

@February



Kilkenny County Council Library Service Newsletter - February Issue

Welcome to the February issue of our Kilkenny Library Service newsletter, bringing you all the latest news on library services, new book arrivals and upcoming events from across our network of library branches.

*We're getting all set for Ireland Reads Day on **February 22nd** - you can find details on what's going on below as well as a brand new episode of our Booked Off podcast which is full of great reading recommendations if you need some inspiration on what to get stuck into!*

If you are interested in a particular section of the newsletter, you can easily skip ahead to it by scrolling through or selecting it from the quick access menu (the grey square icon located to the bottom right of your screen).

[Issue 30, February 2025]

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Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events



We have a number of groups and events running across our library network throughout the month of February - below are just a few highlights! For full details on any of these events, please click [here](#) or contact your local library branch. Keep an eye on the newsletter from your local library branch for information on even more great groups and events.

February

Upcoming Events

19
Feb

▼ Castlecomer Library 12:15pm - 1:00pm
Cois Nore Information Stand

All are welcome to find out about the free and confidential services available to individuals and families affected by cancer.

19
Feb

▼ Mayfair Library 2:00pm - 3:30pm
Introduction to AI Creative Session

Using 'Generative AI' to respond creatively to conversation about AI in our society. Booking is required.

21
Feb

▼ Loughboy Library 10:00am - 10:30am
Toddler Storytime and Magic Table

All are welcome.

25
Feb

▼ Graig Library 11:00am - 12:00pm
Bridge Club

All skill levels are welcome. No booking is required.

26
Jan

▼ Thomastown Library 10:30am - 12:30pm
Knitting and Crochet Group

New members are always welcome.
No booking is required.

Please note that some of these events may require booking. Contact your local library to avoid disappointment.

Ireland Reads 2025



Ireland Reads Day is an annual celebration of books and the joy of reading. Throughout February and especially on Ireland Reads Day, **February 22nd**, we're calling on people across Ireland to #GetLost in a good book. It doesn't matter what you read, where you read or how well you read, as long as you read. Because we know that reading is good for you. It relaxes your body, lowers your heart rate and eases the tension in your muscles. Studies have even shown that reading boosts your mental health by reducing stress by up to 68%.



To celebrate, Kilkenny Libraries are running a number of free events throughout the week and on the day. Click on the stack below for just a flavour of what we have planned. Full details on all events can be found [here](#).

Shhh... **SILENT** **Book Club**

No assigned books, no pressure—just bring your favourite read and enjoy quiet, dedicated reading time with fellow book lovers.

Where: Mayfair Library

When: 22nd February

Morning Session 10.30am to 11.30am
Adults only

Family Friendly Afternoon Session 2.30 – 3.30pm

Adults and children over 9 years of age who can read in silence for 45 minutes.

Children must be accompanied by an adult at all times during the silent book club.



