

Thursday 30th April 2020

Street Poetry Exhibition on all weekend
venues around town

Poetry Day

Strokestown Library

12pm – 4pm Schools' Poetry Exhibition

7pm – 9pm Workshop – The English Language Shortlisted Poems with James Harpur

James will facilitate a Poetry Appreciation Workshop on the shortlisted poems for the

Strokestown International Poetry Prize. Suitable for non writers **Booking 071 9633759**

€10 on the night, with complimentary copy of the Strokestown anthology which contains the shortlisted poems

Friday 1st May 2020

Strokestown Library

10am – 1pm & 2pm – 5pm

Schools' Poetry Exhibition

Percy French Hotel

2.00pm: Bealtaine Film Poem

2.30pm: Roscommon Poets' Competition

Judge: Jane Clarke

3.00pm: Mary Turley-McGrath – Book Launch (Arlen House) &

Jessamine O'Connor – Book Launch (Salmon)

5.00pm: Schools' Poetry Competition

Judge: Emily Cullen

Percy French Hotel €10.00 (evening entry fee)

7.00pm: Launch of Festival Anthology

7.45pm: Official Opening by Paschal Fitzmaurice, Cathaoirleach Roscommon Co. Co.
Followed by Reception Sponsored by Eurospar, Strokestown

8.30pm: Percy French Prize for Witty Verse with music by Charlie McGettigan
Judge: Margaret Hickey

Saturday 2nd May 2020

Strokestown Park House

9.30am: Readings: Mike Barlow, Áine Ní Ghlinn & Jonathan Edwards

11.00am: Readings: Simon Ó Faoláin & Maureen Boyle

11.45pm: Readings: Anne McDonald, Colm Ó Ceallacháin & Darren Donohue

1.00pm: Tour of Strokestown Park Gardens

Courtesy of Strokestown Park House & The Irish Heritage Trust

SCDA Office, Bawn Street

1.00pm: Film Poem: Bealtaine Commission & *The Stranger* by Jessamine O Connor

Strokestown Park House €10.00

2.00pm: Reading: Jane Clarke will read from her two new collections:

All the Way Home with Smith/Doorstop & *When the Tree Falls* with Bloodaxe Books

3.15pm: Readings: Mícheál Ó Ruairc, Michael Dooley, Máire Ní Bhriain

4.00pm: Duais de hÍde: The Douglas Hyde Irish Language Poetry Prize

Judge: Simon Ó Faoláin

Percy French Hotel €10.00 Entry

8.00pm: Reading: Mary O'Donnell & Frank Ormsby, Ireland Professor of Poetry
With Music by Bernard Flaherty & Donal O'Connor

Sunday 3rd May 2020

Strokestown Park House

10.00am: Readings: Seosamh Ó Murchú, Jane Wilkinson

10.45am: Talk by James Harpur: H2 Ode: Water, Spirituality and the Poetic Imagination.

11.30am: Readings: John Gallas, Áine Uí Fhoghlú

12.00pm: Launch of *Cyphers* magazine and readings by several contributors

Cyphers was founded in 1975 to publish Irish and international poetry. It
is edited by Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin

Strokestown Park House

2.00pm: Readings: Enda Wyley & John F Deane

3.00pm: Readings: Emily Cullen & Simon Lewis (Doire Press)

4.00pm: Readings: Paddy Bushe & Peter Sirr

Strokestown Park House €10.00 (evening entry fee)

7.30pm; Film: A Bealtaine Film Poem

8.00pm: Strokestown International Poetry Competition Awards

Judges: Enda Wyley & John F Deane

Followed by reception in the Gallery Kitchen

10.30pm: Pub Poetry Competition: The Sportsman's Inn

Music by Bernard Flaherty

Monday 4th May 2020

Percy French Hotel

10.15am: Readings: Jean O'Brien, Julie-ann Rowell & Rory Duffy

11.00am: Dialogue: Eiléan Ní Chuilleanáin and Peter Sirt will have a dialogue on poetry translation.

12.00pm: Strokestown Festival Recitation Competition: Come along and recite your favourite poem. Poems must be recited from memory, although we will have a prompter present. Registration from 11.00am

All events are free except those marked with a price.

Contact

<https://www.strokestownpoetry.org/>

Office (10am – 1pm) 00 353 71 9633759

e mail: office@strokestownpoetry.org

The Festival is supported by the following organisations and individuals to whom we offer our sincere gratitude.





An Roinn
Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Bealtaine Festival

An Age & Opportunity **arts** initiative



Clár Éire Ildánach
Creative Ireland
Programme
2017-2022



Riailtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



The LEADER Programme 2014-2020 is financed by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 and by the EU under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas.





Hanly's Eurospar Strokestown

Jim Callery, James Hoban, Grace Rickard, Lawrence & Janet Kessenich, Mike Byrne, Anni Wilton-Jones

Chasetown Civil Engineering Ltd./Noel Sweeney, David Dolan and Gemma Flanagan

The festival is run by an entirely voluntary committee. All funds are raised through grants, sponsorship, donations and a small fee into some events. Your support, in whatever form, for the festival is greatly appreciated.

Our thanks to Strokestown Park House, the Callery family, the Irish Heritage Trust, the Percy French Hotel, Strokestown Library, & the SCDA Office for the use of their facilities during the festival 2020.

We also wish to acknowledge our many sponsors and business in the locality, without whose support the festival would not be possible.

Finally, we would like to welcome our loyal supporters, new participants, judges, poets, friends and colleagues to this, the 22nd Poetry Festival in Strokestown.

Committee: Pdraig Holmes, Pat Compton, Shane Lynskey, Mary Dolan, Melissa Newman, Noelle Lynskey, Margaret Hickey, Anne O'Leary, Gemma Flanagan, Maria Donohue

STROKESTOWN INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL 2020

22nd Festival

Thursday 30th April – Monday 4th May 2020

Strokestown, Co. Roscommon, Ireland

<https://www.strokestownpoetry.org/>