



Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas  
South Dublin County Council

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# Books to the Sky

Children's Book Festival 2009

South Dublin County Libraries

“Books to the ceiling  
Books to the sky.  
My pile of books  
Are a mile high.  
How I love them!  
How I need them!  
I’ll have a long beard  
By the time I read them.”  
- Arnold Lobel -

### Discover the joys of reading

Tóg turas trí Litriocht na nÓg le *Books to the Sky*, Féile Leabhar na bPáistí ó Leabharlanna Átha Cliath Theas. Le linn na Féile, beidh slua údar bunaithe agus udar atá ag teacht chun cinn ar fáil chun sliochtanna a léamh agus chun céardlanna a óstáil d’aos óg Chontae Átha Cliath Theas. Chun a thuilleadh eolais a fháil féach [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie). Tá súil again go mbainneann sibh sult as Féile na bliana seo!

This year our programme, *Books to the Sky*, takes us through the world of Children’s Literature from comic verse to fantasy and everything in between. We have a host of established and emerging authors and storytellers lined up to give readings and workshops to the children of South Dublin County. For further information see [www.southdublinlibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlibraries.ie). We hope you enjoy this year’s Festival!

Most of the morning performances will have spaces reserved for primary schools within the South County area. As places are limited, booking for all of the Festival’s events will be on a first-come, first-served basis, both for schools and members of the public. A guide to age group suitability and whether or not it is a class visit or public event is given beside each activity and bookings will be taken only from Monday 21st September at 10am onwards by telephoning your local branch library or by applying in person. Branch library phone numbers are available at the back of the brochure; for any other enquiries, please telephone Patricia Fitzgerald or Caroline Higgins, Development Librarians on 01-4597834, email: [pfitzgerald@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:pfitzgerald@sdblincoco.ie) or [chiggins@sdblincoco.ie](mailto:chiggins@sdblincoco.ie)



## Books to the Sky Children's Book Festival 2009

The festival will be launched by **Mayor Cllr Mick Duff** in Clondalkin Library on Monday 5th October at 11am. Guest of Honour will be renowned storyteller Andrew McKenna from Australia who will keep local schoolchildren enthralled.



**Andrew McKenna** is an Australian storyteller, and was a founding member of the innovative Melbourne theatre company *Whistling in the Theatre* in the 1980s. His performances are for everyone. He draws on the world's traditions, and performs stories with masks and music that are contemporary and as old as the spoken word. They are hilarious, inspired and astounding, food for thought and for the soul.

He toured Ireland in 2007, performing at festivals including the prestigious *Baboró* International Children's Festival, the Waterford *Imagine Festival*, and the *Lough Gur Storytelling Festival*.

**Age 5+**

### Clondalkin Library

Monday 5th October

10am & 11.30am

(Festival Launch - class visit)

### Lucan Library

Monday 5th October

3.30pm

(booking essential)

### County Library, Tallaght

Tuesday 6th October

10am & 11.30am

(class visit)

### Castletymon Library

Tuesday 6th October

3.30pm

(booking essential)



**Aine Ni Ghlinn** Foras na Gaeilge Residency with children from local Gaelscoileanna – 6th Class. These workshops continue through November.  
**Booking Essential**

**County Library, Tallaght**

Tuesday 6th October  
10am-1pm

Tuesday 13th October  
10am-1pm

Tuesday 20th October  
10am-1pm

Tuesday 27th October  
10am-1pm

**David Donohue's** first children's story, *Walter Speazlebud* is published by O'Brien Press and has become a best-seller in Ireland. It was nominated as 'book of the month' on RTÉ's Arts Programme "Rattlebag" and was chosen as the Christmas Book Choice on the "Late Late Show".

David's readings are essentially workshops, based around the idea of spelling backwards and the power of using your NOITANIGAMI. David has now completed the follow-up novel, entitled *Moon Man, an adventure with Walter Speazlebud*.

**Age 8-11** (2 classes/session)

**County Library, Tallaght**

Wednesday 7th October  
10am & 11.30am





## Books to the Sky

Children's Book Festival 2009



### Paul H. Tubb

English born but Dublin based poet Paul H. Tubb is a Poet/Humorist/Singer-Songwriter who specialises in nonsense/Comic Verse/Songs for Children.

