

Media Release

## Full Programme for Dublin Festival of History Announced

Over 90 events taking place in 33 venues across Dublin

**Bestselling author Robert Harris and former BBC war correspondent Martin Bell added to the line-up of guest speakers**

**31 August, 2017** – Over 90 free events for history lovers of all ages have been announced today at the launch of the full programme for the Dublin Festival of History, as Irish and international historians will bring history to life for audiences across the city. Bestselling novelist **Robert Harris** and former MP and BBC war correspondent **Martin Bell** have also been announced among the key speakers for the upcoming Dublin Festival of History, which takes place from Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September to Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2017. They will join **Chris Patten, Janina Ramirez, Robert Service** and **Sir Ian Kershaw** for a high-profile weekend of history talks and debate in late Autumn.

Over 90 exciting events including talks, seminars, films, and historical walking tours will take place in The Printworks, Dublin Castle, local libraries and other venues across Dublin City in late Autumn. The Dublin Festival of History is a free public event, sponsored by Dublin City Council and organised by Dublin City Libraries.

Now in its fifth year, the Festival has gained a reputation for attracting best-selling Irish and international historians. World renowned author Robert Harris will discuss his new book, 'Munich', in conversation with James Holland, and former BBC war correspondent Martin Bell will look at 'War and the Death of News' in a discussion with Keelin Shanley. Both will take place on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September in The Printworks at Dublin Castle.

Other events that will take place during Dublin Festival of History include; Dublin Festival of History 'Question Time', chaired by broadcaster Joe Duffy, a discussion on 'Myths, Magic and Historical Parallels in The Harry Potter Books', a look at the history of the GAA and the Irish Revolution, the life and death of Thomas Ashe, a talk on 'JFK and the Summer of 1963', a seminar on Henrietta Street and tenement living organised by the new Tenement Museum Dublin, and 'Dublin in Snapshots', an illustrated history of Dublin across the centuries.

Ardmhéara Bhaile Átha Cliath/Lord Mayor of Dublin, Mícheál Mac Donncha, said; "The Dublin Festival of History is the perfect opportunity for all to delve into Irish and global history in all its geographies, genres and eras. This year's programme really has something for everyone, and I encourage Dubliners to get involved and participate in some of these fantastic history events taking place across the city."

"Go luath sular bhfuair sé bás ar stailc ocras dúirt Tomás Ághas go raibh ré nua in Éirinn tar éis Éirí Amach na Cásca. Tá an ré sin faoi scrúdú ag an féile."

Margaret Hayes, Dublin City Librarian, commented on the programme launch; "We are delighted to announce the full programme for the Dublin Festival of History. The expanded programme addresses significant anniversaries under the national and Dublin City Decade of Commemorations programme, and also looks to Europe and beyond, as we explore the

events that have shape the world we now live in. We are inviting the public to come along to listen, read, discover and question history at the Festival.”

A new family history day will also take place on 7<sup>th</sup> October in Richmond Barracks. Children and families will step back in time and experience the history of Dublin city from medieval times up to the 1940s, through re-enactments, arts and crafts, vintage vehicles and music. All events are free and no booking is required.

Members of the public can view the full programme and get updates on the 2017 Dublin Festival of History programme by following the Festival on [Twitter](#) or Facebook and on the Festival website at [www.dublinfoestivalofhistory.ie](http://www.dublinfoestivalofhistory.ie) .

**-Ends-**

**For more information and to arrange interview with key speakers, please contact:**

Ruth Doyle, Wilson Hartnell

E: [ruth.doyle@ogilvy.com](mailto:ruth.doyle@ogilvy.com)

T: 01-669 0030 / 087 944 8134