Age 9 - 11
years old

Ireland Reads

Children's Poetry Workshop

With Author Lizzy Shortall
Thursday 20th @ 11am
Thomastown Library

To Book a spot contact
056 7794331/thomastown@kilkennylibrary.ie

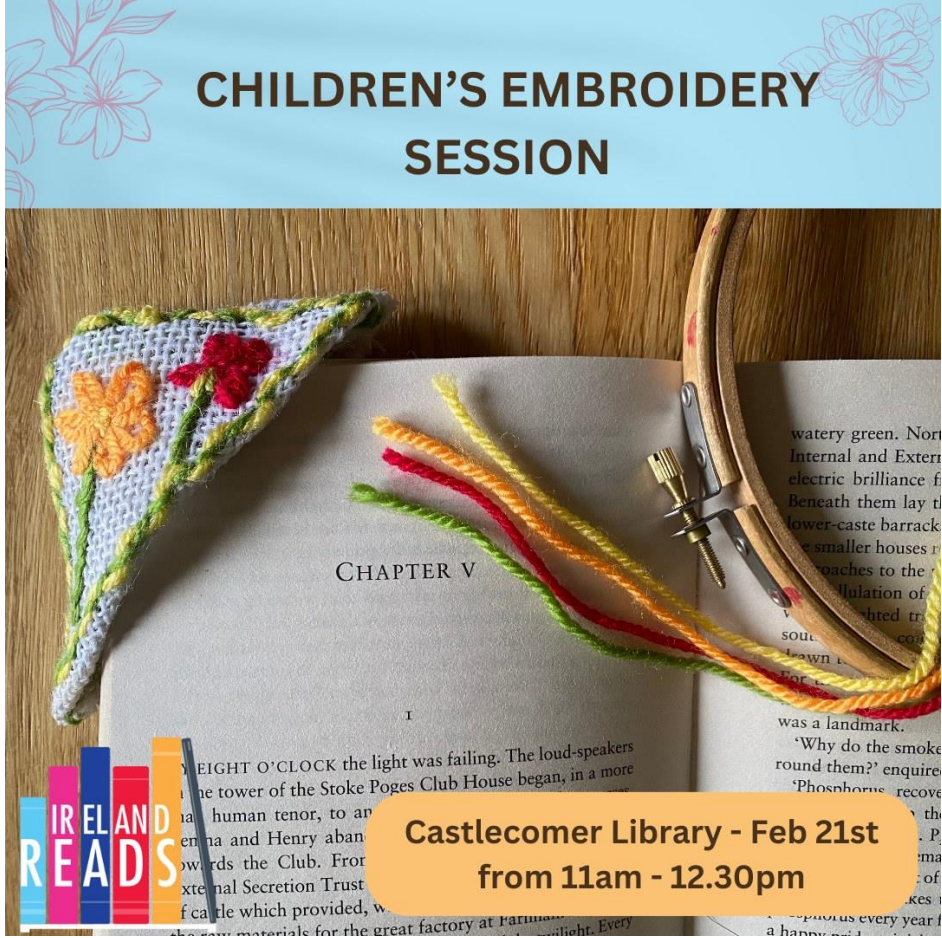


 Castlecomer Library

Feb 22nd from 10am - 1pm

Comic book
creation
station





Our mobile library will also be popping up on the Parade alongside the Kilkenny farmer's market from 9am - 2pm on Thursday, February 20th so pop along to grab a good book for Ireland Reads and be in with a chance to win one of the fantastic prizes we'll have on the day!



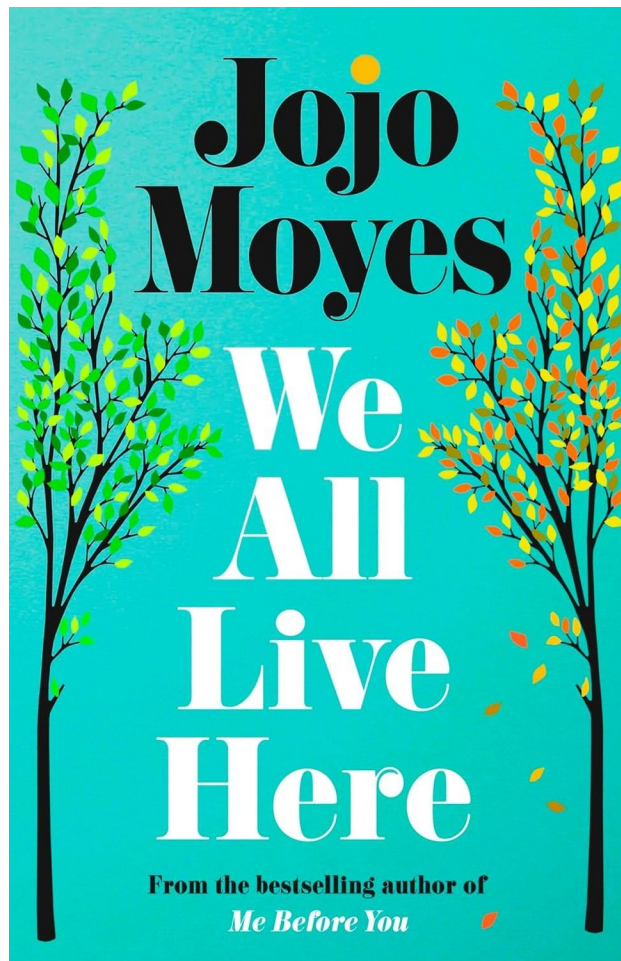
New Book Recommendations

New Book Recommendations



A new month means new books! Here are two of the new arrivals we are most excited about - call into your local branch to see if they have a copy available or request a copy from our [online catalogue](#) now.

We All Live Here by Jojo Moyes



Sure to be popular with our borrowers - request your copy now to get ahead of the pack!

Welcome to the Kennedy household:

Lila wrote a bestseller about keeping your marriage alive, before discovering her ex was playing happy families with another woman. A woman she sees everyday at school pick-up.

Bill, her stepdad, moved in after Lila's mum died. He's kind, old-fashioned and driving her absolutely nuts.

Celie, Lila's eldest, hates school. Hates it so much she's stopped going. Her mother's fine with that – because she doesn't know yet.