Paul's first collection of poetry for Children called *'Please Do Not Encourage This Nonsense by Purchasing This Book: Poems by Paul H. Tubb'* contains, 23 Poems Not about Football, 11 that are about Football and 5 limericks. The Poems are about subjects such as Strange Christmases, Tone Deaf Dentists and the world's worst stuntman amongst others.

### Age 7-11 (2 classes/session)

#### Castletymon Library

Wednesday 7th October  
10am & 11.30am

#### Ballyroan Library

Thursday 8th October  
10am & 11.30am

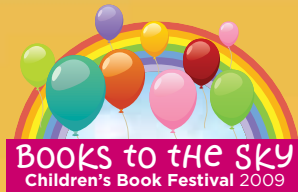
### Open House: Explore your City's Architecture

Your Perfect Public Library - an interactive session *with the Chester Beatty Library*, where children re-think their library and decide what it should look like and what should be in it - with a model made by the children. Re-think your public spaces!

### Age 10-12 (class visit)

County Library, Tallaght  
Friday 9th October  
11am





### Monique Jolly – The Town with no Stories Puppet Show

As an activity for children, good old fashioned reading has a lot of competition these days! The fight back begins with this 35 min show!

This story is called; *The Town With No Stories*. In this town the Mayor is also the same man that owns the local battery factory. To ensure that all the boys and girls would 'waste' no time reading story books and use lots and lots of his batteries in their PSP's and DS's and music players and toys, years ago he ordered that all the story books were removed from the local library and he banned all story books from the shops and even from the schools. Most of the children in the town had never even seen a story book! Join Jack, Booky Wooky, Lauren, The Big Bad Wolf and Pete the Pirate and help bring the books back! **Booking Essential**

#### Age 4+

**Ballyroan Library**  
Monday 5th October  
3.30pm

**Castletymon Library**  
Thursday 8th October  
3.30pm

**Clondalkin Library**  
Wednesday 14th October  
3.30pm

**Whitechurch Library**  
Wednesday 7th October  
3.00pm (Homework Club)

**County Library, Tallaght**  
Tuesday 13th October  
3.30pm

**Lucan Library**  
Tuesday 20th October  
3.30pm





**Aubrey Flegg** was born in Dublin. His early childhood was spent in County Sligo, Ireland. He went to school in Dublin and later in England. After a spell with a mountain rescue team in Scotland, he returned to Ireland to study geology at Trinity College. He then did geological research in Kenya, before joining the Geological Survey of Ireland. Aubrey recently took early retirement in order to concentrate on writing.

His first book, *Katie's War*, is about the civil war period in Ireland; it was published in 1997 and won the Peter Pan Award 2000 - an award created by IBBY Sweden for a children's book, translated into Swedish, which gives information on another culture. *Wings Over Delft*, the first book in the Louise trilogy, won the Bisto Book of the Year overall award in 2004.

**Age 5th/6th Class** (class visit)

**Lucan Library**  
Wednesday 7th October  
10am & 12noon

**Clondalkin Library**  
Thursday 8th October  
10am & 12noon





### **Mary Arrigan**

Born in County Kildare, Mary studied art at the National College in Dublin and University College Dublin. She then taught art, and exhibited, for eighteen years. After writing short stories for magazines and radio, Mary now broadcasts humorous stories on RTE radio. She left teaching to write children's books fulltime in 1994. She won the Sunday Times/CWA Short Story Award in 1991; Hennessy Literary Award in 1993 and was short-listed for the Bisto Award in 1994. In Germany, she won the International Youth Library (Munich) White Ravens title in 1996. Her new book, "*Esty's Gold*" was published in August 2009.

**Age 10/11** (Class visit, max 40)

**Lucan Library**  
Thursday 8th October  
10am & 11.30am

### **Treasure Chest Arts and Crafts with Anna Craig**

Join us for 2 hours of fun with Anna Craig as she helps you to make a treasure chest from a pirate's stash! Let the creativity begin! **Booking Essential**

**Age 8-12** (max 12 children)

**Clondalkin Library**  
Wednesday 7th October  
3.30pm-5.30pm





### **Fiona Tierney**

Having previously published two titles with her sister-in-law Una Healy in the 'Look What Blew into the Zoo' series, Fiona will be releasing her first title with UK publisher Chicken House this autumn. *Lion's Lunch!* is a fantastic story of one girl's intrepid attempts to appease the angriest (and hungriest!) inhabitant of the jungle, with a humorous tone and vivid illustrations (by Margaret Chamberlain) that younger children are sure to love. Fiona not only reads her stories but takes the children on a journey through how the book was made.

