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Leabharlann na Sceirí

Clár Imeachtaí Eanáir-Aibreán 2026

Skerries Library

Events Programme January-April 2026



Introduction

Fingal Libraries is delighted to welcome you to the reopening of Skerries Library, which has been significantly redeveloped, extended, and restored to incorporate the original limestone Carnegie Library building of 1910.

With its new, light-filled three-story extension facing Floraville Park, the library is equipped to serve the Skerries community's range of needs through its lecture and meeting rooms, programme of events, Creative Zone, Public PCs and printing facilities, a 3D printer, ample study space and a diverse range of stock for adults, children and students.

This brochure contains the highlights of our programme of events taking place in the library this Spring, with something for everyone to enjoy.

"The re-opening of Skerries Library following a significant transformation project marks a new chapter in the history of this much-loved Carnegie Library. The Council's architects have preserved the character and atmosphere of the building, while opening up new possibilities, improving accessibility and providing flexible spaces for the community. Library staff will bring these spaces to life and ensure that the Library continues to be a place of welcome, imagination and inspiration for a new generation of readers and library members."

Betty Boardman

County Librarian, Fingal County Council

"We're delighted to open our doors to the community and invite you to explore a space designed for learning, creativity, and community connection. Our new library is more than shelves of books, it offers a wide range of resources, comfortable reading areas, and programme of events for all ages. So whether you're here to discover a new favourite read, join a workshop, or simply relax in a cozy corner, we look forward to welcoming you and making the library a vibrant hub for everyone."

Nora Finnegan

Skerries Senior Librarian

"As Mayor I am very proud to announce the reopening of Skerries Library following a comprehensive refurbishment project. The library now extends to 852 square meters with multifunctional library spaces on three levels. This significant investment has preserved the historic character of the Carnegie building while introducing modern, accessible, and flexible spaces designed to meet the needs of the community. The enhanced library will provide a wide range of resources, dedicated areas for learning and creativity, and a welcoming environment for all ages. We look forward to Skerries Library continuing its proud tradition as a centre of knowledge, culture, and community engagement for generations to come. I am delighted to see its transformation into a vibrant and inclusive space, where every member of our community can explore, learn, and connect. We look forward to the continued cultural and social benefits that this beautifully revitalised library will bring to Fingal."

Cllr. Tom O'Leary

Mayor of Fingal

EVENT	DATE	START TIME
Library Launch Day	Thursday, 29th January	11:15am-1:15pm
Drop-in Children's Badge-making Pop-up Workshop	Thursday, 29th January	2:00pm-4:00pm
CHILDREN'S EVENTS		
Musical Tots	Saturday, 7th February Saturday, 21st February Saturday, 7th March Saturday, 14th March Saturday, 11th April Saturday, 25th April	10:30am-11:15am
Baby Book Club	Monday, 9th February Monday, 23rd February Monday, 9th March Monday, 23rd March Monday, 13th April Monday, 27th April	10:30am-11:30am
Design Your Own Superhero	Wednesday, 11th February	4:00pm-5:00pm
Sensory Hour	Wednesday, 11th February Wednesday, 25th February Wednesday, 11th March Wednesday, 18th March Wednesday, 15th April	4:00pm-5:00pm
Sensory Toddler Morning	Thursday, 19th February Thursday, 19th March Thursday, 16th April	10:30am-11:30am
Wanda Broom and Magical Mayhem	Saturday, 28th February	2:00pm-3:00pm
Mythology Writing Workshop	Wednesday, 4th March Wednesday, 11th March Wednesday, 18th March Wednesday, 25th March	3:30pm-4:30pm
Magic Show (Irish and English)	Saturday, 7th March	2:00pm-3:00pm
A Little Birdie Told Me... Storytelling and Crafts	Saturday, 21st March	11:00am-12:00pm
Spring into Storytime	Monday, 13th April Monday, 27th April	10:30am-11:30am
ADULT EVENTS		
Art Classes	Tuesday, 3rd February Tuesday, 10th February Tuesday, 17th February Tuesday, 24th February Tuesday, 3rd March Tuesday, 10th March Tuesday, 24th March Tuesday, 31st March Tuesday, 7th April Tuesday, 14th April Tuesday, 21st April Tuesday, 28th April Tuesday, 5th May Tuesday, 12th May	11:00am-1:00pm

