

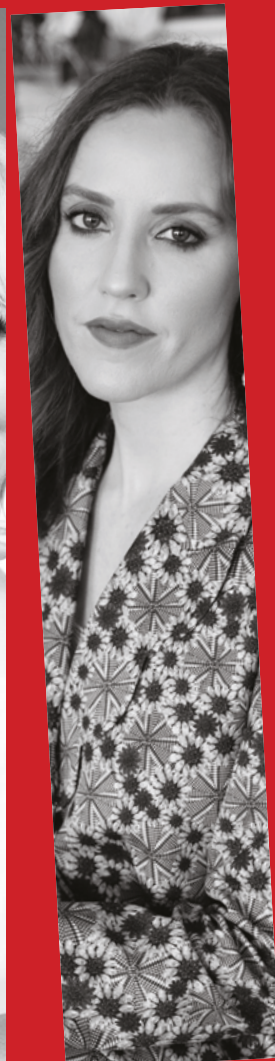
REDLINE

BOOK FESTIVAL

12th - 18th **OCT**
2026

redlinefestival.ie

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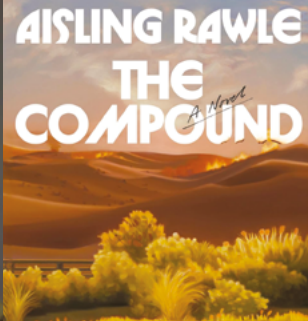
FESTIVAL

DAY	TITLE	TIME	VENUE	TICKETS
Monday 12/10				
Miriam O'Callaghan	Life, Work and Everything	2.30pm	Ballyroan Library	Free
Dr Eburn Joseph	Writing Across Genres: From Ideas to the Page	6.00pm	Tallaght Library	Free
Myles Dungan	The Waterboys	7.00pm	NCL Library	Free
Sophie Hannah	100 Years of Murder: Celebrating Agatha Christie	7.00pm	Rua Red	€12/€10
Aisling Rawle	The Compound	7.00pm	Lucan Library	Free
Tuesday 13/10				
Ailin Kennedy & Mike McGrath-Bryan	Have I Got Your Attention?	7.00pm	NCL Library	Free
Nell Regan, Nessa O'Mahony, Martina Dalton, Celia de Freine	The Red Line Poetry Evening - Oíche Filíochta	7-9pm	Aon Scéal Cafe	Free
Siobhan Fenton	Ourselves Alone: Sinn Féin Behind Closed Doors	7.00pm	Rua Red	€12/€10
Justine Stafford	The Irish Art of 'It'll Be Grand'	8.00pm	Priory Market	€12/€10
Cecelia Ahern	In conversation with Ryan Tubridy	8.00pm	Civic Main Space	€12/€10
Wednesday 14/10				
Liz Gillis	South County Dublin Through the Lens of the 1926 Census	6.30pm	Tallaght Library	Free
Charleen Hurtubise	In conversation with Chloe Cowman	6.30pm	Clondalkin Library	Free
Sarah Waters	An Evening with Sarah Waters	6.30pm	Rathfarnham Castle	€12/€10
Gill Perdue, Mary Watson & Jo Spain	Red Wine & Crime	7.00pm	Castletymon Library	Free
Thursday 15/10				
Ruth Ennis & Oran Doyle	Writing for young adults - school event	11.00am	Civic Studio Space	Free
Film Screening	The Charlie O'Leary Story	6.30pm	Tallaght Library	Free
Lisa Harding & Imani Thompson	Crime on Campus	7.00pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Dearbhla Mescal & Miriam Mulcahy	Finding Calm in a Busy World	7.00pm	Lucan Library	Free
Artscope	Reel Flamenco	7.30pm	Civic Main Space	Free