#### **Age 3-6 (class visit)**

Clondalkin Library  
Tuesday 6th October  
10.30am & 12noon

Mobile Library Service  
Tuesday 20th October  
10.30am & 12noon



### **Sarah Rees Brennan**

Born and raised in Ireland by the sea, where her teachers valiantly tried to make her fluent in Irish but she chose to read books under her desk in class instead. After living briefly in New York and doing a creative writing MA and library work in Surrey, England, she has returned to Dublin, Ireland, to write. Her Irish is still woeful, but she feels the books under the desk were worth it. *The Demon's Lexicon* is Sarah's first novel. Visit her website at [sarahreesbrennan.com](http://sarahreesbrennan.com).

#### **Age 13+**

Mobile Library Services  
Thursday 1st October  
Visit to Secondary School



### **Sarah Webb - Creative Writing Workshop**

Sarah Webb has written seven bestselling novels including, *'When the Boys Are Away'*, *'Take a Chance'*, and *'Always the Bridesmaid'*. Her books have been published in many different countries including the U.S. and Indonesia. She has also written four children's books, has contributed short stories to many collections including 'Moments', and has compiled and edited two charity collections of her own, *'Travelling Light'* and *'Mum's the Word'*.

Sarah studied Arts in Trinity College, Dublin and worked in the book trade for many years as a Children's Buyer. She now combines writing with working as a Children's Book Consultant, and reviewing children's books for the Irish Independent. She has also programmed and run many successful readers' days, and is on the committee of Irish Pen.

#### **Age 8-12**

#### **Teacher must assist in the workshop**

##### **County Library, Tallaght**

Wednesday 14th October  
10.30am - 12noon

Thursday 15th October  
10.30am - 12noon

Friday 16th October  
10.30am - 12noon

##### **Lucan Library**

Thursday 22nd October  
10.30am - 12noon

##### **Ballyroan Library**

Thursday 29th October  
3.30pm (booking essential)

##### **Mobile Library Services**

Friday 23rd October  
10.30am - 12noon





### **National Print Museum**

The National Print Museum collects, documents, preserves, exhibits, interprets and makes accessible the material evidence of printing craft and fosters associated skills of the craft in Ireland. These workshops involve printing & hat-making. Participants will work with artefacts from the Museum's collection to hand set and print their names in metal type. The Hat-Making session of the workshop will show participants how to make and decorate old style printers hats, using Origami techniques. **Booking Essential**

**Age 8-12**

**Ballyroan Library**  
Wednesday 14th October  
3.30pm



### **Safari Kids Education**

Safari is a fun, exciting and practical educational enrichment programme. Safari enables your child to identify their unique strengths, talents and abilities which are then fostered and developed through our method.

Aoife Kelly, creator of Safari Kids Education, has had the privilege of working with children in an educational capacity for a number of years. She is a trained Montessori teacher and has qualifications in special needs training. **Booking Essential**

**Age 3-5**

**Castletymon Library**  
Monday 12th October  
10.30am (Class visit)

**Lucan Library**  
Monday 12th October  
3.30pm





## Niamh Sharkey

Niamh is a best-selling author and illustrator-creator of *I'm a Happy Hugglewug*, *the Ravenous Beast* and *Santasaurus*. Her books have won many awards including the Mother Goose Award and The Bisto Book of the Year Award. Her books have been translated into 20 Languages.