ADULT EVENTS - CONTINUED		
Chair Yoga	Wednesday, 18th February Wednesday, 25th February Wednesday, 4th March Wednesday, 18th March Wednesday, 25th March	2:30pm-3:30pm
Skerries Historical Society on the History of Skerries Library	Tuesday, 24th February	6:00pm-7:15pm
Irish Merchant Ships and Shipowners	Tuesday, 24th March	6:00pm-7:00pm
Sage Advocacy Talk	Thursday, 2nd April	11:00am-12:00pm
Be Media Smart Talk	Tuesday, 7th April	6:30pm-7:30pm
Herbs for Health	Thursday, 9th April	6:00pm-7:30pm
Demystifying the Personal Essay	Saturday, 11th April	2:00pm-5:00pm
Sustainable Fashion Interactive Masterclass	Saturday, 18th April	2:00pm-4:00pm
Éilís Ní Dhuibhe in Conversation with Caitriona Lally	Wednesday, 13th May	7:00pm-8:00pm
CLASS VISITS		
Marine Biology Workshops	February, March, April	
Children's Abstract Art Workshops		
Astronomy Workshops		
Author Visits with Shane Hegarty		
Author Visits with Niamh Sharkey		
PROSPER SKERRIES		
Niamh Sharkey Doodles	February, March, April	
John Carpenter Art Classes		
Sound Bath Meditation with Marcin Stanek		
Sensory Hour with Fingal Additional Needs		

Library Launch Day

Skerries Library opens its doors at 11:00am for an exciting launch that will include the Fanzini street performers, Bohemian Strings string quartet, crafts in the Creative Zone and author visits from children's authors Alan Nolan, Shane Hegarty and Niamh Sharkey for local schoolchildren to enjoy.

Drop in between 2:00pm-4:00 for a pop-up badge-making workshop in the Creative Zone!

Thursday, 29th January

11:00am-4:00pm

Children's Events

Musical Tots with Karen Donnellan

Come join the fun with Karen Donnellan from Musical Tots every fortnight in Spring! Musical Tots uses nursery rhymes and story songs to develop language, learning, coordination, and social skills while having great fun. Sessions aim to enhance motor skills and stimulate the senses through movement and music while making time for relaxation with familiar nursery rhymes.

*Suitable for ages 3 months-5 years.
Contact Skerries Library to book your place.*

Saturday, 7th February Saturday, 21st February Saturday, 7th March	10:30am-11:15am
Saturday, 14th March	10:00am-10:45am
Saturday, 11th April Saturday, 25th April	10:30am-11:15am

Baby Book Club

Join us for Baby Book Club every second and fourth Monday of the month, where stories spark smiles and little minds grow!

Suitable for babies and toddlers. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Monday, 9th February
Monday, 23rd February
Monday, 9th March
Monday, 23rd March
Monday, 13th April
Monday, 27th April

10:30am-11:30am

Design your Own Superhero with Alan Nolan

Ever wanted to design your own Superhero? Join author, illustrator and comic creator Alan Nolan as he talks about favourite comics and Superheroes from his childhood (as well as modern day comic superstars like *Dog Man*, *Bunny Vs Monkey* and *The InvestiGators* and shows you how to draw one of his own creations. Test your Superhero knowledge with a quiz, and then design your very own Superhero using Alan's patented super-duper Superhero Design Template™!

