



NEW ISLAND

NEW ISLAND

Translation Rights

Frankfurt 2024

New Island Books
Glenshesk House
10 Richview Office Park
Clonskeagh, Dublin
D14 V8C4, Ireland
newisland.ie
@NewIslandBooks

Mariel Deegan, Managing Director
Email: mariel.deegan@newisland.ie

Djinn von Noorden, Publisher
Email: Djinn.vonNoorden@newisland.ie

Aoife K. Walsh, Commissioning Editor
Email: aoife.walsh@newisland.ie

Des Doyle, Publicity and Marketing Manager
Email: des.doyle@newisland.ie

For rights queries contact

Agence littéraire

Lora Fountain & Associates

agence@lorafountain.com

+33 1 43.56.21.96



NEW ISLAND

Find your story at New Island

Ireland's premier independent publisher of smart literary and commercial fiction and Irish-interest non-fiction.

Established in 1992, New Island is well known for championing the work of new writers while continuing to nurture and develop our established authors. Focusing on work of Irish interest or by Ireland-based authors, we publish smart literary and commercial fiction, and a range of non-fiction that includes memoir, history and popular literary guides.

This catalogue highlights some of our forthcoming titles, as well as newly published and key backlist. We're particularly excited for some newly contracted books that we plan to publish from 2025 to 2027, including ***The Best Boy in the World*** by Seán Farrell, an exciting new voice in Irish fiction, as well as an incredibly moving memoir on grief, ***Still***, by award-winning novelist and memoirist, Julia Kelly.

New Island Books has more than three decades of experience bringing the best of Irish writers to the Irish public, and through our partnerships with like-minded publishers in other territories, we look forward to bringing that writing beyond our shores to the wider world.

Fiction 2024–2027

THE BEST BOY IN THE WORLD

Seán Farrell

Some differences are irreconcilable, and a mother's love cannot stop two brothers when they go to war.

Suzanne leaves her native France, escaping a terrible predicament with her infant son, Adam. In England she marries and has another boy, Rickie. Although a comfortable family life with her new husband provides her with much-needed stability, Suzanne remains a fish out of water in many ways.

The two brothers, Adam and Rickie, have very different ideas of what it is to be a man. But Suzanne's mother is dying, and she wants to bring her family with her to France to say goodbye. Thrown together on a holiday to their mother's birthplace, the brothers' priorities align and they begin to work out some common ground – until Adam is accused of rape.

As the family unravels, it is Rickie's wife, Elle, who bears the brunt of a deadly sibling rivalry. She will need to discover profound new strengths in order to survive the men around her.

Told as a series of candid snapshots, *The Best Boy in the World* is a mesmerising album of one family's violent disintegration, the legacy of generational trauma and what it takes to overcome.

SEÁN FARRELL was born and brought up in Ireland. After graduating from university, he spent fifteen years in France. As well as spending his time writing, he works as a freelance editor. He lives in Sligo with his wife, the writer Elske Rahill, and their four children. *The Best Boy in the Whole World* is his second novel.



100,000 words, ms available
summer 2025

Rights available: World all
languages ex North America,
print, ebook and audio

For all other rights enquiries
contact Marianne Gunn O'Connor
info@mariannegunnoconnor.com

Comps:

- *Our London Lives* by Christine Dwyer Hickey
- *The Bee Sting* by Paul Murray
- *Sorrow and Bliss* by Meg Mason
- *On Beauty* by Zadie Smith
- *The Slap* by Christos Tsiolkas
- *The Corrections* by Jonathan Frenzen
- *Middlesex* by Jeffrey Eugenides

**ONE TO
WATCH**

HIDE AWAY

Dermot Bolger

Master storyteller returns with a gripping psychological battle over the secrets we keep from each other and from ourselves.

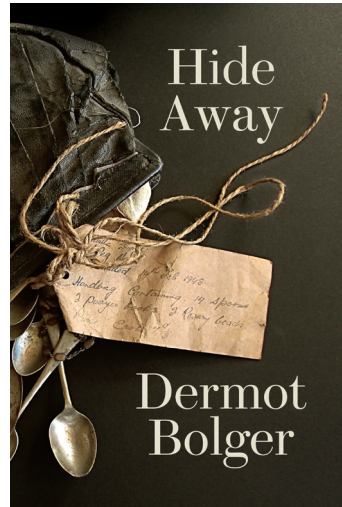
Hidden behind the walls of Grangegorman Mental Hospital in 1941, four lives collide, all afflicted by the human cost of wars, betrayals and trauma.

Gus, a shrewd attendant, is the keeper of everyone's secrets, especially his own. Two War of Independence veterans are reunited. One, Jimmy Nolan, has spent twenty years as a psychiatric patient, unable to recover from his involvement in youthful killings. In contrast, Francis Dillon has prospered as a businessman, until rumours of Civil War atrocities cause his collapse, suffering delusions of enemies seeking to kill him.

Doctor Fairfax has fled London after his gay lover's death. Desperate to rekindle a sense of purpose, Fairfax tries to help Dillon recover by getting him to talk about his past. But a code of silence surrounds the traumatic violence Ireland has endured. Is Dillon willing to break his silence to find a way back to his family?

In this superb evocation of hidden worlds, master storyteller Dermot Bolger explores the aftershock within people who participate in violence and the fault-lines in all post-conflict societies only held together by collective amnesia.

DERMOT BOLGER is one of Ireland's best-known writers across a range of genres. His fifteen novels include *The Journey Home*, *The Family on Paradise Pier*, *New Town Soul*, *Tanglewood* and *The Lonely Sea and Sky*. He is also an accomplished playwright and poet. dermotbolger.com



86,000 words, 288 pp
Rights available: World, all
languages

Praise for previous work:

Dermot Bolger has delved beneath his country's surface in an attempt to talk to its ghosts ... a fierce and terrifyingly uncompromising talent... serious and provocative.'

SUNDAY TIMES

'No Irish novelist has so brilliantly captured the suburban underbelly of the city, the crazy unofficial lives.'

MAGILL MAGAZINE

'He has been prying open the Irish ribcage since he was 16 years old'

IRISH INDEPENDENT

'Bolger's writing simply sings.'

SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

WAY OUT WEST

Anthony Glavin

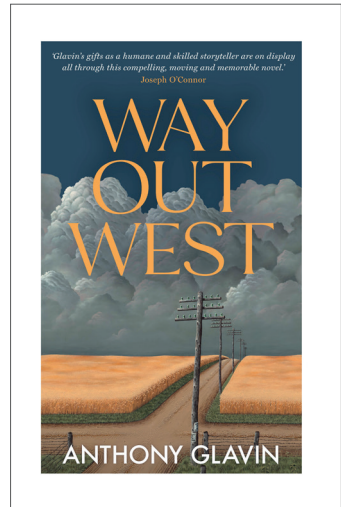
A gentle coming-of-age story that will enthrall with its texture and world-building, the many delicately and affectionately observed characters and its subtle reflections on trauma, loss and a hope that somehow renews.

