



They heaved the stone; they heaped the cairn;
Said Ossian, In a queenly grave
We leave her; mong her fields of fern,
Between the cliff and wave.
The cliff behind stands clear and bare,
And bare above, the heathery steep
Scales the blue heaven's expanse to where
The Danaan druids sleep.
And all the sands that, left and right,
The grassy isthmus ridge confine,
In yellow bars lie bare and bright
Among the sparkling brine.

~The Cromlech on Howth : a poem by Samuel Ferguson;
with illustrations by Margaret Stokes (1861).

HOWTH LITERARY ARTS FESTIVAL

10 - 12 JUNE 2016

www.howthliteraryfestival.com

'Swift Day'

Friday, 10th June

Venue: Howth Castle



Swift, the man

Leo Damrosch, Professor of Literature Harvard University

Swift's acclaimed recent biographer Leo Damrosch discusses the private and the public Swift of 1720's Dublin. Swift's private life was a sociable one of intimate dinner and card parties, both in Dublin and with his friends in Westmeath and Armagh. His friends included Patrick Delany, the St Lawrence's of Howth, the Grattan's of Belcamp and a wide fun-loving coterie of male and female versifiers. He combined this private world with his very public life as the Dean of St. Patrick's Cathedral and the polemical and political Irish 'patriot'. He was a celebrity, and throughout the 1720's, his every move was reported in the Dublin press as he morphed from the Drapier, to Gulliver and finally into the Modest Proposer.

Wood's Halfpence in song and print

Moyra Haslett, Professor of English Queen's University Belfast

Moyra Haslett explores the text and music of the approximately twenty broadsheet street songs and ballads in praise of the Drapier Dean that were published in Dublin during the Wood's Halfpence affair in 1724 and 1725. These ballads were a very modern, combination of high politics and street activism. Moyra will be accompanied on the recorder and her presentation will be supported by a faithful reproduction of a contemporary broadsheet. She will bring the street politics of 1720's Dublin to life by performing a number of these popular ballads.

Swift the Drapier and Swift and the Irish economy

Brendan Twomey, The Drapier

Brendan Twomey explores Swift's hugely influential series of short, and badly printed, pamphlets, now known as the Drapier's letters. These pamphlets were the blogs and the tweets in the burgeoning print culture of mid 1720's Dublin. They had real world consequences; Swift had a price on his head and his printer was arrested. This presentation is supported by a faithful reproduction of the fourth Drapier's Letter.



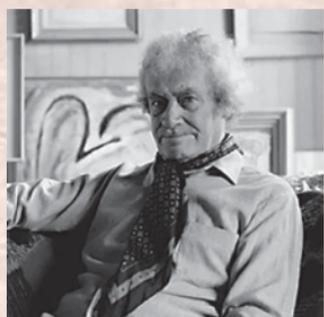


The Howth Literary & Arts Festival will take place in the beautiful environs of Howth Castle from June 10th to 12th, 2016. This year we broaden our literary and artistic programme to include drama, cultural history and visual arts events. Our inspiration is drawn from the megalithic Howth Cromlech, known locally as 'Aideen's Grave', dating from 2,500 BCE, which is in the grounds of Howth Castle. Samuel Ferguson's poem *The Cromlech on Howth* forms a literary, visual and historical constellation around the ancient grave, and features illuminations from the Book of Kells and of Durrow, and drawings from Howth native Margaret Stokes (1861).

Jonathan Swift was a regular visitor to Howth Castle – his portrait hangs in the dining room there. In a letter to Swift dated "Kilfane, July 6th, 1735", Lord Howth writes:

I am very much obliged to my good Dean of St. Patrick's for the honour he did me in sitting for his portrait; and have wrote to Dr. Grattan to give Mr. Bindon strict charge in the finishing of it; and when that is done to bring it to his house for fear I should get a copy instead of the original.

Brendan Twomey of Trinity College Dublin will moderate a series of three talks on Friday 10th exploring the world of Swift the man, and the writer of *The Drapier Letters*. Brendan Twomey will be joined by the celebrated biographer **Leo Damrosch**, from Harvard University, historian **Professor James Kelly** of St. Patrick's College (DCU), historian **Moyra Haslett** of Queen's University Belfast, and the Irish economist **David McWilliams**.



The acclaimed painter **Patrick Collins** HRHA ((1910-1994) drew his inspiration mainly from the Irish landscape. During the 1950s he lived and worked in the Kenelm Tower of Howth Castle. Art historian **Frances Ruane** and painter **Una Sealy** (ARHA) will explore Collins's work and his artistic legacy.



Our literary 'In Conversation With' series continues with **Claire Kilroy, Catherine Dunne, Michele Forbes, John Boyne, Hilary Fannin** and **Joe Duffy**. We welcome **Adam Wyeth** in conversation with **Nuala Ni Chonchuir**, to explore the influence and inspiration of Celtic mythology and of historical fiction in poetry.

Marja Almquist, of The Yarn School, and historian **Mary McAuliffe** of UCD, will present *The 77 Women Commemoration Quilt Project*, in which each quilt panel tells the story one woman from 1916 and one from today.

The Children's Literature Strand will take place outside the main gate of Howth Castle, in St. Mary's Church parish centre, on Sunday 12th June. Thanks to Supervalu Sutton, who are sponsoring the children's programme, these events are free but are ticketed, and may be booked through our website. This year we welcome the return of the Book Doctors from **Children's Books Ireland** and also the talented crew from Fighting Words who will hold a writing workshop. Acclaimed author **John Boyne**, of the bestseller *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, and *The Boy at the top of the Mountain*, will read from his latest novel and will answer questions from aspiring young writers. **Alan Nolan**, co-creator of Sancho Comic and author of the *Big Break Detective's Casebook* and *Fintan's Fifteen*, will hold a comic-book workshop, in which children will be given an opportunity to use their imagination and creativity to make their own mini comic-book.