Alan Nolan is the author and illustrator of popular children's books like *Fintan's Fifteen*, *Conor's Caveman* and the *Sam Hannigan* series, and he is the illustrator of the popular *Gordon's Game* books written by Gordon D'Arcy and Paul Howard, as well as *Animal Crackers* by Sarah Webb. He is the recipient of the Children's Books Ireland 2024 Award for Outstanding Contribution to Children's Books.

Suitable for ages 8-12. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Wednesday, 11th February

4:00pm-5:00pm

Sensory Hour with Fingal Additional Needs

A fun, child-led play session filled with lights, textures, movement and creative activities. From fibre optics and lava tiles to kinetic sand and calm corners, children can explore and relax.

Suitable for ages 4-10. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Wednesday, 11th February
Wednesday, 25th February
Wednesday, 11th March
Wednesday, 18th March
Wednesday, 15th April

4:00pm-5:00pm

Sensory Toddler Mornings with Sensory Explorers

Join us for a Sensory Toddler Morning with Sensory Explorers, where each session incorporates equipment to explore gross motor skills, educational and sensory toys, STEM and construction toys and themed sensory trays. Children will play with stepping stones, lava tiles, sensory mats, rain makers and magna tiles.

Suitable for ages 9 months-5 years. Families and siblings welcome. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Thursday, 18th February
Thursday, 19th March
Thursday, 16th April

10:30-11:30am

Ireland Reads Day

Throughout February and especially on Ireland Reads Day (Saturday, 28th February), people of all ages across Ireland will be encouraged to get lost in a good book. It doesn't matter what you read, where you read or how well you read, as long as you read!



Wanda Broom and Magical Mayhem

with Ciara Geraghty, Ireland Reads Day Ambassador

Wanda Broom has a big problem... her mum's a witch - and Wanda really wishes she wasn't! Join the brilliant Ciara Geraghty for a whirlwind adventure into the world of Wanda, where spells go sideways, potions bubble over, and magical mayhem is just around the corner. Discover the enchanting (and hilarious!) inspirations behind Ciara's new book. Ciara is the bestselling author of 10 books and the co-host of the podcast BookBirds.



Suitable for ages 8+. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.

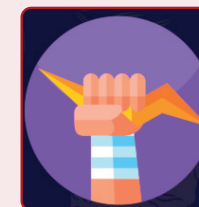
Saturday, 28th February

2:00pm-3:00pm

Mythology Writing Workshop

Over four weeks children and young adults will go on a creative writing journey through the fantastic world of mythology. Each week we will explore different types of mythology, such as Greek, Roman, Celtic, and Norse. You will craft your own pieces of creative writing, and Rebecca will provide feedback for your work.

Suitable for ages 9-13. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Wednesday, 4th March
Wednesday, 11th March
Wednesday, 18th March
Wednesday, 25th March

3:30pm-4:30pm



Irish Language Magic Show

with Quentin Reynolds

Seó draíochta agus puipéad lán spraiúla le go leor rannpháirtíochta ón lucht féachana, curtha i nGaeilge agus i mBéarla. Tar linn agus b'fhéidir go bhfoghlaimeoidh tú cúpla focal nua i nGaeilge fiú. Oiriúnach do theaghlaigh.

A fun-filled magic and puppet show with lots of audience participation, presented in Irish and English. Come along and you might even learn a few new words in Irish.

Suitable for families. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Saturday, 7th March

2:00pm-3:00pm

A Little Birdie Told Me... Storytelling and Crafts

with Tarsila Krüse

Join author and illustrator Tarsila Krüse for a fun and engaging storytelling and craft session inspired by her book, *A Little Birdie Told Me...* There's going to be a party, and all the birds are invited - from the little Robin to the graceful Swan. There will be decorations, music, and cake, and someone very special is coming too. But who could it be? After reading, children will unleash their creativity by creating their own unique Birdie masks.



Suitable for ages 5-8. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.