SCHEDULE



DAY	TITLE	TIME	VENUE	TICKETS
Thursday 15/10				
Anthony Delaney	Queer Georgians	7.00pm	Ballyroan Library	Free
Friday 16/10				
Roxana Manouchehri	Unfolding Stories: A guide to making Handmade Books	10.00am	Palmerstown Library	Free
Gordon Darcy & Paul Howard	Let's Play Football Primary school event, 1st and 2nd class	11.00am	Civic Main Space	Free
Jen Bray & Rebecca Murphy	First Fiction – Debut Novels	6.45pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Louise O'Neill	A Bigger Life – Louise O'Neill in conversation with Lynn Ruane	8.00pm	Civic Main Space	€12/€10
Saturday 17/10				
Karen Harte, Philip Barret, Kate Escolin	Family Fun Day, Comics and Illustrators. Ages 8+	All day	Tallaght Library Parthalán Place	Free
Tanya Sweeney	Write That Novel!	11.00am	Clondalkin Library	Free
Alan Nolan	The Grand Central Cinema Club. Lights, Camera, Mayhem! Ages 7+	12.00pm & 3.00pm	Civic Main Space	Free
Murph the Magician	Fun Family Magic Show	2.00pm	NCL Library	Free
Karen Harte	"Effie is Offline" Draw along	2.00pm	Civic Studio Space	Free
Carla Soden	"We Are What We Keep" – A Life through the SDCC Archive	2.30pm	Ballyroan Library	Free
Colm Keegan	Camcorder	6.00pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Bríd Lyons	Songs from the Red Line	7.00pm	Arás Chronáin	Free
Emmet Kirwan	An Evening of Theatre & Spoken Word	8.00pm	Civic Main Space	€12/€10
Sunday 18/10				
Alan Nolan	The Grand Central Cinema Club. Lights, Camera, Mayhem! Ages 7+	12.00pm & 3.00pm	Civic Main Space	Free
Mary Kennedy	Now You Are Wonderful	3.00pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Louise Brangan	The Fallen	5.00pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Aoife Mc Mahon	Behind the Mic	7.00pm	Civic Studio Space	€12/€10
Ardal O'Hanlon	In conversation with Rick O'Shea	8.00pm	Civic Main Space	€12/€10



AISLING RAWLE "THE COMPOUND"

Monday, October 12th

Join Aisling Rawle in conversation with bestselling author and journalist **Vicki Notaro** about her acclaimed debut novel, *The Compound*.

Winner of a Goodreads Choice Award and selected for the Good Morning America and BBC Radio 2 Book Clubs, the novel takes readers inside the strange world of a reality TV show set in an isolated desert.

Aisling will discuss the inspiration behind the book and the ideas that shaped this darkly funny and unsettling debut.



MIRIAM O'CALLAGHAN

"LIFE, WORK AND EVERYTHING"

Monday, October 12th

Miriam O'Callaghan is one of Ireland's most recognisable and respected broadcasters. In this talk with author **Vicki Notaro**, she reflects on her remarkable career and the stories behind her best-selling memoir.

Sharing defining moments from her decades in broadcasting, as well as reflections on the experiences that have shaped her life and career, this will be an opportunity to hear one of Ireland's most influential public figures discuss her *life, work... and everything*.



DR. MYLES DUNGAN "THE WATERBOYS"

Monday, October 12th

Join historian, author and RTÉ broadcaster Dr Myles Dungan for the story of two Irish emigrants who helped shape modern California.

The Waterboys follows William Mulholland and Michael O'Shaughnessy, two very different men behind the ambitious schemes that brought water to Los Angeles and San Francisco. Their projects were extraordinary feats of engineering, but they were also hugely controversial, displacing communities and transforming the landscape.

Myles will trace their journeys from Ireland to America, the remarkable projects that made their names, and how ambition, politics and a little bit of karma shaped their eventual fortunes.



SOPHIE HANNAH "100 YEARS OF MURDER": CELEBRATING AGATHA CHRISTIE

Monday, October 12th

Join best-selling crime writer Sophie Hannah, the author chosen to continue Agatha Christie's legendary Hercule Poirot stories, in conversation with acclaimed Irish crime writer **Catherine Ryan Howard**.

Together, they'll explore Christie's extraordinary legacy and enduring appeal, the challenge of bringing one of literature's most beloved detectives to a new generation, and the mysteries that have captivated readers for more than a century.



WRITING ACROSS GENRES: FROM IDEAS TO THE PAGE

Monday, October 12th

Have you ever wanted to write a book but wondered where to begin? Join Dr Ebon Joseph for an engaging and practical writing workshop exploring the many ways our ideas can become books.

From narrative or creative nonfiction to fiction and self-development to edited collections and children's picture books, we'll explore different forms of writing, how to develop an idea, finding your voice, structuring your work, and taking those first steps towards becoming a published author.