### Lucan Library

Monday 12th October

10.30am – 11.15am

Senior Infants session (2 classes) 8-10 years (1 class)

11.30am

Illustration Workshop

## Sinead Ni Chofaigh

Bookcraft Workshop – get creative and make your own book with artist Sinead. **Booking Essential**

### Age 7-10

#### Lucan Library

Thursday 15th October

3.30pm

#### Clondalkin Library

Monday 19th October

3.30pm

#### County Library, Tallaght

Tuesday 20th October

3.30pm

#### Ballyroan Library

Thursday 22nd October

3.30pm

#### Castletymon Library

Wednesday 21st October

3.30pm





**Books to the Sky**  
Children's Book Festival 2009

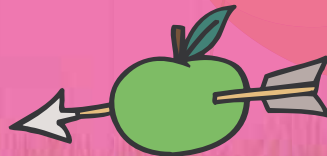
### **Gabriel Fitzmaurice**

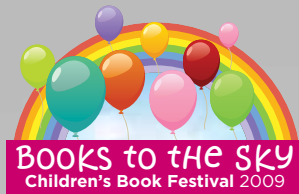
Gabriel Fitzmaurice was born in Moyvane, Co Kerry. He is author of more than twenty books, including poetry in English and Irish, children's verse in English and Irish, translations from the Irish, essays, and collections of songs and ballads. His poetry collections in English include *Rainsong*, *The Space Between: New and Selected Poems 1984-92*, *The Wrenboy's Carnival: Poems 1980-2000* and *The Boghole Boys*.

His work for children includes *But Dad!*, *Puppy and the Sausage*, *Dear Grandad* and *A Giant Never Dies*. An award winner at the Gerard Manley Hopkins Centenary Poetry Competition, he has twice represented Ireland at the European Festival of Poetry in Louvain, Belgium. He frequently broadcasts on Irish radio and television and local radio stations on education and the arts.

**Age 4-8 or 8-12** (2 classes of same age/session)

Clondalkin Library  
Monday 12th October  
10am & 11.30am





### **Tom Kelly**

Tom Kelly was born in the US, brought up in Belfast during the Troubles and lives in Hereford with his wife and two daughters. He has had scripts performed on BBC Radio and at the Young Vic theatre. His first radio play won a Writer's Guild prize and was pick of the week in the Guardian and the Times. *The Thing With Finn* is his debut novel.

**Age 9-12** (3 classes/session)

#### **County Library, Tallaght**

Monday 19th October  
9.45am - 10.30am

10.45am-11.30am  
11.45am - 12.30pm

### **Polish Fables: How to marry a Princess? with Kasia Lech**

This session comprises of telling traditional Polish stories (in English) with puppetry workshops, interactive games and practicing how to introduce yourself in Polish. The session is topped off with Polish national dance.

**Age 5-7**

#### **Ballyroan Library**

Monday 12th October  
10am & 11.30am (class visit)

#### **Clondalkin Library**

Monday 12th October  
3.30pm (booking essential)





### **Tony Hickey**

Tony Hickey, one of Ireland's best known writers for children and young people, was born in Newbridge, Co Kildare and spent most of his childhood there. Since then he has lived in Dublin and London and traveled extensively in Europe and America. He has many TV, radio and screen credits as a writer, critic and dramatist. He is co-founder of The Children's Press for which he now writes.

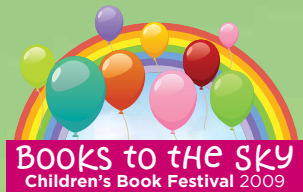
He has written 26 books for children including the highly successful 'Flip'n'Flop' series. Other titles include 'The Matchless Mice' series, The 'Granny Green' series, Castle of Dreams and the 'Brian the Leprechaun' series.

**Age 6-10**, Class visit. (Children must be familiar with Tony's work prior to the visit)

**Ballyroan Library**  
Monday 19th October  
9.45am - 10.30am  
10.45am-11.30am  
11.45am - 12.30pm

**County Library, Tallaght**  
Tuesday 20th October  
9.45am - 10.30am  
10.45am-11.30am  
11.45am - 12.30pm





### **Conor Kostick**

Conor Kostick was a designer for the world's first live fantasy role-playing game, based in Peckforton Castle, Cheshire. He is the author of *Saga*, *Epic* and *The Book of Curses*. He now resides in Dublin where he teaches medieval history at Trinity College Dublin. He is the author of several historical, political and cultural works. Conor was also a reviewer for the Journal of Music in Ireland and was twice chairperson of the Irish Writers' Union. (6th Class) (3 classes/session)