Fintan Doherty's 1950s childhood in Glenbay, Donegal, is filled with two things: tales of America told by a plethora of 'returned Yanks' and the silent sadness after his mother's death.

Soon as he becomes an adult, he leaves for the States – via Europe – and never stands still again. His journey way out west to Ohio and back up to Boston brings Fintan to an eclectic and diverse array of jobs, rented rooms, landscapes, acquaintances, friends and lovers, each one either confirming or confounding his idea of the land he now inhabits. His life as a new emigrant – a self 'missing in motion' – is underscored by his search for a painting of his mother by an American artist who once visited the home place long before Fintan was born.

Although we first met Fintan in *Nighthawk Alley* (1997), *Way Out West* stands alone as an enchanting coming-of-age story of texture and world-building, many affectionately observed characters and Glavin's subtle reflections on trauma, loss and a hope that somehow renews.

ANTHONY GLAVIN is a Boston-born novelist, short-story writer, and critic. His previous books include *One for Sorrow*, *Nighthawk Alley* and *Colours other than Blue*.



75,000 words, 288 pp
Rights available: World, all languages

'An engrossing coming-of-age tale ... profoundly affecting.'
IRISH TIMES

'Captures both the freewheeling 1970s and the shadows of grief and loss in the America of that decade.' **CATHERINE DUNNE**

'Brilliantly structured and flawlessly edited ... Way Out West shines with authenticity, empathy and a real understanding of his craft.'
IRISH EXAMINER

'Compelling, moving and memorable.'
JOSEPH O'CONNOR

HE USED TO BE ME

Anne Walsh Donnelly

**A beautiful and devastating story
by acclaimed Irish poet, Anne Walsh
Donnelly.**

'I sit on the stone that will mark the bed of my bones. You'll find the used-to-be-me, soon, flat body, washed up, wrinkly skin. No silly grin. You'll say, What a waste of a life. Tut-tut sounds jump out. Dangle like worms from your crow's mouth ...'

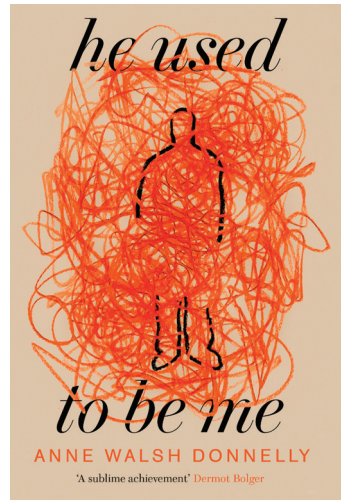
Meet Daft Matt, the Mayo man at the heart of this astonishing, form-bending story, as he wanders the streets of Castlebar in search of Devil's feet – the claw marks of the cága, or jackdaws, who have spoken to him since he was a boy.

Yet Matt is anything but daft. In lyrical prose, Walsh Donnelly explores the complex workings of Matt's inner life: how he deals with the loss of his twin brother as a child, navigates the carefree days of early manhood and copes with the aftermath of the horse-riding accident that would see him incarcerated in the care system for the next thirty years. Richly imagined and beautifully written, this is a story for anyone who chooses to look beyond the surface of things.

'I used to think those claws were the only things that kept me above sea-level.'

ANNE WALSH DONNELLY lives in Mayo in the west of Ireland. She is the author of *The Woman With An Owl Tattoo*, a poetic memoir of her coming out journey in her fifties and the poetry collection, *Odd as F*ck*. She has been shortlisted for the Fish International Prize and the Frances MacManus competitions for her fiction and for the Hennessy New Irish Writing Award and the International Poetry Book Awards for her poetry.

annewalshdonnelly.com



13,000 words, 128 pp
**Rights available: World, all
languages**
Rights sold: Polish (ArtRage)

'A sublime achievement.'
DERMOT BOLGER

'An exquisite piece of art.'
ALICE KINSELLA

*'A fresh, melancholic hybrid
– part prose-poem, part grief
narrative – this book will sing to
the hearts of fans of Max Porter
and Pat McCabe.'* **NUALA
O'CONNOR**

*'A profound and moving
experience.'* **IRISH TIMES**

**DEBUT
FICTION**

Non-Fiction 2024-2025

STILL

Julia Kelly

A profoundly affecting memoir of grief that brings its subject to life in an unforgettable way.

When Julia Kelly's mother, Delphine, drowns in a freak swimming accident, her daughter's world collapses. Mired in grief and trying to make sense of what has happened, Julia, guided by the clinical terms of the post mortem, begins, in words, to piece together her mother's body in order to say goodbye to her soul.

Delphine spent much of her life in the shadows as a politician's wife, tending endlessly to the needs of her husband and five wild children. When he collapsed of a heart attack at fifty-nine, it was a sad liberation for her.

For the first time in her life, she travelled widely. Her final journey, with a group of mostly elderly women, was to the Galapagos Islands, to cross the archipelago off their lists of places to see before they died. On the third day of their holiday Delphine was hit by an unexpected wave; she lost her balance and was forced underwater by the impact. When her body surfaced she was no longer breathing.

Still is a study of Julia's grief, and the laying bare of her mother's body – finally still and fully transparent for the first time in her seventy-two years. She died as she had always strived to live: in the middle of a huge adventure, diving into the great unknown.

JULIA KELLY is an acclaimed Irish novelist and memoirist. Her previous books include *Matchstick Man* (2018), *The Playground* (2014) and *With My Lazy Eye* (2009), for which she was awarded an Irish Book Award and nominated for a Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award and Irish Book of the Decade.



35,000 words, ms available
Autumn 2024

Rights available: World, all
languages, print, ebook and audio

Praise for previous work:

'Kelly's talent is such that she is able to wring so much beauty, pathos and even humour from all this trauma.'

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

'Ragged and terrifying, but it also achieves a rare grace.'

TIMES LITERARY SUPPLEMENT

'The freshest voice in Irish fiction since the wonderful early novels of Edna O'Brien. This is a future to watch.'

**ONE TO
WATCH**

'GRATEFULLY AND AFFECTIONATELY'

MARY LAVIN AND *THE NEW YORKER*

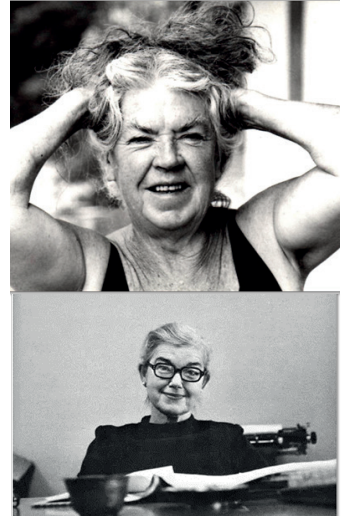
Gráinne Hurley

Between 1958 and 1976, the Irish-American writer Mary Lavin published sixteen stories in *The New Yorker*. It was a prolific time for the writer, helped in no small part by her close working relationship with her chief editor, Rachel MacKenzie. During those years, they wrote nearly 400 letters to each other, the topics of which ranged from story edits to their holiday plans, windfalls and legal troubles, promotions and health emergencies. Within a year of working together, they were ending their letters with 'love', 'gratefully' and 'affectionately'.