HAVE I GOT YOUR ATTENTION MIKE MC GRATH & AILÍN KENNEDY

Tuesday, October 13th

Join co-authors Ailín Kennedy and 'Mike McGrath-Bryan' as they talk about their book *Have I Got Your Attention, a guide to Adult ADHD in Ireland*.

Ailín Kennedy is an ADHD Coach from Cork. Diagnosed with ADHD at 32, Ailín understands first-hand the relief and the challenge of reframing your identity through an ADHD lens and was trained by the industry leader in ADHD coaching, ADDCA.

Mike McGrath-Bryan is a writer, journalist, musician, and community arts facilitator, living in Cork, he is a contributor to Irish adult-autism anthology 'Wired Our Own Way'.



THE RED LINE POETRY NIGHT OÍCHE FILÍOCHTA

Tuesday, October 13th

Join us for a wonderful evening of poetry and conversation, chaired by poet, writer and translator Nell Regan. The evening will also see the presentation of the Red Line Book Festival Poetry Competition Awards, judged this year by All-Ireland Poetry Slam winner Cormac Mac Gearailt, with the winning poets celebrated on the night.

Bí linn le haghaidh tráthnóna iontach filíochta agus comhrá, faoi uacht na filí, scríbhneoir agus aistritheoir Nell Regan.

Bronnfar freisin na Duaiseanna Comórtas Filíochta Fhéile Leabhar an Líne Dhearg ann, a mheasfar i mbliana ag buaiteoir Slam Filíochta na hÉireann, Cormac Mac Gearailt, agus ceiliúrfar na filí a bhuaigh chomh maith.

JUSTINE STAFFORD THE IRISH ART OF 'IT'LL BE GRAND'

Tuesday, October 13th

Justine Stafford, comedian, writer and social media favourite, sits down with presenter and pop culture host **Fionnuala Jay** to talk about her new book, *The Irish Art of It'll Be Grand*. Taking its cue from that most Irish of reassurances – "Ah look, it'll be grand" – the book is a tongue-in-cheek guide to the Irish approach to life.

From keeping the head and refusing to get notions to the many meanings of "I'm grand", Justine explores the sayings, stories and characters behind our belief that, whatever happens, things have a way of working themselves out.



CECELIA AHERN IN CONVERSATION WITH RYAN TUBRIDY

Tuesday, October 13th - ISL Available

Beloved best-selling author Cecelia Ahern joins broadcaster and author **Ryan Tubridy** for a special conversation about her life, writing and remarkable career. From the phenomenal success of *PS, I Love You* to her latest novel, *Love Unlocked*, Cecelia has been captivating readers around the world for more than two decades.

A lifelong book lover and host of "The Bookshelf with Ryan Tubridy", Ryan will talk to Cecelia about where her stories come from and how her writing has evolved over the years.



SIOBHAN FENTON "OURSELVES ALONE"

Tuesday, October 13th - ISL Available

Former Sinn Féin communication adviser and party spokesperson Siobhán Fenton sits down with political correspondent and author **Gavan Reilly** to discuss her new book, *Ourselves Alone: Sinn Féin Behind Closed Doors*. Drawing on her time working inside the party, Fenton offers a unique insight into the inner workings of Sinn Féin during a period of extraordinary political change. In conversation with one of Ireland's leading political journalists, she'll discuss what happens behind the scenes, the personalities and decisions that shaped the party's fortunes.

RED WINE & CRIME

Wednesday, October 14th

Join Gill Perdue, Jo Spain and Mary Watson for *Red Wine and Crime*, an evening celebrating the darker side of fiction.

In conversation with broadcaster **Ruth Scott**, three of Ireland's leading crime writers will talk about their latest books – *All Of Them Lied*, *Never to be Found* and *The Cleaner* – and the stories and ideas behind them. They'll discuss how they approach crime writing, where their characters come from and how they keep readers guessing.

Settle in with a glass of red and enjoy an evening of crime, conversation and plenty of twists.

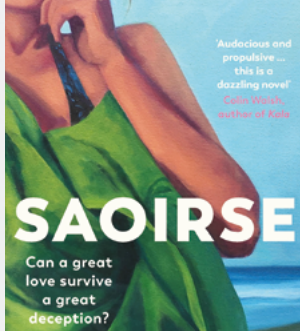


SOUTH COUNTY DUBLIN THROUGH THE LENS OF THE 1926 CENSUS

Wednesday, October 14th

Following the release of the 1926 Census, historian Liz Gillis explores what the census reveals about the communities of South Dublin. Hear the stories behind the statistics and see how people lived and worked a century ago.

