

European Reminiscence
Network Conference
Dublin



The Theatre of Memory

A two-day conference
bringing together world
experts on reminiscence
from 15 countries

Marine Hotel
Sutton

2 - 3 May 2019

TIMETABLE FOR CONFERENCE - DAY ONE

MEET AND GREET		WEDNESDAY 1st MAY
15:00	Meet in Lobby of Marine Hotel	Get DART at Sutton Station or walk to Howth village
16:00	Meet at Howth DART Station	Guided walking tour around Howth Village
18:00	Meet at Howth Yacht Club	Fish & Chip supper in the Asgard Suite, Howth Yacht Club
19:00	In Asgard Suite Howth Yacht Club	Traditional Irish Music performance from 'Coille'
21:00	Return to Marine Hotel	Get DART at Howth Station 1 stop to Sutton and back to Marine Hotel or onwards if not staying at hotel

DAY ONE		THURSDAY 2nd MAY
09:15	Registration in Marine Hotel	Day One sponsored by Fingal County Council
09:30	Lord Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin will greet delegates	
09:40	Delegates introduce themselves and greet new partners	
09:50	Pam Schweitzer (UK) makes introduction to Theatre of Memory Conference	Presentation on European Reminiscence Network and 'Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today (RYCT) project
10:15	Performance of short extract from "Take Off Your Cornflakes" by Rose Henderson and Pat Nolan	Performance of an original piece of theatre on living with dementia written by Rose Henderson and Pat Nolan
11:00	Tea/Coffee in Marine Hotel	Break sponsored by Home Instead Senior Care
11:15	Dr Hana Janeckova, Kvetoslava Hoskova and Hana Čížková (Czech Republic)	Presentation "The effect of reminiscence therapy on the health status and quality of life of hospitalised old people"
11:45	Patricia Lee (Singapore)	Presentation on RYCT project for families & training programme for reminiscence in dementia
12:15	Dr Trudy Pauluth-Penner (Canada)	Reminiscence Theatre Production "The Artist & her Daughter"
12:45	Kristy Brugman (Canada)	Intergenerational arts based programme "Life is Art"
13:00	Lunch in Marine Hotel	
14:00	Anita Berlin and Kate White (UK)	Presentation on the parallel needs for the sharing of emotions and stories of both people with dementia and their carers
14:45	Sally Knocker (UK) joined by members from Moorehall Living Aleshia Dwyer, Rachel Varghese and Katherina Eagers (Ireland)	Interview with members of Moorehall Living about pioneering Irish Butterfly Homes
15:15	Annemarie Bolder (the Netherlands)	Introducing a new reminiscence app supporting carers in finding stimulating reminiscence material
15:45	Tea/Coffee in Marine Hotel	
16:00	Marie-France Caparros (France) and Marie-Madeleine Gastaldi-Adler (France)	Film presentation on intergenerational work in French Care Homes
16:15	Duna Ulsamer and Raul Vilar (Spain)	Presentation on how to apply reminiscence in daily life
16:45	Carl Cordonnier (France)	Film presentation on "I Still Exist... J'existe Encore" the perceptions of early onset persons with dementia
17:15	Dr Jane Bentley (Scotland)	A fun music workshop to spark your creativity
17:45	Day One Presentations end	
18:00	Supper in Marine Hotel	Supper in Cucinos Restaurant (€25 for two-course meal including tea/coffee)
All Day	Exhibition in Marine Hotel by Kate Byrne (Ireland)	"Nobody Photographs Me Anymore"

EVENING ONE ENTERTAINMENT		THURSDAY 2nd MAY
19:15	Free Community Concert in Marine Hotel	Sponsored by DCU Age-Friendly University Global Network
19:30	Introduction by Nora Owen (Ireland)	
19:35	The Forget-Me-Nots Choir	Dementia Inclusive choir based in North Dublin
20:00	Dermot Bolger	Writer, Poet and Playwright
20:15	Craobh Phiarais Uí Ghréagáin	Traditional Irish Music performed by musicians aged 8-18 years
20:30	Mary Grimes School of Irish Dancing	Performances of reels, jigs, hornpipes and Riverdance
20:45	Karen Meenan (Ireland)	Conclusion and thank you