Violet is nine and sings age-inappropriate rap songs, laughs at fart jokes and Lila dearly hopes she'll never, ever change.

And **Truant** the dog, who has just bitten the American actor who's suddenly landed on the Kennedys' doorstep.

This is Gene – Lila's estranged father, and no one's idea of a role model. He walked out on Lila and her mum years ago – and wherever he goes domestic discord follows.

Because Gene's presence changes things in unexpected ways. Soon the girls discover a kindred spirit in a man always chasing life's joy. Bill even loosens up. And Lila finds herself, astonishingly, dating.

Something is happening to the Kennedy household – but what is it? And will it break, or save, their family?

The Ghosts of Rome by Joseph O'Connor



The latest installment in the Rome Escape Line series.

February 1944. Six months since Nazi forces occupied Rome.

Inside the beleaguered city, the Contessa Giovanna Landini is a member of the band of Escape Line activists known as 'The Choir'. Their mission is to smuggle refugees to safety and help Allied soldiers, all under the nose of Gestapo boss Paul Hauptmann.

During a ferocious morning air raid a mysterious parachutist lands in Rome and disappears into the backstreets. Is he an ally or an imposter? His fate will come to put the whole Escape Line at risk.

Meanwhile, Hauptmann's attention has landed on the Contessa. As his fascination grows, she is pulled into a dangerous game with him – one where the consequences could be lethal.

Library Tip of the Month

Library Tip of the Month



Looking to make your home more energy efficient and cut down your energy costs this year? Kilkenny Library Service has a number of home energy savings kits which are available to borrow. The kits contain six practical tools to help save energy in the home across 3 key energy areas - space heating, hot water and electricity consumption and can help to identify common problems such as lack of insulation, appliances in the home that are contributing to high utility bills and poor ventilation. They also contain a step by step guide on how to successfully use these tools.



For more information on how to borrow one of these kits, chat to staff in your local library branch or email info@kilkennylibrary.ie

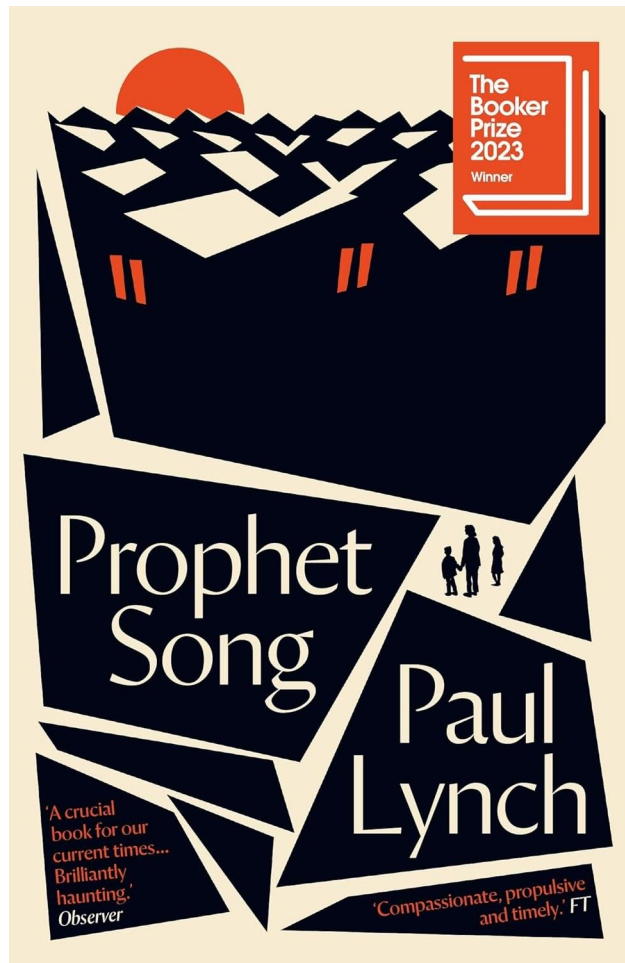
Booked Off Podcast



Our Booked Off podcast is back for 2025 and this month Johanna is joined by our Right to Read coordinator, Sophie Walsh. Make yourself a cuppa and hit play at this [link](#) to hear all about our plans for Ireland Reads, the many benefits of reading and lots of recommendations for great books to get lost in.



Books discussed include Prophet Song, I Haven't Been Entirely Honest With You, Intermezzo, More Days at the Morisaki Bookshop, The Troubles With Us and more!