This talk also features the premiere of a short film: *Our Centenary Story: South Dublin Lives 1926*, exploring the evidence in the census records of the lives of notable personalities and realities of everyday life. Funded and supported by the Irish government's Department of Culture, Communications and Sport 2026 Commemorative Programme.



SAOIRSE

Wednesday, October 14th

Join author Charlene Hurtubise as she talks about her new book *Saoirse* with **Chloe Cowman** (*Nurse Fancy Pants*)

Charleen Hurtubise is a novelist, essayist and artist. She holds an M.Sc. from Trinity College Dublin and an MFA from University College Dublin. Originally from Michigan, she has lived in Ireland for nearly three decades with her family. Though she lives in Dublin, the pull of Donegal never leaves and continues to influence her drawings and writings.

CRIME ON CAMPUS

Thursday, October 15th

Join Imani Thompson author of *Honey* and Lisa Harding, author of *The Wildelings* as they talk to **Tanya Sweeney** about their dark, campus thrillers.

Imani Thompson is a British writer with Jamaican heritage. During her time studying Sociology at Cambridge University, she won the Vogue new writer's prize. She is now working on her second novel.

Lisa Harding is a former actress, playwright, short story writer and novelist is currently in early development for stage and screen adaptations. She is currently the established writer in residence at DLR Lexicon.



AN EVENING WITH SARAH WATERS

Wednesday, October 14th - ISL Available

Internationally acclaimed novelist Sarah Waters comes to Red Line Book Festival for a special evening looking at her remarkable writing career. The author of *Tipping the Velvet*, *Fingersmith*, *The Night Watch*, *The Little Stranger* and *The Paying Guests*, Waters is known for historical fiction that brings hidden lives and relationships vividly to the page.

Three of her novels have been short-listed for the Booker Prize, and several have been adapted for film and television. In conversation with historian and writer **Dr Mary McAuliffe**, she'll discuss her books, queer history and the history that has shaped her work.

QUEER GEORGIANS

Thursday, October 15th

Historian, actor and broadcaster Anthony Delaney sits down with **Brian Sheehan** to discuss his new book, *Queer Georgians: A Hidden History of Lovers, Lawbreakers and Homemakers*. A specialist in queer history and culture, Anthony holds a PhD from the University of Exeter, co-hosts History Hit's popular After Dark podcast and can currently be seen as DS Jordan MacDonald in Harry Wild, alongside Jane Seymour.

Drawing on diaries, letters, court records and newspapers, his first book uncovers the lives of queer people in Georgian Britain and Ireland. Anthony and Brian will explore some of the remarkable people he discovered and what their stories reveal about queer life and history.



RUTH ENNIS AND ORAN DOYLE IN CONVERSATION WITH CLAIRE HENNESSY

Thursday, October 15th

Ruth Ennis, author of *Shorelines* and Oran Doyle author of *Give Me Till Midnight* chat to **Claire Hennessy** about writing and their debut novels published this year.

Ruth Ennis, a poet from Kildare, regularly reviews children's and young adult books for Books Ireland Magazine. Ruth's novel *Shorelines* is a young adult verse novel retelling of The Little Mermaid.

Oran Doyle is an Irish YA author. His writing background is in screenwriting. He worked as a script editor and reader, and his short scripts won funding from RTE.

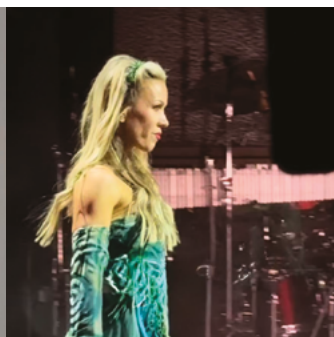
YA, event for secondary schools, ages 14+

FINDING CALM IN A BUSY WORLD

Thursday, October 15th

Dearbhla Mescal and Miriam Mulcahy come together for a warm conversation about life, change and finding space for yourself in a busy world. In *Finding Joy*, Dearbhla reflects on retirement, raising a family, her experience of cancer and embracing a new chapter in her life. Miriam's *Walking to the Foot of the Sky* explores walking, landscape and the solace we can find in the natural world.