Bar remains open until 23:00 for refreshments

TIMETABLE FOR CONFERENCE - DAY TWO

DAY TWO		FRIDAY 3rd MAY
09:15	Registration in Marine Hotel	Day Two sponsored by Fáilte Ireland and Dublin City Council
09:30	Dr Dana Walrath (USA)	Presentation on graphic memoirs and comic books
10:00	Margita Lundman (Sweden)	Presentation on Swedish reminiscence theatre projects
10:30	Peter Rafn Dahm, Anne Kristiansen and Charlotte Olling Rebsdorf (Denmark)	Nordic Reminiscence Theatre Network in Care Home
11:05	Tea/Coffee in Marine Hotel	
	Two participatory workshops in parallel	
11:20	Leonie Hohenthal-Antin (Finland) and Varpu Vistala (Finland)	Practical workshop on dramatising childhood memories using reminiscence arts stimuli
11:20	Caroline Baker and Kath Gilfoy (UK)	Practical workshop on Remembering Yesterday Caring Today
12:00	Karen Meenan (Ireland) and cast members Marie Towell, Ken Saunders, Pat McLaughlin, Killian Sheridan, Ian Blackmore and Brenda McSweeney	Performance of dementia-inclusive theatre 'A Play with ME in it'. A workshop showing how this theatre piece was co-created will follow
13:00	Lunch in Marine Hotel	Sponsored by Mattress Mick
14:00	Dr Natasha Oxley & Pam Schweitzer (UK)	Presentation on intergenerational student performances based on Memory Boxes
14:30	Pam Schweitzer (UK)	Slide presentation from colleagues in Australia, Canada and Japan who are unable to attend in person
14:45	Karen Meenan (Ireland)	Introduces last presenter Dr Petr Veleta (Czech Republic) and thanks sponsors and delegates
15:00	Dr Petr Veleta (Czech Republic)	Dance workshop 'Fun and Dance is a cure that will not hurt anyone'
15:30	Conference Ends	

FRIDAY EVENING ENTERTAINMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES		FRIDAY 3rd MAY
15:30	Coach to Mansion House from Marine Hotel	Sponsored by Dublin City Council and Fáilte Ireland
16:30	Private Reception with Lord Mayor of Dublin	Keynote address Cllr Deirdre Heney (Ireland)
17:45	Private visit to the Little Museum of Dublin	
18:30	Free time to explore Dublin City and shopping on Grafton Street and nearby Stephens Green Centre	
20:00	Dinner in Le Bon Crubeen Restaurant Talbot Street	

SATURDAY MORNING Review Meeting in Board Room		SATURDAY 4th MAY
10:00	Meeting in Board Room to review what worked, what didn't and why	Planning meeting for next ERN Conference with special thanks to the Marine Hotel for funding
12:00	Meeting Ends	

OUR PEOPLE

COILLE

'Coille' (Ireland) is an exciting young band from Dublin. Playing traditional Irish music but with rock and jazz influences the members are **David Joyce** (Banjo and vocals), **Mike Mansfield** (Guitar, mandolin, fiddle and vocals), **Luke Currvan** (Guitar, tin whistle and vocals) and **Darragh Fadden** (Flute and tin whistle). They will be joined by **Dave Fadden** (Uilleann pipes and whistles) and will play a mix of traditional Irish dance music and airs along with compositions by band members.
www.facebook.com/Coillemusic



Lord Mayor of Fingal, **Cllr Anthony Lavin**, represents the Howth-Malahide Electoral Area, has been a member of Fingal County Council since 2011. In his acceptance speech the new Mayor identified housing, the MetroLink project and the development of Dublin Airport as areas he would prioritise in his year-long reign as Mayor of Fingal (2018/2019). www.fingal.ie