Saturday, 21st March

11:00am-12:00pm

Spring into Storytime

Spring into Storytime is part of the national Right to Read programme, which aims to promote literacy and reading for fun. We hope you can join us for Storytime in Skerries Library during the month of April.

Suitable for all ages. Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



**Monday, 13th April
Monday, 27th April**

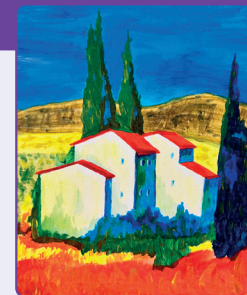
10:30am-11:30am

Adult Events

Art Classes with John Carpenter

Would you like to learn how to paint and draw? There's no magic to it - the magic is in you, waiting to be released. John Carpenter has been teaching art classes to adults and children across Ireland for 25 years. His teachings will equip you with the skills and craft to provide you and your loved ones with years of contentment and enjoyment.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



**Tuesday, 3rd February
Tuesday, 10th February**

**Tuesday, 17th February
Tuesday, 24th February**

**Tuesday, 3rd March
Tuesday, 10th March**

**Tuesday, 24th March
Tuesday, 31st March**

**Tuesday, 7th April
Tuesday, 14th April**

**Tuesday, 21st April
Tuesday, 28th April**

**Tuesday, 5th May
Tuesday, 12th May**

11:00am-1:00pm

Chair Yoga with Enda Greene

Unlock your inner energy from a chair in this uplifting yoga experience. Through gentle movement, breathwork, yogic meditation and focused awareness, you'll awaken vitality and clarity. We will finish the class with a relaxation using soothing sound healing instruments, allowing you to deeply relax and find inner harmony.

All levels welcome. Just bring along some water and a blanket (optional) for your relaxation.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



**Wednesday, 11th February
Wednesday, 18th February**

**Wednesday, 25th February
Wednesday, 4th March**

**Wednesday, 18th March
Wednesday, 25th March**

2:30pm-3:30pm



Skerries Historical Society on the History of Skerries Library



Please join Brendan Grimes and Oona Roycroft from the Skerries Historical Society for their very special talk about the history of Skerries Library. Their talk will focus on the members of the Skerries Library subcommittee who came together in 1906 to coordinate the building of a Carnegie library in Skerries, and on the architect and builders who completed the work in 1911.

Brendan Grimes is an architectural historian who has published widely on architectural themes including *Irish Carnegie Libraries: A Catalogue and Architectural History*.

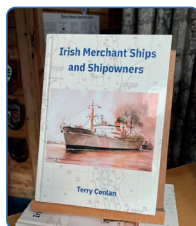
Oona Roycroft is the chair of Skerries Historical Society. She has researched several papers for the society on a variety of topics including Skerries library. *Contact Skerries Library to book your place.*

Tuesday, 24th February

6:00pm-7:15pm

Irish Merchant Ships and Shipowners talk with Terry Conlan

Join Terry Conlan, author of *Irish Merchant Ships and Shipowners* for a fascinating talk on the history of ships and shipowners in Ireland from the end of the age of sail to steam navigation and motor ships. Terry explores a wealth of topics including how Irish Independence and World War II affected the Irish shipping industry, and the growth and decline of our Irish-flagged merchant fleet. *Contact Skerries Library to book your place.*



Tuesday, 24th March

6:00pm-7:00pm

Sage Advocacy: National Advocacy Service for Older People



Find out about Sage Advocacy, the National Advocacy Service for Older People. Sage Advocacy works to ensure that people have easy access to information, support, independent advocacy and safeguarding services in all settings: homes, day centres, respite facilities, congregated care settings, nursing homes, hospitals, hostels, hospices and in the process of transition between them. It also provides supports to vulnerable adults and healthcare patients in situations where no other service is available to them. It has expanded its services with the support of the Department of Education to meet the support and advocacy needs of survivors of institutional abuse. The work of Sage on behalf of clients is independent of family, service provider or systems interests. The service is free of charge and confidential. *Contact Skerries Library to book your place.*

Wednesday, 2nd April

11:00am-12:00pm



Be Media Smart

with Aoife Barry

Media, especially digital media, is central to our lives, and the technology behind it is changing all the time. During this talk, freelance journalist and broadcaster Aoife Barry will explore topics such as AI, verifying information and protecting our data, as well as avoiding digital pitfalls like scams and misinformation.