**County Library, Tallaght**  
Wednesday 21st October  
11am

**Ballyroan Library**  
Thursday 22nd October  
11am

**Halloween Mask & Decoration  
Workshop** from Recycled Materials.  
Sponsored by South Dublin County  
Council Environmental Services  
Department. **Booking Essential**

**Age 8-10**

**Ballyroan Library**  
Monday 19th October  
3.30pm - 5pm

**Lucan Library**  
Friday 23rd October  
10am - 11.30am





### **Maeve Friel**

Maeve Friel was born in Northern Ireland and went to university in Dublin. After many years working and travelling in Spain, Italy and England, she now lives in a small village near Alicante (Spain). She has a son and a daughter. She has written about twenty books for children including the popular Witch-in-Training series. The third in the Tiger Lily series, "Tiger Lily: a heroine for all seasons" was recently published.

**Age 7-10** (class visit)

**Clondalkin Library**  
Tuesday 20th October  
10am & 11.30am

**Castletymon Library**  
Wednesday 21st October  
10am & 11.30am

### **Breda Konstantin - Drama Workshops**

Join the wonderful Breda Konstantin in her drama workshop inspired by the stories by Enid Blyton. Costumes and props are provided and children learn activities such as Drama and Storytelling. **Booking Essential**

**Age 4-7**

**Ballyroan Library**  
Thursday 8th October  
3.30pm

**Lucan Library**  
Tuesday 13th October  
3.30pm





### **Oisin McGann**

Oisin McGann's books for younger readers include the *Mad Grandad* series (for six years and upwards) and the *Forbidden Flies* (for eight years and up). Other books by Oisin include *Ancient Appetites* and *Small-Minded Giants*.

**Age 3rd-6th class** (1 class/session)

**Lucan Library**

Monday 19th October

10am & 11.30am

### **Jim Pipe**

Jim Pipe is an author of non-fiction books for children who specialises in history and natural history books for the 8-12 age group, as well as hi-lo readers for 10-14 year olds. He's written on a wide range of non-fiction subjects including environmental, science and social issues, as well as horror books, graphic novels, pop-up books and other projects involving paper mechanics. If you think your class likes horror stories and monsters, then this is the visit for you!

**Age 8 - 12** (class visit)

**Ballyroan Library**

Tuesday 13th October

10.15am & 11.45am





### **Susan Connolly**



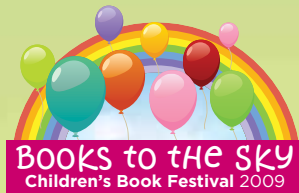
Susan, 25, is not a typical author. Having blazed a trail through secondary school, Susan started Veterinary Medicine at UCD in 2002. While at college she first began to write for public consumption, starting as a contributor to the University Observer science page before becoming editor of both that section and, in later years, the comment & opinion section. She was twice nominated for Student Media awards for this work. She began to write for In Dublin magazine in 2007, and began to write book reviews for the Sunday Business Post in 2008.

In *Damsel*, her beautifully illustrated first novel, Susan introduces us to a loveable cast of characters including Annie Brave, the daughter of the most famous hero of them all, her trusty dog, Squire and her fiery steed, Chesnut, and of course Roger of Rockfield, an honourable liar!

**Age 8 – 11** (class visit)

Lucan Library  
Wednesday 14th October  
10am & 11.30am

Castletymon Library  
Tuesday 20th October  
10am & 11.30am



### **Gordon Snell**

Gordon Snell is a well-known scriptwriter and author of books for children and adults. Some of his most popular titles include *The Phantom Horseman*, *Dangerous Treasure*, *The Mystery of Monk Island*, *The Curse of Werewolf Castle* and *The Tex and Sheelagh Omnibus*. He is married to the writer Maeve Binchy, and divides his time between London and Dublin.

**Age 9-11** (1 class/session)

**Mobile Library Service**  
Tuesday 13th October  
10am & 11.30am

**Clondalkin Library**  
Thursday 15th October  
10am & 11.30am



### **Musical Tots**

Back by popular demand! Musical Tots is a musical parent and toddler group, providing a fun structured educational music class.

