

# Dromineer Literary Festival 2008

The 2008 Festival will be held on the weekend of 2nd - 5th October in the beautiful Lough Derg lakeside village of Dromineer, Co. Tipperary. The festival celebrates writing and writers through presentations and readings by acclaimed authors and through participation in short story and poetry competitions and workshops.

The festival is extended this year by the inclusion of a workshop for pupils from local secondary schools. We celebrate All-Ireland Poetry Day on the 2nd. of October with readings by established and emerging poets. For the most important members of our community, the children, we again feature a poetry competition, a storytelling and puppet show and welcome back the ever-popular Mary Arrigan to offer writing and reading workshops.

The theme 'frontiers' underpins many of the contributions to this year's festival James Ryan in *South of the Border* sets the internal turmoil of a young man's coming of age in the Ireland of 1942 within the context of the global turmoil of WW2. In the words of the poet and academic Bernard O'Donoghue, he explores the frontier of history in a work of "imaginative fiction of a high order, built on a(n) ...historian's insight."

In *There Might Be a Drop of Rain Yet*, a moving account of conflict and reconciliation between son and mother, Brendan Lynch explores the perennial frontier between the generations in a North Tipperary setting.

Diarmuid Breathnach in his talk, *Irish Life Stories: Profusion and Opportunity*, will deal with the most complex frontier of all, that within the self. In writing a memoir, is it possible to reorganise the complexity and apparent randomness of life into a coherent narrative with beginning, middle and end?

The compulsion of man to conquer physical frontiers is the background to *These Rough Notes*, a dramatised reading by the Nenagh Players of the final writings of the doomed members of Scott's expedition to the South Pole. They confront the ultimate frontier, that between life and death.

Since the first Dromineer Literary Festival in 2004 visiting artists and audiences have been loud in their praise of the beauty of the location, the warmth and friendliness of all concerned and the quality of the presentations. These will again combine in 2008 to create a memorable weekend by the shores of Lough Derg. Do join us.

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## *Programme*

<http://www.dromineerliteraryfestival.ie/Programme.aspx>

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