Pam Schweitzer (UK) makes introduction to the **European Reminiscence Network** and the **"Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today"** (RYCT) project. Pam Schweitzer, MBE, has spent the last thirty-six years developing reminiscence arts work. She founded the Age Exchange Theatre Trust and the Reminiscence Centre and was its Artistic Director between 1983 and 2005. She directs the European Reminiscence Network (1993 to the present) specialising in international reminiscence festivals and conferences and coordinating Europe-wide projects on reminiscence in dementia care. www.europeanreminiscencenetwork.org
www.rememberingyesterdaycaringtoday.com



Performance of a short extract from **"Take off your Cornflakes"** an original piece of theatre on Living with Dementia by **Rose Henderson** (Ireland) and **Pat Nolan** (Ireland). Rose is best known as Sister Assumpta in Father Ted. She co-produced 'Take Off Your Cornflakes' with **Pat Nolan** for Dublin Fringe 2017 and produced a tour in 2018. Pat Nolan trained at the Focus Stanislavski Studio and is best known as Barry O Hanlon in RTE's Fair City where he won the International Ros d'Or Award for Best Soap Actor in 2005. www.rosehenderson.com patnolan74@gmail.com



Hana Čížková, Dr Hana Janečková and **Kvetoslava Hošková** (Czech Republic) will present on new work with the **"Remembering Yesterday, Caring Today"** project, including the apprenticeship scheme and theatre work of the **Reminiscence Centre**. They will also present their hospital research project



"The effect of reminiscence therapy on the health status and quality of life of hospitalized old people". Hana Čížková is a teacher at Jabok - Academy of Social Pedagogy and theology, a psychotherapist and a member of the Reminiscence centre in Prague. Hana Janečková is a teacher of medical sociology, social work and community care at the Charles University in Prague. Kvetoslava Hošková is a nurse and PhD student in dementia care. They belong to the founders of the Reminiscence Centre in Prague, an association of trained facilitators who use reminiscence as a creative and useful method of dementia-inclusive work with older people. janeckova.hana@post.cz
kvetoslava.hoskova@ftn.cz



Patricia Lee (Singapore) will make a video presentation on her new RYCT project for families and her developing training programme for reminiscence in dementia. Together with her husband Arthur, Patricia started **Reminiscence Connect Singapore** with the purpose of connecting their loved ones through reminiscence work.
www.reminisceconnect.com



Dr. Trudy Pauluth-Penner (Canada) will present on her intergenerational reminiscence theatre production, **"The Artist & her Daughter"**, collectively devised and performed by University of Victoria Masters applied theatre students. The play reflects the memories and stories of participants of a drama storytelling program within a dementia facility.
www.trudypauluthpenner.com



Kristy Brugman (Canada) is a recreation coordinator for seniors in Victoria, Canada. She holds a degree in Arts Therapies from the University of Professional Education, Leiden, the Netherlands. Kristy will present **"Life is Art"**, an inter-generational year-long arts based program she directed in a residential care facility. This culminated in a professionally recorded album of songs, a book, and a short film to convey the essence of the experiences and stories shared. www.theheartinprocess.com



Anita Berlin (UK) and **Kate White** (UK) are family carers and healthcare professionals inspired by RYCT. They will explore the parallel needs for the sharing of emotions and stories of both people with dementia and their paid carers through creative arts and reminiscence approaches in care homes. They argue that the current challenges in care for people living with dementia have to be addressed and transformed through tuning into and respecting the needs of BOTH staff and residents.
a.berlin@doctors.org.uk km_white@mac.com



Sally Knocker (UK and Ireland) is Senior Consultant Trainer with Dementia Care Matters, an international culture change organisation, changing institutions into real homes. She originally trained as a drama therapist and has been involved with several London RYCT projects. She is passionate about the power of sharing stories to break down 'them and us' divisions in care. She will be joined by Team Members **Aleshia Dwyer, Rachel Varghese** and **Katherina Eagers** from Moorehall Living, pioneering Irish Butterfly Homes.
www.dementiacarematters.com