Our exploration of dramatic arts begins in the grounds of Howth Castle with a performance of *Angels in the Park* by **Shiva Productions**. We shall also turn our attention to W.B. Yeats, who spent a formative period of his childhood in a small house above the cliffs on Balscadden Road in Howth: the **Curlew Theatre Company** will perform *The Muse & Mr. Yeats*, a "play for voices" performed by **Tegolin Knowland** and **Sean Coyne**, and written and produced by **Eamon Grennan**. It presents, one by one, the women with whom W.B. Yeats was romantically involved, each one chosen in her turn as his "Muse". Saturday evening will close with a reading by **Owen Roe** of George Bernard Shaw's Roger Casement speech, in conversation with **Karin McCully**.

The festival will conclude in the arena of Greek mythology and the dramatic arts. The 'In Conversation With' series presents **Marina Carr** (dramatist), **Olwen Fouéré** (actor) and Fiona MacIntosh (scholar), in an exchange moderated by **Fiach Mac Conghail**, Director of the Abbey Theatre.

Booking Information

Producers: Eleanor Griffin & Claire Meehan

Book your tickets online at our website:

www.howthliteraryfestival.com



SuperValu kindly presents..

Sunday: June 12th 2016.

The Children's Literature Programme

Cartoon Capers - with author Alan Nolan

Venue: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Howth.

Time: 12.00am -2.00pm

Cartoon Capers consists of a short, funny talk by Alan, and then the children join in as Alan gives a step-by-step drawing demonstration of one of the comical characters from his books. They then create their own mini-comic strip using materials (and help) that Alan provides.

CBI Book Clinic

Venue: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Howth.

Time: 12.00am - 4.00pm

Are you a young reader? Looking for a new series to delve into? Do you need a prescription for an exciting new read? Then pop along to the Book Clinic between 12.00am and 4.00pm and meet Children's Books Ireland's friendly panel of Book Doctors who are ready to offer the best advice for all you young readers. During your consultation, the Book Doctor will ask questions about what books you enjoy reading as well as activities, movies, TV shows and video games. You will leave with a personalised prescription containing a list of books which you can fill at your local library or book store.



Children's Books Ireland
Leabhair Fáistí Éireann

Fighting Words Story Writing Workshop

Venue: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Howth. **FIGHTING WORDS**

Time: 1.00pm - 3.00pm

Children will start a brand-new story as a group, deciding together on characters, setting and plot, and watching it come to life in words on the big screen and in illustrations. Each child will then have time to finish the story individually, helped and encouraged by the fabulous Fighting Words Crew. The story will then be published on the Fighting Words website to share with family and friends!
www.fightingwords.ie

John Boyne Author

Venue: St. Mary's Parish Hall, Howth.

Time: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

John Boyne was born in Ireland in 1971. The winner of two Irish Book Awards, he is the author of eight novels for adults and four for younger readers, including the international bestseller *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*, which was made into a Miramax feature film and has sold more than six million copies worldwide. Boyne's latest book for children *The Boy at the top of the Mountain* was published in October 2015. His novels are published in over forty-five languages. He lives in Dublin. Join John as he reads from his latest novel and answers any questions.

Schedule

10 - 12 June 2016

DATE	TIME	PRICE	VENUE	EVENT
FRI 10TH	10:00	€10	CASTLE	LEO DAMROSCH & BRENDAN TWOMEY 'SWIFT'
	14:00	€10	CASTLE	DAVID MC WILLIAMS/ PROF. JAMES KELLY 'SWIFT'
	16:00	€10	CASTLE	MOYRA HASLETT/JONATHAN SWIFT
	18:00	€15	CASTLE	CLAIRE KILROY & DEREK HAND
SAT 11TH	10:00	€10	CASTLE	JOHN CHAMBERS/POETRY
	12:00	€10	CASTLE	ADAM WYETH & NUALA NI CHONCHUIR
	14:00	€10	CASTLE	77 WOMEN - M. ALMQUIST & M. MCAULIFFE
	14:00	€5	CASTLE	SHIVA PRODUCTIONS - ANGELS IN THE PARK
	16:00	€5	CASTLE	SHIVA PRODUCTIONS - ANGELS IN THE PARK
	16:00	€10	CASTLE	CURLEW THEATRE COMPANY
	18:00	€10	CASTLE	CATHERINE DUNNE & MICHELE FORBES
	20:00	€15	CASTLE	OWEN ROE & KARIN MC CULLY
SUN 12TH	10:00	€10	CASTLE	HOWTH DOLMEN/HERITAGE
	12:00	€10	CASTLE	PATRICK COLLINS (1910-1994)
	14:00	€10	CASTLE	HILARY FANNIN, JOHN BOYNE, SEAN MONCRIEFF
	16:00	€10	CASTLE	JOE DUFFY & CATRIONA CROWE
	18:00	€15	CASTLE	CARR, FOUERE, MACINTOSH & MACCONGHAIL
SUN 12TH	12:00	FREE	ST. MARY'S	COMIC BOOK SHOP - ALAN NOLAN
	12:00	FREE	ST. MARY'S	CBI BOOK CLINIC
	13:00	FREE	ST. MARY'S	FIGHTING WORDS STORYWRITING BOOKSHOP
	15:30	FREE	ST. MARY'S	JOHN BOYNE

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