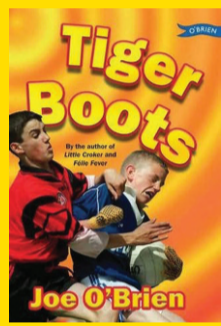


## GAA TALES

**TIGER BOOTS**  
JOE O'BRIEN  
(O'BRIEN PRESS)

**T**iger Boots is the follow up to "Little Croker" and "Feile Fever" by author Joe O'Brien which follows the story of young Gaelic footballer Danny Wilde captain of the Littestown Crokes GAA team.

The Crokes managed by Danny's father Mick Wilde play at the "Little Croker" stadium and have been doing very well in the football league so far this season. The book follows the lives of Danny and his mates on and off the field as they experience all kinds of highs and lows.



In this third edition of the Danny Wilde series Danny's father Mick is given the bad news that his best friend's youngest daughter Clara has been diagnosed with cancer in her right arm and needs to have a big operation in order to recover.

Determined Danny and his pals decide to rally together to begin fundraising to help pay for Clara's (also a GAA player out in the states) expensive operation.

Between fundraising for Clara, training for the Crokes and school life Danny along with the lads make this yet another season to remember.

This book is a must for all young Gaelic football fans as it includes lots of fast football action along with plenty of humour and typical teenage storylines. This third edition in the series is sure to keep youngsters occupied and wanting more from Danny and the Crokes!

By Ciaran McKenna

# A NOVEL MUSICAL!

THE REMAINS OF THE DAY @  
THE UNION THEATRE, SOUTHWARK

**A** novel renowned for its depiction of quintessential, English reserve, Kazuo Ishiguro's *The Remains of the Day* seems an unlikely choice for an adaptation into a buoyant musical.

Still, let us not forget that, once upon a time, people voiced similar concerns about the impending transformation of Victor Hugo's epic novel, *Les Miserables*.

Set in the first half of the 20th century, *The Remains of the Day* tells the story of Mr Stevens (Stephen Rashbrook),

an English butler, who exclusively preoccupies himself with attending to Lord Darlington (Alan Vicary) and his residence at Darlington Hall.

So utterly dedicated is Stevens to his role as butler, he becomes blind to both the Nazi-leaning sympathies of his employer, as well as the charmingly awkward intimacy that slowly develops between him and his assistant housekeeper, Miss Kenton (Lucy Bradshaw).

Alex Lovelace has concocted a recipe of delicious songs, which could certainly fare well as a studio-recorded

soundtrack. For example, the starkly entitled number, *The French*, immediately conjures up the required notion of stiff, upper-lipped Englishness, which is preceded beautifully by the gorgeous, string-drenched melody *The Remains of the Day*. The lyrics of the song, sung by Stevens towards the close of the play, finally expose the haunting undercurrent that pervades throughout, even during rare moments of levity.

Equally, one could not fail to be impressed by Miss Kenton's enchanting delivery of *The Way That Once We Were*. Although some of the songs occasionally risk veering into sentimentality, most notably when Stevens and his father unite in the wistful *When the Night is Darkest*, the characters hold back just enough to stay faithful to the reticence and quiet dignity of the novel's original characters.

Director, Chris Loveless, manages to exploit every corner of the fringe theatre to evoke the grandeur of the hall and the gossiping of its inhabitants.

Needless to say, a transfer to the majestic West End stage could only do a service to this already distinguished production, even if the atmospheric sound of the trains rattling overhead would perhaps be lamented.

*The Remains of the Day* runs at The Union Theatre until 25th September.

By Rebecca Sheppard



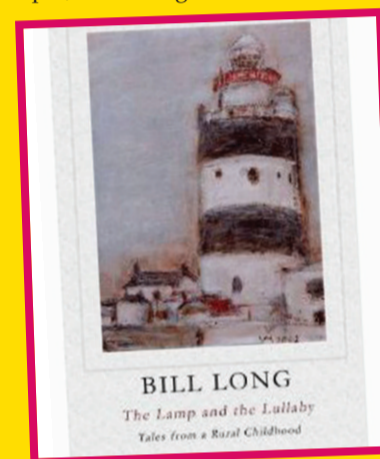
## A WATERFORD CHILDHOOD

**The Lamp and the Lullaby: A Memoir**

Bill Long (New Island Books) [www.newisland.ie](http://www.newisland.ie)  
£10.99

**B**ILL Long is Ireland's longest surviving recipient of a heart transplant and has held a number of different jobs over the years such as a journalist, public relations officer, broadcaster and documentary maker and now finally a 'serious' writer.

He has a had a number of works published including 'Brief Encounters' his a memoir of meetings with interesting people, 'A Change of Heart'



which was a diary of his heart transplant which was made into a documentary and also a history of Irish lighthouses entitled 'Bright Light, White Water.'

Lighthouses seem to be a theme for Bill's writing as the lamp and the lullaby in the title of this book refer to the light and the sound made by Hook Head and Mine Head lighthouses as he went to sleep at night.

This book is a memoir of growing up in County Waterford during the 1930's and 1940's. But if you are expecting a depressing tale of a hard Ireland then you will be disappointed as this is refreshingly positive tale as Bill shares and celebrates his memories of a happy childhood. This is a beautifully entertaining and well written story of an Irish childhood that is surprisingly delightful!

By Sarah Minton

# War in high definition

Read our archive reviews at [www.theirishworld.com](http://www.theirishworld.com)

**THE WORLD AT WAR: LIMITED EDITION**  
(FREEMANTLE MEDIA)

**T**O link in with the 70th anniversary of The Battle of Britain, this award-winning documentary series is out now in restored, high-definition on Blu-Ray and DVD

Originally broadcast in 1973 and narrated by Sir Laurence Olivier, 'The World

at War' was produced by Thames Television over a 4-year period. The 26-part documentary series interviewed major members of the Allied and Axis campaigns, civilian eyewitnesses, enlisted men, officers and politicians and made use of the rare colour film footage to investigate the events surrounding World War II to create what is widely agreed to be the definitive history of World War II.

The production



costs were, at the time, record-breaking in the UK.

In the years since its initial broadcast, this BAFTA and Emmy award-winning series has had many imitators but 'The World at War' remains one of the most revered documentaries

ever made. The series has now undergone a spectacular restoration process whereby each frame has been restored individually and the audio reconfigured and upgraded.

The World At War (Blu Ray £99.99, DVD £79.99) is out Mon 20th Sept 2010.

By Shelley Marsden