Guiding the conversation is **Sinéad Cuddihy**, founder of the Tired Mammy Book Club, an online community of more than 14,000 readers. Together, they'll talk about their new books, the experiences that shaped them and finding joy and calm along the way.



REEL FLAMENCO

Thursday, October 15th

Reel Flamenco unites the energy of Irish traditional dance and the passion of Andalusian flamenco in a vibrant intercultural performance. Led by acclaimed choreographers Juan Carlos Avecilla and former Riverdance Principal Lead Performer Louise O'Sullivan, and joined by The Rubik's Ensemble, the production blends dance, music and storytelling to celebrate shared traditions, cultural exchange and the universal power of rhythm. **This event is an initiative of SDCC Arts and Libraries in association with Artscope/Creative Connexions Ireland. It is funded as part of the Culture Programme for Ireland's Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026.**

UNFOLDING STORIES: A GUIDE TO MAKING HANDMADE BOOKS WITH ROXANA MANOUCHEHRI

Friday, October 16th

Roxana Manouchehri is an Iranian/ Irish multidisciplinary artist and author and based in Dublin. In this hands-on workshop, she will teach how to make an Accordion-fold manuscript using cardboard, felt, and artificial leather to give the book a tactile, high-quality finish.

The final result is a unique, handmade object to take home.

This event is for adults.



FIRST FICTION - DEBUT NOVELS

Friday, October 16th

Two debut novelists, two very different paths to publication. Join Rebecca Murphy, author of *Blood and Water*, and Jen Bray, author of *The Lies Between Us*, as they discuss the journeys that brought their first novels into the world. From writing competitions and scholarships to balancing fiction with a busy career in journalism, Rebecca and Jennifer will share the highs and lows along the road to becoming published authors and getting that first book over the line!

They will be interviewed by **Chloe Cowman**, better known as @nursefancypants, popular bookstagrammer and passionate advocate for books and reading.



LOUISE O'NEILL: A BIGGER LIFE.

Friday, October 16th - ISL Available

Bestselling author Louise O'Neill sits down with Senator **Lynn Ruane** to discuss her new memoir, *A Bigger Life*. At 38, the end of a long-term relationship left Louise questioning the future she had imagined for herself. Her decision to say yes, take risks and try something different led to a dating experiment that took her from Paris and London to New York and beyond. Described by Marian Keyes as "a ground breaking shift in how we talk about women, love and relationships", *A Bigger Life* is a candid exploration of heartbreak, desire, sexual freedom and the expectations placed on women. Louise and Lynn will discuss starting again, embracing uncertainty and what it means to build a bigger life on your own terms.

LETS PLAY FOOTBALL

Friday, October 16th

Paul Howard and Gordon D'arcy put young readers in the boots of a footballer playing in the big match. Warm up with your teammates and get ready to do your best goal celebration!

Paul Howard is an author best known as the creator of the Ross O'Carroll-Kelly character. His books for children include the Aldrin Adams series.

Gordon D'Arcy is a retired rugby player who represented Leinster and won 82 senior caps for Ireland.

Paul Howard and Gordon D'Arcy have collaborated on two series of children's books: *Gordon's Game* and *Let's Play Rugby* and *Let's Play Football*.



FAMILY FUN DAY: KAREN HARTE

Saturday, October 17th

Take part in this fun draw along with Karen Harte. Karen is an Irish illustrator, author, comic artist and visual storyteller from Dublin. She is the author and illustrator of the bestselling graphic novel *Effie is Offline*. She also illustrates the popular Milly McCarthy series by Leona Forde, a three-time An Post Irish Book Award-nominated series. Karen's playful, distinctive work spans publishing, comics, editorial and arts education, exploring humour, pop culture and the strange realities of growing up.



"WE ARE WHAT WE KEEP" – A LIFE THROUGH THE SDCC ARCHIVES PRESENTED BY SDCC ARCHIVIST CARLA SODEN

Saturday, October 17th

A talk about what records mean and how we interpret and build a story around archives. Using the archives of Woodville House and the Scott family as an example, gain some insight into the life of Marjorie Ruth Carden and her records.