Annemarie Bolder (the Netherlands) is an occupational therapist specialised in working with people with dementia and their family carers. She has worked with Remembering Yesterday Caring Today since 2010 and trains other professionals and volunteers in the Netherlands to work with RYCT. Her presentation is about the reminiscence app supporting carers in finding stimulating reminiscence material to encourage engagement. This free app is called **"Dementie en herinneringen"** (translation= dementia and reminiscence).
www.dekrachtvanherinneringen.com





Marie-France Caparros (France) and **Marie-Madeleine Gastaldi-Adler** (France) will show a new film on inter-generational work in their care home and an innovative approach to staff training in reminiscence in dementia care. Marie-Madeleine has a Masters in private hospital management and a degree in gerontology and has run the association *Vivre le 3eme Age*, which covers two retirement homes: Jean Rostand and Louis Pasteur in St Cyprien since 1987. Marie-France has a Masters in Sociology and in Gerontology and has specialised in memory stimulation workshops.
animation@vivre3age.com



Duna Ulsamer (Spain) and **Raül Vilar** (Spain) will present on how to apply reminiscence in daily life. Reminiscence as an opportunity to know the life history of the elderly through tools and resources we have around, how to approach the person from our daily work with significant elements and build the relationship with evocative objects, symbols and sensory elements. Duna (social worker) and Raül (social educator) have trained in Person Centered Care, Dementia Care Mapping, Reminiscence and Validation and are members of the ERN.
dunaulsamer79@gmail.com raulvil43@hotmail.com



Carl Cordonnier (France) has documented Alzheimer's disease for 25 years. His new production "**I Still Exist...**" J'existe Encore explores through photography and film the perceptions of early onset persons with dementia.
www.dailylife.fr



Dr Jane Bentley (Scotland) has worked musically in dementia care settings for over 15 years. In 2015 she was awarded a Churchill travelling fellowship to study the role of music in the well-being of older adults, visiting Japan, Korea, Malaysia and Singapore. In 2002 she founded ArtBeat, which uses music for community, health and social well-being settings. ArtBeat has developed an international reputation for delivering unforgettable musical experiences with genuine meaning and depth
www.artbeatmusic.org



Exhibition in Marine Hotel – "**Nobody Photographs Me Anymore**" by Kate Byrne

Kate Byrne (Ireland) studied at the National College of Art and Design (BA Hons), Dublin and University of Ulster, Belfast (MFA 1st Class Honours). Her work 'Nobody Photographs Me Anymore' will be on display in the Marine Hotel during the two-day conference. Solo shows include Highlanes Municipal Gallery, Drogheda 2013, West Cork Arts Centre, Skibbereen 2009 and Old Museum Arts Centre, Belfast 2006. www.katebyrneart.com

FREE COMMUNITY CONCERT in MARINE HOTEL
(with special thanks to DCU Age-Friendly University Network and Fingal County Council for funding)

Free Community Concert sponsored by **Christine O'Kelly** Age-Friendly University Network Global Coordinator in Dublin City University (DCU) will be introduced by **Nora Owen** (Ireland) a former Irish Fine Gael politician who served as Minister for Justice from 1994 to 1997 and Deputy Leader of Fine Gael from 1993 to 2001. Nora is a member of the Forget-Me-Nots Choir and an advocate for the Alzheimer Society of Ireland.
www.dcu.ie/agefriendly



The **Forget-Me-Nots dementia-inclusive choir** (Ireland) concert and a talk from their Director on music and dementia.

