



QUEEN'S  
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SCHOOL OF  
ARTS, ENGLISH  
AND LANGUAGES

The School of Arts, English and Languages  
warmly invites you to attend the Inaugural Lecture  
by Professor Sue-Ann Harding

# TRANSLATIONAL STORIES: IT'S SOMEWHERE HERE

Thursday 7 December 2023 at 5.30pm  
Council Chamber, Lanyon Building  
Queen's University Belfast



Sue-Ann Harding joined the Centre for Translation and Interpreting at Queen's University Belfast in 2017 and was appointed Professor in Translation and Intercultural Studies in 2021. Her research interests are diverse, connected by a common thread of drawing on social narrative theory to investigate translation in a range of contexts, especially at sites of conflict and narrative contestation. She has published on institutional literary translation in Qatar; Arabic and Russian translations of Frantz Fanon; resonances between narrative and complexity theory; collective memory of the Beslan hostage-taking; and on the relevance to translation of anthropologist Tim Ingold's ideas on teaching and learning. She is the author of *Beslan: Six Stories of the Siege* (Manchester University Press, 2012) and *An Archival Journey through the Qatar Peninsula: Elusive and Precarious* (Palgrave Macmillan 2022), a subversive reading of archival sources that writes a more complicated story of one small place.

This lecture is a meditation on place, attention and the imagination. It begins with a children's school game in suburban Sydney and makes its way through online Russian media reports of the Beslan hostage-taking, a daily photo blog from south Manchester, and the deserts and deserted villages of the Qatar Peninsula, to a woman's handwritten memoir from Old Lutheran German emigrant communities and an audio archive of conversations with accidental environmental activists here in Northern Ireland. In all of these, the transformative – translational – force of small, local, often fragile, stories can be felt.