Gráinne Hurley's impressive debut draws extensively from these letters as well as other *New Yorker*-related material, to explore the collaborative relationship between this famous writer and her editor. Lavin's own writing process, the inner workings and editing procedures of *The New Yorker* and the process of publishing a story from manuscript to print during its heyday are all distilled from the letters.

It brings fascinating insight into the lives and careers of two, mid-20th-century working women, operating on either side of the Atlantic, and inhabiting the small but hallowed world of literary publishing. It reveals just how practical and pro-active they needed to be to be seen and successful in a male-dominated industry.

GRÁINNE HURLEY holds a PhD in Contemporary Irish Literature from University College Dublin and is a former English Literature lecturer and drama teacher. Her ground-breaking work on Mary Lavin and *The New Yorker* has been cited in various publications including *Seamus Deane's Small World* (2021), *The Oxford Book of Irish Fiction* (2020) and Elke D'hoker's *Irish Women Writers and the Modern Short Story* (2016). In 2023, Gráinne was appointed writer-in-residence at the Princess Grace Irish Library in Monaco.



80,000 words

Rights available: World, all languages

- Fascinating and unique insight into the life and work of one of the great twentieth-century short story writers, Mary Lavin
- Transatlantic literary appeal, accessibly written

Comps:

- *The Letters of Seamus Heaney*, ed. Christopher Reid
- *Shirley Hazzard: A Writing Life* by Brigitta Olubas
- *Patricia Highsmith: Her Diaries and Notebooks*
- *What There Is to Say We Have Said: The Correspondence of Eudora Welty and William Maxwell*, ed. Suzanne Marrs

WIRED OUR OWN WAY

IRISH AUTISTIC VOICES

Edited by Niamh Garvey

A moving and insightful anthology of personal essays by Irish autistic adults.

Wired Our Own Way: Irish Autistic Voices is the first anthology of essays written by Autistic Irish adults. One in twenty seven Irish school children are now diagnosed as autistic, and autism is entering the general population's consciousness much louder than it did in the past. As understanding about autism spreads, more and more adults are now finding out that they are autistic. This anthology shines a light on how important autism identification is, and how the label of 'Autism' can enhance ones self-understanding and self-compassion.

Throughout this collection of essays, the writers highlight how the lived-experience of autism varies drastically from one autistic person to another, and show that there is no one way to be autistic. From meltdowns to mental health, from being diagnosed in early childhood to being diagnosed in late adulthood, from cultural perceptions of autism to employment, the essays explore the huge range of diversity within the autistic Irish experience.

NIAMH GARVEY is an autistic author living in Cork, Ireland. She has a Diploma in Autism Studies from University College Cork, and is also a registered general nurse. She writes about autism and neuro-diversity. She is the author of *Minding your Autistic Self* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2023) and *Being Autistic (and what that actually means)* (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2024).



40,000 words

Rights available: World, all languages

- Illuminating insights into the experiences of autistic people.
- Diverse range of contributors, including some high-profile writers such as Naoise Dolan, Nuala O'Connor, Adam Harris (founder of autism charity AsIam), footballer James McClean and Stefanie Preissner, alongside a host of new voices.

COLOURFUL IRISH WORDS

Micheál Ó Conghaile

A humorous and insightful look at the origins of some of Ireland's more colourful and interesting words.



Words are alive. They have and have had a life of their own, a sort of biography, before we meet them and get to know them, before they cross into our minds, our bodies, our spirits and get lodged there amongst our extending family of words collected from around the world. And just like people they have a story to tell, a history as many of them have travelled a long way.

Like people also, some are more colourful than others and this collection of words from the Irish language – or that the Irish people have made their own through the way we speak the English language in Ireland – such as *amadán*, *banshee*, *an béal bocht*, *bladdar*, *plámás*, *blas*, *bockety*, *coleen*, *ciotóg*, *cruiskeen*, *dudeen*, *galore*, *gossure*, *keening*, *meitheal*, *meela murder*, *plamause*, *shebeen* and *sláinte* – have made the English language and the way we speak it in Ireland more interesting, unique, rich, different, funny and obviously ... more colourful.

MICHEÁL Ó CONGHAILE was born in Galway and studied Irish and History at the local National University of Ireland. He is a prolific and versatile writer who has been awarded many prizes for his work. His novel and several of his short story collections are available in English translation.

15,000 words
Rights available: World, all languages*

- An adaptable book, it could be pitched alternately at a popular, tourist market or as a short reference book that focuses on the heritage aspect of language.
- Highly respected author brings his considerable knowledge to bear on some of the more colourful words in the Irish language, giving both humorous and insightful explanations.
- The first in a series of such books, potentially including Irish phrases, curses and blessings, and place names.

'AN ASYLUM FOR MY AFFECTIONS'

SKETCHES OF MAEVE BRENNAN

Edited by Molly Hennigan

On the occasion of her mother's birthday, the Irish writer Maeve Brennan wrote a letter to her editor, William Maxwell, describing the emotional landscape provided by her mother. She wrote: She gave me an 'asylum for my affections' and I learned that my affections so far exceeded her ability to understand me that she came near to drowning.

For this new anthology, Molly Hennigan has commissioned essays by a selection of Ireland's best writers, inviting them to consider the dual meanings of the word asylum: as institution or site of incarceration and as refuge or shelter.

The essays explore concepts of cityscapes, girlhood, mythology and folklore, loneliness, the emotional impact of history, diasporic transience, and family connections to Brennan and create new and broader engagements with Brennan's life and the continuing impact of her work in the early 21st century.

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE:

Darran Anderson	Molly Hennigan
Niamh Campbell	Belinda McKeon
Mary Cregan	Éilís Ní Dhuibhne
Roddy Doyle	Kate Phelan
Arnold Thomas Fanning	Jess Traynor

MOLLY HENNIGAN is an Irish writer and editor living in Galway. She has spent the last few years between Galway and Massachusetts, working on her PhD, which includes work on Maeve Brennan. She has been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *Tolka*, *The Pig's Back* and *Banshee*. Her first book *The Celestial Realm* was nominated for the An Post Irish Book Awards Newcomer of the Year. She is the guest non-fiction editor for *Banshee*.