Norah Walsh (Ireland) is a composer, musical director and musician based in Dublin, Ireland. Her compositions draw from classical, popular, traditional and jazz influences and have been performed throughout Europe. Norah works as MD for several Dublin based choirs and as facilitator in community and education projects. norahcwalsh@gmail.com



Founded 5 years ago, and with professional musical direction and voluntary support, the Forget-Me-Nots is the first dementia-inclusive community choir in Dublin's Northside and now a registered charity. It aims to promote dementia awareness through community immersion of family, carers, friends, neighbours, local residential nursing homes and regular interaction with the youth of the region. Founder, **Órla Horn** (Ireland), was honoured to be named 'Local Hero' Pride of Ireland Award 2016 for this endeavour. www.forgetmenots.ie



Accompanist **Emmet O'Connor** (Ireland) is a Composition graduate of DIT Conservatory of Music and Drama, where he studied with Shirin Goudarzi-Tobin. His compositions have been performed by the RTE Symphony Orchestra, DIT Symphony Orchestra, Concorde Ensemble, Athenry Youth Orchestra, and Sligo Youth Jazz Ensemble. A founding member of Irish Hip-Hop band ReGroovonation Emmet works as a teacher, accompanist and performer.
emmet.johnconnor@gmail.com



Dermot Bolger's fourteen novels include Tanglewood, The Lonely Sea and Sky and, most recently, An Ark of Light. His numerous plays include an adaption of Joyce's Ulysses, which toured China and was staged by the Abbey Theatre, who stage his new play, Last Orders at the Dockside this autumn. His poetry collections include The Venice Suite: A Voyage Through Loss, and a New and Selected Poems, That Which is Suddenly Precious. Dermot will read While We Sleep a poem written for his father who had dementia while accompanied on piano by Emmet O'Connor. www.dermotbolger.com





Craobh Phiarais Uí Ghréagáin (Ireland) this award-winning children's band play traditional Irish music at performances in Ireland and abroad – their ages range from 8 to 18 years.

www.facebook.com/craobhphiarais/



Mary Grimes School of Irish Dancing (Ireland) these multi-award winning championship dancers aged from 6 to 20 years will perform jigs, reels, hornpipes and 'Riverdance' the dance made famous throughout the world.

<https://bit.ly/2tYVozL>



Dr Dana Walrath (USA) is a proponent of stories and art as methods of teaching and healing. Her graphic memoir series, *Aliceheimer's*, details her experiences of her mother Alice moving in with her after being diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Dana is currently an Atlantic Fellow in Brain Health Equity at the Global Brain Health Institute Trinity College Dublin/ University of California San Francisco.

www.danawalrath.com



Margita Lundman (Sweden) on Swedish reminiscence theatre projects involving older people in Stockholm care homes and libraries. Margita has been involved within the field of senior theatre for ten years. She is the founder of the Swedish culture association FREE, and is past chair of the Senior Theatre Committee of the National Swedish Association of Amateur Theatre. Among areas of special interest are Accessibility to Scenic Art and International collaboration. margita.lundman@gmail.com



Peter Rafn Dahm, Anne Kristiansen and Charlotte Olling Rebsdorf (Denmark) from the Nordic Reminiscence Theatre Network on making reminiscence theatre for people in care homes. First steps in a small town in southern Denmark. Anne Kristiansen, a coordinator for volunteers in public eldercare, is a physiotherapist with many years experience with dementia, neurological diseases and sensory-integration and has both acted and directed in local amateur theatre since 2006. Charlotte holds a Masters in Theatre Pedagogic and is Project Manager at a theater in northern Denmark which ranges from preschool, through school and adults.

annekristiansen65@gmail.com
peter@dats.dk



Leonie Hohenthal-Antin (Finland) and **Varpu Vistala** (Finland), founders of the Memories House in Kotka, Finland, will run a practical workshop on dramatising childhood memories, using reminiscence arts stimuli, such as objects, images, music and drawing. They will present their latest production developed for performance in 10 care homes, describing the process of making theatre performed by older people around their childhood memories and sharing feedback from audiences and from the players themselves.