THE GRAND CENTRAL CINEMA CLUB: LIGHTS, CAMERA, MAYHEM! by Alan Nolan

Saturday, October 17th & Sunday, October 18th

Dublin 1937, the golden age of the silver screen! When movie-loving kids The Grand Central Cinema Club are asked to hide Hollywood princess Dottie Bright from the clutches of the mob they are delighted – until they meet her! Join the gang for mirth, music and absolute Mayhem in this adaptation of Alan Nolan's brand-new children's book! Ages 7+



AN EVENING WITH EMMET KIRWAN

Saturday, October 17th - ISL Available

This special event brings one of Ireland's most distinctive theatrical voices to the stage for a night of performance, spoken word and conversation. Emmet will perform excerpts from his award-winning plays *Dublin Oldschool* and *Accents*, alongside spoken word pieces from *RIOT*, including Heartbreak. Audiences will also get a first look at new work and projects currently in development. Moving between theatre, poetry and storytelling, this is a chance to experience Emmet's work live and up close, followed by a Q&A exploring his writing, creative process and what he's working on next.



CAMCORDER

Saturday, October 17th

Join poet and writer Colm Keegan as he sits down with **Senator Lynn Ruane** to discuss Camcorder, a deeply personal look at family, love and loss in twenty-first century Ireland. Keegan's poetry finds beauty and humour alongside difficult realities, taking in experiences of homelessness, addiction, fatherhood, relationships and the impact of inequality and neglect. At the heart of this collection is family and the ties that hold people together through challenging times.



WRITE THAT NOVEL!

Saturday, October 17th

Tanya Sweeney, author of the Number 1 bestseller *Esther Is Now Following You*, demystifies the publishing process, and suggests ways in which would-be writers can get out of their own way (which is 90 per cent of the job). From step outlines and worldbuilding to pitching agents and creating characters that land, Tanya offers a practical, step-by-step guide to structuring a novel and getting noticed by the market.

Tanya is currently a journalist and Weekend magazine columnist at the Irish Independent and is a regular contributor on Irish radio & TV.

THE FALLEN - LOUISE BRANGAN

Sunday, October 18th

As Ireland marks 30 years since the closure of its last Magdalene Laundry, Louise Brangan sits down with historian **Leanne McCormick** to discuss her book, *The Fallen* which brings together the stories of women who experienced Ireland's Magdalene Laundries and Mother and Baby Homes. Taking place just one week before the anniversary of the final Laundry's closure at Seán McDermott Street, this conversation will explore the lives at the heart of *The Fallen*, the institutions that confined them and why these stories still need to be heard.



SONGS FROM THE RED LINE

Saturday, October 17th

After five weeks of writing, experimenting and making music together, participants from this year's Songwriter Programme take to the stage for a special live showcase. Working closely with the Red Line Book Festival's Songwriter in Residence, the group have spent the workshops developing their song writing skills and creating original work. This evening is a chance to hear those songs performed live for the first time and to celebrate the writers behind them, with an intimate night of new music, new voices and original song writing.

MARY KENNEDY: NOW YOU ARE WONDERFUL

Sunday, October 18th

Enjoy an afternoon with Mary Kennedy as she talks about her new book, *Now You are Wonderful*, a celebration of Age, freedom and wisdom. Mary is one of Ireland's most celebrated broadcasters and writers. During a distinguished four-decade career with RTE, she presented programmes including *Nationwide* and the *Eurovision Song Contest*. A bestselling author, she continues to work in television and podcasting, co-hosting *Changing Times* with Mary McAleese. Mary lives in Dublin and is a mother and grandmother.



ARDAL O'HANLON IN CONVERSATION WITH RICK O'SHEA

Sunday, October 18th

Get ready for an evening of pure entertainment as beloved comedic icon and actor Ardal O'Hanlon sits down for a lively conversation with broadcaster **Rick O'Shea**. A founding father of Dublin's contemporary comedy scene and star of legendary sitcoms *Father Ted* and *Death in Paradise*, O'Hanlon has captivated global audiences on screen, stage, and the stand-up circuit.

Beyond his celebrated TV roles in *Derry Girls* and *Taskmaster*, he is also a highly accomplished writer. In this energetic session, he discusses his extensive career, his hit debut novel *The Talk of the Town*, and his exciting 2026 cosy mystery release, *A Plot to Die For*. Expect lots of laughs and brilliant stories!