**Age Pre-school**, booking essential, limited places

**Whitechurch Library**  
Tuesday 13th October  
1pm



### **MS READaTHON**

The MS READaTHON is a sponsored read whereby children read their favourite books for a month and help raise money for people living with Multiple Sclerosis (MS). This year's MS READaTHON will run from Oct 16th - Nov 16th. Entry forms will be available in September in book stores and libraries around the country. Teachers and children can also sign up online at [www.msreadathon.ie](http://www.msreadathon.ie). All those who participate will receive a special Thank You Gift and be entered into a fantastic prize draw.





## BOOKS to the SKY

Children's Book Festival 2009

### Competitions

#### Writing Competition

*Create your own character and write a story about him/her/it!*

*Is it a princess? Or a supervillain? Or an animal? Or a fantasy creature? Is it a boy? Or a girl? What kind of adventure lies ahead?*

It's up to you—use your imagination and bring your character to life!

Not more than 250 words please!

Great prizes to be won (sponsored by Leisureplex Tallaght)

#### 3 age categories:

5—8 years; 9—11 years; 12—15 years



Please return your entry to your local South Dublin County library branch by Thursday Oct 22nd.

Please remember to put your name, address, age, telephone no and school on the back of your story.

#### Colouring Competition

Colour in one of the funny pictures we send to your school, or pick up a picture in your local library! **Age 6 and under.**

**Closing date:** October 22nd 2009

Also look out for...

#### Hallowfest time

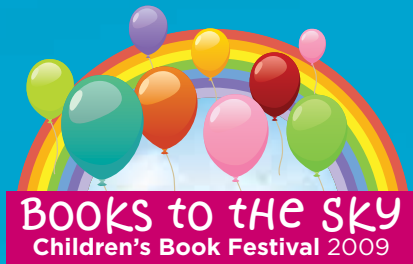
Hallowfest 2009 - A magical celebration will take place in South Dublin County this October.

#### 14th - 31st of October

This year's event includes Innovation Dublin, South Dublin Libraries Children's Book Festival, Halloween Workshops, Face Painting & Spooky Storytelling, Treasure Hunt & Spooky Walk to the Hell Fire Club and Family & Adult Fancy Dress Parties.

**For more information see [www.hallowfest.ie](http://www.hallowfest.ie)**





## Competitions

### Children's Books Ireland – Design a Book Cover Competition

Following its initial success last year, CBI and O'Brien Press have once again joined forces to organise another fantastic Cover Design competition.

A special edition of Sam McBratney's classic title *The Lough Neagh Monster* is due to be published in Spring 2010 and CBI and O'Brien Press want YOU to design a brand new cover!

So if you've ever fancied seeing your artwork on the front of a professionally published book, this is your chance!

Here's what you have to do:

Track down the original version of *The Lough Neagh Monster* in your local library or bookshop and read it carefully.

Download an entry form from [www.childrensbooksireland.com](http://www.childrensbooksireland.com) and

print it out. Fill out your details and use the space provided to lay out your design.

Send your completed entry form to the following address:

#### CBF Cover Competition

Caroline Higgins/Patricia Fitzgerald  
South Dublin Library Headquarters  
Unit 1 The Square Industrial Complex  
Tallaght, Dublin 24

Or hand it in to your local South Dublin Library.

South Dublin Libraries will choose a winning design to represent us in the national competition. The South Dublin Libraries winner will receive a prize of a €25 book token, kindly sponsored by IES Ltd, Leixlip.

For further information and some top design tips, check out [www.childrensbooksireland.com](http://www.childrensbooksireland.com)

**Closing Date:** Friday 13th November 2009

**Booking for all library workshops is essential  
and should be booked through your local branch**

County Library Tallaght	01 462 0073
Castletymon	01 452 4888
Lucan	01 621 6422
Ballyroan	01 494 1900
Clondalkin	01 459 3315
Whitechurch	01 493 0199

[www.southdublinlineibraries.ie](http://www.southdublinlineibraries.ie)

Acknowledgements: Thank you to all of the staff in South Dublin County Libraries for their hard work during the festival. Thank you to Leisureplex, Tallaght and MS Readathon for sponsoring the competition prizes. Thank you also Children's Books Ireland for all of their support.