www.leoniehohenthal.com varpuvistala@gmail.com

Caroline Baker (UK) and **Kath Gilfoy** (UK) present a participatory version of favourite RYCT sessions. Caroline Baker (UK) a reminiscence and community facilitator has worked with Remembering Yesterday Caring Today (RYCT) for 20 years. Other projects include creating outdoor space for well-being at Hackney City Farm, London. Kathryn Gilfoy is Director of Resonate Arts, a programme for creative wellbeing with people living with dementia, where she co-facilitates RYCT apprenticeships with Caroline Baker. Kathryn has worked in the field for 30 years both as a freelance artist and as programme manager with Magic Me and Director of Studio 3 Arts.

ms.caroline.baker@gmail.com
kathryn@westminsterarts.org.uk



Karen Meenan (Ireland) founder of Making Hay Theatre will present "**A Play with Me in it**". This dementia-inclusive theatre performance by professional actors is the result of reminiscence sessions with memory clinic patients in St James' Hospital, Dublin. Cast: **Marie Towell, Ken Saunders, Pat McLaughlin, Killian Sheridan, Ian Blackmore and Brenda McSweeney**. A workshop showing how this theatre piece was co-created will follow.

www.makinghaytheatre.ie



Lunch on Friday is sponsored by Mattress Mick (Ireland) who will give a short talk after lunch about the power of low cost guerilla marketing.

www.mattressmick.ie



Dr Natasha Oxley (UK) and **Pam Schweitzer** (UK) will present on Memory Boxes and theatre with students at University of Greenwich. Natasha is a Lecturer in Drama at the University of Greenwich and has worked with Pam to facilitate student performances based on memory boxes. She is also an actor, director, and translator and is the founder of Chiffchaff Children's Theatre, making theatre for young children.

n.oxley@greenwich.ac.uk pam@pamschweitzer.com



Dr Petr Veleta (Czech Republic) will close the ERN Conference with a dementia-inclusive dance and choreography session 'Fun and Dance is a cure that will not hurt anyone'. Last year, Petr danced in 130 homes for seniors at home and abroad and received the Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Gerontology for his dance work.

petrveleta@centrum.cz



Nial Ring, 349th Lord Mayor of Dublin (Ireland) will host a private reception for our international delegates in the historical Oak Room, Mansion House, Dawson Street, Dublin 2. **Cllr Deirdre Heney** (Ireland) Chair of Strategic Policy Committee on Economic Development, Enterprise & International Relations will give the keynote address. Our thanks to Gráinne Kelly and Ray Yeates of Dublin City Council for hosting this reception.

www.dublincity.ie/main-menu-your-council/lord-mayor
www.deirdreheney.ie



Author's note

There are certain duties that every son must do for his father; to run childhood errands at the age when you utterly depend upon them, and then – if they live long enough – to realise that a time has come when they are now as dependent upon you as you once were upon them.

My father was a seafarer who survived German aircraft attacks with the Wexford Steam Packet; storms, shipwrecks and sinkings. He was widowed early and lived an independent life into his ninetieth year. But then, gradually he lost his sense of time as his brain capsized and he retreated back to the Wexford streets of his birth, when his own father used to send him as a boy out on an errand each Friday evening to find a good book to read. He also had to walk down to meet the Dublin train every Sunday, on which Easons sent down his ordered copy of The Observer newspaper, which he was the only person in the town to read.

I wrote this poem when he was just starting to slip into dementia and he told me of a dream he had just had in which he was a boy again, having been sent off through Wexford by his father to find a good book to read but had been unable to find anyone who would loan him one.

Like most poets, I am probably the worst judge of my own poems, Therefore I picked this poem not so much because it is a touchstone poem for me but because it seems to affect many people at readings who relate to it someone in their own family who had undergone a similar journey and therefore I find people regularly coming up to me afterwards to ask for a copy of it.

I suppose the poem is for anyone who has witnessed a loved one's slow deterioration and watched a fiercely independent person, succumb to old age, where events of sixty years ago are more real than events today. In 2011 my brother Roger and I completed the last duty that any son can do for his father, when traffic was halted on the main street of Finglas village to allow us to carry his coffin across the hushed road and into St Canice's Church.