BEHIND THE MIC - AOIFE MCMAHON

Sunday, October 18th

Have you ever wondered who the voice on your favourite audiobook belongs to? Join us for a fascinating conversation with acclaimed audiobook narrator Aoife McMahon as she reveals to **Sinead Cuddihy** what it takes to bring stories to life through the spoken word. Aoife is the voice behind books from Sally Rooney, Jo Spain and Marian Keyes amongst others

SONGWRITER IN RESIDENCE: BRÍD LYONS

Bríd Lyons is a folk musician, singer and songwriter from Kilkenny who weaves poetic lyricism with acoustic melodies to craft songs exploring nature and the human experience. Inspired by artists including Hozier, Ye Vagabonds and Lisa Hannigan, her music blends Celtic roots with an ethereal quality, grounded in the traditions of folk.

In recent years, Bríd has represented KCLR in the Hot Press Local Hero Talent Search and supported artists including Sharon Shannon, Lisa O'Neill and Rónán Ó Snodaigh. Her song *Mother* was named The Circle Sessions Song of the Year 2022, and *Room For Two*, the lead single from her upcoming album, will be released this September.

As the Red Line Book Festival Songwriter in Residence, Bríd will draw on her own songwriting practice and her extensive experience as a teacher and mentor to work with emerging songwriters. Over five weeks, she will help participants develop their ideas and explore lyric writing, melody, arrangement and collaboration, with a focus on building confidence and finding their own voice as songwriters.



MAYORS MESSAGE

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026 Red Line Book Festival, celebrating its 15th year as one of South Dublin’s most established and much-loved festivals.

At the heart of Red Line is the belief that books, reading and culture should be accessible to everyone. Curated by South Dublin Libraries, the festival brings writers, stories and ideas into libraries and venues across the county, creating opportunities for people to engage with literature in their own communities.

Our libraries play a vital role in supporting literacy, encouraging reading and providing welcoming spaces for people of all ages and backgrounds. Red Line builds on that work with an inclusive programme designed to reach as wide an audience as possible, including ISL interpretation at selected events.

I hope this year’s festival inspires you to discover a new writer, pick up a book, start a conversation and enjoy everything Red Line has to offer.

Cllr Francis Timmons
Mayor of South Dublin County

CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S MESSAGE: COLM WARD

I am delighted to welcome you to the 2026 Red Line Book Festival, one of the highlights of our cultural calendar and a celebration of stories, creativity and conversations that bring our communities together. This year’s festival continues Red Line’s tradition of presenting an ambitious, inclusive and inspiring programme for audiences of all ages.

Events in our libraries, arts venues and public spaces provide the opportunity for readers, writers, performers and audiences to come together to explore literature, history, poetry, music and ideas. The programme features some of Ireland’s best-known authors, broadcasters, historians and artists alongside emerging voices, family events, workshops, exhibitions and performances that encourage participation, creativity and lifelong learning.

Importantly, the festival also reflects our commitment to making culture accessible and welcoming to all, while celebrating the rich diversity of voices and experiences that shape contemporary Ireland.

I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to discover something new, engage with others and enjoy the many events that make Red Line Book Festival such a valued and distinctive part of the cultural life in South Dublin County.

FAMILY FUN DAY, SATURDAY, 17/10

Meet the Vikings	11.00am - 4.00pm	Parthalan Place
Captain Ho-Ho: (Pirate Magic Show)	12.00pm - 12.45pm	Tallaght Library
Face painters, Balloon modellers. Superhero Surprise Appearances	12.00pm - 4.00pm	Tallaght Library
Pop Demon Hunter show	2.00pm - 2.30pm	Tallaght Library
Introductory game of Dungeons & Dragons	11am - 1pm & 2pm - 4pm	Tallaght Library
Green Screen photobooth	11.00am- 3.30pm	Tallaght Library
Light Saber duelling demos & taster classes with Ludo Sport Ireland	11.00am - 3.30pm	Tallaght Library
Sensory Explorers Tuff Tray (messy play activities for neurodiverse children)	10.00am - 11.00am	Tallaght Library
Make a Superhero Mask	1.00pm - 2.00pm	Tallaght Library
Cartoonify yourself with Phillip Barrett	12.30pm - 1.30pm	Tallaght Library
Let’s Make Comics!	2.30pm - 3.45 pm	Tallaght Library
Family Comic Day: Karen Harte, Effie is offline draw along	2.00pm	Civic Theatre

HOW TO BOOK:

Online for all events: redlinefestival.ie

Civic Events: If you wish to book by phone call the box office at 01 4627477 or call in and book in person.