Aoife is the author of *Social Capital*, about the impact of social media on our lives in Ireland, which was nominated for an Irish Book Award in 2023. Given her extensive experience in the sector, she is keen to give an insider's view into how the media works and affects our daily lives.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Tuesday, 7th April

6:30pm-7:30pm

Herbs for Health with The Herb School

Herbs and wild plants have been used for food and healing, by all cultures, for thousands of years. They improve the nutritional value, flavour and appearance of our food and many of them also have medicinal properties. Herbs for Health guides you through the wellness benefits of using herbs and native Irish wild plants for food and medicine. The course consists of four workshops, each covering a different topic.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.

Growing Herbs
Thursday, 9th April

Cooking with Herbs
Thursday, 16th April

Wild Herb Foraging
Thursday, 23rd April

Medicinal Herbs
Thursday, 30th April

6:00pm-7:30pm



Demystifying the Personal Essay

with Ellen Brickley

Personal essays are everywhere, from the New York Times to Sunday Miscellany, and the good news is that anybody can write one! In this three-hour session, we will go from generating ideas, to outlining an essay, to covering the conventions and clichés of essay writing, and finally discussing publication opportunities in Ireland and abroad.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Saturday, 11th April

2:00pm-5:00pm

Sustainable Fashion Interactive Masterclass

with Aga Hutcheson

This event with The Wizard of Creation Aga Hutcheson will provide an overview of sustainable fashion, exploring the environmental and social impacts of the fashion industry. Participants will learn about eco-friendly materials, how to turn their old clothes into bespoke creations, and the principles of reducing waste through upcycling. This interactive and fun session will include practical tips on how to create a more sustainable wardrobe and introduce participants to the core concepts of slow fashion.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.



Saturday, 18th April

2:00pm-4:00pm

Éilís Ní Dhuibhe, Laureate for Irish Fiction

in conversation with Caitriona Lally

This event is part of *The Island of Imagination – A Literary Tour of Ireland*. Laureate for Irish Fiction 2025-2028 Éilís Ní Dhuibhe delves into contemporary Irish fiction on a journey of exploration to highlight literature emanating from every county in Ireland. Éilís will be in conversation with Irish writer Caitriona Lally.

The Laureate for Irish Fiction is an initiative of the Arts Council. Éilís Ní Dhuibhe was born in Dublin. Author of more than thirty books, her work includes the novels *The Dancers Dancing*, *The Shelter of Neighbours*, *Fox*, *Swallow*, *Scarecrow*, *Hurlamaboc*, *Dordán*, *Cailíní Beaga Ghleann na Blath*, amongst others. She has published seven collections of short stories.

Contact Skerries Library to book your place.

The Laureate for Irish Fiction
An Laureate i gcomhair
Ficsean Éireannach



Wednesday, 13th May

7:00pm-8:00pm

Class Visits and Prosper Skerries Programme

Author Visits with Shane Hegarty

We are delighted to welcome bestselling children's author and Skerries local Shane Hegarty to the new Skerries Library for a programme of class visits!

Shane is the author of numerous popular children's series such as *Darkmouth*, *Boot*, and *The Shop of Impossible Ice Creams*, and he also writes picture books for younger children.

Shane will discuss the ins and outs of being an author in these delightful interactive workshops with local schoolchildren.



Author Visits with Niamh Sharkey

We are delighted to welcome award-winning children's author and Skerries local Niamh Sharkey to the new Skerries Library for a programme of class visits!

