**PRESS RELEASE**

**Successful Launch for Liam Horan’s Debut Novel *On The Way Out***

For further information, media queries, or author interviews, please contact:  
**Liam Horan —** [**hello@liamhoran.info**](mailto:hello@liamhoran.info) **| liamhoran.info**

**Ballinrobe, Co. Mayo — November 22, 2025**

Ballinrobe Library was packed on Saturday evening for the official launch of *On The Way Out*, the debut novel by Ballinrobe writer **Liam Horan**. The event marked a major milestone in Horan’s writing career, following the book’s recent success as **Winner of the Gerald Griffin Competition for First Original Adult Fiction 2025**.

The launch was performed by well-known Ballinrobe author **Declan Varley**, whose publications include *Kittyland* and *The Confession of Peadar Gibbons*. Varley spoke about the novel’s strong sense of place, its nuanced handling of ageing and community, and its blend of emotional depth and sharply observed humour. He described the town of Rathfin—the novel’s setting—as “a living, breathing presence in the book,” and praised Horan’s ability to portray rural Ireland with both warmth and honesty.

Master of Ceremonies **Colm Burtchaell** guided the evening, reflecting on Horan’s longstanding involvement in writing, broadcasting and community life. He also highlighted the significance of a debut novelist emerging from Mayo’s increasingly vibrant writing culture, which has already produced acclaimed authors such as Sally Rooney and Colin Barrett.

During his own remarks, Horan spoke about returning to college in his 50s, the long journey toward completing the novel, and the encouragement he received from local writing groups and fellow writers. He expressed gratitude for the community support that helped bring the book to publication, saying: “Writing can feel solitary, but it only truly comes alive when it meets readers. Tonight is proof of that.”

*On The Way Out* is published by **Savoy Editions, an imprint of the Limerick Writers’ Centre**, with Horan handling regional distribution. The book is now available in local bookshops, including **Martin Murphy’s, Main Street, Ballinrobe**, and online at **liamhoran.info/shop**.

Earlier in the day, Horan appeared on both **CRCfm** and **Claremorris Community Radio** for broadcast interviews. Listeners can replay those interviews at **liamhoran.info/media-blogs/**.

The event closed with a book signing, lively conversations, and a strong sense of pride among attendees at seeing a local writer reach a national readership.

Last night's book launch in Ballinrobe, County Mayo was packed to capacity as locals and literary enthusiasts gathered at the town library to celebrate Liam Horan's debut novel, 'On The Way Out'. The book recently claimed the Gerald Griffin Competition for First Adult Fiction 2025, marking a significant achievement for the author.

The evening brought together a strong turnout of supporters who filled every available seat in the library. Declan Varley, a fellow Ballinrobe author known for his novels Kittyland and The Confession of Peadar Gibbons, did the honour of officially launching the book. Colm Burtchaell kept the proceedings flowing smoothly throughout the night as master of ceremonies.

'On The Way Out' can now be picked up at bookshops around the area, including Martin Murphy's shop right there in Ballinrobe. For those who prefer to order online, the book is available through [**liamhoran.info/shop**](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fliamhoran.info%2Fshop%3Ffbclid%3DIwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAYnJpZBEwdXFvSnoyeDJJWGRua0JqdnNydGMGYXBwX2lkEDIyMjAzOTE3ODgyMDA4OTIAAR71LgFVLKc2b8Utm_rVjqEGqbEE09KjdonY1WkVtEdlPcCLeEumrDBoGnecWw_aem_Atndq5RZd-f90l2Tr5362w&h=AT1R1Vrz-llyCLGy33OZ7vdzF_LNSF4ds-mDgE09RUvquEKA6pLIYM2EdpulTpiQHB6kE7TIkL0IjUoGV77bf8R6jw-MlDNdyAesDQtU0dkcfKTv-FhW1P-Sb8ykJQ2pIwjjCQha2q9HAgaZErOVNb62IyFvwC0&__tn__=-UK-y-R&c%5b0%5d=AT30uyEm4InxEZL4KPc3YdtxLsrJgkn5jlzLOzqNOCx6icHi1G2lhblKJqxHDRN_phEq85S6bYVacGUOFImKn-3gtJQHe7t-BnnT40yRo8YUE495s6Jn7KFugr4f4DYpB_wqXPl3IcttLhSJErt7wGkDc3w4qhtYyKG7MeEeO7-yiD4B4SHZnAktqqsqkJWh2TexbA).

(Photos: Patrick Thomas Howard)