50,000 words
Rights available: World, all
languages

- Exciting new writing on an endlessly fascinating writer
- More personal and less academic encounters with Maeve Brennan and her work
- Edited by a brilliant new voice in Irish literature

FUTURE WILD

NATURE RESTORATION IN IRELAND

Richard Nairn

From the popular ecology writer comes an inspiring and practical call to restore nature.

Ireland has little left of its original natural habitats. Many species, like the curlew, are under pressure due to intensive practices such as farming, forestry and fisheries and some are threatened with extinction. But given a little help from us, nature has the innate capacity to restore itself.

Nature restoration is the positive management of the environment for the benefit of wildlife and people. It looks to the future, by steering natural habitats and wildlife in a better and more sustainable direction.

In *Future Wild*, Richard Nairn explores numerous active restoration projects around Ireland which show how natural habitats and native species can be restored sustainably for the benefit of everyone. From individual landowners and voluntary organisations to state bodies such as Bord na Móna, he meets the people who are dedicated to nature restoration.

By turns shocking, hopeful and finally positive, *Future Wild* shows that the damage we have done to nature can also be undone by us, and that, with nature restoration, we can create a richer and more diverse environment for generations to come.

RICHARD NAIRN is an ecologist and writer who has published seven previous books including a recent trilogy on nature in Ireland. He holds a Master's Degree in Zoology and has published many scientific papers. During his long career he worked as a nature reserve warden and was the first National Director of BirdWatch Ireland. He lives on a small farm in County Wicklow which is dedicated to nature restoration. richardnairn.ie



62,000 words, 276pp
Rights available: World, all languages

- Clear, concise exploration of restoration projects in Ireland.
- Timely and instructive: EU Nature Restoration Law in June 2024
- Invaluable to all environmentally concerned readers and practitioners.
- Expert, highly respected, best-selling author

THE SAVED AND THE SPURNED

NORTHERN IRELAND, VIENNA
AND THE HOLOCAUST

Noel Russell

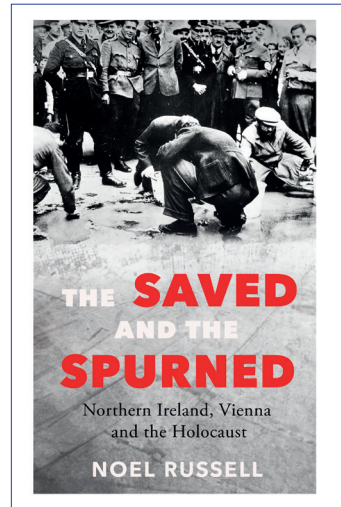
The first comprehensive account of how persecuted Jews tried to escape Nazi-occupied Vienna on the eve of the Holocaust.

For several months before World War II, hundreds of persecuted Jews, mainly from Nazi-occupied Vienna, tried to escape to Northern Ireland. They had learned of a Stormont job-creation scheme to tackle the region's chronic unemployment by offering financial support to skilled professionals.

Because this was not a refugee scheme but rather a foreign investment scheme, almost all applicants were rejected as not meeting the criteria, and more than 125 of these men, women and children were murdered in the Holocaust.

Based on extensive archival research, unpublished family memoirs and letters, and interviews with survivors and their descendants, this extraordinary book describes the applicants' desperate efforts to save their families and themselves, and highlights the tireless work done by committed Northern Irish people to rescue them. It also explores how the small numbers of refugees admitted made a major contribution to Northern Ireland's economic, social and cultural life that continues to this day.

NOEL RUSSELL is a journalist and TV producer, a former news editor of the Irish News and editor, Speech Radio, BBC Northern Ireland. He is an MA graduate of Queen's University Belfast and the University of Michigan, and has written and produced several historical documentaries for BBC Northern Ireland, RTÉ and TG4.



115,000 words, 328pp
Rights available: World, all
languages

- Fascinating unknown story about Northern Ireland and the Holocaust
- Moving first-hand accounts of the lives of the applicants
- Echoes the current immigration issues in Europe

A COLD EYE

NOTES FROM A SHARED ISLAND 1989–2024

Carlo Gébler

with photographs by David Barker

A love letter to Northern Ireland, its complexity and beauty and a personal, considered account of thirty-five years of Irish history.

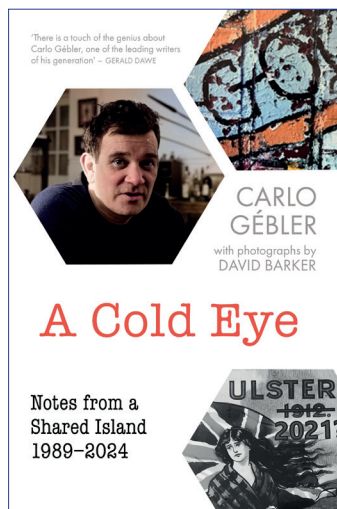
If the past is another country – what happens when we revisit it, one day a year?

Carlo Gébler has done just that. Here is the story of Ireland – from the tail end of the Troubles to the Good Friday agreement, to the glory days of the Celtic Tiger to the recession to Brexit and on to the present, where, it appears, everything we thought we could take for granted is no longer a given.

Drawing from journals he has kept for over four decades, Gébler stitches together days of his life into something bigger than his own lived experiences – a vivid patchwork history of the island over thirty-five years, capturing those sweeping changes in sharp, funny, slantwise pieces that will prompt readers to reflect on the strange process of how we got here.

This intelligent and affectionate compilation, written in Gébler's sparkling prose, is a joy. Whether read from beginning to end or dipped into, it will appeal to anyone with even a passing interest in the astonishing evolution of our island.

CARLO GÉBLER is a novelist, biographer, playwright, memoirist, critic and occasional broadcaster. He has worked as a prison and university teacher for many years and also worked with Patrick Maguire, who was wrongly convicted of the IRA Guildford pub bombings, on his memoir *My Father's Watch*. He is a member of Aosdána and lives in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland.



75,000 words, 304pp
Rights available: World, all
languages

‘There is a touch of the genius about Carlo Gébler, one of the leading writers of his generation.’ **GERALD DAWE**

‘Carlo Gébler is one of Ireland’s greatest story-tellers.’
GLENN PATTERSON

REELING IN THE QUEERS

TALES OF IRELAND'S LGBTQ PAST

Páraic Kerrigan

Amidst the moments of seismic change in LGBTQ history in Ireland lie the stories of ordinary people, who did extraordinary things to change queer Ireland and Irish culture.

Marking fifty years of the founding of an LGBTQ rights movement in Ireland, *Reeling in the Queers* explores the lesser-known stories of the fight for LGBTQ rights since 1974, beyond decriminalisation and Marriage Equality. From 1990s boy bands to the AIDS priest, Fr Bernárd Lynch, from the Belfast Lesbian Line to proud parenting, from the earliest Pride events to the last days of Alternative Miss Ireland, fourteen distinct moments map the changing social and cultural landscape of Ireland.

