band

8:00pm – 9:00pm

Blanchardstown Library welcomes back Culture Night favourites, the Blanchardstown Brass Band. One of the oldest bands in Ireland, the Blanchardstown Brass Band is committed to fostering an interest in brass music in the youth of the community. We look forward to another stirring performance.



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017–2022



VISIT OUR STORYTRAILS THIS AUTUMN!

Come along and follow the story of *The Ravenous Beast* by Niamh Sharkey in the magical setting of Ardgillian Castle and *The Lonely Beast* by Chris Judge in Kenure Woods in Rush. An outdoor, interactive story time for the whole family to enjoy.



Cá bhfuil mo leabharlann is cóngaraí? Where is my nearest library?

Balbriggan	01 870 4401	balbrigganlibrary@fingal.ie
Baldoyle	01 890 6793	baldoylelibrary@fingal.ie
Blanchardstown	01 890 5560	blanchlibrary@fingal.ie
Donabate	01 890 5609	donabate.library@fingal.ie
Garristown	01 835 5020	garristownlibrary@fingal.ie
Howth	01 890 5026	Howth.library@fingal.ie
Malahide	01 870 4430	malahidelibrary@fingal.ie
Rush	01 870 8414	rushlibrary@fingal.ie
Skerries	01 890 5671	skerrieslibrary.library@fingal.ie
Swords	01 890 5582	swordslibrary@fingal.ie
Mobile Library Service	01 890 6719	mobile.libraries@fingal.ie
Housebound Library Service	01 860 4290	housebound.library@fingal.ie
Local Studies and Archives	01 890 4486	Local.Studies@fingal.ie

Tá Leabharlanna Fhine Gall ar na Meáin Shóisialta
Fingal Libraries are on Social Media

