



# Freelance Forum Spring 2025

Photographers/Writers/PR



Supported by Coimisiún na Meán

**Venue:** Connolly Hall[**Liberty Hall Theatre**], Siptu, Eden Quay, Dublin 1.

**Date:** Monday 14 APRIL 2025

**Cost:** €5 (tax-deductible) to NUJ members, non-members €20.

**Spaces are limited so book early**

Book online now at <https://dublinfreelance.org/freelance-forum-spring-2025>

Enquiries Gerard Cunningham [dublinfreelancenuj@gmail.com](mailto:dublinfreelancenuj@gmail.com) 086-6073060

All sessions open to writers, photographers, PR practitioners

*NOTE: All speakers appear in a personal capacity.*

**Registration:** 9.30AM- 10.00AM

**Opening Address:** 10.00AM – 10.30AM

**Skyenet for Journalism? Dealing with “Artificial intelligence”**

**Karlin Lillington**, freelance journalist

**Session 1:** 10.30AM – 11.45AM

**Reporting the Far Right’s Tactics and Talking Points**

**Speaker:** **Emily Duffy**, Hope + Courage Collective

How the far right construct and disseminate their narratives, what framing to look out for, and how to respond to far right propaganda

**Session 2:** 11.45AM – 1.00PM

**The Editors: Pitching to The Press**

**Speakers:** **Alice Linehan**, editor, GCN

**Peter O’Dwyer**, head of news, Business Post

**Chair:** **Priyanka Borpujari**, journalist

The session will cover pitching in the current newspaper environment, and the art of the pitch, with particular emphasis on popular news media.

**Lunch 1.00PM**

Sandwiches will be provided, or lunch is available in nearby cafes and coffee shops.

Wherever you go, take the time to introduce yourself to someone new, and catch up with old faces.

*Networking is also a key aim of the Freelance Forum.*

2.00PM – 2.20AM

**The Hazards of Reporting from the Middle East**

**Deaglán de Bréadún**, freelance journalist

**Session 3:** 2.20PM – 3.20PM

**Past & Present: Stories in the Archives**

**Speakers:** **Anthony McIntyre**, author and journalist

**Lucille Redmond**, writer

**Kieran Fagan** author and journalist

**Chair:** **Margaret Ward**, journalist

Finding the hidden stories in public records, and dealing with official archives.

**Session 4:** 3.30PM – 4.30PM

**Pivot to Video & Verticals**

**Speaker:** **Robert Fitzhugh**, filmmaker and videographer

Using vertical video across social networks to tell stories and promote your work.

*Additional brief modules and speakers may be added if time permits*

**We understand that as working journalists everyone may not be able to attend all sessions.**

**Karlin Lillington** is an award-winning, recently-retired journalist and columnist with the Irish Times. Over a 30 year career, she has written extensively on technology, with a special interest in its political, social, business and cultural aspects. She also has written for publications including The Guardian, Sunday Times, New Scientist, and Wired.com. She served on the board of Irish national broadcaster RTÉ and is an advisory board member for FuJo, the Institute for Future Media, Democracy and Society at Dublin City University, and chairperson of the annual contemporary classical music festival, New Music Dublin. She holds a PhD in Anglo-Irish Literature from Trinity College Dublin and is (finally) working on a book on Ireland and the technology sector.

**Emily Duffy** is the Communications and Narrative Lead at Hope and Courage Collective.

**Alice Linehan** (she/her) is responsible for the production of the print edition of GCN Magazine, including managing incoming pitches, commissioning journalists, as well as writing and editing articles. On a day-to-day basis, she also contributes to the content on gcn.ie. She writes news articles for the website, interviews Irish and international LGBTQ+ talent, and produces videos for GCNtv. As the Editor, she reviews other writers' work and mentors incoming interns and volunteers to nurture and develop the next generation of talent.

**Peter O'Dwyer** is Head of News at the Business Post. Peter first joined the Business Post in 2019 as a business correspondent before being promoted to Deputy Business Editor in 2021. He has been in his current role since August 2023 and has previously worked at the Irish Examiner, The Times of London and Bloomberg.

A multi-award-winning journalist, Peter's reporting has been repeatedly recognised by a wide range of organisations, including NewsBrands Ireland, UCD Smurfit Business School and the Law Society of Ireland.

**Priyanka Borpujari** is an independent journalist based in Dublin. She has reported on issues of human rights and justice from Japan, Argentina, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Indonesia, El Salvador, and India. Her work has appeared in the *British Medical Journal*, *Columbia Journalism Review*, *Guardian*, *BBC*, *Al Jazeera*, *Boston Globe*, *New York Times*, *TRT World*, and others. Between 2018 and 2019, she walked 1,200km across India with Pulitzer-winning journalist Paul Salopek, on his 33,000-km Out of Eden Walk.

**Deaglán de Bréadún** is an award-winning journalist who has reported extensively from the Middle East and other trouble-spots as well as covering the northern peace process and political developments at Leinster House. His books include *The Far Side of Revenge: Making Peace in Northern Ireland* (2001 and second edition in 2008) and *Power Play: The Rise of Modern Sinn Féin* (2015) as well as three books in Irish.

**Anthony McIntyre** has been a member of the NUJ for twenty five years. He was one of the people involved in creating an oral history archive at Boston College. The NUJ publicly defended the project against police attempts to access it. Mr McIntyre will discuss the challenges associated with some aspects of archival work.

**Lucille Redmond** is an editor and writer who has worked in journalism for many years, for the Irish Press Group, Independent Group, Irish Times and other publications. She is a winner of the Hennessy Award and an Irish Academy of Letters award. She teaches a course in writing short stories on Zoom, and is working on a memoir about her grandparents, Thomas MacDonagh and Muriel Gifford, and their circle.

**Kieran Fagan** is a freelance journalist and media consultant. Previously he worked for the Irish Times, Irish Independent and Sunday Tribune, and for Carr Communications. He recently published *Who Killed Patricia Curran?* as an ebook available on Kindle.

**Margaret Ward** is a freelance journalist.

**Robert Fitzhugh** is a lecturer and trainer who helps businesses and individuals craft video strategies to build genuine connections. Since 2017, he has trained thousands of businesses to create authentic, engaging content—with a focus on storytelling.