While We Sleep

While we sleep they are slipping beyond our reach –
Our elderly parents, frail aunts, grandfathers –

They are dressing themselves, opening doors in the night,
Venturing out in search of the first home they possessed;

Padding across motorway intersections in slippers in the dark,
Shuffling past shopping centres, hulls of lit-up office blocks.

We may be scared but they know where they are voyaging
Amid their endless confusion as to whether it is night or day,

Amid the terror they feel as they sense their brains capsizing,
They are walking back towards the reassurance of first memory:

The bedrock which for decades got obscured by pressing concerns,
Preoccupied with the business of surviving the business of life.

But now the clutter of middle years has been hacked away,
Reunited with themselves, unhurriedly, with vision unimpaired,

They are shuffling their way back to the streets of their birth,
Skirting carriageways, concourses, each neon-lit underpass.

They are any age and yet they have grown beyond age,
They have become absences in our lives, demanding our care,

Yet at the same time oblivious to us. We confuse them,
Disconnected from the landscape in which they are young.

We see shrunken figures in dressing gowns on Zimmer frames
But they are children sent to do a message, an errand of trust.

How can my father be ninety-two as he walks through the Faythe,
Knocking on neighbours' doors, stopping cloth-capped strangers,

Sent out to seek the loan of a good book for my grandfather to read:
A novel with sufficient heft and depth and intelligence to distract

A compositor sick of back proofing racks of letterpress newsprint,
Who wants to lose himself in a journey through unfamiliar streets?

A quiet man who would be led astray by old age into the County Home,
Where he waited for the books he sent his young son to seek years before.

Gentle grandfather, Republican typesetter, drinker on Ram Street,
Your vigil is over at the barred window of that Enniscorthy asylum,

Your son is coming with your treasured copy of the Observer
That he dutifully collects from the Dublin train every Sunday morning,

With a Canon Sheenan novel, with H G Wells and Chesterton,
With Charles Dickens, Edgar Allen Poe and Patrick McGill,

He got distracted from his errand during decades in ship's cabins,
Grieving his wife's death, becoming a connoisseur of loneliness.

But now he emerges through the far side of such struggles,
He has left his front door open, every light on deck aglow,

He shuffles on a busted hip, clutching a vast armful of books,
Knowing only that somewhere between Finglas and Wexford,

Between the century of his birth and the one where he dies
He will encounter his father, equally ancient, equally young.

His father will be pleased with the books, the errand fulfilled.
So while we fret for him adrift in such dangerous depths,

Unable to steer between tides of remembrance and despair,
A part of him siphons free from the confused husk who phones

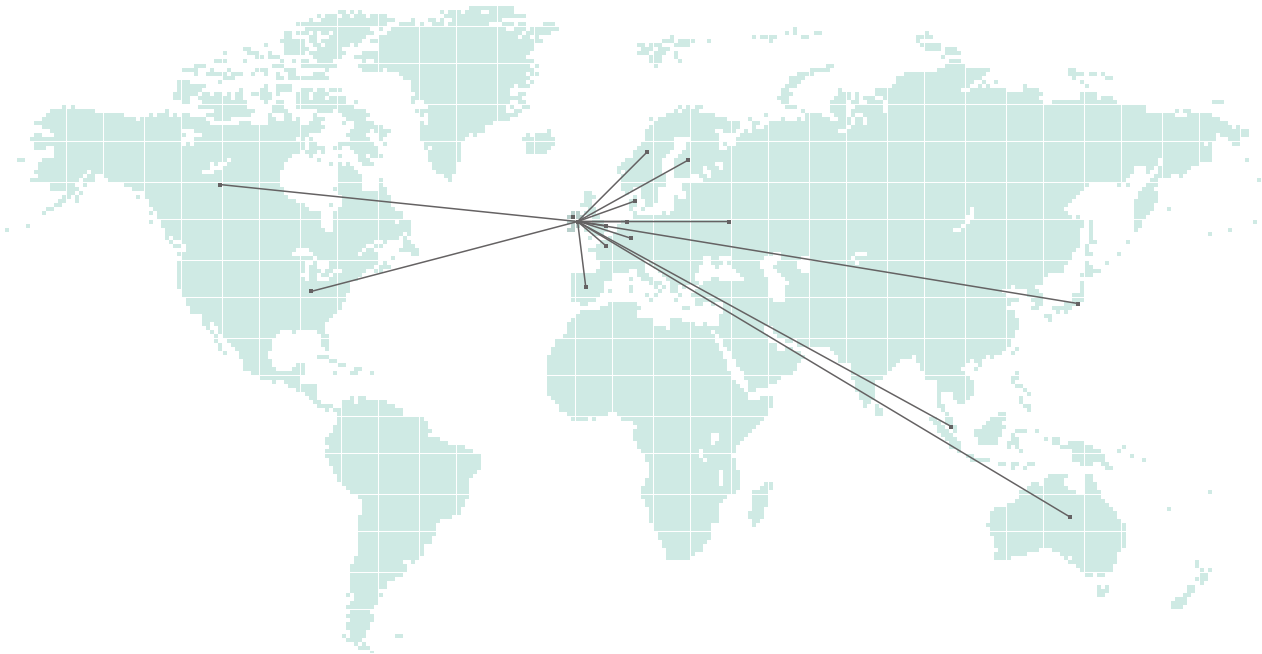
Moments after we leave his house to ask why nobody ever comes:
The part that walks, beyond our remit, towards his dead father.

