

Turner ticked

BIOGRAPHY

atchley

RAORDINARY
MOMENTOUS
JMW TURNER
BY MOYLE
pp522

Moyle's biography of Turner is published a few years soon after Eric Fyfe's *Young Mr Turner*, which was reviewed in glowing terms three months ago. Fyfe's book can't match the number of pages, but it is itself an excellent work. Whereas Fyfe's book describes only the last 40 years, Moyle covers the whole of his long life, charting the development from his early conquering of the art world to his late, fatal paintings. Moyle seeks to expose the man who has grown up as a painter. He could have been a doctor, but was not the

antisocial recluse that many have believed him to be, and, although he courted clients and patrons for financial gain, Moyle shows that he was also a loyal and generous friend. She casts a different light, too, on some of the more controversial aspects of his life, seeking to explain his seemingly callous behaviour towards his lover, Sarah Danby, and their two daughters, by placing it in the context of the mores of Georgian England, where extramarital arrangements were usual and accepted.

Turner was regarded as an eccentric (he carried an umbrella with a dagger hidden in its handle) and his reputation ebbed and flowed throughout his career, yet John Ruskin called him the "Great Witness" of nature. Moyle is especially good at delineating Turner's artistic methods, and her enthralling account is filled with an impressive understanding of his unique talent. **A**

Classic case of fiction meets facts

BIOGRAPHY

Gavin Corbett

THE REAL PEOPLE OF JOYCE'S ULYSSES

A Biographical Guide by VIVIEN IGOE

UCD Press £32 pp380

There cannot be many people who've read *Ulysses* without wanting to give Stephen Dedalus a slap. Stephen is basically the young James Joyce, so it's no surprise to learn the emerging writer was himself a victim of violence on Dublin's streets. The fracas in question happened in St Stephen's Green on June 22, 1904. We can only guess the cause — perhaps some pontifical

pronouncement or recondite retort led to the 22-year-old Joyce being roughed up. What we do know, as recounted in Vivien Igoe's lovely *The Real People of Joyce's Ulysses*, is that the writer was with his friend Vincent Cosgrave — who fled the scene — and that he was rescued from the assailant by a passing advertising agent, Alfred Hunter.

With regards to the creation of *Ulysses*, this was to be the second formative encounter in a week for Joyce — the first, of course, was stepping out with Nora Barnacle six days earlier. Joyce got revenge on Cosgrave by casting him as the treacherous Vincent Lynch in the *Circle* episode. The kindly Hunter — who took Joyce into his home and patched him up after the fight —



became a model for Leopold Bloom, who takes Stephen home after his *Nighttown* scares.

Bloom's base of 7 Eccles Street was, between 1908 and 1910, the real-life home of Joyce's good friend John Byrne, who is assumed to be Cranly in *Ulysses*. Such details give us an idea of the

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLERS

Prepared by and data provided by and copyright © BookScan, based on the TCM for the week ending 02/07/16. Figures shown are cumulative sales for the 12-week period followed (unless otherwise stated) by the total sale since publication in records began. *Includes sales of the first edition in paperback and at RRP.



CASPAR LEE

GENERAL	hardbacks	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	CASPAR LEE/Caspar Lee & Emily Riordan Lee (M Joseph £16.99) Tales of the YouTube sensation Caspar Lee, written by his mum 2,335 (29,970)	2	5
2	HOW IT WORKS: THE DAD/Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris (M Joseph £6.99) Deconstructing a dad; the latest edition in the Ladybird-like series 2,310 (96,035)	1	7
3	HOW IT WORKS: THE HUSBAND/Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris (M Joseph £6.99) Ladybird-style parody about husbands, with text and illustrations 2,090 (340,670)	3	36
4	HOW IT WORKS: THE WIFE/Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris (M Joseph £6.99) Children's book-style satire on the subject of wives 1,950 (296,260)	4	35
5	HOW IT WORKS: THE MUM/Jason Hazeley & Joel Morris (M Joseph £6.99) Humorous anatomy of what it means to be a mother 1,845 (141,300)	5	20
6	THE UNMUMSY MUM/The Unmumsy Mum (Bantam Press £12.99) Internet blogger takes us through the highs and lows of motherhood 1,700 (68,590)	6	19
7	THE LIFE OF RYLAN/Rylan Clark-Neal (Century £16.99) Autobiography of the singer and television presenter 1,625 (1,625)	-	1
8	SOMME/Hugh Sebag-Montefiore (Viking £25) A new account of the Battle of the Somme, published to mark its centenary 1,595 (2,865)	-	1
9	THE MINISTRY OF UNGENTLEMANLY WARFARE Giles Milton (J Murray £20) Plotting Hitler's destruction through spectacular acts of sabotage 1,565 (2,185)	-	1
10	MAD GIRL/Bryony Gordon (Headline £14.99) Author, columnist and mother gives a truthful account of life with mental illness 1,425 (3,935)	-	1