Tickets may sell out quickly, so book early to avoid disappointment.

CONCESSIONS:

Over 55s, Students, Carers, Library Members.

FESTIVAL TEAM

Acting County Librarian: Síle Coleman

Festival Director: Sarah Elaine McHugh

Festival Producers: Emma McDonald and Margaret Lynch

Social and Digital Content Coordinator: Eilís Brennan

Red Line Reps: Emma Edwards, Mark Ward, Jennifer Scott, Hannah Manning, Ciara McGrattan, Geraldine Worth, Siobhan Feeley, Samantha McDonagh, Meabh Ni Chonchubhair, Max Larkin, Eva Malone, Maria Kampyli, Pippa Rickard, Rebecca Brennan, Aisling Duggan, Siobhan McCrystal, SORCHA O'Connor, Andy Haskins and Alison Yates.

Poetry Competition: Cormac Mac Gearailt (judge)

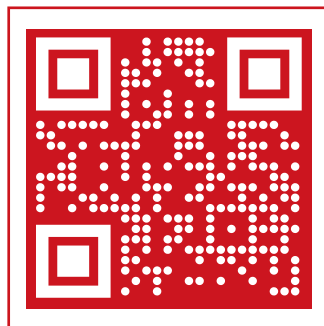
SDCC Libraries: All the staff of SDCC Libraries

Arts Office: Orla Scannell, Richie O'Sullivan, Eithne Swaine, Yasmin Mello and Chris Baker

The Festival would like to acknowledge the financial support of RTE Supporting the Arts.

Special thanks to all our partners, authors, facilitators and volunteers of this year's festival, and to the staff of the venues and libraries involved.

Scan the QR code for full information about the festival or [CLICK HERE](#)



REDLINE BOOK FESTIVAL

FAMILY FUN DAY!

STORIES! DRAWING! FUN FOR EVERYONE!

KAREN HARTE

PHILIP BARRETT

KATE ESCOLIN

MEET AMAZING AUTHORS! GET CREATIVE! HAVE FUN!

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17TH

10AM - 4PM

TALLAGHT LIBRARY PARTHALÁN PLACE

FREE EVENT!

Ballyroan Library:

 Orchardstown Ave, Rathfarnham, D14 VY33
 01 494 1900
 ballyroanlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 15B.

Castletymon Library

 Castletymon Road, Tymon North, D24 EC1X.
 01 414 9203
 castletymonlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 77A.

Clondalkin Library

 Monastery Road, Clondalkin, D22 XP03.
 01 459 3315
 clondalkinlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 Red Cow Stop
 13, 68/A, 69

North Clondalkin Library

 1 Liscarne Close, Rowlagh, D22 E2Y2.
 01 414 9269
 northclondalkinlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 W2, G2, 51D, L53

County Library Tallaght

 Parthalán Place, Tallaght, D24 A3EX.
 01 462 0073
 tallaghtlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 Red Line to Tallaght.
 77A, 27, 49, 54A, 65, S6, S8, W2, W4

Lucan Library

 Lucan Shopping Centre, Newcastle Road, Lucan, Dublin, K78 V295
 01 621 6422
 lucanlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 **Bus:** C1, C2, L51, P29

Palmerstown Library

 Unit 11/12, Palmerstown Shopping Centre, Kennelsfort Road, D20 VH60
 01 467 8909
 palmerstownlibrary@sdblincoco.ie
 26, L55

The Civic

 Parthalán Place, Tallaght, D24 NWN7
 01 462 7477
 Red Line to Tallaght
 77A, 27, 49, 54A, 65, S6, S8, W2, W4

Rua Red

 Parthalán Place, Tallaght, D24 KV8N
 01 451 5860
 Red Line to Tallaght.
 77A, 27, 49, 54A, 65, S6, S8, W2, W4

Rathfarnham Castle

 Rathfarnham Road, D14 K3T6
 01 493 9462
 16, 16, 15B, 74, S6

Priory Market

 Main Rd, Tallaght, Dublin, D24 YYK4
 085 730 4777
 65, 82

Aon Scéal Cafe

 518 Main St, Tallaght, Dublin, D24 P298
 085 876 3123.
 27, 65, 77A, 82, S6,S8

REDLINE BOOK FESTIVAL

2026

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