

LONG ISLAND MAP
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 Your Local Neighborhood Guide

PADDY'S LOFT
 Brunch • Lunch • Dinner
 Catering at Paddy's • 7 Days, 7 Nights

Thanksgiving Dinner
 Seatings at 1:30,
 3:30, 5:30 & 7 PM
Reservations Suggested

Thanksgiving Eve
 Live Music from 10PM
The Generators

1286 Hicksville Rd., Massapequa, NY
516-798-7660 - www.PaddysLoft.com

Cannon's Blackthorn
 KITCHEN OPEN 'TIL 3 A.M. 7 NIGHTS A WEEK
 BAR OPEN 'TIL 4 A.M. 7 NIGHTS A WEEK

Sunday
November 18th

Pat Floody

49 N. Village Ave., Rockville Centre, NY 11570 • (516) 594-1222

Monaghan's

Proprietors
 Kathleen & Niall

Monaghan's
 BAR • RESTAURANT

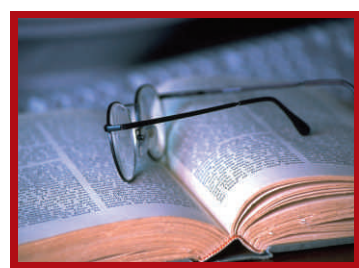
516.764.6372
 48 North Village Ave. • Rockville Centre, NY 11570

Manhattan * Pearl River * Astoria
 Sunnyside * Woodside * Maspeth * McLean Ave.
 Katonah Ave. * Woodlawn * Long Island
 Long Island City * Yonkers

To advertise in the
Neighborhood Map
 call Kathryn Costello
 at (212) 482-4818 ext. 113

Examining Ireland's long campaign against Sellafield

In her book published by the Irish Academic Press 50 years after the fire at Windscale in Cumbria and 30 years after the mass mobilization against the plant at Carnsore Point, Co. Wexford, **VERONICA McDERMOTT** looks at Irish policies in the Nuclear Age.



PageTurner
 Edited by Peter McDermott
 pmcdermott@irishecho.com

What is your latest book, "Going Nuclear," about?

The book is about Ireland and Britain's respective nuclear histories from 1927 to the present day. It explores Ireland's 25-year nuclear dispute with Britain and why our "Shut Sellafield" policy was always doomed to failure. Political leaders in Ireland or Britain were never going to let the nuclear issue affect the way they did their business on crucial matters like Northern Ireland; so Sellafield provided a "safe" issue for each to vent their frustrations, paranoia and prejudices about the other at little or no political cost. It's very much a human story, told from the point of view of those most affected on both sides of the Irish Sea - scientists, politicians, workers and local communities. Climate change and the impending energy crisis have once again brought nuclear power into focus in both Britain and Ireland and the book is a contribution to that debate.

What is your writing routine? Are there ideal conditions?

I get up about 6.30 a.m. and work in two- to four-hour blocks. When I'm writing intensely the best, and the worst, thing is complete isolation. I have my own home office, an area of organized chaos, where only the very brave or the most foolhardy

would venture.

What advice do you have for aspiring writers?

"Going Nuclear is my first book, so I'm hesitant about offering advice. Passion for your subject and sympathy for the human condition are essential to all good writing. Irrespective of genre, if what you write lacks authenticity, nobody else is going to want to read it.

Name three books that are memorable in terms of your reading pleasure.

Anything by John McGahern, especially "Amongst Women." McGahern spent most of his writing life exploring his relationship with his father, but the simple beauty of his descriptions and insights into human nature are unsurpassed in modern Irish literature. Last summer, my children gave me Seamus Heaney's translation of "Beowulf" as a gift. I've now read it about ten times, with hundreds more to go. James M. McPherson's 1980s story of the American Civil War, "Battle Cry of Freedom" was a real eye-opener for me on the origins of modern American life and politics.

What book are you currently reading?

Niall Ferguson's "The War of the World," about the bloodbath that was the twentieth century, written from Ferguson's own uniquely imperialist perspective. The book shows the need to bring a brand new 21st century mindset to bear on our globally-shared problems.

Is there a book you wish you had written?

No, I can only write my own. I stand in awe of the brilliance of other authors.

Name a book that you were pleasantly surprised by.

Tom Garvin's "Preventing the Future: Why was Ireland so poor for so long?" brushes aside the cobwebs of conventional interpretations of Ireland's modernization to expose, without fear or favor, the rot that often lurked underneath. Compulsory reading for all policy-makers.

If you could meet one author, living or dead, who would it be?

McGahern. We'd have great chats about Leitrim people.

What book changed your life?

Richard Dawkins's "The Selfish Gene." Before that, I thought the world of science was forever closed to my unscientific mind.

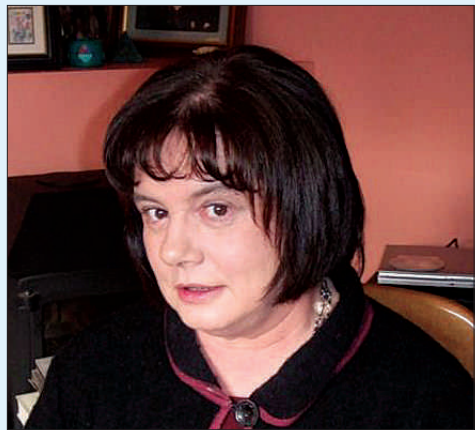
What is your favorite spot in Ireland?

Spanish Point in Miltown Malbay, Co. Clare.

You're Irish if . . .

you have a song in your heart the rest of the world wants to hum along to.

The Veronica McDermott File



Date of birth: July 9, 1956
Place of birth: Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim
Spouse: Tony Malone, telecoms engineer
Children: Nessa Malone (25), PhD history student, NUI Maynooth; Fergal Malone (22), civil servant, Department of Education & Science
Residence: Castleknock, Dublin
Published works: "Going Nuclear: Ireland, Britain and the campaign to close Sellafield."
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