These stories, from across the island of Ireland – and further afield – celebrate a strong community and its allies, and speak across the generations. Together, they tell a new story of the gains, losses, devastation and community rising from the ashes of defeat. It is a hugely enjoyable and insightful read for both those who lived through this movement and for those who enjoy its benefits today.

Drawing from oral history as well as archives, *Reeling in the Queers* brings even more to life the great big queer tapestry in Ireland. Queer history in Ireland is Irish history and acknowledging and celebrating the light and the dark of it protects all of our futures as much as our pasts.

PÁRAIC KERRIGAN is an author, researcher and Assistant Professor at University College Dublin, where he teaches on LGBTQ Irish culture. Páraic published his first book, *LGBTQ Visibility, Media and Sexuality* in Ireland in 2021.



56,000 words, 256 pp
Rights available: World, all languages

An Irish Top 20 bestseller June–July 2024

‘Moving, brave and often funny, these stories illuminate personal experiences of Ireland’s queer past and present.’ **EMILIE PINE**

‘A fascinating read. Charts the inspirational lesser-known stories of the relentless personal heroism of queer activists over many tough years.’ **MARY MCALEESE**

‘An important testament to the power of hope in sustaining political action.’ **SEÁN HEWITT**

PARCELS IN THE POST

GROWING UP WITH FIFTY SIBLINGS

Fiona Neary

Filled with pathos and humour, *Parcels in the Post* is both a memoir of a loving household and snapshot of the fostering system in Ireland, from someone at the very heart of it all.

Welcome to the house of fun.

It's the early 1980s and Fiona Neary and her family have recently moved back from England to the family farm. Fiona's huge-hearted mum decides to take in foster children – a decision that will change all their lives.

Over the next decade, a procession of faces passes through the house. Every child has their own story, and each story claims a little piece of Fiona's heart. Some stay a few weeks; some months, and then years. All these children, as well as Fiona and her family, must pass through a chaotic system: where a judge's decision can alter a child's life, for better or worse; where emergency placements can break up siblings; where the foster family are often left in the dark and with little back-up.

FIONA NEARY went on to work in social care herself, co-founding the Rape Crisis Centre in Castlebar in 1993, and later acting as National Coordinator and Executive Director of Rape Crisis Network Ireland. She is currently interim director of the Linenhall Arts Centre in Castlebar. *Parcels in the Post* is her first book.



69,000 words, 232 pp
Rights available: World, all
languages

'Warm, life-affirming, and often shocking ... An inspirational and memorable read.'

CHRISTINE DWYER HICKEY

'A sober chronicle of the Neary's fostering journey ... it deserves great credit for shining a harsh light on some murky corners of our society.'
SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

'Full of tender and poignant recollections, at times hilarious and sometimes heartbreaking, Neary's book is at all times compelling.'
CONNAUGHT TRIBUNE

WILD ATLANTIC WOMEN

WALKING IRELAND'S WEST COAST

Gráinne Lyons

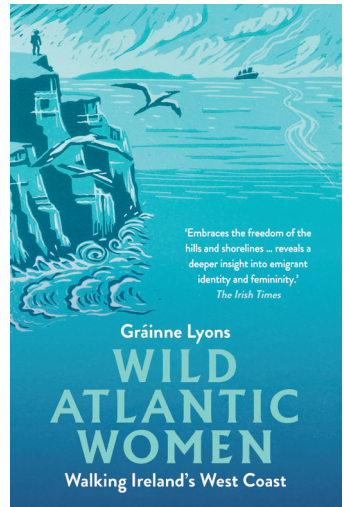
A second-generation London-Irishwoman walks the Wild Atlantic Way in the footsteps of eleven pioneering women.

At a crossroads in her life, Gráinne Lyons set out to travel Ireland's west coast on foot. She set a simple intention: to walk in the footsteps of eleven pioneering Irish women deeply rooted in this coastal landscape and explore their lives and work along the way. As a Londoner born to Irish parents, she also sought answers in her own identity.

As Gráinne heads north from Cape Clear Island where her great-grandmother was a lacemaker, she considers Ellen Hutchins, Maude Delap, Edna O'Brien, Granuaile and Queen Maeve among others from her unique perspective. Their homes – in places that are famously wild and remote – are transformed into sites of hope, purpose, opportunity and inspiration. Walking through this history, her journey reveals unexpected insight into emigrant identity, travelling alone, femininity and the trappings of an 'ideal' life.

Against the backdrop and power of this great ocean, *Wild Atlantic Women* will inspire the twenty-first-century reader and walker to keep going, regardless of the path.

GRÁINNE LYONS is a writer and documentary-maker from London, where she lives. She holds an MA in Creative and Life Writing from Goldsmith's University and a BA in English Literature from the University of York. As a documentary producer, she has produced numerous arts and history films. Gráinne's family live in her father's home place of County Sligo, where she lives when she's not in London.



65,000 words, 248 pp
Rights available: World, all
languages

'Lyons' understated, luminous writing does justice to these diverse women who all shared this wild coastline.'

SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

'Embraces the freedom of the hills and shorelines ... reveals a deeper insight into emigrant identity and femininity'

IRISH TIMES

Key Backlist

PERPETUAL COMEDOWN

Declan Toohey

A vibrant, dynamic literary debut that blazes off the page to excavate a queer Gen Z experience.

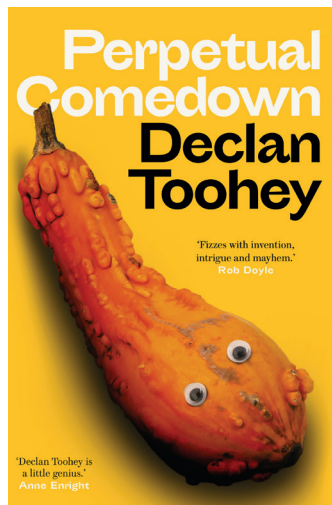
'Declan Toohey is a little genius.' ANNE ENRIGHT

'Such a surprising book which reveals its secrets slowly. Wild, beautiful and poignant.'

LISA MCINERNEY

'Fizzes with invention, intrigue and mayhem' ROB DOYLE

A contemporary yarn of academic intrigue and youthful irreverence, sexual fluidity and neurodiversity. Experimental, trippy, hilarious and compassionate, *Perpetual Comedown* is a riotous reckoning in the construction of the self.



256 pp, 2023

Rights available: World, all languages

SLANT

Katherine O'Donnell

A ground-breaking Irish lesbian love story, set across the decades from the 1980s AIDS crisis to the 2015 marriage referendum.

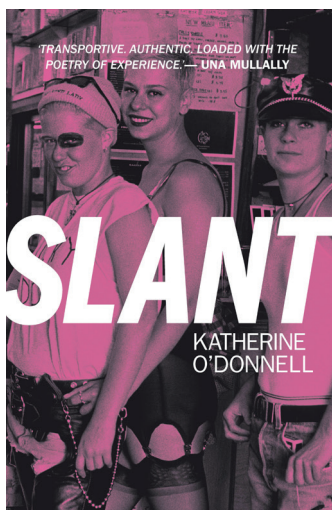
'Is love a bad habit or an elusive dream? A work of difficult reflection and no easy answers.'