BILL BRYSON

GENERAL	paperbacks	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1	THE ROAD TO LITTLE DRIBBLING/Bill Bryson (Black Swan £8.99) Author embarks on a trip around Britain with his first travel book for 16 years 6,310 (161,535)	2	13
2	THE SILK ROADS/Peter Frankopan (Bloomsbury £10.99) Examines the forces in the re-emerging East that have shaped the global economy 5,640 (33,585)	1	5
3	ME ME ME/Charlotte Crosby (Headline £7.99) Geordie Shore star takes us on a journey through her eventful teenage years 3,045 (18,720)	3	5
4	THE LAST ACT OF LOVE/Cathy Rentzenbrink (Picador £7.99) Moving memoir of a sister's despair after her brother is knocked down by a car 2,810 (38,350)	5	8
5	OPEN THE CAGE, MURPHY!/Paul O'Grady (Corgi £7.99) More tales from the life of the comedian and television presenter 2,610 (7,480)	6	2
6	SPQR/Mary Beard (Profile £9.99) Britain's favourite classicist lifts the lid on the Roman Empire 2,390 (64,005)	9	12
7	THE NAZI HUNTERS/Damien Lewis (Quercus £7.99) Postwar story of Churchill's secret soldiers searching the ruins of the Reich 2,245 (20,285)	8	6
8	LEADING/Alex Ferguson (Hodder £8.99) Leadership book from the most successful British football manager of all time 2,185 (29,180)	4	7
9	THE SHEPHERD'S LIFE/James Rebanks (Penguin £8.99) An account of rural life in the Lake District by the Herdwick Shepherd 2,115 (88,620)	10	15
10	GUY MARTIN: WHEN YOU DEAD, YOU DEAD/Guy Martin (Virgin £8.99) Television presenter and motorcycle racer guides us on a year of extreme adventure 2,105 (38,915)	7	9



Among friends Captain Buller, shown with arms folded, was a famous name included in *Ulysses*

scale of factual appropriation and conflation that went into making *Ulysses* the vibrant fiction it is. Igoe's book is an A to Z of its characters, with biographies both for the real-life ones and, most notably and usefully, for the real-life people on which the fictional ones are based. They

range from personal acquaintances of Joyce (for example the Englishman Haines is based on a privileged and unstable twit called Samuel Trench); through now-forgotten figures famous in their day (the singer Antoinette Sterling, or the cricketer Captain Buller, who "broke a window in

the Kildare Street Club with a slog to square leg"); to people still famous today (WB Yeats, Madame Blavatsky and many others).

Not all of the minor people are afforded the identity protection that Cosgrave gets – some appear, usually fleetingly, under

their own names. For instance, the incompetent grocer Patrick Fogarty, a neighbour of the Joyces in Phibsborough, is inquired after by Jack Power ("our friend Fogarty") on his way to Paddy Dignam's funeral. Other real people have the honour, of sorts, of getting their names applied to fictional composites – such as Henry Flower, a policeman implicated in the suspicious drowning of a girl in the river Dodder in 1900, whose name is used by Bloom as a nom de plume in kinky correspondence with his pen pal Martha.

This is a gazetteer to the real and incontestable world of *Ulysses*, the human tapestry which Joyce's imagination embroidered, and then coloured and added texture. Igoe is a living link to that now-faded world. A curator of the Joyce museum in Sandycove in the 1960s and 1970s, she became friends with Joyce's sister May, and knew the writer's great pals Frank Budgen and Padraic Colum. Igoe "was in the right place at the right time", as she puts it in her introduction, to

meet the first wave of Joycean scholars who called at Sandycove for their research.

All the usual sources seem to have been consulted in the creation of this book – Thom's Directory, the census returns for 1901 and 1911, newspaper archives and so on – but perhaps most interestingly Igoe spoke to relatives of real people in *Ulysses*, drawing from previously untapped family archives and oral family histories.

The resultant volume could not be more lively or lavish. It's large, but highly accessible owing to its encyclopaedic format. Bountiful illustrations put faces to people caricatured by Joyce, or rendered flat by being known only by name.

Who knew that Samuel Trench looked simultaneously bold and vulnerable?

The book is essential for Joyceans, but anyone interested in Dublin history will find it companionable too. The index is full of addresses as well as names, offering the possibility of bringing Joyce even closer to home. This reader, for example, discovered he lived only around the corner from both the incompetent Fogarty and the cowardly Cosgrave. **G**



FICTION | hardbacks

	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1 THE LONG COSMOS/Terry Pratchett & Stephen Baxter (Doubleday £18.99) The grand climax of the popular Long Earth series 4,475 (4,505)	–	1
2 THE MUSE/Jessie Burton (Picador £12.99) A woman's life changes when a masterpiece with a secret history arrives at an art gallery 4,440 (4,600)	–	1
3 SLEEPER'S CASTLE/Barbara Erskine (HarperCollins £14.99) A Welsh cottage links the past and the present through the dreams of two women 3,620 (3,785)	–	1
4 END OF WATCH/Stephen King (Hodder £20) The final stand-alone novel in the Hodges	1	4



FICTION | paperbacks

	Last week	Weeks in top 10
1 AFTER YOU/Jojo Moyes (Penguin £7.99) The sequel to <i>Me Before You</i> , and the story of what happened next to Lou Clark 53,865 (54,520)	–	1
2 THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN/Paula Hawkins (Black Swan £7.99) A commuter's fascination with a married couple she passes every day turns deadly 30,715 (417,025)	1	9
3 ME BEFORE YOU/Jojo Moyes (M Joseph £7.99) Love story of a woman who works as a carer for a gifted disabled man 29,700* (767,315*)	2	21
4 GET EVEN/Martina Cole (Headline £7.99)	–	1

IRISH BESTSELLERS

1 ME BEFORE YOU Jojo Moyes (Michael Joseph £7.99) 1,866
2 THE GIRL ON THE TRAIN Paula Hawkins (Black Swan £7.99) 1,692
3 AFTER YOU/Jojo Moyes (Bluebird £14.99) 1,443
4 LEAN IN 15/Joe Wicks