

## EDUCATION

1974

B.A. Honours - English - Queen Mary College, University of London

1976

M.A. Sociology of Literature, University of Essex.

## ORIGINAL PUBLICATIONS

1982

*A Joke Goes A Long Way In The Country* (novel) Hamish Hamilton, London, Atheneum, New York and Sphere Books, London.

1985

*The Out-Haul* (novel) Hamish Hamilton, London and by Sphere Books, London.

1989

*The Living Legend Of Saint Patrick* a travel book about places associated with St Patrick Grafton Books, London, Grafton Paperback and St. Martin's Press, New York.

1991

*Inside Cork* a book-length visitors' guide to the county ,The Collins Press, Cork.

2008

*Eating Scenery: West Cork, the People and the Place*, The Collins Press.

2010

*The Ship of Seven Murders* The Collins Press, co-author Kathy Bunney.

1996 – 2013

Short stories published in *Books Ireland*, *The Literary Review*, *The London Magazine*, *Stand*, *The Cork Review* etc. Quiet Quarter pieces broadcast on RTE and anthologised.

## GUIDE BOOK WORK

1978–1984

Staff writer on *Time Out*, London's listings magazine, including *Time Out's Book of London* and subsequent guides to London.

1985 to date

Author and updater for *Fodor's Ireland* guide. Currently updating Southwest and West of Ireland annually. Author of all hotel and restaurant reviews in these areas on [www.fodors.com](http://www.fodors.com)

2006 to date

Contributing Editor to *Insight's Ireland*, published in six languages.

2008

*Ireland Step by Step*, Insight publications, co-author Tara Stubbs, updater 2012 edition.

2009

*Cork and Southwest Ireland Step by Step*, Insight Publications.

2012

*Berlitz Handbook to Ireland, Berlitz Pocket Guide to Ireland*

2013

*Insight's Ireland, Berlitz Handbook to Dublin* (updater of new editions)

#### BOOK REVIEWING

1982 to date

Reviewer of fiction, biography and letters for various publications including the *Irish Times*, the *Financial Times*, the *Irish Examiner*.

#### TRAVEL WRITING

Published by the *Evening Standard*, *Financial Times*, *Irish Times Ireland of the Welcomes*, *Cara Magazine* (Aer Lingus), etc. Currently writing occasional travel features for the *Irish Examiner*.

#### FREELANCE EDITING

Editorial consultant and writer for The Collins Press and The Tree Council of Ireland. Details and testimonials on request.

#### CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS

1986-7

Tutor at UCC English Department,

1995 to date

On Poetry Ireland's Writers in Schools panel, primarily working with transition year students for eight 1.5 hour sessions, usually unsupervised. Most recently eight 1.5 hour workshops with fifth and sixth years at Colaiste Choilm, Ballincollig.

2005, 2006

Workshop leader on *The Unfinished Book*, a transition year creative writing project, for Cork City Libraries.

2013

18-21 September Leading four-session writing workshop at UCC on *The Uncanny: Ghosts and Horror Stories* for the Cork International Short Story Festival.

#### FESTIVALS, JUDGING ETC

Kinsale Arts Festival, voluntary organiser of writing programme (Paul Durcan, Edna O'Brien, Derek Mahon etc.) 2005-9; on-stage interview with John Banville 2011; Waterford Writer's Week 1996, 2004, panellist and reader; West Cork Literary Festival, regular introducer of visiting writers, on stage interview with Anita Desai 2012; on-stage interviews for the Frank O'Connor/Cork Short Story Festival 2004 and 2011; judge of Frank O'Connor Award (£25,000) for best short story collection 2011; judge for Cork County Council's *From the Well* short story competition, 2012, and panellist for grants schemes Cork County Council, 2013. Currently curating foreign writing strand for Cork

City Library's LitFest, April 2014.

Member National Union of Journalists, Cork Branch

Member *Association Internationale des Critiques D'Art* (AICA), Ireland

LANGUAGES

Fluent Spanish

Good French

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