**Miranda
Hart**

**I Haven't Been
Entirely Honest
with You**

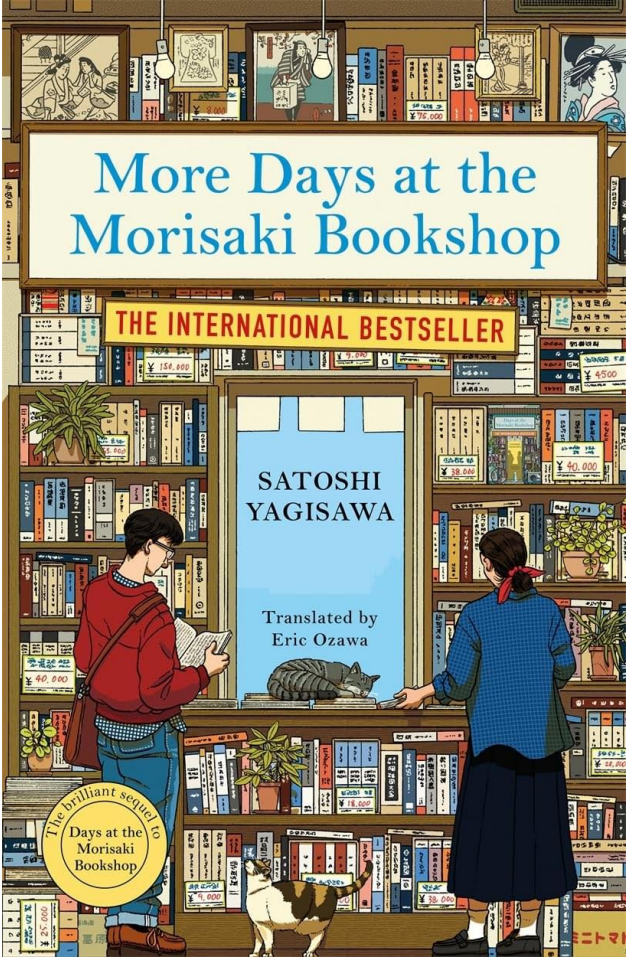
AUTHOR OF **NORMAL PEOPLE**

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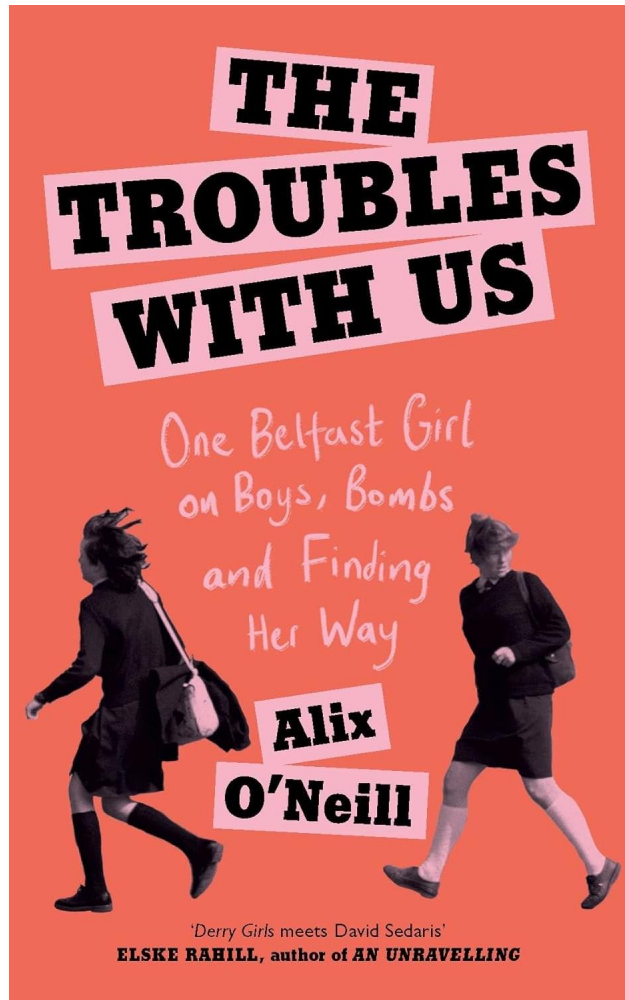
SALLY ROONEY