Even if we could follow them, they would be too engrossed to care
For the distraction of strangers like us who are not yet even born:

We would be intruding on a father and a son strolling back from town
To the Green Street terrace that is the first and last home they share.

By Dermot Bolger

With kind permission and grateful thanks Dermot Bolger has allowed us to publish his poem i.e. Roger Bolger Senior 17th May 1918 - 20th April 2011



We would like to thank our **knowledgeable speakers** who travelled to Dublin from many different parts of the world and a very special thanks to our **generous conference sponsors and supporters**:

Christine O Kelly of DCU Age-friendly University Global Network, Ray Yeates and Grainne Kelly of Dublin City Council, Rory O Byrne and Louise Edmonds of Fingal County Council, Lord Mayor of Fingal, Cllr Anthony Lavin, Donna Brogan and Jack Owens of Fáilte Ireland, Úna Healy Design, Órla Horn, Fiona Tierney, Mattress Mick, Howth Yacht Club, Brian Graham, Bob Laird, Pat McLaughlin, Marie Towell, Jo Price, Anthony Burke, Gráinne Boylan, Frank, Brian and Dara Meenan, Caroline Dunne and TY Students from Santa Sabina, Margaret McLaughlin and Karen Lowey from EY, Pat Herbert of Ye Olde Hurdy Gurdy Museum of Vintage Radio, Baldoyle Print, Home Instead Senior Care, Deirdre Tuohy, Cllr Deirdre Heney, 349th Lord Mayor of Dublin, Nial Ring, Pat McLoughlin CEO, the Alzheimer Society of Ireland, Sinéad Grennan CEO Engaging Dementia, Roisin Nevin Mercer's Institute for Successful Ageing (MISA), Reminiscence Theatre Archive, University of Greenwich, the Marine Hotel, Traditional Irish Band Coille, Dermot Bolger, Norah Walsh, Emmet O'Connor, Nora Owen, the members and volunteers in the Forget-Me-Nots dementia-inclusive choir, Craobh Phiarais Uí Ghréagáin Traditional Irish Band, Mary Grimes School of Irish Dancing, members and friends of European Reminiscence Network and especially ERN director Pam Schweitzer MBE



The Theatre of Memory

The Theatre of Memory conference logo and branding was designed and generously donated by the award winning **www.unahealydesign.com** studio. The branding is designed to capture the fun, eclectic and inclusive nature of the European Reminiscence Network. The elephant is engaged in scripting the text – an unforgettable icon who never forgets. The circular motifs throughout the branding represent the many aspects of reminiscence creativity.