Schoolchildren will take part in reading and draw-along sessions, and learn all about how Niamh writes and creates her picture books. They will find out more about her new picture book *Penguin TV*, which was inspired by Dublin Zoo's penguin cam, where every penguin is ready to show off their best skills and share all of their fun facts. It's showtime!



Astronomy Workshops

with Nutty Scientists.

Children will join the Nutty Scientists team for a fun mission to space! After being entrusted with a maximum-security space mission, the nutty professors will arrive at an unknown planet that they will have to explore using sophisticated techniques and crazy experiments. Kids will learn about the mysteries of space and planets in a fun way through their amazing adventures.



Marine Biology Workshops with Junior Einsteins

Children will dive into wonder in hands-on Marine Biology workshops for curious minds with the Junior Einsteins Science Club! They will explore the spellbinding secrets of the ocean, from glowing bioluminescence and hair-raising static electricity to slippery marine slime and thrilling endothermic reactions. Every moment sparks excitement!



Abstract Art Workshops with Corrina Cunnane

Schoolchildren will make art with a difference with local Skerries artist Corrina Cunnane, whose work currently features in Ardgillan Castle. Corrina's focus is on abstract, vibrant, colourful art, and through these workshops she will encourage exploration and awaken creativity and imagination, inspiring them to see the magic in the world.



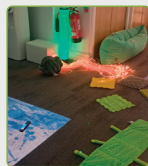
Prosper Fingal Skerries Sessions

PROSPER FINGAL

Fingal Libraries and Skerries Library is delighted to be working with Prosper Skerries this spring through the following workshops:



ART CLASSES
with John Carpenter



SENSORY HOUR
with Fingal
Additional Needs



DOODLE WORKSHOPS
with Niamh Sharkey



**SOUND BATH
MEDITATION**
with Marcin Stanek



For more information on the Skerries Library Spring Programme, or to book your place in any of the workshops, please contact the library at **SkerriesLibrary.Library@fingal.ie** or **01 890 5671**.



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Three easy ways to listen to Audiobooks.



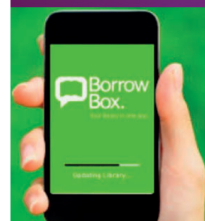
Playaways:

These are pre-loaded, pocket-sized MP3s that offer on-the-go listening. Use your own headphones. Battery operated. No internet, no downloading, no device needed.



Books on CD:

Prefer books on CDs? We offer an amazing range of books on CD.



BorrowBox:

Happy with your smartphone or mobile device? Download the BorrowBox app and start listening to great books.

Call into your local library to browse our collection of audiobooks on CD and Playaway. Find a guide to BorrowBox on the Fingal Libraries website, ask a staff member to get you started or email library.eservices@fingal.ie.

Cá bhfuil mo leabharlann is cóngaraí?

Where is my nearest library?

Balbriggan	01 870 4401	balbrigganlibrary@fingal.ie
Baldoyle	01 890 6793	baldoylelibrary@fingal.ie
Blanchardstown	01 890 5560	blanchlibrary@fingal.ie
Donabate	01 890 5609	donabate.library@fingal.ie
Garristown	01 835 5020	garristownlibrary@fingal.ie
Howth	01 890 5026	howth.library@fingal.ie
Malahide	01 870 4430	malahidelibrary@fingal.ie
Rush	01 870 8414	rushlibrary@fingal.ie
Skerries	01 890 5671	skerrieslibrary.library@fingal.ie
Swords	01 890 5582	swordslibrary@fingal.ie
Mobile Library Service	01 890 6719	mobile.libraries@fingal.ie
Housebound Library Service	01 860 4290	housebound.library@fingal.ie
Local Studies and Archives	01 870 4486	Local.Studies@fingal.ie

Fingal Library eServices: Library.Eservices@fingal.ie

Tá Leabharlanna Fhine Gall ar na Meáin Shóisialta
Fingal Libraries are on Social Media