SARAH SCHULMAN

'Transportive. Authentic. Loaded with the poetry of experience.' UNA MULLALLY

'A heartfelt celebration of all kinds of queer love.' GAY COMMUNITY NEWS

SHORTLISTED: Kate O'Brien Award for Debut Fiction by Female Author 2023



336 pp, 2023

Rights available: World, all languages

LENNY

Laura McVeigh

A magical tale of family, loss and the redemptive power of the imagination to heal and survive.

'You know when a character comes along in a novel and you just instantly fall in love with them, a character who feels insistently real and in need of a hug? Well, say hello to Lenny Lockhart.'

SUNDAY INDEPENDENT

'McVeigh exemplifies the breadth of talent that's emerging... Lenny pulls on our heart strings ... nuanced ... impressive ... unexpected ... it shapeshifts and time warps, bringing into question our understanding of narrative, space, time.'

IRISH TIMES

'Remarkable novel – Lenny...the boy who will break your heart' BBC RADIO

TWO SUMMERS

Glenn Patterson

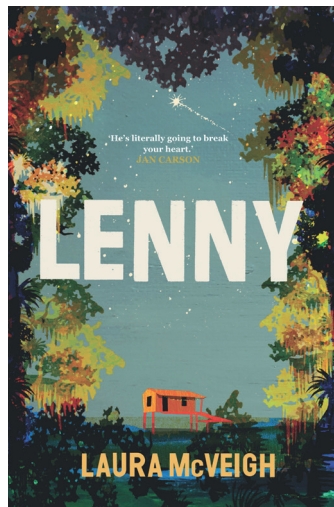
A pair of novellas, set over two pivotal summers in the lives of two young men from Belfast, recall the constraints of the place where they were born and the times in which they are living.

'A pair of novellas so good they could both have easily run to full length' IRISH TIMES

'Brimming with the exuberance, thrills, and confusion of youth.'

WENDY ERSKINE

'Glenn Patterson really is Northern Ireland's prose laureate. His writing is as compelling as it is compassionate' WILL SELF



256pp, 2022

Rights available: World, all languages (print and ebook)

Rights sold: World English audio, Bulgarian



208 pp, 2023

Rights available: World, all languages

THE LATE NIGHT WRITERS CLUB

A GRAPHIC NOVEL

Annie West

In rich and abundant illustrations, Annie West tells a rowdy story of artistic struggle, ego and unexpected kindness. You will never look at the Irish Literary Canon in the same way again.

'I love Annie West's work; it's delicious, insightful, humane and, when called for, savagely satirical.'

LENNY ABRAHAMSON

A talented but annoying Debut Author, suffering from writer's block and mysterious headaches, ghosted by his girlfriend and on his last chance with his bartender job, takes refuge in the National Library of Ireland, hoping for some last-minute inspiration within its hallowed walls.



120pp, 2023

Rights available: World, all languages

A QUIET TIDE

Marianne Lee

A Quiet Tide is a life examined, a heart-breaking, inspiring story that at last captures the essence and humanity of Ellen Hutchins, a long-forgotten Irish botanist.

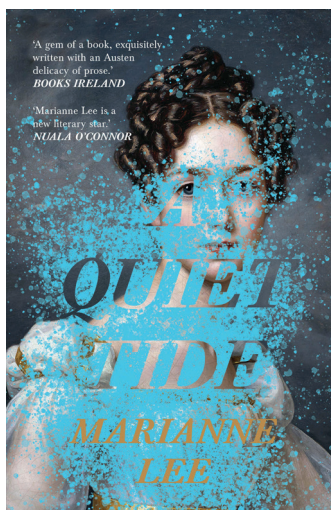
'An exemplary act of literary ventriloquism ... Ellen's fate haunts the reader.'

SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

'Though set in the past, the themes of her debut have a modern feel, none more so than in Ellen's attempts to establish herself in a male-dominated field ... beautifully captures the quiet resistance by one noteworthy Irish woman.' IRISH TIMES

'A beautiful, elegantly written novel about the tangled roots of family and the pursuit of singular passions. Marianne Lee is a new literary star.'

NUALA O'CONNOR



416pp, 2022

Rights available: World, all languages

Rights sold: World English audio

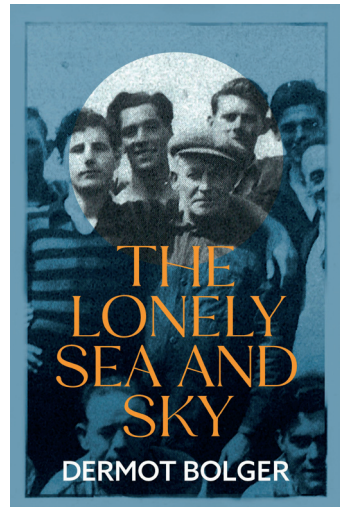
THE LONELY SEA AND SKY

Dermot Bolger

A gripping, wartime, coming-of-age adventure based on real events.

'The way he smuggles 'the bigger themes' into the narrative hull ... grants this historical fiction "modern classic" status.' **IRISH INDEPENDENT**

Part historical fiction, part extraordinary coming-of-age tale, *The Lonely Sea and Sky* charts the maiden voyage of 14-year-old Jack Roche aboard a tiny Wexford merchant ship, on a treacherous wartime journey to Portugal.



400pp, 2022

Rights available: World, all languages

A SECOND LIFE

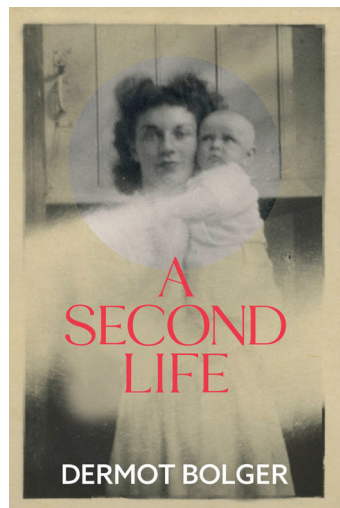
Dermot Bolger

The groundbreaking first modern novel to address the scandal of Irish Magdalene laundries when it was first published.

'Utterly heart-breaking. For me it is Bolger's finest work.' **SUNDAY INDEPENDENT**

'Audacious and moving.' **THE TIMES**

At six weeks old Sean Blake was taken from his birth mother, a young girl forced to give him up for adoption. Years later, in the aftermath of a car crash that almost took his life, he feels compelled to unlock the truth about his origins.



