



# THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT

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## Portrush launch for new anthology

A NEW anthology, containing the work of writers from all over Ireland, was launched in Portrush on Wednesday, November 12. 'Caught Alight' is published by Impspired Publishing, based in Lincoln. Five separate writing groups contributed to the collection:

- Write So! an all-Ireland Zoom Group for autistic adults.
  - Pen and Paper, a u3a Group.
  - Sanderlings, an independent group from Portstewart.
  - This writing thing, a group based in Derry and Donegal.
  - Words Inc, a group originally sponsored by Libraries NI, based in Coleraine.
- Its 41 contributors come from the length and breadth of Ireland - from Letterkenny to Cork, from Dublin to

Galway. This anthology, the fourth and last in this particular series, can be purchased online from Amazon. Commented Mary Farrell of the North Coast Writers Group: "These writers involved have proven themselves to be so talented, prolific and enthusiastic that seven of the contributors have now published their own individual collections, with two more in the planning stage and this is the sixth general Impspired

Anthology in which many of them have featured. "Their work has also been featured in various editions of the tri-monthly Impspired Online Magazine, and its subsequent Print Editions." At the Town Hall, 10 of the contributors read a piece of their work to an enthusiastic audience, before retiring afterwards to the Cromore Halt Bistro, Portstewart for a relaxing meal. Impspired Press is also delighted to confirm it will be holding its two annual competitions again next year in 2026, competitions devised solely by Impspired for writers from the North of Ireland.

Submissions are invited from January 1st - February 14th for Flash Fiction Portrush, whose Showcase Event will take place in Kiwis, Main Street, Portrush, on Friday, 13th March, 2026. Submissions will also be invited later next year from May 1st - August 8th for the Fourth Soundwaves Competition, whose Showcase Event will be on Saturday 10th August in Portrush Town Hall, as part of the Swell Festival.

Further information about both these competitions can be found - once their submissions windows open - on the website [www.maryfarrellwriting.com](http://www.maryfarrellwriting.com) and on Facebook page of the North of Ireland Writers. The winners of both these competitions will be published in the following tri-monthly Impspired Online Magazine and its subsequent Print Editions.

At the Soundwaves

Showcase Event in October, three of its ten winners will also receive trophies for the Best Poem, Best Prose piece and Best

Performance. "The anthology contributors wish to thank everyone for their continued encouragement and

assistance," added Mary. "On the surface writing appears to be a solitary pursuit but nothing could be

further from the truth. To rework the old adage: if it takes a village to raise a child it takes a community to foster a writer!"



Mary Farrell, organiser with writers, Janet Peace, Linda Moore, Pam Leetch, Paul Girvan, Roin Holmes pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-13TM



Mary Farrell, organiser with writers, Ian Garner, Brenda McAteer, Stan McWilliams, Ruth Holloway, and Eric Greaves pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-14TM



Writers and guests pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-16TM

Writers and guests pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-17TM

Writers and guests pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-18TM

Writers and guests pictured during the North Coast Writers Book Launch of the Anthology 'Caught Alight' held at Portrush Town Hall. WK47-25-19TM