INTERMEZZO



The brilliant sequel to
Days at the
Morisaki
Bookshop

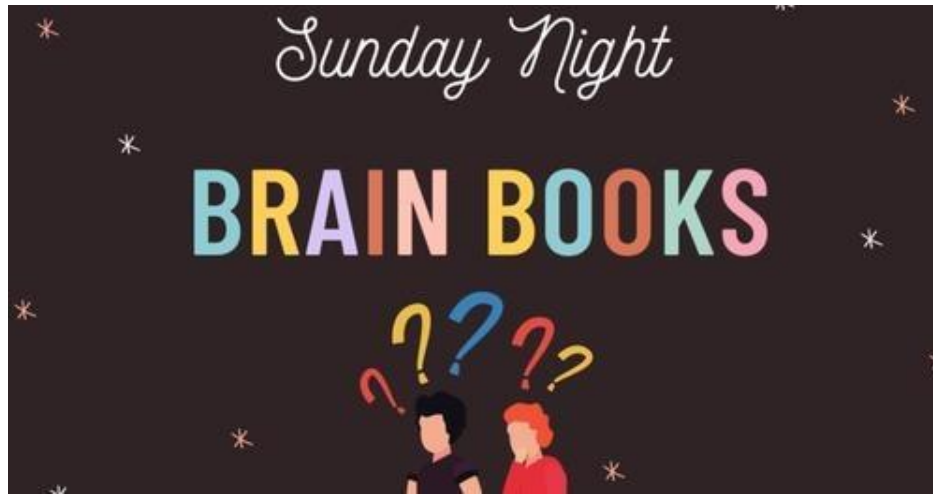


Brain Books Quiz

Brain Books Quiz



Our weekly Brain Books quiz drops on Facebook every Sunday and continues to be super popular with our followers. This week we're taking a trip across the pond and testing your knowledge of books set in London. Give it a go [here](#).



Recent Highlights



1 - Some young historians on a visit to our Local Studies Department



2 - Lots of fun making St. Brigid's crosses in Thomastown Library



3 - Alan in Loughboy Library presenting our Winter Reading Challenge winner with her prize



4 - A folklore night in Graig Library with our very own folklore enthusiast, Eoin



5 - Participants in a St. Brigid's cross making workshop in Graig Library



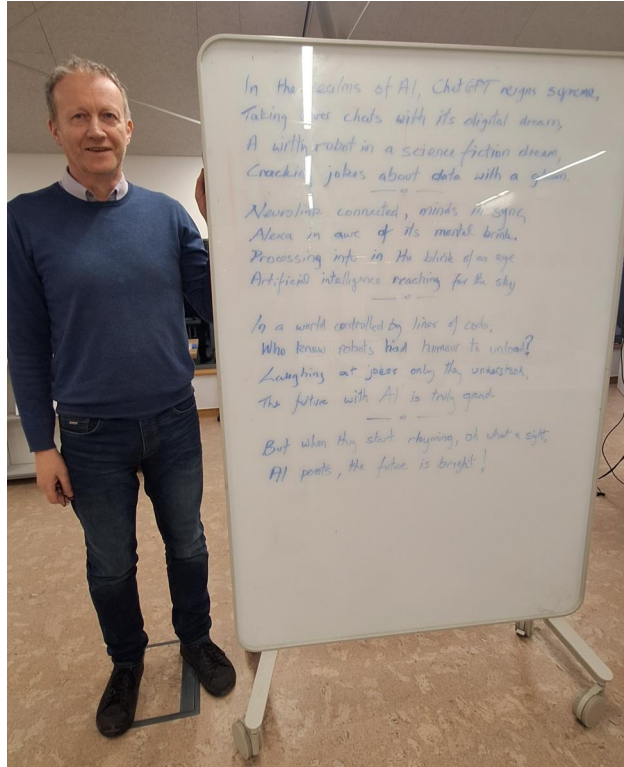
6 - Our Winter Reading Challenge winner in Castlecomer Library



7 - St. Brigid's Day crafts in Castlecomer Library

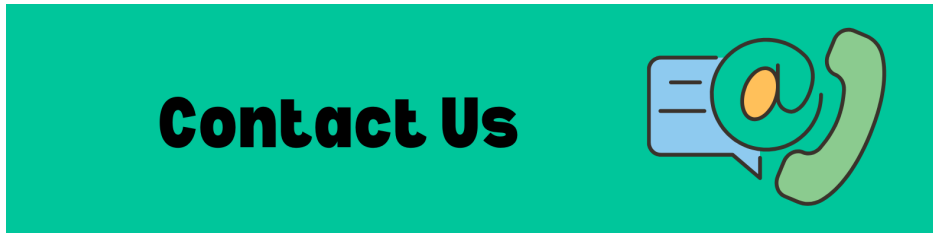


8 - St. Brigid's cross making in Castlecomer Library



9 - A fascinating Intro to AI creative session in the Mayfair Library

Contact Us



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