300pp, 2022

Rights available: World, all languages

Rights sold: French

THE ULYSSES GUIDE

TOURS THROUGH JOYCE'S DUBLIN

Robert Nicholson

A must for every Joyce lover, updated for the 2025 Dublin streetscape.

'May be enjoyed in its own right, without leaving one's armchair.' **IRISH TIMES**

'Eight walks which make surprisingly good reading ... full of delightful information.'
LITERARY REVIEW

'An indispensable manual.' **GLASGOW HERALD**

More than just a walking guide, *The Ulysses Guide* provides a handrail to James Joyce's novel *Ulysses* by following its eighteen episodes on their original locations, and recreating the Dublin of 1904 against the background of today's streetscape.

ULYSSES

A READERS' ODYSSEY

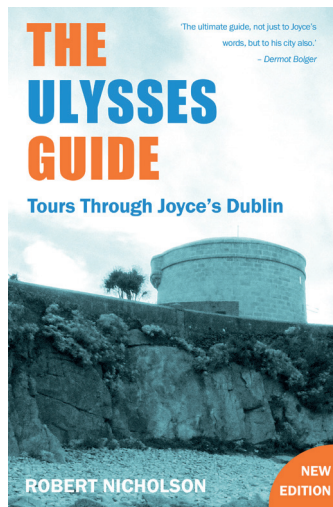
Daniel Mulhall

This joyful introductory guide opens up *Ulysses* a whole new readership.

'Releases the great masterpiece from its reputation of impenetrability. An affectionate, accessible tribute.' **SUNDAY INDEPENDENT**

'Ambassador Mulhall cleverly decodes all 18 episodes of the novel, providing personal and funny insights that contextualize and illuminate Joyce's text, making you want to pick up *Ulysses* again.' **IRISH CENTRAL**

Both eloquent and erudite, this book is an initiation into the wonders of Joyce's writing and of the world that inspired it.



250pp, new edition 2025
Rights available: World, all languages



336pp, 2022
Rights available: World, all languages

PILGRIM SOUL

W. B. YEATS AND THE IRELAND OF HIS TIME

Daniel Mulhall

A reader's guide to Ireland's national poet and the extraordinary times he lived through.

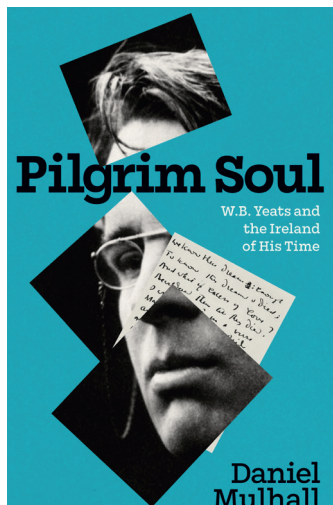
'A fascinating, entertaining and convincing exploration of Yeats' work, as influenced by, and as an influence on, the nation it immortalises.'

IRISH INDEPENDENT

'This intelligent, provocative book will send you back to Yeats's work with a new appreciation and understanding.'

SUNDAY BUSINESS POST

As a personal journey through Yeats's poetry and his life, *Pilgrim Soul* mirrors Daniel Mulhall's own four decades as an ambassador for Ireland, its people and its culture.



344 pp, 2023

Rights available: World, all languages

NO LAUGHING MATTER

THE LIFE AND TIMES OF FLANN O'BRIEN

Anthony Cronin

Foreword by Kevin Barry

An undisputed classic of Irish literary biography.

'A rich and absorbing biography.'

SUNDAY TIMES

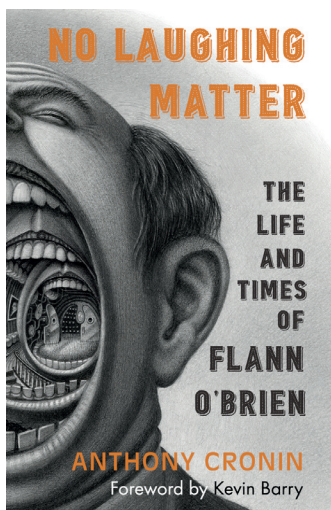
'Cronin could not write a dull line if he tried.'

OBSERVER

'A fine piece of work ... written with the intelligence and generosity for which, not only in Ireland, Cronin is admired.'

THE TLS

First published in 1989 *No Laughing Matter* was the first full-length biography of Flann O'Brien. Rich in background, anecdote and social history, it is an extraordinary portrait of a writer and his times, perceptive, sympathetic and authoritative.



392pp, new edition 2019

Rights available: World, all languages

A VERY STRANGE MAN

A MEMOIR OF AIDAN HIGGINS

Alannah Hopkin

Honest and heartbreaking literary memoir of the lives of two Irish writers, from the thunderbolt of love to receding into dementia and remaining the greatest of companions throughout.

'I can't remember when I've read such a moving memoir, or one written with such raw honesty ... It's also compelling; I couldn't put it down.' **BOOKS IRELAND**

'A subtle and memorable book ... clear-eyed and candid, but generous too and wise.' **IRISH TIMES**

'A strangely consoling memoir. I began it the other morning and finished it some hours later, with a sense of great gratitude.' **IRISH INDEPENDENT**

IN HER SHOES

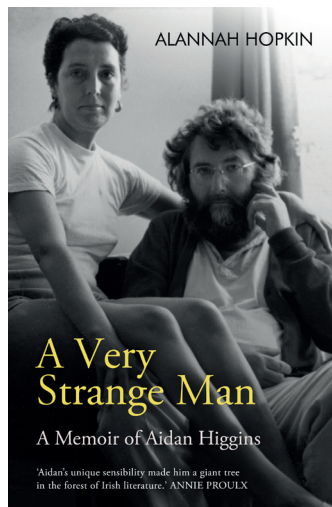
WOMEN OF THE EIGHTH

Edited and illustrated by Erin Darcy

Compiling 32 anonymised stories of abortion, which emerged in the run up to the 2018 referendum to legalise abortion in Ireland, *In Her Shoes* is the story of a changing social landscape, of an uprising within the author and within Ireland.

'A precious and valuable record of a remarkable project.' **AILBHE SMYTH**

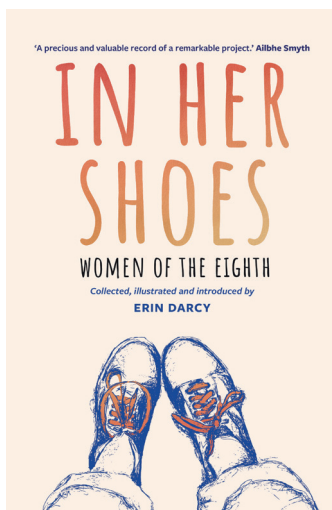
'We will never know how many untold stories the Eighth Amendment left behind. In telling some of them, this book honours them all.' **TARA FLYNN**



368pp, 2021

Rights available: World, all languages, print and ebook

Rights sold: World English audio



256pp, 2020

Rights available: World, all languages, print and ebook

Rights sold: World English audio

THREE CASTLES BURNING

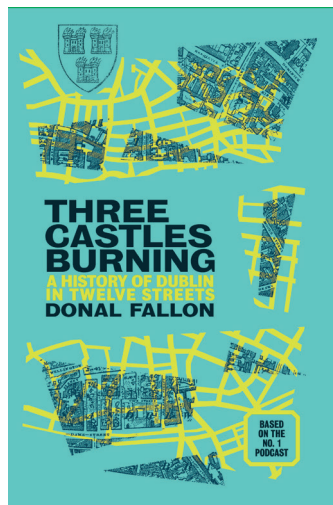
A HISTORY OF DUBLIN IN TWELVE STREETS

Donal Fallon

A companion to the hugely successful podcast of the same name, THREE CASTLES BURNING is an enjoyable wander through some of Dublin's less obvious but more interesting streets.

'Few places better suit a weekend of wandering. And you'll find few better guides than historian Donal Fallon.' **WALL STREET JOURNAL**

'A delightful potted history of Dublin . . . that refrain, "who knew?" is one the reader might find themselves repeating on every page, such is the mine of information contained in each chapter of this little book.' **IRISH INDEPENDENT**



334 pp, 2022

Rights available: World, all languages, print and ebook

THE CURIOUS HISTORY OF IRISH DOGS

David Blake Knox

Tells the remarkable stories of each of the nine native Irish dog breeds, and reveals how they have become inextricably linked to the human beings with whom they share the island.

Irish Wolfhounds stalked through ancient Celtic mythology, while Kerry Beagles were among the victims of the Land War in the 1880s. Charles Stewart Parnell insisted that his Red Setter stay with him when he was on his death bed.

Six of Ireland's nine native breeds of dog are now considered vulnerable to extinction, but they are an integral part of our cultural narrative and have added both to our social history – and to our happiness.



224 pp, 2018

Rights available: World, all languages, print, ebook and audio

FACE DOWN

THE DISAPPEARANCE OF
THOMAS NIEDERMAYER

David Blake Knox

The first comprehensive account of one of the darkest and mostly forgotten episodes of the Troubles. Now a major documentary film.

'David Blake Knox's non-fiction work is a lie detector for the post-Troubles era.' **IRISH TIMES**

'A rigorous and compelling historical study.'
DUBLIN REVIEW OF BOOKS

On 27 December 1973 the nightmare began: late that night German businessman Thomas Niedermayer was kidnapped from his home in Belfast. Never seen alive again by his friends or family, he became one of the 'disappeared' and it seemed that no one knew what had happened to him.

HITLER'S IRISH SLAVES

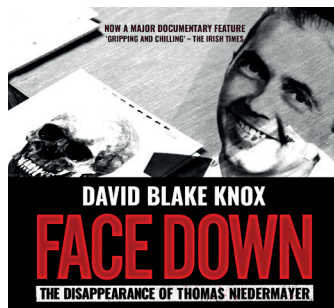
David Blake Knox

The shocking story of 32 merchant seamen from Ireland who were held in conditions of great hardship in an SS slave labour camp from 1943 to 1945.

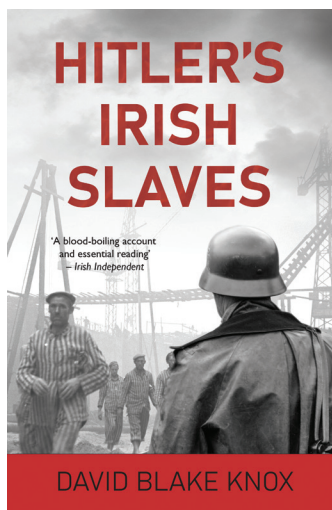
'A blood-boiling account and essential reading.'
IRISH INDEPENDENT

Mercilessly punished for their refusal to join the German war effort, and ignored by their own government, they became part of a slave workforce that was used to construct an immense bunker.

In this engrossing and dramatic book, David Blake Knox explores the fascinating and tragic story of the hardship endured by these men, as well as the reasons why that narrative, like the men themselves, has been unjustly neglected.



392 pp, new edition 2023
Rights available: World, all
languages, print, ebook and audio



334 pp, new edition 2017
Rights available: World, all
languages, print, ebook and audio

BANISHED BABIES

The Secret Story of Ireland's Baby Export Business

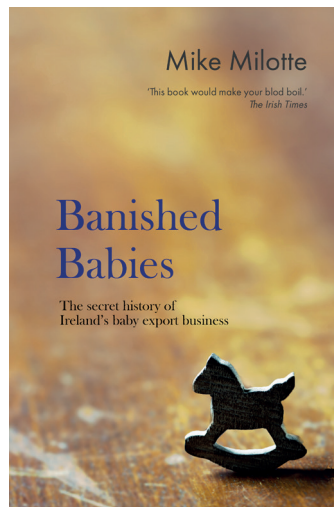
Mike Milotte

The story of baby trafficking between Ireland and America in the 1950s and 1960s, organised by nuns, sanctioned by an archbishop, administered by civil servants and approved by politicians who tried to keep it secret . . .

This book would make your blood boil ... one of the finest pieces of journalism this reader has come across for many a day.' **IRISH TIMES**

'A brilliant exposé of the shabby history of sectarian cruelty to unmarried women who became pregnant in Ireland in the 1950s.'

SUNDAY TRIBUNE



281pp, new edition 2012
Rights available: World, all languages, print, ebook and audio

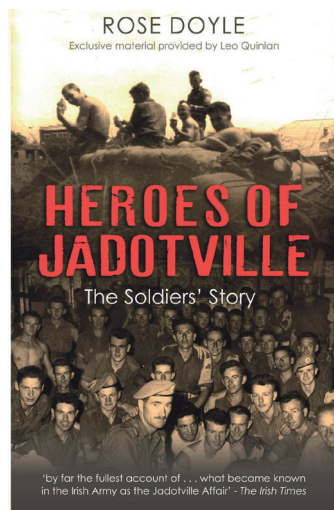
HEROES OF JADOTVILLE

The Soldiers' Story

Rose Doyle

In this new and updated edition, Rose Doyle uses interviews, reports, journals and letters to bring answers and clarity to an episode long ignored.

In 1961, during the United Nations intervention in the Katanga conflict in the Congo, central Africa, a company of Irish peacekeeping troops was forced to surrender to soldiers loyal to Katanga's prime minister, Moise Tshombe. They were isolated, without water, supplies or support when they were attacked and forced to defend themselves in a brutal and bloody five-day battle. Shamefully neglected by their superiors, they were portrayed as cowards upon their return home. Doyle seeks to grant these soldiers the recognition their bravery deserves. This is their story.



400pp, new edition 2016
Rights available: World, all languages, print, ebook and audio

